

THE FUTURE OF NATIONAL URBAN POLICY



Towards smarter and greener cities

Conference: 14-15 December 2015

Capacity Development and Training Workshops: 16 December 2015

Korean Field Visit: 17-18 December 2015

SONGDO CONVENSIA, INCHEON METROPOLITAN CITY, REPUBLIC OF KOREA

















It is clear that in order to capitalize on the opportunities presented by urbanization, urban policy and planning must embrace a scope that reaches beyond the traditional city. Managing this change in a sustainable and equitable manner means that planning and policy must now address wider-ranging questions, which will inevitably require a broader approach to urban planning and policy and a higher level of vertical and horizontal coordination in the form of national level guidance. This, in turn, implies the need for a coordinated approach and clear policy directions.

The new generation of National Urban Policy answers this need for a coordinated response to rapid urbanization. The new generation of NUP asserts the power of urban space and territoriality, and the positive role of urbanization in national socio-economic development. It provides an overarching framework to address urban challenges. A NUP is a tool that can be used by government in order to direct and control urbanization. With input from the regional and local levels, a coordinated effort from the national level government through a NUP provides a valuable opportunity for the development of a thorough and coordinated nation-wide urban development plan.

The conference will be of particular interest to policy makers, government officials, and non-governmental actors that are working in areas of urban policy. The conference will emphasize learning through capacity development and workshop sessions and through peer-to-peer exchange during country experience sessions. This will allow policy makers and government officials to gain insight on the processes of developing National Urban Policy and learn from regional and country urban policy experiences.

This inaugural international conference on National Urban Policy is organized by UN HABITAT, the Korea Research Institute for Human Settlements, and the Korea Institute of Civil Engineering and Building Technology. It is supported by the Republic of Korea's Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport and by Incheon Metropolitan City. Partners include OECD and UNESCAP

The conference program will deliver an evidence-based discussion on issues related to National Urban Policy as a tool to achieving compact, integrated, connected and inclusive cities that are resilient to climate change. The field of urban studies and particularly of National Urban Policy involves many multi-sectorial actors, levels of government, policy fields and professional disciplines. This conference will bring together a variety of actors and provide an interactive

platform for discussion and learning related to National Urban Policy.

The aim of the conference is to not only to encourage discussion and debate but also to facilitate and encourage the process of peer-to-peer learning through training and capacity building. This process of learning will encourage the establishment and strengthening of partnerships among actors with the ultimate hope of working towards defining policy solutions to urban problems. These solutions will contribute to harnessing urbanization for the creation of competitive, equitable, and sustainable cities. The conference, therefore, will consider broadly the use of National Urban Policies as tool to harness the opportunities of urbanization as well as considering how smart and green principles can be incorporated into urban policy.



The Innovative Urban Policy Exhibition

The Exhibition on Innovative Urban Policy will provide a venue for cities and their partners to showcase their initiatives and achievements through the use of innovative urban policy techniques and practice. It will provide an opportunity not only for peer-to-peer exchange of ideas and experiences but also for consultation among experts, private sector representatives, and other conference participants. As 21st-century cities generate innovative and dynamic policy responses, it becomes all the more important to create a forum for sharing experiences and observations as to what does and does not work.

Being an Exhibitor is a unique opportunity to share innovation and success in urban policy with an international audience that will comprise of members from public and private sectors and civil society. The exposure gained through the Exhibition will lend itself to helping cities establish themselves as innovative and creative places.

Exhibition participants can place materials such as pictures, data, graphs, diagrams and narrative text on boards that are usually 2 x 4 feet. In order to submit a proposal, please send an abstract (no more than 300 words) to **icnup.2015@unhabitat.org** or submit a proposal online: please fill in the application.

In order to submit a proposal, please fill out the application form at the ICNUP 2015 conference website, **www.urbangateway.org/icnup**

CALL FOR CASE STUDIES

UN HABITAT, the Korea Research Institute for Human Settlements, and the Korea Institute of Civil Engineering and Building Technology are now accepting proposals for Case Studies for presentation during Parallel Sessions entitled: Peer-to-Peer Learning: Sharing NUP Country Experiences.

Conference organizers invite government officers, practitioners, and researchers to submit a synopsis (250-300 words) of their case studies. Case studies will be presented during parallel sessions entitled Peer Learning: Sharing NUP Country Experiences.

The Peer Learning sessions are intended to encourage two-way, reciprocal learning between case study presenter and the audience. The Peer Learning sessions will be mutually beneficial for presenter and audience and involve the sharing of knowledge, ideas and experience between the participants. Sharing experiences on NUP in this way will allow for both the presenter and the audience to engage with the case study experience and draw lessons on the NUP process from practical experiences.

Case studies should highlight the background and context of the case. They should also clearly demonstrate the lessons learned through the NUP process. Presenters will have a one-hour session to present the case study and facilitate discussion. Some suggested reference topics are:

- Policy formulation
- The problem of policy problems
- Implementing policy
- Monitoring and evaluating policy
- The role of devolution and decentralization
- Policy and capacity development
- Developing policy in the developing world
- Urban legislation and policy development
- Processes of public participation and communication
- An equitable NUP process: analysis of stakeholders
- NUP and the private sector
- Incorporating vulnerable groups in the NUP process
 To make a submission, please go to the conference
 website and fill in the submission form. All
 submissions must be received by 15 October 2015,
 and will be subject to a review process by the program
 committee.

The Location: Incheon Metropolitan City

Incheon Metropolitan City is located in the South West of Korea and is about a one-hour drive from downtown Seoul. It is located just 15 minutes from Incheon International Airport. Songdo, located within Incheon, is the planned as the future for Korea's smart and green cities. The buildings are planned around a 100-acre central park, and green space accounts for over 40% of the area of the city. The city incorporates many futuristic and forward thinking city management practices. The waste management system is one practice that is particularly unique. Every kitchen in the city has a pneumatic trash shoot that funnels garbage to a central waste processing center, eliminating the need for the conventional process of trash bags and dump trucks. Once there, food waste is put to use for agricultural purposes while much of the rest of the trash is recycled.

The Venue: Songdo Convensia

Songdo Convensia, located at the heart of Incheon and located only 15 minutes from Incheon International Airport, is a high quality convention center fully equipped with a high-tech ubiquitous system, environmentally friendly green devices and exquisite designs. It minimizes the elements that harm the environment and maximizes the energy efficiency with improved design, construction and operation routines.

Funding: Costs associated with traveling to and attending the conference will be self-funded. There may be a possibility for participants from the least developed countries to be considered for partial funding. Information on partial funding will be released at a later date.

Registration: The Call for Proposals and Call for Case Studies for the Urban Policy Exhibition will close 1 August 2015.





Key Dates:

- 15 October 2015: Close of Call for Proposals for Urban Policy Exhibition and Call for Case Studies
- **20 July 2015:** Conference Registration will open
- **31 October 2015:** Proposers of accepted paper submissions will be notified.
- 14-15 December 2015: Conference in Incheon, Korea
- 16 December 2015: Capacity Development and Training Workshops in Incheon, Korea
- 17-18 December 2015: Korean Field Visit

Communication: For more information on the conference or for inquires regarding partnership or sponsorship opportunities, please visit the conference website, www.urbangateway.org/icnup or email icnup.2015@ unhabitat.org

Regional and Metropolitan Planning Unit, Urban Planning and Design Branch United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) | P.O. Box 30030 | Nairobi 00100, Kenya