



URBAN GOVERNANCE IN POST-APARTHEID CITIES

Modes of Engagement in South Africa's Metropolises

Marie Huchzermeyer and Christoph Haferburg (eds)
KwaZulu-Natal Press: Scottsville, 2015. 352 pp

Reviewed by Ndwakhulu Tshishonga (School of Built Environment and Development Studies, UKZN)

South Africa's major cities are under enormous pressure to transform into attractive and competent spaces for the advancement of socio-economic development. The tensions and challenges of overcoming the legacy of apartheid spatial planning have been compounded by the flux of people moving to and between cities in the post-apartheid era. Thus the legacy of spatial segregation is still manifest in the "evil triplets" of poverty, unemployment and income inequality, and the scourge of HIV/AIDS.

As well as reflecting on issues of interactive governance within a complex web of stakeholders, manoeuvres to influence policy, and priorities for urban development, *Urban Governance in Post-Apartheid Cities* wrestles with different modes of engaging urban renewal. The book is the result of a German-South Africa collaboration that assembled international and local scholars and practitioners in urban geography, sociology, politics, urban and regional planning, project management and development planning.

The book is partitioned into five parts and 17 chapters. Part I grounds the definitional issues while contextualising both external and internal dynamics in post-apartheid urban governance. Part II intersects city visions as instruments for urban transformation and the city's challenge to mitigate the intensification of labour strikes that often turn violent. Part III uses case studies to unpack the social restructuring of urban community



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politics due to broader societal, political and economic fragmentation and exclusion of urban poor. A central issue of urban governance is the need for effective, efficient and proactive responses to rapid urbanisation and the mushrooming growth of informal settlements within and adjacent to cities. In Part IV, the book interrogates the role of the private sector in the urban governance lexicon, exploring strategies such as corporate social responsibility and initiatives in the housing and security sectors. The final part forges governance within places and spaces, including the impact that local initiatives could make to expand inclusive and interactive governance.

With its accessible language and skilful use of tables, maps, photographs and pictures, this book would definitely benefit students and practitioners interested in urban development, regional and urban planning, development studies, housing, social movements and social protests. [NA](#)