Global trends in Urban Youth Development
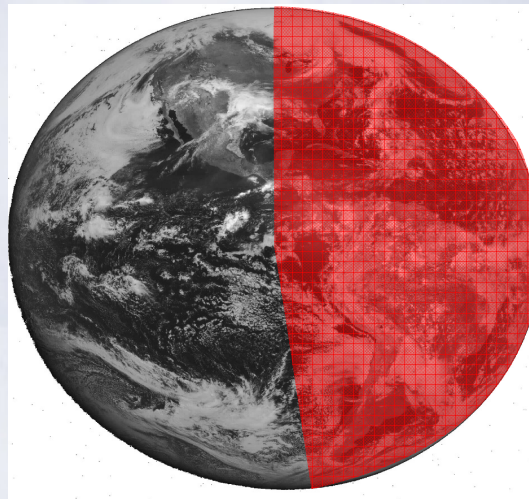
Global trends in URBAN development

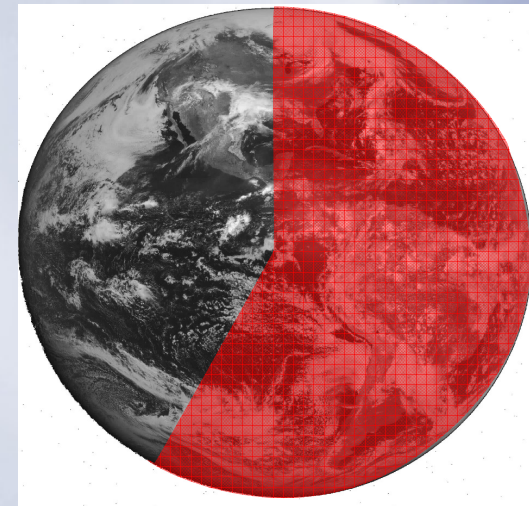**Year 1970**
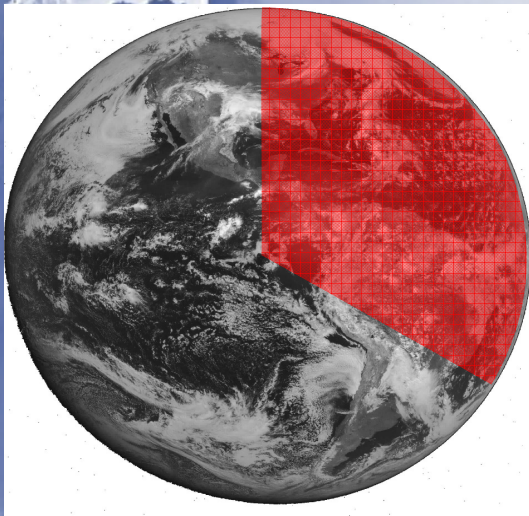
Year 2000

