




CITIES AND MIGRATION PROGRAMME

Cities Alliance
Cities Without Slums

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 Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
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Migration is a driver of city growth

In 1950, over 70 per cent of the world's population lived in rural settlements and less than 30 per cent in urban settlements. By 2050, 67 per cent of people are projected to live in urban areas. Most of the growth will take place in low- and middle-income countries, in secondary cities that already face high poverty rates and deficits in the provision of public services.

Migration will be a major driver of this growth. Cities are the first point of entry for most migrants seeking work and shelter, and it is in cities where these migrants will attempt to integrate into existing settlements and realise their aspirations for a better life. Already, the vast majority of migrants – both voluntary and forced – are found in cities. Voluntary migrants are attracted by the expectation of better economic opportunities, infrastructure, and services, while forced migrants hope to find safety and livelihoods after being displaced by conflict or natural disasters.

Whether they do so, or live excluded from opportunities in the city, depends on how a city responds to migration. It also depends on the city's ability to develop practical solutions that take into account how migration transforms, expands and diversifies urban areas. This is a complex task, as solutions and policy approaches to migration often need to be found in very difficult circumstances.

SUPPORTING CITIES TO PROACTIVELY MANAGE MIGRATION

Typically, those cities experiencing the greatest impact from migration – including the cities in which Cities Alliance works – are often overwhelmed and unprepared to absorb the growing number of migrants. The result is that most urban growth is informal and unplanned, leaving migrants, host communities and their families with limited access to housing, employment, health care, education and social support systems. The situation can also lead to tensions between new migrants and the existing, settled population over access to services and economic opportunities.

Large or sudden inflows of migrants to cities are especially challenging for middle- and low-income cities. If not managed proactively, the rapid pace of urbanisation puts pressure on the infrastructure and the economic and social fabric of a city. In many cases, local and national governments can only cope with the consequences of urbanisation and have limited mandate and resources to plan proactively.

Consequently, a negative tone often dominates the narrative on migration to cities that portrays migrants as responsible for overcrowding, congestion, increasing exposure to hazards, and shortfalls in basic infrastructure, services and livelihoods (IOM, 2015).

If managed proactively, however, migrants can contribute to the city economy as employees, entrepreneurs, taxpayers, and consumers. They can also benefit their places of origin through social and financial remittances.



It is estimated that if migrants receive improved access to basic services and are integrated more successfully into the local labour market, their contribution would add to USD 1 trillion in output worldwide through increased productivity.

McKinsey, 2015



INFORMING AND CRAFTING A CITY-FOCUSED RESPONSE TO MIGRATION

Currently, policy responses to migration are typically developed at the national level, and cities have limited authority or means to manage migration flows to urban centres. With the changing dynamics of migration, a new approach is needed that puts cities at the centre.

Cities need initiatives, policies, and governance that can foster labour mobility while providing labour migrants – and host communities – with the right and capacity to fully benefit from the city's services and opportunities. With such a framework in place, migration inflows can promote inclusive economic growth. The challenge for cities is how to create such a framework.

Global agreements have recognised the role of cities in development and the need to address migration, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration and the Global Compact on Refugees.

The Cities Alliance Cities and Migration Programme

With financial support of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), the Cities Alliance has convened a Programme to enable partner cities, local governments, host communities and migrants to manage challenges and leverage opportunities arising from migration to cities in low-income countries for sustainable and inclusive development.

The programme will advance global thinking on the role and potential of cities in low-income countries to manage migration and tap into the opportunities arising from migration to and from secondary cities. It will also seek to encourage a positive narrative on urban migration, seeing migrants and host communities as contributors of local economic growth.

Programme Objectives

The Cities and Migration Programme aims to generate new knowledge, promote analytical and collaborative approaches to key urban issues, and improve urban practices and policies related to cities and migration. It also aspires to become a local, national, and international coordination platform, knowledge hub and think tank for advocating new thinking on migration.

The programme will have a strong gender component. Migration is a highly gendered process, with women, men, girls and boys experiencing different risks and vulnerabilities. The Programme will examine the gendered differences of urban migration patterns and characteristics and build evidence-based knowledge designed to make urban migration safer and rewarding for both males and females.

