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URBAN EQUITY IN DEVELOPMENT - CITIES FOR LIFE

DRAFT CONCEPT PAPER

UN@HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

Inequality: The Gap is Widening

Inequality has become a universal concern. Differentials in accesses to opportunities, income, consumption, location, information and technology are now the norm, not the exception. For the majority of people on the planet, income disparities are today bigger than what they were a generation ago.[1] It is estimated that more than two thirds of the world's population lives in cities where income inequality increased since 1980's. In some cases this increase has been staggering.[2] Gender inequalities persist in many countries and contexts (lower rates of secondary education, access to decent employment, political representation, and the gendered nature of the HIV pandemic).[3] Youth inequalities manifest in discrimination in access to education, differentiated levels of employment and livelihood opportunities, lack of participation in decision making and prejudice against sexual preferences.[4] Slums, the face of poverty and urban inequality, continue to increase in most countries of the developing world, reinforcing other forms of inequality: access to basic services, education and health, among others.[5] Inequalities are present in the urban space with cities divided by invisible borders that split the 'centre' from the 'periphery', the 'high' from the 'low', the 'east' from the 'west', and other physical divides that take the form of social, cultural and economic exclusion.

The gap between rich and poor widened not only in developing countries and emerging economies, but also in developed countries, and even in traditionally egalitarian nations In other words, the reason for inequality has regional and national as well as historical, policy and institutional origins.

Inequality has grown for decades, but this trend has intensified in the beginning of this century. Today inequalities are present in almost every area of development.

There are strong evidences that countries with more inequality systematically have less equality of opportunity. In most cases, equality persists and even takes root in different dimensions of development. In the USA, social mobility has become a casualty of income inequality. According to the Congressional Research Service, compared to other developed nations, the country is becoming a rather immobile society.[6] A recent study shows that while after-tax income of households in the top 1 percent grew 275

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[1] The Economist, 2012
[2] UN-Habitat, database estimations
[3] United Nations, 2011
[4] UNICEF, UN Women, 2013. See UN-HABITAT, State of Urban Youth Report (2010) which dealt extensively with the notion of equity and proposes policies to attenuate lack of a level playing field. The SWCR (2010) "Bridging the Urban Divide", extensively dealt with the polarization in cities.
[5] UN-Habitat, 2008 and 2010
[6] Congressional Research Service, 2012.

times between 1979 and 2007, average after-tax bottom quintile increased only 18 percent.[7] Inequalities increased in 17 OECD countries of the 22 for which there is a series of long-term data available.[8] It is likely that as these countries grow more unequal, equal opportunities will be more restricted and social mobility may be affected.[9] In European cities, the modern definition of poverty is framed in the notions of relative deprivation and social exclusion. New forms of poverty and inequality are emerging: 'infrastructure-poor', feminization of poverty, immigrant poverty, vulnerable elderly and youth at risk.[10]

Relatively highly unequal cities have difficulties to optimize the urban advantage[11] with huge intra-city disparities between "haves" and "have-nots" (including men and women, slum and non-slum areas, ethnic majorities and minorities and elder and young). In these unequal cities, the urban poor have less chances of finding a job and their life expectancy at birth is lower; children are less likely to enroll in school and their occurrence of ill health is noticeably more frequent; public facilities predominantly used by the poor are more often than not overcrowded and badly managed; the poor in general are also excluded in a cultural, social and political sense.

Equity is Moving High in the Development Agenda

The search for equity has been on the fringes of the development policy agenda for a long time.[12] Until now there has been no clear urban policy and strategy to tackle it;[13] difficulties to translate it into an operational definition and policy-oriented actions explain this hiatus. Ideological positions and conventional development approaches inherited from the "Washington Consensus" prevail still in many minds and governments. Equity appears as a by-product after economic growth has taken place.

The recent social movements of 2011 and 2012: Cairo's Tahrir Square, Madrid's Puerta del Sol, London's St Paul's cathedral, New York's Zuccotti Park, Stockholm suburbs, Gezi Park in Istanbul were clear demands for more equality and inclusion, demands in the large majority made by disaffected youth.. These movements reverberated in different cities of the world, highlighting the inherent risks of ill-balanced growth and development policies, and their failure to safeguard prosperity for all.[14] IMF's chief economist considers that the rise of inequality is at the center of the current economic and financial crisis.[15] Nobel laureate J. Stiglitz ascribes the 2008 financial crisis to rising income inequalities in countries around the world.[16] P. Krugman, other Nobel Prize winner, blames the increasing inequality on destructive, self-perpetrating spiral of social polarization and growing social divisions.[17]

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[7] Stiglitz J., 2012.
[8] OECD, 2011.
[9] OECD, 2010.
[10] López M. E., 2010.
[11] *Urban Advantage* includes access to all aspects of basic, decent living conditions such as housing, transportation, education, recreation, communication, culture, religion, employment and the judiciary, among others. These benefits also extend to the less tangible aspects of urban or community life, such as experiencing a sense of belonging, identity and place.
[12] With the exception of the socialist regimes that were committed to achieve equity.
[13] Overseas Development Institute, 2012.
[14] UN-Habitat, 2012.
[15] IMF, 2012.
[16] J. Stiglitz, 2008.
[17] Byrne J., 2012.

