

Unit 2: Urbanisation



Extra Reading

Urbanization programs are being carried out in many parts of the world, especially in densely populated regions with limited land and resources. It is the natural outcome of economic development and industrialization. It has brought a lot of benefits to our society. However, it also poses various problems for local authorities and town planners in the process of maintaining sustainable urbanization, especially in developing countries. When too many people cram into a small area, urban infrastructure can't be effective. There will be a lack of livable housing, energy and water supply. This will create overcrowded urban districts with no proper facilities.

Currently, fast urbanization is taking place predominantly in developing countries where sustainable urbanization has little relevance to people's lives. Their houses are just shabby slums with poor sanitation. Their children only manage to get basic education. Hence, the struggle for survival is their first priority rather than anything else. Only when the quality of their existence is improved, can they seek for other high values in their life.

Thus, sustainable urbanization in different regions should start from different levels. For more developed regions, the focus could be on achieving a more sustainable urban life. But for less developed regions, urban development should really start with the provision of the basic human needs such as sufficient energy, clean water, housing with proper sanitation, and access to effective social infrastructure.

I. Choose the best title

- A. Urbanization history
- B. Causes and effects of urbanization
- C. Challenges of sustainable urbanization

II. Decide whether these statements are TRUE/ FALSE/ NOT GIVEN

- 1. Urbanization is the natural product of economic development and industrialization.
- 2. The advantages of urbanization outweigh its disadvantages.
- 3. Slum dwellers in developing countries understand the meaning of sustainable urbanization.
- 4. The struggle for survival is the most important thing for poor people in developing countries.
- 5. Different regions should deal with different tasks to achieve sustainable urbanization.

III. Match the words in column A with their definitions in column B

▪ outcome /'aʊtkʌm/ (n)	A. enough
▪ predominantly /prɪ'domɪnəntli/ (adv)	B. sth that is very important and must be dealt with before other things
▪ priority /prar'ɔrəti/ (n)	C. result
▪ sufficient /sə'fɪʃnt/ (adj)	D. the act of providing sth that sb needs
▪ provision /prə'veɪʒn/ (n)	E. mainly, mostly