



INCLUSIVE CITY GROWTH AND THE POOR: **POLICIES, CHALLENGES AND PROSPECTS**

Volume One

Editors:

S.N. Zubairu

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In loving memory of
Late Dr. Anthony Ikechukwu ANUNOBI
(1965-2017)

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COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION RESEARCH GROUP (COPAREG)

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TRIBUTE

This book is dedicated to the memory of Late Dr. Anthony Ikechukwu ANUNOBI who dedicated his working life towards improving the quality of life of the poor.

He was a man that preached and ensured that everyone he had dealings with enjoyed inclusiveness. As a trained architect he ensured that he undertook designs that had minimum negative impact on the environment and the livelihood of the people within the community. He was a typical example of a detribalized individual as evident with the mix of friends and community services he rendered.

Late Dr. Anthony Ikechukwu Anunobi had always been passionate about community integration and inclusiveness which was demonstrated in his leadership style as the Head of Department of Architecture, Federal University of Technology Minna, Nigeria, while he held sway and even in the community. He never discriminated against anybody. He shared the philosophy of COPAREG *that everyone has a role in the community/city and should be involved in the planning process.*

Late Dr. Anunobi will be remembered for his contribution towards the growth of Architecture in Nigeria with his involvement in the training of over 1500 students and graduates who are practicing within and outside Nigeria. His contribution to the Community Participation Research Group (COPAREG) team is what led the team to produce the first Book in its many series of books and conferences to come by the group.

INCLUSIVE CITY GROWTH AND THE POOR: Policies, Challenges and Prospects

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Title Page	i
Support	ii
Tribute	iii
Editors	iv
Table of Contents	vi
Acknowledgements	xi
Foreword	xiii
Copyright Statement	xv
Declaration of peer review and scientific publishing policy	xvi
Authors' Profile	xvii
Introduction	
<i>Prof.M. Zubairu</i>	xxviii
Chapter 1 Enhancing Quality of Case Study Research in Housing: Making a Case for Ethnomethodology and Unique Adequacy Requirements <i>J.J. Maina</i>	1
Chapter 2 Community Participation in Slum Upgrading: A Key to Attainment of Inclusive City <i>Popoola, N. I., Ojetunde, I., Kemiki, O. A. &Ayoola, A. B.</i>	18
Chapter 3 Community Squares as Tools for Inclusive Urban Planning in Nigerian Cities a Case of Imo Capital City <i>B.O. Agoha</i>	33
Chapter 4 Flood Experiences in Low Income Urban Communities: Assessing Women's Responses in Makoko, Lagos, Nigeria <i>T. Lawanson & O. Odunbaku</i>	56
Chapter 5 Perspectives of Urban Sprawl: The Conflated Issues and Realities <i>Idowu, O. O; Shaibu, S. I; Raheem, W. A, & Martins, V. I.</i>	70
Chapter 6 Effects of Forced Eviction on Residents in	

Nigerian Cities: Issues, Perspectives and Policy Implications <i>Ige, V.O., Mbazor, D. N. & Akinbode, T.</i>	89
Chapter 7 Impact of Slum and Squatter Settlements on Environment and Economy of the Poor in Minna City Centre of Niger State <i>I. Shuaib.</i>	107
Chapter 8 A Global Review of the Emerging concepts of Sustainability Assessment and Sustainability Indicators in Urban Neighbourhood <i>J. Momoh, and B. Medjdoub</i>	125
Chapter 9 Assessment of the Impact of Urban Development Control Policies in Housing on Inclusive City Development in FCT, Abuja <i>O.E. Bamidele</i>	148
Chapter 10 Confronts and Corrective Options for Urban Environmental Resilience in Barnawa-Narayi Unplanned Areas of Kaduna <i>Ryal-Net, M.B., Ogunrayewa, M.O. & Obaje, J.A</i>	164
Chapter 11 Influence of Urban Liveability Issues on Environmental Sustainability in Nigeria <i>A.C. Ogwueleka & O.A. Diala</i>	187
Chapter 12 Socio-Economic Impacts of Illegal Occupants Eviction in Ngoumna Neighborhood, Sabaganli Area, N'djamena City, Chad Republic <i>S. Douh</i>	198
Chapter 13 Effects of Spatial Distribution of Health Centres on Residential Neighbourhood Development in Kaduna State, Nigeria <i>M.L. Ibrahim</i>	210
Chapter 14 The Effect of Johannesburg Inner-City Regeneration on the Resident Communities <i>N. Khatleli</i>	222
Chapter 15 Creating Inclusive Cities through Effective Urban Planning-Driven Crime Reduction Measures in Nigeria <i>S.M. Lekan</i>	241
Chapter 16 Slums, Its Spread, Effects and Stemming the Tide	

