

Proposal Summary

Defining Africa's Emerging Urban Agenda

CDS

Global

Summary	<p>The reality of Africa's urban transition is no longer in dispute. The rate of urbanization in Africa is widely recognized as the most rapid in the world. Billions of dollars saved through debt cancellation combined with radical increases in export revenues and FDI are enabling many Sub-Saharan African countries to focus on the realities of rapid urbanization. There is a widespread and growing understanding that for resource driven growth to be sustainable, the continents' cities and local government systems must increasingly provide the basic services to sustain that growth. Ministers, mayors, PSs, city managers and planners, and citizens throughout the region are asking—and often, demanding—access to knowledge and capacity that will enable sustained and equitable management of urban growth. The intent of the partners is to support the development of 30 State of the Cities Reports (SOCRs) based on the urban realities of Sub-Saharan Africa countries on a demand-driven basis. This initiative will seek to develop at least one SOCR per country and to support the development of an African urban knowledge network over 10-years (FY10-19). The initial effort (Phase 1), for which Cities Alliance financial support is sought in this proposal, will focus on three countries during the first three years (FY10-12).</p> <p>Cities Alliance funding: Africa Facility, \$588,000 as part of \$2,663,000 total programme budget, part of Medium Term Strategy Implementation. \$1,500,000 for three separate State of the Cities Reports</p>
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Objectives	Activities
<p>Catalyze and facilitate the development of national State of the Cities Reports in Africa, using these products/processes as the basis to build urban knowledge and organisational capacity to respond effectively to the unique challenges and opportunities faced by African urban policy-makers, planners and development practitioners through creating access to a) international best practice, b) more detailed knowledge and information about their own national urban realities, and c) effective means to rapidly increase their skills and capabilities in urban management and delivery.</p>	<p>The initiative will be hosted by the University of Cape Town (UCT), and the UCT's African Centre for Cities (ACC) will be the lead implementing partner (http://www.acc.uct.ac.za/). The ACC will work in partnership with the African Association of Planning Schools, the South African Cities Network (SACN) as well as other African partners. Financial partners include the Urban LandMark and Cities Alliance programs.</p> <p>The World Bank and UN-HABITAT will be the lead Cities Alliance members providing support to the initiative, with the World Bank Institute focusing on the knowledge network and products, and UN-HABITAT's Monitoring and Research Division focusing on data and reporting.</p> <p>This initiative is a strategic activity in the Cities Alliance 2009-2011 Work Program, and is a key component of the Cities Alliance focus on bringing systemic change on how cities and urban issues are addressed in Sub-Saharan Africa</p> <p><i>Component 1: Establishing formal SOCR Project Management Program</i> <i>Component 2: Developing implementation assessment reports and baseline State of the Cities Reports</i> <i>Component 3: Establishing the Knowledge Base and Network</i></p>

Submission		Implementation	Budget and Time	
<p>Submitted by: University of Cape Town</p>	<p>CA Sponsor: DFID (South Africa Office); Ministry of Works and Urban Development (Ethiopia); South African National Department of Housing; UN-HABITAT; World Bank</p>	<p>Implemented by: University of Cape Town CA Monitor: Jean-Christophe Adrian</p>	<p>Request to CA: \$ 588,000 Co-Financing: \$ 575,000 Total Budget: \$ 1,163,000</p>	<p>Duration: 36 months</p>

Expected Impacts

The primary expected outcomes of Phase 1 of the initiative will be:

- a) Baseline SOCRs in three countries in the region within the next three years;
- b) Proposals for the second in-depth SOCR in each of these initial round of participating countries, to be built around high priority case studies leading to production of specific learning products;
- c) Proposals for detailed work on municipal finance, urban land markets, and planning regulation and capacity in each of the initial countries, also to produce specific case studies and learning products;
- d) Proposals for a second round of baseline SOCRs in up to three additional countries;
- e) A stronger, expanded regional network of urban planning and management academics and practitioners supported through the ACC and AAPS nexus;
- f) Implementation assessments for proposed SOCRs of up to 6 countries who have expressed a willingness to participate in the SOCR project and have demonstrated the ability to meet the qualifying criteria;
- g) Proposals to establish cities networks in participating countries, although at this point it is not possible to predict how many.