



# Introduction to the Cities Alliance

Employment Creation in Municipal  
Service Delivery Workshop

*Ekurhuleni*

*28 February 2006*



# Presentation Overview

- What is Cities Alliance?
- What Activities Does CA Support?
- Current Activities in Southern Africa
  - Knowledge Sharing and Information Dissemination
  - Informal Settlement Upgrading
- Up and Coming



# Background

The Cities Alliance was established in 1999 to improve the efficiency and scale of impacts of urban development cooperation and urban investment. From the outset, Alliance members recognized that this meant changing how international development agencies work with cities, including creating a new coherence of effort to reduce urban poverty. By supporting cities in their development of citywide strategies that link economic growth and poverty reduction objectives, the Alliance is helping to overcome the limitations of sectoral approaches to development.

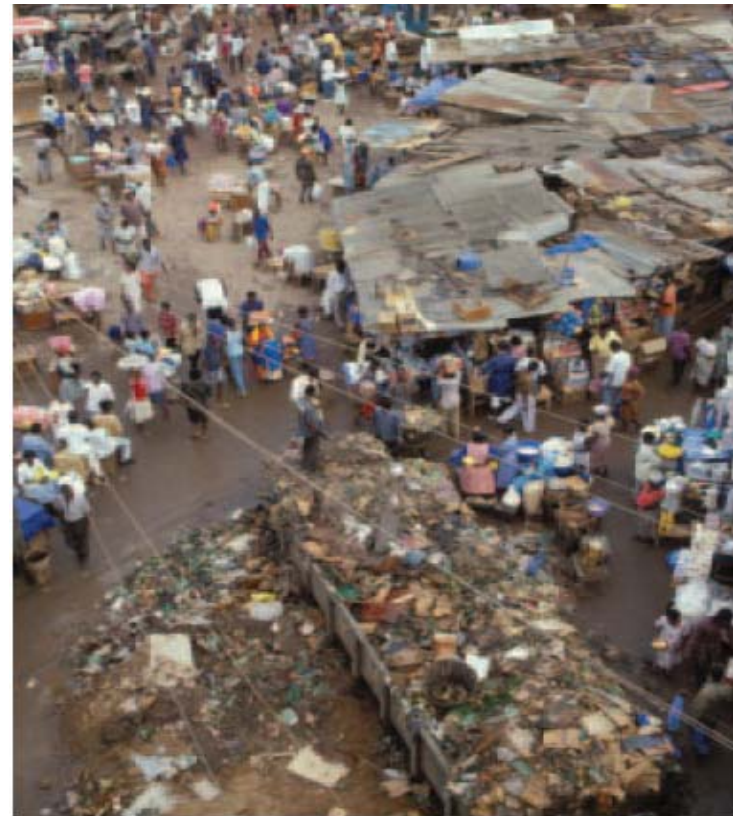
# What is Cities Alliance?



- The Cities Alliance is a global coalition of cities and their development partners committed to scaling up successful approaches to poverty reduction;
- Alliance members promote the developmental role of local governments and help cities of all sizes obtain more coherent international support;

# What is Cities Alliance?

- By promoting the positive impacts of urbanisation, the Alliance helps local authorities plan and prepare for future growth;
- The Alliance helps cities develop sustainable financing strategies, and attract long-term capital investments for infrastructure and other services.





