# UN-Habitat's New Strategic Plan (2020-2023) The Role of Land and Property in Promoting Sustainable Urban Development

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#### **URBANISATION TRENDS IN NUMBERS**

- By 2050, about 70% of the world's population is projected to live in urban areas.
- In Africa: 40% of the population live in cities today, and projected to be 55% by 2050
- Migration to cities, disaster and calamities, conflict, increasing at an alarming rate.
- 70% of landholdings in developing countries are not documented, administered or protected
- Formal cadaster system has failed to deliver tenure security (expensive)

### **AFRICAN URBAN POPULATION TREND 1950-2050**



NNO

SOURCE: WUP 2009



#### **URBANISATION TRENDS IN NUMBERS**

• Increase in informality

Urban land governance is characterized by daily interactions of the formal and the informal

- Burgeoning informal land markets
- Informal settlements



## Linkages between land tenure security and development Goals



#### Land in the New Urban Agenda



New Urban Agenda focuses on tenure security, housing, land values and community development as key requirements for sustainable, inclusive and efficient cities.



# • Strategic Plan 2020-2023

The Strategic Plan 2020-2023 repositions UN-Habitat as a major global entity, a centre of excellence and innovation

Refocuses its niche as the thought leader and go-to agency setting the global discourse and agenda on sustainable urban development

> Shapes technical norms, principles and standards

Acts as a multiplier in the exchange of knowledge, experience and best practices in getting cities and human settlements right Generates specialised and cutting-edge knowledge

Drives political discussions



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• Vision and Mission of UN-Habitat

"A better quality of life for all in an urbanizing world."

MISSION

"UN-Habitat promotes transformative change in cities and human settlements through knowledge, policy advice, technical assistance and collaborative action to leave no one and no place behind."

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VISION



• Objective of Strategic Plan 2020-2023

# OBJECTIVE

"To advance sustainable urbanization as a driver of development and peace, to improve living conditions for all in line with the Sustainable Developments Goals."



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#### Land cuts across UN-HABITAT THEORY OF CHANGE

#### Sustainable urbanization is advanced as

#### a driver of development and peace, to improve living conditions for all

Org. performance enablers	Drivers of change (How)	Reduced spatial inequality and poverty in communities across the urban - rural continuum	Enhanced shared prosperity of cities and regions	Strengthened climate action and improved urban environment	Effective <b>urban crisis</b> prevention and response	Domains of Change
<ol> <li>Monitoring and knowledge</li> <li>Innovation</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Policy &amp; Legislation</li> <li>Planning</li> </ol>	Increased and equal access to basic <b>services</b> , sustainable <b>mobility and public space</b>	Improved spatial <b>connectivity</b> and <b>productivity</b>	Reduced greenhouse gas emissions and improved air quality	Enhanced <b>social integration</b> and inclusive communities	lat)
<ol> <li>Advocacy, communication and outreach</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Governance</li> <li>Financing Mechanisms</li> </ol>	Increased and secure access to land and adequate and affordable <b>housing</b>	Increased and equitably distributed <b>locally generated</b> revenues	Improved resource efficiency and protection of ecological assets	Improved <b>living standards</b> and inclusion of migrants, refugees and internally <b>displaced</b> <b>persons</b>	Outcomes (What)
<ol> <li>Partnerships</li> <li>Capacity building</li> </ol>	ity	Effective settlements growth and <b>regeneration</b>	Expanded deployment of frontier <b>technologies</b> and <b>innovations</b>	Effective adaptation of communities and infrastructure to climate change	Enhanced <b>resilience</b> of the built environment and infrastructure	Out
<ol> <li>Systems and processes</li> </ol>		Social inclusion issues: (	1) Human rights; (2) Gender	; (3) Children, youth and Old	er Persons; (4) Disability	

Crosscutting thematic areas: (1) Resilience; (2) Safety

Objective

## **OPPORTUNITIES**

#### **1. Cities as engines of sustainable development**

- This urban population produces 80% of Africa's GDP
- Land values can be captured through sales and taxation
- Innovative urban governance approaches can be designed, by including informal land tenure mechanisms into formal governance models

#### 2. Land based investment for sustainable urban growth

- (Peri-)Urban zones are attractive for investment: proximity to urban markets, transport and export infrastructures, availability of agricultural land
- Diverse types of land-investment in cities and the rural-urban nexus: infrastructure, housing & real estate, urban agriculture, economic zones etc.

#### The State of African Cities 2010

Governance, Inequality and Urban Land Markets



# Interventions in addressing land tenure security

- UN-Habitat/ World Bank custodians of land indicator 1.4.2 of the SDGs (tenure security)
- UN-Habitat is implementing GLTN land tools in 13 countries world wide to support policy, land administration, capacity development.
- Improvement of tenure security in informal settlements (Philippines, Kenya, Uganda, Zambia, Namibia)
- Registration of property rights has improved land based revenues for municipalities:

- Afghanistan: improvement of tenure security yields 8 Millions USD revenue for municipalities in Kaboul-Safayi fees- over 2 years(City for All Program)

- Somalia: 15 districts in Somaliland and Puntland now collect a total of USD 3 million per year from property tax.

# **Implementation of GLTN land Tools at a glance**



# Interventions in addressing land tenure security

- Support to UN agencies to address land and conflict: SG/Guidance note on Land and Conflict .
- Innovation: addressing land tenure in the context of climate change; of post-conflict and humanitarian (assistance to refugees, IDPs in Iraq, Somalia, Syria, Sudan, South Sudan, DR Congo).
- Tenure security along urban-rural linkages: Deliverance of land customary certificates for women (Uganda, Zambia)
- Focus on gender responsive land tools: GLTN gender strategy, protecting women's land rights in post conflict (South Sudan, Iraq).
- Strengthening partnership: continuing facilitation of the Global Land Tool Network (a global alliance of 85 members) and the new strategy to achieving sustainable land governance (Norwegian Mapping authority is a member of the GLTN)
- UN-Habitat is member of the Global Donor Working Group on Land

# Challenges

- Weak capacity of local governments on land administration and management
- Articulation land policy and National Urban Policy.
- Funding challenges for SDGs Land indicator (1.4.2) data collection: support to SDGs national review platform, capacity for National Statistical offices.
- GLTN Phase 3 not fully funded.

# **Moving forward**

#### 1. Strengthen the Collaboration with the Norwegian Government

- Implementation of the New Strategic plan: climate change, gender issues, prosperity, land management and planning, urban planning.
- Implementation of the GLTN Phase 3: to accelerate land tenure security in the SDGs and NUA

#### 2. Collaboration with the Mapping Authority

- More targeting collaboration as GLTN is implementing tools at the country levels.
- Support capacity development for land administration in UN-Habitat countries of interventions and access to land data.

# **THANK YOU**