



Global suburbia: suburbanisms in Africa and Brasil

**Alan Mabin**

II Coloquio Internacional Las paradojas de la Megalópolis

CESOP – Mexico City - 25 July 2016

WITS CITY INSTITUTE

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## Capital Cities IRT

Next Reading Group: 7 June  
2016 | Stephan van Wyk  
(UNISA) on Post-apartheid  
Pretoria

— see event catalogue for details



City of Tshwane (Pretoria)

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Campus life

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Research



[Home](#) > [Research](#) > [Research A - Z](#) > [Wits City Institute](#)

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"Transmetropolitan" – Brian Whelan



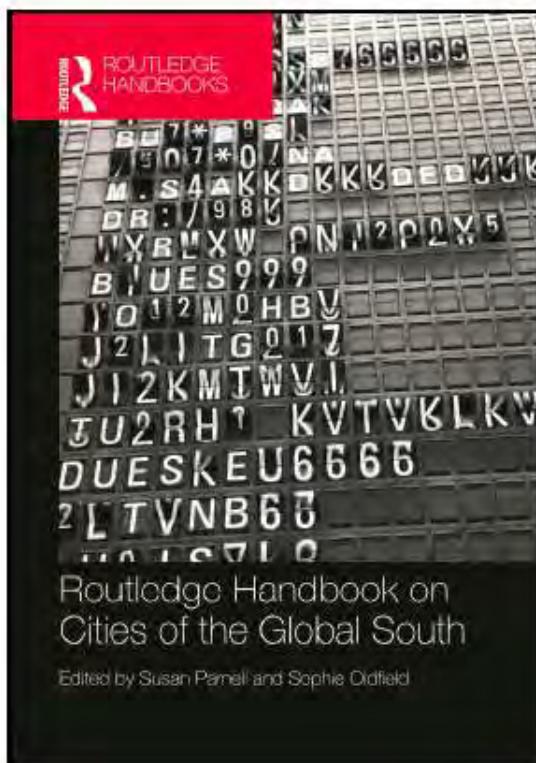


# The Routledge Handbook on Cities of the Global South

## Edited by Susan Parnell, Sophie Oldfield

The renaissance in urban theory draws directly from a fresh focus on the neglected realities of cities beyond the west and embraces the global south as the epicentre of urbanism. This Handbook engages the complex ways in which cities of the global south and the global north are rapidly shifting, the imperative for multiple genealogies of knowledge production, as well as a diversity of empirical entry points to understand contemporary urban dynamics.

The Handbook works towards a geographical realignment in urban studies, bringing into conversation a wide array of cities across the global south – the ‘ordinary’, ‘mega’, ‘global’ and ‘peripheral’. With interdisciplinary contributions from a range of leading international experts, it profiles an emergent and geographically diverse body of work.



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News

Events

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Links

## Global Suburbanisms: Governance, Land and Infrastructure in the 21st Century



INFRASTRUCTURE

&lt;&lt;1|2|3|4|5&gt;&gt;

### Blue-Green Boundaries in a Suburbanizing World Workshop



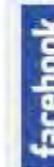
A three-day workshop Blue-Green Boundaries in a Suburbanizing World took place at the Federal University of Minas Gerais in Belo Horizonte from February 28 to March 1, 2016. This event was co-sponsored by the Major Collaborative Research Initiative (MCRI) on Global Suburbanisms housed at The City Institute at York University and the Center for Regional Development and Planning (CEDEPLAR) at UFMG. CEDEPLAR's generous hospitality made this workshop an unforgettable experience for participants from near and far.

The event grew out of previous conversations between members of Boundaries theme area of the MCRI on Global Suburbanisms and CEDEPLAR researchers who are involved

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Global Suburbanisms |



### Surburban Governance: A Global View



**Social Sciences and Humanities  
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- My central argument in this presentation is that at this point in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century it is time to move away from the modernist impositions of the middle 20<sup>th</sup> century and set out anew to learn what does and does not make sense in the conditions of the present and the near future.
- In particular I want to argue that the major developing and significant features of cities at this stage are to be found, overwhelmingly, in suburbanisms – in suburban environments and in suburban ways of being in the city – with a very broad understanding of the varieties of suburbanisms and their mutations
- These environments and ways of being are simply absent from or exceedingly minimal in, modernist conceptions of the city ... which still predominate in planning today
- And this situation is a source of planning failure – from which we might learn