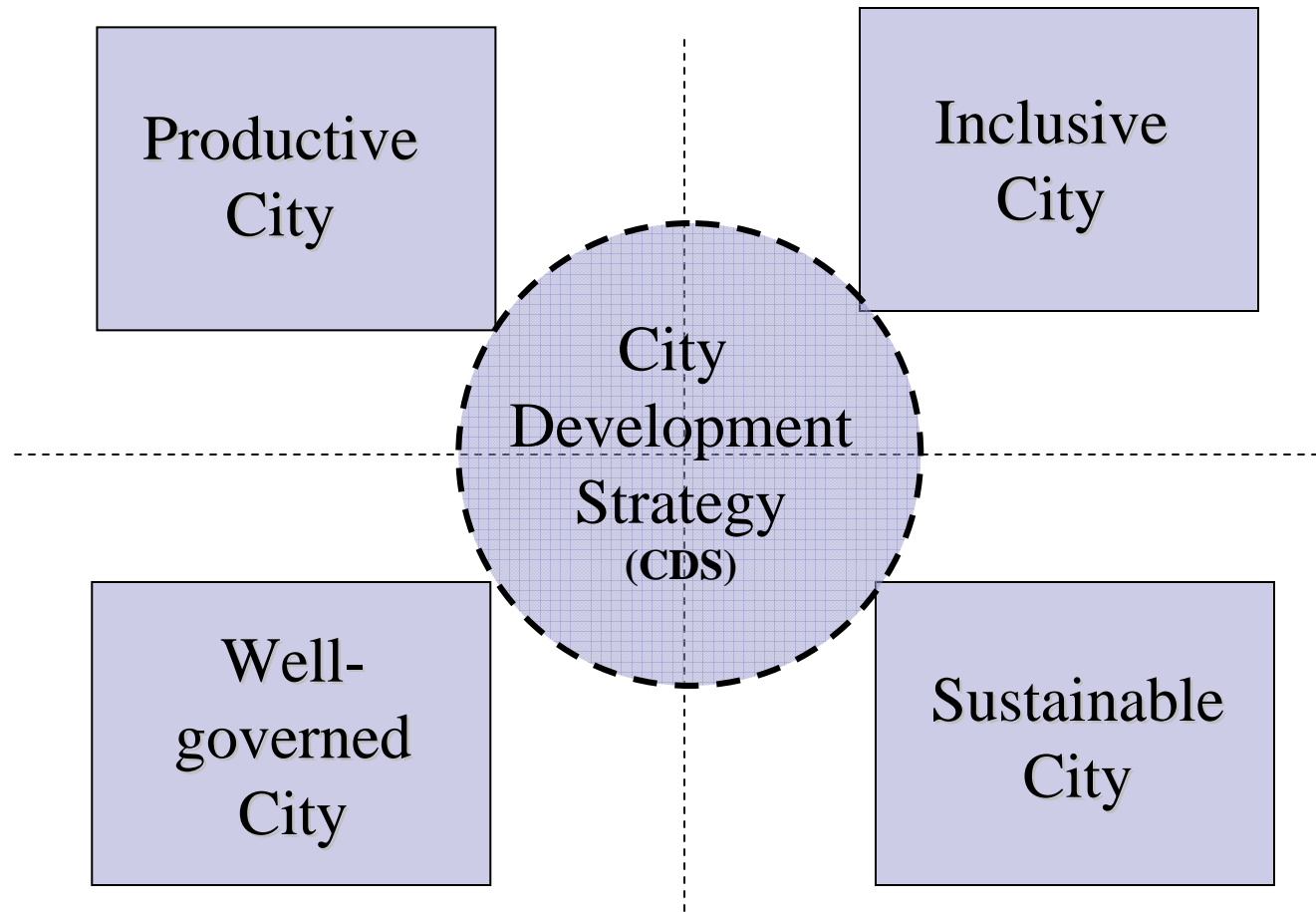
# What Does the Alliance Support?

The Alliance provides matching grants in support of:

