International Guidelines on Access to Basic Services for All

Presentation and initials lessons from implementation

Accessibility to services in regions and cities: measures and policies, OECD 18 June 2013

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Two sets of International Guidelines on Decentralization and Access to Basic Services for All approved by UN member States, respectively in 2007 and 2009

Negotiated at international level in consultation with various stakeholders

Aim at assisting policy reforms and legislative action at country level
Set of recommendations to national governments and stakeholders based on universal principles

1. Transparent, participatory and effective Governance (political and technical dimension / inter-sectoral and multi-scale dimension)

2. Decentralization and the role of local authorities (responsibilities and means)

3. Enabling institutional frameworks for partnerships (formalized multi-level and horizontal public partnerships, modes of provision and partnerships with service providers and communities)

4. Sustainable financing and pro-poor policies (cost recovery, fiscal equity and leveraging land value increase, affirmative pro-poor policies)

5. Environmental sustainability (sustainable consumption patterns, climate change threats)
Adaptation to national context
a flexible process

A nationally / locally owned process

A step-by-step participatory process:

- Integrated country/region/city profiling includes real practices at local level to identify strategic gaps
- Further investigations on strategic gaps
- Formulation of adapted guidelines, including set of indicators
- Negotiation of the action plan to implement the adapted guidelines (policy reform agenda)

A multi-entry tool to analyse basic services and territorial planning gaps

1st entry: Review of sector policies related to each service
✓ Accessibility, affordability
✓ Multi-scale sector governance, planning, management

2nd entry: Review of cross-sector territorial planning and management frameworks
✓ Multi-scale territorial governance, planning and management frameworks
✓ Instruments to turn plans into reality

3rd entry: Review of instruments for complex and under-serviced territories
✓ Rural areas
✓ Fast-growing cities/ urban areas
✓ Slums
✓ Urbanized areas at risk
Some findings from adaptation process in 10 pilot Least Develop Countries

✓ Weak decentralization frameworks, practices and local capacities in all sectors and at territorial level
✓ Fragmented sectoral approach at all levels
✓ Weak frameworks for multi-scale and horizontal public governance as well as for PPP and for involving non-state stakeholders in public affairs
✓ Some approaches and practices recommended by the Guidelines but rarely institutionalized
✓ Lowest access to basic services in isolated rural areas, peri-urban areas and slums
✓ Action plans include interesting outputs related to decentralization of sector policies/responsibilities yet to be transformed in outcomes
✓ Opening debate on crucial issue of territorial governance, management and planning but the guidelines do not provide sufficient methodological tools for analytical review
The challenge of managing services in complex urban territories

- Subsidiarity
- Sustainability
- Attractivity
- Efficiency
- Participation
- Democracy
- Integration
- Transparency
- Equity
- Diversity

Multi-level administrative coordination

Multi-scale territorial coordination

METROPOLITAN TERRITORY

- Impacted region
- Other levels

Sub-metropolitan areas
- Central municipality
- Other municipalities

Neighborhoods

Sectoral and inter-sectoral horizontal coordination

Watsan / waste
- Drainage flood resilient
- Road / transport

Participation
What’s next?

✓ Continue supporting interested countries to adapt the guidelines to national contexts

✓ Mainstream the guidelines recommendations within UN programmes and international cooperation institutions, including Development Banks

✓ Develop new set of complementary international guidelines on urban and territorial planning (UTP)

✓ Integrated approach through National Urban Policies (NUP)

✓ Habitat III multilateral negotiation process
Guidelines on urban and territorial planning (UTP)

✓ UTP aims at organizing land use, infrastructure and services to promote a sustainable and orderly development of the concerned territory.

✓ Planning is both a political process and a technical tool to translate a vision into reality.

✓ Territorial planning is broader than urban planning and is about vertical and horizontal coordination of regulations, plans and processes.

✓ Guidelines:
  • Urban policy principles (why to plan)
  • Management process (how to plan)
  • Technical products (which urban and territorial plans)
Guidelines on urban and territorial planning (UTP)

- Universal basic principles captured from national experiences
- Recommendations to support NUP reforms and develop diverse tools and approaches adapted to different contexts and scales
- Complementarities and links with other international instruments
- Raise urban and territorial dimensions in the development agenda
- Approval in 2015
Urban policy, Governance and Planning

- Guided by NUP, requiring a vision and overall strategy
- Multi-scale and multi-level dimension
- Horizontal inter-jurisdictional coordination
- Partnership and participation
- Combination of bottom-up and top-down approach
- Decentralization and subsidiarity policies
Draft outlines of the Guidelines on UTP (2)

UTP and social development

✓ Phased spatial framework for basic services
✓ Strategic guide and map for socially sound land and housing development (urban development and retrofitting)
✓ Socially sound connectivity and mobility
✓ Public space
✓ Integrated improvement of low-income settlements
✓ Urban safety, particularly for women and girls
Draft outlines of the Guidelines on UTP (3)

UTP, investment planning and economic growth

✓ Mandatory basis for trunk infrastructure development and city structuring
✓ Spatial location/distribution of economic activities
✓ Clustering of industries and services /poly-centric urban regions
✓ Energy and mobility efficiency
✓ Investment models and planning,
✓ Link zoning regulations to urban finance
Draft outlines of the Guidelines on UTP (4)

UTP and the environment

✓ Integrated and sustainable regional development
✓ Mitigation and adaptation framework for climate change impacts
✓ Compact city models and optimization of the use of urban space
✓ Open and green spaces, protection of areas of special value
✓ Better practical inter-sector synergies, waste management
Spatial planning components
✓ Facilitating tool rather than a rigid blueprint
✓ Combination of future visioning, spatial, institutional and financial dimensions at different time-horizon
✓ A continuous process resulting in enforceable regulations
✓ Multi-level articulation
✓ Information databases and mapping systems
Thank you!
Obrigado!
Gracias!
Merci!
Asante!