CPR Subcommittee on
Best Practices including Dubai International Award

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Presentation Outline

Best practices including the Dubai International Award

1. History and current context of work on best practices and policies
2. 11th Round of the Dubai International Award
3. Strengths, opportunities and challenges in advancing UN-Habitat’s work on best practices and policies
4. Proposed priority areas of work on best practices and policies for 2018-2019
Proposed areas of collective reflection and discussion:

1. The significance of qualitative information.
2. Key role of UN-Habitat in sharing best practices and policies in implementation of the New Urban Agenda.
3. Tailor-made services and products.
5. Regional and other support strategies.
What are Best Practices?

**UNGA (1995) definition:**
*Initiatives which have made outstanding contributions to improving quality of life in cities and communities*

- Have a demonstrable and tangible impact on improving people's quality of life 🌞
- Are the result of effective partnerships between the public, private and civic sectors of society 💼
- Are socially, culturally, economically and environmentally sustainable 🌿
Criteria used by the DIABP

• **Impact:** A best practice should demonstrate a **positive and tangible** impact on improving the living environment of people particularly the poor and disadvantaged.

• **Partnership:** Best Practices should be based on a partnership between at least two of the major actors.

• **Sustainability:** Best practices should result in lasting changes.

• **Leadership & Community Empowerment:**
  - Leadership in inspiring action and change, including change in public policy;
  - Empowerment of people, neighbourhoods and communities and incorporation of their contributions;

• **Gender Equality and Social Inclusion**

• **Innovation**

• **Transferability**
UN-Habitat’s Webpage on Best Practices

https://unhabitat.org/urban-knowledge/best-practices/

Best Practices

UN-Habitat’s Best Practices Unit coordinates, identifies, documents and disseminates best practices and enabling policies on urban development within, and for, the Agency.
Best practices for the New Urban Agenda

Resolution HSP/GC/26/CPR.10
Paragraph 7

“Encourages Member States, at the 27th session of the Governing Council, to share best practices regarding the early implementation of the New Urban Agenda.”

Mid-Term Evaluation of Strategic Plan
High-level Independent Panel
Elevated focus on strengthening the normative side of the Agency’s work
Best practices for the NUA and SDGs
UN-Habitat’s current work on best practices

Sub-Programme 7

**EA (b):** Improved knowledge of sustainable urbanization issues at the local, national and global levels for evidence-based formulation

**EA(c):** Improved capacity of national and local authorities and partners to implement plans or strategies for sustainable urbanization
UN-Habitat’s current work on best practices

UN-Habitat’s Best Practices Unit:

- Collects, consolidates, coordinates and shares best practices and enabling policies on urban development in implementing the NUA and SDGs.
- Manages the Dubai International Award, and its outcome practices.
- Manages the Best Practices Database, to be migrated to the Quito Implementation Platform.
- Provides key qualitative information for flagship reports, including forthcoming Quadrennial report.
Emerging areas of work on best practices

Partnership with Academia such as the University of South Australia in developing an expert system for analysis of Best Practices and Tongyi University, China

Engaging with regional Platforms such as the Regional Action Plan for Latin American and the Caribbean 2016-2036

www.mejorespracticas.ning.com/

Engaging with international NGO’s and Grass Root organizations such as Huairou Commission, Habitat for Humanity on partnering in harnessing and learning from Best Practices

Best Practice input for country level action planning and prioritization such as Infonavit, Mexico

Best Practices & Local Leadership Programme (BLP, now Best Practices Unit) was established in 1997 in response to the call of the Habitat Agenda to make use of information and networking in support of its implementation.
UN-Habitat’s current work on best practices

Several other Offices and Branches across the Agency also use best practices in the work to implement the New Urban Agenda.
11th Round of the Dubai International Award
Winners of the 11th round

Best Practice Award for National Urban Policy

We are Medina Learning from Jnane Aztout
Grupo de cooperación Hábitat y Desarrollo. Oficina de Cooperación. Universidad de Sevilla

Best Practice Award for Participatory Slum Upgrading

Empower, an integrated development approach to informal settlement upgrading
Urban-Think Tank, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology
Winners of the 11th round

Best Practice Transfer Award in Local Implementation - Urban redevelopment, and redesign of urban spaces.

