

# **Why Urban Design Governance matters in the quest for equity, sustainability and peace?**



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FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

 **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS**

**1** NO POVERTY



**2** ZERO HUNGER



**3** GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



**4** QUALITY EDUCATION



**5** GENDER EQUALITY



**6** CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



**7** AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY



**8** DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



**9** INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE



**10** REDUCED INEQUALITIES



**11** SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



**12** RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



**13** CLIMATE ACTION



**14** LIFE BELOW WATER



**15** LIFE ON LAND



**16** PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



**17** PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

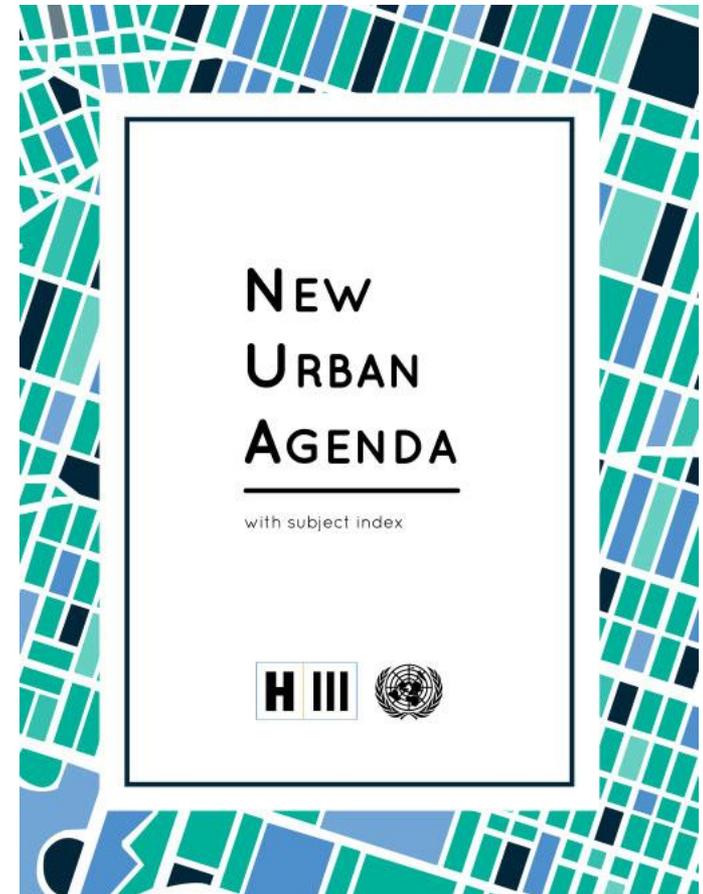


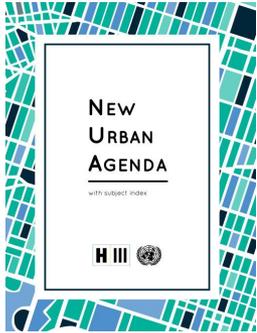


## New Urban Agenda

An urban paradigm shift:

- (1) Recognizing **urban and territorial development** as essential to sustainable development and prosperity,
- (2) Recognizing the role of **national governments** (policy and legislation), **local governments, and civil society,**
- (3) Adopting **people-centered, age- and gender-responsive and integrated** approaches.





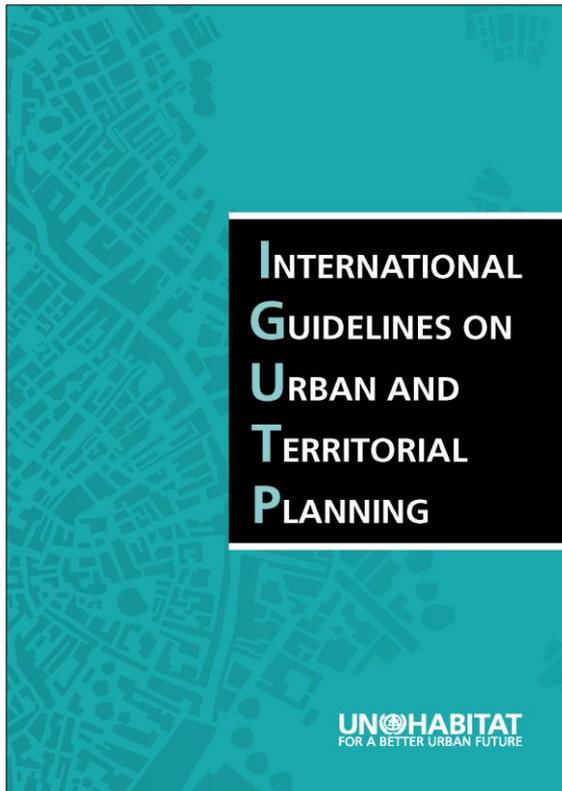
## Reflections on the New Urban Agenda

- Centrality of housing, planning and design, land, public space, local governance, formality and informality, safety and security, public space
- Inclusion of issues of concern of diverse groups of urban stakeholders
- Introduction of “right to the city”, “right to adequate housing”, “decent work”, “public services”, “cities in crisis”, “smart cities”

