

Global Future Cities Programme

SDG PROJECT ASSESSMENT TOOL VOL 1: GENERAL FRAMEWORK

SEPTEMBER 2020



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UN HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

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SDG Project Assessment Tool General Framework

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**THE SDG¹ PROJECT
ASSESSMENT TOOL IS AN
OFFLINE, DIGITAL AND USER-
FRIENDLY INSTRUMENT THAT
GUIDES CITY AUTHORITIES TO
DEVELOP MORE INCLUSIVE,
SUSTAINABLE AND EFFECTIVE
URBAN PROJECTS.**

1. In 2015, world leaders signed the Sustainable Development Agenda convening development efforts towards 17 common global goals to be achieved by 2030, which are referred to as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

WHAT IS THE GENERAL FRAMEWORK?

The SDG Project Assessment Tool (referred to as SDG Tool) is developed by UN-Habitat as an offline, digital and user-friendly instrument to guide City Authorities and Delivery Partners in the development of more inclusive, sustainable and effective urban projects.

The General Framework of the SDG Project Assessment Tool (SDG Tool) comprises the complete list of Sustainability Principles, aligned to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and the related Performance Criteria.

The General Framework represents the substantial component of the SDG Tool. It covers the three thematic pillars of the Global Future Cities Programme: Urban Planning, Transport and Resilience. Starting from this comprehensive set of principles and performance criteria a tailor-made SDG Project Assessment Worksheet will be derived for each project of the Programme.

The ***SDG Project Assessment Tool_Vol 1: General Framework*** is complemented by the ***SDG Project Assessment Tool_Vol 2: User Guide***.

The User Guide provides an introduction to the SDG Tool, focusing on its rationale, scope, and target groups and beneficiaries. Moreover, the User Guide explains the step-by-step application of the SDG Tool, guiding the users towards an inclusive and effective project assessment process.

Content Structure

The Sustainability Principles are organized into technical and effectiveness key drivers. While the **technical** key drivers need to be followed for sustainable and inclusive urbanization, the **effectiveness** key drivers relate to the implementation, viability and sustainability of the urban projects beyond the Programme period.

Cross-cutting issues, such as climate change, gender, human rights, disability, children, youth and elderly persons are considered integral to the entire framework and incorporated across all Sustainability Principles.

The **technical key drivers** are as follows:

1. Social Inclusion
2. Spatial Planning
3. Environmental Resilience
4. Economic Development

The **effectiveness key drivers** are as follows:

1. Data-driven Processes and Management
2. Capacity-building and Market Maturity
3. Urban Governance and Legal Frameworks
4. Financial Strategies

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

TERM/ACRONYM	DEFINITION
URBAN SERVICES	(i) Basic Services, (ii) Mobility Systems, (iii) Social Facilities and (iv) Public Space
(i) Basic Services	Water, energy, waste management, ICT
(ii) Mobility Systems	Transport infrastructure and networks, including facilities (e.g. stations) and vehicles
(iii) Social Facilities	Schools, hospitals, libraries, and other social utilities
(iv) Public Space	Public parks, green areas, streets, avenues, etc.
INFRASTRUCTURE SYSTEMS	Physical infrastructure related to any of the above urban services (i.e. mobility, basic services, etc.)
VULNERABLE GROUPS	Women, children, youth, elderly, and disabled. Including urban poor, marginalized groups, and all genders, ages and abilities.
CORE PRINCIPLES	Set of Sustainability Principles that will be applicable to the 30 projects of the Programme

