

**Revised Compilation for  
Sustainable Cities & Human Settlements** in the  
Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) within the  
Post-2015 Development Agenda

20 December 2013

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# Introduction

Current proposals for reflecting sustainable cities in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) fall along three complementary lines, beginning with securing a dedicated goal on sustainable cities. An SDG on sustainable cities would be transformative and integrated, which have been proposed in a report of the Secretary-General as criteria for all goals. The Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) details how an urban SDG would transform challenges into opportunities, mobilize and empower urban actors, integrate planning with economic development and converge design with service delivery<sup>1</sup>. Such a goal would be productively complemented by the inclusion of urban targets in other goals. These could be further supported by urban/rural disaggregated indicators throughout the SDGs.

In the quest for sustainable development, a focus on cities is unique because it foregrounds space and place as well as the subsidiarity of local government. Cities constitute the arena where action is concretized. As engines of growth they are **transformative**; they concentrate the institutions and infrastructure required to bring about change. As hubs of peer-to-peer learning and knowledge sharing they are **integrative**; their championing of innovative approaches strengthens institutions and builds capacities. As homes for a majority of the world's people, they are **universal** -- there are significant sustainable urban development challenges in all major regions of the world.

One promising way to reflect this in the development of an SDG on sustainable cities would be to highlight core targets *not addressed* in other SDG proposals. These unique targets are related to spatial configuration (e.g. efficient use of urban land, proportion of public space and access to public transport), living conditions (e.g. urban slums and adequate housing and land tenure security) and enabling policies (e.g. national urban policies, urban resilience, public expenditure by local government) might form the basis of a dedicated SDG on cities<sup>2</sup>.

Such an approach would address recommendations from UN thematic consultations held over the past year. For example, the Consultation on Population Dynamics highlighted that by anticipating urban growth and leveraging agglomeration advantages cities can accommodate increased demographic demands at the same time as they strengthen linkages to rural regions. The Consultation on Inequalities suggested that cities tackle urban segregation through inclusive policies and participatory decision-making. In Environmental Sustainability, participants highlighted the need to address unplanned urbanization, rural-urban migration and the disaster risks it drives as well as evolving climate conditions. And in Governance, participants discussed localizing sustainable human development.

Alternatively, the Open Working Group (OWG) might consider constructing a dedicated goal on cities along the lines of the issues discussed in paragraphs 134-7 of *The Future We Want*. These paragraphs outline the following urban subthemes: affordable housing, infrastructure and slum upgrading; cultural heritage and urban revitalization; participatory decision-making; urban safety and health; sustainable transport and energy and green space; water and sanitation; resilience; urban planning and design; and partnerships for sustainable urban development.

In preparation for OWG7, 6-10 January, UN-Habitat, with co-lead UNEP and the contributions of ECLAC, ESCAP, IFAD, ILO, UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNISDR, UN-Women, WHO, WMO and the World Bank, produced an Issue Brief on Sustainable Cities and Human Settlements (available online at [http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/2306TST%20Issues%20Brief%20Cities\\_FINAL.pdf](http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/2306TST%20Issues%20Brief%20Cities_FINAL.pdf)). Recognizing that much flexibility remains, the Issue Brief provides a solid, consultative starting point for Member States' consideration of the topic.

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<sup>1</sup> Sustainable Development Solutions Network: *Why we need an urban sustainable development goal*

<sup>2</sup> These topics were explored further in an Expert Workshop of the Communitas Coalition on 5-6 December in New York; see <http://www.communitascoalition.org/pdf/execsummaries.pdf>

This version revises the 1 November Compilation in three ways. First, it singles out targets that will very likely be addressed in other SDGs around which there is considerable consensus (e.g. energy and jobs). Second, it groups most of the remaining targets into three functional clusters: (1) improved spatial configuration, reflecting targets that would likely not be covered under any other current SDG proposal; (2) improved living conditions, addressing unfinished business in related MDG urban targets; and (3) enabling urban policies, which would greatly support the implementation of the above. Third, several targets have been synergistically combined. In all cases the aim is to highlight the universality of urbanization and how cities in both the developed and developing worlds can improve equality and sustainability. However, many cities – particularly those facing the most severe threats – must first begin to regard sustainable urbanization as; as a force that can be guided proactively for positive transformation. The more sustainable cities are seen as an aspiration the more urban challenges can be transformed into opportunities.

## Goal Formulations

While the formulation of a possible goal on sustainable cities and human settlements is still open to debate, UN-Habitat presents herewith three possibilities for consideration, which are all closely linked to the title and content of the “Sustainable cities and human settlements” paragraphs 134-7 of *The Future We Want*.

*Achieve sustainable cities and human settlements*

*Achieve safe, inclusive, productive and resilient cities and human settlements*

*Achieve well-planned cities and human settlements*

# Cluster One: Improved Spatial Configuration

This first, core cluster of targets focuses on spatial aspects of sustainable cities that would most likely not exist under any other non-urban goal. As such they are priority. They are also unique, which is a strategic argument inasmuch as they strengthen the claim that a dedicated urban SDG is necessary. And they reinforce one of the most crucial prerequisites for sustainable cities: proactive spatial layouts that anticipate and guide future growth by securing public space, structuring street and block layout and encouraging logical plotting. Without spatial planning and design and transit-oriented development cities may lock themselves into unsustainable settlement patterns, retrofitting out of which is often too difficult and expensive ex post facto for many cities. Indeed many of the world's fastest-growing cities are already beset by diseconomies of agglomeration whereby congestion, segregation and sprawl set in before a city can ever enjoy the benefits of concentration. This first group of targets intends to address those spatial dynamics so that cities regain their agglomeration advantages. At the widest scale this sets the stage for increased access to goods, services and jobs as well as improved environmental efficiency. And at a finer scale, public space can enable more flexible infrastructure and greater social cohesion.

## *Targets*

### **Resource Efficient Use of Urban Land**

*By 2030, halve the acceleration of sprawl (urban land cover) relative to population increase.*

### **Proportion of Public Space**

*By 2030, increase by one third the amount of urban public space over total urban land area, with particular consideration of urban safety.*

### **Access to Safe and Affordable Public Transport**

*By 2030, reduce by half, the average travel time taken per person to access jobs, goods and services by cleaner, affordable and safer public transport and/or walking and cycling.*

## Cluster One: Improved Spatial Configuration

### Resource Efficient Use of Urban Land

*By 2030, halve the acceleration of sprawl (urban land cover) relative to population increase*

#### Relevance and Significance

Cities are expected to absorb between two and three billion additional people by the year 2050. Whether they manage to do so sustainably depends heavily on whether they harness the efficiency advantages of agglomeration. Agglomeration provides compactness, concentration and connectivity. More than half of the area expected to be urban in 2030 remains to be built. Therein lies an extraordinary opportunity to make the future city more productive and sustainable.

