Report from the Chair of the Committee on Housing and Land Management

MS. ELENA SZOLGAYOVA, CHAIR
COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND LAND MANAGEMENT
Challenges of access to decent affordable housing in the UNECE Region

• **Housing is the single highest expenditure item** for Europeans, at about a quarter of total EU households’ budget in 2015, increasing from 22.5% in 2005.

• **In the UNECE Region, over 100 million people** in the UNECE Region spend more than 40% of their disposable income on housing (UNECE, Social Housing)

• **The share of poor households paying too much for housing has doubled** (or more) in Spain, Portugal and Ireland. Greece has registered the sharpest increase (Housing Europe 2017).
COMMITTEE ON 
HOUSING AND 
LAND MANAGEMENT
Housing and Real Estate Markets

2018 and 2019

Network of Geneva UN Charter Centers of Excellence –
Existing: Tirana, Albania; Vienna, Austria; Tallinn, Estonia; Glasgow, UK
In preparation: Moscow, Russia; Brussels, Belgium; Geneva, Switzerland

Joint Task Force on EE Standards in Buildings with the Sustainable Energy Division
• Mapping of energy efficiency standards in buildings
• Mapping of existing technologies to enhance energy efficiency in buildings, gap analysis and recommendations for their use in the region
• Compendium of best practices for existing standards and technologies on energy efficiency in building.
• Online database of experts on energy efficiency in buildings
• Events have been organized in Yerevan (Armenia); St. Petersburg (Russian Federation), Geneva and Kiev (Ukraine)

"Housing for Migrants" study and Survey

Survey and a publication on homelessness in the UNECE region

Selected workshops and training events
2018: Vienna (Austria); Grodno (Belarus); Tallinn (Estonia); Almaty (Kazakhstan); Dublin (Ireland)
2019: Minsk (Belarus); Lyon (France); Bishkek (Kyrgyzstan); Glasgow (UK)
Real Estate Market Advisory Group

2018

Studies
• Guidelines on the Management and Ownership of Condominium Housing
• Updated Policy Framework for Sustainable Real Estate Markets
• Contribution to the studies of the Joint Task Force on EE Standards in Buildings and of the WPLA

Events and workshops were organized in Reading (UK); Athens (Greece); Sofia (Bulgaria); Prague (Czech Rep.)
Other: Launch and contribution to the Fire Safety Standards Coalition

2019

Studies:
• “Sharing Economy and its effects on housing market”
• Study on housing finance
• Finalization of the “Guidelines on tools and mechanisms for financing smart sustainable cities” (under the U4SSC initiative)

Events and workshops will be organized in Milano (Italy); Frankfurt (Germany); Prague (Czech Rep.)
Sustainable Urban Development and Smart Cities

2018 and 2019

1. United for Smart Sustainable Cities initiative (U4SSC), jointly with ITU and other 14 UN entities and the United Smart Cities (USC) programme
   - Guidelines on tools and mechanisms to finance SSC projects
   - Guidelines on strategies for circular cities
   - Implementation of the Key Performance Indicators for Smart Sustainable Cities
   - Smart Sustainable City Profile of Goris, Armenia
   - Smart Sustainable City Profile of Voznesensk, Ukraine
   - Guidelines for the development of cities action plans

2. Pilot project Smart Sustainable District “Zhastar” in Astana, Kazakhstan

3. UNDA 10th tranche project: Guidance document for the implementation with best practices from countries, a policy paper on data collection for review 2030 Agenda implementation and trainings on data for SDGs


5. Participation in the National Urban Policy Initiative coordinated by UN-Habitat and OECD

6. Events and workshop will be organized in 2019 in: Kiev (Ukraine); Tbilisi (Georgia); Tirana (Albania); Bishkek (Kyrgyzstan); Glasgow (UK)
Land Administration and Management

2018

• Publication of "Status of the research on mergers of cadastres and land registries".
• Preparation of Technical Guidelines for formalization of informal constructions
• A revised survey, “Speed of Registration and Online Access” as part of its Benchmarking Survey Series. The results were presented in the document, “Status of the survey on the benchmarking of land administration systems”.
• A seminar on “Land-Use Planning and Industrial Safety”, Brussels, Belgium, 16-17 May 2018, organized jointly with the ECE Industrial Accidents Convention, in cooperation with the host country and the European Investment Bank

2019

• Benchmarking in land administration studies on the cost for registration/transfer of real estate and registration of mortgages for the ECE region
• Development of Technical Guidelines on the Formalization of Informal Real Estate and Informal Markets in the ECE Region.
• Development of a study on Future Scenarios for Land Administration.
• Update on the Study on the Challenges of Fraud to Land Administration Institutions.

Events:

• Workshop on Key Registers for SDGs, May/June 2019, UK
• Common Vision Conference, November 2019, Finland
• UNECE Working Party on Land Administration 11th session, 27-28 February, Geneva
Country Profiles on Housing and Land Management

- Country Profile of the Housing Sector of Kazakhstan
- Country Profile on Housing, Urban Development and Land Administration of Belarus – ongoing
- Preparations ongoing for the Country Profiles of Kyrgyzstan and Azerbaijan
- Update of the Guidelines for the preparation of Country Profiles to align with the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development.

Events:
Launch event for CP Belarus, 17-18 May 2018
Partnerships
Partnerships
Draft Decisions


The Executive Committee is invited to endorse the proposal on the name change of the Committee on Housing and Land Management to “Committee on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management”, as contained in document ECE/HBP/2018/L.1 and invites the 68th Commission to consider the name change of the Committee.

The Executive Committee is invited to approve the change of the name of a flagship programme of the Committee, currently named “Country Profiles on Housing and Land Management”, to “Country Profiles on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management”, as contained in document ECE/HBP/2018/L.1.
THANK YOU

HOUSING AND LAND MANAGEMENT