in Nigeria: A Case Study of Abuja Federal Capital Territory <i>A.M. Egwuma & E.D. Okonta</i>	255
Chapter 17 Fire Outbreak as a Hindrance to Inclusive City Growth and Urban Liveability <i>A.A. Shittu</i>	273
Chapter 18 Exploring Liveability Assessment: An Analysis from Residential Estates in Minna, Nigeria. <i>A.I. Sule</i>	295
Chapter 19 Broken Lives and Broken Limbs: An Evaluation of Slum Clearances and Forced Evictions in Metropolitan Lagos <i>N. Onwuanyi</i>	309
Chapter 20 Developing Inclusive and Sustainable Urban Transport System in Nigeria: The Challenges and Prospects <i>M.S. Oluwole</i>	334
Chapter 21 Corporate Nodal Destination Choices in the Exodus from Johannesburg Central Business District, South Africa <i>N. Khatleli</i>	351
Chapter 22 Towards Smart Cities Construction: Drivers and Barriers of Implementing Sustainable Building Construction in Nigeria <i>M.G. Oladokun & C.O. Aigbavboa</i>	372
Chapter 23 Critique of Energy Poverty Measurement and Metrics: The Way Forward <i>S.O. Akande, Y.A. Sanusi & N. Mohammed</i>	396

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The rapid growth of the urban areas is considered to be at an alarming rate and it has both negative and positive impacts on the balance within the city. It is believed that urban growth within the city is skewed in favour of the rich given the nature of infrastructure and amenities available to them. The poor that make up a large proportion of the city are often forgotten or treated as an after-thought. It is common believe that the developments in the city does not often include the requirements of the poor, hence creating social imbalance and segregation with the city. The issue of inclusiveness has become a major problem that requires the attention of all those involved in the development of the city. This publication on *Inclusive City Growth and the Poor: Policies, Challenges and Prospects* is hence appropriate and well-timed in examining the issues affecting the city in this century. The book is a collection of extensive work by different scholars, professionals and policy makers from countries such as Nigeria, Ghana, Chad, South-Africa, Turkey, United-Kingdom, United States and Ireland to whom we are appreciative.

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FOREWORD

This book titled, “Inclusive City Growth and the Poor: Policies, Challenges and the Prospects” is a publication of the Community Participation Research Group (COPAREG) of Federal University of Technology (FUT) Minna, Nigeria. The book is published in honor of Late Dr. Anthony Ikechukwu Anunobi who was a pioneering staff of the Department of Architecture, FUT Minna. The theme of the book is apt and is of much relevance to the contemporary global debate on how to make the cities habitable for all, irrespective of social, economic or political status.

The Sustainable Development Goal 11 is focused on the building of inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable cities in all parts of the world. In simple term, an inclusive city is that which provides for the needs of all people equally. “It is one in which all residents—including the most marginalized of poor workers—have a representative voice in governance, planning, and budgeting processes, and have access to sustainable livelihoods, legal housing and affordable basic services such as water/sanitation and an electricity supply” (Rhonda Douglas, 2013).

