

Annex 1:

Terms of Reference I National Urbanisation Strategy Uzbekistan 2030 - UN-Habitat + UNECE Technical Mission to Tashkent, Uzbekistan

Suggested dates 15 - 18 April 2019

Participants **UN-Habitat:** Ms. Katja Schaefer - Inter-regional Advisor; Ms. Tatiana Khabarova – Head UN-Habitat Project Coordination Office for Countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States
UNECE: Ms. Irina Gentsler - UNECE expert, Mr. Nikolai Bobylev - UNECE expert

Collaboration **UNDP Uzbekistan:** Ms. Diyora Kabulova - Project Manager, Support to Policy Research for Sustainable Development; Mr. Hurshid Rustamov - Head of the Sustainable Development Cluster

Background

Recently, the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan has issued a Presidential Decree highlighting the importance of well thought urbanization policies for sustainable development of the country, which include measures on privatization of non-agricultural land and a new housing policy. The decree also established an Agency on urbanization as well as Urbanization Development Fund under the Ministry of Economy and Industry. In line with the Decree, the Ministry of Economy and Industry has been tasked to develop by 1 July 2019 the country's *Urbanization Strategy 2030*. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has been approached by the Ministry of Economy and the Institute for Forecasting and Macroeconomic Research (IFMR), which is under the Ministry, to support the preparation of an *Urbanization Strategy 2030*, hereby prioritizing housing and urban development issues in the currently ongoing "Support to Policy Research for Sustainable Development". It is in this context and based on the demand by national counterparts on international expertise in the related fields, UNDP has reached out to the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) and United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) to collaborate in this initiative. This is also considering the ongoing *Tashkent 2025 Transformation* process, which defines the role of the capital city in the wider systemic urbanization development of the country. National partners are seeking for international expertise of UN-Habitat and UNECE on the formulation of a national urbanization strategy as well as for the capital city as part of a wider sustainable urbanisation discussion in the country, both aligning with the urban targets of the *2030 Sustainable Development Agenda* – particularly Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 11: "make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable" - and the *New Urban Agenda* (NUA). The implementation of the New Urban Agenda at national level calls for five interrelated principles: (1) National Urban Policies; (2) Urban Planning and Design; (3) Urban Legislation; (4) Municipal Finance; and (5) local implementation, both urban regeneration as well as planned city extensions. UN-Habitat has collaborated with UNECE in various aspects related to the implementation of both the urban targets of the SDGs as well as NUA in a variety of countries in the region of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS). The UNECE has developed on request of the Government of Uzbekistan in 2015 the Country Profile on Housing and Land Management; the work on UNECE Environmental Performance Review, which includes chapters on urban development and on land management, is ongoing and is to be completed in 2019.

Objectives

In preparation of the technical mission comprising of UN-Habitat and UNECE in collaboration with UNDP, a thorough desk review will be conducted in order to highlight the housing and urbanization challenges in Uzbekistan as well as will assist in prioritizing expertise to be provided to the preparation of the Uzbekistan *Urbanization Strategy 2030*. The mission will have the following objectives:

- Identify **key stakeholders** to be engaged in the National Urban Policy development process in Uzbekistan, including preliminary **capacity assessment**, and collaboration modalities.

- Review the **diagnosis** prepared by the working group, identify data gaps and provide recommendations on enhancing the analysis.
- **Round table discussion** with key national and local stakeholders to explore **entry points for National Urban Policy development** in Uzbekistan and prioritize policy interventions, linking the localization of global, regional and national commitments to the urbanization dynamics in the country. These include the urban targets of the *2030 Sustainable Development Agenda*, particularly SDG 11, and NUA as well as *Paris Agreement* and *Sendai Framework*.
- Presentation on internationally recognised **good practices** on urbanization including such areas as urban housing and innovations in urban development, policy documents on urbanization prepared and adopted in other countries, including evidence-based National Urban Policies relevant to the Uzbekistan context.
- Review the **roadmap for preparation** of National Urban Policy in Uzbekistan, elaborated by the IFMR including timeframes for feasibility, diagnosis, formulation, implementation as well as monitoring and evaluation.
- Engage **key strategic partners** in the discussion for preparation, formulation and implementation of a National Urban Policy for Uzbekistan, including other ongoing processes such as the *Tashkent 2025 Transformation* process and potential resource mobilisation (i.e. China, Russia, European Union, etc.)
- Agree on content, focus and outcome of “Mini” **Uzbekistan Urban Forum** (2-day event bringing all relevant national and local stakeholders together in agreeing on Urbanization priorities).
- Define **milestone documents** to be prepared as part of the National Urban Policy development process, including key document to be presented to the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan at the beginning of July 2019.
- Identify additional **local and regional experts** in priority areas required for the National Urban Policy in Uzbekistan, but not covered by the IFMR working group.
- Elaborate Terms of Reference for **review of existing legislation** relevant to urban context, including recommendations for revision and implementation in accordance with National Urban Policy implementation, including the definition of rural and urban areas.
- Elaborate Terms of Reference for **review of international indexes** related to urbanization and providing recommendations on how to improve Uzbekistan’s ranking in them, including CPI for evidence based decision making and Smart Sustainable Cities Indicators..
- Agree between UNDP, UN-Habitat and UNECE **working modalities** for technical support to the National Urban Policy development process in Uzbekistan, and the wider region if appropriate.

Agenda (proposed meetings)

United Nations:

- United Nations Resident Coordinator: Ms. Helena Fraser and selected members of United Nations Country Team

Technical ministries:

- Urban Development Agency; Ministry of Economy and Industry; Ministry of Construction; Deputy Minister; Ministry of Housing and Communal Services; Ministry of Public Utility Services.

