



STATE OF THE PROFESSION

SIENA, ITALY, ISOCARP WPC 60
ReInventing the Invisible Cities

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ISOCARP, President

08-11/10/2024

CONTEXT

BOX OF TOOLS AND IDEAS

FINAL REMARKS

MERRY
CRISIS!!

We are in the midst of a **multi-variable** crisis, cultural and therefore political, economic crisis

We are in the middle of a **multi-level crisis** that is expressed through an exacerbation of **social polarization**, of **inequalities** and consequently a **lack of equal opportunities**.

CONTEXT



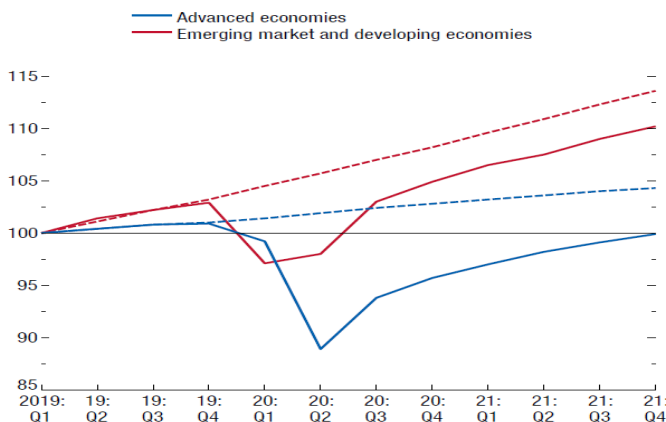
Due to the subprime mortgage crisis and the loss of household wealth, the financial crisis of 2007-2008 had caused a collapse in consumer spending, which "**mainly affected the demand side**".

The COVID-induced crisis triggered an exogenous blockade on **both the demand and supply sides** of the global economy, which are the two fundamental components of capitalism

Both crises share uncertainty as a key factor and emerged from the two largest economies (the US in 2008 and China in late 2019) and spread globally. Uncertainty can be defined as an unquantifiable risk (Frank Knight, 1921), . This applies to both the new unseen coronavirus and the 'subprime' virus.

PROGRESSIVE

Figure 1.6. Quarterly World GDP
(2019:Q1 = 100; dashed lines indicate estimates from January 2020 World Economic Outlook Update)



Source: IMF staff estimates.

IMMEDIATE

IN WHAT WORLD ARE WE PLANNING CITIES?



Risikogesellschaft

“A fate of endangerment has arisen in modernity, a **sort of counter-modernity, which transcends all our concepts of space, time, and social differentiation.** What yesterday was still far away will be found today and in the future ‘at the front door.’”

Ulrich Beck , **The Risk Society**, 1986

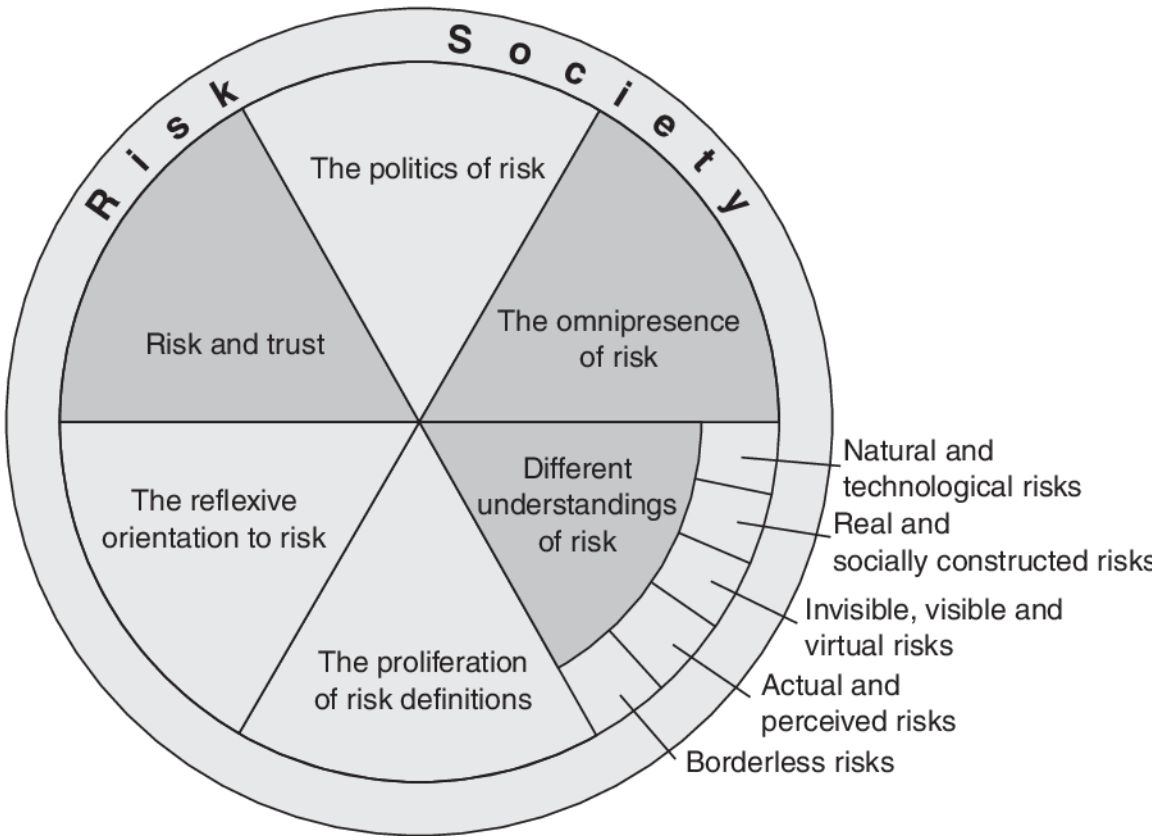


Giddens and Beck argued that whilst humans have always been subjected to a level of risk – such as natural disasters – these have usually been perceived as produced by non-human forces.

Modern societies, however, are exposed to risks such as pollution, newly discovered illnesses, crime, that are the result of the modernization process itself.

Giddens defines these two types of risks as **external risks and manufactured risks.**

Manufactured risks are marked by a high level of human agency involved in both producing, and mitigating such risks.



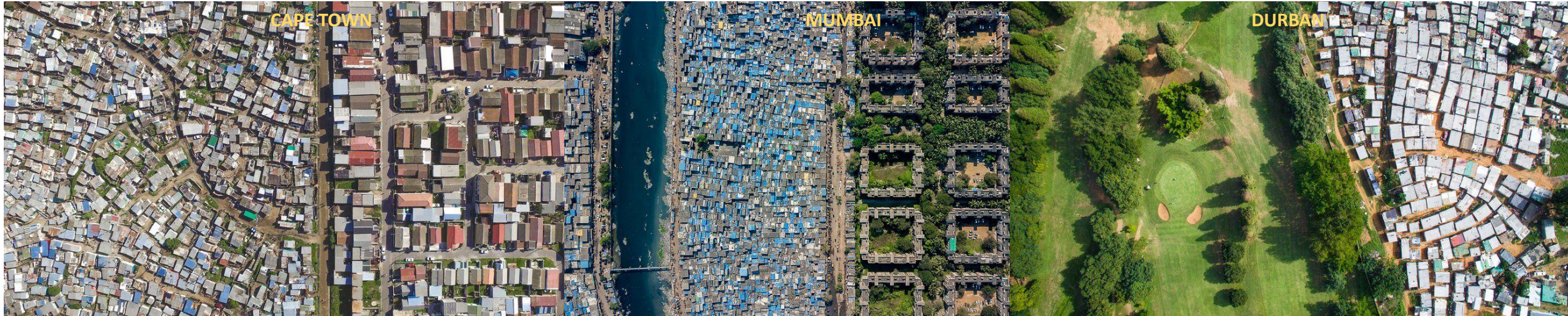
These shocks and stresses, including disaster events, can be natural, man-made or hybrid (arising from natural and human interactions) in nature, including:

- **Natural:** Tsunamis, earthquakes, natural climate variability and extremes, and volcanic eruptions.
- **Human-made:** Financial crises, industrial accidents and geopolitical volatility.
- **Hybrid:** Pollution, anthropogenic climate change, floods, droughts, deforestation and pandemics



Reloading/recontextualizing classic questions:

Have we reached the limits of growth ... of urbanization/through the urbanization?

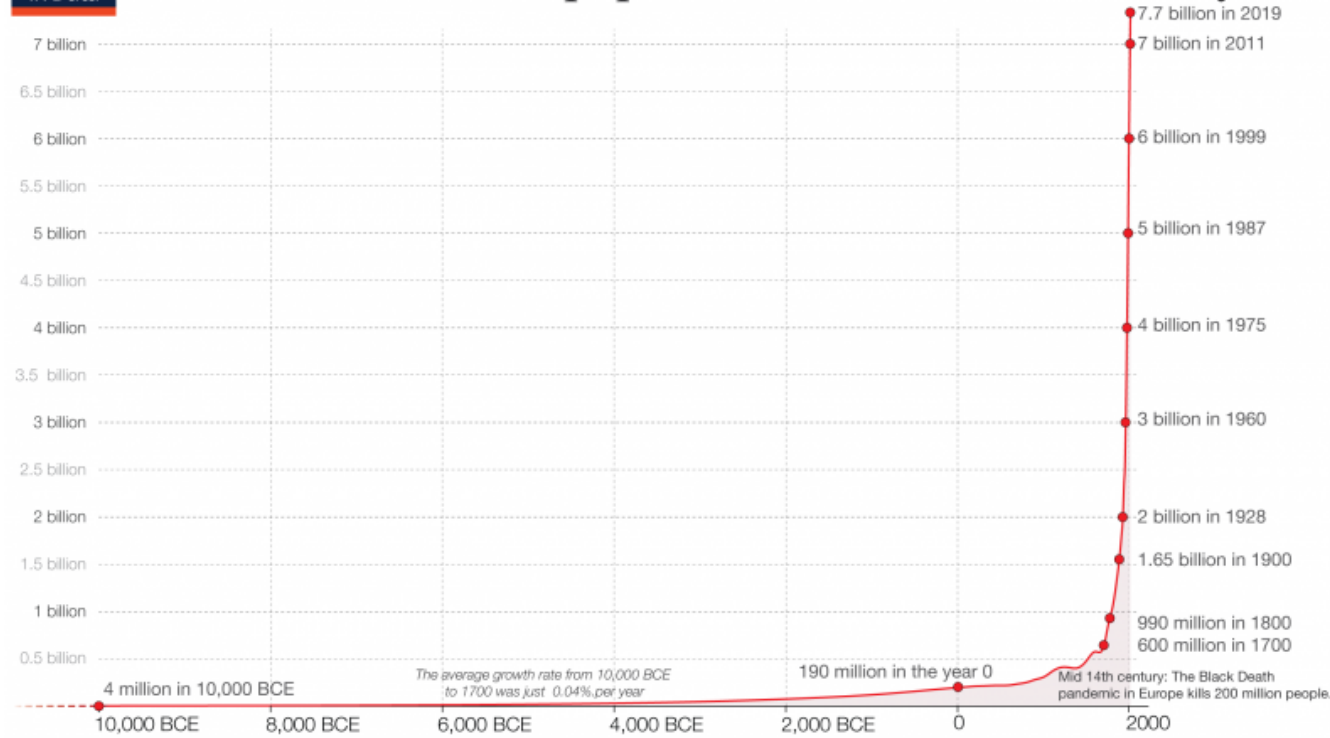


The annual growth rate of people migrating to urban areas is 1.63% between 2020 and 2025 and 1.44% between 2025 and 2030

What is getting out of control, what are the critical points of this urbanization? (I)

The global urban population is expected to grow approximately **1.84%** per year between 2015 and 2020, **1.63%** per year between 2020 and 2025, and **1.44%** per year between 2025 and 2030.

