THE STATE OF NATIONAL URBAN POLICY IN MEXICO

Name of national urban policy	National Urban Development Programme 2014-2018
Date of national urban policy	2014
Explicit or partial	Explicit
Legal status (e.g. act of the legislature, executive order, administrative guidance, etc.)	Strategic document of the national government that sets the national objectives, strategies and priorities for inclusive urban development. It serves as a reference to urban plans and programmes adopted by subnational governments.
Previous/secondary policies	National Housing Programme (Programa Nacional de Vivienda 2014-18)
Stage of development	Implementation
How developed (e.g. through a participatory/stakeholder process, or act of parliament, etc.)	No information available
Implementing body	Ministry of Agrarian, Territorial and Urban Development (SEDATU)
Government system	Federal
Type of national urban agency	SEDATU is the General National Authority for Mexico
Implementation mechanism (e.g. committee, involvement of multiple agencies, national-local co-ordination)	No information available

Current national urban policy

Mexico's national urban policy is articulated in the *National Urban Development Program 2014-2018*, which aligns with Mexico's *National Development Plan 2013-2018* (OECD, 2015). The *National Urban Development Program* contains six objectives:

- 1. control urban sprawl and consolidate existing cities to improve the living conditions of their inhabitants;
- 2. consolidate an urban development model that creates well-being for city dwellers and guarantees social, economic and environmental sustainability;
- 3. design and implement normative, fiscal, administrative and regulatory instruments for land-use management;
- 4. promote a sustainable mobility policy that ensures the quality, availability, connectivity and accessibility of urban trips;
- 5. avoid human settlements in risk zones and reduce the vulnerability of urban populations to natural disasters; and
- 6. consolidate the National Regional Development Policy based on local economies' capabilities and potential (SEDATU, 2014).

A major goal underpinning these objectives is reducing the costs of urban infrastructure provision through better co-ordination, as well as improving governance to ensure better co-ordination (Dodson et al., 2015).

In addition to the *National Urban Development Programme*, housing policy is regulated by the *National Housing Programme* (*Programa nacional de vivienda*) 2014-18. It aims to: improve inter-institutional co-ordination; transition towards a sustainable and smart urban development model; responsibly address the housing gap; and provide decent housing for all Mexicans (OECD, 2015). The two national programmes work together, by making resources and a housing

investment contingent on the application of an urban containment strategy by the relevant municipalities (Dodson et al., 2015).

Areas covered by current urban policy

Sector	Sectoral representation in the National Urban Development Programme
Economic development	Extensive
Spatial structure	Moderate
Human development	Extensive
Environmental sustainability	Moderate
Climate resilience	Low

Specific issues covered by current national urban policy

The *National Urban Development Program 2014-2018* includes the following characteristics:

Criteria for national urban policies	Appears in the policy
Responds to population dynamics	Х
Promotes a territorial approach (in particular urban-rural linkages)	Х
Addresses the urban systems (from large to medium and small cities) and the connectivity among cities	Х
Prepares for infrastructure and services in cities (including public space)	Х
Promotes urban land-use efficiency	Х
Enhances environmental sustainability and resilience to climate change	Х
Develops effective urban governance systems (horizontal co-ordination and vertical alignment)	Х
Promotes effective municipal finance systems	Х
Supports partnership and co-operation between urban actors	
Safeguards inclusiveness and participation in the process and outcomes (inequity, segregation, safety, etc.)	
Ensures robust and comparable urban scale data	Х

Bibliography

Dodson, J. et al. (2015), A Consolidated Report of Regional National Urban Policy Reviews (Africa, Arab States, Asia and Pacific Europe and North America, Latin America and the Caribbean), prepared for UN-Habitat, Centre for Urban Research, RMIT University, Melbourne, December 2015.

OECD (2015), "Regional Outlook Survey Results: Mexico", unpublished.

SEDATU (Mexican Ministry of Agrarian, Territorial and Urban Development) (2014), *Programa Nacional de Desarrollo Urbano 2014-2018 (National Urban Development Programme 2014-2018),* 30 April 2014, SEDATU, Mexico City, <u>www.sedatu.gob.mx/sraweb/datastore/programas/2014/PNDU/PROGRAMA Nacional d</u> <u>e Desarrollo Urbano 2014-2018.pdf</u> (accessed 13 June 2016).