Background and Challenges

**THE WORLD WILL BE URBAN**

Today 55% of the world’s population lives in cities, yet by 2050 this is expected to increase to 68%.

**CITIES ARE CENTRAL TO SDGs**

Cities play an essential role in achieving the SDGs by 2030 and local governments must invest in transformative actions in cities and communities around the world.

Need for cities to step up the realization of the *transformative potential of cities* as a positive force for sustainable development.

However

- Not all cities are aware of the SDGs
- Not all cities are incentivized to engage with global agendas
- Not all cities are aware of frameworks such as the NUA to guide them in the local implementation of the SDGs
SDG Cities Initiative

• SDG Cities is a global initiative that encourages cities to catalyze their own potential and accelerate their achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

• Cities are given tools to assess their baseline data and identify and finance priority initiatives that actively localize the SDGs.

Strengthened institutional capacity

• Inclusive governance
• Planning
• Municipal finance
• Service delivery
  ○ Solid waste management
  ○ Water/sanitation
  ○ Mobility
## SDG Cities Process

SDG Cities is implemented in four tracks:

1. **Data**
   - Stocktaking of Data and Urban Plans
   - Align Indicators with UMF
2. **Strategic Planning**
   - Conduct baseline Data Assessment
   - Facilitate Participatory City Development Strategy
3. **Plans, Regulations, and Institutions**
   - Diagnose Urban Management Effectiveness
   - Build Capacity
   - Implement New Policies
4. **Investment in Impact**
   - Identify Investment Requirements
   - Financial Match-Making
   - Monitor and Measure Impact

### Year-by-Year Overview

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 2</th>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Year 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>Monitor and Measure Impact</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**SDG Cities** is implemented in four tracks: Data, Strategic Planning, Plans, Regulations, and Institutions, Investment in Impact.
Previous feedback on SDG Cities Certification

Concerns

• Managerial and funding concerns: how to go to scale and secure coverage of the costs?

• Labeling concerns: How to avoid a top-down, one-path-fits-all that stratifies cities?

Recommendations

• Adaptation to national and subnational contexts

• Encourage finance opportunities
  • Help de-risk local projects
  • Generate a project pipeline
  • Cluster projects within cities
Way forward

1. Further develop and expand SDG Cities Flagship Initiative; Recognize the achievements of participating cities at key stages.

2. Support National and Subnational Governments that wish to implement their own SDG Cities Initiatives through providing tools and technical assistance.

3. Leave no city behind. Find resources to make SDG Cities free of charge.

4. Embrace UN System capacity to go to scale. within the framework of Local 2030 Coalition and through UN Country Teams.

5. Strengthen linkages with source of finance - project pipeline development; - MDB partnerships; - qualified opinions of finance sector entities.
Progress on tool development, indicators and partnerships

**DATA TRACK**
- **Indicators**:
  - SDG commitment
  - Stocktaking of plans, data and strategies
- **Tools**:
  - Global urban monitoring framework
  - City scan data tool

**STRATEGIC PLANNING TRACK**
- **Indicators**:
  - SDG alignment
  - SDG strategic plan and/or action oriented VLR
- **Tools**:
  - City development strategy
  - UN-HABITAT our cities plans

**INSTITUTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS TRACK**
- **Indicators**:
  - Institutional capacities assessment
  - Capacity strengthening action plan

**CITY INVESTMENT READINESS**
- Integration of third party evaluation

**FINANCE AND IMPLEMENTATION TRACK**
- **Indicators**
  - Measurable progress SDG strategic plan
  - Project funding pipeline
  - City intervention plan aligned with ESG criteria
- **Tools**
  - Cities investment facility (CIF)
  - City investment advisory platform
  - SIP source platform
  - UNCDF EMIF
  - UNCDF international municipal investment fund
  - UNCDF subnational investment guarantee

**SDG IMPACT**
- **Indicators**
  - ESG project credibility
  - Alignment with ESG criteria
SDG Cities Cost Considerations

1. SDG Cities Tools
UMF, Action-Oriented VLR, Diagnostic Tools, Learning Courses, Digital Platform, SIF SOURCE platform, Project Assessment Tool
USD1.2 million annually – equating to 10 new tools, 10 updated tools and platform maintenance.

2. Monitoring support to cities and recognition of key stages
Remote monitoring.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Track</th>
<th>Cost per city</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Data</td>
<td>USD 5000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategic Planning</td>
<td>USD 10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institutional Effectiveness Track</td>
<td>USD 10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impact</td>
<td>USD 5000</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
## Cost Models

### Model 1: costs normally require donor support

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Digital tools</th>
<th>In-kind</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National Technical Support Team</td>
<td>$600,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical Backstopping and Training Support</td>
<td>$300,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Progress monitoring and key-stage evaluation</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL annual cost</td>
<td>$1,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Model 2: costs may require donor support or the support of national government

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Digital tools</th>
<th>In-kind</th>
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<td>TOTAL annual cost</td>
<td>$400,000</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Model 3: costs could be covered by participating cities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Digital tools</th>
<th>In kind</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>E-guidance manuals</td>
<td>In-kind</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical support, backstopping and training</td>
<td>In-kind through participating cities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Progress monitoring and key-stage evaluation</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL annual cost</td>
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Thank you!

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