

First Edition

COMPENDIUM OF CASE STUDIES

**FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
“URBAN-RURAL LINKAGES: GUIDING PRINCIPLES
(URL-GP) AND FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION”**

COMPENDIUM OF CASE STUDIES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE URBAN-RURAL LINKAGES: GUIDING PRINCIPLES (URL-GP) AND FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION, FIRST EDITION

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United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

P. O. Box 30030, 00100 Nairobi GPO KENYA

Tel: 254-020-7623120 (Central Office)

www.unhabitat.org

PROJECT TEAM

Project Coordination Team: Remy Sietchiping, Grace Githiri, Thomas Forster, Camilo Antonio Romero Mera, Eol Chae

Design and Layout: Jean Robert Gatsinzi, Ramsés Alejandro Grande Fraile

Financial Support: Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida)

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UN  HABITAT

Foreword



Following the launch of the Urban Rural Linkages-Guiding Principles and Framework for Action to advance integrated Territorial Development (URL-GP), the adoption of UN-Habitat's Resolution HSP/HA.1/Res.5 on "Enhancing urban-rural linkages for sustainable urbanization" during the first UN-Habitat Assembly in May, 2019 and after more than a year of multi-stakeholder consultation, I am delighted to present the publication "The First Compendium of Case Studies for the Implementation of Urban-Rural Linkages Guiding Principles and Framework for Action "

The national and subnational case studies in this first edition represent examples of the URL-GP application in Africa, Asia, the Middle East and Europe. UN-Habitat has analysed these cases that predate the finalisation of the URL-GP, using its principles and actions to compare and share the lessons they present. Each of the cases included has relevance to specific Guiding Principles and include interventions from sections of the Framework for Action.

I would like to underscore that urban and rural communities do not live in isolation from one another, as the cases included in the document demonstrate. The flow of people, goods, services and transport, for example, does not go in one direction only. In fact, there is a repeated and reciprocal circular movement across the urban-rural continuum that connects these areas and generates a synergy that is greater than the sum of the parts, and that contributes to functional, integrated territories and regions.

As methodologies and tools are developed by UN-Habitat and partners to adapt and apply the URL-GP in coming years, the conclusions for future application in this first Compendium of URL Case Studies are important. They address the complexity of dynamic urban-rural flows and the need for a systems approach. They underline the need for inclusive, participatory approaches and integration of actors and levels of governance. They call for the development of assessment tools to address challenges, opportunities, data needs and policy gaps. Finally, they point to URL-GP as pathway for balanced inclusion of both rural and urban actors in the effort to localize and implement the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the New Urban Agenda (NUA) through integrated territorial planning and development.

This publication is timely as UN-Habitat embarks on the implementation of its Strategic Plan 2020-2023. A second edition of the Compendium of Case Studies, expected in late autumn 2020, will compile experiences that have incorporated the Guiding Principles and Framework for Action.

I hope the cases in this first edition and in subsequent editions are useful tools and inspiration for Member States, professionals and actors interested in making Urban-Rural Linkages work for all.



Ms Maimunah Mohd Sharif
Under-Secretary-General United Nations
Executive Director UN-Habitat

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Table of Acronyms

DNP	National Planning Department
DnA	Design and Architecture Company
EDP	Enterprise Development Plan
EUSALP	EU Strategy for the Alpine Region
IDP	Integrated Development Plan
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
MLD	Ministry of Local Development
MPPW	Ministry of Physical Planning and Works
NUA	New Urban Agenda
NUP	National Urban Plan
NUPI	National Urban Planning Institute
PFET	Programme for Strengthening Rural Entities
PMDP	Participatory Municipal Development Planning
PPP	Public-Private Partnership
PVDP	Participatory Village Development Planning
RMPU	Regional and Metropolitan Planning Unit (of UN-Habitat)
RRA	Rapid Rural Appraisal
RUPP	Rural Urban Partnership Programme (Nepal)
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SGB	Settlement Growth Boundary
SUDP	Strategic Urban Development Plan
TDP	Tole Development Plan
TLO	Tole Lane Organisations
TSS	ToI Sudhar Samiti
UK	United Kingdom
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
URL-GP	Urban-Rural Linkages: Guiding Principles (URL-GP) and Framework for Action
URLs	Urban-rural linkages
USA	United States of America
VDC	Village Development Committee

Foreword

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As methodologies and tools are developed by UN-Habitat and partners to adapt and apply the URL-GP in coming years, the conclusions for their future application drawn in this first Compendium of URL Case Studies are important. They address the complexity of dynamic urban-rural flows and the need for a systems approach. They underline the need for inclusive, participatory approaches and integration of actors and levels of governance. They call for the development of assessment tools to address challenges, opportunities, data needs and policy gaps.

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Introduction

The **Urban-Rural Linkages: Guiding Principles (URL-GP) and Framework for Action** are the product of over a year of global consultation of over 130 stakeholders who engaged in a participatory consultation process, including face-to-face meetings and a drafting process convened by UN-Habitat that resulted in ten principles and eleven thematic entry points being identified and agreed upon. [Here](#) is the full text of the Guiding Principles and Framework for Action.

The ten Guiding Principles listed in the figure below include:

1. Locally grounded interventions; 2. Integrated governance; 3. Functional and spatial systems-based approaches; 4. Financially inclusive; 5. Balanced partnership; 6. Human rights-based; 7. Do no harm and provide social protection; 8. Environmentally sensitive; 9. Participatory engagement; and 10. Data-driven and evidence-based.



Figure 1 *Urban-Rural Linkages: Guiding Principles*

These Guiding Principles are intended to be applied to strategies, policies, programmes, implementation and monitoring. The various levels of government, from local to national, and the different sectoral perspectives through which urban-rural linkages may be approached and strengthened are divided into “thematic entry points” or ‘fields of action’. Each entry point has multiple possible interventions described in the URL-GP.

The eleven thematic entry points include:

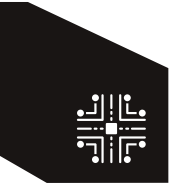
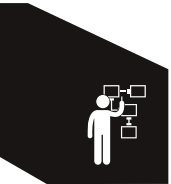
A. Governance, legislation and capacity development; B. Integrated planning across the urban-rural continuum; C. Investment and finance for inclusive urban-rural development; D. Empower people and communities; E. Knowledge/data management for dynamic spatial flows of people, products, services and information; F. Territorial economic development and employment; G. Coherent approaches to social service provision; H. Infrastructure, technology and communication systems; I. Integrated approaches for food security, nutrition, and public health; J. Environmental impact and natural resource and land management; and K. Conflict and disaster.

The goal of the Guiding Principles is to inform pragmatic strategies and propose a Framework for Action to build an enabling environment for more inclusive and functional urban-rural linkages. The fundamental premise of the URL-GP is that given an urbanising world and the many challenges it generates for both urban and

rural communities, the economic, social and environmental needs and opportunities for both urban and rural people require new approaches that transcend urban and rural divides to realise more inclusive and more equal treatment of the sustainable development of integrated urban and territorial development.

The following collection of **nine case studies** of urban-rural linkages demonstrates the application of both the URL-Guiding Principles and Framework for Action at national and subnational levels. All seven cases are from work undertaken prior to the development of the URL-GP. Yet all of them are examples of how specific principles and actions of the URL-GP can be found in current efforts to strengthen urban-rural linkages. Each case study is presented here in terms of the cultural and geographic **context**, the **approaches** taken to address urban-rural linkages, and the **impact** of specific policies and practices. A summary of the application of principles and actions from the URL-GP for each case study is followed by initial lessons for further implementation of the URL-GP in countries as UN-Habitat and its partners test and apply the principles and recommended actions.

Each case study represents a leading entry point from the Framework for Action. However, other principles and other actions are also found in each case study. The leading thematic entry points from the URL-GP Framework for Action for strengthening urban-rural linkages in cases reviewed here are:



- 1. Integrated Territorial Planning** - Botswana: Tlokweng Development Plan (2015-2039);
- 2. Integrated approaches to food security, nutrition and public health** - Tanzania: Towards mainstreaming urban agriculture into land use planning in Dar es Salaam City;
- 3. Infrastructure, technology and communication systems** - Ethiopia: Rural - Urban Transformation with the Aid of Road Infrastructure in Hawassa ;
- 4. Infrastructure, technology and communication systems** - Cameroon: Improving and tarring roads, cooperation between ministries and councils in Bamenda;
- 5. Investment and finance for inclusive urban-rural development** - Nepal: Rural-Urban Partnership programme;
- 6. Territorial economic development and employment** - Europe: RURBANCE (Rural Urban Governance) in Alpine space/ European transnational cooperation;
- 7. Conflict and disaster** - Palestine: Support to Palestinians at Risk of Displacement in the West Bank;
- 8. Governance, legislation and capacity development** – Colombia: “POT Modernos Programa” (Modern land use plans programme);
- 9. Participatory Engagement/ Territorial economic development and employment** – China: Rural Revitalisation through Architectural Acupuncture in Songyang county.

