

Country Brief

# ETHIOPIA

## 2023

A better quality of life for all in an  
urbanizing world



UN-HABITAT

# A BETTER QUALITY OF LIFE FOR ALL IN AN URBANIZING WORLD

We promote socially and environmentally sustainable human settlements development and the achievement of adequate shelter for all.



**UN-HABITAT**

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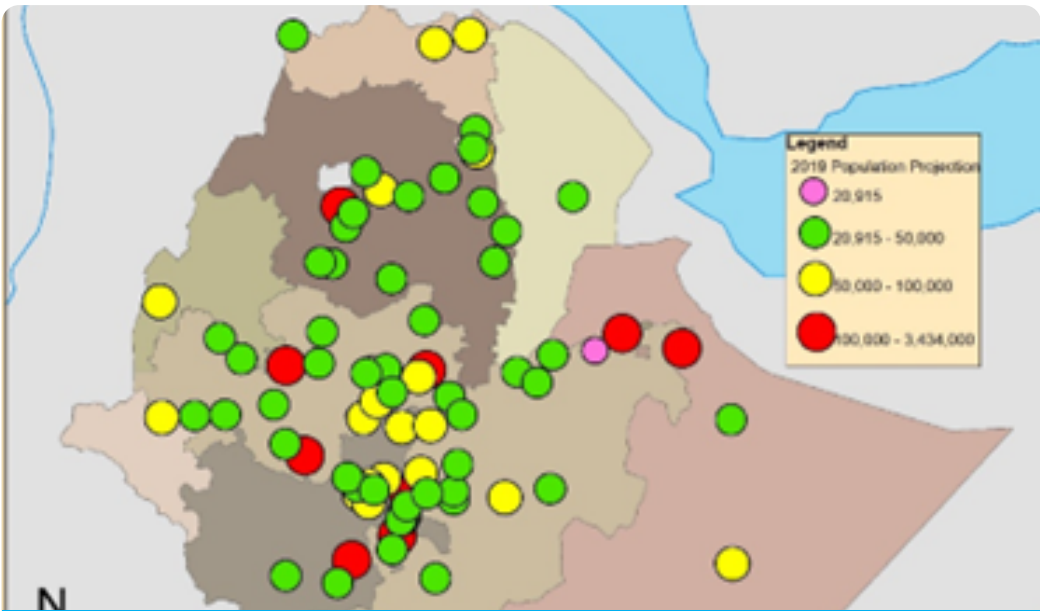
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## URBAN CONTEXT AND TRENDS

Ethiopia is the second largest and second most populous country in the African continent, with a span of 1,127,127 sqkm and nearly 120 million people. The rate of urbanization is considered to be around 5.4% per annum and only 21% of the population is urban. By 2030, the urban population is estimated to be around 44 Million and the urbanization level is estimated to be around 35%, nearly doubling in just a decade from the 2020 figures.

Cities play a significant role in the country's economy, already contributing to 47% of the GDP, and are projected to contribute up to 73% of the GDP by 2030. Concurrently the labor force has doubled in the past 20 years and is projected to rise to 82 million by 2030. And by 2030 Ethiopia has the vision to reach middle-income status.

Ethiopia also experiences an unbalanced urban system with one primate city, the capital Addis Ababa with an estimated population of 3.6 million+. There are only a few cities with a population ranging between 100,000 to 500,000 and many small towns with less than 5000 inhabitants.

Such an unbalanced urban system adversely affects the potential economic benefits accrued due to comparative advantage and agglomeration economies. Ethiopia's urban centers around the capital are booming while other small and secondary cities are stagnating. Owing to the availability of markets, infrastructure services, and utilities, the cities around Addis Ababa are attracting investors and are economically dynamic as opposed to cities further away.

Major overarching urban challenges identified are: economic and unemployment jobs, urban planning, land development and management, urban infrastructure and housing, urban governance basic service provision, low municipal finance and implementation capacity, financial resources waste management, and, climate change.

