

CITIES ALLIANCE ACTIVITIES IN ETHIOPIA

Cities Alliance's activities in Ethiopia date back to 2002 with projects such as the City Development Strategy (CDS) for Addis Ababa, the Addis Ababa – Johannesburg Partnership, the housing section study and subsequent development, the Ethiopian Cities Network, the State of Ethiopian Cities Project, and the Ethiopia Urbanisation Review. Cities Alliance has invested a total of **USD 2,214,070** in various projects in the country, in addition to managing, by intermediation, **USD 12,872,612** of Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation's investments in the country.

Cities Alliance is currently in the process of designing and mobilising resources for a Country Programme in Ethiopia.

Two grants are being processed in the meantime:

- Grant to the Ministry of Urban Development, Housing and Construction for the establishment of a Country Programme **Coordination Unit**, assessment of possible policy gaps and tangible operational constraints especially with regards to gender in Ethiopia's urban agenda, and initiation of an Urbanisation and Growth Dialogue with Cities Alliance members and development partners in Ethiopia.
- Grant to New York University for deepening of the on-going **urban expansion initiative** in Ethiopia in four regional capitals (Mekelle, Bahir Dar, Hawassa and Adama). At the same time introducing the urban expansion initiative in 14 new cities that are facing land and infrastructure challenges due to rapid population growth. The urban expansion initiative supports cities in preparing detailed, inclusive and consultative macroblock plans and infrastructure designs toward expanding their urban space in preparation for pressures on the demand for land and infrastructure.

Cities Alliance Members Active in Ethiopia

- Ministry of Urban Development, Housing and Construction
- Ethiopian Cities Association
- Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)
- Agence Française de Développement (AFD)
- New York University
- United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- United Nations Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF)
- World Bank



Aerial view of Addis Ababa



Cities Alliance Board in Addis Ababa

FUTURE CITIES AFRICA (FCA) PROJECT IN ETHIOPIA

The FCA project is a partnership initiative launched by Cities Alliance and the Department for International Development (DFID) in November 2014 to support selected African cities¹ as they transform themselves into **resilient, inclusive centres of economic growth**. The FCA project consists of **rapid city resilience assessments (RCRAs)** of target cities, an in-depth **feasibility study** to assess the challenges in African cities, **research studies** on urban resilience themes as incorporated in the five dimensions of the FCA normative framework (governance, economy, services, citizenship and the environment) and prioritised through the RCRAs, and the development of a set of **innovative tools** and **knowledge platforms**.

The FCA project in Ethiopia benefits from the **Cities Alliance membership of the Ethiopian government** and its **willingness to engage** with Cities Alliance initiatives in Ethiopia's urban development. The project seeks to support the implementation of Ethiopia's **Growth and Transformation Plan**. It identifies the **implementation gap** between the Growth and Transformation Plan and the actual implementation of inclusive and resilient urban growth on the ground, and starts seeking to fill this gap through **participatory planning processes** such as the diagnostics of cities using **RCRAs** which have been drafted for Dire Dawa and Mekelle. The RCRAs are self-assessments of the resilience challenges faced in the management of cities and prioritisation of areas for intervention.

The FCA methodology fulfills the Cities Alliance approach of bringing urban development stakeholders of all levels to inclusively dialogue on urban policy and actively engage in implementation. This **fortification of partnerships** has been carried out between the **Ministry of Urban Development, Housing and Construction** and the local governments of **Dire Dawa** and **Mekelle**.



Future Cities Africa Induction Workshop in Dire Dawa

1. Target cities of the FCA project are 14 secondary cities in Uganda, 3 regional capitals in Ethiopia, the Nampula-Nacala-Tete urban corridor in Mozambique, and the Greater Accra Metropolitan Area in Ghana.