

Regional workshop for ECE Region

Building capacity in countries in transition economy in housing and urban development

Final regional workshop of the UNDA 9th tranche project “Strengthening national capacities for sustainable housing in selected countries with economies in transition”¹

10 November 2017, Conference Room XVIII, Palais des Nations, Geneva
With simultaneous translation: English and Russian

Introduction

The workshop is organized by the UNECE and UN-Habitat as a final regional workshop of the UNDA 9th tranche project “Strengthening national capacities for sustainable housing and urban development in countries with economies in transition”.

The workshop will discuss experiences, best practices and lessons learned in the implementation of the project. This UNDA project was aimed to support building capacities of national governments for development and implementation policies on sustainable housing and urban development in countries with economies in transition (implemented in four countries – Armenia, Republic of Moldova, Serbia and Tajikistan). Key outcomes of the project will be presented during the seventy-eighth session of the UNECE Committee on Housing and Land Management

The workshop participants will also formulate:

- (1) Best practices in building capacities to achieve the urban related SDGs, implementation of the New Urban Agenda and other relevant global and regional agreements
- (2) Next steps in cooperation of UN agencies and other international organisations in supporting countries with economies in transition to achieve the urban related SDGs and to implement relevant global and regional commitments.

For more information on the workshop, please contact: Regina Khanbekova, Project Coordinator at UNECE, regina.khanbekova@unece.org.

¹ See project webpage at <http://www.unece.org/housing/unda.html>



Draft agenda

10:15-10:30	Opening session
10:15-10:20	Opening by Moderator – Ivonne Higuero, Director, Forests, Land and Housing Division, UNECE
10:20-10:25	Welcome by Asa Jonsson, Chief, Best Practices Unit, Russia and CIS Coordinator, Research and Capacity Development Branch, UN-Habitat
10:25-10:30	Objectives of the workshop – Gulnara Roll, Head, Housing and Land Management Unit, UNECE
10:30-11:30	Session 1. How do international organisations support building capacities to achieve the urban related SDGs, implement the New Urban Agenda and other relevant global and regional commitments?
10:30-10:40	Keynote presentation by Jean Todt, UN Special Envoy for Road Safety
10:40-11:00	Report on the Implementation of the UNDA² 9th tranche project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regina Khanbekova, Project Coordinator, Housing and Land Management Unit, UNECE (5 min); and • Tatiana Khabarova, Project Coordinator at UN-HABITAT, UN-Habitat Programme Manager in Russia (5 min) • Presentation of the Policy Paper and guidelines for the preparation of national action plans developed within the UNDA project - Remy Sietchiping, Leader, Urban Planning and Design, UN-HABITAT (10 min)
11:00-11:30	Comments to the presentation of the project outcomes and documents Experts are invited to comment on project outcomes and make suggestions on how to improve capacity building work in the future (<i>up to 5 min interventions</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Irina Ilina, Director of the Institute for Regional Studies and Urban Planning, Higher School of Economics, Moscow, Russia • Doris Andoni, Independent Consultant in Housing Policies, Guest Lecturer at POLIC University, Tirana, Albania • Irina Gentsler, Deputy Director of the Municipal Economy Department, Institute for Urban Economics, Moscow, Russia • Yevgenia Zhelezova, Independent Consultant in Housing Finance • Tadashi Matsumoto, Coordinator, National Urban Policy, Climate Change and Green Growth, Cities, Urban Policies and Sustainable Development Division, Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Local Development and Tourism, OECD <p>Questions and discussion</p>
11:30-12:00	Break

² UNDA – UN Development Account, see more at <https://www.un.org/development/desa/da/>



12:00-13:00	<p>National urban and housing policies in countries with transition economies – what are the needs in capacity building?</p> <p>Representatives of the countries will discuss key policy priorities in the countries in housing and urban development and how the preparation of the national action plans supported their work. What were the key outcomes of the cooperation, what were the challenges and lessons learned? What activities in the future could support most effectively their policy priorities?</p> <p>Presentations by countries’ representatives (up to 15 min presentations)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tajikistan - Nusratullo Faizullozoda, Head of the Licensing Service, Committee for Architecture and Construction under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan• Serbia - Jovanka Atanackovic, Assistant Minister for Housing and Architectural Policies, Public Utilities and Energy Efficiency, Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure of Republic of Serbia• Armenia - Arsen Karapetyan, National Project Coordinator, Executive Director, Development Solutions Institute Foundation <p>Questions and discussion</p>
13:00-14:00	Lunch break
14:00-15:00	Cities roundtable in Conference Room VIII
15:00-16:00	<p>Interactive panel discussion on the role of capacity building in developing and implementing national urban (including housing) policies</p> <p>Panelists will present the on-going projects on national urban and housing policies and discuss how the projects can be integrated into future cooperation to support capacity building (up to 15 minutes interventions)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Brian Evans, Professor and the Head of Urbanism, Glasgow School of Art, UK• Remy Sietchiping, Leader, Urban Planning and Design, UN-HABITAT• Christophe Lalande, Leader, Housing Unit, Housing and Slum Upgrading Branch, UN-Habitat <p>Questions and discussion</p>
16:00-17:00	<p>Next steps – Approaches to building capacities in countries with transition economies against the background of implementation of the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development (up to 15 min presentations)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fernanda Lonardoni, Housing Unit, Housing and Slum Upgrading Branch, UN-HABITAT• Gulnara Roll, Head, Housing and Land Management Unit, UNECE• Tadashi Matsumoto, Coordinator, National Urban Policy, Climate Change and Green Growth, Cities, Urban Policies and Sustainable Development Division, Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Local Development and Tourism, OECD



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Asa Jonsson, Chief, Best Practices Unit, Russia and CIS Coordinator, Research and Capacity Development Branch, UN-HABITAT Questions and discussion
17:00-17:15	Conclusions and wrap-up – Ivonne Higuero, Director, FLHD, UNECE