## The Metropolitan Governance in Africa

#### JOHANNESBURG CASE STUDIES:

Sustainability, resilience and urban intelligence at the metropolitan scale







Johannesburg



Population: 5.87 million Youth (18-35): 37% Projection: by 2026 extra 1 million in CoJ Stats SA (2020) Mid-year Estimates 2020



Number of households: 1.93 million Stats SA (2020) GHS Metros 2019

### **City of opportunity | City of contrasts**

- Young (135 years old) and sprawling.
- Sprang up with the discovery of gold and economic opportunities attracts people today.
- Country's economic centre; financial & technological hub and poverty, inequality and unemployment

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## Governance

Recent elections, November 2021 18 parties represented in City council

**Coalition arrangements** 

Opportunity: deliberation, negotiation, democratic representation

Challenges: Instability, change, time consuming







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## **Urban intelligence**

Developing Smart City Strategy Partnerships Tech hubs

#### Catalytic projects

- 1. Joburg Connected: Broadband
- 2. 4IR skills development programme: access to social services and support packages
- 3. Smart citizen: online platforms, cultural content
- 4. Safe Joburg: Sensors, cameras, IOT, cyber security
- 5. Innovation pipeline: testing pilot projects
- 6. Unified data & information portal
- 7. Green, resilient & sustainable Joburg: Infrastructure and climate change
- 8. Digital Joburg & smart governance: 24/7 digital city government
- 9. Smart nodes & economies
- 10. Smart mobility: info, payment, GHG emissions

#### Digital divide, high cost of data Data organisation, storage and management Outdated systems (internal)



## **Practices and Policies**



Zenzele, e-Joburg's digital billing and accounts platform

#### Rea Vaya, Bus Rapid Transit





Digitised spatial planning, nodal development and modeling



## **Practices and Policies**



IIOC, Integrated Intelligence Operations Centre

#### Sustainable Energy Strategy "New Energy Mix"

- Solar PV
- Embedded storage
  Waste-to-energy projects





- Stormwater Management
- WUDS SUDS
- Reduce flooding
- Updated Stormwater Guidelines

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## **Opinions on stumbling blocks**

"More work still needs to be done but this will depend on the availability of resources to implement"

"Systems ... are basic and rudimentary and are mainly reactive" / "System is manual and paper based" "Some projects were initiated over a decade ago, there is limited reporting on scaled-up performance though"

"Unfortunately it is not working as it should be ... we are not the data owners but merely serve a facilitator function"



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## **A Critical perspective**

Flagship projects, Many first of their kind in the country

#### **Challenges:**

Moving to full scale functionality and implementation

- Rollout lag in projects operating at the scale of the city
- Output limited 20% MW still dependent on Eskom
- Long timelines

#### **Governance obstacles**

- Inertia of government bureaucracy
- Manual administration & internal processes Siloed
  data organization and management
- Political will and /or political change
- Political misalignment at different levels of government
- Legal system lagging behind
- Financial challenges, budgeting, prioritization



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# What is the right functional scale?

#### **Smart City**

Scale: Institution Scale: Metropolitan area access Parity, Prioritising and (un)intended Impact

#### Sustainable services

Scale: City / Metropolitan level, Output v cost; Cross-subsidization, Revenue Scale: City v National level

#### Resilience

Scale: Communities, Institution Geographic / socio-economic targeting, Prioritising Scale: Broader than City. GCR Cross-boundary, Redundancy





## **Closing thoughts**

Prioritising Balancing Multi-scalar Partnerships & Technical expertise Enabling environment Government needs to adapt

Renewable energy: Figure 3: Factors affecting SSEG customer impact on municipal revenue

**REDUCTION IN REVENUE** 



DECREASE IN COSTS



