

# Sustainable Construction and Environmental Challenges





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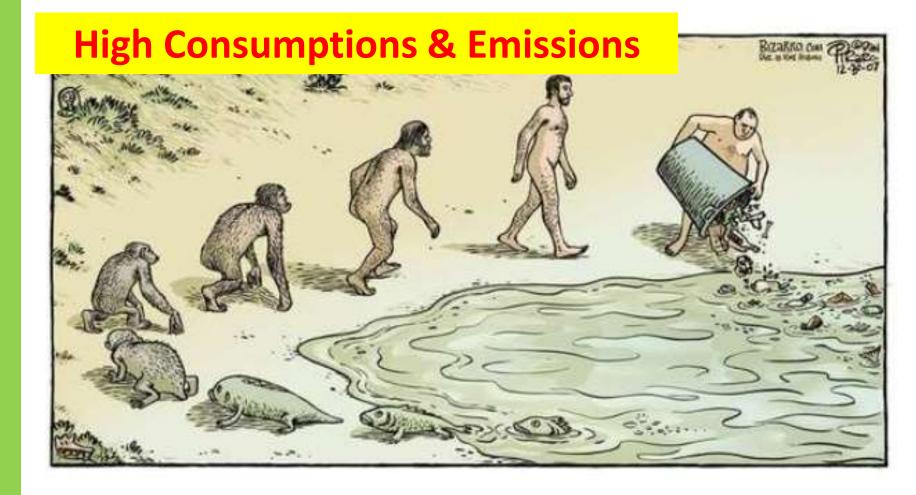
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### Content

- Global Environmental Issues
  - High consumptions and emissions, climate change and related impact
- Construction Trends and the Environment
  - Green/smart cities, green/smart buildings and infrastructure

Global Environmental Issues: High consumptions and emissions, climate change and related impact



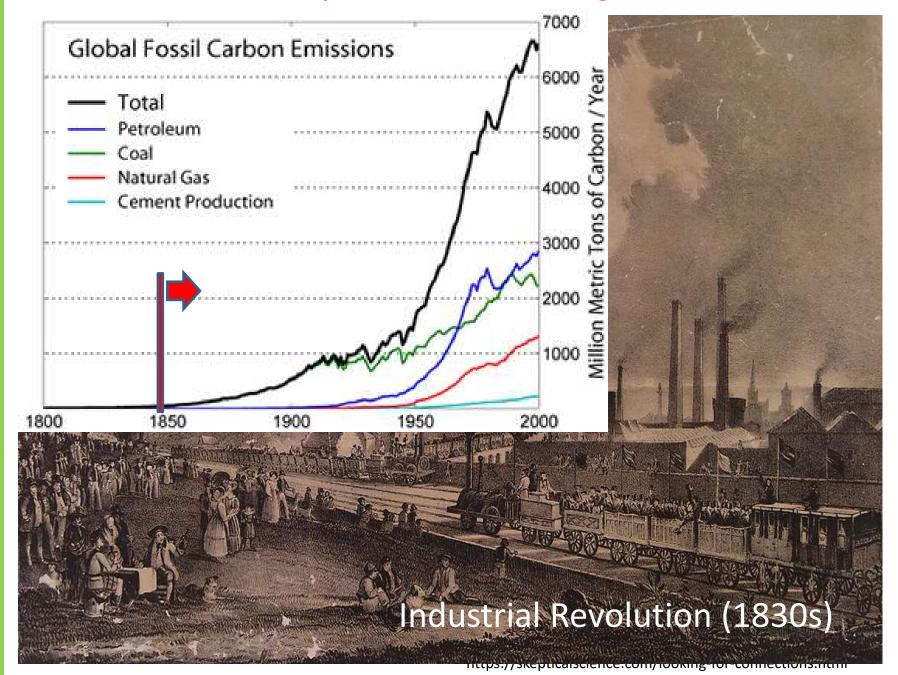
### Welcome to the Anthropocene

the current geological age, viewed as the period during which human activity has been the dominant influence on climate and the environment.

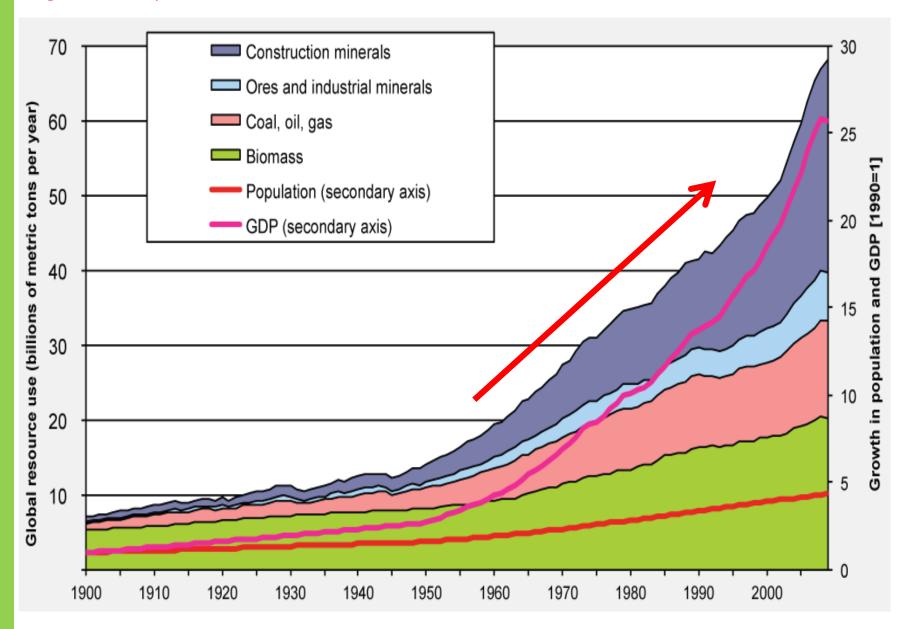
https://www.slideshare.net/jembwilliams/climate-resilience-how-forwardlooking-organisations-are-taking-action-to-mitigate-the-impactof-climate-change/5-httpwwwanthropoceneinfohttpsvimeocom39048998



