

REAL GOVERNANCE IN KINSHASA

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Abstract

How do people relate to dominant political and economic structures in Kinshasa: how do they navigate these pressures, contest them, and/or become part of them? In doing so, it unpacks the various ways in which people make use of personal connections ('branchement'), and what this tells us about the nature of the state and governance in Kinshasa. The project does so by looking at a number of spaces, in particular the transportation- and police-services (the street spaces); markets (the market spaces), soccer (spaces of pleasure), urban planning (the city space), the health sector and civil servants (the state spaces). In doing so, the project analyses the interaction between broader structural circumstances and the agency of the wider population – in other words, the “resourcefulness, inventiveness, and determination” (Murray and Myers 2006: 2) of urban residents in the light of political and economic structures beyond their control.



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Keywords

1. Kinshasa
2. Democratic Republic of Congo
3. Urban governance
4. Statehood

Output so far

- Book contract with Bloomsbury
- Titeca, Kristof and Albert Malukisa Nkuku (2022) '[The politics of football in Kinshasa: power, profit and protest](#)', IOB working paper, 2022.07
- Malukisa Nkuku, Albert and Kristof Titeca (2019). [The public transport sector in Kinshasa: the battle around the spirit of death](#). In Negotiating public services in the Congo, De Herdt, Tom and Titeca, Kristof (edit.). London, Zed Books
- Titeca, K. and A. Malukisa Nkuku (2019) '[Urban governance through personal connections: Kinshasa and its unlawful constructions](#)'. Secure Livelihoods Research Consortium working paper 66
- Malukisa Nkuku, Albert and Kristof Titeca (2018) '[Market governance in Kinshasa: the competition for informal revenue through 'connections' \(branchement\)](#)'. IOB Working Paper 2018.03

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Timeline

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