country investment facility
GUIDANCE

1. Regional Bureau provides Country Offices with areas where the region wishes to prioritize, and encourages all COs to submit proposals
2. Country Office submits proposal to Regional Bureau (using submission form)
3. Regional Bureau reviews the proposal and discusses any missing components with Country Office; CO makes any necessary revisions
4. Regional Bureau makes recommendations for approval, including completed CO submission form and completed RB evaluation
5. Secretariat performs technical review of all RB recommended proposals
6. Secretariat proposes approval of funds from facility to the Administrator
7. Administrator decides
8. OFRM issues allocation to Country Office
9. Country Office provides annual reporting to Regional Bureau, against proposal’s expected benefits, outcomes, and indicators
10. Business Models team convenes discussion with all RBx on results achieved, including consolidating a global results report

country investment facility
submission form

Submitted by: [Name of Country Office]

The Administrator has decided to establish a new facility that provides a reserved amount of funds for Country Offices to carry out activities in 2018-2019 specifically targeted for **catalytic investments** in:

1. Areas of **growth and business development** – such as resource mobilisation activities with non-traditional, diverse, new partners; or formulating new types of partnerships with local and/or national governments and existing donors. These are activities that have a reasonable to high chance of resulting in new/increased programmes at the CO level. The expected outcome is that Country Offices can increase their programmes as a direct result of such funding.
2. Areas of **visionary interest and innovation**– these activities are targeted for longer term benefits particularly in the areas of innovation, modernization, and/or technology. These activities may not have a short term/immediate benefit, but enable the CO to invest in innovations related to achieving the SDGs; for example, an investment in solar panels, or other alternative forms of energy, or investment in a new digital platform in a CO where other means of communication are challenging. These could be new areas that the CO may not otherwise have the funds or risk appetite to undertake.

**Resources from this facility cannot be used for running of the office or any gaps within the operational structure and/or existing projects, nor for scaling up of past projects.**

# purpose and objective

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| Information | The submitting CO should outline the purpose and proposed objective(s). First, a clear explanation on how the objective meets the corporate criteria (A and/or B). Second, a clear rationale in support of the regional priority. Third, a total requested amount for 2018-19. |

* **Purpose**: Specify how the CO intends to use the funds from the facility

**‘Sustainable Cities for the People’ Platform.**

UNDP Georgia would like to use the funds from investment facility to develop a solution-oriented national platform/lab “Sustainable Cities for the People” in order to kickstart a country-wide transformation of cities and towns in Georgia, towards greater sustainability and resilience in line with the 2030 development agenda. the platform intends to bring together engaged citizens, technology providers, local authorities, service providers and private sector to co-design, test and co-implement solutions to the persisting urban challenges and gaps such as pollution, Greenhouse gas emissions, municipal waste, under-developed modes of mobility (public transit, walking, cycling, car-sharing), lack of green spaces for people and unsustainable urban planning practices etc. The platform/lab will use the formula of “Start, Seed and Scale” and will provide space for a diverse range of stakeholders to experiment and help implement practical solutions for people-centric, climate-proof and ecologically safe urban planning practices, urban mobility, energy efficient technologies, waste management and employment generation. The proposal will bring together existing innovation platforms operating in Georgia such as Public Service Development Agency Innovation ServiceLab, Innovation Hub of Rustavi City Hall, Georgia’s Innovation and Technology Agency, Techno park of Georgia, Impact Hub Tbilisi, City Institute Georgia (urban planning company), eSpace (company dedicated to popularization of e-mobility in Georgia), tech and scientific communities from academia, private sector etc. In doing so, the initiative will contribute directly and indirectly to localizing national SDGs related to urban development.

* **Alignment with facility objectives**: Specify how the purpose aligns with one or both of the objectives of the facility

The proposal is aligned with both objectives of the facility. Firstly, the proposal will help attract additional financing from EU for supporting more active engagement of private sector in green and ecofriendly business practices, GEF, regional authorities such as Ajara Autonomous Republic and the Government of Georgia. The proposal will catalyze investments in low carbon green and resilient and sustainable urban development based on integrated urban planning approach by encouraging innovation, participatory planning and partnerships between a variety of public (national and local), civil, private sector and international entities. Also, the proposal will help bring in new thinking, initiate so called “paradigm-shift” and investments in alternative solutions to existing urban challenges in Georgia, such as mobility, energy efficiency, urban planning and design, green spaces, waste management, etc.

* **Alignment with regional priorities**

The proposal will complement the wider regional priorities such as establishing decentralized cooperation to achieve the SDGs at the local level, and to scale up South-South partnerships and solutions for a greater regional/sub-regional resilience.