The programme is designed to help cities and countries contribute directly to global agendas, including Agenda 2030, the Global Compact for Migration and the Global Compact on Refugees.

Focus Areas

The Programme pursues its objectives through three interlinked approaches:

- **Generating policy-relevant data and knowledge.** This component aims to achieve a better understanding on the links between cities, migration, and development. Cities Alliance will build a body of research, policy-relevant data, and evaluations of existing approaches and policies from the local to the international level. This information will help bridge science with policies and advance effective practice on the ground.
- **Facilitating partnerships and dialogues to advance practice and policy.** Cities Alliance will build on its core mandate of a convening membership organisation to strengthen or build new partnerships and dialogues across urban migration stakeholders at the local, national, regional and global levels. The goal is to build awareness, capacity and partnerships on how improved migration management can be leveraged for poverty reduction and sustainable development in cities.
- **Supporting pilots for evidence-based approaches and policies.** The pilots aim to empower urban migration partners to understand the changes migration brings, and to shift from coping to adaptation strategies that maximise the opportunities migrants bring for sustainable urban development and poverty reduction. Key lessons from the pilots will be disseminated at the local, national, and global level and directly influence operations of Cities Alliance's Country Programmes.







Partners

With its diverse membership, the Cities Alliance is in a unique position to mobilise a range of stakeholders with different skills, expertise, and perspectives around the issue of cities and migration. Partners include:

- AVSI Foundation
- C40
- Habitat for Humanity International (HFHI)
- International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED)
- The Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD)
- Local community organisations and NGOs in partner cities
- Local governments of partner cities (11)
- Metropolis
- Oxford University
- The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
- UN-Habitat
- United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG)
- United Cities and Local Governments Africa (UCLG-Africa)
- The World Bank

Activities

The Cities and Migration Programme will implement activities at the city and global levels. It will engage in nine pilot cities, with activities designed to benefit both migrants and host communities. While the activities are tailored to the needs and contexts of each city, they typically aim to:

- Build more evidence-based knowledge on urban migration;
- Collaborate with local authorities, civil society and private sector to test approaches for improved management of migration; and
- Establish space for dialogue among all stakeholders to discuss and address migration issues.

At the global level, the programme will produce several major knowledge products on local migration governance that aim to deliver credible, evidence-based messages to the global discussion on cities and migration. It will also promote the opportunity for secondary cities in low-income countries to share their experiences at the global level.

The activities are centred around four focus areas:

- **Cities and inclusive migration governance.** Activities in this area aim to provide data on urban migrants, evidence-based knowledge products, and supported pilot initiatives that enable local authorities to advance the management of urban migration and integration of migrants and social cohesion.
- **Cities and labour migration.** For this area, activities seek to provide data, evidenced-based knowledge products, and supported pilot initiatives on labour migration to improve the capacity and mandate of local authorities and key support partners to receive, manage, and integrate labour migrants.
- **Cities and forced migration.** Activities for this area aim to improve data and evidence-based knowledge products for improved management of urban crisis migration, durable solutions and sustainable responses to forced displacement. The goal is to help local authorities and key support partners build the capacity and mandate to receive, manage, and integrate involuntary migrants displaced by conflict or environmental shocks.
- **Global partnership and advocacy.** Activities in this area will facilitate cooperation and peer-learning among Cities Alliance members and partners. They will also support global cooperation, partnership, and advocacy for safe, orderly and regular migration.



FAST-GROWING POPULATIONS

Adama

Estimated population:
One million

Population in 2007 Census: 220,000

Jigjiga

Estimated population:
At least 500,000

Population at 2007 Census: 125,000

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ETHIOPIA

PARTNER CITIES: ADAMA AND JIGJIGA



Ethiopia is one of the least urbanised countries in the world. According to the 2007 census, 16 per cent of Ethiopians live in urban areas. However, Ethiopian secondary cities are large and growing fast, mainly due to rural-urban migration.

Adama and Jigjiga demonstrate how quickly Ethiopia is now urbanising. Both cities attract youth in search of better income opportunities than in their rural environment. Even though Adama is a regional transport and conference centre, income opportunities cannot keep up with the number of new job seekers coming to the city every day. Many rural-urban migrants struggle to make ends meet.

