THE AFRICAN LOCAL GOVERNMENTS ACADEMY (ALGA) OF UNITED CITIES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS OF AFRICA (UCLG AFRICA)

REGIONAL TRAINING ON IMPLEMENTING AND LOCALIZING THE NEW URBAN AGENDA AMONG ANGLOPHONE COUNTRIES IN AFRICA

Nairobi, Kenya, from September 28 to October 2, 2020
Durban, South Africa, From 5 to 9 October, 2020

With the Support of:

Portal of UCLG Africa: www.uclga.org
Web Site of ALGA of UCLG Africa: www.uclgfrica-alga.org
CONCEPTUAL NOTE

Introduction

“We share a vision of cities for all, referring to the equal use and enjoyment of cities and human settlements, seeking to promote inclusivity and ensure that all inhabitants, of present and future generations, without discrimination of any kind, are able to inhabit and produce just, safe, healthy, accessible, affordable, resilient and sustainable cities and human settlements to foster prosperity and quality of life for all. We note the efforts of some national and local governments to enshrine this vision, referred to as ‘right to the city’, in their legislation, political declarations and charters”. The New Urban Agenda Common vision. page 5.

The above quote, which captures the many perspectives and roles of cities, has also brought to the lime light the need for decentralization and localization of development towards promoting sustainability. The city is immediately perceptible but hard to understand. Cities and towns are where the majority of the people in the planet live today. As the world works to respond to unprecedented challenges, cities have become the ultimate platform or theatre for change to take place - both positive and negative. We are living with intensifying climate change and threats of increase of pandemics, rising human mobility and complex migrations phenomenon, increasing demands on infrastructure and services, and profound cultural and political uncertainty. And all these issues have both immediate and long-term consequences for cities and urban centers and authorities leading and governing them.

At the heart of the changes taking place in cities is rapid population growth, spiraling urbanization, industrialization, globalization and the growth in information communication technology. Africa has 54 countries that are home to almost 17% of the world’s population (1.29 billion inhabitants) of which around 43% lives in urban areas. Twenty-eight percent of the population in Eastern Africa live in urban areas. Twenty-eight percent of the population in Eastern Africa live in urban areas while Western Africa (with 47.5%) and Central Africa (49.5%) are about to reach the point of demographic transition and Northern and Southern Africa are already mostly urban (52% and 63.6% respectively. Driven by natural population growth, the current growth rate in Africa is nearly 11 times faster than in Europe and three times and four times faster than in Latin America and North America respectively.

The global community has been quick to come up with development agenda to tackle the myriads of problems confronting us. Following the evaluation of the implementation of MDG 2015 and Habitat Agenda (1996-20216), the unprecedented global consensus paved the way for the newly adopted SDG 2030 and the New Urban Agenda (NUA), adopted in Quito (Equator) in 2016. The ambitious vision and SMART targets of both SDG 2030 and NUA give us direction as to know what needs to be done. We therefore need to steer a path away from the development model that has led us to the current climate emergency and to increasingly unequal and exclusionary societies.

The 2030 Agenda provides for employing an inclusive and localized approach to implementing the SDGs. Localization has been described as ‘the process of defining, implementing and monitoring strategies at the local level for achieving global, national and sub-national sustainable development goals and targets’. Furthermore, it states that implementation should take into account the sub-national contexts for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda from the setting of
goals and targets to determining the means of implementation and using indicators to measure, monitor and evaluate progress.

The 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) underscores the importance of putting in place for its implementation sound monitoring systems with clear indicators, baseline data, targets and goals to support a city’s vision and a long-term plan for development. A well-functioning monitoring system can track progress periodically and identify bottlenecks to support the formulation of informed policies as well as evaluate policy outcomes and impact.

The year 2019 was the first major attempt to review the progress and follow-up on the implementation of the SDG 2030 in 142 countries. The resolve of the UCLG is that the SDG 2030 and the NUA marked a new social contract that allows the local governments to create new sustainable development for the planet earth. At the end of the first quadrennial cycle of the SDG 2030, the conclusion is that our progress at implementing this agenda is not track. There is the need to do away with business as usual and be prepared to do more in an innovative and impactful way, within the call of the UN Secretary General for an action Decade.