## Planning and design are political instruments

- Often used consciously to exclude or include
- Deliberately employed to benefit some at the cost of others
- Can be used to empower or stifle
- Can enhance or diminish sustainability
- Can bring conflict or peace

# Developing principles and global norms



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DISCUSSION NOTE 3  
URBAN PLANNING

**A NEW STRATEGY OF  
SUSTAINABLE NEIGHBOURHOOD  
PLANNING: FIVE PRINCIPLES**

UN-Habitat supports countries to develop urban planning methods and systems to address current urbanization challenges such as population growth, urban sprawl, poverty, inequality, pollution, congestion, as well as urban biodiversity, urban mobility and energy.

In recent decades, the landscape of cities has changed significantly because of rapid urban population growth. A major feature of fast growing cities is urban sprawl, which drives the occupation of large areas of land and is usually accompanied by many serious problems including inefficient land use, high car dependency, low density and high segregation of uses. Coupled with land use speculation, current models of city growth result in fragmented and inefficient urban space where urban advantage and city concept are lost.

Cities of the future should build a different type of urban structure and space, where city life thrives and the most common problems of current urbanization are addressed. UN-Habitat proposes an approach that summarizes and refines existing sustainable urban planning theories to help build a new and sustainable relationship between urban dwellers and urban space, and to increase the value of urban land. This approach is based on 5 principles that support the 3 key features of sustainable neighbourhoods and cities: compact, integrated, connected.

**THE FIVE PRINCIPLES ARE**

- 1. Adequate space for streets and an efficient street network:** The street network should occupy at least 30 per cent of the land and at least 18 km of street length per km<sup>2</sup>.
- 2. High density:** At least 15,000 people per km<sup>2</sup>, that is 130 people/ha or 63 people/acre.
- 3. Mixed land-uses:** At least 40 per cent of floor space should be allocated for economic use in any neighbourhood.
- 4. Social mix:** The availability of houses in different price ranges and income in any given neighbourhood to accommodate diverse income; 20 to 50 per cent of the residential floor area should be for low cost housing and each income type should be represented 30 per cent of the total.
- 5. Limited land-use specialisation:** This is to limit single function blocks or neighbourhoods; single function block should cover less than 10 per cent of any neighbourhood.

**HIGH DENSITY URBAN GROWTH vs. URBAN SPRAWL**

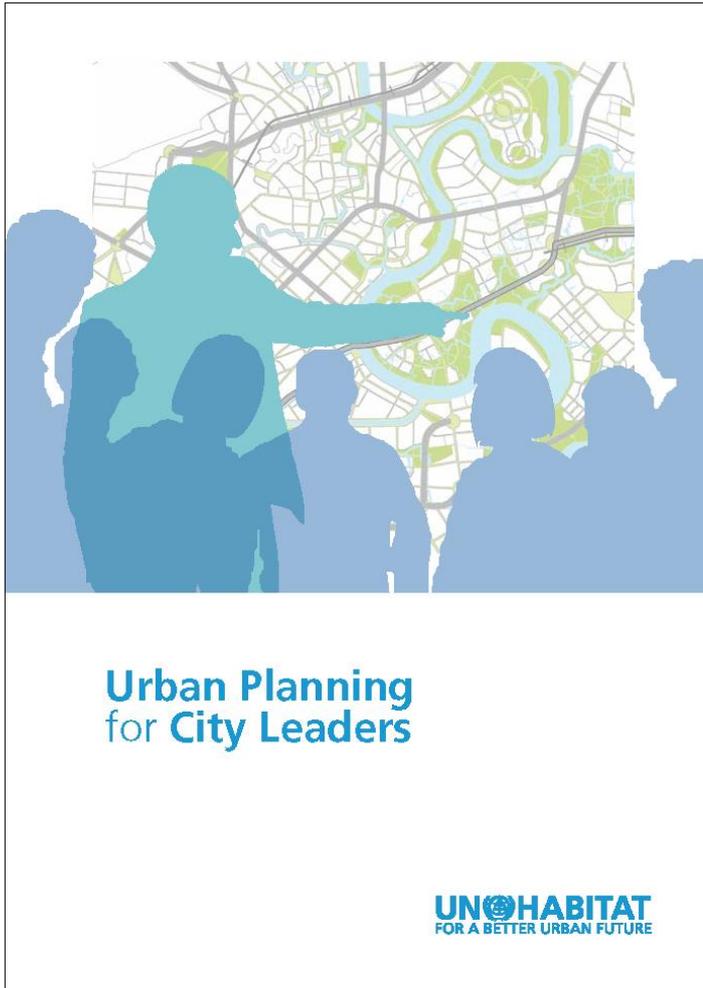
A compact city: Paris, France  
© UN-Habitat/Laura Patella