- Mi argumento central de esta presentación es que en este punto en el siglo 21 es el momento de alejarse de las imposiciones modernistas de mediados del siglo 20 y reanudar su marcha para aprender lo que funciona y no tiene sentido en las condiciones del presente y el futuro cercano.
- En particular, quiero argumentar que el principal desarrollo y características importantes de las ciudades en esta etapa se encuentran, mayoritariamente, en suburbanisms - en entornos suburbanos y en formas suburbanas de estar en la ciudad - con una muy amplia comprensión de las variedades de suburbanisms y sus mutaciones
- Estos ambientes y formas de ser son simplemente ausente de o muy mínima en las concepciones modernistas de la ciudad ... que todavía predominan en la planificación de hoy
- Y esta situación es una fuente de fallos de planificación - de la que podemos aprender







AP

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DES VILLES ET VILLAGES FLEURIS

# LES BANLIEUES

OU LA PÉRIPHÉRIE  
EN TANT QUE LABORATOIRE DE L'EMPRISE DE LA NORME





*Nous sommes  
l'avenir de la  
République!*





10.10.2010 11:55

## Du Grand Paris à la Métropole du Grand Paris

Le Monde.fr | 22.01.2016 à 07h46 - Mis à jour le 22.01.2016 à 11h17 |

Par Manon Rescan

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Réagir

Classer



Partager (342)

Twitter

Patrick Ollier a été élu, vendredi 22 janvier, premier président du conseil de la Métropole du Grand Paris (MGP). Le député des Hauts-de-Seine et maire Les Républicains de Rueil-Malmaison dirigera cette nouvelle assemblée de 209 élus dont le nom peut prêter à confusion : la MGP n'est en effet que l'une des émanations des grands projets d'aménagement de la région Ile-de-France rassemblés sous l'expression « Grand Paris ». Explications en quatre étapes.

### Pourquoi un Grand Paris ?



## Présentation du film "Créons ensemble la Métropole du Grand Paris"

### Actualités

[12/07/2016](#) Signature de la convention Inventons la Métropole du Grand Paris

[07/07/2016](#) Colloque GEMAPI

[24/06/2016](#) Réunion du Conseil de la métropole du

### Une métropole, 12 territoires, 131 communes



RT [@ledoux\\_nicolas: #InventonsMGP](#) : le mini-bus de [@Paris](#) [@GrandParisMGP](#) sillonne la Métropole à la découverte des sites candidats ! [https:...](https://...)



SOCIÉTÉ 21/07/2010 À 00H00

## Le Grand Paris plonge

RÉCIT Après le départ de Christian Blanc et la fin de son secrétariat d'Etat, le projet de Sarkozy se dégonfle.

