

# TOWARDS A CARIBBEAN URBAN AGENDA

*Dr. Hebe Verrest, Dr. Asad Mohammed & Sarah Moorcroft, BCom<sup>1</sup>*

## 1. Introduction

As of 2008, half of the world population lived in urban settlements and this percentage is expected to increase to 60 per cent by 2030. Urbanisation levels are spread unevenly across the globe with Europe and the Caribbean at the upper end and SubSaharan Africa at the lower end of the scale. Current urban growth is concentrated in Sub-Saharan Africa and to a lesser extent Asia and contrary to what is expected growth is concentrated in small and medium sized cities. Cities are generally considered as nodes of opportunities and growth but also as places where inequality, poor living conditions and social, environmental and economic vulnerabilities coincide, and jeopardise the well being of large groups of urban dwellers<sup>2</sup>.

### *1.1. The Need for a Caribbean Urban Agenda*

This paper aims to facilitate discussions on the nature of a Caribbean Urban Agenda. The paper explores the critical issues and themes which can contribute to academic, policy and professional activities in Caribbean cities. Three arguments can be suggested to support a specific Caribbean Urban Agenda. The Caribbean is a highly urbanised region with over 70 per cent of its population currently living in urban settlements<sup>3</sup>. These settlements are nodes where social, political, economic and environmental factors increasingly shape Caribbean development challenges and opportunities. Despite its highly urbanised character, urban settlements are hardly on the Caribbean agenda and

---

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Hebe Verrest is Assistant Professor International Development Studies at the University of Amsterdam; Dr. Asad Mohammed is Coordinator of the Graduate Programme in Urban and Regional Planning, Dept. of Geomatics Engineering and Land Management, University of the West Indies and Director of the Caribbean Network for Urban and Land Management (CNULM). Sarah Moorcroft holds a Bachelor of Commerce and is a Research Master student International Development Studies at the University of Amsterdam.

<sup>2</sup> Referencing in this paper is limited in the text for readability but added to this paper is a detailed bibliography of (mostly) open access literature on urbanization, urban planning and individual critical urban issues.

<sup>3</sup> UN-Habitat (2009). Planning Sustainable Cities. Global Report on Human Settlements 2009.

the urban specificities of policy issues are often missing. Three arguments can be suggested to support a specific Caribbean Urban Agenda. First, research, policy making and program development must give attention to urban issues in the Caribbean. Addressing the urban context, whether in academic studies, policy making, or urban planning however, requires the combined effort of various academic disciplines or policy sectors. For example, problems of public safety require contributions from social, spatial and legal perspectives. Second, to address issues of flooding, the input of spatial planners, infrastructural engineers, social workers, and environmental specialists is required. Hence, to adequately address issues relevant to the urban sector or urban development, a holistic (or *integrated*) as opposed to sectoral approach is warranted. An *urban* agenda should be able to provide that. Finally, Caribbean cities share, amidst large differentiations, urban challenges and opportunities and can benefit from the exchange of knowledge and experiences regarding urban matters and solutions. Putting forward a *Caribbean* urban agenda fosters such exchange<sup>4</sup>.

### *1.2. From a Global to a Regional and Local Perspective*

To date, the Caribbean Urban Agenda has been largely driven by a global perspective. As a first step, this paper examines and discusses how the global urban agenda has emerged from the documentation and literature of multilateral agencies (primarily UN Habitat), geographical groupings such as Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and the academic literature<sup>5</sup>. Urbanisation and urban matters have re-emerged as an area of international academic and policy attention. Academics from a wide range of backgrounds, including Economics, Planning, Geography, Architecture & Urban Design, Environmental Sciences, Sociology and Anthropology address urban matters in scholarly articles. Multilateral agencies have put forward a wide range of programs to improve urban conditions in various critical domains of urban life such as housing, crime and violence, public safety, access to water and sanitation, local economic development, urban-rural linkages as well as in areas that relate to the managing or governing of cities such as participatory governance and decentralisation. Programs such as the Urban Management Program, Cities Alliances, the Safer City Program and the currently

---

<sup>4</sup> The draft of this paper was presented during the meeting “Establishing a Policy and Research Agenda for the Urban Sector in the Caribbean”- Georgetown Guyana 6-9 of April 2011.

<sup>5</sup> The SIDS have produced the Barbados Plan of Action (BPOA) in 1994 and the Mauritius Strategy for the Implementation of the BPOA (MSI) which was signed in 2005 and reviewed in 2010.

executed Participatory Slum Upgrading Program (PSUP) have been implemented in cities all over the world, including in the Caribbean.

There is thus a default Caribbean urban agenda and a list of critical urban issues that have largely been defined by programmes, projects and agencies operating within the global context. There are also issues embedded within policies and documentation of national, municipal and regional organisations relevant to a Caribbean urban agenda. Drawing on existing global and regional documents and reports, this paper presents a synthesis of the default urban agenda, as well as regional, national and municipal perspectives of critical Caribbean stakeholders. A critical local Caribbean perspective was provided by discussions during a policy meeting co-hosted by the CARICOM and the Caribbean Network for Urban and Land Management (CNULM), with representatives from 9 Caribbean member states, 5 professional planners organisations (from Barbados, Trinidad and Tobago, Jamaica, the United States and Canada) and various regional and international academic institutions. An in-depth analysis of national policy agendas would have provided a complementary and more holistic local Caribbean perspective, but this was not possible within the limited amount of time available.

### *1.3. Addressing Caribbean Diversity*

Caribbean cities are very diverse considering their absolute and relative size, their annual growth rates and their economic, social and environmental opportunities and vulnerabilities. Urban issues in small arid islands, highly dependent on tourism are different from those of large islands where urban poverty and inequality or unsustainable urban sprawl dominates the agenda. Some cities are also influenced by the conditions of low-lying coastal zones. However, amidst this diversity some common characteristics can be distinguished. Caribbean cities, including capital cities, are relatively small, as most have population under 500,000 inhabitants. Most countries and territories tend to be dominated by one city and urban primacy is a common characteristic. Many Caribbean cities are situated in low-lying coastal zones. As such, they are vulnerable to natural hazards including hurricanes, floods and storm surges, which are expected to increase in incidence and severity as a result of climate change (i.e. sea level rise, less but more intense rainfall). In addition, Caribbean cities are characterised by complex land markets, high degrees of tenure insecurity and unplanned settlements, socio-economic inequality and large groups of residents depending on the informal economic

sector. Urban planning and management is embedded in colonial laws and regulations and lacks adequate development and implementation of policies as well as enforcement of rules and regulations. As a result, urban development is largely taking place in an informal and unsustainable manner.

In sum, while Caribbean cities share common characteristics, they also have several differences. As such, classifying issues that are more or less relevant to certain Caribbean states and territories may be more useful than formulating a regional monolithic one-size-fits-all agenda. We propose a distinction between small Caribbean islands (i.e. Lesser Antilles and The Bahamas, Turks and Caicos), large Caribbean islands (i.e. Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Cuba) and coastal states and territories (French Guyana, Belize, Guyana and Suriname).

## **2. The Global Urban Agenda**

### ***2.1. Feeding the Global Agenda***

Urban issues and urban development have regained attention after a relative period of neglect. A range of programs and approaches have appeared on the international urban agenda, including the Urban Management Program (UMP), The Localizing Agenda 21 (LA21), Cities Alliances, Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme, The Safer City Program etc.. The issues that have been put on the agenda relate to both actual urban concerns such as access to basic services, housing, and security, and to the manner in which these issues are handled (i.e. management and governance issues). A review of documents, articles and approaches highlights how two critical UN policies, the second UN Habitat Agenda (1996) (Habitat Agenda) and the Millennium Development Goals (2000), feed new urban initiatives. Therefore, understanding both documents is essential. In addition, the outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development 2012 (also known as Earth Summit 2012 or Rio +20), which will be held in Rio de Janeiro, are expected to influence the future global urban agenda. This conference will have two main themes: the green economy (a related to sustainable development and poverty eradication) and the necessary institutional framework for sustainable development<sup>6</sup>. The Habitat Agenda is a specific urban framework but the

---

<sup>6</sup> <http://www.uncsd2012.org/rio20/index.php?menu=61>.

Millennium Development Goals and (to date) the Rio +20 conference have a more generic scope.

### *The UN-Habitat Agenda*

In 1996, the second Habitat Conference was held in Istanbul (Turkey). The resulting political document from this meeting is the Habitat Agenda. The Habitat Agenda contains 100 commitments and 600 recommendations and has been adopted by 171 countries. The Habitat Agenda calls for global action to ensure *sustainable human settlements where all have adequate shelter, a healthy and safe environment, basic services, and productive and freely chosen employment*<sup>7</sup>. The Habitat Agenda commits itself to: *adequate shelter for all; sustainable human settlements; enablement and participation; gender equality; financing shelter and human settlements; and international cooperation*. To reach these commitments an action plan was established centring on the aim of adequate shelter for all: More specifically, this includes sustainable development in an urbanising world; capacity building and institutional development; international cooperation and coordination; and finally, implementation and follow-up of the Habitat Agenda<sup>8</sup>. The Istanbul +5 Summit held in New York in 2001 further reconfirmed the Habitat Agenda. Identifying best practices was a core strategy to exchange information and foster successful implementation of the Habitat Agenda. The Global Urban Observatory was developed as a means of measuring and monitoring change. The principles of the Habitat Agenda have been the base of large UN-Habitat projects such as the Urban Management Program but have also been implemented at national and regional levels. For example, the Dutch Habitat Platform funded by two Dutch Ministries was responsible for the promotion of the Habitat Agenda in The Netherlands as well as in Dutch International Cooperation. Despite the worldwide acknowledgement of the importance of the Habitat Agenda it has proved difficult to gain attention for it outside of UN-Habitat.

### *Millennium Development Goals*

In 2000, the *Millennium Development Goals* (MDGs) became the fundamental framework on which global policies and programs were built<sup>9</sup>. The MDGs were

---

<sup>7</sup> Preamble to the Habitat Agenda, point 21 <http://ww2.unhabitat.org/declarations/ch-1a.htm>).