Local government:

- Local government authority (Hokimiyat): Tashkent 2025 Transformation team

Private sector, academia and research institutions:

- Institute for Social Research under the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan; Institute for Forecasting and Macroeconomic Research (IFMR); University of Tashkent, Institute of Architecture; National design institutes, among which Toshkent Bosh Plan LITI; LLC Consulting Center "Kelajak Shahri Rivodzhi"; **Center for Economic Research**

Funding institutions:

- Urban Development Fund; World Bank; Asian Development Bank

Reference Material¹

Technical Documents:

¹ Documents have been compiled in a drobox folder:

www.dropbox.com/sh/t6ekvjtlm2mjcxu/AABAw4giwFeh9JX8azlad6Z9a?dl=0

- National Urban Policy platform: urbanpolicyplatform.org
- National Urban Policy Database: unhabitat.urbanpolicyplatform.org
- UNECE (2018). Guidelines for the preparation of UNECE Country Profiles on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management, <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=48549>.
- UN-Habitat and OECD (2018). Global State of National Urban Policy Report.
- UN-Habitat (2018). National Urban Policy Feasibility Guide.
- UN-Habitat (2018). National Urban Policy Database.
- UN-Habitat (2018). 20+ Reasons why National Urban Policy Matters.
- UN-Habitat (2015). National Urban Policy – A Guiding Framework.
- UN-Habitat (2015). National Urban Policy – Framework for a rapid Diagnostic.
- UNECE (2015) Geneva UN Charter on Sustainable Housing, <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=37235>
- United Nations (2017). United for Smart Sustainable Cities (U4SSC) Initiative - Collection Methodology for Key Performance Indicators for Smart Sustainable Cities.
- United Nations (2018). United for Smart Sustainable Cities (U4SSC) Initiative - Connecting cities and communities with the Sustainable Development Goals.
- UNECE (2015) Social Housing in the UNECE Region.

UNECE Region, including Commonwealth of Independent States:

- Habitat III Regional Report (2018), Housing and Urban Development in the UNECE Region, http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/hlm/projects/HIII_Regional_Report/HabitatIII-Regional-Report-Europe-Region.pdf
- UNECE (2017). Geneva Ministerial Declaration on Sustainable Housing and Urban Development
- UNECE and UN-Habitat (2016). CIS Cities: Towards Sustainable Future - The Commonwealth of Independent States Regional Report.

Uzbekistan:

- UNECE (2019). Environmental Performance Review of Uzbekistan (under preparation) which includes chapters on land and housing, including urbanization issues in Uzbekistan.
- UNECE (2015). Country Profile for Uzbekistan on Housing and Land Management.
- United Nations (2016). Uzbekistan United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2016-2020.

Government of Republic of Uzbekistan:

- Government Resolution on the Adoption of the national Sustainable Development Goals.
- Minutes of the meeting of the Coordination Council on the national Sustainable Development Goals.
- Presidential Decree on Urbanization (Presidential Decree #5623 dated 10.1.2019)
- Urbanization Workplan.
- Legislation relevant to urban context: Housing Code, Urban Development Code, Law on Mortgage, Law on Private Homeowners, Law on Privatization of Public Housing, Law on Town Planning, among others.

Annex 2:**Programme I National Urbanisation Strategy Uzbekistan 2030 - UN-Habitat + UNECE Technical Mission to Tashkent, Uzbekistan****ПРОГРАММА**

миссии в Узбекистан *г-жи Кати Шейфер*, межрегионального советника Программы ООН по населенным пунктам, *г-жи Ирины Гентслер*, начальника сектора жилищного строительства, департамента городского хозяйства Института экономики городов, *г-на Николая Бобылева*, доцента и заведующего кафедрой экологической безопасности и устойчивого развития регионов Санкт-Петербургского государственного университета и *г-жи Татьяны Хабаровой*, Руководителя Координационного бюро проектов ООН-Хабитат в целях оказания содействия Министерству экономики и промышленности Республики Узбекистан в разработке Концепции урбанизации до 2030 года

Ташкент, 14 – 18 апреля 2019 г.

Время	Мероприятие	Место проведения	Ответственный
Воскресенье, 14 апреля 2019 г.			
Будет сообщено дополнительно	Прибытие в Ташкент	Аэропорт	ПРООН
Понедельник, 15 апреля 2019 г.			
09:00	Встреча в гостинице и отбытие в Страновой Офис ПРООН	Страновой Офис ПРООН ул. Тараса Шевченко, 4	ПРООН
09:30-10:30	Встреча в Страновом Офисе ПРООН с Хеленой Фрейзер, Постоянным координатором ООН в Республике Узбекистан, Матильдой Димовска, Постоянным представителем ПРООН в Республике Узбекистан и сотрудниками Отдела устойчивого развития и проекта ПРООН «Стратегические исследования в целях устойчивого развития» Ответственный: Диера Кабулова, руководитель проекта ПРООН	Страновой Офис ПРООН ул. Тараса Шевченко, 4	ПРООН
11:00-12:30	Встреча с руководством Министерства экономики и промышленности, Агентства урбанизации и Института прогнозирования и макроэкономических исследований Ответственный: Хуршид Рустамов, руководитель кластера ПРООН по устойчивому развитию	Министерств о Экономики и промышленн ости	ПРООН/Агентство урбанизации
12:30-14:00	Обед		ПРООН
14:30-15:30	Встреча с представителями Министерства строительства, ГУП «Узшахарсозлик ЛИТИ», «Тошкентбошплан» ЛИТИ, «Тошуйжой» ЛИТИ Ответственный: Диера Кабулова, руководитель проекта ПРООН	МинСтрой	ПРООН/Агентство урбанизации
16:00-17:00	Встреча с представителями Министерства жилищно-коммунального обслуживания Ответственный: Диера Кабулова, руководитель проекта ПРООН	Министерств о жилищно-коммунально го обслуживани я	ПРООН/Агентство урбанизации