There is a growing consensus in the international community that equity needs to be clearly integrated into the development agenda. Unlike what was believed some years ago, equity and growth are partners rather than adversaries, and this idea is gaining ground in international circles. The OECD dismissed the assumption that the benefits of economic growth automatically filtered down to the poorest in society.[18] The Economist has just affirmed that inequality has reached a level which makes it inefficient and bad for growth.[19] By the same token, IMF has recognized that inequality slows down economic growth, weakens the demand and contributes to financial crises.[20] This multilateral organization accepted in a rather novel position that "inequality is a significant hazard to growth sustainability".[21]

"Inequality" has begun to take a political importance. International discussions, partisan debates, government plans and local strategies are more and more explicitly referring to inequality (not 'inequity'). Civil society groups are also becoming more aware of its importance, and are advocating for a more just and 'equitable' society (not 'equal')[22]. Evidently, the equity concept is gaining more currency in local development discourse and politics; yet, the ways it is defined, measured, promoted and implemented is still in the making.

Box 1: **Equality and Equity**

Equity comes from the idea of moral equality, that people should be treated as equals[23].

Equality refers to having the same status in all aspects of life, including income. As a principle underlying the realization of human rights, equality incorporates fundamental aspects such as the indivisibility of human rights, non-discrimination and inclusion, priority to vulnerable and marginalized groups, and gender equality.

"*Equity*" refers to the distribution of opportunities. Equity concerns means leveling the playing field so that everyone benefit from the urban advantage and the prosperity of cities. It is about the equal access to healthcare, education and public goods in a manner that is fair and just. The World Urban Forum 7 considers equity as a more appropriate response to growing disparities in societies around the world.

The consequences of inequality in cities are a fundamental concern. High levels of inequality do not just hamper poverty reduction and economic growth – they impact all aspects of human development. Abundant empirical evidence demonstrates that inequalities affect a host of human development outcomes. The Asian Development Bank claims that if income distribution in emerging cities from the region had not worsened over the past twenty years, the regions' rapid growth would have lifted and extra 240 million people out of extreme poverty.[24] A recent perception study on inequality in 12 selected cities in Latin America and the Caribbean shows that up to 92 per cent of inhabitants believed that inequality affects quality of life and security.[25] When endemic poverty and high levels of inequality persist alongside visible signs of wealth, there is a risk of local tensions, social and political fracturing, forms of violent

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[18] OECD, 2011.

[19] The Economist, 2013.

[20] IMF, 2012.

[21] Andrew G. B. and Jonathan D. O., 2011.

[22] Indeed, international policy documents such as those related to the Post-2015 Development Agenda refer to "inequality" and not "inequity"; yet when referring to policies to address "inequalities" they talk about "equity" and not "equality". See, for instance, "Addressing inequalities: The heart of the post-2015 agenda and the future we want for all Thematic Think Piece, ECE, ESCAP, UNDESA, UNICEF, UNRISD and UN Women. And The Report of the High-Level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda.

[23] Jones Harry, 2009.

[24] J. Stiglitz, 2012.

[25] AVINA. CAF, Red Ciudades and UN-Habitat, 2012

redistribution of property and widespread social explosion of unpredictable consequences.[26] The resulting uncertainty of this political instability could reduce incentives to invest and hence impair growth.[27] It is not by accident therefore that the World Economic Forum (2012) considered rising inequality as one of the top 'global risks'.[28]

Urban Equity in Development

As scholars, institutions and development agencies are gradually agreeing on the importance of urban equity, they also recognize that this concept comes with different meanings and facets. For some it is associated with justice and human rights; for others to distribution and social protection; still for others to strict application of the law or to empowerment and inclusion mechanisms. For all these different views and understandings, the common denominator is that equity relates to fairness, and in order to be achieved, it requires leveling the playing field politically, socially and economically in the local and global arenas. The gender specialists would argue for positive discrimination and affirmative action in order to respond to urban inequities (refer to Table 1).

Bringing urban equity into the center of development means that no one should be penalized for where they live, the way they think or believe, or the way they look.[29] It also means that public goods and basic services should be available to everyone, creating conditions to be distributed according to needs. Urban equity in development implies that the urban space should not contribute to reproduce unequal relations or reinforce existing ones. In this relation, it should ensure that redistributive mechanisms and where possible special measures are put in place for a fair, more efficient use of resources, skills and opportunities and to promote equal outcomes for all.

