



# URBAN REIMAGING

*Sustainable Urban Development*

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Human Geography

# WHAT IS URBAN RE-IMAGING?

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- Changing the image/facade of the urban area and the way people view it.
- The image of a city is derived from *direct experiences* and the *marketing/branding* of it.



# REASONS FOR URBAN REIMAGING

## 1. Competition

- Helps to discard negative imagery connected with an industrial heritage [*for instance*].
- Helps engender civic pride.

## 2. Investments

- Attracts more foreign direct investments which can boost the economy.
- In the long-term, can lead to a more educated workforce due to such investments from global companies.



# THE 4 REIMAGING STRATEGIES

## 1. Cultural Quarters

- Taps onto cultural aspects (way-of-life).
- Includes some cultural activities, but also daily activities.
- Attempts to attract major arts companies/talent groups.

*E.g. Singapore Esplanade/The Star* → Attracts global artists (solo/companies)

### *Evaluation:*

- **Stakeholders** → Caters to higher-income groups and tourists, may not benefit lower income groups.
- **Sustainability** → Although initial high cost of infrastructure, there is strong LT revenue.



# THE 4 REIMAGING STRATEGIES

## 2. 24-Hour Cities

- To extend the use of city centres so that they are used by a wide range of people for a longer period each day.
- 'Lively' and 'Attractive' places throughout the night [**NIGHTLIFE**].
- Need for measures such as relaxing licensing laws and greater public transport provision to accommodate for later hours.

*E.g New York, Singapore* → Trains operate till late, bars/attractions still open till late

### *Evaluation:*

- Improves job opportunities and generates revenue. But may affect quality of life for residents (noise pollution) and incur a higher cost of operation at night.



# THE 4 REIMAGING STRATEGIES

## 3. Heritage Tourism

- Focuses on renovating and reconstructing *past* urban landscapes and making them unique to the country. Includes **museums** and **old buildings**.

*E.g Liverpool* → Albert Dock Area (World Heritage site) e.g. Beatles story exhibition

### *Evaluation:*

- Boosts tourism through focusing on unique heritage hence preserving **cultural heritage**.
- However, may change the facade or original landscape due to increased visits and this may affect quality of life for traditionalists.



# THE 4 REIMAGING STRATEGIES

## 4. Flagship Projects

- Large-scale - importance of eye catching, spectacular modern structures.

*E.g Singapore* → Marina Bay Sands, Esplanade

*E.g London Docklands* → Canada Tower

*Evaluation:*

- Tangible economic function but little symbolic function.
- Creates an *identity* (landmark) for a city which *generates tourism revenue* and attracts investments.
- However, there is *high cost to construction* and potential to become a '*white elephant*'.



# THE 4 REIMAGING STRATEGIES

Canada Towers



Marina Bay Sands







# IMPACTS OF URBAN REIMAGING

- Covered most in the '*Evaluation*' parts of each strategy. But all you really need to do is use criteria to evaluate the impacts.

## 1. Stakeholders

- Are the lower-income urban dwellers affected? Is there greater noise pollution? Do urban dwellers need to relocate? Are there more employment opps instead?

## 2. Sustainability

- Are flagship projects sustainable in the long run? Do benefits outweigh the costs? Is it environmentally sustainable? Builds a greater sense of civic pride?

## 3. Time Horizon

- In the SR, are there more pressing needs? (*poverty for instance*).

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# Exam Requirements

# EXAM REQUIREMENTS

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- Explain simply the **reasons** for urban reimagining.
- Be able to explain and discuss each of the 4 strategies and substantiate with good examples.
- Understand and discuss the possible impacts of urban reimagining on urban dwellers.
- Use criteria to write a good essay on urban reimagining.



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# INDICATORS FOR SUD

*Sustainable Urban Development*

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# MEASURING SUSTAINABLE **URBAN** DEVELOPMENT

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3 aspects to Sustainable Urban Development:

1. Environmental Sustainability
2. Economic Sustainability
3. Social Justice

Challenges:

- Holistic Nature (independent dimensions of each aspect)
- Intergenerational issues (different perspectives)



# INDICATORS TO MEASURE SUD

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES  
AND COMMUNITIES



## 1. Sustainable Development Goal 11

- SDG 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable
- Touches base on all 3 aspects.
  - **Social** → Ensures access for all to safe and adequate housing and basic services.
  - **Economic** → Supports least developed countries, including financial assistance in building sustainable buildings while utilising local materials.
  - **Environment** → To reduce the adverse impact of cities, by paying attention to air quality and waste levels.