However, most cities are forfeiting these advantages and becoming more expansive. With cities growing spatially faster than their populations, urban sprawl is accelerating. As a result, urbanization is becoming less efficient. Globally, the amount of land available for agriculture, habitat and nutrient recycling is also declining. With impending resource limits and twin climate change and food crises, we have little time to reverse this trend.

The more compact a city the more productive and innovative it is and the lower its per capita rates of resource use and emissions. Though sprawl and density are generally two sides of the same coin, sprawl, i.e. global urban land cover, is more feasible to measure and monitor.

A target on sprawl would uniquely highlight the *form* the future development takes. Urban configuration largely predetermines the technologies and behavioural patterns within a city. Once built, cities are expensive and difficult to reconfigure. It is particularly crucial that the fastest growing cities in the developing world 'get it right' before they are beset by infrastructural lock-in. Other more sectoral targets are equally important, but a target on sprawl within a goal on cities would ensure that wider dimensions of space and land are adequately addressed in the SDGs.

#### Existing Mandates and Commitments

'The Governing Council [...] encourages Governments and Habitat Agenda partners...[t]o consider seriously increasing urban density through intensification of land use, as part of improved urban planning, so as to promote development patterns that allow housing for all, increased job opportunities and reduced urban sprawl, to reduce infrastructure investment costs, the ecological footprint of urban centres and demand for transport and energy use, and to overcome a growing social divide, spatial fragmentation and resulting land use patterns' (UN-Habitat Governing Council, Resolution 23/17).

'Adopt urban planning principles and practices that advance higher density, mixed use, walkable, bikeable and disabled-accessible neighborhoods which coordinate land use and transportation with open space systems for recreation and ecological restoration' (Urban Environmental Accords, Action 8).

'The objective is to provide for the land requirements of human settlement development through environmentally sound physical planning and land use so as to ensure access to land to all households and where appropriate, the encouragement of communally and collectively owned and managed land. Particular attention should be paid to the needs of women, and indigenous people for economic and cultural reasons' (Agenda 21, 7.28).

'Rapid urbanization, the concentration of the urban population in large cities, the sprawl of cities into wider geographical areas and the rapid growth of megacities are among the most significant transformations of human settlements (Habitat Agenda, P99). Green spaces and vegetation cover in urban and peri-urban areas are essential for biological and hydrological balance and economic development ... and the provision of common land should be integrated into the planning of urban and peri-urban areas' (Habitat Agenda, P112).

#### Data Sources, Baseline and Measurement Method

Three sources offer methods, baselines and projections. Angel et al<sup>3</sup> put global urban land cover in 2000 at 605,875 sq km. Looking toward 2030, they offer a 'high' projection of continued density decline (i.e. increase in sprawl) of 2 per cent per year and 1.8 million sq km urban land cover by 2030; a 'medium' projection with density decline slowing to 1 per cent and just over 1.3 million sq km by 2030; and a 'low' projection (optimal scenario) in which density decline stops and global urban land cover by 2030 remains under 1 million sq km. The meta-analysis of Seto et al<sup>4</sup> establishes a baseline urban extent of 726,943 sq km with 2030 total urban land cover projections ranging from 1.2 to 2.3 million sq km. Their most likely scenario, assuming low-to-moderate economic growth and stabilizing population growth, is the addition of new urban land area the size of Mongolia. Elmqvist et al<sup>5</sup> indicate that 60 per cent of the area expected to be urban in 2030 remains to be built, implying more than a doubling of global urban land area. As per Angel et al, built-up urban area can be measured by counting built-up pixels within satellite images. Any impervious surface -- including pavements, rooftops and compacted soils -- counts as built-up area. Angel et al have used both Land-sat imagery with a 30-meter pixel resolution and Mod500 imagery with 463-meter pixel resolution.

<sup>3</sup> Angel et al (2011): *Making Room for a Planet of Cities*. Cambridge: Lincoln Institute of Land Policy

<sup>4</sup> Seto et al (2011): *A Meta-analysis of Global Urban Land Expansion*. PLoS ONE.

<sup>5</sup> Elmqvist et al (2013): *Urbanization, Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services: Challenges and Opportunities*. Springer.

## Cluster One: Improved Spatial Configuration

### Proportion of Public Space

*By 2030, increase by one third the amount of urban public space over total urban land area, with particular consideration of urban safety*

### Relevance and Significance

Today, in most cities in developed regions, urbanization has occurred with the rapid expansion of low-density, single-use suburban development with spacious houses. In most cities in developing regions, urban expansion has also taken the form of 'peripherization' that is characterized by large peri-urban areas with informal and/or illegal patterns of land use. In both scenarios the prominent consideration historically given to public spaces, including streets, has significantly eroded. As new cities also emerge they are coupled with the reduced allocation of land to public space (particularly the street). Streets, as public spaces, have lost their importance in terms of their relative share of land and their role in shaping the culture and history of cities. Recent UN-Habitat estimates show that the land allocated to streets in suburban areas is less than half the proportion allocated to them in city cores. Reducing the land allocated to safe public spaces impacts negatively on quality of life, social inclusion, infrastructure development, environmental sustainable and productivity.

Public spaces are all places publicly owned and/or for public use. They are also generally accessible and enjoyable by all for free and without a profit motive. Each public space has its own spatial, historic, environmental, social and economic features. Public spaces consist both of open environments (e.g. streets, squares, gardens, parks) and of sheltered spaces (e.g. public libraries, museums). One key indicator of public space is the proportion of land allocated to streets within the total urban land area. Other qualitative indicators may also be considered, such as **urban safety**. Lack of safety has significant socio-economic costs because it puts off investors; it inhibits local entrepreneurial spirit and damages social cohesion. There is evidence that poorly designed and maintained streets and public spaces may result in increased crime and violence. Embracing a multi-sectoral, integrated approach urban planning interventions can have an impact by making space for formal and informal economic activities, recovering and maintaining public spaces for a diversity of users in a positive way, and making services and opportunities available to marginalized residents.

### Existing Mandates and Commitments

Citizens are increasingly reclaiming their streets as public spaces. In recent years streets have also been recognized as an integral factor in the achievement of sustainable urban development and various organizations are collaborating to improve the livability of streets as public spaces. Recognizing this, the Governing Council of UN-Habitat has passed a resolution (23/4) on "Sustainable urban development through access to quality urban public spaces" which reiterates the commitment to advancing the agenda on place-making and public spaces to consolidate local and international approaches to creating inclusive cities. One of the objectives of Localizing Agenda 21 that is most relevant to public space is helping local authorities improve urban environmental planning and management processes and building local institutional support for the same.

