Geneva UN Charter Centres of Excellence Network

UNECE Committee on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management
Eighty-second session
Geneva, 8 October 2021
Geneva UN Charter on Sustainable Housing

Four Principles

• Active dissemination of information on the Charter and its principles through publications, mass media, and national and local events
• Foster partnerships between international, national and non-government organizations and academic institutions
• Exchange of experience and best practices, and promotion of cooperation and knowledge-sharing
• Capacity-building at international, national and local levels
• Research on topics which will contribute to the better implementation of the Charter
• Collection and exchange of information on best practice on Charter implementation
Network of Geneva UN Charter Centres of Excellence

- **Albania, Tirana** Co-PLAN Institute for Habitat Development, Polis University
  Centre of Excellence on Sustainable and Resilient Settlements

- **Canada, Toronto** York University, Canadian Observatory on Homelessness, A Way Home Canada
  Toronto Center of Excellence on Youth Homelessness Prevention

- **Estonia, Tallinn** Estonian Union of Co-operative Housing Associations
  Centre of Excellence on Sustainable Housing in Tallinn

- **Norway, Trondheim**
  Centre of Excellence on Sustainable Development Goals City Transition

- **Switzerland, Geneva** UNIGE
  Centre of Excellence on Smart Sustainable Cities and Sustainable Urban Development

- **UK, Glasgow** Glasgow School of Art, Glasgow Urban Laboratory
  Centre of Excellence on Smart Sustainable Cities

- **Spain, Madrid** Norman Foster Foundation
  Centre of Excellence on Sustainable Housing

- **Italy, Castellanza** LIUC – Cattaneo University
  Centre of Excellence on Sustainable Finance for Infrastructure and Smart Cities
SDG MAPPING
Examples of Activities

SDG 11
Life & Place in the ECE - A Regional Action Plan 2030: Tackling challenges from the COVID-19 pandemic, climate and housing emergencies
Review of the National Housing Strategy in Albania
Series of podcasts on sustainable housing “EKÜL Taskutarkus”
‘Future Cities’ Conversations Series led by Norman Foster
Guideline for the preparation of Local Housing Plans and preparation of Local Housing Plans in Albania
Launch of the Norwegian UN Geneva Charter on Sustainable Housing
15th Summer Academy of Apartment Associations in Estonia
Training program for housing managers in Bulgaria

SDG 13
‘Architecture and Technology: Future of Cities’
Publication - Seminal handbook on technology, architecture, urbanism and urban mobility
Publication: VLR for Trondheim Kommune

SDG 17
International Forum exploring housing as a Human Right for youth experiencing or at-risk of homelessness
Annual Forum of Apartment Associations in South-Estonia
11th Baltic Housing Conference

SDG 7
Training for Energy Supporters and Mentors in Estonia – for housing cooperations and for municipalities

SDG 8
Design of diagnostic tool to enhance data-driven decision making in housing institutions in Geneva
Launch of E-learning Platform on City Resilience in Geneva

SDG 16
Sustainable Leadership Development Programme for cities in Norway and beyond
Informative video on the preparation of Local Housing Plans in Albania

SDG 10
Launch of E-learning Platform on City Resilience in Geneva
Diversity and Synergies

- Highlighting the pursuit of horizontal and vertical integration of the SDGs
- Foster cooperation between local stakeholders and governments
- Bottom-up approach of cooperation
- Share ideas, experiences, and opportunities within the diverse network of Centres
- Identifying elements of strengths and synergies across the network
- Action in the fields of climate, Covid-19 recovery and housing
- Mobilizing and engaging more stakeholders
- Cooperation and Collaboration
- Improve housing data configurations while acknowledging diverse data cultures
Implementation of the Regional Action Plan

- Draw on the diversity and synergies of the Centre network, within the areas of action guiding *Place and Life in the UNECE – A Regional Action Plan 2030*
  - Tackling inequalities and development deficiencies
  - Strengthening the capacities of local actors
  - Pursuing a green, resilient and inclusive economic recovery

- Realize a joint Network implementation project
  - Workshop on implementation of Regional Action Plan in 2022

- Exchange of knowledge through mutual participation in events of the other Centres
Thank you

Kristian Mjoen and Alexandre Hedjazi
8 October 2021, Geneva