Built Environment & Urban Planning Capability Statement

Continuing population growth is projected to add 2.5 billion people to the world’s urban population by 2050. Urbanisation and environmental hazards, which are intensified by climate change, result in increasing pressures on local authorities and utilities.

IMC offers a multidisciplinary team providing technical assistance and consulting services to governmental agencies, international donors and NGOs in the following areas:

- Urban planning and resilient development
- Infrastructure development and municipal services
- Low-income housing and institutional buildings
- Economic assessment and inclusive growth

IMC is increasingly involved in resilient urban development from a green energy, disaster risk management and low-carbon growth perspective. We have used some of these principles in our projects in urban transport which are fundamental to effective growth in larger urban areas: creating a virtuous circle of continuous improvements in urban development, combining efficient urban services with strong citizen involvement and clear land use principles.

OUR CORE SERVICES

PRE-INVESTMENT STUDIES
IMC’s experience ranges from initial project identification studies to ex-post evaluation. We have evaluated a variety of urban funds and facilities, some single donor and some multi-donor, including the Slum Upgrading Facility and the Community-Led Infrastructure Finance Facility.

POLICY DEVELOPMENT
We have wide experience in the development of policy and strategy documents, such as physical development plans, and in advising governments and international organisations on international best practice, technical methods and capacity building.

SUPPORT TO PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION
IMC supports the implementation of large-scale programmes across the whole project life cycle, from project prioritisation and appraisal, through to feasibility studies, design, construction and monitoring and evaluation.

OUR PROJECTS

Low-Income Community Housing Support Project, Bangladesh
IMC is supporting the government of Bangladesh to help over 3,000 urban poor families to access secure and affordable housing and resilient infrastructure. This project engages communities living in hazard-prone slums and informal settlements to identify, design and finance secure and affordable housing.

Physical Development Plan, Montserrat
IMC prepared an updated Physical Development Plan for 2012-2022, providing the government of Montserrat with a framework for land use development and infrastructure investment, which is essential for long-term sustainable development.

National Physical Development Plan, Swaziland
IMC provided technical assistance to the Swaziland Ministry of Housing and Urban Development to develop the National Physical Development Plan for 2017-2022.

Management Services to Rehabilitate Freetown Water Supply, Sierra Leone
IMC is leading a consortium with BAM Nuttall and Atkins, rehabilitating water infrastructure to improve the public service delivery of water to 600,000 people in the east of Freetown.

Technology, Infrastructure and Urban Planning (TI-UP) Resource Centre, Worldwide
As managers of the UK Department for International Development (DFID) Technology, Infrastructure and Urban Planning Resource Centre (TI-UP), IMC assisted in developing urban infrastructure policy and providing guidance to advisers on projects around the world.
Developing Secondary Cities with Green Growth Opportunities, Rwanda
IMC produced national guidelines and a roadmap to support the Rwandan government's efforts to rapidly expand the country's secondary cities.

Strengthening Urban Management Programme in Bihar, India
IMC designed and implemented a programme to reduce the rate of urban poverty by 2014. The goal of the programme was to improve the capacities of municipal bodies to manage urban areas, attract investment, and provide better services on a sustainable basis — to all urban citizens, particularly the poor.

Urban Transport Planning & Management, Nepal
IMC prepared a comprehensive urban transport and land use strategy for a city in Eastern Nepal. It addresses the requirements of different urban transport users with regard to affordability, accessibility, safety and sustainability.

Operational Guide for Mainstreaming Disaster Resilience into Urban Investment Projects, South Asia
IMC produced an operational guide for the World Bank that drew on current risk assessment, disaster management and climate change adaptation thinking to mainstream disaster resilience into urban investment projects in South Asian cities.

Kolkata Urban Services for the Poor, India
IMC undertook the project design for this £85 million, 8 year programme. The design was developed in conjunction with the government of West Bengal and included improved governance, improved access to basic infrastructure and strategic economic development interventions.

Performance Evaluation of OFDA’s Nepal DRR Programming, Nepal
IMC conducted a mixed-methods performance evaluation to improve USAID Office for Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA)’s understanding of its DRR activities in Nepal and to draw lessons for its wider DRR portfolio. The evaluation focused on two projects: the Programme for Enhancement of Emergency Response (PEER) and Building Code Implementation Programme in Municipalities of Nepal (BCIPN).

Earthquake Recovery and Disaster Risk Reduction, Nepal
IMC recovered 52 school blocks serving 2,200 children and 2 health centres serving 30,000 people. The project trained 10,700 locals in creating resilient infrastructure, community-based DRR and schools-based disaster preparedness. IMC received the ACE Engineering Excellence Award for Building Structures in 2013.

School Construction and Rehabilitation Programme, Pakistan
IMC is providing 30,000 additional classrooms and improved facilities in over 3,300 schools across 25 remote districts. This includes improved water and sanitation systems, secure boundary/perimeter walls, electricity connections, and new school furniture and equipment.

Safe School Construction Guidelines, Myanmar
IMC developed Safe and Child-Friendly School Construction Guidelines, designed training courses on their use and drafted action plans on improvements to school construction systems and piloting the guidelines.

Education Support to Malawi
IMC is managing the construction component contract of a programme that aims to improve educational opportunities for 30,000 children. We are overseeing the management of construction works and providing project oversight for DFID.

Quality Management Support for Post-Tsunami Housing Reconstruction, Indonesia
IMC provided management support services and acted as the executing agency for the Canadian Red Cross. Tasks included providing planning support, oversight of design, approval of source materials, oversight of quality management approval of all changes and approval of all payments. 5,580 houses were constructed in 3 years in a difficult logistical environment.

OUR PEOPLE

DR. JONATHAN PARKINSON Municipal engineer with over 20 years of experience working with urban authorities, government agencies and NGOs with strategic planning and programming to improve water and sanitation infrastructure and services for low-income communities in urban and peri-urban areas.

RUMANA KABIR Architect and disaster risk management specialist with over 18 years of experience in governance and institutional capacity building, community development, housing, settlement planning and reconstruction.

JONATHAN ESSEX Chartered environmentalist and civil engineer with over 20 years’ experience in low- and zero-carbon development and transition.

NÚRIA BIOSCA Senior engineer with experience in housing, urban development, planning and building infrastructure, technical audits and developing project construction procedures.

DR. ANDRE STEELE Chartered civil engineer with over 10 years’ experience in building climate resilience in the water sector and a PhD in post-emergency water supply systems.

SAMINA KHAN Chartered civil engineer and environmental specialist with over 20 years of experience in project management of large and complex infrastructure projects involving flood risk management strategies taking climate change into consideration.
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