<sup>8</sup> Please see [http://www.unhabitat.org/downloads/docs/1176\\_6455\\_The\\_Habitat\\_Agenda.pdf](http://www.unhabitat.org/downloads/docs/1176_6455_The_Habitat_Agenda.pdf) for more information on the Habitat Agenda

<sup>9</sup> <http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/>

established as a result of the United Nations Millennium Declaration. The Millennium Declaration (the Declaration) was adopted by world leaders during the Millennium Summit (2000), striving to *'free all men, women, and children from the abject and dehumanizing conditions of extreme poverty'*<sup>10</sup>. The Declaration asserts that every individual has the right to dignity, freedom, equality, a basic standard of living that includes freedom from hunger and violence, and encourages tolerance and solidarity. Unlike the Habitat Agenda, the MDGs have received significant worldwide attention. National and local governments have implemented policies to reach the MDGs by 2015. The MDGs embody the aims of the Declaration in eight specific goals. These include specific targets to be met and indicators to assess progress. Policy suggestions are general as to leave room to tailor the goals, indicators and policies to the needs and capacities of individual countries. The eight MDGs are: *1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger; 2. Achieve universal primary education; 3. Promote gender equality and empower women; 4. Reduce child mortality rates; 5. Improve maternal health; 6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases; 7. Ensure environmental sustainability; and 8. Develop a global partnership for development.*

The Millennium Declaration is not specifically focused on urban settlements but features a more generic human development agenda. Neither the MDGs themselves nor the related targets and indicators, have an urban specificity. One exception is the target to achieve *significant improvement in the lives of 100 million slum dwellers* (target d) under MDG 7). Furthermore, the results of the target to *reduce by half the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation* (target c) under MDG 7) have implications for the majority of individuals living in urban areas. However, the other MDG 7 targets (a) *integration of the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes; reverse loss of environmental resources; and (b) reduce biodiversity loss, achieving, by 2010, a significant reduction in the rate of loss*; do not include any specific urban target or indicator. In 2010 considerable progress had been made on both 'urban' targets, though the absolute number of people living in slums has increased<sup>11</sup>.

---

<sup>10</sup> <http://www.un.org/millennium/declaration/ares552e.htm>

<sup>11</sup> Access to improved water was improved conform target but the sanitation target will most likely not be met. In addition the rural-urban gap is large here with much better scores for urban areas. The lives of 200 million slum dwellers has been improved. However, the absolute number of slum dwellers has grown more than this. Millennium Development Goals Report 2010:

## 2.2. Global Urban Issues

UN-Habitat appears to be a core driver of international debates on urban issues. Frequently cited documentations, reports and literature on urban policy are often (co-) authored by UN-Habitat. Many issues featured in this literature are closely related to the aforementioned Habitat Agenda and to the MDGs, in particular MDG 7. In addition, the World Bank and United Nations Development Program (UNDP) play an important role in shaping the global urban agenda. Moreover, UN-Habitat publishes two biennial comprehensive report series: the *State of the World Cities Reports* and the *Global Report on Human Settlements*. For both these reports UN-Habitat works closely with research institutes all over the world. These reports present region-specific urban related statistics and data. However, Caribbean data are mostly presented at the aggregate level of Latin America and the Caribbean, which makes it less useful for understanding the Caribbean context.

Each **State of the World Cities** report presents urban facts, figures and analyses around a specific theme. The 2006/2007 issue focused on the link between the MDGs and cities, strongly focusing on living conditions of slum dwellers. These conditions are captured under five indicators: *access to improved water; access to improved sanitation facilities; sufficient living area (overcrowding); structural quality and durability of dwellings; and security of tenure*. The report pays particular attention to the social and health implications of living in slums, such as child mortality, labour, education and HIV/AIDS, and touches upon sustainability issues, including transportation, the risk of natural hazards, conflicts and crime. Attention is given to the role of governance and governments, in particular, the role of bottom-up versus top-down governance and the role of local governments<sup>12</sup>.

The subsequent report 2008/2009 is entitled *Harmony and Cities* and focuses on three issues. The first is related to the development of cities in relation to their surroundings, concentrating on patterns of uneven growth, the rise of urban regions and the role of the government in their planning. A second focus is on social harmony and issues concerning inequality and slum conditions. The final section discusses environmental

---

<http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/pdf/MDG%20Report%202010%20En%20r15%20-low%20res%2020100615%20-.pdf>.

<sup>12</sup> The report can be downloaded from

<http://www.unhabitat.org/pmss/listItemDetails.aspx?publicationID=2101>.

harmony and takes a closer look at environmental conditions and challenges. This issue addresses concerns such as waste collection, air pollution, climate change, energy use, sea level rise and mobility. The closing section focusing on planning, addresses only the first two harmony concerns and neglects planning for environmental harmony<sup>13</sup>.

The most recent State of the World Cities report (2010-2011), *Cities for All: Bridging the Urban Divide*, concentrates on economic (income) and spatial (marginality, living conditions, social exclusion) inequalities, on inequalities in opportunity (access to labour, gender) and on social divides (food, health and education inequalities). In its policy section, the report highlights the 'right to the city' and concentrates on the steps necessary to create an 'inclusive city': a city that guarantees equality and inclusion in all four of the above domains. The inclusive city acknowledges the indivisibility of human rights, guarantees gender equality and focuses on poor and marginalised groups<sup>14</sup>.

Another series of report produced by UN Habitat is the **Global Report on Human Settlements**. The 2011 report *Cities and Climate Change* (released 29th March 2011) addresses the interactions between cities and climate change and includes a proposed set of strategies and steps to be followed adapt to and to mitigate the impacts of climate change. The report highlights how cities contribute to climate change through emissions, which result from, for example, sprawling cities and inefficient transportation. The report also argues that the expected impacts of climate change, e.g. floods, storm surges, hurricanes, will be affecting cities and in particular the poor. An important (though not surprising) conclusion is that cities that contribute most to climate change, i.e. cities in North-America and to a lesser extent Europe, suffer mildly from the impacts of climate change<sup>15</sup>. Earlier reports in this series carried as a central theme *Enhancing Urban Safety and Security* (2007) and *Planning for Sustainable Cities* (2009). The report 'Urban Safety and Security' focuses on three domains of insecurity that affect human settlements: crime & violence, tenure (in)security & forced evictions, and natural hazards

---

<sup>13</sup> The report can be downloaded from  
<http://www.unhabitat.org/pmss/listItemDetails.aspx?publicationID=2562>.

<sup>14</sup> The report can be downloaded from  
<http://www.unhabitat.org/pmss/listItemDetails.aspx?publicationID=2917>.

<sup>15</sup> See  
<http://www.unhabitat.org/content.asp?cid=9599&catid=7&typeid=46&subMenuId=0&AllContent=1>  
for press releases. The abridged document can be downloaded from  
<http://www.unhabitat.org/pmss/listItemDetails.aspx?publicationID=3085>.



& disasters<sup>16</sup>. The *Planning for Sustainable Cities* report concentrates on planning processes itself and addresses planning issues relevant to various regions in the world including the Caribbean. It describes the role of planning in addressing rapid urbanisation, urban poverty and slums, urban development and climate change, urban crime and violence, and in addressing post-conflict and post-disaster situations. The report also addresses trends and traditions in urban planning approaches. All three reports have an extensive section of governance and planning action, with decentralisation, participation and inclusion as central pillars<sup>17</sup>.

### *2.3. Small Island Development States Perspective: UN-DESA/SIDS*

As stated above, the global reports on urbanisation and urban matters rarely bring up specific information on or for the Caribbean region. Within the United Nations, the Small Islands Development States (SIDS)-Unit, located within the Division of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), is specifically engaged with regions such as the Caribbean. Their aim is to realise sustainable development in SIDS. Two core documents form the basis of their work: the Barbados Program of Action (BPOA, signed 1994) and the Mauritius Strategy for the Implementation of the BPOA (MSI- signed in 2005, reviewed in 2010). However, neither of these documents focuses specifically on urban issues nor do they often make reference to urban specificities. Nevertheless, the issues addressed have an urban relevance.

The BPOA focuses on 15 thematic areas: *Climate Change and Sea Level Rise; Natural and Environmental Disasters; Management of Wastes; Coastal and Marine Resources, Freshwater Resources; Land Resources; Energy Resources; Tourism Resources; Biodiversity Resources; National Institutions and Administrative Capacity; Regional Institutions and Technical Cooperation; Transport and Communication; Science and Technology; Human Resource Development*<sup>18</sup>.

During the 2005 MSI Conference there was an agreement on a set of critical vulnerabilities that require action from governments (at various levels) in partnership with

---

<sup>16</sup> The report can be downloaded from <http://www.unhabitat.org/pmss/listItemDetails.aspx?publicationID=2432>.

<sup>17</sup> The report can be downloaded from <http://www.unhabitat.org/pmss/listItemDetails.aspx?publicationID=2831>.

<sup>18</sup> United Nations 1994. [http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/dsd\\_aofw\\_sids/sids\\_pdfs/BPOA.pdf](http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/dsd_aofw_sids/sids_pdfs/BPOA.pdf).

the private sector and NGOs (Non-governmental Organisations): *The smallness and remoteness of SIDS, (limiting human resources, internal markets, increasing transportation); Reliance on energy imports; Vulnerability to natural disasters and extreme weather events; Fragile ecosystems; Constraints on information and communication technology; Vulnerability to exogenous economic and financial shocks; Lack of natural resources (especially limited freshwater supplies, fuel sources and agricultural/food products); And high levels of migration of skilled personnel*<sup>19</sup>.

Five discussions panels identified critical sectors for realising sustainable development: *environmental vulnerabilities, economic and trade impacts; the role of culture, social challenges; and building resilience*. The final strategy paper concentrates on the same domains as the BPOA (see above) but included graduation from least developed country status; Trade globalisation and trade liberalisation; Sustainable capacity development and education for sustainable development; Sustainable production and consumption; National and regional enabling environments; health; Knowledge management and information for decision-making; Culture, and included a section on Implementation. None of these issues are specifically urban and hardly any reference is made to urbanisation or specifically urban challenges.

The Caribbean SIDS agenda itself has not had a specific urban focus. During the Regional Preparatory Meeting to Review the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (held in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, during the period 6 – 10 October 2003), Caribbean priorities regarding the BPOA were established. Coastal and Marine resources, natural and environmental disasters, rising sea level and climate change, and waste management were considered the most critical domains of action.

## *2.4 The UN-ECLAC Agenda*

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) is one of five regional United Nations commissions. In its proposed work programme for the period 2012-2013 a range of sub-working programmes is indicated: Linkages with the Global Economy; Integration and Regional Cooperation; Production and Innovation;

---

<sup>19</sup> United Nations 2001, p. 92. [http://www.unesco.org/csi/B10/mim/mimStrategy\\_English.pdf](http://www.unesco.org/csi/B10/mim/mimStrategy_English.pdf).