17:30-18:15	Встреча с представителями хокимията г.Ташкента, общественного совета г.Ташкента и Центра урбанистики по Концепции «Ташкент-трансформация 2025» Ответственный: Диера Кабулова, руководитель проекта ПРООН	Хокимият г.Ташкента	ПРООН/Агентство урбанизации
Вторник, 16 апреля 2019 г.			
9:15-10:15	Встреча с представителями Министерства энергетики Ответственный: Диера Кабулова, руководитель проекта ПРООН	Яккасарайский р-н, ул. Бабура, 14	ПРООН/Агентство урбанизации
10:30-11:30	Встреча с представителем Всемирного Банка и Азиатского Банка Развития по вопросам подготовки концепции урбанизации Ответственный: Хуршид Рустамов, руководитель кластера ПРООН по устойчивому развитию	ПРООН	ПРООН
11:45-12:30	Встреча с представителями Госкомгеодезкадастр Ответственный: Диера Кабулова, руководитель проекта ПРООН	Госкомгеодез кадастр	ПРООН/Агентство урбанизации
12:45-13:45	Обед		ПРООН
14:00-18:00	Встреча с рабочей группой Министерства экономики и промышленности, Агентства урбанизации и Института прогнозирования и макроэкономических исследований по Концепции Урбанизации и подготовка к круглому столу Ответственный: Диера Кабулова, руководитель проекта ПРООН	ИПМИ	ПРООН/Агентство урбанизации
Среда, 17 апреля 2019 г.			
9:30-12:30	Круглый стол на тему «Концепция урбанизации 2030 и Национальные Цели устойчивого развития (TBD)» Ответственный: Диера Кабулова, руководитель проекта ПРООН	TBD	ПРООН/Агентство урбанизации/ИПМИ
12:30-14:00	Обед		ПРООН
14:30 – 16:30	Обсуждение с представителями Агентства урбанизации и ИПМИ дальнейших шагов Ответственный: Диера Кабулова, руководитель проекта ПРООН	Агентство урбанизации	ПРООН/Агентство урбанизации
17:00-18:00	Подведение итогов миссии и обсуждение дальнейших действий с Отделом устойчивого развития, ПРООН в Узбекистане Ответственный: Диера Кабулова, руководитель проекта ПРООН	ПРООН	ПРООН
Будет подтверждено дополнительно	Отъезд из Ташкента	Гостиница – международный аэропорт в Ташкенте	ПРООН

Annex 3:

Agenda Round table I Concept of Urbanization 2030 and National Sustainable Development Goals

Программа семинара на тему: «Концепция урбанизации 2030: Подходы и лучшая практика в области разработки политики городского развития, градостроительства, землеустройства и жилищного строительства»

Организаторы: Министерство экономики и промышленности Республики Узбекистан
ПРООН в Узбекистане
Агентство урбанизации
Институт прогнозирования и макроэкономических исследований

Место: Министерство экономики и промышленности Республики Узбекистан, Конференц-зал, 1 этаж

Дата и время: 17 апреля 2019 года, 9:30 – 13:00

Регистрация: 9:00 – 9:30

9:00-9:30	Регистрация участников
9:30-9:40	Приветственное слово: Ботир Ходжаев, Министр экономики и промышленности Республики Узбекистан Матильда Димовска, Постоянный представитель ПРООН в Узбекистане Жасур Арипов, Директор Агентства урбанизации Республики Узбекистан Модератор: Воситжон Имомов, Директор ИПМИ
9:40-10:00	Текущее состояние в развитии городов, урбанизации и жилищном хозяйстве ТВД, ИПМИ/Агентства урбанизации
10:00-10:25	Зачем нужна национальная городская политика? Какие принципы и методики применяются при ее разработке? Национальная городская политика (НГП) признана в качестве важнейшего инструмента управления динамикой урбанизации и реализации Новой городской повестки и Целей устойчивого развития, наряду с другими мировыми соглашениями. Национальная городская политика является также ключевым инструментом пространственной организации системы городов в рамках территории государства, позволяющим максимизировать выгоды от урбанизации, одновременно сокращая неравенство и нивелируя ее отрицательные последствия. Катя Шейфер, межрегиональный советник Программы ООН по населенным пунктам
10:25-10:50	Городское и территориальное планирование: методология и практика. Ключевыми аспектами презентации будет анализ иерархии пространственных планов, принципы устойчивого развития городов и микрорайонов, включая участие основных заинтересованных сторон. Кроме того, речь пойдет о мониторинге реализации городского планирования в территориальном масштабе, городские обсерватории (местные, национальные, глобальные) и набор показателей для измерения устойчивого развития городов. Татьяна Хабарова, Руководитель Координационного бюро проектов ООН-Хабитат
10:50-11:05	Кофе-брейк
11:05-11:30	Существующий международный опыт в области координации между политикой городского развития и жилищной политикой. Состав, содержание и порядок подготовки генеральных планов городских округов и поселений, схем территориального планирования региональных территорий Ирина Генцелер, начальник сектора жилищного строительства, департамента городского хозяйства Института экономики городов
11:30-12:15	Существующий международный опыт в области системы управления земельными ресурсами. Состав, содержание и порядок подготовки правил землепользования и застройки городского округов и поселений. Николай Бобылев, доцент и заведующий кафедрой экологической безопасности и устойчивого развития регионов Санкт-Петербургского государственного университета
12:15-12:45	Вопросы и ответы
12:45-13:00	Подведение итогов и заключительное слово Ботир Ходжаев, Министр экономики и промышленности Республики Узбекистан Матильда Димовска, Постоянный представитель ПРООН в Узбекистане Жасур Арипов, Директор Агентства урбанизации Республики Узбекистан

