



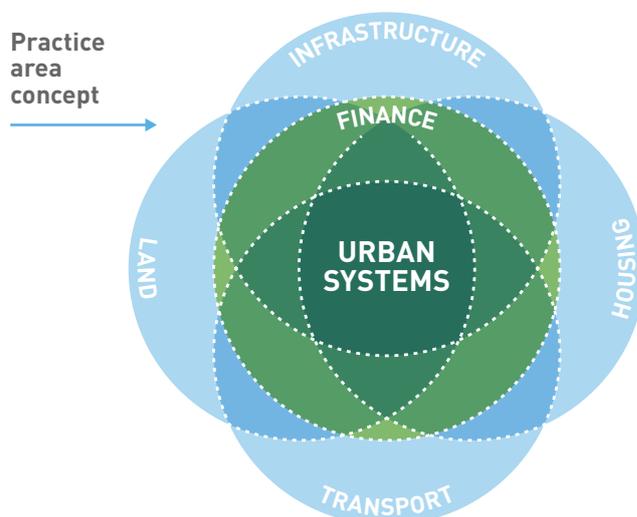
# URBAN SYSTEMS

The **Urban Systems practice area** focuses on the interaction between land, housing, infrastructure and public transport, with a focus on how these are financed. Our interest is in how cities function to facilitate the flow of people and resources to benefit the economy and the quality of life for citizens. Given the vast social inequalities that exist in South Africa, urban systems need to ensure basic service provision and shelter for all residents, particularly the poor. In the African context of increased urbanization, government needs to be able to respond to urbanization through the provision of services and housing, while balancing investments in existing assets and infrastructure that supports economic growth, all the while protecting the environment.

We provide consulting services around a full suite of public sector functions to clients that are tasked with integrating these functions, as well as those that have a larger policy perspective.

We undertake research, policy development, and financial analysis around housing, land, spatial planning, infrastructure services, public transport, public services, and environmental sustainability. Our particular niche is quantitative modelling to assess the impact of policy responses to city growth scenarios. Our skills include GIS mapping and modelling, service demand modelling, infrastructure costing, housing supply and demand

Practice area concept



modelling and cost-benefit analyses. Our research and analysis provides qualitative and quantitative evidence to support public policy and implementation decisions that serve the greatest public interest

**Practice Area Leader:**

Brendon van Niekerk  
+27 21 6711402 / brendon@pdg.co.za

**KEY PROJECTS:**

**City of Cape Town Medium-Term Infrastructure Investment Framework,**  
City of Cape Town,  
2015-2017

**Development of a Housing Strategy Tool for South African Metros,**  
National Treasury Cities Support Programme,  
2018-2019

**Development of a Fiscal Impact Tool for South African Municipalities,**  
South African Cities Network and National Treasury Cities Support Programme, 2014-2016

**Gauteng Infrastructure Investment Master Plan,**  
Gauteng Office of the Premier,  
2014-2015

**Land-based financing in Sub-Saharan Africa,**  
UK DFID,  
2014-2015