Summary of the application of Guiding principles and actions in each case study

The case of **Tlokweng, Botswana** focuses on the urban-rural fringe of a rapidly urbanizing district outside the city of Gaborone and the comparison of different growth models that seek to balance the preservation of cultural and environmental assets of the peri-urban and rural villages while taking advantage of the economic and social opportunities generated by urbanisation. Criteria for considering options included values of biodiversity and cultural heritage, health and food access and economic opportunity. The final Tlokweng Development Plan was the product of participatory community engagement in mapping complex urban-rural systems and integrates social, economic and environmental dimensions in a planning approach based on resilience to benefit of households, smallholder farmers and small settlements in the urban-rural fringe.

Although ***integrated territorial planning across the urban-rural continuum*** was the primary focus, other principles and actions of the URL-GP can also be seen at work including principles such as *Locally Grounded Interventions, Integrated governance, Financially Inclusive, and Environmentally Sensitive, Participatory Engagement*. Other fields of action addressed in the Tlokweng planning process include: *Investment and finance for inclusive urban-rural development, Territorial economic development and employment, Integrated approaches for food security, nutrition and public health, Environmental impact and natural resource and land management.*

In **Dar es Salaam, Tanzania**, the primary challenge was informal farming in relation to urbanisation with issues relating to health, environment, protecting land use. The URL-GP Framework for Action most applicable in this context is **Integrated approaches for food security, nutrition and public health**. Urban food production had been addressed somewhat in previous plans, but more recent planning processes brought a stronger legislated approach to planning and policies to protect land for farming with the impact of increased household incomes and new training programmes. Currently peri-urban land in the city of Dar es Salaam provides 90% of the vegetables consumed locally as well as milk and eggs.

Other principles of the URL-GP that the Dar es Salaam project addressed include: *Functional and spatial system-based approaches; Participatory engagement; and Do no harm and provide social protection*. Other Framework for Action provisions are also addressed, including: *Integrated Planning across the urban-rural continuum; Environmental impact and natural resource and land management; Conflict and disaster.*

The following two cases, from **Hawassa, Ethiopia** and **Bamenda, Cameroon** are focused on improvement of the transportation system linking urban and rural communities. The primary action from the URL-GP is therefore that of **Infrastructure, technology and communication systems**. In Hawassa a local planning process led to an appropriate road technology to enhance urban-rural connectivity using cobblestone construction with the impact of both increased mobility and employment. In Bamenda, the result of decentralised authority led to the use by local authorities of a rapid appraisal assessment to determine, with public consultation and input, which roads most required paving. In both cases sound transportation planning is a key to improved urban-rural linkages that benefit both urban and rural communities.

Additional principles from the URL-GP apply in both cases, including: *Locally grounded interventions; and Integrated governance. From the Framework for Action, other themes addressed include: Integrated Planning across the urban-rural continuum; Investment and finance across the urban-rural continuum; territorial economic development and employment; and Knowledge/data management for dynamic spatial flows of people, products, services, resources and information.*

Nepal developed its Rural Urban Partnership Programme over 20 years ago after coming to the conclusion that strengthening urban-rural linkages was critical to both urban and rural development challenges. Multiple ministries at the national level worked together with municipalities and rural market centers to address areas of improved governance, transportation, economic development and microfinance support for women's enterprises.

This programme is an early example of effective vertical integration across levels of governance, and horizontal integration of urban and rural communities. The process also brought village organisations into governance and planning processes to equalize urban and rural interests.

The primary thematic URL-GP focus of **investment and finance for territorial development** is related to principles of *Integrated governance, Balanced partnership, and Participatory engagement, as well as to themes from the Framework for Action, including: Integrated Planning across the urban-rural continuum; Empower people and communities; Territorial economic development and employment; Infrastructure, technology and communication systems; Integrated approaches for food security; nutrition and public health; Environmental impact, and natural resources and land management.*

The Rurbance Initiative from **Europe** is a 6-country cross jurisdictional programme linking rural and mountain communities with urban communities close to and dependent on the European Alps. This project brings rural and urban actors together as equal players to address multiple challenges in environmental, social and economic dimensions. Issues include landscape degradation; lack of water and soil quality; loss of biodiversity; territorial fragmentation; abandonment of the territory; intensive use of resources; social problems; and worsening of quality of life. Participatory processes of co-visioning, co-development and co-creation for balanced urban and rural territorial development brought forth a legislative framework for multiple levels of local, regional and national regulations.

This large and complex effort is focused on the URL-GP action area of **Territorial economic Development and employment**, but as with other cases, it addresses other principles and actions from the URL-GP. Relevant principles include: *Locally grounded interventions; Integrated governance; and Balanced partnership.* Framework for Action themes addressed include: *Governance, legislation and capacity development; Integrated Planning across the urban-rural continuum; Investment and finance across the urban-rural continuum Knowledge/data management for dynamic spatial flows of people, products, services, resources and information; Territorial economic development and employment; and Infrastructure, technology and communication systems.*

In the West Bank, Palestine the development of city-region plans is set in a context of the thematic action of **Conflict and Disaster**, due to protracted political and socio-economic stress in the areas of Israeli controlled Palestine that drives rapid urbanisation and poor services, infrastructure and economic opportunity. City-Region plans developed through a strong participatory process have led to a vision and strategy to link rural Palestinian villages to urban areas across subdistricts (governorates). Linking urban and rural through corridors of development with distribution of public social services is a strategy that has the potential to provide platforms for partnerships with the private sector, international organisations and levels of government support.

Many principles of the URL-GP are addressed in this work besides the theme of conflict and disaster, including: *Locally grounded interventions; Integrated governance; Functional and spatial systems-based approaches; Human rights based; Do no harm*

and provide social protection; Environmentally sensitive; Participatory engagement; and Balanced partnership. Also from the Framework for Action, many of the provisions can be found in this case including: *Governance, legislation and capacity development; Integrated Planning across the urban,-rural continuum; Investment and finance across the urban-rural continuum; Empower people and communities; Territorial economic development and employment; Territorial economic development and employment; Coherent approaches to social service provision; and Environmental impact, and natural resources and land management.*

The Programme POT Modernos (Modern Land Use plans) was designed to provide municipal and departmental administrations, as well as professionals assisting in the formulation of such plans, with technical tools. These tools are based on functional linkages between urban and rural areas, for the formulation, updating and implementation of a new generation of land use plans. The formulation of this new generation of land use plans sought to address the historical gap in the development of rural areas, whereby some 37.6% of the population has lived in a state of poverty.


The Programme POT Modernos exemplifies a national institutional action to create an enabling environment for a joint urban-rural development process through **Governance, legislation and capacity development.** The tools, namely the “Kit de Ordenamiento Territorial” (Kit for Land-Use Planning), developed as part of the Programme POT Modernos, is a learning and management system to develop the capacities of territorial entities across different levels of government to strengthen urban-rural linkages. The kit also incorporated new criteria and approaches for the formulation of integrated land use plans,

such as urban-rural linkages, the concept of continuity of the territory, and the need for territorial governance. Other URL-GPs that the Programme POT Modernos of Colombia addressed include the principles of: *Integrated planning across the urban-rural continuum and Environmentally Sensitive*. Other Framework for Action provisions are also addressed, including: *Coherent approaches to social service provision and Environmental impact, and natural resources and land management*.

The county of **Songyang**, in the southwest province of Zhejiang in **China**, is mostly rural with an agricultural landscape. Due to the lack of employment opportunities and economic decline, many youth migrated from villages, “hollowing” the villages and increasing median age of village population. In 2014, the Songyang acupuncture strategy was implemented to motivate local communities and stimulate further revitalisation and business ideas in the region. By applying architectural acupuncture to this area, the projects aimed to activate the circulation between villages and among regions.

This strategy fostered the participation and engagement of people living in the villages at all stages, starting with the initial discussions and plans through to the construction of the selected interventions. Thus, this successful case of rural revitalisation specifically highlights the importance of two URL-GPs: **Participatory engagement** and **Balanced partnerships**, given the close collaboration between governmental authorities, private sector and local communities. Other URL-GPs illustrated in this case study include: *Functional and spatial systems-based approaches; and Financially Inclusive, Do no harm and provide social protection*. Framework for Action themes addressed include **Territorial economic development and employment**.

The Songyang “acupuncture” approach to restore rural vitality provides evidence that when dialogue is promoted to identify culturally appropriate solutions, it generates better labour conditions that strengthen urban-rural linkages.



