



Talking Transformation Podcast - Episode 37: Fields of Dreams (or just 'plain dreaming')

– Release of state-owned land for public housing

*(L-R) Adi Kumar, Development Action Group;
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This episode of the Talking Transformation Podcast tackles the issue of state-owned land and its importance in supporting spatial transformation and city-building. It comes at a time when illegal land occupations and the quantum of informal settlements in many of the towns and cities continues to increase.

Many advocacy groups are critical in their assessment that spheres of government are unable to release state land for public benefit and much-needed housing programmes to address urbanisation and substantial housing backlogs.

In June this year the Development Action Group (DAG), along with Ndifuna Ukwazi (NU), SASDI alliance, the Legal Resources Centre, the Community Organisation Resource Centre (CORC) and UCT's Professor Vanessa Watson held a virtual public meeting to discuss the merits of releasing three state-owned land parcels in Cape Town, namely: Wingfield, Ysterplaat and Youngsfield. These advocacy groups suggest these well-located land parcels could house in excess of 120,000 Capetonians and 40,000 homes.

This episode revisits the propositions made at that meeting and we hear from three of the participants: Adi Kumar from (DAG), Chadernnay Glenn (CORC) and Michael Clark (NU).

The public sectors voice is missing from this episode and, as you'll hear, it's something we aim to address in the coming weeks and months. In the meantime, enjoy the episode and thoughts from passionate representations from the NGO sector.

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