Year 2020

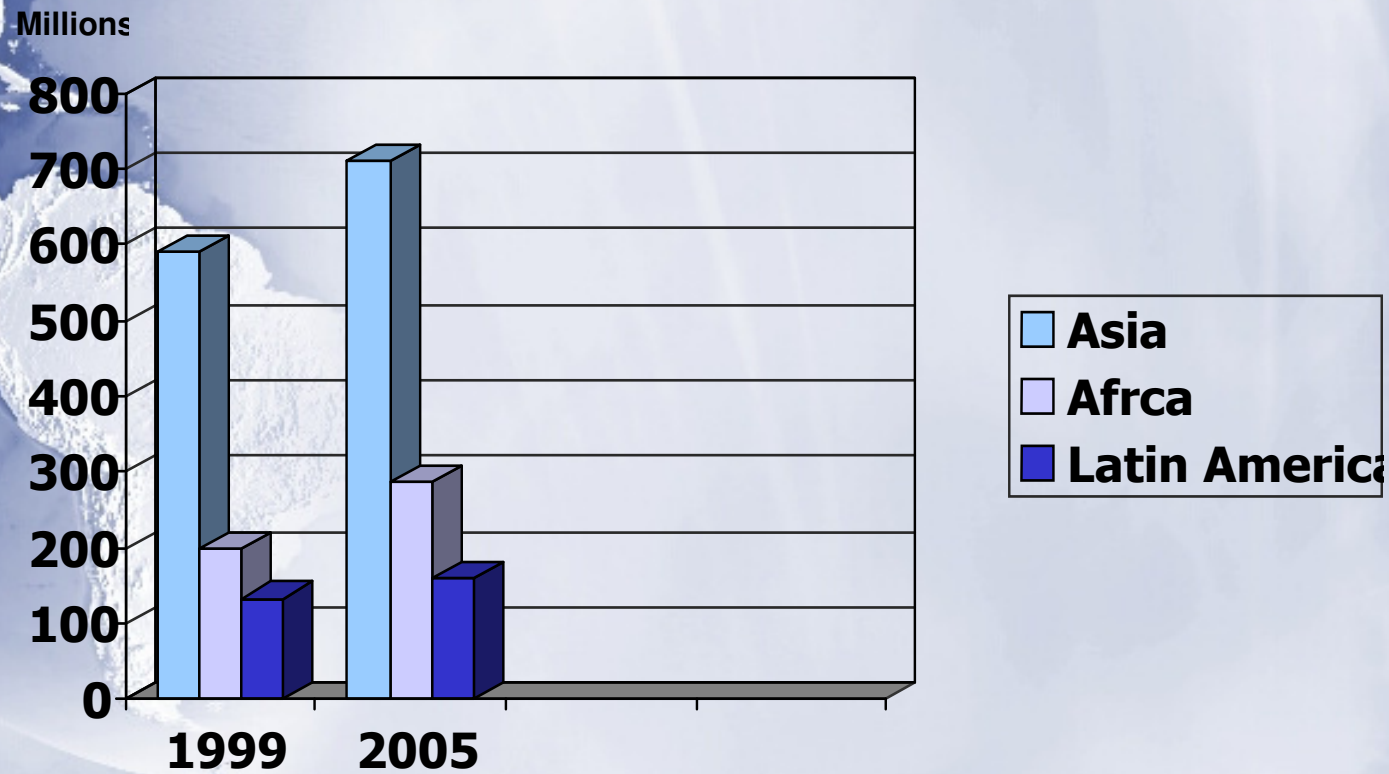63% RURAL

37% URBAN

53% RURAL
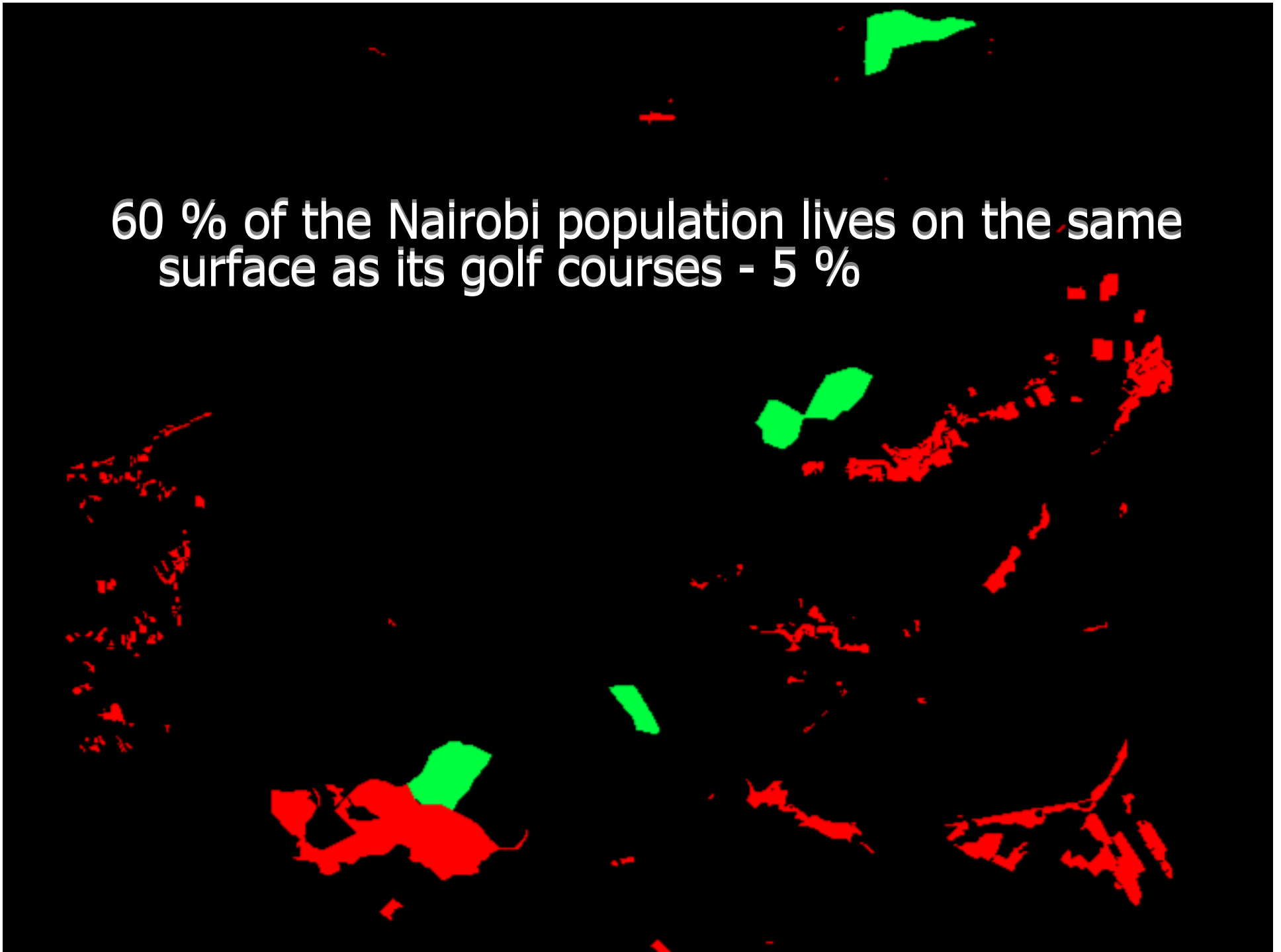
47% URBAN

44% RURAL

56% URBAN

Year 2007 … Homo sapiens to homo urbanus

Global trends urban ...

Slum Dwellers

60 % of the Nairobi population lives on the same surface as its golf courses - 5 %

Global trends in YOUTH development

Globally, youth, aged 15- to 24, now represent almost one-fifth of the world's population
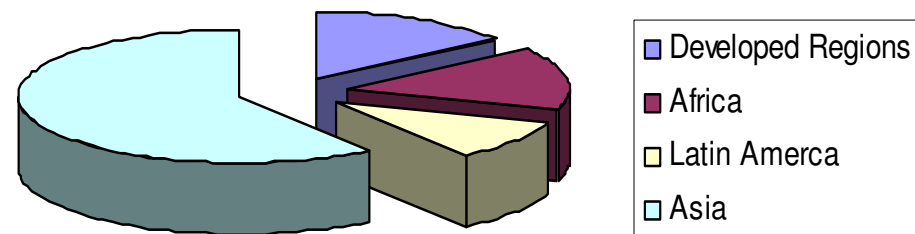
Global trends youth ...

Almost half of the global population is under the age of 24;1.2 billion people are younger than 15

Within developing regions, it is the least developed countries that remain younger than the rest of the world

in 2005, the global median age was28 years, but in 10 least-developed African countries, the median age was 16 or younger

Global trends youth ...