Macroeconomic policies and Growth; Financing for Development; Social Development and Equality; Mainstreaming the Gender Perspective in Regional Development; Population and Development; *Sustainable Development and Human Settlements*; Natural Resources and Infrastructure; Planning of Public Administration; Statistics; Sub-regional Activities in Mexico and Central America; *Sub-regional Activities in the Caribbean*<sup>20</sup>.

The sustainable development and human settlements sub-programme acknowledges the importance of the interrelationship between economic growth, environmental protection, climate change, urban development and social equality and the need for integrated approaches to tackle these issues. The main focus in this work-program is on strengthening the role of local governments to address these issues. The actual work plan has a strong focus on climate change and disaster by a) evaluating the advances made in sustainable development in the region, disaster risk assessment, risk management and adapting to variability and climate change, and b) integrating sustainability criteria in public policies and institution-building for environmental management.

The Caribbean work programme does not include a specific urban focus and focuses on economic and environmental vulnerability of the region. When discussing the question of economic vulnerability, the report centres on the dependence of the Caribbean on tourism and the extraction of natural resources as well as on remittances and migration and foresees significant problems in the near future. The discussion surrounding climate change focus its impacts for the social and economic sectors. The aim of this subprogram is to achieve economic transformation, social resilience and environmental sustainability in the Caribbean sub-region and enhance the sub-region's cooperation with Latin America.

Our analysis of the urban issues being brought forward by the various UN-reports and programmes suggests a list of 8 main themes with critical sub-themes or action areas. The SIDS and UN-ECLAC further stress some of these themes. The main themes are

---

<sup>20</sup> [http://www.eclac.org/pses33/noticias/paginas/0/39330/2010-1-SES-33-5\\_Draft\\_Programme\\_of\\_work.pdf](http://www.eclac.org/pses33/noticias/paginas/0/39330/2010-1-SES-33-5_Draft_Programme_of_work.pdf)

outlined in the left column of Table 1 and the sub-themes developed by specific programmes can be found in the columns to the right.

### 3. The Regional Caribbean Agenda

The above discussion presents an overview of the issues that feature prominently on the global urban agenda. This is not an exhaustive list. Rather, the focus is on documents and programmes that reflect the vision of core agencies promoting urban development relevant to the Caribbean region. As will be shown below, much of the regional Caribbean policies and practices related to urban issues have been developed through these global agendas. The question however is to what extent these (localised) global agendas represent a relevant urban agenda for Caribbean states and territories.

**Table 1: A Global Urban Agenda (UN-Habitat and SIDS)**

	UN-Habitat	SIDS	UN-ECLAC
<b>Safety and security</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Crime and Violence</li> <li>- Natural hazards</li> <li>- Tenure (in) security</li> </ul>	Natural and environmental disasters	Disaster management
<b>Poverty &amp; Deprivation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Employment</li> <li>- Education and health</li> <li>- Food Security</li> </ul>		
<b>Physical Living Conditions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Access to water &amp; sanitation</li> <li>- Solid waste management</li> <li>- Housing quality</li> </ul>	Water Scarcity	
<b>Inequality</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Social exclusion</li> <li>- Gender equality</li> <li>- Segregation / marginalisation</li> </ul>		
<b>Climate Change (contribution to)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Emissions</li> <li>- Energy</li> <li>- Transportation</li> <li>- Mitigation strategies</li> <li>- Green Economy</li> </ul>	Dependence on energy import	
<b>Climate Change (vulnerability to)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Floods, Hurricanes, storm surges</li> <li>- Adaptation strategies</li> <li>- Low-Elevation Coastal Zone</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sea level rise</li> <li>- Coastal and marine resources</li> <li>- Ecological fragility</li> </ul>	Adaptation to climate change
<b>Governance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Citizen participation</li> <li>- Decentralization</li> <li>- Democratization</li> <li>- Public / private partnerships</li> </ul>	Knowledge management	Capacity building knowledge management

	UN-Habitat	SIDS	UN-ECLAC
<b>Sustainable planning</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Environmentally</li> <li>- Socially</li> <li>- Physically</li> <li>- Economically</li> </ul>		
<b>Local Economic Development</b>	Formal/informal economy globalization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Tourism dependent</li> <li>- Small economy</li> <li>- Liberalisation/globalisation</li> </ul>	Diversification Dependent economy

To answer this question we need to examine regional Caribbean policy agendas and the specific urban issues that feature on these agendas. Various sources can guide our understanding of the issues relevant to the urban Caribbean. The first source is the global literature discussed above which presents region-specific information and data, including some on the Caribbean<sup>21</sup>. The next source is a set of documents representing expressions by multilateral organisations consisting of Caribbean countries- (i.e. CARICOM), or with a strong representation of Caribbean countries. A third set of documents pictures Caribbean experiences and preferences in various urban development programs that have been implemented in the region (even if they are driven by international agendas). The domains of preference and concerns give a good indication of what is considered urban-relevant in the region. A final set of data consists of academic literature and reports that address individual issues, for example crime, disaster preparedness or the issue of tenure security or focus on urban issues in a specific country. Below, we will first discuss the agenda and issues that have been brought forward by CARICOM. Next we will expand these issues by examining reports focusing on the Caribbean experience of implementations of urban development programs.

### *3.1. CARICOM's Policy Framework*

An analysis of CARICOM documents and reports shows that CARICOM does not have a specific focus on urban settlements or urban issues. Moreover, none of its governing councils have a specific focus on cities or human settlements, although COHSOD and

<sup>21</sup> However, in these analyses Latin America and the Caribbean are grouped as one and thus, the Caribbean specificity is lost. What's more, many Caribbean islands are excluded from the analysis as data are missing.

COTED, include these themes<sup>22</sup>. Also, in a review of various communiqués of the Council for National Security and Law Enforcement and the CARICOM yearly report 2008/2009, urban issues and cities are not the focus of attention<sup>23</sup>. This is not to say that the topics and projects brought up by CARICOM over the past years are not urban specific. There are policies in place for environmental, agricultural, economic etc issues. Moreover, there are opportunities to localise and specify these issues to form part of an urban agenda. Critical urban issues such as crime and security, skills and employment, gender (in)equality, and the impacts of climate change and natural hazards are recurring themes on the various CARICOM agendas<sup>24</sup>.

CARICOM has also been involved in the implementation and adaptation of the MDGs in the Caribbean context. CARICOM adjusted the MDGs to better suit the Caribbean context. For example, the goal to reach universal primary education (MDG 2) was tightened to reach universal secondary education (up to form 5). Regarding MDG 7, the most relevant MDG to urban development, the Caribbean targets include improving the lives of 70 per cent of people in poor communities (mainly better tenure security) and to realise a vulnerability index for the region that embodies the natural, economic and social threats to the region. However, specific indicators to measure the accomplishments of MDG7 do not distinguish between urban and rural issues (except for access to improved sanitation and water) or refer to urban issues specifically. The issues that are high on the CARICOM agenda are climate change, the Caribbean Single Market and Economy (CSME), renewable energy, HIV/AIDS, disaster preparedness, gender in(equality), safety and crime, and economic vulnerability.

### *3.2 Urban Development Programmes implemented in the Caribbean*

In the past years a series of urban development programmes has been implemented in the region. These programmes are largely based on global urban agendas and initiated

---

<sup>22</sup> Council for Trade and Economic Development (COTED), Council for Finance and Planning (COFAP), Council for Foreign and Community Relations (COFCOR), Council for Human and Social Development (COHSOD), Council for National Security and Law Enforcement (CONSLE).

<sup>23</sup> [http://www.caricom.org/jsp/communications/communiques/communiques\\_index\\_2001-.jsp?menu=communications](http://www.caricom.org/jsp/communications/communiques/communiques_index_2001-.jsp?menu=communications)

<sup>24</sup> see for example

[http://www.caricom.org/jsp/communications/communiques/31hgc\\_2010\\_communique.jsp](http://www.caricom.org/jsp/communications/communiques/31hgc_2010_communique.jsp) and [http://www.caricom.org/jsp/communications/communiques/communiques\\_index\\_2001-.jsp?menu=communications](http://www.caricom.org/jsp/communications/communiques/communiques_index_2001-.jsp?menu=communications) for an overview.

by UN-Habitat and the World Bank. However, they usually leave room for local adaptation based on needs and capabilities. Below is a description of various programmes that have been implemented in the region and the issues they address.

### *3.2.1. Urban Management Programme*

Established in 1986, The Urban Management Program (UMP) was a joint undertaking by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), UN-HABITAT and the World Bank. It was one of the largest urban global technical assistance programmes operated by the UN system. The aim of the programme was oriented around three broad urban issues: urban poverty, participatory urban governance and the urban environment, as well as the cross-cutting themes of gender and HIV/AIDs. The activities of the UMP were carried out in four phases:

*Phase I (1986-1991):* The main objective of the initial phase was to develop an urban management framework and toolset which focused on four identified urban issues: *land management; municipal finance and administration; infrastructure; and the urban environment.*

*Phase II (1992-1996):* Here, the frameworks and tools, developed in Phase I, were implemented to build capacity at the regional level and extend this to the country and city levels, through a decentralised regional governance strategy. *Alleviation of urban poverty* was added to the urban issue framework.

*Phase III (1997-2001):* In this phase, city consultations became reoriented as the new strategic focus and method for the UMP to achieve urban participatory governance. The city consultation activities served to bring local governments and city stakeholders together and have been successfully implemented in 120 cities in 57 countries. During this phase, there was a refocus of the work completed in the first two phases. Three overarching themes emerged: *Urban Poverty Alleviation; Urban Environmental Sustainability; and Participatory Urban Governance.* They continue to be the main objectives today. *Gender* also became a key focus area for city consultation developments.

*Phase IV (2002-2006):* Here, there was a stronger focus on pro-poor governance and knowledge management. The coordination and implementation of city consultations were carried out by anchored institutions in various regions. This is here where *HIV/AIDs* was included as a major fifth theme for UMP strategy development<sup>25</sup>.

