



PROGRAM BRIEF

Estimates suggest that by 2050, 42% of Ethiopians will live in urban settings¹

To address health challenges related to rapid urbanization, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)-supported **Strengthening Ethiopia's Urban Health Program (SEUHP)** will promote urban health leadership and provide capacity building support in cities and towns across seven regions in Ethiopia. SEUHP extends the commitment of the previous USAID/Urban Health Extension Program (USAID/UHEP) by providing the Government of Ethiopia (GoE), civil society partners, and urban communities of Ethiopia with cost-effective, high quality, and appropriately targeted support and services. SEUHP's strategies are closely aligned with PEPFAR's blueprint, to help make the ambitious but reachable goal of achieving an AIDS-free generation in Ethiopia a reality.

Goal and Program Focus

SEUHP aims to improve the health status of the urban population in Ethiopia by reducing HIV/TB-related maternal, neonatal and child morbidity and mortality, and by reducing the incidence of communicable and non-communicable diseases. The Program works to build sustainable health systems, bringing together urban stakeholders across multiple sectors, and fostering strong community and private sector involvement in primary care and community health service delivery.

Implementation Approach

SEUHP focuses on strengthening the critical pillars of public health: human resources for health, evidence-based approaches, quality improvement, demand creation, data analysis and utilization, community engagement, leadership and management, and commodities and supply distribution. In Year 1, SEUHP is focusing on building capacity in core public health services including maternal, newborn, and child health, HIV and the prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT), and TB. Beginning in Year 2, SEUHP will work with the GoE and partners to include water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) and non-communicable diseases.

Our Partners

SEUHP works in collaboration with Ethiopian partners and stakeholders including the GoE, Federal Ministry of Health, Regional Health Bureaus, Zonal Health Departments, City/Town Health Offices, kebeles, health centers, hospitals, Urban Health Extension Professionals (UHE-ps), supervisors, Model Families, urban residents, and communities. SEUHP implementing partners include:

- Addis Ababa University (AAU)
- Emmanuel Development Association (EDA).

Promoting Innovative Strategies

Over the life of the Program, SEUHP will support 49 cities/towns.

SEUHP fosters leadership to help its' Ethiopian partners develop and implement innovative national and regional urban strategies. These include:

- Supporting the development of a technical advisory group to serve as a nexus point for urban health;
- Promoting market-driven and private service providers' inclusive approaches to urban sanitation and waste management;
- Promoting GIS mapping for public and communal latrines, and water points;
- Piloting of public community latrines with biogas digesters and cafeterias for vulnerable groups;
- Scaling-up model Urban Health Extension centers;
- Fostering structured urban health learning visits across regions;
- Promoting use of technology to address public health challenges (e.g., e-health, mhealth); and
- Documenting and sharing activities with global urban health community (focus on South-to-South sharing).

SEUHP's Key Program Elements

- Serve as a global urban health leader
- Work within existing urban health priorities
- Promote inter-sectoral coordination
- Build national and regional capacity
- Foster gender-equality and inclusion of vulnerable populations
- Build upon resources and systems already in place
- Adapt approaches for the specific urban context
- Address the determinants of health and well-being
- Promote equitable, high-quality services
- Foster public-private partnerships

¹United Nations. World Urbanization Prospects: the 2009 revision. New York: Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division, 2010

