

Shifting Planning Processes

Learning from the South?

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de Louvain





- 
- An aerial photograph of a densely populated urban area, likely in the Global South, showing a grid-like street pattern and numerous small, closely packed buildings. A semi-transparent white rectangular box is overlaid on the left side of the image, containing a numbered list. The list items are: 1. Urban Planning Context in the Global South, 2. Alternative Planning Processes, and 3. Discussion. The background image shows various street names and building footprints, with some areas appearing more developed than others.
1. Urban Planning Context in the Global South
 2. Alternative Planning Processes
 3. Discussion

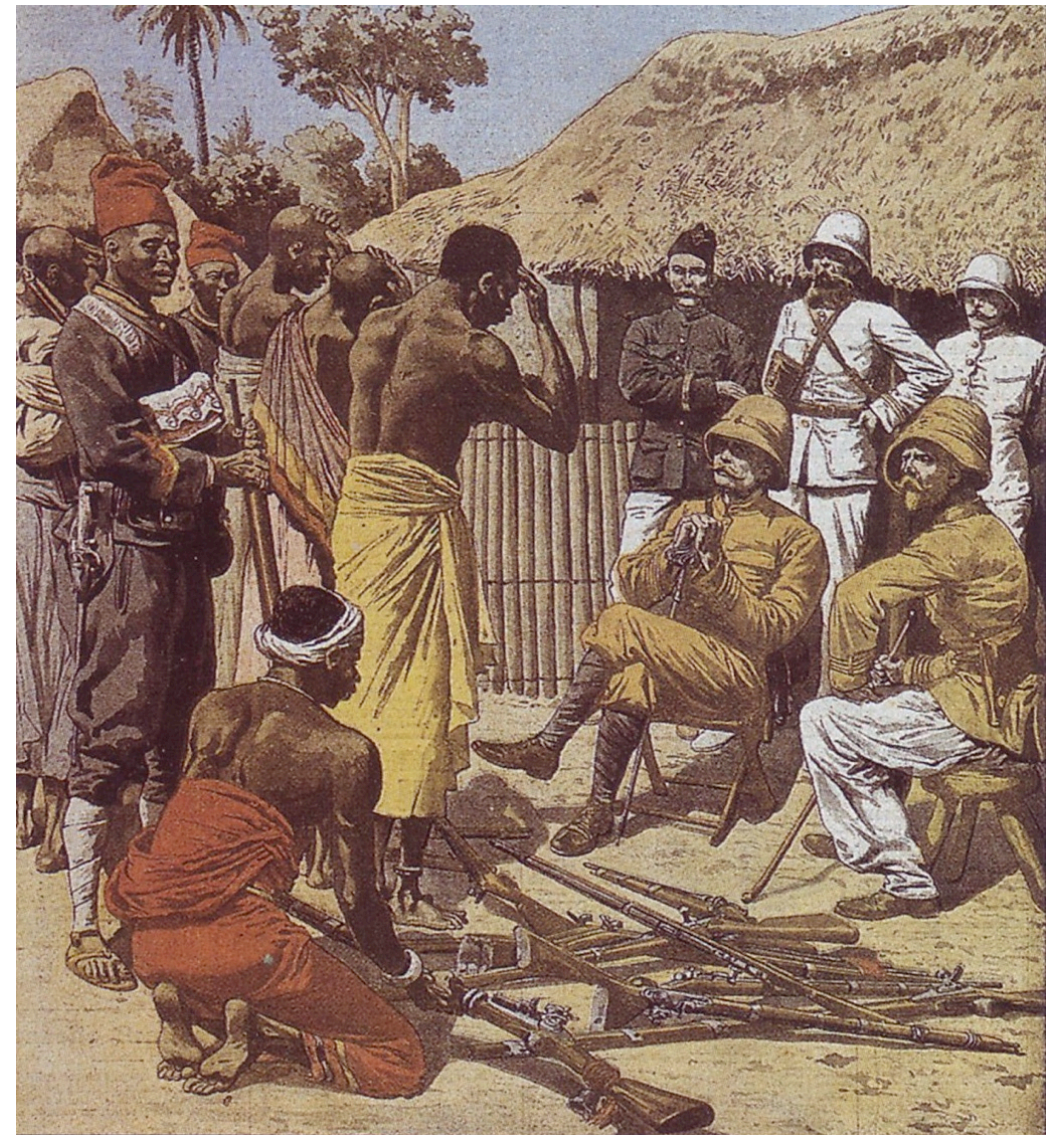
Urban Planning Context (I)

