



The Housing Agency's Annual Conference 2022

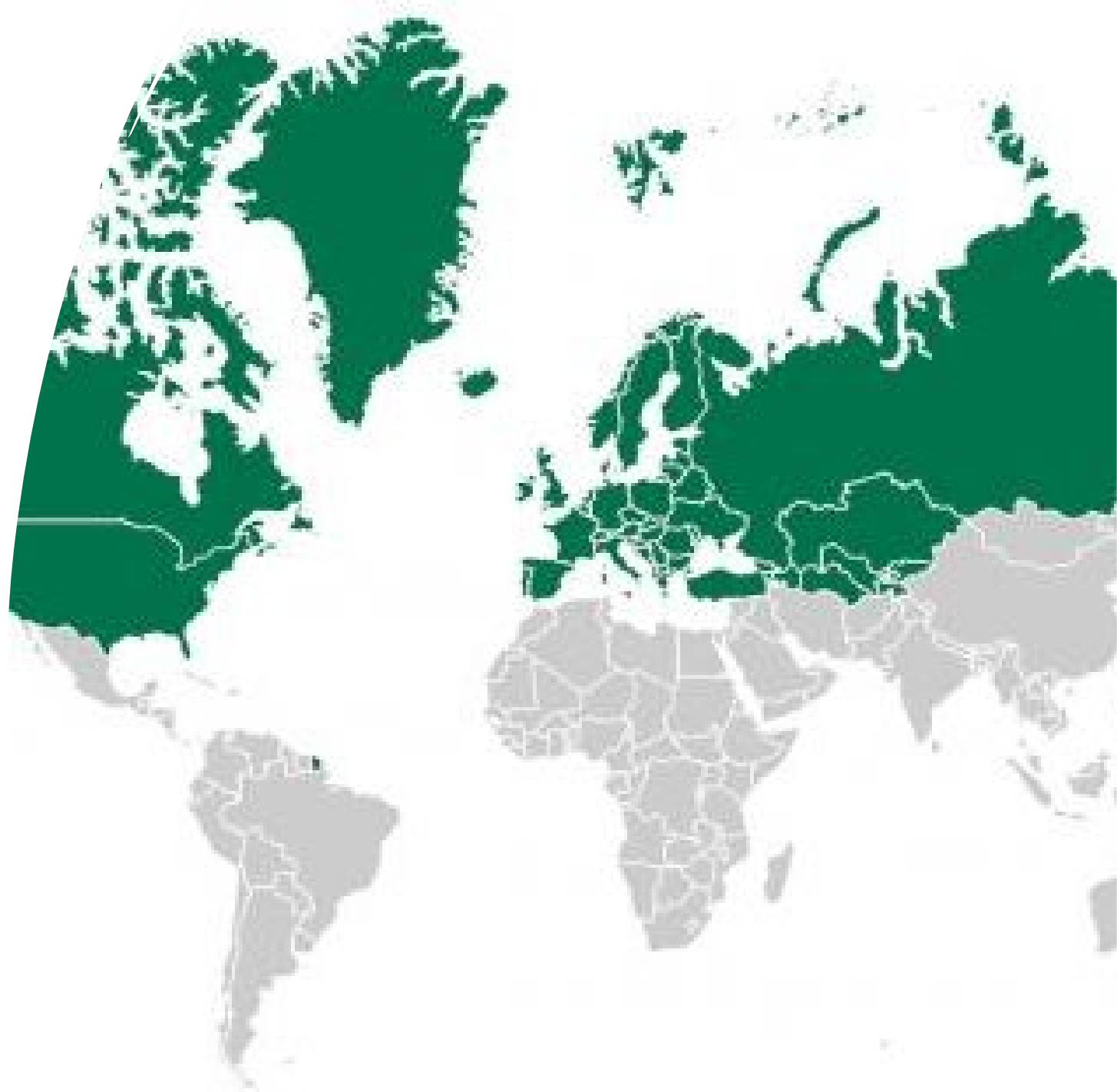


Gulnara Roll, Regional Advisor
Forests, Land and Housing Division
UNECE



The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

- UNECE was set up in 1947
- One of five regional commissions of the United Nations
- 56 member States in Europe, North America and Asia
- Act as a neutral UN platform to exchange experiences and best practices –
 - Close cooperation with national and subnational governments
 - Work with other regional commissions
 - Over 70 international professional organizations take part in UNECE activities.



