

Serbia: Habitat Country Programme Document 2023-2025



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Acronyms and Abbreviations

DOC	Domains of Change of UN Habitat Strategic Plan 2020-2023
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
HCPD	Habitat Country Programme Document
IGDABSA	International Guidelines on Decentralisation and Access to Basic Services for All
IGUPT	International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning
MCTI	Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure of the Republic of Serbia
NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisations
NUA	New Urban Agenda
NUP	National Urban Policy
SCTM	Standing Conference of Towns and Municipalities
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SUDSRS	Sustainable Urban Development Strategy of the Republic of Serbia until 2030
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNSDCF	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework
WUF	World Urban Forum

1. Introduction

Purpose and Background to HCPD 2023-2025

The Habitat Country Programme Document (HCPD) 2023-2025 for the Republic of Serbia has been developed in line with the UN-Habitat mandate under the Governing Council Resolution 21/2 of 2007, which aims to align UN-Habitat's normative and operational activities at the country level.¹ The HCPD therefore serves as a strategic guiding document whereby UN-Habitat and respective countries jointly identify and outline priority activities in mutual areas of concern such as urbanisation, climate change, and basic services as defined in the paragraph 64 of the Habitat Agenda², among others. The HCPD is also a platform for mobilising stakeholder support, including the public and private sectors, Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and development partners, to contribute to the priority areas envisioned by UN-Habitat and the host government.

This HCPD (hereafter referred to as the Serbia HCPD 2023-2025) is strategically harmonised with the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2021-2025, and recent international and regional frameworks, notably Our Common Agenda, the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the New Urban Agenda (NUA) and the Paris Agreement on climate change to which Republic of Serbia is a party. The Serbia HCPD 2023-2025 is also aligned with national frameworks and priorities such as the Sustainable Urban Development Strategy of The Republic of Serbia until 2030 (Urban Development Strategy), adopted in June 2019 by the Government of Serbia, along with the biannual Action Plan for its implementation adopted in March 2021³. The Urban Development Strategy was elaborated in line with UN-Habitat and other international organizations' recommendations, forging a mutual interest to cooperate on the implementation of this Strategy in 222 urban settlements. The Strategy contains 100 implementation measures, 6 programme areas and 43 monitoring indicators. Relevant policy and strategic frameworks are outlined in Table 1 of this section.

While Serbia's tradition in planning has been long-standing, the implementation of spatial and urban plans has not been considered satisfactory, due to a number of factors. Urban and territorial policies' implementation in Southeast Europe faces particular challenges linked to a long-lasting political instability and a slow and inappropriate transition which apparently was more successfully applied in the Central European countries. All countries of the macro-region are either members or potential members of the EU. European Union promotes polycentric spatial development and Southeast European countries with their settlements can be characterized as a periphery of European continent. Urbanization in the macro-region shows similar trends, being different from the urbanization in other parts of Europe and the world. Macro-regional specificity of the Southeast Europe within Europe can be observed and the presence of the UN Habitat as the global program within the framework of the United Nations system is necessary to support urban development in the macro-region.

Specific activities towards the implementation of the Urban Development Strategy may include revision of the strategy and development of action plans, together with the elements of resource mobilization, communication, capacity development, etc.; as well as specific projects to implement the six program areas (brownfields, informal settlements, public spaces, areas with social problems in cities, hot spots of climate change, cultural heritage); and the development of monitoring systems to support the implementation of the national urban policy, among others.

¹ Aligning Habitat Country Programme Documents with UN-Strategic Plan and Work Programme, UN-Habitat. [13282_1_596009.pdf](https://unhabitat.org/13282_1_596009.pdf) (unhabitat.org)

² Basic infrastructure and services at the community level include the delivery of safe water, sanitation, waste management, social welfare, transport and communications facilities, energy, health and emergency services, schools, public safety, and the management of open spaces.

³ The elaboration of national Urban Development Strategy was initiated by GIZ in 2017 and by the Government of Serbia in January 2018. The process of elaboration was officially launched at the conference held in Belgrade in February 2018, followed by five participatory workshops, series of meetings and consultations, leading to the Draft Strategy in September 2018. The public hearing took place in October and November 2018, the final presentation conference was held in Belgrade in December 2018.

Strategic Plan of UN-Habitat

UN-Habitat's Strategic Plan 2020-2023 focuses on commitments to advance sustainable urbanisation as a driver of development and peace and to improve living conditions for all, in line with the SDG principle of "leave no one behind", SDG 11, and the NUA through four mutually reinforcing and integrated Domains of Change (DOC) as key strategic priorities. UN-Habitat's four DOCs are as follows:

- DOC 1: Reduced spatial inequality and poverty in communities across the urban–rural continuum;
- DOC 2: Enhanced shared prosperity of cities and regions;
- DOC 3: Strengthened climate action and improved urban environment; and
- DOC 4: Effective urban crisis prevention and response.

These domains are underpinned by the social inclusion issues dimensions of human rights, gender, children, youth, older persons, and persons with disability and two cross-cutting thematic areas of resilience and safety. The four DOCs have three corresponding outcomes each⁴ which are tracked using robust indicators and milestones in the results framework and performance management plan.

Country Analysis

The Republic of Serbia is located in the Southeast of Europe and partly in Central Europe. Covering an area of 88,361 km², Serbia shares borders with Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria, North Macedonia, Albania, Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Croatia. The gross domestic product (GDP) per capita accounted for USD 7,666 in 2020. Being home to approximately 40 nationalities, the total population of Serbia is around 9 million inhabitants. The majority of the population are Serbs, while the minorities are Albanians, Bosniaks, Hungarians, Roma, Croats, Yugoslavs, and others. Even though the official language of the Republic of Serbia is Serbian, due to its multi-ethnic environment, other languages such as Albanian, Hungarian, Romanian, Slovak are spoken in the country. The population density on average is 92 inhabitants per square kilometer. At local administrative level Serbia consists of 145 municipalities and 29 cities. According to the Human Development Index (HDI), the Republic of Serbia is ranked as 64th globally, with an index of 0,806 in 2020.