Sample case
studies

1

INTEGRATED TERRITORIAL PLANNING: BOTSWANA

“Tlokweng Development Plan (2015-2039)”

Author: *Branko Cavric;*

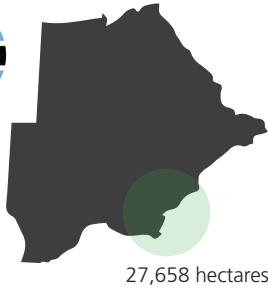
*University of Botswana,
Department of
Architecture & Planning;
Department of
Architecture & Planning,
Faculty of Engineering &
Technology*



Context

Since independence in 1966 and development of diamond mining Botswana has managed to achieve one of the highest levels of economic and urban growth in the region. Today more than 55% of the country's population lives in urban areas. Extensive political and economic transitions have replaced extreme poverty with a better quality of life, especially in Botswana's capital. Gaborone and its rural-urban fringe referred to as the Greater Gaborone Region, is one of the fastest growing cities in Africa. Since the first master plan was prepared based on a garden city model in 1963, the city has been growing over a large area with a low density, reaching a population of approximately 250,000 living on an area of nearly 200 km² today. The lack of densification and the average annual population growth during the last five decades of about 8% led to urban sprawl. Uncontrolled leapfrog expansion and an overspill of Gaborone to neighbouring jurisdiction of Tlokweng, situated in the South East District and bordered to the west by Gaborone City. Administratively, Tlokweng serves as the headquarters of the Tlokweng Sub-district Council, the Batlokwa Tribal Authority and the Tlokweng Land Board. In accordance with the provisions of the Town and Country Planning Act of 1977, (amended in 2013) Tlokweng was declared a planning area in 1984. The Tlokweng Planning Area covers a total of 27,658 hectares of which only 7.6% constitute built-up areas.

Due to its 'dormitory city' nature, the current situation in Tlokweng planning area is full of contrasts. Ordinary people and officials complain about extensive development and its environmental impacts, particularly the loss of habitat, green space and agricultural land. However, at the same time both parties realise advantages and



27,658 hectares



250,000 people



Density: 200 km²



55% Lives in town



In 1984 declared as a planning area



7.6% constitute built-up areas



Habitat



Green space



Agricultural Land



Challenges

gains from expected changes of land use, property transactions and increased values of the formerly natural enclaves.

Like other peri-urban settlements in Botswana- variously referred to as 'major villages' 'agro-towns' and more recently, 'urban villages', Tlokweng is a hybrid settlement that originated as a traditional settlement that over the years has metamorphosed and modernized in terms of size, morphology and economic structures. The general morphology, architectural mix, policy intervention processes and the resultant physical configuration within this settlement bears testimony to the hybrid nature of the settlement.

According to Banniasad (2011), "the village, in its visible form, in its parts and as a whole has been a source of identity and an evidence of common culture and values. The centrality of the Kgotla, the intimacy of the households, the openness of the house lots, and the pristine quality of the fields all have been behind the charm of villages, as well as the sense of pride of their residents. It should be possible for new opportunities with 'urbanisation', developments and investment, to enhance these qualities and not diminish them."

This growth of Tlokweng can be attributed to a number of factors, which include the dormitory status that settlement plays in relation to Gaborone. Tlokweng provides accommodation for the working population of Gaborone. In addition, commercial and industrial activities have decided to locate their activities in Tlokweng for various reasons. These include the availability of land and lower land rental prices when compared to neighbouring Gaborone.

Approach

Due to the spatial, economic and cultural tensions between preservation and development, the planning of Tlokweng like in other Greater Gaborone Region peri-urban settlements presents major challenges. Drawing on the literature on urbanisation in the global South and principles of the New Urban Agenda (2016), it was considered better to pursue incremental and resilient planning as a more appropriate development model for the Tlokweng planning area.

Following extensive situational analysis, the characteristics and dynamics of physical, social, economic and bio-physical environments of Tlokweng territory were better understood. For planning and development purposes the inherent development opportunities and constraints to development needed to be understood.

As part of the process of determining and evaluating where to find the required land and to rationally accommodate the anticipated growth, three spatial growth options/scenarios were generated as follows:

Option A - Resilient Growth Development;

Option B - Compact Development;

Option C - Outward Growth/Sprawling Development.

These three alternative spatial growth options were then evaluated using multiple criteria GIS analysis against a set of performance criteria, which have been largely derived from the spatial development objectives articulated by this plan. These are:

- The degree to which each option can accommodate the projected population and households, as well as land use activities in terms of land requirements, during the Plan period;
- The degree to which each option represents logical and rational expansion of the settlement;
- The degree to which each option achieves compactness of the settlement and promotes resilience in the way it functions;
- The degree to which each option protects and conserves natural resources, and the degree to which agricultural land is preserved, as well as limits outward expansion;
- The degree to which each option achieves spatial integration within the Planning Area (related to more efficient transport networks, and more efficient provision of infrastructure services);

- The degree to which each option satisfies community wishes and aspirations;
- The degree of ease in implementing each option in terms of practicability and costs; and
- The degree to which each spatial option achieves the overall goal and objectives of the Plan.

Following evaluation of the three alternative spatial options, which amongst other things highlighted the advantages and disadvantages of each option, it emerged that Option A (Resilient Growth Development) scored the highest and has the most advantages. This option has been adopted as the preferred spatial growth option, the option on which the future growth and development of Tlokweng will be predicated during the timeframe of the Plan.

Impact

The new Plan focuses on presenting the proposals, strategies and policies for the orderly growth and development of Tlokweng Planning Area until the year 2025. These include proposed land use zones for the planning area, together with guidelines for development of zones; delineation of a Settlement Growth Boundary (SGB) for Tlokweng settlement, beyond which development would not be encouraged.

The plan also contains proposals for recommended specific zones within the SGB such as, intensification/densification zones, low density zones, compaction zones, activity corridors, activity nodes, specialized development and economic zones and urban agriculture zones, amongst others to be developed. The plan also makes proposals for the provision of social and community facilities;

the provision of infrastructure services; as well as proposals for the inducement of economic growth in the Planning Area and the improvement of the image and character of Tlokweng. The plan concludes by providing implementation strategies and guidelines, including a monitoring programme and tools for the implementation of the Plan.

In summary, impacts of the plan will provide the community with an opportunity to reassess how it utilises this geographic advantage with a view to boosting the local economic base and thereby attracting manufacturing, retail and commercial activities and create the much-needed jobs for the community.

The economic environment of the sub-district is expected to become more vibrant in the future, given that the Government has recently injected sufficient capital to upgrade the local roads and other infrastructure. Population growth in the sub-district is rapid, and as increasing numbers of people move to Tlokweng, using it as a dormitory centre, this will undoubtedly boost the local economic market base.

This is expected to create situations where spatial, economic and environmental growth will merge into a conducive framework that will benefit current and the future generations.

2

INTEGRATED APPROACHES TO FOOD SECURITY, NUTRITION AND PUBLIC HEALTH: TANZANIA

“Towards mainstreaming urban agriculture into land use planning in Dar es Salaam City;”

*UN-Habitat: UN-Habitat-
Urban Patterns for a Green
Economy – Working with
Nature: pp33-36*



Context

Following droughts in the 70s and 80s, Tanzania has pursued a “cultivate or perish” approach to food supply in urban and rural areas. Food security became a focus area, especially regarding the disruptive force of natural disasters. Urban agriculture has been recognised as important on national and policy level – in urban areas, government favours urban farming that allows households to be self-sufficient and mitigates effects of droughts in rural food producing areas.

An additional factor is the rapid urbanisation and growth of cities, increasing the demand for food. While population growth in Tanzania was 3%, in Dar es Salaam it was even 5% (2005-2010). The main challenge regarding growth and urbanisation is to guide and regulate the largely informal farming activities to avoid health and environmental consequences to dwellers and green spaces, rivers, but also to guarantee the capacity to use land.

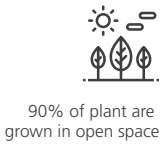
Approach

A key strategy is the formalisation and promotion of urban farming by recognising its importance and implementing it within the scope of a Strategic Urban Development Plan (land use, development guidelines, etc.). Urban agriculture was already recognised as a potential land use in the 1979 Master Plan for Dar es Salaam, but ineffectual and not regarded as relevant in flood prone areas, fragile areas, or areas where there are conflict with housing.

Today 90% of Dar es Salaam’s vegetables are grown in open spaces and home gardens, some generating household income.



Dar es Salaam



Challenges



Informal farming



Rivers



Environment



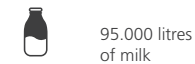
Green space



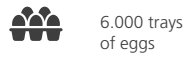
Health



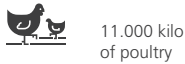
Impact



95,000 litres of milk



6,000 trays of eggs



11,000 kilo of poultry

All stakeholders in government and civil society recognised the relevance of urban agriculture which was officially included in the Strategic Urban Development Plan (SUDP, 1992). This plan designates special land zones for different types of agriculture, provides development guidelines, and assigns areas for urban agriculture for the future. The 2030 Master Plan (built on the SUDP) encourages the designation of areas (plots) in each municipality of 0.8-1.6 hectares for residential use. Additionally, urban vegetable promotion projects were undertaken. Training and support for vegetable and horticultural groups to carry out farming activities in open spaces and along roadside reserves helped facilitate income generation opportunities and temporarily protect such areas from invasion and dumping of waste.

Impact

Results were varied, including protection of open spaces through farming instead of informal housing or waste deposits. Living conditions improved and incomes increased in Dar es Salaam. Daily production rose to 95,000 litres of milk, 6,000 trays of eggs and 11,000 kg of poultry. Urban farming is the second largest employer (2000), engaging about 7% of Dar es Salaam’s population, and positive impacts on air quality (health) and the aesthetics of the city were noted. A follow-up programme was designed to address municipal strategies of urban agriculture in the three districts of Dar es Salaam. Policies include the National Agricultural Policy 2010 and the National Human Settlements Development Policy 2000).

