GOVERNMENT OF NIGER STATE

NIGER STATE URBAN POLICY

2021

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Acronyms

ADP	Agricultural Development Project
FCDA	Federal Capital Development Authority
FCT	Federal Capital Territory
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
HFA	Hyogo Framework for Action
ICT	Information Communications and Technology
IDP	Integrated Development Planning
IGTs	Inter-Governmental Transfers
LAP	Local Area Plan
LED	Local Economic Development
LCMS	Living Conditions Monitoring Survey
LGAs	Local Government Areas
LPA	Local Planning Authority
LUA	Land Use Act
MDAs	Ministries, Departments and Agencies
MLG	Ministry of Local Government
MSMEs	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MICS	Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey
MTDP	Niger State Medium Term Development Plan
NAMDA	Niger State Agricultural and Mechanization Development Authority
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organization
NBS	National Bureau of Statistics
NIGIS	Niger State Geographic Information System
NISEPA	Niger State Environmental Protection Agency
NSEMA	Niger State Emergency Management Agency
NSUDB	Niger State Urban Development Board
NSUP	Niger State Urban Policy
NNPC	Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation
NPC	National Population Commission
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NHA	National Housing Authority
NHF	National Housing Fund
NUP	National Urbanisation Policy
NSUP	Niger State Urban Policy
NUA	New Urban Agenda
NUP	National Urban Policy

NNPC	Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation.
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
PILaR	Participatory Inclusive Land Readjustment
PPPs	Public Private Partnerships
RAMP	Rural Access and Mobility Project
RDP	Regional Development Plan
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SWM	Solid Waste Management
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
TWG	Technical Working Group
TOR	Terms of Reference
URL	Urban rural linkages
URP	Urban and Regional Planning
UN-HABITAT	United Nations Human Settlement Programme
UNISDR	United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In February 2017, the Niger State Government started the preparation of the Niger State Urban Policy (NSUP) through the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat). The Government is desirous of harnessing planned urbanisation's transformative power to attaining compact, connected, socially inclusive and self-sustaining towns and cities in the State. To ensure that urbanisation benefits are shared and that no one or place is left behind, the Policy seeks to put in place strategies to manage urban growth and guarantee adequate access to infrastructure and social services for all. It also focuses on the needs of the urban poor and other vulnerable groups for housing, education, health care, decent work and a safe environment.

Nigeria is one of the most urbanised countries in Africa. With an urbanisation rate of 3.97%, which is higher than the national population growth rate of 3.2%, the proportion of its urban dwellers has risen from 10.2% of the total population in 1953 to 15.2% in 1963 35.7% in 1991 and 39.94% in 2006. Today Nigeria's large urban population, currently estimated at just over 50 per cent, is distributed among several fast-growing cities in the six Geopolitical regions of the country as the number of cities with populations of 20,000 and above rose from 56 in 1953 to 183 in 1963, and 359 in 1991. By 2010, this number had risen to over 1,000.

Niger State, like most other states in Nigeria, is experiencing continuing urbanisation. Although the State is still predominantly rural, it is also experiencing a rapid urban transition. In 1976 when Niger State was created, it was made up of mainly dispersed agrarian settlements. As of 1979, only four settlements, namely Minna, Bida, Kontagora and Suleja, were classified as urban centres, each of which now has a population of at least 150,000 persons. The Niger State Government has also declared all 25 Local Government Headquarters in the State, including Baro, the inland port settlement, as urban centres.

It is estimated that by the year 2050, 11 more towns would have metamorphosed into major metropolitan centres, each with a population of 150,000 people and above. These towns include Mokwa, Lapai, Wushishi, Rijau, Baro, Agaie, New Bussa, Shiroro, Kagara, Mashegu and Mariga.

The accelerating pace of urbanisation in Niger State has been driven by the proximity of some of its towns and cities to the Federal Capital Territory. Currently, many workers reside in Niger State but commute daily to the FCT to work. Likewise, Minna, the state capital, has benefited from several schemes that have boosted urban expansion and growth. These include the Kano-to-Baro railway, extension of the Lagos-to-Jebba line, the Federal University of Technology in Minna, Teachers Training College, Radio Broadcasting Centre, the Stadium complex, housing estates, Bosso and Chanchaga dams. Other vital institutions established in Minna are the National Examination Council Headquarters, the Strategic Grains Reserve and NNPC Depots, and service industries have all contributed to attracting workers and migrants to the city.

Niger State is endowed with numerous natural resources, notably its vast landmass (over 76,000 km^2), active young population, arable land for mechanised farming, pleasant climate and waterbodies. It's tangible economic assets also include a domestic airport, Inland Port and over 386 km rail line. Despite all these potentials, the State is facing many developmental issues and challenges.

These include rapid and unplanned urbanisation, which have negatively and progressively complicated and aggravated inter-related problems of human settlements and the environment but have also produced urban sprawl, environmental degradation, inadequate infrastructure, poor urban management, the proliferation of slums and informal settlements, high rate of unemployment and urban poverty amongst others.

Niger State Government has considered it necessary to remedy the shortcomings in the human settlements by preparing and implementing a well-thought-out urban policy. A policy that would enhance the potentials of urban and rural areas through effective settlement planning, provision of basic services and coordinated investments in people and places, and effective management of urban growth.

The Niger State Urban Policy's overall goal is to achieve more transparent, equitable, productive and resilient cities in Niger State, thereby positioning them to attain their potentials as engines of economic prosperity and development.

To adequately achieve the goals and objectives, the Policy has five guiding principles as follows:

1. **Integration**: Through facilitating and strengthening rural-urban linkages for better territorial planning, growth and development;

2. **Inclusion**: Through promoting social equity in the manner of "leaving no one or place behind" as well as partnerships with private, civil society institutions;

3. **Resilience**: By mainstreaming issues of climate change, natural disasters and socio-economic shocks and stresses, greening and low carbon development and urban upgrading in planning and development efforts;

4. **Coordination**: By facilitating coherence at institutional, Policy and project delivery levels; and,

5. **Innovation**: Promoting smart, compact, mixed-use and connected urban development

1. 1. WHEN FULLY IMPLEMENTED, THE POLICY IS EXPECTED TO ACHIEVE THE FOLLOWING POLICY OUTCOMES, AMONG OTHERS:

i. Inner-city neighbourhoods are upgraded, and measures are taken to prevent the growth of slums and informal settlements;

ii. Improved access to safe, decent and affordable housing; public transport systems, improved water and sanitation, effective land management, inclusive economic growth and job creation is established;

iii. Sustainable use of land and natural resources, integrated and balanced territorial development, and improved trade links across the urban-rural continuum is institutionalised;

iv. Capacity for financial security, effective use of resources and enhanced state-wide planning and programming, including integrating urban Policy with economic planning developed;

v. Governance systems and institutional capacities at all levels (state and local government) in the State are strengthened; and

vi. The resilience of urban settlements to economic shocks and stresses, climate change and disaster risks developed;

vii. Global targets are attained in the three main components of sustainable development, namely:

   a. Social – equality and inclusion, especially in the provision of housing, poverty, education and promoting cultural and natural heritage;

   a. Economic – better connectivity of all settlements in the State, creating a better environment for business and commercial activities to support increased productivity, competitiveness and prosperity. Encourage in balanced spatial location and distribution of economic activities based on resource endowments and prospects;

   a. Environment – to manage and protect the natural and built environment in the State. These would include preserving good/prime agricultural land, wetlands, wildlife habitat areas, mineral deposits etc., tackling environmental degradation, environmental hazards and risks, including climate change issues and sustainable use of natural resources.

A comprehensive analysis of the information gathered from stakeholders in all 25 Local Government Areas (LGAs) in Niger state across four town hall meetings held between December 9 and 16, 2019 and to reflect the identified priority areas that would deliver sustainable urbanisation in Niger State. A consensus was arrived at, on the key priority issues which the NSUP would address.

The priority issues identified and considered under the overall framework are: Integrated and Balanced Territorial Development; Inclusive, Productive and Competitive Urban Economies; Strengthening Urban-Rural Linkages; Effective Urban Governance and Coordinated Management; Effective Land Governance; Urban Security and Safety; Sustainable Transportation and Mobility; Resilient Infrastructure and Services; Urban

Resilience, Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation; Smart City Strategies; and, Monitoring and Evaluation.

i. **_Integrated and Balanced Territorial Development_** - to provide a coordinating framework to achieve coherence across various levels of Government, sectors and scales of development. It would also ensure the mainstreaming of urban development into the state economic planning framework, preparation of the State Regional Plan, which will cover the entire land area of the State and coordinate with the provisions of the National Urban Policy and the National Physical Development Plan.

ii. **_Inclusive, Productive and Competitive Urban Economies_** - develop dynamic and efficient urban centres that are the foci for industrialisation, local economic development, entrepreneurialism and innovation.

iii. **_Strengthening Urban-Rural Linkages_** - to ensure planned, balanced and equitable development between the urban and rural areas of Niger State.

iv. **_Effective Urban Governance and Coordinated Management_** – is to mainstream the practice of inclusive, equitable and accountable governance in towns and cities of Niger State, facilitated by local governments and institutions that are implementing fully integrated urban management processes.

v. **_Effective Land Governance_** - to ensure that the State's land resources, especially land for urban development, are used efficiently and effectively for the present and future generations to sustainable access and use of land for urban development.

vi. **_Urban Security and Safety_** - to enhance security and safety in Niger State for conducive social and business environment.

vii. **_Sustainable Transportation and Mobility_** - to develop a smart, functional and sustainable intermodal transportation system to encourage more transformative, productive, inclusive and resilient mobility of persons, goods, and services for the long term in Niger state, Nigeria.

viii. **_Resilient Infrastructure and Services_** – to facilitate the development of better and more robust urban infrastructure, resilient to the likely impacts from disasters and climate change, to support economic growth and improve the well-being of the population of the State.

ix. **Urban Resilience, Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation** - for towns and cities in the State to systematically anticipate, prepare for and reduce disaster risk, shocks and stresses, thereby enhancing their ability to recover rapidly in the event of hazards and to protect livelihoods, cultural heritage, socio-economic assets and ecosystems as they deliver appropriate climate change mitigation and adaptation measures.

x. **_Smart City Strategies_** - to deploy the Smart City concept to take advantage of rapid urbanisation and use of emerging technological solutions to make the towns and cities in the State more environmentally friendly and locations of choice for economic development and prosperity of its citizenry.

xi. **Monitoring and Evaluation** – to ensure adequate monitoring and timely evaluation of the Policy's outcomes and processes to promote institutional learning and facilitate systems change.

Operating Environment: The NSUP has taken cognisance of and aligned with existing legal and policy instruments, including Land Use Act of 1978, Nigerian Urban and Regional Planning Act of 1992, Urban Development Urban Board Edit and the Niger State Geographic Information Systems Agency Law 2013. The Policy also considered and aligned with the following existing policies – National Urban Development Policy (2012), National Housing Policy (2012), Niger State Vision 3:2020 and Niger State Blue Print 2015-2019 2019-2023. NSUP also took cognisance of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals, the New Urban Agenda, the African Union Agenda 2063 and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.

Institutional Framework: The NSUP proposes effective implementation and institutional framework to facilitate the harnessing of all necessary institutional and human resources to ensure that its stated objectives are achieved. To this effect, the Niger State Urban Policy would ensure adequate coordination, inclusion, and involvement of all relevant stakeholders to deliver the policy's goals and objectives more effectively and efficiently. The actors would include the State Government and its agencies, all the Local Governments, Federal Government and its relevant agencies, Development Partners, Financial Institutions, Multi and Bilateral agencies, professional bodies, Academic and Research agencies, Civil Society organisations etc.

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1. NIGER STATE: URBANISATION OVERVIEW AND EXISTING FRAMEWORKS

In the year 2007, the World recorded a major demographic milestone when, for the first time, fifty per cent or half of the World's population resided in urban centres. This significant transformation in the World's previously predominantly rural population had seen the proportion of urban dwellers rise from 13% (220 million) in 1900, to 29% (732 million) in 1950, and 49% (3.2 billion) in 2005, before crossing the 50% mark two years later. It is expected that by 2050 over six billion people or two-thirds of humanity, will be living in towns and cities.[1]

Though still predominantly rural, Africa is also rapidly urbanising, with the continent's proportion of urban dwellers projected to rise from 40 per cent of the total population (2012) to 50 per cent in less than 20 years, and 60 per cent by 2050[2]. Similarly in Nigeria, Africa's most populous country, with an urbanisation rate of 3.97% which is higher than the national population growth rate of 3.2%, the proportion of its urban dwellers has risen from 10.2% of the total population in 1953 to 15.2% in 1963, 35.7% in 1991 and 39.94% in 2006. Today Nigeria's large urban population, currently estimated at just over 50 per cent is distributed among several fast-growing cities in the six Geopolitical regions of the country as the number of cities with populations of 20,000 and above rose from 56 in 1953 to 183 in 1963, and 359 in 1991. By 2010, this number had risen to over 1,000.[3]

Niger State, which is still predominantly rural, is also experiencing a rapid urban transition. In 1976 when Niger State was created, it was made up of mainly dispersed agrarian settlements. As at 1979, only four settlements, namely Minna, Bida, Kontagora and Suleja were classified as urban centres, each of which now has a population of at least 150,000 persons. Also, the Niger State Government has declared all 25 Local Government Headquarters in the state, including Baro the inland port settlement, as urban centres. It is estimated that by the year 2050 11 more towns would have metamorphosed into major metropolitan centres, each with a population of 150,000 people and above. These towns include Mokwa, Lapai, Wushishi, Rijau, Baro, Agaie, New Bussa, Shiroro, Kagara, Mashegu and Mariga.[4]

The accelerating pace of urbanisation in Niger State has been driven in part by the proximity of some of its towns and cities to the Federal Capital Territory. Currently, many workers reside in Niger State but commute daily to the FCT to work. The Niger State Rapid Diagnostic Report (2019) shows that the coverage of the built-up area in Suleja Town, for instance, increased from 650.60 hectares (5 per cent) in 1980 to 3061.11 hectares (26 per cent) in 2015 while it is expected to increase to 4637.49 hectares (39 per cent) by 2035.

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1 https://newatlas.com/world-population-becomes-more-urban-than-rural/7334/
2 UNECA (2019) Urbanisation and National Development Planning In Africa
3 Federal Government of Nigeria, (2016) HABITAT III National Report
4 Niger State Diagnostic Report

Likewise, Minna, the state capital, has benefited from several schemes that have boosted urban expansion and growth. These include the Kano-to-Baro railway, extension of the Lagos-to-Jebba line, the Federal University of Technology in Minna, Teachers Training College, Radio Broadcasting Centre, the Stadium complex, housing estates, Bosso and Chanchaga dams. Other vital institutions established in Minna are the National Examination Council Headquarters, the Strategic Grains Reserve and NNPC Depots as well as service industries have all contributed to attracting workers and migrants to the city. Studies show that the population of Minna, the state capital, increased from about 30,000 in 1970[5] to about 78,480 in 1979, barely three years after the creation of the state in 1976. It further grew to 192,413 in 1991[6], 265,626 in 2000; 287,608 in 2006, 317,465 in 2010, and 360,000 in 2015 (Diagnostic Report).

Niger State is endowed with numerous natural resources (Diagnostic Report), notably its vast landmass (over 76,000 km²), active young population, arable land for mechanised farming, pleasant climate and waterbodies. Its tangible economic assets also include a domestic airport, Inland Port and over 386km rail line. Despite all these potentials, the state, like many other states in Nigeria, is facing many developmental issues and challenges in the light of its rapid and unplanned urbanisation, which have not only progressively complicated and aggravated inter-related problems of human settlements and the environment, but have also resulted in urban sprawl, environmental degradation, inadequate infrastructure, poor urban management, the proliferation of slums and informal settlements, high rate of unemployment and urban poverty amongst others.

1. 1.   NIGER STATE: DEMOGRAPHIC AND URBANISATION CONTEXT

1.1.1   GEOGRAPHICAL AND DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS[7]

1.1.1.1. Geographical Characteristics: Niger State is located in the North-central region of Nigeria between latitudes 8.020N and 10.200N and longitudes 3.380E and 7.030E. It is sharing international boundary with the Republic of Benin in the west and state boundaries with Kebbi and Zamfara states in the north, Kaduna and FCT in the east, and Kogi and Kwara in the south. Niger State is the largest state in the country with its landmass (76,469.903 square kilometres), comprising valley terrain 18,007.38 square kilometres (24.94%), plains 24,181.04 square kilometres (33.49%) and upland 20,616.09 square kilometres (28.55%), and the remaining 9593.3 square kilometres (13.01%) made up of highlands.

1.1.1.2. Demographic structure: From a figure of 1,745,664 in 1979 (Niger State Regional Plan), the population of Niger State increased to 2,421,581 in 1991 (National Population and Housing Census) and rose to 3,950,249 in 2006 (Nigerian National Population Census). With an annual growth rate of 3.4 per cent, the projected population of Niger State, which was 5,712,778 (Niger State Bureau of Statistics, 2017a) is projected to rise to 17,219,613 persons by 2050.

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5 Al-Handasah, 1974

6 NPC, 2006

7 Niger State Rapid Diagnostic Report, 2019

The demographic structure of Niger State reflects a growing youthful population. According to the 2006 National Population and Housing Census, about 36 per cent of the state's population was aged less than ten years; 21 per cent were aged 10-19 years; 39 per cent were in the prime age 20 – 59 years; while the population of the elderly was estimated at four per cent in 2006 (NPC, 2006). Disaggregated by gender, the population is made up of 2,895,339 males and 2,817,439 females.[8]

1.1.1.3. Population density and distribution: The spatial distribution of the population in Niger State is uneven because resources and opportunities are not evenly distributed across the state. Some areas are more densely populated because of the presence of infrastructural facilities and employment opportunities. Compared to others that are sparsely populated due to lack of infrastructural facilities. The 2006 National Population Census in Nigeria shows that Mokwa Local Government Area (LGA) has the highest proportion population in Niger State, followed by Shiroro LGA, while the Agwara LGA has the lowest population.

Statistically, the population density in Niger State is relatively low. By 1979, the average population density was 30 persons per square kilometre, increasing to 52 persons per sq. Km in 2006, with a projected figure of 75 persons per sq. Km in 2017 expected to rise to 226 by 2050. The spatial population spread in Niger State indicates that Bida LGA is the most densely populated, followed by Chanchaga, Suleja and Tafa LGAs. At the same time, Borgu LGA has the least population density.

