UNECE

Evidence based policies for sustainable housing and urban development – UNECE perspective

URBAN DEVELOPMENT, HOUSING AND LAND MANAGEMENT

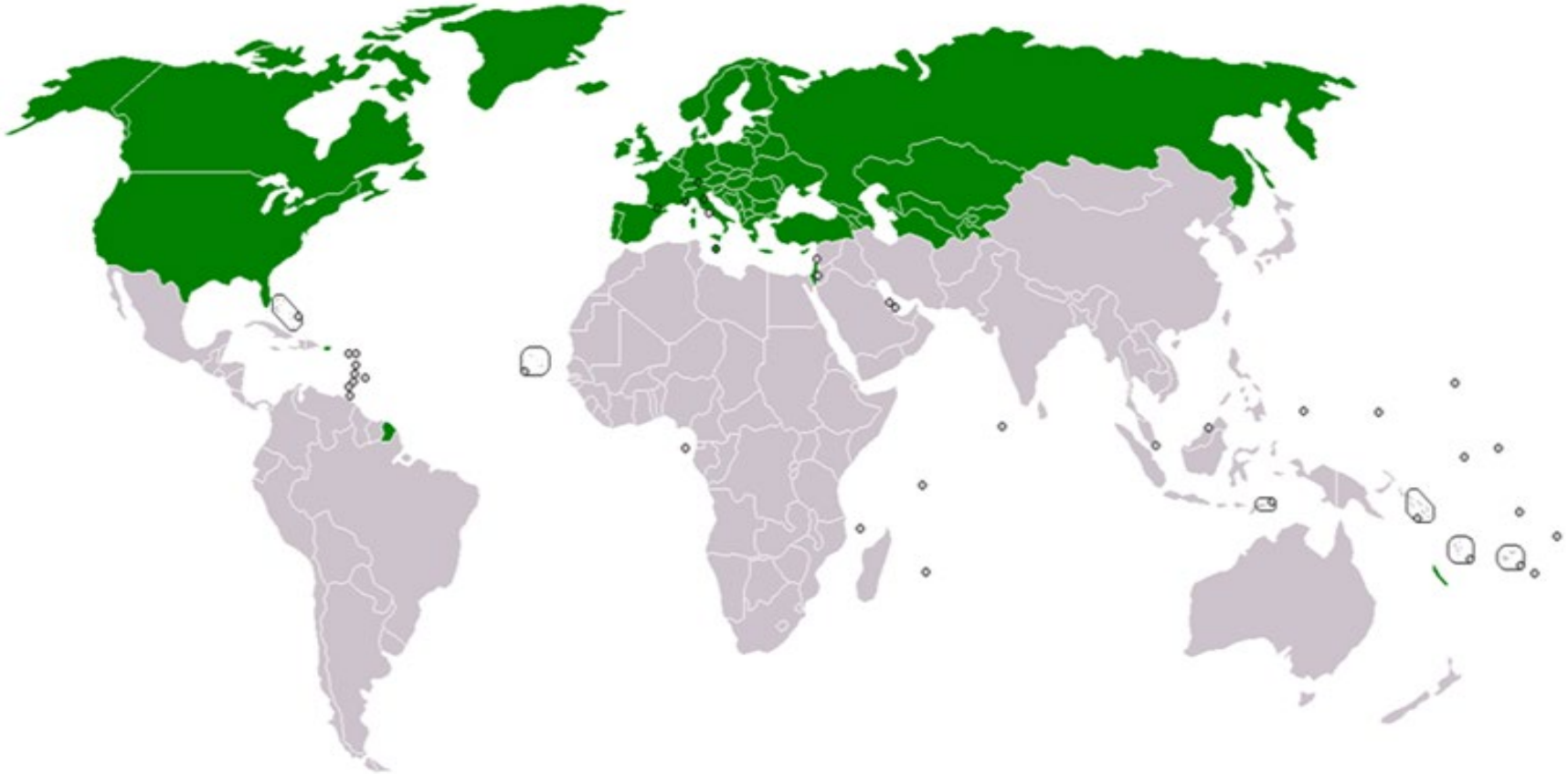
Gulnara Roll, Head
UNECE Housing and Land Management Unit

