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# ANNUAL REPORT 2021

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**POLICY, LEGISLATION AND GOVERNANCE SECTION**

**URBAN PRACTICES BRANCH**

**GLOBAL SOLUTIONS DIVISION**

**UN HABITAT**  
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

# ANNUAL REPORT 2021

PLGS Annual Report 2021

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## POLICY, LEGISLATION AND GOVERNANCE SECTION

### URBAN PRACTICES BRANCH

#### GLOBAL SOLUTIONS DIVISION

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## FOREWORD

Within UN-Habitat's Global Solutions Division, the Urban Practices Branch (UPB) is the normative nerve-centre of the Agency, responsible for development of normative guidance, knowledge, methodologies and tools to advance sustainable urbanization and localization of the global agendas. Since the United Nations Habitat Assembly adopted the organizational Strategic Plan (2020-23) in May 2019, we have been able to strengthen our role as a global catalyst for sustainable urbanization and a centre of excellence, through continued normative leadership and cutting-edge technical expertise. As a branch and agency at large, we continue to hold ourselves to our guiding principles of competence, accountability, transparency, efficiency and effectiveness, and to achieve strong results with a view to leaving no one and no place behind. Recent global challenges, including the COVID-19 pandemic, continuing and expanding climate change effects and increasing threats to global security, have exacerbated inequality and vulnerability. Yet, these conditions have also demonstrated the importance of UN-Habitat's mandate, as well as the robustness of the Strategic Plan.

The Policy, Legislation and Governance Section (PLGS) is one of five sections of the Branch and supports national and subnational governments and other partners through the development and dissemination of knowledge, capacity building, conducting policy dialogues and providing advisory services on, inter alia, urban policy, legislation, governance, metropolitan management, and urban-rural linkages. This report shines a light on the work of the Policy, legislation and Governance Section, its partnerships inside and outside the organisation, and its contribution to advancing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the New Urban Agenda. It also outlines the planned outlook for 2022.

In 2021, the branch made significant strides in enhancing the five sections' Communities of Practice. The Community of Practice (CoP) sessions brought out innovative thinking and capabilities for more impact, enhancing the linkages between the normative and operational parts of our work. The PLGS CoP sessions held in 2021 continued to facilitate agency-wide learning, information sharing and collaboration to harness the collective wealth of knowledge and experience to design transformative interventions related to policies, legislation and governance.



**Shipra Narang Suri**  
Chief - Urban Practices Branch

This PLGS Annual Report 2021 builds on the activities and achievements reported in the 2020 Annual Report, demonstrating the results of the section's collaborations within and outside UN-Habitat. Going into 2022, the Branch aims to advance the achievement of the SDGs and accelerate the implementation of the New Urban Agenda, by focusing on the Executive Director's three priorities: adequate housing; cities and climate change; and localizing the SDGs. The work of PLGS will be extremely important in driving these priorities forward.

Much has been achieved in this year; however, much more needs to be done in this second year of the Decade of Action. Let us redouble our efforts, together, to achieve a better future for all, in an urbanizing world!

The year 2021 continued to be challenging, with recovery efforts from COVID-19 ongoing globally. However, the Policy, Legislation and Governance Section (PLGS) had an impactful year, supporting the advancement of UN-Habitat's Strategic Plan 2023 as well as contributing to the Sustainable Development Goals and the New Urban Agenda. Our adaptive and resilient capacity enabled us, as a section, to continue advancing many important areas of the agency's work.

During this year, PLGS had more than 37 projects running in 25 countries, up from 34 in 24 countries in 2020, supporting national and subnational governments in various development interventions, which include: developing their urban policies; improvement of legislative and governance frameworks; enhancing urban rural linkages; and integrating metropolitan and regional management frameworks into national and subnational development plans.

