

“How Africa Moves: Transforming Mobility Through Active Mobility”

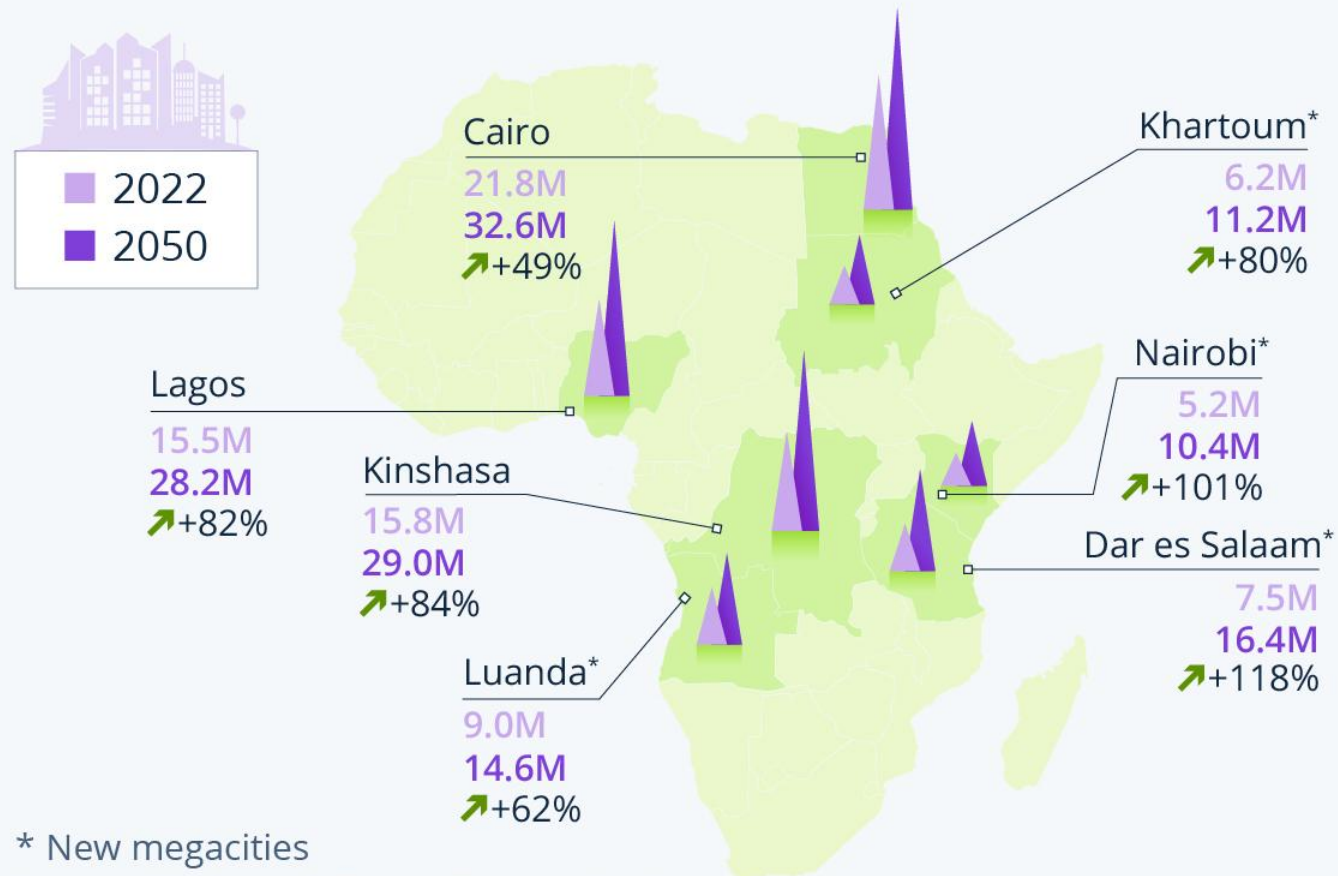
Constant Cap, UNEP





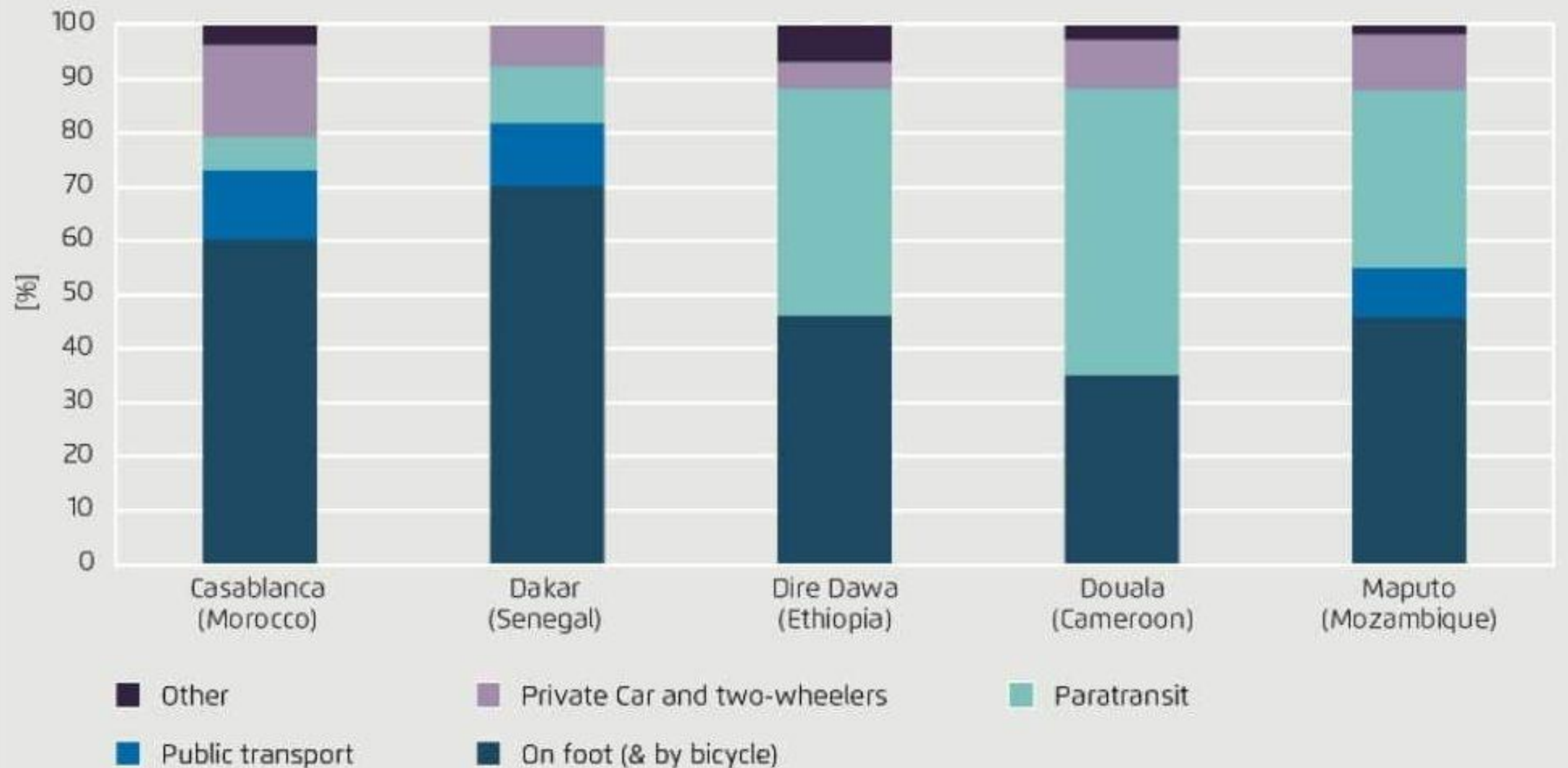
Africa's Next Megacities

Population growth of the first 7 cities in Africa to reach the megacity mark of 10 million people by 2050



Source: 'Ecological Threat Report: 2022' by the Institute for Economics & Peace





Modal split in selected African cities (Source: Agora Verkehrswende and GLZ 2023, data from MobiliseYourCity 2022)

Unique Challenges of the Continent

High reliance
on walking

Rapid
motorization

Limited pedestrian
infrastructure

Informal urban
systems



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FIGURE 5 Walking and Cycling Policy Landscape