3

INFRASTRUCTURE, TECHNOLOGY AND COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS: ETHIOPIA

“Rural - Urban Transformation with the Aid of Road Infrastructure in Hawassa”

*Author: UN-Habitat,
RMPU*

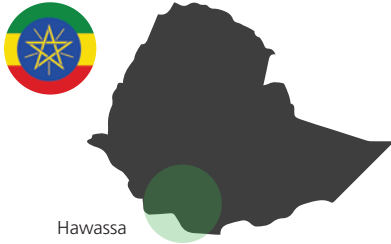


Context

Hawassa enjoys a long history. In 1961, 404 pensioned soldiers and their families were provided with a plot of land to settle in the eastern part of the town. This is believed to have given an impetus to the growth and development of the town. The city serves as the capital of the Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples Regions. Due to its lakeshore, Hawassa is one of the tourist destinations in the country promoted by the hospitality industry. The population has been growing rapidly from 70,000 in the 1990s to approximately 300,000 in 2015. The rapid growth has also brought urban problems and opportunities to Hawassa.

The first master plan of Hawassa was prepared by the Municipalities Department of the then Ministry of Interior, which served in guiding the development of the town until 1988 when another master plan was prepared by the National Urban Planning Institute (NUPI) in 1994. The present plan which is the Integrated Development Plan (IDP) was prepared by the Federal Urban Planning Institute in 2006.

The Ethiopian government has adopted a strong stance on eradicating poverty all over the nation by embracing a range of development actions. The urbanisation level of 19% in 2015 highlighted that economic development was dependent on the degree of interaction between urban and rural areas. Labour, food and raw materials are sourced from rural areas, while special health systems, education and other key services are available in urban areas. To achieve development objectives, the flows of goods, information, money and people had to be strengthened.



Hawassa



1988:
First
Master Plan
by Ministry
of Interior.

1994:
Prepared by
National
Urban
Planning
Institute
(NUPI)

2006:
Integrated
Development
Plan



Impact



19% in 2015



20km of
asphalt level



1000 public vehicles
in 2013



\$700 million
of Investment



18,000 people
with better mobility

Very poor road networks and public transportation systems were major issues. This affected urban-rural interactions significantly, but as the municipal government was aware of this, it stressed the need for improved road networks and an efficient public transportation system.

Approach

Hawassa found a way to improve urban-rural linkages through the transformation of public transportation services and road infrastructure to create connectivity between urban and rural areas, with the help of communications and transportation. Past studies showed the lack of public vehicles linking major cities and therefore also the rural areas and intermediary towns did not have access to proper services and were not well-connected.

To improve road networks, a cheap and innovative approach was used. Cobblestones were chosen as they are cheap and require little future maintenance. At the same time, employment opportunities were created in the process. In recent years, cobblestone road construction has become one of the most successful infrastructure programmes in the country. As of 2015, Hawassa has upgraded 20km of gravel road to asphalt level and has also constructed about 50km of cobblestones which will greatly improve road infrastructure and urban-rural linkages. With investments around \$700 million in infrastructure, the connectivity between urban and rural areas are being greatly improved. Aside from the smaller stretches of road a 202km expressway is in planning to connect Addis-Ababa and Adama and all locations in between. Road connectivity is hoped to improve trade and the flow of goods, money and people. There are also plans to start international connections through a 300km asphalt road connecting Ethiopia via the border town of Moyale to Kenya. This should provide swift access to border areas and boost productivity, trade and relationships between the two countries.

Hawassa has also shown remarkable commitment to improving the public transport situation. According to a survey in 2013, just one-way daily movement from Hawassa to different destinations around the country has risen to more than 1000 public vehicles of all categories, mini, midi and maxi busses, connecting Hawassa and the population to major cities across the nation. This improvement provides approximately 18,000 people with better mobility daily and allows flows of goods and services and greatly improved access to services that both urban and rural areas are providing the population.

Impact

Hawassa's innovative means of improving urban-rural linkages have led to improved road connections, improved urban-rural relationships, traffic time reduction and job creation. With a population of 300,000 people, having accessible roads is vital to its economic development.

Hawassa recognised the potential of an efficient transport system and good road infrastructure to improve urban and rural areas. Many developing cities are not financially capable of providing the necessary infrastructure, yet Hawassa did invest in innovative and cost-effective ways to improve its transportation system. There has been a steady growth in the exchange of information, capital, values, work, education and medical care between rural and urban areas. Many people spend several hours a day travelling to and from their place of work or education. This need for mobility, which is often the result of economic forces, increases the demand for transport links between the city and the countryside.

Transportation is vital to improving urban-rural linkages, especially in a country such as Ethiopia where 80% of its population still lives in rural areas. The Ethiopian government and the Hawassa administration have shown great commitments to strengthen linkages as seen in investments and development of public transportation.

As described above, urban-rural linkages in Ethiopia are characterised by the flow of people, information, goods, services and capital. This requires transportation. Over the past few years, Ethiopia has been experiencing high levels of road connectivity. According to the World Bank, 70% of roads in Ethiopia are in good or fair condition. Traffic times in Hawassa have been reduced due to improved roads. This expedites the movement of people, goods & services, while improving the process of urbanisation. Hawassa has set a solid foundation in transportation and mobility for future development.

4

INTER -MUNICIPAL COOPERATION TO IMPROVE ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE IN BAMENDA: CAMEROON

*Mokom Njang:
Public Relations
and International
Cooperation Officer-
Bamenda city*



Context

A well-developed road network is one of the main determinants of economic growth for any city, as the saying goes “where a road passes, development follows”. A relatively slow level of growth and development in Cameroon and its cities has been blamed on poor transport infrastructure, especially roads, which constitute over 90% of the transportation infrastructure in the country.

Bamenda City in the North West Region is a primary city, a commercial hub and a connecting town to two other Regions and six divisions within the Region. Roads are the only means of transport that serve this city of over 600.000 inhabitants. The few kilometers of paved roads within the city were built in the 1980s and have outlived their intended life span and therefore are in advanced state of disrepair. Significant transport challenges exist between urban and rural areas where dirt roads provide the main transport linkages (these roads become very dusty in the dry season and muddy, with giant potholes, in the rainy season). Added to this is the rapidly growing population associated with the emergence of suburbs and sprawling settlements that need good roads.

The central government is too overwhelmed to address the situation of roads within the country. Having begun to implement a policy of decentralisation from the 1970s, the central government has empowered cities and councils to take the responsibility for some roads within their municipalities. On this basis, the Bamenda City Council has moved from maintaining dirt roads to paving roads since 2014. It embarked on a Tri-annual contract between the city council and the divisional councils which aimed at paving several kilometers of road within each of the three sub-divisional councils (Bamenda



Bamenda



600.000 inhabitants



Phase 1

12km of roads in 2015



Phase 2

36km in Nov 2016 at \$3.5 million



Challenges



Roads connectivity

I, II and III Sub councils) that make up the Bamenda City Council. However, major challenges remain, including the mobilisation of sufficient financial resources and the identification of competent local companies to achieve quality work in line with basic standards.

Approach

The project started with the identification of roads within the competence of the City Council to be rehabilitated or paved, using the Rapid Rural Appraisal, a multidisciplinary approach using short, structured interview techniques aimed at gaining knowledge from key informants such as individuals or households. A rapid appraisal was necessary because in Cameroon, roads are classified and different ministries have specific competence. The project started with the identification of roads within the area under the management of the City Council that needed to be rehabilitated or paved. This was done using the Rapid Rural Appraisal (RRA) methodology, a multidisciplinary approach using short, structured interviews with key informants and a range of stakeholders (such as individuals and households) in order to inform the selection of roads. A rapid appraisal was necessary in Cameroon, given that roads are classified, and different ministries have specific competences to manage them. National roads within towns and cities are under the authority of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development, national roads between cities are governed by the Ministry of Public Works manages intercity and national roads.

Within the present dispensation, the Bamenda City Council is engaged in paving some urban and feeder roads within the sub divisional councils of the City based on needs determined in the RRA. So far about \$1.2 million has been spent on financing this initiative, drawn solely from municipal budgets. Phase one of the initiative was implemented in 2015, covering a total of 12km in the three sub divisional councils. These roads are important arteries that strengthen urban-rural connectivity and are heavily used. They are strongly affected by congestion and potholes and therefore have been deemed important for the first phase. The second phase of the initiative started in November 2016, with 36km of roads targeted for renovation at an estimated cost of \$3.5 million.

Impact

The tri-annual programme has been of great importance to both those living in urban and rural areas. Specifically, the recurrent traffic congestion, especially on the stretch of road between some major entry and exit junctions to the City, has greatly reduced. Neighbourhoods which formally were relatively inaccessible are now accessible. City transporters and suppliers of peripheral areas have experienced key improvements, particularly quicker, cheaper and more efficient movement of goods, services and people.

