



THE RESILIENT SYSTEMS OF SECONDARY CITIES AND MIGRATION DYNAMICS PROGRAMME

The Resilient Systems of Secondary Cities and Migration Dynamics programme

supports initiatives designed by secondary city stakeholders to provide migrants, forcibly displaced people, and host communities with equal access to quality public services, labour market integration, and economic opportunities.

At its core, the programme seeks to advance global thinking on how secondary cities in developing countries can manage and seize the opportunities arising from migration and displacement. It fosters local partnerships among diverse city stakeholders and national and international actors to implement approaches that are locally relevant and work for all residents.

A new perspective on cities as part of a system of cities

Looking at secondary cities as part of a system of cities allows for a better understanding of migration corridors and the benefits of cooperation between cities. It also makes it possible to visualise local development beyond boundaries and take advantage of mobility patterns by focusing on connections with neighbouring towns, villages, and more distant communities.

Supported by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), the programme operates in North Africa, the Horn of Africa, and Latin America and the Caribbean through the Cities and Migration programme.

It builds on an initial phase of work, also financed by SDC, that produced [new evidence on climate-related urban migration and secondary cities](#) through research and pilot programming. This new phase expands the approach from cities to corridors for greater impact.

The Resilient Systems of Secondary Cities and Migration Dynamics programme is based on:

- A corridor, catchment area, or city systems approach
- A continued focus on flexibility and the promotion of collective projects
- Strategic peer learning and technical training
- Partnerships with respected institutions at the local level



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
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Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC

Cities Alliance
Cities Without Slums

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UNOPS

In Uganda's **West Nile region**, enumerations of urban refugees will make it easier for cities to plan and provide services to all their residents. Refurbished maternal and mental health centres and newly trained professionals will provide much-needed medical and mental health care for refugees and host communities.

After-school programmes in **Guatemala's San Marcos-Amatitlán corridor** will provide students – especially young women – with knowledge and skills to succeed in school, helping Guatemala build human capital and transition to a knowledge-based economy.

In **Ethiopia's economic corridors**, a new market in Jigjiga will allow migrants, the forcibly displaced, and host

communities to purchase and trade at significantly lower prices. Women micro-entrepreneurs will create a new market for Jigjiga University's 17,000 students. Expanded migration resource centres in Adama will offer voluntary registration and job-matching services to more migrants and IDPs. An upgraded market and health clinic in Adama will provide economic opportunity and health care for all residents, especially women.

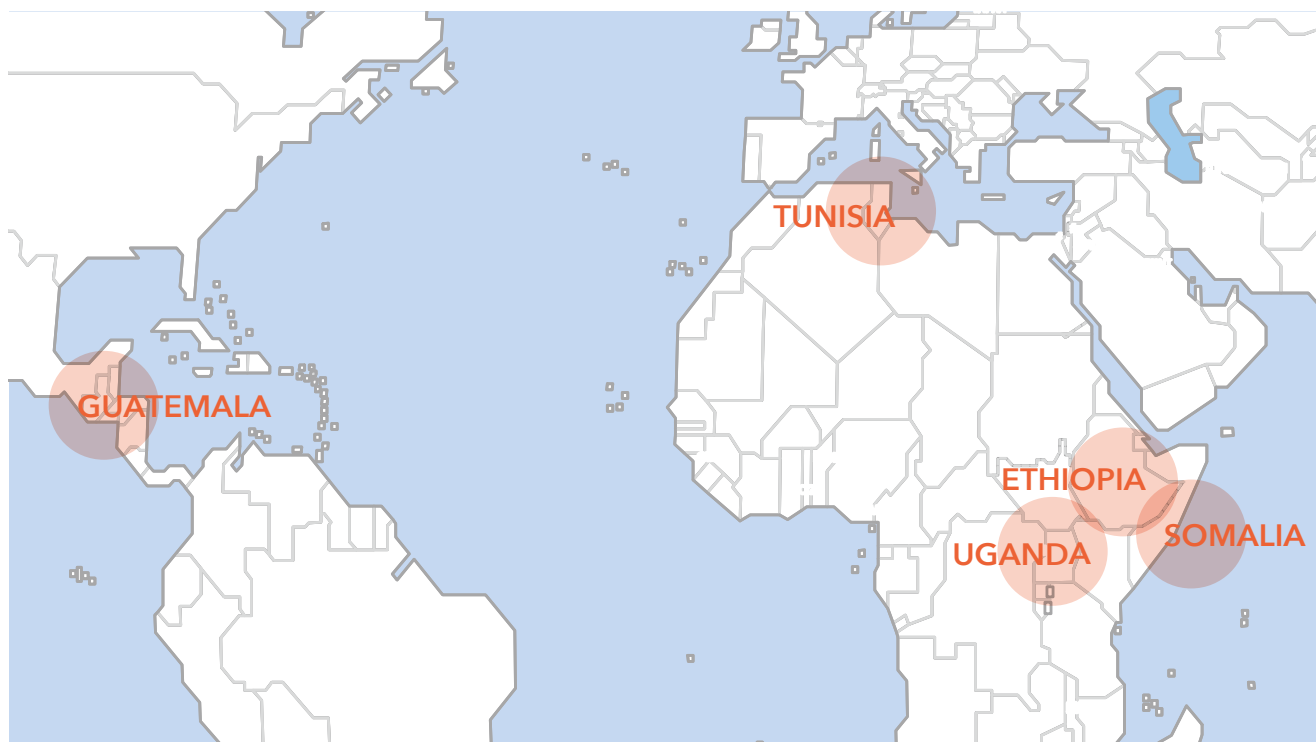
In **the Greater Jinja area of Uganda**, migrant and host community saving groups will receive training in financial, enterprise, and digital skills to help run successful enterprises and access financing. An upgraded market will make it easier, safer, and healthier for women to sell and trade their products, and an innovative

digital waste management pilot will provide training and financial resources to run successful recycling businesses.