#### *A Caribbean Case Study: Port of Spain*

As of 2002, four Caribbean cities have been involved in city consultations: Santo Domingo (Dominican Republic), Cap Haitien (Haiti), Montego Bay (Jamaica), and Port of Spain (Trinidad & Tobago). In this paper, we focus on the case of Port of Spain as it provides a good example of the roll out of the UMP within the Caribbean region. In 1996, within the objectives of Phase II, UN-ECLAC developed a case study and framework for Port of Spain as part of a broader study on urban management in selected medium size cities in Latin America. Within Phase III of the UMP, a city consultation was completed in East Port of Spain. This was an ongoing exercise with three components: East Port of Spain participatory planning; a Greater Port of Spain Local Area Plan Strategy; and a UMP Waste Management Plan. The UMP City Consultation was initiated with the objective to develop a *participatory solid waste management plan*. Under Phase IV of the UMP, UNDP and UN-HABITAT have piloted eight innovative city consultations to test and develop participatory methods, tools and techniques for supporting municipal governments in addressing *HIV/AIDS and poverty*. The first consultation was launched in 2003 in Port of Spain, Trinidad & Tobago. The city was seen to be the most affected by incidences of the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the Caribbean region. The objective of the consultation was to develop an effective multi-sector citywide response, led by the Port of Spain Municipality to the HIV/AIDS epidemic, specifically targeting *youth and poverty reduction*.

The UMP programme in Port of Spain provided external validation and support to participatory planning exercises already initiated in Port of Spain by the (Interim) National Physical Planning Commission. A regional anchoring institution proposed by the University of the West Indies and the City of Port of Spain failed to get programme support from the UMP programme despite matching funding commitments.

---

<sup>25</sup> Please see UMP Website: [www.unhabitat.org/categories.asp?catid=374](http://www.unhabitat.org/categories.asp?catid=374) for more information.



### 3.2.2. Safer Cities Programme

The Safer Cities Programme was launched by UN-HABITAT in 1996 at the request of African mayors in need of prevention strategies at the city level. The programme supports the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, which acknowledges the responsibility of local authorities in crime prevention. The principle objective of the programme is to build capacity at the city level to adequately address urban insecurity by focusing on preventative mechanisms.

The main areas of prevention target three main themes: *Crime Prevention; Institutional Prevention, in support for alternative forms of justice and policing; Social Prevention, aimed at risks for social groups, such as women, children and the elderly*. The Safer Cities Programme activities work on global thematic issues and through city projects. The global outputs of the programme include a number of policy papers on crime prevention, violence against women, analysis of the role of police in governance strategies, as well as a focus on prevention measures targeting youth-at-risk<sup>26</sup>.

#### *A Caribbean Case Study: Kingston (Jamaica)*

In the Caribbean region, a Safer City Project was established in 2010 and continues to be deployed in Jamaica at the parish council level (14 total in the country). The project has commenced with local and national data-collection to provide a situational analysis of the violence and security issues at a nation-wide level, as well as a methodology and implementation plan for the project. Various partners have been identified, such as municipal entities and community-based organisations (CBOs). The findings of the situation analysis have revealed the absence of women from political and administrative levels of local government structures, with no voice in decision-making in municipal service delivery planning. Still in the primary stages, the project is in the process of selecting two parishes for the implementation of the Safer Cities Programme. The process for the community selections is intended to be highly participatory, involving stakeholders from local authorities and community-based bodies, as well as international actors with technical expertise using the CDS tools established by the programme. The selections will be *based on the following criteria: existence of an active Parish Development Committee; high incidences of violence, specifically affecting females; the*

---

<sup>26</sup> Please see n.d. (2007). UN-HABITAT for Safer Cities 1996-2007. 2nd Edition. Nairobi, Kenya. UN-HABITAT.

*presence and enthusiasm of well developed, grassroots community structures; and equal representation of local authorities and political representatives, as well as urban/rural communities.* It is also important for the communities to be aware and actively involved in CDS processes.

### *3.2.3. Local Agenda 21 (LA21) & Sustainable Cities Programme (SCP)*

The Local Agenda 21 was an initiative aimed at harmonising urban development and the environment through participatory, consultative processes for various levels of government, civic society and the private sector. Agenda 21 was agreed upon after the Rio de Janeiro, Earth Summit (UNCED) in 1992 where two primary initiatives were developed: the Sustainable Cities Programme (SCP) and the Localizing Agenda 21 Programme (LA21).

The SCP was a joint initiative between UN-HABITAT and UNEP for the development of a sustainable urban environment. This programme was active in over 40 cities and worked to build capacity in urban planning and management through participatory methods undertaken by local, national and regional actors.

The LA21 aimed to assist local authorities in intermediate or secondary cities, typically with between 50,000-500,000 inhabitants, to achieve more sustainable urban development. The fundamental objectives of LA21 were to improve urban environmental planning and management processes by demonstration projects, assisting policy development and promoting decentralised city-to-city cooperation. The framework supported the development and implementation of broad-based environmental action plans that focus on context-specific aspects of municipal planning and management to enhance the capabilities of local authorities. LA21 responds directly to the framework developed by the MDGs, specifically Goal 7: ensuring environmental sustainability. Both initiatives follow an environmental planning and management (EPM) process to identify and address key environmental issues. This step-by-step process includes four activities:

*I Preparation & Situational Analysis:* SCP - In an SCP city, an Urban Environmental Profile is developed. Sectoral stakeholders are involved through a consultative process in the preparation and prioritization of the environmental issues in the profile. LA21 - Key

partners are identified and a collaborative framework of the process is designed to establish responsibilities of local authorities.

*II City Consultations:* Both SCP & LA21 cities develop city consultations where stakeholders from various levels of government, civil society organizations and the private sectors in relevant city sectors come together to participate and agree on priority issues.

*III Strategy Formulation and Implementation:* After the City Consultations, negotiations on issue-specific strategies are decided upon in Working Groups consisting of stakeholders responsible for respective sectoral issues.

*IV Follow-UP & Consolidation:* Monitoring and evaluation of the processes is a key component of EPM processes. There is a strong emphasis on up-scaling and replication of the process in neighbouring cities at both the larger SCP size and smaller LA21 size<sup>27</sup>.

#### *A Caribbean Case Study: Bayamo City (Cuba)*

LA21 is an influential programme for the Caribbean region because of its focus on targeting smaller cities, with a lack of capacities to address environmental problems. The LA21 Programme in Bayamo City, Cuba has been viewed as one of the major successes of the Local Agenda 21 initiative. The Bayamo Project is an important example of a shift from a one-dimensional local planning approach to a multi-dimensional, participative urban planning approach. Launched in 2001, the Bayamo Project aimed to mobilise local, provincial and national partners to address key urban environmental problems of the city. An environmental profile was completed in 2002, where over 100 actors were involved to outline urban and environmental risks and resources. The Bayamo Urban Environmental Profile analyses the interactions between development and the environment and provides an institutional framework, which recognises institutional strengths and weaknesses. The profile also serves as an information base for all project partners. Four priorities were put forward from the profile: *the degradation of the Bayamo River; poor solid waste management (collection and treatment); insufficient public spaces and services at the neighbourhood level; and*

---

<sup>27</sup> Please see Local Agenda 21 Website:  
<http://www.unhabitat.org/categories.asp?catid=540>

*insufficient urban transport.* The criteria of the four objectives was based on the potential impact of action on the most vulnerable populations, political priorities, its cross-sectoral nature; and what could be achieved given resource and financing constraints. Other key issues were identified, such as housing, sewage disposal, water supply, but were considered too difficult or too expensive. Sector representatives, such as PDHL, directed the focus on priorities, which were attainable and feasible versus desirable for urban environmental development.

#### *3.2.4. Localising the Millennium Development Goals*

The project was funded by UN-HABITAT with the primary objective of developing a strategy and set of tools to localise the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) from an urban planning perspective. Localising the MDGs was perceived to bring focus to poverty reduction strategies at the sub-national level and provide a framework for accountability through the setting of targets and indicators. There is a common acknowledgement that local urban centres are the entry point for the implementation of development plans and strategies. Although the MDGs are essentially global and national targets, the local government is one important actor which ultimately can operationalize the MDGs. The programme worked to increase the knowledge and capacity of local authorities and stakeholders to develop, implement and assess urban and municipal policies and programmes geared to meeting the targets outlined in the MDGs. A Toolkit for Localizing the Millennium Development Goals was developed in 2005 by UNDP to assist local governments and their communities in the implementation and prioritisation of issues. The toolkit emphasises the need for local authorities to develop an overarching 'local approach' suggested to be the catalyst for a wider local development strategy. This local approach describes the main aims, policies and activities for achieving the MDGs and seen as a link in institutionalising the MDGs, to make poverty alleviation the core objective of everyday work in local government.

#### *A Caribbean Case Study: Georgetown (Guyana)*

In the Caribbean, a pilot programme has been implemented in Castries, St Lucia; Georgetown, Guyana; and Port of Spain, Trinidad & Tobago. The MDG Profile is the first output of the project, which aims to indicate the main priorities within the MDGs; identify a city's obstacles and opportunities; and determine local and/or national institutions' responsibilities in strategy development. The Action Plan for Georgetown, Guyana was

established in 2006 with a city consultation focused specifically on localizing the MDGs, in collaboration with the UNDP, Programa de Gestión Urbana and UN-HABITAT<sup>28</sup>.

From the City Consultation Process the following outputs were developed: indicators for monitoring the MDGs, baseline and MDG profile for Georgetown, Guyana; a MDG City Action Plan; and a proposal for the establishment of a local monitoring system. In a matrix, each of the 8 MDGs is highlighted against their local indicators and an agreed upon MDG Action Plan from 2006 to 2011 is described<sup>29</sup>. Here local stakeholders' responsibilities for achieving the action are highlighted, as well as the cost and beneficiaries of each action. The actions specific to Georgetown include population surveys; business plans; strengthening public-private partnerships; removal of tax on basic food items; and the implementation of a plan to add value in agricultural-based products. Further a more detailed work plan with an expanded activities description has been developed to schedule short, medium and long-term activities in the period from 2006-2011. The plan provides action on every MDG. MDG7 caters for access to improved water, sanitation and drainage but not sustainability or tenure security. In addition, the plan has a strong focus on youth and education, health and on unemployment and poverty.

### *3.3.5. Participatory Slum Upgrading Program*

In 2002, the European Commission (EC) completed the 'Consultative Guidelines for Sustainable Urban Development - A Strategic Approach' which defines urban strategies under urban governance and management processes. The UN-HABITAT launched a Rapid Urban Profiling in Somalia, based on the EC's guidelines, which was successful in enabling multi-sector and interagency participatory dialogue and analysis of urban issues and needs. The Somalia experience emerged as a blueprint for the development of the Rapid Urban Sector Profiling (RUSP) Project (2004-2008), which was in turn expanded into the Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme (PSUP) (2008-2011).