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- Complexity

Urban Planning Context (I)

- Complexity
 - multiplicity of norms

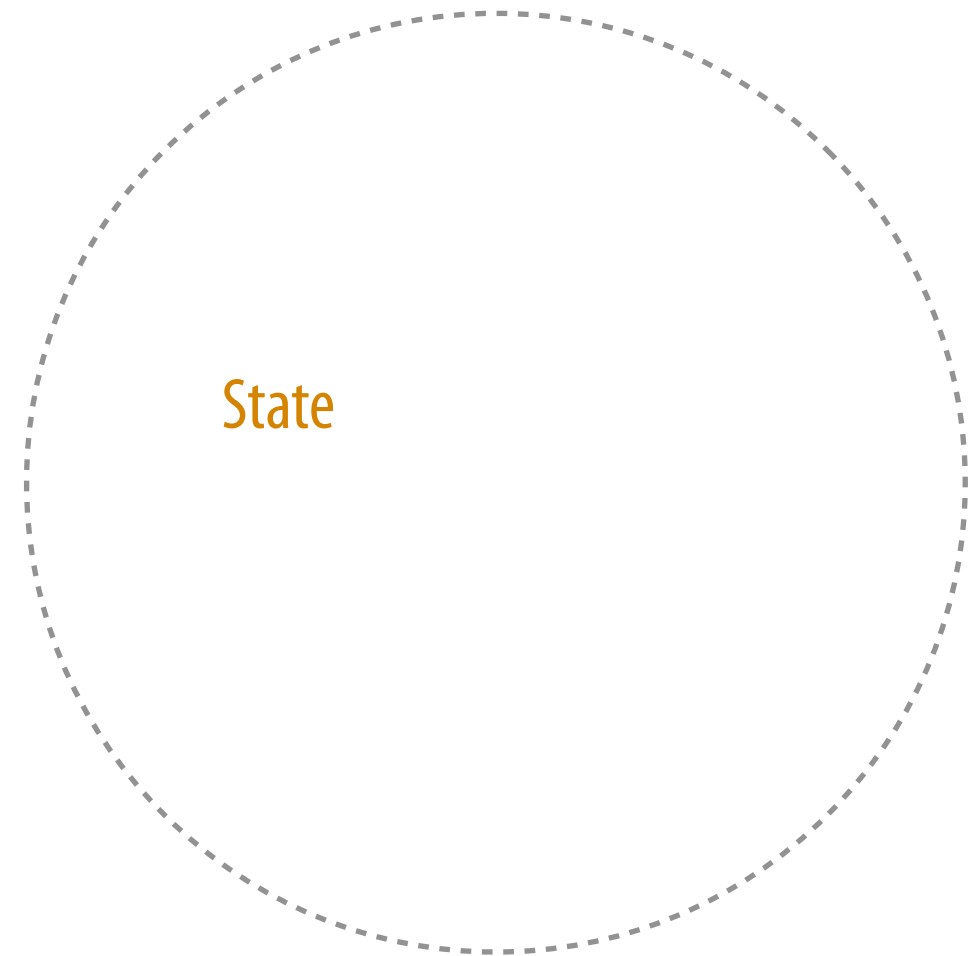


Urban Planning Context (I)

