TOWARDS	EFFECTIVE	SELF-HELP	HOUSING	DELIVERY:
CONTRIBUTI	ONS THROUG	SH NETWORK	ANALYSIS	IN NAIROBI,
KENYA AND	JOHANNESBU	JRG, SOUTH AI	FRICA	
		,		
Alfred Odhiam	ibo Omenya			
Thesis submitted	to the Faculty of I	Engineering and the	Built Environm	nent, University of
		of the requirement		
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Dedication

This work is dedicated to my wife, Tabitha and my son Carey, whose personal sacrifices have made my studies possible.

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Sections of this study have been subject to seminars, conferences and publications, including the ones described hereafter. Theoretical material from Chapter Four and case study materials on Dandora and Ivory Park (from Chapters Five and Six respectively) was published as conference proceedings at the National Conference on Housing in the Next Decade: Quo Vadis? Cape Town, 3rd to 6th October 2004, under the title: "Housing networks in different political economies: the cases of Ivory Park, Johannesburg and Dandora, Kenya". Some material, in Chapter Three and Four, was used to develop the publication: Omenya, A. (2005) A Networks Approach to Understanding the Role of the Market and the State in Housing: the Cases of Nairobi, Kenya and Johannesburg South Africa, Discovery and Innovation, 17(3/4: 148 - 155). An earlier version of the paper was published as conference proceedings in an international conference on *Housing in the 21*st Century, Challenges and Commitments, in Hong Kong, 2nd- 4th February 2004. Some material from Chapter Six was used in another conference paper: Omenya, A. (2004) "Myths and realities of segregation in post-apartheid human settlements in Johannesburg", presented at an International working-conference on Countering Urban Segregation, Amsterdam, 14th-15th October 2004. Sections of Chapter Three contributed to a conference paper: Omenya, A. & Talukhaba, A. (2005) "Bottlenecks of access to housing finance by the low-income in Kenya and South Africa", presented in the Construction Industry Development Board (CIDB) Conference, Johannesburg, October. The paper received an award for the best paper in that conference and has been accepted for publication in *Development Southern Africa*. Some material from Chapter Three has been used in a paper titled: "A thin veil of protection: fragility of informal tenure in Nairobi and Johannesburg", presented at an international conference on: *Homelessness a Global Perspective*, New Delhi, India 9th – 13th January 2006. At a more general level, the study on housing policy in Nairobi informed the book chapter: Omenya, A. & Huchzermeyer, M. (2006) Slum upgrading in the complex context of policy change: the case of Nairobi, Chapter 15 (pp290-311) in Huchzermeyer, M. & Karam, A. (Eds) *Perpetual Challenge? Informal Settlements at the Local and Policy Level*. Cape Town: Juta/UCT Press.

The research work, in progress, was awarded the 'Housing Student of the Year Award' (2004) by the Institute for Housing in South Africa (Gauteng Branch).

Declaration

I declare that this research thesis is my own, unaided work. It is being submitted for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Architecture) in the School of Architecture and Planning, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg. It has not been submitted before for any degree or examination in any other University.

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Abstract

This thesis deals with self-help housing networks in Nairobi, Kenya and Johannesburg, South Africa. It starts by discussing some of the current manifestations and challenges of self-help housing in the two contexts. It locates these against neo-liberal development paradigms in Kenya and South Africa. It reviews some of the main theories and concepts that have been applied to understand self-help housing, arguing that there are many issues that these lenses fail to explain. Amongst these are the relationships amongst actors and the ways resources are exchanged in self-help housing. The thesis discusses some of the key resources used for self-help housing in Nairobi and Johannesburg, namely: land, finance, labour, materials and technology, and infrastructure and services. It develops a case for network analysis of these resources and actors in self-help housing.

The second part of the thesis is dedicated to analysis of self-help housing networks in Nairobi and Johannesburg, based on empirical data. The three categories of networks analysed are: individual-based ego-centric networks; group-based networks of collective action; and content-of-ties-based networks of exchange. The study compares self-help housing networks in Nairobi and Johannesburg. On one hand, lack of the state intervention in Kenya has resulted in self-help housing in Nairobi being accessed almost exclusively through networks. On the other hand, state intervention in South Africa has resulted in weakening of ties within local groups and domination of state/market hierarchies in access to various self-help housing resources in Johannesburg.

