Cities in Transition: Significance of demographics in shaping development levels

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Reactions towards early signs of high urbanization and urban growth

- Since WUP announced the dramatic increase in the share of urban population , from 17-26 between 1950-75, reactions varied:
  - Denial: just as the world reacted to scientists warnings on the climate change and HIV/AIDS
  - Positive reaction: emphasizing dividends offered by economies of scale, big concentrations of production, consumption and services
  - Negative reactions: by many, the cities, with huge population concentrations, traffic jams, air pollution, crime, and slums, which result in an ultimate form of human decadence, and severe ecological footprints

Coming to terms with urbanization

- Most of the world, national leaders, perceived the ill effects of urbanization on development and environment, and even on national unity, and tried to curb it.

- Thanks to the decades-long persistency of the WUPs, and widely disseminated flagship reports of Habitat and UNFPA, *State of the World's Cities, 2006-7*, and The *State of the World's Population, 2007*, this message is slowly being internalised:

  - *"urbanisation is a given, therefore, instead of trying to curb it, the world leaders should spend their energy in developing solutions around it"*

Demographic transition & determinants

- Currently, the developed world has completed its demographic transition, with life expectancy reaching to close-to-maximum-levels and total fertility, generally below 1.89 per woman.
- In the developing world, despite significant redutions in fertility and mortality, the transition is far from complete, due to:
  - The young age bias
  - Immigration and emigration
  - External factors , economic dynamics, etc.

Demographic transition of cities, however, are affected by other factors

- Annexation new settlements to old ones, and redefinition of rural/urban
- Indirect determinants: Global competition among cities for FDI, having a bearing on migration

The objective of this paper is to explore:

- The relationship between city growth and human development indicators, and,
- The ways in which ill effects of fast growth of cities or pressure of big populations could be offset

Methodology

- Exploratory study
- Use of WUP , 2003, version in the UN-HABITAT data base
- Purposive sample of 119 cities, based on the Global Sample of Cities, 350 . This sample is used to establish patterns of urban growth, 1950-2000
- Second tier of purposive sample of 52 cities with nearly-complete set of indicators (from DHS) on human development, so as to link development and city growth.
- Literature review on best practices of coping with high population growth in cities

Genesis of big cities

- Reversing/curbing growth of cities will only make a negligible impact, if at all, on the magnitude of big and mega cities today, in the short run, because:
  - The genesis of new mega cities date back to 1950-60s. Istanbul, Lagos, Dhaka, S. Paolo, not to mention cities already above the 1 million mark, Shanghai, Mexico City, Cairo, others, during the period
  - Transformation of small- to -big cities, Belo Horizonte, Kinsasha , also take a long time

Global trends of city growth

- Albeit the city/country specific growth dynamics, a global synchrony is also visible.
- Particularly between the WWII., and 1980s, an almost orchestrated city demographic transformation is witnessed
- Half of 119 cities made their growth peaks during this period
- Third of cities make their peaks between 1960-1980
- Growth trends after 1980s is relatively weak, with the exception of Chinese cities
- Growth rates were very high: 70% of cities growing at 4-7% per annum, while 28%, at 7-10%.