Our World in Data The size of the world population over the last 12,000 years



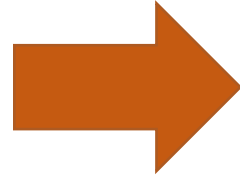
Based on estimates by the History Database of the Global Environment (HYDE) and the United Nations. On OurWorldinData.org you can download the annual data. This is a visualization from OurWorldinData.org, where you find data and research on how the world is changing. Licensed under CC-BY-SA by the author Max Roser.

Year	World Population	WP Yearly Growth Rate	WP Net	WP Density	Urban Population	UP %	UP Yearly Growth Rate
2020	7,794,798,739	0.015	81,330,639	52	4,378,993,944	0.56	0.0163
2021	7896131123	0.013	101,332,384	53	4450371545	0.56	0.0163
2022	7982988565	0.011	86,857,442	54	4522912601	0.57	0.0163
2023	8054835462	0.009	71,846,897	55	4596636077	0.57	0.0163
2024	8119274146	0.008	64,438,684	55	4671561245	0.58	0.0163
2025	8176109065	0.007	56,834,919	56	4747707693	0.58	0.0163
2026	8217807221	0.005	41,698,156	57	4816074684	0.59	0.0144
2027	8247391327	0.004	29,584,106	58	4885426159	0.59	0.0144
2028	8264710849	0.002	17,319,522	59	4955776296	0.60	0.0144
2029	8269669675	0.001	4,958,827	60	5027139475	0.61	0.0144
2030	8269669675	0.000	0	61	5099530283	0.62	0.0144

If growth trends are right, in 2030 the world population growth will stabilize, but already 62% will live in urban areas

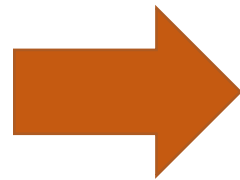
What is getting out of control, what are the critical points of this urbanization? (II)

This means that the urbanization of around **720 million** people will have to be managed between 2020 and 2030



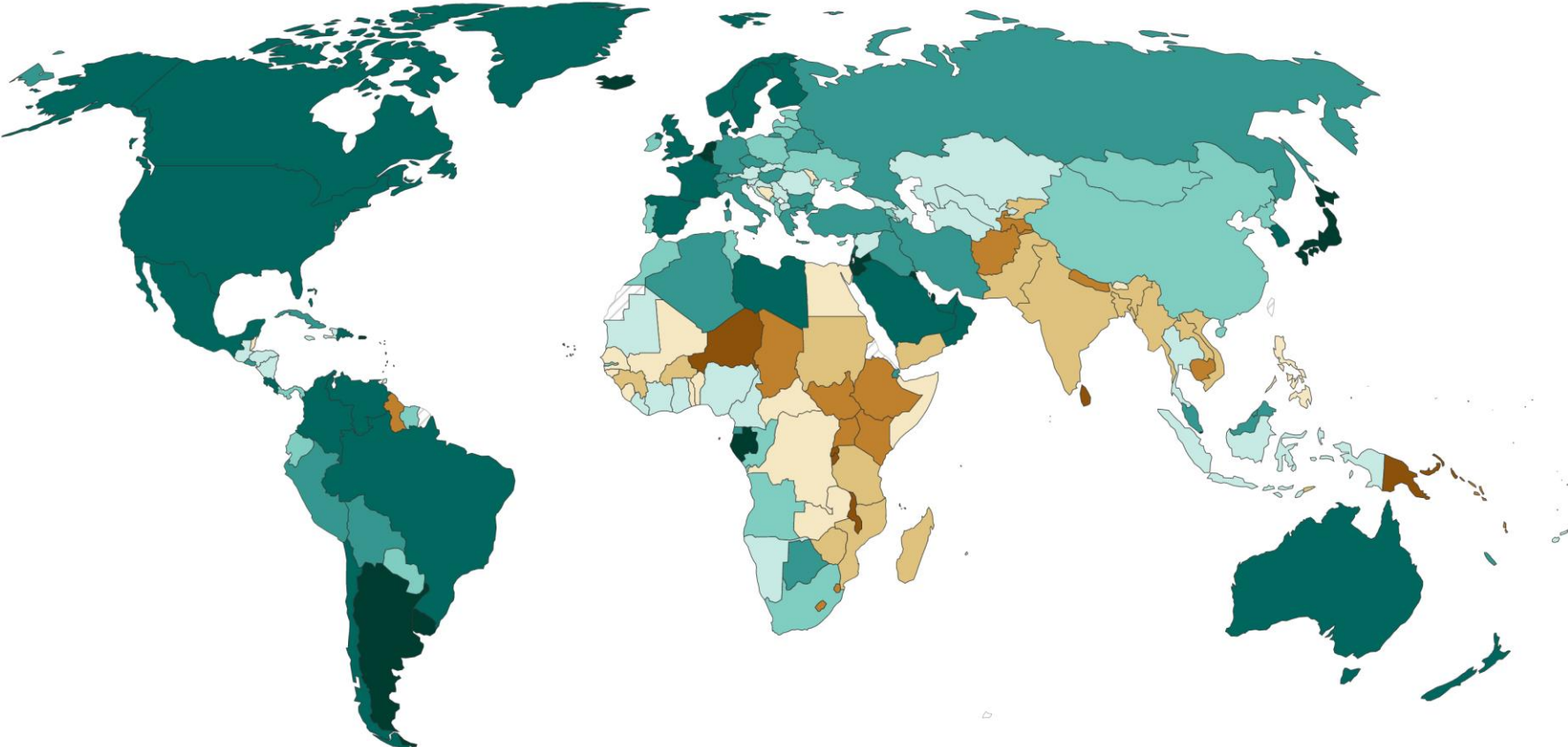
Considering that the metropolitan area of Shanghai (A megacity) has 34 million inhabitants, it would mean about **new 21 megacities** ... as an impact

If we calculate to equip each a new urbanized person with a minimum standard of a room



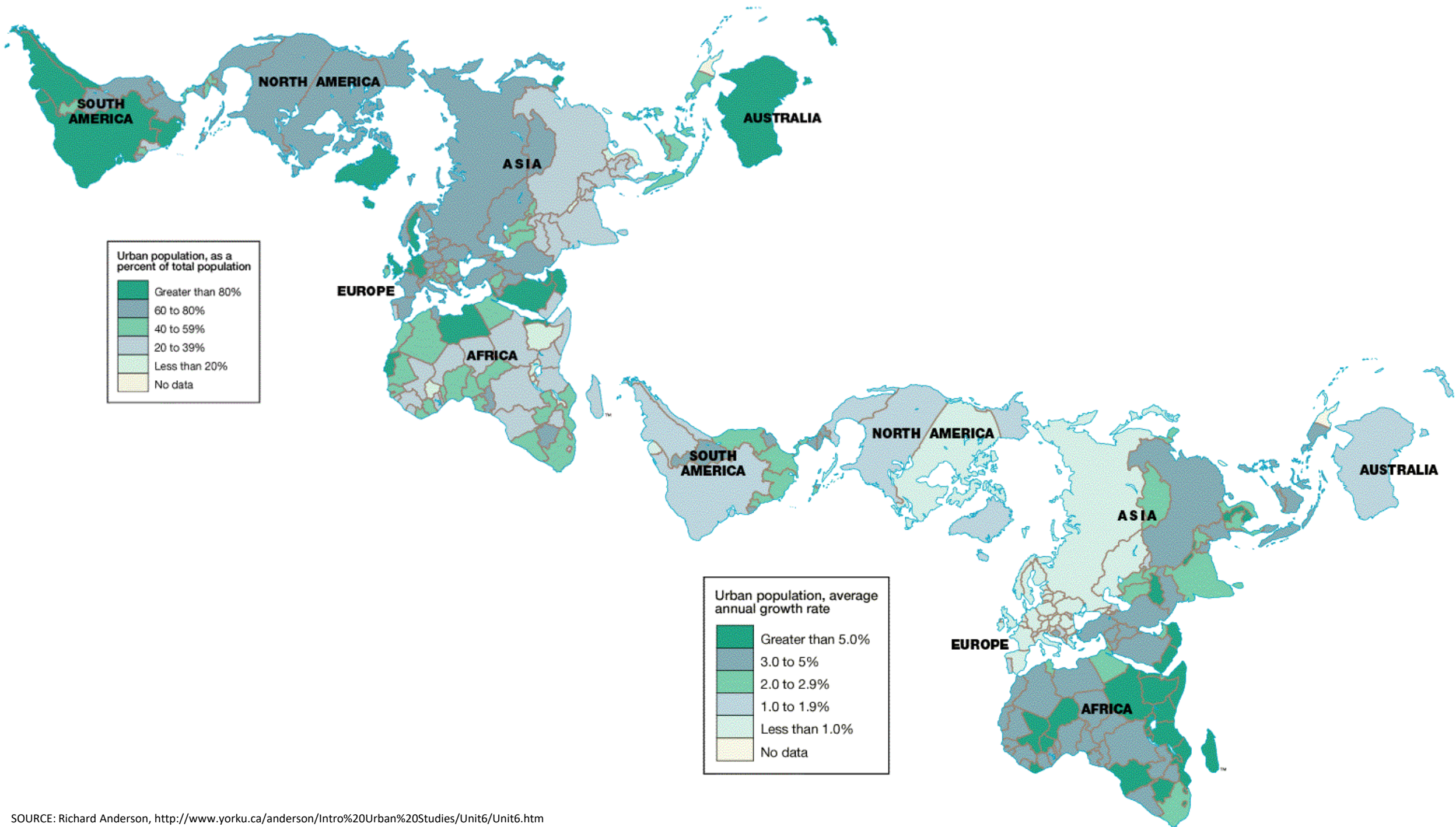
It means creating an area equal **to 9 times that of Greater London**

