



State Committee on Urban Planning and Architecture
of The Republic of Azerbaijan



**NATIONAL
URBAN FORUM**



AĞDAM, AZERBAIJAN | 5-6 OCTOBER 2022

CONCEPT NOTE

**THE SDGS AND THE NUA AS ENGINES OF POST-CONFLICT
RECONSTRUCTION AND REHABILITATION**

(DRAFT)

Context

Azerbaijan National Urban Forum is a first non-legislative event convened by the State Committee on Urban Planning and Architecture of the Republic of Azerbaijan co-organized with the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat).

This Forum is going to be an important urban event in the region bringing together a wide range of participants from around the world to discuss the emerging key urban challenges, reconstruction and rehabilitation of human settlements in post-conflict regions and share the latest achievements in sustainable urban planning and development of cities as well as gathering international experience in the related field.

Why an Urban Forum?

The Azerbaijan National Urban Forum (NUFA) is a multi-stakeholder platform for policy dialogue to support sustainable urban development decision-making and review processes at all levels, including through advocacy, knowledge sharing, capacity development, partnership and networking at the country and regional level.

National Urban Forums have already been established with excellent results in a number of countries creating an enabling environment to promote dialogue and consensus among stakeholders, including national government, local authorities, grass root organizations, private sector and academia among others.

Proposed Time and Venue

The opening ceremony will be held on 5 October, 2022 in the city of Ağdam, with further site visit of the neighborhoods. The second day of the Forum will be held at the ADA University located in Baku, the capital city of Azerbaijan, on 6 October, 2022.

Azerbaijan National Urban Forum Objectives

The main goal of the ANUF is to exchange best practices and lessons learned in order to advance sustainable development and urban recovery while offering a unique opportunity for showcasing Azerbaijan model of urban crisis response as well as networking with practitioners and policymakers facing similar challenges worldwide.

The specific objectives are:

- to support sustainable urban development decision-making and review processes at all levels, including through advocacy, knowledge sharing, capacity development, partnership and networking;

- to identify obstacles on urban crisis response and implementation/review of the 2030 Agenda, the New Urban Agenda (NUA) and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including harmonization of different approaches;
- to increase coordination and cooperation between different stakeholders and constituencies for the advancement and implementation of sustainable urbanization.

Expected Results

- International and multi-stakeholder cooperation for urban recovery;
- Focus on imminent urban crises such as climate and biodiversity emergencies, pandemics, violence and conflicts, and other natural and man-made disasters, that all converge in cities and surrounding territories;
- Move from incrementalism towards fundamental shifts in urban environments, systems of governance and forms of habitation, in line with human rights treaties;
- Establish mechanisms for future partnership and extended cooperation among donors and development actors in achieving the SDGs.

Participation

Participants to the event will include representatives from regional, national and local governments, representatives of non-governmental and community-based organizations, academics, research and training institutes, the private sector, international organizations and donors.