---

<sup>28</sup> Please see UN-Habitat (2006) CITY CONSULTATION ON LOCALIZING THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS IN GEORGETOWN (GUYANA)

<sup>29</sup> Please see the appendix for a detailed table.

The PSUP has emerged with a primary focus on *urban poverty reduction* and *slum upgrading* capacity building for local, national and regional institutions and stakeholders. It is centred on the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), specifically Goal 7, Target 11: To have achieved a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers by 2020. The PSUP has involved 30 countries and 63 cities and consists of two main components:

*Phase I - Rapid Urban Profiling*, is designed to identify and assess regional urban challenges and stresses through the participation of local, central and regional institutions, as well as the private sector, academic and civil society organisations (CSOs). This profiling technique works to assess the institutional set-up of key urban institutions from several perspectives: urban governance; municipal financial management; gender; slums and shelter; land; local economic development; basic urban services; environment; disaster management and climate; inclusive and safer cities; and cultural heritage.

*Phase II - Slum Upgrading Action Planning* feeds off of the Urban Profile, developed in Phase I, to develop and document action plans and implementation strategies by key local and regional stakeholders. The methodology includes conducting regional slum upgrading policy development seminars using UN-HABITAT's tools specific to good governance and management for inclusive slum upgrading and local economic development. Capacity building is a major objective for the PSUP and workshops, regional training and policy seminars are conducted by UN-HABITAT's Training and Capacity Building Branch to achieve this. Within this phase, PSUP documents and action plans are conducted with a focus on stakeholder mobilisation, assessment of ongoing country activities and the introduction of local methodologies. A joint ACP/EC/UN-HABITAT Conference was organised in this second phase, in June 2009, for the sharing of knowledge and technical learning from countries' RUSP/PSUP implementation experiences. The conference focused on five key themes: *pro-poor land and housing; basic urban infrastructure and services; urban governance and planning; human settlements and finance; and local economic development in cities.*

### *A Caribbean Case study*

At the beginning of 2009, four Caribbean countries have launched the first, Rapid Urban Sector Profiling (RUSP) phase: Haiti, Jamaica, Antigua & Barbuda, and Trinidad & Tobago. For all countries, extended work plans have been developed to organise schedules around the development of the RUSPs and are, to date, still in the process of being completed (see Table 2).

**Table 2: Priority area by City in PSUP**

Sub-Categories	Caribbean Urban Profiles										
	Jamaica			Antigua and Barbuda		Trinidad and Tobago			Haiti		
	Old Harbour	Montego Bay	May Pen	St. Johns	All Saints	Scarborough	San Fernando	Port of Spain	Cap Haitien	Les Cayes	Milot
(1) Urban Governance	√	√	--	√	√	√	--	√		√	√
(2) Municipal Financial Management	√	--	--		--		--				
(3) Gender, HIV/AIDS	√	√	√	√	√		--				
(4) Slums and Shelter	√	--	--	√	√	√	--	√			
(5) Land	√	--		√	√	√	--	√	√	√	√
(6) Local Economic Development		--	--		--	√	--	√			
(7) Basic Urban Services	√	√	√	√	√	√	--	√		√	
(8) Environment		√	√	√	√	√	--	√	√		
(9) Disaster Management and Climate Change				√	√	√	--	√		√	
(10) Inclusive & Safer Cities	√	--	--	√	√	√	--	√	√		
(11) Cultural Heritage		--	--	√	√		--			√	

In order to establish the focus of RSUP, national steering committees in which each chosen city should have participated, had the opportunity to choose a minimum of seven from eleven themes. Please see the themes chosen by the participating governments in table 2. This table confirms the emphasis put on urban governance, land, basic urban services and environment and to some extent gender, HIV/AIDS, Slum and Shelter, disaster management and inclusive and safer cities. However, there was a general

tendency of the governments to focus on the physical aspects of the urban areas rather than the social and economic conditions within them.

### 3.4. Caribbean Urban Priorities

Based on our examination of the various urban programs and policies reviewed we have listed the urban priority themes in Caribbean projects and programs in Table 3 below. The left column gives a listing of the core issues and the columns to its right gives an overview of the various sub-theme priorities given.

**Table 3: Caribbean Urban Priorities**

	CARICOM	UMP (PoS)	Safer Cities Programme	LA21/SCP	Localizing MDG	PSUP
<b>Safety and Security</b>	Disaster preparedness  Crime		Crime Safety Violence		Crime	
<b>Poverty &amp; Deprivation</b>		HIV/AIDS and poverty			Employment	
<b>Physical Living Conditions</b>		SWM		SWM Public Space Transport	Access to drainage	Basic services Land
<b>Inequality</b>		AIDS HIV and Youth	Women and violence		Youth gender and Education HIV/Aids	Gender/HIV/ inclusive city
<b>Climate Change (contribution to)</b>	Green economy Energy			River degradation		
<b>Climate Change (vulnerability to)</b>	Disaster preparedness					Disaster Preparedness
<b>Governance</b>		Participatory Governance	Citizen's Participation			Urban Governance
<b>Sustainable planning</b>						
<b>Local Economic Development</b>	Liberalization CSME					



#### **4. Critical Caribbean Urban Issues: a Local Perspective**

During the meeting “Establishing a Policy and Research Agenda for the Urban Sector in the Caribbean”, which was held from April 6th -9th 2011 in Georgetown, Guyana the above findings on regional and global agenda’s were shared with representatives from nine Caribbean states (all CARICOM members), five planners associations (from Barbados, Jamaica, Trinidad & Tobago, The United States and Canada) and academic institutions from the region, Belgium and The Netherlands. The discussion that followed provides a necessary local perspective on critical urban issues in the Caribbean region<sup>30</sup>. Following the opening presentation, there was a round table discussion of “Regional and National Perspectives to Create an Urban Agenda” in which the representatives gave their views on the considerations that should inform a Caribbean urban agenda. These views covered a wide range of issues ranging from conceptual frameworks to technical, managerial and spatial issues<sup>31</sup>. These issues are not isolated, but overlap with each other to create complex challenges within the urban sector. A summary of the views expressed are outlined below:

First of all it was stressed that the urban environment is not a single uniform entity, but a composite space in which the various elements of space, economy and society intersect with each other to produce a distinct urban character. An urban agenda should therefore not be a sectoral agenda but integrate a series of sectoral agendas which affect the urban condition. In the Caribbean this is a shift away from the traditional sectoral approach. Furthermore, processes of urbanisation in the Caribbean transcend the physical boundaries of the urban environment. Hence, typical urban technologies, services, and lifestyles become increasingly common to both urban and rural areas. Related to this is absence of

---

<sup>30</sup> One of the recommendations for further publication is to address local policies in the individual critical domains of urban development in the region.

<sup>31</sup> Please see the report from the meeting: BlueSpace (2011). Report on “Establishing a Policy and Research Agenda for the Urban Sector in the Caribbean” April 6th -9th 2011 Guyana International Conference Centre, Guyana. Port of Spain: CNULM.

standardized definitions of what is an urban centre in the Caribbean. The concept of an *Island Settlement System* which was introduced into the discussions obviously has most relevance in the smaller islands of the region.

An urban agenda must clearly identify the issues as well physical characteristics that make an area distinctively urban. The participants pointed out various critical issues in a range of urban domains. They are described below. The headings chosen follow the discussions in the meeting.

#### *4.1. Natural Hazards and Climate Change*

Environmental concerns appear to be at the top of Caribbean urban concerns. *Natural disasters*, *sea level rise* and *climate change* find themselves as top priorities of both the MSI and BPOA and CARICOM agendas. This was confirmed during the Guyana meeting. However, up to this time they have had limited significance in the Urban Development Programs that have been implemented in the region, which seems to have security at the top of the agenda. Climate change has a two-way relationship with human settlements and urbanisation in the region. For example, the location of the majority of the urban population in low-lying coastal zones makes them very susceptible to sea level rise, storm surges and flooding<sup>32</sup>. In particular, poor residents in vulnerable locations without adequate housing are at risk. They experience greater exposure to hazards, lack hazard-reducing infrastructure and have less adaptive capacity. *Unplanned or unsustainable development* itself can contribute to environmental vulnerability. Inadequate disposal of wastewater and sewerage into groundwater or coastal waters for example, causes pollution and a threat to fragile coral reefs. Also the removal of mangroves for built development removes the natural protection of the land from seawater and increases the risk of salt intrusion in aquifers<sup>33</sup>.

---

<sup>32</sup> See for example the IFRC World Disaster Report 2010; The United Nation's Regional Report on the Achievement of the Millennium Development Goals in the Caribbean Community (2004) or Winchester (2008) *Harmony and Dissonance between Human Settlements and the Environment in Latin America and the Caribbean*, prepared for ECLAC.

<sup>33</sup> The MACC Climate Change Handbook (2005) provides an accessible read on the linkages between Climate Change and the Caribbean.

The size and isolation of islands, limited natural resources, its susceptibility to natural hazards, low economic resilience, high population densities, particularly in low elevation coastal zones, poor infrastructure, poor insurance and coastal erosion make the Caribbean extremely vulnerable to climate change and natural disasters. Responses to natural hazards and climate change are therefore prominent on the Caribbean urban agenda. These responses can be classified as *mitigating* and *adaptive* responses. Whereas mitigative responses aim at a reduction of emissions to reduce global warming, adaptive measurements concentrate on dealing with the effects of climate change. As cities in the global south and the Caribbean cities in particular contribute little to climate change, effects of mitigative measures may be limited. Nevertheless, the high dependence of many Caribbean countries on non-renewable resources results in increased attention for renewable *energy* and energy use reduction<sup>34</sup>. Similarly, *traffic* congestion creates a demand for alternative transport and efficient public transport, which in return may produce lower levels of emissions. *Adaptive* strategies are high on the Caribbean Urban Agenda. They include *disaster preparedness* and post-disaster responses but also more long-term strategies.

The international climate change agenda has a strong influence on the agenda of SIDs countries. This will obviously influence the urban agenda. Cities are seen internationally as the major generator of green house gasses and thus climate change. Yet, the relation of the Caribbean to the adaptation and the mitigation agenda is complex. As small generators of green house gasses absolutely, but at the forefront of the impact of sea level rise it would suggest that the urban agenda would emphasise adaption, yet mitigation is 'pushed' from above. The country representatives at the meeting stressed that the distinction often made between adaptation and mitigation approaches to climate change should be abandoned in favour of a combined approach with long term benefits. For example, while the region seeks to adapt to the effects of climate change, the use of cheap, efficient, clean and renewable energy not only help to mitigate against climate change, but also strengthen the economic resilience of the region.

