



Comments on NUA
by
GAP PCG Professional

II- Informal Hearings for Stakeholders
5-7 June 2016, New York

Compiled, Edited & Prepared by
Ishtiaque Zahir, Co-Chair , PCG Professional, GAP

Below is PCG's consolidated comments on NUA:

The General Assembly of Partners PCG Professionals notes NUA is a progressive, comprehensive and aspirational document which is unique in a typical UN process. We congratulate the drafting team and acknowledge their contribution. However we understand that in draft "one" there will be more clarity in story line and process of drafting. PCG Professionals acknowledge the following members for their contributions:

- Kerry McGovern, EAROPH
- Regitze Marianne Hess, International Federation for Housing and Planning
- Cláudio Bernardes, INGAI
- Maruxa Cardama, Communitas
- Currie Dy, City of Gold Coast
- Rafael de Miguel González, EUROGEO
- Huybrechts Eric, IAU
- Didier Vancutsem - ISOCARP
- Ishtiaque Zahir- UIA

Following are the key issues our PCG has raised

The Positive Notes to NUA

1. A new partnership paradigm is a prerequisite for exploring and finding innovative, disruptive and unusual urban solutions. It recognizes all present stake holder's engagements specially GAP. Further recognizes the need for a renewed partnership among stake holders, local and sub national. Thus we must say NUA is a paradigm shift.
2. NUA commits to a new set of standards in planning, selection and design of the urban form and infrastructure etc. It recognizes the role of planning and design in building resilient communities and cities. Quality Planning and



design can catalyze urban regeneration, create socially and culturally inclusive spaces and promote greening of city. It also recognizes that inequality can be combated by good design.

3. It acknowledges that DATA collection and indicators are essential at all level to monitor progress. Qualitative and quantitative data collection is a prime requisite for a good planning and design process. Open and easy accessible data is acknowledged.
4. Place making is one of the key aspect of public space design. Sense of place and quality of life is the core component of a community life. Which is based on local culture and heritage. NUA safe guards and promotes traditionally tested knowledge and arts that has been shaping urban areas of our time. In the process of designing, it recognizes the collaborative process of including physical, cultural and social identities that define a place.

Points to be included in NUA

5. Planners should plan for informal settlements. Urban informality should be recognized as a result of lack of affordable housing, dysfunctional land markets and urban policies. We must redefine our relationships with informal settlements and slums, in ways that leave no one behind, taking into account that those areas are also engines for economic growth, prosperity, and job creation.
6. A better reflection of thematic and regional meeting is needed in the document. Considerable effort went into policy units.
7. The financial and legal instruments that generate & facilitate the funding, needs to be addressed. So a new form of partnership should be introduced where peoples, stakeholders voices are at the center.
8. Planning policies and strategies should be strengthened through specific bodies and funding. Specific funding and territorial engineering should be implemented to implement the strategic urban planning and management of cities and metropolitan areas
9. Alternative housing options should be supported at large scale by international funders, national and local authorities and planners.



10. The need for a system to be established to monitor and share progress and data collection.
11. GAP should be recognized and given space for engagement in UN meetings like other official UN group. In this reference to acknowledge GAP as special initiative of WUC & also role of HPF should be acknowledged.
12. We may term NUA as 'Human right based NUA & Public space lead NUA'.
13. Capacity development at all level and for multiple stakeholders both at institutional and individual level – peer to peer learning.
14. Opening the governance of UN-Habitat by providing a specific position for local authorities represented by their Task force, and civil society represented by the Partners representation of the World urban campaign of UN-Habitat.
15. Recognize the necessity to better regulate land and real estate markets and also better managed funds to avoid misallocation of investments that produce empty buildings and increase social and spatial segregations.
16. We need to work within financial and social capabilities to avoid future informal settlements occurring and to improve the starting infrastructure and decision making processes in those instances.

Areas in which your PCG Professionals can contribute to the NUA

17. Sustainable urban development necessitates a **multi-level, participatory and collaborative approach** during all phases of planning and decision-making processes. We need a new understanding of stakeholder engagement that recognizes all urban inhabitants, both formal and informal, as co-planners and co-creators to achieve sustainable development.
18. NUA should create opportunities for engagement and initiate partnerships for implementation. GAP PCG Professional can contribute and give guidance in developing new tools for implementation of NUA.
19. The implementation tool will vary from country to country region to region. PCG professionals may initiate a new form of campus as NUA Thinker Campus, aimed towards the implementation of NUA. It may initiate International debates through the thinker's campus.
20. GAP **Monitoring** of the NUA to be defined (indicators and mapping) and implemented by researchers that need specific global institution and finance.



21. PCG Professions group can also contribute to assess progress towards transformative change, using qualitative and quantitative information from multiple sources through our PCG Professional group.
22. Advocacy: PCG Professional can create an urban task Force Advocacy by a permanent Urban task force based on GAP partnership / WUC with defined duties.
23. NUA needs a mapping of urban solutions and initiatives managed by researchers or global institutions. Innovation through Urban labs to be financially supported through a global tool.
24. A shared governance for adopting global decisions that put around the table states through UN, local authorities through Global task force and civil society through GAP / WUC.