

# **Creating sustainable and liveable communities through spatial revitalization**

**Oluibukun Gbenga AJAYI (Namibia)**

**Key words:** Rural-urban linkages, urban renewal, spatial revitalization, rural development, sustainable and liveable communities

## **SUMMARY**

Spatial revitalization is the process of reimagining and reinvigorating urban and rural areas. It can contribute to economic opportunities, improved quality of life, environmental sustainability, and social integration. Spatial revitalization can attract businesses, create jobs, and enhance amenities and housing options. It can also help to create a more resilient and sustainable community. This paper explores the principles and practices of spatial revitalization. It emphasizes the significance of spatial revitalization in fostering community resilience and well-being, while also highlighting the implications and benefits of spatial revitalization both at the local and regional levels. Specific practices and strategies that have been employed for the enhancement and promotion of spatial revitalization are also examined. Furthermore, based on the lessons from some of the case studies herein presented, the paper highlights some of the challenges that are frequently encountered during the implementation of spatial revitalization initiatives and discusses how these challenges can be addressed while concluding by outlining some policy implications of spatial revitalization in creating sustainable and liveable communities.