Both cities also receive a considerable number of highly vulnerable migrants. Many Ethiopians displaced by conflict, seasonal droughts, and floods seek shelter in the cities, which struggle to provide adequate support.

Migration offers tangible opportunities, and Jigjiga is already leveraging it for local development. At the national level, Ethiopia has successfully started the Ethiopia Diaspora Trust Fund, which raised US \$4 million in nine months. Jigjiga is the capital of the Somalia Region of Ethiopia, which is equally active in engaging its diaspora. The Somalia Regional Government Diaspora Affairs Bureau in Jigjiga established transfer accounts at the district level and raised a total of US\$ 1 million for local social projects in eight months.

There is scope to document and further expand this successful diaspora financing for local development in cooperation with Jigjiga University, and to share these experiences across Ethiopia and the other partner countries of the Cities and Migration programme.



PROJECTS IN ETHIOPIA

Adama: Improving the Reception, Management and Integration of Rural-Urban Migrants with a Registration Scheme, Resource Centre, Networking, and Infrastructure Development

The project supports the Adama city administration in implementing registration and resource centres to help the city collect information on migrants and guide them on available services. It will also establish a networking group to create space for dialogue and cooperation among stakeholders and undertake basic infrastructure development in migrant settlements to improve their living standards and economic opportunities. It is implemented in partnership with the Adama Science and Technology University (ASTU) and the Adama City Level, Labour and Social Affairs Office and will run from December 2019 – November 2021.

Jigjiga: Diaspora Engagement for City Development: Institutionalising the Concept of Migration and Development into Plans and Actions

This project will help the Ethiopian Somali regional and local governments leverage the important role the diaspora plays in local development by mainstreaming diaspora engagement in policies, development plans, and approaches. It will produce a comprehensive profile of the diaspora, strategies for engagement, and capacity building for local governments to implement the strategies.

The project is implemented in partnership with Jigjiga University and the Regional Investment and Diaspora Affairs Bureau of the Regional Government Council of the Ethiopian Somali Region and runs from November 2019 – November 2021.



A refugee centre

Kakuma, which has an estimated population of **46,000**, now hosts **187,000** refugees: 150,000 in Kakuma camp (established in 1992) and 37,000 in Kakuma settlement (established in 2016).

