

## National Urban Policy Programme, Phase 2

# Annual Report 2023-2024

Scaling up People-Centered Smart Cities through National Urban Policies



#### 2023-2024 Annual Report

# National Urban Policy Programme, Phase 2: 'Scaling up People-Centered Smart Cities through National Urban Policies'

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## National Urban Policy Programme, Phase 2

# Annual Report 2023-2024

Scaling up People-Centered Smart Cities through National Urban Policies

# **Executive Summary**

The 2023-2024 Korea-funded National Urban Policy Programme (K-NUPP) annual report demonstrates the commitment of UN-Habitat in collaboration with the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, and Transport (MOLIT) of Korea to support countries to achieve sustainable urban development through national and subnational urban policies. Titled 'Scaling up People-Centered Smart Cities through National Urban Policies', the second phase of K-NUPP aims to improve the quality of life of residents in the participating countries (Azerbaijan, Cambodia, Egypt, Mozambigue and Paraguay; as well as Phase 1 countries- I.R Iran, Myanmar and Niger State, Nigeria). The programme also shares success stories, regularly engages in advocacy efforts, alongside releasing normative products globally to sensitize on benefits of national and subnational urban policy- a guiding framework for urban development.

This report presents the main activities undertaken as part of close collaboration between UN-Habitat, MOLIT, and the governments of participating countries and other key implementing partners and stakeholders. The partnership ensures buyin and goodwill, accountability, as well as contextualizing programme objectives to the various national or sub-national urban policies and specific country development priorities. This annual report presents readers with an overview of the progress made in the second year of NUPP Phase 2 (November 2023 to November 2024). The report highlights the contribution made by K-NUPP to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 'Decade of Action', specifically SDG 11, and the New Urban Agenda as well as impact on the National Urban Policies (NUPs) of the participating countries. The programme implemented both global and country-level activities in the last one year.

#### **GLOBAL PROGRESS**

Implementation at the global spectrum focused on advocacy, strengthening capacity, knowledge sharing, and development and dissemination of normative products. Notable global activities undertaken in the last one year include participation in the twelfth session of the World Urban Forum (WUF12) held in November in Cairo, Egypt, publication of tools and guides to support programme implementation, and guarterly consultations with MOLIT and all participating countries. At country level, each country office (CO) in coordination with the Headquarters (HQ) participated in WUF12. Additional personnel were recruited to support programme implementation at country levels. Also, country offices supported the preparation and implementation of several consultative workshops in liaison with respective national and local authorities



#### **COUNTRY PROGRESS**

In the Republic of Azerbaijan, a training session was held, leading to enhanced capacities of the State Committee on Urban Planning and Architecture (SCUPA) personnel on NUP. A key milestone was receipt of the acknowledgement letter from the government through SCUPA thus giving an uninterrupted go-ahead for NUPP Phase 2 implementation in Azerbaijan. SCUPA and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) were also supported in the review and finalization of ADB's 'National Urban Assessment' report- an endeavor that will certainly contribute to a better understanding of the present urbanization context for the NUP process. In addition, a delegation from MOLIT and UN-Habitat successfully conducted a mission to Azerbaijan in April 2024, reviewing

the progress of project implementation and K-City Network initiative in Aghdam. In enhancing visibility of the project, a paper titled "Implementing Azerbaijan's New Urban Agenda: The Case for Transformative Policy-Making" was also in the Baku Dialogues, an independent quarterly policy journal supported by Azerbaijan Diplomatic Academy (ADA) University of Baku. Looking at global engagements, Azerbaijan actively participated in WUF12, during which the country received the official ceremonial handover by Egypt to host WUF13 in May 2026. Azerbaijan also hosted the 2024 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP29), demonstrating the country's commitment to climate action and realization of the SDGs

#### RESOURCES





#### KEY MILESTONE



#### Receipt of the acknowledgement letter from the government through SCUPA thus giving an uninterrupted go-ahead for **NUPP Phase 2** implementation

In the **Kingdom of Cambodia**, programme implementation registered major milestones. First, with the UN-Habitat country office (CO) support, the second Cambodia National Urban Forum (NUF) was successfully hosted by the government in May 2024 under the theme "Smart, Green, Resilient, and Inclusive Cities". The CO further held consultations with the Smart City Working Group thereby supporting the finalization of the Smart City Action Plan for Preah Sihanouk Province (2024-2028).

This plan is expected to guide in mainstreaming the people-centered smart cities approach in the existing 'Land Management and Land Use Policy'. Various participatory consultations were also organized to discuss and identify priorities for developing the demonstration project proposals.

Two pilot projects were then proposed for review and implementation as part of the Cambodia subnational urban policy (SUP) process. The Cambodia team also actively participated in WUF12, sharing experiences, best practices and lessons drawn from the Cambodia SUP process. The Arab Republic of Egypt made notable progress, as the Egypt NUP is well in the implementation phase. With Egypt as the host for WUF12, the UN-Habitat CO provided continuous technical support to the government in the planning and successful execution of the Forum. It was also during the forum that the country launched its National Urban Policy, which had been approved by the Supreme Council of Planning and Urban Development at the end of 2023. The country team has been working on the integration of the people-centered smart city approach by analyzing entry points in the policy and consulting with relevant stakeholders. In June 2024, a team of experts from Korea Overseas Infrastructure & Urban Development (KIND) successfully held a mission in Egypt to assess progress of Badr Smart City and train respective substantive officers on how to implement smart city initiatives. This culminated in the 'Badr Smart City Master Plan'. Moreover, the second capacity building mission of the K-City Network Programme, with the participation of representatives from Badr City and the Ministry of Housing was conducted in June 2024 in Korea. In demonstrating confidence in the programme and country project, the government also committed to providing an additional financial support of USD 400,000 to facilitate implementation of two expected outcomes of the K-NUPP





Local Smart Action: Preah Sihanouk has a people-focused Smart City Plan (2024-2028).

**Global Sharing**: Cambodia shared urban experiences at WUF12.

#### GYPT Key Takeaways

Egypt's NUP is being implemented after its launch at WUF12, showing national commitment to urban strategy.

Badr Smart City's development is progressing through a partnership with Korea, involving planning and training. The progress of project implementation in the Republic of Mozambigue for the second year of NUPP Phase 2 is substantial. First, in April 2024, the Council of Ministers approved the country's Urbanization Policy. The policy aims at enhancing socio-economic development and territorial balance in Mozambigue through seven core pillars. These include governance and decentralization; land management and territorial planning; economic and financial development; access to adequate housing and settlements: inclusive access to resilient infrastructure and basic services; mobility and accessibility; urban resilience; and the environment. Following this adoption, a pilot demonstration project on safe mobility was implemented, where school-going girls were trained in safe cycling to and from school. In strengthening the project's sustainability through implementation of demonstration projects, K-NUPP in Mozambigue has secured partnership with the World Bank, the German Development Cooperation Agency (GIZ), and the Catalonian regional government-Spain. From the global outlook, the Mozambique government participated at WUF12, sharing the country's urbanization context and the experiences in the NUP process so far. In addition, the Mozambigue K-NUPP partners, including the World Bank, GIZ and the Catalonian regional government actively engaged with other WUF12 attendees in the K-NUPP-related events.

**The Republic of Paraguay** has made positive strides in the second year of programme implementation. On the country's commitment to achieving its sustainable urban development and housing goals, the Ministry of Urbanism, Housing, and Habitat (MUVH) approved the National Urbanism, Housing and Habitat Policy (PNUVH) in January 2024 (<u>Decreto nº 1110 of</u> <u>26 January 2024</u>).

Other than participation in WUF12, the CO team also held several consultative meetings with respective ministries and civil society and governmental actors at local level leading to the draft 'National Urbanism, Housing and Habitat Plan' (PLANUVIH 2023). Based on the main elements of the PNUVH, the draft provides the basis for the following phases of the programme, including demonstrative projects and implementation guidelines.



#### **K-NUPP PHASE 1 COUNTRIES**

#### The Islamic Republic of Iran (I.R. Iran)

participated in the pilot phase of the programme (2017-2022) in which the National Urban Policy and Smart City Strategy documents were developed. In its transition to NUPP Phase 2, the country office focused on implementation of demonstration projects to offer practical guidance on the formulated NUP. Other than the ongoing technical consultations between UN-Habitat and Ministry of Roads and Urban Development (MORUD) for the approval of the NUP and smart city strategy, the country office has finalized the demonstration project proposal. The intervention aims at improving renewable energy consumption and supply in I.R Iran through installation of solar panels as well as raising local community awareness about climate change in designated areas in Tehran. The C.O also participated online in the WUF12 K-NUPP related events, sharing I.R. Iran's experience in the NUP Process.

Myanmar, in its transition to phase 2 is equally implementing demonstration projects focused on providing sustainable energy solutions in the secondary cities of Myanmar (Taung Gyi, Southern Shan State). The UN-Habitat Myanmar C.O also participated in WUF12, sensitizing on climate action through the Myanmar Climate Action Network (M-CAN) booth, as part of Myanmar Climate Change Alliance (MCCA) Programme and contributed as panelist on various K-NUPP related events. Myanmar's case majorly highlighted how the programme has overcome the complex political and environmental dynamics to offer contextualized solutions for benefit at community level. So far, Myanmar is implementing a demonstration project aimed at installing four (4) sets of off-grid solar power systems and provide 600 household solar lights to vulnerable communities

thus enhancing sustainable energy and smart urban

development.

Installation of a solar panel for a household in Myanmar © UN-Habitat

**Niger State** in the Federal Republic of Nigeria, was a beneficiary of K-NUPP Phase One and is continuing in the second phase of the programme. In the period 2023-2024, two demonstration projects were implemented as part of implementing the state urban policy and integrating the people-centered smart city approach. These include rehabilitation of three bi-water schemes to ensure supply of clean, safe water to the residents of three towns (Tunga Mallam, Beji, and Kataeregi) in Niger State. In 2024 alone, these interventions have benefited over 80,000 people who enjoy clean water from the schemes which produce about a million liters of water daily. In addition, installation of a 7.5kva solar inverter to sustain power supply, improved healthcare operations and services in Kuta town. The recently released fact sheet 'Niger State Urban Policy, A Roadmap to Transformation' (Link) expounds on the impact of piloting the state urban policy on livelihoods of the residents.



#### RESOURCES

# Niger State Urban Policy, A Roadman to Transformation





Installation of a **7.5kva** solar inverter has sustained power supply thus improving healthcare operations and services in Kuta town

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# Acronyms

ACCD	Catalan Agency for Development Cooperation
ADB	Asian Development Bank
AFINUA	Action Framework for the Implementation of the New Urban Agenda
СО	Country Office, UN-Habitat
COP	Conference of the Parties
DEGURBA	Degree of urbanization
ED	Executive Director
EGM	Expert Group Meeting
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GIS	Geographical Information System
GIZ	German Agency for International Cooperation
GSD	Global Solutions Division, UN-Habitat
HQ	Headquarters, UN-Habitat
HUG	Korea Housing and Urban Guarantee Corporation
ІСТ	Information and Communication Technology
IDPs	Internally Displaced Persons
IHA	In-House Agreement
KIND	Korea overseas Infrastructure and Urban Development Corporation
K-NUPP	Korea-funded National Urban Policy Programme
KOICA	Korea International Cooperation Agency
KRIHS	Korea Research Institute for Human Settlements
LCAP	Local Climate Action Plan, Myanmar
LH	Korea Land and Housing Corporation
MAEFP	Ministry of State Administration and Public Service, Republic of Mozambique
M-CAN	Myanmar Climate Action Network
MCCA	Myanmar Climate Change Alliance
MHUUD	Ministry of Housing, Utilities and Urban Development, Arab Republic of Egypt
MOLIT	Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, and Transport, Republic of Korea
MoRUD	Ministry of Road and Urban Development, I.R. Iran
MUVH	Ministry of Urban Planning, Housing, and Habitat, Republic of Paraguay
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
NUA	New Urban Agenda
NUF	National Urban Forum
NUP	National Urban Policy
NUPP	National Urban Policy Programme
OECD	Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development
PCSC	People-Centered Smart Cities

PDUL	Urban and Local Development Project, Mozambique
PLANAVI	Housing and Habitat Plan
PLANUVIH	National Urbanism, Housing and Habitat Plan
PLGS	Policy, Legislation, and Governance Section, UN-Habitat
RO	Regional Office, UN-Habitat
ROAF	Regional Office for Africa
SCUPA	The State Committee on Urban Planning and Architecture, Azerbaijan
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SENAVITAT	National Secretary for Housing and Habitat, Paraguay
SNUP	Sub-national Urban Policies
тос	Theory of Change, UN-Habitat
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNDRR	United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction
UNHA	The UN-Habitat Assembly
UN-Habitat	United Nations Human Settlements Programme
UNV	United Nations Volunteer
UPB	Urban Practices Branch, UN-Habitat
WSCE	World Smart City Expo
WUF	World Urban Forum

# 1. Introduction

Sustainable urbanization remains a pivotal tool for global development. A well-planned and managed urbanization process across cities and communities, coupled with an effective framework to link the urban, rural, and largely growing peri-urban areas directly contributes to social-economic advancements. Realization of key urbanization goals as framed in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) indicators equally lead to equitable distribution and management of human, financial, and natural resources, reduce spatial inequalities, and improved access to basic urban services. Hence the significant role of urban policies and legislation to catalyze achievement of the SDGs and New Urban Agenda (NUA) through the Action Framework for the Implementation of the New Urban Agenda (AFINUA) cannot be overlooked.