* **Total amount requested (cannot exceed $500k per CO, for the period 2018-19)**

The total amount requested is $500,000 for the 2018-2019 period. If fundraising is successful, by 2019 the proposal will be integrated with the Private Sector development project (to be funded by the EU) and linked to the ongoing and prospective Adjara Green Cities projects.

# Expected Results

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| Information | The submitting CO should list the expected benefits and indicators for success. |

## Financial Benefits

* The proposal will help mobilize at least $3 million for the achievement of the SDGs at the local level (leaving no one behind, sustainable cities, sustainable consumption and production patterns) from the following sources: EU, Global Environmental Facility national government, private sector, regional government, local municipalities.
* By 2020 the platform itself will be self-sustaining through contributions of diverse stakeholders (National and/or sub-national government, private sector, IFIs, other donors etc).

## Technical Benefits

* By the end 2019, at least 4-5 innovative solutions (addressing different urban challenges, like urban mobility, municipal solid waste, energy efficiency, green space management, neighborhood and urban planning, sustainable land use and spatial planning etc) are developed, crowdsourced and tested in cities of Georgia leading to creating new “green” businesses and jobs among other benefits.
* By the end 2019, a dedicated and professional mobile app is developed free for use by SMEs and citizens which showcases best practices and green technologies , energy efficiency solutions for houses and buildings, localized waste management, urban transport, urban/semi-urban green agriculture, green and safe neighborhood initiatives, etc. The app is expected to be managed by the Sustainable Cities platform.

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## Indicators for Success

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| Information | The submitting CO should identify specific indicators for each result area, being as specific as possible. Each indicator should include a baseline (if available), target, source of data, and timeline. |

* **Indicator #1**: The Platform – “Sustainable Cities for the People” is established and operational
	+ Baseline: No national platform, that would propose solutions for sustainable urban management
	+ Target: National platform “Sustainable Cities for the People” is established
	+ Source of data: Press reports/Project reports
	+ Timeline for target: by end 2019.
* **Indicator #2**: National Platform is effective in proposing alternative, innovative and sustainable solutions to the prevailing urban challenges
	+ Baseline: No innovative and sustainable solutions available
	+ Target: at least 4 innovative urban solutions crowdsourced and tested in Georgia
	+ Source of data: City Administration Reports, Press reports, Project reports
	+ Timeline for target: by end 2019.
* **Indicator #3**: User-friendly app for sustainable green solutions developed, tested and up-taken…>
	+ Indicator baseline: no user-friendly apps exist in Georgia showcasing accessible and green technologies for sustainable production and consumption which can be used by households, SMEs and municipalities whetted by independent experts.
	+ Indicator target: A modern, mobile app available and in use.
	+ Source of data: Mobile app and its user statistics
	+ Timeline for target: by end 2019.

# implementation

## Key Activities, Costs, and Timeline

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| Information | The submitting CO should identify the implementation plan during 2018-19. The plan should include activities, costings, timeline – activities, estimated costs (total limit is $500k), and timeline. |

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| Activity | Description | Cost | Timeline |
| Create platform | Scan existing innovation facilities in Georgia (both public and private) and hold a series of consultations in select municipalitiesCreate a platform (physical and/or virtual space)  | 150,000 (Platform establishment, administration, website host/etc) | 18 months |
| Crowdsource and test innovative green solutions in urban management | Conduct hackathons/innovation challenges/ co-creation events in the selected 4-5 areas addressing persistent municipal challenges (waste, pollution, cities for cars and not for the people, etc) | 300,000 (up to 50,000 per solution) | During span of 12-15 months |
| Develop an app for green technologies for sustainable urban development | Develop an app which showcases domestic/international best practices and easy-to-use green technologies to spur water savings, localized waste management, cleaning of urban space, greening of neighborhoods, greening of public space, energy efficiency in buildings and street lightning, urban mobility etc  | 500,000 (?) | 4-5 months (to be made-sustainable and used)) |

## Key Partners

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| Information | The submitting CO should identify the key government partners and/or other development partners, along with a description on the role of the partner in the activities and if/how they will contribute to the project. |

