



CHARTER CITIES
— **INSTITUTE** —

ANNUAL REPORT 2021

MISSION

BUILDING THE ECOSYSTEM FOR CHARTER CITIES BY:



Creating legal, regulatory, and planning frameworks needed for rapid urban growth.



Advising and convening key stakeholders including governments, new city developers, and multilateral institutions.



Influencing the global agenda through research, engagement, and partnerships.

VISION

Empowering New Cities

WITH

Better Governance

TO LIFT

Tens of Millions

OF PEOPLE

Out of Poverty

Letter From The Founder & Executive Director

Dear CCI Community:

In a year filled with ups and downs, the charter cities movement was no exception. While the Charter Cities Institute has had a very successful year, unfortunately, the progress being made with real-world projects in Honduras has stalled with the election of their new president Xiomara Castro. Despite this setback, the charter cities movement is strong as it has diversified to include multiple projects and countries.

In 2021 CCI doubled in size, with the new partnerships team being a key component. We have developed a framework for charter cities and are now working with countries and other stakeholders to implement it. In September we published a key part of that framework, the Governance Handbook—the first-ever step-by-step guide to building a new governing system from scratch. Now that the framework, including governance, location, industrial policy, planning guidelines, and government engagement is complete, we are at the next stage in CCI's journey: applying the framework.

Applying the framework means working with governments, development finance institutions, and international organizations. We have been meeting with Ambassadors, Ministers, and other heads of state with a universally positive response! Our challenge is now to figure out how to work effectively with governments to implement charter cities.

Our team has grown to meet this challenge. We welcomed economist Leonard Wantchekon to our Board of Directors. We've added valuable staff to our Research, Communications, Development, and Operations teams, which has resulted in more publications, exponential growth in our social media following, record-breaking fundraising and streamlined operations for our continued growth. We also launched our Partnerships team, which is spearheading the next phase of the Charter Cities Institute, working directly with governments and other stakeholders to build charter cities.

I am also pleased to announce the launch of CCI Zambia—located in Lusaka, Zambia—which aims to push forward the charter cities movement across Africa. CCI Zambia now has three full-time staff, and looks forward to working with the Zambian government and improving outreach across the continent.

2021 posed myriad challenges for individuals and institutions alike. CCI met those challenges, and is poised for an exciting 2022. We thank you for your continued support, and look forward to sharing more successes with you throughout this coming year.

Onward,

Mark Lutter
Founder & Executive Director

About Charter Cities & CCI



About CCI

The Charter Cities Institute is a nonprofit dedicated to building the ecosystem for charter cities. It was founded on the idea that a fresh approach was necessary to tackle humanity's most pressing challenges: global poverty, rapid urbanization, and conflict & migration caused by poverty, war, and climate change. Charter cities—new cities granted a special jurisdiction to create a new governance system—are that solution.

How the Charter Cities Institute is building the ecosystem for charter cities:

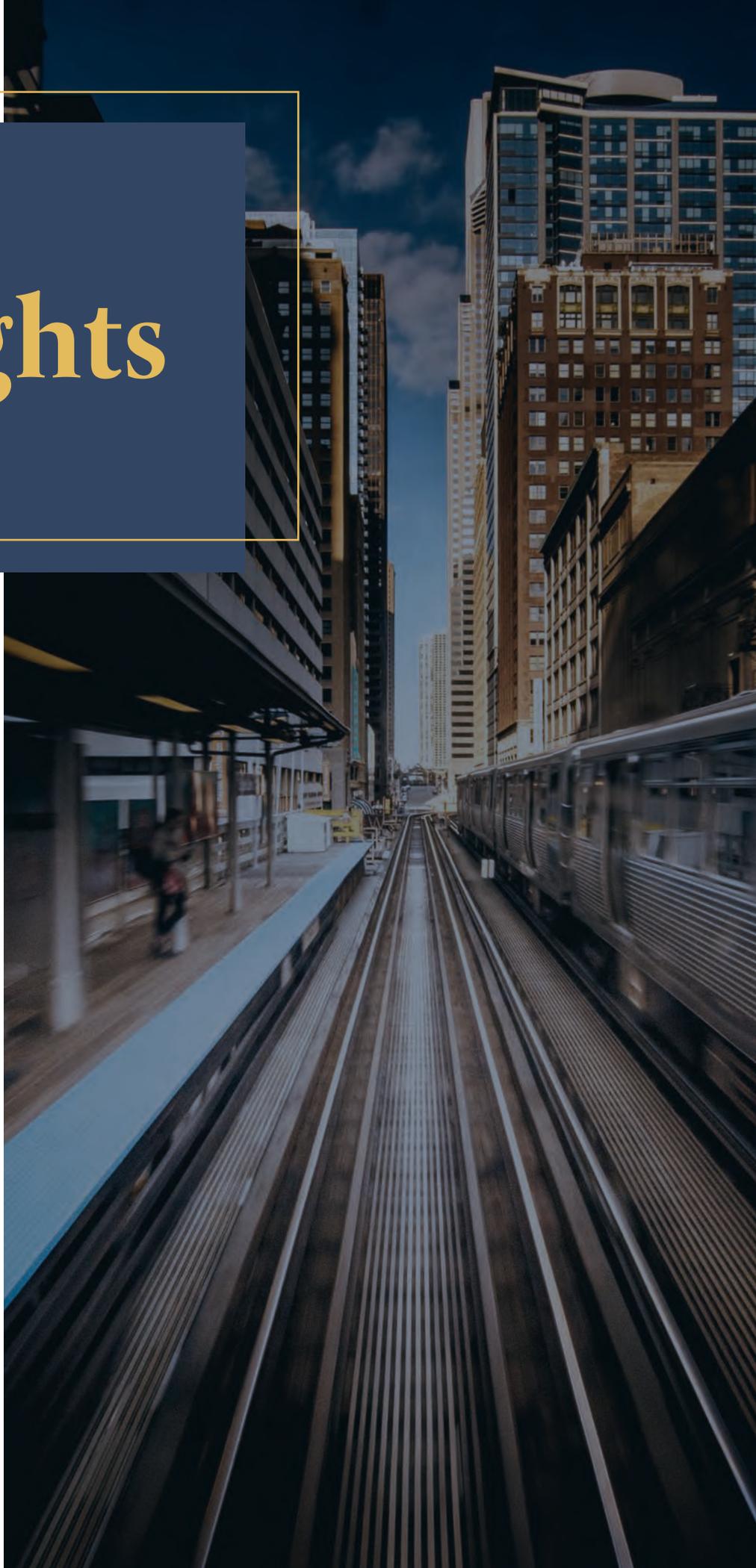
- Creating legal, regulatory, and planning frameworks needed for rapid urban growth.
- Advising and convening key stakeholders including governments, new city developers, and multilateral institutions.
- Influencing the global agenda through research, engagement, and partnerships.

