

Trading Places: Accessing land in African cities

Chapter 1

Land and markets in African cities: Time for a new lens?

Mark Napier

CSIR, Built Environment, Pretoria, South Africa, 0001

MNapier@csir.co.za

Abstract

Most people living in cities in Africa live outside of the legal system, without clear rights to the land they occupy. These pieces of land make up the so-called slums which surround and permeate most growing cities, and which are home to between half and three quarters of African urban residents.