Urbanization and Migration - Two Global Mega Trends:
Diversity, Opportunities, and Challenges

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Today's Agenda

Historical Global Urbanization Regional Trends and Variations

Migration: People, Places and Policies

Urbanization, City Population Growth, and Land Use

International Migration: Numbers, Forms, Opportunities, and Challenges

Cities: Engine of Sustainable Development

Refugees, Asylum Seekers, and IDPs

Migration: Drivers of Urban Transition
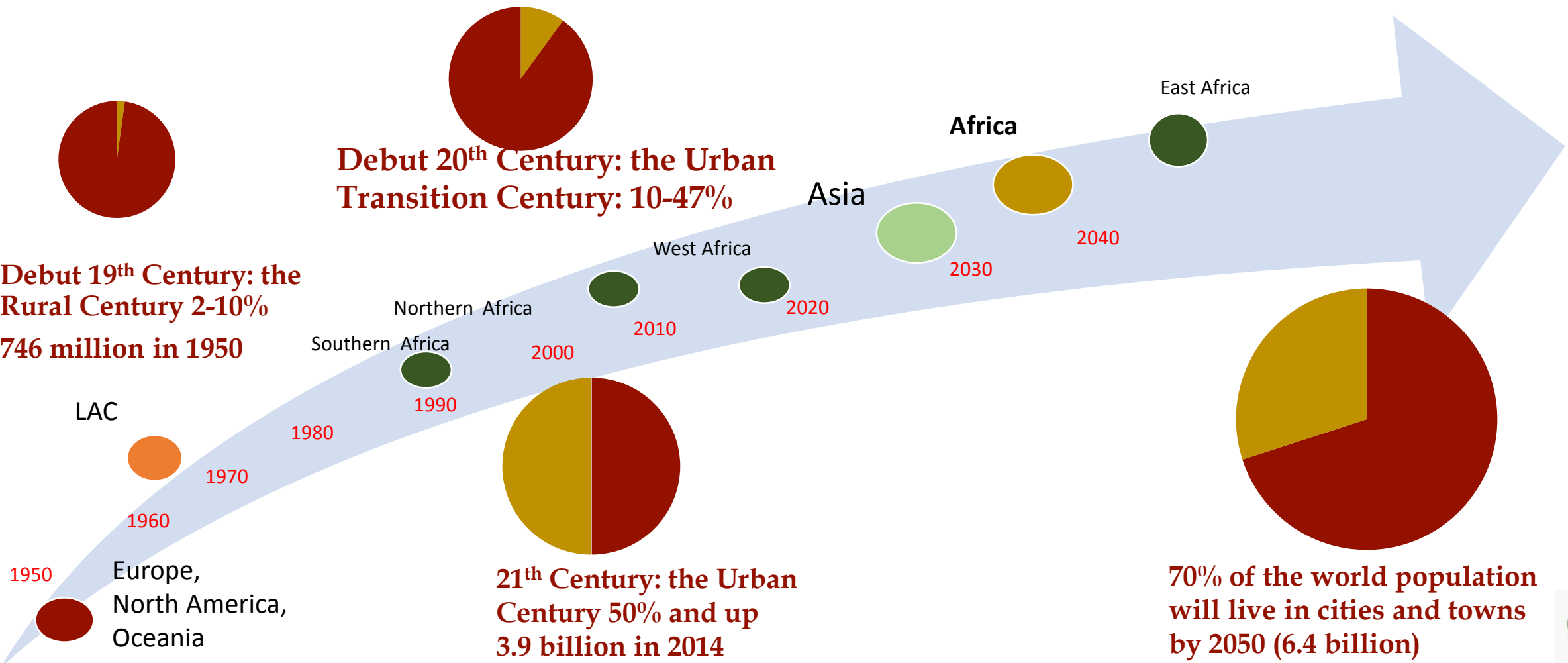
Policies for International Migration

Migration: Solution for Shrinking Cities and Ageing Population

Conclusion and Recommendations

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Generalization of the urban world in the 21th century

