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## uKESA Newsletter

**URBAN KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE SOUTHERN AFRICA**

*Promoting innovation & good practice in cities, towns & villages*

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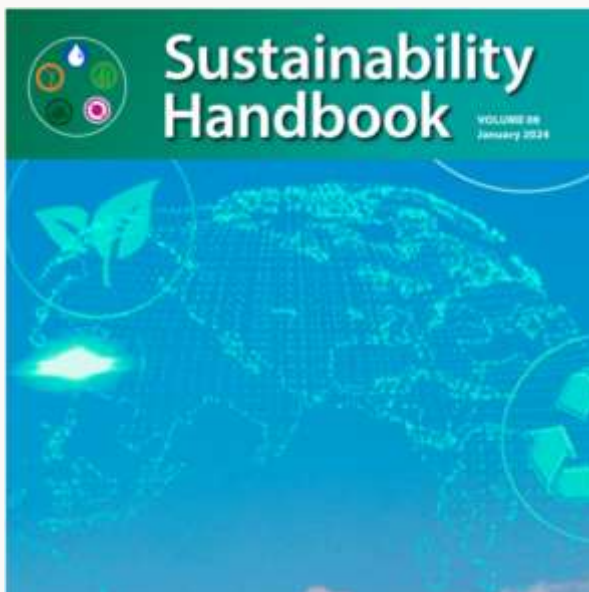
### **What's in this edition?**

**February 2024**

In this edition, we spotlight diverse content on the Urban Knowledge Exchange. Volume 8 of the Sustainability Handbook delves into materials science's pivotal role in addressing environmental concerns tied to cement production. The Master List of Hosted Collections simplifies access to a wide range of resource pages. New partner content includes insights on urban governance dynamics and housing initiatives in African cities, a UN-Habitat paper on unlocking the potential of cities, and an exploration of innovative, context-specific solutions for affordable housing in Africa. Additionally, we revisit the Enviro-friendly Methods guide for sustainable building design in South Africa. Stay informed with the latest on the Urban Knowledge Exchange.

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### **Recent uKESA content**



### **Sustainability Handbook Vol 8**

In this 8th volume of the Sustainability Handbook, researchers and industry professionals explore the critical role of materials science in addressing environmental concerns associated with cement production, the third most utilised material globally.

[Read more](#)



### **Master List of Hosted Collections**

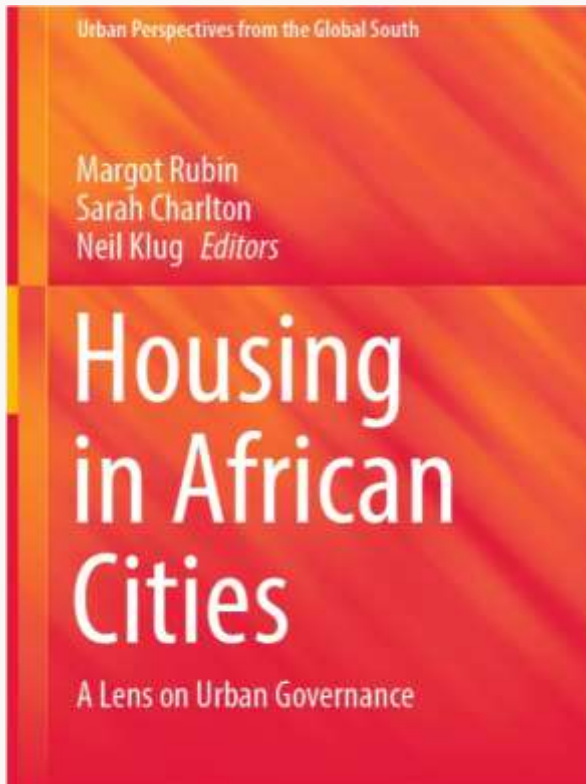
uKESA has hosted a wide range of resource pages and collections over the years. You can access all these in one place. This Master List provides you with resources on a particular topic or theme to ensure that substantive collections are visible in one place and to help navigate across the many rich topics.

