



Final Evaluation **Promoting Low Emission Urban Development Strategies** in Emerging Economy Countries (Urban-LEDS)

December 2016

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FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

 **URBAN LEDS**
URBAN LOW EMISSION DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES

I.C.L.E.I
Local
Governments
for Sustainability



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is funded by the
European Union.

December 2016

Final Evaluation

Promoting Low Emission Urban Development Strategies

in Emerging Economy Countries
(Urban-LEDS)

Final Evaluation
Urban-LEDS Project
Synthesis Report

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

ANAMMA	National Association of Environment Municipal Departments (Brazil)
AS	Africa Secretariat (ICLEI)
CB27	Capitals of Brazil 27 States
cCR	carbon Climate Registry (ICLEI)
COMCLIMA	Municipal Climate Change Committee (Recife, Brazil)
COP 20	UNFCCC 20TH Conference of Parties in Lima in December 2014
COP 21	UNFCCC 21ST Conference of Parties in Paris in December 2015
DEA	Department of Environmental Affairs (South Africa)
DTS	Decentralized Waste Water Treatment System
EA	Expected Accomplishment
EC	European Commission
ESCO	Energy Savings Company
EU	European Union
FNP	National Front of Mayors (Brazil)
FOC	Friends of Cities
FONARI	National Forum of Secretaries and Municipal Managers of International Relations (Brazil)
FORCLIMA	Fortaleza Municipal Climate Change Forum (Brazil)
GCC	GreenClimateCities (ICLEI)
GECLIMA	Inter-sectorial working group (Recife, Brazil)
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
GIB	Global Infrastructure Basel
GIZ	German Cooperation Development Agency
GP	Guiding Principles for City Climate Action Planning (UN-Habitat)
GPC	Global Protocol for Community-Scale Greenhouse Gas Emission Inventories
HEAT+	Harmonized Emissions Analysis Tool plus
IADB	Inter-American Development Bank
ICCC	Indonesian Centre for Climate Change
ICLEI	ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability
IDP	Integrated Development Plan
INDC	Intended Nationally Determined Contribution
ISOCARP	International Society of City and Regional Planners
KDM	KwaDukuza Municipality
LED	Low Emissions Development
LEDS	Low Emissions Development Strategies
LGMA	Local Governments and Municipal Authorities
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MRV	Measurement, Reporting and Verification
NAMAs	Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions
NAP	National Adaptation Plan
NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
OE	Operating Expenses
PAG	Project Advisory Group
PPP	Public-Private Partnership
PV	photovoltaics

RPJMD	City 5-Year Development Plan
SALGA	South African Local Government Association
SAMS	South American Secretariat (ICLEI)
SAS	South Asia Secretariat (ICLEI)
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SEA	Sustainable Energy Africa
SEAS	Southeast Asia Secretariat (ICLEI)
STLM	Steve Tshwete Local Municipality
SWOT	Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats
TAP	Transformative Action Programme (ICLEI)
TOR	Terms of Reference
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UN-Habitat	United Nations Human Settlements Programme
Urban-LEDs	Promoting Low Emission Urban Development Strategies in Emerging Economy Countries Project (EC-funded)
V-NAMA	Vertically Integrated NAMAs (see above)
WP	Work package

Executive Summary

To help cities in emerging countries address climate change, the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) and ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI), with the support of the European Union (EU), implemented the Project: 'Promoting Low Emission Urban Development Strategies in Emerging Economy Countries' (Urban-LEDS). ICLEI had the principal project implementation responsibilities, working through its ICLEI country offices with World Secretariat support. UN-Habitat exercised management responsibilities, supervised independent consultant initiatives and participated in focused technical activities through partner institutions.

This Final Evaluation of the Urban-LEDS Project was carried out during the period May – September 2016. The Objective of the Project is "to enhance the transition [of cities] to low emission urban development in emerging economy countries" (Urban-LEDS Project Brochure). UN-Habitat, ICLEI and the European Commission (EC) agreed to regularly monitor the progress of the Project. The Final Evaluation by Earl Kessler, Consultant to UN-Habitat, is the final step of UN-Habitat's responsibilities to coordinate the evaluation for the Project as per the Agreement of Cooperation between UN-Habitat and ICLEI. The Project began in March 2012 and ended in March 2016. The total Project budget provided by the European Commission was €6.7 million Euros.

The primary purpose of this Final Evaluation was to assess the achievement of the overall Objective ("Cities in emerging economy countries adopt Urban Low Emission Development Strategies"), the Expected Accomplishment (EA), the two Sub-EAs, and results. Sub-EA 1 of the Project was to adapt a national-level approach to city-level low emissions strategies development. This was to be

Consultant will undertake an intensive, primarily desk review of the project outputs, also taking into account the recent process-focused interim evaluation. As needed to obtain documentation and to more clearly establish the contribution of Urban-LEDS activities to results, the consultant may visit one Urban-LEDS country (depending on EC requirements) and may visit the main implementing partner ICLEI World Secretariat (Bonn, Germany)". The methodology assessed change achieved at the city level that was sought through capacity building, city-to-city exchanges, hands-on pilot actions and activities including emissions inventories to identify priority areas for interventions and strategy development.

This final evaluation also sought to gather lessons, to inform possible future engagement by the EC and others in the area of cities and local government climate change mitigation. The evaluation assessed the Project considering the cross-cutting themes as indicated by UN-Habitat - human rights, youth, gender and climate change-related aspects. A desk review of documents presented in the Reference Section was carried out. The review was complimented by interviews, a questionnaire prepared by this evaluator, and information exchanges between this evaluator and the ICLEI Country Teams, project partners and UN-Habitat.

A field mission was carried out during August 5-9, 2016 to Rajkot, India, an Urban-LEDS Model City, for a first-hand review of progress there and what was accomplished in the four-year period of the Project. The information gleaned from the mission is presented throughout the Final Evaluation. The focus of the Final Evaluation was on major outputs and results, in contrast to the Urban-LEDS Project Interim Evaluation that was more focused on process and methods to engage in LED. In particular this Final Evaluation focused on "quantitative" aspects

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