Disclaimer:
The designations employed and the presentation of material in this publication pages do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries regarding its economic system or degree of development. Excerpts may be reproduced without authorization, on condition that the source is indicated. Views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect those of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, UN-Habitat, the United Nations and its member states.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table of Contents:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Urban Thinkers Campus in figures</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The City We Need Principle(s) addressed</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matrix of linkages - TCWN 1.0 vs. new recommendations</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key outcomes of the UTC</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key recommendations</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key actors</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outstanding issues</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban solutions</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speakers</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Urban Thinkers Campus in figures

- 22 COUNTRIES REPRESENTED
- 211 PARTICIPANTS
- 35 ORGANIZATIONS

5 CONSTITUENT GROUPS REPRESENTED:
- Indigenous People
- Parliaments
- Research & Academics
- Business & Industries
- Professionals
- Local & Sub-National authorities
- Grass-Root organisations
- Media
- Farmers
- Foundations & Philanthropies
- Trade Union & Workers
- Women
- Civil Society Organisations
- Children & Youth
Introduction

This Urban Thinkers Campus was held from 5 – 8 August 2015 as part and parcel of the Triennial Congress of the Africa Union of Architects (AUA) under the theme; “Solutions to Urban Slums: Building on Communities Knowledge & Heritage.” It was hosted at the picturesque Speke Resort & Conference Centre, Munyonyo in conjunction with the Uganda Society of Architects.

The Campus theme was deliberated on with major focus on case studies from five member countries from Region East of the AUA i.e. Uganda, Rwanda, Tanzania, Kenya and Sudan, who provided speakers. The rest of Africa provided delegates from various constituent groups to debate and discuss the pertaining issues.

The objectives of the campus were:

1. To bring together known stakeholders on the main theme of Urban Slums in the region with a view to identifying and learning from each party, with Kampala City as the main case study.
2. To provide an environment for debate and brainstorming of participatory solutions from the different parties & their partners, especially solutions sourced from the affected communities and their cultural heritage.
3. To raise awareness on the causes of Urban Slums under specific sub-themes; including rural urban migration, refugee migration, disaster/war migration.
4. To perceive, understand and harmonize where possible the various policy and community interventions, both existing and planned.
5. To inform & contribute to country preparations for Habitat III in 2016 for participating countries in the region.

In order to achieve the objectives above, the UTC was formatted as presentations and discussion under four sessions:

1. Culture and Heritage Context
2. Urban Planning Context
3. Case Study Presentations
4. The City We Need Discussion.
The City We Need

Principle(s) addressed

1. The City We Need is socially inclusive.
2. The City We Need is well planned, walkable, and transit-friendly.
3. The City We Need is economically vibrant and inclusive.
4. The City We Need has a singular identity and sense of place.
5. The City We Need is a safe city.
6. The City We Need is managed at the metropolitan level.

Matrix of linkages - TCWN 1.0 vs. new recommendations

Below is a summary of the linkages between these principles and the proposals/recommendations made at the Africa Union of Architects Campus.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City We Need Principle</th>
<th>Proposals / Recommendations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The city we need is socially inclusive.</td>
<td>• Develop comprehensive education and information communication strategies on physical planning for all stakeholders.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Social research should go deeper to sieve out information from city dwellers themselves so that solutions are not prescriptive.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Integrate refugee re-settlement into the existing urban and social fabric.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Take into account neighbouring cities and neighbouring countries in the region and use urban planning to advance the ongoing integration agenda on the African continent.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The city we need is well planned, walkable, and transit-friendly.</td>
<td>Adopt integrated planning by bringing all stakeholders on board in the development of urban plans and building codes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The city we need is economically vibrant and inclusive.</td>
<td>Focus on training women in informal urban settlements as society transformers, through income improvement initiatives.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The city we need has a singular identity and sense of place.</td>
<td>• Distil knowledge of African values and make them relevant to current urban environments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Infuse Pan African ideals into the built environment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Sensitize developers and encourage the use of local materials and skills within the cities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The city we need is a safe city.</td>
<td>Nurture various levels of community unity to ensure social peace.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The city we need is managed at the metropolitan level.</td>
<td>Focus on restructuring to build technical and financial capacity at local government level.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Key outcomes of the UTC

There were three key outcomes of the Campus.

