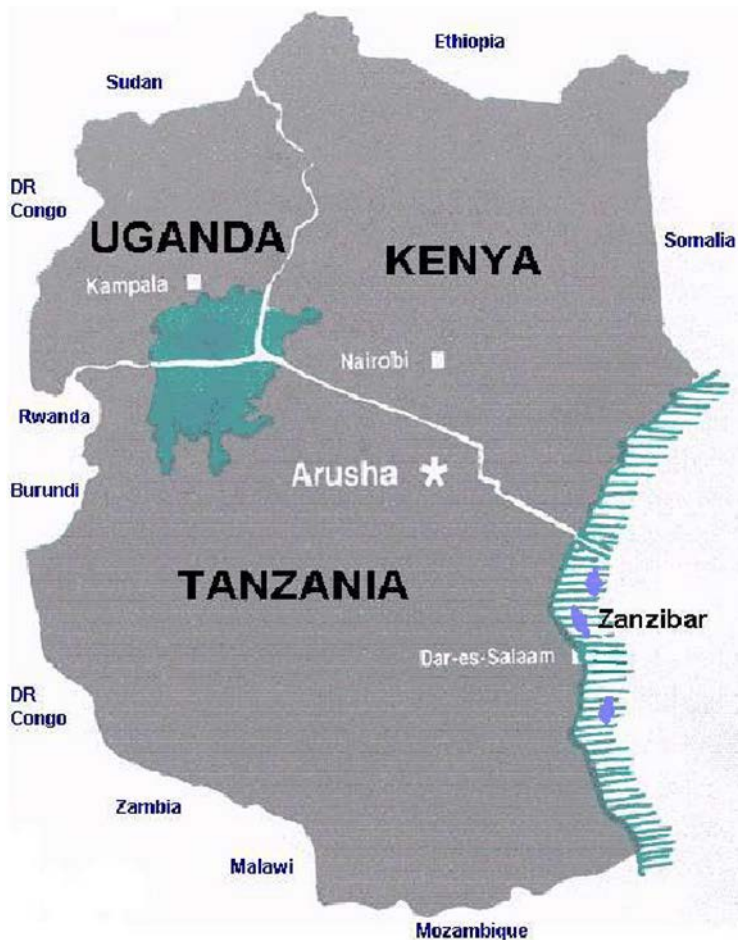


Protecting Public Markets in East African Cities



By: Furaha Abwe & David Balikowa

Outline

- Why are markets important in an East Africa context
- Study methodology in Tanzania and Uganda
- Results
- Next steps – how we'll use the information for our advocacy

The importance of maintaining markets

Nutrition and food safety

- Access to fresh, healthy produce

Well-being

- Satisfaction of shared public space
- Social vibrancy

Price

- Access to affordable foods
- Especially important for the poor

Local economy

- Thousands of jobs for local vendors
- Money earned in a market stays within city

Social relationships

- Social integration
- Meeting place for informal interactions

Urban-rural relationship

- Markets provide outlet for majority of the region's small-scale, local producers

Reason for concern

- Just as in other places, there are reasons to be concerned about the survival of the local public markets in East Africa
- They are under growing pressure from city or municipal officials who characterise them as a problem in terms of health and safety
- Their economic, social, environmental and political impact has been undervalued
- Urban researchers have paid scant attention to studying their contribution

Study

- We conducted a study in two East African cities – Arusha, Tanzania and Kampala, Uganda
- The long-term goal of this research is to protect and preserve local public markets
- In order to achieve the long-term goal, we needed to understand the current situation of the markets – so we are fixing real problems and not perceived problems.