Share of people living in urban areas, 2020



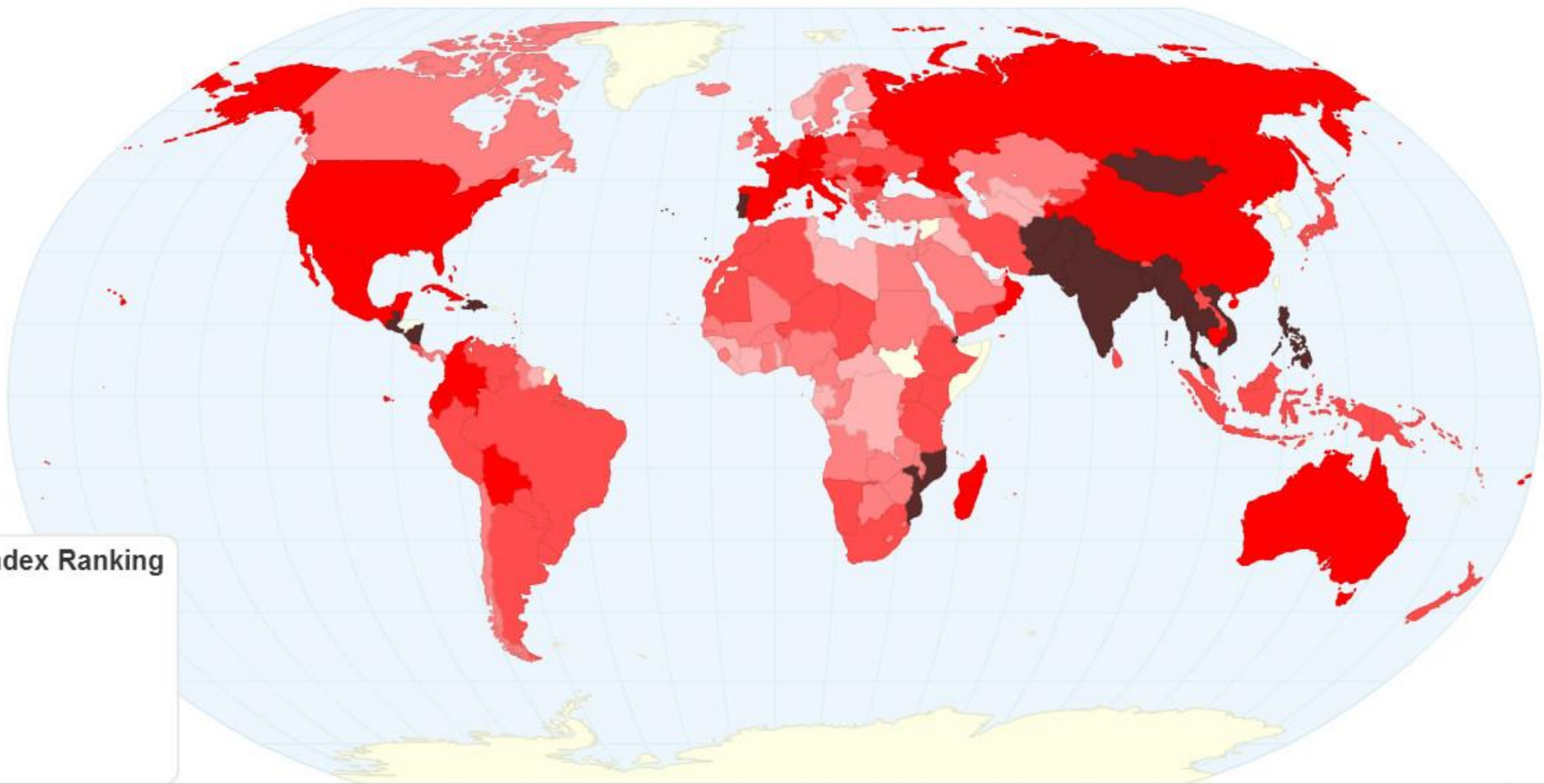
Source: UN Population Division (via World Bank)

Note: Urban populations are defined based on the definition of urban areas by national statistical offices.



SOURCE: Richard Anderson, <http://www.yorku.ca/anderson/Intro%20Urban%20Studies/Unit6/Unit6.htm>

Global Climate Risk Index



Climate Risk Index Ranking

- 1-20
- 20-50
- 50-100
- 100-150
- 150-178

Sub-Saharan Africa:

- ❖ This region has one of the fastest rates of urbanization. Currently, **over 40% of the population lives in urban areas, and it is expected to double by 2050**. Internal migration from rural areas to cities is a key driver.
- ❖ Cities like **Lagos, Kinshasa, and Nairobi** are growing rapidly, but often without adequate infrastructure, leading to challenges such as slum proliferation and a lack of basic services.

Latin America and the Caribbean:

- ✓ This region is already one of the most urbanized in the world, with over **80% of the population** living in cities. Cities like **São Paulo, Mexico City, and Buenos Aires** are among the largest in the world.
- ✓ The primary issue here is not rapid population growth, but rather the expansion of urban peripheries, often marked by social inequalities, poverty, and violence.

South Asia and Southeast Asia:

- Countries such as **India, Bangladesh, Pakistan**, and nations in **Southeast Asia** (like **Indonesia** and **Vietnam**) are seeing rapid urban population growth. India alone is projected to add **416 million urban residents by 2050**.
- Megacities such as **Mumbai, Dhaka, and Jakarta** are expanding quickly, driven by internal migration and high birth rates, presenting challenges like pollution, congestion, and water resource management.

Middle East and North Africa (MENA):

- ❑ The MENA region is also experiencing significant urbanization, with large populations moving to cities like **Cairo, Riyadh, and Dubai**. By **2050**, urbanization rates in many countries here are expected to exceed **70%**.
- ❑ Rapid urban growth in the region is driven by economic opportunities, oil wealth, and infrastructure projects, though there are challenges related to water scarcity and political instability.

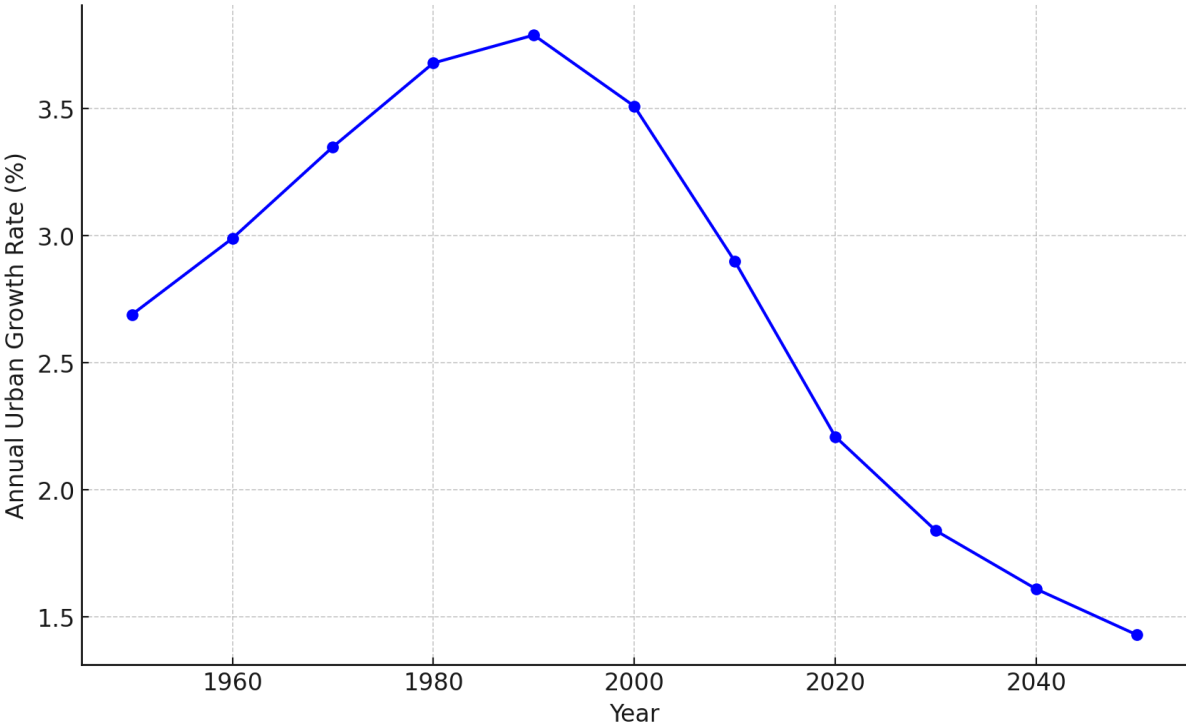
China and East Asia:

- China has undergone the largest urbanization in recent history. Around **850 million people** now live in cities, with megacities like **Shanghai, Beijing, and Shenzhen** experiencing immense growth.
- China's policies have actively encouraged rural-to-urban migration, resulting in massive urban expansion, though the country faces challenges in sustainable city planning and environmental impacts.

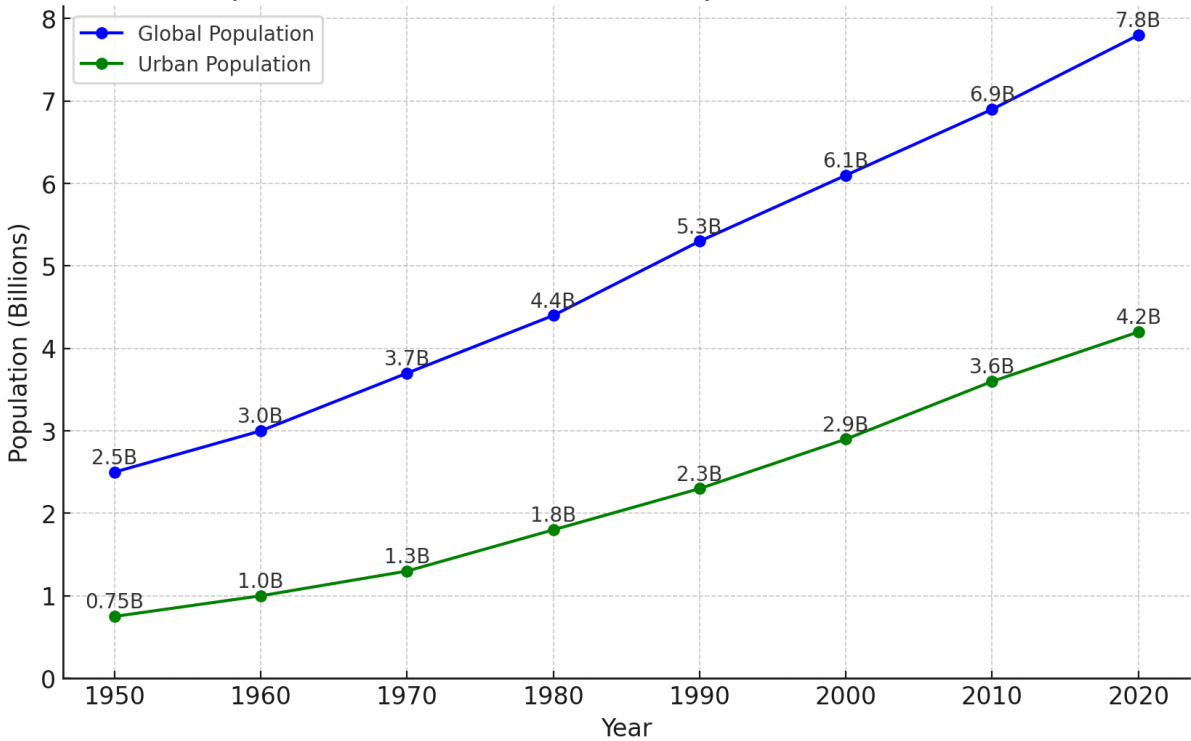


Table: Detailed Data Comparison for 1950 and 2020

Annual Urban Growth Rate (1950-2050)



Global Population Growth vs. Urban Population Growth (1950-2020)



Key Considerations:

Peak Urban Growth: The annual urban growth rate peaked around the 1970s with a gradual decline in the growth rate thereafter.

Recent Trends: The urban growth rate has been decreasing since 2000, reflecting a stabilization in urban population growth.

Future Projections: The growth rate is projected to continue decreasing through 2050, indicating slower urbanization rates in the future.

Parameter	1950	2020
Global Population	2.5 billion	7.8 billion
Urban Population	0.75 billion (30%)	4.2 billion (54%)
Annual Global Growth Rate	1.7% per year	1.0% per year
Annual Urban Growth Rate	2.6% per year	2.1% per year
Number of Mega-Cities	Few (e.g., New York, Tokyo)	33
Urbanization Concentration	North America, Europe	Asia, Africa, Latin America

BOX OF TOOLS

A CONTEMPORARY UNDERSTANDING OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



KEY STEPS

Our Common Future, also known as the **Brundtland Report** recognizes that **human resource development** in the form of poverty reduction, gender equity, and wealth redistribution was **crucial to formulating strategies for environmental conservation**, and it also **recognised that environmental-limits to economic growth** in industrialised and industrialising societies existed.

