



ABOUT THE REPORT & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

**The Future
of Asian
& Pacific Cities**

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The Future of Asian and Pacific Cities report 2019 is an important resource to explore critical and emerging policy opportunities to realize urban sustainability for the Asian and Pacific region. The report informs policies and actions from a sustainable development perspective, putting cities at the centre of development policy debates. The report identifies future policy pathways for urban decision makers and stakeholders to reimagine the built and natural environments in Asian and Pacific cities and offers policy solutions across different types of cities to achieve the global development agendas. The solutions address four major development challenges — natural resource management, climate change, disaster risk and inequalities — through a focus on the key means of implementation to accelerate the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. As a policy advocacy report, it explores how the transformative potential of cities can be harnessed and enhanced to forge inclusive, prosperous and resilient cities, and how cities can serve as the drivers of sustainable development for the achievement of the New Urban Agenda in the Asia-Pacific region. The report builds on two previous publications, *The State of Asian and Pacific Cities 2015* and *The State of Asian Cities 2010/11*, which explored the key existing and emerging trends in urban development within the region. This report, on the other hand, employs a forward-looking perspective with an ambitious vision of a sustainable urban future for the region, and evaluates the implications of different development pathways for the achievement of inclusive sustainable development in cities by 2030.

The report was jointly developed by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat). It was prepared under the direction of Stefanos Fotiou, Director of the Environment and Development Division, ESCAP, Curt Garrigan, Chief of the Sustainable Urban Development Section, ESCAP; and Raf Tuts, Director of the Programme Division, UN-Habitat, and Atsushi Koresawa, Director, Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, UN-Habitat.

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The report was developed in partnership with the following organizations and staff:

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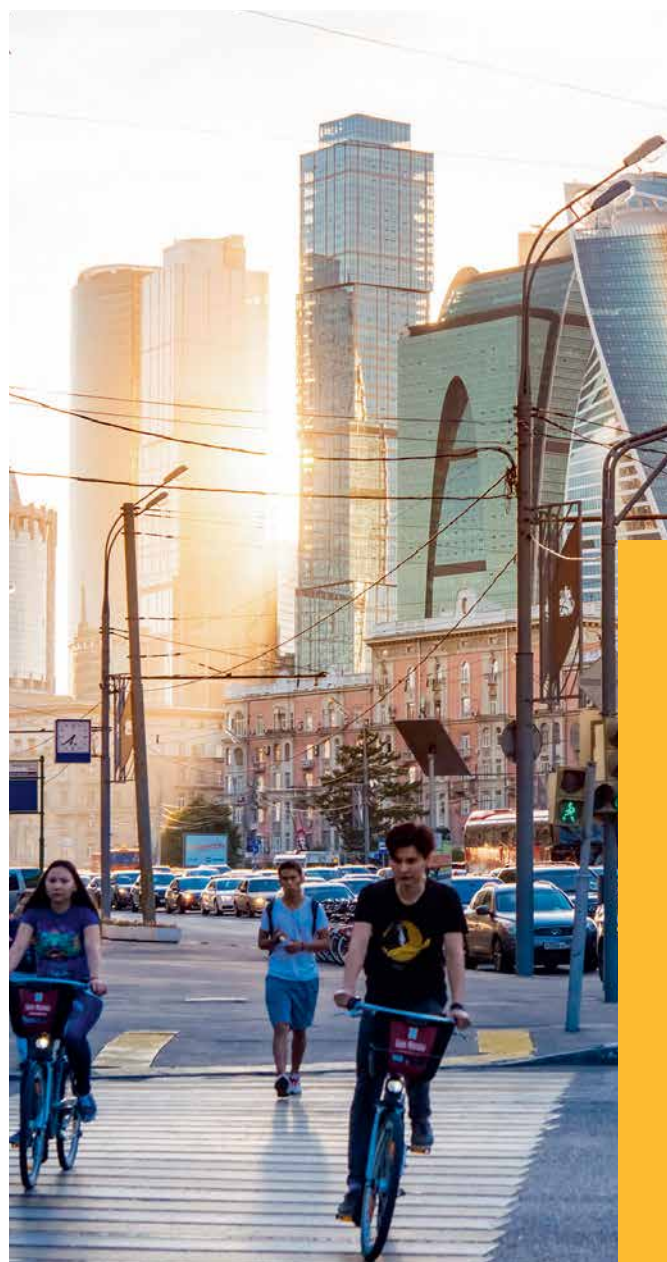
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- Subregional consultation for the Pacific, hosted by the ESCAP Subregional Office for the Pacific and the University of the South Pacific, in Suva, in July 2018.



- Expert group meeting on smart cities, hosted by ESCAP and Singapore's Centre for Liveable Cities at the 2018 World Cities Summit, in Singapore, in July 2018.



- Local government consultation at the 7th Congress of United Cities and Local Governments in Asia and the Pacific, hosted by ESCAP and UN-Habitat, in Surabaya, Indonesia, in September 2018.



- Subregional consultation for North and Central Asia, hosted by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, ESCAP and UN-Habitat, in Geneva, in October 2018.



- Subregional consultation for South and South-West Asia and Expert Group Meeting on municipal finance hosted by the ESCAP Subregional Office for South and South-West Asia and NITI Aayog, Government of India, in New Delhi, in November 2018.



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