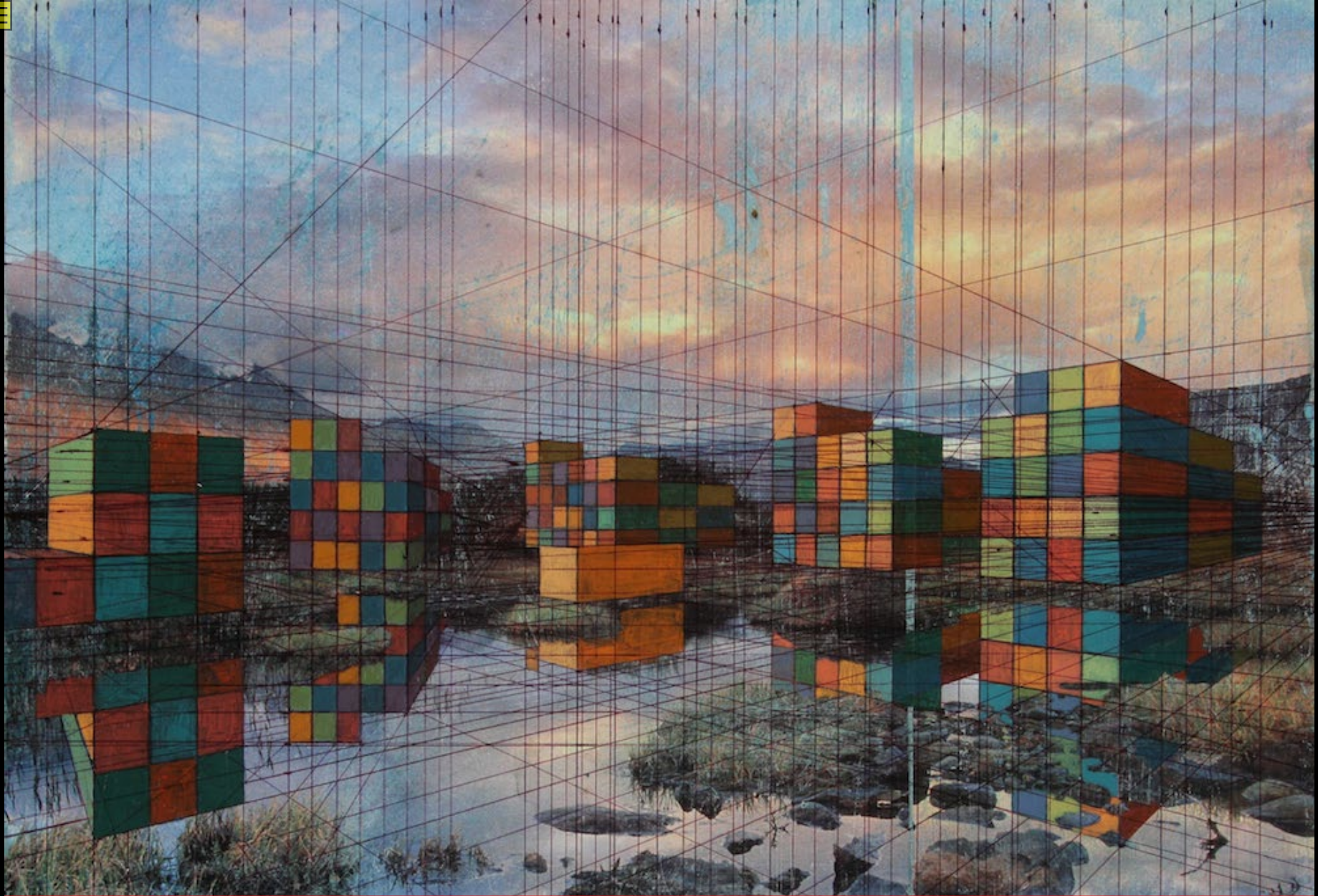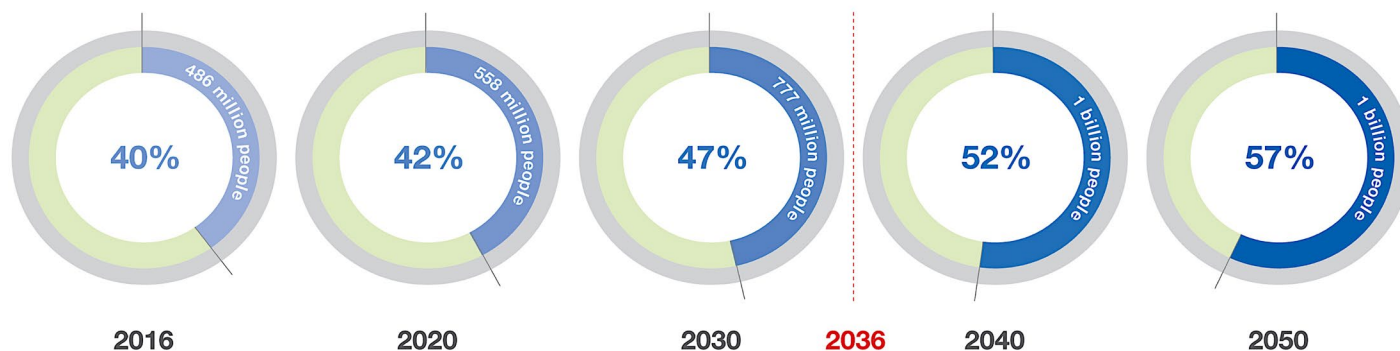AFRICAN CENTRE FOR CITIES

CONTEXT

Africa's urban population growth, 2016–2050

|	Diversifiers	Early urbanizers	Late urbanizers	Agrarians	Natural resource-based
Urbanization rate	**40-60%**	**35-50%**	**18-30%**	**<30%**	**30-70%**
Fertility	<3 children	5 children ave	>5 children	high	high
GNI p/c	**<$10,000k**	**$1-4000**	**$1-2.200**	**<$1600**	**$500-20,000**
HDI	Above 0.60	0.40-0.57	0.38-0.51	0.34-0.48	Wide range
	5 countries	9 countries, mainly West African	11 countries, a number in	11 countries, many	13 countries

