

Proposal Summary

Cities as Guarantors of Stability: Scaling-Up of Strategic Development and Investment Planning (S)

Middle East and North Africa - Palestine

Summary	<p>Major constraints to be addressed by the proposed project: Although strategic development planning approaches have already been practiced by a number of municipalities, a broader and more consistent application is still being hampered by a number of constraints and limitations. Though financing for 66 municipal SDIPs is already secured, some important questions beyond the level of individual municipalities still need to be addressed:</p> <p>a) The linkage between the locally prepared SDIP and the national planning processes (e.g. Palestinian Reform and Development Plan, PRDP) as well as the currently developed physical planning framework is still weak. The priorities identified by the SDIP need to be reflected in the PRDP as only those projects will have national priority and support from other sector ministries (e.g. approval regarding school construction and operation needs to be obtained by the Ministry of Education).</p> <p>b) Institutional and professional capacities of the ministries responsible for supervising planning activities at local government level are still limited. They are particularly insufficient with regard to guiding and supporting the broad scaling-up of strategic development planning as a new planning approach. This holds true for ministerial staff at national level, but even more for staff at the ministries' regional directorates (Governorate office) who would have a key role both in providing advice and assistance to LGUs and in supervising quality and consistency of planning approaches.</p> <p>c) While many municipal management and technical staff as well as private sector planners have already accumulated some practical experience in strategic development planning, it still remains a major challenge for a broader roll-out of the SDIP concept to build appropriate planning capacities of LGU staff, as well as of consultants and training institutions for providing training and technical assistance to municipalities in preparing and regularly updating their SDIPs.</p> <p>d) Finally, knowledge exchange mechanisms as well as outreach and awareness raising on a broader level will need to be strengthened in order to successfully scale-up the SDIP approach.</p>
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Objectives	Activities
<p>The core objective of this joint project is to scale-up SDIP as a localized strategic planning approach in the Palestinian Territories and, thus, improve the economic, social and environmental conditions in Palestinian cities and towns. In particular the project aims to: a) Enhance the regulatory and policy framework for linking the SDIP to national planning processes; b) Strengthen the institutional framework for guiding, supporting and monitoring SDIP preparation and implementation by LGUs and local communities' stakeholders; c) Develop an appropriate system for improving the capacities of LGUs' officials and staff in initiating, managing, and updating SDIPs, as well as, the capacities of local service providers/consultants providing training and technical assistance to LGUs in SDIP preparation and follow-up/implementation (e.g. assistance in how to organize regular monitoring, how to mobilize community and other alternative investments) ; and d) Raise awareness and mobilize Palestinian civil society and private sector to contribute effectively to local development processes and to learn from and share knowledge between local governments and with other countries using CDS approaches.</p>	<p>A) Enhance the Regulatory and Policy Framework; B) Developing the Institutional Framework; C) Developing LGU and Service Providers/Local Consultants' Capacities; D) Sharing Knowledge and Raising Awareness.</p>

Submission	Implementation	Budget and Time
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Submitted by: Ministry of Local Government (Palestine)	CA Sponsor: Agence Française de Développement (AfD); GTZ; Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency; World Bank	Implemented by: GTZ CA Monitor: Gunter Lorenz Meinert	Request to CA: \$ 410,800 Co-Financing: \$ 289,700 Total Budget: \$ 700,500	Duration: months
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Expected Impacts

A. Enhancing the Regulatory Framework 1. Better integration and complementary of local, regional, and national plans; **B. Developing the Institutional Framework** 1. Improved institutional system at the national level to promote and support SDIP processes at the local level; **C. Developing LGUs and Service Providers'/Consultants' Capacity** 1. Improved capacities of LGUs officials to initiate, manage, and monitor participatory planning processes; 2. Improved quality of SDIPs with a stronger emphasis on promoting local economic development and improving social services (as compared to the present focus on infrastructure investments); 3. Broader base for LGUs to access local technical assistance and support; **D. Sharing Knowledge and Raising Awareness** 1. Improved instruments for knowledge and experience sharing among LGUs; 2. Better involvement of the civil society and private sector in the local development processes;