



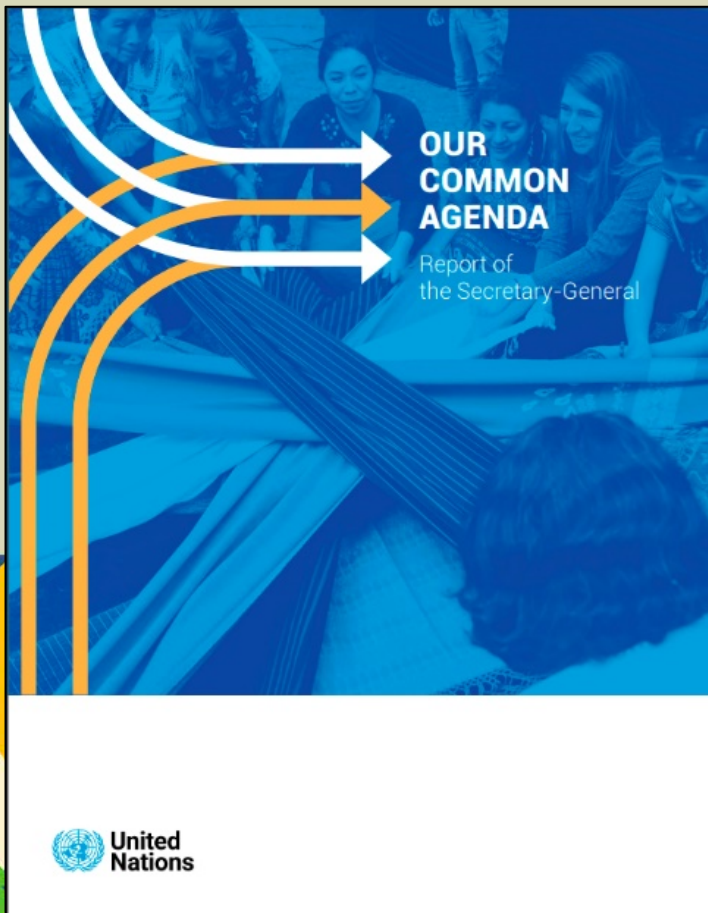
UNECE Ministerial Meeting on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management and 82nd session of the Committee on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management

Agenda item 4. Matters arising since the last Committee session

8 October 2021

UN our Common Agenda Report of the Secretary General

UN Common Agenda is an agenda of action designed to accelerate the implementation of existing agreements, including the Sustainable Developments Goals.



All proposed actions are in line with and designed to accelerate the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.



1. Leave no one behind



2. Protect our planet



3. Build trust



4. Improve digital cooperation



5. Ensure sustainable financing



6. Boost partnerships

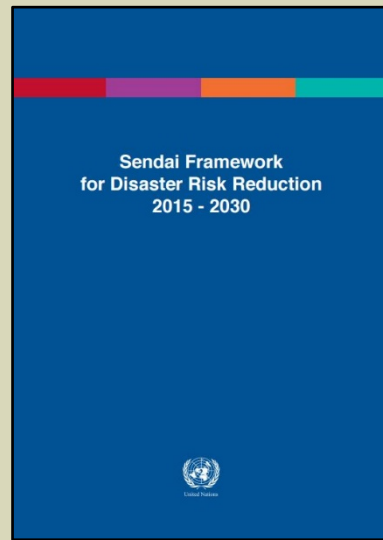


7. Be prepared



UNDRR Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030

Disaster risk reduction cuts across different aspects and sectors of development. There are 25 targets related to disaster risk reduction in 10 of the 17 SDGs, firmly establishing the role of disaster risk reduction as a core development strategy.



Goal 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.

Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation.

Goal 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.

Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.

Goal 13: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development.



Paris Agreement

COP26 Special Report: The Health Argument for Climate Action

To achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement, health and equity need to be placed at the center of the UN climate negotiation going forward.



The COP26 agenda aims to ensure representation from across sectors, region and population groups, and particular of the most vulnerable communities.

Goal 1: Commit to a healthy recovery. Commit to a healthy, green and just recovery from COVID-19.

Goal 3: Harness the health benefits of climate action. Prioritize those climate intervention with the largest health –social and economic gains.

Goal 6: Reimagine transport and mobility. Promote sustainable, healthy urban design and transport systems, with improved land-use, access to public space, and priority for walking, cycling and public transport.

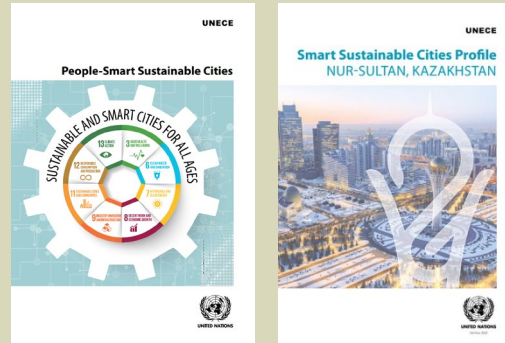


Our work on...