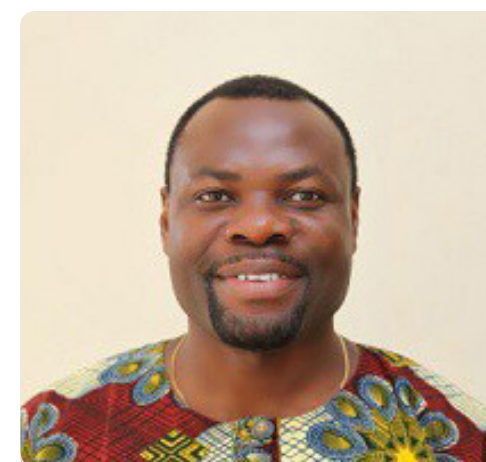
We know that data, knowledge, ideas, good practices and innovative solutions are our best tools to understand and anticipate the challenges of sustainable urbanization in a rapidly changing world. Collaboration with internal and external partners led to the development of global reference materials, which are a key source of knowledge on sustainable urban development, and which also report the progress and status of various thematic topics related to sustainable urban development. Some of them include a chapter on UN-Habitat's flagship report "Cities and Pandemic Report" and the second edition of the Global State of National Urban Policy.

PLGS also collaborated with a wide array of partners to organize and hold advocacy events at global, regional and national levels to advance UN-Habitat's mandate on policy, legislation, governance, metropolitan management and urban-rural linkages.

I am pleased to share this PLGS Annual Report 2021 with you, which details the above and more results we achieved with our partners, cities and communities through 2021. All our achievements were realized due to the year-round support of our donors and development partners, Urban Practices Branch and Global Solutions Division and senior management, as well as the concerted efforts of the 48 members of the PLGS team.

With these achievements, there is more demand for PLGS work and much more to do in developing and enhancing policy, legislative and governance frameworks for more inclusive, safe, sustainable and resilient cities, and other human settlements, to leave no one and no place behind.

Thank you for your interest in our work. I encourage you to read on and share widely.



**Remy Sietchiping**  
Chief - Policy, Legislation and Governance Section

# PLGS 2021 IN BRIEF

This is the second Policy, Legislation and Governance Section (PLGS) Annual Report, reporting progress and achievements for 2021, which contributes to UN-Habitat's Strategic Plan 2020-2025. This report demonstrates the Section's catalytic role in implementing initiatives to contribute to UN-Habitat's mandate as well as the Sustainable Development Goals and the New Urban Agenda. It also shows that the Section has been advancing many important areas of work, using effective and innovative approaches, and working progressively with strategic partners to deliver technical and operational support to national and subnational partner authorities in 2021.

The report features projects at global, regional, and national scale, new and innovative normative tools, knowledge products, as well as advocacy and awareness raising, in the PLGS thematic workstreams of Policy, Legislation, Governance, Metropolitan Management and Urban Rural Linkages.

The executive summary contains key highlights from the PLGS workstreams and highlights on the PLG Community of Practice. The second part of this report provides details about the projects, normative products and advocacy efforts of each workstream, as well as outlines briefly their outlook for 2022. The final part presents the Section's financial performance.

## PLGS IN 2020 AND IN 2021



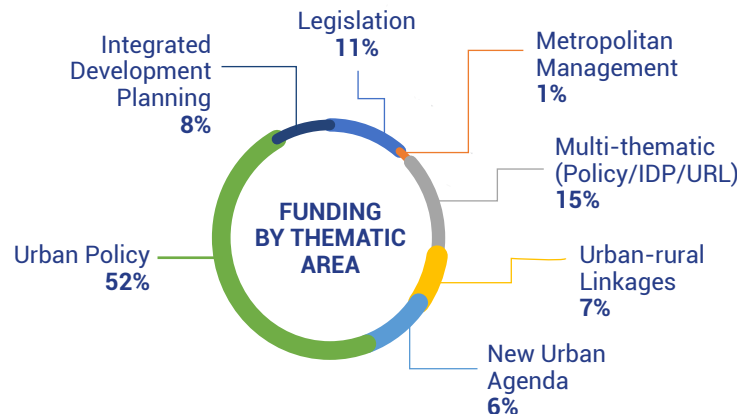
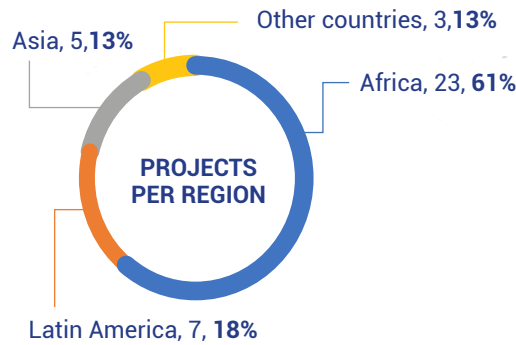
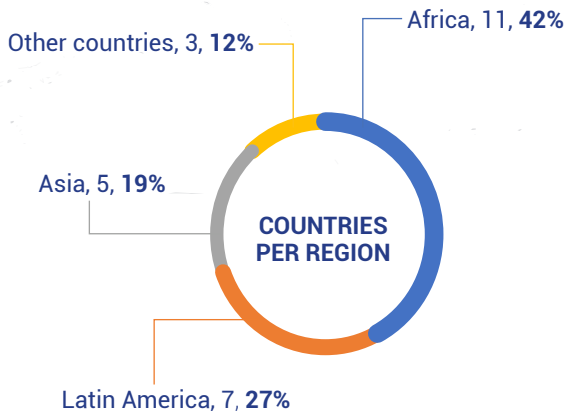
# KEY HIGHLIGHTS 2021

