

What is Urbanisation?

This is an increase in the amount of people living in urban areas such as towns or cities. In 2007, the UN announced that for the first time, more than 50 % of the world's population live in urban areas.

Settlement Hierarchies



If we group and classify a number of settlements according to their size and shape, the result is settlement hierarchy.

Key Characteristics of Settlement Hierarchy.

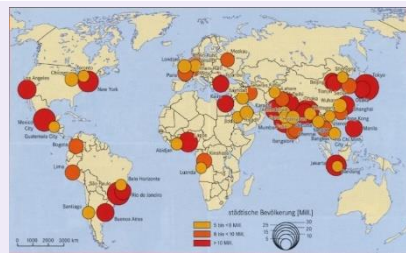
- The number of services that a settlement provides increases with settlement size.
- Small settlements will only provide low-order services such as a post offices.
- Larger settlements and conurbations have a much larger sphere of influence than smaller ones.
- The range of a service or product is the maximum distance people are prepared to travel to purchase it.

Types of Cities



Megacity

An urban area which over 10 million people living there.



More than two thirds of current megacities are located in either EDCs and LIDCs). The amount of megacities are predicted to increase from 28 to 41 by 2030.

World City

Cities that are centres for trade and business. They hold global influence.



Key 'world cities' include London, New York, Tokyo and Paris. Most are located within ACs but are now gradually expanding into EDCs, for example Moscow.

Causes of Urbanisation

The movement of people from rural to urban areas.

Push

- Natural disasters
- War and Conflict
- Mechanisation
- Drought

Pull

- More Jobs
- Better education & healthcare
- Increased quality of life.
- Following family members.

Consequences of Rapid Urbanisation in LIDCs

Although there are lots of opportunities in urban areas, the rapid growth can place many pressures that causes various problems.

Social Consequences

- Little official housing available.
- Infrastructure struggles to support growing population.
- Increase in crime rates.

Environmental Consequences

- Rubbish may not be collected.
- Sewage and toxic waste pollutes river environments.
- Increased congestion produces more pollution.

Economic Consequences

- May not be enough jobs – increased unemployment.
- Informal sector increases Little access to education and healthcare.

Counter-Urbanisation in ACs

This is the movement of people from city centres to the outskirts.



Push

- Overcrowding and pollution.
- Unemployment increases.
- Deindustrialisation of centre.
- Traffic congestion increases CO².

Pull

- Green spaces & family friendly.
- New modern housing estates.
- Improved public transport.
- Rents cheaper on outskirts.



Topic 5

Urban Futures

Suburbanisation

This is the movement of people from city centres to the outskirts.



Push

- Overcrowding and pollution.
- Unemployment increases.
- Deindustrialisation of centre.
- Traffic congestion.

Pull

- Green spaces & family friendly.
- New modern housing estates.
- Improved public transport.
- Rents cheaper on outskirts.



Consequences of Suburbanisation

Environmental Consequences

- New housing damages countryside and habitats.
- Increase of cars adds air pollution.

Economic Consequences

- People leaves centres and they become deserted.
- Unemployment increases, which leads to poverty.

Social Consequences

- Offices and businesses are abandoned.
- Economic and ethnic segregation.

Rapid Urbanisation: Life in Lagos, Nigeria



Background

Lagos is a port on the coast of Nigeria. Recently the city has experienced rapid population growth with 3.4 million extra people coming it home between 2000 and 2010.

Effects of Urbanisation

Social

- Many live without electricity.
- High diseases rate and life expectancy low.

Economic

- High rate of corruption to officials.
- Business is limited due to poor infrastructure.

Environmental

- Large scale traffic issues.
- Slums such as Makoko are heavily polluted with poor sanitation.

Management

- Authorities removed many dwellings in slums such as Makoko.
- A loan of \$200 from the World Bank to improve drainage and solid waste.
- New ideas such as the 'floating homes and school' have been suggested.

Re-urbanisation in ACs

This is the movement of people back into urban areas.



Push

- Lack of jobs in rural and suburban areas.
- Less leisure and entertainment in rural areas.
- Counter-urbanisation may have increased house prices.

Pull

- Redevelopment of brownfield sites with improved housing.
- Young people are attracted to the Universities.
- People are attracted to entertainment facilities available.



Consequences of Re-urbanisation

Social Consequences

- Shops and services benefit from the additional residents.
- Increase in tension between new and older residents.
- House prices in redeveloped areas increase.
- Schools benefit from the increase of students.
- More jobs and less employment within the area.



Environmental Consequences

- Redevelopment of brownfield sites improves old industrial and polluted areas
- Decreases pressures on greenfield areas.
- Could destroy urban wildlife.

