

Seoul Implementation Plan

The Fifth Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Housing and Urban Development (APMCHUD)
Seoul, Republic of Korea, 3-5 November 2014

Preamble

The Asia-Pacific Ministers responsible for Housing and Urban Development, participating in the APMCHUD Conference in Seoul, Republic of Korea, adopted the Seoul Declaration which consists of many recommendations that require concrete actions by APMCHUD member countries, which adhere to the following principles:

All settlements should be made socially inclusive, economically productive, environmentally sustainable, secure and resilient to climate change and other risks;

Participatory, accountable and effective governance has to be developed to support rapid and equitable urban transformation;

Equal opportunities should be provided for all members of the society irrespective of gender, race, social class or income to prosper, with priority for the most vulnerable;

Basic services have to be provided for more productive, cleaner, healthier and liveable cities in the Asia Pacific Region.

The actions stipulated in this Implementation Plan are supportive of the APMCHUD vision as knowledge hub in Housing and Urban Development in the Asia Pacific Region; they will be continuous and supported by the knowledge management capacity of the APMCHUD Secretariat.

WG1: Inclusive Urban Planning

- a. Inclusive planning and practices need to be mainstreamed at all levels of government;
- b. Inclusive planning should promote sustainable livelihoods especially for the vulnerable groups;
- c. Formulate and adopt appropriate legislation for inclusive planning;
- d. Community support systems with community participation have to be established in cities and towns.

WG2: Upgrading Slums toward Equal Opportunity

- a. Prioritize socio-economic enablement in urban regeneration of slums, informal settlements and deteriorated fabrics through a citywide, street-based approach;
- b. Exploit the role of the provision of basic services and infrastructure, as well as public catalytic projects to stimulate development and enrich urban space;
- c. Develop policies for promoting equal opportunities in slums and creating inclusive cities without discrimination through facilitating the participation of slum-dwellers in the decision-making process;
- d. Share knowledge and experiences by contributing to the best practices database and the competitive award established by the WG2 Secretariat;
- e. Scale up the experience gained by volunteer countries in the pilot-testing of slum indicators across the region for inclusion in the slum upgrading database;
- f. Prepare national reports highlighting respective best practices and employing slum upgrading indicators for setting slum upgrading goals, targets, and timelines;

- g. Present the results of this pilot-testing exercise and share information and experiences in upgrading slums in a forthcoming Expert Working Group meeting organised by the Islamic Republic of Iran in 2015;
- h. Expand the level and scope of participation in the Virtual Scientific Committee established by the Islamic Republic of Iran for the Slum Upgrading Working Group to share information and experiences.

WG3: Inclusive Technology for Delivery of Basic Services

- a. New ways of planning for urban infrastructure by building on National and City-based urban plans which promote principles amongst others of compactness, mixed-use connectivity and planning for emergencies;
- b. Introduce and adopt integrated planning, including water and sanitation as part of water resources development;
- c. Support innovation and research to develop and use appropriate technology, in particular for sanitation services;
- d. Encourage participatory approaches involving stakeholders and communities in decision making and policy implementation;
- e. Share information and experience at national and regional levels;
- f. Optimizing management and mobilization of financial resources for urban infrastructure;
- g. Support institutional development and reform of the public sector to strengthen the delivery of basic services;
- h. Create a favourable investment climate to attract private finance and external support (institutions, laws and regulation, governance, capacity development, transparency);
- i. Enhance the role of local communities in managing urban basic services at the neighbourhood level;
- j. Urban Mobility and Transport to provide an economically efficient, environmentally sustainable and socially inclusive system;
- k. Urban Waste Management to include the concepts of Reduction, Recycling, Reusing and Recovery of Resources to minimise waste and utilize the technology to convert waste into energy;
- l. Generate Urban Energy which is clean, accessible and affordable improving energy efficiency and reducing the carbon foot-print of cities;
- m. Improve Urban Drainage ensuring greater coverage through sustainable urban drainage systems.

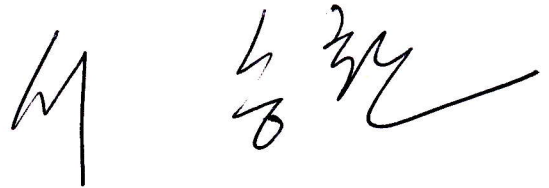
WG4: Housing Finance for Equal Opportunity

- a. Expand the rental housing supply capacity through pro-poor financial tools and public-private partnership;
- b. Enhance opportunities for low-income households and disadvantaged groups by ensuring access to financing solutions;
- c. Establish or improve financial systems including microfinance to increase homeownership among low-income households;
- d. Develop diverse financing models for urban regeneration to maintain sustainable urban development;
- e. Share information on the best practices on housing finance in particular the advanced Korean system of housing finance.

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WG5: Urban Development for Equal Opportunity Responding to Natural and Climate Change Disasters

- a. Establish and update a database on institutions related to urban development with a focus on natural and climate change related disasters, including those promote mitigation and low-carbon development;
- b. Enhance local government capacity in Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) management
- c. Mitigate the impact of natural and man-made disasters on livelihoods, giving attention to internally displaced persons and taking into account the need for equal access to job opportunities and security of tenure
- d. Enhance international cooperation in disaster risk preparedness and mitigation including disasters caused by climate change. To this aim:
 - Iran volunteers for documenting best practices in disaster reduction and post-disaster reconstruction in assistance with UN Habitat, with a focus on equal opportunities;
 - Indonesia will conduct training on disaster risk reduction with particular emphasis on building capacity for people and local governments;
 - Korea will undertake pilot projects to test effective technologies in response to disasters.

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