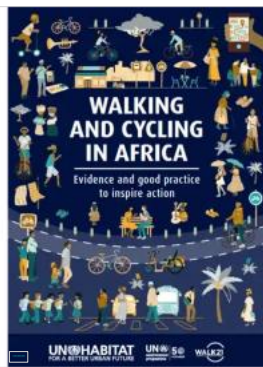
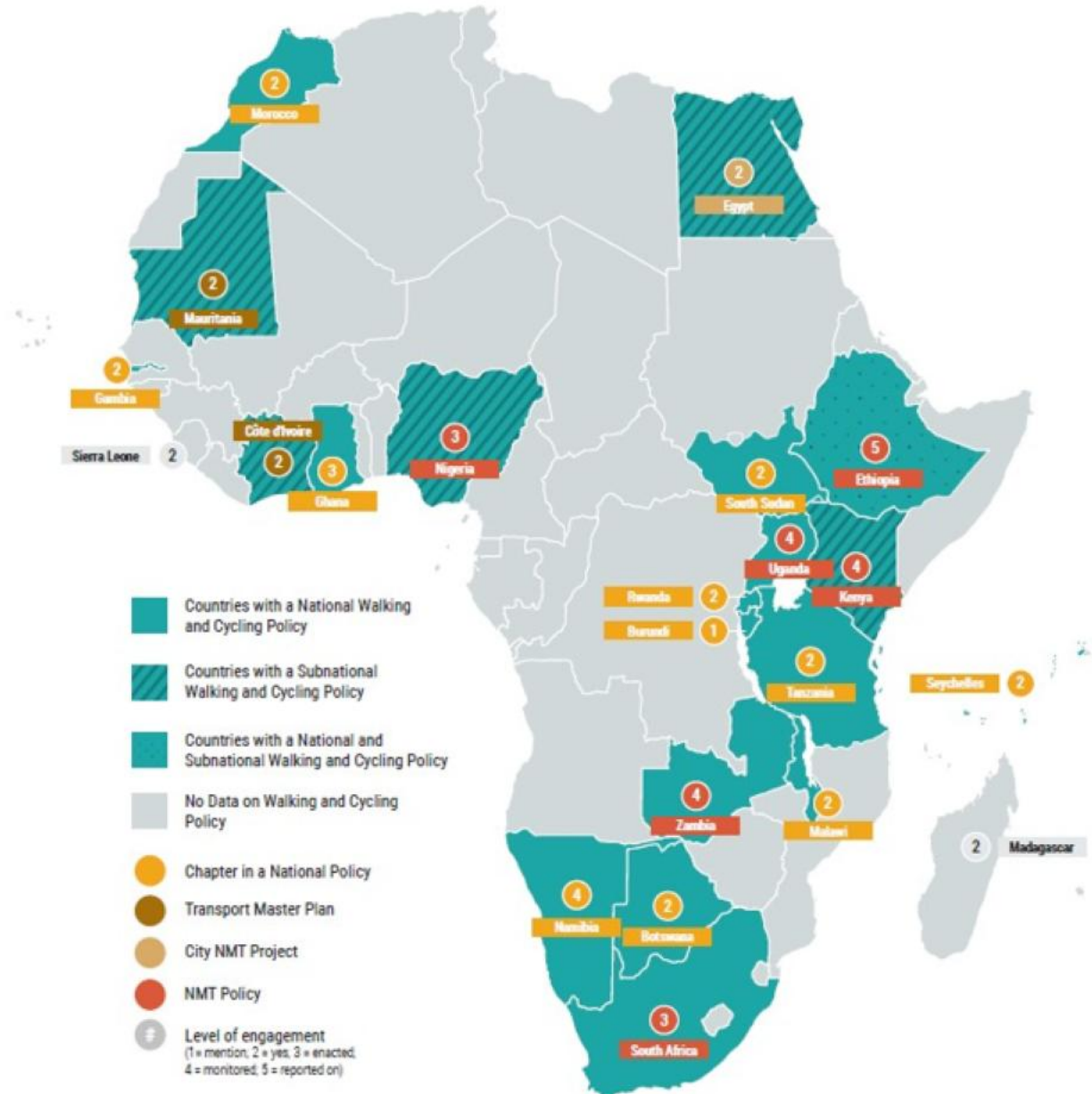
