The image is a highly complex digital artwork. It features a dense, multi-colored pattern of wavy, horizontal lines in shades of red, yellow, green, cyan, and magenta. These lines create a sense of depth and movement, resembling a distorted or warped perspective. In the center-right, there is a structure that looks like a multi-story building or a cityscape, rendered in a similar distorted, pixelated style. The overall effect is one of intense digital noise and visual complexity.

THERE IS NO CITY

FLUCTUATING  
DENSITY

# density

has been an ever evolving factor in the field of architecture. The explosive development of human capacities (technological, economical, etcetera) has caused

an exponential growth of **population** the last 80 years. cities of prosperous countries were the first to be burdened with the demand of accommodating the **immense speed** of this growth, but nowadays even the less developed parts of the world face this tidal wave of people. By

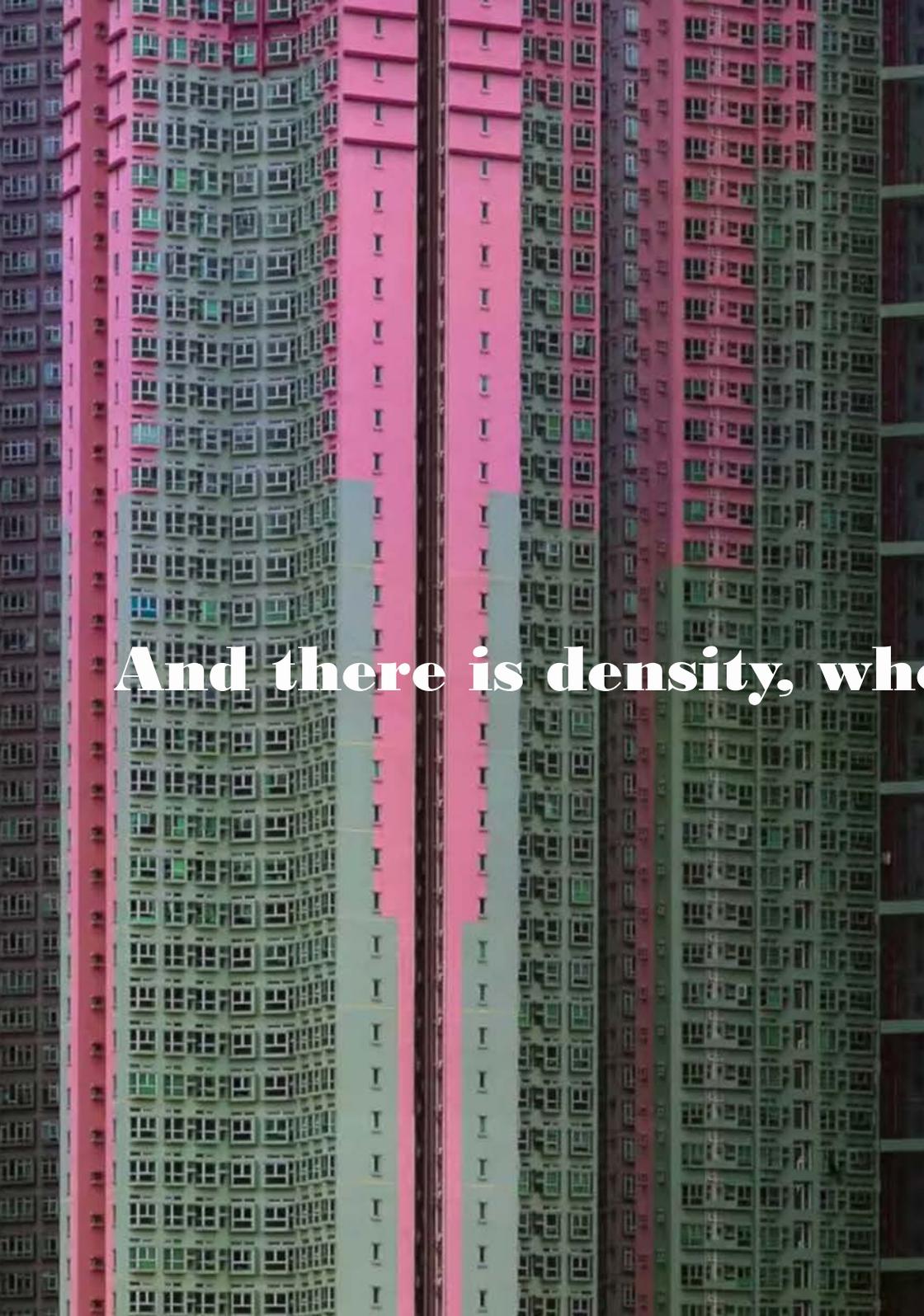
**2050** we will be forced to contend with an estimated amount of 9 billion people. How will cities keep up with the rapid

# growth?





**GROWTH**



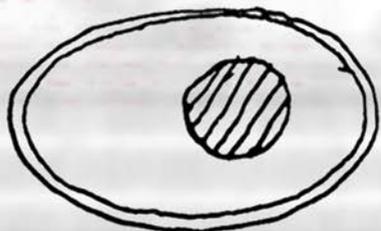
**And there is density, wh**



**ere the entity disappears**

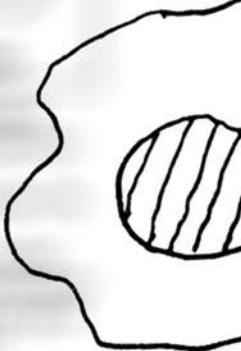
# THE CITY AS AN

boiled



ANCIENT

fried

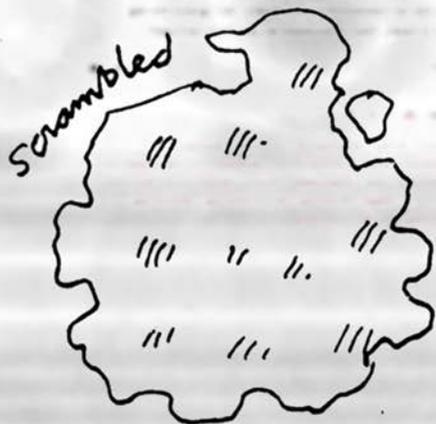


17-19

EGG



9 CENT.



MODERN

Shanghai  
1990



Shanghai  
2010



**Cities are growing**

# Dubai 1991

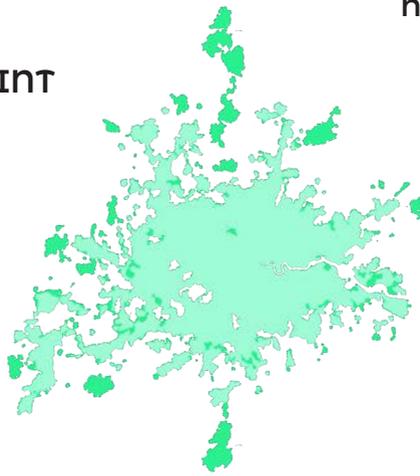


# Dubai 2004



g faster than ever

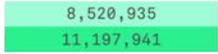
## URBAN FOOTPRINT



0 15 30 45KM

1990 2015

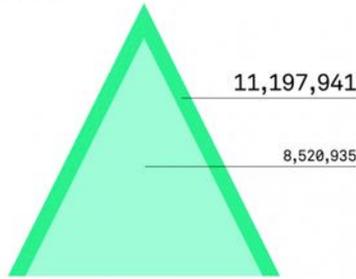
Population



Population growth  
 Footprint increase  
 Change of open space  
 Change in population density

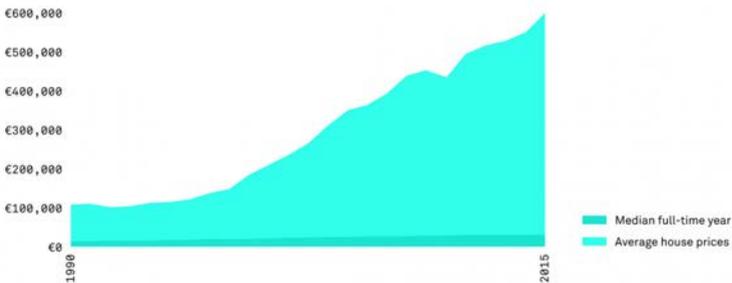


## HOW MANY RESIDENTS



1990 2015

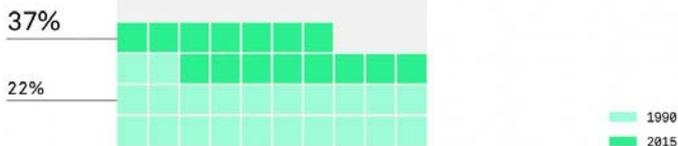
## SPIRALING HOUSING PRICES



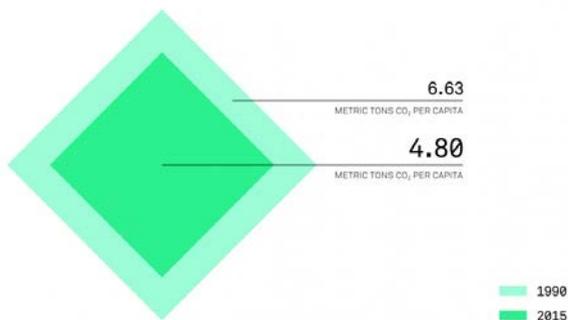
with the rapid growth?

# Don

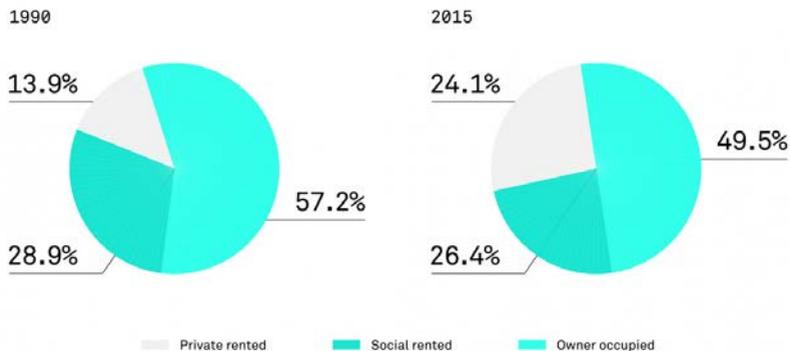
## FOREIGN BORN



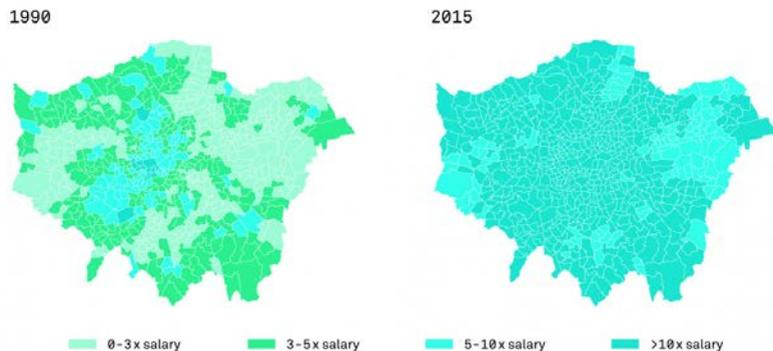
## POLUTING POWER



## WHO LIVES WHERE



## UNAFFORDABLE LONDON



# ADDIS

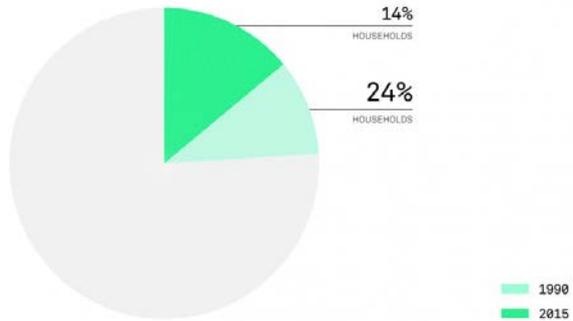
## SLUM CONDITIONS



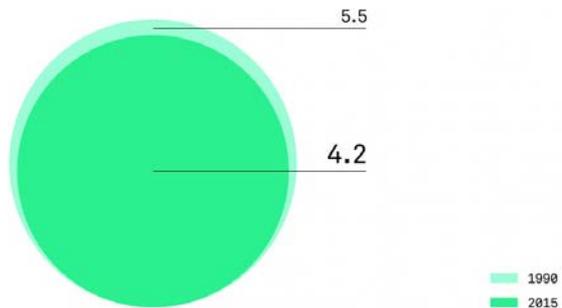
## INVESTING IN HOUSING



## BASIC FACILITIES

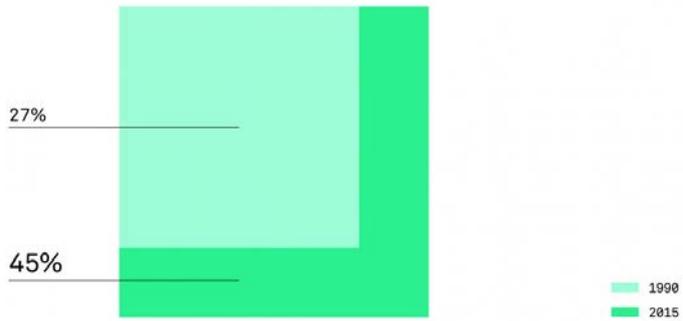


## FAMILY SIZE

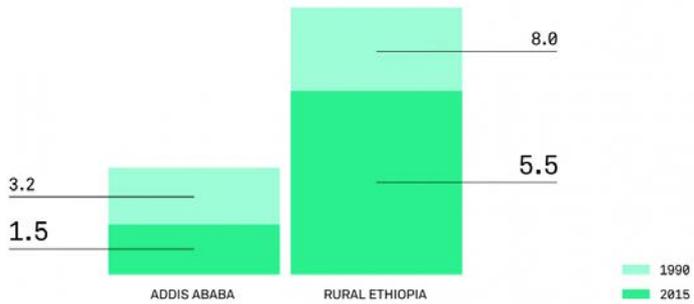


# ABABA

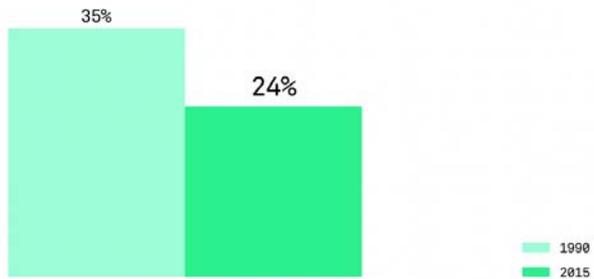
## CITY OF YOUTH



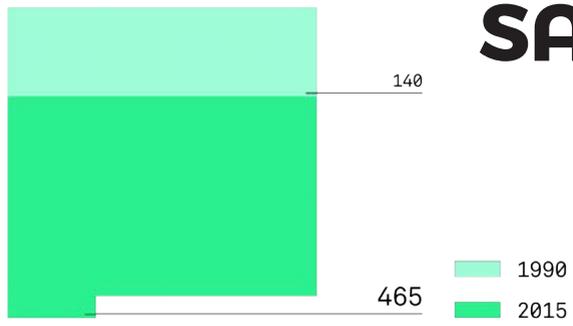
## FAMILY SIZE



## SECURING WORK



## CAR POWER

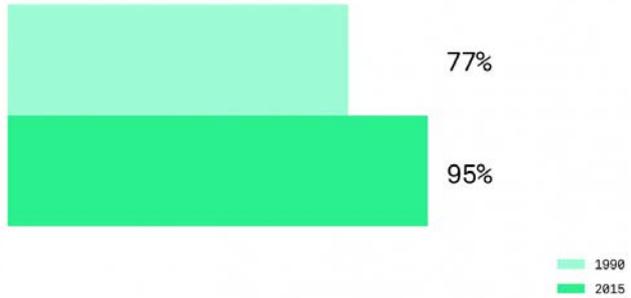


# SAO P

## DAILY COMMUTING



## IMPROVING LITERACY



## PUSHED TO THE EDGES

1990  
POPULATION  
5,047,951



2015  
POPULATION  
9,821,876



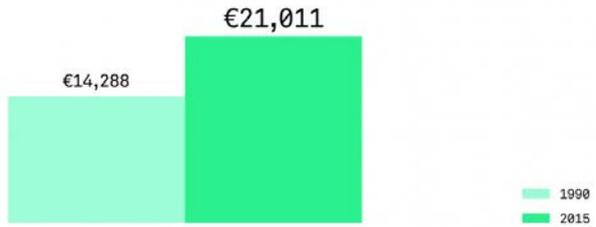
-10% - 0%

0% - 2.5%

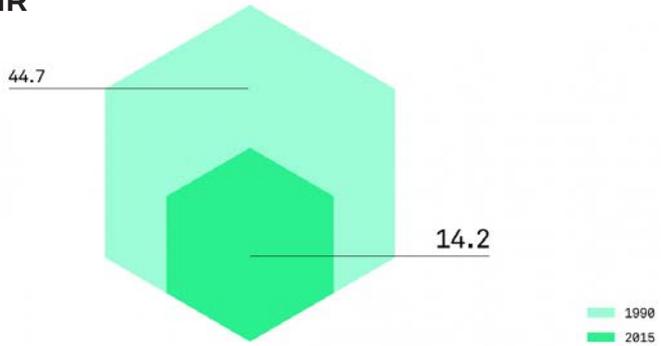
3.5% - 2.5%

# PAULO

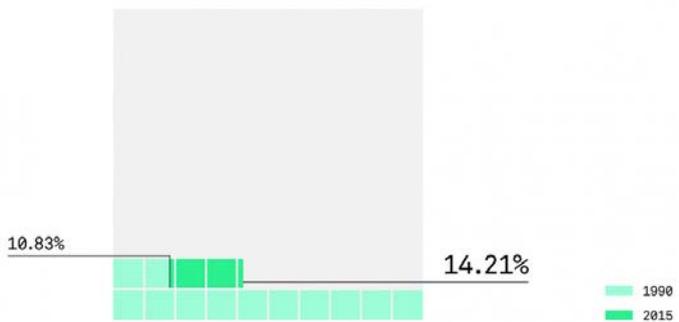
## EARNING POWER



## LIVING IN FEAR



## VULNERABLE URBANISATION





## CITY SMOG

### Killer Smog

- 656,000 Chinese die prematurely each year
- living in the capital causes a 49% increase in lung cancer and 32% increase in heart disease deaths



## CAGES PEOPLE

### Socail conflict

- cage people
- mass marriage
- the ratio of the poor to rich is increasing
- birth control
- contrating realities



## CAPSULES

### Energy Consumption

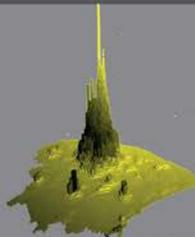
- No central heating system,
- only airconditioning which pol-luts and heat up the enviroment.



## NEXT GENERATION IS COMING SOON



central  
24.673  
people/m<sup>2</sup>



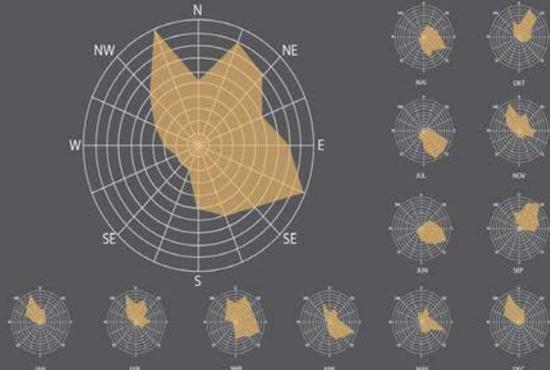
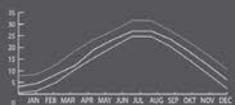
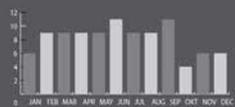
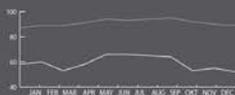
## BETWEEN DENSITY AND POLLUTION



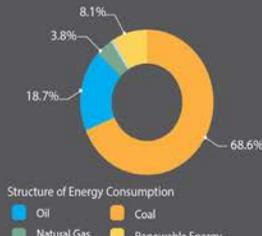
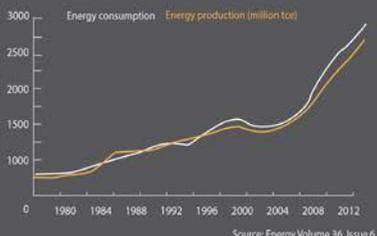
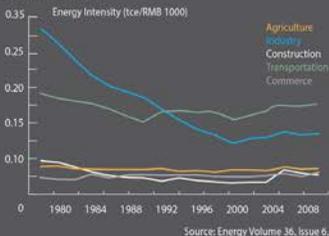
# A PLACE WITH ENOUGH SPACE

Shanghai has always been a source of attraction for people living in suburbs and villages, and im-migration has increased dramatically through the years making the amount of people living in the cities ascend from 10% in 1900, to 50 % in 2012 and 75% later in 2050

With urban populations, and global demand on goods skyrocketing, it is imperative that new strategies be employed to meet the human needs. To satisfy the global demand a big amount of production will be required



## ENERGY

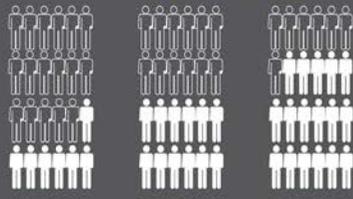


## DENSITY

**6,340.5 km<sup>2</sup>** Area of Shanghai

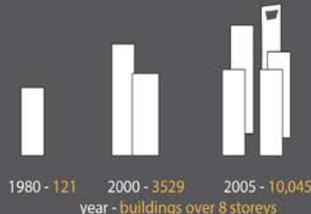
**23,019,148** Population

**8x** Population increase since 1920

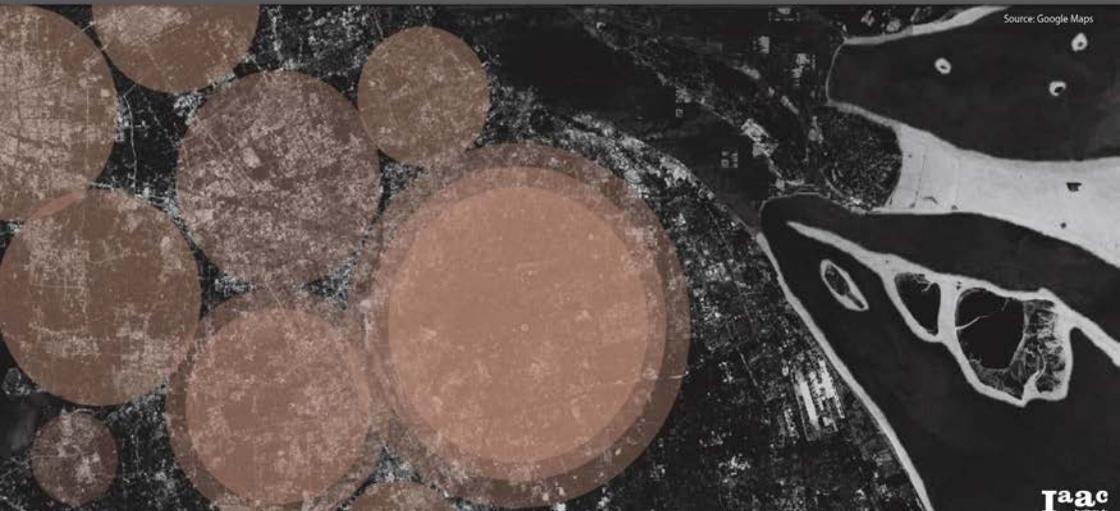


1960 | 38 %  
2008 | 52 %  
2050 | 70 %  
Population living in the City

**16m<sup>2</sup>**  
Space/pers



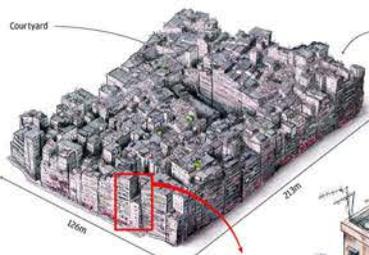
**26,000**  
People/km<sup>2</sup> compared to  
4,800 people/km<sup>2</sup> in  
London



Source: Google Maps

# City of anarchy

Kowloon Walled City, located not far from the former Kai Tak Airport, was a remarkable high-rise squatter camp that by the 1980s had 50,000 residents. A historical accident of colonial Hong Kong, it existed in a lawless vacuum until it became an embarrassment for Britain. This month marks the 20th anniversary of its demolition.



Without municipal services, there was no rubbish collection. Old television sets, broken furniture, discarded mattresses and other bulky items were hauled to the roof and abandoned

Other rooftops were used for exercise, playgrounds, relaxing and even pigeon racing

There were 77 wells inside the city some 90 metres deep. Electric pumps delivered water to fog tanks on rooftops. From there, water was funnelled through narrow pipes to the homes

**HK\$35**  
monthly room rent

Despite its daunting, labyrinthine appearance and reputation for lawlessness, many of Kowloon Walled City's former residents remember it fondly. It may have been the City of Darkness to outsiders, but to thousands who called it home, it was a friendly, tight-knit community that was poor but generally happy

Electric wires were placed outdoors to prevent fires

**40sq ft**  
per person

The area's interconnected high-rise towers were built without architects and engineers, and governed by Hong Kong's building and sanitation regulations

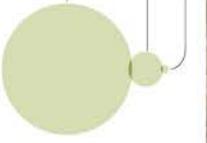
There were several schools and kindergartens, some of them run by organisations such as the Salvation Army

Tiny metal fabrication shops made up a good number of the 700 or so industrial premises. Most were found between the ground and fifth floors

There were many heroin dealers but they were untouchable. Police could only arrest non-residents

**Population density**  
per square kilometre

KWC	Mong Kok	Hong Kong
1,920,000	130,000	67,000



The street-level shops were a mix of unlicensed dentists and doctors, market stalls and cafes that often included dog on the menu. Fish balls, barbecued and roast meat and other foodstuffs were manufactured in premises with little or no sanitation

Brothels and gambling dens operated with impunity

Residents carried umbrellas to shield themselves from constantly dripping water pipes along the narrow alleys

Authorities installed eight freshwater standpipes – one inside the city, and the others outside its perimeter

## From fortress to park

The Walled City underwent a dramatic transformation in the final decades of the 20th century

<b>1898</b> 700 inhabitants	Each point is an inhabitant	<b>1940</b> 2,000 inhabitants	<b>1950</b> 5,000 inhabitants	<b>1973</b> 10,000 inhabitants	<b>1980</b> 30,000 inhabitants	<b>1990</b> 50,000 inhabitants
--------------------------------	-----------------------------	----------------------------------	----------------------------------	-----------------------------------	-----------------------------------	-----------------------------------



In March 1993, the settlement was demolished and a park that looked like a typical Chinese garden was built in its place. But it kept a few original elements from the Walled City, such as old canons and remnants of the South Gate and its entrance plaques

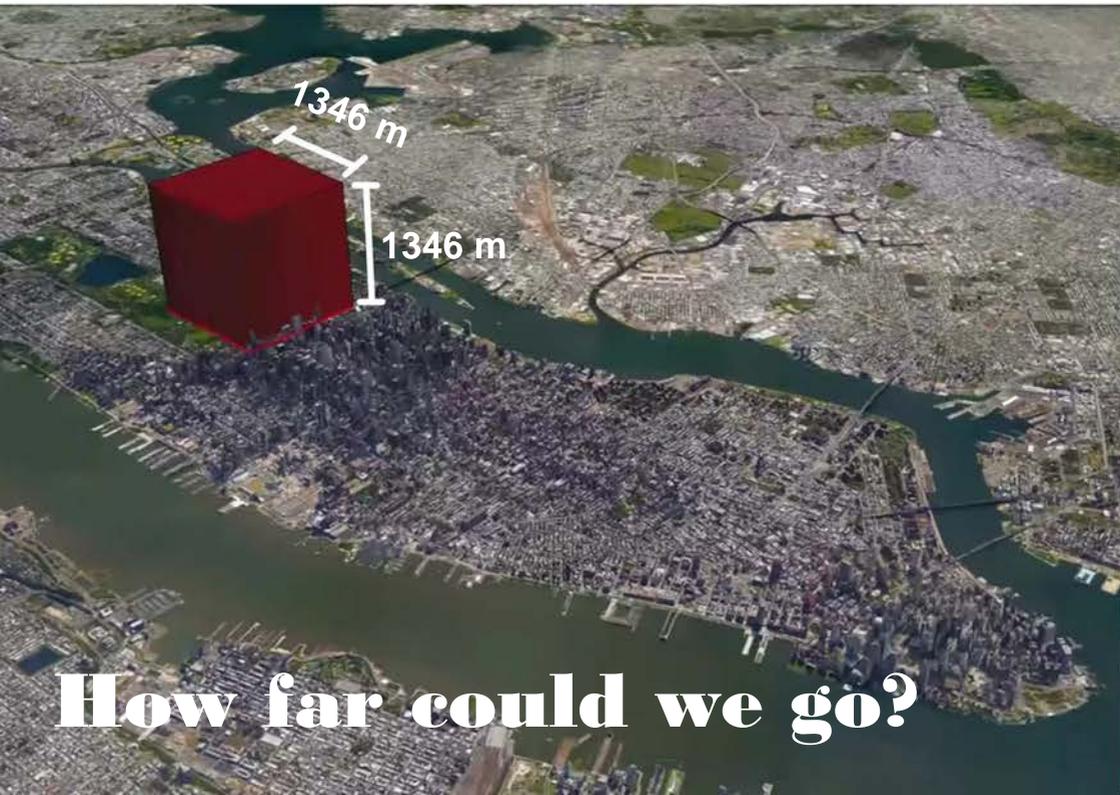


**How far did we go?**



**50.000 residents**  
**26.000 m<sup>2</sup>**

# 7.4 BILLION PEOPLE TOGETHER IN DIFFERENT DENSITIES



## How far could we go?



4.000.000



114.000



235.000



214



40.831.000



2.650.000



# Homes became a financial investment for the future. What threatens the value of my investment ?

And people who believe their homes will put their children through college, or fund their retirement, are bound to be more protective of them.

"That's when people began to look around and say 'well what might threaten the value of this home?'" Fischel says of the 1970s.

Residents were no longer worried about the old-school zoning codes. "If there's another housing development down there, it's going to crowd the schools and create more traffic." They became hyper-sensitive to community effects. And they started showing up in zoning hearings.

It's the same to talk about property values at a public meeting. Fischel says, but the concerns people voice instead are clearly community.

In his new book, "Zoning Rules!" Fischel cleverly uses a Google Ngram, which tracks the frequency of words in digitized books, to follow the rise of our obsession with housing values against the surge in interest in limiting growth. We've reproduced his experiment here:

This new attitude over the last 30 years has layered atop an American instinct that has always been here.

"If you come from Europe, you know that if you come from the U.S., you're used to spaces, with your own home, and it's a private home, and it's got elbow room from your neighbors," says Hirt, the Virginia Tech urban planning expert who has written a new book on the history of American zoning.

The deep-seated cultural perception of space in America. We should all be a lot of it, that a town with a family per acre run full. And it's not just because we have a big country; the



lot of land in Russia, too, Hirt points out. Their cities are still much denser.

## Paris, France

Of course, what's true of cities in physics – not physics – can change. So maybe we're different.

"Everybody that lives in San Francisco thinks that San Francisco is the once-and-always great place," says McCarthy, head of the Lincoln Institute. "I was in San Francisco in 1971 and it wasn't that great. It was actually in very bad shape."

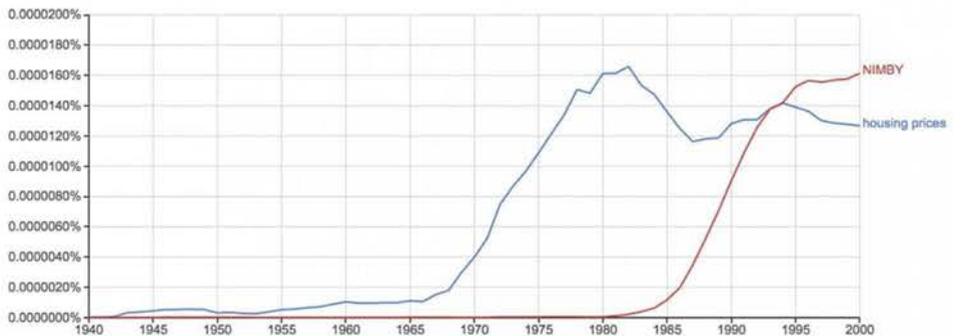
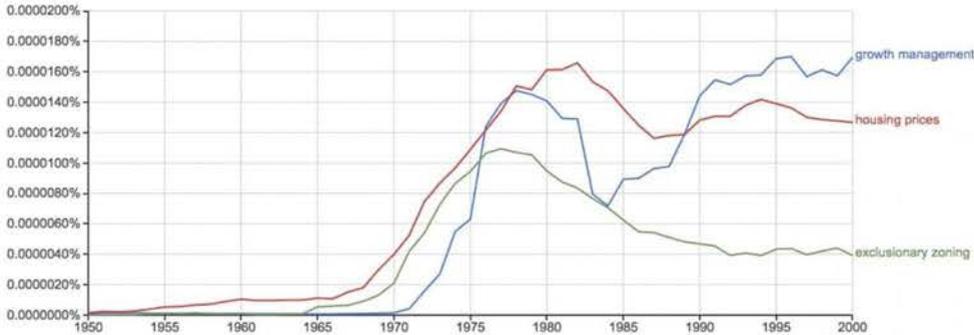
The city was a population then, and it took many years to recover. Now we think million-dollar micro-apartments are the norm.

"But 40 years from now, San Francisco might look like Detroit. And it might look like Detroit because people have decided to stop evolving and adapting," McCarthy says. "And instead we move around on the planet instead of making the places that we care about work."

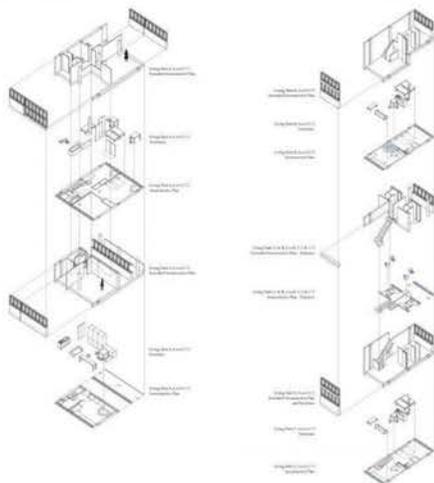
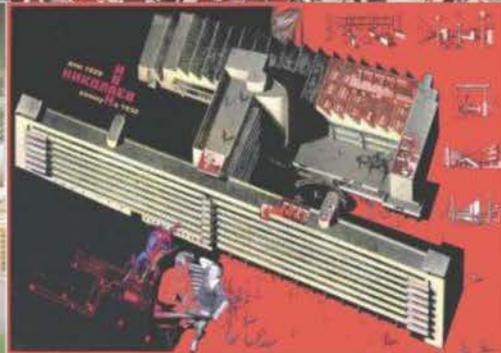
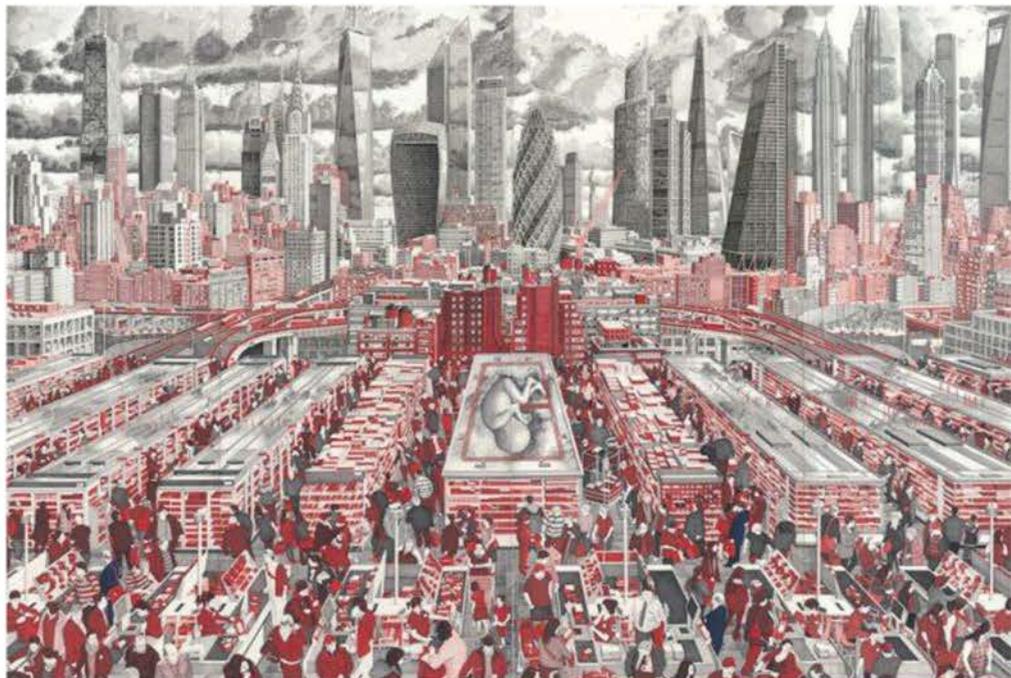
# People have decided to stop evolving and adapting

## Seoul, South Korea

26,800

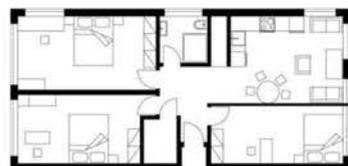






Original version of the Flat.

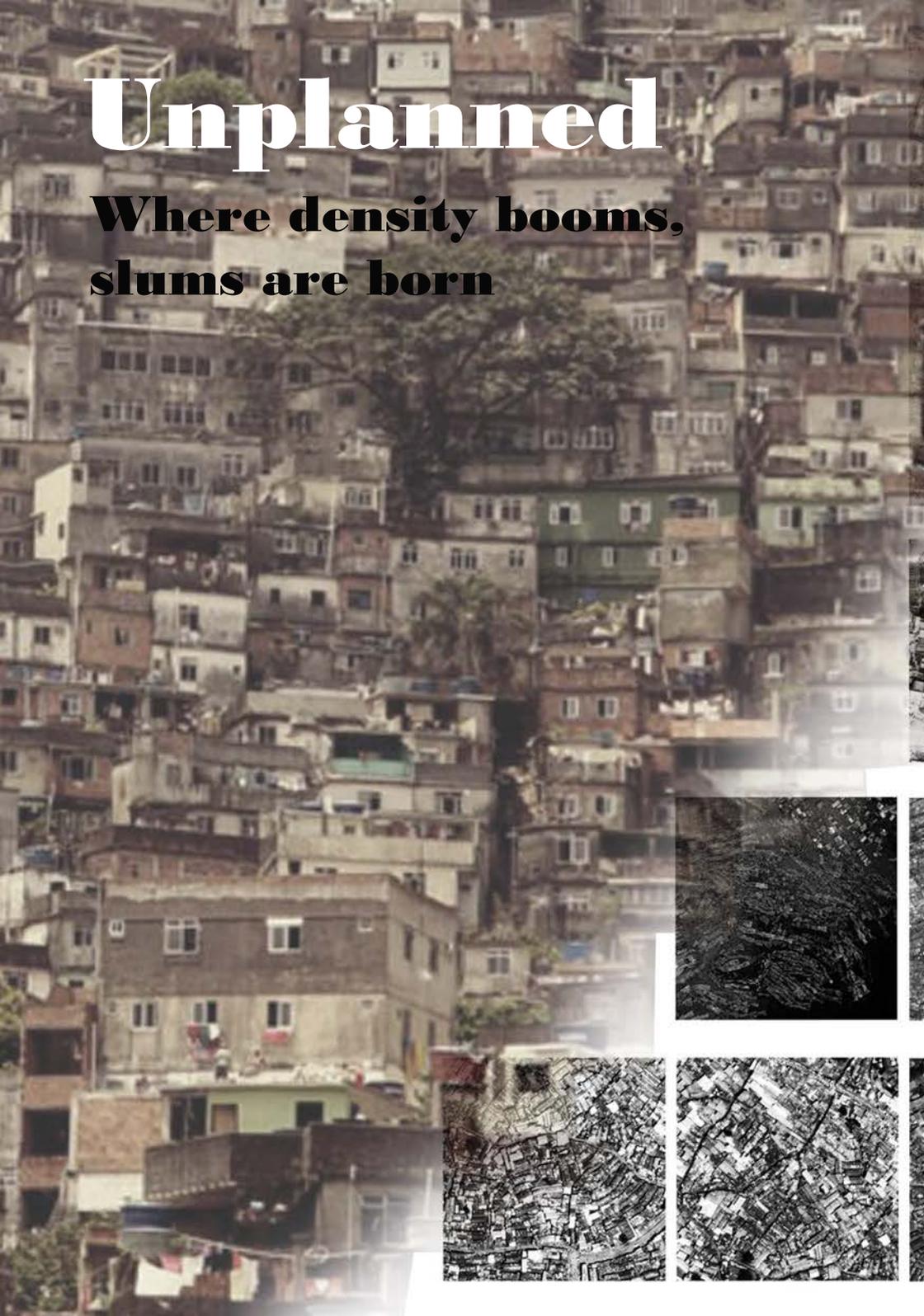
1. Master Bedroom
2. Second Bedroom
3. Living Room
4. Kitchen
5. Bathroom
6. Storage

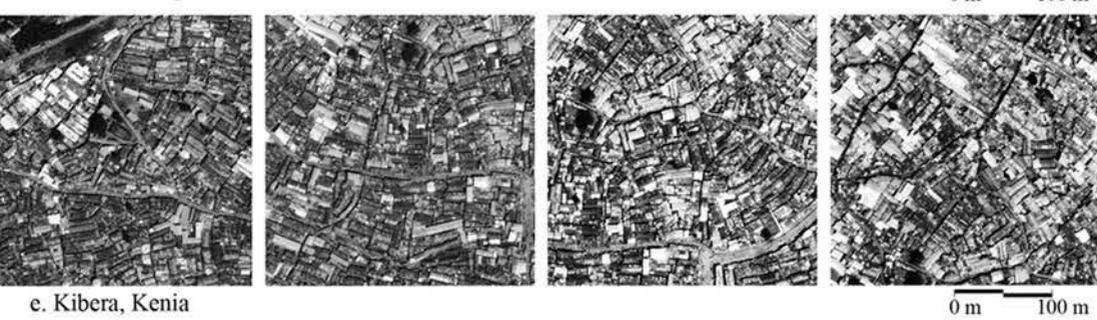
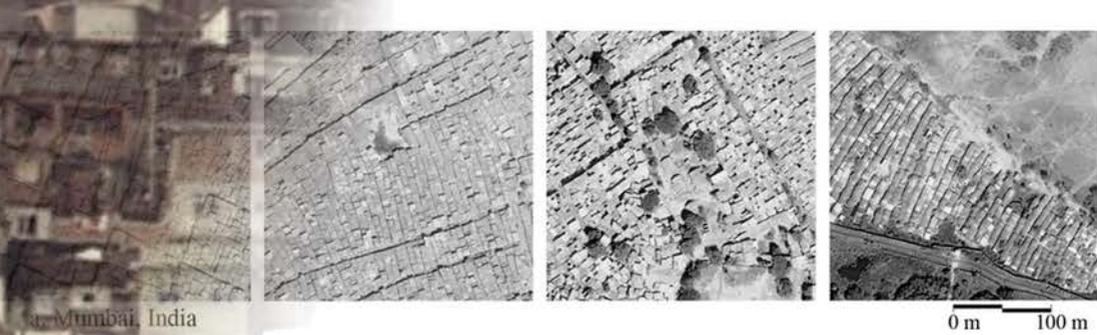


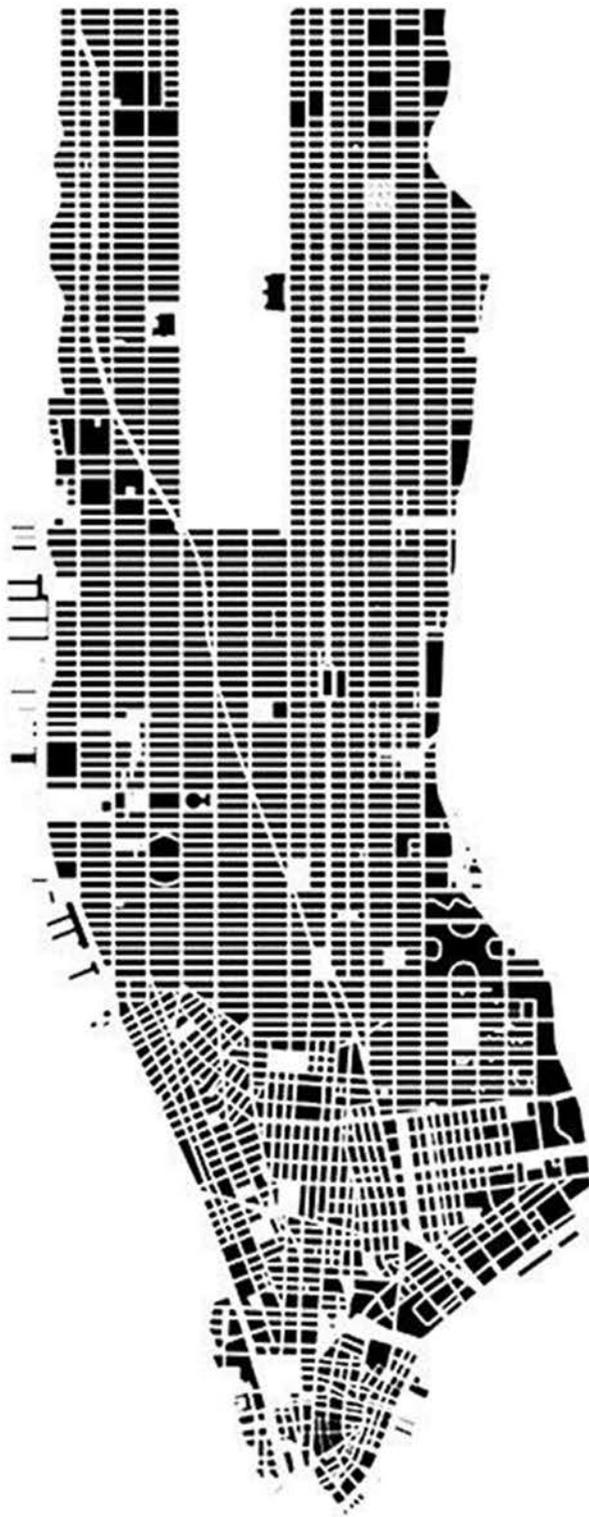
Modified version

# Unplanned

**Where density booms,  
slums are born**







Population Density, by block



Commercial Uses

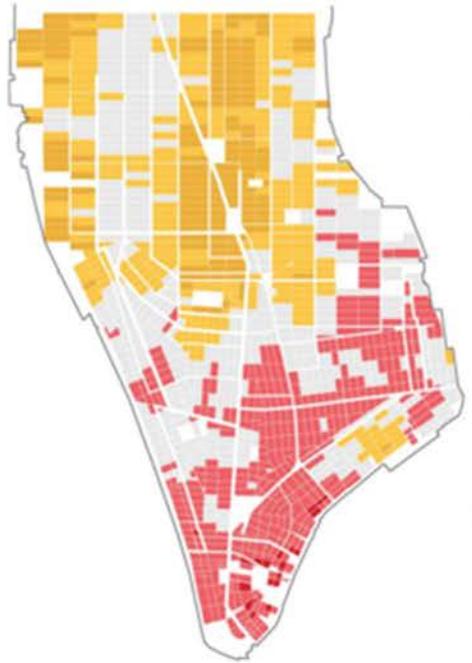


**Can urban**

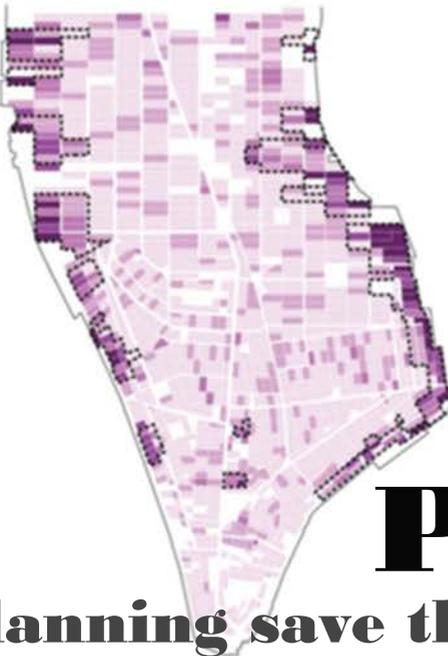
(A) Estimated Overcrowding



Separation of Residential & Commercial Uses



Industrial Uses



Residential Uses



**Planned**  
n planning save the megacities ?



Described in this way, density shapes how cities look, feel and are experienced. However, it is debatable whether these types of density alone are enough to make decisions. What about the density of rubbish bins?

