

# Proposal Summary

## Knowledge Support for PEARL Programme under JNNURM

SU, CDS

### South Asia - India

<b>Summary</b>	<p>Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM), launched by the Government of India in 2005, aims at transforming urban policies and city management practices for creating dynamic and sustainable cities that would result in improvement in quality of life in cities. The challenges in achieving the objectives of the Mission are: (i) wide coverage both in terms of cities and population; (ii) wide scope in terms of programme components and urban reforms being implemented; and (iii) limited capacity in the state and ULBs to implement the programme. The state and city governments have limited capacities to access JNNURM funds for infrastructure investments and to undertake the mandatory urban reforms. Knowledge support and knowledge sharing amongst JNNURM cities for project implementation, urban reforms and city governance has emerged as a key area for capacity building of Urban Local Bodies to achieve the objectives of JNNURM. In response to the emerging need, the Ministry of Urban Development (MoUD) approved the launch of the Peer Experience and Reflective Learning (PEARL) network in January 2007, under the JNNURM, to provide knowledge support to the cities for project implementation, reforms and city governance. The Cities Alliance (CA) Knowledge Support for PEARL Programme under JNNURM (<i>the CA Project</i>) will build on the MoUD initiative and contribute to making PEARL an effective learning and knowledge-sharing network.</p>
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Objectives	Activities
<p>The main objectives are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Operationalise the network by developing and installing processes/mechanisms to make PEARL an effective horizontal learning network whereby the member cities share &amp; use knowledge for project implementation, urban reforms and city governance.</li> <li>ii. Assess knowledge needs of the network and fill the knowledge gaps by (a) accessing new global knowledge products; and, (b) developing customized knowledge products through research and action projects.</li> <li>iii. Build capacities of the cities to use new knowledge to implement infrastructure projects and urban reforms.</li> <li>iv. Plug PEARL into other city/knowledge sharing networks (both national and international) such as network of African cities, UCLGA, League of Cities in Philippines, CA supported networks, among others. Develop PEARL into a platform for debates led by the cities on issues relating to policies and programmes to improve quality of life in the urban centers. PEARL is envisioned to provide a collective voice to cities for negotiating programmatic support from higher tiers of government.</li> </ol>	<p>Knowledge support to PEARL would be provided through Knowledge Network Support Unit (KNSU), to be set up under National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA). The key responsibilities of the KNSU would be as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assess knowledge needs of the cities for project implementation, urban reforms and city governance;</li> <li>• Fill the knowledge gaps by accessing global knowledge and, if required, develop new knowledge products and facilitate outreach of the cities to specialised agencies;</li> <li>• Act as feedback loop to CA and its members, and provide information on demands for new knowledge products, and conduit for CA members to provide their knowledge products to PEARL;</li> <li>• Facilitate knowledge sharing with cities and KMs;</li> <li>• Interface with other similar networks; and</li> <li>• Build capacities of cities and KMs to use new knowledge for implementation of projects and reforms.</li> </ul>

Submission	Implementation	Budget and Time	
<p><b>Submitted by:</b> National Institute of Urban Affairs</p> <p><b>CA Sponsor:</b> DFID; USAID India Office</p>	<p><b>Implemented by:</b> National Institute of Urban Affairs</p> <p><b>CA Monitor:</b> Andrea Haer</p>	<p><b>Request to CA:</b> \$ 500,000</p> <p><b>Co-Financing:</b> \$ 500,000</p> <p><b>Total Budget:</b> \$ 1,000,000</p>	<p><b>Duration:</b> 36 months</p>

## Expected Impacts

The expected outcomes are:

- Knowledge management framework for networking among cities
- Compilation of various searchable databases
- Continuous identification/documentation of innovations and best practices
- Motivation of city governments to increase their knowledge-sharing behavior
- Adoption of policies and procedures to enable ULBs to continuously improvise, improve and innovate
- Transfer knowledge of success factors and what works well across projects
- Collection or documentation of knowledge assets generated by projects/cities to facilitate transfer of learning across projects/cities
- Improve linkages between important stakeholders and Urban Local Bodies
- Elicit lessons learned from past program development/ innovation experiences
- Engagement of cities with national and state governments on urban policies and programmes