

## WHAT IS THE UGANDA COUNTRY PROGRAMME?

The Cities Alliance Uganda Country Programme is a partnership initiative with the objectives of empowering poor urban communities as partners in urban planning and growth, pro-actively guiding urbanisation through policies and strategies, and improving accessibility to basic urban infrastructure in slums and informal settlements. The Country Programme implementation focuses on 14 selected secondary cities<sup>1</sup>, but some of the activities have a nation-wide scope. The themes of the programme are urban policy, participatory urban governance, urban knowledge generation, capacity development and urban upgrading infrastructure. Interventions have taken place at the national, city and community levels, and with the goal of strengthening interactions between all tiers of governance structure and communities.

The urban population of Uganda doubled between 2002 and 2014 from 3 million (12 per cent of total population) to 6 million (16 per cent of total population) with about 60 per cent of urban dwellers living in slums and informal settlements. The Country Programme has been a very important intervention in the effective management of urban growth and provision of services to the urban poor, especially in secondary cities where a lot of this rapid urbanisation is taking place.

Programme cost: **USD 5,566,400**

Start: **May 2010**

### The Partners

- Ministry of Land, Housing and Urban Development
- Ministry of Local Government
- Urban Authorities Association of Uganda
- Local communities/14 municipalities
- ACTogether
- Shack/Slum Dwellers International (SDI)
- Makerere University
- International City/County Management Association
- United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)
- World Bank

## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE COUNTRY PROGRAMME

- The **Uganda National Urban Policy** has been drafted through participatory research and a consultative process, and submitted to the National Assembly **for adoption**.
- The **Uganda National Urban Forum** has been established and institutionalised as an all-inclusive platform for **urban policy dialogue**.
- **Municipal Development Forums and settlement level forums** have been established and widely adopted as participatory governance mechanisms in the target **14 secondary cities and Kampala**, and have been included as urban governance instruments in the draft National Urban Policy. At least **318 community savings groups and 13,458 savers** have also been mobilised for local revenue generation.
- **123 community upgrading infrastructure projects** have been implemented using the **Community Upgrading Fund** participatory approach in **five municipalities – Arua, Jinja, Kabale, Mbale and Mbarara**. Projects included WASH facilities, roadworks, electricity and schools.
- **Enumeration/mapping and profiling of settlements** of the urban poor has been carried out in all **14 target municipalities** of the programme through a **participatory learning-by-doing approach**, and the information generated has been used by communities to reach out to municipal authorities on planning and development.
- The **institutional capacities** of national government agencies, local governments, community leaders and related institutions active in urban development has been strengthened. Beneficiaries of the extensive capacity building efforts include the **Ministry of Land, Housing and Urban Development, the Ministry of Local Government, Urban Authorities Association of Uganda, the University of Makerere**, and local governments and communities of the **14 target municipalities**.
- **Municipal Development Strategies are in the process** of being developed for the 14 target municipalities.
- **Gender balance** has been an important aspect of the Country Programme. The composition of **savings groups tipped towards a female majority**. **Municipal Development Forums, training workshops** and other project activities have all targeted balanced gender representation.
- The investments and activities of the Country Programme have **leveraged the World Bank's further investment of USD 150 million** for the Uganda Support to Municipal Infrastructure Development Program.

1. The 14 selected secondary cities of the Country Programme are Arua, Entebbe, Fort Portal, Gulu, Hoima, Jinja, Kabale, Lira, Masaka, Mbale, Mbarara, Moroto, Soroti and Tororo

### SYNERGIES WITH FUTURE CITIES AFRICA (FCA) PROJECT

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 cities<sup>2</sup> 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**.

FCA activities in Uganda align with the activities of the Country Programme and **capitalise on the partnerships established through the Country Programme** such as with the Ministry of Land, Housing and Urban Development and with the 14 target municipalities of the Country Programme.

**RCRAs have been conducted for and by the 14 municipalities**, adopting a process that utilised the **Municipal Development Forums** established by the Country Programmes. The municipalities carried out a self-assessment of their performance in the five dimensions of the FCA normative framework and identified priority areas for action. The RCRAs serve the dual purpose of **informing the FCA Feasibility Study** and **laying the groundwork** for the development of evidence-based **Municipal Development Strategies with focus on resilience for the 14 municipalities**.

### Some Community Upgrading Projects of the Country Programme



Water-borne toilet at Walukuba East market



Construction of toilet in Masese landing site



Fencing of Mvara Junior Primary School in Zambia Cell



Construction of Drainage Channel in Lower Bugongi Ward



Community water stand pipe and storage tanks in Awindiri ward



Installation of 50KVA Transformer in Rushaki ward

2. 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.