Sustainable urbanization is central to global development. Effective policies provide a guiding framework to build equitable, resilient, and climate-responsive cities and communities. UN-Habitat's mandate on National Urban Policy (NUP) is informed by the Governing Council resolution HSP/GC/24/L.6 (2013) which "requests the Executive Director in collaboration with the Committee of Permanent Representatives to formulate a framework for development of national urban policies where appropriate in line with international best practices, to support Member States when developing and/or upgrading their respective urban policies". In addition, the Governing Council Resolution HSP/GC/25/L.12 also 'requests the Executive Director to strengthen partnerships, knowledge exchange, and a community of practice approach for national urban policies to support national and sub-national governments in developing, implementing, monitoring, and evaluating policies'. To this extent, UN-Habitat has supported the development, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of explicit national and subnational urban policies in 64 countries across the globe (UN-Habitat, 2025). The milestones achieved resulted from active collaboration, shared responsibility and deliberate consultation with partners, Member States, other UN agencies and like-minded Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs).

Support offered to Member States regarding NUPs range from developing and disseminating normative tools, guides and strategies, country assessments, technical advice on stakeholder participation at national and sub-national levels, documentation of good practices to support NUPs processes, and analysis of effectiveness of urban planning policies and instruments. Additional support includes strengthening capacity at local, regional, and global levels through knowledge exchange programmes, Expert Group Meetings (EGM), the World Urban Forum (WUF), UN-Habitat Assembly (UNHA), among others.

The National Urban Policy Programme (NUPP) was launched during Habitat III conference in Quito, Ecuador in 2016 through a collaboration between UN-Habitat. Cities Alliance, and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). The last mile of achieving SDGs envisions 'leaving no one behind' (LNOB). Therefore, successful implementation of the NUPP in line with existing international guiding frameworks is expected to strengthen the capacity of governments, urban and policy experts, and local communities to develop, implement, monitor and evaluate urban policies to ensure inclusive, resilient, and sustainable urban development. The pilot phase of the Koreafunded national urban policy programme (K-NUPP), 'Developing NUPs and Smart City Strategies' was successfully implemented between 2017 and 2022 in three countries namely I.R. Iran, Niger State (Nigeria), and Myanmar. Despite numerous challenges encountered, the pilot phase achieved its goals as indicated in the 2017-2022 Report (Link). During this period, the normative products, capacity building initiatives, and demonstration projects implemented positively impacted the lives of 732,600 people in the three countries.

An independent end-of-project evaluation recommended seven action points for improved impact of subsequent K-NUPP Phases as follows:

#### Flexibility and adaptability



The subsequent phases need to allow ample implementation time for a participatory process as this. It emphasized the need for a well-developed project plan, outlining expected deliverables yet contextualized to country-specific needs to allow for local consultations

#### Blended in-person and online knowledge exchange



Establishment of an online repository of information accessible by all stakeholders. Also, the programme should encourage periodic in-person and online knowledge exchange programmes both at country and global levels. These will help identify loopholes impeding successful implementation and strengthen knowledge among participating countries.

#### Further thematic approaches and entry points

Other than the smart city strategies that were useful in the pilot phase, a thematic focus could be more effective entry points for countries in the second phase for instance climate resilience, spatial equity, and sanitation among others.

#### Engagement of local communities

Continued deliberate and meaningful engagement of local communities remains helpful in gauging real community needs hence implement high-impact interventions. It also enhances buy-in and partnership between the people, local and national authorities.

#### Implementation of demonstration projects



While this remains a central part of the programme, considering the direct impact on the livelihoods of the respective residents, the outcomes should have a direct linkage to the NUPs and SNUPs. To this extent, participants can also mobilize resources in good time.

#### Reporting and handover

Clearly defined reporting and archiving processes, coupled with information repository, are necessary for seamless staff transition and knowledge retention.

#### Scaling up and replicability



The need to have more countries take part in the programme, as is the case in the second phase, is imperative since it adds value on knowledge sharing from the wide range of participants. Regionally framed programmes hold the potential for contextual solutions in relation to sustainable urbanization while updating the 'Theory of Change' (TOC).

Details of the K-NUPP pilot phase evaluation report are available in the provided Link

Building on the outcomes and lessons from phase I, the second phase of the programme, 'Scaling Up People-Centered Smart Cities through NUP' (2022-2026), was established. This phase mainly aims at promoting integration of people-centered smart cities (PCSC) approaches in existing or newly developed NUPs. This is implemented in Azerbaijan, Cambodia, Egypt, Mozambique, and Paraguay. The three phase one countries also transitioned to the second phase making a total of eight (8) participating countries. The expected outcomes at the end of the programme implementation include:

- Mainstreaming of the 'people-centered smart cities' approach into national and sub-national urban policies in selected countries.
- Enhanced capacity of policy makers and stakeholders to facilitate the territorial dimension of urban innovation and steer digital transformation in NUPs / SUPs.

- Urban interventions apply innovative approaches and technologies while considering the people-centered dimension in National Urban Policy.
- Improved knowledge creation and sharing and enhanced global awareness of experiences on the nexus of NUP and people-centered smart cities approaches and models.

These will be achieved through demonstration or acupuncture projects, capacity building initiatives, knowledge sharing and exchange programs, as well as the development of normative tools and strategies. In the long term, the integration of the PCSC approach into NUPs will ensure overall improvement of people's quality of life through mainstreaming digital technology, promoting digital inclusion in consultations and service delivery, and commitment to human rights. This report, therefore, provides progress of programme implementation between November 2023 and November 2024. The report highlights milestones achieved globally and at each beneficiary country, citing obstacles encountered, innovative approaches applied, and expected accomplishments for the coming year.

# 2. Programme Overview



### 2.1. Programme Coordination

The Policy, Legislation, and Governance section (PLGS) is one of the five sections within the Urban Practices Branch (UPB) of the Global Solutions Division (GSD). The section (PLGS) is made up of four thematic workstreams namely urban policy, metropolitan management, urban-rural linkages, and legislation & governance. PLGS supports local and national governments through technical advisory services, capacity building, development and dissemination of knowledge products, planning and conducting dialogues on the abovementioned thematic areas at national and sub-national levels. Since 2017, PLGS has worked closely with the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, and Transport (MOLIT) of the Republic of Korea, leading the implementation of the Korea-funded National Urban Policy Programme (K-NUPP). The programme directly contributes to the urban policy workstream of PLGS.



The first and second phases of K-NUPP are anchored on five pillars:

- -
- direct country support to develop and implement NUPs/SNUPs,
- building networks and partnerships,
- knowledge creation and management through tools and strategies,
- capacity building,
- monitoring NUPs/SNUPs progress and stakeholder engagement.



# 2.2. Contributing to SDGs and NUA

In this 'Decade of Action', Member States, partners, UN agencies and all development stakeholders are called upon to accelerate implementation of sustainable solutions to solve the world's most pressing challenges and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The New Urban Agenda (NUA) presents a roadmap to realizing an inclusive sustainable urban future where everyone enjoys the benefits of urbanization. NUA thus enables the achievement of SDG 11 on sustainable cities and communities, and all the other SDGs by extension. The Korea-funded NUPP directly contributes to NUPs, which is one of the five pillars of NUA. Under 'effective implementation', paragraphs 86 & 89 of NUA emphasize how urban policies and frameworks foster enhanced capacity of local and national governments in implementing sustainable urbanization (UN-Habitat, 2016).

This programme equally contributes to paragraphs 15(b), 15(c), 66, 130 & 149 of the New Urban Agenda (Link).

Overall, K-NUPP has supported countries to develop and improve their national or subnational urban policies while contributing to the SDG 11 and to implementation of the NUA. In addition, knowledge products developed and disseminated, acupuncture projects implemented, and knowledge exchange programs executed at local and global levels have improved capacities of participating countries and subsequently other member states in implementing the NUA. Technical, financial, and human resources offered through MOLIT of the Republic of Korea, UN-Habitat, and other partner organizations have equipped relevant stakeholders with necessary skills and expertise to guide sustainable urban and territorial development.



### 2.3. Overall impact of K-NUPP

The K-NUPP has positively impacted the progress on countries' national urban policy processes in several ways. First, phase 1 countries (I.R Iran and Niger State-Nigeria) developed their national or sub-national urban policies and smart city strategies contextualized to their respective needs. Transitioning to the second phase, the Republic of Azerbaijan, Kingdom of Cambodia, Arab Republic of Egypt, Republic of Mozambigue, and Republic of Paraguay, are also at various phases of their national urban policies. So far, Egypt has launched its NUP, and Mozambique's urbanization policy was approved by the Council of Ministers. Paraguay's Urbanism, Housing and Habitat Policy was also adopted through a Presidential Decree (Decreto nº 1110 of 26 January 2024), while in Cambodia the PCSC approach has been mainstreamed by developing a 'Smart City Action Plan' for Preah Sihanouk Province. In addition, other normative materials like toolkits, guides, strategies, and annual reports have been published as part of executing the programme.

The twofold result is:

- » Implementation of the urban policies and mainstreaming of the people-centered smart cities (PCSC) approach by respective national and local governments of participating countries. This directly supports efforts towards sustainable urbanization in line with SDG11 and
- » Other countries that have expressed interest in NUPs can learn from the experiences of the participating countries while gaining from the knowledge materials to develop their NUPs/ SNUPs. For example, reflecting the increasing visibility of the programme outcomes, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia participated in the NUP knowledge sharing session during the World Urban Forum. Other countries like Liberia, Iraq, Uganda, and Ekiti State of Nigeria have expressed interest by inquiring on the process to become part of the programme. As part of enhancing K-NUPP advocacy, the Commonwealth of Australia actively participated in the knowledge sharing event during WUF 12 by sharing insights from its ongoing NUP formulation process.

# **3. Global Outlook**



### 3.1. Looking back at year 1 (2022-2023)

The first year of the programme recorded notable progress in terms of milestones achieved against the workplan. These include:



challenges for seamless

project implementation.

4 quarterly donor consultations providing the opportunity to review programme progress and brainstorm on how to overcome existing





Ms. Na Yoon Heo, MOLIT, Mr. Raf Tuts, UN Habitat holding signed MOU © UN-Habitat Launch of K-NUPP Phase 2 in June 2022 during the 11<sup>th</sup> World Urban Forum (WUF 11) in Katowice, Poland

• Participation in the second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly (UNHA 2) in which three side events were successfully co-hosted:

Promoting People Centered Smart
 Cities for inclusive and sustainable
 futures leverage global digital
 cooperation © UN-Habitat



.....

 » African ministerial session on National Urban Policy" which brought together high-level officials from several African countries that shared their experiences on NUP © UN-Habitat





UN-Habitat delegation Ms. Edlam Yemeru (in the middle) and Mr. Bruno Derncon (First to the left) at the World Smart City Expo 2023, Korea © UN-Habitat

Participation at the World Smart City Expo held in September 2023 in Korea.

Finalization of K-NUPP Phase 1 evaluation and dissemination.



 Publication of several guides, toolkits, and strategies as contained in the Urban Policy Platform. **\_\_\_**0

Successfully organized an induction workshop through which all programme personnel were briefed on existing tools and strategies to support programme implementation.



Finalization of the preparatory process through consolidation of documents such as In-House Agreements (IHAs), commitment letters from participating countries, alignment of each country's logical framework to the main project document and budget. This paved way for actual project implementation.



3.2. K-NUPP Phase 2 Progress

#### 2.2.1 Outcome against Workplan

In the second year (2023-2024), the programme achieved the following milestones in line with the work plan.

Publication of the 2022-2023 annual report alongside other toolkits and guides such as 'Implementing NUP through Demonstration Projects'.





Finalization of the recruitment and onboarding of new personnel in country offices to support project implementation in participating countries.

Finalization and dissemination of official letters to Korean Embassies in the participating countries, informing them of ongoing K-NUPP implementation.



» Successful missions to Azerbaijan in April 2024 and Egypt in June 2024 by delegations from UN-Habitat, Korea Overseas Infrastructure and Urban Development Corporation (KIND) and MOLIT to review progress on the K-City Network project for Aghdam and Badr Smart Cities respectively.



» Launch of Egypt's NUP, approval of Mozambique's Urbanization Policy, approval of Paraguay's Urbanism, Housing and Habitat Policy, and the finalization of Smart City Action Plan for Preah Sihanouk Province in Cambodia.



» Implementation of two small-scale demonstration projects in Niger State. These involved rehabilitation of bi-water schemes in three towns (Beji, Kataeregi and Tungan Mallam) and installation of a solar inverter in a health facility in Kuta town. These have so far positively impacted the lives of over 80,000 people through about one (1) million liters of clean water provided daily.



» Implementation of pilot project in Mozambique under urban mobility which trained school-going girls on safe cycling to and from school.



» Successful planning and implementation of four quarterly donor consultations.

