



FUTURE OF AFRICAN CITIES WEBINAR

What educational model for the future
generation of architects and urban
planners ?

How culture could influence the
making of the cities on the continent ?

What is the place of innovation in the
future of our cities ?

Saturday 23 October 2021
1:30 P.M. TO 3:00 P.M. (UTC)

REGISTER HERE

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_aXjiJuCXQoajniRVWbRI3w



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MODERATOR
CORIANNE RICE

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AFRICA INNOVATION NETWORK

Africa Innovation Network brings together experts in diverse and varied fields to offer sustainable and innovative solutions to complex problems linked to the continent's urbanization in order to improve the quality of life of all.

We are piloting a large number of initiatives, including the African Cities Magazine. Each 31st October on World Cities Day, we publish a magazine dedicated to African cities. With a series of innovations, initiatives, and projects on urban planning, architecture or design, the African cities magazine showcases how innovative ideas and solutions shape urban systems into more resilient, inclusive and sustainable human settlements in Africa.

African cities Magazine by AIN wants to show beauty, diversity, challenges, and initiatives throughout the continent in terms of resilient, sustainable, and smart cities. Through different portraits and interviews of practitioners, innovators, and change makers in architecture and urban development, we hope to share experiences, examples, best practices and tools for a more sustainable future. We also hope to showcase the beauty, diversity, challenges, and opportunities in African cities of today, as well as paint a picture of what the cities of tomorrow will look like.



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A scenic landscape view of Uhuru Park and the thriving downtown metropolis of Nairobi, Kenya.

FUTURE OF AFRICAN CITIES WEBINAR

As part of the launch of the second edition of African Cities Magazine, Africa Innovation Network, a think tank for more inclusive, resilient, and sustainable cities in Africa, is organizing a Webinar on October 23, 2021, on the theme «Future of African Cities».

The objective of the webinar is to provide guidance on the challenges that our African cities are facing and to develop and debate innovative solutions to improve the resilience and well-being of the future of African cities.

The speakers will share their experiences, knowledge and good practices, to inspire new ways of building future resilient African cities.

SATURDAY 23 OCTOBER 2021
FROM 1:30 P.M. TO 3:00 P.M. UTC

AGENDA

- 13:30-13:45** Introductory remarks
- 13:45-14:00 Mark Olweny:** What educational model for the future generation of architects and urban planners?
- 14:00-14:14 Nmadili Okwumabua:** How culture could influence the making of the cities on the continent?
- 14:15-14:30 MIRIAM M. MAINA:** What is the place of innovation in the future of our cities?
- 14:30-14:45 Sebastien Goethals:** What is the place of innovation in the future of our cities?
- 14:45-15:00** Questions & Answers
- 14:00-15:30** Closing remarks

A JOURNEY THROUGH THREE THEMATICS

1) WHAT EDUCATIONAL MODEL FOR THE FUTURE GENERATION OF ARCHITECTS AND URBAN PLANNERS ?

With cities constantly growing and facing increasing challenges, African cities must reinvent themselves to ensure a more sustainable urban future. Achieving development goals and making cities levers of growth for the continent requires considerable resources, including human resources. Indeed, human resources and more specifically locally trained quality architects, planners and urban engineers are an indispensable part of building the African city of tomorrow. But do the training opportunities on the continent meet the needs quantitatively and qualitatively? How to adapt the curricula to take advantage of the opportunities offered by African cities? Which architects and urban planners do we want for the city of tomorrow? And how to train them?

The objective of this theme is to draw up an inventory of training in architecture and urban planning on the continent, and to try to design an appropriate model for training in urban professions on the continent.



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2) HOW CULTURE COULD INFLUENCE THE MAKING OF THE CITIES ON THE CONTINENT ?

Africa is characterized by its great cultural wealth. This culture has long been the basis of the urban fabric through the civilizations and empires that have ruled the continent. The living traces of these civilizations are still visible through the architectural and urban remains as in Mali with the mosque of Djenné, the cities of Timbuktu and Gao, the Great Zimbabwe, etc. The medinas of North Africa, or the traditional chiefdoms of West Cameroon are good examples of conservation and development of this rich heritage.

In addition, the urban development models in Africa are for the most part not adapted to local cultures. In fact, African cities are more in line with standardized and westernized models of city building. So, in view of the limits and inadequacies that the classic methods of city building show, would relying on African cultures to build the city of tomorrow not be the appropriate path to follow, for more sustainable cities? How to draw from this African culture and learn from the African architectural and urban heritage to build the city of tomorrow?

These are the questions that this theme will try to answer.

3) WHAT IS THE PLACE OF INNOVATION IN THE FUTURE OF OUR CITIES ?

Innovation lies above all in the way things are approached. In the context of African cities, the innovative approach to urban planning includes digital tools but not only. It includes both digitally inspired innovation and non-technological innovation linked to new ideas, approaches and partnerships. It is a process, including actions and outcomes that create and deliver new knowledge, tools and sustainable solutions to improve the living conditions of all in human settlements.

The aim of this theme is to show how innovative approaches can build more sustainable cities in Africa. These approaches include creative industries, digital technologies, citizen participation, climate action, etc.

