



UNECE Committee on Housing and Land Management



Presentation of a report “Eurasian Cities: New Realities along the Silk Road”, Geneva, 14 March 2013





Committee on Housing and Land Management

The Committee is represented by 56 member states and

- is a platform for **inter-governmental dialogue**
- is a forum for the **exchange of information and experience**
- assists with **policy formulation and implementation**:
 - in-depth assessments
 - policy guidance and recommendations
 - advisory services and capacity-building activities.





Committee areas of work



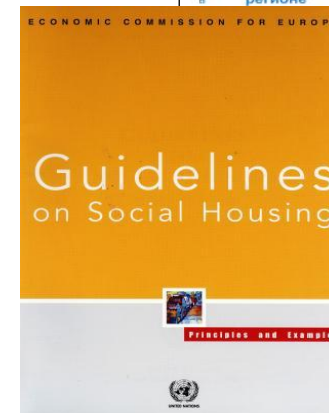
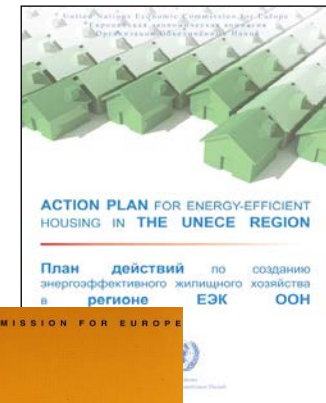
1. Sustainable Housing and Real Estate Markets

Objective:

To provide tools to improve the sustainability of the housing stock including guidelines on energy efficient housing.

Example:

“Guidelines on Condominium Ownership of Housing”: used in preparing the law on the management of condominiums in **Albania**





Committee areas of work



2. Sustainable urban development

Objective:

To promote sustainable urban development through efficient use of land, energy, water and other resources.

Example:

ECE Workshop *“Enhancing urban performance – How effective urban planning can lead to greener urban communities & economies and promote social cohesion”* (Prague, 2010): used as the basis for approved *“Urban Policy Principles”* in the **Czech Republic**.





Committee areas of work



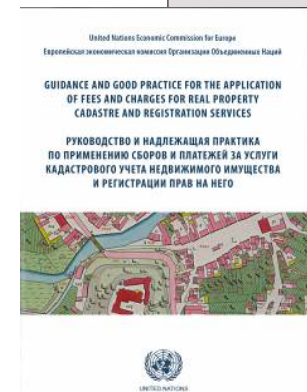
3. Sustainable Land Management

Objective:

To promote effective land administration (LA) through security of tenure, establishment of real estate markets in countries in transition, and modernization of land registration systems.

Example:

“Guidance and Good Practice for the Application of Fees and Charges for Real Property Cadastre and Registration Services”: used to develop the bylaws on fees and charges for cadastral and geodetic products and services in **Austria** and **Croatia**





Committee areas of work

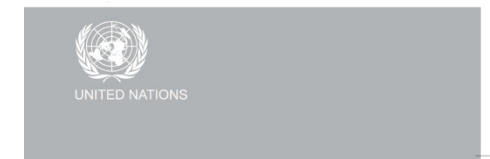
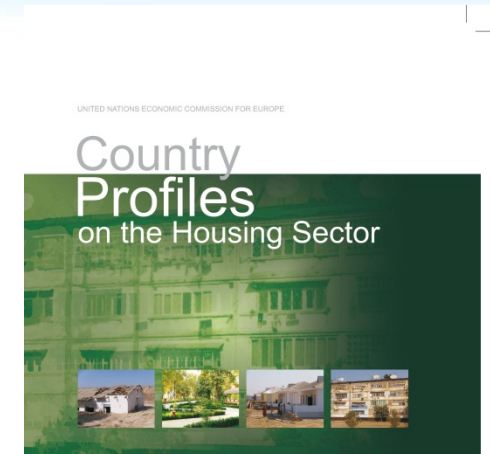


4. Country Profiles

- Conducted on requests of the countries
- Provide strategic analysis of the housing and land management systems
- Result in specific policy recommendations.

