



CAP STRATEGIC PLAN

(2023 to 2025)

Our Mission

- The Commonwealth Association of Planners exists to advance professional planning through advocacy, capacity building, promoting good practices and knowledge sharing in the development of sustainable human settlements.

Our Vision

- Planning is a respected, valued, and inclusive profession across the Commonwealth and globally.

Strategic Goals

1. Strengthen and advance the profession and its capacity to assist in the delivery of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the New Urban Agenda.
2. Foster strategic, collaborative partnerships to promote good planning practices, sustainability, and environmental protection.
3. Enhance membership supports, services and engagement.
4. Build the capacity for planning globally.
5. Establish and support professional planning societies in the Commonwealth.



Key Actions

1. Strengthen and advance the profession and its capacity to assist in the delivery of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the New Urban Agenda.
 - Mobilise action to support the Commonwealth Heads of Government (CHOGM) Declaration on Sustainable Urbanisation to address the impacts of rapid urbanisation and climate change, to ensure liveable cities towns and villages for all citizens.
 - Foster understanding and progress by representing the Commonwealth Sustainable Cities Initiative (CSCI) Call to Action objectives at various forums including COP27, World Urban Forum (WUF), CHOGM, UN High Level meetings and other platforms as presented.
 - Represent CAP and the planning profession through engagement with the Habitat Professional's Forum (HPF), Global Planners Network (GPN), Planners 4 Climate Action, World Urban Campaign (WUC), Informal Forum of Commonwealth Organisations (IFCO), and International Congress of City, Regional Planners (ISOCARP) and other professional networks in support of common goals.
 - Integrate the CAP Climate Action Working Group into the networks, collaborations and Forums working to advance climate action.
 - Building upon the Kigali Commitment signed at CHOGM 2022 to develop and promote a multidisciplinary collaboration (e.g. architecture, engineering, planning, economists, surveyors, environmental specialists, finance experts, etc..) ethics, standards, principles, data and policies in support of sustainable urbanisation.

 2. Foster strategic, collaborative partnerships to promote good planning practices, sustainability and environmental protection.
 - Contribute through our consultative status to the UN Economic and Social Council, Human Rights Council and General Assembly on matters pertaining to the advancement of planning matters.
 - Build upon the momentum achieved through the Commonwealth Sustainable Cities Initiative Call to Action with the Prince's Foundation, Commonwealth Local Government Forum, Commonwealth Association of Architects and Association of Commonwealth Universities.
 - Engage in partnership opportunities with UN Habitat and The Commonwealth Secretariat to achieve common objectives.
 - Strengthen support and capacity within the CAP Women in Planning Network and Young Planners Network.
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- As a co-founding member, strengthen and support the Commonwealth Youth for Sustainable Urbanisation Network.
 - Pursue continued partnership with the Prince of Wales Charitable Fund to support sustainable planning initiatives.
3. Enhance membership supports, services and engagement.
- Refresh CAP’s website and branding.
 - Enhance social media platforms, curate regular blog content from members and improve promotion of CAP and CAP member activities.
 - Maintain a regular schedule of events and activities identifying opportunities for CAP members, networks, and partners to engage.
 - Establish a forum for CAP members, networks, collaborators, and partners to convene to discuss best practices, exchange ideas and foster new initiatives to respond to member needs.
 - Host a CAP Biennial meeting online in 2023 and in person in 2024.
 - Maintain regular engagement and accreditation with the Commonwealth Secretariat to enable ongoing access to educational materials, resources and consultation opportunities.
 - Maintain good standing with the Office of Scottish Charity Regulator.
 - Expand CAP’s access to funding partnership opportunities to maximize potential for on the ground capacity building initiatives.
4. Build the capacity for planning in areas of greatest need.
- Grow access to the delivery of The Rapid Planning Toolkit including exploring joint funding partnership opportunities in collaboration with the Prince’s Foundation and other entities such as the Marrison Institute for Urban Management and academic institutions.
 - In collaboration with the Commonwealth Association of Architects, Association of Commonwealth Universities, and other Commonwealth professional organisations, undertake a third iteration of the Survey of Built Environment Professionals.
 - Seek partnership opportunities to support climate adaptation planning, disaster mitigation and management in areas experiencing significant challenges including Tonga and Pakistan.

5. Establish and support professional planning societies in the Commonwealth.
 - Support the CAP East Africa Planning Network to complete a Terms of Reference and work plan to advance the role of planning in helping address rapid urbanisation and the impacts of climate change.
 - Work with the Caribbean Planners Association, Bangladesh Institute of Planners and Fiji Institute of Planners and other institutes as requested to advance recognition and support of the planning profession.

Monitoring and Review of the Strategic Plan

Progress on the implementation of the Strategic Plan is the responsibility of CAP's Board of Trustees led by the President. The timeline for implementation of the actions is between 2023-2025. The plan will be reviewed annually by the Assembly and refreshed for ratification at CAP's Biennial Business Meeting. The Secretary General along with network/committee leads are required to prepare work plans that align to advance the direction outlined in the Strategic Plan, provide regular updates and written progress reports on an annual basis.