



Draft Guidance document for the alignment of the activities with global and regional agreements

HOUSING AND LAND MANAGEMENT



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Information on the draft guidance doc in

- Official Document ECE/HBP/2018/2 and
- Information Note 2



Contents

HOUSING AND LAND MANAGEMENT



- 1. Introduction and objectives of the document**
- 2. The Guidance document**
 - 2.1 Key global and regional agreements and their relevance to urban development, housing and land administration and management**
 - 2.1.1 UN global agreements
 - 2.1.2 Regional processes and documents
 - 2.2 Approach to the implementation of global and regional agreements**
 - 2.2.1 Implementing innovative financial mechanisms to support urban infrastructure and to accelerate the achievement of urban related SDGs
 - 2.2.2 Governance for sustainable urban development, inter-sectoral cooperation and partnerships
- 3. Conclusions**

1 Introduction and objectives of the document

UNECE Committee on Housing and Land Management, works since 1947 across 56 UNECE member States.

Facilitates dialogue between governments and supports knowledge transfer on innovative practices, gives advice and develops policy guidelines to address common housing, urban development, and land administration and management problems.

The Committee's objectives are:

- i. **Improving policy harmonization** on housing, urban development, and land administration and management among government agencies in the UNECE member States;
- ii. **Addressing major housing, urban development, and land administration and management challenges** in the UNECE region;
- iii. **Providing guidance for establishing more efficient legal and institutional frameworks** for housing, urban development, and land administration and management; and
- iv. **Strengthening national and local capacity** on affordable and adequate housing, smart and sustainable urban development and effective land administration and management.

The adoption of these documents has direct implications for the future work of the UNECE Committee.

This **new policy framework** requires the implementation of an **integrated and coordinated approach** at the **global, regional, national, subnational and sub-regional levels**, with the participation of all relevant stakeholders.

2 The Guidance Document

2.1 Key global and regional agreements and their relevance to urban development, housing and land administration and management

2.1.1 UN global agreements

The **2030 Agenda** stresses the importance of an **integrated approach to addressing diverse challenges** and the importance of **cooperation between and within countries**.

SDG 11 “Making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable”.

Resolution of the High Level Political Forum, stressed the importance of developing a **holistic approach to urban development and human settlements that provides for affordable housing and infrastructure and prioritizes slum upgrading and urban regeneration**.

New Urban Agenda (NUA), embodies a major shift in UN policy as it emphasizes the **direct link between urbanization and sustainable development**.

The **Addis Ababa Action Agenda**, **mobilizing public finance, setting appropriate policies and regulatory frameworks to unlock private finance, trade collaborations/opportunities, science and technological development, and incentivizing changes in production and investment patterns**.

It recognizes that funding from all sources, public and private, bilateral and multilateral, domestic and international, as well as alternative sources, will need to be tapped into in order to benefit the cities.

The **Sendai Framework** strives to tackle the issue of disaster and risk reduction. **Increase preparedness for response and recovery, and thus strengthen resilience”**

Paris Agreement on Climate Change: Ensuring that **housing and cities are resilient to climate change and extreme weather conditions is critical for sustainable urban development**.

2 The Guidance Document

2.1 Key global and regional agreements and their relevance to urban development, housing and land administration and management

2.1.1 UN global agreements

“Repositioning the United Nations development system to deliver on the 2030 Agenda:

- i. ensuring a better future for all”
- ii. our promise for dignity, prosperity and peace on a healthy planet”

These reports **marked the beginning of a change process of the UN development system to align its activities with the Agenda 2030 and other global agreements**; to promote the organisation agility, higher effectiveness and efficiency.

In May 2018, the General Assembly adopted Resolution 72/279 on “Repositioning of the United Nations development system in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system” in which, among others, it **reaffirmed the role and functions of the United Nations development system at the regional level, including the Regional Economic Commissions** and the regional teams of the United Nations development system, and underlined the need to continue to make them fit for purpose in supporting the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

2 The Guidance Document

2.1 Key global and regional agreements and their relevance to urban development, housing and land administration and management

2.1.2 Regional processes and documents

Geneva UN Charter on Sustainable Housing aims to support member States as they seek to ensure **access to decent, adequate, affordable and healthy housing to all.**

The Geneva Ministerial Declaration reiterates the importance for governments at all levels and relevant stakeholders in the UNECE region to promote the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the New Urban Agenda, the **Geneva UN Charter on Sustainable Housing** and other relevant global and regional commitments.