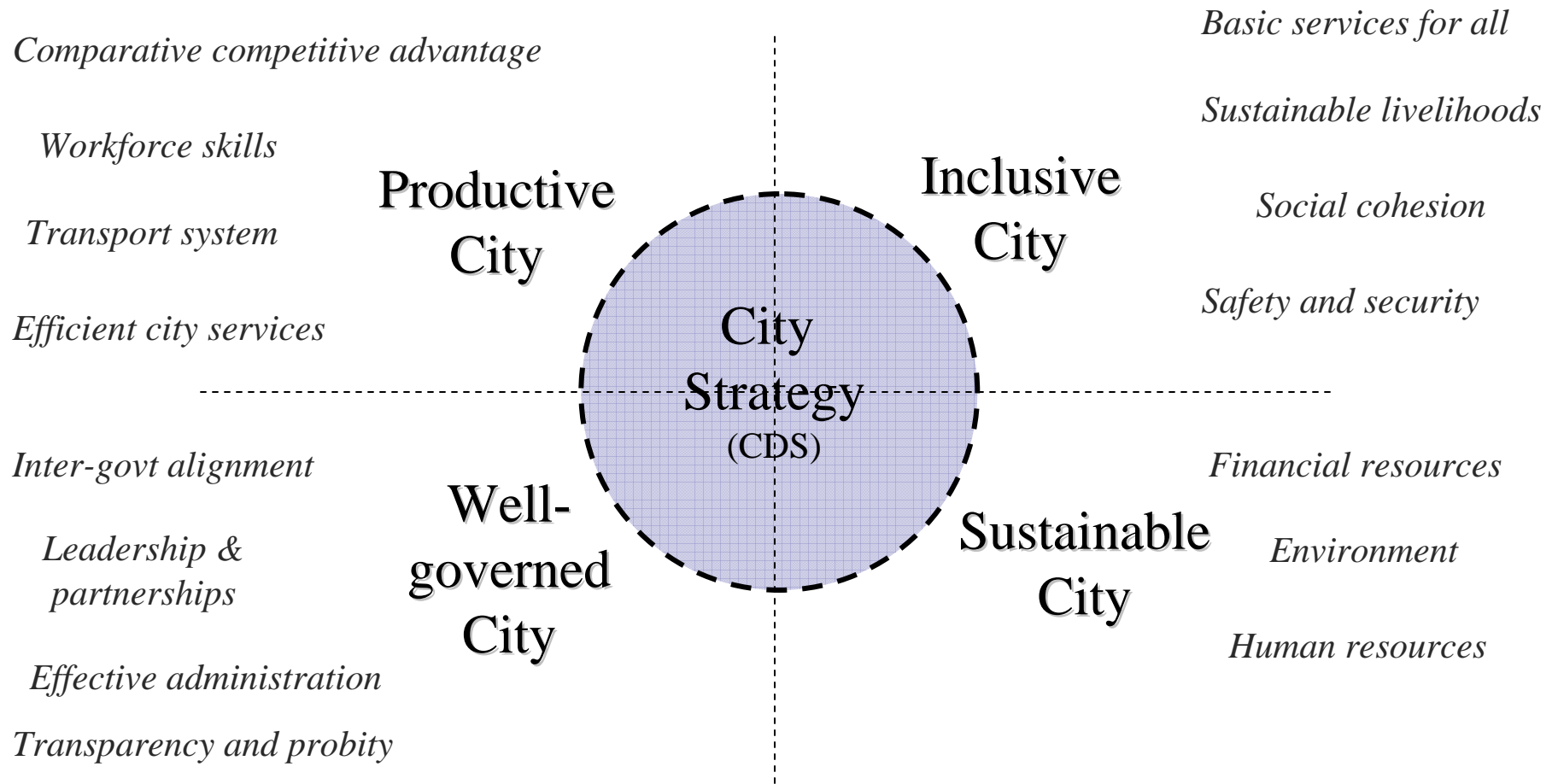
- **City development strategies (CDS)** which link the process by which local stakeholders define their vision for their city and its economic growth, environmental and poverty reduction objectives, with clear priorities for actions and investments;
- **Citywide and nationwide slum upgrading** in accordance with the Alliance's *Cities Without Slums* action plan (**MDG Target 11**), including promoting secure tenure, access to shelter finance and policies to help cities prevent the growth of new slums; and
- **Sustainable financing strategies** for cities to attract the long-term capital investments needed for infrastructure, including improving accountability for service delivery and demonstrating stable revenue streams to more effectively leverage domestic capital.

# *City Development Strategy Framework*

*Building blocks for integrated development*



# City Development Strategy Framework





# Cities Alliance Membership

- Local authorities, represented by United Cities and Local Governments and Metropolis;
- Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, South Africa, Sweden, United Kingdom and United States of America;
- Asian Development Bank, UNEP, UN-HABITAT and the World Bank.



# Current Projects in Southern Africa – Knowledge Sharing

- Johannesburg-Addis Ababa Partnership Programme
- History of CA Activities in East and Southern Africa 2000-05
- South African Cities Network – 2006 State of the Cities Report
- Regional Upgrading Seminar – May 2006



# Current Projects in Southern Africa- Upgrading

- Tshwane Comprehensive Sustainable Human Settlements Strategy
- Mbabane Upgrading and Financing Plan
- African Union for Housing Financing Initiative
- National Upgrading Support Programme—Preparation Grant
- Upgrading for Growth: Implementing the Breaking New Ground Policy Within Ekurhuleni's City Development Strategy



# Upgrading for Growth in Ekurhuleni

- The main objective is to harness the informal settlement upgrading process as the driver for sustainable development—**at the household level**—through **macro/micro** linkages to the existing labour market and investment in growth opportunities in the manufacturing and agricultural sectors.
- The EMM strategy moves beyond the prevailing approach which focuses primarily on provision of housing and infrastructure, to make development of human capital the core outcome the upgrading process.



# Upgrading for Growth in Ekurhuleni

- The ultimate goal of EMM Upgrading for Growth strategy is to break the cycle of poverty by ensuring that all households in upgraded communities have at least one full time income earner or the full package of available social subsidies for households that do not include employable adults.
- As part of this strategy socioeconomic household surveys will be administered in the 104 communities to be upgraded, and the detailed information gained about the specific needs and opportunities of these communities will progressively inform EMM CDS in a community driven process that will add depth to the EMM city development strategy.



Thank you

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