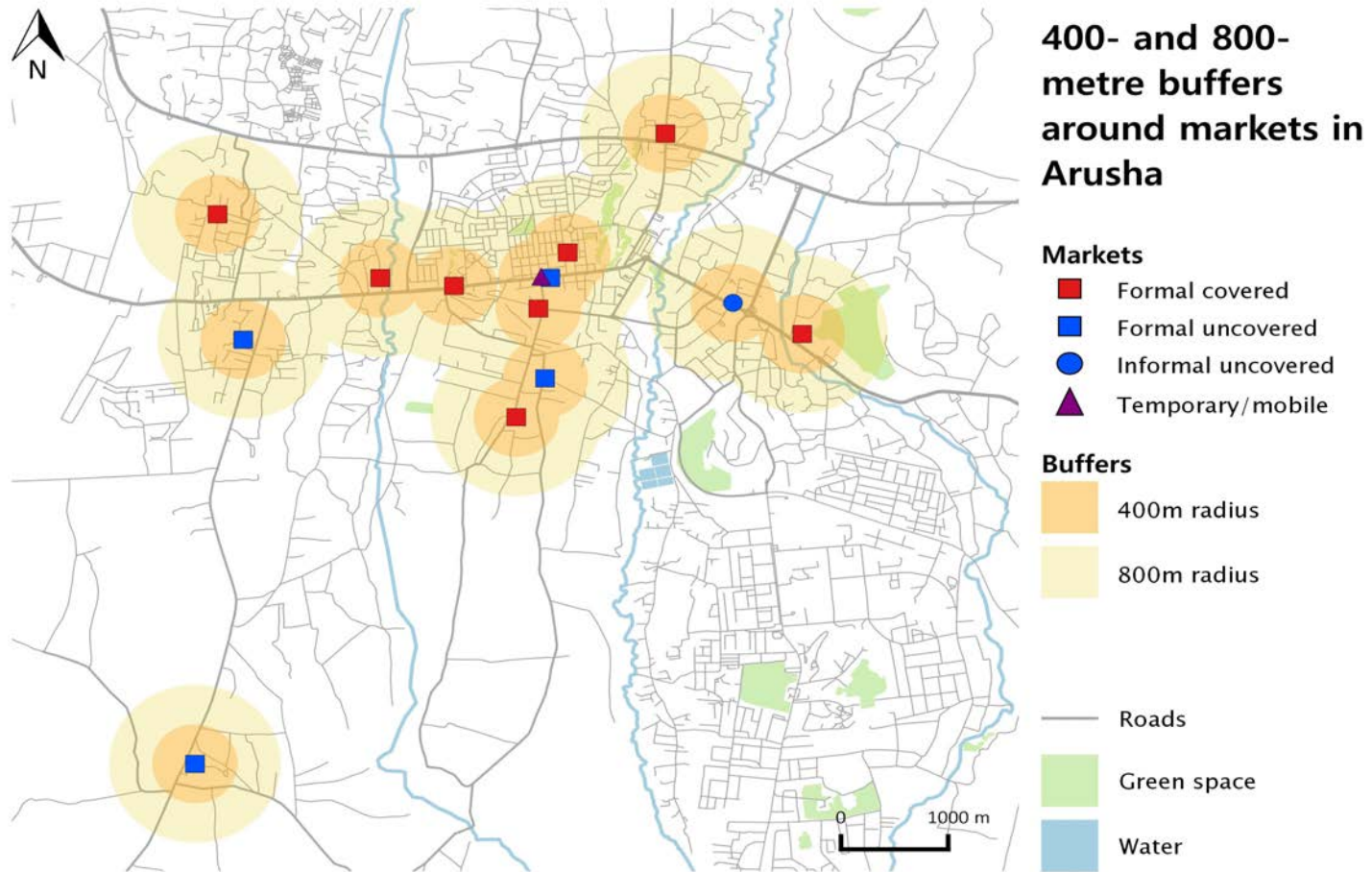
Study comprised of several components

- Policy analysis
- Mapping study
- Quality study
- Interviews with vendors, market managers, and customers
- Completed in Kampala and ongoing in Arusha

