



World Urban Forum

Networking event: Effective policies for affordable, inclusive and environment friendly housing

29 June 2022, Wednesday

12:30 to 14:00 (CET)

Venue: Multifunction Hall Room 8

Language: English

Format: in-person

Event website: <https://wuf.unhabitat.org/event/effective-policies-affordable-inclusive-and-environment-friendly-housing>

Short description

This side event raises capacities of policy-makers to find suitable tools to provide affordable, inclusive and green housing. It is aimed at policy makers and members of public administrations at all levels of government – national, regional or local – and is based on the report and the toolkit “[#Housing2030: Effective policies for affordable housing in the UNECE region](#)”. UNECE, UN-Habitat and Housing Europe launched #Housing 2030 at a [UNECE Ministerial Meeting on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management in Geneva in October 2021](#). #Housing2030 and its online repository provide lists of specific policy tools and their illustrations of best practices on the four above-mentioned topics: (1) Housing governance and regulation; (2) Access to finance and funding; (3) Access and availability of land for housing constructions; and (4) Climate-neutral housing construction and renovation.

The study draws on the experience of over 100 researchers, policymakers, housing providers and advocates from across the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) region and beyond, to define useful approaches, outline their advantages and disadvantages, and illustrate their practical application. The proposed networking event consists of two parts. In the first part, the authors of the Housing 2030 study present its methodology and intent. In the second part, a panel of specialists discusses best practices on affordable, inclusive and green housing, as they are contained in the Housing 2030 study. One focus will be on Swiss best practice examples.

The public is invited to provide and discuss additional examples, the idea being to lead a discussion about how sufficient high-quality housing can be provided all over the world, for different population segments, such that it is affordable and environment friendly (optimally even climate neutral). The event will also inform about the [“Place and Life in the UNECE – A Regional Action Plan 2030: Tackling challenges from the COVID-19 pandemic, climate and housing emergencies in region, city, neighbourhood and homes”](#) which builds on conclusions of the #Housing2030 study.

The key objective of this networking event is the exchange of knowledge between policy makers and members of public administrations from different regions and layers of government about the provision of affordable, high-quality housing, which is inclusive and respectful of the



environment. The #Housing2030 study lays the perfect groundwork for this discussion, as it contains many best practice examples all over the UNECE region. There is, for example, a toolkit on affordable climate-neutral housing aimed at mitigating potential negative social impacts of decarbonization strategies on vulnerable sections of society, particularly young people.

The study involves an extraordinary level of stakeholder engagement, using survey instruments, online workshops and podcasts in order to maximize the exchange of policy experience and good practices. With the networking event, we seek to continue in this tradition. Policy makers get to know the results of the study, and have an opportunity to discuss them and think about a possible application in their constituencies.

Organizers:

Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft - Bundesamt für Wohnungswesen BWO and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and Housing Europe.

For more information on the event, please contact: Gulnara Roll, Regional Adviser, Forest, Land and Housing at UNECE Gulnara.Roll@un.org with cc to Juan Valle Robles, juan.vallerobles@un.org

Draft agenda

12:30-12:40	<p>Opening and welcome</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Martin Tschirren, Director at the Federal Office for Housing BWO, Berna, Switzerland (video) • Oleg Dzioubinski, Regional Adviser, Sustainable Energy Division, the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, Geneva, Switzerland
12:40-13:10	<p>Presentation of the #Housing2030 study and “Place and Life in the ECE – A Regional Action Plan 2030”</p> <p>Moderator: Juan Valle Robles, Urban planning and housing policy consultant at UNECE</p> <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Julie Lawson, Hon. Associate Professor, Centre for Urban Research, RMIT University, Melbourne, Australia • Prof. Brian Evans, City Urbanist, Glasgow City Council; and Director of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Centre of Excellence on Smart Sustainable Cities (video) <p>The film by the city of Glasgow “Living in Glasgow: A pathway to 2030”</p>
13:10-13:35	<p>Session One: Best practices at local level on affordable climate-neutral housing</p> <p>Moderator: Juan Valle Robles, Urban planning and housing policy consultant at UNECE</p> <p>Questions to presenters:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide an example of a practice of affordable climate-neutral housing that your local government or your organization implemented. How did it evolve and who



	<p>(the local government itself or any of the stakeholders) was driving and supporting it?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. What challenges did you face in the implementation process? 3. What advice would you offer to policymakers from another city if they were seeking to adopt or replicate your best practices? <p><u>Panellists:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joao Goncalves, Senior Project and Innovation Manager at the Housing Europe, Brussels, Belgium • Zita Kakalejcikova, Project manager Residential Energy programs Europe and the Middle East, Habitat for Humanity International, Bratislava, Slovakia <p>Discussion</p>
<p>13:35-13:55</p>	<p><u>Session Two: Best practices at national level on affordable climate-neutral housing</u></p> <p><u>Moderator:</u> Juan Valle Robles, Urban planning and housing policy consultant at UNECE</p> <p><u>Questions to presenters:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide an example of a practice of affordable climate-neutral housing that your government or your organization implemented at the national level. How did it evolve and who (the national government itself or any of the stakeholders) was driving and supporting it? 2. What challenges did you face in the implementation process? 3. What advice would you offer to policymakers from another country if they were seeking to adopt or replicate your best practices? <p><u>Panellists:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crystal Bergemann. Senior Advisor on Climate, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, USA (video) • Asa Rogelj, Deputy Director General, Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning of Slovenia • Christophe Lalande, Leader, Housing Unit at UN-Habitat <p>Discussion</p>
<p>13:55-14:00</p>	<p><u>Conclusions and closing</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Juan Valle Robles, Urban planning and housing policy consultant at UNECE