
Theme/Approach

Drawing up and implementing political guidelines, models and urban development strategies with sustainable financial management for cities and urban regions.

1. The challenge

The steering of cities is faced with major challenges. In particular it is important to strike a balance between the development of poor and wealthy districts. The often contrary interests of the actors prevent target-oriented and economically viable steering.

2. Our approach

Our advisory services communicate the necessary instruments in the individual activity areas as well as for overarching political steering. We support municipal politicians, administrative staff and local associations in their efforts to formulate political guidelines for development of their city or urban region, to modernise the administration, to enhance its performance capability and to improve its financial management.

We have special experience in designing the difficult processes of orienting action of all participants efficiently towards joint goals through democratic channels. To this end we support close cooperation with residents' organisations and business so that they can negotiate their own concerns with a view to the benefits for the city as a whole and collaborate in implementing them.

3. Service packages

We offer the following thematic areas in particular:

- Advisory services to help design and implement processes of modernising and de-concentrating the administration;
- Support in reforms of municipal financial management;
- Strengthening the local level within the framework of decentralisation processes and fiscal reforms;
- Designing the organisation of structures and procedures, information systems and personnel systems;
- Instruments for improving citizen orientation and gender-sensitive aspects, e.g. access to services of the urban administration, one-stop shops, citizens' centres, citizen budget;
- Advisory services on introducing and applying planning instruments and procedures, e.g. strategic urban development planning, master and building plans, formal and informal participation procedures;
- Methods and instruments of land management, land-use planning, conversion of the use of former industrial and military areas, cadastral systems in conjunction with a land register;
- Methods for improving transparency and accountability, e.g. citizen participation in budget drafting and management.