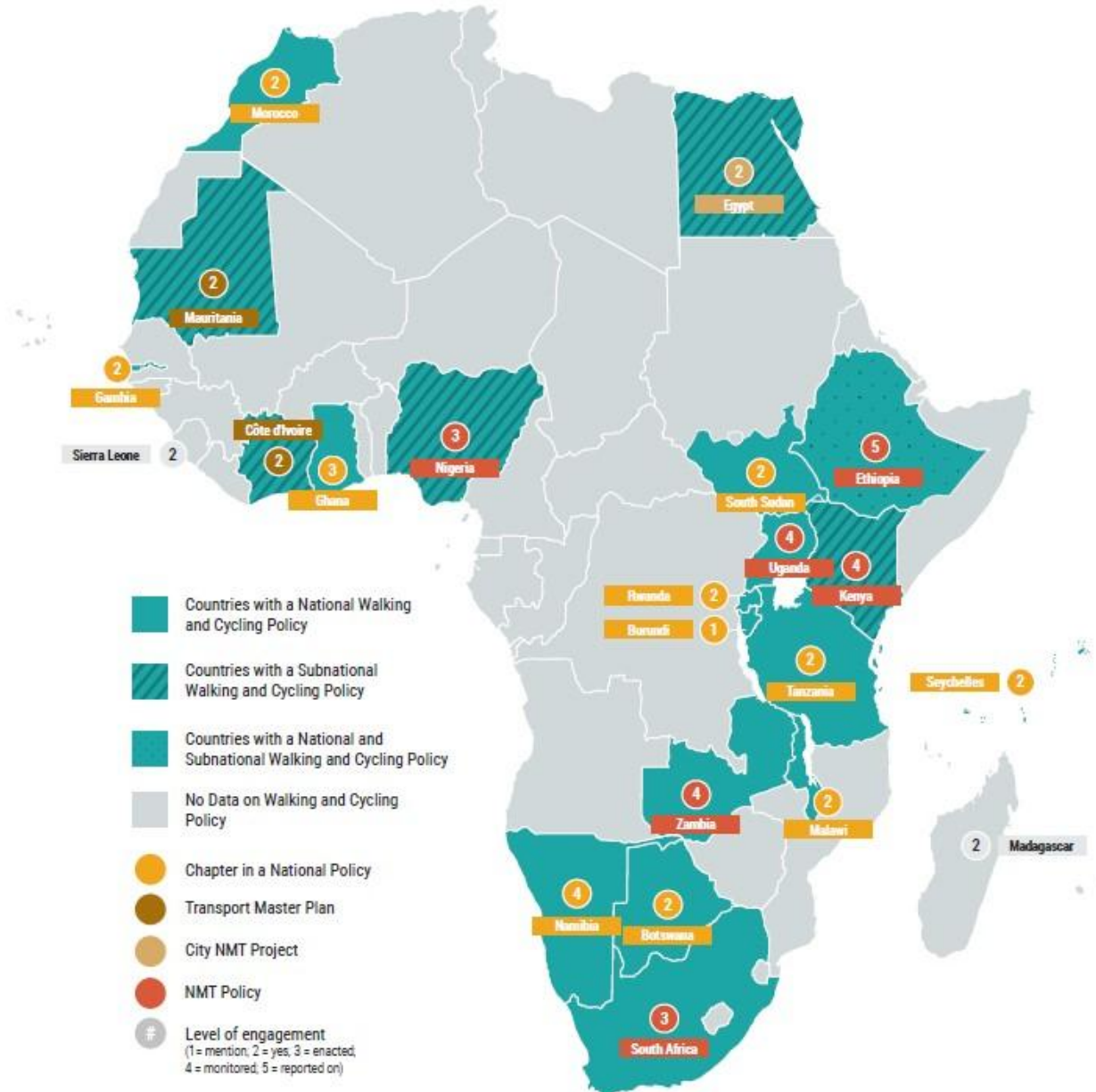
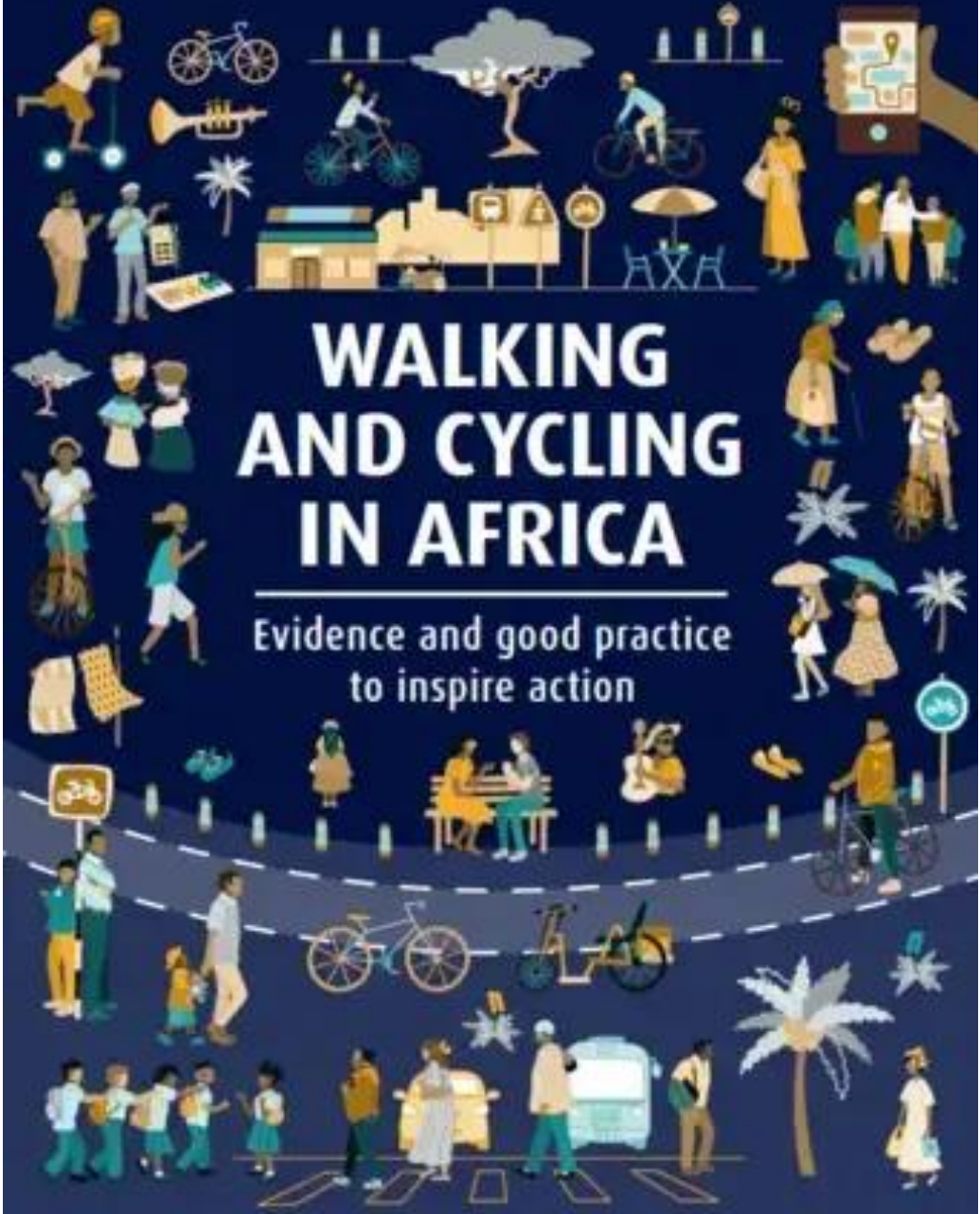