In order to meet the pace of urban spatial expansion, the number of feeder roads has increased as well as the kilometers of paved roads. New construction is occurring along newly paved roads, as houses and land value in these areas have risen considerably. Business and marketing opportunities for small-scale businesspeople have emerged along these roads, especially at road intersections. It is therefore recommended that street vendors be integrated into town planning.

It is anticipated that as the project continues, traffic congestion will be reduced greatly at the most critical points of the city. All neighbourhoods will be accessible and well-connected, with better linkages to peripheral and other councils that have interdependent relations with Bamenda City. The roads systems will also make the removal of rubbish and waste in general from the city to the different dump sites much simpler.

The City Council has linked this this initiative to its master land use plan in order to encourage a continuous increase in accessibility and linking spaces within the city, with the neighbouring sub-divisions, divisions and strengthening connections with adjacent regions. The success of this initiative is largely dependent on proper follow-up and allocation of financial resources by the City Council and state parties such as the ministries of Housing and Urban Development and Public Works.

5

INVESTMENT AND FINANCE FOR INCLUSIVE URBAN-RURAL DEVELOPMENT: NEPAL

“Rural-Urban Partnership programme”

Author: *Ajay Chandra Lal. : Asst. Prof and Programme Coordinator, MSc Urban Planning, Department of Architecture, Pulchowk Campus, IOE, Tribhuvan University*



Context

Nepal's mountainous terrain is well known to hinder the movement of people and goods, often cutting off rural populations from participating in urban markets. Of the total land area in Nepal, over 80% is covered by mountains and hills. This prevents people in rural areas from engaging in the regional and national economy of Nepal, contributing significantly to widespread poverty and underdevelopment. The various views that have dominated development rationale in the past 50 years in Nepal have generally treated urban and rural areas as separate entities. This does not correlate with the realistic situation at hand as there are many linkages between urban and rural areas. While Nepal is one of the ten least urbanized countries in the world, it is still one of the top ten fastest urbanising countries. In 2014, the level of urbanisation was 18.2%, with a population of some 5,130,000, living in urban areas and according to the 2011 census, the urban growth rate is 3.4%. Most of this urban growth occurs in the Kathmandu valley which results in an uneven distribution of the urban population. After the federal constitution was put in place in 2015, the State was restructured and divided into 7 provinces and 753 local governments. Accordingly, 293 settlements have been designated as municipalities, encompassing about 68% of population in 2018.

Before 1997, Nepal did not have a major programme focused on fostering urban-rural linkages. However, the introduction of the Rural Urban Partnership Programme (RUPP) transformed rural-urban linkages in the country. With the challenge of rising urbanisation and the continuous stark levels of poverty in urban and rural areas, there was a need for a comprehensive and inclusive development plan that linked urban and rural development.



5,130,000 people in 2011
Urban Growth rate is 3.4%



77% is covered by mountains



18.2%, level of urbanization In 2014,



Impact



7,000 people trained



31,000 enterprises started



Awareness on HIV/AIDS



640 projects benefited 85,000 households

From this, the idea of the Rural-Urban Partnership Programme was born.

The objective of the Rural Urban Partnership Programme of 1997 was the strengthening of good urban governance and local economies by taking advantage of improved rural-urban linkages. The programme started as a joint effort of his Majesty's government, the National Planning Commission, the Ministry of Physical Planning and Works (MPPW), the Ministry of Local Development (MLD) and UNDP. With UNDP funding, the RUPP quickly became the leading initiative for integrating urban-rural development in the country. In the context of Nepal's increasing urbanisation, the principal objective of the RUPP has been to enhance the integration of both urban and rural areas. The entire initiative is based on the premise that urban and rural development should not be addressed in isolation of each other but rather approached together, from the local level and using multi-sectoral strategies.

The RUPP has assisted municipalities and their associated rural market centers to promote and expand urban-rural linkages as a major strategy of poverty alleviation. The programme has worked directly with urban and rural communities and market centers providing community mobilisation, enterprise development and micro-finance to improve sustainable livelihoods. RUPP emphasises that rural areas need to be linked to market centres if they are to experience poverty reduction and economic development.

Practical actions to improve urban – rural linkages have included training community mobilisers, market centre facilitators and the creation of Toile Lane Organisations (TLOs), which refers to the process of organising villages and urban communities into TLOs, creating new market centres, funding small-scale infrastructure projects and ensuring the transparency of public actions. TLOs are brought together into Village Development Committees (VDCs); mainly women have been given opportunity to take up leadership positions in the VDCs. TLOs allow better representation of these communities to higher level discussions. They also coordinate training events, assist in identifying sources of financing and in the start-up of new enterprises. They also broadcast daily agricultural price information to support low-income enterprises to get fair prices. TLOs have been registered with VDCs and municipal councils and participated in local level planning and project identification exercises.

According to a number of observers (e.g. Munankami 2003a, 2003b; Momen 2006, 2009; UNESCAP 2005), practical actions taken to improve urban-rural linkages in these contexts include the following:

- Training 5-7 community mobilisers for each of the initial 12 municipalities;
- Training 1 market centre facilitator for each Rural Market Centre;
- Organising villages and municipalities into TLOs;
- Creating a system of TLOs and village representation at the municipal level;
- Providing micro-credit for village enterprises via the TLO enterprise development plan (EDP);
- Creating new market centres with spaces reserved for people who live in villages;
- Funding small-scale infrastructure according to VDC priorities (Tola Development-TDP), including improved sanitation, school buses, bridges to main roads, small irrigation, market information centre, etc.
- Providing greater transparency of public actions through open access e-governance.

Impacts

Up to now, key impacts have included:

- More than 7,000 people have benefitted from training programmes, more than half of whom are women
- More than 31,000 enterprises have been established;
- Enterprises ran by underprivileged castes have become a major tool for attempts to attenuate inter-caste inequality in Nepal;
- More than 4,000 people have been trained in participatory municipal development planning (PMDP) and participatory village development planning (PVDP);
- Every household has been made aware of livelihood options and access to credit in relation to HIV/AIDS;
- Improvements in health related to new environmental infrastructure have been observed;

- About 640 projects, ranging from the construction of link roads and bridges to urban environment improvements and school construction has benefitted more than 85,000 households.

Furthermore, UNDP played a vital role in connecting partners and achieving cross-jurisdictional cooperation has been achieved. By implementing this social mobilisation strategy effective steps were also taken towards achieving some of the MDGs, including halving extreme poverty and hunger, promoting gender equality and women empowerment.

The RUPP has proved to be the most successful bottom up approach in Nepal. It has encouraged and trained grassroots communities and local leadership, inviting them to join in the economic development of their communities and country as a whole. Lives were changed and jobs were created through this programme. Therefore, changing the fortunes of a society does not require a complex approach, but a simple yet effective one, as this example from Nepal has shown.

In spite of the new governance system, TLOs are still functioning in some of the municipalities. RUPP was replicated in some of the new municipalities without any external support and implemented by local authorities. Local versions of TLOs evolved in the form of Tol Sudhar Samiti (TSS) in Kathmandu and other big cities. These take responsibility for community level infrastructure development, management and even tariff collection.

The restructuring of the state in 2017 has extended the boundaries of the municipality, bringing the surrounding rural areas under municipal jurisdiction. The RUPP is again emerging as a major strategy to enhance linkages between the core and the periphery, and to achieve poverty reduction in line with the goal 'Leave No None Behind'.



6

TERRITORIAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND EMPLOYMENT: EUROPE

“RURBANCE (Rural Urban Governance) in Alpine space/ European transnational cooperation”

<http://www.alpine-space.org/2007-2013/projects/projects/detail/RURBANCE/show/index.html#partnership>

Context

In the transnational Alpine space, including parts of six European countries that are part of this area, urban areas and the neighboring rural regions face a number of problems and challenges, including: landscape degradation; lack of water and soil quality; loss of biodiversity; territorial fragmentation; abandonment of territories; intensive use of resources; social problems; and a worsening quality of life.

Rurbance developed cooperative and integrated governance models for the implementation of joint development strategies that induce territorial requalification processes in order to give back value to the economic, social, environmental and cultural heritage that constitutes the identity of the territories as a whole. As a result, rural/mountain and urban communities become «equal players» in an inclusive decision-making process.

A balanced model of development had to be found for these territories, combining the development trajectory of the metropolitan areas with the natural attractiveness and know-how in the nearby rural and mountain territories. This concept posed the following questions:

- How should a common territorial development vision be conceived where all the territories are creators of value (economic, social, cultural, environmental)?
- How can economic co-development be created by balancing the functional relationship among territories, by preserving natural resources and by encouraging efficient and sustainable forms of mobility?

- How can public and private stakeholders be brought together to support a model of co-development at a territorial level?
- Identifying pilot that illustrate 'interface' situations (the so-called "rurban" territories);
- Supporting projects and territorial strategies based on public-private cooperation;
- Producing a set of governance models to be integrated into regional, national and transnational strategies using a range of approaches, such as: participatory planning; integrated planning; twinning sessions to exchange ideas and experiences; bottom-up decision making; public incentives to the private sector; and development discussion tables.

