




**INTERNATIONAL
GUIDELINES
on URBAN
TERRITORIAL
PLANNING
REPORT
2018-2020**



**Implementing
the International Guidelines
on Urban Territorial Planning
2018-2020**

Implementing the IG-UTP 2018-2020

First published in Nairobi in 2021 by UN-Habitat
Copyright © United Nations Human Settlements Programme, 2021

All rights reserved

United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)
P. O. Box 30030, 00100 Nairobi GPO KENYA
Tel: 254-020-7623120 (Central Office)
www.unhabitat.org

HS Number: 057/20

Acknowledgements

Coordinators: Remy Sietchiping, Laura Petrella

Author: Dennis Mwamati

Contributors: Frank D'hondt (ISOCARP), Zivile Simkute (Lithuania), Prof Juaneë' Cilliers (North-West University, SA)

UN-Habitat Contributors: Ulrich Graute, Cecilia Andersson, Pamela Carbajal, Tomà Canessi, Lorenzo Scialdone

Design and layout: Jean Robert Gatsinzi

Special acknowledgements go to the Governing Council Secretariat in Nairobi, Kenya for reaching out to the member States and encouraging them to take part in the Global Survey on Urban and Territorial Planning. Likewise, special acknowledgements go to UN-Habitat's member States for actively participating in the first Global Survey on Urban and Territorial Planning carried out in 2018–2020 for the development of this report.

Disclaimer

The designations employed and the presentation of the material in this publication do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

Excerpts may be reproduced without authorization, on condition that the source is indicated.

Dotted line represents approximately the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir agreed upon by India and Pakistan. The final status of Jammu and Kashmir has not yet been agreed upon by the parties.

Final boundary between the Republic of Sudan and the Republic of South Sudan has not yet been determined.

A dispute exists between the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland concerning sovereignty over the Falkland Islands (Malvinas).

**INTERNATIONAL
GUIDELINES
on URBAN
TERRITORIAL
PLANNING
REPORT
2018-2020**

**Implementing
the International Guidelines
on Urban Territorial Planning
2018-2020**

FOREWORD

The International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning, approved by the UN-Habitat Governing Council in Resolution 25/6 of 23 April 2015, were developed to bridge a gap by providing a global reference framework for planning that enables actions across different levels of government and sectors, with the participation of a variety of stakeholders who have a role in shaping both the built and natural environment.

In the period 2018-2020, in addition to supporting Member States and partners to adopt and use the guidelines, the GC resolution 26/8 of 2017 was used to encourage UN-Habitat under its mandate, "to help Member States, at their request and within mandated activities, to develop and review their national urban policies, including the content and process of urban and territorial planning, considering the principles of the International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning, as well as developing new innovative tools in collaboration with local authorities and other relevant actors".

With this background, the Member States' global survey on urban and territorial planning was developed to track the implementation of the guidelines by Member States and partner organizations, for which UN-Habitat acknowledges the support of country representatives and participating professionals throughout the monitoring process. Similarly, this review also looks at case studies shared by our partners in their efforts to localize the guidelines.

As we get into the fourth year of implementing the International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning, we cannot help but look back at the milestones that we have passed. The need for urban and territorial planning cannot be over-emphasized. Urbanization is progressing rapidly, particularly in developing countries; by the year 2050, it is estimated that seven out of ten people will be living in cities. Urbanization presents multiple challenges and opportunities for ensuring the well-being of citizens and the surrounding natural environment, however, several developments in the past few years, including the establishment of the Sustainable Development Goals with the so-called "cities goal" (Goal 11) in 2015 and the New Urban Agenda during the Habitat III conference in 2016, have showcased the key role urbanization has countries' economic and social progress.

The second two-year implementation period of the guidelines ended in 2019. Implementing the IG-UTP 2018-2020 identifies the key findings outcomes and reflects on lessons learned from the preparatory and primary phases of the guidelines' implementation programme.



