



CHALLENGES TRANSFORMING AFRICAN CITIES: A CASE OF KAMPALA

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Jennifer Semakula Musisi (Dr)
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, KCCA

Together we can transform Kampala city

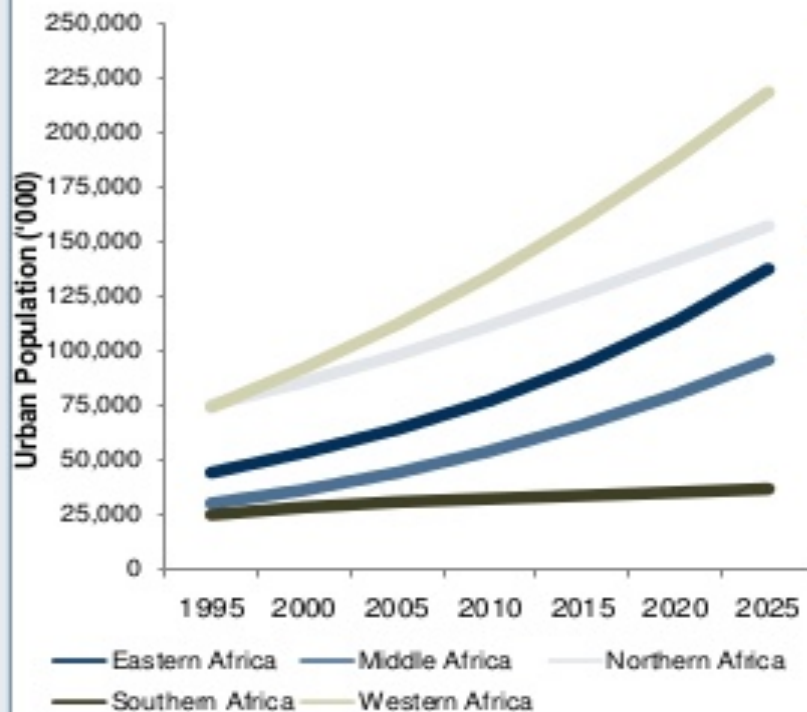
Introduction

Over the last 20 years many urban areas have experienced dramatic growth, as a result of rapid population growth, technological advancement and political change. Around 3 billion people—virtually half of the world's total population—now live in urban settlements. And while cities command an increasingly dominant role in the global economy as centres of both production and consumption, **rapid urban growth throughout Africa is seriously outstripping the capacity of most cities to provide adequate services for their citizens.**

Top Mega Trends in Africa: Urbanisation

With an Annual Average Growth of 3.4%, Population in Several Sub-Saharan African Cities Will Rise by 25% by 2025. By 2050, 60% of Africa's Population Will be Urbanised