Moreover, Rurbance is part of the macro regional strategy "EUSALP" – the EU Strategy for the Alpine Region. Rurbance aims to highlight the fundamental role that rural-urban co-operation can play in the construction and strengthening of a macro-regional strategy for the Alpine Space. Rural-urban co-operation has been neglected for many years given the lack of a vision of balanced territorial development.

Approach

The Project focused on the public policies that sought to tackle the relationship between rural and urban areas. The ultimate objective of the partners involved was to lay the foundation for a new inclusive strategy, able to raise sectoral policies to a new development approach to encourage more competitive, balanced and successful territories. This included:

- Reinforcing and re-orienting existing governance models (creating new ones where needed) towards a cooperative approach for the formulation and implementation of cross-sectoral policies;
- Establishing a joint decision-making and joint design process for the planning tools and socio-economic measures that are needed for decision-making at regional and local level;
- Designing an integrated territorial vision;
- Refocusing plans, programmes or projects for local development towards an integrated approach;
- Giving inputs to European, national and regional bodies for the improved better use of development and cohesion funds;

The project-partners aimed to strengthen governance by fostering multi-level governance models, which respond to the need for innovation in public administration and its way of interfacing with local actors, for example through: application of partnership and multi-level governance; support for capacity building and improvement of governance interactions; delivery of concrete impacts on policy making processes and follow-up actions; contribution to integrated territorial development; coordination of, and maximising synergies with other national, regional and EU programmes and initiatives.

The work started with data collection from which a concept of 'Territorial Systems' was identified (an area that includes a core urban centre and the rural areas linked to it). The identification of the territorial system resulted in eight sets of maps and descriptions of the wide area of interest for the project partners in their countries. The territorial systems were a starting point for the development of a framework of public policies that in those areas regulate rural-urban relationships (laws, programmes and projects).

The legislative framework offered a snapshot of the various forms that the regulations of rural-urban linkages take in the different countries and regions.

Impacts

- identification and mutual recognition of the players and their roles
- identification of the potential synergy between urban and rural areas
- collective involvement in policy-making
- creation and sharing of a common sustainable, long-lasting and inclusive development scenario
- definition of development measures capable of combining territorial needs and optimising the respective environmental, economic, social and cultural contribution
- co-planning of actions and strategies for implementation of the shared scenario
- structuring of multi-level governance models suitable for making and implementing integrated policies

The following impacts of the Rurbance initiative have been identified:

- identification and mutual recognition of the key stakeholders and their roles;
- identification of the potential synergies between urban and rural areas;
- community involvement in policymaking;
- creation and sharing of a common sustainable, long-lasting and inclusive development scenario;
- definition of development measures capable of combining territorial needs and optimising the respective environmental, economic, social and cultural contribution;

- and construction of multi-level governance models appropriate for making and implementing integrated policies.

The partners helped local players to define pilot actions aimed at implementing the integrated approach developed with the project and lay the foundations for reorienting future territorial development policies. It was demonstrated how, by combining the interests and development objectives of the city and the rural areas, a different vision of the territory can be created, which is able to generate economic, environmental and social value from the mutual recognition and integration of the needs and potential of different areas. The pilot actions implemented in the Rurbance project essentially endeavoured to use an integrated approach to reorient the following three types of policy.

1. Food and rural development policies:

Farmers and the associations that represent them were involved in Milan, Grenoble, Ljubljana and Allgäu to share in the process of creating a food policy able to meet the needs of the city by promoting local rural development.

- ### 2. Sustainable mobility policies:
- Local mobility players (e.g. public transport in Graz, Zurich, Grenoble) collaborated to projects grounded on the belief that the urban-rural relationship becomes much more balanced the more we make use of services conceived to promote real connections between the areas.

- ### 3. Inter-municipal cooperation and territorial planning:
- In Piedmont, Veneto and Ljubljana the partners developed inter-municipal cooperation methods that rely on regional planning, crossing administrative boundaries.

The project helped actors in the urban-rural metropolitan areas of Grenoble, Turin, Milan, Verona, Munich, Zurich, Graz and Ljubljana to structure their development plans and to define common objectives which can be pursued with

a mix of design and financial tools: development measures and new governance models laying the foundations for the reorientation and integration of sectoral policies (environmental, rural, urban, transport, tourism and social).

7

CONFLICT AND DISASTER: PALESTINE

“Support to Palestinians at Risk of Displacement in the West Bank”

Author: Ahmad El-Atrash,
PhD, Senior National
Urban Programme Officer
| United Nations Human
Settlements Programme
(UN-Habitat)



Context

The main Palestinian cities and communities are growing exponentially while reeling under immense pressures on environmental, socio-economic, and political fronts. At present, almost 77 percent of the population in Palestine is considered urban, living in 40 percent of the territory (Areas A and B) that is effectively under direct Palestinian jurisdiction, while the remaining are living under full Israeli control in Area C – predominantly in the rural hinterlands. The high urban growth rate is accompanied by random spatial development, as cities and communities have expanded haphazardly, encroaching on surrounding agricultural land, and suffering from poor infrastructure. In these communities, there is an increasing demand for job opportunities, services and housing.

The overall project was designed to support Palestinians in Area C of the West Bank and defend their building and planning rights and support Palestinian advocacy against forced evictions and the home demolition crisis. More than 12,500 demolition orders are pending as a result of the restrictive planning regime in place due to the Israeli military occupation. The process includes several innovative planning options and tools have been introduced including statutory and complimentary non-statutory planning tools including local outline plans, placemaking projects, and city-region plans.

The **city-region** plans use a participatory approach to put together a vision with strategic objectives for 2022 and 2030 at the governorate level (territorial administrative districts under the Palestinian Authority). In these plans, there is a special focus on the spatial integration of Palestinian villages in Area C with the nearby Palestinian cities and towns in Areas A and B.



77 % is considered urban

40 % of the territory (Areas A and B)



Impact



391,000 Palestinians target



450 local and national stakeholders involved in the plan-making process



National Spatial Plan (2050) & the National Policy Agenda (2017-2022)

Approach

The City-Region Plans initiative is a collaborative effort between the Ministry of Local Government, the Governors' Offices in Bethlehem, Tubas and North Jordan Valley, Qalqilya, Jerusalem, Ramallah and al-Bireh, Hebron and UN-Habitat Palestine.

The city-region plans offer a panoply of options for future spatial development based on the carrying capacity of the Palestinian territory in terms of land available (mainly open spaces) and land suitable for cultivation (based on environmental parameters). This means that the city-region plans will help in the protection of the most valuable lands, including water-sensitive areas, and cultural heritage sites. This will ensure harmonious urbanisation by **linking the rural and urban areas** along corridors of development that follow the distribution of public social services. In other words, the city-region plans will **provide organic linkages between Area A/B/C**. Accordingly, **planning functions** will be decentralised from the national to the local levels.

The concluded city-region plans (to date, Bethlehem, Tubas and northern Jordan Valley, Qalqilya and Hebron, with the financial support from UK and EU), have been prepared in consultation with more than 550 local and national stakeholders who were directly involved in the plan-making process, under the guidance of a consortium of local experts from the academia, private sector, and non-governmental organisations. In total, about 270 meetings for sub-technical committees took place under this initiative to contribute in shaping the plans at hand with a focus on gender mainstreaming during the process. Furthermore, 20 public workshops at local, municipal, and governorate levels took place.

The city-region plans offer a platform through which the private sector, international organisations, and the different levels of government can combine efforts and pool funding to implement the projects identified in the plans.

In conclusion, by completing these plans, Palestine has shown its ability to innovate in the face of great challenges. The plans represent not only a positive vision for the future, but also a pragmatic and logical approach to achieving development objectives.

Impact

The city-region plans that have been developed cover approximately 1,102,000 Palestinians.

A focus on spatial planning is being pursued as a crucial component to ensure a technically coherent planning system by integrating three levels of planning: local, subregional, and national levels. Beyond technical coherence, the city-region plans offer an opportunity for meaningful cooperation between Governors (governorates) and mayors (municipalities) in charting the future of the region.

From a political economy perspective, the municipalities and governorates are critical components in the achievement of an overall spatial framework for the State of Palestine and will be an input to the National Spatial Plan (2050) and the National Policy Agenda (2017-2022).

Furthermore, the city-region plans will contribute to the on-going discussion to prepare «cluster» economic development plans, by highlighting territorial economic development potentials at the governorate level that could be implemented.

The city-region plans are based on Palestinian national assumptions for the geo-political resolution of the conflict, including retaining the 1949 Armistice Line (Green Line) as the border, addressing the illegality of Israeli settlements in the West Bank, and the right of return, etc.

The city-region plans will contribute to the overall goal of realising the two-state solution, as the plans provide insights on how to spatially and economically integrate Area C, which is the cornerstone for Palestinian statehood.

8

GOVERNANCE,
LEGISLATION,
AND CAPACITY
DEVELOPMENT:
COLOMBIA

“POT Modernos Programa” Modern land use plans programme

*Author: Ángela Penagos,
Martha Rincón | Rimisp
(Centro Latino Americano
para el Desarrollo Rural)*



Context

The POT Modernos Programme (Modern Land Use plans) was designed to provide municipal and departmental governments as well as professionals assisting the formulation of such plans with technical tools, based on functional relation linkages between urban and rural areas, for the formulation, updating and implementation of a new generation of land use plans. The formulation of this new generation of land use plans sought to address the historical gap in the development of rural areas, where some 37.6 percent of the population lived in poverty.