The major conclusion from this study is that, in both cities, networks remain a viable third way of provision of housing, in addition to (not instead of) housing production through state/market hierarchies and decentralised models. Networks tend to overcome lack of inclusion dominant in state/market hierarchies and lack of capacity, endemic in decentralised models. In terms of analysis, the study shows that network theories are relevant to understanding the operations of actors and access to resources in low-income housing, complementing sector-based understanding, which remains dominant in analysis of low-income housing today.

Table of Contents

Ackno Declar Abstra Table Abbre	DedicationiiAcknowledgementiiDeclarationvAbstractviΓable of contentsviiAbbreviationsxviPhotos, Figure and Tablesxviii		
Chapt	er One: Introduction - a case for housing network analysis in Nairobi, Kenya		
and Jo	ohannesburg, South Africa		
1.1.	Introduction1		
1.2.	Political economy perspective of housing in Nairobi and Johannesburg2		
1.2.1.	Neo-liberalism and the state		
1.2.2.	Comparative socio-economic realities in Kenya and South Africa4		
1.2.3.	The past context of the current housing challenges in Nairobi and Johannesburg9		
1.2.4.	Some initial questions arising from housing challenges in Nairobi and		
	Johannesburg13		
1.3.	Situating housing networks in relation to social capital literature15		
1.3.1.	Social capital and social networks		
1.3.2.	Social networks as support systems in urban contexts		
1.3.3.	Social capital, structure and agency		
1.4.	Potential for application of network concepts to analyse self-help housing in		
	Kenya and South Africa		
1.4.1.	Network studies in Sociology and Economics		
1.4.2.	Network studies in housing and urban research		
1.4.3.	The Actor-Network Theory in organisational analysis25		
1.4.4.	Towards a working definition of housing networks28		

1.4.5.	Networks versus hierarchies29
1.4.6.	Spaces of prescription and spaces for negotiation
1.4.7.	Other network terminologies
1.5.	The main objective of the study: resources and networks34
1.6.	Research Design and Methods35
1.6.1.	Overview of the research method
1.6.2.	Relativist and qualitative approaches to network studies
1.6.3.	The comparative case study, within case study approach39
1.6.4.	Provision, production, and levels of analysis
1.6.5.	Units of analysis and variables
1.6.6.	Data collection methods
1.6.7.	A cyclical research strategy
1.7.	Conclusion
1.8. Sı	ummary and Roadmap49
	ter Two: Neo-liberalism and self-help housing in Kenya and South Africa: , practice and theory
2.1.	Introduction
2.2.	Self-help housing policy positions of the World Bank and the UN-Habitat54
2.2.1.	From sites and services to enablement: macro-economic orthodoxy in the World
	Bank's approaches to housing55
2.2.2.	Pragmatism, under neo-liberalism: UN-Habitat and self-help housing policy59
2.2.3.	Other influential international and bilateral development agencies involved in
	self-help housing62

2.3.	Reflecting on World Bank, UN and international donor agencies' influences	on
	self-help housing policies in Kenya and South Africa	64
2.3.1.	Neo-liberalism and housing policy in South Africa	65
2.3.2.	The space for self-help in South African housing policy	71
2.3.3.	The hidden hand of the World Bank and the UN-Habitat in South African ho	ousing
	policy	73
2.3.4.	Ineffective, neo-liberal, housing policy framework in Kenya	75
2.3.5.	The roles of the World Bank and UN-Habitat in Kenya's housing policy	77
2.3.6.	Tensions in self-help housing policies in Kenya and South Africa	80
2.4. 2.4.1.	Theoretical context of the self-help housing debates Neo-Marxist and neo-liberal debates on self-help housing	
2.4.2.	Contesting neo-Marxist positions on self-help housing.	84
2.4.3.	Other useful concepts for reflecting on current self-help housing issues in Ke	enya
	and South Africa	86
2.5.	Conclusion	88
Chapt	ter Three: Resources for self-help housing in Nairobi and Johannesburg	84
3.1.	Introduction	89
3.2.	Access to land by low-income groups in Kenya and South Africa	90
3.2.1.	Problems with legal and legislative frameworks for access to land in Nairol	oi and
	Johannesburg	91
3.2.2.	Failure to redress racial and economic class-based land access	94
3.2.3.	Land subsidies and invasions.	96
3.2.4.	Entrenchment of informality and illegality in access to land	98
3.3.	Access to finance for low-income housing in Kenya and South Africa	99
3.3.1.	Funding the housing policy: the role of state subsidies	100
3.3.2.	Failure of the private sector finance to reach the low-income	101