- Complexity
 - multiplicity of norms
 - multiplicity of stakeholders

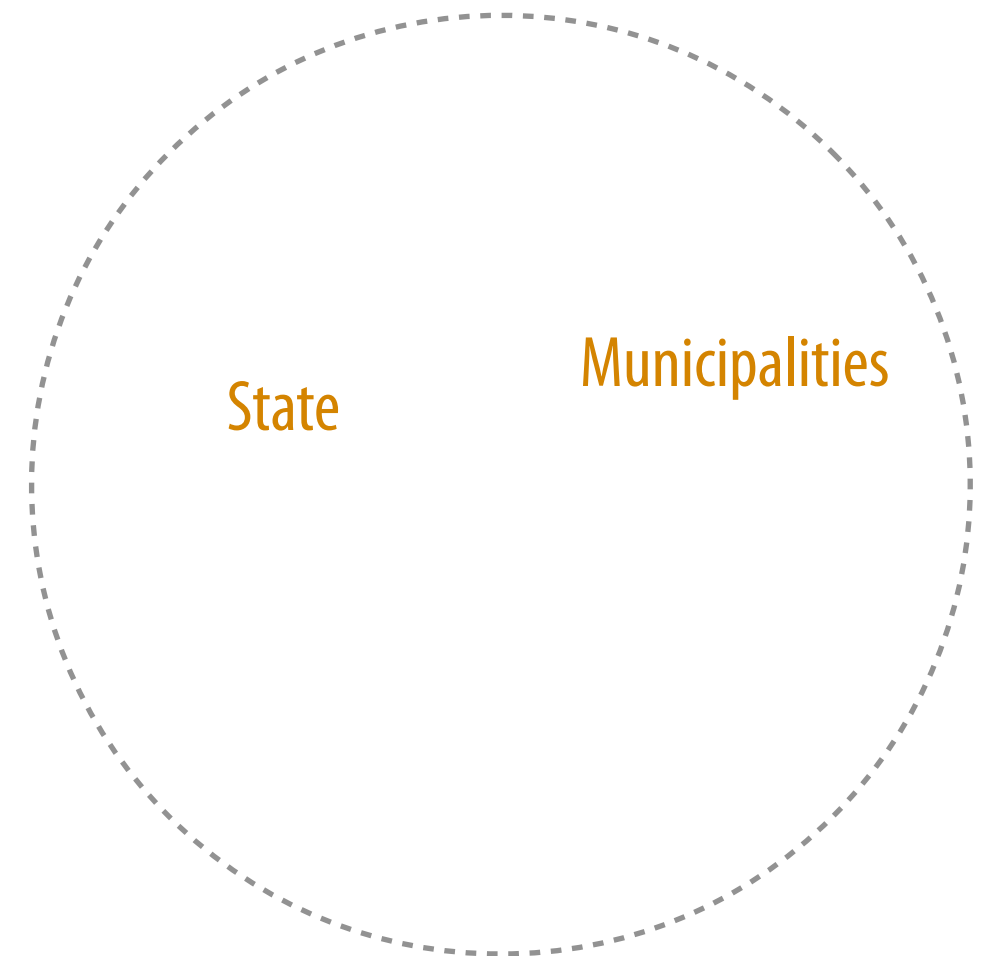
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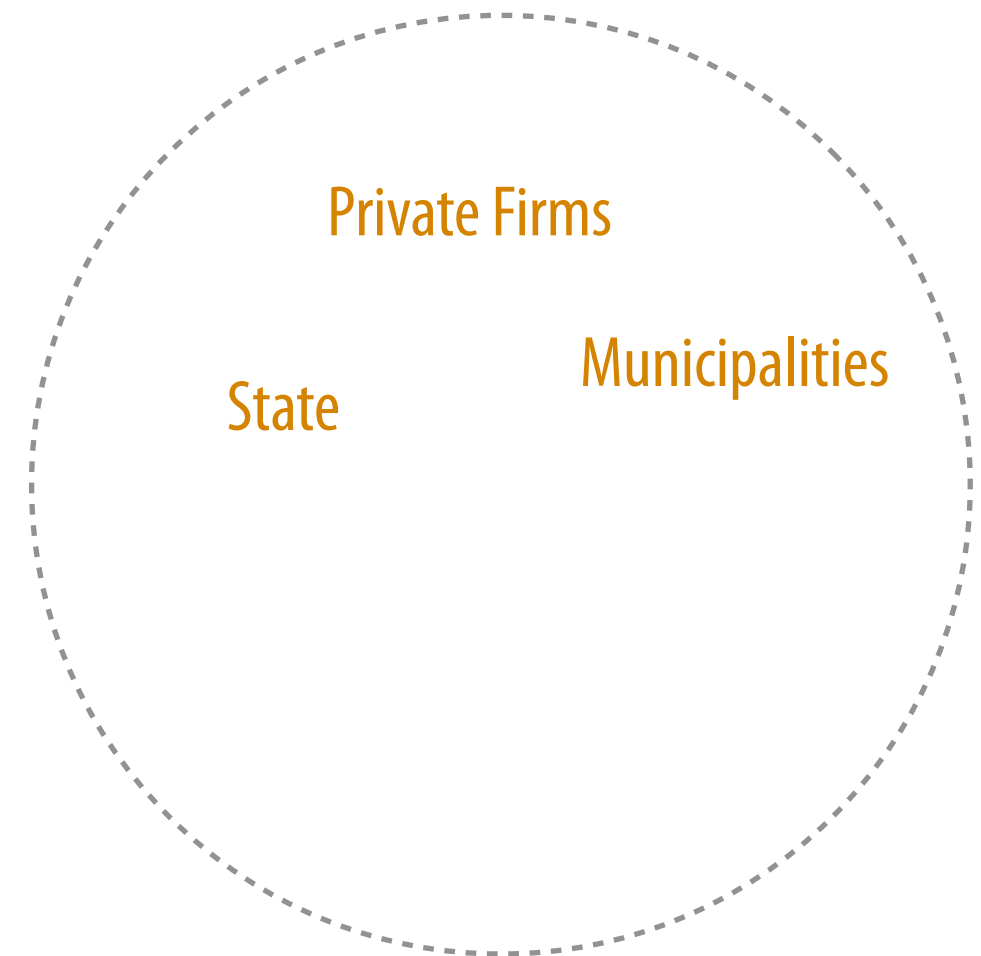