1. 2.   KEY URBANISATION FACTORS AND ISSUES

The following have been identified as critical factors that have influenced the urbanisation status in Niger State:

1.2.1   MAJOR URBANISATION FACTORS:

a. **High Population Growth Rates:** Niger State currently has one of the highest fertility rates in Nigeria with lowest life expectancy. In 2008, the fertility rate (number of children born per woman) in the state was 7.5 per cent[9] declining to 6.1 per cent in 2011(NBS 2016) yet higher than the national rate (5.7 per cent). With childbearing patterns influenced by such factors as early marriage and contraceptive behaviour patterns, the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) 2011 shows that 47 out of 90 young girls had their first child before age 18 while only eight per cent of married women aged 15-49 years use contraception.

b. **High Migration Rate:** According to the National Bureau of Statistics, the percentage distribution of migrants in Niger State over the years shows that 67 per cent of migrants have moved to urban areas while 33 per cent moved to the rural areas.[10] Causal factors of migration to the state's urban centres could be as a result of the availability of infrastructure and social services in the cities.

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8 Niger State Bureau of Statistics, 2017a

9 NDHS, 2008

10 (Kawu, 2016; Buba, Makwin & Ogalla, 2016).

For instance, the population of Minna, the State capital grew from about 30,000[11] to about 78,480 in 1979, barely three years after the creation of the state in 1976 and further increased to 192,413 in 1991[12], 265,626 in 2000; 287,608 in 2006, 317,465 in 2010, and 360,000 in 2015. Another significant factor is the large number of migrants arriving in the state who are fleeing the insurgency in the North East which has, since 2009, resulted in considerable loss of life and extensive damage to property and livelihoods.

c. **Proximity to the Federal Capital Territory:** The relocation of FCT from Lagos to Abuja in 1991 led to a massive movement of people from other parts of the country to settle at the suburbs of the FCT and nearby towns like Suleja, due to high cost of accommodation within Abuja City. Studies also found that Suleja has continued to witness a massive influx of people who are displaced each time there are demolition exercises within the FCT. All these factors influenced the increased coverage of the built-up area in Suleja from 650.60 hectares (five per cent) in 1980 to 3061.11 hectares (26 per cent) in 2015, while it is expected to increase to 4637.49 hectares (39 per cent) by 2035.[13]

1.2.2 KEY URBANISATION ISSUES:

A Rapid Diagnostic Survey of the Urbanisation status of Niger State (Niger State Government, 2019), has identified the critical issues on urban growth in the state to include the following:

i.   Non-alignment of three-tier government structure with administrative jurisdiction of municipalities;[14]

ii. Unclear mechanisms through which federal, state, local and traditional governance procedures interconnect and engage for service delivery;

iii. Absence of operational basis for classification of "Urban Areas:"[15]

iv. Weakened Local Governments with inadequate financial, human and technical assets for the effective delivery of urban governance dividends.[16]

v.   Lack of coherent or operational policy framework to address different development issues.

vi. Weak multi-partner coordination within public institutions and between stakeholders

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11 Al-Handasah, 1974

12 NPC, 2006

13 Makwin & Ogalla, 2016

14 Issues that have do with unclear jurisdictions have resulted from non-alignment of Nigeria's three-tier government structure with administration of municipalities, whereby the geographical boundaries of large metropolitan centres straddle the administrative jurisdictions of multiple independent local governments are well known. Demographic and other baseline and socio-economic data arealso disaggregated to Local Government and not on a city-by-city basis;

15 While the National Urban Development Policy has stipulated the 20,000 population benchmark for classification of urban centres, two parameters have been used under different dispensations in Niger State: the benchmark of 150,000 residents (Minna, Bida, Kontagora and Suleja, 1979); and, extent of ground cover (used in determination of newer settlement boundaries

16 The current over-reliance of the states and local governments on the monthly Federal Statutory Allocation has been such that their local economic potentials have remained undeveloped. The Governments have been making efforts to shore-up Internally Generated Revenue (IGR) with varying degrees of success. Fiscal transfers from the Federation account have tended to make the management of the affairs of the two tiers of sub-national government top-down, substantially excluding the residents and other stakeholders in crucial decisions.

vii. Ineffective regulatory frameworks (including Niger State URP Edict 3 of 1999) that support and enable the governance objectives of the state and its cities

viii. Limited public participation and engagement processes that ensure and facilitate multi-level stakeholder engagement.

ix. Poor access to land.

x. Rising urban poverty, insecurity and vulnerability to climate change.

1. 3.   EXISTING URBAN MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORKS

The NSUP was not conceived and will not be implemented in isolation. The policies and instruments at national, state and international levels which have relevance or implications for urban development and management in the State include:

1.3.1. Constitutional Framework: The Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria stipulates a three-tier government structure for the country, comprising the Federal, State and Local Governments (Federal Government of Nigeria, 1999), each with specified roles identified under the Exclusive, the Concurrent and the Residual Legislative Lists as well as its First and Fourth Schedules. In Niger State, governance is vested in the leadership of the State Governor, who chairs the Niger State Executive Council comprising 19 Ministries and the Office of the Head of Service. Local Governments are the third tier of government with the most direct engagement with communities. There are 25 Local Government Areas in Niger State, grouped into three administrative/senatorial zones. Each Local Government Area is also divided into Political Wards which elect representative Councilors into the Local Government Council headed by an Executive Chairman with a Vice Chairman and Supervisory Councilors.

1.3.2. Traditional/Community Frameworks: Besides the three tiers of government, traditional/community structures also play distinct roles in the governance frameworks of settlements in Niger State, noticeably with respect to community mobilization, land administration and dispute resolution among others. Currently, the framework for traditional institutions in Niger State has a hierarchy overseen by the State Emirate Council made up of eight Emirates, each ruled by a First Class Emir who together constitute the Council. Furthermore, at the Local Government level, each LGA is subdivided into districts supervised by a District Head appointed by the Government. The districts are further subdivided into wards/villages.

1.3.3. Legal Framework: The primary legal instruments which currently guide urban governance in Nigeria are the 1976 Local Government Reform Law; the Land Use Act 1978; the Nigerian Urban and Regional Planning Decree No. 88 of 1992; and the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

1. 4. LINKAGES WITH EXISTING LEGAL AND POLICY INSTRUMENTS

1.4.1 EXISTING LEGAL/LEGISLATIVE INSTRUMENTS

The legal and legislative instruments that relate to urban development and management in Niger State are as follows:

1.4.1.1 LAND USE ACT OF 1978

The Land Use Act (LUA), also known as Land Use Decree 1978, is enshrined in the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. Promulgated to facilitate easy access to land for development projects, the Act regulates the ownership, alienation, acquisition, administration and management of land across Nigeria. The Land Use Act vests all land in each State of the Federation in the Governor to be held in trust for the use and common benefit of all Nigerians. Section (5(1)) of the Act empowers the Governor of a State to grant a statutory right of occupancy to any person in an urban area of the state. The LUA also enables the LGAs to issue Customary Rights of Occupancy in areas other than urban.

Challenges associated with access to land have been attributed to operational details contained in the law. Ongoing efforts to reform the Land Use Act are expected to facilitate access to land by both public and private developers and facilitate improved

1.4.1.2 NIGERIAN URBAN AND REGIONAL PLANNING ACT OF 1992

In 1992 the Federal Government of Nigeria promulgated Decree 88 of 1992, or the Nigerian Urban and Regional Planning Law. The law spells out the responsibilities of each of the three tiers of government, namely Federal, State and Local Governments as well as the types of plan to be prepared at each level.

After a landmark court process, the Supreme Court finally declared urban and regional planning a residual matter, is the responsibility of state and local governments. However, the Federal Government can also apply to the Federal Government jurisdictions such as the Federal Capital Territory.

Due to incomplete implementation of theNigerian Urban and Regional Planning Act of 1992, notably the stipulations on setting up of physical planning institutions especially at the Local Government levels, the NSUP will seek to remedy these anomalies by ensuring full implementation of provisions under the law.

1.4.1.3 NIGER STATE URBAN DEVELOPMENT BOARD EDICT 1999

Niger State Urban Development Board (NSUDB) was established through edict Number 3 of 1999 to undertake urban and regional planning in all urban centres of the state. Till date, the Edict has not been revised, and some of its provisions are considered outdated, limiting the effectiveness of MDAs saddled with its implementation. The functions of the Board include development control, granting of building/development plans permits; and outdoor adverts and telecommunication masts and towers permits. Other duties are preparation and development of serviced layouts, preparation and execution of urban renewal schemes and preservation of monuments and other structures of historical and architectural importance. The Agency has its Headquarters in Minna with Zonal offices across the state.

The provisions of the NSUP will facilitate the more effective performance of functions by the NSUDB.

1.4.1.4   NIGER STATE GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS AGENCY LAW 2013

The Niger State established the State Geographic Information System (NIGIS) in the year 2013 to coordinate and enhance land use administration and documentation process. It is the Agency in charge of issuing land titles, registration of land instruments, among others. This Agency remains a central pillar of the land administration and management framework of the NSUP.

1.4.2   EXISTING POLICY INSTRUMENTS

1.4.2.1   NATIONAL URBAN DEVELOPMENT POLICY (2012)

The Second National Urban Development Policy promulgated in 2012 has as its goal "to promote a dynamic system of clearly defined, planned and well-managed urban settlements, which fosters sustainable economic growth, promotes efficient and balanced urban and regional development, as well as ensures equity and improved standard of healthy living and the well-being of all Nigerians". The policy document, even though well-articulated has not been operationalised at both the national and subnational levels probably due to lack of political will, institutional capacity and financial resources.

The National Urban Development Policy (2012) was conceived to provide overall oversight for urban development matters across the country, with each state expected to develop state-level policies that are aligned with its provisions. By taking the lead in this regard, the NSUP will enable Niger State to establish best practices and set the pace for other states to learn from.

1.4.2.2   NATIONAL HOUSING POLICY (2012)

National Housing Policy (2012) was promulgated the same time as the Second National Urban Development Policy. This policy also suffered the same fate of lack of implementation. Operationalising the NSUP will facilitate domestication and implementation of the National Housing Policy at the state level by establishing a platform that will appropriately integrate housing provision with the physical planning process in the state, thereby opening up opportunities for public and private sector investments in housing delivery.

1.4.2.3   NIGER STATE VISION 3:2020

The objective of Niger State Vision 3:2020 is to create favourable human settlements with full opportunities for sustainable growth and development and strong propulsive force to drive the state to one of the three best economies in Nigeria by 2020". This policy was not comprehensively implemented.

1.4.2.4   NIGER STATE BLUE PRINT 2015-2019.

The Development Blueprint of Niger State Government provided the policy direction of the state for the period 2015-2019. The document highlighted priority policy areas, detailed programmes and initiatives and prescribed action plans and activities. Along with the Niger State Medium Term Development Plan (MTDP), the specific objectives of the blueprint were as follows:

- To serve as a robust framework for the development of Niger State;

- To articulate issues of importance to the people of Niger state towards making her one of the top economies in the country;

- Improve the living condition of the people of the state;

- To serve as a strategy for communicating the Government's reforms agenda to relevant stakeholders.

The Niger State Development blueprint has shown that with improved coordination between economic and spatial planning through the NSUP, substantial progress and growth can be achieved in Niger State, which will enable urban settlements to achieve their potential as engines of growth and development.

1.4.3   INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENTS

As a signatory to the various treaties and Conventions guiding sustainable development at the global level, Nigeria is committed to treading the paths to sustainability in all sectors. The NSUP is aligned with the goals and objectives of these treaties, notably the following:

1.4.3.1   2030 AGENDA AND THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGS)

The 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were adopted by the global community as the vehicle to guide poverty elimination and sustainable development towards achieving a better and more sustainable future for all. They address the global challenges we face, including those related to poverty, inequality, climate change, environmental degradation, peace and justice and sustainable cities. There are a total of 17 Goals which are all interconnected. In particular Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities, aims to "Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable", by establishing cities and urban settlements which provide opportunities for all and provide access to basic services, energy, housing, transportation and more.

1.4.3.2   THE NEW URBAN AGENDA (NUA)

The New Urban Agenda is an action-oriented document that provides the global community with principles, policies and standards required to achieve sustainable urban development and to transform the way residents construct, manage, operate and live in their cities. It guides the efforts around urbanisation for a wide range of actors including nation-states, city and regional leaders, funders of international development, the private sector, the United Nations programmes and civil society for the next 20 years[17]. The New Urban Agenda identified National Urban Policy as an instrument for developing and implementing policies that would promote cooperation among local-naional government and build multi-stakeholder partnerships to enable them to achieve sustainable integrated urban development.

The NSUP aligns with and derives guidance from the principles and commitments of the New Urban Agenda,[18] notably to:

1. Leave no one behind, by ending poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including the eradication of extreme poverty;

2. Ensure sustainable and inclusive urban economies by leveraging the agglomeration benefits of well-planned urbanization, including high productivity, competitiveness and innovation; and,

3. Ensure environmental sustainability.

17www.weforum.org

18 United Nations 2016, Quito Declaration on Sustainable Cities and Human Settlements for All New Urban Agenda, Resolutions 14, (a), (b) and c(). - UN-Habitat 2016,

The NSUP also commits to Resolution 86 of the NUA with respect to establishing a supportive framework that would "anchor the effective implementation of the New Urban Agenda in inclusive, implementable and participatory urban policies, as appropriate, to mainstream sustainable urban and territorial development as part of integrated development strategies and plans, supported, as appropriate, by national, subnational and local institutional and regulatory frameworks, ensuring that they are adequately linked to transparent and accountable finance mechanisms.
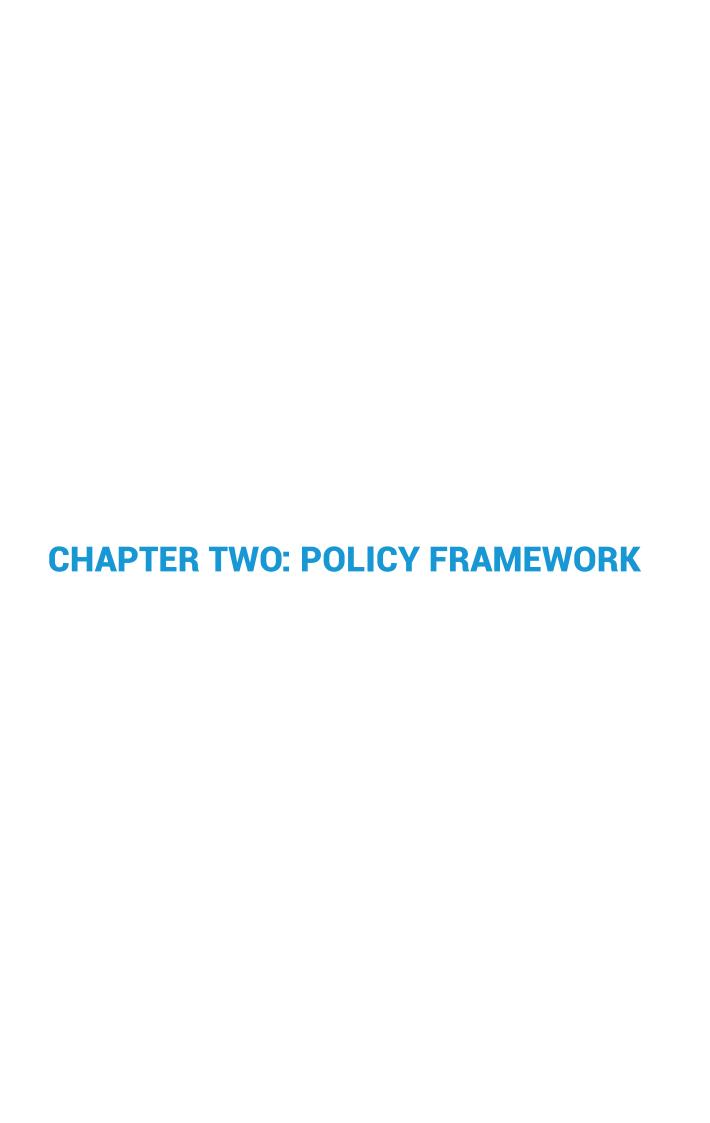
1.4.3.3   AFRICAN UNION AGENDA 2063

Agenda 2063 – "The Africa We Want" is Africa's blueprint and master plan for sustainable development and economic growth of the continent. It seeks to galvanise African countries to prepare and execute policies and programmes in a holistic, coordinated and integrated manner to achieve sustainable and sustained social and economic growth, poverty reduction, environmental sustainability and resilience.

1.4.3.4   THE SENDAI FRAMEWORK FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, which is the successor instrument to the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA, 2005-2015): Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters, was adopted to harmonise the outcomes of the global work under the International Framework for Action for the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction of 1989; the Yokohama Strategy for a Safer World: Guidelines for Natural Disaster Prevention, Preparedness and Mitigation and its Plan of Action, adopted in 1994; and, the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction of 1999.

The Sendai Framework places a strong emphasis on disaster risk management as opposed to disaster management, defines seven global targets; promotes the reduction of disaster risk as an expected outcome that focuses on preventing new risk, reducing existing risk and strengthening resilience; provides a set of guiding principles, including primary responsibility of states to prevent and reduce disaster risk, all-of-society and all-of-State institutions engagement; and, broadens the scope of disaster risk reduction significantly to focus on both natural and man-made hazards, environmental, technological and biological hazards and risks as well as Health resilience.

CHAPTER TWO: POLICY FRAMEWORK

2. RATIONALE AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR NIGER STATE URBAN POLICY

It has been widely acknowledged that if well planned and managed, urbanisation can be a driver of socio-economic development which would bring better social facilities, employment opportunities, better housing and access to municipal services, local economic growth and competitiveness. However, if not adequately planned, it will continue to pose obstacles to sustainable development. These include urban sprawl, inadequate basic infrastructure services and housing, as well as social inequality and exclusion, among others.

As the World continues to urbanise, sustainable development depends increasingly on the successful management of urban growth, especially in low-income and lower-middle-income countries where the most rapid urbanisation is to occur between now and 2050. Integrated policies to improve the lives of both urban and rural dwellers are therefore needed, which would strengthen the linkages between urban and rural areas and build on existing economic, social and environmental ties.[19]

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD, 2019) defines urban policy as "as a coordinated set of policy decisions to plan, finance, develop, run and sustain cities of all sizes, through a collaborative process in shared responsibility within and across all levels of government, and grounded in the multi-stakeholder engagement of all relevant urban actors, including civil society and the private sector".

Nigeria was one of the first African countries to promulgate a National Urban Policy in 1992. The policy was revised and became operational as the second National Urban Development Policy in June 2012. It has as its objective: "To promote a dynamic system of clearly defined, planned and well-managed urban settlements, which fosters sustainable economic growth, promotes efficient and balanced urban and regional development, as well as ensures equity and improved standard of healthy living and the well-being of all Nigerians" (Federal Government 2012). The Policy framework requires sub-national governments (State and local governments) to develop and implement sub-national policies in line with this policy in their respective jurisdictions. However, the National Urban Policy was neither fully implemented nor adopted by the sub-national governments due to inadequate awareness, lack of technical skills and institutional capacity at these tiers of Government.

