Expert opinions and recommendations
On the logic of the
Slum Prosperity Framework (SPF)

INTRODUCTION

The framework infuses principles of prosperity –Do you think infusing applicable prosperity practice guides as part of basic design for a slum intervention guide will be useful in guiding stakeholders towards most the effective outcomes with impact on livelihoods if implemented?

Sure, Yes.

The way I look at [….] I understand you are into improving slums within the city set-up, I don't have any comment on that because everything you've said I am in agreement with it. I think there is no need for me to start saying anything if I am ok with what you have said [….] for want of time, but I think I am in agreement with everything as it relates to what you have said so far. But subsequent discussion if there is anything I need to add I won't hesitate to do that.

The SPF proposes the use of the SPM -- Do you think it is useful to take time and comprehensively understand any slum before intervention? Do you also think having a conceptual framework of slum properties and a systematic outline to guide how they can be described will be useful to stakeholders if they were to consider this exercise?

With the mapping, can we call it the same as scanning? When we say mapping in development world, when you map an area you know what is existence within that slum, waste, source of water etc, everything. When you say mapping, it is for you to have, like a [….] of the slum […]. If perhaps now we go to Zaria, we go to a slum within Zaria, you know things you can map within that slum. where they put waste, where they get water [….]. So, I understand with mapping and is the same thing as scanning – what is there, what is available, what are the people using their hospital etc. so go on.
(I explain about the categories look at in the framework to capture the complete image of slums – physical and social also, not just physical)
 I will say yes, but no, (that it is useful), why are you limiting yourself to only thirteen clusters? (in his view it is too little to capture the slum)
(I explain that there are sub-properties, the categorization is to give it conceptual structure)
Then I think that is very useful. I just hope the sub-properties will not make it confusing?
(I explain that I use both number and color coding to try and simplify the framework)
Ok. Well done.

The SPM proposes associations as tags/anchor properties – Do you think it is useful to engage in doing this activity as an initial strategy for slum intervention? How applicable, in a practical context, do you think it will be to have such information on how all the various aspects of the slum and in the city, contribute to how it is as a basic documentation for intervention?

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Sequencing like that [….], but they have to link?

It is useful, but I think you need to dig further to see the connection between the triggers and what leads to it, because []

(I further explain about the links I analyse and suggest should be explored, and say that I was using examples to explain the framework to him)

If that is the case, then we are in agreement. […..] your example misled me a little bit.

 [….] if you are talking about distance, must of our GRAs [….] it is far away from the city centre, but they seem to be well planned. [] except that in most cases some of these high-brow areas that are developed outside city centres, don't have most of the infrastructure, so if you are using infrastructure as a criteria fir a slum it is not so. So, that is why I say you need to dig deeper [….].

The narratives present stakeholders with a throve of basic, interactive and applicable knowledge – Does it seem like a useful strategy for stakeholders to avail themselves with such rich information and applicable frames of action whilst approaching slum intervention?

I feel it is because we have a clear case here. There is this AFDB loan [….]. it applies to one of the things we are looking at. There is the AFDB loan given to the FCT, and what they are looking at within the slum area is to influence their waste collection spots, their drainage, their markets, you understand. Then empower them by having water reservoirs, even defaecation outside they provide them with the basic WASH programme. Once the y have this basic infrastructure [] it triggers. It agrees with what you are saying, exactly.

Essentially also, the narration of the slum provides a slum map that can be analysed to position it in relation to areas of prosperity – Do you consider that presenting stakeholders with tools to design for prosperity that is appropriate to the character of a slum and supported by an analysis of pathways to take will be useful in augmenting endeavours towards effective and inclusive slum intervention?

It is practical, but I need some example to buttress my points [] why do we improve slums? [….] because when you open a slum, it keeps people busy, and what the slum can bring to the city is you r driver your house girls…. they will have somewhere cheaper to stay, and then crime rate will be reduced because they are also a little bit busy [….] . so [….] I would like to hear what indicators you are using to measure [….] the effect of the slum to the city [] and the effect of the city to the slum.to me it is a push and pull , there is what the city is benefitting from the slum, and there is what the slum is also benefitting from the city. All the points are linked here [….]. if you take good care of the slum, then most of the city ….[….]. so, we are in agreement. We can proceed.