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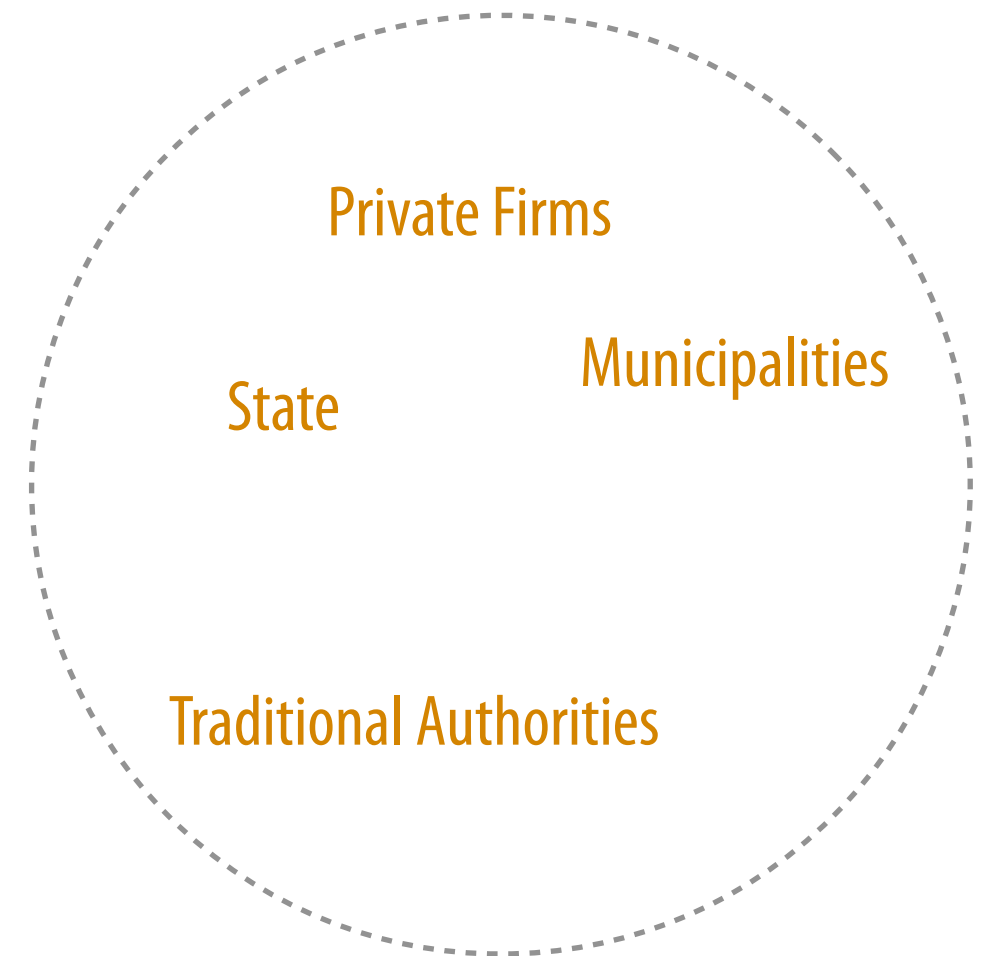
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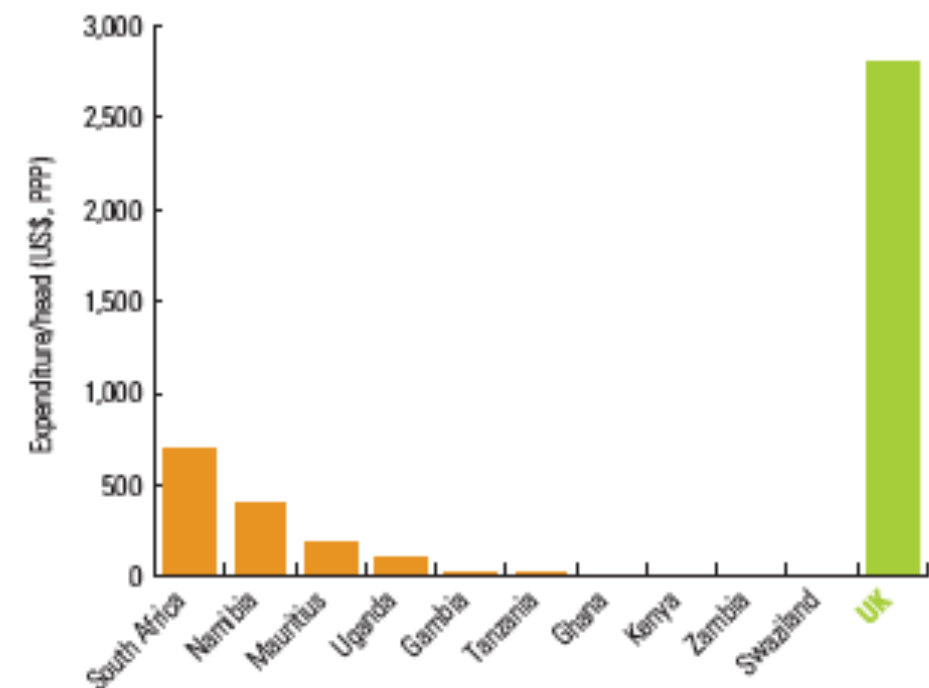
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Urban Planning Context (I)