**Purpose of the Training Workshop**

The UCLG-Africa has been in the vanguard of building the capacity of local governments in Africa to popularize the global development agenda and build their capacity to play their key roles in localizing, implementing, monitoring, evaluating and reporting on the progress made in implementation at local, national and regional and continental levels. The UCLG and in particular, UCLG-Africa has championed the crusade for the localization of the global development agenda and capacity building for local governments to do same. The UCLG is committed to building coalitions among partners, defending the commons, capacity building and placing local level public service delivery, local economic development, popular participation, gender equality and good governance at the heart of investment to realize development agenda. The UCLG continues to make clarions call on all spheres of government and all stakeholders to embolden their ambitions and support for the localization of the realization of global development agendas. There is the need to renew the commitment of national governments to empower local governments and communities through the development of enabling environments, both legal and financial and capacity building that can help them fulfil their responsibilities.

In line with its commitment at promoting capacity building for local governments, the UCLG-Africa has established the ALGA charged with designing and implementing capacity building programmes that are focused on helping local governments to perform their roles more efficiently in the delivery of service. This programme is being organized by ALGA in line with its mandate to build the capacity of local government in Africa.

The adoption of the Quito Declaration in 2016 during the third United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development that gave birth to the NUA has come at a time when the world is mainly “urban” and urbanization has become global. Moreover, while the world is entering an urban age and an “urban civilization”, but we in Africa need to ask ourselves a set of very important questions to device the future of our local governments and their institutions.
“What sort of urban civilization are we arriving at in Africa?” We should further ask “How should we understand the African local government?” “What is the purpose of the SDGs and NUA for African countries and local authorities? What are the most effective implementation mechanisms and strategies for local and sub-national governments in Africa? Who are the key actors and stakeholders to contribute for the successful implementing of the NUA in Africa”? These are many questions to ask and yet a few responses to be provided for now. Amongst the key actors, we all have identified local governments and their networks as one of the most suitable partners to implement the NUA.

Therefore, the purpose of this training is to raise awareness, sensitize, build capacities across board and empower local governments with the requisite knowledge, skills and tools on the why, when and how the NUA can be localized at and how to build relationship with national and Civil society Organizations (CSOs) in implementing the agenda. The localization of global development agenda, is in furtherance of the territorial approach to local development (TALD), attainment of objectives of decentralization of development at grassroots level. It is in line with the principle of subsidiarity which is hinged on the principle that public functions should be exercised by governments closest to the people. It will help to boost policy coherence and the integration of economic, social, environmental and governance dimensions in the policy making process.

The essence of this training is to academically support the five days training and peer learning exchange for anglophone Africa members of UCLG-Africa and its Academy. It seeks to further discuss the key questions we have asked above for the consideration of African local leaders and their local governments associations.

**Justification for the Regional Training**

1. **The Need to address the challenges of rising urbanization**

For the first time in history, more than half of the world's people are urban. Between now and 2030, the world’s rural population is expected to remain largely static, while the urban population is projected to grow by 1.5 billion people. By 2030, 60 percent of the global population will live in cities. Over 90 percent of that urban growth will occur in cities and towns of the developing world, mostly in Africa and Asia.

The urbanization of the global population has fundamental ramifications for the economy, society and the environment. Urban centers currently cover only a small part of the world’s land surface - 0.51 percent of the total land area. However, urban areas will expand significantly during the next two to three decades. Based on current trends, urban land cover will increase by 1.2-million-kilometer square by 2030, nearly tripling global urban land area between 2000 and 2030.

In fact, while cities presently cover a small part of the world, but their physical and ecological footprints are much larger. Cities accounted for 82 percent of global Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in 2013 and by 2025, the figure will rise to an estimated 88 percent. There will be 230 new cities added by then, all in middle-income countries. One hundred cities in China alone may account for 30 percent of global GDP at that time.
Cities produce more than 70 percent of the world’s greenhouse gas (GhG) emissions and use 80 percent of the world’s energy. The International Energy Agency projects that urban energy-related GhG emissions will rise from around 67 percent today to 74 percent by 2030. Cities also host most of the world’s critical infrastructure, key development assets, political institutions and major socio-economic activities. Global analyses of climate change and disaster impacts show that a high proportion of the people and economic activity affected by extreme weather events is concentrated in urban centers and local governments in general.

