



2030 eThekweni will be Africa's most caring and liveable city



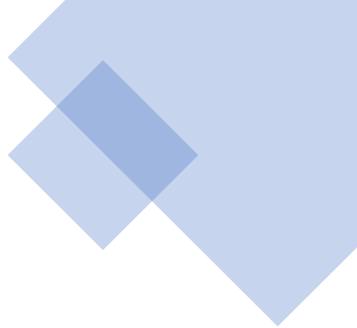
WORLD PLANNING DAY 2020
MRS LEKHA ALLOPI
PROJECT EXECUTIVE: DEVELOPMENT PLANINNG
5 NOVEMBER 2020

OPENING REMARKS

- Town Planners by their very nature are plan makers- their very profession teaches them to draw and produce plans - of varying scale and content. These plans serve a very important purpose- to **CHANGE** people's lives; by implementing such plans that will serve to **create opportunities** for sustainable living – live/work/play environments.
- Planning is a **SOCIAL** science that shapes peoples lives. However, these very plans can sometimes become the reason for a Planners' demise....and hence the topic of this Congress is so apt...
- Planning in general is often considered to be challenging and thro its nature of constantly evolving; the ability to **remain relevant** is equally challenging but also **VERY EXCITING!**

Planners across the Globe, the question that I have been asked to respond to is as follows:

“WHAT ARE THE MAJOR FACTORS THAT LEAD TO POOR IMPLEMENTATION OF SOME OF THE PLANS THAT PLANNERS MAKE?”



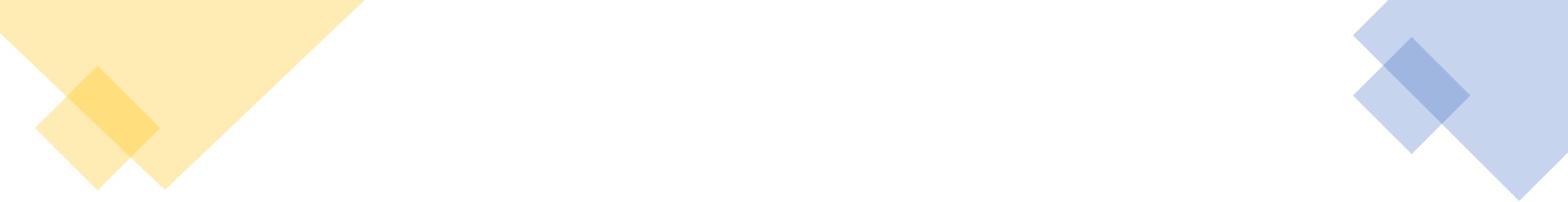
WHAT ARE THE
MAJOR FACTORS
THAT LEAD TO POOR
IMPLEMENTATION
OF SOME OF THE
PLANS THAT
PLANNERS MAKE?”

Talk to a set of generic principles that apply
across the Globe:

- Institutional
 - Political
 - Social
 - Economic/COVID19
 - Land
- 

Institutional

- **The lack of spheres of Government to talk to each other and to produce/translate plans TOGETHER, that direct the development of the Country.** In South Africa, National Planning Legislation (SPLUMA,2013) directs the country to the National Spatial Development Framework, Provincial Spatial Development Framework, Municipal Spatial Development Framework. But the extent to which they talk to each other remains unknown. This results in Provinces **competing** with each other for the same resources(human and capital) resulting in the Vision of the Country being undermined.
- Thus, at a very strategic level, the ability to talk to; and implement **One Plan** for a Country is a challenge; and from the literature review this is a typical implementation challenge across the Globe.
- However, in the South African case, we believe that the **missing layers** to connect these plans has since been found. The last few months have seen the development of the District Development Model which is in its very infancy but if the work proceeds as planned, we could find such problems behind us and implementation becoming more of a reality.