1. **THE ARCHITECTS’ AGENDA**

   This being a congregation of African Architects, the following key questions were raised: “What key issues would African Architects like to see addressed in Habitat III?” and “What contributions & prescriptions would Architects like to make towards Habitat III (The New Urban Agenda)?”.

   **Proposal 1:** First of all architects have to identify a common agenda that defines their aspirations with respect to the “City we need” and urban interventions that we aspire to (particularly in providing solutions to Urban Slums). As key players in the urban environment Architects are encouraged to become more vocal in influencing governments (national & local) towards relevant legislation & practice. As such architects should not get detached from political processes and should offer themselves for leadership positions or actively participate in articulating & formulating relevant policies. Once architects are viewed as genuine drivers of change & providers of relevant solutions it also improves the public perception of the profession. Architects should also be more active in understanding & articulating the development agenda of their respective countries (e.g. Post 2015-UN Sustainable Development Goals).

   **Proposal 2:** In relation to the congress themes, Architects need to begin thinking of developing local solutions to urban challenges through the use of local culture, local heritage, local materials, social models among others. Contextual thinking can also be further emphasized through our education systems but also through Continuous profession development & supplementary training for practicing architects. Architects need to be at the forefront in determining localized solutions to different planning aspects such as mobility (pedestrians + vehicular), Mass transport systems, land-use, social mix of urban centers, economics, gender issues as well as understanding the connection of urban areas to the rural areas & prescribing relevant solutions to manage the relationships between the two areas.

2. **FORMULATING AN AFRICA URBAN AGENDA**

   The messages & discussions emerging from this UTC need to be actively disseminated on various platforms & the views of various stakeholders mobilized for inclusion in the New Urban Agenda documents to be presented at Habitat III. Relevant authorities need to be lobbied as well to adopt & contribute to the new agenda.

   **Proposal 1:** There is need to mobilize various stakeholders in the field of urban design, slum dweller organizations, civic/ civil society, local governments & policy makers among others for follow-up campuses/ urban labs to generate inclusive views which can then form the national agenda (narrative). As discussed variously during the AUA presentations the proposed labs will need to be participatory and inclusive of as many stakeholder groups as possible. [Use of Urban Labs, National Urban Forums, WUC’s, etc].

A presenter, Dr Camilus Lekule from Tanzania discusses with delegates ©UN-Habitat
3. EDUCATION

It was noted that there are challenges with the education system (particularly in Africa) regarding the training of architects & other experts to handle current & emerging urbanization trends. Architects currently are not sufficiently trained to handle the complex socio-economic challenges that arise out of rapid urbanization.

Proposal 1: UN-Habitat can source for sponsors to assist in developing relevant curricula for Universities/Training Institutions to provide relevant instruction to architects & other design professionals in order to expand their scope of understanding & response to urban challenges. UN-Habitat already has relevant material and is in collaboration with certain institutions under the umbrella of the Association of Planning Schools (APS). Provision can be made to extend the reach of these programs to more institutions as well as online.

Proposal 2: More collaboration is recommended among design professionals including architects, engineers, urban & physical planners, planners with relevant input from various other disciplines. In a way, this process has begun in the Ugandan context with the formation of the Uganda Built Environment Professionals Association (comprised of Architects, Engineers, Surveyors, Physical planners etc.) which platform can then be utilized to dialogue on relevant cross-cutting issues in the urban environment.

Key recommendations

**National and Local Government**

1. Advance the integration agenda on the African Continent in order to find solutions together
2. “Effectively utilize the resources available, and in good time”. (Minister for Lands Housing & Urban Dev’t, Uganda). Proposals should help governments to come up with investment and policy strategies that tap into faster international financing structures.
3. Specific conditional financial grants to national and local governments to enable implementation of their mandates.
4. Institutional restructuring & capacity building of local governments to structures & skills that can more adequately deal with current demands
5. The effort of government is directed at 25% of the urban settlements yet the need is by the 75% in the informal settlements
6. Focus on policies that nurture and enforce community unity and social peace
7. Focus on women as society transformers; training in nutrition, health, and products manufacture as a means to improve incomes and lead people out of informal settlements