Cars? Cycle lanes?

So, where does that leave us? Perhaps cities with good densities are not necessarily high-density or low-density, but are ones in which more people have a vested interest in the welfare of the urban fabric and urban experience have the opportunity to make or influence decisions. These cities can: support better and cheaper public transport, promote greater energy efficiency in buildings, create more opportunities for mixed-tenure housing, engender more social equality and provide greater control over who people contact. At the same time, high-density cities also lead to: more pedestrian casualties, urban heat island effects and waste; poorer ecosystem quality; loss of privacy and direct sunlight; and reductions in our physical and mental wellbeing.

So, where does that leave us? Perhaps cities with good densities are not necessarily high-density or low-density, but are ones in which more people have a vested interest in the welfare of the urban fabric and urban experience have the opportunity to make or influence decisions. These people also need to be able to make and influence decisions early on and often in the process of designing, developing and maintaining their cities so that innovative and integrative ideas around good density in cities are taken on board and are contextually appropriate. If not, we might all end up living in places like Phoenix, Arizona, or Houston, Texas, which would certainly be an enjoyable experience.

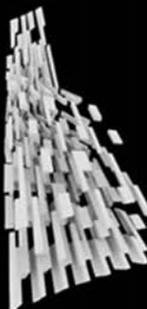
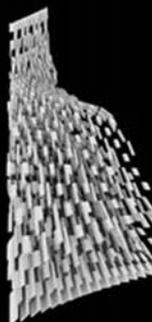
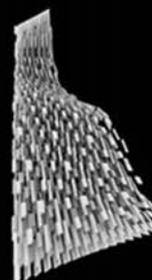
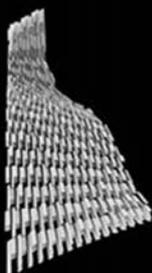
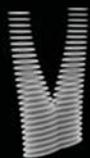
The short answer is: they can't. Cities are messy, complex places with both good and bad bits. But what cities can be is smarter about how they approach the issue.

For example, if high-density cities promote better and cheaper public transport, but induce more urban heat island effects, there should be processes, structures, services and products to maintain low-cost, high-coverage transit that is carbon neutral and works within dense, urban environments. For example, how are Lima and Bogota doing it? An important question needs to be asked: who is going to be making density-related decisions?

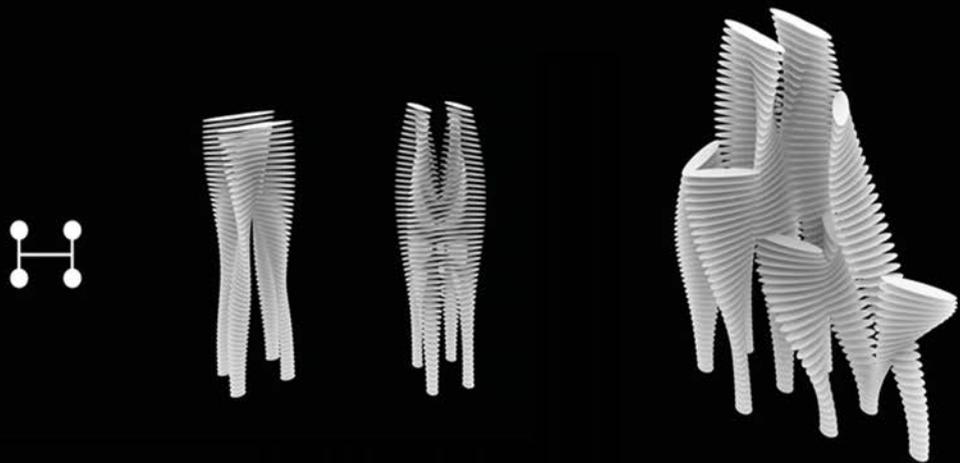
Recent research that I've done with my colleague Professor Rachel Cooper suggests that the people currently making decisions about density, and the things that density affects, are often the wrong people. From a survey of built environment professionals, for example architects, urban designers, town planners, engineers, we found that developers are perceived to be the ones who make many of the density-based decisions in cities, followed by local authority planners and designers. When asked who should be making those decisions, they nominated local authorities, designers, councillors and residents.

# negative

# space



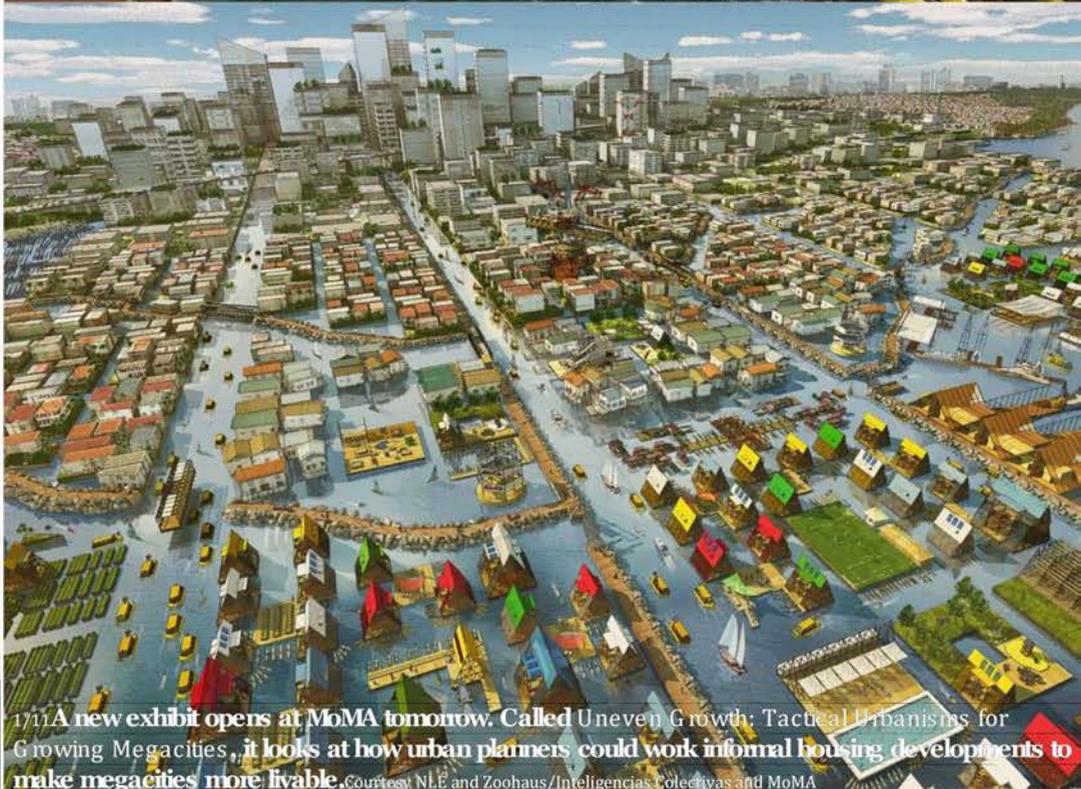
The conventional point-block tower and low-rise sprawl have been the primary (and default) typologies of Shanghai's urban densification and expansion over the last 20 years. Given the complications arising from global economic turmoil, there has never been a more crucial time to challenge and propose alternatives to these dominant models of urban growth, which are tied to China's continuing policy of urbanising an additional 400 million of its citizens over the next 20 years. The workshop developed computational design tools and research concepts able to engage with the development of alternative social, spatial, structural and material systems. It sought to formulate new discourses on contemporary computation and production, including the use of **code-based modelling** and **simulation techniques**, in relation to the disciplines of architecture and urbanism.







270 This is an imagined view of Lagos, Nigeria, in 2050. Thirty percent of Lagos is currently underwater, leading to "water slum" housing, and the roads are congested with SUVs. Architects propose embracing the water to create transportation and economic opportunity, like in Venice or Amsterdam. Courtesy NLE and Zoohaus/Inteligencias Colectivas and MoMA



1711 A new exhibit opens at MoMA tomorrow. Called Uneven Growth: Tactical Urbanisms for Growing Megacities, it looks at how urban planners could work informal housing developments to make megacities more livable. Courtesy NLE and Zoohaus/Inteligencias Colectivas and MoMA

## URBANIZATION AND THE MEGACITY

Across the globe and in a short amount of time, we've given up the tractor for the city bus, the open landscape for one of brick and mortar. We are now an urban planet. In fact, by 2008 over 50 percent of the global population was living in urban areas. It was 3 percent in 1800. Throughout history, cities have attracted people as centers of culture, religion, learning, and economics. Looking back, the first wave of urban migration took place in what are today's more developed countries, especially in Europe and North America. But looking ahead, 90 percent of the future urban increase is expected to take place in Asia and Africa, and it is projected that close to two-thirds of all people will be calling cities home by 2050.

Urbanization is often linked with economics – increased job opportunities, a centralized market, better pay and higher individual wealth have all drawn people into cities. And for a long time, these pull factors are what caused cities to grow. The Industrial Revolution caused a shift from agriculturally based societies to industrial, and thus geographically centered, societies. But that dynamic is changing. Today, most urban growth is natural increase – due to more births than deaths among those already dwelling in cities. Additionally, formerly small settlements are being reclassified as urban areas as the populace living there grows from within.

### IMPLICATIONS OF GROWING "TOO FAST"

Depending on cities' ages and locations, there is much variation in wealth and infrastructure. Many of the newer urban areas, located in Latin America, Asia and Africa, have an entirely different look, feel, and outlook than their older European or North American counterparts. How fast an area grew, or is growing, is a key component.

When a city grows at a manageable rate, which is often considered roughly 1 percent annually, its infrastructure can keep pace with an increasing population and its demands. Necessities such as roads and public transportation, appropriate sewers and water treatment facilities, clinics, schools and housing have time to be planned and built alongside the increase in human numbers. The risk of fast urban growth, especially in an economically strained country, is that the necessary infrastructure often cannot expand fast enough to keep up with residents' needs. Without infrastructures in place to provide basic needs, residents can be forced to create their own provisions with whatever is available.

## THE RISE OF SLUMS

In less developed countries, densely populated slums are a common feature of the world's largest cities. Due to a poor economy and weak infrastructure, many cities do not have the means to support the overwhelming growth. The UN World Urbanization Prospects Report, Mumbai 2008, states that in the world, with over 20 million people in the entire metro area, half of Mumbai's metro residents live in slums suffering from poor health, environmental, and land use problems.

Slum dwellers survive with practically no sanitation, with no electricity, and almost one-sixth of the world's population lacks access to running water and sanitation, plus malnutrition and other deadly conditions in the slums and shantytowns that surround them.

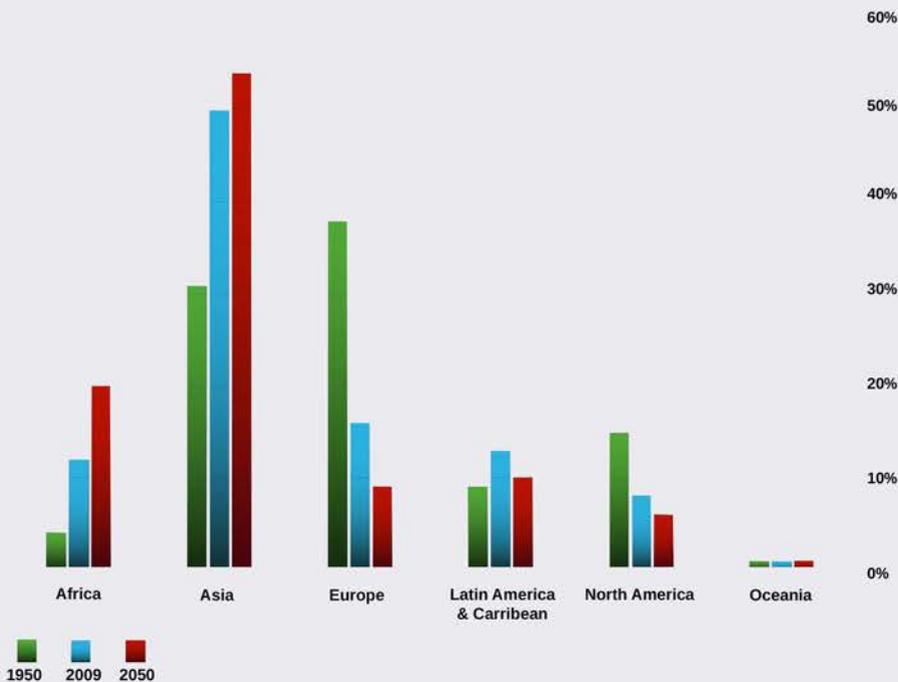
Latin America. The spread of HIV/AIDS and other diseases has increased in many areas throughout the developing world. When combined with inadequate schools, these public health issues create a cycle of poverty for city's residents.

### THE EMERGENCE OF MEGACITIES

The urban shift over time has led to the emergence of megacities of 10 million or more. New York City and Tokyo were the first to reach an urban conglomeration of over 10 million people. London followed from alone in their size. In 2014 there were 28 megacities. In 2014 there were 28 megacities: São Paulo, Brazil to Lagos, Nigeria and London, England. In 2014, global regions except Oceania are marked with megacities on the World Population Map).

Most of the cities that have reached the 10 million mark are in Asia and Africa. In fact, it's where seven of the eight new megacities and 10 of the 12 projected 2030 megacities will be located. The fastest growing megacities. The population of Kinshasa, DRC, the Congo, has doubled roughly every 5 years since 1970. Its population grew by over 23 percent, and today over 50 percent of its population is over 22 years old. A combination of factors has led to this growth: rural areas, high fertility rates, and widening of the urban area, outpacing almost all support structures in the city, leading to congestion, and insufficient education facilities has

DISTRIBUTION OF WORLD URBAN POPULATION BY AREA



forms from both on the edges and within the infrastructure, cities such as Mumbai, India ranked as the fourth largest city in the metropolitan area. Even more striking, over surrounding the city, causing huge public

water, urban amenities, employment, or lives under these conditions. The and inadequate housing, leads to surround many cities in Africa, Asia, and

infectious diseases in areas where so is a critical public health issue for urban combined with high unemployment rates and create a poor quality of life for many of the

of the megacity – a city with a population were the first known megacities, both on by the 1950s. But today they are far megacities across the planet – from Sao and to Shanghai, China – and all major megacities. (See the Megacities overlay on

marker in recent years are located in Asia newest megacities can be found and where ated. These regions are also home to the shasa, capital of the Democratic Republic since 1950. From 2010 to 2015, Kinshasa's er half of the 11.6 million residents are ed to this growth including migration from city's boundaries. The population is where the threat of food shortages, traffic ve become a stark reality.

A large urban population may seem environmentally troublesome with cities viewed as a disruption to the natural world. But environmentalism and urbanization are not incompatible. Dense urban areas have a much smaller ecological footprint – many people live in apartments or smaller connected houses rather than ranch-style homes in sprawling neighborhoods. Multifamily dwellings have the added benefit of being more energy efficient and they require less resources per person. Cities are also walkable and have public transportation options that can make cars less of a necessity. And above all, densely populated areas make it possible to protect other open spaces to serve as wildlife habitat, farmland, conservation areas, or oxygen-producing forests.

But of course, there are ecological downsides to cities as well. Concentrations of people mean concentrations of pollutants and trash. Cities produce up to 70 percent of global CO2 emissions and smog is becoming a common feature in many urban landscapes. Large swaths of continuous pavement prevent water drainage and boost temperatures. Without proper infrastructure, cities also risk having waste – both trash and human waste – clogging waterways and causing damage. And with cities across the globe producing 1.3 billion tons of waste annually, that's a lot for one area to handle.

#### PLANNING AN URBAN FUTURE

It is predicted that most future urban growth will happen in settlements currently home to between 100,000 and 250,00 people, and if this is to be done sustainably, planning is a must. Future high-growth areas require strategic urban planning individually tailored to a city's history, culture, value system, and other specificities; a single cookie-cutter approach won't work, nor will the plans of the 20th century. But by keeping an eye towards social justice concerns, natural resource use, environmental hazards, and other issues of modern cities, urban plans can help ensure the health and well-being of tomorrow's city dwellers.

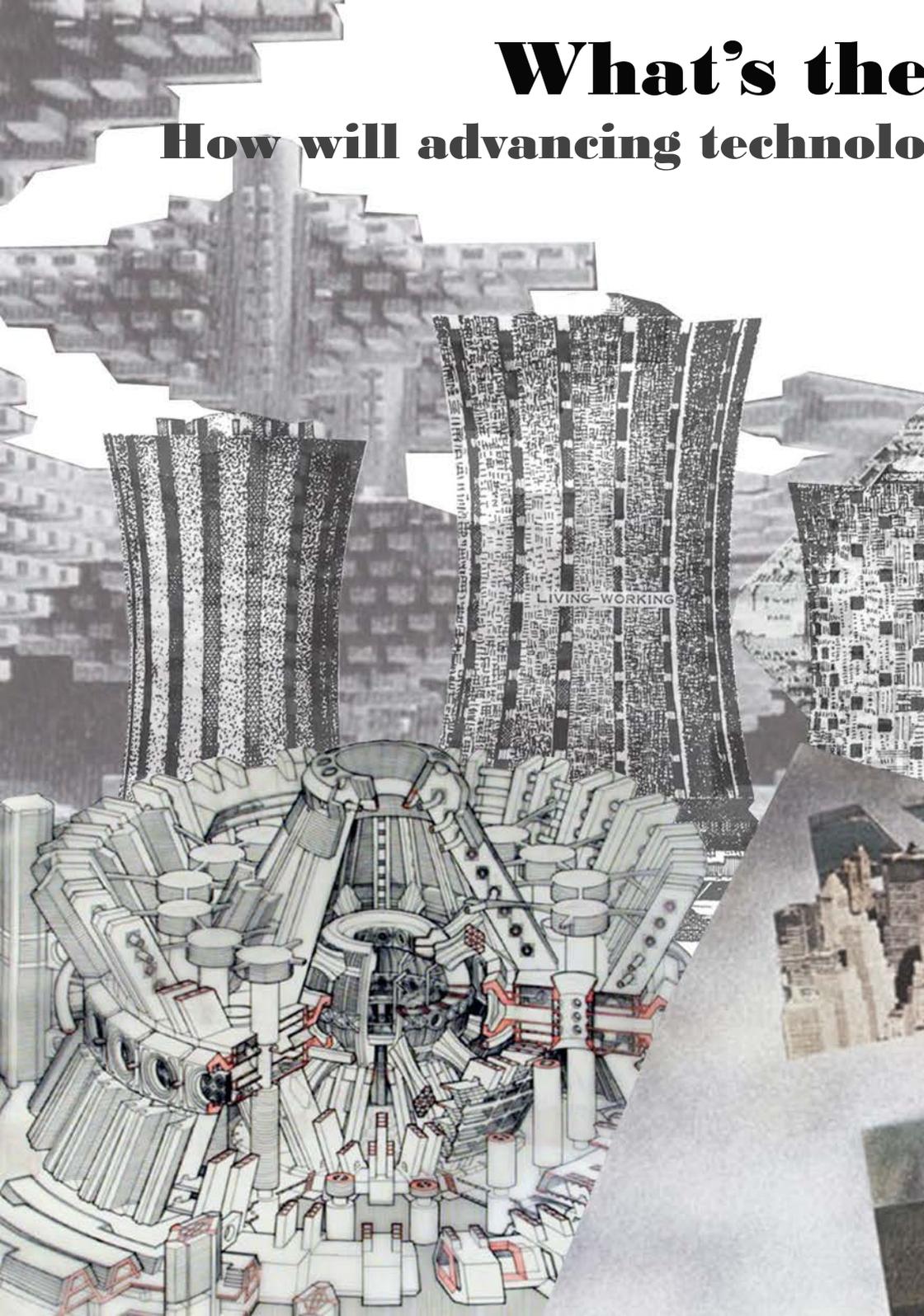
**Largest urban centers  
2009**



**Largest urban centers  
2025**

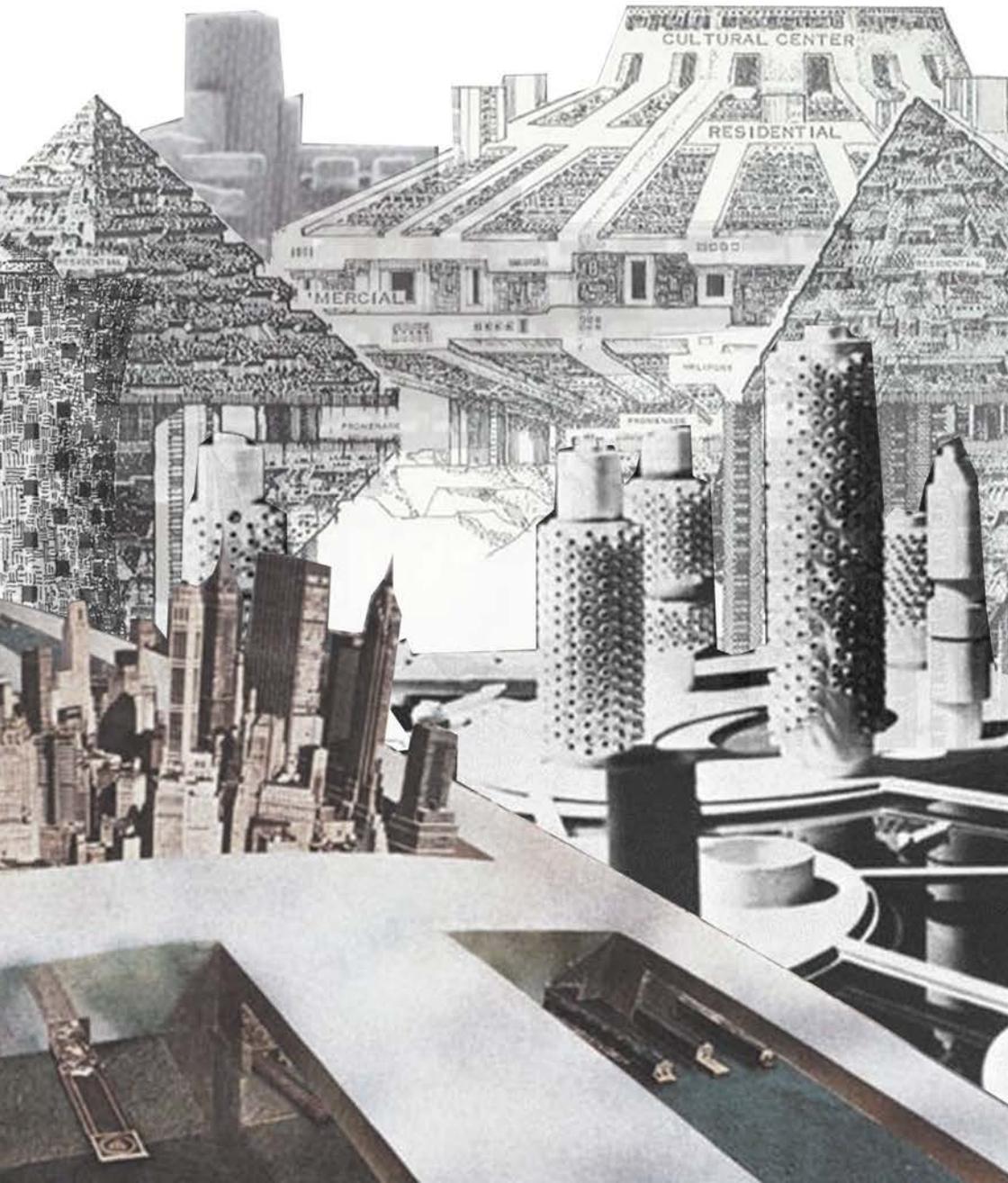


# What's the How will advancing technolo



# the future of megacities ?

## technologies affect the building densities?



# The Interactive Urban Model: Histories and Legacies Related to Prototyping the Twenty-First Century City

Tom Verebes\*

Department of Architecture, The University of Hong Kong



This article surveys the theoretical and historical context of the work process into a system of measurable, routinized operations. Giedion (1944) rather posited the assembly line as a "mechanized factory slow-motion" of the work process into a system of measurable, routinized operations. Giedion (1944) rather posited the assembly line as a "mechanized factory slow-motion" of the work process into a system of measurable, routinized operations. Giedion (1944) rather posited the assembly line as a "mechanized factory slow-motion" of the work process into a system of measurable, routinized operations.

## Custom vs. Standard or the Workshop Model

explored, with an emphasis on design repercussions at the urban scale. Theorizations of the cultures surrounding, within, and against technology, this article will confront the difficult issues of the expression of identity in late capitalism, through resistance to the "mass production" of Fordism is beyond change, rather than abrupt change. These issues lead to a proposition of the notion of an interactive urban model, as the basis of embedding intelligence into city design, and the potential of producing highly customized materialization through contemporary production technologies (Neilsen, 1999). Hypotheses of these issues are articulated by three case study design projects which has been practiced by the author's practice, OCEAN CN Consultancy Network, based in Hong Kong. Three projects demonstrate the author's design research experimentation with design and production technologies at various scales of practice in architecture, urban and landscape design, and master planning, applying computerized by new principles of achieving modulated spatial attributes.



The shift from an empirical, tradition-bound technics to an experimental, mode has opened up such new realms as those of nuclear energy, super-sonic transportation, cybernetic intelligence, and instantaneous distant communication.

Th

-Lewis Mumford, 1944 (Mumford, 1961, p. 15). The esthetics of standardized mass production was "synonymous with the efficient looking architecture of Fordism was a product of "standardization, repetition, rectilinearity, and lack of ornamentation" (Gartman, 2012, p. 13). Post-fordism has also seen the reduction of "the fetishized esthetics of the car, as the emblem of the era of mass production and smaller units of organization" (Amin, 1994).

analysis of critical regionalism, with a scathing critique of the standardization and homogenization of everything everywhere, yet the last 50 years of modernism has brought about the fragmentation of unity, and a new valorization of pre-fabrication of all the building's parts, and the building site itself the diverse identities and cultures, and their corresponding spatial practices. (Jameson, 1984, p. 255) He warns of the

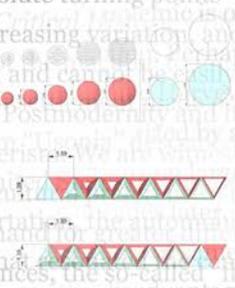
## Against Similitude: The Dilemmas of Identity Making after Modernism

Jencks (1984, p. 9) declared the symbolic end of modern architecture, and the onset of postmodernity, to be precisely 3:32 p.m. on July 15, 1972, the time at which the Pruitt-Igoe Housing project in St. Louis, MI, USA, was demolished. Modernity has definitively shifted in industrial paradigm, posing the alternatives to the general and repeated, Taylor



## Emergence of a New

city without qualities for a living (finally) without qualities, a freed society (freed even from all conditions) on the surfaces of Mark Rothko, with the century of the mass production of man within the holocaustal developments of Italy with lines and stations listed (Branzi, 2006, p. 71) In the American context, the design had an alternative, Andrea Branzi, *No Stop City*, Archizoom, 1968



blank urbanity produced conceptually, and mechanically, by Branzi's brand of commentary on modernism that leads to contend postmodernism in the urban context to a next defining break with the idea that planning and development is, technologically rational, austere, and functionally efficient." In the *Generic City* essay, Kooolhaas (1998) queried the beginning of his anti-urban model of cities and asserted, "it must mean something," asking what the acceptance of the *Communist Manifesto* of 1848, meant "the gradual abolition of the distinction between town and country by a more distribution of the population over the land" (Marx, 1848, p. 1).

and more likely a factual anecdote, Kooolhaas states that he wrote *The Generic City* in the 1980s, during the industrial revolution centered their critique of the physical and economic transformations. This euphoric love affair with mechanistic hands, and instabilities. The caricature of a dystopic reaction to technology and flexible specialization. The driving force of the machine esthetic of Fordism in the 1930s saw the warning of "the promise of mass prosperity (not being) which by the Great Depression of the 1930s, "had lost its allure, along the modern architecture that symbolized it" (Gartman, 2012, p. 20). There is a causal connection of universal urbanity to the legacy of the industrial paradigm (historic disadvantages of small firms of the Model T car, p. 15). The industrial paradigm toward





the city is more con-  
 their guiding control system. The  
 one to bring to design a more rational, less arbitrary, less  
 finite utopian visions, with the intention to make  
 his book, *Cities, Design*,  
 evolutionary urbanism,  
 modernism in evolution,  
 how cities change, the  
 as a complex, evolving yet  
 permanent.

Modern industry had the  
 characteristic instrument  
 (Marx, 1868, p. 384).  
 designer in 1870  
 (Vehes, 2013b, p. 93).  
 and eventually  
 the apparatus which will in design the product (Vehes, 2013b, p. 93-4).  
 of  
 applied toward aviation control, and eventually  
 differences, in  
 which Simendón's positions  
 a recurrent gain of  
 the city's form is a  
 and energetic differences, in  
 a deductive and repetitive process of  
 (Simendón, 1989). In today's design discourses regarding the city,  
 ing on how information can target spatial differentiation and  
 well as how to manage how cities adapt to change.  
 The enumeration of the parameters and the quantitative  
 analysis of these parameters are tasks that the new architecture will  
 in an a priori manner in every case. In this way what I have long  
 call parametric architecture will be born. Its ineluctable geometric

industry had therefore itself to take in hand the machine, its  
 tic instrument of production, and to construct machines by machines  
 (8, p. 384).

Karl Marx, *Das Capital*, 1848







## DESTINY OF DENSITY

A CITY FOR **ONE** CITIZEN



Iaac  
INSTITUTE OF  
ARCHITECTURE  
AND URBAN DESIGN  
OF CANADA

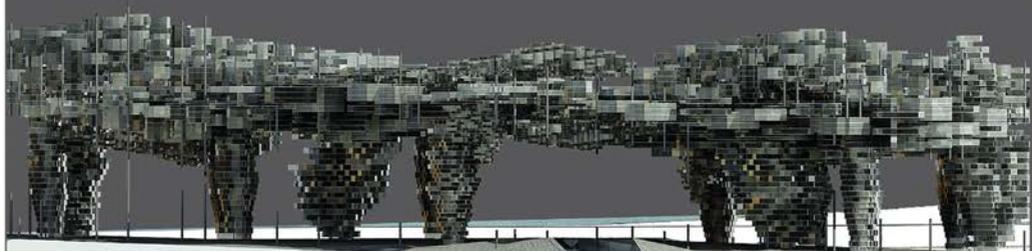
Encrypted Megacities | Moritz Begle, Nasr Chamma

# when designing and

are indeed designing our future for they direct and manipulate the way in which we engage with our social values, educational, commercial, and cultural. The population of cities has increased dramatically through the years making the amount of people living in the cities ascend from 10% in 1900, to 50 % in 2012 and by the first face, people curiosity always encourage them to seek for more when it comes to better chances in life, making this city a large and declining "The human quality" the city should possess, focusing on the best ways to create a building that can be considered a "world

## DESTINY OF DENSITY

A CITY FOR **ONE** CITIZEN



1.354.040.000

there are seven billions living in this world, **1.354.040.000** of which are in china, one of the most advances countries, and when it comes to overpopulation, there's always a particular city that beats all the records, shanghai "the city of the future".



# any random building

... and spiritual needs. cities have always been a source of attraction for people living in suburbs and villages, and immigration has  
... later in 2050; making each city a coin with two contradicting faces, the touristic smart face, and the social crises one. blinded  
... exhibition where designing buildings has become a competition between some brands or some fake modern pioneers seeking fame  
... of art" or the tallest building in the century depriving it from its surrounding in many cases.

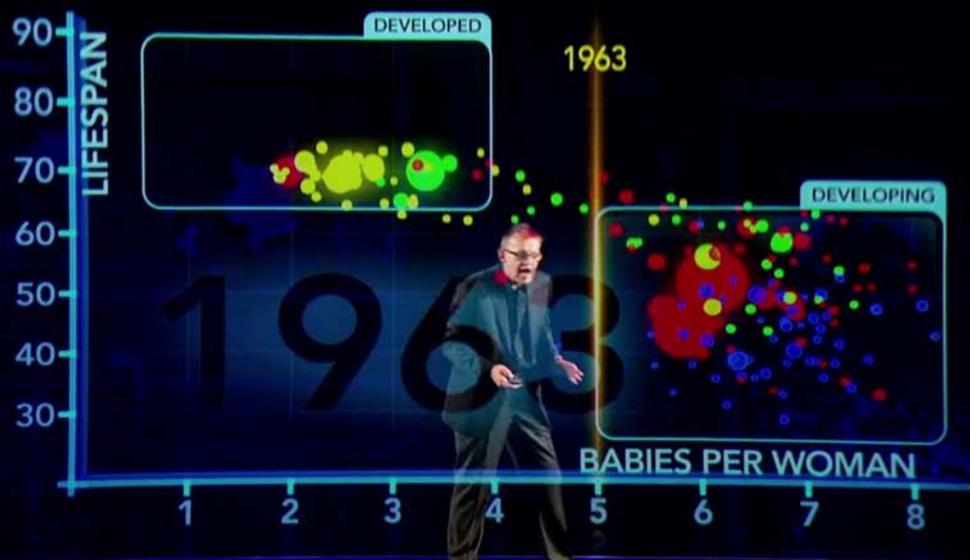




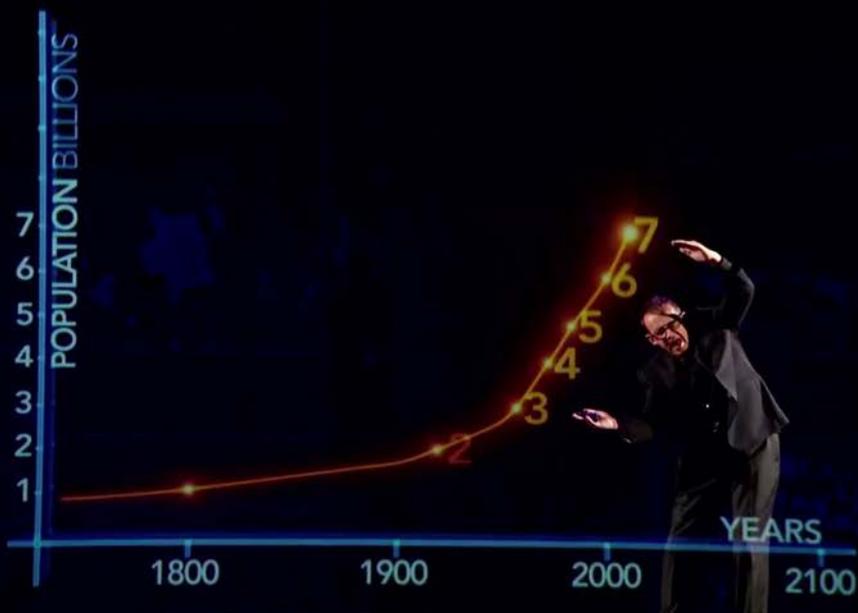
**PEAK**



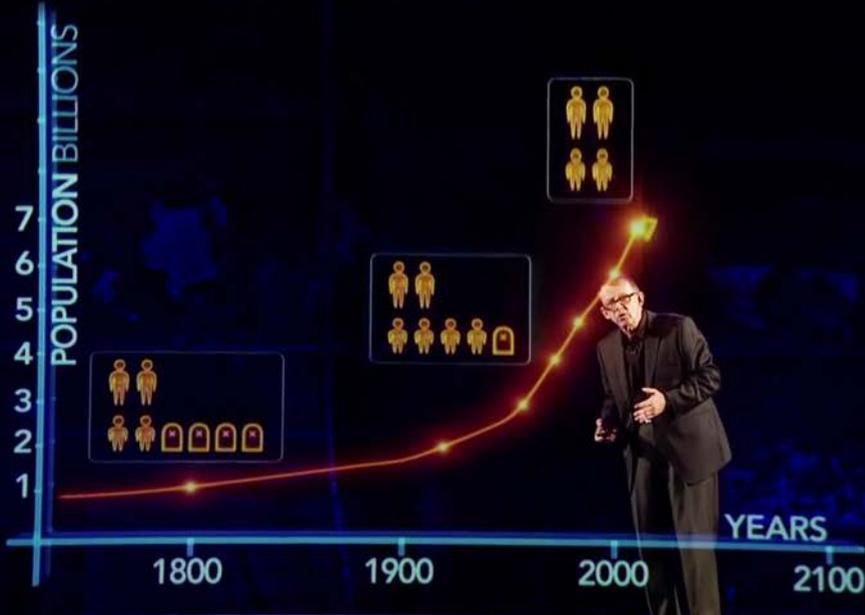
POPULATION WILL P



**PEAK AT 11 BILLION**



POPULATION WILL P



PEAK AT 11 BILLION



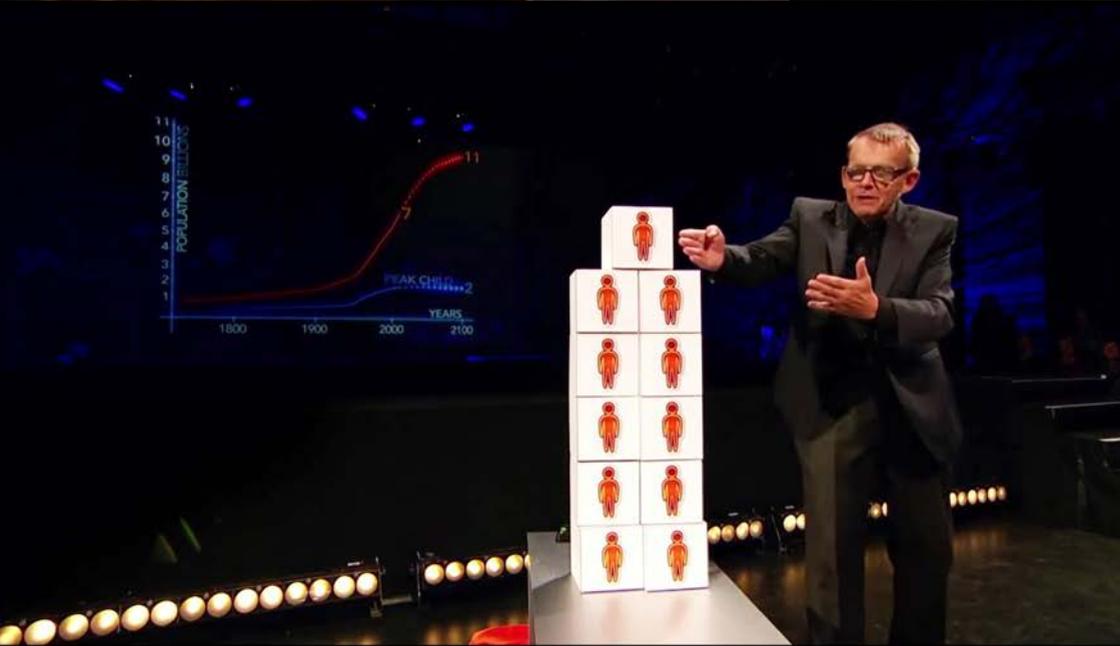
POPULATION WILL P



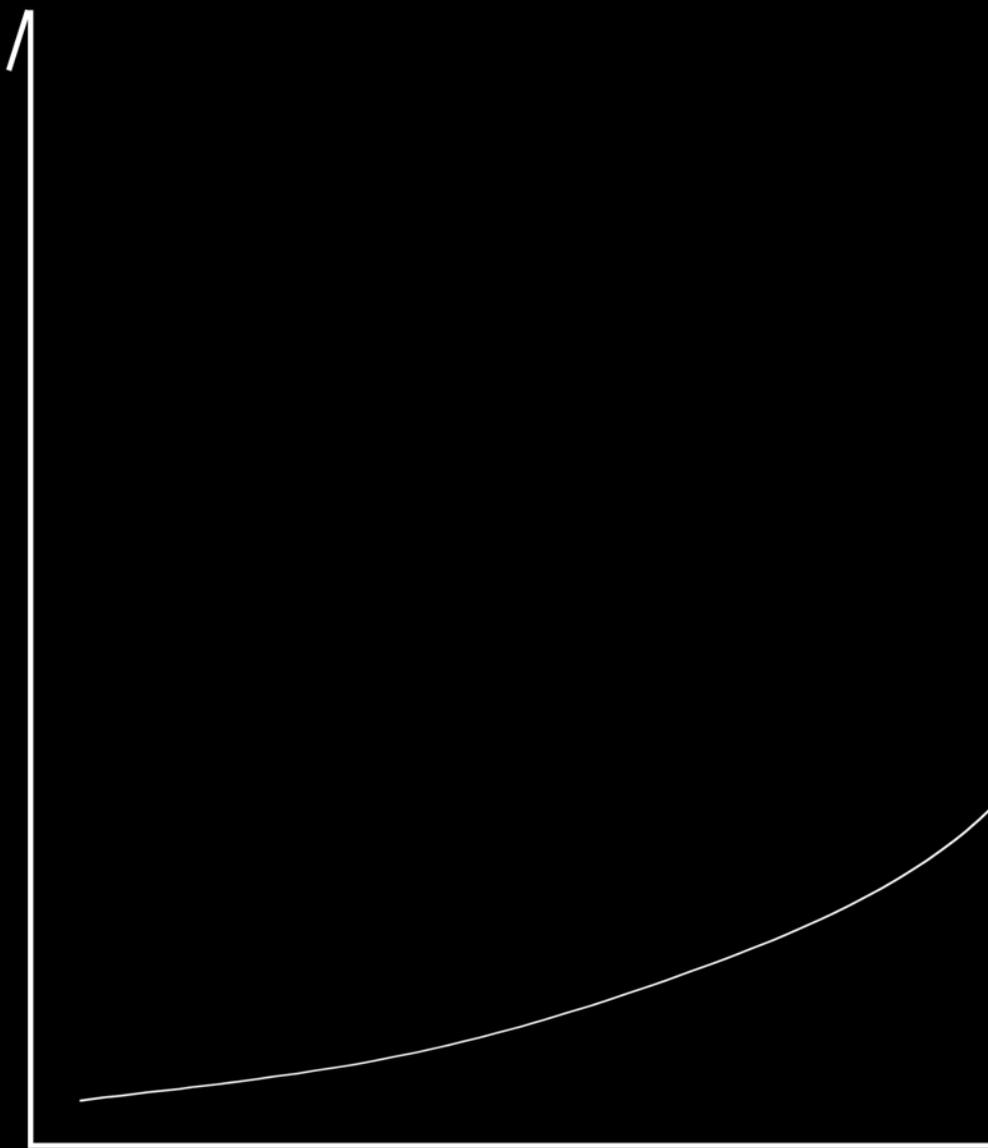
PEAK AT 1 1 BILLION



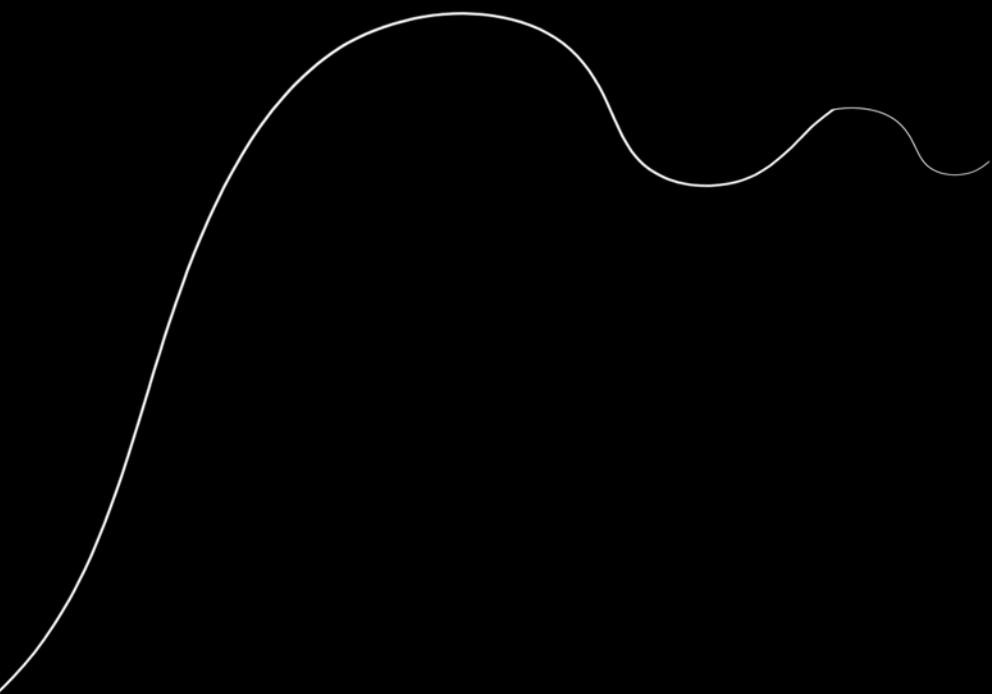
POPULATION WILL P



**PEAK AT 11 BILLION**



AND WILL FLUCTUATE



E. AFTER THAT POINT



**SHRINKAGE**

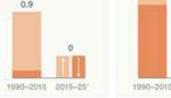
The days of easy growth in the world's cities are over, and how they respond to demographic shifts will influence their prosperity.

Cities have powered the world economy for centuries. Large cities generate about 75 percent of global GDP today and will generate 86 percent of worldwide GDP growth between 2015 and 2030. Population growth has been the crucial driver of cities' GDP growth, accounting for 58 percent of it among large cities between 2000 and 2012. Rising per capita income contributed the other 42 percent.

However, the world's cities are facing more challenging demographics, and the days of easy growth are over. In the past, city economies expanded largely because their populations were increasing due to high birthrates and mass migration from rural areas. Both of those sources of population growth are now diminishing. Global population growth is slowing because of declining fertility rates and aging. At the same time, rural-to-urban migration is running its course and plateauing in many regions. How cities adjust to the new reality is important not only for their prospects but also for those of nations that will continue to rely on thriving cities for rising prosperity.

