



LEADING CHANGE

Delivering the
New Urban Agenda through
Urban and Territorial
Planning



human settlements

Department:
Human Settlements
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



SOUTH AFRICAN LOCAL
GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

SALGA

Inspiring service delivery

UN HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

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Foreword

We are very pleased to present *Leading Change: Delivering the New Urban Agenda through Urban and Territorial Planning*, an insightful analysis of UN-Habitat's Guidelines for Urban and Territorial Planning. The revival of planning as a key instrument of sustainable urbanisation, and indeed, sustainable development as such, has been a journey of over a decade, spearheaded by UN-Habitat but in close collaboration with several partners. What began in 2005 as a series of ad-hoc flyers documenting UN-Habitat's various activities related to urban planning, has culminated in urban planning and design becoming fundamental to the agency's work, an important piece of SDG 11, and central to the New Urban Agenda, agreed by member states at the Habitat III Conference in Quito in October 2016.

A key step in this journey was the adoption of the International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning by the UN-Habitat Governing Council in April 2015. The Guidelines were developed through an extensive participatory process involving representatives of national governments, local authorities, professional associations and civil society, who contributed their time and expertise through a series of Expert Group Meetings over a period of two years. Alongside UN-Habitat,

the Expert Group was actively supported by the International Society of City and Regional Planners (ISOCARP) and United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), representing professionals and local authorities respectively.

This publication is an attempt to unpack the essential principles and ideas that underpin the Guidelines. Along with urban economy and legislation, urban planning remains one of the three fundamentals of urbanisation as enshrined in the New Urban Agenda.

Supported by SALGA and the Department of Human Settlements, Government of South Africa, *Leading Change* is an excellent addition to the suite of knowledge products focused on urban planning and design being developed by UN-Habitat and its partners, to build a better understanding of the Guidelines and support their implementation. We hope that this book will help national governments, local and regional authorities and their networks, professional associations, and civil society networks, across the globe, to engage with planning and use it as tool to deliver sustainable, inclusive, resilient and safe cities and human settlements.



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Message from the Chair of the Expert Group: International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning

The names of the people who gave so generously of their time to draft the International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning and to write this book are listed in the acknowledgements. Their contributions have however been so substantial that simply listing names is not recognition enough. Special mention must be made of the enormous contribution and selfless effort made by these remarkable people, drawn from all corners of the globe and from all Habitat partner groups – and all on a voluntary basis. They have made a significant contribution to positioning us to deliver the sustainable urban future the New Urban Agenda seeks to achieve.

The Department of Human Settlements of the South African Government has played a key role in both supporting the adoption of the International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning, together with the Governments of France, Japan and Uganda, and in providing the

opportunity during the Habitat III preparatory process, including in the Habitat III thematic meeting hosted by South Africa in Pretoria, *Leading Change: From Slums to Inclusive, Safe, Resilient and Sustainable Human Settlement*, for the conceptualisation of the book. This opportunity was vital to bringing the book to life and is greatly appreciated, especially as it has enabled us to start moving not only from the “what” to the “how”, but also to start thinking about the “who”.

Finally, acknowledgment must also be given to the South African Local Government Association (SALGA) for supporting the writing of this book. Without SALGA’s belief in the role of planning, as set out in the International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning, and of the importance of partnerships in delivering the New Urban Agenda, this book would not have been possible.



Christine Platt

Chair: Expert Group International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning

Abbreviations

AAPS	The Association of African Planning Schools
AeT	Asiye eTafuleni
BRT	Bus Rapid Transit
CEDAW	International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
ESPON	European Territorial Observatory Network
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
ICESCR	International Convention on Economic, Social and Political Rights
ICN	Innovation Circle Network
IG-UTP	International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning
LGBT	Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual and Transgender
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
NCD	Non-communicable Disease
NGO	Non-government Organisation
NUA	New Urban Agenda
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
PAS	Planning Aid Scotland
PCVA	Participatory Capacity and Vulnerability Analysis
PSUP	Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SPLUMA	Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act (South Africa)
SWOT	Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats
UCLG	United Cities and Local Governments
UDHR	Universal Declaration of Human Rights
UN	United Nations
UNISDR	United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction
UTP	Urban and Territorial Planning
WHO	World Health Organization

Glossary

Administrative justice: Administrators must follow fair procedures when taking decisions, and those affected should have the right to review or appeal decisions and be given reasons for the decision. Decisions should be transparent and free of any prejudice or partiality.

Age-friendly cities: A local policy approach to respond to the needs of aging populations and support the inclusion of older people by planning and designing environments that are barrier-free, with good connections between places, suitable housing and places to rest, meet people and get community support.

Agglomeration economies: Competitive advantages that accrue to businesses from location in a large urban centre – e.g. access to a larger market for labour and for components and for the sale of products. Also there are advantages of access to capital and knowledge.

Capacity: Positive conditions or abilities which increase a person's or a group's ability to do things, and specifically to advocate for their needs and to implement desired actions.

Circular economy: An economy that recycles and reuses waste, so that today's products become tomorrow's resources. It contrasts with a linear economy that can be characterised as "take – make – dispose".

City region: The area within which the connections between one or more cities and the surrounding rural land are intense and

functionally (economically, socially, politically and geographically) connected. These areas are typically 80-100 km across and occupy up to 10,000 km².

Climate change: A change in climate patterns that persists for decades or longer. It arises from human activity that alters the composition of the atmosphere (i.e. greenhouse gas emissions) that is over and above natural climate variability.

Climate change adaptation: Actions that people and institutions make in anticipation of, or in response to, a changing climate. This includes altering things they do and/or the way they do them.

Climate change mitigation: An activity to reduce the drivers of climate change, by reducing emissions of greenhouse gases to the atmosphere. In the context of disasters, "mitigation" means the measures taken before the impact of a disaster to minimise its effects.

Clusters: The tendency of businesses in the same sector to locate close to one another, as this provides competitive advantages as a form of competitive cooperation, e.g. access to skills or components, and opportunities for customers to do comparison shopping.

Communicable diseases: Diseases spread from one person or animal to another. The infection can be transmitted via a variety of means, e.g. insect bites or airborne viruses.

Disaster: A serious disruption of the functioning of a place and the activities it supports, causing widespread human, material or environmental losses and impacts, which exceed the ability of the people affected to cope using their own resources.

Disaster risk reduction: The systematic effort to analyse and manage the causal factors of disasters, i.e. reduce exposure to hazards, lessen vulnerability of people and property, apply wise environmental management, and improved preparedness for adverse events.

Disruptive technologies: Innovations that create significant new business opportunities and models, and simultaneously make previous products, services and business practices obsolete.

Development state: States that have the capacity and political will to play a leading role in the pursuit of development, and in which high priority is given to delivering economic development. Such states typically combine

Gentrification: The process of social change that takes place in a neighbourhood, often previously occupied by low-income residents, as more affluent people move in. Gentrification may be triggered by environmental improvements or new transport links that make the area more attractive, but can also occur as a response to housing shortages in pressured housing markets. It is often associated with a change in tenure from renting to owner-occupation, or within renting from low rent to high rent. Supporting services and facilities, e.g. shops, bars, and industrial premises, are also likely to change.

Governance: The political and administrative management of places that involves partnerships (formal or informal) between governments at different levels but also the private sector and civil society organisations.

Green belt: A planning policy that seeks to retain a ring of agricultural, forest or other open land around a growing settlement, by refusing to allow development there.

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