Agenda 21 is a non-binding action plan of the United Nations with regard to sustainable development. It is a product of the Earth Summit (UN Conference on Environment and Development) held in **Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 1992**: The notion of “think globally, act locally” extends to recognition that the environment is a global common resource

Earth Summit in **Johannesburg (Rio+10)** produced the Johannesburg Declaration. It reiterated the global commitment to sustainable development to ensure the relationship between nature’s resources and human needs (or needs): **not exceeding the Planet’s carrying capacity**

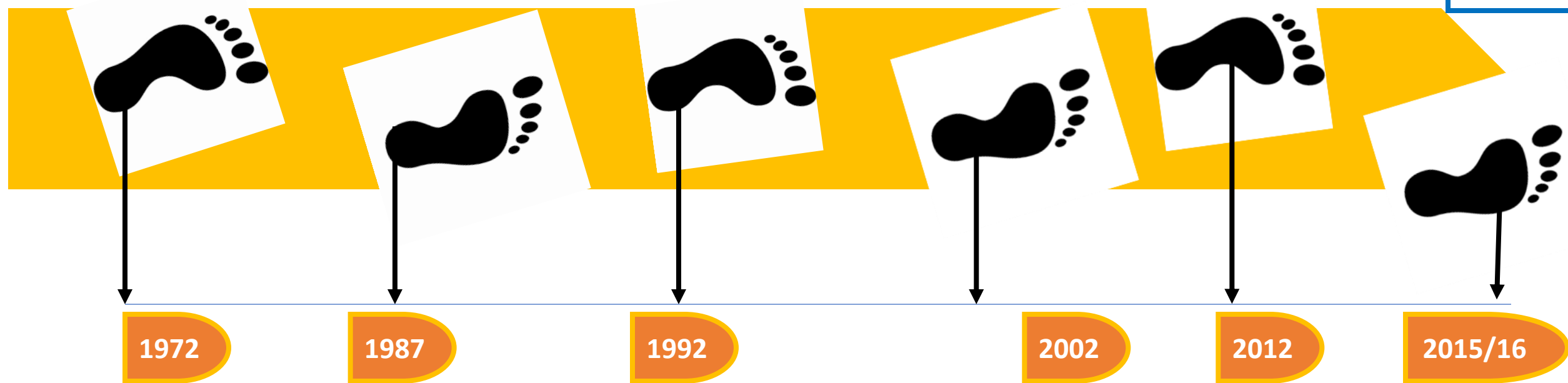
The **SDGs** replace the **Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)**. At the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (**Rio+20**) in **Rio de Janeiro, Brazil**, in June 2012, Member States adopted the outcome document "The Future We Want" in which they decided, inter alia, to launch a process to develop a set of **SDGs**.

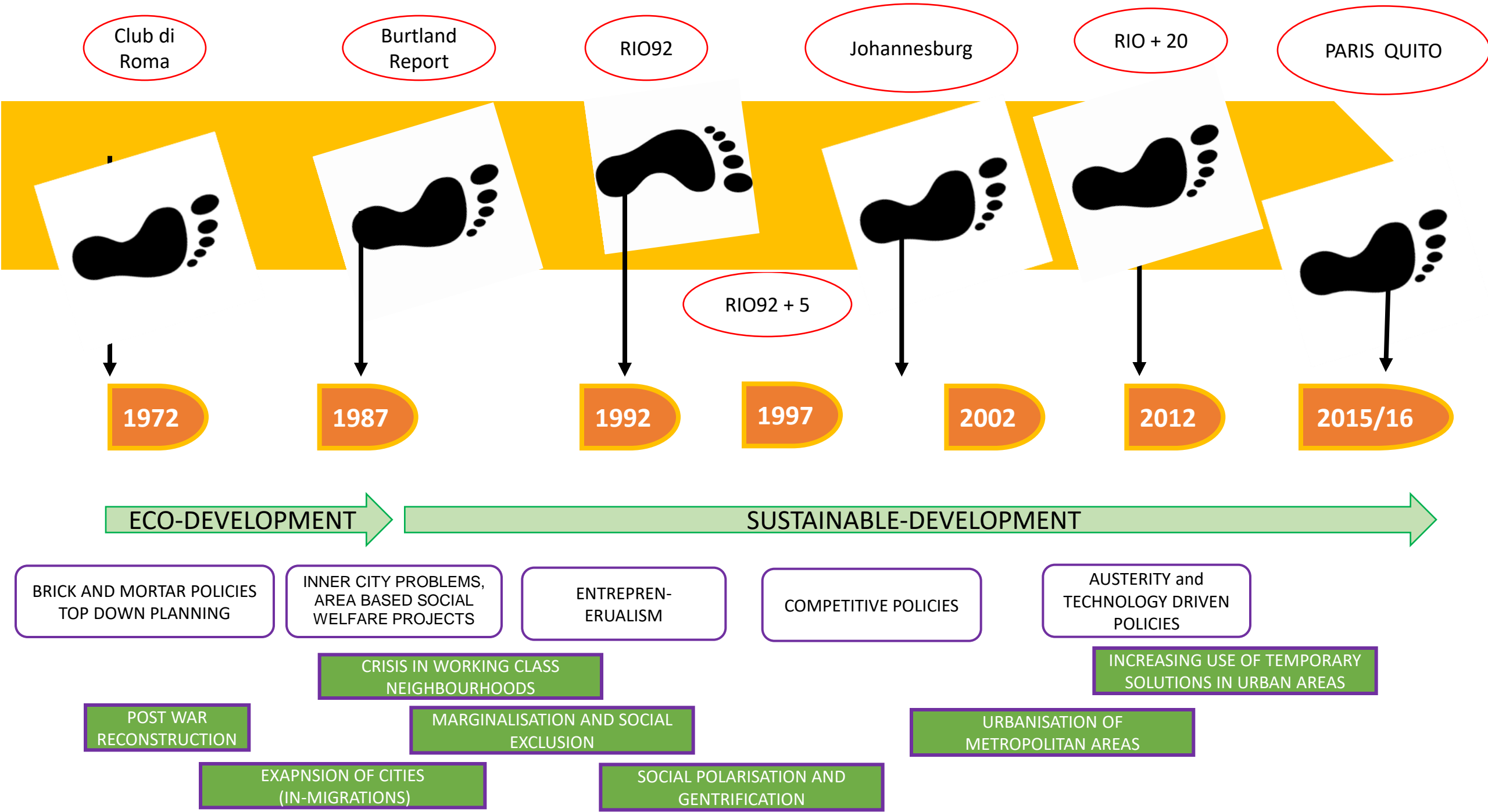
The **Paris Agreement** on climate change

H3, The new Urban Agenda, 2016

The **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**: PEOPLE, PLANET, PROSPERITY, PEACE, PARTNERSHIP

The Club of Rome stimulated considerable public attention with the first report : **The Limits to Growth**. The economic growth could not continue indefinitely because of resource depletion.





SUSTAINABILITY IS NOT JUST A BUZZ WORD

	ECONOMIC DIMENSION	SOCIAL/EQUITY DIMENSION	ENVIRONMENTAL DIMENSION	GOVERNANCE DIMENSION	LOGISTICS DIMENSION	CULTURAL DIMENSION
SUSTAINABLE PLANNING CHOICES	COSTS	STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED	NEGATIVE IMPACTS ON ENVIRONMENT ARE AVOIDED OR MITIGATED	LOCAL CLARIFICATION: ALL COMPETENT ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITIES SUPPORT THE SOLUTION AND DEFINE THEIR ROLE IN FACILITATING THE IMPLEMENTATION	BUDGETARY SUPPORT TO THE PROJECTS	CULTURAL LANDSCAPES
	BENEFITS	GUARANTEED EQUITABLE ACCESS TO BENEFITS	PROJECTS FAVORS THE USE OF RENEWABLE SOURCES/RESOURCES		INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT TO THE PROJECTS	CREATIVE INDUSTRIES
	ECONOMIC RETURN OF PROJECTS	LOCAL DIVERSITY UNDERSTOOD AND CONSIDERED	PROJECTS ARE CONFORM TO EU DIRECTIVE ON:		RIGHT SCALE OF PROPOSED SOLUTIONS (PROJECTS CAN BE MANAGED AT THE SCALE OF THE TOWN AND OF AVAILABLE RESOURCES AND CAPABILITIES)	CULTURAL HERITAGE AS CATALYST FOR DEVELOPMENT
	STABLE JOBS CREATED	INDIVIDUAL/COMMUNITIES EMPOWERMENT IS PURSUED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WASTE MANAGEMENT • WATER MANAGEMENT • SOIL CONSUMPTION • AIR POLLUTION • NOISE POLLUTION 	POLICY TOOLS ARE AVAILABLE TO MANAGE THE DEVELOPMENT OF PROPOSED SOLUTIONS		IDENTITY IN CHANGE/PROGRESS
	TEMPORARY JOBS CREATED	INCLUSIVE ACTIONS ARE PROMOTED	ADAPTATION/MITIGATION CLIMATE CHANGE	PROJECTS ARE CONFORM TO TECHNICAL NORMS AND NORMATIVE PLANNING TOOLS		
	QUALITY OF LIFE					

UNDERSTANDING THE MEANING OF RESILIENCE



The meaning of the word is linked to its Latin origin: the Latin verb *resilire*, composed of *re-* + *salire*, 'to jump' . It was used in the sense of 'to return suddenly', 'to bounce back', by extension also 'to retreat', 'to contract'.

IN PHYSICS: A material under stress is in its resilient phase when **it offers resistance without breaking** and, at the end of the stress, **returns to its initial configuration!**

IN ECOLOGY: Resilience is defined as 'the rate at which a community (or ecological system) returns to its initial state after being subjected to a perturbation that has moved it away from that state; alterations can be caused either by **natural events** or by **anthropogenic activities**.

IN ECONOMY, it seems that resilience gains strength mainly from this concept of **prevention**.

In the **FINANCIAL** sphere, for example, resilience coincides with the ability **to protect oneself** with insurance means in order to better withstand unforeseen events.



Another meaning of resilience in the economic field is the one developed within the debate fuelled by **Serge Latouche**, French economist and philosopher, ideologist of **happy degrowth**, a **possible sustainable and alternative response to the current production system**.

Degrowth aims to develop an economic model that takes its cue from resilience, of which we find examples in nature that show **the capacity in the face of certain crises not to succumb, but rather to renew**.

Resilient for Latouche is **the small artisan, which has survived since Neolithic times, resilient are family-run agricultural enterprises**.

In this narrative, the term resilience is not completely unrelated to the words **prevention** and **resistance**, but adds to these the seed of **perseverance and an idea of a future and welfare in solidarity**;

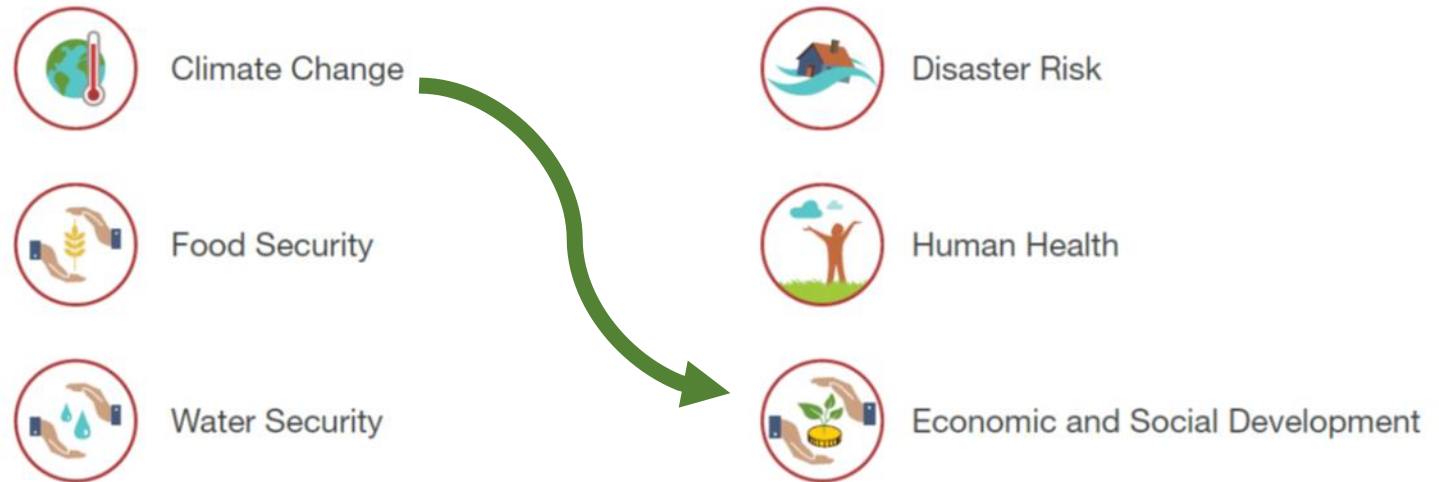


Nature Based Solutions and Societal Challenges

NBS is best considered an umbrella concept that covers a range of different approaches.

