Global challenges and local actions in the Built Environment

Sustainable urban development challenges: a global perspective

Mohamed El Sioufi
UN-HABITAT
5 December, 2013
Gothenburg, Sweden
Sustainable urban development challenges

OUTLINE

- Global Magnitude and Trends
- Global Challenges
- Some Approaches from UN-HABITAT
Sustainable urban development challenges

Global Magnitude and Trends
Global Magnitude and Trends
Global Magnitude and Trends

GLOBAL POPULATION RURAL/URBAN

1970:
- Rural: 63%
- Urban: 37%

2000:
- Rural: 53%
- Urban: 47%

2030:
- Rural: 40%
- Urban: 60%
Global Magnitude and Trends

- 2 billion new urban residents
- Annual urban population increase of 70 million people (equivalent to 7 new megacities)
- Equivalent of a new city the size of Hanoi, Madrid or Porto Alegré created every month
- 877.4 million new households
- Annual increment of 35.1 million households
- Daily increment of 96,150 households
- Hourly increment of 4,000 households

Global Magnitude and Trends

Billions

Developing Regions

Developed Regions

93% of the total growth will happen in developing world
Global Magnitude and Trends

Urban Population, Regions

Source: UN
Global Magnitude and Trends
Sustainable urban development challenges

The Prevailing Urbanization Model
The Prevailing Urbanization Model

Characteristics

- The super-super block.
- High level of zoning.
- The *Tower in the Park*.
- Very low density (< 4,000 hab / sq.km.)
- The super-way as the backbone of the city.
- High use of Green as a *decorative* and *softening tool* of the model.
- Well supported by all political tendencies. General consensus.

Prevailing Technology
Concrete/Glass/Steel/Tarmac
The Prevailing Urbanization Model

A model that goes global because it...

- Is based on the easy and profitable agreement between the Real Estate, Financial, and institutional sectors.
- Applies the successful industrial production of the car industry into the urban issue (a product of the successful car industry).
- Represents an evolution and mutation of the modern city model: similar principles, larger scale.

... making it today the prevailing urbanization model.
The Prevailing Urbanization Model

- Recreational
- Business district
- Technological Park
- Residential
- Commercial
- Industrial
Sustainable urban development challenges

Global Challenges
Global Challenges

Nearly **863 million** people are living in slums

| Region                      | Percentage of Urban Population
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sub-Saharan Africa</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Asia</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Asia</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latin America and the Caribbean</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Nairobi with Slum Areas in Red

UN-Habitat

Down-Town

Kibera

Airport
60% of Nairobi population lives on the same surface as the golf courses, 5%
Kibera, Nairobi

500 – 750,000 inhabitants
Kibera, Nairobi
Kibera, Nairobi
Global Challenges

Operational definition of slums:
Slums are areas that combine one or more of the following 5 deprivations:

- Inadequate access to clean water
- Inadequate access to sanitation and other infrastructure
- Poor structural quality of housing
- Overcrowding
- Insecure residential status
## Total Slum Population and Slum Population as Percentage of Total Urban Population

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Total Slum Population (Nearest Thousand)</th>
<th>Slum Population as Percentage of Total Urban Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Developed Regions</td>
<td>46,511</td>
<td>6.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Africa</td>
<td>21,224</td>
<td>25.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L. America &amp; Caribbean</td>
<td>134,257</td>
<td>30.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southeast Asia</td>
<td>59,913</td>
<td>25.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Asia</td>
<td>33,057</td>
<td>25.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oceania</td>
<td>568</td>
<td>24.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Global Challenges

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Developed Regions</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Africa</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L. America &amp; Caribbean</td>
<td>199</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southeast Asia</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>143</td>
<td>163</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Asia</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oceania</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PHYSICAL DIMENSION: RAPID GROWTH OF SLUMS

