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# UNDA 12<sup>th</sup> tranche project on Smart Sustainable Cities with Innovative Financing 2020-2023

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**82<sup>nd</sup> Committee Session on  
Urban Development  
Housing and Land Management**

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# UNDA 12<sup>th</sup> tranche project Smart Sustainable Cities with Innovative Financing



**Beneficiaries:** Bishkek (Kyrgyz Republic), Nur-Sultan & Almaty (Kazakhstan), Tbilisi (Georgia), Podgorica (Montenegro), Grodno (Belarus).

**Lead agency:**  **Project partners:**



**Timeline:** January 2020 – March 2023

## Key Deliverables:

1. Smart Sustainable City Profiles with Recommendations.
2. Urban infrastructure project concepts.

# What is a Smart Sustainable City Profile?



- **Evaluation** against the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for Smart Sustainable Cities (SSC); 91 indicators from Economy, Environment, Society and Culture spheres.
- **Review** and **analysis** of key local, national, international policies, programs, projects and partnerships; mapping and consolidating existing knowledge.
- **Expert survey** and **interviews** on **socio-economic impacts of COVID-19**.
- **Virtual and in-person missions for wider stakeholder consultations** → city departments, relevant ministries, IOs, NGOs, academia, private sector.

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## Smart Sustainable Cities Profile NUR-SULTAN, KAZAKHSTAN





# Goals of the Smart Sustainable Cities Profiles



- **Collecting urban data** → localization of SDGs.
  - **Building trust and partnerships with local authorities and other urban actors** → close engagement.
  - **Proposing** tangible set of **evidence-based recommendations** for the city to **accelerate progress** towards achieving the SDGs.
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- **Matchmaking with Project Preparation Facilities (PPFs)** and bilateral and multilateral development banks and agencies and other **urban and climate infrastructure finance players**.
  - Leveraging further **technical and financial assistance** for the **implementation of projects on the ground**.



# Status of implementation of UNDA 12<sup>th</sup> tranche project



## Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan



- City Profile published in January 2021.
- 5 urban infrastructure project concepts in ICTs for energy efficiency & water management – *Zerde*.

## Almaty, Kazakhstan

- Ongoing - City Profile estimated to be out in April 2022.
- Brainstorming on potential project ideas.

## Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic



- City Profile launched in October 2021.
- Integrated upgrading of 5 informal settlements project concept – *Cities Development Initiative for Asia (ADB & AfD)*.

## Podgorica, Montenegro

- Ongoing – City Profile estimated to be out in April 2022.
- Topics for project have been identified during a Mission in September 2021.

## Grodno, Belarus

- City Profile launched in October 2021.
- Green district project concept – Discussion is ongoing with *UNDP Belarus*.

## Tbilisi, Georgia

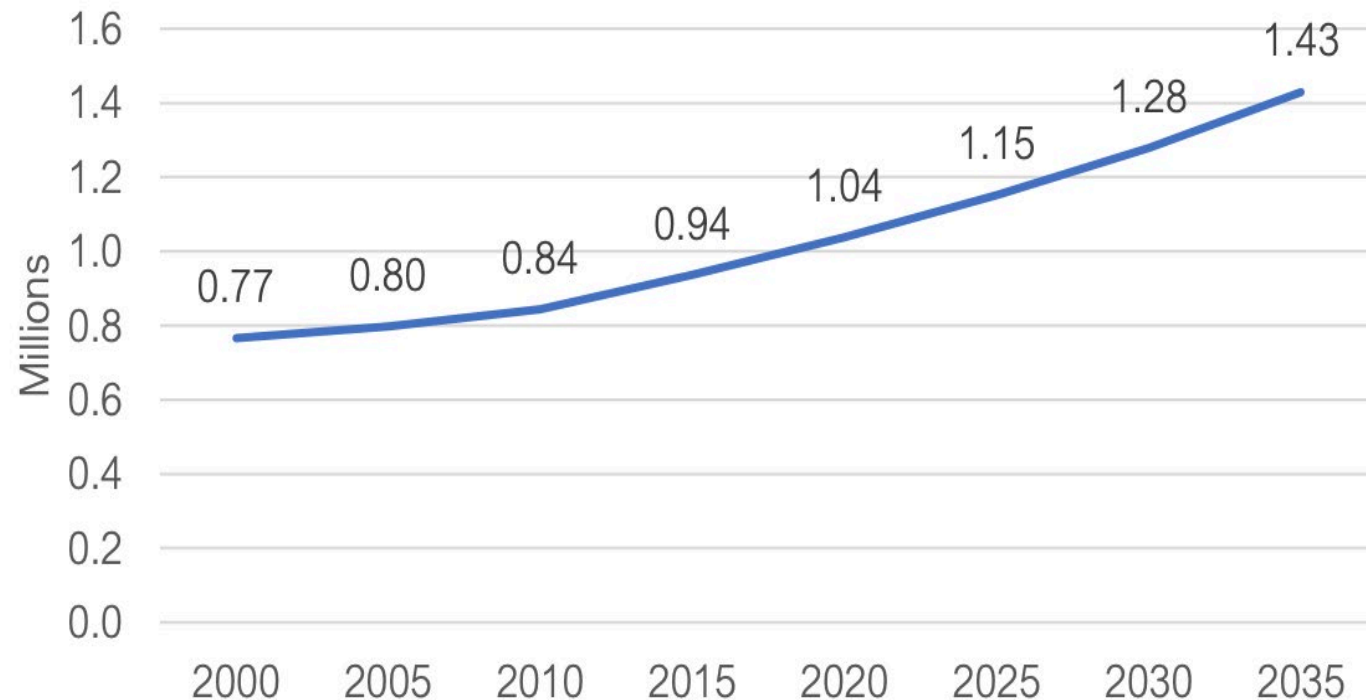
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- Brainstorming on potential project ideas.



