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Chapter 12

Human Settlements, Infrastructure and Spatial Planning

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Chapter 12: Human Settlements, Infrastructure, and Spatial Planning

Contents

1	Chapter 12: Human Settlements, Infrastructure, and Spatial Planning	2
2	Executive Summary	4
3	12.1 Introduction	5
4	12.2 Human settlements and GHG emissions	6
5	12.2.1 Trends in human settlements	6
6	12.2.2 Trends in urban land use	7
7	12.2.3 Trends in urban population densities	7
8	12.2.4 Trends in urban built-up densities.....	8
9	12.2.5 Trends in urban development and infrastructure.....	8
10	12.2.6 Trends in urban energy use and emissions.....	9
11	12.3 Urban systems: activities, resources, and performance.....	10
12	12.3.1 Role of human settlements and infrastructure for GHG emissions	10
13	12.3.2 Urban energy and emissions accounting.....	12
14	12.3.3 Current trends in aggregate urban and rural emissions.....	19
15	12.3.4 Future trends in urban emissions.....	23
16	12.4 Urban form and infrastructure.....	27
17	12.4.1 Characteristics of low carbon settlements	28
18	12.4.2 Density: co-located high population and employment density	28
19	12.4.3 Compact urban form	29
20	12.4.4 Mixed land uses.....	30
21	12.4.5 High connectivity.....	31
22	12.4.6 High accessibility	31
23	12.4.7 Integrating multiple transport modes	32
24	12.4.8 Systems integration of energy and material flows.....	32
25	12.4.9 Energy	34
26	12.4.10 Waste	34
27	12.4.11 Water	35
28	12.4.12 Food	37
29	12.5 Spatial planning and climate change mitigation	37
30	12.5.1 Spatial and integrated planning	37
31	12.5.2 Planning strategies to attain and sustain low carbon human settlements	38
32	12.5.3 Growth management	38

1	12.5.4 Regional planning and governance	39
2	12.5.5 Public transit investments	40
3	12.5.6 Transit-oriented development	40
4	12.5.7 Urban regeneration projects.....	40
5	12.5.8 Mixed income/affordable housing	41
6	12.5.9 Integrated transportation planning.....	41
7	12.5.10 Elevated highway deconstruction and roadway reductions	41
8	12.6 Governance, institutions, and finance	42
9	12.6.1 Multi-level jurisdictional and integrated governance	42
10	12.6.2 Institutional opportunities and barriers	44
11	12.6.3 Financing urban mitigation opportunities and barriers.....	45
12	12.6.4 Land value capture and land governance	46
13	12.7 Urban climate mitigation: Experiences and opportunities	48
14	12.7.1 City climate action plans	48
15	12.7.2 Cross-cutting goals	50
16	12.7.3 Targets and timetables	50
17	12.7.4 Climate action plan implementation	51
18	12.7.5 Citizen participation and grass-root initiatives	52
19	12.8 Sustainable development, co-benefits, tradeoffs, and spillovers	53
20	12.8.1 Co-benefits and adaptation synergies of mitigating the Urban Heat Island	53
21	12.8.2 Urban carbon sinks	54
22	12.9 Gaps in knowledge	55
23		

1 Executive Summary

2 Human settlements are dominated by seven trends: urbanization, expansive land-use change,
3 declining population densities, declining built-up densities, the emergence of very large settlements,
4 the unprecedented physical scale of individual settlements, and a geographic shift to developing
5 countries, where nearly all future population growth will occur (*robust evidence, high agreement*).
6 These trends in where and how humanity lives are paralleled with the economic growth and the
7 transition from traditional to modern energy sources. Between 2009 and 2050, urban areas are
8 projected to absorb the entire world's population growth while the rural population will begin to
9 decline around 2020. By 2050, urban population is projected to increase to 6.3 billion from 3.4 billion
10 in 2009. Urban population growth will be concentrated in Asia (1.7 billion) and Africa (0.8 billion).
11 The fraction of anthropogenic GHG emissions from human settlements depends on the definition of
12 urban areas and the emissions accounting methods (*robust evidence, high agreement*).

13 The future growth in material stocks will occur primarily in developing countries (*high confidence*),
14 but there is no consensus as to how much infrastructure stock will be required. In 2008, the built-up
15 infrastructure globally embodied between 102 and 137 Gt CO₂-eq, with between 55 and 78 Gt CO₂-
16 eq in Annex I countries and between 47 and 59 Gt CO₂-eq in non-Annex I countries. The existing
17 infrastructure of the average Annex I resident is three times that of the world average and about five
18 times higher than that of the average non-Annex I resident (*limited evidence*).

19 Direct emissions associated with human settlements account for 75-81% of global CO₂ emissions
20 from 1990 to 2008 (*limited evidence, high agreement*). Areas with urban populations are responsible
21 for 29.9 to 35.7% of global CO₂ emissions from 1990 to 2008, and for 4.7 (56%) of 8.3 Gt increase in
22 emissions over that period. The share of emissions from rural areas has not increased, remaining in
23 the range 43.2 to 45.5%. An increase of 3.8 Gt (46%) is attributed to direct emissions in areas with
24 rural populations, while other emissions have decreased 0.2 Gt (-2%) due primarily to variability in
25 large-scale biomass burning. Urban areas are responsible for the dominant share of carbon dioxide
26 emissions from waste management (82%), and the combination of materials production and
27 manufacturing (85%), while rural areas have the dominant shares of CO₂ emissions from use-phase
28 activities (51%) and energy production (65%). However, there is no strong agreement on these
29 estimates and different methods have yielded different figures.

30 There is large variation in urban emissions across countries and regions. African urban GHG
31 emissions are approximately 21-30% of total African CO₂-eq. emissions. In contrast, North American
32 urban CO₂-eq. emissions are estimated to be 49-73% of total North American emissions. Amongst
33 developing countries, urban CO₂-eq. emissions range from approximately 26-33% of total emissions.
34 Among developed countries, urban CO₂-eq. emissions range from approximately 47-63% of total
35 (*limited evidence, high agreement*).

36 There is *robust evidence and high agreement* that urban form, design, and connectivity are
37 important in shaping the levels of urban GHG emissions. Urban form is responsible directly for a
38 large proportion of consumed energy and indirectly influences the choice, patterns and modes of
39 energy consumed in everyday activities. Human settlements could meet low carbon targets through
40 two primary whole-system approaches: spatial planning and metabolism. There is *robust evidence*
41 that low carbon human settlements have the following characteristics: (1) high population and
42 employment densities that are co-located; (2) compact urban form; (3) mixed land uses; (4) high
43 connectivity; (5) destination accessibility; and (6) integrated multi-transport modes. Furthermore,
44 there is *robust evidence* that planning strategies as growth management, public transit investments,
45 transit-oriented development, integrated transportation planning, and land value capture can
46 achieve the above characteristics. However, there is little consensus on the optimal set of strategies
47 that could effectiveness reduce GHG emissions or the exact magnitude of the effect.

1 There is *robust evidence* that governance of land use and planning is not solely dependent on
2 municipal authorities and that there are significant challenges to overcoming existing governance
3 and institutional barriers to achieve low carbon development. There is *high agreement* that multi-
4 level governance and institutional arrangements are required to move human settlements towards
5 the principles of low carbon development.

6 Since the IPCC 4th Assessment Report, thousands of cities around the world have implemented or
7 are developing local climate change mitigation plans. Although municipal governments and civil
8 society are taking leadership to reduce carbon emissions at the local level, there are few evaluations
9 of the effectiveness of these urban climate action plans and their implementation has been slow.

10 **12.1 Introduction**

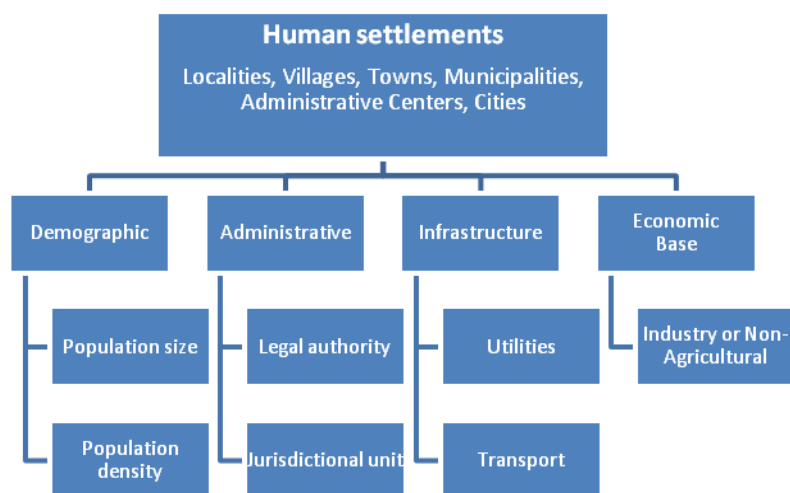
11 The Vancouver Declaration on Human Settlements defines human settlements as the totality of the
12 human community whether city, town, or village, with all the social, material, organizational,
13 spiritual, and cultural elements that sustain it (United Nations, 1976). The fabric of human
14 settlements consists of physical elements and services to which these elements provide the material
15 support. The physical components comprise shelter, infrastructure (e.g., the complex networks
16 designed to deliver to or remove from the shelter people, goods, energy, or information) and
17 services (to support the communities' functions as a social body, such as education, health, culture,
18 welfare, recreation and nutrition). Over the years, the concept of human settlements has been
19 broadened to become a framework for an overall national socio-economic development. Human
20 settlements now include both the spatial dimension as well as the physical expression of economic
21 and social activity (UN ESCAP, 2013). If defined so broadly, global human settlements and their
22 infrastructures account for all anthropogenic GHG emissions: human settlements sustain their
23 functions through an increasingly global socio-economic metabolism that includes all sectors.

24 In this chapter, infrastructures are broadly defined as those services and built-up structures that
25 provide water, energy, food, shelter (construction materials), mobility/connectivity, sanitation,
26 waste management and public amenities (Ramaswami, 2013). Essential infrastructures often
27 transcend city boundaries and hence are termed "transboundary" (Ramaswami et al., 2012). For
28 example, the energy used to provide key infrastructure services such as electricity, transport fuels,
29 or freight transport often occurs outside the boundaries of the cities using them. Human settlements
30 can reduce greenhouse gas emissions through two principle strategies: through individual
31 component sectors or the constituent of a settlement as a whole. Chapters 7, 8, 9, and 10 describe
32 the mitigation options for component sectors related to human settlements: energy systems,
33 transport, buildings, and industry, respectively. This chapter addresses options for reducing
34 greenhouse gas emissions for a human settlement as a functional unit, with a focus on urban
35 settlements, infrastructure, and spatial planning.

36 This chapter focuses on urban settlements for four reasons. First, between 60-80 percent of final
37 energy use globally occurs in urban areas (GEA, 2012). Second, urban areas are economic centers
38 and generate more than 90% of global gross value added (United Nations, 2011a). Third, the
39 majority of the future increase in population will occur almost entirely in urban areas (United
40 Nations, 2011b). Between 2009 and 2050, urban areas are projected to absorb the entire world's
41 population growth while the rural population will begin to decline. By 2050, urban population is
42 projected to increase to 6.3 billion, from 3.4 billion in 2009, concentrated in Asia (1.7 billion) and
43 Africa (0.8 billion). Fourth, the increase in urban populations will be accompanied by unparalleled
44 levels of new construction of built environments and infrastructure, requiring significant energy and
45 natural resources. Given such trends, it is clear that urban settlements are and will be increasingly
46 central to climate change.

47 Although urban settlements make up much of global energy use, economic production, and
48 population, there is no consensus on the definition of urban. Rather, there is significant variation

1 between country-defined definitions, with some defining urban as a settlement with a combination
 2 of minimum population size of between 2000 and 5000 inhabitants, an economy that is primarily
 3 non-agricultural, and the presence of infrastructure (United Nations, 2011b). In this chapter,
 4 “urban” describes a human settlement with any of the following characteristics: 1) a minimum
 5 population size as defined by an individual country; 2) an economic base that is largely non-
 6 agricultural; 3) a concentration of economic resources, the built environment and infrastructure; and
 7 4) having some legal authority or governance over a geographic region (Figure 12.1).



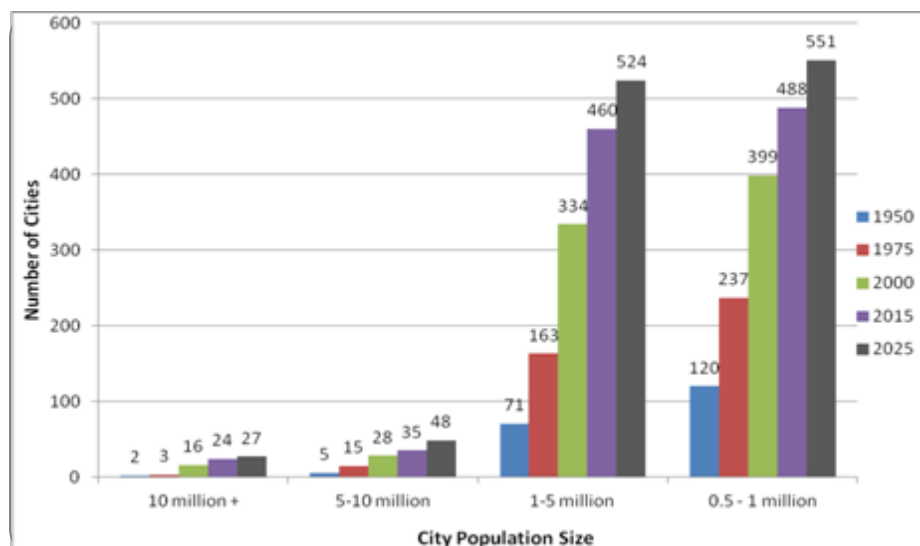
8
 9 **Figure 12.1.** Characteristics and types of human settlements

10 **12.2 Human settlements and GHG emissions**

11 **12.2.1 Trends in human settlements**

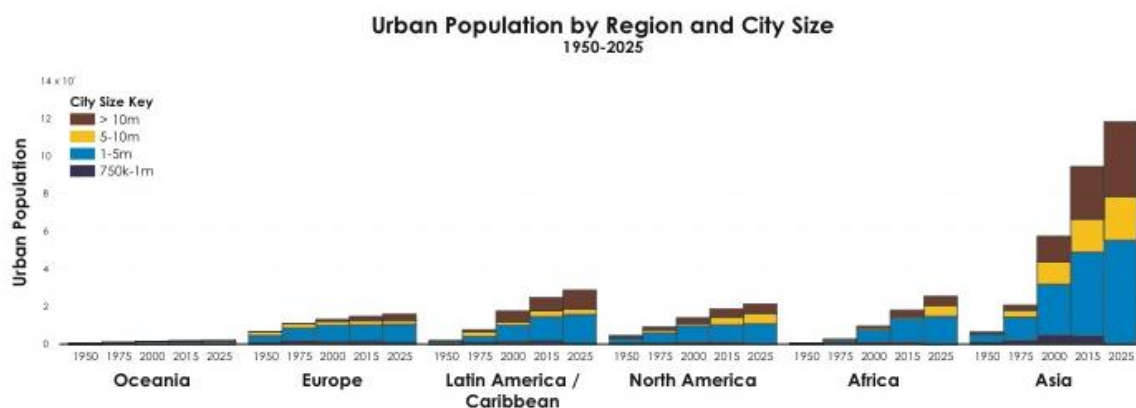
12 There are four primary trends in human settlements today. First is that that more people live in
 13 urban settlements than rural settlements. More than half of the world population lives in urban
 14 areas. Second, the population of individual urban areas is larger than any other time in history.
 15 Mumbai, Lagos, and Tokyo each have populations of over 20 million. In contrast, Beijing was the only
 16 city with 1 million people in 1800. Third, about 60% of the global urban population live in relatively
 17 small cities, those with fewer than one million people. Less than 10% global urban population lives in
 18 megacities, defined as cities with populations of 10 million or greater (Figure 12.2).

19



1
2 **Figure 12.2.** Number of cities by size, source: United Nations, 2011b.

3 Fourth, urban growth in the coming decades will take place primarily in Asia and Asia (Figure 12.3).
4 Urban settlements also exhibit geographic variations in scale, distribution, and patterns of the
5 growth.



6
7 **Figure 12.3.** Urban population by region and city size, source:United Nations, 2011b.

8 **12.2.2 Trends in urban land use**

9 Urban areas have historically been spatially compact with concentrated populations. Urban areas
10 are now increasingly expansive and characterized by low-density fragmented development.
11 Individual case studies show that urban areas have reached physical sizes that are unmatched in
12 history. The urban extent of Tokyo-Yokohama is more than 13,500 km², an area that is bigger than
13 Jamaica (11,000 km²). Between 1970 and 2000, more than 58,000 km², an area approximately 1.3
14 times the size of Denmark, were converted to urban uses worldwide (Seto et al., 2011) and it is
15 highly likely that more than 1.2 million km², an area nearly equal to South Africa, will become urban
16 by 2030 (Seto et al., 2012).

17 **12.2.3 Trends in urban population densities**

18 Worldwide, across all income levels and city sizes, urban population densities are declining. On
19 average, urban population densities are four times higher in low income countries (11,850
20 persons/km² 2000) than in high income countries (2,855 persons/km² in 2000). Urban population
21 densities are highest in South (13,720 persons/km²) and Southeast (16,495 persons/km²) Asia
22 although they have also declined from 1990 levels (Table 12.1) (World Bank, 2005).

1 **Table 12.1:** Average density and built up area per person across regions, income group and city size
 2 groups, 1990-2000, source: (Angel et al., 2005)

Category	Average Built-up Area Density			Average Built-up Area per Person		
	1990	2000	Annual % Change	1990	2000	Annual % Change
Developing Countries	9,560	8,050	-1.7%	105	125	1.7%
Industrialized Countries	3,545	2,835	-2.2%	280	355	2.3%
Region						
East Asia & the Pacific	15,380	9,350	-4.9%	65	105	5.1%
Europe	5,270	4,345	-1.9%	190	230	1.9%
Latin America & the Caribbean	6,955	6,785	-0.3%	145	145	0.3%
Northern Africa	10,010	9,250	-0.8%	100	110	0.8%
Other Developed Countries	2,790	2,300	-1.9%	360	435	2.0%
South & Central Asia	17,980	13,720	-2.7%	55	75	2.7%
Southeast Asia	25,360	16,495	-4.2%	40	60	4.4%
Sub-Saharan Africa	9,470	6,630	-3.5%	105	150	3.6%
Western Asia	6,410	5,820	-1.0%	155	170	1.0%
Income Category						
Low Income	15,340	11,850	-2.5%	65	85	2.6%
Lower-Middle Income	12,245	8,820	-3.2%	80	115	3.3%
Upper-Middle Income	6,370	5,930	-0.7%	155	170	0.7%
High Income	3,565	2,855	-2.2%	280	350	2.2%
City Population Size						
100,000 - 528,000	5,955	4,810	-2.1%	170	210	2.2%
528,000 - 1,490,000	7,620	5,970	-2.4%	130	165	2.5%
1,490,000 - 4,180,000	6,870	6,040	-1.3%	145	165	1.3%
More than 4,180,000	5,860	5,405	-0.8%	170	185	0.8%
Global Average	6,485	5,470	-1.7%	155	185	1.7%

3 Note: Based on weighted averages of the 90-city sample.

4 12.2.4 Trends in urban built-up densities

5 Worldwide, the rate of urban expansion exceeds the rate of urban population growth, and across all
 6 income levels and city sizes, the amount of built-up area per person is increasing (Seto, Sánchez-
 7 Rodríguez, et al., 2010; Angel et al., 2011). Urban areas in Asia experienced the largest decline in
 8 population densities during the 1990s (Table 12.1). In East Asia, urban population densities declined
 9 4.9%, from 15,380 persons/km² in 1990 to 9,350 persons/km² in 2000. In Southeast Asia , urban
 10 population densities declined 4.2%, from 25,360 persons/km² in 1990 to 16,495 persons/km² in
 11 2000. These figures are still higher than urban population densities in Europe, North America, and
 12 Australia, where densities are on average 2,835 persons/km². As the urban transition continues in
 13 Asia and Africa, it is expected that urban densities there will also continue to decline.

14 12.2.5 Trends in urban development and infrastructure

15 Human settlements and infrastructure development patterns define the boundary conditions for
 16 mitigation efforts over several decades in multiple ways: (i) the long lifetime of built environment
 17 structures limit the speed at which emissions in the use phase (e.g., buildings and transport) can be
 18 reduced (Table 12.2); (ii) their build-up requires large amounts of primary resources that contribute
 19 to industry emissions; and (iii) once these structures have reached the end of their lifetime, the
 20 materials they embody may be recovered for reuse or recycling (“urban mining”), which not only
 21 saves primary resources and waste, but often also large amounts of energy and emissions in industry
 22 and energy supply.

23 The growth phase of built environment stocks (e.g., during early stages of urbanization when
 24 infrastructure development is relatively high) is therefore particularly energy and emission intensive.
 25 For example, China, which is experiencing high rates of urbanization, accounted for about 46% of
 26 global steel production and for about 54% of the global cement production in 2009 (U.S. Geological
 27 Survey, 2011). There is evidence that the rapid CO₂ emission increase in China between 2002 and
 28 2007 was caused by a change in China’s economic structure towards carbon intensive activities (such

1 as cement and steel production) associated with the supply chain of the construction industry (Minx
 2 et al., 2011). Growth patterns of built environment stocks are therefore important factors defining
 3 boundary conditions for emission pathways (Liu et al., 2012). Vehicle ownership tends to flatten in
 4 industrialized countries although no saturation level can be observed yet (Pauliuk et al., 2011). Floor
 5 area of residential buildings is still expanding even in high income countries, yet often with a
 6 declined growth rate (Müller, 2006; Bergsdal et al., 2007). Therefore, the dominant trend is
 7 continued increase in infrastructure development across the world.

8 **Table 12.2:** Lifespan of infrastructure components, source: Schiller, 2007.

Component	Roads			Drinking water		Sewage	
	Lifespan (roadway) (years)		Lifespan (pavement) (years)	Component	Lifespan (years)	Component	Lifespan (years)
	Upper layer	Base layer					
Concrete road	20	50	55	Steel pipeline	75	Stone pipeline	120
Bitumen road	15	50	60	Cast-iron pipeline	100	Concrete pipeline	90
Paved road	35	45	55	Cast-iron pipeline with inlay	110	Fibre-cement pipeline	65
Unsurfaced road	5	30	25	Plastic pipeline	75	Plastic pipeline	75

10 12.2.6 Trends in urban energy use and emissions

11 While nearly all future population growth occurring in urban areas in non-OECD countries, this will be
 12 paralleled with the transition from traditional to modern energy sources. Patterns of urban energy
 13 use exhibit significant variation between and within countries. In OECD countries, per capita energy
 14 use in urban areas is generally lower than national averages. In contrast, in developing countries, per
 15 capita energy use in urban areas is generally higher than national averages. In developing countries,
 16 higher per capita energy use in urban areas is due to the quantity and type of energy use for home-
 17 based activities, transportation, production, and consumption.

18 One important trend in some urban areas is the transition from a large industrial base to services,
 19 including parallel changes in energy portfolio and concomitant declines in per capita urban
 20 emissions. For example, per capita emissions in Beijing are expected to decline from 7.67 tCO₂ in
 21 2005 to 6.00 tCO₂ in 2030 largely as a function of changes in economic structure (Feng et al., In
 22 press).

23 Urbanization and rising incomes are usually accompanied with switches to cleaner and more
 24 convenient fuels for cooking and an increase in electricity access. In India, the switch is from biomass
 25 to kerosene to LPG to electricity (Farsi et al., 2007; Mestl and Eskeland, 2009). Key factors in fuel
 26 switching in developing countries include household education level, electrification, household size,
 27 household expenditures (Viswanathan and Kavi Kumar, 2005; Mestl and Eskeland, 2009). In Africa,
 28 the electrification rate is 41.8% and 587 million people—57% of the population— are without access
 29 to electricity (IEA, 2011). In Asia, there are countries with significant portions of the population lack
 30 access to electricity. For example, 81.6 million people in Indonesia—one third of the country—are
 31 without electricity. In India, 25% of the population do not have access to electricity.

32 For urban populations in India, larger changes in fuel use mix are forecasted. At the same time, per
 33 capita fuel consumption are forecasted to double. Under business as usual scenarios, India's per
 34 capita household GHG emissions are expected to increase by 169% by 2030 over 2001 levels (Mestl
 35 and Eskeland, 2009). There is significant variation in residential energy use between urban and rural
 36 areas and between high and low income groups. In India, residential final energy use is forecasted to
 37 increase 65-75% between 2005 and 2050, with carbon emissions from fossil fuels expected to
 38 increase 9-10 times during this period (Van Ruijven et al., 2011).