Population of The World

Year

1850 1900 1950 2000 2020 2050

Billion people

8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1

Rural population
Urban population
Urban slum population

REF: UN-HABITAT, Global Urban Observatory
### PHYSICAL DIMENSION:
POOR ACCESS TO SAFE DRINKING WATER, 2003

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Population lacking safe water (thousands)</th>
<th>Distribution of urban population lacking safe water in developing world (1%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Northern Africa</td>
<td>3,960</td>
<td>2.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L. America &amp; Caribbean</td>
<td>20,166</td>
<td>12.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern Asia</td>
<td>25,428</td>
<td>15.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern Asia</td>
<td>20,577</td>
<td>12.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Asia</td>
<td>6,115</td>
<td>3.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>163,822</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## PHYSICAL DIMENSION: POOR ACCESS TO IMPROVED SANITATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Population lacking improved sanitation (thousands)</th>
<th>Distribution of urban population lacking improved sanitation in developing world (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Northern Africa</td>
<td>8,245</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sub-Saharan Africa</td>
<td>112,815</td>
<td>20.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L. America &amp; Caribbean</td>
<td>66,061</td>
<td>11.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern Asia</td>
<td>45,727</td>
<td>8.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Asia</td>
<td>6,322</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>560,011</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PHYSICAL DIMENSION: DENSITY, HIV ORPHANS, SANITATION & POOR DRAINAGE IN KIBERA
Slum Upgrading

The Global Housing Strategy

National and Local Urbanisation Prerequisites

Sustainable Housing Components

Housing Governance, Management

Failure of public institutions to address demand

Slum Definitions: 5 Deprivations

1 – Access to water  2 – Access to Sanitation

3 – Security of tenure  4 – Adequate housing  5 – Crowdedness
PHYSICAL DIMENSION: VULNERABILITY TO NATURAL DISASTERS

- The number of natural disasters increased three-fold from 1975 to 2006 while human-made disasters multiplied ten-fold in the same period.
- Climate change alone has led to a 50% increase in extreme weather events (1950s-1990s).
- The greatest increase in the incidence of disasters has occurred in Africa and Asia in recent decades.
PHYSICAL DIMENSION: VULNERABILITY TO NATURAL DISASTERS

- Expansion of residential areas, especially slums, into hazardous locations worsens disaster impacts in cities of developing regions.

- Poor implementation of building standards and land use planning regulations also worsens disaster impacts in cities.

- Consequently, slum dwellers, almost 1 billion globally, are most vulnerable to rising incidence of disasters.

- Of the 211 million people affected by natural disasters annually from 1991 to 2000, 98% were in developing countries.
Urban Issues

- Lack of urban planning. Slums (60%)
- Lack of public space: <10% of the city land
- Lack of basic services (clean water, sanitation, energy)
- Overcrowding but low density
- Traffic congestion
Slum Conditions

Economic Issues

- Lack of economies of urbanization and economies of agglomeration
- Loss of the city as a multiplying wealth generator
- High unemployment rates (+50%), specially the youth
- Informal economy: +70%
- Weak public sector economy
Environmental Issues

- Severe impacts on inhabitants of slums
- Strong negative effects on city at large
Political and Social Issues

- Lack of proper governance (taxing system, entitled institutions, etc.)
- Lack of public safety
- Social disparities.
  Incapacity to generate middle class
- Gated communities as an additional segregation of the city
SOCIO-ECONOMIC DIMENSION: SOCIAL & PHYSICAL FRAGMENTATION IN SAO PAULO, BRAZIL

A WALLED CITY: DIVIDING THE TERRITORY BY THE POOR (FAVELAS) AND THE NEW RICH (WALLED CONDOS)
SOCIO-ECONOMIC DIMENSION: SOCIAL & PHYSICAL FRAGMENTATION IN NAIROBI, KENYA

750,000 slum dwellers
250 hectares (2.5 square kilometers)
3 square meters per person
COUNTING LOSSES

Police release statistics showing they have shot dead 82 people since December 29.