Shipra Narang Suri, Phd

Chief, Urban Practices Branch

TABLE OF CONTENTS

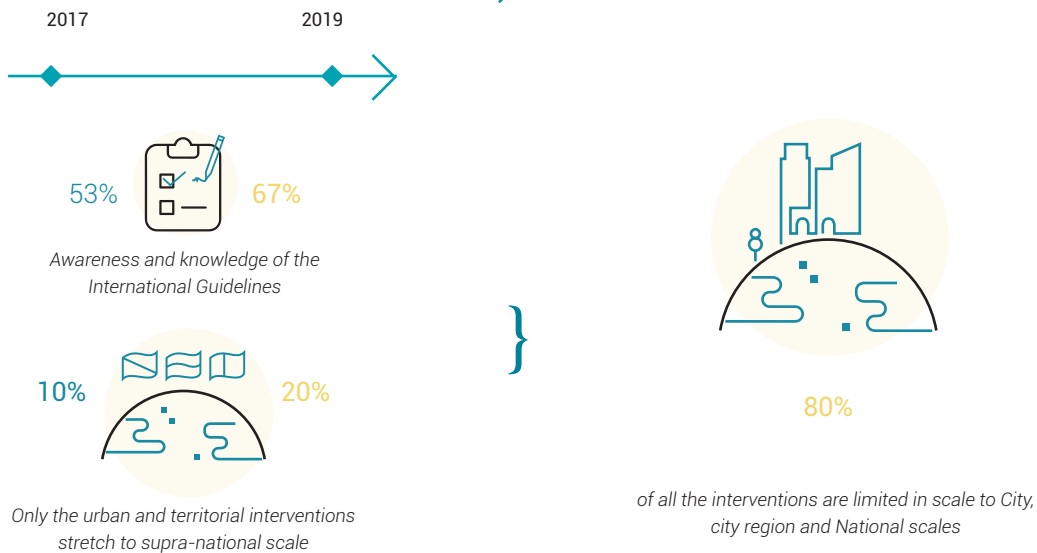
| | |
|--|------|
| FOREWORD | IV |
| TABLE OF CONTENTS | VI |
| LIST OF FIGURES | VIII |
| SUMMARY | 1 |
| Changes between 2017-2019 | 2 |
| Reaching out to member states and partners | 3 |
| I. INTRODUCTION | 5 |
| Outline of the report | 7 |
| II. BACKGROUND | 8 |
| III. METHODOLOGY | 10 |
| IV. KEY ACHIEVEMENTS | 13 |
| I. The IG-UTP implementation framework | 14 |
| ii. The pillars for implementation | 16 |
| iii. Publications/reports | 17 |
| V. FOCUS ON IG-UTP & HEALTH | 18 |
| i. Localizing the IG-UTP through the health lens | 19 |
| ii. Focusing on health and wellbeing | 22 |
| Case study | 28 |
| VI. COUNTRY EXPERIENCES | 32 |
| i. General highlights from the IG-UTP survey and inspiring practices | 35 |
| ii. Sample countries experiences | 38 |
| iii. Partners: professional institutions | 48 |
| iv. Partners: academic institutions | 56 |
| VII. CHALLENGES FACED | 58 |
| VIII. NEXT STEPS 2020-2022 | 69 |

| | |
|--|-----------|
| IX. ANNEXES | 75 |
| Annex 1: IG-UTP Events - 2015-2019 | 76 |
| Annex 2: IG-UTP Partners – 2015-2019..... | 81 |
| Annex 3: Serbia NV to UN-Habitat ED shows commitment to advancing the guidelines in the country | 83 |
| Annex 4. Use of the guidelines | 84 |

LIST OF FIGURES

| | | |
|-----------------|---|----|
| Figure 1 | The planning system | 20 |
| Figure 2 | Correlation between the 12 principles and three selected thematic areas: a) Health and wellbeing, b) Food and nutrition, c) Culture and heritage..... | 21 |
| Figure 3 | Urban and territorial development priority for partners countries | 37 |
| Figure 4 | LUPF contribution to LIEUTUVA 2030 | 43 |
| Figure 5 | LUPF analysis methodology | 44 |
| Figure 6 | Urban and territorial planning linked to different thematic | 71 |

SUMMARY



The **IG-UTP Implementation Report 2018-2020** has been developed as a compilation of experiences and findings by both UN-Habitat and IG-UTP countries and partners in using the guidelines in local contexts. The report covers the **second biennium of implementation (2018-2020)** since the approval of the guidelines in 2015 and builds on the results of the Global Survey on Urban and Territorial Planning formulated by UN-Habitat in September 2019, case studies, regular newsletters, online sources, partner websites advocating for the guidelines, and integration into publications, to track the adoption and use of the guidelines among Member States and partners.

