

Development, migration and inclusive urbanisation

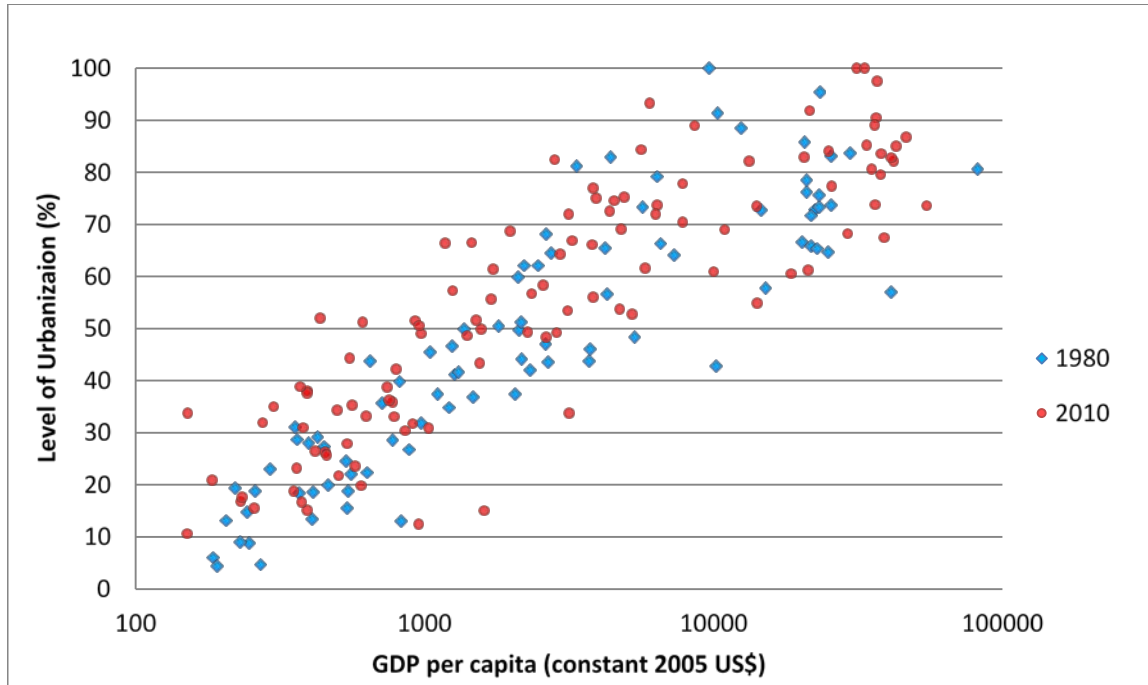
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Urbanisation, migration and socio-economic change

- Urbanisation is context-specific: local variations within a global process can be substantial (including de-urbanisation)
- In LMICs, net rural-urban migration is a key driver of urbanisation and is linked to rural transformation (especially in small towns)
- Economic growth in the past 60 years has been in non-agricultural sectors, located in urban areas (economies of scale and agglomeration)

The links between economic growth and urbanisation

National levels of urbanisation and per capita income, 1980 and 2010



Source: (McGranahan and Satterthwaite 2014)

Urbanisation, urban growth and urban poverty

- In LMICs, rapid urban growth is often accompanied by rapid urban expansion of unplanned settlements housing a very large proportion of the population
- Resulting in substantial shortages in the provision of adequate housing, basic infrastructure and services, over-crowding and congestion and increasing exposure to environmental hazards
- Heavy impacts on health and nutrition, especially children's
- Gendered impacts as care burden results in time poverty
- Income and non-income urban poverty a growing concern for national and local governments

Environmental hazards in Mathare, Nairobi



Migration and urban poverty

- Are migrants responsible for urban poverty?
- Migrants are over-represented among the urban poor – but not all migrants are poor
- There is a huge diversity in composition, destinations and durations of migrant flows
- Non-income poverty factors similar to that of non-migrants
- Additional disadvantage often relates to exclusion from social protection and other citizenship rights

A notified slum in Bangalore

source: Krishna, Anirudh M S Sriram and Purnima Prakash (2014), "Slum types and adaptation strategies: identifying policy-relevant differences in Bangalore", Environment and Urbanization, Vol. 26, No. 2, pages 568-585.



A 'first generation' slum in Bangalore

source: Krishna, Anirudh M S Sriram and Purnima Prakash (2014), "Slum types and adaptation strategies: identifying policy-relevant differences in Bangalore", Environment and Urbanization, Vol. 26, No. 2, pages 568-585.



Migrant women in the cities

- A growing proportion, linked to changes in global and domestic labour markets
- But with significant regional variations
- Disadvantages are both in the productive realm (gender-segmented labour markets) and in the reproductive sphere (care economy) for residents of informal settlements
- Higher proportion of women-headed households than in rural areas (but not necessarily worse-off than male-headed)

Migration and inclusive urbanisation

- Can reducing migration reduce urban poverty?
Evidence does not suggest this is the case
- Migration (and policies) linked to economic growth models and their socio-economic corollaries
- Addressing urban poverty rather than migration may be more effective
- Full citizenship rights for diverse low-income groups are a first step towards inclusive urbanisation
- Collaboration between local governments and civil society, grassroots organisations key to provide space-based data and innovative solutions

Thank you

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and the journal Environment and Urbanisation

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