



# UN-HABITAT

Sustainable urban development

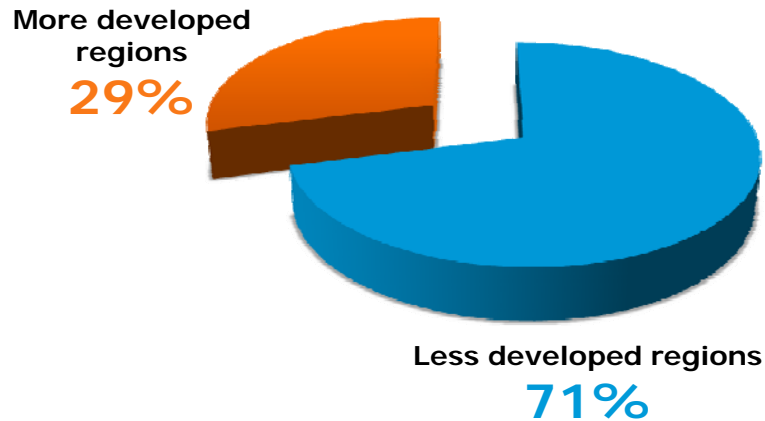
Adequate shelter for all

An aerial photograph of a city skyline. In the foreground, there are traditional buildings with red-tiled roofs. In the background, a dense cluster of modern skyscrapers reaches into a blue sky with light clouds. A blue semi-transparent box is overlaid on the right side of the image, containing white text.

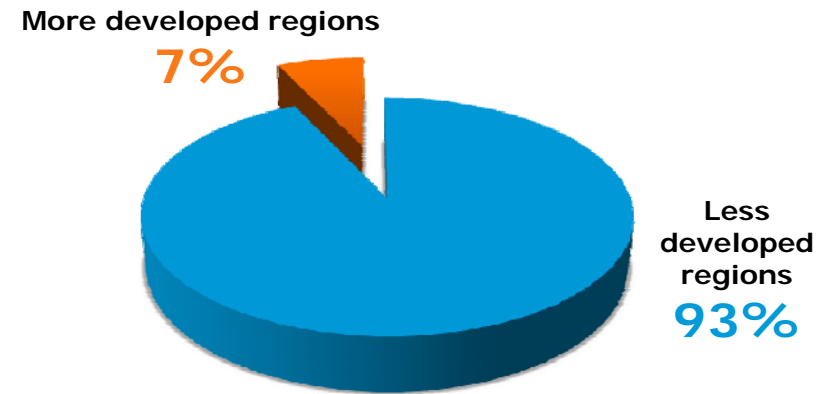
United Nations agency for the  
built environment focusing on  
inclusive, greener, safer cities

# Urbanization in the world

URBAN POPULATION BY REGION (2005)

