

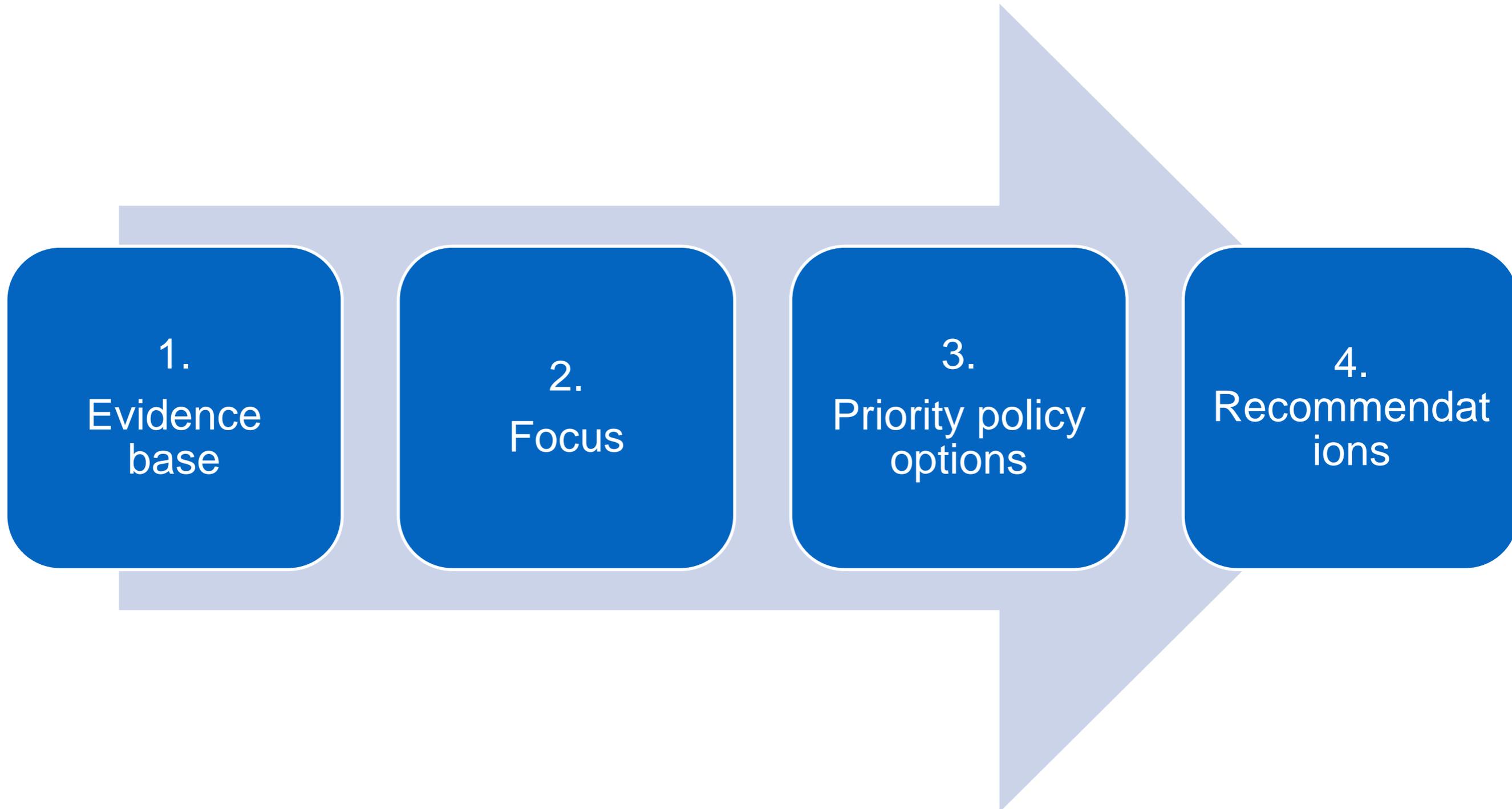


Open-Ended Informal Consultative Meetings
Panel on Urban Economic Development Strategies

New York, 27 April 2016



Introducing the paper



Evidence base



Number of the working poor 7 times as many as those unemployed in developing world



Informal employment makes up more than 50% non-agricultural employment in almost every region (except MENA)



Immense diversity of cities by size, location and stage of economic development

Focus

The key challenge for UED is to assist cities:

- To generate **more formal jobs** and **productive work opportunities**;
- To enhance **existing jobs** and **livelihoods**;
- To ensure that **all citizens** have **access to income earning opportunities**.

Employment-led urban economic development (UED)

The kind of UED that is driven by the deliberate pursuit of the creation and expansion of employment opportunities that are productive, well-paying and support decent work conditions



Priority policy options

Build a compact city

Business support
(PU7)

Improved infrastructure and service provision

Support for the informal economy
(PU7)

Predictable and secure urban finance

Improved local governance

Action-oriented Recommendations

First

Urban economic development should be seen as an intrinsic responsibility of national and local governments.

Action-oriented Recommendations

Second

To recognise and support the working poor in the informal economy as legitimate actors in the economic development process.

Action-oriented Recommendations

Third

To help cities address the underlying conditions for urban economic development, including functioning infrastructure, means to finance infrastructure, spatial and land use planning capacity.

Action-oriented Recommendations

Fourth

The global community must also support the **enabling conditions** for employment-led urban economic development.



The enabling conditions

1

- Well-governed and accountable institutions

2

- Business environment supportive of investment in both formal and informal sector activities

3

- Policy dialogues and partnerships between all stakeholders that promote productive employment and decent work

4

- Physical and social infrastructure strengthening productive factors and improving quality of life

5

- Support for innovation and entrepreneurship

This is based on Habitat III Policy Paper 7: Urban Economic Development Strategies, as available from:

<https://www.habitat3.org/the-new-urban-agenda/policy>

It was prepared and presented by Le-Yin Zhang, Bartlett Development Planning Unit, University College London

