

Report by the Chair of the Committee on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management



UNECE EXCOM 112th meeting
14 December 2020





UN Forum of Mayors, 6 October 2020

40 Mayors from 36 countries participated

The Geneva Declaration of the Forum of Mayors 2020 was endorsed by the Mayors



Over 1,000 people from 65 countries attended

Geneva Declaration of Mayors

Theme



Strengthen the resilience of our cities



Ensure urban transport is sustainable



Take ambitious climate action



Ensure housing is affordable, healthy and adequate



Make our cities greener



Make cities more equitable and inclusive



Accelerate the transition to sustainable energy



Turn these aspirations into reality



**Find the full
declaration here**

[https://forumofmayors.unec
e.org/declaration.html](https://forumofmayors.unec
e.org/declaration.html)

Partners to the Forum of Mayors and participants of the SDG11 Day



United for Smart Sustainable Cities



UNECE



In 2019-2020 the Committee secretariat

- Conducted evaluation against the KPIs for SSC and prepared city profiles for the cities of Grodno (Belarus), Nur-Sultan (Kazakhstan) and for four cities in Norway - Alesund, Asker, Rana and Trondheim.
- Developed the ECE Protocol on the Evaluation of City Performance Against the Key Performance Indicators for Smart Sustainable Cities
- Coordinated the preparation of publications: “Guide to Circular Cities” and “Guidelines on tools and mechanisms to finance smart sustainable cities projects”
- Elaborated a proposal to use the U4SSC KPIs for SSC as a backbone for the development of VLRs in cities in the region.

Committee's support to building urban economic resilience during and after COVID-19

UNDA rapid response project

- Design and implementation of economic and financial responses to the crisis caused by COVID-19 pandemic in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan; Kharkiv, Ukraine; and Tirana, Albania.
- Develop guidance documents to lead cities in the Local Economic and Financial Recovery

Post COVID-19 Recovery in Informal Settlements in the ECE Region

- Post COVID-19 Recovery Action Plan for Informal Settlements for countries in the ECE region
- Concrete recommendations for the pilot cities – Bishkek, Podgorica, Skopje and Tirana for upgrading the informal settlements and supporting the cities in the recovery from COVID-19 pandemic

Close cooperation on the project with all the UN Regional Economic Commissions, UN-Habitat, UN Capital Development Fund, UN Resident Coordinators' Offices in the pilot countries.