Urban Agenda for the EU: The European Union's 28 member countries adopted the Urban Agenda for the EU in May 2016. For the EU, urban development is a key issue: **more than 70% of EU citizens live in cities where, at the same time, approximately 85% of the GDP of the EU is generated.** The core of the Urban Agenda for the EU is the **development of partnerships in 12 thematic areas.**

These **partnerships** enable cities, countries, EU institutions and other stakeholders, such as non-governmental organizations and the private sector, **to work together on an equal basis and to look for and find common ways to improve urban areas in the EU.**

The partnerships were launched in the following areas:

integration of migrants and refugees, air quality, urban poverty, housing, circular economy, digital transformation, urban mobility, job opportunities and skills in local economy, adaptation to climate change, energy transformation, sustainable land use and solutions based on nature principles, and innovative and responsible public procurement.

The partnerships generate an important knowledge base for the future work of the EU member countries to address urban development challenges.

2 The Guidance Document

2.2 Approach to the implementation of global and regional agreements

To implement the above mentioned global and regional commitments, policy changes at all relevant levels need to be implemented in order to achieve the SDGs, and objectives and targets related to other global and regional agreements. These policy changes will **require stronger horizontal and vertical cooperation among governments and all relevant stakeholders**, the establishment of **partnerships, strengthening data driven and indicator-based review process and application of innovative financial mechanisms to support the implementation process.**

There is a need to **develop capacities for data driven and indicator-based review and follow up of the implementation of the global and regional agreements.** Data collection remains a key challenge. Addressing this gap in data collection is crucial to better inform the measurement of progress, in particular for those SDGs which do not have clear numerical targets. This part is not addressed in this document as it was subject of a separate document;

Through the 2030 Agenda, member States should **develop and implement a holistic approach to the SDGs, including through innovative financial mechanisms.** Promoting innovative financing mechanisms will allow countries to better prevent and manage risks and develop mitigation plans. Demonstration projects will need to be developed to showcase such innovative mechanisms. The next section addresses this issue further;

There is a need to **promote an integrated and inclusive approach through inter-sectoral cooperation at international, regional and national as well as city level; and diverse partnerships.**

2 The Guidance Document

2.2 Approach to the implementation of global and regional agreements

2.2.1 Implementing innovative financial mechanisms to support urban infrastructure and to accelerate the achievement of urban related SDGs

To implement the 2030 Agenda and other relevant international commitments, **national and local governments in cooperation with stakeholders should develop and implement a holistic approach to the SDGs, including through innovative financing mechanisms.** Innovative financial mechanisms seek to improve funding for investment programs and projects; among others, their purpose is to motivate the providers of capital to be creative and think about the impact and contribution they could bring to improve the quality of life of communities and protect the planet. This especially supports the implementation of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda on Financing Development and the related shift from funding to financing of projects.

The innovative financial mechanisms approach consists of three main components:

integrated urban development;
people-first public-private partnerships (PfPPP) and
good governance.

First, it is assumed that **urban development consists of multiple interacting variables – or assets – that are able to generate positive cash flows.** To generate such flows, it is important to have, firstly, a clear vision of what a city aspires to be like in the future and accordingly which aspect of urban development should receive priority for funding. Secondly, there needs to be an understanding of how the value of urban assets varies across time and space and how this variation is caused by the mutual interaction between different assets.

2 The Guidance document

2.2 Approach to the implementation of global and regional agreements

2.2.1 Implementing innovative financial mechanisms to support urban infrastructure and to accelerate the achievement of urban related SDGs

Second, the development of innovative financial mechanisms requires partnership between multiple stakeholders: the public sector in charge of defining and defending public interest; the private sector capable of adding efficiency and capital; the civil society representing the commons and ensuring that how public interest is defined is in line with the prevailing political, social, and cultural norms; and the academia, tasked with contributing with capacity for applied research. To avoid the commonly criticised economic focus that permeates public-private partnerships (PPP) the UNECE developed the people-first PPP concept (PfPPP), where the economic advantages of traditional PPPs (such as enhanced productivity and efficiency) have been complemented by, and not being subject to, social and environmental concerns (such as affordability and environmental sustainability).

