

UNECE

Country Profiles on the Housing Sector

Republic of Kazakhstan



UNITED NATIONS

UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

**COUNTRY PROFILES
ON THE HOUSING SECTOR**

REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN



**UNITED NATIONS
New York and Geneva, 2018**

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ECE/HBP/191

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United Nations publication issued by the
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The Country Profiles on Housing and Land Management (CPs) are intended to assist governments to improve the performance of their housing, urban development and land management sectors and, at the same time, to promote sustainable development. The profiles analyse trends and policy developments, and make an overall assessment of the political, economic and social framework of these sectors in a country. This work was initiated by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Committee on Housing and Land Management in the early 1990s, in response to requests from ECE member States.

The studies are requested by member States and carried out by international teams of experts in cooperation with government bodies, other international organizations, non-governmental organizations, local authorities and the private sector. Through a process of broad consultation, the experts undertake a comprehensive review of the housing, urban development and land management sectors, and develop recommendations to help policymakers draft strategies and programmes.

This Country Profile of Kazakhstan, prepared at the request of the Government of Kazakhstan, is the twentieth in the series. The Country Profiles programme continues to emphasize in-depth analysis and policy recommendations, while focusing on specific challenges or achievements in the housing, urban development and land administration sectors that are particularly relevant to the country under review. The Country Profile of Kazakhstan specifically focuses on the housing sector, specifically on issues of housing provision and affordability; management and maintenance of the housing stock; energy efficiency in housing; housing finance; smart sustainable cities and the legal and institutional framework.

This Country Profile lays out a set of policy recommendations. Their timely and effective implementation is regarded as crucial to meeting the challenges, which Kazakhstan currently faces. With the recent adoption of the New Urban Agenda, the global commitment to sustainable urban development has been reaffirmed. The policy recommendations of this Country Profile will serve to support the country in its commitment to implementing the New Urban Agenda and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, particularly SDG11 on cities and communities.

I would like to thank the international and national experts who contributed to the preparation of this CP, the governments that provided funding for its development, UN partner organisations who were involved in the preparation of the study – UN-Habitat and UN Development Program (UNDP) in Kazakhstan. I invite all those with an interest in Kazakhstan’s housing sector to make full use of the information and recommendations contained in this report. It can serve as a framework for future action, and help shape programmes at the national and local levels.

Finally, I would like to stress the relevance of the country profile reviews as unique instruments that allow ECE countries to share experiences in housing, urban development and land management issues, to compare trends and gain knowledge from different practices, to adopt policies and planning tools, and to learn about actions implemented.



Olga Algayerova
Executive Secretary
United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

This Country Profile on the housing sector of Kazakhstan was requested by the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan through its Ministry of Regional Development. The Review began in July 2016 with the preparatory mission by the UNECE secretariat, during which the final structure of the Country Profile was established. A fact-finding mission by the international expert team was carried out in September 2016.

The project's expenses were covered by extrabudgetary funds provided by the Russian Federation. The Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan made national experts available for the study. The UN-Habitat Office in Moscow financed the participation of an international expert. The UNDP Country Office in Kazakhstan contributed in part to other expenses and provided input to the report, in particular on energy efficiency in the housing sector. The successful conclusion of the project would not have been possible without this generous support.

This Country Profile does not cover the land administration and management part. Owing to a recent Urban Policy Review that the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development has prepared, an analysis on urban development was excluded in the Country Profile to avoid duplication of task.

Previous studies in the series include Bulgaria (ECE/HBP/101, published in 1996), Poland (ECE/HBP/107, 1998), Slovakia (ECE/HBP/111, 1999), Lithuania (ECE/HBP/117, 2000), Romania (ECE/HBP/124, 2001), Republic of Moldova (ECE/HBP/125, 2002), Albania (ECE/HBP/130, 2002), Armenia (ECE/HBP/132, 2004), Russian Federation (ECE/HBP/131, 2004), Serbia and Montenegro (ECE/HBP/139, 2006), Georgia (ECE/HBP/143, 2007), Belarus (ECE/HBP/150, 2008), Kyrgyzstan (ECE/HBP/157, 2010), Azerbaijan (ECE/HBP/156, 2010), Tajikistan (ECE/HBP/163, 2011), Ukraine (ECE/HBP/176, 2013), Republic of Moldova (ECE/HBP/181, 2015), Uzbekistan (ECE/HBP/185, 2015), and Armenia (ECE/HBP/186, 2017).

Other UNECE publications related to housing may also prove useful to Kazakhstan and other countries in transition: (a) *Social Housing in UNECE region: Models, trends, and challenges* (ECE/HBP/182, 2015); (b) *Good practices for Energy-Efficient Housing in the UNECE Region* (ECE/HBP/175, 2013); (c) *Climate Neutral Cities: How to make cities less energy and carbon intensive and more resilient to climatic challenges* (ECE/HBP/168, 2011); (d) *Green Homes: Towards energy-efficient housing in the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe region* (ECE/HBP/159, 2009); (e) *Self-Made Cities: In search of sustainable solutions for informal settlements in the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe region* (ECE/HBP/155, 2009); (f) *Guidelines on social housing: principles and examples* (ECE/HBP/137, 2006); (g) *Housing finance systems for countries in transition: principles and examples* (ECE/HBP/138, 2005); (h) *Guidelines on condominium ownership of housing for countries in transition* (ECE/HBP/123, 2003).

In addition, the fundamental documents approved by UNECE member States could provide a framework for developing sustainable policies in housing, urban development and land administration and management: the Geneva UN Charter on Sustainable Housing and the Strategy for Sustainable Housing and Land Management in the ECE region for the period 2014-2020.

This Country Profile and other related publications are available on the UNECE website (<http://www.unece.org/housing.html>).

AKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Astana Innovations
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Astana Notary Chamber
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Kazakhstan Center for Modernization and Development of Housing and Communal Services
National Chamber Entrepreneurship
National League of Consumers of Kazakhstan
Republic Association of Cooperatives of Homeowners
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