These approaches have emerged from a variety of spheres (some from the scientific research domain, others from practice or policy contexts) but share a common focus on

- ecosystem services and
- aim to address societal challenges.



KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE REQUIRED TO WORK WITH NBS

APPLYING NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS INVOLVES HAVING KNOWLEDGE FROM SEVERAL DISCIPLINES

AT LEAST:

1. Soil and Water Bioengineering
2. Air Quality Expertise
3. Renewable Energy Engineering
4. Economy and Finance
5. Urban Planners and Architects
6. Experts in Governance and Policy Design



CLASSIFYING NATURE BASED SOLUTIONS

TYPE 1 - no or minimal intervention in ecosystems - The objective of the action is **to maintain or boost the effects of certain ecosystem services in already existing natural or weakly managed ecosystems**. This type of NBS promotes better use of natural/protected ecosystems, implying the delivery of multiple ecosystem services to multiple stakeholder groups.

TYPE 2 - NBS for sustainability and multi-functionality of managed ecosystems - Effective management towards the sustainability and multifunctionality of ecosystems and landscapes so as **to support selected ecosystem services**. This type of NBS implies an increased provision of fewer ecosystem services to fewer stakeholders' groups.

TYPE 3 - Design and management of new ecosystems - A more transformational “intrusive” approach that is often connected to the **creation of new ecosystems**. Restoration of degraded ecosystems falls under this type. This type of NBS includes the design and management of new ecosystems, seeking to maximise the delivery of key ecosystem services for key stakeholder groups.

PROTECTING/BOOSTING – REINFORCING/EMPOWERING – RECOVERING/REVITALISING

CLASSIFYING NATURE BASED SOLUTIONS

Type 1 – Better use of protected/natural ecosystems

1. Protection and conservation strategies in terrestrial (e.g. Natura2000),
2. Marine (e.g. MPA), and coastal areas (e.g. mangroves) ecosystems

MINIMAL INTERVENTION

Type 2 – NBS for sustainability and multifunctionality of managed ecosystems

1. Agricultural landscape management
2. Coastal landscape management
3. Extensive urban green space management
4. Monitoring

IMPLEMENTING SUSTAINABLE
AND MULTIFUNCTIONAL
ECOSYSTEMS AND LANDSCAPES

Type 3 – Design and management of new ecosystems

1. Intensive urban green space management
2. Urban planning strategies
3. Urban water management
4. Ecological restoration of degraded terrestrial ecosystems
5. Restoration and creation of semi-natural water bodies and hydrographic networks
6. Ecological restoration of degraded coastal and marine ecosystems

INTRUSIVE APPROACH,
CREATING NEW ECOSYSTEMS

SOURCE: https://www.researchgate.net/publication/315481005_Nature-based_solutions_new_influence_for_environmental_management_and_research_in_Europe

SOURCE: https://platform.think-nature.eu/system/files/thinknature_handbook_final_print_0.pdf

Protezione e Rafforzamento – Aumento della Sostenibilità – Recupero e Rigenerazione

ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

The value of nature to people has long been recognized, but in recent years, the concept of ecosystem services has been developed to describe these various benefits. An ecosystem service is **any positive benefit that wildlife or ecosystems provide to people**. The benefits can be direct or indirect—small or large.

Regulating services

Provisioning services

Cultural services

Supporting services



CIRCULAR ECONOMIES AND THE CITY

Waste Reduction and Recycling: Minimize waste through efficient recycling systems, waste-to-energy technologies, and composting.

Sustainable Urban Design: Promote buildings with low environmental impact, energy efficiency, and modularity for reuse.

Resource Looping: Implement strategies for reusing materials and resources within the city, such as greywater reuse and circular supply chains.

Urban Agriculture: Introduce urban farming initiatives to create local food systems that reduce transportation emissions and waste.

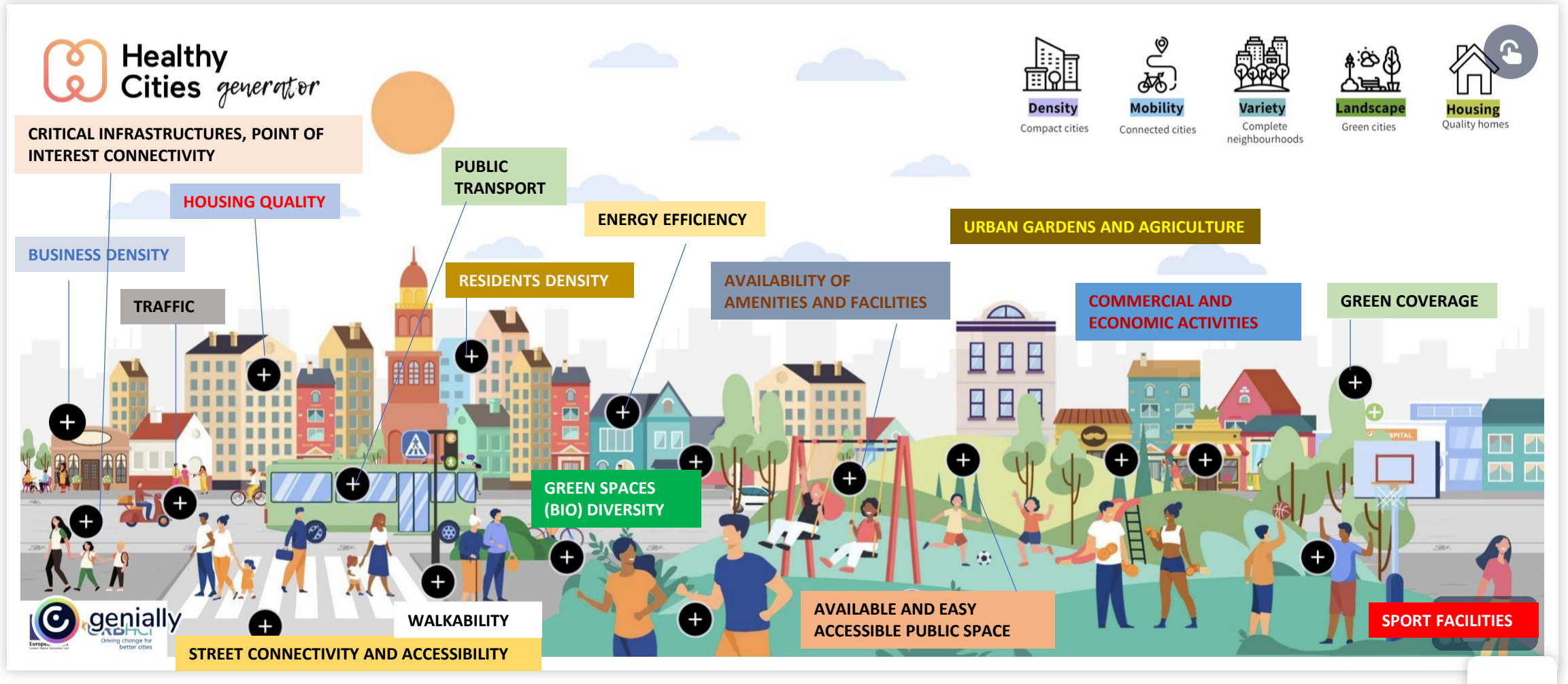
Energy from Renewables: Shift to renewable energy sources like solar and wind to power urban areas sustainably

Collaboration and Policy: Engage local governments, businesses, and communities to drive circular initiatives and establish supportive regulations.



The scientific evidence is strong: urban planning can influence health in many ways.

Get to know our urban determinants of health and discover the mental, physical, and environmental health impact of each category.



PLANNING WITH/FOR CULTURAL HERITAGE

In the perspective of providing indications on how to proceed with the design of an action plan for the enhancement of Culture and Cultural Heritage (C&CH).

- It is to understand the evolution of the approach towards the **contextualization of tangible and intangible assets into a strategic planning process triggered at urban and territorial scale.**
- This approach is **no more strictly technical and hierarchical, but it implies the involvement of the diverse stakeholders playing a role at the local level.**
- Moreover, it is to consider that **research activities** are an integral part of the definition of the design principles.



CULTURAL HERITAGE: AN OPERATIONAL DEFINITION FOR USE AND CONSUMPTION BY URBAN PLANNERS

In approaching the design of a strategic plan focussed on Cultural Heritage, it is important to define how this should be considered in order to have a comprehensive approach to the design process. The following definition can set the limits within it is possible to operate with Cultural Heritage in the context of a strategic plan:

*The Cultural Heritage is the **set of tangible and intangible assets**, both inherited **from the past and created in the contemporaneity**, both **human and natural**, that through the selection operated by current societal values are considered*

- ***to be preserved,***
- ***to be openly used for educational purposes and opportunities to learn***
- ***to be promoted as driver for sustainable development.***

RELEVANCE OF CULTURAL HERITAGE IN PLANNING CITIES' STRATEGIES

In this time of ever-increasing urbanization, the cultural heritage plays a relevant role in sketching development strategies for the contemporary city.

This is extensively documented by supranational institutions; among these it is worth remembering:

- The UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO),
- the United Nations (UN),
- the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS),
- the international Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM)
- UN Habitat.

Many other supranational institutions taking care of urban sustainable development have in their objectives programmes and actions related to the cultural heritage preservation and valorisation.