Urban Safety is guided by principles of the United Nations Guidelines for cooperation and technical assistance in the field of urban crime prevention on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice as expressed in the Economic and Social Council resolution 1995/9. GC resolution 23/14 (2011) on Sustainable Urban Development through Safer Cities and the Prevention of Urban Crime, and recognizing its implementation and the growing involvement of local authorities through the Global Network on Safer Cities (GNSC). Resolution "*Supporting Action for the Creation of Safer Cities*" was adopted during the recently concluded twenty-fourth session of the Governing Council of UN-Habitat (HSP-GC-24-L7). In addition, the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its 22nd Session that took place in Vienna from 22 - 26 April 2013 adopted a resolution on "Promoting and mainstreaming the rule of law, crime prevention and criminal justice in the post- 2015 development agenda" requesting the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) to provide substantive contributions to UN-Habitat on efforts to complement the development of UN system-wide Guidelines on Safer Cities. (ODC-CCPCJ-22-L19)

### Data Sources, Baseline and Measurement Method

Globally, barely 15 per cent of urban land area is allocated to streets. Measuring this proportion is unusually difficult, except where there is comprehensive information and a complete inventory and identification of public spaces in an area. With sufficient data this indicator allows for the comparing and aggregating progress across cities towards the achievement of an optimal quantity of land allocated to public space. Related information is now available in the Global Urban Observatory (GUO) database that represents a global sample of cities. An Integrated Street Database (ISD) has also been created where street information is integrated with social, economic and other infrastructural and environmental information. Using the street database UN-Habitat has prepared a publication *Streets as Public Spaces and Drivers of Urban Prosperity*, was launched in November 2013. Inherent in measuring public space is the challenge of delimiting city boundaries. For the data collectors, most important is the task consisting in deciding on what will be the most accurate boundary for the urban agglomeration area. The main data source for measuring crime and violence in streets and public spaces is the International Crime Victims Surveys (ICVS), UNICEF Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS), Demographic and Health Surveys, Quality of Life indicator of the City Prosperity Index (UN-Habitat), Global Livability Survey (EIU), International Violence Against Women Survey (Heuni, UNICRI, UNODC), Safety Audits.

## Cluster One: Improved Spatial Configuration

### Access to Safe and Affordable Public Transport

*By 2030, reduce by half, the average travel time taken per person to access jobs, goods and services by cleaner, affordable and safer public transport and/or walking and cycling*

#### Relevance and Significance

The world is facing an unprecedented growth of motorisation while the modal share of public transport in developing country cities is decreasing (GRHS 2013). In 2010, 1.2 million people, mostly in developing countries were killed in road accidents (WHO) and small particulate matter air pollution is estimated to cause more than 3 million deaths. The poor often spend a much higher proportion of their time and income to reach their destinations. Women and other disadvantaged groups are often at a disadvantage and face a variety of risks in travelling to their destinations. Traffic congestion is becoming increasingly severe resulting in major losses to national GDPs in developing countries. Efficient, safe and affordable Public Transport systems integrated with safe and attractive non-motorised transport can reduce the dependence on personal vehicles, reduce congestion and resulting air pollution and enhance safety and is thus fundamental for economically and socially vibrant cities.

#### Existing Mandates and Commitments

The UN General Assembly Resolution 64/255 of 10 May 2010 on *Improving Global Road Safety* among other things, calls for “ .....increasing sustainable means of transport and invites international financial institutions and regional development banks to assist developing countries in building sustainable mass transportation systems with a view to reducing road traffic accidents”. The outcome document of the Rio+20 discussions, *The Future we Want*, notes that transportation and mobility are central to sustainable development and supports the development of sustainable transport systems, notably public mass transportation systems. The Habitat agenda emphasises sustainable transport systems including public transport. UN-Habitat’s Governing Council Resolution 24/2 calls upon member States to step up efforts to improve urban mobility, to ensure better access to goods and services and to reduce traffic accidents and air pollution through improved urban planning, better public transport and facilities for non-motorized transport, such as walking and cycling. The Five Year Action Agenda of the UN Secretary General calls for convening, among others, urban public transport providers along with Governments and investors to develop and take action on recommendations for more sustainable transport systems than can address rising congestion and pollution worldwide particularly in urban areas. Speaking at the WHD 2013, SG stressed that urban transport is central to sustainable development and called for a commitment to make cities and towns accessible to all.

#### Data Sources, Baseline and Measurement Method

No single indicator may be adequate to provide information on sustainable transport. Average travel time per capita correlates positively with improved mobility and is also indicative of other conditions in the city that promote better mobility by reducing the need for travel, e.g through mixed land-use and appropriate levels of densities<sup>6</sup>. A possible set of indicators and measurement methods including the specific target parameters are presented below :

	<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Method of Measurement</b>	<b>Comment</b>
1	(i) Vehicle km travelled/capita;  (ii) Per capita fuel consumption on transport	(i) National and City Statistics;  (ii) National and City Statistics	Decrease can be representative of attraction to public transport and increasing modal share of PT. Baseline to be established.
2	Acceptability of PT/Satisfaction rating by commuters;	Objective surveys/FGDs/interviews	Baseline to be established
3	Average commute travel time and reliability	Objective surveys/FGDs/interviews	Baseline to be established.
4	Accidents, fatalities and injuries	City and National Statistics.	To be cut in half by 2025, Baseline of 1.24 million deaths in 2010.

<sup>6</sup> See also IASS Policy Brief 3/2013; Institute of Advanced Sustainability Studies, Potsdam.

## **Cluster Two: Improved Living Conditions**

This second, core cluster of targets focuses on the important unfinished business of the MDGs. Though they have been part of the global sustainable development agenda since the Millennium Summit (and indeed before), their incorporation in the MDGs was limited by poor formulation and their lack of coherence under an exclusively environmental rubric. Target 7D aimed at improving the lives of 100 million slum dwellers. Though by some accounts it has been achieved, progress on slum improvement and reduction has been negatively offset by overwhelming slum growth. New slum-related objectives need to be more ambitious as well as aimed at causes rather than merely symptoms. Target 7C aimed to halve the proportion of the population without access to drinking water and basic sanitation. However, it was inconsistently achieved. While access to water is on target for achievement access to sanitation is lagging alarmingly behind. A new sanitation business model may be required and a renewed focus on delivery can help galvanize that. Tenure security has been defined as the fifth dimension of deprivation that constitutes a slum dweller. Though it is part and parcel of Target 7D, it has proven difficult to measure. However, a revitalized coalition of international partners has dramatically improved its feasibility.