Employment status in Africa, 2010
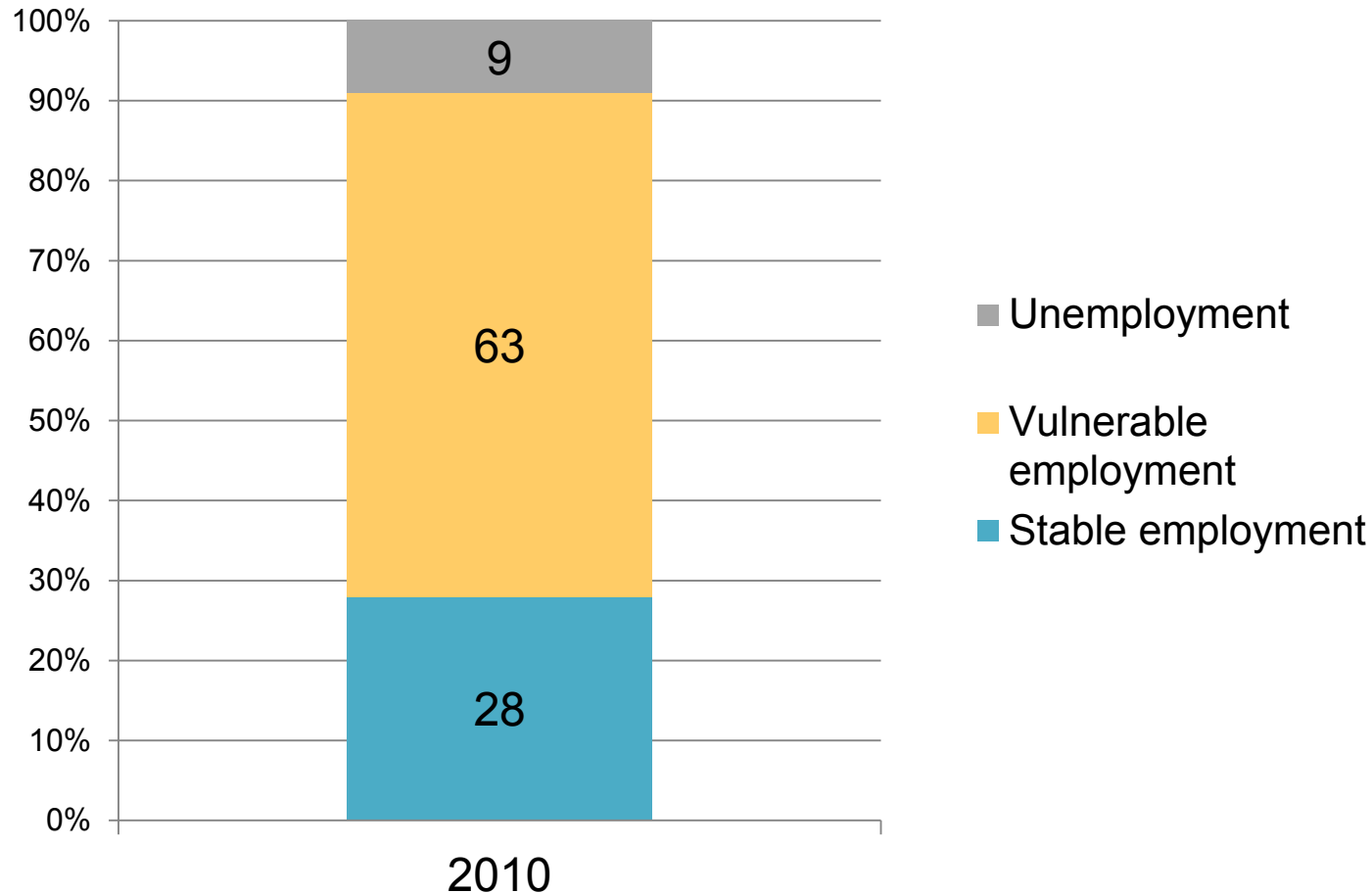
Note: Stable employment includes wage and salaried employees and business owners. Vulnerable employment includes subsistence farming, informal self-employment and work for family members.