Economic Consequences

- New shops and services will improve local economy.
- Jobs available may not be accessible to original residents.
- Urban tourism may increase.

Informal Housing

This is housing that is built on land which does not belong to those who are building it. This may be on land that is unsuitable due to its surroundings.



Internal Growth

Internal growth occurs when urban areas experience rapid rates of population growth. This comes as a result of a large amount of arrival of people in cities, who after finding a job, house and partner will have children. This occurs mostly in LIDCs.

Greenbelt Area

This is a zone of land surrounding a city where new building is strictly controlled to try to prevent cities growing too much and too fast.



Conurbanisation

A conurbation is a region comprising a number of cities, large towns, and other urban areas that, through population growth have merged to form one continuous urban or industrially developed area. For example: Greater Manchester includes Manchester, Bolton, Oldham, Bury and Rochdale.

AC: Challenges & Opportunities for Cities: LONDON Case Study



EDC: Challenges & Opportunities for Cities: LAGOS, NIGERIA Case Study



Location and Background

City's Importance

Location and Background

City's Importance

London is a world city in South East England and is the UK's capital city



- Over 20% of the UK's economy comes from London
- The centre of transport with road, rail and shipping links
- Has a great influence on its surrounding areas with many companies attracted to the region for jobs and wealth.
- One of the 2 most important financial centres of the world.

Lagos is a city on the coast of Nigeria. It is the biggest city in Africa.



- Population of approximately 21 million and is one of the fastest growing urban areas in the world.
- Main financial city for the whole of West Africa.
- International port and airport, making it an important centre for regional trade.
- The city contains 80% of Nigeria's industry.

Migration to London

London's way of Life

Migration to Lagos

Lagos's way of Life

The population of London is 8.5 million and growing because of:

1. **International migration** – 100,000 more people arrived in London than left in 2014. This has led to huge ethnic diversity in London.
2. **National migration** – within the UK, young people move for jobs and study. At the same time, old people move out creating a young population.
3. **Internal population growth.**



- **The West End** – home to theatres showing top musicals and plays.
- **British Museum and National Gallery**
- **Chinatown** – very high ethnic diversity resulting in areas promoting food, music and goods.
- **Housing** – in richer areas is modern apartments, poorer areas flats.
- **Leisure facilities** – cinemas, concert venues, clubs and pubs.
- **World class sports facilities.**

Population is growing rapidly due to rural-urban migration.

1. **Urban sprawl** – large numbers arrive in the city each year.
2. **National migration** – move to Lagos seeking better jobs and lifestyle.
3. **International migration** – from surrounding countries such as Niger and Chad.
4. **Character** – changed from fishing to diverse.



- **Film and music industry** – Nollywood.
- **Western-style fashion**
- **Ethnic groups** – there are 250 ethnic groups in Lagos which can lead to tension.
- **Slums** – 2/3 of the population live in slums.
- **Leisure** – street parties, pool parties and nightclubs are popular.
- **Shopping** – street vendors, markets and small shops.

City Challenges

Mayor's Transport Strategy

City Challenges

Waste Management Project

- **Housing availability** – not built at the same rate as population growth = shortage. London's house prices are the least affordable in the world.
- **Transport Provision** – Rising population puts a stress on transport infrastructure.
- **Access to services** – High population puts a strain on resources. NHS waiting times have increased and schools are over-subscribed.
- **Inequality** – London has the biggest wealth gap in the UK. 25% live in poverty.

- An initiative aiming to improve the transport network and make it more sustainable by easing congestion and reducing air pollution. For example:**
1. A new railway
 2. Rail and underground capacity is being increased.
 3. More dedicated bus lanes.
 4. Roads more suitable for cyclists.
 5. Congestion charges to discourage drivers from entering the city.

- **Squatter settlements** – make up over 60% of the city. Houses are flimsy wooden huts built on stilts. Only one primary school and communal toilets.
- **Health** – Most of the city don't have proper sewers or clean water. Malaria is a problem with stagnant water.
- **Informal sector jobs** – There are not enough formal jobs for migrants.
- **Waste disposal** – The huge population produces lots of waste. Only 40% is collected. Waste disposal is not controlled leading to air and water pollution.

- The Lagos State Integrated Waste Management Project is trying to improve sustainability by reducing the amount of waste that goes to landfill and reducing the air pollution.**
1. **World Bank** – financing a project to collect waste from food markets to turn into compost. This can be used to fertilize farming land and increase food supply.
 2. **Electricity generation** – by burning methane. This electricity could be used to provide lighting at markets. Pipes are placed into landfill to move the methane to generators.