3 réactions

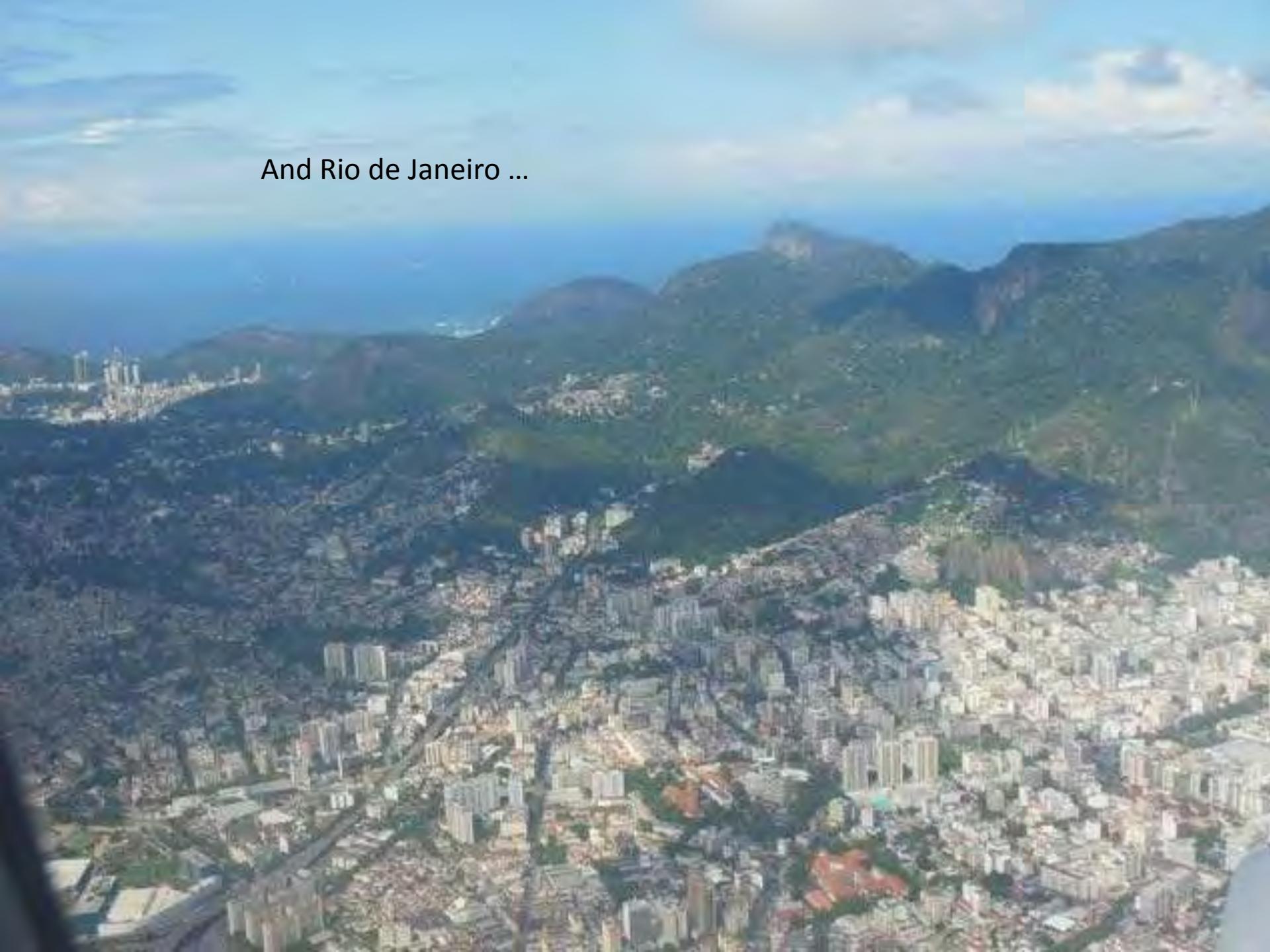
Par SIBYLLE VINCENDON

- A + |  |  |  | 

Tradition de la Ve, les présidents de la République aiment bâtir pour laisser leur trace dans l'Histoire. A l'exception de De Gaulle qui avait payé d'avance, ils l'ont tous fait. Nicolas Sarkozy n'est pas différent des autres : à peine élu en juin 2007, il parlait de communauté urbaine autour de Paris. Devenir le baron Haussmann du XXI<sup>e</sup> siècle, comme l'avait évoqué son conseiller Henri Guaino, a de quoi faire rêver un chef d'Etat. Accessoirement, organiser le bazar de l'agglomération parisienne est un objectif louable.

Quatre ans plus tard, ces nobles ambitions ont dégringolé. Le Grand Paris avait entraîné, en 2007, la création d'un secrétariat d'Etat au Développement de la région capitale, innovation confiée à un ancien chef

And Rio de Janeiro ...



