



UN HABITAT

Regional and Technical Cooperation Division



ETHIOPIA: AMBO URBAN PROFILE



Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme in the African, Caribbean and Pacific Countries
Project designed and implemented by UN-HABITAT
and financed by European Union, Government of Italy, Government of Belgium and Government of the Netherlands

This report was prepared by Ethiopia UN-HABITAT Programme Manager Tewodros Tigabu and Consultant Girma Semu elaborating on information collected through interviews with key urban actors in Ethiopia.

This project and report were managed by Mohamed El Sioufi, Alain Grimard and Kerstin Sommer. Important inputs were provided by Alioune Badiane, Antonio Yachan, Farouk Tebbal, Clarissa Augustinus, Mohamed Halfani, Lucia Kiwala, Eduardo Moreno, Raf Tuts, Gulelat Gebede and Gora Mboup.

Review, editing and graphic design: Ib Knutsen.

Photographs by Girma Semu.

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HS/1001/08E

ISBN : 978-92-1-131980-4

Printing: UNON, Publishing Services Section, Nairobi, ISO 14001:2004-certified

United Nations Human Settlements Programme publications can be obtained from UN-HABITAT Regional and Information Offices or directly from:

P.O.Box 30030, GPO 00100

Nairobi, Kenya

Fax: + (254 20) 762 4266/7

E-mail: unhabitat@unhabitat.org

Website: <http://www.unhabitat.org>



United Nations Human Settlements Programme
Regional and Technical Cooperation Division

AMBO URBAN PROFILE

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FOREWORD

The annual urban growth rate in Sub-Saharan Africa is almost 5 percent twice as high as in Latin America and Asia. It also has the world's largest proportion of urban residents living in slums, which today are home to 72 percent of urban Africa's citizens representing a total of some 187 million people. As more and more people seek a better life in towns and cities, the urban slum population in Africa is projected to double every 15 years in a process known as the urbanisation of poverty. African cities are thus confronted in the new Millennium with the problem of accommodating the rapidly growing urban populations in inclusive cities, providing them with adequate shelter and basic urban services, while ensuring environmental sustainability, as well as enhancing economic growth and development.



UN-HABITAT is the lead agency for implementation of Millennium Development Goal (MDG) 7, Target 10 (reducing by half the number of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water), and Target 11 (achieving significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers by 2020).

As part of our drive to address this crisis, UN-HABITAT is working with the executive Commission of the European Union (EU) to support sustainable urban development in African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries. Given the urgent and diverse needs, the agency found it necessary to develop a tool for rapid assessment to guide immediate, mid- and long-term interventions. In 2002, based on the European Commission's **Consultative Guidelines for Sustainable Urban Development Co-operation**, UN-HABITAT successfully implemented an **Urban Sector Profile Study** in Somalia for the first time. The Study resulted in the identification and implementation of three major programmes with funding from a variety of donors.

In 2004, UN-HABITAT's Regional Office for Africa and the Arab States took the initiative to develop the approach further for application in over 20 countries. This was achieved in collaboration with other departments within the agency – the Urban Development Branch with the Urban Environment Section, the Global Urban Observatory, the Shelter Branch, the Urban Governance Unit, the Gender Policy Unit, the Environment Unit and the Training and Capacity Building Branch. This new corporate approach is known as **Rapid Urban Sector Profiling for Sustainability (RUSPS)**. The implementation of RUSPS was launched thanks to contributions from the Governments of Italy, Belgium and the Netherlands.

The idea behind RUSPS is to help formulate urban poverty reduction policies at the local, national and regional levels through a rapid, participatory, crosscutting, holistic and action-

orientated assessment of needs. It is also aimed at enhancing dialogue, awareness of opportunities and challenges aiming at identifying response mechanisms as a contribution to the implementation of the MDGs.

RUSPS addresses four main themes: governance, slums, gender and HIV/AIDS and environment. It seeks to build a national profile, and three settlements representing the capital or a large city, a medium-sized city, and a small town. The profiles offer an overview of the urban situation in each participating city through a series of interviews with key urban actors. This is followed by a city consultation where priorities are agreed. City-level findings provide input for the national profiling that is combined with a national assessment of institutional, legislative, financial and overall enabling frameworks and response mechanisms. The profiles at all levels result in supporting the formation of city and national strategies and policy development. Additionally, the profiling facilitates sub-regional analyses, strategies and common policies through identification of common needs and priorities at the sub-regional level. This provides guidance to international external support agencies in the development of their responses in the form of capacity building tools.

In Ethiopia, the profiling was undertaken under the leadership of national and local authorities. This initiative has been carried out locally in Addis Ababa, Dire Dawa and Ambo, as well as nationally. The Ethiopia National Profile focuses on the findings of a desk-study, interviews with key actors, and country-wide consultations with key urban actors and institutions. Consultation participants agreed to address the salient urban issues including poverty, insecurity, corruption, pollution and crime – all problems that negatively affect investments and economic development. A consensus was reached on priority interventions in the form of programme and project proposals to be implemented.

I wish to acknowledge the contributions of Mr. Mohamed El Sioufi, who developed the concept of RUSPS and is coordinating its implementation. I also wish to cite those members of staff for their role in helping produce this report. They include Alioune Badiane, Farouk Tebbal, Clarissa Augustinus, Mohamed Halfani, Lucia Kiwala, Eduardo Moreno, Raf Tuts, Gulelat Kebede, Gora Mboup, Alain Grimard, Tewodros Tigabu and Kerstin Sommer.

I would like to wish all those who have participated in and supported this initiative every success in its implementation. I also look forward to supporting further their efforts in the development of Ethiopia.

Anna Kajumulo Tibaijuka
Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations,
and Executive Director,
UN-HABITAT

Ethiopia is one of the least urbanized countries in Africa, with some of the largest number of people living in cities. This apparent contradiction is owed to our agricultural heritage, where the majority has been working the land. Rapid population growth has since been countering this, ensuring that, of 77 million people, over 12 million are now living in cities.

The growth of Ethiopian cities presents enormous challenges to the nation. Not only are the markets in cities essential for the prosperity of rural areas, but they can also provide additional economic growth, opportunities, and improved access to education and health.

The Ethiopian government has therefore partnered with UN-HABITAT to fully review the status of the cities, and see how Ethiopia best can facilitate for vulnerable groups, improve urban services, and support future growth. This publication is the first step of this process, serving as both a base-line, and as an illuminator to what our areas of focus should be. The second phase will build upon these insights, and identify tangible projects and processes that municipal authorities, regional- and central government together with international partners can implement to improve the situation for Ethiopians in general, and reducing urban poverty in particular.

Ethiopia is in a favorable position to address these issues, due to a number of factors. It has taken steps to reform the administrative structure, by decentralizing government authority to regional and district level, simplifying the legal code and promoting small-scale enterprises. Ethiopia has also increased school enrolment and access to health care, stabilised HIV/AIDS infection rates, improved access to clean water, and strengthened the rights of women. As a result, the economy has grown by an annual 9 percent the last five years.

Much remains to be done, however. The population size is only second to Nigeria in Sub-Saharan Africa, and it is growing by 2.9 percent per year. Many of these children will be born into poverty. Innocent as they are, they will increase the strain on our already stretched public facilities. The economy will eventually need to grow even faster, just to keep up. Given the huge challenges facing the nation, it may not be surprising that poverty eradication is Ethiopia's main development goal.

At the same time, the country's agriculture is still not self-sufficient, and is threatened at regular intervals by droughts and floods. The private sector, while encouraged and growing, is not expanding rapidly enough to absorb the increasing urban migration. Ethiopian cities are the fastest growing administrative units in the country, adding 4.2 percent per year. Creating enough jobs, shelters, schools and health facilities for the urban population is a task the government is already working hard at addressing.

Careful planning, transparent governance and effective implementation are essential tools for us to build on our progress, learn from the past, and work hard for the benefit of our country and our peoples.

