

## FORTHCOMING RESEARCH

### **1. C.A. Mumma-Martinon; TOWARDS ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY: IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIVES THROUGH SUSTAINABILITY URBAN PLANNING IN KENYA**

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#### **ABSTRACT**

The last few years, there have been massive, developmental activities taking place in Kenya, especially in big cities. Huge offices, shopping malls, new apartments and residential areas are being constructed at high speed. These have brought benefits and at the same time serious damages.

Unfortunately planners themselves have led many unsustainable development practices in the different towns in Kenya. With devolution, now, more than ever, proper planning and creative change is required in Kenya.

With the new devolved system, this paper argues that if any sustainable change has to take place, then efforts towards sustainable development must be at both national and county, must be coherent, mutually reinforcing and inclusive of all stakeholders.

Although much of the focus of this paper is on big cities in Kenya like Nairobi, Mombasa, Kisumu, it will also consider other cities like Nakuru, Eldoret, Kakamega and elsewhere.

The intent of this paper is twofold: 1) to bring awareness on Sustainable Planning Theory and how it can be used to help in sustainable planning of different cities in Kenya. 2) To provide suggestions and alternatives on different activities that can be undertaken by planners, architects, landscape architects, engineers, developers, political leaders and the general in bringing a more sustainable society.

This paper therefore attempts to address the following questions:

1. Who plans in Kenya – both in big and small cities?
2. What are the existing scales of planning for the big cities and other cities within Kenya?
3. What are some of the ethical issues that have to be taken into consideration for proper and sustainable planning to take place?
4. What other issues exist that must be considered in planning?

5. In what ways can the general population, planners, architects, landscape architects, engineers, developers, political leaders be educated and empowered to take into consideration these ethical issues while planning to bring sustainable development?
6. How can different initiatives on planning in different cities be harmonized, integrated and an overall, mutually reinforcing framework be developed nationally?
7. What challenges exist for the different categories?
8. How can the planning theory be pursued in Kenya at different levels?
9. What are the implications of the global concept of sustainability and the on-going debates for Kenya?
10. What lessons can different cities in Kenya learn from one another on sustainable planning and on the opportunities that exist?