Figure 1: Selected Cities reaching highest growth rate during 1950 - 1960

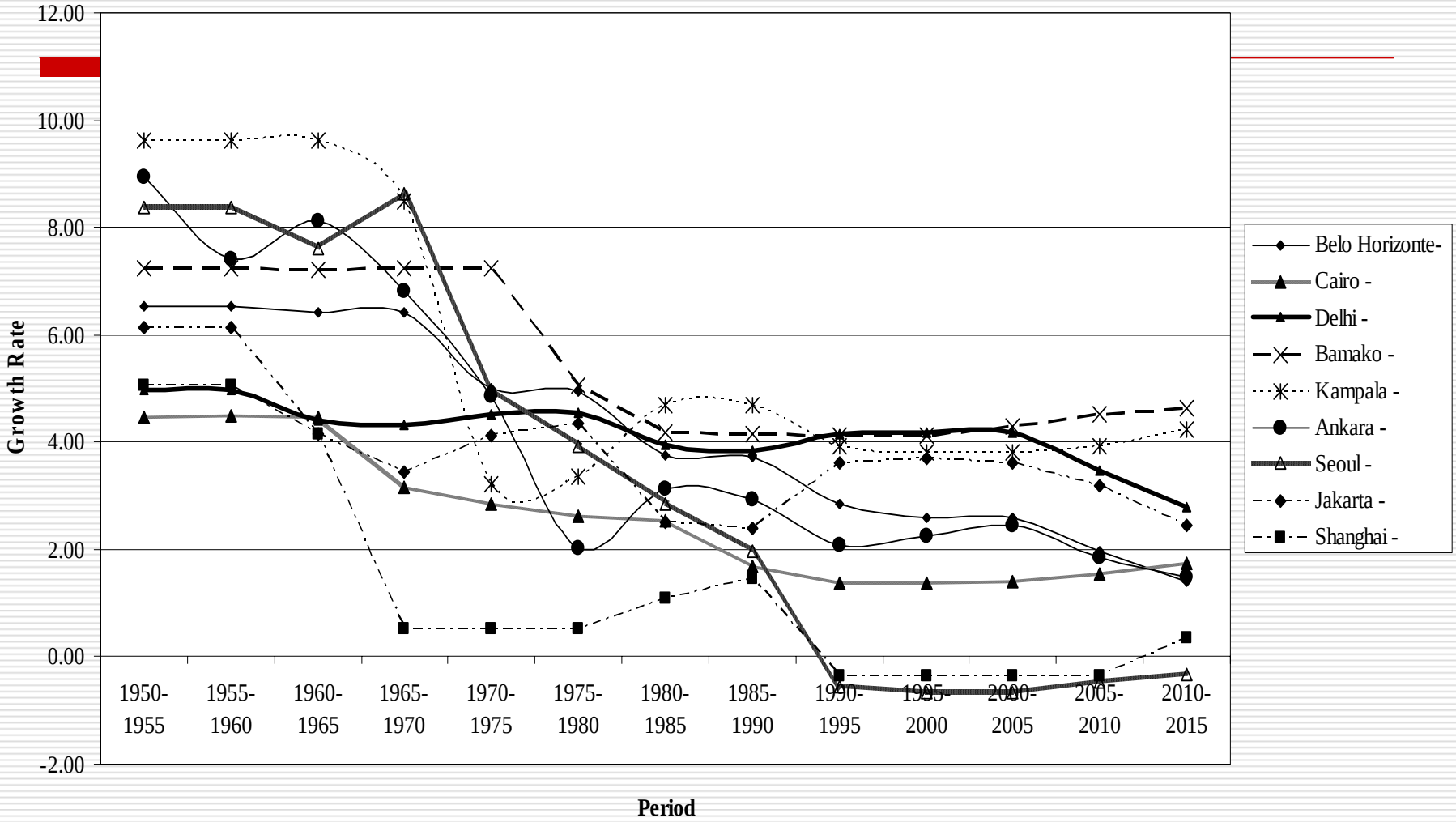
