Rights-based sustainable urban development
What does adequate housing mean to you?
More than four walls and a roof

7 adequacy criteria

1. Security of tenure (and protection from forced eviction)
2. Availability of services, materials, facilities and infrastructure
3. Location
4. Habitability
5. Affordability
6. Accessibility
7. Cultural adequacy

[International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights]
The good city: has higher density, minimum zoning, mixed land use and minimum mobility demand that is driven forward in an economically productive, socially inclusive and environmentally sustainable manner.

[Vision UN-Habitat’s Executive Director Dr Joan Clos]
Housing is a human right, the right to live in dignity is a human right

“Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services...”

(Universal Declaration of Human Rights 1948, Article 25)

Your house is your home, and how the city allows you to realize your life (and improve your living conditions) is what UN-HABITAT is increasingly concerned with.

We call that sustainable urban development
“I am fully committed to the UN’s overarching goals and principles and of course to the issue of human rights as one of the main pillars of the UN”.

[Address by UN-HABITAT’s Executive Director Dr Joan Clos to experts assembled for a high level meeting on forced eviction in September 2011]
As a slum dweller, your human rights are denied on multiple counts

A slum household is a group of individuals living under the same roof in an urban area who lack one or more of the following five conditions:

1. Access to drinking water
2. Access to sanitation
3. Durability of housing
4. Sufficient living area
5. Security of tenure
1. Access to drinking water
2. Access to sanitation
3. Durability of housing
4. Sufficient living area
5. Security of tenure
Some 800 million people are living in slums

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sub-Saharan Africa:</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>62% of the urban population</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>South Asia:</td>
<td>43%</td>
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<tr>
<td>East Asia:</td>
<td>37%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Latin America and the Caribbean:</td>
<td>27%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
who is who?

duty bearers and rights holders

Human rights works towards strengthening the capacities of rights-holders to make their claims, and of duty-bearers to meet their obligations.

[Progressive Realization of Human Rights]
In the context of the tenant-landlord relationship, who is the claim holder and who are the duty bearers?
While we need to upgrade existing slums, we now renew our focus on urban planning and design to prevent the deterioration of urban life to such deplorable extent.

The proliferation of slums signifies the disenfranchisement of urban citizens, the decrease of control that urban citizens have over the decisions that shape their cities.

UN-Habitat works to reverse this alarming trend.
UN-Habitat works to reverse this alarming trend.
We are emphasising urban planning and design because it is crucial to have a clear vision of how public space should be designed in the good city.

[Address by UN-Habitat’s Executive Director Dr Joan Clos to experts assembled for a high level meeting on forced eviction in September 2011].
What does planning for the good city involve?
The good city: has higher density, minimum zoning, mixed land use and minimum mobility demand that is driven forward in an economically productive, socially inclusive and environmentally sustainable manner.

[Vision UN-Habitat’s Executive Director Dr Joan Clos]
Urban Planning: BACK TO BASICS

Plan in advance (30 years)
Plan at scale (numbers that make a difference)
Plan in phases (of public investment)
Plan for social integration (pro-poor policies)
Plan for density (incremental)
Plan for connectivity (focus on public realm)
Plan for energy efficiency and risk prevention
“A successful plan for a city is one that takes into account not only physical considerations but also political rights and human rights that affect the whole community. In that sense, proper governance, legislation and city planning should include protecting the poor and improving their living conditions. There should be no doubt about that.”

[Address by UN-HABITAT’s Executive Director Dr Joan Clos to experts assembled for a high level meeting on forced eviction in September 2011].
sustainable and equitable urban planning

Spatial Design

The triple bottom line
Sustainable urban development: is based on planning for a rights-based city

UN-Habitat's new focus on urban planning as entry point to sustainable urban development offers an opportunity to view the city in a holistic view:

The right to live in peace and dignity, and the right to live in a safe and secure home, is my right to live in a city where I have opportunities and a say in how my city shapes.

Planning for what our Executive Director calls the good city, the city where we all would like to live, is a rights-based city.
Sustainable urban development: is inclusive

A focus on rights offers a potential means for urban planning practice to coordinate a spatial design with a clear recognition of the political and social development that citizens can benefit of in the process of planning and to serve as a creative vehicle towards genuine, inclusive and sustainable urban development.
Sustainable urban development: is equitable

[UN-Habitat's emerging thematic priority areas]
sustainable and equitable urban planning

Spatial Design

The triple bottom line
The triple bottom line
The Good City is...

**Rights-based sustainable urban development**
- Key commonality of participation and the central role of agency of urban residents
- Appropriation and production of urban space is understood as a process along a continuum of the progressive realization of rights

**Right to the City - RTTC**
- The city is a powerhouse and its future determined by political processes that may be influenced through advocacy
- No internationally agreed legal basis, thus many varying interpretations of nature and scope and consequent various degrees of support

**Rights Based Approach to development processes and outcomes - HRBA**
- The HUMAN RIGHTS DISCOURSE has been concerned with the process and not so much with the outcome, while the DEVELOPMENT DISCOURSES has been focused on the outcome but so much in the process
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Right to the City

**RTTC**

Urban Space

Human Rights-based approach to development

**HRBA**

Development

**PARTICIPATION**

**PROCESS**

**APPROPRIATION**

**OUTCOMES**
Rights-based sustainable urban development

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**Rights-based sustainable urban development**
- Key commonality of participation and the central role of agency of urban residents.
- Appropriation and production of urban space is understood as a process along a continuum of the progressive realization of rights.
We at UN-Habitat hope that you will join us in this effort to further define the Good City starting from today

thank you!

channe.oguzhan@unhabitat.org
Rights-based sustainable urban development