# CITIES SHRINK IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD

In a new report, *Urban World: Meeting the demographic challenges*, the McKinsey Global Institute (MGI) compares the growth and contraction of cities and regions and



Urban world: Meeting the demographic challenge in cities | McKinsey

30/17/2017, 8:51 PM of 9

Urban world: Meeting the demographic challenge in cities | McKinsey

The double hit of slowing population growth and plateauing urbanization caused population to decline in 6 percent of the world's largest cities—with the largest share in developed economies—between 2000 and 2015. From 2015 to 2025, we expect population to decline in 17 percent of large cities in developed regions and in 8 percent of all large cities. In the developed world, the urban population in Canada and the United States grew at a compound annual rate of 2.2 percent between 1950 and 1970 but dropped to only 1.0 percent from 2010 to 2015. That rate is expected to persist until 2025 and then to decline even further, to 0.8 percent from 2025 to 2035. Although the demographic shifts are advanced in developed regions, it also affects emerging regions.

This is a challenge that marks a distinct break from recent history. It is truly unusual in demographic terms, as large cohorts of working-age people fueled the growth of cities and nations. In the new demographic era, we expect to see a much more fragmented urban landscape, with pockets of robust growth and also areas of stagnant and declining populations. Cities' growth prospects will be shaped by very different demographic footprints and dynamics shaped by birth and death rates, net domestic migration, and net international migration.

Urban World: Meeting the demographic challenges, the McKinsey Global Institute (MGI) compares the growth and contraction of cities and regions and

McKinsey uses cookies to provide you with a better browsing experience and to analyze how users navigate and utilize the Site. Detailed information on the use of cookies on this Site, and how you can decline them, is provided in our [privacy policy](#). By using this Site or clicking on "OK," you consent to the use

McKinsey & Company

Report  
McKinsey Global Institute  
October 2016

## Urban world: Meeting the demographic challenge in cities

By Jonathan Wortzel, Jaana Remes, Kevin Coler, and Mekala Krishnan

The days of easy growth in the world's cities are over, and how they respond to demographic shifts will influence their prosperity.

Cities have powered the world economy for centuries. Large cities generate about 75 percent of global GDP today and will generate 86 percent of worldwide GDP growth between 2015 and 2030. Population growth has been the crucial driver of cities' GDP growth, accounting for 58 percent of it among large cities between 2000 and 2012. Rising per capita income contributed the other 42 percent.

However, the world's cities are facing more challenging demographics, and the days of easy growth are over. In the past, city economies expanded largely because their populations were increasing due to high birthrates and mass migration from rural areas. Both of those sources of population growth are now diminishing. Global population growth is slowing because of declining fertility rates and aging. At the same time, rural-to-urban migration is running its course and plateauing in many regions. How cities adjust to the new reality is important not only for their prospects but also for those of nations that will continue to rely on thriving cities for rising prosperity.

Urban world: Meeting the demographic challenge in cities | McKinsey

30/17/2017, 8:51 PM of 9

Urban world: Meeting the demographic challenge in cities | McKinsey

The double hit of slowing population growth and plateauing urbanization caused population to decline in 6 percent of the world's largest cities—with the largest share in developed economies—between 2000 and 2015. From 2015 to 2025, we expect population to decline in 17 percent of large cities in developed regions and in 8 percent of all large cities. In the developed world, the urban population in Canada and the United States grew at a compound annual rate of 2.2 percent between 1950 and 1970 but dropped to only 1.0 percent from 2010 to 2015. That rate is expected to persist until 2025 and then to decline even further, to 0.8 percent from 2025 to 2035. Although the demographic shift is advanced in developed regions, it also affects emerging regions.

This is a challenge that marks a distinct break from recent history. It is truly unusual in demographic terms, as large cohorts of working-age people fueled the growth of cities and nations. In the new demographic era, we expect to see a much more fragmented urban landscape, with pockets of robust growth and also areas of stagnant and declining populations. Cities' growth prospects will be shaped by very different demographic footprints and dynamics shaped by birth and death rates, net domestic migration, and net international migration.

Urban World: Meeting the demographic challenges, the McKinsey Global Institute (MGI) compares the growth and contraction of cities and regions and

McKinsey uses cookies to provide you with a better browsing experience and to analyze how users navigate and utilize the Site. Detailed information on the use of cookies on this Site, and how you can decline them, is provided in our [privacy policy](#). By using this Site or clicking on "OK," you consent to the use

McKinsey & Company

Report  
McKinsey Global Institute  
October 2016

## Urban world: Meeting the demographic challenge in cities

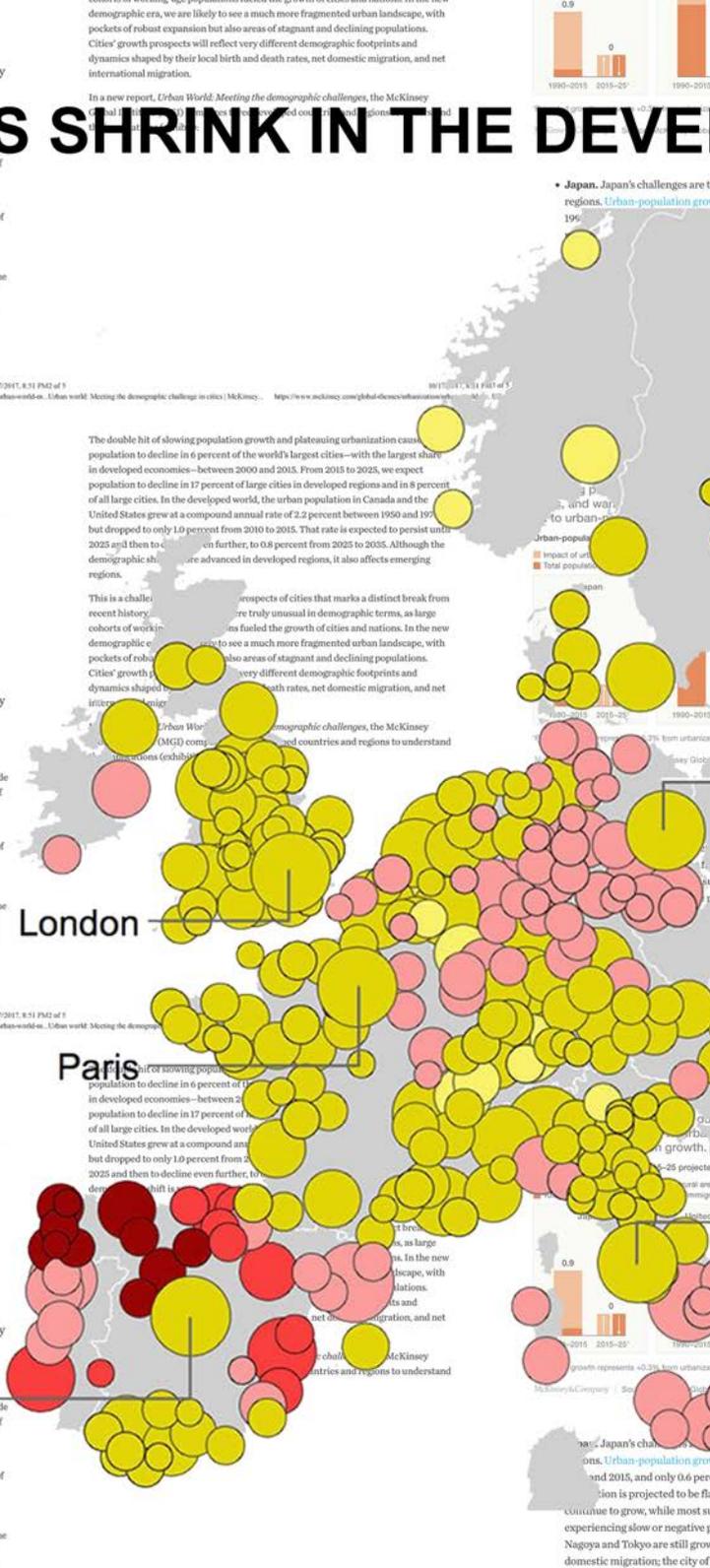
By Jonathan Wortzel, Jaana Remes, Kevin Coler, and Mekala Krishnan

The days of easy growth in the world's cities are over, and how they respond to demographic shifts will influence their prosperity.

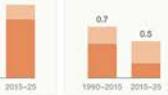
Cities have powered the world economy for centuries. Large cities generate about 75 percent of global GDP today and will generate 86 percent of worldwide GDP growth between 2015 and 2030. Population growth has been the crucial driver of cities' GDP growth, accounting for 58 percent of it among large cities between 2000 and 2012. Rising per capita income contributed the other 42 percent.

However, the world's cities are facing more challenging demographics, and the days of easy growth are over. In the past, city economies expanded largely because their populations were increasing due to high birthrates and mass migration from rural areas. Both of those sources of population growth are now diminishing. Global population growth is slowing because of declining fertility rates and aging. At the same time, rural-to-urban migration is running its course and plateauing in many regions. How cities adjust to the new reality is important not only for their prospects but also for those of nations that will continue to rely on thriving cities for rising prosperity.

Madrid



Japan's challenges are the regions. Urban-population growth and 2015, and only 0.6 percent is projected to be able to continue to grow, while most are experiencing slow or negative growth. Nagoya and Tokyo are still growing domestic migration; the city of

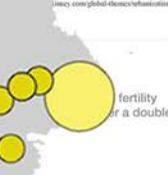


# DEVELOPED 'WESTERN WORLD

most acute of the three developed  
in Japan was 0.9 percent between  
2010 and 2015. Urban  
growth is going forward. Some urban hubs  
surrounding cities are aging and  
shrinking, largely reflecting inward  
migration. However, has relatively slow  
growth and population of almost



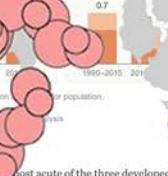
and  
the populations of  
shrinking inward  
growth, has relatively slow  
growth and population of almost



— Berlin



— Rome



most acute of the three developed  
in Japan was 0.9 percent between  
2010 and 2015. Urban  
growth is going forward. Some urban hubs  
surrounding cities are aging and  
shrinking, largely reflecting inward  
migration. However, has relatively slow  
growth and population of almost

growth driven by all three factors. In contrast, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and Cleveland, Ohio, are seeing their populations flatten or even shrink, and both have had to rethink their visions of the city.

• **Western Europe.** Urban-population growth in Western Europe was 0.7 percent annually between 1990 and 2015. It is projected to decline to 0.5 percent between 2015 and 2035. In the United States, urban population growth has been more differentiated in its nature. The capital cities of Berlin, London, Oslo, Paris, and Stockholm all have growing populations. However, many cities are already experiencing population decline. This includes cities in Germany (for example, J Saarbriicken) and Italy (Genoa and Venice).

• **United States.** Overall urban-population growth in the United States declined slightly, from 1.3 percent between 1990 and 2015 to 0.5 percent over the next decade. The United States benefits from a high birth rate and greater migration than Europe, and the US urban system is much more dynamic than that of either Japan or Western Europe. However, a broad swath of middleweight cities, and many more than in either Japan or Western Europe, are experiencing population decline. This includes cities in Germany (for example, J Saarbriicken) and Italy (Genoa and Venice).

• **Urban-population growth in Western Europe.** Urban-population growth in Western Europe was 0.7 percent annually between 1990 and 2015. It is projected to decline to 0.5 percent between 2015 and 2035. In the United States, urban population growth has been more differentiated in its nature. The capital cities of Berlin, London, Oslo, Paris, and Stockholm all have growing populations. However, many cities are already experiencing population decline. This includes cities in Germany (for example, J Saarbriicken) and Italy (Genoa and Venice).

• **Urban-population growth in the United States.** Overall urban-population growth in the United States declined slightly, from 1.3 percent between 1990 and 2015 to 0.5 percent over the next decade. The United States benefits from a high birth rate and greater migration than Europe, and the US urban system is much more dynamic than that of either Japan or Western Europe. However, a broad swath of middleweight cities, and many more than in either Japan or Western Europe, are experiencing population decline. This includes cities in Germany (for example, J Saarbriicken) and Italy (Genoa and Venice).

• **Urban-population growth in Western Europe.** Urban-population growth in Western Europe was 0.7 percent annually between 1990 and 2015. It is projected to decline to 0.5 percent between 2015 and 2035. In the United States, urban population growth has been more differentiated in its nature. The capital cities of Berlin, London, Oslo, Paris, and Stockholm all have growing populations. However, many cities are already experiencing population decline. This includes cities in Germany (for example, J Saarbriicken) and Italy (Genoa and Venice).

• **Urban-population growth in the United States.** Overall urban-population growth in the United States declined slightly, from 1.3 percent between 1990 and 2015 to 0.5 percent over the next decade. The United States benefits from a high birth rate and greater migration than Europe, and the US urban system is much more dynamic than that of either Japan or Western Europe. However, a broad swath of middleweight cities, and many more than in either Japan or Western Europe, are experiencing population decline. This includes cities in Germany (for example, J Saarbriicken) and Italy (Genoa and Venice).

• **Urban-population growth in Western Europe.** Urban-population growth in Western Europe was 0.7 percent annually between 1990 and 2015. It is projected to decline to 0.5 percent between 2015 and 2035. In the United States, urban population growth has been more differentiated in its nature. The capital cities of Berlin, London, Oslo, Paris, and Stockholm all have growing populations. However, many cities are already experiencing population decline. This includes cities in Germany (for example, J Saarbriicken) and Italy (Genoa and Venice).

About the author(s)  
Jonathan Woetzel is a director of the McKinsey Global Institute, where Jaana Remes is a partner and Mekala Krishnan is a fellow. Kevin Cole is an alumnus of McKinsey's Toronto office.

citizens. In this report, we explore how cities can cope with changing demographic challenges. MGI is launching an update to its Urban World app, which is free to download and allows you to explore the shifting landscape as aging and urbanization shape city economies across the globe. Download the Urban World app and build your understanding of how urban areas change by interacting with data on GDP and demographics from 3,000 cities worldwide and by tracking the world's shifting economic center of gravity from 1CE to 2025.

citizens. In this report, we explore how cities can cope with changing demographic challenges. MGI is launching an update to its Urban World app, which is free to download and allows you to explore the shifting landscape as aging and urbanization shape city economies across the globe. Download the Urban World app and build your understanding of how urban areas change by interacting with data on GDP and demographics from 3,000 cities worldwide and by tracking the world's shifting economic center of gravity from 1CE to 2025.

citizens. In this report, we explore how cities can cope with changing demographic challenges. MGI is launching an update to its Urban World app, which is free to download and allows you to explore the shifting landscape as aging and urbanization shape city economies across the globe. Download the Urban World app and build your understanding of how urban areas change by interacting with data on GDP and demographics from 3,000 cities worldwide and by tracking the world's shifting economic center of gravity from 1CE to 2025.

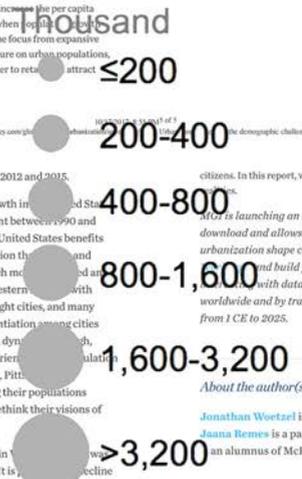
citizens. In this report, we explore how cities can cope with changing demographic challenges. MGI is launching an update to its Urban World app, which is free to download and allows you to explore the shifting landscape as aging and urbanization shape city economies across the globe. Download the Urban World app and build your understanding of how urban areas change by interacting with data on GDP and demographics from 3,000 cities worldwide and by tracking the world's shifting economic center of gravity from 1CE to 2025.

citizens. In this report, we explore how cities can cope with changing demographic challenges. MGI is launching an update to its Urban World app, which is free to download and allows you to explore the shifting landscape as aging and urbanization shape city economies across the globe. Download the Urban World app and build your understanding of how urban areas change by interacting with data on GDP and demographics from 3,000 cities worldwide and by tracking the world's shifting economic center of gravity from 1CE to 2025.

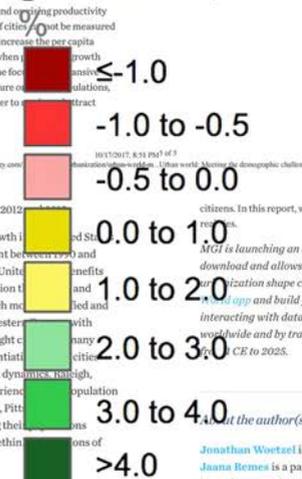
citizens. In this report, we explore how cities can cope with changing demographic challenges. MGI is launching an update to its Urban World app, which is free to download and allows you to explore the shifting landscape as aging and urbanization shape city economies across the globe. Download the Urban World app and build your understanding of how urban areas change by interacting with data on GDP and demographics from 3,000 cities worldwide and by tracking the world's shifting economic center of gravity from 1CE to 2025.

citizens. In this report, we explore how cities can cope with changing demographic challenges. MGI is launching an update to its Urban World app, which is free to download and allows you to explore the shifting landscape as aging and urbanization shape city economies across the globe. Download the Urban World app and build your understanding of how urban areas change by interacting with data on GDP and demographics from 3,000 cities worldwide and by tracking the world's shifting economic center of gravity from 1CE to 2025.

## Population, 2015

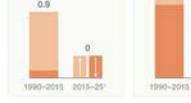


## Compound annual growth rate, 2015-25



About the author(s)  
Jonathan Woetzel is a director of the McKinsey Global Institute, where Jaana Remes is a partner and Mekala Krishnan is a fellow. Kevin Cole is an alumnus of McKinsey's Toronto office.

demographic era, we are likely to see a much more fragmented urban landscape, with pockets of robust expansion but also areas of stagnant and declining populations. Cities' growth prospects will reflect very different demographic footprints and dynamics shaped by their local birth and death rates, net domestic migration, and net international migration.



The days of easy growth in the world's cities are over, and how they respond to demographic shifts will influence their prosperity.

# CITIES SHRINK IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD

Cities have powered the world economy for centuries. Large cities generate about 75 percent of global GDP today and will generate 86 percent of worldwide GDP growth between 2015 and 2030. Population growth has been the crucial driver of cities' GDP growth, accounting for 58 percent of it among large cities between 2000 and 2012. Rising per capita income contributed the other 42 percent.

However, the world's cities are facing more challenging demographics, and the days of easy growth are over. In the past, city economies expanded largely because their populations were increasing due to high birthrates and mass migration from rural areas. Both of those sources of population growth are now diminishing. Global population growth is slowing because of declining fertility rates and aging. At the same time, rural-to-urban migration is running its course and plateauing in many regions. How cities adjust to the new reality is important not only for their prospects but also for those of nations that will continue to rely on thriving cities for rising prosperity.

In a new report, *Urban World: Meeting the demographic challenges*, the McKinsey Global Institute (MGI) compares three developed countries and regions to understand the implications (exhibit):

Japan, Japan's challenges are different from other regions. Urban-population growth between 1990 and 2015, and only 0.6 percent of the population is projected to be able to continue to grow, while most are experiencing slow or negative growth. Nagoya and Tokyo are still growing from domestic migration; the city of Osaka is growing because of net international migration.

McKinsey uses cookies to provide you with a better browsing experience and to analyze how users navigate and utilize the Site. Detailed information on the use of cookies on this Site, and how you can decline them, is provided in our [cookie policy](#). By using this Site or clicking on "OK," you consent to the use of cookies.

McKinsey & Company  
Report  
McKinsey Global Institute  
October 2016

## Urban world: Meeting the demographic challenge in cities

By Jonathan Wortzel, Jaana Remes, Kevin Colan, and Makala Krishnan

The days of easy growth in the world's cities are over, and how they respond to demographic shifts will influence their prosperity.

### St. Petersburg

Cities have powered the world economy for centuries. Large cities generate about 75 percent of global GDP today and will generate 86 percent of worldwide GDP growth between 2015 and 2030. Population growth has been the crucial driver of cities' GDP growth, accounting for 58 percent of it among large cities between 2000 and 2012. Rising per capita income contributed the other 42 percent.

However, the world's cities are facing more challenging demographics, and the days of easy growth are over. In the past, city economies expanded largely because their populations were increasing due to high birthrates and mass migration from rural areas. Both of those sources of population growth are now diminishing. Global population growth is slowing because of declining fertility rates and aging. At the same time, rural-to-urban migration is running its course and plateauing in many regions. How cities adjust to the new reality is important not only for their prospects but also for those of nations that will continue to rely on thriving cities for rising prosperity.

### Krakov

### Budapest

McKinsey uses cookies to provide you with a better browsing experience and to analyze how users navigate and utilize the Site. Detailed information on the use of cookies on this Site, and how you can decline them, is provided in our [cookie policy](#). By using this Site or clicking on "OK," you consent to the use of cookies.

McKinsey & Company  
Report  
McKinsey Global Institute  
October 2016

## Urban world: Meeting the demographic challenge in cities

By Jonathan Wortzel, Jaana Remes, Kevin Colan, and Makala Krishnan

The days of easy growth in the world's cities are over, and how they respond to demographic shifts will influence their prosperity.

Cities have powered the world economy for centuries. Large cities generate about 75 percent of global GDP today and will generate 86 percent of worldwide GDP growth between 2015 and 2030. Population growth has been the crucial driver of cities' GDP growth, accounting for 58 percent of it among large cities between 2000 and 2012. Rising per capita income contributed the other 42 percent.

However, the world's cities are facing more challenging demographics, and the days of easy growth are over. In the past, city economies expanded largely because their populations were increasing due to high birthrates and mass migration from rural areas. Both of those sources of population growth are now diminishing. Global population growth is slowing because of declining fertility rates and aging. At the same time, rural-to-urban migration is running its course and plateauing in many regions. How cities adjust to the new reality is important not only for their prospects but also for those of nations that will continue to rely on thriving cities for rising prosperity.

The double hit of slowing population growth and aging is causing urbanization caused population to decline in 6 percent of the world's population in developed economies—between 2000 and 2015, we expect population to decline in 17 percent of large cities, the urban population in Canada and the United States grew at a compound annual rate of 0.8 percent between 1950 and 1970, but dropped to only 1.0 percent from 2010 to 2015. That rate is expected to persist up to 2025 and then to decline even further, to 0.8 percent from 2025 to 2055. Although the demographic shift is more advanced in developed regions, it also affects emerging regions.

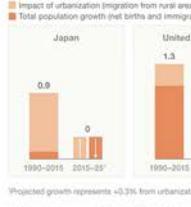
A challenge to the economic prospects of cities is the aging population. The past 50 years were the best for working-age populations. In the future, we are likely to see a much more fragmented urban landscape, with pockets of robust expansion but also areas of stagnant and declining populations. Cities' growth prospects will reflect very different demographic footprints and dynamics shaped by their local birth and death rates, net domestic migration, and net international migration.

The double hit of slowing population growth and aging is causing urbanization caused population to decline in 6 percent of the world's population in developed economies—between 2000 and 2015, we expect population to decline in 17 percent of large cities, the urban population in Canada and the United States grew at a compound annual rate of 0.8 percent between 1950 and 1970, but dropped to only 1.0 percent from 2010 to 2015. That rate is expected to persist up to 2025 and then to decline even further, to 0.8 percent from 2025 to 2055. Although the demographic shift is more advanced in developed regions, it also affects emerging regions.

In a new report, *Urban World: Meeting the demographic challenges*, the McKinsey Global Institute (MGI) compares three developed countries and regions to understand the implications (exhibit):

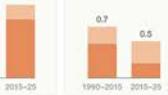


Urban-population growth, 2015-25 projected



Projected growth represents +0.3% from urbanized population. Source: McKinsey Global Institute

Japan, Japan's challenges are different from other regions. Urban-population growth between 1990 and 2015, and only 0.6 percent of the population is projected to be able to continue to grow, while most are experiencing slow or negative growth. Nagoya and Tokyo are still growing from domestic migration; the city of Osaka is growing because of net international migration.



# DEVELOPED 'WESTERN' WORLD

...the most acute of the three developed  
...in Japan was 0.9 percent between  
...ent between 2010 and 2015. Urban  
...t going forward. Some urban hubs  
...rounding cities are aging and  
...population growth. The populations of  
...ing, largely reflecting inward  
...pparo, however, has relatively slow  
...gated hom...

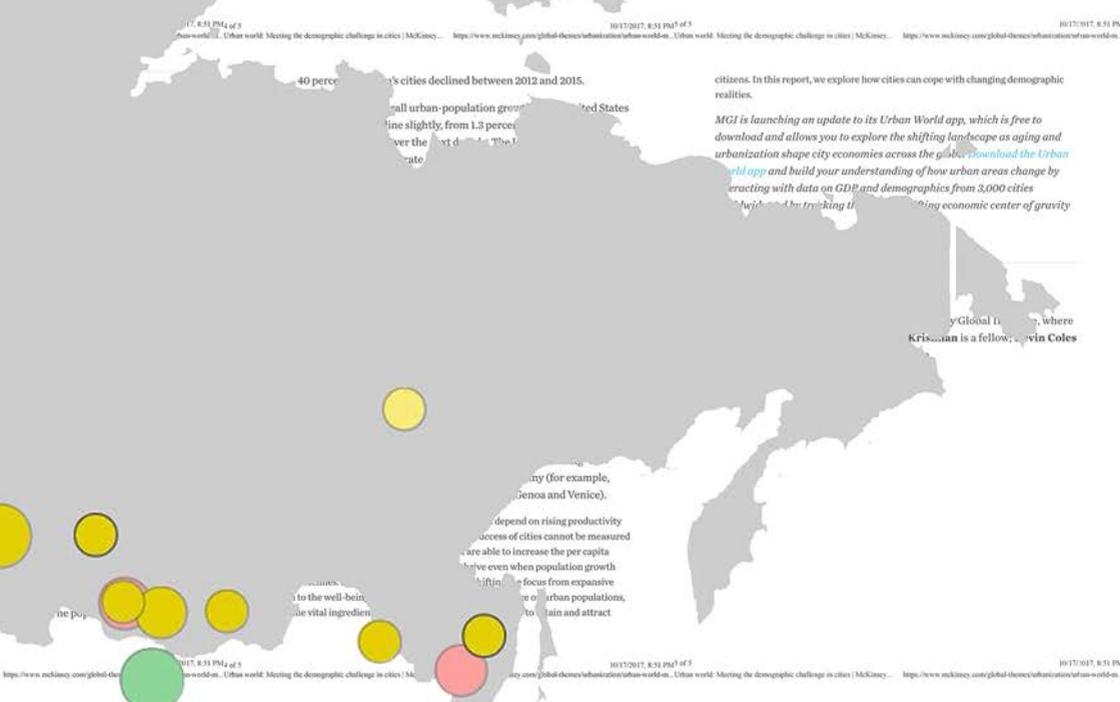
...gth driven by all three factors. In contrast, Pittsburgh,  
...sylvania, and Cleveland, Ohio, are seeing their populations  
...dden or even shrink, and both have had to rethink their visions of  
...the city.

- **Western Europe.** Urban-population growth in Western Europe was 0.7 percent annually between 1990 and 2015. It is projected to decline to 0.4 percent by 2025 and 0.3 percent by 2035. Like Japan and the United States, Western Europe is aging unevenly and likely to experience more differentiation in the future. The capital cities of Berlin, London, Oslo, Paris, and Stockholm all have growing populations. However, many cities are already experiencing population decline. This includes cities in Germany (for example, Chemnitz, Gera, and Saarbrücken) and Italy (Genoa and Venice).

For most cities, economic prosperity increasingly will depend on rising productivity and incomes among their citizens. The economic success of cities cannot be measured simply by their overall GDP growth—cities that are able to increase the per capita income and quality of life of their citizens can thrive even when population growth slows or declines. For many cities, this will mean shifting the focus from expansive population to the well-being of their citizens. In an era of pressure on urban populations, this is the vital ingredient as cities compete with one another to retain and attract

## About the author(s)

Jonathan Woetzel is a director of the McKinsey Global Institute, where Jaana Remes is a partner and Mekala Krishnan is a fellow; Kevin Cole is an alumnus of McKinsey's Toronto office.



...40 percent of Japan's cities declined between 2012 and 2015. Overall, urban-population growth in the United States declined slightly, from 1.3 percent in 2010 to 1.0 percent in 2015. The U.S. urban system is much more diversified and more dynamic than that of either Japan or Western Europe, with many large cities, a broad swath of middleweight cities, and many "niche" cities. And there is significant differentiation among cities that vary in their demographic footprints and dynamics. Raleigh, North Carolina, and Houston, Texas, are experiencing high population growth driven by all three factors. In contrast, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and Cleveland, Ohio, are seeing their populations flatten or even shrink, and both have had to rethink their visions of the city.

citizens. In this report, we explore how cities can cope with changing demographic realities. MGI is launching an update to its Urban World app, which is free to download and allows you to explore the shifting landscape as aging and urbanization shape city economies across the globe. Download the Urban World app and build your understanding of how urban areas change by interacting with data on GDP and demographics from 3,000 cities worldwide and by tracking the world's shifting economic center of gravity from 1 CE to 2025.

40 percent of Japan's cities declined between 2012 and 2015.

- **United States.** Overall, urban-population growth in the United States is projected to decline from 1.3 percent between 1990 and 2015 to 1.0 percent over the next decade. The United States benefits from a higher fertility rate and greater migration than Japan and Western Europe. The US urban system is much more diversified and more dynamic than that of either Japan or Western Europe, with many large cities, a broad swath of middleweight cities, and many "niche" cities. And there is significant differentiation among cities that vary in their demographic footprints and dynamics. Raleigh, North Carolina, and Houston, Texas, are experiencing high population growth driven by all three factors. In contrast, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and Cleveland, Ohio, are seeing their populations flatten or even shrink, and both have had to rethink their visions of the city.
- **Western Europe.** Urban-population growth in Western Europe was 0.7 percent annually between 1990 and 2015. It is projected to decline to 0.5 percent by 2025 and 0.4 percent between 2025 and 2035. Like Japan and the United States, Western Europe is aging unevenly and is likely to experience more differentiation in the future. The capital cities of Berlin, London, Oslo, Paris, and Stockholm all have growing populations. However, many cities are already experiencing population decline. This includes cities in Germany (for example, Chemnitz, Gera, and Saarbrücken) and Italy (Genoa and Venice).

citizens. In this report, we explore how cities can cope with changing demographic realities. MGI is launching an update to its Urban World app, which is free to download and allows you to explore the shifting landscape as aging and urbanization shape city economies across the globe. Download the Urban World app and build your understanding of how urban areas change by interacting with data on GDP and demographics from 3,000 cities worldwide and by tracking the world's shifting economic center of gravity from 1 CE to 2025.

## About the author(s)

Jonathan Woetzel is a director of the McKinsey Global Institute, where Jaana Remes is a partner and Mekala Krishnan is a fellow; Kevin Cole is an alumnus of McKinsey's Toronto office.

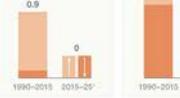
...to aging and falling fertility  
...migration will deliver a double



...the most acute of the three developed  
...in Japan was 0.9 percent between  
...ent between 2010 and 2015. Urban  
...t going forward. Some urban hubs  
...rounding cities are aging and  
...population growth. The populations of  
...ing, largely reflecting inward  
...pparo, however, has relatively slow  
...gated hom...

For most cities, economic prosperity increasingly will depend on rising productivity and incomes among their citizens. The economic success of cities cannot be measured simply by their overall GDP growth—cities that are able to increase the per capita income and quality of life of their citizens can thrive even when population growth slows or declines. For many cities, this will mean shifting the focus from expansive

demographic era, we are likely to see a much more fragmented urban landscape, with pockets of robust expansion but also areas of stagnant and declining populations. Cities' growth prospects will reflect very different demographic footprints and dynamics shaped by their local birth and death rates, net domestic migration, and net international migration.



The days of easy growth in the world's cities are over, and how they respond to demographic shifts will influence their prosperity.

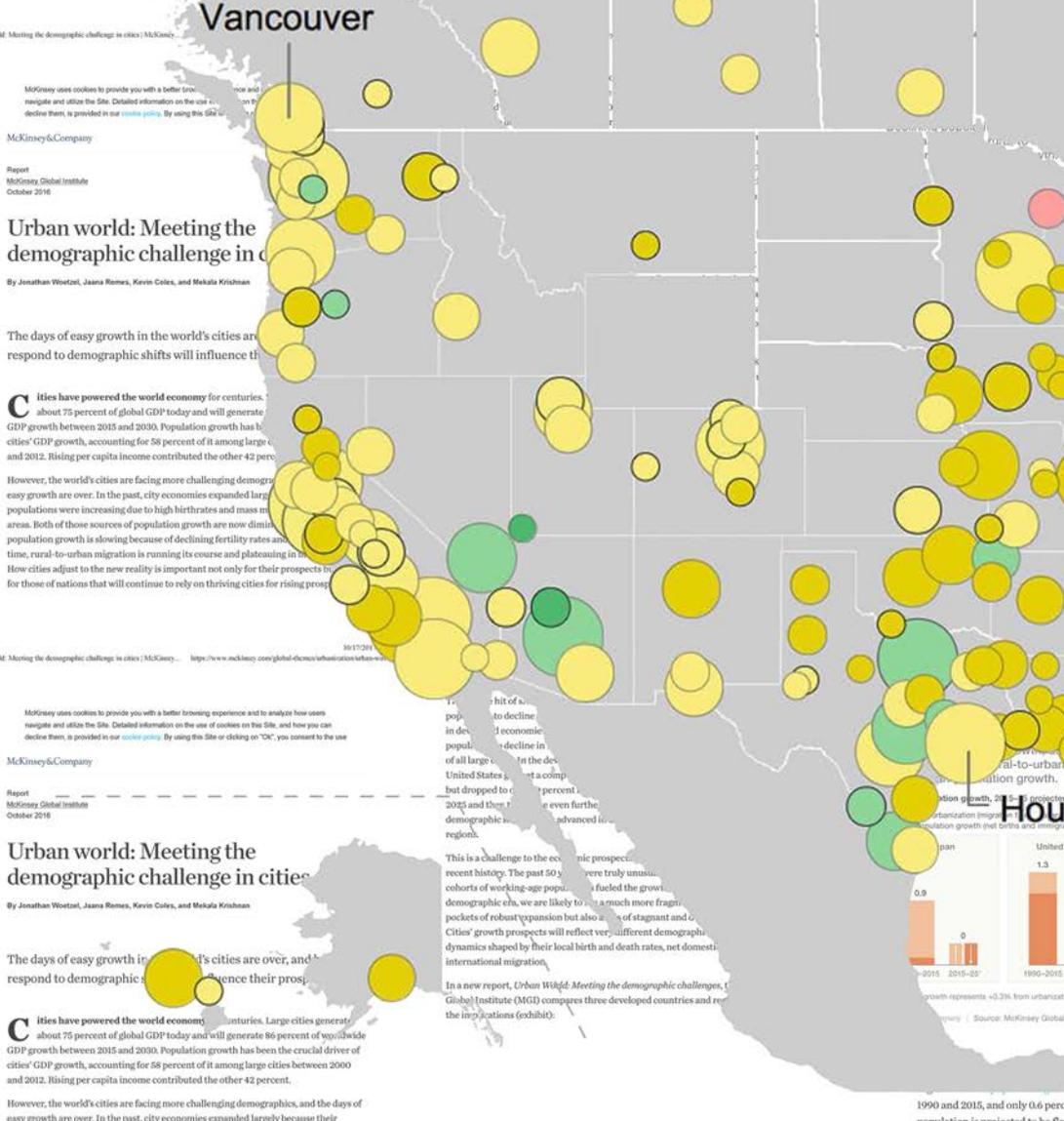
# CITIES SHRINK IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD

Cities have powered the world economy for centuries. Large cities generate about 75 percent of global GDP today and will generate 86 percent of world GDP growth between 2015 and 2030. Population growth has been the crucial driver of cities' GDP growth, accounting for 58 percent of it among large cities between 2000 and 2012. Rising per capita income contributed the other 42 percent.

However, the world's cities are facing more challenging demographics, and the days of easy growth are over. In the past, city economies expanded largely because their populations were increasing due to high birthrates and mass migration from rural areas. Both of those sources of population growth are now diminishing. Global population growth is slowing because of declining fertility rates and aging. At the same time, rural-to-urban migration is running its course and plateauing in many regions. How cities adjust to the new reality is important not only for their prospects but also for those of nations that will continue to rely on thriving cities for rising prosperity.

In a new report, *Urban World: Meeting the demographic challenges*, the McKinsey Global Institute (MGI) compares three developed countries and three developing countries and

Japan, Japan's challenges are different from those of other developed regions. Urban-population growth between 1990 and 2015, and only 0.6 percentage points of the total population is projected to be lost by 2050.



Vancouver

McKinsey uses cookies to provide you with a better browsing experience and to analyze how users navigate and utilize the Site. Detailed information on the use of cookies on this Site, and how you can decline them, is provided in our [cookie policy](#). By using this Site or clicking on "OK," you consent to the use of cookies.

McKinsey & Company

Report  
McKinsey Global Institute  
October 2016

## Urban world: Meeting the demographic challenge in cities

By Jonathan Wortzel, Jaana Remes, Kevin Coles, and Mekala Krishnan

The days of easy growth in the world's cities are over, and how they respond to demographic shifts will influence their prosperity.

Cities have powered the world economy for centuries. Large cities generate about 75 percent of global GDP today and will generate 86 percent of world GDP growth between 2015 and 2030. Population growth has been the crucial driver of cities' GDP growth, accounting for 58 percent of it among large cities between 2000 and 2012. Rising per capita income contributed the other 42 percent.

However, the world's cities are facing more challenging demographics, and the days of easy growth are over. In the past, city economies expanded largely because their populations were increasing due to high birthrates and mass migration from rural areas. Both of those sources of population growth are now diminishing. Global population growth is slowing because of declining fertility rates and aging. At the same time, rural-to-urban migration is running its course and plateauing in many regions. How cities adjust to the new reality is important not only for their prospects but also for those of nations that will continue to rely on thriving cities for rising prosperity.

Vancouver

McKinsey uses cookies to provide you with a better browsing experience and to analyze how users navigate and utilize the Site. Detailed information on the use of cookies on this Site, and how you can decline them, is provided in our [cookie policy](#). By using this Site or clicking on "OK," you consent to the use of cookies.

McKinsey & Company

Report  
McKinsey Global Institute  
October 2016

## Urban world: Meeting the demographic challenge in cities

By Jonathan Wortzel, Jaana Remes, Kevin Coles, and Mekala Krishnan

The days of easy growth in the world's cities are over, and how they respond to demographic shifts will influence their prosperity.

Cities have powered the world economy for centuries. Large cities generate about 75 percent of global GDP today and will generate 86 percent of world GDP growth between 2015 and 2030. Population growth has been the crucial driver of cities' GDP growth, accounting for 58 percent of it among large cities between 2000 and 2012. Rising per capita income contributed the other 42 percent.

However, the world's cities are facing more challenging demographics, and the days of easy growth are over. In the past, city economies expanded largely because their populations were increasing due to high birthrates and mass migration from rural areas. Both of those sources of population growth are now diminishing. Global population growth is slowing because of declining fertility rates and aging. At the same time, rural-to-urban migration is running its course and plateauing in many regions. How cities adjust to the new reality is important not only for their prospects but also for those of nations that will continue to rely on thriving cities for rising prosperity.

In a recent history. The past 50 years truly unusual. The demographic era, we are likely to see a much more fragmented urban landscape, with pockets of robust expansion but also areas of stagnant and declining populations. Cities' growth prospects will reflect very different demographic footprints and dynamics shaped by their local birth and death rates, net domestic migration, and net international migration.

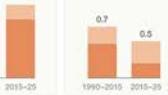
This is a challenge to the economic prospects of many nations. The McKinsey Global Institute (MGI) compares three developed countries and three developing countries and analyzes their implications (exhibit).



1990 and 2015, and only 0.6 percentage points of the total population is projected to be lost by 2050. In contrast, India's population is projected to grow, while most of the population is projected to be lost by 2050. Nagoya and Tokyo are still growing, but domestic migration; the city of







# DEVELOPED 'WESTERN WORLD

...the most acute of the three developed  
...in Japan was 0.9 percent between  
...between 2010 and 2015. Urban  
...going forward. Some urban hubs  
...rounding cities are aging and  
...population growth. The populations of  
...ing, largely reflecting inward  
...apporo, however, has relatively slow  
...negative homegrown growth and  
...migration. The population of almost

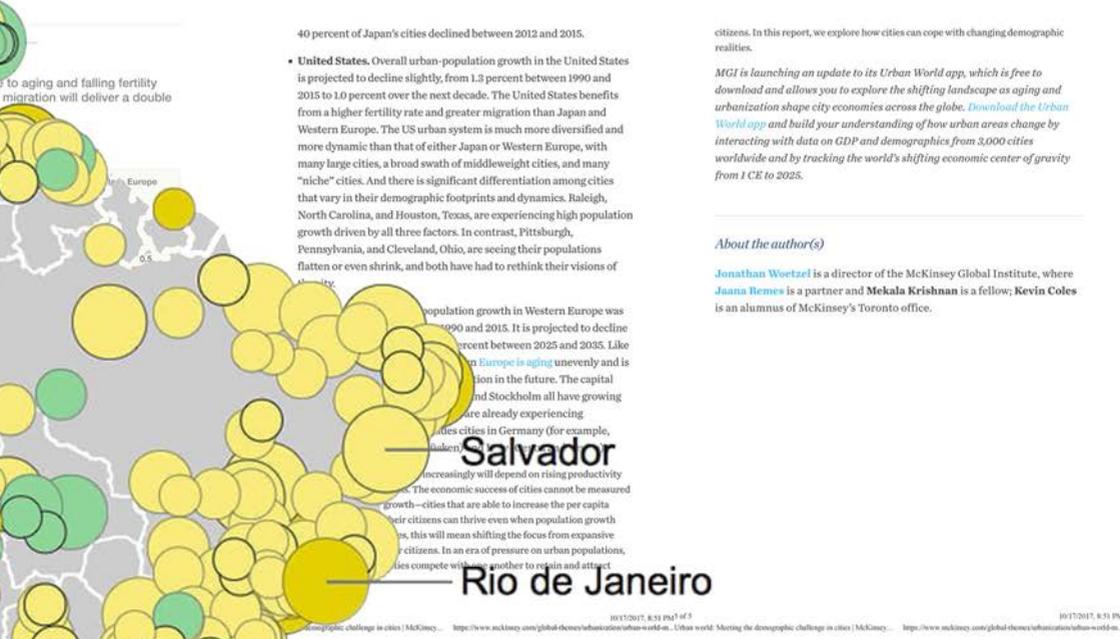
- **Western Europe.** Urban-population growth in Western Europe was 0.7 percent annually between 1990 and 2015. It is projected to decline to 0.5 percent between 2015 and 2035. Like Japan and the United States, Western Europe is aging unevenly and is likely to experience more differentiation in the future. The capital cities of Berlin, London, Oslo, Paris, and Stockholm all have growing populations. However, many cities are already experiencing population decline. This includes cities in Germany (for example, Chemnitz, Gera, and Saarbrücken) and Italy (Genoa and Venice).

For most cities, economic prosperity increasingly will depend on rising productivity and incomes among their citizens. The economic success of cities cannot be measured simply by their overall GDP growth—cities that are able to increase the per capita income and quality of life of their citizens can thrive even when population growth slows or declines. For many cities, this will mean shifting the focus from expansive growth to the well-being of their citizens. In an era of pressure on urban populations, this is the vital ingredient as cities compete with one another to retain and attract

## About the author(s)

Jonathan Woetzel is a director of the McKinsey Global Institute, where Jaana Remes is a partner and Mekala Krishnan is a fellow. Kevin Cole is an alumnus of McKinsey's Toronto office.

https://www.mckinsey.com/global-themes/urbanization/urban-world-en. Urban world: Meeting the demographic challenges in cities | McKinsey... https://www.mckinsey.com/global-themes/urbanization/urban-world-en. Urban world: Meeting the demographic challenges in cities | McKinsey... https://www.mckinsey.com/global-themes/urbanization/urban-world-en. Urban world: Meeting the demographic challenges in cities | McKinsey...



40 percent of Japan's cities declined between 2012 and 2015.

- **United States.** Overall urban-population growth in the United States is projected to decline slightly, from 1.5 percent between 1990 and 2015 to 1.0 percent over the next decade. The United States benefits from a higher fertility rate and greater migration than Japan and Western Europe. The US urban system is much more diversified and more dynamic than that of either Japan or Western Europe, with many large cities, a broad swath of middleweight cities, and many "niche" cities. And there is significant differentiation among cities that vary in their demographic footprints and dynamics. Raleigh, North Carolina, and Houston, Texas, are experiencing high population growth driven by all three factors. In contrast, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and Cleveland, Ohio, are seeing their populations flatten or even shrink, and both have had to rethink their visions of

...population growth in Western Europe was  
...1990 and 2015. It is projected to decline  
...percent between 2025 and 2035. Like  
...in Europe is aging unevenly and is  
...tion in the future. The capital  
...and Stockholm all have growing  
...are already experiencing  
...cities in Germany (for example,  
...aken, Saarbrücken) and Italy (Genoa and Venice).  
...increasingly will depend on rising productivity  
...The economic success of cities cannot be measured  
...growth—cities that are able to increase the per capita  
...their citizens can thrive even when population growth  
...s, this will mean shifting the focus from expansive  
...r citizens. In an era of pressure on urban populations,  
...ies compete with one another to retain and attract

Salvador

Rio de Janeiro

Buenos Aires

40 percent of Japan's cities declined between 2012 and 2015.

- **United States.** Overall urban-population growth in the United States is projected to decline slightly, from 1.5 percent between 1990 and 2015 to 1.0 percent over the next decade. The United States benefits from a higher fertility rate and greater migration than Japan and Western Europe. The US urban system is much more diversified and more dynamic than that of either Japan or Western Europe, with many large cities, a broad swath of middleweight cities, and many "niche" cities. And there is significant differentiation among cities that vary in their demographic footprints and dynamics. Raleigh, North Carolina, and Houston, Texas, are experiencing high population growth driven by all three factors. In contrast, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and Cleveland, Ohio, are seeing their populations flatten or even shrink, and both have had to rethink their visions of the city.

- **Western Europe.** Urban-population growth in Western Europe was 0.7 percent annually between 1990 and 2015. It is projected to decline to 0.5 percent to 2025 and to 0.4 percent between 2025 and 2035. Like Japan and the United States, Western Europe is aging unevenly and is likely to experience more differentiation in the future. The capital cities of Berlin, London, Oslo, Paris, and Stockholm all have growing populations. However, many cities are already experiencing population decline. This includes cities in Germany (for example, Chemnitz, Gera, and Saarbrücken) and Italy (Genoa and Venice).

For most cities, economic prosperity increasingly will depend on rising productivity and incomes among their citizens. The economic success of cities cannot be measured simply by their overall GDP growth—cities that are able to increase the per capita income and quality of life of their citizens can thrive even when population growth slows or declines. For many cities, this will mean shifting the focus from expansive

citizens. In this report, we explore how cities can cope with changing demographic realities.

MGI is launching an update to its Urban World app, which is free to download and allows you to explore the shifting landscape as aging and urbanization shape city economies across the globe. Download the Urban World app and build your understanding of how urban areas change by interacting with data on GDP and demographics from 3,000 cities worldwide and by tracking the world's shifting economic center of gravity from 1 CE to 2025.

## About the author(s)

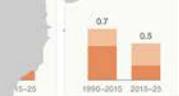
Jonathan Woetzel is a director of the McKinsey Global Institute, where Jaana Remes is a partner and Mekala Krishnan is a fellow. Kevin Cole is an alumnus of McKinsey's Toronto office.

citizens. In this report, we explore how cities can cope with changing demographic realities.