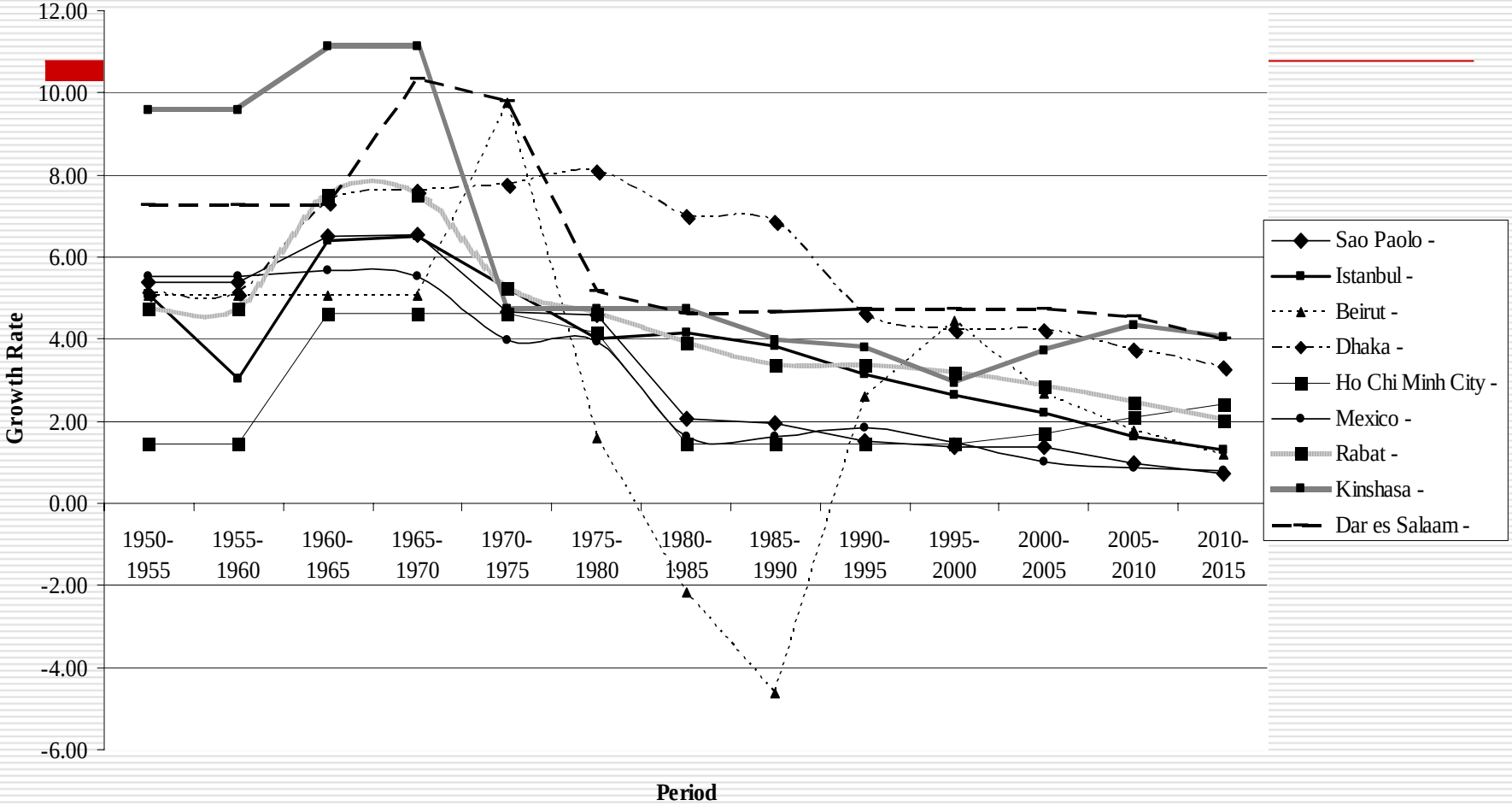
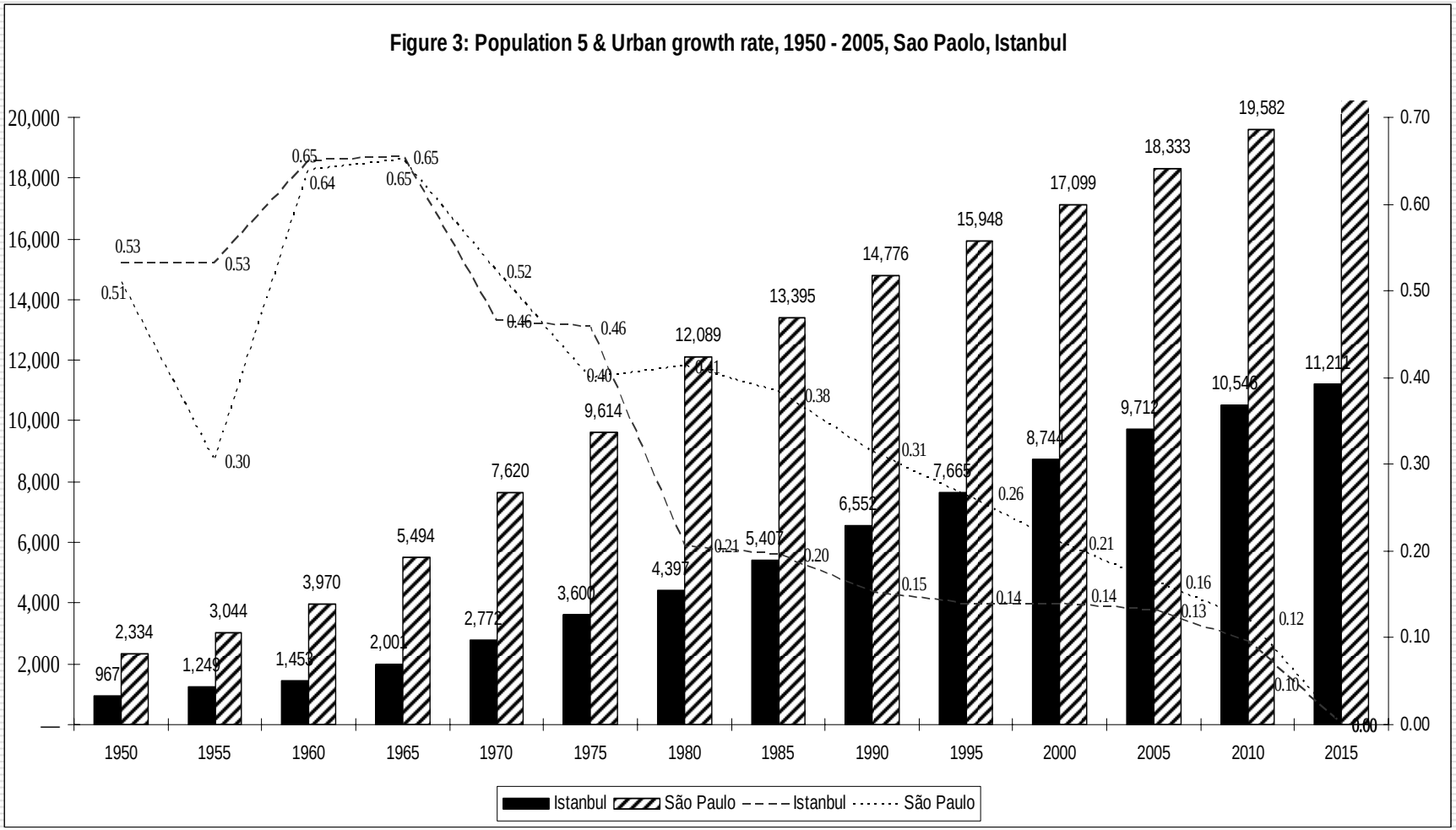