1 **FAQ 12.1 Why is the IPCC including a new chapter on human settlements and spatial planning?**
2 **Isn't this covered in the individual sectoral chapters?**

3 More than 50% of the world population lives in urban areas now and by 2050, close to 70% will live
4 in urban areas. Because of the scale of urban populations, urban expansion and the contribution of
5 urban areas to global emissions, it is important to assess how human settlements can mitigate
6 climate change using a systemic or holistic perspective. Taking a settlements perspective allows for
7 optimizing the system rather than its individual components.

8 **12.3 Urban systems: activities, resources, and performance**

9 **12.3.1 Role of human settlements and infrastructure for GHG emissions**

10 Globally, direct anthropogenic CO₂ emissions originate from energy supply (38% in 2008), followed
11 by industry (20%, with materials production accounting for 16% cement alone contributing >10%)
12 transport (18%), agriculture, forestry, and land use change (16%), buildings (8%), and waste
13 management (0.1%)(Figure 12.4) (Müller et al., 2013).

14 The fraction of these sectors that can be assigned to human settlements depends on the definition
15 of human settlements. Several studies show that the transboundary emissions of infrastructure
16 provision can be as large or sometimes larger than the direct GHG emissions within city boundaries
17 (Chavez and Ramaswami, In Press; Ramaswami et al., 2008a; Kennedy, Steinberger, et al., 2009a;
18 Hillman and Ramaswami, 2010a). Transboundary emissions include a number of different
19 components called by different terms: a) sector emissions that inherently extend beyond the city
20 boundary such as airline, freight or commuter travel; b) indirect energy use in the context of electricity
21 such as primary energy used at power plants to generate electricity; and c) embodied energy of
22 various materials referring to the upstream energy used to produce these materials. A full life cycle
23 assessment of energy use and GHG emissions of infrastructure would include both indirect energy as
24 well as embodied energy of materials in that infrastructure, plus use-phase emissions such as fuel
25 combustion in homes or vehicles. The portion of life cycle GHG emissions that occur outside the
26 boundary of the city where the infrastructure is used is termed “transboundary”.

27 National accounts give us a picture of the extent to which all economic activity sectors together
28 contribute toward GHG emissions; these can then be mapped to infrastructure sectors (energy,
29 transportation, food production, etc.) as shown in Table 12.3. For the US, these sectors together are
30 estimated to contribute more than 99% of total GHG emissions without allocating to urban or rural
31 areas (Table 12.3). National accounts also allow us to assess as the percent contribution by each
32 sector. For example, we know that freight contributes about 7.8% of GHG emissions in the US totally
33 and this sector may then be allocated to rural and urban areas in different ways.

34

1 **Table 12.3** U.S. National-Scale GHG Emissions by End-Use Economic Activity Sectors (Hillman and
 2 Ramaswami, 2010a)

TABLE 1. U.S. National-Scale GHG Emissions by End-Use Economic Activity Sectors Are Mapped to City-Scale Scope 1, Scope 2, and Scope 3 Activity Sectors^{a,b}

U.S. national GHG emissions by economic activity sectors ^b (% contribution)	Related city-scale activities and scopes	
Residential and commercial energy use and related GHG emissions (33.9%)	Residential and commercial energy use within city boundaries and related GHG emissions [Scope 1 (i.e., direct fossil fuel combustion) + Scope 2 (i.e., electricity generation)]	In-boundary buildings/facilities GHG emissions
Industrial energy use and GHG emissions (28.7%)	Industrial energy use and GHG emissions within city boundaries; larger cities have a balance between industrial-commercial-residential activities [Scope 1 + Scope 2]	In-boundary buildings/facilities GHG emissions
	Industrial energy use and GHG emissions if occurring outside city boundaries to meet critical urban materials demand: cement production, petro-fuel production, water/wastewater/waste treatment, etc.[Scope 3]	
Personal road transport (17.8%)	Petro-fuel use for personal transport within regional commutershed, allocated to individual cities based on travel demand [Scope 1]	In-boundary surface transport emissions
Freight transport (7.6%)	Petro-fuel use for commercial trucks within regional commutershed, allocated to individual cities based on travel demand [Scope 1] Long distance freight trucking outside region^c [Scope 3]	In-boundary surface transport emissions
Airline transport (2.3%)	Jet fuel use for airline travel from regional airport, allocated to individual cities using that airport [Scope 3]	
Agriculture (8.5%)	Emissions from food production (excluding freight) to meet food consumption demand in cities [Scope 3]	
Total: 99% of national GHG emissions ^c	Total: with scope 1+2+3 inclusions, city-scale GHG accounts should include in-boundary and key cross-boundary activities, appropriate for a GHG footprint computation.	

^a Six Scope 3 items related to cross boundary transport (airline and freight) and embodied energy of materials are shown in bold. ^b National GHG emissions by economic activity sectors from U.S. EPA (11); emissions only (no sinks). ^c Excludes 0.9% contributed by U.S. Territories (11). ^d Long-distance rail transport is not included as economic census data is not reported for this sector, and rail contributes less than 0.7% of national GHG emissions.

12.3.1.1 Direct in-boundary emissions from a socio-metabolic systems perspective

In contrast to a global perspective of human settlements, individual human settlements are open systems with porous boundaries. Their direct emissions—those associated with GHG emission sources within the boundary—may vary substantially depending on a variety of factors, such as economic activities within the community (including trade), lifestyle, technology, and infrastructure stock development. Due to the porosity of human settlements, their direct or territorial emissions are often a poor indicator for their inhabitants' responsibility to global anthropogenic emissions. In addition, direct emissions accounting alone does not reveal the entire potential for these communities to contribute to global emissions cuts (see 12.3.2). Due to the socio-metabolic linkages between the sectors within and outside communities, interventions for reducing emissions in one sector usually have implications not only for this sector, but also for the socio-metabolic system, with consequences for emissions in other sectors within or outside the system boundaries (see 12.3.5). A systems perspective can help decision makers to anticipate secondary effects on greenhouse gas emissions and other environmental issues, such as resource depletion and other emissions.

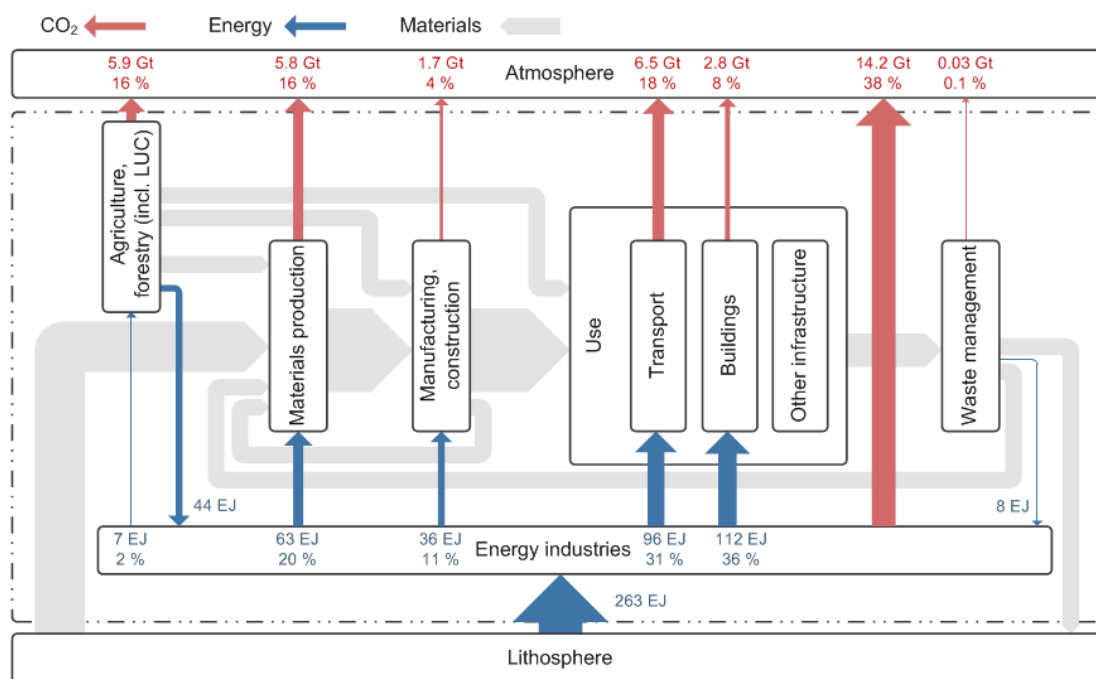


Figure 12.4. Global anthropogenic metabolism for material (grey), energy (blue) and CO₂ emission flows (red) in 2008, excluding assimilation and short-cycle emissions from biomass, and water (Müller et al., 2013). LUC: Land use change; Manufacturing includes food industry. CO₂ data are based on the Emissions Database for Global Atmospheric Research (Ramaswami et al., 2008a)(EDGAR, version 4.2) (European Commission and Joint Research Centre/Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency, 2011). Energy data are compiled from the International Energy Agency (IEA) (International Energy Agency, 2008, 2010, 2012). Material data are not quantified.

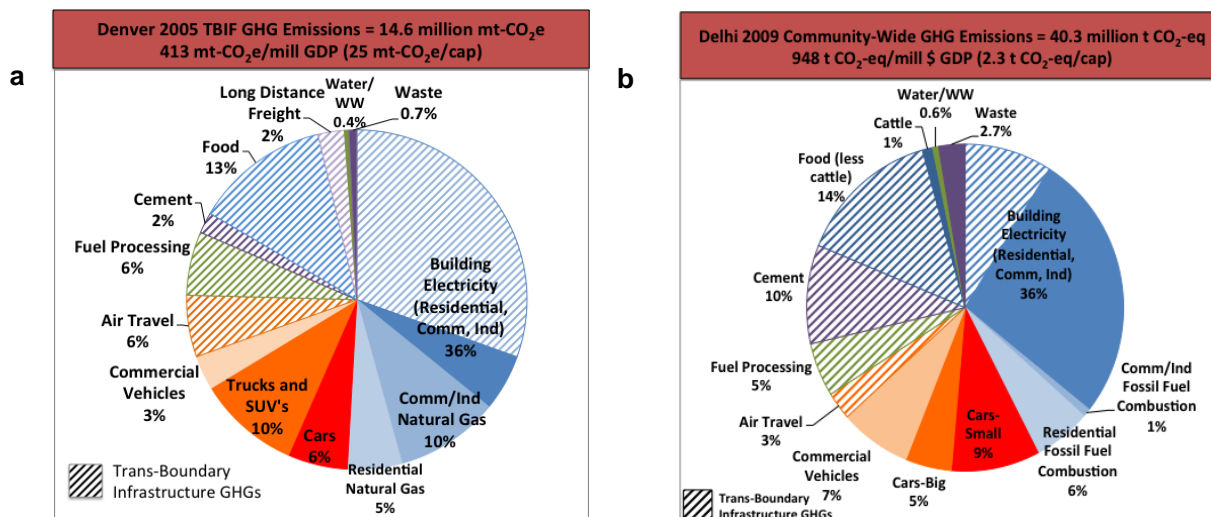
12.3.2 Urban energy and emissions accounting

12.3.2.1 City- versus national- GHG accounting: challenges of spatial scale and boundary

There is wide recognition that strict territorial source-based accounting of GHGs employed at the national scale is, by itself, not meaningful for the smaller spatial scale of cities which typically span a few tens to a hundred miles across, and are often much smaller than nations. The smaller spatial scale of cities compared to nations gives rise to two challenges.

First, cities are often typically smaller than the larger scaled infrastructures in which they are embedded, so cities can have large transboundary emissions from infrastructures such as electricity grids, fuel supply chains, food supply chains, and commuter, freight and airline networks. See Figure 12.5 where the transboundary infrastructure contributions are shown as hatched for Denver (1a) and Delhi (1b).

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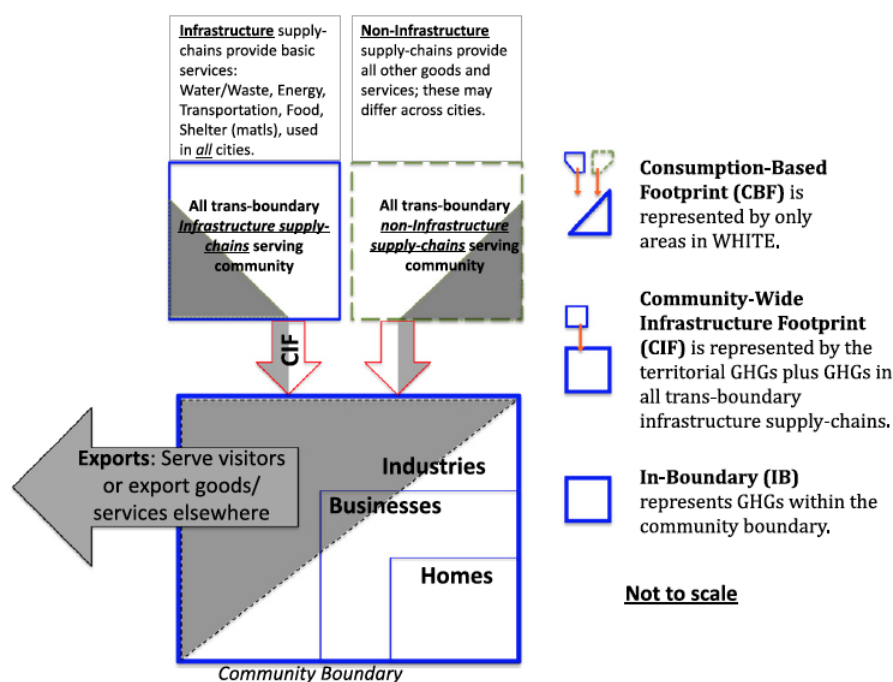
2 **Figure 12.5.** Community-Wide Infrastructure Supply Chain Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emission
 3 Footprints for a) Denver, US and b) Delhi, India. Transboundary contributions are hatched, including
 4 the percent of electricity imported (adapted from (Ramaswami et al., 2008b; Chavez et al., 2012).

5 Second, beyond infrastructures, there is also trade of other non-infrastructure goods and services
 6 across cities, such as furniture and clothing that may be used in one city but are produced
 7 elsewhere, using energy and emitting GHG emissions at the different locations along the supply
 8 chain associated with the production process.

9 Activity-Based Accounting for Cities

10 Thus, human activity in cities that occur in residential, commercial and industrial sectors stimulates
 11 both in-boundary GHG emissions as well as trans-boundary emissions as shown in Figure 12.6.
 12 shows a generalized schematic that illustrates in-boundary energy-use as well as trans-boundary
 13 energy flows associated with homes, businesses and industries co-located within a city (Chavez and
 14 Ramaswami, In Press).

15 There is now a consensus among both the scientific and the practitioner communities that GHG
 16 accounting for individual cities must link human activities in cities with GHG emission sources
 17 irrespective of the location of these sources (Ramaswami et al., 2011). It is often useful to delineate
 18 the location of the GHG emission-sources associated with each activity as: Scope 1 (Direct or In-
 19 boundary GHG Emissions); Scope 2 (Indirect energy associated with electricity imported to the city),
 20 and, Scope 3 (other transboundary and life cycle emissions). By including a consistent set of activities
 21 and subsequently linking them to sources, GHG accounting can be consistently applied for all cities
 22 irrespective of their spatial scale or boundary.



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Figure 12.6. Schematic illustrating the distinction between in-boundary GHGs, community wide infrastructure GHG footprints (CIF) and consumption-based GHG footprints (CBF) (Chavez and Ramaswami, In Press).

12.3.2.2 Three approaches to GHG accounting for individual cities

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Based on the rationale presented above, three broad approaches for GHG accounting at the city-scale have emerged, the first focused on in-boundary GHG emission sources, and the latter two focused more on activities and their subsequent linkage to sources (Chavez and Ramaswami, In Press; Ramaswami and Chavez, 2013).

10 Purely In-Boundary Source-based GHG Accounting (IB)

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In-boundary accounts mirror the national accounting methods by inventorying all direct fuel combustion and GHG emission sources from homes, businesses and industries co-located within a city's boundary. All direct emissions from these sectors are included in the in-boundary GHG emissions account, e.g., fuel combustion to heat homes, gasoline combustion in vehicles, industrial energy use (including for power generation) and non-energy process emissions. Purely territorial accounting within a city is useful because this provides the basic GHG source data that are then allocated to cities based on activity-data in the subsequent two methods. Furthermore, purely territorial source-based accounting provides a good measure of local pollution arising from fuel combustion (SO_x, NO_x, PM). However, unlike in national accounts, the in-boundary focus does not effectively reflect human activities within the boundary—neither production nor consumption—because of the artificial truncation of several key infrastructures serving cities, in particular the electricity grid, energy supply networks and transportation networks.

23 Community-Wide Infrastructure GHG Footprints (CIF)

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The transboundary community-wide infrastructure footprint (CIF) links infrastructure-use stimulated by human activities within the city with the production of these infrastructure services, irrespective of where they are produced. CIF reports life cycle GHG emissions associated with community-wide use of a finite set of key infrastructures that provide energy, water, food, mobility/connectivity, construction materials, sanitation, waste management and public spaces to the entire community consisting of homes, businesses and industries co-located in the city (Chavez and Ramaswami, In Press; Ramaswami, 2013). These infrastructures are essential for basic life functions, and/or are also highly correlated with economic development in all cities while being produced in only a few cities.

1 From a policy perspective, the CIF is relevant to future infrastructure planning. Because multiple
2 infrastructure sectors (buildings energy, transportation, water supply etc.) are considered together
3 (See Figure 12.5), CIF enables analysis of cross-infrastructure substitutions, such as substituting
4 airline travel in the transportation sector with more energy-efficient teleconferencing which lies in
5 the buildings sector, saving energy by saving on water supply (the water-energy nexus), and utilizing
6 food and other wastes to generate energy. Most importantly, the method prevents shifting of GHG
7 emissions “outside” as society transitions to new fuel infrastructures like hydrogen that have zero
8 tailpipe emissions within the city.

9 Consumption-Based Footprints (CBF)

10 CBFs compute life cycle (in-boundary and trans-boundary GHGs) associated with the consumption of
11 both infrastructure and non-infrastructure goods and services by a sub-set of a community – its final
12 economic consumption sector, typically dominated by local households. However, energy use by
13 visitors to the local community, as well as by businesses and industries that serve those visitors or
14 that export goods and services elsewhere, and their supply chains are excluded from the CBF of that
15 community. CBF is therefore primarily useful to inform local resident households of the global GHG
16 impact of the full suite of goods and services they consume.

17 The differences in accounting methods are evident when mathematically derived for three types of
18 cities: net-producing, net-consuming, and trade-balanced (Figure 12.7). The comparison reveals that
19 neither CIF nor CBF is shown to be automatically “more holistic” in and of themselves. Both are
20 complementary, they measure different although overlapping flows, and they inform different GHG
21 mitigation strategies. Most importantly, Figure 12.7 cautions against comparing cities solely on a per
22 capita GHG emissions. In summary, the CBF is more useful to inform and shape consumer behavior,
23 while the CIF addresses community-wide energy use and infrastructure planning; IB informs local
24 pollution.

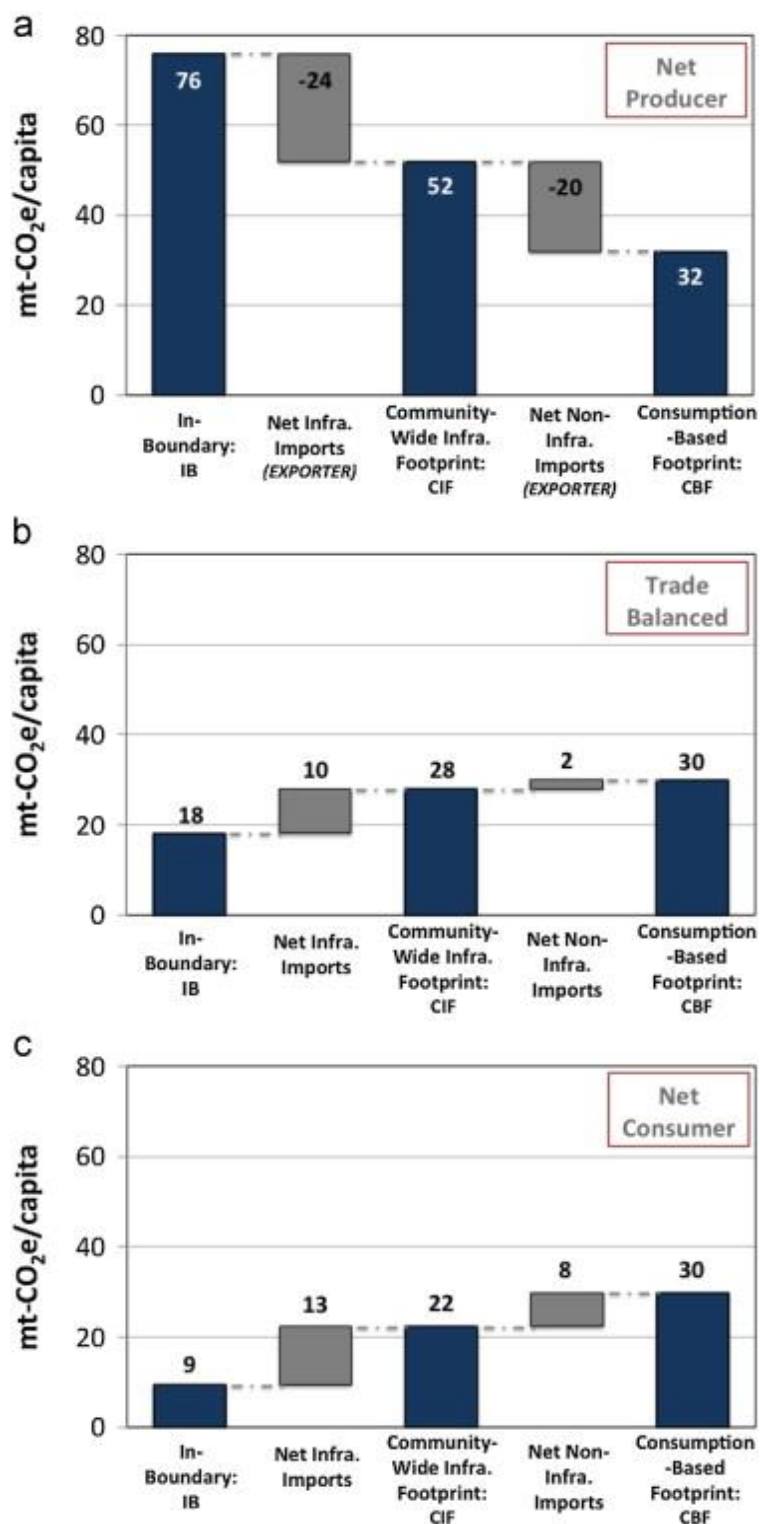


Figure 12.7. Relationship between In-boundary (IB), trans-boundary Community-wide Infrastructure Footprint (CIF) and Consumption-based Footprints for three different city types: Net producers, net-consumers, and trade-balanced. Source: (Chavez and Ramaswami, In Press).

12.3.2.3 Observations about infrastructure sector contributions

To date, community-wide infrastructure supply chain footprints (CIFs) have been computed for more than 80 cities (Table 12.4). Not all infrastructure sectors are covered in all the studies shown in Table 12.4. For example, electricity supply is addressed in all of them, while food supply is covered in only a few. Because the studies include different types of infrastructure, they are therefore difficult to

1 compare. GHGs embodied in built environment construction materials – primarily cement use on an
 2 annual basis each year in the community – are of the order of 2% of the CIF for Denver and much
 3 higher (at ~10%) in Delhi, India. The CIF presently does not include energy embodied in other
 4 infrastructure materials such as iron or copper, although, national inventory data suggest their
 5 contributions are likely to be lower than that of cement.