MGI is launching an update to its Urban World app, which is free to download and allows you to explore the shifting landscape as aging and urbanization shape city economies across the globe. Download the Urban World app and build your understanding of how urban areas change by interacting with data on GDP and demographics from 3,000 cities worldwide and by tracking the world's shifting economic center of gravity from 1 CE to 2025.

## About the author(s)

Jonathan Woetzel is a director of the McKinsey Global Institute, where Jaana Remes is a partner and Mekala Krishnan is a fellow. Kevin Cole is an alumnus of McKinsey's Toronto office.



...the most acute of the three developed  
...in Japan was 0.9 percent between  
...between 2010 and 2015. Urban  
...going forward. Some urban hubs  
...rounding cities are aging and  
...population growth. The populations of  
...ing, largely reflecting inward  
...apporo, however, has relatively slow  
...negative homegrown growth and  
...migration. The population of almost

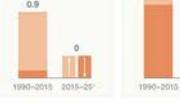
The days of easy growth in the world's cities are over, and how they respond to demographic shifts will influence their prosperity.

Cities have powered the world economy for centuries. Large cities generate about 75 percent of global GDP today and will generate 86 percent of worldwide GDP growth between 2015 and 2030. Population growth has been the crucial driver of cities' GDP growth, accounting for 58 percent of it among large cities between 2000 and 2012. Rising per capita income contributed the other 42 percent.

However, the world's cities are facing more challenging demographics, and the days of easy growth are over. In the past, city economies expanded largely because their populations were increasing due to high birthrates and mass migration from rural areas. Both of those sources of population growth are now diminishing. Global population growth is slowing because of declining fertility rates and aging. At the same time, rural-to-urban migration is running its course and plateauing in many regions. How cities adjust to the new reality is important not only for their prospects but also for those of nations that will continue to rely on thriving cities for rising prosperity.

demographic era, we are likely to see a much more fragmented urban landscape, with pockets of robust expansion but also areas of stagnant and declining populations. Cities' growth prospects will reflect very different demographic footprints and dynamics shaped by their local birth and death rates, net domestic migration, and net international migration.

In a new report, *Urban World: Meeting the demographic challenges*, the McKinsey Global Institute (MGI) compares three developed countries and regions to understand the implications (exhibit):



# CITIES SHRINK IN THE DEVELOPED WORLD

Japan, Japan's challenges are the most acute. Urban-population growth between 1990 and 2015, and only 0.6 percent of the total population is projected to be added by 2025. The population is projected to be flat, while most are experiencing slow or negative growth. Nagoya and Tokyo are still growing, but domestic migration; the city of Osaka is experiencing population growth because of a relatively low inward domestic migration.

McKinsey uses cookies to provide you with a better browsing experience and to analyze how users navigate and utilize the Site. Detailed information on the use of cookies on this Site, and how you can decline them, is provided in our [privacy policy](#). By using this Site or clicking on "OK," you consent to the use of cookies.

McKinsey&Company

Report  
McKinsey Global Institute  
October 2016

## Urban world: Meeting the demographic challenge in cities

By Jonathan Wortzel, Jaana Remes, Kevin Coles, and Mekala Krishnan

The days of easy growth in the world's cities are over, and how they respond to demographic shifts will influence their prosperity.

Cities have powered the world economy for centuries. Large cities generate about 75 percent of global GDP today and will generate 86 percent of worldwide GDP growth between 2015 and 2030. Population growth has been the crucial driver of cities' GDP growth, accounting for 58 percent of it among large cities between 2000 and 2012. Rising per capita income contributed the other 42 percent.

However, the world's cities are facing more challenging demographics, and the days of easy growth are over. In the past, city economies expanded largely because their populations were increasing due to high birthrates and mass migration from rural areas. Both of those sources of population growth are now diminishing. Global population growth is slowing because of declining fertility rates and aging. At the same time, rural-to-urban migration is running its course and plateauing in many regions. How cities adjust to the new reality is important not only for their prospects but also for those of nations that will continue to rely on thriving cities for rising prosperity.



McKinsey uses cookies to provide you with a better browsing experience and to analyze how users navigate and utilize the Site. Detailed information on the use of cookies on this Site, and how you can decline them, is provided in our [privacy policy](#). By using this Site or clicking on "OK," you consent to the use of cookies.

McKinsey&Company

Report  
McKinsey Global Institute  
October 2016

## Urban world: Meeting the demographic challenge in cities

By Jonathan Wortzel, Jaana Remes, Kevin Coles, and Mekala Krishnan

The days of easy growth in the world's cities are over, and how they respond to demographic shifts will influence their prosperity.

Cities have powered the world economy for centuries. Large cities generate about 75 percent of global GDP today and will generate 86 percent of worldwide GDP growth between 2015 and 2030. Population growth has been the crucial driver of cities' GDP growth, accounting for 58 percent of it among large cities between 2000 and 2012. Rising per capita income contributed the other 42 percent.

However, the world's cities are facing more challenging demographics, and the days of easy growth are over. In the past, city economies expanded largely because their populations were increasing due to high birthrates and mass migration from rural areas. Both of those sources of population growth are now diminishing. Global population growth is slowing because of declining fertility rates and aging. At the same time, rural-to-urban migration is running its course and plateauing in many regions. How cities adjust to the new reality is important not only for their prospects but also for those of nations that will continue to rely on thriving cities for rising prosperity.

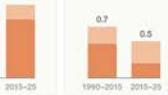
The double hit of slowing population growth and plateauing urbanization caused population to decline in 6 percent of the world's largest cities—with the largest share in developed economies—between 2000 and 2015. From 2015 to 2025, we expect population to decline in 17 percent of large cities in developed regions and in 8 percent of all large cities. In the developed world, the urban population in Canada and the United States grew at a compound annual rate of 2.2 percent between 1950 and 1970 but dropped to only 1.0 percent from 2010 to 2015. That rate is expected to persist until 2025 and then to decline even further, to 0.8 percent from 2025 to 2035. Although the demographic shift is more advanced in developed regions, it also affects emerging regions.

This is a challenge to the economic prospects of cities that marks a distinct break from recent history. The past 50 years were truly unusual in demographic terms, as large cohorts of working-age populations fueled the growth of cities and nations. In the new demographic era, we are likely to see a much more fragmented urban landscape, with pockets of robust expansion but also areas of stagnant and declining populations. Cities' growth prospects will reflect very different demographic footprints and dynamics shaped by their local birth and death rates, net domestic migration, and net international migration.

In a new report, *Urban World: Meeting the demographic challenges*, the McKinsey Global Institute (MGI) compares three developed countries and regions to understand the implications (exhibit):



Japan, Japan's challenges are the most acute. Urban-population growth between 1990 and 2015, and only 0.6 percent of the total population is projected to be added by 2025. The population is projected to be flat, while most are experiencing slow or negative growth. Nagoya and Tokyo are still growing, but domestic migration; the city of Osaka is experiencing population growth because of a relatively low inward domestic migration.



# DEVELOPED 'WESTERN WORLD

...the most acute of the three developed  
...in Japan was 0.9 percent between  
...between 2010 and 2015. Urban  
...going forward. Some urban hubs  
...rounding cities are aging and  
...population growth. The populations of  
...ing, largely reflecting inward  
...apporo, however, has relatively slow  
...negative homegrown growth and  
...migration. The population of almost

...in contrast, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and Cleveland, Ohio, are seeing their populations flatten or even shrink, and both have had to rethink their visions of the city.

- Western Europe.** Urban-population growth in Western Europe was 0.7 percent annually between 1990 and 2015. It is projected to decline to 0.5 percent by 2025 and 0.4 percent by 2035. Like Japan and the United States, Western Europe is aging unevenly and is likely to experience more differentiation in the future. The capital cities of Berlin, London, Oslo, Paris, and Stockholm all have growing populations. However, many cities are already experiencing population decline. This includes cities in Germany (for example, Chemnitz, Gera, and Saarbrücken) and Italy (Genoa and Venice).

For most cities, economic prosperity increasingly will depend on rising productivity and incomes among their citizens. The economic success of cities cannot be measured simply by their overall GDP growth—cities that are able to increase the per capita income and quality of life of their citizens can thrive even when population growth slows or declines. For many cities, this will mean shifting the focus from expansive growth to the well-being of their citizens. In an era of pressure on urban populations, this is the vital ingredient as cities compete with one another to retain and attract

*About the author(s)*  
Jonathan Woetzel is a director of the McKinsey Global Institute, where Jaana Remes is a partner and Mekala Krishnan is a fellow. Kevin Cole is an alumnus of McKinsey's Toronto office.

HOJ17017, 8.31 PM 4 of 9 HOJ17017, 8.31 PM 4 of 9

40 percent of Japan's cities declined between 2012 and 2015.

- United States.** Overall urban-population growth in the United States is projected to decline slightly, from 1.3 percent between 1990 and 2015 to 1.0 percent over the next decade. The United States benefits from a higher fertility rate and greater migration than Japan and Western Europe. The US urban system is much more diversified and more dynamic than that of either Japan or Western Europe, with many large cities, a broad swath of middleweight cities, and many "niche" cities. And there is significant differentiation among cities that vary in their demographic footprints and dynamics. Raleigh, North Carolina, and Houston, Texas, are experiencing high population growth driven by all three factors. In contrast, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and Cleveland, Ohio, are seeing their populations flatten or even shrink, and both have had to rethink their visions of the city.
- Western Europe.** Urban-population growth in Western Europe was 0.7 percent annually between 1990 and 2015. It is projected to decline to 0.5 percent by 2025 and 0.4 percent between 2025 and 2035. Like Japan and the United States, Western Europe is aging unevenly and is likely to experience more differentiation in the future. The capital cities of Berlin, London, Oslo, Paris, and Stockholm all have growing populations. However, many cities are already experiencing population decline. This includes cities in Germany (for example, Chemnitz, Gera, and Saarbrücken) and Italy (Genoa and Venice).

For most cities, economic prosperity increasingly will depend on rising productivity and incomes among their citizens. The economic success of cities cannot be measured simply by their overall GDP growth—cities that are able to increase the per capita income and quality of life of their citizens can thrive even when population growth slows or declines. For many cities, this will mean shifting the focus from expansive growth to the well-being of their citizens. In an era of pressure on urban populations, this is the vital ingredient as cities compete with one another to retain and attract

citizens. In this report, we explore how cities can cope with changing demographic realities.

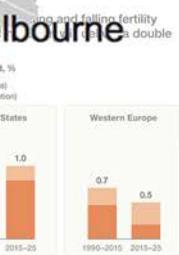
MGI is launching an update to its Urban World app, which is free to download and allows you to explore the shifting landscape as aging and urbanization shape city economies across the globe. Download the Urban World app and build your understanding of how urban areas change by interacting with data on GDP and demographics from 3,600 cities worldwide and by tracking the world's shifting economic center of gravity from 1 CE to 2025.

*About the author(s)*  
Jonathan Woetzel is a director of the McKinsey Global Institute, where Jaana Remes is a partner and Mekala Krishnan is a fellow. Kevin Cole is an alumnus of McKinsey's Toronto office.

...to aging and falling fertility  
...migration will deliver a double



...to aging and falling fertility  
...migration will deliver a double



40 percent of Japan's cities declined between 2012 and 2015.

- United States.** Overall urban-population growth in the United States is projected to decline slightly, from 1.3 percent between 1990 and 2015 to 1.0 percent over the next decade. The United States benefits from a higher fertility rate and greater migration than Japan and Western Europe. The US urban system is much more diversified and more dynamic than that of either Japan or Western Europe, with many large cities, a broad swath of middleweight cities, and many "niche" cities. And there is significant differentiation among cities that vary in their demographic footprints and dynamics. Raleigh, North Carolina, and Houston, Texas, are experiencing high population growth driven by all three factors. In contrast, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and Cleveland, Ohio, are seeing their populations flatten or even shrink, and both have had to rethink their visions of the city.
- Western Europe.** Urban-population growth in Western Europe was 0.7 percent annually between 1990 and 2015. It is projected to decline to 0.5 percent by 2025 and 0.4 percent between 2025 and 2035. Like Japan and the United States, Western Europe is aging unevenly and is likely to experience more differentiation in the future. The capital cities of Berlin, London, Oslo, Paris, and Stockholm all have growing populations. However, many cities are already experiencing population decline. This includes cities in Germany (for example, Chemnitz, Gera, and Saarbrücken) and Italy (Genoa and Venice).

For most cities, economic prosperity increasingly will depend on rising productivity and incomes among their citizens. The economic success of cities cannot be measured simply by their overall GDP growth—cities that are able to increase the per capita income and quality of life of their citizens can thrive even when population growth slows or declines. For many cities, this will mean shifting the focus from expansive growth to the well-being of their citizens. In an era of pressure on urban populations, this is the vital ingredient as cities compete with one another to retain and attract

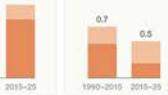
In this report, we explore how cities can cope with changing demographic

...launching an update to its Urban World app, which is free to download and allows you to explore the shifting landscape as aging and urbanization shape city economies across the globe. Download the Urban World app and build your understanding of how urban areas change by interacting with data on GDP and demographics from 3,600 cities worldwide and by tracking the world's shifting economic center of gravity from 1 CE to 2025.

*About the author(s)*  
Jonathan Woetzel is a director of the McKinsey Global Institute, where Jaana Remes is a partner and Mekala Krishnan is a fellow. Kevin Cole is an alumnus of McKinsey's Toronto office.

...the most acute of the three developed  
...in Japan was 0.9 percent between  
...between 2010 and 2015. Urban  
...going forward. Some urban hubs  
...rounding cities are aging and  
...population growth. The populations of  
...ing, largely reflecting inward  
...apporo, however, has relatively slow  
...negative homegrown growth and  
...migration. The population of almost





# DEVELOPED 'WESTERN WORLD

...the most acute of the three developed  
...in Japan was 0.9 percent between  
...ent between 2010 and 2015. Urban  
...urban hubs  
...aging and  
...The populations of  
...ecting inward  
...owever, has relatively slow  
...ive homegrown growth and  
...migration. The population of almost

- **Western Europe.** Urban-population growth in Western Europe was 0.7 percent annually between 1990 and 2015. It is projected to decline to 0.5 percent between 2015 and 2025, and to 0.4 percent between 2025 and 2035. Like Japan and the United States, Western Europe is aging unevenly and is likely to experience more differentiation in the future. The capital cities of Berlin, London, Oslo, Paris, and Stockholm all have growing populations. However, many cities are already experiencing population decline. This includes cities in Germany (for example, Chemnitz, Gera, and Saarbrücken) and Italy (Genoa and Venice).

## Sapporo

For most cities, economic prosperity increasingly will depend on rising productivity and incomes among their citizens. The economic success of cities cannot be measured simply by their overall GDP growth—cities that are able to increase the per capita income and quality of life of their citizens can thrive even when population growth slows or declines. For many cities, this will mean shifting the focus from expansive growth to the well-being of their citizens. In an era of pressure on urban populations, this is the vital ingredient as cities compete with one another to retain and attract

### About the author(s)

Jonathan Woetzel is a director of the McKinsey Global Institute, where Jaana Remes is a partner and Mekala Krishnan is a fellow. Kevin Cole is an alumnus of McKinsey's Toronto office.

https://www.mckinsey.com/global-themes/urbanization/urban-world-en. Urban world. Meeting the demographic challenge in cities | McKinsey. 10/17/2017, 8:31 PM 4 of 5

40 percent of Japan's cities declined between 2012 and 2015.

- **United States.** Overall urban-population growth in the United States is projected to decline slightly, from 1.3 percent between 1990 and 2015 to 1.0 percent over the next decade. The United States benefits from a higher fertility rate and greater migration than Japan and Western Europe. The US urban system is much more diversified and more dynamic than that of either Japan or Western Europe, with many large cities, a broad swath of middleweight cities, and many "niche" cities. And there is significant differentiation among cities that vary in their demographic footprints and dynamics. Raleigh, North Carolina, and Houston, Texas, are experiencing high population growth driven by all three factors. In contrast, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and Cleveland, Ohio, are seeing their populations flatten or even shrink, and both have had to rethink their visions of

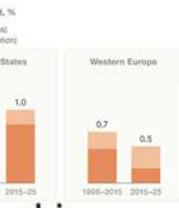
citizens. In this report, we explore how cities can cope with changing demographic realities.

MGI is launching an update to its *Urban World* app, which is free to download and allows you to explore the shifting landscape as aging and urbanization shape city economies across the globe. Download the *Urban World* app and build your understanding of how urban areas change by interacting with data on GDP and demographics from 3,000 cities worldwide and by tracking the world's shifting economic center of gravity from 1 CE to 2025.

### About the author(s)

Jonathan Woetzel is a director of the McKinsey Global Institute, where Jaana Remes is a partner and Mekala Krishnan is a fellow. Kevin Cole is an alumnus of McKinsey's Toronto office.

...to aging and falling fertility  
...migration will deliver a double



## Osaka

...the most acute of the three developed  
...in Japan was 0.9 percent between  
...ent between 2010 and 2015. Urban  
...going forward. Some urban hubs  
...are aging and  
...The populations of  
...ecting inward  
...largely reflecting inward  
...Sapporo, however, has relatively slow

Urban-population growth in Western Europe was 0.7 percent annually between 1990 and 2015. It is projected to decline to 0.5 percent between 2015 and 2025, and to 0.4 percent between 2025 and 2035. Like Japan and the United States, Western Europe is aging unevenly and is likely to experience more differentiation in the future. The capital cities of Berlin, London, Oslo, Paris, and Stockholm all have growing populations. However, many cities are already experiencing population decline. This includes cities in Germany (for example, Chemnitz, Gera, and Saarbrücken) and Italy (Genoa and Venice).

## Tokyo

For most cities, economic prosperity increasingly will depend on rising productivity and incomes among their citizens. The economic success of cities cannot be measured simply by their overall GDP growth—cities that are able to increase the per capita income and quality of life of their citizens can thrive even when population growth slows or declines. For many cities, this will mean shifting the focus from expansive growth to the well-being of their citizens. In an era of pressure on urban populations, this is the vital ingredient as cities compete with one another to retain and attract

citizens. In this report, we explore how cities can cope with changing demographic realities.

MGI is launching an update to its *Urban World* app, which is free to download and allows you to explore the shifting landscape as aging and urbanization shape city economies across the globe. Download the *Urban World* app and build your understanding of how urban areas change by interacting with data on GDP and demographics from 3,000 cities worldwide and by tracking the world's shifting economic center of gravity from 1 CE to 2025.

### About the author(s)

Jonathan Woetzel is a director of the McKinsey Global Institute, where Jaana Remes is a partner and Mekala Krishnan is a fellow. Kevin Cole is an alumnus of McKinsey's Toronto office.

https://www.mckinsey.com/global-themes/urbanization/urban-world-en. Urban world. Meeting the demographic challenge in cities | McKinsey. 10/17/2017, 8:31 PM 4 of 5

40 percent of Japan's cities declined between 2012 and 2015.

- **United States.** Overall urban-population growth in the United States is projected to decline slightly, from 1.3 percent between 1990 and 2015 to 1.0 percent over the next decade. The United States benefits from a higher fertility rate and greater migration than Japan and Western Europe. The US urban system is much more diversified and more dynamic than that of either Japan or Western Europe, with many large cities, a broad swath of middleweight cities, and many "niche" cities. And there is significant differentiation among cities that vary in their demographic footprints and dynamics. Raleigh, North Carolina, and Houston, Texas, are experiencing high population growth driven by all three factors. In contrast, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and Cleveland, Ohio, are seeing their populations flatten or even shrink, and both have had to rethink their visions of the city.
- **Western Europe.** Urban-population growth in Western Europe was 0.7 percent annually between 1990 and 2015. It is projected to decline to 0.5 percent between 2015 and 2025, and to 0.4 percent between 2025 and 2035. Like Japan and the United States, Western Europe is aging unevenly and is likely to experience more differentiation in the future. The capital cities of Berlin, London, Oslo, Paris, and Stockholm all have growing populations. However, many cities are already experiencing population decline. This includes cities in Germany (for example, Chemnitz, Gera, and Saarbrücken) and Italy (Genoa and Venice).

For most cities, economic prosperity increasingly will depend on rising productivity and incomes among their citizens. The economic success of cities cannot be measured simply by their overall GDP growth—cities that are able to increase the per capita income and quality of life of their citizens can thrive even when population growth slows or declines. For many cities, this will mean shifting the focus from expansive

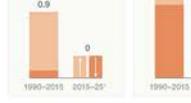
The days of easy growth in the world's cities are over, and how they respond to demographic shifts will influence their prosperity.

Cities have powered the world economy for centuries. Large cities generate about 75 percent of global GDP today and will generate 86 percent of worldwide GDP growth between 2015 and 2030. Population growth has been the crucial driver of cities' GDP growth, accounting for 58 percent of it among large cities between 2000 and 2012. Rising per capita income contributed the other 42 percent.

However, the world's cities are facing more challenging demographics, and the days of easy growth are over. In the past, city economies expanded largely because their populations were increasing due to high birthrates and mass migration from rural areas. Both of those sources of population growth are now diminishing. Global population growth is slowing because of declining fertility rates and aging. At the same time, rural-to-urban migration is running its course and plateauing in many regions. How cities adjust to the new reality is important not only for their prospects but also for those of nations that will continue to rely on thriving cities for rising prosperity.

# CITIES GROW IN THE UNDER

In a new report, *Urban World: Meeting the demographic challenges*, the McKinsey Global Institute (MGI) compares three developed countries and regions to understand the implications (exhibit):



Japan, Japan's challenges are the regions. Urban-population growth 1990 and 2015, and only 0.6 per population is projected to be flat continue to grow, while most su experiencing slow or negative p Nagoya and Tokyo are still grow domestic migration; the city of population growth because of n relatively low inward domestic

McKinsey uses cookies to provide you with a better browsing experience and to analyze how users navigate and utilize the Site. Detailed information on the use of cookies on this Site, and how you can decline them, is provided in our [privacy policy](#). By using this Site or clicking on "OK," you consent to the use

McKinsey&Company

Report  
McKinsey Global Institute  
October 2016

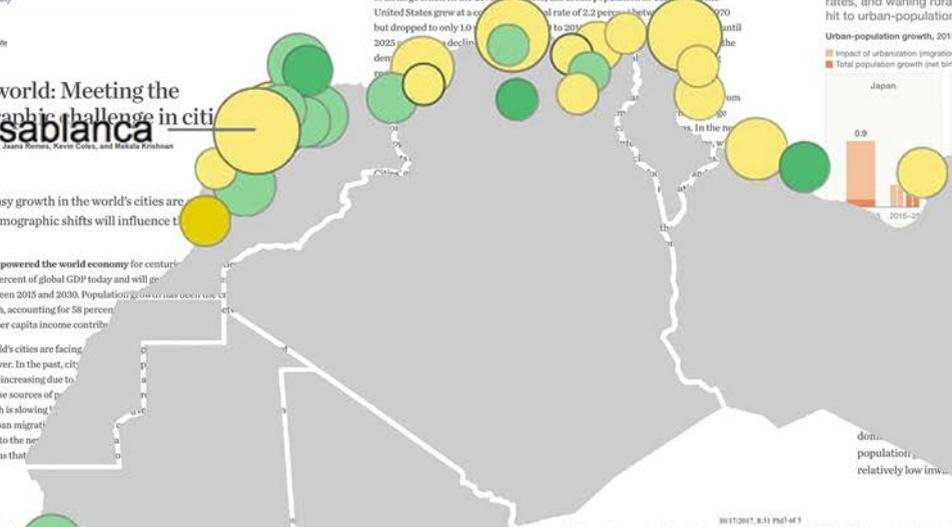
## Urban world: Meeting the demographic challenge in cities

By Jonathan Wortzel, Jaana Remes, Kevin Coles, and Mekala Krishnan

The days of easy growth in the world's cities are over, and how they respond to demographic shifts will influence their prosperity.

Cities have powered the world economy for centuries. Large cities generate about 75 percent of global GDP today and will generate 86 percent of worldwide GDP growth between 2015 and 2030. Population growth has been the crucial driver of cities' GDP growth, accounting for 58 percent of it among large cities between 2000 and 2012. Rising per capita income contributed the other 42 percent.

However, the world's cities are facing more challenging demographics, and the days of easy growth are over. In the past, city economies expanded largely because their populations were increasing due to high birthrates and mass migration from rural areas. Both of those sources of population growth are now diminishing. Global population growth is slowing because of declining fertility rates and aging. At the same time, rural-to-urban migration is running its course and plateauing in many regions. How cities adjust to the new reality is important not only for their prospects but also for those of nations that will continue to rely on thriving cities for rising prosperity.



The double hit of slowing population growth and plateauing urbanization caused population to decline in 6 percent of the world's largest cities—with the largest share in developed economies—between 2000 and 2015. From 2015 to 2025, we expect population to decline in 17 percent of large cities in developed regions and in 8 percent of all large cities. In the developed world, the urban population in Canada and the United States grew at a compound annual rate of 2.2 percent between 1950 and 1970 but dropped to only 1.0 percent from 2010 to 2015. That rate is expected to persist until 2025 and then to decline even further, to 0.8 percent from 2025 to 2035. Although the demographic shift is more advanced in developed regions, it also affects emerging regions.

Exhibit

Declining population growth, declining birth rates, and waning rural-to-urban migration are leading to a population plateau or decline in urban-population growth.

Urban-population growth, 2015-25 projected

Impact of urbanization (migration from rural areas)

Total population growth (net births and immigration)



McKinsey uses cookies to provide you with a better browsing experience and to analyze how users navigate and utilize the Site. Detailed information on the use of cookies on this Site, and how you can decline them, is provided in our [privacy policy](#). By using this Site or clicking on "OK," you consent to the use

McKinsey&Company

Report  
McKinsey Global Institute  
October 2016

## Urban world: Meeting the demographic challenge in cities

By Jonathan Wortzel, Jaana Remes, Kevin Coles, and Mekala Krishnan

The days of easy growth in the world's cities are over, and how they respond to demographic shifts will influence their prosperity.

Cities have powered the world economy for centuries. Large cities generate about 75 percent of global GDP today and will generate 86 percent of worldwide GDP growth between 2015 and 2030. Population growth has been the crucial driver of cities' GDP growth, accounting for 58 percent of it among large cities between 2000 and 2012. Rising per capita income contributed the other 42 percent.

However, the world's cities are facing more challenging demographics, and the days of easy growth are over. In the past, city economies expanded largely because their populations were increasing due to high birthrates and mass migration from rural areas. Both of those sources of population growth are now diminishing. Global population growth is slowing because of declining fertility rates and aging. At the same time, rural-to-urban migration is running its course and plateauing in many regions. How cities adjust to the new reality is important not only for their prospects but also for those of nations that will continue to rely on thriving cities for rising prosperity.

growth and plateauing urbanization caused population to decline in 6 percent of the world's largest cities—with the largest share in developed economies—between 2000 and 2015. From 2015 to 2025, we expect population to decline in 17 percent of large cities in developed regions and in 8 percent of all large cities. In the developed world, the urban population in Canada and the United States grew at a compound annual rate of 2.2 percent between 1950 and 1970 but dropped to only 1.0 percent from 2010 to 2015. That rate is expected to persist until 2025 and then to decline even further, to 0.8 percent from 2025 to 2035. Although the demographic shift is more advanced in developed regions, it also affects emerging regions.

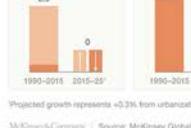
Exhibit

Declining population growth, declining birth rates, and waning rural-to-urban migration are leading to a population plateau or decline in urban-population growth.

Urban-population growth, 2015-25 projected

Impact of urbanization (migration from rural areas)

Total population growth (net births and immigration)



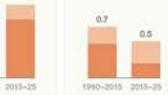
This is a challenge to the economic prospects of cities that marks a distinct break from recent history. The past 50 years were truly unusual in demographic terms, as large cohorts of working-age populations fueled the growth of cities and nations. In the new demographic era, we are likely to see a much more fragmented urban landscape, with pockets of robust expansion but also areas of stagnant and declining populations. Cities' growth prospects will reflect very different demographic footprints and dynamics shaped by their local birth and death rates, net domestic migration, and net international migration.

In a new report, *Urban World: Meeting the demographic challenges*, the McKinsey Global Institute (MGI) compares three developed countries and regions to understand the implications (exhibit):

Projected growth represents +0.2% from urbanized

McKinsey&Company | Source: McKinsey Global

Japan, Japan's challenges are the regions. Urban-population growth 1990 and 2015, and only 0.6 per population is projected to be flat continue to grow, while most su experiencing slow or negative p Nagoya and Tokyo are still grow domestic migration; the city of population growth because of n relatively low inward domestic



# DEVELOPED 'THIRD' WORLD

...the most acute of the three developed  
...in Japan was 0.9 percent between  
...ent between 2010 and 2015. Urban  
...t going forward. Some urban hubs  
...rounding cities are aging and  
...population growth. The populations of  
...ing, largely reflecting inward  
...pparo, however, has relatively slow  
...egative homegrown growth and  
...migration. The population of almost

- **Western Europe.** Urban-population growth in Western Europe was 0.7 percent annually between 1990 and 2015. It is projected to decline to 0.5 percent by 2025 and 0.4 percent by 2035. Like Japan and the United States, Western Europe is aging unevenly and is likely to experience more differentiation in the future. The capital cities of Berlin, London, Oslo, Paris, and Stockholm all have growing populations. However, many cities are already experiencing population decline. This includes cities in Germany (for example, Chemnitz, Gera, and Saarbrücken) and Italy (Genoa and Venice).

For most cities, **economic prosperity** increasingly will depend on rising productivity and incomes among their citizens. The economic success of cities cannot be measured simply by their overall GDP growth—cities that are able to increase the per capita income and quality of life of their citizens can thrive even when population growth slows or declines. For many cities, this will mean shifting the focus from expansive growth to the well-being of their citizens. In an era of pressure on urban populations, this is the vital ingredient as cities compete with one another to retain and attract

## About the author(s)

**Jonathan Woetzel** is a director of the McKinsey Global Institute, where **Jaana Remes** is a partner and **Mekala Krishnan** is a fellow; **Kevin Coles** is an alumnus of McKinsey's Toronto office.

https://www.mckinsey.com/global-themes/urbanization/urban-world... Urban world: Meeting the demographic challenges in cities | McKinsey...  
 https://www.mckinsey.com/global-themes/urbanization/urban-world... Urban world: Meeting the demographic challenges in cities | McKinsey...  
 https://www.mckinsey.com/global-themes/urbanization/urban-world... Urban world: Meeting the demographic challenges in cities | McKinsey...

...to aging and falling fertility  
...migration will deliver a double



40 percent of Japan's cities declined between 2012 and 2015.

- **United States.** Overall urban-population growth in the United States is projected to decline slightly, from 1.3 percent in 2015 to 1.0 percent over the next decade. This is due to a decline in fertility rates and an increase in migration.

citizens. In this report, we explore how cities can cope with changing demographic realities.

MGI is launching an update to its *Urban World* app, which is free to download and allows you to explore the shifting landscape as aging and urbanization shape city economies across the globe. Download the *Urban World* app and build your understanding of how urban areas change by interacting with data on GDP and demographics from 3,000 cities worldwide and by tracking the world's shifting economic center of gravity from 1 CE to 2025.

McKinsey Global Institute, where **Jaana Remes** is a partner and **Mekala Krishnan** is a fellow; **Kevin Coles** is an alumnus of McKinsey's Toronto office.

https://www.mckinsey.com/global-themes/urbanization/urban-world... Urban world: Meeting the demographic challenges in cities | McKinsey...  
 https://www.mckinsey.com/global-themes/urbanization/urban-world... Urban world: Meeting the demographic challenges in cities | McKinsey...  
 https://www.mckinsey.com/global-themes/urbanization/urban-world... Urban world: Meeting the demographic challenges in cities | McKinsey...

...to aging and falling fertility  
...migration will deliver a double



40 percent of Japan's cities declined between 2012 and 2015.

- **United States.** Overall urban-population growth in the United States is projected to decline slightly, from 1.3 percent in 2015 to 1.0 percent over the next decade. This is due to a decline in fertility rates and an increase in migration. In contrast, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and Cleveland, Ohio, are seeing their populations flatten or even shrink, and both have had to rethink their visions of the city.
- **Western Europe.** Urban-population growth in Western Europe was 0.7 percent annually between 1990 and 2015. It is projected to decline to 0.5 percent by 2025 and 0.4 percent between 2025 and 2035. Like Japan and the United States, Western Europe is aging unevenly and is likely to experience more differentiation in the future. The capital cities of Berlin, London, Oslo, Paris, and Stockholm all have growing populations. However, many cities are already experiencing population decline. This includes cities in Germany (for example, Chemnitz, Gera, and Saarbrücken) and Italy (Genoa and Venice).

citizens. In this report, we explore how cities can cope with changing demographic realities.

MGI is launching an update to its *Urban World* app, which is free to download and allows you to explore the shifting landscape as aging and urbanization shape city economies across the globe. Download the *Urban World* app and build your understanding of how urban areas change by interacting with data on GDP and demographics from 3,000 cities worldwide and by tracking the world's shifting economic center of gravity from 1 CE to 2025.

## About the author(s)

**Jonathan Woetzel** is a director of the McKinsey Global Institute, where **Jaana Remes** is a partner and **Mekala Krishnan** is a fellow; **Kevin Coles** is an alumnus of McKinsey's Toronto office.

...ation and -0.3% for population.  
...stitute analysis

...the most acute of the three developed  
...in Japan was 0.9 percent between  
...ent between 2010 and 2015. Urban  
...t going forward. Some urban hubs  
...rounding cities are aging and  
...population growth. The populations of  
...ing, largely reflecting inward  
...pparo, however, has relatively slow  
...egative homegrown growth and  
...migration. The population of almost

For most cities, **economic prosperity** increasingly will depend on rising productivity and incomes among their citizens. The economic success of cities cannot be measured simply by their overall GDP growth—cities that are able to increase the per capita income and quality of life of their citizens can thrive even when population growth slows or declines. For many cities, this will mean shifting the focus from expansive

The days of easy growth in the world's cities are over, and how they respond to demographic shifts will influence their prosperity.

**Cities have powered the world economy** for centuries. Large cities generate about 75 percent of global GDP today and will generate 86 percent of worldwide GDP growth between 2015 and 2030. Population growth has been the crucial driver of cities' GDP growth, accounting for 58 percent of it among large cities between 2000 and 2012. Rising per capita income contributed the other 42 percent.

However, the world's cities are facing more challenging demographics, and the days of easy growth are over. In the past, city economies expanded largely because their populations were increasing due to high birthrates and mass migration from rural areas. Both of those sources of population growth are now diminishing. Global population growth is slowing because of declining fertility rates and aging. At the same time, rural-to-urban migration is running its course and plateauing in many regions. How cities adjust to the new reality is important not only for their prospects but also for those of nations that will continue to rely on thriving cities for rising prosperity.

Urban world: Meeting the demographic challenge in cities | McKinsey & Company

McKinsey uses cookies to provide you with a better browsing experience and to navigate and utilize the Site. Detailed information on the use of cookies on this site can be found in our [privacy policy](#). By using this Site or clicking on "OK," you consent to the use of cookies.

Report  
McKinsey Global Institute  
October 2016

## Urban world: Meeting the demographic challenge in cities

By Jonathan Wortzel, Jaana Remes, Kevin Coler, and Makala Kirshman

The days of easy growth in the world's cities are over, and how they respond to demographic shifts will influence their prosperity.

**Cities have powered the world economy** for centuries. Large cities generate about 75 percent of global GDP today and will generate 86 percent of worldwide GDP growth between 2015 and 2030. Population growth has been the crucial driver of cities' GDP growth, accounting for 58 percent of it among large cities between 2000 and 2012. Rising per capita income contributed the other 42 percent.

However, the world's cities are facing more challenging demographics, and the days of easy growth are over. In the past, city economies expanded largely because their populations were increasing due to high birthrates and mass migration from rural areas. Both of those sources of population growth are now diminishing. Global population growth is slowing because of declining fertility rates and aging. At the same time, rural-to-urban migration is running its course and plateauing in many regions. How cities adjust to the new reality is important not only for their prospects but also for those of nations that will continue to rely on thriving cities for rising prosperity.

Urban world: Meeting the demographic challenge in cities | McKinsey & Company

McKinsey uses cookies to provide you with a better browsing experience and to analyze how users navigate and utilize the Site. Detailed information on the use of cookies on this site, and how you can decline them, is provided in our [privacy policy](#). By using this Site or clicking on "OK," you consent to the use of cookies.

Report  
McKinsey Global Institute  
October 2016

## Urban world: Meeting the demographic challenge in cities

By Jonathan Wortzel, Jaana Remes, Kevin Coler, and Makala Kirshman

The days of easy growth in the world's cities are over, and how they respond to demographic shifts will influence their prosperity.

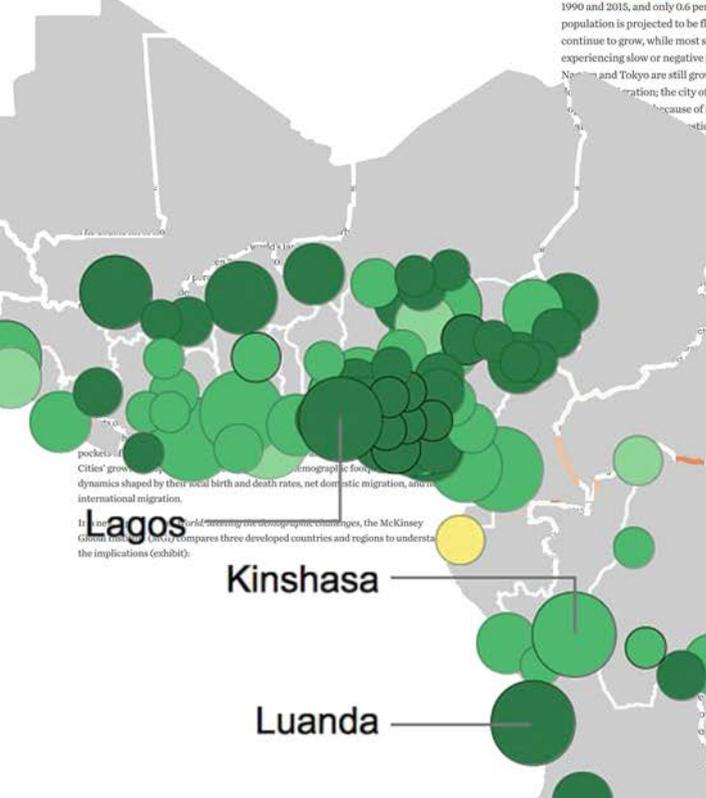
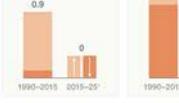
**Cities have powered the world economy** for centuries. Large cities generate about 75 percent of global GDP today and will generate 86 percent of worldwide GDP growth between 2015 and 2030. Population growth has been the crucial driver of cities' GDP growth, accounting for 58 percent of it among large cities between 2000 and 2012. Rising per capita income contributed the other 42 percent.

However, the world's cities are facing more challenging demographics, and the days of easy growth are over. In the past, city economies expanded largely because their populations were increasing due to high birthrates and mass migration from rural areas. Both of those sources of population growth are now diminishing. Global population growth is slowing because of declining fertility rates and aging. At the same time, rural-to-urban migration is running its course and plateauing in many regions. How cities adjust to the new reality is important not only for their prospects but also for those of nations that will continue to rely on thriving cities for rising prosperity.

demographic era, we are likely to see a much more fragmented urban landscape, with pockets of robust expansion but also areas of stagnant and declining populations. Cities' growth prospects will reflect very different demographic footprints and dynamics shaped by their local birth and death rates, net domestic migration, and net international migration.

In a new report, *Urban World: Meeting the demographic challenges*, the McKinsey Global Institute (MGI) compares three developed countries and regions to understand the implications (exhibit):

# CITIES GROW IN THE UNDERDEVELOPED WORLD



**Lagos** In a new report, *Urban World: Meeting the demographic challenges*, the McKinsey Global Institute (MGI) compares three developed countries and regions to understand the implications (exhibit):

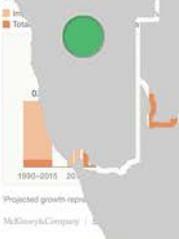
**Kinshasa**

**Luanda**

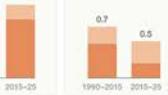
The double hit of slowing population growth and plateauing urbanization caused population to decline in 6 percent of the world's largest cities—with the largest share in developed economies—between 2000 and 2015. From 2015 to 2025, we expect population to decline in 17 percent of large cities in developed regions and in 8 percent of all large cities. In the developed world, the urban population in Canada and the United States grew at a compound annual rate of 2.2 percent between 1950 and 1970 but dropped to only 1.0 percent from 2010 to 2015. That rate is expected to persist until 2025 and then to decline even further, to 0.8 percent from 2025 to 2035. Although the demographic shift is more advanced in developed regions, it also affects emerging regions.

This is a challenge to the economic prospects of cities that marks a distinct break from recent history. The past 50 years were truly unusual in demographic terms, as large cohorts of working-age populations fueled the growth of cities and nations. In the new demographic era, we are likely to see a much more fragmented urban landscape, with pockets of robust expansion but also areas of stagnant and declining populations. Cities' growth prospects will reflect very different demographic footprints and dynamics shaped by their local birth and death rates, net domestic migration, and net international migration.

In a new report, *Urban World: Meeting the demographic challenges*, the McKinsey Global Institute (MGI) compares three developed countries and regions to understand the implications (exhibit):



**Japan** In a new report, *Urban World: Meeting the demographic challenges*, the McKinsey Global Institute (MGI) compares three developed countries and regions to understand the implications (exhibit):



# DEVELOPED 'THIRD' WORLD

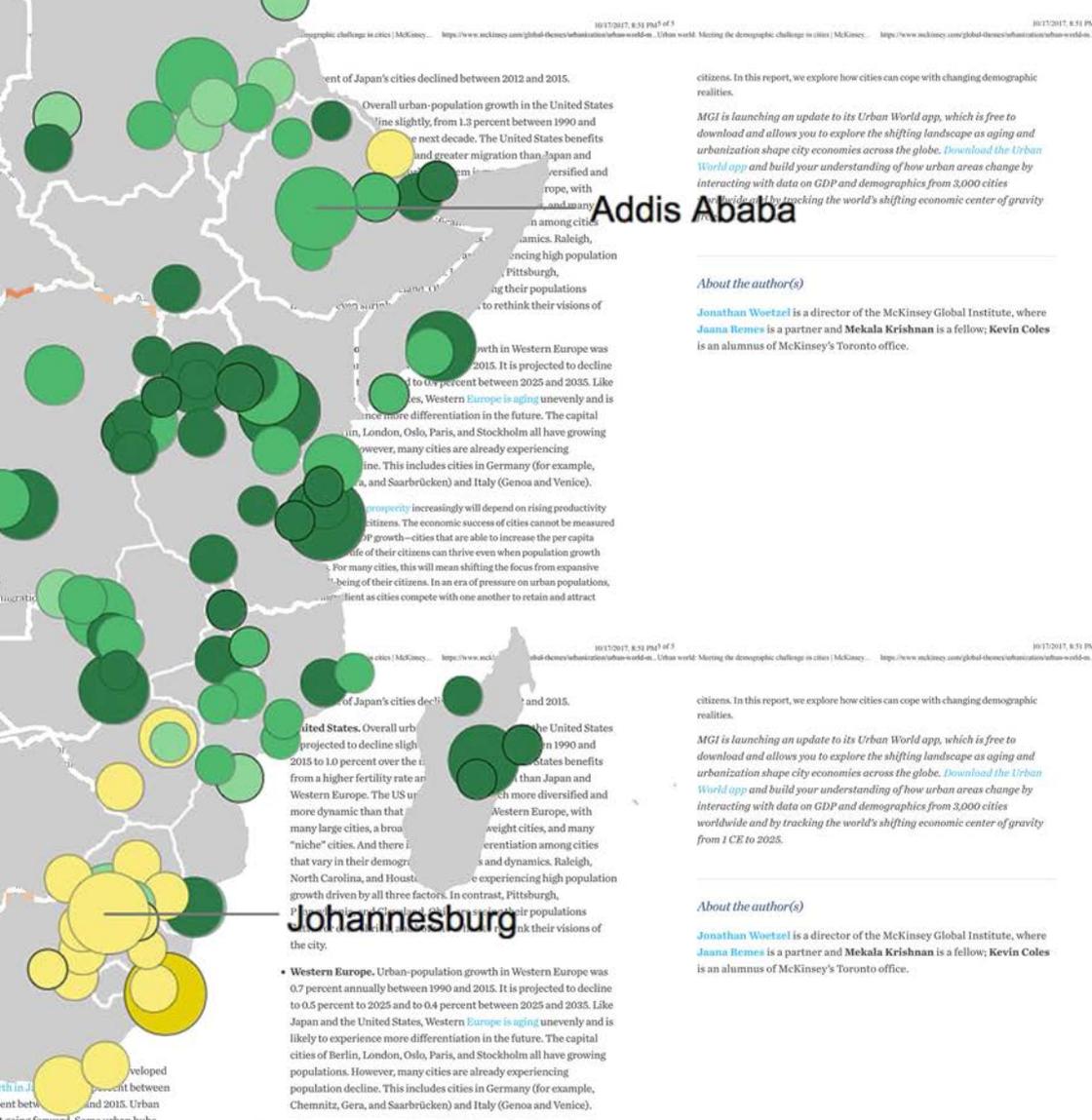
...the most acute of the three developed  
...in Japan was 0.9 percent between  
...ent between 2010 and 2015. Urban  
...t going forward. Some urban hubs  
...rounding cities are aging and  
...population growth. The populations of  
...ing, largely reflecting inward  
...pporo, however, has relatively slow  
...egative hon  
...migration.

- **Western Europe.** Urban-population growth in Western Europe was 0.7 percent annually between 1990 and 2015. It is projected to decline to 0.5 percent between 2015 and 2035. Like Japan and the United States, Western Europe is aging unevenly and is likely to experience more differentiation in the future. The capital cities of Berlin, London, Oslo, Paris, and Stockholm all have growing populations. However, many cities are already experiencing population decline. This includes cities in Germany (for example, Chemnitz, Gera, and Saarbrücken) and Italy (Genoa and Venice).

For most cities, economic prosperity increasingly will depend on rising productivity and incomes among their citizens. The economic success of cities cannot be measured simply by their overall GDP growth—cities that are able to increase the per capita income and quality of life of their citizens can thrive even when population growth slows or declines. For many cities, this will mean shifting the focus from expansive growth to the well-being of their citizens. In an era of pressure on urban populations, economic prosperity as cities compete with one another to retain and attract

About the author(s)

Jonathan Woetzel is a director of the McKinsey Global Institute, where Jaana Remes is a partner and Mekala Krishnan is a fellow; Kevin Cole is an alumnus of McKinsey's Toronto office.



...ent of Japan's cities declined between 2012 and 2015.

Overall urban-population growth in the United States declined slightly, from 1.3 percent between 1990 and 2015 to 1.0 percent over the next decade. The United States benefits from a higher fertility rate and more diversified and more dynamic than that of Western Europe, with many large cities, a broad range of weight cities, and many "niche" cities. And there is more differentiation among cities that vary in their demographics and dynamics. Raleigh, North Carolina, and Houston are experiencing high population growth driven by all three factors. In contrast, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and Cleveland, Ohio, are seeing their populations flatten or even shrink, and both have had to rethink their visions of the city.

