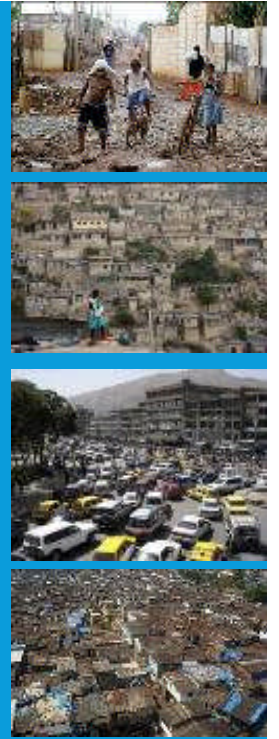


# Rural-Urban Migration and Adaptation Strategy for Environmental Degradation



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## Rural-Urban Migration and Adaptation Strategy for Environmental Degradation

- **What motivates people to move to the cities?**
  - Quality of life
  - Looking for better services (health, education, etc. )
  - Employment
  - Food /water
  - Security issues
  - Young – exploration/alternatives
  - Natural and man-made disasters

## Rural-Urban Migration and Adaptation Strategy for Environmental Degradation

- **Future/ Climate Change Migration**
  - **Low-elevation coastal zones**, where many of the world's largest cities are located.
  - Only 2 per cent of the world's total land area.
  - **13 per cent of the world's urban population** with Asia having a higher concentration.
  - **By 2050, some 200 million people may be forced to leave their homes due to environmental degradation and water shortages caused by climate change.**

- **Rural-Urban: History perspective**
  - Agricultural cycles
  - Industrialization
  - Jobs - urbanization --- cities
  - New opportunities: Europe, US, Latin America, East Asia
  - Now - Africa and parts of Asia?

## Rural-Urban Migration and Adaptation Strategy for Environmental Degradation

- **Common threads in urban areas**
  1. Impacts may have ripple effects across many sectors in city life.
  2. Gender, age, race, and wealth have implications for the vulnerability of individuals and groups.
  3. Urban planning, failure to adjust zoning and building codes limits the prospects of infrastructure adaptation and place lives at risk.
  4. Climate change impacts can be long-lasting.

## Rural-Urban Migration and Adaptation Strategy for Environmental Degradation

- **Generic lessons for Adaptation Strategies**
  1. Built commitments among stakeholders and official recognition
  2. Risk/vulnerability assessment for the city
  3. Developing strategic plans for the city as a whole
  4. Adaptation option/strategy will fall to local government to implement

- **City Development Strategies**
  - **UN-Habitat's Cities and Climate Change Initiative**
    - Piloted in 4 cities- Esmeraldas (Ecuador), Kampala (Uganda), Maputo (Mozambique) and Sorsogan (the Philippines).
    - Brings a variety of stakeholders- local and national governments, academia, NGOs and international organizations to alert cities to the actions that they can take to respond to climate change.

## Rural-Urban Migration and Adaptation Strategy for Environmental Degradation

- **City Development Strategies**
  - **ISDR Resilient Cities Campaign**
  - **The most pressing challenge :**
    - “to have countries and cities seen and understood adaptation strategies for environmental degradation as a central dimension of development”



## Some Examples on Particular Issues

- **Adaptation Option/Strategy: Addressing the constraints on freshwater supply**
  - Expand and diversify water supply;
  - Reduce demand/improve leak management;
  - Increase drought preparedness;
  - Increase public awareness about impacts upon water supplies;
  - Expanded rainwater harvesting; water storage and conservation techniques;
  - Water reuse;
  - Desalination;
  - Water-use and irrigation efficiency;
  - Relocation.

## Some Examples on Particular Issues

- **Adaptation Option/Strategy: Addressing Storm and floodwater management**
  - Increase capacity to manage storm water
  - Reduce property damage from flooding
  - Improve early warning system for storm and flood events
  - Sea walls and storm surge barriers
  - Dune reinforcement
  - Land acquisition and creation of marshlands/wetlands as buffer against sea-level rise and flooding protection of existing natural barriers

## Some Examples on Particular Issues

- **Adaptation Option/Strategy: Addressing Infrastructure and settlements**
  - Improving housing, infrastructure and services, particularly for the urban poor in vulnerable areas

## Some Examples on Particular Issues

- **Adaptation Option/Strategy: Addressing Public Health**
  - Reduce impacts of extreme heat events
  - Improve disease surveillance and protection
  - Heat-health action plans
  - Emergency medical services
  - Improved climate-sensitive disease and surveillance and control
  - Safe water and improved sanitation.



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