6 **Table 12.4:** Studies that have estimated GHG emissions of various infrastructure sectors for select
 7 cities

Reference	Cities/Urban Areas in Study	Electricity	Trans-Boundary Infrastructures Serving Whole Community					
			Water	Fuel	Cement or other construction materials	Food	Air Travel	Freight
(Sovacool and Brown, 2010)	Beijing, Delhi, Jakarta, London, Los Angeles, Manila, Mexico City, New York, Sao Paulo, Seoul, Singapore, Tokyo	✓		✓				
(Ramaswami et al., 2008b)	Denver	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
(Ngo and Pataki, 2012)	Los Angeles	✓	✓			✓		
(McGraw et al., 2010)	Chicago	✓						✓
(Kennedy, Steinberger, et al., 2009b)	Bangkok, Barcelona, Cape Town, Denver, Geneva, London, Los Angeles, New York, Prague, Toronto	✓		✓			✓	
(Hillman and Ramaswami, 2010b)	Arvada, Austin, Boulder, Denver, Fort Collins, Minneapolis, Portland, Seattle	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
(Hillman and Ramaswami, 2010b)	Melbourne	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
(Chavez et al., 2012)	Delhi	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
(<i>Le Bilan Carbone de Paris: Bilan des émissions de gaz à effet de serre</i> , 2009)	Paris	✓			✓	✓	✓	
(Sharma et al., 2002)	Calcutta, Delhi	✓			✓	✓		
(Kennedy, Ramaswami, et al., 2009)	44 global cities	✓	✓	✓			✓	
(Cui, 2010)	Xiamen City, China	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
(Chandler et al., 2011)	King County	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
("ICLEI Member List")	~40 US city/counties	✓						
(<i>Energy and Carbon Emissions Profiles of 54 South Asian Cities</i>)	54 South Asian cities	✓	✓					

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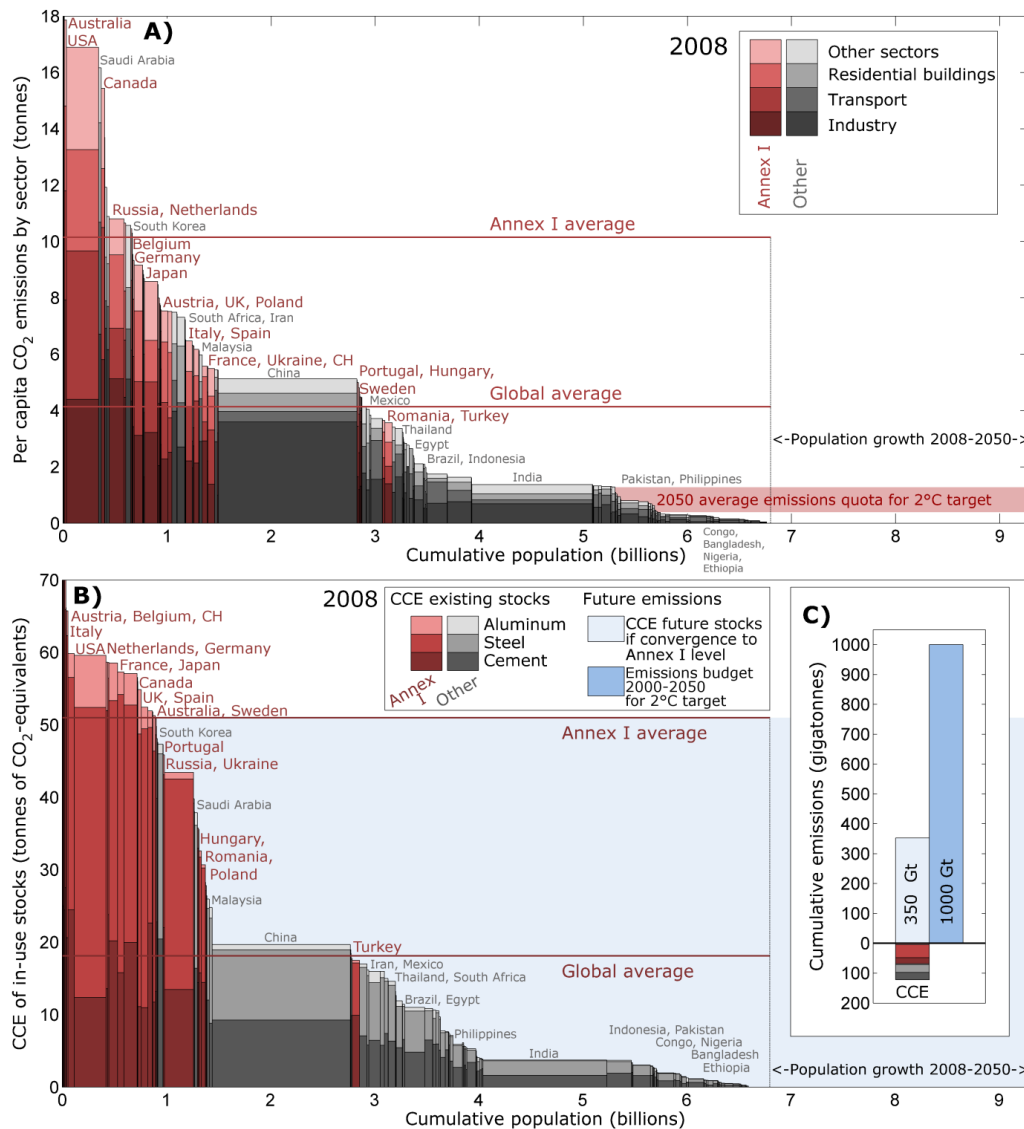
9 **12.3.2.4 Dynamic Observations on Infrastructure Materials Use and Stocks**

10 Infrastructure-based GHG emission footprints of cities (CIF as shown in Figure 12.5) highlight the
 11 relatively large impact that urban construction materials have on overall annual GHG indirect
 12 emissions, particularly in rapidly developing cities such as Delhi where >10% GHG emissions in one
 13 year were attributed to cement use in construction in the city.

14 Developing world cities in the early phases of urbanization have a much lower stock per capita
 15 compared to developed countries, and are poised to grow along an S-shaped curve (Ausubel and
 16 Herman, 1988), with aspirations toward the stocks prevalent in industrialized country cities.
 17 Differences in infrastructure stock between developing and industrialized countries result in

1 fundamentally different boundary conditions for climate change mitigation. During early phases of
 2 urbanization, industrial emissions (e.g., to produce the materials needed for construction) tend to be
 3 much higher than in mature phases of urbanization or urban shrinkage.

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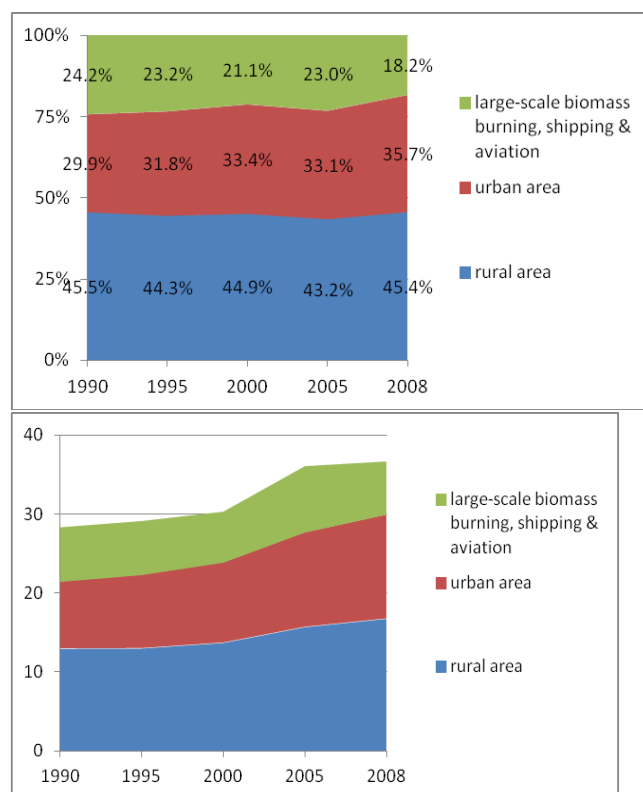
6 **Figure 12.8.** (A) Total energy-related CO₂ emissions per-capita by country (red and grey bars)
 7 compared to global per-capita emission level in 2050 to reach 2°C target with a 50-75% probability
 8 (red horizontal bar); (B) CCE per capita of existing stocks by country (red and grey) and of to be built
 9 stocks if developing countries converge on the current Annex I level (light blue); (C) comparison with
 10 emission budget for the period 2000-2050 to reach the 2°C target with a 75% probability. Out of this
 11 emission budget (1000 Gt), about 420 Gt has already been used up in the period 2000-2010. (Source:
 12 Müller et al., 2013).

13 The differences in per capita infrastructure stock between developing and industrialized nations—
 14 termed the infrastructural gap—has been quantified by (Müller et al., 2013), who define Current
 15 Carbon Equivalent (CCE) as the expected greenhouse gas emissions released if the stock were re-
 16 built using current standard technologies based on primary production. They quantified the CCE of
 17 the global and national cement, steel, and aluminium stocks (which account for about 47% of total
 18 industry emissions and most of materials production emissions) and found that in 2008, the global
 19 infrastructure embodied 122 (-20/+15) Gt CO₂-eq, with 68 (-13/+10) Gt CO₂-eq in Annex I countries
 20 and 53 (±6) Gt CO₂-eq in non-Annex I countries (Figure 12.8B). Accordingly, the existing

1 infrastructure of the average Annex I citizen is worth 51 (-10/+7) t CO₂-eq, three times that of the
 2 World average citizen's infrastructure with 18 (-3/+2) t CO₂-eq, and about five times higher than
 3 that of the average non-Annex I citizen with 10 (±1) t CO₂-eq. In comparison, the total global
 4 anthropogenic CO₂ emissions excluding agriculture, forestry and land use change were about 30.9
 5 Gt or 4.6 t per capita in 2008 (European Commission and Joint Research Centre/Netherlands
 6 Environmental Assessment Agency, 2011). Thus, the current material stock is worth about 4 years of
 7 current total CO₂ emissions. In summary, the future growth in stocks will occur in the developing
 8 world and will require a greater share of the anticipated future energy growth.

9 12.3.3 Current trends in aggregate urban and rural emissions

10 We use the EDGAR database (v4.2), which characterizes global emissions of greenhouse gases, to
 11 calculate trends in urban and rural emissions. Global emissions of carbon dioxide have increased
 12 from 28.5 Gt in 1990 to 36.9 Gt in 2008 (Figure 12.9). Direct emissions associated with human
 13 settlements account for 75-81% of global CO₂ emissions from 1990 to 2008. Areas with urban
 14 populations are responsible for 29.9 to 35.7% of global CO₂ emissions from 1990 to 2008, and for 4.7
 15 (56%) of 8.3 Gt increase in emissions over that period. The share of emissions from rural areas has
 16 not increased, remaining in the range 43.2 to 45.5%. An increase of 3.8 Gt (46%) is attributed to
 17 direct emissions in areas with rural populations, while other emissions have decreased 0.2 Gt (-2%)
 18 due primarily to variability in large-scale biomass burning. Emissions from large-scale biomass and
 19 shipping and aviation (which were not assigned to urban or rural areas) account for the remaining
 20 18.2 to 24.2% (6.9 to 8.4 Gt CO₂).



23 **Figure 12.9.** A. Percent of Global CO₂ Direct Emissions by Populated Areas. B. Global CO₂ Direct
 24 Emissions (Gt) by Populated Areas. (Source: JRC/PBL, 2012)

26 Another study using EDGAR for the 2000 attempted a Scope 1 & 2 analysis by estimating a range of
 27 urban emissions levels for CO₂ and three other gases (CH₄, N₂O and SF₆) through identifying the
 28 direct emissions (low estimate) and also allocating all emissions from thermal power plants outside
 29 urban areas to cities (high estimate). It also differs from the previous study because it includes
 30 aviation and navigation-related emissions within the urban area. Based upon this approach total

1 anthropogenic CO₂-eq. emissions, excluding emissions from large scale biomass burning, were
 2 approximately 34.8 billion metric tons, of which urban GHG emissions range between 38 and 49% of
 3 total emissions or between 12.8 and 16.9 Gt (Marcotullio et al.) (Table 12.5). African urban GHG
 4 emission's shares are lowest ranging from ~21-30% of total African CO₂-eq. emissions. In contrast,
 5 North American urban CO₂-eq. emission's shares are highest of total North American GHG
 6 emissions, ranging from 49-73%. Amongst developing countries, urban CO₂-eq. emissions range from
 7 approximately 26-33% of total emissions. In the developed world, urban CO₂-eq. emissions range
 8 from approximately 47-63% of total.

9 **Table 12.5:** Percent urban share of total CO₂-eq. emissions, by sector by region, 2000. (Source:
 10 Marcotullio et al.)

Sector	Africa	Asia	L. America & Car	Europe	N. America	Oceania	All Urban
Ag.	2.4	6.0	2.2	9.0	5.0	4.9	5.3
Ene.	31.7	38.1	35.5	50.5	41.4	35.3	41.5
Ind.	40.5	30.4	33.3	47.5	50.9	25.4	38.1
Res.	14.5	24.7	27.1	40.0	60.3	33.3	36.9
Trans.	30.4	34.3	38.9	47.3	68.4	56.3	50.9
Waste	18.7	32.6	40.4	40.5	64.1	50.9	38.8
Urban (low)	21.4	29.8	24.8	44.8	49.2	30.3	36.8
Urban (high)	29.5	37.9	29.3	55.0	72.8	50.2	48.6

11 Notes: "Ag." = agriculture; "Ene" = energy, "Ind." = industrial, "Res" = residential, "Trans" =
 12 transportation, "Waste" = waste management.

13 **12.3.3.1 Sectoral emissions in populated urban and rural areas**

14 We assigned emissions to grid cells and apportioned them according to areas having urban or rural
 15 populations. We identified four sectors excluding large-scale biomass, shipping and aviation. Energy
 16 production had the greatest CO₂ emissions, followed by use-phase activities such as buildings and
 17 transportation fuel combustion (Figure 12.4), and the combination of materials production and
 18 manufacturing (

19 Figure 12.10). Carbon dioxide emissions from waste management was relatively small. Agriculture
 20 was not considered, since large-scale biomass burning was excluded.

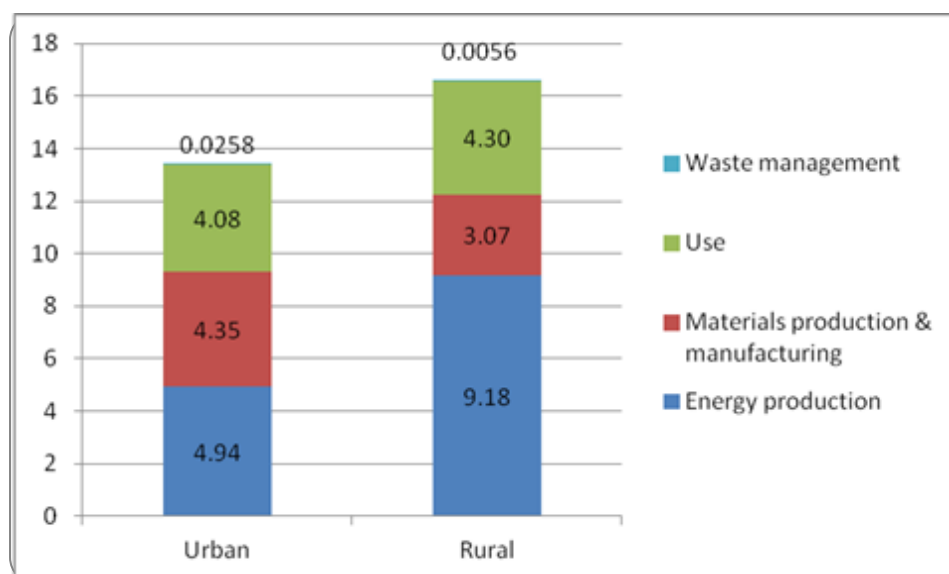


Figure 12.10. Global CO₂ emissions (Gt) by sector in 2008, urban and rural areas. IPCC calculations based on EDGAR data.

These estimates are similar to another study also showing that the energy sector accounted for the largest share ranging from 54-65% of total urban CO₂-eq. emissions (Marcotullio et al.) (Table 12.6). Agricultural activities provided the lowest share with approximately 2% of total urban CO₂-eq. emissions. Transportation accounted for 20% of total GHG emissions with road transportation CO₂-eq. making up over 90% of this source (the other components being aviation, navigation and non-road sources).

There were significant differences in urban source share between developing and developed countries. In the developing countries energy production ranged between 61 and 70% of all urban GHG emissions, while in the developed world energy production accounted for between 50 and 63%. Urban transportation emissions accounted for approximately 11% of all urban GHG emissions in the developing world, while the same category accounted for almost 25% in the developed world's cities. Agricultural, industrial and waste urban GHG emissions were larger in share in the developing world (4%, 10% and 7%) than in the developed world (1%, 9% and 3%). On the other hand, residential GHG emissions in urban areas of the developed world (11% of total) were almost twice as important as those of the developing world (6% of total).

Table 12.6: Share of total urban CO₂-eq. emissions, by source by region, 2000. (Source: Marcotullio et al.)

Sector	Africa	Asia	L. America & Car	Europe	N America	Oceania	All Urban
Ag.	3.14	3.52	2.92	1.57	0.57	4.24	2.07
Ene. (low)	63.84	61.35	45.88	57.16	43.20	56.09	54.13
Ene. (high)	73.79	69.61	54.15	65.10	61.59	73.46	65.31
Ind.	8.31	11.37	10.45	11.89	4.85	4.02	9.41
Res.	5.30	7.64	6.39	10.82	12.05	3.53	9.64
Trans.	13.22	10.15	25.00	15.74	35.01	27.40	20.01
Waste	6.19	5.97	9.36	2.82	4.32	4.71	4.74

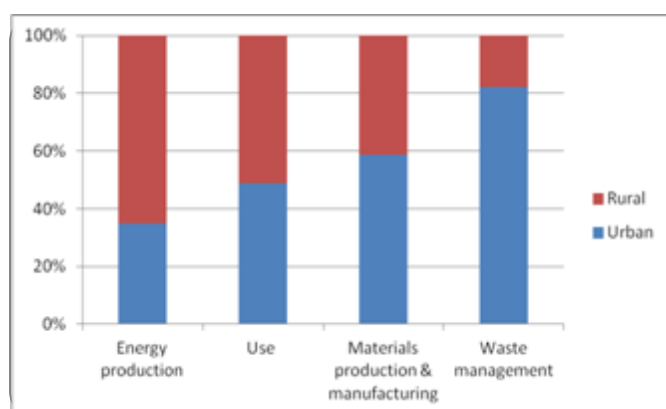
Notes: "Ag." = agriculture; "Ene" = energy (low and high estimate), "Ind." = industrial, "Res" = residential, "Trans" = transportation, "Waste" = waste management.

12.3.3.2 Emissions due to activities by urban versus rural populations

The estimates using the EDGAR database show that CO₂ emissions from different sectors are not evenly divided between urban and rural areas (Figure 12.11). Urban areas have the dominant shares

1 of carbon dioxide emissions from waste management (82%), and the combination of materials
 2 production and manufacturing (85%), while rural areas have the dominant shares of CO₂ emissions
 3 from use-phase activities (51%) and energy production (65%).

4 Urban areas often import energy from power plants located in rural areas and goods manufactured
 5 in rural areas. In the EDGAR database, 5,116 (49%) of 10,351 cells having power plants in 2007 were
 6 classified as urban. Electricity consumed in urban areas accounts for 67% of greenhouse gas
 7 emissions related to energy (IEA, 2008). The Global Energy Assessment (GEA, 2012) estimated that
 8 76% of final energy is the urban contribution. To account for activities by urban populations, some
 9 of the CO₂ emissions from power plants, industrial and manufacturing facilities located in rural areas
 10 need to be attributed to urban populations. The EDGAR database provides estimates of carbon
 11 dioxide emissions by power plant. Virtually all power plant emissions are located in populated areas.
 12 Emissions from power plants in urban areas accounted for 1.77 Gt (23% of all power plant emissions
 13 of carbon dioxide) in 1990, and have consistently risen to reach 4.00 Gt (33%) in 2008.



14
 15 **Figure 12.11.** Percent of human settlement carbon dioxide emission from urban and rural areas in
 16 2008. (Source: Marcotullio et al.)

17 In terms of intensity, except for transportation and energy production, urban CO₂-eq. emissions per
 18 capita are lower than non-urban CO₂-eq. emissions per capita in all regions (Marcotullio et al.). This
 19 is true for both the low- and high- estimates of urban CO₂-eq. emissions. There is one regional
 20 exception to this pattern. In Asia, the high urban CO₂-eq. emission per capita estimate was
 21 approximately the same as that of the non-urban sector. Moreover, CO₂-eq. emissions from the
 22 world's cities averaged 5.2 tons per capita (low estimate) and 6.87 tons per capita (high estimate),
 23 while global average is 5.7 tons CO₂-eq. per capita. The global non-urban emissions average 6.08
 24 tons per capita,. The high estimate urban emission level equals or exceeds the regional level in
 25 Africa and Asia, but remain below the urban range of emissions per capita in all other regions. The
 26 global non-urban levels do not exceed those of the urban (high) estimates due to the effects of both
 27 the large proportion of urban dwellers in the developed world and the high share of total emissions
 28 from urban areas in these countries. When all countries are aggregated, the urban values from the
 29 developed urban world outweigh those from the developing world.

30 **12.3.3.3 Largest urban total GHG emissions and GHG emissions per capita**

31 The largest urban GHG emitters tended to be the largest populated urban areas, although not all
 32 high population cities made the list (Table 12.7). For example, among the top 15 GHG emitters were
 33 the metropolitan areas of Tokyo, New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, Seoul, Essen, Taipei, Moscow,
 34 Shanghai, San Jose, Boston, Houston, Detroit, Baltimore and London. All of these urban extents
 35 included populations larger than 4 million and 10 had populations of over 10 million. Missing from
 36 this list were the metropolitan areas with populations of over 10 million including Jakarta, Sao Paulo,
 37 Mumbai, Delhi, Mexico City, Kolkata, Cairo, Manila, Buenos Aires, Tehran, Karachi, Rio de Janeiro
 38 and others. These 15 cities account for approximately 23% of total urban GHG emissions and 8.6%
 39 of total global GHG emissions.

1 On the other hand, the largest per capita emitters include such urban areas as Traralgon, Australia;
 2 Farmington, US; Asbest Russia; Cottbus, Germany; Guelma, Algeria; Owensboro, US; Standerton,
 3 South Africa; Achinsk, Russia; Grevenbroich, Germany; Fairmont US; Kozsni, Greece; Anugul, India;
 4 Rockhampton, Australia; and Cerepovec and Magnitogorsk, Russia (Table 12.7). These locations tend
 5 to be smaller urban centers (typically with populations under 200,000 with many under 100,000),
 6 with specific economic functions; energy production, industry, fossil fuel mining or refining and large
 7 scale livestock centers. The total emissions from these centers are much lower than the larger urban
 8 areas, but due to low populations they have high per capita contributions. These urban areas can
 9 be classified as net-producing cities. The aggregate emissions from these urban areas are much
 10 lower than the group above. The CO₂-eq. emissions levels from all 15 urban areas account for
 11 approximately 2.6% of total urban GHG emissions and < 1.0% of total global GHG emissions. It is
 12 only due to low populations they stand out as high per capita contributors.

Table 12.7: Top 15 highest GHG urban extent emitters, 2000

(mil tons CO₂-eq and tons CO₂-eq./cap) (Source: Marcotullio et al. submitted, based on EDGAR)

Urban area	Pop (mil)	Total emission range	per capita emission range
Tokyo, JP	76	644.1 - 644.4	8.4 - 8.45
New York, US	27	442.1 - 443.9	16.6 - 16.71
L. Angeles, US	18	266.7 - 270.0	14.6 - 16.71
Chicago, US	11	211.6 - 213.8	19.97 - 20.18
Seoul, KOR	21	171.9 - 171.2	8.23 - 8.24
Essen, GER	11	171.5 - 171.6	16.18 - 16.19
Taipei, TWN	18	165.5 - 165.6	9.08 - 9.09
Moscow, RUS	15	157.9 - 158.2	10.64 - 10.66
Shanghai, CHN	15	133.5 - 137.9	8.81 - 9.10
San Jose, US	8	116.9 - 119.1	14.08 - 14.34
Boston, US	7	115.6 - 117.7	16.34 - 16.63
Houston, US	4	98.8 - 122.3	22.84 - 28.28
Detroit, US	4	97.5 - 100.2	21.94 - 22.54
Baltimore, US	7	95.0 - 97.6	14.46 - 14.85
London, UK	13	92.4 - 93	7.11 - 7.15

13 Note that some of these urban extents represent large urban areas and not individual cities. For
 14 example, Tokyo includes the megalopolis that extends from Tokyo to Nagoya. New York includes the
 15 metropolitan region from New York City to Philadelphia.