Barra da Tijuca - Rio



# SÃO PAULO METRÓPOLE





**MOVIMENTO  
PASSE LIVRE**

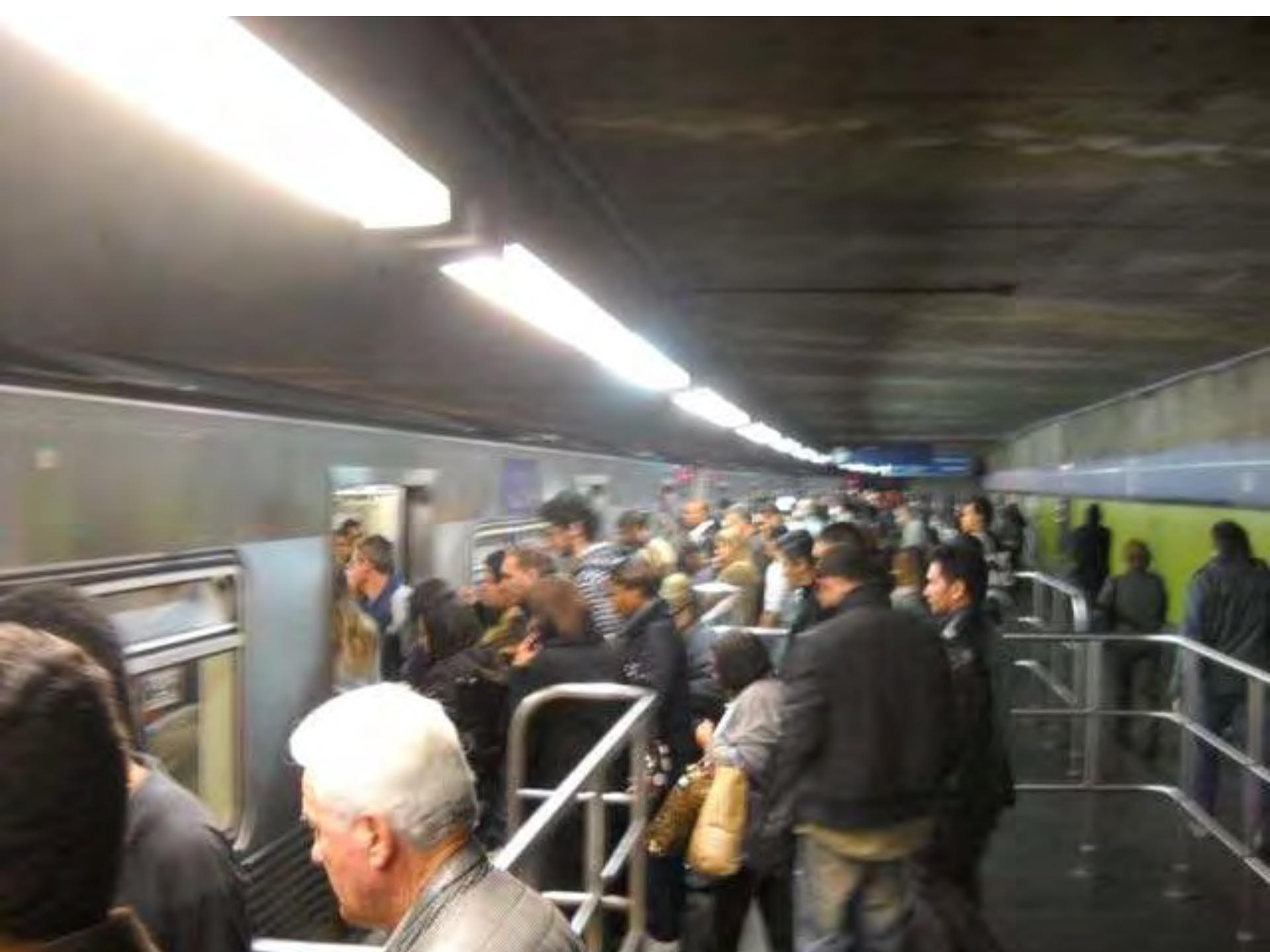
BOL  
FIRE  
New York City



ESTRADA AUMENTA  
CIDADE VAI PARAR

O NOSSO  
RÔT











“Outside” Belo Horizonte,  
capital of State of Minas Gerais





















Moving to Africa ...  
Addis Ababa, capital of Ethiopia















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ለመድረግ  
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Ladza Dashen Area