### *Targets*

#### **Urban Slums and Adequate Housing**

*By 2030, to halve the proportion of people living in slums in each country towards inclusive and adequate housing.*

#### **Land Tenure Security**

*By 2030, increase by x% the share of women and men, communities and businesses with secure rights to land, property, and other assets.*

*By 2030, ensure equal right of women to own and inherit property, sign a contract, register a business and open a bank account.*

#### **Access to Safe Drinking Water and Adequate Sanitation**

*By 2030, all utilities and municipal governments provide sustainable and safe water and sanitation services to all in their jurisdiction.*

## Cluster Two: Improved Living Conditions

### Urban Slums and Inclusive and Adequate Housing

By 2030, to halve the proportion of people living in slums in each country towards inclusive and adequate housing.

#### Relevance and Significance of the Target

While the lives of 220 million slum dwellers have been improved, the total number of slum dwellers has increased, and it is estimated that 863 million people are living in slums today. The number is projected to double by 2030 and thus urban poverty eradication stays an enormous challenge to be addressed. This increased inequality and exclusion is consequent to the failure of public urban and housing policies and inadequate investment in pro-poor urban and housing development frameworks. Learning from the MDG experience, it is important to continue efforts for improved living standards in slum towards sustainable, inclusive and adequate housing for all through national targets indicators and monitoring mechanisms. The target will be owned by national and local authorities developing rights-based, gender responsive, and results-based national housing and slum upgrading strategies and programmes formulated with full participation. In particular, cities must strengthen the capacities of women, youth and vulnerable groups so that they may function as agents in the improvement of living standards and the realization of the right to adequate housing without unlawful forced evictions.

#### Existing Mandates and Commitments

MDG Target 7D already formalizes a global commitment to improving the lives of slum dwellers. The right to adequate housing is enshrined in HRC Res. 6/27, CHR Res. 2004/21 and the Habitat Agenda/§26, 39, 61; as part of the right to an adequate standard of living contained in UDHR/§25 and ICESCR/Art. 11.1. It is also outlined in Agenda 21/§7.6 and throughout chapter 7 on “Promoting sustainable human settlements” with specific targets on housing finance, access to land, self-help housing and the promotion of sustainable construction materials. Protection against forced evictions is further delineated in ICESCR/Art. 11.1 and CESC/GC4 & 7, and is an integral part of the right to adequate housing. With regards to slum upgrading and prevention, slums are defined according to 5 main deprivations (security of tenure, access to safe drinking water, access to improved sanitation, durability of housing and overcrowding), both in the report of the Expert Group Meeting on Urban Indicators (2002) and in the State of World’s Cities 2010-2011. Moreover, the target on Housing and Slums builds on the previous MDGs, targets 7A (at the agency level) and targets 7C and 7D (with regards to slum deprivations). Agenda 21 reinforces the target on slums in its Chapter 7 while the Habitat Agenda advocates for slum upgrading in its Chapter 43. The target also reflects commitments made by 56 countries in the Rabat Declaration on “Making Slums History” and Kigali Declaration. As part of the Agency’s mandates, Target 4 is in line with the Rio+20 commitments on “Sustainable Cities and Human Settlements” outlined in *The Future We Want* document. In 2013, UN-Habitat’s Governing Council, adopted the Global Housing Strategy Framework Document, as well as resolutions 24/7 and 24/9 that mandated UN-Habitat to make slums history and to formulate inclusive national and local housing strategies to achieve the Global Housing Strategy paradigm shift and contribute to the global discourse on the Post-2015 Development Agenda.

#### Data Sources, Baseline and Measurement Methods

	Indicator	Method of Measurement	Data Source
1	Proportion of urban slum dwellers in urban settings reduced by half	Slum definition with its five deprivations (security of tenure, access to safe drinking water, access to improved sanitation, durability of housing and overcrowding) Participatory slum upgrading principles	National policies and city-wide slum upgrading strategies National and City Statistics;
2	Progressive realization of the right to adequate housing	Seven criteria of the Right to Adequate Housing (security of tenure, availability of services and infrastructure, affordability, habitability, accessibility, location and cultural adequacy)	Housing Rights Indicator; Universal Periodic Review
3	Number of policies and programmes promoting inclusive housing and slum upgrading practices	Analysis of participatory gender responsive and rights-based approaches applied in policies and programmes	National policies and programmes; Global Housing Indicators; Inclusive Housing and Slum Upgrading Index;
4	Increased sustainability of housing and slum upgrading	Analysis of social, economic, environmental and cultural sustainability approaches applied in policies and programmes	National policies and programmes; Sustainable Housing Rating Tool;

## Cluster Two: Improved Living Conditions

### Land Tenure Security

*By 2030, increase by x% the share of women and men, communities and businesses with secure rights to land, property, and other assets*

*By 2030, ensure equal right of women to own and inherit property, sign a contract, register a business and open a bank account<sup>7</sup>*

### Relevance and Significance

Land is fundamental to addressing urban challenges. Improving land tenure and promoting good land governance will benefit many other sectoral issues also addressed by UN-Habitat. These include dealing with governance and legislation, housing, slum upgrading, economy through land-based financing, water and sanitation, infrastructure, transport, planning, safety and security as well as dealing with post-conflict and post-disaster contexts, gender, youth and human rights issues. The gap in measuring and ascertaining tenure security is a major obstacle to the improvement of tenure security. Although there are many indicators and assessments available for measuring land governance and land tenure, globally comparable data on various aspects of land do not exist. Indicator definitions and the frequency and methods of collection vary, and coverage is usually limited to a small subset of countries or project areas.

UN-Habitat has built on its experience in developing and testing different ways in which tenure security might be measured. In that sense it has also made significant progress in developing approaches that generate the comprehensive, comparative household and administrative data required for monitoring tenure security. For instance, in 2011 UN-Habitat released a report proposing a robust methodology for monitoring security of tenure in cities at three levels: people, land and policies. UN-Habitat has a good track record in urban monitoring in general, and access to land and land-related interventions in particular, including the Housing Indicators Programme, the Global Urban Indicators Databases I and II and the Global Urban Indicators Database.

The current proposal therefore builds on the already registered target in the High-level Panel Report *A New Global Partnership: Eradicate Poverty and Transform Economies through Sustainable Development*. Page 33 of the report recognized UN-Habitat's work on land tenure, which bolsters its argument for a specific target on land<sup>8</sup>. The report further states that 'tenure security was originally included in the MDGs, but a lack of globally comparable data at the time led to its replacement; since then, UN-Habitat and partners have made progress in developing a methodology consistent across countries and regions'. Furthermore, '[i]n countries where women's interests are strongly represented, laws have been passed to secure land rights...'

### Existing Mandates and Commitments

UN-Habitat was mandated under the current Millennium Goal 7, Target 11<sup>9</sup> to monitor slums (including tenure security – the fifth dimension of slums – under Indicator 32). However, the inability to acquire widespread comparative data for measuring tenure security led to the UN system dropping this indicator. It is thus important that UN-Habitat lead the land target, through which other aspects of the urban agenda will be reinforced.