### *Evaluation:*

- A catalyst on a global level to encourage all local and national authorities.
- However, requires substantial effort and policies/funding.





# INDICATORS TO MEASURE SUD

## 2. Arcadis Sustainable Cities Index [100 cities]

- Ranks 100 global cities on 3 dimensions: People, Planet, Profit.
- Measures health, education, income inequality, energy consumption, air pollution, GDP per capita and more.

### *Evaluation:*

- Covers a wide range of aspects, making it easy for comparison.
- However, it only covers 100 cities, hence may be skewed in terms of target audience.



# INDICATORS TO MEASURE SUD

## 3. Global Reporting Initiative [Organisations]

- GRI is an international independent standards organisation that **helps businesses, governments and other organisations** understand and communicate their impacts on issues such as climate change and human rights.
- Encourages business and institutions to report on their **environmental** performance.

### *Evaluation:*

- Covers a broad range of **30 indicators**, can assess environmental impact from activities of the company.
- However, it **focuses more on reporting by firms only** (may be inaccurate) and **quantity over quality**.



# INDICATORS TO MEASURE SUD

## 4. UK Government Strategy Indicators [UK]

- Feedback from Sustainable Development Commission.
- Workshops organised by NGOs with an interest in Sustainable Development.

### *Evaluation:*

- Involved NGOs and communities in consultation (more *bottom-up*)
- However, it is only specific to UK, hence may not be applicable to other cities.

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# Exam Requirements

# EXAM REQUIREMENTS

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- Understand the different indicators used to measure Sustainable Urban Development.
- Take note that these indicators are not the same as the indicators used to measure *liveability*.
- Tends to be 12 mark essays, or tested in case study questions.



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# TRAFFIC CONGESTION

*Sustainable Urban Development*

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# CAUSES OF TRAFFIC CONGESTION

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2 types: Recurring vs Non-Recurring

## 1. Recurring

### - **Insufficient Capacity**

- Increase in sheer number of vehicles on the road such as during peak hours. [e.g Bangkok - over 5 mil vehicles on the road each day].
- Due to rising affluence of middle class there is rapid rise in car ownerships.

### - **Unrestrained Demand**

- Need for transport results in the increase in supply of vehicles.
- Lack of public transit measures has increased reliance on private cars.



# CAUSES OF TRAFFIC CONGESTION

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## 2. Non-Recurring

- **Incidents**
  - Road accidents can slow road traffic [*e.g Over 100 accidents and 900 deaths in Shanghai, 2014*]
- **Weather Events**
  - Flooding can result in immobility of vehicles [*e.g Heavy r/f in Delhi, India led to flooding*]
- **Special Events**
  - Performances, Global Leaders conferences





# IMPACTS OF TRAFFIC CONGESTION

## 1. Economic Impacts

- Direct and Indirect Costs
- Low income households bear the largest of these costs [increased taxes, fares, etc.]
- Increased numbers of people late for work → Lower productivity.

E.g. USA → \$150 bn per annum incurred from traffic congestion.



# IMPACTS OF TRAFFIC CONGESTION

## 2. Social Impacts

- Poor air quality in cities are linked to a number of health problems amongst urban populations, including respiratory disease and lung cancer.
- Traffic Congestion increases commuting time → Reduces time for social interactions and overall qualitative loss of urban social life → Lower Quality of life.



# IMPACTS OF TRAFFIC CONGESTION

## 3. Environmental Impacts

- ***Impact on ecosystems***
  - Traffic-related mortality (decline of several species)
  - Roads and traffic reduce wildlife population (need to make way)
- ***Emissions of GHG, pollutants***
  - Heavy dependence on combustion of fossil fuels (major source of GHG)
- ***Noise***
  - A major source of noise in both rural and urban areas
  - Health implications (blood pressure and heart rates affected)

# STRATEGIES TO EASE TRAFFIC CONGESTION

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## 3 approaches:

1. **Supply Fix**
2. **Transport System Management [Demand-oriented]**
3. **Non-Transportation Initiatives**

# STRATEGIES TO EASE TRAFFIC CONGESTION

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## 1. Promoting Public Transport

- Can be very successful when well-developed.
- Both a SUPPLY-FIX and DEMAND-ORIENTED approach if well-mastered by the city.

