

Upgrading Informal Settlements: Kenya Rural & Urban

- Adopt the South African Definition
 - High Dense settlements
 - Comprise communities
 - Housed in self-developed shelters
 - Within an Informal/traditional land tenure
 - Without authority
 - Without formal design
- Characteristics
 - Densely populated
 - Shelters are makeshift
 - Made of diverse materials
 - Local ecosystem degraded
 - Severe social problems
 - Crime
 - Grime
 - Illicit Brew
 - Illicit Drugs

Wafula Nabutoia, M.Sc.
Kenya

UN Habitat & ILO

- Horrors of waking up in an informal settlement
 - From a mosquito-disturbed sleep
 - Night spent on a mat on cold floor
 - In a 10'x10' room
 - Inadequate ventilation
 - Crowded: four/ ten others
 - Window too small
 - Boarded up for security
 - Burglary as poor preys on poor
 - Earthen floor
 - Cold
 - Allows dampness to rise
 - Morning Ablution
 - Wash from tepid water in a tin
 - Queue to use the only bathroom shared by 50/100 people
 - Toilet Queue is too long
 - Solution - Visit the rubbish dump to defecate in the morning mist

Wafula Nabutoia, M.Sc.
Kenya

Waking up in an informal settlement

- Working clothes rescued from their place on a string extended above the bed
- The man sets off on the routine of
 - Queuing for crowded public transport
 - To his place of employment if he is lucky
 - Without breaking his fast.
- What about the wife?
 - Left to feed the many children
 - On last night's left overs
 - Or Rice Maize porridge
 - Cooked in a cloudy water
 - Then the house chores
 - Fetch water
 - Clear a small place to begin preparation of food for city workers
 - Supplement family income
 - Launder her own Family's clothes
 - Launder a neighbour's clothes for pay
 - Smoke fish and sell My English Colleagues would not say Vend
 - Sew garments for a manufacturer for export to Europe
 - At dusk she prepares evening meals
 - Squinting on the floor
 - Then washes her children
 - In a soapy bowl in a small space outside the room

Wafula Nabutoia, M.Sc.
Kenya

Physical Environment

- Depends
 - Wet days
 - Whole house is caked in mud
 - Slippery
 - Cold
 - Dry days
 - Dusty - blows into food & water
 - Carries cysts
 - Parasites waiting to enter a human host through bare feet
 - The air carries
 - hepatitis A
 - Meningitis
 - Fumes from sulphuric acid factory downhill
 - The water
 - Malaria Carrying Breeding mosquitoes
 - Salmonellae
 - Shigellosis
 - E Coli
 - Ezekiel 47:
 - Will these bones rise?

Wafula Nabutoia, M.Sc.
Kenya

Urban/Rural Informal Settlement Comparison

- Rural
 - Crowded inside
 - Lots of air
 - No water
 - maybe river or pond
 - well or nil or bore hole
 - Employment
 - Low & seasonal
 - Electricity
 - Nil in house
 - But could be passing overhead
- Urban
 - Over- Crowded inside
 - No air inside
 - Standpipe Water
 - Expensive
 - Clean
 - Employment
 - Some hope
 - Electricity
 - Nil

Wafula Nabutoia, M.Sc.
Kenya

Urban/Rural Informal Settlement Infrastructure comparison Cont'd

- Rural
 - Fewer schools
 - Nil equipment
 - Few teachers
 - Many pupils since Universal Compulsory Primary Education 2003
 - No sanitation
 - No water
 - No sewer
 - No roads
 - No hospitals
 - Few Scattered health centres
- Urban
 - Few schools
 - Badly equipped
 - Few teachers
 - Many pupils since Universal Compulsory Primary Education
 - No sanitation
 - No water
 - No sewer
 - No Roads
 - No Hospitals
 - Family Planning Clinic

Wafula Nabutoia, M.Sc.
Kenya

Urban/Rural Informal Settlement
Comparison Cont'd - Social Amenities

- Rural
 - No movies
 - Mobile cinema/monthly
 - Big field no sports
 - Kids run to school
 - Play in the paths or farms
 - Yes churches
 - Beer clubs
- Urban
 - Movies on battery pack
 - Mobile cinema
 - No games fields
 - Walk to school
 - Play in the mud or in "street"
 - Yes spiritual nourishment
 - Beer clubs

Wafula Nabutoia, M.Sc.
Kenya

How About the Home?

