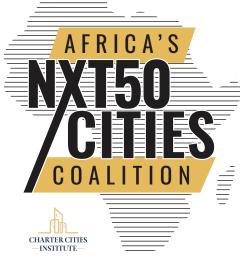


CHARTERCITIESINSTITUTE.ORG/NXT50



Africa's Next 50 Cities Coalition (NXT50)

convenes and mobilizes key stakeholders who are dedicated to harnessing Africa's rapid urbanization for human prosperity. The coalition's aim is to facilitate the building of thriving new cities that create jobs, foster investment, cluster innovation, and promote human flourishing across the continent.



THE PROBLEM

While other continents and regions experienced urban transitions in past centuries, Africa is undergoing its urban revolution this century. The UN estimates that the continent's cities are set to add 900 million more urban residents by 2050, almost tripling over the next 30 years.

While historically cities have been the engines of economic

development, rising incomes, and better livelihoods, this link between development and

> AFRICA IS UNDERGOING ITS URBAN REVOLUTION THIS CENTURY.

urbanization is breaking down in African cities today. Instead, many of the downsides of density are taking root: congestion, urban sprawl, slums, crime, and contagious disease.

This is largely because African cities are growing without creating the necessary jobs or building the needed infrastructure to accommodate a booming urban population.



THE OPPORTUNITY

To reverse this problem, African cities are in dire need of:

LEGAL NEW RULES FOR GROWTH-FRIENDLY URBAN GOVERNANCE AND FOR DE-RISKED URBAN INVESTMENT FINANCE NEW URBAN FINANCING MECHANISMS



TECHNICAL A NEW TYPE OF EMPOWERED CITY IMPLEMENTATION UNIT THAT HAS A STAKE IN THE CITY'S LONG-RUN PROSPERITY

Whether African cities seize the opportunities of urbanization or succumb to its downsides will be determined by urban policies adopted today.

THE COALITION

Great coalitions throughout history come together in times of great challenge and, rather than being alarmist or defeatist, help direct decision-making and action to effectively address these urgent challenges.

The Next 50 Cities Coalition sees rapid urbanization in Africa as one of the greatest challenges of the 21st century, involving an array of stakeholders—national and local governments, private investors, multilaterals, and new city developers. **NXT50** convenes these diverse stakeholders under one banner, aligns and coordinates their actions towards an agreed upon set of principles, and focuses always on execution and implementation.





COALITION PRINCIPLES

1. HUMAN FLOURISHING

We believe Africa's rapid urbanization this century must be harnessed to advance human flourishing.

2. INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC GROWTH

We believe that new, thriving cities can spring from this rapid urbanization, and present a singular opportunity to kickstart inclusive and sustained economic growth.

3. IMPLEMENTATION PARTNERSHIPS

We value implementation, execution, and forging pragmatic partnerships that leverage the strengths of the public sector, the private sector, and multilaterals to finance, build, operate, and govern these new cities.

4. TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATION

We believe that new technologies and innovations must be applied to effectively finance, build, operate, and govern new cities.

5. DE-RISKED URBAN INVESTMENT

We believe that new cities (and their residents and businesses) will fulfill the above principles only when their economic activity is formalized, bankable, and de-risked via effective decentralized governance in the form of a city charter.

COALITION OBJECTIVES



RAISE AWARENESS

for the need for new cities to help harness rapid urbanization in Africa.



MOBILIZE RESOURCES AND STAKEHOLDERS

at the international and national levels to get new cities built.



ESTABLISH A Shared Model For Urban Development

in Africa—a new city governance framework that de-risks urban investment, builds new thriving cities, and in turn advances human flourishing.



COALITION STRUCTURE & ACTIVITIES

Africa's Next 50 Cities Coalition is mobilizing support for new cities in Africa at three key levels:

1. CONTINENTAL

Continent-wide agendas and initiatives are already being undertaken by:

AFRICAN UNION

The AU's Agenda 2063 states "Africa shall be a prosperous continent...where...cities and other settlements are hubs of cultural and economic activities, with modernized infrastructure."

UNITED NATIONS

Sustainable Development Goal 11 is solely focused on the development of thriving cities.

AfCFTA SECRETARIAT

Article 23 of the AfCFTA Agreement explicitly states that special economic zones will be invested in, developed, and leveraged as key drivers of AfCFTA implementation. History shows these SEZs can be the seeds of new cities. **NXT50** is working across all the above continent-wide institutions (and more) to mobilize support, sign memorandums of understanding, and help formulate continent-wide frameworks for this model of transformational urban development, which aligns with the existing goals and objectives of these organizations.

2. NATIONAL

National governments already see rapid urbanization as an urgent policy priority. For example, the government of Malawi is currently drafting a national secondary cities plan to address exactly this issue. NXT50 will work with national and regional governments to provide advisory and technical assistance on legislative and regulatory frameworks that establish the enabling environments for thriving new cities in Africa.

3. NEW CITY PROJECTS

Many new special economic zones, new secondary city developments, and other big infrastructure projects are already being built today. NXT50 is working to make these projects the best versions of themselves they can be. By adding residential components onto these projects that generate urban agglomerations, you have the seeds of new cities. By also adding decentralized governance powers via a city charter that formalizes and de-risks, you have the seeds of thriving new cities. NXT50 connects new city projects and other related developments to a protocol for new city development. This protocol—developed by the Charter Cities Institute-takes projects through the process from conception, due diligence, and feasibility, through to project bankability and moving dirt.

COALITION MEMBERSHIP

Policy change doesn't happen without building a coalition dedicated to reform.

Africa's Next 50 Cities Coalition will bring together diverse stakeholders, all playing a key part in getting new cities financed, built, and governed effectively.



COALITION MEMBERSHIP INCLUDES (but is not limited to):

- Participation in the annual Global Charter Cities Conference.
- Knowledge sharing, best practices, research, and technical assistance.
- Access to key networks and partners—including early-stage financing needed throughout the entire project lifecycle of a new city development.
- Monthly or quarterly Project Showcases, where new city developments can discuss their project with other coalition members and stakeholders.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

To join Africa's Next 50 Cities Coalition, please express interest at **chartercitiesinstitute.org/nxt50** or email **Julian@cci.city**.

If you are a government or urban developer involved (or interested in pursuing) a new city project, please submit the project at the above website. Coalition prizes may be available, and there is potential to showcase your project. CCI will be happy to discuss your project with you further.