Global Median Age (in years), 2001

Legend:
- 14 to 20
- 20 to 25
- 25 to 30
- 30 to 35
- 35 to 45
- No information
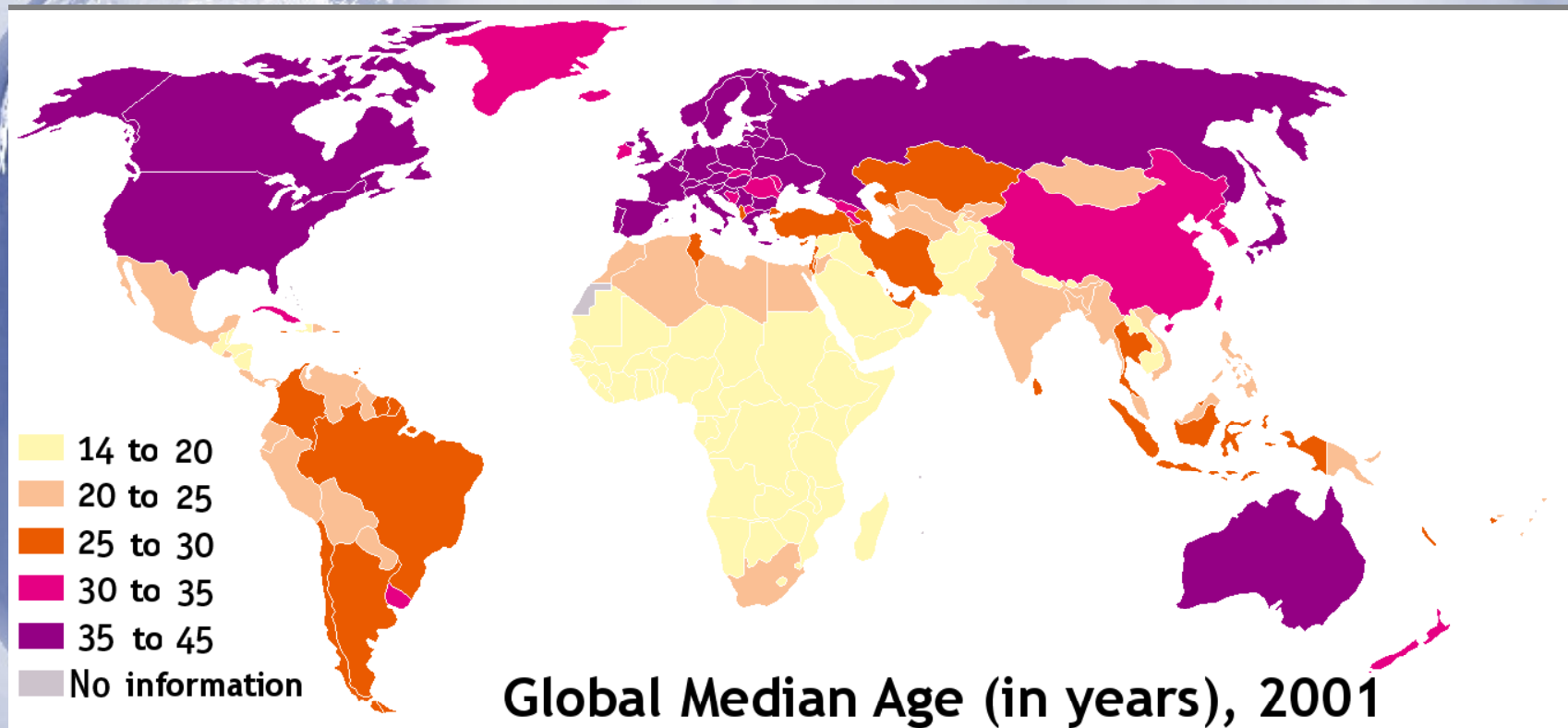
Young people in developing world are urban

⌘ 60 percent of the world population will live in cities by 2030, and that 60 per cent of these urban residents are likely to be under the age of 18

Global youth priorities

Education and Training

- Primary education is low because of poverty of lack of schools
- Secondary enrollment is spotty, and failure and drop out is high, especially amongst girls
- Schooling under pressure - subsistence employment often more important

Employment

- Youth make up 41% of the world's unemployed, (ILO) or 74 million young people living in urban areas

- Long term unemployment is high and associated with ill health, involvement in crime, and substance abuse

- Unemployment higher for young women than young men, especially in developing world

- Child labour places children and youth, especially girls, at risk of involvement in illegal activities

Global youth priorities

IMPORTANT NOTE ON POVERTY

Most country estimates may systematically underestimate youth poverty because of the focus on data collection based on households and families. Country plans often fail to include youth in their strategies to deal with poverty problems.

Health

- Urbanization impacts health as well as health and social service, rapid process a challenge to public health policy and urban services
- Sexually transmitted diseases, ie. HIV AIDS exacerbated by urban conditions
  - 1/3 of all currently infected and half of all new HIV AIDS infections occur in youth aged 15 to 24.
  - Girls vulnerable because of poverty and sexual exploitation, forced and early marriage, rape, sexual abuse, and trafficking.
- youth lack access to sexual health information and services.

