

EVALUATION OF THE COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN UN-HABITAT AND SWEDEN 2012-2015



**EVALUATION OF THE COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN
UN-HABITAT AND SWEDEN TO SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
THE UN-HABITAT INSTITUTIONAL AND STRATEGIC PLANS 2012-2015**

EVALUATION REPORT 2/2016

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Evaluation of the Cooperation Agreement Between UN-Habitat and Sweden 2012-2015

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AOCB	Advocacy, Outreach and Communications Branch
ASUD	Achieving Sustainable Urban Development
CSO	Civil Society Organization
GHS	Global Housing Strategy
GLTN	Global Land Tool Network
GNSC	Global Network on Safer Cities
IATI	International Aid Transparency Initiative
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
IFUD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
INU	Italian National Planning Institute
LDC	Least Developed Country
LGA	Local Government Association
MTSIP	Medium-Term Strategic and Institutional Plan 2008-2013
NGO	Non-governmental organization
NIEN	Nairobi Interagency Evaluation Network
NUA	New Urban Agenda
OECS	Organization of Eastern Caribbean States
PAAS	Project Accrual and Accountability System
PIACB	Partners & Inter-Agency Coordination Branch
PPS	Project for Public Spaces
RBM	Results Based Management
SCP	Safer Cities Programme
Sida	Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
SUD-Net	Sustainable Urban Development Network
UCLG	United Cities and Local Governments
UN	United Nations
UNACLA	UN Advisory Committee of Local Authorities
UNDESA	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
UNECA	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
UNEG	United Nations Evaluation Group
UNGA	United Nations General Assembly
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Emergency Fund
UNICRI	United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute
UNODA	UN Office for Disarmament Affairs
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNOG	United Nations Office at Geneva
UNU	United Nations University
UPDB	Urban Planning and Design Branch

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Introduction

This evaluation of the 2012–2015 agreement between the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) and UN-Habitat was conducted in order to determine the extent to which the objectives of the agreement have been achieved and to support improvements in existing structures and processes. While it is not likely to contribute significantly to the new Sida/UN-Habitat agreement, it may be helpful to amendments which may occur following Habitat III in Quito, Ecuador, and the adoption of the new urban agenda. The evaluation exercise was undertaken in the months from December 2015 to March 2016 by Martha McGuire and Daniel Biau. The intended audience is the management of both Sida and UN-Habitat and staff responsible for coordinating the cooperation agreement and overseeing planning and implementation of Sida-funded projects.

The objectives of the evaluation were as follows:

1. To assess the design, implementation and progress made towards the achievement of results at the outcome level by Sida-supported projects and programmes implemented under the 2012-2015 cooperation agreement. This will entail analysis of actual versus expected results achieved by UN-Habitat
2. To assess the extent to which the modalities of the cooperation agreement as well as funding and coordination mechanisms were achieved and enabling to effectively define the results to be achieved, effectively deliver the projects/programmes and to report on performance of UN-Habitat

6. To identify weaknesses and strengths in the institutional capacity to implement the Sida funded projects and programmes for learning and future programming
7. Taking the intended user into account, identify lessons learned and provide recommendations for improving future cooperation agreements

Methodology

The evaluation was designed to ensure that there were multiple sources using multiple methods for each evaluation question. Data collection methods included a review of relevant documents, interviews, a survey of beneficiaries and partners and field visits within the Nairobi area.

The strengths of this evaluation are the use of multiple lines of inquiry, use of mixed methods, an evaluation team that includes subject-matter expertise and an evaluation expert together with the collection of much of the data face-to-face. There was substantial existing data that was drawn upon.

A key limitation is the variable quality of the data. Monitoring data was poor with the exception of a couple of the projects. Because of that, it is very difficult to determine efficiency, effectiveness and impact. While the information provides some good descriptive material and examples of things working well, determining the accomplishments often required extensive sifting through reports and project products. Checking the project summary reports with focal

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