URBAN DIALOGUES

Online Moderated Dialogue Guidelines

The Habitat III Urban Dialogues will host a series of e-discussions over the course of the process towards the Habitat III Conference, in order to gather views from all interested players to bring forward new and emerging thinking on urban issues in the elaboration of the New Urban Agenda. It is an initiative within the framework of the United Nations Task Team on Habitat III.

Aim of the Urban Dialogues

- Bring together a broad range of stakeholders, as well as citizens, to discuss major ideas and outcomes of the Habitat III Issue Papers elaborated by the United Nations Task Team on III;
- Enrich the on-going Habitat III participatory process on new and emerging thinking on sustainable urban development, identify knowledge and policy options and responses and look at how these might be deployed in the context of the New Urban Agenda;
- Stimulate a dialogue that can inform the inter-governmental process on the Habitat III Conference;
- Provide a platform for all voices to be heard.

Outcomes of the Urban Dialogues

- A report prepared in August 2015 and published on the Habitat III website will summarise the discussions within the Urban Dialogues;
- This report will be distributed to all Member States and stakeholders as information and inputs to the Habitat III preparatory process;
- The Urban Dialogues’ report, as well as the Habitat III Issue Papers and the written comments received by Member States and stakeholders will constitute the background information for the Policy Units.

Monitoring and reporting of the Urban Dialogues

- The number of contributions, as well as other details of the daily activities of the Urban Dialogues will be monitored;
- As part of the on-line exercise a survey will be sent to some key stakeholders to evaluate the platform and improve in its future use for the Habitat III process
Characteristics of the Urban Dialogues

The Urban Dialogues are an initiative within the framework of the United Nations Task Team on Habitat III. Since the Habitat III Issue Papers were released on 31 May 2015, Member States, UN agencies and programmes, and stakeholders have been encouraged to transmit written comments on the final papers to the Secretary-General of Habitat III. The Urban Dialogues build on the consultative process involving all participants.

The on-line platform for the Habitat III Urban Dialogues have been chosen taking into account past and current experiences within the United Nations agencies, specially Rio+20 and the Post-2015 development agenda.

- **When?** The Habitat3.org site will be launched on 1 July 2015. On Monday 6 July 2015, moderators will open the discussions. The Dialogues will end on 31 July 2015 and the final report will be published before the end of August 2015.

- **Where?** The Urban Dialogues will be hosted on the Habitat3.org site, where users can review contributions and post replies. Moderators will use English as a main language but participants can use any language.

- **How?** The Urban Dialogues are divided in 6 main areas. Each area is overseen by two substantive experts (“Moderator”). In total, 12 moderators. First week of the debate will be coordinated by one moderator (n1); second week will be jointly moderate by both moderators of each area (n1 + n2); third week will be moderate by one moderator (n2). The final week will be a joint discussion of all areas trying to simulate the spirit of the Habitat III Issue Papers writeshop in which all topics were discussed to ensure co-relation and interdisciplinary views.

The discussion will be launched with general area’s framing questions (standard to all topics) and then complimented by specific questions relating to the topics of the Issue Papers. Questions should seek to encourage the exchange of experience as well as get to the heart of practical difficulties and challenges faced by participants. Participants will be asked to share their experiences, perspectives and questions throughout the debate period.

- **Who?** The United Nations Task Team on Habitat III will be requested to provide support to the Urban Dialogues. Moderators on voluntary basis from UN agencies will be welcomed. Suggestions on experts’ names that could moderate these Urban Dialogues will be also requested. All UN agencies will be encouraged to actively participate in the debates.

- **With whom?** A newsletter will be sent on 1 July 2015 to all Member States as well as stakeholders announcing the launch of the Urban Dialogues. On 6 July 2015 the debate will start. Any citizen interested on sustainable urban development and the New Urban Agenda will be able to participate. The Habitat III Secretariat will request all UN agencies involved in each area to brainstorm on individuals, organizations or networks potentially interested in participating on the Urban Dialogues.
**Figure 1: Structure proposed for the Habitat III Urban Dialogues**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Area 1</th>
<th>Area 2</th>
<th>Area 3</th>
<th>Area 4</th>
<th>Area 5</th>
<th>Area 6</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 July</td>
<td>Launch of the Habitat III Urban Dialogues - Introduction, presentation and tips</td>
<td>Moderator A1</td>
<td>Moderator B1</td>
<td>Moderator C1</td>
<td>Moderator D1</td>
<td>Moderator E1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 July</td>
<td>Area 1 Moderator A1 + Moderator A2</td>
<td>Area 2 Moderator B1 + Moderator B2</td>
<td>Area 3 Moderator C1 + Moderator C2</td>
<td>Area 4 Moderator D1 + Moderator D2</td>
<td>Area 5 Moderator E1 + Moderator E2</td>
<td>Area 6 Moderator F1 + Moderator F2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 July</td>
<td>Moderator A1 + Moderator A2</td>
<td>Moderator B1 + Moderator B2</td>
<td>Moderator C1 + Moderator C2</td>
<td>Moderator D1 + Moderator D2</td>
<td>Moderator E1 + Moderator E2</td>
<td>Moderator F1 + Moderator F2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 July</td>
<td>Moderator A2</td>
<td>Moderator B2</td>
<td>Moderator C2</td>
<td>Moderator D2</td>
<td>Moderator E2</td>
<td>Moderator F2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 to 31 July</td>
<td>All Areas discuss together with the participation of all moderators</td>
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Each area embraces the following Issue Papers:

**Area 1 - Social Cohesion and Equity: Livable Cities**
1. Issue Paper on Inclusive Cities
2. Issue Paper on Migration and Refugees in Urban Areas
3. Issue Paper on Safer Cities
4. Issue Paper on Urban Culture and Heritage

**Area 2 - Urban Frameworks**
5. Issue Paper on Urban Rules and Legislation
6. Issue Paper on Urban Governance
7. Issue Paper on Municipal Finance

**Area 3 - Spatial Development**
8. Issue Paper on Urban and Spatial Planning and Design
9. Issue Paper on Urban Land
10. Issue Paper on Urban-Rural Linkages
11. Issue Paper on Public Space

**Area 4 - Urban Economy**
12. Issue Paper on Local Economic Development
13. Issue Paper on Jobs and Livelihoods

**Area 5 - Urban Ecology and Environment**
15. Issue Paper on Urban Resilience
17. Issue Paper on Cities and Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management

**Area 6 - Urban Housing and Basic Services**
18. Issue Paper on Urban Infrastructure and Basic Services, including Energy
19. Issue Paper on Transport and Mobility
20. Issue Paper on Housing
21. Issue Paper on Smart Cities
22. Issue Paper on Informal Settlements