Global youth priorities

Health

substance abuse and the age of use are changing and have become a great public health concern, especially in cities where there is greater availability, and pressure to abuse them.

Urban Environment

Depriving children and youth of **recreation and leisure** time, and designated urban space is likely to result in frustrated young people as they grow up, without the skills to participate fully in their communities

Many children and youth in urban centres are excluded from ca threa

youth living in poor and overcrowded urban environments are at much higher risk of becoming involved in **committing crimes** as well as being victimised.

Girls and Young Women

- Girls are more vulnerable to trafficking, sexual assault, exploitation, and sexually transmitted disease including HIV/AIDS
- Safe and dignified spaces, especially in regards to sanitation, are not common
- These disadvantages are increased for girls and young women in urban areas where they are even more vulnerable to discrimination aexploitation than in rural settings.

Global youth priorities

Conflict Prevention

- In the past ten years, an estimated 2 million children and youth, some as young as seven or eight, have died in armed conflicts, and 5 million have been disabled

- **Conflict prevention** and the reintegration of previous child soldiers into urban areas present huge challenges.

Inter-dependency between generations

promotion of reciprocal relationships given that those traditional family patterns and responsibilities are being challenged by the impact of HIV/AIDS and civil war on children and youth.

Children and youth responsibilities are changing with the loss of parents and care-givers.

Global youth priorities

Globalization and Technology

- **Globalisation** and technological developments also affect children and the youth in urban areas in all parts of the world, both positively and negatively.

- Africa fastest growing mobile phone market in the world, transforming the way youth communicate in all realms: socially, economically

- many developing countries still do not have access to these new technologies, though less so in urban areas

Global youth priorities

Participation and Governance

- Urban youth are rarely asked to **participate** in planning and management and, therefore, in their own development and treated as citizens.

- can lead to adult abuse of power, failure to take into account their interests, and lack of redress for abuses or access to channels to voice their concerns

- Engaging youth will enhance the development of citizenship and productiveness among them, as they move into adulthood

85% of world's youth live in developing countri
which the majority of these live in citie
s

Youth Led Development (YLD)

Youth Led Development is development led by and for youth in partnership with their family and community

- Reflects CRC Article 12 and attempts to realize the full participation and meaningful engagement of children and youth
- YLD recognizes youth as
  - an asset and force for change
  - a resource for the advancement of societies
  - leaders of social, political and technological developments
- Focus of the World Youth Congress, 2008 (Quebec, Canada) and the upcoming World Urban Youth Forum (Nanjing, China)

Youth Led Development
January 21st, 2007

Nairobi, Kenya

- Youth led initiative has received $20,000 US to:
  - Deliver aid to displaced youth
  - Convene youth roundtable on role of youth in peacebuilding
  - Train 100 youth in conflict resolution and mediation skills

Youth Led Development
November, 2007

GIS Asset Mapping
Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

- Children and youth map city services and youth friendly spaces
- Creation of 12 Youth Friendly City Ward brochures and 1 youth friendly city guide
- Creation of online youth asset map