Participation in the twelfth session of World Urban Forum (WUF12). K-NUPP together with donors, development partners and the beneficiary countries actively participated in various sessions during WUF12:



NUPP Networking event titled 'Creating an Enabling Environment for the Localization of National Urban Policy through Effective and Inclusive Multilateralism' that brought together 50 participants from across the globe



 K-NUPP knowledge sharing event attended by 47 participants from ten (10) countries (Azerbaijan, Australia, Cambodia, Egypt, I.R. Iran, Saudi Arabia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Niger State, and Paraguay) and seven (6) implementing partners namely UN-Habitat, MOLIT, KRIHS, HUG, GIZ Mozambique, and the Catalonian government



 Participation in other NUP related events like the launch of Egypt NUP and launch of the third edition of Global State of NUP (GSNUP) report.  Third quarterly donor consultations to review progress of programme implementation and the next steps



- » Submission of proposals for demonstration projects to be implemented by Cambodia, I.R. Iran and Myanmar.
- » Technical support for Draft National Urbanism, Housing and Habitat Plan for Paraguay (PLANUVI) and official presidential decree of Paraguay's Urbanism policy.
- » Preparation for mid-term evaluation of K-NUPP Phase 2 (2022-2024).

### 2.2.2 K-NUPP at WUF 12

The World Urban Forum (WUF) organized biennially remains UN's largest international gathering to discuss various urbanization issues. WUF continues to offer a platform for stakeholders and sustainable urban development enthusiasts from across the globe to exchange knowledge, experiences, and insights on sustainable urbanization dimensions and indicators. The forum's diverse and inclusive nature of participants, combining high-level representation with academia, civil society and urban development professionals, distinguishes it as a unique platform to discuss and identify solutions to various urban issues. The twelfth edition (WUF12) was held in Cairo, Egypt in November 2024.

Since the inaugural forum in 2002 in Nairobi, Kenya, WUF12 recorded the highest participation with over 37,000 registrations

and over 25,000 in-person attendance from 182 countries. These consisted of high-level attendance of three (3) presidents, four (4) deputy prime ministers, over sixty (60+) ministers, thirty-seven (37) deputy ministers, and sixty-one (61) mayors.



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Themed 'It All Starts at Home: Local Actions for Sustainable Cities and Communities', the forum shed light on various urban issues, including local actions and initiatives required to curb the pressing global challenges like the housing crisis, high costs of living, climate change, inadequate and inequitable urban basic services, and ongoing conflicts affecting people's daily lives at the grassroot levels. The week-long WUF12 discussions were guided by sub-themes including 'it all starts locally', 'it all starts together', 'it all starts at home', and 'it all starts now'. IRO, EGYPT | 4-8 NOVEMBER XAL



WUF12 had six thematic dialogues anchoring the 'home concept' to the critical challenges of rapid urbanization faced in the contemporary world. The six dialogues were housing our future; cities and the climate crisis; stronger together; financing localization and localizing finance; putting people first in a digital age; and the loss of home. The forum concluded with the 'Cairo Call to Action for Cities' (Link). The call urged stakeholders, led by governments, to implement and promote the ten (10) actions within the broader context of sustainable urbanization. K-NUPP actively engaged in WUF12 as this offered an excellent platform to share the programmes milestones, establish new networks, and strengthen the programme's collaborative efforts. K-NUPP therefore successfully planned and held three main events alongside other activities in which K-NUPP partners actively participated. Herein are the main K-NUPP events during WUF12 whose details are in the <u>K-NUPP at WUF 12</u>.





#### a) K-NUPP Knowledge Sharing and Global Awareness Event

Held on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2024 in Cairo, Egypt, the event brought together 47 participants from ten (10) countries (Australia, Azerbaijan, Cambodia, Egypt, I.R. Iran, Mozambique, Myanmar, Niger State-Nigeria, Paraguay, and Saudi Arabia,) and seven (6) implementing partners namely UN-Habitat, MOLIT of Korea, Korea Research Institute for Human Settlements (KRIHS), Korea Housing and Urban Guarantee Corporation (HUG), the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ) in Mozambique, and the Catalonia regional government-Spain. The session presented a fitting opportunity for participating countries and implementing partners to share insights on the milestones made on scaling up people-centered smart cities through NUPs/SNUPs. During the event, the eight countries participating in K-NUPP phase 2; Azerbaijan, Cambodia,

Egypt, Mozambique, Paraguay, I.R. Iran, Myanmar, and Niger State (Nigeria) shared their experiences, challenges, progress and lessons learned since the launch of Phase 2 in November 2022 while gaining inspiration to address their own obstacles by applying contextualized solutions. The site visit to Al-Asmarat neighborhood also gave participants a practical example on how demonstration projects that incorporate people-centered smart city approaches in NUPs positively impact the quality of life of the local communities.

The event was finally able to achieve its objectives thanks to the broad set of panellists' perspectives, the presentations on each country's progress, and the discussion on how to make the second half of K-NUPP Phase 2 successful. The event successfully accomplished the following:



Dr. Khaled Alnifai, Urban Advisor for Deputyship of Urban Planning and Lands, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia © UN-Habitat



Prof. Barbara Norman, Professor of Design and Built Environment, University of Canberra, Australia © UN-Habitat



I. Reviewed the progress and achievements of programme implementation in all the eight participating countries

Inter alia, Mozambique approved an 'Urbanization Policy' covering seven pillars. The NUP will act as a guiding framework to mitigate, minimize, and resolve challenges like integrated planning and land management, urbanization and strategic development corridors, public and private investments in urban areas, sources of financing for urbanization, governance, municipal management and local capacity building.

II. Enhanced the capacity of policy makers and stakeholders to enable them to develop, mainstream, and implement people-centered smart city approaches in NUP through the learning session and the site visit to the Al-Asmarat Neighbourhood in Egypt.

The site visit gave participants a glimpse of how well implemented urban policies support affordable and inclusive housing strategies. A play center for children in the neighborhood integrates childresponsive urban policies.

III. Expanded knowledge creation and sharing and enhance global awareness of experiences on the nexus of NUP and people-centered smart cities approaches and models through the peer learning of experiences from Korea, participating countries, and other partners.

KRIHS developed 'The new '5<sup>th</sup> Land Comprehensive Development Plan' (the 5<sup>th</sup> Plan) the which aims to realize a balanced national territory with livable spaces across the country by promoting a healthy and vibrant innovative national territory which is equally safe and sustainable.



Dr. Abd Elkhalek Ibrahim, Senior Technical Assistant for the Minister of Housing, Arab Republic of Egypt © UN-Habitat



The Commonwealth of Australia, in developing their NUP, ensured transparent engagement with an ultimate goal to create equitable cities with positive impact on population and reduced greenhouse gas emissions.

IV. Reflected on lessons learned from phase 1, and the last two years of phase 2 in preparation for continued implementation in the coming years.

Myanmar shared its experience in overcoming unprecedented challenges as it transitioned from phase 1, reaching the most vulnerable communities climate through resilient solutions.

Niger State showcased the milestones made through implementation of demonstration projects currently benefitting 250,000 residents through supply of clean water and reafforestation,

V. Presented the experiences of MOLIT and other Korean partners on NUP and Smart Cities.

Korea's HUG serves as the country's housing fund agency running four main projects aimed at raising funds, managing guarantees, house auctions through subrogation, and revitalizing urban regeneration.

#### RESOURCES





Reviewed the progress and achievements of programme implementation

Enhanced the capacity of policy makers and stakeholders



Expanded knowledge creation and sharing and enhance global awareness



Reflected on lessons learned from phase 1, and the last two years of phase 2



Presented the experiences of MOLIT and other Korean partners on NUP and Smart Cities



#### b) Creating an Enabling Environment for the Localization of National Urban Policy through Effective and Inclusive Multilateralism

Jointly organized by UN-Habitat and MOLIT, the discussion majored in key aspects of multilateralism such as community engagement, metropolitan integration in NUPs, and policy aspects in post-conflict reconstruction. The presentations mainly highlighted the role of research and learning institutions in driving innovative NUP development and implementation through evidence-based decision making.

Key takeaways were:



I. The role of multilevel coordination and institutional support: Effective multilateralism and institutional frameworks were highlighted as vital to urban policy success. One panelist highlighted the case of Bogota, Colombia, noting challenges of centralization which underscored the importance of aligning national, regional, and municipal efforts for metropolitan development. Similarly, organizations like KRIHS and UN-Habitat demonstrated the importance of institutional expertise, evidencebased policymaking, and cross-sectoral collaboration. These frameworks ensure that urban policies are adaptable, well-informed, and replicable across diverse contexts.





- II. Inclusive and participatory approaches to policy development and implementation: In each country case presented, inclusive engagement emerged as a critical component for successful NUP formulation and implementation. From Azerbaijan's equityfocused resettlement plans to Mozambique's robust community consultations, and Myanmar's participatory planning tools for Community-based Climate Vulnerability Assessment and Local Climate Action Planning, the meaningful involvement of diverse stakeholders-particularly marginalized groups-has proven pivotal to fostering inclusive and impactful outcomes. These approaches enhance policy legitimacy, ensure alignment with local priorities, and empower communities to take ownership of their development trajectories.
- III. Resilience and sustainability as important elements of NUP: Resilience to climate change, conflict recovery, and economic challenges were recurring themes. Azerbaijan's focus on smart and sustainable recovery, Mozambique's urbanization goals promoting equity and spatial inclusion, and Myanmar's climate-resilient infrastructure projects exemplify this commitment. The policies prioritize long-term environmental and economic sustainability while addressing immediate needs such as infrastructure rebuilding, energy deficits, and social stability.

RESOURCES



#### KEY TAKEAWAYS



- ✓ The role of multilevel coordination and institutional
  K support
- Inclusive and participatory approaches to policy development and implementation



Resilience and sustainability as important elements of NUP



#### c) Quarter 3 donor consultations

During the third quarterly meeting, UN-Habitat personnel from the eight participating countries highlighted the progress in implementation of phase 2 particularly in the months of July to September 2024 and expected accomplishments for the period between October and December 2024. In the meeting, it was revealed that Mozambique recently launched its urbanization policy while Egypt held a side event at WUF12 to launch its NUP. Niger State-Nigeria had finalized implementation of the first segment of smallscale demonstration projects in six towns. In addition, the three countries that transitioned to phase 2 (I.R. Iran, Myanmar, and Niger State) were in the process of developing proposals to implement phase 2 demonstration projects.

Key challenges experienced in programme implementation include financial constraints, political instability and government transitions following elections, staff changes, inadequate technical capacity in the participating countries, contextualizing activities to country priorities while still aligning to main programme objectives and unprecedented climate risks.

Participants agreed on key action points to be realized in the next quarter (January-March 2025).

#### 2.2.3 Innovative Approaches



Developed an automated correspondence for both internal and external partners. This is expected to enhance global advocacy for the programme through real-time dissemination of programme progress

Improved the expenditure plan to monitor budget execution patterns for each participating country during programme implementation.

### 3.3. Projected Milestones for Year 3 (Dec 2024 - Nov 2025)

- » Organization and implementation of quarterly meetings with the donor and country offices which will be reflected in the quarterly reports and minutes drafted by the HQ in collaboration with country offices.
- » Present K-NUPP 2023-2024 Annual Report during 2024 Q4 meeting
- » End of 2025: draft K-NUPP 2024-2025 Annual Report
- » Organize the knowledge exchange visit, tentatively planned for September 2026 in Korea.
- » Develop new and revise existing toolkits and strategies to support successful programme delivery
- » Develop and share knowledge products related to NUP and SNUP throughout 2025
- » Support country offices in preparing and conducting workshops, EGMs, and other capacity building initiatives in collaboration with respective local and national governments
- » Oversee and guide implementation of demonstration projects in the eight countries in line with the expected project outputs, mainstreaming the PCSC approach
- » Participate in the upcoming resumed second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly (UNHA2) in May 2025
- » Preliminary preparations on engagement of K-NUPP at WUF13 to be held in Baku Azerbaijan in May 2026.

# 4. Country Progress

### **K-NUPP Phase 2 Countries**

### 4.1. AZERBAIJAN

#### Country Profile


#### Background

The government of the Republic of Azerbaijan has made significant efforts in recent years to demonstrate its commitment towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The "Azerbaijan 2030: National Priorities for Socio-Economic Development" approved in 2021 spells out clear-cut priorities for the country aimed at substantially reducing its economic overdependence on oil, fostering a dynamic, inclusive and socially just society, developing competitive human capital, and promoting green growth. Emphasis is on balancing regional development, encouraging innovation and creativity, and guiding the return of internally displaced people (IDPs) to their areas of origin in the regained territories.

The ambitious 'State Program on the Great Return to the Liberated Territories of Azerbaijan approved in 2022', after the cessation of hostilities in the Karabakh region, guides the substantial public investments made in the reconstruction of infrastructure, urban basic services, and housing in the economic regions of Karabakh and East Zangezur. In 2024 alone, Azerbaijan allocated USD 2.84 billion from the state budget for the reconstruction and restoration of its regained territories. The return of the 680,000 IDPs remains the main development priority of Azerbaijan in the coming years.



#### COP29

#### The 29<sup>th</sup> UN Climate Change Conference

(COP29) that was held in Baku in November 2024 underscored the country's commitments to the latter national priority in addressing climate change and transitioning from traditional sources to renewable energy. which are expected to make up 30 percent of Azerbaijan's electricity generation by 2030. Global leaders including ministers, city officials, parliamentarians, multilateral development banks, and UN agencies gathered to advance urban-focused climate solutions at the **Ministerial Meeting on Urbanization and Climate Change**, organized by the COP29 Presidency in partnership with UN-Habitat. This pivotal event underlined the importance of aligning national policy efforts and local actions to create resilient, sustainable cities capable of addressing the climate crisis.



The newly launched initiative titled 'Multisectoral Action Pathways (MAP) for Resilient and Healthy Cities' serves as a strategic guide to enhance resilience and health in urban areas and will inform climate policy discussions through COP30 and future engagements, underscoring the role of cities in addressing climate vulnerabilities and building a sustainable future.

