



Development Challenges in Africa – an introduction to plenary discussion

**Presentation to CSD-17 IPM
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Development Challenges



- Several protracted, cumulative humanitarian crises
- Interlinked - NOT separate phenomena
- Directly and indirectly exacerbated by past and current global practices, technologies, events and natural disasters
- Overall ecosystem degradation and loss, resulting in irreparable loss of ecosystem services that **underpin all economic activity and development**
- Insufficient, aging infrastructure impede development
- MDGs and targets summarise main development challenges – **2015!**

Action Required



Accelerated, new, additional and multiple global action is required to give immediate support to

- **practical implementable initiatives**
- **that will result in immediate and long-term**
- **tangible, measurable turn-around results and benefits**
- **for Africa's local communities**

African and Regional Institutions



- 1963 – Organisation of African Unity (OAU)
- 2002 – **African Union** (AU)
- The New Partnership for Africa's Development (**NEPAD**) - recognised by JPOI, integrated into AU
- 8 recognised African Regional Economic Communities (**RECs**) as the implementing bodies of NEPAD
 - ECOWAS, ECCAS, EAC, COMESA, SADC, CENSAD, IGAD, UMA
- **Country focal points**
- **Sector-specific Networks**

NEPAD Priority Areas



- Infrastructure Development
- Governance
- Peace and Security
- **Agriculture**
- **Food security**
- **Rural development**
- Industry, Trade and Market Access
- **Environment**
- Population and Urbanization
- Human Resource Development
- Employment
- HIV/AIDS
- Science and Technology
- Communication, Advocacy and Outreach

Regional Initiatives: a *few* examples



- African Monitoring of the **Environment** for Sustainable Development (AMESD)
- Great Green Wall for the Sahara Initiative – aim to prevent **land degradation** in the Sahel and Sahara
- Comprehensive Africa **Agriculture** Development Programme (CAADP)
- The AU/AfDB/ECA Initiative on Pan African Framework on **Land Policy** for Securing Rights, Enhancing Productivity and Improving Livelihoods
- **Climate** for Development in Africa Programme (ClimDevAfrica)
- African Convention on the Conservation of **Nature and Natural Resources**
- National Action Programmes to combat **desertification** (NAPs)
- The EU-Africa **Infrastructure** Partnership, launched in Addis Ababa, 2007
- Nile Basin Initiative
- Africa **Water** Facility
- NEPAD **City** Programme
- *Many more....*

Governance



- Africa continues to build nation-state
- The African Peer Review Mechanism: important instrument
- Needed: Measurable criteria for the performance of state functions
- The African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance to be supported
- Needed: Decentralization and LG reforms to strengthen checks and balances, and to increase capacity toward efficient, immediate and enhanced service delivery
- Needed: Horizontal and vertical checks and balances (also upstream) in the governance system
- Needed: Strengthened capacity of judiciary - ensuring the observance of the constitution, rule of law and due process of law
- Needed: Ways to drastically improve delivery of adequate and efficient public services
- Environmental rights, maintain healthy ecosystems
- **LEADERSHIP**

Institutional Challenges



- Effective integration of NEPAD into AU structures and processes, to improve support for private sector and promote engagement with civil society
- Proliferation of institutions, Conventions, Agreements
- Limited capacity and resources
- Coordinated, participatory and integrated policy, planning and implementation required

Policy Approaches



- Environmental resource management (water, waste, energy, biodiversity etc.) should be central to all planning and budgetary processes at all levels of government
- Planning processes and policy frameworks should balance competing demands on natural resources (eg water, land)
- Resource use policies should include investment in resource protection through PES (Payment for Ecosystem Services) schemes with direct rewards to local communities for preventive / restoration actions

Education, Capacity Building, Public Awareness



- Africa needs to urgently invest in visionary, brave and bold **leadership**
- **Next generation**
- The AU is committed to the **Second Decade** for Education for Africa (2006 - 2015)
- Urgent need for education and capacity building at **all levels**
 - **Primary Education**
 - **ABET, technical skills, lifelong learning**
 - **At governance, public sector, institutional level**
 - **Recognition and strengthening role of civil society**
 - **Indigenous knowledge**
- Less than 60% of SSA adult population can read and write with understanding and for every 100 men, only 76 women are literate
- 40 million primary-school-age children in SSA do not attend school - many who do, do not achieve desired learning outcomes, disabling them to take next steps up educational ladder
- Power of **individual behavioural change**
- Support for the African Network of Environmental **Journalists**

