

# Public Space In Asia Pacific



# THE CHARACTER OF A CITY IS DEFINED BY ITS STREETS AND PUBLIC SPACES

“Public spaces are all places publicly owned or of public use,  
accessible and enjoyable by all for free and without a profit motive”

Charter on Public Spaces

**PUBLIC  
SPACE**

**STREETS**

**OPEN PUBLIC SPACES**

**PUBLIC FACILITIES**

Nairobi, Kenya © Jose Chong



# WHY IS PUBLIC SPACE IMPORTANT?

Public space = quality of life

Public space supports the economy

Public Space contributes to a sense of civic cohesion and citizenship

Public space fosters social and cultural interaction

Public space enhances safety

Public space improves health and well-being

Public space increases mobility

Public space improves the environment

Black Bay, Boston.

# “Business as usual” versus “Sustainable Urban Development”



**Urban Sprawl** > **Compact**



**Segregation** > **Integrated**



**Congestion** > **Connected**



**SDG11: “Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable”**

Target 11.7: “By 2030, provide universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces, in particular for women and children, older persons and persons with disabilities”

**11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES**





# HABITAT III

QUITO 17-20 OCTOBER 2016

United Nations Conference on Housing  
and Sustainable Urban Development

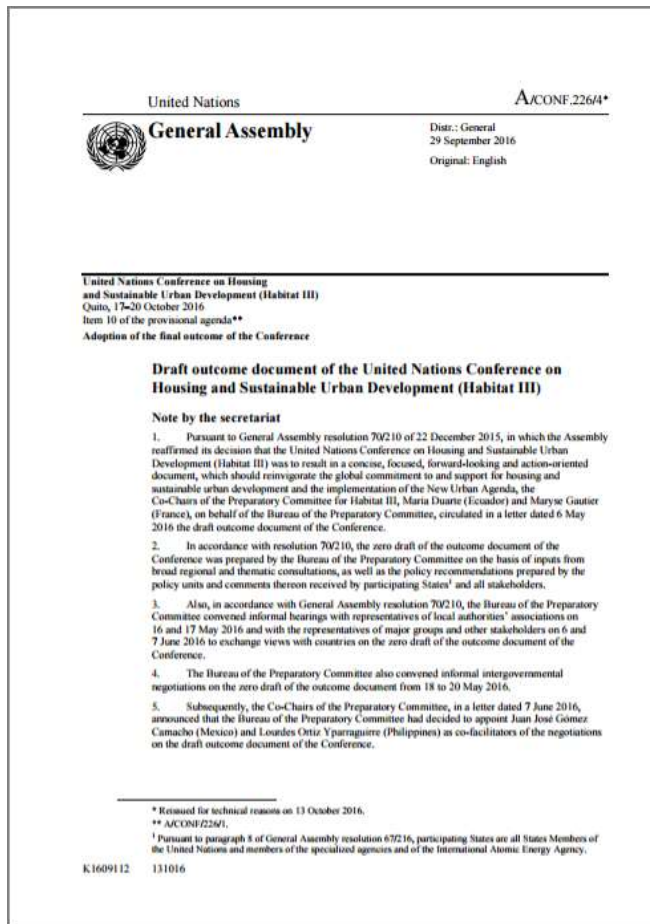


GENERAL  
CONFERENCE

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY





37. **We commit ourselves to promoting safe, inclusive, accessible, green and quality public spaces**, including streets, sidewalks and cycling lanes, squares, waterfront areas, gardens and parks, that are multifunctional areas for social interaction and inclusion, human health and well-being, economic exchange, and cultural expression and dialogue among a wide diversity of people and cultures, and that are designed and managed to ensure human development and build peaceful, inclusive and participatory societies, as well as **to promote living together, connectivity and social inclusion.**

53. We commit ourselves to promoting **safe, inclusive, accessible, green and quality public spaces as drivers of social and economic development**, in order to sustainably leverage their potential to generate increased social and economic value, including property value, and to facilitate business and public and private investments and livelihood opportunities for all.

