

Presentation made at the International Conference on Land Governance and Societal Development 08-10 December 2021



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Development 08-10 December 2021**



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Utilization of Open Space for Beauty and Healthier Cities in Third World Countries. The Case of Kigali City.

Dr. Regina John

Head of Department of Urban and Regional Planning (URP), Ardhi University,
Dar es Salaam - Tanzania.

Eng. David MIHIGO, PhD Student

Key State Laboratory of Information Engineering in Mapping, Surveying and Remote Sensing (LIESMARS),
Wuhan University, China.



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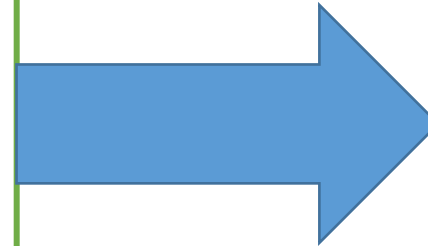
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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

- Urban open spaces in developing cities play critical roles for residents in cities. The open spaces are used for social and community gatherings, which are necessary for a healthy city.
- Moreover, the urban open spaces have direct health benefits as they provide urban residents spaces for physical activities, social interaction and allowing psychological restoration to take place through relaxation (Melián-González, 2019).



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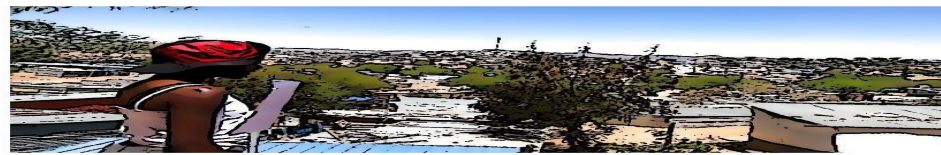


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1.2 Global Experience (Example of Suzhou City in China)



- ✓ Founded in 514 BC, Suzhou has over 2,500 years of history, with an abundant demonstration of historical sites.
- ✓ The city's canals, stone bridges and precisely designed gardens have contributed to its rank as one of the top tourist attractions in China.
- ✓ Since 1997 & 2000 Modern Gardens of Suzhou were added to UNESCO World Heritage Sites (ICMI,2019).



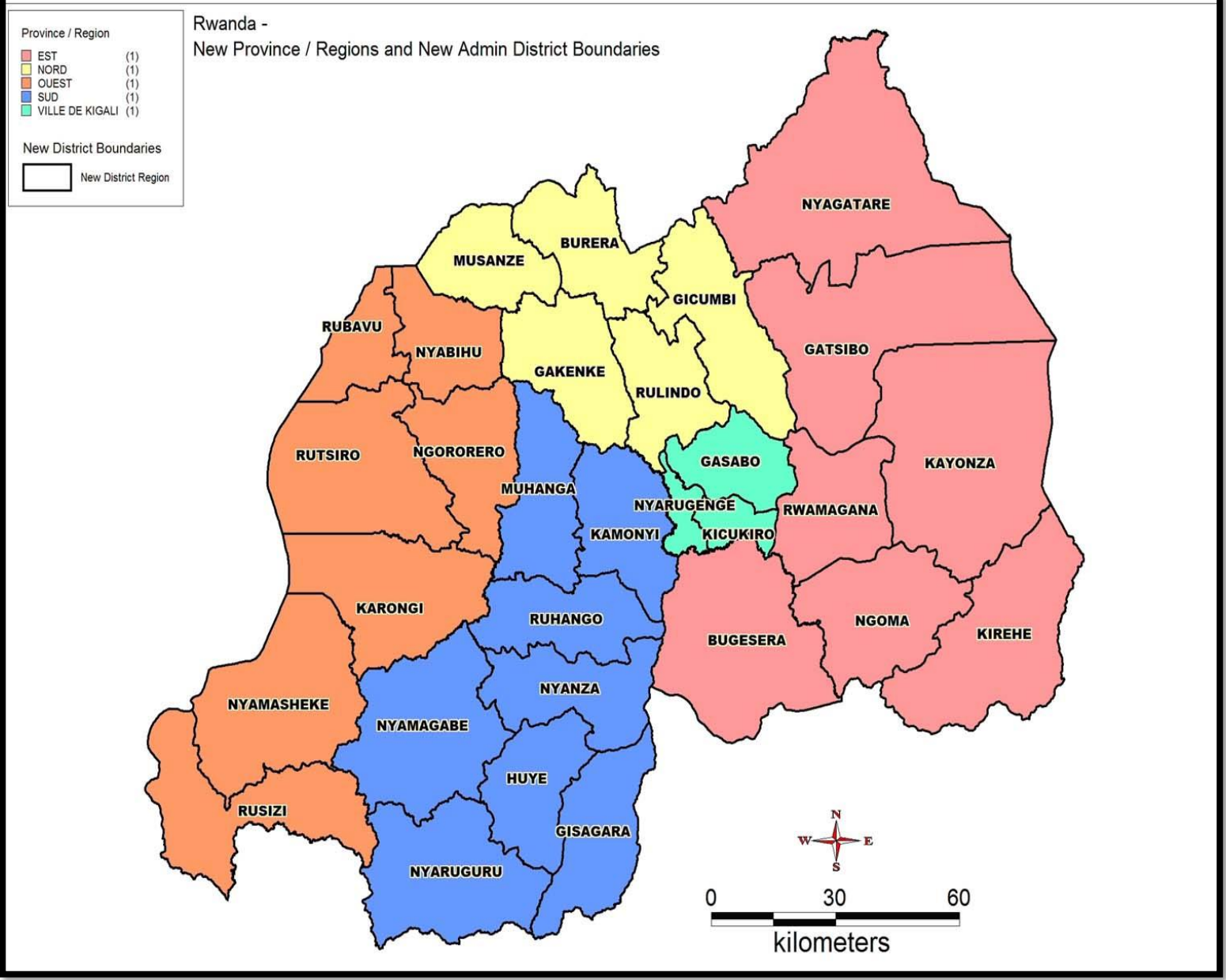
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2.METHODS,TECHNIQUES & STUDY MATERIALS