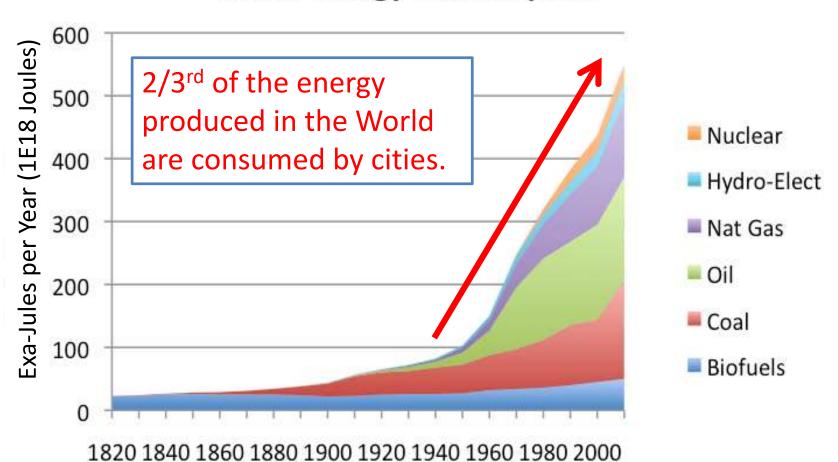
### Resource, environment exploitation and economic growth

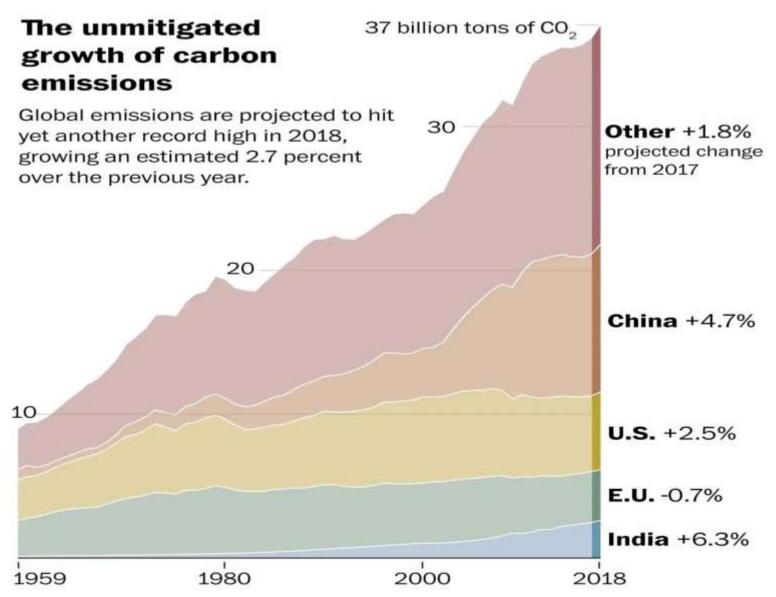


### **High Consumptions**



### **World Energy Consumption**

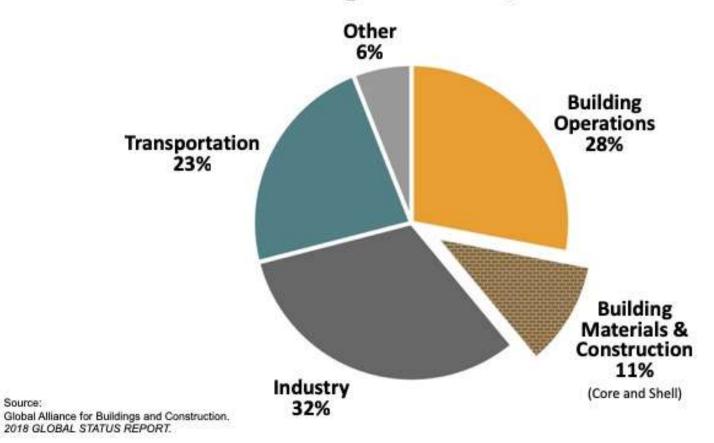




Figures show emissions from fossil fuels and industry, which includes cement manufacturing but not deforestation.

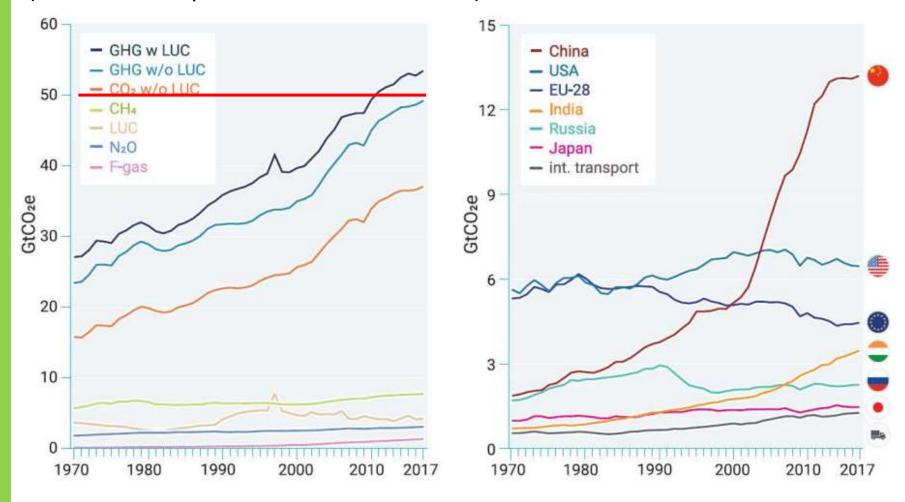
Source: Global Carbon Project

### Global CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions by Sector



The contributor for about 40% of CO2 emission is buildings

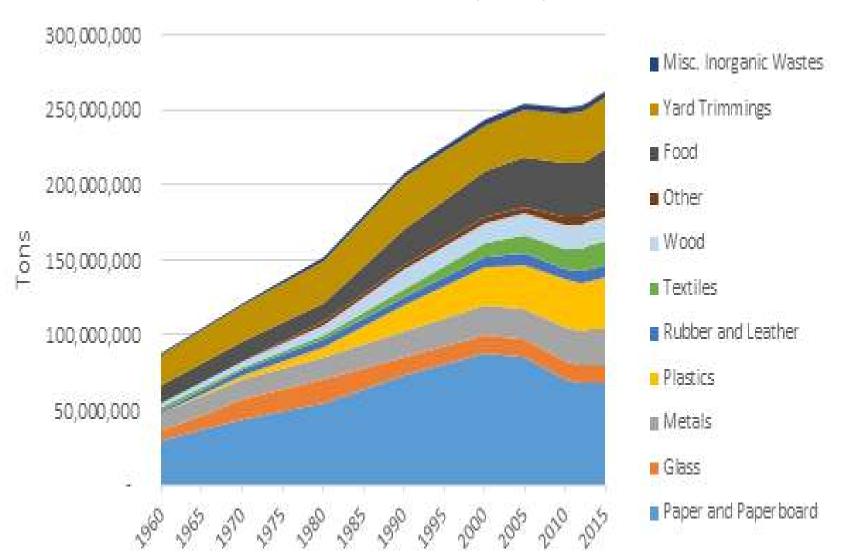
Global greenhouse gas emission levels for majors emitters and per type of gas (CO2e – CO2 Equivalent value of all GHGs)



Total annual greenhouse gases emissions, including from land-use change (LUC), reached a record high of 53.5 GtCO2e in 2017, an increase of 0.7 GtCO2e compared with 2016.