Urban sprawl: Uberlândia, Brazil  
© UN-Habitat/Silviano do Santos

**Global Public Space Toolkit**  
From Global Principles to  
Local Policies and Practice

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# Capacity building



- Basic training
- Rapid planning studio
- Planning charrette
- Planning laboratory
- Continuous technical and advisory support
- Coaching and mentoring of planning officials
- City to city knowledge sharing and exchange

# Urban Design LAB: Creating space for stakeholders engagement



Johannesburg, South Africa



Medellin, Columbia



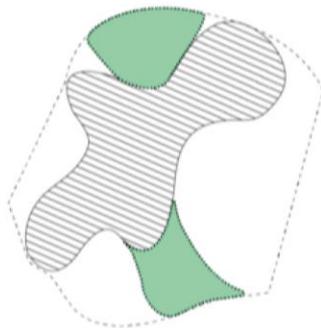
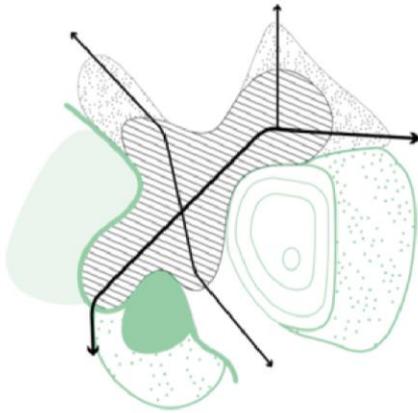
Guangzhou, China