Local Caribbean Agenda's address climate change in relation to natural hazards. The region is prone to natural hazards of which many are not directly related to climate

---

<sup>34</sup> Hardly recognized in the various agendas is transportation congestion.

change, and adaptive measures are on local policy agenda's. Climate Change is seen as a contributing factor to natural hazards.

#### *4.2. Physical Living Conditions of Residents of Poor Communities*

An expert group from the UN-Habitat and additional partners have defined slum households as, "A group of individuals living under the same roof in an urban area who lack one or more of the following five conditions: access to improved water, access to sanitation, durable housing, sufficient living area, and tenure security". The term *slum* to describe these conditions does not have resonance in the Caribbean and as stated above, CARICOM has adjusted this goal and speaks of poor communities. The main target for CARICOM here is the improvement of tenure security among residents of poor communities. There is also attention for wastewater management (also in relation to the impacts of climate change) and solid waste management. An estimated 25% of Latin America and Caribbean populations live in slums (GUO selected statistics (Trinidad) though the levels of informality are estimated to be much higher. The Guyana meeting brought forward that the provision of housing and basic services is an integral component of poverty alleviation (together with local economic development).

##### *Improved water*

Access to improved water is generally high in Caribbean cities in 2000, with the notable exception of Haiti. Ranging from 70% in the Dominican Republic to 100% in The Bahamas and Barbados (State of the World Cities 2006-2007), most Caribbean urban residents use an improved source of water, be it in house or through an alternative source<sup>35</sup>. However, the quality and pricing and type of water supply vary throughout the region and even in affluent areas water supply is intermittent. Despite the high levels of use of improved water, access and availability of fresh water is a challenge for many Caribbean states. On average the islands have less than one-third of the global average of total renewable water resources per capita. The provision of water for household consumption is within the reach of most islands but for industrial demands availability of existing water sources is too limited. In particular, the rainwater dependent Lesser Antilles suffer problems<sup>36</sup>. Problems of water availability, water catchment and storage,

---

<sup>35</sup> See the UN-Habitat State of the World Cities Report 2010/2011.

<sup>36</sup> See UNEP's Environmental Outlook for Latin America and the Caribbean (2010).

pollution of water resources and saline intrusion may be aggravated as a result of increased climate variability and sea level rise.

#### *Improved Sanitation*

The access to improved sanitation in the Caribbean is generally high in urban areas with exceptions in Belize and Haiti with very low coverage. 86% of Caribbean urban dwellers use improved sanitation<sup>37</sup>. However, 45% does not have an in-house connection and use 'in situ' solutions, for example septic tanks. These solutions need specific monitoring and control to avoid pollution of ground water.

#### *Solid Waste Management*

The treatment of Solid Waste and Water is prominent in regional Caribbean agendas. The implications of inadequate treatment of waste are high. Inadequate management of waste produces air and water pollution that together with viral and bacterial infections (as a result of unsanitary conditions) threatens the health conditions of individuals, in particular the poor. Inadequate management of waste further threatens already vulnerable Caribbean ecosystems. The adequate collection and discharge of household, industrial and medical waste is a challenge for many cities. Despite substantial investments in the sector large proportions of waste are not collected. As a result, large amounts of waste end up outside official landfills and threaten to pollute ground water, surface water and coastal zones. The amount of solid household waste produced in the Caribbean has increased, both as a result of changes in patterns of consumption but also because of tourism; increased (temporary) population increases waste production steeply. Countries such as Jamaica and Trinidad & Tobago with substantial activities in the mining and energy sector produce significant amounts of (hazardous) waste. As a result of the small surface and the fragile ecological system many Caribbean territories are vulnerable to inadequate management of large amounts of waste<sup>38</sup>. The combined regions of the Caribbean and Latin America together produce on average 0.88 Kg/per capita/per day household waste and 1.03 (Kg/per capita/per day) of municipal waste. However, regional differences are large and Caribbean countries often produce much more than that. Figures regarding the ways in which waste is disposed of are largely

---

<sup>37</sup> See the UN Global Report on Human Settlement 2009, Planning Sustainable cities.

<sup>38</sup> Winchester (2008) Harmony and Dissonance between Human Settlements and the Environment in Latin America and the Caribbean, prepared for ECLAC.

absent and controlled landfills appear to be a minority. The treatment of wastewater is low in the Latin American and Caribbean area.

#### *4.3. Poverty, Deprivation and Local Economic Development*

The Caribbean is considered a middle-income region (with exceptions such as Haiti) with mid-range scores on the Human Development Index. This aggregate picture however, masks the existence of considerable poverty and deprivation in both rural and urban areas. Urban poverty is first and foremost caused by the lack of income generating opportunities. The extraction of natural resources, tourism or agriculture forms the base of most Caribbean economies. This small base leaves little room for a diversified urban economy and offers few income-earning opportunities in the formal sector, hence a large dependence on labour in the informal sector or non-wage income, mostly through remittances. These limited income opportunities are insecure and often irregular. While few of the urban development programs address the lack of employment opportunities, they do pay attention to health and education as sectors that are impacted by and cause urban poverty. In particular the relation between HIV/AIDS and poverty is on the agenda. In general, primary school enrolment in the Caribbean is high but the completion of secondary school is a target which needs to be addressed. School dropouts, in particular of boys, are worrisome. The representatives considered local urban economic development that stimulates the development of local employment to be crucial, in particular as a means to reduce poverty. Poverty Reduction – Improving the lives of people in depressed urban communities by providing greater employment opportunities through local economic development. It was however noted that local economic development is broader than poverty reduction as it also serves to promote efficient land use and resource management.

#### *4.4. Physical Human Security: Crime and Violence*

High and increasing levels of crime and violence jeopardise personal security of many residents in Caribbean cities. The World Health Organization (WHO) defines violence as: “The intentional use of physical force or power, threatened or actual against oneself, another person, or against a group or community, that either results in or has a higher likelihood of resulting in injury, death, psychological harm, mal-development or

deprivation". Violence can be political, institutional, economic and social. Definitions of crime vary significantly among countries, which makes comparisons difficult. If homicide rates are considered a good indicator of crime, the Caribbean with an average of 30 murders per 100,000 inhabitants is the most crime-ridden area in the world. Kingston is well known for its high murder rate but countries such as Trinidad and Tobago and even St Lucia experience increasing levels of crime and violence. Women and girls are vulnerable to sexual violence and domestic abuse. Rape rates and young male homicide in the Caribbean are well above the global average. Whereas up to the mid 1980s most crimes were property related, this has shifted to violent crime, urban gang violence and organised crime (drug trade, money laundering, weapons). Other than affecting personal security, crime and violence impact negatively on important economic sectors (tourism) and reduce foreign investments<sup>39</sup>. During the Guyana meeting the issue of crime and security was put on the priority list of states such as St Lucia, Trinidad & Tobago, and Jamaica whereas it had secondary importance in others.

#### *4.5. Governance, Professionalization and Sustainable Planning*

The Caribbean urban priorities as they have been set through global programs and their regional implementations, breathe the 'good governance' parameters such as decentralisation, transparency, participation, privatisation and public-private partnerships. All programmes and actions emphasise the need for local capacity building and decision-making, participatory planning through the identification and participation of crucial stakeholders such as the private sector, NGOs and citizens. The "inclusive city" framework further emphasises the importance of inclusive, democratic and participatory governance. The Guyana meeting stressed the critical importance of governance and other enabling mechanisms for urban development,

Caribbean governance is generally centralised with limited responsibilities, funds and capacities at the municipal level. Hence, the strengthening of local governance is a concern for Caribbean states. Similarly, Caribbean governance is generally not participatory and excludes many stakeholders from contributing to decision-making

---

<sup>39</sup> See UNECLAC (2008), Exploring Policy Linkages between Property, Crime and Violence: A look at three Caribbean States. <http://www.eclac.org/publicaciones/xml/2/33252/L.172.pdf>. See also United Nations (2007) Global Report on Human Settlements: Enhancing Urban Safety and Security,

processes. Experiences in the UMP and the Safer Cities Programme with participation of stakeholders show that these practises are promising yet complicated. Who is participating? When? How? Who is making the final decision? How is the knowledge and information transferred back to the organisation by the stakeholders who are representing it? These critical issues of concern are expressed in policy and academic debates with regard to participatory governance. Civil society representatives expressed concern that not enough attention was being paid to NGOs and CBOs, as the residents of local communities are most affected by whatever planning decisions are made. It was highlighted that although governments are increasingly recognizing the importance of civil society, there have been situations where civil society cannot effectively contribute to the consultative process because they are not sufficiently informed, reducing their presence at the discussion table to mere tokenism.

Planning practice in the Caribbean was seen as being rooted in colonial laws and practice. Planning related laws and policies need to be updated to effectively address existing urban and land use issues. Enabling legislation is a key tool for planning. In some member states, mandatory EIA legislation is lacking.

Urban plan making itself is not strongly developed and to the extent plans exist, they hardly encompass macro-level and holistic city planning. Rather, they address small spatial units and focus on a limited number of urban issues. Adequate implementation and enforcement of spatial plans and planning laws is problematic. Planning processes do not enable sustainable planning in the Caribbean region and do not foster urban development that can address the pressing issues that have been discussed above.

There is a need for a strong connection between central and local government as well as the agencies and ministries responsible for providing urban infrastructure and services. It is commonly argued that meaningful devolution of municipal functions cannot take place because of the limited financial, technical and administrative resources at the municipal level. However, what is not as clear is what programmes are better managed at the national level than at the municipal (urban) level. In the smaller Caribbean countries there is reasonable discussion whether a municipal level of governance is necessary at all. Recognition of the usefulness of the urban level as an analytic and programme framework may thus be problematic for discussion on decentralisation, de-concentration



and devolution of governance functions. The meeting agreed that urban as an organising and analytic concept is useful despite the chosen relationship between national (sectoral) and municipal (urban) government.

The national representatives at the Guyana meeting stressed the need to train persons to implement a Caribbean Urban Agenda. In addition, it was noted that presently, planning in the region is not carried out based on research and sound data, thus the uptake of research into policy and implementation needs to be addressed. Furthermore, policies need to have a well-financed component for communication and implementation. This is essential in getting an urban agenda to work. Finally, some of the professional planners expressed concern that planners need to better engage politicians as their support for a Regional Urban Agenda is crucial.