Science, Technology and Innovation (STI)



- The establishment of the NEPAD Science and Technology Consolidated Plan of Action (CPA)
- The establishment of the African Ministerial Council on Science and Technology (**AMCOST**)
- Information technology, access and connectivity
- Support and incentives for home-grown technologies
- Need for development, transfer and uptake of technologies – learning networks
- Decision-making tools e.g.
 - UNEP Africa: Atlas of our Changing Environment
 - African Environmental Outlook process as assessment, monitoring and reporting tool

Climate Change and Energy



- **Particularly vulnerable – multiple stresses, low adaptive capacity**
- **Bali Roadmap** to culminate in Copenhagen to develop new Global Climate Framework post 2012
- Roadmap steered by AMCEN Chair; Algerian Ministerial meeting – **African Position**
- **South Africa to host to COP17 in 2011 - opportunities**
- **Upscaled Adaptation** capacity, resources funding needed
- **Abundant, untapped potential for clean, renewable energies**
 - *enough solar power hitting one square km of Africa's deserts to produce equivalent of 1.5 million barrels or oil / 300,000 tons of coal*
 - *solar power in just the deserts of North Africa is enough to supply 40 times the present world electricity demand*
- Can be linked to **job creation**, new livelihood opportunities (e.g. including tropical forests in the carbon markets)
- **Climate proofing**, improved **energy security, access**
- Need to accelerate access to the **carbon markets**
- Build **capacity**, facilitate **engagement** of cross-sectoral government dept's (national dialogues, debates, implementation)

Climate Change



"If we fail to combat climate change, the recessions of today will be as nothing to those of the future.

But if we can navigate the Bali Road Map to a successful conclusion - putting an ever higher price on carbon - there is every chance that we can unlock some and indeed more of Africa's huge potential.

How about a solar powered Africa and one that becomes a net exporter of electricity from its deserts and drylands?"

- Mr Achim Steiner: UNEP DG at AMCEN
12th Session, Johannesburg, June 2008



Mitigation



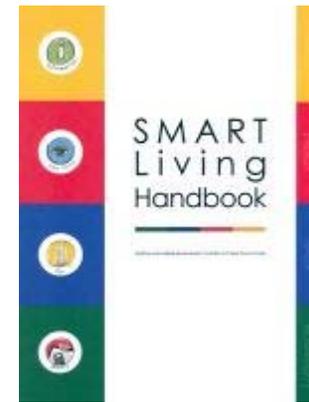
Adaptation



Local Govt Initiatives



- Infrastructure and services
- Local Government Climate Roadmap Process
- World Mayors Council for Climate Change
- Green buildings / green procurement (Procura+)
- Local Climate Adaptation Plans
- Istanbul Urban Water Consensus
- Local Action for Biodiversity (Urban Agriculture)
- Local IWRM
- UN Habitat / ICLEI – Tool to improve local access to CDM
- **SMART LIVING Programme** - Water, Waste, Energy and Biodiversity
- School programmes – **Youth Environmental School (YES)**
- Demand Side Management (DSM) - incentives – rates and service bills





Local Action for Biodiversity – LAB Global programme

- Current new city intake and roll-out – adding to LAB PIONEERS
- Proven 5-step implementation process
- Formal Council commitment “Durban Commitment”
- **Ecosystem services approach**
- **Urban agriculture**
- ICLEI WC / Urban Nature - Edmonton (June 2009)
- UN CBD COP / World Mayor’s Conference – Nagoya (2010)