Example:

Country Profile study: used to elaborate the Draft Codex for Spatial Planning and Construction Regulation of **Georgia**





Committee areas of work



Country Profiles

Completed: Poland (1998), Slovakia (1999), Lithuania (2000), Romania (2001), Republic of Moldova (2002), Albania (2002), Armenia (2004), Russia (2004), Serbia and Montenegro (2006), Georgia (2007), Belarus (2008), Kyrgyzstan (2010), Azerbaijan (2010), Tajikistan (2011), Ukraine (ongoing).

Planned 2013-2015: Second reviews - Russian Federation, Moldova; first review - Croatia





Country profiles recommendations



Tajikistan

- Overcoming the sectoral planning approach: ensure links between key areas such as infrastructure, housing, green spaces and transport;
- Develop strategic planning including these sectors at the national level and translate it into regional and local regulations;
- Public urban transport to be prioritised over individual car use;
- The green spaces should be preserved and further developed.





Country profiles recommendations



Kyrgyzstan

- Promote subsidiarity principles: delegate power to the regional and local governments. Need in capacity building of local governments.
- A national strategic spatial development framework should be formulated to facilitate intersectoral cooperation (also link land management and housing programmes) and overcome the ad hoc approach to emerging development issues.
- A comprehensive national housing strategy should be developed, which should be translated into the regional and local plans;
- A strategy for informal settlements should be developed.
- Recommendations for the improvement of the housing finance system.





Country profiles recommendations



Azerbaijan

- Develop a national spatial developing strategy with a long term spatial vision, outlining a comprehensive territorial strategy, which takes into account sustainable development principles. Ensure better cooperation between different government bodies and stakeholders.
- Deliver spatial planning through the promotion of „hybrid“ (multilevel) governance.
- Establish a coordination mechanisms for housing and spatial planning policies.
- Three levels of planning activities are essential.





Country profiles recommendations - conclusions



Assistance to the national governments is needed in

- **Supporting the strategic approach** to city planning
- **Vertical integration of** the plans (national – regional – local)
- More active **involvement** of local authorities and stakeholders in the planning
- Promoting **intersectoral cooperation** (housing - spatial planning – transport – environment)
- Developing financing systems for housing and urban development

This is in line with the conclusions of the Rio+20 UN Conference on sustainable development





Outcomes of Rio+20 UN Sustainable Development Conference – strategic, including spatial planning



- A holistic approach to urban development and human settlements, including an integrated approach to planning and building sustainable cities and urban settlements;
- Mixed-use urban planning;
- Long term visions for cities' development;
- Land administration and real estate markets for economic recovery;
- Promoting urban regeneration and compact urban development;
- Sustainable development of “shrinking cities”, revitalization and regeneration;
- Participatory planning;
- Smart cities and ICT in urban areas.





Planned activities



The UNECE internal interdivisional working group on sustainable urban development

Consists of representatives of the **UNECE Sustainable Energy, Transport, Trade, Forestry and Timber, Environment, Population and Statistics** subprogrammes.

Main directions of future work – **spatial planning guidelines** taking into consideration **environmental risks and efficiency of use of land resources**; policy recommendations for **smart cities**.

Next events (in Geneva)

Housing Forum Europe and Central Asia, 22 – 24 April 2013

Smart cities workshop, 7 – 8 May 2014.





Planned activities



National Urban Dialogues – a joint activity with UN Habitat

Support to the implementation of the Country Profiles policy recommendation on housing, urban development and land management through

- Establishment of Habitat Committees – national interministerial committees for the development and implementation of policies on above mentioned areas
- Pilot and capacity building activities.

Pilot countries: Armenia, Moldova, Tajikistan and Serbia





INVITATION TO THE MINISTERIAL MEETING ON HOUSING AND LAND MANAGEMENT 2013

8 October 2013

- **Is convened every 5 years** (the last was in 2006)
- Will discuss future actions **to address emerging challenges** to housing and land management.

Key challenges according to a recent survey are:

- **Energy efficiency** of the residential sector
- Needs for the adaptation to and mitigation of the effects of **climate change**,
- **Real estate market stability.**





Thank you!

Housing and Land Management Unit
www.unece.org/hlm/welcome.html