In this reporting cycle, fewer countries responded to our survey, but more partners submitted cases of inspiring practices related to their experiences with the guidelines.

About **67 per cent** of the data gathered in 2019 confirmed that there is continued awareness and knowledge of the International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning compared to 2017, when that figure was **14 per cent less**. This could be attributed to efforts in developing new entry points and tools for the implementation of the guidelines as described later in this report under country experiences. The data also shows there is a deeper level of advocacy than in the previous biennium.

Only 20 per cent of the urban and territorial interventions are on a **supra-national scale**. This was a similar trend in 2017 where only about **10 per cent** of interventions went to supra-national scale. In both reporting cycles, approximately **80 per cent of all the interventions are limited in scale to City, city region and National scales**

In this cycle we focused on health as an entry point to implementing the guidelines, amongst other issues.



CHANGES BETWEEN 2017-2019

A key observation in this reporting cycle compared to the preceding one is the notable growth in interest and diversity of entry points of implementation in the guidelines by both countries and partners. In particular, the last two years have seen **growth in health as a key entry point in localizing the guidelines**. As previously noted, the IG-UTP have become an increasingly relevant framework to guide urban and territorial planning, instrumental to the achievement of the New Urban Agenda (as stated in paragraph 93 of the declaration) and, consequently, influential to the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals, especially Goal 11.

In addition, the guidelines have been showcased as a foundational framework to guide specific interventions towards the improvement of planning systems. This has been developed along with the development of national urban policies and local spatial strategies. A good example is the **use of the guidelines in formulating a national urban policy in Serbia and Lithuania**. Key to note is that the diversity in the guidelines' array of entry points for implementation, which was initially broad, has now been narrowed down to a few but seemingly effective avenues for localization.

As pointed out in last biennium, in this biennium, and from UN-Habitat's perspective, this process has provided two key lessons to be considered for the formulation of future activities within the IG-UTP programme:

- The diversity of entry points for implementation - meaning the multiple angles, sectors and planning processes through which the IG-UTP can be approached - all derived from the different drivers and needs of the stakeholder groups of the guidelines.
- The different entry points are only made possible by entering into partnerships, as illustrated by the multi-stakeholder spirit of the guidelines. In this context then, the IG-UTP form a universal planning framework with a multi-sector, multi-stakeholder, multi-level approach for the improvement of planning systems.

As with any efforts to localize global development agendas, the guidelines have had high and low points in the appetite for absorption by both Member States and partners with regard to the knowledge and technical capacity needed, and more importantly the financial capacity, to gather international and local expertise to support their implementation.