In February 2017, the Niger State Government, in order to effectively harness the transformative power of planned urbanisation to attaining compact, connected, socially inclusive and self-sustaining towns and cities in the state,embarked on the preparation of the Niger State Urban Policy (NSUP) through the technical support of United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat). To ensure that the benefits of urbanisation are shared and that no one or place is left behind, the Policy seeks to put in place strategies to manage urban growth and guarantee adequate access to infrastructure and social services for all.

19Niger State Rapid Diagnostic Report, 2019

It also focuses on the needs of the urban poor and other vulnerable groups for housing, education, health care, decent work and a safe environment(Kawu, 2016; Buba, Makwin&Ogalla, 2016). These would be achieved by identifying, preparing and implementing programmes and projects that would promote wealth creation, productivity, employment generation and environmental sustainability.

Besides, the Niger State Government has made substantial progress in attracting investors to invest in the state. Large scale agricultural ventures established include sugarcane plantations and a sugar refinery, rice farms and processing plants and dairy farms.

These investments have in each case constituted a growth pole attracting workers from diverse locations and increasing the populations of their locations considerably. Besides, the supply chains required to transport produce to consumers in urban centres and beyond, have established robust linkages between rural agricultural settlements and urban centres, becoming major drivers of the economic growth and urbanisation in the state. These investments in agriculture have a significant impact on boosting Urban-Rural linkages. Implementation of the NSUP is therefore essential in ensuring an integrated urbanization process through balanced territorial development.

The State Urban Policy would provide the following tangible benefits:

- Provide clear direction on how investments can be identified and supported, in a planned and coordinated manner, to establish better value chains while also ensuring that the benefits of economic growth reach all corners of the state.

- Bring about improved ways of doing things, ensuring win-win solutions in the process. For example, it would transform the acts of governance from sectoral and agency-based approach to a coordinated and integrated approach. It will ensure that government institutions, ministries, departments and agencies (MDAs), at all levels, collaborate to ensure the attainment of set government's priorities, goals and targets. Also, the multi-stakeholder and multi-partner approaches advocated by the Policy would ensure further vertical coordination with other tiers of Government.

- Ensure adequate planning - by planning in advance and at the scale of the needs, the orderly growth of all settlements, as well as the judicious use of land resources for the benefit of the present and future generations, will be assured. Adequate urban planning will also increase the efficiency and functionality of urban centres, thereby making them more attractive destinations for investors and citizens.

- To serve as a catalyst for achieving inclusive and sustainable urban and territorial development in the state, and will be a valuable tool to ensure sustainable social, economic and environmental development.

- To ensure inclusion, promotion and preservation of cultural and ecological assets and help the state to achieve internationally agreed obligations such as the SDGs.

2. 1.   ROAD MAP FOR FORMULATION OF NSUP

In order to achieve the desired objective, a strategic decision was taken from the onset to adopt a highly inclusive and participatory approach in formulating the Niger State Urban Policy. This would guarantee that not only would the NSUP be evidence-driven, it would also be inclusive and enjoy the joint ownership and support of all stakeholders. An outline of the stakeholders involved in the formulation of the NSUP is summarised below, while details of the Roadmap are provided in Annex A1.0.

TABLE 8   Table 2.1

Stakeholders Involvement in the Formulation and Implementation of NSUP	Role In Intervention	Stage of Intervention
Niger State Government, Local Governments and MDAs	Project conceptualisation, backstopping and logistics support Data retrieval, operational guidance Primary funding	Conceptualisation, planning, implementation
UN-Habitat, Government of Korea	Technical oversight, facilitation of networking Mainstreaming of sustainability dimensions in the NSUP Counterpart funding Leveraging for resources and partnerships	Conceptualisation, planning, implementation
Traditional institutions, Community associations, Civil Society, NGOs, Women, Youth and trade groups, the Urban Poor	Ensure adequate representation and participation, integration of Gender, Youth and Urban poor's concerns in NSUP and ensuring urban sustainability factors are mainstreamed across the lifecycle of NSUP	Formulation, planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation
Other UN agencies, Regional Economic Commissions and International Development Finance Institutions (UNDESA, Cities Alliance, World Bank, OECD etc.)	Technical guidance, mainstreaming sustainable urban dimensions in the formulation of NSUP Economic commissions to promote urbanisation as a driver of social and economic development.	Planning, implementation
Research Institutions, Academia	Support to data generation and analysis, as well as the integration of best practices to achieve greater (Global, Regional, and local)	Planning, monitoring and evaluation

2. 2. POLICY FRAMEWORK

2.2.1 OVERALL POLICY GOAL

The Overall Goal of the Niger State Urban Policy in line with the aspirations of the Niger State Government and the provisions of the National Urban Development Policy (2012), is to achieve more transparent, equitable, productive and resilient cities in Niger State, thereby positioning them to attain their potentials as engines of economic prosperity and development

2.2.2 OBJECTIVES

To achieve the above goal, the objectives of the Niger State Urban Policy are:

- To stop unplanned growth and reverse the deterioration of urban centres in the state as a result of informal development that is not matched with the provision of decent housing and municipal services;

- Facilitate the provision of adequate and functional infrastructure and essential urban services in all categories of urban settlements in the state;

- Adequately plan all urban centres in the state for increased productivity, job creation and better living conditions.

- Provide an enabling environment, in all urban centres, for growth and competitiveness.

- Implement statewide metropolitan and territorial planning, strengthening rural-urban interactions and effective coordination across administrative boundaries.

- Promote inclusive and participatory planning and governance processes, through collaboration and effective coordination in plan preparation and implementation to ensure a shift by the Government from sectoral-silo based planning to integrated, multisector, multi-actor integrated plans;

- Strengthen institutional and technical capacity of state and local government agencies to better plan and manage urban growth;

- Mobilise adequate funding for urban development and ensure that plans are aligned to budgets and only priorities that are consistent with provisions of the policy are funded; and,

- Develop the capacities of urban centres to be more resilient to disaster risks/hazards as well as economic and climate shocks and stresses.

2. 3.   GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The following principles will guide the Niger State Urban Policy:

1. **Integration**: Through facilitating and strengthening rural-urban linkages for better territorial planning, growth and development;

2. **Inclusion**: Through promoting social equity in the manner of "leaving no one or place behind" as well partnerships with private, civil society institutions;

3. **Resilience**: By mainstreaming issues of climate change, natural disasters and socio-economic shocks and stresses, greening and low carbon development and urban upgrading in planning and development efforts;

4. **Coordination**: By facilitating coherence at institutional, policy and project delivery levels; and,

5. **Innovation**: Promoting smart, compact, mixed-use and connected urban development

2. 4.   EXPECTED POLICY OUTCOMES

By formulating and implementing the State Urban Policy, a unique window of opportunity will be created to achieve the outcomes:

i.   Inner city neighbourhoods upgraded and measures taken to prevent the growth of slums and informal settlements;

ii.   Improved access to safe, decent and affordable housing; public transport systems, improved water and sanitation, effective land management, inclusive economic growth and job creation is established;

iii.   Sustainable use of land and natural resources, integrated and balanced territorial development, and improved trade links across the urban-rural continuum is institutionalised;

iv.   Capacity for financial security, effective use of resources and enhanced statewide planning and programming, including integrating urban policy with economic planning developed;

v.   Governance systems and institutions at all levels (state and local government) in the state are strengthened; and

vi.   The resilience of urban settlements to economic shocks and stresses, climate change and disaster risks developed;

vii.   Global targets are attained in the three main components of sustainable development, namely:

a.   **Social** – equality and inclusion especially in the provision of housing, poverty, education and promoting cultural and natural heritage;

b. **Economic** – better connectivity of all settlements in the State, creation of a better environment for business and commercial activities to support increased productivity, competitiveness and prosperity. Encourage in balanced spatial location and distribution of economic activities based on resource endowments and prospects;

c. **Environment** – to manage and protect the natural and built environment in the State. These would include preservation of good/prime agricultural land, wetlands, wildlife habitat areas, mineral deposits etc. Tackling environmental degradation, environmental hazards and risks, including climate change issues and sustainable use of natural resources.

2. 5. THEMATIC COMPONENTS OF THE NIGER STATE URBAN POLICY

Following a comprehensive analysis of the information gathered from stakeholders in all 25 Local Government Areas (LGAs) in Niger state across four town hall meetings held between December 9 and 16, 2019 and to reflect the identified priority areas that would deliver sustainable urbanisation in Niger State, a consensus was arrived at on the key priority issues which the NSUP would address. The priority issues identified for consideration under the overall framework are: Integrated and Balanced Territorial Development; Inclusive, Productive and Competitive Urban Economies; Strengthening Urban-Rural Linkages; Effective Urban Governance and Coordinated Management; Effective Land Governance; Urban Security and Safety; Sustainable Transportation and Mobility; Resilient Infrastructure and Services; Urban Resilience, Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation; Smart City Strategies; and, Monitoring and Evaluation.

2. 6. RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

To effectively implement NSUP, the following actions are recommended:

2.6.2.1 IMMEDIATE ACTIONS

- Formal launching of the approved NSUP by the Governor,

- Establish and inaugurate the Secretariat and all committees for the implementation of NSUP

- Disseminate and publicize the Policy document

- Develop human and institutional capacity for the implementation of the Policy

- Ensure budgetary allocation by the state and local governments for the implementation of the prioritized aspects of the policy

2.6.2.2 MEDIUM TERM ACTIONS (1-3 YEARS)

- Bring all stakeholders on board – The public sector, Federal State and Local Governments; Civil Society organizations, academic and research organisations, the private sector and traditional rulers.

- Prioritise and phase the implementation of NSUP

- Organise and ensure consistent coordinating meetings to agree on priorities, Action Plan and Implementation Policy

- Ensure Agreed Actions are captured in the budgets of the respective MDAs

- Agree on monitoring and evaluation including key performance indicators and production of an Annual Report.

2.6.2.3   LONG TERM ACTIONS (3-5 YEARS)

- Institutionalise NSUP in the governance process in Niger State.

- Review Annual, Monitoring and Evaluation Reports to learn lessons and adjust NSUP as needed.

CHAPTER THREE: PRIORITY 1 - INTEGRATED AND BALANCED TERRITORIAL DEVELOPMENT

3. BACKGROUND

The Niger State Government is desirous to get all major human settlements provided with adequate housing, urban facilities and services in order to improve the living conditions of the population. Government ministries and agencies are established to do these. However, in practice, many government agencies work in silos. Ministries, agencies and local government authorities responsible for transport, housing, water supply, sanitation, agriculture, industries take sector approach to planning and operation, each with its distinct mandate and budget. The three levels of Government and their agencies work in sectoral silos with little integrated planning and functional coordination. The Niger State Regional Plan (1978-2000) was prepared to facilitate balanced development across the state. Still, it did not achieve considerable success due to lack of implementation of the plan. With the state now facing many challenges and also promising economic opportunities like the establishment of special economic zones, the Baro Inland Port and the Kainji Industrial complex, there is need for the coordinated planning of areas. This would also involve its neighbours such as the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) to address the security and joint planning issues.

The Policy recommends the preparation of statewide regional plan as well as metropolitan plans for all urban centres that have more than one local government area. The area-based plans would integrate land use planning, provision of essential services including transportation and rural access, local economic development including agricultural development, environmental and disaster risk management.

This approach would ensure holistic planning, integration and effective coordination to ensure the use of land and other resources in a more efficient and sustainable manner. Coordination and integration would be at both national and geopolitical zones levels, involving joint planning and programming of issues that cut across administrative boundaries. The management of forest reserves/vegetation, security, river basins and boundaries between Niger State and the Federal Capital Territory require coordinated and integrated planning.

The Niger State Urban Policy would, therefore, provide a coordinating framework to achieve coherence across various levels of Government, sectors and scales of development. It would also ensure the mainstreaming of urban development into the state economic planning framework, preparation of the State Regional Plan, which will not only cover the entire land area of the state but also coordinate with the provisions of the National Urban Policy and the National Physical Development Plan. This provision is in line with the New Urban Agenda where nations "commit to supporting territorial systems that integrate urban and rural functions into the national and sub-national spatial frameworks and the systems of cities and human settlements, promoting sustainable management and use of natural resources and land, ensuring reliable supply and value chains that connect urban and rural supply and demand to foster equitable regional development across the urban-rural continuum and fill the social, economic, and territorial gaps".[20]

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20 UN Habitat (2006) The New Urban Agenda.

3. 1. SECTORAL GOAL

The Goal of the Niger State Urban Development Policy concerning achievingIntegrated and Balanced Territorial Development, is: To promote planned spatial development across all the local government areas of the state leaving no place behind.

3. 2. POLICY OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES:

To achieve the goal of fully integrated and Balanced Territorial Development in Niger State, the following objectives would be pursued:

    i.   Policy Objective 1: Promote integrated and coordinated planning in the State by mainstreaming urban and regional planning into the state economic planning framework;

    ii.   Policy Objective 2: Mainstream coherence in resources utilisation by all ministries, departments and agencies, avoiding duplication;

    iii.   Policy Objective 3: Develop a state regional plan, sub-regional plans and metropolitan plans to coordinate area-wide planning and development efforts;

    iv.   Policy Objective 4: Institutionalise the processes for balanced territorial development in the principle of "Leaving no place behind;

    v.   Establish the institutional capacity to carry out balanced territorial development.

The above-stated objectives will be achieved through implementation of the following strategies:

3.2.1 **Policy Objective 1:** Promote integrated and coordinated planning in the state by mainstreaming urban and regional planning into the state economic planning framework:

Strategies

    i.   Develop and implement guidelines for coordination, joint planning and programming;

    ii.   Promote the preparation and implementation sustainable urban development programmes in the areas of housing, provision of infrastructure and services, urban safety and resilience, poverty alleviation and culture among others;

    iii.   Establish a State Joint Planning Advisory Body with adequate representation to ensure inclusiveness;

    iv.   Establish a joint technical planning coordinating team, which will form the Secretariat;

    v.   Mainstream urban and regional planning into the states Medium-term expenditure framework;

    vi.   Establish the Niger State Urban Forum, a platform for all stakeholders in the urban and regional sector, to discuss issues of concern in the human settlements sector;

    vii.   Identify,mobilise and commit critical stakeholders to participate in the plan preparation, implementation and monitoring.

3.2.2   Policy Objective 2: Mainstream coherence in resources utilisation by all ministries, departments and agencies, avoiding duplication:

Strategies:

    i.   Establish clear responsibilities between agencies and institutions for urban planning, economic planning, infrastructure provision and resource mobilisation.

    ii.   Conduct workshops and training programmes for senior policymakers and technical staff on the methodologies of mutual coordination and programming;

    iii.   Train all relevant staff and provide the necessary equipment for them to carry out their duties.

3.2.3   Policy Objective 3: Develop a state regional plan, sub-regional plans and metropolitan plans to coordinate area-wide planning and development efforts:

Strategies:

    i.   Undertake comprehensive situation analysis to identify the key issues, priorities and opportunities for the regional programme;

    ii.   Undertake a statewide multisector and multi-stakeholder consultation to validate the draft situation analysis report and agree on crucial issues for the regional plan;

    iii.   Classify urban centres in the state for planning and development purposes;

    iv.   Prepare and adopt a draft Regional Plan with executive approval and endorsement of the State House of Assembly;

    v.   Put in place mechanisms for review and update the Plans after every four years.

    vi.   Develop sustainable regional infrastructure projects that will stimulate economic productivity, promote equitable growth and strengthen city-region and urban-rural continuum linkages.

    vii.   Develop the capacity of state and local governments to prepare and implement integrated plans;

3.2.4: Policy Objective 4: Institutionalise the processes for balanced territorial development in the principle of "Leaving no place behind."

Strategies:

    i.   Establish state policy on economic development stipulating guidelines for the geographical location of future investments;

    ii.   Adopt incentives for the establishment of economic activities in the state;

    iii.   Identify lagging areas and adopt a policy of supporting their rapid growth.

3. 3. EXPECTED POLICY OUTCOMES

The achievement of Integrated and balanced territorial development through the preparation and implementation of area-based plans comprising State Regional Plan, Sub-regional Plans and Metropolitan Plans would bring about the following positive outcomes:

a. Economic prosperity achieved by linking farmers to markets, the Baro port to the hinterland and the industrial clusters to markets and raw materials;

b. Duplication of efforts eliminated through improved coordination and adoption of a cohesive and focused planning framework in the state;

c. Capacity for coordinated metropolitan development in major cities is enhanced, specifically in the following settlements comprising more than one Local Government Area: Minna (Chanchaga, Bosso, Paikoro) and Suleja (Suleja, Tafa, Gurara);

CHAPTER FOUR: PRIORITY 2 - INCLUSIVE, PRODUCTIVE AND COMPETITIVE URBAN ECONOMIES

4. BACKGROUND

Urban economies are strong contributors to national economic growth and wealth creation. The large human agglomeration in cities provide economies of scale and the markets that make industries and other economic activities to thrive. Clustering of people and enterprises in the cities leads to higher levels of productivity. However, increased productivity can only be sustained when the towns are served with adequate and efficiently managed infrastructure. Efficient and productive urban economy is key to wealth creation and competitiveness at local, national and international levels. However, economic growth and development need to be inclusive, accommodating all segments of the population if it has to create employment and generate higher incomes and prosperity to all.

The urban and economic environment of Niger State, like other States in Nigeria is far from efficient. Major investment projects with the potential to create jobs, wealth and prosperity often suffer from inadequate infrastructure services such as piped water supply, electricity and transport and lack of skilled workforce. Consequently, the urban centres in the state have been unable to fulfil their roles as the fulcrum for economic development. The state has also been unable to maximise the advantage of its close proximity to the city of Abuja to build a robust commercial and industrial base.

Informal activities dominate the local economy of cities and towns in Niger State. At the same time, near subsistent primary agricultural sector thrives in the surrounding hinterland. Instead of seeing the informal sector as a source of livelihood and a training ground for nurturing future enterprises, it tends to be dismissed as undesirable and consequently marginalised. The lack of support to the informal sector, therefore, tends to restrict economic activities, growth and diversification in the towns and cities. However, the cities and towns, if well planned and provided with adequate municipal services, can play a vital role in promoting economic growth, diffusion of innovation, and further stimulating agricultural development in the hinterland.

