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uKESA Newsletter

URBAN KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE SOUTHERN AFRICA

Promoting innovation & good practice in cities, towns & villages

What's in this edition?

October 2023

In this [Urban October](#) edition of our newsletter we keep you updated about popular new content hosted on the Urban Knowledge Exchange. This edition includes a collection of reporting on the recent fire in the Johannesburg inner city, and a recently released tool that expands the GreenBook array of tools for climate adaptation planning. From our knowledge partners, we highlight content about small towns, the state of land information in SADC countries, and significant reports on IBTs and SDGs. We welcome comment and further contributions of new content!

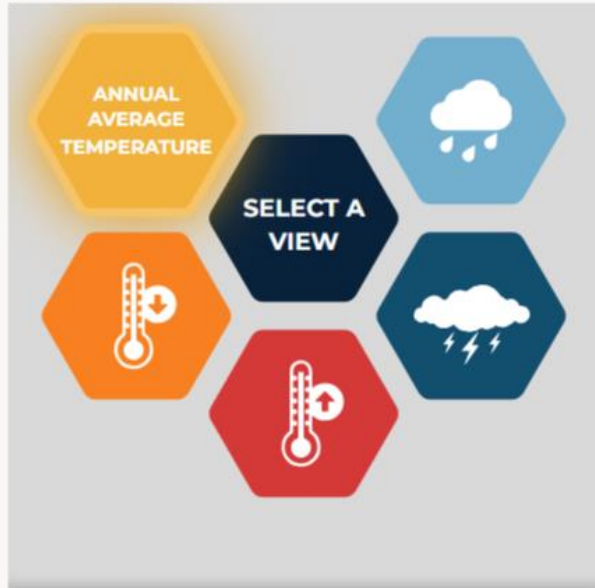
Recent uKESA content



Media Coverage of August 2023 Johannesburg Building Fire

Get greater insight into how the media reported on the tragic fire in the Johannesburg CBD in these in-depth reports and commentaries. The fire has prompted nationwide soul searching about inner city living conditions, eviction laws, and the enforcement of health and safety regulations.

[Read more](#)

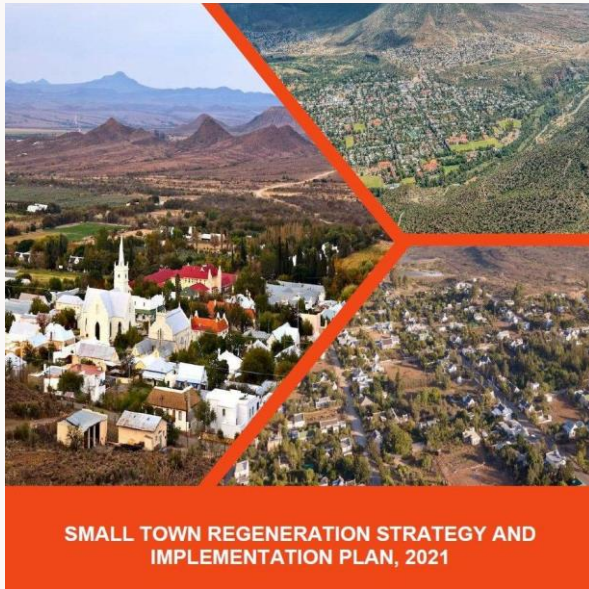


GreenBook MetroView

A recently added MetroView feature on the GreenBook platform provides Climate Risk Profile Tools and Climate Action Tools for a selected number of metropolitan municipalities. The spatialised communication of climate risks and vulnerabilities through the MetroView can inform and prioritise adaptation actions.

[Read more](#)

Popular partner content



Small Town Regeneration Strategy and Implementation Plan

The Department of Cooperative Governance, overseeing the implementation of the Integrated Urban Development Framework (IUDF), reviewed the 2013/14 Small Town Regeneration Programme which led to a new coherent strategy. The strategy aims to enhance small town regeneration and is aligned with the objectives of the IUDF and other government strategies such as the District Development Model.

[Read more](#)



SADC State of Land Information Country Reports

The State of Land Information Initiative represents substantial efforts by the Land Portal to evaluate and consolidate worldwide data concerning open land data and administration. The initiative aims to provide comprehensive information about the state of affairs in each country. A list of reports focusing on the Southern African region is readily available on uKESA.

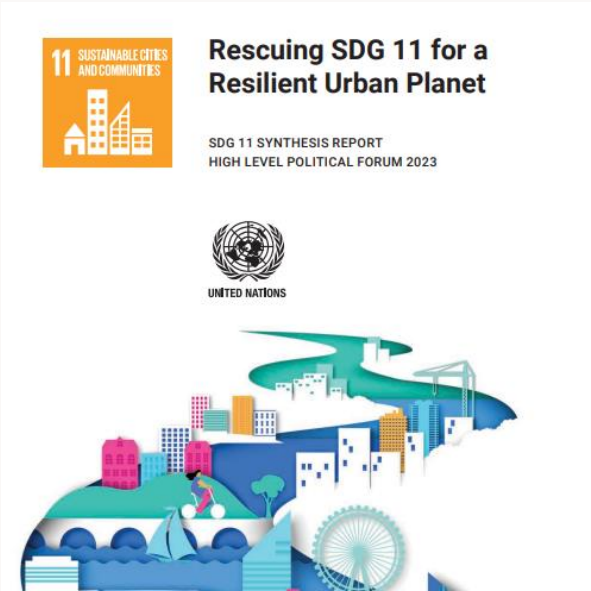
[Read more](#)



Use of IBTS to Address SA Housing Challenges

Read about how innovative building technologies (IBTs) can alleviate housing challenges in post-apartheid South Africa. A set of wide-ranging themes is dealt with in this article which includes the affordability of building materials, time frames for construction, and the sustainability of the systems.

[Read more](#)



Rescuing SDG 11 for a Resilient Urban Planet

Progress towards achieving SDG 11 is said to be falling short of the desired trajectory. Reporting by UN-Habitat attempts to “rescue SDG 11” bearing in mind the wellbeing of both current and future generations. It highlights substantial opportunities on the horizon and underscores ongoing innovations to achieve the desired outcome.

[Read more](#)

In conclusion

Thanks for reading about our latest flagship content. If you missed the last uKESA webinar in mid-September, we have made [the webinar recording and the presentations](#) available in our past events section. Keep an eye out for announcements of our next webinar towards the end of the year. Do also sign up for email alerts if you want to be notified about new content and events delivered to your inbox on a Monday morning (see the “Sign up to Alerts” button [at the top of the home page](#)).

The uKESA Mission

- To develop, build and maintain a user-friendly, open access platform for exchanging quality information, value added content, and reliable advice amongst state, civil society, private sector, professional and academic partners above in the built environment.
 - To provide opportunities for, and facilitate, shared learning and the best application of available knowledge across the different sectors (knowledge exchange).
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