97. We will promote **planned urban extensions and infill, prioritizing renewal, regeneration and retrofitting of urban areas**, as appropriate, including upgrading of slums and informal settlements, providing **high-quality buildings and public spaces**, promoting integrated and participatory approaches involving all relevant stakeholders and inhabitants, avoiding spatial and socio-economic segregation and gentrification, while preserving cultural heritage and preventing and containing urban sprawl.

United Nations Conference on Housing  
and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III)  
Quito, 17–20 October 2016  
Item 10 of the provisional agenda\*\*

Adoption of the final outcome of the Conference

**Draft outcome document of the United Nations Conference on  
Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III)**

**Note by the secretariat**

1. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 70/210 of 22 December 2015, in which the Assembly reaffirmed its decision that the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) was to result in a concise, focused, forward-looking and action-oriented document, which should reinvigorate the global commitment to and support for housing and sustainable urban development and the implementation of the New Urban Agenda, the Co-Chairs of the Preparatory Committee for Habitat III, María Duarte (Ecuador) and Maryse Gautier (France), on behalf of the Bureau of the Preparatory Committee, circulated in a letter dated 6 May 2016 the draft outcome document of the Conference.
2. In accordance with resolution 70/210, the zero draft of the outcome document of the Conference was prepared by the Bureau of the Preparatory Committee on the basis of inputs from broad regional and thematic consultations, as well as the policy recommendations prepared by the policy units and comments thereon received by participating States<sup>1</sup> and all stakeholders.
3. Also, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 70/210, the Bureau of the Preparatory Committee convened informal hearings with representatives of local authorities' associations on 16 and 17 May 2016 and with the representatives of major groups and other stakeholders on 6 and 7 June 2016 to exchange views with countries on the zero draft of the outcome document of the Conference.
4. The Bureau of the Preparatory Committee also convened informal intergovernmental negotiations on the zero draft of the outcome document from 18 to 20 May 2016.
5. Subsequently, the Co-Chairs of the Preparatory Committee, in a letter dated 7 June 2016, announced that the Bureau of the Preparatory Committee had decided to appoint Juan José Gómez Camacho (Mexico) and Lourdes Ortiz Yparaguire (Philippines) as co-facilitators of the negotiations on the draft outcome document of the Conference.

\* Reopened for technical reasons on 13 October 2016.

\*\* A/CONF.226/4.

<sup>1</sup> Pursuant to paragraph 8 of General Assembly resolution 67/216, participating States are all States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies and of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

**100.** We will support the provision of well-designed networks of safe, inclusive for all inhabitants, accessible, green, and **quality public spaces and streets, free from crime and violence, including sexual harassment and gender-based violence**, considering the human-scale and measures that allow for the best possible commercial use of street-level floors, fostering local markets and commerce, both formal and informal, as well as not-for-profit community initiatives, **bringing people into the public spaces, promoting walkability and cycling towards improving health and well-being**

**109.** We will consider **increased allocation of financial and human resources**, as appropriate, for the upgrading and, to the extent possible, the prevention of slums and informal settlements, with strategies that go beyond physical and environmental improvements to ensure that slums and informal settlements are integrated into the social, economic, cultural and political dimensions of cities. These strategies should include, as applicable, access to sustainable, adequate, safe and affordable housing, basic and social services, **and safe, inclusive, accessible, green and quality public spaces**, and they should promote security of tenure and its regularization, as well as measures for conflict prevention and mediation.