Cities’ vulnerability goes beyond exposure to climate change impacts and extreme events such as pandemics. As argued by UN-Habitat and confirmed by the NUA, the urbanization process in Africa, is often poorly managed, resulting in inequitable, exclusionary and fragmented cities and increased risk of violence and insecurity, especially among disenfranchised sections of the urban youth and urban population that cannot access the formal political system, including refugees and Internally Displaced People (IDPs). Today, huge waves of migrants searching for better living conditions are crossing the Atlantic ocean and Mediterranean Sea for greening pastures in Europe. Unfortunately, while over 107,000 people have crossed to Europe through Italy in 2017, some 2569 death have been recorded in the Mediterranean Sea and about twice in the desert according to International Organization of Migrations-IOM.

While there are critical challenges to be addressed by local authorities in the Africa region, there are also vast opportunities to be seized in making growth more sustainable, inclusive and equitable, building cities to be more resilient and their inhabitants less vulnerable. Cities and towns are powerful engines of economic growth and transformation and urban residents in well-planned cities enjoy better access to employment opportunities, health care, education and public services compared to their suburban and some rural counterparts.

The NUA clearly mentioned that well-managed urban areas have lower per capita energy, climate and ecosystem footprints and lower costs per person for infrastructure and basic services. And the concentration of resources, universities, research centers, ideas and energy in urban areas make it a fertile ground for the creativity and technological innovation needed and artificial intelligence to solve the many development challenges that local governments in Africa region faces today.

2. Cities and local Leaders have key roles to play in Implementing SDGs

The focus of the NUA and Agenda 2030 with its set of sustainable development goals provide a powerful illustration of the challenges and opportunities facing cities and local governments and their associations. Having been partially neglected by the MDG agenda, promoting sustainable cities is now clearly featured in the 2030 Agenda as one of the SDGs – Goal 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable. In fact, promoting sustainable development in cities is critical to achieving most of the goals of Agenda 2030. For instance, cities have a clear role in ‘ending poverty’ (goal 1); ‘reducing inequality’ (goal 10); promoting inclusive and sustainable growth, and full and productive employment (goal 8); and taking urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts (goal 13).

Background analysis identified 11 of 17 SDGs where action in cities will be essential. Urbanization has been the topic of the largest global development conference in 2016, The Habitat III Conference succeeded “to secure renewed political commitment for sustainable urban development, assess accomplishments to date, address poverty and identify and address new and emerging challenges.” These aims have been turned into an actionable new urban agenda, which
will define a global approach to urbanization for the next 20 years with a clear role and responsibilities defined for city authorities, local governments and their associations!

In fact, as highlighted by UN Deputy Secretary-General, Jan Eliasson’s in its opening remarks at the Mayor's Forum of the World Cities Summit (New York, June 9, 2015): "Cities are where the battle for sustainable development will be won — or lost if we fail".

3. Cities and local governments have key roles to play in the implementation of NUA

In support of UN-Habitat’s pioneering work and in the profound words of UCLG, cities are today key actors in the successful implementation of the NUA. Their level of engagement is the closest to the people and has the potential to significantly improve people's lives as well as their living conditions. Both partner institutions share the responsibility to advocate and protect citizens against poverty and poor living conditions by bringing together a broad range of stakeholders. When cities and towns do not work for the benefit of all, barriers prevent progress and discrimination, as well as creates the cycle of deprivation. Effective social change requires a strong commitment to action at all levels of governance.

Today, cities are increasingly acting on a global scale and through United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) and the regional chapters and these connections are opening up new opportunities to share global issues while providing local responses. One of the common concerns shared by most local governments in Africa is the need to increase the capacity of the members to better manage their local affairs and improve their governance. This is the main reason why the Alga Academy on behalf UCLG Africa is conducting this five days training seminar in Nairobi for the benefit of all members in the eastern and southern parts of the region.

