

The Atlas of Uncertainty is a collaboration between dozens of the world's leading academics on migration and urban centres and artists from Accra, Nairobi, and Johannesburg.

The Atlas uses an interdisciplinary approach, drawing insights from urban planning, sociology, anthropology, and art, integrating survey data from “gateway cities” in Ghana, Kenya, and South Africa. The multi-format project includes art, essays, music, stories, poems, and data.

The project is an exploration of how people shape urban spaces and futures in fragmented, uncertain, and rapidly changing cities. It reimagines cartography by blending personal stories, positionality, and artistic interpretation with statistical data, challenging traditional maps that often obscure sentiment to maintain objectivity.

Drawing on work showcased at the 2023 Venice Biennale, the Atlas evokes sensorial and embodied experiences, pushing beyond conventional representations of African cities and embracing the ambiguities that define urban life. It aims to inspire new perspectives on African urbanism and mobility, engaging diverse audiences to think critically about the future of cities and the human experience within them.

The project includes:

- **Atlas Art Book:** Essays, reflections, and mixed media pieces are accompanied by art and visual data drawn from research.
- **Exhibition:** An interactive exhibition at Point of Order in Johannesburg in May 2025 allows visitors to map journeys, explore soundscapes, and engage with data. Exhibitions are also planned for Accra, Nairobi, Europe and the U.S.
- **Digital Platform:** An immersive website expands accessibility, with social media enhancing outreach to wider audiences.

The Atlas is a project of the [Oxford/Wits Mobility Governance Lab](#) and the [African Centre for Migration and Society](#), the continent's leading scholarly institution for research and teaching on human mobility.

