



Client / financing institution:

German Technical Cooperation
 (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit GmbH)
 OE 4248 - Urban and Municipal Development
 Contact: Dr. Ingrid Schwoerer
 PO Box 5180, D -65726 Eschborn
 Tel: +49 - 6196 - 79 1608 Fax: +49 - 6196 - 79 6104
 Email: ingrid.schwoerer@gtz.de



National counterpart institution:

Municipality of Aleppo - Syrian Arab Republic

Legal and contractual conditions:

Various longer-term and short-term backstopping contracts

Project objective:

With around 300,000 inhabitants, the Old City of Aleppo is one of the largest historic centres in the Islamic world. Due to neglect and prevailing modern urban planning strategies in past decades, this important cultural heritage was seriously threatened by decay and deterioration. The cooperation project thus has the objective to initiate a comprehensive rehabilitation programme and to improve the capacities of the municipality to direct and manage the rehabilitation process. The overall goal is to promote economic and social development of the inner city of Aleppo and to improve living and housing conditions within the old city.

Main results:

The short-term technical assistance performed by B.U.S. in the early phases of the project focused on the following main activities:

- Formation and establishment of a Syrian project team: a group of young architects and planners recently graduated from Aleppo University was trained and assisted to form the nucleus of a planning and project team. At later stages, they were joined by more senior staff from the Municipality and Aleppo University.
- Establishment of a project office in the old city: a large historic building, a traditional court-yard house, had been refurbished and comprehensively renovated with financial resources from the German embassy, and was subsequently equipped and further renovated to serve as project office and information centre for the residents of the Old City.
- The creation and establishment of an emergency fund to finance most urgent repair and renovation measures, since a

large number of privately owned buildings were seriously endangered by decay; in many cases unstable building conditions threatened the residents.

- The preparation of an overall development plan to provide strategic guidelines for the future development of the Old City and a basis for the issuing of building permits. The emphasis was on a simplified and action-oriented planning approach.
- The identification and detailed planning of priority action areas for rehabilitation. As a pilot project, a rehabilitation programme for one of the more prominent neighbourhoods of the historic city was developed.

B.U.S. staff assigned to the project:

Numerous short-term consultancies:
 Expert in urban rehabilitation, urban planning,
 financing instruments, project design

about 10,0 PM

PM = person month