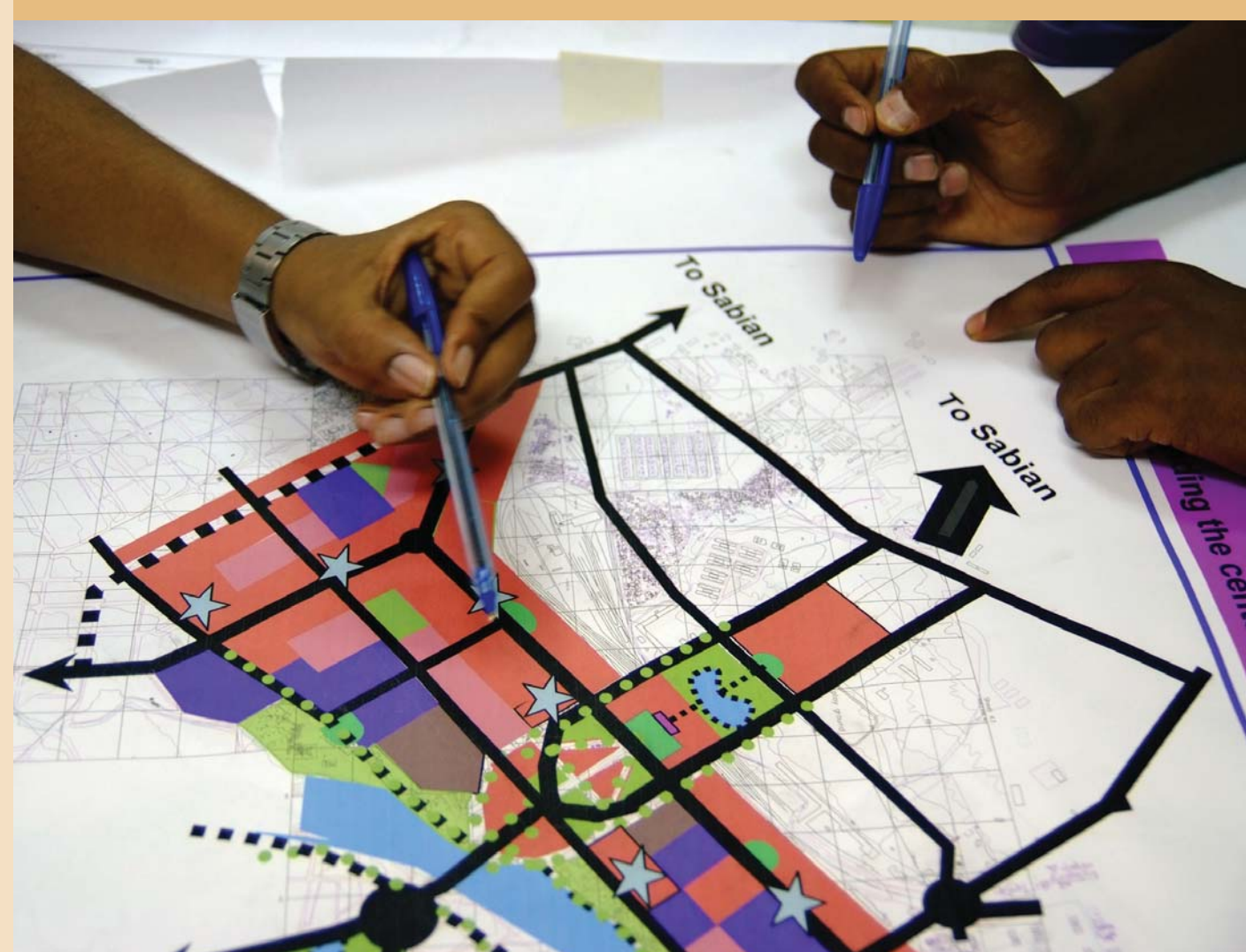


Urban Governance and Decentralisation in Ethiopia

Since the country's new constitution came into force in 1994, Ethiopia's cities have enjoyed far-reaching rights of self-government. This presents them with immense challenges: rural-urban migration, population growth twice as fast as the national average, needs in housing, basic services and employment. Cities do not yet have the capacity to provide their citizens with all these necessary services. How responsibilities are shared between local government, citizens and the private sector has not yet been fully clarified.

The Ethiopian Government has put urban development and extensive urban governance reforms on the agenda. The Ministry of Works and Urban Development, five regions, the City Government of Addis Abeba and 18 cities throughout the country are implementing a cooperative programme on urban governance, decentralization and capacity development for cities.

German Technical and Financial Cooperation, the World Bank and French cooperation are supporting these efforts. Governance reforms and local capacity development include municipal finance, infrastructure and services, urban planning, land management and the participation of civil society in local government. The aim is to provide citizens with better municipal services. In doing so, cities apply principles of good governance.



Outcomes and results of the cooperative project:

- The Ethiopian Government has provided a clear policy framework, into which financial and technical assistance can easily be integrate;
- Technical assistance (GTZ, CIM, France) in key areas of governance reform is simultaneously provided at federal, regional and in particular local government levels. This facilitates communication in the decentralization process. Cities receive capacity development upon request, while the regional and federal governments guarantee countywide support patterns and policy coherence. Local communities and citizens find specific areas of participation where locally negotiated development plans are at stake;
- Financial assistance (KfW) in selected towns supports local initiatives and rapidly makes good governance tangible and visible. It helps cities provide most-needed markets, storm water drainage, waste water treatment and waste management even before citizens may feel the long-term effects of governance reforms and municipal capacity development;
- Financial assistance (World Bank) confronts selected cities with benchmarks of Ethiopia's urban good governance reforms and paves the way towards more comprehensive domestic efforts.

In the future, more cities and emerging regions will be included in the Ethio-German programme. Under Ethiopia's constitution, the promotion of local initiatives would be a powerful means of mobilizing citizens' energies and responsibilities in local development.

Duration: 2007–2013

http://www.kfw-entwicklungsbank.de/DE_Home/Laender_Programme_und_Projekte/Subsahara-Afrika/Aethiopien/Leuchtturmprojekt_1.jsp

