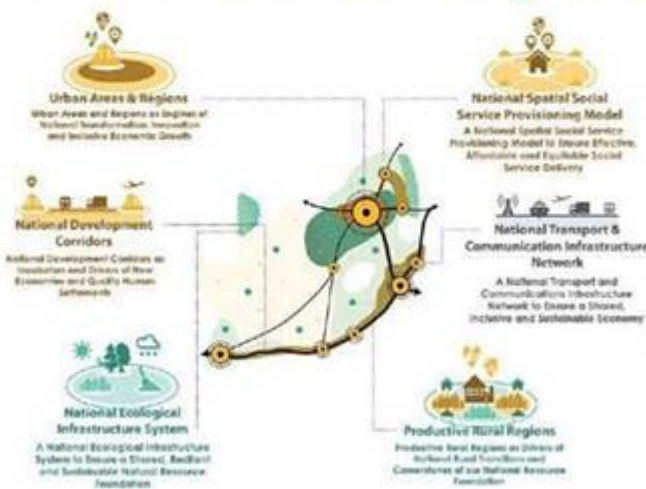




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# UN-Habitat Guide for Effective Development and Implementation of National Spatial Strategies



UN Habitat is developing a Guide on National Spatial Strategies (NSS) led by Sebastian Elbe and Katrin Bäumer from SPRINT – scientific policy consulting (Germany). The Guide provides a framework for policy makers and practitioners outlining how NSSs can be embedded in the wider context of national development planning practice. A well-designed NSS can strengthen the integration and alignment of urban and rural planning goals across sectors and spatial scales. The Guide outlines the steps to prepare a NSS, identifies six critical delivery mechanisms for successful NSS implementation and develops lessons from global case studies to structure the recommendations. The NSS Guide is aimed at decision-makers who are responsible for high level planning decisions. It is the result of an intensive reflection and discussion process drawing from the findings of researchers and the contribution of practitioners at a variety of stakeholder, advocacy and implementation organizations. This aspect has improved the quality and relevance of the lessons and recommendations presented in the draft Guide. The session will feature the draft final version of the guide and provide a platform to discuss the recommendations.



PRESENTER

**KATRIN BAEUMER**  
SPRINT



PRESENTER

**SEBASTIAN ELBE**  
SPRINT



MODERATOR

**FUAD K. MALKAWI**  
WORLD BANK



DISCUSSANT

**SULEIMAN ABU KHARMEH**  
UNDP



DISCUSSANT

**DAVID MASON**  
WORLD BANK

## ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

**Sebastian Elbe**, senior Urban and Regional Planning Adviser, partner SPRINT – scientific policy consulting (Germany), involved in consulting and evaluation projects concerning EU regional and rural development programs. Expert in spatial and land use planning implementation instruments with focus on integrated approaches. Coordinator of the “Advisory Group for Oman National Spatial Strategy” and engaged within UN Habitat, UN DP and MOMRA (Riyadh, KSA) for the Activation of Saudi National Spatial Strategy as well as for World Bank. Sebastian holds a PhD in socio-economics and a Diploma in Engineering (Spatial Planning) from Technical University Dortmund (Germany).

**Katrin Baumer**, senior urban and regional planner, partner SPRINT – scientific policy consulting, with professional experience in Germany, Middle East and Africa. Project record includes policy consultancy and capacity development in the field of national spatial strategies, integrated regional development and respective multidisciplinary governance and planning processes. Katrin holds a PhD in socio-economics and a Diploma in Engineering (Spatial Planning) from Technical University Dortmund (Germany)

**Fuad Malkawi** is a senior urban development specialist in the South Asia region. His work focuses mainly on spatial development and metropolitan planning. Fuad holds a Ph.D. and an MA in urban and regional planning from the University of Pennsylvania and a Master of Architecture from the University of Texas. He is a Registered Professional Planner (RPP) at the Ontario Professional Planners Institute and a member of the Canadian Institute of Planners.

**Suleiman Abu Kharmeh** is a Professor in Regional and Urban Planning. He obtained his Ph.D in Regional Development Planning – University of Iowa 1991, has extensive experience in strategic, regional and urban planning in Jordan, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Iraq and Syria, Lebanon, UAE, Palestine and Punjab – Pakistan. He served as a Director for Regional Development Department in Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation – Jordan; Regional Planning Adviser, Supreme Council for Planning – Muscat; Faculty Staff – Regional Planning Department and Dean – Faculty of Planning and Management – Balqa Applied University – Jordan. Senior Regional Planning Adviser (UN-DESA) – Ministry of Economy and Planning- Saudi Arabia. Currently, He is Chief Technical Adviser (UNDP) – National Spatial Strategy, Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs (MOMRA) – Saudi Arabia. Dr. Abu- Kharmeh’s areas of expertise have included National Spatial Strategies, National Urban Policies, Capacity Development and SDG’s integration and localization. Preparation of strategies for cities’ development and growth, Strategic Economic Planning, local development governance, planning standards and regulations, community development and SME’s promotion.

**David Mason** is an Urban Development Specialist in with the World Bank in the South Asia Region. He specializes in urban planning, land administration and housing and has been supported analytical and operational work with the Bank on these topics in various regions since 2015. He has a PhD in Urban and Regional Planning from UCLA, and previously worked as a city planner in Southern California.

**TUESDAY, MARCH 31 | 09:00-10:30 AM**

External audience can watch the session [live on YouTube](#)

If you have any inquiries, please contact [Gunes Basat](#).