



NATIONAL URBAN POLICY

FRAMEWORK FOR

A RAPID DIAGNOSTIC

UN HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

National Urban Policy

Framework for a Rapid Diagnostic

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SUMMARY

The purpose of the framework for Rapid diagnostic is to identify some of the key elements for a policy diagnosis to formulate a NUP while emphasizing an integrated approach that espouses a three pronged approach; Planning and design, Legislation, urban economy and finance.

The NUP diagnostic phase is a crucial step that informs and engages policy and decision-makers, and provides them with the evidence needed to design choices and support critical decisions in the NUP formulation process. Formulating a National Urban Policy requires a detailed stocktaking of relevant issues, challenges and opportunities; the NUP diagnostic is therefore an umbrella activity that gathers the necessary information to deliver on NUP objectives and other related principles. Once the diagnostic and formulation process is complete, the national urban policy gives strategic direction, promotes coordination and, therefore, the most efficient use of resources. The National Urban Policy framework for a rapid diagnostic therefore identifies some of these key elements to be considered in undertaking a policy diagnosis to formulate a NUP.

The framework serves as the background and input to initiate the discussion on the process of developing an NUP in a manner that is consultative, participatory, integrated, coordinated and inclusive. The structure proposed may respond better in a context of high urbanization rate and low GDP of less than

USD1,000 per capita. The Framework seeks to ultimately answering the following key questions: WHY do we need a (new) national urban policy, WHAT are the critical elements that need to be considered for that to happen (the framework) and WHO are the actors and HOW to proceed?

The NUP diagnostic framework focuses mainly on the following critical elements; urbanization drivers, trends and projections, urban legislation and urban regulations, urban planning, housing, infrastructure and basic services, urban economy and municipal finances, the urban network and other issues that can be deemed to of strategic importance including cross-cutting issues. All these elements are at the intersection of the environmental, social and economic objectives and issues pertaining to the pillars of sustainable urbanization. The guidance therefore gives the background and context for each element, and sample generic guiding questions that can be followed in conducting relevant assessments. There is a scope for questions to be more specific, as the context demands. The suggested length for each area is purely a guide and can be modified accordingly as the assessment context dictates.

The different context of a country takes precedence in the choice of the elements, including the level of priority that will be accorded to each of them to give the policy a unique character that directly responds to challenges and opportunities on the ground.



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