Sustainable Urban Development Programmes of UN ESCAP

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ESCAP, its mandate and mission in sustainable urban development

- Regional arm of the UN in Asia and the Pacific
  - 53 member countries & 9 associates
- Mandate to strengthen cooperation among countries of Asia and the Pacific in economic, social and environmental issues
  - 7 substantive divisions, 4 sub-regional offices, 5 regional centres
- All activities for cities in ASEAN countries under the ASEAN-UN Cooperation Framework

Mission in sustainable urban development:
Regional platform for innovative policies and practices on sustainable cities and towns
Substantive focus

- Urban planning and infrastructure development for inclusive and sustainable cities
  - Integrating eco-efficiency, equity and resilience in planning at community, city and national levels
  - Buildings (including housing)
  - Transport
  - Water and waste water management
  - Solid waste management
  - Urban greening and agriculture (edible landscapes)

- Sustainable economic development, particularly social enterprises and green jobs
Substantive focus (continued)

- Good urban and local governance
  - Fiscal and regulatory reforms
  - Institutional development
  - Human resources capacity development
  - Financing of urban development
Implementation modalities

- Normative and analytical
  - State of Asian Cities Reports
  - Documentation of innovative practices
  - Quick Guides for Policy Makers
  - Comparative analyses

- Action research for evidence-based policy making
  - Focus on potential “game changers”
  - Scalability
  - Replicability
Implementation modalities (cont.)

- High visibility Policy Dialogues
  - Urban Forums (regional, sub-regional)
  - Issue-based policy dialogues
- Capacity development
  - Workshops, seminars, study visits, training courses, advisory services
  - Exchange of experience and information through south-south cooperation
  - Country-level stakeholders (National and local governments, NGOs/CSO, RTIs, etc.)
Implementation modalities (cont.)

- Regional mechanism/institutional development
  - Developing mechanisms and institutions to promote regional cooperation
  - Strengthening networks of stakeholders (CITYNET, LOGOTRI, AUHF, AFEJ, ACHR, UCLG-ASPAC)
- Regional financial mechanisms
  - W2R Fund
  - Initiating programmes on attracting Sovereign funds and expatriate worker remittances to invest in sustainable urban infrastructure
Thank you!