Source: UN Environment / Emission Gap Report - 2018

### **Wastes Emission (World)**

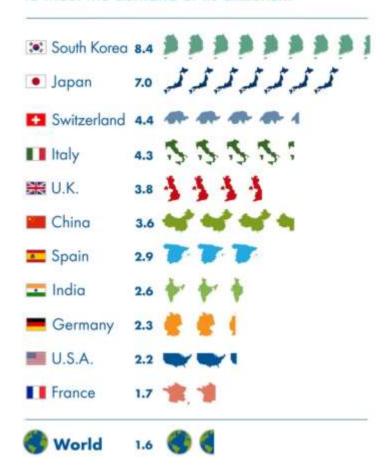


### **Ecological footprint:**

Measure of human impact on Earth's ecosystems.

Measured in the amount of natural capital (resources) consumed each year.

How many countries are required to meet the demand of its citizens...



It is a measure of how much biologically productive land and water an individual, population or activity requires to produce all the resources it consumes, and to absorb the waste it generates.

The Ecological Footprint is usually measured in global hectares (gha)

#### Carbon

Represents the amount of forest land that could sequester CO2 emissions from the burning of fossil fuels, excluding the fraction absorbed by the oceans which leads to acidification





#### Cropland

Represents the amount of cropland used to grow crops for food and fibre for human consumption as well as for animal feed, oil crops and rubber





Represents the amount of grazing land used to raise livestock for meat, dairy, hide and wool products



#### Forest

Represents the amount of forest required to supply timber products, pulp and fuel wood



#### **Built-up land**

Represents the amount of land covered by human infrastructure, including transportation, housing industrial structures and reservoirs for hydropower



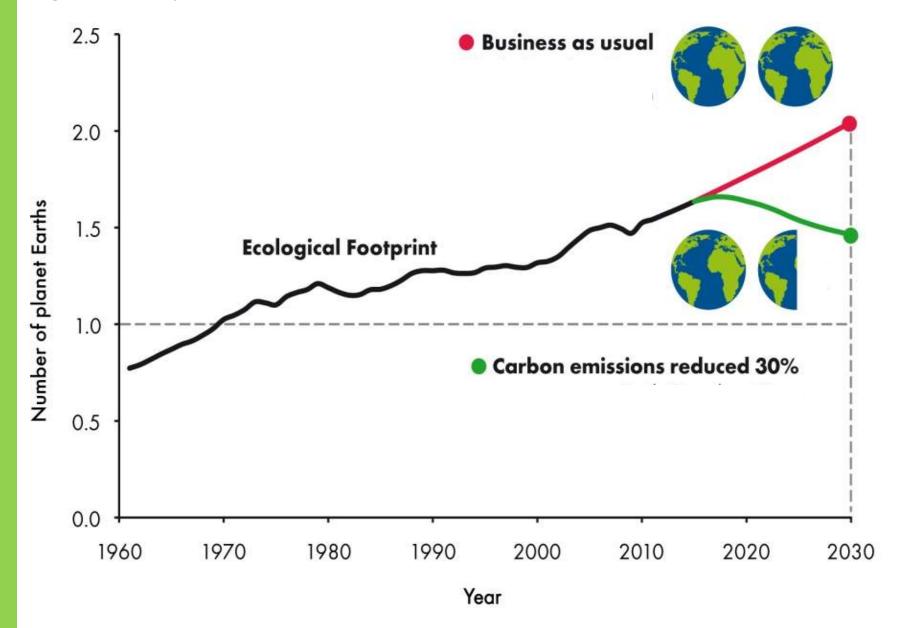
#### Fishing grounds Calculated from the

Calculated from the estimated primary production required to support the fish and seafood caught, based on catch data for marine and freshwater species

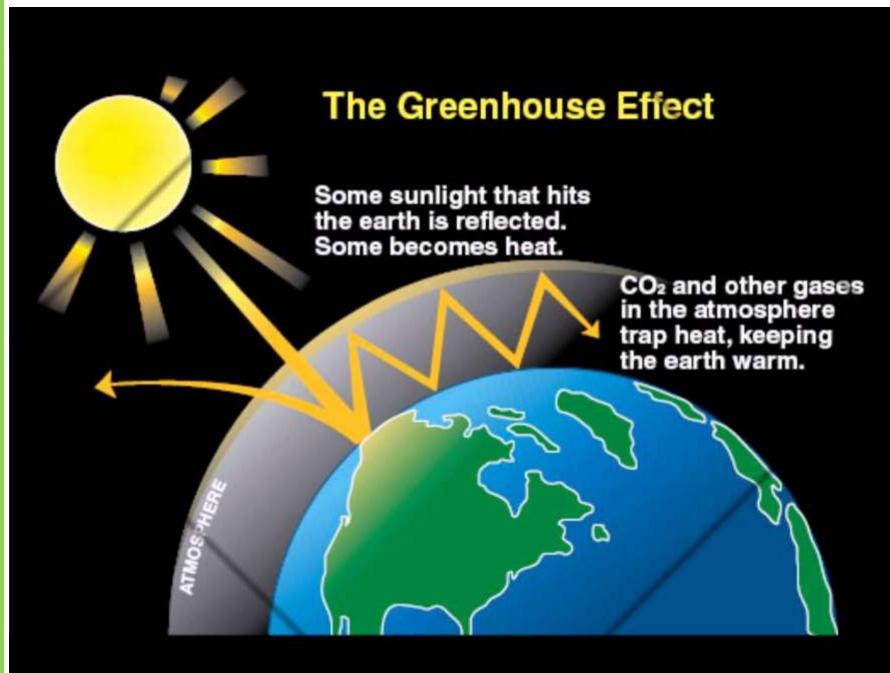
Source: Global Footprint Network National Footprint Accounts 2016