Police force puts the death toll in the county at 516.

Four killed in Nyeri town, one shot by police; three in clashes between two communities.

In Mombasa, police shoot dead one person as riots rock town.

Youths in Molo kill a police officer with an arrow during an ambush.

OGM supporters in Kisumu engage police in running battles but officers react only with teargas.

Police teargas demonstrators led by James Omongi on Mau Mau Mingle Street, arrest Morun Shikuku.

Demonstrators in Eldoret block roads.

FREE INSIDE: Your 16-page unbeatable guide to Africa's biggest football festival
CONCLUSION: CHALLENGES FOR URBAN PLANNING IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

- How to deal with rapid and chaotic urbanization & increasing urban poverty
- How to address the challenge of slums
- How to improve public infrastructure and access to urban services
- How to deal with informality in both working and living environments
- How to address the phenomenon of chaotic peri-urban areas
- From a process/procedural perspective: how to facilitate delivery of infrastructure, services, economic growth & employment, in addition to traditional role of spatial & land-use planning
Sustainable urban development challenges

Some approaches from UN-HABITAT

Housing, Slum Upgrading and Prevention
The Global Housing Strategy

PLACING HOUSING AT THE CENTRE

A paradigm shift to achieve Adequate shelter for all
By placing housing at the center of our thinking, of policy and of the city
The Global Housing Strategy

Expected Outcomes

(Re)positioning housing within the global contemporary debate

Critical outcomes include contributing to:

- Rights-based, Gender-responsive, Results-based National Strategies
- Inclusive cities: access to adequate housing
- Paradigm shift: housing as part of Urban Planning,
- Systemic reforms promoted for improved quality of life;
- Linkages of housing with other parts of the economy strengthened;
- Sustainable building and neighbourhood designs and technologies promoted
Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme in ACP Countries

URBANIZATION CHALLENGES AND POVERTY REDUCTION IN AFRICAN, CARIBBEAN AND PACIFIC COUNTRIES

Initiated by the ACP Secretariat and financed by the European Commission
Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme in ACP Countries

INITIATED BY THE ACP SECRETARIAT

FINANCED BY THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

IMPLEMENTED BY UN-HABITAT
PSUP in 34 ACP countries

Phase 1 (8 countries)
Africa (5): Benin, Botswana, Lesotho, Rwanda, Togo
Caribbean (1): Saint Lucia
Pacific (2): Tuvalu, Vanuatu

Phase 2 (18 countries)
Caribbean (4): Antigua and Barbuda, Haiti, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago.
Pacific (3): Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands

Phase 3 (8 countries)
African countries (8):
PSUP in Numbers (1)

- PSUP I: 2008 to 2011
  - 4 million Euros (EC Intra-ACP fund)
- PSUP II: 2011 to 2015
  - 10 million Euros
  - 2.3 million Euros in-kind and cash contribution from UN-Habitat
PSUP in NUMBERS (2)

- Financial contributions from participating governments more than 4 million Euros
- 34 ACP Countries
- 2/3 in Africa and 1/3 in Caribbean and Pacific
- More than 150 cities implemented
Overall Goal

Contribute to MDG 7-D with its five deprivations

Urban governance, decentralization and poverty alleviation in ACP Countries

*Right-based approach:* right to adequate housing, right to basic urban services, right to participation in public decision-making and against unlawful evictions
Rabat Conference

21 ACP Countries signed up to International Rabat Declaration committing to
“Halving the number of slum dwellers from 2015 to 2030”
and influencing the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)

60 ACP Countries reinforced this commitment in the Kigali Declaration in September 2013
Tripartite Partnership

First ACP-EC-UN-Habitat International Tripartite Conference, Nairobi 2008
More than 40 Ministers from ACP Countries requested the extension of the programme to all ACP Countries;

