

THE RIGHT TO HOUSING IN THE METROPOLITAN CITY

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LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS

- Many legislations provide for Housing as a *Human Right*
- Article 25 of the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- Article 11 of the UN International on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
- In South Africa it is covered by the Constitution and Housing Act

HOUSING CHALLENGES AT THE METROPOLITAN LEVEL

- Lack of data in drafting social housing policies
- Affordable housing is controlled by the private market
- Emergency housing management
- Security of tenure

LACK OF DATA IN DRAFTING SOCIAL HOUSING POLICIES

- Lack of gender-linked data to develop gender-responsive housing policies
- Disaggregation of data should be at the municipal level
- Berlin, Paris and Barcelona – policies at supra-municipal level

AFFORDABLE HOUSING CONTROLLED BY PRIVATE MARKET

- Shortage of housing entails high economic efforts
- Women with dependent children and young adults are excluded in low-income groups – *Gap Housing*
- Public policies allow for financial aid to rental, mortgages, etc.
- Since these are not coordinated at a metropolitan level it is difficult to control
- Public housing at the metropolitan level is needed

EMERGENCY HOUSING MANAGEMENT

- Most municipalities are responsible for emergency housing
- Municipalities identify stakeholders and coordinate efforts
- They also need to house (rehome) evicted people
- Gender perspective needs to be considered in evictions

SECURITY OF TENURE

- Rising property investments in urban centres makes housing business a highly profitable business thus less affordable to many people
- Policies in this regard are at the National level and are not at the municipal level
- Some cities like Buenos Aires, New York have specifically regulated this space
- Some cities like Paris, Berlin are limiting rents and tourist accommodation licenses
- Some countries expropriate speculative properties
- Making sale transactions in cities public information has also helped

THANK YOU