### Azerbaijan at WUF12

A delegation led by Azerbaijan's State Committee on Urban Planning and Architecture (SCUPA) participated at the twelfth session of the World Urban Forum **(WUF12)** held in Cairo in November 2024. SCUPA personnel took part in the NUP Knowledge Sharing and Global Awareness Campaign event and the Korea NUPP Networking session, titled "Creating Enabling Environment for the Localisation of National Urban Policy through Effective and Inclusive Multilateralism". Additionally, experts from ADA University, SCUPA, University of Geneva and UN-Habitat's Azerbaijan Country Programme held an event in the WUF12 Urban Library space exploring the transformative journey of Azerbaijan's urban landscape toward a smarter, more sustainable future. The event was the occasion to launch the publication titled "Baku Dialogues: Urban Development in Azerbaijan - From Industrial Towns to Smart Cities". The paper "Implementing Azerbaijan's New Urban Agenda: the case for transformative policymaking"<sup>1</sup> focuses on some of the main policy challenges that Azerbaijani decisionmakers are grappling with and proposes some of the most impactful and realistic solutions, informed by a set of principles. Azerbaijan's participation in the second phase of K-NUPP themed 'Scaling up people-centered smart cities through National Urban Policy' offers a comprehensive and evidence-based policy support to the government to realize its urbanization goals through various project initiatives

<sup>1</sup> https://bakudialogues.ada.edu.az/articles/implementing-azerbaijans-new-urban-agenda-thecase-for-transformative-policymaking-11-10-2024

This will ensure development and implementation of a NUP that includes, among others, the right to adequate and affordable housing, improved and inclusive urban spaces, accessibility and mobility, technological innovation. It will also enhance urban-rural linkages, and climate resilience in a country that is currently undergoing a major urban recovery effort in the newly liberated areas.

The country faces the challenge of a severely unbalanced urban-rural development, exemplified by the socio-economic disparity between the capital Baku (hosting over 2.6 million inhabitants) and the rest of the country (Azerbaijan's second largest city Sumgayit has 341,200 inhabitants and its third Ganja has 332,600 inhabitants). The NUP aims to support efforts towards balanced territorial development, as well as support the government's efforts to transition from a heavy reliance on oil and gas production towards a more diversified and inclusive economy and sustainable post-conflict recovery efforts, while also improving the country's resilience to climate change. At the global front, implementation of the NUPP Phase 2 in Azerbaijan will advance the realization of global agenda like the SDGs, the Paris Agreement, New Urban Agenda (NUA) and the Sendai Framework.



#### Azerbaijan Logical Framework and Implementation Plan for Year 2

UN-Habitat's efforts in Year 2 (2023 Nov-2024 Nov) focused on reaching the consensus of counterparts regarding the key 'ingredients' of an innovative and transformative urban policy for Azerbaijan. This was done through a range of outreach initiatives aimed at galvanizing the support of key decision-makers and conveying the importance of undertaking interdisciplinary sessions with a wide range of stakeholders.

The logical framework below presents the expected outcomes of the project for the period 2023 Nov-2024 Nov.

					MAY							DEC
Outcome 1: National and local governments mainstream the people-centred smart cities approact	ch into	) NUF	<sup>o</sup> s and	l/ or s	ub-nat	ional	urba	n polic	ies in	selecte	ed	
countries and sub-national regions.												
Output 1: Contribution to one (1) National Urban Policy document integrating housing, climate res	silienc	e, urt	ban re	covery	y and p	eople	e cen	tered s	smart	city ap	proac	h
Activity 1.1: Establish a NUP Steering Committee and thematic working groups												
Activity 1.2: Conduct 3 diagnostic thematic consultations / "policy dialogues"												
Activity 1.3: Mainstream key policy concepts, issues and draft policy briefs												
Outcome 2: Capacity of policy makers and stakeholders enhanced to facilitate the territorial dime	ension	of u	rban iı	nnovat	tion an	d ste	er dig	jital tra	ansfori	matior	n in NL	JPs
Output 2: Capacity building activities for Azerbaijan policy makers and stakeholders to facilitate t	he ter	ritoria	al dim	ensior	n of url	ban ir	inova	tion ar	nd stee	er digit	al	
transformation in NUP process												
Activity 2.1: Collect and share relevant data, and information to inform territorial smart city												
strategic recommendations												
Activity 2.2: Mobilize and guide Azerbaijan NUP stakeholders' participation in Expert Group												
Meeting and workshops												
Activity 2.3: Share experience of NUP preparation at Azerbaijan National Urban Forum (NUFA)												
and regional forums												
Outcome 3: Urban interventions apply innovative approaches and technologies while considering		eopl	e-cen	tred di	imensi	on in	Natic	onal Ur	ban P	olicy.		
Output 3: One (1) acupuncture project/ pilot intervention implemented based on NUP action plan												
Activity 3.1: Prioritize an acupuncture project, based on the analysis of the NUP action plan												
Activity 3.2: Conduct a stakeholders mapping and inception meetings												
Activity 3.3: Realize a needs assessment and roadmap for pilot project												
Outcome 4: Improved knowledge creation and sharing, and enhanced global awareness of exper approaches and models.	iences	s on t	he ne:	xus of	NUP a	ind pe	eople	-centr	ed sm	art citi	es	
Output 4: Improved knowledge creation and sharing and enhanced global awareness of experien	ces or	n the	nexus	of NL	JP and	peop	le-ce	entered	d smai	rt cities	S	
approaches and models.												
Activity 4.1: Support organization, facilitation and implementation of Exchange Visit(s)												
Activity 4.2: Deliver annual reports on activities and financial updates												
Activity 4.3: Share Azerbaijan experience in Global Campaign on NUP and People-centered												
Smart City networks												

#### Achievements

The partnership between UN-Habitat, MOLIT, and the government of Azerbaijan has led to a steady progress in the last year. Key milestones include:



» In-depth review and technical input to Azerbaijan National Urban Assessment.

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» Interim and final Reports developed by Asian Development Bank (ADB), by UN-Habitat NUP team in Azerbaijan, followed by the delivery of a presentation on the value of NUP.



» Hosted a delegation from MOLIT and UN-Habitat during the quarterly meeting in April.



» Provided UN-Habitat intervention on value of NUP at Global Summit "Forecasting Healthy Futures" in June 2024.



» Participation of Azerbaijan in WUF12 held in Cairo, Egypt from 4th to 8th November 2024. SCUPA representatives took part in the NUP Knowledge Sharing and Global Awareness Campaign event and delivered a presentation at the Korea NUPP Networking session, titled "Creating Enabling Environment for the Localisation of National Urban Policy through Effective and Inclusive Multilateralism".



Publishing of the paper titled "**Implementing Azerbaijan's New Urban Agenda: The Case for Transformative Policy-Making**"<sup>2</sup> in the November 2024 issue of <u>Baku Dialogues</u>, an independent quarterly policy journal supported by Azerbaijan Diplomatic Academy (ADA) University of Baku, which was launched at WUF12.



» Supported and participated in COP29 held in Baku, Azerbaijan (11-24 November 2024).



- » Trained key SCUPA personnel on National Urban Policy through the NUP online course.
- Receipt of acknowledgement letter from the government of Azerbaijan (November 2024).

2 https://bakudialogues.ada.edu.az/articles/implementing-azerbaijans-new-urban-agendathe-case-for-transformative-policymaking-11-10-2024

# Challenges, Risks, and Mitigation Efforts

The table below summarizes the challenges experienced during programme implementation in Azerbaijan between 2023 and 2024. It also highlights expected risks in 2025.

Risks	Likelihood	Impact	Status	Mitigation measures
Counterparts not able to provide adequate political and technical support due to limited human capacity	Medium	High	Active	Strong support will be sought from Thematic Working Groups reinforced by consultation of non- government stakeholders and academia
Weak or inadequate coordination between and within national government Ministries and Departments and		Medium	Active	Coordinate closely with SCUPA to strengthen collaboration of sector ministries to achieve expected accomplishments and deliverables.
municipalities Capacity constraints of executing entities, local institutions, communities, and the private sector may limit the effective implementation of interventions	Low	Medium	Active	Conduct participatory capacity assessments and tailor fit-for-purpose capacity development initiatives adapted to contextual needs. Consult the UN Capacity team to leverage existing
Limited/inadequate citizen participation in NUP process	Low	High	Active	capacity. Develop and share workplan that includes citizen consultations events as critical milestones of programmes/projects. Discuss participants selection criteria, clarify objectives, and agree on expected outcomes.
Low confidence from community groups to support consultations and proposed activities – particularly where they might not see immediate tangible benefits to them.	Low	High	Active	Identify and engage respected representatives and potential agents of change within communities, considering gender, age, and cultural aspects. Develop Communications Strategy and ensure realistic expectations.

#### Projected Milestones for 2025

- » Development of thematic 'Policy Briefs'.
- » Support SCUPA in planning and hosting Azerbaijan's third edition of National/Regional Urban Forum
- » Support in the preliminary planning and participate in K-NUPP knowledge exchange visit planned for September 2026 in Korea
- » Development and review of proposals for the implementation of demonstration/ acupuncture projects
- Finalize translation of the NUP
   e-learning course to local language

» Contribute to preparations to host the Expert Group Meeting (EGM) on the Implementation of the International Guidelines on People-Centered Smart Cities in Baku in April-May 2025

#### **Resource Mobilization**

The government of Azerbaijan has committed to support phase 2 implementation of the project through additional financial and in-kind support that may reach up to USD 1.3 million. This partially supported SCUPA's participation in WUF12 in Cairo, Egypt and the organization of the 3rd National Urban Forum of Azerbaijan (NUFA3) and COP29. A further in-kind contribution of USD 100,000 is earmarked to the UN-Habitat Azerbaijan office to cater for the NUP preparation process.



### 4.2. CAMBODIA

#### Country Profile



#### Background

Cambodia continues to experience rapid urbanization especially in cities due to rural-urban migration. Major cities like Sihanoukville and Phnom Penh account for the average population growth rate of 4.5% over the last two decades. This growth can be attributed to improved infrastructure and the establishment of economic zones. However, the country still grapples with imbalances in regional development due to the rapid decline in the agricultural sector against the fast-growing manufacturing and construction sectors. In response, Cambodia's sustainable urban development is guided by two main frameworks namely the 'Rectangular Strategy for Growth, Employment, Equity, And Efficiency Phase III' and the 'Draft National **Urban Development Strategy.'** 

Despite Cambodia not having an explicit National Urban Policy document, the Land Management and Land Use Policy for Preah Sihanouk Province (2022-2038) was approved in 2023 to guide its development as a multipurpose special economic zone. Participation of Cambodia in the second phase of K-NUPP, 'Scaling up People-Centered Smart Cities through NUP', is expected to enhance the achievement of Vision 2030 as well as the country's development plan, where peoplecentered smart city approaches may further be promoted. To this end, UN-Habitat through the Cambodia country team has supported Preah Sihanouk Province in finalizing the Smart City Action Plan for Preah Sihanouk Province (2024-2028). Several discussions with the Smart City Working Group have explored avenues to mainstream peoplecentered smart city approaches in the existing

plan. Implementation of the plan through the NUP process and demonstration projects will accelerate efforts towards sustainable urbanization in Cambodia through a peoplecentered approach hence promoting inclusive socio-economic development, equity, adequate and affordable housing, climate resilience, and overall improvements in the quality of life for Cambodia's population. Globally, successful implementation of the second phase of K-NUPP in Cambodia will significantly contribute to the sustainable urbanization agenda aligning with the global goals like the NUA and SDGs, especially SDG 11.



### Logical Framework and Implementation for Year 2

The table below shows Cambodia's logical framework for programme implementation over the last one year. It expounds on the budget and the planned timeframe for achieving various outcomes as specified in the main project document.

	Budget	JAN 2024	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	ост	NOV	DEC
OUTCOME 1. National and local governments mainstream the people-centred sma selected countries and sub-national regions.	art cities a	approa	ch in	to NUI	Ps and	d / or :	sub-na	ation	al urb	an po	olicies	in	
OUTPUT 1.1. National/ sub-national Urban Policies with the appropriate policy instructional priorities.	ruments	to ensi	ure a	peopl	e-cen	tred s	mart c	cities	appro	bacha	aligne	ed with	า
1.1.3. Review of the policy on land management plan and other urban development for Preah Sihanouk Province's Development to Multi-Purpose Special Economic Zone 2022-2038, and propose a mainstreaming people-centred smart city approach to Preah Sihanouk's land management policy or strategy	\$2,000												
1.1.4. Organize and conduct a consultative workshop for discussion on mainstreaming people-centred smart city approach to Preah Sihanouk's land management policy or strategy	\$5,000												
1.1.5. Consultation on a draft Preah Sihanouk's Smart City Action Plan mainstreaming people-centred smart city approach	\$5,000												
1.1.6. Completion of Preah Sihanouk's Smart City Action Plan mainstreaming people-centred smart city approach	\$2,000												
1.1.7. Dissemination of Preah Sihanouk's Smart City Action Plan mainstreaming people-centred smart city approach	\$6,000												
1.1.9. Regular quarterly meeting with Smart City Working Group and training on people centred smart city approach	\$4,000												

#### Achievements

The programme implementation in Cambodia has made notable progress in line with the 2023-2024 logical framework over the last one year. These include:



» Successful organization of the second National Urban Forum in May 2024



» Consultative workshops on the draft Smart City Action Plan (2024-2028) with the Preah Sihanouk Provincial Administration throughout the year



- » Finalized the Smart City Action Plan (2024-2028) for Preah Sihanouk Province to guide in mainstreaming the people-centered smart city approach
- Finalized the recruitment of personnel to support project implementation in the country office
- Prepared for and participated in quarterly meetings with the Smart City Working Group and the training of participants on people-centered smart city approach



Completed review of the land management plan and other urban
 development frameworks as part of efforts to develop Preah Sihanouk
 Province into a multi-purpose special economic zone.