Historically, Serbia has had a long and complex life span. After World War I, specifically in 1918, Serbia was joined by Montenegro and parts of Austro-Hungarian empire to form the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes. The name of the Kingdom was changed to the Kingdom of Yugoslavia in 1929. After the World War II Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia was declared and renamed the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in 1963. In the late 1980s, the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia experienced conflicts among its population due to the rise of nationalism, leading to the idea of independences. The formal structures of Yugoslavia started to collapse in the early 1990s. Slovenia and Croatia were the first to secede, declaring independence in 1991. Bosnia and Herzegovina and Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia declared independence in 1992. Serbia and Montenegro stayed joined in the state named the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. The decade of 1990s was marked by violent wars following the break-up of former Yugoslavia. The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia changed its name to the State Union of Serbia and Montenegro in 2003. In 2006, following the referendum in Montenegro, Serbia and Montenegro separated in peaceful way. In 2008, Albanian ethnic majority in Kosovo* declared independence, which was partially recognized by some member states of the United Nations and of the European Union (EU).

The EU Council granted Serbia the status of candidate country in 2012. The Stabilization and Association Agreement between Serbia and the EU which was signed in 2008, entered into force in 2013. In 2014 Serbia and EU formally started accession negotiations. Since then, twenty-two negotiation chapters of thirty-five have been opened, and two have been provisionally closed. In 2020, the EU Commission proposed revised accession methodology, to drive forward the enlargement process with a stronger political steer and in a more credible, predictable, dynamic way, and an Economic and Investment Plan was proposed to support and bring the Western Balkans closer to the EU.

⁴ The Strategic Plan 2020-2023, UN-Habitat. [strategic_plan_2020-2023.pdf \(unhabitat.org\)](https://unhabitat.org/strategic-plan-2020-2023.pdf)

* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 from 1999 and the ICJ opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence

While Serbia's tradition in planning has been long-standing, urban and territorial policies' implementation in Southeast Europe faces particular challenges linked to a long-lasting political instability and a slow and inappropriate transition. In this context, the National Urban Development Strategy, supported by UN Habitat, identified key urban development challenges to be addressed in this HCPD: social housing, urban safety, public spaces upgrading, youth participation, climate change, heritage and urban regeneration, territorial information systems, and capacity building.

A) Social Housing with Active Inclusion

Due to political and economic instability as well as lagging social inclusion, housing remains a widespread issue in Serbia and across Southeast Europe. The inclusion of refugees and internally displaced populations (IDPs) has constituted an important challenge since the aftermaths of wars and conflicts across Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia. UN-Habitat has previously engaged with the issue of lack of social housing and inclusion of refugees and IDPs through the Settlement and Integration of Refugees Program (SIRP), implemented from 2004 to 2008. Serbia and other Balkan countries also face inclusion challenges with regards to the Roma population who often lives in substandard and inadequate housing.

According to the housing assessment of the National Housing Strategy⁵, in addition to housing problems associated with the inclusion of vulnerable groups⁶, issues of insecure and inadequate housing in Serbia result from the lack of public housing stock for affordable rental housing, illegally built housing (almost 1 million of buildings) and spreading of informal neighborhoods, as well as the phenomenon of the 'poor owners', lack of adequate maintenance of existing housing stock and insufficient upgrading processes towards sustainable solutions (especially with regards to meeting new energy efficiency standards⁷).

With southeast Europe being located on the Middle East transit migrant route, and a rising poverty level generated by an inadequate economic transition, housing provision and affordability is a critical issue for which a series of projects tackling the above problems should be initiated.

B) Safer Cities

[UN Habitat Safer Cities project](#) has been implemented in Serbia in two phases, from 2006 to 2008 and from 2010 to 2013. The third phase of the Safer Cities Program (Phase III) focus on road and pedestrian safety, public health, hazards/disasters, crime/violence and exposure of vulnerable groups.

Potential activities of Phase III may include: creation or support of existing Local Safety Councils; launch of an urban safety working group under the National Urban Development Council in accordance with the National Urban Development Strategy; EFUS - peer to peer exchanges, networking, European standards. The Standing Conference of Towns and Municipalities may ensure the dissemination of lessons learnt, and become a 'knowledge management hub' which would collect, manage, archive, and share the collected knowledge between interested parties in Serbia and beyond. However, lack of urban safety data impedes urban safety monitoring.

Public safety is negatively affected by social segregation. Cooperation with public institutions at the national level (Ministry of Interior for topics of crime and hazards and Public Health Institute for the topic of health, as well as academia – Faculty of Security) is needed for the establishment of an urban safety monitoring framework. Preserving existing diversity and enabling a diversity-friendly environment should remain central in 'Safer Cities' activities implemented in Serbia.

C) Public Spaces

Public space as well as generally public interest in Serbia and in the whole region is confronted with obstacles since deregulation is pushing too far and it is difficult to protect public space and public interest. The commitment from the paragraph 37 of the New Urban Agenda to promote safe, inclusive, accessible, green and quality public spaces is important to guide local authorities and other stakeholders. For the capital city of Belgrade, an analysis of public spaces was

⁵ in public debate in December 2021 and January 2022

⁶ refugees, internally displaced persons, migrants, persons with disabilities, women victims of violence, etc.

⁷ which has also its own national strategy adopted by the Government of Serbia in February 2022

conducted and recommendations were made for their improvement. More coordinated, integrated and participatory action on public space is needed, which is also anchored in the relevant policies, plans and institutions. The promotion of the UN-Habitat's City-wide Public Space Assessment and all relevant tools, implementation of pilot public space upgrading in partnership with municipalities and local stakeholders, including small scale projects on urban pockets/corners as well as networks of public spaces, monitoring the public space indicators (SDG 11.7), exchange of knowledge and capacity-building, could be important areas of cooperation with Serbia. The intention the start activities in eleven public spaces for WUF11 in Serbia is an initial step towards better arrangement and management of public spaces in Serbia. Local institutions and green infrastructure development program – LIID which is supposed to start in 2022 has an important focus on public spaces and improvement of the methodology the activities concerning public spaces identified and listed by local self-government units through questionnaires. At World Urban Forum 11 in Katowice Poland in June 2022 Serbia is presenting the event Eleven Public Spaces in Serbia for World Urban Forum 11 and for Sustainable Development Goal 11 with examples from cities of Belgrade, Niš and Kruševac.

D) Youth for Urban Development

As stipulated in the paragraph 61 of NUA, 3(i) of IGUTP and 9 of IGDABSA the participation of young people should be encouraged to improve education, support youth associations and provide opportunities for dialogue. Actions supporting youth can be aimed at helping children and young people to access education, but also young unemployed people to find their first employment. Young employees, as a group that accepts innovation more easily, can drive innovative solutions. Besides, inter-generational cooperation should be improved, as it represents a particular challenge in the Balkans where traditional respect for elders can be an obstacle for youth activities. UN Habitat Youth programs should be better promoted in Serbia and the potential of youth should be better harnessed, to tackle the ongoing East-European demographic decline and the significant 'brain-drain'.