Smart Sustainable Cities

The concept of **Smart Sustainable Cities** aims to address the current and future challenges of cities and improve the way cities function to achieve the SDGs.

In light of **shrinking public budgets** and the legacy of the global **financial crisis**, local authorities suffer from a **limited capacity** to drive the transition towards smart and sustainable cities and localisation of the 2030 Agenda.



UNECE develops smart sustainable city profiles using **Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)** for Smart Sustainable Cities within the following projects:

- *“Improved sustainable urban development in 17 Norwegian cities”*. Smart sustainable city profiles developed for **4 cities** - Alesund, Asker, Baerum, Rana and Trondheim.
- *“Smart Sustainable Cities for the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development and the New Urban Agenda in the UNECE Region”* supports the **transition of cities** towards becoming smart and sustainable.

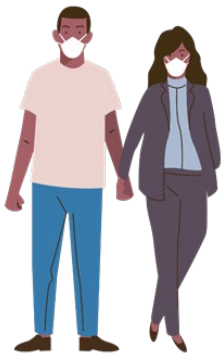
In 2021, the following **4 cities** undergo the KPI evaluation:

- Almaty (Kazakhstan)
- Bishkek (Kyrgyzstan)
- Tbilisi (Georgia)
- Podgorica (Montenegro)

Based on the assessment, city profiles are prepared, including a list of **policy recommendations** to make the city smarter and more sustainable and projects to **attract external investments**.

Based on city profiles, we are also developing **Guidelines for Voluntary Local Reviews** to assess progress at the city level towards achieving SDGs.

Read more at: unece.org/housing/innovative-financing-sustainable-smart-cities



Our work on...

COVID-19 Recovery

The **COVID-19 pandemic** has had serious consequences across all spectrums of development and cities have become the main hotspots for transmission of the virus.

A focus on urban areas is important because of (1) their role as engines of **economic growth** and **structural transformation**; (2) their impact on **income and non-income inequality** and hence **social stability**; and (3) their high **vulnerability to infections** due to poor planning or the existence of **informal settlements**.



A field project “*Post COVID-19 Recovery Action Plan for Informal Settlements in the UNECE Region*” provided **concrete recommendations** to enhance the integration of informal settlements into the urban fabric of cities and to help cities to **recover from the crisis** caused by the COVID-19 pandemics.

The project targeted the following **4 cities** to enhance the **socio-economic recovery** following the pandemic and contribute to **urban resilience**:

- Tirana, Albania
- Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan
- Podgorica, Montenegro
- Skopje, North Macedonia

Outcomes of the project were also integrated into the UNDA Rapid Response project “*Building Urban Economic Resilience during and after COVID-19*” which aims to strengthen the capacity of city governments in **16 cities** globally to design, implement, and monitor sustainable, resilient, and inclusive **COVID-19 economic and financial responses, recovery, and rebuilding plans**.

In the UNECE region the following cities are beneficiaries:

- Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan
- Kharkiv, Ukraine
- Tirana, Albania

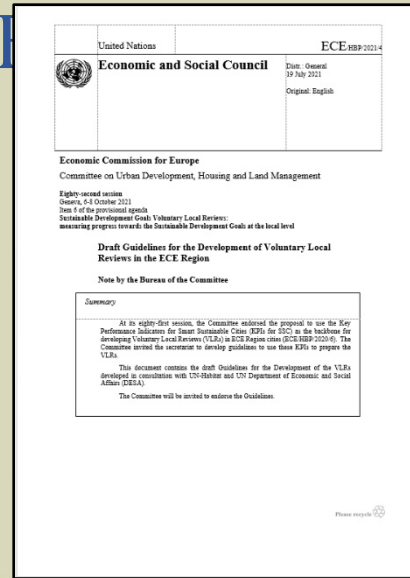
Read more at: <https://unece.org/housing/urban-resilience-after-covid-19>

Read more at: <https://unece.org/housing/post-covid-19-recovery>



Our work on...

Localization of SDG
through the development
of Guidelines for SDG
Voluntary Local Reviews
(VLRs) in the UNECE



VLR as a practical action-oriented document

Promotes 'shared value creation'

Supports participatory approach

Leaving no one behind, focus on the most

Based on evidence-based approach (KPIs for SSC)

Flexible and adaptable

Strong focus on innovative financing



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**.



Housing Europe UN HABITAT FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE UNECE



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**.

The Plan is expected to be endorsed at the UNECE Ministerial Meeting in October 2021.



Thank you!

Find out more at <https://unece.org/housing>

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www.linkedin.com/showcase/unece-housing-and-land-management-unit



<https://twitter.com/UNECEHLM>



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