Since 2013, UN-Habitat's Global Land Tool Network (GLTN) has been facilitating a number of key players in the effort to coalesce around global land indicators, particularly in the context of Post 2015 development agenda. These partners include the Millennium Challenge Corporation, the World Bank and UN-Habitat. Many other global partners – including DFID, FAO, IFAD, the Omidyar network, African Union, UNECA, AfDB, Landesa and Habitat for Humanity – have supported this consultative process for strong land targets and indicators.

UN-Habitat is a member the UN Statistical Commission. It proposes tenure security as one of the targets in the post-2015 UN development agenda, also cognizant that it is likely to receive a \$500,000 grant from the UN Development Account for pilot testing and building the capacity of select national governments to collect tenure security data for monitoring.

### Data Sources, Baseline and Measurement Method

Data will be collected from a range of sources already vetted by UN-Habitat and its partners. These include household and administrative data, expert opinion, surveys, national statistical agencies and crowdsourcing. UN High-Level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda (2013) *A New Global Partnership: Eradicate Poverty and Transform Economies through Sustainable Development*. UN-Habitat (2011) *Monitoring security of tenure in cities – people, land and policies*.

<sup>7</sup> These two proposed targets are already included in the report of the High-Level Panel of Eminent Experts entitled *A New Global Partnership: Eradicate Poverty and Transform Economies through Sustainable Development*.

<sup>8</sup> This is the only place in the report where UN-Habitat was quoted. Also, no other UN agency or development partner work on land was quoted to make the case for introducing land prominently in the proposed post-2015 development goals and targets.

<sup>9</sup> The slum indicator has five dimensions, namely (1) improved water, (2) improved sanitation, (3) adequate living space, (4) durable housing and (5) security of tenure.

## Cluster Two: Improved Living Conditions

### Access to Safe Drinking Water and Adequate Sanitation

*By 2030, all utilities and municipal governments provide sustainable and safe water and sanitation services to all in their jurisdiction.*

#### Relevance and Significance

Water and sanitation are the two services most directly linked to standards of public health, the quality of the urban environment and the capacity of the urban population to generate sustained increases in economic productivity. However, the 2013 update on 'Progress on Sanitation and Drinking Water', published by WHO and UNICEF, notes that about 36% of the world's population lacks improved sanitation and that the world remains off track to meet the MDG sanitation target. In urban areas, over 794 million persons (25% of the urban population) live without access to basic sanitation. With respect to drinking water supply, service coverage in urban areas remains relatively high; however, are major issues of service quality. Intermittent supplies and a heavy reliance on unsustainable sources of supply such as shallow ground water aquifers are particularly problematic in slums. A target on water and sanitation in cities is essential to build on what has been achieved towards the water and sanitation MDGs, and completing "unfinished business" in providing the essential services to support the sustainable development of urban areas.

By the year 2030, an estimated 60% of the world's population will be living in cities. With more than 93% of urban growth taking place in the developing world, the sustainable development of cities will become increasingly dependent on the extent to which municipal authorities are able to address issues of weak infrastructure and limited access to basic urban services. Water utilities and municipal local governments are, globally, the key institution with the mandate to provide water and sanitation services in the urban environment. An improvement in their performance is a critical step to reach the universal access goal in an urbanizing world. As yet, utilities do not have global political visibility nor politically supported goals for them to increase performance. Current sub-targets largely incentivize action for rural dwellers (open defecation is predominantly a rural problem; the majority of unserved schools and health institutions are rural; and provision of communal water points, boreholes etc has predominantly been a rural strategy). A specific sub-target on utility performance would provide a specific incentive to reach universal sustainable access in urban areas of the world.

#### Existing Mandates and Commitments

The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) set a target of halving the proportion of people without access to safe water and sanitation between 1990 and 2015. Although the target for access to improved drinking water was achieved, approximately 768 million people, around 10% of the global population, still do not have access to improved sources of drinking water. The target for sanitation is one of the most off track of all the MDGs, with nearly a third of the global population – 2.5 billion people – currently without improved sanitation. Over one billion people still defecate in the open.

The Human Right to Water and Sanitation, driven by the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) General Comment No. 15 of 2002, and reaffirmed by resolutions of the UN General Assembly and the UN Human Rights Council in 2010, places legally binding obligations on all member states to progressively realize the right to safe drinking water and basic sanitation. This is in recognition of the persistent challenges of inequalities in access to essential services and the need to realise peoples' rights such that every person has equal access to water, sanitation and hygiene.

In its paragraph 40c the Habitat Agenda commits to "promoting access for all people to safe drinking water, sanitation and other basic services, facilities and amenities, especially for people living in poverty, women and those belonging to vulnerable and disadvantaged groups". Furthermore, in April, 2009, the UN-Habitat Governing Council, in approving the International Guidelines on "Access to Basic Services for All" as a necessary instrument to achieve the MDGs and to improve the potential of each person to engage in economic activity within the framework of sustainable human settlements, *encourages* Governments, according to their circumstances, to promote sustainable criteria in planning and construction while taking into account access to clean water and safe drinking water, adequate sanitation, urban services, sustainable waste management and sustainable transport.

¶119 of the Rio+20 outcomes recognizes that water is at the core of sustainable development, reiterates the importance of integrating water in sustainable development, underlines the critical importance of water and sanitation within the three dimensions of sustainable development. In ¶120 it also commits to the progressive realization of access to safe and affordable drinking water and basic sanitation for all.

#### Data Sources, Baseline and Measurement Method

The main data source for measuring access to water and sanitation is the Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP), managed jointly by UNICEF and WHO. Advances in information technology mean that it is now possible to regularly measure performance of sub-national bodies, such as utilities. If the future sector monitoring mechanism (the post 2015 version of the JMP) included performance indicators for utilities, this would not only provide a political incentive for action, but a global data base (building on current utility benchmarking initiatives) which would be an important tool to guide national and global for investment and capacity building.

## **Cluster Three: Enabling Urban Policies**

This third cluster of targets focuses on enabling urban policies that are required to achieve many of the targets in the previous two groups. Though some aspects of governance may be reflected in other areas of the SDGs, the kinds of policies required to bridge scales of government, space and geography are may not appear in other nonurban goals or targets. Overarching policies are essential for cities to achieve equitability, productivity and sustainability. They can help ensure functional and equitable continuity along the rural-urban continuum. They can enable integration between sectors to achieve complex, higher-level outcomes such as resiliency. And they can highlight and promote the subsidiarity of local governments but also link them to subnational and national levels of government to facilitate smooth, consultative decision-making and fiscal arrangements. Indeed without them, many local governments may not be able to effectively tackle slums, segregation and sprawl, not to mention wider global challenges such as food security and climate change. Ultimately urban policies can ensure that local governments are adequately equipped to fulfill their mandates.