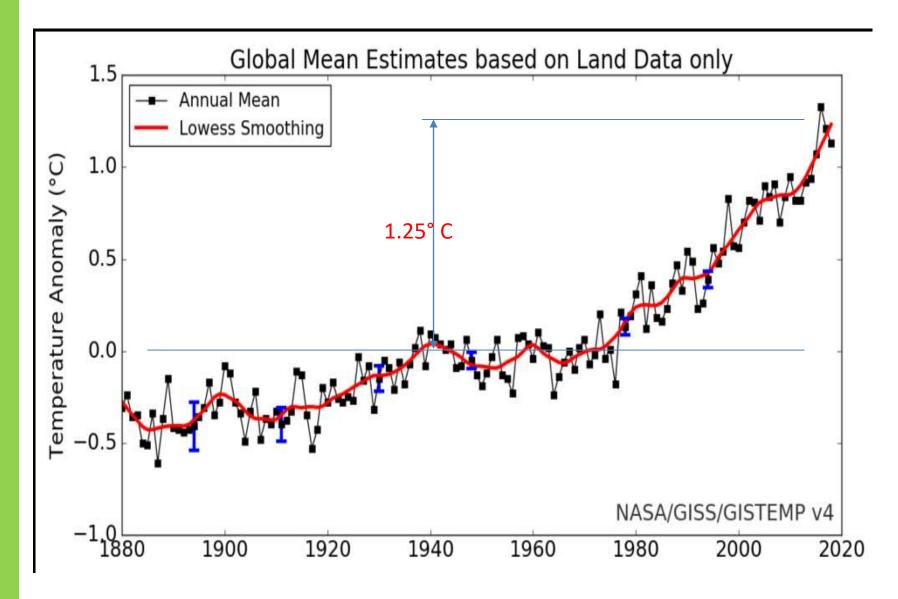
https://www.footprintnetwork.org/our-work/ecological-footprint/

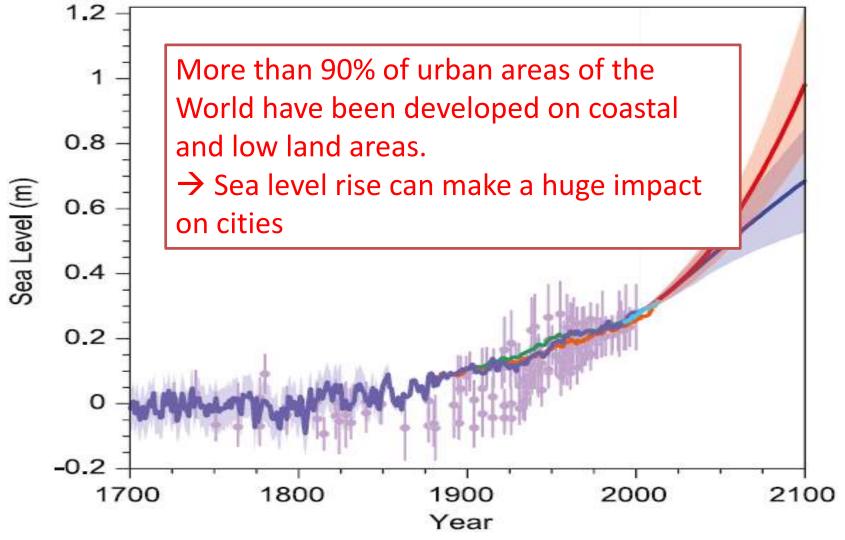
### **High Consumptions**



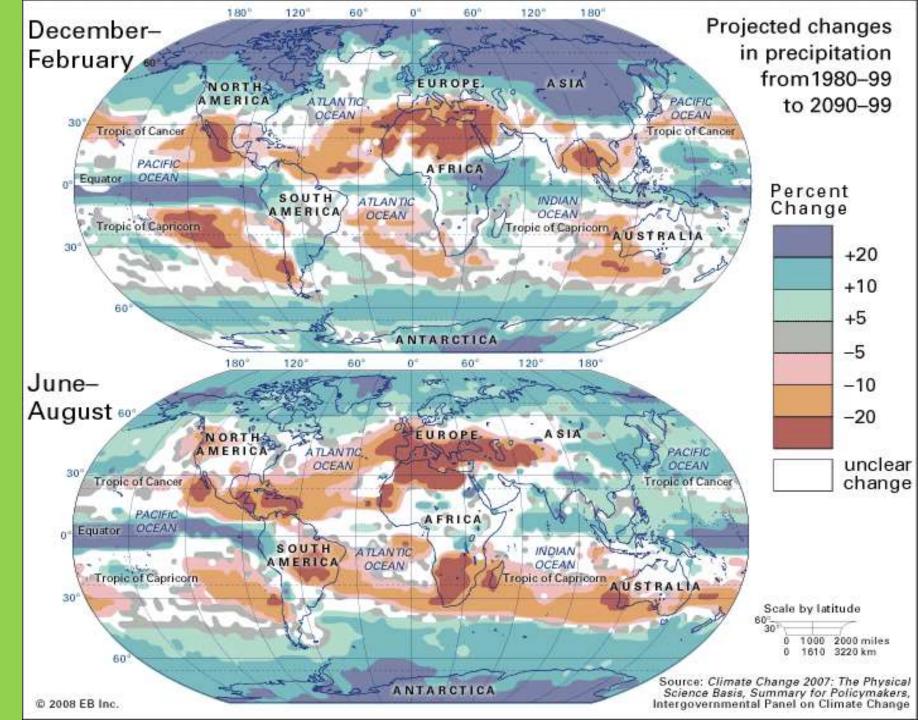
Source: https://www.footprintnetwork.org/our-work/ecological-footprint/







Past and future sea-level rise. For the past, proxy data are shown in light purple and tide gauge data in blue. For the future, the IPCC projections for very high emissions (red, RCP8.5 scenario) and very low emissions (blue, RCP2.6 scenario) are shown. Source: IPCC AR5 Fig. 13.27.

