Urban and Territorial Planning through the ‘lens’ of Health

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Health-Focused Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) in the Urban Context: A Workshop Forum on Public-Private Partnerships for Global Health and Safety, June 13-14, 2019
Congestion/ Air Quality

Sprawl/ Food Security

Spatial Exclusion/ Inequity

Resilience Capacity/ Risk Exposure

Lifestyle/ Nutrition
Global relevance of Planning for Health

2015

2016

2016
SDG3 & SDG11 are strongly interlinked

3.4 Reduce NCDs and promote health & well-being

3.9 Reduce number of deaths from air, water, soil pollution

11.1 Housing, basic services, slum upgrading

11.3 Urban planning for sustainable urbanization

11.7 Safe, inclusive, accessible, green public spaces
Why planning for health?

“Decisions related to urban planning, finance and governance can create or exacerbate major health risks – or they can foster healthier environments and lifestyles, that in turn reduce the risks of both communicable and noncommunicable diseases.”

WHO (2016). Health as the Pulse of the New Urban Agenda
Health in the New Urban Agenda

Quito Declaration on Sustainable Cities and Human Settlements for All

- Urbanization posing health risks
- Objective: NUA to improve human health and wellbeing, end epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria
- Principle: Leave no one behind
- Shared vision: Cities for all: safe, healthy, affordable and resilient
- How: Provision of access to public services in areas of health, air quality, food security, etc.
Health in the New Urban Agenda – Quito Implementation Plan

Equal access to infrastructure for water, sanitation, waste management

Provision of basic services, including health services for all

Urban governance

Policies for food systems, food security & nutrition

Economic growth and urban prosperity

Mechanisms for alignment of sectoral policies including health

Indoor air quality

Accessibility and safety for all (age-, gender-, disability-focused)

Low-carbon construction industry

Clean urban environment

Buildings

Energy efficiency

Safe public space and its network, streets and roads

Buildings

Policies for food systems, food security & nutrition

Low-carbon & efficient Transport

Green public spaces, Air quality

Connectivity to basic services

Clean urban environment

Walkability & cycling

Mental health & social inclusion

Pedestrian, cycling & motorcycling safety

Air quality
UN-Habitat Strategic Plan 2020-25: Planning and Health

Domains of Change in relation to health:

Access to basic services such as public space, with safety and security as key factors.

Access to basic services such as drinking water, sanitation and health services.

Adaptation, mitigation and resilience for the improvement of the health of human and natural systems in cities.

Develop clean air action plans to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and address indoor and outdoor air pollution.

Social inclusion Issues:
(1) Human Rights: Right to health
International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning (IG-UTP) and Health

- A **global framework** for improving policies, plans, designs and implementation processes
- Leading to **more compact, socially inclusive, better-integrated** and connected cities and territories
- IG-UTP Programme brings a:  
  - multi-stakeholder,  
  - multi-sectoral and  
  - multi-level  
approach to incorporate the **health dimension** in the urban planning process
### What are we working on

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<th>ACTIVITIES</th>
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<td><strong>GATHERING EVIDENCE / BUILDING A KNOWLEDGE BASE</strong></td>
<td><strong>Call for case studies</strong> with more than 70 submissions</td>
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<td><strong>TOOL DEVELOPMENT</strong></td>
<td><strong>Guidebook</strong> on Planning for Health</td>
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<td><strong>Assessment Tool</strong>: Health in Urban and Territorial Planning</td>
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<td><strong>TESTING &amp; APPLICATION</strong></td>
<td><strong>Workshops</strong> to build capacity on Planning for Health</td>
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<td><strong>Pilot projects</strong> (national, city and neighborhood level)</td>
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<td><strong>Bilateral</strong> partnerships with organizations</td>
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Evidence base
Open Call: +70 case studies submitted

Areas of intervention?
Indicates the health perspective

- Food Systems 2%
- Urban Planning 20%
- Clean Water & Sanitation 17%
- Transport & Mobility 15%
- Slum Upgrading 13%
- Greening Strategies 11%
- Housing 10%
- Environmental Management 6%
- Air Quality 3%
- Energy 2%

Health issue addressed?
Indicates the health perspective

- Well-being 34%
- Non-Communicable Diseases 1%
- Sanitation 19%
- Obesity 9%
- Physical Health 9%
- Respiratory Illness 8%
- Maternal & Infant Health 7%
- Vector-borne Diseases 4%
- Mental Health 4%
- Skin Diseases 3%
- Waterborne Diseases 1%
Healthy Planning System Assessment:

“Is urban planning delivering health and well-being in your city?”