### **Inclusive National Urban Policies**

*By 2030, increase to 50% the number of countries adopting and implementing inclusive national urban policies to coordinate ministerial and sectoral efforts at different levels of government for sustainable urban development, territorial cohesion and urban-rural linkages.*

### **Multisectoral Urban Resilience Policies**

*By 2030, increase to 20% the number of cities adopting and implementing policies and plans that integrate comprehensive measures to strengthen resilience*

### **Public Expenditure by Local Government**

*By 2030, reach a 15% of total public expenditure by local governments*

## Cluster Three: Enabling Urban Policies

### **Inclusive National Urban Policies**

*By 2030, increase to 50% the number of countries adopting and implementing inclusive national urban policies to coordinate ministerial and sectoral efforts at different levels of government for sustainable urban development, territorial cohesion and urban-rural linkages.*

### **Relevance and Significance**

The world reached a milestone in 2006 when more than three billion people, half the global population, lived in urban areas. Planning for sustainable urban development, through inclusive national urban policies, is imperative and offers a pragmatic basis for environmental outcomes and socioeconomic development to maximize the benefits of urbanization, while mitigating potential adverse externalities.

The economic benefits from sustainable urban growth will come from exploiting economies of scale and agglomeration. However, the inadequate capacity to plan, manage and guide urban growth and dynamics places urbanization on an uncertain developmental path. Through reasserting the positive role of urbanization, and providing an overarching coordinating framework to address urban challenges, inclusive national urban policies offer a key strategy for national socioeconomic development.

Aimed at guiding the urbanization process, National Urban Policies seek to strengthen the link between urbanization and socioeconomic development and environmental sustainability.

Good urbanization can deliver social, environmental and economic transformation and prosperity if it is guided and supported by effective national policies and frameworks. A target on inclusive national urban policies will ensure a more integrated approach to sustainable urban development and position cities as inclusive engines of growth, protectors of natural resources and providers of poverty alleviation and inequality reduction.

### **Existing Mandates and Commitments**

The Habitat Agenda underscores that “[u]rban settlements, properly planned and managed, hold the promise for human development and the protection of the world’s natural resources,” (¶2). The Agenda encourages the international community to support and facilitate national and local efforts in human settlements management and to promote the exchange of experiences and policy responses to urbanization and integrated regional development within the framework of national development strategies. The Agenda also calls for the enhancement of capabilities of national and local authorities to identify and analyze critical human settlements issues and to formulate and effectively implement policies and programmes in response to them (¶98). It thus reflects how cities and towns have been engines of growth and incubators of civilization, industry and commerce.

The Rio+20 Outcome document<sup>10</sup>, ¶¶134-135, recognizes “the need for a holistic approach to urban development and human settlements” and committing “to promote an integrated approach to planning and building sustainable cities and urban settlements”.

UN-Habitat Governing Council Resolution<sup>11</sup> 24/5 of 19 April 2013 mandates UN-Habitat to promote sustainable development through national urban policies as a key strategy for national socioeconomic development and environmental sustainability.

### **Data Sources, Baseline and Measurement Method**

As custodians of national policies, national governments offer a credible source of information on newly developed and improved national urban policies. However, each national urban policy will have to demonstrate that it adequately fosters a process of sustainable urbanization. UN-Habitat is currently developing a database of National Urban Policies and analyzing selected policies with regard to contents, structure and process. Criteria will be used to set baselines and targets for monitoring and evaluation purposes.

<sup>10</sup> [http://www.uncsd2012.org/content/documents/774futurewewant\\_english.pdf](http://www.uncsd2012.org/content/documents/774futurewewant_english.pdf)

<sup>11</sup> <http://papersmart.unon.org/habitatgc24/sites/papersmart.unon.org/habitatgc24/files/K1351318.pdf>

## Cluster Three: Enabling Urban Policies

### Multisectoral Urban Resilience Policies

*By 2030 increase to 20% the number of cities adopting and implementing policies and plans that integrate comprehensive measures to strengthen resilience*

#### Relevance and Significance

More than 226 million people are affected by disasters every year. From 2000 to 2010, economic damage as a result of disasters amounted to around US\$ 1 trillion. However, less than 0.7 per cent of total relief aid goes to disaster risk reduction. Of the 33 cities that will have at least 8 million residents by 2015, 21 are in coastal areas. Moreover, 80% of the largest cities are vulnerable to severe impacts of earthquakes and 60% are at risk from storm surges and tsunamis; all face the new impacts of climate change.

Since 1980, drought and associated famine have claimed nearly 558,000 lives and affected more than 1.6 billion people. On average, 102 million people are affected every year by floods, 37 million people by cyclones, hurricanes or typhoons, and nearly 366,000 by landslides. However, in East Asia and the Pacific, the risks of dying from floods and cyclones have actually decreased by two thirds since 1980. In terms of earthquakes, more than 680,000 people died between 2000 and 2010 due mainly to poorly-built buildings. Overall, most of the 3.3 million deaths from disasters in the last 40 years have been in poorer nations.

Inadequate urban planning, unregulated urban density, inadequate infrastructure and basic services, poor local capacities, and systemic economic marginalization all contribute to increasing vulnerability to crises. Rapid urbanization, poor quality construction, unregulated expansion of urban settlements, weak governance capacities and climate change impacts are increasing cities' exposure to hazards and risks. Unfortunately, however, most current resilience planning and development strategies focus on sectoral (e.g. health, education, utilities, etc) or thematic (e.g. climate change, community and economic) approaches, that do not adequately address systemic integrated and multi-hazard resilience.

None of the goals of any sustainable development agenda will be met without ensuring that even the most modest development gains are protected against losses incurred through natural or human-induced disaster and crisis. That the majority of the world's population lives in urban areas demands systemic, integrated, and progressive action to build resilient cities. One starting point is development and implementation of new policy frameworks, linking national urban policies and fiscal strategies, integrating resilience based strategies and ensuring the creation of an enabling environment for changing urban planning, development and management.

#### Existing Mandates and Commitments

The UN mandate is derived from Member State commitments to the Hyogo Framework for Action, endorsed by the UN General Assembly in Resolution A/RES/60/195 following the 2005 World Disaster Reduction Conference. References to the need for global, regional, national and local resilience to natural and human-made disasters throughout A/RES/66/288 (The future we want) are too numerous to cite. However, they clearly illustrate the global commitment to protecting development gains through risk reduction and resilience building. UN-Habitat's mandate is derived from the Habitat Agenda (¶40(l), ¶43(z), ¶170-176, ¶208(d-e), ¶228(c)) to assist Member States with disaster prevention, mitigation and preparedness, and post-disaster rehabilitation capabilities in human settlements.