FIGURE 5 Walking and Cycling Policy Landscape





WALKING AND CYCLING IN AFRICA

Evidence and good practice
to inspire action

1,000,000,000



The African Mobility Paradox







Why Active Mobility Is the Heart of the Solution



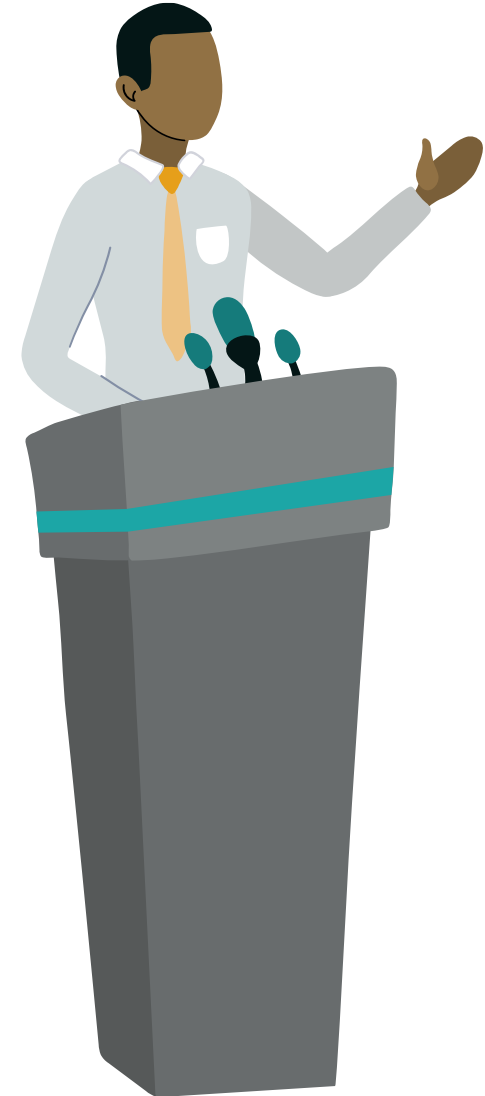
**PEDESTRIANS
FIRST**



The Pan African Action Plan for Active Mobility

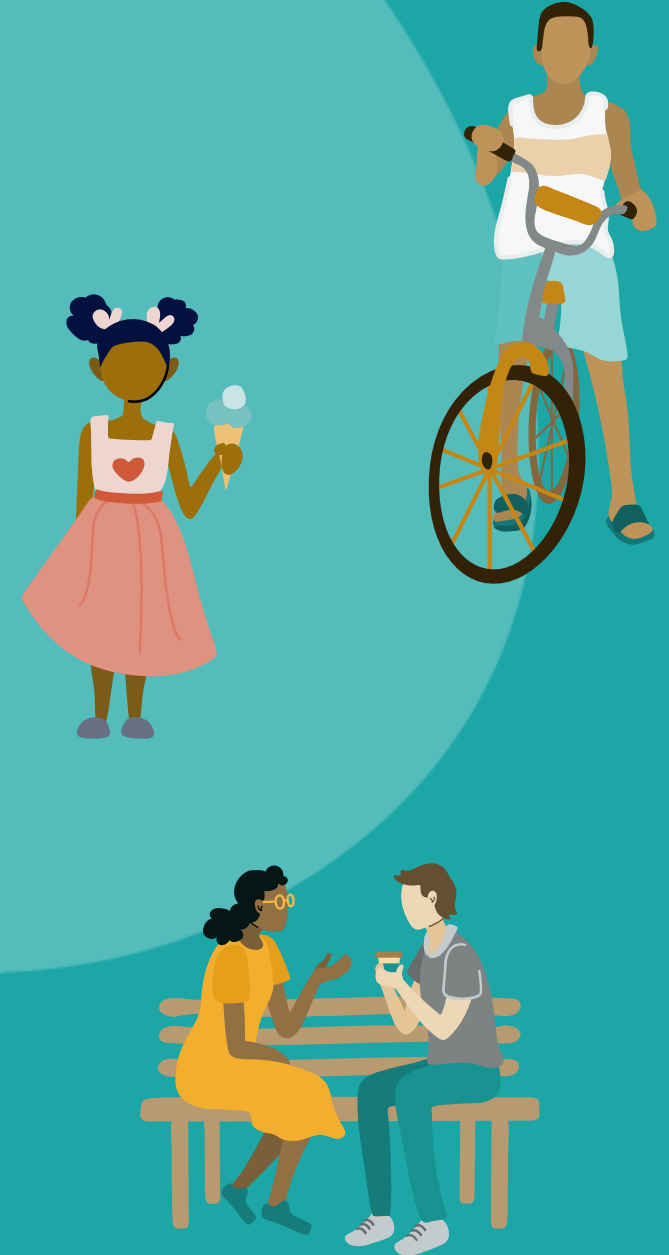
PAAPAM Development Process

- Conceptualized at the Africa Regional Forum for Action in **June 2022**.
- Over **1,500 people** consulted.
- Over **20 meetings** with all sub regions on the continent.
- Launched at the World Urban Forum, **November 2024**.
- Initial validation meeting with the **African Union in August 2025**.
- Awaiting ministerial ratification.



Guiding Principles

- Leave No One Behind
- Evidence Based Practice
- Policy Coherence
- Community Engagement
- Multi sector Partnerships



What PAAPAM Actually Does

ACTION AREA 1: Create safe, accessible and comfortable places to walk and cycle.



ACTION AREA 2: Advocate for people who walk and cycle in Africa



ACTION AREA 3: Embed walking and cycling into policy and investment processes.



PAN AFRICAN ACTION PLAN FOR ACTIVE MOBILITY

Vision

OUR VISION is to protect and enable people who walk and cycle in Africa. We strive to make walking and cycling more accessible, ensuring a comfortable experience for all ages, genders, and abilities. We recognize the crucial role of active mobility in building just, resilient and inclusive communities and ensuring a safe, clean, healthy, and sustainable environment.



ACTION AREA 1: Create Safe, Accessible and Comfortable Places to Walk and Cycle

GOAL 1

Guarantee Safety

INDICATOR A:

