

What are the Impacts of Local Initiatives?

- Rapid and low cost solutions to local priority needs are reached.
- Most projects implemented are now owned and maintained by the communities themselves.
- Local administrations proved to be very cooperative in financial and logistical support. They became facilitators of the communities' development priorities.
- Quick, highly visible and tangible improvements created trust among local partners.
- The promotion of Local Initiatives yielded an extraordinary local mobilization. Since 2002, local communities contributed more than 8.5 million LE to their initiatives.
- Almost one million beneficiaries have been reached through 102 local initiatives in 12 Governorates since 2002.
- Some initiatives have been further developed or replicated without funding.

How to apply for Local Initiatives Funds?

All local initiatives eligible for public support should meet the following conditions:

- The beneficiaries must have legal status or collaborate with a local CDA, NGO, etc.
- To ensure that the initiatives will show highly visible and tangible results in a short period of time, the implementation period should not exceed 6 months.
- The grant given by the Ministry of Planning and Local Development / GTZ / KfW will not exceed 100,000 LE per initiative.

The selection criteria for Local Initiatives are:

- Ideas for Initiatives originate from local community groups themselves and prove to correspond to their most urgent needs.
- Alternative solutions are locally negotiated and have an agreed upon concept.
- Shared cost planning with contributions from all partners – local community, local private sector, local administration and authorities.
- Clear implementation process.
- Clear sustainability and maintenance plan.

Participatory Development Program in Urban Areas Local Initiatives Fund

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Ministry of Planning and Local Development



Participatory Development Program
in Urban Areas

gtz

kfw

Local Initiatives Fund

*Improving living conditions
Alleviating poverty through participation*

playground upgrading



facade upgrading



productive schools

vocational training



kindergarten support



What is the Local Initiatives Fund?

The Local Initiatives Fund is one of the local development tools created by the Participatory Development Programme in Urban Areas (PDP) for poverty alleviation. The PDP is a cooperative programme between the Egyptian Ministry of Planning and Local Development, the German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ) and the German Development Bank (KfW).

The Local Initiatives Fund provides funds to local communities for simple, small and highly visible projects, which generate tangible solutions to local priority needs. They are active examples of grassroots community approaches to improve the living conditions in neighborhoods and to alleviate poverty through participation in the planning process.

What are the aims of the Local Initiatives Fund ?

The project aims to

- **build trust** between local communities, local government and the private sector through common activities, shared responsibilities and a transparent planning and monitoring process.
- **implement sustainable improvement** of infrastructure, social services and economic opportunities through the participation of local private businesses, community groups and local authorities.
- **improve participation** chances of local communities by empowering them. to:
 - Identify their needs
 - Prioritize their most urgent needs
 - Participate in all planning and implementation processes
 - Suggest means of sustainability

How are Local Initiatives implemented?

The ideas for local initiatives come from local community groups themselves and prove to correspond to their most urgent needs. The ideas are discussed in local meetings with community leaders and supporting NGOs

in the presence of the District Chief and in some cases the Governor. Through consensus, the community selects one local project. All initiatives must have the approval and support of the local authorities.

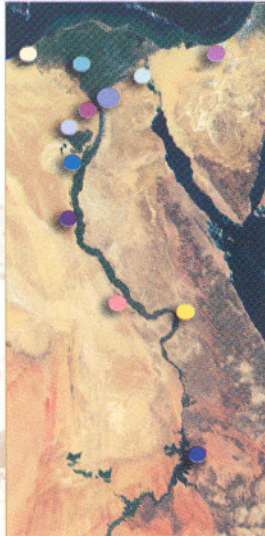
Local community groups plan the execution, estimate the costs and mobilize the resources either financial or in kind from the local administration and businesses. They also provide a convincing sustainable management concept. In all steps of project identification, planning and implementation, local community groups are assisted by professional NGOs.

The procedures for financial support, monitoring and financial audit are fast and transparent. The Ministry of Planning and Local Development and the supporting NGOs conclude a service contract. The Local Initiatives Fund, created by the Ministry of Planning and Local Development and supported by the German Development Bank (KfW), provides financial assistance.

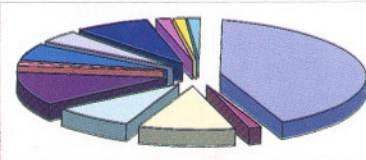
Local communities care for the execution and maintenance of their project. Directly after the execution, the finances are audited independently. A year after the implementation, an impact evaluation is conducted.



school libraries



Locations 2002-2006



- Cairo
- Giza
- Alexandria
- Ismailia
- Minia
- Sohag
- Beni Suef
- Fayoum
- Aswan
- North Sinai
- Qena
- Minufeya

community training



cleaner agriculture