Gulnara.Roll@un.org

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

56 member States in Europe, Central Asia and North America

An intergovernmental platform for policy dialogue and exchange of best practices



ROLE OF UNITED NATIONS REGIONAL COMMISSIONS

UNECE

Five UN Regional Commissions:

- **Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)**
- ***Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)***
- ***Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)***
- **Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)**
- ***UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)***

Activities:

- ***Policy research and analysis on issues of importance to their member States***
- ***Convening high-level policy dialogues, including Regional Forum on SD***
- ***Promoting strategic partnerships with governments and stakeholders***
- ***Organising specific capacity development at national and city level***

HOUSING AFFORDABILITY IN THE GENEVA UN CHARTER ON SUSTAINABLE HOUSING

UNECE

Geneva UN Charter on Sustainable Housing is the expression of political will of **56 member States** to:

- ensure **decent affordable housing** and urban infrastructure to all;
- support cities and human settlements adopting and implementing smart sustainable city concepts;
- **integrated policies** and plans to support: inclusion, including socially mixed communities;
- resource efficiency; and resilience to climate change and disasters.

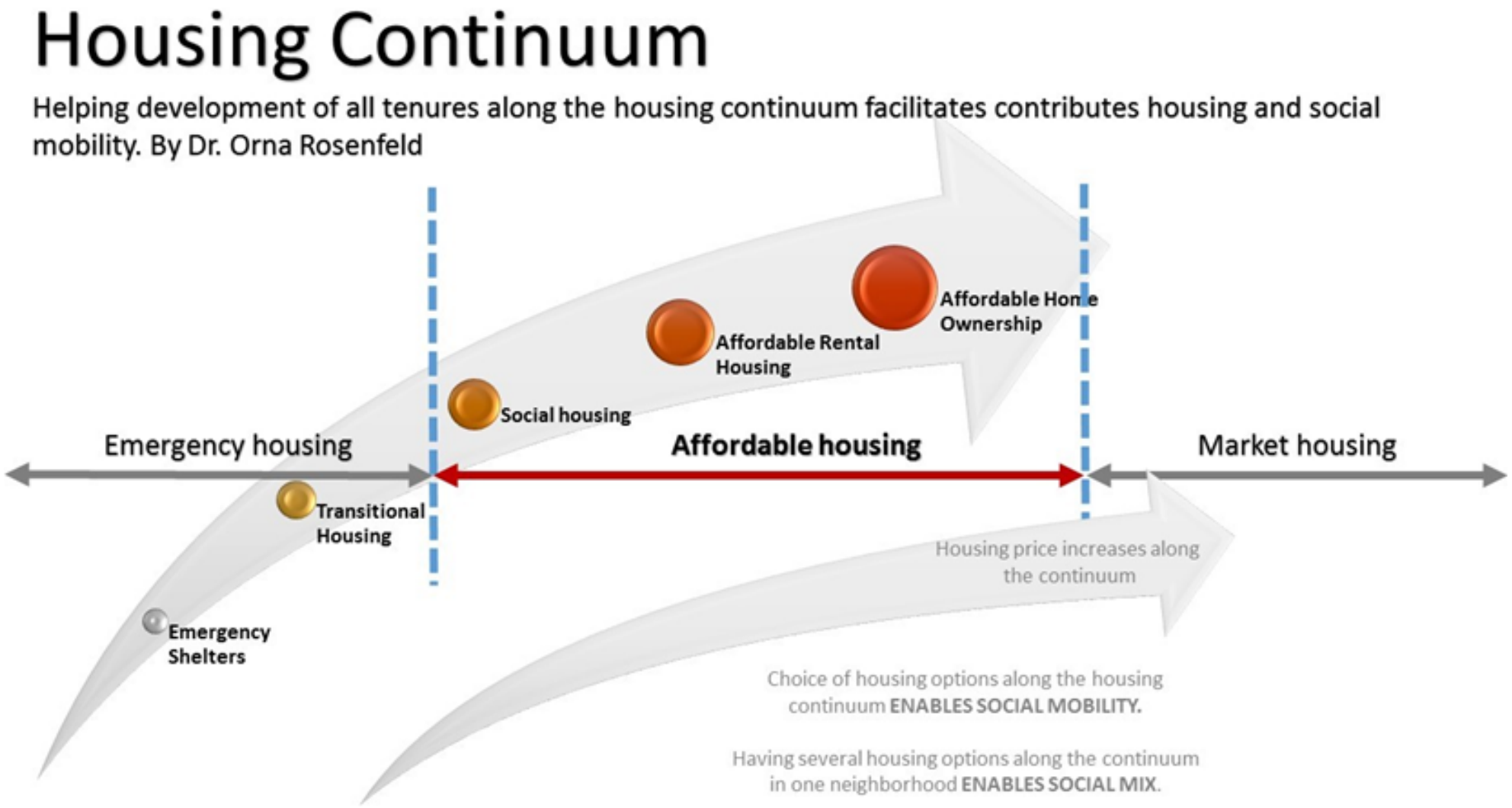
GENEVA UN CHARTER RECOMMENDATIONS

UNECE

"Ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services"

"Promote secure tenure and the availability of housing options, including ***the neutral treatment of tenure options (such as homeownership or renting****), in order to encourage the development of adequate supplies of affordable housing"*

HOUSING CONTINUUM FOR DIVERSE HOUSING NEEDS



AFFORDABILITY ISSUE