2.1 Methods and Techniques

- Structured questionnaires
 - Formal interview with Kigali City residents
 - Observation
- primary data
- Secondary data were collected from Literatures Open Space & Green spaces
 - Mixed research approach of both qualitative & quantitative research method approach were used as neutralizer or canceller of the biases which might results from the use of any single method due to its limitation.
 - Data were analyzed by using Microsoft Excel and Microsoft Word up to the final report work of this study.





2.2 Study area Description

- From map 1. Nyarugenge District is among **3** Districts in Rwanda - Kigali city.
- It is made up with **10** Sectors which are: Kimisagara, Muhima, Gitega, Nyamirambo, Kanyinya, Nyarugenge, Kigali, Rwezamenyo, Mageragere and Nyarugenge together with 47 cells and 355 quarters which is named “**Imidugugu**” in local language (Kinyarwanda).
- According to 4th Rwanda population and housing census (PHC4) which was conducted in 2015, Kigali city had 1,132,686 people, equivalent to 10.8% of entire Rwanda population of 10,515,973 people.



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3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1 Results

3.1.1 Socio-Demographics of the respondents

- **Gender** : 1. 62% was Female where 38% were male
- **Age**: Age 20-30 were 27% ; Age 30-40 were 40 % and above 50 ages were 33%.
- **Education**: Primary were 18% , 26% Secondary and 56% Tertiary Education
- **Activity**: 31% Public Sector while 69% were in Private Sector





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3.1.2 OPEN SPACES IN KIGALI CITY



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Source: The New Times (2021)

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**3.1.2 OPEN SPACE
IN KIGALI CITY
Cont....**



Source: The New Times (2021)



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3.1.3 Utilization of Open Spaces in Kigali

Open Spaces in Kigali City are used by any person interested to go there and have some relaxation, meeting some friends and have informative discussion with His or Her Colleagues.

Any one is welcomed being old person, young or even Children for their own leisure purposes.

There are also a team of cleaners whom walk around and be able to clean or take waste thrown there to proper cycle bins at the open space.

Security men also are there to monitor the movement around the open space if there are people who may cause problems to others who visited the open space and calm the situation.