Debut 20th Century: the Urban Transition Century: 10-47%

East Africa

Africa

Asia

2040

West Africa

2030

Debut 19th Century: the Rural Century 2-10% 746 million in 1950

Northern Africa

2020

Southern Africa

2010

2000

LAC

1990

1980

1970

1960

1950

Europe, North America, Oceania

21th Century: the Urban Century 50% and up 3.9 billion in 2014

70% of the world population will live in cities and towns by 2050 (6.4 billion)
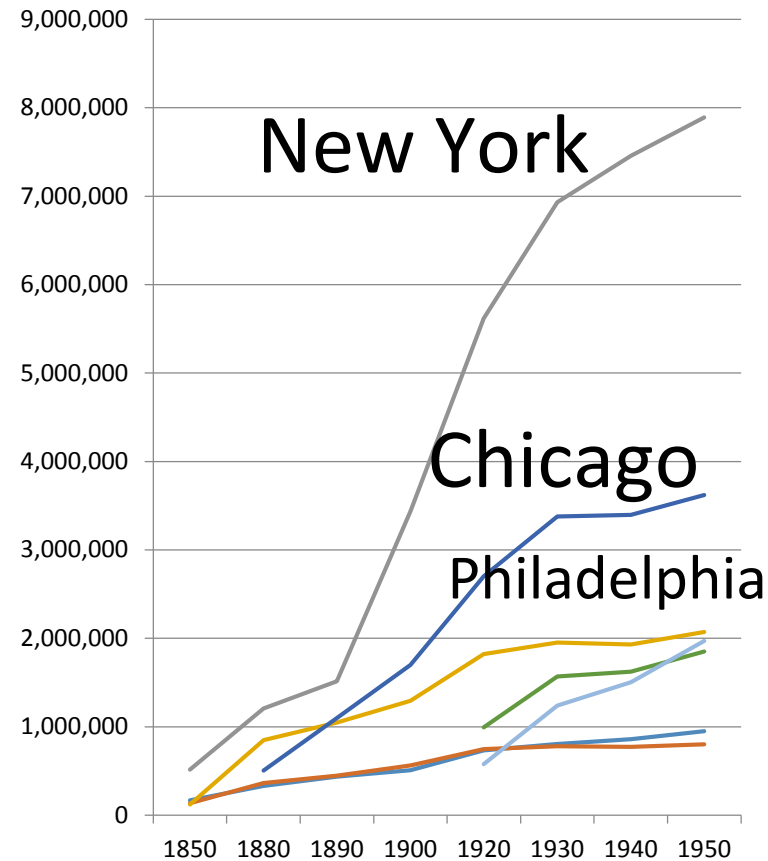
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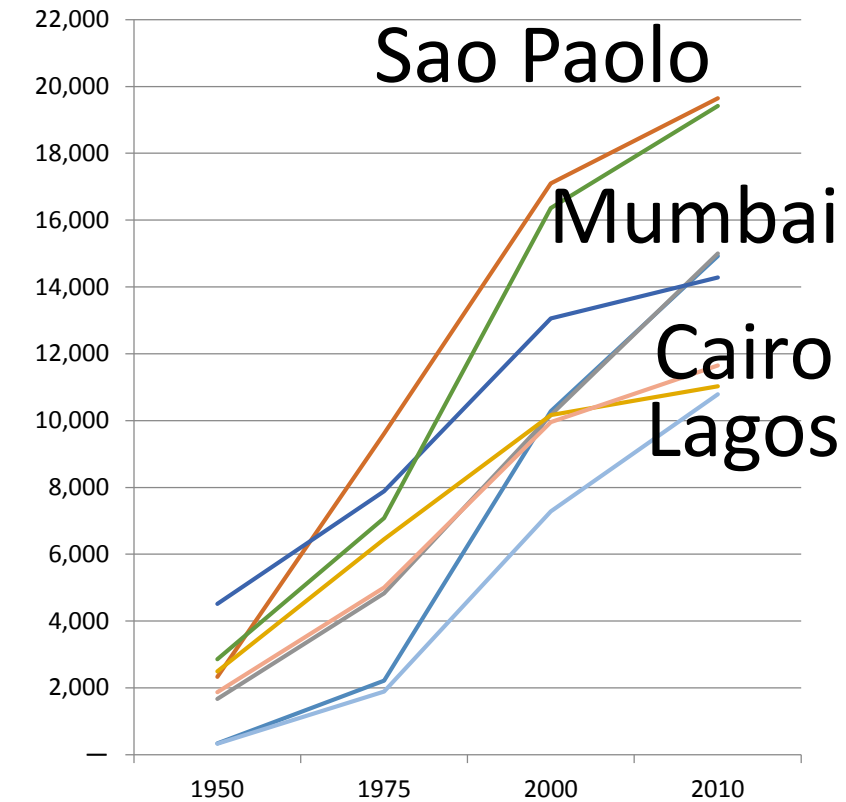
Urbanization and city population growth

