



IDENTIFICATION OF BEST PRACTICES, POLICIES AND ENABLING LEGISLATION IN THE LOCAL DELIVERY OF BASIC URBAN SERVICES (PHASE 2): END-OF-PROJECT EVALUATION



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Identification of Best Practices, Policies and Enabling Legislation in the Local Delivery of Basic Urban Services (Phase 2): End-of-Project Evaluation

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(Phase 2): End-of-Project Evaluation

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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AECID	Spanish Agency for International Cooperation and Development
CGLU	United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG)
CTA	Chief Technical Adviser
DIBA	Delegation for the Province of Barcelona (and presidency of UCLG's Committee on Decentralization)
EU	European Union
FIAP	Foundation for Ibero-america and International Public Policies
FAMSI	Andalusian Fund of Municipalities for International Solidarity
FEMP	Spanish Federation of Municipalities and Provinces
GOLD III	Third Report of the Global Observatory on Local Democracy and Decentralization
Habitat III	UN Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development
HPM	Habitat Programme Manager
IDB	Inter-American Development Bank
LAC	Latin America and Caribbean
MINAPS	Spanish Ministry for Public Administration
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MTSIP	Medium-Term Strategic and Institutional Plan
PAG	Program Advisory Group
PRC	Project Review Committee
PSUP	Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme
PrepCon	Preparatory Conference for Habitat III
ROAf	UN-Habitat's Regional Office for Africa
ROLAC	UN-Habitat's Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean
USD	United States Dollar

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. This evaluation analyzes the performance, achievements, contributing factors and lessons of “Identification of Best Practices, Policies and Enabling Legislation in the Local Delivery of Basic Urban Services (Phase 2)”, a global initiative that was implemented by UN-Habitat with funding from the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation and Development (AECID). The evaluation was conducted between May and July 2015 and carried out following the evaluation norms and standards of the United Nation’s Systems; it combined the desk review of project documentation and skype interviews with project participants.
2. The project’s goal was to support local and national governments of selected countries in elaborating sustainable urban development priorities, with emphasis on urban governance, a more balanced distribution of responsibilities and resources, and better planning and efficiency by public administration. This was pursued through four project components that (i) supported decentralization processes and national urban policies, (ii) gave technical assistance for local government urban planning policies, (iii) provided decentralized city-to-city cooperation for municipal planning, and (iv) offered strategic and institutional support to Habitat III’s preparatory process through activities implemented from Spain. Most of the project activities took place in the Latin America & Caribbean region—Cuba, El Salvador, Colombia, Ecuador and Uruguay—in addition to Spain and Mozambique (in particular) local initiatives that fed into broader processes such as Habitat III, GOLD III, or existing municipal programmes.
4. Project performance and achievement were satisfactory. Outputs were fully delivered and most of the planned results were achieved. Results and outcomes were reached to a large extent at the level of participating local governments and municipalities, with less effect on national urban policy or institutional capacities. This was influenced by the scale of intervention and limited follow-up to national and regional events. The project contributed to the regional preparatory process for Habitat III, disseminating information to a wider audience and supporting the reactivation of some National Habitat Committees. The decentralized technical assistance and city-to-city alliances have generated tangible results and local impact in several cases.
5. The progress made towards the immediate objectives corresponding to the four project components was satisfactory in terms of promoting decentralized technical cooperation (immediate objective 3) and strengthening the urban planning capacities of participating local governments (immediate objectives 1 and 2), and partially satisfactory in supporting the Habitat III preparatory process (immediate objective 4); however the project had little effect on national urban policies, as foreseen under the first objective.

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