Donor Strategies



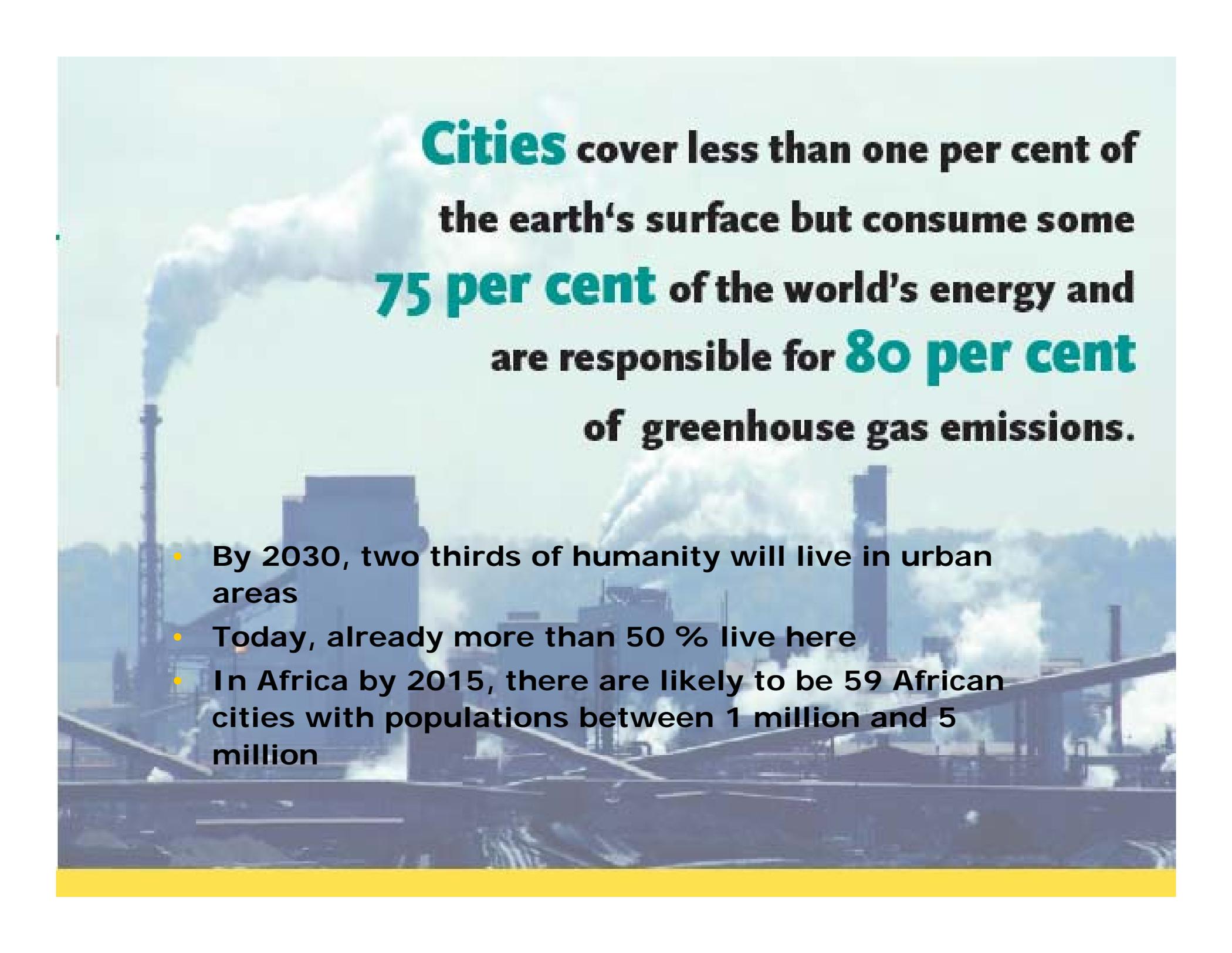
- Underpinning Priorities: Capacity building, governance, integration
- Poverty Reduction Budget Support (PRBS) – aid instrument that promotes long-term sustainability, accountability
- Promotion of public expenditure management and financial accountability
- Humanitarian and relief commitments - through UNICEF, IOM and WFP and UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) - allowing swift allocation to provide to displaced people and refugees
- Need to improve accessibility of global funding mechanisms
- Review co-financing principles
- Consider pro-actively nationally and locally identified needs and priorities
- Regional action required: country-based not always best
- Challenge posed by the proliferation of agreements and conventions
- Domestic resource mobilization needed

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Cities cover less than one per cent of the earth's surface but consume some **75 per cent** of the world's energy and are responsible for **80 per cent** of greenhouse gas emissions.

- By 2030, two thirds of humanity will live in urban areas
- Today, already more than 50 % live here
- In Africa by 2015, there are likely to be 59 African cities with populations between 1 million and 5 million