Proposal Summary Urban Planning Education and Applied Research in Sub-Saharan Africa

SU

Global

Summary

The aim of this project is to address the blockage of properly trained urban planning and management professionals in Africa, able to respond to new 21st century urban issues, and to support the development on the continent of centres of excellence focused on urban research. The primary vehicle for the project is the partnership between the African Centre for Cities and the Association of African Planning Schools as well as between the planning schools association and Slum Dwellers International.

Objectives

This proposal sets out two areas of important work for the period mid-2011 to mid-2013: 1) Revitalising planning education in Africa in partnership with SDI, while building and solidifying the AAPS network. 2) Scaling up urban-related applied research and practice on the continent to deal with Africa's 21st century urban issues: the emergent centre programme.

Activities

The key activities to be funded are therefore: a) Joint studios of one month each at six planning schools, facilitated by an SDI staff member with a planning staff member (payment of travelling and S&T expenses of facilitator). b) Two cross-city workshops involving those involved in completed joint studios to share experiences. Municipalities to be drawn into these. c) Funding for staff and/or student documentation and research linked to each joint studio d) Funding for academic staff working with SDI to document SDI experiences

Submission

Submitted by:

African Center for Cities, University of Cape Town

CA Sponsor:

Slum Dwellers International

Implementation

Implemented by:

CA Monitor: Kevin Milrov

Budget and Time

Request to CA: \$ 130,000 Duration: co-Financing: \$ 856,635 Total Budget: \$ 986,635

Expected Impacts

Indicators of success will be: a) Three joint studios completed successfully b) Positive response to joint studios from planning school (staff and student) and SDI affiliate and interest in repeating it c) Successful documentation of joint studios which can be disseminated d) Some response to incentives to undertake research / publication on SDI work e) Some academic staff involvement on SDI exchanges f) Plans in place for first workshop meeting of involved schools and SDI affiliates Longer term indicators of success will be: a) sustained relationships between planning schools and SDI (and WEIGO) affiliates b) planning graduates supporting inclusive city agendas in their professional practice c) planning curricula which incorporate an understanding of informality d) a growing volume of research and publication on SDI and other upgrade initiatives e) more viable plans developed by SDI affiliate communities f) a growing relationship between planning schools, municipalities, SDI and professional planning organizations

