Realising Just Cities in the Context of Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals

Drawing on experiences at our different platforms, this session shows how local work aligns with and contributes to global goals.

Topic areas include: solid waste management, transport, food, cultural heritage, sustainable welfare and poverty reduction.

MISTRA
URBAN FUTURES

MUF's 2016-19 Research Agenda:
Realising Just Cities that are accessible, green and fair

- **Key innovation:** comparative transdisciplinary co-production studies across cities – a unique experiment in search of generalisable principles and lessons of good practice
  - deepening collaborations across Mistra Urban Futures' research platforms

- **Simultaneously addressing international agendas** through research-based interventions, such as the Urban SDG and New Urban Agenda processes and Habitat III
  - Sendai Framework, Paris Accord, Agenda 2030/ SDGs and NUA: unique global urban window of opportunity

MISTRA
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FUTURES

The New Urban Agenda (NUA)

Cities for All: Just, Safe, Healthy, Accessible, Affordable, Resilient and Sustainable

Equal rights

Sustainable consumption

Long-term, integrated urban planning

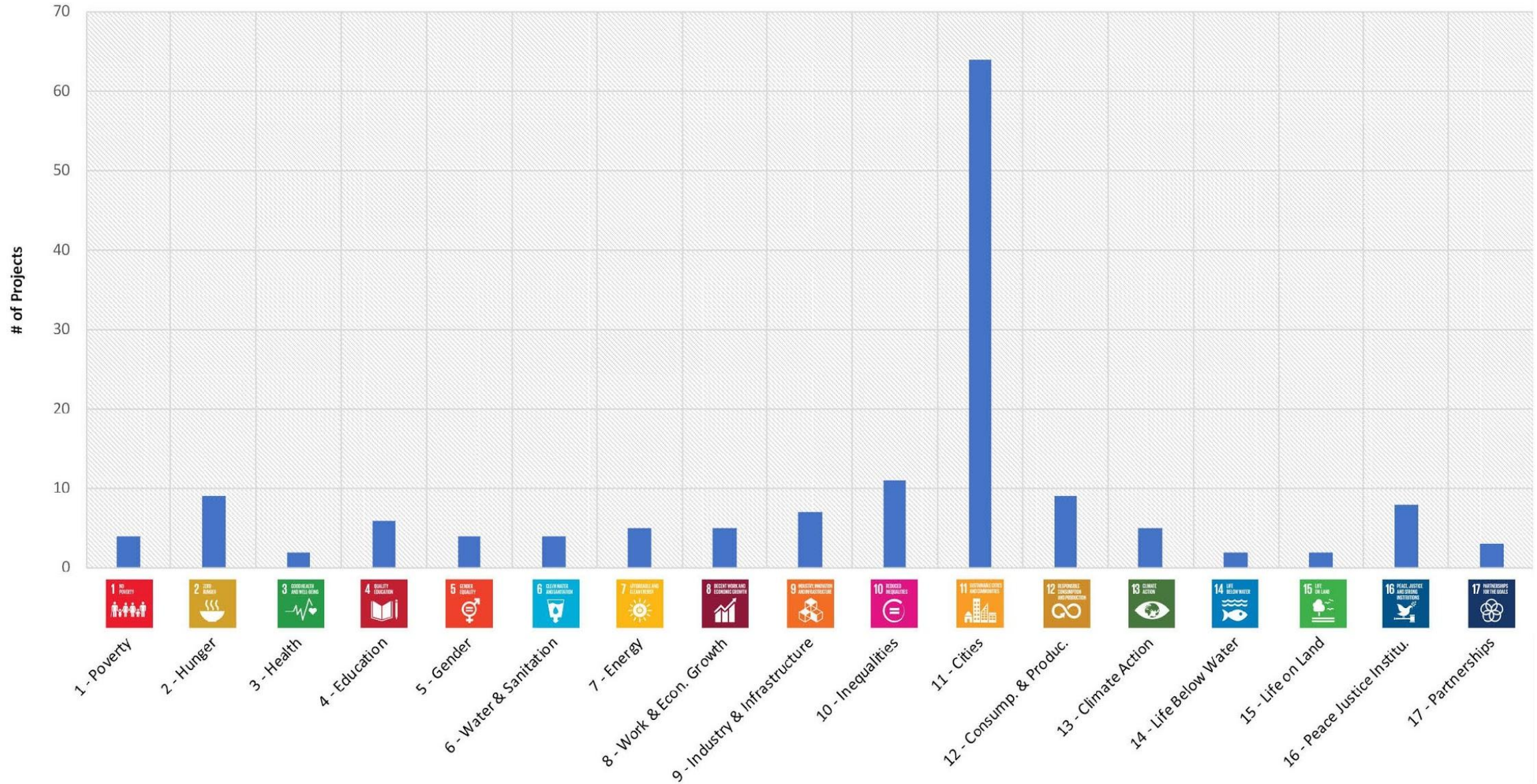Disaster management and resilience

Sustainable financing frameworks

Co-operation of all levels of government, including 'sub-national entities', with participation of civil society and stakeholders

Key weakness: no explicit linking mechanism to SDG 11 et al.

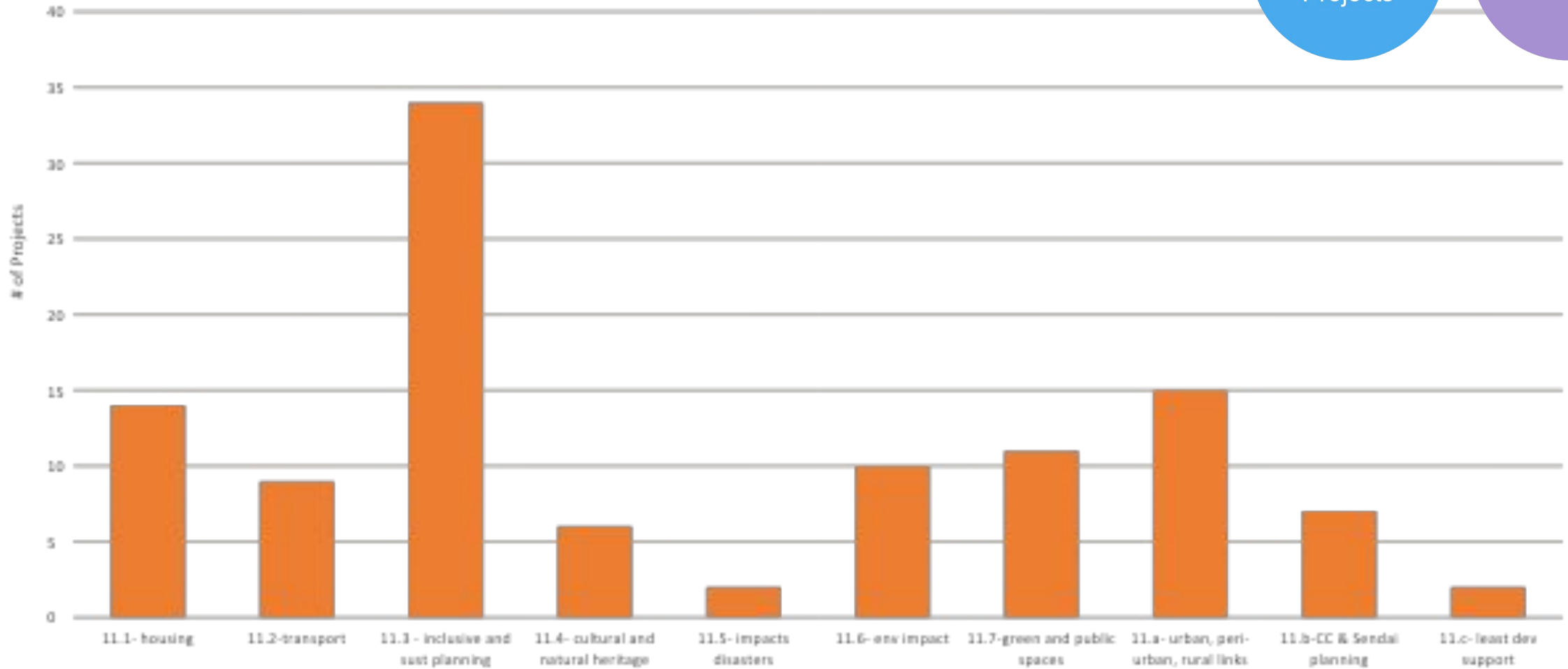# Mistra Urban Futures' projects in relation to the SDGs