The Increasing Need for Charter Cities

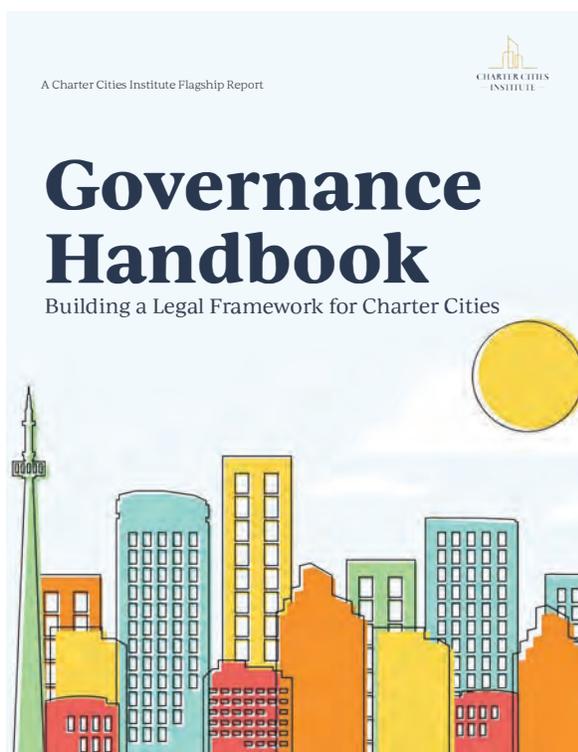
- 60% of the world's population will be living in urban areas by the end of 2030.
- Cities in Africa and Asia will add over 2 billion new residents by 2050 without the infrastructure or jobs to support these residents. New urban spaces are needed.
- If countries don't effectively manage rapid urbanization, this can lead to continued poverty and slum growth, poor living conditions, and limited job potential for city residents. Charter cities can help.
- Charter cities are one of the best public policy tools to ensure urbanization jumpstarts long-term economic development, rather than poverty, in emerging economies. By improving governance and institutions, charter cities can create a more competitive business environment, attract investment, create more jobs, and improve the lives of millions.



2021 Highlights & Stats



2021 Highlights & Stats

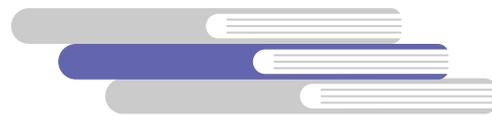


1ST EVER STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE FOR ESTABLISHING AND ADMINISTERING RULES FOR NEW CITIES: GOVERNANCE HANDBOOK - REACHING MORE THAN 156,000 PEOPLE ON TWITTER ALONE



22 PODCAST EPISODES

15,000+ PODCAST EPISODE DOWNLOADS



11

RESEARCH PAPERS

750+

PAGES OF RESEARCH MATERIALS

22

BLOG POSTS



14

VIDEOS

2,700

VIDEO VIEWS

Year in Review: **RESEARCH**



Letter From The Head of Research

To all the cities and urban governance nerds,

The Research Team had a stellar 2021. In addition to growing the team from 4 to 7, the highlight of last year was the publication of the Governance Handbook—the first comprehensive guide that lays out what the rules of new charter cities should be, and how they should be administered.

Other achievements include:

- **Publishing two more Reference Guides: (i) the Industrial Strategy Guide, and (ii) the State of Charter Cities Report.**
- **Putting out several research papers across a range of cities- and governance-related topics, including how charter cities can improve refugee responses, how to optimize a city for resilience and learning, how a new model of urban planning – Barefoot Planning – can serve as a more effective alternative to static master plans in fast-growing cities, as well as an article published in the Journal of Special Jurisdictions that overviews the history of the Honduran ZEDE law.**
- **Co-authoring two case studies. The first examines how the port city of Berbera, Somaliland would benefit from embracing the charter city model, and was co-written with Somalilander civil society. The second explores how charter city reforms can help the Democratic Republic of Congo grapple with issues around its reserves of critical minerals, co-written with former Governor of Kasai Central Province, Hubert Kabasu Babu Katulondi.**
- **Launching our first-ever CCI Summer Fellowship program where graduate students worked on projects that connected academic and real-world urban governance issues.**

And we're doubling down on this progress in 2022. Exciting upcoming publications and projects for this year include: the Charter Cities Atlas—a deep dive into history that shows how charter cities are not a novel notion, but are one of the oldest forms of social organization; a new working paper series published in partnership with the University of Witwatersrand in Johannesburg; several more reference guides to aid charter city developers; a Global New Cities Dataset to be used by researchers around the world; several regional conferences that allow diverse city stakeholders to share key lessons learned; university partnerships to teach charter cities courses; and country-specific policy briefs presented to government ministers and officials that pave the way for the passage of charter cities legislation.

Through our research, in 2022 we hope to make clear that charter cities are no longer just an idea, but are actively being pursued by governments and new city developers around the world. Our research aims to maximize the likelihood that these projects succeed, and in turn catalyze a new model of development.

All the best,

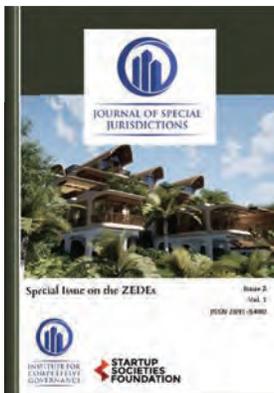
Kurtis Lockhart
Head of Research

Publications



HOW CHARTER CITIES CREATE BETTER REFUGEE RESPONSES

In a world with increasing numbers of forcibly displaced persons, this paper explores how charter cities can generate more effective responses to refugee movements while placing refugee and local community needs firmly at the center of local governance. The innovations in governance offered by the special jurisdictions of charter cities provide promising policy tools that support refugees in situations of protracted displacement. This paper shows how charter cities can achieve long-term benefits and sustainable development for local communities.



THE HONDURAN ZEDE LAW, FROM IDEATION TO ACTION

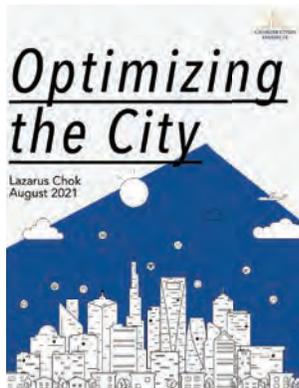
CCI's first academic publication on Honduras' charter cities law, written by Jeffrey Mason and Carl Peterson, was published in the Journal of Special Jurisdictions from the Institute of Competitive Governance. The paper explores Honduras' groundbreaking ZEDE law and the legal and regulatory autonomy to improve governance and economic competitiveness to attract greater investment. It also details the political and legislative history of the ZEDE law, responses to principle objections, and provides case studies for the first two ZEDEs.