Urban equity in development is not just an ideal, something that operates in the realm of ideas or aspirations. It is a concept framework that guides decision-making to enhance lives in cities for all; a useful tool needed to redefine the urban policy agenda at local, national and regional levels to ensure shared prosperity; and a factor to enhance the city's transformative capacity to bring about collective well-being and fulfillment of all.

When equity is embedded in urban development strategies, efficiency is enhanced, asset utilization becomes optimal, productivity improves and social cohesion is strengthened. The equation "equity-development" helps to lower barriers for individual/collective potential, contributes to expand opportunities and to strengthen civic engagement. It creates equal life chances with equal concerns for people's needs, promoting deeper, more sustainable change.

However, equitable development does not happen by itself. The obligation to address equity is not only born out of moral and ethical perspectives, important as they are. A range of broadly ratified human rights treaties and conventions refer to equality (refer to Box 1) and other fundamental values, as standards against which all policies are judged and held accountable.[30] Equality can underpin a new development agenda based on key elements such as participation, transparency, accountability, non-discrimination, empowerment, rule of law, and social inclusion. These principles can provide practical

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[26] UN-Habitat, 2008
[27] Andrew G. B. and Jonathan D. O., 2011.
[28] World Economic Forum, 2012.
[29] World Bank, 2006.
[30] Melamed Claire, 2012.

guidance to design and assess development strategies and to clarify their content — for example, by prioritizing universal access to adequate water, energy, income security, the provision of essential public goods and the respect of commons.[31] It can also help to deploy or take forward existing concepts such as the 'right to the city" that promotes a more holistic, equitable, balanced and multicultural type of development.

The availability of information at the household level disaggregated by wealth quintile/decile and in some occasions by sex, age and residence has expanded the knowledge on inequalities and provided ample evidence on the effectiveness of policies and actions. This has helped to integrate equity into development at the system and programmatic levels.

The United Nations system preparation of the Post-2015 Development Agenda recognizes that "despite the success of many of the MDGs, they have not managed to integrate all principles outlined in the Millennium Declaration, including equality".[32] The Report addressed by the United Nations System Task Team to the Secretary-General recognizes that the focus on national and global averages masked growing disparities at the sub-national level and among specific populations. It also stresses that MDGs have not given a clear enough incentive for policy-makers to address inequalities.[33] There are clear indications today that the Post-2015 development agenda will establish a better connection between equality and development.

Cities for Life

The City of Medellin, host of the Seventh session of the World Urban Forum, endorses the idea that the notion "Equity in Development" can be operationalized at urban level by the "Cities for Life" concept. This concept, which is both aspirational and practical, nourishes the hope of a more equitable, socially inclusive urban world that can devise comprehensive safeguards for all.

"Cities for Life" builds upon a programmatic approach to equity implemented by the city of Medellin for more than 15 years. It is a concept that celebrates a transition of the city's social and political landscape from violence to peace and hope. It is also a neo-humanistic approach that promotes a new social pact to enhance citizenship. "Cities for Life" is both a local and universal concept that puts people in the center of development based on the principles of equity, justice, sustainability, solidarity and respect for humanity.

"Cities for Life" are, from the spatial point of view, urban fabrics that build, enrich and make life and living enjoyable for every inhabitant in the city, with the capacity of creating elevated goals for all humanity. From a more practical stand, "Cities for Life" connect every individual with their surroundings, creating multiple local and external interactions, and facilitating possible responses to their needs, hopes and aspirations. "Cities for Life" are for all, but they focus mainly on those more in need – the poor and marginalized, who are excluded from all opportunities and deprived from the tools needed to transform their lives in the search of individual and collective wellbeing.

Adopting the notion of "Cities for life" is a commitment for equity and harmonious development; a novel concept that helps to restore the balances and mixed connections in living for all individuals and life-

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[31] Ibid.
[32] ECE, ESCAP, UNDESA, UNICEF, UNRISD, UN Women, 2013.
[33] Ibid.

expressions. A way of deeply rethinking the pathways leading to sustainable urban lifestyles with quality is an immediate and urgent task.

In 2012, the United Nations Summit Rio +20 was blunt in pointing out and agreeing that global approaches and insights on sustainable development should lead to more human development at all times. A process that enables everyone to live in harmony with nature; to restore the state and integrity of the earth's ecosystem, so as to ensure a quality of living that strikes the right balance between economic, social and environmental needs of present and future generations. Likewise, advances in the Post-2015 development agenda seem to prioritize a new rebirth of life on the planet where quality of life and equity are fundamental principles. WUF7, as part of the new international development agenda, welcomes this vision that will contribute to a more successful and holistic urban future. The "Cities for Life" concept is connected to these overall guiding principles.

