

Year 8— Topic 2—What is happening in the Cities?

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.

Causes of Urbanisation

The movement of people from rural to urban areas.

Push



Pull



- Natural disasters
- War and Conflict
- Mechanisation

- 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

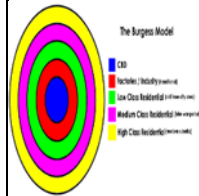
- Rubbish may not be collected.
- Sewage and toxic waste pollutes river environments.
- Increased congestion produces more pollution.

Economic Consequences

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

Land Use Model

The Burgess Model



shows how a 'typical' city is laid out. It is based on the idea that land values are highest in the centre of a town or city.

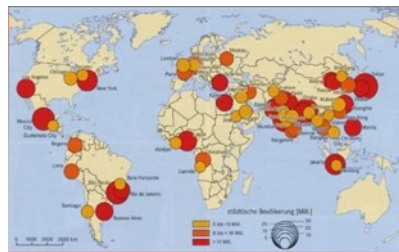
Limitations

The model is old and was developed before most people owned cars. Every city is different

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.

Problems with the CBD (Central Business District)

- Lack of Space
- High cost of land
- Urban Decline
- Pollution



Rapid Urbanisation: Life in Lagos, Nigeria

Background

Lagos is a port on the coast of Nigeria in West Africa. Recently the city has experienced rapid population growth with 3.4 million extra people calling it home between 2000 and 2010. It is now classed as a mega-city with a population of 21 m.

Effects of rapid Urbanisation – Makoko squatter settlement

Social

- Many live without electricity.
- High diseases rate and life expectancy low.
- Floating Makoko has no access to fresh clean water

Economic

- High rate of corruption to officials.
- Business is limited due to poor infrastructure.
- Only informal sector employment

Environmental

- Makoko is heavily polluted with poor sanitation.
- The lagoon is polluted with lots of floating rubbish

Management

- Authorities removed many dwellings in slums such as Makoko with the Eko-Atlantic plan.
- 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.