HABITAT III REGIONAL REPORT
on
HOUSING and URBAN DEVELOPMENT
for the
UNECE REGION

Towards a
CITY-FOCUSED : PEOPLE-CENTRED : INTEGRATED APPROACH
to the
NEW URBAN AGENDA

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Habitat III Regional Reports based on:

**BASED ON:**
- Available data
- Habitat III national reports
- Substantive contributions from regional and thematic meetings

**PURPOSE:**
- how cities, towns and villages are planned and managed
to fulfill role as drivers of sustainable development
- shape the implementation of new global development and climate change goals.
UNECE Regional Report to H III – Process:

STAGE 0: INITIAL CONSIDERATIONS & INITIAL IMPRESSIONS
EGM 1 - Structure and key messages for (Milan)

STAGE 1: INFORMATION ASSEMBLY, CONSULTATION & DRAFT ‘ZERO’
EGM 2 & 3 First & Second Peer Review (Geneva, Brussels)

STAGE 2: FIRST & SECOND DRAFT REPORT
comment review develop

STAGE 3: THIRD & FOURTH DRAFT REPORT
Issue Draft Report to CHLM (December 2015)

STAGE 4: PREPARE FINAL REPORT
Publish Report & Prepare for Regional Conference (March 2016)
Habitat III Secretariat Draft Structure:

1. Executive Summary

2. Urban Trends: Urbanization and Development
   - 1996 to 2016 Spatial Development

3. Urbanization and Economy

4. Urbanization and Social Equity

5. Urbanization and Environment
   - Addressing Climate Change (Adaptation) Urban Ecosystem and Resource Management Urban Resilience Disaster Risk Management Spatial Development

6. Urbanization and Governance Institutional Development

7. Conclusion and Recommendations with scenarios for
   - Urban planning
   - Urban economy/prosperity
   - Urban legislation/institutions
REPORT STRUCTURE:

• Preface
• Executive Summary & Key Findings
• Introduction by UNECE & UN Habitat
  1. The UNECE Region
  2. Trends & Patterns of Urbanisation
  3. The Economy of Cities
  4. Living in Cities (Equity)
  5. Environment and Environmental Risk
  6. Governance
  7. Towards Trends & Future Scenarios
KM 1: UNECE Region

• 56 Member States – 4 sub-regions
  – North America
  – Western & Central Europe (EU & EFTA & 3 MS),
  – Eastern Europe (Belarus, Moldova, Ukraine), Russia & The Caucasus (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia) and Central Asia (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tadzhikistan Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan)
  – South East Europe & Turkey & Israel

• UNECE:
  – Home to 1.3 billion people (17% of global population)
  – 263 cities of 500,000 or more
  – Over 40% of global GDP
  – Most of ‘The Global North’
KM 2: Trends & Patterns of Urbanisation & Demography

- Rural population static, very large proportion of urban dwellers – 70% and more
- Trend to urban concentration and agglomeration – super-cities in clusters
- Countervailing trend with some cities shrinking
- Tendency to sprawl in both types of city
- Rapidly ageing population (West, Central & Eastern Europe and Russia) but Central Asia growing young population
- Migration is a key issue – successive waves to large cities with increase in diversity, stagnation in cities elsewhere
Atlanta and Barcelona have similar populations but very different carbon productivity

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Atlanta</th>
<th></th>
<th>Barcelona</th>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population</td>
<td>2.5 million</td>
<td>Urban area</td>
<td>4,280 km²</td>
<td>Urban area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Transport carbon emissions</td>
<td>7.5 tonnes CO₂/person</td>
<td>Transport carbon emissions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: The transport carbon emissions for Atlanta and Barcelona are given in tonnes CO₂/person, considering both public and private transport.
KM 3: The Economy of Cities

- Economic transition in the last 20 years – centrally planned to market economies
- Manufacturing decline since Habitat II
- Rise of the Knowledge Economy built on a digital revolution is bringing about massive opportunity for urban change with new forms of space and use
- Digital innovation offers new tools for urban planning & management and interaction with citizens & actors
- Challenge of using ‘big data’ without compromising community security
GDP per capita PPP (constant $2011) in 1990-2014
KM 4: Living in Cities

