

Sida's Portfolio within Urban Development 2011

The urban population worldwide is expected to increase by one billion up to 2025. This corresponds to 1000 new one million people cities in 14 years. The highest increase is expected in the least developed countries and is indeed expected to happen in small towns that will develop to large cities. This implies a tremendous challenge for the cities, demanding high performing administrations and technical skills. With sustainable urban development, the potential economic growth can be captured, the living conditions improved and negative environmental impacts reduced.

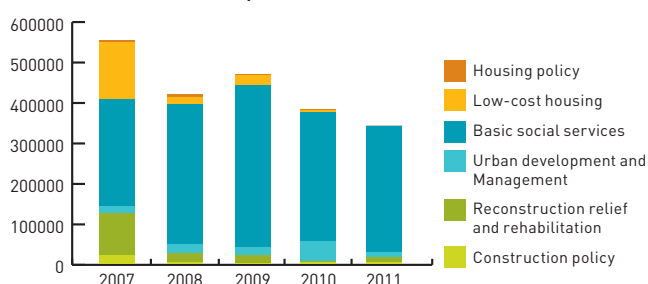
Main areas of support

The Sida support to urban development is mainly focused to capacity building in a broad sense. Historically, Sida has been funding urban development infrastructure projects, such as physical planning and infrastructure investments. The actual focus is on increased support to administration and assistance to develop strategies, policies and plans for sustainable urban development in poor urban or peri-urban areas.

Sida aims to contribute to cities' increased capacity to a sustainable, socio-economically and environmentally sound development and to active citizen's participation.

Sida supports urban development initiatives, programs and projects at the global, regional, national and local level.

Chart 1 Disbursement per sub-sector 2007-2011



Urban development and management

In general, the consequences of unplanned cities specifically affect poor and marginalised people. Therefore, several contributions are directed towards governments or organisations to strengthen policies, and contribute to development of urban plans or strategies. Complementary, or included in the same support, is facilitation of citizens groups' involvement in planning and implementation as well as supporting the administration to profit from and handle increased participation. If assisted and permitted, the contribution of these groups to sustainable develop-

ment improves quality of the development of their areas.

One complexity in urban development is that the local authorities in secondary cities, who are expected to see the highest population growth, are often weak in terms of management structures and human resources. The transition of power from national to local level is often recent or about to begin, and may not be accompanied with resources and technical skills. Trainings and technical assistance aim to smoothe the transition and the local government's capacity in management, planning, budgeting and procurements.

Access to property rights and other forms of secure tenure is crucial for sustainable development. Right to adequate housing is a human right, and is often crucial to achieve investments to develop slums or other areas. Some programs support policy development on land management while others increase the citizen's awareness of their own rights and assist the inhabitants in demanding their rights. There are projects that support competence transfer between Lantmäteriet - the Swedish mapping, cadastral and land registration authority and corresponding administrations in partner countries.

Other examples of supported projects are improved preparation of urban projects to secure funding from banks or other actors, support to local crime prevention and programmes for restoration of cultural heritages. Saving historical environments, creating employment and enabling space for community activities aim to benefit the residents of historical areas, and in particular the poor.

Low cost housing, construction policy and basic social services

The Swedish Cooperative Centre (SCC), channelled 12 MSEK through approximately 70 projects where civil society groups are reinforced to improve living conditions. Funds are used to create and facilitate saving groups for common investments, mutual help housing cooperatives

and to strengthen and unify social movements. The groups are supported to increase capacity for proposals, management and advocacy. It should be noted that all of these projects are not specifically urban, but statistical availability limits the categorization.

Disbursement

The total disbursement to the urban development support was 341 MSEK in 2011. Disbursement to urban development may also be included under humanitarian budget lines, which due to statistical limitation is not included in these figures.

The largest recipient of urban development support is Kenya. Sweden has had long term cooperation within the urban sector and has developed a complementary support, containing support to the national level, the municipal level as well as civil society.

The West Bank and Gaza is the second largest receiver for support of a storm and sewage system, local governance support and preservation of historical urban centres.

Chart 2: Disbursement per country allocation, 2011

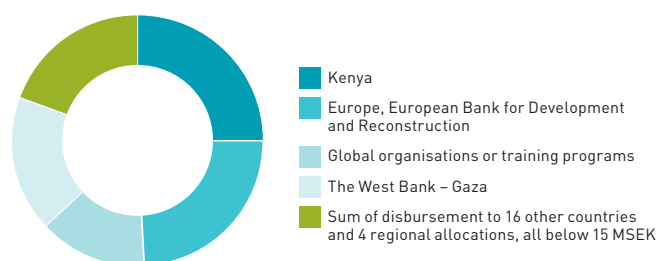


Chart nr 2 shows overarching distribution per country allocation, excluding approximately 13 MSEK for low cost housing, channelled to 24 countries through SCC as described above.

Complementary support

The urban development support is as described very vast in scale and content and is often overlapping with sectors. Following are examples of support that are categorised under other sectors, and thus not captured in the statistical graphs, but which are relevant for urban development:

Sida contributes with of a total amount of 60 MSEK to potable and waste water treatment plants, increased sustainable water and sanitation services in peri-urban areas and pre-studies for waste treatment plants and bioenergy production. These are reflected in the portfolio overview of Water and Sanitation.

Equally, almost 12 MSEK was disbursed to contributions categorized under the heading Democratic and Human Rights, but which contribute to urban development as a result of increased capacity building of local administrations. The projects contributed to enhanced knowledge of the responsibilities and roles of the municipality and community in urban planning.

Other than the International Training Program on urban planning and local environmental management in urban areas, 4 training programs were carried out within the frame for democracy and human rights. The Swedish International Center for Local Democracy, ICLD, provided the courses that among other, included community participation, tax collection, good governance with a gender perspective, and sustainable development and local democracy. Participants were politicians, civil servants and civil society groups mainly, but not exclusively, from urban settings.

Highlights

SLUM DWELLERS INTERNATIONAL, SDI

SDI is a transnational network of city or national federations of local slum dweller organizations. It is one of the most strategically global partners for Sida in slum upgrading. Gradually urban poor have become more and more organised and have increasingly been developing the capacity to manage slum upgrading including resettlement and construction of homes, infrastructure and basic services. To get more leverage, the locally-established community based organisations began to form national federations based on experiences from India about two decades ago. SDI report that their new database indicates members in 338 cities, 1,1 million people in saving schemes and that within the network; 17 000 toilets have been constructed and enumeration in 6 600 areas have been carried out.

INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERSHIP FOR STRENGTHENING THE LAND ADMINISTRATION IN INDONESIA

Sida supported a technical cooperation between the National Land Agency in Indonesia and the National Land Survey of Sweden (Lantmäteriet). One component of the programme concerned land registration in informal settlements, with the objective to assist the National Land Agency to develop and test methodologies and procedures for an Urban Land Reform.

The issue is complex with legislative constraints around the different stakeholders' responsibility for tenure rights. The support contributed to increased capacity and an increased focus on issues related to land registration in informal settlements in Indonesia.