

**Evaluation of the role of the UNECE Country Profiles on
Housing and Land Management from 1996 to 2015**
Progress report as of 31 August 2016

**Evaluation of the
role of the UNECE
Country Profiles**

Recommendations	Action agreed	Responsibility	Target date/ deadline	Date of implementation	Comments and questions
<p>Recommendation 1: Improve the funding and in-kind contributions by pursuing a stronger and more sustainable financial commitment by the MSs to the CP programme. Attract new funding opportunities by promoting a participatory approach among the UNECE MSs and extending networks and partnerships with organizations that support development in the housing, urban development and land management sectors in the UNECE region and beyond.</p>	<p>The Housing and Land Management Unit will organise presentation of results of the evaluation at the 77th session of the Committee on Housing and Land Management (CHLM).</p>	<p>UNECE Housing and Land Management Unit</p>	<p>September 2016</p>	<p>September 2016</p>	<p>The evaluation report was posted on the 77th CHLM session webpage as an informal note; a presentation by the secretariat is being prepared and will be presented on 14 September during the Committee session.</p>
	<p>The Housing and Land Management Unit will update the guidelines for the preparation of Country Profiles by adding to the procedure of their preparation an option for the establishment, when appropriate, of an interagency partnership for the production of the Country Profiles and a requirement for fundraising for extrabudgetary funds and in-kind support. The guidelines will be presented at the 78th CHLM session.</p>	<p>UNECE Housing and Land Management Unit</p>	<p>June 2017</p>		<p>Developing and strengthening partnerships is continuously pursued. For instance, the CP Kazakhstan is being prepared jointly with UNDP, UN-Habitat and OECD where UNDP, UN-Habitat as well as governments of UK and the Netherlands provide in-kind support; XB funds received from Russian Federation to this project. Establishing partnerships for the preparation of CPs will be formally reflected in the guidelines for CP preparation.</p>
	<p>The Housing and Land Management Unit will submit in October 2016 and on regular basis thereon requests to member States for financial and in-kind expert support to member States.</p>	<p>UNECE Housing and Land Management Unit</p>	<p>October 2016; further, annually in October</p>		<p>Currently CPs are supported by XB funds from the Russian Federation with in-kind support from member States and respective UNDP offices in the recipient countries</p>

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<p>Recommendation 2: Utilize internal UNECE resources and broaden existing partnerships with experts and interested parties. Promote more efficient online communications, and peer-review mechanisms, for the sustainable production of the CP analytical studies, broadening the networks and partnerships to attract additional experts, volunteers and pro-bono contributors.</p>	<p>The Forests, Land and Housing Division will send a communication to UNECE divisions with information on the Country Profile programme and an invitation to cooperate on the production of Country Profiles through provision of expertise to the Country Profiles planned for 2017-2018 (Kazakhstan and a second Country Profile for Belarus).</p>	<p>UNECE Housing and Land Management Unit</p>	<p>December 2016</p>		
<p></p>	<p>The Housing and Land Management Unit will send email invitations to its Committee and Working Party on Land Administration Bureaux and CHLM focal points to attract additional experts, volunteers and pro-bono contributors.</p>	<p>UNECE Housing and Land Management Unit</p>	<p>October 2016</p>		<p>To discuss at the Committee session in September 2016 and send invites after the Committee session, in October 2016.</p>

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<p>Recommendation 3: Discuss the relevance and benefits of aligning the goals and objectives of the CP programme with SDGs, the UNECE Strategy for Sustainable Housing and Land Management, and other important international agreements and frameworks. By doing so (most importantly with SDG 11 and the New Urban Agenda), and supporting their implementation, the CP exercise will emphasize cross-sectoral linkages, including those related to the environment, climate change, natural and human-made disaster risks, urban transport, ageing, and other topics. Incorporating the Monitoring Framework to measure the progress towards the fulfilment of SDGs would increase the chances of the programme attracting</p>	<p>The Housing and Land Management Unit will update the guidelines for the preparation of Country Profiles by June 2017 by revising the Country Profiles publication structure to ensure the publication addresses issues relevant to the implementation of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, especially the Urban SDG 11; the draft New Habitat Agenda; the Geneva UN Charter on Sustainable Housing; the Global Housing Strategy; the UNECE Strategy for Sustainable Housing and Land Management 2014-2020; and other important international agreements and frameworks as listed in the evaluation report text. The revised guidelines will be presented at the 78th session of CHLM as an official document for the Committee's decision.</p>	<p>UNECE Housing and Land Management Unit</p>	<p>Draft by December 2016</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	