Situational constraints include sporadic conflicts over territorial claims, highly polarized politics and high turnover of officials, and rapid government and region restructurings.







## UN HABITAT IN ETHIOPIA

Since 1998, the UN-Habitat has implemented a number of projects in Ethiopia. UN-Habitat primarily works with the Ministry of Urban Development and Infrastructure, to address crosscutting and urban-related challenges in the country. Furthermore, UN-Habitat has also a strong working relationship with the Federal city administration of Addis Ababa and regional capitals: Bahir Dar, and Hawassa, and other secondary cities, in the country as well as other federal institutions such as the Ministry of Transport and Logistics. Extent of support reaches to sector agencies and public service providers of the city

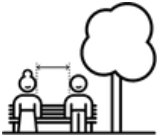
# Our Thematic Focus

We contribute to the achievement of sustainable urban development in Ethiopia through the following areas:



## Urban & Regional Planning

Offer technical support for cities and regions on the preparation and revision of structure Development plans to accommodate rapid urbanization.



## Public Space

Aims at supporting cities to carry out citywide public space inventory and providing support to rehabilitate selected sites



## Sustainable Urban Mobility

UN-Habitat avidly advocates for the promotion of Non-Motorized and sustainable transporting in Ethiopian cities.



## Solid Waste Management

Supporting the design and development of rehabilitation of SWM and developing sustainable strategies and rehabilitation of landfills



## City RAP Tool

Implementation of the City Resilience Action Planning (City RAP) Tool to Support Ethiopian Cities to develop resilience Framework for Action



## Durable Solution

Supporting Internally displaced people in the country, with a menu of options for resettlement, integrations, or relocation

# PRIORITY SDG



**1** NO  
POVERTY

**IMPROVE  
LIVELIHOODS**



**3** GOOD HEALTH  
AND WELL-BEING

**SOLID WASTE  
MANAGEMENT  
& ROBUST CITIES**



**5** GENDER  
EQUALITY

**GENDER SENSITIVE  
PUBLIC SPACES**



**6** CLEAN WATER  
AND SANITATION

**ACCESS TO POTABLE  
WATER AND  
SANITATION**



**8** DECENT WORK AND  
ECONOMIC GROWTH

**PROMOTE JOB  
CREATION AND  
OPPORTUNITY**



**9** INDUSTRY, INNOVATION  
AND INFRASTRUCTURE

**PROMOTE PROSPEROUS  
&  
CONDUCTIVE CITIES**



**10** REDUCED  
INEQUALITIES

**PROMOTE INCLUSIVE  
CITIES**



**11** SUSTAINABLE CITIES  
AND COMMUNITIES

**LIVABLE  
CITIES**



**16** PEACE, JUSTICE  
AND STRONG  
INSTITUTIONS

**DURABLE SOLUTIONS  
FOR INTERNALLY  
DISPLACED PEOPLE**



**17** PARTNERSHIPS  
FOR THE GOALS

**PARTNER WITH  
UN SISTER,  
INTERNATIONAL AND  
LOCAL AGENCIES**




# About Our Projects




## URBAN PLANNING

Offer technical support for cities in the preparation and revision of structure plans to accommodate rapid urbanization. Additionally support cities' scope with urbanization, climate and environmental challenges & impacts.

### 1. Hawassa City Structural Plan Preparation

 **Donor:** Department of International Development

 **Budget:** USD 1,799,760.87


 **Partners:** Hawassa City Development

**Duration:** 2017-2021

UN-Habitat supported the Hawassa city administration in preparing the structural plan for the city. The Project addresses the complex spatial relationship between giant projects such as industrial parks within the city and surrounding settlements. The revised Hawassa city structure plan will systematically control and guide the city's development for ten years.