The book contains 47 chapters that covered a wide range of issues that bothers on the spatial, social and economic dimensions of urban inclusion. The critical urban inclusion issues considered include urban development and sprawl; affordable housing delivery using local and alternative building materials; provision of health and transport infrastructure; water, sanitation and waste management; eviction and welfare of the urban poor; housing environment and community participation in slum upgrading all of which enhance the principles of inclusion, urban livability and smart city development.

The issues discussed, the findings and recommendations made in this book are valuable contributions to the development of inclusive cities in Nigeria. The effort made by COPAREG in the assemblage and publication of research efforts of several professionals in the built environment is highly commendable.

CHAPTER 15

Creating Inclusive Cities through Effective Urban Planning-Driven Crime Reduction Measures in Nigeria

Lekan Mohammed Sanni

Introduction

For over two decades now, there has been a discernible feeling of fear, restiveness and apprehension among the vast majority of the citizenry in many parts of Nigeria. Many of the State capitals and other large towns and cities across the country are increasingly zooming into panic mode as a result of their relatively insecure conditions. From Maiduguri and Yola in the north-east, Kaduna and Kano in the north-west, Jos, Okene and Makurdi in the north-central and down to Warri, Port Harcourt and Calabar in the southern part, there is a general feeling of insecurity among residents (Achumba, Ighomereho & Akpor-Robaro; 2013 Adegoke, 2014). These same feelings are not entirely different from what many residents of Aba, Onitsha and Okigwe in the south-eastern section as well as those in Ibadan, Ife and Lagos in the western axis of the country experienced. Many of the towns and cities across the country are no longer the safe havens and comfort zones they used to be to their vast majority of residents (Ewetan & Urhie, 2014). The high and increasing rates of crime of varying dimensions, particularly heinous crimes such as armed robbery, kidnapping, ritual killings, assassination and sexual harassment, amongst several others, have made many of our towns and cities less livable and insecure (Chinwokwu, 2014; Shopeju, 2007). The situation is so bad that many Nigerians hardly sleep in their houses with both eyes closed (Azuatalam, 2007; Otudor, 2005). The level of insecurity in the country has become so deplorable to the extent that the United States of America and the United Kingdom have had causes in 2015 and 2016 to warn their nationals from travelling to some cities in Nigeria, notably some northern cities of Bauchi, Maiduguri, Yola, Gombe, Kaduna and Kano as a result of the state of insecurity in these places (Inyang, 2017).

The seeming rise in crime and criminal activities in many of the urban areas across the country has been attributed to several factors, many of which are

social and economic in nature. These include the unprecedented pattern of urbanization, widespread poverty, high population growth rates, widening inequality, rising youth unemployment, deplorable state of critical infrastructure and poor economic policies and programmes on the part of the government at all levels, amongst several others (Esiri, 2016; Badiora & Afon, 2013; UN-Habitat, 2008; Alemika & Chukwuma, 2005; Agbola, 2004; Moser, 2004, Igbinovia, 2003). However, the less emphasized reasons for the upsurge in crime in the developing countries, especially Nigeria, include poor urban planning, particularly physical development control (Sanni, 2017). The view has been emphasized by several studies (Alkimim *et al.*, 2013; Brown *et al.*, 2004; Jackson, 2004; Seymour *et al.*, 2010; Wyant, 2008) that the nature, design and development pattern of the neighbourhood's physical environment are as potent in promoting vulnerability and feeling of crime and insecurity are as real as the actual existence of crime itself.

The challenge of rising criminality and insecurity in the country is also not been helped by the seemingly poor performance and ineffectiveness of the police, the body statutorily charged with maintenance of law and order (Alemika, 2013; Chinwokwu, 2013). Several authors (Alemika, 2013; Chinwokwu, 2013; Olatunbosun & Oluduro, 2012; Adebayo & Ojo, 2009) have described the Nigeria Police Force has incapable of addressing the challenge of rising criminality and insecurity in the country as the agency is plagued with several problems including poor training, poor welfare package, inadequate manpower, corruption and poor operational logistics, amongst others. As a result of the seemingly ineffectiveness of the police, several state governments across the country have had to form police/military joint patrol teams which daily traverse the nooks and crannies of the cities, particularly the state capitals, in attempts to maintain law and order and ward off criminal elements. Aside this, many neighbourhoods and households are also deploying unconventional security measures in their areas and homes, including erection of neighbourhood gates, formation of vigilante groups and installation of all manners of iron barricades and fences around their houses respectively (Agbola, 1997, Sanni, 2017).