Urbanization has been accompanied with the emergence of large cities and the formation of city regions, metropolitan regions and urban corridors
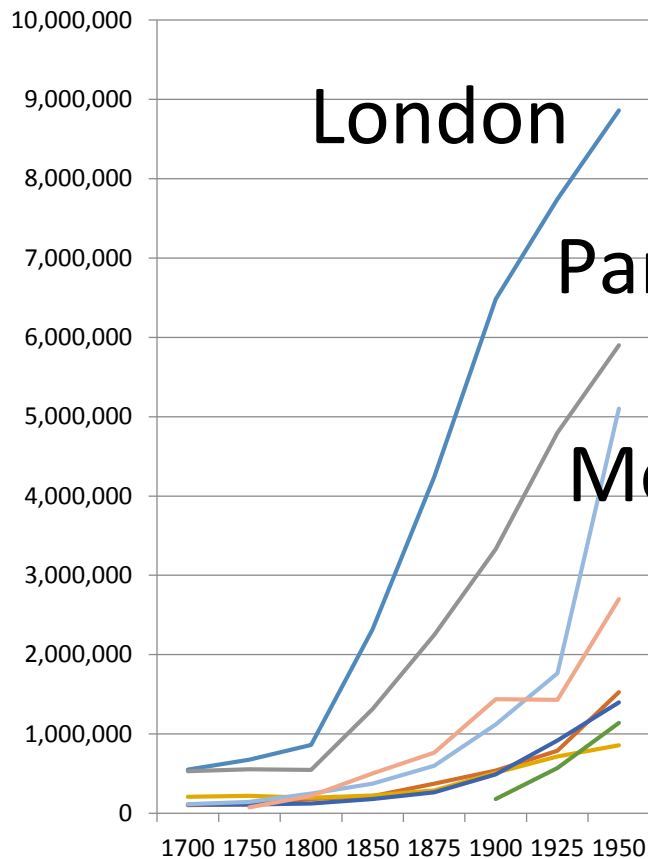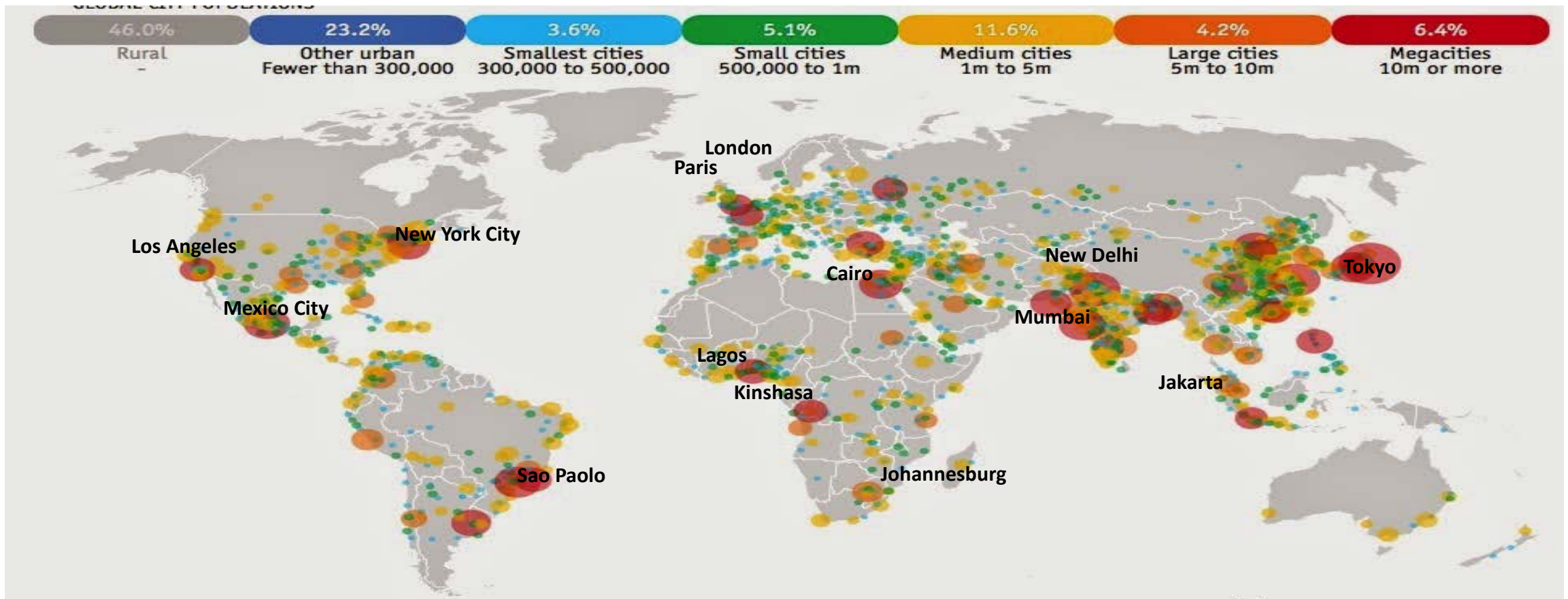

Cities Population Size in Europe, 1700 -1950

Cities Population Size in USA, 1850 -1950,

City Population size in Africa, Asia and LAC, (1950-2010)

The world of cities

Urbanization, rapid land expansion, and the proliferation of slums

Urbanization and rapid land expansion

- Endless growth of cities in the periphery - Low density settlements
- Reduction of public spaces
- Consumption of land: up to 3 times of population growth
- Motorized means of mobility

Urbanization and Proliferation of slums

- Overcrowded settlements
- No public spaces
- Multiple deprivations
- 33% of people in urban areas are living in slum conditions

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Cities – drivers of sustainable development

Economies of scale and agglomeration – diffusion of ideas and technology innovation
health, education, engagement…. but inequalities

