First India-Africa Dialogue and Media Briefing on Air Quality and Mobility
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#### **INTRODUCTION**

- Due to various factors few African nations have continuous monitoring and evaluation activities that generate reliable data and facts needed for effective Air Quality Management systems including emission controls.
- Few nations have home grown institutions, solutions and policy implementations linked to sustainable management of air pollution in the increasingly chaotic city or urban transport systems.
- There is little or no political will and the need for sustained public awareness and interest on the importance of having effective Air Quality Management capacity
- For the media it also means that there are few official sources that can avail credible updated info on Air pollution and other challenges in the transport sector In short Better Air Quality in Africa is far from being realized.
- The story may be told by extracts from articles in some selected countries.

#### **Kenya: Efficient Transportation Is Key to Sustainable Urbanization**

.....A majority of cities in the developing world, have a long way to go in terms of quality of life. According data published in 2009 by Kenya Police and Kenya National Bureau of Statistics, Nairobi accounted for 30 percent and 28 percent of traffic injuries and fatalities respectively. A study by researchers from Columbia University and University of Nairobi revealed that Nairobi residents were exposed to elevated concentrations of fine particle air pollution, due in large part to motor vehicle emissions, with potentially serious long-term implications for human health.....On average in Nairobi it takes about one hour to drive between about 3 kilometers. The 2011 IBM Global Commuter Pain survey ranked Nairobi as the fourth most grueling commute of 20 cities surveyed. It is estimated that traffic congestion costs the city of Nairobi circa Ksh.50, 000,000(\$550,000) every day in lost productivity and gas bills....I am not sure how this number was arrived at, and by whom. But it is a monumental waste. (Dr. Awiti is the director of the East African Institute and assistant professor at Aga Khan. Read more at:

http://www.standardmedia.co.ke/article/2000055245/time-to-clean-up-the-air-we-breathe

#### • TANZANIA **PIPP**media

..... Tanzania's efforts to address air pollution were limited to a few studies which
assessed the state of air quality in an ad hoc manner. The AQMCBP, funded by
UNEP and the Government of Tanzania and supported by US EPA is the first
systematic attempt in Tanzania to address the challenges of air pollution,
particularly in the city of Dar es Salaam, and enhance the capacity in air quality
monitoring and impact assessment.

#### Thousands die from city air pollution annually - study

By Aisia Rweyemamu

 More than one thousand people are likely to be dying from urban pollution especially from motorized transport and construction, a University of Dar es Salaam study has indicated.... SOURCE: THE GUARDIAN

#### SOUTH AFRICA: Cape Town leads the way as a green city

31 December 2014 by Roy Barford

• ......Cape Town has scored highly in an African Green City Index released by Siemens. Earlier this year, the Mother City was named Global Earth Hour Capital 2014, following the WWF's Earth Hour City Challenge. Much effort has gone into improving Cape Town's public transport in recent years and this, too, has been recognised. 'Cape Town has invested US\$5.8-billion over the last six years in developing a new bus-rapid transit (BRT) network. Other South African cities to feature in the report were Johannesburg, Durban and Pretoria, which all scored 'above average' for transport, air quality and environmental governance.......

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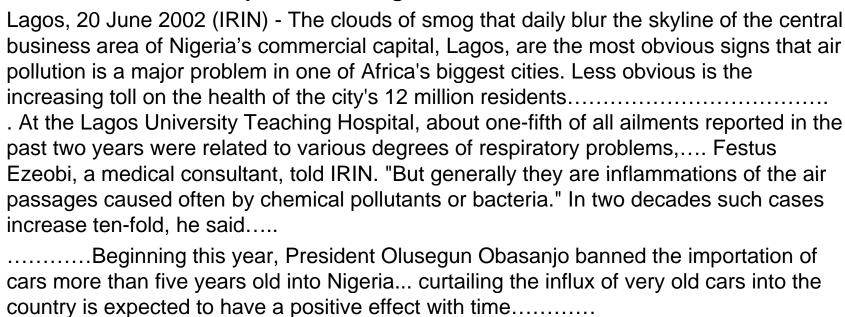
#### **URBAN TIMES SOUTH AFRICA**

- 13th June 2014
- Air pollution is the worst single environmental health problem in the world, here's a
  guide of six simple measures that city administrations can take to reduce the burden
  starting today. Air pollution is much worse than many of us realise. This year the
  World Health Organisation (WHO) named air pollution as the world's largest single
  environmental health risk. Yet many of us remain unconcerned. Media images of
  smog-filled industrial cities such as Guangzhou in China or Ahwaz in Iran perversely
  reassure those living in cities free from visible air pollution that they are not exposed
  to noxious levels of emissions.
- Just because you cannot see it does not mean it's not there. A recent <u>WHO</u>
   investigation into air quality in cities across the globe found that "half of the urban
   population being monitored is exposed to air pollution that is at least 2.5 times higher
   than the levels WHO recommends."



TECHNOLOGY: Africa still remains a dumping ground of substandard goods Vehicles with filters and/or new engines to reduce their environmental health burden. However, Africa suffers from extreme technological dependency – bicycles, motorbikes, cars, are imported and expensive by global standards. Most imported cars in NRB are over five tears old so;d at the price of new ones.

#### NIGERIA: Focus on pollution in Lagos



## Fixing Cairo's traffic woes

- <u>Daily News Egypt</u> / September 17, 2012 / <u>0 Comments</u>
- As Egypt's new government grapples with the country's ongoing traffic woes, the Daily News asks experts about how they would solve the crisis
- <u>Dust storm and black cloud influence on aerosol optical properties over Cairo</u> and the Greater Delta region, <u>Egypt</u>
- However, there are many African experts and published papers on Air Pollution in African cities which can serve as info sources. Still the journalists in the continent especially, Kenya, are lucky to have Global headquarters of for example UNEP. There are also published papers eg.... <u>Air pollution and respiratory diseases in</u> <u>African big cities: the case of Cotonou in Benin</u>
- G Boko, MJ Bunch, VM Suresh, TV Kumaran Proceedings

Media as the fourth estate or people's watchdog should be fully aware that Policymakers worldwide respond to the media. Policy without implementation is no good.



# Media Experiences: Air Pollution and Transport in African Cities STOP BUILDING ROADS???.....(URBAN TIMES)



## THANK YOU