#### *4.6. Informality in the Caribbean*

Informality was brought up as a separate Caribbean urban issue. It relates to informal settlements, informal planning, tenure security and the informal economic sector. Many areas have very high percentages of informal and unplanned development. In some cities it is the dominant form of development and not the aberration. This is certainly the case in Haiti but often it is more than 50 percent in many Caribbean cities. Tenure security, retrofitting of both settlements and infrastructure and the provision of basic urban services therefore are an integral part of Caribbean urban policy. Secure tenure is the right of all individuals and groups for effective protection against forced evictions. People have secure tenure when there is evidence of documentation that can be used as proof of secure tenure status or when there is either de facto or perceived protection against forced evictions. The absence of tenure security puts urban households at the risk of forced eviction but also prevents access to public services, such as water and electricity. In the Caribbean, characterised by fragmented land ownership, complex land rights, limited access to urban land and unplanned urban expansion, tenure insecurity is an important urban problem. Various initiatives and programs that have been undertaken in the past in the realm of squatter regularisation or slum upgrading have not been able to solve this problem.

## 5. Towards a Caribbean Urban Agenda

The aim of this paper was to develop a working *Caribbean Urban Agenda*. Section 2, 3 and 4 of this paper have highlighted topics and issues that feature on the global (2) and elements of a Regional Urban Agenda (3) and critical local considerations by stakeholders from individual countries within the region (4). Without necessarily opposing Global or Regional agenda's, a locally developed Caribbean Agenda reflects local concerns and specificities and as such reshapes the larger Latin American (that the Caribbean is normally annexed to) and global agenda's. The analysis of the global and regional agenda's shows that the global urban agenda's, e.g. MDGs and Habitat Agenda often lack a Caribbean specificity or relevance and to the extent such agenda's are relevant to the Caribbean (e.g. SIDS), they lack an urban focus. Even at the regional level, a similar discrepancy exists. CARICOM, as an important regional body, for example lacks a strong urban focus, whereas the local implementations of programmes such as the UMP or the PSUP don't live up to Caribbean reality (see report of the November 2010 TAG on Urban Assessment Methodologies)<sup>40</sup>. Hence, the establishment of a Caribbean Urban Agenda required a third perspective on critical urban issues: that of local stakeholders from the government, planning and academic sector. This was obtained during the aforementioned meeting in Guyana in April 2011 and described above in section 4.

Based on these three exercises a Caribbean urban Agenda was proposed and with minor adjustments accepted by all attendants during the aforementioned meeting (see table 4). The first five thematic areas on this agenda should be given higher priority while the lower six should have less priority. Within the priority groupings, there was no ranking.

---

<sup>40</sup> A Technical Advisory Group meeting on Urban Assessments/Profiling was held in Suriname in November ,2010 to discuss regional methodologies under the EU funded ACP-ST project Application of Science and Technology to the Urban Sector.

**Table 4: Caribbean Urban Agenda**

Thematic Areas	Issues
<b>Higher Priority</b>	
<b>Local Economic Development and Poverty Alleviation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unemployment</li> <li>• Strengthening diversified local opportunities for economic development</li> <li>• Provision of housing and basic services</li> </ul>
<b>Enabling Mechanisms for Government and Professionals</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research</li> <li>• Communications</li> <li>• Training</li> <li>• Education</li> <li>• Financing, etc</li> </ul>
<b>Governance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implementation</li> <li>• Communication and legislation</li> <li>• Municipal governance</li> <li>• Awareness component</li> <li>• Co-governance / inclusive governance</li> <li>• Partnerships</li> <li>• Coordination</li> </ul>
<b>Informal Sector</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tenure security</li> <li>• Informal settlements</li> <li>• Informal economy</li> </ul>
<b>Natural Hazards and Disaster Management</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate change</li> <li>• Built environment resilience</li> <li>• Response capacity</li> </ul>
<b>Lower Priority</b>	
<b>Physical Human Security</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Crime</li> <li>• Safety</li> <li>• Freedom from fear</li> </ul>
<b>Physical Living Conditions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Housing</li> <li>• Basic services (water, sanitation, energy use, transportation, etc)</li> </ul>
<b>Inequality</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social</li> <li>• Economic inequality based on gender / age</li> </ul>
<b>Climate Change (contribution to)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Energy</li> <li>• Emission</li> <li>• Transportation</li> <li>• Green Economy</li> </ul>
<b>Climate change (vulnerability to)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LECZ</li> <li>• Adaption at local community level</li> </ul>
<b>Sustainable Planning</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Urban form (compact)</li> <li>• Holistic</li> <li>• Comprehensive coastal zone settlement planning</li> <li>• Land management</li> <li>• Rural/urban integrated planning</li> </ul>

### *Where to go from here?*

This agenda is neither a blueprint nor irrevocable but provides a frame for understanding, managing and (re) shaping Caribbean cities and urbanization processes. As such this agenda is a starting point for the development of Caribbean urban research, policy and action agenda's. In addition this Agenda invites politicians, policy makers, planners, municipal and central government officials, communities and scholars to further define and discuss the nature, relevance and impact of individual urban thematic areas and issues with specific cities or communities. Hence, the Caribbean Urban Agenda is a start for a locally defined and owned Caribbean Urban management process.

May 23rd, Amsterdam and Port of Spain.

## 7. Bibliography and Other Documentation

### *On the UN-Habitat Agenda*

<http://ww2.unhabitat.org/declarations/ch-1a.htm> (accessed on March 31st).

United Nations Human Settlements Programme (2003). *The Habitat Agenda Goals and Principles, Commitments and the Global Plan of Action*.  
[http://www.unhabitat.org/downloads/docs/livepage.apple.com1176\\_6455\\_The\\_Habitat\\_Agenda.pdf](http://www.unhabitat.org/downloads/docs/livepage.apple.com1176_6455_The_Habitat_Agenda.pdf) (accessed on March 31st 2011).

### *On the Millennium Development Goals*

<http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/> (accessed on March 31st 2011).

<http://www.un.org/millennium/declaration/ares552e.htm> (accessed on March 31st 2011).

United Nations Development Programme (2004) *Regional Report on the Achievement of the Millennium Development Goals in the Caribbean Community*. New York: UNDP.  
Downloaded from: <http://www.undp.org/latinamerica/docs/regionalMDGCaribbean.pdf>  
(accessed on March 31st 2011).

UN-DESA (2010) Millennium Development Goals Report 2010. New York: United Nations.  
Downloaded from: <http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/pdf/MDG%20Report%202010%20En%20r15%20-low%20res%2020100615%20-.pdf>  
(accessed March 31st).

### *On the 2012 Earth Summit (Rio+20)*

<http://www.uncsd2012.org/rio20/index.php?menu=61> (accessed on March 31st 2011).

### *On the Barbados Plan of Action (BPOA) and Mauritius Strategy for further Implementation (MSI)*

United Nations (2005). *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Development States. Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April-6 May 1994*. Downloaded from [http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/dsd\\_aofw\\_sids/sids\\_pdfs/BPOA.pdf](http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/dsd_aofw_sids/sids_pdfs/BPOA.pdf) (accessed 31 March 2011).

- United Nations (2001) *Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States*. Downloaded from: [http://www.unesco.org/csi/B10/mim/mimStrategy\\_English.pdf](http://www.unesco.org/csi/B10/mim/mimStrategy_English.pdf).
- N.A (N.D). *Report of the Caribbean Regional Preparatory Meeting to Review the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Islands Development States*. Downloaded from: [www.sidsnet.org/.../0031104134625\\_Final\\_Report\\_of\\_the\\_Caribbean\\_Regional\\_Meeting\\_on\\_SIDS.doc](http://www.sidsnet.org/.../0031104134625_Final_Report_of_the_Caribbean_Regional_Meeting_on_SIDS.doc).

### *UN-Habitat Reports*

- United Nations Human Settlements Programme (2006). *The Millennium Development Goals and Urban Sustainability: 30 Years of Shaping the Habitat Agenda. State of the World Cities Report 2006/2007*. London, Sterling: Earthscan. Downloaded from: <http://www.unhabitat.org/pmss/listItemDetails.aspx?publicationID=2101>.
- United Nations Human Settlements Programme (2008). *Harmonious Cities. State of the World Cities Report 2008/2009*. London, Sterling: Earthscan. Downloaded from: <http://www.unhabitat.org/pmss/listItemDetails.aspx?publicationID=2562>.
- United Nations Human Settlements Programme (2010). *Cities for All: Bridging the Urban Divide. State of the World Cities Report 2010/2011*. London, Sterling: Earthscan. Downloaded from: <http://www.unhabitat.org/pmss/listItemDetails.aspx?publicationID=2917>.
- United Nations Human Settlements Report (2011). *Cities and Climate Change: Policy Directions. Global Report on Human Settlements 2011- Abridged version*. London, Sterling: Earthscan. Downloaded from <http://www.unhabitat.org/pmss/listItemDetails.aspx?publicationID=3085>.
- United Nations Human Settlements Programme (2009). *Planning Sustainable Cities. Global Report on Human Settlements 2009*. London, Sterling: Earthscan. Downloaded from: <http://www.unhabitat.org/pmss/listItemDetails.aspx?publicationID=2831>.
- United Nations Human Settlements Report (2007). *Enhancing Urban Safety and Security. Global Report on Human Settlements 2007*. London, Sterling: Earthscan. Downloaded from <http://www.unhabitat.org/pmss/listItemDetails.aspx?publicationID=2432>.

## *UN-ECLAC*

United Nations ECLAC (2010). *Draft Programme of Work of the ECLAC System, 2012-2013*. Downloaded from: [http://www.eclac.org/pses33/noticias/paginas/0/39330/2010-1-SES-33-5\\_Draft\\_Programme\\_of\\_work.pdf](http://www.eclac.org/pses33/noticias/paginas/0/39330/2010-1-SES-33-5_Draft_Programme_of_work.pdf) (accessed March 31st 2011).

## *CARICOM*

See for communications: [http://www.caricom.org/jsp/communications/communiques/communiques\\_index\\_2001-.jsp?menu=communications](http://www.caricom.org/jsp/communications/communiques/communiques_index_2001-.jsp?menu=communications).

Caricom (2010). *Annual Report 2008/2009*. Georgetown: Caricom.