# Action Framework for the Implementation of the NUA (AFINUA)

Action Area	Key Priorities
<b>National Urban Policies</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Establish national rules to determine land suitability for urbanization and for environmental and cultural heritage protection and disaster risk reduction....</li></ul>
<b>Urban Legislation, Rules and Regulations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Establish legal basis for the urban plan and distinguish public space from buildable urban land</li><li>• Enact effective law for the definition, acquisition and protection of public space</li><li>• Recognize and regulate urban development i.e. buildability rights</li></ul>
<b>Urban Planning and Design</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Define connectivity and the quantity and quality of urban space including the structuring layout of streets, blocks and plots.</li><li>• Promote sustainable density and mixed use to attain the economies of agglomeration</li><li>• Protect and preserve natural and cultural heritage.</li></ul>
<b>Urban Economy and Municipal Finance</b>	
<b>Local Integrated implementation</b>	

# UN-HABITAT APPROACH: 3 PRONGED APPROACH

## 1. Rules and Regulations

Good urban planning requires the rule of law

### 1. Legal protection of Public Space

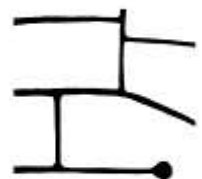
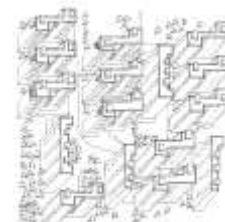
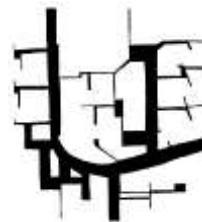
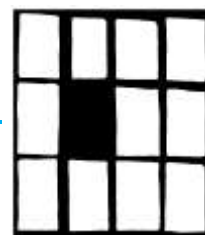
#### 2. The legal establishment of the buildability or development rights

- A. Public and transparent management  
FAR (Floor Area Ratio)
- B. Public Service reserves in the buildable areas  
(Schools, hospitals, Public administration etc.)