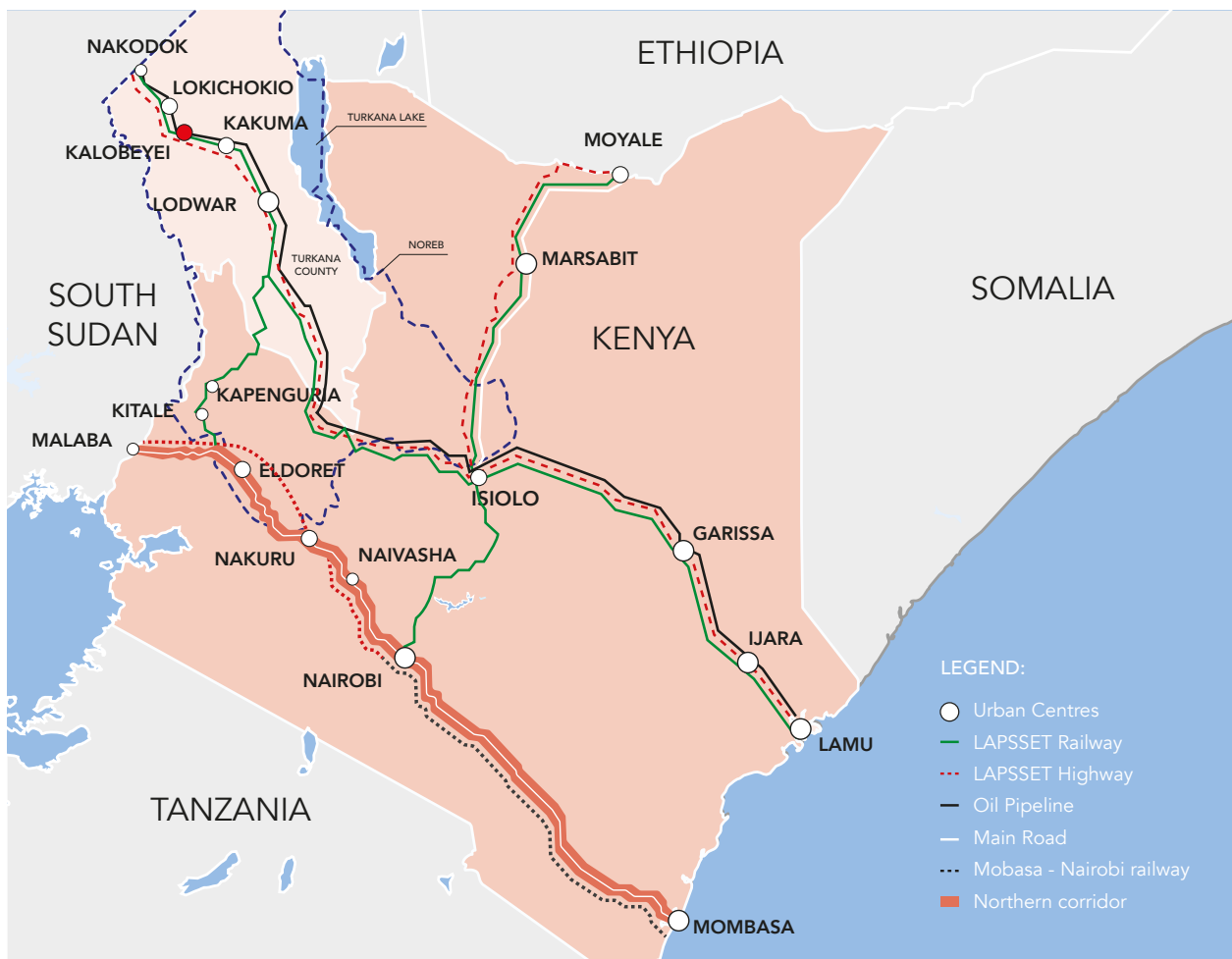
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KENYA

PARTNER CITIES IN KENYA:
THE KAKUMA-KALOBEYEI URBAN CLUSTER

INFRASTRUCTURE ALONG LAPPSET CORRIDOR



The area of consideration covers all of Turkana County, including Kalobeyei integrated settlement, Kakuma camps, and the host communities. The project area (highlighted in light pink on the map) includes major surrounding towns and smaller market centres located along the LAPPSET corridor running from Nakodok in South Sudan to Lamu. The corridor will form a spatial spine across Turkana County from Nakodok through Lokichogio, Kalobeyei Integrated settlement, Kakuma town and Lodwar near the border with Baringo County in the south.

“Refugees are an opportunity for Turkana” is a statement one hears frequently in this Kenyan county. Turkana County is one of the poorest areas of Kenya, with reports of 88 per cent of the population living below the poverty line (compared to 45 per cent at the national level). Longer, more frequent droughts make it harder for the people of Turkana to survive, and the land is arid to semi-arid and over-grazed. Gradually more rural people, particularly the youth, are turning to urban centres to find relief and work.

After the county capital Lodwar, Kakuma is one of the largest urban areas with an estimated population of 46,000. Due to conflicts in the surrounding countries, Kakuma experienced a large influx of refugees, which have added substantially to its population growth. Kakuma now hosts 187,000 refugees – the second-largest population of refugees in Kenya after Dadaab. This growth enabled the governor of Turkana County to request city status for Kakuma-Kalobeyei.

The urban population growth, combined with the support of aid and development programmes, have brought economic opportunities to the region. Turkana now has 2,500 businesses and its local market is valued at least at US\$ 56 million per year. In addition, hosting refugees has grown Turkana’s GDP by more than three per cent and increased local employment by three per cent, according to the World Bank and International Finance Corporation.

While this growth is welcome, Turkana's towns and villages rely heavily on the existence of the refugees and the humanitarian and development aid efforts. Additional local economic development efforts are needed to ease the dependency on international aid efforts and support a sustainable local economy that can continue to flourish when refugees return to their home countries.

