

Sustainable Urban Transport Development in Africa: Bridging the Capacity Gap

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Introduction

Our Organisation

Ochenuell mobility is a sustainable urban transport and road safety organization based in Abuja Nigeria. We are involved in Research, advocacy, and capacity building.

We consult on policy development, feasibilities, general project management, and have handled a number of projects in different African countries











Overview of the Prevailing Informal Transport practices

- Africa's massive population growth shows that its inhabitants will double from 1.2 billion in 2016 to 2.5 billion in 2050 and could increase to more than 4b by 20100, that is, its share of world population growing from 15% to over 40% according to UNICEF – highest world projection
- the share of Africans living in urban areas based on the 2018 World Urbanization Prospect is 43 percent, but will grow to 50 percent by 2030 and to over 60 percent by 2050 – highest urbanization rate.
- Yet there is limited resources to meet the infrastructure need of this population. The mismatch between urbanization and infrastructure development has led to increased urban slums



Overview of the prevailing Informal Transport Sustem





- •Today 85% of urban dwellers cannot afford a car in the face of poverty, yet urban transport development has centered on the car
- •There is limited level of *proper* public transport development, NMT is only gaining an awakening
- •But the nearly 50% urban population must move to be able to live
- •The state of public transport is abysmal as only 31.7% have access to public transport within walking distance of between half a kilometer to a kilometer against the global average of 51.6% (UN Habitat 2020
- •Little wonder that there is proliferation of paratransit or informal transport as some chose to call it

Overview of the prevailing Informal Transport Sustem



- We must note that transportation is not optional, it in intrinsic to livelihood, hence people must move, either by what means is provided or what means they invent by themselves,
- a recent research puts it this way, transport is so essential to urban life that people will develop it with or without government help (DigitalMatatus, 2014). This was the birth of para-transit







Four factors resulted in the development of informal transport in Africa;

- Car-centric development/investments
- Poverty and unemployment
- Lack of or inadequacy of efficient public transport to move the masses
- Lack of or poor policies, regulations and enforcement systems

Why has its proliferation continued

- The above factors are not changing, where it does, the change is insignificant or uncoordinated or not drawn from a comprehensive package of long term plans
- Politicians use it as a source of empowerment and political patronage

But the Associated problems are enormous









Air pollution is the 2nd highest killer disease now in Africa killing 1.1 people in 2019

Traffic congestion costs developing countries 3-5% of GDP

Road fatalities
causes about 3%
of GDP in
Developing
countries

Everybody looses



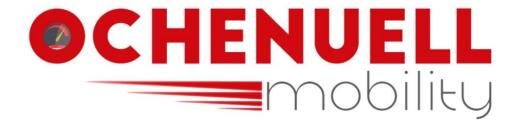


- Exposure to harassment and intimidation, without records for tracing perpetrators
- Lack of quality, standards and acts of recklessness that challenges the comfort of users
- fare collection issues that puts users at the receiving end especially during a hype
- Boarding discomforts
- drivers pay an average of N225 million each day, N6.75 billion each month, and N82.125 billion each year to agberos in Lagos, according to The ICIR's estimates.

