Planning for Rapid Urbanisation
Bo Case Study
The perfect global storm?

- Rapid urbanisation
- Climate change
- Natural resource depletion
- Rise in pandemics
Growing trend towards sprawl and unplanned settlements

Nairobi, Kenya is forecast to increase its total area 5.3-fold by 2050

Source: Marron Institute of Urban Management
With more than 80% of global GDP generated in cities, urbanisation can contribute to sustainable growth if managed well by increasing productivity, allowing innovation and new ideas to emerge.

The World Bank
Professionals and Urbanisation, 2019

Source: Commonwealth Association of Architects, Survey of the Profession
More than 50% of urban growth will occur in the Commonwealth with more than 50% of that in Secondary Cities.

Rapid Planning Toolkit

Source: URBED Wolfson prize
Step 1 Rapid Urban Planning process – first make it a political priority!

- Write a charter for your rapidly growing city
- Communicate to citizens what spatial planning does and why it’s important
- Show its impacts on health and prosperity now and in the future (SDG’s)
- Describe the impacts of not planning
Rapid Urban Planning Process

Growth Area Options

Walkable Neighbourhoods

Neighbourhood Quarters

Building Types Demonstration
Rapid Urban Planning Process

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Building Types Demonstration
Agree the ‘bare bones’ key fixes plan which needs staking out and protecting
3 steps rapidly delivered in Bo

Bo City: Land for development to 2040

Bo Reservation Feature Plan Map

1. [Diagram]
2. [Diagram]
3. [Diagram]
Planning for Rapid Urbanisation
Bo City Council Experience
City profile

The city is estimated to grow from a population of 175,000 to 583,000 by 2045. No spatial or other plans were in place for how the city would manage this growth.

Absence of planning restrictions had allowed development in inappropriate locations, causing flooding (exacerbated by climate change during the rainy season), pollution of water courses and loss of locally important “swamp” farming land.
Doing the steps in reality

- Strengthen the council on creating and implementing spatial plan.
- Expose the council to integrated approach.
- Strengthen public participation and create space for key stakeholder to be involved in all stages of planning and implementation.
- Ensure the council anticipate instead of reacting to problem.
Doing the steps in reality

• Regularize informality which makes a difference.

• Access to framework that gives consistency.

• Increase effort to control the urban growth and pattern.
Regularize informality which makes a difference
BCC action to anticipate instead of reacting to problem.
BCC to anticipate instead of reacting to problem
Current picture of growth area and Existing community

- Plot of houses with no street
- No paved road
- Limited or no infrastructure
- Limited primary road system with no future in avoiding traffic with lack of proper urban plan to anticipate a multidisciplinary approached.
Community ownership

- Participatory approach ensure community ownership as Planning is not a document to deliver, hence continuous process and constant follow up with the community enhance sustainability.
Community Engagement meeting
Outreach session to popularize the plan/Toolkit
Radio Presentation to popularize toolkits and ensure awareness raising
Community ownership

- **Outreach**: efforts acknowledged not all resident have access to formal channel for information dissemination and feedback.

- **Radio program**: popularise information on shaping communities and the lifestyle of resident.

- **Zonal meeting**: support participation that is broaden inclusive.
What’s has been easy during the implementation

The tool kit has empowered local councillors and staff in BCC to have the skills, confidence and tools to address spatial planning challenges.

The engagement with stakeholder has being easy, the tool kit guide as to when to be involved at each stage of implementation.

Easy to get commitment of stakeholder to signed charter due to total involvement at each stage.

Community ownership has being easy as residents now understand the concept of Neighbourhood.

Mentoring from the Prince's Foundation
Stakeholders Engagement on Step 1
Stakeholder Engagement on Step 2
What has been hard

Time required to read and applied the tool kit is huge. The different concept and terms been used on the tool kits:

Neighbourhood, structuring a neighbourhood, existing has been new to the team.

Reading maps, drawing and interpreting scale is new to the team also.

Our planning work has been writing documents not drawing plans.
Team with no skills in Drawing
Team with no skills in drawing
‘Cities are human creation and we all have power to plan’
Major Challenge: Construction on wetland.
Unplanned Neighbourhood
Thank you and please get in touch if you’d like to learn more about our Planning for Rapid Urbanisation Toolkit

Ben.Bolgar@princes-foundation.org