16 12.3.4 Future trends in urban emissions

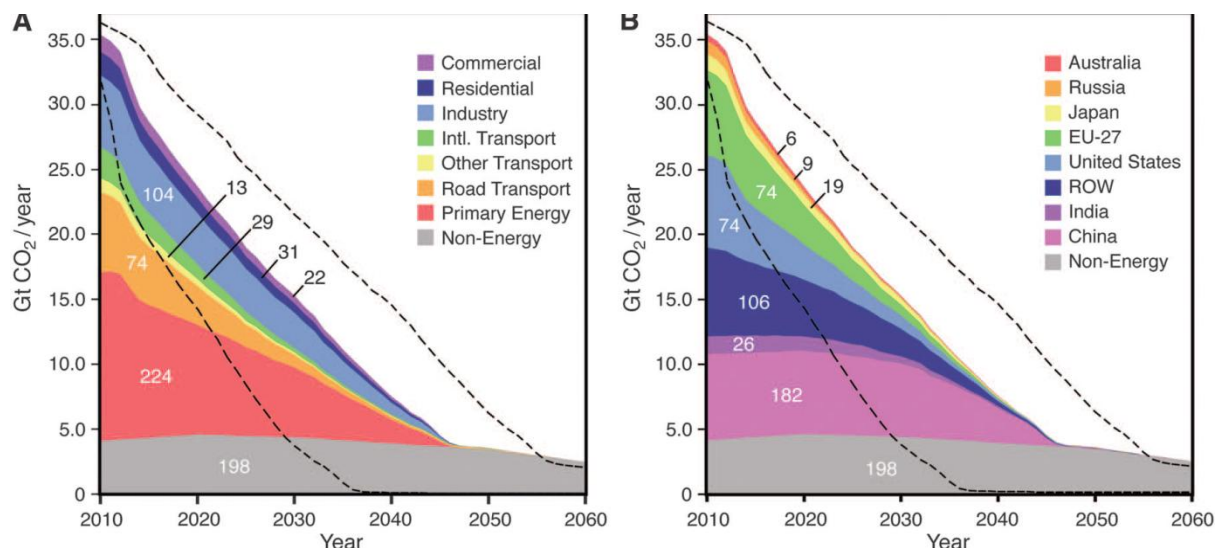
17 12.3.4.1 Direct emissions from existing infrastructure

18 Scenarios of global CO₂ emissions estimate 496 Gt of CO₂ associated to existing infrastructure from
 19 2010 and 2060 (from a range of 282 to 701 Gt of CO₂) (Davis et al., 2010). A continued expansion of
 20 fossil fuel-based infrastructure would produce cumulative emissions of 2986 to 7402 Gt of CO₂
 21 during the remaining of the 21st century leading to atmospheric concentrations greater than 600
 22 ppm, a context in which the primary threat are devices and infrastructure that do not yet exist (Davis
 23 et al., 2010). Primary energy infrastructure represents the largest commitment to future emissions
 24 with an average cumulative of 224 Gt of CO₂ before 2060. It is followed by transport infrastructure
 25 with an average of 115 Gt of CO₂, and industrial equipment with 104 Gt of CO₂ (being cement and
 26 steel industries the major contributors) (Davis et al., 2010). China alone accounts for roughly 37% of
 27 the global emissions commitments as it is experiencing a dynamic industrialization and urbanization

1 process; United States adds 15%; Europe 15%, and Japan 4%, totalizing 71% of total global emissions
 2 commitments by 2060 (Davis et al., 2010).

3 There is consensus on the need to overcome high-carbon infrastructure lock-in and thus, to seek a
 4 successful commissioning of a new generation of devices and integrated infrastructure that can
 5 provide low carbon energy and services, but even more, that can shape low carbon settlements of
 6 the future.

7



8

9 **Figure 12.12.** Scenario of CO₂ emissions from existing energy and transportation infrastructure by
 10 industry sector (A) and country/region (B) (Davis et al., 2010)

11 **12.3.4.2 Indirect emissions from existing infrastructure**

12 Based on the calculations for the current carbon equivalent (CCE) of the existing infrastructure
 13 stocks, (Müller et al., 2013) make a crude estimate for potential future emissions from infrastructure
 14 development (see Figure 12.8 B&C): They find that, if global population will grow to 9.3 billion by
 15 2050 (UN Population Division, 2012), developing countries will expand their built environment stocks
 16 to the current level of industrialized countries, and industrialized countries will forego future stock
 17 expansion, the CCE of the global infrastructure would grow from currently 122 Gt CO₂-eq to about
 18 470 Gt, with 350 Gt of emissions still to be expected from primary production alone. In comparison,
 19 limiting average global temperature rise to 2°C above pre-industrial levels requires that cumulative
 20 emissions during the 2000-2050 period do not exceed 1000 to 1500 Gt CO₂ (probability of reaching
 21 target with 75% or 50%) (Meinshausen et al., 2009). In the period 2000-2010, an estimated total of
 22 420 Gt CO₂ has already been cumulatively emitted due to human activities (including deforestation)
 23 (Meinshausen et al., 2009), leaving an emission budget of about 600 to 1100 Gt CO₂ for the period
 24 2010 to 2050. Given the large amount of current emissions not related to materials (Figure 12.12), it
 25 becomes apparent that the scaling up of Western type infrastructure stocks to the global level would
 26 form a major challenge for reaching the 2 °C target.

27 **12.3.4.3 Direct emissions from future urban expansion**

28 There are three published studies of future urban expansion (Table 12.8): (1) a meta-analysis of
 29 global patterns of urbanization (Seto et al., 2011), (2) an analysis of global urban expansion based on
 30 a large sample of cities (Angel et al., 2011), and (3) spatially-explicit probabilistic forecasts of global
 31 urban expansion through 2030 (Seto et al., 2012). Another study combined the forecasts from these
 32 scenarios with three CO₂ per unit cement scenarios, to estimate the increase in direct emissions
 33 from forecasted urban expansion (Güneralp and Fragkias, Submitted). That study found that, across
 34 the forecasts, Asia emerges by far as the region with the largest CO₂ emissions due to cement
 35 demand. Its forecasts range from 9 Gt CO₂ in B1—CC3 to 63 Gt CO₂ in A1—CC1 (Figure 12.13A-C).

1 The contribution of Asia to the total emissions ranges from an average of 30 percent across Angel et
 2 al (2011) scenarios to an average of 60 per cent across Seto et al (2011) scenarios, with an overall
 3 average of 47 per cent across all scenarios. The contributions of China and India to the emissions
 4 from Asia, respectively, are about 35 per cent and 20 per cent, on average, across all scenarios
 5 except those from Angel et al that do not report separate urban expansion figures for the two
 6 countries. Land Rich Developed Countries in Angel et al (U.S., Canada, and Australia) show a wide
 7 range (Figure 12.13B), primarily caused by the density levels assumed in each of their three urban
 8 forecasts. The same is true for Europe and Japan. The 24 forecasts of CO₂ emissions for the whole
 9 world range from 16 Gt CO₂ to 115 Gt CO₂, for B1—CC3 and A1—CC1 scenarios, respectively. For the
 10 scenario with the largest forecasted global urban expansion (A1), the CO₂ emissions range between
 11 103 Gt CO₂ and 115 Gt CO₂ (Figure 12.13D).

12 **Table 12.8:** Urban expansion forecasts according to the various scenarios in the three published
 13 studies.

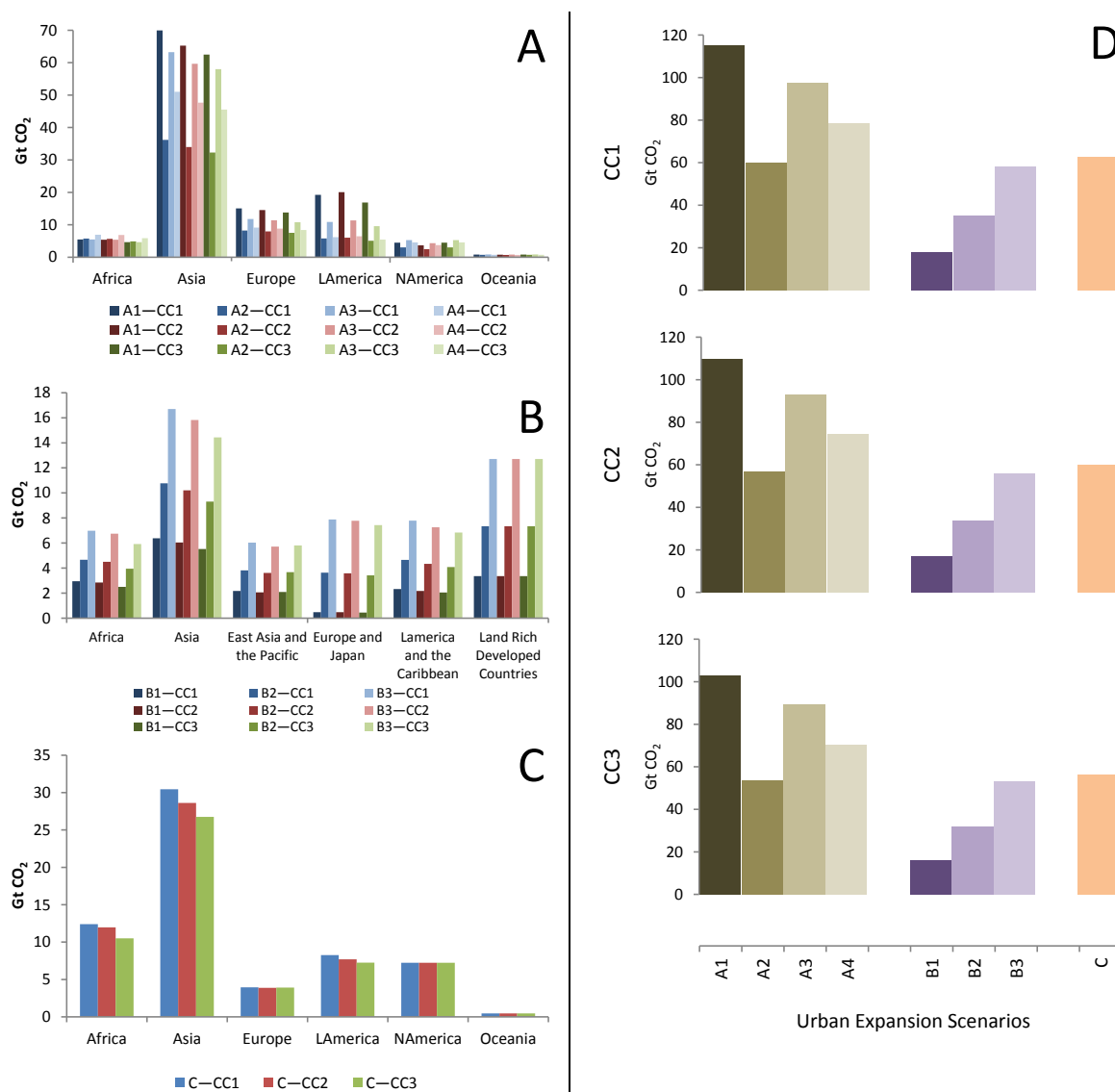
Study	Scenario	Forecasted Urban Expansion to 2030 (km ²)						
		Africa	Asia	Europe	LAmerica	NAmerica	Oceania	TOTAL
(Seto et al., 2011)	A1	107,551	1,354,001	296,638	407,214	73,176	16,996	2,255,576
	A2	113,423	702,772	162,179	122,438	49,487	15,486	1,165,785
	A3	107,551	1,238,267	232,625	230,559	86,165	18,106	1,913,273
	A4	136,419	989,198	180,265	131,016	74,572	15,334	1,526,805
(Angel et al., 2011)				East Asia and the Pacific	Europe and Japan	LAmerica and the Caribbean	Land Rich Developed Countries	TOTAL
	B1	58,132	120,757	43,092	9,772	49,348	54,801	335,902
	B2	92,002	203,949	75,674	74,290	98,554	119,868	664,337
	B3	137,722	316,248	119,654	161,379	164,975	207,699	1,107,677
(Seto et al., 2011)	C	41,450	225,825	151,075	93,525	130,500	10,450	652,825

14 Across the three CO₂ per cement scenarios in Güneralp and Fragkias (submitted), the differences in
 15 the total CO₂ emissions are notable especially for the developing regions; however, these differences
 16 are small compared to the scale of forecasted urban expansion in all three studies (Figure 12.13 A-C).
 17 For example, the average for the total CO₂ emissions from future urban expansion over all eight
 18 urban expansion scenarios range from 56 Gt to 62 Gt CO₂, a mere 6 Gt difference across the three
 19 CO₂ per cement scenarios. On the other hand, the average for the total CO₂ emissions from future
 20 urban expansion over the three CO₂ per cement scenarios ranges from 60 Gt CO₂ to 83 Gt CO₂ across
 21 the three sets of urban expansion scenarios (after first taking the average of the forecasted CO₂
 22 emissions for each of the three urban expansion studies). The findings from their analysis suggests
 23 that, given the scale of forecasted urban expansion, the spatiality of urban growth may have a larger
 24 affect on emissions than efficiency gains in cement production.

25 **12.3.4.4 Future emissions under different scenarios of urban expansion and population** 26 **growth**

27 Estimates of future emissions under different urbanization scenarios show that the type of urban
 28 development will have a larger impact on emissions than the amount of urban population growth
 29 (Seto, Sanchez-Rodriguez, et al., 2010). A low fertility, low density urbanization future will result in
 30 higher greenhouse gas emissions than under a high fertility, high or medium density urbanization
 31 future. Asia is a major region of concern for the potential effects of future urban populations.
 32 Scenarios show that savings in emissions from different types of urban development and associated
 33 lifestyles are tremendous, irrespective of the fertility rate. With the low fertility scenario, if the
 34 growth in urban population over the next forty years leads to low density cities such as Washington,

1 D. C., this would result in an increase of 380 Gt of emissions in 2050. These calculations do not
 2 include emissions leading up to 2050, only emissions in the year 2050. In contrast, if the growth in
 3 urban populations occurred predominantly in high density cities like Seoul, the high fertility



4 **Figure 12.13.** CO2 emissions from forecasted urban expansion, 2000-2030. Regional breakdowns of
 5 forecasted emissions based on urban expansion forecasts from (A) Seto et al (2011), (B) Angel et al
 6 (2011), (C) Seto (2012), and three CO2 per unit cement scenarios, CC1-3, and (D) total forecasted
 7 emissions.
 8

9 scenario generates only a total of 152 Gt in 2050, less than half of the total emissions under a low
 10 fertility, low density scenario. The constant fertility scenario coupled with low urban densities
 11 produces the highest emissions (937 tonnes), but this is the least likely population growth scenario.

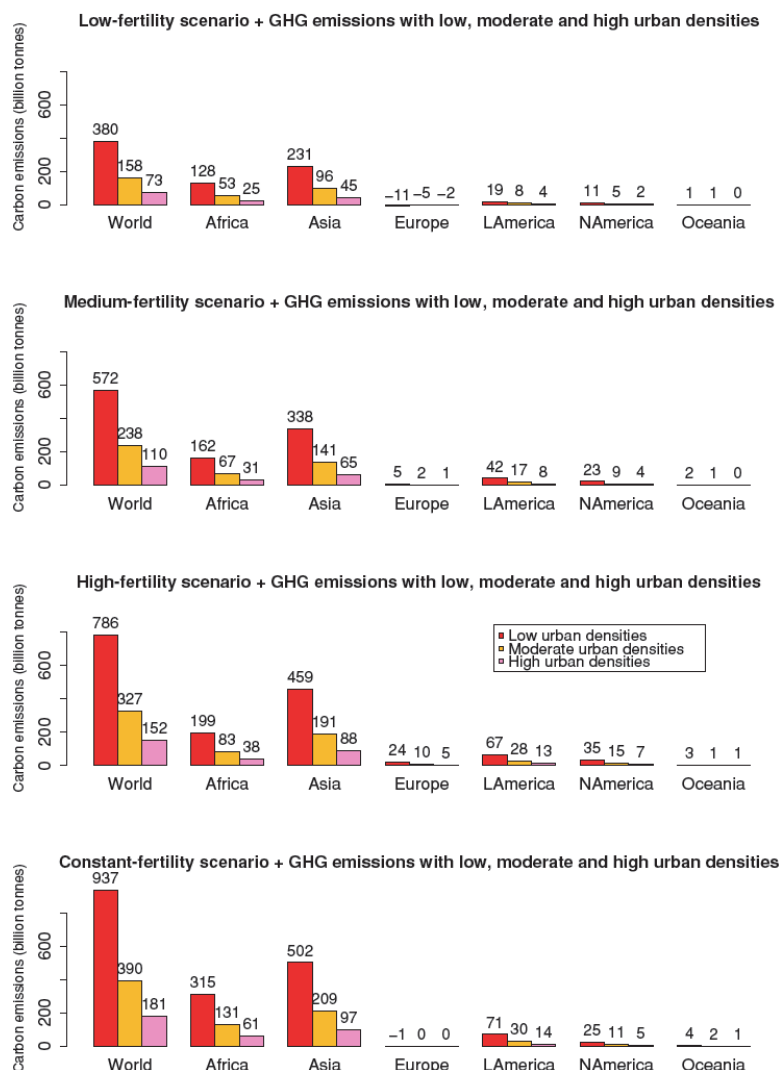


Figure 12.14. Estimates of carbon emissions based on urban population growth and types of urban settlements. Source: (Seto, Sanchez-Rodriguez, et al., 2010).

FAQ 12.2: How much do urban areas contribute to greenhouse gas emissions?

Urban areas consume approximately 60-80% of final energy globally. For the period 1990 to 2008, direct emissions associated with human settlements account for 75-81% of global CO₂ emissions. However, there is large variation in urban emissions across countries and regions. For example, African urban GHG emissions are approximately 21-30% of total African CO₂-eq. emissions. In contrast, North American urban CO₂-eq. emissions are estimated to be 49-73% of total North American emissions.

12.4 Urban form and infrastructure

Urban form is defined as “the spatial pattern of large, inert, permanent physical objects in a city” (Lynch 1981, 47). These patterns typically include the spatial configuration of land use, transportation systems, and urban design elements (Handy 1996). In this chapter, urban form refers to the overall urban pattern, including spatial extent, spatial configuration, and internal pattern of settlements, including the layout of streets and buildings. Urban form is dependent on spatial scale.

12.4.1 Characteristics of low carbon settlements

There is evidence that urban form, design, and connectivity are important in shaping the levels of urban GHG emissions, but these relationships are not absolute. Urban form is responsible directly for a large proportion of consumed energy and indirectly influences the patterns and modes of energy consumed in everyday activities (Rickwood et al., 2008). Low carbon societies (Skea and Nishioka, 2008) and low carbon cities (Gossop, 2011) are human settlements that have physical and operational characteristics associated with low GHG emissions. A meta-analysis of over 200 studies on travel and the built environment (Ewing and Cervero, 2010) identified several features of urban form that affect vehicle miles travelled and energy use, indicating that human settlements could meet low carbon targets by attaining and sustaining the following spatial characteristics: (1) high population and employment densities that are co-located; (2) compact urban form; (3) mixed land uses; (4) high connectivity; (5) destination accessibility terms of job accessibility by auto, by transit and by distance to downtown, often referred to as regional accessibility; and (6) integrating multiple transport modes (Figure 12.15).

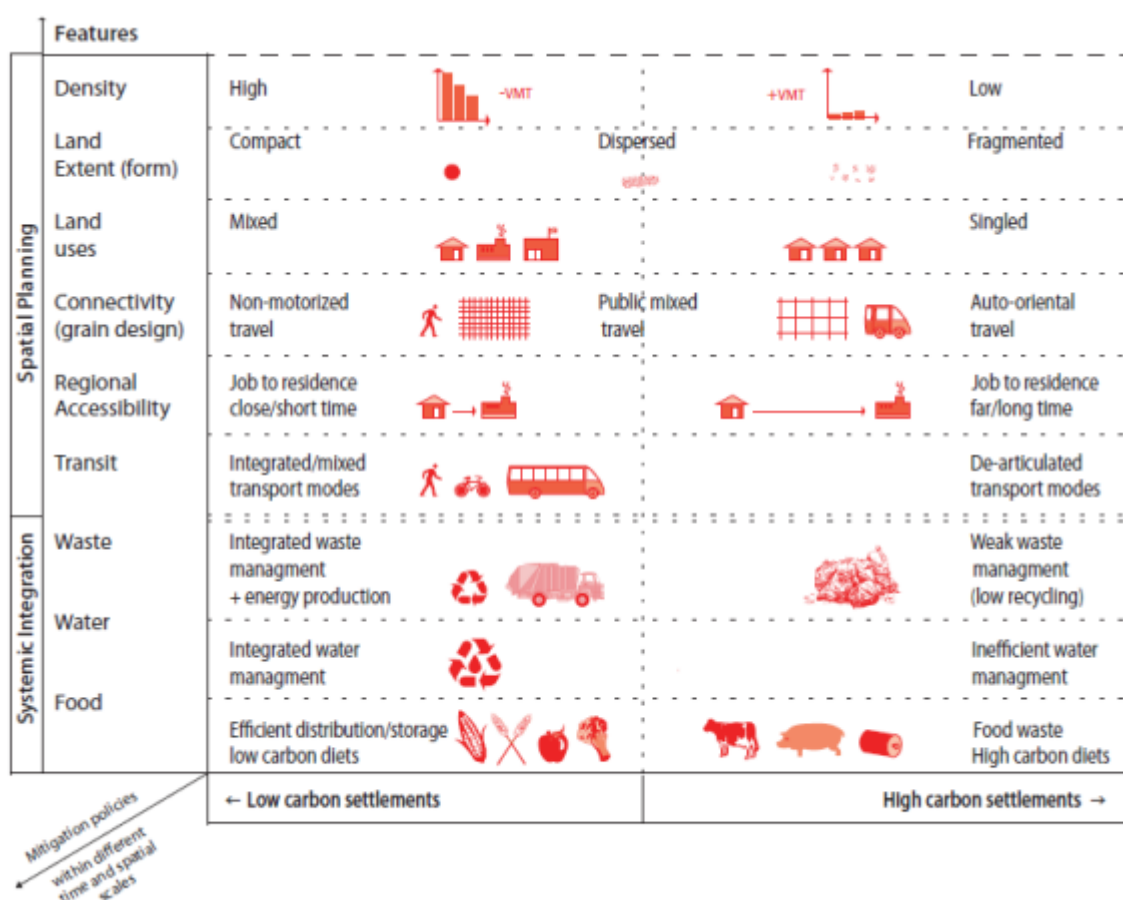


Figure 12.15. Characteristics of low- and high-carbon settlements

12.4.2 Density: co-located high population and employment density

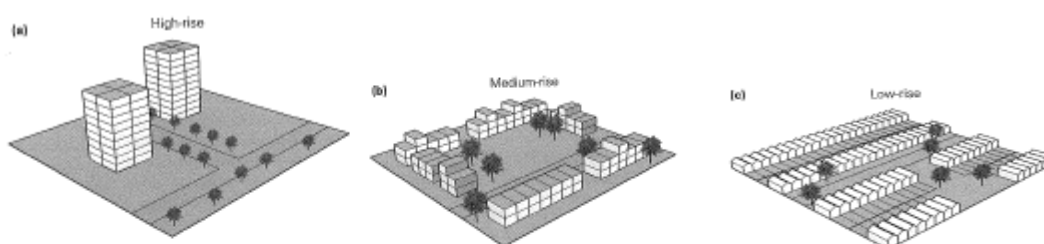
Density affects transport patterns in two ways. First, higher urban densities contribute to the reduction of average travel distances for both work trips and shopping trips (Frank and Pivo, 1994). Second, higher density encourages a switch toward less energy intensive transportation modes (e.g., public transport, walking, and cycling). The influence of density on transportation mode choice is stronger than other non-urban form variables such as economic ones (Frank and Pivo, 1994; Cervero, 2008).

There is strong empirical evidence that high demographic (population, household) density coupled with employment/job density could lower transport energy. In the U.S., doubling residential density

1 could lower household vehicle miles traveled by about 5 to 12 percent, and perhaps as much as 25
 2 percent, if coupled with higher employment concentrations, significant public transit improvements,
 3 mixed land uses, and other supportive demand management measures (NRC, 2009). Taking into
 4 account construction materials for infrastructure, building operations, and transportation, a low-
 5 density, leapfrog or disconnected, single-use (often residential) development is more energy and
 6 GHG intensive than high-density, mixed-use development on a per capita basis. Higher densities also
 7 have economic co-benefits (Newman and Kenworthy, 1999a), such as higher wages (Hoch, 1976,
 8 1980), and more efficient use of infrastructures and energy (Forsyth et al., 2007).