It is therefore, acknowledged that to create inclusive cities where the poor and the privileged, the strong and the weak in the society can live comfortably, peacefully and happily, requires a collective approach. Enthroning inclusive city growth devoid of threats to lives and property of residents is a collaborative project between the government, groups,

communities and individuals. It requires a redirection of policy initiatives and pragmatic social, economic and physical planning on the part of government, particularly at the state and local government levels and a behavioral shift on the part of the citizenry, who are the ultimate beneficiaries of a better planned, developed and sustained environment. It is against this background that this study examines the role effective urban planning can play not only in reducing crime and criminal opportunities but also in achieving a sustainable and inclusive city growth in Nigeria.

Urbanization, Crime and Crime Prevention

There is no way the menace of crime and criminality will be discussed, particularly in the developing countries today without an ample reference to the impacts of urbanization. While no single factor can be regarded as been responsible for the rising crime trend worldwide, particularly in the developing countries, the influence of unprecedented pattern of urbanization and high population growth rates has been described as very strong (Albert, 1994; Ceccato & Wilhelmsson, 2012; Kamalipour *et al.*, 2014; Marzbali *et al.*, 2012; UN-Habitat, 2007). Many of the urban areas, especially in the developing countries are hotbeds of criminality. The International Centre for the Prevention of Crime (ICPC) (2014) reported that at least two thirds of the inhabitants of cities across the world had been victims of crimes at least once in a five year period.

In Nigeria, the rate of crime occurrence, particularly in the urban centres is increasingly alarming. In the two decades, violent crimes, particularly murder, armed robbery, rape, kidnapping, cultism and lately acts of terrorism have been on the increase and has therefore, made the country apparently insecure (Chinwokwu, 2014; Shopeju, 2007). For instance, the National Bureau of Statistics (2012; 2016) reported amongst others that cases of murder, assault and rape/indecent assault across the country rose from 2063, 13790 and 416 in 2009 to 2861, 16487 and 1788 in 2013 respectively. Cases of kidnapping across the country also rose to an alarming 574 in 2013 from less than 200 in 2009. The cities are particularly the domains of crime and insecurity in many countries. This is perhaps due to the intense level of social and economic interactions that takes place at the city level (Ceccato & Wilhelmsson, 2012). It is therefore, believed that cities cannot aim to be socially sustainable without paying considerable interest and attention to the security of citizens, although it will be extremely difficult to create a totally crime-free environment.

The impacts of urban crime and insecurity are said to be multifaceted and multidimensional (UN-Habitat, 2008). Aside the resultant injury, death and

trauma, crime and insecurity impede foreign investments, contribute to capital flight and brain drain as well as hinder or discourage international tourism. Increasing levels of urban crime and insecurity threatens and sometimes destabilizes social stability and are increasingly becoming major obstacles to development (Fajnzylber *et al.*, 2002). Crime prevalence seriously undermines urban social coherence by eroding residents' sense of safety and security (Onoge, 1988). There is a sort of agreement among urban sociologists that crime impedes development (Ayres, 1998; Glasson & Cozens, 2011; Moser & Holland, 1997). In Nigeria, as in many other parts of the developing world, the upsurge in crime rates has become a major development challenge. It has become sources of serious personal sufferings and huge material loss to many individuals and groups and has therefore, placed enormous burden on the urban social fabrics (Agbola, 1997). It discourages both local and foreign investments, lowers the quality of life, destroys human and social capital, as well as damages relationship between citizens and the states, and has the potential of undermining democracy, rule of law and the ability of the country to promote development (Adebayo, 2013).

