NEW URBAN AGENDA

Regional Report Guidelines

Knowledge and Innovation Branch, UN-Habitat

IMPLEMENTING THE NEW URBAN AGENDA

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Table of Contents

able of Contents	I
Background	2
Reporting Details	2
Expected objectives, scope and key focus areas	2
Objectives	2
Scope	2
Methodology	3
Process and timeline	3
Key Focus Areas	3
Proposed Outline for The Regional Synthesis	5

Background

The New Urban Agenda (NUA) was adopted in 2016 at the Third United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (HABITAT III) in response to the persistent and emerging challenges of urbanization. The NUA seeks to provide an action-oriented roadmap to guide sustainable urban development globally to the year 2036.

In order to monitor the implementation of the NUA, Member States are requested to carry out a periodic follow-up to and review of the NUA, ensuring coherence at the national, regional and global levels, in order to track progress, assess impact and ensure the Agenda's effective and timely implementation in an inclusive manner. The process should consider the contributions of national, subnational and local levels of government and be supplemented by contributions from the United Nations system, regional and sub-regional organizations, major groups and relevant stakeholders.

In this vein, these Regional Report Guidelines were developed to support the preparation of regional reports on the implementation of the NUA led by UN-Habitat Regional Offices.

Reporting Details

Expected objectives, scope and key focus areas

Objectives

The Regional Reports will contribute to the preparation of the Secretary General (SG)'s Quadrennial Report on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and internationally agreed goals and targets relevant to sustainable urbanization and human settlements. This will be supported with National Progress Reports from countries and relevant regional and international organizations.

The Regional Reports shall follow and adapt the global <u>Guidelines on Reporting on the Implementation of the New Urban Agenda</u> and these New Urban Agenda Regional Report Guidelines.

The process to prepare Regional Reports should take a participatory approach, to set the regional mechanism for further NUA implementation and monitoring. It is highly recommended to integrate regional urban fora and multilevel urban fora in the preparation process.

Scope

The Regional Reports will be building on the <u>regional reports</u> and the <u>SG Quadrennial Report</u> from the last reporting cycle (2018-2022). The Regional Reports will highlight the progress made in 2022-2026 on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda, while covering the trends from 2018-2026 with comparative analyses.

The Regional Reports will cover comprehensively all components of the NUA, including the three transformative commitments, and effective implementation. However, the regional reports could have a thematic focus when illustrating best practices and regional case studies.

Methodology

The Regional Reports to be based on analysis of national progress reports, literature reviews, combination of quantitative and qualitative assessments.

Process and timeline

The Regional Reports to outline process and timeline for internal review and feedback with clear timelines for data collection, analysis, writing and review

Key Focus Areas

The Regional Report should focus on the following:

Categories	Sub-categories	To cover
Progress made in the three transformative commitments of the NUA	Social inclusion and ending poverty	 eradicating poverty and reducing inequality, achieving social inclusion of vulnerable groups (women, youth, older persons and persons with disabilities and migrants) ensuring access to adequate and affordable housing including slum upgrading and access to safe drinking water, sanitation and solid waste disposal access to public spaces including streets, sidewalks, and cycling lanes
	Inclusive urban prosperity and opportunities for all	 productive employment for all including youth employment strengthening the informal economy; support small-and medium-sized enterprises promoting an enabling environment for business and innovation
	Environmentally sustainable and resilient urban development	 climate change mitigation and adaptation actions systems to reduce the impact of natural and human-made disasters minimize urban sprawl and loss of biodiversity environmentally sound management of water resources and urban coastal areas
The effective implementation of the New	Urban governance structure	decentralization to enable subnational and local governments undertake their assigned responsibilities

Urban Agenda		 linking urban policies to finance mechanisms and budgets capacity of local and subnational governments to implement local and metropolitan multilevel governance
	Planning and managing urban development	 integrated and balanced territorial development planned urban extensions and infills urban renewal and regeneration of urban areas role of small and intermediate cities and towns multimodal public transport systems including non-motorized options culture as a priority component of urban planning
The means of implementation of the NUA	Mobilization of financial resources	 financing frameworks for implementing the NUA at all levels of government mobilization of internal sources of finance and expand the revenue base of subnational and local governments sound systems of financial transfers from national to subnational and local governments based on needs, priorities and functions financial intermediaries (multilateral institutions, regional development banks, subnational and local development funds pooled financing mechanisms etc.) for urban financing
	Capacity development	 opportunities for city-to-city cooperation and exchange of urban solutions and mutual learning capacity development as an effective approach to formulate, implement, manage, monitor and evaluate urban development policies local government associations as promoters and providers of capacity development
	Information technology and innovation	 user-friendly and citizen-centric digital platforms and governance tools frontier technologies and innovations to enhance shared prosperity of cities and regions capacity of all levels of government and the civil society in the collection, disaggregation, and analysis of data