Africa's labour force is expected to expand from 400m to 1.2bn between 2000-2050

2010

2050

Source: AFDB Database

Source: AFDB Database
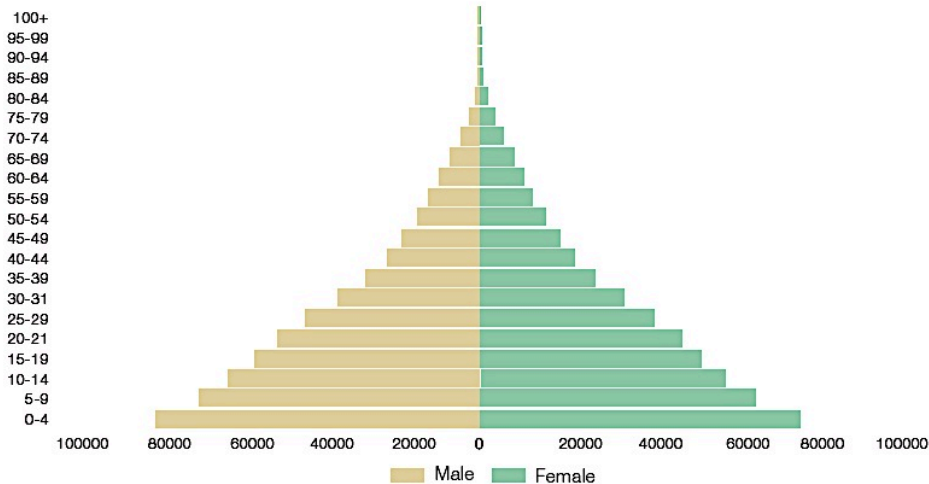
GDP COMPOSITION BY SECTOR, AFRICA, 1961–2012
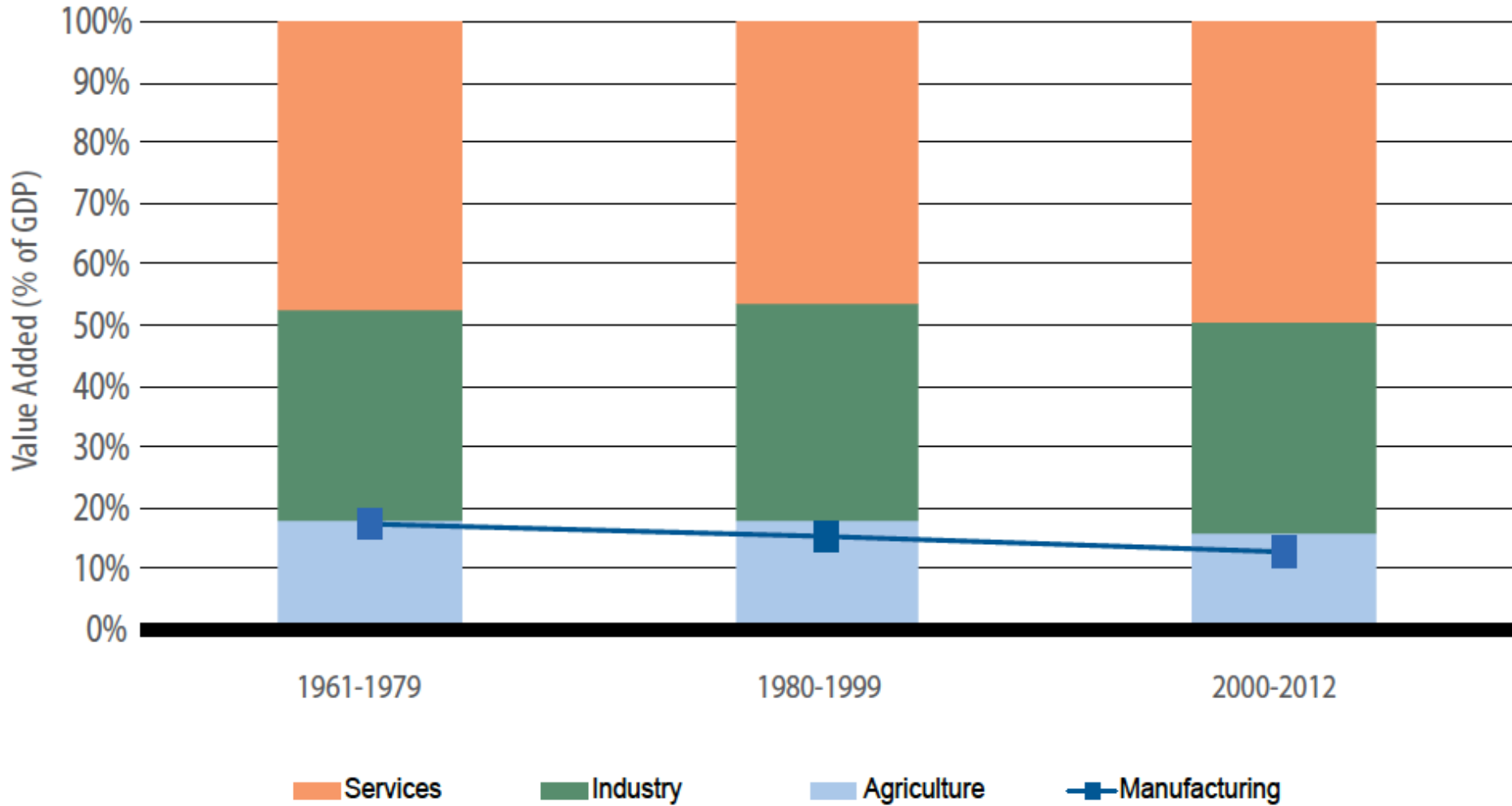
Source: ECA, 2015

Despite sustained GDP growth, there is a lag in formal employment, and especially, industrial jobs
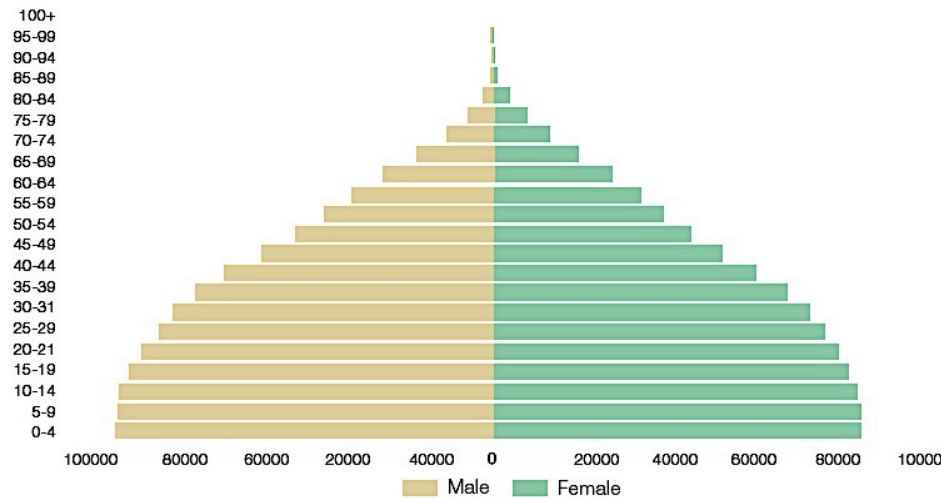
- SSA: 66% (East and South-Asia: 65%; South Asia: 82%; Latin America: 51%)
- 61% of urban employment in Africa is informal
- Wages are substantially lower & variable in informal employment compared to formal

City	Total	Women	Men
Abidjan	79	90	70
Bamako	82	91	75
Cotonou	81	89	72
Dakar	80	88	74
Lome	83	90	75
Niamey	76	83	72
Ouagadou-gou	80	87	75

Source: Mo Ibrahim Foundation, 2015: 42

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Worse in Africa

Urban population living in slums, 2014, %
Selected countries

Country	%
Congo	
Ethiopia	
Ivory Coast	
Kenya	
Angola	
Bangladesh	
Nepal	
Tanzania	
Nigeria	
Pakistan	
India	
South Africa	
Indonesia	