*E.g. Curitiba (Brazil)*

→ Reliable and convenient public transport with single fare systems (socially sustainable).

→ Separate lanes for bus and cars and has pedestrian-only streets.

*Limitations:* Depends on mindset of people and could be unreliable at times.

# CURITIBA, BRAZIL





# STRATEGIES TO EASE TRAFFIC CONGESTION

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## 2. Usage Restraint Measures

- Use of congestion charging, road pricing and auto-restraint.
- Auto-Restraint: Bans cars from a section of the city at certain time periods.

*E.g. Singapore* → Use of Electronic Road Pricing at peak areas

*E.g. UK* → Road Pricing reduced traffic by 15% and congestion by 30%

*Limitations:* May spark equity issues for lower income (not socially sustainable). Also, requires higher cost to monitor and for necessary infrastructure.

# STRATEGIES TO EASE TRAFFIC CONGESTION

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## 3. Ownership Restraint: Vehicle Quotas

- Policies targeted at taxing car imports and additional documents to reduce affordability of cars.

*E.g. Singapore* → Certificate of Entitlement required and over 100% taxes on car imports

*Limitations:* May spark equity issues for lower income (not socially sustainable). May not be applicable for cities which do not need to import cars.

# STRATEGIES TO EASE TRAFFIC CONGESTION

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## 4. Non-Transportation measures: Flexible working arrangements

- Seeks to capitalise on relationship between transportation and daily activity work patterns.
- Promotes alternative work schedules, such as allowing employees to work from home.

*E.g. Flexible work hours in startups*

*Limitations:* To date, companies have devoted only limited effort to promoting such strategies. A hard strategy to succeed due to work efficiency levels being compromised.

# STRATEGIES TO EASE TRAFFIC CONGESTION

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## 5. Promoting alternative transport

- Encourage use of environmentally friendly practices.

*E.g. Amsterdam → Bicycle lanes dedicated on the roads/pathways*

*Limitations: Requires a change in mindset and not feasible for big cities.*



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# Exam Requirements

# EXAM REQUIREMENTS

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- Be able to explain the causes and impacts of traffic congestion.
- Discuss the strategies used to ease traffic congestion and acknowledge that you need to tackle both the DEMAND-side and SUPPLY-side to traffic congestion.
- Use criteria for evaluation
  - Sustainability (Public transport is the most sustainable)
  - Stakeholders (All the different social groups involved)



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# URBAN LIVEABILITY

*Sustainable Urban Development*

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# WHAT IS URBAN LIVEABILITY?

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**Definition:** *The relationship between people and their everyday environment, a way and quality of life.*

- **Take note** of the different factors that can affect liveability.
- The indicators will help back these factors up.



# FACTORS AFFECTING LIVEABILITY

## 1. Urban Climate

- As a town develops → It exerts an influence on the atmospheric environment → In many cities, average temp increases 1degreeC due to heat from waste produced.
- Increase in deaths due to higher temperatures.



# FACTORS AFFECTING LIVEABILITY

## 2. Environmental Quality

- Air Pollution can be a huge issue.
  - E.g. California has 97% of its areas reduced in visibility and over 70% of the people with eye irritation issues.
- Noise Pollution can also be an issue.
  - May lead to psychological problems such as hypertension, hearing impairments.



# FACTORS AFFECTING LIVEABILITY

## 3. Urban Legibility (Infrastructure)

- The organisation of elements in a city that allows them to be convenient for all.
- Placement of landmarks at major routes to enhance visibility.



# FACTORS AFFECTING LIVEABILITY

## 4. Safety and Stability (political)

- The



# FACTORS AFFECTING LIVEABILITY

## 5. Subjective Factors

- Cannot be measured, includes personal likes and dislikes and feelings of sentiment/connection to family, friends, and culture.