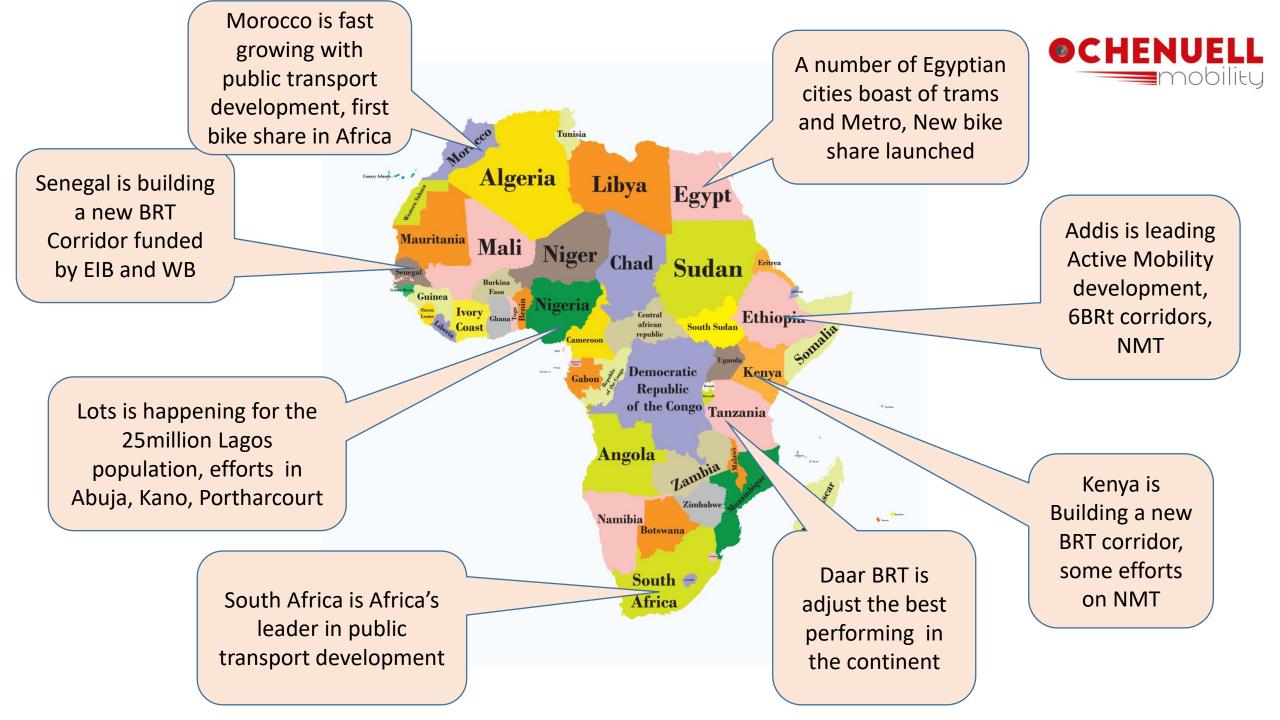
Informal transport transformation toolkit



S/NO	Activity	Action	Goal
1	Develop a reform plan	 To align with the mobility strategy/plan of the city Shows clear strategy with clear timelines Define responsibilities All vulnerable groups effectively factored into the plan 	3yr/5yr plan delivered
2	Institute a properly enforced regulations/discipline	 Review or enact regulations Train and orient enforcement agencies Provide enforcement tools Properly license them Define end of life of the vehicles and enhance fleet quality 	Sanitize them
3	Reorganize, train and reorient them within a short term target	 Define the boundaries of their service Ensure each persons understand and are capable of obeying regulations 	Scaled discipline
4	Decarbonize, then digitize them	Adopt cleaner fuels through government supportDigitize them	Green transport
5	Appraisal	 Has steps 1-4, diligently implemented, transformed the informal transport system up to 80% success rate? If yes, sustain the integration, if not do 6 	Decision point
6	De-commercialize them	 Stop the use of tricycle and motorcycles for commercial purposes, transform shared taxi and mini buses into modern shared taxi Plan the private owners into regular private transport Integrate operators into mainstream public transport Stop registration of commercial 2 or 3 wheelers except for freight 	Make NMT and PT the focal point of transport development



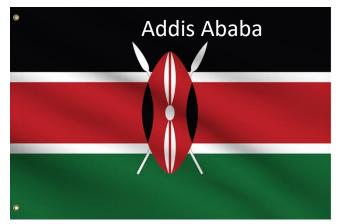
But its not all stories of Informalities



This will create impetus for cycling development across the condiment









PAAPAM May be a game changer for Africa



More than a billion people walk or cycle for more than 55 minutes every day in Africa - to reach work, home, school, and other essential services. Yet, 95% of roads in Africa fail to provide an acceptable level of service for people that walk and 93% fail to provide an acceptable level of service for cyclists—this is the lowest in the world