The main policy tool of the government is the Plan for Accelerated and Sustained Development to End Poverty (PASDEP). It follows up lessons learned from the first comprehensive poverty-reduction policy in 2002, the Sustainable Development and Poverty Reduction Programme (SDPRP). It has been developed in a participatory manner with national and international stakeholders under the auspices of the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development (MoFED). The final draft was shared again with line ministries and regional authorities, before being adopted by the Ethiopian parliament as a legal document guiding national development policy until 2010.

The Urban Profiling was handy to analyse policy thinking, focusing on urban sustainability through governance, institutions and services. The participatory approach adopted in the process is also important to highlight issues that may otherwise not come to be identified. The continued support from the Governments of Italy, Netherlands, Belgium, and the European Commission is welcomed as developing sustainable cities is one of the world's greatest challenges.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Introduction

The urban profiling is a systematic and structured approach to the assessment of urban needs and response mechanisms at city and national levels in Africa and the Arab states.

The overriding aim of the study is to contribute to the ongoing efforts of countries in the region in poverty reduction at all levels - city, country and region.

In doing so it is hoped that the assessment would provide an opportunity to gauge the gaps in implementing the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (*MDGs*) of countries in the region.

The urban profiling, initially implemented in over twenty countries, is now a global programme. It is expected to provide critical inputs and benefits to the implementing partners, enabling the management of sustainable cities, with adequate shelter, health and basic services.

Urban Profiling in Ethiopia includes the profile of Addis Ababa-the capital, Dire Dawa the second largest city and Ambo, a third level town each published as a separate report.

The themes included in the study are slum and housing condition, gender, urban environment and urban governance. This report comprises the profile of Ambo town.

Background

Ambo town is located in the western Shewa zone of the Oromiya region, some 100 kilometres west of Addis Ababa, the capital.

Established in 1889, Ambo is one of the oldest towns in Ethiopia. It is situated in the highlands at an altitude of 2 100 metres above sea level. The mean temperature is 18.6 degree centigrade.

Ambo is among a few privileged towns of its time to have its own municipal administration since 1931, and a master plan since 1983. It covers a total area of 1 320 hectares.

The town is serving as an administrative, commercial and transport centre of the western Shewa zone. The town was selected to be one of twenty in the Oromiya region to benefit from a federal reform programme.

Governance

Ambo town is governed through the Oromiya region municipal establishment proclamation no. 65/95. The city has two tiers of administration. The highest level is the municipal council, which is responsible for service delivery, administering funds and management of the city.

The other tier of administration are the kebeles. The lowest administrative unit, kebeles are responsible for administering local issues including government owned housing, mobilising the community in development activities, and social and security issues. Ambo has a town administration and three kebeles.

Slums

The poor quality of housing and inability of the administration to increase supply could be taken as key indicators that a wide reform is necessary. The town does not even have adequate data on its housing stock and condition, making it more difficult to provide a clear picture regarding the state of urban land use and housing.

A National Urban Planning Institute projection from 1997 estimated the housing stock of Ambo to be 5414 units. 45 percent were owned by the government, and administered by the kebeles, and the remaining 55 percent were owner occupied. With a national urban growth at 4.1 percent, and a backlog from ten years ago at 4 586 housing units, the town is facing a critical housing shortage.

Gender

The situation of women in Ambo town is not different from that of the national and the Oromiya region. The challenges of women are thus structural, affecting their lives from birth, through schooling, health, work, marriage and death.

Women constitute the higher proportion of the unemployed, and, when active, it is usually in the informal sector. Oromiya region have the highest incidence of harmful traditional practices, such as female genital mutilation and marriage by abduction, in the country.

While often carrying the highest health risks, women do not have adequate access to basic health services. According to the Ethiopian Demographic and Health Survey of 2005, women in Oromiya are more than five times as likely to carry the HIV virus, at 2.2 percent vs. 0.4 percent, respectively. As the region is rural, the pattern is likely the same in Ambo, only with higher incidence rates. The Ethiopian Ministry of Health finds in its fifth report that Urban Antenatal Care facilities in Oromiya have a HIV/AIDS infection rate of 11 percent.

Environment

The environment of Ambo town has been in a constant decline. Most of the solid waste is not properly collected, there is no a sanitary dumping site, and half of all houses have no toilet facility. The municipality is not seen as in a position to address the problem due to resource and capacity limitations.

INTRODUCTION

The Urban Profiling

The Urban Profiling consists of an accelerated, action-oriented assessment of urban conditions, focusing on priority needs, capacity gaps and existing institutional responses at local and national levels.

The purpose of the study is to develop urban poverty reduction policies at local, national and regional levels, through an assessment of needs and response mechanisms, and as a contribution to wider-ranging implementation of the Millennium Development Goals.

The study is based on analysis of existing data and a series of interviews with all relevant urban stakeholders, including local communities and institutions, civil society, the private sector, development partners, academics and others.

This consultation typically results in a collective agreement on priorities and their development into proposed capacity-building, and other projects, that are all aimed at urban poverty reduction.

The urban profiling is now being expanded from its initial 20 African and Arab countries, offering an opportunity for comparative regional analysis, at present, between 38 countries. Once completed, this series of studies will provide a framework for central and local authorities and urban actors, as well as donors and external support agencies.

Methodology

The urban profiling consists of three phases:

Phase one is a rapid urban profiling at national and local levels. The capital city, medium size city and small town are selected and studied to provide representative samples of the urban sector in each country.

The analysis focuses on four themes: Governance, Slums, Gender and Environment. Information is collected through interviews and discussions with institutions and key informants to assess strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats and priorities (*SWOT*) of the national and local urban contexts.

The findings are presented and refined during city and national consultation workshops and consensus is reached for priority interventions.

National and town reports synthesize the information collected and outline ways forward to reduce urban poverty through holistic approaches.

Phase two builds on the priorities identified through pre-feasibility studies and develops detailed capacity building and capital investment project proposals.

Phase three implements the projects developed during the earlier phases, with an emphasis on skills development, insti-

tutional strengthening and replication. This report presents the outcomes of RUSPS phase one of Ambo town.

Urban Profiling in Ambo

RUSPS in Ambo town has been developed in consultation with the lead Ministry of Works and Urban Development. A forum, involving key sections like gender, land and housing, policy planning road fund and federal urban planning institute were also organised to provide additional information and feedback.

At the city level, key institutions like capacity building, health, education, gender, housing, and micro-scale enterprise offices have participated in the consultation, which was chaired by the mayor of Ambo town.

At the national level, heads and experts of the key sections of the lead ministry, again including gender, policy planning, the federal urban planning institute, land and housing and UN-Habitat Programme Manager have commented and provided feed back.

Report structure

This report consists of:

- 1 A **general background** of the urban sector in Ambo, based on a desk study, interviews, focus group consultations with key stakeholders. (*See back cover for a list of participants in the city consultations and bibliography.*)

The background includes data on administration, urban planning, the economy, the informal and formal private sector, urban poverty, infrastructure, water, sanitation, public transport, street lighting, energy, health and education;

- 2 A synthetic **assessment** of four main areas – governance, slums, gender and HIV/AIDS and environment – in terms of the institutional set-up, regulatory frameworks, resource mobilisation and performance. This second section also highlights agreed priorities and includes a list of identified projects;
- 3 The third and last section includes a Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (*SWOT*) analysis and an outline of priority project proposals for each theme. The proposals include beneficiaries, partners, estimated costs, objectives, activities and outputs.



Ambo

URBAN CHALLENGES



Poor building quality and lack of maintenance ensures that a majority of houses do not have access to clean water and sanitation.



Main roads do not have tarmac.



Transport personell and other transitory workers increase incidences of HIV / AIDS.