Courtyard System for Management of Public Spaces
Dandora Transformation League (DTL)

Best Practice Transfer Award in Monitoring Mechanisms for the New Urban Agenda and the Urban SDGs

Monitoring urban prosperity and sustainability in 153 municipalities in Mexico
Infonavit
Winners of the 11\textsuperscript{th} round

**Personal Award for Contribution to Urban Economy and Municipal Finance**

- Clean City by Green Economy
  - Regeneration, Malindi

**Personal Award for Contribution to Urban Economy and Municipal Finance**

- Kappo - Cyclists Analytics for Smart Cities
  - Capos SpA
Winners of the 11th round

**Private Sector Award for Contribution to Territorial Planning Urban Planning and Design**

Three public spaces to enhance community resilience
Emergent Vernacular Architecture LTD (EVA Studio)

**Private Sector Award for Contribution to Territorial Planning Urban Planning and Design**

Using Safetipin to Build Safer and Inclusive Public spaces
Active Learning Solutions Pvt. Ltd
Winners of the 11th round

University Research Award on Legislation, Rules, Regulations & Governance Systems

Making land-use climate-sensitive: A project to increase resilience of cities against floods by integrating climate change into land-use planning

Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)

Reforming Urban Laws in Africa: a practical guide

African Centre for Cities, University of Cape Town
## CATEGORIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Prize</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1. Best Practices</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>30,000 US Dollars each + Trophy each</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1 National Urban Policies</td>
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<td>1.2 Participatory Slum Upgrading</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>2. Best Practices Transfers</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>30,000 US Dollars each + Trophy</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.1 Local Implementation – Urban redevelopment, and redesign of Urban Spaces</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.2 Monitoring Mechanisms for the New Urban Agenda and the Urban SDGs</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>3. Personal Award for contribution to urban economy and municipal finance</strong></td>
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<td>30,000 US Dollars each + Trophy</td>
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<td><strong>4. Private Sector Award for contribution to territorial planning, urban planning and design</strong></td>
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<td>30,000 US Dollars each + Trophy</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>5. University Research Award on Legislation, Rules, Regulations &amp; Governance Systems</strong></td>
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<td>15,000 US Dollars each + Trophy</td>
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</table>
Dubai International Award

- **5,000+ initiatives**, which document various ways of solving economic, social and environmental issues

- **150+ countries** have been compiled and disseminated through the best practices database hosted at UN-Habitat.

- **122 winners** from different countries have been awarded for their efforts to improve the living environment.

- Robust selection procedure by **Technical Advisory Committee and Jury**
Dubai International Award (11\textsuperscript{th} cycle)

Advocacy & communication Strategy

1. Reach out to UN-Habitat’s internal and external partners and other UN Agencies networks
2. Encourage submissions from people in all sectors
3. Enhance publicity and international recognition of the Award

Achievements

20,853 visits to the on-line portal during July-August 2017
Number of submissions (1996-2014)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Completed Submissions</th>
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<tr>
<td>1996</td>
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<td>1998</td>
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<td>2000</td>
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<td>2012</td>
<td>394</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>315</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>524</td>
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Thematic distribution of submissions

- University Research Award - 64
  (on legislation, rules, regulations & governance systems)
- Personal Award - 61
  (for contribution to urban economy & municipal finance)
- Private Sector Award - 71
  (for contribution to territorial planning, urban planning & design)
- BPT - Monitoring mechanisms - 37
  (for the New Urban Agenda & Urban SDGs)
- BPT - Urban Redevelopment - 100
  (Urban redevelopment & redesign of urban spaces)
- BP National Urban Policy - 86
- BP Participatory Slum Upgrading - 105

Abbreviations:
- BP - Best Practice
- BPT - Best Practice Transfer
- SDGs - Sustainable Development Goals
## Products from Dubai International Award

### Key Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Award Ceremony Event and Learning Seminar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Policy Briefs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Urban Lectures</td>
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<tr>
<td>Practices and policies generated for Quadrennial Report</td>
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<tr>
<td>Digital Media and Communications Kit</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Urban Lectures**