AVERAGES

South Asia

Sub-Saharan Africa
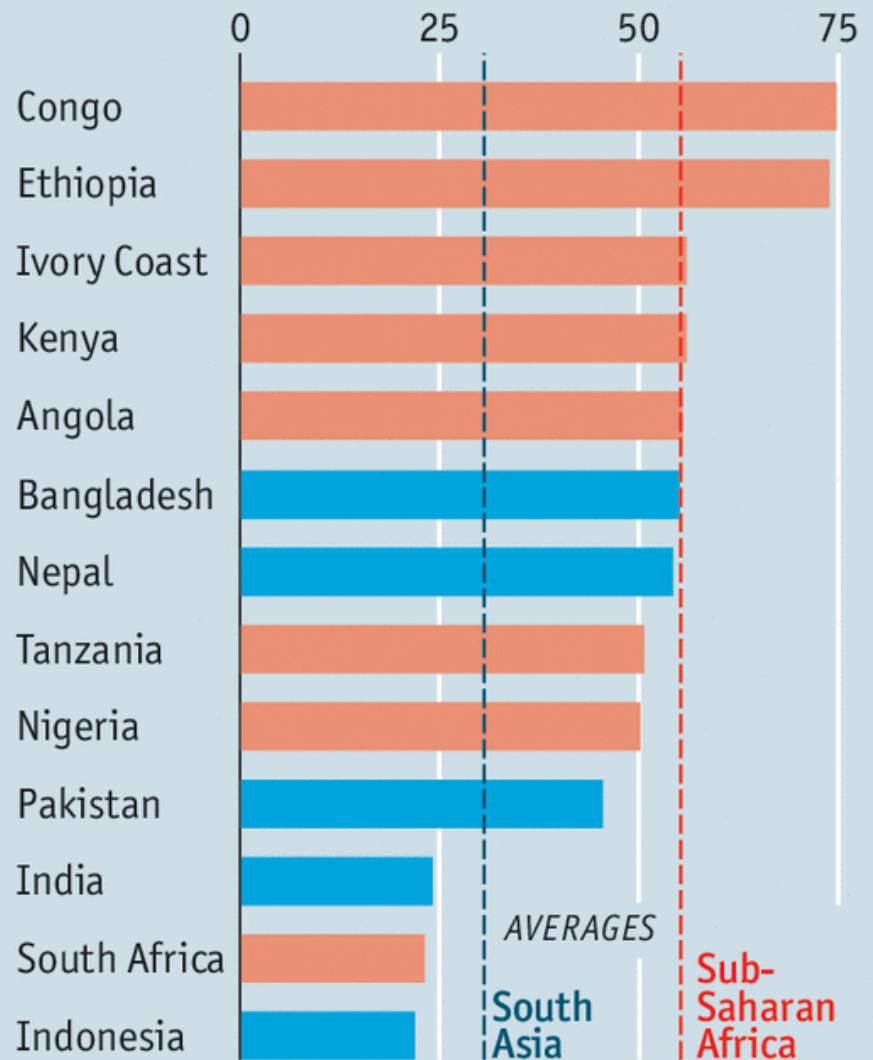
Source: World Bank

Predominant urban condition across Africa:

Slum neglect,...

Makoko, Lagos

Slum neglect, combined with enclave elite urbanism

Under construction: Eko Atlantic, Lagos

African Urbanisation is predominantly makeshift

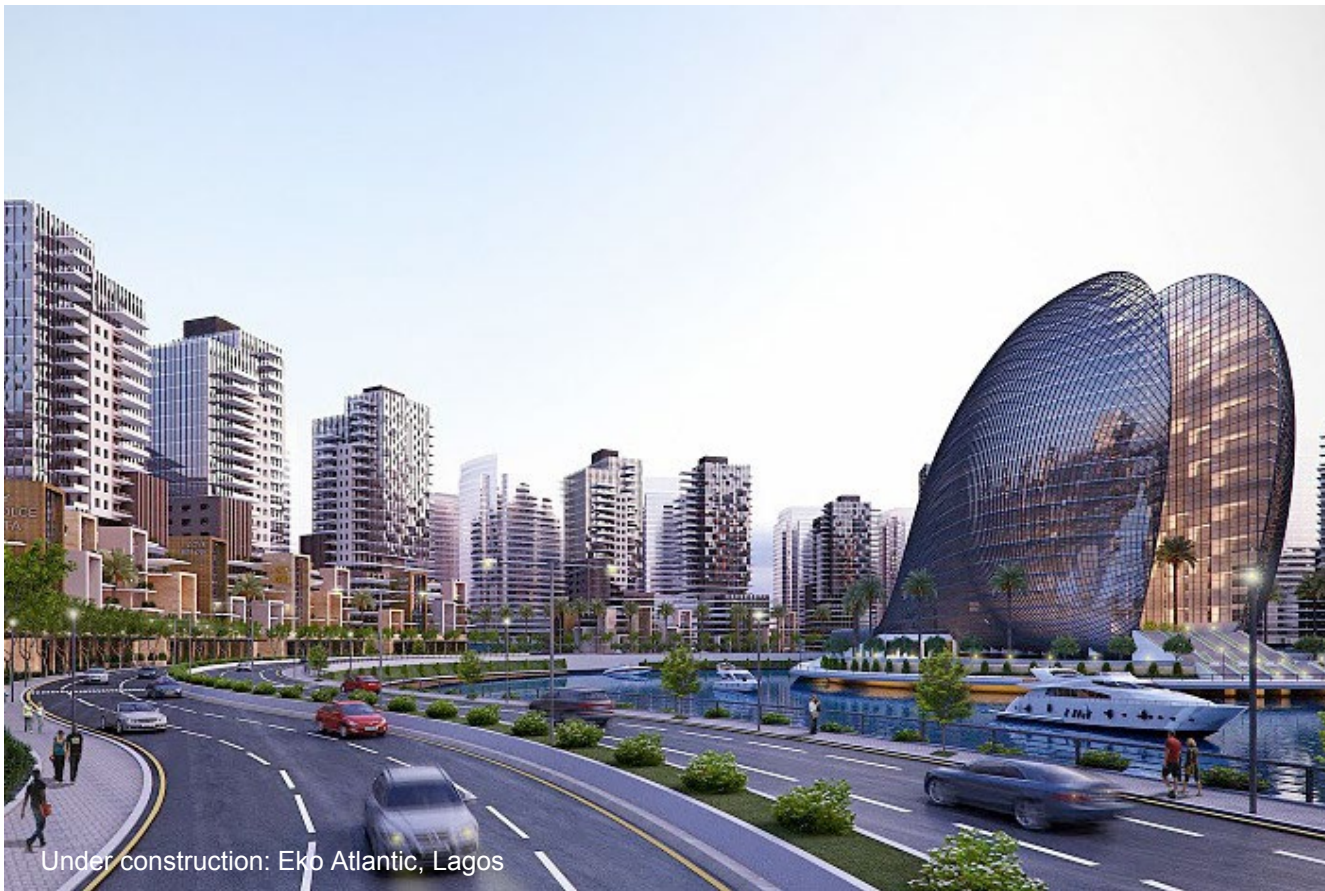- 62% live in non-formal settlements conditions, and with the doubling of the urban population in one generation, this is unlikely to improve.

- 63% of Africa's labour force are trapped in vulnerable jobs, and with the tripling of the labour force by 2050, this is likely to increase or remain constant…

- 55% of Africa's GDP derives from informal economic activity, which points to chronically small tax bases, eroding the possibility of large scale state-driven investments (assuming the political will was there).

The absence of sufficient wage-earning jobs means that most households are not, and will not, be able to afford living in a formal house, pay sufficient taxes or contest the "rules of the game" when it comes to formal economic transactions and politics…

In other words, almost all of our assumptions about modern incorporation does not apply! What does this mean for understanding urbanism and the prospects of sustainable urbanization?

