

## PARTICIPATORY URBAN PLANNING:

*Supporting Provision Of Access To Basic Services For The Urban Poor*



A Case Study Based On Practical Action (TTDG) Experience In Kitale  
Kenya - a Secondary Town

Presented by: Paul Chege




## About Practical Action

Practical Action is an international development agency working with poor communities to help them choose and use technology to improve their lives for today and generations to come. Our work in Africa, Asia and Latin America is in partnership with poor people and their communities, building on their own knowledge and skills to come up with innovation, sustainable and practical solutions.




## Introduction



- It is evident that urban poverty is caused by poor urban planning and management approaches.
- In Kenya, LED is unable to cope with indicators of urban poverty such as growth of informal settlements with:
  - inadequate water,
  - poor sanitation conditions,
  - poor roads,
  - insecurity etc.
- Rate of urbanization in Kenya is one of the highest in the world at 7.05%
  - African cities - 4.37%
  - World -2.57%
  - 60% of the urban population live in slums
- In Nairobi, only 5% accounts for the planned residential area

## About Kitale Town



Kitale Town is located about 380 km north west of Nairobi and serves as a frontier town for the northern Kenya region, which has an estimated hinterland population of 800,000.

## About Kitale Town




Migration to Kitale town, due to decreasing economic opportunities has overstretched the capacity of Kitale Municipal Council (KMC) to effectively plan and deliver infrastructure and other services.



65% of its estimated population of 200,000 lacks access to basic services and live in informal settlements and slums.

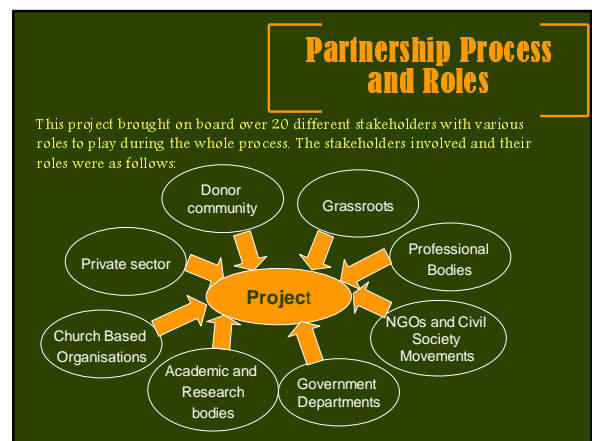
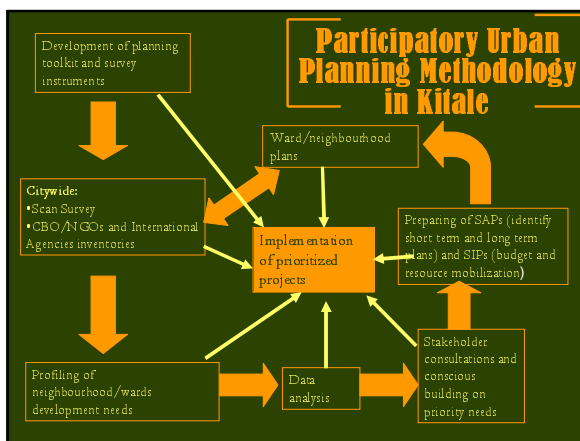
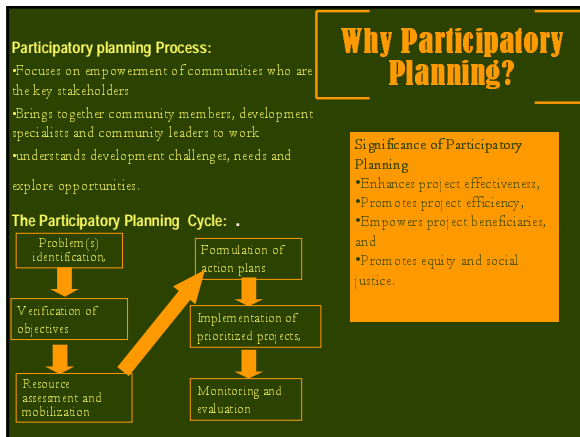
Please visit [www.kitale.org](http://www.kitale.org) for more information

## Participatory Urban Planning



Participatory Urban Planning and partnership building is an innovative approach to local development based on three pillars: citizen's participation, neighbourhood planning, and building partnerships.

It aims to achieve locally appropriate development—which is economically, socially and environmentally sustainable—and an institutional infrastructure for development that will continue to function in the long term.



### Project Achievements

- Contribution to knowledge** - review of literature on participatory planning carried out & documented.
- Participatory surveys** - provided support to the DHSS to carry out a citywide scan survey.
- Neighbourhood planning** - from the results of surveys conducted in 10 civic wards, the most needy areas were identified.
- Strengthen Partnerships** - Strong and effective partnerships forged between various partners.

### Project Achievements

- Delivery of services through partnerships** - neighbourhoods' plans linked to the town's LASDAP process, leading to joint implementation of the prioritised projects.
- Preparation of Kitale Environmental Development Plan** - prepared an EDP identifying environmental problems experienced, cause-effect relationships and possible remedial measures.
- Information and dissemination** - forum for information exchange created and promotion of discussion and debate on topical development issues



## Actual Outcomes

- Slum dwellers self-enumeration for land allocation and titling
- 350 TOTs trained on PHAST
- 17 primary schools with an average of 600 pupils received trained on CTC hygiene
- 21 community-managed water points with 3 boreholes, 15 water springs & shallow wells and 3 water kiosks constructed serving abt 60,000 people
- 3 bio-latrines, 3 VIP latrines and 3 shallow wells in 6 primary schools constructed serving 3,000 pupils with safe water and sanitation



## Actual Outcomes

- 3 community-managed sanitation blocks with gender segregated bathrooms and toilets serving abt 1000 households.
- Training on alternative & affordable building materials i.e. SSBs, which were used in the construction of sanitation blocks.
- 1600 people joined saving schemes, with over £18,000 savings to date.
- 1400 people have benefited from the construct of on-plot toilets using community sanitation revolving fund.
- Setting of shelter and WATSAN enterprises
- Integration of grassroots groups in municipal planning process
- Greater recognition of slum dwellers and need allocate land and provision of services

## Challenges

Participatory Planning may suffer from the following setback/weakness:

- Increasing urbanization of poverty
- Poor coordination of community and, private sector participation in urban
- Lack of transparency with different partners hindering implementation.
- Different partners have different interests and it's always not easy to harmonize.
- Partnerships can be a challenge where no direct monetary gains are evident

## Conclusion

- Overall, Kitale participatory planning has shown that it is possible to plan and implement a working participatory partnership project and deliver remarkable amount of development in terms of physical infrastructure and amenities, social infrastructure and personal attitudes change
- There is a great deal of enthusiasm for the formation and maintenance of CBOs and enterprises.
- Those community members who were more actively involved in the planning process have a good appreciation of its value to their community.

# Thank You