Figure 2: Selected Cities reaching highest growth rate during 1960 - 1980



After 1980s, decades-long high growth, created mega cities, despite the declining/currently low growth, ex: Rio and Istanbul



Links between current growth rates, 2000-5, & human development (HD): *method*

1. Cities are clustered into High/Med/Low development, by selected indicators, Under Five Mortality Rate (U5MR), infrastructure, gender disparity in education
2. Cities are clustered into H/L population growth rates , using 2.5 percent per annum, as the cut off point
3. Cities are combined into six groups, by development level, and population growth

Links between current growth rates, 2000-5, & human development (HD): *Low growth/high developed cities* (Table 1)

- Development features: low U5MR; ratio F/M in school enrolment high; high coverage of households by electricity, sewerage, water, telephone lines. The reduction in U5MR in some cities are fairly recent, since 1990; but in Hanoi, HCM & Rio, low U5MR, date back to pre-1990.
- Big/mega cities, long history of high, steady growth
- Onset of downward trend in growth starts fairly recently, in a majority of cities
- Most cities, Rio, Izmir, Bursa, Turkey, became metropolitan areas, or the core of wider urban regions
- Some, Ho Chi Minh and Hanoi, the development belt of Vietnam, are connected in urban corridors

Table 1: high development/low growth cities

		Piped water connections		Sewerage connections		Under-Five Mortality		Female-Male Ratio in Literacy		Population Growth Rate
City	Country	1990	2003	1990	2003	1990	2003	1990	2003	2000 - 2005
Rio de Janeiro	Brazil		93.8		79.9	39.1	19.3	1.05	1.02	1.20
Bursa	Turkey	97.7	85.0	95.9	80.7	89.4	37.7	0.91	0.97	3.58
Istanbul	Turkey	99.2	99.2	86.6	86.6	55.0	39.1	95.9	99.4	2.20
Izmir	Turkey	98.2	94.4	93.4	99.2	37.4	29.2	0.95	1.00	2.41
Tashkent	Uzbekistan		98.7		79.4		39.0			0.11
Ha Noi	Viet.		78.8		95.1	77.4	39.0			2.01
Hai Phong	Viet.	46.4	99.6		95.1	27.8	23.0			1.62
Ho Chi Minh	Viet.	90.3	88.7	83.9	95.6	14.2	19.0	1.00	1.02	1.7

Links between current growth rates, 2000-5, & human development (HD): *fast growing cities w/ high development levels (Table 2)*

- Development features: low U5MR; ratio F/M in school enrolment high; high coverage of households by electricity, sewerage, water, telephone lines..
- Although still steering at higher than 2.5 percent of growth per annum, the growth is declining, 2.5-3.5 per year.

Table 2. High growth and high development level cities

		Piped water connections		Sewerage connections		Under-Five Mortality		Female-Male Ratio in Literacy		Population Growth Rate
City	Country	1990	2003	1990	2003	1990	2003	1990	2003	2000 - 2005
Belo Horizonte	Brazil		84.4		78.9	44.1	20.8	1.07	1.03	2.59
Curitiba	Brazil	55.4	82.0		84.2	37.4	16.1	97.3	99.3	2.81
Goiânia	Brazil		93.4		73.8	35.8	18.9	1.11	1.03	3.10
Cape Town	S.A		95.7		93.8		13.0	1.00	1.00	2.67
Gaziantep	Turkey	96.8	90.9	79.1	95.4	72.2	32.9			3.47

Table 3. Links between current growth rates, 2000-5, & human development (HD): *low growth /low development cities*

		Piped water connections		Sewerage connections		Under-Five Mortality		Female-Male Ratio in Literacy		Population Growth Rate
City	**Country**	**1990**	**2003**	**1990**	**2003**	**1990**	**2003**	**1990**	**2003**	**2000 - 2005**
Fes	Morocco		93.8		89.1		63.0	0.66	0.81	2.66
Johannesburg	S.A		87.1		87.5		45.0	1.00	1.00	3.7
Pretoria	S.A		87.1		87.5		45.0	1.00	1.00	3.36
Chifeng	China		33.4		10.3		50.3	0.97	0.99	0.96
Leshan	China				31.5		45.1	96.6	99.6	0.61
Yiyang	China		23.8		9.8		48.5	0.97	1.00	2.35
Yongzhou	China		20.4		6.7		63.7	0.97	1.00	1.49
Yueyang	China		30.5		16.5		64.6	0.97	1.00	1.18
Yulin	China		17.3		9.6		68.5	0.97	1.00	1.63
Zhengzhou	China				66.8		43.6	97.4	99.9	1.66
Alexandria	Egypt	79.5	92.8	94.5	98.5	61.2	38.4	72.2	83.6	1.40
Guatemala City	Guatemala		52.7		65.3	41.9	33.7	1.08	1.08	1.57
Kochi (Cochin)	India	28.2	27.1	86.1	27.5			0.81	0.96	1.72
Vijayawada	India	41.0	38.1	46.0	51.4	57.0	83.0	0.74	0.83	1.79
Durban	S.A				37.9		50.0	1.00	1.00	2.18
Port Elizabeth	S.A				28.4		42.0	1.00	1.00	0.82

