



Carbon neutral and energy efficient housing –  
Activities of the UNECE Committee on Urban  
Development, Housing & Land Management

**11** SUSTAINABLE CITIES  
AND COMMUNITIES



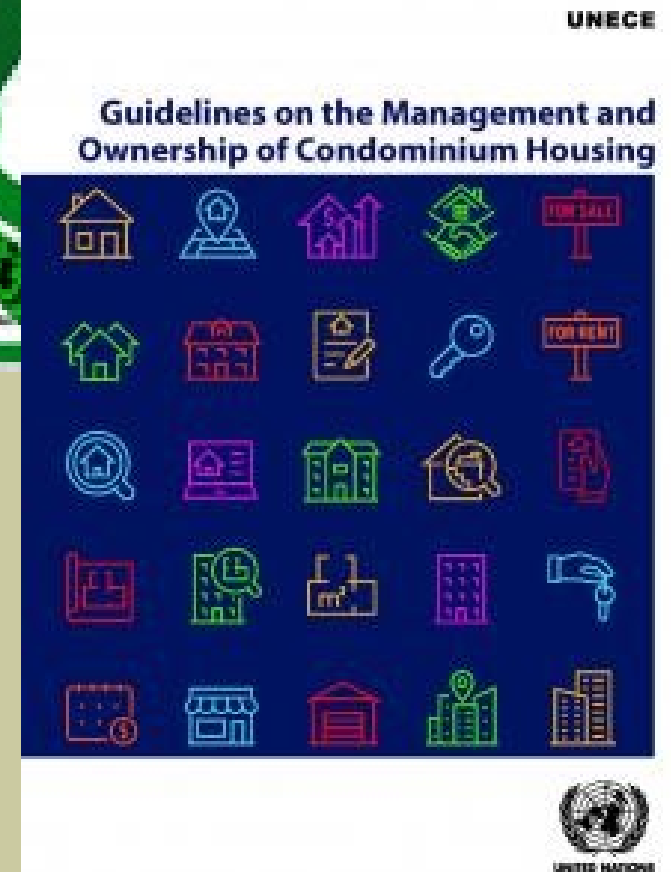
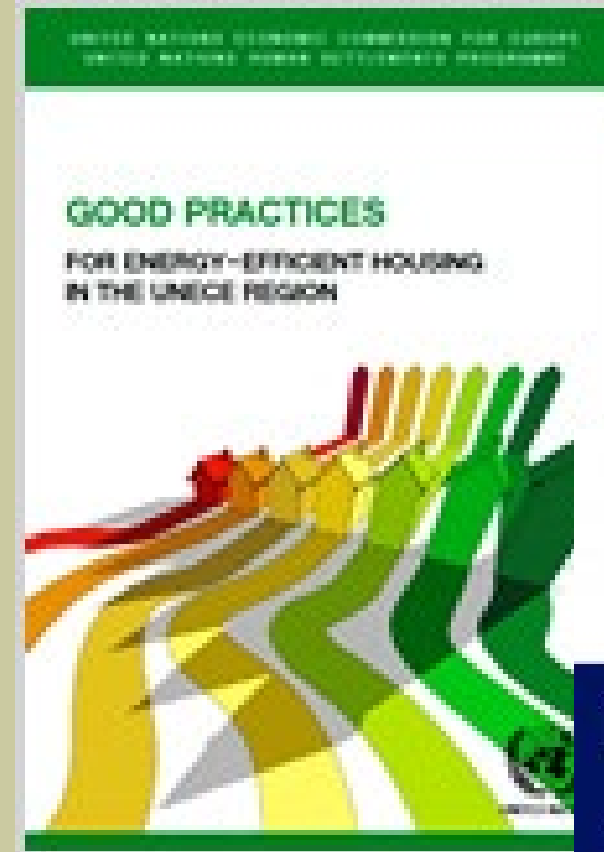
*Our work on...*

## Energy Efficiency in Buildings

The Committee on Sustainable Energy and the Committee on Housing and Land Management established the **Joint Task Force on Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings**.