9 As population density increases, per capita electricity demand decreases (Figure 12.4). For instance
 10 Japan's urban areas are around five times denser than Canada's. Japan's per capita consumption of
 11 electricity is also around 40% that of Canada's. Similarly, Denmark's urban areas are denser than
 12 Finland's by a factor of four. Denmark's per capita electricity consumption is around 40% that of
 13 Finland's (Kamal-Chaoui and Robert, 2009, pp. 9–10).

14 Demographic density is strongly correlated with built density, but built density is often mistaken for
 15 verticality, whereas there is no equivalence between high rise and high density (Vicky Cheng, 2009;
 16 Salat, 2011). Medium-rise (less than seven-floor high) urban areas with a high building footprint ratio
 17 can have a higher built density than high-rise urban areas with a low building footprint. Often, high-
 18 rise, high-density urban areas lead to a trade-off between building height and spacing between
 19 buildings. The higher the buildings, the more they have to be spaced out to allow light penetration
 20 (Figure 12.16). The cost of construction per square meter increases as buildings become higher, due
 21 notably to structure material costs (Picken and Ilozor, 2003; Blackman and Picken, 2010). High-rise
 22 buildings imply higher energy costs in terms of vertical transport, but also in terms of heating,
 23 cooling, and lighting due to low passive volume ratios (Ratti et al., 2005; Salat, 2009). Medium-rise,
 24 high-density urban areas can achieve similar levels of density as high-rise, high density developments
 25 but require less materials and embodied energy (Picken and Ilozor, 2003; Blackman and Picken,
 26 2010). Their building operating energy levels are lower due to high passive volume ratio (Ratti et al.,
 27 2005; Salat, 2009). Experience across cities shows that floor area ratio (FAR), the ratio of floor area
 28 over the land area, is an effective policy tool to increase urban density.



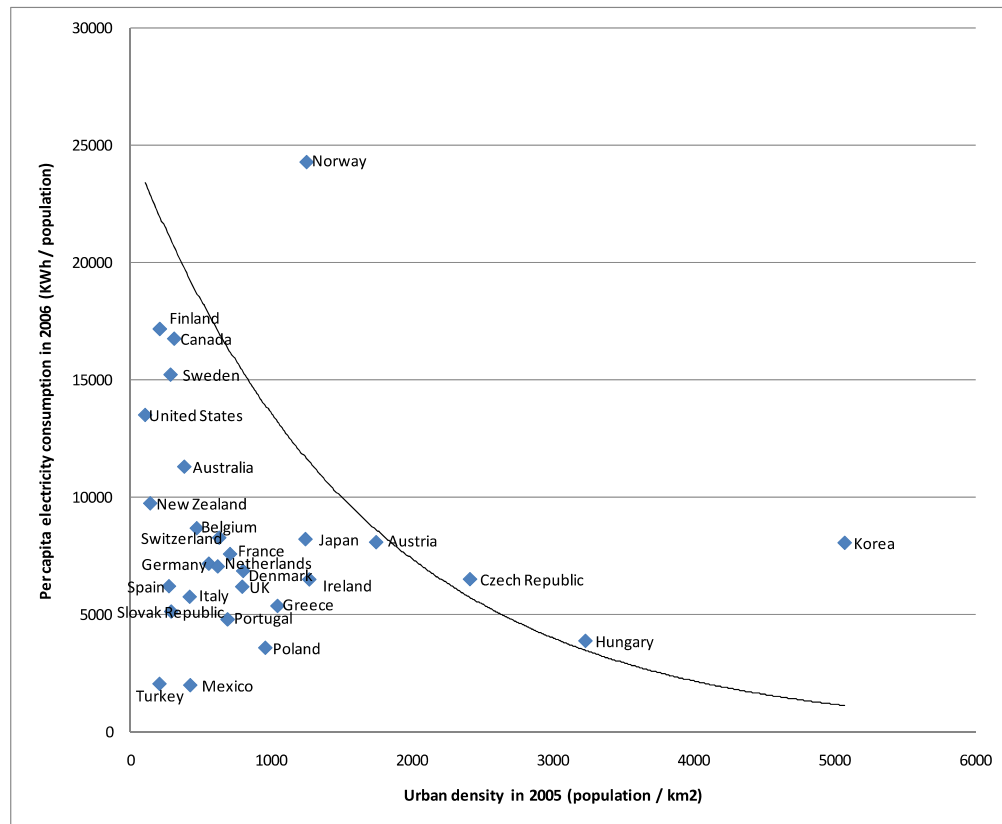
30
 31 **Figure 12.16.** Same densities in three different layouts: a) high-rise towers; b) multi-story medium-
 32 rise; low-rise single-story homes (Source: Vicky Cheng, 2005).

33 12.4.3 Compact urban form

34 Urban form is part of the explanation for the differences between Europe's comprehensive and well-
 35 patronized public transportation systems (Goodwin et al., 1991) and the limited, poorly patronized
 36 systems typical in North America and Australia (Kenworthy and Laube, 1999) and sub-Saharan Africa
 37 (Dewar and Todeschini, 2004). An additional consequence of more expansive urban forms is that
 38 utility lines are considerably longer than in more compact forms, thereby significantly increasing
 39 direct and embodied energy use and thus greenhouse gas emissions.

40 Here the essential distinction is between low density and expansive urban forms versus higher-
 41 density and compact spatial forms. The term 'urban sprawl' is often used to describe urban
 42 development with any of the following characteristics: leapfrog patterns of development,
 43 commercial strips, low density, separated land uses, automobile dominance, and a minimum of

1 public open space (Gilham, 2007). However, it is important to note that there is no universally
 2 accepted definition or metric for urban sprawl. The key variable between these forms is travel
 3 patterns, and a primary indicator of greenhouse gas emissions is vehicle miles travelled (VMT)
 4 (Newman and Kenworthy, 1989).



Notes:

Urban density is calculated on the basis of PU areas.

Iceland and Luxemburg were not included in the sample as the OECD Regional Database identifies no predominantly urban (PU) regions in those countries.

5
 6 **Figure 12.17.** Population density and electricity consumption. Source: (Kamal-Chaoui and Robert,
 7 2009)

8 It has been found that VMT decreases with increasing density while public transportation use and
 9 efficiency increases with density (Rickwood et al., 2008). While there is widespread agreement
 10 about the correlation between density and VMT, there is far less agreement about causality (Badoe
 11 and Miller, 2000; Rodriguez et al., 2006). A study of travel distances in the US has found a range of
 12 elasticities of travel distance around factors such as street design, diversity, distance to transit, and
 13 density (Ewing and Cervero, 2010b). It is difficult to establish causality because transport and land
 14 use are dependent and complexly interrelated. High population densities and compact urban design
 15 are required to support mass transit alternatives to the automobile.

16 12.4.4 Mixed land uses

17 There is consensus in the literature that mixed land use is a necessary condition for clustering of
 18 economic activity and promoting walking and non-motorized travel (Parmera et al, 2008). Mixed
 19 land use tends to reduce aggregate amounts of vehicular movement and associated vehicular-
 20 generated greenhouse gas emissions (Lipper et al., 2010). Mixed land use also enables walking more
 21 than settlements characterized by high degrees of mono-functionality. By promoting walking and
 22 cycling, mixed land use has a beneficial impact on urban citizen health and well-being (Heath et al.,
 23 2006). There is no evidence of negative externalities of mixed use in the literature.

1 Green areas can make cities more attractive to live in (particularly important for promoting more
2 dense cities) and may promote walking and bicycling. Urban green spaces can provide biomass for
3 building heat and thereby reduce the demand for fossil fuels, although this potential is limited. The
4 potential for carbon sequestration in green areas within cities is usually small and limited to the
5 growth phase of plants. Vegetation can reduce the reflection of sunlight and can play a role in
6 reducing heat island. However, the concept of mixed-use is ambiguous, both in terms of theory and
7 practice (Rowley, 1996; Hoppenbrouwer and Louw, 2005). It must be defined according to the
8 appropriate spatial scale in order to take full advantage as a policy tool for climate change mitigation
9 (Bourdic et al., 2012).

10 City-scale mixed land use: Mixed use on the city scale often dedicates large areas of a settlement
11 to a single and specific use: offices in business districts, shops and malls in commercial areas, and
12 housing in residential areas. This style of city-level zoning is common in North American cities and in
13 many new urban developments in Asia, notably China. Single-use zoning tends to lead to higher
14 travel distances, especially from workplaces to housing and from shops to housing, and thus
15 encourages automobile use.

16 Neighborhood-scale mixed use: Mixed use on the neighborhood scale rests upon a “smart” mix of
17 residential buildings, offices, shops, and urban amenities (Bourdic et al., 2012). It has beneficial
18 impacts on transportation patterns by decreasing average travel distances (McCormack et al., 2001).
19 Non-motorized commuting such as cycling and walking and the presence or absence of
20 neighborhood shops can be even more important than urban density (Cervero, 1996). The presence
21 of shops and workplaces is also associated both with relatively low vehicle ownership rates and
22 relatively shorter commuting distances among residents of mixed-use neighborhoods (Cervero and
23 Duncan, 2008). Mixed use development at the neighborhood scale has a positive impact on
24 transportation patterns, and contributes to climate change mitigation.

25 Block scale mixed use: At the block and building scale, mixed use consists of developing small-scale
26 business spaces for offices, workshops, and studios on the ground floor of residential blocks and
27 home-working premises. This option increases the area’s vitality and is a way of achieving an visually
28 interesting urban environment (Hoppenbrouwer and Louw, 2005). A co-benefit of block-scale mixed
29 use is that energy flows may be reused and recycled (Larsson et al., 2011). The presence of different
30 types of buildings within a given urban block leads to a variety of energy load demands: water
31 demand and heating and cooling energy loads are different for housing, offices and shops. A
32 diversity of loads allows the implementation of synergy approaches based on exchange, recycling
33 and reuse of energy and material flows between different uses (Larsson et al., 2011).

34 **12.4.5 High connectivity**

35 Connectivity refers to the design of intersections, street density, and the density of four-way
36 intersections. High connectivity and finer grain systems, characterized by smaller blocks which
37 enable frequent changes in direction, are necessary conditions to encourage and enable non-
38 motorized travel behaviours and promote walking. Settlements with a fine-scaled urban fabric
39 (where buildings are close together, block dimensions are small, and streets are narrow) promote
40 walking more than coarse-grained settlements. There are a number of reasons for this: walking
41 distances tend to be shorter, and the system of small blocks enables the pedestrian to change
42 direction easily, a factor which promotes convenience. Related to this is the quality of the public
43 spatial environment. Walkable neighborhoods foster the use of non-motorized travel and public
44 transport modes (Gehl, 2010). Impacts of high connectivity on material use and corresponding
45 embedded emissions are still poorly understood.

46 **12.4.6 High accessibility**

47 Accessibility is a function of travel time, and distance between destination and origin. By creating
48 low daily commuting distance and travel time, highly accessible communities enable multiple modes

1 of transportation and less travel-related energy and emissions. Moreover, material demand and
 2 corresponding embedded emissions are likely to be lower compared to urban sprawl due to
 3 increased density.

4 **12.4.7 Integrating multiple transport modes**

5 Provision of multimodal transportation infrastructure and deployment of fuel efficient carriers
 6 creates a win-win scenario for implementation of mitigation, adaptation and local sustainable
 7 development measures.

8 **Table 12.9:** Urban mitigation opportunities for spatial planning and systemic integration and their
 9 impacts on GHG emissions in different sectors within and outside the city’s system boundaries.

10 Assumptions reflect an average city that imports construction materials, fuels, electricity, and food
 11 from outside its borders. Color code: green – positive savings, red – negative savings.

Emissions	1 Transport	2 Buildings	3 Industry	4 Energy Supply	5 Agric / Forestry		6 Waste Mgt (incl. wastewater mgt)	Co-ben.	Risks
Drivers	- km travelled - transport mode - fuel efficiency - C intensity of fuel	- Floor area - Energy use per FA - C intensity of energy	- Materials demand - Recycling - Energy efficiency	- Transport fuel production - Building fuel production - Electricity production - C intensity of energy production	- Demand for wood - C sequestration in forests & buildings		- Urban mining / waste separation - CH4 landfills - CO2 Waste incineration - Energy per waste - CH4 and N2O wastewater treatment		
Urban mitigation opport.	Inside	Inside	Inside & Outside	Inside & Outside	Inside	Outside	Inside & Outside		
1. Density	km traveled transport mode	Energy use FA	Material	T fuel			Urban mining		Urban heat islands
2. Land extent (form)	km traveled transport mode		Material	T fuel					
3. Land uses	transport mode			T fuel	C seq.			Attractiveness	
4. Connectivity (grain design)	transport mode			T fuel					
5. Regional accessibility	transport mode		Material	T fuel					
6. Transit	transport mode Fuel efficiency C intensity		Material	T fuel					
7. Buildings		Energy FA C seq.	Material	B fuel B electricity I fuel I electricity					
8. Energy		C intensity	Material	B fuel B electricity		Wood demand			
9. Waste	km traveled		Recycling				CH4 landfills CH4, N2O WWT	Save res & waste	
10. Water			Water, Material	Wastewater cooling					
11. Food	km traveled		Food process	Food processing		Animal Manure			

12

13 **12.4.8 Systems integration of energy and material flows**

14 Due to the socio-metabolic linkages between the individual sectors, mitigation measures in a specific
 15 sector usually affect the material and energy flows in other sectors, which may result in positive or
 16 negative feedbacks for emissions throughout the system. These consequences may occur within or
 17 outside the urban system boundaries. Table 12.9 illustrates eleven intervention areas or urban
 18 mitigation opportunities (rows) and their potential impacts on emissions in different sectors
 19 (columns), within and outside the city’s boundaries. The mitigation opportunities include spatial
 20 planning interventions (1-6) and systemic interventions (7-11). It is assumed that the city imports the

1 vast majority of construction materials, fuels, electricity, and food from hinterlands. The list of
2 mitigation opportunities is not exhaustive and does not reflect the significant differences among
3 cities with respect to geographical and socio-economic boundary conditions, including the state of
4 the existing built environment stocks.

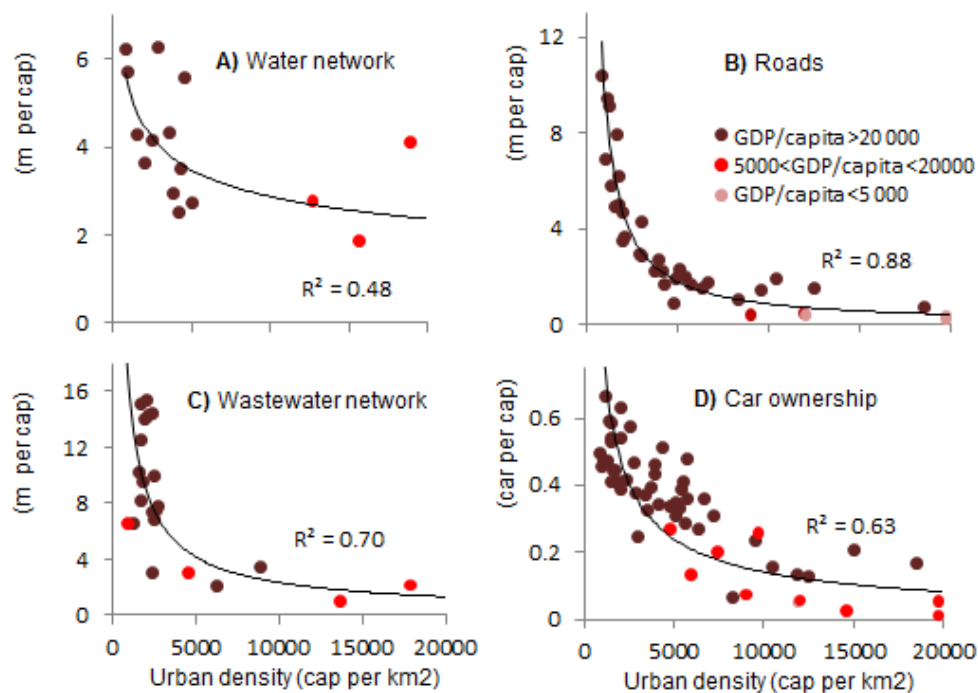
5 Systemic integration of energy, waste, water, and food in human settlements can yield significant
6 energy and emissions reductions. For future infrastructure, reducing the CCE of infrastructures can
7 be identified by employing a Kaya-like decomposition for the emissions, F (Müller et al., 2013):

$$8 \quad F = P * \frac{S}{P} * \frac{M}{S} * \frac{F}{M}$$

9 Assuming that the population (P) is given and the service level per capita (S/P) can be defined using
10 industrialized countries as a reference, the CCE of future infrastructures can be reduced by two
11 approaches: (i) cutting the emission intensity of materials (F/M) and (ii) lessening the material stock
12 per service unit (M/S). Options for reducing the emission intensity of materials are discussed widely
13 in the literature and are described in detail in Chapter 10.

14 Options for reducing the material stock per service unit, in contrast, have received little attention so
15 far. They can be divided into two approaches: studies of individual structures and studies of entire
16 urban systems. Studies of individual structures, ranging from alternative forming of parts to product
17 design, are a large, yet underexplored potential (Allwood et al., 2011). For example, low-rise
18 medium density houses in Australia are less energy-intensive in construction than detached houses
19 due to savings in shared walls, economies of scale, and surface area to volume ratio. However, for
20 buildings higher than three stories, the embodied energy per floor area rises due to exponentially
21 increasing structural demands (Treloar et al., 2001; Rickwood et al., 2008).

22 On a whole urban systems scale, saving effects on the product level can be reinforced or undone due
23 to spatial constraints. Since the total CCE of built environment stocks among industrialized countries
24 is fairly similar (Figure 12.18B), the overall potential for decoupling may be limited despite the large
25 differences among individual structures. For example, studies of infrastructures such as roads
26 (Ingram and Liu, 1997) and urban water and wastewater networks (Pauliuk et al., 2013) suggest that
27 network length and material stocks tend to decline with increasing urban density (Figure 12.18).
28 Furthermore, denser urban areas provide incentives for a modal shift in transport in the form of
29 public transport or cycling, which reduces vehicle ownership and related material stocks and
30 emissions (Newman and Kenworthy, 1999b; Kenworthy, 2006). However, denser urban areas have
31 limited options for using emissions-saving building construction materials. There is a significant gap
32 in design principles that take into account the scaling effects of individual structures, embodied
33 emissions, and local conditions.



1 **Figure 12.18.** Impact of urban density and GDP (PPP) on network length and vehicle ownership: (A)
 2 water network, (B) wastewater network, (C) road network, (D) car ownership. Cities with higher
 3 density tend to have lower per-capita network length and vehicle ownership, indicating potentially
 4 smaller per-capita stocks and related CCE (Müller et al., 2013).
 5

6 12.4.9 Energy

7 Municipal energy utilities can use efficient local electricity, and heat generating plants and
 8 renewable energy sources such as solar and wind. Interlinking renewable resources through a local
 9 grid may assist a city to become a power supplier (Vettorato et al., 2011). Integrated planning,
 10 including energy and water systems, provides additional mitigation potentials (Piguet et al., 2011).
 11 For example, Bataille et al. (2009) reported that an integrated community energy system could result
 12 in over 43% emission reductions in Vancouver. Hara et al. (Hara et al., 2001) reported an 11% CO₂
 13 reduction potential by combining solar power generation for residential buildings, waste heat
 14 energy, and co-generation for commercial buildings. To use solar energy more efficiently, rooftops in
 15 cities could be optimized for solar energy collectors, and building height and spacing could be
 16 optimized to maximize passive solar heating and cooling (Scartezzini et al., 2002). Despite many
 17 opportunities and scattered small-scale case studies, the share of energy that renewable sources can
 18 provide in large and dense cities is poorly understood and depends largely on the climatic and
 19 geographic conditions as well as the settlement structure.

20 "Smart Grid" technology has been used to introduce renewable electricity and reduce electricity
 21 consumption and utility peak in cities. This technology utilizes advanced sensor technologies
 22 throughout electricity infrastructures for two-way communications and demand response programs
 23 (Willrich, 2009).

24 12.4.10 Waste

25 Waste generation is directly proportional to urbanization, affluence, and population growth
 26 (Cointreau and Mundial, 2006; Bogner et al., 2008). Per capita waste generation rates are increasing
 27 both in developed and developing countries (OECD, 2009). Although, developing countries have low
 28 per capita waste generation rates relative to developed nations (Troschinetz and Mihelcic, 2009)
 29 their share in total global waste generation is high due to population size (OECD, 2009). Carbon
 30 intensity of waste collection and transportation in developing countries is about 16 kg of CO₂e/tonne

1 of waste in contrast to developed countries at 7.2 kg of CO₂e/tonne of waste (Chen and Lin, 2008;
2 Friedrich and Trois, 2011).

3 In addition, materials accumulated in infrastructure also turn into waste. They will not only
4 represent a growing stock of mineable materials, but also future waste outflows. For these reasons,
5 considering waste quantity, quality, and complexity (in terms of substance composition) at multiple
6 spatial and temporal dimensions in terms of settlement material stock dynamics is essential for
7 urban waste management (Lipper et al., 2010). Waste reduction strategies such as decoupling waste
8 generation flows from economic factors can directly result in carbon emission reduction (Mazzanti
9 and Zoboli, 2008). In addition, material recovery and recycling from waste, including urban mining, a
10 long-term mitigation strategy oriented toward the consumption-waste interface through time
11 (Baccini and Brunner, 2012). For example, in the US, recycling resulted in GHG emission savings of
12 183 million MT in 2006 (US EPA, 2009). Estimates for other regions vary widely, depending on the
13 recycled material and downstream substitution in the use of the recycled material (Friedrich and
14 Trois, 2011). Waste to energy reduces 1200 kg of CO₂e/ton of municipal solid waste combusted and
15 can also replace 0.52 tons of coal per ton of municipal solid waste combusted (Nakata et al., 2011).
16 However, maximum waste to energy potential is not directly proportional to GHG saving (Hanandeh
17 and Zein, 2011). For additional information, including urban mining potential and waste processing
18 and disposal methods that have implications on GHG emissions, see Chapter 10.

19 There is variability in these estimates which are attributable to differences in the definitions of
20 waste streams and GHG accounting convention (Gentil et al., 2009), and assumptions in estimation
21 models (Eriksson and Bisailon, 2011). Complexity further increases while considering waste mix
22 (Lacoste and Chalmin, 2006). For example, a wide range of GHG emissions from waste collection and
23 transportation is attributable to fuel type, distance covered, and collection method (Eisted et al.,
24 2009). Even consumption of diesel varies from 1.6 to 10.1 litre/ tonne of waste, and is found to be
25 on the higher side for collection in areas with low population density and widely spaced residential
26 units (Larsen et al., 2009). Similarly, GHG implications of composting depend upon whether compost
27 produced from municipal solid waste can substitute for fertilizer production. For anaerobic
28 digestion, GHG implications depend upon the extent to which solids in the digester are replaced with
29 fertilizer and fossil fuel substitution for heating and lighting.

30 **12.4.11 Water**

31 Urban water systems produce GHG emissions in the form of CO₂, CH₄ and N₂O (Listowski et al.,
32 2011). Open drains, polluted lakes and rivers, water storage in barrages/dams, and treatment
33 methods in sewage treatment plants are main sources of direct GHG emissions. In addition, water
34 infrastructure is material intensive and construction involves substantial indirect emissions
35 (Venkatesh and Brattebø, 2011). Water-energy-carbon linkages in cities include: energy
36 consumption for pumping, treatment, distribution, and heating water; thermo-electric energy
37 production water consumption; and others (Table 12.10). Direct energy use by water utilities varies
38 by city. Based on the evidence from Australia, California, and Canada, the energy intensity of the
39 complete urban water cycle is in the range of 40-80 kWh/m³ (Plappally and Lienhard V, 2012).
40 Maximum energy consumption is found in the end use stage. The energy estimates are higher when
41 they include: (i) energy consumed by transporting water from distant surface water sources, (ii)
42 energy consumed by booster pumps at the household level in water distribution systems in
43 developing countries, (iii) energy demand of decentralized waste water treatment plants in
44 industries and institutions, (iv) energy consumed in forms other than electricity; (vi) 100% collection
45 and treatment of wastewater in cities in developing countries; and (vii) embodied energy of
46 materials.