Urban Population Forecast by Region, 1995-2025



Urban Populations, Africa, 2025



Migration



City with population > 5.0 million, 2025



Urban Population, 2025

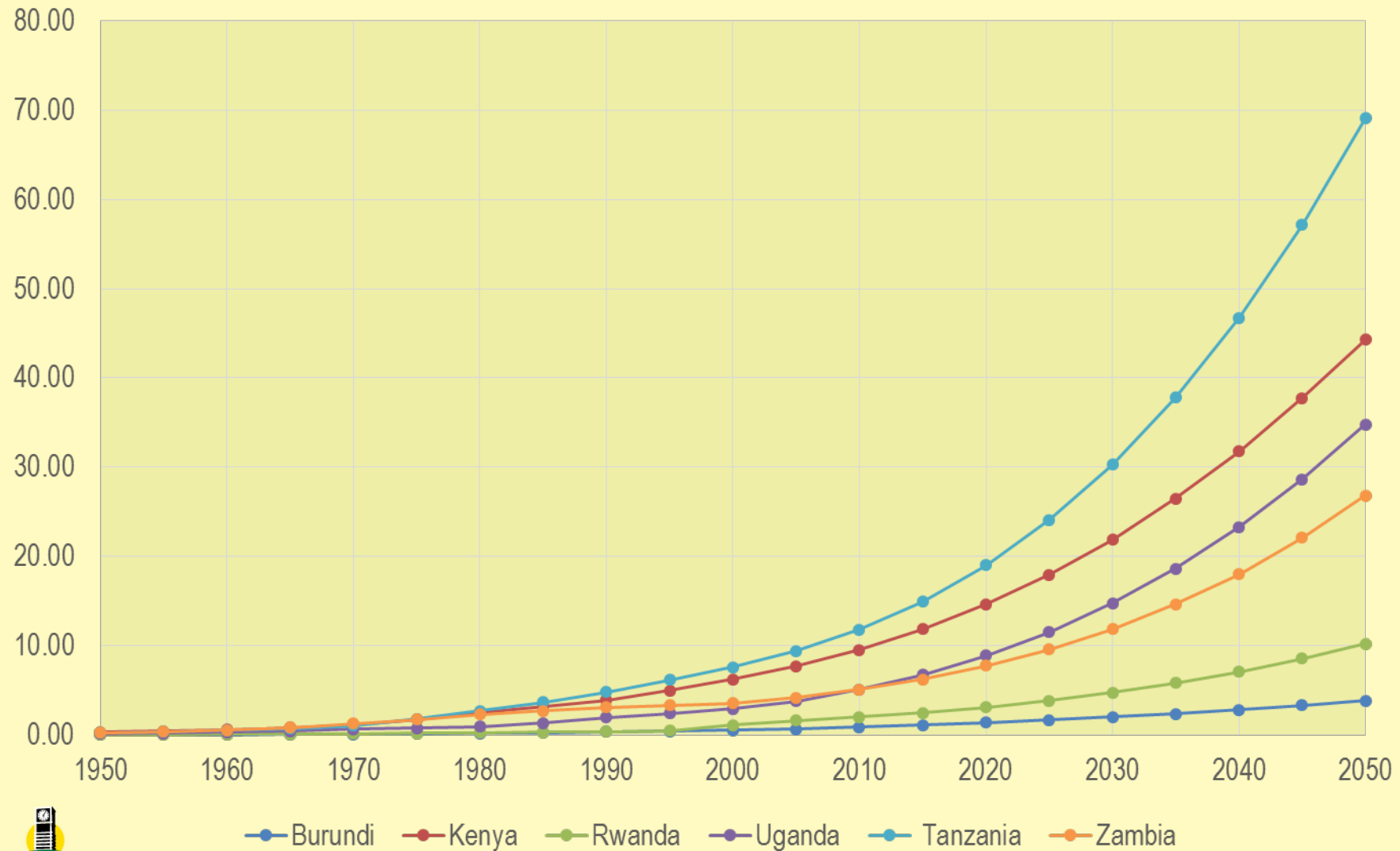


Regions with Key Cities

Source: Africa Progress Report, 2010; Frost & Sullivan analysis.

Africa is experiencing the highest urban growth rate with urban population projected to reach 60% by 2050.

East Africa Urban Population Trajectory



Current realities in African Cities

- 25 of the world's fastest growing cities are in Africa
- High rate of rural-urban migration due to poor services and limited opportunities
- Characterized by uncontrolled and unplanned settlements



Current realities in African Cities... *cont.*

- Urbanization experiences in the region are highly differentiated
- Growing slums juxtaposed with urban affluence
- Urban infrastructure overly stressed by uncontrolled population growth
- Insufficient and substantially poor infrastructure

Sprout of Urban Centres in Africa

Kampala, like most African Cities frequently reflect old historic boundaries and interests based on colonial administrative delimitations.

As such villages were classified as towns and towns as municipalities once population size thresholds are attained and verified in census data. Municipal structures and boundaries inevitably lagged behind developmental trends.

