

Cities Alliance
Cities Without Slums

HOSTED BY:  **UNOPS**

Minutes of the Information Session

Grant Support - Call for Proposals

Urban Expansion Planning for Rapidly Growing Secondary Cities in the Horn of Africa

Reference: ETH&UGA/SDC/11934-022/004

Beneficiary countries: Ethiopia, Uganda

Date: 17 February 2023, 11:00 CET (13:00 EAT)

Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/96613569690?pwd=MktvaINmU1ZHQTYvQmh1Z01LM%20EZHz09#success>

Information about the session was shared on UNGM and the Cities Alliance website.
Minutes are posted on the UNGM platform.

Presentation of the Call for Proposal

Cities Alliance presented the Call for Proposal with specific focus on:

- Background and Objectives
- The continuation of Phase I, implemented from 2018-2022 in Ethiopia and Uganda
- Detailed presentation of the 5 Objectives, Indicators and Targets
- Funding envelope and requirement for co-financing
- Detailed presentation of the Eligibility Criteria
- Detailed presentation of the Content of Submissions
 - Note that all required documents need to be received by the Cities Alliance in order to pass the application through the eligibility screening
 - Note that the Proposal Application Form and Financial Proposal Form need to be submitted separately (refer to CfP Instructions to Applicants.pdf)
- Reminder on deadline for clarification questions via UNGM and submission
- Presentation of the evaluation process with reference to technical and financial evaluation questions, gender sensitivity guidelines and value for money principles

Questions and Answers

Important summary note to all participants:

All proposals shall follow the instructions of the CfP document and fully align to the 5 Objectives. Please copy the 5 objectives into your proposal and address all bullet points by formulating respective targets and indicators. Please do not add, change or omit objectives and address all targets that are stated. The proposal's primary role is to elaborate on how (approach/method) the objectives will be achieved and to present a convincing theory of change to ensure sustainable results.

Question 1: Can you please elaborate on the eligibility criteria (2): “The Cities Alliance encourages a partnership approach with strong leadership by local organizations”.

Answer 1: The CfP is a continuation of Phase I of the Cities Alliance Cities and Migration Programme. Phase II will consolidate the cooperation with the partner cities of Phase I, namely Arua, Gulu, Mbale and Jinja (Uganda), Dire Dawa, Jigjiga and a third city (Wajale) (Ethiopia); Borama and Gabiley (Somaliland, Somalia). In Phase II, the cities will be supported to check their draft plans against conditions on the ground and get the plans approved by the municipal and, in some cases, regional government. The applicant to this CfP will support cities in these activities and hence requires strong local knowledge and support by the national government. Surveying and checking the routes will include consultations with landowners along the proposed routes – a delicate issue that requires continued engagement from politicians and local leaders. This process will include regularizing some existing informal settlements. These activities need local expertise to assist cities in finding creative solutions to the challenges that arise. Finally, the cities will be supported to produce draft budgets and incorporate the projects into their capital development plans.

The governments of Uganda and Ethiopia have expressed interest in scaling the approach to additional cities. To consolidate this interest, regulatory changes are needed to embed urban expansion planning in national policies, creating a steady demand from cities for the services of trained practitioners, and the applicant to the CfP must work with government partners to accomplish this goal. To achieve this, a partnership structure with strong networks and credibility to both local and national governments is necessary.

Question 2: Can you please elaborate on the eligibility criteria (7): “Project proposals must include at least 30 per cent co-financing of the total project budget (in-kind and/or cash)”.

Answer 2: Cities Alliance may cover up to 70% of the total project cost. Both Lot 1 and Lot 2 can apply for a maximum Cities Alliance contribution of up to USD 250,000 each. As per requirement of the financing source, each applicant is required to co-finance, in-kind or cash - at least 30% or USD 107,143 - of the remaining project cost. In-kind contributions can include but are not limited to human resources, venues, travel and venue cost, office cost, communication/dissemination etc.

Question 3: Is there any further material Cities Alliance can share to support the preparation of the proposal?

Answer 3: All information is provided through the announcement at the United Nations Global Marketplace. It is necessary that all applicants read carefully through the Call for Proposal Document and submit all required documents as stated in the Call. If documents are missing, proposals may not pass the eligibility check.