4. Knowledge sharing on implementation of NUA among Local Governments

Promoting knowledge sharing on urban issues among Africans in all its forms, from all its sources — academia, policy, civil society and grassroots organizations — is crucial to realizing sustainable development at urban and territorial scales. However, the growing body of research and knowledge around urbanization and local government issues in Africa is disparate, incomplete and ill-prepared to inform policy and support effective training and capacity development programs. As a community, and around UCLG-Africa and ALGA which is African Local Government Academy, we will need to organize ourselves to define relevant questions; to make sense of existing local government knowledge and identify knowledge gaps, and; to share and integrate the growing body of urban knowledge at multiple levels and scales (local, national, regional, global).

This proposed training program and exchange calls for action and to outline how all stakeholders can play a role in building a global community that works towards the shared goal of creating the enabling conditions under which knowledge and training can effectively inform decision-making for more sustainable urban and territorial development in Africa.

The NUA has provided an enormous opportunity for mayors, African local government leaders and urban policy makers to adopt a holistic and progressive approach to promote sustainable urban development. The NUA is effectively linked with several separate paradigm-shifting global agreements (the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement) and commits to aligning with these when working with national, regional, and local governments and stakeholders to promote sustainable urbanization in Africa.
Crucially, the NUA recognizes the need for, and encourages the production of evidence-based and practical guidance and training tools for its implementation on the urban and territorial dimensions of the SDGs. However, it has not yet fully identified the key avenues or mechanisms for the provision, assessment and utilization of independent scientific and other forms of knowledge that could support the implementation, periodic review and revision of these landmark global agreements. On our part, it is the ultimate duty of the African scientific, academic and professional communities working in close collaboration with UCLG-Africa, UNECA, UN HABITAT and the African Union to develop the adequate avenues and mechanisms to successfully implement and monitor the NUA based on African values, our benchmarks, vision, aspirations and current level of development.

5. The need to use Africa’s Harmonized Regional Framework to implement NUA

The central role of urbanization in sustainable development is clearly articulated in various regional and global frameworks such as the New Urban Agenda, the 2030 Agenda for Development and the African Union’s Agenda 2063. Through these frameworks, African countries and their local authorities are committed to implement, monitor and report on a number of urban development goals and targets through national, sub-national and local policies, strategies and related investments. A coordinated approach for the systematic implementation, monitoring and reporting of those urban commitments and priorities requires a harmonized regional framework aligned to Africa’s structural transformation agenda.

Accordingly, the Harmonized Regional Implementation Framework for the New Urban Agenda in Africa was developed under the leadership of the Sub-Committee on Urban Development and Human Settlements (HUD SC) of the African Union Specialized Technical Committee on Public Service, Local Government, Urban Development and Decentralization (AU STOC No. 8) and the technical lead of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECO) in partnership with the United Nations Human Settlements Program (UN-Habitat).

The mandate to develop this Harmonized Regional Framework was provided by the Second Ordinary Session of the AU STOC Nov. in 2016 where Ministers and representatives called “upon the AUC (DRASTIC Secretariat) to lead in partnership with its partners, the development of a coherent framework for the follow-up and effective implementation of the recommendations of the Common African Position towards Habitat III adopted in Abuja in 2016.

The Harmonized Regional Framework consists of two elements. Guided by Agenda 2063 and the Common African Position towards Habitat III. The first part of this framework outlines 6 transformative policy outcomes to be prioritized for the next 20 years in the implementation of the NUA in Africa, enjoined with 7 systemic priorities for enhancing effective implementation. For each priority area, a set of strategic interventions is outlined, which were derived wholly from positions already agreed upon by African Member States in key global and regional development agendas. Building on this, the second part of the framework presents a monitoring and reporting mechanism for the NUA including targets and indicators building on inter-linkages and synergies across key development agendas.

The first draft of the Harmonized Regional Implementation Framework was reviewed by national experts from Housing and Urban Development ministries and stakeholders from African institutions at a meeting held in November 2017, Cape Town, South Africa. The national experts adopted the framework and its two components. The experts also requested for a revised draft to be re-submitted to experts for further review and finalize before it is tabled to Third Ordinary
Session of the AU Specialized Technical Committee on Public Service, local government, urban development and decentralization (STC No.8) for consideration and approval.

