Megacities on the edge

Design, Architecture



Future cities will be urban nightmares. As seen in the research conducted by KPMG Africa (2013), megacities are extremely unsustainable. This results from the fact that the cities continue to expand and increase in population. On the other hand, non- human nature is slowly depleted. It is even worse with the thought that no younger cities are growing or economies. This explains an automatic stagnation in the cities that is characterized by the rising poverty levels and primitive society.

Megacities will also become a city of despair going with the fact the rise of cities has become the source of pollution and other harms to the human body. KPMG Africa (2013) explains how the growth of cities has affected the cities in terms of the pollution from the smoke emitted from different forms, different types of foods have been chemicalized, and even the water for consumption has been polluted. It is worse to see how the human population is struggling to adjust to these changes. Some of the human species struggle to adjust to the changes in globalization (KPMG Africa, 2013; MlrdnTv, 2014). The status of the humans has, therefore, become extremely complex with them dealing with issues that result from urbanization such as climatic changes, deforestation and even technology.

KPMG Africa (2013) continues to explain how the process of urbanization has been linked to high levels of poverty, high unemployment levels and food uncertainties. This trickles down to the access to health opportunities, other basic necessities such as water and sanitation services. This explains that in as much the population in the urban centres may be a working population, they live in terrible conditions. The growth process will then be slowed down

since the cities will be extremely impoverished and will not meet the needs of all persons.

Nonetheless, megacities can be termed as major sources of opportunity. KPMG Africa (2013) is of the opinion that the megacities have a promising future for the growing population. This is through the provision of employment opportunities for different people that is expected to translate into improved living conditions. The growth of megacities is also linked to the creation of urban policies that are expected to provide resourceful resolutions to the problems that face the megacities such as poor planning (KPMG Africa, 2013).

In conclusion, it is evident that megacities provide more opportunities for the megacities becoming urban nightmares of despair as opposed to them being sustainable cities of hope. With the passing of years, it is expected that more cities will crop up. Issues of lack of basic necessities such as water, poor sanitation, and health facilities amongst others will be existent.