Annex 4:

Aid Memoire I National Urbanisation Strategy Uzbekistan 2030 - UN-Habitat + UNECE Technical Mission to Tashkent, Uzbekistan

DAY 1: Monday, 15 April 2019

Ms. Matilda Dimovska, UNDP Resident Representative and staff of Sustainable Development Division and UNDP Strategic Studies for Sustainable Development Project:

- Government is undergoing series of reforms and results expected with very ambitious deadlines; housing and urbanization has been highlighted, and stream of reforms need to be synchronized and capacities for implementation strengthened
- Establishment of Urban Agency, many emerging actors in the urban field (including UNDP, Asian Development Bank and Worldbank) among other UN agencies; need for coordination crucial (UNDP has and ABD is planning to recruit an urban expert; Worldbank is working on agency “urbanization strategy”); Working Group on urbanization headed by Institute of Forecasting and Macroeconomic Research under Ministry of Economy and Industry
- Plans to increase urbanization rate from 50 to 60%, however, definition of large villages versus small towns not clear; diagnosis for national urbanization strategy currently ongoing
- Country shows strong commitment to SDG, MAPS mission was conducted in 2018 supported by UNCT and Worldbank; Inter-ministerial Monitoring Committee has been established but considering weak capacities in urban sector, support for monitoring urban SDGs required
- UNECE Country Profile on Housing and Land Management has been launched, however, requires revision to include current reform aspirations of government (including planned land reform and privatization of non-agricultural land)
- Potential areas for UNDP/ UN-Habitat/ UNECE collaboration: urban innovation (spatial, technology), best practices (culture, infrastructure legacy), smart cities (smart planning, smart governance, smart city indicators)
- Potential areas for UN-Habitat/ UNECE engagement: land law review and recommendations (with GLTN)

Senior Management of Ministry of Economy and Industry (**Mr. Sakhil I. Saifnazarov**, Deputy Minister), Agency for Urbanization and the Institute for Forecasting and Macroeconomic Research (**Mr. Tursun M. Akhmedov**, Deputy Director)

- Urban portfolio was placed within Ministry of Economy and Industry and considering its importance in the country the Urban Agency was established, linking urbanization with industrial and infrastructure development.
- Challenge in former Soviet countries: cities with strong focus on industrial development and strong specialization, upon diversification of economies, small cities lost economic assets (i.e. coal mines or rubber production at large scale); new functions are to be found for cities based on new technologies and rehabilitation of housing stock – opportunity to be environmentally sound and resilient, upgrading of basic urban services, energy efficiency in heat supply and application of materials used.
- Assistance needed in assessment of status quo to derive appropriate development strategies: (1) housing and neighborhood rehabilitation (both in urban and rural areas); (2) enhanced local governance for the development of cities and regions; (3) infrastructure development and upgrading of basic urban services; (4) engagement of private sector in diversification of economy (i.e. moving from cotton production as mono-culture to fruit and vegetable production in rural areas; limit export of raw material and export processed products; development of textile industry for cotton and silk); (5) mobility of population from rural to urban areas.
- 2019 roadmap was developed for regulating urbanization in Uzbekistan, including establishment of Urban Agency – urban development needs to be reconsidered and the country is ready to learn from experiences and champion/ pioneer new practices. Draft Urbanization Strategy is currently being drafted, building on an urban and housing analysis conducted by the Institute for Forecasting and Macroeconomic Research; reference is being made to various other countries, key concern is how to engage with wider communities; vision is to increase urban areas from 50% to 60% by 2030 (analysis of feasibility and risks for privatization of land; collaboration between private sector and government in driving towards sustainable urban development; prioritization of housing construction – so far no housing policy available in Uzbekistan); legislation - 20 new legal acts including for green technologies, EE in rural housing, health care, investment

projects, EE for public buildings, urban development code); diversification of financing for urban development is being explored (privatization of land as the basis for the Urban Fund suggested); Tashkent as primary city in the country is being developed alongside; idea of twin cities for Uzbek cities to be explored.

- Architectural Committee in charge of Urban Development Plans for major cities, prepared centrally with little reference to given situation on the ground (General Development Plans); Tashkent and Samarkand for the next 25 years, additional 138 cities planned as well as for rural areas (2018: 24; 2019: 52); approval by Cabinet of Ministers; monitoring of implementation by local government (data centers), and need to conduct evidence based decision making for urban rehabilitation.
- Housing sector: the policy aims to generate good living conditions now; trend is to build vertical (4 – 12 floors) considering seismic dynamics and EE for people to make savings in energy consumption; engagement of private sector in management and provision of housing stock; pro-poor and social protection approach to housing, including the possibility of preferential mortgages with low down payments and introduction of rental market; dynamics of rural urban migration not clear and better monitoring required to forecast housing demand, including sizes (link registration process of population to housing provision); different private sector companies engaged in housing construction for urban 5 – 9 floors) and rural (through local Mayor's office) areas; introduction of housing associations for management of housing blocks required, and construction company to focus only on building process; housing finance: preferential mortgage range, down payment support by government, rental versus ownership for more flexible/ mobile housing market.
- UNECE Country Profile on Housing and Land Management finalized in 2015, requires revision to consider aspirations of government since 2017, especially in housing and urban policy areas.