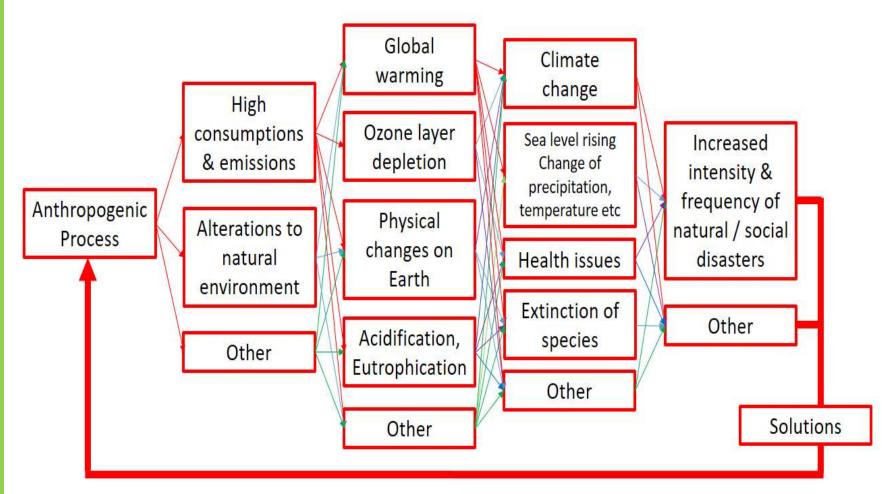


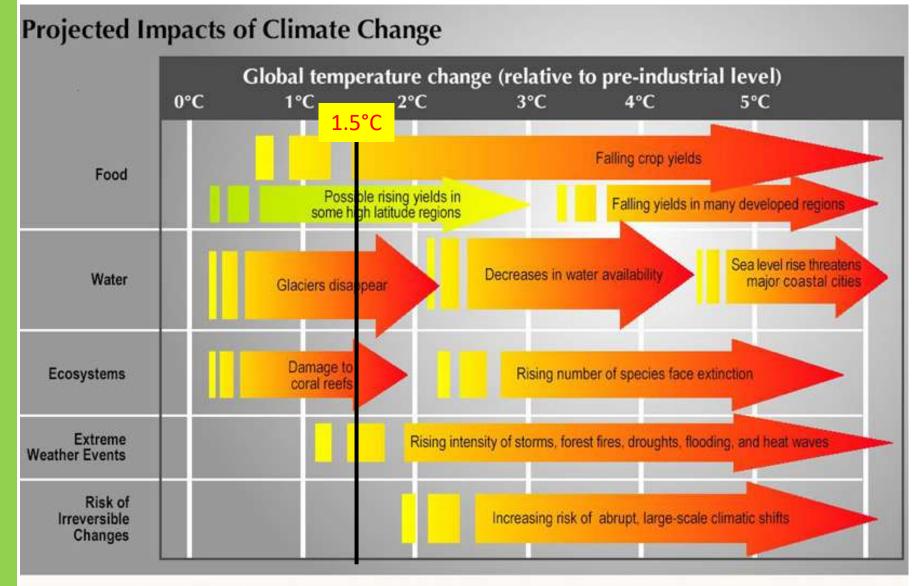






### Anthropogenic Processes and, "Global Warming & Climate Change"



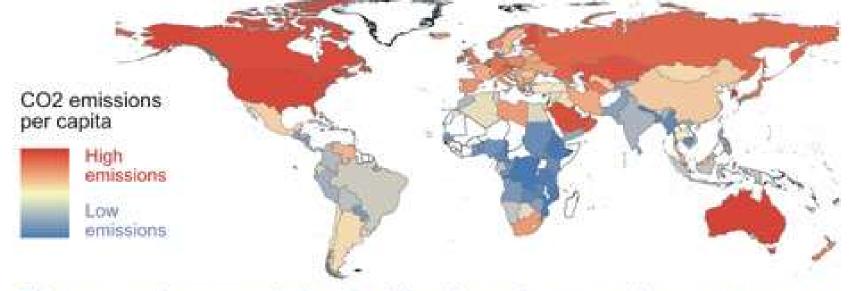


C = Celsius; CO<sub>2</sub> = Carbon Dioxide

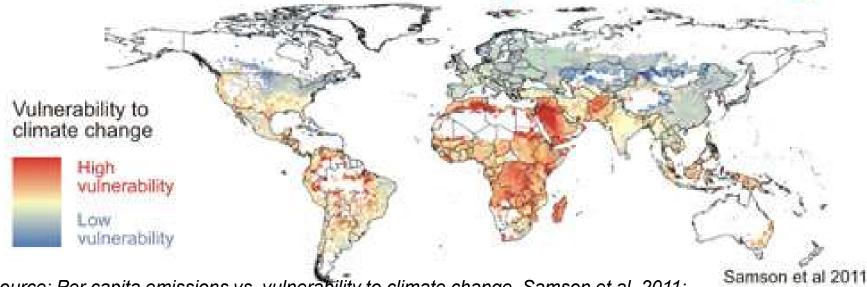
Source: Adapted from the Stern Review on the Economics of Climate Change.

Number of global environmental and disastrous issues have been predicted if the global temperature rise exceeds 1.5°C

Source: Stern N. 2006. The Stern Review on the Economics of Climate Change. HM Treasury, UK. Cambridge University Press.



### Those who contribute the least greenhouse gases will be most impacted by climate change



Source: Per capita emissions vs. vulnerability to climate change, Samson et al. 2011; https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1466-8238.2010.00632.x

### Which Asian country has suffered most financial loss due to climate change?

Climate Risk Index for 1996-2015 reveals that China has suffered most financial loss.

CHINA 32847	INDIA 11335		THAILAND 7574				
						REST OF THE COUNTRIES	
					MALAYSIA	271	
					CAMBODIA	241	
					SRI LANKA	234	
		JAPAN	_ 4		NEPAL	107	
	3823	2441	19.3	6	MONGOLIA	82	
			119	1902	LAOS	75	
			VIET 211	5	BHUTAN	5	
	PHILLIPINES	ESH	REA REA	w.	SINGAPORE	2	
	2761	BANGLADESH 2283	MYANMAR 1300 SOUTH KOREA	1019.	BRUNEI	0.3	

Losses in million US\$ (PPP)

Compiled by: ANN/DataLEADS

Source: Germanwatch, Germany

### Attempt of limiting the global warming below 1.5°C

+1.5° C
INCREASE PER
PARIS CLIMATE ACCORD

REMAINING GLOBAL CARBON BUDGET

420
GT C02

CURRENT EMISSION RATE

42
GT CO2 / YEAR

2030

## Construction trends and the environment: sustainable cities, green buildings and infrastructure



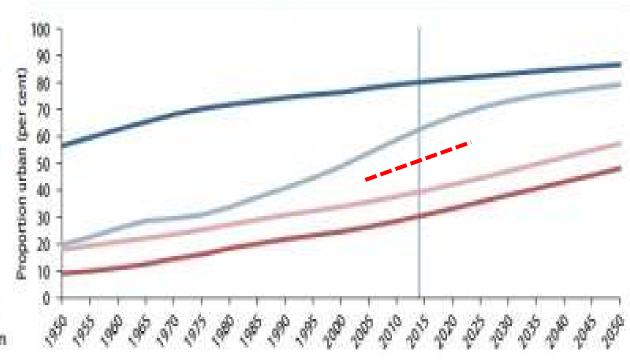
Upper-middle-income countries have experienced the fastest pace of urbanization