Third, for urban assets to be able to realise this potential to generate positive cash flows, there needs to be in place a governance structure with responsible management empowered to lead the transformation process; whilst simultaneously responsive to and supervised by a body in charge of defending public interest. For this reason, agreeing on a vision and strategy for a city and ensuring its implementation requires a dialogue between citizens, city government, and participating partners. That way, good governance is expected to increase the likelihood of having realistic, sustainable investible projects; and in return, investors and lenders will be more likely to become involved and more willing to exploit the opportunities provided by innovative financial mechanisms.

2 The Guidance document

2.2 Approach to the implementation of global and regional agreements

2.2.1 Implementing innovative financial mechanisms to support urban infrastructure and to accelerate the achievement of urban related SDGs

To test this approach, a pilot project is conducted in Astana, Kazakhstan, exploring the opportunities of applying PPPP model to solve infrastructure issues, by regenerating a low-income residential district through development of a start-up company. The main goal of this project is to ensure that smart and sustainable city is developed with **people-first acting as the guiding principle**, whilst reducing eco footprint as well as being financially sustainable. In return, this means that public interest is defended, yet that the private sector is given space to innovate and invest; and solutions designed and implemented in this project should answer the demands from both local authorities in Astana and the city's residents.

It is expected that this project will affirm innovative financing mechanisms as a solution that could be adapted and implemented for financing projects across other contexts as well.

To encourage and stimulate the development of innovative financial mechanisms, the Committee has been working closely with its partners to develop management tools and guidance that can be used in different phases of urban development to generate positive cash flows.

Such tools will be developed and presented with the training materials on individual country basis.

2 The Guidance document

2.2 Approach to the implementation of global and regional agreements

2.2.2 Governance for sustainable urban development, inter-sectoral cooperation and partnerships

International level

To promote the implementation of the global frameworks, including innovative financial mechanisms, there is a need for **robust and transparent institutional arrangements**. At the international level an **effective coordination and cooperation between governing bodies at the international level is imperative for palpable results**.

It is important to **manage the potential tensions that may arise from the institutional interplay and to turn these into synergies**.

The UNECE has been active in recognizing the **opportunities for cooperation and forming such regime complexes to ensure a more effective exchange of best practices and foster between-country cooperation towards completing SDGs for issues within its mandate**.

The linkages between SDGs often appear as particularly visible and the need for integrated solutions is strong.

The high-impact area “**Smart and sustainable cities**” is merging the existing UNECE activities under a common umbrella. This will also facilitate strengthening the existing partnerships and developing new ones.

2 The Guidance document

2.2 Approach to the implementation of global and regional agreements

2.2.2 Governance for sustainable urban development, inter-sectoral cooperation and partnerships

National level

With respect to the national level, there is a need to promote an inclusive approach through inter-sectoral cooperation at country and local level and diverse partnerships.

In this context, this alignment should be understood as a dynamic process, where new opportunities can be explored and acted upon.

Opportunities will likely lie in new cross-sectoral activities, as the 2030 Agenda creates new possibilities for collaboration that reflect the linkages between different goals and targets.

It is therefore necessary to nurture a cooperative culture with partners that facilitates undertaking cross-sectoral activities.

City level

Under the umbrella of the U4SSC, in 2017, UNECE, ITU and their partners elaborated a set of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for Smart Sustainable Cities. The KPIs fully reflect the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and serve as a tool for evidence-based decision making, progress monitoring and achieving the SDGs at the local level. In fact, they help cities to evaluate their performance and assess their achievement against the SDG targets. The KPIs include 92 indicators divided in 3 dimensions: economy, environment, and society and culture.

UN-Habitat's City Prosperity Initiative has over 450 cities with 72 urban indicators data points available, and this has been complimented by other global data from 200 cities from the Global Sample of Cities.

3 Conclusions

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, particularly Goal 11 and other urban goals, alongside the New Urban Agenda **offer a renewed opportunity for the global community to address several emerging global urban challenges** including the urgent need to address the:

- i. uncontrolled urban sprawl,
- ii. growing urban slum populations,
- iii. need for smart, safe and efficient urban transport systems, and
- iv. how to improve urban environments through creating safe public spaces, and
- v. managing air pollution and municipal solid waste.

