

The Future of Africa’s Cities: Planning for Growth, Resilience and Inclusion

Over the next 25 years, sub-Saharan Africa will add 748 million people to its cities, according to the World Bank’s Sub-Saharan Africa’s Urban Awakening. Much of the housing, transport and utility infrastructure those residents will need has not yet been built. Yet African cities raise property tax revenues equivalent to just 0.07 per cent of GDP, against 0.64 percent in Asia and 0.70 percent in Europe, according to UN-Habitat. How cities plan, regulate and finance the land beneath this growth will determine whether urbanisation drives competitiveness or deepens congestion, inequality and informality.