# SDG on Urbanization & Human Settlements*

## Fundamental Urban Patterns

- Reduce land conversion for urbanization
- Tree canopy 25% of land area
- Safe & accessible urban mobility
- Climate and disaster risk preparedness

## Urban Life of Dignity for All

- Universal access to affordable & quality housing
- Universal access to public services

## Enabling Policies

- Inclusive national urban policies
- Policies for SCP within planetary boundaries
- Financing for housing & public services
- Assess key ecosystems & infrastructure

## Governance & Accountability

- Inclusive & participatory planning for the disadvantaged
- Performance targets with transparent reporting

## Territorial Dimension of Other SDGs

- Sustainable & resilient city-region food systems
- 30% energy supplies from renewables

# Sustainable Development Goal on Urbanization
## First Draft Urban Targets - February 2013

**Introduction**

A number of recent reports address the key role of cities/urbanization in the UN Post-2015 Development Agenda:

– Outcomes Report from Rio+20: The Future We Want (paragraphs 134-137) (June 2012)

– the High-Level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda (June 2013)

– the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (June 2013), the Global Compact (June 2013), and

– UN-Habitat's Revised Compilation for Sustainable Cities & Human Settlements in the SDGs within the Post-2015 Development Agenda (20 December 2013)

– Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies, Establishing a Sustainable Development Goal on Cities (December 2013)

These reports have put forth a range of proposals for both a stand-alone urban SDG (e.g., SDSN, UN Habitat, and IASS) and urban targets, all of which have informed the approach of the Communitas Coalition.

**Communitas Coalition Targets**

The Communitas Coalition has adopted a "clusters approach" in the development of proposed targets for a Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) on Urbanization.[1] The five clusters we have identified are:

| Target Clusters | Description |
| --- | --- |
| 1. Fundamental Urban Patterns | The importance of (urban planning and design and) spatial configuration in shaping the ability of cities to reach other targets |
| 2. Urban Life of Dignity for All | Promoting justice and equity by meeting basic needs such as housing, public services (water & sanitation, energy, waste management), and jobs |
| 3. Governance & Accountability | Mechanisms for participatory decision-making (including marginalized, slum-dwellers, youth, women), accountability & transparency, and multi-level governance |
| 4. Enabling Policies | National urban policies, financing and technical assistance, provision of data |
| 5. Territorial Dimension of Other SDG Areas | City-regions' role in other SDG themes such as sustainable food, energy & climate resilience |

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[1] The clusters approach has been adopted by UN-Habitat in its Revised Compilation for Sustainable Cities & Human Settlements in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) within the Post-2015 Development Agenda, 20 December 2013.

## Fundamental Urban Patterns

By 2030, all city-regions:

1) **Adopt policies to reduce urban sprawl by reducing the rate of land conversion to half the rate of population growth.**

   *Combating urban sprawl is intended to ensure urban density, favoring the rural-urban continuum and improving access to basic services.*

2) **Achieve a tree canopy of at least 25% of land area and meet the WHO's suggested minimum of 9 square meters open space per resident.**

   *Tree canopy and open space serves a number of environmental and social functions, enhancing urban quality of life.*

3) **Establish safe mobility systems that provide reliable access to public space, jobs, goods and services by public transit, walking, and/or cycling.**

   *Safe and healthy urban mobility with reasonable travel times is an enabler of employment, recreation, social and cultural opportunities.*

4) **Incorporate climate and disaster risk considerations in their zoning, building codes, and infrastructure investment decisions.**

   *Existing and future urban settlements must build resilience in the face of increasing risks from climate change and other disasters.*

## Urban Life of Dignity for All

By 2030, all city-regions:

5) **Provide universal access to affordable, secure and quality**

**housing, especially for slum-dwellers.**

*Adequate shelter is a prerequisite for eradicating poverty, gaining access to basic services, and improving public health.*

6) **Provide universal access to basic public services, including water and sanitation, energy, and waste management.**

*Providing urban residents, especially slum-dwellers, with essential services is critical for addressing poverty and inequality, improving human and environmental health.*

**Governance and Accountability**

By 2030, all city-regions:

7) **Incorporate participatory mechanisms in decision-making, with a special focus on slum-dwellers, women and youth.**

*The only way to manage urban growth and to create inclusive cities is for the urban poor and other marginalized groups, including women and youth, to be at the center of strategies for urban development and provision of public services. Tools for inclusive urban decision-making include: community-based data collection, participatory budgeting and citizen audits.*

8) **Establish time-limited specific environmental, economic, and social performance targets with regular reporting on progress against such targets.**

*Establishing city-specific targets and transparent reporting is critical for ensuring accountability to all citizens.*

By 2030, all countries:

9) **Establish inclusive national urban policies, which also strengthen urban-rural linkages and multi-level governance.**

   *National urban policies adapted to the particular challenges and assets of a country and its subnational and local territorial units ensure aligned efforts towards urban sustainability.*

10) **Establish institutional financing mechanisms, including public-private partnerships, to direct investment to ensure universal access to housing and basic public service provision.**

    *Financing mechanisms for adequate housing and basic public services must be institutionalized to ensure long-term investments.*

By 2030, all city-regions:

11) **Inventory and complete condition assessments of major ecosystems, biodiversity, and infrastructure within their region.**

    *Condition assessments are essential to inform environmental protection priorities as well as infrastructure investment priorities.*

12) **Adopt sustainable consumption and production patterns via development policies which recognize planetary boundaries.**

    *Sustainable consumption and production patterns are essential for meeting the broader objectives of poverty eradication, a low-carbon economy, and protection of natural resources and ecosystems.*

By 2030, all countries:

13) **Ensure sustainable and healthy city-region food systems which generate low food losses and waste.**

   *Sustainable food and healthy systems at the city-region scale meet the basic nutritional needs of the poor while protecting agricultural ecosystems, thereby improving public health, strengthening urban-rural linkages, and enhancing resilience.*

14) **Achieve a minimum of 30% of energy supplies from renewable sources at the city-region scale.**

   *Renewable energy sources enhance climate mitigation as well as climate adaptation efforts, encouraging decentralized supply sources and building community resilience.*