Urban-population growth in Western Europe was 0.7 percent annually between 1990 and 2015. It is projected to decline to 0.5 percent between 2025 and 2035. Like Japan and the United States, Western Europe is aging unevenly and is likely to experience more differentiation in the future. The capital cities of Berlin, London, Oslo, Paris, and Stockholm all have growing populations. However, many cities are already experiencing population decline. This includes cities in Germany (for example, Chemnitz, Gera, and Saarbrücken) and Italy (Genoa and Venice).

For most cities, economic prosperity increasingly will depend on rising productivity and incomes among their citizens. The economic success of cities cannot be measured simply by their overall GDP growth—cities that are able to increase the per capita income and quality of life of their citizens can thrive even when population growth slows or declines. For many cities, this will mean shifting the focus from expansive growth to the well-being of their citizens. In an era of pressure on urban populations, economic prosperity as cities compete with one another to retain and attract

...ited States. Overall urban-population growth in the United States is projected to decline slightly from 1.3 percent between 1990 and 2015 to 1.0 percent over the next decade. The United States benefits from a higher fertility rate and more diversified and more dynamic than that of Western Europe, with many large cities, a broad range of weight cities, and many "niche" cities. And there is more differentiation among cities that vary in their demographics and dynamics. Raleigh, North Carolina, and Houston are experiencing high population growth driven by all three factors. In contrast, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and Cleveland, Ohio, are seeing their populations flatten or even shrink, and both have had to rethink their visions of the city.

- **Western Europe.** Urban-population growth in Western Europe was 0.7 percent annually between 1990 and 2015. It is projected to decline to 0.5 percent between 2025 and 2035. Like Japan and the United States, Western Europe is aging unevenly and is likely to experience more differentiation in the future. The capital cities of Berlin, London, Oslo, Paris, and Stockholm all have growing populations. However, many cities are already experiencing population decline. This includes cities in Germany (for example, Chemnitz, Gera, and Saarbrücken) and Italy (Genoa and Venice).

For most cities, economic prosperity increasingly will depend on rising productivity and incomes among their citizens. The economic success of cities cannot be measured simply by their overall GDP growth—cities that are able to increase the per capita income and quality of life of their citizens can thrive even when population growth slows or declines. For many cities, this will mean shifting the focus from expansive growth to the well-being of their citizens. In an era of pressure on urban populations, economic prosperity as cities compete with one another to retain and attract

citizens. In this report, we explore how cities can cope with changing demographic realities.

MGI is launching an update to its Urban World app, which is free to download and allows you to explore the shifting landscape as aging and urbanization shape city economies across the globe. Download the Urban World app and build your understanding of how urban areas change by interacting with data on GDP and demographics from 3,000 cities worldwide. Try tracking the world's shifting economic center of gravity

## Addis Ababa

About the author(s)

Jonathan Woetzel is a director of the McKinsey Global Institute, where Jaana Remes is a partner and Mekala Krishnan is a fellow; Kevin Cole is an alumnus of McKinsey's Toronto office.

citizens. In this report, we explore how cities can cope with changing demographic realities.

MGI is launching an update to its Urban World app, which is free to download and allows you to explore the shifting landscape as aging and urbanization shape city economies across the globe. Download the Urban World app and build your understanding of how urban areas change by interacting with data on GDP and demographics from 3,000 cities worldwide and by tracking the world's shifting economic center of gravity from 1 CE to 2025.

About the author(s)

Jonathan Woetzel is a director of the McKinsey Global Institute, where Jaana Remes is a partner and Mekala Krishnan is a fellow; Kevin Cole is an alumnus of McKinsey's Toronto office.

The days of easy growth in the world's cities are over, and how they respond to demographic shifts will influence their prosperity.

Cities have powered the world economy for centuries. Large cities generate about 75 percent of global GDP today and will generate 86 percent of worldwide GDP growth between 2015 and 2030. Population growth has been the crucial driver of cities' GDP growth, accounting for 58 percent of it among large cities between 2000 and 2012. Rising per capita income contributed the other 42 percent.

However, the world's cities are facing more challenging demographics, and the days of easy growth are over. In the past, city economies expanded largely because their populations were increasing due to high birthrates and mass migration from rural areas. Both of those sources of population growth are now diminishing. Global population growth is slowing because of declining fertility rates and aging. At the same time, rural-to-urban migration is running its course and plateauing in many regions. How cities adjust to the new reality is important not only for their prospects but also for those of nations that will continue to rely on thriving cities for rising prosperity.

## Urban world: Meeting the demographic challenge in cities

By Jonathan Wortzel, Jaana Remes, Kevin Cole, and Mekala Krishnan

The days of easy growth in the world's cities are over, and how they respond to demographic shifts will influence their prospects.

Cities have powered the world economy for centuries. Large cities generate about 75 percent of global GDP today and will generate 86 percent of worldwide GDP growth between 2015 and 2030. Population growth has been the crucial driver of cities' GDP growth, accounting for 58 percent of it among large cities between 2000 and 2012. Rising per capita income contributed the other 42 percent.

However, the world's cities are facing more challenging demographics, and the days of easy growth are over. In the past, city economies expanded largely because their populations were increasing due to high birthrates and mass migration from rural areas. Both of those sources of population growth are now diminishing. Global population growth is slowing because of declining fertility rates and aging. At the same time, rural-to-urban migration is running its course and plateauing in many regions. How cities adjust to the new reality is important not only for their prospects but also for those of nations that will continue to rely on thriving cities for rising prosperity.

## Urban world: Meeting the demographic challenge in cities

By Jonathan Wortzel, Jaana Remes, Kevin Cole, and Mekala Krishnan

The days of easy growth in the world's cities are over, and how they respond to demographic shifts will influence their prosperity.

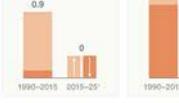
Cities have powered the world economy for centuries. Large cities generate about 75 percent of global GDP today and will generate 86 percent of worldwide GDP growth between 2015 and 2030. Population growth has been the crucial driver of cities' GDP growth, accounting for 58 percent of it among large cities between 2000 and 2012. Rising per capita income contributed the other 42 percent.

However, the world's cities are facing more challenging demographics, and the days of easy growth are over. In the past, city economies expanded largely because their populations were increasing due to high birthrates and mass migration from rural areas. Both of those sources of population growth are now diminishing. Global population growth is slowing because of declining fertility rates and aging. At the same time, rural-to-urban migration is running its course and plateauing in many regions. How cities adjust to the new reality is important not only for their prospects but also for those of nations that will continue to rely on thriving cities for rising prosperity.

demographic era, we are likely to see a much more fragmented urban landscape, with pockets of robust expansion but also areas of stagnant and declining populations. Cities' growth prospects will reflect very different demographic footprints and dynamics shaped by their local birth and death rates, net domestic migration, and net international migration.

In a new report, *Urban World: Meeting the demographic challenges*, the McKinsey Global Institute (MGI) compares three developed countries and regions to understand the implications (exhibit):

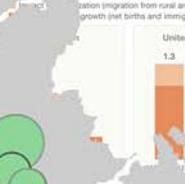
# CITIES GROW IN THE UNDERDEVELOPED WORLD



Japan, Japan's challenges are the most advanced in developed regions. Urban-population growth between 1990 and 2015, and only 0.6 percent of the total population is projected to be added. Japan's population is projected to be flat, while most other developed countries are experiencing slow or negative population growth. Nagoya and Tokyo are still growing, but domestic migration; the city of Osaka is experiencing population growth because of its relatively low inward domestic migration.

### Exhibit

Declining population growth, declining rural-to-urban migration, and waning rural-to-urban migration are projected to slow urban-population growth.



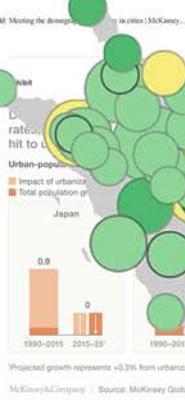
Japan's population is projected to be flat, while most other developed countries are experiencing slow or negative population growth. Nagoya and Tokyo are still growing, but domestic migration; the city of Osaka is experiencing population growth because of its relatively low inward domestic migration.

Yangon  
Bangkok

The double-digit population growth and plateauing urbanization caused population to decline in 6 percent of the world's largest cities—with the largest share in developed economies—between 2000 and 2015. From 2015 to 2025, we expect population to decline in 17 percent of large cities in developed regions and in 8 percent of all large cities. In the developed world, the urban population in Canada and the United States grew at a compound annual rate of 2.2 percent between 1950 and 1970 but dropped to only 1.0 percent from 2010 to 2015. That rate is expected to persist until 2025 and then to decline even further, to 0.8 percent from 2025 to 2035. Although the demographic shift is more advanced in developed regions, it also affects emerging regions.

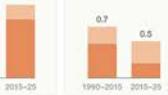
This is a challenge to the economic prospects of cities that marks a distinct break from recent history. The past 50 years were truly unusual in demographic terms, as large cohorts of working-age populations fueled the growth of cities and nations. In the new demographic era, we are likely to see a much more fragmented urban landscape, with pockets of robust expansion but also areas of stagnant and declining populations. Cities' growth prospects will reflect very different demographic footprints and dynamics shaped by their local birth and death rates, net domestic migration, and net international migration.

In a new report, *Urban World: Meeting the demographic challenges*, the McKinsey Global Institute (MGI) compares three developed countries and regions to understand the implications (exhibit):



## Jakarta

Japan's population is projected to be flat, while most other developed countries are experiencing slow or negative population growth. Nagoya and Tokyo are still growing, but domestic migration; the city of Osaka is experiencing population growth because of its relatively low inward domestic migration.



# DEVELOPED 'THIRD' WORLD

...the most acute of the three developed  
...in Japan was 0.9 percent between  
...ent between 2010 and 2015. Urban  
...going forward. Some urban hubs  
...rounding cities are aging and  
...population growth. The populations of  
...ing, largely reflecting inward  
...pparo, however, has relatively slow  
...egative homegrown growth and  
...migration. The population of almost

...population driven by all three factors. In contrast, Pittsburgh,  
...Pennsylvania, and Cleveland, Ohio, are seeing their populations  
...flatten or even shrink, and both have had to rethink their visions of  
...the city.

- Western Europe.** Urban-population growth in Western Europe was 0.7 percent annually between 1990 and 2015. It is projected to decline to 0.5 percent by 2025 and to 0.4 percent by 2035. Like Japan and the United States, Western Europe is aging unevenly and is likely to experience more differentiation in the future. The capital cities of Berlin, London, Oslo, Paris, and Stockholm all have growing populations. However, many cities are already experiencing population decline. This includes cities in Germany (for example, Chemnitz, Gera, and Saarbrücken) and Italy (Genoa and Venice).

For most cities, economic prosperity increasingly will depend on rising productivity and incomes among their citizens. The economic success of cities cannot be measured simply by their overall GDP growth—cities that are able to increase the per capita income and quality of life of their citizens can thrive even when population growth slows or declines. For many cities, this will mean shifting the focus from expansive growth to the well-being of their citizens. In an era of pressure on urban populations, this is the vital ingredient as cities compete with one another to retain and attract

## About the author(s)

Jonathan Woetzel is a director of the McKinsey Global Institute, where Jaana Remes is a partner and Mekala Krishnan is a fellow; Kevin Cole is an alumnus of McKinsey's Toronto office.

https://www.mckinsey.com/global-themes/urbanization/urban-world-en. Urban world. Meeting the demographic challenges in cities | McKinsey. https://www.mckinsey.com/global-themes/urbanization/urban-world-en. Urban world. Meeting the demographic challenges in cities | McKinsey. https://www.mckinsey.com/global-themes/urbanization/urban-world-en. Urban world. Meeting the demographic challenges in cities | McKinsey.

40 percent of Japan's cities declined between 2012 and 2015.

- United States.** Overall urban-population growth in the United States is projected to decline slightly, from 1.3 percent between 1990 and 2015 to 1.0 percent over the next decade. The United States benefits from a higher fertility rate and greater migration than Japan and Western Europe. The US urban system is much more diversified and more dynamic than that of either Japan or Western Europe, with many large cities, a broad swath of middleweight cities, and many "niche" cities. And there is significant differentiation among cities that vary in their demographic footprints and dynamics. Raleigh, North Carolina, and Houston, Texas, are experiencing high population growth driven by all three factors. In contrast, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and Cleveland, Ohio, are seeing their populations flatten or even shrink, and both have had to rethink their visions of the city.

- Western Europe.** Urban-population growth in Western Europe was 0.7 percent annually between 1990 and 2015. It is projected to decline to 0.5 percent by 2025 and to 0.4 percent between 2025 and 2035. Like Japan and the United States, Western Europe is aging unevenly and is likely to experience more differentiation in the future. The capital cities of Berlin, London, Paris, and Stockholm all have growing populations. However, many cities are already experiencing population decline. This includes cities in Germany (for example, Chemnitz, Gera, and Saarbrücken) and Italy (Genoa and Venice).

For most cities, economic prosperity increasingly will depend on rising productivity and incomes among their citizens. The economic success of cities cannot be measured simply by their overall GDP growth—cities that are able to increase the per capita income and quality of life of their citizens can thrive even when population growth slows or declines. For many cities, this will mean shifting the focus from expansive growth to the well-being of their citizens. In an era of pressure on urban populations, this is the vital ingredient as cities compete with one another to retain and attract

citizens. In this report, we explore how cities can cope with changing demographic realities.

MGI is launching an update to its Urban World app, which is free to download and allows you to explore the shifting landscape as aging and urbanization shape city economies across the globe. Download the Urban World app and build your understanding of how urban areas change by interacting with data on GDP and demographics from 3,000 cities worldwide and by tracking the world's shifting economic center of gravity from 1 CE to 2025.

## About the author(s)

Jonathan Woetzel is a director of the McKinsey Global Institute, where Jaana Remes is a partner and Mekala Krishnan is a fellow; Kevin Cole is an alumnus of McKinsey's Toronto office.

...to aging and falling fertility  
...migration will deliver a double



https://www.mckinsey.com/global-themes/urbanization/urban-world-en. Urban world. Meeting the demographic challenges in cities | McKinsey. https://www.mckinsey.com/global-themes/urbanization/urban-world-en. Urban world. Meeting the demographic challenges in cities | McKinsey. https://www.mckinsey.com/global-themes/urbanization/urban-world-en. Urban world. Meeting the demographic challenges in cities | McKinsey.

40 percent of Japan's cities declined between 2012 and 2015.

- United States.** Overall urban-population growth in the United States is projected to decline slightly, from 1.3 percent between 1990 and 2015 to 1.0 percent over the next decade. The United States benefits from a higher fertility rate and greater migration than Japan and Western Europe. The US urban system is much more diversified and more dynamic than that of either Japan or Western Europe, with many large cities, a broad swath of middleweight cities, and many "niche" cities. And there is significant differentiation among cities that vary in their demographic footprints and dynamics. Raleigh, North Carolina, and Houston, Texas, are experiencing high population growth driven by all three factors. In contrast, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and Cleveland, Ohio, are seeing their populations flatten or even shrink, and both have had to rethink their visions of the city.

- Western Europe.** Urban-population growth in Western Europe was 0.7 percent annually between 1990 and 2015. It is projected to decline to 0.5 percent by 2025 and to 0.4 percent between 2025 and 2035. Like Japan and the United States, Western Europe is aging unevenly and is likely to experience more differentiation in the future. The capital cities of Berlin, London, Paris, and Stockholm all have growing populations. However, many cities are already experiencing population decline. This includes cities in Germany (for example, Chemnitz, Gera, and Saarbrücken) and Italy (Genoa and Venice).

For most cities, economic prosperity increasingly will depend on rising productivity and incomes among their citizens. The economic success of cities cannot be measured simply by their overall GDP growth—cities that are able to increase the per capita income and quality of life of their citizens can thrive even when population growth slows or declines. For many cities, this will mean shifting the focus from expansive

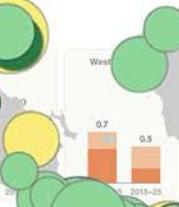
citizens. In this report, we explore how cities can cope with changing demographic realities.

MGI is launching an update to its Urban World app, which is free to download and allows you to explore the shifting landscape as aging and urbanization shape city economies across the globe. Download the Urban World app and build your understanding of how urban areas change by interacting with data on GDP and demographics from 3,000 cities worldwide and by tracking the world's shifting economic center of gravity from 1 CE to 2025.

## About the author(s)

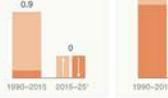
Jonathan Woetzel is a director of the McKinsey Global Institute, where Jaana Remes is a partner and Mekala Krishnan is a fellow; Kevin Cole is an alumnus of McKinsey's Toronto office.

...aging and falling fertility  
...migration will deliver a double



...most acute of the three developed  
...in Japan was 0.9 percent between  
...ent between 2010 and 2015. Urban  
...going forward. Some urban hubs  
...rounding cities are aging and  
...population growth. The populations of  
...ing, largely reflecting inward  
...pparo, however, has relatively slow  
...egative homegrown growth and  
...migration. The population of almost

demographic era, we are likely to see a much more fragmented urban landscape, with pockets of robust expansion but also areas of stagnant and declining populations. Cities' growth prospects will reflect very different demographic footprints and dynamics shaped by their local birth and death rates, net domestic migration, and net international migration.



The days of easy growth in the world's cities are over, and how they respond to demographic shifts will influence their prosperity.

# CITIES SHRINK/GROW IN THE

**Cities have powered the world economy** for centuries. Large cities generate about 75 percent of global GDP today and will generate 86 percent of worldwide GDP growth between 2015 and 2030. Population growth has been the crucial driver of cities' GDP growth, accounting for 58 percent of it among large cities between 2000 and 2012. Rising per capita income contributed the other 42 percent.

However, the world's cities are facing more challenging demographics, and the days of easy growth are over. In the past, city economies expanded largely because their populations were increasing due to high birthrates and mass migration from rural areas. Both of those sources of population growth are now diminishing. Global population growth is slowing because of declining fertility rates and aging. At the same time, rural-to-urban migration is running its course and plateauing in many regions. How cities adjust to the new reality is important not only for their prospects but also for those of nations that will continue to rely on thriving cities for rising prosperity.

In a new report, *Urban World: Meeting the demographic challenges*, the McKinsey Global Institute (MGI) compares three developed countries and regions to understand the implications (exhibit):

**Japan.** Japan's challenges are the most acute among the three regions. *Urban-population growth* has been strong since 1990 and 2015, and only 0.6 percent of the total population is projected to be able to continue to grow, while most are experiencing slow or negative population growth. Nagoya and Tokyo are still growing, but Osaka is still growing because of net domestic migration; the city of Osaka is still growing because of net domestic migration.

McKinsey uses cookies to provide you with a better browsing experience and to analyze how users navigate and utilize the Site. Detailed information on the use of cookies on this Site, and how you can decline them, is provided in our [cookie policy](#). By using this Site or clicking on "OK," you consent to the use of cookies.

McKinsey & Company

Report  
McKinsey Global Institute  
October 2016

## Urban world: Meeting the demographic challenge in cities

By Jonathan Wortzel, Jaana Remes, Kevin Coles, and Mekala Krishnan

The days of easy growth in the world's cities are over, and how they respond to demographic shifts will influence their prosperity.

**Cities have powered the world economy** for centuries. Large cities generate about 75 percent of global GDP today and will generate 86 percent of worldwide GDP growth between 2015 and 2030. Population growth has been the crucial driver of cities' GDP growth, accounting for 58 percent of it among large cities between 2000 and 2012. Rising per capita income contributed the other 42 percent.

However, the world's cities are facing more challenging demographics, and the days of easy growth are over. In the past, city economies expanded largely because their populations were increasing due to high birthrates and mass migration from rural areas. Both of those sources of population growth are now diminishing. Global population growth is slowing because of declining fertility rates and aging. At the same time, rural-to-urban migration is running its course and plateauing in many regions. How cities adjust to the new reality is important not only for their prospects but also for those of nations that will continue to rely on thriving cities for rising prosperity.

The double hit of slowing population to decline in developed economies and population to decline in all countries. In the United States, population growth has slowed but is projected to decline by 2030.

McKinsey uses cookies to provide you with a better browsing experience and to analyze how users navigate and utilize the Site. Detailed information on the use of cookies on this Site, and how you can decline them, is provided in our [cookie policy](#). By using this Site or clicking on "OK," you consent to the use of cookies.

McKinsey & Company

Report  
McKinsey Global Institute  
October 2016

## Urban world: Meeting the demographic challenge in cities

By Jonathan Wortzel, Jaana Remes, Kevin Coles, and Mekala Krishnan

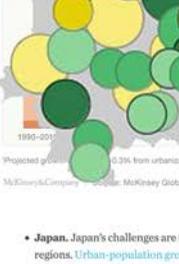
The days of easy growth in the world's cities are over, and how they respond to demographic shifts will influence their prosperity.

**Cities have powered the world economy** for centuries. Large cities generate about 75 percent of global GDP today and will generate 86 percent of worldwide GDP growth between 2015 and 2030. Population growth has been the crucial driver of cities' GDP growth, accounting for 58 percent of it among large cities between 2000 and 2012. Rising per capita income contributed the other 42 percent.

However, the world's cities are facing more challenging demographics, and the days of easy growth are over. In the past, city economies expanded largely because their populations were increasing due to high birthrates and mass migration from rural areas. Both of those sources of population growth are now diminishing. Global population growth is slowing because of declining fertility rates and aging. At the same time, rural-to-urban migration is running its course and plateauing in many regions. How cities adjust to the new reality is important not only for their prospects but also for those of nations that will continue to rely on thriving cities for rising prosperity.

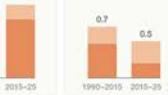
This is a challenge to the economic prospects of cities that marks a distinct break from recent history. The past 50 years were truly unusual in demographic terms, as large cohorts of working-age populations fueled the growth of cities and nations. In the new demographic era, we are likely to see a much more fragmented urban landscape, with pockets of robust expansion but also areas of stagnant and declining populations. Cities' growth prospects will reflect very different demographic footprints and dynamics shaped by their local birth and death rates, net domestic migration, and net international migration.

In a new report, *Urban World: Meeting the demographic challenges*, the McKinsey Global Institute (MGI) compares three developed countries and regions to understand the implications (exhibit):



Projected population growth rates from 2015 to 2030. Source: McKinsey Global Institute.

**Japan.** Japan's challenges are the most acute among the three regions. *Urban-population growth* has been strong since 1990 and 2015, and only 0.6 percent of the total population is projected to be able to continue to grow, while most are experiencing slow or negative population growth. Nagoya and Tokyo are still growing, but Osaka is still growing because of net domestic migration; the city of Osaka is still growing because of net domestic migration.



# ARE WE STILL DEVELOPING CHINA

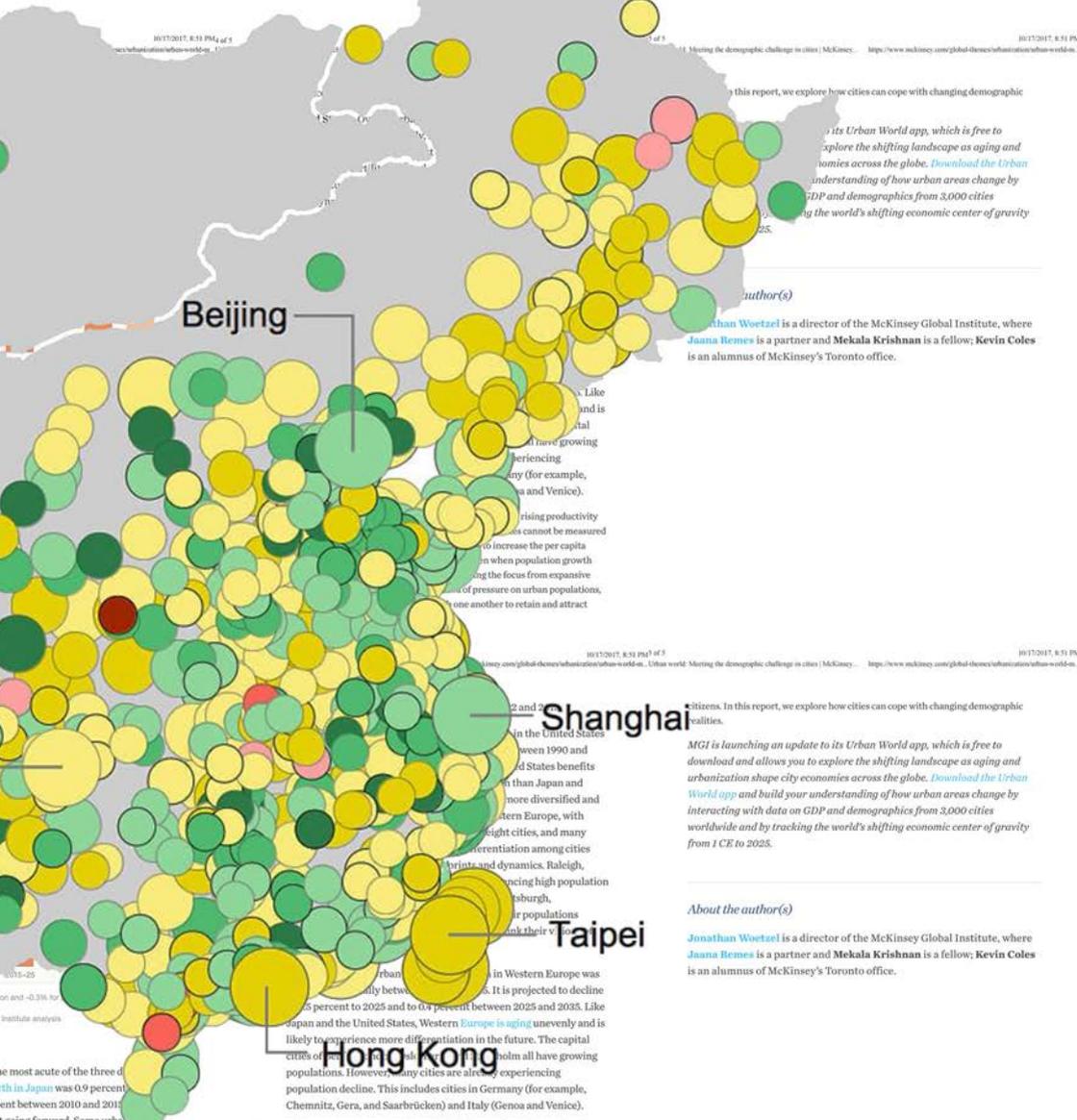
...the most acute of the three developed  
...in Japan was 0.9 percent between  
...ent between 2010 and 2015. Urban  
...t going forward. Some urban hubs  
...rounding cities are aging and  
...population growth. The populations of  
...ing, largely reflecting inward  
...pporo, however, has relatively slow  
...negative homegrown growth and  
...migration. The population of almost

• **Western Europe.** Urban-population growth in Western Europe was 0.7 percent annually between 1990 and 2015. It is projected to decline to 0.5 percent by 2025 and to 0.4 percent between 2025 and 2035. The United States, Western Europe, and Japan are likely to experience more differentiation in the future. The capital cities of Berlin, London, Oslo, Paris, and Stockholm all have growing populations. However, many cities are already experiencing population decline. This includes cities in Germany (for example, Chemnitz, Gera, and Saarbrücken) and Italy (Genoa and Venice).

For most cities, economic prosperity increasingly will depend on rising productivity and incomes among their citizens. The economic success of cities cannot be measured simply by their overall GDP growth—cities that are able to increase the per capita income and quality of life of their citizens can thrive even when population growth slows or declines. For many cities, this will mean shifting the focus from expansive growth to the well-being of their citizens. In other words, this is the vital ingredient as cities compete

About the author(s)

Jonathan Woetzel is a director of the McKinsey Global Institute, where Jaana Remes is a partner and Mekala Krishnan is a fellow; Kevin Cole is an alumnus of McKinsey's Toronto office.



Beijing

Shanghai

Taipei

Hong Kong

In this report, we explore how cities can cope with changing demographic challenges. We explore the shifting landscape as aging and urbanization shape city economies across the globe. Download the Urban World app and build your understanding of how urban areas change by interacting with data on GDP and demographics from 3,000 cities worldwide and by tracking the world's shifting economic center of gravity from 1 CE to 2025.

About the author(s)

Jonathan Woetzel is a director of the McKinsey Global Institute, where Jaana Remes is a partner and Mekala Krishnan is a fellow; Kevin Cole is an alumnus of McKinsey's Toronto office.

citizens. In this report, we explore how cities can cope with changing demographic challenges. MGI is launching an update to its Urban World app, which is free to download and allows you to explore the shifting landscape as aging and urbanization shape city economies across the globe. Download the Urban World app and build your understanding of how urban areas change by interacting with data on GDP and demographics from 3,000 cities worldwide and by tracking the world's shifting economic center of gravity from 1 CE to 2025.

About the author(s)

Jonathan Woetzel is a director of the McKinsey Global Institute, where Jaana Remes is a partner and Mekala Krishnan is a fellow; Kevin Cole is an alumnus of McKinsey's Toronto office.

...the most acute of the three d  
...in Japan was 0.9 percent  
...ent between 2010 and 2015  
...t going forward. Some urban  
...rounding cities are aging and  
...population growth. The populations of  
...ing, largely reflecting inward  
...pporo, however, has relatively slow  
...negative homegrown growth and  
...migration. The population of almost

For most cities, economic prosperity increasingly will depend on rising productivity and incomes among their citizens. The economic success of cities cannot be measured simply by their overall GDP growth—cities that are able to increase the per capita income and quality of life of their citizens can thrive even when population growth slows or declines. For many cities, this will mean shifting the focus from expansive





Revolution 48% of all employees were working in the industrial sector. Manchester was the centre of the global cotton trade. 165% of the goods produced in Manchester were exported. About 100 years later the USA managed to gain global industrial leadership. But 45% of the goods were still exported to one country: the USA. employment figures dropped dramatically to 34%. The USA managed to keep its industrial base in the 1930s and 40s. In Eastern Germany or the Rustbelt/USA and in every other industrialized country the industrial base has been lost. In Manchester the "Cotton Industry Act" and some other measures were taken to get back on top again. With Manchester already dead. But Manchester managed to survive. In 1960 it jumped to 1996 and 2000. Manchester had become a centre of global trade. Manchester had become a centre of global trade. Manchester had become a centre of global trade.

**CAUSES AND EFFECTS**

- The service sector gained in importance.
- Great Britain was strongly depended on export, but the loss of Great Britain in 1914-18 and 1939-45 had a devastating effect on the economy.
- Economic reasons: Economic crisis after the 1973 oil crisis and the support of the western industrial countries in the 1980s Margaret Thatchers economic policy of monetarism and 1981 and 1982 Manchester lost 150 000 jobs.
- Political reasons: Margaret Thatcher abolished state subsidies for the industrial sector. The industrial sector should survive and get Britain back on the world map. This is how the industrial sector was decimated.

Starting in 1974 the traditional industrial sectors collapsed in the West Midlands/Birmingham, North West-Merseyside) as they had not developed a new industrial sector. People had to look for work in London. London was the only city which had a movement in female part-time employment, a lot of...

**SOCIAL CHANGE**

Whereas industrialization led to a "modern social system" society concentrated on the individual. Fordism concentrated on single individuals which led to the production of immaterial things like music and film started. The world developed into a female post-modern society.

**'1 ECONOMIC CHANGE: DEINDUSTRIALISATION, REALLOCATION OF INDUSTRY AND SERVICES (MANCHESTER).'**

**2.1.1 Manchester\_fall of the world's first industrial metropole**

Manchester  
1930: 766 000 inhabitants  
1992: 422 300 inhabitants  
population decline: 44,9%

In 1961 the industrial sector in Manchester only 35 000, which is a quarter.  
In the late 1960s Liverpool and Manchester had 2000 there have been 30 000 in each city.  
From 1981 to 1996 Merseyside lost 83 000 jobs.

Manchester was the world's first industrial metropole and the biggest commercial city of the world in the 19th century. Today the city is struggling to get back on track!

Since the end of the 18th century Manchester was known for its machine-based manufacturing. One of the most important factors of Britain's industrialization. But with other countries started their industrialization process, the slow fall of a metropole began by 1850.









hardly any vacancy rate. The housing space per capita in Russia is half of the European standard. So whenever there's room available, it will be occupied from residents within a few days. Furthermore, the young aren't moving away officially. They usually keep their main residence which they only underlet. This is why there aren't well documented statistics which makes it even more difficult to deal with the phenomenon.

### 2.1.1 Ivanovo from a socialistic to a democratic organization

Ivanovo  
1990: 479.700 inhabitants  
2003: 447.100 inhabitants  
population decline: 6,8%

In the Ivanovo area life expectation for women is 71 years; for men it is 55.5; with an average of 62,7 years this is the lowest rate in Central Russia. It is dropped by 4 years since 1990.  
In 2002 82% of Ivanovo's population was living below the poverty line. In 2003 the poverty level was 10,05%.

## '3: POLITICAL CHANGE: COLLAPSE OF SOCIALIST ORGANIZATIONS IN EASTERN EUROPE (IVANOVO)

At the beginning of the 20th century, Ivanovo was a working class, which played a vital role in the Soviet's takeover as they had a strong strike movement. It was Lenin, who once described the city as a general strike of textile workers. This is when the first workers councils were founded in Ivanovo. After the October Revolution in 1917 these councils took over and Ivanovo – "Russia's Manchester" - became the capital of a new administration union. It was a short, glowing period with a building boom and lots of hope. But with Lenin's takeover the city's downfall slowly began as economy was concentrating on heavy manufacturing. Ivanovo did get a few new factories, but it was the textile sector, that remained strongest. It wasn't long that the city became trivial, but concentrated economy with sales guarantee and fixed prices prevented a collapse. Nobody would have talked about a crisis towards market economy.

Although Ivanovo's economic output was decreasing since the 1930th. In the 1930th they attracted many, mostly female workers from all around the country to boost the economy, which caused a major housing problem. As most of the building material was used for factories, they developed worker's residential homes, where people had to share rooms. In the 1950s and 60s, when the economy was still strong, they built apartment flats with a technical progress. But even now housing space is limited and many families are waiting for council flats. But although the city was growing, Ivanovo struggled to run a few companies could keep up with the post-socialist economy. They were highly dependent on controlled economy.

When the Soviet Union finally collapsed in 1991, Ivanovo lost nearly all of their production sources and sales markets. They couldn't compete with strong international textile countries like Turkey or East Asia. And as the import of cotton got well expensive, the crisis was finally there. But although Ivanovo was known for its workers movement, this time there was no strike. So Moscow didn't have to intervene and Ivanovo was hoping to compensate the migration with immigration from other cities, that lost their only production centre and couldn't be saved. As many factories had to shut down the unemployment rate increased and even those, who could hold on to a job got public service wages. The living standard dropped dramatically and people had to go back to the only thing, the countryside could still offer: land. They founded "dachas", and started to grow their own vegetables to manage to survive. In 2001, 82% of the population depended on those "dachas".

Other cities, it doesn't seem to be that dramatic. But there are immigrants got to Ivanovo after the collapse. 20% of all housing was taken over by immigrants. They wanted to increase their housing space and take over available flats. In the 1990s, when there was a lot of immigration, most cities were restricted immigration to Moscow or peninsular migration. Young people are officially still residents, but actually they live somewhere else to look for a new start. Nevertheless, most cities are shrinking, because mostly young and middle class people are leaving. Due to limited living space, people move to their "dachas" during summer and start some agriculture. In the end, many young people

**849 568 INHABITANTS**

**821 758 INHABITANTS**

**POPULATION DECLINE: 50,2%**

## REVITALIZATION

The Ivanovo of today is a poor city that has buildings and infrastructure that have been a lot of change, although there are only a few factories left. What you can't see is the fact that life expectation decreased in the past decades due to horrible living conditions. In 2002 governor Vladimir Ilich Tichonov was talking about the need to get Ivanovo back on its feet. It became clear that they wanted to keep concentrating on the service sector. It seems to you look at other similar examples like Manchester. But can you really afford to re-position? And the lot of affordable business premises

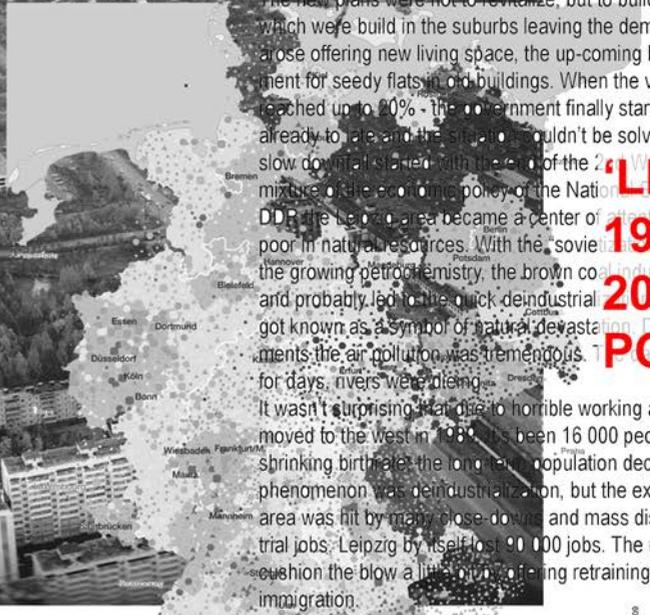
of the DDR. The fusion policy did not take account of any economic consequences. The reintroduction of free market economy in East Germany led to a massive deindustrialization of the area. Seed funding for the Halle/Leipzig area the birth of a new DDR began. The Halle/Leipzig area experienced a vital industrial boom in the 1920s and 1930s that both cities gained importance.

# 4. ECONOMIC/STRUCTURAL/POLITICAL CHANGES IN EAST GERMANY, .... IT IS A MIXTURE OF



Ivanovo

respect. But since the start of the 1990s and the privatization of the industry size has shrunk. Companies offer less jobs. This is the research and development attraction. This doesn't mean that the whole industry is disappearing. (automobile - chemical - food - mostly Germany). The new plans were not to revitalize, but to build which were built in the suburbs leaving the demerit of offering new living space, the up-coming movement for seedy flats in old buildings. When the unemployment reached up to 20% - the government finally started already to take and the situation couldn't be solved. slow down it started with the end of the 2000s. 'L' 19 20 PC' mixtures of the economic policy of the National DDR. The Leipzig area became a center of poor in natural resources. With the 'soviet' growing petrochemistry, the brown coal and probably led to the quick deindustrialization. got known as a symbol of natural devastation. the air pollution was tremendous. for days, rivers were dying. It wasn't surprising that due to horrible working moved to the west in 1980s - been 16 000 people shrinking birth rate. the long-term population decline phenomenon was deindustrialization, but the area was hit by many close downs and mass dis- tial jobs. Leipzig by itself lost 90 000 jobs. The cushion the blow a little by offering retraining immigration.



## 2.4 East Germany and the fall of the Berlin Wall

The new economic policy a sudden deindustrialization caused high unemployment figures, and the migration of the million. **SO IT SEEMS TO BE IMPORTANT TO CONSIDER THIS PHENOMENON IN CITY PLANNING TO DESIGN CITIES THAT CAN EASILY ADAPT TO THESE K**

If you part there are growing populations, whereas cities in the west are shrinking. Only 1% of all settlements in the west are affected. 2003, 400 532 inhabitants in the east, where every second local population desires a common appearance and a high school age. Nevertheless Leipzig could get back on track as an on-going economic crisis after the fall

...in 1981 in 1999 it could only offer 11 717  
 ...ces that way and they are known for a well-running infrastructure. Leipzig might always be a city with "green dots" but as  
 ...between 1989 and 2000 due to a declining birthrate and migration  
 ...of their economy is hard for the future in years, there might be a brighter future.  
 ...count compensate the missing com

**STRATEGICAL CHANGE:  
 NATURE OF ALL THREE OF THESE SOURCES.'**

**LEIPZIG:  
 1989: 530 010 INHABITANTS  
 2003: 496 532 INHABITANTS  
 POPULATION DECLINE: 6,3%'**

...living conditions and major environmental problems many people  
 ...le leaving Leipzig that the 1989/00 population will stop growing by 2070 – 2010. Up to then cities in developing countries are  
 ...line was expected to continue to grow whereas in the western world will have to deal with shrinkage, a phenomenon  
 ...tend was what has caused some of the problems between 1980 and 1990 world. So it seems to be important to consider this phenom-  
 ...missile. During the planning of design of the 80s and 90s for a city that these kind of changes. Because – as we learned from  
 ...unemployment figures actually in 2004 that the greatest big generation, it could a wide range of economic, political, natural or  
 ...or further education anyway it wasn't a good surrounding to promote

So it might be necessary to compile a catalogue of things, that could be affected by a sudden population loss:  
 a birthrate decline would affect the education sector causing the closure of child-care facilities, schools or parts of higher  
 education

integrated into the old buildings and shops and more hospitals and caring facilities. You will also need more nursing person-  
 atter must be revaluation – big shopping malls in housing areas - de-

**DESIGN  
 KIND OF CHANGES.'**

And there might be a second phase when the low-birth generation is  
 As I said before, the tricky thing is to consider all those possibilities in city planning to be able to maybe counteract by  
 the city having a master plan for things companies like porsche and



völkerungsentwicklung: Migration  
Population Change: Migration

Preispreise  
House Prices

gss 2000-2001

wert Eigentümer-occupied  
not owner-occupied

# Suburbanisation



VERGLEICH/STATIS

er: US Census Bureau.

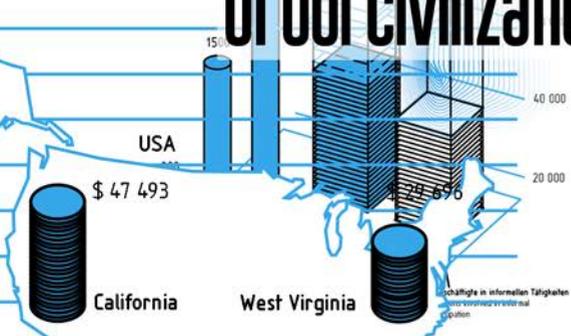
die Informatisierung der  
Arbeitslosigkeit maskiert - nominell  
Arbeitsplatz, auch wenn eine Fabrik  
im Jahr produziert. Der Lebensunterhalt  
informelle Tätigkeiten wie Kleinhandel  
Selbstversorgung finanziert werden.

ormalization of economic relations and  
by the quantity of unregistered  
any ostensibly retain their jobs, although  
operates for one month a year. People often  
elves by way of informal occupation, such as  
or by subsistence farming.

troit

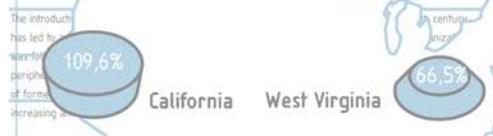
kommen  
ome

eres Haushaltseinkommen, 1999  
an household income, 1999



whether in the USA, Britain, or Belgium, Finland, Italy, Russia, Kazakhstan, or China: **everywhere, cities are shrinking.** The dramatic development in eastern Germany since 1989 which has led to more than a million empty apartments and to the abandoning of countless industrial parks and social and cultural facilities, has proven to be no exception, but a general pattern of our civilization.

Die Einführung des Automobils als Massenverkehrsmittel in der ersten Hälfte des 20. Jahrhunderts hat zu einer grundlegenden Umstrukturierung des bis dahin kompakten Stadtbildes geführt. Die Suburbanisierung des Wohnens folgte bald die Verlagerung von Einzelhandelsbetrieben, Arbeitsplätzen und Freizeitangeboten aus den Städten ins Umland. So entstanden die sich umgebende Suburbane Raum zunehmend von der historischen Stadt. Die Entdichtung der ehemals zentralen bebauten USA wurde in Westeuropa wie auch in den USA vorwiegend durch die steigende Nachfrage nach mehr Wohnraum vorangetrieben.





"Tiffany Jones", 1972

# polarisation

## Disasters

Venice reached its population peak in the mid-nineteenth century. It has shrunk rapidly ever since, a process accelerated by natural disasters that have hit Venice badly. By the 1960s, floods occurred with increasing frequency, heightening the anxiety within the population. The 1966 flood marked a point of no return in the city's history, with the exceptionally high water levels and the phenomenon's unusually long duration initiated a new era for Venice, with 16,000 inhabitants losing their homes.

## Disastri

Venezia, negli anni '50 del Novecento, registra un picco di popolazione. Da quel momento in poi conosce un rapido declino, accelerato dagli eventi naturali avversi che la colpiscono. Già prima del 1960 l'acqua alta era diventata un fenomeno sempre più frequente, raggiungendo livelli di allarme preoccupanti. L'alluvione del 1966 è un punto di riferimento negativo nella storia della città. Il livello eccezionale raggiunto dall'acqua e la durata anomala del fenomeno aprono per Venezia una nuova era. Nel 1966 i 16.000 veneziani che abitano i piani terra perdono tutto.

By the 1960s, floods occurred with increasing frequency, heightening the anxiety within the population. The 1966 flood marked a point of no return in the city's history, with the exceptionally high water levels and the phenomenon's unusually long duration initiated a new era for Venice, with 16,000 inhabitants losing their homes.

Today, cities and regions are affected by the increasingly unequal development of competing economic areas. There are areas of strong economic growth that combine a broad range of functions and resources, but there are also ever larger peripheral areas that are cut off from internationalized economic networks. While a few city sectors, cities or entire city regions are subject to processes of shrinking, there is also growth, often in the immediate vicinity of regions that are shrinking. On various levels the social and spatial contradictions are becoming more critical.



# The curse of urban sprawl: how cities grow, and why this has to change

The total area covered by the world's cities is set to triple in the next 40 years – eating up farmland and threatening the planet's sustainability.



I have just spent two days in Barcelona, one of the most densely populated urban settlements in the world. There are 103 road intersections in 1.96 km<sup>2</sup> – high density compared to Brasilia's 41 or Shanghai's Pudong area, which has only 17. Yet despite these high densities, residents of Barcelona will tell you how profoundly liveable their city is.

Metropolises expand and contract. It is estimated that 40% of Europe's cities are shrinking (though this is a trend that a migration might help to reverse). Even in Africa, there are some countries where the percentage of the total population living in cities has declined at various times over the past two decades. Visitors are charmed by the (best) cities, a trend that a migration might help to reverse. Even in Africa, there are some countries where the percentage of the total population living in cities has declined at various times over the past two decades. In narrow streets leading to piazzas where people sit at cafe tables or under shady trees. Many residents walk or cycle to work, and public transport functions very well.

Overall, however, our current urban population of around 3.9 billion is expected to grow to around 6.34 billion by 2050, out of a total global population of at least 9.5 billion. If we continue to design and build as if the planet can provide unlimited resources, then this near doubling of the urban population will mean a doubling of the natural resources required to build and operate our cities – which is not sustainable.



As cities grow, perhaps our most serious concern should be how they expand out into the surrounding countryside. Contrary to popular belief, over the past century urban settlements have not only expanded

der  
wo  
  
Co  
sup  
  
Th  
-2  
few  
ove  
  
In  
par  
set  
Fra  
  
If t  
are  
mi  
is t  
thi  
  
In  
fo  
po  
  
U  
  
A k  
w  
fil  
ge  
fir  
  
As  
cap  
few



# Attention sprawl causes cancer

omographically, they have also sprawled outwards – covering some of the world's most valuable farmland in the process.

continued urbanisation in its current form could threaten global food supplies

the result has been a steady de-densification of urban settlements, by about 1% per annum. Even where inner-city areas have densified over the past two decades (Copenhagen, for example), the citywide trend is still for an overall reduction in average densities.