#### 3. Plotting rules and regulations

### 4. Building codes

30-35%	Street
10-15%	Open space
50%	Built area



# UN-HABITAT APPROACH: 3 PRONGED APPROACH

## 2. Urban Design

Good urban planning requires good design

### 1. The Public Space layout

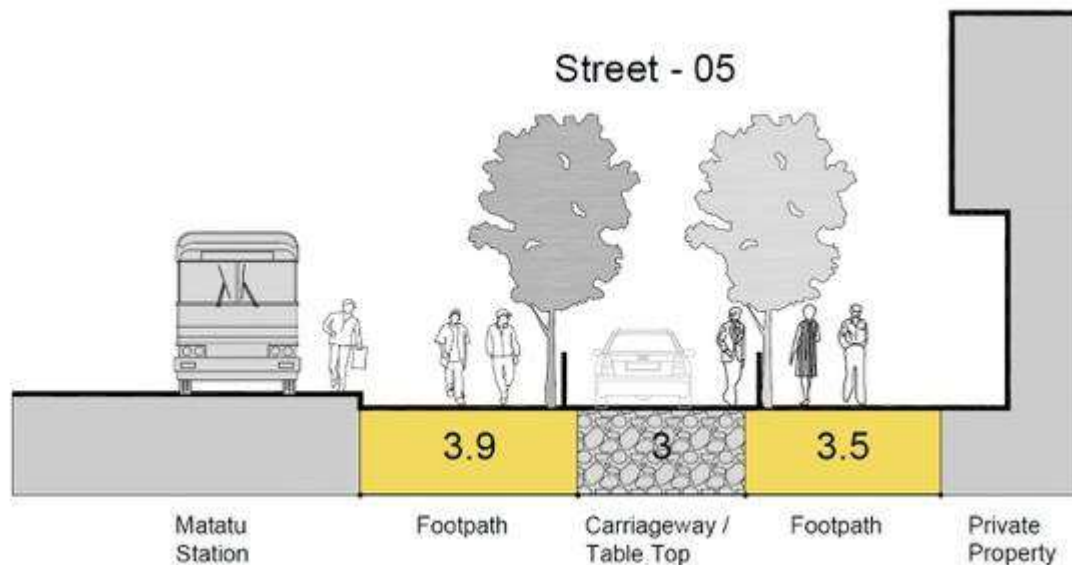
2. The Street Pattern

3. The Block Typology

4. The Plot Typology

### 5. The Open Spaces

6. Protection of the Environment



# UN-HABITAT APPROACH: 3 PRONGED APPROACH

## 3. Financial Plan

Good urban planning requires a solid financial plan

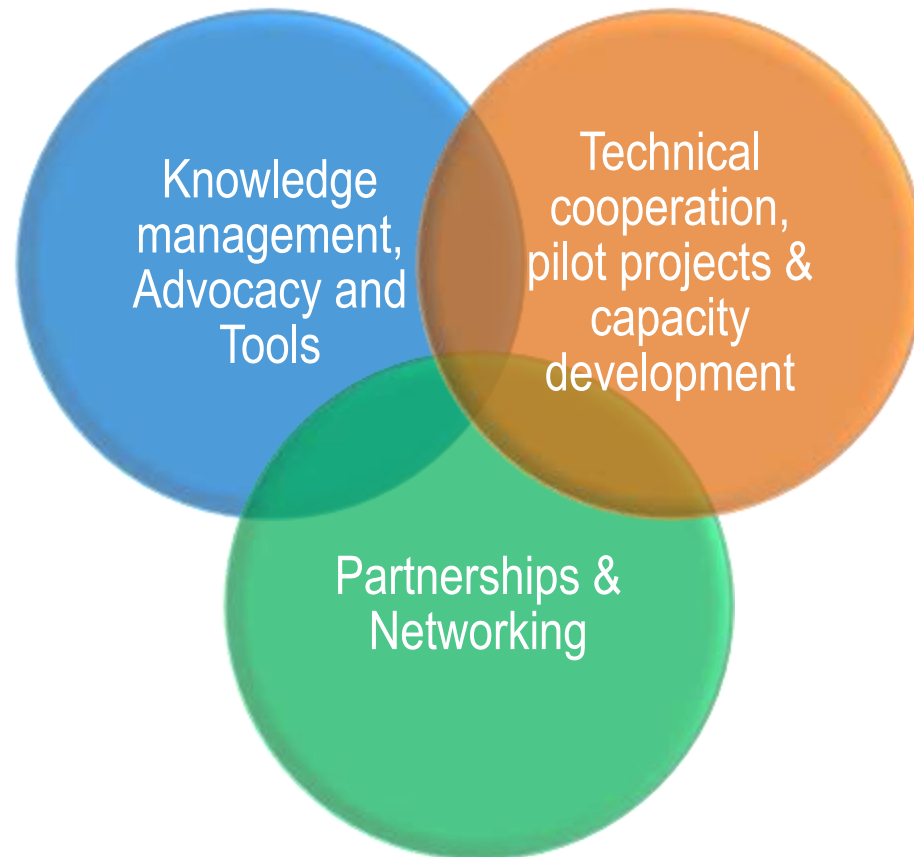
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1. The acquisition of the public land.
- 2. Land value capture/land value sharing**
3. Land Readjustment. Selling development rights as an alternative to selling land. Improved accessibility has an immediate impact on land value
4. Infrastructure and Investment in Basic Services.
- 5. Maintenance of the public realm and public services**
6. Budgeting. Incomes and Expenditures.



