

Proposal Summary

India State of the Cities Report

CDS, SU

South Asia - India

Summary	<p>In India, there is a strong realization that its urban areas need to improve for the country to achieve fast and sustained economic development. In this context, the Government of India (GoI) has launched the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) through which it incentivized reforms in urban governance, service delivery, financial management and devolution of functions to local bodies, and linked grants for infrastructure investments in the major Indian cities. Despite the strong focus on urban reforms through the JNNURM, the policy-makers are still struggling to evolve mechanisms to develop municipalities as autonomous city management agencies to dovetail urbanization with economic development. In this context, it is proposed to prepare the India State of the Cities Report (SoCR) to address issues that are critical for sustainable economic development of cities and provide inputs for developing an urban development approach for the country.</p>
----------------	--

Objectives	Activities
<p>The broad objectives of India SoCR are to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Assess the urban infrastructure deficits and its impact on the national economic growth; Analyze relation between socio-economic development in states and cities, and spatial concentration of population; Assess the urban policies, and institutional and financing framework; Evaluate policy initiatives taken by countries facing similar problems like China, South Africa and Brazil, among others, to efficiently manage fast urban growth; and Identify areas for change in urban policies and recommend strategies to strengthen urban institutional and financing framework to meet urban infrastructure deficits and achieve balanced and inclusive development across states. 	<p>In India, urban development is a state subject. Analyzing the state level scenario with regard to socio-economic development would help in understanding the development dynamics at the state level and capturing the state level specificities. Given the close relationship between urban infrastructure, urban productivity and national economy, the Report would assess the deficits in urban infrastructure and its adverse impact on the national GDP and recommend strategies to mobilize resources for urban infrastructure investments. Spatial concentration of economic activities in and around the mega cities (which are also the regional centers) and metropolises are influencing the choice of investment destinations, FDI flows and population redistribution in the country. In this perspective, the SOCR would test the hypothesis that the poor performance of some states in India (in terms of relatively low per capita state domestic product and low ranking in human development index) is due to absence of an economic hub in the state/region and recommend strategies for dispersal of economic investments across the states.</p>

Submission		Implementation	Budget and Time	
<p>Submitted by: National Institute of Urban Affairs</p>	<p>CA Sponsor: UN-HABITAT; World Bank</p>	<p>Implemented by: National Institute of Urban Affairs CA Monitor: Andrea Zeman</p>	<p>Request to CA: \$ 363,032 Co-Financing: \$ 204,206 Total Budget: \$ 567,238</p>	<p>Duration: 18 months</p>

Expected Impacts
<p>The output of the project will be India SOCR and the outcome may be addressing issues that are critical for sustainable development of urban areas in the 12th Five Year Plan as well as the National Commission on Sustainable Urbanization II.</p>