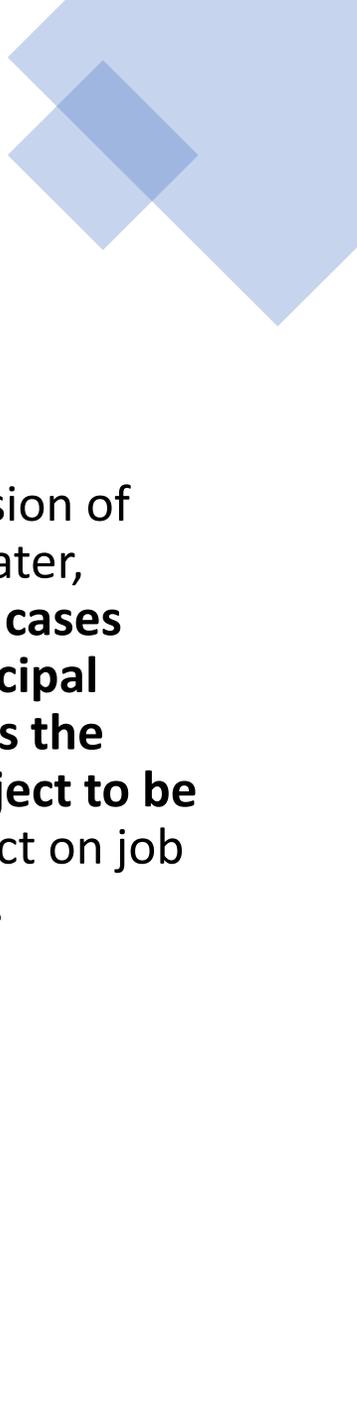


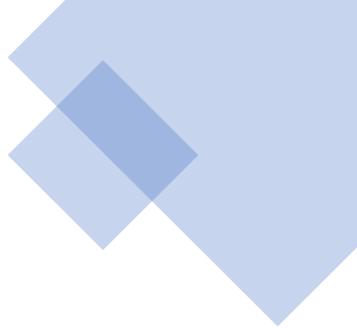
Institutional

- Major Planning Projects such as Port Expansions, New Airports etc are **multi-spherical** i.e they cross- cut against the different spheres of Government. Again, the issue of alignment of plans; and funded and unfunded mandates rears its head.
 - Other planning projects across the globe and in the **public realm** are often transversal or multi-sectoral in nature as they require the input of infrastructural departments such as roads, water, waste-water, electricity etc. **As a result of Departments having their own sector plans and budgets -planning implementation projects are most often NOT included in such sectoral plans. This again compromises implementation of Plans.** The end effort of such is that the Planners purpose of plan making is often undermined or compromised and this has an effect on people lives and the ability to better their lives(every Planners dream). Naturally the implementation of such plans can also served in the creation of jobs (pre/post construction) but can also impact positively on the fiscal of the Cities.
- 



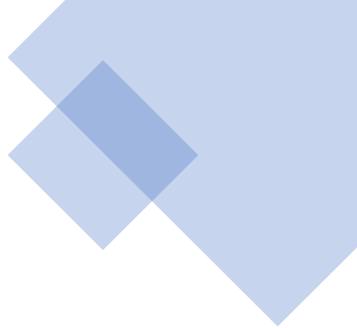
Institutional

- Major planning projects in **private realm** are also transversal or multi-sectoral in nature. eg. The construction of new townships require the provision of bulk infrastructure such as roads, water, waste-water, electricity provision by the public sector. **In most cases the budgets for such capital outlays by the Municipal sphere remains unplanned and this compromises the implementation of the project or causes the project to be phased; or even shelved.** Again, this has an impact on job creation and often impacts the fiscal of the Cities.
- 



Institutional

- Legislation is also a reason for poor implementation. While legislation is necessary, **it slows implementation considerably where it over-regulates.** Often for both private and public projects, public participation becomes a challenge. It is necessary to undertake public participation..... but at the implementation level, should this not just be a translation of higher order plans? While the devil lies in the detail, perhaps the challenge now is to learn from our mistakes and develop the content of higher order plans more significantly so that implementation is realised far sooner!
 - Planning processes across the Globe appear to be complex and drawn out. However, COVID19 has FORCED Planners to become more IT sane and the introduction of electronic processes is meant to fast track decision making processes and hence deliver implementation sooner.
- 



Political

- The Globe, as literature indicates, is that **leadership** changes every 5 years.
 - Particularly as it relates to Municipal Planning the same holds true. While new leadership have fresh new ideas , the planning projects adopted in the previous 5 years have **NOT** been implemented yet. And the same can be said of years before that. Thus, approved projects are **not implemented** and budgets are often lost. The quick change in leadership often compromises planning implementation across the Globe;
- 