GDP per Capita by urbanization level (%), 2014
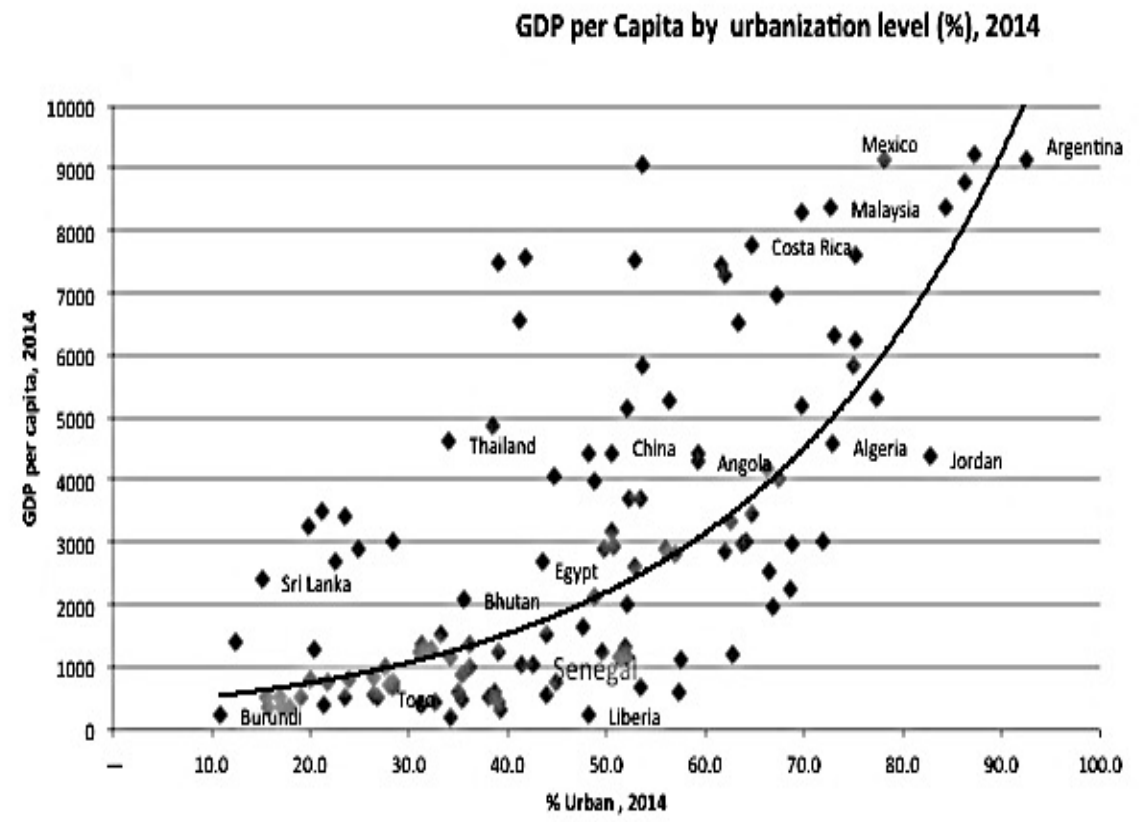
Internal and international migration have been determinant to urban transition and growth of cities

PEOPLE

PLACE

Migration

POLICIES

People level as expressed by Intention and Decision to Migrate

Place level at the Origin as well as at the destination

Policies level – at the origin as well as at the destination. Migration as a Human Right (Right to City and a Global Right)

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Rural-urban migration: central factor of the urban transition

Until the 19th century, urban population growth was mainly associated to fertility and mortality rates

Fertility

Mortality

During the 19th and 20th centuries up to 85% of urban growth was due to rural-urban migrations

85%

When the majority of the world lives in cities and towns, rural-urban migration contributes less to urban growth
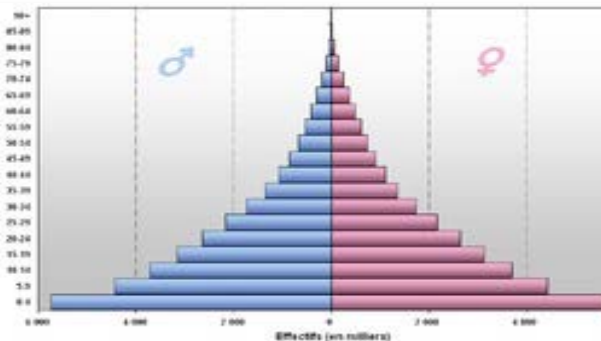
20%

Rural-urban migration has been substituted with:
- urban sprawl
- intra-urban migration
- reclassification of land from rural to urban (which contributes 30% to urban growth)
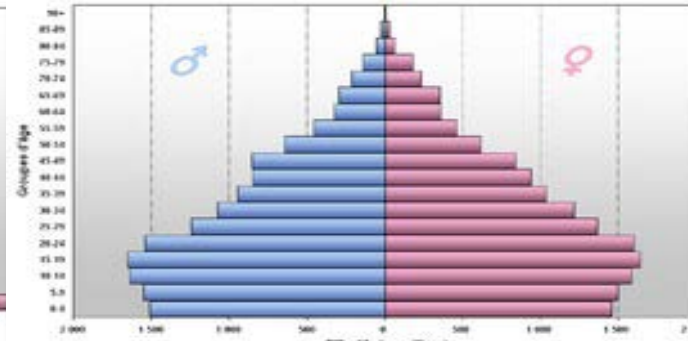
30%

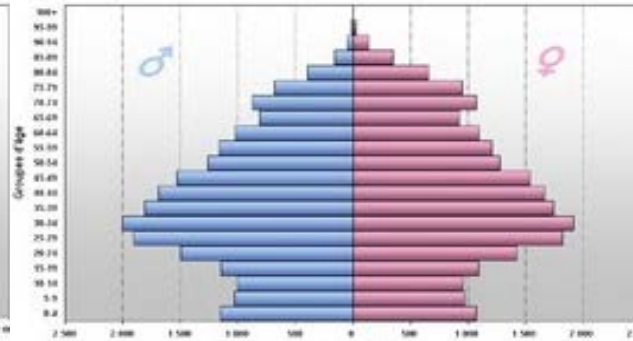## General illustration of migration effects on population age structure