47 Water usage in cities is typically lower than agricultural use. However, its socio-economic impact is
48 high and the embodied energy and emissions in water infrastructure are usually substantial (CEC,
49 2005; LBL, 2011). The energy demand for water sourcing is increasing because surface water needs

1 **Table 12.10:** Energy implications of urban water cycle and mitigation options

Activity	Energy implications	Mitigation options
Sourcing	Surface water sources are getting distanced and groundwater sources are getting deeper (Kummu et al., 2011). Specific groundwater pumping energy use can go up to 0.006 kWh/m ³ m and energy expended to supply surface water ranges between 0.002 to 0.007 kWh/m ³ km (Plappally and Lienhard V, 2012).	Energy intensity can be reduced by increasing the pump efficiency at regular intervals and monitoring pressure losses. (Thirwell et al. 2007) Rainwater harvesting checks decline in groundwater level and water conservation and recycling reduces the demand of energy for water sourcing.
Distribution	Distribution is the second highest energy consuming activity in the urban water cycle. Energy intensity for water distribution ranges between 0.05 to 0.44 kWh/m ³ (Venkatesh and Brattebø, 2011; Plappally and Lienhard V, 2012).	Water losses due to leakage are large in developing countries. Water loss due to leakage can be mitigated through demand and supply management (Fredrick et al., 2009). Other mitigation options include leak detection, pipeline pressure management, pipeline infrastructure rehabilitation at appropriate intervals, application of automated system control devices, and use of renewable energy for water pumping.
Water treatment	Energy intensity of conventional treatment processes range between 0.01 to 1.44 kWh/m ³ (Plappally and Lienhard V, 2012). The value depends on technology choice and desired quality. For example, energy intensity for the disinfection process using UV is 0.002 and using ozone is 0.18 kWh/m ³ (Plappally and Lienhard V, 2012).	Improving pump efficiency can reduce energy consumption by 3% to 6% in the treatment plant (Stillwell et al., 2010).
End use	End use activities consume up to 72% energy in the entire urban water cycle (Plappally and Lienhard V, 2012). End use processes often have the highest energy intensity of all the water-sector elements and deserve far greater attention (Rothausen and Conway, 2011).	The form of energy use can also influence the GHG emissions. Usage of roof top solar water heating systems and reduced hot water demand through energy-efficient water heaters, water-efficient domestic appliances (clothes washers, dishwashers), and plumbing fixtures can reduce energy consumption (Bakker et al., 2005).
Wastewater collection	Energy intensity varies between 0.003 to 0.81kWh/m ³ for wastewater pumping and collection (Venkatesh and Brattebø, 2011; Plappally and Lienhard V, 2012).	Where appropriate, on-site sanitation (decentralized treatment and recycling) can reduce wastewater (Fredrick et al., 2009).
Wastewater treatment	Energy consumption for treatment ranges between 0.09 to 4.04 kWh/m ³ depending upon the technology choice (Plappally and Lienhard V, 2012). For example, energy intensity is 0.18 to 0.42 kWh/m ³ for trickling filter, 0.33 to 0.60 kWh/m ³ for activated sludge process, and 0.1 to 1.5 kWh/m ³ for membrane bio-reactors (ibid).	Energy recovery and use of bio-gas can reduce the energy intensity of the treatment plant and off-site GHG emissions by 11-29% (Yerushalmi et al., 2009). Carbon intensity can be reduced further by using clean energy source such as wind energy and solar energy (Listowski et al., 2011)
Wastewater reuse	In Singapore, energy intensity for recycling wastewater for drinking purpose is found to range between 0.72 to 0.93 kWh/m ³ . In Australia, large scale potable wastewater recycling using the R.O. process consumes energy in the range of 2.8 to 3.8 kWh/m ³ (Plappally and Lienhard V, 2012).	Urban green spaces can use recycled water, which reduces the treatment requirements for recycling water.

2

1 to be transported over longer distances or extracted from greater groundwater depth. For example,
2 in Aguadulce, Spain, water is transported from a distance of over 700 km having energy intensity
3 above 4 kWh/m³ whereas in Perth, Australia, water is transported from a distance of 116 km
4 requiring energy intensity of 0.21 kWh/m³ (Plappally and Lienhard V, 2012). It is particularly important
5 in regions where high population growth and urbanization have caused a water crisis, pitting the
6 water use for urban activities against agricultural and environmental water needs.

7 **12.4.12 Food**

8 About 14% of global GHG emissions are attributable to agriculture, and between 17-32% when
9 considering land conversion effects (Pelletier and Tyedmers, 2010). Urban settlements typically
10 include a small share of agricultural area, but still depend largely on food imports from the
11 immediate rural hinterland and beyond. In general, urban diets have become more water and
12 carbon intensive because of increases in meat, dairy products and processed food consumption
13 (Pimentel and Pimentel, 2003; Theun Vellinga et al., 2010; M.M. Mekonnen and A.Y. Hoekstra,
14 2010). While animal calories represent up to one third of total available calories in developed
15 regions, emerging economies have increased animal consumption by up to five times between 1961
16 to 2007. This has led to a global demand for animal products, which have already produced up to
17 50% of total land demand and land-use change during that same period (Steinfeld and Gerber, 2010;
18 Kastner et al., 2012).

19 Urban food metabolism analyses are useful tools for accountability of production and consumption
20 GHG emissions associated to urban diets (Delgado et al., 2010) Ramaswami et al, 2012). By taking
21 into account inputs, stocks and outputs of the whole food system, urban food metabolism comprises
22 all subsystems of production, supply, distribution, consumption, and generation/recycling of
23 pollutants and waste. Preliminary indirect emissions (from “farm to table”) of only urban demand for
24 meat, dairy, and chicken eggs, have been estimated to be 1.57 ton/ha/year for Buenos Aires; 0.72
25 ton/ha/year for Mexico City; and 1.04 ton/ha/year for Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro. Differences
26 between cities are mainly due to differences in meat and dairy products consumption (Delgado,
27 2012).

28 There is consensus that optimizing urban food metabolisms and food waste in cities can be
29 mitigation strategies. However, their overall impact on total emissions is unclear.

30 **12.5 Spatial planning and climate change mitigation**

31 **12.5.1 Spatial and integrated planning**

32 Spatial planning is a holistic approach to guide the development and investment in infrastructure
33 and can include land use planning, regional planning, and environmental planning at different spatial
34 scales (Wegener, 2001; Fischer-Kowalski et al., 2004; Yang et al., 2008; Hoornweg et al., 2011). There
35 is general agreement that spatial planning can play an important role in reducing greenhouse gas
36 emissions by influencing the structure, form, density, and infrastructure of a city (Carter and Fowler,
37 2008; Fields, 2009; Antrobus, 2011). This section assesses current knowledge on how spatial
38 planning can contribute to climate change mitigation.

39 The underlying principle of integrated spatial planning is to coordinate land-use planning with other
40 sectoral activities such as environmental policy, housing, and economic or regional development into
41 a single framework (Eskelinen et al., 2000; Wong 2002). What differentiates an integrated spatial
42 planning approach from individual sectoral approaches to climate change mitigation is that by
43 coordinating multiple sectors, it is able to take advantage of solutions for a settlement as a whole
44 that are not possible by individual sector policies alone. One estimate suggests that land-based
45 mitigation is expected to contribute approximately 100 to 340 Gtc equivalents over the next century,
46 or approximately 15-40% of total abatement (Rose et al., 2012).

1 Integrated planning of land-use and transport can lead to an increased use of alternative modes of
2 transportation due to other factors such as regional accessibility, land use mix, connectivity, and
3 transport system diversity (Litman, 2012). In addition to changing travel patterns and the built
4 environment, increasing accessibility through land use mix and connectivity rather than transport
5 infrastructure alone can have a positive effect on health through reducing vehicle-based
6 pollutants but also by the materials utilized (Younger et al., 2008). Co-benefits may thus include
7 cleaner air, preservation/restoration of ecological services, and improvement of personal health
8 (Frank et al., 2004; Brown et al., 2008; Rodrigue et al., 2009; Marshall et al., 2009; Hankey and
9 Marshall, 2010). In addition, density and mixed land use can also reduce – to some degree – the
10 amount of land needed and the energy and material flows and stocks required for building and
11 maintaining roads, parking facilities, and other related infrastructure. Spatial planning shows
12 potential to enhance the capacity of new technologies to promote new, low-carbon urban form
13 (Crawford and French, 2008). In contrast, a lack of integrated planning and a focus exclusively on
14 infrastructure expansion can result in a decline in mobility with several unwanted societal impacts;
15 for example, while infrastructure has quadrupled over the last 50 years for some megacities of
16 developing countries, mobility has fallen by up to 50% (Moavenzadeh and Markow, 2007).

17 **12.5.2 Planning strategies to attain and sustain low carbon human settlements**


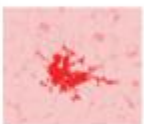

18

19 The implementation of various spatial densification and reconfiguration strategies is on-going in
20 most developed and developing countries. For more effective implementation, key policy options
21 and instruments need to be properly defined, ordered, adopted, and linked to national, regional,
22 and local contexts (Figure 12.19).

23 A number of different spatial planning strategies, including policies and instruments, can help attain
24 and sustain the characteristics of low carbon human settlements. Research conducted for UN-
25 Habitat found that: “various strategies of land-use planning, including land use zoning, master-
26 planning, urban densification, mixed use development, and urban design standards have been used
27 in order to limit urban expansion, reduce the need to travel, and increase the energy efficiency of
28 the urban built form” (UN Habitat, 2011) (UN Habitat 2011; also see UN Habitat 2009). Here we
29 outline eight common and effective options currently utilized in many cities and regions.

30 **12.5.3 Growth management**

31 Fundamental to many spatial initiatives for rapidly growing human settlements is growth
32 management (e.g., green belts, urban growth boundaries, urban containment policies), directly
33 curbing low density and leapfrog development using zoning, land taxations and rent controls,
34 financial and legal incentives, and land acquisitions/preservations (Pendall et al., 2006; Feiock et al.,
35 2008; Lai et al., 2011). In response to periods of rapid urban growth, capitals of European and Asian
36 countries (e.g., London, Stockholm, Tokyo, Seoul, Beijing and Bangkok) and progressive city-states in
37 North America and Australia (e.g., Ottawa, Portland, Boulder, Minneapolis–Saint Paul, and
38 Melbourne) adapted the idea of urban growth management under different policy names, such as
39 “green belt”, “urban containment strategy”, and “urban growth boundary”. In many rapidly growing
40 city-regions around the world, however, these land policy instruments remain under local
41 legislations (or “jurisdictional units”), thereby limiting their full potential. Regional or even mega-
42 region-wide institutional coordination and enforcement would be more effective at limiting or
43 containing “sprawl” (McCabe, 2005; Mills et al., 2006; Zhao et al., 2009; Firman, 2009; Todes, 2012).

Features		Time Scale Effects	Spatial Implementation Scale	Bundled Policies at Different Scales		
Spatial Planning	Density	Higher density, zoning, pricing parking; urban containment; measures for the built-environment; redevelopment	long			
	Land Extent (form)	Policies to define exclusive agricultural/protected areas at hinterlands; urban conservation areas; green belts	long middle			
	Land uses	Mixed-used zoning; reduced fiscal disparity; affordable housing requirements	long middle short		Regional	
	Connectivity (grain design)	Particular relevant for new developments; applicable to re-development of districts and retrofitting; "complete streets" (for increasing their functionality) and their expansion, if needed	long middle			
	Regional Accessibility	Job-housing balance; close access to services; regional planning that connects subcenters through fast efficient public transport corridors and multiple modes; development fees	long middle			City
Systemic Integration	Transit	TOD; mixed transit and infrastructure planning concurrently with planning and integrated urban management	long middle			
	Waste	Urban mining, reuse + recycling; "zero waste" generation policies; bioenergy production; extended producer responsibility	middle short			Neighborhood
	Water	Water conservation policies, water infrastructure improvement/maintenance	middle			
	Food	Urban-periurban/local agriculture, if applicable	middle short			
Policies for Low Carbon Cities (Mitigation Strategies)						

1
2 **Figure 12.19.** Mitigation strategies to achieve characteristics of low-carbon settlements

3 **12.5.4 Regional planning and governance**

4 Regional planning is indispensable in the establishment of long-term spatial visions that discourage
5 the patchy expansion of cities across a number of local jurisdictions. Indeed, the spatial measures of
6 rapidly growing cities in the United States (e.g., Los Angeles, Atlanta and Miami) have presented
7 "edgeless" office location patterns over the past decade, due in large part to weak or unsuccessful
8 intergovernmental response to the negative externalities of freeway paradigms (Lang, 2003; Lang et
9 al., 2009). On the other hand, the concept of "polycentric" spatial development has been widely
10 formulated and adopted in national and inter-municipal planning systems across northwest Europe,
11 such as South East England, Paris Region, Central Belgium, Randstad, RhunRuhr, Rhine-Main, EMR
12 Northern Switzerland, Greater Dublin and Stockholm Metropolitan Region (Salet and Thornley, 2007;
13 Hall, 2009a; Rader Olsson and Cars, 2011).

14 Similar strategic efforts have recently been made by North American regional planners and planning
15 institutes for the Northeast, Great Lakes, Southern California, Piedmont, Atlantic, Cascadia-
16 Northwest, Arizona Sun Corridor, and Texas Triangle areas where population and employment are
17 already concentrated (Dewar and Epstein, 2007). In the new polycentric mega-region strategies,
18 multibillion-dollar investments in intercity transportation hubs (e.g., international hub airports and
19 high-speed rail terminuses) play a pivotal role in enhancing high-density employment centers,
20 accompanied by proactive land policies and property developments (Kasarda, 2000; Vega and
21 Penne, 2008; Hall, 2009b; Freestone, 2009). The capacity of regional coordination seems even more
22 critical to determine the spatial characteristics of both existing and emerging mega city-regions in
23 Asia with over 10 million urban inhabitants (e.g., Tokyo, Delhi, Mumbai, Shanghai, Beijing, Osaka-
24 Kobe, Jakarta, Guangzhou, Shenzhen, Wuhan and Bangkok), along with major infrastructure projects
25 for growing intercity mobility (e.g., Beijing-Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong High-Speed Railway,
26 Beijing Capital International Airport) (Kasarda, 2006; United Nations, 2011b; Yang et al., 2011) (Zhao
27 et al., 2011).

12.5.5 Public transit investments

Public transit investments are used to guide large development patterns and/or adapt regional travel behaviors around city-regions' strategic growth areas and heavily congested corridors. Since the 1990s, delivering costly rail projects (e.g., high-speed rail, commuter rail, mass rail transit and light rail transit systems) has become a popular approach to realizing sustainable urban development across relatively large-regions and/or high income cities in North American, European, and Asian countries, such as New York-Washington DC, Los Angeles-San Francisco, London, Amsterdam, Stockholm, Copenhagen, Zurich, Munich, Singapore, Tokyo, and Hong Kong (Cervero, 1998; Lam and Toan, 2006; Hickman and Hall, 2008; Cervero and Murakami, 2009; Todorovich et al., 2011; Guerra and Cervero, 2011). Nevertheless, long-term experiences and analyses of large cities in North America, Europe, and Japan show that the spatial impacts of public transit investments are localized typically in traditional downtowns (or central business districts) where land redevelopment policies, real estate markets, and existing built environments are transit-supportive (Cervero and Landis, 1997; Banister and Berechman, 2000; Giuliano, 2004; Handy, 2005). This empirical evidence suggests that substantial investments in traditional hub-and-spoke networks and fixed route services could not meet complex point-to-point flows and specific travel needs in low-density, automobile-dependent suburban and exurban markets (Urbitrans Associates and National Research Council, 2006). Indeed, bus rapid transit (BRT) services have been more flexibly and affordably adapted in less populated areas and/or less wealthy cities across North America, South America, and Australia, such as Los Angeles, Miami, Sydney, Adelaide, Bogota, San Paulo and Curitiba (Cervero, 1998; Levinson et al., 2003; Hensher and Golob, 2008; Bocarejo et al., 2013).

12.5.6 Transit-oriented development

Transit-oriented development (TOD) centers are increasingly reflected on the spatial agenda of many regional and local governments, notably in rapidly growing city-regions in North America, Australia, and China, aiming to encourage public transit usage and non-motorized travel by creating short-distance, high-density, and well designed built environments at key nodes of the urban transit network against automobile-dependent suburban markets around suburban and exurban highway interchanges (Calthorpe, 1993; Cervero et al., 2004; Zhang, 2007; Curtis, 2008; Curtis et al., 2009). The installation of TOD design into city and regional contexts is not a monotonous or "cookie-cutter" modeling process. A range of TOD packages (e.g., urban downtown, urban neighborhood, suburban center, suburban neighborhood, commuter town center, and neighborhood transit zone) need to be demonstrated to increase the spatial match between site conditions, business advantages, and lifestyle preferences in already automobile-dependent American city-regions (Dittmar and Ohland, 2004). TOD redevelopment areas are not solely defined as local government agendas or urban design concepts but rather as complex and dynamic spatial interactions between public policies and private practices (Bertolini, 1996; Bertolini and Split, 1998; Reusser et al., 2008; Curtis et al., 2009).

Even more entrepreneurial "value capture" approaches have been seen in a few wealthy Asian cities (see [TSU: Reference missing]). Private or privatized mass railway corporations in Hong Kong, Greater Tokyo, and Osaka-Kobe proactively developed and have managed large-scale, high-density, and well-mixed property packages with pedestrian-friendly built environments to capture increased capital gains through development rights sales and land readjustment projects (Cervero, 1998; Curtis et al., 2009; Cervero and Murakami, 2009), whereas public transit agencies in many North American cities usually take more modest and passive action on transit-supportive property development projects through betterment tax, impact/connection fees, and tax incremental financing schemes (Cervero et al., 2004; Dittmar and Ohland, 2004).

12.5.7 Urban regeneration projects

Urban regeneration projects are one of the major spatial strategies being chosen by global cities (e.g., New York, London and Tokyo) and "newly industrialized economies" (NIEs) in Asia (e.g., Hong Kong, Singapore and Seoul), which are competing for transnational capital flows (headquarters of

1 multinational corporations, foreign direct investments, value-added information and skilled labor
2 force) (The Urban Task Force, 1999; Castells, 2000; Fainstein, 2001; Sassen, 2001; Han, 2005; Shimizu
3 and Nishimura, 2007; Sorensen et al., 2009). The urban regeneration boom in recent years is largely
4 finance-driven through public-private partnerships. City government agencies typically place target
5 economic zones, development right sales, density bonuses with public space requirements, tax and
6 legal incentives, and/or road pricing schemes along with transit capital reinvestments, while private
7 developers apply real estate investment trusts (REITs) for infill/brownfield redevelopments and local
8 enterprise associates designate business improvement districts (BIDs) for high-amenity and
9 pedestrian-friendly built environment creations (Lloyd et al., 2003; Steel and Symes, 2005; Han,
10 2005; Ward, 2007; Jonas and McCarthy, 2009; Sorensen et al., 2009). While the entrepreneurial
11 nature of local governments has generated substantial private capital gains and public revenue
12 streams for major infrastructure projects, property-led densification and regeneration programs
13 have raised general concerns about housing price escalation and social segregation, notably in large
14 Chinese city-regions such as Beijing and Shanghai (Fainstein, 2001; Sassen, 2001; He and Wu, 2005;
15 Lees, 2008; Shin, 2009; Talen, 2010; McDonnell et al., 2011; Dave, 2011).

16 **12.5.8 Mixed income/affordable housing**

17 The provision of affordable/mixed income housing is an essential component of nearly all spatial
18 strategies to ensure the physical proximity and accessibility to regional/sub-regional employment
19 centers (Aurand, 2010), while urban regeneration policies basically increase both commercial and
20 residential property prices in cities' central areas, pushing lower-income households toward regions'
21 peripheral areas, raising the spatial imbalance between employment and population, and stretching
22 their commuting distances over the entire city-region. This spatial mismatch is not only in North
23 American city-regions but also in Chinese city-regions (Wang et al., 2011; Zhou et al., 2012). In
24 Shanghai, for instance, households resettled in peri-urban locations where affordable residential
25 properties are physically less integrated with rail transit stations, local feeder bus services, and high-
26 amenity built environments, lead to increased dependence on the private vehicle and/or acceptance
27 of long commuting times (Cervero and Day, 2008; Day and Cervero, 2010).

28 **12.5.9 Integrated transportation planning**

29 Integrated transportation planning and policy make transit-oriented business/lifestyle practices
30 possible and encourage more efficient employment/residential location choices by spatially
31 arranging zone- or network-based road pricing schemes, parking space restrictions, region-wide fare
32 integration, multimodal network connectivity, and local feeder/community circulation services to
33 meet diverse development types and complex travel demands (National Research Council, 2003;
34 Marsden, 2006; Loo, 2007; Weiner et al., 2008; Hidalgo, 2009; McDonnell et al., 2011; Condeço-
35 Melhorado et al., 2011; Barter, 2011; Tirachini and Hensher, 2012; Sharaby and Shiftan, 2012;
36 Shewmake, 2012). The world's most integrated transportation systems are in relatively small and
37 wealthy cities, such as Singapore and Copenhagen, where the city-state's master plans are highly
38 authoritative and the applications of advanced "smart" technologies for transportation demand
39 management are geographically feasible/politically acceptable under the city-state's coordination
40 and control (Cervero, 1998).

41 **12.5.10 Elevated highway deconstruction and roadway reductions**

42 The deconstruction of elevated highways and reduction of roadway lanes is an effective approach
43 for urban place-making, reordering the spatial priority of urban business districts from the "mobility"
44 of private vehicle drivers to the "accessibility" and "amenity" for public transit passengers and non-
45 motorized travelers. When accompanied by transit infrastructure investments, transit-oriented
46 developments and urban regeneration projects, and deconstructions are most effective for central
47 cities in service- and knowledge-based or "deindustrializing" economies (e.g., New York, Boston,
48 Portland and Milwaukee) (Cervero and Kang, 2011; Mohl, 2011). Empirical studies in downtown San
49 Francisco (Central Freeway and Embarcadero Freeway Deconstruction Projects) and downtown

1 Seoul (Cheong Gye Cheon Project) suggest that the spatial reprioritization for urban accessibility and
2 amenity increase both commercial and residential densities, and hence property prices, within
3 walkable distances from highway deconstruction sites (Cervero et al., 2009; Kang and Cervero,
4 2009).

6 **FAQ 12.3: What are the potential of human settlements to mitigate climate change, given their**
7 **relatively small land area?**

8 The spatial organization of human settlements is one of the major factors that determine energy use
9 and emissions through the layout of streets and buildings, land use mix, accessibility to jobs and
10 markets, infrastructure investments, and transportation corridors. Once in place, the basic spatial
11 structures of human settlements are difficult to change. As a system, human settlements can
12 increase the efficiency of infrastructure and energy use beyond what is possible with individual
13 sectoral components by reducing material and energy flows.

14 **12.6 Governance, institutions, and finance**

15 The governance and institutional requirements that are most relevant to the need to achieve change
16 in terms of the form, design, and connectivity of urban areas relate to spatial planning. The nature of
17 spatial planning varies significantly nationally. In most national contexts, a framework for planning
18 by sub-national (state and local) government is provided. Within these frameworks, different
19 degrees of autonomy are afforded to municipal authorities. Furthermore, there are often divisions
20 between land use planning (which is often organized hierarchically) where municipalities have a
21 remit for the zoning and control of land within their jurisdiction, and transportation planning (which
22 is either centrally organized or done in cross-cutting manner) in which municipal responsibilities are
23 often more limited. Nonetheless, spatial planning is regarded as one area where municipal
24 authorities usually have some formal powers and competencies that are of relevance to addressing
25 GHG emissions.

26 **12.6.1 Multi-level jurisdictional and integrated governance**

27 The urban governance of land use and transport planning does not however rest solely with
28 municipal authorities or with other levels of government. Increasingly, private sector developers are
29 creating their own strategies to govern the nature of urban development that exceed codes and
30 established standards. These strategies can relate both to the physical infrastructure being
31 developed (e.g. the energy rating of housing on a particular development) or take the form of
32 requirements or guides for those who will occupy new or refurbished developments (e.g., age limits,
33 types of home appliance that can be used, energy contracts, education about how to reduce GHG
34 emissions). Non-governmental organizations such as industry groups have also become important in
35 shaping urban development, particularly in terms of regeneration and the refurbishment or
36 retrofitting of existing buildings. This is the case, for example, in terms of community-based
37 organizations in informal settlements, as well as in the redevelopment of brownfield sites in Europe
38 and North America.