• The global financial crisis has led to more inequality
• Urban concentration has increased demand in growing cities
• Trend to privatization & greater involvement of private sector with social housing decreasing
• Limitation national authorities in housing markets – process too fast
• Contradictory trends of closed communities & shopping malls AND reaffirmation of the importance of public space
• Many factors that support equity in the city also support health and well-being of citizens (housing, transport, energy, greenspace, reduction of emissions)
KM 5: Environment & Risk

• UNECE region has some 2/3 of the world’s fresh water
• UNECE region is among largest emitters of greenhouse gases per capita (concentration in urban areas)
• Air pollution, flooding and heatwaves are the most prevalent environmental issues in UNECE – cities are most vulnerable
• Environmental concern as part of quality of life is growing but ambition outstrips delivery
• Environmental threats are also health threats
KM 6: Governance

• Since Habitat II increased importance of local authorities – growth of city networks
• Urban governance is de-centralised but wide variation in models
• National governments formulate policy & regulation – urban management is generally local
• Can urban governance limit urban sprawl in de-regulated markets
• The private sector plays a key role in urban transformation
• The digital revolution has brought opportunities and challenges
KM 7: Outlook & Future Trends

• UNECE cities are subject to concentration and sprawl. With ageing & migration, favouring compactness is key to supporting equity, integration and cohesion in our societies

• The knowledge city flourishes around scientific and educational excellence, is fueled by the digital revolution and demands mixed-use & integrated cities. Increased imperative for collaboration, consensus & positive action between government, stakeholders & the community

• Trend to people-centred and integrated planning is driving action towards resilient, connected, integrated & compact cities

• Post-Paris – widespread consensus for renewed action on climate change. In UNECE cities this will mean accelerated action for the decarbonisation of urban life.
The winners in the trend to urbanisation have been the cities able to maximise the opportunities offered by the knowledge economy and digital revolution through higher education & in proximity to similar cities. Short range transportation has reinforced the links between and the critical mass of these city clusters to the detriment of more isolated cities.
Out migration from the city leads to a reduction in the city’s tax base. This in turn causes vacancies in land and buildings and leads to infrastructure beyond the city’s ability to sustain it.
Demand for new forms of development at the edge of the city competes with functions at the urban core. This in turn results in a dysfunctional transport system dependent on the car and, when cities are located close to one another, causes coalescence of the urban areas.

**THE SPRAWLING CITY – A NEGATIVE URBAN CYCLE**

- **Edge City & Suburban Development**
- **Erosion of Functions in Urban Core**
- **Ineffective Public Transport**
- **Metropolitan Coalescence**
THE INDUSTRIAL CITY

Access to Materials & Markets

Zoning of Land for Efficiency and Health

Significant In-migration

Freight Transportation Networks

THE KNOWLEDGE CITY

No Spatial needs beyond Proximity

Demand for Mixed-uses and the Experience Economy

The Importance of Place - Image & Attractiveness

Universities, Airports, Cultural Quarters
THE KNOWLEDGE CITY

The knowledge economy has new conditions of economic production, social requirements and cultural institutions. Knowledge as a productive capacity has no spatial requirements beyond clusters around universities, science parks and cultural quarters. This encourages the dynamics of agglomeration economies and has led to the re-emergence of Place – the city of streets, squares, stations and neighbourhoods supported by an experience economy of cafes, restaurants, cinemas, galleries, cultural venues and shopping centres.
Knowledge economies based in-part around universities leads to an effective labour market that in turn supports a dense form of development with a range of employment, residential, cultural and retail uses. This form and mix supports an integrated and effective public transport system and the efficient delivery of public services.
THE RESILIENT CITY – A POSITIVE URBAN CYCLE

EXPLORER THE CRF:
To learn more about a Dimension and its three Drivers, click on part of the circle.
UNECE Regional Report - Summary

1. 17% of population • 45% of GDP • 66% of fresh water
2. All of the Arctic • boreal forest is bigger than the rain forest
3. 80% in cities – 70% in agglomerative ‘super-cities’ – what to do with the remaining 10% (and 20% rural)
4. Knowledge economy & digital revolution is accelerating urban concentration – economic and housing inequality is growing ... exacerbated by ageing and migration
5. Cities on coasts, major rivers and lakes – sea-level rise & flooding
6. Environmental threats are health & economic threats
7. Awareness of environmental concern & quality of life and inequity is growing ... ambition outstrips ability to deliver
8. Compact & Resilient cities based on integrated governance is the key message
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