It is suggested that the national urban forum creates a specific session on youth in urban development, preparing the upcoming World Urban Forum (WUF) and its Youth Assembly. As the 2022 WUF takes place in Eastern Europe⁸ for the first time, a specific focus on youth is needed. Students coming to their final years of studies and post-graduates students should be the targeted group. Special session on youth and urban development was held at the National Urban Forum in Belgrade in April 2022.

E) Climate Change in Urban Development

Following the ratification of the United Nations Framework Convention for Climate Change (UNFCCC) by FR of Yugoslavia in 1997 and the Kyoto protocol in 2007, the Government of Serbia created the National Council for Climate Change in 2014, and ratified the Paris Agreement in 2017. The National Urban Development Strategy further defines climate change mitigation and adaptation measures at the national level.

One key improvement area is the need for the urban content of the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) of Serbia to be strengthened, based on the comparative review of NDC for urban content from 2017 published as Sustainable Urbanization in the Paris Agreement in 2017 by UN Habitat. At the local level, suggested projects would be to assist one historical city in exploring solutions that would simultaneously address climate change cultural heritage preservation, and to help one or more cities to harmonize local planning, development and environmental documents with the forthcoming national Low Carbon development Strategy and national Adaptation Program following the adoption of Climate Change Law in March 2021.

In the framework of the implementation of the Sustainable Urban Development Strategy of the Republic of Serbia, a few projects and programmes linked to climate change and urban development have been initiated: 'Cities and Climate Change' project⁹, 'Local Institutions and Green Infrastructure Development programme'¹⁰, 'Strengthening Sustainable and Resilient Urban Development' programme¹¹. Moreover, UNEP has initiated the elaboration of the Program for urban development on settlements affected by environmental degradation and climate change impacts is developed and published in line with the Action Plan to the Strategy for Sustainable Urban Development in the framework of the GCF

⁸ Poland, Katowice.

⁹ Supported by AFD in 2021 and 2022 implemented by the Ministry of Environment as the line ministry.

¹⁰ Supported by World Bank and AFD from 2022 to 2027 with MCTI as line ministry.

¹¹Supported by SECO from 2021 to 2024.

readiness activities in cooperation with the rest of UN country team and UN Habitat in particular. UNEP has also initiated two activities in partnership with UN Habitat financed from UN Development Account tranches 14 and 15, one on nature-based solutions for improvement of quality of air in South-East Europe and Central Asia and the other on urban mobility in the Western Balkans.

F) Heritage and Urban Regeneration

Frequent and persistent destructions, weak economies dependent on foreign investments, destroyed cities and industries, lack of infrastructure, all indicate the need for urban regeneration, with particular attention to cultural heritage and urban settlements. In Serbia, more than 20,000 proposed cultural heritage sites were identified along with 2000 already proclaimed. It is suggested that UN-Habitat provides assistance in the preparation of management plans for these areas, as well as their implementation, including developing guidance for regeneration of declining historic city cores, placing cultural heritage at the centre. UN Habitat is also invited to support monitoring of SDG 11.4 along with its partners like ICOMOS. 'Cities in Focus', a programme developed by the Ministry of Culture and Information of the Republic of Serbia, has been operational since 2016.

As urban regeneration, social inclusion and cultural heritage management are both overlapping issues and priorities, urban regeneration should be central in urban development and architectural strategies.

G) Territorial Information Systems

Standardized and nationally and internationally harmonized use of geospatial information technologies is a challenge for Serbia and other Balkan countries. In accordance with the EU directive INSPIRE, the Law on NSDI (National Spatial Data Infrastructure) was adopted in Serbia in April 2018, and scattered geospatial projects currently exist in around 40 out of 174 local self-governments, however they are not harmonized. In line with digitalization policies and e-governance procedures, the use of geospatial information technologies represents an integral part of urban development, recommended by paragraphs 156 and 160 of the New Urban Agenda and point 21.i of the International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning. UN Habitat SIRP program (2004-2008) involved territorial information systems, in relation with land-use policy in Valjevo, rural development in Niš, brownfields in Kragujevac and tourism in Čačak and Kraljevo. The Government of Serbia is actively addressing this geospatial technologies harmonization need, with the 'Concept of Reform of Urban and Spatial Planning' policy in public debate in 2022. A platform for digitalization of spatial and urban planning and development data and procedures in Serbia under the name e-Space should consist of three main components e-Cadaster, e-Plan and e-Permits as a comprehensive platform linked to NSDI and published on the NSDI portal Geosrbija. This big multi-annual reform concerns all three levels of governance in Serbia – national, regional (provincial) and local. It will be relevant for all other aspects of urban and territorial development and planning.

H) Capacity-building, professional networking, strengthening peer-review learning/support

With expertise in planning for protected sites, infrastructure corridors, water storages, mining areas, and an established community of urban planning and development experts¹², Serbia's potential to be part of international and South-South cooperation could be further enhanced. In sharing practices from Serbia with professionals from other countries, the international community and the Republic of Serbia could benefit from developing new capacities, fostering exchanges on urban solutions, and mutually learning at all levels, as encouraged by paragraph 146 of the New Urban Agenda. In this perspective, scholarships for foreign students have recently been reintroduced¹³ for urban planning and development. In addition to academic sector collaborations, capacity-building and innovative solutions could be supported through the multiplication of public-private partnerships. Serbia is presently lacking an active engagement of the private sector and investors, into the formulation and implementation of urban development policies. Public and private partnerships should be represented in all phases of urban planning and development processes in order to calibrate all interests in the most

¹² Serbia, owing to the existence of recognized national academic institutions with long-established curriculum in geography and architecture, members of European Schools of Planning and Habitat UNI, has a solid network of planning and development national experts.

¹³ Scholarships for foreign students were a common practice in former Yugoslavia.

realistic way: public interest cannot be observed separately from other interests; and policies cannot be formulated without the involvement of urban planning policy makers. The organization of conferences, meetings and forums, thematic professional exchanges, where public institutions come together with private sector professionals and civil society, is to be supported.