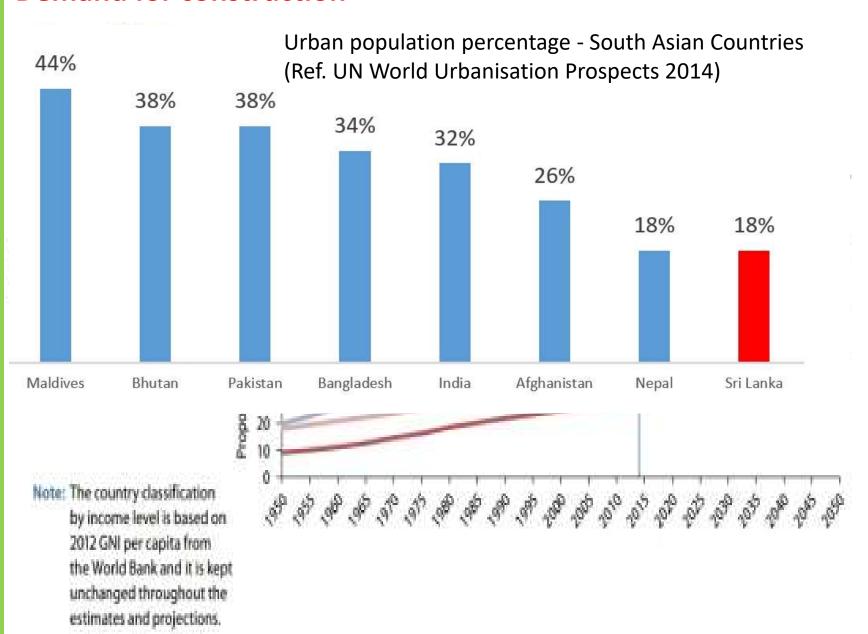
### **URBANISATION**

Proportion urban by income groups, 1950-2050

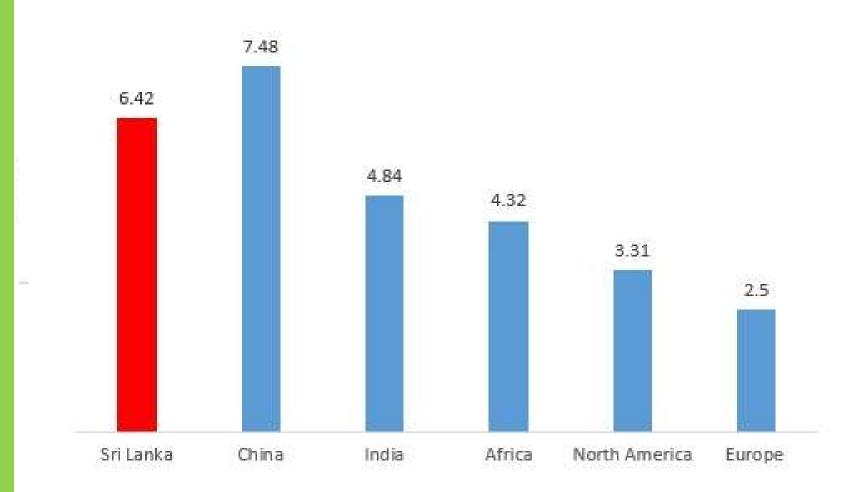


Note: The country classification by income level is based on 2012 GNI per capita from the World Bank and it is kept unchanged throughout the estimates and projections.



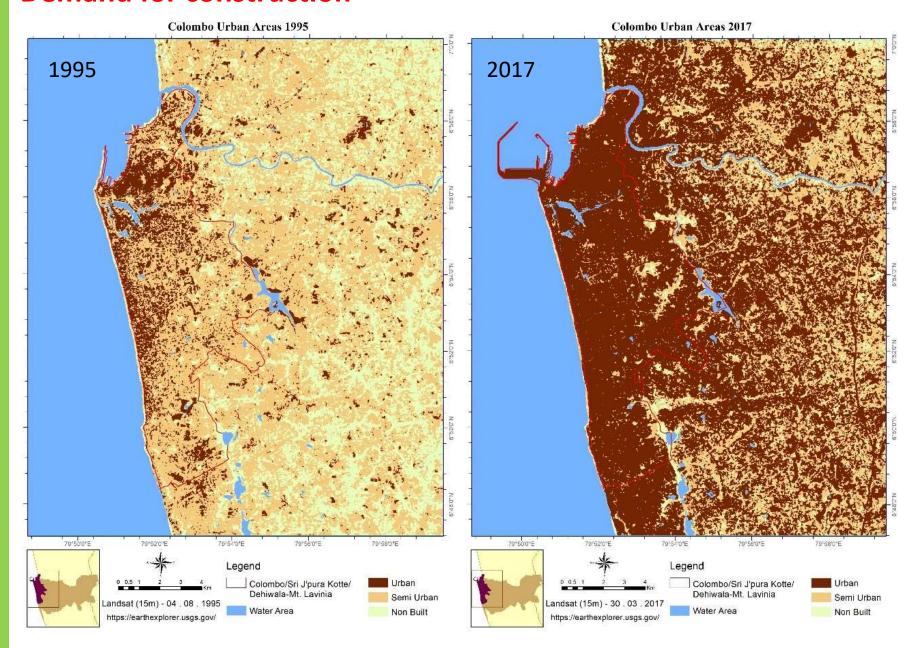


Average annual rates of urban expansion (per cent) across the globe\*



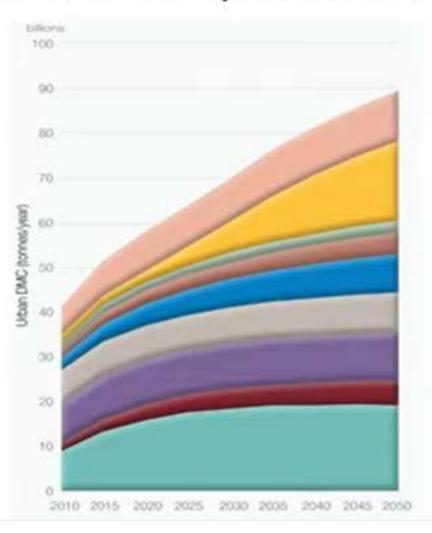
Sources: Sri Lanka, SoSLC Project; Others, Seto et al. (2014)

<sup>\*</sup> Sri Lanka reference period 1995-2017 for 9 provincial capitals; others, 1970-2000



### **Consumptions and emissions**

Building future cities requires raw materials that "far exceed what the planet can sustainably provide."



Urban raw materials consumption:

2010: 40 bil. t/yr 2050: 90 bil. t/yr



(UN International Resource Panel, 2018)

### **Consumptions and emissions**

Urban Expansion is Reducing Global Carbon Sinks (~22 million tons C/year)

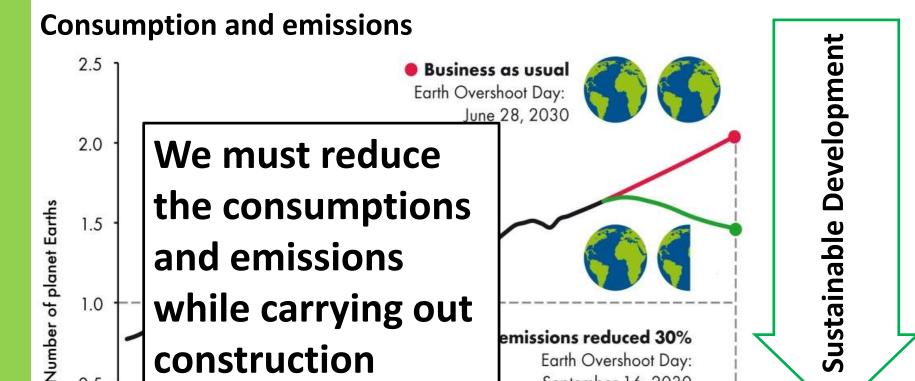


0.5

0.0

1960

1970



2000

Earth Overshoot Day:

September 16, 2030

2020

203

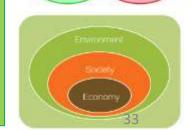
2010



1990

International Institute for Sustainable Development (https://www.iisd.org/topic/sustainable-development)

1980



Society

Sustainability

Economy

Environment

### Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a part of a global agenda, adopted by countries in 2015, with a vision of ending poverty, protecting the planet and ensuring that all people enjoy peace and prosperity.





































