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Right to the city? Urban governance and the spatial politics of street traders in Harare (Zimbabwe)

My PhD study examines how contemporary modes of urban governance in Harare are experienced, resisted, and negotiated by street traders in their everyday struggle to survive in an environment where their livelihoods are stigmatized as 'nuisance'. In doing so, the study seeks to address three objectives. First, to examine how discourses around chaos/order are constructed and reproduced in everyday life among different sectors of the urban population in Harare. Second, to explore the differential impacts of urban governance on street traders in Harare. Third, to analyse strategies used by street traders to negotiate access to public spaces in pursuit of their livelihoods. The gendered implications of these processes are also examined. This research aims to inform urban policy and practice on building inclusive and pro-poor urban economies as promoted in the Sustainable Development Goals and the New Urban Agenda (NUA).