39 Taken together, these points suggest that the governance and institutional arrangements required
40 to move human settlements towards the principles of low carbon development would include the
41 following:

- 42 • An enabling multilevel governance context
- 43 • Spatial planning competencies in land use and transportation planning
- 44 • Institutional arrangements to integrate mitigation goals with existing urban agendas

- 1 • Modes of governance that realize municipal competency in terms of low carbon design
2 standards
- 3 • Significant roles for private and non-governmental sectors

4 There are however significant challenges in realizing these ambitions. Multilevel governance systems
5 often contain conflicting signals about the nature and purpose of land use and transport planning,
6 due to the different drivers upon the planning system and the multiple goals it is required to meet
7 (Bulkeley and Betsill, 2003, 2005; Gore, 2009). Even where there is a clear policy goal and where
8 competencies for municipal planning exist, realizing these ambitions in practice can be challenging
9 due to: 1) the historically embedded nature of existing urban forms; 2) the obdurate nature of
10 infrastructure, such that it persists over long time frames and can be difficult to retrofit or
11 reconfigure for new purposes (Hommels, 2005); 3) conflicts of interest, within and beyond the
12 municipality (Bulkeley and Betsill, 2005); 4) long-standing professional and political assumptions
13 about what constitutes “good” planning (Wilson and Piper 2010: 171); and 5) overt challenges to
14 social norms about what constitutes “normal” housing and the “good life”(Gore, 2009).

15 Municipal authorities have led urban climate change policy responses within a context of multilevel
16 governance (Bulkeley and Betsill, 2005; Gustavsson et al., 2009). Often in the absence of formal
17 authority or specific competencies, municipalities have used their self-governing and enabling
18 modes of governance to develop and implement climate policy (Bulkeley and Kern, 2006). This has
19 been promoted by the self-organization of municipalities in transnational and national networks
20 (Granberg and Elander, 2007; Holgate, 2007; Romero Lankao, 2007). These approaches, coupled
21 with the nature of available funding and growing interest in the opportunities of addressing climate
22 change in private and third sector organizations, have led to a new wave of strategic interest in
23 governing climate change in cities and an important role for partnerships and project-based or
24 ‘experimental’ forms of urban response (Castán Broto and Bulkeley; While et al., 2010; Hodson and
25 Marvin, 2010; Bulkeley and Schroeder, 2012). In short, ‘horizontal’ forms of multi-level governance
26 through networks and partnerships have been critical in producing urban climate change policy. In
27 contrast, there is more limited evidence that ‘vertical’ multi-level governance (in the form of
28 regional, national, and international agencies) has been explicitly engaged in promoting urban
29 responses but rather that this has created the ‘permissive’ or ‘restrictive’ context within which urban
30 responses have developed (Betsill and Bulkeley, 2006).

31 There is strong evidence that addressing climate change has become part of the policy landscape in
32 many cities and that municipal authorities have been able to reduce their own GHG emissions
33 (Wheeler, 2008; Krause, 2011a; b). There is more limited evidence that urban climate change policy
34 has achieved wider mitigation goals in terms of reducing GHG emissions at the urban scale, creating
35 new logics and practices for urban development that realize climate change objectives alongside
36 other urban goals, and achieving widespread ‘transitions’ to low carbon urban development (Hodson
37 and Marvin, 2010; Rosenzweig et al., 2011). Lessons from urban case-studies show that a wide
38 variety of approaches and measures can achieve policy goals but that a significant challenge remains
39 in ‘scaling up’ and ‘mainstreaming’ these approaches.

40 Where success has been forthcoming, critical factors include the competencies and mandate of
41 municipalities, financial resources, individual champions, political opportunities, and the realization
42 of co-benefits (Betsill and Bulkeley, 2007). Likewise, institutional, political-economic, and
43 infrastructural factors can explain the challenges that have been encountered in realizing policy
44 ambitions (Bulkeley, H, 2010, 2012).

45 As the urban climate agenda gathers pace, an important challenge remains in terms of addressing
46 the different capacities and responsibilities of urban communities to mitigate climate change. There
47 has been limited engagement with what ‘common but differentiated’ responsibilities for addressing
48 climate change means at the urban scale, and with the implications for how urban goals for climate
49 change should be differentiated between and within cities. There is an important role for the

1 international community and national governments in showing leadership with cities in establishing
2 appropriate goals and mandates for action across highly uneven urban landscapes.

3 **12.6.2 Institutional opportunities and barriers**

4 Broadly speaking, *institutional* factors can be regarded as those that shape the capacity of urban
5 institutions – both formal organizations, and more informal systems, codes and rules that guide
6 social action – to respond to climate change. These factors include issues of knowledge, financial
7 resources, and the ways in which responsibilities for action are allocated and shared between
8 different organizations. In terms of knowledge, the lack of expert capacity at the local level as well as
9 limited access to data at the appropriate scale have been regarded as significant barriers (Allman, L
10 et al., 2004; Lebel et al., 2007; Sugiyama and Takeuchi, 2008).

11 Where action has been forthcoming at the municipal scale, this has often reflected the ability for a
12 municipality to access dedicated (and often short-term) funding, including from national and
13 international agencies and through the establishment of dedicated financial mechanisms within the
14 city council to reinvest savings from energy efficiency programs. The resulting landscape of access to
15 knowledge and finance has been highly uneven, and is often regarded as a critical factor shaping
16 urban climate policy (Jollands, N, 2008; Sugiyama and Takeuchi, 2008; Setzer, J, 2009; Pitt, 2010).
17 Equally important have been issues about the ‘fit’ between urban jurisdictions and the scale of the
18 processes through which GHG emissions are produced, for example commuting in a metro area, and
19 the cross-sectoral nature of climate change as an issue on municipal agendas (Schreurs, 2008). Given
20 these challenges, vertical and horizontal forms of multilevel governance have been regarded as
21 critical in promoting or constraining collaboration and in providing both concrete resource and a
22 politically benign context within which to undertake municipal policy (Betsill and Bulkeley, 2007;
23 Granberg and Elander, 2007; Holgate, 2007; Romero Lankao, 2007; Betsill and Rabe, B.G., 2009).

24 Frequently, the prescription given for overcoming such institutional barriers is to generate more
25 capacity through the development of more knowledge, the provision of more resources, the
26 creation of new institutions, the enhancement of ‘good’ governance, or through the ceding more
27 autonomy to municipalities (Allman, L et al., 2004; Corfee-Morlot, J et al., 2009). The political factors
28 that shape urban responses to climate change mitigation can be broadly considered in terms of
29 issues of leadership, of opportunity, of co-benefits and of broader processes of political economy.
30 The presence of policy entrepreneurs or political leaders has been found to be a critical driver of
31 municipal responses, but in Durban, Mexico City, and São Paulo, their effectiveness was found to be
32 constrained by the wider contexts within which they operate (Romero Lankao, 2007; Setzer, J, 2009;
33 Aylett, A, 2010). Windows of opportunity in the urban context such as large-scale redevelopment
34 projects, conferences, sporting events or disasters –can function as a means through which such
35 barriers can be overcome.

36 Most fundamentally, the political challenges of addressing climate change in the city stem from the
37 ways in which the issue is regarded with respect to other key urban agendas. Where action has been
38 forthcoming this has been found to be due to the ability to ‘reframe’ or ‘localize’ climate change
39 with respect to the co-benefits that could be realized (Betsill, M, 2001). For example, in Canada,
40 “actions to reduce GHG emissions are also deeply connected to other goals and co-benefits such as
41 human health improvements through improved air quality, cost savings, adaptability to real or
42 potential vulnerabilities due to climate change, and overall improvements in short, medium and
43 long-term urban sustainability” (Gore, 2009). 2009). Other studies suggest that is this process of
44 reframing, ‘localizing’ or ‘issue bundling’ (Koehen, P, 2008) that has been effective in mobilizing
45 local action on climate change in cities in the global south, and that this will remain an important
46 aspect of building local capacity to act (Puppim de Oliveira, 2009).

12.6.3 Financing urban mitigation opportunities and barriers

Formulating and implementing plans for urban mitigation is predicated on the concerted effort of various level of governments which govern climate change related policies and objectives, a number of social actors, starting with citizens and communities and their associations and private sector organizations. A key need for such efforts, the financing of urban mitigation, can be drawn from a variety of resources some of which could be already devoted to urban development (Table 12.11). Local fiscal policies related to land-use, property and transportation investments are key tools which can be brought to bear by governments at various levels. In many industrialized countries, national and supra-national policies and programs have provided cities with the additional financing and facilitations for urban mitigation. Where the national commitment is lacking, state and municipal governments influence the mitigation initiative at the city scale. Cities in emerging economies are also increasingly engaging in GHG mitigation, but they often rely on international sources of funding to implement urban mitigation initiatives.

GHG abatement is generally pursued as part of the urban development efforts required to improve access to infrastructure and services in the fast-growing cities of developing countries, and to increase the livability of largely built-out cities in industrialized countries. Incorporating mitigation into urban development has important financial implications, as many of the existing or planned urban investments can be accompanied by requirements to meet certain carbon mitigation standards (OECD 2010). As decentralization has progressed worldwide (the average share of sub-national expenditure in OECD countries reached 33 percent in 2005), regional and local governments increasingly manage significant resources. Urban infrastructure investment financing comes from a variety of sources, including direct central government budgetary investments, intergovernmental transfers to city and provincial governments, revenues raised by city and provincial governments, the private sector or public-private partnerships, resources drawn from the capital markets via municipal bonds or financial intermediaries, risk management instruments, and carbon financing. Such sources provide opportunities for urban GHG mitigation initiatives (OECD 2010) but access to these financial resources varies from one place to another.

Table 12.11: Primary sources of financing for urban climate change mitigation

Budgetary allocations	Municipal revenues	Firms and households	Development aid
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supranational grants (e.g. EU) Federal or central Govt. budgetary allocations Transfers to state or provincial Govt. Capital markets for loans and bonds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Earmarked property taxes Land-value capture taxes Congestion and parking charges Salary surcharges for transportation Municipal bonds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self-financed investments Public-private partnerships Cap-and-trade programs Incentivized utility consumer loans Carbon financing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global Environment Facility Clean Development Mechanism, Joint Implementation Climate Technology Fund, other Funds Multilateral Development Banks

Local fiscal policy itself can restrict mitigation efforts. When local budgets rely on property taxes or other taxes imposed on new development, there is a fiscal incentive to expand into rural areas or sprawl instead of pursuing more compact city strategies (Ladd, 1998; Song, and Zenou, 2006). Metropolitan transportation policies and taxes also affect urban carbon emissions. Congestion charges reduce GHG emissions from transport up to 19.5 % in London, where proceeds are used to

1 finance public transport, thus combining global and local benefits very effectively (Beevers and
2 Carslaw, 2005). Parking charges have led to a 12% decrease of vehicle miles of commuters in US
3 cities, a 20% reduction in single car trips in Ottawa and a 38% increase of carpooling in Portland
4 (OECD, 2011).

5 **12.6.4 Land value capture and land governance**

6 Fiscal crises along with public investment, urban development, and environmental policy challenges
7 in both developed and developing countries have sparked interest in innovative financial instruments
8 to affect spatial development, including a variety of land-based techniques (Peterson, 2009). One of
9 these key financial/economic mechanisms is land value capture. Land value capture consists of
10 financing the construction of new transit infrastructures by the profits generated by the land value
11 price increase associated with the presence of the new infrastructure (Deweese, 1976; Benjamin and
12 Sirmans, 1996; Batt, 2001; Fensham and Gleeson, 2003; Smith and Gihring, 2006). Also called
13 windfall recapture, it is a local financing option by recouping a portion or all of public infrastructure
14 costs from private land betterments under the “beneficiary” principle. In contrast, value
15 compensation, or wipeout mitigation, is commonly viewed as a policy tool to alleviate private land
16 worsenments—the deterioration in the value or usefulness of a piece of real property—resulting from
17 public regulatory activities (Callies, 1979)(Hagmand and Mischynski, 1978). Classic concepts in
18 planning, economics and law have been proven to be effective spatial strategies in contemporary
19 contexts: urban growth management and regional planning/governance, public transit investment
20 and transit-oriented development, and urban regeneration and affordable housing projects (Ingram
21 and Hong, 2012).

22 Most studies of value capture financing for transit focus on U.S. cities, where low density
23 development and auto-dependency predominate, but studies have begun to emerge from
24 developing countries, where denser cities and a more even modal split can be found (Cervero et al.,
25 2004). Under both capitalistic and socialistic landholding systems, there are various ways to
26 implement the idea of value capture, including: land and property taxes, special assessment or
27 business improvement districts, tax incremental financing, development impact fees, public land
28 leasing and development right sales, land readjustment programs, joint developments and
29 cost/benefit sharing, connection fees), most typically for public transit projects (Smith, J and Gihring,
30 TA, 2006; Enoch et al., 2005; Bahl and Linn, 1998; Landis et al., 1991; Johnson and Hoel, 1985). There
31 is much evidence that public transit investments often increase land values around new and existing
32 stations (Debrezion et al., 2007; Du and Mulley, 2006)(Rodríguez, 2009).

33 The two most successful land value captures are Tokyo and Hong Kong metro systems. Tokyo has
34 been the world’s largest value capture process. The private railway corporations have constructed
35 new towns around railway stations throughout the suburbs of Tokyo, exploiting the land-value gains
36 in and around railway stations conferred by improved accessibility. This approach operated by a mix
37 of public, private, and quasi-private entities, is efficient (Cervero, 2008). Hong Kong is an extreme
38 case of the value capture application for sustainable transit financing and urban development. In
39 Hong Kong, the metro system “earns unsubsidized fare revenue sufficient to cover all costs,
40 including depreciation plus operating profit margin” thanks to value capture (Meakin, 1990).

41 (Cervero and Murakami, 2010) show that its entrepreneurial approach to public transit investments
42 along with well-integrated property development packages generate accessibility, amenity, and
43 agglomeration benefits and generates property price increases/substantial revenue streams for
44 public financing. From an equity perspective, a high-density city, depending heavily upon land-based
45 public-private financing, faces issues of real estate speculation and housing affordability. Ribeck
46 (2004) and Gihring (1999) finds that increasing taxes on land values discourages speculative activities
47 and urban sprawl, whereas decreasing taxes on building values reduces the costs of supplying
48 commercial and residential space. Thus, a value-capture, split rate tax can help integrate market

1 incentives with policy objectives: sustainable transit financing, affordable housing, and
2 environmental protection.

3 The net impacts of land/property taxation policies on urban sprawl are still arguable, especially in
4 the context of U.S. city expansions. Brueckner (2000) points out that the infrastructure-related tax
5 charged on new homeowners is less than the actual infrastructure costs generated by them;
6 however, the U.S. land-based financing distortion (e.g., inappropriate property tax on urban
7 accessibility and amenity) tends to depress the density of urban land development and the level of
8 urban capital improvements provided by private developers.

9 Bruckner and Kim (2003) further suggest that the property tax policies at the state and local levels
10 boost the spatial expansion of U.S. city-regions where substitution between housing and other
11 goods is low. On the other hand, Song and Zenou (2006) find that city size decreases by 0.4% if the
12 property tax increases by 1% by controlling population, income, agricultural rent, and transportation
13 expenditure variables across 448 U.S. urbanized areas. According to the empirical results, local
14 property tax can incentivize urban sprawl reduction under some transportation and land market
15 conditions. The reform of land/property taxation policies for sustainable infrastructure financing and
16 growth management is of particular importance in China. It has been argued that the current
17 development incentives in Chinese city-regions have generated government revenues to large-scale
18 infrastructure projects, provided public goods, and improved land use efficiency in urbanized areas
19 (Lichtenberg and Ding, 2009).

20

21 **Box 12.1: Low-carbon development opportunities and challenges in LDCs**

22 [TSU COMMENT TO REVIEWERS: Boxes highlighting further LDC-specific issues are included in other
23 chapters of the report (see chapter sections 1.3.1, 2.1, 6.3.6.6, 7.9.1, 8.9.3, 9.3.2, 10.3.2, 11.7, 16.8)
24 and a similar box may be added to the Final Draft of chapters, where there is none in the current
25 Second Order Draft. In addition to general comments regarding quality, reviewers are encouraged to
26 comment on the complementarity of individual boxes on LDC issues as well as on their
27 comprehensiveness, if considered as a whole.]

28 GHG emissions data and strategies for mitigation in developing countries have largely been limited
29 to large cities such as Lagos, Cairo, Dhaka, Johannesburg and Cape Town. The underlying
30 demographic transitions in LDCs are directly related to expansion of infrastructure, housing, and
31 transportation and likely to influence future emissions. Currently, no developing countries have
32 strategies and plans for low carbon growth at either national and city levels. Furthermore, few
33 developing country cities have completed GHG inventories. This makes it particularly challenging for
34 benchmarking and formulation of strategies for emissions reduction. Nearly all developing country
35 cities will experience high rates of population growth coupled with high rates of infrastructure
36 development in the next twenty years. These two trends will most likely raise city emissions.
37 Aggregated nationally and globally, this has potential to increase global emissions.

38 The enormous mitigation challenges in developing country cities also present numerous
39 opportunities. More than half of the urban areas expected to be in place in developing countries by
40 2030 have yet to be built. There are also many options for technology transfer and development of
41 low-carbon infrastructure, off-grid energy systems and decentralized systems for water-sewerage-
42 energy. 'Low-hanging' fruit transportation options have been piloted in South American and Asian
43 developing country cities. From non-motorized transport, Bus Rapid Transit to hybrid low-carbon
44 transportation systems of different modes, developing country cities have the opportunity to
45 leapfrog the carbon-intensive infrastructure deficit through implementing strategies for reduced
46 emissions (Rodríguez and Mojica, 2009).

47 With respect to material flows, especially biomass and nutrients, there are numerous options for
48 recycling and reducing material and energy flows. In many developing country cities, spatial planning

1 can be significantly strengthened in order to utilize urban form as a potential mitigation strategy.
2 However, many developing country cities, especially in Africa, planning institutions are weak or non-
3 existent, thereby further creating an opportunity for action.

4 Many of the strategies identified in this chapter may not apply to cities or settlements with low
5 levels of governance or weak institutions. Moreover, a major focus for developing country cities is to
6 address persistent poverty and development challenges. Yet, some mitigation benefits that can be
7 linked to desired development pathways. For example, for cities where most of the buildings and
8 infrastructure has yet to be developed, there are opportunities to align development and mitigation
9 strategies. One of the main challenges to formulating low-carbon policies in low developing country
10 cities is governance. Reconfiguring governance systems for climate change through structures,
11 institutional agency and financing remain a challenge that is likely to affect the entry points for low-
12 carbon policies.

13 **12.7 Urban climate mitigation: Experiences and opportunities**

14 **12.7.1 City climate action plans**

15 Since the IPCC 4th Assessment Report, thousands of cities around the world have implemented or are
16 developing climate change mitigation plans (Table 12.12). The numbers of cities that have signed up
17 to voluntary programs for GHG emission reductions has increased from fewer than 50 at the start of
18 the 1990s to several hundred by the early 2000s (Bulkeley and Betsill, 2003), and several thousand
19 by 2012 (Kern and Bulkeley, 2009; Pitt, 2010; Krause, 2011a). For example, in 2012 the European
20 Covenant of Mayors had over 3,800 members representing some 160 million Europeans; while in the
21 U.S., over 1,000 municipalities, representing approximately 30% of the country's population, have
22 formally committed to reduce local GHG emissions through their participation in one of several
23 climate-protection networks (Krause, 2011a). While the development of local climate policy has
24 historically been dominated by municipalities in the “North,” cities in the “Global South” are
25 increasingly engaging with the mitigation agenda (Romero Lankao, 2007; Pitt, 2010). This reflects at
26 least in part the expansion of transnational municipal networks in these regions and the changing
27 international politics of climate change.

28 For example, in Japan, the Global Warming Law and the Kyoto Protocol Target Achievement Plan
29 mandate that 1,800 municipal governments and 47 Prefectures prepare climate change mitigation
30 action plans (Sugiyama and Takeuchi, 2008). In other countries, the lack of federal governmental
31 leadership on climate change policy and local factors provide a political opportunity for city
32 governments to take leadership and devise city climate action plans. Between 2004 and 2007, 684
33 cities signed the U.S. Mayors' Climate Protection Agreement, representing 26% of the U.S.
34 population and accounting for 23% of the country's GHG emissions (Lutsey and Sperling, 2008).
35 Similarly, there are climate change efforts in many European cities despite a lack of national
36 legislation for emissions targets (Bulkeley and Kern, 2006). Cities in emerging economies are also
37 showing a willingness to engage in and develop climate plans via non-obligatory commitments.

38 Beyond these regional patterns, there is limited evidence that explains why some municipalities
39 rather than others have joined voluntary programs, often in the face of explicit national opposition
40 to climate change action (e.g. in the US and Australia). The majority of evidence has been collected
41 from “pioneer” municipalities, and concludes that the presence of policy entrepreneurs, windows of
42 opportunity provided by urban initiatives, and a permissive political context at the local level have
43 been critical to the development of local climate initiatives (Betsill and Bulkeley, 2007). Assessments
44 of a range of contextual variables have been made in the U.S., where some researchers have found
45 that a combination of vulnerability to climate change, low levels of contribution to the climate
46 change problem, and “civic capacity” (indicated by socioeconomic factors such as income, levels of
47 education, political support) can explain the likelihood of membership in the Cities for Climate
48 Protection campaign (Brody et al., 2008; Zahran et al., 2008). In contrast, other U.S.-based studies

1 **Table 12.12:** Climate change actions for selected cities. Municipal climate action plans incorporate a
 2 various sectors, actors, and GHG reduction targets in developing a comprehensive climate change
 3 mitigation strategies.

City	Mitigation actions																				
	Transport						Buildings				Energy				Waste		Waste water	Water supply	Land planning / Mixed use, land (explicitly indicated)	Green spaces	Education, Consumption awareness and others
	Public	Non-motorized	Hybrid / Electric / Efficient vehicles / Biofuels	Car pooling / car sharing / High Occupancy	Parking charges, road pricing, subsidies & other economic measures	Vehicle verification / Limits of emissions / filter requirement	Others	Energy efficiency	Building codes / Buildings renovation	Retrofitting	Financial measures (subsidies, incentives)	Others	Efficiency	Alternative Energies	Financial measures	Other					
NORTH AMERICA																					
Toronto (metro)	X	X			X	X		X	X	X											
Vancouver	X	X	X	X				X	X	X							X		X	X	X
Calgary	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X		X	X	X			X		X	X	
Evanston	X	X	X	X				X	X	X				X					X	X	X
Denver	X	X	X	X				X	X	X			X	X			X			X	
Chicago	X	X	X	X				X	X	X			X	X			X			X	X
Los Angeles	X	X	X					X	X	X			X	X			X		X	X	X
Miami	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X			X	X						X	X
New York City	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Berkeley	X	X	X	X				X	X				X	X			X	X		X	X
Belmont	X	X	X	X				X	X	X			X	X					X		X
Boulder	X	X		X				X	X	X	X		X	X							X
Pittsburgh	X	X	X		X		X		X	X	X			X	X			X	X	X	X
Piedmont	X	X						X	X	X			X	X					X	X	
Philadelphia	X	X	X		X			X	X	X		X	X	X				X		X	X
Portland	X		X					X	X	X	X		X	X					X	X	X
San Francisco	X	X	X	X				X	X	X			X	X			X				
Seattle	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X			X	X	X					X	X
Mexico City	X	X				X	X	X	X	X			X	X			X	X	X		
SOUTH AMERICA																					
Buenos Aires	X	X	X			X		X	X	X			X	X			X		X		
Rio de Janeiro	X	X	X			X		X		X			X	X			X	X		X	X
Sao Paulo	X	X	X					X	X	X			X	X			X	X		X	X
La Paz	X	X			X			X	X				X	X			X	X			
Quito	X	X						X					X	X			X	X	X	X	X
Montevideo*	X	X											X	X			X	X		X	X
Bogota	X	X	X						X	X							X			X	X
EUROPE																					
Brussels	X	X		X		X		X	X	X	X		X			X	X				X
Helsinki	X	X			X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X						X	X
Paris (Île de France)	X	X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X	X			X	X
Hamburg	X	X	X					X	X	X		X	X	X							X
Stuttgart	X	X						X	X	X			X	X			X				X
Athens	X	X			X		X	X	X				X	X	X		X	X			X
Rome	X	X											X			X	X				X
Rotterdam	X	X						X					X	X						X	X
Amsterdam	X	X		X	X		X	X	X				X	X			X				X
Oslo	X	X	X					X	X	X	X		X	X	X			X	X		X
Madrid	X	X						X	X	X			X	X			X			X	X
Barcelona	X				X	X		X	X	X						X					X
Stockholm	X	X						X					X		X						X

4
5

1 **Table 12.12: Continued**

City	Mitigation actions																							
	Transport						Buildings				Energy				Waste		Waste water	Water supply	Land planning / Mixed use land (explicitly indicated)	Green spaces	Education, Consumption awareness and others			
	Public	Non-motorized	Hybrid / Electric / Efficient vehicles / Biofuels	Car pooling / car sharing / High Occupancy	Parking charges, road pricing, subsidies & other economic measures	Vehicle verification / Limits of emissions / filter requirement	Others	Energy efficiency	Building codes / Buildings renovation	Retrofitting	Financial measures (subsidies, incentives)	Others	Efficiency	Alternative Energies	Financial measures	Other						Integrated waste management (avoiding waste, separation, reuse, composting, recycling)	Plastic management / reduction	Energy production
AFRICA																								
Cape Town	X						X	X	X	X			X	X	X			X			X	X	X	
Johannesburg	X	X	X				X	X		X	X		X	X			X		X			X	X	X
ASIA																								
Beijing	X	X	X		X		X	X				X	X		X								X	
Hong Kong	X	X	X		X		X	X		X		X	X	X	X							X	X	
Changwon	X	X					X	X		X		X	X	X			X	X	X			X	X	
Delhi	X	X	X		X		X	X	X			X	X				X	X	X	X		X	X	
Gorakhpur city*	X	X	X				X			X		X	X				X		X	X			X	
Surat*	X	X		X	X		X	X				X	X		X			X	X	X	X			
Indore*	X	X					X	X				X	X				X		X	X				
Semarang*	X		X				X	X				X	X	X			X		X	X	X	X	X	
Amman	X	X					X	X				X			X		X	X	X	X				
Sorgoson city	X				X		X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X	X	
Changwon	X	X	X				X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X	X	X			X	X	
Singapore city*	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Bangkok	X	X	X		X		X				X	X	X				X	X	X	X			X	
Tokyo	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X							X	
Nagoya																								
Kitakyushu	X	X	X		X		X	X	X			X	X	X			X	X			X		X	
Yokohama	X	X	X	X			X	X	X			X	X	X			X					X	X	
Da Nang*																					X	X	X	
CanTho*							X					X	X				X			X	X	X	X	
OCEANIA																								
Sydney	X	X			X		X					X	X				X				X	X	X	
Cairns	X	X		X			X	X	X			X	X				X		X	X		X	X	
Melbourne	X	X					X	X	X			X	X				X		X			X	X	
Brisbane	X	X	X		X		X	X	X			X	X				X		X	X	X	X	X	
Wellington	X	X	X				X	X	X			X	X				X				X	X	X	
Auckland	X	X		X			X	X	X			X	X				X			X	X	X	X	

2 have corroborated earlier case-study research findings that the political/institutional support within
 3 municipalities most clearly explains the adoption of climate change policies (Pitt, 2010) and to some
 4 extent the level of action being undertaken (Krause, 2011a).
 5
 6

7 **12.7.2 Cross-cutting goals**

8 Municipalities have developed a range of climate change strategy and action plans which are often
 9 cross-cutting in nature, but may not be well coordinated with urban land use and transportation
 10 policy or take into account other pressures and drivers in these policy domains. Where climate policy
 11 goals are more integrated with other policy sectors, there is some evidence that more ambitious
 12 goals have been set and specific sectoral policies have been changed. For example, in London the
 13 integration of climate change policy with the Greater London Plan led to changes in the planning
 14 requirements for the integration of renewable energy generation within developments over a
 15 certain size.