The speed and sheer scale of the urban transformation in Africa today presents formidable challenges. Of particular concern are the risks to the immediate and surrounding environment, to natural resources, to health conditions, to social cohesion, individual rights and increase in the Urban Poor .

Challenges to City Transformation In Africa

- **Absence of accurate data/statistics** which in turn must guide likely growth patterns and trends
- **Absence of a global standard for the classification of urban environments**(definition varies among countries)
- **Lack the necessary institutional capacities** to be manage these evolving areas
- **Chronic mismanagement of economic resources, and high levels of corruption**

Political instability

A map of armed conflicts in Africa between 1997 and 2011

Francisco Dans

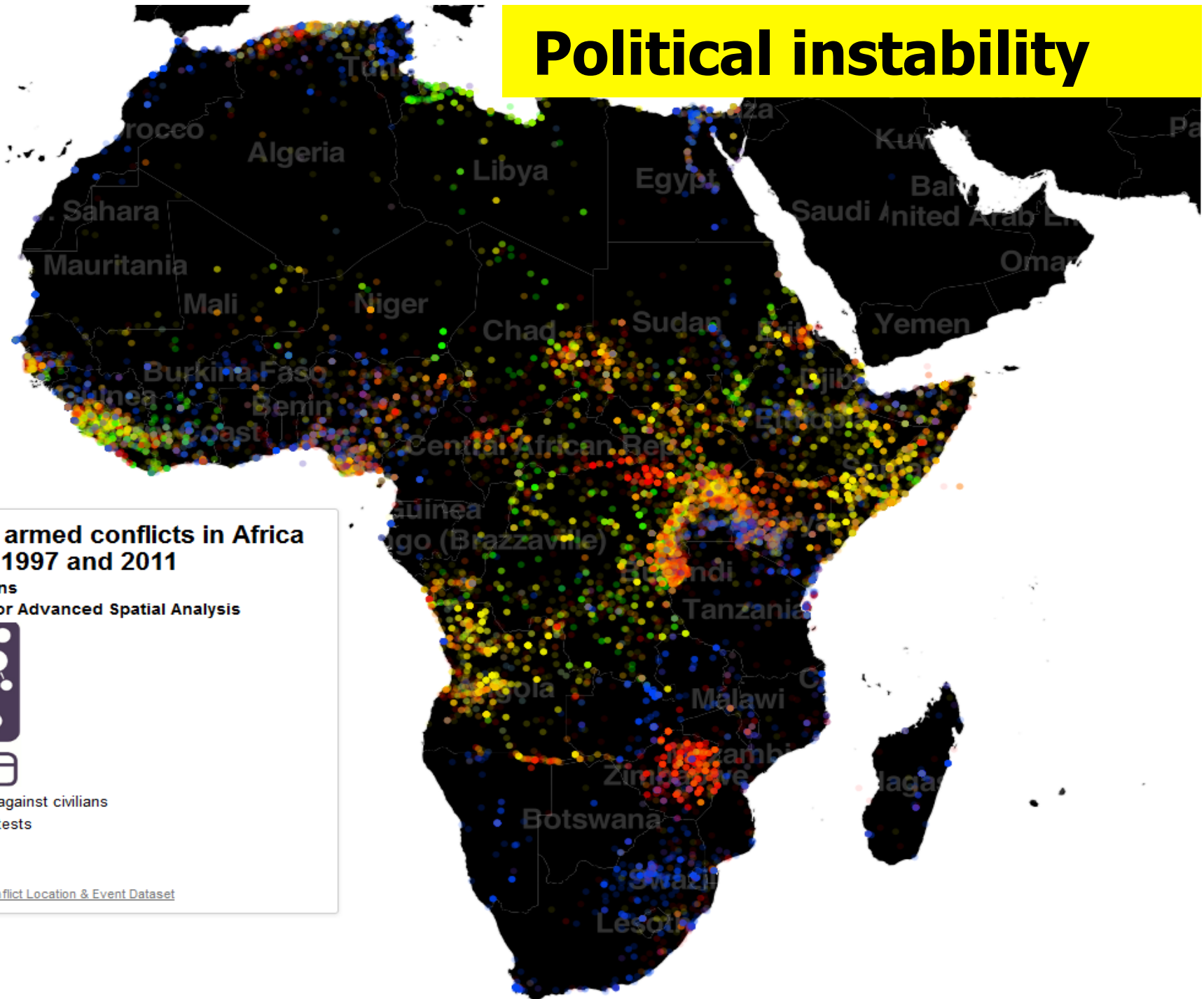
UCL Centre for Advanced Spatial Analysis