DECONFLICTING CRITICAL MINERALS WITH CHARTER CITIES

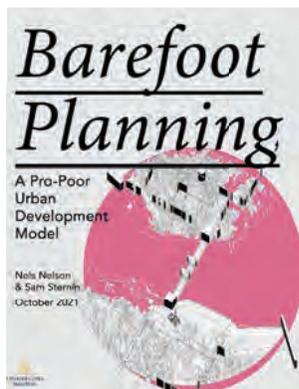
The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) has some of the largest deposits of the critical minerals cobalt and tantalum in the world. This paper explores how the dangers to the supply chains of critical minerals can be significantly reduced by relocating the refining and processing of these minerals to the DRC to improve and diversify its economy. We argue this relocation can be best managed through establishing a charter city in a relevant province, which can improve the lives of Congolese citizens and create a stable, ethical source for critical minerals.

Publications (Cont.)



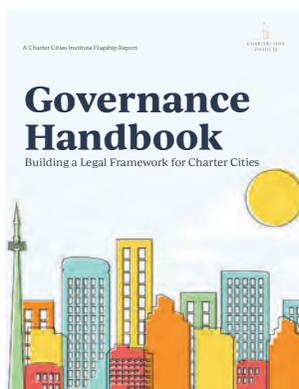
OPTIMIZING THE CITY

Global recessions, 100-year floods, ecological collapse, military conflicts, and pandemics are crises that are probabilistic, but not unpredictable. Curiously, some cities have, over time, become better at preparing for such crises, while others have not. This paper addresses how cities, when given the autonomy to design their own institutions and policy-making apparatus, can adapt to thrive even under conditions of high uncertainty. This paper explores how to optimize cities for crises, as well as improving growth, learning, and other seismic changes.



BAREFOOT PLANNING

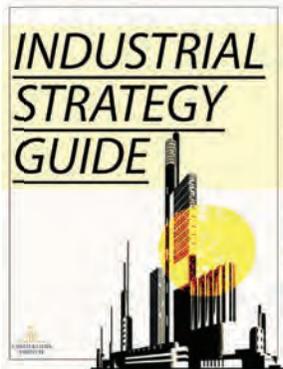
Nels Nelson and Sam Sternin co-wrote Barefoot Planning: A Pro-Poor Urban Development Model. They suggest rapid urban expansion requires a pro-poor model to avoid the creation of new slums. The paper explores how the dysfunctionality of top-down and bottom-up paradigms offers a design space for decentralized, adaptive mechanisms. Barefoot planning proposes to dynamically organize private development and public goods without a static master plan by employing barefoot planners, community-level planning practitioners.



GOVERNANCE HANDBOOK

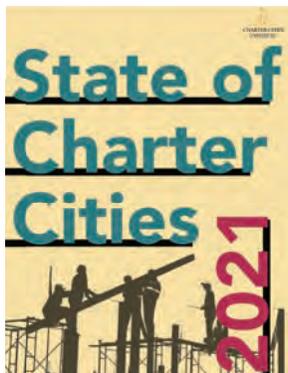
Charter cities are new cities with new rules. The Governance Handbook is the first comprehensive guide that lays out what these rules should be, and how they should be administered. There are urban planning firms to plan cities, funds dedicated to investing in cities, and architecture and engineering firms to design and construct the built environment of cities. But currently no comprehensive framework exists to guide the development of the legal system for new cities. The Governance Handbook aims to help fill this gap.

Publications (Cont.)



INDUSTRIAL STRATEGY GUIDE

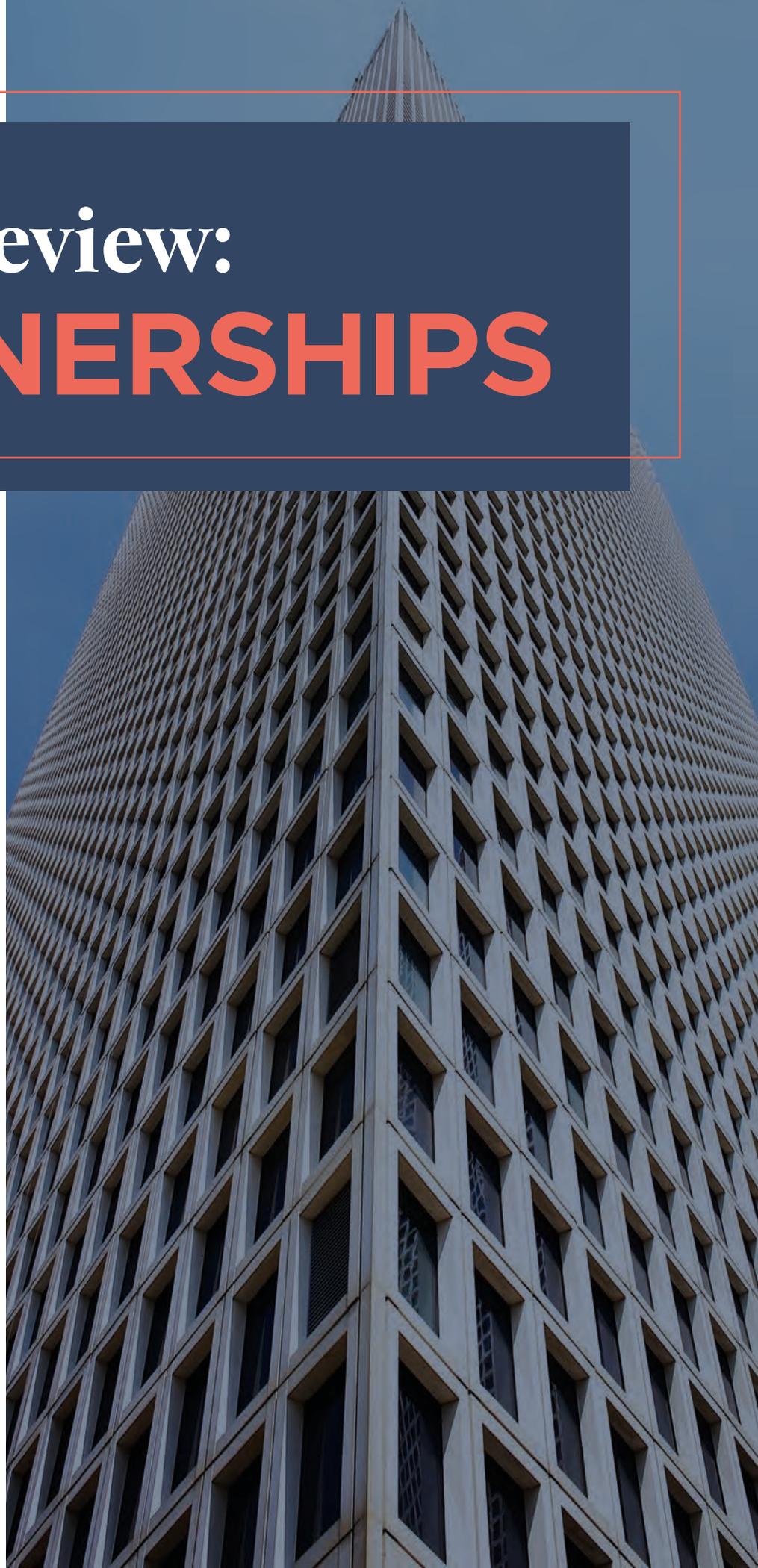
The goal of charter cities is to generate inclusive and sustained economic growth. To support this growth, a strategy to guide a city's industrialization is needed. While most charter cities will begin at relatively low-income levels, over time incomes will grow as skills transfer, productivity improves, and investments are made. A charter city must plan its industrial development so that it can attract and sustain a sufficient economic base to bolster its long-run economic growth. This guide gives an overview of what an industrial strategy is and why it matters.