- S03E03 Ana Falu - Gender perspectives in urban planning

**POLICY Brief**
## Policy Briefs on cross cutting themes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cross cutting issues UN-Habitat</th>
<th>Sub-topic</th>
<th>ID</th>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Climate change</td>
<td>Climate change action in urban context, city scale</td>
<td>ARE043-16</td>
<td>Best Practice Award for National Urban Policy</td>
<td>Ports, Custome &amp; Free Zone (PCFC) spearheads urban sustainability through innovative best practices</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>UGA543-17</td>
<td>Best Practice Award for National Urban Policy</td>
<td>Kampala Climate Change Action Plan</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>MAR160-16</td>
<td>Best Practice Award for National Urban Policy</td>
<td>We are Medina Learning from Jnane Aztout</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grassroot initiatives for local climate change mitigation</td>
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<td>ECU794-17</td>
<td>Best Practice Transfer Award in Monitoring Mechanisms for the New Urban Agenda and the Urban SDGs</td>
<td>ReciVeci: Inclusive Recycling improvement through the connection between waste pickers and citizens</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>COL793-16</td>
<td>Personal Award for Contribution to Urban Economy and Municipal Finance</td>
<td>Comprehensive Development for Sustainable Communities (CDSC/DINCS)</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>KEN571-17</td>
<td>Personal Award for Contribution to Urban Economy and Municipal Finance</td>
<td>Clean City by Green Economy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monitoring climate change and how technology can help us</td>
<td></td>
<td>BRA393-17</td>
<td>Best Practice Transfer Award in Monitoring Mechanisms for the New Urban Agenda and the Urban SDGs</td>
<td>Nós Propomos</td>
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<td></td>
<td>MEX698-17</td>
<td>Best Practice Transfer Award in Monitoring Mechanisms for the New Urban Agenda and the Urban SDGs</td>
<td>Monitoring urban prosperity and sustainability in 153 municipalities in Mexico</td>
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<td>IDN450-17</td>
<td>Best Practice Transfer Award in Monitoring Mechanisms for the New Urban Agenda and the Urban SDGs</td>
<td>Democratizing Decision Support Using Open Source Software for Urban Flood Resilience</td>
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</table>
Transformative potential of best practices and policies

Best Practices Database inputs

Dubai Award
Shanghai Manual
WUF
Partners

Association Rule Learning
Big data analysis
Artificial intelligence
The Netflix/Amazon of best practices

Application of advanced Big Data and Artificial Intelligence technologies to discover patterns behind planned and consequential outcomes from successful sustainable urban development strategies.
Selected Strategies

Suggested Areas of Action
AC30  AC21
  AC22

Suggested Methods
M73  M72  M67  M66

Expected Outcomes
O3  O39  O55
  O42  O17  O56

City Prosperity Index
Opportunities in tapping best practices as a key knowledge asset

✓ Mandate and experience
✓ Demonstrated demand
✓ Renewed recognition of knowledge production and management
✓ 2030 Development Agenda (incl. Quito Platform and Quadrennial Report)
✓ Momentum of the SDGs
✓ Data era for innovative analysis
✓ Long-standing partnerships to build on
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Challenges</th>
<th>Proposed considerations/actions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Need for more systematic management of practices</td>
<td>Best Practices Unit coordination function; Knowledge Management Strategy; Quito Implementing Platform; systematic learning from partners for extremal and internal use</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reliance by BPU on only one source of funding and best practice identification (Dubai Award)</td>
<td>Quito Implementation Platform, UN-Habitat as a hub for implementing practices; identification of other incentives to collect practices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potentials of BP in Agency mandate to be raised</td>
<td>Medium-term strategy; fund raising strategy; Well-defined and coordinated efforts, including at WUFs</td>
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<td>Distinction between ‘best’ ‘good’ &amp; ‘promising’ practices</td>
<td>Discussion of terminology as required</td>
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<td>Standards and perceptions of what is a best practice shifting quickly over time</td>
<td>Usage of Artificial Intelligence and other means of analysis and regular verification</td>
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<tr>
<td>Limited follow-up on impact and results</td>
<td>Mechanisms for monitoring and evaluation</td>
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Priority areas of work

On the overall management of best practices:

1. **Consolidate and systematize** the overall BP management
2. Broaden mechanisms to **generate, manage and disseminate** best practices
3. New mechanisms for **information sharing** between Member States
4. Activate the **best practices partnership**
5. Increase qualitative contribution of best practices
6. **Capacity development strategies** to apply best practices and policies.
7. Strengthen **regional and national strategies**