Bank Building I

Dragon & Associates

Architects

Contractor

Keweenaw Construction

Completion

Q3 2018

www.dragonassociates.com



Durban, South Africa







PALM GATE

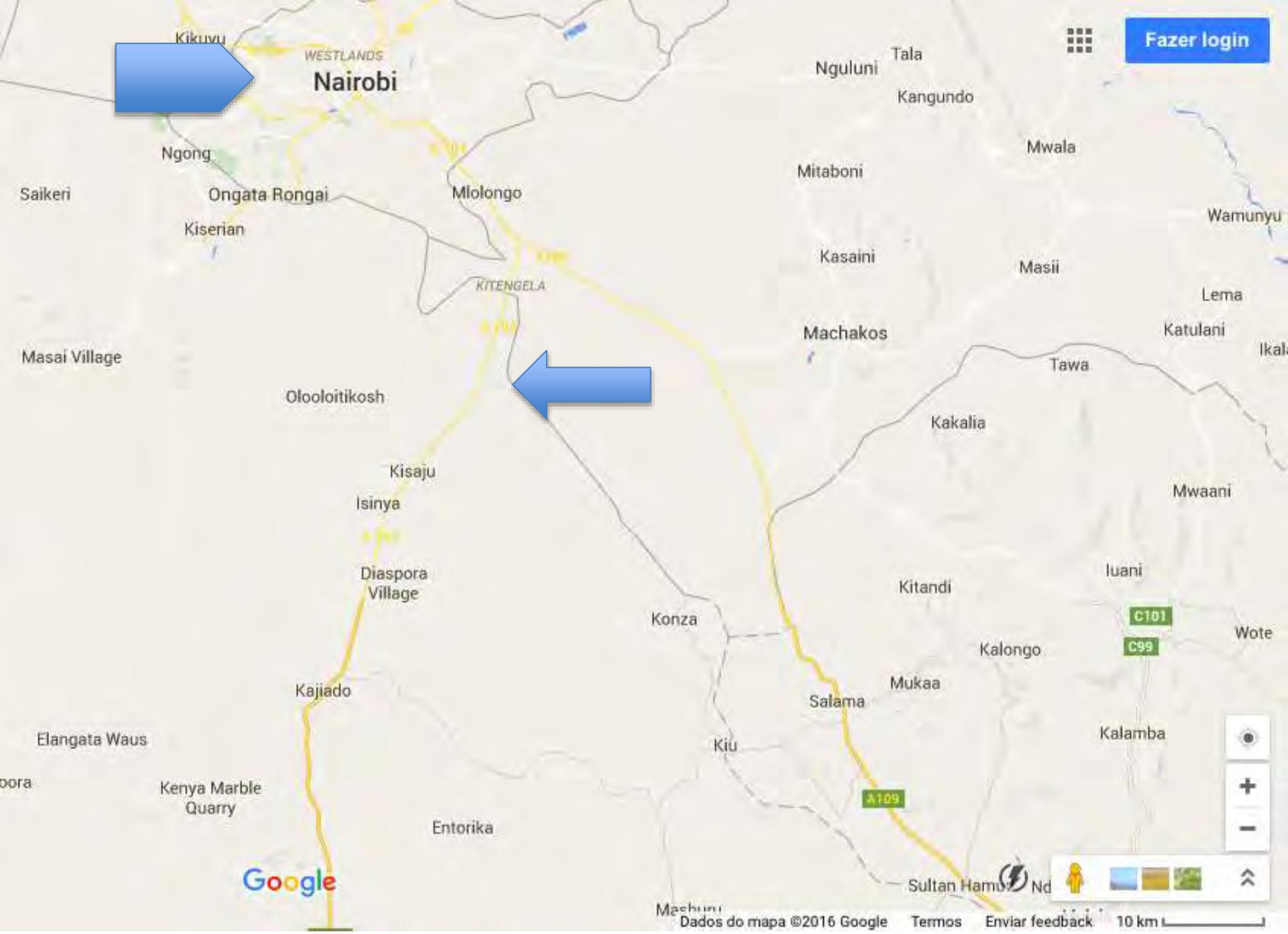


27  
Papeete Dr

KIBERA, Nairobi, capital of Kenya [and headquarters of UN Habitat] – 250 000 people











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Bourgeois shanty towns

All latest updates

# The great cities of Africa and Asia are spreading fast, and in bizarre ways

Rural areas are turning urban far faster than planners expected

The  
Economist

Jun 29th 2016 | International



Timekeeper

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27

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Getty Images

Dar es Salaam is a case in point. The British governors who ran Tanzania (then called Tanganyika) until the 1960s envisaged it as a small, orderly city. With 5m people, population growth of more than 5% a year and some of the world's worst traffic jams, it is now neither of those things. And the colonial rulers made another assumption, with great consequences for the modern metropolis, says Wolfgang Scholz of the Technical University in Dortmund. The city was to be planned, with Western-style owner-occupied homes on large plots, at least in the European areas. The countryside beyond was to be unplanned and African, with property owned collectively.

