

CITIES IMPROVING AIR QUALITY IN AFRICA

Promising practices from five cities

Breathe Life Campaign Workshop
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Isabel Wetzel
Coordinator, Greener Cities Partnership
UN-Habitat and UN Environment

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Why African cities

- Fast population growth & newly-emerging spatial configurations
- Poverty and inequality
- Late urbanization → governance and planning issues
- Different impacts → retrofitting vs. building new sustainable systems
- Unique development challenge
- Greener solutions are needed



PUBLICATION

- Will be launched in summer 2018
- 3 UN organizations joined hands

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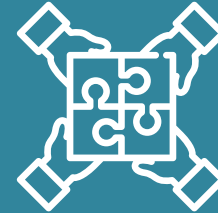
UN
environment



**World Health
Organization**

- Gives an overview of 5 cities' efforts in reducing air pollution
- Report is aimed at partners, experts, stakeholders, national and local government officials

Partner
engagement



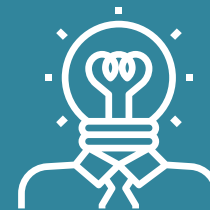
Knowledge
sharing



Capacity building



Innovation



Air quality
information

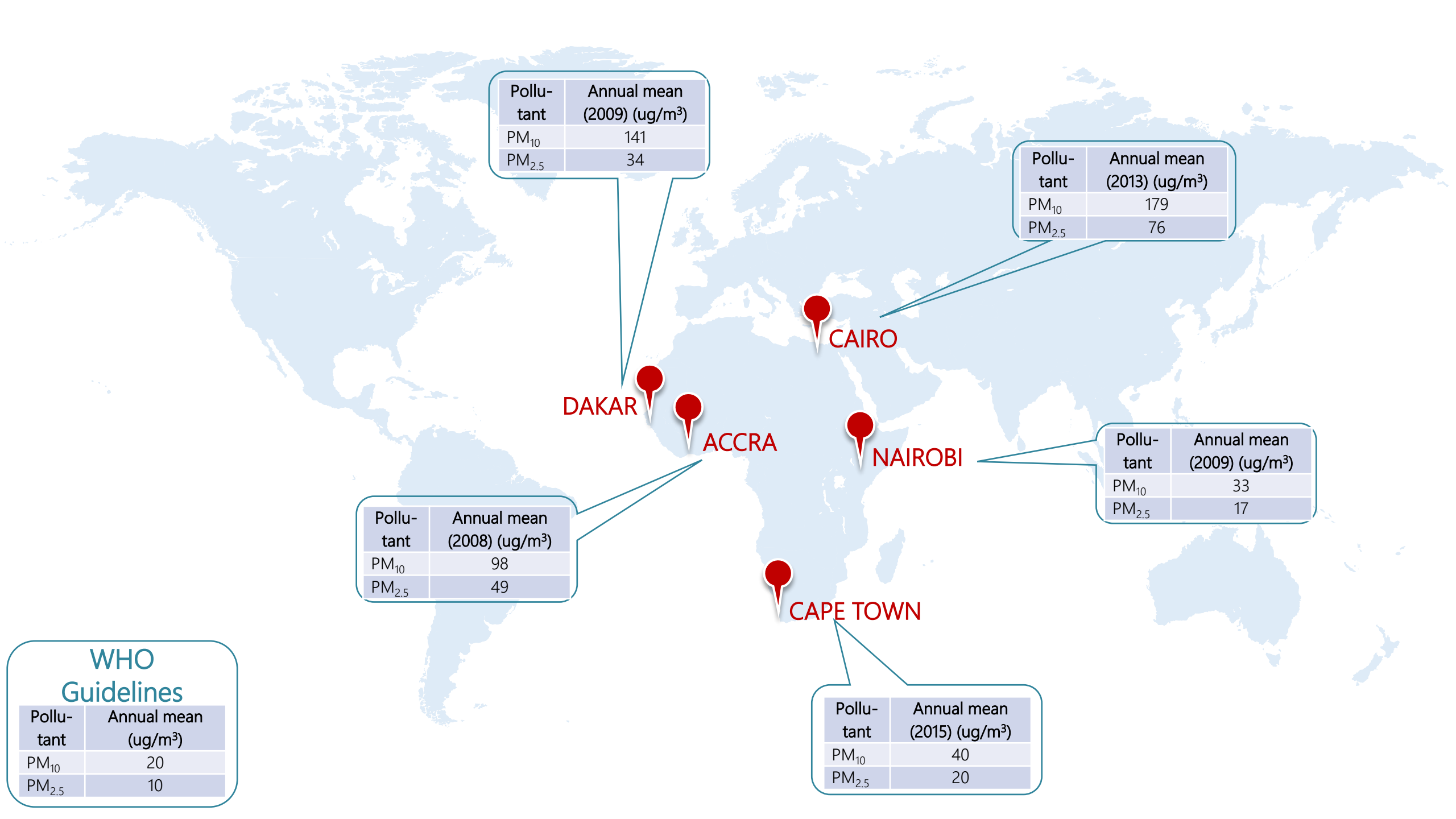


Dissemination
and awareness



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Promising Practices



Pollutant	Annual mean (2009) (ug/m ³)
PM ₁₀	141
PM _{2.5}	34

Pollutant	Annual mean (2013) (ug/m ³)
PM ₁₀	179
PM _{2.5}	76

Pollutant	Annual mean (2009) (ug/m ³)
PM ₁₀	33
PM _{2.5}	17

Pollutant	Annual mean (2008) (ug/m ³)
PM ₁₀	98
PM _{2.5}	49

Pollutant	Annual mean (2015) (ug/m ³)
PM ₁₀	40
PM _{2.5}	20

WHO Guidelines

Pollutant	Annual mean (ug/m ³)
PM ₁₀	20
PM _{2.5}	10

DAKAR

ACCRA

CAIRO

NAIROBI

CAPE TOWN

CHALLENGES

NAIROBI

- Geographical location