4. 1. SECTORAL GOAL

The Goal of the Niger State Urban Policy (NSUP) concerning achieving an Inclusive, Productive and Competitive Economies is to **develop dynamic and efficient urban centres that are the foci for industrialisation, local economic development, entrepreneurialism and innovation.**

4. 2.   POLICY OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES

The objectives to achieve Inclusive, Productive and Competitive Urban Economies are as follows:

1. Policy Objective 1: Promote Local Economic Development (LED) in all major towns and urban centres in the state;

2. Policy Objective 2: Provide employment opportunities through entrepreneurship and skills acquisition programmes for women and youth as well as the building of more educational training institutions and innovation hubs to curb the rate of unemployment;

3. Policy Objective 3: Create a conducive environment to enhance the development of competitive urban areas through the strengthening of partnerships, provision of infrastructure, sustainable urban mobility systems efficient and city management and increased security and safety in cities.

4. Policy Objective 4: Improve the capacity of all LGSs in the state to promote sustainable Local Economic Development.

4.2.1   Policy Objective 1: Promote Local Economic Development (LED) in all major towns and urban centres in the state:

Strategies:

i.   Prepare the economic profile of each major urban centre in the state;

ii.   Prepare and implement a local economic development plan for each urban centre;

iii.   Identify, prepare and implement an Industrial Policy for the state taking into account the opportunities and comparative advantage of the areas.

iv.   Mainstream economic development at the core of the operations of all LGAs, particularly Urban LGAs by creating internal systems to strengthen linkages with other financial stakeholders (including line ministries at the State and Federal levels, private sector operators and civil society organisations) towards engaging in joint problem-solving and practical ventures;

v.   Empower municipal authorities to tackle unemployment and strengthen the local economy by taking leadership roles and directing strategic policies and investments;

vi.   Create local conditions for supporting enterprise growth and development. These would include removing barriers which stand in the way of enterprises profitability and growth, such as adequate serviced land, municipal infrastructure and services. Others include telecommunications infrastructure, labour skills, and efficient administration of building and environmental regulations, conducive and safe social environment, which form the necessary platform for attracting investment and enabling growth.

4.2.2   Policy Objective 2: Provision of employment opportunities through entrepreneurship and skills acquisition programmes to women and youth as well as the building of more educational training institutions and innovation hubs to curb the rate of unemployment.

Strategies:

i. Develop human capital through skills and vocational development initiatives, career counselling services and institutionalised training programmes in selected tertiary educational institutions in the state;

ii. Establish new and expanding markets to build unique industrial strengths and distinctive physical assets, towards generating greater interest, investment and jobs.

iii. Facilitate the upgrading of the local economy to engage in more valuable and productive activities.

4.2.3 Policy Objective 3: Create a conducive environment to enhance the development of competitive urban areas through the strengthening of partnerships, provision of infrastructure, sustainable urban mobility systems andefficient city management.

Strategies:

i. Identify and eliminate constraints militating against the success of economic enterprises in the state;

ii. Organise and nurture cooperative societies in various fields of economic endeavours.

iii. Ensure the provision of adequate and functional municipal services in all towns and cities.

4.2.4 Policy Objective 4: Improve the capacity of all LGSs in the state to promote sustainable Local Economic Development.

Strategies:

i. Train the staff of the local governments the basics of sustainable Local Economic Development;

ii. Prepare tools and operational manuals to guide the staff on their daily routines;

iii. Monitor and evaluate Local Economic Development programmes undertaken.

4. 3.   EXPECTED POLICY OUTCOMES

The expected outcomes of the NSUP for achieving an Inclusive, Productive and Competitive Economies include the following:

a. Increased wealth creation among residents in the urban area;

b. The Agricultural sectoris transformed into a high productivity sector;

c. Niger State becomes an attractive investment destination for large scale farming and irrigation schemes, tourism and extraction of natural endowments;

d. Women, youth and the unemployed have access to gainful livelihood and employment;

e. Residents of urban areas in Niger State enjoy the benefits of inclusive, productive and competitive urban economy.

CHAPTER FIVE: PRIORITY 3 - STRENGTHENING URBAN – RURAL LINKAGES

5. BACKGROUND

Urban-Rural Linkages (URL) refer to constant and necessary flows of people, capital, goods, services and information between rural and urban areas[21]. As captured by the URL Guiding Principles, "the linkages and interactions between urban and rural areas include diverse aspects as population and human capital; investments and economic transactions; governance interactions; environment and amenities; products and services: and, information and data, along with the different structures supporting (or constraining) them - infrastructure, economic structures, territorial structures and governance structures". The rationale for the inclusion of URL in the NSUP is to provide balance and equitable development across space.

While urban and rural development are often considered in isolation, the intrinsic linkage between urban and rural development is accorded less consideration or reduced to only market linkages. Although market linkages play a substantial role in this scenario, Urban-Rural Linkages (URL) extend beyond a linear interaction as it encompasses many diverse interactions and processes.

In Niger State, despite the symbiotic relationship between the urban and rural areas, there is a disparity in the quality of life between urban and rural households in the state. This phenomenon, however, could be attributed to lack of proper and strong linkages between urban and rural systems which emanated from uncoordinated development strategies of the two systems. While the resultant effect of this is not only evident in the prevalence of rural poverty and high rate of mortality it is also reflected in food insecurity, declining returns on agriculture for rural farmers, rural-urban migration, inadequate infrastructure and basic services among others.

Urban-Rural linkages, as a concept, is new to the planning practice of Niger State. Hitherto, the state implemented its rural development strategies through relevant Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDA) such as Ministries of Lands, Agriculture, Health, Water Resources, Education, Works, Women Affairs and Social Development, RAMP, NAMDA (Formerly ADP) under various programmes and schemes. Given the fragmented nature of the approach, no measures have been put in place to assess its success.

According to Niger State Bureau of Statistics Report (2014), about 77.7 per cent of rural dwellers are estimated to be poor; over 40 per cent of the sampled buildings in rural areas have no access to electricity; 27.9 per cent have no sanitation facilities; 61.4 per cent disposed of waste in an open dump while literacy rate in rural areas of Niger state is 38.5 per cent. Similarly, the influx of people from different rural areas to urban centres in search of employment opportunities and welfare has not only created massive pressure on the already fragile urban infrastructure and social services, but it has also exacerbated the scale of unemployment in urban areas, the number of people living in urban slums, and contributed to the ever-increasing environmental pollution and degradation in many parts of the state.

Against the backdrop of dwindling returns from agriculture for rural farmers, food insecurity, inadequate infrastructure and basic services despite the vast arable land for mechanised farming in the state, pleasant climate and waterbodies, strengthening urban-rural linkages in Niger State would contribute to more equitable development and play an increasingly significant role in the socio-economic development of the state.

21UN-Habitat (2015): Urban-rural linkages; Leave No One and NO Space Behind.

In this regard, the Niger State Urban policy will ensure the full implementation and institutionalisation of the New Urban Agenda policy thrust of 'Leaving No One and No Space Behind'. Mainstreaming URL in the Niger State urban policy will not only promote equitable and environmentally friendly urban and territorial development in the state but also present an opportunity to:

    i. Improve the livelihood of urban and rural populations and enhance economic and social development.

    ii. Bridge the development gaps in urban and rural systems thus and leave no one behind.

    iii. Improve competitiveness, job creation; access to basic services; balanced accessibility; the relationship between urban, peri-urban and rural areas; as well as the development of access to information and knowledge; reducing natural and environmental disaster, enhancing and protecting natural resources and natural heritage.

5. 1. SECTORAL GOAL

The goal of the policy with respect to Urban-Rural Linkages is to **ensure planned, balanced and equitable development between the urban and rural areas of Niger State.**

5. 2. OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES:

The NSUP, with regards to bridging the development gaps between urban and rural systems, specifically, aims at achieving the following objectives:

    a. Policy Objective 1: Ensure balanced growth and development between urban and rural areas;

    b. Policy Objective 2: Transform agriculture into a high productivity and value-adding activity to enhance production, processing, storage, distribution and linkages with broader markets along the value chain to facilitate pricing incentive;

    c. Policy Objective 3: Organise the farmers into enterprise/cluster groups to embark on value change creation;

    d. Policy Objective 4: Promote investment in large scale farming and irrigation schemes, tourism and extraction of natural endowments for inclusive economic growth and shared prosperity;

    e. Policy Objective 5: Establish database of existing traditional knowledge.

5.2.1 Policy Objective 1: Ensure balanced growth between Urban and Rural Areas:

Strategies:

    i. Ensure policy coherence and integrated actions for all state and local government projects to ensure coordination between urban and rural systems;

ii. Strengthen institutional mechanisms in order to incorporate urban-rural linkages into multi-sectoral, multi-level and multi-stakeholder governance systems;

5.2.2 **Policy Objective 2:** Transform agriculture into high productivity and value-adding activity to enhance production, processing, storage, distribution and linkages with broader markets along the value chain to facilitate pricing incentive:

Strategies:

i. Incentivize smallholder farmers and investors to engage in large scale development of the various subsectors of agriculture (food and cash crops, livestock and fisheries) through a value chain approach;

ii. Identify and promote the establishment of agro-based industries to process and add value to the abundant agricultural products;

iii. Provide the necessary infrastructure, notably, markets, stable electricity supply, as well as improved transportation and storage to support the proposed industries;

iv. Provide support to farmers in terms of farming inputs namely fertilisers, pesticides and seeds, agricultural extension services and storage facilities,

5.2.3 **Policy Objective** 3: Organise farmers into enterprise/cluster groups to enable them effectively embark on value change creation:

Strategies:

i. Create cooperative groups for specialised products – sugar cane, rice, yam, fisheries etc.;

ii. Provide extensive training to these cluster groups

iii. Develop communal infrastructure, such as large warehouses, cold rooms and special agricultural processing machinery;

iv. Create the necessary environment for private sector participation in credit supply, input production and supply, and food market development in the state.

5.2.4 **Policy Objective 4:** Promote investment in large scale farming and irrigation schemes, tourism and extraction of natural endowments for inclusive economic growth and shared prosperity:

Strategies:

i. Provide land and other incentives to large scale commercial farmers;

ii. Provide fiscal incentives to entrepreneurs willing to invest in the state's agricultural sector;

iii. Identify and attract technical partners to collaborate with the state and private sector in the establishment of key industries;

iv. Link economic enterprises, industries and farmers with markets.

5.2.5 **Policy Objective 5:** Establish database of existing traditional knowledge:

i. Adopt policy priorities based on relevant and current evidence and data to ensure decisions are appropriate and well-informed;

ii. Deliberate efforts would be made to identify, classify and document the different scales of urban and rural settlements in systems of cities and towns of different sizes to guide interventions;

iii. Inventory of indigenous assets and traditional knowledge will be identified, classified and documented to ensure cultural values and practices are integrated into the development of the urban-rural continuum.

5. 3.   EXPECTED POLICY OUTCOMES

i. All settlements in Niger State are achieving balanced growth and development through implementation of plans and programmes that promote and enhance urban-rural linkages;

ii. Participatory planning and development processes are institutionalised and deployed to ensure inclusiveness in project design and implementation across the urban-rural continuum in Niger State;

iii. Development planning processes adopted in the state are subjected to strict compliance with principles that ensure the equitable flow of resources and development between urban and rural areas;

iv. The rich cultural heritage of Niger State is preserved and promoted through documentation and integration of existing traditional knowledge.

CHAPTER SIX: PRIORITY 4 - URBAN GOVERNANCE AND COORDINATED MANAGEMENT

6. BACKGROUND

Urban governance, which represents a broader notion than government, refers specifically to the total ways in which institutions and individuals, both public and private plan and manage the common affairs of the city.[22] The practice of urban governance involves the whole gamut of public, private and traditional/customary institutions as well as their regulatory and management mechanisms with local governments usually being the central but not the only components.[23]

Niger State recognises the critical role of effective urban governance in attaining its vision of fiscally strong towns and cities that are equitable, inclusive, transparent, accountable and capable of serving as engines that would spur growth and development in the state.[24]

In order to achieve this,Niger state commits to enshrining good urban governance through processes, institutions and regulations founded on the following five pillars:

    i.   Reformed and coordinated multi-level and multi-partner governance frameworks

    ii.   Establishment of a comprehensive database and capacity building to establish an operational basis for classification of "Urban Area" and facilitate evidence-based urban planning

    iii.   Effective regulatory frameworks that support and enable achievement of the governance objectives of the state and its cities

    iv.   Robust public participation and engagement processes that ensure and facilitate multi-level stakeholder engagement, in line with the goal of ensuring "the right to the city" for all; and,

    v.   Empowered Local Governments with capacitated human and technical assets for the effective delivery of urban governance dividends.

6. 1. SECTORAL GOAL

The GOAL of the Niger State Urban Policy with respect to Urban Governance, is to: **Mainstreamthe practice of inclusive, equitable and accountable governance in towns and cities of Niger State, facilitated by local governments and institutions that are implementing fully integrated urban management processes.**

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22 National Urban Development Policy of Nigeria, June 2012

23 KALE Y., Assessment Of Good Urban Governance In Nigeria: Consolidated Report, National Bureau of Statistics, UNDP, UN-Habitat, May 2010.

24 Bello, A. S., Presentation by Executive Governor of Niger State, at the High-Level Panel Of Ministers, Second International Conference on National Urban Policy, May 15-18, 2017, OECD Headquarters Paris, France

6. 2.   POLICY OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES:

To achieve this goal, the following policy objectives and strategies will be pursued by the government and all stakeholders in Niger State:

6.2.1   Policy Objective 1: Establish an effective multi-level governance framework by reforming existing institutional structures:

Strategies:

 i.   Review existing urban governance structures, institutions and participants by conducting diagnostic assessment of existing governance frameworks;

 ii. Develop revised framework for integration of different levels of government and all participating actors – Constitutional, Traditional, formal, informal – in policy formulation and implementation for effective multi-level governance;

 iii. Establish procedures and processes that are aligned with the principles of subsidiarity, respect for local autonomy and promote established mechanisms of trust and structured dialogue;

 iv. Integrate the concepts of good urban governance as enshrined in the New Urban Agenda (NUA) as well as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and it's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the

6.2.2   Policy Objective 2: Adopt precise parameters for classification of settlements in order to establish consistency in the application of operational terminologies, develop the capacity for evidence-based urban planning and facilitate application of comprehensive knowledge and data resources:

Strategies:

 i.   Establish clear and unambiguous parameters for classification and designation of towns and cities in the state;

 ii. Establish a State and Local Urban Observatories in all urban centres for aggregation of relevant urban and housing data and resources;

 iii. Prioritise the development of evidence-based planning instruments such as preparation of urban and housing profiles, environmental and resilience profiles, Structure/Master Plans, City Development Strategies and other relevant tools to enhance the capacity of state and local government institutions to function optimally;

 iv. Develop capacity of technical staff to deploy contemporary urban planning and management tools and resources.

6.2.3 Policy Objective 3: Strengthen Regulatory frameworks, improve institutional coordination and facilitate effective linkages between public institutions and other partners:

Strategies:

i. Implement provisions of the Nigerian Urban and Regional Planning No. 88 of 1992 on the establishment of Local Planning Authorities (LPA) in all Local Government Areas to ensure operations are in accordance with Federal and State Planning Laws as well as the National Urban Development Policy;

ii. Initiate Legislative intervention in the State House of Assembly on the review and reform of laws and regulations that are contrary to effective service delivery and coordination;

iii. Review and reform governance procedures to eliminate overlap of functions, inefficient planning and ineffective decentralization of processes;

iv. Review existing processes for decision-making and implementation of public policies to improve collaboration involving vertical (between different levels of government) and horizontal (within the same level, e.g. between ministries or between local governments) institutions as well as facilitate civil society and private sector stakeholder engagement;

v. Improve the quality of service delivery in relevant departments through training and retraining of government officials and functionaries to ensure adequate understanding of the reformed processes and procedures;

6.2.4 Policy Objective 4: Establish a framework for robust public participation to ensure inclusive, representative multi-stakeholder engagement:

Strategies:

i. Adopt and implement a "right to the city" approach for residents in towns and cities by mainstreaming human rights as a cross-cutting dimension of urban policy, towards strengthening citizen participation and ensuring greater equity in urban planning and management;

ii. Formulate comprehensive communication strategies to enhance engagement and involvement of the civil society groups, the private sector youth, women, and marginalisedgroups in planning and implementation of policies;

iii. Establish independent mechanisms for the monitoring and evaluation of public policies by citizens and communities to improve accountability of state and local government institutions.

6.2.5 Policy Objective 5: Strengthen and develop the financial, technical and human assets of Local Governments to facilitate effective delivery of urban governance dividends:

Strategies:

i. Enforce constitutional provisions respecting the sanctity of statutory allocations, management of internally generated revenues, disbursement of financial transfers and access to external funding by Local Governments;

ii. Strengthen capacities of state and Local Government institutions to substantially increase internally generated revenues for improved delivery urban basic services;

iii. Reform existing taxation framework to eliminate leakages, expand participation base integrate the informal economy and adopt innovate non-tax revenue generation strategies;

iv. Develop and deploy E-Governance frameworks and capabilities to strengthen the capacity of institutions and personnel to benefit from emerging innovative technologies and the digital revolution.

Table classification of Urban Centres in Niger State

Category of Urban Centre and Population size	Functions	Functional Hierarchy
1st Above 500,000	State Capital Administrative and service functions	State Capital Minna
2nd 200,000 to 490,000	Cultural Centres Administrative functions Nodal/Transport Service centres	Principal urban centres/ divisional headquarters Bida Kontagora Suleja
3rd 20,000 -150,000	Local Administration Service Centres Growth Centres	Local Government Headquarters, Economic hubs Mokwa, Lapai, Wushishi, Rijau, Baro, Agaie, New Bussa, Shiroro, Kagara, Mashegu and Mariga

4th	Nodal/Transport	Proposed growth centres.
10,000 – 20,0000	Growth Centres	
	Central Places/Markets	

6. 3.   EXPECTED POLICY OUTCOMES

i.   Reformed, multi-level urban governance frameworks are established and operational in Niger State;

ii.   Development and physical planning interventions are guided by evidence-based parameters, data knowledge resources;

iii.   Legal and regulatory frameworks in Niger State are effectively supporting the achievement of governance objectives of the state and its cities;

iv.   Urban residents are engaged and participating in fully representative and inclusive processes in all towns and cities, thereby enjoying benefits of "the right to the city" for all; and,

v.   Local Governments are financially, institutionally and technically empowered with required assets for delivery of urban governance dividends to all.

CHAPTER SEVEN: PRIORITY 5 - EFFECTIVE LAND GOVERNANCE ANDADMINISTRATION

7. BACKGROUND

Land Governance globally has been understood as the process by which decisions are made regarding the access to and use of land, the manner in which those decisions are implemented and the way that conflicting interests in land are reconciled (World Bank). Also, how land access is defined and managed is often called"land governance" which is categorised as therules, procedures, and guidelines regarding land access and land use,how decisions are implemented and enforced, and how competing landinterests are managed. Land governance essentially involves assessing and implementing sustainable land policies and building a strong interaction between people and land. Town and City development is inextricably intertwined with land governance.

