



Monitoring and Evaluating National Urban Policy: A GUIDE

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FOREWORD



UN-Habitat and United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) support the development and implementation of sound urban policies that will improve the lives of citizens and that work towards realizing their dreams. We must work diligently across all spheres of government at country level to ensure that National Urban Policies (NUP), are adequately monitored and evaluated to reach their expected developmental impact and transformative potential. Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) is a powerful public management tool that can be used to improve the way in which all spheres of government achieve results through sound policy making. To be able to set policy milestones and manage challenges, demonstrate accountability and transparency, and to help build trust between governments and their communities, a good Monitoring and Evaluation framework is needed.

National governments are encouraged to co-create, develop and implement national urban policies together with sub-national governments to address a myriad of issues that all levels of government face, including climate change, housing delivery, mobility and transport, slum upgrading, and creating safe, inclusive and accessible public spaces for all. These policies are key to implementing the New Urban Agenda (NUA), the global commitment resulting from the United Nations Habitat III Conference that took place in Quito, Ecuador, in 2016.

The NUA highlights the importance of national, local and regional governments being equally involved in the development and implementation of urban policies.

Ms. Maimunah Mohd Sharif

United Nations Under-Secretary General
and Executive Director, UN-HABITAT



Indeed, all spheres of government should have the opportunity to provide consistent feedback throughout the NUP process. For instance, Local Government Associations (LGAs) play a key role in keeping track of urban policy processes.

As many national governments embark on developing national urban policies, M&E will be increasingly used to shape the future and advance improvements in policy making, management, strengthening dialogue and collaboration between all levels of government and other actors.

We are delighted to present the **'Monitoring and Evaluating National Urban Policy: A Guide'**. This publication is timely for countries that are seeking to implement their national urban policies and to review existing policies in order to make real and transformative changes. The Guide provides clear steps and tips on how to design, manage, and deploy good monitoring and evaluation for urban policy and to support the implementation of the SDGs and the NUA. This Guide will help urban policy makers and actors in countries to know when, and if, policies are working, and the extent to which they are contributing to global development agendas. The Guide complements many other practical guides prepared by UN-Habitat and partners to support member states, local governments and other actors interested in co-creating impactful and effective urban policies that will ensure that no one and no place is left behind.

Ms. Emilia Saiz

Secretary General, UCLG

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

FGDs	Focus Group Discussions
LRGAs	Local and Regional Government Associations
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organization
NUA	New Urban Agenda
NUP	National Urban Policy
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
TOC	Theory of Change
TOR	Terms of Reference
UCLG	United Cities and Local Governments
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme

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