This demands being both critical and propositional

ACC's Positioning

Strategic Positioning

   ACC raises awareness about the gravity of the urban transition with a view to spur action and intervention from various sectors. At the same time, ACC generates relevant knowledge that help decision-makers to think about what their specific context demands in terms of knowledge, expertise, capability, intervention & support.

   Given the interdisciplinary nature of the urban problematic, ACC consciously develops **a grounded and collaborative methodology to generate appropriate knowledge and promote implementation**. This agenda is rooted in rigorous and contextually grounded theory, enriched by the humanities and arts.
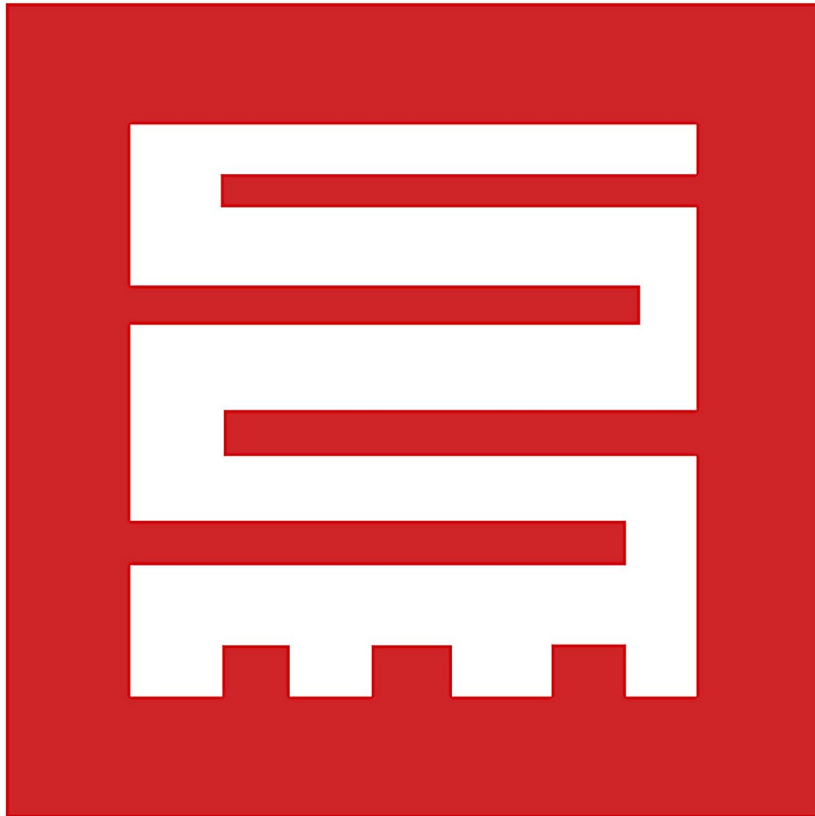
A UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN SIGNATURE THEME

AFRICAN CENTRE FOR CITIES
urbanism from an african perspective

The mission of ACC is to engage in collaborative research and develop imaginative policy discourses and practices to promote vibrant, just and sustainable cities.
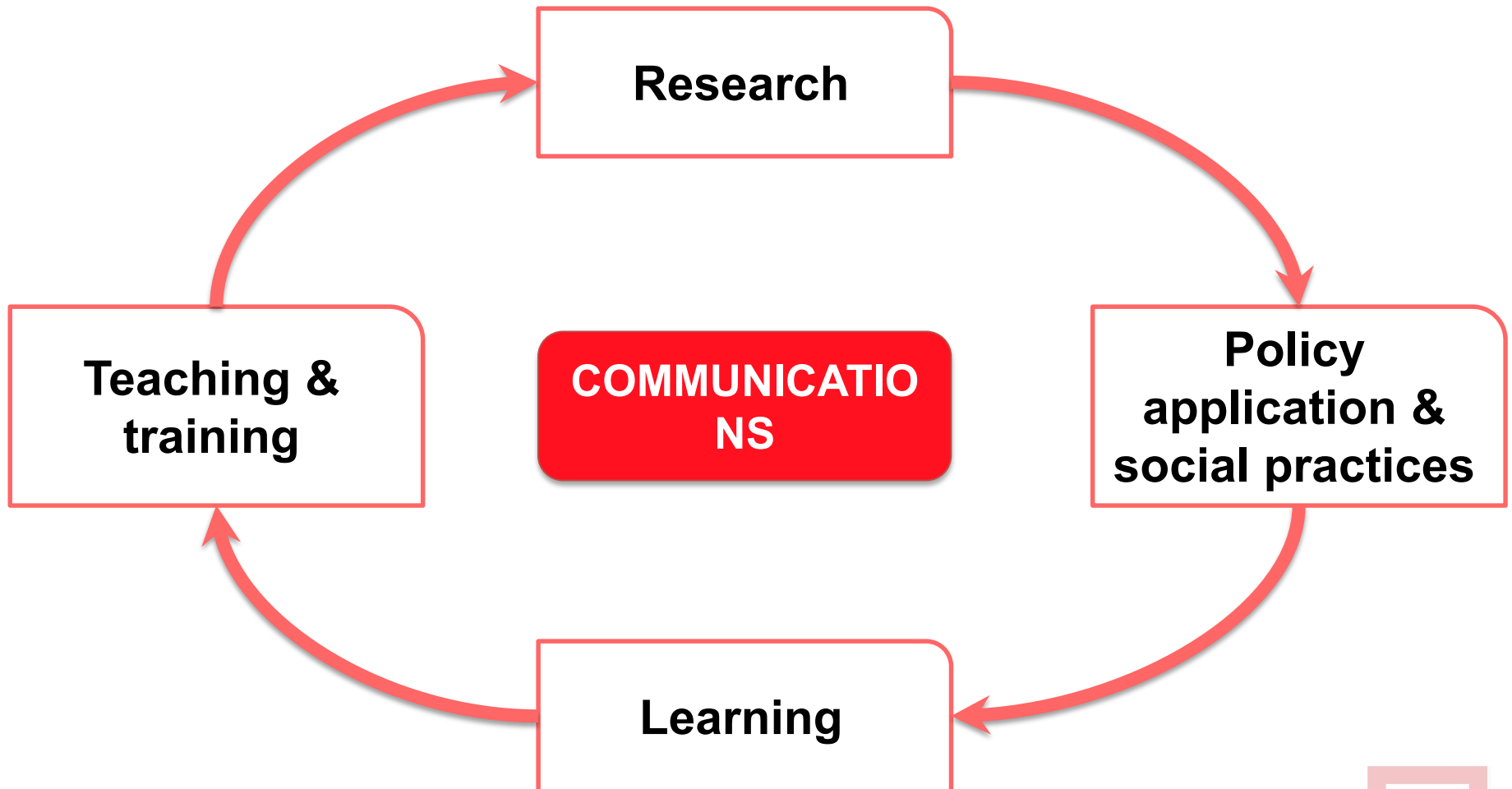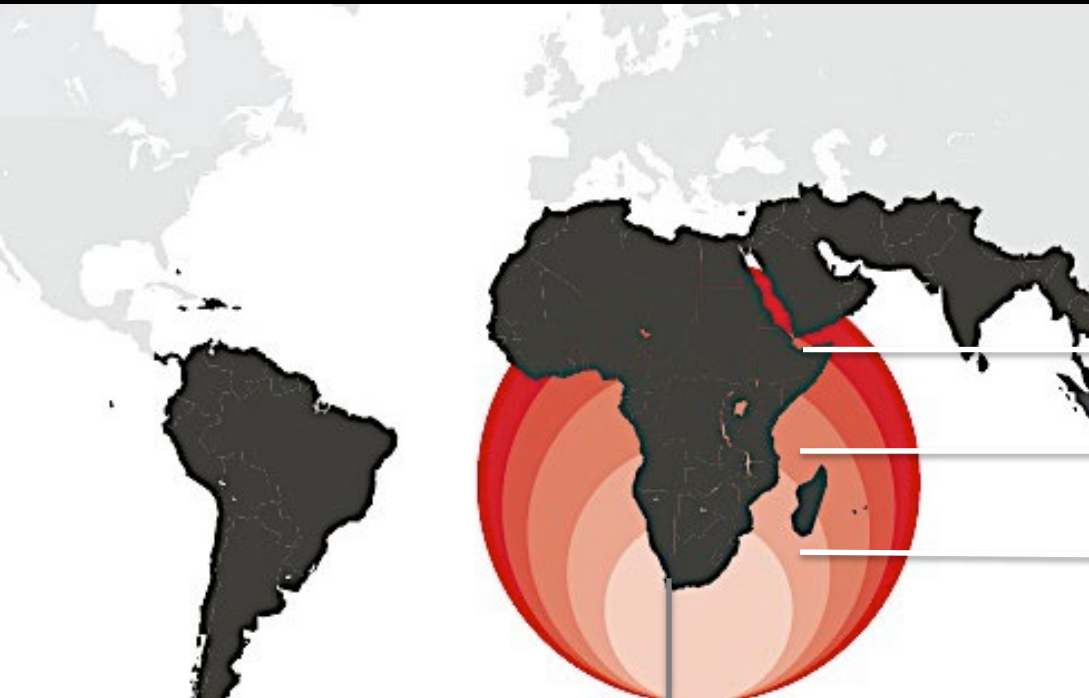
Strategic goals