Thus, it is essential to interlink land governance with the National and State Urban Policy and to examine current land governance through the lens of the Niger State Urban Policy. The cadastral registration of land parcels, their physical dimensions, and their value as a basis for taxation in rural and in urban areas are extremely important for both the short-term and long-term urban and economic development. The same holds forth e-systems of altering the use off arm land, of other agricultural lands of the state (being the largest landmass in Nigeria) and of other non-built-up areas to residential or commercial land. There are several issues and challenges facing land governance in Niger State.

These include the following among others:

i.   Lack of equitable access to affordable serviced land and Security of tenure;

ii.   Non-recognition of the plurality of tenure types;

iii. Absence of comprehensive land and property registration;

iv.   Lack of transparent and sustainable management and use of land,

v.   Incomplete digitisation of the land assets of the state and local governments;

vi.   Non-regularization of tenure for families living in slums.

vii. Prevailing cross-cutting issues in Land Governance, notably with respect to lack of access to land by women and youth;

viii. Difficulties in effecting Landtransfers;

ix.   Unplanned changes inlanduse;and,

x.   Thefiscaldimensionoflandgovernance, including the revenue generation through land-based and presumptive tax systems.

Towards effective land governance in the state, the Niger State Government will ensure that towns and cities create opportunities for all citizens and social groups (women, the youth, the poor, elderly and people living with disabilities) to enhance their economic activities and ensure sustainable livelihoods.

7. 1.   SECTORAL GOAL

The Niger State Urban Policy will ensure that the land resources of the state, especially land for urban development, is used efficiently and effectively for the present and future generations to sustainable access and use of land for urban development.

The goal would be actualised through the following principles:

a. **Accessibility:** Execution of land administration and management that shall lead to the realisation of land safety and security, land affordability and livable development, orderly and conducive urban environment capable of transforming the economy of Niger State.

b. **Transparency:** Transparent land governance that is simple and accountable in land acquisition, provision of land for layout developments, Survey of Plots, affordable land registration and titling system.

c. **Security:** The land governance Sector is to facilitate the acquisition of land for housing construction by way of prompt payment of compensation, granting of titles to individually/ corporately acquired lands and timely registration of land related transactions.

d. **Professionalism:** Ensuring proper planning of neighbourhoods, regular design of new layouts, cadastral survey and mapping of towns and rural areas for agricultural activities, taking into consideration community needs and priorities.

7. 2.   OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES

The objectives of the NSUP in support of the sectoral goal of achieving Effective Land Governance are as follows:

1. **Policy Objective 1**: Promote sustainable and equitable access to land in towns and cities for all.

2. **Policy Objective 2**: Adopt strategies to upgrade and prevent the further growth of slums and informal settlements in all designated urban centres of the state;

3. **Policy Objective 3**: Promote integrated participatory land development planning and management;

4. **Policy Objective 4**: Develop the capacity of key stakeholders and at Local Government, level to adequately manage urbanisation in the face of land governance;

5. **Policy Objective 5**: Strengthen land management and administration.

7.2.1   Policy Objective 1: Promote sustainable and equitable access to land in towns and cities with urban economic, social and environmental opportunities for all.

Strategies;

i.   Promote research in respect of improved access to land in both formal and informal areas;

ii. Create new layout plans for individuals, site and services schemes as well as for real estate commercial property developers and PPP housing schmes.

iii. Review land ownership patterns, urban land development plans and regional plan; and prepare new land development plans for all towns and urban centres in the state;

iv. Strengthen partnerships in urban development to improve service delivery and investment opportunities to the most vulnerable;

v. Ensure that urban form reflects the needs of children, youths, women, persons with disabilities and the poor in land allocation pattern;

vi. Acquire land in advance of schemes with the possibility of considering the options of participatory land readjustment, land pooling and land banking;

vii. Ensure prompt payment of adequate compensation for lands acquired, in public interest,for development;

viii. Adopt Participatory Inclusive Land Readjustment (PILaR) tools to facilitate bringing "pooling" together groups of landowners for re-planning and upgrading the pooled sites with provision of infrastructure and services for enhanced value to participants in the scheme as a tool to strengthen Land Governance in Niger State.

ix. Accelerate the processing and issuance of registered land titles as swiftly as possible to maximise the security of tenure for households and, conversely, minimise incentives for land speculation.

7.2.2 Policy Objective 2: Adopt strategies to upgrade and prevent the further growth of slums and informal settlements in all designated urban centres of the state.

Strategies:

i. Identify slums and informal areas and prepare plans for urban upgrading

ii. Ensure adequate mechanism for sustainable land use planning in informal settlement areas and provision for livelihood opportunities,

iii. Promote partnerships with local residents and all beneficiaries of the upgrading exercise,

iv. Provide incentives to informal neighbourhoods designated for upgrading contribute in the upgrading process,

v. Provide Provide a land title to all informal settlements and devise and establish a set of incentives to formalise all previous informal land transactions without criminalising transgressors of laws, rules, and regulations.

7.2.3 Policy Objective 3: Promote integrated participatory land development planning and management

Strategies;

i. Promote collaboration among Local Authorities, Traditional Leaders, Public Sector, Agencies and Private Developers to provide serviced land for urban development, at an affordable price, to the most vulnerable group.

ii. Establish innovative financing mechanisms for the implementation of spatial land plans;

iii. Establish a District Land Development Index;

iv. Establish mechanisms for effective stakeholders engagement and advocacy, including mass mobilisation, regional sensitisation workshops, and various conferences on land governance reform;

v. Develop partnerships with the Stakeholders, Ministries and Agencies in Niger State and identify key areas of collaboration to improve land governance in the state.

7.2.4 Policy Objective 4: Improve the institutional capacity of key stakeholders and at Local Government level to adequately manage urbanisation in the face of land governance.

Strategies;

i. Strengthen the capacity of state government institutions for dealing with land governance issues;

ii. Expand the capacity of local authorities to manage land governance issues,

iii. Strengthen the legal and regulatory framework for urban land development and management;

iv. Harmonise and strengthen institutional management and collaboration in urban land use management;

v. Promote citizen participation in local land planning, governance and development;

vi. Commission and undertake scoping studies on Land Valuation Mechanisms and Land Administration Service Delivery in Niger State aimed at ensuring global best practices in land governance in Niger State.

7.2.5 Policy Objective 5: Strengthen land management and administration

Strategies;

i. Build the capacity of Local Authorities in urban land planning, urban land use management and land governance,

ii. Enhance land effective land governance through adequate coordination and collaboration between local authorities and traditional authorities,

iii. Prepare and publish Guidelines for Systematic Land Titling and Registration in Niger State;

iv. Enforce land-use planning legislation to prevent unplanned development and to manage land use,

v. Devolve land administration processes and procedures to the local government level,

vi. Simplify and make the procedures of surveying and land registrations affordable and accessible.

vii. Training and re-training of staff in various areas of discipline for effective service delivery in land governance.

viii. Develop a sustainable framework that would put in place for sensitisation of lands administration across the three (3) senatorial zones of the state.

ix. Improve the cadastral registration in both rural and urban areas (village tracts and urban wards) process through swift digitisation of all land records with a view on easing land taxcollection. Based on digitised land records, completely revamp the systems of taxation of both rural and urban land.

x. Establish a task force for pursuing state land reform and supervising institutional land governance in the state on a short-term basis.

xi. Development of effective land administration, planning, development, monitoring and control activities.

xii. Prepare a draft Land Use Regulations for Niger State as required by Section 46 (1) of the Act for its effective implementation.

7. 3.   EXPECTED POLICY OUTCOMES

Implementation of the state policy objectives for Land governance under the NSUP will be expected to bring about the following outcomes:

i. Equitable access to affordable land, security of tenure, safety, security, improved livability in towns and cities and conducive urban environment capable of transforming the economy is achieved in Niger State;

ii. Transparent, accountable and efficient land administration and governance processes and institutions are functioning in the state;

iii. Housing delivery processes and institutions are empowered to facilitate the acquisition of land for housing and other development projects; and,

iv. Cities, towns and neighbourhoods are mapped, adequately planned and supporting Government and residents to achieve their residential and economic aspirations.

CHAPTER EIGHT: PRIORITY 6 – ENHANCED URBAN SAFETY AND SECURITY

8. BACKGROUND

Sustainable development is predicated on optimized safety and security for both citizens and businesses. Safety and security challenges are experienced in Niger state at both rural and urban scales, with implications across multiple sectors of development. They impact the everyday life of citizens and are potentially disruptive to businesses and society. They are caused by diverse factors from increased population growth, migration, conflict in the use of land, weak security infrastructure, regional terrorism and climate change concerns.

UN Habitat (2007) identified three major threats to the safety and security of cities. These are crime and violence; insecurity of tenure and forced eviction; and natural and human-made disasters. It came up with the Safer Cities Programme to assist city authorities to handle the issues. UN Habitat developed a safer city concept as a tool to manage the problems of security and safety.

The concept of **Safer City**[25] is a multi-sectorial and multi-disciplinary approach concerned with integrating urban development and security. It is rooted in a: "Prevention policy frame advocating for safety as a 'public good' and with public space as the arena for the co-production of safety for all and the site for the construction of citizen's values and the manifestation of citizens' rights for all and particularly for the most vulnerable.

At the heart of the safer cities approach is 'attitudinal change' and the "co-production of security for all" which requires the leadership and vision of the mayor and the concerted effort of a wide range of local government departments working together with national government and non-state actors to identify the causes of crime and insecurity, develop a coordinated response at the community level and supported by a national-level policy framework.

8.3.1   KEY SAFETY AND SECURITY ISSUES IN NIGER STATE

The gaps in the safety and security systems in Niger State can be summarized as follows:

GAP	CAUSES	IMPLICATIONS
Safety		
Emergency management and disaster preparedness	Poor funding Lack of capacity development framework	Low response rate to emergencies Uncoordinated disaster responses Loss of lives and property
Access to public space	Policy non-prioritization	Youth restiveness and discontent

25 UN-Habitat Safer Cities Programme, SAFER CITIES 2.0: Making Cities and Human Settlements Safe and Inclusive (2015).

Gender and youth exclusion	Gender inequality Poverty Youth unemployment and insufficient opportunities for education, skill acquisition and economic opportunities	Youth unemployment
Transportation infrastructure and governance	Poor urban infrastructure Lack of public transportation policy and framework	Increased frequency of accidents and related fatalities Loss of man hours and productivity
Social welfare: drug rehabilitation, juvenile rehabilitation	Lack of coordinated social development framework	Increase in crime and urban violence
Security Security infrastructure and personnel Armed banditry and cattle rustling Crime: illegal mining, kidnapping .and manslaughter	Inadequate number of trained police and allied security personnel Poorly equipped and trained security services, including emergency management and hospitals Poorly secured border areas	Poor community policing Untracked migration Low security surveillance and monitoring Increase in armed banditry, cattle rustling, kidnapping and killings Increase in uncoordinated vigilante and jungle justice Fear and loss of well being Loss of lives and property
Environmental conflict: farmer-herdsmen clashes	Poorly managed environmental resources Weak regional development frameworks Poor multi-level governance interface	Increased local skirmishes and killing Loss of manhours and productivity

The policy will promote collaborative efforts to enhance practical policies, planning and integrated development strategies which are critical to the achievement of a safer Niger State and the overarching objectives of the Niger State urban policy.

Achieving safety and security in Niger State will be incumbent on three key pillars

i. **Infrastructure**: Enhancing infrastructure and leveraging technology in the area of public space design and maintenance, policing and emergency services, transportation and data management.

ii. **Processes**: Strengthening legal, technical and administrative frameworks especially across government agencies to avoid bureaucratic overlaps and improve efficiency and achieve coordinated approach towards safety and security.

iii. **Partnerships**: Establishing partnerships between and among key stakeholders to strengthen cooperation, funding and collaborative approaches to address critical challenges and implement programmes.

8. 1.   SECTORAL GOAL

The Goal of the NSUP with regards to urban safety and security in Niger State is to **enhance security and safety in Niger State for conducive social and business environment.**

8. 2.   OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES

In order to achieve the goal, the following policy objectives will be pursued:

a. Policy Objective 1: Enhance community security frameworks

b. Policy Objective 2: Establish safety and disaster/emergency management protocols

c. Policy Objective 3: Upgrade urban infrastructure including transportation and public spaces

d. Policy Objective 4: Upgrade localized and regional security frameworks

e. Policy Objective 5: Establish an environmental resource protection approach

8.2.1   Policy Objective 1: Enhance community security frameworks

Strategies:

i. Establish Neighborhood corps to provide local level social welfare and safety coordination;

ii. Establish community security committees to liaise with local governments, police and neighbourhood corps on operationalizing municipal level security.

8.2.2   Policy Objective 2: Establish safety and disaster/emergency management protocols

Strategies:

i. Establish Residents Registration Agency to develop and maintain citizens database with biometric capture;

ii. Establish Security Trust Fund to be funded by the government and organized private sector corporations;

iii. Establish safety and security commission to oversee fire service, emergency management agencies;

iv. Promulgate protocols for mainstreaming Health Safety and Environment (HSE) practices in all public places including offices and schools;

v. Prepare a safety and security risk profile of the state;

vi. Promote research and technology in safety, security and disaster management

8.2.3 Policy Objective 3: Upgrade urban infrastructure including transportation and public spaces

Strategies:

i. Upscale public transport infrastructure and services to enhance safety by providing solar street lighting, CCTV at identified crime hotspots, construction of bus-stops, and inclusive services for all including children and people living with disabilities;

ii. Promote slum redevelopment, urban planning, community development and provision of community livelihood opportunities;

iii. Design neighbourhoods and public spaces to enhance community surveillance and accessibility for women and children.

8.2.4 Policy Objective 4: Upgrade localized and regional security frameworks

Strategies:

i. Determine and establish a framework Establish regional integration and joint planning with neighbouring Kaduna, Zamfara and Kebbi States in areas of security, forest/environmental conservation and economic development opportunities;

ii. for multi-level policing in collaboration with the Federal Government – military and police and local governments, as well as communities and relevant civil society actors for addressing environmental conflict and incessant banditry;

iii. Develop regulations for domesticating laws relating to social inclusion, gender equality and integrated development.

8.2.5 Policy Objective 5 - Establish environmental resource protection approach

Strategies:

i. Establish Environmental Corps to train youth in green jobs such as forest conservation, agriculture and herbal medicine and biodiversity;

ii. Empower the Ministry of Environment to regulate the operations of miners, large agricultural holdings and also secure and enhance the economic development of the state's environmental resources while responding to climate change vulnerabilities;

iii. Provide capacity development for community and larger-scale security personnel to respond to environmental conflict and resource development.

iv. Prioritise the adoption of a coordinated organizational framework for Urban Resilience that will incorporate all relevant stakeholder groups at community, local government and state level with capacity to act on reducing exposure, impact and vulnerability to disasters;

8. 3.   EXPECTED POLICY OPPRTUNITIES AND OUTCOMES

The expected outcomes from the implementation of the Objectives and strategies relating to Enhance Urban Safety and Security are:

i. Physical, social and technological infrastructure is enhanced, and safety/security operatives are better equipped to prevent crime and violent conflicts, maintain peace and enable better management of the State's resources for better development;

ii. Legal, technical and administrative frameworks are reformed and strengthened to ensure better coordination and harmonious working relationships within and between government agencies and community institutions, thereby avoiding bureaucratic overlaps and improving efficiency;

iii. All critical stakeholders are committed to engaging in effective partnerships through having a common understanding of and commitment to their individual rolesand are better funded to address key safety and security challenges in the state and its surrounding region and to implement common programmes.

CHAPTER NINE: PRIORITY 7 - SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT AND MOBILITY

9. BACKGROUND

This strategic framework for sustainable transport and mobility priority area has provided an effective and sustainable basis for building the fiscal capacity to create compact, connected, socially inclusive and self-sustaining towns and cities in the state and also key into implementation of the global and regional development framework. In this way, the NSUP will engender smart and sustainable transportation and enhance mobility of persons, goods, and services.

9. 1. SECTORAL GOAL

The goal of NSUP with respect to promoting integrated and sustainable transport and mobility in the State to **Develop a smart, functional and sustainable intermodal transportation system to encourage more transformative, productive, inclusive and resilient mobility of persons, goods, and services for the long term in Niger state, Nigeria.**

9. 2. OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES

To achieve the goal of sustainable transportation and mobility in Niger State, the objectives of the NSUP will be as follows:

a. Policy Objective 1:Improve the connectivity of all existing transport modes with major nodes;

b. Policy Objective 2:Reduce public transport costs and travel time for all transport users (including the vulnerable);

c. Policy Objective 3:Ensure the safety and security of all transport services;

d. Policy Objective 4:Promote efficient energy and clean transport system;

e. Policy Objective 5: Promote the use of smart transportation systems;

f. Policy Objective 6:Establish a framework to implement good transport governance

9.2.1 Policy Objective 1: Improve the connectivity of all existing transport modes with major nodes:

Strategies:

i. Physically link rural areas to urban nodes;

ii. Maintain transport infrastructure and keep them in serviceable condition at all times

iii. Develop water transportation infrastructure and services

iv. Activate local and international airport services

v. Conduct periodic traffic surveys as a basis for implementing evidence-based improvements to the transportation networks

vi. Develop an intermodal Transportation Master Plan

9.2.2 Policy Objective 2: Reduce public transport costs and travel time for all transport users (including the vulnerable):

Strategies:

i.   Increase the vehicle fleet of the state transport authority and eliminate abnormal public transport practices (e.g. extortion)

ii. Rehabilitate travel routes, all major and feeder roads in the state;

iii. Encourage private sector investors invest in public transport services.

iv. Develop all existing modes of transport, including none motorized transportation.

v.   Encourage completion and eliminate monopolies.

9.2.3 Policy Objective 3: Ensure the safety and security of all transport services

Strategies:

i.   Improve air transport facilities;

ii. Establish a state safety culture for transport services;

iii. Implement efficient road safety system

iv. Encourage the performance of relevant zonal FRSC services

v.   Develop and implement modal safety measures.

9.2.4 Policy Objective 4: Promote efficient energy and clean transport system

Strategies:

i.   Reduce pollution of road vehicles;

ii.   Develop modern and energy-efficient rail transport services;

iii. Develop river transport;

iv.   Facilitate the development of rail transport services;

v.   Improve trucks & passengers cars inspection mechanism;

vi.   Modernize truck and bus fleets;

vii. When feasible, develop electric rail services.

9.2.5 Policy Objective 5: Promote the use of smart transportation systems

Strategies:

i.   Introduce scheduled public transport services;

ii. Provide real-time access to information;

iii. Adopt technological capabilities to establish communication between devices and vehicles;

    iv.   Develop transportation devices;

    v.   Introduce e-ticketing processes;

    vi.   Commence installation and use of traffic actuated signals.