- Local governance to address pollution spatially
- Variability (or lack) of accurate data

ACCRA

- No comprehensive policy on air quality

CAIRO

- Many external factors
- Centralized decision-making
- Despite sectoral government policies, no drastic improvements in AQ overall



PROMISING PRACTICES

CAPE TOWN

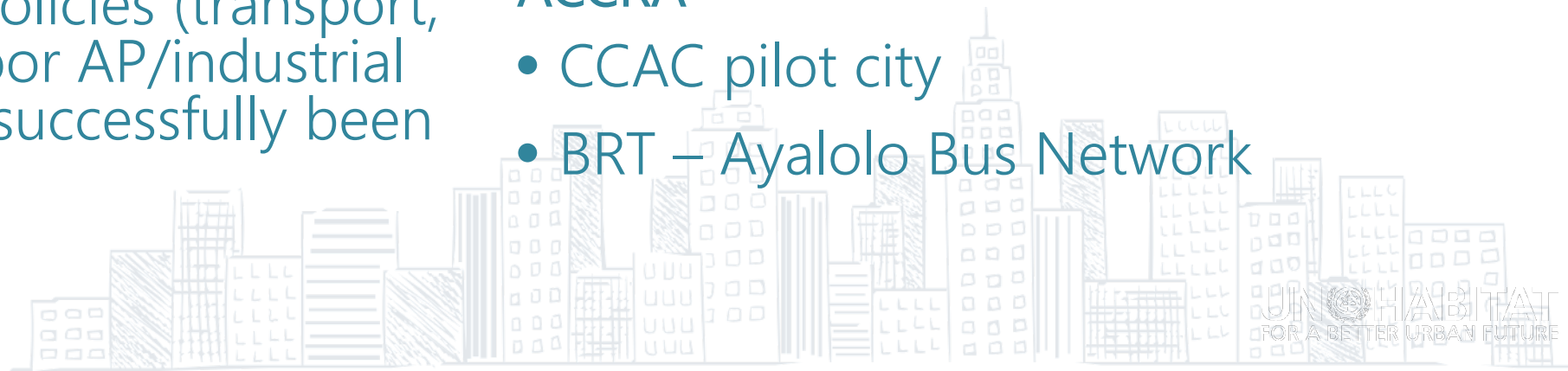
- AQ monitored nationally and locally
- Only African country that has ambient AQ standards enforced by air quality laws and regulations
- Many sectoral policies (transport, e.g. MyCiti, indoor AP/industrial pollution) have successfully been implemented

DAKAR

- Environmental Code has been addressing AQ since 2001
- Leading example for Africa in transparently sharing air quality data → available publicly & freely

ACCRA

- CCAC pilot city
- BRT – Ayalolo Bus Network



Main findings

1. MONITORING

- Severe lack of data
- Different short and long term solutions have to be tailored



Main findings

2. INVENTORY/SOURCES

- Identified main air pollution issues
- Drastic measures are needed at national and local levels
- No one-size-fits-all solution



Main findings

3. IMPACTS

- Air quality in African cities is an environmental justice issue
- Inequality worsens impacts



Main findings

4. ACTION PLANNING

- Few cities have engaged in comprehensive air quality action planning
- Possible solutions: integration or stand-alone



Main findings

5. GOVERNANCE

- Multi-level governance approach to air quality is vital



Way forward

- Raise awareness on the issue
- Partnerships on multiple levels
- African cities are at a turning point
- May need assistance putting systems (governance, infrastructure, monitoring etc.) in place



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