% of pedestrians and cyclists killed or seriously injured.

GOAL 2

Enable Accessibility

INDICATOR B:

Average # of minutes spent per day walking or cycling for transport.

INDICATOR C: Proportion of population that feel safe walking alone (both during the day and at night) in the area in which they live.

INDICATOR D: % of people in African cities within 500m access to public transport.

GOAL 3

Enhance Comfort

INDICATOR E: % of roads meeting minimum standards for safe and comfortable walking and cycling.*

INDICATOR F: % of walking and cycling routes incorporating nature-based elements—such as shaded tree canopies, permeable pathways, or vegetative buffers.

INDICATOR G: % of people near protected bicycle lanes (PNB) and People Near Walkway Improvements (PNW).

INDICATOR H: # of Countries with up-to-date Street Design Standards that contain comprehensive specifications for safe walking and cycling.*



ACTION AREA 2: Advocate for People who Walk and Cycle in Africa

GOAL 4

Boost Satisfaction

INDICATOR I: % of the population perceiving walking and cycling as safe, easy, and enjoyable.

INDICATOR J: # of countries with systematic and inclusive engagement processes embedded as pre-requisite to transport policy, investment decision and implementation.



ACTION AREA 3: Embed Walking and Cycling Into Policy and Investment Processes

GOAL 5

Increase Commitment and Investment

INDICATOR K: # of countries that review/adopt a national walking and cycling policy and/or other international commitments to benefit people walking and cycling.

INDICATOR L: # of cities that review/adopt a national walking and cycling policy and/or other international commitments to benefit people walking and cycling.