Dar es Salaam has swelled so much that almost all building now is in what is technically countryside. Land there can be bought and sold, but only informally; commercial developers will not touch it. The buyers, largely families moving out of the city centre, cannot encumber land that they do not truly own, so they cannot obtain mortgages. They build slowly, adding bricks when they can afford them. The urban fringe is littered with "almost houses" and shops selling building supplies. Ms Mwaitulo's house, which was financed partly by personal loans, was built in four years—fast by local standards.

If house-building is slow, installing roads and other infrastructure is much more so. When Ms Mwaitulo arrived, Mikwambe was always dark at night. Homes now have electricity but little else. She gets water from a private borehole and sells some to neighbours. Residents cut informal deals over public space. Aisha Hassan, a farmer who sold most of her land but still lives in Mikwambe, says she asked the homebuilders who bought from her to leave space for a road. The narrow track will be woefully inadequate when the neighbourhood fills up with car owners.

It is a typical arrangement. Shlomo Angel of New York University has studied seven African cities in detail: Accra, Addis Ababa, Arusha, Ibadan, Johannesburg, Lagos and Luanda. He calculates that only 16% of the land in new residential areas developed since 1990 has been set aside for roads—about half as much as planners think necessary. And 44% of those roads are less than four metres wide.

"First the people come, then the development comes," explains one resident of Mikwambe, a teacher in a madrassa. To an extent this is true. As the suburbs of Dar es Salaam fill up, their residents will gain officials' ears. But retrofitting chaotic districts with roads and sewers will be slow, hard and pricey: some homes must be knocked down and their owners compensated. Dar es Salaam's new suburbanites are less secure, and less free, than they believe.











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BRT - BUS RAPID TRANSIT  
KIMARA - BRIDGE

TUNAJENGA KWA AJILI YAKO

UJENZI UNAENDELEA !

Jikinge dhidi ya UKIMWI









Meantime at the  
beach (and behind)









Goldstar  
PAINTS

Goldstar  
PAINTS

Goldstar  
PAINTS

Gold  
PAINTS

A photograph of a paved street in a residential area. On the left, there is a long, low concrete wall with several small, dark circular holes. Behind the wall, there are several houses with colorful roofs (red, yellow, green) and walls. The street is paved and leads towards the background where more houses and utility poles are visible under a clear blue sky.

Sinza B





- Return to Johannesburg, South Africa, and its surrounding area of Gauteng – a city region of 14 million people
- ... development, redevelopment and new development of enormously diverse kinds of suburbanisms
- (easiest to depict as physical but deeply social changes as well)