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3.1.4 Challenges in managing property

- **Financial constraints:** 87% of the participants stipulated financial capability in constructing more open spaces and managing them.
- **Small Commercial activities:** 78% said these activities can be there to respond to customers in open spaces or to feed community who visited the open spaces.
- **Lack of Electricity connectivity:** 92% responded that lack of electricity in some open spaces hinders their utilization, e.g. for users to connect computer and phones.



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4. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 CONCLUSION

However, the study observed effective utilization of the spaces though some of the challenges highlighted by Kigali residents for example the absence of electricity for them to connect their computer and phones in some of the open spaces in Kigali.

4.2 RECOMMENDATION

- Bottom Up Design Thinking of Open Spaces to meet the need of Community
- Consider the Concept of Smart in Making Open space in Cities





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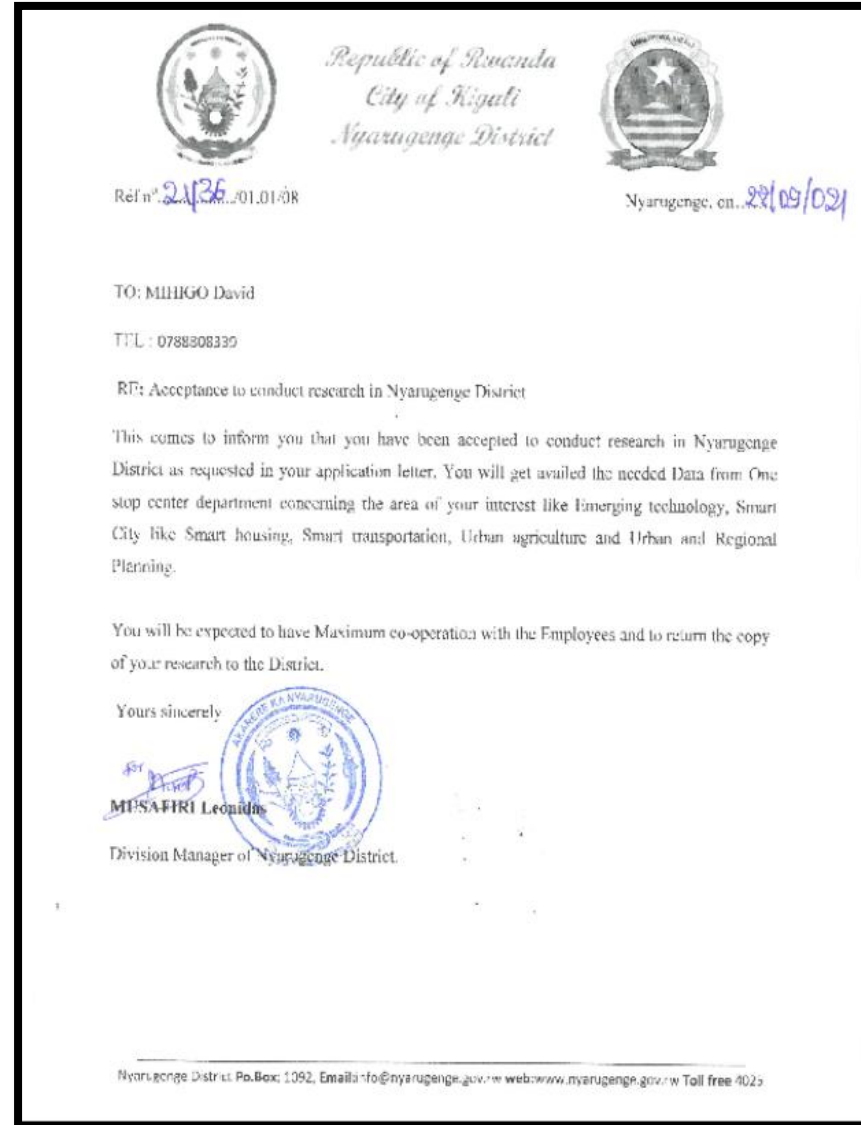
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6. APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Letter for Data Collection



INTEGRATION OF TRANSPORTATION, NEW DEVELOPMENTS AND NATURAL ENVIRONMENT



Source: Smart Growth America (2021)

SMART CITY CONCEPT AND OPEN SPACE IN THE NEAR FUTURE



Source: Hassell (2021)

END

Thank you very much for your attention!

非常感谢您的关注