3.3.3.	Inadequacy and inappropriateness of mortgage and micro-finance for low-inc	come
	housing	105
3.3.4.	Low-income housing delivery through savings: cases from Kenya and South	
	Africa	107
3.4.	Labour, materials and building standards	113
3.4.1.	Local labour and small-scale contractor networks in Nairobi and	
	Johannesburg	113
3.4.2.	Low uptake of alternative materials and technologies for low-income	
	housing	115
3.4.3.	Contradictions in search for appropriate building standards	115
3.4.4.	Collapse of developmental control in Nairobi	117
3.5.	Infrastructure and services	121
3.5.1.	Access to basic services.	121
3.5.2.	Infrastructure and service standards	123
3.6.	Summary and conclusions	124
	ter Four: Network analysis for self-help housing in Nairobi, Kenya nnesburg, South Africa	and
4.1.	Introduction	128
4.2.	Implications of transformation of the neo-liberal state for self-help	
	housing	129
4.2.1.	Transformations of the state in developing countries and their implications for	r
	self-help housing	129
4.2.2.	Informational capitalism and consumption	131
4.2.3.	'Modes' versus 'systems of production' in self-help housing	132

4.3.	A network view of households, communities and their social and economic	
	interests	134
4.3.1.	Looking at households and community from a network perspective	135
4.3.2.	'Community without propinquity'	137
4.3.3.	Overlap of social and economic interests in the 'self-help market'	138
4.4.	From sector to network understanding of the state, market and civil society	140
4.4.1.	Mainstream understanding of the roles of the state, the market and civil socie	ety in
	self-help housing	140
4.4.2.	Re-conceptualising the relationships among the state, the market and civil	
	society	142
4.4.3.	Actors, sectors and networks	144
4.5.	Outline of key network concepts applied in analysing the field data	146
4.5.1.	Ego-centric networks	147
4.5.2.	Networks of collaborative action	149
4.5.3.	Networks of exchange.	151
	Hierarchies	
4.6.	Explanation of key relational attributes described in data collection sheets	152
4.7.	Conclusion	157
_	ter Five: Self-help housing networks in non-developmental state, case stud Nairobi	lies
<i>5.1</i> .	Introduction	
	Introduction to Dandora, Nairobi	
5.1.2.	Introduction to Kawangware, Nairobi	163
5.2.	Ego-centric networks towards self-help housing in Dandora, and Kawangwa	
5 2 1	Nairobi Networks amongst low-income investors in self-help housing	
	Contrasting networks of support with those for exploitation	

5.2.3.	Insights from the study of ego-centric networks in Dandora and Kawangware	.174
5.3.	Networks for collective action towards self-help housing in the Nairobi case studies	177
5.3.1.	Networks of the Welfare Advisory Council, Dandora	178
5.3.2.	Networks of the Kabiro Human Development Programme (KHDP), Kawangware	.181
5.3.3.	<u> </u>	
5.3.4.	Insights from analysis of networks towards collective action in housing in Dandora and Kawangware	
5.4.	Networks of exchange in self-help housing in Nairobi's case study	100
<i>5</i>	Settlements	
	Extensive networks for access to land and finance	
5.4.3.	State/market hierarchies dominate supply of infrastructure and services	
5.5.	Conclusions and recommendations	205
_	er Six: Networks and hierarchies in an interventionist state - cases from nesburg	
6.1.	Introduction	.207
6.1.1.	Introduction to Ivory Park, Johannesburg	209
6.1.2.	Introduction to Diepsloot, Johannesburg	211
6.2.	Ego-centric networks in Johannesburg case studies	213
6.2.1.	Entrenched versus weak networks of survival amongst the poor in	
	Diepsloot	214

