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

Productive City

Inclusive City

Well-governed City

Sustainable City
City Development Strategy Framework

Comparative competitive advantage
  Workforce skills
  Transport system
  Efficient city services

Inter-govt alignment
  Leadership & partnerships
  Effective administration
  Transparency and probity

Basic services for all
  Sustainable livelihoods
  Social cohesion
  Safety and security

Financial resources
  Environment
  Human resources
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;
Current Projects in Southern Africa – Knowledge Sharing

- Johannesburg-Addis Ababa Partnership Programme
- History of CA Activities in East and Southern Africa 2000-05
- 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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