

# ***Session 4: Stakeholder Perspectives on Urban Sustainability***

Africa Regional Consultation on Sustainable Cities  
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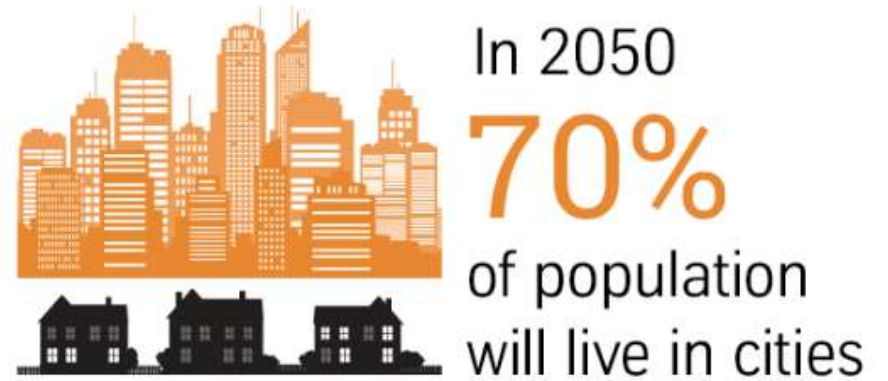
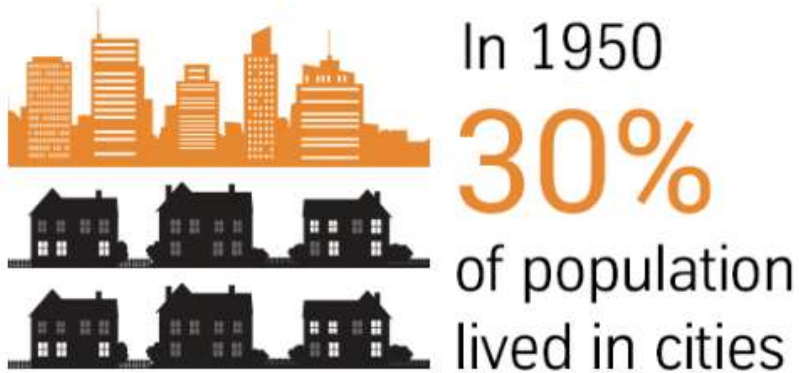
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## GGGI's Mission

“To help developing country governments transition towards a model of economic growth that is environmentally sustainable and socially inclusive.”

# Our Urban Future



For the first time in human history, over half of the world's population now live in cities  
Today, 60% of GDP generated in 600 cities  
By 2050, the world's urban population will be 6.4 billion (70% of total global population)

‘our struggle for global sustainability will be won or lost in cities’

*Ban Ki-Moon, UN Secretary-General, 23 April 2012*



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Occupy  
**3%** of  
land space

Produce  
**50%** of  
waste

Account for  
**60-80%**  
of **GHG**  
emissions

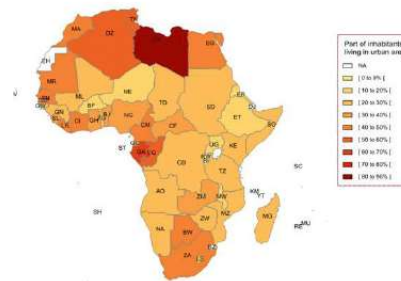
Consume  
**75%** of  
natural  
resources

Produce  
**80%**  
of **GDP**

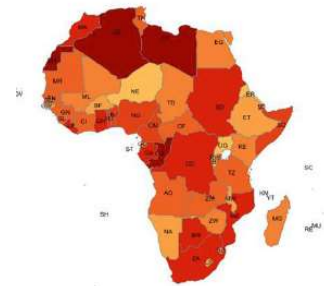
## Our Urban Future: **The African Context**

- The 21<sup>st</sup> urban century will be 'Africa's Century': demographics will drive this
- How to respond: Africa's great urban challenge – and opportunity
- Meeting concurrent needs
  - for growth; employment; greening industrial growth, the infrastructure services gap etc.
- Linking urban transformation to national sustainable development goals
- The centrality of secondary cities to Africa's Green Growth

Population in urban areas in 1990 (% of total population)



Population in urban areas in 2030 (% of total population)



# WHAT ARE AFRICA'S URBANIZATION PRIORITIES & CHALLENGES?

## ► THE CHALLENGE

BUSINESS-AS-USUAL URBAN TRANSFORMATION  
IS UNSUSTAINABLE

► WHAT ARE SOME OF THE KEY URBANIZATION TRENDS  
AND PATTERNS IN AFRICA WHICH SHOULD HAVE OUR  
ATTENTION?