Past and Ongoing Interventions by UN-Habitat

UN-Habitat is mandated to deal with sustainable urbanization and human settlements, as reaffirmed in the paragraph 165 of the New Urban Agenda, and the focal point for its implementation, as underlined in the paragraph 171. UN-Habitat was active in Serbia between 2004 and 2012, as elaborated below. Since 2016, the engagement has been revived, albeit with a light touch (participation in a UNDA project and advancing of the IGUTP). The missions in 2018, 2019 and 2021, and participation in the UNCT and CCA/SDCF processes during 2020, have re-established a clear interest on both sides to establish a new, effective partnership. A summary of the historic engagement as well as recent missions is provided below.

A) Historic engagements

2005 - 2009: SIRP – Settlement and Integration of Refugees Programme. Launched in 2004, this housing and social integration programme was aimed at providing 670 new dwellings for 3,000 direct beneficiaries, build institutional capacities for social housing development, assist the social and economic integration of refugees and displaced people, and help boost local governments' capacity in their planning and municipal information systems. Safer Cities was an integral part of the programme - to strengthen municipalities' capacities to formulate and implement safety strategies and build effective partnerships with local actors.

2007 – 2009: Regional Capacity Strengthening Programme in Urban Management and Housing Support. This sub-regional programme¹⁴ strengthened regional cooperation through an exchange networks system and an inclusive Regional Urban Forum devoted to the analysis and the reform of the urban sector; advanced legalization processes, enhanced municipal planning; and improved national urban policy frameworks.

2008 – 2009: Preparation Phase of Settlement and Integrated Local Development Programme. This was a preparatory phase for the Settlement and Integrated Local Development Regional Programme (SILD) expected to support the development of institutions and capacities in the housing and local development planning sectors. However, the main programme - SILD - was never funded.

2009 – 2012: PBILD – Peace Building and Inclusive Local Development Programme. This joint United Nations (UN) initiative¹⁵ aimed to build capacity in South Serbia for inclusive, peaceful, and sustainable development. It focused on community cohesion and human capital; improved and more equitable access to public services; economic development; and capacity for migration management. UN-Habitat, through its Safer Cities programme, partnered with 13 municipalities to strengthen their capacities to engage in conflict/violence prevention planning through participation, dialogue and partnership.

2016 – 2017: UNDA T9 Strengthening National Capacities for Sustainable Housing in Selected Countries with Economies in Transition regional project. The project supported countries with transitioning economies¹⁶ in the formulation and implementation of relevant policies and in the development the National Action Plans (NAPs) for Sustainable Housing, Urban Development and Land Management.

2018: International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning (IGUTP). Since 2015, Serbia has recognized the International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning (IGUTP) as a critical global tool for better urban planning. It has been used to develop the first national urban development strategy in 2018, and was taken into account for the preparation of the third national [Spatial Plan for Serbia in 2020](#). **The Sustainable Urban Development Strategy 2030 for the Republic of Serbia developed in line with the New Urban Agenda and the IGUTP is the new guiding framework for urban development in the country.**

¹⁴ (including Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia)

¹⁵ involving UNDP, UNHCR, UNICEF, UN-Habitat, IOM, ILO

¹⁶ (Armenia, Republic of Moldova, Serbia and Tajikistan)

B) Recent missions

Remy Sietchiping, Tatiana Khabarova – January/ February 2017: Workshop on developing National Action Plans for implementing Country Profiles, to present and launch the MetroHUB initiative.

The workshop mainly focused on the implementation and monitoring of the NAPs. UN-Habitat was an implementing partner and contributed to the project through, *inter alia*, the development of the Guidelines for National Action Plans and the policy paper that highlighted good practices on developing and implementing NAPs. Participants shared selected good practices and lessons learnt in NAP preparation, implementation, and monitoring. These were useful in further developing guidelines and a policy paper presented as final versions in September 2017.

Shipra Narang Suri, Remy Sietchiping – December 2018

The main objective was to initiate discussions on future cooperation of UN-Habitat with the Government of Serbia. The Chief of the Urban Practices Branch (UPB) was invited to address the opening plenary of the Conference on the elaboration of the national Urban Development Strategy for Serbia. The Draft Strategy of Sustainable and Integrated Urban Development of Republic of Serbia until 2030, developed by the Ministry in cooperation with GIZ/ Ambero, was presented and discussed during the Conference. UN-Habitat was invited to support the implementation of the Strategy over the coming years.

Key elements for cooperation between the Republic of Serbia and UN-Habitat mentioned in the Strategy's Concept Note included: implementation of the National Urban Policy (including development of action plans for each thematic area in the NUP, prioritization and phasing; monitoring through appropriate indicators); organization of the next National Urban Forum; capacity-building for application of the IGUTP, which had already been translated into Serbian; social housing (including support to the national housing strategy which was in initial phase of its elaboration; better use of existing housing stock; preparation of local housing strategies; safer cities, focusing on creating safer public spaces and monitoring the same through key indicators; public space and urban renewal; and youth, including development of one-stop youth centres in deprived areas.

Shipra Narang Suri, Marcus May - December 2019

The main objective was to discuss potential avenues for supporting the Government of Serbia in the field of climate change and sustainable urbanization. The Government of Serbia had requested UN-Habitat to support the implementation of the Urban Development Strategy 2030, with a particular focus on National Policy development, action planning, climate action and public space.

The recommendations of the mission were: Serbia, a EU ascension country, has a very diverse and active donor community, with various project development opportunities identified: EU (IPA funding, DG NEAR), bilaterals (Sida, GIZ, AFD, USAid, DfID). On climate change, specific opportunities discussed are a GCF Readiness and a full proposal, and a 10m Adaptation Fund proposal. With MCTI, six concrete follow ups were agreed: (1) Concept: Development of an Adaptation Fund proposal on Roma Settlements upgrading; (2) Public space assessments and actions in 3-4 cities; (3) Concept: Nature-based solutions for water/ wastewater management, sponge cities etc, potentially via planning and training and peer-to-peer learning; (4) Concept: Energy efficient/ green affordable housing; (5) Concept for GCF Readiness - Capacity building of towns and municipalities for absorbing climate investments; (6) Invitation to WUF10.