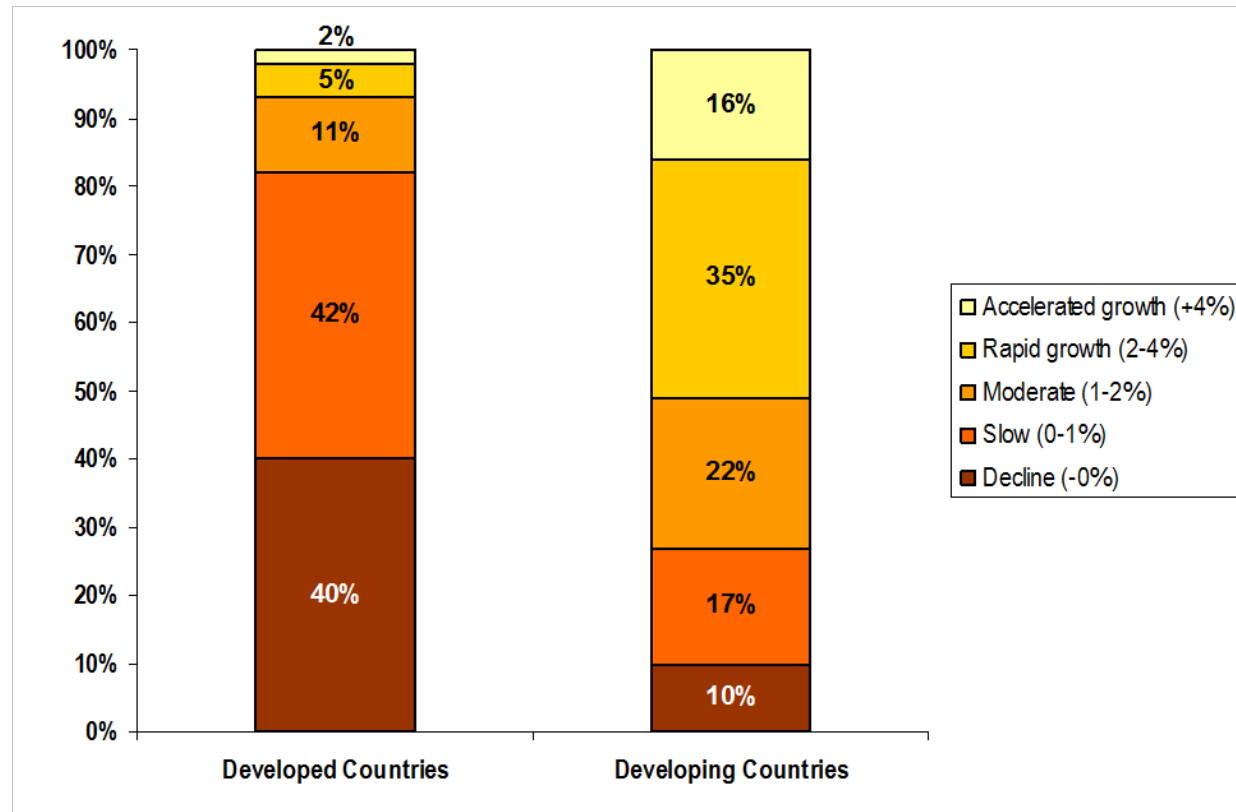


PERCENTAGE GROWTH OF URBAN POPULATION BY REGION (2005-2020)



- Today, one in two people on the planet is an urban dweller
- Urbanization is happening mostly in developing countries (93%)
- Cities are growing because of:
  - natural increase in urban population (50%)
  - reclassification of rural areas as urban areas (25%)
  - rural-to-urban migration (25%)

# Urban growth by region



In the North, almost half of the cities are declining  
In the South, more than half of cities are growing very fast  
Developing world cities growing 10 times faster



# Cities – opportunities and challenges

- General wealth
- Enhance social Development
- Provide employment
- Incubators of innovation and creativity



- Pockets of poverty
- Exclusion and marginalization
- Environmental degradation
- Decay