In an era in which the future of sustainable development is inexorably linked to 'urban', "Cities for Life" is a simple concept that can facilitate a better understanding of the fundamental problems of humanity. It is also an operational tool to confront the most important challenges and respond to them in a collective manner.

Planning "Cities for Life" is a way of rethinking the city from the perspective of the specific needs of people, their life cycles and rhythms, their conceptions of 'good living', identity and diversity, plurality and unity, imaginations and dreams, beauty and aesthetic.

"Cities for Life" are made viable from a genuine construction of citizenship, civic reengagement, ethics and values, participatory democracy, co-responsibility and solidarity. Each actor contributes to bring solidarity in the territory, by consensus, contributes to the social construction of the habitat, the holistic understanding of the context, and an inclusive approach to economic, social, cultural, environmental and institutional aspects. Public policies and the provision of public goods and services are designed and delivered with the poor and excluded in mind. The 'life' itself, considers the wealth of all cities and people, providing new perspectives and opportunities for all. "Cities for Life" brings a new dimension to equity.

"Cities for Life" brings a fresh notion of governance – inspired by inclusive public policies, a new civic and political culture, democratization of science and knowledge, entrepreneurship and citizen empowerment and holistic management – feeds the new thinking and planning of cities and the notion of urban over time. Long-term visions and concurred actions of all stakeholders go beyond the boundaries of short-term and fragmented agreements that are imposed by the governors' political terms in office, ensuring continuity. A new governance of the city constitutes the nutrient that inspires a major change in human values and the conservation and constant enrichment of life.

The World Urban Forum 7

The Seventh Session of the World Urban Forum will bring together some of the most committed "**City Changers**" from the South and from the North. It will be a platform to create new networks and partnerships and strengthen existing ones, with a meaningful impact on equity and development. Participants will gain new awareness about the role that cities, countries, international agencies and development partners can play in advancing an equity agenda, sharing knowledge and best practices. They will also discuss how to implement the "Cities for Life" concept that is both normatively and operationally linked to the notion of equity.

The Forum is an excellent occasion for stimulating new ways of thinking. It is an opportunity to pursue discussions on equity related matters as initiated in previous sessions of the WUF (refer to Box 2). The Forum will help to define new objectives and strategies for integrating equity in the development agenda.

The concrete objectives of WUF7 are to take stock of where the world stands with respect to the *Equity* concept, analyzing how this concept is perceived and utilized. By sharing perspectives and viewpoints on the present-day relevance of equity, it will be possible to initiate a debate on the operational ways to make cities and development more equitable. As proposed by the City of Medellin, the "Cities for Life" concept will help to frame the discussions by looking at the transformative role of government and citizens in shaping a more equitable, socially inclusive and secured world; a world that requires a set of critical actions today, yet with a long-term integrated perspective.

Box 2: **World Urban Forum(s): Change and continuity in the equity agenda**

Since the first World Urban Forum held in Nairobi in 2002, important changes have taken place in the internal dynamics of cities and the role they play in national economic growth and development. Changes of approaches are also taking place, or moving towards that direction, in various development areas, namely:
a)   Development interventions are more integrated, looking at synergetic and complementary aspects instead of sectoral actions.
b)   More direct public involvement is becoming more prominent replacing a trend of State retreat and disengagement, with a strong focus on the engagement of women and youth.
c)   The urbanization and environment agenda are becoming more connected, supplanting a more compartmentalized vision.
d)   A greater emphasis is given to sustainable urban development as part of the overall sustainability agenda, a connection that was rather weak in the past.

Continuity - equity in previous WUFs. The concept of *Equity* has been present in previous World Urban Forums in terms of content and approach, but in a non-structured and less comprehensive manner:
-   The first and second WUFs made it clear that managing rapid urbanization entailed dealing with poverty and equity related issues.
-   The Third session in Vancouver (2006) established an interesting connection between sustainable urbanization and inclusive cities and the role of urban planning.
-   The Theme of the Fourth session in Nanjing (2008) clearly stated that a society cannot be harmonious if large sections of its population are deprived from basic needs while other sections live in opulence. Equity was part of the notion of Social Harmony and integrated in one of the dialogues.
-   The Fifth session of the WUF held in Rio de Janeiro (2010) focused on a fundamental aspect of equity, the *Right to the City,* discussing the principles underlying this right, the barriers that limit its realization and proposing some strategies to advance this right. A special Dialogue was devoted to equity under the theme "Bridging the Urban Divide: Inclusive Cities".
-   The Sixth Session of the WUF held in Naples (2012) under the theme of *The Urban Future* opened a Dialogue on Equity and Prosperity encouraging debate on issues related to distributive policies and the role of governments on wealth distribution.