Moving forward with the implementation of global agreements, a critical step for realizing the sustainable development goals and other goals under these recent international agreements,

- 1. is an integrated and coordinated approach at**
- 2. the global, regional, national, subnational and local levels,**
- 3. with the participation of all relevant stakeholders.**

The Committee is invited to take note of the preparation of the Guidance for the alignment of the Committee activities with the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development, The New Urban Agenda and the Geneva UN Charter on Sustainable Housing; and to **invite the secretariat to further develop the guidance and present it for the Committee's endorsement at its eightieth session in October 2019.**

“It is not from the benevolence of the butcher, the brewer, or the baker that we expect our dinner, but from their regard to their own interest.

Adam Smith

What does Marx mean "it is not the consciousness of men that determines their existence but their social existence that determines their consciousness"?

“Any fool can destroy trees. They cannot run away; and if they could, they would still be destroyed - chased and hunted down as long as fun or a dollar could be got out of their bark hides, branching horns, or magnificent bole backbones.

John Muir

Development = Economic Growth (Adam Smith, 1723 – 1790)

Development = Social Cohesion (Karl Marx, 1818 – 1883)

Development = Protecting the Planet (John Muir, 1838 – 1914)

Development = Labor, Land and Money (Karl Polanyi, 1886 – 1964)

Sustainable Development = **People, Planet, Prosperity** (Brundtland, 1987)

SDGs = People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace and **Strong Institutions, Partnerships** (UN, 2015)



Global Goals are Global Challenges that require Global Solutions



Sustainable Solutions through Partnerships

2. Development, Sustainable Development & SDGs

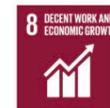
HAPPINESS SDG PYRAMID



SPIRITUAL



ECOLOGICAL



PEOPLE

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Global Goals are Global Challenges that require Global Solutions

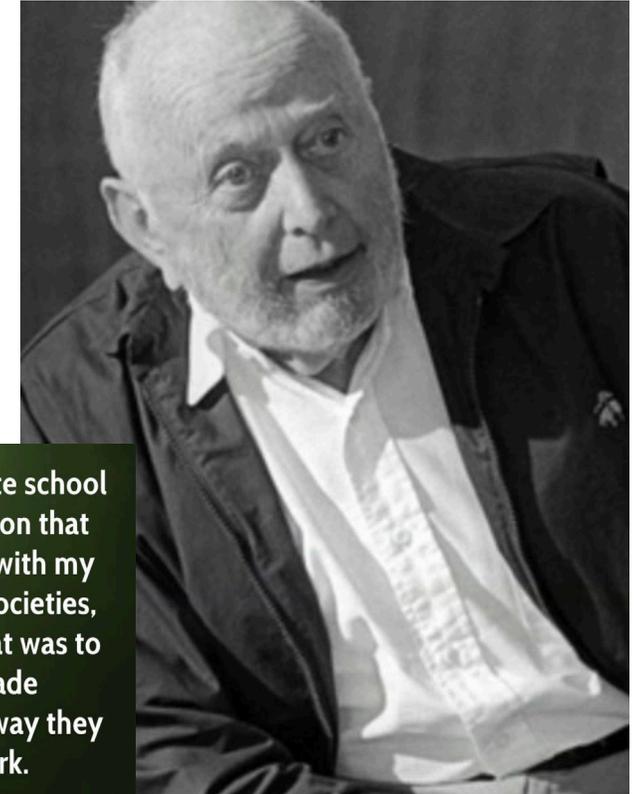


Sustainable Solutions through Partnerships

8. Institutions

Institutions

Institutions are the rules of the game in a society,
more formally,
are the humanly devised constraints that shape human interaction.



I went back to graduate school with the clear intention that what I wanted to do with my life was to improve societies, and the way to do that was to find out what made economies work the way they did or fail to work.

Douglas North

In: *Institutions, Institutional Change, and Economic Performance*, 1990

Sustainable Solutions through Partnerships

8. Institutions

Holistic & people first Approach _ Stakeholders

Public Sector: Global _ Federal _ Central _ Municipal levels

The end goal for all public organizations is to promote quality of life to their communities. United Nations, EU, central administration, mayors and their secretaries.

Civil Society Organizations (CSO)

Groups of citizens about the environment, education, labor, safety and security.

International Financial Institutions (IFI) and Capital Providers

To create, develop and manage investable projects, particularly those with a social and planet agenda.

Developers, Operators and Entrepreneurs

The private sector, especially LOCAL companies.