The POT Modernos Programme aims to provide technical tools and support to municipal and departmental governments and the professionals who assist them with. This support is based on functional relations and urban – rural linkages criteria, for the formulation, updating and implementation of a new generation of plans that aims to achieve territorial cohesion.

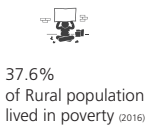
Despite the rapid urbanisation experienced during the past two decades, Colombia in terms of territories is still predominantly rural. The country has a prominent rural condition, evident in the urban – rural linkages that constitute the functional territories identified in the country, in which 19 percent of the population lives in deep rural areas and 32 percent in rural-urban territories. In 2016, 37.6 percent of the rural population lived in poverty, while the poor in urban areas represented 12.1 percent of the population living in cities. Rural areas have not had the same attention from the central government as urban areas in terms of land use planning.



COLOMBIA



19% Deep Rural areas | 32% Rural-Urban territories



Guides

 Municipal Land Use Plan Handbook




Approach

Innovations

 Regional visions

URL Urban-Rural Linkages


 Environment and risk management


 Allocation of land rights

 Governance and institutions



Impact

 1122 municipalities and their communities covered

 & 32 Departments

The new generation of territorial plans under the POT Modernos Programme are second generation at the municipal level and first generation at the departmental level. These plans seek to overcome the earlier institutional weaknesses in land use planning processes evidenced through the limited expertise in formulating appropriate methodologies and in executing planning tasks. The POT Modernos Programme seeks to ensure the incorporation of comprehensive territorial development in the land use planning processes that include fundamental aspects such as urban rural linkages, the concept of continuity of the territory, and the need for territorial governance. All of these elements are essential for the transformation of rural territories.

The work of Rimisp seeks to ensure a rural development perspective in the land use planning process through the POT Modernos Programme and, specifically, it aims to highlight the importance of an efficient, sustainable and equitable provision of goods and services that define territorial systems with strong rural – urban linkages, integrate urban – rural functions and draw attention to the functional relationship between two or more municipalities within a regional planning perspective. The Programme works to incorporate into the land use planning processes the notion of urban-rural linkages as a main factor in reducing social inequalities and to pursue local and regional development as well as advance territorial cohesion within the policy making process.

Approach

To address the challenges above mentioned, the POT Modernos Programme identifies the three following basic components: (i) enlistment; (ii) formulation and updating; and, (iii) implementation and strengthening of institutional capacities of territorial entities.

These components are addressed through three levels of intervention:

- coordination in the production and management of information;
- support to address specific problems; and
- technical assistance in the process of formulation, adoption and implementation the plans.

The Land Use Kit in Spanish “Kit de Ordenamiento Territorial” is a learning and knowledge management system designed to reach all territorial entities within Colombia.

It provides guidelines and tools to facilitate the processes of review, adjustment, formulation and implementation of the plans. The entire system of guides will be available in a web-based platform called 'kit-territorial' located in the territorial portal of the DNP (National Planning Department) (see <https://portalterritorial.dnp.gov.co/#/>). It will include video tutorials, infographics, and specialised routes that describe territorial planning processes in a straightforward and understandable way. The kit will also provide advisory and direct support links to clarify any emerging questions identified in the process of the development of plans. The 'territorial kit' will be fully operational in the second half of 2017.

The guides

The POT Modernos Programme has two guides or manuals:

(i) the Municipal Land Use Plan Handbook integrates rural and urban approaches; and

(ii) the Department Land Use Plan Handbook is a strategic guide that delivers a new planning scale. This integrates the national and municipal planning processes, including the municipalities that are part of the department, into a unified prospective plan. Both manuals, the municipal and the departmental, aim to provide guidelines through the process of planning and indicate the minimum requirements needed to reach what constitutes a 'Modern Plan'.

Innovations

The nine innovations of the programme are intended to ensure the development of a new generation of plans that overcome the main challenges mentioned above. From these nine innovations, Rimisp focuses on five, as follows.

1. **Regional vision.** This innovation aims to provide a new scale of planning based on the identification and management of linkages / exchanges of different kinds between two or more municipalities without using as boundaries the political administrative limits that have traditionally determined the local planning process.
2. **Urban rural linkages.** This highlights the importance of urban – rural linkages in the land use planning process, especially at the decision-making stage of land use and land regulation. This innovation has an underlying premise that urban and rural dynamics are equally important and complementary, both in the land use planning process as well as in local development.
3. **Environment and risk management.** This innovation considers as fundamental to territorial sustainability that rural, urban and regional interactions and areas should incorporate environmental and risk management aspects during the land use planning process.
4. **Allocation of land rights.** This innovation intends to harmonise the processes of allocating rural property rights with the regulation of land use on the premise that land use planning will be more efficient if property rights are fully recognised. This innovation will provide tools to integrate and facilitate the planning of rural land use and land management. Also, this innovation allows for more autonomous fiscal programming which contributes to strengthening local institutions.

5. Governance and institutions. This innovation incorporates the concept of collaborative governance within the land use planning process. This aims to encourage stakeholders to reach a consensus during the planning process on the way in which the territorial space will be occupied and the development vision of the territory. It also seeks to generate less top down and more pluralistic forms of decision-making around land use planning.

These innovations in the land use planning process aim to reduce territorial inequalities, especially those related to the rural-urban continuum. Furthermore, these innovations provide tools to promote regional integration, improve urban-rural relation, and incorporate a framework for conflict resolution in planning processes.

The cost of the implementing the programme in its first phase (2016 – 2018) of approximately USD 45m of which about USD 28m is financed by a World Bank loan for the Programme for Strengthening Territorial Entities (PFET). The remaining funding will be sought from other international and national / local government sources.

Impact

The initiative covers 1122 municipalities and their communities in 32 Departments. The implementation of the project has recently begun. The POT Modernos Programme is developing a monitoring and evaluation system. Rimisp has contributed with the proposals for results and process indicators. These are under review by the DNP.

9

PARTICIPATORY
ENGAGEMENT
AND TERRITORIAL
ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT
AND EMPLOYMENT:
SONGYANG COUNTY,
CHINA

“Rural Revitalisation through Architectural Acupuncture ”

*Author: Xu Tiantian |DnA_
Design and Architecture*



Context

Songyang is a county in the southwest of Zhejiang province, China. It is under the administration of the Lishui city. Songyang covers an area of 1406km² with a population of 240,000 people, of which some 50,000 people live in urban areas and 190,000 live in rural areas. There are 401 villages. Over the years, Songyang has remained a traditional rural region where agriculture is a main economic activity, with beautiful landscapes and ancient villages. It has often been called ‘The Last Hidden Land in Jiang Nan’. However, underneath this utopian image lie some critical issues that need to be addressed, as in any other rural region in China. As young people move to the cities for employment, the villages become “hollow” with very few older people. Most rural village communities are in economic decline and residents are losing faith in the future of their villages. There is an urgent need to establish a new hope for local communities.



Songyang County, CHINA

Area: 1406km² | **240,000** people



50,000 people
lives in Urban areas



190,000 Lives
in Rural areas

'Architectural Acupuncture' strategy



Approach

&



Impact

Xing village



Rural population increased
369 (2016) to 422 (2018)



Tourists increased
200 (2016) to 14680 (2018)



Sugar price increased
16 RMB/kilo (2016)
to 60 RMB/kilo (2018)

Shicang village



Tourists increased
10,000 per year in 2017
to over 5,000 per month
in late 2019



12 guest rooms
from vacant farmhouses

Wangjing's Memorial Hall



Total village inhabitants
increased from 1500 (2017)
to 2000 (2019)



Tourists increased
0 per year to over
20,000 (2018)



tourist products increased
300,000 RMB in 2018

Pingtian Village



Total village inhabitants
20 (2015) to 160 (2019)



Tourists increased
200 (2016) to 12,000 (2018)

Caizhai village



Total village inhabitants
1198 (2018) to 1228 (2019)



Tourists increased
1000 per year to over 2500
per month by the end of 2019



Sugar price increased
20 RMB/kilo (2018)
to 30 RMB/kilo (2019)

Approach

In January 2014, DnA, (Design and Architecture company), started collaborating with Songyang County to develop and implement an 'Architectural Acupuncture' strategy, which eventually developed into a systematic Rural Revitalizing Plan. The main goal of architecture as an effective acupunctural strategy is to serve the village and the people living in villages, to restore their rural heritage as well as open them up for tourism, stimulating rural economic development. The acupuncture is conducted with a range of buildings, using vernacular techniques and materials. Each intervention (a building) becomes a public space of nature, the village and the community. This low cost and minimal intervention approach is used as a sustainable systematic strategy, introducing multifunctional publicly funded programmes.

These multifunctional public programmes constitute an integral part of the architectural intervention, tailored to each village and rural region, taking into account their respective heritage and context.