# FACTORS AFFECTING LIVEABILITY

## 6. Socioeconomic Factors

- Age, Income, Employment, Interests
  - E.g. Emergence of *2 melbourne's* - Growing socio-economic divide between the high income and low income. Poorer workers get chased out of inner city in place of more skilled.



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# Exam Requirements

# EXAM REQUIREMENTS

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- Factors affecting liveability can come out as essay questions (12, 20 or more marks if applicable) or case study.
- Understand the different factors with relevant examples.



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# INDICATORS FOR LIVEABILITY

*Sustainable Urban Development*

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# INDICATORS TO MEASURE LIVEABILITY

## 1. Economist Intelligence Unit's Global Liveability Index

- Research and Analysis division of The Economist Group.
- Quantifies the challenges that might be presented to an individual's lifestyle in any location, allowing for direct comparison amongst cities.
- Every city is assigned a rating for RELATIVE comfort for over 30 aspects.

### *Evaluation:*

- Updated yearly to reflect changes in liveability, 140 cities.
- However, it is based on subjective judgment and agenda by the group.

The  
Economist

INTELLIGENCE  
UNIT



# INDICATORS TO MEASURE SUD

## 2. Mercer's Quality of Life Index

- A global consulting firm.
- Aims to provide multinational firms and governments quality of living information in more than 231 cities surveyed.
- Span over 39 factors.

### *Evaluation:*

- A broader range of indicators
- However, it relies on subjective judgement through only a small number of surveys.



# INDICATORS TO MEASURE SUD

## 3. Monocle's Most Liveable City Index

- A magazine briefing on global affairs, business, culture, design and is people-centred.
- Targeted at the wealthy, mobile and cosmopolitan reader.
- Studies only 11 indicators.

### *Evaluation:*

- Not a great index as it has the least number of indicators, is a subjective assessment and only covers 25 cities.







# INDICATORS TO MEASURE SUD

## 4. Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy's Global Liveable Cities Index

- School of public policy with funding to undertake research.
- Considers over 85 indicators.

### *Evaluation:*

- Covers the widest range of indicators.
- However, it only covers 64 cities and is not published yearly (outdated).

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# Exam Requirements

# EXAM REQUIREMENTS

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- Understand the different indicators used to measure Liveability.
- Take note that these indicators are not the same as the indicators used to measure *Sustainable Urban Development*.
- Tends to be 12 mark essays, or tested in case study questions.



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# MANAGEMENT OF *NON-HAZARDOUS SOLID WASTE*

ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT & URBAN METABOLISM

*Sustainable Urban Development*

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Human Geography



## 2 IMPORTANT CONCEPTS – ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT & URBAN METABOLISM

### 1. Ecological Footprint

- Defined as the land area and natural resource capital on which the city draws to sustain its population and production structure.
- A city will have a larger ecological footprint if the city has more people.

#### *Evaluation*

- Able to capture ecological and spatial aspects of sustainability.
- Difficult to quantify specific land area needed.
- Richer income groups may contribute disproportionately to these footprints.



## 2 IMPORTANT CONCEPTS – ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT & URBAN METABOLISM

### 2. Urban Metabolism

- Defined as the **SUM TOTAL** of the technical and socioeconomic processes that occur in cities, resulting in growth, production of energy and elimination of waste.

**Input → City → Output**

- Most cities have this linear metabolism, but we should move toward a circular metabolism as it does not promote waste and achieves SUD.
- Circular metabolisms are more sustainable and a self-regulating system.

**Input → City → Recycle, Reuse → Input**





## COMPARISON BETWEEN URBAN METABOLISM AND ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT

- **Metabolism** studies an attempt to quantify the amounts of materials and energy that flow through a city → Simply measures input and output.
- **Ecological Footprint** seeks to take the additional step of estimating the area of productive terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems required for urban metabolism to happen.

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# Exam Requirements

# EXAM REQUIREMENTS

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- Be able to explain and reason why urban metabolism and ecological footprint are important indicators in every city.
- Know the difference between the footprint and metabolism.
- Tends to be 12 mark essays, or tested in case study questions.