## PLGS GLOBAL FOOTPRINT



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

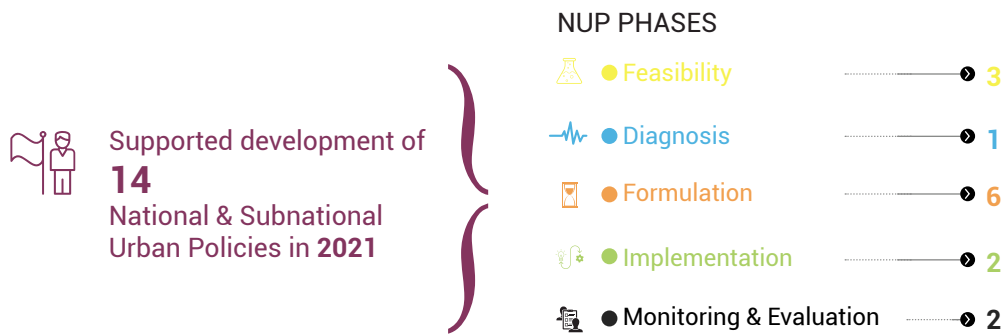
Map No. 4170 Rev. 13 UNITED NATIONS  
November, 2018





## ➤ Urban Policy

### Projects



### Integrated Development Planning projects

#### CAMEROON



**2** IDP projects in Yaoundé and Douala



**100+** Stakeholders involved in workshops

#### NIGER STATE (NIGERIA)



**1** Minna & Suleja IDP project

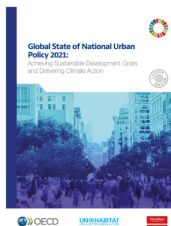


**10** Participatory workshop



**50+** Participants

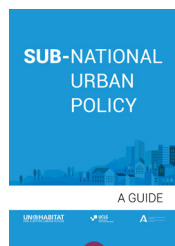
### Normative tools & knowledge products



Global State of National Urban Policy



Views: 2,482  
Downloads: 1,428  
Likes: 167



Subnational Urban Policy Guide



Views: 1,142  
Downloads: 732  
Likes: 699



NUP e-learning course



### Advocacy



**NUPP MULTI-COUNTRY KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE WEBINAR**

DEC 2021

- I.R. IRAN
- MYANMAR
- NIGER STATE (NIGERIA)



## Urban Legislation

### Projects



Supporting INCLUSIVE and EFFECTIVE urban legislation in:

- Colombia
- the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)
- Guinea
- India
- Syria
- and Tajikistan

### Normative tools & knowledge products



UrbanLex Database



2,269

Number of laws in the database

COMPARATIVE  
ANALYSIS OF  
NON-PROFIT  
HOUSING LEGAL  
FRAMEWORKS IN 5  
COUNTRIES

2021

UN HABITAT  
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

Comparative Analysis of Non-Profit  
Housing Legal Frameworks in 5  
Countries



3 URBAN LAW DAYS held in 2021

## Governance

### Advocacy

#### 2-day Expert Group Meeting on Governance



200+

Participants



Cross-cutting insight

The need for people-centered  
approaches in urban governance.

### Normative Tools & Knowledge products



预览已结束，完整报告链接和二维码如下：

[https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5\\_31316](https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5_31316)