REGULATING SHARED ECONOMY TO INCREASE LONG-TERM RENTAL OPTIONS

UNECE

- In August 2018 there were **3,165 properties listed on Airbnb** in Dublin compared with only **1,329 available for long-term rent**.

- Shortage of long-term housing options, residents often pushed to stay in Airbnb's.

Paris: up to *120 days* per year

London: up to *90 days* per year

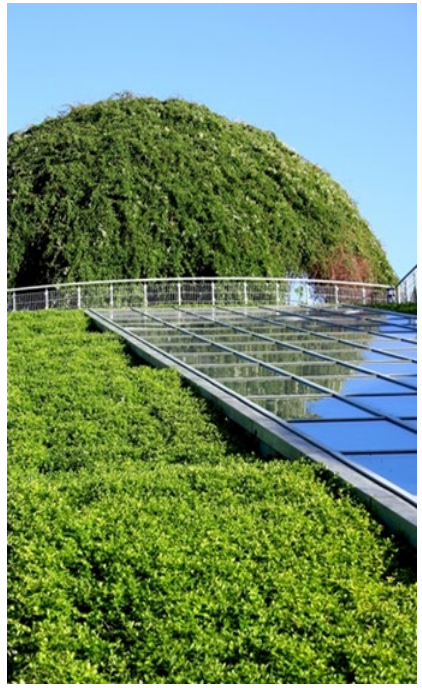
Amsterdam: 19,000 Airbnb listings, 2017 legislation put a yearly cap at 60 days, from 2019 it will be *30 days*

ENABLING INNOVATIVE PARTNERSHIPS TO FINANCE AFFORDABLE HOUSING

UNECE

The innovative financial mechanisms approach consists of three main components:

- **integrated approach to urban development**
- **people-first public-private partnerships (PPPP)** and
- **good governance.**



UNECE

*"People-first Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) ensures that out of all stakeholders, **'people' are on the top**. Its focus is on improving the quality of life of the communities, particularly those that are fighting poverty, by creating local and sustainable jobs, those that fight hunger and promote wellbeing, promote gender equality, access to water, energy, transport, and education for all, and that promote social cohesion, justice and disavow all forms of discrimination based on race, ethnicity, creed and culture. People-first PPPs must expand in scale, speed, and spread with more people having access to better services at affordable prices."*

"Making PPPs fit for purpose Accessibility/equity, environmental sustainability, effectiveness and replicability and stakeholders' engagement.

Partnerships now must be evaluated according to a new set of criteria which can be perceived and actually are "quality infrastructure investments".

UNECE

68th Commission Session

http://www.unece.org/housing/dayofcities.html

T H A N K Y O U

@UNECE.housing

@UNECEHLM

UNECE Housing and Land Management Unit

unece.org/housing-and-land-management

UNECE