Nairobi, Kenya

- Children and youth map water resources in Korogocho slum
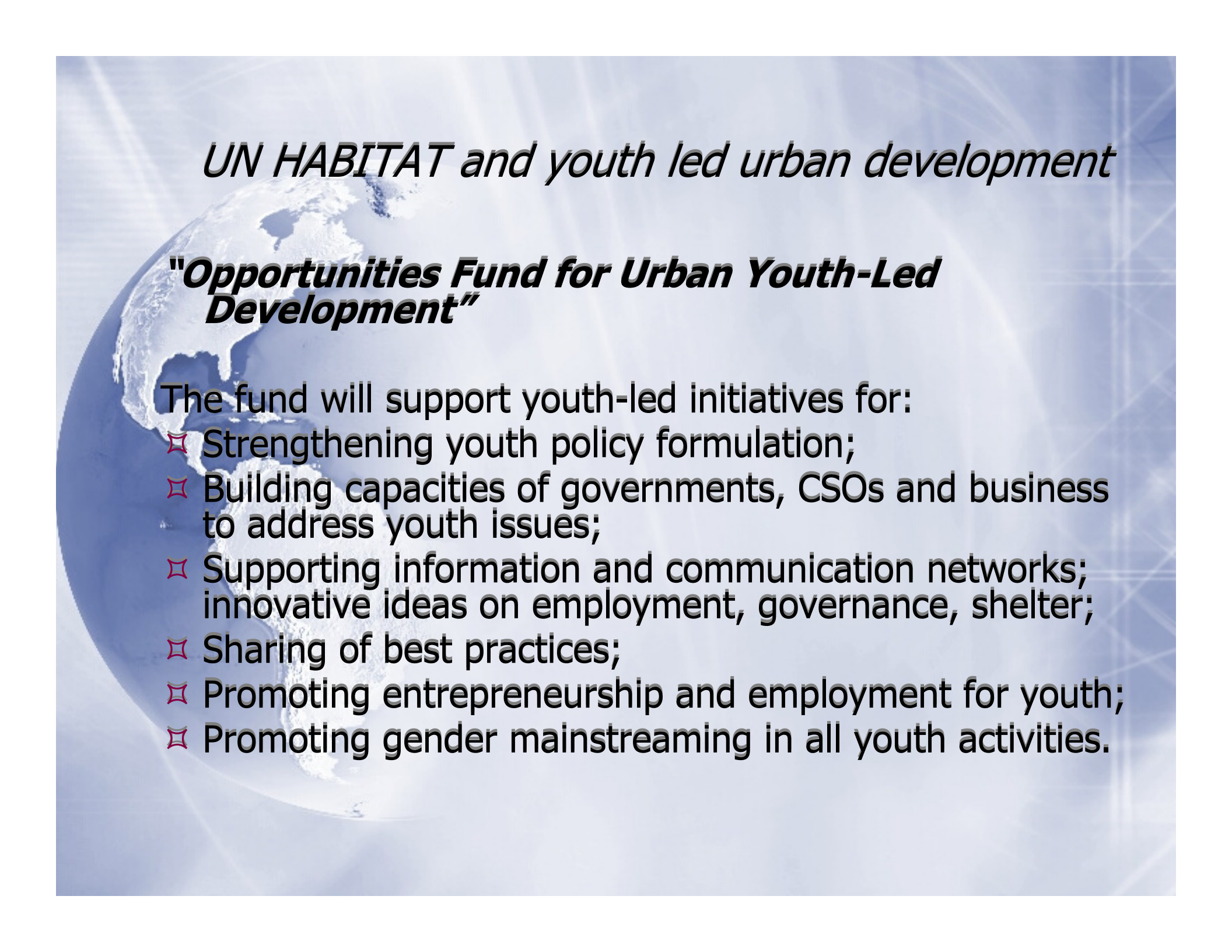- Pilot of indicator data collection for Urbaninfo
- Model for disaster mitigation

Youth Led Development
November, 2007

Kibera Slum

- Over 60% of slum dwellers are under the age of thirty, many of them young girls
- Up to 300 people share a single toilet
- Average woman or girl in Kibera spends up to 4 hours a day fetching water
- Lack of access to sanitation is the single largest cause of disease for young women, and the single contributing factor to why adolescent girls drop out of school

