

NATIONAL URBAN DEVELOPMENT  
POLICY (NUDP) MAKING PROCESS:  
THE KENYAN WAY:  
BIG CHALLENGES AND SOME  
OPPORTUNITIES

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Key words:

- Public Participation;
- Constitution;
- Governance;
- Local Economic Development;
- Urbanism;
- Planning Policies;
- Reforms and change;
- County governments;
- Decentralization;
- Cities and Urban Areas;
- Local Government;
- Policy;
- Shelter as a Human Right;
- Economic Growth;
- Civic Education;
- Consumer Engagement;
- Devolution;

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## SUMMARY

- Relevance of the newly promulgated Constitution in August 27, 2010 to NUDP development process



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## THERE EXIST CITIES AND TOWNS

- NUDP in a VACUUM?
- 175 local authorities in Kenya with more than a third not self-sustaining. Mostly by political acclamation!!
- They are a drain on the Exchequer for salaries
- Operation is individualised and yet could benefit more if partnerships were fostered, Economies of Scale



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## 1. A task force is formed

- Focus on devolution and related matters
- Learning best practices in devolution
  - - study trip to Sweden in June 2011
  - - Study trip to Colombia in August
  - - Study trip to Brazil in November
  - - BTW At Independence we had Devolved Governments

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## 2. The Cities and Urban Areas Act

- Passed into law as a matter of urgency, but the question remains as to whether all these laws and policies will deliver services to the citizens who for the longest time have felt short-changed



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## ....concept of Urban Policy

The concept seeks to address:

- Coping with unprecedented urban transformation
- Effects of devolved governance at the county level



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## 3. Role of urban areas in national development

- Concept of Urban Policy
- Bringing to full realization the huge potential of urbanization as a vehicle for growth and development



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## .....what is policy

- Definition of Policy
- Characteristics of Policy
- What policy is not
- Intended effects
- Unintended effects
- The Impact of Cap 265. Its contrast with The Cities and Urban Areas Act

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## 4. Salient points of the NUDP

- A framework for sustainable urban development in the country that addresses the 10 thematic areas
- Guided by the Constitution of Kenya 2010 to provide for regulation of urban areas and cities

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## 5. How has it been without the National Urban Development Policy

Counting the cost of compromise

Infrastructure – social and physical

Development and Maintenance

Housing, Governance, Financial instrument

Service Delivery



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## 6. The NUDP is a pill for the degenerating state of affairs in cities and urban areas.

- Role of Social infrastructure and services that are critical to the development of sustainable urban communities
- Insecurity as a result?

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## 7. What must it be in the days to come?

- Ecological footprints
- Provision of a framework for
  - i. Existing cities & towns, Nairobi, Kisumu, Mombasa, Nakuru, Eldoret, Nyeri
  - ii. Proposed cities Konza city, Lamu Port, Isiolo,
  - iii. Border towns like Namanga, Malaba-Busia, Moyale, Lokichoggio, Dadaab



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## 8. Principles of intelligent urbanism

- a balance with nature
- a balance with tradition – Vernacular Architecture!!
- appropriate technology and Infrastructure systems
- Conviviality
- efficiency and effectiveness

Principle 1.

Principle 2.

Principle 3.

Principle 4.

Principle 5.

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## cont... principles of intelligent urbanism

- human scale
- opportunity matrix
- regional integration
- balanced movement
- institutional integrity

Principle 6.

Principle 7.

Principle 8.

Principle 9.

Principle 10.

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## 9. Government of Kenya

- Role of the Legislature, the Executive and the Judiciary



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## 10. The Kenya Private Sector

- The engine of economic growth in any country  
“bankable projects”

Public Private Partnership

Legislation needed to protect the environment and investment

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## 11. The Civil Society Organizations (CSO) in Kenya – NGO's

- The voice of reason, the voice of the voiceless
- Accused of serving certain (foreign) interests?

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## 12. AMCHUD – African Ministerial Conference on Housing and Urban Development

- Can we discern opportunities presented because its head office is to be located in Nairobi?



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## 13. UN Habitat

- Its establishment in 1978 in Nairobi
- Its significance
  - To the continent
  - To Kenya's economy



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## 14. NUDP

- Creating opportunities
- Tackling challenges

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