REACHING OUT TO MEMBER STATES AND PARTNERS

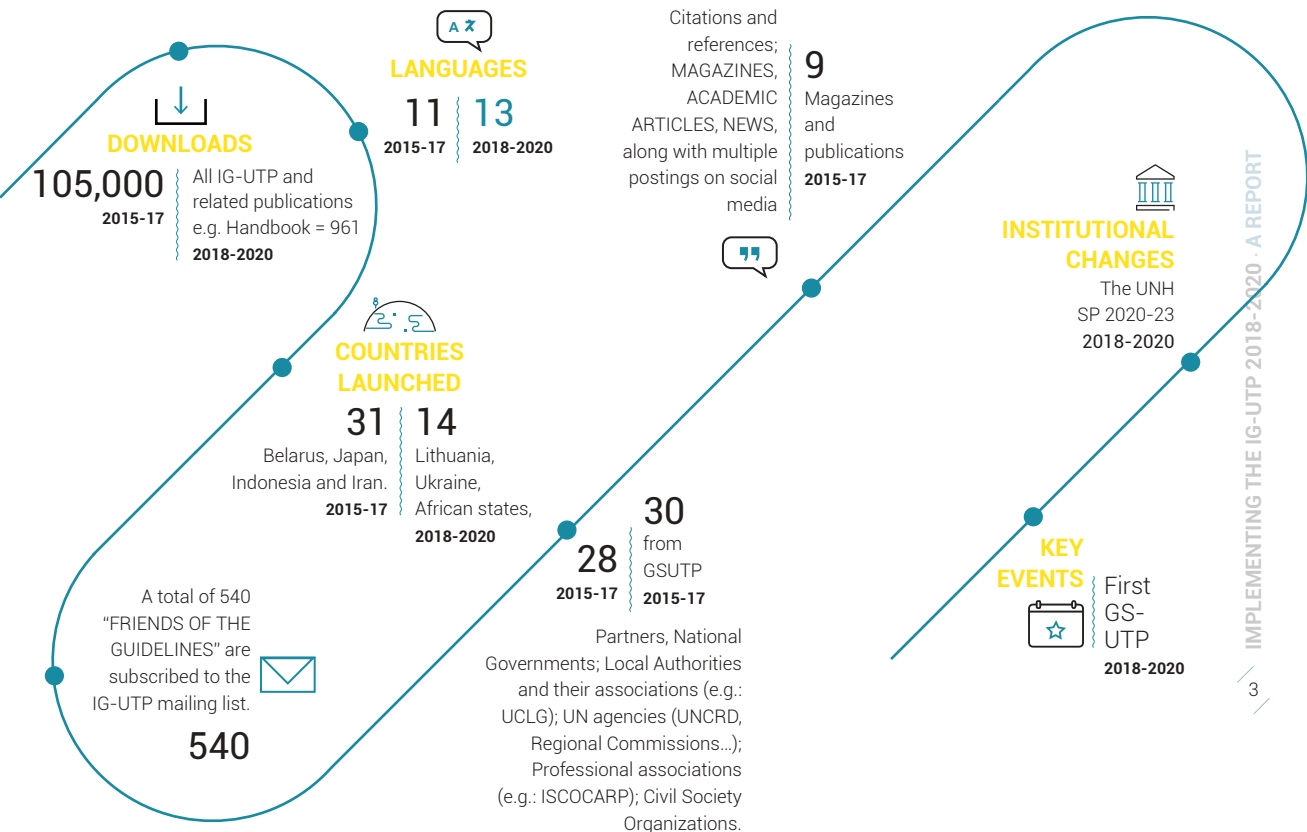
During the first IG-UTP Symposium in Fukuoka, Japan, in 2018, several avenues were identified as key to fully devolving the guidelines. Some of these action points have been followed through by some Member States and partners, while others had a slower pace of uptake.