Representatives of Ministry of Construction (**Mr. Shukhratkhodja Khashimov**, Deputy Minister), State Unitary Enterprise "Uzshakharsozlik LITI", "Toshkentboshplan" LITI, "Toshuizhoy" LITI (**Mr. Galib G. Madjidov**, General Director)

- Ministry oversees creation of engineering infrastructure for urban development; has been leading several national programmes related to urban development and has long-standing cooperation with UNDP including in the implementation of projects related to legislative basis for green technologies, energy-efficient construction in rural areas, etc.
- Ministry is currently working on the new draft of the Urban Development Code, and is interested in getting access to best practices in this regard, would appreciate the participation of its experts in various capacity building activities,
- Ministry is also in charge of master plans preparation for Uzbek cities, and would be also interested in building its capacity and getting access to best practices in this regard.

Representatives of Ministry of Housing and Communal Services (**Mr. Khaydarov Takhir Abidjanovich**, Deputy Minister)

- Ministry in charge of basic urban services (sewage, water and heat supply) as well as Housing Fund.
- Housing Fund: #209.22 establishment of a single center in charge of all regions of Uzbekistan – accounting, consulting and payments of housing usage in apartment buildings.
- Communal Fund: construction and reconstruction of sewage centers; currently around 150 regional centers with integrated sewage system; 2009 decree: construction of 2000 rural housing projects annually, including infrastructure cluster (sewage and water supply), construction in regional centers – multiple flat buildings and local sewage solutions; pilot projects.
- Housing Policy: does not exist in Uzbekistan and is much needed; should include: housing ownership, rental solutions, multiple ownerships and professional management schemes, preferential mortgages with lower income rate. Working Group has been established to discuss additions to housing legislation, as well as a funding mechanism that provides a general fund for the renovation of housing blocks. Learning from other countries in Eastern Europe and former Soviet Union (i.e. general fund versus individualized fund; private ownership does not work with centralized model, subsidies from local government to housing renovation.
- Indication of interest in learning about best practices in management of apartment buildings. Additions to Housing Code are being developed as well as new legislation on housing partnerships and management of apartment buildings. A possible study tour to Estonia to the Center of Geneva Charter suggested.

Representatives of the hokimiyat of City of Tashkent (**Mr. Timur Abdukayumov**, Project Manager, **Ms. Maria Tschuschaja**, PR Manager), Public Council of Tashkent and Urban Center "Tashkent-Transformation 2025" and (**Ms. Adelja Schamgunova**, Executive Director)

- Preparation of Masterplan for Tashkent for the first time in Uzbekistan urban development history. ToR for the Masterplan has been finalized and the document is supposed to be finalized by May 2019 (deadline is very ambitious, not possible to be met).
- Public Council was established based on international experience = Centre of Urbanism; to be duplicated in other cities in Uzbekistan upon successful completion in Tashkent.
- Tashkent aspires to become the leading city in the region (human capacity, quality of life) Focus of Tashkent urban development on economic factors to provide a competitive environment as well as urban planning to focus on generation of comfortable living conditions; other focus areas are provision of affordable and adequate housing and communal services as well as urban conservation/ rehabilitation of historic/ derelict neighborhoods; generation of an inclusive city and access for all, i.e. create accessibility for people with disabilities; city should be environmentally sound and resilient.
- Governance structure: establishment of different expert working groups (5 – 6 members per group), provision of data by Mayor's office. Unfortunately, Uzbekistan lacks local expertise, hence the Centre of Urbanism has reached out to international development partners – such as UN-Habitat – seeking for technical expertise and support. Engagement with private sector, i.e. in field of open data: business sees solutions and not only problems.
- Challenge of forced displacement/ evictions in urban regeneration areas.
- Evaluation of process and product of Tashkent Master Plan (CPI, KPI, assess implementation of Master Plan but also performance of Mayor's Office).

DAY 2: Tuesday, 16 April 2019

Meeting with the representative of Asian Development Bank (**Mr. Doniyor Mukhammadaliyev**, Social Sector Officer)

- Uzbekistan is a country striving for inclusive economic growth and narrowing of gaps in infrastructure quality between rural and urban areas through economic liberalization, private sector development, regional cooperation and integration. Urbanization is critical to the development of Uzbekistan which up to date is still very centrally governed. While aspiring an increase in the urbanization rate, the current housing situation in Uzbekistan has not been fully comprehended as a major challenge for the country with lacking technical expertise to address transformational dynamics. There is lack of affordability of housing, neither protections nor solutions to the free-market rental market. Spatial Development Plans should include not only access to the housing market but also to employment opportunities.
- Country Operations Business Plan (COBP) 2019–2021 includes operational support for agriculture, transport, energy, municipal services, health, education, social protection, and access to finance. Support for the key drivers of change—including private sector development, regional cooperation, governance. ADB is about to commence "urban projects" in the field of (1) water supply, (2) peri-urban development, and (3) Solid Waste Management in Tashkent for up to 200.000.000 USD. Technical assistance has been requested for 3 secondary cities.
- Challenges to sustainable urban development: weak capacities at central and local levels (human and financial). Urban development plans are not integrated and inclusive and focus too much on the physical elements; final approval of these plans by President's Office ("nothing moves without instruction"). Urban resilience has been weak (i.e. trees being cut down, poor road conditions and no drainage in certain areas). Limited urban transport (example of Samarkand was mentioned and the idea for smart transport systems, airport development). Public spaces only for key spaces but not at neighborhood level. Urban heritage at risk, UNESCO is looking into this but has not had enough leverage. Private sector investment versus forced evictions, mixed use (employment versus housing), no zoning (free-trade industrial/ economic zones).
- ADB projects: (1) ADB technical support to adaptation of PPP scheme on water supply and sanitation and efficiency in delivering services (timeframe: 2 months), to be piloted in 4 cities; (2) technical support to affordable housing in rural areas "Prosperous Villages and Communities Programme", unfortunately without comprehensive approach.
- ADB is supporting the development of a Mortgage Fund and will extend a loan of 400.000.000 USD for this purpose. UN-Habitat has not got enough expertise in setting up and managing Urban Development Funds and is encouraging ADB and WB to explore mechanisms of support.