By 2010, the total area covered by all the cement, asphalt, compacted clay, parking areas and open spaces that comprise the form of the world's urban settlements was around 1 million sq km. From the 1960s onwards, the city of Detroit built more asphalt roads to suburbanise the middle and upper classes into the surrounding countryside – and in the process bankrupted Detroit's urban core, leaving it unable to manage the economic impact of the closure of its once-giant car factories.

the urban population and long-term de-densification trends continue, the area of the planet covered by urban settlements will increase to more than 3 billion sq km by 2050. And since the most intensively cultivated farmland is typically located near where the cities are, the world will lose an additional 2 million sq km by 2050. Indeed, most of the extra 2.5 billion people who will be living in urban areas by 2050 will be in cities of the global south, in particular in Asia and Africa; 37% of all future urban growth is expected to take place in only three countries: China, India and Nigeria.

short, continued urbanisation in its current form could threaten global food supplies at a time when food production is already not keeping up with population growth.

## Understanding rapid urbanisation

key determinant of rampant urbanisation is the rise of cheap air travel. When oil prices crashed recently in 2008 and exacerbated the global economic crisis, the people of the world were forced to default on their mortgage payments.

their fuel expenses for travelling to work and school rocketed, and many people were expected to default on their mortgage payments. By contrast, in African cities – where 62% of all urbanites are in slums – the majority of slum-dwellers live in expanding urban settlements on the peripheries of cities. With Africa's urban population (currently around 400 million people) expected to triple to 1.2 billion by 2050, this form of urbanisation will result in massive, sprawling, relatively low-density urban settlements across the continent.



**Cities don't shrink**  
**they leak**

SLUM CONDITIONS  
WALLS CONSTRUCTED OF WOOD AND MUD



82%

BASIC FACILITIES  
HOUSEHOLDS WITHOUT TOILETS



24%

SECURING WORK  
UNEMPLOYMENT



35%

FAMILY SIZE  
PEOPLE PER HOUSEHOLD



5.5

FAMILY SIZE  
CHILDREN PER WOMAN



3.2

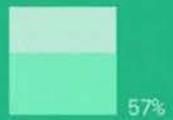
8.0

CITY OF YOUTH  
UNDER 18 YEARS OLD



27%

INVESTING IN HOUSING  
PUBLIC HOUSING



57%

and 40km from the urban periphery. Many of these turned into slums as population numbers far exceeded what these settlements were designed to accommodate.

Conflicts of an urban age: Slum conditions have changed in Addis Ababa after democratisation in 1994, there was a major inward flow of people into the urban core that could not be accommodated, despite a massive housing construction programme. Land invasions took place in all South African cities, including on inner-city land. But in Johannesburg's metropolitan area, the government realised it could not build an integrated city by moving millions of people around, because so many already lived in formal townships. Instead, it identified a set of strategically located urban development hotspots; and then invested in mass transit services to link them together.

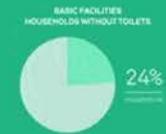
The aim is to rapidly intensify job and residential densities in these development hotspots, thus increasing the number of people who can access publicly funded mass transit services. At the same time, high-rise buildings emerge in the urban core. The peripheries to the central business district are transformed into high-density, multi-storey apartments that are starting to replace the sprawling, low-density residential areas that have long characterised the city – a remarkable feat in a city where 80% of the population lives in slums. This creates incentives for the middle class to live in high-density, multi-storey apartments that are starting to replace the sprawling, low-density residential areas that have long characterised the city – a remarkable feat in a city where 80% of the population lives in slums.

In Addis Ababa, increasing urbanisation has seen public housing decrease from 57% to 10% of total stock between 1990 and 2015. Source: Urban Age/LSE Cities. Slums are the

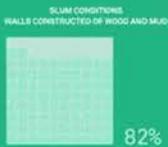
This will increase average densities over time, and integrate the city via transit. The urban poor are being pushed into areas that are being upgraded with strategies to upgrade informal settlements rather than building new houses on the peripheries, which is possible in other cities facing similar challenges. Johannesburg, the largest city in South Africa, provides a very different but also promising – case study. Under apartheid, the urban poor were forcibly relocated into outer-city settlements – often located between five

# Slums are the bastards children of the megacity

Johannesburg, the largest city in South Africa, provides a very different but also promising – case study. Under apartheid, the urban poor were forcibly relocated into outer-city settlements – often located between five



**INVESTING IN HOUSING**  
PUBLIC HOUSING



**Eradicating sprawl in favor of liveable, accessible, multi-centred, high-density cities should become a global commitment**

An alternative to sprawl was not the result of a realisation that people using mass transit which, in turn, made mass transit financially viable. Building more high-rise condos in the hope that they will be financially viable, simply does not work (the greater the density, the more likely it is that mass transit will be viable).

ing the sprawl promoted by Johannesburg since 1994.

China, meanwhile, has used hundreds of billions of dollars over the past three decades. This has tended to be in high-rise, multi-storey buildings located in “super blocks” with wide, traffic congested streets and few intersections per sq km. The result is relatively low densities in sprawling, de-densifying cities are a major threat to the UN’s sustainable

ty of the planet. Neither the Paris agreement’s climate targets will be

no street or community life – in short, not the one you would call liveable.

the Paris agreement’s climate targets will be

Compare this with the neighbourhoods you find in Barcelona, where buildings are five to eight storeys high, located on narrow streets with pavements, trees and small piazzas for social engagement, and all well suited to both motorised and non-motorised forms of transport.

o tend to prefer greenfield developments on the complexities of brownfield regeneration

Compare this with the neighbourhoods you find in Barcelona, where buildings are five to eight storeys high, located on narrow streets with pavements, trees and small piazzas for social engagement, and all well suited to both motorised and non-motorised forms of transport.

**Urban settlements**

ould be a mistake to focus solely on Los Angeles has a higher average, yet LA is regarded as a dysfunctional city because it comprises a network of roads connected by efficient and affordable multi-centred commitment

This is why its mistake would be a mistake to focus solely on Los Angeles has a higher average, yet LA is regarded as a dysfunctional city because it comprises a network of roads connected by efficient and affordable multi-centred commitment

acity that has avoided sprawl with the intention to dismantle the eight-lane highway of the city, he said: “Seoul is for

While the intention to dismantle the eight-lane highway of the city, he said: “Seoul is for

Mark S. Stollenbos Age Shap organised Gesellschaft

While the intention to dismantle the eight-lane highway of the city, he said: “Seoul is for



# Detroit: The 'Shrinking City' That Isn't Actually Shrinking

KAID BENFIELD

*We're often told that Detroit has been abandoned—but the metro area is stable, and addressing sprawl is still a challenge*



At the bottom of this post are two short videos about Detroit, both architect and planner Mark Nickita, principal of the city's Archive Studio and a lifelong Detroit resident. In a very refreshing change of mind-numbing negativity one usually hears about the city, Nickita is and hopeful. His point of view, emphasizing revitalization, is much my own than much of what I read, which effectively takes the approach the city has somehow been abandoned beyond redemption, leaving the question how to manage its more-or-less permanent shrinkage.

But it's not that simple.

There has indeed been a decline in part of the region. In 1970, 1,670,144 people lived within the city limits of Detroit. By 2010, that number had declined to 713,777, an astounding apparent loss of some 57 percent of the 1970 population. Recently, much has been made the 25 percent population decline over the last decade, from 2000 (951,270) to 2010.

# Detr not

But the extent to which Detroit is on your definition of "city." The jurisdictional inner city and its i but only from 4,490,90

Do the math: What that means i becoming so drastically, its subu the handsome rate of 27 percent the suburbs added some 91,000 Patrick Cooper-McCann writes o shrinking, the physical size of m years. As I've written before, nei attention to jurisdictional lines;

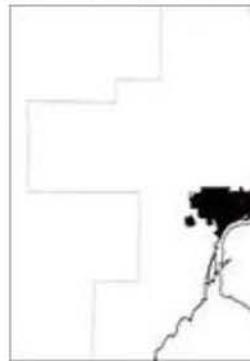
Look at the maps below. On the 1900; in the middle, by 1950; and on the right, you can see by 2000

the current trends, it's only g the planning agency was pr developed land in metro Detroit or more. "390,000 more acres b continue to be mostly single-fam more stores and more schools,"

Press (published on the web site

Design Shrinking city? Really? What thi Detroit than the decline of the ru the region has been allowed, mo shrink, and to suck the life and h self-styled progressive responses critical aspect of the problem?

Maybe they are, but the only one the inner city—demolishing vaca



## Shrinking city? Really?

letting vast areas revert to nature or farming, and so forth. Let sprawl, the cause of the problem, be someone else's issue to address. But, in fact, the areas that are sprawling are where the "right-sizing" most needs to occur.

# Detroit needs a regional approach, not just demolitions in the center

Whether or not there is any food in the current approach for Detroit as a community, it is impossible to see how it will be good for the region's carbon emissions. Just as is the case in every other U.S. metro area, the population of metropolitan Detroit is growing far more quickly than the center of the region, because their inhabitants walk less, drive longer distances, and drive more often. On the map above from the Center for Neighborhood Technology, households in the areas in red emit, on average, 8.6 metric tons or more of carbon dioxide per year from transportation; households in the pale yellow areas in the center emit 3.3 metric tons or less. Again, big difference.

The way to stem pollution is to address the unchecked expansion on the fringe and keep the center as urban as possible. In this troubled place even more than in others, Detroit needs a regional approach, not just demolitions in the center.

In the first video below, Mark Nickita discusses the importance of, and prospects for, revitalizing the Woodward Avenue corridor that forms the Detroit region's historic and economic backbone:

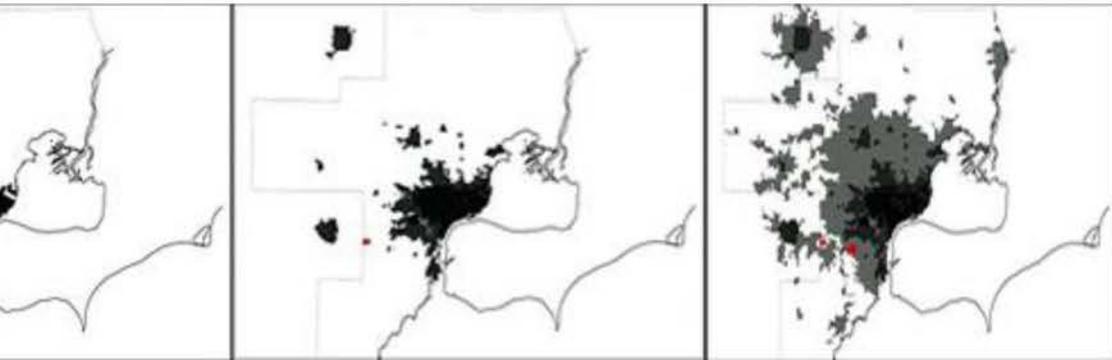
[https://youtu.be/ggR7FEES\\_pI](https://youtu.be/ggR7FEES_pI)

In the next (which actually was recorded first), Nickita discusses what's really been happening with regard to population in the Motor City:

<https://youtu.be/kDjoNUgJKiM>

(Note: Nickita's numbers on the region's population are bigger than mine because I conservatively used the six-county, census-defined Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) to define the region. Nickita used the nine-county Combined Metropolitan Statistical Area.)

## Inner city drops by 4% Suburbs added 7% Metro size grows by 50%





510 million km<sup>2</sup>

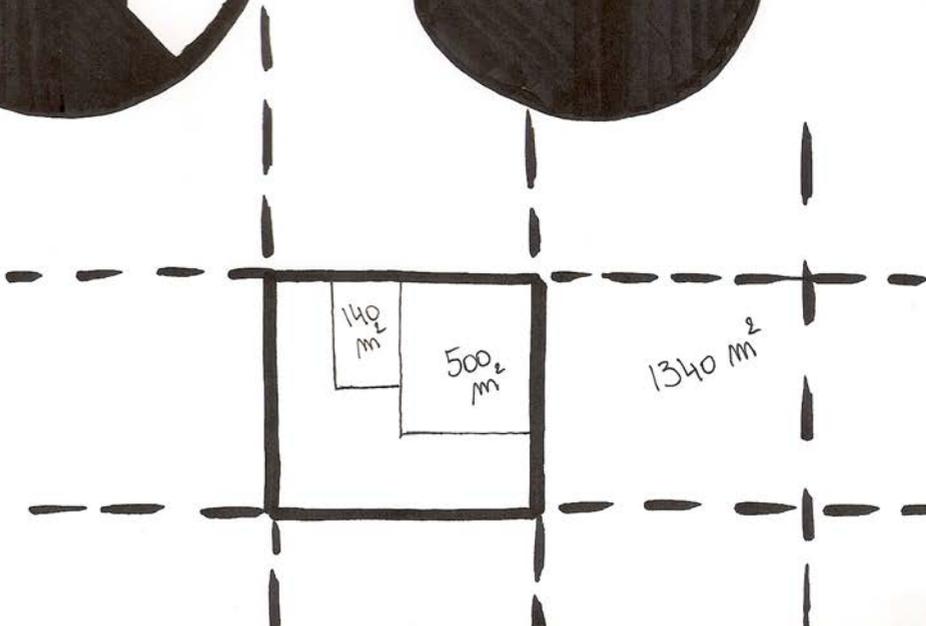
148,94 million km<sup>2</sup>



37,7% Agriculture land



10,6% arable land



# ULTIMATE SPRAWL

flow

in

is

have at

ut states m

non those nul

economic regions therefo

pellentesque era

strategies result

donec polic

vitae french analys

political federal quar

france affects form

while could phenom

et into uppe

analysis amon

quis not tool

social sized urn

understand one ero

also us orc

governments lectu

be lorem du

etc they est

rates current lec

fluctuating

that

for

shrinkage

local

as

this

context

with

their

has

of

to

urban

cities

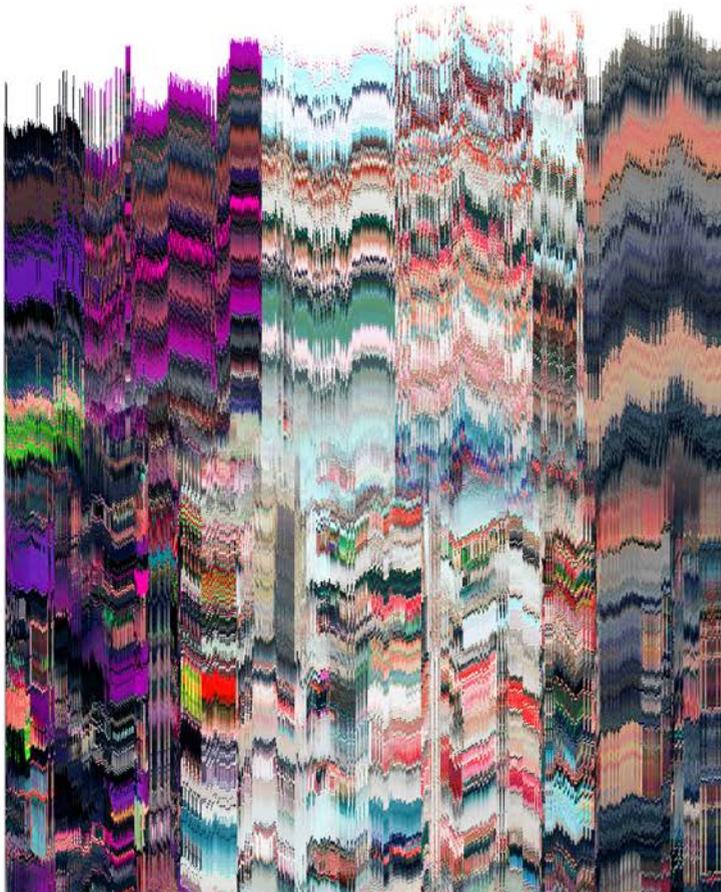
a

decline

density

and





```

32 x aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa
4 x bbbb
19 c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc
22 e DdddDdddDdddDdddDdddDdddDddd
60 e eeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeee
11 f ffffffff
8 o Gggggg
21 h hhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhh
47 i iiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiii
  j
  k
27 l lllllllllllllllllllllllllllllllll
28 m mmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmm
29 n nnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnn
25 o ooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooo
6 r pppppp
10 q
24 r rrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrr
12 s sssssssssssssssssssssssssssssssSssssssssss
16 t tttttttttttttttttttttttttttttttt
45 u uuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuu
19 v vvvvvvvvvvvvvvvvvvvvvvvvvvvvvv
4 w wwwww
  x
  y
17 y yyyyyyyyyyyyyyy
  z
  .

```

```

      a a a a a a a b a a a a a a
D f c c e c a a a a a a a a a a
e d e a d c e e e e e e e e e e e e
f c e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e
i k i h h h i h h h h h h h h h h
m l k i h l l l l l l l l l l l l l l
n o o b m l m m m m m m m m m m m
p o o n n n n n n n n n n n n n n n
r r r p r o n o n o n o o n n o o
s t s r f s s s s s s s s s s s s s s
l t f l t u l l l l l l l l l l l l l
y w v u v l l l l l l l l l l l l l
y y y y y w w y y
  y y y y y

```



```

D e e e e e e a d a b a c e a
f e i e a i e e e l a e D e a a
n d a h a e a d a h a d a a a m
l d o c a a a a a a a a a a a a
r c i c m a h a a a a a a a a a
t l l l l l l l l l l l l l l l l l
v y u l o v n n n n n n n n n n n
y s t a n q u y l t p s o s u b s p
t t s s s t t u t t s s y s y
  y y y y y

```

Density, or more precisely, the volumetric mass density, of a substance is its mass per unit volume. The symbol for density is the lower case Greek letter rho, although the Latin letter  $\rho$  is also used in some cases for instance, in the United States Oil and Gas Industry. This is scientifically inaccurate; this quantity is more specifically



How can the unplanned process of growth and shrinkage be qualified? strategies for action to date have failed to formulate a satisfactory answer to this question. shrinking and overpopulated cities question existing social practices, values and models. They call for fundamental cultural reflection and reevaluation. can differences take a positive turn without fostering social polarization? is urbanism conceivable without density? can unused spaces and materials be used in different ways? Are there informal practices that can be read as positive models for action? how do mentalities and identity crises influence urban

How can the unplanned process of growth and shrinkage be qualified? strategies for action to date have failed to formulate a satisfactory answer to this question. shrinking and overpopulated cities question existing social practices, values and models. They call for fundamental cultural reflection and reevaluation. can differences take a positive turn without fostering social polarization? is urbanism conceivable without density? can unused spaces and materials be used in different ways? Are there informal practices that can be read as positive models for action? how do mentalities and identity crises influence urban

How can the unplanned process of growth and shrinkage be qualified? strategies for action to date have failed to formulate a satisfactory answer to this question. shrinking and overpopulated cities question existing social practices, values and models. They call for fundamental cultural reflection and reevaluation. can differences take a positive turn without fostering social polarization? is urbanism conceivable without density? can unused spaces and materials be used in different ways? Are there informal practices that can be read as positive models for action? how do mentalities and identity crises influence urban

How can the unplanned process of growth and shrinkage be qualified? strategies for action to date have failed to formulate a satisfactory answer to this question. shrinking and overpopulated cities question existing social practices, values and models. They call for fundamental cultural reflection and reevaluation. can differences take a positive turn without fostering social polarization? is urbanism conceivable without density? can unused spaces and materials be used in different ways? Are there informal practices that can be read as positive models for action? how do mentalities and identity crises influence urban

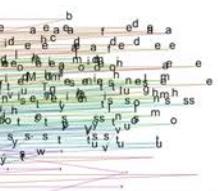
# unplanned.

oooooooooooooooooooo

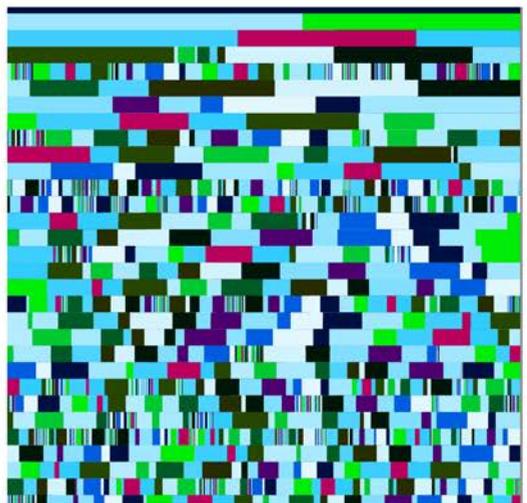
ssss

oooooooooooooooooooo

ss



substance is its mass per unit volume. The symbol most often used in letter D can also be used. Mathematically, density is defined as mass divided by volume, where  $\rho$  is the density,  $m$  is the mass, and  $V$  is the volume. In physics, density is loosely defined as its weight per unit volume, although this is called specific weight.



# The city

is a dynamic entity which **grows**  
and **contracts**. The need for the rethinking  
of a city is pressing now more than ever. It  
needs to become a

# flexible

organism capable of effectively answering  
the fluctuations of density.



**Make sure  
there are no  
vacant spaces.**

**How do we  
breathe new  
life in them?**

ADAPTABILITY  
TEMPORARILY  
SOCIAL  
ECONOMIES

▷ ?  
HIS ?

# TEMPORARY CITY

JUST AIRBNB THIS

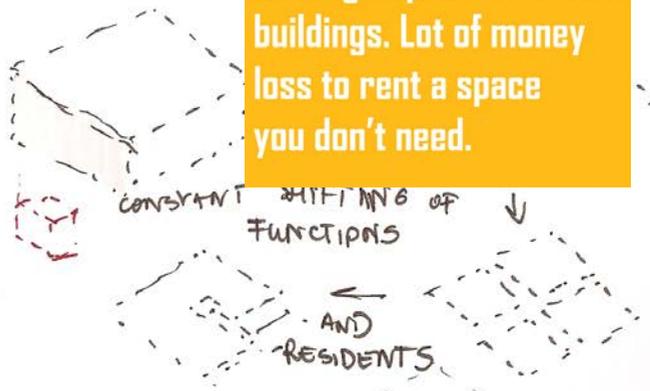
SPACE EASY TO CHANGE / FIX

BUILD  
MULT-FUNCTION

SHIFT OF PROGRAM  
CHANGING LAWS  
OWNERSHIP RIGHTS

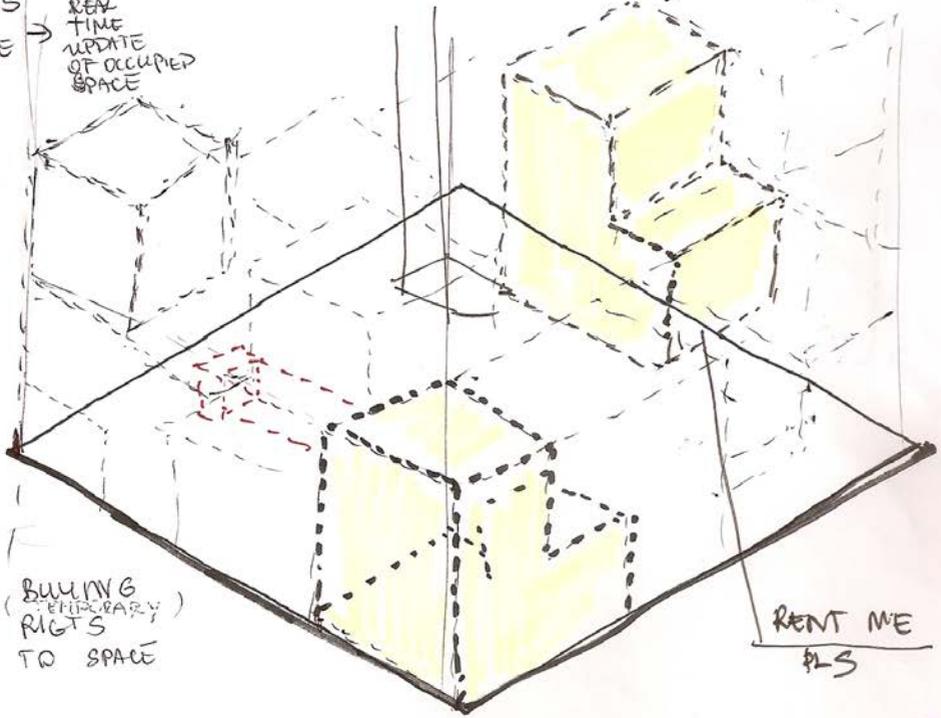
TO OWN  
THIS ?  
REDISTRIBUTION  
OF SPACE  
TEMPORARY  
URBANISM  
RETHINKING  
OWNERSHIP

Shifting ownership to renting to prevent vacant buildings. Lot of money loss to rent a space you don't need.



ARCGIS  
MAP OF THE  
CITY

REAL TIME  
UPDATE  
OF OCCUPIED  
SPACE



BUYING  
(TEMPORARY)  
RIGHTS  
TO SPACE

RENT ME  
PLS

DO YOU NEED TO OWN IT?

AIRBNB

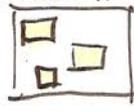
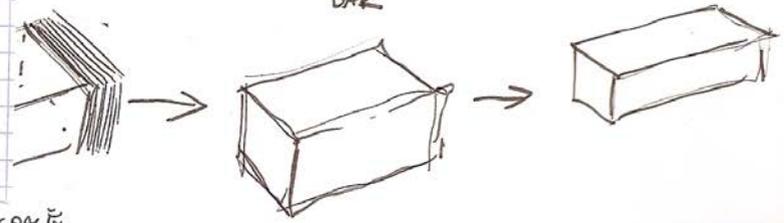
SOCIAL  
ECONOMICS  
ADAPTABILITY  
TEMPORARILY  
BUILD  
KEEP

# REPURPOSED CITY

ABANDONED SPACE WITH NEW POTENTIAL

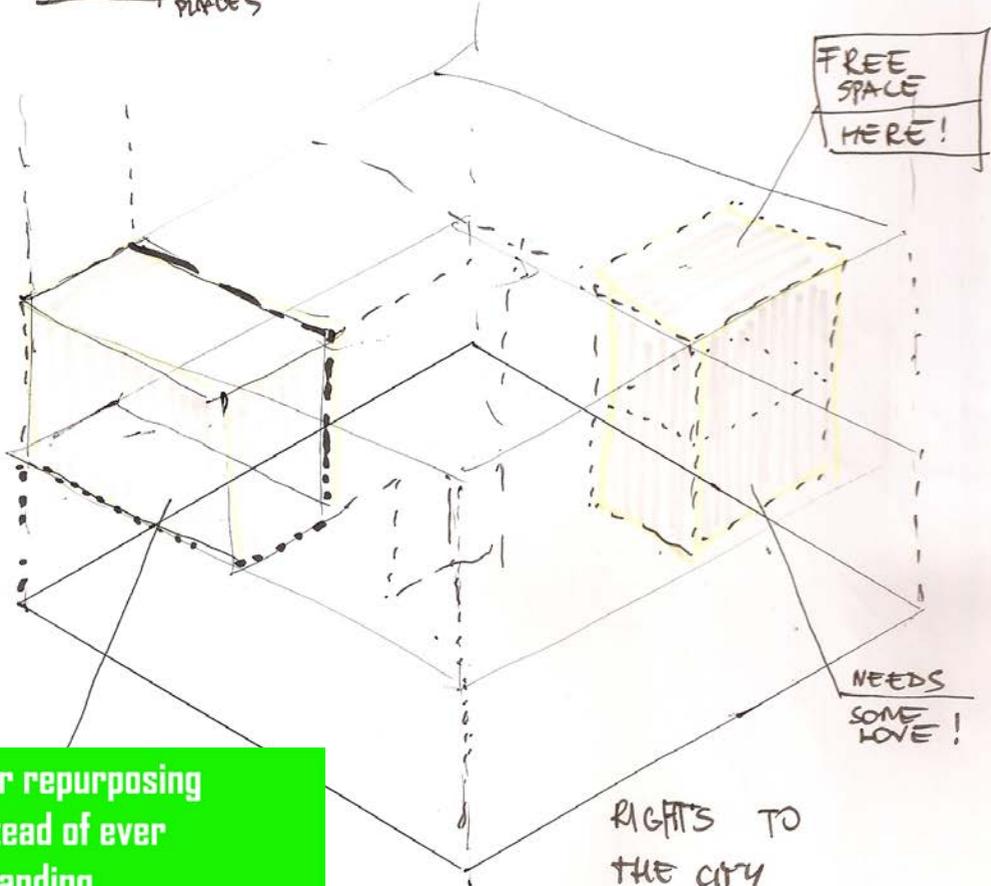
## ADOPT THE CITY

~~MAP~~  
CHANGE OF LAND  
DATA EXCHANGE  
MAPPING THE CITY  
REDISTRIBUTION OF SPACE



MAP OF ABANDONED PLACES

→ ADOPT THIS SPACE

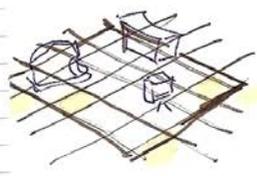


Ever repurposing instead of ever expanding.

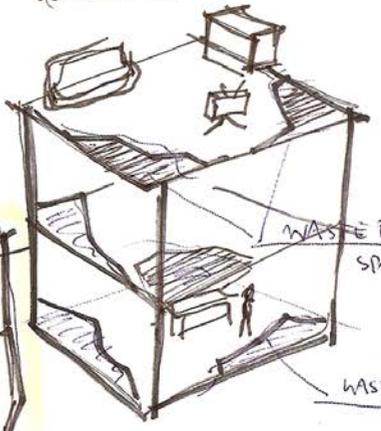
# KRAKEN!

SOCIAL  
 ECONOMICS  
 ADAPTIBILITY  
 FLEXIBILITY  
 OPEN

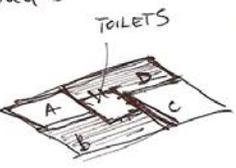
**BUY SPACE. COM**  
 SPACE AS U LIKE IT!  
 VERTICAL REDISTRIBUTION  
 OF SPACE  
 RAUMPLAN?



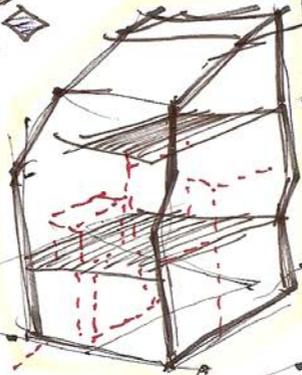
NEW FUNCTION  
 VERTICAL SPACE  
 REDISTRIBUTION  
 RETHINKING SPACE  
 USAGE PERSONAL  
 USE OF SPACE



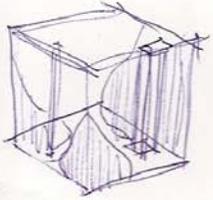
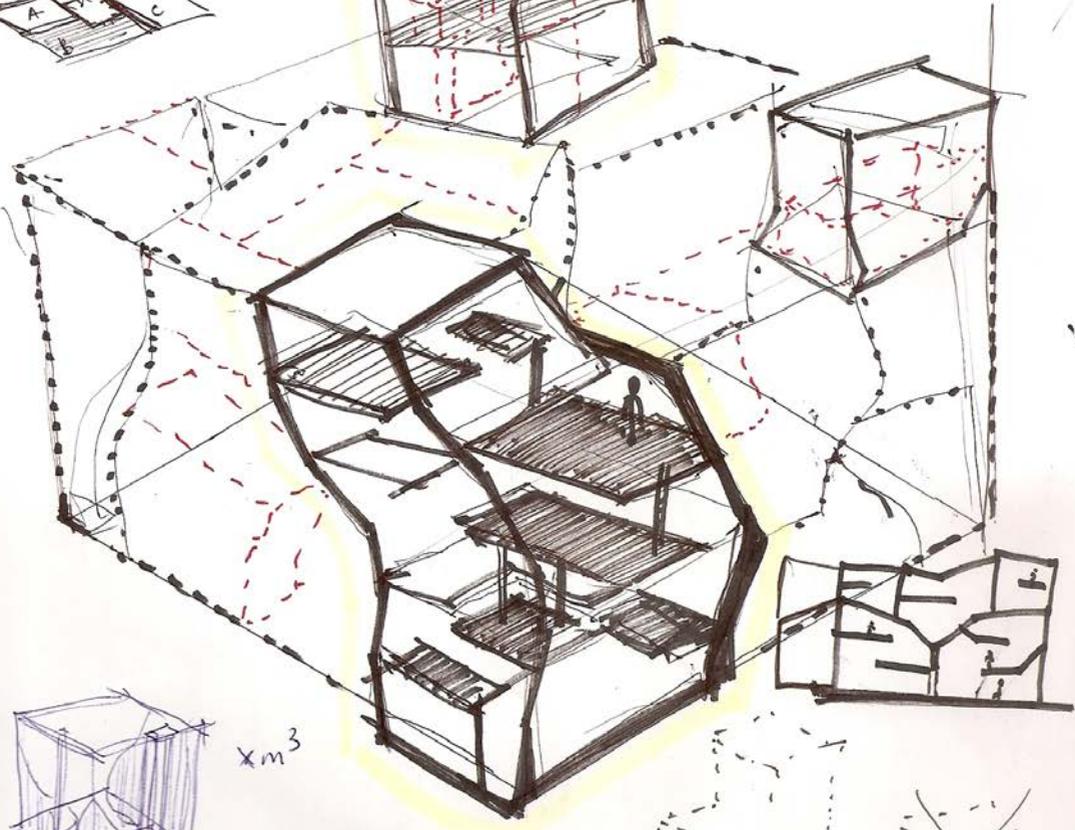
BUY A  
 SPACE  
 BUY 5



SAVED  
 SPACE

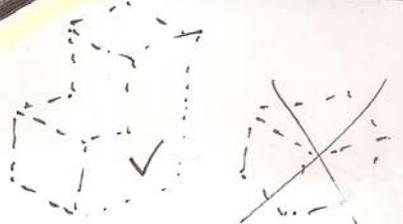


WASTE D



$\times m^3$

$m^2 \rightarrow m^3$





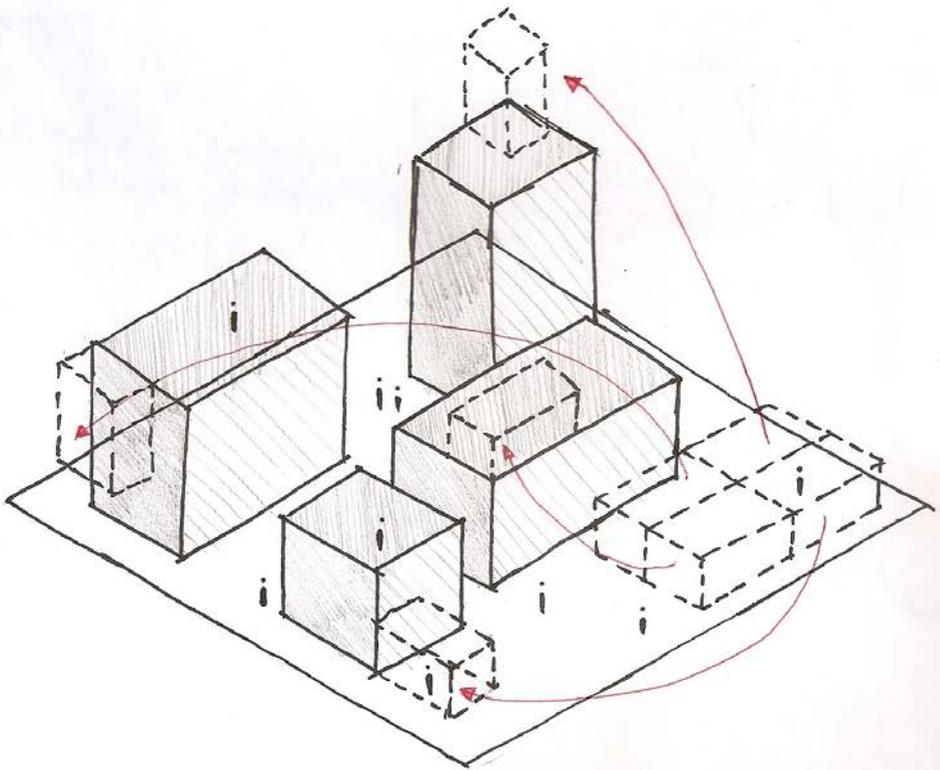
Redistribute vacant space as parasites/plug in units for other occupied spaces as a temporary bonus room.

CITY BLOCK SCALE  
SPACE DISTRIBUTION  
~~SEMI~~ MOVING  
OPEN VS BUILD  
PARASITE  
PLUG IN SPACE  
MOVING UNITS

Redistribute space

→ unused space gets divided & added to of that are still in use

→ plug-in / parasite of unused space



# ELEVATOR CITY

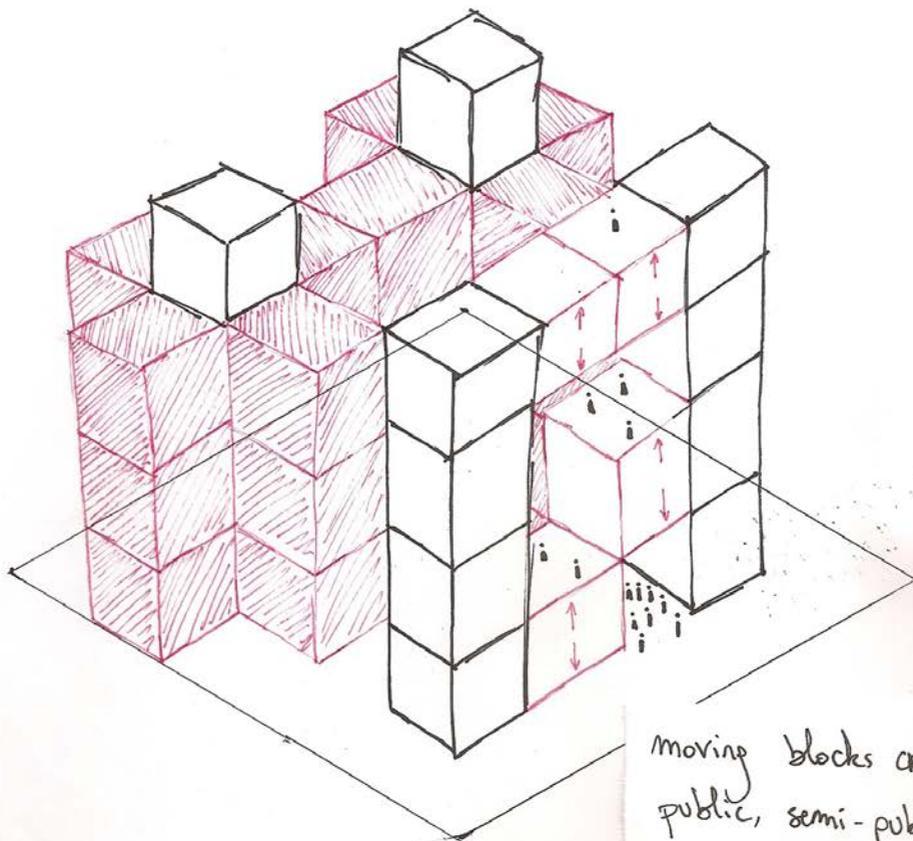
SOCIAL  
OPEN VS BUILT  
MOVEMENT  
STRUCTURAL

Flexibility

Very specific and defined plans limit the plan of the future. Open up options to repurpose the structure to different programs. Multiple buildings in one building. Multiple structures in one structure.

modular structure

Moving units

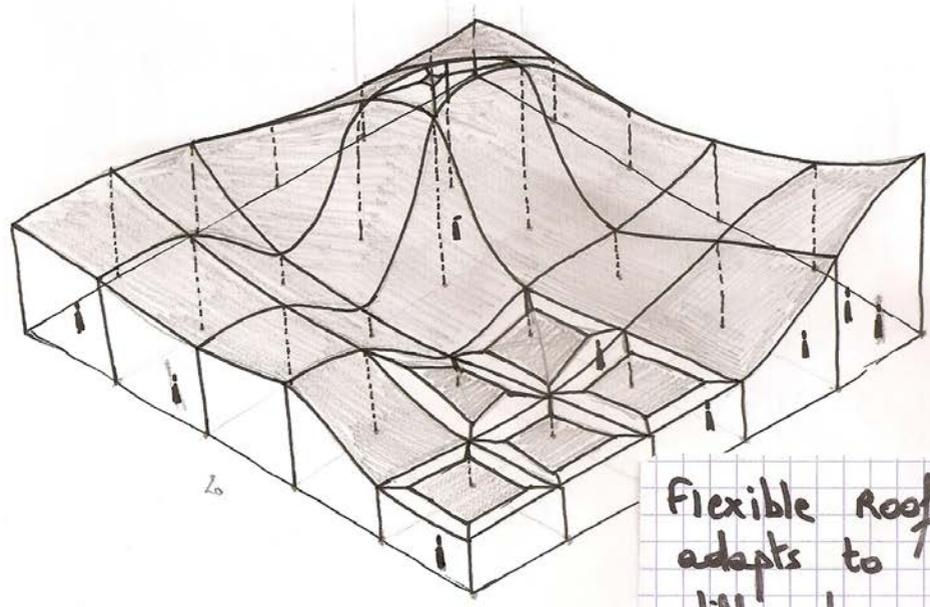


moving blocks create  
public, semi-public  
& private open spaces  
Floor becomes roof, ...

STRUCTURE  
MOVEMENT  
MULTI FUNCTIONAL

Dynamic  
Structures

Flexible Roof  $\rightarrow$  adapts to needs of programs  
housing  $\rightarrow$  hall  $\rightarrow$  church  $\rightarrow$  school  $\rightarrow$  ...  
Roof fillings open - closed

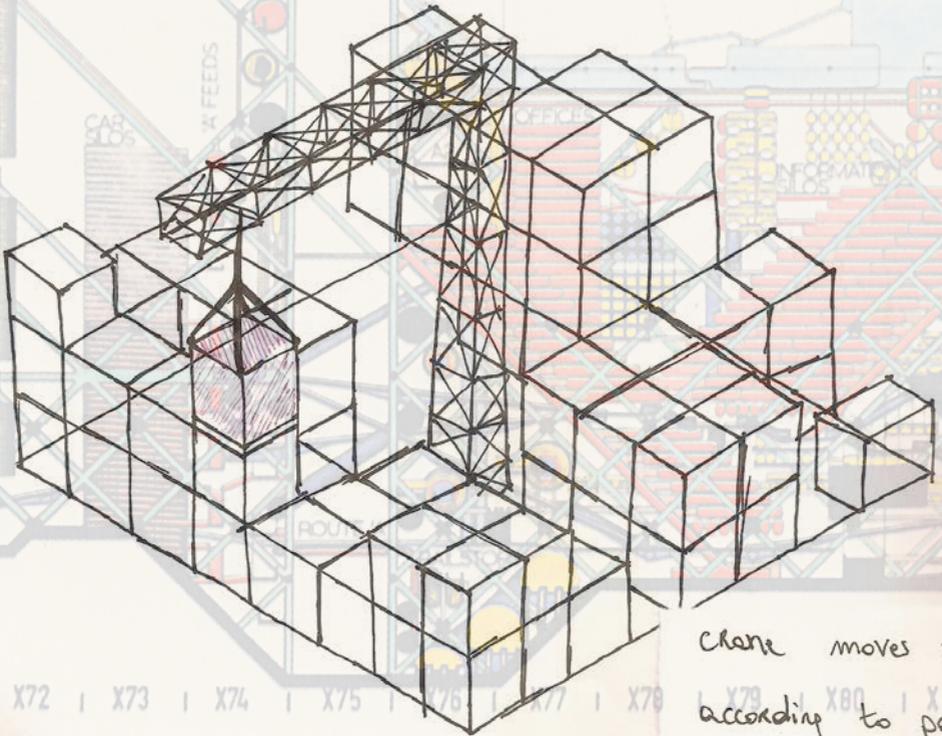


Flexible Roof  
adapts to the  
different programs

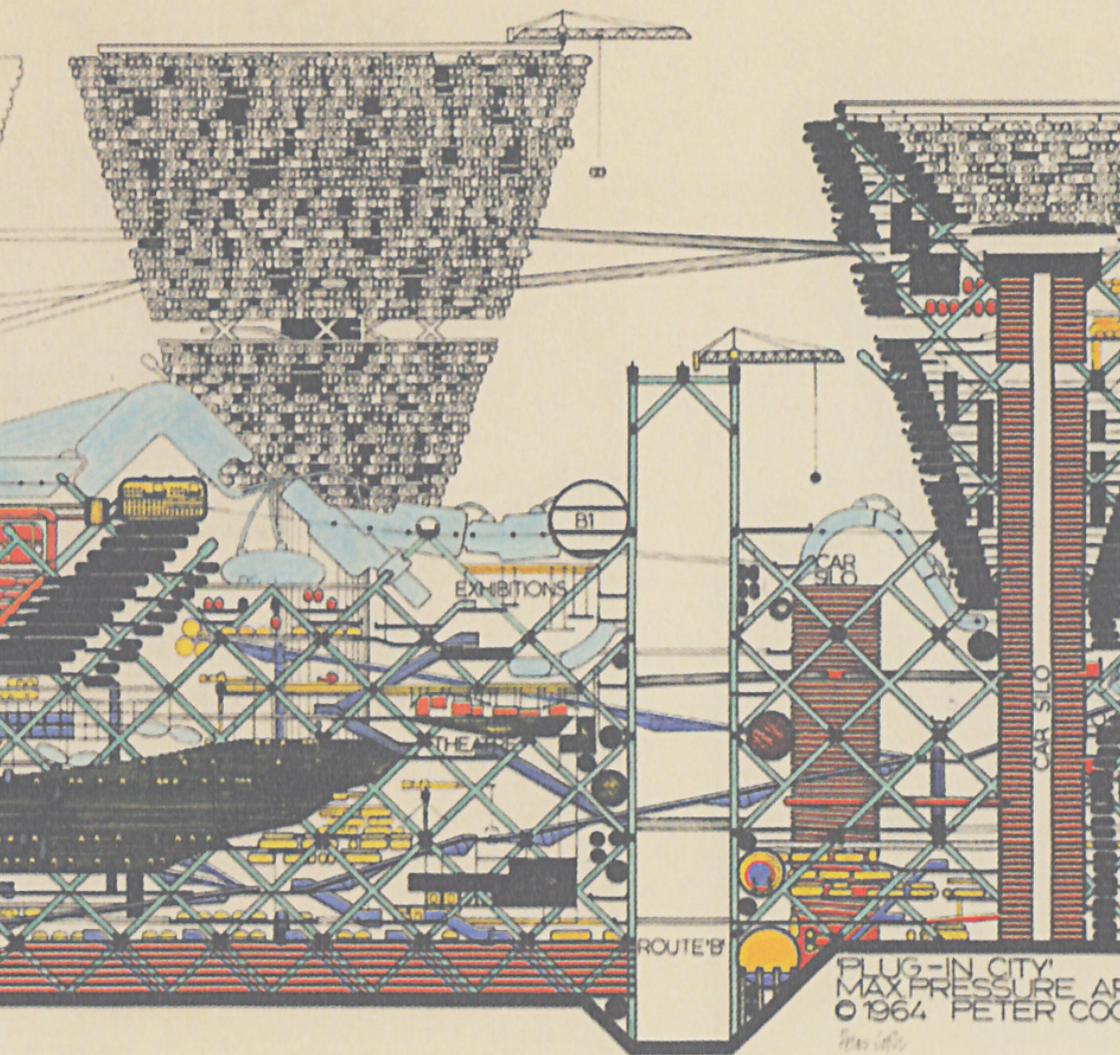
# CRANE CITY

TECHN.  
MOVEMENT

Modular system  
cellular  
superstructures  
moving units



crane moves units  
according to program  
demands



02 | X83 | X84 | X85 | X86 | X87 | X88 | X89 | X90 | X91 | X92 | X93

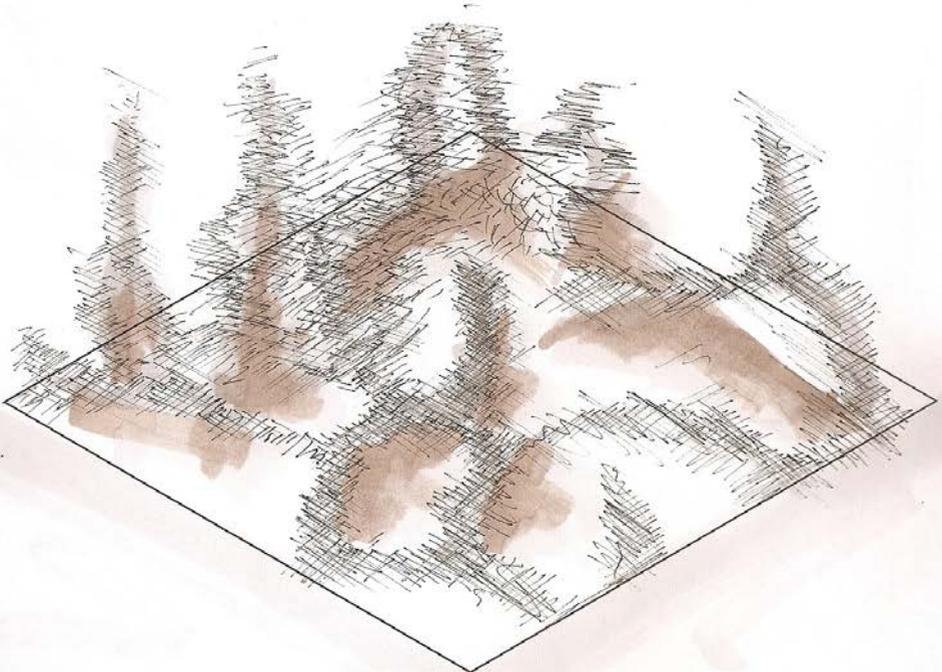
**Superstructures  
/systems that  
allow the nomadic  
nature of  
mankind. How do  
they cope?**

# SUPERSTRUCTURE

STRUCTURE  
MATERIALS  
TECHNOLOGY

SUPERSTRUCTURE  
STATIC  
MODULE

No more distinction between buildings or cities.  
Superstructure where mass is a dynamic entity driven by nomadic fluctuations of density.  
An endless empty frame to fill.