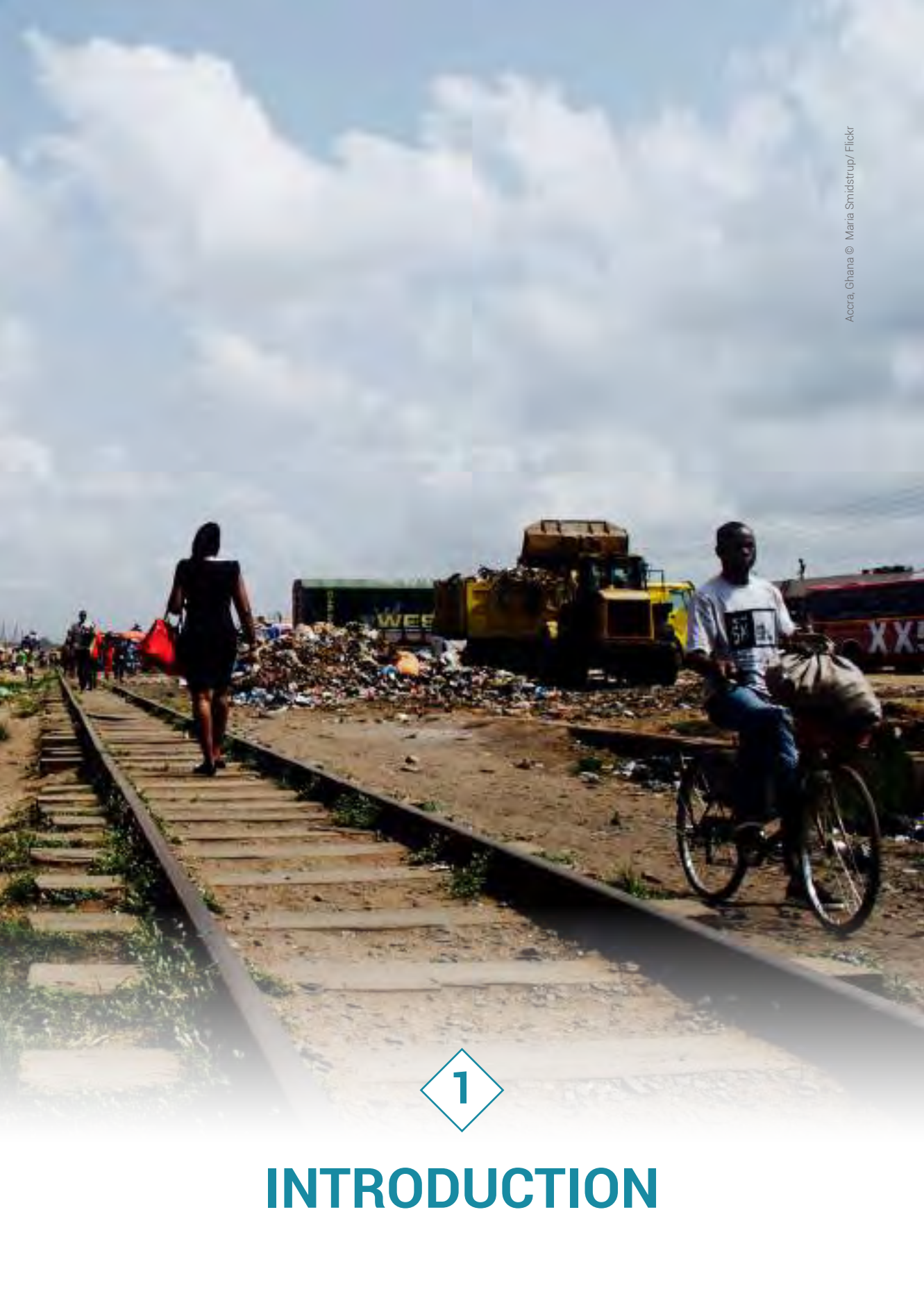
Over the last two years, UN-Habitat has been working to overcome these challenges through the integration of the IG-UTP implementation in the current Strategic Plan 2020-2023, capacity building initiatives through training, advocacy platforms and events where the guidelines were

advocated, and tool development, to assist countries in using the IG-UTP, as described in the report. The African Union for instance under the Sub-Committee on Urban Development and Human Settlements (HUD SC)¹, and with technical assistance from ECA² and UN-Habitat, have resolved to work closely to promote the domestication and implementation of sustainable urban development in Africa guided by the IG-UTP framework. Other countries include:

- 1 Refer to the Chapter V on Country experiences for more detailed information
- 2 United Nations Economic Commission for Africa

Highlights of Progress





1

INTRODUCTION



Urban and territorial planning is the basic building block for creating better urban places. In today's context as well as in the future, urban and territorial planning (UTP) plays a core strategic role in helping decision makers identify development priorities and bottlenecks, formulate, and implement solutions, and target available resources for balanced and sustainable growth pathways. Urban and territorial planning can also provide a forum or opportunities for various other stakeholders, governments at different levels, private investors, civil societies, and community groups, to interact and work together for their sustainable future.

Over the past decade, there has been an increased interest in urban and territorial planning (UTP) given the recent paradigm shift to a more people-centred approach and the momentum generated by major global events focused on urban development (e.g., the World Urban Forum), a movement that culminated with the Habitat III conference held in Quito, Ecuador, in 2016. This renewed interest in the planning profession comes as no surprise, however, as the world's population becomes predominantly urban, and efforts must be enhanced to guide urbanization in a sustainable manner. Thus, new approaches to planning have been brought forth and tested to ensure more holistic-sustainable urban development (SUD) worldwide.