Based on the outcomes of the expert group meeting held in Cape Town, November 2017, the framework was reviewed and validated by national experts and ministers in Entebbe in November 2018. Against this background the framework is shared with the local government constituency given that the implementation of the NUA will be done at the sub-national levels.

During the 8th edition of Africities Summit in Marrakech, on November 2018, The United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) hosted a session on the Harmonized Regional Framework for the Implementation of the New Urban Agenda in Africa. It was the first opportunity to present the validated Framework to the African local government constituency. This action was taken as a key step given the important role of sub-national and local government in implementing the NUA. One of the objectives of this workshop is to take through this harmonized framework and how to adopt it and use in their own local setting

6. To provide forum for peer learning, sharing experiences and partnership building for the implementation of NUA

Again, during the Africities Summit (2018), participants shared experiences of the implementation of the NUA at various levels whilst opportunities for partnerships were identified. Member States and stakeholders discussed the opportunities for strengthening coordination between local and national governments in implementing the NUA, alongside aligning sub-national planning documents with their national counterparts within Africa.

Given the historic contribution that African governments and local authorities have made to the process, (the Abuja common position, July 2016), the NUA is particularly relevant to the Continent. There is clearly a need to strengthen the capacity of local government, improve governance, reinforce knowledge and capacity, reinvent urbanism, urbanity and urban resilience, to give a new meaning to urban life and to the concept of “living together” to enable sustainable development in Africa.

Although an uphill task, this is not an impossible mission if empowered or strengthened local governments show willingness and if they understand that sustainable development, and primarily economic growth, is more and more played out in cities and towns. The African continent, currently in a process of extensive demographic and urban transition coupled with deep economic transformations, should take the lead in this worldwide process of urban innovation and reinvention. It has everything to gain in the process if the governance is right and supported by clear vision and ambition.

Training objectives

The training workshop will bring together city level decision-makers, staff of local governments and national governments, ministry officials, urban experts and practitioners in Anglophone countries with the aims of strengthening their capacity to localize, implement, monitor, evaluate, and report on the implementation of the NUA.
The main objective of this regional workshop is to build the capacity of officers of local governments, national statistical officers, ministry officials, city level decision-makers, urban experts and practitioners who are involved in the planning, management, monitoring, localization and reporting on the implementation of NUA, Agenda 2030, donor funded projects and related national programmes, projects at local, state and national levels, using these tools and materials.

Specifically, this workshop will focus on building the capacity of participants in the following areas:

1. Knowledge sharing on the vision, principles and commitments in the NUA.
2. Developing NUA implementation Plan at the local level.
3. Sharing Knowledge on the Transformative commitments for sustainable urban development at local level.
4. Building urban governance structures and spatial planning of NUA at local level.
5. Defining effective means of implementation at local level in with the Harmonized Regional Implementation Framework.

Pedagogical Methodology

The Regional Workshop method will comprise delivery of lecture papers through slide presentation, and peer learning moments on the various thematic issues. Case studies will be presented on important topic. The presentation will be followed by Q & A for participants to air their own views and learn from others. Group work will be assigned to participants for hand on training in developing local action plan for localizing and monitoring the implementation of NUA.

Workshop structure and organization

This 5-days workshop will consist of 9 main sessions divided into plenary sessions, followed by Q and A. There will be group discussions and group exercises. It is envisaged that various participants will share their experiences at these presentations and during discussions.

Below are the highlights of these sessions

1. The first session, which will be preceded by a short opening ceremony, will set the stage for the training workshop. It will feature the presentation of the training objectives, the rules. It will feature the introduction of faculty members and participants, coupled with the distribution and highlights of the materials to be used for the training.
2. The second section will make presentations on the vision, principles and commitments in the NUA.
3. The third section will focus on the Implementation Plan for NUA at the local level. This will be complimented by group exercises to develop a local plan.
4. Session 4 will focus on Transformative commitments for sustainable urban development
5. Section 5 will be devoted to Building urban governance structures and spatial planning at local level.
6. Section 6 will be devoted to training on how to use the Harmonized Regional Implementation Framework for implementing the NUA at the local level. |This will also feature group work.
7. Section 7 is focused on Resource mobilization and partnership building across the board for implementing NUA. This section will feature case study presentation.
8. Section 8 is devoted to Monitoring and reporting of the implementation of NUA. This section will feature case study presentation.