- ADB is about to recruit international and national consultant to guide their urban work totaling 150.000 USD. Part of the ToR is to conduct trainings to ADB and government staff (vacancy has been announced and personnel to be in place by mid-May 2019).
- Coordination mechanism between UNCT, ADB and WB has been established and UN-Habitat and UNECE should be participating, even if only remote.

Meeting with Tashkent Institute of Architecture and Construction (**Mr. Mirisayev Abdullo**, Vice Rector and **Prof. M. K. Ahmedov**)

- Discussions on development of sustainable cities in Uzbekistan; report has been drafted for submission to Cabinet of Ministers on the methodology for urban development to break the “Soviet approach” that is based on different ownership pattern. Ongoing privatization efforts have not been fully included in urban development planning.
- Objectives for Urban Agency/ Ministry are industrialization and sustainable urban development; as well as creation of business districts to attract (foreign) investment.
- Institute is working on new curricula and urban portfolio, aligning with New Urban Agenda; prepare students for territorial design. Establishment of MSC programme on Planning of Cities and Rural Areas ongoing, with focus on urban heritage and resilient cities.
- Institute is working on a City Development Codex and is looking for good practices to inspire Uzbekistan context; UN-Habitat and UNECE referred to CPI/ KPI materials that are available.
- High Economic School focuses on development topic in Uzbekistan as well as on training and capacity development.
- Institute is in exchange with other departments and universities on issues such as course development, exchange of scholars and additional expertise (the inauguration of an urban department is fore coming). I.e. PhD students at Chinese universities working on seismic issues for high rise buildings; exchange programmes with Korea, Malaysia and Japan.
- Interest was raised for Institute to attend in international events but also once UN-habitat/ UNECE returns to Tashkent to have a series of urban lectures for students and staff.

Meeting with Working Group of Ministry of Economy and Industry, Agency for Urbanization and Institute for Forecasting and Macroeconomic Research (**Mr. Tursun M. Akhmedov**, Deputy Director) on Urbanization Concept and preparation for Round Table

- 60 scientific researchers working at Urban Agency, and 100 employees in general. Focus of work on issues related to macro-economics, industrialization, agriculture, social and territorial development and related investment policies. Ratification of work by Ministry of Economy and Industry and approval by Prime Minister’s Office.
- Draft of National Urbanization Strategy 2030 currently ongoing, a 1st draft expected in July 2019. Amendments possible. Working Group under Deputy Minister of Ministry of Economy and Industry and Head of Urban Agency established. Public is being consulted as well as Cabinet of Ministers on sector related concerns. Final approval will be granted by Head of State. Coordination is taking place following the 2020/21 road map with priority issues that can be implemented before the general concept is being finalized.
- Diagnostic Phase: National Urbanization Strategy 2030 is ambitious, and in order to implement the strategy, ambitious legal acts will be needed. Ongoing review of legislative base, base laws such as urban planning and housing codes; amendments are possible based on need or new legal acts and codes as required (i.e. draft amendment of urban planning code being elaborated currently).
- Institutional arrangements for urban development planning, implementation and monitoring: Ministry of Construction, Ministry of Housing and Communal Services, Cadaster Services, local government, etc. A capacity assessment will be required for effective and efficient implementation of National Urbanization Strategy 2030.
- Status of urbanization: identify systemic challenges in cities of today based on regional and central responsibilities, most importantly considering the social risks (i.e. forced evictions), heat supply, employment, public transportation, real and potential housing demand (private and communal).
- 50% urbanization in 2019 > planned 56% by 2030. Analysis of drivers to advance urbanization: population numbers (demand by 2030), considering rural, urban and capital city (2.5 times higher than in the past); affordable/ social housing; potential for development of new cities (based on inventory and capacities of smaller cities); “urbanizing rural areas”; small cities’ potential to become medium size cities; rural urban migration (includes reform of registration system).