The International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning (IG-UTP or guidelines), approved by UN-Habitat Governing Council (GC) through Resolution 25/6 in 2015, are part of this enabling framework for addressing the challenges presented by modern urbanization through their integrated and territorial approach to urban development. Being a first reference framework for planning at the global level, the guidelines can assist all countries and cities to effectively guide urban demographic changes and improve the quality of life in existing and new urban settlements. For planning constituents, the guidelines represent a collective voice for planning, as they enable different roads and entries to the improvement of planning systems through their multi-level, multi-stakeholder and multi-sector perspective, but all lead to one common goal: sustainable urban development.

Furthermore, the guidelines have become an increasingly relevant instrument for the attainment of universal objectives, acknowledged in the New Urban Agenda as a key means for its effective implementation and, consequently, a contributor to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 11 and interlinked targets in the areas of health and well-being, climate action, poverty reduction and economic growth.



OUTLINE OF THE REPORT

Chapter I provides a background and rationale for the formulation and development of this report, setting the context for the activities described in each chapter.

Chapter II outlines the methodology used to analyse the progress achieved in implementing the guidelines and how they serve as a channel for the achievement of universal agendas. This chapter also includes a brief description of the various avenues UN-Habitat has used to ensure clear documentation and tracking of the localization efforts by Member States and partners.

Chapter III highlights the key achievements in the past two years, in line with the IG-UTP implementation framework, illustrated through examples how stakeholders (whether United Nations agencies, international organizations, national or local governments, or professional associations, to name a few) have taken the IG-UTP forward through different means and at different levels.

Chapter IV describes one of the key entry points for implementation on health and IG-UTP. This chapter also reviews this entry point through the 10 entry points from the IG-UTP implementation framework.

Chapter V looks at some of the country experiences in implementing the guidelines with specific case studies on the implementation of IG-UTP through improving practice. In this chapter, we look at the practice in CARICOM through the lens of practitioners, within institutions e.g., in Morocco on territorial development policies through Mohammed VI Polytechnic in Morocco, South Africa's' North-West University, and regional reviews in Saudi Arabia. The chapter also looks at the general trends in some sample countries like Serbia, Finland, Mauritius, Uruguay, Costa Rica, Lithuania, and Ukraine.

Lastly, the concluding sections of the report (Chapter VI, VII, VIII) provides key lessons learned, highlights and challenges of the second period of implementation of the IG-UTP and the way forward into the third biennium 2020-2022 and the future expansion of this programme.



Tropical Storm Matthew and Communities in Haiti, Gonaves, Haiti, September 2, 2016 © Marco Dormido/UN Photo

2

BACKGROUND



In line with the spirit of the guidelines, continuous monitoring will enable UN-Habitat to not only assess the impact of the guidelines, but also to identify strengths and points for improvement in the IG-UTP programme. While the activities described in this report illustrate UN-Habitat's accomplishments in the diffusion and development

of the IG-UTP, the path towards implementation has also encountered challenges to overcome on the road to the achievement of universal objectives, Sustainable Development Goal 11, and the New Urban Agenda, for more sustainable urban development.



In Resolution 26/8, the Governing Council requested UN-Habitat: “to help Member States, at their request and within mandated activities, to develop and review their national urban policies, including the content and process of urban and territorial planning, considering the principles of the International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning, as well as developing new innovative tools in collaboration with local authorities and other relevant actors”.

In response, UN-Habitat has developed the second Global Survey on Urban and Territorial Planning as a tool to track the progress made by Member States in the implementation of the guidelines and, at the more general level, to identify planning practices and instruments bringing about change in local planning systems compliant with the principles and recommendations of the IG-UTP. In this context, and as a culmination to the second biennium of implementation, this report provides

the Governing Council with an overview of UN-Habitat's progress during the period 2017 – 2020 in the process of generating knowledge, providing assistance and the establishment of partnerships to support the localization of the guidelines within countries. The information presented builds on UN-Habitat's perspective throughout this process and the accounts of the Member States and IG-UTP partners in adopting and using the guidelines in their specific contexts.



IG-UTP REPORT 2018-2020

HS Number: 057/20

For further information, please contact:
UN-Habitat Policy, Legislation and Governance Section
Urban Practices Branch, Global Solutions Division
www.unhabitat.org

UN HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE