



United Nations

— HABITAT III — NETWORKING EVENT REPORT

Submitted by Lead Organization	
Name of lead organization	Department for International Development
City and country where lead organization is based	London, United Kingdom
Title of the event	Live City Hack: How Jinja should grow
Date of Networking Event	10/19/2016
Networking Event room number	MR 6
Name of partner organizations with city and country where these organizations are based	1. Jinja Municipality, Jinja, Uganda 2. ICED Alliance – ICED is a DFID funded Facility led by PwC, London, UK and supported by the international institute for Environment and Development – IIED also of London UK).
Number of participants	80
Percentage of women participants	50%
Background information on Networking Event (themes, issues, context).	<p>a) Context Prompted by significant demographic, economic and technological shifts urbanisation is taking hold in Africa with 50% the continent’s population expected to call the city home by the mid 2030’s. Networks of secondary cities are already home to most African city-dwellers, and these cities - with populations below 300,000 - will house the largest percentage of African urban-dwellers over the coming decades. Africa’s smaller cities vary widely in their economic and administrative functions, but often struggle for the attention of investors and donor support. Limited capacity and resources for integrated planning can result in low-levels of connective infrastructure, making it difficult to reach external markets. Urban sprawl and underinvestment also leads to shared challenges of urban poverty, access to housing, services and markets. But there are also new and accelerated opportunities for growth. Secondary cities, too often overlooked, can in fact play a key role in driving economic growth. Cities are at the core of structural transformation in Sub-Saharan Africa. While secondary cities may face shortfalls in infrastructure or local capacity, smaller African municipalities in particular are not yet locked into unsustainable pathways and can still adopt more sustainable choices. A window of opportunity exists for secondary cities to act as urbanisation rates begin to accelerate across the continent, and in doing so realise transformational goals. These ideas were explored by the ‘Live City Hack’ concept. b) Concept – the Live City Hack The two hour networking event was billed as a ‘Live City Hack’ and was designed to be a highly interactive and multi-media experience for attendees (given the prevalence of panel sessions and the later afternoon time slot). The key theme was the economic development potential and contribution of secondary cities which we set out in a background paper prior to the event. The event aimed to provide learning and networking opportunities for urban practitioners working at a range of scales and from a range of perspectives. Having a secondary city Mayor and Town Clerk in attendance and them setting a real and practical challenge from their own City was a critical ingredient and solicited very strong/ positive feedback. c) Themes and approach We explored both the potential of secondary cities, and complementary approaches to economic development. The event explored the proposition that African secondary cities can act as linchpins of regional development, growth and job creation that advances the UN’s New Urban Agenda as well as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by supporting equitable, inclusive growth in both urban and rural areas. By linking rural and urban areas, significant economic and social opportunities are presented by secondary cities providing a transition point to exit rural poverty. Still, policymakers and practitioners will need to develop concrete, appropriate strategies that can realise such possibilities in Africa’s secondary cities. Although these cities have enjoyed economic success and fostered regional development, there is limited consensus about how such benefits can be achieved and more evidence is needed to support clear policy actions. Innovative approaches are therefore urgently needed to unlock the vital potential in the NUA and 2030 Agenda. Through the case study of Jinja, Uganda’s ‘second’ city, we explored how local and national stakeholders can fulfil these possibilities and catalyse inclusive economic development in African secondary cities. Located in the norther economic corridor linking a number of East African Countries, Jinja has enormous potential to become one of Uganda’s most important economic centres. A key feature of the approach was to investigate and discuss the range of economic development perspectives that need to be mutually understood and coordinated if Jinja is to meet its growth challenge. Jinja’s growth will need the informal economy, community groups, private and public investment, economic planning and connectivity if it is to succeed. The City Hack brings these perspectives together in one place and with a Client who has a real need.</p>



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<p>Concise summary of the event proceedings, including key points discussed.</p>	<p>Outline: 1. Host's welcome (5 mins) 2. Video introduction to Jinja (10 mins) 3. Mayor's challenge (10 mins) 4. Expert propositions (15 mins) 5. City Hack working session (45 mins) 6. Group plenary (20 mins) 7. Mayor's response (10 mins) 8. Close (5 mins) Key messages (agenda items 1-4):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DFID host welcomed room encouraging delegates to challenge preconceptions, respect ideas and perspectives, network, enjoy and be creative. • A short video was presented on Jinja's development (produced by the Mayor's team) highlights tourism, transport/other infrastructure, emerging industry, etc. • Mayor's Challenge: Mayor Batambuze sets out that Jinja is well-located and well-planned town BUT why has it not developed? • Mayor challenges the room and welcomes ideas to transform Jinja. "It is a well-endowed but neglected city - how can we make it a vibrant, resilient city"? i.e. How can Jinja grow? Expert perspectives from UN ECA, Community Federation, World Bank and Cities Alliance • The need to focus on structural transformation, which is the most important priority for sub-Saharan Africa (SSA). • Secondary cities are absolutely critical because they are where most growth will occur in SSA. • The priorities are value-addition and increasing the productivity of manufacturing and agriculture. Secondary cities can play a key role in supporting value-addition and productivity. • Jinja should still look at manufacturing, not just tourism which has limited employment multipliers and the comparative advantage in Jinja is still manufacturing and the city needs a broader-based manufacturing strategy. • Jinja is the most highly-organised city in SSA. Municipal forums are inclusive and engage local government with citizens. Also Jinja has a strategy and stakeholders on board -this is a unique platform to grow. • The role of organised communities is very key. The way we interact with the Council -if you saw me at the office, you don't know that I come from a slum! It's not easy in Africa to associate like that. Communities are already aware that they have to pay taxes. • Ugandan firms reference the cost of finance as the biggest challenge with interest rates of up to 30%. • Land access and integrated planning is where you can really make a dent in barriers to growth. You need land at scale and need to put together parcels of land. • Central government needs to provide more support and stimulus. Key ideas and messages generated from the 'hack' (agenda items 5-7): • Agro-processing was a theme partly because there are available raw materials including productive land and fisheries. It was noted that informal workers can be involved in agro-processing -perhaps improving skills, integrating them in value chains. • Another group called for sustainable tourism i.e., visitors should care about the environment and way the city is managed. It should be liveable and attractive to Ugandans as well as international tourists. • There was support for better managed industrial parks and services 'shell' structures financed via municipal bonds (IPs are thought to be closer to investment readiness than public services though utilities also could generate interest) • There was support for sectoral estates intended for informal businesses. Also recommended creating a one-stop shop with adequate infrastructure for nascent business models. • Another idea was to develop the ports and Victoria Lake regional logistical infrastructure because of the Lake and Nile -can export Uganda's goods and enhance regional connections. You can transport Jinja's industrial products to Kampala and Kenya too at lower cost than road avoiding the overloaded infrastructure that currently exists. • A world-class university was thought to be another powerful idea that would bolster the talent pool and feed higher value jobs and innovation. It was argued that it is easier to get upfront investment in universities to stimulate the economy and train workforce with local attachments. This was considered to be at least as important as hard infrastructure projects. • Another group called for mobilising communities. People have to come together and it was argued that there isn't always friction between mobilised communities and government -even in cases of relocation, and they can work together for better solutions and lower the cost of more 'formal' action. This can also apply to financial management with community funds noted as a possible intervention that would represent VfM. • It was highlighted that planning and land management are important early considerations for the city to get right. There is underutilised land in Jinja's city centre and can create opportunities for development and transport corridors need to be secured now. Another group focused on land and housing - they explain that a key factor is land and need a policy that helps direct investment and can create a low-income housing market in Jinja (that competes with the draw of Kampala). • Eco tourism (the 'Nile Eco Adventure Park') and green technology were other common themes. The Ugandan housing minister explained hydro is very expensive and we want alternatives for cooking, housing, etc as well as grid technology. Expert summary view - including the transferability of ideas to other cities: • There is vision and political leadership in Jinja, but many other secondary cities have very limited capacity. • The link between manufacturing and local informal sector can be strengthened-build skills for youth and other informal workers. • Need for political change -including for enlarged metro / urban boundaries and underscoring how this will be fundamental for long-term growth planning in Jinja and can plan for an inclusive city this way. • However, finance and investment are national, systemic issues that are not within the power of secondary cities' administration.
<p>Recommendations emerged from discussions at the Networking Event .</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In April, Jinja will host African tourism expo with exhibits and to discuss what we're doing -this is fitting since we are trying to promote tourism in Jinja. • Also there will be a Jinja economic forum -we will determine the Jinja of the future -will it be an inclusive, sustainable city? With green spaces? Liveable? This will determine Jinja's course but we won't dictate it -will be a community dialogue and an international dialogue
<p>Full name, title, and organization of the 1st speaker</p>	<p>Edlam Yemeru, Chief Urbanisation Section, UN-ECA</p>
<p>Full name, title, and organization of the 2nd speaker</p>	<p>Julian Baskin, Lead Urban Specialist, Cities Alliance</p>
<p>Full name, title, and organization of the 3rd speaker</p>	<p>Somik Lall, Lead – Territorial and Spatial Development, World Bank</p>
<p>Full name, title, and organization of the 4th speaker</p>	<p>Sarah Nandudu Vice Chairperson, National Slum Dwellers Federation of Uganda</p>