

CITY OF NILI, AFGHANISTAN

The Challenge

Unplanned areas is a big challenge for Nili City – 98% of Nili city is unplanned – and the city is experiencing rapid urban growth pressures. Nili is experiencing increasing population growth mostly due to IDPs, from conflict and drought, and this increasing population growth is straining land and natural resources. Due to a lack of available land and a lack of available affordable housing, many people end up in informal settlements.

The residents are most vulnerable to the negative impacts, followed by the municipality who is unable to manage urban growth.



The Solution/Initiative

The proposed solution comes under land management scheme. First of all we need to improved tenure security for residents (through Occupation Certificates). Second, improving municipal governance and finance systems to encourage residents to pay 'safayi' (municipal service fee / tax) and, finally, building citizen-public relations through delivery of urban services using the increasing municipal revenue. These activities will result in Upgrading of informal settlements.

The Evidence

Data needed: Social economic studies, satellite imagery, urban form and land use analysis, land ownership mapping, online technology for undertaking surveys and registering properties, online database systems etc.

Policies, Plans & Regulation

Improved laws and regulations are important to facilitate this initiative For example, the Land Management Law, OC regulation, Safayi revenue regulation

Governance

It is important to build the trust of citizens through the process, so engaging with people through existing community governance structures is needed (eg GAs and CDCs) and ensure these structures are recognized at the municipality is important.



Financing

Improved revenue will be generated through the safayi / municipal service fee.

Technical support

Technical Support for survey, property registration, database, informal settlements upgrading etc are the priority. UN- Habitat and ESCAP are experts in these fields and would be ideal to support.

Timeline for Implementation of Proposed Activities

3 months

- Surveys / preparation

6 months

- Surveys
- Identifying available land
- Encouraging residents to pay safayi

12 months

- Upgrading activities
- Working with citizens to select priority projects
- Co-implementation of projects

>12 months

- Further upgrading
- Improve transparent governance systems
- Participatory budgeting etc