Second ACP-EC-UN-Habitat International Tripartite Conference, Kigali 2013
More than 45 Ministers and over 500 participants from 60 ACP Countries requested the extension of the programme to all 79 ACP Countries and took note of the Rabat Declaration calling for “halving the number of slum dwellers by 2030”;
Implementation through PSUP Country Teams

A network of more than 1000 national, local government representatives, NGO and CBOs, private sector and academia
Phase 1 – participatory urban profiling

Phase 2 – participatory action planning at slum neighbourhood level

Phase 3 – participatory implementation at community level

Formulation of action plans and programmes, capacity building and policy seminars for pro-poor urban development
PSUP development approach

- PSUP not a project but a programme addressing poverty in slums systemically through institutional, legal and technical capacity development, participatory and action-oriented human settlement improvement for tangible results.

- Applying result-based, gender responsive and human rights-based approaches.
PSUP at 4 levels

Global and regional levels

- exchange learning from each other
- South-South Cooperation for ACP Countries and several platforms during international, regional and national conferences and events
- MyPSUP, social media and national communication strategies
PSUP at 4 levels

City level
City-wide slum upgrading strategies

Community level
based on 5 slum deprivations: water, sanitation, tenure, crowdedness;
Improvement of livelihoods
Sustainable urban development challenges

Some approaches from UN-HABITAT

The way forward: Urban Planning
The way forward

GOAL:
To use the city and the urbanization process as the main engine of national economic growth

Tools:
1. Establishment of a national urban policy.
2. Go back to basics in urban planning. Public space as the first priority (+30% of land)
3. Increase density and reduce overcrowding. City infills and planned city extensions. Basic services (water & sanitation)
1. NATIONAL URBAN POLICY

- A more coordinated approach to urban growth is required at national level in order to coordinate different areas of government: road and transportation, economic development, energy strategy…
- A vision of the national urban strategy is required with special emphasis on small and intermediate size urbanization. Incentives are needed to implement such strategy.
- Urban growth should be prioritized in natural transport and energy corridors in order to minimize the sprawl and increase sustainability.
The way forward

2. Urban Planning: BACK TO THE BASICS

- Plan in advance (30 years)
- Plan at scale (numbers that make a difference)
- Plan in phases (of public investment)
- Plan for social integration (pro-poor policies)
- Plan for density (incremental)
- Plan for connectivity (focus on public realm)
- Plan for energy efficiency and risk prevention
The way forward

3. PLAN CITY INFILLS AND ENLARGEMENTS

- Before the expected growth of urban population, immediate action is required in urban planning.
- When ever possible, adequate growth of urban population should be planned in infill areas in the existing urbanized space.
- Good and qualitative density required (12,500 hab./km²). Without good design, density becomes unbearable and usually overcrowding.
- City extensions should be planned when there is no infill capacity, also with adequate quality density and attached to the existing core city and basic services.
The way forward
...towards a sustainable, equitable and prosperous city model for developing countries

- High Quality of Public Space. 30% Street and 20% amenities
- Proper and well designed density. 12,500 hab./km²
- Mixed Urban Uses. Avoid zoning when possible (10% of the land of the city at the most). Avoid super-way division of neighborhoods
The way forward

towards a sustainable, equitable and prosperous city model for developing countries

- Mixed social structure. Social Integration, Acceptance of Migrants, Social Diversity, Cosmopolitan values, the challenge of living together
- Practical and enforceable norms and rules. Participatory, democratic, respectful
The way forward

3. PLAN CITY INFILLS AND ENLARGEMENTS

- Plan for mix uses of the urban space, taking into account the use for social diversity.
- City enlargements should be planned in a proper size and in a long term vision; in order to avoid monopolistic positions of investors and irrational evolution of urban land prices.
- Special attention should be given to those strategies focused on the network of metropolitan...
In Conclusion

Rapid urbanization needs to be guided by sustainable urban development through:

- Sustainable Urban Planning
- Adequate housing for all
- City wide Slum upgrading and prevention
TACK

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

For more information, visit:
www.unhabitat.org