6.2.2.	Networks for protection, the story of Mr. Sibisi
6.2.3.	Insights from ego-centric networks for self-help housing in Johannesburg221
6.3.	Analysis of networks for collaborative action in the Johannesburg case studies
6.3.1.	Networks around the Ivory Park Eco-city Programme225
	Networks of the Masisizane Women's Group231
	Networks of other PHP support organisations in Ivory Park and Diepsloot236
	Insights from studies of networks for collaborative action in the two settlements in
	Johannesburg240
	Exchange networks in self-help housing in Diepsloot and Ivory Park,
J	Iohannesburg247
6.4.1.	Networks and hierarchies in access to finance
6.4.2.	Discontinuities in the supply of labour, materials and technology251
6.5.	Conclusions
_	ter Seven: Self-help housing networks, insights through a Nairobi- mesburg comparison
7.1.	Introduction
7.2.	Comparing and contrasting ego-centric networks in Nairobi and Johannesburg
7.3.	Insights through comparing networks of collaborative action in Nairobi and Johannesburg
7.4.	Insights from networks of exchange in Nairobi and Johannesburg264

<i>7.5</i> .	Key lessons for housing policy from a Nairobi-Johannesburg comparison of self-		
	help housing networks	269	
7.6.	Towards appropriate methods for the study of self-help housing networks	273	
7.7.	Applications of network theories to self-help housing	275	
7.8.	Conclusion: summary of contribution to knowledge	277	
8.	References	279	
9.	Appendices	307	
9.1.	Sample data collection sheets: networks for collaborative action, Nairobi	307	
9.2.	Sample data collection sheets: networks for collaborative action, Johannesburg	323	
9.3.	Sample data collection sheets: 'ego-centric networks', Nairobi	331	
9.4.	Sample data collection sheets: 'ego-centric networks', Johannesburg	337	
9.5.	Case study sites photos	343	
9.6.	Key informants, Nairobi case studies	352	
9.7.	Key informants, Johannesburg case studies	358	

Abbreviations

ADB: African Development Bank

AFRACA: African Rural Agricultural Credit Association
AML: Association of Mortgage Lenders (South Africa)

AMREF: African Medical and Research Foundation ANC: African National Congress (South Africa)

CBD: Central Business District

CBOs: Community Based Organisations
CBS: Central Bureau of Statistics (Kenya)

CDC: Commonwealth Development Corporation

CIA: Central Intelligence Agency

COHRE: Centre for Housing Rights and Evictions

COSATU: Central Organisations of South African Trade Unions

CSIR: Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (South Africa)

CSOs: Civil Society Organisations

DACEL: Department of Agriculture, Conservation, Environment and Land

(Gauteng Province)

DAG: Development Action Group (NGO-South Africa)
DANCED: Danish Agency for the Environment and Development

DANIDA: Danish International Development Agency

DFA: Development Facilitation Act No 7 of 1995 (South Africa)

DFID: Department for International Development (UK)

EABS: East African Building Society (Kenya)
EBS: Equity Building Society (Kenya)

ESTA: Extension of Security of Tenure Act 62 of 1997 (South Africa)

FBOs: Faith Based Organisations

FFBS: Family Finance Building Society (Kenya)

GDP: Gross Domestic Product

GEAR: Growth, Employment and Redistribution (South Africa's macro-economic

policy framework)

HABRI: Housing and Building Research Institute (University of Nairobi)
HCDD: Housing and Community Development Department (Nairobi, Kenya)

HFCK: Housing Finance Corporation of Kenya

HLGC: Home Loan Guarantee Company (South Africa)

HRDU: Housing Research Development Unit (University of Nairobi)

IDP: Integrated Development Plans (South Africa)IDT: Independent Development Trust (South Africa)

IDTFC: Independent Development Trust Finance Corporation (South Africa)

IFAD: International Fund for Agriculture and Development

IFC: International Finance CorporationILO: International Labour OrganisationIMF: International Monetary Fund

ITDG: Intermediate Technology Development Group

LDOs: Land Development Objectives (South Africa) LPM: Landless People's Movement (South Africa)

LEFTE: Less Formal Township Establishment Act, 113 of 1991 (South Africa)

KANU: Kenya African National Union

KENSUP: Kenya National Slum Upgrading Programme KPLC: Kenya Power and Lighting Company Ltd.

MIDEV: Midrand Development Company (Johannesburg)

MIF: Mortgage Indemnity Fund (South Africa)

MINMEC: Meeting between a national minister (MIN) and Provincial Member of the

Executive Council (MEC) in similar portfolios (South Africa).