- Complexity
 - multiplicity of norms
 - multiplicity of stakeholders
 - structural gap between needs and means

GRAPH 1.6: LOCAL AUTHORITY SPENDING IN SELECTED AFRICAN COUNTRIES (COMPARED WITH UK, 2003)



Source: Dirie, I, *Municipal Finance, Coventry: Commonwealth Local Government Forum, 2005*

Urban Planning Context (2)

- Complexity
- Uncertainty

Urban Planning Context (2)

- Complexity
- Uncertainty
 - aid-dependence



Urban Planning Context (2)

- Complexity
- Uncertainty
 - aid-dependence
 - political and natural instability



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Urban Planning Context (2)

- Complexity
- Uncertainty
 - aid-dependence
 - political and natural instability
 - globalization



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Urban Planning Context (3)

- Complexity
 - Uncertainty
 - aid-dependence
 - political and natural instability
 - globalization
- *complexity and uncertainty are not exclusive to the North!*

The Situation of Urban Planning

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- unimplemented master planning

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- nevertheless cities get built and "function"!

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-
- ▶ *What if the informal rules were to represent an alternative form of urban planning?*

A Postcolonial Perspective

- *"the exemplary expression of failed, distorted, or stalled urbanism"*?
(Myers & Murray, 2006; p.6 - and also: Mbembe & Nuttall, 2004; Myers, 2011; Pieterse, 2009; Simone, 2004; Watson, 2009)

A Postcolonial Perspective

- "*the exemplary expression of failed, distorted, or stalled urbanism*"?
(Myers & Murray, 2006; p.6 - and also: Mbembe & Nutall, 2004; Myers, 2011; Pieterse, 2009; Simone, 2004; Watson, 2009)
- or "*actually existing urbanisms*" (Shatkin, 2011)?