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# MANAGEMENT OF *NON-HAZARDOUS SOLID WASTE* STRATEGIES

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# STRATEGIES TO MANAGE NHSW

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## 3 strategies:

1. Landfill
2. Incineration
3. Reducing Waste [Reuse, Recovery, Recycling]
4. Take-back programmes

# STRATEGIES TO MANAGE NHSW

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## 1. Landfill

- Most commonly used method of disposal.
- Brings about 2 main hazards
  - Leakage of toxic leachate → Contaminate surface and groundwater → Adverse health effects.
  - Infestation of rats or fermentation of bacteria → Generates methane → Fire hazard.

### *Evaluation*

- There's a need to make landfills a more sustainable option, especially with all the negatives it bring about and increasingly scarce land available for landfills.



# STRATEGIES TO MANAGE NHSW

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E.g. Hangzhou, China



# STRATEGIES TO MANAGE NHSW

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## 2. Incineration

- Incineration is the controlled burning of waste at high temperatures, where it is increasingly being used.
- Can be combined with energy recovery through fire generated. *E.g. Singapore incineration system*

### *Evaluation*

- There is still ash generated from incineration which still acts as a form of waste and requires disposal → worsened impact on environment.

# STRATEGIES TO MANAGE NSW

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## Relationship between affluence and waste:

*Richer societies and richer members of society produce more waste than their less affluent counterparts.*

# STRATEGIES TO MANAGE NHSW

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## 3. Reducing waste

- The process of reusing, recycling and recovering waste.
- In many LDCs: Informal scavenging of waste from city dumps is widely practised and materials recovered are put to other uses. *E.g. Zabaleen in Egypt (90% waste recycled)*
- In many DCs: More formalised recovery and recycling schemes have been introduced.
  - *E.g. Copenhagen recycles 56% of waste material under the recycling scheme.*
  - *E.g. Denmark has a scheme where waste is taxed.*

# STRATEGIES TO MANAGE NHSW

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## 3. Reducing waste

### *Evaluation*

- Depends on the mindset of individuals to reduce waste, which can be hard to change especially amongst affluent societies.
- Non-biodegradables and certain waste-types may not be reducible/recyclable.

# STRATEGIES TO MANAGE NHSW

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## 4. Take-back programmes

- Life-cycle assessment of the product.
- Aims to prevent waste from being released wherever possible.
- Makes it a requirement for producers to reduce waste.
  - *E.g. The 'Take it back!' programme in Ottawa, Canada*
  - *E.g. Calcium in batteries in Sweden*

### *Evaluation*

- Requires strong regulation and legislations.
- Effective in reducing waste from the very start of the cycle.

# OVERALL EVALUATION

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## Best combination

Take-back programmes + Reducing waste

- Targets root cause of the creation of NHSW which is the production process and mindset to begin with.
- However, not everything can be recycled hence there is still a need for basic incineration and landfills, but at a minimised scale.

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# Exam Requirements



# EXAM REQUIREMENTS

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- Be able to explain and discuss the STRATEGIES used manage non-hazardous solid waste.
- Recognise how all strategies must be used together in order to achieve the most effect management of waste, however, certain strategies can be favoured for obvious reasons.
- That said, recognise that there are costs to even the best solutions too.



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# MANAGEMENT OF *SLUMS*

REASONS FOR DEVELOPMENT AND CHARACTERISTICS

*Sustainable Urban Development*

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Human Geography

# DEFINITION OF SLUMS

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- A settlement in an urban area in which more than half of the inhabitants live in adequate housing and lack basic services.
  - Consists of one or a group of individuals living under the same roof in an urban area lacking one or more of these 5 amenities:
    - Durable Housing
    - Sufficient living area
    - Access to improved water
    - Secure tenure
    - Access to improved sanitation facilities

# REASONS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF SLUMS

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## 1. High influx of rural population to cities

- Uneven development between rural and urban areas → Many rural people are attracted to the urban areas.
- Overwhelming number of rural migrants into urban areas (esp. Less developed cities) → Reduction in job opportunities and availability of good housing.

## 2. Poor Planning

- Lack of affordable low cost housing a poor planning → Encourages growth of slums
- Insufficient financial resources and lack of coordination in government bureaucracy.

# REASONS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF SLUMS

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## 3. Uneven development within country

- Triggers rural-urban migration.
- Underlying factors of colonialism, coastal areas for trading.
  - *Rural Push factors*: Population growth, land scarcity, land quality, agricultural inefficiency.
  - *Urban Pull factors*: Wage and employment differentials, future prospects.

