



unitar

United Nations Institute for Training and Research

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Access to Basic Urban Services

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The background features a vibrant, abstract design with swirling patterns in shades of yellow, orange, green, and blue. Overlaid on this is a faint, semi-transparent grid of text containing various terms such as 'ownership', 'transfer', 'action', 'learning by doing', 'responsiveness', 'leadership', 'approach', 'methodology', 'research on knowledge systems', 'technologies', 'capacity building', 'skills building', 'methodology, training', and 'research on knowledge technologies, c'.

Access to Basic Services for all

A joint initiative by
UN-HABITAT and UNITAR
with support from Veolia

Main objective: Improve the provision of basic services

(water, sanitation, waste, transport and communications)

- Establish a formal and mutually agreed basis which would **govern the relations between the different stakeholders** (including national governments, local authorities, United Nations agencies, international financial institutions, public and private sector, NGOs, etc.);
- Highlight the **rights and responsibilities** of stakeholders involved in the provision of basic services in order to **mobilize their capacities and resources**;
- Reinforce the role of **local authorities** and their **access to financial resources**;
- Improve the delivery of these services to the **most vulnerable and excluded groups**.

Origin of the initiative:

A broader context of decentralization and development

- 2003: After the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, HABITAT and UNITAR started initiative by **the roles of the different stakeholders**

UN-
identifying



Access to basic services is essential to realize the right to an adequate standard of living.

knowledge, innovation, know-how, sharing, research, diversity, innovation, know-how, sharing, research, transfer, expertise, new technology, learning by doing, network, ship, skills building, etc.

History: comprehensive consultation process

- April 2005: Resolution 20/5 of the UN-HABITAT Governing Council on "*Access to basic services for all within the context of sustainable human settlements*": request to **identify best practices and underlying principles**
- April 2007: Resolution 21/4 of the UN-HABITAT Governing Council on "*Guiding principles on access to basic services for all*", Nairobi (Kenya): Approval of principles, request to **elaborate guidelines**
- November 2008: **Conclusion of Consultation Phase**: Expert Group Meeting in Nanjing (China) at the 4th World Urban Forum, discussion of revised draft prepared by UN-HABITAT and UNITAR
- April 2009: Resolution 22/8 of the UN-HABITAT Governing Council, **Approval** of "*Guidelines on access to basic services for all*"

Content of the guidelines

- Transparent, participatory and effective governance
- Decentralization and the role of local authorities
- Enabling institutional frameworks for partnerships
- Sustainable financing and pro-poor policies
- Environmental sustainability
- Available at www.unitar.org/ldp



Each of these three Resolutions explicitly recognizes the key role of UNITAR in the consultation process of the stakeholders.

Implementation

- (1) **Top-down: Support States in adapting the guidelines to each national context so as to facilitate / simplify implementation**
- (2) **Bottom-up, starting from the city level**
 - *Feasibility Studies*: Apply guidelines to existing projects in order to assess their pertinence and measure deviance: what improvements are possible?
 - *Pilot Projects*: Support selected cities in the implementation of the guidelines
 - *Public-Private Partnerships*
- **UNITAR will support both levels via its network of CIFAL training centres**
 - Creation of toolkit
 - Develop capacity of local authorities to implement the guidelines



CIFAL centers are established in cooperation with local authorities and other stakeholders.

The acronym CIFAL signifies "International Training Centre for Local Authorities/Actors"



knowledge, international, participatory approach, r
diversity, innovation, knowledge sharing, research
bin. transfer, expertise, new technology
learning by doing, network
ship, skills building
ing, ext

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