# UN-Habitat Global Programme on Public Space

## Focus areas and activities



# Partnerships & Networking Global



United Cities and  
Local Governments  
Asia-Pacific



GEHL ARCHITECTS  
URBAN QUALITY CONSULTANTS



INU  
Istituto Nazionale  
di Urbanistica



Women in Informal Employment:  
Globalizing and Organizing



Axson Johnson  
Foundation



INSTITUT  
POUR  
LA VILLE  
EN  
MOUVEMENT  
PSA PEUGEOT CITROËN

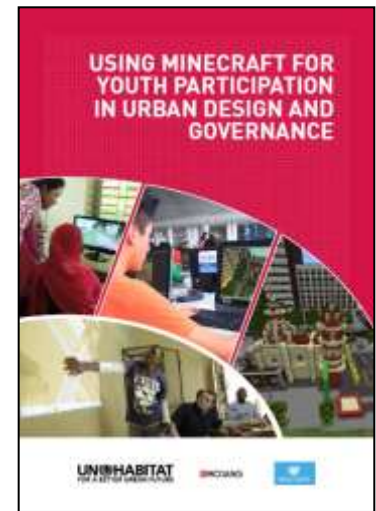
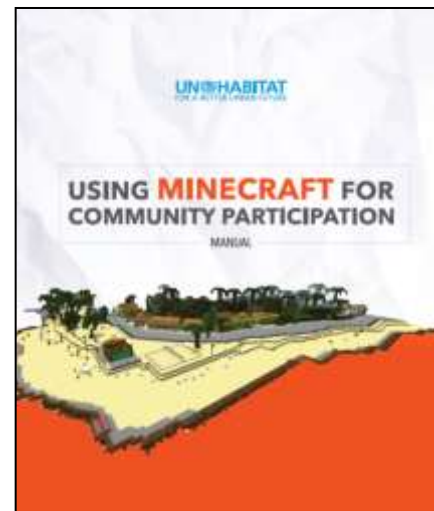
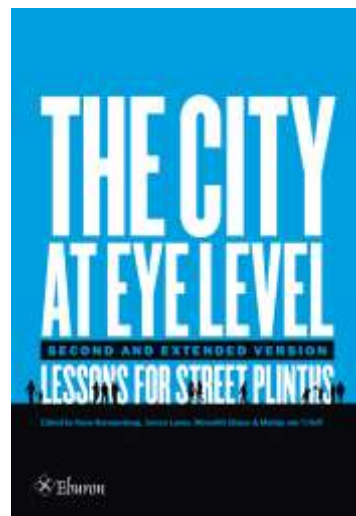


CITYNET



Bamenda City Council

# Knowledge Management and tools



# Knowledge management and tools

## Minecraft as a participatory design tool





# Knowledge management and tools

## City-wide public space assessment tool

KoBo Toolbox

### Nairobi Public Space Audit

**1.0 Geo-location of the Public Space: \***  
*Record the location coordinates.*


latitude (x,y ?)

longitude (x,y ?)

altitude (M)

size (sq. M)