STATE OF CHARTER CITIES 2021

Charter city projects are under construction and governments around the world are acting: the charter cities moment has arrived. Building new cities with new rules to accelerate economic growth and strengthen state capacity in the face of rapid urbanization throughout the Global South presents an extraordinary opportunity to alleviate poverty. This report first reviews both the past and present of the charter cities movement, and then lays out a vision as to where this movement is headed.

Year in Review: **PARTNERSHIPS**



Letter From The Head of Partnerships

Dear CCI Community:

The Partnerships Department had a great first year at CCI, with our team expanding to four highly motivated staff members. From the outset, the team commenced with outreach efforts to strategic stakeholders, and specifically achieved the following:

- **CCI Zambia was launched, from which the charter cities movement will be pushed both in Zambia and across the continent;**
- **Conducted ecosystem building trips to Zambia in September and then to Malawi, South Africa, and Nigeria in November, where contacts were established with numerous high ranking government officials, including ministers of finance and commerce, permanent secretaries, and directors of national planning, and over 30 other potential partners ranging from government officials to project financiers and developers;**
- **Held high-level discussions towards the signing of Memoranda of Understanding that resulted from our Zambia and Malawi trips, which will be the basis for on the ground charter cities related projects;**
- **Got charter cities acknowledged as an option for the acceleration of the 2030 sustainable development goals (SDGs) on the UNDESA website;**
- **The CCI Africa office lead was invited on the Zambia Technical Working Group for the Africa Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA) Protocol on Investment, where CCI will be well-positioned to advance charter cities; and**
- **Built up our internal team to systematize communications; update our branding and collateral; and be well-equipped to engage media and stakeholders – from developers to governments – essential to the charter cities movement.**

The outreach and establishment of CCI Zambia is just the beginning. In the coming year, we will staff up CCI Zambia, conduct missions where we can develop strong relationships with government and industry members, work with our Communications, Research and Development Departments to plan several regional conferences, provide technical assistance, implement agreed projects as per signed MOUs, and work towards creating stable and reliable finance for future charter cities.

We thank you for your support this past year. Our team looks forward to engaging and educating stakeholders worldwide about charter cities, and we are grateful that we can build this ecosystem with you.

Best regards,

Julian Mukiibi
Head of Partnerships

Growing the Footprint

Charter Cities Africa Action Plan (CCAAP)

African cities are growing without creating the necessary jobs or building the needed infrastructure to accommodate a booming urban population, forcing large numbers of new urban residents into slums.

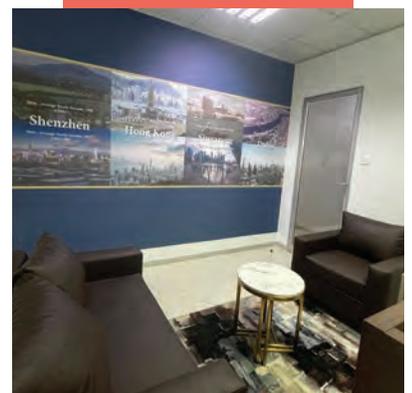
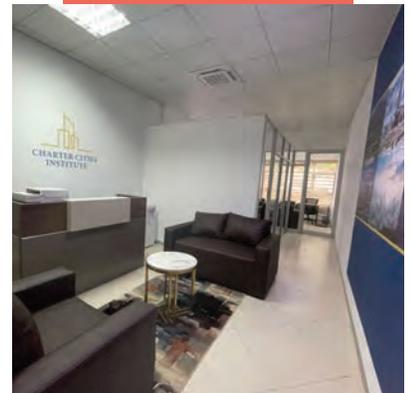
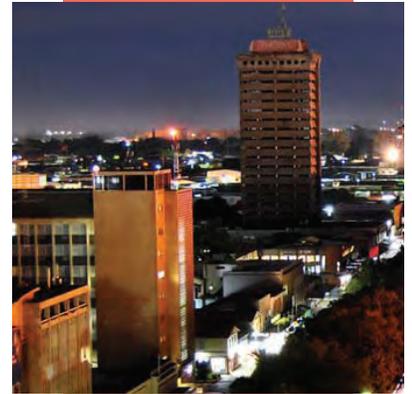
CCAAP aims to reverse this trend by providing new rules for growth-friendly urban governance, new financing mechanisms, and a new type of city enabled to create long-run prosperity.