- 1. The discussion in the preceding paragraphs should describe the results achieved, challenges experienced, and lessons learned in these areas. Visuals and infographics are strongly encouraged to illustrate key points.
- 2. The Report should be supported by relevant indicators at the subregional and regional levels, case studies best practices and specific examples.
- 3. The Report should discuss how cities in the region under review can be better placed to play an important role in the implementation New Urban Agenda and other internationally agreed goals and targets relevant to sustainable urbanization and human settlements.

Proposed Outline for The Regional Synthesis

* Note: each regional report could adapt/edit the proposed outlines reflecting their needs and context.

Suggested Table of Contents

- List of Acronyms Used
- List of Boxes
- List of Tables
- List of Figures

Summary of the Key Findings and Messages of the Report

- I. Introduction
 - A. Regional context from 2016-2026
 - B. Recap of process and intermediary reports
 - C. Overview of status of national reporting within the region
 - D. Overview of changing regional trends
- II. Mainstreaming, monitoring, and reporting of the New Urban Agenda

What has been regional progress in mainstreaming, monitoring, and reporting the New Urban Agenda?

- A. Mainstreaming the New Urban Agenda
 - a. Progress in mainstreaming the agenda since 2016
 - Statistics and trends since 2016, including:
 - Number of national, local and regional strategies, policies and laws changed from engagement on the New Urban Agenda
 - Number of strategies, policies and laws referencing New Urban Agenda and budget allocated for implementation
 - Public and private investments explicitly earmarked for implementation of the New Urban Agenda
 - Existence of national coordination mechanisms on the New Urban Agenda

- Public awareness of the New Urban Agenda
- Qualitative data and case studies demonstrating mainstreaming the New Urban Agenda, including efforts led by UN-Habitat
- b. Analysis of trends and identification of key obstacles and drivers for mainstreaming the agenda
- c. Recommendations for mainstreaming
 - Case studies illustrating effective reporting action and good practices for addressing key challenges
 - Recommendations for overcoming challenges and better mainstreaming of the agenda
- B. Monitoring and Reporting on the New Urban Agenda
 - a. Stakeholder engagement process for 2026 cycle
 - b. Quantitative progress since 2016 and 2026 reporting process
 - c. Analysis of trends and identification of key drivers, obstacles and enablers in reporting
 - d. Recommendations of reporting practices
 - Case studies illustrating effective reporting action and good practices for addressing key challenges
 - Recommendations for overcoming challenges and improved reporting
- III. Achieving the commitments and implementation of the New Urban Agenda

 What has been regional progress in implementing the New Urban Agenda?

Transformative commitments for sustainable urban development

- A. Sustainable urban development for social inclusion and ending poverty
 - a. Reducing inequality and promoting social inclusion and empowerment
 - Progress since 2016 using quantitative and qualitative data
 - Analysis of trends and identification of key drivers, obstacles
 - Recommendations for addressing obstacles and achieving relevant principles and commitments (e.g., reducing inequality, promoting social inclusion and ending poverty)
 - b. Access to adequate housing
 - c. Access to basic services
 - d. Best practices
- B. Sustainable and inclusive urban prosperity and opportunities for all
 - a. Inclusive urban economy
 - b. Urban productivity and prosperity
 - c. Best practices
- C. Environmentally sustainable and resilient urban development
 - a. Resilient and adaptive urban development
 - b. Climate change mitigation
 - c. Biodiversity and ecosystem conservation

d. Best practices

Effective implementation drivers

- A. Building the <u>urban governance</u> structure: establishing a supportive framework
- B. Planning and managing urban and territorial spatial development
- C. Means of implementation
 - a. Mobilizing financial resources
 - b. Capacity development and enhanced knowledge sharing
 - c. Technology and innovation
 - d. Partner engagement and participation
- D. Best practices
- IV. Recommendations (10 pages)
 - A. Implementation status of the recommendations from the 2018 and 2022 quadrennial reports in the region
 - B. The challenges faced in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda since its adoption in the region
 - C. Further steps to address the challenges in the region
 - D. Recommendations on accelerating implementation of the New Urban Agenda to 2036 in the region
- List of references
- Appendices