The most worrisome dimension of current urban crime occurrence is that studies (Schneider, 2007; UN-Habitat, 2007; Sanni, 2017) have reported that the poor segments of the society are particularly more vulnerable to crime and criminality than the rich and privileged. This is because even within the city crime prevalence has a spatial dimension. This is because while high levels of crime are reported in some sections or neighbourhoods of the cities, the pattern is entirely different in some others. Crime occurred more frequently in the distressed and disadvantaged areas or neighbourhoods of the cities with a high concentration of poverty, unemployment and minority population (Ackerman, 1998; Anselin, 2000; Kershaw & Tseloni, 2005). The situation is such that in many cities of the developing countries, including Nigeria, many neighbourhoods are stigmatized and dreaded due to their relatively insecure conditions. The roles of urban morphology, socio-economic and environmental conditions of the city in crime occurrence and pattern of vulnerability have also been emphasized by some studies (Kamalipour *et al.*, 2014; Marzbani *et al.*, 2012). Therefore, the peculiar conditions and circumstances of the poor communities and neighbourhoods of the cities should be paid deserved attention as part of the campaign for creating inclusive and sustainable growth across the world.

The need for new and innovative approaches to crime prevention and management, particularly in the urban centres considered more vulnerable, is increasingly being stressed by development analysts, security managers and experts as well as many international bodies. Crime prevention has become an increasingly significant components of many strategies directed at ensuring and promoting public safety and security (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) (2010). The UNODC observed that different types of crime prevention methods have been developed worldwide and these include crime prevention through social development, community or locally-based crime prevention, situational crime prevention and crime prevention through environmental design, amongst others. Several other forms of urban planning interventions, including slum upgrading, urban renewal and enthrone inclusive city growth process can be encouraged to provide urban safety, particularly for the poor.

In Nigeria, several measures and strategies have been evolved at various levels of governments, communities and individual households to address the increasing challenge of crime and insecurity but not much success had been recorded (Alemika & Chukwuma, 2005). Apart from the occasional deployment of armed soldiers to several parts of the country considered volatile by the federal government, many state governments across the country have formed military/police joint patrol teams which daily patrol the various neighbourhoods of the cities and other identified crime hotspots. Closed circuit television (CCTV) cameras have also been installed in some strategic locations in some parts of the country, notably Abuja and Lagos to monitor movements and activities around. There is also the formation of paramilitary security patrol agencies by some state governments for the purpose of surveillance and information gathering. A typical example is that of Lagos State called "neighbourhood watch".

Various communities and neighbourhoods across many cities in Nigeria are increasingly organizing themselves into vigilante groups to keep watch over their areas, especially at night, while also prohibiting the movement of persons and vehicles within certain hours of the night. Some have also installed gates which are firmly locked at certain hours of the night at all entry points into their streets and neighbourhoods in attempts at limiting both pedestrian and vehicular movements. At the household level, some are increasingly adapting the design of their houses in such a way that intruders would not be able to gain easy entry, while many others are erecting fences around their houses (Abodunrin, 2004; Adigun & Adedibu, 2013; Afon, 2001; Agbola, 1997; Agbola, 2002). Others, especially the affluent and well-placed are increasingly installing CCTV in their houses and engaging the services of private security guards to keep watch. Some others keep

weird looking security dogs, while yet others resort to unconventional means such as charms to ward off people with criminal intents from their homes.

Concept of Inclusive city

The concept of inclusive city was borne out of the apparent neglect, marginalization and exclusion of the poor urban residents, who despite being in the majority, hardly enjoy the benefits of city living in terms of provision of the basic needs and services, including security. Cities are the hubs of several social and economic activities and their importance to national development in many countries has been stressed by several studies (UN-Habitat, 2011). They are the engines of economic growth (Colenbrander, 2016). Crucial to national economic development in many countries are the roles played by many stakeholders both in the formal and informal sectors. The increasing contributions of the informal sector to national economic development in many developing countries have particularly been acknowledged by several studies (Amin, 2002; Blades, Ferreira & Lugo, 2011; Benjamin *et al.*, 2014). However, despite the growing relevance of the informal sector in many countries, the major players in this sector who are in most cases at the lowest rung of the economic ladder are often marginalized as they are mostly excluded from enjoying the benefits city life offers. According to the World Bank, more than half of the world population lives in cities, a proportion expected to rise to 70% by 2050. It is therefore, expected that the cities as they grow, provide as much opportunities as possible to all residents, particularly the poor who are in the majority. The principle behind inclusive city growth is that the poor segments of the cities be involved in all the facet of city governance and their needs and welfare should not only be protected by the multitude of social, economic, spatial and environmental policies and regulations but be accorded priority attention.