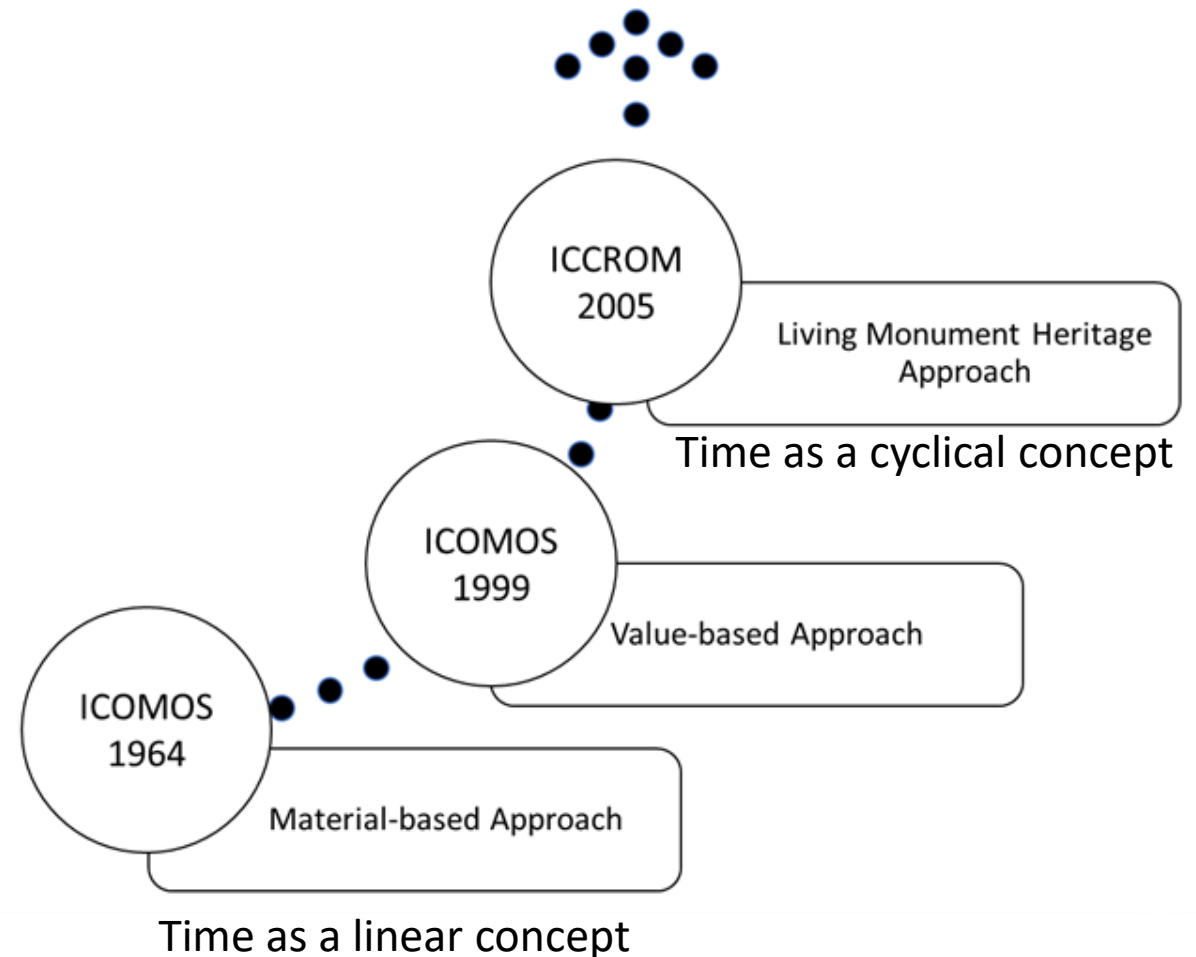


In the 60's we basically have a Material-based Approach. The conservation of heritage is in the hands of heritage authorities (mostly state appointed, Venice Charter 1964) and the local community input is not reflected in the practices: *Mainly an expert driven approach*, giving extreme focus on the preservation of the material/fabric of a monument

At the end of 90's gets relevance the Value-based Approach. It is the current most preferred approach to Heritage Management. Largely based on the Burra Charter (ICOMOS, it focuses on the values that society (consisting of various stakeholders) ascribes to heritage. Through this *approach the "community" is placed at the core of the management process.*

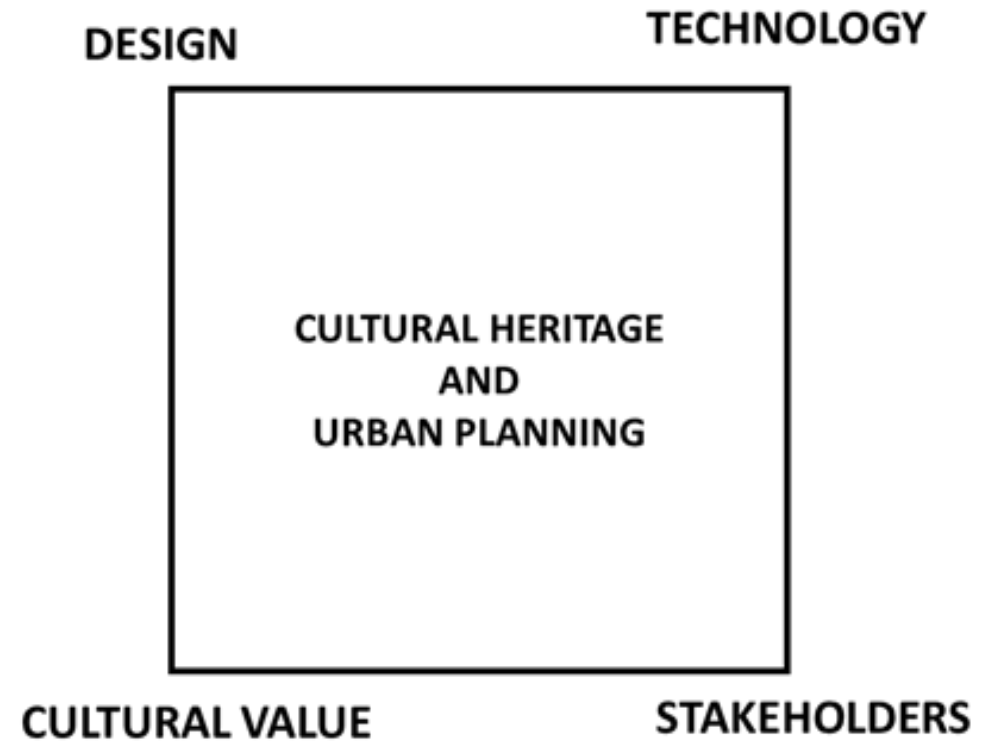
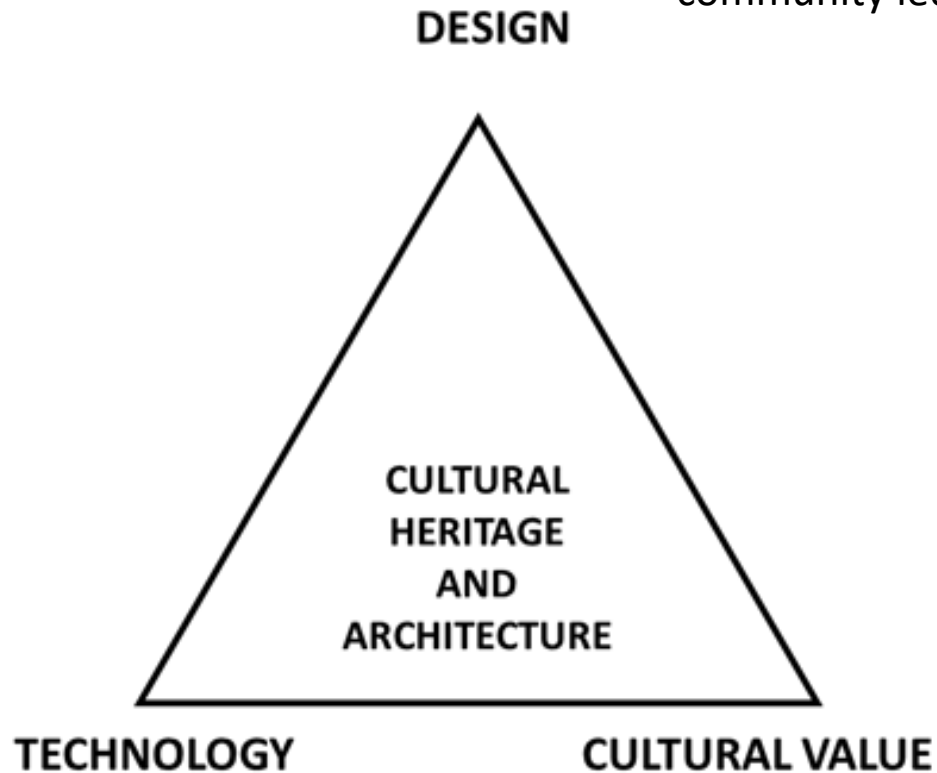
At the beginning of this century, another approach took place: The Living Heritage (ICCROM). The Living Heritage is characterized by the concept of "continuity"; the continuity of a heritage site's original function or "the purpose for which they were originally intended" and the continuity of community connections (continuity of a core community).

The core community is also responsible for the continuous care of the heritage through traditional or established means (continuity of care). The practices, representations, expressions, knowledge, skills - as well as the instruments, objects, artifacts and cultural spaces associated therewith – that communities, groups and, in some cases, individuals recognize as part of their cultural heritage.