► TO WHAT EXTENT CAN GREEN GROWTH AND GREEN CITY  
DEVELOPMENT REVITALIZE AND RESHAPE THE URBAN  
AGENDA?

► WHAT ARE SOME OF THE BARRIERS TO A GREEN URBAN  
AGENDA IN AFRICA?



# ‘Traditional’ responses to urban challenges – and their limits

- Cities as separate and separated – urban *versus* rural development?
  - Cities as infrastructure projects
  - Cities as sectors
  - Cities as engines of growth – where regulation hinders growth (pollute now – clean later)
  - Urban sustainability - an environmental issue?
- 
- These cities are unable to transform development models to benefit from synergies; to decouple resource use from growth; & to break through middle income urban traps
  - Future cities cannot be prosperous & sustainable through Business-as-Usual development models
  - We should play a key role: transcending sectors, uniting interest groups, initiating innovation

## The cost of 'Business-as-usual' (BAU)

- Increased infrastructure & services gap through unplanned urbanization
- 'Lock in' of inefficient energy systems and high carbon infrastructure
- Degraded ecosystem services (water, land)
- Deteriorating air quality: environmental & health costs
- Traffic congestion, transport gridlock & inaccessible cities
- Social exclusion and lack of opportunity (youth, women, vulnerable groups)



# GGGI's urban sector

Where our priorities lie & What we do



# GGGI's Urban Footprint



## Membership

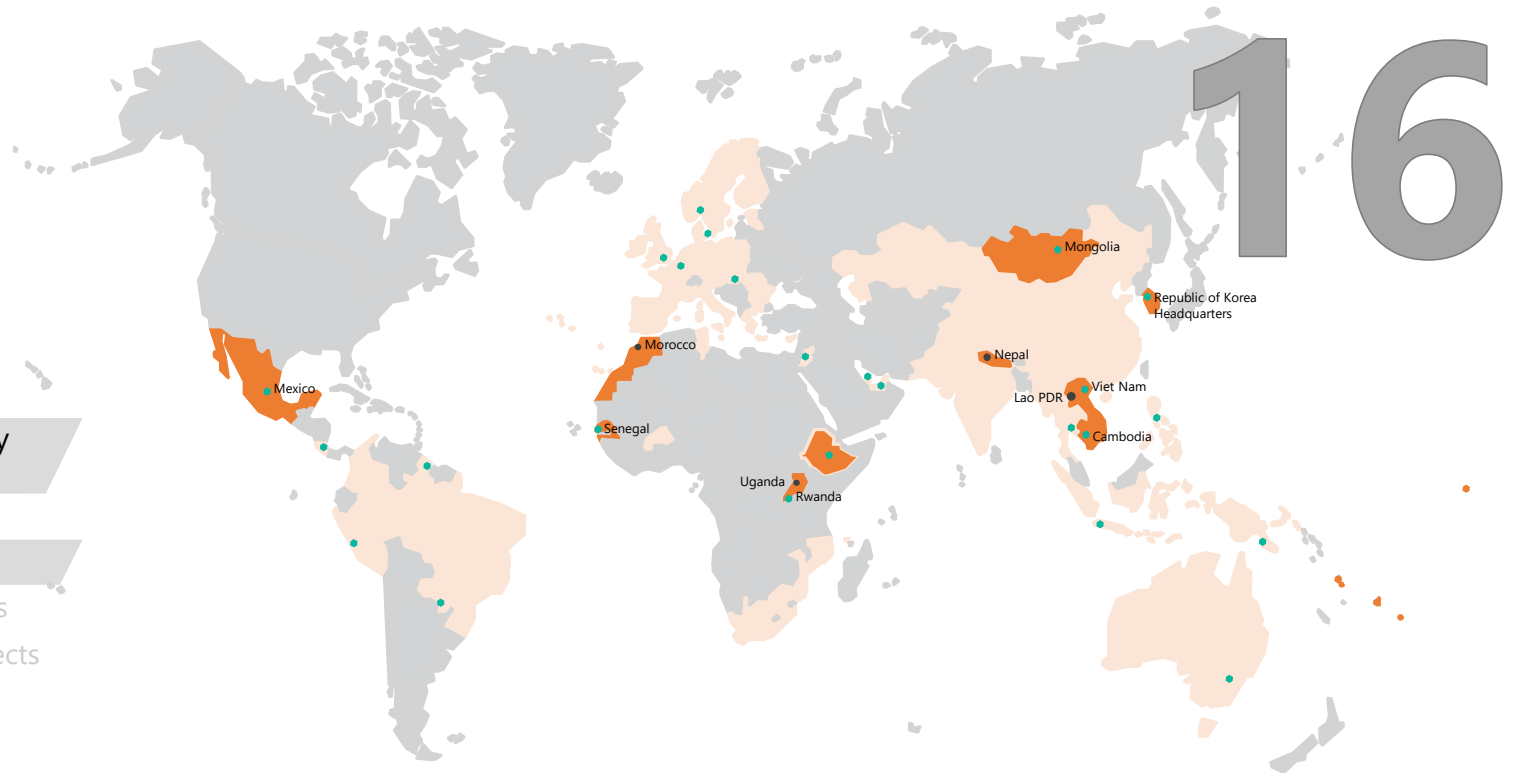
Members of GGGI  
Countries that have formally expressed intent to join GGGI