9. Section 9 is the wrap section devoted to conclusions and evaluation of the workshop. The workshop will also be an opportunity for field and cultural visits.

**Date and Venue**
- From September 28 to October 2, 2020, in Nairobi, Kenya;
- From 5 to 9 October, 2020, in Durban, South Africa.

**Partners (TBC).**

**DRAFT OF THE AGENDA**

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<td>- Welcome address: host National and Local Governments in Kenya.</td>
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<td>- Statement Dr Omar Silla, Director Office for Africa, UN habitat.</td>
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<td><strong>Session 1:</strong></td>
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<td>- Presentation of Workshop objective, Thematic/ Background Paper, Faculty Team and introduction of Participants and tour/synopsis of the various papers to be presented</td>
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<td>- Presentation of the Objectives of the training session and expected results.</td>
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<td><strong>Session 4: Transformative commitments for sustainable urban development at local level</strong></td>
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Session 5: Building urban governance structures and spatial planning of NUA at local level

- Building urban governance structure at local level
- Planning and managing urban spatial development at local level
- Decentralization, Subsidiarity and Managing Inter-governmental relationships
- Discussions

Lunch

Session 6: Defining effective means of implementation at local level:

According to the Harmonized Regional Implementation Framework, Africa has defined 7 NUA implementation priority areas for the realization of the transformative outcomes:
1. National Urban Policies
2. Planning and Management of Spatial Development
3. Building Urban Governance Structures
4. Urban Legislation, Rules and Regulations
5. Financing Systems and Management Capacities
6. Local Implementation
7. Monitoring, Reporting and Revision Mechanisms

- Presentation of case study on Slums in an African City.
- Enabling environment of the NUA at local level
- Training and capacity development
- Discussions

Tea/coffee Break

Session 7: Resource mobilization and Partnership building for Implementation of NUA

- Resource mobilization
- Partnership for implementing the NUA at local level
- Discussions
- Summary of discussions and end of Day 2

Day 3

Introduction to the Activities of Day 3

Session 8A: Monitoring and Reporting of the Implementation of NUA

“Monitoring and reporting for accountability, transparency, effectiveness, compliance and efficiency can only take place when reliable and up-to-date information is readily available. Accurate concepts and definitions of indicators, rigorous methods of processing data and high data quality are all necessary to facilitate this. Monitoring and reporting of the implementation of the NUA will require up-to-date data, so that misguided policies and programmes are avoided, preventing resources from being diverted away from areas of need and the successful implementation of the NUA being jeopardized”. p 46 HRIF, NUA.
Follow up Monitoring and Review process at local level
  - Defining key indicators for local level
  - Urging city led voluntary review
  - Contribution to National voluntary reporting…

Tea/coffee Break

Session 8B: Monitoring and Reporting of the Implementation of NUA
  - Group work
  - Report at Plenary

Lunch

Session 9: Conclusion and lessons learnt

Evaluation of the Regional Workshop

End of the Day 3

Day 4

Morning: Field Visit: National Government in charge of implementing the NUA

Lunch

Afternoon: Field Visit to the Local Government: Presentation of the Local Strategy and Policy to implement and localize the NUA

Day 5

Morning: Field Visit to ALGA Partners
  - AAPAM
  - Kenya School of Governance

Afternoon: Cultural Visit

End of the Regional Workshop
Biography of the Experts who designed the Conceptual Note and Agenda, and will lead and animate the Regional Workshop

Dr Alioune Badiane
Director, (Rtd) Programme Division, UN - Habitat.
President of The Urban Think Tank Africa –TUTTA.
Spécial Adviser Secrétary General UCLG Africa, Rabat, Morocco.
Dakar, Senegal

Dr Badiane is a Senior Urban and Regional Planner with extensive working experience in both central and local governments and at the international level. He has over thirty five years of accumulated experience working for the United Nations as well as for Government Ministries in Senegal related to: Economic Planning, Housing policy, Decentralization, Urban development and Environment. Dr Badiane served as Director of Dakar City Planning Agency, Principal Policy Advisor to the Mayor of Dakar 1984-1989, and as elected Municipal Councilor and Chairman of the Planning and Environment Commission in his home town Meckhe in Senegal. 1985-1990.