Katja Schäfer - January 2020

The main objective was to attend the UNCT retreat and provide UN-Habitat's input to the prioritisation of key urban development issues to the UNSDCF as well as meet with key urban stakeholders, including:

The recommendations of the mission were: Provide feedback on input to CCA, recommendations to mainstream urbanization in UNSDCF; Organize follow-up with RCO on UN-Habitat's engagement in UNSDCF; Extract key areas UN-Habitat can support in the Western Balkan Region and Serbia from Sustainable and Integrated Urban Development Strategy of Serbia 2021 – 2035; Explore potential for establishing multi-country office in Western Balkan region; Follow-up with UNEP on Horizon 2020 call; Follow-up on WUF participation (MCTI, Blok 74); Belt and Road Initiatives: conduct research on urban dimension in Serbia; Energy transformation in urban areas: conduct research and applicability in Serbia; Consider drafting of Western Balkan UN-Habitat Strategy Document (Regional HCPD), building on CCAs, UN System-wide

Strategy on Sustainable Urbanisation, emerging partnerships (UNEP, UNODC, UNDP, UNOPS, etc.), resource mobilization opportunities; Follow up with UNOPS on affordable housing project in Montenegro; Follow up with AFD on urban coordination in Serbia and Western Balkans; Follow up with EIB on urban coordination in Serbia and Western Balkans.

Maimunah Mohd Sharif, Neil Khor, Shipra Narang Suri – September 2021

The mission of Executive Director of UN Habitat Maimunah Mohd Sharif took place in September 2021.

Three main outputs of the mission were:

1. to prepare draft Country Program of Cooperation between UN Habitat and Republic of Serbia,
2. to organize national urban forum in Serbia in spring 2022,
3. to start activities in eleven public spaces in Serbia based on recommendations of UN Habitat and in line with SDG11 for World Urban Forum 11 that will be held in Katowice, Poland in June 2022.

Herman Pienaar – October 2021

The main objective was to participate at the Sub-regional workshop on land-use planning and industrial safety for South-Eastern Europe organised by UNECE in Belgrade. A meeting in MCTI was organised as well.

Shipra Narang Suri – April 2022

The main objective was to participate at the National Urban Forum in 2022, organized in Belgrade as preparation for World Urban Forum. Shipra Narang Suri gave an opening speech at the introductory part of the National Urban Forum as well as an overview of Global Public Spaces program at the session Eleven Public Spaces in Serbia for the Sustainable Development Goal 11 and World Urban Forum 11. Bilateral meeting took place with UN Resident Coordinator and Representatives of MCTI and MFA.

Katja Schafer – June 2022

The main objective was to participate at the launch event of the project where the lead program is UNEP and UN Habitat is partner Nature-based solutions for enhanced resilience to COVID-19 and urban air pollution in the Western Balkans and Central Asia. Katja Schafer participated in the workshop on index of participation organised by SCTM and meetings with Resident Coordinator's Office, MCTI and MFA were organized.

Challenges

Localization of recommendations from international documents is a crucial challenge at the national level. International documents on urban development, such as the New Urban Agenda (NUA), International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning (IGUTP) and International Guidelines on Decentralization and Access to Basic Services for All (IGDABSA), as well as the Agenda 2030 where Sustainable Development Goal 11 (SDG11), dealing with sustainable cities and communities, should be implemented at local level with the support of national level. IGDABSA points out the importance of local governments' associations in the empowerment and capacity building of local authorities. In Serbia, the Standing Conference of Towns and Municipalities (SCTM), as the national association of local authorities, is very active in the domain of urban development.

The New Urban Agenda was translated into Serbian by the NGO Struktura and with the support of the Ministry for Construction, Transport and Infrastructure in 2017. The ministry translated the International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning in 2019, which are published on the internet sites of UN Habitat and the ministry. Similarly, many other tools, learning materials and resources related to IGUTP could be adapted to the Serbian context and translated, as part of the joint program. IGDABSA was considered for translation as well. Since Serbian, Croatian and Bosnian are all variations of the same language, once called Serbo-Croatian, the translation could be used in four Balkan countries – Serbia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro. Translated documents significantly improve opportunities for better implementation and localization of urban development and housing activities.

Activities that could be considered include: assessment of the planning system in Serbia against the IGUTP; training or learning event that would bring together the 4 stakeholders groups working at 5 scales of planning (for instance the supra-national level would fit well here as outline below in the section on macro-regional cooperation); assessment of the Law on Planning and Construction with the help of UN Habitat Planning Law Assessment Framework; tracing exceptions in the planning practice; application of the UN Habitat manuals on Urban Patterns for a Green Economy at local level etc.

Policy and Strategic Frameworks

The key international, regional, and national policy frameworks which are reflected in the Serbia HCPD 2023-2025 are summarised in the following table:

Table 1: Key International, Regional, and National Frameworks for the Serbia HCPD 2023-2025

Policy Framework	Description	Relevance to Serbia HCPD 2023-2025
UN-Habitat Strategic Plan 2020-2023	Focuses on commitments to advance sustainable urbanisation as a driver of development and peace, to improve living conditions for all, in line with the SDG principle of “leave no one behind”, SDG 11, and the NUA through four mutually reinforcing and integrated DOCs.	DOCs 1 (Reduced spatial inequality and poverty in communities across the urban–rural continuum); 2 (Enhanced shared prosperity of cities and regions); 3 (Strengthened climate action and improved urban environment); and 4 (Effective urban crisis prevention and response).
The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development	A collection of 17 interlinked SDGs ¹⁷ to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all, established in 2015 by the UN General Assembly Resolution.	SDGs 5 (Gender Equality); 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation); 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities); and 13 (Climate Action)
New Urban Agenda	Mobilises Member States and key stakeholders to drive sustainable urban development at local level, particularly in line with SDG 11. Adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) in 2016.	Sustainable urban development; basic services; climate change adaptation, mitigation, and resilience.
International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning	The first guiding document for urban and territorial planning at global level giving framework for national urban policies, components of urban development and mechanisms for implementation and monitoring.	Sustainable economic, social and environmental aspects of urban and territorial planning and development.
Paris Agreement on climate change	A legally binding international treaty on climate change that entered into force in 2016. With the goal to limit global warming, it works on a five-year cycle of increasingly ambitious climate action to be implemented by countries and their plan of actions set out in Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).	Green growth, natural resources management and resilience.
The Geneva UN Charter on Sustainable Housing	The Geneva UN Charter on Sustainable Housing is a non-legally binding document that aims to support UNECE member States as they seek to ensure access to decent, adequate, affordable and healthy housing for all.	Sustainable housing, environmental protection, economic effectiveness, social inclusion and participation, cultural adequacy
UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2021-2025	The most important instrument for planning and implementation of UN activities at country level that is evidence-based and developed upon the Common Country Analysis including the UNDAF steering committee, the Ministry of European Integration, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Cabinet of the Minister without Portfolio for Demography and Population Policy, the Standing Conference of Town and Municipalities, and non-governmental organizations to identify joint priorities between the United Nations and the government.	Strategic priorities 1 (Green, Sustainable and Inclusive Economy); 2 (Wellbeing, Social Equity and Human Potential) and 3 (Governance and Rule of Law)
Urban Agenda of European Union	The most important document for urban development at the level of European Union having in mind that Serbia is candidate country since 2012 which started negotiations in 2014.	Social inclusion, air quality, urban poverty, housing, circular economy, climate adaptation, urban mobility, nature-based solutions, innovation
National Urban Development Strategy until 2030	MCT’s vision for the next ten years, outlining the foundations and priority activities to make cities and urban settlements smart, beautiful, green, clean, peaceful, safe, and livable.	Sustainable urban economy, sustainable urbanization and urban structures, social wellbeing, urban environment, climate change, urban governance.