## 4. Informal Economy

- Neither registered as a business nor licensed, does not pay taxes and is not monitored by federal government.
- Slums create an alternate informal economy ecosystem.
- E.g. Kenya: 78% of non-agricultural employment in informal economy.

# CHARACTERISTICS OF SLUMS

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## 1. Insecure Tenure

- Local community or government allots land to people → later develops into slums → Dwellers do not have property rights [*informality of land - no clear land title*].
- Secure land tenure is important for slum dwellers as an authentic recognition of their residential status in urban areas.





# CHARACTERISTICS OF SLUMS

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## 2. Substandard housing and overcrowding

- Slum areas have shanty homes, build ad-hoc, unsuitable materials used for housing.
- Construction quality is inadequate to withstand heavy rains, strong winds.
- Overcrowding tends to occur → Many dwellings are single room units with high occupancy.

E.g. Nairobi Slums



# CHARACTERISTICS OF SLUMS

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## 3. Inadequate/No infrastructure

- Lack of access to safe drinking water, electricity, basic healthcare, police services, etc.
- Costs of water from firms may be 4-100 times higher in cost than pipeline supply (water collected from buckets brought from mainland).
- Lack of garbage collection.

# EXCEPTIONS OF SLUMS

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## 1. Dharavi, Mumbai

- Produces embroidered garments, leather goods, pottery, plastics.
- Informal economy worth \$1 billion (pottery).



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# Exam Requirements

# EXAM REQUIREMENTS

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- Be able to explain the reasons as to why slums exist and how they function.
- Be able to explain the characteristics of slums and how they are different from urban landscapes.
- Tends to come out as small-marked essay questions or set as the context for data-response questions.



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# MANAGEMENT OF *SLUMS* STRATEGIES

*Sustainable Urban Development*

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# STRATEGIES

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1. NGO cum government initiatives to improve quality of housing through self-help mechanisms.
2. Improving sanitation in slums
3. Slum Upgrading
4. Relocation of slum dwellers to new dwellings
5. Site and service scheme

# STRATEGIES

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## 1. NGO cum government initiatives to improve quality of housing through self-help mechanisms

- Often governments in less developed cities lack funds to improve quality of slums.
  - NGOs can step in and provide valuable assistance.
  - *E.g. Low-income district of Cali → NGO Carvajal Foundation assisted residents by building a warehouse to provide space for manufacturers to sell construction materials directly at lower prices.*

### *Evaluation:*

- Able to improve substandard housing, increases sense of ownership.
- However, only environmental aspect tackled, not so much socioeconomic aspects of quality of life.

# STRATEGIES

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## 2. Improving sanitation in slums

- Improving sanitation can be in the form of providing better pipelines, better water services, clean areas for carrying out daily activities.
  - *E.g. The Orangi Pilot Project in Karachi, Pakistan.*
  - *This project involves new partnerships between NGOs, public authorities, networking and planned provision of sanitation for the urban poor.*

### *Evaluation:*

- Requires several stakeholders to be involved and proper planning.
- Provision of sanitation may not be readily available if land and areas are too heavily degraded.

# STRATEGIES

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## 3. Slum Upgrading

- Involves the improvement of dwellings but more usually refers to the insertion of basic infrastructure into a neighbourhood.
- Reduces costs and disruptions.
  - *E.g. Dhaka, Bangladesh*

### *Evaluation:*

- High monetary costs at times.
- Requires proper planning by more stakeholders such as NGOs, IOs, etc.

# STRATEGIES

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## 4. Relocation of slum dwellers to new dwellings

- In cities where slum dwellers are occupying hazardous or prime land.
- Governments can relocate slum dwellers to other locations not as prime hence allowing for land to be freed up for other purposes.

### *Evaluation:*

- Unsustainable as many tends to sell homes to higher income families for money → Later still resulted in slums.
- Could result in corruption.

# STRATEGIES

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## 5. Site and service schemes

- Government subsidies may extend to building materials or loans, schemes introduced to ensure basic needs are met.
- Employment and security of tenure is key.
  - E.g. Kenya (negative eg) → Project accrued to middle-income groups, including staff from government agency responsible for administering the project.