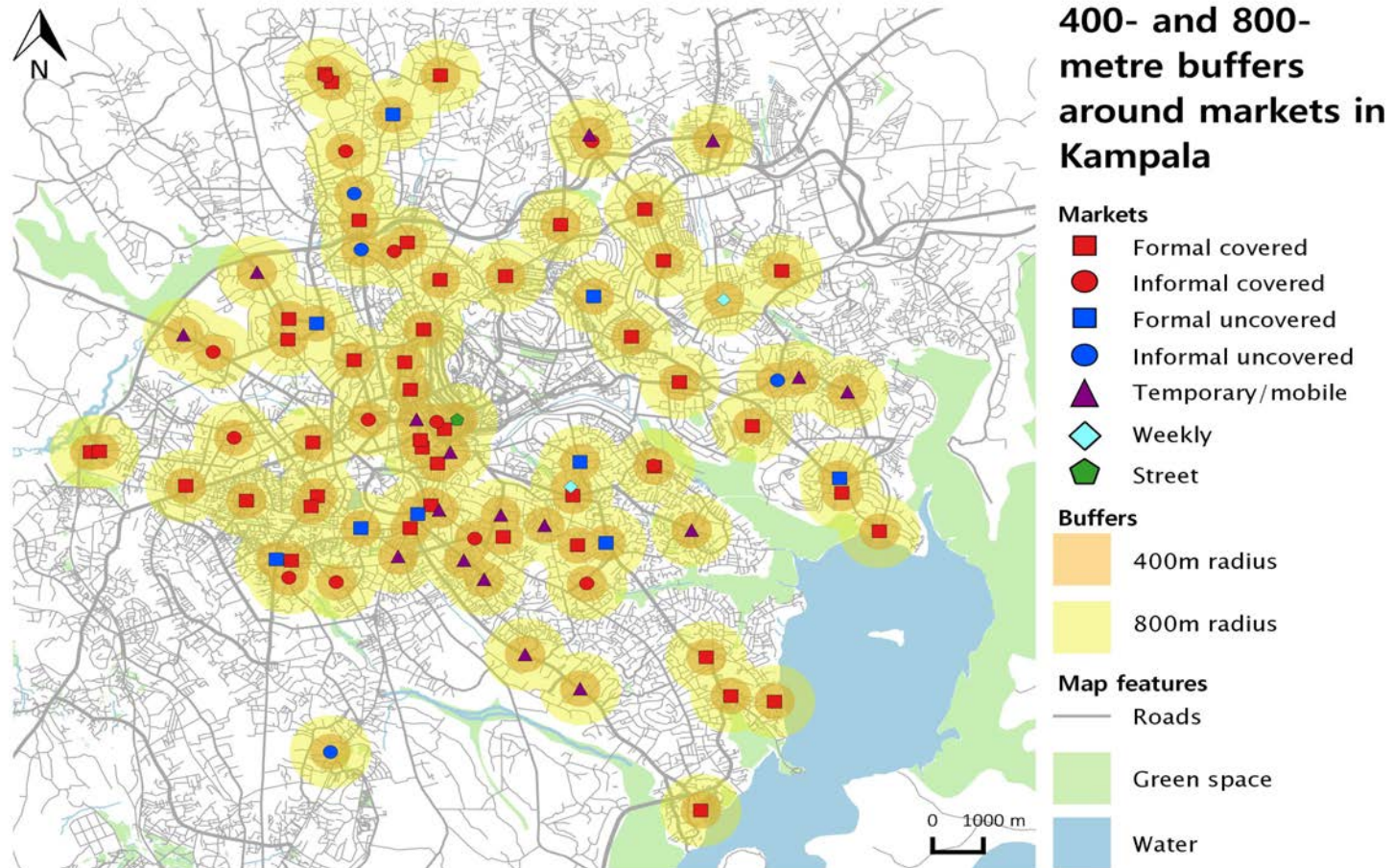
Policy Review

- **Key findings in Tanzania & Uganda:**
- In Tanzania has several robust national policies and city by-laws, including Public Heath Act, 2009 and City By-laws, but everyday market management seems to be a challenge.
- In Uganda, markets are governed by the Markets Act Cap 94, & by-laws, but seem not sufficient to govern markets in a rapidly changing society-economic environment.