- Rural
 - Grass thatch
 - Cool but not vulnerable to fire arson/accident, vermin
 - Silent
 - Mud Walls
 - Mud floors -cow dung
 - One door, two window
 - Bed sheet partition
 - No water, no loo
 - Long drop pit latrines
 - Kerosene lamp, pressure lamp very seldom maybe at macabre functions - funerals
 - Relatively crowded
- Urban
 - Old Tin roof
 - Hot or cold
 - Vermin
 - Noisy - rain
 - Mud or Old GCI sheets
 - Mud floors - sprinkle, sweep
 - One door, window
 - Partitioned by bed sheet
 - No water, no loo
 - Long drop pit latrines
 - Kerosene lamp (Candle?) pressure lamp occasionally like during weddings
 - Over - crowded!

Wafula Nabutoia, M.Sc.
Kenya

Upgrading?

- Improving the facilities
- Instill a sense of discipline
- Introduce standards of hygiene
 - Through community outreach programmes
 - Churches, mosques
- Introduce infrastructure
 - Roads
 - Schools
 - Electric power
 - Sanitation
 - Water - wholesome, potable, clean and handy of course
 - Social halls
- Introduce health standards

Wafula Nabutoia, M.Sc.
Kenya

Breakdown of informal settlements in Nairobi

Division	Villages	Structures	Rooms	Pop
Makadara	7	5,013	11,496	68,976
Pumwani	11	3,134	10,418	52,090
Embakasi	14	3,865	14,865	44,595
Kasarani	43	26,530	97,715	390,860
Parklands	7	2,190	9,310	37,240
Dagoretti	34	15,240	97,320	389,280
Lang'ata	17	21,615	180,625	903,125
Total	134	77,589	421,749	1,886,166

Source: Ngau 1995

Wafula Nabutoia, M.Sc.
Kenya

Challenges if/when upgrading

- Land tenure
 - Who owns the land now?
 - In Rural Areas Large Scale Farmer or Government
 - Now squatter infested
 - Sold/ handed out as political favour
 - In Town Government (Central/Local)
 - Slum dwellers
 - For what purpose?
 - In Country
 - For research, Sisal plantation, Seed farm
 - Fallow for soil nutrient regeneration
 - Fallow for speculative venture
 - Will there be change in ownership?
 - Sub-divide and distribute, Sub-let
 - Political
 - Main voting block, easy to resolve in city

Wafula Nabutoia, M.Sc.
Kenya

Challenges Cont'd

- Social
 - We have friends here!
- Spirit of competition assumes
 - level playing field
 - Equal opportunities
 - Fair game and to be seen to be fair
 - Access to information
- Whose responsibility is it anyway?
 - It has to be demand driven
 - Facilitated by partners and other stakeholders
- Financing
 - South African approach;- combined effort - Central/Prov. Govt/Loc. Auth/Comm
 - In Costa Rica communities were encouraged/Trained as artisans - skills
- Planning the process - time frame, liaise with the settlers
- Organizing the process
 - Relocation?
 - Build around them - takes longer, is riskier to all
 - Phases

Wafula Nabutoia, M.Sc.
Kenya

Opportunity for all Stakeholders

- Executing the project/s
 - Transition/holding zones
- The communities must participate actively/ not passively
 - Sweat equity
 - People Encouraged to Contribute their ideas
 - Must be fully informed
 - Must take part in the planning/execution/monitoring
 - Must be sold on the potential benefits
 - Gender balance, let the ladies work but nearer home
 - Hire unskilled/skilled labour from within
 - The Local authority to deliver services – Rates are paid!
 - Garbage collection/recycling
 - Street lights installed and maintained
 - Storm water drainage installed and cleared regularly
 - Potable & Reliable Water supplied at reasonable expense
 - Sewerage Installed and maintained

Wafula Nabutoia, M.Sc.
Kenya

Opportunities

- Central Government
 - Security, law and order
 - Education
 - Employment
 - Investment in these areas – Seed money required
 - Roads developed & maintained
 - Electric Power
 - Health Centres
 - Primary Health Care Clinics

Wafula Nabutoia, M.Sc.
Kenya