casa

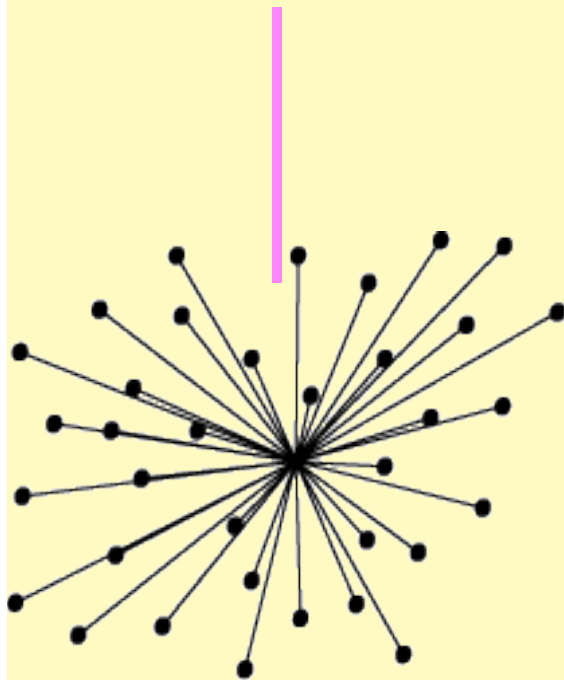
- Violence against civilians
- Riots/Protests
- Battles
- Other

Source: [Armed Conflict Location & Event Dataset](#)

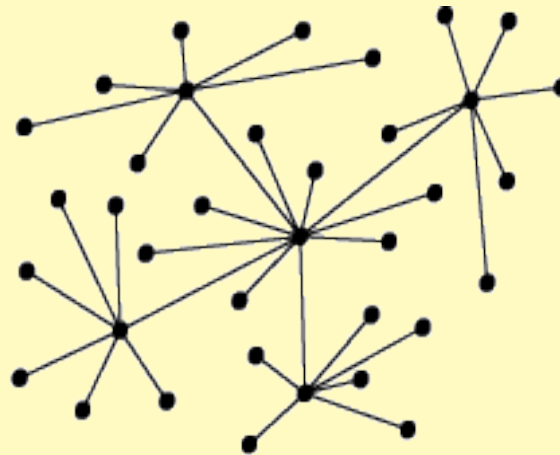


Nature of Service Structures in Africa

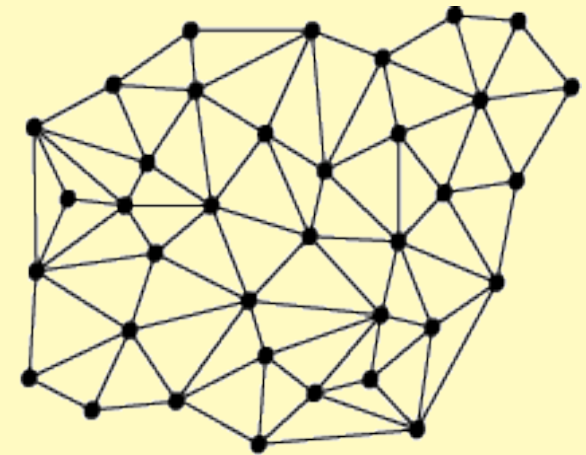
Current Structure with all services and opportunities in one location



centralised



decentralised



distributed

Challenges to City Transformation In Africa *..cont*

- **Lack of adequate finances** to fund large infrastructure projects
- **Land tenure systems** that encumber infrastructure development
- **Multi-national and multi-lingual** (languages) challenges in forming cohesion
- **Lack of sound scientific knowledge and technical expertise** in the formation of urban policy