Alternative Planning Processes

- "*informality as a place-making process*" (Myers & Murray, 2006; p.16)

Alternative Planning Processes

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 - Pragmatic solutions for basic service provision (Jaglin, Quénot)

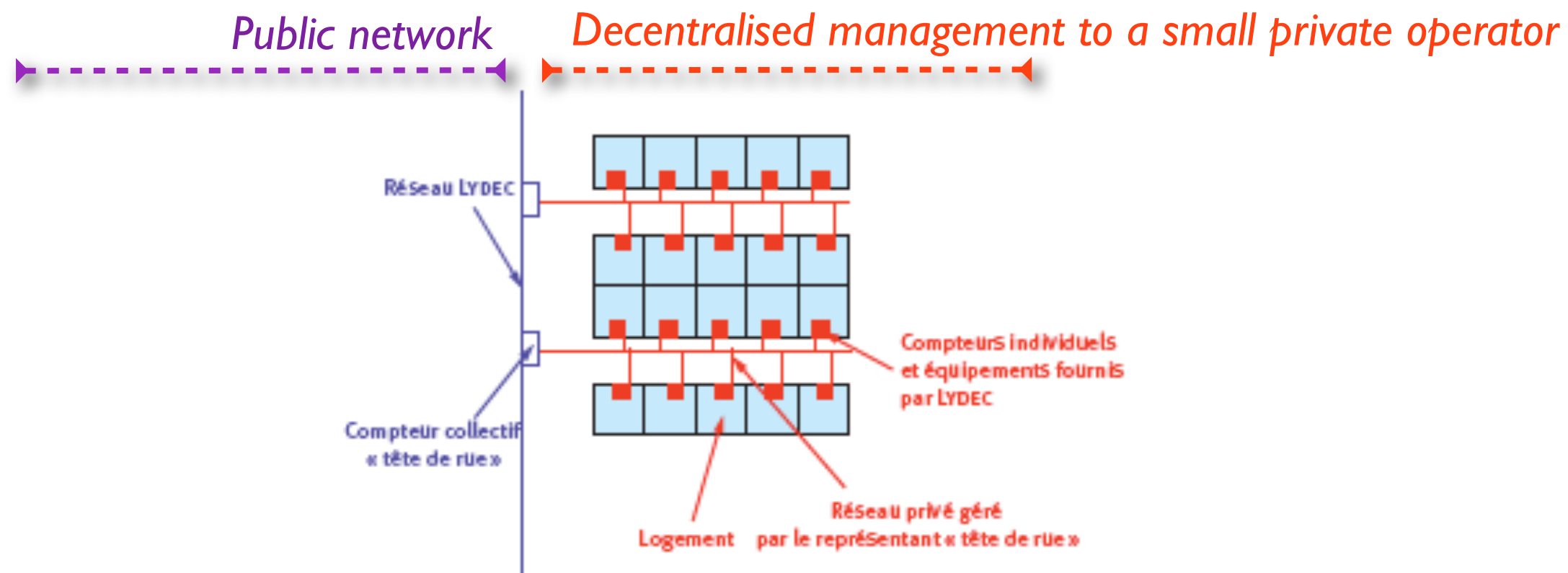
From informal
connexion...



From informal
connexion...



...to formal delegation (*Casablanca, Morocco*)



Alternative Planning Processes

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 - "*occupancy urbanism*" (Benjamin, 2008)

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- ▶ *What kind of governance?*

Urban Governance

- A flexible, pragmatic, and gradual process of mutual adjustment between urban stakeholders
- Flexible
- Gradual
- Multi-located

Discussion on Limits

- Pragmatic forms of planning and governance that prevent extreme poverty and exclusion, and buffer precariousness...
- ...but that can also serve immoral purposes

► *Further research regarding ethics and justice*

Conclusion

- (Potential) Contribution of literature on the Global South to urban theory and practice
- A need of comparative case studies

Thank you for your attention



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