**The Professions**

8. Professionals can re-capture forgotten spiritual values and use them to find new expressions and conceptualizations of space today as opposed to totally denigrating ourselves and our pre-colonial spiritual past.
9. Look at heritage not just nostalgically but in an evolutionary and innovative sense.
10. Consolidate Pan African ideals into the built environment, and architects and present day policy makers should be challenged to infuse these ideals into unfolding a built environment that radiates communal African pride and heritage esteem as was done before.
11. Rekindle the training of local artisans into recapturing, acquiring, and utilizing indigenous semiotics knowledge systems.
12. Increase business joint ventures as architects and urban planners in order to compete more favorably with international companies in Africa and directly advance the African Agenda.
13. Utilize local materials in the redevelopment of slums and train the owners to self-build.
14. Participate more actively in policy making fora to directly influence the urban built environment.
Urban Planning
15. The ‘users’ should teach the planners, so that policy solutions are not prescriptive. i.e a participatory approach to Urban planning.
16. Apply mixed land use planning that allows for flexibility in the categories of building designs.
17. There is clear land ownership in slums, social and business community set ups and related infrastructure and this cannot be ignored when planning.
18. Promote planning practices and codes that respond appropriately to the layers of cultural landscape.
19. Avoid the planning of mono-centric cities
20. New centers should be developed as satellite centers,
21. Historic City Centers should be conserved
22. Promotion of multimodal transportation systems to reduce traffic congestion

Research, Education & Communication
23. Deliberate effort to be made by schools of architecture, and Councils for Higher Education, towards reversing devaluation of local knowledge systems, through identification, documentation and instruction in theory and practice of African Architectural Semiotics
24. Pass on recaptured knowledge in a manner that is always re-examining and making it relevant to new settings.
25. Scholars should focus on distilling knowledge of African traditions and values with the aim of making it relevant to our current environment
26. Social research should go deeper to sieve out the information from conversations by the dwellers themselves.
27. Build comprehensive national education, information and communication strategies on physical planning for stakeholders

Key actors
The key actors in relation to these outcomes would be:
1. Architects practicing in Africa
2. African Governments, both national and local
3. Architectural associations and regulators
4. Engineers
5. Urban and Physical Planners
6. Education Institutions training built and social environment professionals
7. Local historians & culture experts
8. Local artisans
9. Slum dwellers
10. Policy Makers
11. UN-Habitat
12. Developers
13. Land Owners
14. Women
15. Youth
16. The urban community

Listening to Plenary discussions ©UN-Habitat
Outstanding issues

There is still a need for further and deeper debate on emerging issues within the constituent groups under the umbrella of the Africa Union of Architects. This can be achieved through a focused strategic plan and restructuring of the AUA to stimulate and accommodate continental debate on the emerging issues under specific ‘AUA Commissions’.

Very systematic development of unique African goals for sustainability is imperative. The use of the Urban Thinkers Campus method needs popularization so that it becomes progressively more effective in sourcing for concrete proposals nationally and regionally on emerging issues. There is need to mobilize various stakeholders in the field of urban design, slum dweller organizations, civic/ civil society, local governments & policy makers among others for follow-up campuses/ urban labs to generate inclusive views. As discussed variously during the AUA presentations the proposed labs will need to be participatory and inclusive of as many stakeholder groups as possible. [Use of Urban Labs, National Urban Forums, WUC’s, etc.]

Deeper research into culture and heritage as a source of modern solutions to sustainable urban development in Africa should be promoted within research institutions. As a starting point, specific institutions can be identified and proper linkages created between stakeholders.

Urban solutions

**On a Macro Level:**
1. Reduce primacy of cities and focus on development of mid and small size towns.
2. Master plans should be supported by budgets / costs in order to enable policy makers to conceptualize the urbanization process comprehensively.
3. Urban authorities should promote the planning and development of satellite centres as opposed to focusing on mono-centric cities
4. Design for the 70% of the population still in the rural areas before they move to urban areas.
5. Refugee integration plans should be inclusive in the communities, as opposed to making the camps cities in themselves.
6. Building Codes should be reviewed to include provisions for design for the urban poor.