1. To generate credible **new knowledge** and theory on the drivers of urban crises in (mainly) African cities with an eye on systemic solutions and alternatives.
2. To deliver tailored **capacity development** products and services based on new knowledge about the unique dynamics of urban development in Africa and the global South.
3. To establish sound practices of **intermediating diverse knowledge** and interests at the interfaces of research, policy and practice.
4. To strengthen **durable knowledge institutions** and networks in Africa to undertake urban research, training and advocacy.
5. To produce, promote and disseminate **quality publications** by African scholars on urban topics in general, but rooted in ACC programmes.
6. To undertake **targeted advocacy** with influential actors that shape the urban development agenda in Africa and the global South, at all levels of urban policy action.

ACC Practice: Creative Articulation

Research

Policy application & social practices

Learning

Teaching & training

COMMUNICATIONS

AFRICAN CENTRE FOR CITIES

Portfolio

Global South

Africa

Southern Africa

Cape Town metropolitan region

UCT	Cape Town	Southern Africa	Africa	Global South
1. ACC Platform & Network at UCT (supporting thematic research)	6. CityLabs: Human Settlements; health; violence	12. Migration & Informal Entrepreneurship in Southern Africa	18. Association of African Planning Schools (55 schools)	26. ACC-WIEGO: inclusive planning for informal workers
2. MPhil: Infrastructure design & management	7. Mistra Urban Futures International Platform	13. Everyday Informality Practices* (Carnegie 3)	19. African Urban Research Initiative (AURI)	27. Hungry Cities (Chennai, Kingston, Maputo, Mexico city, Nairobi, Nanjing)
3. Mphil in Southern Urbanism			20. Heterogeneous Infrastructure of Cities in Uganda (HICUP)	
4. PhD Seminar on urbanism	8. Situated Urban Ecologies	14. Urban Humanities hub	21. Consuming Urban Poverty (CUP)	28. CityScapes Magazine*
5. ACC Academic Seminar Series & Brownbag Sessions	9. Radical incrementalism & social change practices*	15. Governing food systems to alleviate poverty (built on AFSUN platform)	22. Turn-around cities: Addis Ababa, Kigali, Nairobi, Lagos, Luanda & Joburg	29. PEAK knowledge platform (Oxford, Peking University, IIHS (Bangalore), URBAM (Medellin), and ACC
	10. Artful place-making	16. Integrated Urban Development Framework for SA*	23. Urban Africa Risk Knowledge (ARK)	
	11. Food systems	17. South African City Studies Conference & PhD Workshop*	24. African urbanism	
Various MA, PhD & Post-doc research projects			25. UrbanAfrica Web Portal	*Ad hoc policy & advisory services for urban development agencies*

Programmatic Architecture: Cape Town

POLICY SHAPING CO-PRODUCTION: MUF
- Climate change adaptation
- Energy transition strategy
- Green economy
- Land-use and land value tools to improve spatial decision-making & public access
- Institutional requisites of sustainable urban development pathways

CITYLABS:
- Healthy Cities
- Sustainable Human Settlements Lab
- Violence & informal settlement upgrading
- Spatial Transformation Lab
- City Desired exhibition & website

ACADEMIC RESEARCH:
- Ways of knowing nature
- Social movement network analysis
- Food systems and governance
- Social justice coalition strategic chamber
- Informality and urban poverty (Carnegie 3)
- Artful place-making
- Sustainable Urban Infrastructure transitions
- And others...