### *Evaluation:*

- Able to improve quality of housing.
- Corruption may occur when money lands in the wrong hands (ineffective).

# OVERALL EVALUATION

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- Try to deal with the issue of slums from the bottom-up.
- NGOs and the government have a huge role to play in the prevention of slums and in ensuring it is minimised.
- Money will be involved hence there is a need for the government to step in where necessary to aid in this aspect.
- All humans deserve basic necessities and a right to proper services.

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# Exam Requirements



# EXAM REQUIREMENTS

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- Be able to explain and discuss the strategies and evaluate them based on criteria (*gone through in another video*).
- Rank the strategies from the best (in terms of feasibility, effectiveness, etc.) to those that are not as great.



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# NEEDS OF DIFFERENT SOCIAL GROUPS [EXPERIENCES & ISSUES]

ELDERLY, YOUTHS, DISABLED, MIGRANTS

*Sustainable Urban Development*

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Human Geography

# VALUING A PLACE

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- A place, especially a sentimental one, comes with attached intrinsic value, with distinctive or memorable characteristics, where people have an attachment to.
- The city/urban landscape is experienced differently by different groups of people as a result of the differences in sentiment and feelings towards the place.
- 4 distinctive groups of people to observe: Elderly, Youths, Disabled, Migrants
  - We will look at their EXPERIENCE in a city, and the ISSUES they face.

# ELDERLY

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## Experience:

- Activity patterns are constrained by a lack of access to a car, fear of crime, lack of social integration.
- May be a dull experience for some, especially when a sense of belonging is lost.

## Issues:

- Loss of sense of belonging, dis-ownership from children.
- Barriers in promotions and living (employment) → E.g. in US cities, there have been average of 20,588 charges for age discrimination due to companies trying to cut costs.

# ELDERLY

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## Needs:

- Need for greater acceptance in the working industry → For job opportunities, living standards to be maintained/improved.
- Need for more care and attention given to the elderly, mentally/emotionally.

# YOUTHS

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## Experience:

- Younger generation, full of life and ability to carry out activities in a city, a suited environment and desirable for many in today's society.
- Many cities adopt a compulsory education scheme → More educated students.

## Issues:

- Increased mental issues due to stress and societal pressures → Suicidal thoughts, depression, rebellions.
- Upbringing affected with more adult parents working (dual-income families).
- Education disparity in some cities → affect future job opportunities, etc.



# YOUTHS

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## Needs:

- Need for new experiences, greater areas for growth → Escape the confines of social media in an increasingly interconnected society.
- Need for greater care mentally → Rise in cases of depression and suicidal thoughts rapid amongst youths due to intense pressure today.
- Reduce elitism mindset amongst youths → On the rise with greater disparities amongst education standards across the world.

# DISABLED

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## Experience:

- If the city is not legible (environmentally) → It may be difficult for physically disabled to move around and daily activities will be affected.
- Discrimination may be apparent to many of the disabled.
- Overall, not the best experience but many are left without a choice.

## Issues:

- Intellectual and physical barriers for the different disabilities.
- Deep and persistent stereotypes.
- Problems of access to buildings, facilities, public transport.

# DISABLED

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## Needs:

- Need for improved urban legibility → Ramps, slopes, lifts for easy access for physically disabled.
- Need for more attention and care towards the disabled, avoid discriminatory practices.

# MIGRANTS

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## Experience:

- Not a good experience for many with possible shanty conditions in living quarters, and with discrimination by people.

## Issues:

- Face discrimination, racism, social exclusion.
- Ethnic minorities may rather choose to congregate in specific areas of the city to adapt to urban environments → Out of defense, avoidance, or spatial concentration.

# MIGRANTS

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## Needs:

- Need for greater acceptance of migrant workers and lesser discrimination.
- Need for improvement in living standards and overall quality of life for migrants.

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# Exam Requirements

# EXAM REQUIREMENTS

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- Explain the various experiences and issues faced by the 4 different social groups, elderly, youths, disabled and migrants.
- Link the issues faced by the 4 different social groups to possible strategies which can be implemented to resolve these issues.



