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# **GEF Support for Sustainable Cities**

**Technical Expert Meeting on Urban Environment**  
Bonn, 10 June 2014

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# Transport and Urban Systems

- Urbanization will likely be the source of the largest future growth of GHG emissions in developing countries

## GEF engagement

- ✓ GEF support for sustainable urban transport started in 1999
- ✓ 63 projects in over 110 cities and 50 countries
- ✓ \$412 million committed, with \$6.5 billion leveraged in co-financing



# Global Distribution of GEF Urban Projects





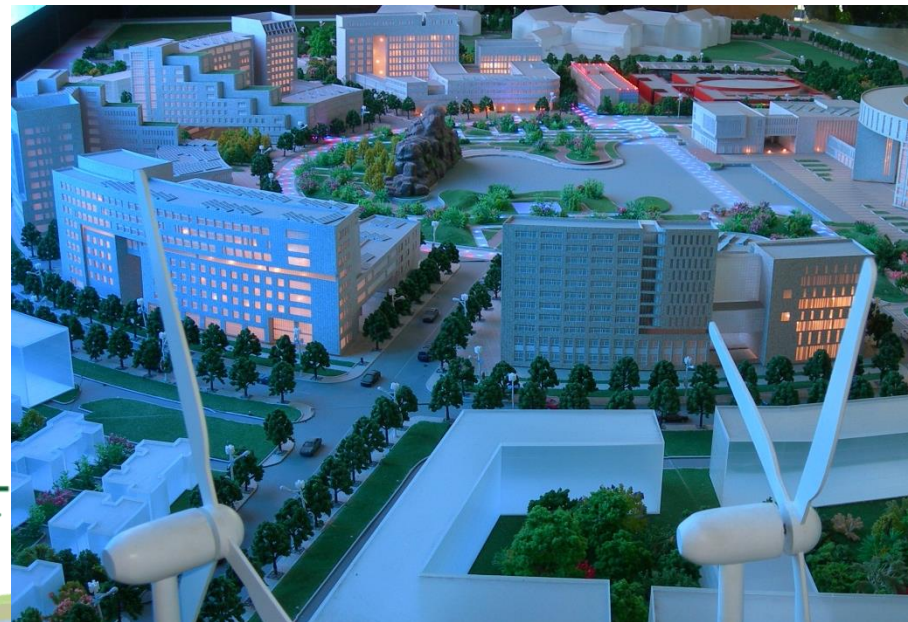
## Examples of urban projects supported by the GEF



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# Sino-Singapore Tianjin Eco-City Project

- **Objective:** Support the local government to develop an energy/resource efficient and low GHG emission city
- **Agency:** World Bank
- **Financing:** GEF \$6.1 million; Co-financing: \$57.9 million
- **Activities:**
  - ✓ Implementation framework of eco-city
  - ✓ Integrated public transport system
  - ✓ Green building pilot investment and technical assistance
- **Key Result:** Recognized as a model of eco-city in China



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# Asian Sustainable Transport & Urban Development Program

First programmatic approach in the area of transportation

- **Agency:** Asian Development Bank
- **Objective:** Support Asian cities in realizing GHG reduction and local co-benefits through the integration of low-carbon transit infrastructure
- **Financing:** GEF \$13.6 million; Co-financing \$988 million
- **Child Projects:**
  - **Bangladesh:** Greater Dhaka Sustainable Transport Corridor Project
  - **China:** Jiangxi Fuzhou Urban Integrated Infrastructure Improvement, etc.
  - **Mongolia:** Urban Transport Development Project
- **Key result so far:** has mobilized other cities in the region to pursue low-carbon transit system

# Cameroon: Enhancing Resilience of Low-income Communities to Urban Flooding in Yaounde

SCCF/GEF amount:: \$4.03 M (AfDB)

## CC Vulnerabilities:

- Flooding, particularly informal settlements

## Adaptation Actions:

- Integrating climate change risks into urban planning, policies and regulation, and CB
- Development of local adaptation plans
- Implementation of community-based adaptation measures, in tandem with larger-scale investments in flood risk management, water and sanitation

## Outcomes:

- Enhanced community resilience to floods



Source: Wikimedia Commons



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# Colombia: Adaptation to Climate Impacts in Water Regulation and Supply for the Area of Chingaza - Sumapaz - Guerrero

SCCF/GEF amount: \$4.2 M (IDB)

## CC Vulnerabilities:

- Loss of hydrological buffering and regulation capacity of watershed → Diminished water supply to Bogota

## Adaptation Actions:

- Ecosystem-based Adaptation: restoration and protection of wetlands
- Development and implementation adaptation measures from municipal governments
- Enhancing climate resilience of upstream rural communities and livelihoods

## Outcomes:

- Hydrological buffering and regulation capacity maintained or increased under CC
- Transfer of technologies and production of knowledge



Sumapaz wetland

(Source: Wikimedia Commons)



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## GEF support for sustainable urban projects over the next four years (2014-2018)



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# Two channels for Sustainable Cities support under the GEF-6 strategy (2014-2018)

1. A specific program under the Climate Mitigation Focal Area targeting

***“Integrated low-emission urban systems”***

2. A new window under GEF-6 Integrated Approach Pilots (IAP) targeting

***“Sustainable Cities”***

Dedicated to projects targeting multiple global environment benefits

- ✓ mitigation + adaptation
- ✓ mitigation + international waters
- ✓ mitigation + chemicals
- ✓ Etc.



# GEF-6 Integrated Approach Pilots

- Taking Deforestation out of Commodities Supply Chain
- Food Security in Sub-Saharan Africa
- **Sustainable Cities**

- ✓ Tackling underlying drivers of environmental degradation
- ✓ Deliver global environmental benefits beyond single GEF focal area
- ✓ Time-bound nature of concrete impact
- ✓ Relevance for evolving post-2015 agenda
- ✓ Innovative way to support action at multiple levels based on partnership



# Sustainable Cities IAP Components

Recognizing need to address urbanization as key driver of global environmental degradation and opportunity



# Sustainable Cities IAP Resources

\$45 million

incentive to STAR  
allocation (1:1)



\$45 million

STAR allocation

\$10 million

Support coordination,  
experience sharing,  
south-south  
cooperation,  
integrated across  
boundaries, M&E,  
etc.

**Total GEF resource:  
at least \$100 million, plus  
co-financing**

1. Country ownership of national projects, implemented through 1:1 incentive mechanism
2. Regional/global coordination and sharing of information
3. Co-financing



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# Key questions and answers

## What modality?

- Likely a **programmatic approach**, with a lead Agency and number of GEF Agencies participating in inter-Agency team

## What timeframe?

- Discussions and concept development to start now
- Submission to GEF Council for approval **during first year of GEF-6**
- Pilot, subject to review by 2018 to derive findings and recommendations

## How many countries/cities?

- **Up to 20 countries/cities**, to be discussed
- Ceiling for incentive access per country to be established

## Indicators and how to track progress?

- Develop **harmonized performance indicators** including global environmental benefits to track achievements, replacing focal area tracking tools/indicators
- All projects within the framework use and track these indicators

# Where to go from here

## GEF Assembly

- 28-30 May 2014
- Roundtable on Sustainable Cities
  - Side events
  - Bilateral discussions

## Consultative Meeting

- 21-22 July 2014
- Develop inter-Agency team with lead Agency, discuss coordination, schedule, etc.

## UN SG' s Climate Change Summit

- 23 September 2014
- Official event to announce?

## Submission to GEF Council?

- GEF Council meeting: 28-30 October 2014
  - Technical clearance by 22 August 2014

Project/Program Development



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# For further information

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