



CIFAL FLANDERS
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HABITAT III, past, present and future
Towards a New Urban Agenda

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An urbanizing world

- 1976 : 37,9 %
- 1996 : 45,1 %
- 2016 : 54,55 %

- *“Cities are where the battle for Sustainable Development will be won or lost” (2013)*

HABITAT I (Vancouver 1976)

- *Stockholm 1972*
- *Limits to Growth (Club of Rome) 1973*
- Discovery of the “Problem” of Urbanization
- “Exploding Cities” (planned and “un”planned)
- “The Home of Man”
- “Only One Earth”
- Pioneers (and optimism ?) : John Turner, Buckminster Fuller, Charles Correa, Jorge Hardoy, Barbara Ward, René Dubos, Akin Mabogunye, ...

Post Habitat I : Utopia versus Reality ?

- Brundtland
- Club of Rome
- Only One Earth
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- *(we need many disciplines, not just architects, engineers and urbanists, equally much social sciences, anthropology, philosophy,*)

- Reaganism
- Thatcherism
- Globalization
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HABITAT II (Istanbul 1996)

Main outcomes (*UNHABITAT text*)

- Cities are the engines of global growth
- Urbanization is an opportunity
- Call for a stronger role of local authorities
- Recognition of the power of participation

Post HABITAT II : Utopia versus Reality

- Agenda 21 and Habitat Agenda (e.g. “Right to Housing”)
 - Best Practices, Safer Cities,
 - Preparation of MDG
 - Kyoto Protocol
 - Sustainable Development and Cities (many initiatives)
 - Enabling Strategies
 - Informal + Formal Settlements/Economy, ...
 - Initiating World Urban Fora
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- “Right to Housing” ?
 - Local authorities vs National Governments ?
 - Role of NGO’s and Civil Society ?
 - Public-Private Partnerships (Public duties, private profit !) ?
 - Slum clearance, evictions,
 - Enabling strategies : public sector leaving the burden to the citizen ?

Preparatory Process HABITAT III Towards a New Urban Agenda

- HABITAT III secretariat - UNHABITAT
- PrepComs (1,2, 3)
- 22 Issues Papers and 10 Policy Units (experts)
- Regional meetings
- Stakeholders consultations
- Open-ended consultations of nations, NGO's, private sector, ..
- Zero Draft, revised Zero Draft, ...
- Parallel-Events, Side-Events, Networking-Events, Exhibits,

Towards HABITAT III

(UNHABITAT text)

- Urbanization as an endogenous source of **Development**
- New urban models to effectively address the challenge of **Climate Change**
- Urbanization as a tool for **Social Integration and Equity**
- **RETHINKING the URBAN AGENDA**

Post HABITAT III : Utopia versus Reality ?

- Stronger local authorities
- “Right to housing, right to the city” “*Inclusive cities*”
- End Poverty
- Increasing the commons, more equity
- Respecting heritage
- Take climate change and the role of cities more seriously (greening the cities, alternative modes of transport and energy,), Agenda2030
- Strengthen resilience (natural and man-made disasters)

Post HABITAT III : Utopia versus Reality ?

(cont.)

- Commitments, Indicators, measuring, monitoring, reporting ? (Are SDGs not enough ?)
- United “Nations” vs Local Authorities ?
- Commitments of private sector ? Increasing neo-liberalism (public burdens, private gains)
- Populism and individualism
- Terrorism, insecurity, conflicts, man-made destructions of heritage ...
- Increasing gap between rich and poor (end poverty = end excessive wealth)
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HABITAT III, Past, Present and Future



THANK YOU

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