Tailored interventions involve engaging village inhabitants from the initial discussions until the implementation of the interventions. Local communities played a major role defining a public programme that fitted with the historical context of each village as well as being designed to address its current needs.

The Architectural Acupuncture strategy was implemented through collective collaborations between architects and county government, local communities and traditional craftsmen. The budget comes from multiple sectors, with the county government being the major sponsor. The township and collective village community were responsible for raising the rest of the funds.

These interventions have been implemented in both the urban and rural settlements of the county. Xing village is well known for its brown sugar production, the traditional cooking process is a striking live performance, yet the family workshops were in poor condition. Therefore, a new "Brown Sugar Factory" was built. The new factory, with the main space as a central stage, to invite visitors and tourists, also functioned as village public space for weekend movie events, square dance performances as well as a performing space for the village puppet show group during off production season.

In Shicang village (a traditional hakka village on the mountain), the **Hakka Indenture Museum** was built using a local stone construction technique, connecting the village with the mountain. Before construction, there were only three skilled workers in the region with knowledge of local stone construction techniques. After completion, a dozen young inhabitants were trained in this technique. In the village of Wang, the Wangjing Memorial Hall was built aiming to restore the identity of a village surrounded by modern factories. While the exterior of the building is still plain, the interior is maps key moments of the ancestor's life in the building's memorial corners.

Pingtian Village Centre was an intervention that consisted in renovating abandoned village houses, using local building techniques such as mortise and tenon wooden joints and structures.

The renewed building and adjacent area became the village centre for exhibitions, an artist's studio, and rooms for home based business. Caizhai Village is a **traditional mountain village** built along both banks of a river over the past two hundred years. The village has always been known for the best tofu production in the county and region. But the products from the traditional family workshops could not meet current food certificate standards to be able to sell in supermarkets. In this village, the **Tofu factory** was built as an extension of the village fabric following its topography.

The production rooms are a sequence of performance spaces and equipped to upgrade traditional tofu products fitting with food certificate requirements. This has enabled the sale of local tofu in city supermarkets which is a big step for village products. A union of people living in the village ensures that family workshops are the shareholders of this collective economic entity.

Unlike some villages in the country which have made massive investments in tourism, the Songyang acupuncture strategy works with a limited budget to motivate local communities and stimulate further revitalization and business ideas in the region. By applying architectural acupuncture to this area, the projects aim to activate the circulation between the villages and among the regions.

Impact

The impact has been positive in many ways: enhancing the new public spaces and programmes; encouraging visitors and tourists to visit; increasing village economic revenues and the incomes of people that live in the village income; restoring village identity; and motivating community; opening up new opportunities that also attract young people to move back home in rural areas from cities.

This architectural acupuncture strategy has the potential to be replicated for rural revitalisation in areas beyond Songyang.

Regarding **Xing village**, after the completion of Brown Sugar Factory in autumn 2016:

- the total number of village inhabitants increased from 369 (2016) to 422 (2018), and among these were 12 young people who used to reside in the village and had returned home to join the production union and work in the factory;
- the number of tourists increased from 200 (2016) to 14680 (2018);
- the sugar price increased from 16 RMB/kilo (2016) to 60 RMB/kilo (2018).

Regarding **Shicang village**, after the completion of Hakka Indenture Museum in autumn 2017:

- the museums inspired an investor from Shanghai to set up a tourism business next door (with 12 guest rooms) by converting the vacant farmhouses;
- tourist numbers increased from less than 10,000 per year in 2017 to over 5,000 per month in late 2019.

After the completion of the ancestor Wangjing's Memorial Hall in winter 2017, the following was observed:

- the total village inhabitants increased from 1500 (2017) to 2000 (2019);
- among these, 30 people living in the village started new various tourism businesses;
- the number of tourists increased from almost 0 per year to over 20,000 in 2018;
- total income from tourist products had reached 300,000 RMB in 2018.

The people in the village are proud of this memorial hall as it makes them feel like they are walking through the timeline of their ancestor's life.

As regards **Pingtian Village** (a traditional mountain village, which can only be reached by climbing steps). after the completion of a village centre in 2015 and, following that, a number of other village tourism development programmes the following observations can be made:

(i) the total number of village inhabitants increased from 20 (2015) to 160 (2019);

(ii) tourists numbers increased from 200 (2016) to 12,000 (2018);

For **Caizhai village**:


- the total number of village inhabitants increased from 1198 (2018) to 1228 (2019);
- among them 20 young villagers returned home and joined the production union/factory;
- the number of tourists increased from less than 1000 per year to over 2500 per month by the end of 2019;
- the price of fried tofu increased from 20 RMB/kilo (2018) to 30 RMB/kilo (2019).

Lessons learned

This initial set of case studies represents only a small fraction of the case studies that exist to demonstrate the ways urban-rural linkages contribute to integrated territorial development in different regions. As mentioned in the introduction to this first compendium of case studies, the cases predate the development of the URL-GP and Framework for Action. The entry points for strengthening urban-rural linkages in these cases are not the only entry points; other case studies exist that start from completely different entry points, such as migration, climate change, biodiversity, nutrition, etc.

By applying the URL-GP “retroactively” to these cases there are some lessons to be gained for future application of the URL-GP and Framework for Action in other countries and contexts. Six key lessons are highlighted here.

1. The complex dynamics of urban-rural linkages requires a holistic, systems approach to inform comprehensive approaches to both good practice and policy.
2. The importance of inclusive, participatory methodologies to assess, plan and execute actions that leave no one and no place behind cannot be overstated.
3. Both vertical and horizontal integration of actors and levels of governance are crucial to success.
4. Tools for assessment of challenges, opportunities, data needs, policy gaps and methods of monitoring and evaluation are an essential need and such tools will be the focus of efforts in the implementation of the URL-GP.
5. Equal and balanced inclusion of both rural and urban actors, sectors and jurisdictions requires context specific and culturally sensitive process designs, whether the conveners or facilitators are local, regional or national governments, academic institutions, NGOs or international organisations.
6. Urban-rural linkages are a pragmatic, locally grounded approach essential to the localisation of efforts to implement the SDGs and the New Urban Agenda.



Conclusion and next steps

UN-Habitat, its UN partners and development partner are developing tools to strengthen urban-rural linkages to end poverty, reduce inequality, and increase the resilience, sustainability and prosperity of integrated urban-rural territories. These tools will be made available to national, regional and local governments, development partners and civil society.

As countries, regions and cities test and apply the URL-GP and Framework for Action, it will be useful to compare methods, experiences and results. For this purpose, a call for further case studies including a template will be made available as part of the dissemination of the URL-GP.

It is hoped that this initial Compendium of case studies will grow in the future with many more cases and all are invited to provide experiences and case studies to learn from the application of the URL-GP in their work to support sustainable development.

UN-Habitat, UN institutions partners and other development partners are developing tools to strengthen urban-rural linkages to end poverty, reduce inequality, and increase the resilience, sustainability and prosperity of integrated urban-rural territories. Urban and rural communities do not live in isolation from one another. The flow of people, goods, services and transport, for example, does not go in one direction only. In fact, there is a repeated and reciprocal circular movement across the urban-rural continuum that connects these areas and generates a synergy that is greater than the sum of the parts, and that contributes to functional, integrated territories and regions.

Following the launch of the 'Urban-Rural Linkages: Guiding Principles (URL-GP) and Framework for Action' to advance integrated Territorial Development after more than a year of multistakeholder consultations, and the adoption of UN-Habitat's Resolution HSP/HA.1/Res.5 on "Enhancing urban-rural linkages for sustainable urbanisation" during the first UN-Habitat Assembly in May, 2019, "The First Compendium of Case Studies for the Implementation of the Urban-Rural Linkages: Guiding Principles and Framework for Action" includes examples of the application of URL-GP in Africa, Asia, the Middle East and Europe. Each of the cases has relevance to specific Guiding Principles and include interventions from sections of the Framework for Action.

The URL-GP are a pathway for balanced inclusion of both rural and urban actors in the effort to localise and implement the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the New Urban Agenda (NUA) through integrated territorial planning and development. They address the complexity of dynamic urban-rural flows and the need for a systems approach. They underline the need for inclusive, participatory approaches and integration of actors and levels of governance. They call for the development of assessment tools to address challenges, opportunities, data needs and policy gaps.

As countries, regions and cities test and apply the URL-GP and Framework for Action, it will be useful to compare methods, experiences and results. For this purpose, a call for further case studies including a template will be made available as part of the dissemination of the URL-GP.

It is hoped that this initial compendium of case studies will grow in the future with many more cases and all are invited to provide experiences and case studies to learn from the application of the URL-GP in sustainable development work.

A second edition of the Compendium of Case Studies, expected in November 2020, will compile experiences that have incorporated the URL-GP and Framework for Action. The case studies in this first edition provide useful tools for Member States, experts and all actors interested in making Urban-Rural Linkages work for all.



United Nations Human
Settlements Programme
(UN-Habitat)

P.O. Box 30030, GPO
Nairobi, 00100, Kenya

<http://urbanpolicyplatform.org/ufurl> | <https://urbanrurallinkages.wordpress.com/>