The City We Need and the Implementation of the **New Urban Agenda** - How professionals will contribute?

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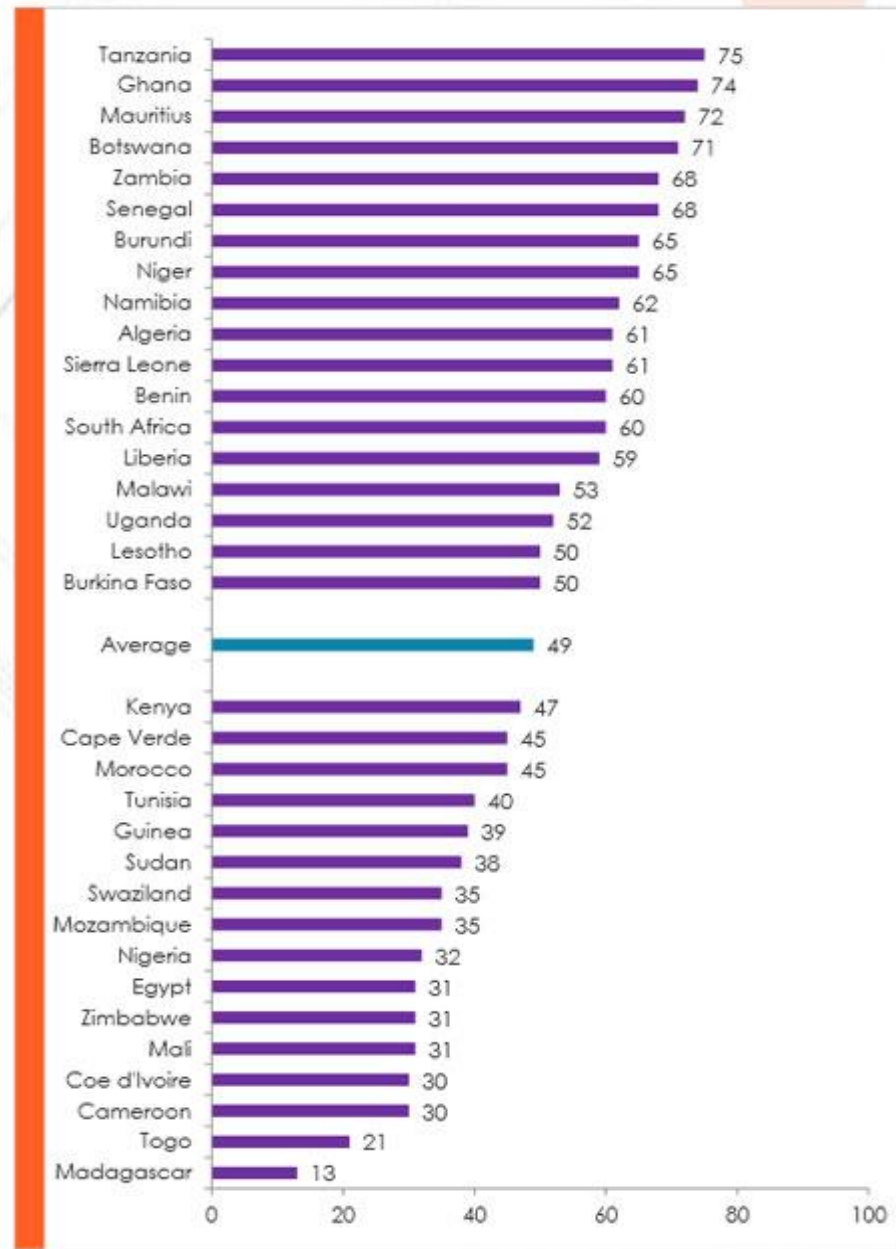**Time:**   9.00 – 11.00 am
Venue: ICC Durban Plenary Hall 3BC

PRINCIPLES FOR A NEW URBAN PARADIGM

- PRINCIPLE 1: The City We Need is socially inclusive and engaging.

- PRINCIPLE 2: The City We Need is affordable, accessible and equitable .

- PRINCIPLE 3: The City We Need is economically vibrant and inclusive.

- PRINCIPLE 4: The City We Need is collectively managed and democratically governed.

- PRINCIPLE 5: The City We Need fosters cohesive territorial development .

- PRINCIPLE 6: The City We Need is regenerative and resilient .

- PRINCIPLE 7: The City We Need has shared identities and sense of place .

- PRINCIPLE 8: The City We Need is well planned, walkable, and transit-friendly .

- PRINCIPLE 9: The City We Need is safe, healthy and promotes well-being .

- PRINCIPLE 10: The City We Need learns and innovates.