Change- equity in development - WUF7. Within the context of sustainable development, as identified at the Rio+20 conference and other major summits, equity appears as a critical aspect of the new development agenda. WUF7 is an opportunity to support UN-wide efforts to integrate equity in a Post-2015 development framework. Putting equity at the heart of development programming* will represent a symbolic, normative and political decision to promote sustainable change.

*Jones Harry, 2009

The Forum aims to identify which are the old and new factors that create equity; who are the actors that trigger positive change; what kind of strategies do they use and how do they finance them. It will also look at the specific roles that the territory, institutions, economy, social, cultural and environmental aspects play in the transformation of "Cities for Life".

The WUF7 will be held in the City of Medellin, Colombia, which was recently awarded as the City of the Year 2013[34] due to its capacity to find innovative solutions to classic problems of mobility and environmental sustainability (refer to Box 3).

Box 3: **Medellin: Successes and Challenges**

The word "innovation" perhaps best describes Medellin: the second most populous and one of the most vibrant cities in Colombia. Some of the following examples attest the creative wealth of the city: Linear parks, quality playschools, the "*Talleres del Sueño*" a creative community programme to strengthen identity and to develop a sense of place, the *"Explora"* Park an innovative idea of social inclusion and scientific development and the "Medellin a Home for Life" a comprehensive perspective of long-term urban development that puts people first. Creativity and innovation is bringing development and prosperity to the City of Medellin, and in the process unleashing undeveloped potential and making fuller use of local resources. The culture of creativity has been embedded in the way the city operates in both the government and business affairs, but also communities and the public at large contribute with their own powers of imagination.

Many social and institutional innovations, such as "*Metrocables",* Local Plans of Development and Participation and the "Units of Articulated Life", contribute to meet the needs of the poor and underserved populations. Other innovations connect urban planning and design with the use of social public space such as "Parque del Rio" and the public libraries in the poor neighborhoods. Some look at the environmental sustainability of the city and the region such as the Green Belt and the "Institute My River". Finally other institutional innovations are strengthening urban management and governance such as the programme to reinforce the collective dialogue for social cohesion.

Creativity and innovation are increasingly embedded in the municipal functions of the city and, as such, under the control of the local government. Efforts to unite the divided city have translated into a set of innovative actions in education, recreation, sport, culture and entrepreneurship. Still, after all these actions, there are serious disparities that remind of the social debt accumulated over time. Medellin is at the top of the list of Colombian cities with the sharpest economic divide, featuring an income Gini coefficient of 0.564 in 2010 in the bracket of "Very High Inequality".

The theme of WUF7 on Urban Equity in Development – Cities for Life recognizes these unresolved issues. After concentrating on peace and security, the government of Medellin has made impressive gains in poverty reduction and the provision of public goods for the urban poor. It is now turn to look at equity, and the local authorities are determined to integrate it into the local development agenda. "United for Life and Equity" is a programme and a vision that will drive this change.

The Forum is an excellent occasion to discuss this further and set the foundations for an equity policy. This is urgently needed in Latin America and the Caribbean, which is the most unequal region, but also globally, especially now that inequalities are growing in most parts of the world.

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[34] Wall Street Journal, 2013.

WUF7 and International Milestones

The WUF7 will reaffirm the manner in which UN-Habitat and its partners contribute to guiding and enriching the policy work on equity and sustainable urbanization through an open dialogue.

The Forum has the development objective to further advance the outcomes of the RIO+20 UN Conference on Sustainable Development that proposed a blueprint to rethink economic growth while advancing social equity.[35] The Forum will be a good opportunity to actively pursue the political and technical debates on a socially and ecologically equitable future initiated in Rio de Janeiro in June 2012.[36]

The Forum will also set the stage to discuss the Post-2015 Development Agenda with regards to the critical nexus of equity, inclusive growth and sustainable development. Key notions such as human rights, inequality and gender disparities will be debated as part of this new conceptual framework.

The WUF7 will feed into the global preparatory process of the Third United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III). It will be closely linked to, and guided by, the overarching principle of equitable growth and shared prosperity. This will represent an opportunity to integrate equity in the development discourse, ensuring that urbanization becomes a positive force for all present and future generations of the world's cities.

A Framework for WUF7

This Concept Paper has summarized existing and emerging important policies addressing equity that are implemented today in different parts of the world (refer to Table 1). The resulting framework shows different types of policies that can be grouped into six core areas that are implemented at national and local levels: political, economic, social, spatial, social inclusion and environmental.