Programmatic Architecture: Africa+

POLICY AGENDA SETTING:
- UN-Habitat: Hab 3 Position paper & Governance ch for WCR 2015/16
- Cities Alliance: State of African Cities & Think Tank
- Africa Progress Panel & New Climate Economy
- UCLG Africa: Africities 7 support (BRICS) & potential 15 city network
- Mo Ibrahim Foundation Forum
- SA Government's IUDF

INSTITUTION BUILDING – KNOWLEDGE CENTRES:
- AAPS
- AURI
- UrbanAfrica.net

ACADEMIC RESEARCH:
- Migration & informal entrepreneurship
- Urban Infrastructure: land values, housing & transport
- Future resilience for African Cities & Lands (FRACTAL)
- Urban Africa Risk Knowledge (Urban Ark)
- Governance dynamics of turn-around cities
- Governing Food Systems to Alleviate Poverty in Secondary Cities
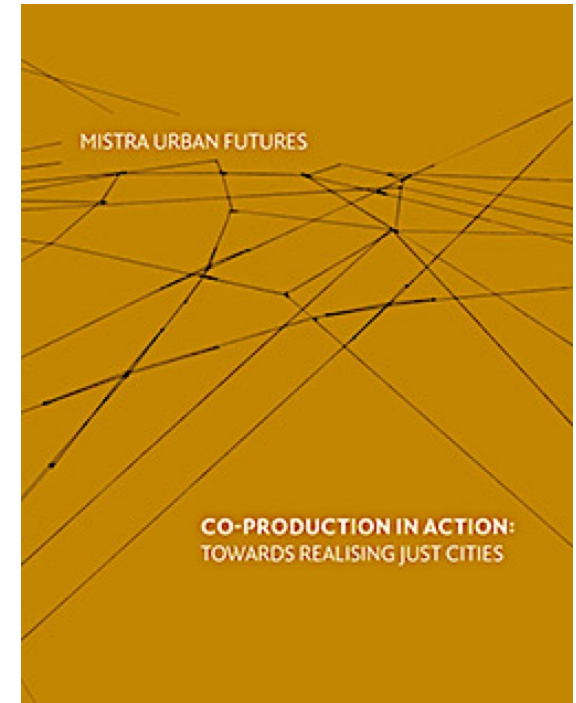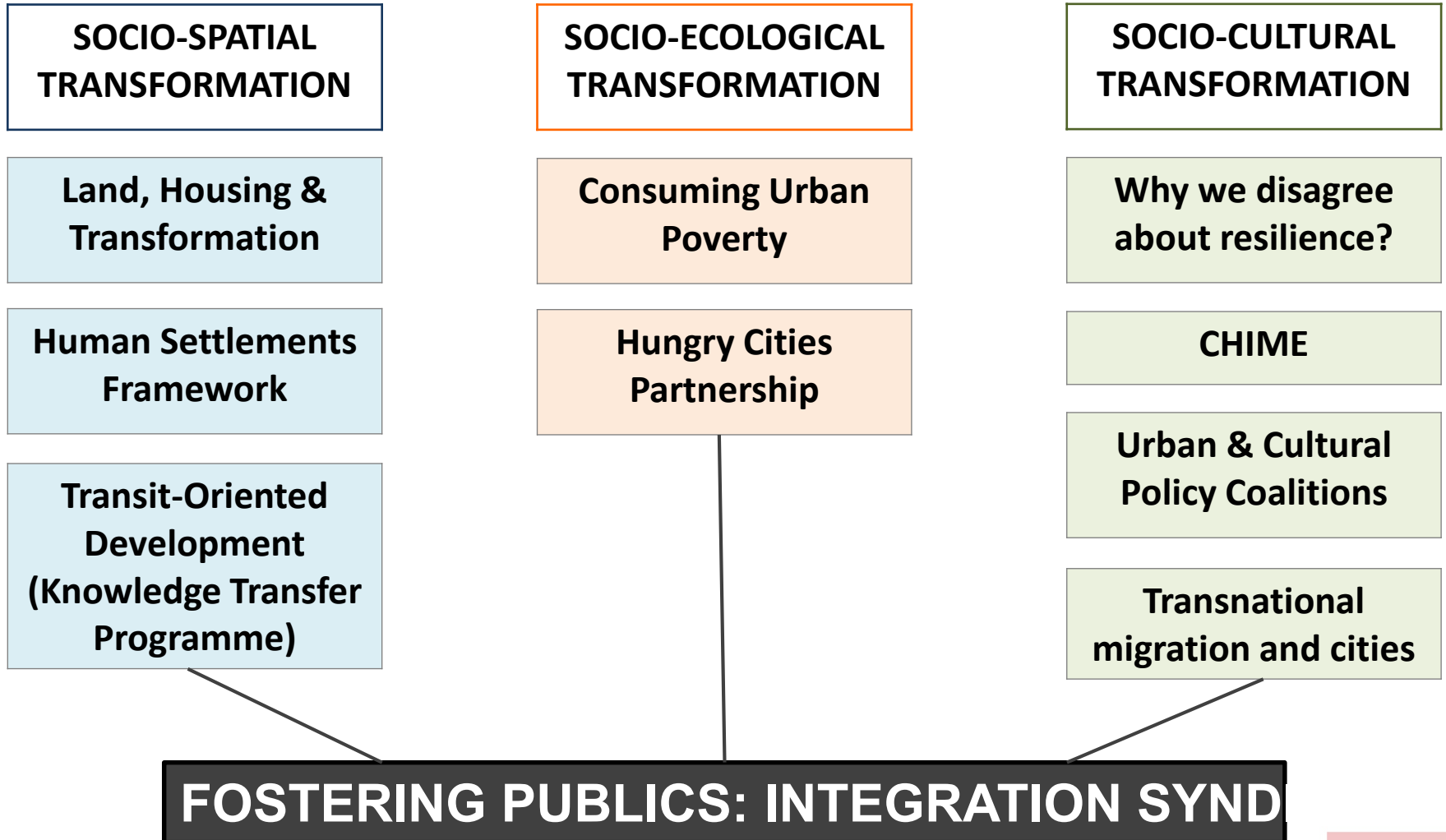- Hungry cities
- Urban waste

ACC in CAPE TOWN

Mistra Urban Futures
CityLab Programme
Knowledge Transfer Programme
City Desired Exhibition
Ways of Knowing – Urban Ecology
Teaching Programmes

Mistra Urban Futures

- Mistra Urban Futures has provided significant funding for ACC's Cape Town work and has enabled sharing of lessons with other institution doing similar work elsewhere in the world.

- Phase 2 of Mistra Urban Futures (2016-2019) uses "Realizing Just Cities" as an overarching framework. The focus in Cape Town will be on socio-spatial transformations towards realizing a more just city.