The Charter Cities Africa Action Plan (CCAAP) is an initiative that addresses these three pillars:

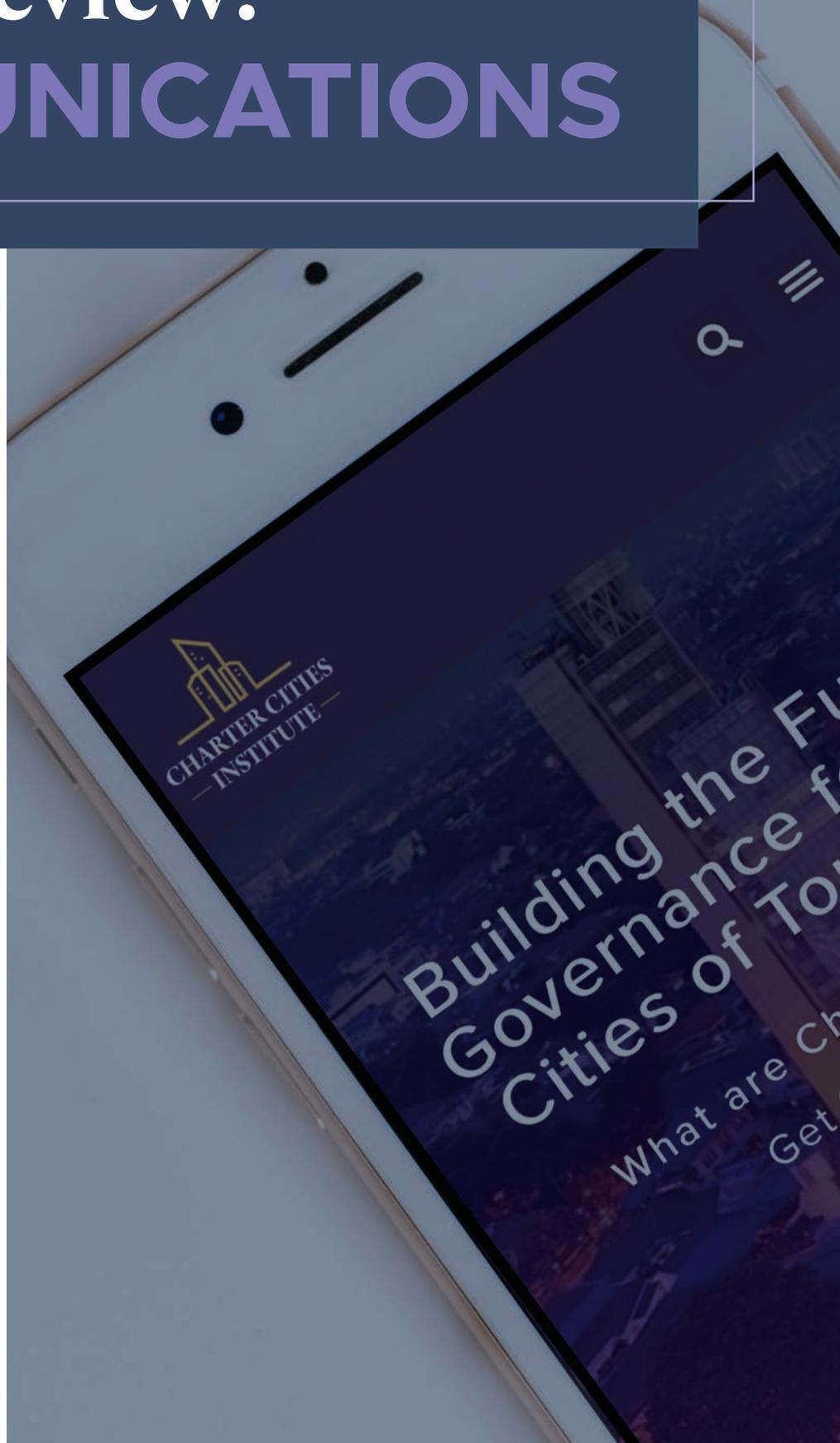
- 1 LEGAL**
CCAAP will establish legal standards for growth-enhancing urban governance;
- 2 FINANCIAL**
it will mobilize financial institutions to fund the infrastructure needed for rapid urban growth via appropriate deal structures; and
- 3 TECHNICAL**
It will connect the disparate stakeholders involved in building existing and new African cities through public-private partnerships.

Zambia Office

CCI Zambia was launched, from which the charter cities movement will be pushed both in Zambia and across the continent. The objective of the office is to work collaboratively with the Zambian Government and key stakeholders to create an enabling environment for establishing charter cities in Zambia by leveraging the existing Multi-facility Economic Zone program. CCI Zambia will also serve as a launchpad for further operations in Africa to empower African cities legally, financially, and technically to meet the objectives of Agenda 2063 and the Sustainable Development Goals through the Charter Cities African Action Plan (CCAAP).



Year in Review: COMMUNICATIONS



Letter From The Head of Communications

Dear CCI Community:

We started 2021 with fewer than 5,000 followers on Twitter; we ended it with just over 17,000! This is just one small example of how you—and our Communications Team—helped CCI level-up in 2021 and lay down the foundation for an explosive 2022. In addition to exponential social media growth, last year we:

- **Published and promoted more than 20 reference guides, analyses and papers, including the Governance Handbook, the first ever step-by-step guide for establishing and administering rules for new cities**
- **Produced an explainer video series as a part of our Urban October campaign to increase awareness for the charter cities movement**
- **Released 22 podcast episodes which generated over 15,000 downloads**
- **Built up our internal team to systematize communications; update our branding and collateral; and be well-equipped to engage media and stakeholders – from developers to governments – important to the charter cities movement.**

And we're just getting started. In 2022, we will continue to expand our traditional and social media footprints, introduce new content (podcasts, videos, and more), work with our Partnerships and Development Teams to plan several regional conferences, publish a new and more interactive website, and produce an internationally distributed documentary, ***Polis: The History and Destiny of Cities***.

We thank you for your support in 2021, look forward to sharing new CCI content and updates with you throughout 2022, and are thrilled to be working together to advance the charter cities movement and the future of development.

Best regards,

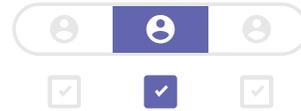
Michael Holstein
Head of Communications

Communications Team Highlights of 2021



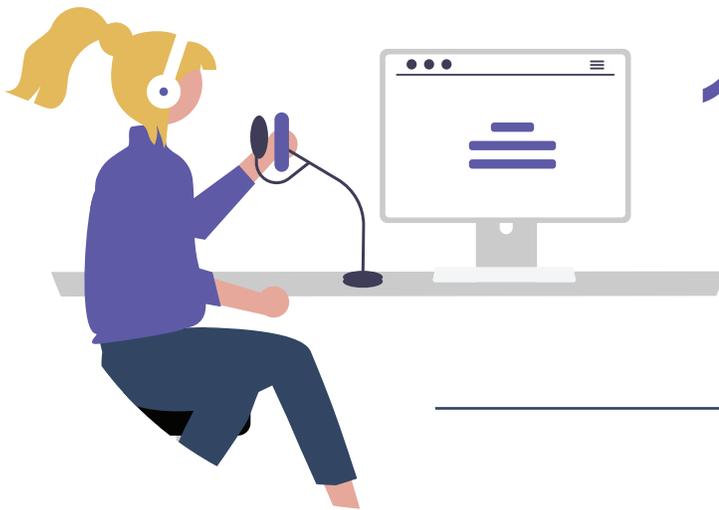
20+

REFERENCE GUIDES, ANALYSES
AND PAPERS PUBLISHED



110%

INCREASE IN NUMBER OF
WEBSITE SESSIONS AND USERS
(COMPARED TO 2020)