No effect

Moderate effect

Strong effect

Strong effect for male
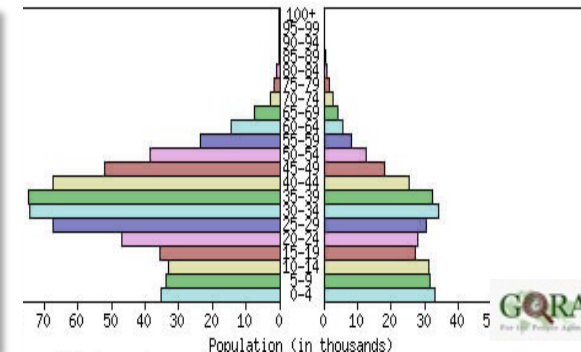
International migration: numbers and destinations

International migration is irreversible and is an urban affair
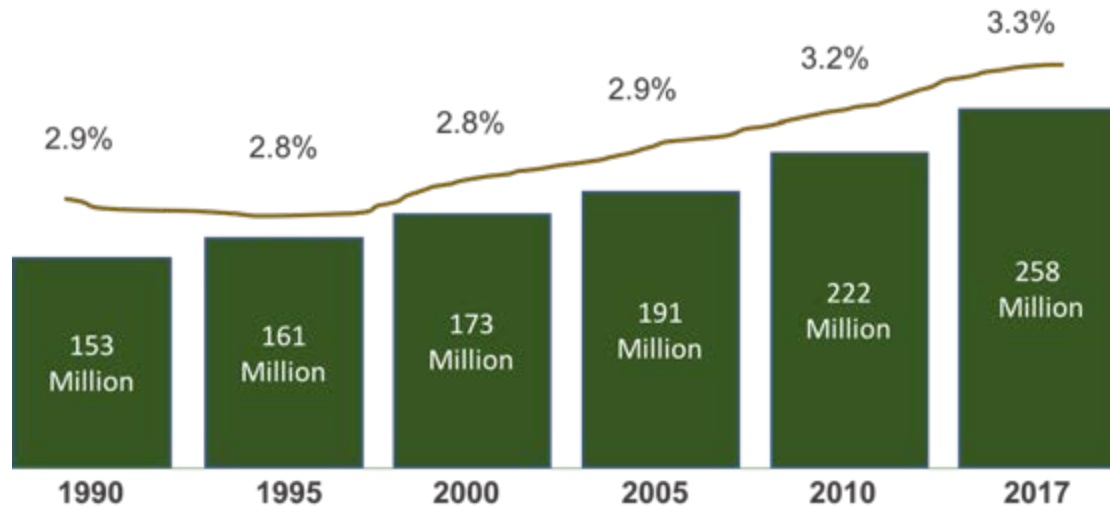
- **International migration is mostly regional**
- **60-80% of African migration are intra-regional**

Global diversification of migration destinations

Source: Adapted from R. Skeldon, 2013.
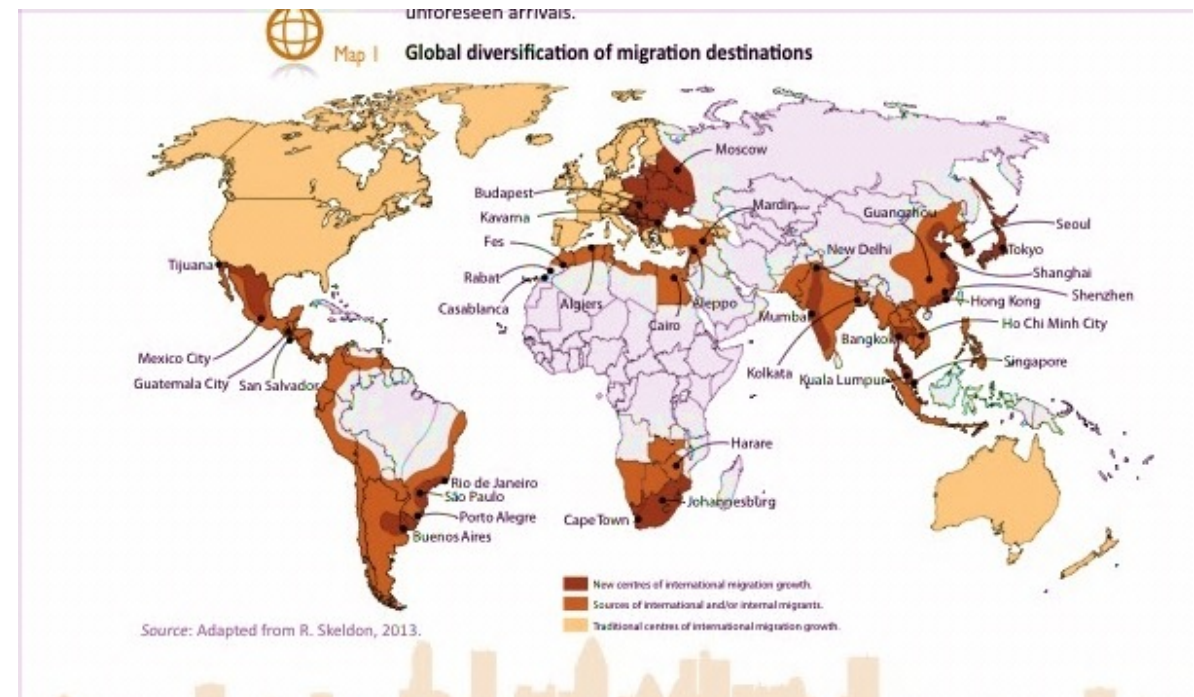
- Sydney, London and New York, migrants represent over a third of the population.
- In some cities such as Brussels and Dubai, migrants account for more than half of the population.
- Migration as Solution of Shrinking Cities

Why people migrate and where they settle?