¹⁷ 17 SDGs are as follows: 1 (No Poverty); 2 (Zero hunger); 3 (Good health and well-being); 4 (Quality Education); 5 (Gender Equality); 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation); 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy); 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth); 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure); 10 (Reduced Inequalities); 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities); 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production); 13 (Climate Action); 14 (Life Below Water); 15 (Life on Land); 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions); and 17 (Partnerships for the Goals).

2. Habitat Country Programme Document 2023-2025

UN-Habitat Country Programme Document for Serbia is one of the decided outcomes of 2021 mission of UN-Habitat Executive Director in Serbia, where the Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure, Ministry of Environment, UN resident coordinator and representatives of UN country team, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, President of Standing Conference of Towns and Municipalities, Mayor of Belgrade, and representatives from international and donor community in Belgrade¹⁸, have been consulted. This Country Programme Document further concretised multiple past discussions on the cooperation of UN-Habitat with the Government of Serbia, as well as UN-Habitat's support on the implementation of the Urban Development Strategy 2030¹⁹.

Strategic Priorities

Three pillars for the Serbia HCPD 2023-2025 have been identified and organised reflecting strategic priorities of the UNSDCF 2021-2025 and the associated Theory of Change, assumptions and risks. The pillars are those where UN-Habitat has committed to contribute directly, thus ensuring full harmonisation and synergy with the UNSDCF 2021-2025. This section will therefore outline UN-Habitat's outcomes as grouped under the UNSDCF 2021-2025 strategic priorities.

Pillar 1: Resilience to climate change, nature-based solutions, natural resources, urban biodiversity, natural and cultural heritage, employment and innovation, public spaces

Strategic priority of UNSDCF: Serbia harnesses the full potential of a green, sustainable and inclusive economy

If people and institutions, including the private sector, adopt a green growth model of development, including behavioural change, and there are incentives for climate finance and investment in the circular economy, and climate-resilient, low carbon, and environmentally responsible sectors;

If institutional, technical, financial, and human capacity to prevent, mitigate, adapt, anticipate, and prepare for, respond to, and recover from climate change impacts and disasters improve;

If there is enhanced risk-informed spatial planning, considerate of urban and rural contexts' specificities, and environmental safeguards are established, consolidated, and implemented to limit the environmental and social impacts of economic activity;

If people can prepare for, mitigate and adapt to shocks and disasters through increased awareness, localised nature and ecosystem-based adaptation solutions and the use of risk data;

Then, by 2025, people, especially the most vulnerable and marginalised, and institutions will be better able to sustainably access, manage, preserve, and benefit from natural resources and promote green growth that is risk-informed, and disaster and climate-resilient.

Key Assumption and Risks

The key assumptions are that the Government of Serbia will formulate the NDC taking into account opportunities and threats of urban development, while global efforts to limit the impacts of climate change, and availability of green and climate finance will increase in the anticipation of hazards and disasters. The risks that must be considered are insufficient fiscal space, investments, and multi-stakeholder engagement and coordination in green growth and the environment.

¹⁸ UN, GCF, EU Delegation in Serbia, World Bank, GIZ, SDC/SECO, JICA.

¹⁹ UN-Habitat 2018 and 2019 missions in Serbia.

UN-Habitat's Interventions

UN Habitat will support Republic of Serbia in cooperation with UNEP and support of GCF and Adaptation Fund on nature-based solutions, quality of air and urban mobility, improvement of quality of public spaces, protection and management of green spaces, natural and cultural heritage. UN-Habitat's potential areas of intervention also include strengthening the capacity of the Government of Serbia to plan and implement innovative approaches, build capacities for integrated and comprehensive urban and territorial planning and involve diverse stakeholders from public, private and civil sectors.

Alignment with UN-Habitat's Strategic Plan: the envisaged interventions will directly contribute to DOC 2: Enhanced shared prosperity of cities and regions and DOC3 Strengthened climate action and improved urban environment.

Pillar 2: Health, education and other basic services in cities, housing, capacity building, youth and vulnerable groups, demography

Strategic priority of UNSDCF: Wellbeing, social equity and the human potential are at the heart of systems, policies and practices

If young people have better access to skills, development and employment to achieve increased productivity and shared prosperity in cities and human settlements and opportunities for their meaningful participation in urban development;

If the right to housing is safeguarded, enabling people, including vulnerable and displaced populations and those residing in remote areas, to have equitable access to shelter that is adequate, affordable and disaster resilient;

If the public interest is focused on assuring basic services such as safe water, sanitation, waste management, social welfare, transport and communications facilities, energy, health and emergency services, schools, public safety, and the management of open spaces;

Then, by 2025, people, especially the most vulnerable and marginalised, will have more equitable and inclusive access to basic services, housing, employment and participation in public policy formulation and implementation.

Key Assumption and Risks

The key assumptions are that UN-Habitat will support the Government of Serbia to improve housing and access to basic services through projects and non-project interventions, including the adoption of the National Housing Strategy, implementation of the Long-term Strategy to Encourage Investment in Renovation of the National Building Fund, and use of recommendations of the Geneva UN Charter on Sustainable Housing. Other planned activities include cooperation with other multilateral and bilateral partners on housing with active inclusion activities. UN-Habitat's potential areas of intervention also include strengthening the capacity of young people and other vulnerable groups to participate more effectively in urban development, to contribute to wellbeing and bring social, economic and cultural benefit to quality of life in cities, other human settlements, regions and territories at local, national, macro-regional and international levels.

UN-Habitat's Interventions

UN-Habitat will support social housing with active inclusion, access to basic services and participation of all vulnerable groups in urban development in Serbia, particularly youth in line with National Youth Strategy, in cooperation with offices for youth in local self-government units and with NGOs and civil society organisation led by youth and dealing with youth issues. UN Habitat will prioritize the role of culture and cultural diversity in urban development.