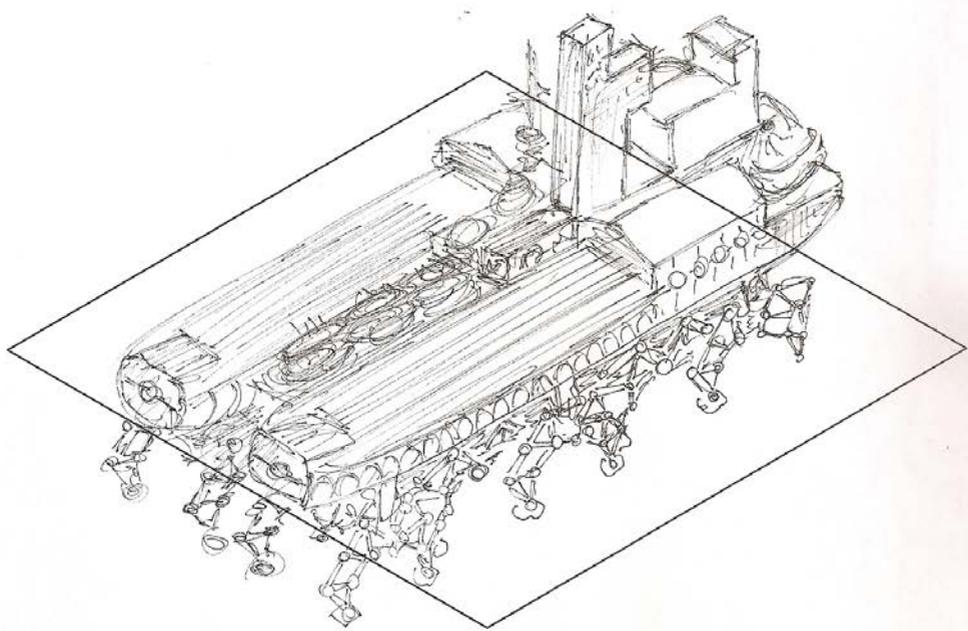


# CityShip. Crawling the land

MOVEMENT  
TECHNOLOGY

Can we create a structure that allows the nomadic needs of the population. Moving structure instead of destroying the structure and rebuilding it somewhere else. Population/societies as moving entities bound to one ship.

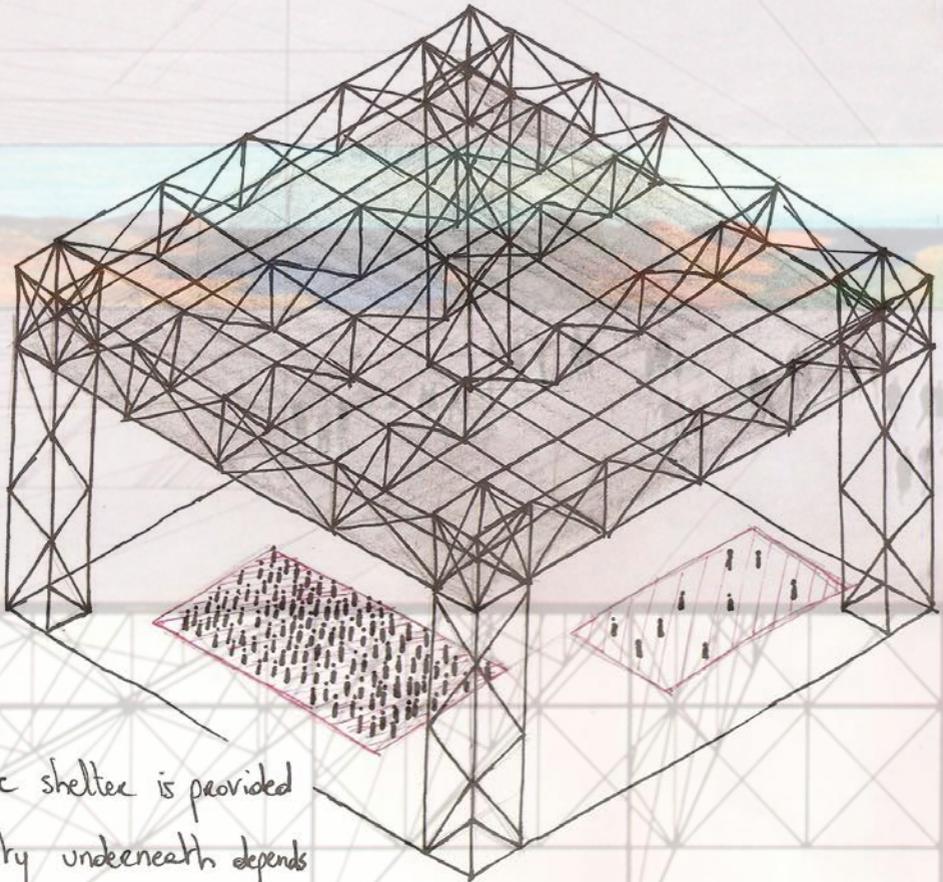
NOMAD



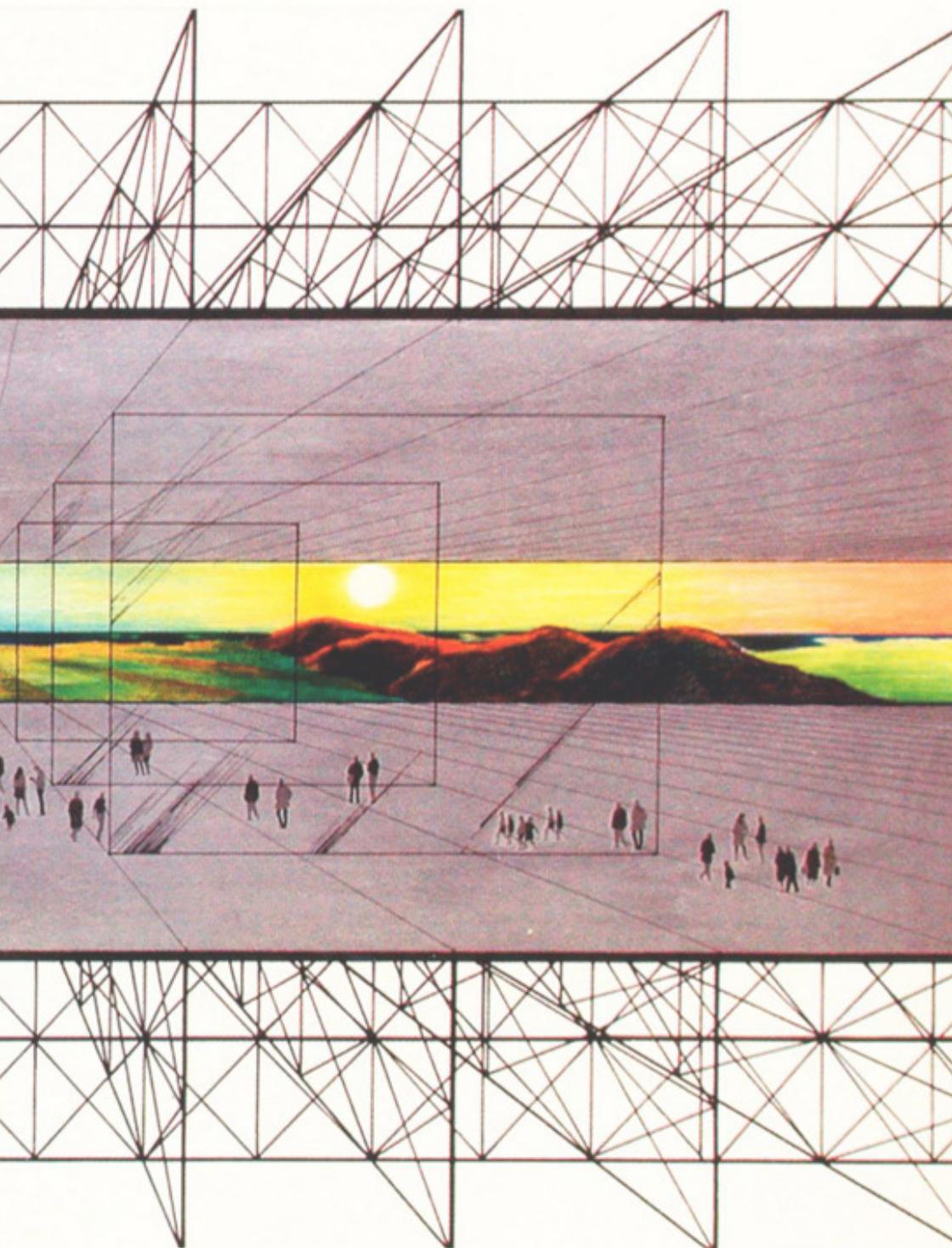
# NON STOP CITY

Endless structure that provides shelter for users. Density fluctuates depending on program, social behavior, ... An endless empty space to fill.

STRUCTURE  
OPEN vs BUILT  
SOCIAL  
MULTI FUNCTION



Basic shelter is provided  
Density underneath depends  
on the amount of  
ppl/programs that  
present themselves



# FUTURE OF THE EARTH PLANET



OVERPOPULATION



GLOBAL WARMING



EXTERMINATION OF NATURAL ENVIRONMENT



INDUSTRIALIZATION



URBANISATION



AIR AND WATER POLLUTION

FOR THE CENTURIES WORLD HAS BEEN PROGRESSIVELY POPULATED BY PEOPLE. CURRENT NUMBER REACH 8000 MILLION, AND POPULATION RATE IS CONTINUOUSLY GROWING. IN THE LAST 15 YEARS NUMBER OF PEOPLE LIVING ON THE EARTH REACH LEVEL AS NEVER BEFORE IN THE WHOLE HISTORY. ACCORDING TO THE MOST RECENT UNITED NATIONS ESTIMATES, THE HUMAN POPULATION OF THE WORLD IS EXPECTED TO REACH 8 BILLION PEOPLE IN THE SPRING OF 2024. THE EFFECTS OF OVERPOPULATION ARE EXTREMELY DANGEROUS FOR THE FUTURE OF THE WORLD, MOST OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL DAMAGE BEING SEEN IN THE LAST FIFTY ODD YEARS IS BECAUSE OF THE GROWING NUMBER OF PEOPLE ON THE PLANET. INCREASING POPULATION RATE LEADS TO CONTINUOUS GROWTH OF CITIES (URBANISATION), INDUSTRIALISATION SOCIAL PROBLEMS ETC. AS A CONSEQUENCES OF THIS ACTIONS WE CAN NOTICE DEGRADATION OF NATURAL ENVIRONMENT, WHAT IN THE FUTURE MAY CAUSE COMPLETE DESTRUCTION OF EARTH ECOSYSTEM (GLOBAL WARMING, CLIMATE CHANGE, AIR AND WATER POLLUTIONS, LOSS OF LAND, RAISE SEA LEVEL, DISAPPEARING OF WILD ANIMALS, ETC.).

DESPITE OF MANY EFFORT PEOPLE PUT INTO CHANGE CURRENT AND FUTURE SITUATION, THAT ADVANCED PROCESS IS REALLY HARD TO REVERSE. THE CHALLENGE OF STOPPING OVERPOPULATION IS NOW ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE TO SOLVE BY HUMANITY. IF THIS TENDENCY IS NOT GOING TO BE STOPPED, NEXT GENERATIONS MAY STRUGGLE WITH MORE AND MORE COMPLICATED AND PROGRESSIVE ISSUES. FUTURE PREDICTIONS DON'T GIVE ANY DOUBT ABOUT DECREASING CONDITION OF THE WORLD ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIETY. THAT FORECASTS PROVOKE MANY QUESTIONS ABOUT IDEAS AND SOLUTIONS THAT MAY SOLVE THIS GROWING PROBLEMS.



## HOW TO SAVE EARTH?

HOW TO REVERSE PROCESS OF ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION?

EARTH EVOLUTION- FROM GREEN PLANET TO DESTROYED BY HUMAN WORLD



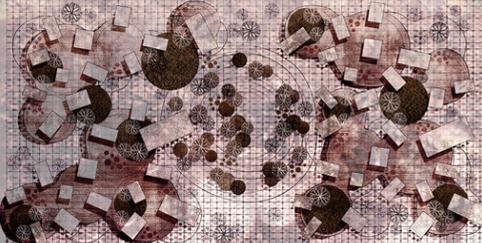
REVERSE PROCESS- EARTH GOING BACK TO GREEN PLANET



PEOPLE HAVE BEEN TRYING TO INTRODUCE NUMBERLESS STRATEGIES TO SAVE A FUTURE OF PLANET EARTH. DESPITE OF IT, WORLD CONDITION IS CONSTANTLY GETTING WORST WITHOUT ANY CERTAINTY OF THE FUTURE IMPROVEMENTS. IF SMALLER ACTIONS AREN'T GOING TO GIVE ANY CONVENIENCE EFFECTS, WORLD MAY NEED SOME NEW PERMANENT AND RADICAL SOLUTIONS.

CREATE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR PLANET TO SLOWLY TURN BACK TO HIST. GOING BACK TO THE TIME WHEN EARTH WASN'T AFFECTED THAT MUCH BY HUMAN ACTIVITY. INITIATE AN IDEA OF GIVING EARTH POSSIBILITY TO REGENERATE ITSELF, BY SEPARATE SOURCE OF DEVIATION FROM NATURAL ENVIRONMENT. SEARCHING FOR SOLUTIONS GIVING AN OPPORTUNITY TO REALISING PLANET FROM NEGATIVE INFLUENCE OF CIVILISATION DEVELOPMENT. RETURN ALL LANDS TO EXTEND NATURAL GROWTH INSTEAD OF URBANISATION EXPANSION AND INDUSTRIALISATION GROWTH.

POSSIBLE PLAN OF ONE LEVEL



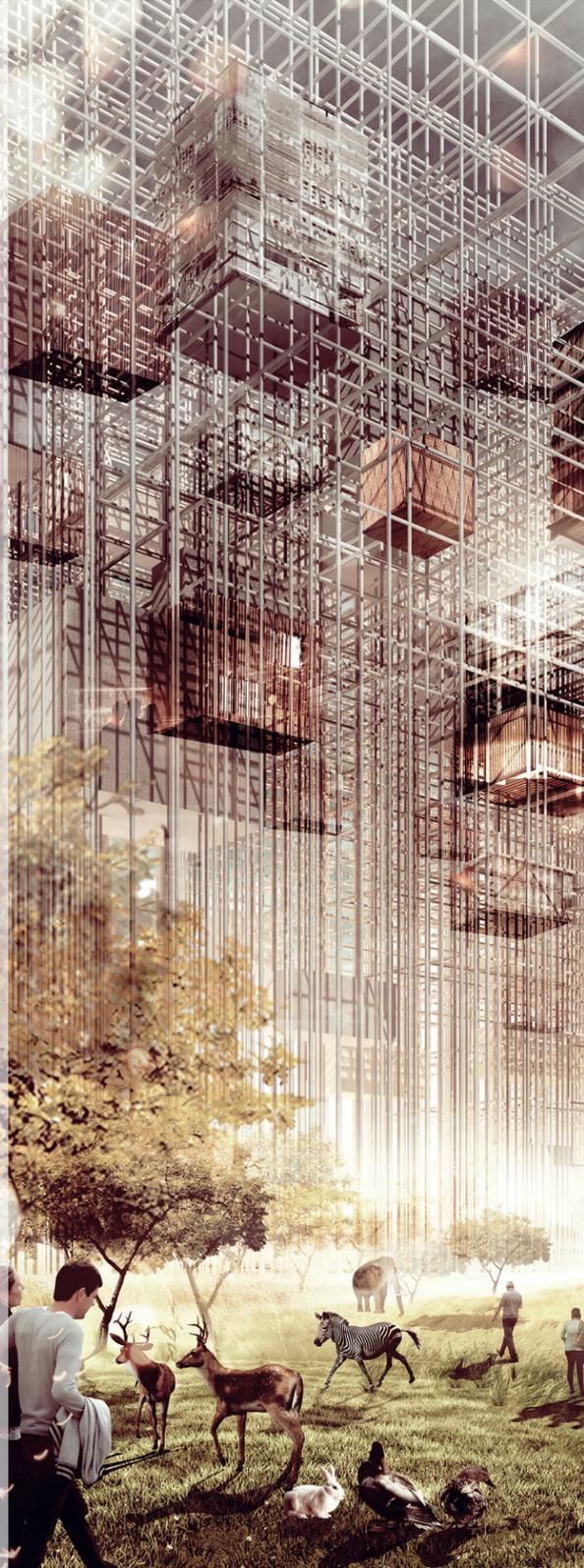
SEPARATION OF BAD CIVILISATION INFLUENCES FROM NATURE



DOMINANCE OF NATURE OVER CIVILISATION PROCESS

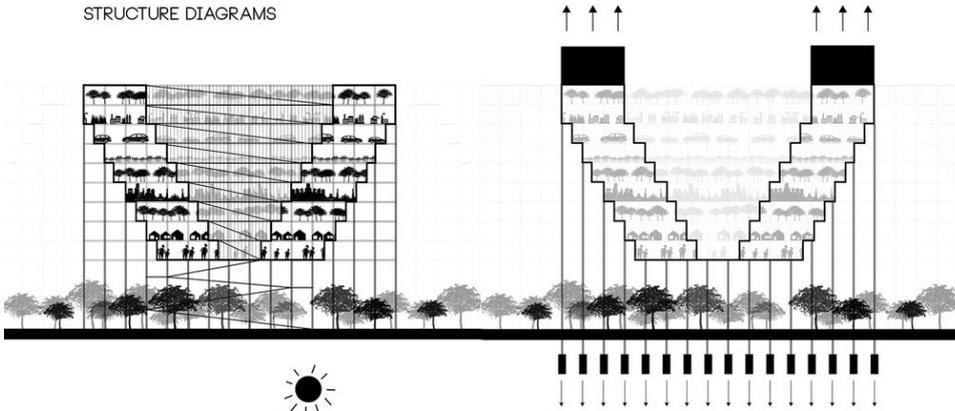


RETHINKING AND REDESIGNING THE WAY WE ORGANISE CITIES, WITH NEW URBAN STRUCTURE AND NEW WAY OF THINKING ABOUT ENVIRONMENT. GIVING AN OPPORTUNITY FOR EARTH TO RECREATE INITIAL MANNER OF NATURE EXISTENCE, WHERE HUMANS DIDN'T DOMINATE. ON NATURAL ENVIRONMENT GIVE PEOPLE EASY ACCESS TO GREEN AREAS WITH IT POSSIBILITY TO RADICAL IMPACT ON NEW ENVIRONMENT SYSTEM. NEW STRATEGY CAN GIVE A PERFECT BALANCE BETWEEN



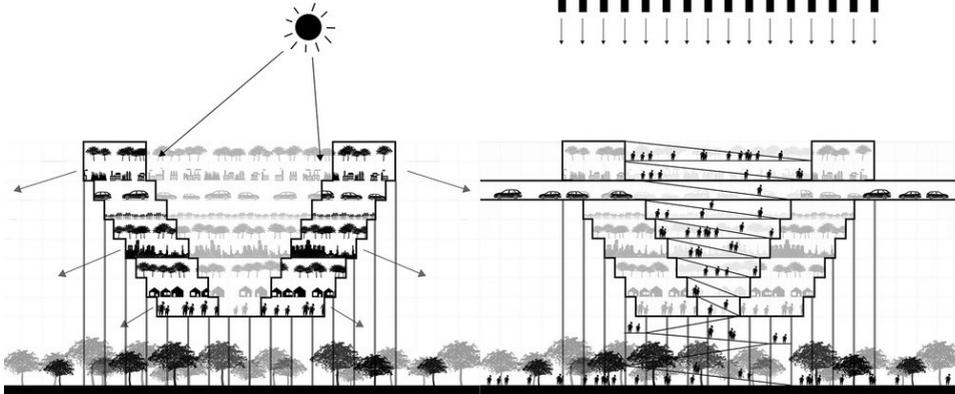


# STRUCTURE DIAGRAMS



## FOUNDATION DIAGRAM

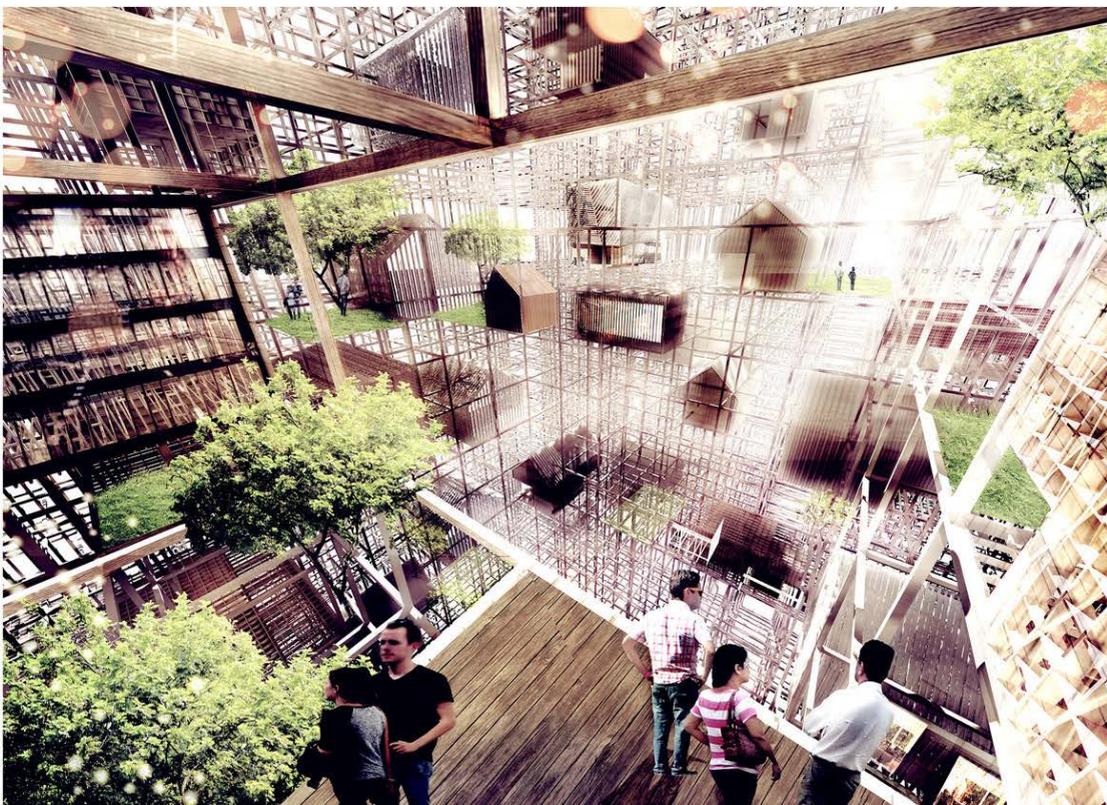
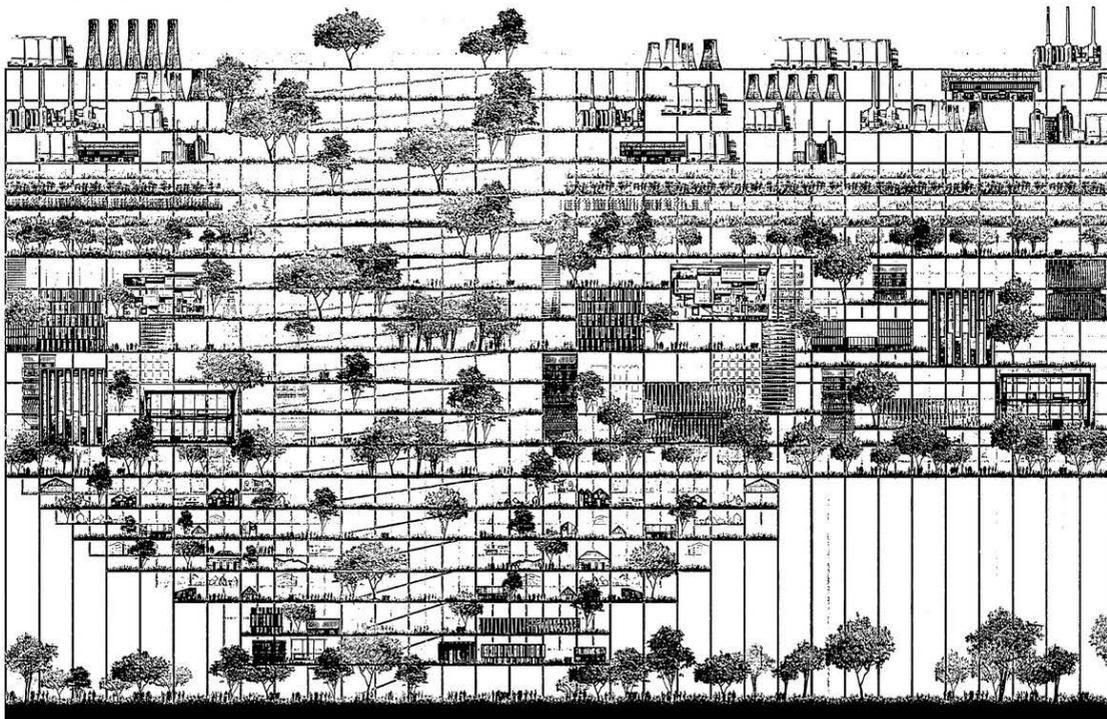
- EARTH OVERLOAD CAUSED BY GROWING NUMBER OF PEOPLE AND BUILDINGS
- STRUCTURE IS BASED ON TRADITIONAL FOUNDATION
- HIGH LOAD FACTOR OF THE STRUCTURE IS OPTIMISED BY HELIUM STRUCTURES LOCATED ON THE TOP PART OF THE CONSTRUCTION



## COMMUNICATION DIAGRAM

- INTERNAL CITY COMMUNICATION IS CREATED BY STAIRS, RAMPS, ESCALATORS AND ELEVATORS
- MAIN COMMUNICATION CORE IS LOCATED IN ATRIUM AREA
- COMMUNICATION BETWEEN CITIES IS CREATED BY ONE LEVEL OF THE STRUCTURE RESERVED FOR HIGHWAYS AND ROADS





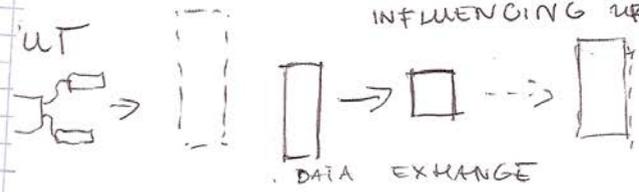
**Using the shifting  
border of  
technology to help  
us cope with the  
fluctuations of  
density. Human  
slave to the machine  
or vice versa?**

TECHNOLOGY  
 FLEXIBILITY  
 PARAMETRIC  
 TEMPORALITY  
 MOVEMENT  
 MULTI-FUNCTION  
 PARAMETRIC  
 REAL TIME  
 DATA EXCHANGE  
 PROGRAMMABLE SPACE

# INTERFACE?

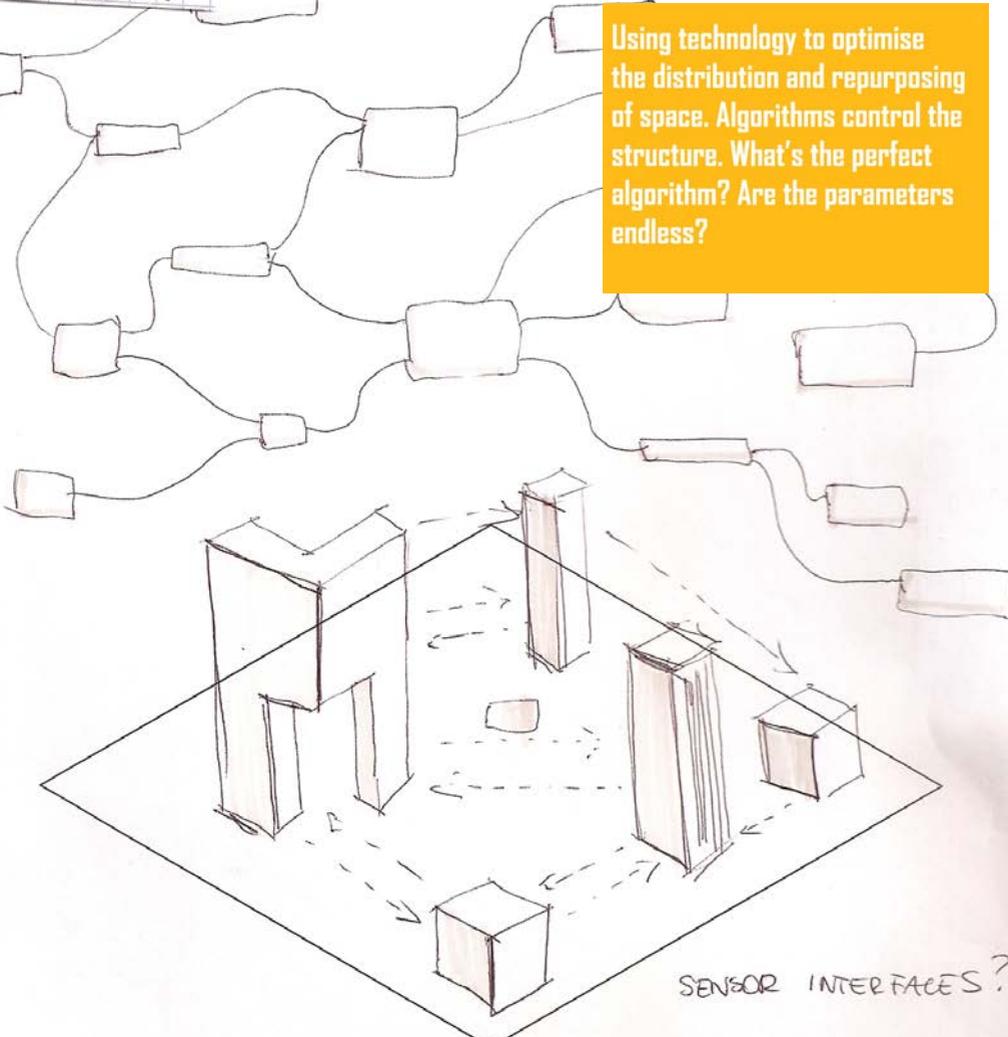
# DATA CITY

3D MAPPING  
 INFLUENCING URBAN FABRIC



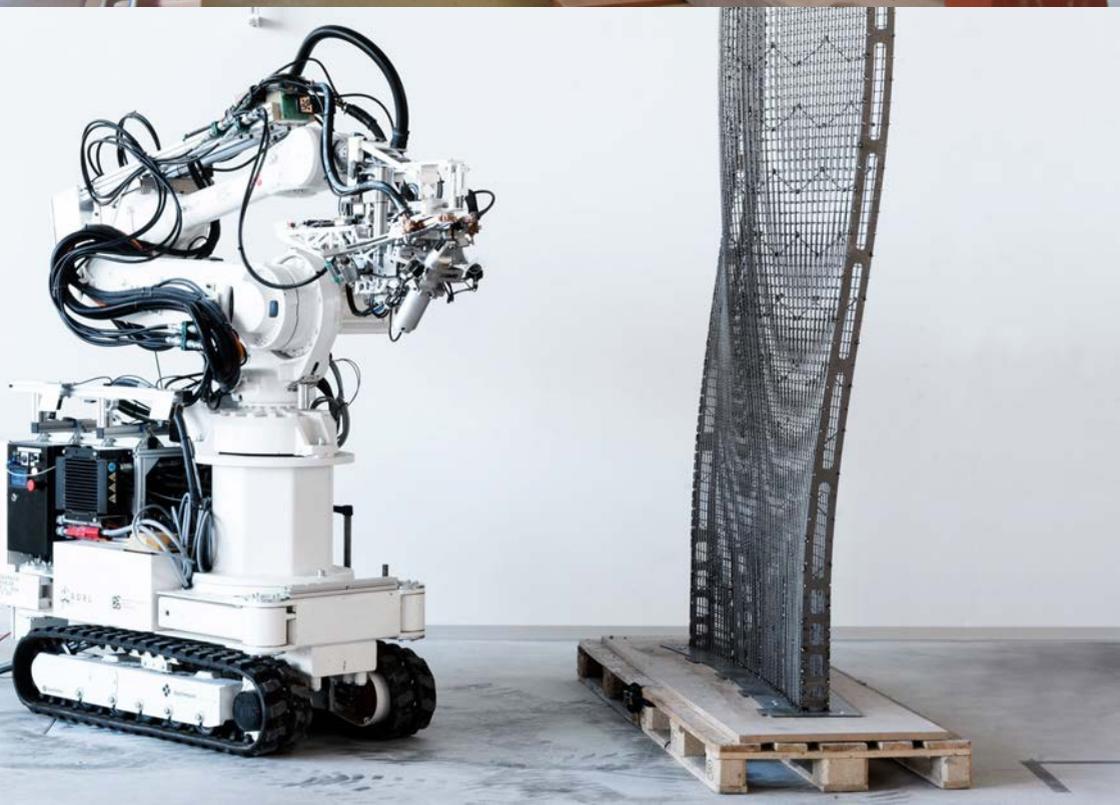
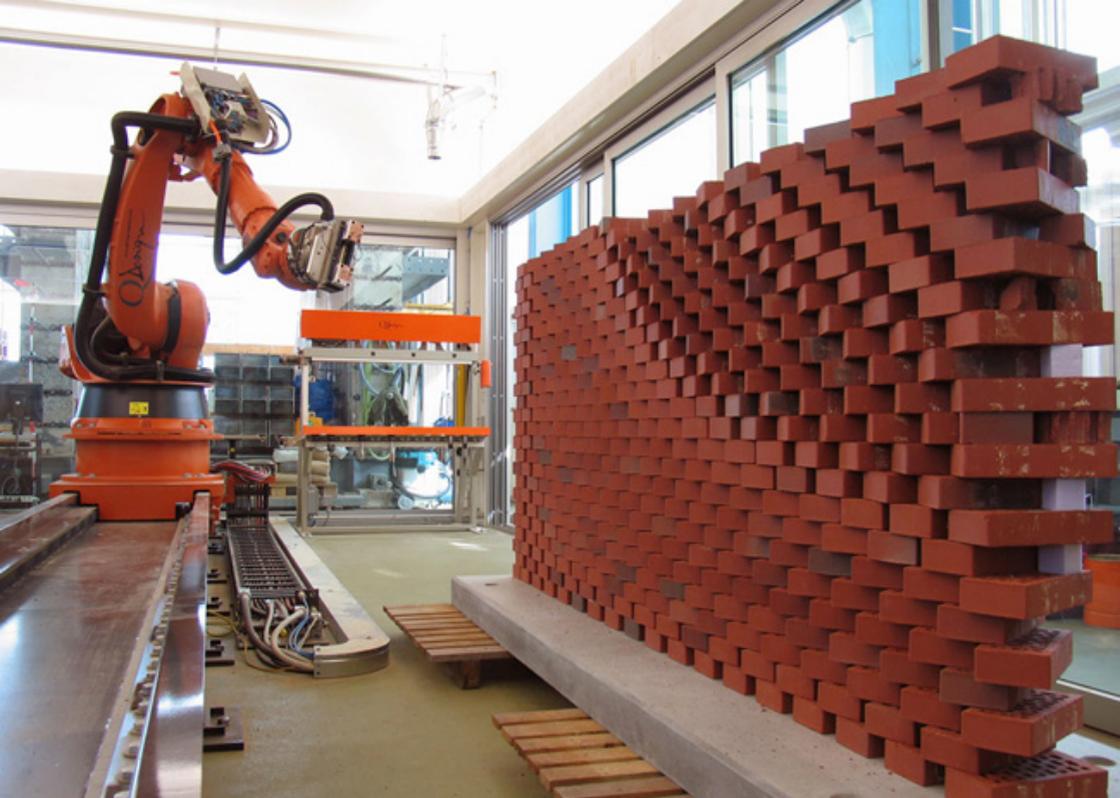
## REAL TIME CITY TRAFFIC CONTROL

Using technology to optimise the distribution and repurposing of space. Algorithms control the structure. What's the perfect algorithm? Are the parameters endless?



SENSOR INTERFACES?

CHANGING FUNCTIONS REAL TIME



# AUTOMATED CITY

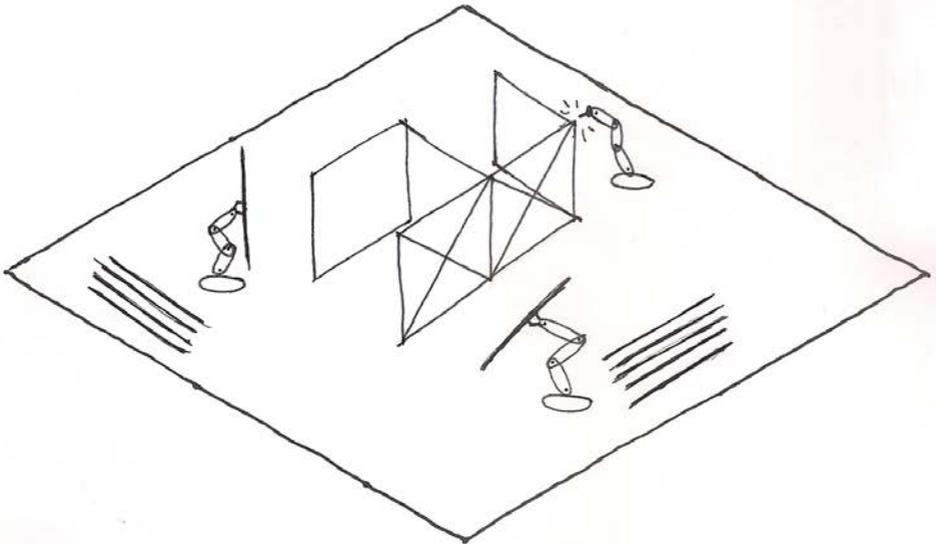
ROBOTICS  
STATIC  
CITY SCALE  
BUILD VS OPEN  
PROGRAMMING  
CREATE & DESTROY

THE PROGRAM KNOWS WHEN TO SHRINK OR EXPAND

THE CITY BUILDS AND DESTROYS ITSELF

SLAVE TO THE PROGRAM?

**Technology controls  
the construction and  
destruction of the built.**

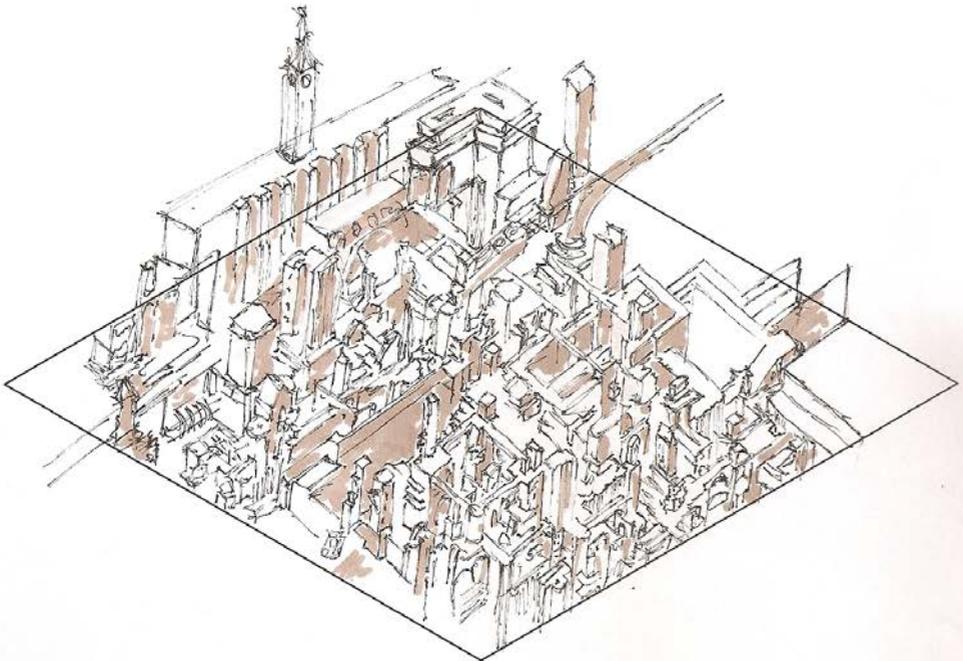


Endless growing  
densities. Build  
What you want,  
where you want.  
Without regards  
for ethics?

EVER Expanding city.  
Where did it start !!

Social  
Static  
overgrown  
city State

Embrace the ever  
expanding built human  
space. How far can we  
go? Will we selfdestruct?

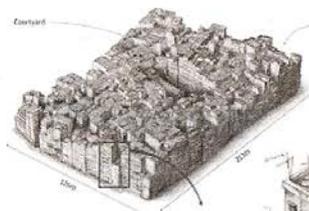


# Kowloon Walled City

Ethics  
Social  
Economic  
Superstructure

## City of anarchy

Kowloon Walled City, located not far from the former Kai Tak Airport, was a remarkable squatter camp that by the 1980s had 50,000 residents. A historical accident of colonial it existed in a lawless vacuum until it became an embarrassment for Britain. This month marks the 20th anniversary of its demolition.



500  
Buildings built  
into 2 floors

Without moving pet services, there was no rubbish collection, and electrical cables, drains, fire pipes, and water mains were just where bulky items were holed to the roof and abandoned.

Other rooftop units used for the electric, telephone, plumbing and water pipes were hanging.

Planes were used to bring 45 tonnes of steel to build at Kai Tak. Buildings were 18 floors high to avoid collisions.

There were 27 wells inside the city. Some 800 metres deep, electric pumps pumped water to big tanks on rooftops. From there, water was piped into the high-rise pipes for the homes.

HK\$35  
Monthly rent per sq ft

Despite its towering, brutal appearance and reputation for lawless ways, many of Kowloon Walled City's 50,000 residents were Chinese mainlanders. It drew in many from the City of Edinburgh, an enclave, but by 1980s it was a haven for those who called it home. It was a haven, right to the end, continuing that was used for criminals' hideout.

Electric wires were glued on floors to prevent fires.

KOWLOON WALLED CITY  
KING ROAD

The island-level shops were a mix of outdoor markets and indoor market stalls and stalls that included everything from the most basic food to high-end goods and services. The shops were arranged in a grid with alleys in between.

40sq ft  
per person

The area's atmosphere was chaotic. There were no rules and no laws, and the residents were a mix of Chinese mainlanders and Hong Kong natives.

There were several schools and kindergartens, and a hospital. There were also several religious organizations, such as the Salvation Army.

The original idea for the site was to build a government office building. It was abandoned because of the high cost of construction and the lack of space.

There were many shops and businesses. There were also many restaurants and bars. The city was a lawless place where anything was possible.

Population density  
per square kilometre

HK	Hong Kong	Hong Kong
1,500,000	100,000	6,300

Brothers and sisters were packed with impunity.

Ever expanding structure of anarchy. What happens when we remove all rules of urban planning?