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# NEEDS OF DIFFERENT SOCIAL GROUPS [STRATEGIES]

ELDERLY, YOUTHS, DISABLED, MIGRANTS

*Sustainable Urban Development*

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Human Geography

# STRATEGIES

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- We will look at strategies which target specific social groups.
  - There is no 'one-size-fits-all' strategy when looking across the various social groups.
- Focus on evaluation for strategies pertaining to the needs of the various social groups.
  - Spatial variations across different cities - some strategies may work in some, while other city may fail at employing some strategies/may not require them.
  - Sustainability - some strategies may not be sustainable in the long-run, or may not be environmentally sustainable.
  - Stakeholders - Take note of the stakeholders who should be responsible in ensuring various issues are being resolved for the different social groups.
- Many of these strategies will be context-driven (by city).

# STRATEGIES FOR THE ELDERLY

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- The older generation require supportive and enabling living environments to compensate for physical and social changes.
- There is a need for greater access to services, infrastructure.
  - Includes convenience features such as ramps, elevators, comfortable seating, adequate signage.

## Strategies:

- Improve accessibility and mobility
  - Singapore has implemented Lift Upgrading Programmes for housing flats such that the elderly have easier ease of moving up and down the building.
- Transport measures
  - In London, the implementation of Oyster 60+ acts as a concession card for the elderly to consume public transport at a reduced price.
  - Singapore has implemented 'countdown' technology at traffic lights, where the elderly can scan their IC to reduce the waiting time to cross the roads.

# STRATEGIES FOR THE ELDERLY

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- Economic measures
  - Tripartite system introduced in Singapore to expand employment opportunities for older workers.
  - SkillsFuture programme also introduced in Singapore for skills upgrading to ensure the older generation remains employable and relevant.

## Issues:

- In many less developed cities, there is still a lack of pensions and social protection support. Moreover, they lack access to age appropriate health services and face age discrimination.
  - E.g. Chennai - 85% face age discrimination

# STRATEGIES FOR THE YOUTH

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- Increasingly, youths require support mentally and emotionally, yet also require a shift towards becoming a more accepting society, bearing in mind future needs.

## Strategies:

- Improve mental health conditions, rid off issues such as depression, suicidal thoughts
  - E.g. Singapore National Council of Social Service provides YouthReach to help youths facing mental health conditions.
- Ensuring equal education for all.
  - Compulsory Education Act for all in many cities up to age of 16.

# STRATEGIES FOR THE DISABLED

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## Strategies:

- Increase accessibility/environmental legibility
  - E.g. Singapore public transport has enhanced features to accommodate wheelchair personnel. MRT stations have tactile paving for easier movement.
- Increase employment opportunities
  - E.g. British Columbia, Canada have increased employment possibilities in all sectors.
- Expand awareness and care for the disabled.
- Proper housing and enabling-features for the disabled.

# STRATEGIES FOR THE DISABLED

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## Issues:

- Significant funding is required to make urban areas disabled-friendly.
- There is a need to overcome prejudice and stereotypes in many cities → mindset issue.
- Less developed cities still lack proper strategies to help the disabled.
  - E.g. Delhi public transport system still lacks ramps.



# STRATEGIES FOR MIGRANTS

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## Strategies:

- Create a multicultural city, where people are acceptive of migrants and care for them
  - E.g. Frankfurt has created a multicultural city in an anti-immigrant minded society.
  - E.g. Spain has provided better access to civil rights and resources for immigrants.
- Ensure proper living standards for migrant workers.

## Issues:

- Migrants may still choose to voluntarily segregate themselves in ethnic enclaves.
- There is still a need to overcome existing prejudices and stereotypes → Mindset

# OVERALL EVALUATION

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- Depending on the social group, there will be different evaluative standpoints. Ultimately, there is a need to ensure that a holistic approach is adopted for addressing their needs and issues.
- Mindset tends to play a huge role in affecting the effectiveness of many of the strategies.
- Costs will also be a factor, especially for less-developed cities which may not be able to afford certain strategies.
- Governance will also play a crucial role in ensuring policies/strategies are adopted and carried out effectively.
  - Less developed cities may not have as strong governance as developed cities.

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# Exam Requirements

# EXAM REQUIREMENTS

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- Strategies for the various social groups is entirely adaptable and can be tweaked based on general knowledge.
- There is no fixed strategy for each social group, except that you should ensure their basic needs and issues are being addressed



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