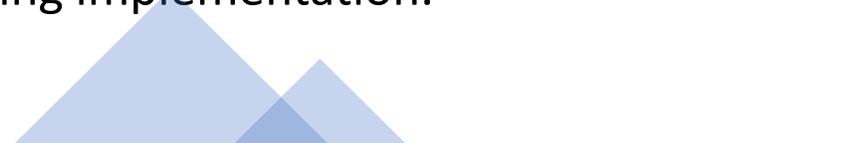


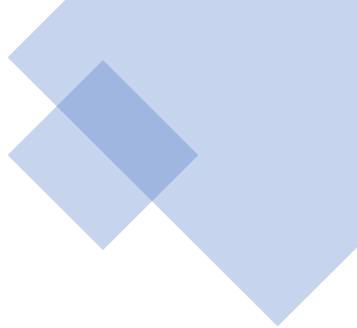
Social

- As people migrate towards Cities , the needs of **communities needs remain everchanging**. The plan that was approved to accommodate specify densities and land uses has been overtaken by natural movement of people who want to live closer to cities. Often this results in an approved plan no longer being relevant but rather becoming obsolete. Planning needs to be more robust and resilient in order to respond to such changes. All plans must be reviewed to respond to Cities initiatives during this Pandemic.
 - Peoples **needs** change while Planners make plans. As a result of the **long process of translation** that plans go thro,' communities who are expecting implementation, become frustrated while waiting for change to come. Thus, exception turns to disappointment and frustration, which in turn lead to protest action around the Globe. Thus, Planners need to find ways to get CHANGE to the people in a more efficient way.
- 