- Participated in the twelfth session of the World Urban Forum (WUF12) held in Cairo, Egypt in November 2024
- » Two pilot project proposals on smart waste management and were prepared for implementation in 2025

Opening session of the seconc Cambodia National Urban Forum © UN-Habitat

#### **Resource Mobilization**

In collaboration with the Cambodia government, resource mobilization efforts are ongoing, to support the smooth implementation of NUPP phase 2 in Cambodia. In-kind contribution of USD100,000 has been provided by the Preah Sihanouk Provincial Administration in the form of staffing, secondary data collection, meeting rooms, and other logistics. Additionally, the UN-Habitat CO is consulting with various national and international partners on avenues for additional technical, financial, or human resource support. Some of the identified prospective partners include Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), South Korean Embassy in Cambodia, Korea Green Growth Trust Fund, United Nations Development

Programme (UNDP), and the World Bank. To strengthen these efforts, the CO is currently developing project proposals aligned with the priorities of the Smart City Action Plan. These proposals will articulate resource mobilization strategies and partnership opportunities more effectively.

Preliminary discussions with Korea Research Institute for Human Settlements (KRIHS) and Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) explored potential collaboration in capacity building and technical support. While these conversations are still in the initial stages, they provide a foundation for identifying and securing resources. The CO will actively engage potential partners and refine its approach to resource mobilization.

Risks	Probability	Impact	Status	Mitigation
Financial				HQ, CO and government to mobilize
constraints				other sources of funds from national and
				international partners
	High	High	Active	Request for additional funding from donors
Political				Proactive measures/ early warning systems
risks	Low	High	Active	
Human	LOW	піўн	Active	HO supports the organization of governance
				HQ supports the organization of governance
resource				structures, recruitment of personnel for the
capacity				global and country level implementation.
issues				CO aiming for potential collaboration with
				local/international institutions or to recruit
				a technology specialist to deliver technical
				assistance, especially training and pilot
	High	Medium	Active	project implementation oversight
Resource				CO prepares a proposal for resource
mobilization				mobilization based on smart city action plan
	High	High	Active	for Preah Sihanouk Province

#### Challenges, Risks, and Mitigation Efforts

#### Emerging Issues

	Issues
$\left( \circ \right)$	Limited funding may impede effective project implementation at the country level
<u>ja</u>	Need for more technical support to the CO on integrating people-centered smart city approaches into sub-national urban strategy and the implementation of technical activities of the demonstration project.
	Limited capacity of government counterparts on people-centered smart cities and digitalization approaches

### Innovative Approaches

#### Innovative Approach



Provision of technical assistance and study visit on people-centered smart city approach for CO enabling them to train local stakeholders

Resource mobilization from other local and international development partners, including KOICA and Korea Embassy in Cambodia

#### Projected Milestones for 2025

- » Assist in 2025 workplan preparation for smart city working group of Preah Sihanouk Province
- » Disseminate the Smart City Action Plan for Preah Sihanouk Province (2024-2028)
- » Finalize proposals for three (3) demonstration projects waste management system, security system, and smart parking and their locations based on the Smart City Action Plan in consultation with the Smart City Working Group
- » Implement three (3) demonstration projects to mainstream the people-centered smart city approach into the Preah Sihanouk Province's Smart City Action Plan focusing on 'Improving Waste Management System in Sihanoukville,' 'Enhancing Provincial Capacity in Sustainable Operation and Maintenance of Smart Security,' and 'Advancing Smart Parking for Better Mobility Intervention.'
- » Prepare a concept note for resource mobilization strategy
- » Support in preparation and participate in quarterly meetings to report progress on programme implementation in Cambodia
- » Support and participate in the third National Urban Forum
- » Support in preliminary planning and participating in the knowledge exchange visit planned for September 2026 in Korea.

## **4.3. EGYPT**

#### Country Profile



Source: World Bank (2023); https://data. worldbank.org/country/egypt-arab-rep

#### Background

As at end of 2023, the Arab Republic of Egypt was ranked second in terms of GDP in Africa with USD 366 billion (World Bank, 2024). 75% of its GDP is generated from urban areas which provide 80% of employment opportunities to the population. However, Egypt is faced with regional imbalance as is exemplified by its urbanization rate of 43.1% thus placing it 34<sup>th</sup> in the continent (Statista, 2024). The rapid growth of Cairo and Alexandria compared to the rest of the country magnifies the challenge of an imbalanced system of Egyptian cities with all its assorted symptoms such as decline of cities, increased congestion, unprecedented population growth among others. To curb these challenges, Egypt's government has made deliberate efforts towards sustainable. inclusive, and resilient urbanization. This is evidenced by the country hosting WUF12 in November 2024, a global event that recorded the highest attendance since its inception in 2002 in Nairobi

Egypt's participation in the second phase of K-NUPP, 'Scaling up people-centered smart cities through NUP', has catalyzed these efforts as the country launched its NUP at WUF12. The NUP will contribute to achievement of the country's development goals such as the National Strategic Plan for Urban Development 2052, and Egypt Vision 2030, as well as the SDGs and NUA. Successful implementation of K-NUPP Phase 2 will contribute to the country's urbanization goals including:

- » Managing urban growth
- Robust urban governance and land management
- » Improved connectivity among cities
- Enhanced local economic and social development
- » Balanced cities systems



# Logical Framework and Implementation Plan for Year 2 (2023 Nov-2024 Nov)

		JAN											
	Budget	2024	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
National and local governments mainstream the people-centered smart cities approach	n into NUF	s and	/ or su	ub-nati	ional	urban	polici	es in :	select	ed cou	untries	s and s	sub-
national regions.													
OUTPUT 1.1													
1.1.1. Formation of one in-country advisory board/committee, per country in the selected regions													
1.1.2. Review of existing/ or formulation of the NUP with people-centred smart city strategy	2,000												
1.1.3. Completion/revision of one NUP feasibility policy note for each country in the selected regions	12,000												
1.1.4. Completion of one diagnosis paper for the development/update of the national urban policy, per pilot country	20,000												
1.1.5. Completion of a National Urban Policy Framework per each country	32,000												
1.3. (MOH Fund) Develop NUP Implementation framework with participation and consensus of relevant stakeholders	твс												
1.4. (MOH Fund) Coordination framework for agencies and institutions responsible for the NUP	твс												
1.5. (MOH Fund) Clear monitoring framework of NUP including indicators, required data, sources of information is developed that is aligned with global urban framework commitments	твс												
1.6 (MOH Fund) Develop an online/user-friendly web-based Egyptian System of Cities Tool/Application	твс												

#### Achievements

Egypt has made notable progress towards successful implementation of the second phase of the K-NUPP. Key progress achieved in the last one year include:



Successfully hosted the K-City Network and Korea Overseas
 Infrastructure and Urban Development (KIND) teams from the Republic
 of Korea during a capacity building mission held between 13th -14th
 June. The mission majored on enhancing institutional capacity towards
 smart city development and implementation.



» Finalized the K-City Network project; Badr Smart City master plan report.



Å,

implementation



- Launched Egypt's National Urban Policy in November during WUF12. Successful hiring of an urban policy expert to support project
- » The CO held several meetings on urban policies with government officials from the Ministry of Housing, Utilities and Urban Development (MHUUD), GOPP, among other stakeholders.
- Organized a workshop with Egypt's Ministry of Telecommunication on Future of Smart Cities in Egypt with the participation of Ministry of Housing (MHUUD), Ministry of Local Development and other stakeholders.



Supported the planning, hosted, and participated in the K-NUPP knowledge sharing event held on November 3rd. Also guided participants during the site visit at Al-Asmarat Neighborhood.



» Compiled the first report on entry points for mainstreaming the People-Centered Smart City (PCSC) approach in Egypt's NUP.



#### Challenges, Risks, and Mitigation Efforts

Programme implementation in Egypt faced various challenges and risks. However, the project team at both country and global levels identified ways to counter the challenges as shown in the table below.

Risks	Likelihood	Impact	Status	Mitigation
Coordination of				HQ and CO to discuss and agree with
Korea funded				the government on the coordination of
outcomes and				outcomes, budget mobilization and rolls
country funded				and responsibility
outcomes	Medium	Medium	Active	
Political;				The CO has conducted meetings with
Government				newly appointed ministers of relevant
reshuffle				ministries including the new Minister
		<b>-</b>		of Housing to introduce UN-Habitat
	High	Medium	Active	including the cooperation on NUP.

#### Innovative Approaches

To enable smooth project implementation, the project team applied some innovative approaches as in the table below.

#### Innovative Approach

The CO began discussions with the Ministry of Information and Communication technology to engage in the PCSCA, as the Ministry of Information, Communication, and Technology (MoICT) is responsible for the implementation of the national digital transformation strategy in Egypt, hence working with the ministry is expected to enhance advocacy efforts for the approach beyond the scale and boundaries of the project.

The project team also formed a taskforce with members from MoICT, Ministry of Housing, Ministry of Local Development, Cairo University, Private Sector and the National Telecommunication Institute, which will be working with UN-Habitat (the project) in advancing the road towards applying the people centered smart city approach.

The project team made consultations and presentations on the importance of adapting the NUP approach in existing cities. Since the government is focused on attaining more smart cities, this was well received by the Ministry of Local Development and the project will explore opportunities to position UN-Habitat and the Korean government as primary partners with the Ministries in this sector.

#### **Resource Mobilization**

The Ministry of Housing expressed willingness to provide 400,000 USD. The CO is discussing the project document details with the ministry to enable the release of funds. This additional funding will support two out of the six expected outcomes on developing NUP implementation and coordination frameworks, clearing the monitoring framework, as well as developing a user-friendly web-based Egyptian system of cities. It will also support stakeholder capacity development.

The K-City network project in Badr City is expected to draw more support from the government and partnering stakeholders from Korea and Egypt among other prospective partners.

#### Projected Milestones for 2025

Some of the projected milestones for 2025 include:

- Formation of one in-country advisory » committee to meet output 1.1.1
- » Review of the existing NUP and identification of entry points to integrate the people-centered smart city approaches
- Implementation of the identified >> demonstration projects
- » Support in preliminary preparation and participate in the knowledge exchange visit planned to take place in September 2026 in Korea
- Planning and participation in the » quarterly donor meetings

## 4.4. MOZAMBIQUE

#### Country Profile





#### Background

Mozambigue's location along the coastline increases its vulnerability to effects of climate change. The country is exposed to climatic hazards like cyclones, floods, and droughts which expose averagely 30% of the population annually (UNDRR, 2024). Climatic hazards coupled with internal conflicts gives Mozambique a unique urbanization challenge. Nevertheless, in recent years, the country has experienced massive urban growth. This growth is mainly attributed to increased rural-urban migration as most residents seek employment opportunities and better living conditions in the cities. However, the country and particularly major cities face urbanization challenges like inadequate infrastructure, poor urban basic services, and overcrowding. Conflict-induced urbanization, especially in the Northern region, has also put more pressure on cities. This is aggravated by the institutional challenges such as inadequate financial and technical resources, poor institutional coordination among stakeholders, and strategic planning issues hence asymmetrical relationship between urbanization and transformative indicators like income and job creation which subsequently increase the population's purchasing power.

The government's effort towards sustainable urbanization dates to 2016 when it hosted the first National Urban Forum. This forum advocated an urban agenda in the country. UN-Habitat's continuous support in the country led to the development of an 'Urbanization Policy Foundation Paper' in 2017. The second national urban forum held in March 2022 culminated in commencing preparation of the 'National Urbanization Policy' to be supported by UN-Habitat. As a participating country in K-NUPP Phase 2, the programme has supported finalization of the urbanization policy which was approved by the Council of Ministers in April 2024 through a collaboration between the Ministry of State Administration and Public Service (MAEFP) in Mozambique, and support from UN-Habitat and MOLIT. Programme implementation in Mozambique has also secured human, financial, and technical support from the World Bank, GIZ, and the Catalonia regional government in Spain. Successful implementation of K-NUPP through the urbanization policy and demonstration projects is envisioned to contribute to achieving:

- » balanced territorial development
- » sustainable intermediary cities to enhance urban-rural linkages
- harmonized sectoral policies and regulatory instruments,
- better integration and transformation of the agricultural sector
- more coherent hierarchy of national and subnational planning tools and mechanisms
- » creation of a national Geographical Information System (GIS) system

Implementation of the urbanization policy in Mozambique as part of the second phase of K-NUPP objectives through demonstration projects will subsequently contribute as a national tool to complement implementation of global goals like SDG 11 and the NUA.