[Read more](#)

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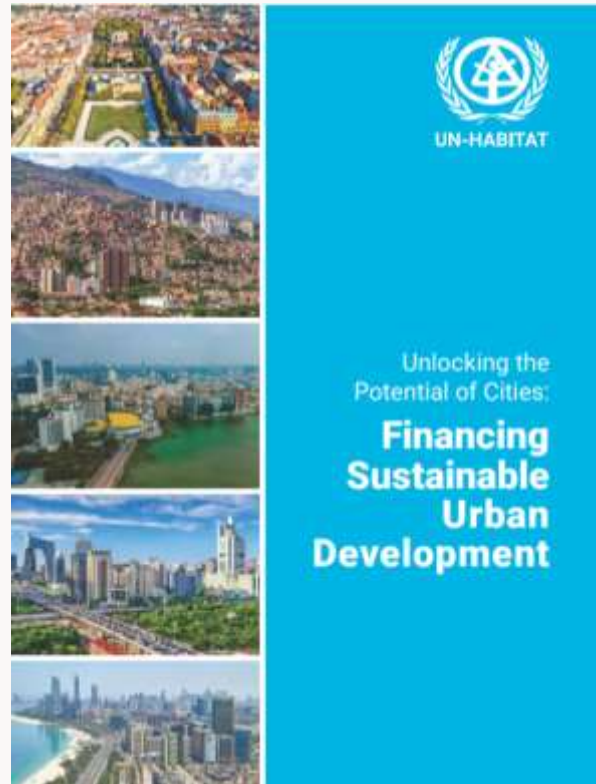
## Popular partner content

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### **Housing in African Cities**

Explore a diverse set of analytical accounts that engage with the urban governance dynamics, drivers, and impacts of a wide variety of housing initiatives. This book offers insights into the relationships between parties and actors undertaking developments, or whose housing activities impact the city. The book also illustrates issues of power distribution, the visions or agendas motivating these actions.



### **Unlocking the Potential of Cities**

Cities are engines of sustainable urban and economic development. In this position paper, the UN-Habitat explores global trends and characteristics in urbanisation, emphasising the significance of investing in cities to unlock their potentials. The paper delves into critical challenges hindering sustainable urban development financing, including barriers in key areas like housing, infrastructure, water, and sanitation.

[Read more](#)

[Read more](#)



### **Innovation in affordable housing**

A time has come for Africa to explore innovative, context-specific solutions that address the unique resource-constrained environments associated with the provision of sustainable and affordable housing. Read more about the enduring challenges of affordable housing in Africa, and the mismatch between traditional housing development approaches and the limitations of resource-constrained environments on the continent.



### **Enviro-friendly Methods in Small Building Design for South Africa**

Originally published in hard copy in 2000, this comprehensive guide addresses crucial aspects of environmentally conscious building design in residential and workplace settings. The book caters to the specific informational needs of local architecture students, aiming to foster awareness and promote the significance of sustainable design.

[Read more](#)

[Read more](#)

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## In conclusion

Thank you for taking the time to explore the latest content available on the Urban Knowledge Exchange. We appreciate your interest in staying informed and engaged with topics that matter.

We're excited to announce an upcoming webinar on February 22nd, focusing on "Advocacy Platforms that Promote Better Access to Land." This insightful session aims to shed light on crucial issues and strategies for creating positive change. Join us by registering [here](#).

For those who may have missed our previous webinars, we invite you to explore our comprehensive index page, showcasing a wealth of knowledge. Visit [this link](#) to access a collection of our past webinar recordings.

We are thrilled to announce new partnerships that strengthen our commitment to fostering knowledge exchange. One such collaboration is with the Isandla Institute. Learn more about this partnership and the impactful work of Isandla Institute [here](#).

Thank you for being a part of the Urban Knowledge Exchange journey.

# UKESA WEBINAR



Advocacy platforms that promote better access to land  
and to land information: How they work and what  
difference they make

Date: Thursday 22 February 2024  
Time: 3pm to 5pm SAST



Presenters



## 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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