



Operationalising Urban Rural Linkages for Integrated Territorial Development

Technical workshop in the framework of SDG11 implementation and the preparations towards Habitat III

Berlin, 31st May 2016 - Closed event in English | [GIZ Building](#), Reichpietschufer 20



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Background

The interdependencies between urban and rural areas, their flows and functions are demonstrated through the economic dynamics, social-cultural links and environmental synergies that occur across urban and rural areas and the populations that live in them. It is now commonly understood that addressing the themes of sustainable cities & human settlements and rural development in a complementary and mutually reinforcing manner will be essential in the implementation of the transformative, integrated and universal *Sustainable Development Goals* (SDGs) framework, as well as in the elaboration of a *New Urban Agenda* of universal value. A comprehensive systemic approach for integrated territorial development - encompassing the economic, social and environmental dimensions - is preconized. Particular attention is being given to spatial planning at the city region scale, infrastructure, connectivity, access to services, city region food systems, natural resources management and community resilience across the urban rural continuum. However, as we dive in the implementation of SDG11 and step up preparations towards Habitat III, it remains unclear how a systemic notion of urban rural linkages will be translated into concrete policy, institutional and financing frameworks for integrated territorial development.

In this context, the Communitas secretariat has been facilitating and curating a “Stakeholder Dialogue on Urban Rural Linkages” with the triple aim of: (a) supporting multilateral discussions by providing stakeholders with technical space to address this question; (b) building capacity on the multiple dimensions, implications and opportunities for integrated territorial development presented by urban rural linkages and (c) contributing to the identification of guiding principles to operationalize positive urban rural linkages for the implementation of SDG11 on Cities and Human Settlements and the New Urban Agenda.

This upcoming technical workshop is **co-organised by** the German Agency for International Cooperation GIZ, UN-Habitat and Communitas. The **objectives** of this workshop are to serve as an **inception discussion towards the elaboration of guiding principles for urban rural linkages**; and to **continue nourishing the community of knowledge and practice on the topic**. A group of territorial development and urban rural linkages practitioners and experts from different disciplines will **work on identifying (i) the areas in which guiding principles for the operationalisation of urban rural linkages will be needed**, as well as **(ii) indicators to monitor progress** against robust and positive urban rural linkages. The workshop will be held against the **backdrop** of the International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning and the work of the UN Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Indicators for the SDGs. The workshop will also offer the opportunity **to build upon** the deliberations of Habitat III Policy Unit 6 “Urban Spatial Strategies: Land Market and Segregation” and other relevant Policy Units such as 3, 5, 7, 8 and 9;

as well as on the works of a series of meetings organized during the past months on urban rural linkages and integrated territorial development in various venues and with different conveners. Convenings that represent a particularly relevant background to this technical workshop are the April 2015 think-tank session on rural urban linkages held in Nairobi, Kenya at the 2nd Preparatory Committee towards Habitat III; the October 2015 expert group meeting on “The Role of Intermediate Cities in Strengthening Urban Rural Linkages towards the New Urban Agenda, held in Montería, Colombia; the November 2015 Thematic Meeting of Habitat III on “Intermediate Cities: Urban Growth and Renewal,” held in Cuenca, Ecuador; the January 2016 international conference on “Territorial Inequality and Development” held in Puebla, Mexico; the February 2016 high-level meeting on "Situating the City: The role of integrated planning in sustainable and equitable economic transformation" held in London, United Kingdom, and the April 2016 Briefing Session on “Integrated Territorial Development - What it is and why it is essential for the New Urban Agenda”, held in New York, USA.

Programme

Participants: A small group of practitioners and experts from different disciplines and technical staff of relevant UN entities and OECD. Efforts will be made to interconnect this technical workshop and the sessions co-convened by FAO and IFAD on the one hand, and by GIZ on the other hand in Berlin on 1-2 June 2016 during the German Habitat III Forum.

8:30 Registration of participants

9:00 Welcome - Setting the scene by the co-organisers

9:15 Session 1: Group reflections on the Zero Draft New Urban Agenda from the perspective of Integrated Territorial Development and Urban Rural Linkages

10:15 Session 2: From a development dichotomy to a linkages approach: Identifying areas for action and enabling components

- a. Concise presentations to set the scene and help frame discussions:
 - Presentation by UN Habitat on their work to date and information on the UN system wide activities
 - Presentation by Ms. Christine Platt on the International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Development

- Presentation by GIZ on normative requirements and priority areas, including case studies
- b. Group work to systematise the messages from the above sources as well as participants' reflections under building blocks for action:
 - Agreement on building blocks for action: e.g. knowledge, policy and legislation, spatial planning, institutions and governance, financing, partnerships, monitoring.
 - Identification of the broad areas that should be addressed under the building blocks to operationalise URLs (e.g, land regulations, food systems, small and intermediate towns, metropolitan governance, land value capture, etc.) and their enabling components (systems thinking, functional territories, participatory planning, flexible infrastructure, etc.)