# Logical Framework and Implementation Plan for Year 2

OUTCOME	National government mainstream the people-	%	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	ост	NOV	DEC	2025/
1.	centred smart cities approach into NUPs	DONE			2024												2026
1.1.1	Organise and report on meetings of the NUP Steering	100%															
	Committee, for NUP elaboration																
1.1.2	Organise and report on consultations to elaborate the	100%															
	NUP diagnostic, through ad hoc sessions.																
	Mainstream concepts, issues, recommendations, and	70%															
	analysis on digitalization in urban areas and smart																
1.1.3	cities throughout all the NUP document. This includes																
	the NUP diagnostic, objectives, axes, strategic lines,																
	indicators, and action plan.																
1.1.4	Elaborate an "Digital Urban Transformation Mapping	20%															
1.1.4	and Assessment"																
	The NUP Technical-Scientific Committee validate	0%															
	the "Digital Urban Transformation Mapping and																
1.1.5	Assessment" prepared by the Technical Team, to																
	submit it to the Policy Directorate for inclusion into the																
	policy final document.																
OUTCOME	Urban/metropolitan interventions apply innovative																
3.	approaches while considering the people-centered																
	dimension in National Urban Policy.																
	Prioritize the acupuncture project and its location with	0%															
	the Government, based on the analysis of the NUP																
3.2.1	action plan and of the documents/reports produced																
	through Output 1																
	Conduct a stakeholders' mapping and inception	0%															
3.2.2	meetings with the national and local institutions and																
	partners/CSOs identified for project implementation																
	Realize a needs assessment and roadmap for pilot	0%															
3.2.3	project implementation, with the view of prioritizing																
	the municipal needs in terms of innovation																
3.2.4	Implement a pilot project to support a metropolitan or	0%															
0.2.4	urban area on access to urban basic services																

#### Achievements



» The Mozambique urbanization policy was approved by the Council of Ministers in April 2024.



» Successful planning and implementation of pilot project during the urban mobility week. The project involved training school-going girls on safe cycling to-and-from schools



» Secured and advanced key partnerships with the World Bank and GIZ on project implementation through financial and human resources



» Participation of the project team and Mozambique's national government delegation in WUF12 held in Cairo, Egypt between 4<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> November



» Supported the National Seminar on Territorial Management through trainings dedicated to policy dissemination and endorsement for Provincial and Municipal authorities' staff.



Finalized the "Digital Urban Transformation Mapping and Assessment Report". This provides a more practical application to policymakers and support decision-making in urban governance and innovation based on open and big data.



» Developed a concept note on demonstration projects for the NUP implementation phase. It focused on digital innovation and data-based urban design and management. The pilot project will promote active mobility in an urban context, potentially within the Maputo Metropolitan Area.



**Política** N

Stakeholder mapping (especially for relevant government authorities) was carried out to fast track the design of the demonstration project on digital innovation.



Risks	Probability	Impact	Status	Mitigation
	Probability	Impact	Status	
Financial				The CO is making efforts to mobilize
constraints				other sources of funds at the national and
				international levels.
				The CO requested funds advance from
				3rd to 2nd year to facilitate project
				implementation.
				GIZ and World Bank have supported the
				phase of elaboration of NUP action plans
				and dissemination through their experts.
				Secured funds from the ACCD project for
	4			the implementation of the NUP and part of
	Medium	High	Active	the dissemination process.
Political:				Prepare packages of material/session in
Inadequate				advance to reactivate the policy teams and
cooperation of				directorates. Activate internal resources.
different levels of				Prepare a strategy for the elaboration
government due				of the action plan. Start mobilizing the
to October post-				involved partners.
election period				
	-0	Ŷ		Prepare materials for NUP dissemination in
	High	Medium	Active	advance

### Challenges, Risks, and Mitigation Efforts

### Innovative Approaches

The country office in collaboration with the HQ developed the innovative approaches shared herein to enhance project implementation in Mozambique.

#### Innovation



The NUP has four transversal themes that are reflected in the diagnostic, pillars and action plans of the implementation strategy. These issues are a) the Right to the City, b) Social Inclusion and Gender, c) Informal Settlements and d)Digitalization of Society.

Public consultation discussions have focused on specific and vulnerable groups, using these cross-cutting issues as entry points for gathering information, expectations and establish propositions, with the goal of creating a NUP aimed at the development of people-centered smart cities.

The country is moving towards substantial conceptual, legislative and administrative changes/innovations as prerequisites for the effective policy implementation. Part of this initiative is the re-classification of the definition of urban. In this, through the Urbanization Policy, UN-Habitat is leading the technical process, involving key relevant stakeholders and proposing the adoption of relevant global tools such as the "degree of urbanization" (DEGURBA) methodology and the Urban Monitoring Framework, including the creation of urban observatories.



and key capacity building and training at all territorial levels Innovative approaches measuring the urban areas were demonstrated and

The NUP approach supports the mainstreaming of digital innovation in urban services

implemented in April and May 2024 through dissemination of key tools and capacity
 building workshops.



#### Projected Milestones for 2025

- » Guide reactivation of the policy technical team and Directive Council
- » Elaboration of the first draft of the policy action plan
- Hold discussions leading to the approval of the Digital Urban Transformation Mapping and assessment through an ad-hoc policy team meeting
- Meetings to mainstream concepts, issues, recommendations and analysis on digitalization in the final NUP action plans
- Conduct stakeholders mapping and inception meetings for pilot project design and implementation with national and local administrations
- Carry out a needs assessment and draft the roadmap for pilot project design and implementation prioritizing the municipal needs in terms of innovation
- » Support in the preliminary planning and participate in the knowledge exchange visit planned for September 2026 in Korea
- Implement demonstration projects following consultations with the country and HQ office, Mozambique government, and other implementing partners.
- Participate in regular quarterly meetings and draft reports to highlight progress in Phase 2 project implementation

#### **Resource Mobilization**

K-NUPP phase 2 implementation in Mozambique has secured partnerships with three major organizations. These include:

- » Technical support by the World Bank on the Urban and Local Development Project (PDUL) in collaboration with the government of Mozambique. This is expected to continue in the next policy phases.
- The second partnership is with the German Development Cooperation Agency in Mozambique, (GIZ) on 'Good Financial Governance Partnership Program 3 (BGF3) (2023-2026)' to be implemented in cooperation with MAEFP. In 2023-2024, the project aimed to improve local governance in terms of citizen-centric service provision, financial sustainability, and accountability through a total budget of 94,000 Euros for the period of September 2023 to December 2024.
- Third is through the support by the Catalan Agency for Cooperation and Development (ACCD), phase 3 project on 'strengthening subnational dialogue on Urban and Territorial Sustainable Development in Mozambique'. This third phase will entail dissemination and capacity building for the policy endorsement at various territorial levels, as well as support for key technical meetings. A total budget of USD 290,000 for the period 2025-2026 has been allocated in this partnership.

## 4.5. PARAGUAY

### **Country Profile**



Source: World Bank (2023); https://data. worldbank.org/country/paraguay

#### Background

As of 2024, Paraguay had almost 63% of its population living in urban areas (World Bank, 2024). Higher concentration occurs in three metropolitan areas, namely Asunción (11 municipalities), Ciudad del Este (4 municipalities) and Encarnación (5 municipalities). However, urbanization in these areas has been relegated by weaknesses spanning from inefficient metropolitan plans, policies, governing bodies and, especially, financing mechanisms thus escalating poverty, and spatial inequalities in cities. The government's commitment towards sustainable urbanization is evidenced by a steady growth in relevance of urbanism and housing at the highest political level, with the recent (establishment of the first dedicated Ministry in 2018 - the Ministry of Urbanism, Housing and Habitat. The government's commitment to managing urbanization is also evident in the existence of a draft Paraguay National Housing and Habitat Policy (PNVH) also introduced in 2018. The policy draft focused on three major axes: Governance and Institutions, Planning and Design, and Finance.

Collaboration between UN-Habitat and the government of Paraguay in 2019 saw completion of the draft above-mentioned Policy into the current 'National Urbanism, Housing and Habitat Policy (PNUVH)', with a stronger urbanism content. The Policy was finally approved in January 2024.

Participation of the Republic of Paraguay in NUPP Phase 2; 'Scaling Up Peoplecentred Smart Cities through National Urban Policy' from November 2022 to November 2027 is expected to support in addressing the urbanization challenges through an elaboration and implementation of the 'National Urbanism, Housing and Habitat Plan 2035 (PLANUVH)', as well as the local and metropolitan strategies and pilot actions to test and validate elements reflected in the nationallevel instruments. This will be done through knowledge sharing forums, capacity building/ development of stakeholders, acupuncture projects, and normative tools.

The four main expected results at the end of the programme for Paraguay include; (i) finalization of 'National Urbanism, Housing and Habitat Plan' (PLANUVH 2035) with people centred smart city approach, along with instruments for implementation at metropolitan level, (ii) Recommendations for strengthening people-centered smart cities in Paraguay, (iii) successful implementation of three interventions / demonstration projects in different territorial scales, and (iv) Exchange visits in Latin America and South Korea to strengthen capacity of relevant stakeholders as well as the local communities.

Mainstreaming the people-centered smart cities approach in the plan and integration of the metropolitan component will thus leverage technology for urban development while strengthening Paraguayan institutions, urban experts, and residents to respond to the new socioeconomic dynamics, offering real time solutions that subsequently improve the people's quality of live. Implementation of K-NUPP Phase 2 in Paraguay will also contribute to a sustainable, inclusive, prosperous digital transformation that prioritizes residents. It will further contribute to realization of the SDGs and the New Urban Agenda among other global goals the Sendai Framework, and the Paris Agreement

### Logical Framework and Implementation for Year 2

The workplan for 2024, agreed upon with the Government of Paraguay, is depicted below. It is important to highlight that some activities which were originally planned for 2023 were carried forward to 2024 due to a longer time frame necessary for the selection and contracting of the project partner to support with the local consultations.

Detailed descriptions	Activities	Korea Fund	Deadline	Total	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Estimated cor the NUP	nplementary budget to be mobilized by the CO for development of	421000 USD						
OUTCOME 1.	National government mainstream the people-centred smart cities approach into NUPs			102.600,00				
OUTPUT 1.1	Draft National Urbanism, Housing and Habitat Plan; draft Implementation guide for the Plan at subnational levels			102.600,00				
1.1.1	Definition/recruitment of the team in charge of the development of the plan	MUVH and UN-Habitat	31/03/2024	3.000,00				
1.1.2	Familiarisation of the team with the existing PLANAVIUH documentation, elaboration of the detailed work plan and material for consultation	Drafting Team, IP	30/04/2024	3.000,00				
1.1.3	Conduct stakeholder consultations to validate the objectives and targets of the plan	Drafting Team, MUVH, IP	30/05/2024	18.400,00				
1.1.4	Consolidation of the results of the consultations and elaboration of the first version of the plan	Drafting Team, IP	30/06/2024	3.000,00				
1.1.5	Discussion with internal and external focus groups regarding elements of the Plan (e.g. resources with STP and AFD, monitoring with INE)	Drafting Team, MUVH, IP, UNHabitat	31/07/2024	3.500,00				
1.1.6	Consolidating the results of the discussions and drafting the second version of the plan (output)	Drafting Team, IP, UN-Habitat	31/07/2024	3.600,00				
1.1.7	Dissemination of the plan through public presentation and publication on official websites for comments	MUVH, IP	30/09/2024	3.000,00				
1.1.8	Finalisation and approval of the plan after consolidation of the public dissemination results	Drafting Team, IP, UN-Habitat	31/10/2024	3.000,00				

	Sub Total (Outcome 1, 3)			284.000,00
3.2.5	Preparation of report for realised interventions	IP, UN-Habitat	31/12/2026	6.000,00
3.2.4	Realisation of the interventions according to workplan	IP, City administrations with support from MUVH	31/12/2026	161.400,00
3.2.3	Procurement of services and equipment necessary for the implementation of the interventions	UN-Habitat	31/01/2025	6.000,00
3.2.2	Preparation of city-specific workplans for the activities	City administrations with support from MUVH	31/10/2024	4.500,00
3.2.1	Identification of interventions to be realised with the three participant subnational governments/authorities	MUVH in articulation with the cities	31/08/2024	3.500,00
OUTPUT 3.2	Three (3) interventions / demonstration projects implemented			81.400,00
OUTCOME 3.	Urban/metropolitan interventions apply innovative approaches while National Urban Policy.	e considering the people-centered di	mension in	181.400,00
1.1.16	Realisation of the interventions according to workplan	UN-Habitat and MUVH	31/05/2025	3.000,00
1.1.15	Realisation of visit according to plan (Output)	UN-Habitat and MUVH	30/04/2025	3.600,00
1.1.14	Preparation of logistics associated with visit	UN-Habitat	31/01/2025	3.000,00
1.1.13	Identification and articulation with host country and elaboration/ validation of detailed ToR of visit	UN-Habitat and MUVH	30/11/2024	3.000,00
1.1.12	Finalisation and approval of the plan after consolidation of the public dissemination results	MUVH, UN-Habitat	31/12/2024	3.500,00
1.1.11	Dissemination of the guidelines through public presentation and publication on official websites for comments	MUVH, IP	31/10/2024	8.400,00
1.1.10	Elaboration of draft implementation guidelines (output)	Drafting Team, IP	30/09/2024	4.100,00
1.1.9	Engagement with implementing agencies and monitoring of activities and results	MUVH, UN-Habitat	30/11/2024	3.500,00

#### Achievements



» Approval of the National Urbanism, Housing and Habitat Policy in January 2024, with engagement of local institutions to support consultative processes.



Signature of agreement with implementing partner to realize output 1.1-Draft National Urbanism, Housing and Habitat Plan; draft Implementation guide for the Plan at subnational levels.