## *General*

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (2010). *World Disaster Report 2010: Focus on Urban Risks*. Geneva: IFRC.

MACC (2005) *Climate Change Handbook for Caribbean Journalist*. NP: MACC.

Winchester, Lucy (2008). *Harmony and Dissonance between Human Settlements and the Environment in Latin America and the Caribbean*. Santiago: United Nations.

United Nations Human Settlements Programme (2004). *Urban Indicators Guidelines: Monitoring the Habitat Agenda and the Millennium Development Goals*. Nairobi: UN-Habitat. Downloaded from [http://ww2.unhabitat.org/programmes/guo/documents/urban\\_indicators\\_guidelines.pdf](http://ww2.unhabitat.org/programmes/guo/documents/urban_indicators_guidelines.pdf).

United Nations Environment Programme (2010). *Global Environment Outlook: Latin America and the Caribbean GEO LAC 3*. Panama City: Panama.

ECLAC (2008). *Exploring Policy Linkages between Property, Crime and Violence: A look at three Caribbean States*. Port of Spain: ECLAC. Downloaded from <http://www.eclac.org/publicaciones/xml/2/33252/L.172.pdf>. (accessed March 31st 2011).

## *Urban Management Programme*

Case, L. (2002). *City Development Strategies. Lessons from UMP/UN-HABITAT Experiences*. Urban Management Programme Publication Series #29. Nairobi, Kenya. UN-HABITAT.

Davey, C. & Merzthal, G. (n.d.). *City HIV/AIDS Strategies. A City-Response to HIV/AIDS in Port of Spain, Trinidad & Tobago*. DFID UNCP/UN-HABITAT Urban Management Programme Regional Office Report. Quito. Ecuador. UN-HABITAT.

Mohammed, A. (2003). *Participatory Planning in East Port of Spain*. 39th ISOCaRP Congress.

Preston, M. (2001). *Urban Management Programme 1997-2001. Urban Management Programme*. Nairobi, Kenya. UN-HABITAT.

UMP Website: [www.unhabitat.org/categories.asp?catid=374](http://www.unhabitat.org/categories.asp?catid=374)

### *Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme*

blueSpace (2010). *UN-Habitat Participatory Slum Upgrading Program. Progress Report July 2010. Rapid Urban Sector Profiling*. UN-HABITAT. blueSpace.

Falade, J.B. & Aribigbola, A. (2010). *Rapid Urban Sector Profiling for Sustainability Studies (RUSPs) in Developing Countries: Implications for Urban Planning in Ondo State, Nigeria*. Theoretical and Empirical Researchers in Urban Management. No. 5(14).

n.d. (2009). *Participatory Slum Upgrading & Prevention Programme*. Narrative Report. UN-HABITAT.

n.d. (n.d.). *Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme Phase I: Urban Sector Profiling. Terms of Reference for the Implementation Partner*. Regional Office for Africa and the Arab States. UN-HABITAT

PSUP Website: [www.unhabitat.org/psup](http://www.unhabitat.org/psup)

### *Local Agenda 21*

Bayamo Local Agenda 21 (n.d.) *Municipality of Bayamo, Republic of Cuba. Case Studies. Human Development Programme at the Local Level*.

OPPM Bayamo. (2003). *Diagnóstico Urbano-Ambiental: Ciudad de Bayamo. Proyecto AGENDA 21 LOCAL. Ciudad de Bayamo, Cuba*. UNDP, IPF, DGCI, UN-HABITAT.

Saliez, F. (2008). *Improving Urban Planning Through Localizing Agenda 21: Results Achieved in Bayamo, Cuba*. The SCP Documentation Series. No. 6. Nairobi, Kenya. UN-HABITAT.

Tuts, R. & Cody, E. (2000). *Habitat's experience in Local Agenda 21 worldwide over the last ten years: approaches and lessons learned*. UNEP Industry and Environment. January-June Edition. UNCHS/UNEP.

Local Agenda 21 Website: <http://www.unhabitat.org/categories.asp?catid=540>



### *Localizing Millennium Development Goals*

UNDP, Program de Gestion Urbana, UN-Habitat (2006). *City Consultation on Localizing the Millenium Development Goals in Georgetown (Guyana)*.

*Action Plan*. Bratislava: UNDP.

UNDP (2005). *Toolkit for Localizing the Millennium Development Goals. A UNDP Capacity Development Resource*. New York, Bratislava: UNDP.

## APPENDIX A:

### Localized MDGs for Georgetown:

Goal	Georgetown Targets	Local Indicators	Scope and Beneficiaries
<b>1 Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger</b>	Increase basic income from less than USD\$1 to USD\$6 per day.	In crease by 75 % Proportion of the city whose income is USD\$6 per day	Urban and Suburban and peri -urban Poor
	Increase by 2015 the proportion of people whose income is less than one dollar a day to USD\$6		
	Reduce by half the proportion of people who suffer from hunger	- Reduce by 75% the prevalence of underweight children - Reduce by 75% the Proportion of the city's population below minimum level of dietary consumption	Orphans and Vulnerable Children, the homeless, and Elderly
	Create employment for more than 50% of the underemployed and unemployed in the city	50% of the underemployed and unemployed in the city in regular employment	Under and unemployed, skilled and unskilled and persons needing re-training in new technologies, etc
<b>2 Achieve Universal Primary Education</b>	Increase by 2015, the %of boys reaching Grade 6 and completing both primary and secondary school.	Increase % boys completing both primary and secondary school with life skills	Out of school youths and young adults up to age 35, School age boys and girls
		Increase in the number of boys and girls by 20%,attending tertiary institutions	Boys between ages 7-18
		Reduce the student / teacher ratio	Teachers and students
		Increase by 30% the number females pursuing non-traditional areas of study at the University of Guyana and other tertiary institutions	Male and female youths between the ages of 14-35
	Proportion of differently able children integrated into school system - Module on teaching differently able integrated into teacher training curricula	-Increase by 50% the number of teachers with skills in special education -Include special education -Special education module integrated into teacher curricula	Communities, teachers and differently able students
<b>3 Promote Gender Equality and Empower Women</b>	Eliminate the disparity between boys to girls from secondary to tertiary education by 2015	-Increase by 10% number of males in behavioural sciences in secondary schools and tertiary institutions	Adolescent and Young adult males and females(13-25)
	Eliminate the disparity in ratio of literate females to males of 15-24 years old in the city	100% increase in literacy of males to females of 15 to 24 year olds in the city	Youths aged 15-24
	Reduce by 40% the disparity between men and women self employed in non-wage sector	40% reduction in disparity between men and women as business owners in non-agricultural sector	Women
	Number of seats held by women in the City Council	Increase by 50 % number of seats of the councillors are women	Mayor and City Council, Women Groups

Goal	Georgetown Targets	Local Indicators	Scope and Beneficiaries
<b>4 Reduce Child Mortality</b>	Reduce by two-thirds, between 1990 and 2015, the under-five mortality rate	Reduce by 75% the under-five mortality rate by 2015	Teen aged and young mothers
	Reduce by 75% the infant mortality rate in the city	Reduce by 75% the infant mortality rate by 2015	Ministry of health, nurses, pregnant mothers
		100% of 1 year olds in city immunized against measles, mumps and rubella	Infants under 1 year
<b>5 Improve Maternal Health</b>	Reduce by three-quarters, between 1990 and 2015, the maternal mortality ratio	75% reduction in maternal mortality in the City	Pregnant mothers
	City hospitals with ability to retain skilled health personnel	100% of births at City hospitals attended by skilled health personnel	Pregnant mothers, nurses and City hospitals
<b>6 Combat HIV/AIDS, Malaria and Other Diseases (diabetes, cancer, high blood pressure, tuberculosis, renal failure, alcoholism)</b>	Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS and other terminal illnesses such as diabetes, cancer, high blood pressure, tuberculosis, renal failure, alcoholism	Have halted by 75% the HIV prevalence among 15 to 30 year old women in the city	Age 15-35 population
	Halted the spread of HIV/AIDS among older men and women	Increase in condom use amongst the 15 to 24 high risk group as well as older population	15-24 age group
		100% of population aged 15 to 24 years with a comprehensive knowledge of HIV/AIDS	15-24 age group
	Provide alternative care for children orphaned by HIV/AIDS	75% of children orphaned by HIV/AIDS returned to families or living in residential institutions meeting minimum operating standards as a last resort  -Increase by 75% nutritional support to OVC	Orphans and Vulnerable children
	Health care workers, service providers and users and waste handlers with increased knowledge of safe injection practices	80% of health care workers, service providers, users and waste handlers with knowledge of safe injection practices	Health care workers, service providers and users and waste handlers
		Increase by 75% reporting by health workers and waste handlers	Health care workers, service providers and users and waste handlers
	Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the incidence of malaria and other diseases	Reduce by 75% prevalence and death rates associated with malaria and other diseases	City dwellers
		Increase by 75% proportion of population in malaria risk areas using effective malaria prevention and treatment measures	City dwellers

Goal	Georgetown Targets	Local Indicators	Scope and Beneficiaries
		Reduce by 75% the prevalence and death rates associated with tuberculosis	City dwellers
		Reduce by 75% proportion of tuberculosis cases detected and cured under directly observed treatment short course (DOTS)	City dwellers
<b>7 Ensure Environmental Sustainability</b>	Integrate the principles of sustainable development into policies and programme at the local level to reverse the loss of environmental resources	100% of the city's population with sustainable access to improved water source	Squatter communities within city
		100% of the city's population with access to improved sanitation	City dwellers
		75% of city benefiting from improved drainage and irrigation to combat flooding	Squatter community and other city dwellers
<b>8 Develop A Global Partnership For Development</b>	In cooperation with developing countries sister Carioca states and other neighbouring states develop and implement strategies for decent and productive work for youth	Reduce by 75% the unemployment rate of 15 to 24 year olds,	15-24 year olds
		Reduce the incidence of violence and crime within the city by 75%	Citizens Visitors
	In cooperation with the private sector, make available the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communications	Increase by 75% Telephone lines and cellular subscribers per 100 of the city's population	500 learners (ages 15-35) per year.
		Increase by 50% proportion of households with personal computers and internet users per 100 of the city's population	-Citizens of Georgetown - Internet providers

Source: UNDP, Program de Gestion Urbana, UN-Habitat (2006). City Consultation on Localizing the Millennium Development Goals in Georgetown (Guyana). Action Plan. Bratislava: UNDP (Adapted).