

Real Estate Markets and Housing Finance Dynamics- Contextualizing Real Estate Education in Eastern Africa

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Key words: Capacity building; Curricula; Education; Real estate development

SUMMARY

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Abstract

During the last two decades, the Africa Union has witnessed sustained efforts on strategic re-orientation of its members' national economies in grappling with the changing world trade business environment. While, financial and commercial sectors appear to have registered significant transformations in adapting to the advancing digitization age, real estate education has been slow in the process. A paradigm shift in real estate education is wanting to warrant matching education needs with technological, social and educational trends (Kampamba, et al., 2015) (Schulte, 2013).

This paper surveys existing body of knowledge on real estate education, its requirement for interdisciplinarity of skills and the often misconception of prevalence of property valuation on the other skills. It attempts to evaluate relevance of real estate education to the industry focusing on selected universities within Eastern Africa amidst debates in recent real estate conferences within the region.

The paper alludes to similar findings on the symbiotic relationship that exists between real estate and built environment sciences and real estate and finance. Drawing conclusions from interviews and desktop reviews, it is premised that real estate education is asymptomatic to both built environment and finance disciplines. Leaning towards either built environment or business is not enough but more important how real estate education fits in the two schools and maintains its influencing role on efficient and effective use of the limited capital resources in a fast-growing

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digital world.

Keywords: Curricula integration, Digital invasion, Employability

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