

### City Indicators Facility

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<b>Recipient Agency:</b>	The University of Toronto
<b>Web Address:</b>	<a href="http://www.cityindicators.org">www.cityindicators.org</a>
<b>Financial Arrangements for FY09 (Amount in US \$ Million)</b>	
<b>Total Budget:</b>	13.63
<b>DGF Funding Request:</b>	0.38
<b>DGF Percentage:</b>	3%
<b>Objectives and Expected Outcomes</b>	
<p>The 'City Indicators Facility' is part of the Global Cities Program at the University of Toronto, Canada. The Facility is supported by several key partners and encourages the design and collection of key performance indicators at the city level in collaboration with a wide group of cities and partners with expertise in this area. The Facility is supported by national and international agencies dealing with indicators, and aided by sound academic research, however it mainly acts as a repository and facilitator of information on city performance and quality of life, and is managed and operated on behalf of participating cities. The Facility endeavors to act as an unbiased repository of credible, city owned and managed information. An annual compilation of city indicators will be provided beginning in 2008. The Facility is now working toward third-party verification of city performance, e.g. International Standards Organization. The Facility's datum is available for organizations such as the World Bank to monitor project and corporate effectiveness. The Facility will eventually operate at 'arms-length' from development agencies or financial institutions since the verified indicators are intended to be credible and objective measures of progress and performance.</p>	
<b>Main Components</b>	
<p>The City Indicators Facility will improve the production and management of city performance information for the purposes of worldwide comparisons, tracking performance over time, and increased transparency in city management. The indicators will benchmark cities and provide required information to city managers and policy makers, contributing to improved management of cities. The main components of the CIF are the research services, collaborative workshops, outreach and dissemination of comparative analysis of indicators, active database and website management, training for participating cities.</p> <p>The World Bank launched the pilot city indicators study with assistance from a Japanese Trust Fund. Many of the proposed indicators were developed in the Bank's 2000 'Cities in Transition' Report. With UN-HABITAT support, and others, the indicators are now poised to become a common set of indicators to be adopted by an increasing number of cities. The City Indicators Facility already encourages broad comparison and learning across all cities. UCLG is also an important partner and the Union will urge participant cities to join the indicator program.</p>	
<b>Performance Indicators</b>	
<p>A key performance indicator will be the number of cities participating and the number of agencies using the published information. The draft indicators, with piloted experience, will be presented at the World Urban Forum in Nanjing in 2008. The City Indicators Facility will be functional at that time and at least 100 cities will be participating. The city indicators will be published annually beginning in 2008 and within five years are expected to include all World Bank client cities, as well as at least ten percent of all cities with populations over 100,000. The program is expected to be rolled out country-wide beginning in Canada, Colombia, and Brazil.</p>	

## Progress and Achievements

The City Indicators Facility is now operational and being fully integrated with the University of Toronto's overall urban program. The Facility was successfully launched on a pilot basis and is now being tested. An assessment and structured review of the pilot indicators is being developed. Start-up was somewhat delayed as DGF funds were not available until March 2008, therefore the Facility was not able to acquire office space or enter into employment contracts. The Facility was however active over the last 8 months despite the absence of DGF funds. Activities included: (i) hosting a Metropolitan Governance workshop in partnership with UN-HABITAT; (ii) preliminary discussions with UN-HABITAT in Nairobi on establishment and partnership potentials with the CIF; (iii) holding a teleconference meeting with the OECD to discuss common interests and points of collaboration; (iv) an in-depth review on the issue of municipal vs. metropolitan functional boundaries of cities for development of the CIF comparative base worldwide; (v) establishment of the Advisory Boards; (vi) maintenance of the city indicators.org website; (vii) preparation for the bridge links to the University of Toronto's website; (viii) meetings in Ottawa to brief Infrastructure Canada on the CIF; (ix) preparation of a paper on metropolitan governance for inclusion in the UN- WUF documents; (x) discussions with Seattle/King County on 'MetroMatch', and; (xi) ongoing discussions on ISO certification of the city indicators program. The upcoming year's work includes broad expansion of the number of cities reporting, presentation of the findings at the Fourth World Urban Forum in Nanjing, meetings with three new critical partners - OECD, UCLG and the World Economic Forum, full implementation of the Board of Directors and Advisory Board, and 'spin-off' activities such as CityMatch which is a city-to-city internet 'dating network' for municipal practitioners, training programs, and development of an index of greenhouse gas emissions for cities.

## Partners

University of Toronto, Infrastructure Canada, Statistics Canada, Canadian International Development Association, UN-HABITAT, City of Toronto and ICLEI, Universidad de los Andes, Bogota, pilot cities of: Toronto, Vancouver, Montreal, Bogota, Cali, Belo Horizonte, Puerto Alegre, Sao Paulo and King County, WA. Cities involved in World Bank investment projects in urban areas would also be an important partner in the use and encouragement of the city indicators. The program is a continuation of the paper presented at the Third World Urban Forum (2006) and the World Bank's commitment to present a credible set of city indicators at Nanjing in 2008. UN-HABITAT assisted in the preparation and presentation of this paper. The Facility provides regular and credible inputs for monitoring the Millennium Development Goals.

## Governance and Management

The DGF grant strengthens the existing partnership between the World Bank (LCSUW and FEU), UN-HABITAT (Urban Monitoring Group), Government of Canada (Infrastructure Canada and CIDA) and the University of Toronto (Global Cities Program). With DGF assistance, the 'City Indicators Facility', within the University of Toronto, is managed by a 12 member board (7 city representatives and five agencies). The World Bank provides one Director. All staff of the Facility are bound by codes-of-conduct and contractual conditions of the University of Toronto. An annual budget is presented and approved by the Board. The City of Toronto, one of the strongest proponents of the program, also plays an active role in management and professional support (the City also hosts the international office of ICLEI). The City Indicator Facility's Board will have a majority of city representatives – with broad representation of developing countries. The Facility's legitimacy will be apparent through the number of cities participating in the program and the credibility and use of the city indicators.

## Exit Strategy

Support from the Government of Canada, the University of Toronto and the City of Toronto, together with DGF funding will provide sufficient time to broadly 'roll-out' the Facility and finalize its long term operational plans and support mechanisms. At the end of these initial three years DGF funding will conclude and the Facility would operate through city participation fees, sale of publications, small scale research grants, and targeted support. The Facility would be institutionalized into the University of Toronto, or be sufficiently mobile to move to another host organization.