Academia

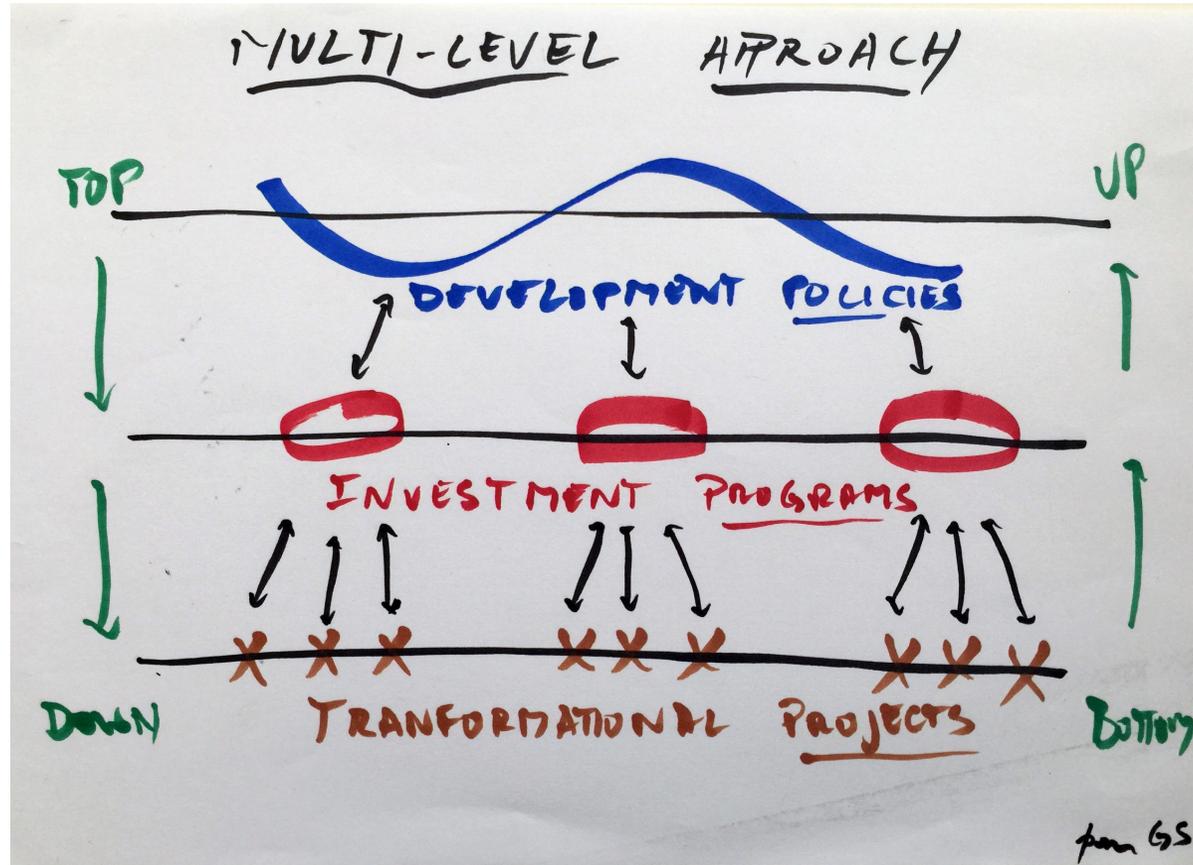
The bridge between research and innovation, present and future.



Sustainable Solutions through Partnerships

8. Institutions

Multi-Level Approach



Sustainable Solutions through Partnerships

4. Regional Development



We aim to create a “**bridge**” between Communities with Urban Gap and **Private Capital Providers**