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<p>Recommendation 4: Embed the CP programme with the necessary impact indicators, and follow-up and monitoring mechanisms. Upgrade project documentation in light of SDG 11 framework indicators. Develop closer partnerships with UN-Habitat's City Prosperity Initiative, the OECD Territorial Reviews, and other similar programmes for the establishment of common benchmarks for local, national and global monitoring, which would be crucial for the creation of an integrated monitoring mechanism in the housing, urban planning and land management sectors.</p>	<p>The Housing and Land Management Unit will include the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda indicators for urban related SDGs for monitoring the progress towards achieving the SDGs in October 2019 into the guidance document for the preparation of the Country Profiles to ensure all efforts by all the UN agencies are taken into account.</p> <p>UNECE will establish closer partnerships with UN-Habitat's City Prosperity Initiative, the OECD Territorial Reviews, the UNECE/ITU Key Performance Indicators for Smart Sustainable Cities and other similar programmes by June 2017 through exchange of letters and will work on regular basis with the partners on the development of a common a framework for monitoring the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda at local, national and global levels.</p>	<p>UNECE Housing and Land Management Unit</p>	<p>Target date/ deadline</p>	<p>Date of implementation</p>	

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<p>Recommendation 5: The CPs should guide individual MSs towards the fulfilment of “equal treatment and non-discrimination, especially for women”, by the broader application and monitoring of gender issues in the CP analytical studies and subsequent recommendations in accordance with the programme objectives and broader UN rules and regulations.</p>	<p>The Housing and Land Management Unit will update by June 2017 the guidelines for the preparation of Country Profiles by including a separate chapter with a more detailed explanation on how the gender issues must be addressed in Country Profiles to reflect relevant UN rules and regulations. The revised guidelines will be presented at the 78th session of the Committee on Housing and Land Management as an official document for the Committee’s decision.</p>	<p>UNECE Housing and Land Management Unit</p>	<p>March 2017</p>		

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<p>Recommendation 6: Update the guidelines for producing the CP reports by: a) eliminating inefficient procedures regarding the formal approval of the draft CP report by the CHLM prior to its printing and publication; b) limiting the HLM Unit's involvement in preliminary and research missions, and limiting the number of international experts[1] taking part in CP research missions; c) formalizing the fundraising activities by setting up effective and sustainable measures for the funding of the CP programme; d) if relevant, including more detailed information on construction standards, energy efficiency, resilience to natural disasters, spatial and urban planning for housing, new and available technologies,</p>	<p>The Housing and Land Management Unit will update the guidelines for the preparation of Country Profiles by June 2017 by (a) eliminating inefficient procedures regarding the formal approval of the draft CP report by the CHLM prior to its printing and publication; (b) including a provision for fundraising activities; (c) including a recommendation for more detailed information on construction standards, energy efficiency, resilience to natural disasters, spatial and urban planning for housing, new and available technologies, and building-up and development of BIM. The revised guidelines will be presented at the 78th session of CHLM as an official document for the Committee's decision.</p>	<p>UNECE Housing and Land Management Unit</p>	<p>March 2017</p>		<p>Concerning item (b) of the recommendation, the Housing and Land Management Unit will decide itself on the number of staff to send to missions; it is already being done in a cost-efficient way. For pre-missions where HLM representatives meet high-level government representatives at the level of Vice-Minister, having only a coordinator is not sufficient. The pre-mission meetings are about obtaining political commitment from the governments which require a director/head of unit participating and leading the negotiations with the governments. Concerning limiting the number of experts - there are a number of different technical topics and one expert may not have the expertise to cover several topics. Concerning item (c) of the recommendation, there is a formal procedure for planning budgets and fundraising; therefore it is not clear what else should be done.</p>

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<p>Recommendation 7: Creation of a web-tool (portal, forum, cloud or database) for the exchange and sharing of information and best practice examples of legislation, policies, plans and strategies that were developed based on CP recommendations.</p>	<p>The Housing and Land Management Unit will present this proposal to the CHLM session in September 2016. Given the Committee approves this proposal, the webpage will be established by October 2017 at the HLM website. The webpage will contain information on best practice examples of legislation, policies, plans and strategies that were developed based on CP recommendations and the status of the implementation of Country Profiles' recommendations.</p>	<p>UNECE Housing and Land Management Unit</p>	<p>May 2017</p>		<p>Requires additional XB resources.</p>