Proposal Summary Promoting Climate Resilient City Development and Settlement Upgrading Strategies for Sri Lanka

South Asia - Sri Lanka

Summary

Sri Lanka is urbanising rapidly; by 2020 at least 50 per cent of its projected population of 22 million is expected to live in contiguous urban local authorities. While the Government of Sri Lanka's ambitious Urban Development Framework recognises the positive impacts of urbanisation, 70 per cent of this population and 80 per cent of national economic infrastructure is concentrated along the coast and, therefore, highly vulnerable to predicted climate change impacts: sea level rise, salination of water resources, cyclones/storm surges, more intense monsoon rains, floods, landslides and greater malaria/dengue epidemics. All of these will negatively impact city productivity, competitiveness and service delivery – especially for the urban poor. In response the Ministry of Environment (MoE) is formulating a National Climate Change Policy to strengthen inter-agency coordination and collective response to these threats, encouraging the Urban Development Authority (UDA) and National Physical Planning Organisation (NPPO) to mainstream climate adaptive and mitigation responses into national urban planning methods, policies and frameworks.

Objectives Activities

To mainstream a "climate-proofed" Sri Lankan participatory CDS/SU approach in the Urban Development Authority/National Physical Planning Organisation National Urban Development and Framework and to sustain it within the National Climate Change Adaptation Policy for Sri Lanka 2011-2016 through strengthened capacity-building support from the Sri Lanka Institute of Local Government/University of Moratuwa and advocacy support from the National Chapter of Mayors of Sri Lanka (NCM).

- (1) Develop a set of innovative tools to "climate-proof" the Sri Lankan CDS/SU approaches; field test the tools in 2 demonstration cities to build partner capacities to integrate climate resilient responses into their urban planning and management approaches; and develop Pre-Feasibility Studies (PFS) to promote follow-up capital investment financing.
- (2) Document project implementation and integrate lessons into UDA/NPPO quidelines through national policy dialogues; and support the National Chapter of Mayors to apply the guidelines in 3 replication cities and disseminate refined versions nationally.
- (3) Support SLILG and UoM to build participatory climate resilient planning and management capabilities of the 5 cities, and mainstream the training materials/ modules into their respective curricula to sustain the capacity development of urban planning and management professionals.
- (4) Exchange experiences and lessons learned through regional and global meetings, from which new innovations will be integrated with Sri Lanka's experiences to further strengthen the processes.

Submission

Submitted by:

National Chapter of Mayors, Sri Lanka (NCM)

CA Sponsor:

UN-HABITAT: World

Implementation

Implemented by: MaRGG - Management Resources for Good Governance

CA Monitor: Federico Silva **Budget and Time**

Request to CA: \$ 218,000 Co-Financing: \$ 295,000 Total Budget: \$ 513,000

Duration: 24 months

Expected Impacts

- (1) 5 urban local authorities with at least 5 senior managers and 5 supervisory officers equipped with knowledge, skills and tools to address local climate change issues with confidence.
- (2) A set of tools to strengthen application of the Sri Lankan CDS/SU processes applied by UDA/NPPO, with good practices documented by a strengthened National Chapter of Mayors of Sri Lanka championing urban local authorities to embrace participatory climate resilient planning approaches.
- (3) Sri Lanka Institute of Local Government and the University of Moratuwa regularly building urban local government/future urban planning professional capacities to address climate change related issues by applying the developed training materials as a routine.
- (4) Sri Lankan CDS/SU approaches enriched through experience-sharing both regionally and globally; linkages to other local government, urban professional and university networks strengthened.



Application Summary