A golden opportunity

Building

# Gauteng

as a Globally Competitive  
City Region



Joburg







# Atteridgeville

Pretoria West



**ON SHOW**



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CITY  
LODGE

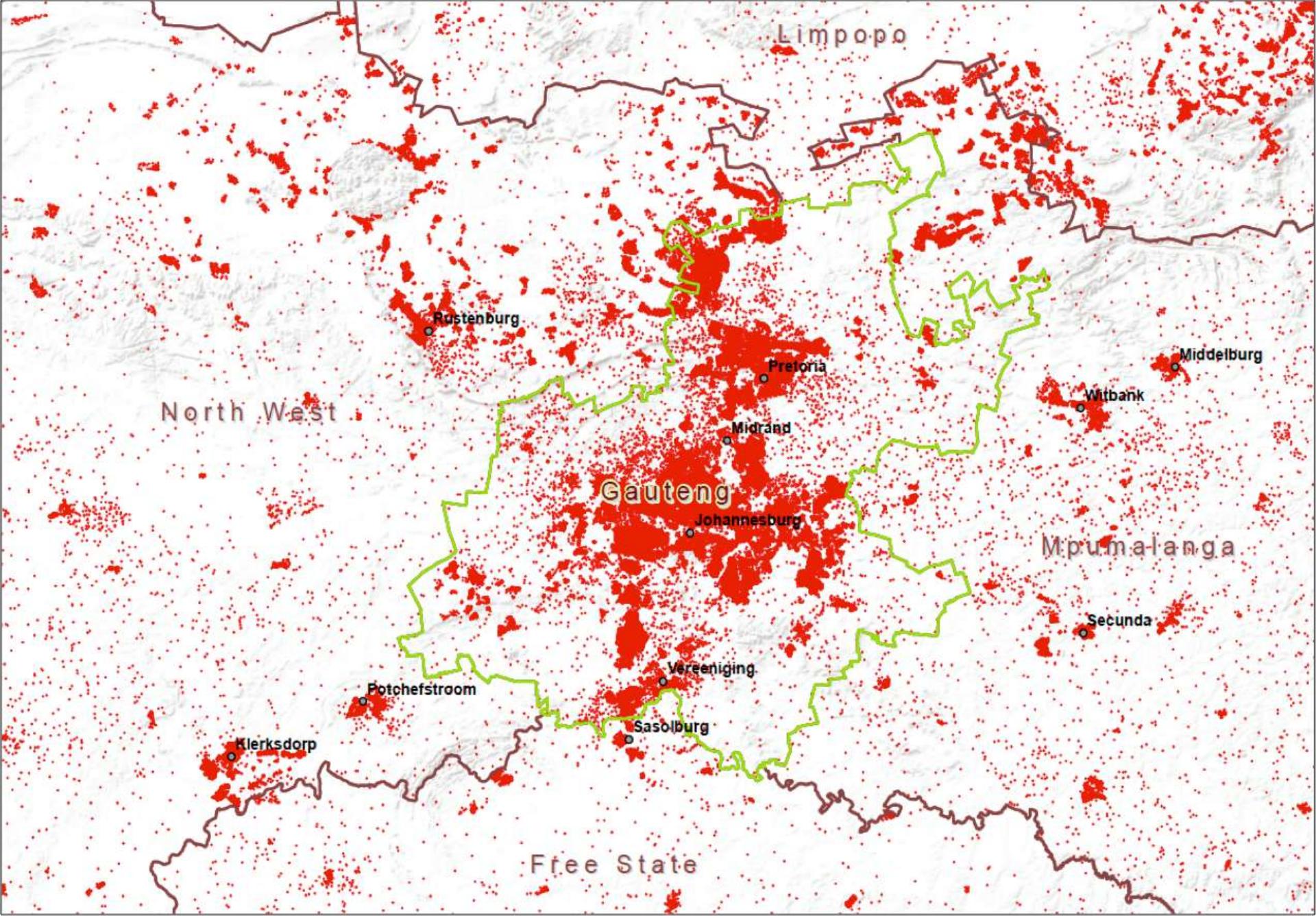
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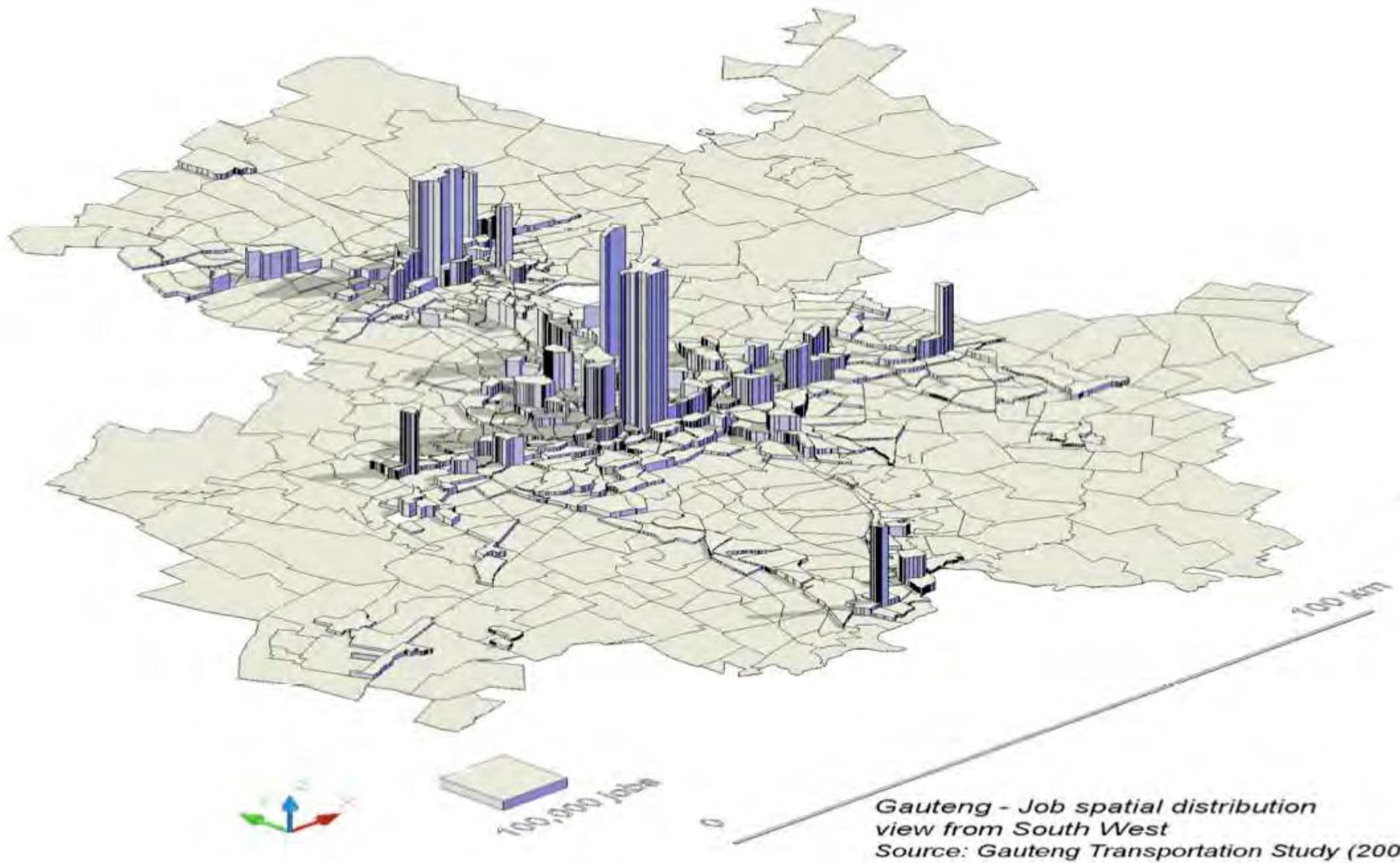
PARKING ENTRANCE