## Programs

Countries where GGGI currently has operations

- Sustainable Energy Projects
- Green Cities Projects
- Water and Sanitation Projects
- Sustainable Landscapes Projects
- Cross Cutting Projects
- Green Finance

Countries where GGGI has completed programs



Australia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, **Cambodia, China**, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Denmark, **Ethiopia**, European Union, **Fiji**, Guyana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, **Jordan**, Kazakhstan, **Kiribati**, Republic of Korea, **Lao PDR, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco**, Mozambique, Myanmar, **Nepal**, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, **Rwanda, Senegal**, South Africa, Thailand, Tonga, Tunisia, **Uganda**, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, **Vanuatu, Viet Nam**

# For GGGI Green Cities are...



*“A city/town/city-region which pursues resource efficient, low-carbon, climate resilient and socially inclusive urban development, generating green job opportunities”*

# Towards Green Cities: Key Transformations



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The way we plan

To achieve  
smart, green &  
sustainable  
cities



Water resource  
management

Access to clean  
water and  
sanitation



The way  
buildings are  
designed &  
operated

For a resource  
efficient & low  
carbon built  
environment



The way people  
move and  
connect

Connected &  
walkable/less  
motorized  
cities



The energy  
produced &  
consumed

Access to  
renewable  
energy &  
efficiency



Balancing  
expansion,  
growth &  
opportunity

Pro-poor and  
inclusive cities



Waste to  
resources

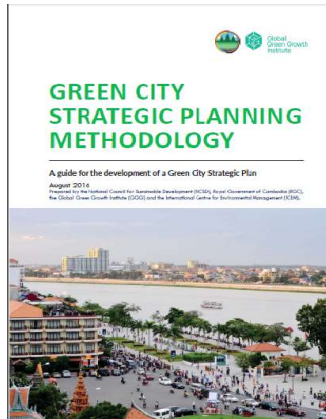
Close the  
waste/resource  
loop



Enhance  
investment  
prospects for  
'green finance'

Address how  
cities manage  
and account for  
their assets

# GGGI's urban sector – 5 priority areas to transform cities



- 1) **Mainstreaming green growth** into urban planning and regulatory frameworks ('localizing' NUPs etc);
- 2) **'Closing Loops'** to support urban circular economies: e.g waste-to-resource for waste management;
- 3) **Supporting urban transitions** to low carbon outcomes: e.g greening the infrastructure gap
- 4) Working with cities on **sustainable mobility and green transport/NMT** options; and
- 5) **Linking** ideas, planning, implementation & finance



# In practice...

- In Rwanda we support secondary cities in green city planning & identify projects
- In Morocco a new model of green cities in support of green territories
- In Uganda supporting the valorization of waste streams & greater engagement of the private sector in solutions
- In Senegal working to provide a stronger & more affordable service delivery model for decentralized sanitation in secondary cities
- From planning – to project development – to finance



## Do we see barriers - or opportunities? Final reflections

- What is a 'green city'? Transforming from BAU thinking can revitalize urban planning in the continent. There is a chance of 'getting more right'.
- Addressing the narrow band of affordability in Africa encourages innovation & relevant solutions, new investment and new jobs.
- Going to scale: thinking beyond mega-cities with 'mega-problems' provides 'whole of city' opportunities for the region's secondary cities.
- Thinking beyond trade-offs: smart cities are green – and green cities are smart!
- Addressing governance: Empowering cities & their citizens is more than saying they are important.



# Thank You

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