Transforming Public Transport in African Cities: Where is the Data?

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Big Picture on African Urbanization: Unprecedented City Building...
Current Trends....
air pollution, crashes, congestion, obesity, vulnerability to climate change and shocks... growing GHG emissions... vehicle recycling...
By 2030, provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, by improving road safety, notably by expanding public transport, with special attention to the needs of those in vulnerable situations, women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons.

Sub-target 11.2
“Every city built had grown from the spine of its transportation system, like flesh around bones, whether it be a river, a trail, a railroad or a highway. If we want to shape a city, we have to shape its transportation “  Alex Marshall
Opportunity: the vast majority of urban residents take public transport or walk in African Cities....

high and growing cellphone use...
Poor or Missing Data for Public Transport including Minibus Systems!

- No Maps/Passenger Information/Apps
- Few planning tools
- No modelling/understanding of dynamics for better interventions
- Benchmarking project impacts?
- Monitoring (SDG 11)?
Data Inequality

92% of the 25 largest low- and middle-income cities do NOT have complete transit maps.

Large parts of Africa have no standardized transit data...
Data for an Integrated Network?
Mapping is expanding in African cities but needs urgent scaling up....
We are moving towards mobility as a service with **data as the critical underlying infrastructure**
Africa can leapfrog but needs to build data & innovation eco-systems and use them to improve public transport.