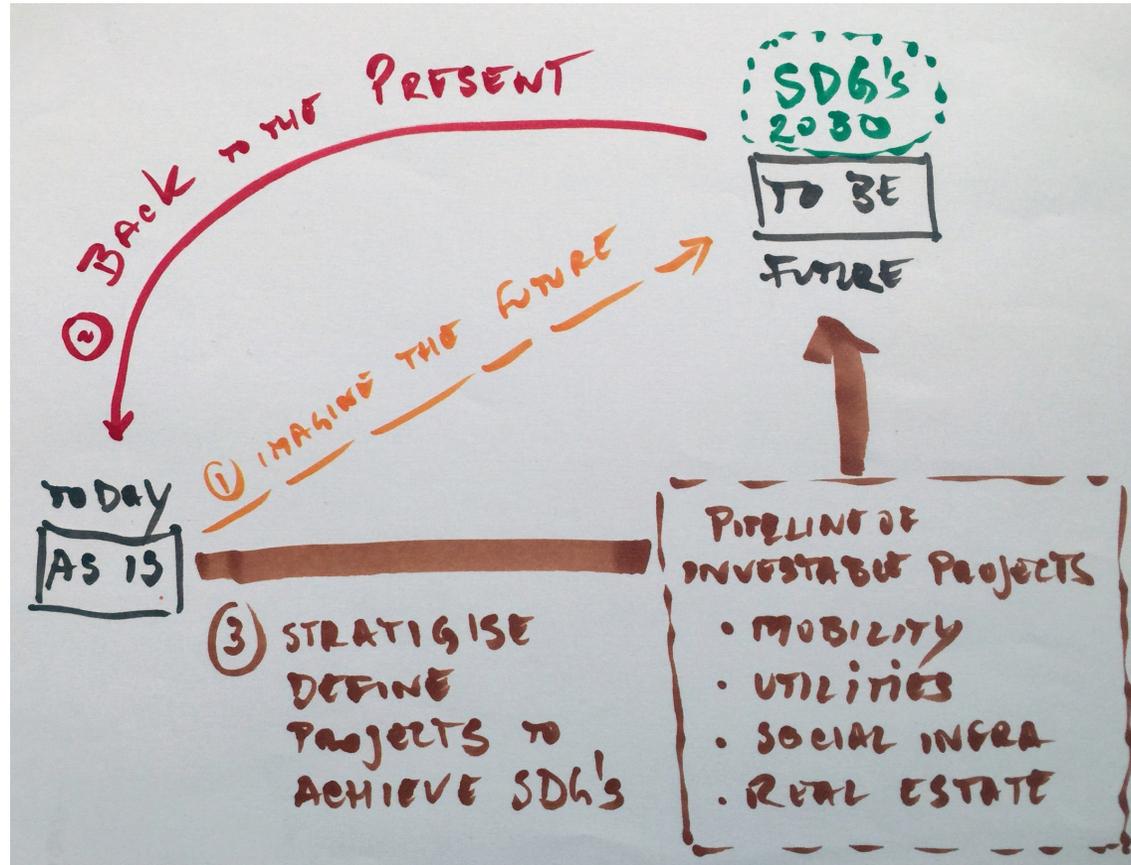
An **SDGs virtuous cycle** is proposed to be the catalyzer to **transform Infra Gap into Investable Projects**

Investable Projects are transformed into **Regional Sustainable Businesses** with **Private Sector Capital** aligned with **Public Interest Projects**

Sustainable Solutions through Partnerships

3. Design Thinking & Backcasting

Back to the Present



Transforming City Gaps into City Sustainable Businesses Studies

The *four season pizza* _ is a way of dividing everything we can see that is man-made into four different blocks that directly affect our quality of life:

Mobility solutions that relate to how people and cargo go from A to B;

Utilities that combine all sorts of networks from production to distribution, from energy to solid waste;

Social Infrastructure answering all education, health, public administration, cultural and sports needs;

Urban and Regional Development that combines all of the above but also integrates real estate, as well as logistics and all infrastructure needed for industry, agriculture, mining and oil & gas activities.



