



**Draft Concept Note
On the Expert Group Meeting, HABITAT III**

Achieving Sustainable New Town Development in Developing Countries

1. Background

According to 'World Urbanization Prospects (2014, UN)' more than 3 billion influx of population is expected by the year 2050 and the phenomenon becoming serious-especially in Asia and Africa.

The concept of New Town Development has been adopted as a solution to urban problems due to rapid urbanization in developing countries. But, many New Towns are facing various urban challenges, such as aging, quality of life, traffic congestion, climate change, etc.

Over the past decade, New Town development in developing countries has grown exponentially. More and more governments are using the New Town as a way to accommodate the increasing urban population moving from rural areas and resolving the overcrowded metropolitan cities problems by decentralizing existing cities function and employment facilities.

However, wrong location, lower densities and absence of efficient public transportation plans shown in some New Towns cause criticism due to increasing living costs and exacerbating social segregation. Nevertheless, lack of attention and public debate initiated by international organizations keep regenerating same problems in other places. Therefore, development of a policy guide, which is in accordance with new urban agenda, is essentially required through global discussion.

While various countries have been developing New Towns for easing overpopulation, providing low-income housing and balanced territorial development, the discussions on a global policy guide for sustainable New Town development were insufficient.

In order to fill this gap, joint research for development of an international policy guide on sustainable New Town development was launched by UN-Habitat and LHI. UN-Habitat wants to set a place for international debate regarding past, present and future New Town development in collaboration with LHI and INTI. And now, we are prepared to hold an Expert Group Meeting as a pre-event of Habitat III-Quito.

The theme of this Quito pre-event (Achieving Sustainable New Town Development in Developing Countries) is closely connected with the Habitat III preparatory process and New Urban Agenda.

This event has a specific focus on existing and future New Towns. The themes addressed in at least 10 issued papers that have direct relevance to sustainable New Town development. The concepts found within the New Urban Agenda is extremely relevant for both old and new generations of New Towns, who share many of the same issues. The New Urban Agenda will address how “cities and human settlements are planned, financed, developed, governed, and managed”¹, and the development of New Towns is an opportunity to demonstrate how the ethos of the New Urban Agenda can produce sustainable urbanization.

Furthermore, the proposed knowledge platform created by UN-Habitat in collaboration with LHI and INTI will connect experiences, best practices, stimulate implementation of the New Urban Agenda through New Town development also will make best practices more accessible to similar cities and international institutes. UN Habitat, LHI, and INTI are committed to the promotion of the implementation of principles of the New Urban Agenda through New Town development.

Land and Housing Research Institute (LHI)

LHI, a research organization attached to LH, largest public enterprise in Korea working toward its mission: providing better housing and work facilities by building affordable and quality housing while developing land efficiently.

International New Town Institute (INTI)

INTI, an independent think-and-do tank, exchanges knowledge in order to improve the quality and livability of the thousands of New Towns – old and new – worldwide. INTI takes an investigative and critical attitude towards the planning of New Towns

2. Objectives and Expected Outcomes

The seminar, Pre-Quito event, will be the best opportunity to discuss about direction of New Town development and development of policy guide. The policy guide will be developed from a policy makers’ view point and used for assistance in decision-making of following policy makers and stakeholders.

- National Governments & Local Authorities (regional, metropolitan, city).
- Civil Society and its associations (including business community).
- Planning Professionals and their associations.
- Developers and investors.

¹ Surabaya draft, New Urban Agenda (2016), p. 1

This seminar in Quito aims at three outcomes:

1. Enhanced awareness and knowledge: political know-how(success or failure factors and etc.), New Town effects and precautions.
2. Establish a global partnership on “Sustainable New Town Development in Developing Countries” to support implementation of the New Urban Agenda with a clear mechanism to coordinate and track partner activities.
3. Identify regions, countries and cities where partners and governments commit to cooperate and use the Guide when developing, reviewing and implementing their New Town development frameworks.

The seminar will be also the first EGM with purpose of establishing development strategies for the policy guide and forming a global consensus, and it will be continuously developed by UN-Habitat and partners through future EGM as following.

- 2nd New Town EGM : to be held in the Middle East like Iran, New Town development in progress, for discussion on the policy guide in detail (expected date : Apr. 2017)
- 3rd New Town EGM : to be held in UN-Habitat head office, Nairobi in Kenya for final reviews of the policy guide (expected date : Oct. 2017)

3. Date, Location and Scope of Participation

- **Date:** October 16th, 2016 / 15:00~18:00
- **Venue:** Casa de la Cultura Ecuatoriana in room 14 “Benjamin Carrion”, Quito, Ecuador
- **Organized by :** UN-Habitat, LHI(Land and Housing Research Institute), INTI(International New Town Institute)
- **Participation**
 - Partners with confirmed interest to host the event:
 - Government of Korea / Netherlands
 - LH(Korea Land & Housing Corporation) & LHI(Research Institute of LH)
 - INTI(International New Town Institute)
 - UN-Habitat
 - Headquarters: Urban Planning and Design Branch
 - Regional Offices: Asia and the Pacific (ROAP), Africa (ROAF), Latin America and the Caribbean (ROLAC)
 - Participants: About 100 participants including high-level/senior officials from China, India, Indonesia, Colombia, Iran, Kuwait, Ecuador. And experts from KRIHS(Korea Research Institute of Human Settlements), OECD, WB, ADB, and other related organizations.



Draft Agenda as of October 16, 2016
the Expert Group Meeting, HABITAT III

**Achieving Sustainable New Town Development
in Developing Countries**

Day 0 (October 16/2016):

1. Registration 14:40 – 15:00	
2. New Town Seminar	
15:00 – 15:20	Opening Ceremony Opening & Welcoming remarks(5min) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sanghoon Lee (Government of Korea) Keynote Speech (10min) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rafael Tuts, UN-Habitat
15:30 – 16:10	Presentation 1 – Sharing of Experiences in Development and Management Sharing Netherlands’s Experiences (Almere Case) (20min) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OOO, INTI Sharing Korea’s Experiences (Past, Present & Future) (20min) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seyong Kim, Korea Univ.
16:10 – 16:50	Presentation 2 – New Town int New Town Agenda Perspective on the New Town in New Urban Agenda (20min) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Simone Rots, INTI A Policy Guide for Sustainable New Town (20min) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jungjoong Yoon, LHI
16:50 – 17:10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coffee / Tea Break
17:10 – 17:50	Discussion: Debate for Next Step of Implementation and Cooperation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderator: Mack Joong Choi, Seoul National University, Korea • Panelist: Dhiraj Ajay Suri (India), OOO(Iran), Maria Regina Rau de Souza (Brazil), Seongho Kim(UN-Habitat), Tadashi Matsumoto(OECD) Q&A
17:50 – 18:00	Closing Short Photo Session