



GRANTEE GENDER ANALYSIS HIGHLIGHTS

For the Resilient Systems of Secondary Cities and Migration Dynamics Programme (SDC Phase II)

With funding from the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), the Resilient Systems of Secondary Cities and Migration Dynamics Programme Phase II is supporting six projects in key migration corridors of four countries: The Berbera and Ethiopian Economic Corridors in Ethiopia, Amatitlán and San Marcos in Guatemala, the Kairouan and Tataouine-Medenine corridors in Tunisia, and the Greater Jinja Corridor and West Nile in Uganda.

Local city stakeholders worked with Cities Alliance to design the projects, and each grantee undertook a gender analysis to develop a strong gender focus in the project approach. This brief provides an overview of the six gender analysis reports.

What was the aim of the assessments?

Cities Alliance's partners in six programme locations conducted gender analyses to better understand how to improve labour market integration and provide gender-responsive delivery of basic services for migrants, displaced persons, and host communities.

Through the process, Cities Alliance also aimed to build the capacity of grantees to include gender considerations in project design and foster new gender-transformative partnerships.

How were the assessments done and by whom?

The analyses were undertaken by grantees of the Resilient Systems of Secondary Cities and Migration Dynamics Programme. Each grantee partnered with a women's organisation to conduct the analysis and produce a report.

The following grantees and partners implementing the gender analysis:

- Berbera Corridor, Ethiopia: Jigjiga University and the Hankaal Institute
- Ethiopian Economic Corridor: Adama Science and Technology University (ASTU), the Adama City Administration office responsible for women's affairs
- Amatitlán-San Marcos, Guatemala: Inter-American Dialogue (IAD)
- Kairouan and Tataouine-Medenine, Tunisia: National Union of Tunisian Women Kairouan (UNFTK)
- Greater Jinja, Uganda: ACTogether, Ensibuuko, EcoPlastile, the Women Rights Initiative (WORI)
- West Nile, Uganda: South Sudanese Refugee Association (SSURA)

The resources and capacity of grantees varied considerably, and some required a substantial level of support from Cities Alliance in order to be able to conduct the assessments and incorporate the findings into project design. The methodology of each individual gender analysis also varied among grantees, and further details can be accessed in the individual reports. Overall, most of the reports are based on:

- A secondary literature review
- Focus group discussions with women and girls, and occasionally with other marginalised groups
- Informant interviews with key stakeholders, including grantee staff and staff of local partners.

How did the findings inform the design of the projects?

Some interventions were designed from the start to focus primarily on women, while others had less of a gender focus at the beginning. The locally driven gender analyses helped sharpen this focus. They highlighted key challenges that women face in the various programme locations, and helped partners develop actionable steps to enhance gender-sensitive programming.

These actions include:

- In Uganda, women identified safety, health risks, and access as barriers to working in the local markets. As a result, fencing, lights, and toilets were added to the market refurbishment project.
- Several of the gender analyses revealed a significant gender gap in women's participation in the digital economy. Based on these findings, grantees incorporated digitalisation into the financial literacy training provided through the projects.
- To help women access financial services, grantees are simplifying the process with additions that target women such as group access, individual loans, reduced fees for opening accounts and loans, guidance on interest rates, and shorter loan grace periods.

- Based on the analyses, grantees are improving their skills development training by adding marketing, business identification, wealth creation, and business mentoring skills to the training as well as value-added training for women entrepreneurs.
- Grantees are incorporating ways to increase women's access to and awareness of business and employment opportunities, such as an online notification system via cellphone (Tunisia and Berbera Corridor, Jigjiga, Initiative)
- They are developing safety and security guidelines to improve safety in waste management, an area women are traditionally responsible for in households.
- Awareness campaigns are being organised on waste separation, migrant registration, maternal health, access to mental health services, and safe WASH facilities in markets.
- In Tunisia, the project is incorporating training for women to be neighbourhood leaders and organising public consultation sessions for women to engage in municipal work and inform investments.
- In Guatemala, IAD is offering flexible after-school classes so that girls, who often support adult women in household care outside school hours, can attend.

About the Programme

The [Resilient Systems of Secondary Cities and Migration Dynamics Programme \(2018-2026\)](#) supports initiatives designed by secondary city stakeholders to provide migrants and host communities with equal access to quality public services, labour market integration, and economic opportunities. It facilitates regional collaboration on urban planning and advocacy and fosters local partnerships among diverse city stakeholders and national and international actors to implement locally relevant approaches that work for all residents.