Another issue impacting development in the Kakuma and Turkana region is a low level of connectivity and networking within its system of towns. Connectivity is crucial to the development of secondary cities and regional towns to improve access to services, markets, trade, information and knowledge development. It is also an important component in expanding the business, education, trade, political and information network which supports local economic development, employment growth and investment.



PROJECT IN KENYA

Kakuma-Kalobeyei: Sustainable Economic Development Along the Turkana West Development Corridor Through Enhanced Connectivity

The project aims to improve connectivity and networks that enable businesses, local governments and individuals to gain access to a wider choice of goods, finance, employment, and investment opportunities. It will:

- Organise development forums for cities along a major Kenyan transport corridor;
- Expand a network of cities for knowledge exchange and cooperation;
- Support the planning of an Economic Enterprise Zone (EEZ) to promote the local economy in Kakuma-Kalobeyei;
- Build soft infrastructure to support a city network; and
- Strengthen capacity at the local level to integrate migration into city development.

UN-Habitat is implementing the project in partnership with the Ministry of Transport, Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development; the Turkana County Government; the LAPPSET Corridor Development Authority; and the Refugee Affairs Secretariat. It will run from November 2019 – November 2021.



HORN OF
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UGANDA

PARTNER CITIES IN UGANDA: ARUA AND JINJA



The largest refugee-hosting country in Africa, Uganda has taken steps to formally address the management of refugees in the country. The Refugees Act of 2006, followed by a series of regulations in 2010, provides protection and freedoms to refugees in the form of property rights, freedom of movement, the right to work, and the provision of services. The Ugandan government has also established a Comprehensive Refugee Resettlement Framework under the Office of the Prime Minister to ensure a coordinated approach to managing the refugee challenge.

After registering with the government, they live in settlements and are provided plots of land for agricultural use to achieve self-reliance. This policy extends to all refugees, regardless of ethnicity or country of origin. Many refugees, however, choose to bypass the registration process and go directly to urban areas, which receive no government support for services, infrastructure, or basic needs.

ARUA

Arua has been applauded for its open-door policy to the refugees. However, Arua has been overwhelmed by the sheer number of self-settled urban refugees, resulting in a deterioration of services.

Arua estimates that self-settled refugees make up 24 per cent of its total population. There is much goodwill towards the refugees, especially those from the DRC and South Sudan who belong to the same ethnic group, the Kakwa. Despite the visible goodwill towards refugees in Arua, however, more resources and planning are required to manage this large influx of refugees in a way that meets the basic needs of both the refugees and the host community.

The influx of refugees has led to higher rents for housing, making it unaffordable for many low-income residents. The number of visitors to the city's health centres increased from 600 to 1,080 per month, exhausting the stock of medications and vaccines. The number of medical staff remained the same. Diseases that had become uncommon in Arua have returned, and available medical supplies are not enough to meet the needs of the increased population. Supplies are distributed according to an area's official population size, and without accurate data, the current formula does not include the refugee population residing in the municipalities.



JINJA

People from all backgrounds in Jinja have a shared memory of the city as an industrial centre, with people coming from all over Uganda to seek work in the factories. In the 1970s, the Ugandan government prioritised industrial development in Jinja due to its location at the source of the Nile hydro power production. When the government decided to allow industries to settle across Uganda, most relocated to Kampala, and Jinja's industrial status declined drastically. Today, commerce is a vibrant sector in Jinja which provides formal and informal livelihoods to many long-term residents and rural-urban migrants.

Re-industrialisation is a much more challenging task. The economy is weak, people have limited purchasing power, and taxes levied at the national and local level are high and complex. The economy in Jinja is difficult for both employers and workers. Most of the city's 3,000 industrial workers, who are primarily rural-urban migrants, are employed as daily wage workers – a situation that provides little job security. The city is interested in exploring other means of local economic development and investment, including tapping into an active community of Ugandan migrants in the United States with ties to the city.