**On a Micro Level:**
1. Apply mixed land-use planning as opposed to sectoral planning which would allow for flexibility and linked usage between the categories of building designs
2. Architects together with the local authorities can popularize the use of appropriate technology and local building materials in urban areas and train owners to self-build.
3. Respect existing social and business community set-ups or structures in redevelopment of informal settlements
4. Emphasize shared community or public space to create and enhance a sense of neighbourhood identity
5. Seed local economies
6. Provide for green services in the cities

---

Dr. A. K. Birabi, “infuse their designs with African architectural semiotics. See more at: [citiscopes.org/habitatIII/news/2015/08/kampala-hosts-first-urban-thinkers-campus-africa#sthash.PhWjKIA8.dpuf … @alkigozi @ ArchUganda_Prez](https://twitter.com/jamesssena/status/632123259367129089)
Speakers

Ms. Jennifer Musisi, Executive Director, Kampala Capital City Authority, Uganda

Mr. Joseph Pade, Ag. Commissioner Urban Development, Ministry of Lands, Housing & Urban Development, Uganda

Arch. Dr. Nouredin Elregig, Sudanese Institute of Architects

Arch Dr. Lilian Namuganyi, Senior Lecturer and Researcher, Makerere University Kampala Uganda

Dr. Alan Birabi, Senior Lecturer and Researcher, Makerere University Kampala Uganda

Arch Prof. Steven Mukiibi, Makerere University, Kampala Uganda

Mr. Medie Muhammad Lubwama, Executive Director, ACTogether Uganda

Arch. Eudes Kayumba, Managing Director & Principal Architect, Landmark (Rwanda) Ltd. Chairman Registration Board, Rwanda institute of Architects.

Dr. C. Lekule, Senior Lecturer, Ardhi University Dar es Salaam Tanzania

Dr. Elfadil A. Adam, Sudanese National Housing Fund

Arch. Mohamed I. Shatta, Sudanese Institute of Architects

Dr. Ashok Lall, Ashok Lall Architects New Delhi; Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University, New Delhi India

Dr. Tom Anyamba, University of Nairobi, Kenya

Dr. Chrispino Ochieng, Nairobi, Kenya

Ms. Lucia Kiwala, Chief, Partner Relations Unit, Partners and Interagency Coordination Branch, UN-Habitat

Christine Auclair, Project Leader World Urban Campaign UN-Habitat
List of all countries present

1. Algeria  
2. Angola  
3. Benin  
4. Burkina Faso  
5. Cameroon  
6. Congo  
7. DRC/CONGO  
8. Egypt  
9. France  
10. Germany  
11. Ghana  
12. Kenya  
13. Mauritius  
14. Nigeria  
15. Rwanda  
16. Senegal  
17. South Africa  
18. Sudan  
19. Tanzania  
20. Tchad  
21. Tunisia  
22. Uganda

List of organizations present

1. ACTogether Uganda  
2. African Development Bank Group  
3. Architects Association of Kenya  
4. Architects Association of Tanzania  
5. Ardhí University Tanzania  
6. Benin Institute of Architects  
7. Citiscope  
8. Ghana Institute of Architects  
9. Guru Gobind Singh Intraprastha University New Delhi  
10. International Union of Architects (UIA)  
11. Kampala Capital City Authority  
12. Makerere University, Kampala Uganda  
14. National Construction Authority, Kenya  
15. National Order of Algerian Architects  
16. National Order of Cameroonian Architects  
17. Nigeria Institute of Architects  
18. Ordem Dos Architectos de Angola  
19. Ordes des Architectes du Burkina Faso  
20. Ordes des Architectes du Congo Brazzaville  
21. Ordes des Architectes du Tchad  
22. Ordes des Architectes du Tunisia  
23. Ordre Des Architectes Du Senegal  
24. Rwanda Institute of Architects  
25. Societe des Architectes du Congo - SAC  
26. South Africa Institute of Architects  
27. Sudanese Institute of Architects  
28. Sudanese National Housing Fund  
29. The Monitor Newspaper  
30. The New Vision Newspaper  
31. Uganda Broadcasting Corporation (UBC)  
32. Uganda Martyrs University  
33. Uganda Society of Architects  
34. UN-Habitat  
35. University of Westminster London