Inadequate environmental regulations and lack of sanitation makes rivers a main dumping ground for household and industrial waste.,

AMBO IN DATA

Ambo is a transport hub between the capital Addis Ababa and the wider western region of Ethiopia. The city follows the same pattern as other Ethiopian urban centres. From a relatively well planned establishment, the city has developed - and grown - rapidly without governmental influence. The original structures, nationalised by the Derg military government in 1974, are dilapidated and poorly maintained. New structures, often built without permit, are varying from shacks to apartment blocks, but of unknown standard.

The population of Ambo has nearly doubled from 1996, to the present 50 000 inhabitants. Elections for local leadership was held for the first time in 2007, and the new administration faces great challenges as well as expectations. Apart from the main highway, few internal roads are paved, led alone drained. The city becomes difficult to traverse during the rainy season, and public dumping of solid and liquid waste ensures that a constant bad smell is engulfing the city.

There is no sewerage system in place, and the one suction truck owned by the municipality is in bad shape. The same situation applies to the solid waste collection truck. Collection is random at best, and even then simply dumped in the outskirts of the city.

The administration is thus not able to legitimise even the low service charges they apply, and is in a constant financially strained situation. Land tax, another avenue for income generation, is also poorly applied, as there is no inventory of land use or even an urban plan in place.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The urban local governments have the following roles and responsibilities as stipulated in the proclamation no. 65/03 issued by the Oromiya Regional State.

Objectives

- Promote self-rule by encouraging the involvement of residents in the overall activities of the city/town and facilitate conditions in which residents benefit from the development.
- Institute good governance in which effectiveness, transparency and accountability to the residents.
- Ensure the provision of efficient and equitable urban services to the residents in a sustainable manner.
- Promote social and economic development of the locality in encouraging investment.
- Promote cooperative government.
- Promote a safe and clean urban environment.
- Promote close residents-government relationship and partnership with the community.
- Promote urban-rural and urban-urban partnership.

Governance model:

As per the above proclamation the urban governance model applied in Ambo town is a council-mayor systems, where by the city council has the final authority on urban issues whereas the highest executive powers are vested upon the mayor and the mayor committee.

The urban local government proclamation 95/2003 has adequately covered all elements required to promote Urban good governance.

But as it has not been implemented as envisaged.

Holistic implementation of the provisions of the proclamation along with the local elections to establish the town council and the ongoing capacity building programs designed by the federal Government are expected to have considerable contribution to institutionalize urban good governance in the town.

The federal and the regional governments and stakeholders continued and sustained support to enable the local government dispose its responsibilities should be emphasized and remains critical.

POPULATION

Over the past few years the population of Ambo town has been growing rapidly. In 1996, Ambo had a population of 30 499. Five years later, in 2001, it rose by 30 percent, to 39 161. According to the municipality of Ambo (which coincides with the National Urban Planning Institute's 1997 projection), the current population is estimated at 50 284 inhabitants.

The municipality only counts registered residents of the town. Given the transitory nature of the town, a large proportion is thought to be unaccounted for.

The growth trend of the last ten years indicate that the town has been growing at an average rate of growth of 5 percent. This rate of growth roughly matches the national average of 4.1 percent, putting the town among other fast growing cities in the country.

Assuming this rate of growth to remain the same for the coming ten years, the population of Ambo town will reach 81 908 inhabitants by 2016.

EDUCATION

In the past few years education has been receiving considerable attention in the country, and Ambo town in particular.

For instance the primary education (1-8th grade) Gross enrolment Ratio (GER) was 121 percent, Net Enrolment Ratio 74 percent in 2005. This is better than Dire Dawa, the second biggest city in the country. For the same year, the secondary education (9-10th grade) net enrolment ratio was 34 percent.

There is also a determination to also improve the quality of education. Intervention to this effect includes improvement in teacher student ratio, book per student ratio, improved contact hours (from half day to a full day), and assignment of qualified teachers pertinent to each level.

Student to teacher ratios are currently 1:42 for primary school, 1:61 for secondary school, and schoolbooks to student is 1:2. These numbers are close to the national average.

However, there is a lot to be desired. Over 40 and 60 pupils per class is harmful to teaching efficiency, and less able students will not get the attention they need. Furthermore, only half of the teachers fill the formal requirements for teaching, and schools often run in two shifts because of space limitations.

At the same time, Oromiya has been selected as a centre for higher education. A number of private collages have been established, and public training institutions are expanding their capacity. This will likely impact population dynamics, including attracting a higher qualified work force.

EMPLOYMENT

Unemployment in Ethiopian urban centres is a critical problem due to lack of job creation in the formal sector. As with other urban centres in Ethiopia, it is common to notice streets full of unemployed youths hoping for opportunities.

The municipality has adopted a Micro-Scale Enterprise policy, together with a promotion of investment opportunities to improve the situation. The urban development and construction industry component of national poverty reduction strategy, PASDEP, supports MSEs as one of the four pillars of the strategy. It is also linked with the integrated housing development programme and the education system via expansion of the Technical and Vocational Education and Training.

In order to realize this policy, the following strategic actions are being taken: The MSE promotion department will support market integration, building the capacity of emerging businesses in leadership and entrepreneurship, facilitate access to financial resources in form of micro-credit, and facilitate accessing working space and infrastructure.

There are private as well as regional micro credit institutions, and the MSE promotion department is working closely with the Oromiya Micro-Credit institution.

OFFICES	PRINCIPAL URBAN FUNCTIONS
The City Administration	Issue and implement Policies, Proclamations, and Regulations, Establish municipal and non-municipal bodies, Constitute public enterprises as legal entities, Establish kebele and demarcate their borders as well as allocate budgetary subsidy to it, Other important power and function indicated in the city charter.
City Council	Overall responsibility for the management of the city, approves budgets and plans.
Mayor	Executive office of the municipality.
Mayor's Committee	Executive council of the municipality .
The city Manager and Other Executive Bodies	Professional positions responsible for daily management of the town.
City Court	Responsible for judicial bodies (Courts and judges).
Office of the Chief Auditor	Responsible for overseeing budget and financial allocations.
Kebele Council	Lower administrative unit responsible for government houses and law and order.
Kebele Chief Executive	Chief administrator at kebele level.
Kebele Standing Committee	The equivalent of the City Council at kebele levels.
Kebele Social Court	Informal, or peoples, court able to settle minor disputes.

ECONOMY

The economy of Ambo town is predominantly based on administration and social services sector, accounting for 43 percent of the employment. Trade employs 38 percent of the population, industry 8 percent and, 2 percent for transport. The latter is surprising, as Ambo is a main gateway between the western provinces and the capital, and one would expect some of the local businesses catering to this market.

Among trade and other services, the dominating enterprise is small-scale alcohol (tej) sales, bar and yarn production, which account for more than 50 percent of the total.

Lack of up-to date data is making it difficult to measure the overall all economic performance of the town, such as rate of employment growth, income level and level of investment.

The local government is promoting investment through the establishment of an industrial zone, with a total size of 17.5 hectares. It has also set up a “one stop shop” for municipal licenses and authorizations. Despite this, none of the investment projects submitted to the Municipal government in 2006 materialized. The municipality might better facilitate local business initiatives.

MUNICIPAL FINANCE

Ambo town is suffering from poor revenue collection, high expenditures and gaps in the administration. The municipality has poor capacity to finance basic social services, let alone financing infrastructure maintenance and new projects.

The weak financial performance of Ambo town in the last three years is a sign of the local governments inability to effectively collect the tax base at its disposal. There is a huge gap between the planned revenue and actually collected. The actual revenue collected has not been more than 35 percent of the planned.

Taking the single most important source of municipal revenue - property tax - only 15 percent is annually collected. Local businesses, however, complain of lengthy procedures and frequent opportunities to pay a lower bribe instead of official tax.

It is thus not surprising that the municipal revenues are lower than both recurrent and capital budgets. This is usually impacting on the municipal ability to deliver services, reducing the expenses to paying wages only.