Ref.	Sustainability Principles	SDG Target Alignment	Ref.	Performance Criteria
Technical Aspects				
Key Driver: Social inclusion				
1	Diversity of housing types based on income, tenure, and size ensures housing stock that meets local demand <i>PLANNING</i>	01.1, 10.2, 11.1, 11.a,	1.1	The project assesses current and future demographics and trends, and tries to meet the identified housing needs of the population.
		01.4, 05.1, 05.a, 10.2, 10.3, 10.4, 11.1, 16.7,	1.2	The project provides a range of housing tenure typologies, including tenure that is appropriate for vulnerable groups or the poor.
		01.4, 05.a, 11.1, 17.1, 17.17,	1.3	The project explores the best options to finance and develop housing, and considers both public and private sector involvement.
		11.1, 11.4,	1.4	Housing typologies are appropriate to local cultural values and lifestyles.
		05.1, 10.2, 10.3, 10.4, 11.1, 11.3, 16.7,	1.5	The project proposes a mix of housing and design typologies (including factors such as house and block size, layout, and use).
		01.4, 03.8, 04.1, 04.2, 04.3, 06.1, 06.2, 06.b, 07.1, 09.1, 09.c, 11.1, 11.2, 11.7,	1.6	(If the project includes informal areas) The project provides strategies for informal settlement upgrading and other informal settlement solutions such as incremental housing or site-and-services schemes.
		01.1, 05.1, 10.2, 10.3, 10.4, 11.1, 16.7,	1.7	Proposed housing is affordable to the current and future population, including vulnerable and disadvantaged groups.
2	Appropriate provision and spatial distribution of affordable housing meets shelter needs and ensures access to basic services and livelihood opportunities for all <i>PLANNING</i>	01.1, 01.4, 05.1, 05.a, 10.2, 10.3, 10.4, 11.1, 16.7,	2.1	The project is based on a comprehensive housing assessment, including current supply, future needs, and location. The housing assessment considers the needs of women, children, youth, the elderly, and people living in informal areas.
		01.5, 05.1, 10.2, 10.3, 10.4, 11.1, 11.5, 11.b, 11.c, 13.1, 13.2, 13.3, 13.b, 16.7, 17.18,	2.2	The project contains measures to specifically understand and address the housing needs of vulnerable and disadvantaged groups.
		01.1, 05.1, 10.2, 10.3, 10.4, 11.1, 11.3, 16.7,	2.3	The project aims at achieving social mix of residents (a mix of different income levels).
		01.1, 01.4, 05.a, 10.2, 11.1,	2.4	The project contains strategies, mechanisms, or policy instruments to improve the provision of affordable housing stock.
		01.4, 03.8, 04.1, 04.2, 04.3, 06.1, 06.2, 06.b, 07.1, 09.1, 09.c, 11.1, 11.2, 11.7,	2.5	The project ensures that housing is in locations which allow good access to infrastructure and services and employment opportunities, including for vulnerable and marginalised groups.
		01.1, 01.4, 05.1, 05.a, 10.2, 10.3, 10.4, 11.1, 16.7,	2.6	The project increases overall access to adequate and affordable housing for all, including vulnerable and marginalised groups.

Ref.	Sustainability Principles	SDG Target Alignment	Ref.	Performance Criteria
Technical Aspects				
Key Driver: Social inclusion				
3	Housing conditions, especially in informal settlements, are safe, secure, and promote well-being <i>PLANNING</i>	01.4, 05.a, 11.1,	3.1	The project is based on a comprehensive assessment of existing housing quality, especially in informal settlements. The assessment includes accessibility, security, and safety.
		01.5, 11.1, 11.3, 11.5, 11.b, 11.c, 13.1, 13.2, 13.3, 13.b,	3.2	The project promotes housing in locations which are not exposed to natural disasters or other threats to health (i.e. hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination).
		01.5, 11.1, 11.5, 11.b, 11.c, 13.1, 13.2, 13.3, 13.b,	3.3	The project ensures that houses are well-built, and housing construction materials and techniques are able to withstand weather conditions and natural disasters.
		11.1,	3.4	The project promotes sufficient living space and avoids overcrowding.
		01.4, 06.1, 06.2, 06.b, 07.1, 09.c, 11.1,	3.5	The project ensures that housing meets minimum standards for a satisfactory standard of living, including safe drinking water, adequate sanitation, sustainable energy for cooking, heating, lighting, food storage, refuse disposal and emergency services.
		01.4, 05.a, 11.1,	3.6	The project considers land tenure security as an essential part of access to housing, and proposes solutions to improve land tenure conditions where needed.
4	Alternatives to evictions and resettlement planning mitigate negative consequences when unavoidable <i>PLANNING</i>	01.4, 05.a, 11.1, 16.6,	4.1	The project treats eviction or resettlement as a last resort, and considers all possible alternatives. Any eviction or resettlement exercise is accompanied by a detailed justification of the decision taken.
		01.4, 03.8, 04.1, 04.2, 04.3, 05.a, 06.1, 06.2, 06.b, 07.1, 09.1, 09.c, 10.2, 11.1, 11.2, 11.3, 11.7,	4.2	If evictions are unavoidable, the project identifies relocation sites that fulfil the criteria for adequate housing, access to affordable urban services, public transport and economic and livelihood opportunities, while avoiding segregation or marginalization of the relocated population.
		01.5, 03.9, 11.1, 11.5, 11.b, 11.c, 13.1, 13.2, 13.3, 13.b,	4.3	If evictions are unavoidable, relocation sites are not exposed to natural disasters, pollution, or other threats to health (including hazardous chemicals or contamination).
		01.4, 03.9, 08.3, 09.4, 10.2, 11.1, 11.2, 11.3, 11.6, 11.7, 12.2, 13.2,	4.4	If evictions are unavoidable, resettlement locations include site planning and community planning to ensure that they are connected, well-designed and economically viable neighbourhoods with the possibility for future growth and development. Resettlement sites include good urban design and planning to ensure that they are pleasant places to live and work, and are connected to the rest of the city.

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