

# South Africa's Preparatory Process for HABITAT III

Stakeholder's Workshop

Reflections: From Policy Papers to Draft New  
Urban Agenda

National Urban Policy & Housing Policies



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Human Settlements  
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# Issues raised in the National Urban Policy and Housing Policy Papers



ISSUES	MAIN CONCEPTS	KEY DRIVERS FOR ACTION
Migration & refugees in urban areas	Inclusive planning for rapid urbanisation, migration and displacement, Improved rights and protection for migrants and refugees, Access to adequate services, opportunities and space, and regulations that create an enabling environment, maximise the skills, resources and creativity of migrants and refugees	Recognition of the connection between development and humanitarian concerns Planning for population movements Enhancing participation and empowerment Building strengthened partnerships
Urban Rules & Regulation	Urban Law, Informality, Good quality law, Essential law, Rule of law,	Recognition that good laws makes for efficiency for government and citizen. Effectiveness of law depends on local relevance and practicality. Recognition that effective law provides effective support to sustainable urban development
Urban Land	Land governance, Sustainable urban expansion, Continuum of land rights approach, Urban-rural linkages, Security of tenure	Secure tenure rights of people and communities as a means to achieving sustainable urban development Encourage equity in urban land use to avoid urban sprawl, reduce unsustainable consumption of land and land related conflicts
Housing	Adequate housing (security of tenure, availability of services, materials, facilities and infrastructure, affordability, Habitability, Accessibility, Location, cultural Adequacy)	Systematic reforms and long term policy and finance to enable wider accessibility to adequate housing for all Redefining role of governments beyond enablement Stronger nexus between housing and urban planning practice Recognising housing as a socio-economic development imperative Building regulations should promote inclusion and sustainability Incremental housing policy Greater care and transparency over subsidy in all its forms

# New Urban Agenda: National Urban Policy & Housing Policies



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# National Urban Policy

- Acknowledges the role of national & local governments, as well as civil society & other stakeholders in the implementation of inclusive and effective urban policies and legislation for sustainable urban development
- Advocates for the development and implementation of national urban policies within local-national partnerships, building integrated national systems of cities and human settlements

# National Urban Policy

- Strengthening urban governance, with sound institutions and mechanisms that empower and include urban stakeholders
- Recognises the growing inequality and the persistence of multiple forms and dimensions of poverty, including the rising number of slum and informal settlement dwellers
- Commits to people-centered, age & gender-responsive urban development; promoting culture and respect for diversity, equity and equality as key elements in the humanisation of our cities and human settlements

# National Urban Policy

- Ensure that no one is left behind and to promote equally-shared opportunities and benefits that urbanisation can offer, for all inhabitants
- Strengthen the coordination role of local governments in the provision of social and basic services
- Promote context-sensitive approaches in financing urbanisation and in enhancing financial management capacities at all levels of government, adopting specific instruments and mechanisms necessary to achieve sustainable urban development

# Housing Policy

- Promote national, sub-national, and local housing policies fulfilling the right to adequate housing for all as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living that address all forms of discrimination and violence
- Develop integrated and age and gender responsive housing policies and approaches across all sectors, and at all levels of government, which incorporate the provision of adequate, affordable, accessible, safe, well-connected, and well-located housing and the surrounding functional areas

# Housing Policy

- Stimulate the supply of a variety of adequate housing options that are safe, affordable, and accessible for members of different income groups of society
  - Ensure equitable and affordable access to basic physical and social infrastructure for all, without any form of discrimination
  - Promote increased security of tenure for all, recognising the plurality of tenure types, and to develop fit-for-purpose, and age and gender responsive solutions within the continuum of land and property rights, with particular attention to women's land security of tenure as key to their empowerment
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# Housing Policy

- Enhance the public supply of land for affordable housing, including land in central and consolidated areas of cities with proper infrastructure, and encourage mixed-income development to promote social inclusion
- Develop policies, tools, mechanisms, and financing models that promote access to a wide range of affordable housing options and consider shifting from a predominantly private ownership to rental and other tenure options

# Housing Policy

- Increase the allocation of financial and human resources for the upgrading (and the prevention of slums and informal settlements) with strategies that go beyond physical and environmental improvements
- Promote the development of adequate and enforceable regulations in the housing sector, including building codes, standards, development permits, land use by-laws and ordinances, and planning regulations

# Housing Policy

- Implement housing and urban development programmes with housing at the centre of the strategy; situated at the centre of the city, prioritising well-located and well-distributed housing schemes in order to avoid peripheral development

# Common African Position:



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# Common African Position

- **Basic services to all** - equitable, inclusive and sustainable urban and human settlement development
- Integrating **gender equality and women empowerment** in urban development
- **Community driven participatory approaches** to human settlements development - which originate from residents' identification of needs, and recognises and builds upon the social capital, innovation, and resources of residents
- Ensuring **safety and security** in human settlements
- **Access to urban services and housing for migrants and refugees** as part of integrated and inclusive community development

## Common African Position

- **Consultative frameworks** among all urban and human settlements stakeholders and promoting **participatory approaches** in urban project implementation
- **Accessibility to housing and urban basic services for all** - people in vulnerable situations, people with disability, children and the elderly.
- **Slum upgrading** - secure tenure, infrastructure, basic service and socio economic facilities to address exclusion, poverty, health, safety and improved quality of life

# THANK YOU