In **Tunisia**, employment agencies will receive training and financial support to expand their services to reach people living outside urban centres in the Kairouan-Medenine-Tataouine corridor, where migrants tend to settle. New Citizen Spaces will make administrative municipal services, such as permits, more accessible, transparent, and efficient.

Map of Programme Activities

The programme works with systems of secondary cities in Ethiopia, Guatemala, Tunisia, Somalia, and Uganda to facilitate regional collaboration on urban planning and advocacy.

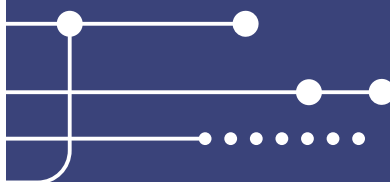


Today, there are nearly 300 million recorded international migrants, with many more undocumented or migrating internally. More people are migrating to cities than ever before, whether short or long term, along national or international corridors, and for voluntary or forced reasons.

Cities Alliance sets a dedicated strategic focus on cities and migration. For many migrants and displaced persons, cities are a primary destination to seek shelter, well-being, and opportunities. However, cities in developing countries – and particularly secondary cities – require support to respond to these flows so they can leverage mobility for local development in a way that benefits both residents and newcomers.

Cities Alliance provides financial and technical assistance to city stakeholders to identify and implement approaches for improved local migration management that are relevant to the local context. As migration and displacement in developing countries are characterised by informality, Cities Alliance builds partnerships among various constituencies at the local, national, and global levels to jointly identify and negotiate a better way forward.

ANTICIPATED RESULTS



Cities Alliance will pursue four interrelated outcomes, which all contribute directly to the Sustainable Development Agenda 2030 and the Swiss International Cooperation

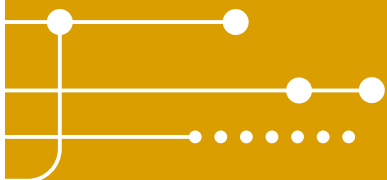
Strategy 2021–2024 through the SDC Global Programme Migration and Development Results Framework.

The programme focuses on a territorial approach that strengthens cities to manage and integrate mixed migration flows on their territories. Coordination and dialogue across different levels of governance and territories – from the local, regional, national, and global levels – will strengthen locally led, multi-sectoral responses by diverse city stakeholders.

As a result of the programme, cities will:

- Strengthen their capacity to address urban expansion planning for improved economic and social inclusion.
- Gain access to finance and technical assistance to improve labour market integration for migrants, displaced persons, and host communities.
- Gain access to finance and technical assistance to improve the provision of basic services for migrants, displaced persons, and host communities.
- Engage in migration and displacement diplomacy globally and regionally, thus ensuring that local migration issues are addressed internationally.

APPROACH



The programme will enhance the effectiveness of urban planning and forecasting for at least a dozen secondary cities, including in climate risk and gender-sensitive planning. It will also strengthen national regulatory and policy frameworks.

Secondary city stakeholders will gain access to financing and technical assistance to improve labour market integration and basic services for migrants, displaced persons, and host communities.

Labour initiatives will reach over 70,000 vulnerable beneficiaries, and public service provisions will benefit over 180,000. All activities will be designed and implemented by city stakeholders.

The programme strives for gender equality and women’s empowerment to improve the well-being of girls and women,

who are often excluded from economic opportunities, social and political participation, and equitable access to public services.

Cities Alliance will facilitate the participation of secondary cities in global migration and displacement diplomacy to ensure that local migration issues are being addressed internationally. Regionally, the programme will build alliances among cities to foster peer-learning and joint advocacy.

TARGETS OF SECONDARY CITY AND CORRIDOR- LEVEL PROJECTS

The programme will support rapidly urbanising secondary cities to provide work, housing, and municipal services such as sanitation, waste management, energy, and water to vulnerable migrants, displaced persons, and host communities.



20 secondary cities

in the Horn of Africa, North Africa, and Latin America with over 5 million new and residing residents will be supported to leverage migration dynamics for social cohesion and development.



Secondary cities and networks **gain a voice** on **global** migration and urban processes to advocate on their contribution to the SDGs and lobby for further support.



Gender-transformative partnerships

will enhance the impact of urban planning, safe labour programmes, and social inclusion.



US\$ 7 million +

in funding leveraged for locally-designed approaches to enhanced migration management. Cities are providing **50%** of the funds.



40+ different city stakeholders

- from all constituencies - work jointly to achieve these targets.



60,000+ migrants,

forcibly displaced, and vulnerable members of host communities will benefit from services to access new or better work opportunities



At least **50%** of **all programme participants** are **female**, representing over **30,000** empowered women.

180,000

will gain access to basic municipal services.



Through policy initiatives and dialogues, **government officials gain knowledge, exposure, and networks** to respond to migration dynamics.