Alignment with UN-Habitat's Strategic Plan: the envisaged interventions will directly contribute to DOC1: Reduced spatial inequality and poverty in communities across the urban–rural continuum and DOC4 Effective urban crisis prevention and response.

Pillar 3: Human rights and inclusion in cities, urban governance, macro-regional cooperation

Strategic priority of UNSDCF: Building trust and mutual accountability through the rule of law, rights and duties agenda

If there are improved data, monitoring and evaluation systems and capacities for planning and integrated resources management, pollution control and waste management, and disaster risk management;

If capacities of national, sub-national and local governments are built, policy and decisions makers as well as entrepreneurs and investors are reached, research and academia institutions have better partnership with public and private sectors;

Then, by 2025 urban governance can be improved, smart city approach that makes use of opportunities from digitalization, clean energy and technologies, as well as innovative transport technologies, thus providing options for inhabitants to make more environmentally friendly choices and boost sustainable economic growth and enabling cities to improve their service delivery are adopted.

Key Assumption and Risks

The key assumptions are that UN-Habitat will support the Government of Serbia to improve urban governance practices in the forthcoming comprehensive reform e-Space for digitalization in urban and territorial planning in Serbia which is in line with paragraphs 156-160 of New Urban Agenda and with provisions for digital transition of the Urban Agenda of European Union. This reform should improve practices of participation of citizens in urban development and planning, increase transparency, improve the quality of planning documents and interventions, assure better investment environment and protect space from potential negative effects of excessive urban development, informal construction, urban sprawl etc. The risk is that this reform is going to be a long-term activity which needs and adequate innovative approach facing resistance of inherited practices. The use of territorial information systems based on GIS technologies is going to contribute to better implementation, monitoring and evaluation of urban and territorial development.

UN-Habitat's Interventions

UN-Habitat will support the Government of Serbia to achieve sustainable urban development through projects and non-project interventions, including the revision of the Urban Development Strategy of Republic of Serbia until 2030, implementation of the NUA and IGUTP, facilitation of the NUF, and improved planning and financing, among others. UN-Habitat will support stakeholders in Serbia in the reform of spatial and urban planning, improving urban governance, protecting human rights and improving participation in urban development, spatial and urban planning with territorial, comprehensive and integrated approach. UN Habitat can contribute to spatial and urban monitoring in Serbia with the concepts such as National Urban Observatory (NUO), Local Urban Observatories (LUO) and methodologies such as Degree of Urbanisation (DEGURBA).

Alignment with UN-Habitat's Strategic Plan: the envisaged interventions will directly contribute to DOC 2: Enhanced shared prosperity of cities and regions and DOC 4 Effective urban crisis prevention and response.

3. Alignments with Key International and National Frameworks

The alignments between the above-mentioned outputs and the UNSDCF 2021-2025, the Sustainable Urban Development Strategy of the Republic of Serbia until 2030, the UN-Habitat Strategic Plan 2020-2023, and the SDGs are summarised in the following table:

Table 2: Alignments with Key International and National Frameworks

Pillars	Alignment with UNSCDF	Alignment with SUDS of RS 2030	Alignment with UN-Habitat Strategic Plan	Alignment with SDGs
Resilience to climate change, nature-based solutions, natural resources, urban biodiversity, natural and cultural heritage, employment and innovation, public spaces	Serbia harnesses the full potential of a green, sustainable and inclusive economy	Specific Objectives 1, 2 and 4 (urban economy, urban structures, urban environment and impact to climate change)	DOC 2 and 3	SDGs 6,7,8,9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15
Health, education and other basic services in cities, housing, capacity building, youth and vulnerable groups, demography	Wellbeing, social equity and the human potential are at the heart of systems, policies and practices	Specific objective 3: (wellbeing in urban settlements, social inclusion, housing and public participation)	DOC 1 and 4	SDGs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 11
Human rights and inclusion in cities, urban governance, macro-regional cooperation	Building trust and mutual accountability through the rule of law, rights and duties agenda	Specific objective: 5 (urban governance)	DOC 2 and 4	SDGs 11, 16, 17

4. Implementation Arrangements

Coordination Mechanisms

At the national level, UN-Habitat will engage with The Ministry of Construction, Transport, and Infrastructure, as the focal ministry for spatial and urban planning and housing since 2014. The Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure is responsible for the coordination of the elaboration of national urban development and housing policies, and information system on spatial development and cooperation on the local, regional, and international levels. The National Office for Statistics, Republic Geodetic Authority and Serbian Environmental Protection Agency are the main data provider institutions.

At the sub-national level, local self-government units have responsibilities in spatial and urban planning. The level of decentralization is formally quite high, with recent tendency of recentralization. Fourteen Cities in Serbia have a chief city urban planner, being the coordinators of local urban development matters. The Standing Conference of Towns and Municipalities (SCTM) is also an active stakeholder in local and national urban planning, as the national association of local self-government units. SCTM is the suggested intermediary institution for harmonizing the localization of international frameworks and policies. National and sub-national/regional institutions are mandated to disseminate recommendations from international frameworks, and to act as intermediary between the international and the local level. In Southeast Europe, the NALAS association - Network of Associations of Local Authorities in the South East Europe gathers local government associations in the Balkan countries.

Supporting the elaboration of spatial plans for the Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure, and for the local self-government units, the most important urban planning institutes are located in the Cities of Belgrade, Novi Sad, Niš, Kragujevac and Priština. The Institute of Architecture and Urban Planning of Serbia is the main research institute for urban development and spatial planning. This institute is also elaborating spatial and urban plans all around Serbia.

In terms of regional cooperation framework, the European Union has been supporting the transnational cooperation networks for 30 years²⁰ and is continuing to implement regional development projects²¹ under two transnational frameworks, the EU Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR) and the EU Strategy for the Adriatic-Ionian Region (EUSAIR). Important cooperation was established and comparative analyses for some spatial trends were effectuated, that can be built upon. EU cross-border cooperation needs to have stronger territorial dimension. Besides the European Union initiatives, autochthonous networks of cooperation may be established, such as network established in May 2018 at the

²⁰ Under the wider INTERREG cooperation programme, first within CADSES (Central, Adriatic, Danube, and South East European Space) in 1994-2007, then within the South East Europe Transnational cooperation programme in 2008-2014, and now within two transnational programmes - Danube programme and Adriatic-Ionian programme.

