

# NATIONAL URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING FRAMEWORK

2017-2022



HOUSING AND LAND USE REGULATORY BOARD

## National Urban Development and Housing Framework 2017-2022

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**HOUSING AND LAND USE REGULATORY BOARD**

**UN HABITAT**  
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE



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Manila, The Philippines  
2017



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The Urban Development and Housing Act of 1992 (R.A. 7279) mandates the Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board (HLURB) to formulate a National Urban Development and Housing Framework under the direction of the Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council (HUDCC) in coordination with all local government units and other concerned public and private sectors.

In the formulation of this new NUDHF (2017-2022), several cross-cutting concerns (e.g. climate change) were considered to make it more responsive to the prevailing urbanization issues and development opportunities as well as establishment of improved linkage or alignment to significant national plans for better coherence to vertical and horizontal spatial and multi-sectoral planning.

The creation of a Technical Working Group composed of representatives from concerned line agencies as well as consultations with experts and UN-Habitat peers made this framework more relevant to current and future optimistic urban scenarios.

We express our appreciation of UN-Habitat and the Philippine Institute of Environmental Planners for their unwavering technical support and of the Government of Spain and the Development Account Project for their financial support of this publication.



**Attorney Lloyd Christopher A. Lao**  
Chief Executive Officer and Commissioner  
Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board



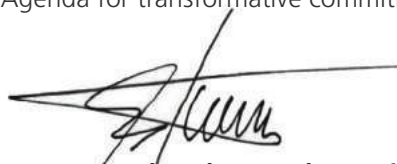
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This latest revision of the National Urban Development and Housing Framework (NUDHF) is very timely for the national and local governments, urban planners and developers, and for all other sectors contributing to the growth of the country. With the challenges brought by rapid urbanization and as cities and municipalities progress and population grows, the need for careful planning has become an imperative to ensure that we not only make our cities sustainable, inclusive, and resilient, but that we also save precious urban and agricultural lands by developing compact communities and improving connectivity.

Envisioning better, greener, and smarter urban systems in a more inclusive Philippines, the new NUDHF underscores the indispensability and indivisibility of the different planning principles and strategies by integrating design and governance, climate change adaptation, people's participation and empowerment, protection and preservation of ecosystems, and other equally important dimensions of housing and urban development. Hence, the next challenge before us is cascading and integrating the NUDHF in the plans and programs of all development players and partners.

Our appreciation goes to the Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board. With collaboration and assistance from the different agencies, organizations, and stakeholders, notably UN-Habitat and the Philippine Institute of Environmental Planners, a framework was crafted to comprehensively guide urban planning, governance and spatial management—a timely response to Sustainable Development Goal 11 of making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable and to the call of the New Urban Agenda for transformative commitments.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. Del Rosario', written over a horizontal line.

**Secretary Eduardo D. Del Rosario**

Chairman

Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council





At a time when the Philippines is experiencing rapid urbanization with its attendant opportunities and challenges, a guide for urban stakeholders, particularly mayors, councilors, urban practitioners, investors, and communities, to manage the pace, form, and direction of urban growth is not only useful but critical and urgent. Thus, this updated National Urban Development and Housing Framework (NUDHF) 2017–2023 could not have come at a more opportune time.

We congratulate the Government of the Philippines, particularly the Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board which led the review and update of the NUDHF, for coming out with this latest version, the 4th since its initial 1993–1998 edition. Key to the enhancement of the NUDHF is climate change. For the first time, the framework recognizes and embraces climate resilience as a bedrock for overall development, upon which spatial and sectoral strategies can be based. This fully aligns with national goals and policies, particularly the Philippine Development Plan 2016-2022 and the New Urban Agenda, as well as global commitments to climate action.

This framework also draws inspiration and lessons from global experience and international good practices mined from UN-Habitat's global network of urban experts. We commend the government for the comprehensive and intensive process of consultations with national government agencies, local governments, academe, urban practitioners, developers and investors as well as non-government organizations and communities. We also acknowledge and thank the Philippine Institute of Environmental Planners for providing technical support in the drafting of this latest edition.

We hope this NUDHF will be useful as the government transitions into the Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development working towards a common vision based on core principles and values. At the local level, the NUDHF can be an empowering tool for cities and local governments as they lead their own development into a sustainable future for all their constituents. We invite all urban stakeholders to take the government's lead, and make full use of the new NUDHF to guide our efforts towards a better urban future for all.

UN-Habitat is honored to work with dedicated colleagues and partners in the development of this NUDHF and remains committed to support the Philippine government at all levels in building capacities of urban leaders to achieve resilient, inclusive, safe, and sustainable cities and human settlements.



**Christopher E. Rollo**  
Country Programme Manager  
UN-Habitat Philippines

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LIST OF **ACRONYMS**

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ADB	Asian Development Bank
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
CDP	Comprehensive Development Plan
CLUP	Comprehensive Land Use Plan
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
DRRM	Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Planning
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
Habitat III	Third UN Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development
HLURB	Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board
HUDCC	Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
ISFs	Informal Settler Families
LGU	Local Government Unit
MSMEs	Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises
NEDA	National Economic Development Authority
NIPAS	National Integrated Protected Areas System
NUDHF	National Urban Development and Housing Framework
PCE	City Extension Planning
PDP	Philippine Development Plan
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
UDHA	Urban Development and Housing Act of 1992

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