INDICATOR M: # of countries with documented capital expenditure budget allocated to active mobility.

INDICATOR N: # of city and national governments that have dedicated staff working on active mobility.

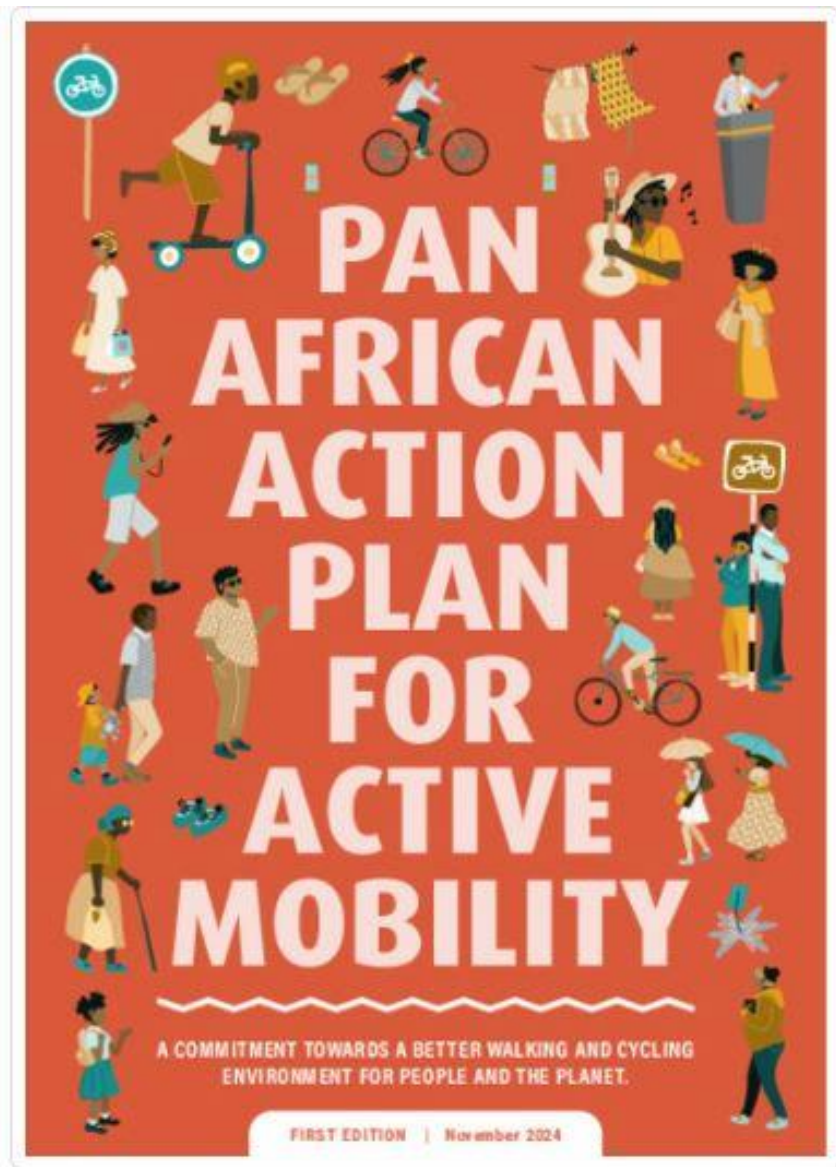


Guiding principles: Leave No One Behind | Evidence-Based Practice | Policy Coherence | Community Engagement | Multisectoral Partnerships

* also linked to road safety (goal 1).

www.unep.org/topics/transport/active-mobility/pan-african-action-plan-active-mobility





30 APR 2026 | PRESS RELEASE | TRANSPORT

African Transport and Energy Ministers endorse two continental policy frameworks to transform mobility across Africa





What's next?

- Initial capacity-building and support programs are planned for
 - **Ghana,**
 - **Malawi,**
 - **Cameroon,**
 - **Morocco,**
 - **Kenya.**

