

## **Mainstreaming Adaptation into Urban Development and Environmental Management Planning: Lessons from Dar es Salaam**

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### **Abstract**

Mainstreaming of adaptation to climate change is recommended by many international agencies and authors of climate change literature in order to guarantee more efficient use of financial and human resources than occurs when adaptation is designed, implemented, and managed as a series of stand-alone activities. Nevertheless, there is ongoing debate over how to proceed in order to achieve effective mainstreaming, at what level to act, on what topics to concentrate, and what type of initiative should be prioritized. The paper offers a series of information and arguments that may help the administrations of Sub-Saharan cities implement the options that are most appropriate for their specific conditions. The mainstreaming approach is compared to the action-specific approach in order to better highlight its strengths and weaknesses, while risks of ineffective mainstreaming are explored with particular reference to the case of Tanzania. A more detailed examination follows of possible specific topics and the approaches used for mainstreaming in sectoral policies related to urban development and environmental management. Lastly, the specificity of Sub-Saharan cities is addressed, which raises both concerns and hopes for the actual advantages of pursuing adaptation through mainstreaming at the local level.