9.2.6 Policy Objective 6: Establish a framework to implement good transport governance

Strategies:

    i.   Prepare, approve & implement appropriate regulations;

    ii.   Establish fair competition among modes;

    iii.   Implement efficient systems for the maintenance of transport infrastructure

    iv.   Liberalize transportation services;

    v.   Implement a fair taxation system;

    vi.   Ensure users pay full costs for transport services;

    vii.   Eliminate truck overloading by regulation and development of efficient weighbridges;

    viii. Develop the roles of the private sector in the management and operation transport services.

9. 3.   EXPECTED POLICY OUTCOMES

    a.   Residents enjoy improved travel experiences through enhanced connectivity of all existing transport modes with major nodes;

    b.   All transport users (including the vulnerable) enjoy economic benefits from reduced public transport costs and travel time;

    c.   Safety and security of all users of transport services is ensured;

    d.   Emissions from the transportation sector are lowered through the use of efficient energy and clean transport system;

    e.   Users of transportation services benefit from the use of smart transportation systems;

    f.   A framework to implement good transport governance is established.

CHAPTER TEN: PRIORITY 8 - RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES

10. BACKGROUND

For human settlements to function efficiently and effectively, they need to be provided with adequate infrastructure and services such as piped water supply, sanitation, roads and drainage, transport, solid and liquid waste management, telecommunications, electric power and recreation facilities. Provision of infrastructure and essential services on a sustainable basis has been recognised as one of the most important means of improving the living conditions of the people. Critical issues in the provision of adequate and sustainable infrastructure and services include, among others, governance, financing and institutional capacity.

Another critical policy issue is the condition of the infrastructure and services provided. Due to poor systems operations and maintenance, the services often fail or fall into a state of disrepair and disuse. The useful life of infrastructure and assets are, therefore, often substantially reduced due to poor maintenance. Many examples abound all over the State, of dysfunctional boreholes, failed roads and public housing with blown-out roofs.

There is a strong call for making all infrastructure and services resilient to the vagaries of the weather and natural disasters. Destruction or disruption of the infrastructure systems often reverses developmental gains, causing untold hardship to society. In this respect, critical infrastructure needs to be resilient to both disasters and climate risk. UNISDR (2009) defines resilience as "the ability of a system, community or society exposed to hazards to resist, absorb, accommodate to and recover from the effects of a hazard in a timely and efficient manner, including through the preservation and restoration of its essential basic structures and functions".

It is essential to ensure that sensitive infrastructure and services such as schools, hospitals, fire stations, community halls are appropriately located on safe grounds. Also, they are designed to withstand flooding, windstorms and other natural hazards. These facilities are often used as temporary shelters if any displacement occurs in society.

The Diagnostic Study has shown deficient levels of service provision in the State and the country at large. The World Bank estimated that only about 50% of the urban and 20% of the semi-urban population have access to a reliable water supply of adequate quality. Overall sufficient urban water supply coverage across the country may be as low as 30% of the total population due to poor maintenance and unreliability of supplies. The Diagnostic Study also established that about 66% of the urban population in Niger State resides in informal and poorly planned neighbourhoods. These settlements do not have essential municipal services such as pipe-borne water supply and sanitation, roads and drainage, solid and liquid waste management. Other indicators show that the State has many gaps to be filled in terms of essential services.

The Sustainable Development Goals set a target to provide resilient infrastructure. Goal 9 is to build a resilient infrastructure to promote sustainable industrialisation and foster innovation. This goal has links with Goal 11 aimed at making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable. It is also in line with the commitments of the new urban agenda of promoting equitable and affordable access to sustainable basic physical and social infrastructure for all, without discrimination, including affordable serviced land, housing, modern and renewable energy, safe drinking water and sanitation, safe, nutritious and adequate food, waste disposal, sustainable

mobility, health care and family planning, education, culture, and information and communications technologies. The new urban agenda also committed to ensuring that the services are responsive to the rights and needs of women, children and youth, older persons and persons with disabilities, migrants, indigenous peoples and local communities, as appropriate, and to those of others in vulnerable situations.

10. 1. SECTORAL GOAL

To facilitate the development of better and more robust urban infrastructure,resilient to the likely impacts from disasters and climate change, to support economic growth and improve the well-being of the population of the State.

10. 2. OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES

The objectives and strategies are as follows:

   i.   Policy Objective 1: Promote the provision of green and resilient infrastructure in the State through enhanced Institutional capacity;

   ii. Policy Objective 2: Ensure complete coverage and access to services and facilities by all to improve social welfare and promote economic growth;

   iii. Policy Objective 3: Ensure integrated land use planning and all new developments take into account infrastructure requirements and associated hazards and risks;

   iv. Policy Objective 4: Promote better design and construction of infrastructure systems making them more resilient to risks and hazards;

   v.   Policy Objective 5: Establish a system for operations, timely maintenance and protection of infrastructure and services;

   vi. Policy Objective 6: Establish better and more robust funding sources for infrastructure development.

10.2.1 Policy Objective 1: Promote the provision of green and resilient infrastructure in the State through enhanced Institutional capacity:

Strategies:

   i.   Build the capacity of institutions/agencies responsible for the provision of infrastructure at state and local governments in project identification, preparation, financing, operations and maintenance;

   ii. Develop sector-specific policies, plans and programmes within the state urban policy for meeting the infrastructure gap in the State;

   iii. Institutionalise the method of undertaking inventory of infrastructure assets, identify gaps and ways of meeting the requirements through a progressive approach;

iv. Coordinate and ensure alignment of service provision and inclusion in both human settlements plans and economic development plans;

v. Prepare **Capital Investment Plans and Programmes** as a basis for fund allocations for capital projects in the annual budgets of the State and local governments;

vi. Identify and integrate green infrastructure and renewable energy into public programmes.

10.2.2 Policy Objective 2: Ensure all urban areas in the state haveadequate coverage of infrastructure and access to services and facilities by residents to improve social welfare and promote economic growth:

Strategies:

i. Survey existing service coverage to identify and map existing unserved areas;

ii. Develop a strategic plan to ensure universal coverage in the short, medium and long terms;

iii. Initiate urban upgrading programmes to transform informal settlements and those with poor environmental conditions;

iv. Encourage and engage community groups to partner the governments in community upgrading, ownership, maintenance and protection of facilities and services;

v. Facilitate the development and optimum use of green infrastructure.

10.2.3 Policy Objective 3: Ensure integrated land use planning and all new developments take into account infrastructure requirements and associated hazards and risks:

Strategies:

i. Ensure that all prepared urban plans provide a cost estimate of the infrastructure to be constructed in a new scheme;

ii. Prepare and implement strategic subject plans for infrastructure and service provision;

iii. The provision of the infrastructure should be made progressively and in a time-based sequence to enable monetary allocations to sourced from annual budgets;

iv. Conduct social and environmental impact and risk assessment for new schemes.

10.2.4 Policy Objective 4: Promote better standards of design and construction of infrastructure systems making them more resilient to risks and hazards;

Strategies:

i. Prepare and produce hazard maps for the State to identify the underlying risk factors in the cities, towns and new settlements and vulnerability of infrastructure systems;

ii. Ensure that hazards and risk factors are taken into consideration in the design and new infrastructure projects;

iii. Adhere to the use of appropriate standards for construction as provided for in the Building Code and other building bylaws and regulations;

iv. Promote the use of materials consistent with environmental factors and weather conditions for sustainability and prudent use of resources.

10.2.5 Policy Objective 5: Establish a system for operations, timely maintenance and protection of infrastructure and services.

Strategies:

i. Take an inventory of all existing infrastructure assets and draw a programme of retrofitting, enforcement and rehabilitation.

ii. Establish within the state and local governments an infrastructure assets management programme to ensure sustainable operations and maintenance of all infrastructure assets in the State;

iii. Make adequate budgetary provisions for maintenance of assets in all new infrastructure projects;

iv. Adopt appropriate infrastructural insurance scheme to mitigate risks;

v. Engender community ownership to ensure the protection of infrastructure against destruction, sabotage, misuse or deterioration.

10.2.6 Policy Objective 6: Establish better and more robust funding sources for infrastructure development:

Strategies:

i. Establish a municipal infrastructure funding programme in collaboration with appropriate funding agencies to ensure urban centres in the State provide infrastructure to their residents on a self-sustaining basis;

ii. Introduce a plan for cost recovery and user charges to raise more funds for infrastructure provision, maintenance and loan servicing;

iii. Explore the use of the Nigerian Capital Market as a veritable tool for municipal finance for urban infrastructure;

iv. Establish an enabling environment for the participation of the private sector in the provision of infrastructure through partnership, concessions and other cost recovery mechanisms;

v. Explore the use of land value capture and other land based resource mobilisation to finance urban infrastructure.

vi. Leverage on grants and technical assistance from international urban and infrastructure development agencies such as the Cities Alliance and UN Habitat.

10. 3. EXPECTED POLICY OUTCOMES

i. Institutional capacity is developed for the green and resilient infrastructure in the State through;

ii. All residents of towns and cities enjoy improved social welfare and economic growth through complete coverage and access to services and facilities;

iii. All towns and cities in Niger State have integrated land use plans, and it is made mandatory for all new developments to take into account infrastructure requirements and associated hazards and risks;

iv. All towns and cities are serviced with infrastructure systems that are more resilient to risks and hazards through improved design and construction;

v. An effective system for operations, timely maintenance and protection of infrastructure and services is established;

vi. Towns and cities are able to access sources for more robust funding for infrastructure development.

CHAPTER 11: PRIORITY 9 - URBAN RESILIENCE, CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION AND ADAPTATION

11. BACKGROUND

The frequency, scale and impact of disasters – both natural and human induced – has been rising steadily and inflicting a growing toll on families, communities, nations and entire regions around the world. In the decade between 2005 and 2015, no fewer than 700 thousand people lives were lost, over 1.4 million were injured, and approximately 23 million were rendered homeless, out of the 1.5 billion people "affected by disasters in various ways, with women, children and people in vulnerable situations disproportionately affected."[26] In Africa, an average of 125 disaster events occurred each year between 2001 and 2010 with up to USD$1.3 billion in economic losses recorded since 2011.[27]

The occurrence of disasters, notably extreme weather incidents have also been on the increase in Nigeria, which has been experiencing the impacts of climate change arising from rising temperatures; variable rainfall; sea level rise, flooding and erosion; drought and increasing desertification; land degradation; extreme weather events (thunderstorms, lightning, landslides, floods, droughts, bush fires); and, dwindling freshwater resources and loss of biodiversity.[28]

While the North East and the North West geopolitical zones are considered most vulnerable to the changing climate and the impact of rising incidences of drought and aridity, studies suggest that the North Central zone, including Niger State, could also be experiencing a "climatic shift towards aridity, which alongside variable, declining rainfall, adversely affects water resources, agricultural output and economic performance."[29]

Rapid urbanisation has over the years also contributed to the increasing proportion of people living and working in unsafe, fragile locations, where greater exposure to hazards have accentuated the prevalence of social inequality, informality, poverty and insecurity.[30] In Niger State, high population growth accompanied by rapid urbanization rates have fuelled increased energy demand, urban sprawl and economic expansion. Urban sprawl resulting from informal and unplanned developments, notably in Minna, Bida, Kontagora and Suleja as well as land degradation and indiscriminate depletion of forest resources in their peri-urban areas have resulted in wildlife depletion, soil erosion, pollution and desertification.

Changing rainfall patterns and flooding in most parts of the state particularly areas on the banks of river Niger and in Suleja and Tafa Local Government Areas have also led to the loss of lives as a result of flood disasters. Sectors impacted by disasters and climate change include housing, agriculture (food security); roads and bridges, public health, energy consumption and production, and regional security (conflicts among herdsmen and farmers over grazing land and water resources, fuelling inter-ethnic clashes).

26 UNISDR (2015), Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030
27 UNISDR (2013), DISASTER RISK REDUCTION IN AFRICA: Status Report on Implementation of Africa Regional Strategy and Hyogo Framework for Action
28 Haider H., 2019; Climate Change in Nigeria: Impacts and Responses, Helpdesk Report, K4D, DFID.
29 Federal Ministry of Environment, 2014
30 UNDESA (2018)

11.3.1   MAJOR URBAN RESILIENCE AND CLIMATE CHANGE ISSUES IN NIGER STATE

The major issues associated with the urban resilience and Climate Change challenges in Niger State are as follows:

i. No specific agency or institution in charge of Resilience and weak institutional capacity to prepare for and respond to economic shocks and stresses, disaster risks and climate hazards;

ii. The growing impact of rising population pressure on the environment, resulting in land degradation and conflicts from growing demands on resources, including water, electricity, oil, timber, hydrocarbons, and food, thereby causing desertification and fueling conflicts between competing users;

iii. Absence of adequate policies to regulate activities contributing to climate variability in such sectors as land use management, energy production and consumption, transportation and mobility as well as waste management;

iv. Absence of framework to harvest, coordinate and deploy the inputs of all key stakeholders in providing mitigation and adaptation measures in response to changing climatic conditions;

v. Given that agriculture is the mainstay of the local economy, inappropriate agricultural practices like unregulated grazing, bush burning, inappropriate use of agro-chemicals, and others have remained prevalent and adversely affected the environment.

In line with international best practices as outlined in the Hyogo Framework for Action,[31] the Niger State Urban Policy will seek to make disaster risk reduction (DRR) a priority mainstreamed into all sectors of government and community activities; work to ensure that all possible risks and hazards are identified documented through comprehensive profiling of towns and cities; promote awareness and understanding of basic risks and develop coordinated community level action; develop capacity at all levels to reduce risk; and, develop preparedness and readiness to act and recover.

11. 1.   SECTORAL GOAL

The GOAL of the Niger State Urban Policy with respect to resilience and climate change is for **towns and cities in the state to systematically anticipate, prepare for and reduce disaster risk, shocks and stresses, thereby enhancing their ability to recover rapidly in the event of hazards and to protect livelihoods, cultural heritage, socioeconomic assets and ecosystems as they deliver appropriate climate change mitigation and adaptation measures**.

In order to achieve this Goal, the Niger state will pursue the following policy objectives:

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31 The key instrument for implementing disaster risk reduction adopted by member States of the United Nations in 2011 with the overarching goal of building resilience of nations and communities to disasters, by achieving substantive reduction of disaster losses in lives, and in the social, economic, and environmental assets of communities and countries.

11. 2. OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES

The following will be the objectives of the NSUP concerning urban resilience, climate change mitigation and adaptation:

a. Policy Objective 1: URBAN RESILIENCE: Strengthen the capacity of institutions and communities in Niger State to reduce, prepare for, respond to and recover within a reasonable time frame from disasters and climate change;

b. Policy Objective 2: CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION: Strengthen capacities of communities to limit the impact of climate change through the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions;

c. Policy Objective 3: CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION: Develop capacity of communities to prepare for andmanage uncertainties associated with the changing climate and their socio-economic impacts on vulnerable populations;and, mainstream climate adaptation measures into existing and future city plans, policies and programmes:

11.2.1 Policy Objective 1 - URBAN RESILIENCE: Strengthen the capacity of institutions and communities in Niger State to reduce, prepare for, respond to and recover within a reasonable time frame from disasters and climate change:

Strategies:

i. Establish a coordinated organizational framework for Urban Resilience that incorporates all relevant stakeholder groups at community, local government and state level with capacity to act on reducing exposure, impact and vulnerability to disasters;

ii. Conduct Resilience Profiling studies for urban centres in the state to establish an accurate evidence base to determine risks and exposure to hazards, as well as vulnerabilities as a guide for planning and implementing interventions;

iii. Scale up financial capabilities of intervention agencies and stakeholders to address the economic impact of disasters and establish financial mechanisms that can support resilience activities;

iv. Promote the adoption of risk-aware and risk-sensitive planning in the design, approval and construction of infrastructure, building and physical planning projects to ensure utilization of ecological assets and mitigating of identified hazards and vulnerabilities;

v. Identify, protect and monitor critical ecosystems, services, ecological assets and infrastructure that confer disaster resilience benefits to the communities;

vi. Strengthen the capacity of all relevant institutional and non-state actors - state and local government MDAs, private sector organizations providing public services, industrial facility owners and operators; building owners (individual or corporate); NGOs; professionals, employers' and labour organizations, cultural associations and civil society organizations - for resilience;

vii. Develop a harmonized participatory community-level framework that ensures public understanding of disaster risk reduction and resilience as well as response to post-incident recovery, reconstruction and assistance to residents for rebuilding their lives, housing and livelihoods.

11.2.2 Policy Objective 2 - CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION: Strengthen the capacities of communities to limit the impact of climate change through the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions:

Strategies:

i. Encourage the adoption of sustainable, compact designs in the preparation of estate, district and metropolitan plans;

ii. Promote and facilitate the adoption of "green technologies" for construction, disposal and treatment of liquid and solid wastes as well as upgrading of "in-use" facilities and retrofitting of existing public buildings;

iii. Promote the deployment of sustainable energy production and distribution systems as well as low carbon and renewable sources (e.g. urban solar and wind power) in the provision of utilities and urban services; and,

iv. Diversification and extension of protected areas for the conservation of ecosystems that are most vulnerable to climate change for the provision of mitigation benefits like urban carbon sinks provided by forests.

11.2.3 Policy Objective 3 - CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION: Develop capacities of communities to prepare for and manage uncertainties associated with the changing climate and their socio-economic impacts on vulnerable populations; and, mainstream climate adaptation measures into existing and future city plans, policies and programmes:

Strategies:

i. Facilitate integration of applied research into planning for risks associated with the impacts of climate change and development of local level climate change vulnerability and multi-hazard assessments to facilitate the mapping of climate hazards that may evolve over time;

ii. Domesticate all relevant National policies on Environment, sustainable development, ecology and forestry and adopt State regulations and standards;

iii. Ensure full compliance with both local, state and national regulations, standards and guidelines on all form of wastes and chemicals and compliance with all pollution control standards

iv. Develop and facilitate the deployment of early warning/early response systems to enhance climate response capabilities;

v. Prioritize actions that reduce health risks and build the resilience of vulnerable and marginalized communities;

vi. Promote the preparation of strategic regional and local land use and settlement plans and implement policies to deliberately increase the proportion of urban green belt and open areas; and,

vii. Establish effective and functional collaboration mechanisms with international organizations, adaptation funds, development partners and NGOs to support adaptation efforts in the State.

11. 3.   EXPECTED POLICY OUTCOMES

The expected outcomes from the implementation of the NSUP with regards to Urban Resilience, Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation are:

i. Communities in Niger State are better prepared for, are reducing the impact of and are recovering faster from disasters, hazards and the effects of climatic change through strengthened institutions and empowered community networks;

ii. All communities in Niger State – urban and rural - are adopting and practising low-carbon measures and activities that limit the impact of climate change through the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions

iii. All communities in Niger State are coping with the changing climate through strengthened institutions and community networks that are addressing socio-economic impacts on vulnerable populations and are routinely mainstreaming adaptation in all plans, policies and programmes.

