

**STATE OF THE CITIES IN
AFRICA (SOCA) PROJECT:
THE ROLE OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING-
KNUST**

GHANA URBAN FORUM

by

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OUTLINE

- The Role of Department of Planning
- The State of Preparatory Activities
- The Way Forward
- Collaborators

The Role of DoP in SOCA

- The Role of the Department in the SOCA Project ties in well with the Mandate of the University as an Academic Institution.
- We seek to respond to the demand for Information and research on the State of Urban Systems in Ghana.
- This serves as basis to compare with the State of other African Cities
- The ultimate aim of the information gathering, documentation and research is to inform policy on Urban Governance for sustainable development.

DoP as Project Coordinating Unit (PCU)

- The DoP cherishes its role as the SOCA Project Coordinating Unit
- We understand this role to imply responsibility for the day to day implementation of the project and reporting to the Project Steering Committee (PSC)
- The PSC is to provide policy guidelines and strategic direction to ensure that SOCA-Ghana is aligned to national development objectives.
- This can only be achieved if we collaborate closely with all the strategic Cities Alliance members working in the Urban sector including the AFD, the World Bank, UN-Habitat, GTZ etc

DoP as Project Coordinating Unit (PCU)

- Project Preparation support and management under the Supervision of the Urban Development Unit in the MLGRD
- As an executing Agency DoP will be responsible for Planning, managing the implementation process and monitoring the project outputs
- DoP has initiated the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between KNUST and ACC in South Africa where the Headquarters of SOCA is based.
- Acting in accordance with the MoU KNUST will assign Dr. D.B.K. Inkoom, a Senior Lecturer in DoP, the responsibility of managing the PCU

Preparatory Activities

- After the approval of the proposed work plan and budget the College of Architecture and Planning Accountant will provide and help Dr. Inkoom to maintain a project account
- Office accommodation will be provided by KNUST
- Although the Implementation of some activities have delayed the release of the PCU for full time activities in August, 2011 is expected to speed up things

The Way Forward

- The PCU will have link up with other academic institutions to disseminate research results on urban systems in Ghana.
- The DoP in collaboration with other Departments will soon start Masters Degree Programmes specifically in Urban Planning and Management.
- The PCU should consider sponsoring the Masters and PhD research in relevant areas
- In August this year the DoP in collaboration with staff of the other Departments in the college will be launching a Book on Kumasi titled the Future of the Tree.
- PCU should seek to promote such literary works for the major cities in Ghana and work with respective authors to disseminate the outputs.

Work Plan

Item	2011						2012			
	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
Signing of MOU										
Organise and host KNUST wide meeting on the project										
Organise and host meeting with other tertiary institutions for stakeholders meeting on the project										
Develop operational manual										
Recruit consultant for consultations with local government authorities										
Present OM to Ministry of Rural Development & Local Government										
Present OM to inter-ministerial group										
Organise consultations in main local authorities										
Roll out consultations in local authorities										
Organise national consultation										
National consultation on the SGCP										
Submit full proposal to the CA										

Conclusion

- As we come along in the various regions for consultation we expect that you would come out and give us the necessary support
- We would like to call for support for the Urban Platform because we see it as a means of sharing information and ideas on urban systems for urban Governance