These six policies respond to major impediments and obstacles in achieving equitable growth and prosperity for all. For instance, in the 'Political Area' attention is drawn to issues such as power relations, predatory practices, social tensions and disenfranchisement. In the "Spatial Area" major challenges are slums, gated communities, city congestion and different forms of spatial marginalization and exclusion.

The challenges identified in the six core areas call for the identification of priorities and policy interventions that can be implemented at national and city levels. These interventions produce specific deliverables and results. For instance, political actions may result in higher resilience to different risks and minimizing the effects of crises, but also in more tangible results such as the provision of affordable land. Spatial interventions can result on the provision of cultural facilities and public spaces, and improved mobility; all key aspects to materialize equity in cities and creating "Cities for Life".

All these deliverables together can achieve major development outcomes such as equal opportunities, inclusion, quality of life, welfare and enhanced citizenship. These outputs concur in an accumulated manner to the attainment of the broader vision of sustainable urban development.

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[35] United Nations, 2012.
[36] Heinrich Boll Stiftung, 2012.

Dialogues: The Backbone of WUF7

The Dialogue sessions – the highest profile events of WUF7 – are strategically connected to the above areas and priorities. They capture the essence of the Forum's theme *"Urban Equity in Development – Cities for Life".* However, in an effort to shift from abstract-based concepts to action-based activities, the particular themes of each Dialogue are rather specific. They offer the opportunity for effective action in normative and operational terms in specific areas of equity and development and the attainment of "Cities for Life", as conceptualized in Table 2 by the City of Medellin.

The six sub-themes proposed for this edition of the Forum enhance the action-focus of the conference and facilitate a result-oriented approach to WUF7. They are based on a logical sequence of actions that start with decision-making, continue with planning and managing implementation and conclude with achieving sustained urban growth. This process is incessantly linked to measuring results in order to create a feedback loop for continuous improvement (refer to Diagram 1). This sequence of actions is also connected to policy interventions in the six core areas, as described in Table 1. This approach ensures coherence and permits to ground the discussions emanating from the Dialogues.

For this, synthesis papers are presented for each Dialogue summarizing the state of the art in their field, presenting core issues and strategic discussions, defining the best format to deal with the topic, asking the most relevant questions, and setting up a mechanism to measure results of the Forum –focusing on outcomes and deliverables.

The Forum suggests 'out-of-the-box' interactions with all participants in order to maximize opportunity for creative thinking and innovations. It is only like this that equity and development can be brought together for an effective transformative change.

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Urban Equity in Development - Cities for Life – Conceptual Framework