15,000

PODCAST EPISODE
DOWNLOADS

22

PODCAST EPISODES

1.67M+

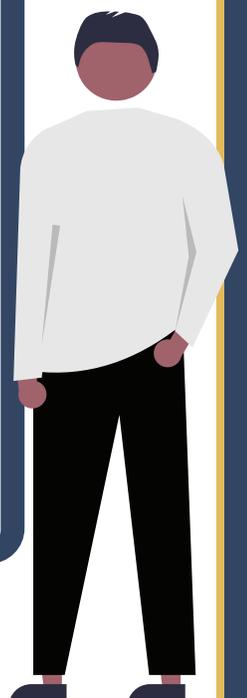
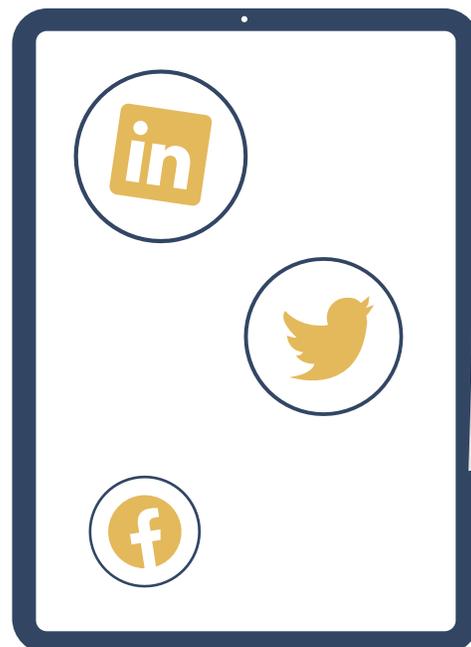
TWITTER
IMPRESSIONS

12,000+

NEW TWITTER
FOLLOWERS

900+

NEW LINKEDIN
FOLLOWERS



Social Media Highlights & Media Mentions



Explainer Video Series

This year, we started producing explainer style videos to introduce viewers to the idea of charter cities and their ability to lift tens of millions of people out of poverty, while expanding our media footprint. We created videos **introducing charter cities, factors that impact their success, and much more.**



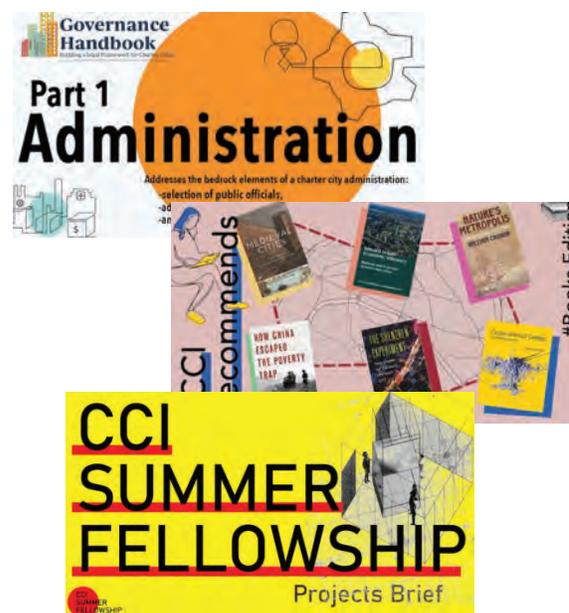
Charter Cities Podcast

The Charter Cities podcast continued to grow, with great feedback from listeners. From economists to journalists, we expanded our guest list to include experts from a variety of backgrounds.

Some of our most popular episodes in 2021 included, **“The Decline and Rise of Democracy with David Stasavage,”** **“Understanding the Hidden Forces that Shape Society with Samo Burja,”** and **“One Billion Americans: The Case for Thinking Bigger with Matthew Yglesias.”**

Urban October Campaign

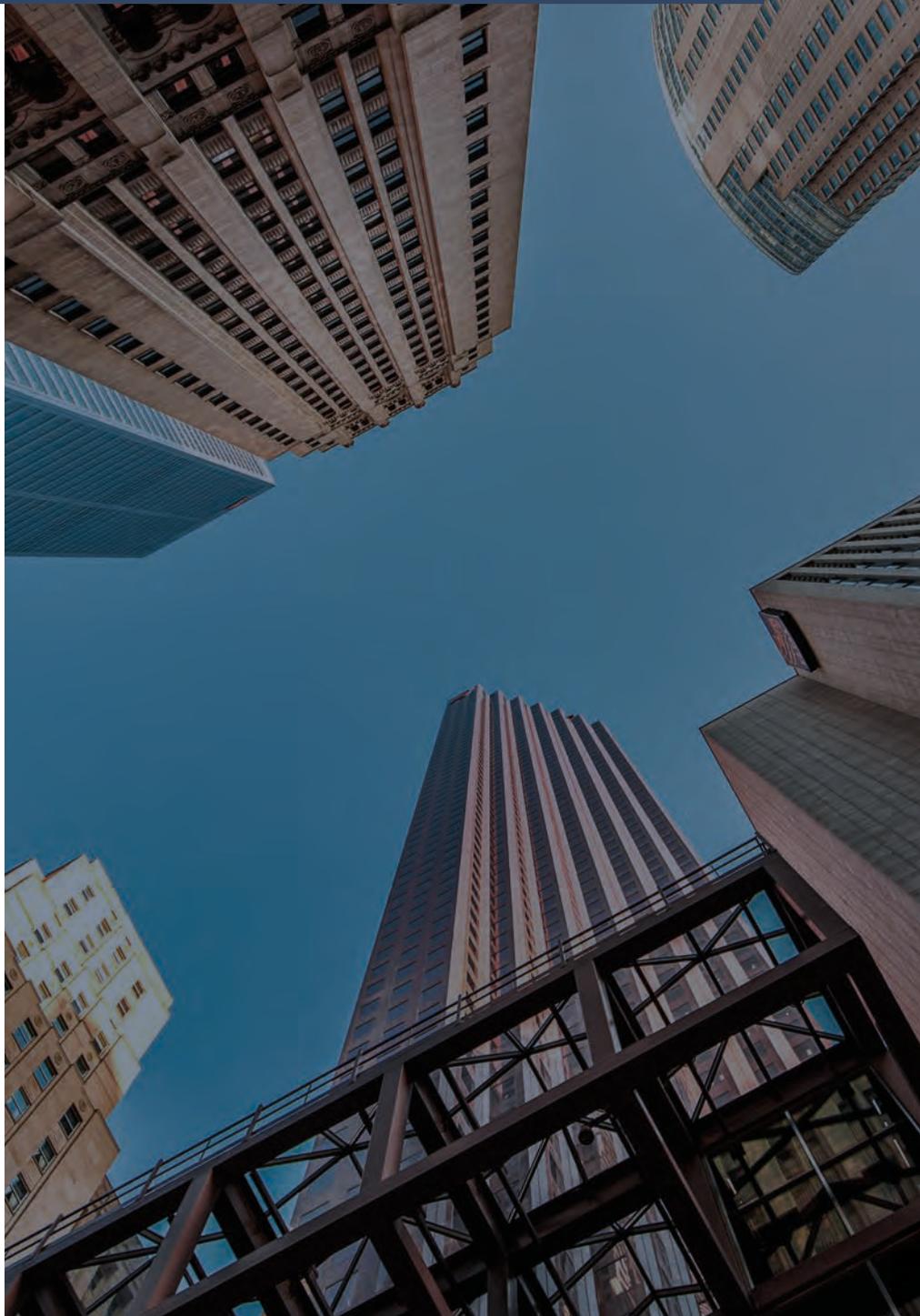
We expanded our outreach with an **Urban October** social media campaign, sharing podcasts, blogs, papers, and more. We highlighted things like the Governance Handbook, the first comprehensive guide that lays out suggested laws for new cities, published the Barefoot Planning paper, and shared projects from CCI’s summer fellowship.



