Launch of the #Housing2030
Final Report and Website

Ministerial Meeting, UNECE, 6 October 2021
Bent Madsen - President of Housing Europe,
Elena Szolgayova and David Orr - Co-Chairs #Housing2030
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#Housing2030
Housing2030 is a joint international initiative of UNECE, Housing Europe and UN Habitat.

Affordable housing is a major common concern of UNECE countries – time to think and do differently is the motto

Need for strategic and coordinated policy reform to shape more effective housing systems

Housing2030 promotes strategic framework, dedicated entities and interactive engagement

Builds capacity among all stakeholders to shape more effective housing systems
Background to #Housing2030 initiative

The project builds on the principles of the Geneva UN Charter on Sustainable Housing:

1. Environmental protection
2. Economic effectiveness
3. Social inclusion and participation
4. Cultural adequacy
What is the focus?

Policy tools and good illustrations – not universal blue prints

Four key chapters:

1. Governance of housing policies and institutions
2. Access and availability of land for affordable housing
3. Finance and funding to invest in affordable housing
4. Climate-neutral housing that is affordable and inclusive
Evidence review, Workshops, Podcasts and Regional outreach

UNECE Survey on housing affordability challenges, policy responses, capacity building needs of 56 governments

Online call for best practices via project website launched May 2020

Research evidence review, chapter drafting and presentations

Four thematic webinars plus three additional regional focussed webinars

- Land for inclusive and affordable housing, May 2020 host UNECE, Housing Europe, UN Habitat
- Climate change, environmental and health impacts on housing affordability, November 2020: City of Glasgow
- Good governance and regulation for affordable housing, February 2021 host Republic of Slovenia
- Housing affordability through access to finance and funding, April 2021 host The Housing Agency, Ireland

Three regional focus events: Mediterranean, Malta September 2020; SEE, Slovenia February 2021; CIS, Russia, March 2021

A podcast series: Making a House a Home: Housing2030 special series
Governance

What kind of tools are outlined and illustrated?

- Strategic frameworks
- Leadership and commitment
- Market shaping institutions
- Building the capacity to deliver
- Multi-level governance and partnership
- Governing with insight - policies for change
- Housing Standards Setting and Monitoring
- Accountability and enforcement structures
- Providers for the common good
- Households governing their own housing
Finance & Funding

What kind of tools are outlined and illustrated?

• Regulations affecting purpose and volume of housing investment
• Public investment: capital investment and operating subsidies
• Special purpose financial intermediaries
• Long term financial instruments for affordable housing provision
• Interest rate subsidies, guarantees and insurance
• Rent setting, indexing and rent assistance
• Not for profit business models: Use of surpluses, revolving funds in housing provision
• Tax provisions influencing housing investment
Land policy

What kind of tools are outlined and illustrated?

- Public land banking and purposeful development
- Public land leasing and conditional use
- Land re-adjustment guiding effective redevelopment
- Land value recapture reinvesting with purpose
- Planning for affordable, inclusive housing
- Neighbourhood planning agreements – and investment
Climate-neutral housing

What kind of tools are outlined and illustrated?

- National strategy, directions and agreements
- Spatial and mobility planning to promote energy-efficient homes, neighbourhoods, cities, and regions
- Phasing out fossil fuel subsidies
- Procurement, incentives and support
- Regulation and certification
- Standardisation and targets
- Building management and roadmaps
- Non-regulatory policy initiatives
- Capacity building and professional training
- Awareness raising amongst households
12 #Housing2030 podcasts

+2,300 listens

Available on Housing2030.org, Spotify, Google & Apple Podcasts
Main messages

1. Need to rethink housing policy making - a new paradigm – shaping better housing systems

2. Housing as a basic need, key role in quality of human life and sustainable communities

3. Move away from reliance on free market mechanisms - strive to realise the right to adequate housing

4. Shape markets to better deliver the housing we need

5. Requires well informed, purposeful policy and mission focussed and expert agencies

6. Requires co-operation of international community, national and local government

7. Informs the concrete recommendations of the Regional Action Plan
Housing2030 report launch

Effective policies for affordable housing in the UNECE region
#Housing2030

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