The inclusive city is therefore, one that places enormous value on all residents, irrespective of class. It is a city where both the rich and the poor are not only seen as critical stakeholders but also have their needs and welfare, including security, genuinely addressed. In inclusive cities, meeting the basic needs and services of all, including those at the lowest rung of the socio-economic ladder, are central to the governance structure. In inclusive cities, both the poor and the privileged have access to affordable housing and basic services such as water and sanitation, sustainable transportation system and enhanced security. The planning and provision of public spaces for both social and economic uses in inclusive

cities are not discriminatory. The spatial and land-use planning instrumentalities and other forms of physical planning make ample provision for the needs of the poor segments of the society in cities regarded as inclusive the same manner the interests of the rich are addressed. The neighbourhoods and localities where the poor and marginalized lived in the cities enjoy as much benefits of planning and effective management as those of the rich. Of concern in inclusive cities are the social and economic conditions of all, particularly their security, such that no any class of residents suffers from any form of molestation, threat, discrimination, marginalization and exclusion, particularly in the use of public spaces.

Urban Planning and Inclusive City Growth

Urban planning, which is also sometimes called physical planning or spatial planning is by orientation inclusive-driven. It is inclusive because it is non-discriminatory and seeks the comfort, safety, security and wellbeing of the vast majority. Urban planning has been given varied definitions over the years. However, one of the most outstanding was offered by Kebble (1969) who defined it "as an activity concerned with the spatial ordering of land-use both in the rural and urban settings for the purpose of creating functionally efficient and aesthetically pleasing physical environment for living, working, circulation and recreation". Perhaps to further emphasize the inclusive nature of urban planning, Losch (1954) as amplified by Adedibu (1995) described it as an art and science concerned with the balanced opportunities between various sections of the population, and the space available with a view to matching suitable locations with the right events. Physical planning focuses on the safety, security and overall wellbeing of the vast majority, if not all. As a result, opportunities and spaces are created for virtually every lawful and acceptable activity (land-use) of man and in such manner as to enthrone harmony and cohesion.

Spatial planning very much recognized the diversity in the nature of humankind and that their needs and aspirations vary from place to place and are based on different socio-economic standing or status. Therefore, while different sizes of spaces may be earmarked for different activities and groups, it nonetheless caters for the needs of all. In all aspects of spatial planning, particularly land-use planning, facilities provision planning, housing and transportation planning, sufficient spaces are allocated to all in accordance with needs. Spatial planning caters for both the poor and the rich and that is perhaps the reason for earmarking different plot sizes to different needs and based on the principle of affordability. For instance in residential land-use development planning, while size of plots may vary

and are classified based on income or density, every segment of the society are nonetheless allocated spaces. Although the poor in the society may have suffered in the allocation of spaces and provision of facilities in many urban areas, it is not the wish of spatial planning that it is so. There are many principles of spatial planning that are inclusivity compliance.

Spatial planning therefore, as part of measures at driving inclusive growth, allocates spaces both in the rural and urban settings for all lawful social, economic and other needs of mankind, the same way all categories of income are catered for. The principle of public participation is also increasingly gaining prominence in the planning environment, where all segments of the society are not only consulted before development projects and facilities are initiated and embarked upon but have also become crucial stakeholders in their implementation, monitoring and management. Another crucial principle that enthrone inclusive growth is what is regarded as advocacy planning, where planning practitioners can legitimately advocate and champion the rights of the underprivileged or poor segment of the society in the provision of facilities where and when such are not addressed.

