

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.

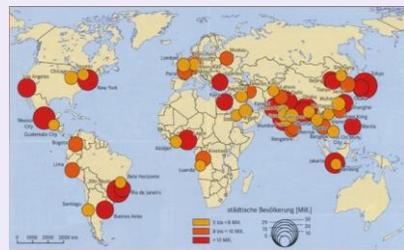
- The number of services that a settlement provides increases with settlement size.
- Small settlements will only provide low-order services such as a post office.
- Larger settlements and conurbations have a much larger sphere of influence than smaller ones.
- The range of a service or product is the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

Types of Cities



Megacity

An urban area with 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.

AC: Challenges & Opportunities for Cities: BIRMINGHAM Case Study



Location and Background

Birmingham is located in the West Midlands in England. Was a large industrial centre and still has some industry e.g. Jaguar cars, Cadbury's chocolate, jewellery



City's Importance

- Good transport connections – international airport, motorways and rail
- Centre of culture and shopping
- UK's second largest city (1.1 million)
- Multicultural city
- 12000 international students at the universities
- Global connections

Migration to Birmingham

- In 1700 population 10,000
- Industrial revolution – rural to urban migration increased population to over 0.5 million
- 1950 peak population of 1.11 million
- 1950s migration from Asia and the West Indies
- 2004 – migration from Eastern Europe, Africa and Middle East
- Now growing again with international migration and natural increase



Birmingham's way of Life

- Leisure and Culture : Birmingham museum and art gallery. Over 40 art galleries. Sea Life Centre, National Indoor Arena, lots of music events, Bullring shopping centre
- Ethnicity : Balti triangle, Eid party, Mosques and culture
- Housing : Some areas deprived e.g. Sparkbrook, others wealthy e.g. Sutton Four Oaks
- Consumption : Below average energy consumption and expenditure on food and drink, above average for clothes, alcohol, tobacco, drugs and transport

City Challenges

- There is a lack of affordable housing as well as a shortage of homes
- Social inequality including deprivation and poverty. Deprivation highest in centre and inner city
- Low life expectancy in some areas is linked to poor diet, housing and education e.g. Sparkbrook
- Transport is good though there is a lot of congestion. 4th most congested city

Sustainable use of Brownfield Site

- Reused disused/ derelict land – was a multi storey car park
- Recycled 95% of waste material
- Uses energy efficient systems
- Uses natural daylight and ventilation
- Harvests and recycles rainwater
- Has a roof garden
- Promotes sustainable transport use
- Has cycle storage space
- 2.5 million visitors improving educational achievement

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.



Conurbation

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.*

EDC: Challenges & Opportunities for Cities: LAGOS Case Study



Location and Background

Lagos is located in the southwest of Nigeria on the coast of the Gulf of Guinea. It was the capital of Nigeria until 1991.



City's Importance

- Has 80 of industry in Nigeria
- Accounts for 25% GDP
- 80% of imports and 70% of exports pass through the docks
- Media centre and huge film industry
- One of highest standards of living in Africa
- Hosted African cup of Nations tournament
- ICT centre of West Africa
- Home to most financial institutions

Migration to Lagos

The city was initially a fishing village but developed into a thriving colonial sea port. Since 1970s and the oil boom thousands of people migrate daily.

Rural to urban migration has accounted for most of this growth in the last 50 years due to poor rural services, low wages, land shortages and climate change.

People come from within Nigeria and from surrounding countries.



Lagos' way of Life

- Access to water and energy is slowly improving
- Transport systems are getting better
- Housing standards are mixed
- Growth of commercial and industrial zones are improving the economic development and standard of life.



City Challenges

- Shanty towns are established around the city, typically on unfavourable land, such as swamps and the lagoon
- There are a severe shortage of housing, schools and healthcare centres available.
- The city suffers from a high crime rate that includes gun/gang violence and drugs.
- The rapid urbanisation causes dangerous levels of pollution and traffic congestion.
- Large scale social inequality, is creating tensions between the rich and poor.

Sustainable Transport System

- The authorities have introduced a Bus Rapid Transport System
- A separate bus lane is used
- 200,000 people are transported every day to the CBD on Lagos Island
- This will be incorporated into an integrated transport system linking buses, taxis (danfos), ferries and railways.
- In 2016 a new light railway opened and further rail routes are planned