# What to do in the suburbanising metropolis?

- The dangers of reverting to a modernist comprehensiveness
- The dangers of seeing planning as able to address very large social crises rather than focussing on what *planning can do and can be*
- Planning is unlikely to resolve all of the large social questions such as inequality – and there is a need I suggest to learn from its failures to do so and to relate it much more carefully to *what is going on in the world's cities and suburbs*

# La mission des urbanistes sans cesse réinterrogée

## Se remettre en question en permanence

Urbaniste doit lui aussi s'adapter. Hier encore, il planifiait l'avenir avec la certitude que donnait, en apparence, la maîtrise des statistiques, des techniques et des moyens. Or, peu à peu, la ville et les attentes des habitants sont devenues plus complexes. Le besoin d'adaptabilité, de souplesse et de réversibilité s'est progressivement imposé à tous. La temporalité des projets s'est aussi profondément modifiée. Le hiatus entre le temps long de l'urbanisme et le temps court de l'investisseur grandit et, dans le même temps, les mécanismes de décision ainsi que l'arsenal réglementaire se compliquent. Toutes ces évolutions interpellent l'urbaniste et l'obligent à se remettre en question sans cesse, à revoir ses prévisions, à modifier ses pratiques, à élargir ses références, à dépasser les clivages professionnels.



Un programme de réaménagement urbain en cours par la ville de Paris - ©INSA/C. Journe

Cadre au service de l'art



## Anticiper la ville de demain

Le XXI<sup>e</sup> siècle sera urbain mais la vie en ville sera très différente. Les mutations seront sans doute aussi importantes que celles qui ont été vécues au cours de la phase d'urbanisation des années 1950-1970. La ville restera un espace complexe de coexistence des quatre fonctions urbaines principales - habiter, travailler, se divertir et se déplacer - mais

- The mission of planners must be reinterrogated without ceasing
- For professionals this means placing ourselves continuously – permanently – in question
- And anticipating the city of tomorrow – in new ways, with new ideas, with new discussions, new tongues, new relationalities and new subversive imaginations



Gràcies – Obrigado – Merci – Ke a leboha – Thank you

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