HEALTH

Ambo only has one general hospital which is shared by the entire Oromiya zone population. Furthermore, as there are no adequate lower level health services, the single hospital is overcrowded with patients. As is usual in the Ethiopian public sector, there is a constant shortage of doctors, nurses, general staff and medicines. The limited number of hospital beds, and lack of private health services, also add to the overburdening of the health services.

WATER SUPPLY

According to the town's Water Supply Authority, the current coverage of water supply in Ambo town is 70 percent. With only an estimation as a population measure, this seems optimistically high. Water is not currently identified as a problem, mainly because the system does not serve informal settlements, and the development of industries is too low.

The continued growth of the city and the plan for promoting industrial development will both increase demand for water, and the issue will have to be tackled a lot more head-on to improve.

SANITATION

Like water, the situation for sanitation is poor in Ambo. According to the health office of the town, half of all the registered houses in the city have no toilet facility.

Rivers, ditches and streets are serving as alternative waste dumping sites. The municipal abattoir is not provided with sanitary waste disposal system thus causing a health hazard, impoverishing land quality, and bad smell. Similarly, waste products from informal slaughtering is common.

GOVERNANCE

Ambo is one of 20 reform towns in the Oromiya region, and among 75 in the country. The current administration was elected in 2007, replacing a council appointed by the zonal administration in 1995. The election was a step in the process of deepening decentralization and effectively respond to the development needs of the urban dwellers.



The current town administration has two functions. These are municipal and state functions. The state function is responsible for the management of sector offices such as education, health, security, while the municipal function is in charge of managing and running municipal services such as land and housing, environment protection and provision of infrastructure.

Revenue collection and expenditure of the town is thus also divided between the two functions. The divided responsibilities contradict the spirit of municipal proclamation of the region, and the principles of empowering local governments.

Lack of adequate tenure and continuity of municipal leaders is a recurring challenge. For instance, mayors and bureau heads are seen as a major impediment to the effective management of the city.

It is hoped that the current town council will open opportunities for public engagement and improvements in the participatory decision-making process.

Improvements in the institutional capacity will take some time, however. The problems that have stifled the overall performance of the city can be summarised as follows:

- Lack of sufficient human resources and urban management skills, inadequate tax base and weak revenue collection systems, lack of understanding of policy provisions, rules and regulations governing urban development, inadequate, or absent, local level legal and regulatory frameworks, lack of sustained community participation and mobilisation for local development.
- The municipality should put considerable effort in building the capacity in managing municipal finance and expanding its tax base. For instance putting in place at least a simple registry of property to adequately harness existing tax base could be a big leap in improving the financial situation of the local government.

INSTITUTIONAL SET-UP

- Regional councils are ultimately responsible for administering municipalities within their territory. This task is delegated to zonal level Oromiya region.
- The Regional Bureau of Works and Urban and Urban Development reports to the Regional Council, and is responsible for all technical matters related to urban development.
- The Federal Regional Affairs Department in the Office of the Prime Minister shares overall responsibility for the decentralization process. It has no formal link to municipalities.
- The Federal Ministry of Works and Urban Development (*MWUD*) is responsible for studies on urbanisation patterns, training and classification of urban centres.
- The National Urban Planning Institute, organised under *MWUD*, prepares physical urban development plans.
- The Urban Development Support Services, also organised under *MWUD* prepares urban human planning, such as financial planning, human resources and capacity building.
- The kebele administrations are empowered to administer local matters such as community mobilisation, neighbourhood improvement, and building code enforcement.
- It is still a way from full decentralization of power, however. Kebeles are not there to implement their plans, rather they are supposed to submit it to the higher authority, collect local taxes - but not use it - and prepare budgets, but not approve it.

REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

- Municipalities have no mention in the constitution - only regional governments and districts do. The Ethiopian government have implemented a significant number of laws

regulating municipalities since. Remaining legislation is now expected at the regional level. Major laws include:

- Proclamations no. 41/91 and 4/95 gives the Ministry of Works and Urban Development responsibilities in urban development, and reaffirms regions as the chief municipal authority.
- Proclamation no. 272/00 revise existing legislation on urban land lease administration. Number 455/05 addresses compensation on property rights.
- The Derg famously nationalised all land in proclamation no. 47 of 1975. It established the various levels of urban dwellers associations (*kebeles*) in no. 4 of 1976. These decisions have been adopted by the current government.
- The Imperial Proclamation no. 74/45 still governs municipal revenue sources.
- Ambo town is organised based on the Oromiya region urban local government proclamation no. 65/2003.
- According to this proclamation towns and cities of the region are grouped in to four grades based on their population size.
- Thus Ambo town is one of the third level towns which have a population size ranging from 10,000-44,999.

AGREED PRIORITIES

- Capacity building and leadership skills.
- Developing regulations, procedures and systems.
- Set up land information and management system.
- Predictable and sustained fiscal transfer.
- Technical support in areas of urban design and planning.

- The urban local governments have the following roles and responsibilities as stipulated in the proclamation no. 65/03 issued by the Oromiya Regional State.

PERFORMANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

- The relationship between the urban local government and the residents is governed by the principle that all power emanates from residents.
- As regards participation the urban local government is responsible to organise forums at least every three months for the deliberation and debate of annual programs, plans projects and budget of the town in order to promote the participation of its residents in decision-making processes.
- The municipality has initiated the creation of a strategic plan and management (SPM) programme to improve its long-term economic growth, and undertaking Business Process Re-engineering activities to improve the operational climate for the private sector.

RESOURCE MOBILISATION

- The urban local government may introduce, adjust and collect taxes, rentals and service charges, and use the revenue for the development of the town
- Urban local governments have the authority to determine and administer its budget.
- The Mayor prepares development plans and budget and presented to kebeles and representatives of residents.
- The mayor presents reports to the council annually. The report shall be open to the public.
- The municipality is organising experience-sharing events with similar towns in the country.
- The municipality has co-operated with the Zonal administration to organize a trade-fair, with the aim of promoting investment opportunities of the town.



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	Database Creation and Training	

SLUMS

The Government of Ethiopia recognises the right of citizens to decent living environment and housing, and commits itself to implement international conventions.

These rights and conventions are also recognised at the state and regional level, and an attempt is being made to translate them into action in all towns of Oromiya, including Ambo town.

According to the National Urban Planning Institute NUPI, there were 4 314 housing units in Ambo town in 1997, and an average construction rate of 100 houses per year. In terms of ownership, 45 percent were owned by the government (*managed by the municipal kebele administration*), while 55 percent were owner occupied.

Keeping the above rate of construction (*100 units per year*) constant, the projection for the last ten years gives a current housing stock as 5 414.

With a population of 50 000, and an average household size of five persons per family, the population to houses ratio for the town would be ten persons per house. This not only indicates a high degree of housing shortage, but also that there must be a number of non-registered informal settlements. Even so, it is clear that halving the above projection would require at least 4 500 new housing units.

What is more, the condition of the governmentally-owned houses are deplorable, including physical shape and sanitation. For instance, 50 percent of all houses do not have any toilet facility of any type. This indicates what is clearly visible; that lack of repair not only leads to damaged buildings, but also that houses lose their toilet facilities for various reasons. Otherwise the houses were constructed without any toilet facility, which seems unlikely.

The problem is appalling, and may be the worst in the country. In the case of Addis Ababa, where old kebele houses are concentrated, the percentage of houses without toilets is 25 percent.

Most of the kebele-owned houses are located in central areas and are the oldest settlements of any city in Ethiopia. These areas are generally dense, and lack of maintenance has rendered infrastructures broken.



Economic growth have increased the ability of residents to upgrade their facilities, and municipal Water Supply Agency has reported a rise in private connections by 27 percent the last four years. Adding private connections to the number of public taps in to account, it is possible to suggest that the total coverage of the town is more than 70 percent (*though this is on the optimistic side*).