PROJECTS IN UGANDA

Arua: Strengthening Mechanisms for Receiving, Managing and Integrating Involuntary Migrants Within the Arua Municipal Council

The project will collect accurate data on Arua Municipality's population to inform planning. It will also use mechanisms such as municipal and division development forums to promote dialogue and build capacity among all stakeholders and partner with financial institutions to help migrants and host communities become more self-reliant and improve their livelihoods.

It is implemented by the AVSI Foundation in partnership with Arua Municipal Council (AMC) and the Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS) and runs from December 2019 – November 2021.

Jinja: Strengthening Capacity for Urban Migration Management and Improving Migrant Livelihoods in Jinja City, Uganda

This project builds knowledge on rural-urban migrants in Jinja and its effects on poor host communities. The Jinja Municipal City Council, in close collaboration with citizen representatives, will design and implement a migration management strategy which primarily focuses on the economic inclusion of poor migrant and non-migrant households through financial inclusion and investment in viable enterprises, asset building, housing upgrading and access to basic urban infrastructure, utilities and services.

Implementing partners include the Jinja Municipal City Council, Makerere University, and the slum dweller organisation ACTogether. It runs from December 2019 – November 2021.

MIDDLE
EAST AND
NORTH
AFRICA



TUNISIA

KAIROUAN AND JENDOUBA



Both Kairouan and Jendouba are secondary cities in the hinterlands of Tunisia, which over the years have received significantly less investment than the country's coastal areas. These cities need economic reforms in order to create jobs and address growing social dissatisfaction, but the economic situation is challenging.

The cities need to attract investors, but they cannot compete with the large coastal cities which benefited from greater state support over the last decades. The government provides tax exemptions to industries that settle in secondary cities, but not many have come. As long as non-coastal secondary cities cannot offer comparable quality of life, services, education, and cultural activities, they will have trouble attracting large businesses and keeping workers in the city.

Both Jendouba and Kairouan have experienced a major outmigration over the past decades as residents with capital and skills relocated to the attractive, vibrant coastal cities. However, the populations of both cities have remained roughly the same thanks to migrants from rural areas.

The challenges that both Jendouba and Kairouan confront are immense and will require time and resources to be addressed. Priorities remain attracting investment, building local entrepreneurship, leveraging the skills of the former rural population, and efforts to increase the attractiveness of the cities as a place to live.



PROJECTS IN TUNISIA

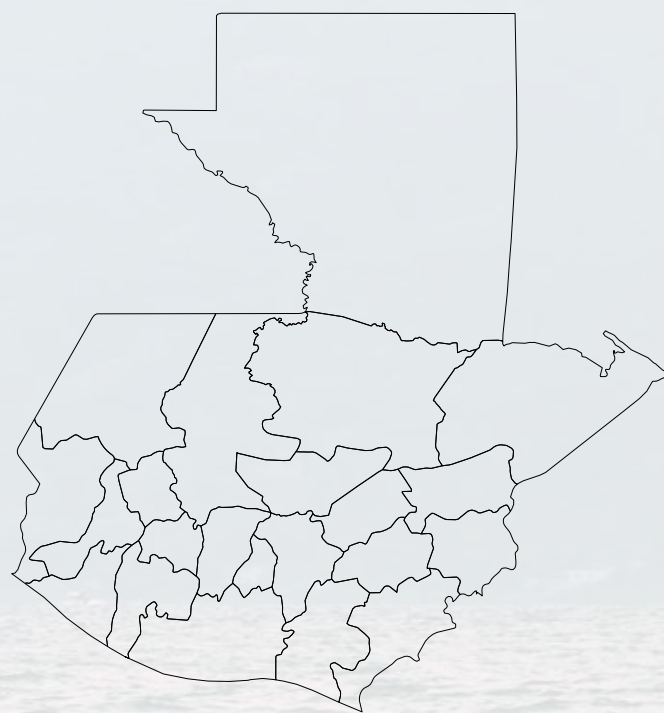
Jendouba and Kairouan: Promoting Responsible Tourism for Better Economic, Social and Cultural Integration of Migrants

The projects in Jendouba and Kairouan will enable city stakeholders to work together to receive, manage, and integrate labour migrants and, at the same time, promote responsible tourism in the city. Young labour migrants will be trained and guided through tourism-related activities to improve their economic situations in a partnership between local and regional authorities, civil society and the private sector. This experience, combined with an urban forum and dialogues at the regional and national levels, will inform citywide strategies to integrate labour migration into local policies and institutionalise the multi-stakeholder partnerships developed through the projects.