- UNEP is spearheading this effort developing a Pan-African Action Plan for Active Mobility (PAAPAM) which will be done in full partnership with African governments
- Partners include UN-Habitat, the University of Cape Town (UCT), Walk21 Foundation, BYCS (at a global level) and
- Ochenuell Mobility (West/Central Africa), the SADC Alliance of NGOs for Road Safety (Southern Africa) and the Institute for Transportation and Development Policy (Northern and East Africa)

Some Public Transport Developments in Nigeria





- The Lagos Rail line
- The Lagos BRT
- The Abuja Light
 Rail Project/ New
 BRT drive
- The Kano Quality Buss Service

The Safe Streets to School Abuja Project





- Donating bicycles to school children and installing parking facilities in school
- Conducting feasibility and providing ride to school toolkit
- Building capacity of city authority and other stakeholders
- Undertaking pilot street retrofit





In each of the events, we make loud statements



We Hold Large Traditional Bicycle Festivals





But we know that increasing the tempo of development, to meet the demand and sustaining it is not just a function of money, it's a function of capacity

Because...





Knowledge

- There is limited knowledge by decision makers and other actors,
- There is limited awareness by the public
- There is limited expertise by experts



Institution

 The institutional framework and the governance system to deliver active mobility is limited



Funding

 There is limited funds for development that is further depleted by corruption in the midst of plenty needs

The absence of these 3 gave rise to lack or weak political will

A Transport Expert



 An expert is one who have acquired adequate knowledge and skills sufficient enough to deliver on a particular subject area. This requires, basic education, on the job experience, and acquisition of current knowledge

Basic Education



On the Job Experience/skills



Acquisition of current Knowledge + from other climes with requisite skills to deploy it

Africa Sustainable Urban Mobility Course was founded



VISION

To build the capacity of stakeholders towards urban mobility reform in Africa



OBJECTIVES

Upscale knowledge, develop passion and networking opportunities for urban mobility actors in Africa through:

- Dedicated annual courses
- Customized training and dialogues for cities
- Publicity and publications

6 editions held with participants from at least 40 African countries trained, and now holds in 3 African cities. And lots of testimonials to prove the impact of the course, a reason we are calling for collaborations.



The Maiden Edition held on 23rd to 30th November 2019 physically in Abuja with 35 participants





The 4th edition 21st to 28th November, 2021











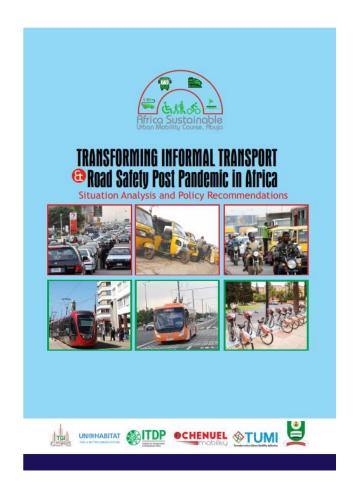
Special Lagos edition 1st to 6th December, 2022 with 87 participants

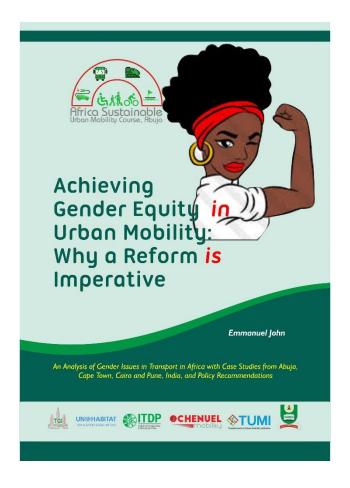




We do not just teach the people, we publish an outcome with policy recommendations that stakeholders can implement







What do we do therefore?



- Develop a plan/strategy/policy, with specific goals and timeline
- Identify funding model and commit to it
- Start small but never stop
- Develop and or strengthen advocacy
- Review and update existing regulations or develop new once with appropriate enforcement system
- Work the talk, change the narrative







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