#### Data Sources, Baseline and Measurement Method

While advances are being made globally in shifting emphasis from risk reduction to resilience, the tools and methods for reliably *measuring* urban resilience will only be available within the next years. That which is available today provides city and town administrations only an understanding of their inherent vulnerabilities and limits action to remedial (i.e. risk/vulnerability-based) development programming alone. Consequently, there is no common baseline for forward-looking, multi-sectoral, multi-hazard, multi-stakeholder strategies for building resilience, accounting for the inherent interdependencies of each part of an urban system. New approaches and methodologies for measuring resilience of urban systems (i.e. physical, spatial, functional and organizational) elements are being developed, tested, and used to determine reliable city resilience profiles for any city regardless of size, geographic location, economic or development level globally.. The profiles establish verifiable baselines for future urban planning, development and governance within a resilience framework. The target sample for more concentrated, integrated approaches will be drawn from Initially, the 1,600+ cities associated with the UNISDR Making Cities Resilient Campaign that have made local government-level commitments to building resilience. A second target group will include over 30,000 local authorities represented by UCLG; and a third target group through a growing cadre of cities expressing interest in UN-Habitat's tools and approaches.

## Cluster Three: Enabling Urban Policies

### Public Expenditure by the Local Public Sector

By 2030, increase by 25% the existing proportion<sup>12</sup> of expenditure by the local public sector<sup>13</sup>

#### Relevance and Significance

More than 60% of the world population will be living in cities by 2030. Local governments will maintain the final responsibility for managing cities and give a first response to all challenges linked to rapid urbanization. Cities cannot be sustainable without strong and capable local and territorial governments, including regions, provinces, megalopolis and small city towns.

The concept of governance implies that the public sector works in efficient way, assigning responsibilities and resources to the different levels of government. Consultation between different spheres is believed to be one of the factors of success in achieving good governance. It also requires local governments to have the legal capacity to act and to plan their own priorities.

Strong local governments are the better response to maintain infrastructures, to provide basic urban services and reduce inequalities by tackling urban poverty through strategies designed and implemented locally. They also represent enormous opportunities to increase local democracy and participation. To be able to function, local governments need the resources and capacities to serve their communities. These resources can be simplified in three main dimensions:

- a) Human resources, motivated, and protected local officers and decision makers
- b) The legal capacity to intervene, regulate and act through local normative and autonomy
- c) Adequate local financial mechanisms

UN-Habitat is proposing a target on strengthened local governments that measures their financial capacity and autonomy. Its adoption will help achieve sustainability by empowering local governments to provide services and maintain infrastructures. The proposed target also proposes measuring the direction of change of the total of public expenditure allocated to local public sector (including both transfers from central governments and locally generated taxes).

#### Existing Mandates and Commitments

*Habitat Agenda, Article 180*

To ensure effective decentralization and strengthening of local authorities and their associations/ networks, Governments at the appropriate levels should: (a) Examine and adopt, as appropriate, policies and legal frameworks from other States that are implementing decentralization effectively; (b) Review and revise, as appropriate, legislation to increase local autonomy and participation in decision-making, implementation, and resource mobilization and use, especially with respect to human, technical and financial resources and local enterprise development, within the overall framework of a national, social, economic and environmental strategy, and encourage the participation of the inhabitants in decision-making regarding their cities, neighbourhoods or dwellings; (c) Develop education in citizenship to emphasize the role of individuals as actors in their communities; (d) Support local authorities reviewing revenue-generating mechanisms;

*The International Guidelines on decentralization and the strengthening of local authorities*

48. Effective decentralization and local autonomy require appropriate financial autonomy.

49. Local authorities' financial resources should be commensurate with their tasks and responsibilities and ensure financial sustainability and self-reliance. Any transfer or delegation of tasks or responsibilities by the state shall be accompanied by corresponding and adequate financial resources, preferably guaranteed by the constitution or national legislation, and decided upon after consultations between concerned spheres of government on the basis of objective cost assessments.

50. Where central or regional governments delegate powers to them, local authorities should be guaranteed the adequate resources necessary to exercise these powers as well as discretion in adapting the execution of their tasks to local conditions and priorities.

51. Local authorities should have access to a broad variety of financial resources to carry out their tasks and responsibilities. They should be entitled, preferably on the basis of constitutional and/or national legislative guarantees, to adequate resources or transfers, which they may freely use.

#### Data Sources, Baseline and Measurement Method

Studies have shown the correlation between high levels of local expenditure and higher levels of human development. The majority of 10 top countries as assessed by the Human Development Index have percentages of local expenditure higher than 30%. UN-Habitat would like to contribute to the increase of proportion of locally-implemented financial resources by proposing this target.

Data sources can be found in the Gold Report II on Local government finance (UCLG 2010) ([http://www.cities-localgovernments.org/gold/gold\\_report\\_2.asp](http://www.cities-localgovernments.org/gold/gold_report_2.asp)) and the OECD fiscal decentralization database (<http://www.oecd.org/tax/federalism/oecdiscaldecentralisationdatabase.htm#C>).

<sup>12</sup> The target is indicative and will require further definition with member states to estimate the most optimal change percentage.

<sup>13</sup> Local public sector can be defined as the part of the public sector that interacts with citizens, civil society and the private sector in a localized manner. The most common way for the public sector to interact with people at the local level is through elected local governments. <http://www.localpublicsector.net/whatis.htm>

## **Cluster Four: Targets Relevant to Other Likely SDGs**

Two additional urban targets (i.e. urban employment and urban energy) address themes that will likely be covered by other SDGs around which there is currently considerable consensus (i.e. employment and energy, respectively).

### *Targets*

#### **Inclusive Policies to Facilitate Urban Job Creation**

*By 2030, to achieve full and productive employment and decent work for urban young men and women*

#### **Renewable Energy and Access to Improved Energy**

*By 2030, double the share of renewable energy in urban area to 30% of the global energy; double energy efficiency in all buildings and transport; and achieve universal access to improved energy in urban areas*

## Cluster Four: Targets Relevant to Other Likely SDGs

**Inclusive Policies to Facilitate Urban Job Creation** (related to a likely SDG on employment/jobs)  
*By 2030, to achieve full and productive employment and decent work for urban young men and women*<sup>14</sup>

### Relevance and Significance

The rate of urbanization in developing countries has been much faster than the rate at which cities have been able to generate decent jobs for their ever-growing populations. As a result, a significant proportion of youth and women in many cities remain either unemployed or underemployed. During the next 15 years 600 million more people will join the global labour market most of whom will be the youth in cities in developing countries. These new entrants to the labour market will be competing with the existing 197 million unemployed and 550 million working poor. The 2008 financial crisis pushed 215 million more workers into poverty. In 2012, the global unemployment rate was 5.9%.