* Public Service Development Agency Innovations ServiceLab under the Ministry of Justice of Georgia – the first public sector innovation Lab initiated by the national government in the former CIS region, with over 3 years experience in public sector innovation in partnership with UNDP. The ServiceLab can provide valuable technical support in terms of application of human centered design approaches, data and evidence and horizon scanning to capitalize on successful innovation solutions existing elsewhere globally;
* Rustavi City Hall Innovations Hub – although recently established, Rustavi Hub is the first local governance innovation hub in Georgia tasked with creating safe space for driving innovations agenda at post-industrial urban setting, including partnerships with diverse partners on the ground, including academia, youth and private sector; Rustavi Hub can provide space for initial crowdsourcing of sustainable city solutions at the local level; and serve as a source for peer- to-peer support to other municipalities for localizing SDGs at local governance level in partnership with the ServiceLab and Policy Planning and Innovations Unit of the Administration of the Government of Georgia, and National SDG council;
* National and Sub-national governments: Respective line ministries (Regional Development, Environmental Protection, etc) will be engaged within their mandates to ensure essential connectivity of the proposed initiative with the broader policy reforms ongoing, such as decentralization, rural development, etc. The government involvement will also facilitate the uptake of the proposed solutions at national level, as much as possible. Local administrations (City halls, municipal authorities) will be primary contact points, when it comes to testing urban solutions in specific locations.
* Georgia’s Innovation and Technology Agency – is the public entity of the ministry of economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia, to facilitate establishment of favorable ecosystem for innovations and technology development, commercialization of knowledge and innovations, encouraging deployment of innovations and technologies in all sectors of economy. The role of the agency will be to assist the sustainable cities platform in liaison with private sector, commercialization of innovations and solutions.
* Department of Policy Analysis, Strategic Planning and Coordination and its Planning and Innovations Unit to take the lead role in coordinating the implementation of nationalized SDGs. This department might be the man counterpart on behalf of GoG.
* Public Administration Reform and Sustainable Development Goals Council – is an intra-governmental council established by prime-minister’s decree, with main SDGs related functions are to update the national SDG document and to monitor implementation of SDGs. The role of the council will be to provide political support and acknowledgement to the Sustainable Cities Platform and participate in consultations on how to localize national SDGs of Georgia.
* Development Partners, such EU, Sida, GEF, SDC, etc. EU - The platform can further benefit from cooperation and partnerships with EU initiatives, such as newly designed Private Sector support programme, “Covenant of Mayors” (CoM), “Mayors Adapt”, “Mayors for Economic Growth” (M4EG) and Rockefeller Foundation initiative of “100 Resilient Cities” . GEF can continue very important source of co-financing for sustainable cities platform, as it is one of the main priorities for GEF. Sida, Swiss Development Cooperation and other development partners in Georgia consider SDGs and sustainable urban issues as important priorities in Georgia and can therefore serve as important stakeholders.

## Risks

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| Information | The submitting CO should identify the risks associated with the project. This could include the risks associated with key partners, factors that may contribute to achievement of results, availability of data, and any other relevant factors. |
|  | * **Lack of political support from government institutions at National and Sub-National level**. This may hinder testing and/or uptake of successful and innovative ideas. UNDP Georgia will endeavour to mitigate this risk with an active advocacy, awareness and partnership with the authorities concerned.
* **The Sustainable Cities Platform fails to establish itself as a self-sustaining entity and raise funding for new projects after the end of the project support**: UNDP Georgia will engage in active communication with government on the one hand and with private sector on the other to consolidate interests of these key stakeholders and mobilize resources for the sustainability of the platform and its activities.
* **High cost of innovative solutions, making them non-viable for practical implementation**: UNDP Georgia will attempt to mitigate this risk at the stage, when the key parameters and criteria for the pilot initiatives will be devesigned.
* **Low-uptake of the mobile app within public and private stakeholders**: UNDP Georgia will engage in active promotion of the App within respective audiences as well as plan complementing it with a well organized and tailored community mobilization efforts;
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| **CO FOCAL POINT(S):**  | Munkhtuya Altangerel, DRRNatia Natsvlishvili, ARR |
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| **DATE SUBMITTED TO REG. BUREAU:** | 03 May, 2018 |

# REGIONAL BUREAU EVALUATION

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| Information | The relevant Regional Bureau leadership should provide their comments and recommendation to the Administrator for consideration. |

## Alignment with Corporate Objectives

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| Comments on alignment to overall facility objectives |

## Alignment with Regional Priorities

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| Comments related to priorities provided to COs |

## Assessment on CO Likelihood of Achieving Results

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| Assessment of CO capacity, previous similar initiatives success/challenges |

## Recommendation

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| Overall recommendation including any proposed financial changes e.g. adjustment to proposed allocation |

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| **REG BUREAU FOCAL POINT(S):**  |  |
| **EMAIL:**  |  |
| **DATE SUBMITTED TO EXECUTIVE OFFICE:** |  |