MISTRA URBAN FUTURES

CO-PRODUCTION IN ACTION:
TOWARDS REALISING JUST CITIES

MISTRA
URBAN
FUTURES
CAPE TOWN

AFRICAN CENTRE FOR CITIES

REALISING JUST AND INTEGRATED CITIES

SOCIO-SPATIAL TRANSFORMATION	SOCIO-ECOLOGICAL TRANSFORMATION	SOCIO-CULTURAL TRANSFORMATION
Land, Housing & Transformation	Consuming Urban Poverty	Why we disagree about resilience?
Human Settlements Framework	Hungry Cities Partnership	CHIME
Transit-Oriented Development (Knowledge Transfer Programme)		Urban & Cultural Policy Coalitions
		Transnational migration and cities

FOSTERING PUBLICS: INTEGRATION SYND

CityLab Progamme

- Central CityLab: (2008-2013)
- Philippi CityLab (2008-2015)
- Climate Change CityLab/ Climate Change Think Tank (2009-2012)
- Urban Flooding CityLab/ Flooding in Cape Town under Climate Risk (FliCCR)
- Healthy Cities CityLab (inl. Urban Child CityLab and Alcohol, Poverty and development project) (2009-)
- Urban Ecology CityLab (2010-2013)
- Public Culture CityLab/ Urban Humanities Hub (2012-)
- Sustainable Human Settlements CityLab (2012-)
- Urban Violence, Safety and Inclusion CityLab (2012-)

Knowledge Transfer Programme

- 2012-2015: Embedding of four PhD researchers in City of Cape Town for three years each to work on key policy areas (climate change, green economy, space economy, energy governance) while simultaneously doing PhDs.

- 2017-2019: Two more PhD researchers to embedded in the City to work on transit-oriented development.

- Since 2012: Hosting of more than 20 City officials at UCT to write journal articles (together with academic writing partners) based on their practical experience.
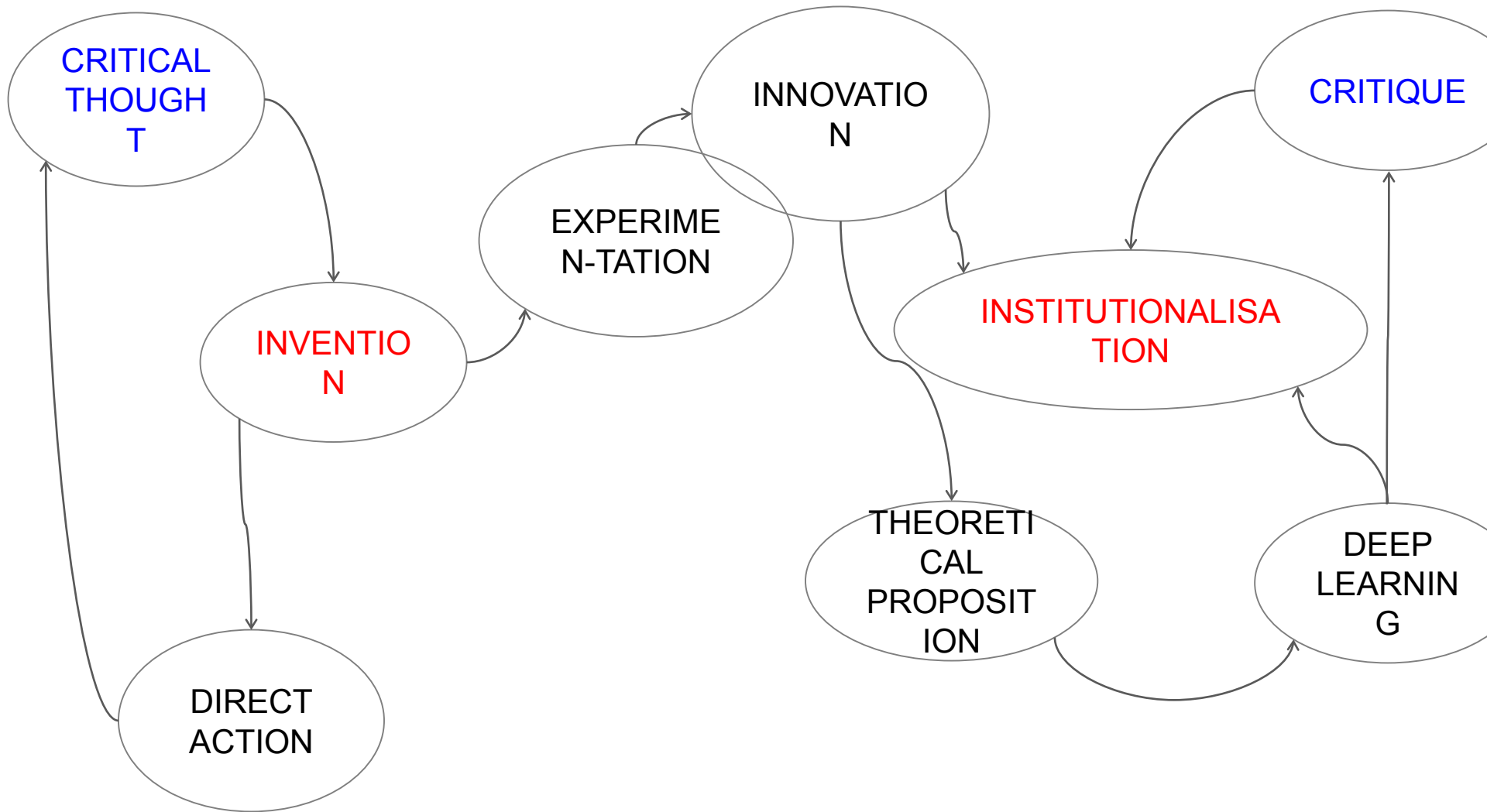
City Desired exhibition

- Oct-Dec 2014 at the Cape Town City Hall
- Explored 10 key issues in Cape Town through documenting 11 people's lives and work through films, maps and interactive exhibits (see www.citydesired.com)

Teaching programmes

- M.Phil (Urban Infrastructure Design and Management) – ACC will take over its running from 2018; being reconceptualized as a professional masters programme.

- M.Phil in Southern Urbanism – will commence in 2018.

- University of Basel Critical Urbanism Masters programme – will commence in September 2017

Conclusion

CRITICAL THOUGHT

INNOVATION

CRITIQUE

EXPERIMEN-TATION

INVENTION

INSTITUTIONALISATION

DIRECT ACTION

THEORETICAL PROPOSITION

DEEP LEARNING

AFRICAN CENTRE FOR CITIES

THANK YOU

WWW.AFRICANCENTREFORCITIES.NET