» First meeting with the government to launch the partnership in March 2024.



Elaboration and validation of approach and confirmation of dates with MUVH and Habitat for Humanity Paraguay for the consultations to inform the 'National Urbanism, Housing and Habitat Plan' (PLANUVIH 2023).



 » First consultation with the Ministry of Urbanism, Housing and Habitat (MUVH) to validate objectives and targets of the plan done in June.



Continued consultations with civil society and government representatives in Asunción, Ciudad del Este and Encarnación between June and October 2024.



- Successfully conducted a mission to Paraguay in September 2024, whereby the team met government representatives and supported consultations
- » Consolidation of the results of the consultations and delivery of the first draft of the plan in December.
  - » Supported in planning and participated in K-NUPP related events during WUF12 held in Cairo, Egypt in November.

ANTE



### Challenges, Risks, and Mitigation Efforts

Risks	Probability	Impact	Status	Mitigation
Financial				HQ, CO, and government to mobilize other sources
constraints				of funds from national and international partners.
	Medium	High	Active	Request additional funding by the donor
Low				Mission in November 2023 already engaged with
Engagement				local governments; need for more MUVH support in
of Local				this regard
Governments	Low	High	Active	

#### Emerging Issues

Issues
Need for stronger engagement of cities (local level) in addition to National Level Government
Considerably low appropriation of the project at the Ministerial level

### Innovative Approaches

<ul> <li>interventions in the ground</li> <li>Strengthen local institutions by organizing exchange programs with cities in Latin</li> <li>America and South Korea, facilitating knowledge transfer on sustainable urban policies,</li> </ul>		Innovative Approach
America and South Korea, facilitating knowledge transfer on sustainable urban policies,	R	Work both at national and strategic level (PLANUVH) as well as implementing concrete interventions in the ground
governance, and smart erry solutions.		Strengthen local institutions by organizing exchange programs with cities in Latin America and South Korea, facilitating knowledge transfer on sustainable urban policies, governance, and smart city solutions.

#### **Resource Mobilization**

UN-Habitat is continuing with efforts to secure more partnerships and additional funding both nationally and internationally.

#### Projected Milestones for 2025

- » Validation of the first version of the 'National Urbanism, Housing and Habitat plan' (PLANUVH 2035).
- » Draft local implementation guides for PLANUVH 2035
- » Draft demonstration project proposals
- » Implement demonstration project to realize outcome 3 of the phase 2 project implementation
- » Support in the preliminary planning and participating in the knowledge exchange planned for September 2026, in Korea

## **K-NUPP Phase 1 Countries**

### 4.6. I.R. IRAN

#### Country Profile



Source: World Bank (2023);https://data. worldbank.org/country/iran-islamic-rep

#### Background

I.R Iran's experience in regional and urban planning spans over five decades. However, its progress in the sustainable urbanization process has faced challenges identical to those experienced in many countries across the globe. Some of the noted challenges for Iran include inadequate and unaffordable housing, rapid growth of the urban population, climate change, and poor urban basic services.

I.R. Iran took part in the first phase of K-NUPP together with Niger State (Nigeria), and Myanmar. UN-Habitat collaborated with the government of Iran and MOLIT of Korea to develop a NUP and 'Smart City Strategy' for Iran. These documents are aimed at contributing to addressing key urban issues such as;

- Ineffective coordination between the national and local levels,
- » Absence of integrated planning in the urban management system,
- » Poor understanding of the concerns and interests of stakeholders.

- Inadequate public participation in urban planning,
- Inefficiency of some urban planning laws, rules, and regulations,
- » Weak inter-organizational relationships

The government of Iran continues to participate in K-NUPP Phase 2 which is expected to contribute to addressing emerging urbanization challenges and enhance knowledge sharing on urban policy globally. As part of this process, plans are underway to implement an intervention aiming at mitigating effects of climate change through renewable energy and strengthening the capacity of the local community in Tehran, especially young people, through vocational training. This will fast track implementation of the NUP and Smart City Strategy developed in the pilot phase of K-NUPP by mainstreaming a peoplecentered approach. In addition, implementation and monitoring of the policy will support actualization of global frameworks such as the SDGs particularly SDG 11, the New Urban Agenda, and the Sendai Framework.



# Logical Framework and Implementation for Year 2

As a continuing participant in the programme, the logical framework shows the detailed work plan for project implementation of part of year 2 (Nov 2023-Nov 2024).

Outcome: Establishment and Implementation of NUP and Smart Cities Strategy in I.R. Iran													
Activities		2023				2024				2025			
		Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
Follow-up with MORUD to approve													
and establish the policy and smart city													
strategy													
Development of the demonstration													
project proposal, aimed at mitigating													
the effects of climate change													
Participation in WUF12													
Implementing solar energy systems													
Community empowerment and													
vocational training as effective													
measures to foster climate change													
mitigation and adaptation													
Development of the report on the													
selected projects aligned with NUP in													
Iran													
Participation in Project quarterly													
meetings													

#### Achievements

After finalization of NUP and Smart City Strategy for Iran in the pilot phase of K-NUPP, the project team advanced in its collaboration with the Iranian government through the Ministry of Roads and Urban Development (MoRUD) to implement the policy.

In 2024, the following milestones were achieved:

 » Drafted proposals for demonstration projects aimed at mitigating the effects of climate change in two aspects;

- Improving uptake of renewable energy by installing solar panels in selected areas in Tehran
- » Strengthening capacity of the local community, with a special focus on the youths by conducting vocational training in Tehran
- » Supported in the preparation of quarterly country reports and participation in quarterly donor consultations
- » Supported in planning and participation in K-NUPP related events during WUF12 held in Cairo, Egypt.

Risks	Likelihood	Impact	Status	Mitigation Measures
Financial				Attempt to mobilize international resources
constraints and				to support implementation of the major NUP
other limitations				outcomes.
	Medium	High	Active	Coordination and integrating different organizations to synergize the capacities aligned with NUP specific objectives and outcomes.
Counterparts not	Mcdidiff	riigii	Active	Close and continuous collaboration with
able to provide				different stakeholders to identify the
adequate support				project purpose and outcomes in relation to
due to lack of				national/local plans
capacity	- Medium	High	Active	· ·
Inefficient				Participatory planning, and continuous
coordination and				counterparts and stakeholder engagement in
collaboration				the outlined project activities
between different	<b>-</b>	- A		
counterparts	Medium	Medium	Active	
Limited				Engagement of the local community and
participation by the				representatives in the planning procedure
local community	0	-		and participation in community activities and
	Low	High	Active	engagement with training programs.

### Challenges, Risks, and Mitigation Efforts
## Emerging Issues

	Issues
	Need for additional financial resources to facilitate the implementation of the policies
L.	Limited access to advanced technologies and innovative solutions due to sanctions hinders the implementation of effective urban policies
	Incoordination and bureaucracy in legal and regulatory frameworks can pose significant barriers to turn urban policies into action and implementation
	Inadequate personnel as well as institutional capacity in government and public sector and need for development of required capacities

## Innovative Approaches

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mplementation of the policies Strengthening the collaboration and linkage between national-scale and local scale institutions for empowering the personnel and organizations and facilitating inclusive implementation of the policies at the grassroots level.

Institutional capacity development in MoRUD for enabling the partner for

Empowering participatory and multi-stakeholder involvement planning of activities to ensure smoother and more efficient implementation and project delivery and achieve more sustainable outcomes.

Institutionalizing project achievements by development of technical and evidencebased guidelines based on project experience.

# Projected Milestones for 2025

Project implementation for K-NUPP phase 2 in I.R. Iran aims to achieve the following milestones at global and national levels:

- » Implementation of the demonstration projects aimed at improving renewable energy supply through installation of solar panels and strengthening capacity of youths in Tehran.
- » Support in the planning, reporting and participating in the quarterly meetings
- » Support in the preliminary preparations of the knowledge exchange visit planned for 2026 in Korea

# **Resource Mobilization**

UN-Habitat continues with efforts to secure more partnerships and additional funding both nationally and internationally. It is hoped that implementation of the demonstration projects will advance advocacy efforts and mobilize more resources at local and global levels for successful people-centered NUP implementation in I.R. Iran.

## 4.7. MYANMAR

## Country Profile



Source: World Bank (2023); https://data. worldbank.org/country/myanmar

## Background

Concerted efforts towards sustainable urbanization and policy development process in Myanmar began in 2015. This was catalyzed by its participation in Habitat III in Quito, Ecuador in 2016. Support received from MOLIT of Korea and UN-Habitat through Myanmar's participation in the pilot phase of K-NUPP (2017-2022) led to materialization of the NUP and smart city strategy. Myanmar's NUP aims to achieve spatially integrated and orderly developed urban settlements with adequate infrastructure, efficient institutions, effective legal framework, and a sound living and working environment to support the country's socio-economic development. To support Myanmar's effort for achieving sustainable urbanization, UN-Habitat envisions integrating people-centered smart city approaches through the 68 smart city actions of the Smart City Strategy developed in the

pilot phase of K-NUPP. The demonstration projects and workshops implemented during phase 1 (2017 to 2022) improved the quality of life of residents of informal settlements as well as strengthened the capacity of the local community and leaders.

Transitioning to the second phase of the programme, the project team will implement a demonstration project whose main objective is to provide renewable energy solutions in one of the secondary cities of Myanmar (Taung Gyi, Southern Shan State). The activities will include supply of 600 household solar lights, 4 off grid solar PV systems, 2 solar pumping systems, for 5 Climate vulnerable villages in Taung Gyi. The demonstration project will not only enable implementation of Myanmar's NUP but also contribute to achievement of global agendas like NUA and SDGs.



# Logical Framework and Implementation Plan for Year 2

	Improved energy access and climate resilience in five climate-vulnerable villages of Taung Gyi, enabling households, schools to benefit from clean, reliable solar energy for lighting and water access thereby enhancing livelihoods, education, climate change adaptation and disaster preparedness.	Deliverable	% DONE	ост	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP
Activ	ities			2024			2025								
	Identify and select the beneficiaries in	Beneficiary lists and													
	collaboration with local authorities and	selection reports.													
	community representatives.	Concept note and													
	Develop technical specifications for the off-	proposals for the													
1.1.1	grid solar PV hybrid systems, household lights	required solar systems.	100%												
	and solar pumping based on energy needs and	Meeting minutes													
	site conditions.	with the established													
	Obtain necessary approvals from local	community													
	authorities for the installation.	committees.													
	Procurement of 4 off-grid solar PV hybrid														
1.1.2	systems, 600 household lights and 2 solar	Procurement reports.	100%												
	pumps ensuring compliance with UN														
	procurement standards.														

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1.1.3	Conduct site inspections at the schools to determine suitable locations for the installation of solar panels and battery storage units. Prepare installation sites, including leveling ground or reinforcing rooftops where panels will be mounted. Ensure the safety and security of installation areas during the project.	Site inspection reports.	100%						
1.1.4	Assemble and install the solar PV hybrid systems, including panels, batteries, inverters, and cabling. Connect the systems to the school's electrical infrastructure to ensure compatibility and reliability. Conduct system testing to verify functionality and efficiency.	Installation completion reports.	70%						
1.1.5	Capacity Building and Training Organize training sessions for school staff on the operation and basic maintenance of the installed solar systems.	Training reports.	70%						
1.1.6	Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Establish baseline data for energy usage and school performance prior to system installation. Develop monitoring tools to track energy generation, usage, and system performance. Conduct regular site visits to assess system functionality and address any issues.	Regular M&E reports. Community feedback forms. Field inspection reports.	30%						

## Achievements

In addition to the success in the pilot phase which saw the finalization of Myanmar NUP and Smart City Strategy, the second year of its participation in phase 2 recorded key milestones. These include:



» Support in planning, reporting, and participation in the quarterly donor consultations



» Support in the planning, preparation, and participating in K-NUPP related events during WUF12 in Cairo, Egypt. Myanmar Climate Change Alliance (MCCA) also had a booth which by extension increased awareness on Myanmar's efforts towards sustainable urbanization through NUP and climate action.



 Drafting a proposal for a demonstration project whose focus is to provide sustainable energy solutions in the secondary cities of Myanmar (Taung Gyi and Southern Shan State)



## Challenges, Risks, and Mitigation Efforts

Myanmar faces a unique challenge due to the double impact of COVID-19 pandemic and internal conflicts that affected the delivery of phase 1 and delayed its transition to phase 2 of the programme. Going forward in phase 2, the project team has adopted a conflictsensitive approach which ensures that the interventions promote peacebuilding and community cohesion where possible to ensure sustainability and success of the programme, while delivering impact to the beneficiaries.

### **Resource Mobilization**

To sustain and scale the impacts of its demonstration projects, UN-Habitat in Myanmar is actively engaging in resource mobilization efforts to bridge funding gaps and ensure long-term program viability. This involves forging strategic partnerships with international development agencies, Myanmar Climate Action Network (M-CAN) partners, climate finance institutions and private sector stakeholders. By leveraging the alignment of MCCA2 with global frameworks such as the SDGs and the Paris Agreement, as well as national policy priorities under the NUPP, UN-Habitat seeks to attract investments in nature-based solutions, renewable energy systems, and capacity-building initiatives. Additionally, community-driven approaches in project implementation are being highlighted to donors as scalable, inclusive, and impactful models, capable of addressing climate resilience challenges in both urban and rural areas. These efforts are further supported by evidence-based results, such as the findings from the Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment (CCVA) and Local Climate Action Plans (LCAPs), to demonstrate the effectiveness of proposed interventions in creating sustainable and climate-resilient communities.