UNECE survey on housing affordability 2021



UNECE



- Lack of financial provisions to support housing affordability
- Increasing **gaps between income and housing costs as well as social and spatial inequalities in access to affordable housing**. This represents a challenge not only for low-income and vulnerable groups, but also increasingly for middle-class households in the context of shrinking public sector resources.
- **Great variety between countries in regard to the role of the state in supporting social and affordable housing, often depending on resources, capacities and political will.**

GENEVA UN CHARTER ON SUSTAINABLE HOUSING



Geneva UN Charter on Sustainable Housing is the expression of political will of **56 member States** to:

- ensure **decent affordable housing** and urban infrastructure to all;
- support cities and human settlements adopting and implementing smart sustainable city concepts;
- **integrated policies** and plans to support: inclusion, including socially mixed communities;
- resource efficiency; and resilience to climate change and disasters.



#Housing 2030



#Housing2030

- Report launched by UN Geneva, October 2021
- #Housing2030: Effective policies for affordable housing in the UNECE region

A joint initiative of UNECE, Housing Europe and UN-Habitat

Focuses on solutions to the housing affordability crisis in the UNECE region, highlighting the need for strategic and coordinated policy reform to shape more effective housing systems.

Addresses four topics:

- (1) Housing governance and regulation
- (2) Access to finance and funding
- (3) Access and availability of land
- (4) Climate-neutral housing construction and renovation

56 countries surveyed, evaluative evidence reviewed, 8 thematic and regional workshops, 12 podcasts

- More than 30 policy tools outlined and applied in 70 illustrations



UN HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE



UNECE

#Housing2030 main messages



UNECE

1. Need to rethink housing policy making - a new paradigm - shaping better housing systems
2. From housing as a commodity to housing as a basic need, key role in quality of human life and sustainable communities
3. Move away from reliance on free market mechanisms only - strive to realise the right to adequate housing, with active and strategic involvement of the national and local government
4. Shape markets with a long-term vision to better deliver the housing we need
5. Empower cities to create liveable neighbourhoods
6. Requires well informed, purposeful policy and mission focussed and expert agencies
7. Requires co-operation of international community, national and local governments

Regional Action Plan - Place and life in the UNECE region



Find out more at:

<https://unece.org/housing/regional-action-plan-2030>



Policy Area A: Cities, Neighbourhoods, Homes and Rural Life

Goal A1. Coordinated national, sub-national and local action through multi-level governance and strategic plans frameworks;

Goal A2. City-wide and integrated action; and

Goal A3. Sustainable neighbourhoods and local living environments.

Policy Area B: Sustainable Housing and Homes

Goal B1. Governance;

Goal B2. Land Policy;

Goal B3. Finance & Funding; and

Goal B4. Climate neutral housing.

Second Forum of Mayors, 4-5 April 2022 (Geneva)



2nd Forum of Mayors, Geneva, Switzerland (back-to-back with the ECE Regional Forum on Sustainable Development, RFSD)

- **44 city leaders** shared experiences and best practices on :
 - Sustainable urban transport, shared mobility and safer roads
 - Vibrant public spaces, green cities and nature-based solutions
 - Resilient, healthy and climate-neutral buildings and affordable and adequate housing
 - Sustainable urban planning, the 15-minute city and smart urban development solutions
- **Networked for joint action: More than 500 participants** from UNECE region and beyond.