Future demand for water will only rise, taking into account the development of the manufacturing and service sectors, the establishment of a 17.5 hectares industrial zone, and the plan for the construction of 540 condominium housing units.

Furthermore, as Ambo is a market-place for the surrounding rural population, thousands of people visit the town during market days, putting additional pressure on the water supply.

The local government to are trying to redevelop prime areas of the city, including water supply, with the aim of face lifting the central part of the town to promote investment. These redevelopment interventions are targeted on land occupied by the governmentally owned kebele houses. This is mainly due to lack of financial capacity of the local government to cover the compensation to privately owned property.

The residents of the kebeles are protected, as an interested investor is required to build a replacement house exactly similar to the ones to be demolished in terms of size and material on a new plot of land. The residents are relocated to the new kebele houses, and the old houses will be demolished and the land made available to the developer.

INSTITUTIONAL SET-UP

- The National Urban Planning Institute, organised under the Ministry of Federal Affairs, is responsible for developing the National Urban Development Policy.
- The Ministry of Works and Urban Development (MWUD) is in general responsible for overall policy, strategy formulation and capacity building.
- Regional Councils are responsible for legislation and the establishment of municipalities in the regions, but act in line with federal directives.
- Regional Bureaus and Zonal Departments for Works and Urban Development provide support to urban centres through direct technical support in the areas of preparation and approval of physical plans and budgets, as well as follow-up of their implementation, personnel and financial administration.
- Urban Dweller Associations (UDAs) are responsible for housing and economic activity within their zones. There are three kebeles in Ambo, which are responsible for local security, collection of land-taxes and rent, and managing the houses owned by the government.
- The Oromiya region Works and Urban Development Bureau provides technical assistance in terms of urban planning and implementation.
- The Municipality of Ambo has a section in charge of land and housing development.

REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

- The new National Urban Development Policy aims to coordinate and integrate all relevant legislation and policy framework, including:
 - The National Policy Framework for Grading and Defining Urban Centres (*awaiting formal endorsement by the Federal Government*);
 - The Federal Urban Planning Law and Building Code (*about to be completed*);
 - The Federal Housing Policy (*preparatory activities are finalized to start the study*);
 - The Federal Urban Planning Manual/Guideline (*ongoing*);
 - The Federal Urban Land Lease Policy (*under implementation, and recently modified*); and
 - The Federal Urban Capacity Building Strategies (*in practice*).
- There is a comprehensive urban development policy.
- There is no regional/town level policy.

AGREED PRIORITIES

- Increased capacity for land development, in particular in the development of access roads to the expansion and existing settlements.
 - Improved revenue collection from land development, this in turn needs developing a well-organised cadastre system.
 - Development of an integrated development plan of the town.
 - Develop a housing strategy for the town and mechanisms to finance housing development.
- There is a condominium policy and it is being implemented.

SECURITY OF TENURE

- In spite of the accumulated and increasing demand for land, the supply side has been slow. This trend has been in existence since the last ten years, because building permits are difficult to come by, and government kebele houses are statically managed, with poor maintenance and no rebuilding when collapsing.
- Investors are required to provide an equal house, when kebele houses are torn down for commercial purposes. The consideration for residents is good, but the local government should take a more active role, rather than simply pushing the responsibility over to the private sector.
- The current rate of supply also do not seem to match the need. The municipality planned in 2006 to prepare two hundred and sixty (260) plots of land for housing, and build 540 condominium housing units, but only succeeded with a fraction of this plan.
- As a result, costs for housing are pressing a number of residents into informal settlements in the fringe of the town.

RECOURSE MOBILISATION

- Overall resource mobilisation in Ambo town is characterized by poor revenue planning and collection. This is caused by weak institutional capacity, lack of system and regulations.
- As a result investment on housing and slum improvement is insignificant.

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	Access Road Provision to Existing Settlements	
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	Provision of Public Toilets and Baths	

GENDER AND HIV / AIDS

It is a widely recognised fact that promotion of gender equality and development of women is indispensable for social, economic and political development in any society. However, in Ethiopia, women continue to suffer inequalities and systematic forms of discrimination.



They have been denied of their basic human rights including the right to property ownership, freedom from violence and access to basic health.

Continued victimization of women through harmful traditions and customs such as Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), marriage by abduction are common, and among the worst in the country.

Indicators such as access to education, health, employment and political participation largely favour men. For instance, the primary enrolment ratio (1-8th grade) is 87 percent for boys, while it is 58 percent for girls. For the secondary education level (9-10th grade), the participation of boys it is 30 percent, while for girls it is 14 percent. Similar trends are observed as regards school dropouts.

The gap gets wider when it comes to the proportion of teachers with degrees. The number of males are 2.5 times that of women (65 percent male versus 26 percent female).

The situation for health services show a similar negative trend. Only 25 percent of women have access to antenatal services, and only 9 percent have access to postnatal care.

Enabling women in political decision-making is critically important for the realization, not only of their constitutional right, but also to identify the needs of half the population.

GENDER POLICY

Having realized the huge gender gap state, the region has issued a gender policy with the following objective.

OBJECTIVE

To strengthen the involvement of women in the process of undertakings in Oromiya aimed at realizing gender equality along with enhancement of their participation and benefits in decision-making positions at economic and political platforms including policy making.

EXPECTED RESULTS

Enhance women's participation at all levels of education and training.
Facilitate the setting out of standards and quality health services that would help in solving the problems of women.

Provide enabling condition for the abolition of discrimination against women in terms of their rights to generating and controlling properties.

Ensure the protection of human and democratic rights as an instrument to realize abolition of gender discrimination against women.

Act in response to avoiding the whole aspects of harmful traditional practices and attitudes working against women.

Provide enabling environment that would ensure the legislative measures taken by the Oromiya regional state would protect gender equality and realize women's interest in the whole provisions of human and democratic rights.

In spite of this fact involvement of women in key political positions continued to be insignificant.

According to a study undertaken by the regional state, that covered 17 woredas, no single woman was represented at the cabinet level. Among the regional state's cabinet, only one out of 13 was a woman. As witnessed elsewhere in Ethiopia, women's representation at lower levels is generally higher. For instance, two out of the three kebele leaders are women.

Unlike other cities, like Addis Ababa and Dire Dawa (*where NGOs are concentrated, and providing substantial support to gender issues*), there is not a single NGO working on gender in Ambo town.

A recent reorganization of the local government structure, established a Women's Affairs Office to promote women issues and enhance the protection of their rights. The office is staffed by four people, but suffers from a ridiculous budget; 5 000 Birr (*about 575 USD*) in 2005. It was even lower the next year, 4 290 Birr (*about 493 USD*).

THE INSTITUTIONAL SET-UP

- The National Policy on Women (1993) established a Women Affairs Departments in each Ministry, Regional Women's Bureaus in each Regional Administrative Council, and a Women's Coordination Desk at zonal and district levels. The bureaus suffer from lack of mandate, funding and staffing, leading to low mainstreaming of gender in federal and regional policy making.
- A Ministry of Women's Affairs has been established, replacing a lower graded unit in the Prime Minister's Office, and is responsible for policy formulation, capacity building and advocacy.
- Several NGOs focus on gender issues. The include The Ethiopian Women Lawyers Association (EWLA), the Network of Ethiopian Women's Associations (NEWA), and the Centre for Research Training and Information for Women in Development (CERTWID). A number of Women's Associations exist for different regions, districts and urban centres.



AGREED PRIORITIES

- Take practical measure to empower women at all levels.
- Allocate sufficient budget in a sustainable manner.
- Targeted and sustainable capacity building program, e.g., capacity building to set up database and documentation centre, undertake research and development.
- Support the establishment of Women's groups.
- Raise awareness on gender issues among municipal staff.