• A multi-stakeholder self-assessment methodology
• To achieve consensus
• Identifying gaps and opportunities
• Initiate a roadmap for improving planning processes in order to promote health & well-being
# Workshops - Applying the assessment

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<th>Location and event</th>
<th>Participants and achievements</th>
<th>Achievements and Lessons</th>
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| Kampala, Uganda Nov. 2018 | **Format:** Printed  
**Participants:** Urban and Health practitioners | o Set the stage for challenges discussion  
o Identify areas of collaboration between planners and health  
o Strength Capacity on the other topic |
| Douala, Cameroon March. 2019 | **Format:** live online platform  
Mentimeter  
**Participants:** All IGUTP stakeholders and Public Health actors | Lessons: Enhance more on the collaboration, (e.g comparison between the planning levels); user-friendly format |
Application through pilot projects

Urban Health

Urban Health Initiative
Engaging the health sector to realize climate and health benefits

BOVA Network
Building Out Vector borne diseases in sub-Saharan Africa

Housing & Planning improvements in:
- Policy
- Practice

Vector-borne diseases
Built environment

Poorly screened houses

Open water containers

Pilot projects in Accra and Kathmandu

MALARIA
DENGUE

Urban Health Initiative
Engaging the health sector to realize climate and health benefits
Thank you
Regional and Metropolitan Planning Unit, Urban Planning and Design Branch
United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

Resources

UN-Habitat and WHO (upcoming). Urban and territorial planning through the “lens” of health
International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning (IG-UTP)

• approved by Governing Council in 2015
• a global framework for improving policies, plans, designs and implementation processes
• leading to more compact, socially inclusive, better-integrated and connected cities and territories
• fostering sustainable urban development and resilience to climate change
• consist of 12 key principles and 114 action-oriented recommendations targeted at 4 stakeholder groups

Building an evidence base
Open Call: +70 case studies submitted

From where?
Indicates the geographical distribution

Types of interventions?

UN-Habitat (2018).
Compendium of Inspiring Practices: Health Edition
Key facts from the open call
more than 70 case studies submitted

Areas of intervention?
Indicates the health perspective

Health issue addressed?
Indicates the health perspective
Case study 1 – Surat, India

Neighborhood Upgrading in Informal Settlements

Health issue: Access to basic services, heat stress, disaster risk

Lead stakeholders: Partnership between organizations and local authority to source knowledge and resources

Target: City-wide program and district interventions

Main activity: Multi-stakeholder workshops and surveying

Results: Physical interventions (quick wins); local-level urban framework for preparedness (long-term)
Case study 2 – Western Cape, South Africa

Neighborhood Upgrading in Informal Settlements

Type of Intervention: Program, Design

Health issue: water and sanitation, child well-being, access to health care and social services, safe spaces

Lead stakeholders: Violence Prevention through Urban Upgrading (organization), community, local government

Target: Healthy childhood development, crime prevention, basic services in two informal communities

Main activity: Research-based, participatory development of underused water collection points: access to safe drinking water, safe spaces with educational programmes for children; community register office: land tenure registration grants access to basic services

Results: 7910 households registered, 6470 tenure certificates issued; improved well-being; improved social services provision
The seniors, the designers - elderly-friendly community

**Type of intervention:** City Arts Programme → Design

**Health issue:** mental health, physical well-being

**Lead stakeholders:** HK government, community of elderly people, designers and social workers (NGO)

**Target:** redesign of elderly-friendly public furniture in park

**Main activity:** participatory design workshops

**Results:** social inclusion and physical interventions which satisfy needs of elderly (quick wins); local-level approach for participatory urban planning with health „lens“ piloted (long-term)
Case study 4 – Barcelona, Spain

Urban environment and health program

Type of Intervention: Program, Policy, Spatial Plan and Design

Health issue: prevention of non-communicable diseases,

Lead stakeholders: public health service and planning department of the Barcelona Provincial Council

Target: city-wide programs and policies for municipalities

Main activity: establishment of an inter-departmental platform „Table for Urban Improvement“ with urban health as a cross-cutting approach

Results: pilot projects in multiple cities (quick wins); training programme for politicians and practitioners (long-term); tools for Urban Health Assessment (long-term)
Lessons Learned

1. Enhancing the collaboration between health & planning professionals.

Close collaboration between planning and other disciplines is a central element of successful spatial development; so why not bring this back under the health argument? Collaboration a process that fosters **learning exchange**.

A **common language is needed** for health and urban professionals to sit at the same table:

- Both sectors (i.e. public health & urban development) are not aware of the co-benefits from potential collaborations.
- Lack of normative and technical know-how to integrate sectors when rolling out initiatives.
- Terminology barriers between different professionals.
- Complexity perceived as a challenge but also **an opportunity**.
Lessons Learned

2. The power of Multi-stakeholder integration at different governance levels.

*Inclusion of different actors in spatial planning processes improves the process itself while generating wider urban outcomes, including vertically (i.e. bottom-up/top-down).* 

*Inclusion of residents and local government is key for local ownership of health interventions.*

3. Placing health at the center of urban & territorial planning.

*Dealing with health from the beginning and throughout the process, and not just treating it as an outcome of any initiative.*

4. Mainstreaming health in (national and subnational) urban policies.

*The wider picture of urban development: The inclusion of health in urban policies may effectively improve and strengthen urban governance systems, but will need to be supported by a high level commitment from multiple actors.*
Rate of Urbanization
Ratio urban/rural population in the world

- 1930: 30%
- 2008: 50%
- 2014: 54%
- 2050: 66%
Relating the IG-UTP to health
Systematic approach to urban health

- National Government
- Local Authorities
- Civil Society and its organization
- Planning Professionals and their associates

Vertical and horizontal integration