Crime Reduction-Driven Physical Planning as Tool for Inclusivity

Physical planning has developed various instruments and design tools not only to ensure safety and security of residents of the various settlements, particularly those living in the urban areas, but also to facilitate inclusive growth. Where these tools and instruments are effectively deployed they have the capabilities to reduce opportunities for criminal activities. These tools include the following:

Crime prevention through environmental design (CPTED):
CPTED has emerged as a design concept adapted and used in the built environment, particularly by architects and physical planners to prevent or minimize opportunities for criminal activities, particularly within residential and commercial areas of the city (Crowe & Zahm, 1994). This concept recognizes the risk of crime within the residential and other neighbourhoods of the city and therefore, evolves design initiatives to reduce such risk. It is concerned about evolving safer and secure designs of both the neighbourhoods and other components of it, including accessibility and buildings. The concept involves the examination of crime problems in a place and the manner in which the various characteristics of the environment promote criminal

opportunities and thereby adapt the design of the building, its site and general location to minimize such risks (Zahm, 2007). 453

Land-use Zoning: Physical planning as part of measures aimed at ensuring safety, security and inclusiveness often zones the various areas of the city for different uses. This way, activities that are conflicting and likely to impact negatively on others are clearly separated. As a result, while some areas of the cities are designated as solely residential, others have specific uses assigned to them, including open spaces as buffer zones between those with conflicting impacts.

Physical Development Control: As part of measures of promoting safety, comfort, convenience and security of occupants and users of buildings, physical planning where effectively entrenched and institutionalized have several regulations, building codes, byelaws and building construction development control apparatuses which ensure that appropriate spaces are provided for different components and activities within and between buildings. These include appropriate setbacks between buildings and between buildings and roads and all forms of accessibility. This is in addition to regulating spaces for other uses within buildings such as conveniences and open spaces, including density control measures.

Design of Master plans: As part of measures of ensuring sustainable urban growth, physical development planning relies on the formulation and implementation of urban master plans, in addition to other types of physical development plans that may be formulated from time to time, to regulate physical development of the cities. With these physical development plans, haphazard development, overcrowding and obnoxious land uses which create criminal opportunities within the neighbourhoods are prevented and the urban areas become more secured and livable for all segments of the people. Where master plans are evolved and faithfully monitored and implemented it has a capacity to reduce criminal activities and insecurity.

Urban Renewal Programmes and Slum Upgrading: Many blighted areas or neighbourhoods of the cities and those regarded as slums where most of the urban poor are resident are known to be hotbeds of criminal activities and other social misdemeanor, including prostitution and drug related violence. Urban planning measures such as periodic urban renewal programmes are sometimes embarked upon to revitalize these areas and breathe fresh lease of life into them. Under

these renewal programmes, dilapidated buildings and structures which sometimes serves as hideouts to criminal elements are restored, roads are repaired and new ones constructed and other essential facilities such as street lights, drainage system and safe drinking water supply are provided to improve the quality of life of the residents. These measures also go a long way in improving the psyche of the residents, in addition to giving them a sense of belonging and inclusiveness.

Conclusion

In conclusion, it is evident that the creation of inclusive city growth and development anywhere in the world, particularly in the developing countries where urbanization has become a defining phenomenon and where majority of the people are ravaged by poverty, exclusion and marginalization, entails a multiplicity of measures, many of which are social, economic, spatial and environmental in nature. It also include evolving measures and strategies that will lead to the improvement in the quality of life of residents, particularly the poor who are mostly marginalized and discriminated against, by many government policies and regulations. Attempts at evolving inclusive city growth would be fruitless as long as the vast majority of the residents feel unsafe, insecure and unable to pursue their legitimate means of livelihood in any section of the city they choose to live. Urban planning measures where effectively carried out and implemented, aside aiding inclusive growth also have the capabilities to minimize opportunities for criminal and violent conducts and activities, which have becomes the bane of many urban areas, particularly in the developing countries.

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