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The SPF also proposes that the design of intervention to improve livelihoods, should consider the appropriate needs of the people – Do you consider this to be an applicable strategy in slum intervention?

Right. It is very, very, important. It is.

Cities take different paths to prosperity, and economic considerations are a driving influence in slum management – Does seeking brokers and partners within the comprehensive character of the slum, and its community to contribute towards effective slum intervention and enhancing prosperity seem like a useful strategy? Do you consider it an applicable strategy if it will be beneficial in improving both slum and city profiles – economic and social?

Yes, at the end of the day, if you improve their economic wellbeing, they can pay tax. And you will have more money to do more things within the city a [….] and you can provide educational infrastructure, yo can provivide mas transit [….] and once you have mass transit you make more money you male more people socially mobile [….], you can have small markets, and as people within the slum go into small horticulture [….], then you have some of the non- communicable e diseases that will reduce. So [….] you get healthier in the city, and make money in the slum at the end of the day it is a two-way thing [….].
So, it very beneficial. Yes.

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In addressing the complex nature of slums, and *effectively* pursuing prosperity, I argue that it is important to have a framework which is systematic – Does it seem like an applicable strategy for stakeholders to approach intervention in slums in this way? Will such a framework be useful to implement and augment slum management?

For me it is ok. The only problem I have is that for me when you are not as strategic or very logical, then the intervention will be a little bit disjointed.
(I explain about my position on the need to be systematic in a first stage, then flexible)
Yes, it is ok. It is not a straight -jacketed sort of thing. Ok. No two communities are the same.

For clarity of representation and efficient implementation of the SPF, it proposes the use of the Social Network Analysis (SNA) – *With your knowledge of challenges that slums communities face, and those that city administrations face in slum management, do you consider the use of such a strategic analysis tool useful towards augmenting slum intervention processes? How applicable to you think a framework that uses such a strategic analysis tool will be to stakeholders in slum intervention?*

It is useful. It is helpful because at the end of the day you have what is even less of mathematical functions. And since it is simplified to excel (I told him about the SNA software I am using). May people can use excel at the [….] and basic level. So, for me it is useful. One unique thing I can see you are doing is making it as simple as possible, so that it is not how hard it is that makes the theory work, but how you simplify it so that everybody will have access just like the basic calculator. So, I think it is ok.

Would you like to provide feedback on the proposed activities for effective intervention and enhancing prosperity in the slum and city?

The only feedback I can give from what I understand, basically [….] you are working to improve the slum, [….] so for me, I think the simplification is the best thing I can see. The only feedback I can give, I think you need to look at social triggers carefully and more in detail.

(I told him about my research argument about looking at more salient social characters of the slum).

The other thing I would want to ask, is [….] are you looking at specific slum areas?

(I told him about my research aim, and my case study and why I picked Garki village).

Why I am asking is you know there are global slum areas, I have seen some, and I am sure you have seen some also, I have seen slum in Nairobi, I have seen favela. And you made a very important point about commonality of challenges of slum globally, but [….] I think there are certain things that are different or unique about sub-Saharan African slums [….] in other areas they do a lot of study on certain vices of society in their slums, whereas ours we turn them to an entertainment centres. You understand me. These are the things I would like you to look at. Those salient differences and attributes of slums in developed cities. Ours have

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become entertainment centres, whilst theirs are used as study centres. [….] to see what they can do to make impact.

Can you do a focus group discussion [….]?

(I explain to him that one of my arguments is the dearth of knowledge and capacity building with regards slums in sub-Saharan Africa).

I still want you to dig down into the Garki slum much more, and if you can organize a focus group discussion [….].

Would you also be interested in further communications to let you know the outcomes of research or other information regarding it that is of interest to you?

Yes, of course [….]. we are city managers within the FCT system [….]. and if you need any further assistance or anything we can help you with back in Nigeria we will be very willing.

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