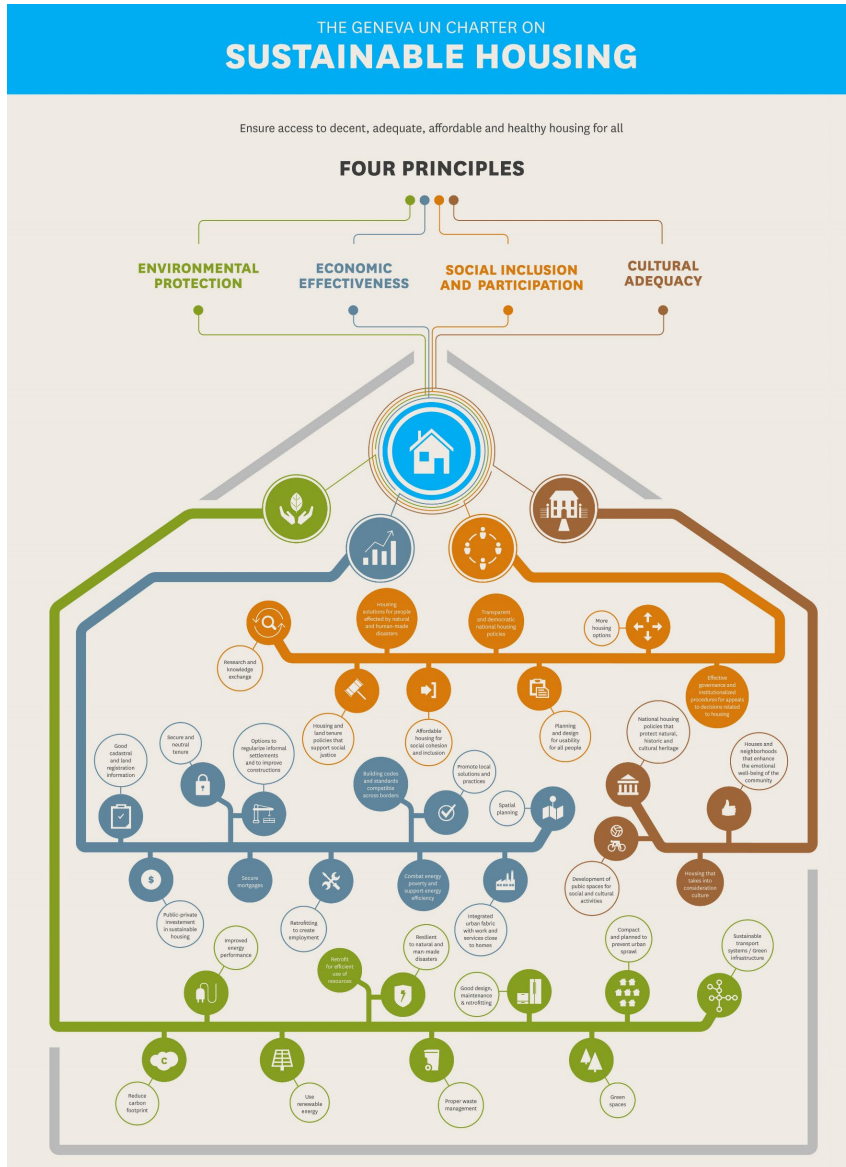


#Housing2030 initiative: promoting housing affordability in the UNECE Region

- **Joint Housing2030.org** launched in May 2020 by UNECE, UN-Habitat and Housing Europe
- **Podcast series** “Making a House a Home: Housing2030 special series” on housing policies and their impact on housing affordability – from May to June 2020 (3 complete, 3 in production, building series of 12 episodes)
- **UNECE Survey on housing affordability challenges**, policy responses, capacity building needs of governments
- **Online workshops**
 - “Land for inclusive and affordable housing” - May 2020 hosted by partners
 - Malta and Mediterranean subregion workshop, 17 Sept 2020
 - “Climate-neutral housing construction and renovation” - November 2020 hosted by Glasgow
 - “Housing governance and regulation towards housing affordability” - February 2021 to be hosted by Slovenia
 - “Improving housing affordability through access to finance and funding” - April 2021 to be hosted by Ireland
- Launch of the publication at the UNECE Ministerial meeting in October 2021



See more at <https://www.housing2030.org/>



Support to the implementation of the UN Geneva Charter on Sustainable Housing through activities of the Geneva UN Charter Centres of Excellence

- **Tirana, Albania**
Housing policies, informal settlements
- **Tallinn, Estonia**
Housing management in countries with economies in transition
- **Trondheim, Norway**
KPI evaluation in 17 cities, Volunteer Local Reviews
- **Glasgow, UK**
Affordable & social housing

Upcoming Centres (waiting for ES' approval) at

- **York University, Toronto, Canada**
Addressing youth homelessness
- **Geneva, Switzerland**
Evidence-based policies
- **Madrid, Spain (Foster Foundation)**
Urban planning and design
- **LIUC University, Cattaneo, Italy**
Innovative financing

Major activities for 2021

Access to affordable, decent, energy efficient housing

Affordable Housing

- Survey on housing affordability
- #Housing2030 study report

Ministerial Meeting on Housing and Urban Development 6-7 Oct 2020

Energy Efficiency in buildings

- Activities of the Joint Task Force on energy efficiency in buildings
- Trainings on improving energy efficiency via maintenance, management and refurbishment of existing housing stocks

Fire Safety in Buildings

- Cooperation with International Coalition for Fire Safety Standards on the implementation of the UNECE standards on fire safety in buildings

Sustainable Urban Development

Smart Sustainable Cities

- KPI evaluation and city profiles for Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan; Almaty and Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan; Tbilisi, Georgia; and Podgorica, Montenegro; preparation of city profiles for 13 municipalities in Norway

Integrated approach to planning of cities & human settlements

- Workshop on land-use planning and industrial safety in Belgrade, Serbia
- Workshop jointly with the secretariat of the UNECE Protocol on Water and Health
- Cooperation with THE PEP and the UNECE Population Unit on Ageing

Country Profile on Housing and Urban Development of Albania

Land Administration and Management

- 12th WPLA session
- Studies on land administrations
- WPLA workshops



Decisions related to the Real Estate Market Advisory Group



At its eighty-first session (Geneva, 6-8 October 2020), the Committee endorsed the revised terms of reference of the Advisory Group until 2022 (ECE/HBP/2020/8) and adopted the Advisory Group programme of work 2021–2022 (ECE/HBP/2020/9) in support of the extension of the Group’s mandate for the period 2021–2022 (ECE/HBP/206). The Executive Committee is invited to approve the extension of the mandate of the Advisory Group for the period 2021–2022 and adopt its revised terms of reference and its programme of work for the period 2021–2022.

Draft Decision

3. The Executive Committee hereby approves the extension of the mandate of the Real Estate Market Advisory Group for the period 2021–2022 and adopts its revised terms of reference as contained in document ECE/HBP/2020/8, and its programme of work 2021–2022 as contained in document ECE/HBP/2020/9.

Thank you!

UNECE

Date 14 | 12 | 2020, Geneva

