Emerging Metropolitan Planning Issues

It has been observed that the development of a strong central city of our current work. One of the key pieces to be undertaken in relation with our work in the Nairobi region has already expanded its boundaries into other municipalities. Several key sustainable urban development issues have been quantified and analyzed from our work in the Nairobi region.

Metropolitan planning is the conciliation between a strong central capital and satellite towns for which opportunities and problems are directly related to their location with Nairobi. CSUD's work on the Strategic Development Plan highlighted for the importance of having a development plan in order to guarantee their independence and identity vis-a-vis Nairobi but also to begin partnering with Nairobi and other municipalities

Some of the key issues that have been identified include:

- Inadequate public facilities
- Poor Planning and development control
- Lack of Community & Social Facilities
- Poor road infrastructure
- Inadequate water & sanitation facilities within settlements

As a result of this previous work, the new Kenyan cabinet (formed in March 2008) includes guidance for the creation of major metropolitan infrastructure including infrastructure for transport, access to a clean water supply, increased employment and easy access to education and health services.

Ruiru has increasingly become a dormitory community for Nairobi’s workforce straining its land use, infrastructure, basic services, and transportation, but with good planning, the community can function as a safety valve for Nairobi, rather than a small-

It needs to be recognized that these problems are not unique to Ruiru but also common to other municipalities in the Nairobi metropolitan area. CSUD believes a well-planned metropolitan area can act as a catalyst for sustainable urban development and can function as a safety valve for Nairobi, rather than a small-

The Ruiru Plan for Metropolitan Planning was presented to the Ministry of Lands following the procedure of the Kenyan Planning Act. Planning is now underway for an important area-wide seminar on metropolitan planning. The Ruiru Municipal Council (RMC) presented the Ruiru Plan to the Ministry of Lands following the procedure of the Kenyan Planning Act, as well as presenting it to the Ruiru community during the mandatory 60-day feedback period, required by the Planning Act. Planning is now underway for an important area-wide seminar on metropolitan planning.