CHAPTER TWELVE: PRIORITY 10 - SMART CITY STRATEGIES

12. BACKGROUND

"A Smart Sustainable City" is an innovative city that deploys Information and Communication Technology (ICT) capabilities and other means to improve quality of life, the efficiency of urban operations and services, and competitiveness, while ensuring that it meets the needs of present and future generations with respect to economic, social and environmental aspects[32]. Smart city strategies are aimed at improving the quality of life of the populace in urban areas using innovation and high technologies to solve the severe problems caused by rapid urbanisation. The application of smart city strategies can address issues of environmental pollution, land usage and consumption, urban sprawl, transport congestion, energy needs, access to public services and building better transportation systems.

The smart city concept heralds a new era in which information and communications technology (ICT) infrastructure will be an enabler. The digital infrastructure comprises wireless devices, data centres and powerful analytics to enable the government to provide more efficient services, maintain low carbon footprint and create a conducive environment for its citizens, improving the quality of life and living conditions of urban areas through the state of the art infrastructure and facilities[33].

Integration of ICTs into existing urban services in Smart Cities can assist in[34] improving the energy efficiency, operation and transparency of the urban infrastructure, the resilience of road networks, efficiency of water distribution systems, wastewater management, security and other services. Also, smart city solutions can positively contribute to better administration through e-governance, e-procurement, better internal revenue mobilisation through e-payments and better public participation through e-surveys, crowdsourcing etc.

Niger State has commenced arrangements to establish a new smart city in Suleja. Through this policy, the state government looks forward to using IT and automation for the delivery of better urban infrastructure and services such as smart grid solutions for energy management, intelligent transportation and smart mobility systems, smart and green buildings, smart waste management and smart water management systems. However, it acknowledges that to have the new smart city system in place, older urban centres will need to undergo a measure of retrofitting to various degrees.

12. 1. SECTORAL GOAL

The Niger State Urban Policy seeks to deploy the Smart City concept to take advantage of rapid urbanisation and use of emerging technological solutions to make the towns and cities in the state more environmentally friendly and locations of choice for economic development and prosperity of its citizenry.

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32 ITU 2016: ITU News No. 2 of 2016

33 Jain, Ashok Kumar (2015) Smart Cities: Vison and Action. Discovery Publishing House New Delhi.

34   Ibid

12. 2. OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES

The objectives of this policy with respect to the development of Smart Cities in Niger state are:

a. Policy Objective 1: Develop the capacities of urban centres of Niger state to deploy smart city processes and innovative technologies.

b. Policy Objective 2: Mainstream technology-based solutions to improve efficiency in delivery of municipal services, accountability and good governance

c. Policy Objective 3: Facilitate deployment of ICT for improved security of life and property for urban dwellers, investments and the economy

d. Policy Objective 4: Adopt a framework to progressively make the deployment of ICT skills and capacities by public officers in government policy making and programme implementation mandatory.

12.2.1 Policy Objective 1: Develop the capacities of urban centres of Niger state todeploy smart city processes and innovative technologies

Strategies:

i. Develop digital infrastructure in all urban centres to facilitate access, sharing and use of information and communications technology in the management of interactions among people and systems;

ii. Adopt short, medium and long term plans for integrating smart city technologies in towns and cities based on needs, infrastructure availability and resource endowments;

iii. Establish a database to facilitate analysis and use of data generated as basis for towns and cities to plan, re-design and prepare the settlements for future growth and build resilience in event of emergency/disaster situations;

12.2.2 Policy Objective 2: Mainstream technology-based solutions to improve efficiency in delivery of municipal services, accountability and good governance:

Strategies:

i. Establish the framework for a digital economy in Niger State to facilitate adoption of smart city initiatives;

ii. Integrate public transport systems physically and digitally to ensure seamless accessibility;

iii. Develop platforms for piloting new technologies in the development of SWM infrastructure with a view to institutionalizing a culture of reducing, reusing and recycling solid waste generated as well as promoting development of alternative energy sources in towns and nearby communities;

iv. Deploy the use of data analytics to enhance decision making and prediction of potential problem areas and promote use of Mobile, SMS and online based customer complaint andtracking platforms;

v.   Identify and adopt ICT tools to facilitate good governance and accountability in the provision of municipal services.

12.2.3 Policy Objective 3: Facilitate deployment of ICT for improved security of life and property for urban dwellers, investments and the economy

Strategies

i.   Adopt the use of modern ICT technology and infrastructure to improve urban security and safety;

ii. Facilitate the installation of smart security tools including CCTV cameras, and smart phone applications to improve security surveillance and reporting in all urban centres;

iii. Establish a framework for supporting and equipping the security services with ICT facilities to improve operational efficiency and effectiveness.

12.2.4 Policy Objective 4: Adopt a framework to progressively make the deployment of ICT skills and capacities by public officers in government policy making and programme implementation mandatory

Strategies:

i.   Develop the capacity of all relevant staff to use ICT and digital technology and facilitate the participation of cities managers in Niger State in national and international networking programmes.

ii. Initiate legislation to establish a statewide integration of ICT at the state and Local Government levels;

iii. Adopt guidelines and standards for deployment of ICT at the state and Local Government levels and in educational institutions in Niger State;

iv. Establish a financing mechanism to provide funding to the cities for preparation of smart city profiles and implementable plans.

12. 3.   EXPECTED POLICY OUTCOMES

i.   Technology-based solutions are mainstreamed into all processes and institutions that have to do with urban development and delivery of urban services in Niger State;

ii. Improved governance and accountability is achieved in the planning, implementation and management of infrastructure projects;

iii. Through the deployment of ICT and smart city security concepts, towns and cities are better placed to provide residents with the security of life and property, thereby attracting investments and improving their economies;

iv. Government offices and city managers, supported with required legislation, are equipped with and utilizing ICT tools and evidence-based data to plan and implement programmes improve efficiency and deliver functional infrastructure and social services.

CHAPTER THIRTEEN: PRIORITY 11 – INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

13. BACKGROUND

The New Urban Agenda adopted by member nations of the United Nations in Quito, Ecuador in October 2016, recognises that to achieve sustainable cities and human settlements for all, national, sub-national, and local governments will be required to ensure an enabling policy implementation framework, integrated by participatory planning and management of urban and territorial spatial development, and effective means of implementation at the national, sub-national, and local levels, complemented and supported by international cooperation as well as capacity development efforts, including the sharing of best practices, policies, and programs among governments at all levels.

The primary legal instruments which currently guide urban management in Nigeria are the 1976 Local Government Reform Law; the Land Use Act 1978; the Nigerian Urban and Regional Planning Decree No. 88 of 1992; and the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. The Niger State Urban Policy (NSUP) is aligned with the National Urban Development Policy (2012), which provides policy guidance for urban management in the country.

The NSUP, therefore, proposes the adoption of effective implementation and institutional framework that will facilitate the harnessing of all required resources to ensure that its stated objectives are achieved.

As such, the framework for effective implementation of the NSUP will need the following among others:

a. The Niger State Urban Policy Implementation Plan will be prepared and adopted to guide the implementation of the NSUP over ten years in the first instance;

b. Appropriate legal backing to ensure sustainability and continuity;

c. Adoption of integrated and participatory approaches to implementation of the key priority areas identified under the NSUP;

d. Empowerment of the various agencies and individuals that have roles to play in the implementation process through general and specific capacity building in the different priority areas;

e. Adoption of a fiscal framework for resource mobilisation and implementation of the NSUP with resources drawn from Government's Annual Budgets; donor grants and technical support; Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) and Community based fund raising procedures, e.g. cooperative and micro-finance funds;

f. Establishment of a management base and regulatory structure for implementation and monitoring of the NSUP.

The NSUP acknowledges that urban development is a multi-faceted process involving the activities of a multitude of actors (Institutions, Agencies and civil society organisations, etc.) and the three tiers of government. It also recognises the central roles of the following major actors:

i.   The Niger State Government and the 19 Local Government Councils in the State;

ii. Multilateral development partners, donor agencies, Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), Community Based Organisations (CBOs) and Civil Society Organizations;

iii. National and state-level development institutions such as Federal Mortgage Bank of Nigeria (FMBN), The Infrastructure Bank etc.;

iv. Insurance Companies;

v.   Professional Bodies (Town Planners, Builders, Architects, Surveyors, Estate Surveyors and Valuers, Quantity Surveyors, Engineers, Environmentalists, Transport Planners, Medical Practitioners, Legal Practitioners, etc.).

13. 1.   SECTORAL GOAL

To establish an appropriate institutional framework for the implementation, monitoring, updating and reforming of the Niger State Urban Policy that will ensure adequate coordination, inclusion and involvement of all relevant stakeholders to deliver the goals and objectives of the Policy more effectively and efficiently.

13. 2.   OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES

The objectives and strategies are as follows:

13.2.1 Policy Objective 1: Involve and commit all relevant stakeholders at public (MDAs) the private sector and civil society organisations to participate in all issues of NUP.

Strategies:

i.   Introduce reforms aimed at overcoming institutional barriers especially in the areas of collaboration, information and data sharing,

ii. Promote the institutional culture of cooperation, coordination and working together,

iii. Strengthen institutions and performance standards to ensure inclusiveness, efficiency and effectiveness

13.2.2 Policy Objective 2: Establish an adequate institutional mechanism to promote and ensure coordination of the Policy at all levels. The levels of coordination are vertical – between the three levels of government at Federal, State and Local Governments and horizontal between different agencies (MDAs) within Niger State**;**

Strategies:

i.   Designate a focal point agency to coordinate the full implementation of the Policy;

ii. Ensure a transparent allocation of responsibilities on cross-sectoral matters between levels of government and between MDAs; and

iii. Establish inter-departmental committees of senior of officials from the MDAs to coordinate actions.

13.2.3 Policy Objective 3: Prioritise issues through a coordinated approach for implementation, including resource allocation**;**

Strategies:

i. Prepare Action Plans for the for the implementation of the Policy and coordinate implementation between different agencies;

ii. Address the issue of resource constraints through the use of innovative financing mechanisms such as public-private partnerships, investment approach, among others; and

iii. Provide a mechanism for sharing of information, data and experience.

13.2.4 Policy Objective 4: Ensure adequate monitoring, implementation and refining of the Policy;

Strategies:

i. Ensure the proper monitoring, implementation and refining of the Policy;

ii. Establish joint monitoring, evaluation and reforming process;

iii. Improve the capacity of professionals in the agencies to have the mandatory orientation on issues of human settlements development in general and the State Urban Policy in particular; and

iv. Prepare periodic reports for the State Governments' consideration and action.

13.2.4 Policy Objective 5: Improve the institutional environment for better service delivery:

Strategies:

i. Identify institutional barriers that militate against effective policy implementation in terms of laws and regulations, coordination with different actors and institutions and resource availability;

ii. Undertake revisions in the relevant laws and regulations;

iii. Streamline the functions of crucial institutions to minimise fragmentation of authority and the overlapping of responsibilities; and

iv. Create metropolitan authorities in cities with more than one local government area.

13. 3.   EXPECTED POLICY OUTCOMES

i. Institutional framework for the implementation of the NUP is developed;

ii. All relevant stakeholders and institutions mobilised for a comprehensive monitoring and implementation process.

iii. A focal institution with the sole responsibility for the implementation of the Policy is established.

iv. Robust mechanisms for institutional cooperation and collaboration are put in place.

v. Action plans with clear timelines and institutional responsibilities for implementing the Policy will be put in place;

vi. Joint implementation, monitoring and reforming the Policy put in place.

vii. Periodic reports to monitor the progress of implementation prepared and published.

13. 4.   NEW KEY INSTITUTIONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION

13.4.1.1   MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

A new Ministry of Housing and Urban Development will be established to drive the implementation of the NSUP with oversight responsibilities over the following Agencies under it;

a. Niger State Urban Development Board;

b. Niger State Housing Corporation.

The Ministry will perform the following functions:

a. Establish a framework for sustainable financing, management and governance of the cities and towns in the State;

b. Appraise and prepare bankable projects to be developed in partnership with investors from within and outside the State;

c. Promote awareness through public enlightenment on urban development matters to broaden the base of acceptance of stakeholders;

d. Build capacity of State and local government agencies for urban development and management;

e. Ensure synergy with programmes and strategies of Federal, Local Governments and other actors;

f. Establish an information system for urban planning development and urban management.

g. Develop broad urban development programmes for cities and towns based on the NSUP;

h. Assist LGAs to prepare their physical development plans based on the National Policy;

i. Monitor planning activities of the Local Governments in the State;

j. Establish a Planning Appeal Tribunal, which shall be responsible for hearing appeals from aggrieved developers;

k. Undertake advocacy on the need for promoting sustainable human settlements development and management and the provision of adequate shelter for all in line with UN Sustainable Development Goal 11 and the New Urban Agenda (NUA;

l. Provide technical support to related MDAS and local governments in the provision and management of their urban infrastructure facilities and service;

m. Develop strategies for promoting the private sector and other non-state actors participation in the delivery of decent and affordable urban services, facilities and amenities through Public-Private-Partnership (PPP);

n. Promote an institutionalised culture of information sharing and participatory governance in the local governments;

o. Restructure MDAs to transform them into Profit Centers capable of operating on a self –sustaining basis.

p. Produce and circulate Annual Reports on Housing and Urban Development in Niger State

13.4.1.2   LAND ADMINISTRATION AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

A Land Administration, Development Corporation will be established. The Corporation will have two operational Departments:-

   a. Office of the surveyor General of Niger State

   b. Niger State Geographical Information Service (NIGIS)

Due to the sensitivity and transformative characteristics of land, the Corporation will be administered by a Board comprising of the following:-

   1. Secretary to the State Government – Chairman

   2. Commissioner of Housing and Urban Development – Member

   3. Commissioner of Transport – Member

   4. Commissioner of Works – Member

   5. Commissioner of Environment – member

The Corporation will perform the following functions:-

   i. Digitise the land assets of the State;

   ii. Provide a clear and digitised separation of the state land into Urban and Rural Land;

   iii. Identification of rural spaces in all cities, town and urban areas of the State;

   iv. Provide technical and administrative guidance to all NDAs and Nigerlites in the acquisition and disposal of land in the urban areas of the State;

   v. Maintain a digitised land register, as a specialised database on land registration;

   vi. Establish and maintain a database for spatial planning information;

   vii. Establish and maintain a state geodetic control system;

   viii. Provide an essential basis for accurate mapping of level provide; archiving of state map and aerial photography collections;

   ix. Maintain a state reference collection and catalogue of land information, including copies of electronic access to maps, digitised data and air photograph flight diagrams, negatives and digital copies as appropriate. This will include information currently held by the Ministry of Land and Housing; Agriculture; and LGAs;

   x. Specify and commission aerial photography, IT rectification and the production of photomap products.

xi. Provide for customer purchase, maps and digital data, surveys, topographical and photogrammetric services as well as facilitate the production of market products and services to the private and public sectors. Charges will be made on a cost-recovery basis.

xii. Prepare agreements with regards to Copyright and Intellectual Property Rights on behalf of the state government;

xiii. Promote information sharing and use of compatible data exchange formats wherever possible;

xiv. Develop a website and Newsletter to promote cooperation between the various sectors;

xv. Design systems for the timely, secure collection, transfer, storage and management of spatial data;

xvi. Generate Land Registration Information at LGA level to form part of the data base of the Corporation; and,

xvii.   Adopt an effective operational structure for the Corporation, reflecting its roles and responsibilities clustered into the following four Technical units:

      a.   State Land Registry Unit';

      b.   Spatial Service Unit;

      c.   Spatial Coordination Unit;

      d.   Training and Support Unit.

CHAPTER FOURTEEN: PRIORITY 11 - MONITORING AND EVALUATION

14. GUIDING ELEMENTS

According to the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), the integration of a Monitoring and Evaluation component in a National Urban Policy process will serve to determine both the effectiveness of the process and the success of the outcomes.35 Evaluation of both outcomes and processes are therefore important in ensuring that lessons learned can loop back into the policy cycle to promote institutional learning and facilitate systems change.

The following key elements will guide the Monitoring and Evaluation of the Niger State Urban Policy:

The Niger State Urban Policy Implementation Plan will be prepared and adopted to guide the implementation of the NSUP over a ten year period at the first instance. The implementation plan will stipulate an independent mid-term review (evaluation) after five years with another independent 10-year review conducted after ten years.

A comprehensive NSUP Monitoring and Evaluation Framework will be prepared and adopted for the NSUP for implementation under the co-leadership of the Ministries of Lands and Housing and the Ministry of Planning;

The Monitoring and Evaluation Framework will comprise both outcome evaluation, and process evaluation components to facilitate institutional learning and systems change where necessary;

The framework for monitoring and evaluation is to be articulated and adopted at the inauguration of the NSUP. Activities begin with the collection of baseline data, and continued periodically throughout the policy's lifecycle by being mainstreamed into the entire policy process;

The monitoring framework for the NSUP will be generally aligned with relevant indicators outlined under the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to facilitate reporting and comparison. Still, it will reflect appropriate integration into a state-specific indicator framework.

The expected accomplishments of the Monitoring and Evaluation Framework will, among others, be to:

Align the NSUP Monitoring and Evaluation Framework with the state's Development Planning evaluation processes;

Disseminate the Policy to ensure that stakeholders are aware of and understand their roles with a feedback mechanism;

Assist all Niger State ministries, departments and agencies (MDAs) as well as the 25 Local Governments to align their plans, especially Integrated Development Plans and Local Area Plans to state urban policies, measures and activities;

a. Facilitate the mobilisation of resources for the implementation of the NSUP.

b. Build capacities for the implementation of the Niger State Urban Policy at all levels and in all implementing agencies.

35UN-Habitat 2016, NATIONAL URBAN POLICY: A GUIDING FRAMEWORK, The United Nations Human Settlements Programme.

