

Design Thinking Workshop Engaging Urban Actors in East Africa

The Living Lab of the University of Nairobi (www.livinglab.co.ke) organised in conjunction with and supported by Robert Bosch Stiftung (www.bosch-stiftung.de), a regional workshop titled "Engaging Urban Actors in East Africa". The workshop held at the Innovation Village in Kampala, Uganda from 16th - 18th August 2017, had participants from Burundi, Germany, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda. Led by Prof. Madara Ogot of the Department of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering and Dr. Amolle Ambole of the School of the Art and Design, participants explored ways to design sustainable urbanization programmes for the East African region using a design thinking approach, with a focus on promoting cross-sector collaboration between the public, private and social sector; bridging academia/science and practice; and promoting participation for sustainable urban development.

Robert Bosch Stiftung, one of Europe's largest foundations associated with a private company, runs programmes that currently focus on inclusion, social cohesion and sustainable living spaces. The University of Nairobi was proud to have partnered with RBS in mounting the workshop, the foundation's first activity in the East Africa region. The university will continue to serve as a key partner to the foundation as it seeks to develop and implement programmes within the region.

"We were proud to have been involved, and look forward to even more substantive engagement with RBS. This is in line with our mission at the University of Nairobi to align the aspirations of our people and the global community. In this case it was accomplished through co-creation," Prof. Madara Ogot explained at the workshop.

A key outcome of the workshop was the formation of a network among the urban actor participants to foster greater collaboration in the region, across sectors, in promoting sustainable urban development.



Participants and Organizers at the Workshop