NACHU: National Housing Cooperative Union (Kenya)

NARC: National Rainbow Coalition (Ruling Coalition in Kenya)

NCC: Nairobi City Council

NCCK: National Council of Churches of Kenya

NCPD: National Council for Population and Development (Kenya)
NHFC: National Housing Finance Corporation (South Africa)

NHIF: National Hospital Insurance Fund (Kenya)

NIMBY: Not In My Backyard

NISCC: Nairobi Informal Settlements Co-ordination Committee

NGO: Non-Governmental Organisation NHC: National Housing Corporation (Kenya)

NHBRC: National Home Builders' Registration Council (South Africa)

NHRF: National Housing Research Foundation (South Africa)

NMC: Nairobi Municipal Community NPO: Not For Profit Organisation

NSSF: National Social Security Fund (Kenya)

NURCHA: National Urban Reconstruction and Housing Agency (South Africa)

ODA: Overseas Development Agency

PAC: Pan Africanist Congress (Political Party, South Africa)

PHP: People's Housing Process (South Africa)

PHPT: People's Housing Process Trust (South Africa)

PIE Act: Prevention of Illegal Eviction from and Illegal Occupation of Land Act 19

of 1998

RDP: Reconstruction and Development Programme (First Post-apartheid policy

framework, South Africa).

RLDP: Rapid Land Delivery Programme (Johannesburg)

RoU: Record of Understanding (Between the banks and government to lend to

the low income in South Africa)

ROSCA: Rotating Savings and Credit Scheme

RTPC: Rural Trade and Production Centres (Kenya)

SANCO: South African National Civics Organisation

S&L: Savings and Loans (Kenya)

SAP: Structural Adjustment Programme

SDA: Seventh Day Adventists
SDI: Slum Dwellers International.

SEED: Sustainable Energy, Environment and Development Programme (South

Africa)

SIDA: Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency

SMMEs: Small and Medium Micro-Enterprises

UF: Urban Foundation (South Africa)

UNCHS-Habitat: United National Centre for Human Settlements - Habitat

UNDP: United Nations Development Programme

UN-Habitat: United Nations Habitat

UNICEF: United Nations Children's Fund

USAID: United States Agency for International Development

USD: United States Dollar

WAC: Welfare Advisory Council, Nairobi

WWF: World Wildlife Fund

Photos, Figure and Tables

List of photos

Photo 3.1	Housing and Community Development Department Offices, Dandor	:a
	Phase 1	119
Photo 3.2	Six-storey development in Dandora Phase 5	120
Photo 3.3	Informal developments on un-serviced plots in Dandora	120
Photo 5.1	Section of Dandora Phase Four	162
Photo 5.2	Mixture of formal and informal settlements in Kawangware, Nairob	i,
	today	164
Photo 5.3	Agnes Njoki, Corrugated Iron Sheet Structure in Dandora	169

Photo 5.4	The Gateres' block of flats in Dandora Phase Five	169
Photo 5.5	A building on power and road reserve in Dandora	176
Photo 5.6	Relatively high quality construction through K-Rep Loans	189
Photo 5.7	Concrete columns in a low-income construction in Dandora	202
Photo 5.8	Open Sewer in Marigoini, Dandora	203
Photo 5.9	Sanitation initiative by Dandora Community Development Project	204
Photo 6.1	Ivory Park Ward 78	210
Photo 6.2	Government offices in Ivory Park	210
Photo 6.3	A section of Diepsloot East	212
Photo 6.4	Burnt City of Johannesburg offices in Diepsloot	212
Photo 6.5	Mr. Radebes's shack in Diepslooot	214
Photo 6.6	Ms Khoza's shack in the site and service area of Diepsloot	215
Photo 6.7	Section of Sibisi's house in Diepsloot	220
Photo 6.8	A seven roomed house next to a shacks on a site and service site in	1
	Diepsloot	254
Photo 6.9	Shack with foundation awaiting top-up subsidy in Diepsloot	255
Photo 7.1	Small-scale labourers constructing a multi-storey house in Dandor	a,
	Nairobi	266
Photo 7.2	Material piling in Diepsloot, Johannesburg	267
Photo 7.3	Construction of bond housing in Diepsloot, Johannesburg	268
List of figur	res	
Figure 1.1	Location of Kenya and South Africa	5
Figure 1.2	South Africa's administrative regions	6
Figure 1.3	Kenya: administrative regions	6
Figure 1.4	Nairobi City Regions	9
Figure 1.5	Johannesburg city regions	11
Figure 1.6	Hierarchical patterns from Turner, 1976; Alexander, 1986 and Sco	ott,
	1994	30