## Projected Milestones for 2025

In the coming year, the project in Myanmar expects to achieve the following.

- » Implementation of the demonstration project by installing 4 sets of off-grid solar power systems and providing 600 sets of household solar lights to vulnerable households in Myanmar secondary cities of Taung Gyi and Southern Shan State
- » Preparation, reporting on country progress, and participating in the quarterly meetings
- » Preparation of detailed case studies showcasing the project's results, challenges, and scalability, for advocacy and replication.
- » Conducting an in-depth evaluation of the demonstration project, assessing its alignment to Myanmar NUP and smart city strategies, alongside global urbanization agenda.
- » Organizing of final workshops for local communities and stakeholders to ensure sustainability, ownership, and knowledge transfer from the demonstration project outcomes.
- » Support in the organization and execution of Myanmar Climate Forum.
- » Support in the preliminary preparation and participating in the knowledge exchange visit planned for September 2026 in Korea.



# 4.8. NIGER STATE, NIGERIA

## Country Profile



Area in 76,469.903

km<sup>2</sup>:

Source: World Bank (2023); https://data.worldbank.org/country/nigeria

## Background

Niger State, created in 1976, is one of the six states in Nigeria's North Central geopolitical region. Covering 76,469.903 km<sup>2</sup> (10% of Nigeria's landmass) with an estimated population of over 6.7 million, it is the largest state in Nigeria. Niger State, like many other states in Nigeria, faces a series of urban challenges associated with unplanned urbanization. Rapid population growth in urban centers such as Minna, Suleja, and Bida has strained existing infrastructure, resulting in an acute housing shortage, inadequate infrastructure, inequitable access to basic services, increasing urban poverty, environmental degradation, the proliferation of informal settlements, urban sprawl, and unsustainable consumption of ecological resources

A large proportion of Niger State's population can hardly access electricity, clean water and sanitation which constitute key basic urban services. In addition, poor transportation and communication infrastructure in Niger State has exacerbated inter-urban, intraurban, and urban-rural mobility and transportation of agricultural produce. Most of the road infrastructure, especially interurban and rural-urban roads, is poorly maintained, thus leading to longer commute times. This has not only affected economic productivity but also contributed to air pollution and road accidents.

Recognizing these challenges and the urgent

need to harness the transformative potential of urbanization, the government of Niger State formulated its urban policy and smart city strategy as it participated in the Pilot Phase of the Korea National Urban Policy Programme (KNUPP) between 2017 and 2022. The policy focuses on 10 priority areas namely integrated and balanced territorial development, productive and competitive economy, effective land governance, urban security and safety, strengthening urban-rural linkages, smart city, resilient infrastructure and services. sustainable transportation and mobility, urban resilience, climate change mitigation and adaptation, effective urban governance, and coordinated management to maximize the transformative potentials of urbanization to attain compact, connected, socially inclusive, and self-sustaining towns and cities in Niger State

While the government of Niger State has taken some bold steps towards implementing its urban policy, UN-Habitat and MOLIT continue to provide support to the government of Niger State under the second phase (2022-2027) of the K-NUPP, more importantly in policy implementation and capacity building. This collaboration reinforces ongoing efforts to support both national and subnational governments in advancing the targets and objectives of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

# Logical Framework and Implementation Plan for Year 2

Niger State achieved the set outcomes for K-NUPP Phase 2 as shared below

S/		2023	3	2024	1			202	5		
No		Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
1	Establish Inter-Ministerial Technical										
	Team for the implementation of										
	Niger State Urban Policy (NSUP)										
2	Organize Workshop for MDAs on										
	how to implement NSUP and Smart										
	City Strategy (SCS)										
3	Prepare implementation Action Plan										
	for the Niger State Urban Policy										
4	Launching of the NSUP and SCS										
5	Facilitate enactment of the NSUP										
	into Law										
6	Organize Capacity building on how										
	to develop a Bankable Projects for										
	NSUP implementation										
7	Implement SNUP through Innovative										
	Demonstration Projects										
8	Undertake exchange visit to South										
	Korea for knowledge exchange on										
	implementation of NSUP										

## Achievements

During 2024, significant progress was made in advancing key initiatives related to the Niger State Urban Policy and the Phase 2 K-NUPP framework. Working with the subnational government and partners, UN-Habitat successfully implemented various strategic actions aimed at improving access to basic services and quality of life as well as strengthening institutional capacities for urban management. In addition, several communication and publicity materials were published to improve visibility for the Korea National Urban Policy Programme. Some of these achievements include:



Successful rehabilitation of three bi-water schemes (Beji, Kataeregi and Tungan Mallam) resulting in about 1 million liters of clean water are now available daily to over 80,000 direct beneficiaries, reduction in waterborne diseases, time spent fetching water, and reliance on vendors, while also improving hygiene practices among the communities.



Completed installation of Solar Borehole in Kuta Hospital. This ensured improved healthcare services through availability of clean water and reduced operational costs due to uninterrupted power supply.



» Published a knowledge product: Niger State Urban Policy Roadmap to Transformation to share the success stories and Niger State experience on its urban policy implementation (<u>Link</u>).





Prepared publicity materials on the impact of Niger State Urban Policy Demonstration Projects to enhance the visibility of the K-NUPP, showcasing significance of demonstration projects in the SNUP implementation and on accelerating sustainable urbanization.



» Participated in the Knowledge Sharing and global awareness event held in Cairo during WUF12. The presentation focused on key lessons learned from the implementation of demonstration projects in Niger State, detailing the incremental change and impacts of the projects on sustainable urbanization.



» Developed proposal for a new demonstration project focusing on improving sanitation and hygiene in urban informal communities.



- » Supported preparation and reporting and participating in K-NUPP-related events during WUF 12 held in Cairo, Egypt.
- » Supported in preparation and reporting on country progress, and participating in quarterly meetings
- » Providing technical support to Niger State government institutions and local government authorities on mainstreaming the people-centered approach in urban and local development initiatives.



# Challenges, Risks, and Mitigation Efforts

The table below highlights some of the challenges experienced during implementation of the 2023-2024 workplan, and suggested mitigation strategies for smooth project implementation in 2024-2025



## **Resource Mobilization**

The government of Niger State continues to mobilize resources aimed at scaling up interventions to implement the SNUP developed in the pilot phase of K-NUPP. Ongoing resource mobilization efforts with the Islamic Development Bank and Abu Dhabi Fund for Development are expected to fast track infrastructural development in Niger State.

## Projected Milestones for 2025

The following milestones are planned to be accomplished by the end of year three (2025) of the project implementation.

- » Implementation of acupuncture projects in line with the SNUP thematic areas and phase 2 expected outcomes
- » Support in planning, reporting and participating in the quarterly meetings
- » Support in preliminary planning, reporting and participating in the knowledge exchange visit planned for September 2026 in Korea
- » Conduct monitoring and evaluation to assess the extent and impact of implementation of the Niger State Urban Policy.

# **5. Financial Report**

### **COMMITMENTS & BALANCES FINANCIAL REPORT as at**

#### 31-Dec-24

## (United States dollars)

Donor:	Government of South Korea
Project Title/Umoja ID:	Phase II of the National Urban Policy Programme:
Total Approved Funding:	Developing NUPs and Smart City Strategies in Eight Selected Countries
Total Received Contribution:	US\$2,882,803.93
Foreign Exchange Loss:	US\$1,100,109.05
Duration of Project:	US\$ 10,647.5
	Nov 2022 - Nov 2027(5 Years )

1) PROJECT PERSONNEL	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Total
International Expert for key inputs	0.00	43,481.33	0.00	0.00	43,481.33
Inland missions	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
International missions	0.00	6,698.34	0.00	0.00	6,698.34
Sub-Total 1	0.00	50,179.67	0.00	0.00	50,179.67
2) ACTIVITIES					
2.a Consultants					
Activity 1.1 Development and (partial)					
implementation of National Urban Policy in	10,000.00	30,000.00	0.00	0.00	40,000.00
eight countries					
Activity 1.2 Development of smart city strategy	223,659.79	12,000.00	0.00	0.00	235,659.79
in eight countries					
Activity 1.3 Completion of NUP stakeholders'	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
workshop series, in eight countries	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Activity 1.4 Development of annual project	73.055.66	26,039.98	0.00	0.00	99.095.64
reports	13,000.00	20,039.90	0.00	0.00	99,095.04
Activity 1.5 Exchange visit to Korea to learn					
from the Korean experience with NUP and	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Smart City Strategy					
Sub-Total 2.a	306,715.45	68,039.98	0.00	0.00	374,755.42
2.b Partner and expert contribution					
Activity 1.1 Development and (partial)					
implementation of National Urban Policy in	0.00	24,243.91	0.00	0.00	24,243.91
eight countries					

67 8, 7, 3, 7, 0, 7, 0, 0, 3, 0, 2, 2, 2, 17 5, 5, 8,12 18 96 2, 3	30,580.39         30,580.39         3,543.27         7,000.00         3,000.53         3,309.53         3,309.53         3,309.53         3,309.53         3,309.53         3,309.53         3,309.53         3,309.53         3,309.53         3,309.53         3,309.53         3,309.53         3,309.53	0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.0	0.00 0.00	<ul> <li>30,580.39</li> <li>30,580.39</li> <li>19,065.94</li> <li>7,000.00</li> <li>3,000.00</li> <li>7,855.70</li> <li>0.00</li> <li>3,000.00</li> <li>39,921.63</li> <li>445,257.44</li> <li>5,309.53</li> <li>5</li></ul>
67 8, 7, 3, 7, 0, 3, 0, 3, 0, 3, 2, 2, 2, 2, 5, 5, 5, 8,12 18	3,543.27 7,000.00 3,000.00 3,000.00 3,000.00 3,000.00 3,000.00 29,398.96 178,198.99 5,309.53 5,309.53 83,508.52	0.00         0.00	0.00         0.00	<ul> <li>30,580.39</li> <li>30,580.39</li> <li>19,065.94</li> <li>7,000.00</li> <li>3,000.00</li> <li>7,855.70</li> <li>3,000.00</li> <li>39,921.63</li> <li>445,257.44</li> <li>5,309.53</li> <li>5,309.53</li> <li>5,309.53</li> <li>5,309.53</li> <li>5,309.746.64</li> <li>65,097.06</li> </ul>
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#### Note

Demonstration Projects in Niger State, the Islamic Republic of Iran and project implementation in the Republic of Azerbaijan is underway. These are activities scheduled for year two and are in the pipelines. An discussion on the midterm evaluation is ongoing. Country Offices are scheduled to receive 32% of the third

year installment in respect to the project revisions effected on 13 August 2024.

Kenny Gietchip JE

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

# 6. Annex

Azerbaijan letter of acknowledgement



State Committee on Urban Planning and Architecture of the Republic of Azerbaijan

19 November 2024

Mr. Remy Sietchiping, Head of Policy, Legislation and Governance Section UN-Habitat

Dear Mr Sietchiping,

I hope this email finds you well.

I am writing in regard to the State Committee on Urban Planning and Architecture's interest and engagement on national urban policy-making under UN-Habitat's National Urban Policy Programme (NUP) - Phase Two "Scaling up Climate Smart People-centred Smart Cities through National Urban Policies". In line with our commitment towards the application of the New Urban Agenda and Agenda 2030 in Azerbaijan, we are keen to receive UN-Habitat's technical and advisory support and partnership in this endeavour.

As the main government agency dealing with urban policy-making and planning in Azerbaijan, we are keen to adopt UN-Habitat's guiding framework on NUP for the development of our country's NUP. We believe that our staff and stakeholders will acquire valuable skillsets through the planned capacity development initiatives, as well as gain access to a broad range of normative tools, knowledge and good practices to support this important policymaking process.

We take this opportunity to express our gratitude to UN-Habitat and its esteemed partners for this important assistance in development of the National Urban Policy of Azerbaijan.

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## **K-NUPP PUBLICATION FOR THE 2023-2024 PERIOD**



IMPLEMENTING NATIONAL URBAN POLICY THROUGH DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS



Global State of National Urban Policy 2024 Building Resilience and Promoting Adequate, Inclusive and Sustainable Housing









#### 2023-2024 Annual Report

National Urban Policy Programme, Phase 2: 'Scaling up People-Centered Smart Cities through National Urban Policies'

UN-Habitat's National Urban Policy Programme (NUPP) continues to play a pivotal role in advancing inclusive, resilient, and sustainable urban development globally through national and subnational urban policies. This 2024 edition of the Korea-funded National Urban Policy Programme (K-NUPP) report presents progress made during year two of the second phase of the programme, with a focus on activities undertaken and results achieved in 2023/2024, while providing a forward-looking view of planned activities for 2025.

The report reflects the strong commitment of UN-Habitat, through its Policy, Legislation and Governance Section, and the Government of the Republic of Korea, through the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport (MOLIT), to support the eight beneficiary countries--Azerbaijan, Cambodia, Egypt, Mozambique, Paraguay, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Myanmar, and Niger State (Nigeria)-- to advance their urban policies.

Through a multi-stakeholder process of co-creation, collaboration, and co-sharing, **K-NUPP** contributes meaningfully to the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** and the **New Urban Agenda** by strengthening national urban policy frameworks across diverse contexts. This report also serves as a key reference point for urban professionals, policy makers, academia, researchers, and government officials on how to develop, implement, monitor and evaluate national urban policies from a people-centered smart city lens.



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