search for place or address



**1.1 Public Space ID: \***  
*Alphanumeric ID in capital letters.*

**1.2 Name of the Public Space:**  
*Specify Name and MUST where available. If not available, leave the space blank.*

**1.3 Address:**  
*Refer to the street name/local area address.*

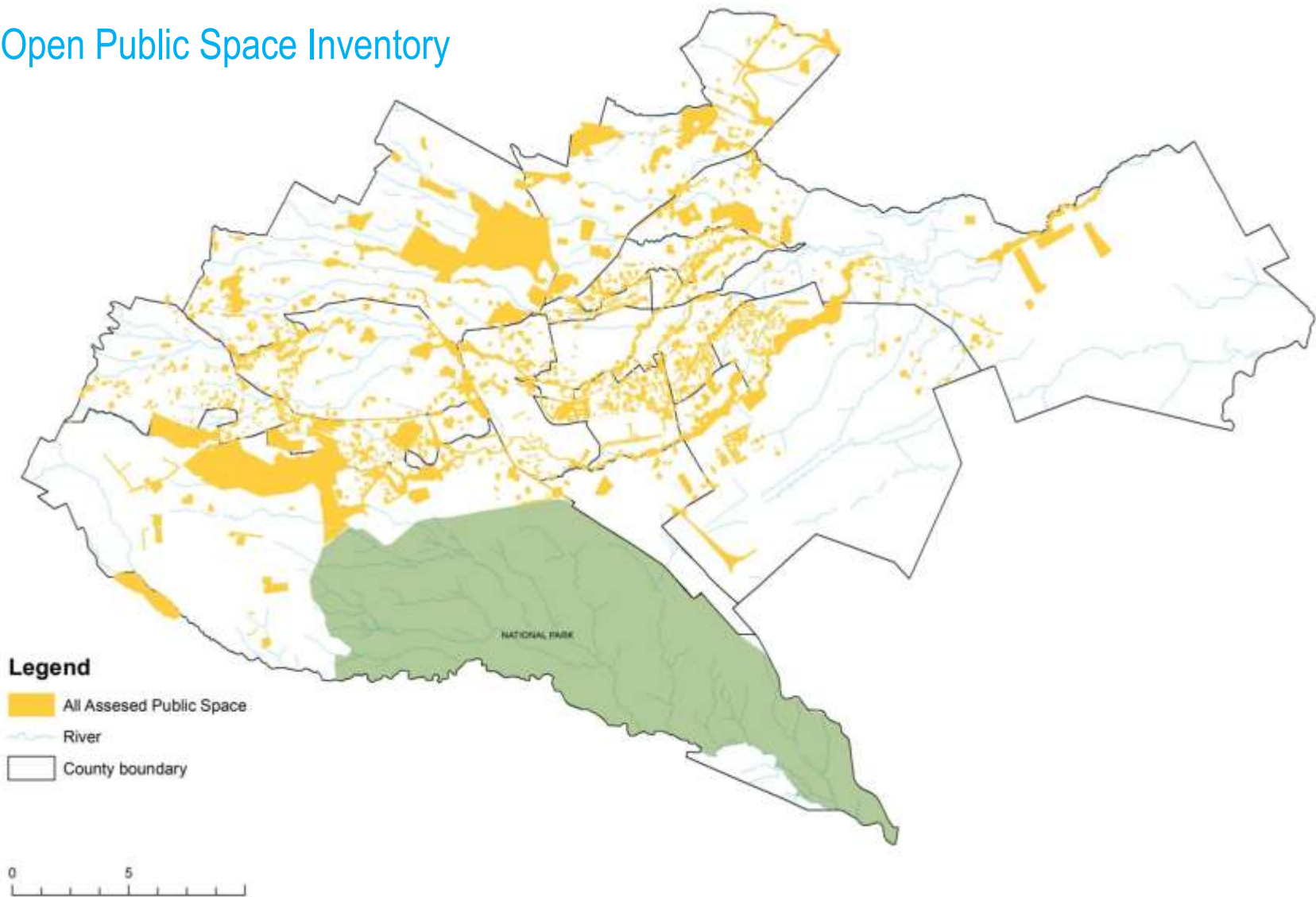
**1.4 Type of Public Space: \***

- Garden
- Park
- Playground
- Nursery (Green)
- I left your domain access



# Knowledge management and tools

## Open Public Space Inventory



## SDG 11.7.1 monitoring of the indicator

*11.7.1 Average share of the built-up area of cities that is open space for public use for all, by sex, age and persons with disabilities*

*Share of the built up area of the city that is open space in public use (%)*

*$$\frac{\text{Total surface of open public space} + \text{Total surface of land allocated to streets}}{\text{Total surface of built up area of the urban agglomeration}}$$*



# Technical cooperation, pilot projects & capacity development

## The Process



# Public Space Projects in Asia Pacific



# Public Space Projects in Asia Pacific

**National China Programme**

**Philippines National Initiative**

## Partnerships in support of Asian cities



Joint implementation of the Wuhan and China Programme.

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Joint implementation of projects in Mumbai

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**Women in Informal Employment:  
Globalizing and Organizing**

Joint Public Space project with waste pickers (Pune, India)

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Joint initiative to develop a Block by Block approach to improve urban safety for adolescent girls (Hanoi, Vietnam).

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**United Cities and  
Local Governments  
Asia-Pacific**

Development of policy guidelines and implementation of a regional public space programme in South-East Asia.