14. 1.   ALIGNMENT OF THEMATIC AREAS WITH SDGS

S/No	THEMATIC AREA	RELATED SDGs
	Integrated and Balanced Territorial Development;	Goal 1: No Poverty
		Goal 3: Good Health and Well-Being
		Goal 6: Water and Sanitation
		Goal 7: Energy for All
		Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth
		Goal 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
		Goal 10: Reduced Inequality
		Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities
		Goal 13: Climate Action
		Goal 15: Biodiversity, Forests, Deforestation
	Strengthening Urban-Rural Linkages;	Goal 1: No Poverty
		Goal 7: Energy for All
		Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth
		Goal 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
		Goal 10: Reduced Inequality
		Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities
		Goal 15: Biodiversity, Forests, Deforestation

S/No	THEMATIC AREA	RELATED SDGs
	Inclusive, Productive and Competitive Economy;	Goal 1: No Poverty
		Goal 4: Education
		Goal 5: Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment
		Goal 7: Energy for All
		Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth
		Goal 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
		Goal 10: Reduced Inequality
		Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities
		Goal 12: Sustainable Consumption and Production
		Goal 13: Climate Action
		Goal 15: Biodiversity, Forests, Deforestation
		Goal 16: Peace and Justice Strong Institutions
	Effective Urban Governance and Coordinated Management;	Goal 1: No Poverty
		Goal 5: Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment
		Goal 6: Water and Sanitation
		Goal 10: Reduced Inequality
		Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities
		Goal 16: Peace and Justice Strong Institutions
	Effective Land Governance;	Goal 1: No Poverty
		Goal 2: Hunger and Food Security
		Goal 5: Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment
		Goal 6: Water and Sanitation
		Goal 7: Energy for All
		Goal 10: Reduced Inequality
		Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities
		Goal 15: Biodiversity, Forests, Deforestation

S/No	THEMATIC AREA	RELATED SDGs
	Urban Security and Safety;	Goal 1: No Poverty
		Goal 5: Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment
		Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth
		Goal 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
		Goal 10: Reduced Inequality
		Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities
		Goal 13: Climate Action
		Goal 16: Peace and Justice Strong Institutions
		Goal 17: Partnerships
	Sustainable Transportation and Mobility;	Goal 1: No Poverty
		Goal 3: Good Health and Well-Being
		Goal 5: Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment
		Goal 7: Energy for All
		Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth
		Goal 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
		Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities
		Goal 13: Climate Action
	Resilient Infrastructure and Services;	Goal 3: Good Health and Well-Being
		Goal 4: Education
		Goal 6: Water and Sanitation
		Goal 7: Energy for All
		Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth
		Goal 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
		Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities
		Goal 12: Sustainable Consumption and Production
		Goal 13: Climate Action
		Goal 16: Peace and Justice Strong Institutions

S/No	THEMATIC AREA	RELATED SDGs
	Urban Resilience, Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation;	Goal 1: No Poverty
		Goal 3: Good Health and Well-Being
		Goal 4: Education
		Goal 7: Energy for All
		Goal 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
		Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities
		Goal 12: Sustainable Consumption and Production
		Goal 13: Climate Action
		Goal 15: Biodiversity, Forests, Deforestation
		Goal 16: Peace and Justice Strong Institutions
		Goal 17: Partnerships
	Smart City Strategies	Goal 3: Good Health and Well-Being
		Goal 6: Water and Sanitation
		Goal 7: Energy for All
		Goal 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
		Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities
		Goal 12: Sustainable Consumption and Production

14. 2. KEY INSTITUTIONS FOR MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Urban Policy Steering Committee – Highest policy-making body to be headed by the Secretary to the State Government and comprising of key Commissioners and Heads of Parastatals in charge of Urban Development, Budget and Economic Planning, Municipal Services, Agriculture, Commerce, among others.

State Technical Committee on Urban Policy – the major working group comprising of operations and technical staff to ensure coordination and efficient implementation of the policy. Project support office will provide the Secretariat of the Committee. In addition to all the identified key institutions representatives of the private sector and the civil society organisations should be included.

Ad hoc Committee comprising of mainly the private sector, academic and research institutions to monitor the implementation of the policy

		Integrated Territorial Dev., Urban-Rural Linkages	Inclusive, Productive & Competitive Urban Economies	Urban Governance and Coordinated Management	Effective Land Governance (Administration?)	Urban Security and Safety	Sustainable Transportation and Mobility	Resilient Infrastructure and Services	Urban Resilience, Climate Change Mitigation & Adaptation	Smart City Strategies	Monitoring and Evaluation
A	Coordination, Legislation and Community level representation										
	Office of the Executive Governor										
	Niger State House of Assembly										
	Niger State Emirate Council										
	All 25 Local Governments Areas										
B	Ministries										
	Ministry of Land and Housing										
	Ministry of Works and Transport										
	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development										
	Ministry of Water Resources and Dams Development										
	Ministry of Investment, Commerce & Industries										
	Ministry of Justice										
	Ministry of Local Government and Chieftaincy affairs										
	Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development										
	Ministry of Information, Tourism and Culture										
	Ministry of Health and Hospital Services										
	Ministry of Finance										
	Ministry of Youth Empowerment and Sports Development										
	Ministry of Environment Resources and Forestry (Solid Minerals Development)										
	Ministry of Education, Science and Technology										

C	Agencies and Commissions											
	Niger State Planning Commission											
	Niger State Urban Development Board (NSUDB)											
	Niger State Geographic Information System (NIGIS)											
	Niger State Emergency Management Agency (NSEMA)											
	Niger State Environmental Protection Agency (NISEPA)											
	Niger State Development Company											
	Niger State Water Board											
	Niger State Bureau of Statistics											
	Niger State Road Maintenance Agency											
	Niger State Airport City Agency											
	Niger State Electricity Board											
	Niger State Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Agency (RUWATSAN)											
	Niger State Agricultural and Mechanization Development Authority (NAMDA)											
D	*Others*											
	Private sector (chambers of commerce)											
	Traditional Rulers and institutions											
	Town unions											
	International Development Partners											
	Civil Society Organisations											
	Non-Governmental Organizations											
	Community Based Organizations											
	Religious Institutions (churches and mosques)											
	Community-based enterprises											
	Union of commercial tricycle owners;											
	Union of commercial motorcycle riders											
	Research institutions (Tertiary Educational and Vocational Institutions)											
	Rural Access and Mobility Programme											
	The Nigeria Energy Support Programme State Committee											
	Professional associations (Nigerian Institution of Estate Surveyors and Valuers; Nigerian Institute of Town Planners, Nigerian Institute of Architects, Nigerian Society of Engineers, Nigerian Institution of Surveying and Geoinformatics etc)											

E	Federal Government Institutions									
	Federal Ministry of Works and Housing									
	Federal Ministry of Environment									
	Federal Ministry of Justice									
	Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs, Disaster Management and Social Development									
	Federal Ministry of Agriculture									
	Federal Ministry of Justice									
	Ministry of Defense									
	The Nigeria Police									
	National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA)									

15. GLOSSARY OF KEY TERMS

Accessibility

Building standards relating to making public buildings accessible to people with disabilities.

Adaptation

The process of adjustment to actual or expected climate and its effects. In human systems, adaptation seeks to moderate harm or exploit beneficial opportunities. In natural systems, human intervention may facilitate adjustment to expected climate and its effects.

Biodiversity

The term given to the variety of life on Earth and the natural patterns it forms.

Cadastre

A register of the real property of a country, with details of the area, the owners and the value.

Climate Change

Climate Change refers to a change in the state of the climate that can be identified by changes in the mean and/or the variability of its properties, and that persists for an extended period, typically decades or longer.

Climate Risk Management (CRM)

The use of climate information to cope with the impact of climate on development and resource management. In many parts of the world, natural hazards such as floods and droughts contribute to increasing socioeconomic and ecological disturbances.

Compact cities' or 'smart growth"

A compact city is an urban planning and urban design concept, which promotes relatively high residential density with mixed land uses.

Connectivity

At city level, connectivity is closely related to mobility and the permeability of an area. Specifically, street connectivity refers to the density of connections and nodes in a street network and the directness of the links between settlements and correlates with increased efficiency (and multi-modality) of flows and access to jobs and services.[36]

Decentralization

The establishment of institutional and legal frameworks for decision making and the empowerment of sub-national institutions at the provincial, district, city, town and village levels in terms of fiscal, administrative, political and legal processes.

36UNHCR Master Glossary of Terms http://www.refworld.org/docid/42ce7d444.html

Disaster Risk Management (DRM)

A process for designing, implementing, and evaluating strategies, policies, and measures to improve the understanding of disaster risk, foster disaster risk reduction and transfer, and promote continuous improvement in disaster preparedness, response, and recovery practices, with the purpose of increasing human security, well-being, and sustainable development.

Empowerment

The social, economic, political and legal enabling of certain groups, in particular women (empowerment of women), to act by granting or re-enforcing rights, abilities and access to facilities previously denied or restricted.

Inclusiveness

Places particular focus on the most marginalized and vulnerable groups of society by promoting participation in planning processes and also diversity in representation. Inclusive cities enable everyone access to services, jobs and opportunities and to be part of city civic and political life.

Informal economy

The part of an economy that escapes regulation by government authorities, particularly in the areas of contract and company law, taxation and labour law; hence the basic activities of enterprises are not, or not consistently, subject to formal regulation and oversight.

Informal employment

Employment that leaves individuals in employment relationships without labour and social protection through their work, or without entitlement to employment benefits, whether or not the economic units they operate or work for are formal enterprises, informal enterprises or households.

Informal sector

Persons engaged in the production of goods or services with the primary objective of generating employment and incomes to the persons concerned. These units typically operate at a low level of organization, with little or no division between labor and capital as factors of production and on a small scale.[37]

Informal settlements

Areas where groups of housing units have been constructed on land that the occupants have no legal claim to, or occupy illegally. Unplanned settlements and areas where housing is not in compliance with current planning and building regulations (unauthorized housing).

Informality

The informal sector is characterized by an absence of legal licenses, titles, and regulatory supervision. Residents in informal housing may have no recognized rights, making eviction an ever-present threat. Informal businesses operate without licenses and do not pay taxes.

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[37]The State of the World's Cities 2001 http://www.un.org/ga/Istanbul+5/122.pdf

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)

Persons or groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized border.[38]

Land Governance

Land governance concerns the rules, processes and structures through which decisions are made about the use, access to and control over land, the manner in which the decisions are implemented and enforced, and the way that competing interests in land are managed. It encompasses statutory, customary and religious institutions; state structures such as land agencies, courts and ministries responsible for land; non-statutory actors such as traditional bodies and informal agents; and covers both the legal and policy framework for land as well as traditional and informal practices that enjoy social legitimacy.

Land tenure (Security of tenure)

The relationship, whether legally or customarily defined, among people, as individuals or groups, with respect to land and associated natural resources (water, trees, minerals, wildlife, etc.). Rules of tenure define how property rights in land are to be allocated within societies.

Local Economic Development (LED) Strategies

LED is a participatory development process that encourages partnership arrangements with representatives from all sectors (government, private, non-government) to provide a roadmap between the main private and public stakeholders in a defined territory, enabling the joint design and implementation of a common development strategy, by making use of local resources and competitive advantages in a global context with the final objective of creating a resilient and

Mitigation (of climate change)

A human intervention to reduce the sources or enhance the sinks of greenhouse gases. Mitigation (of disaster risk and disaster) is the lessening of the potential adverse impacts of physical hazards (including those that are human-induced) through actions that reduce hazard, exposure, and vulnerability.[39]

Mixed use

A type of development that combines various uses, such as office, commercial, institutional, and residential, in a single building or on a single site in an integrated development project with significant functional interrelationships and a coherent physical design.[40]

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[38]UNHCR. (2004). The Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement.Pg.1. http://www.unhcr. org/43ce1cff2.html

[39]IPCC AR5

[40]http://apa-nc.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/aicp-raleigh-affordable_housing_glossary.pdf

Multi-level governance

A decision-making system to define and implement public policies produced by a collaborative relation either vertical (between different levels of government) or horizontal (within the same level, e.g. between ministries or between local governments) or both. It also includes the partnership with actors from civil society and private sector for the achievement of common goals.

Participatory slum upgrading

A methodological approach that aims to improve urban development power imbalances. It puts all stakeholders, especially slum dwellers, at the heart of the process to improve slums' living conditions.[41]

Peri-urbanization

A process, often a highly dynamic one, in which rural areas located on the outskirts of established cities become more urban in character.

Public space

Public space are all places publicly owned or of public use, accessible and enjoyable by all for free and without profit motive.

Public transport

Formal Public Transport services are those available to the public for payment, run on specified routes, to timetables with set fares and (for the purposes of this paper) in urban areas. They may be operated by public or private organizations and cover a wide range of modes like, bus, light rail (tramways, streetcars), metros, suburban rail, cable cars and waterborne transport.

Resilience

How individuals, communities and business not only cope in the face of multiple shocks and stresses, but also improve and positively transform their conditions over time. Resilience goes beyond reducing risks and aims to enhance "a system's performance in the face of multiple hazards rather than preventing or reducing the loss of assets caused by specific events" (Dodman & Diep, 2015).

Right to the city

The collective right of the inhabitants of cities, in particular of the vulnerable and marginalized groups, that confers upon them legitimacy of action and organization, based on their uses and customs, with the objective to achieve full exercise of the right to free self-determination and an adequate standard of living.

Risk, vulnerability, and hazards

Risk: The potential for consequences where something of value is at stake and where the outcome is uncertain, recognizing the diversity of values. Risk is often represented as probability of occurrence of hazardous events or trends multiplied by the impacts if these events or trends occur. Risk results from the interaction of vulnerability, exposure, and hazard.

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[41] UN-Habitat (2014). Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme: Halving the number of slum dwellers by 2020

Vulnerability: The propensity or predisposition to be adversely affected. Vulnerability encompasses a variety of concepts and elements including sensitivity or susceptibility to harm and lack of capacity to cope and adapt.

Hazard: The potential occurrence of a natural or human-induced physical event or trend or physical impact that may cause loss of life, injury, or other health impacts, as well as damage and loss to property, infrastructure, and livelihoods, service provision, ecosystems, and environmental resources.

Slums

United Nations Member states agree that slum households can be defined as lacking one or more of the following five key deprivations: Durable housing of a permanent nature that protects against extreme climate conditions; Sufficient living space which means not more than three people sharing the same room; Easy access to safe water in sufficient amounts at an affordable price; Access to adequate sanitation in the form of a private or public toilet shared by a reasonable number of people; and Security of tenure that prevents forced eviction.[42]

Sustainable urbanization

The spatial manifestation of urban development processes that creates a built environment with norms, institutions and governance systems enabling individuals, households and societies to maximize their potential, optimize a vast range of services so that homes and dynamic neighborhoods, cities and towns are planned, built, renewed and consolidated restraining adverse impacts on the environment while safeguarding the quality of life, needs and livelihood of its present and future populations.

Urban environment

The intersection and overlay of the natural environment, the built environment and the socio-economic environment.

Urban governance

The "software" that enables the "urban hardware" to function, the enabling environment requiring the adequate legal frameworks, efficient political, managerial and administrative processes, as well as strong and capable local institutions able to respond to the citizens' needs.

Urban Safety

The concept of Urban Safety not only addresses the prevention of crime and violence, but also the enhancement of individual rights including the physical, social and psychological integrity of a person. 'Safety' not only brings together the constructs of crime, violence and insecurity but is firstly a foundation for the deployment of human abilities, freedom, solidarity, multiculturalism and creativity. Safety does not only cover the individual's rights to life, but embraces also to the community, society and the city.

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42 UN-Habitat (2002). Expert Group Meeting convened by UN-Habitat, the United Nations Statistic Division and the Cities Alliance in 2002

Urban Sprawl

The unplanned, uncontrolled spreading of urban development into areas adjoining the edge of a city -- in particular for the construction of low-density housing and commercial sites in formerly agricultural or forested areas.

Zoning

Zoning is a form of regulatory implementation of planning which involves the division of the community into districts, or zones, within which regulations apply to the use of land or buildings, the intensity of that use as well as the height and bulk, or extent of that use.[43]

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43 World Bank, E-course on Sustainable Land Use Planning

16. APPENDIX 1:NIGER STATE URBAN POLICY FORMULATION ROADMAP

16. 1. A1.1 TIMELINES FOR FORMULATION OF NIGER STATE URBAN POLICY

S/No	ACTIVITY	TIMELINE
	Secretary to the State Government, in a letter requested CHSUD to initiate discussion with UN-Habitat on priority areas of development of Niger State; and to invite UN-Habitat for formal discussion on same;	9th February, 2017
	After series of discussions, and consultation with related Agencies, the following priority projects were identified: To prepare Niger State Urban Development Policy (SUP), based on the National Urban Development Policy, 2012; To prepare an Integrated Development Plans for Minna, the state capital; and the city of Suleja, located next to Abuja, the Federal Capital City of Nigeria. This, among others, will include the development of improved plans, policies and designs for them to become more compact, integrated, connected and socially inclusive; To develop a pilot Smart City near Suleja; and To strengthen and build the capacity of the state institutions (MDAs) in charge of the development and management of the cities.	
	Participation by the State Governor, Alhaji Abubakar Sani Bello, a high level Panel of Ministers at the Second International Conference on National Urban Policy in May, 2017 At OECD Headquarters Paris, France;	May, 2017
	Hosting of a Scoping Mission from UN-Habitat headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya	July 2017
	Training mission by state MDAs to South Korea at the instance of the Korean International Trade Association	August, 2017
	Technical mission to UN-Habitat headquarters in Nairobi, by state officials led by Ibrahim Isa Ladan, Secretary to the State Government in November, 2017 and signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Niger State Government and UN-Habitat to facilitate the implementation the above projects.	29th November, 2017
	Participation by Niger State delegation led by the Deputy Governor, Alhaji Ahmed March – April, 2019 - Constitution Technical Support Team (TST) Muhammad Ketso, at the Ninth Session of the World Urban Forum (WUF9) in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	February, 2018
	Preparation of Draft Feasibility and Diagnosis Report for the State Urban Policy	Nov 2018 – Nov 2019

Consensus building with the relevant MDAs and Key stakeholders	Jan – Sept, 2019
Constitution of Technical Support Team (TST)	March – April, 2019
Mapping and Identification of key stakeholders for SUP	April – June, 2019
Institutional Capacity Assessment	June – Oct 2019
Inauguration Technical Support Team (TST)	September, 2019
First Workshop on Draft Feasibility & Diagnosis Study	September, 2019
Public Awareness and Advocacy	Nov 2019
Second Workshop on Draft Feasibility and Diagnosis Study	Nov 2019
Town Hall Meetings Organised	Dec. 2019
2nd Quarterly meeting of the Technical Support Team	Feb 2020
2nd Media Conference on the formulation of Niger State Urban Policy	Feb 2020
Establishment of Policy Drafting Committee	March 2020
Submission of Draft Report	April – May 2020

A1.2 PHOTO CHRONICLE OF NSUP PROCESS

Photos 1 – 4: Cross-section of TST member during the Inauguration

Photos 5 – 6: Sensitization meeting with association of City Managers in Niger State (Left) and Government officials/Policy makers during the First Workshop on Draft Feasibility and Diagnosis Study

Photos 7 - 8: Chairman of the TST addressing the media crew

Minna Centre   Bida Centre

Kontagora Centre

Suleja Centre

Photos 9 – 12: Cross-section of Participants during Town Hall Meetings at various Centres

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