Economic factors have been at the frontline of migration: The majority of people migrate due to economic circumstances and move to place where there is hope for better opportunities

MAIN REASONS

Economic

Family

Education

Conflicts (refugees, Asylum/IDPs)

Disasters (refugees, Asylum/IDPs)

DESTINATION OF MIGRANTS

- High Income Countries
- Middle Income Countries
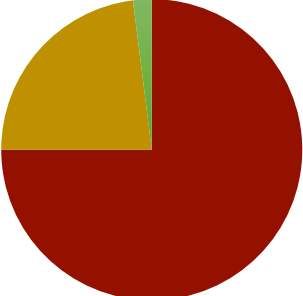- Low Income Countries

SECTOR OF WORK
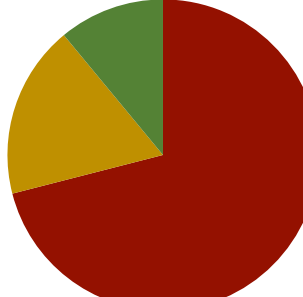
- Services
- Manufacturing & Construction
- Agriculture

Employees, Entrepreneurs, Employers

Migration: solution for shrinking cities and ageing population

Poor Economic performance coupled with decline in active population and increase of retirees call for internal as well as international migration to revive ageing countries and shrinking cities

SHRINKING CITIES AND AGEING OF POPULATION

Poor economic performance

High emigration rates

Decline in fertility (below replacement) and high life expectancy

Decline in active population

Increase of retirees
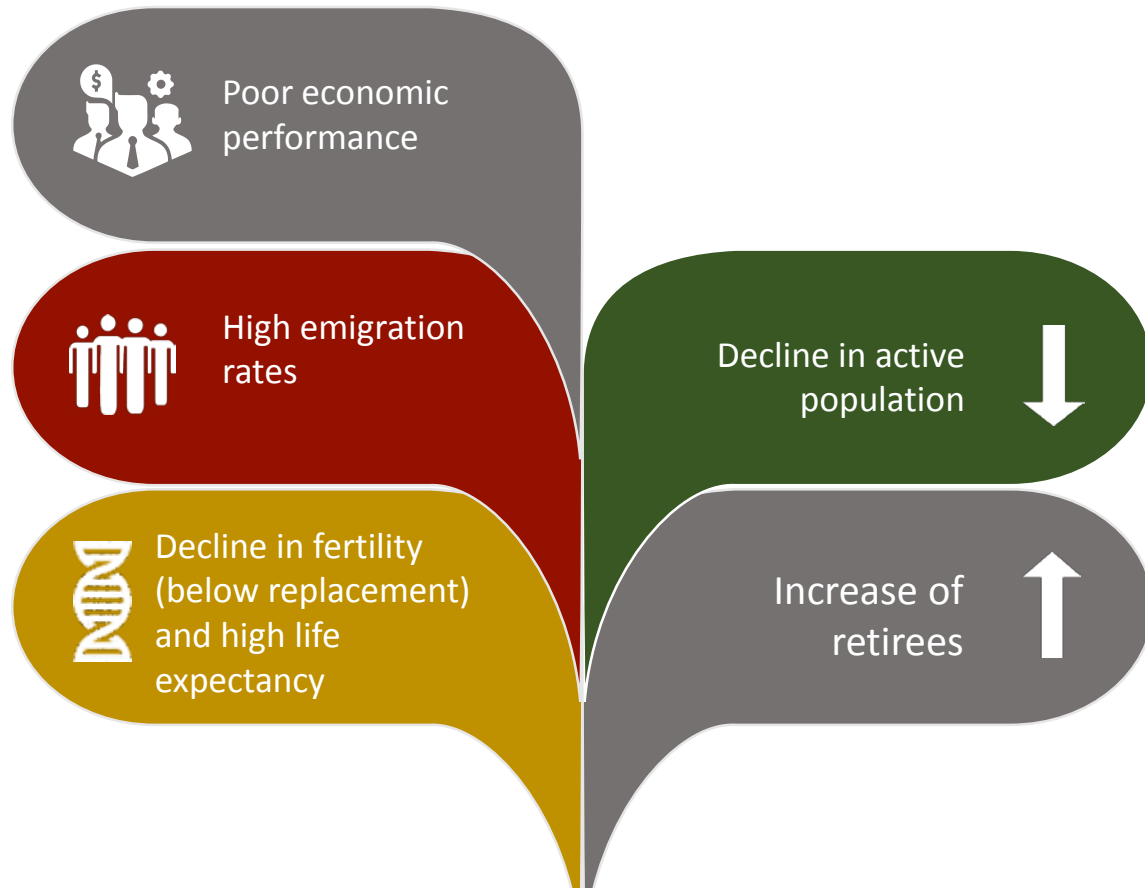
MIGRATION AS SOLUTION

