Introduction

Through a harmonized approach for the implementation of the New Urban Agenda we expect to contribute directly to the implementation and localization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Through this process, its key to recognize the role of national, subnational and local governments, as appropriate, and other relevant stakeholders in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and the 2030 Agenda, including policymaking, planning, design, implementation, and monitoring, as well as the financing and timely delivery of services. The effective implementation of these global agendas requires enabling policy frameworks at, as appropriate, the global, regional, national, subnational and local levels, and mutually beneficial partnerships.

The Statistical commission and varios GA resolutions urged UN-Habitat to develop innovative methods, approaches and guidelines for data collection, analysis, monitoring and implementation, with the objective of supporting Member States, when needed, in dealing with emerging urban challenges and opportunities.

This side event is organized in response to the request of the Statistical Commission that called for a peer review mechanism of existing urban indices and monitoring tools, as well as the need to develop and adopt an urban monitoring framework.

Therefore, the main objective of this side event is to present and review the structure of the Global urban monitoring framework that has been developed through a task team that involved partners from UN agencies, national and local/city governments, private sector, civil society, academia, etc.

At the end of this side event, it is expected that the partners attending this meeting will share early thoughts on the proposed implementation modalities of the urban framework and suggest ways of finalizing the plan for endorsing this global urban monitoring framework that will work as a UN system-wide approach for the monitoring of the NUA and urban SDGs.

Methodology: The side event will be virtual and will take 1.5 hours on 28th Jan 2021 starting at 9.00am New York time. The session programme is as follows;
09.00-09.10 – Welcome and Introduction Remarks (10 min)

MC: Eduardo Moreno, Head of UN Habitat Knowledge and Innovation Branch (5 min)

- The UN systemwide strategy for sustainable urban development. Christopher Williams, Head of UN-Habitat Office in New York (10 min).
  This presentation will provide a background to the UN System-Wide Strategy for Sustainable Urban Development, as well as the need for a focal point within the System, and the role of UN-Habitat as lead agency in relation to the following up of the New Urban Agenda (NUA) and the urban dimension of the SDGs. Progress made on the consolidation of the UN System-Wide Strategy for Sustainable Urban Development will be discussed, as well as the relevance of urban monitoring frameworks on these processes.

- Introduction to the Global Urban Monitoring Frameworks. Robert Ndugwa, Head of Data and Analytics Section, UN-Habitat (20 min)
  Presentation of the Global urban monitoring framework and the current state of the monitoring of global agendas, particularly in relation to the urban dimensions of SDGs and NUA, the progress made so far, as well as the short and mid-term expectations for implementation.

Reactions (5 min each reaction):
- Mr. Thomas George, Head of Urbanization Programmes, UNICEF HQ (5 min)
  - UNICEF’s urbanization strategy and its connection to Global urban monitoring framework
- Mr Diego Aulestia, Head of Human Settlements, Economic Commission for Latin American and the Caribbean (ECLAC) (5 min)
- Mr Nicolas Gharbi, Principal Advisor for International Affairs, Madrid City Council (5 min)
- Ms. Angela Kim, SDG Program and Data Manager, City of Los Angeles (5 min)
  - Early experiences of working with the Global urban monitoring framework

Q/A: Open session from participants (25 min)

Moderated by Eduardo Moreno

Closing Remarks and way forward

Shipra Narang Suri, Chief, Urban Practices Branch, UN-Habitat (5 min)
Registration

Please use this link to register for the Side event: UN Statistical commission 2021 | 28-Jan-2021":
https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=2zWeD09UYE-9zF6kFubccDXptrqKCOZOkNMMaDfeaNUMEFFTURJMUtEU0sxMEnSS0cxNiITNE9OQS4u

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For further information:
Robert Ndugwa (Robert.ndugwa@un.org)