11:30 Break

11:50 Continuation of session 2

13:15 Lunch break (light lunch served on site)

14:00 Finalisation of session 2

14:30 Session 3: Measuring progress towards positive urban rural linkages

- c. Review of the works by the UN Inter-Agency and Expert Group for SDGs Indicators (IAEG-SDGs) on target 11.a of the SDG on Cities and Human Settlements.
- d. Supporting and completing the agreements of the IAEG-SDGs in the long run.

16:00 Session 4: Action plan forward - Furthering engagement in the Habitat III process and moving towards the elaboration of guiding principles for the operationalisation of urban rural linkages

16:45 End of the workshop

Suggested bibliography

- International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning, 2015, UN-Habitat
<http://unhabitat.org/books/international-guidelines-on-urban-and-territorial-planning/>
- International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Development - Compendium of Inspiring Practices, April 2015, UN-Habitat
<http://unhabitat.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/International%20Guidelines%20%20-%20Compendium%20Inspiring%20Practices.pdf>
- Flyer “Enhancing Urban-Rural Linkages to Harness the Transformative Power of Urbanization for Sustainable Development,” UN Habitat, January 2015
- Post 2015 Issues Brief “Leveraging the rural-urban nexus for human development,” IFAD, 2015.
- “Unpacking Metropolitan Governance for Sustainable Development”, German Agency for Development Cooperation GIZ and UN Habitat <http://star-www.giz.de/pub?r=38354>
- OECD (2016), A New Rural Development Paradigm for the 21st Century: A Toolkit for Developing Countries, Development Centre Studies, OECD Publishing, Paris <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/9789264252271-en>
- Policy Paper of the Habitat III Policy Unit 6 on “Urban Spatial Strategies: Land Market And Segregation,” March 2016.
<https://www.habitat3.org/bitcache/db9804cee94a469abe2c4b20d7a587e645b85aaf?vid=572975&disposition=inline&op=view>
- Habitat III Issue Paper 10 on Urban-Rural Linkages, March 2015.
<https://www.habitat3.org/bitcache/ecbee5d21501363b498727b6c0b3a1b314a897f2?vid=542871&disposition=inline&op=view>
- Official note on the dialogue on the special theme of the 25th Governing Council of UN-Habitat.
<http://unhabitat.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/English-Dialogue-on-the-special-theme-for-the-twenty-fifth-session-of-the.pdf>
- Monteria Communique: http://unhabitat.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/Monteria_Communique.pdf
- Outcomes of Briefing Session on Integrated Territorial Development organised by the Missions of Colombia and Germany to the UN, the Ford Foundation and Communitas in New York on 15th April 2016

- Issues Brief <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B1ZsnNVhTc2wUEMyS19jMi1aLUE/view>
- Key Messages <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B1ZsnNVhTc2wcnh0WFBVeEh0bk0/view>
- Full Outcomes Report <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B1ZsnNVhTc2wNi0tenR4dGJOcXM/view>
- Issue Paper "Harnessing the rural urban continuum for inclusive growth and universal access to infrastructure & services in the SDGs," Communitas, January 2014 | By Mr. Thomas Forster, EcoAgriculture Partners, and reviewed by Communitas Advisory Committee members IFAD, Millennium Institute and Resource Centres on Urban Agriculture & Food Security RUAFA.
 - Paper: http://communitascoalition.org/pdf/Final_Linkages_Rural_Deve_Forster.pdf
 - Presentation: http://communitascoalition.org/ppt/Forster_Dec2013.pdf
- Presentation by Prof. Eugenie L. Birch, Penn Institute of Urban Research | Technical Briefing for UN Member States of the Open Working Group on the SDGs, co-hosted by IFAD and Communitas, May 2014.

http://communitascoalition.org/ppt/Birch_May2014.pdf

- Presentation by Dr. Cecilia Tacoli, IIED “Rural-Urban Linkages: a short history of a dichotomy and its changing nature” | Think Tank Session on Urban-Rural Linkages co-organized by Communitas and UN-Habitat at Habitat III 2nd Preparatory Committee, April 2015. <http://communitascoalition.org/pdf/7/Tacoli%20presentation%2013%20April%202015.pdf>
- Sietchiping, R., Kago, J., Zhang, X. Q., Augustinus, C., & Tuts, R. (2014). Role of Urban–Rural Linkages in Promoting Sustainable Urbanization. *Environment and Urbanization Asia*, 5(2), 219-234.
- Suttie, D & Hussein, K 2016. Territorial approaches, rural-urban linkages and inclusive rural transformation. *Global Policy Engagement Forum and Technical Meeting 11 December 2015. Rome: IFAD.* <https://www.ifad.org/documents/10180/36a5e671-b321-4ba9-9d60-49b3cee1c0d2>
- Report of the Third Meeting of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on the Sustainable Development Goal Indicators, Mexico City, Mexico, 30 March – 1 April 2016

<http://unstats.un.org/sdgs/files/meetings/iaeg-sdgs-meeting-03/3rd-IAEG-SDGs-Meeting-Report.pdf>

- Work of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on the Sustainable Development Goal Indicators <http://unstats.un.org/sdgs/iaeg-sdgs/>