



## Our New Urban Agenda

# Learning Series

Learning, Reflecting, Acting Together

1

**How is your country integrating strategic and integrated urban planning approaches—such as mobility planning, land-use management, and public space design—into recent urban development initiatives?**

**Nigeria (Ms. Banmi Alugbin)**

- **Use of planning instruments:** 19 operative development plans, Lagos State Development Plan (2022–2052), Lagos Resilience Strategy, Climate Action Plan and Urban Renewal Guidelines to guide land-use, regeneration and resilience.
- **Mobility & land-use integration** promoting transit-oriented development and multimodal transport (including waterways) tied to activity-center planning so transport investments align with land use.
- **Public space & implementation:** urban renewal guidelines and resilience work promote nature-based solutions, streets/public space redesigns, and projects (e.g., new deep-sea port, new airport) implemented via coordinated agencies.
- **Delivery approach:** strong emphasis on public-private partnerships and multi-agency coordination to finance and implement integrated interventions.

**Ethiopia (Mr. Belayneh Agonafer)**

- **Mobility planning:** corridor development linking commercial, industrial and residential areas (corridor projects from Addis to secondary cities) to improve integrated movement and access.
- **Land-use & infrastructure integration:** corridors combine transport, utilities and other infrastructure so development is delivered in an integrated package rather than piecemeal.
- **Public space & non-motorized priority:** adding pedestrian walkways, dedicated cycle lanes and bus-only lanes to make streets more pedestrian/cyclist friendly and reduce traffic accidents.
- **Delivery approach:** emphasis on community participation, PPPs, stronger coordination among city offices and utility providers, and use of digital tools/urban observatories for monitoring and scaling to secondary cities.

2

**What are the main challenges you face in managing rapid urban growth or spatial expansion, and what planning tools or strategies have proven most effective in addressing them?**

**Nigeria (Ms. Banmi Alugbin)**

- Main challenges:** extreme population pressure (Lagos ~20+ million in small land area); informality and slums; flooding and climate-related shocks; difficulty in providing basic services to rapidly growing populations.
- Effective tools/strategies:** 20 operative development plans (19 local ODPs) and a forthcoming comprehensive strategic plan to guide land use; Lagos Resilience Strategy and Climate Action Plan for shock preparedness; Urban Renewal Guidelines to direct regeneration; transit-oriented development and multimodal transport (including waterways) to manage growth and mobility; leveraging public-private partnerships (PPPs) and multi-agency coordination to fund and implement projects (e.g., deep-sea port, new airport).

**Ethiopia (Mr. Belayneh Agonafer)**

- Main challenges:** large housing shortage and informal settlements; deficits in basic services (water; sanitation); traffic congestion and pedestrian safety due to vehicle-oriented infrastructure; general infrastructure gaps with limited financing.
- Effective tools/strategies:** corridor development (integrated transport and infrastructure corridors linking commercial, industrial, residential areas) to shape spatial expansion; incorporation of pedestrian walkways, cycle lanes and bus-only lanes to improve safety and mobility; stronger coordination among city institutions and utility providers to avoid fragmented interventions; community participation and PPPs to mobilize resources; adoption of digital tools/urban observatories for monitoring and management.

3

**Could you share an example from your current project (corridor development, territorial plans, or city-level planning) that illustrates how climate resilience or risk-sensitive planning is being incorporated?**

**Nigeria (Ms. Banmi Alugbin)**

- **Climate-resilience examples:** Lagos Resilience Strategy and a dedicated Climate Action Plan guide risk-sensitive planning (flooding, shocks like pandemics).
- **Project examples:** urban renewal guidelines and transit-oriented / multimodal transport initiatives (including waterways) are being implemented with nature-based solutions and resilience principles to reduce flood risk and improve adaptive capacity. Large infrastructure projects (new deep-sea port, new airport) are being advanced with multi-agency coordination and PPP financing tied back to the plans.

**Ethiopia (Mr. Belayneh Agonafer)**

- **Climate-resilience examples:** corridor development (linking Addis and secondary cities) used as an integrated delivery mechanism that combines transport, utilities and infrastructure to reduce vulnerability from piecemeal growth.
- **Project examples:** corridor projects incorporate safer pedestrian walkways, dedicated cycle lanes and bus-only lanes (reducing traffic risk and improving access) and emphasize coordination with utility providers, community participation and PPP financing; adoption of digital tools/urban observatories is used to monitor performance and inform risk-sensitive decisions.

4

**How do you ensure meaningful collaboration between national government, local authorities, and communities in the planning and implementation process?**

**Nigeria (Ms. Banmi Alugbin)**

- **Institutional frameworks and plans:** Use of operative development plans, Lagos State Development Plan, Lagos Resilience Strategy and Urban Renewal Guidelines to align mandates across agencies.
- **Multi-agency coordination:** Emphasis on bringing MDAs (ministries, departments, agencies) together so transport, land-use, utilities and renewal programs are coordinated rather than siloed.
- **Community & stakeholder roles:** Engagement with communities and organized private sector; fostering ownership (e.g., in urban renewal) so citizens maintain improvements.
- **Financing & delivery:** Heavy reliance on public-private partnerships to mobilize funds and implement projects jointly with government and private actors.

**Ethiopia (Mr. Belayneh Agonafer)**

- **Community participation:** Active involvement of communities in infrastructure delivery (community-built road segments, local inputs) to share costs and ensure buy-in.
- **Institutional coordination:** Strengthening coordination between city government offices and utility providers to avoid fragmented implementation.
- **PPPs and developer engagement:** Use of public-private partnerships and private developers to mobilize resources for housing and infrastructure.
- **Evidence & monitoring:** Adoption of digital tools and urban observatories to monitor projects and support transparency and joint decision-making.

5

**Looking ahead, what are the key priorities or opportunities you see for strengthening sustainable urban development in your country, and where could regional or international partners provide the most support?**

**Nigeria (Ms. Banmi Alugbin)**

- **Key priorities/opportunities:** finalize/implement comprehensive strategic plans; scale transit-oriented and multimodal transport; accelerate urban renewal and climate resilience (nature-based solutions); mobilize more PPP investment for large infrastructure (ports, airport, transport); strengthen multi-agency coordination and community ownership.
- **Where partners can help:** technical support for implementation and capacity building, financing and blended-finance instruments, knowledge exchange on resilient/compact city solutions, support for PPP structuring and nature-based resilience pilots.

**Ethiopia (Mr. Belayneh Agonafer)**

- **Key priorities/opportunities:** scale corridor development to secondary cities; strengthen institutional coordination (city–utilities); expand pedestrian/cycling and safe public transport; improve housing delivery via PPPs and community engagement; adopt digital monitoring/urban observatories for data-driven management.
- **Where partners can help:** finance and technical assistance for corridor and secondary-city scaling, capacity building for inter-agency coordination, digital tools and data systems, support for PPP frameworks and community-inclusive financing models.