UN HABITAT and youth led urban development
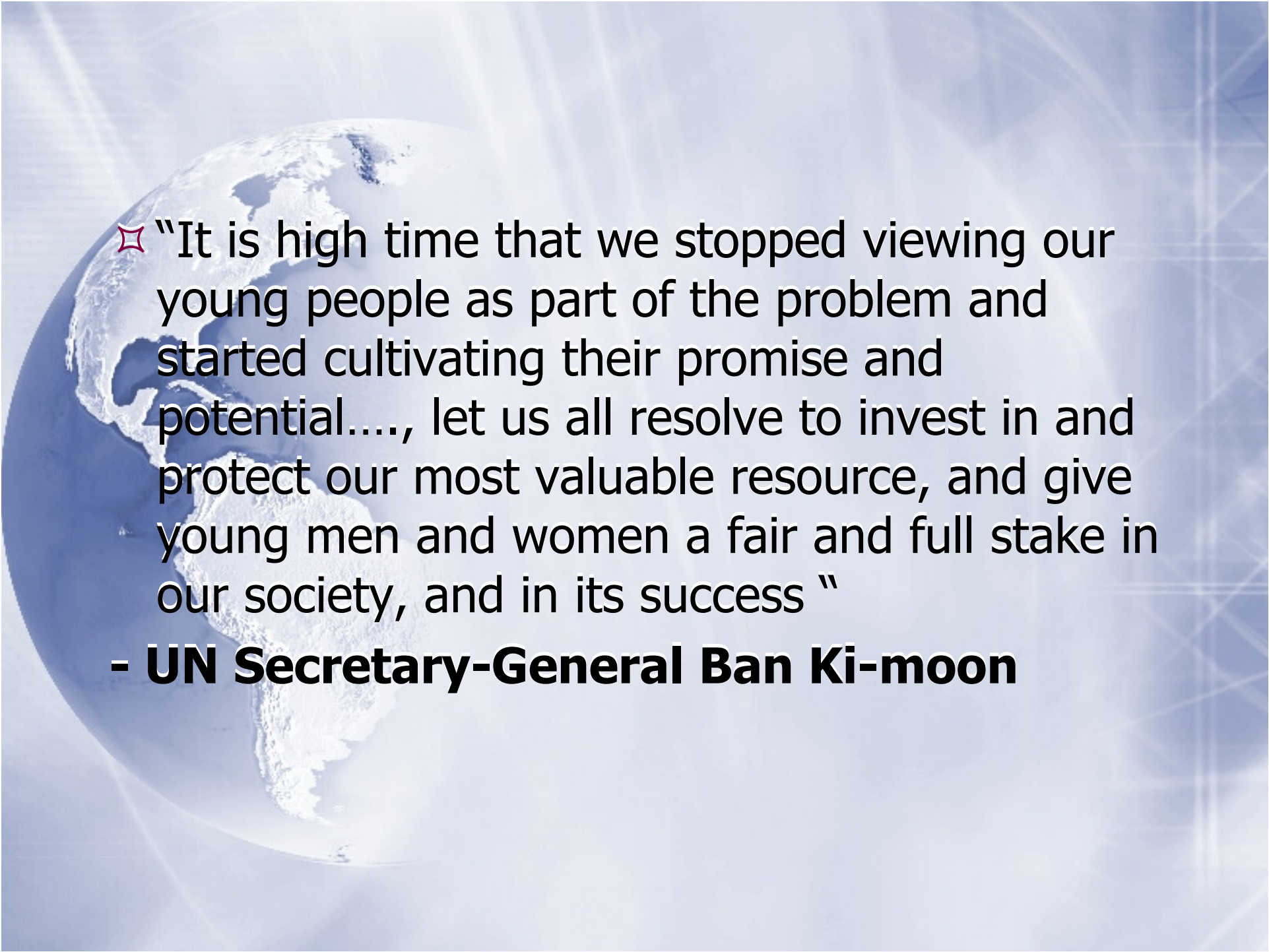
"Opportunities Fund for Urban Youth-Led Development"

The fund will support youth-led initiatives for:
- Strengthening youth policy formulation;
- Building capacities of governments, CSOs and business to address youth issues;
- Supporting information and communication networks; innovative ideas on employment, governance, shelter;
- Sharing of best practices;
- Promoting entrepreneurship and employment for youth;
- Promoting gender mainstreaming in all youth activities.

UNICEF/UN HABITAT

1. Joint action research projects focused on children, youth and transitions
2. Support the increased understanding and facilitation of urban child and youth friendly spaces
3. Collaboration in understanding and engaging local authorities, planning agencies (UCLG, ICLEI, Metropolois)
4. Joint support of the Opportunities fund for Youth Led Development
5. Joint programming at World Urban Forum, assuring both child and youth representation

⌷ "It is high time that we stopped viewing our young people as part of the problem and started cultivating their promise and potential…., let us all resolve to invest in and protect our most valuable resource, and give young men and women a fair and full stake in our society, and in its success "

- UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon