UNECE
Housing and Land Management

2020 Highlights
A retrospective
Forum of Mayors 2020, 6 October
City Action for a Resilient Future

40 Mayors from 36 countries participated

Geneva Declaration of Mayors endorsed by the Mayors

Over 1,000 people from 65 countries attended
Forum of Mayors 2020
Geneva Declaration of Mayors

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

Full declaration here:
https://forumofmayors.unece.org/declaration.html
The Forum of Mayors 2020 featured a soccer match that brought together mayors and Geneva-based ambassadors to get the ball rolling for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)!
• 6 Smart Sustainable City profiles prepared after an evaluation of the city against the KPIs for SSC: Grodno (Belarus), Nur-Sultan (Kazakhstan) and 4 cities in Norway – Alesund, Asker, Rana and Trondheim

• ECE Protocol on the Evaluation of City Performance against the Key Performance Indicators for Smart Sustainable Cities developed

• Coordinated preparation of publications: “Guide to Circular Cities” and “Guidelines on tools and mechanisms to finance smart sustainable cities projects”

• Proposal elaborated for use of the U4SSC KPIs for SSC as a backbone for the development of VLRs in cities in the region
Committee supports building urban economic resilience during and after COVID-19

Committee support through:

• **UNDA rapid response project**
  Support to city governments of Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan; Kharkiv, Ukraine; and Tirana, Albania in designing and implementing economic and financial responses to the crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and development of guidance documents to lead these and other cities in the Local Economic and Financial Recovery

• **Post COVID-19 Recovery in Informal Settlements in the UNECE region**
  Post COVID-19 Recovery Action Plan for Informal Settlements for countries in the ECE region elaborated and concrete recommendations developed for the pilot cities – Bishkek, Podgorica, Skopje and Tirana - for upgrading the informal settlements and supporting the cities in COVID-19 pandemic recovery

• **Close cooperation on projects with all UN Regional Commissions, UN-Habitat, UN Capital Development and UN Resident Coordinator offices in pilot countries**
#Housing2030 Initiative
Promoting housing affordability in the UNECE Region

- **#Housing2030 Initiative web page** launched
- **Podcast series** “Making a House a Home: Housing2030 special series” on housing policies and their impact on housing affordability – 12 episodes
- **UNECE Survey on housing affordability challenges, policy responses, capacity building needs of governments** conducted
- **Online workshops**
  - “Land for inclusive and affordable housing” – 20 May 2020
  - Mediterranean subregion workshop, 17 Sept 2020 hosted by the Ministry of Social Accommodation of Malta
  - “Climate-neutral housing construction and renovation” - 9 November 2020 hosted by City of Glasgow
- **Workshops for 2021 are organized**
  - “Housing governance and regulation towards housing affordability” - 23-24 February 2021 to be hosted by Slovenia
  - “Improving housing affordability through access to finance and funding” 14 April 2021 to be hosted by Ireland
Support to the implementation of the Geneva UN Charter on Sustainable Housing through the activities of the Geneva UN Charter Centres of Excellence

Existing Centres in
• Tirana, Albania
• Tallinn, Estonia
• Trondheim, Norway
• Glasgow, UK

Upcoming Centres in
• Toronto, Canada (York University)
• Geneva, Switzerland
• Madrid, Spain (Foster Foundation)
• Cattaneo, Italy (LIUC University)
Thank you for your continued support.
Let’s together build safer, more affordable and healthy homes in 2021.