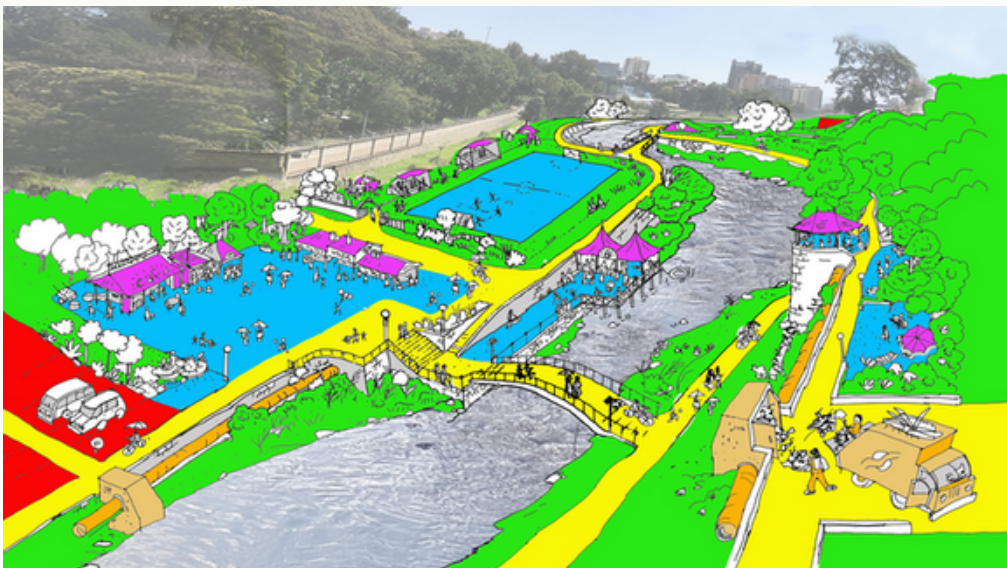
### 2. Bahir Dar City Structural Plan Preparation

 **Donor:** SIDA

 **Partners:** Bahir Dar city administration

**Duration:** 2018-2020

The plan is prepared to guide the development of the city for the coming ten years' planning period (2020-2030) enabling the city to achieve its socio-economic, environmental, infrastructure & utility, and land use & spatial objectives. The plan prepared, with technical support of UN-Habitat, identified the major planning issues of the city, and the proposals for different thematic studies and their implementation strategies.



# About Our Projects




## URBAN PUBLIC SPACES

Through our Public Space Programs we work on creating impact at policy ,institutional, planning, community and economic level, through technical support, capacity building and on the ground project constructions.

### 3. Riverside Public space Development

 **Donor:** SIDA

 **Budget:** USD 486,000

**Duration:** 2021-2022


Previous and ongoing support to the Addis Ababa City Administration included the rehabilitation of Ras Mekonen Bridge public park and the preparation of the Sheger Riverside Corridor Design Guideline, which will be applied and used as implementing guide for the rehabilitation of projects.


The project also aimed to fully integrate public space planning in the implementation of the city's Master Plan, UN-Habitat worked with authorities to assess Natural hazards of the riverfront, design, and management of public spaces in the city.

## SUSTAINABLE URBAN MOBILITY

UN-Habitat focuses on promoting sustainable urban mobility throughout the country. It has produced the country's and the capital's first Non-Motorized Transport Strategy. And avidly advocates for the promotion of Non-Motorized and sustainable transport in cities.

### 4. Scaling Up Safe Street Designs in Ethiopia

 **Donor:** The Road Safety Fund

 **Budget:** USD 200,000

**Duration:** 2019-2022

UN-Habitat has supported the Ethiopian Government in reducing road fatalities, & prioritizing the needs and rights of pedestrians and cyclists. The adoption of the National and Addis Ababa Non-Motorized Transport Strategies, with the help of UN-Habitat, is a significant step towards inclusive NMT planning and infrastructure.