### Publications:

- Good practices for Energy Efficient Housing in the UNECE Region
- Guidelines on the Management and Ownership of Condominium Housing

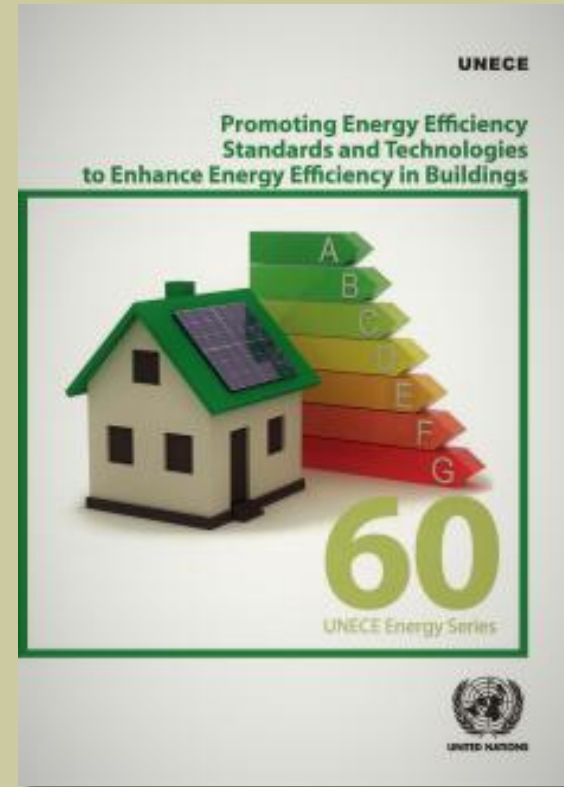


# Our work on...

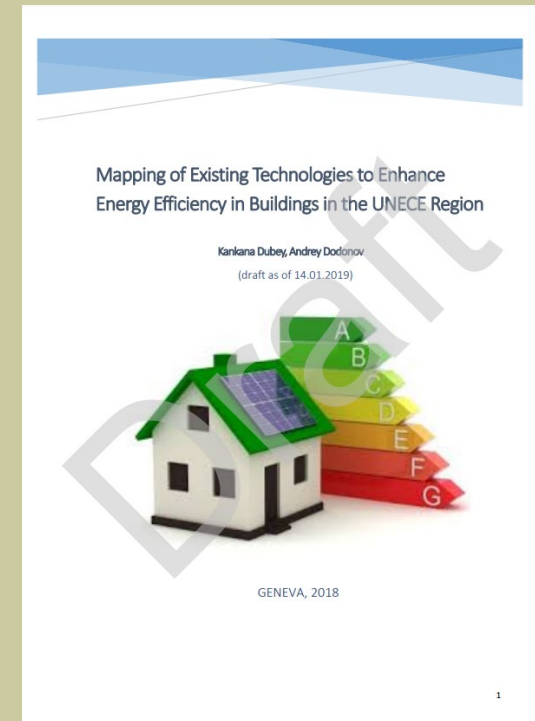
## Energy Efficiency in Buildings – planning next steps

The Committee is invited

- To decide the Committee's participation in the work of the Joint Task Force for the period 2020-2021
- Endorse the amended “Terms of Reference of the Joint Task Force on Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings for 2022-2023” and agree to extend the mandate of the Joint Task Force for 2022-2023
- Endorse the Updated Framework Guidelines for Energy-Efficiency Standards in Buildings



Compendium of best practices on standards and technologies for energy efficiency in buildings in the UNECE region





*Our work on...*

## Housing Affordability and the #Housing2030 initiative

Improving **housing affordability** is currently one of the most important policy challenges as countries and cities in the UNECE region face an **undersupply** of affordable housing, continuous **increase of urban rents**, **low quality housing and urban infrastructure**, **limited access to land** for housing construction and renovation, and mounting **urban poverty** and **homelessness**.