Projects and SDG 11

Nine international comparative projects

- Implementation of the New Urban Agenda and Urban SDG

- Cultural Heritage and the Just City

- Food Value Chain

- Transportation and Urban Development

- Migration and Urban Development

- Socially Sustainable Neighbourhood

- Solid Waste Management

- Urban Public Finance

- Knowledge Transfer Programme

MISTRA URBAN FUTURES

Key MUF Comparative Project:
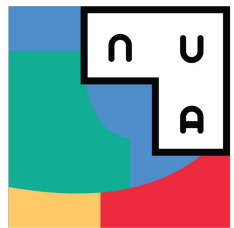# New Urban Agenda & Urban SDG Engagement

Aims and focus of analysis

Political process - How the respective cities engage with SDGs and NUA
- how and to what extent these agendas contribute to planning processes
- relations between the local, regional and national levels

Progress and Monitoring - How cities are doing with respect to
- achieving the targets
- collecting indicator data to monitor progress?

How the Agendas (and project) can contribute to sustainability planning

- **Assess where each local authority stands and wants to go**
  - what do we (and who are 'we'?) want to achieve and how to monitor/measure progress?

- **Data gaps? What data are already available?**
  - set up a multi-stakeholder discussion and involvement

- **Integrated assessment**
  - synergies, trade-offs and conflicts

- **Feedback to UN-Habitat / UNDESA statisticians**

- **Need to be critical and reflexive of the process**

MISTRA
URBAN
FUTURES

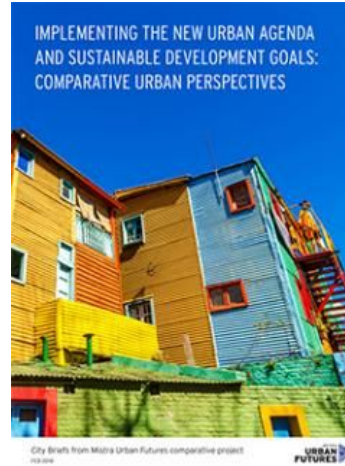# Challenges for loc auths and researchers

- **Engagement of local authorities with NUA/SDGs**
  - day to day operations – limited capacity
  - other agendas under way
  - limited national guidance

- **Targets** – indicator clarity and correspondence

- **Data availability at loc auth level (urban and rural)**

- **Prioritization**

- **Silos**
  - individual SDGs vs comprehensive/integrated view
  - sectoral departments vs integrated approach

- **Boundaries**
  - admin/political – both horizontal and vertical

MISTRA
URBAN
FUTURES

Outcomes & Outputs

Written outputs:

- City briefs (WUF)
- *Adapting the SDGs to Buenos Aires (article)*
- *Adapting the SDGs and NUA to the city (article)*
- Urban resilience chapter (Routledge Handbook on Resilience) (*with editor*)

IMPLEMENTING THE NEW URBAN AGENDA AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS: COMPARATIVE URBAN PERSPECTIVES

City Briefs from Mistra Urban Futures comparative project

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT **GOALS** PARTNERSHIPS PLATFORM

#SDGAction30672

Transdisciplinary co-production as a tool for advancing SDGs implementation at the city level

Submissions to UN & Govt

- UN Human rights
- Review of SDG 17 at HLPF
- UN-DESA: SDG Good practices
- UK SDG review

City exchanges

- Cross-city learning activities
- City-city peer review

Forthcoming

- Academic article and report from each city
- Policy briefs (co-produced)
- Final project report