

Making Housing Affordable, Inclusive, and Resilient

8-9 November 2022 | 1400H Manila time (GMT+8) | Virtual



Day 1 – Tuesday, 8 November

14:00–15:00 Inaugural Session

The inaugural plenary session will introduce the context and need of the AHC. A global expert in the area of housing for the urban poor would be a keynote speaker in addition to a few inaugural speeches. This session will also introduce the structure of the AHC and the other ensuing sessions.

15:00–16:15 **Opening Plenary: Housing policies and Governance Frameworks in ADB’s Developing Member Countries and the Role of Development Partners in the Housing Sector**

The opening plenary will discuss the housing policies and the governance frameworks that guide the work of developing with specific policy analysis of a few important developing member countries. The speakers from development partners (e.g., ADB) will also share their strategies and plans for the housing sector in developing member countries. The focus will be on analysis of the current policies and frameworks, and the suggestions for improvement along with the changes that governments and development organizations should make to put the housing on the top of the agenda in developing member countries. Senior policy makers from the governments and development organizations will be the participants. The structure of this session will be a panel discussion with initial presentations/reflections by each panel followed by specific questions to each of the panelists. While the focus will be on developing member countries, lessons will be deliberated from the developed countries as well.

16:15–17:45

Parallel Technical Sessions

Technical Session 1: Overarching Trends, Challenges, and Opportunities in the housing sector in developing member countries

This session will discuss the overarching trends, challenges, and opportunities in the housing sector on issues such as insufficient supply of housing stock in developing member countries; lack of affordable and adequate housing for all sections, especially the poor; availability of land for housing; security of tenure and ownership of the houses for the residents of the slums and informal settlements, access to and cost of housing financing; and other broad challenges in the housing sector.

Technical Session 2: Enabling access to land for housing in the region

This session will discuss policy and planning instruments and some good practices to allow cities in developing member countries to expand and make new land available in the most efficient and sustainable manner. Some instruments that will be discussed with clear focus on enhancing availability of lands for housing are: town planning schemes; land pooling; land redevelopment; transit-oriented development; land valuation methods; land markets and governance systems for such markets; etc, but only to the extent these instruments/systems are pertinent to the housing sector.

Day 2 – Wednesday, 9 November

14:00–15:30

Parallel Technical Sessions

Technical Session 3: Contribution of the Housing sector to increasing resilience of developing member countries: Opportunities from technological advancements across the elements of the project cycle—planning, design and construction of housing projects

This session will bring together cases on innovations in planning, designing, and construction materials, and technologies in the housing sector. It will discuss how these advancements have been used in a few good practice cases for energy-efficiency; reducing GHGs; reducing local heat island effects etc. and enhancing resilience. It will answer the question - How green housing can contribute to build more resilient cities and the world?

Technical Session 4: Integrating low-income housing and neighbourhoods into city planning and governance frameworks

This session will focus on the issues and challenges of, and good examples on integrating low-income housing, slums, and informal settlements in the overall urban planning and governance of cities. The session will look at in-situ upgrading of slums and renewing other inadequate housing stock existing in the city. The panel discussion will explore how new inclusive planning and governance framework could be developed so as to ensure affordable, accessible and adequate housing for the urban poor. It will bring together good practices on slum up-gradation programs at scale and examples of densification and redevelopment. The session will also discuss the examples of mixed neighborhoods and how these can be effectively planned for developing member countries

15:30–16:00

Technical Session 5: Enabling public policies for enhancing private sector and public-private partnership (PPP) investment in the housing sector including for lower income housing and rental housing

The session will assess the role of the public and private sectors in the housing sector and learn lessons from the past efforts. It will strive to develop a more realistic understanding of the potential of the private sector to invest in the housing sector in general and in lower income housing and rental housing in particular. The session will also discuss the role of the governments to create an enabling environment to further enhance private sector and PPP investments in the housing sector; and how the ecosystem to mobilize long-term funds from capital markets for housing can be strengthened.

Technical Session 6: Developing the housing finance and mortgage market to enhance accessibility of institutional finance to all, especially the poor.

Over the last decade, development of housing finance and mortgage markets including mortgage-backed securities has supported access to finance and housing affordability. However, poor and the lower income households in most developing member countries still do not have adequate access to affordable housing finance. The session will discuss the initiatives that the governments in developing member countries can take to strengthen their housing finance and mortgage markets and will also focus on microfinance, community banks, housing insurance scheme, green housing finance, innovative financing models for self-constructed houses for the poor, and other such models to enhance availability of finance to lower income and vulnerable groups.

16:00–17:00

Closing Plenary: Moving forward on recommendations and areas for action

Each session moderators will be invited to present a few key takeaway points from their sessions focusing on the actions that can be taken by developing member countries and development organizations like ADB related to the housing sector. The session will end with a vote of thanks and a call to action.