At federal level The ministry of women's affair is responsible for policy formulation, capacity building and coordination

The Oromiya regional state women affairs office is responsible for regional matters including regulation, capacity building, advocacy etc.

REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

- The National Policy on Women (1993) aimed to mainstream gender into existing laws and government policies, as well as change discriminatory practices and improve awareness.
- The 1994 constitution (Articles 7 and 35) affirms the rights of women, and accord women the same rights as men.
- The paragraph is contradicted by the preceding Article 34. It states that the constitution "shall not preclude the adjudication of disputes relating to personal and family laws in accordance with religious or customary laws, with consent of the parties". The equality granted under the constitution is thus subject to discriminatory traditional laws, if the parties want it.
- The Family Law amends discriminatory practices relating to marriage (Raising legal age from 15 to 18), divorce, children and joint property.
- The 2005 revision of the penal code included rape, marriage by abduction (crime is not cancelled by subsequent marriage, and rape will be included in charges), domestic violence, female genital mutilation and abortion.
- The national poverty reduction strategy 2006-10, the PASDER, has wide references on gender, and aims to "unleash the potential of women" for the benefit of the country.
- Ethiopia is also signatory to a number of international conventions on gender, including The Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) in 1981, and the Beijing Platform of Action in 1995.

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	Credit Facility for Women	



The population of Ambo has been growing rapidly the last years. In 1996, its population was 30 499. In 2001 it was 39 161, and its current population is 50 000.

This rapid population growth has been putting a tremendous pressure in terms of providing social and physical infrastructures. As a result the environmental situation of Ambo has been deteriorating.

A solid waste collection truck was purchased in 1996. More than ten years later, it is still the sole collection vehicle, while the population has nearly doubled. The social service team has a budget of 6 000 Birr, or about USD \$ 650. The collection has dropped from once a week, to irregular. There are no public trash containers.

There municipality does not have an adequate dumping site, and there is no sorting or recycling of garbage. Waste has traditionally been dumped on peasants' land in the outskirts of the city, but growing volume and lack of treatment is making this more difficult. As a result, waste is being dumped in open spaces, drainage lines and ditches.

The sanitary situation in Ambo town has likewise been deteriorating. There is no central sewerage system, and lack of toilet facilities, water supply, clearing/suction, and abattoir services are all adding to the complexity of the situation.

Ten years ago, a third of all houses lacked toilet facilities of any type. Now, half of all houses lack this basic utility. There is not a single toilet in the market area, and people are forced to use nearby bushes, river-sides and ditches.

The municipal suction truck, also purchased ten years ago, is still the only liquid waste collection mechanism of the town.

Liquid waste, like solid, used to be dumped in the outskirts of the city, but is also facing growing resistance. Household, butchery, and commercial wastes are therefore often discharged directly into streets, ditches and rivers.

There is no plan to approach either the solid nor the liquid waste problem in any systematic manner, and will likely continue to impact health, agricultural and commercial output.

As in other sectors, the poor environmental management is closely linked with inadequate resource mobilisation and capacity limitations. Key factors include: No clear regulation for levying service charges, bad physical shape of machinery, low budget, little or no NGO involvement in environmental protection.

INSTITUTIONAL SET-UP

- The federal Environment Protection Authority (*EPA*) is responsible for environmental policy formulation, overseeing implementation and capacity building.
- All governmental ministries and agencies, like Health, Water Resources, Road Authority and the Electric and Power Corporation have established Environmental Units. This procedure has been replicated at the regional level.
- Ministry of Health and their regional counterparts are responsible for ensuring sanitation in cities and towns.
- Urban administrations have sections for environment protection.

- The Environmental Protection Authority, the Ministry of Works and Urban Development, The Ministry of Health, and they Oromiya regional state are responsible for policy formulation.
- Ambo Municipality has a section responsible for waste regulation and management.
- There was no clear regulation and tariff rates for waste collection services.

REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

- Two articles in the constitution deals with environmental affairs (*Art. 44 and 92*), with the former stating that “*All persons have the right to a clean and healthy environment.*”
- A number of policy documents have since been prepared, notably
- The Environment and the Conservation Strategy of Ethiopia,
- The Environmental policy of Ethiopia,
- The Environmental Pollution Control Proclamation,
- The Environmental Impact Assessment Regulation,
- The Environmental Organs Establishment Proclamation,
- The National Sanitation Strategy,
- The Hazardous Waste Management Regulation,
- The Ethiopian Water Resource Management, and
- The Public Health Proclamation.
- A number of guidelines have also been established, like the Guidelines on Enforcement and Compliance in Industrial Pollution, on the Procurement of Environment Friendly Goods, on Integrated Pollution Prevention and

AGREED PRIORITIES

- Procurement of solid waste collection truck and containers.
- Procurement of suction truck.
- Developing sanitary land fill site.
- Capacity building programs.
- Adapt / draft a clear regulation for the provision and management of waste.
- Set realistic service fee in consultation with stakeholders especially the community.

Control, on Pollution Release and Transfer Registry, on Industrial Waste Handling and Land Filling and Management, and for undertaking sector specific Environmental Impact Assessment on development projects in 21 sectors.

- Regional authorities have drafted and approved regional environmental laws and guidelines, mirroring the national framework.

RESOURCE MOBILISATION

- In the absence of regulations (there is no regulation for environment protection) it will be hard for the municipality to charge adequately for its services.
- Service delivery is difficult with inadequate machinery, and lack of sanitary dumping site.
- Low, if any, fees are collected for the solid waste collection service.

ENVIRONMENT N°1	Project proposal	Page 25
	Procurement of Waste Collection, Trucks and Waste Disposal Units	
ENVIRONMENT N°2	Project proposal	Page 25
	Construction of Sanitary Land fill Site	



S trengths	W eaknesses	O pportunities	T hreats	P riorities
DECENTRALISATION AND DEVLOUTION OF POWER				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Power is decentralised to the local authority proclamation 65/2003. The town administration is empowered to levy and assess taxes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of local by-laws, regulations and guidelines. Mismatch between the structure proposed by the proclamation and the reality. Poor institutional capacity-town and kebele level. Elected council is inexperienced. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existence of federal, regional and international community support. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Difficulty to fill vacancies as soon as possible. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developing regulations, procedures and systems. Predictable and sustained fiscal transfer.
PERFORMANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existence of municipal administration, empowered through proclamation no. 65/2003, which fully empowers local Governments Existence of capacity building office lead by the vice mayor. Training on process re-engineering. The preparation of strategic plan and management (SPM). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of regular report on plans and budget to public. Lack of regular independent audit and regular report to the public. Lack of standards. Elected leaders are inexperienced. Lack of complaint handling mechanism. Limited participation of community in local projects planning and implementation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The fresh elections might help in the improvement of performance and accountability. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improvement might take some time due to capacity limitation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity building and leadership skills. Set up Land information and management system. Technical support in areas of urban design and planning.

GOVERNANCE N° 1	<i>Project proposal</i>
	Land Database Creation and Training

LOCATION: Ambo town.

DURATION: One year.

BENEFICIARIES: Residents of Ambo town.

IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS: Ambo land registry.

ESTIMATED COST: USD \$ 150 000.

BACKGROUND: The population of Ambo town has nearly doubled in ten years, while housing, waste disposal and sanitation has deteriorated. This not only diminishes quality of life, but random waste deposits increases health risks, lack of maintenance make dwellings more vulnerable to collapse during floods.

Part of this challenge lies in the fact that the urban administration does not have an accurate view of current housing stock, land-use rights, and available land. Managing urban services is dependent upon the municipality knowing who to serve what, and where the gaps are.

Furthermore, without having an accurate status of land, it will be difficult to attracting investment. Small scale businesses need to be near their markets in order to succeed. Relocating to an industrial zone outside the city is not an option. They are therefore dependent upon being able to register their land-use with the municipality, and be sure that there is no counter registration that will threaten their business.