Challenges for African Countries

Structures	**Processes**
Resources	**Values**

Figure 5: **Satisfaction with democracy**
| 34 countries | 2011-2013

Country	%
Tanzania	75
Ghana	74
Mauritius	72
Botswana	71
Zambia	68
Senegal	68
Burundi	65
Niger	65
Namibia	62
Algeria	61
Sierra Leone	61
Benin	60
South Africa	60
Liberia	59
Malawi	53
Uganda	52
Lesotho	50
Burkina Faso	50
Average	49
Kenya	47
Cape Verde	45
Morocco	45
Tunisia	40
Guinea	39
Sudan	38
Swaziland	35
Mozambique	35
Nigeria	32
Egypt	31
Zimbabwe	31
Mali	31
Coe d'Ivoire	30
Cameroon	30
Togo	21
Madagascar	13

Participants were asked: "Overall, how satisfied are you with the way democracy works in [your country]?"
(% somewhat / very satisfied)

Bratton and Houessou (2014, p.5)

Colonial Legacy

- **Spatial**, **Institutions** (structures, legislations), **worldviews** (citiness – see Robinson).

- Neo-colonial tendencies (**Imitative models** without relevance) e.g. CIDs, Mega-projects, etc.

- The city is **insularly European.**

- The stereotypes – **stigmatisation** of urban development (Africa, African, Afro).

Modernist Urbanism

- Modernist urban change that **denies dependent relations**, interconnectedness (e.g. rural-urban; formal informal; node-centric, urban hierarchy, etc. (vs **ordinary cities** – connect, webs, flows, etc.

- Grid Logic: Urban plans, zones, building codes, schemes, etc.

- Exclusionary legislations, Policies and strategies are created to legitimise the order.

- Many poor/'othered' people are pushed outside the grid.(rely- 'pirate urbanism,' 'guerrilla housing,' informality [indigenous people]

Neoliberal Nation Building

- Ideology or policy model that emphasizes the value of **free market competition**.
- Neoliberalism sees **competition**, **individualism**, **consumerism** as the defining characteristic of human relations (**communalism**, **reciprocity**, **ubuntu**, etc excluded.
- The **market rationality** that pervades through its logic.
- Urban Development is a function of alienation: **paranoid urbanism**, **mono-cultural enclaves**, etc.
- It creates **spatial fragmentation**, **inequalities** among communities= sequence of equivalence

Market is the king

- A country's independent authority and the right to govern itself seems **compromised**.

- **The Market is the king**.

- People are valued more for being **customers** than **citizens** – a consumerist city.

- Development of **car-dependent cities**.

- '**Cookie- cutting**' planning is done in the name of the market.

Market is the king

- Transport infrastructure determines location and direction of development.

- Low-density sprawl, spatial mismatch between jobs affordable housing and transportation.

- The urban economy can not keep pace with the growth of the population.

- 62 percent and 43 percent, respectively, of the urban population live in slums and are faced with unacceptable levels of risk to illnesses, worm infections, cholera and diarrhoea.

Informality

- Cities have limited formal economic base and the great majority of people lives in slums and survive in the informal economy.

- Without skills and transport poor people are condemned to remain out of the mainstream of the society.

- Their struggle for survival has a dire impact on the urban environment, e.g. cutting trees for firewood or drinking polluted water.

Natural Disasters

- Rainstorms, earthquakes and other weather phenomena can exact a devastating toll on property, human welfare, natural resources, and the economies of developing countries.

Post- democratic tendencies

- A governmental configuration in which the monied elite rule, and the interests of state citizens are ignored for corporate profit (Colin Crouch).

- Voters can choose between several political parties, but there is little or no difference between the representatives they elect.

- Business elites use lobbying, outsourcing, and offshore tax havens as effective tools to sway policies.

- Political parties appear unable to form alternatives to the diktats of market forces.

What professionals can do on the ground?

- Inclusive
- Equitable
- Safe
- healthy
- Resilient
- Competitive
- Sustainable

What professionals can do on the ground?

- Foster **Inclusive** , **Participatory** and **collaborative** Governance

- **Educational reform and transformation**

- "**Rethink Africa**," or write the world from Africa (Mbembe 2002); **Global-Africanisation** (Sihlongonyane 2015)

- '**Epistemic disobedience**' within global knowledge production - two approaches: **de-westernisation** and **de-colonial position**.

- **Redeem blackness/Otherness** (race, gender, sexuality, etc)

- See the "global" "regional" and "local" **not as scales**, but rather various **interrelated entangled dimensions** and **folds.**

What professionals can do on the ground?

- A fundamental **change of attitude** towards African languages.

- **Redefine Capitalism**: infusing ubuntu, reciprocity, collective accountabilily and profitability.

- **Lets create new names**

- Change measures of success: ~~money~~ and ~~market mood,~~ but empowerment, social cohesion, representation, etc.

- Foster **positive behavioural change** e.g. appreciate public transport, non-motorised transport, environmental conservation, e.g. reduce the ecological footprint.

Thank you

Dankie

Asante sana

Ngiybonga