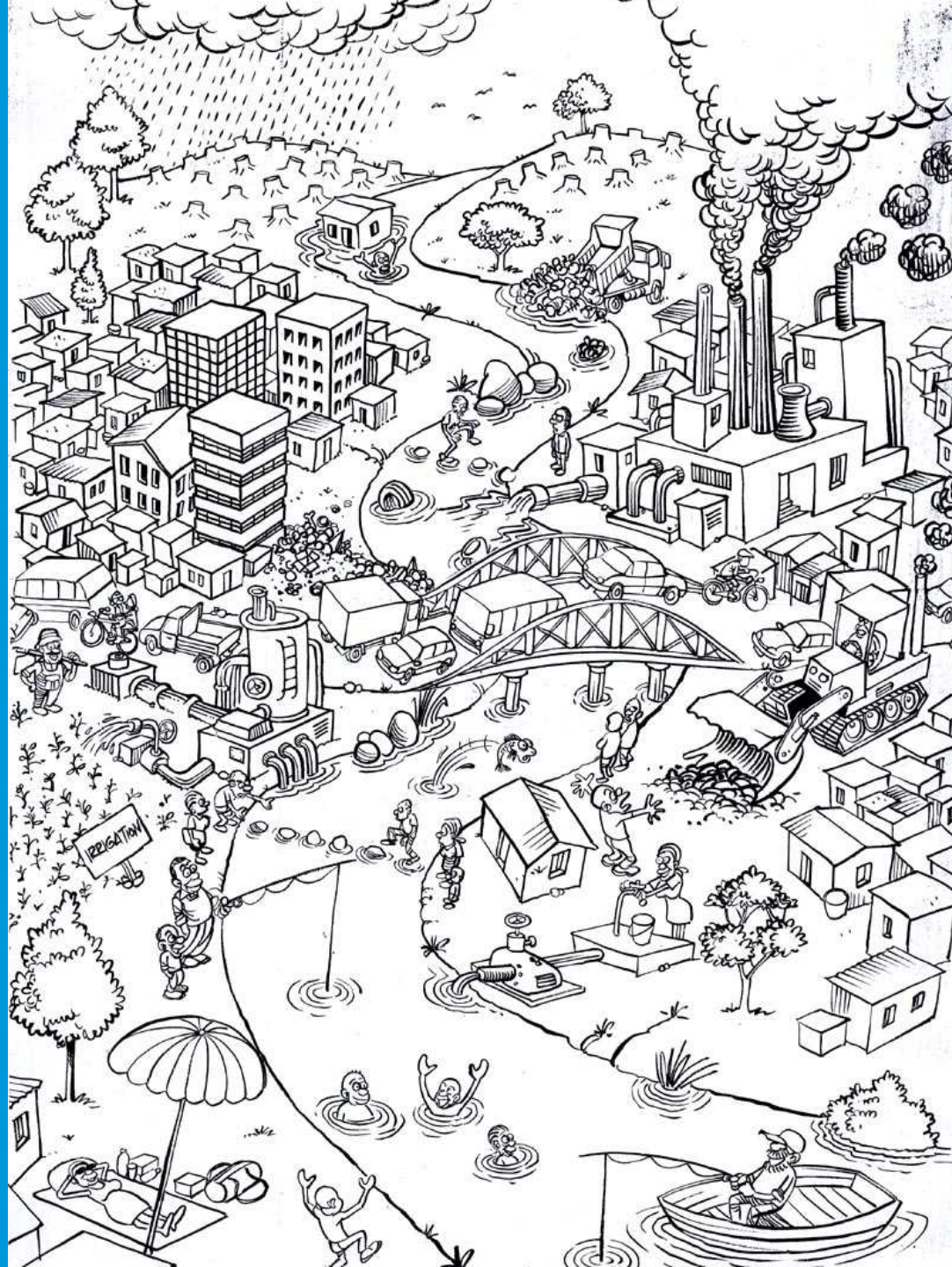


# Urban Development through investments

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- More than 40 % of the fastest growing cities in the developing world benefitted from the diversification, expansion or improvement of regional or national transport systems.
- Investment in transport and communications infrastructure not only increases the overall productivity of cities, nations and regions, it also promotes balanced urban and regional development.

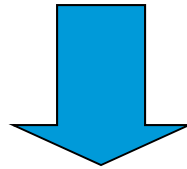




# Cities and Biodiversity - CHALLENGES

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Natural habitats are under threat from:



- Rapid population growth rates
- Rapid expansion of unplanned urban and rural settlements
- Lack of expert knowledge in sustainable land and water resources management