# About Our Projects



## 05. Reclaiming Streets for Pedestrians and Cyclists



**Donor:** The Road For Safety Fund



**Budget:** USD 110,000

**Duration:** 2022-2024

The project aims to enhance road safety in African cities through the improvement of pedestrian and cycling infrastructure, contributing to the drop of road traffic-related deaths, especially among children, in selected countries to below the African annual average of 26.6 deaths per 100,000 inhabitants.

## 6. REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT SPATIAL PLAN



**Donor:** The World Bank Group



**Budget:** USD 7,260,614.50

**Duration:** 2021-2024

The project aims to create functional rural-urban, urban-urban, and rural-rural integration and complementarities between the same in promoting an overall rapid socioeconomic development by making urban centers engines of growth and transformation. The general scope of the project includes the development of the Regional Development Spatial Plan (RDSP) for efficient land use, strategic regional infrastructure network, settlement growth planning, and implementation strategy. It entails planning and shaping the development of the country's regions for the next 20 years and it allows us to further reach every corner of the country.

## DURABLE SOLUTIONS

Through our expertise and mandates on a better way of living, UN-HABITAT has been engaged in Internally Displace People through technical advisory, delivery of durable solutions, revision of development policies, and spatial profiling of settlements to the Ethiopian government.

## 7. Spatial Profiling



**Donor:** SDC

**Duration:** 2020-2021



**Budget:** USD 150,000

Qoloji, located in the Somali Region of Ethiopia, is the largest of the many settlements hosting internally displaced communities in the country. In 2020-2021, UN-Habitat was funded by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) to develop the Qoloji Spatial Profile, which focused on establishing the existing conditions, identifying challenges and opportunities, developing the scenarios, and outlining recommendations for a durable settlement.

# About Our Projects



## 08. Strengthening resilience of disaster affected community



**Donor:** SDC

**Duration:** 2022-2026



**Budget:** USD 4,519,739.85

A four-year program in partnership with FAO and IoM with the support of SIDA and SDC that will support internally displaced people and host communities in multifaceted approach in Oromia & Somali region.

### SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

## 09. Alternative and Sustainable Urban Solid Waste Management & Solution to Reduce Risks of Open Dump Site and Safeguard Public Health in Bahir Dar & Hawassa

**Location:** Hawassa City

Un-Habitat partnered up with Hawassa city Administration with the generous support of the Japan Government to engage in The Implementation of the Fukuoka Method as a Solution to Reduce Risks of Open Dump Sites and Safeguard Public Health

The project aims to contribute to the restoration and establishment of a resilient, safe, and sustainable environment for Hawassa City through the implementation of the Fukuoka Method of Solid Waste Management.

**Period:** 2020-23

**Fund:** 750,000

**Donor:** Japan and SIDA

**Partner:** Hawassa City Administration and SWAN

**Location:** Bahir Dar

The project ("The implementation of the Fukuoka Method in Bahir Dar City as an Alternative and Sustainable Urban Solid Waste Management" in Bahir Dar) is a cost-effective and easy semi-aerobic method in accelerating the decomposition of solid waste and reducing hazardous substances, and the project in Bahir Dar has improved the living and health conditions of around 100,000 residents living around the dumpsite and further downstream areas.

**Period:** 2017-21

**Fund:** 435,509

**Donor:** Japan & Bahirdar City

**Partner :** BahirDar City



# About Our Projects



## RESILIENCE

### 10. City-RAP

 Donor: SIDA

 Amount: USD 2,860,978.48

**Duration:** 2018-2022

A project used for the Identification of priority actions for building urban resilience in a participatory manner: Implementation of the City Resilience Action Planning (CityRAP) Tool (Addis Ababa, Adama, and Dire Dawa): It developed three resilience frameworks for action (3 RFAs) to make informed and strategic decisions on priorities to build the resilience of their city.

It assisted local governments in varied capacities in understanding the importance of mainstreaming resilience into their existing and future policies, plans, budgets, institutional setups, and actions, as well as city dwellers targeting vulnerability to environmental risks and degradation communities to increase their understanding of urban resilience planning.