Table 1: A framework to bring equity policies together

Challenges – Priorities and policies – relationship to deliverables and outcomes to be discussed during WUF7
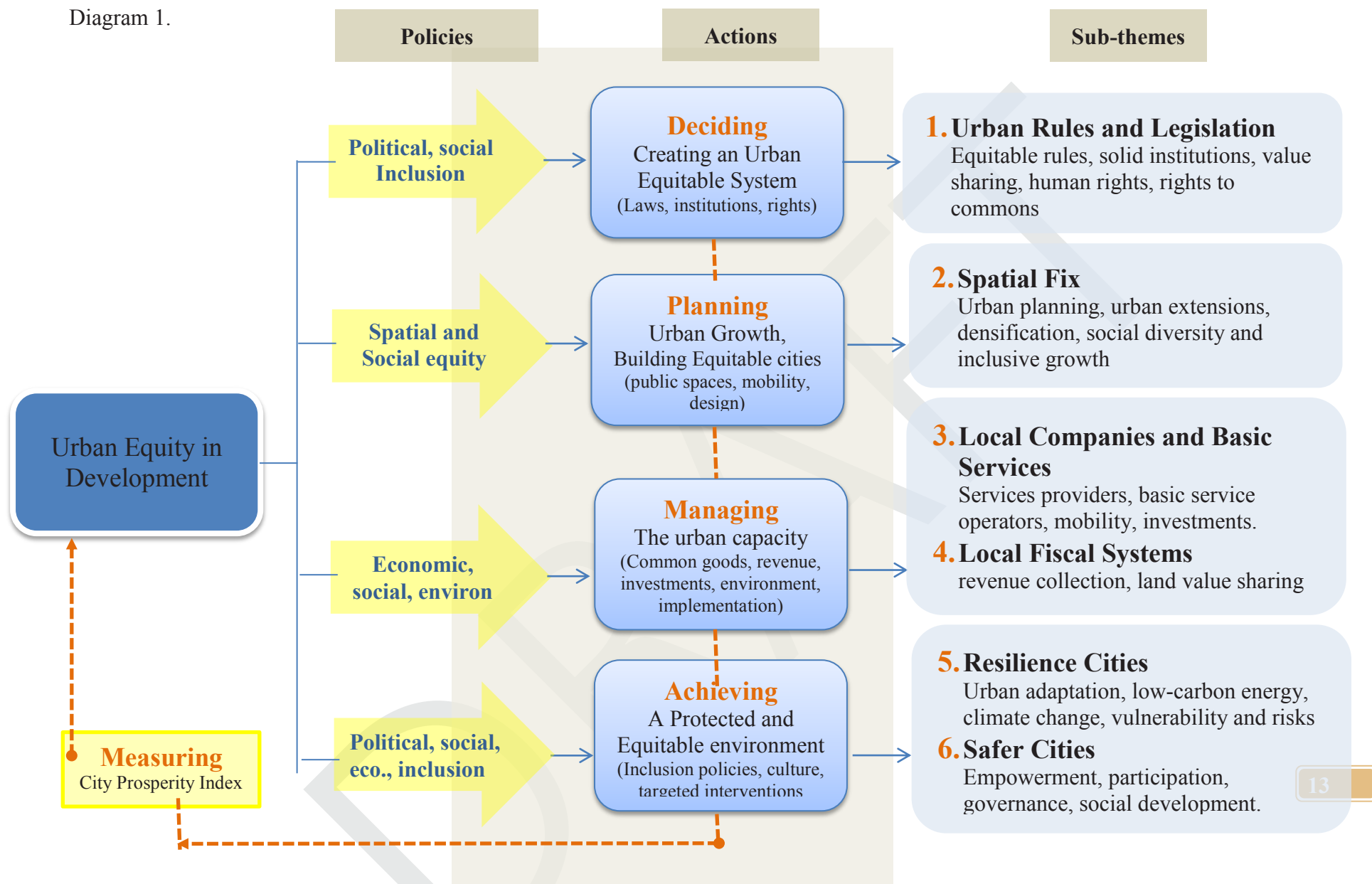
Equity priorities – policy connections – WUF7				
Challenges	**Priorities and Policies**		**Deliverables**	**Outcomes**
	National	**Urban**		
Political - Power relations - Social tensions - Disenfranchisement - Political use of laws and systems	Leveling the playing field Reform legislations and institutions Human Right-based Approach	Urban laws and legislations Local equitable development Protecting common goods	▪ Stronger Institutions ▪ Participation ▪ Affordable land ▪ Safeguard to Risks ▪ Minimize effects of crises ▪ Revenue increase ▪ Investments ▪ Employment ▪ Cultural facilities	Equal opportunities Integration and inclusion Quality of Life Welfare
Economic - Income Inequalities - Poverty - Predatory practice - Unemployment - Rent seeking	Redistributive policies Enabling income and social policies	Equity and Better Local Fiscal Systems Improving the Urban Economy		
Spatial - Spatial marginalization and exclusion - Slum areas and squatters - Gentrification - Differentiated access to public goods and services - Zoning & social homogeneity - Gated communities - Congestion	National Urban Policies	Building pro-equity cities Urban Planning for More equity Measuring Equity (intra-urban and spatial)		

Urban Development

Social	- Poor social mobility - Ill-health and poor education - Deprivation - Uneven access to public goods and infrastructure	Investing in people Safety Nets Fulfilling Basic Needs	Housing, Basic Services and Infrastructure Providing universal public goods and services	▪ Public spaces ▪ Improved access to commons ▪ Improved Mobility ▪ Affordable Housing ▪ Basic services and infrastructure ▪ Skill development (human capital) ▪ Safer cities ▪ Protection ▪ Identity ▪ Empowerment ▪ Participation ▪ Sustainable environment ▪ Walkability ▪ Green belt ▪ Affordable energy ▪ Clean environment	Enhanced Citizenship Freedoms Shared Growth Sustainable Urban Development	**Sustainable**
Social Inclusion	- Crime and insecurity - Gender Exclusion - Marginalization - Disable - Discrimination - Ethnic and racial disadvantages - Lack of cohesion - Lack of participation	Urban inclusion policies and social protection Cultural Actions Targeted interventions for disadvantaged groups	Fostering Social Cohesion			
Environment	- Vulnerability - Lack of resilience - Pollution - Atmospheric contamination	Green economy and decoupling Adaptation and Mitigation	Environmental Equity			

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Urban Equity in Development - Cities for Life – Sub-themes

Diagram 1.

Policies	Actions	Sub-themes

Urban Equity in Development

Measuring
City Prosperity Index

Political, social Inclusion

Spatial and Social equity

Economic, social, environ

Political, social, eco., inclusion

Deciding
Creating an Urban Equitable System
(Laws, institutions, rights)

Planning
Urban Growth, Building Equitable cities
(public spaces, mobility, design)

Managing
The urban capacity
(Common goods, revenue, investments, environment, implementation)

Achieving
A Protected and Equitable environment
(Inclusion policies, culture, targeted interventions

1. **Urban Rules and Legislation**
Equitable rules, solid institutions, value sharing, human rights, rights to commons

2. **Spatial Fix**
Urban planning, urban extensions, densification, social diversity and inclusive growth

3. **Local Companies and Basic Services**
Services providers, basic service operators, mobility, investments.

