



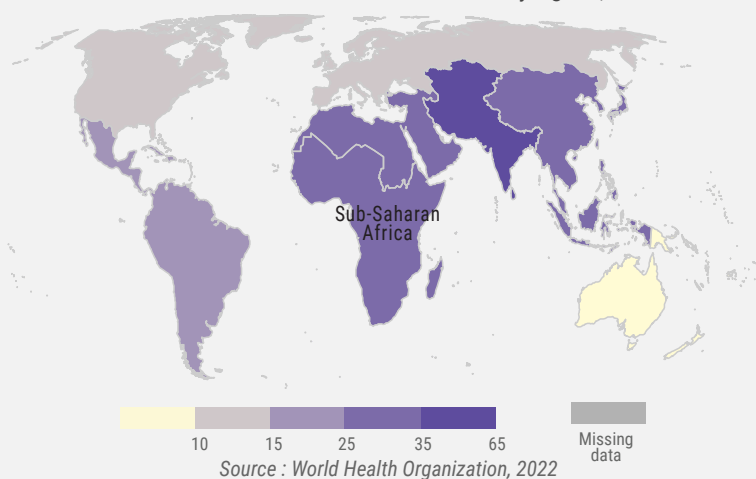
## By 2030, reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including special attention to air quality

Monitoring annual mean levels of fine particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) in cities (population weighted)

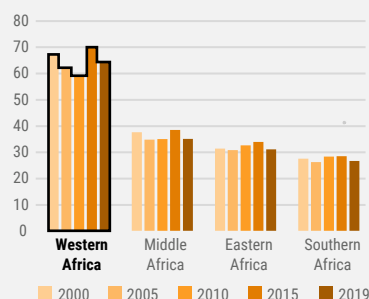
Since 2007, **more than half** of the world's population live in cities. Although cities are drivers of economic growth, contributing more than **80%** of global GDP, they also account for more than **70%** of global greenhouse gas emissions

**99%** of the world's population live in places where air pollution levels exceed WHO guideline limit for fine particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) of **5 microns** or less in diameter, with **Central** and **South Asia** showing highest values ▼

Global annual mean levels of PM<sub>2.5</sub> in urban areas by regions, 2017-2019

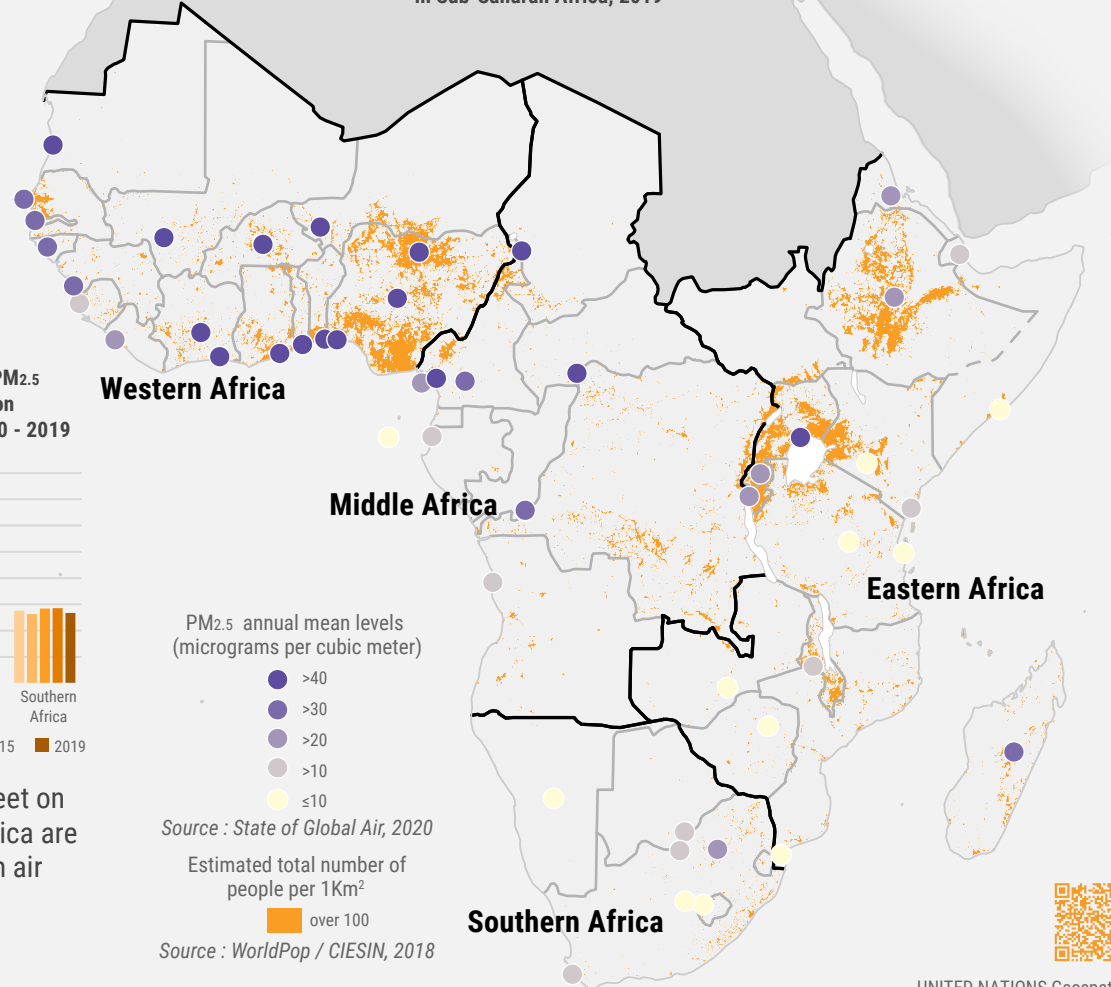


Annual mean levels of PM<sub>2.5</sub> by intermediate region in Sub-Saharan Africa, 2000 - 2019



▼ In **Sub-Saharan Africa**, rapid and poorly planned urbanization leads to many challenges, including unsafe levels of air pollution. With a three-year, **2017-2019**, mean PM<sub>2.5</sub> level of **32.6**, Sub-Saharan Africa has some of the worst air pollution in the world, more than the global average

Concentration of annual mean levels of fine particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) in capital cities in Sub-Saharan Africa, 2019



◀ Residents of Kigali, Rwanda walking in a street on a car-free day. Several cities in Sub-Saharan Africa are adopting monthly car-free days to combat urban air pollution and promote healthy living

WHO photo - 2021