# In focus: Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic



- Population size nearly doubled since 1989; **+250,000** new urban dwellers **since 2000**.
- **400,000** new residents expected to move to Bishkek by 2035.
- Critical window of opportunity → new **Master Plan 2025**.



**Figure 1:** Population of Bishkek 2000-2035.

Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2018)

# Major urban infrastructure backlog in informal settlements



- **Urban planning** did not keep pace with population growth.

## UNECE survey on 5 informal settlements in 2020

- Informal settlements growth and urban sprawl; **47 to 53 informal settlements** in Bishkek today, hosting between **18 and 30% of overall city population**.
- Large number of **unregistered plots** and **high-levels of underemployment**.
- **Widespread lack of basic infrastructure** such as water supply, wastewater, solid waste management, drainage, gas, district heating, roads, open green spaces and community facilities and **social, cultural and services**, such as schools, kindergartens, clinics.



- ***Ak-Basogo***, established in 1990, 15,000+ people. **31% have access to a toilet or bathroom.**
- ***Kalys Ordo***, established in 2003/2005, 9,500+ people. **89% of plots are unregistered.**

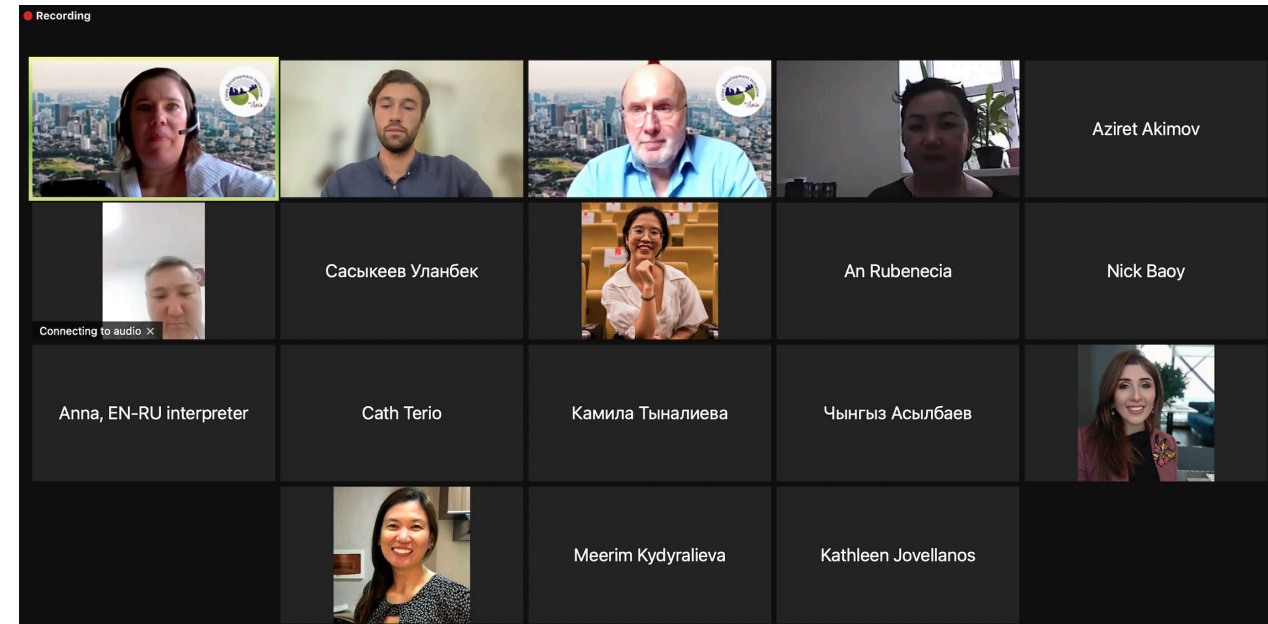


# Policy Recommendations Bishkek (non-exhaustive)



From the *UNECE Smart Sustainable Cities Profile of Bishkek*:

- Strengthen the **linkage between urban policy design, financing and implementation.**
- **Legalize, upgrade and redevelop informal settlements** located in unsafe areas.
- **Improve wastewater treatment and solid waste management infrastructure.**



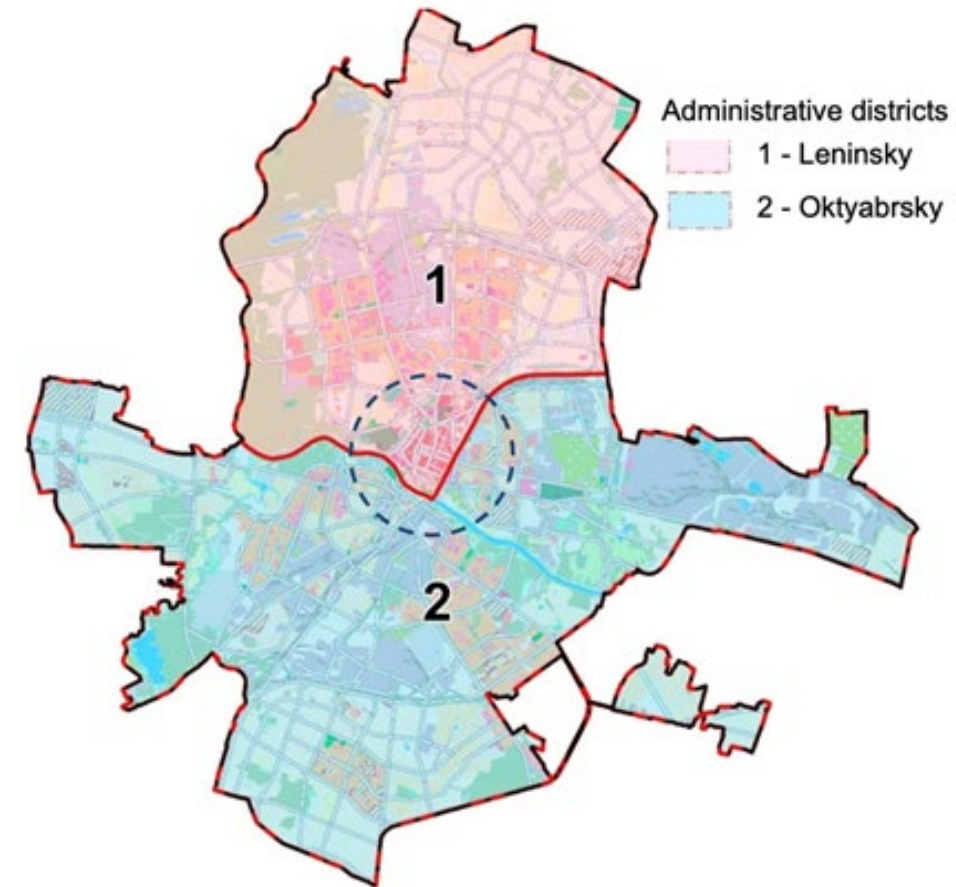


# Policy Recommendations Grodno (non-exhaustive)



From the *UNECE Smart Sustainable Cities Profile of Grodno*:

1. Improve urban governance for sustainable development, and the access and availability of urban data.
2. Improve public buildings' sustainability and reduce energy consumption.
3. Improve sustainability for urban mobility.





**Thank you for your attention!**

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