Figure 1.7	Section of data recording sheet: mapping of relational attributes	45
Figure 1.8	Section of data collection sheet: physical impacts	16
Figure 1.9	Research Strategy	17
Figure 1.10	Conceptual Framework for the whole study	19
Figure 4.1	Implications of transformation of capitalism to the market, the state and	
	civil society13	31
Figure 4.2	Housing as a system, after Turner, 1972	33
Figure 4.3	Relationships amongst the state, the market and civil society in	
	mainstream theories	1
Figure 4.4	Sector/actor relational diagram14	13
Figure 4.5	Sector/actor/agent relational diagram14	4
Figure 4.6	Integrated sector-actor analysis of housing from a network	
	perspective14	5
Figure 4.7	Outline of analytical framework for field data14	7
Figure 4.8	Diagrammatic representation of the relational attributes	54
Figure 5.1	City of Nairobi map, showing location of Dandoa and Kibera amongst	
	others16	50
Figure 5.2	Network towards access of resources by Mrs Wanyiri10	57
Figure 5.3	Networks Towards Access to Resources by Njoki, Kairi Brothers Self-	
	help, Dandora, Nairobi1	72
Figure 5.4	Networks Towards Access to Resources by Mrs and Mr Gatere, Dandora	,
	Nairobi	13
Figure 5.5	Networks Towards Access to Resources by WAC18	30
Figure 5.6	Network diagram for the Kabiro Human Development Programme	
	(KHDP)18	34
Figure 5.7	Networks Towards Access to Resources by Through K-Rep18	38
Figure 5.8	Networks Towards Access to Land and Finance in Kawangware19) 5
Figure 5.9	Networks Towards Access to Land and Finance in Dandora19	96

Figure 5.10	Networks towards access to labour, materials and technology in
	Kawangware199
Figure 5.11	Networks towards access to labour, materials and technology in
	Dandora
Figure 6.1	City of Johannesburg, map, showing location of Ivory Park and
	Diepsloot209
Figure 6.2	Mr Radebe's networks, Diepsloot218
Figure 6.3	Ms Khoza's networks, Diepsloot
Figure 6.4	Mr Sibisi's networks, Diepsloot
Figure 6.5	Networks of the Ivory Park Eco-city229
Figure 6.6	Networks of <i>Masisizane</i> , Ivory Park234
Figure 6.7	A comparison of typical house plans by Masisizane and the 'RDP'235
Figure 6.8	Networks of <i>Inzimi Mpumelelo</i> , Ivory Park23
Figure 6.9	Networks of <i>Izwe Lethu</i> , Diepsloot239
Figure 6.10	Networks towards access to finance for self-help housing in
	Diepsloot248
Figure 6.11	Networks towards access to finance for self-help housing in Ivory
	Park249
Figure 6.12	Networks towards access to labour, materials and technology in
	Diepsloot
Figure 6.13	Networks towards labour, materials and technology in Ivory Park253
List of tables	S
Table 1.1	Comparative economic data on Kenya and South Africa
Table 1.2	Socio-economic data on Kenya and South Africa
Table 2.1	Outline of the World Bank approach to housing policy based on Pugh
	199550
Table 2.2	An outline of UN-Habitat policy shifts59

Table 2.3	Comparison of UN-Habitat and World Bank housing policies61
Table 3.1	Similarities and differences in access to land in Nairobi and
	Johannesburg
Table 3.2	Similarities and differences in access to finance in Nairobi and
	Johannesburg126
Table 3.3	Similarities and differences in access to labour, materials and technology
	in Nairobi and Johannesburg127
Table 3.4	Similarities and differences in access to infrastructure and services in
	Nairobi and Johannesburg127
Exchange r	ates: 1 US Dollar = 6.3 Rand = 74.4 Kenya Shillings (13 th September 2005)