

Global State of National Urban Policy

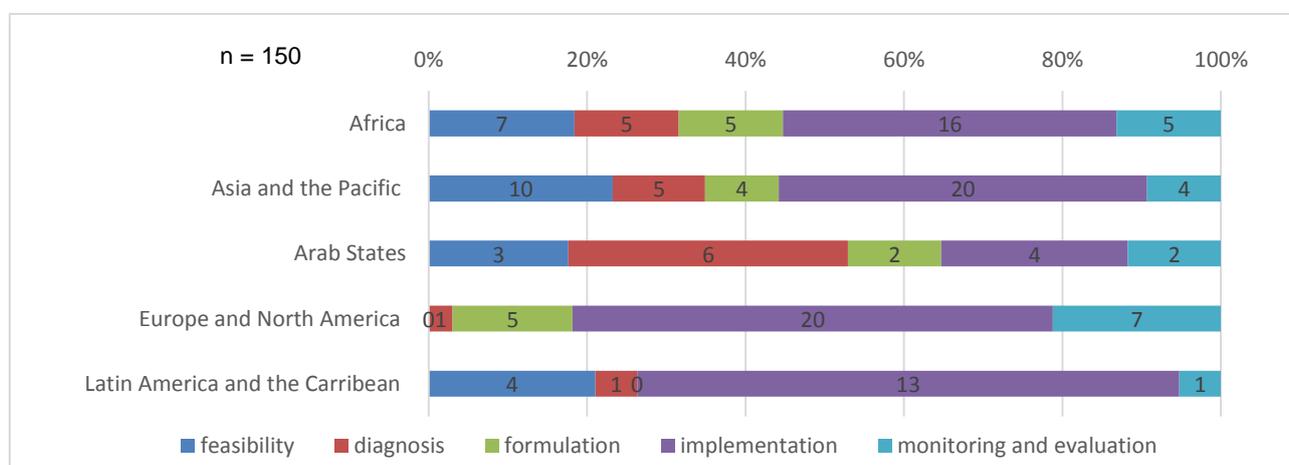
With two thirds of the world's population projected to live in urban areas by the middle of this century, the accelerating pace of urbanisation generates crucial opportunities and challenges for sustainable development that reach far beyond city boundaries. Many global processes have recognised the importance of urbanisation as well as the roles and responsibilities of national governments vis-à-vis other urban stakeholders.

Global State of National Urban Policy is a first report to monitor and evaluate NUPs at the global scale, covering in 150 countries. The report sets a solid foundation for a common methodology to monitor the progress of NUPs, building on regional studies by UN-Habitat and OECD's analysis on NUPs for the 35 OECD member countries. It is also a significant contribution to the monitoring and implementation of the New Urban Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals. The report was launched at the 9th World Urban Forum in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in February 2018.

Key findings

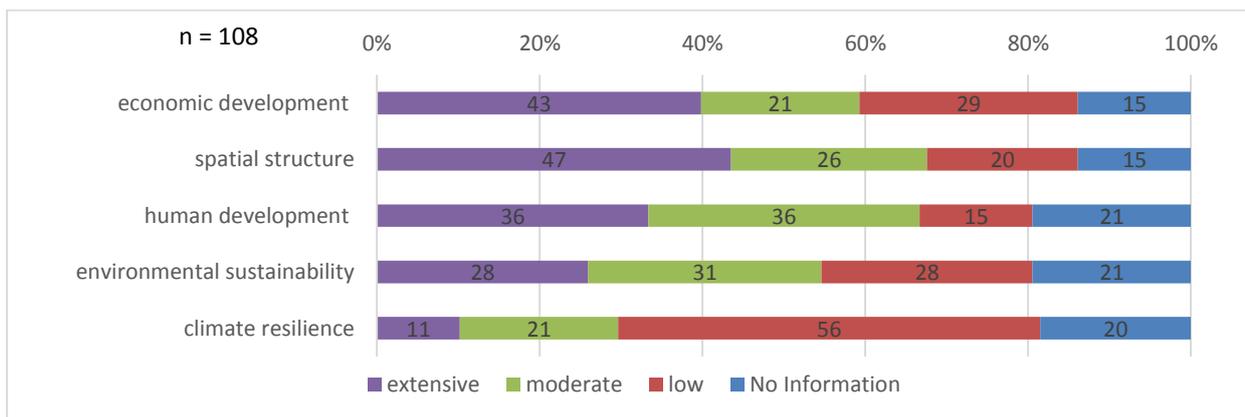
- Out of the 150 countries covered in the report, half (76) countries have adopted NUPs explicitly dedicated to urban policies, while half (74) countries have partial NUPs that incorporate urban considerations.
- Of the 150 countries, 92 countries are at the implementation stage of NUPs, while 58 are in the development process. Only 19 countries have reached the monitoring and evaluation stage. In Europe and North America, most countries already implement NUPs, while about 40% of countries in Africa, Asia and the Pacific are developing NUPs. However, some fast-urbanising regions, such as the Arab States, are prioritising urbanisation on national agendas.
- A majority of states (55%) do not have a specialised urban agency. This underlines the importance of co-ordination at the national level for successful implementation. Africa, the Arab States, Asia and the Pacific are more likely to have specialised urban agencies.

Stages of NUPs identified by region



- In most regions, a lack of resources (human, technical and financial) is the most difficult challenge to successfully implementing NUPs.
- Spatial structure and economic development are the two sectors most extensively covered by NUPs. Meanwhile, attention to climate change resilience and environmental sustainability is weakest.

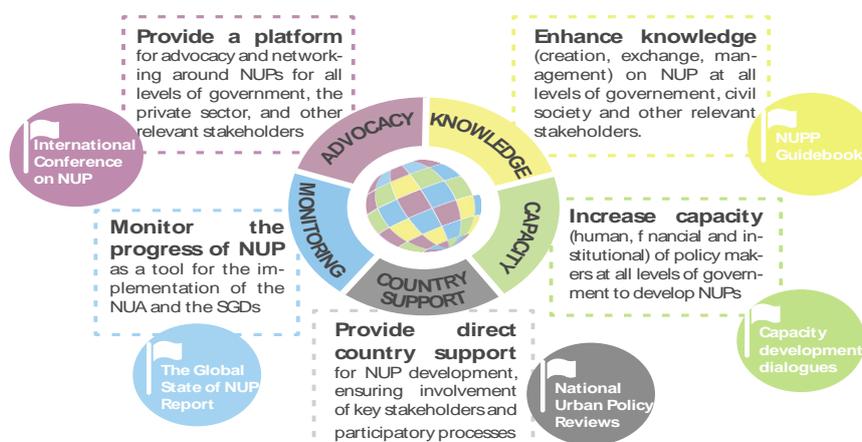
Attention given to selected themes in the NUPs in the formulation stage or beyond



The National Urban Policy Programme

For a larger and more efficient global development of NUPs, national governments, international organisations and other urban stakeholders need to remove impediments to capacity, awareness and resources. This is the function of global programmes such as the **National Urban Policy Programme (NUPP)**, which aims to remove obstacles and facilitate the worldwide development of NUPs. The NUPP will be coordinated by UN-Habitat, the OECD and Cities Alliance, and strengthened through the wide engagement of stakeholders from all levels of government, civil society, the private sector and academia. **Global State of National Urban Policy** is one of the key activities of the NUPP.

Proposed Activities of the NUPP



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