2025-2028



Ecosystem Analysis



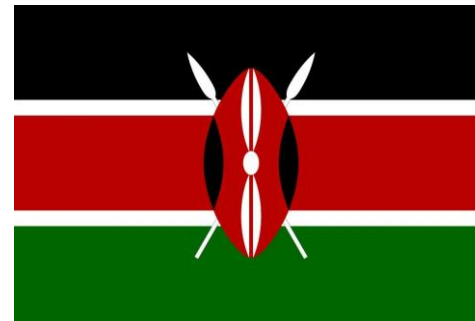
Capacity Building



Technical Assistance



Continuous Engagement



2025-2028



Validation Mechanism



Community and Advocacy



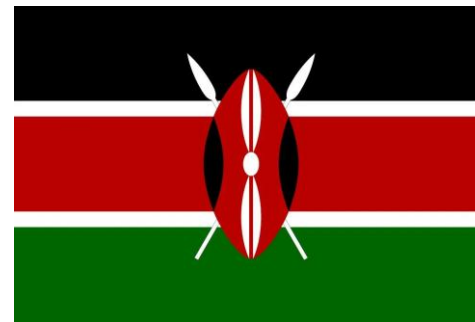
Study Tours



Knowledge Products



Knowledge Sharing Platform





**Emerging African
Solutions (Hope)**

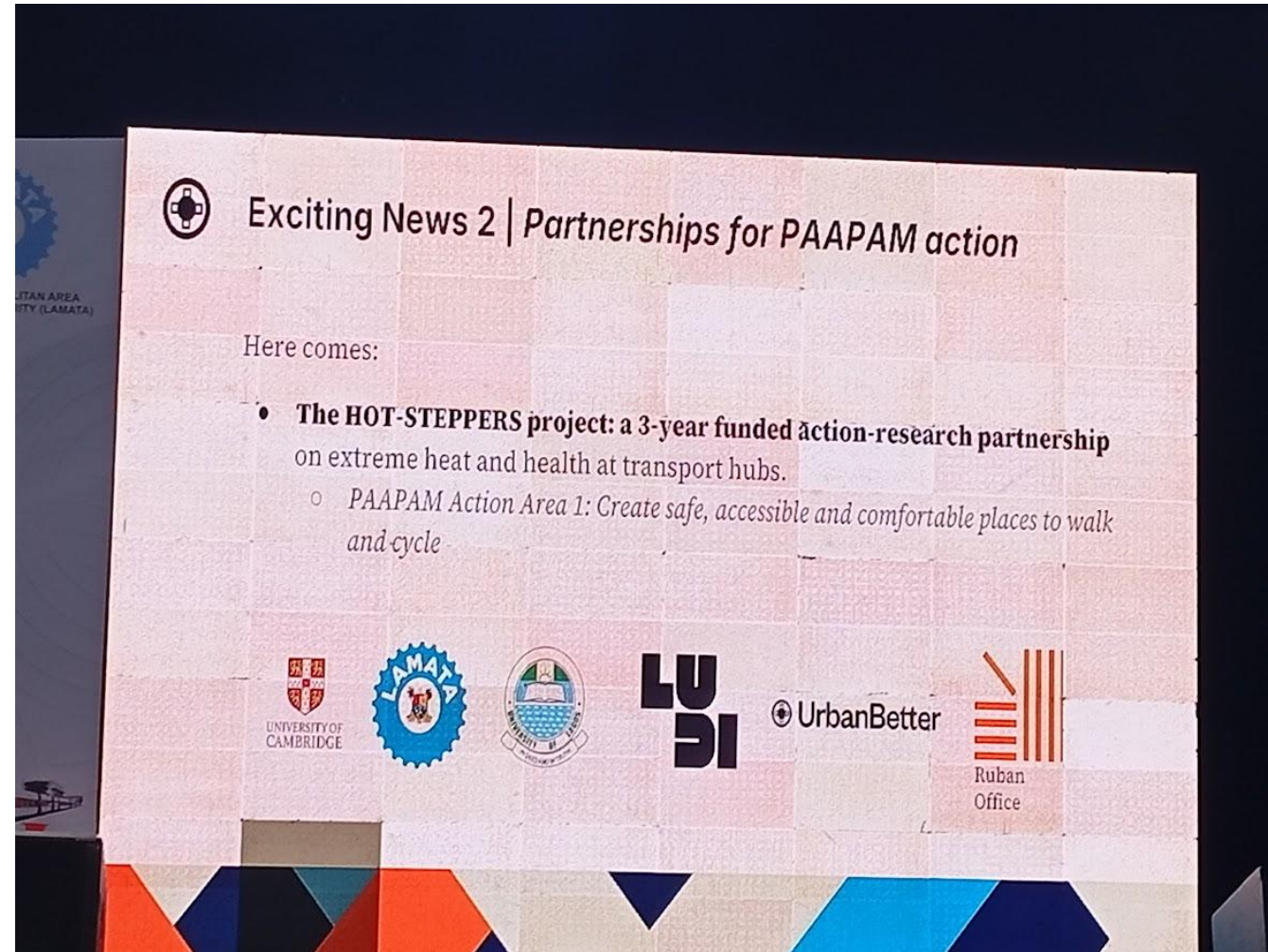






What can you do?

- Individual Level
- Community or Institutional Level
- City Level
- Country Level



Jan Gehl

"A good city is like a good party – people stay longer than really necessary because they are enjoying themselves."