²¹ ESTIA, Estia Spose, Vision Planet, Planet Cense, Donauregionen, Donauregionen+, Attract SEE, Attractive Danube etc.

meeting in Tirana - TG WeB (Territorial Governance in the Western Balkans) for issues on urban, regional, and territorial development common for the macro-region. Considering that Balkan countries are relatively small in size, the regional cooperation needs a larger framework. Such cooperation was supposed to take place within the framework of UN Habitat SILD cooperation program (Settlements and Integrated Local Development) gathering Albania, Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina. Although the program has not been launched, this regional cooperation framework is still needed.

With regards to existing regional economic cooperation frameworks, the Open Balkan, launched in July 2021, was announced to be the new Mini Schengen initiative, aiming at creating an economic and political zone regrouping Albania, North Macedonia and Serbia, where border controls would be abolished by 2023. Three documents were signed by the mentioned countries: Memorandum of Understanding and Cooperation on Facilitating Import, Export and Movement of Goods in the Western Balkans, the Memorandum on Free Access to the Labor Market and the Agreement on Cooperation in Disaster Protection. The initiative is open to other Western Balkan countries.

Budget and Resource Mobilisation

Budget and resources for the operation of the Habitat Country Program in Serbia will be blended from different sources: grants, loans and public budget. Potential donors, creditors are bilateral funds from particular countries, EU funds and multilateral organisations. Participation of public budgets from national and local level is subject to annual and multiannual budget programming.

Advocacy and Communication

Although global awareness is rising with the strong push through the Agenda 2030 (particularly the Sustainable Development Goal 11), Paris Agreement on Climate Change and Sendai Action Framework, a satisfactory level of consciousness on the importance of issues that UN-Habitat is dealing with has not been reached so far. The Urban October period and the activities therein could be used to raise the profile of urban issues as well as the UN-Habitat's work in Serbia.

The New Urban Agenda is pointing out in its paragraphs 165, 167, 171 and 172 the role and expertise of the UN Habitat, the specificity of its activities, the role in implementation and follow-up of the New Urban Agenda and enhanced effectiveness, efficiency, accountability and oversight of the UN Habitat. Like any other institution in the UN system, UN Habitat needs the active engagement of national and local institutions and other stakeholders in member countries. The importance of the UN Habitat activities has been recognized in Serbia and the rising awareness is slowly gaining momentum. Openness towards partnerships is a necessity, both towards international organizations, local stakeholders and other countries, primarily in the macro-region of Southeast Europe. The Regional Cooperation Council is the main existing cooperation framework, however it is not active in urban development.

Effective advocacy, communication, and outreach are essential to amplify the impact of the Serbia HCPD 2023-2025 and to support resource mobilisation. UN-Habitat will also develop and disseminate brochures, reports, presentations, press releases, and information, education and communication materials among relevant stakeholders and partners for key projects or during global commemorations such as World Habitat Day, World Cities Day, and relevant UN meetings as required. Social media such as Facebook and Twitter will also be used where possible and relevant, and media coverage will be ensured for key projects and interventions through national newspapers and local websites.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Indicators for monitoring SDGs and SDG11 in particular are going to be used to monitor urban development together with indicators of SUDSRs. Monitoring reports on implementation of SUDS and NUA are going to be prepared regularly with support of UN Habitat Country Office. Evaluation based on that monitoring is going to give guidelines for an evidence-based evolution of the program and for forthcoming phases.

Annex: Work Plan (envisioned for 2022-2025 as of June 2022)

Project title	Status	Donor	Alignment with UNSDCF	Alignment with SUDSRS	Alignment with UN-Habitat SP	Alignment with SDGs	Alignment with NUA	Budget (USD)					
								2022	2023	2024	2025	Total	
Nature-based solutions for enhanced resilience to COVID-19 and urban air pollution in the Western Balkans and Central Asia	Ongoing	UNDA 14	Strategic Priority 1	Specific Objective 4	DOCs 3 and 4	SDG 13	Paragraphs 69 and 101						0,390M
Voluntary local reviews: evidence for greener, resilient and sustainable urban recovery in Eastern European and Central Asian countries in transition	Ongoing	UNDA 14	Strategic Priority 3	Specific Objective 5	DOCs 1, 2, 3, and 4	SDGs 11 and 17	Paragraph 162						
Revision of Urban Development Strategy of the Republic of Serbia until 2030 and elaboration of the Action plan for the period 2023-2025	Ongoing	Adaptation Fund	Strategic Priority 4	Specific Objective 5	DOCs 1, 2, 3 and 4	SDG 11	Paragraph 89						
National Urban Forum in Serbia – permanent secretariat and steering committee	Ongoing	Budget of the Republic of Serbia	Strategic Priority 3	Specific Objective 5	DOCs 1, 2, 3 and 4	SDGs 8, 9, 11, and 13	Paragraph 42						
Building back safer, more sustainable and resilient transport in the aftermath of -COVID19 in Western Balkans and central Asia regions on sustainable urban mobility	Pipeline	UNDA 15	Strategic Priority 1	Pillar 4	DOC 3	SDGs 11 and 13	Paragraph 114						
Urban component of Climate Change - readiness	Pipeline	Green Climate Fund	Strategic Priority 1	Pillars and 3 and 4	DOC 3	SDGs 6, 11 and 13	Paragraphs 79, 101 and 143						
Adaptation to Climate Change in Serbia	Pipeline	Adaptation Fund	Strategic Priority 1	Pillar 4	DOC 3	SDGs 6 and 13	Paragraphs 79, 101 and 143						
National Urban Observatory for monitoring and evaluation of urban development in Serbia	Pipeline	IPA Fund	Strategic Priorities 1 and 3	Pillars 3 and 6	DOC 1	SDGs 5, 6 and 11	Paragraphs 157 158, 159 and 160						
Social Housing with Inclusion	Pipeline	IPA Fund	Strategic Priority 4	Pillar 4	DOCs 3 and 4	SDG 13	Paragraph 31						
Youth and Urban Development	Pipeline		Strategic Priority 4	Pillar 4	DOCs 3 and 4	SDG 13	Paragraph 61						
Urban Culture and Cultural Diversity– Cultural Heritage and Cultural Activities in the Balkan macro-region”	Pipeline		Strategic Priority 4	Pillar 4	DOCs 1, 3, and 4	SDGs 6 and 13	Paragraphs 10, 124 and 125						
Safer Cities	Pipeline						Paragraphs 39 and 103						

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FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

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