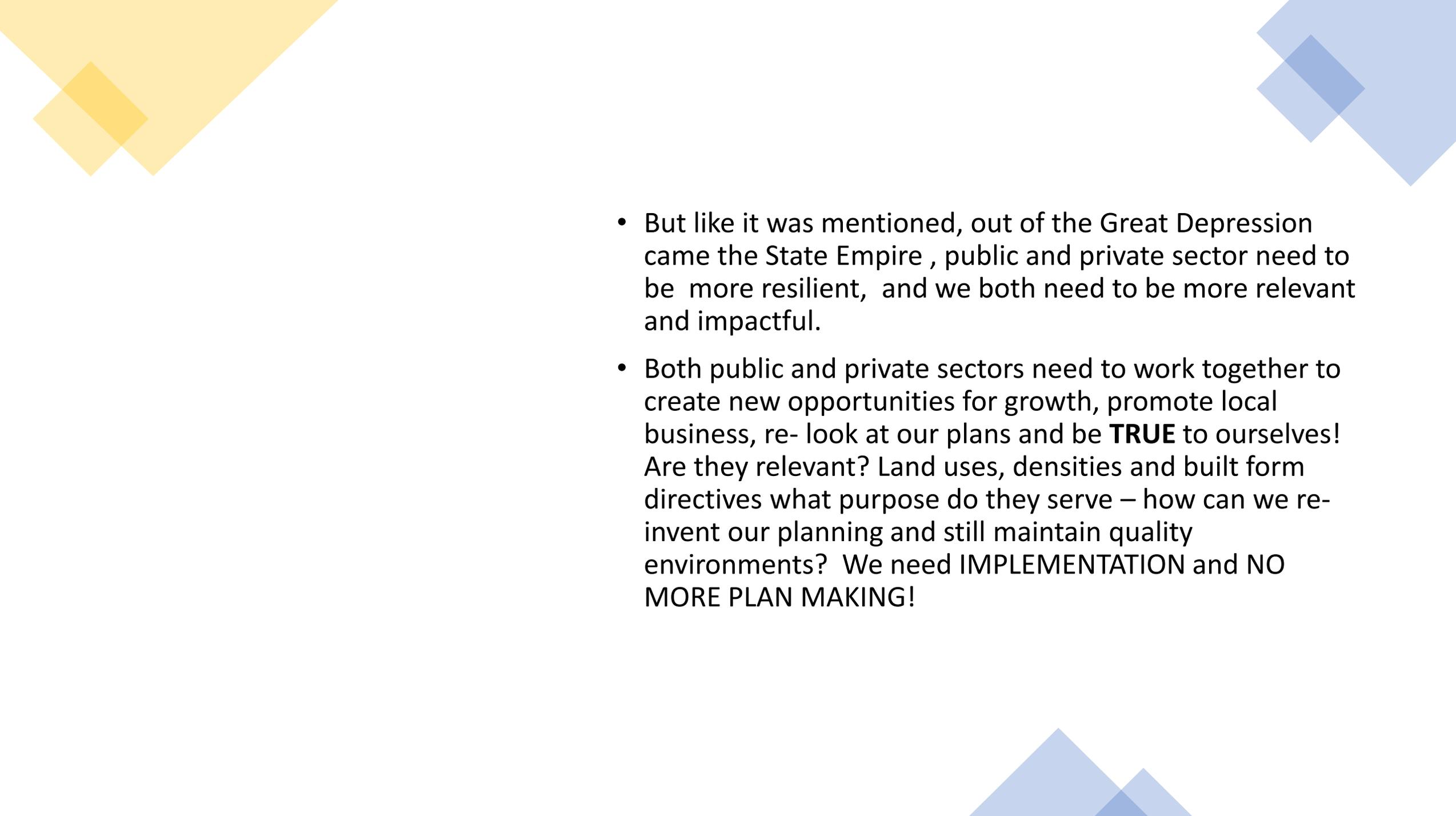
Economic /COVID 19

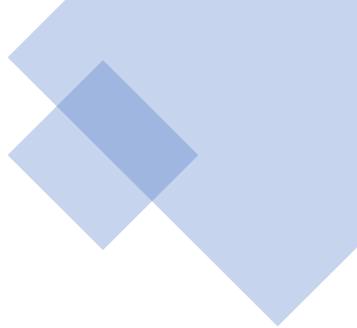
- Pre-COVID19 some the global economies were more resilient than others. The South African Economy battled an economic recession towards the latter part of 2019 and never recovered. This recession resulted in major sectors taking a huge blow to the extent that 1000's of jobs were lost. This impacted on the built environment sector as well and both Local Government and Private Sector were found having to review projects, budgets and implementation. The South African economy never recovered and **implementation was largely put on the back burner.**
 - March 26, 2020 saw South African go into lockdown 5, resulting in no implementation of projects on the ground until late October 2020. However, with the re-priorisation of budgets, many planning implementation projects have again been put on hold; and with elections in 2021, communities are demanding implementation.
- 



Economic /COVID 19

- Major projects such as the new Dig out Port in Durban have had to re-look at the implementation plan for the movement of cargo into Africa; as have many other strategic implementation projects across the City/Country.
 - But this phenomenon is not new, nor is it particular to South Africa. Countries have been looking/have implemented new economic strategies to re-invent and grow their economies during this trying period. But clearly, there is not enough capital across the Globe for quick fixes as we battle unemployment and ill health across the Globe.
- 

- 
- But like it was mentioned, out of the Great Depression came the State Empire , public and private sector need to be more resilient, and we both need to be more relevant and impactful.
 - Both public and private sectors need to work together to create new opportunities for growth, promote local business, re- look at our plans and be **TRUE** to ourselves! Are they relevant? Land uses, densities and built form directives what purpose do they serve – how can we re-invent our planning and still maintain quality environments? We need IMPLEMENTATION and NO MORE PLAN MAKING!

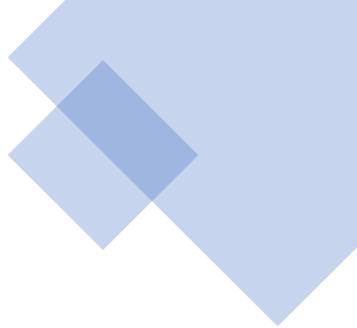


LAND

- The ownership of **LAND** across the Globe remains another challenge; and this most often impedes implementation of planning projects. LAND in most Countries is **NOT** in the OWNERSHIP OF THE STATE and even where it IS IN the ownership of the STATE it still is a problem.
- Land located closer to Cities indicate the highest values making access to land by the poor inaccessible. Thus Planners plans to transform Cities will need creative and innovative solutions.

Every Planner dreams to better peoples lives, NOW is that time! TAKE THAT STEP AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE NOW.....





THANK YOU