OBJECTIVE: Create a land-use database at the town level, including status of buildings, commercial areas, as well as delineating a solid and liquid waste deposit.

ACTIVITIES: Training and sensitising kebele leaders on the project. Public consultation. Training of staff, including data collection methodology. Purchase of database system, computers and printers. Prepare a data collection format/questionnaire. Hire data collectors. Computerization of data

EXPECTED OUTPUT: An updated database on land-use in Ambo town, with trained staff to operate the system. The system should be compatible with similar initiative in other cities in Ethiopia.

REQUIRED STAFF: Planners, cadastre experts, housing experts and computer experts.

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities	Threats	PRIORITIES
REGULATION AND POLICY				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparation is being made for building condominium houses. Land is under preparation for housing. Slum houses are planned to be replaced by condominium houses gradually. Housing programs and projects are integrated with job creation and capacity building. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No housing policy. Poor database. No clear regulation for the management of kebele houses. No upgrading regulation and projects. Poor knowledge and documentation of existing regulations and policy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integrated housing program is on top of the agenda of the federal government. The upgrading of the Addis Ababa Nekeemt high way traversing Ambo. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increasing informal settlements in the periphery. Poor institutional capacity. Resource limitations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a housing strategy for the town and mechanisms to finance housing development.
PROVISION OF ADEQUATE SHELTER AND SERVICES				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are projects aiming at improving informal settlements. Land for more than 200 houses and for 540 condominium buildings is under preparation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No housing project aimed at the urban poor (<i>who can't afford any formal housing</i>). No projects specifically aimed at improving the living condition of slum dwellers. Spatial plans do not address the issue of slum upgrading. Poor infrastructure and service delivery in slum areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Federal government support in condominium project. The process re-engineering program. The experience of condominium from Addis Ababa. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High cost of infrastructure and services provision. Increasing number of poor people may not afford to pay for services. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased capacity for land development, in particular in the development of access roads to the expansion and existing settlements. Improved revenue collection from land development, this in turn needs developing a well-organised cadastre system.
INSTITUTIONAL SET-UP AND CAPACITY BUILDING				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The set up of an independent municipal administration is a good step. The existence of capacity building department. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weak institutional capacity of the municipality. Critical human resource shortage. No research and documentation on slum and housing. Poor data base and data management. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Federal government has put local capacity building as one of its priorities. There is a urban development capacity building office (UD-CBO), within the Ministry of Works and Urban Development. The assistance of the regional government. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The existing organizational structure may not be sufficient to handle all the programs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of an integrated development plan of the town.

SLUMS N° 1	Project proposal
	Access Road Provision to Existing Settlements

LOCATION: Ambo town.

DURATION: Three years.

BENEFICIARIES: Residents of Ambo town.

ESTIMATED COST: USD \$ 1 500 000.

IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS: Ambo municipality, Oromiya region authority.

BACKGROUND: Major roads in Ambo town lack basic elements, such as tarmac and drains. Even where drains are present, they are clogged due to their function as a waste dumping site.

Internal access roads are totally inaccessible in the rainy seasons, creating an additional flood hazard. That is why the national highway, traversing the town, is the one used by people and cars at all times.

The development of the town is also concentrated along this high way causing unbalanced spatial growth, and straining infrastructures.

OBJECTIVE: Improve access roads through the construction of tarred roads and provision of closed drainage system.

ACTIVITIES: Identification of strategically important roads, design preparation, bidding, selection of contractors, construction.

EXPECTED OUTPUT: Major access roads asphalted with efficient water drainage.

REQUIRED STAFF: Planners, engineers, surveyors, construction supervisors.

SLUMS N° 2	Project proposal
	Provision of Public Toilets and Baths

LOCATION: Ambo town.

DURATION : One year.

BENEFICIARIES: Residents of Ambo town

ESTIMATED COST: \$ 750 000.

IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS: Ambo municipality, Oromiya region authority.

BACKGROUND: The city of Ambo has no sewerage system, and, only half the city's houses have a toilet. Solid and liquid waste is dumped in any vacant plot, river or ditch.

The houses lacking this basic facility are generally owned by the government, and are concentrated in central areas of the town. The biggest open market of the town, which accommodates hundreds of people and animals in the market day, is surrounded by dilapidated government houses, and has no single public toilet.

As a result, both residents, visitors and local traders, have to endure poor smell, and risk an acute sanitary cesspool, representing also a health hazard.

OBJECTIVE: Improve sanitation through the construction of public toilets with efficient drainage the market and slum areas of the town. They will operate on a small fee, to ensure sustainable running of the facilities.

Trash cans will also need be installed of sufficient size, given that otherwise trash will be thrown into the toilet.

ACTIVITIES: Undertake need assessment with kebele leaders in public forums. Identify maintenance staff, payment structures, municipal participation and responsibility. Estimate capacity and strategic locations. Design and bid document preparation. Bidding. Construction.

EXPECTED OUTPUT: Improved sanitation in slum and market areas.

REQUIRED STAFF: planners, architects and engineers, construction supervisors, toilet attendants.

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities	Threats	Priorities
GENDER AND HIV/AIDS POLICY				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The existence of a Women Affairs Office at town level. The regional government has a clearly articulated policy. Two out of three kebele leaders are women. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Women are marginally empowered. There is no women cabinet members of the town. Insufficient political support. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global institutions and federal government are keen to support women empowerment. Existence of decentralised structure. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The city government may lose focus on the issue, as it has too much commitments. Stereotyped attitude towards women may need some time. Male domination is embedded in both formal and informal culture, and will continue for some time. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allocate sufficient budget in a sustainable manner. Raise awareness on gender issues among municipal staff.
PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Women Affairs Office of Ambo has been trying to do its level best, despite a ridiculous budget (<i>USD \$ 500</i>). Gender related challenges are identified. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poor data base. Even available data in the town are not collected and documented. Lack of performance standards. Insufficient research. Insufficient integration and coordination among different actors-women affair office, police, courts. Poor law enforcement. Insufficient gender mainstreaming. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As it is a global agenda, much can be learned from other's experiences. Availability of federal and regional government's support. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full political support and commitment may take time. Resource limitation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take practical measure to empower women at all levels.
INSTITUTIONAL SET-UP AND CAPACITY BUILDING				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existence of dedicated institution. Existence of capacity limitation is a felt problem. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weak institutional capacity. Insufficient support from the region. Inadequate awareness creation. Absence of NGOs working on gender. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity building on the agenda of the international community, federal and regional governments. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It might be time taking due to resource limitation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Targeted and sustainable capacity building program. E.g. capacity building to set up database and documentation center, undertake research and development. Support the establishment of women's groups.

GENDER HIV/AIDS	<i>Projects proposal</i>
N° 1	Credit Facility for Women

LOCATION: Ambo town.

DURATION: Three years.

BENEFICIARIES: Women of ambo town, including immediate family.

IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS: Ambo Town Women Affairs Office, financial partners.

ESTIMATED COST (*Seed*): USD \$ 115 000.

BACKGROUND: The women Ambo town, like their sisters throughout Ethiopia, are suffering from lack of access to the formal job market, credit facilities and land ownership. A lot of these barriers follows from childhood, where lack of education and early pregnancy prevent an equal start. As adults, women have added challenges, in that they do not own property, and cannot raise capital in the commercial market.

The attempt of micro and small scale enterprises office and the Ambo town Women's Affairs Office have not been successful in organizing women to benefit from the microfinance credit system. This is mainly due to strict financial regulations and procedures. Private banking is not allowed in Ethiopia.

Of the ninety cooperatives (*1064 members*), women constituted a third of all members at 326. There were 738 male members, still more than double.

Making the Women's Affairs Office responsible for distributing small-scale loans would be an alternative and practical response to the problem of women in the town.

OBJECTIVE: Establish a special credit facility to the women of Ambo.