Media Mentions

CCI and the team have had a variety of media mentions this year as our reach expands. CCI’s Founder Mark Lutter was quoted in a **New Yorker** article on whether tech needs a new narrative. Mark was also featured in a piece on whether America could utilize special economic zones on **Catalyst Independent**. The Observer Research Foundation also wrote an **article** on the charter city development model. Jeff Mason wrote an **article** defending Doing Business for CapX. CCI was also listed on the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals **website**.

Year in Review: **DEVELOPMENT**



Letter From The Head of Development

Dear CCI Community,

The CCI Development Team is thrilled to report that in 2021 we raised over \$5,850,000 from diverse sources—individuals, foundations and technical assistance! This magic happened in large part by growing and informing our community about our charter city projects at events, both virtual and in-person throughout the year.

Additional major accomplishments included:

- **Launching the CCI Dinner Series. CCI hosted dinners and happy hours in San Francisco, Puerto Rico, Washington DC, and New York City.**
- **Launching a Giving Tuesday campaign on our growing social media platforms.**
- **Launched *Seeding The Future*—a podcast about the future of philanthropy.**

In 2022 we'll increase our individual and foundational gifts, further build our donor pipeline, and host highly curated events in San Francisco, Austin, Miami and DC. We will work closely with CCI's Research, Partnerships and Communications Teams to launch a series of regional conferences to get our legislative proposals on the global agenda and promote our projects to investors and collaborators.

On the development team we consider ourselves the “master conveners” - bringing together investors, donors, academics, and partners that will build a solid pipeline of projects and support the legislation necessary to make charter cities a reality. We thank you for your support in 2021, and may 2022 be a terrific year for the charter cities movement.

Onwards and upwards!

Skye Lawrence
Head of Development

Year in Review: **OPERATIONS**



Letter From The Head of Operations

Dear CCI Community:

Greetings! I'm John Hoyt, the new Head of Operations. I'm happy to take this opportunity to introduce myself and share my aspirations for the Operations Department in 2022.

I joined CCI in November 2021 after finishing my Master of Science in International Development from the University of Edinburgh in Scotland. Early in 2021, while preparing to write my final dissertation, I stumbled upon the Charter Cities Institute and was immediately impressed by the high quality thought leadership and the concrete steps that CCI is taking to develop the charter cities concept.

Upon joining CCI, I was able to get an inside look at this organization that I had admired from afar. Thanks to those who had worked in operations before me, I could see that significant work has been done to build up the processes and policies that are needed to support the growth of CCI. For 2022, we will focus on improvements in four areas: People, Money, Coordination, and Tools. We have set goals to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of each area to multiply the overall impact of CCI.

Thank you for your support in 2021. I look forward to growing with CCI in 2022 to build the future of governance.

Sincerely,

John Hoyt
Head of Operations

Growing the Team

In 2020, we doubled in size from only two full-time staff to four.
In 2022, we have nearly 20 staff members and growing!



**KURTIS
LOCKHART**

Acting Executive
Director &
Head of Research



**SKYE
LAWRENCE**

Head of
Development



**MICHAEL
HOLSTEIN**

Head of
Communications



JULIAN MUKIIBI

Head of
Partnerships



JOHN HOYT

Head of
Operations



MWANDA PHIRI

Africa Lead



**LOLA
OGUNSANYA**

Senior
Partnerships
Manager



CARL PETERSON

Partnerships
Manager



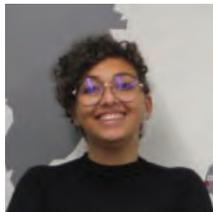
**MATTHEW
MCCARTNEY**

Senior Researcher



JEFFREY MASON

Researcher



HEBA ELHANAFY

Urban Researcher



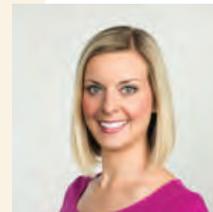
**TOMMIE
THOMPSON**

Quantitative
Researcher



**MEGHAN
HORIHAN**

Digital Media
Associate



**CHRISTY
KINGSBURY**

Graphic Designer



**EMMANUEL
OLAWOYE**

Operations
Manager



**JON
VANDENHEUVEL**

Senior Advisor,
Africa



OMAR AROUNA

Senior Advisor,
Government
Relations



ETHAN CHORIN

Non-Resident
Fellow

Growing the Board

In addition to growing our staff, our Board grew as well, as Professor Leonard Wantchekon joined the CCI Board.



Leonard Wantchekon is a Professor of Politics and International Affairs at Princeton University, as well as Associated Faculty in Economics. He is a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, a Fellow of the Econometric Society, a member of the Executive Committee of the International Economic Association, and has served as Secretary of the American Political Science Association and on the Executive Committee of the Afrobarometer Network.

Wantchekon is also the Founder and President of the African School of Economics, which opened in Benin in 2014 (and has since added a second campus in Cote d'Ivoire), and the Founder and President of the Pan-African Scientific Research Council. He previously served as professor at New York University and at Yale University, and holds a PhD in Economics from Northwestern University.

Additional CCI Board Members:



DR. MARK LUTTER
Founder



DAN GROSSMAN
Treasurer



W. GYUDE MOORE
Board Member

Interns

CCI had an excellent class of interns in 2021, and we look forward to welcoming research, urban planning, partnerships, communications and development interns in 2022!

