Technical assistance dedicated to urban development in African cities.
WHAT IS UMDF?

Designed to improve resilience and better manage urban growth, the Urban and Municipal Development Fund (UMDF) of the African Development Bank provides tailored technical assistance to municipalities and urban entities in the areas of urban planning and mobility, project preparation, and municipal governance and finance.

WHAT WE PROVIDE

- Capacity development for the preparation, management and implementation of bankable projects.
- Updates to master plans which take into account contemporary issues such as environmental impact, climate change and urban mobility.
- The review of municipal governance structures and the broader regulatory environment to facilitate access to market financing.
- Appropriate tools to manage and deliver municipal services, to collect data on a regular basis and to draw up land use policies.

HOW YOU BENEFIT

- Integrated city planning expertise
- Support for sustainable urban projects
- Capacity building in municipal governance
CHALLENGES FOR AFRICAN CITIES

1. Urban poverty and vulnerability:
- Reliance on the informal economy
- Inadequate housing
- Insecurity of tenure
- Lack of access to basic services
- Vulnerability to disease
- Environmental hazards
- Social fragmentation
- Exposure to violence and crime

2. Climate resilience:
- African cities are feeling the impact of climate change

TACKLING URBAN SPRAWL
Slum areas hinder both inclusive development and investment projects. Municipalities need appropriate tools to manage and deliver services and to gain control over land use.
UMDF: Supporting political intervention with physical, social, and organizational resources to curb the development of slums and informal settlements.

CLOSING THE INFRASTRUCTURE GAP
African countries need to spend between $130–170 billion annually to meet the continent’s basic infrastructure needs, yet the investment climate is hindered by the poor creditworthiness of local governments.
UMDF: Building the capacity of African cities to attract investment for urban infrastructure through the coordination of feasibility and engineering studies, policy documents and coherent planning.

FACILITATING GENDER INCLUSIVENESS
A gender-inclusive city promotes equitable rights and provides support to improve urban living conditions and create wealth.
UMDF: Advising in inclusive urban design, gender-sensitive spatial planning and women’s participation in local decision-making. UMDF engages in technical assistance, training and capacity building programs for gender-inclusive development projects.

FINANCING URBAN DEVELOPMENT
Reliance on national budgets curbs autonomy and prevents sourcing financing from the market. Municipalities need the tools to attract investment in their development plans.
UMDF: Analysis, diagnosis and advice in the design of comprehensive land use plans, sector plans such as urban mobility and sanitation and Master Plans.

THE IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE
- More precipitation
- Flooding
- Sea level rise
- Storm surge
- Food and water supply stress
- Less precipitation
- Desertification
- Decreased rainfall
- Climate change refugees
- Rising temperatures
- Land degradation
- Drought
- Water supply stress
- Urban poverty
- Inadequate housing
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Urban and Municipal Development Fund
STRATEGIC FOCUS

Across Africa, a rising urban population, relatively low income per capita, and a lack of infrastructure require action. As the region confronts critical deficits in infrastructure funding, the UMDF provides the building blocks for cities to attract investors, build urban resilience, and ensure integrated urban development.

1. TECHNICAL AND MANAGERIAL CAPACITY-BUILDING

Capacity Building for Local Governments to improve urban management skills and good governance, and to promote knowledge sharing mechanisms between city administrations.

- Promote Smart city concepts through the regulatory environment
- Improve service delivery efficiency by sharing experience of people-focused infrastructure development
- Focus on predictable regulatory environments, strong property rights, and credible plans and project pipelines.

2. SUSTAINABLE URBAN PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT

The UMDF produces and shares knowledge on comprehensive and inclusive city design.

- Support cities to develop masterplans including urban mobility plans and strategic investment plans
- Support cities in their preparation of investments in climate-resilient urban infrastructure development through sharing of best-practices and feasibility studies.

3. THE ENABLING ENVIRONMENT FOR INVESTMENTS

A review of municipal governance structures and the broader regulatory environment to facilitate access to market financing.

- Empower cities to attract private investment for urban infrastructure
- Prepare cities to receive green infrastructure bonds and municipal bonds
- Support cities in their preparation of larger investments through the coordination of feasibility and engineering studies
- Provide cities with a pipeline of potential projects and support to prepare bankable projects.
IN ABIDJAN

Urban Transport Project

In Abidjan, a vast integrated program of urban development has been undertaken by the Government of Côte d’Ivoire. The program integrates urban management capacity for sustainable traffic flow management and components which build resilience to climate change. The result is a holistic strategy for adaptation and reduction of greenhouse gases for the Greater Abidjan agglomeration. An inventory of the impacts of climate change, including atmospheric pollution data collection during project appraisal has enabled greenhouse gas saving projections of 904,000 tonnes/year when the new infrastructure is operational. The project in Abidjan also integrates a detailed drainage plan to evacuate and regulate rainwater and reduce erosion and flooding in the city during the rainy seasons.

IN DAR ES SALAAM

Bus Rapid Transit System

Dar Es Salaam is the largest city in eastern Africa by population. The urban development project includes 20km of exclusive Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) lanes and Non-Motorised Transport (NMT) for 1.2M beneficiaries of the Tembeke Municipality. The project will directly improve urban traffic flow and eliminate bottlenecks to industrial zones and the populous residential areas. It will also positively impact the informal and formal business sectors by providing them with improved accessibility and roadside air quality.

IN DAKAR AND 12 OTHER CITIES

Promoville city modernization program

In Senegal, the rapid growth of secondary cities calls for strengthening urban planning policies and investing in infrastructure, including transport. The first City Modernization Program, “Promovilles-1”, aims to improve the quality of life for 2 million inhabitants of 13 municipalities. It provides for the construction and rehabilitation of 78km of roads, sanitation and public lighting networks, the construction of ancillary facilities with a focus of gender inclusiveness (community centers for women, public spaces and toilet facilities etc.), as well as capacity building for municipal authorities.
African Development Bank (AfDB) has a strong track record in sustainable infrastructure projects across the continent. The Bank finances close to €2 billion of infrastructure projects each year and has steadily increased its funding in the urban space from an average of €100 million per year between 2005-2009 to over €400 million in 2018. The AfDB is committed to the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and seeks to build long-term strategic and technical partnerships to foster collaboration and best practice transfer. With continent-wide presence and strong relations with local governments, institutions and business communities, the Bank is a reliable partner to facilitate dialogue and harness an inclusive urban sector that fuels social and economic development.

The Urban and Municipal Development Fund (UMDF) of the African Development Bank is a multi-donor Trust Fund to scale up interventions in urban development and drive sustainable growth in cities across the African continent. UMDF comprises an Oversight Committee chaired by one of the donors, a Technical Committee chaired by the Director of the Infrastructure and Urban Development department of the Bank, a fund coordinator and urban development expert staff from the Bank’s Urban Development division.

UMDF partners:

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