

## Call for Papers

## Mozambique Urban Research Forum

07 - 08 June Maputo

**Institute for Housing and  
Urban Development Studies**

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### Introduction

#### Urbanization Debate in Mozambique

Mozambique serves as an example of how in the context of rapid urbanisation, land management is one of the most critical issues that needs to be addressed to secure the long term sustainability of city development. There is an unresolved debate about whether making land and services available for forecasted urban expansion - which provides advantages in terms of long-term planning - is the upfront policy option in contrast to a more visionary compact city solution that purports to offer greater environmental benefits and economies of scale.

Mozambique had a history of planned urban land expansion that was spearheaded by the Instituto Nacional de Planeamento Físico (INPF) and a cadre of land use planner technicians. In the 1980s, the government of Mozambique developed the 'Strategic Action Planning' programme of land redistribution to address the situation of unplanned urban sprawl and increasing housing demands. The constitution of 1990 formalised tenure in an unprecedented way in the continent by granting user rights to people who had squatted on plots of land for over 10 years. In the early 2000s, this initiative lost momentum and a more traditional approach to land use planning was adopted.

Notwithstanding these initial land expansion initiatives, the urban areas of Mozambique are increasingly marked by the proliferation of slums, lack of water - sanitation - hygiene (WASH) facilities, flooding and subsequent public health risks. Maputo, the capital city, with a population of 1.3 million, has some 70 per cent of its residents living in slums; Nacala has a population of about 220, 000 inhabitants, of which 48 per cent are slum dwellers and about 60 per cent of Manica's 42,000 inhabitants live in slums (UN-Habitat, 2010, 'Mozambique Cities Report'). The fact that these urban service deficiencies have persisted despite a 7.4 per cent compound annual growth rate (CAGR) (World Bank 2014) over the past twenty years, clearly illustrates the need to improve the quality of urban planning, land use management and service provision. The urban land expansion initiatives in Mozambique have been applauded for making land available for urban housing and infrastructure needs, and also criticised for promoting sprawl and a lack of a modern compact city vision.

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In the context of seven municipalities growing at over 10 per cent per annum, with a further five growing at five per cent or more per annum (in effect, doubling or even tripling their populations over the next 10-15 years) and a lack of trained capacity, land use planning has failed to make a positive impact. Cities are instead growing rapidly in an unplanned manner, resulting in congestion and the proliferation of settlements lacking basic services on floodplains and unstable slopes.

Faced with a huge demand for land and limited resources, the comparative advantages of prioritising early planning for expanded delivery of services and land vis-a-vis densifying the built environment, first needs to be further understood.

## **IHS**

The Institute for Housing and Urban Development Studies (IHS) is an international centre of excellence of the Erasmus University Rotterdam, the Netherlands, operating on a global scale by offering post-graduate education, training, advisory services and applied research.

IHS works closely with local governments, international and local non-governmental organizations and the private sector worldwide, mainly in Asia, Latin America, Central and Eastern Europe, and Africa. Its mission is to develop human and institutional capacities and provide support to policy makers to reduce poverty and improve the quality of life in cities. IHS is the first knowledge institution to become a member of the Cities Alliance, seeking to engage in and contribute to the global debate on cities by working in partnership with other Cities Alliance members.

## **Context of the 1<sup>st</sup> Fórum Urbano Nacional (FUN)**

The Mozambican government (through MAEFP, MOPHRH and MITADER), has organized the first Mozambique National Urban Forum in partnership with the Association of Municipalities in Mozambique (ANAMM) and with the support of development partners (Cities Alliance, GIZ and UN-Habitat).

The National Urban Forum (FUN) is a multilateral platform that aims to promote a debate and to support procedures relating to sustainable urban development at the country level, including national contributions and participation in global development strategies. The FUN will bring together urban stakeholders, including decision makers, citizens and international partners.

The first event of the FUN will take place in Maputo from 8-10 June, and will be preceded by the National Urban Research Forum (Fórum Urbano Nacional de Pesquisa, FUN-P). The FUN-P aims to foster research contributions for the development of better management and progress of the ongoing urbanization in Mozambique. The main purposes of the FUN-P event are:

- 1) Establish a scientific discussion on urbanization in Mozambique
- 2) Mobilize academia that is involved in research and that can support the discussion on urban policies
- 3) Facilitate the dialogue between academia, public and private sectors to improve informed decision-making of stakeholders that influence urbanization patterns.

## **National Urban Research Forum (FUN-P): Intention of the call**

A research project has been developed by IHS, on behalf of Cities Alliance, with the purpose of filling crucial theoretical and evidence gaps related to the comparative merits of planned expansion and density, by collecting and analyzing data on cities and urban land expansion in Mozambique, as well as testing the relevant theories/models and feeding the results into the current academic and policy debates at the national and international level. This research project entitled, "The urban expansion and the compactness debate in the context of Mozambique", has as main research question the following:

“In a resource-scarce context, such as in Mozambique, what would be a good balance between making room for land expansion while following the compact city approach? What hybrid model could lead to more sustainable yet at the same time, inclusive, well-serviced and affordable cities?”

The indicated research question can be addressed both from a national as well as from an international perspective. However, the clear focus of the research is to inform the national research community in Mozambique on the state of the arts in the areas of urbanization and urban development.

This theme will be the focus of the discussion at the FUN-P in Maputo from 7-8 June.

### **Call for Papers**

This is an invitation to the national and international research community and it is not limited to academics alone. Students and practitioners with important knowledge to share, outstanding research for a PhD or Master's thesis, are invited to submit a proposal. Selected papers will be presented during the National Urban Research Forum (FUN-P). With the support of Cities Alliance, IHS will arrange travel and accommodation for those selected to present their papers.

## Application and deadline

### Abstracts

All abstracts will be assessed by an independent board of reviewers, and authors of the shortlisted abstracts will be invited to submit full papers. Abstracts should be no longer than 300 words, on one page, and can be written in Portuguese or English. Experts, Master and PhD students, professionals and other stakeholders from the urban sector are invited to share their experience by submitting an abstract. The author(s)' name and contact information should be written only in the email, to which the abstract is attached, not in the abstract itself

### Papers

Papers should be around 3000 words; additional graphs/illustrations/maps/photos should be sent as individual files (pdf or jpg - high resolution). Papers must be written in Portuguese or in English. Travel costs to participate in the FUN-P will be covered for the authors of the papers selected for presentation.

The selected papers will be included in the monograph of the research project, "The urban expansion and the compactness debate in the context of Mozambique", which will be published in English. IHS reserves the right to edit the papers before publication.

Abstracts should be sent to **CFP.urban.mozambique@gmail.com** by **3 May 2016.**:

- Authors receive notification: May 8<sup>th</sup>
- Full Paper submission: due on May 28<sup>th</sup>
- PowerPoint presentation submission: due to May 30<sup>th</sup>
- Presentation of selected papers: on 7th and 8th of June

## Topics

The papers should focus on one or a combination of the following four areas.

**Panel 1:** Expansion and compactness of cities: factors and patterns of the urban form

**Panel 2:** Governance and planning: practices and instruments that influence urbanization

**Panel 3:** Access to urban land: formal and informal practices and urban stakeholders that influence the expansion and compactness of cities

**Panel 4:** Socio-economic and environmental impacts of urban growth

As gender is a corporate priority for the Cities Alliance and its members, this call strongly encourages the submission of papers examining any of the topics from a gender perspective.

Please note:

- The organizers are conscious that the four panels have overlaps and not all issues will fit under only one headline. However, we intend to group the proposed papers in an order that follows the suggested structure.
- Our interest is in the selected cities, Nampula, Tete and Nacala. However, other research can be presented here that inform the discussion on the growth of corridor cities in Mozambique.

## Content of panels

### **Panel 1: Main factors that influence urban expansion and the attributes and patterns of the urban form**

Since the creation of the current municipal structure, municipalities have experienced rapid and mostly unplanned urban growth. Within this context we intend to further clarify the most dominant factors that influence urban expansion.

Urban growth is a process with outcomes that manifest themselves in space. Cities acquire a specific urban form during their development, but the present form has also implications for future growth. Another aspect to be addressed in this panel should focus on researching urban form, i. e. how these attributes and patterns can be measured and explained. Papers in this panel can also include spatial analysis, e. g. with the use of GIS. Eventually, forecasts of the continuity of urban sprawl versus the potentials of densification, should be discussed here.

### **Panel 2: Governance and planning: practices and instruments that influence urbanization**

The objective of this panel is to review planning instruments that are available to government under current legislation, the extent they have been used and how participatory these instruments are. Planning practices influence the development of urban areas in Mozambique and influence the lives of men and women differently. The current legislation is limited, especially in terms of lacks and overlaps in responsibilities and capacities. The current legislative practise also contains gaps which impact urban spatial development.

This will also entail the discussion on capacities in terms of funds, staff and skills that are instrumental for planning, implementation and enforcement of urban spatial development. In

terms of planning and plans, the panel will also address traditional planning and strategies in the light of recent urban trends, including how to engender these strategies and include the role of women in all stages of the planning process.

### **Panel 3: Access to urban land**

The interrelations and interdependencies of the previously discussed frameworks, factors and their root causes, can be attributed to the stakeholders in this process. Different landholders shape the formal and informal land markets, determining demand and supply of real estate for the rich, middle income and the poor. This panel will discuss existing and new ways to access land by men and women, the role of local authorities, and assess current land conflicts and their influence in shaping the lives of men and women, especially the most marginalized in society. The issues also include housing policies, rental markets and the influence of location.

### **Panel 4: Socio-economic and environmental impacts of urbanization**

A multitude of minor socio-economic and environmental impacts are a result from the prevailing urbanization patterns. This panel will discuss evidence of these impacts and how these relate to different urban patterns, namely expansion versus densification. Furthermore, this panel should also examine how prevailing urbanization patterns impact the lives of men and women.

## **Annex : Format for the Abstract**

*Please fill in and check the boxes*

1. Suggested for (please mark 1 or 2 of the following options)

**O Panel 1:** Expansion and compactness of cities: factors and patterns of the urban form

**O Panel 2:** Governance and planning: practices and instruments that influence urbanization

**O Panel 3:** Access to urban land: formal and informal practices and urban stakeholders that influence the expansion and compactness of cities

**O Panel 4:** Socio-economic and environmental impacts of urban growth

2. Short summary of paper content. Please write not more than 300 words and refer to the points below:

- purpose and/or objectives of your paper
- methods of data collection and analysis (in empirical papers),
- theoretical background (depending on the orientation of the paper),
- main findings and possible contribution to the debate
- the link of your paper to the indicated panel theme

**Please note that the abstract should not contain your name or affiliation. Please write these into the email you send with the attached abstract.**

Abstracts need to be sent to [CFP.urban.mozambique@gmail.com](mailto:CFP.urban.mozambique@gmail.com) by 3 May 2016