UNECE, UN-Habitat and Housing Europe launched the **#Housing2030 initiative** – the housing affordability study with the goal of **improving capacities** of national and local governments to **formulate policies** that improve housing affordability and housing sustainability in the UNECE region.

The objectives of the study are to:

- Explore housing affordability **challenges and existing policy instruments** for improving housing affordability in the UNECE region
- Facilitate the **exchange and dissemination of "good practices"** in improving housing affordability among countries and cities of the UNECE region
- **Identify needs of policy-makers** to further develop and implement policies addressing housing affordability.

Read more at: <https://unece.org/housing/affordablehousing> or <https://www.housing2030.org/>

We are also working on a report on Sharing Economy in the Housing Sector.



*Our work on...*

## Network of Centres of Excellence

The current Network of Centres of Excellence includes eight Centres across eight countries. The Centres of Excellence support implementation of the [Geneva UN Charter on Sustainable Housing](#) through capacity building, advisory services, studies, awareness-raising, knowledge-sharing, and actual projects. These all aim to [improve city quality of life and provide affordable, energy-efficient housing for all](#).



The Centres are established as a network under the coordination of the UNECE. Activities of the Centres of Excellence are coordinated by the secretariat. The individual Centres are planning a range project and events related to [Energy Efficiency in Buildings](#).

Example:

[The Centre of Excellence on Sustainable Housing in Estonia](#) works towards achieving energy efficiency and reducing housing costs for middle- and low-income households. The Centre will

- plan and coordinate public dissemination activities, national and international networking
- organize new training programs
- participate in the preparation of housing policy and legal acts in Estonia and EU level
- work with a new initiative POWERPOOR to reduce energy poverty in Estonia

Read more at: <https://unece.org/housing/charter-centres>

# Our work on...

## Regional Action Plan 2030

### Place and Life in the UNECE

#### Policy Area A: CITIES, NEIGHBOURHOODS, HOMES and RURAL LIFE

Goal A1: Coordinated national, sub-national and local action through multi-level governance and strategic plans and frameworks.

Goal A2: City-wide and integrated action

Goal A3: Sustainable neighbourhoods and local living environments

#### Policy Area B: SUSTAINABLE HOUSING and HOME S

Goal B1: Governance

Goal B2: Land Policy

Goal B3: Finance & Funding

Goal B4: Climate Neutral Housing

UNECE has prepared *Place and Life in the UNECE: Regional Action Plan 2030* on the role of affordable, sustainable housing within urban development across the UNECE region. *Place and Life* is focused on taking specific actions to **tackle challenges** from the COVID-19 pandemic, climate and housing emergencies in the region, city, neighbourhood and home.

It proposes a series of aims, principles, policies, goals and targets to inspire action in **affordable housing** and **sustainable urban development**, to be implemented, on a voluntary basis, by international organisations, member States and cities, the private sector, civil society and other stakeholders.

The aims of the Action Plan are to **tackle inequalities** and **development deficiencies**, **strengthen the capacities** of local actors, and pursue a **green, resilient and inclusive economic recovery**.



# Next events

*UNFCCC COP26 – Glasgow, UK: Collaborative UN system side event “Climate-neutral housing - Decarbonizing the housing stock in an inclusive and affordable way”, 4 November 2021*

*Second UN Forum of Mayors – 4-5 April 2022*

*Regional Forum on SD – 6-7 April 2022*

*World Urban Forum, Katowice, Poland, June 2022*

The **second Forum of Mayors** will be held back-to-back with the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development. The event will provide a platform for Mayors from the UNECE region to **exchange information** on experiences and **best practices** on city level policies and practices.

Read more at: [unece.org/housing/events/forum-of-mayors-2022](https://unece.org/housing/events/forum-of-mayors-2022)



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