## COUNTRY PROGRAMME SUPPORT

With an objective to support selected cities of Ethiopia (Addis Ababa, Adama, Dire Dawa, Hawassa, and Mekelle) and some regions (Oromia, Amhara, SNNP, and Tigray) in being better planned, more economically productive and sustainable, socially inclusive and environmentally resilient.

### 11. Capacity Development

Broad-based capacity building packages designed to support and to enhance the leadership skills of city mayors and city managers in the areas of urban design, economy and legislation.

### 12. Technical Support

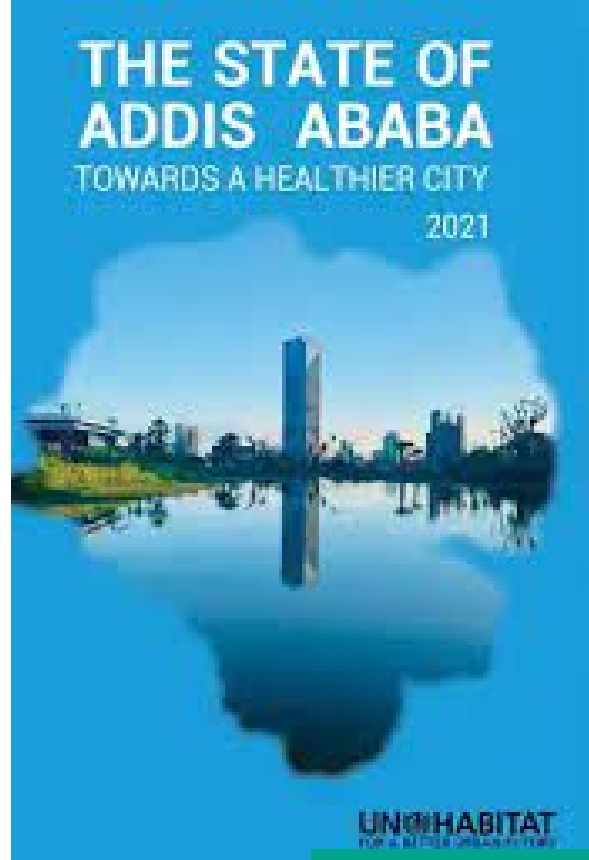
Technical support for integrated urban and regional planning providing technical support to the development of city level structure plans and Regional Spatial Plan

### 13. Urban Agenda Partners' Platform

The National Urban Agenda was incepted to bring various actors and stakeholders working on urban issues or having urban agenda in their own curricula together under one roof: to discuss and share their thoughts on urban issues, bring closer, partner up, liaise, communicate, and connect with one another.

## Our Impacts

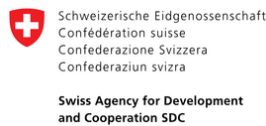
- 200 City leaders, expert and high-level officials trained
- Technical support to Bahir Dar (200K+) and Hawassa City (300k+ population) structure plan preparation
- Regional Development Spatial plan Preparation undertaken on 11 regions of the country (100Milion + Indirect beneficiaries)
- The state of Addis Ababa (4million+ people) report Vol II, focused on pandemic resilience
- 1,500 households, 363 SWM workers and 35 SME owners have benefited from improved capacity for sustainable solid waste management
- 450 participants from Addis Ababa, Adama and Dire Dawa has had implementation of the City Resilience Action Planning (CityRAP) Tool engagements.
- 30K+ Direct beneficiaries from Alternative and Sustainable Solid Waste Management in Ethiopia: implementation of the Fukuoka sanitary landfill Method in Bahir Dar city
- 800k+ people nationwide joined UN-habitat's call for world cleanup-day to clean their cities.



# Donors and Partners



JAPAN GOV  
THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN









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**UN HABITAT**  
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

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