identifying city infra gap _ the 4 season pizza



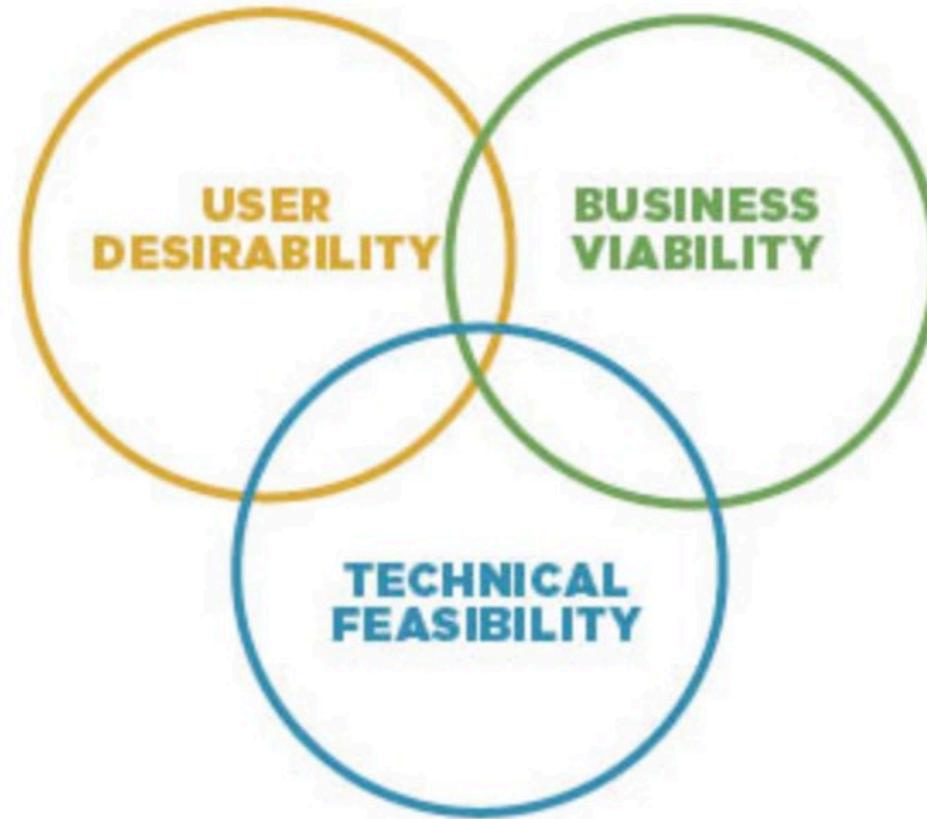
Global Goals are Global Challenges that require Global Solutions