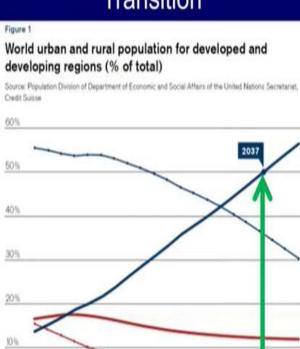


### The Health and Equity Challenge

### Global Demographic Transition

Social Inequity

Unhealthy Communities



Less dev. rural More dev. urban More dev. rural



### Processes and Diseases Whose Impacts are Amplified by Urbanization

- Rural to urban migration
  - ➤ Leprosy & other neglected diseases
- Changing ecosystem
  - ➤ Mosquito-borne Zika and Dengue
  - > Peri-urban deforestation & leishmaniasis
- Over-crowding and movement
  - ► Ebola, COVID-19
  - > Tuberculosis and minibus taxis in South Africa
- Increased yet inadequate access to health services
  - > Antimicrobial resistance
- Aging population and unhealthy cities
  - ➤ Projected NCD epidemic

Plastics, Refuse and Mosquito-Borne





# Processes and Diseases Whose Impacts are Amplified by Urbanization

Plastics, Refuse and Mosquito-Borne





- Antimicrobial resistance
- Aging population and unhealthy cities
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#### NEWS

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Health

Last Updated: Sunday, 26 December, 2004, 06:52 GMT **News Front Page** 

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#### Eyewitness: Sri Lanka tsunami



By Roland Buerk BBC News, Sri Lanka

I'm in a town called Unawatuna, which is on the south coast of Sri Lanka.

here so there was no warning at

We didn't feel the earthquake



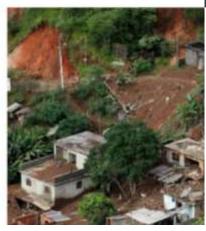
Disasters

UPDATE: Landslide in Sri Lanka KILLS 180 people with more than a 100 missing and 75,000 displaced the flooding affecting 500,000 people

ivors to rely on at the moment

e are no emergency services for

or room right on the



FloodList

**O SUNDAY, 14 FEBRUARY 2021** 

**AFRICA** 

PROTECTION & RECOVERY

**CLIMATE NI** 

Sri Lanka – Deadly Storm Dumps 350mm of Rain in 24 Hours

21 MAY, 2018 BY RICHARD DAVIES IN ASIA, NEWS



A storm that swept across several parts of Sri Lanka between 20 and 21 May, 2018, caused flash floods in several areas, with Southern, Western and Sabaragamuwa Provinces the worst affected. Parts of North Western Province also recorded heavy rainfall.

# Climate Change



# Adaptation

# Mitigation

Change in land use, relocation

Emergency & business continuity planning

Upgrades or hardening of building and infrastructure

Residential programs promoting adaptation

Health programs

Seal Buildings

Green Infrastructure

Water and Energy Conservation

> Smart Growth

Energy conservation and efficiency

Renewable energy

Sustainable transportation, improved fuel efficiency

Capture and use of landfill and digester gas

Carbon sinks



















#### **Green Buildings**

#### Cambridge Dictionary:

A building that protects the natural environment

## World Green Building Council:

A building that reduces or eliminates negative impacts and creates positive impacts on climate and natural environment

#### **Green SL Rating System:**

Green building aims: increasing the efficiency of resources (energy, water and materials), reducing the impact on human health and its surrounding environment (during its lifecycle: construction, operation, maintenance and removal and recycling of waste).

# Green buildings

Efficiency of resources (energy, water and materials)

Reduced negative impact on human health

Increased positive impact on climate and natural environment

Sustainable Design

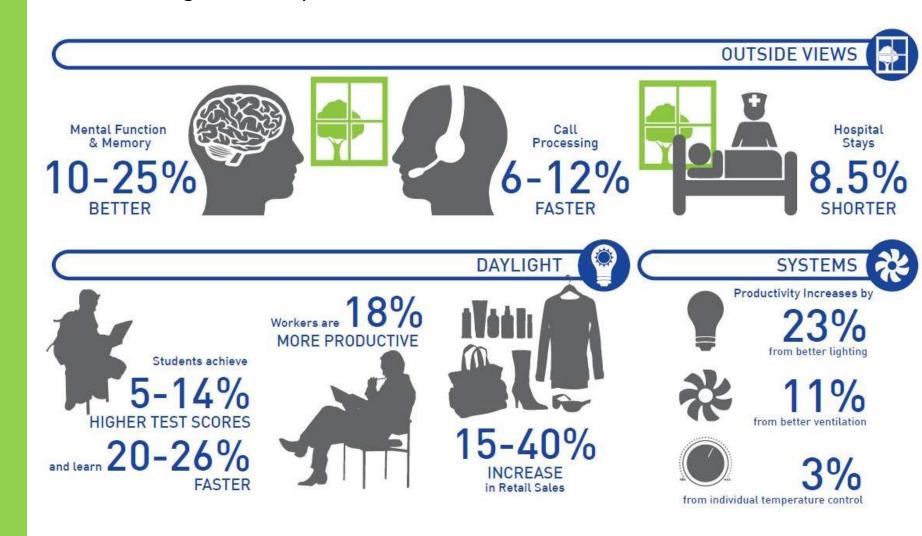
Socio cultural dimension
Economic dimension

Past and Future History of Carbon, "Buildings as a Global Carbon Sink," in Nature Sustainability, Churkina, et.al. Masonry Concrete Steel Composite Glulam Bamboo CLT Recovery .....????? MINERAL-BASED MATERIALS **BIO-BASED MATERIALS CARBON POOL CARBON POOL CARBON POOL FORMATION** DEPLETION REPLENISHMENT 350 Mya 2020 1750 2050