In 2021, CCI engaged 23 interns across three cohorts in its different departments, including research, legal research, communications, development, partnerships, and urban planning. We engaged nine interns in the Spring, nine in the summer and five in the fall.

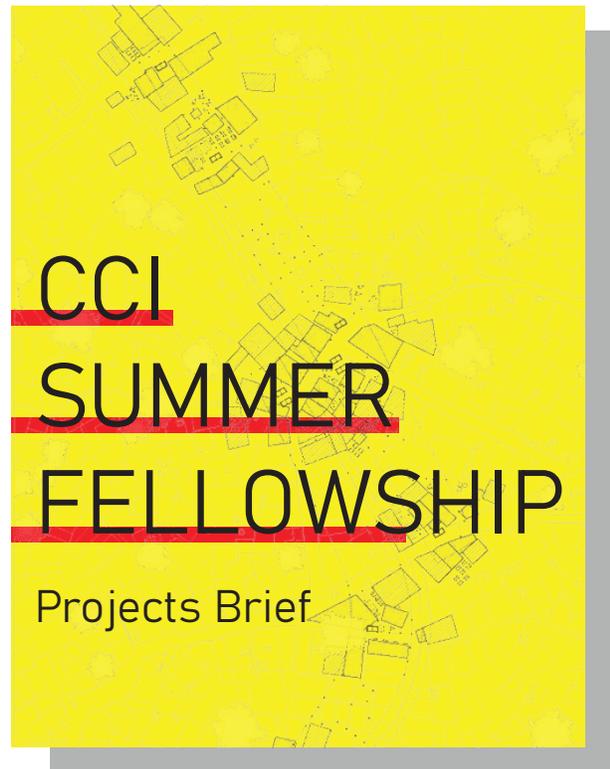
Our interns were from different countries across the world, including the UK, US, Brazil, South Africa, India, and Netherlands. They also ranged across different schools, including Harvard, Oxford, UCL, LSE, Yale, Instituto Federal de Brasília, University of Western Cape, and the University of Copenhagen.

We received over 200 applications across the different cohorts. The CCI internship is designed to give the interns a practical exposure to the charter cities ecosystem. We held multiple sessions with experts within the charter cities space across the world.



2021 Summer Fellowship

The CCI Summer Fellowship was open to graduate students and young professionals from the Global South with expertise in urban development.



The Fellowship exposes participants to academic and real-life urban discourse. Fellows are connected with top leaders in the field and with several of CCI's partner organizations, from mainstream academic scholars, to tech startups and international development specialists.

"Spatial Manifestation of Self-Governance Groups" and "An Introductory Guide to Aspects of Charter City Financing in the Global South" will be sponsored by CCI for longer term mentorship.



Upcoming and On-the-Ground Projects

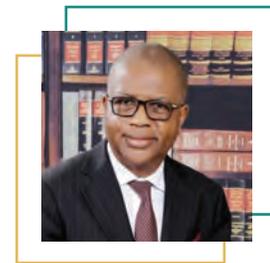


Partner projects are pressing ahead on multiple continents. The charter cities moment has arrived, and charter city developments are securing financing, moving dirt, and securing special jurisdictions.

Enyimba Economic City

Enyimba Economic City, Nigeria is a new city development planned for 1.5 million residents in Abia State, Nigeria. Enyimba Economic City will create an estimated 600,000 jobs when fully developed, with a focus on manufacturing, trade, and logistics. Enyimba Economic City enjoys the strong support of state and federal government of Nigeria, including President Muhammadu Buhari and Abia State Governor Okezie Ikpeazu. CCI worked with the Enyimba Economic City team to draft regulations for the city under Nigeria's special economic zone regulations. The draft regulations have been entered into the Nigerian Gazette. The Enyimba Economic City team is also in the process of raising funds to start construction from various development finance institutions.

“As General Counsel I worked closely with the CCI team to finalize our proposed Enyimba Economic City’s regulations submitted for regulatory approval. The CCI team’s thorough and professional input resulted in significant improvements, many of which remain in the government approved Enyimba Economic City Regulations 2020, that are now officially gazetted into law with great potential to foster a flourishing city, create jobs, and contribute to economic development.”



CHIBUZO EKWEKWUO
General Counsel of
Enyimba Economic City

Ciudad Morazán



Ciudad Morazán, Honduras, is a new city development and Zona de empleo y desarrollo económico (Zone for Employment and Economic Development) or ZEDE. ZEDEs devolve significant authority to a local jurisdiction, including regulatory, administrative, fiscal, and judicial authority. Ciudad Morazán is the second-ever ZEDE, the first being Próspera on the island of Roatán. Planned for 8,000 people, Ciudad Morazán will initially focus on light manufacturing and providing housing for the local population. CCI has been advising the Ciudad Morazán on the project's proposed governing framework, as well as in key policy areas. Ciudad Morazán's first regulations have been published and construction commenced- in 2021.

Talent City

Talent City, Nigeria is a charter city development led by entrepreneur Iyinoluwa Aboyeji, focused on creating a new Nigerian tech hub. Talent City will feature a regulatory framework designed to attract tech companies and entrepreneurs from not just Lagos, but all of Africa. Iyinoluwa was recently featured on the cover of Forbes Africa, which detailed his Future Africa venture fund focused on creating opportunities for startups across Africa.

“CCI has been helpful in my plans for developing Talent City, from governance to helping to understand how to negotiate with governments”



IYINOLUWA “E” ABOYEJI

Founder and General Partner at Future Africa
Developer of Talent City

Memorandum of Understanding with the Zambia Development Agency

The Zambia Development Agency (ZDA) is responsible for investment promotion and administration of Zambia’s Multi-Facility Economic Zones. In February 2020, CCI signed a memorandum of understanding to work with the ZDA to help improve the Zambian business environment by taking initial steps towards creating the legal framework for charter cities.



Nkwashi

Nkwashi is a new city development located outside of Lusaka, Zambia. The city project, led by Mwiya Musokotwane, is planned for 100,000 residents with a new university as its economic anchor. Construction on both housing and the university is underway and the first residents will be moving in within the next few months.



In September, Nkwashi partnered with Atlas Mara and Lafarge to give away three homes in Nkwashi for free! In addition to the house giveaway, Nkwashi has

partnered with tech startup DoubleGDP to build a platform that enables easy interfacing between city residents and the city administration. To help support the growth of Nkwashi’s education economy, Mwiya has launched Explorer Academy, an online education platform with programs in software development and digital design. After training students, Explorer Academy will partner graduates with major companies and startups in remote work positions. Mark Lutter serves on the Board of Explorer Academy.



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