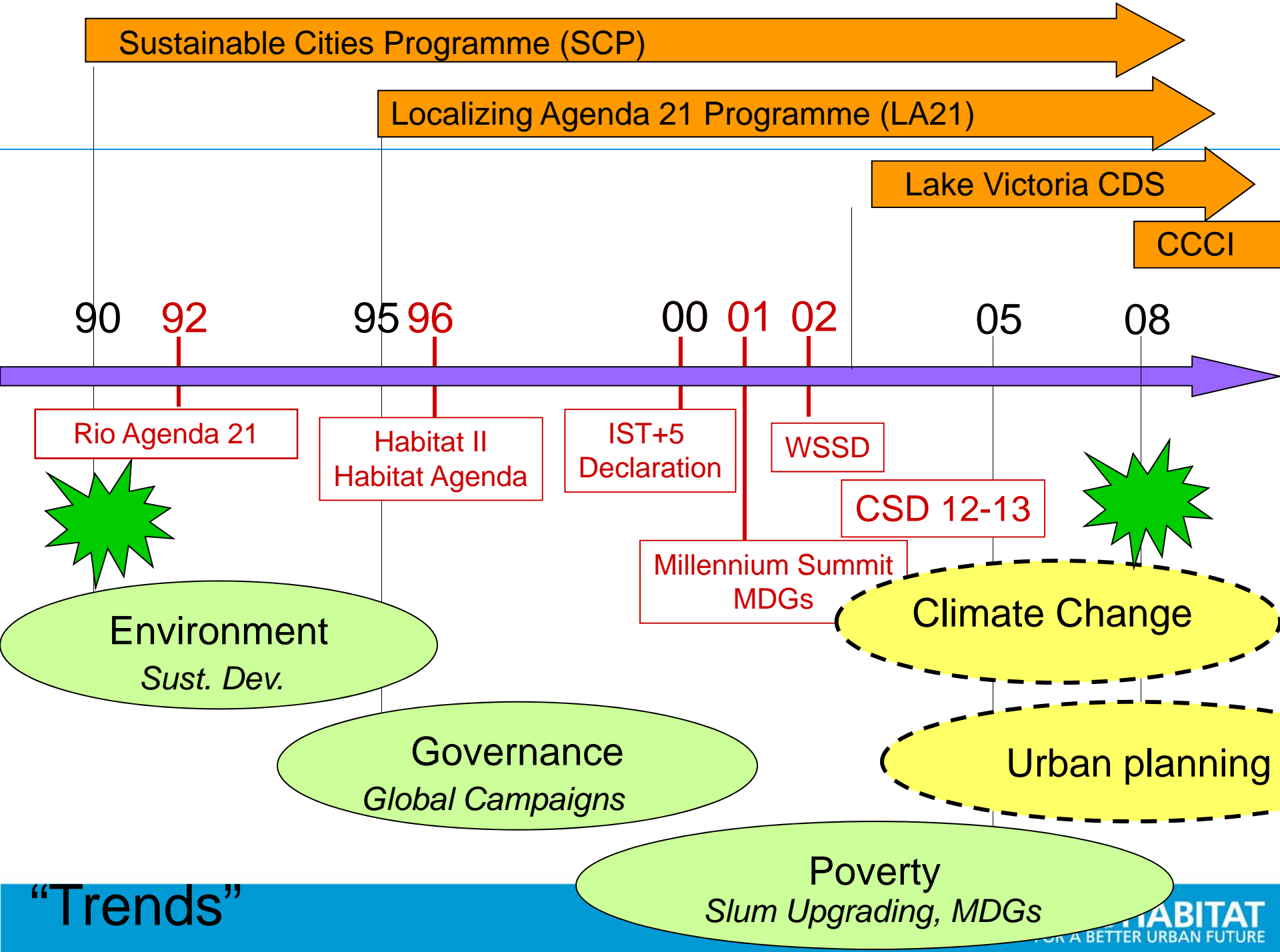
# EFFECTS

Air and water pollution

Scarcity of green spaces



Deforestation and wetland degradation due to poor land use practices





**Conservation of the Entebbe  
Botanical Gardens**



**Rehabilitation of Jomo Kenyatta  
Grounds, Kisumu**

# City Development Strategies (CDS)

*Local initiatives include:*

- Improved solid waste management
- Environmental education and awareness raising
  - Tree planting

## INVENTARIO DE AREAS VERDES, Lima/Callao, Peru



## Open Space strategy, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania



## Mangrove rehabilitation, Cagayan d'Oro, Philippines



# Sustainable Cities Programme (SCP)

*Local initiatives include:*

- Open Space management
- Management of Sensitive Environments
- Environmental Management Information Systems



# SUD-Net

## Cities and Climate Change Initiative (CCCI)

### Key Concern:

Urbanization affects climate change, resulting in impacts to cities, ecosystems and livelihoods. The severest burden is born by **urban poor in slums**. Local initiatives are often disconnected from national action plans.



### Objective of CCCI:

To enhance climate change **mitigation and adaptation capacity** of cities in developing & least developed countries.

# Areas of action – win-wins

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- Influence (strategic) urban plans (– spatial –) as valuable ecosystems often not suitable for urban expansion
- Incorporate Biodiversity aspects in existing tools e.G. (strategic) EIAs
- Focus on housing sector as major new investments will take place
- Promote 'ecosystem services providing basic urban services' e.G. coral reefs (protection against storm), wetlands (cleaning sewage), forests (providing firewood)

# Target groups

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- urban planner, city manager, local governments
  - national ministries for local government AND housing,
  - private sector – housing, (small-scale) industries
  - students?
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- Coordination and collaboration between national, provincial and local authorities can achieve harmonious regional and urban development, provided they share a common vision and demonstrate sufficient political will