Table 4. Links between current growth rates, 2000-5, & human development (HD): *high growth /low development cities*

		Piped water connections		Sewerage connections		Under-Five Mortality		Female-Male Ratio in Literacy		Population Growth Rate
City	Country	1990	2003	1990	2003	1990	2003	1990	2003	2000 - 2005
Dhaka	Bangladesh		90.4		52.0	93.3	76.0	69.5	85.9	4.24
Abidjan	Cote d'Ivoi	76.3	79.2	57.9	76.7	112.6	120.4	44.2	82.8	2.80
Addis	Ethiopia		48.1		60.8		169.0	66.1	90.6	3.04
Amritsar	India	95.8	93.4	65.5	97.4	62.0		84.6	94.9	3.19
Jaipur	India	96.6	90.7	88.1	80.9	75.0	96.7	66.0	77.2	4.26
Pune (Poona)	India	79.0	73.1	59.2	52.7	51.5	75.3	63.9	74.7	4.09
Dakar	Senegal	59.0	80.5	51.2	89.2	91.4	75.8	58.6	81.2	3.22
Kampala	Uganda	55.0	61.8	11.9	15.1	191.0	81.0	90.9	90.4	3.81
Dar	Tanzania	51.8	53.0	63.3	62.0	182.3	103.1	85.0	90.4	4.75

Cities with low development levels (low and high population growth) (Table 3 & 4)

- Development features: high U5MR, low coverage of households by electricity , telephone lines, sewerage, piped water connections, with some exceptions.
- The difference between high and low growth cities are a matter of degree. The High growth cities, mostly in SSA, SA, are much worse than low growth cities. Gender disparity in school enrolment is not wide, in the low growth cities.
- Among all under-developed settlements, the worse is the situation of cities with rapid population growth.
- Most of the under-developed settlements growing slowly, belong to China, are more reminiscent of ‘big villages’, that were recently defined as ‘cities’.

Exploring the dynamics of high development, despite the pressures of rapid growth and/or mega populations 1

- The overall development level and the way in which it copes with population growth or pressure, are related. If the city is already highly developed, it could also be resilient to pressure of population due to recent or past rapid growth

Urban Development strategies that provide buffers on population pressure: *committed leadership*

- Political commitment at the national level, to pro-poor development
  - In S. Paolo, a longitudinal study on the coverage of the urban poor, by infrastructure & services, shows that investments in the deprived areas increased during times of pro-poor regimes (Macedo, 2004)
  - The governments of Egypt, Tunis, Turkey, albeit the variable records of democratic governance, if at all, also invested vastly in the blanket improvement of infrastructure which ameliorated the condition of the urban poor (UN-Habitat, 06)

Urban Development strategies that provide buffers on population pressure: *decentralized governance*

- Governance of citizens by local authorities that are:
  - Empowered financially
  - In charge of urban planning
  - In charge of a wide scope of sectors, infrastructure, solid waste man. , transportation, social services
  - Organically linked to central/provincial governments and/or metropolitan governments

Urban Development strategies that provide buffers on population pressure: *performance monitoring*

Two types of performance monitoring:

- The central state is the authority that does the performance monitoring: Vietnam, China (Peterson & Muzzini, 06)
- Citizen participation via participatory budgeting: a systematic way of engaging people in investments of local authorities (Bretas, 96; WB, 07)

Urban Development strategies that provide buffers on population pressure: *metropolitan expansion/governance*

- Expansion should follow a proactive strategy (Curitiba) , not a reactive one (Cairo). The second route could create dormitory towns.
- The out-spill of population should be coupled by employment opportunities, in order to reduce deprivation at the peripheries (Hyderabad)
- Effective coordination between different layers of local and metropolitan governance

Thank you