The projects are implemented in partnership with the National Union of Tunisian Women in Kairouan and the Association of Women, Youth and Children in Jendouba, in collaboration with the tourism sector. They run from December 2019 – November 2021.



LATIN
AMERICA
AND THE
CARIBBEAN



GUATEMALA

SAN MARCOS AND AMATITLÁN

Guatemala is one of the poorest and most unequal countries in Latin America. More than 40 per cent of Guatemala's urban population lives in slums, while high levels of crime and violence impede the country's development. Guatemala is currently 52 per cent urbanised, with an annual urban growth rate of 3.3 per cent driven by natural population growth and internal migration.

Based on current trends, an urbanisation rate of 75 per cent is anticipated by 2032, adding more than six million inhabitants to the main urban centres. Of these residents, almost 40 per cent will be between 15 and 34 years old – creating a strong human resources asset to increase the work force and generate economic growth.

Between 2000 to 2017, the number of Central American migrants nearly doubled, from 2.6 million to 4.3 million. At the same time, secondary cities have grown significantly over the last decade and now represent between 15 and 65 per cent of the national urban system. According to official census figures, nearly two-thirds of the urban population growth over the last decade took place in Guatemala's secondary cities.

With current conditions, however, it is clear that Guatemala's secondary cities cannot capitalise on the recent dynamics of diverse population flows: rural to urban, between cities, and both in and out of the country. Available data shows a significant outflow mainly to the United States – 2.3 million people, approximately 14 per cent of Guatemala's current population.

San Marcos and Amatitlán are both secondary cities that integrate urban agglomerations in geographically strategic locations. For different reasons, they are both affected by internal and external migration dynamics.

San Marcos is located in the north, close to the Mexican border. It is part of the "Mancuerna" consortium of cities, which face multiple challenges in fostering economic opportunities and overcoming social vulnerabilities and segregation that particularly affects the rural indigenous communities, from which many young migrants depart to national and international destinations.

Amatitlán is in a different situation. It is a member of "Mancomunidad Ciudad der Sur" in the southern part of the large metropolitan area of Guatemala City. The municipality and its neighbours have been the recipients of both internal and international migration, including returnees that are not likely to return to their original areas. Through the the Municipal Council of Development, Amatitlán's mechanism for governance and citizenship participation, key stakeholders are in the advanced stage of designing and approving a migration policy – demonstrating a high level of political will from both government and non-governmental organisations towards building more structured approaches to take advantage of the opportunities presented by migration.

Both San Marcos and Amatitlán host projects and initiatives of Cities Alliance partners and members in Guatemala, and they will be strategic to expanding the partnership among local stakeholders, including municipal governments.



PROJECTS IN GUATEMALA

Amatitlán: Amatitlán Includes You: Reception, Management and Integration of Labour Migrants in the City

This project takes an innovative approach to integrating the management of labour migration into the city's plans for sustainable territorial development. It will build the capacity of local authorities to capitalise on the opportunities of labour migration; develop municipal government mechanisms so that city stakeholders can build partnerships, engage in participatory dialogue, and establish a shared vision for their city; and produce analysis to help the city develop a labour integration strategy.

Implementing partners are the AVINA Foundation, in close coordination with the Municipality of Amatitlán and the Municipal Development Council (COMUDE). The project runs from November 2019 – November 2021.

San Marcos: Thriving in San Marcos - Prosperandos En San Marcos

The project introduces an innovative two-year strategy to leverage remittances for local economic and human development in San Marcos. The strategy involves building new partnerships with banks and credit cooperatives to provide formal financial services for remittance-receiving households, so that formal savings can be generated and transformed into credits for local businesses, especially in the knowledge economy. This will help create attractive jobs and increase tax revenues for the municipality. The project also supports improving educational performance among middle-school students in San Marcos.

It is implemented in partnership with the Inter-American Dialogue in close cooperation with banks and credit cooperatives. The project runs from November 2019 – November 2021.



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