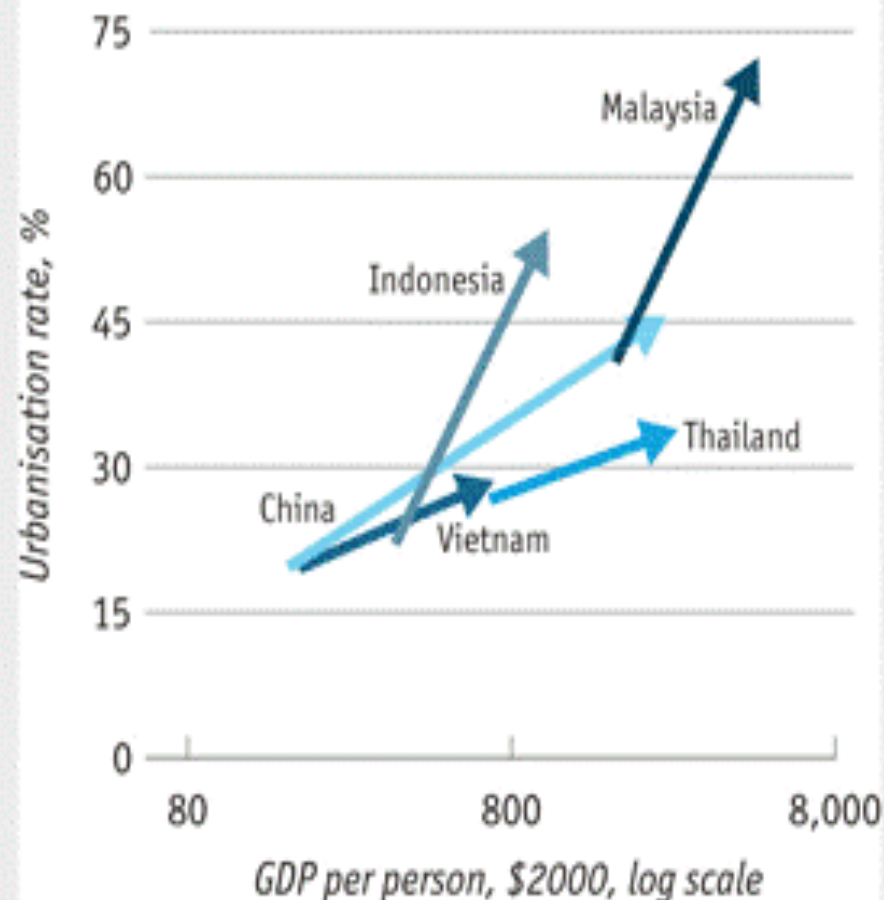


Urbanisation and Income Growth In Africa

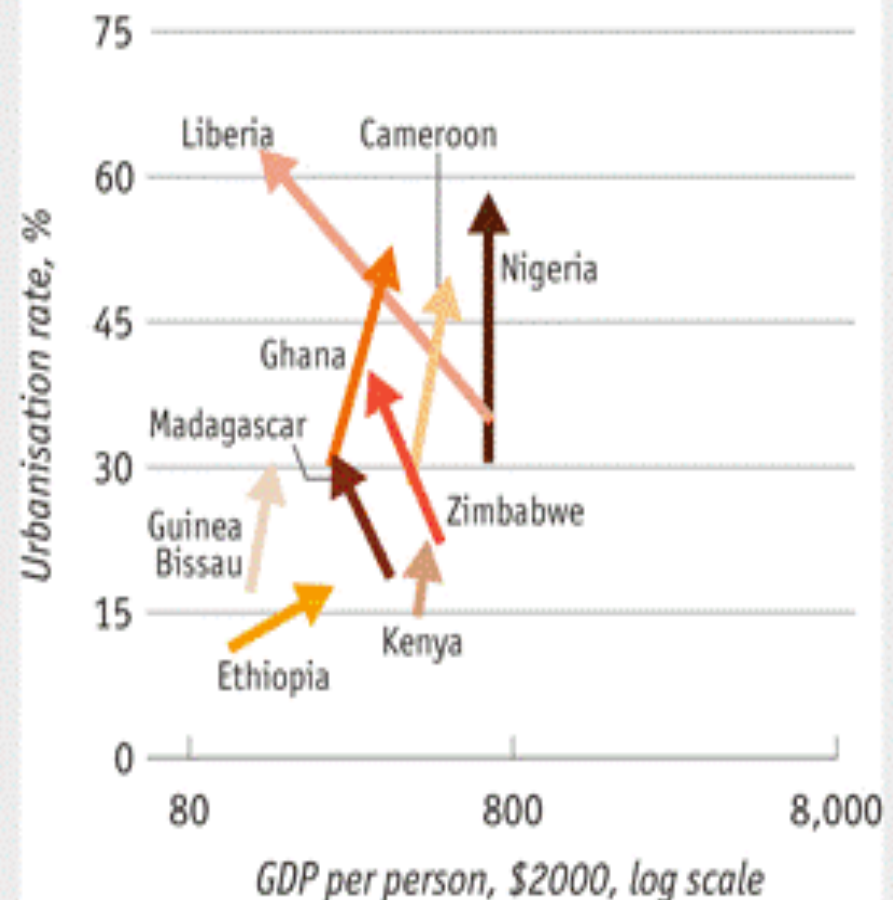
Urbanisation and income

Change between 1985 and 2010

East Asia and Pacific



Sub-Saharan Africa



Source: World Bank

Key pillars to Building Future Cities

**Strong
urban
legislation**



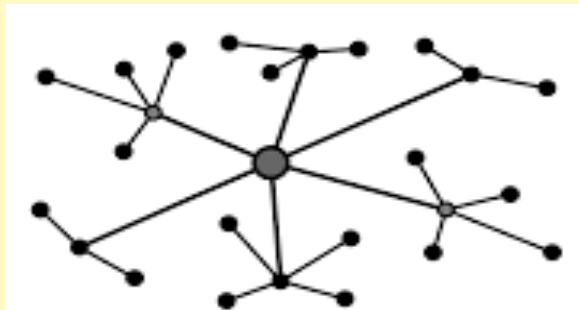
**Integrated &
regenerative
urban planning**



**Financial
sustainability**



**Decentralisation of
Services to rural Areas**



Way Forward for Kampala

- Introduction of **simple urban regulations** which must be properly enforced
- Identification of **alternative financing** mechanisms
- **Integrated & regenerative urban planning**
- **Creation of satellite Cities and decentralization of services to address rural – urban migration**
- **Elimination of Political interference** in City Management
- **Strengthening of human resources (Technical/ Political)**
- **Increased Citizen engagements** through promoting participatory budgeting and citizen accountability
- **Encouraging Urban management** that is transparent and democratic control.

Concluding remarks

In the developed world, clean water, sanitation, electricity, public transport and solid waste are considered essential services accessible to all. In Africa, however, that is not the case. **Whereas it is factual that there are serious funding limitations; lack of good Leadership exacerbate this situation.**

We as KCCA believe that ensuring excellent and accountable Leadership is **one key ingredient in ensuring proper growth and sustainability of African Cities within a normative and ethical paradigm.**



www.kcca.go.ug



info@kcca.go.ug



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[t@KCCAUG](https://twitter.com/t@KCCAUG)

Tel. +256-204-660-000

