

Thematic Groups:

**Innovative Financing Instruments for  
Smart Sustainable Cities and**

**Economic and financial recovery in  
cities and urban resilience building in  
the time of COVID-19**

**Gulnara ROLL, UNECE**

**7 December 2021**



Thematic Group:

**Innovative Financing  
Instruments for Smart  
Sustainable Cities**



# U4SSC Guidelines for Innovative Financing (published Aug 2021)

- Provides practical recommendations for city governments on how to develop investment-grade projects in support of sustainable smart urban development and attract investors
- Also provides information on types of potential investors and how to make a sustainable city development plan attractive to them.





# Draft Compendium of Practices on Innovative Financing for Smart Sustainable Cities Projects

- Developed within the U4SSC thematic group on “Innovative Financing Instruments for Smart Sustainable Cities” during 2020-2021
- Complements the Guidelines for Innovative Financing

---

## Economic Commission for Europe

Committee on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management

### Eighty-second session

Geneva, 6-8 October 2021

Item 7(a) of the provisional agenda

Review of the implementation of the programmes of work 2020 and 2021

Implementation of the United for Smart Sustainable Cities Initiative

## Compendium of Practices on Innovative Financing

### Note by the Secretariat

#### *Summary*

The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) is one of the 16 United Nations agencies who are members of the United for Smart Sustainable Cities (U4SSC), an initiative coordinated by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), UNECE, and the United Nations Human Settlement Programme (UN-Habitat), to achieve Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 11. UNECE activities within the U4SSC initiative are implemented as part of the Committee on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management programme of work.

In 2020-2021, the Committee secretariat was leading the U4SSC thematic group on Innovative Financing which compiled the “Compendium of Practices on Innovative Financing”. This document contains the Compendium.

The Committee is invited to take note of the Compendium.<sup>1</sup>

# Draft Compendium of Practices on Innovative Financing for Smart Sustainable Cities Projects

---

- The compendium development process started in September 2020 (the first meeting for the Compendium was on 16 September 2020 and the second - on 6 November 2020). Call for submission of project case studies was launched
- 40 submissions from 23 countries were received between October 2020 – January 2021
- The thematic group agreed on the criteria for case selection to the compendium at its meeting in March 2021.

# **Draft Compendium of Practices on Innovative Financing for Smart Sustainable Cities Projects**

In April 2021, the 15 cases presented in this compendium were selected based on the following criteria:

- The submission is complete and contains sufficient information, particularly concerning the innovative financial mechanism of the project.
- The submission contains clear people-first elements.
- The submission has sectoral and geographical diversity.



# Compendium of Practices on Innovative Financing for Smart Sustainable Cities Projects

- Thematic areas: Health, Education, Energy, Housing Transportation, Urban Development and Wastewater Management
- Countries/regions: Brazil, Cape Verde, China, Guinea, Japan, Portugal, Russian Federation, Spain, Switzerland, Tanzania, Turkey, Ukraine, West Africa,

## **Economic Commission for Europe**

Committee on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management

### **Eighty-second session**

Geneva, 6-8 October 2021

Item 7(a) of the provisional agenda

**Review of the implementation of the programmes of work 2020 and 2021  
Implementation of the United for Smart Sustainable Cities Initiative**

## **Compendium of Practices on Innovative Financing**

### **Note by the Secretariat**

#### *Summary*

The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) is one of the 16 United Nations agencies who are members of the United for Smart Sustainable Cities (U4SSC), an initiative coordinated by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), UNECE, and the United Nations Human Settlement Programme (UN-Habitat), to achieve Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 11. UNECE activities within the U4SSC initiative are implemented as part of the Committee on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management programme of work.

In 2020-2021, the Committee secretariat was leading the U4SSC thematic group on Innovative Financing which compiled the “Compendium of Practices on Innovative Financing”. This document contains the Compendium.

The Committee is invited to take note of the Compendium.<sup>1</sup>

Thematic Groups:

**Economic and financial  
recovery in cities and urban  
resilience building in the time  
of COVID-19**





# Meetings

---

- First E-meeting of the U4SSC Thematic Group on “Economic Recovery in Cities and Urban Resilience building in the time of COVID-19”, 22 October 2020.
- Presentation of **the joint project of UN Regional Economic Commissions, UN Capital Development Fund and UN-Habitat project on “Building Urban Economic Resilience during and after COVID-19”** and discussion of a questionnaire for the cities to assess approaches to economic recovery of cities from the COVID-19 pandemic.

# Meetings

- Second E-meeting of the U4SSC Thematic Group on “Economic Recovery in Cities and Urban Resilience building in the time of COVID-19” on 17 December 2020
- UNCDF presentation on Urban Economic Resilience Planning Tool; UNECE HLM presentation on Smart Sustainable City Profiling; and UN-Habitat Presentation on Urban Resilience profiling.
- **Proposals to pilot in cities beyond the 16 project pilot cities. -> Need to test and describe the methodologies within the project**

# Project on “Building Urban Economic Resilience during and after COVID-19” objectives

To contribute to planning for more resilience cities better able to withstand shocks such as COVID-19 and urban systems’ stresses likely to reoccur in a predominantly urban world.



## Executing Agencies:

- UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)
- UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)



## Implementing Partners

- UN Economic and Social Commission for West Asia (ESCWA)
- UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)
- UN Economic Commission for Latin America and Caribbean (ECLAC)



## Technical Collaboration Partners

- UN Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)
- UN Capital Development Fund (UNCDF)



# Target Cities

Building Urban Economic Resilience during & after COVID-19

#UrbanEconomicResilience



- **Tirana** (Albania)
- **Bishkek** (Kyrgyzstan)
- **Kharkiv** (Ukraine)
  
- **Yaoundé** (Cameroon)
- **Accra** (Ghana)
- **Harare** (Zimbabwe)
  
- **Guayaquil** (Ecuador)
- **Lima** (Peru)
- **Santo Domingo** (Dominican Republic)
  
- **Alexandria** (Egypt)
- **Kuwait** (Kuwait)
- **Beirut** (Lebanon)
  
- **Pune** (India)
- **Subang Jaya** (Malaysia)
- **Hoi An** (Viet Nam)
- **Suva** (Fiji)

# Main Activities & Deliverables

#UrbanEconomicResilience



**Urban Economic Recovery and Resilience Diagnostic and Planning Tool**

**Regional Policy Briefs on Urban Economic Recovery and Resilience**

**Economic and Financial Recovery and Rebuilding Plans**

**Global Policy Dialogue**

**e-learning course on urban economic and financial recovery and rebuilding**



# Planned activities

---

## Planned e-meetings:

- February 2022
- April 2022
- June 2022

Publication of “Lessons learned from building urban economic resilience at city level during and after COVID-19” end of 2022

Trainings using the project online platform



For more information, please contact:

**GULNARA ROLL**

Secretary to the Committee on Urban Development,  
Housing and Land Management  
United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

Palais des Nations Office WP38  
CH-1211 Geneva 10  
Switzerland

Tel. office: +41 (0)22 917 5793

Tel. cell: +41 76 2384597

E-mail: [Gulnara.Roll@un.org](mailto:Gulnara.Roll@un.org)

**#mayorsaction**

<https://www.itu.int/go/u4ssc>

Thank you!



**UNECE**