- Migrants in their active age

- Migrants are skillful

- Migrants pay taxes

- Migrants contribute to social security

- Migrants expend, invest and save

Migrants connect countries and cities and are resourceful partners in host countries as well as in their homelands

Migration represents significant potential benefits for cities and countries

Remittances:
- From USD 126 billion in 2000 to USD 575 billion in 2016
- Higher than the Official Development Assistance (ODA)
- Has reached nearly one third of some Country GDPs

DIASPORA ENGAGEMENT

Remittances • Direct Investment • Portfolio Investment • Tourism • Philanthropy • Skills Transfer

Individual
Motivations for engagement

Organizations
Engagement targets & partners

Ecosystem
Promoting and facilitating engagement

Challenges and barriers against migrant integration

Migrants

20.9M victims of forced labour (2002 -2011)

68% forced labour exploitation

22% forced sexual exploitation

Legal and administrative barriers

Lack of documentation (illegal migration status)

Discrimination, xenophobia and lack of representation

Linguistic barriers

Reduced knowledge of the local environmental and social context

Inadequacy of skills for urban labour market

Reduced access to social networks

Restriction of immigrants' culture - Most cities do not fully understand how to integrate ethnic 'minorities' without fear of losing their historic cultural identity

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Challenges in the migrant journey include human trafficking, migrant fatalities, and disappearances

Global migrant fatalities and disappearances worldwide, 1 January–30 June 2017

NORTH AMERICA
1 death

USA-MEXICO BORDER
148 deaths

CARIBBEAN
91 deaths

CENTRAL AMERICA
34 deaths

SOUTH AMERICA
0 deaths

EUROPE
33 deaths

MEDITERRANEAN
2,259 deaths

NORTH AFRICA
225 deaths

MIDDLE EAST
31 deaths

SOUTH ASIA
1 death

EAST ASIA
1 death

HORN OF AFRICA
103 deaths

S-S AFRICA
136 deaths

SE ASIA
45 deaths

Deaths
251-2,260
151-250
51-150
2-50
0-1

TOTAL DEATHS
3,108

Migrant fatalities and disappearances recorded in January 2014-June 2017

Mediterranean	Africa	South-east Asia	Americas
14,500	3,000	1,850	2,000

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With increased conflicts, wars, and disasters - the number of refugees, IDPs, and asylum seekers are on the rise

Refugees and Asylum Seekers

22.5M refugees

17.2M refugees with UNHCR

2.8M Asylum Seekers - Seeking International Protection and awaiting of determination of their refugee status

Characteristics of Refugees

57% under 18 years old

48% are women

60% in urban areas

75,000 Asylum applicants are unaccompanied children from 76 countries

IDPs

31.1 million new internal displacements in 125 countries

Disasters: **24.2** million in 118 countries

Conflicts and violence: **6.9** million in 37 countries

Top 10 countries of origin (79% of Refugees-13.5M)

Syria 5.5 million

Afghanistan 2.5 million

DRC 1.4 million

Others: Myanmar, Somalia, Sudan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Central African Republic, Eritrea and Burundi

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Lack of alignment between national migration policies and urban realities

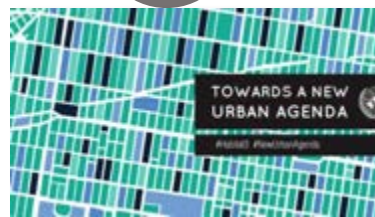**NATIONAL MIGRATION POLICIES**

Migrant legal status

Laws

Norms

Institutions

Global agendas and treaties

URBAN REALITIES

- Employment
- Education
- Housing
- Urban Public Spaces
- Urban Planning

In the absence of alignment of national migration policies to urban realities, sanctuary cities emerge

REALITIES IN THE LOCAL CONTEXT

Shrinking population

Ageing population

Multiethnic city

Multicultural urban spaces

More 'Human Scale'

Sanctuary Cities

- Declare their city as sanctuary city
- Defiance of national law with respect to the treatment of those in a country illegally
- Demonstrates a city's displeasure with national immigration law
- Directly promote their city as a preferred destination for migrants
- The Sanctuary City movement in the USA and elsewhere

Cities play an important role in promoting migrant-friendly countries

BY ENSURING...