Growing unemployment among youth is the main cause of the recent social and political unrest around the world. Globally, young people are three times more likely to be unemployed than adults. Today, 73.4 million youth are looking for work and the current global youth unemployment rate is 12.4%. As a result of high unemployment, most of the urban young men and women are forced to eke out a living in the low-productive informal sector. Young men and women of today are the best educated in history. If they transition into adulthood in an environment that guarantees secure and equitable economic opportunities, youth can become key to achieving economic growth and social equity. According to ILO, even halving the world's youth unemployment rate could add an estimated USD2.2 to 3.5 trillion, or between 4.4 and 7% to the world's GDP.

### Existing Mandates and Commitments

In the Habitat Agenda, Governments recognized that urban economies are integral to the process of economic transformation and development and that eradication of poverty requires, *inter alia*, sound macroeconomic policies aimed at creating employment opportunities and equal and universal access to economic opportunities. In paragraphs 158-161 of the Agenda, Governments are urged to, among other things, (a) formulate and implement financial policies that stimulate a broad range of urban employment opportunities; (b) assist informal sector enterprises to become more productive; and (c) encourage fair treatment of the informal sector. In paragraph 119, Governments are encouraged to stimulate productive employment opportunities and all actors are encouraged to foster economic policies that have a positive impact on the employment and incomes of women workers in both the formal and informal sectors. Paragraphs 13, 33, 45 and 120 encourage UN-Habitat, among others, to work in partnership with young people in human settlements development and to empower them to participate in decision-making in order to improve urban livelihoods and contribute to sustainable human settlements.

In *The Future We Want* Governments committed to promoting an integrated approach to planning and building sustainable cities and urban settlements and the generation of decent jobs (Paragraph 135).

There is a growing consensus on the need for inclusive economic growth, a concept according to the Commission on Growth and Development includes equity, equality of opportunity and protection in market and employment transitions. Inclusive growth is about raising the pace of growth and expanding the economy, while leveling the playing field for investment and increasing productive employment opportunities (World Bank).

### Data Sources, Baseline and Measurement Method:

The **first indicator**, *urban youth unemployment-to-average national unemployment ratio*, measures the gap between the unemployment rate among urban youth in a country and the average national unemployment of that country. Data on unemployment among urban youth and average national unemployment should come from the same source. The **second indicator**, *proportion of urban youth living below the poverty line (working poverty rate)*, can be computed by dividing the total number of the urban youth whose income is below the poverty line by the total labour force of the country. Most developing countries do not have reliable data on the number of unemployed urban youth and trends in urban youth unemployment in general and disaggregated data on unemployment among young men and women in particular. Given this serious challenge, a feasible approach to gather data on urban unemployment among youth by individual cities is through sample surveys of urban youth, or population census. Data may also be available in household surveys, labour force surveys, demographic and health surveys and living standard measurement surveys. If UN-Habitat's the Prosperity Index project takes off the ground in a large number of cities, the above indicators could be integrated and results can be used to track global trends and establish bench marks on urban unemployment.

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<sup>14</sup>Productive employment is defined as employment yielding sufficient returns to labour to permit the worker and his/her dependents a level of consumption above the poverty line (ILO).

Decent Work involves opportunities for work that is productive and delivers a fair income, security in the workplace and social protection for families, better prospects for personal development and social integration, freedom for people to express their concerns, organize and participate in the decisions that affect their lives and [equality of opportunity](#) and treatment for all men and women (ILO).

## Cluster Four: Targets Relevant to Other Likely SDGs

### **Renewable Energy and Access to Improved Energy** (related to a likely SDG on energy)

*By 2030, double the share of renewable energy in urban area to 30% of the global energy; double energy efficiency in all buildings and transport; and achieve universal access to improved energy in urban areas.*

#### **Relevance and Significance**

Energy is both a driver and the enabler of economic development. Its availability is the prerequisite for development. Over 75 % of total global energy generated is consumed in cities and contribute to over 70 % of GHG emissions. As cities consume  $\frac{3}{4}$  of global energy generated, there account for 70% of world GDP. Since cities are the major contributors of climate change, national economic development and welfare, they also present potentials for energy conservation and generation. The built environment alone consumes more than 40 % of energy, most of which is wasted because of environmentally unfriendly design and the use of inefficient appliances. In developing countries, around 40% of urban dwellers do not have access to improved energy. The urban poor rely heavily on biomass for cooking leading to major environmental degradation of forests land and indoor air pollution that claims millions of lives every year.

#### **Existing Mandates and Commitments**

The Habitat Agenda calls for the promotion of locally available, appropriate, affordable, safe, efficient and environmentally sound construction methods and technologies in all countries, particularly in developing countries and at local, national, regional and sub-regional levels. It also emphasizes the optimal use of local human resources and encourages energy-saving methods that are protective of human health. The Agenda further calls for the promotion of changes in unsustainable production and consumption patterns, particularly in industrialized countries. This involved the adoption of population policies and settlement patterns that are more sustainable, reduce environmental stress, promote the efficient and rational use of natural resources - including water, air, biodiversity, forests, energy sources and land - and meet basic needs, thereby providing a healthy living and working environment for all and reducing the ecological footprint of human settlements.

For its part, the Istanbul Declaration also calls for the promotion of more energy-efficient technology and alternative/renewable energy for human settlements to reduce the negative impacts of energy production and use on human health and on the environment.

In resolution 67/215, "Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy", the General Assembly decided to declare the decade 2014-2024 the United Nations Decade of Sustainable Energy for All and invited the Secretary-General to oversee a report on the decade. It also encouraged efforts by Governments to create and develop an enabling environment at all levels to ensure the promotion and use of new and renewable sources of energy. Lastly, it recognized the importance of giving appropriate consideration to energy issues in the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda.

UN-Habitat's Governing Council Resolution 24/2 "Strengthening UN-Habitat's work on urban basic services" calls upon Member States to galvanize efforts to make universal access to sustainable energy services a priority. The resolution further calls upon UN-Habitat to promote access to sustainable energy, particularly to the poor including through decentralized options for renewable energy generation.

#### **Data Sources, Baseline and Measurement Method**

UN-Energy, the UN inter-agency group on energy devised seven targets for their proposed SDG on Energy. Three are particularly relevant to this proposal:

	<b>Targets</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Method of Measurement</b>
1	Energy Access	Universal access to improved energy in urban areas  All major cities to adopt pro-poor energy access program.	Statistics from the power utilities; Reports from local authorities. City Statistic
2	Energy Efficiency	All major cities to adopt mandatory energy efficiency measures; At least one in three countries reviews its building code to integrate energy efficient measures. At least fifty per cent of public buildings are retrofitted to become energy efficient building.	National and City statistics and policy documents
3	Renewable energy	$\frac{1}{4}$ of countries globally adopt feed in Tariff to promote the market transformation of renewable energy technologies; At least 50 per cent of countries remove all taxes on renewable energy products.	National statistics and policy documents