- Partners supporting development of National Urbanization Strategy 2030: UNDP, ADB, Worldbank, and additional expertise needed, hence the request to UN-Habitat and UNECE.
- National Urbanization Strategy 2030 should develop monitoring and evaluation framework for measuring progress of implementation and impact based on global set of indicators, i.e. SDG, CPI, KPI, etc.
- Formulation of Urban Structure 2030: balanced regional/ urban development based on system-of-cities; consider standards and hierarchy of cities as well as definition of cities; proximity of small cities near larger urban agglomerations as part of corridor or metropolitan planning and governance.
- Funding for urban development: Urbanization Fund has been established but requires institutional mechanisms for implementation and management of fund; municipal finance is considered to devolve/ decentralize functions to municipalities. Engagement Strategy for private sector needed (also in relation to ongoing privatization of land, housing mortgage).
- Urbanization as driver for sustainable and economic development: housing construction (so far no long term strategy), provision of basic urban services (especially challenging in small cities), land issues (better use of land through privatization envisaged).
- General Development Plan for Uzbekistan to be amended and aligned with National Urbanization Strategy 2030, development of Strategic Plans for all urban areas as well as regional development plans; decision on how many people should live there (carrying capacity); social and economic development in the country aligned; development of coherent set of planning documentation. Decree on smart city development in Uzbekistan has been prepared and requires innovative thinking for its implementation.
- Capacities of national and local partners to be upgraded in order to guide new demand for urbanization in Uzbekistan.
- Link National Urbanization Strategy 2030 to 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda and New Urban Agenda, including relevant indicators for baseline development and evidence support; alignment with Voluntary National Report. Government is open to new ideas and welcomes the adaptation of methodologies and indicators to national level. SDG11 - “make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable” – has been highlighted and the need to have more environmentally sound and resilient urban areas. Sustainable neighborhood principles should be applied to foster mixed-use, walkability, efficient urban mobility, etc. and enhance the role of urban areas in boosting economic development. This should also be considered for urban extension plans.
- Deadlines and timelines for National Urbanization Strategy 2030: recognition that capacities in country are limited and external expertise will take time and impact the length of the process. By July 2019 a final timeline should be presented to the government, along with a draft document (i.e. diagnosis report). Moreover, the understanding of Master Plan versus General Plan needs to be made clear, including economic, social and environmental aspects in addition to innovation and contemporary technical solutions; regional approach of marketing certain cities and modes of transport between them.
- Extensive discussion on housing situation: minimum requirement per person of 15m2 too small and an increase is to be considered while still being affordable; ownership model to be reconsidered and the establishment of a commercial sector/ rental market for more mobile populations. This will also generate employment opportunities in the manufacturing and service sectors as well as tourism. Quality of life for all should be the target, both in urban and rural areas. Foreign investment to be better guided and urban regeneration projects to be more inclusive.
- Coordination of urban sector needed: UNDP, ADB and Worldbank as well as wider UN system with UN-Habitat and UNECE as sector experts. Development of a joint roadmap is needed to better understand the way forward and capacity development needs along key milestones for national and local partners. The idea of a National Urban Forum was agreed upon to advance an inclusive and well managed process for sustainable urbanization in Uzbekistan.

Meeting with **members of UNCT** on “Right to the City and Cities for All”

- References were made to SDG11, NUA (particularly Policy Paper 1 “The Right to the City and Cities for All”), urbanization and human rights, right to adequate housing, assessment of impact of and alternatives to (forced) evictions, etc. followed by extensive engaged discussions.
- Master Plans in Uzbekistan have no legal status as they are not approved, decisions on urban projects, especially new construction schemes, are not inclusive. No due diligence procedure and no transparency on how investment projects are decided upon; in case relocation of populations is required, people are not consulted, and no clear compensation guidance is being provided based on a social cost-benefit analysis. No mechanisms for tenure security (guarantee letters are handed out but are not legally binding) or temporary living, in case a return to the original site is envisaged. New infrastructure investments do not match former

Soviet standards. Series of court cases are ongoing between local communities and investors, usually lost by the claimant (citizens fell left alone with the challenge).

- Major destruction of heritage buildings in favor of new investments, i.e. Samarkand is at the verge of losing its UNESCO heritage status. There is no national register in place, and the listing of building (including Soviet area buildings) is outstanding.
- Uzbeks do not move a lot from area of origin and do tend to own property, however, a changing society demands more flexibility in the housing market. Rural urban migration has been challenging due to “registration” of populations and consolidated rigid housing market in the past (i.e. to move to Tashkent requires a special permit). Strategies for affordable housing do not exist in the country, neither a formal rental market (responsibility for such a document is not clear). A non-formal rental market exists; however, it does not protect tenure security and avoid evictions. A risk analysis alongside the urbanization drive of the government should be conducted, to ensure that no one is left behind and protect the most vulnerable communities. Accessibility to the lower-income strata of society not given. Regulated real-estate market does not exist either and the market generates its own dynamic.
- Active facebook group page has been established to monitor evictions in Uzbekistan which happen on a regular basis in all parts of the country. Tashkent municipal boundary includes smaller locations at the fringe and urbanizes areas in-between. The decision of rich and poor in the periphery has been highlighted but also seismic challenges for high-rise buildings. Tourism and social housing issues are to be balanced – reference to SDG10 was made: reduced inequalities.
- Situation of differently abled persons has been highlighted which makes it difficult in a rigid housing market to find solutions; the same applies to aging population.

DAY 3: Wednesday, 17 April 2019

Round table on the theme “Concept of Urbanization 2030 and National Sustainable Development Goals” headed by Ministry of Economy and Industry, Agency for Urbanization (**Mr. Shasur Aripov**, Director) and Institute for Forecasting and Macroeconomic Research (**Mr. Tursun M. Akhmedov**, Deputy Director)

- Timeline for National Urbanization Strategy is very tight, and the first draft is requested to be submitted by July 2019. Uzbekistan is looking for international expertise, hence the invitation by various experts from UN-Habitat and UNECE. There is willingness to discuss and learn for the Uzbekistan context.
- Presentations by Institute for Forecasting and Macroeconomic Research on the diagnosis and analysis of urbanization trends in Uzbekistan; UN-Habitat and UNECE colleagues on the following subject matters: 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda and the New Urban Agenda; preparation of National Urban Policies; Housing at the Center of National Urban Policy; Strategic Urban Planning (presentations are attached).
- Key priorities for urban development in Uzbekistan: sustainable economic growth, quality of life and employment opportunities; creation of land market (privatization of non-agricultural land in urban areas); system of cities and productivity, productivity and provision of social infrastructure; establishment of satellite cities around major urban hubs to share services; introduction of “rating system” to improve Uzbekistan’s image internationally.
- Urbanization trends: 1991 – 40.3%; 2018: 50.6% urbanization (however, definition of urbanization not clear); 171 townships, 80 small towns.
- Urbanization vision: 2030: 60%; focus on Samarkand to develop into second city in the country alongside an optimization of the system of cities.
- Urbanization drivers: demographic growth; administrative reform (turn rural into urban areas); 13.4% (rural urban) migration, registration of population and better management of migration; legislative review: urban planning and housing codes; short and long-term programmes for urban development; lack of strategic urban development plans (Tashkent is exception); devolution of finances and decentralized powers towards self-management of municipalities (limited budget capacity hinders adequate development); lack of relevant data and analysis for evidence-based decision making.
- Urbanization challenges (bottlenecks to prosperity of cities): heat supply, employment opportunities, transportation (intra- and inter-city); medical healthcare; declining natural resources; housing taxation (difference between rural and urban areas); access to safe drinking water; question of how to attract rural populations to cities; no coherent population forecast up to 2030 possible which would be a starting base for planning; cultural heritage in majority of urban areas showing long standing history.
- Housing: 2015 UNECE Country Profile on Housing and Land Management did not have sufficient outreach and with recent reform process commenced in the country, a revision would have to be made contributing to the elaboration of a Housing Policy (formal strategy does not exist, just a road map until 2025). Housing