ACTIVITIES: Identifying procedures, payment schedules and checks and balances of funds. Set the interest rate (commercial). Inform potential beneficiaries through posters, radio and community leaders. Provide orientation. Provide simplified municipal structure for registering a small scale business. Provide loan. Support and follow up.

EXPECTED OUTPUT: Increased ability for women to expand or enter into a sustainable business.

REQUIRED STAFF: Gender expert, finance experts and accountants.

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities	Threats	Priorities
ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND REGULATION				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The urban local government proclamation puts environment protection as one of the key activities of the municipality. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of local urban environment regulation. Poor solid and liquid waste collection. Poor institutional capacity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The issues receives national attention, and a federal policy is existing. It is a global issue and international organizations are interested to support. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increasing urban population may generate more waste. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adapt / draft a clear regulation for the provision and management of waste. Set realistic service fee in consultation with stakeholders especially the community.
INSTITUTIONAL SET-UP				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The existence of a section in charge of environment protection. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poor coordination among the different actors and the community. Lack awareness creation system. Poor institutional capacity. Poor coordination of actors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Much can be learned from the experience of Addis Ababa. Availability of labour force to be organised and mobilised in solid waste collection and disposal. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poor institutional capacity may be a limitation in organising all stakeholders in an efficient manner. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Procurement of solid waste collection truck and containers. Procurement of suction truck. Developing sanitary land fill site.
RESOURCE MOBILISATION AND CAPACITY BUILDING				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Few private collectors are operating. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low/marginal budget. Poor fee collection. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National and international institutions are keen to provide training. The community can pay waste collection fee provided they receive efficient service. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increasing number of informal settlements. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity building programs.

ENVIRONMENT	Project proposal
N° 1	Procurement of Waste Collection Trucks and Waste Disposal Units

LOCATION: Ambo town.

DURATION: One year.

BENEFICIARIES: Residents of Ambo town.

IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS: Municipality of Ambo town, regional government.

ESTIMATED COST: USD \$ 2.5 million.

BACKGROUND: The rapid population growth in Ambo town demands an increased effort from the municipality in terms waste collection. There are no waste disposal containers in the city. Ten years back the city had one solid waste collection truck. It is currently in bad repair, and needs maintenance. In addition to repairing the existing truck, another is necessary for collection of organic and inorganic trash.

The sanitation problems have been worsening from infrequent trash collection.

OBJECTIVE: Improve the solid and liquid collection efficiency of the town.

ACTIVITIES: Develop clear regulation/guidelines for waste disposal and collection. Set tariff on a cost recovery basis. Municipality should debate suitable dump site, and possibilities for sorting organic, inorganic and hazardous waste. It must also develop and commit a budget for regular maintenance of units. Prepare a procurement document. Auction for supplier. Purchase of equipment and machinery. Providing the services.

EXPECTED OUTPUT: An improved solid and liquid waste collection.

REQUIRED STAFF: Procurement/finance experts.

ENVIRONMENT	Project proposal
N° 2	Construction of Sanitary Land fill Site

LOCATION: Ambo town.

DURATION: One year.

BENEFICIARIES: Residents of Ambo town.

IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS: Municipality of Ambo town, regional government.

ESTIMATED COST: USD \$ 500 000.

BACKGROUND: Waste collection and disposal is perhaps the largest challenge of the Ambo municipal administration. Even with an efficient collection mechanism, dumping is still random, and presents health challenges, let alone pollution of river and soil. The absence of a well treated and sanitary dumping site is acute in Ambo.

The municipality used to dump wastes in an open field outside the city, but nearby residents and farmers are complaining about smell, pollution and rodents. Hence the municipality must dramatically revise its approach to waste disposal.

OBJECTIVE: Construction of sanitary land fill site.

ACTIVITIES: Preparation of project proposal/document based on detail study. Particular attention will be paid to possibilities of sorting organic, inorganic and hazardous wastes, as well as possible water pollution of the new site. Public forum on alternate sites. Get approval. Preparation of contract document. Bidding. Construction.

EXPECTED OUTPUT: Sanitary dumping site with sorting mechanism for wastes.

REQUIRED STAFF: Team of experts including engineers, soil experts, hydrologist, planners.

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Acronyms

AAEPA	Addis Ababa Environment Protection Authority
AAWAO	Addis Ababa Women Affairs Office
ADLI	Agricultural Development Led Industrialisation
ANRS	Amhara National Regional State
CBDS	Capacity Building for Decentralized Service Delivery
CERTWID	Centre for Research Training and Information for Women in Development
CIDA	Canadian International Development Assistance
CSRP	Civil Service Reform Program
DDCAD	Dire Dawa City Administration
DAG	Development Assistance Group
DHS	Demographic and Health Survey
EC	European Commission
ECA	Economic Commission for Africa
EDHS	Ethiopia Demographic and Health Survey
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EWDF	Ethiopian Women Development Fund
EWLA	Ethiopian Women Lawyers Association
FDRE	Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia
FEMSEDA	Federal Micro and Small Enterprises Development Agency
FGM	Female Genital Mutilation
FUPI	Federal Urban Planning Institute
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
HAPCO	HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control Office
HPM	UN-Habitat Program Manager
HTP	Harmful Traditional Practices
MDG	UN Millennium Development Goal
MoFED	Ministry of Finance and Economic Development
MOH	Ministry of Health
MSE	Micro and Small Scale Enterprise
MWUD	Ministry of Works and Urban Development
NEWA	Network of Ethiopian Women's Associations
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NUPI	The National Urban Planning Institute
OPM	Office of the Prime Minister
ORAAMP	Office for the Revision of Addis Ababa Master Plan
PASDEP	Plan for Accelerated and Sustained Development to End Poverty
PPP	Purchasing Power Parity
ROAAS	UN-Habitat Regional Office for Africa and the Arab States
RUSPS	Rapid Urban Sector Profile for Sustainability
TPLF	Tigray People's Liberation Front
UN DESA	UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs
UN-Habitat	UN Human Settlements Programme
UNCHS	UN Centre for Human Settlements
UNDP	UN Development Programme
SIDA	Swedish International Development Assistance

AMBO CONSULTATION

ATTENDANCE LIST

Name and Organisation

Yehualashet Amde
Head, Women's Affairs Office

Kumessa Bayissa
Manager, Ngo-working On Orphanage

Megerssa Diribssa
Public Organization Advisor, Town Administration

Eticha Ejeta
Head, Trade and Industry Bureau

Megerssa Feyera
Head, Urban Development Bureau

Gutu Fekensa
Co-coordinator, HIV/AIDS Prevention Office (Hapco)

Amare Fuja
Head, Youth and Sport Bureau

Adugna Gela
Expert, Micro and Small Scale Enterprise (Mse)

Yeneneshe Kabeta
Social Worker, Town Administration

Beyene Kuma
Head, Information and Public Relations Bureau

Nigatu Kuris
Expert, Town Administration

Bayisa Muda
Head, Kebele 01

Guteta Namera
Mayor Committee, Town Administration

Alemeu Teshome
Expert, Health Office

Mulugeta Tolessa
Head, Capacity Building Bureau

Tolcha Tolessa
Head, Education Bureau

Kebede Tsegaye
Planning & Programming Expert, Town Administration

Taye Uma
Mayor, Town Administration

Assefa Wakjira
Department Head, Town Administration

Tewodros Tigabu
Habitat Programme Manager, UN-HABITAT

Girma Semu
Consultant, UN-HABITAT, RUSPS Ethiopia

CONTACTS:

Alioune Badiane, Chief, Regional Office for Africa and the Arab States, e-mail: alioune.badiane@unhabitat.org.

Alain Grimard, Programme Manager and Focal Point for Ethiopia, e-mail: alain.grimard@unhabitat.org.

PSUP@unhabitat.org

ETHIOPIA TEAM:

Tewodros Tigabu, Girma Semu.