EXPECTED RESULTS

Inclusive urban planning

Multicultural cities

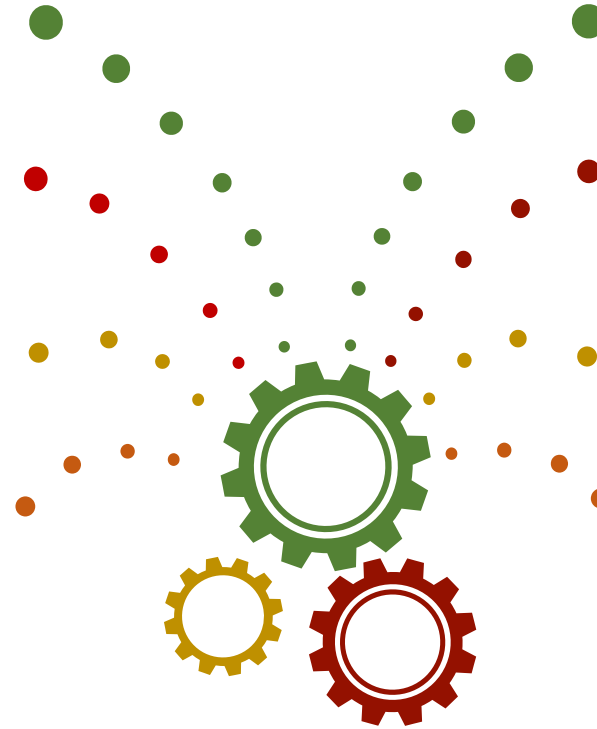Assist Migrants to obtain and renew **legal** documents

Safeguards against Negative reporting on migrants

More '**Human** Scale'

Reduce vulnerabilities

Build **resilience**

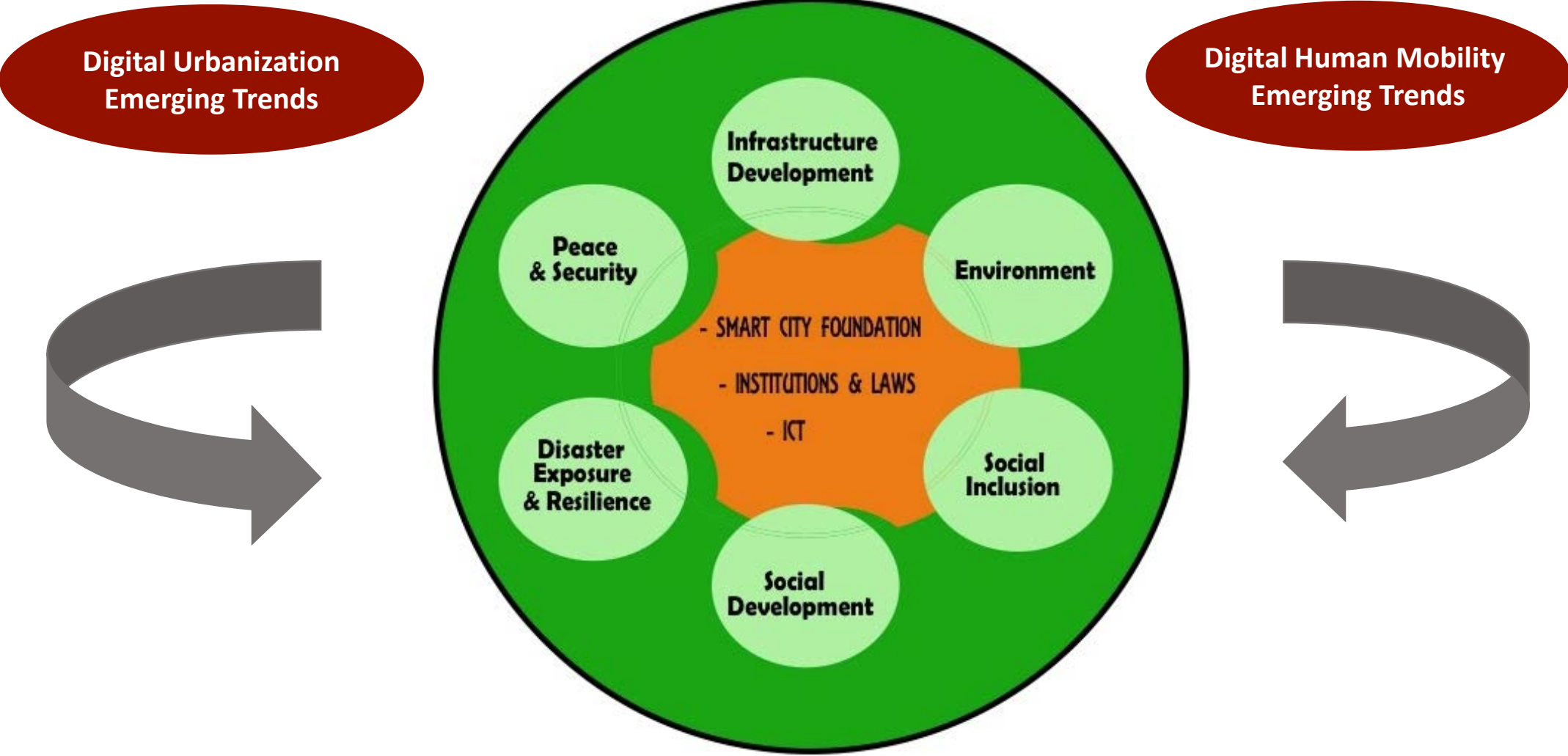Creates **harmony** between the different dimensions of cities

Stimulates local **job creation** and more investment in host countries

Promote **Economy growth** in host countries and countries of origin

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Cities as transversal entities call for a holistic approach of Migration integration for sustainable urban development

Urban Partnership for migrant-friendly countries and cities starts with Stakeholders consultation on sharing information and assessing needs

Working together for migrant-friendly countries and cities