He joined UN-Habitat as Chief Technical Adviser (CTA) and International Human Settlements Adviser to the Government of Haiti in 1991. He was later appointed by Unpowered Bank and UN Habitat as Africa Regional Coordinator of the Urban Management Programme- UMP in 1992. Director of Regional Office for Africa and Arab States of UN Habitat between 1999 and in 2011 From 2011 until oct 2016 when he retired, he was the UN Habitat Director of Programme Division.

During his long carrier and service with the UN, Dr Badiane has directed, managed and coordinated United Nations global, regional and national projects and programmes in Africa, Asia the Arab States regions. Dr Badiane studied urban planning and economics at the Senegal National School of Economics and later graduated from the School of urban and regional planning Laval University Canada and attended his Post Graduate Studies at the Department of Urban Affairs, City University of New York at Hunter College.

Dr Badiane was awarded title of Doctor Honoris Causa of the University of Minna of Niger State . He is currently the President of The Urban Think Tank Africa -TUTTA for the implementation of the new urban agenda in Africa. Dr Badiane is the Honorary President of ICCCASU, the International Council for Canada China and Africa-Icccasu and the Co-founder of the RESAUD network based in Montreal. He is also as Chair of the Advisory Council of the African Forum for Urban Safety -AFUS based in Durban and Special Advisor to the United cities and local Governments of Africa! UCLG-Africa. Dr Badiane is closely collaborating with government and city partners as well as bilateral and multilateral institutions such as UN Habitat, African Union, the World Bank, AFDB and UCLG-Africa to implement the New Urban Agenda in Africa.

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Professor Falade is the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Gotosearch.Com Ltd. He holds BA Town Planning, MPhil and PhD in Landscape Architecture and Advanced Dipolma in Urban Governance.  
Professor Falade is a member of several professional bodies including the Nigerian Institute of Town Planners, Nigerian Society of Landscape Architects, Nigerian Institute of Management, Nigerian Construction Academy, International Union on Parks and Recreation. He is among pioneers of the profession of Landscape Architects in Nigeria. He has accomplished several national and international assignments. He was appointed as Technical Adviser to the Federal Government Delegation to international conferences including Habitats II and III, African Ministerial Council on Housing and Urban Development, Millennium Development Goals, and Sustainable Development Goal Conferences. He served in several important National Committees and assignments namely Facilitator for the Working Group on Urban and Rural Development for Nigeria’s Vision 2020 in (2010); Chair of the Review of the National Urban Development Policy and Member of the Committee on the Review of the National Housing Policy (2011-2012).  
Professor Falade has successfully completed several land use planning/landscape design consultancy services for University campuses (including Olabisi Onabanjo University Ago-Iwoye Obafemi Awolowo University Ile-Ife, University of Agriculture Makurdi, University of Agriculture, Abeokuta; Ago-Ikoyi-Awa-Ijebu-Igbo Sub-region and 16 major towns. He led the Team Lead for the formation of Road Map for the Federal Ministry of Lands Housing and Urban Development Abuja (2014). His firm, Gotosearch prepared the Feedback Grievance Redress Mechanism for Nigeria’s REDD+ Pprogramme and Nigeria’s National Strategy for REDD+ Programme.
He organized the National Workshop for ALGON on the roles of Local Government in the Implementation of International Global Development Agenda and thereafter was and appointed as an Expert to present a technical paper on the role of Local Governments in implementing Global Development Agendas at five Regional Workshops organized by UCLG-Africa (2018).

Professor Falade has over 200 publications to his credit in the area of urban planning landscape architecture, recreation and tourism, urban governance, urbanization, housing, sustainable development. He is happily married to Margaret Kike and the marriage is blessed with four children and four grandchildren.