16 **12.7.3 Targets and timetables**

17 Across the different contexts within which climate change policy has been adopted at the municipal
 18 level, studies have identified similar policy approaches based on an ideal-model of developing GHG
 19 emissions inventories, setting targets and timetables for GHG emissions reductions, producing an
 20 action plan, implementation, and progress monitoring (Lutsey and Sperling, 2008; Alber and Kristine,

1 2011). This model has been advanced particularly by the ICLEI Cities for Climate Protection (CCP)
2 programme, with variations developed by Climate Alliance and C40, and in practice has often been
3 initially applied to the GHG emissions for which municipalities are directly responsible before being
4 extended to urban jurisdictions.

5 A central feature of municipal climate change responses is that targets and timetables have
6 frequently exceeded the ambition displayed at the international and national level. In the U.S.,
7 signatories to the Mayors Climate Protection Agreement have pledged to reduce GHG emissions by
8 7% below 1990 levels by 2012, in line with the target agreed upon in the Kyoto Protocol for the U.S.
9 (Krause, 2011b). In Europe and Australia, several municipalities have adopted targets of reducing
10 GHG emissions by 20% by 2020 and long-term targets for radically reducing GHG emissions,
11 including “zero-carbon” targets in the City of Melbourne and Moreland (Victoria), and a target of
12 80% reduction over 1990 levels by 2050 in London (Bulkeley, H, 2009). This is not an approach that
13 has been confined to cities in more developed economies. For example, in Cape Town a target of
14 increasing energy efficiency within the municipality by 12% by 2010 has been set (Holgate, 2007),
15 and Mexico City has implemented a target of reducing GHG by 12% below 1990 levels by 2012
16 (Romero Lankao, 2007).

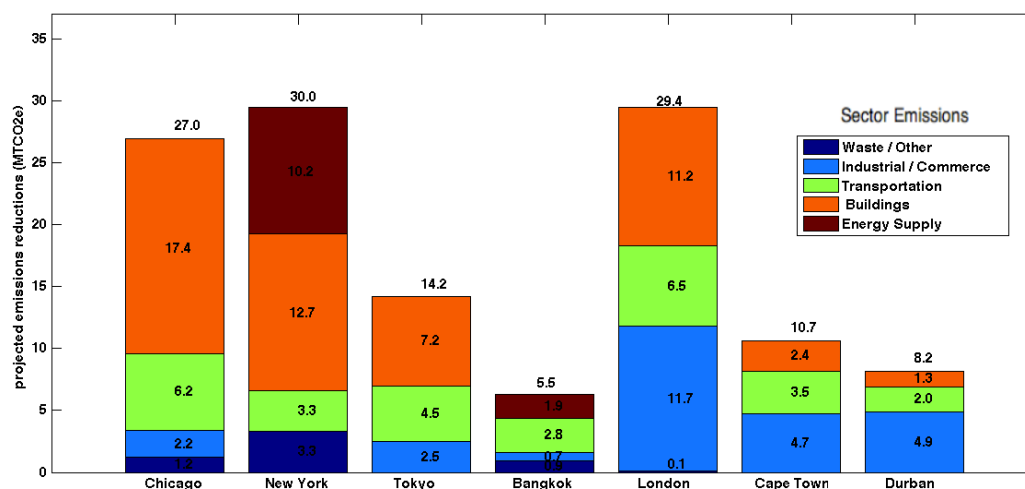
17 Tokyo’s climate action plan presents clear targets supplemented by mandatory local law, scientific
18 accounting of GHG, actions and institutional capacity. In contrast, Delhi’s climate agenda is largely a
19 preliminary attempt to develop climate actions as the city confronts the need to deal with other
20 basic priorities. For example, the Delhi Climate Change Agenda only reports Delhi’s CO₂ emissions
21 from power, transport and domestic sectors as 22.49 MtCO₂ for 2007-8 (SOE Delhi, 2010) while the
22 contribution of the commercial sectors and industries comprise a larger share of the city’s total
23 emissions. Furthermore, Delhi’s climate action plan lacks clear GHG reduction targets, analysis of the
24 total carbon reductions projected under the plan, and a strategy for how to achieve their emissions
25 goals. Similar limitations are apparent in climate mitigation plans for other global cities such as
26 Bangkok and Jakarta (Dhakal and Poruschi, 2010). For many cities in developing countries a reliable
27 city GHG inventory may not exist, making the climate change actions largely symbolic. However,
28 these city action plans provide a foundation for municipal engagement in mitigation initiatives while
29 building momentum for collective action on a global scale.

30 **12.7.4 Climate action plan implementation**

31 There is considerable variation in the nature and quality of climate change plans that have been
32 developed in order to address local policy goals, particularly when it comes to specifying the detail of
33 actions and approaches to implementation (Wheeler, 2008; Tang et al., 2011; Bulkeley and
34 Schroeder, 2012). Urban climate action plans focus on a large range of potential initiatives across
35 sectors as varied as land use planning, transportation, energy, waste, built environment (Schreurs,
36 2008; Wheeler, 2008). Despite this variation, attention has tended to focus on issues of energy
37 efficiency, particularly in the built environment (Bulkeley and Kern, 2006). Energy efficiency is a
38 particularly potent issue, as it can “advance diverse (and often divergent) goals in tandem” (Rutland
39 and Aylett, 2008), serving to translate various interests into those concerning climate change and
40 effectively forging new partnerships. In contrast, there has been less engagement by municipalities
41 with sectors such as energy and water supply that often lie outside their jurisdiction (Bulkeley and
42 Kern, 2006; Arup, 2011) or with the GHG emissions embodied in present patterns of urban resource
43 use and consumption (Figure 12.20) (Rutland and Aylett, 2008; Dodman, 2009).

44 Despite the implementation of comprehensive climate action plans and policies, progress for cities in
45 developed countries is slow and the achievability of emissions targets remains uncertain. Although
46 municipalities often highlight progress on climate mitigation projects, the impacts of these initiatives
47 may not be evaluated. In Germany, nearly 75% of cities with a GHG target established their
48 emissions goals based on national or international metrics rather than local analysis of mitigation

1 options (Sippel, 2011). There, cities' mitigation reduction performance is largely correlated to the
 2 national performance.



3
 4
 5 **Figure 12.20.** Sector-based GHG emission reductions targets for select global cities. Source: (GLA,
 6 2007; Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning, 2010; *Bangkok Metropolitan Administration Action*
 7 *Plan on Global Warming Mitigation 2007-2012*, 2007, *Cape Town Energy and Climate Change*
 8 *Strategy*, *PlaNYC 2030: A Greener, Greater New York*, 2011; TMG, 2008; ASSAF, 2011)

9 12.7.5 Citizen participation and grass-root initiatives

10 Household responses to mitigation programs such as car-pooling or use of solar power influences
 11 the likelihood of their success. In particular, public awareness of climate change impacts the extent
 12 to which households and civic groups invest time, energy and money in mitigation activities (Kates
 13 and Wilbanks, 2003). This can be encouraged through education, awareness building, persuasion
 14 and promotion by civil society groups and governments, targeted at locations such as local schools
 15 (Alber and Kristine, 2011). Peer pressure through community monitoring can also help build social
 16 capital of local urban communities to follow mutually agreed upon policies for climate change
 17 mitigation (Ostrom, 2010).

18 The degree of citizen participation in piloting urban mitigation initiatives can influence their long
 19 term impact. In many cities such as Cape Town, South Africa, local organizations have been
 20 influential in enabling city planners and parastatal organizations to provide people-centered
 21 programs for urban mitigation through ecosystem restoration (Ernstson et al., 2010). Similar urban
 22 conservation and mitigation programs are found in many parts of the world, yet often dominated by
 23 middle class residents, sometimes excluding vulnerable and poor sections of society from decision
 24 making and benefit-sharing (D'Souza and Nagendra, 2011).

25 Civil society organizations include workers' associations. In many developing country cities, waste
 26 pickers indirectly assist in mitigation by recycling materials that would otherwise be disposed of in
 27 landfills and incinerators. In Delhi, informal waste pickers contribute an estimated net GHG
 28 reduction of 962,133 tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (TCO e) each year (Chintan, 2009). Organized
 29 into cooperatives and associations, waste pickers in Brazil have developed partnerships with city
 30 governments to improve access to waste, better prices and better facilities that improve working
 31 conditions while increasing their contribution to mitigation (Fergutz, Dias and Mitlin 2011).

12.8 Sustainable development, co-benefits, tradeoffs, and spillovers

Efforts to address GHG emissions from human settlements interact both positively and negatively with many aspects of sustainable development. Key urban mitigation strategies related to land use, urban design, buildings, infrastructure, and in particular, transport are often key elements of urban sustainability agendas, but some strategies may involve trade-offs with other climate adaptation or sustainability goals, or may have adverse spillover effects. The potential trade-offs and spillover effects of urban mitigation strategies require special attention when they affect vulnerable populations, such as the urban poor. The sections on the urban heat island effect and green urban sinks illustrate the interaction of mitigation strategies with adaptation and sustainable development strategies.

12.8.1 Co-benefits and adaptation synergies of mitigating the Urban Heat Island

The urban heat island effect illustrates the co-benefits and trade-offs among sustainable development, climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies in settlements. The urban heat island (UHI) effect, in which urban areas are warmer than surrounding areas has been observed since at least 1833 (Myrup, 1969). The UHI occurs in part due to absorption of solar radiation by dark surfaces such as roofs and pavement and re-radiation from urban structures (RIZWAN et al., 2008). In dense cities such as Tokyo, the density of heat discharge within the city by buildings due to air conditioners is high and energy can contribute to increases of 3-4 °C in temperature (Dhakal and Hanaki, 2002).

The UHI presents a major challenge to urban sustainability. Not only does UHI increase the use of energy for cooling buildings and thermal discomfort in urban areas, but UHI also increases smoggy days in urban areas, with smog health effects present above 32 degrees C (Akbari et al., 2001). Proven methods for cooling the urban environment include urban greening, increasing openness to allow cooling winds (Smith and Levermore, 2008), and using more “cool” or reflective materials that absorb less solar radiation, i.e., increasing the albedo of the surfaces (Akbari et al., 2008; Akbari, 2010). Reducing UHI is most effective when considered in conjunction with other environmental aspects of urban design, including solar/daylight control, ventilation and indoor environment, and streetscape (Yang et al., 2010). Calculations based upon physical principles indicate that the effect of substituting cool materials is significant, resulting in cooler temperatures. In addition to white roofs or pavements, a range of cool materials in a variety of colors have been developed which reduce absorption of solar radiation. On a global scale, increasing albedos of urban roofs and paved surfaces is estimated to induce a negative radiative forcing equivalent to offsetting about 44 Gt of CO₂ emissions (Akbari et al., 2008).

Reducing summer heat in urban areas has several co-benefits. Electricity use in cities increases 2-4% for each 1 degree C increase in temperature, due to air conditioning use (Akbari et al., 2001). Lower temperatures reduce energy requirements for air conditioning (which may result in decreasing greenhouse gas emissions from electricity generation, depending upon the sources of electricity), reduce smog levels (Rosenfeld et al., 1998), and reduce the risk of morbidity and mortality due to heat and poor air quality (Harlan and Ruddell, 2011). Cool materials decrease the temperature of surfaces and increase the lifespan of building materials and pavements (Santero and Horvath, 2009; Synnefa et al., 2011).

The projected temperature increases under climate change will disproportionately impact cities already affected by UHI, thereby increasing the energy requirements for cooling buildings and increasing urban carbon emissions, as well as air pollution. In addition, there is likely to be an increase in cities experiencing UHI as a result of projected increases in temperature under climate change, which will result in additional global urban energy use, GHG emissions, and local air pollution. As reviewed here, studies indicate that several strategies are effective in decreasing the UHI. An effective strategy to mitigate UHI through increasing green spaces, however, can potentially

1 conflict with a major urban climate change mitigation strategy, increasing densities to create more
2 compact cities. This illustrates the complexity of developing integrated and effective climate change
3 policies for urban areas.

4 **12.8.2 Urban carbon sinks**

5 Urban carbon sinks include a variety of vegetation types including urban forests, wetlands, parks,
6 grasslands and green roofs. In addition to carbon sequestration, they can provide co-benefits for
7 adaptation, by offering ecosystem services that include the provision of shade and cooling, rainwater
8 interception and infiltration, reduction in pollution, biodiversity support, and enhancement of
9 wellbeing (Heynen et al., 2006; Gill et al., 2007; McDonald, 2008). They have a high capacity to
10 reduce urban carbon footprints. Estimates in Hangzhou, China, indicate that urban forests can
11 annually offset 18.6% of industrial C emissions (Zhao et al., 2010), although other studies in Leipzig,
12 Germany indicate that the mitigation provided by urban green spaces is limited in comparison to the
13 extent of urban emissions (Strohbach, Arnold and Haase 2012).

14 Most studies that assess the extent of carbon sequestration in cities have been conducted in
15 western countries, and limited information is available for cities outside Europe and the US. In the
16 US, urban forests are estimated to sequester an average of 25.1 t C ha⁻¹ above ground, less than half
17 of that for forest stands (Nowak, D.J. et al., 2002). The total organic carbon sequestered in urban
18 vegetation and soils can be as high as 115.6 t ha⁻¹ in the US, much greater than those of rural forest
19 soils. In European cities, above ground C sequestration is estimated to be an average of 31.6 t ha⁻¹ in
20 Leicester, UK (Davies et al., 2011), 11.8 t ha⁻¹ in Leipzig, Germany (Strohbach and Haase 2012), and
21 11.2 t ha⁻¹ in Barcelona, Spain (Chaparro and Tarradas 2009). In the South Korean cities of
22 Chuncheon, Kangleung and Seoul, mean above and belowground carbon storage is estimated to be
23 much lower, ranging from 4.7 to 7.2 t ha⁻¹ (Hyun-kil, 2002), while in Hangzhou, China, above ground
24 carbon sequestration is estimated to be much higher, 30.3 t ha⁻¹ (Zhao et al., 2010). Thus there are
25 considerable differences between reported values from different cities. It is difficult to establish
26 comparisons, in part due to the differences in methodologies of estimation, but mainly due to
27 critical differences in the definition of urban areas, with some city studies including natural forests,
28 parks and built areas within urban boundaries, while others focus mainly on urban forests.

29 Most studies conclude that areas dominated by tree cover (mainly urban forests) offer the greatest
30 potential for mitigation. Here, differences in the vegetation type seem to impact the degree of
31 carbon sequestration possible, with above ground carbon sequestration in urban forests and
32 wooded areas ranging from 30.25 t ha⁻¹ in Hangzhou and 33.3 t ha⁻¹ in Barcelona (Chaparro and
33 Tarradas 2009) to 98.26 t ha⁻¹ in Leipzig (Strohbach and Haase 2012) and 288.6 t ha⁻¹ in Leicester, UK
34 (Davies et al., 2011) - although some of these differences could also be attributed to variations in
35 methodologies for assessment. Yet, the long term impacts of such mitigation will be impacted if
36 trees are pruned or cut, and wood is disposed of through burning or other means. Assumptions of
37 tree growth and mortality rates can thus add significant uncertainty to estimates of long term
38 carbon sequestration. In Leipzig, for instance, studies have shown that an increase in tree mortality
39 rates from 0.5% to 4% annually can decrease carbon sequestration by as much as 70% (Strohbach et
40 al. 2012).

41 In addition to carbon sequestration, urban vegetation can contribute to indirect mitigation by
42 reducing airborne pollution (Brack, 2002) - although plants can also rarely become a source of
43 pollution through pollen and the emission of volatile organic compounds (Yang et al., 2008). Tree
44 planting also provides significant overall mitigation benefits by reducing overall energy consumption
45 (Akbari and Konopacki, 2005; Pataki et al., 2006), resulting in as much as 6-7 °C reductions in midday
46 temperatures (Pauleit and Duhme, Friedrich, 2000; Whitford et al., 2001). The indirect mitigation
47 benefits provided by urban forests depend on the species, size, and location. Large trees provide
48 increased shade and capacity to reduce air pollution. Evergreen species provide year round cooling

1 in the tropics, but can be less useful in temperate climates where they may shade out the winter sun
2 (Brack, 2002).

3 Lawns and turfgrass constitute common urban features, and provide some, albeit limited
4 opportunities for C sequestration. Golf courses in the US have average annual rates of sequestration
5 of 0.9-1 t C ha⁻¹ during the first 25-30 years after establishment (Qian, Yaling and Follet, Ronald F.,
6 2002). Carbon sequestration in urban lawns and turfgrass soils can substantially surpass initial levels
7 in less than two decades and exceed those of production agriculture and tallgrass prairie, due to
8 intensive management, irrigation and fertilization (Qian, Yaling and Follet, Ronald F., 2002). Green
9 roofs and green walls provide another, currently limited but fast growing category of urban green
10 space with potential for large scale modification through planting (Yang et al., 2008; Getter et al.,
11 2009).

12 However, in practice the net positive or negative contributions to global warming of these different
13 types of urban green spaces will depend on the carbon “cost” of establishment in terms of the
14 embodied energy of the installed components, the energy costs of maintenance and management
15 practices, the degree of application of inorganic fertilizers, and possible emissions of greenhouse
16 gases due to fertilizer application (Nowak, D.J. et al., 2002; Kaye et al., 2004; Bijoor et al., 2008;
17 Townsend-Small and Czimczik, 2010). Intensively managed urban green spaces often require the
18 frequent use of fuel-operated machinery, and regular visits for watering and maintenance, leading to
19 increased fuel combustion. The application of fertilizers, pruning and removal of dead and
20 dangerous branches and trees can also lead to increased emissions, although the manner in which
21 removed wood is used impacts the net carbon accounting. Leaf fall from trees reduces above ground
22 carbon sequestration, but can contribute to an increase in soil organic carbon. Green roofs and
23 urban forests therefore may only be able to compensate for the C expenditure incurred during
24 planting, installation and establishment a few years after establishment (Sailor, D.J., 2008; Stoffberg
25 et al., 2010).

26 There is significant potential for increasing the carbon storage in cities. In Leicester, for instance, a
27 10% increase in planting in areas with herbaceous cover could increase above ground C storage by
28 12% (Davies et al., 2011). In Tshwane, South Africa, a large scale plantation of over 115,000 street
29 trees between 2002-2008 has had the potential to sequester 54,630 tonnes C by the year 2032
30 (Stoffberg et al., 2010). Since exurban areas have a greater proportion of green cover compared to
31 urban areas, low density urbanization may also lead to an enhancement in regional CO₂ uptake
32 (Zhao, Tingting et al., 2007; Churkina et al., 2010). Land use, spatial planning and zoning issues will
33 have significant influence on the extent and spatial distribution of urban carbon sinks, impacting
34 mitigation. Yet urban planners rarely pay sufficient attention to the importance of urban green
35 spaces. Thus, the area and capacity of urban carbon sinks have grown or shrunk in different ways in
36 different parts of the world, based on the nature of urban growth and attitudes towards
37 urbanization (Escobedo et al., 2006; Pincetl, 2009; Nagendra and Gopal, 2010; Davies et al., 2011).
38 Currently, there is a significant gap in knowledge about cities outside the US and Europe.

39 12.9 Gaps in knowledge

40 There are five significant gaps in knowledge. First, there is a lack of available, consistent, and
41 comparable emissions data at local scales. Although some emissions data collection efforts are
42 underway, they have been undertaken primarily in large cities in developed countries. The lack of
43 baseline data makes it particularly challenging to assess the efficacy of individual climate action
44 plans.

45 Second, there is little consistency and no consensus on local emissions accounting methods.
46 Different accounting protocols yield significantly different results, making cross-city comparisons of
47 emissions or climate action plans difficult. There is a need for standardized methodologies for local-
48 or urban-level carbon accounting.

1 Third, local and urban governments and civil society are taking leadership to reduce carbon
2 emissions, but there are few evaluations of these urban climate action plans and their effectiveness.
3 There is no systematic accounting to evaluate the efficacy of city climate action plans (Zimmerman
4 and Faris, 2011). Studies that have examined city climate action plans conclude that they are unlikely
5 to have significant impact on reducing overall emissions (Millard-Ball, 2012; Stone et al., 2012).
6 Another major limitation to local or city climate action plans is their limited coordination across city
7 sectors and administrative/hierarchical levels of governance and lack of explicitly incorporating land-
8 based mitigation strategies. Successful local climate action plans will require coordination,
9 integration, and partnerships among community organizations, local government, state and federal
10 agencies, and international organizations (Yalçın and Lefèvre, 2012; Zeemering, 2012).

11 Fourth, there is also a lack of scientific understanding on how cities can prioritize climate change
12 mitigation strategies, local actions, investments, and policy responses that are locally relevant. Some
13 cities will be facing critical vulnerability challenges, others will be in the “red zone” for their high
14 levels of emissions. Local decision-makers need clarity on where to focus their actions, and avoid
15 dispersing efforts in policies and investments which are not essential. There is little scientific basis
16 for identifying the right mix of policy responses to address local and urban level mitigation and
17 adaptation. Such policy packages will be based on the characteristics of cities and urbanization and
18 development pathways, but also on the forecasting of future climate and urbanization. They will be
19 aimed at flexing the urban- and settlement-related “drivers” of emissions and vulnerability in order
20 to ensure a less carbon-intensive and more resilient future for cities.

21 Fifth, there are large uncertainties as to how future human settlements and cities will develop in the
22 future. By the end of the 21st century, the global population is expected to increase by 3 billion, with
23 a majority of the growth in urban areas. There is strong scientific evidence that emissions vary across
24 human settlements, and that urban form, metabolism, and governance play large roles in
25 determining these relationships. How the human settlements of tomorrow are developed, built, and
26 managed will have significant impacts on local, and ultimately global emissions.

27

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