## **Green SL Rating System**



Green buildings: the best place to live & work



**Figure 11**Net present value analysis of the operational cost and productivity and health benefits of LEED certified buildings

Source: Productivity & Health Benefits, The Business Case for Green Building 2013, pg. 67

#### **Green Cities**

Sustainable cities are those that are dedicated to achieving green sustainability, social sustainability and economic sustainability. (UN Sustainable Development Goal 11)

A city that promotes energy efficiency and renewable energy in all its activities, extensively promotes green solutions, applies land compactness with mixed land use and social mix practices in its planning systems, and anchors its local development in the principles of green growth and equity. (Brilhante & Jannes, 2018)

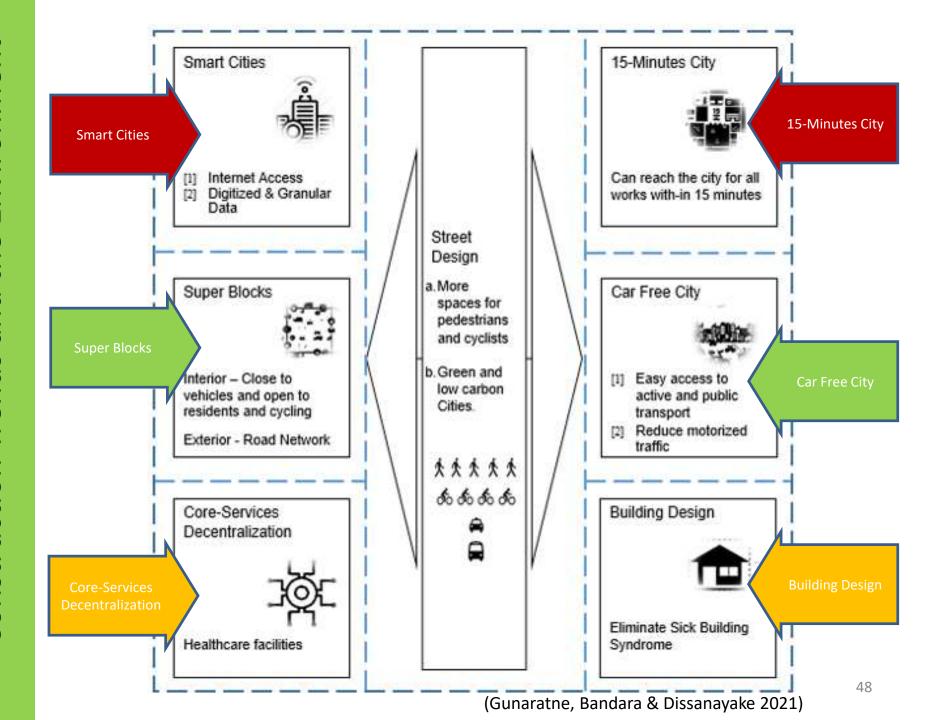
#### RESILIENCE

- Multiple Energy Sources
- Multiple Water Sources
- Disaster Fortitude Design
- Emphasis on passive systems
- Reduced Environmental Effects
- Flood Plain evaluation of building location.

- Energy Independence
- Water Independence
- Renewable Resources
- ✓ Resource Storage
- ✓ Environmental Effects
  - **Community Support**

#### SUSTAINABILITY

- · Energy Reduction
- Renewable Energy Production
- Recycled/Reclaimed Water
- · Locally Sourced Material
- Community Responsibility
- Access to Transportation
- Indoor Environmental Quality
- Brownfield Restoration





ecoinnovetionlab.com/project\_content/foodprint-melbourne











## **SMARTER SMART CITIES**

The "smart cities" agenda is mainly focused on top down technological initiatives (embedded sensors, data integration and analytics). The real smart cities of the future will mobilise human intelligence as well as artificial intelligence, bottom up creativity as well as top down control.

TOP DOWN SMART CITIES

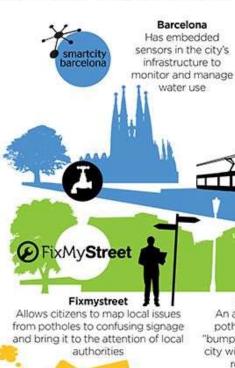
City planners and corporations use IT infrastructure to optimise the flows of people and goods and deliver public services more efficiently

CONNECTING TOP AND воттом

People use open data released by local authorities and companies to create services, and local authorities collect data from citizens to improve their services



mprove the way their



Smart Citizen Kit

The Smart Citizen project uses low cost sensors and a web platform to enable citizens to capture, share and make sense of environmental data about their city

# STREET

#### Streetbump

An app that identifies potholes by recording "bump" data, providing the city with real-time data on road conditions

BlindSquare



IBM

Has designed a

centralised Intelligent

Operations Centre to

coordinate and manage

all of a city's services

#### Betri Revkjavik

A platform which crowdsources opinions on city legislation, with the most popular ideas debated by the council



#### Changebyus

A place for citizens to put ideas into action to make their city a better place to live

#### Blindsquare

Uses crowdsourced information and GPS to help blind people navigate the city



Promotes collaborative consumption by allowing neighbours to share or rent their possessions

PlanIT's Urban

Operating System

Is marketed as a

way to manage

the entire urban

landscape

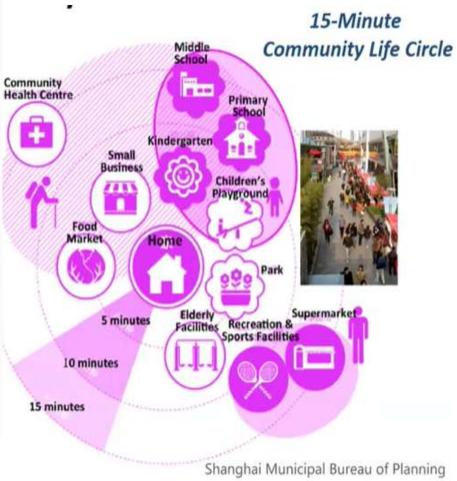




51

#### Adaptive Circular Cities **Concepts for city planning** Design principles for health-supporting green infrastructure Well-placed green infrastructure Trees with a large crown promotes air circulation improve thermal comfort Attractive accessible Dense vegetation close to the source green spaces . maximizes noise increase social ECN interaction reduction Design principles on Street Level Water quantity regulation Green spaces experiencing green designed on the spaces of good citizen's needs quality reduce stress for physical activity More open soil surface increases infiltration capacity





## Green Buildings and cities fulfil 9 SDGs out of 17



The vision of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is: ending poverty, protecting the planet and ensuring that all people enjoy peace and prosperity.



# GO GREEN

- 1. You get a happy, healthy and productive built environment
- 2. You save the mother earth

Thank you

