

Second Draft SDG Proposal

"Achieve inclusive, safe, productive and sustainable cities & human settlements."

Communitas Secretariat – 3rd June 2014

INTRODUCTION

This proposal must be read in conjunction with ongoing discussions at the UN intergovernmental Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs OWG), particularly the ones held on 5th–9th May; as well as with the *Zero Draft Document of proposed Goals and Targets* for negotiation released on 2nd June 2014 and the *Focus Areas Working Document* of 17th April 2014. By no means do the proposed urban targets seek to exhaust all aspects for a new urban agenda in the 21st century; new agenda that will be the central theme of the UN Habitat III Conference in 2016.

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PART I- TARGETS FOR A STANDALONE SDG ON SUSTAINABLE CITIES & HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

Communitas advocates for a SDG on ‘sustainable cities & human settlements’ that aims for all new and existing cities and human settlements of all sizes to be inclusive, safe, productive and sustainable places where all members and their communities can thrive. Therefore, the goal is neither to increase rates of urbanisation nor the quantity of new cities built. The word ‘productive’ aims to signify the essential contribution of cities as engines of economic growth and centres of innovation with impacts on adjacent peri-urban and rural areas.

The targets below are elaborated with an ‘outcomes approach’ - i.e. emphasizing particular objectives/outcomes, in the interest of facilitating the identification of a menu of possible indicators.

Proposed Target	Rationale
<p>Target 1. By 2030, improve the living and working conditions of both rural and urban dwellers by promoting the social, economic and environmental synergies between urban and rural areas, with particular attention to equity, infrastructure needs, land use and planning, financial inclusion, access to markets and natural resources management.</p>	<p>The target aims at fostering the urban rural continuum within the three pillars of sustainable development. Rural areas benefit most from locally tailored solutions, which reflect conditions, capacity and capabilities within and around them. Local action is most effective when it follows a networked model, bringing together the local with national and international resources. However, local action on its own is insufficient to overcome wider forces affecting rural change. Intervention is required to address persistent patterns of structural differentiation. By drawing particular attention to certain themes, this target highlights key dimensions that could be measured at the level of indicators.</p>
<p>Target 2. By 2030, eliminate slum-like conditions everywhere and ensure universal access to affordable, equitable, and sustainable land, housing and basic services for all rural and urban dwellers.</p>	<p>In this iteration, the scope is qualified to address both rural and urban dwellers.</p>
<p>Target 3. By 2030, increase capacity for participatory integrated spatial and urban planning & management in all levels of government to reduce urban sprawl and the environmental impact of cities and promote balanced territorial development across both rural and urban areas.</p>	<p>The nuances introduced compared to the previous Communitas iteration are trying to reflect language directly presented by Member States.</p>

Proposed Target	Rationale
<p>Target 4. By 2030, ensure universal access to inclusive, safe and green public space for enhanced social cohesion, the safety of citizens, and the protection and promotion of cultural & natural heritage.</p>	<p>Personal security’ has been replaced by ‘the safety of citizens’. It is interesting to note that public space has also an element of local economic development and prosperity for the rural urban continuum and that regulation of its uses is important, including the use for economic activities (markets, street vendors).</p>
<p>Target 5. By 2030, strengthen integrated resilience to climate change, man-made and natural disasters to reduce the loss of lives, assets, housing and infrastructure and ensure continuity of services in urban and rural areas.</p>	<p>In this iteration the ‘integrated’ approach is retained and the urban and also rural scope spelled out. This target, like all the others, is drafted under an ‘outcomes approach’ referring to the protection of lives, assets and infrastructure, and ‘the continuation of services (this latter element, has been added in this iteration). Without highlighting the ‘continuity of services’ it would remain only a risk reduction approach. A resilience agenda, places the pursuit of reduction in loss of life and assets equally with maintaining continuity through critical events.</p>
<p>Target 6. By 2030, provide universal access to affordable, equitable, safe and sustainable urban and peri-urban transport for connected and healthy communities.</p>	<p>No change from first iteration of Communitas second draft. Emphasis is put on urban and periurban connectivity and on health.</p>
<p>Target 7. By 2030, reduce the environmental impacts of cities and improve urban environmental conditions with participatory policies that protect urban biodiversity; reduce urban pollution by x% and increase waste water and solid waste recycling by x%.</p>	<p>Bring back this target area in this iteration to incorporate concrete suggestions by the endorsers of a stand-alone SDG for this Focus Area. This target area also allows incorporating explicit proposals by indecisive troikas.</p>

Urban / territorial dimension of other Focus Areas and / or SDGs

There are some notable interlinkages with other Focus Areas and/or SDGs. Strong considerations on poverty, prosperity and inequalities; health; economic growth and infrastructure; gender equity and women’s empowerment; climate; resource efficiency (and footprint), ecosystems and biodiversity; respect of human rights; and governance and participatory democracy; are all incorporated in the proposals for an urban SDG outlined above.

Water, health and energy improvements are both targets and outputs of sustainable cities and human settlements, which are fully addressed under separate Focus Areas. For detailed technical input into other Focus Areas, the Communitas Coalition has compiled a matrix on the territorial/urban dimension in **Part II**.

PART II- DETAILED INPUT ON THE TERRITORIAL / URBAN DIMENSION OF OTHER FOCUS AREAS & POTENTIAL SDGS*

*based on the SDGs OWG Zero Draft released on 2 June 2014

Proposed SDG	Target	Rationale
1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere.	1.3 By 2030, implement nationally appropriate social protection measures including floors with focus on coverage of the poor, the most marginalized, and people in vulnerable situations, including workers in the informal economy and provision of care.	Informal economy workers constitute an important group within the urban poor groups, with strong impact on women and youth.
3. Attain healthy life for all at all ages.	3 (new) By 2030, halve the burden due to global road traffic crashes by halving the number of fatalities and serious injuries compared to 2010 levels (<i>Source: Partnership on Sustainable, Low Carbon Transport [SLoCaT]</i>).	In several countries the majority of road crashes happen outside urban areas, so it is not appropriate to refer issues of road safety and mortality exclusively to Focus Area of Sustainable Cities and Human Settlements (SCHS).
5. Attain gender equality, empower women and girls everywhere.	5.7 By 2030, ensure women’s equal access to, control and ownership of assets, including housing , and natural and other productive resources, including land ; as well as non-discriminatory access to essential services and infrastructure, including financial services and ICT.	Guaranteeing adequate access to shelter for all men and women is critical for eradicating poverty, gaining access to basic services, and improving children’s health and education.
	5.8 By 2030, ensure equal and effective participation and leadership of women at all levels of decision-making in the public and private spheres, including elected representation positions at all levels of government.	Gender equity in elected representation positions is a transformative tool.

<p>6. Secure water and sanitation for all for a sustainable world.</p>	<p>6.3 By 2030, improve water quality by significantly reducing pollution, eliminating dumping of toxic materials, and improving wastewater management by x%, recycling and reuse by y%, in both rural and urban areas.</p>	<p>Universality and impact will be key to improved human and environmental health.</p>
	<p>6.4 By 2030, improve water-use efficiency by x% across all sectors, with particular focus on agriculture and on urban areas.</p>	<p>Urban dimension highlighted by several Member States on 7th May referring to FA Sustainable Cities and Human Settlements.</p>
<p>8. Promote strong, inclusive and sustainable economic growth and decent work for all.</p>	<p>8.8 Create enabling conditions for increased growth and productivity of micro-, small- and medium-scale enterprises (SMEs), including through policies that promote entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and through improved access to markets and financial services at the local, national and international levels.</p>	<p>People-centred approach anchoring growth at local level, referred to by some Member States referred on 7th May.</p>
<p>12. Promote sustainable consumption & production patterns.</p>	<p>12.5 By 2030, reduce by x% per capita waste through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse both in rural and urban areas.</p>	<p>Universality and impact will be key to improved human and environmental health. Urban dimension highlighted by several Member States on 7th May referring to FA SCHS.</p>
	<p>12.11 By 2030 increase the share of sustainable products and services in public procurement, including through competitive and transparent procurement processes and through national targets and national, subnational and local strategies.</p>	<p>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 in urban areas. Cities have a role in promoting sustainable SCP patterns. Subnational and local authorities are making a difference across the Globe with green and ethical public procurement schemes.</p>

<p>15. Protect and restore terrestrial ecosystems and halt all biodiversity loss.</p>	<p>15 (new) By 2030, cities with populations larger than 100,000 people have adopted strategies and plans and a system of regular reporting for the conservation, restoration, and sustainable management of healthy ecosystems, including ways in which ecosystems and biodiversity support the provision of municipal services (Source: Convention on Biological Diversity).</p>	<p>Condition assessments are essential to inform environmental protection priorities as well as infrastructure investment priorities.</p>
<p>17. Strengthen and enhance the means of implementation and global partnership for sustainable development.</p>	<p>17.1 Develop and implement effective and targeted capacity building programmes in developing countries in support of national plans for implementing sustainable development goals and localising them.</p>	
	<p>17.28 Strengthen - particularly in developing countries by providing international technical support - domestic resource mobilization by enhancing the decentralization of tax collection and management and the efficiency of public spending, and tax and natural resource revenue transparency by all levels of government.</p>	<p>Critical to the overall goal of achieving inclusive, safe, productive and sustainable cities & human settlements, particularly to poverty eradication, universal access to basic services and community resilience.</p>
	<p>17.36 By 2020, substantially strengthen capacities for data collection and statistical analysis relevant to sustainable development, including through community-based data collection systems, with a focus on generating timely and high-quality data disaggregated, as appropriate, by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, and rural/urban location.</p>	<p>The only way to manage urban growth and to create inclusive cities & human settlements 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. This includes community-based data collection.</p>
	<p>17.37 Provide financial and technical support to least developed countries to plan and build resilient urban infrastructure including communications, sewerage, waste management, recycling and other basic services.</p>	

	17 (new) Strengthen capacities, particularly in developing countries, to elaborate and implement participatory strategic national urban plans, in collaboration with subnational and local governments.	
	17 (new) Develop and implement capacity building programmes and decentralized cooperation schemes, in developing countries, especially LDCs, in support of national, subnational and local plans implementing sustainable development goals.	
	17 (new) By 2030 ensure new modalities for interaction between nations at international level, as well as between local and central governments at national level, in order to fulfill their respective roles as governmental stakeholders in global efforts towards sustainability (Verbatim from the G77 statement on 7 May referring to FA Industrialization and promotion of equity among nations and to FA Sustainable Cities and Human Settlements.	

PART III- BACKGROUND ON COMMUNITAS' PREVIOUS ACTIVITIES AND URBAN TARGET PROPOSALS

Communitas is a coalition for sustainable cities & regions led by its core partners - Tellus Institute, ICLEI- Local Governments for Sustainability, nrg4SD-Network of Regional Governments for Sustainable Development and UN-Habitat - with the support of the Ford Foundation and the Charles Léopold Mayer Foundation.

In Autumn 2013, the Communitas Coalition set up six thematic working groups led by experts in close consultation with a multi-stakeholder advisory committee. The groups produced issues papers, which contained a stock taking exercise and proposals for urban targets. The draft issues papers were presented and discussed in December 2013 at UN Headquarters during the Experts' Workshop on Sustainable Cities & Human Settlements in the SDGs that Communitas organised (in collaboration with UN DESA and the Group of Member States Friends of Sustainable Cities, Major Groups & Stakeholders and the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network [UN SDSN]). The workshop was made possible thanks to the generous support of the Ford Foundation and the European Union. The objective of the workshop was to enable governments to discuss informally with experts, Major Groups and

stakeholders and the UN system the issue of sustainable urbanization in the future SDGs framework and the Post-2015 UN Development Agenda.

On the basis of multi-stakeholder discussions held at the Experts' Workshop in December and ahead of 7th session of UN Intergovernmental Group (OWG) on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in January 2014 - which was dedicated to stocktaking on the theme of Sustainable Cities and Human Settlements - the Communitas Secretariat released first draft proposals for urban targets for a stand alone urban SDG.

During the 7th Session of the SDGs OWG dedicated to Sustainable Cities & Human Settlements last January, and at the recent 7th World Urban Forum (WUF7) in April, the Communitas Secretariat - in collaboration with members of the Coalition's Advisory Committee - organised events to discuss and unpack its first draft proposals for an urban SDG. In parallel, the Communitas Secretariat has continued providing technical input and urban advocacy into the SDGs process, via collaboration with various stakeholders and the UN system, direct participation in all SDGs OWG sessions and the publication of a regular online newsletter.