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Joint public space training and capacity building programme for local governments and other key stakeholders in Asia Pacific region

# Mumbai

Lotus Garden and Gautam Nagar





Lotus Garden



Gautam Nagar



# Wuhan & China Programme



## China country programme

- ❑ The People-Oriented Urban Public Space Programme for China (POUPS) launched in 2016.
- ❑ This programme focuses on policy improvement and demonstration projects.
- ❑ Public Space Toolkit translated into Chinese.
- ❑ First public space assessment and implementation project will start in July 2017.



## Wuhan Greenway project

- UN-Habitat signed an MoU with Wuhan Land Use and Urban Spatial Planning Research Center (WLSP) for a 3-year cooperation (July 2016).
- Wuhan Donghu Lake Greenway Public Space Pilot Project is the first project of cooperation.
- UN-Habitat is supporting a people-oriented approach with high level of public consultation and participation in the planning
- UN-Habitat will conduct a city-wide assessment of public space in a district in Wuhan (1 M residents)
- Wuhan contributing \$400,000 towards UN-Habitat's technical support.

# Philippines

National Initiative

UCLG ASPAC | OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT | HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT COORDINATING COUNCIL | UN HABITAT FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

**AN INTERACTIVE CONFERENCE ON  
PUBLIC SPACE  
AND THE NEW URBAN AGENDA**

27 - 28 February 2015 || Hotel Jen Manila, Pasay City, Philippines

- League of Cities of the Philippines - **Declaration** on Philippine Cities Partnership on Public Space
- **Philippine Cities Network on Public Space.**
- In 2016, the Philippine Institute of Environmental Planners (PIEP) and Philippine Association of Landscape Architects (PALA) have joined forces to form the **Public Parks and Open Space (PPOS) Advocacy Group** specifically to address the issue inadequate provision as well as the increasing loss of open space in the face of rapid urbanization.
- Several cities adopting UN-H **tools** for public space action.