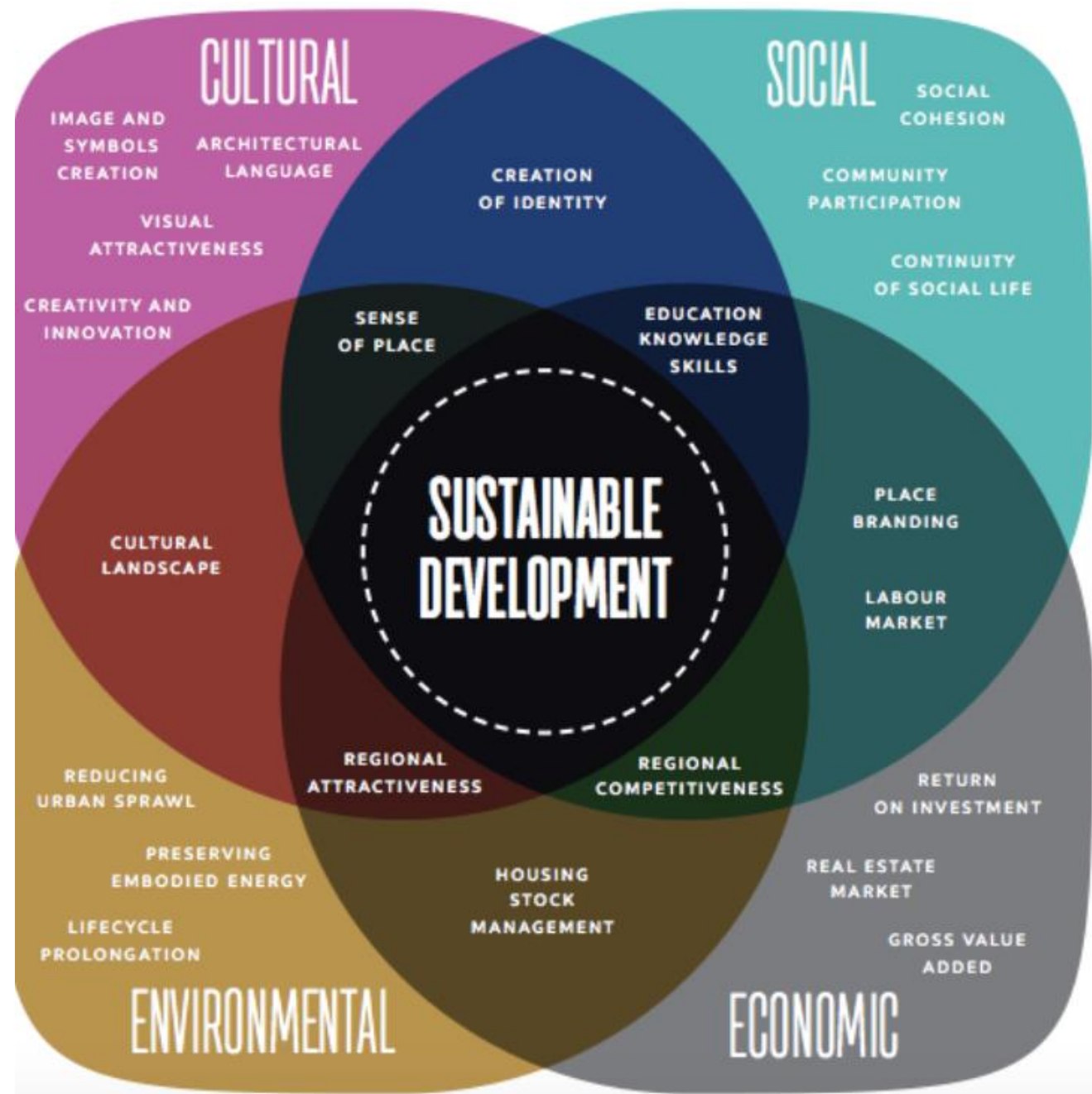
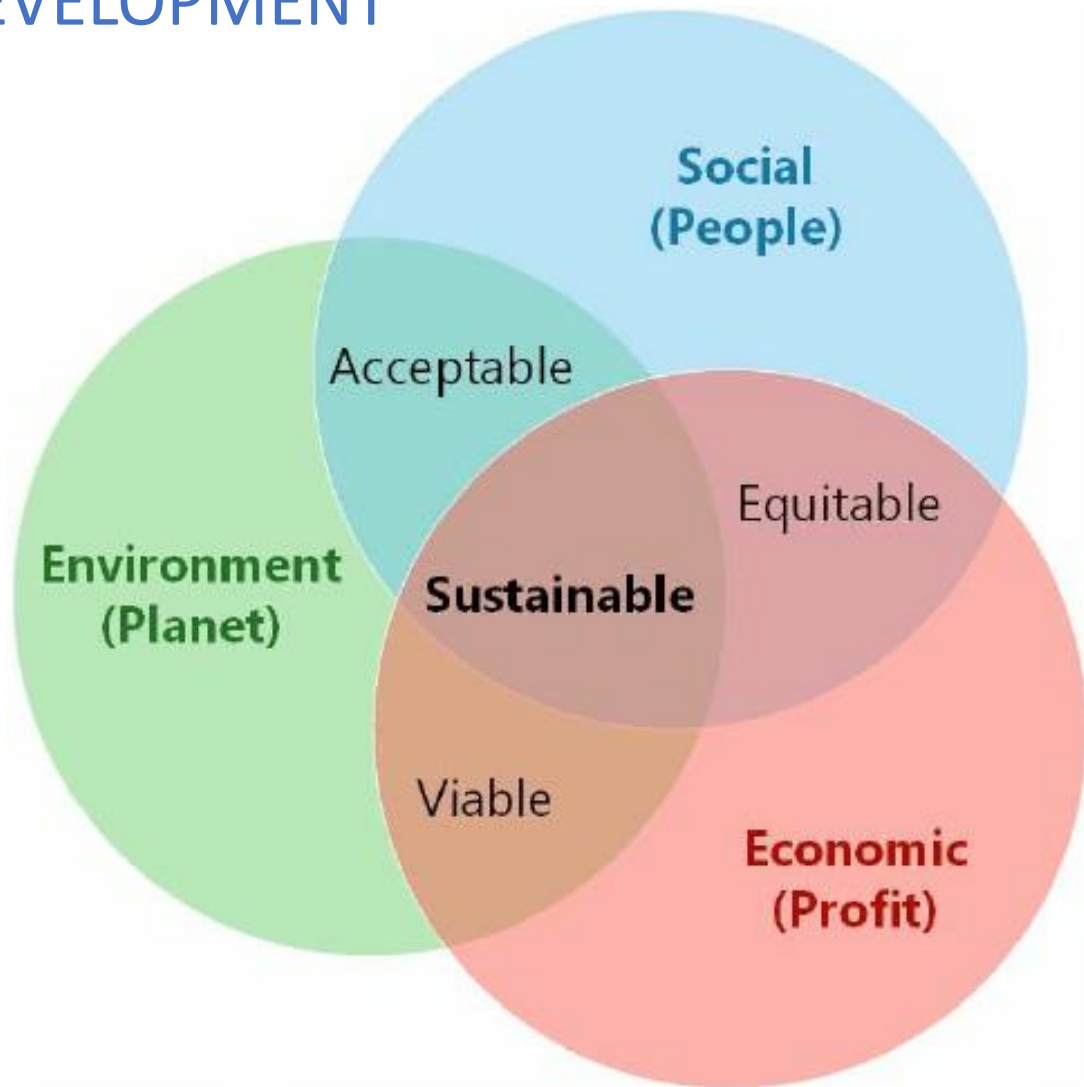


CULTURAL HERITAGE IS NOT JUST A QUESTION OF OBJECTS

From the perspective of a strictly architectural approach linked to tangible cultural heritage (the buildings, the object, from antiquity to the contemporary of late modernity), **the relationship with heritage is played around three cornerstones: design, technology, and cultural value.** **Urban planning, as a science of development and society, must consider economic, social aspects and the correct use of resources.** The stakeholders (the builders of the partnerships, which must also include citizens, the "people" component) become crucial (in terms of local rooting initiatives and making them "community led")



A MORE REALISTIC, OPERATIONAL DEFINITION OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



...JUST ONE...



GGONO DA POZZUOLI CHE TRE

ti, 60 scosse (una di 5°). Una frana, palazzi lesionati, calc
il panico 30 contusi. Danneggiata la sede della Protezione

FARE

SSO per la fasci
a terra fiegrea.
a di miti dell'anti
ca e dell'oposità
la sua gente, i
ni della paura, i
ono diventati i
rrore e della rab
diventati i giorni
are?». Un «che
uale bisogna asso
presto, cancella
interrogativo. Già
o aver vissuto per
scossa in casa, co
essere fiaccati da
ra estenuante -
miveglia da incu
cipite abbandonò
ni quotidiani

■ Pozzuoli ore 13.32. Dopo uno sciame di scosse (la sequenza sismica dell'intera giornata ne registrerà 60), un boato annuncia il sussulto più grave, quinto grado della scala Mercalli.

■ È subito caos. Rete elettrica e telefoni in tilt. La gente si precipita nelle strade, trenta contusi nelle resse per guadagnare le uscite dai palazzi.

■ Il panico alimenta le prime notizie di crolli e catastrofi. Saranno smentite dalle prime verifiche: ma il bilancio delle lesioni ai fabbricati resta pesante. Il terremoto ha colpito vecchie costruzioni anche nei centri limitrofi: Agnano, Quarto, Bagnoli e Bacoli. Una frana sotto monte S. Angelo.

■ Tensione e angoscia anche all'ospedale e nel carcere femminile che è stato sgomberato. C'è gente che organizza la fuga verso sistemazioni provvisorie, presso familiari un migliaio di persone invadono il campeggio di Licola, solo 400 trovano posto penetrando nei bungalow e nelle 50 roulotte; molti organizzano campeggi sui lati delle strade con tende di fortuna.

■ Il terrore si trasforma in rabbia. La folla devasta gli uffici della Protezione civile e del centro operativo comunale.

■ Ordinanza di sgombero immediato per quattro edifici lesionati.

■ Il ministro Scotti, in stretto collegamento con tutti gli enti responsabili, segue la situazione e coordina i primi interventi. Pre-disposto l'invio immediato di tende per 700 posti-letto. In un'intervista al nostro giornale, il ministro assicura: «La mobilitazione è stata immediata. Almeno non si sono ravvisati i motivi per far scattare il piano di sgombero. Sono ore difficili: dobbiamo superare il primo giudizio sul



Monterusciello represents a case of urban poverty induced by a natural disaster: the bradyseism of 1983 which shocked and drastically changed the lives of citizens residing in the historic center of Pozzuoli.







TO FIGURE OUT

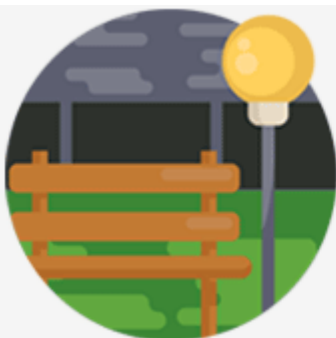




AGRICOLTURA

AGRICULTURE

MAC Monterusciello Agro City



AMBIENTE URBANO

URBAN ENVIRONMENT



FORMAZIONE

TRAINING



IMPRENDITORIALITA'

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

<https://www.macpozzuoli.eu/>





STATE OF PLAY





Covenant of Mayors
for Climate & Energy
EUROPE

STATE OF PLAY

BEFORE



AFTER



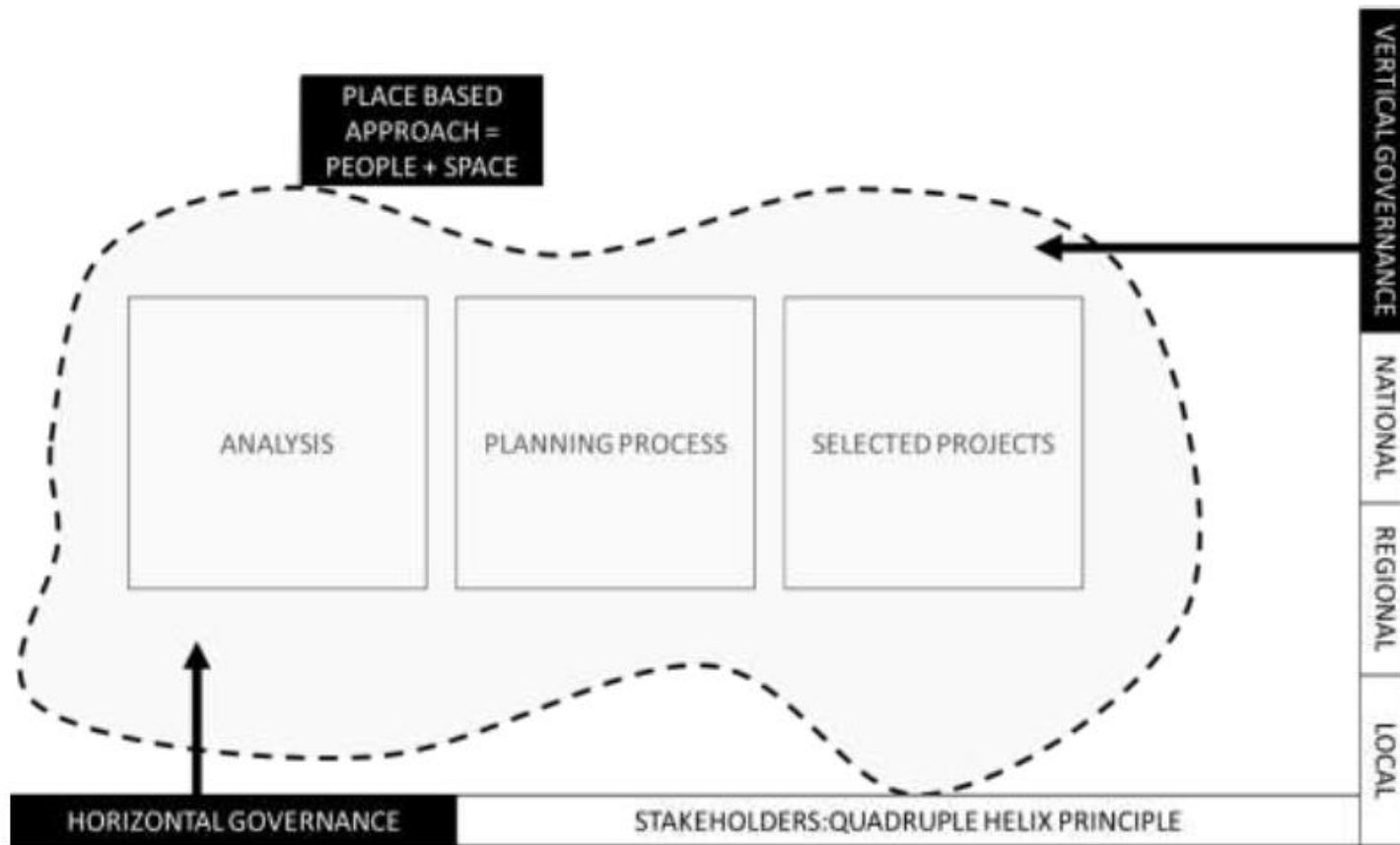
BEFORE



AFTER



INTEGRATED URBAN APPROACH



The integrated approach can act at different urban scales, from the neighborhood to the metropolitan area.