Map - Arusha

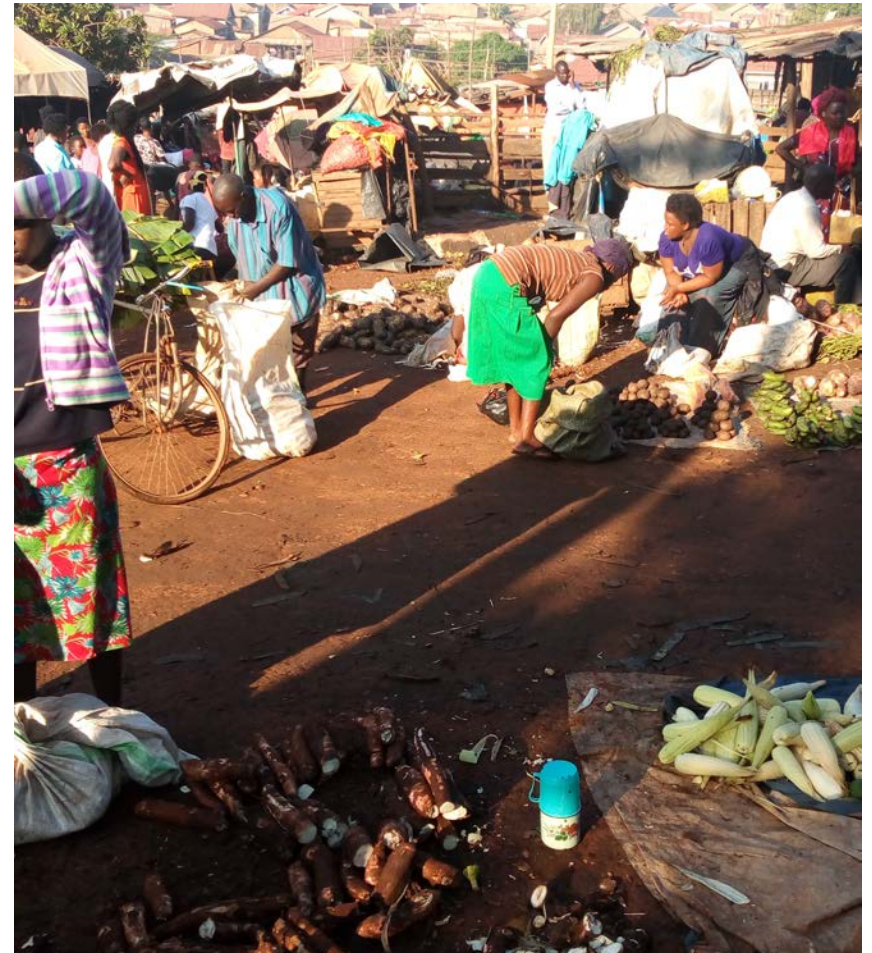


Map - Kampala



Kampala

- More than half had a market within walking distance (800 m or less) from their home
- But only 14% visit the market closest to their house. Despite that 21% still chose a market based on proximity to their house
- Price, quality, variety, proximity, relationships were all important



Kampala

- Nearly two-thirds of the respondents walk to the market, 17% travel by motorbike, 15% by taxi, 3% by private car, and only 1% by bicycle.
- Hygiene listed as most important improvement followed by offering more variety, lower prices, and safety