4. **Local Fiscal Systems**
revenue collection, land value sharing

5. **Resilience Cities**
Urban adaptation, low-carbon energy, climate change, vulnerability and risks

6. **Safer Cities**
Empowerment, participation, governance, social development.

WUF7 -- Cities for Life
Table 2

	ANTICIPATE	CHANGE	HUMANIZE	MANAGE	SELF-REGENERATION
	Long Term Vision	Government	Citizenship	Goods and Services	Transformation - Progress
Territory / Population	▪ Planned, inclusive, equitable ▪ Functional balance ▪ Population in sustainable interaction with the territory	▪ Presence and authority ▪ Integral and sustainable leadership ▪ Multiple connections & alliances	▪ Identity and belonging ▪ Commitment to sustainability ▪ Self-realization	▪ Growth with environmental protection ▪ Infrastructure connects and provides welfare equipment	▪ Sustainable plans that generate equity and welfare ▪ Responsible population growth
Policies / Institutions	▪ Post 2015 MDGs ▪ Rio + 20 agenda ▪ Habitat III ▪ Inclusive institutional framework	▪ Social policies ▪ Inclusive public policies ▪ Accountability & transparency ▪ Institution strengthening	▪ Development of a political culture ▪ Civic and participatory democracy ▪ Governance	▪ Integral security of citizens ▪ Provision of public goods for sustainable development	▪ Policies, laws and institutions for equity and social inclusion ▪ New alliances and social arrangements
Economy	▪ Sustainable policies of production and consumption ▪ Social, green and proximity economy ▪ Innovation for equity & welfare ▪ Fair & efficient trade exchanges	▪ Techno-economic base founded in ethic values ▪ Pro-poor economic policies ▪ Development of collaborative projects with social added value	▪ Recognition of local knowledge and capacity ▪ Education, research and training with equal opportunities ▪ Financial institutions socially inclusive ▪ Decent quality jobs	▪ Development of social and propriety housing ▪ Real access to basic services ▪ Urban infrastructure guarantees access to the city ▪ Strengthen entrepreneurial capacities	▪ New productive order ▪ Equality of opportunities ▪ Social control of loans ▪ Economic growth with shared prosperity ▪ Productivity and competition with social responsibility
Social	▪ Solidarity contract ▪ Social pact ▪ Co-responsibility in the conquest of a new art of living	▪ Social control of technology, science, economy and industry ▪ Accountability ▪ Inclusive policies	▪ Social control of technology, science, economy and industry ▪ Accountability ▪ Inclusive policies	▪ Increasing social capital ▪ Coherent social systems ▪ Common goods	▪ Society founded in a collective project ▪ Modernization of the social fabric ▪ Strategic leadership ▪ Social movements ▪ Solidarity and identity
Cultural	▪ Ethical conception of development ▪ Culture as center of participation ▪ Sustainable lifestyles ▪ A new *ethos*	▪ Civilization policies ▪ Shared development of globalization benefits ▪ Intercultural development ▪ Smart cities	▪ Civic, ecological, human and spiritual consciousness ▪ Integration of poetic values as a source of inspiration	▪ Public goods and commons promote collective welfare ▪ Infrastructure gives value to all cultural expressions and enriches the 'good living'	▪ Shared universal values ▪ Common destiny key for an urban life project ▪ Diversity, pluralism, unity ▪ New approaches to associative development
Environmental	▪ Control and management of risks (climate change) ▪ Compact city ▪ Conservation and responsible use of natural resources	▪ Social construction of the Habitat ▪ Biodiversity protection ▪ Environmental sustainability	▪ Behaviors associated with sustainable living ▪ Responsible appreciation of the territory ▪ Harmonious and integral development	▪ Green deal with adequate infrastructure ▪ Infrastructure that integrates urbanization and nature	▪ Commitments and international covenants respected ▪ Equity and social inclusion ▪ Social management of wealth
Integral thinking	ACHIEVE A NEW LIFE FOR QUALITY FOR ALL	RESTORE CONNECTIONS WITH HOLISTIC MANAGE-MENT THAT PRIORITIES THE QUALITY OF LIVING	ENHANCE CITIZENSHIP WITH OPPORTUNITIES AND SOCIAL INCLUSION	GOODS & SERVICES FOR THE ENJOYMENT OF COLLECTIVE WEALTH	CITIES FOR LIFE GIVE COHESION AND REINFORCE A SUSTAINABLE URBAN FUTURE WITH FOR ALL

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