The conceptual context is that of a place-based approach, that means harmonizing those assets characterizing the vertical and horizontal governance in clearly defined spatial setting.

For an action plan, in every case it is important that each single phase is involving:

- 1. The proper stakeholders,**
- 2. the competent governance layers (representing the diverse sectoral policies)**
- 3. the diverse professional competencies (multidisciplinary applied knowledge)**

Figure 1, A simple governance scheme to keep in mind to start an action plan, designed by the author

In the early 1900s, biologist **Patrick Geddes** offered his vision of the regional city.

He took Howard's idea one step further by proposing regional planning as the answer to the congested large metropolis.

Further, Geddes maintained that each sub-region would be developed with the principles of ecological balance and resource renewal in mind.

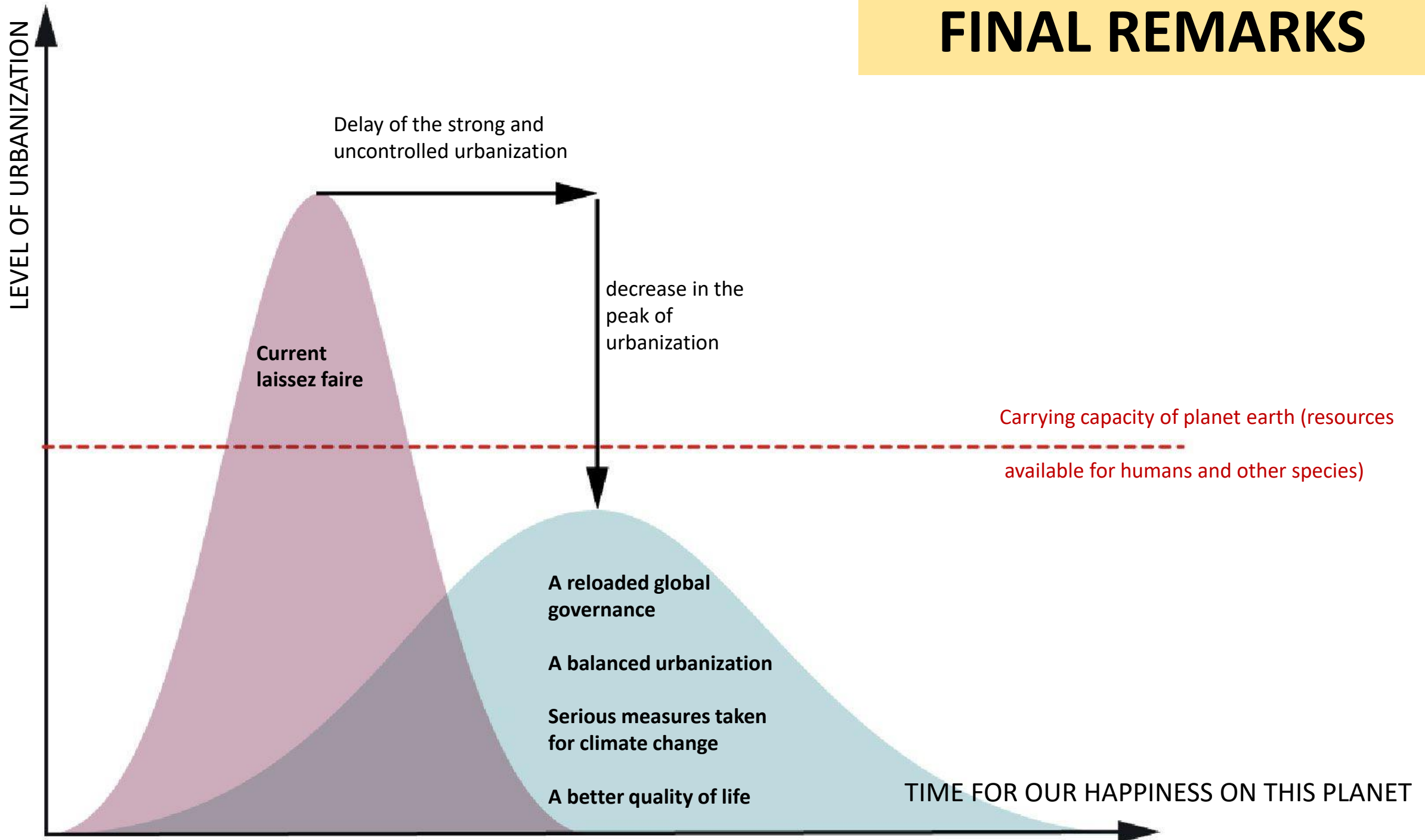
"Each of the various specialists remains too closely concentrated upon his single specialism, too little awake to those of the others. Each sees clearly and seizes firmly upon one petal of the six-lobed flower of life and tears it apart from the whole."



"A city is more than a place in space, it is a drama in time"

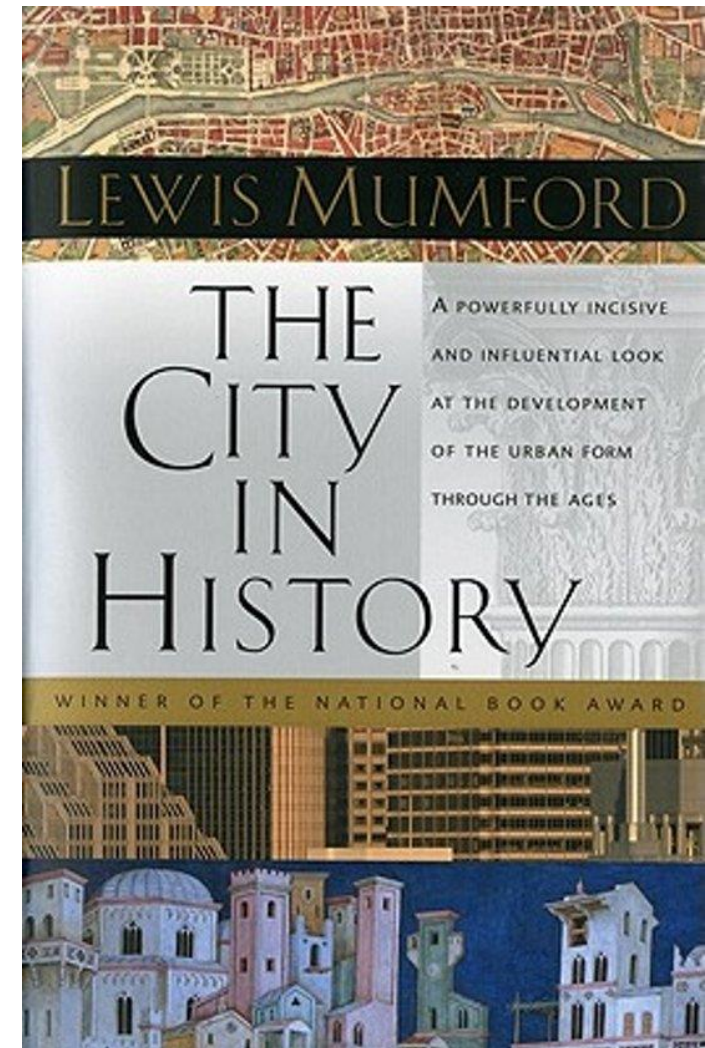
PROMOTE TRANSDISCIPLINARITY BEYOND SECTORAL KNOWLEDGE.

FINAL REMARKS



EXACTLY A CENTURY AGO, WHAT WE URBANISTS THOUGHT AND WROTE

The task of the coming city is to put the highest concerns of man at the center of all his activities: to unite the scattered fragments of the human personality, turning artificially dismembered men – bureaucrats, specialists, “experts,” depersonalized agents – into complete human beings, repairing the damage that has been done by vocational separation, by social segregation, by the overcultivation of favored function, by tribalisms and nationalisms, by the absence of organic partnerships and ideal purposes.



CONCLUDING THOUGHTS (I)

Powerful forces are shaping our cities' futures:

urbanization, technological advancement, climate change, and social inequality.

But at the heart of all these challenges lies an incredible opportunity:

The chance to reimagine how we build, manage, and live in urban spaces.

- **THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY** provides us with a model for the PRESENT AND THE FUTURE where
 - waste is minimized,
 - resources are reused, and
 - cities become engines of sustainability rather than consumption.

This isn't just about reducing emissions or improving recycling; it's about creating cities that:

- work in harmony with their environment,
- fostering innovation, and
- delivering better quality of life for everyone

CONCLUDING THOUGHTS (II)

The **CRITICAL ROLE OF CULTURAL HERITAGE**—not just as a leftover of the past, but as a living, dynamic force that must shape the way we plan for the future.

Our cities are more than physical spaces; they are

- **repositories of identity, memory, and creativity.**

By placing cultural heritage at the heart of urban strategies, we ensure that the fabric of our cities reflects both their history and their evolving needs, IT CAN BE A DRIVER FOR LOCAL ECONOMIES, especially of small and medium-sized cities.

In doing so, we redefine **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**. It's no longer just about balancing economic, environmental, and social factors—

It is about embracing **a more full and wide-ranging approach**, one that recognizes the value of

- **cultural, social, and human capital.**

This richer definition asks us **TO LOOK BEYOND THE NUMBERS AND METRICS**, and consider how cities can promote a true quality of life for all their inhabitants.

CONCLUDING THOUGHTS (III)

In closing, I urge all of us **TO THINK BEYOND THE SILOS**, to embrace a future where URBAN PLANNING IS TRANSDISCIPLINARY, inclusive, and deeply rooted in the unique context of each city.

- **It's vital that we move away from one-size-fits-all solutions and recognize that every city is different, shaped by its own cultural, historical, and social fabric.**
- **The strength of a truly sustainable urban approach lies in its ability to adapt our general principles to the local rooting of each community (COMMUNITY (CO) DESIGN).**

This requires us to be flexible and sensitive to the diverse needs, challenges, and opportunities that cities around the world face. We cannot afford to focus solely on the distant future while neglecting the urgent issues of the present.

Social inequality, environmental degradation, and governance problems demand immediate attention, and our solutions must be as varied and dynamic as the cities themselves.

Ultimately, it is through the **MANAGEMENT OF DIVERSITY—CULTURAL, SPATIAL, AND SOCIAL**—that we will succeed in creating cities that not only meet global aspirations but reflect the identities and needs of their inhabitants:

- **Working together across disciplines, we unlock the potential to design CITIES THAT ARE NOT ONLY FUTURE-ORIENTED BUT ALSO SOLVE THE PROBLEMS OF TODAY.**
- **Let us break down barriers, EMBRACE LOCAL DIVERSITY, and shape urban spaces that truly thrive for generations to come."**

THE 5 ESSENTIAL INGREDIENTS FOR RESPONSIBLE URBAN PLANNING

INEQUALITY → ADDRESSING (POLITICS/POLICY)

INNOVATION → SUPPORTING (PROGRAMMES/TRAINING)

INCLUSION → PRACTICING (CO-CREATING/CODESIGNING/CAPACITY OF SHARING OUR VISIONS)

IMMAGINATION → PROMOTING (EDUCATION/TRAINING/TOOLS)

INFORMATION → SMART USING





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