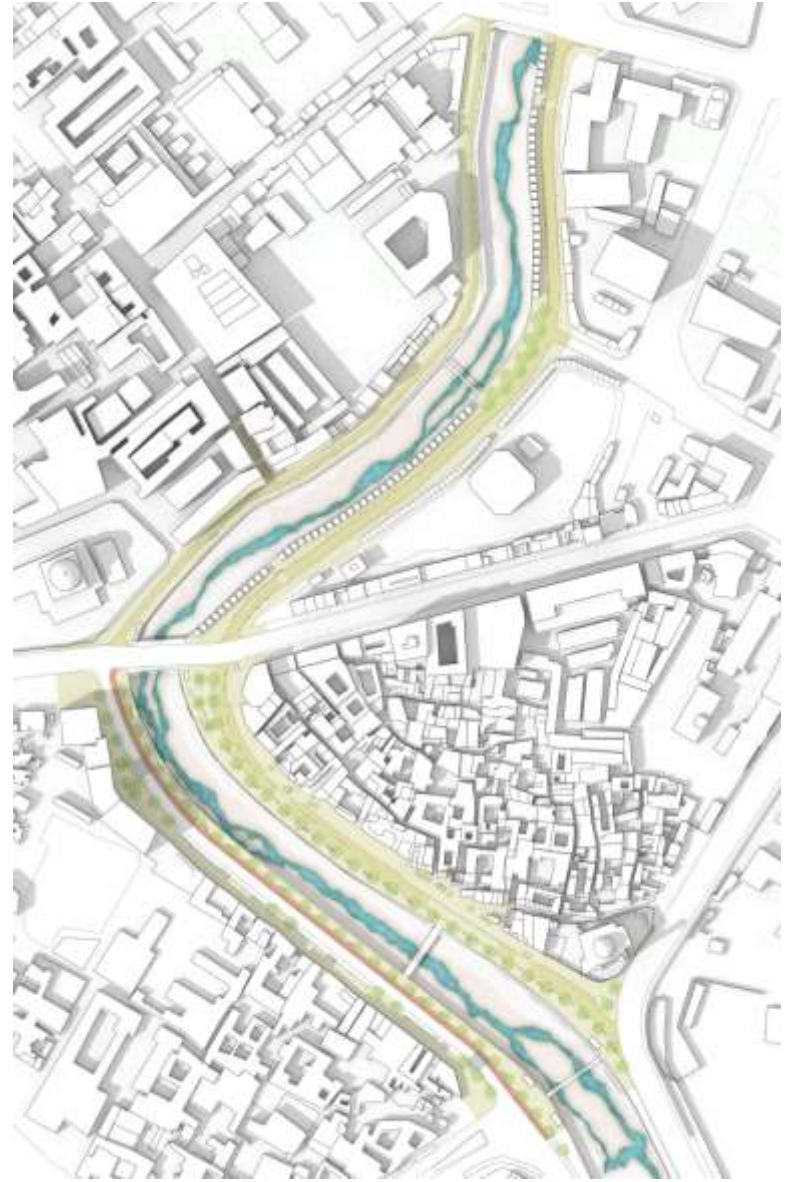


# Afghanistan

Kabul Water Front



پاک او زرغون ښار  
شهر پاک و سبز  
CLEAN & GREEN CITY



# Transformative Project

## Kabul Waterfront



# Nepal

Kirtipur X 2 & Bungamati



# Indonesia

Surabaya X 3



Ketandan

# IMPACT of PROJECTS

The improved public space:

- Benefit **local residents**: children, women and youth using the spaces for a variety of activities (approx. 300,000 residents)
- Improve **safety** around the clock, better **drainage and cleanliness**
- Increase **economic activities** for vendors, markets and other businesses

The process and its direct impact inspired local governments to action in relation to **maintenance** and **city-wide approach** to public space: resources allocated and city-wide action initiated (survey, strategy)

**National programmes** developed to disseminate and scale up.



# REGIONAL LEVEL WORK

With UCLG-ASPAC, launch of a **policy guide for Mayors** and local leaders on the importance of investing in public space

With CityNet, **training on planning and public space** in Kuala Lumpur for

Development of a **Regional Strategy on Public Space** being discussed with various partners

## **Learning network:**

- China, Africa, Canada exchanging knowledge in Yaoundé, Dec 2017
- Public Space Journal with a focus on Asia (December 2017) in Hong Kong

# BUDGET

## Global Programme budget (2012-19)

- **Sida:** USD 1,066,907 (2012 – 2015) and USD 150,000 (2016).
- **Block by Block:** USD 4,074,102 (2012 -2016)  
USD 12 million (2016 to 2019)
- **Local projects funded:** USD 1.6 M (Palestine, Wuhan....)
- **Local governments and other key partners:** USD 800,000 in-kind for project implementation.
- **Ax:son Johnson Foundation** approximately USD 3M for a series of 3 international conferences (in-kind)

## Asia specific budget (2014-2018)

- Core support from **Sida:** normative tools and training.
- **Block by Block:** 19 projects (USD 1,500,000)
- **Local governments and other key partners:** USD1,000,000 in kind.
- **Local projects funded:** (Wuhan) USD 400,000

# FUTURE PLANS AND OPPORTUNITIES for ASIA

## GLOBAL tools to be adopted in Asia

- Compilation of **public space tools** and development of a set of **training modules**
- Guide on how to develop **city-wide public space strategies**

## ASIA developments

- Consolidated **Networks of partners** on public space in partnership with UCLG ASPAC – Global/Regional partners platform.
- Rolling-out the **public space assessment tool** to assess the quality and distribution of public spaces in Asian cities
- Asia-specific simple public space **indicators** for cities complementing the SDG 11.7.1 indicator
- A focus on tools for public space, **environment and climate change**

An aerial photograph of a city, likely Surabaya, Indonesia. The foreground shows a dense residential area with many small, older buildings with red-tiled roofs. In the middle ground, there are several large, modern skyscrapers under construction, with cranes visible. The background shows more modern buildings and a cloudy sky. The text "THANK YOU" is overlaid in the center of the image.

# THANK YOU

Ketandan, Surabaya