Building climate resilience through alternative planning at multiple governance levels

INNOVATIONS

UNA implements activities to generate agency for transformative change at the local level and leave a legacy of sustained action. To achieve this, it is crucial to prioritise both the capacity of actors and the structural conditions that shape social action.

UNA EXPERIMENTED WITH THESE INNOVATIONS:

- Adaptive and reflexive programme management
  - Continuously co-design activities to meet city needs
  - Design and test flexible methods of monitoring, evaluation and learning

- Engaging communities in new ways. Innovative methods to design public open spaces and make communities active participants their cities’ planning
  - For example, UNA used Minecraft, the second best-selling video game of all time, to involve women and the youth in government decision making and planning

- On-site, focused visits. Walking Workshops and Photovoice enable transdisciplinary, place-based dialogue between multiple stakeholders

- City-to-city learning exchanges enable knowledge sharing and produce context specific solutions

- In-city champions for urban natural asset decision-making
  - Strengthened ability to interrogate complex issues, find leverage point to influence the system and then develop and implement solutions
  - Moving towards a solutions-orientated mindset in order to move away from business-as-usual models

- New ways to harness innovation, energy and skills found in urban informal areas

- New approaches to urban development. Giving national and local government the data and skills they need to do things differently
  - Advancing planning techniques for African cities that deal effectively with informality, urban sprawl and the rapid changes experienced at the local level
  - Changing the planning culture so city officials see themselves as innovative facilitators of co-production planning processes rather than abstract desktop planners and top-down implementers

- New ideas, inspiration and innovative tools and processes for confronting complex environmental issues and bringing climate adaptation and disaster risk reduction closer together

- Cutting-edge methods to gain in-depth understanding of urban decision making and governance

- Shape new knowledge areas, e.g. urban tinkering, in theory and practice with new concepts to assess local applicability

- Support enabling conditions for local governments to access climate finance

- Position processes as equally important to programme products and outputs

- The WHY and HOW are equally important to the WHAT

- Effective measures and collaborative processes to improve multi-level governance. Cities make concrete links between local efforts and national and global goals and processes (and vice-versa)

- Platforms and mechanisms to inspire continued learning and sustained change. Upscaling and replicability will drive change and build a community of practice

UNA fosters:

- Human agency
  - Values
  - Capacities

- Act collectively
  - Manage uncertainty
  - Realise desired futures
  - Build environments conducive to sustained change

Mainstreaming in practice.
Co-create "entry points" using effective dialogue and engaging all key stakeholders to

- Build capacity
- Network
- Learn
- Share knowledge
- Build relationships
- Reflect
- Manage and unpack tension areas as they arise

Values
Human agency
Capacities

To:

https://cbc.iclei.org/urban-natural-assets/