Sustainable Solutions through Partnerships

3. Design Thinking & Backcasting

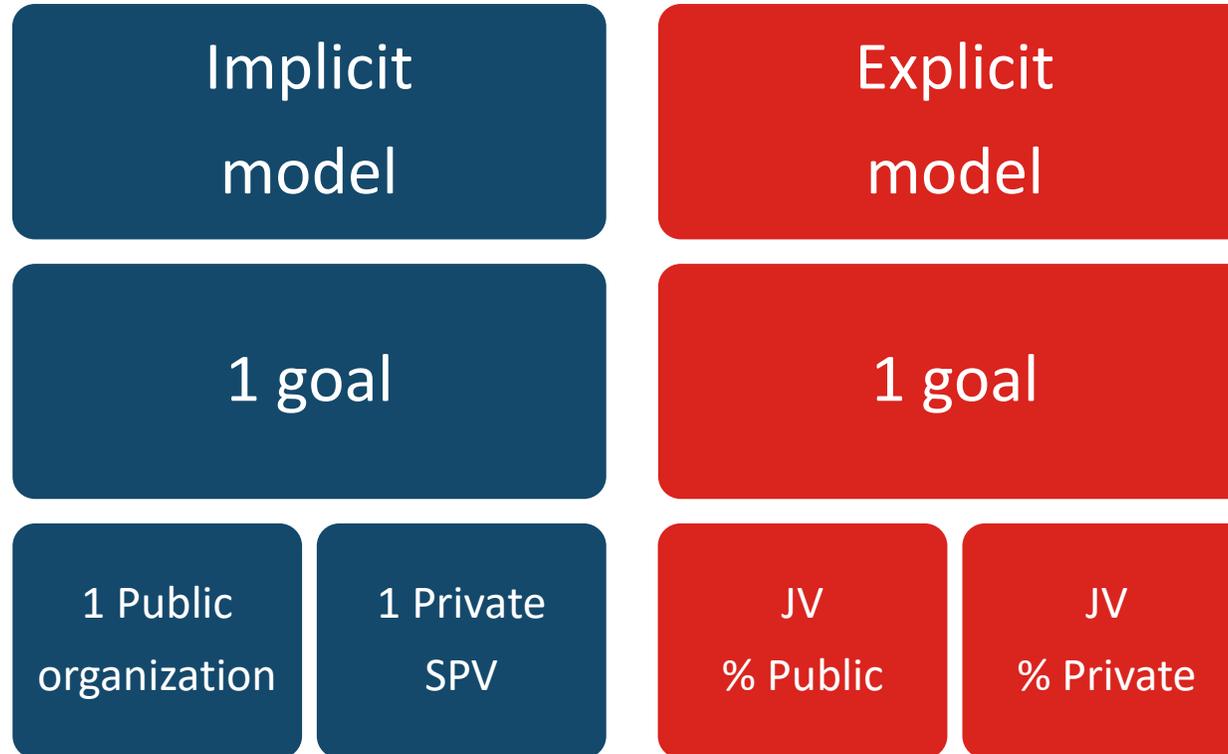
Design Thinking



Sustainable Solutions through Partnerships

7. Partnerships, PPPs & people-first PPPs

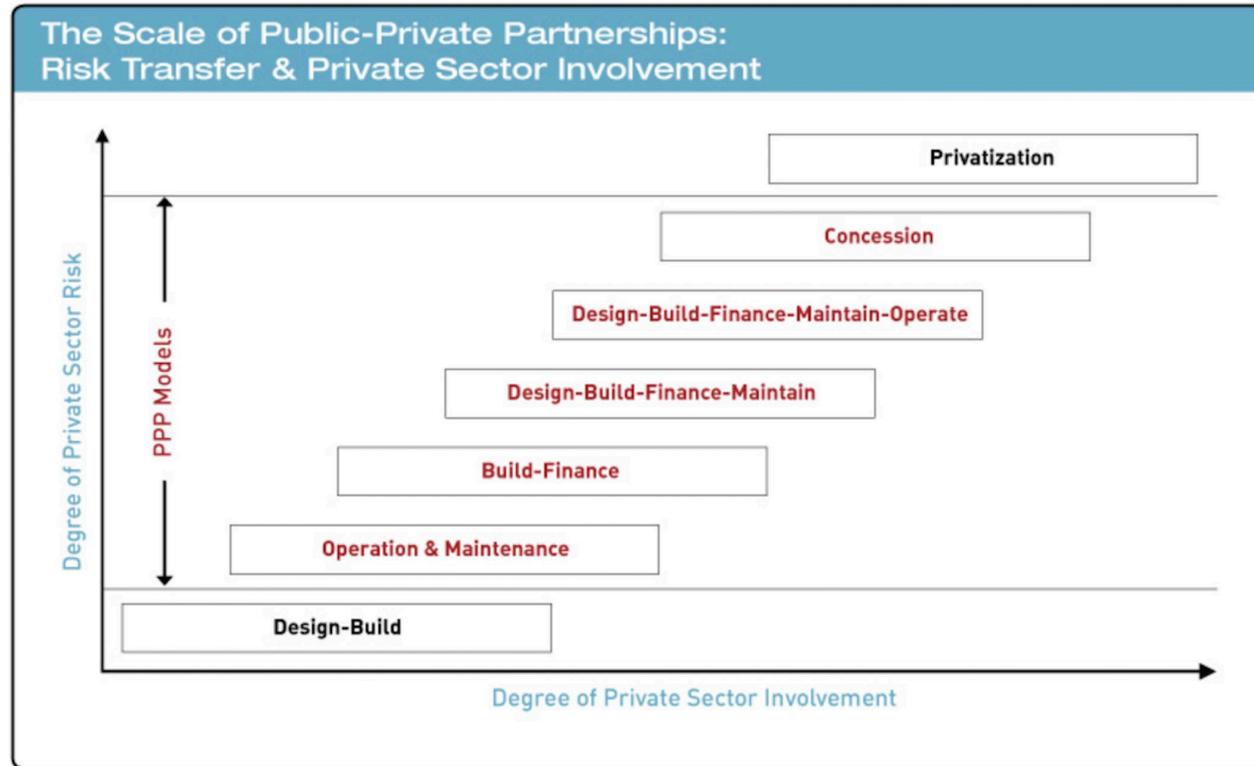
Business Design



Sustainable Solutions through Partnerships

7. Partnerships, PPPs & people-first PPPs

Public-Private Partnership



In: The Canadian Council for Public-Private Partnerships http://www.pppcouncil.ca/web/Knowledge_Centre/What_are_P3s_/web/P3_Knowledge_Centre/What_are_P3s.aspx?hkey=2c6597c6-53bf-4a9d-adf0-86e108d003bb



Global Goals are Global Challenges that require Global Solutions



Sustainable Solutions through Partnerships

6. Investment Management & Innovative Financial Mechanisms



In: www.oecd.org/cgfi/



Global Goals are Global Challenges that require Global Solutions



Sustainable Solutions Partnerships

6. Investment Management & Innovative Financial Mechanisms

How Blended Finance Works



In: OECD (forthcoming)



Global Goals are Global Challenges that require Global Solutions



Sustainable Solutions through Partnerships

9. Round Table Approach

Round Table Approach