and Urbanization Strategy are closely intertwined, keeping affordability as a top priority and diversification of housing market,

- Urban Fund: what are the mechanisms that are to be considered for national/ urban transformation; question of return of investments.
- Monitoring and evaluation: CPI and KPI Smart Cities have the potential to support monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the National Urbanization Strategy 2030 and its impact.
- Conclusion: reference to other good examples of National Urban Policies in other countries as well as review of timeframe for Uzbekistan venture as well as milestones in process.

Meeting with United Nations Resident Coordinator Office (**Ms. Helena Fraser**, Resident Coordinator and **Mr. Zarif Jumaev**, UN Coordination Analyst)

- National planning frameworks: 5-year agenda for development (2021), National Development Plan 2030 and link to 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda and SDGs. GAP: urban agenda, international migration policies, youth bulge and entries to job market. Rights-based agenda (sub-standard housing) with gaps in addressing compensations, relocation, communication. Need to slow down pace of processes to have more sustainable results; definition what policy should look like is key.
- Increased openness to tourism, especially to natural and cultural heritage sights. Needs to be addressed from various angles, including the provision of facilities and workforce.
- RC office has mapped urban initiatives and welcomes UN-Habitat and UNECE as non-resident agency. Areas of work suggested could be: safer, resilient, child friendly cities (i.e. Tashkent); registration of buildings with historic value, urban environment and pollution. (UNISDR has started making cities resilient campaign in Uzbekistan)
- RC encourages UNECE and UN-Habitat to participate in upcoming CCA and UNDAF process. The prioritization workshop will take place in September 2019.
- UN-Habitat to share concept notes for potential engagement in Uzbekistan and RC promised to engage in resource mobilization. Potential donors could be: Russian Technical Cooperation, UNDP Trust Fund, China, European Union.

Summing up the mission and discussing further actions with the Sustainable Development Division, UNDP Uzbekistan

- Draft Donor Coordination Action Plan compiled by the ADB and UNDP will be shared for UN-Habitat and UNECE to add. ADB will take lead in developing concept, UNDP/UN-Habitat and UNECE will provide feedback and expert support throughout work process.
- National partners have indicated their interest in updating the Country Profile on housing and land management. Tatiana will communicate this interest to UNECE (Gulnara) and follow up actions will be discussed.
- IFMR has requested a feedback on outline of National Urbanization Strategy 2030.
- Joint project proposal to be prepared by UN-Habitat and UNDP on “supporting development of integrated urban development plan for Bukhara City”. This will tentatively include “urban planning and design lab” and capacity development on urban planning, participatory budgeting, urban observatory, green city concept, etc. Possible donors are Russian Technical Cooperation and European Union.
- UN-Habitat will share the guidelines on measuring SDG 11 as well as guidelines on organizing a National Urban Forum, to be forwarded to AU.
- WB is requesting UN-Habitat to prepare “State of Uzbekistan Cities Report”. UN-Habitat will follow up on this.
- UN-Habitat will circulate first draft of the mission report in early May for everyone to comment on. We will then share the finalized report with the national counterparts and donor coordination group.

DAY 4: Thursday, 18 April 2019

Meeting with Worldbank (**Ms. Manjusha Rai**, Urban Consultant)

- Medium-size cities, with populations of between 50,000 and 100,000 people, are the economic and services backbone of larger urban centers. Over 40 percent of the country’s urban population - 1.5 million people - are estimated to live in cities and towns with fewer than 100,000 inhabitants.
- Improved municipal services and urban infrastructure project in cities in three regions in Uzbekistan: Medium-Size Cities Integrated Urban Development Project, (\$100 million loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development); project aims to improve infrastructure, public spaces, and municipal

services in medium-size cities (Chartak, Kagan and Yangiyul) as well as will strengthen institutional capacity of central and local governments to manage assets, infrastructure, service delivery, urban mobility, sustainable tourism and partnership with the private sector. Lessons learned during implementation of project in pilot cities will help to develop the National Medium-Size Cities Program.

- Development partner coordination on urbanization in Uzbekistan is vital, and UN-Habitat/ UNECE very welcome to coordinate efforts towards achieving sustainable urban development in Uzbekistan.
- Definition of cities and data for analysis is limited in the country as well as capacities to develop a baseline for evidence-based policy development. Hence, it is suggested to conduct a “State of Uzbekistan Cities Report” based on other models UN-Habitat has been implementing globally and link the CPI as an indicator for monitoring the implementation process of policies as well as the impact in line with SDG targets. Housing is to be placed at the center, hence a review of the UNECE City Profile on Housing and Land Management is vital. Additional suggestions for collaboration areas with WB: land legislation (GLTN).