Hargeisa, Somalia

# Three Pronged Approach

## Planning and Design



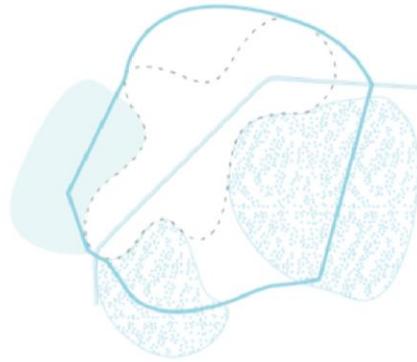
A

FAR  
1.5

B

FAR  
0.5

## Legislation



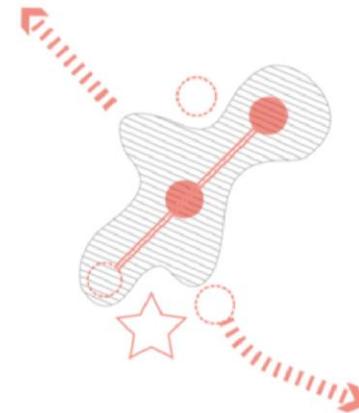
Density

Land Use

Land Tenure

Charges and Benefits

## Economy and Finance



Development Taxes

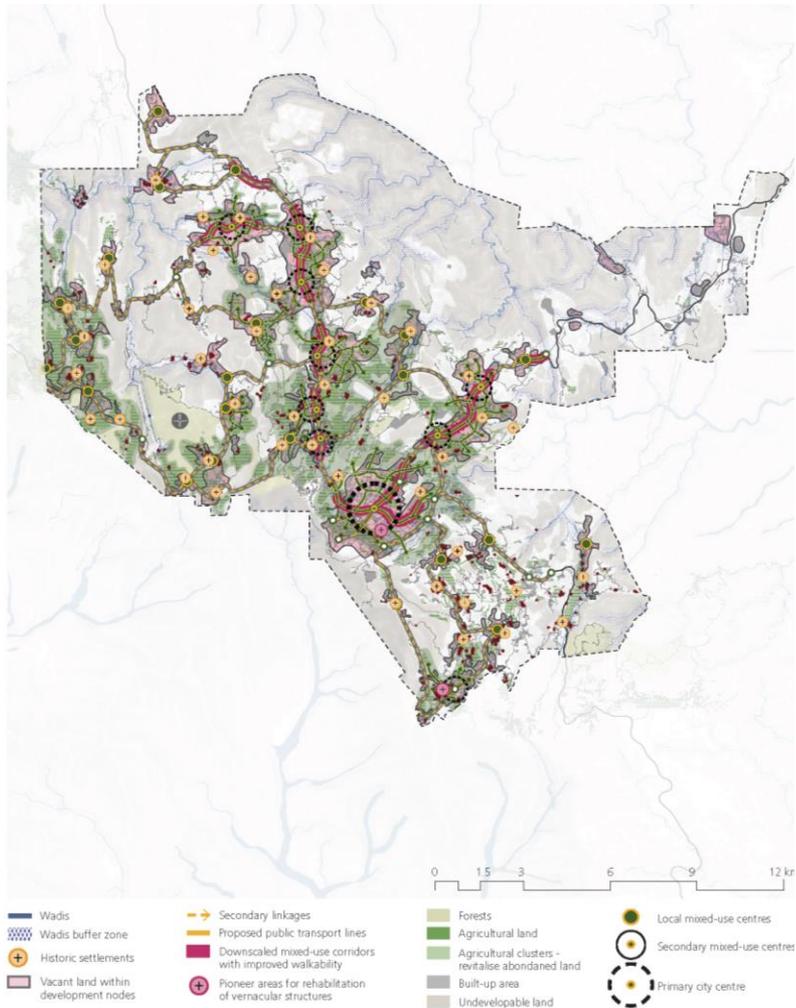
Land Taxes

Fees

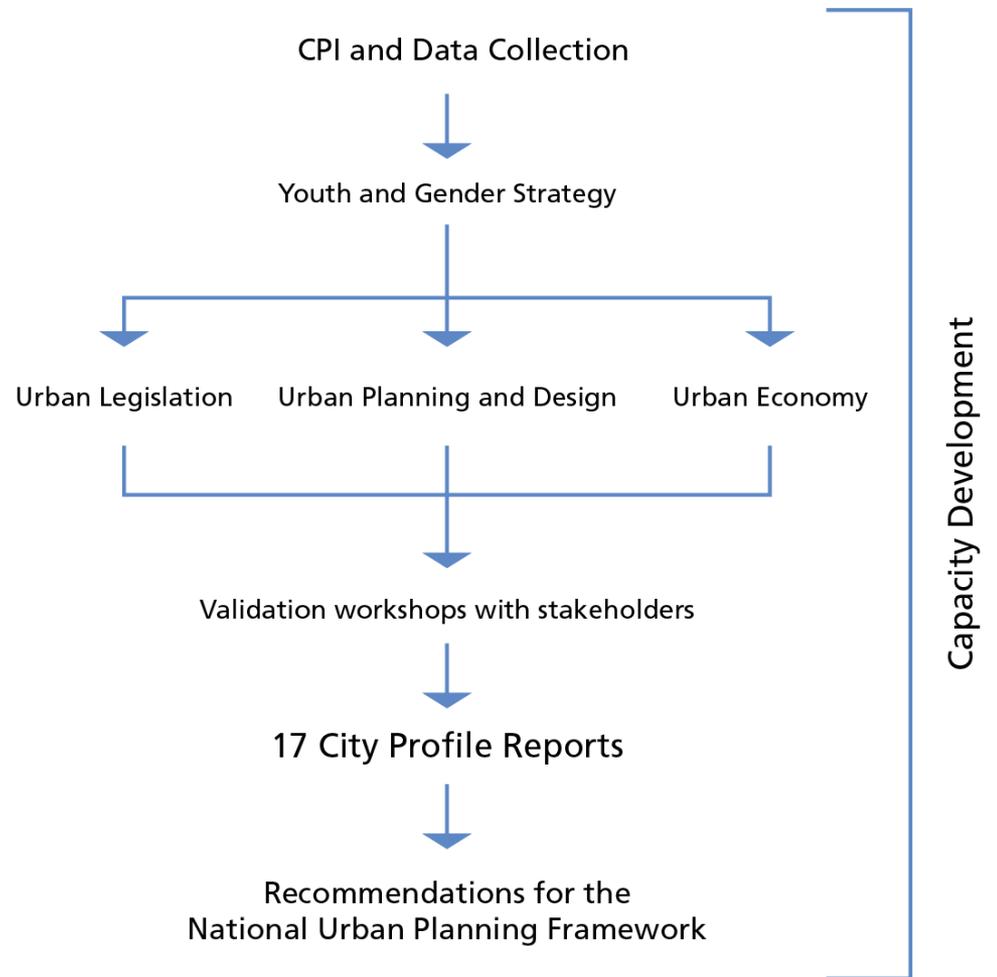
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National Budget

# Future Saudi Cities Programme



Action Plan for Al Baha, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia



## Looking forward to the conclusions of Urban MAESTRO

- Understanding how planning and design can be an effective instrument of governance: Can other cities learn from European experience?
- Distilling the critical elements that allow the process to lead to good outcomes, both in terms of process and of content
- Assessing the effectiveness of “negotiated urbanism” – does it achieve public good, or retreat from it?



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