



NUA in Action – Case Studies Panel

- 1

What have been the main entry points for incorporating the principles of the NUA, and were these linked to specific policies, events, or reporting processes?
- 2

Can you share any examples of how national and local governments — working with universities, civil society, or the private sector — have collaborated to advance, monitor, or report on NUA implementation?
- 3

If you had the opportunity to redo this implementation process, what would you do differently?
- 4

What approaches do you think could create the strongest impact between national and local levels, both now and beyond 2030?

1

Uganda

- The National Urban Policy (2017) is the main entry point for incorporating the principles of the NUA; it provides the framework for sustainable urban development and integrates NUA principles into national development plans.
- Localized implementation through decentralization, empowering urban councils and establishing 10 new functional cities beyond Kampala.
- Stakeholder engagement through the National Urban Forum and municipal/city development forums ensures participation from national to local levels.
- Urban financing is prioritized to supporting cities in strengthen own-source revenue for implementing the NUA.

Honduras

- The NUA has been advanced through the formulation of a National Urban Policy aligned with the SDGs and supported by UN-Habitat.
- Entry points include addressing climate vulnerability and rapid urbanization, both pressing national issues.
- The Ministry of Governance, through its Municipal Urban Planning Department, connects national and local levels, enabling direct urban policy implementation.
- We also organize urban forums, both national and regional, to exchange experiences with neighboring countries.
- Given that 60% of the population lives in two major metropolitan areas, our national policy focuses on metropolitan governance, resilient urbanism, and inclusive planning.

Jordan

- Jordan's main entry point is the 2018 National Progress Report developed with UN-Habitat, consolidating urban data and improving planning systems.
- Promoted digital transformation in city management through geospatial databases and improved municipal services through infrastructure projects and sustainable local development.
- Integrated environmental and spatial dimensions into urban planning to prevent unplanned expansion, promote data-driven decision-making, and promote green, accessible, and participatory urban spaces.

2

Uganda

- Uganda operates under a decentralized system where the central government focuses on policy formulation, standard setting, and capacity building, while local governments deliver on-the-ground implementation.
- Although regional collaboration remains limited, the metropolitan concept is expanding, starting with the Greater Kampala Metropolitan Area.
- Beyond government, the country is strengthening partnerships with civil society, which has traditionally been more active in rural areas but is now increasingly engaged in urban development and informal settlement upgrading.
- Strong academia collaboration, notably through Makerere University's Regional Centre for Urban Research, which supports capacity building, research, and knowledge sharing for both national and local authorities.

Academia

- Partnerships are essential; no single actor can deliver the NUA alone.
- Partnerships with academia, civil society, and the private sector diversify perspectives, promote co-design and co-production, and help manage competing interests.
- Universities, in particular, play a valuable role as knowledge brokers offering neutral, evidence-based insights that support more effective urban governance.

Uganda

- Focus more on empowering local governments, since they are the NUA implementers.
- Enact policies that strengthen local authority capacity, promote effective partnerships across global, national, and local levels, and ensure stronger resource mobilization to fund interventions.
- Establish a framework for reliable data collection and sharing, because we can't measure progress without knowing what we have.
- Improve collaboration, resourcing, and data systems, to achieve more impactful, locally grounded implementation of the New Urban Agenda.

Honduras

- Develop a communication strategy before policy formulation to raise awareness among citizens and stakeholders.
- Establish a strong partnership strategy — linking government, private sector, academia, NGOs, and foundations.
- Use municipal associations to bridge the gap between national and local levels (acting as regional coordination platforms).

Jordan

- Encouraging citizen engagement using proactive planning approaches, through the National Urban Policy and voluntary local reviews at the local level
- Ensuring food security and sovereignty, adequate and reliable access to water, electricity, sanitation, transport, and communication services, as well as the digitalization of government operations, especially services that directly concern citizens, such as land administration, infrastructure, and related procedures shaping the urban landscape

Academia

- Identify specific shared priorities where national, local, and regional governments all have stake; areas where success benefits everyone rather than being a zero-sum competition.
- Move beyond talk to action, ensuring that multi-stakeholder consultations lead to tangible results.
- Set clear agenda item, dedicated resources, and a realistic implementation timeframe. Without that, collaboration risks remaining theoretical rather than transformative.