



INFRASTRUCTURE FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY REDUCTION IN AFRICA



UN HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

INFRASTRUCTURE FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY REDUCTION IN AFRICA

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UN  HABITAT

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FOREWORD



Urbanization is one of the most powerful, irreversible forces in the world. It is estimated that 93 percent of the future urban population growth will occur in the cities of Asia and

Africa, and to a lesser extent, Latin America and the Caribbean.

We live in a new urban era with most of humanity now living in towns and cities.

Global poverty is moving into cities, mostly in developing countries, in a process we call the *urbanisation of poverty*.

The world's slums are growing and growing as are the global urban populations. Indeed, this is one of the greatest challenges we face in the new millennium.

The persistent problems of poverty and slums are in large part due to weak urban economies. Urban economic development is fundamental to UN-HABITAT's mandate. Cities act as engines of national economic development.

Strong urban economies are essential for poverty reduction and the provision of adequate housing, infrastructure, education, health, safety, and basic services.

The *Global Urban Economic Dialogue* series presented here is a platform for all sectors of the society to address urban economic development and particularly its contribution to addressing housing issues. This work carries many new ideas, solutions and innovative best practices from some of the world's leading urban thinkers and practitioners from international organisations, national governments, local authorities, the private sector, and civil society.

This series also gives us an interesting insight and deeper understanding of the wide range of urban economic development and human settlements development issues. It will serve UN member States well in their quest for better policies and strategies to address increasing global challenges in these areas

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joan Clos', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Joan Clos

Under-Secretary-General, United Nations
Executive Director, UN-HABITAT

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AfDB	African Development Bank
AICD	African Infrastructure Country Diagnosis
BOT	Build Operate Transfer
BOOT	Build Own Operate Transfer
CD	Capacity Development
DBFM	Design, Build, Finance & Maintain
DFI	Development Finance Institution
DFID	Department for International Development (UK)
EAIF	Emerging Africa Infrastructure Fund (PIDG)
EU	European Union
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
IDA	International Development Agency
IFC	International Finance Corporation (WB)
IPP	Independent Power Producers
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MIGA	Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (WB)
ODA	Official Development Assistance
OECD	Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development
OLS	Ordinary Least Squares
PPI	Public-Private Investment
PPIAF	Public-Private Infrastructure Advisory Facility (WB)
PPP	Public-Private Partnership
PSP	Private Sector Participation
SSA	Sub-Saharan Africa
TA	Technical Assistance
UN	United Nations
WB	World Bank
WiMAX	Worldwide Interoperability for Microwave Access
WTO	World Trade Organisation

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