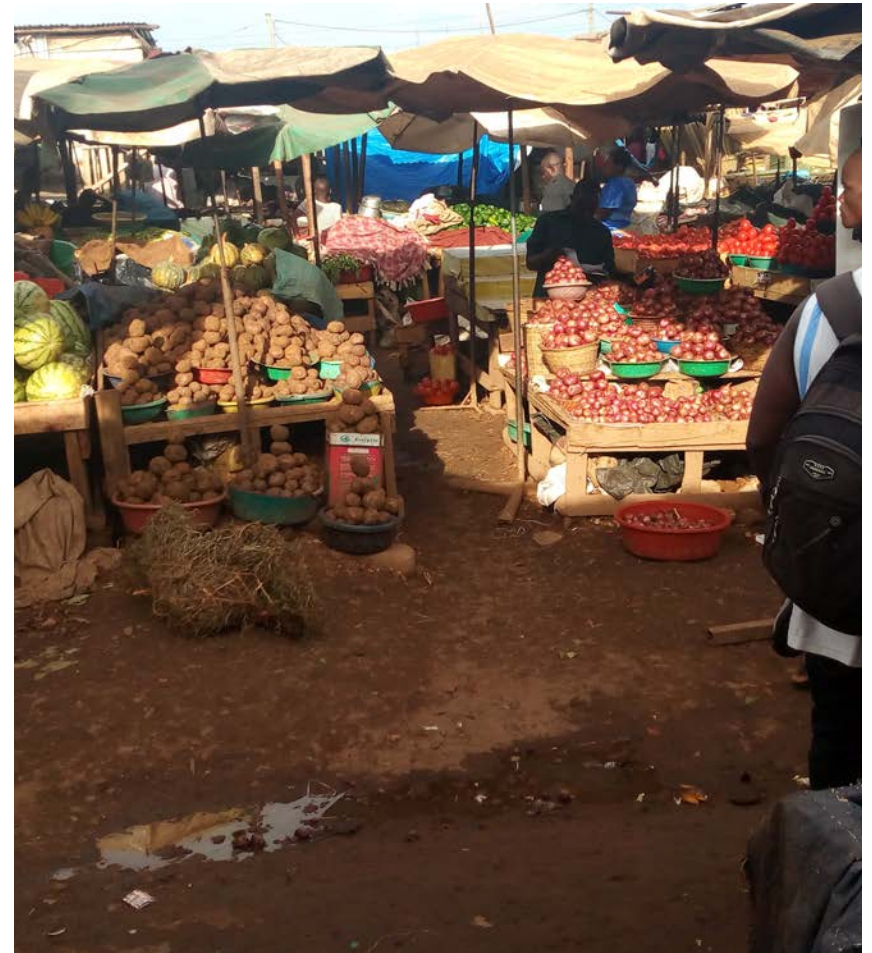
Kampala

- $\frac{3}{4}$ of all markets are privately owned 81 % managed by vendors associations.
- The majority of markets are not covered and are largely informal, lack paved walk ways inside.
- Garbage and waste disposal is a major problem at most of the markets
- Toilets are not sufficient at all markets, and only a few of them have seats which are also not sufficient
- Nearly two-thirds of the markets lack sufficient fire/emergency exits



Kampala

- Most of vendors sell fresh produce, consumer goods, used products, processed food, fish, meat/poultry and live animals.
- Fresh foods such as fruits and vegetables can be described as of good quality at almost all markets



Kampala

- 68% of vendors respectively vending in a formal market is the main source of income for their households.
- 65% of the vendors used own savings for the initial working capital to start their businesses,



Arusha

- Still underway - but we are seeing some similarities with the Kampala results already
- Differences include:
 - Most of the markets (all but two) are formal markets
 - All markets are government owned and managed by the government



Arusha

- For a full 90% of vendors the market is their main source of income for their household
- Most of market users or customers spent over 25 minutes to reach the closest local market
- Taxi (public transport) is their main means of transport followed by walking.



Key recommendations

- Key improvements have to be made in markets including safety measures such as emergency exits and fire plans, improving drainage, lighting, and garbage and waste management.
- Accessibility is really important both to and within the market– need to be supporting people living with disabilities
- There are lots of children in the markets – but no play spaces for them or anything that would be considered age appropriate – need to provide this to enhance ECE
- Opportunity in Kampala to encourage greater levels of walking and cycling to the market.
- When Arusha results are finalized we really need to look at the 25 minute transportation time to a local market – does this mean we need more? Closer to people's homes?

Information is critical first step

- Gathering the data has been the first step in our program. Experiences in other market and public space projects tells us that conducting situational assessment research is key to convincing policy makers and the public to work on an issue.
- Maps tell an important story about access and the quality assessments and interviews tell us what we need to work on to improve the overall experience and make the markets a place people want to shop

Information is a critical first step

- We'll be finalizing the research reports and then preparing summaries for distribution.
- Organizing dissemination seminars where we invite other organizations, government and elected officials and the media to hear about our findings and discuss the way forward.

Next Steps

- We work with HealthBridge Foundation of Canada and their strategies are fairly consistent across all countries and issue areas:
 - Advocate for stronger policy/implementation of policy
 - Conduct community engagement activities such as pilot projects, events, and media
 - Develop partnerships with other organizations
 - Provide capacity building where necessary to support vendors, market managers, and government officials

- Reports will be available on the HB website:

www.healthbridge.ca

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Questions