### From fortress to park

The Walled City underwent a dramatic transformation in the final decades of the 20th century

1998	Each person, approximately	1940	2,000 inhabitants	1950	5,000 inhabitants	1973	10,000 inhabitants	1980	30,000 inhabitants
------	----------------------------	------	-------------------	------	-------------------	------	--------------------	------	--------------------

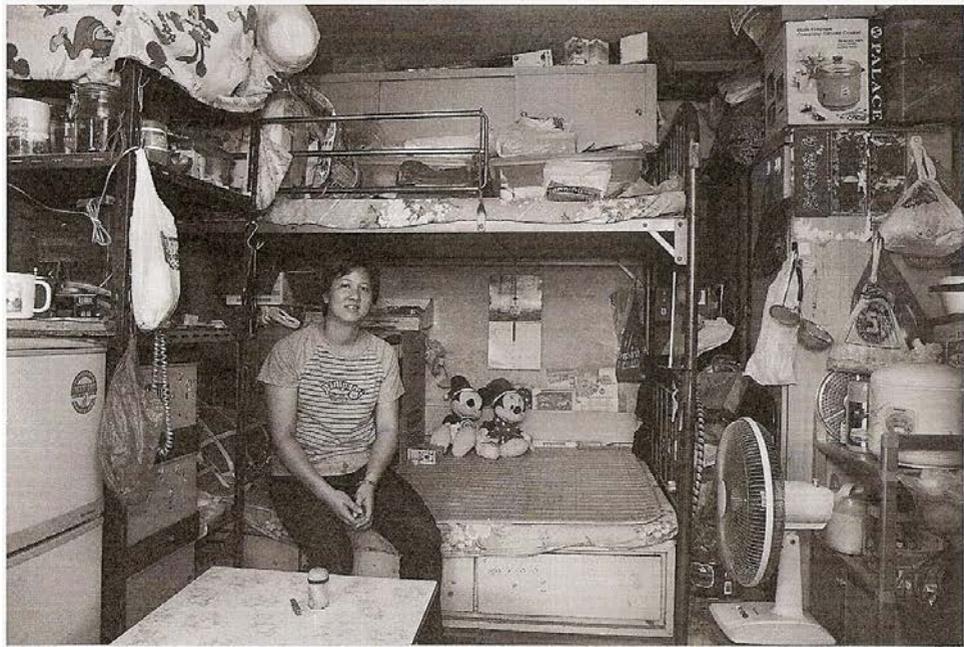
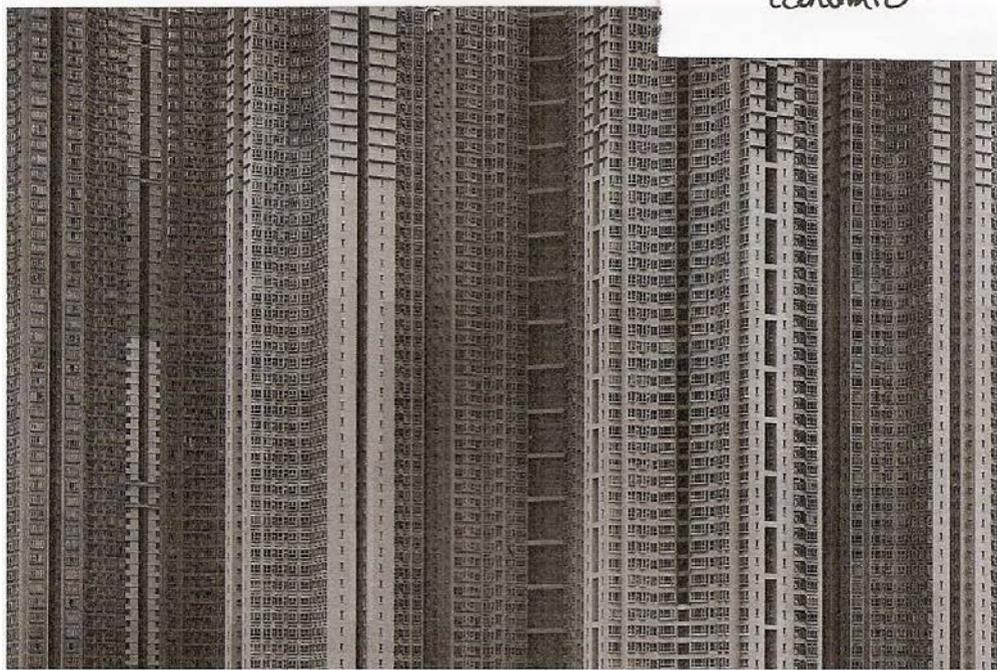


Source: The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

Tokyo battery blocks

ethics  
social  
economics

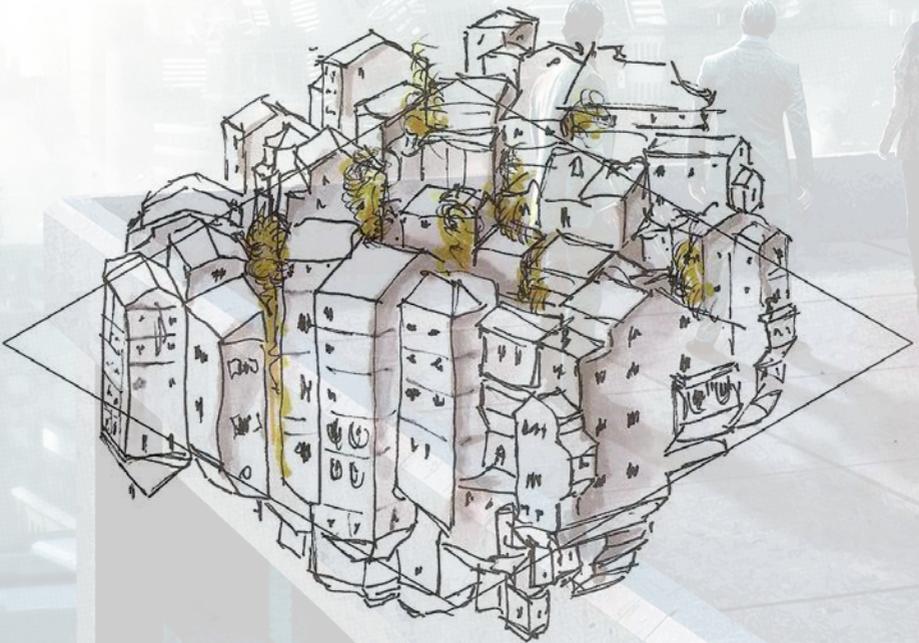
The dazzling and depressing architectural megacities



# Inception City

Technology

Mini globe  
Social!  
Fixed  
Build





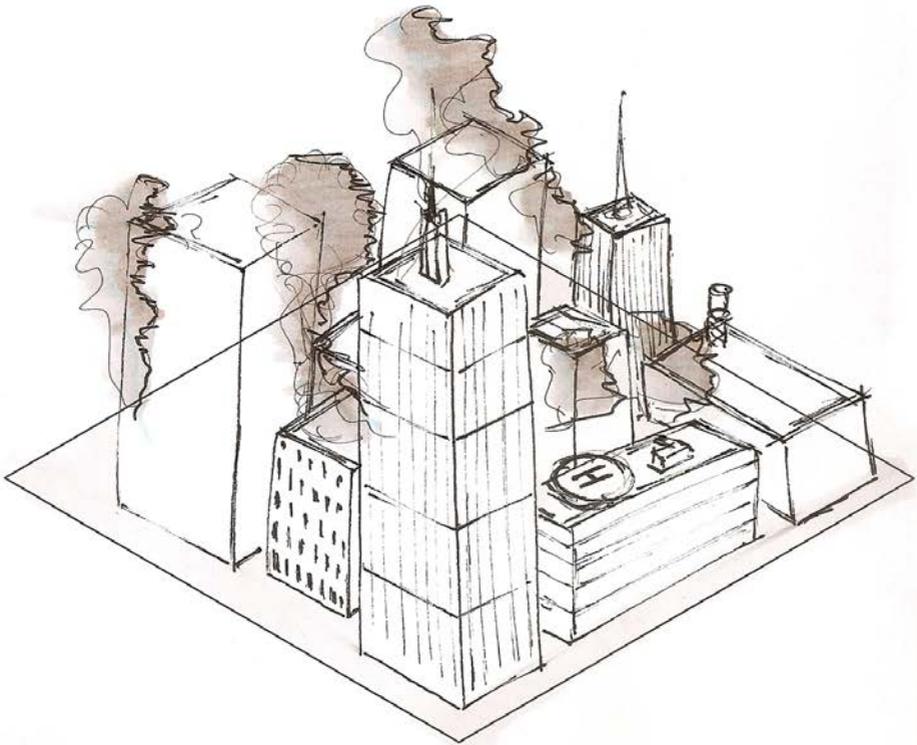


parasitic  
clouds come down

Ever growing structures  
on top of existing  
buildings. Density upon  
density.

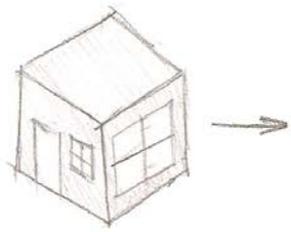
EVER CHANGING

STATIC  
PARASITE  
~~FLEXIBLE~~  
TEMPORARY



**Remove or  
downscale  
everything  
you're not using.  
Reconstruct it  
when you need it.  
How fast?**

# FRAME CITY



OPEN FRAME  
STATIC  
FILL IN  
ORIGINAL  
INFRASTRUCTURE  
CITY SCALE  
MULTIFUNCTIONAL

FILL THE FRAMES  
TO YOUR NEEDS

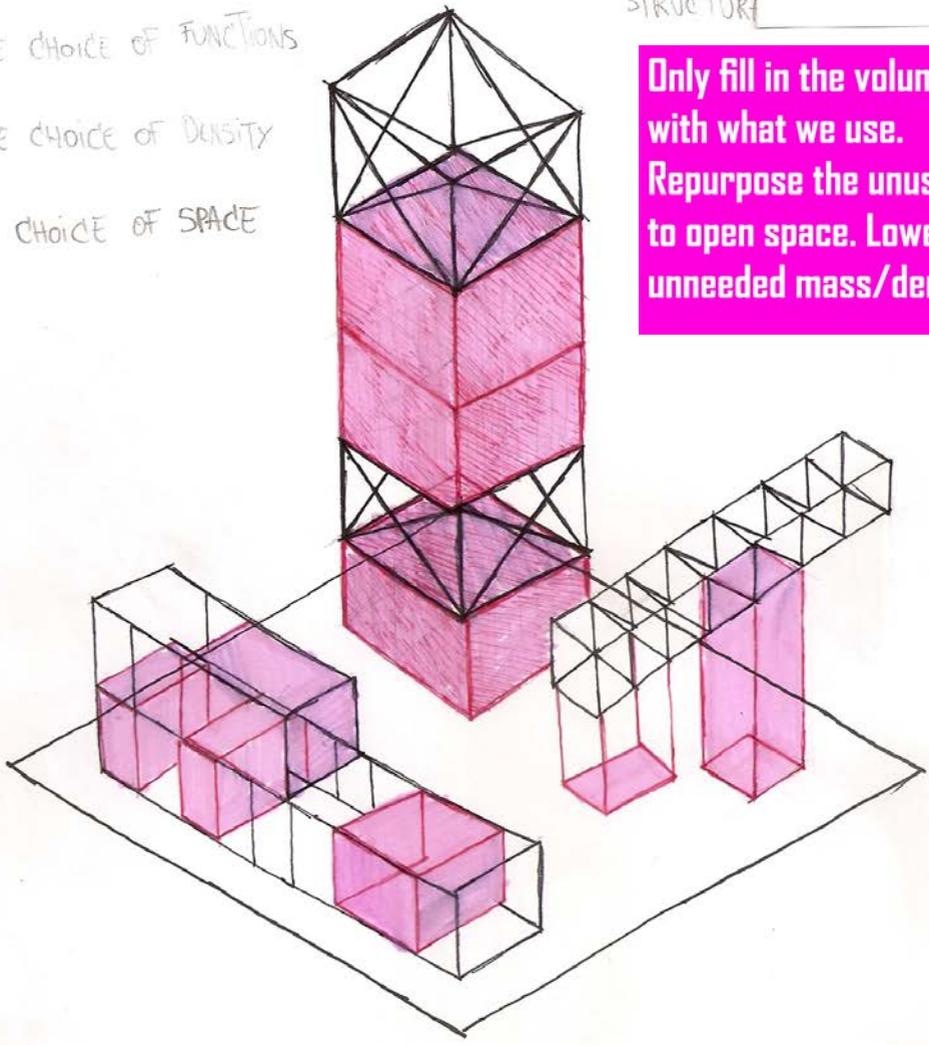
STRIP EXISTING BUILDINGS  
STRUCTURE

FREE CHOICE OF FUNCTIONS

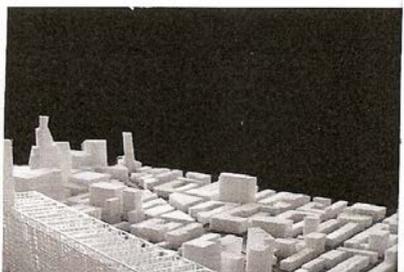
FREE CHOICE OF DENSITY

FREE CHOICE OF SPACE

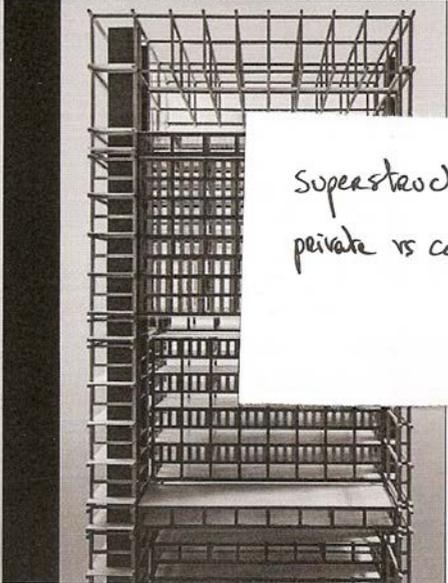
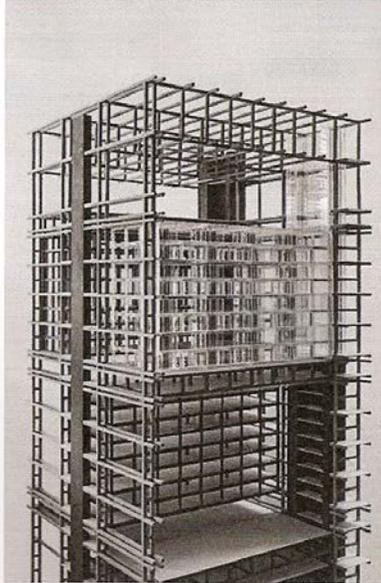
Only fill in the volume  
with what we use.  
Repurpose the unused  
to open space. Lower  
unnneeded mass/density.



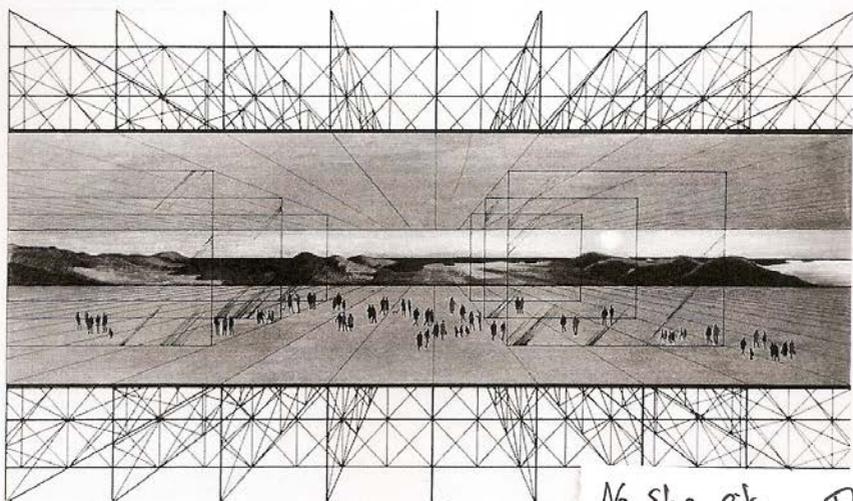
Multi functional  
Structure  
Social



Flexible city - Faizana Gandhi:  
complete separation of  
inhabitable volume and  
infrastructure  
possible reconfigurations

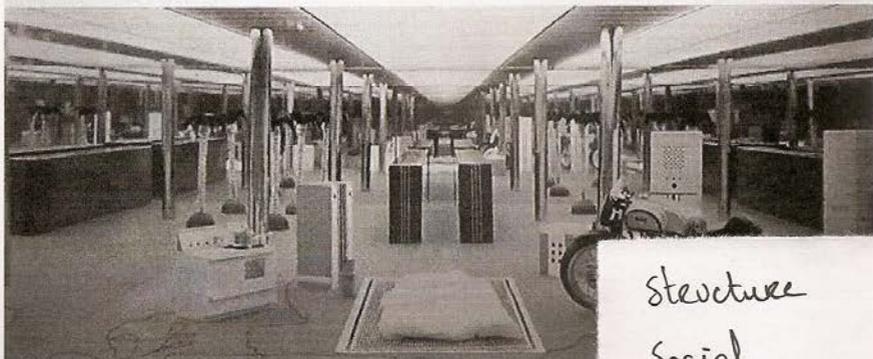
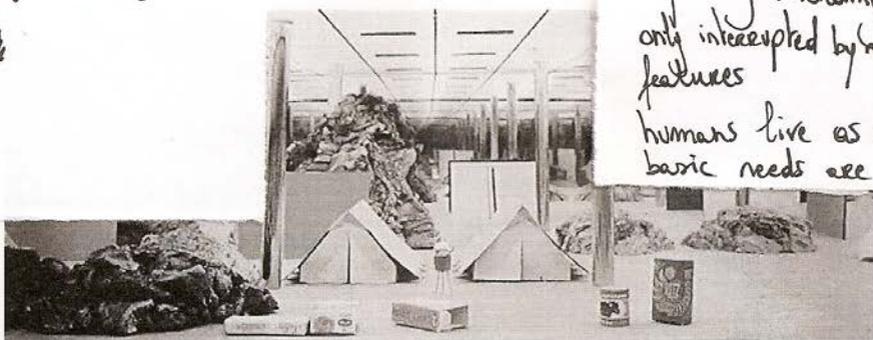


Superstructures  
private vs communal



Superstructures  
~~essentials~~

No Stop City - Frichizoom  
 infinitely extending grid  
 only interrupted by natural  
 features  
 humans live as campers  
 basic needs are met

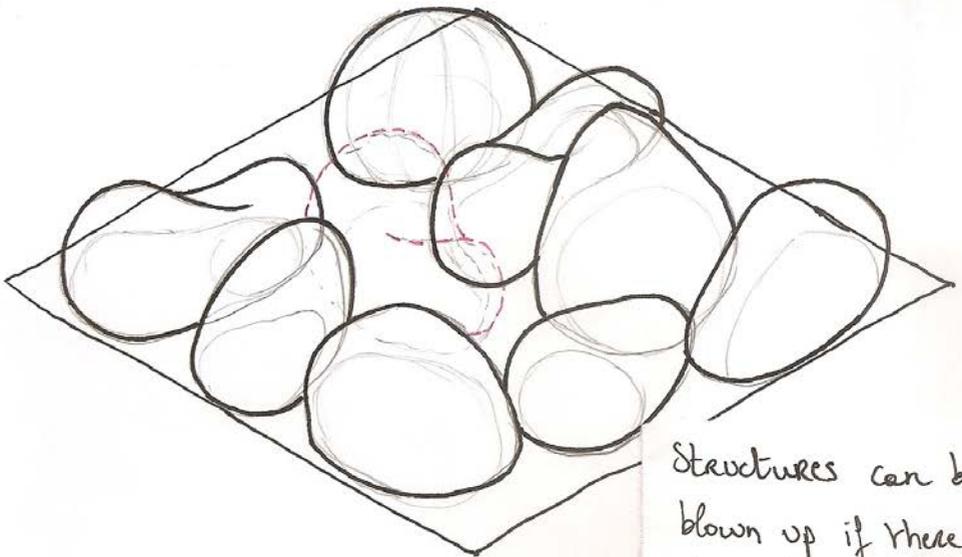


Structure  
 Social  
 Temporality

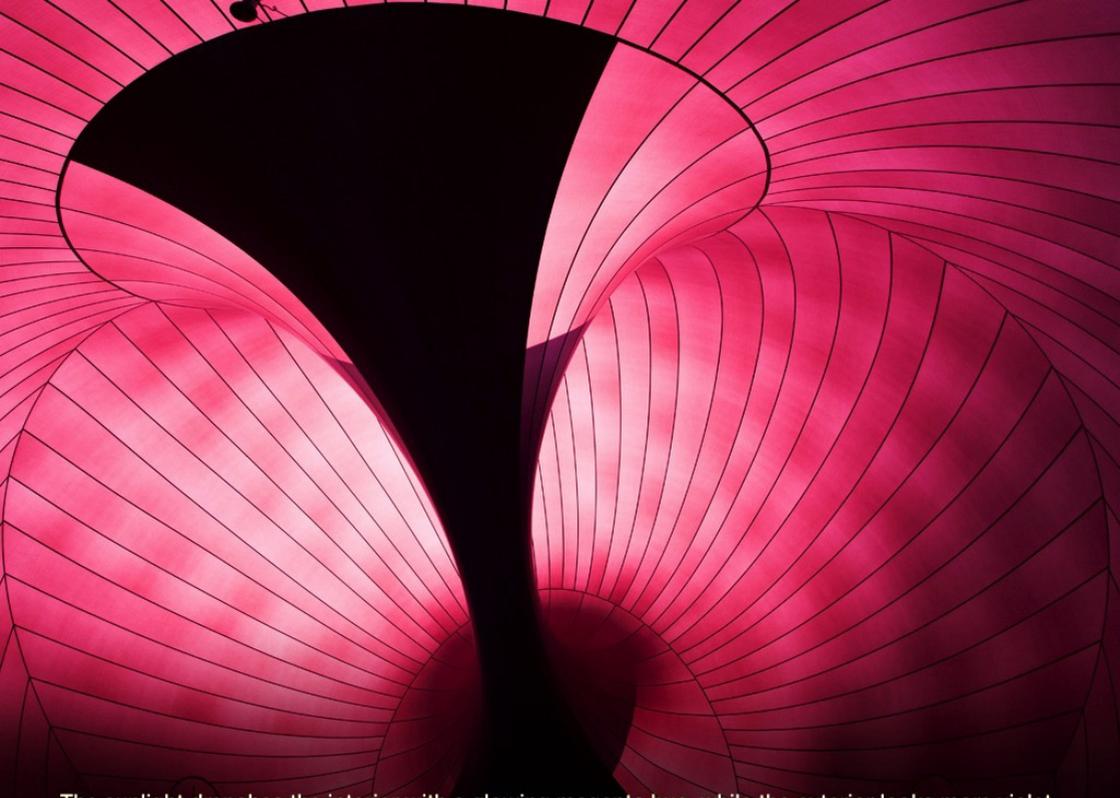
Blow up ~~city~~

OPEN VS BUILT  
MATERIAL  
FLEXIBILITY

Blow up structures



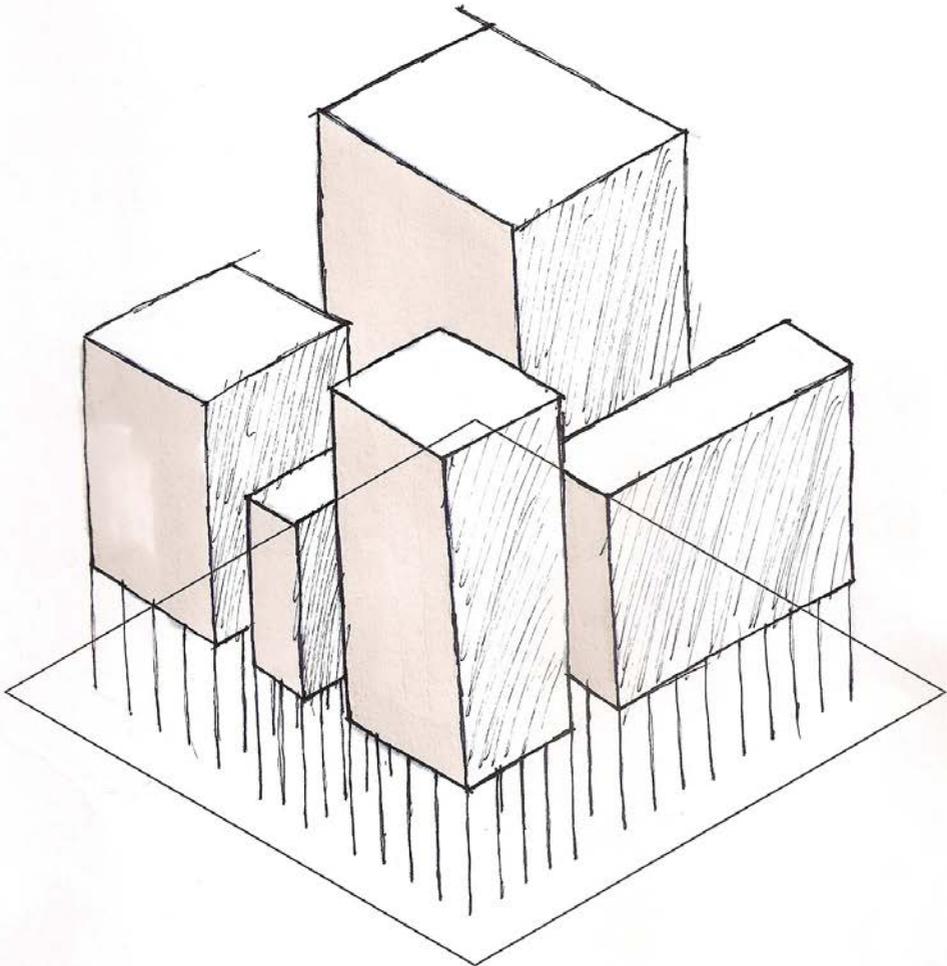
Structures can be  
blown up if there is  
demand or suck down  
when the demand



# POLE CITY

STATIC  
OPEN VS BUILD  
COLUMN STRUCTURE  
PUSH UP  
CITY BLOCK SCALE

---



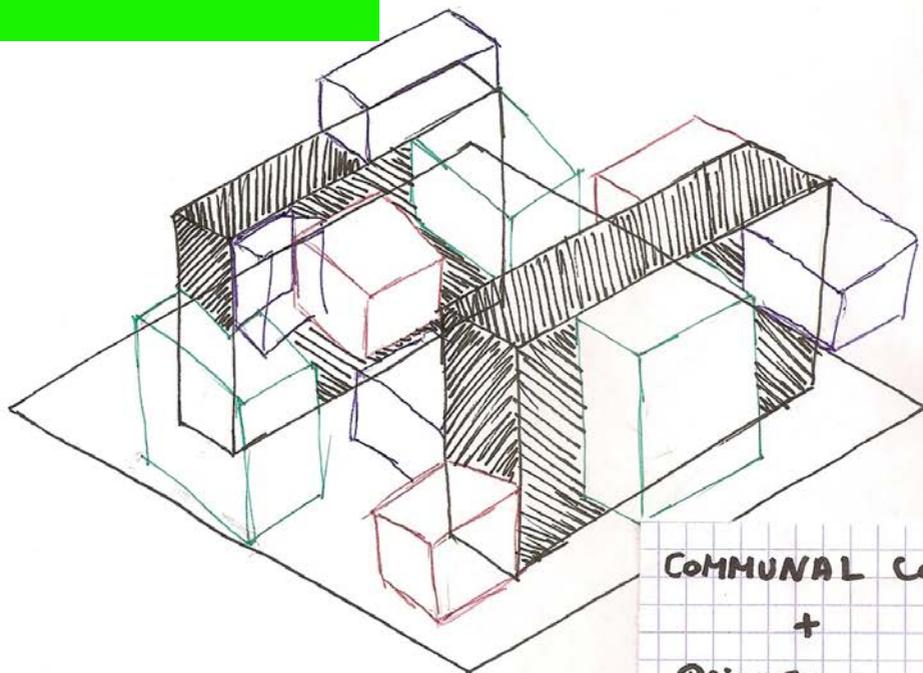
**SOCIAL  
STRUCTURE  
TEMPORARY**

private  
vs  
communal

communal units

↳ plugin private / temporary programs  
plug out when they leave our dynamic interspace

**Potential nomadic  
private units plug in to  
communal cores.**



**COMMUNAL CORES  
+  
PRIVATE PLUGINS**

**BEFORE IC:  
A SLEEPING  
TOWN**

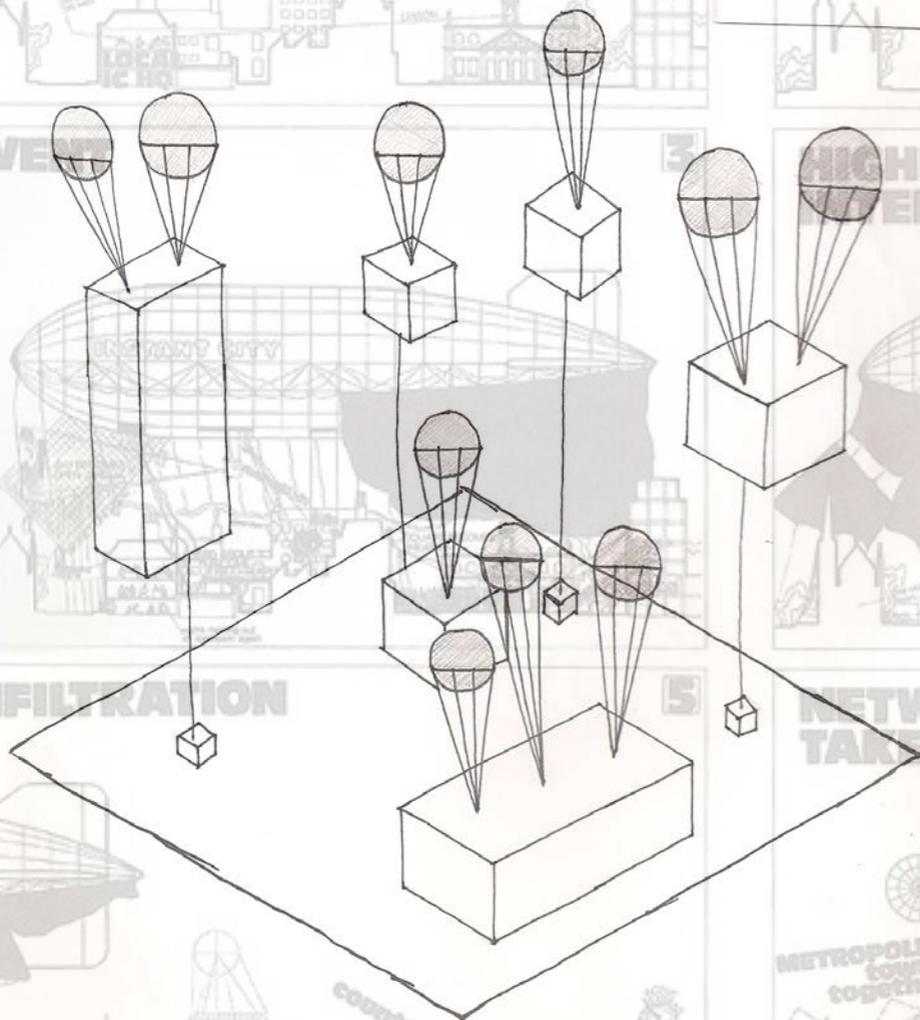
**FLOATING CITY**

**1**

**DESCENT**

PULL DOWN YOUR ARCHITECTURE

PULL DOWN  
OPEN VS BUILD  
FLOATING TECH  
STATIC  
PUSH UP  
CITY BLOCK SCALE



**EVENT**

**3**

**HIGHEST  
DENSITY**

**INFILTRATION**

**5**

**NETWORK  
TAKES OVER**

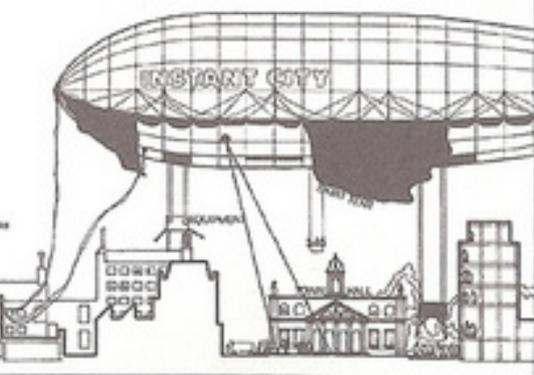
**COUNTER  
action**

**METROPOLIS:  
towns  
together**

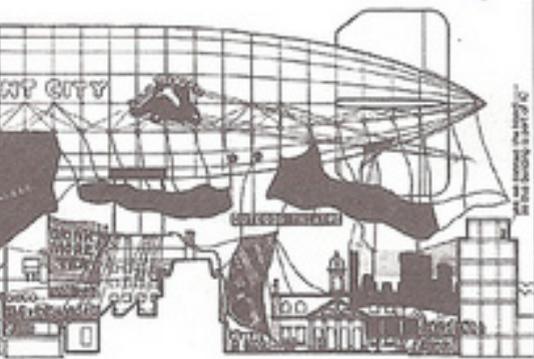
**IC: THE CENTER**

**NATIONAL  
NETWORK  
CITY**

2



4

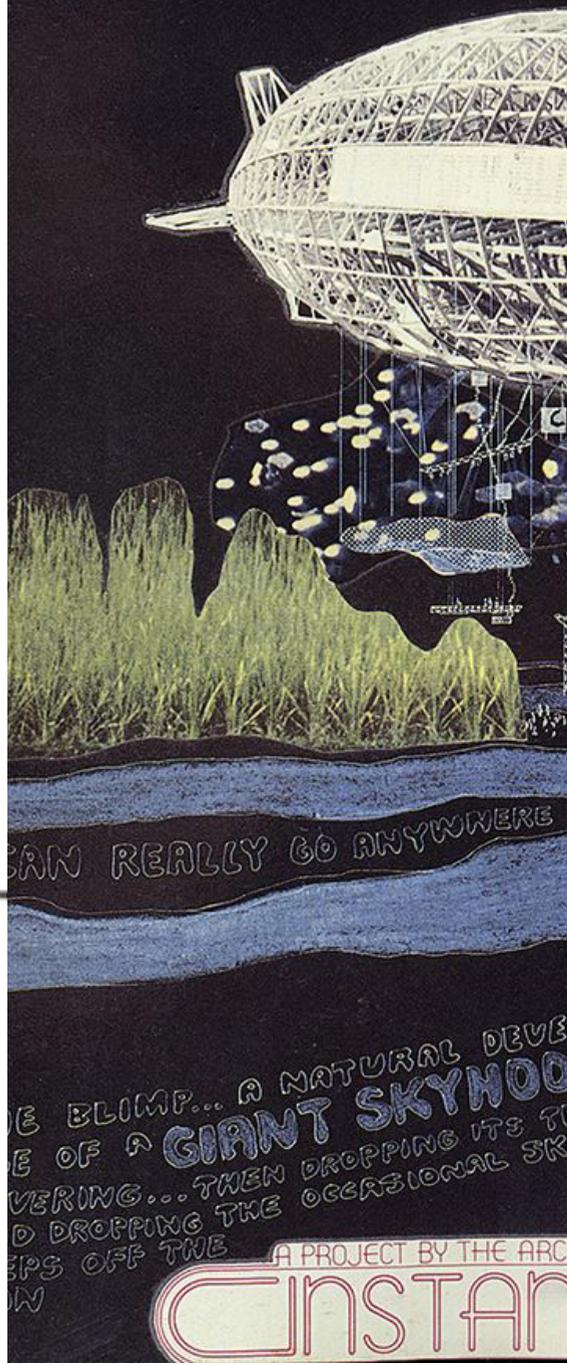


6



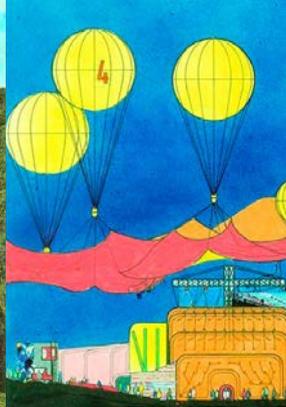
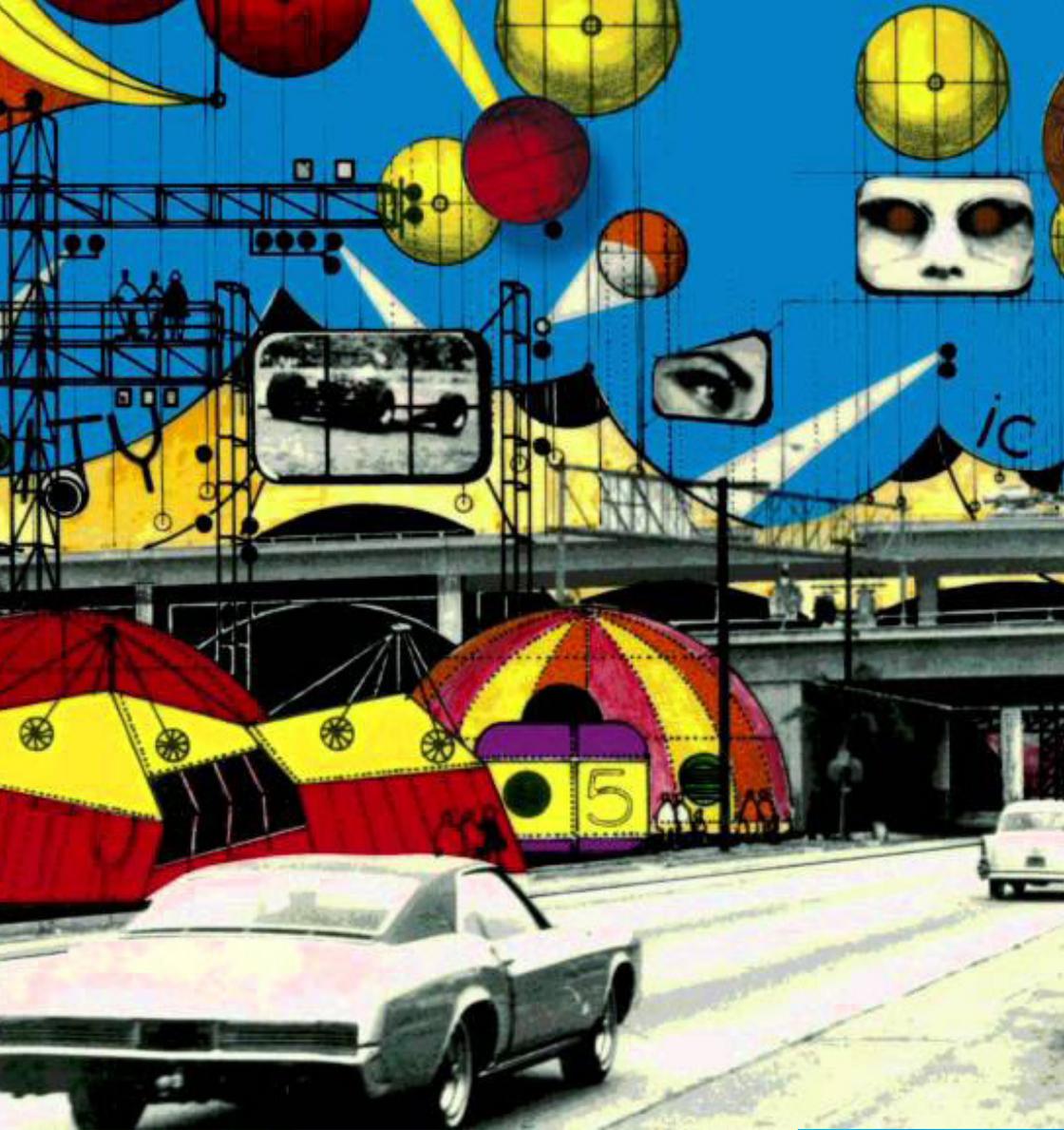
# インスタント・シティ・飛行船

Instant City Airships  
1970



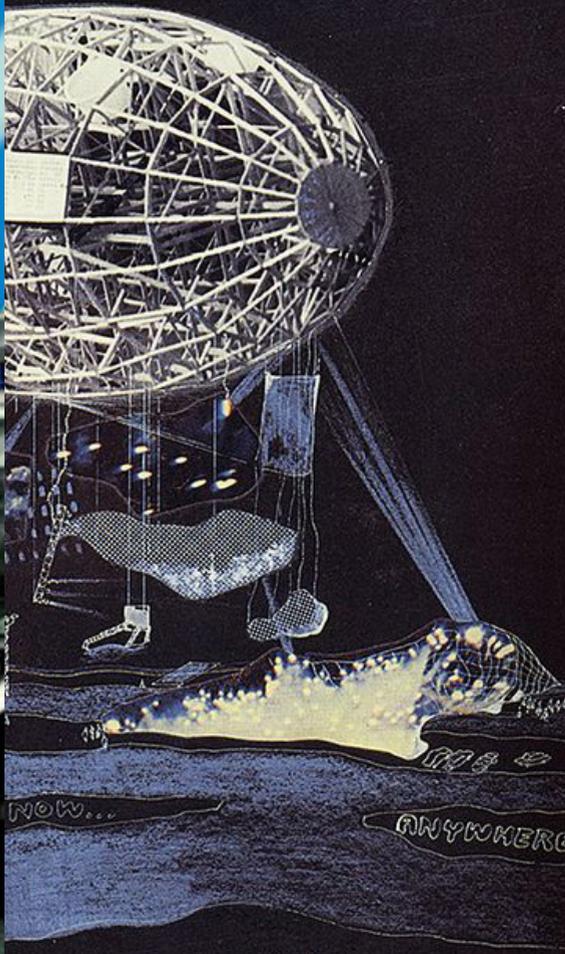
CAN REALLY GO ANYWHERE

THE BLIMP... A NATURAL DEVELOPMENT  
OF A GIANT SKYHOOD  
... THEN DROPPING ITS TETHERS  
AND DROPPING THE OCCASIONAL SKY  
PEPS OFF THE  
A PROJECT BY THE ARCHITECTS  
INSTANT





IN PROGRESS... THE MAKING OF A LARGE WORKING MODEL OF THE INSTANT CITY GUMP FRAME IS FINISHED... AS NE



DEVELOPMENT FROM I.C. MK 1... THE  
 MK 100000 FLOTTING... THEN  
 CONTACTS OF WIRE AND LIGHT  
 ART, WHICH HOLDS AN IMAGE OR

HIGRAM GROUP - LONDON

PETER COO

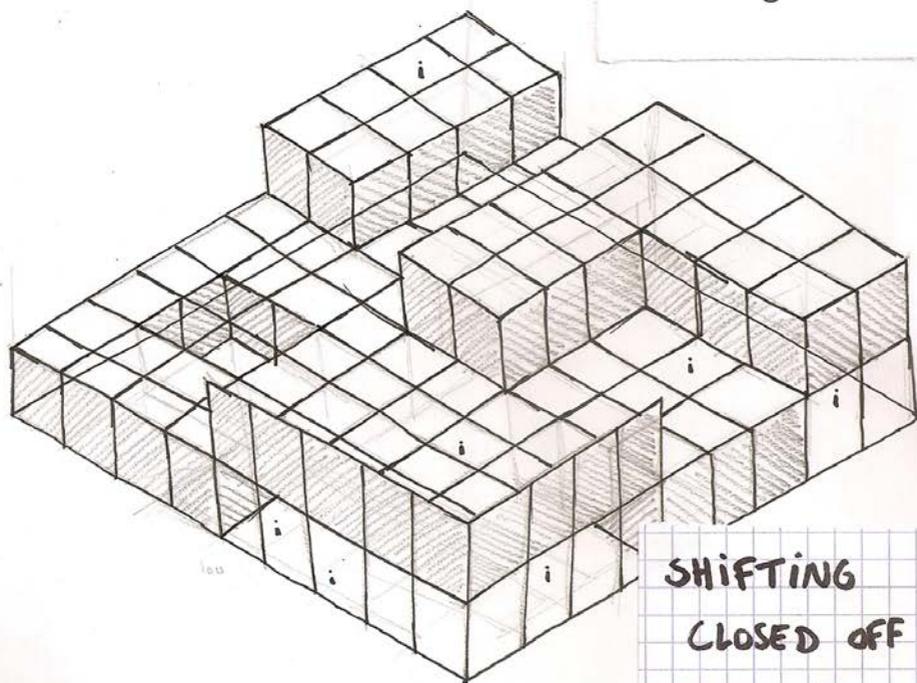
AT CITY

# SOCIAL MOVEMENT STRUCTURAL

closed off private functions - open community space  
grid moveable rotateable wall/roof systems

private  
vs communal

Moving units



SHIFTING  
CLOSED OFF PRGR.  
—  
OPEN COMMUNITY  
SPACE

# ACCORDEON CITY

Open VS Build  
Movement

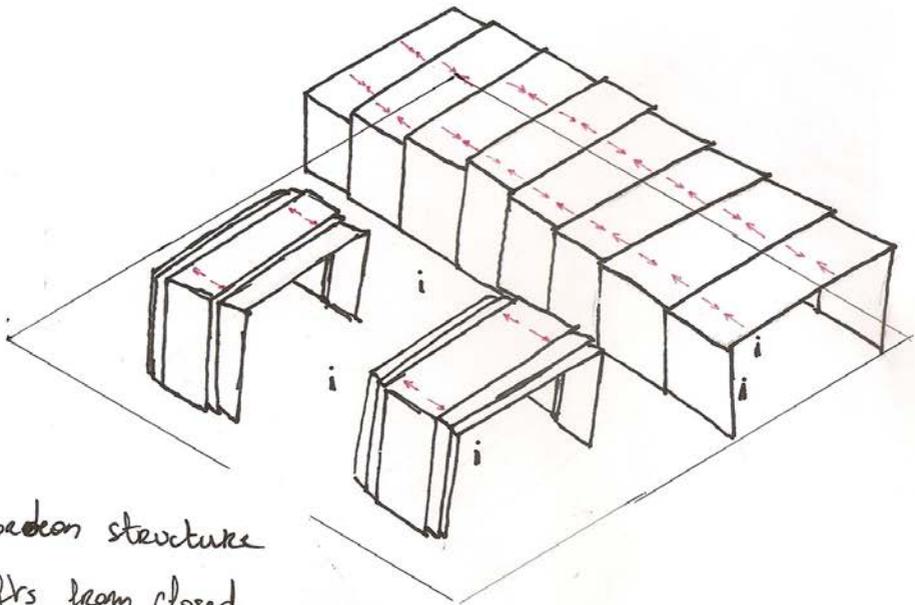
**MULTI FUNCTION**

**FLEXIBILITY**

Modular structures

Moving units

Can we generate the benefits of open public spaces with this system?  
Closed programs/mass shift to smaller scales and open up the public areas.



Accordion structure

shifts from closed  
shelter space to open  
units



# PULL UP CITY

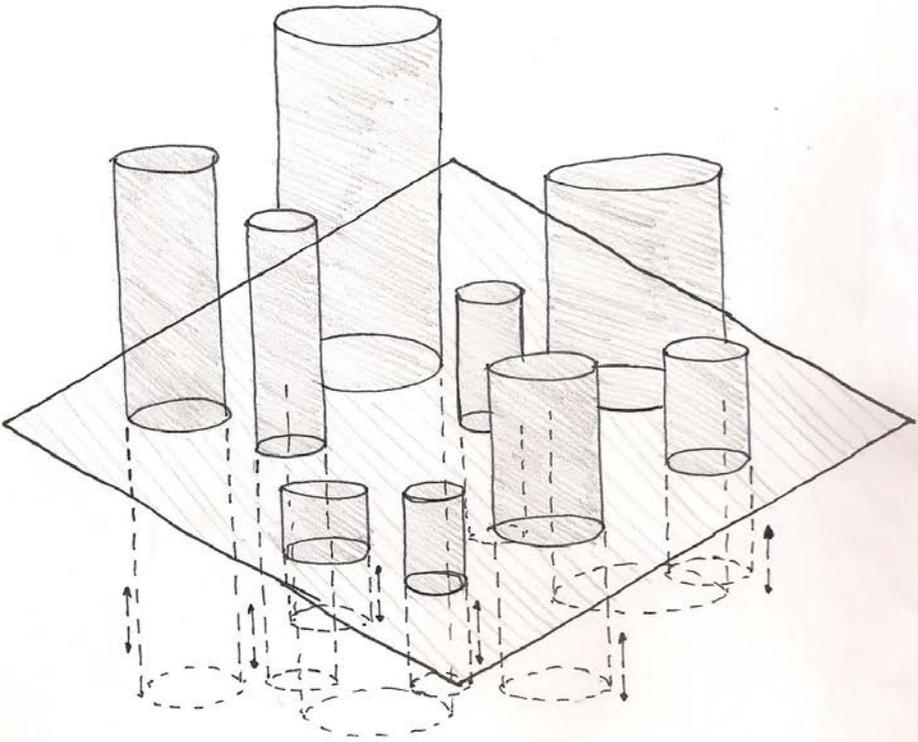
STATIC  
OPEN VS BUILD  
PUSH DOWN  
PULL UP  
BUILDING SCALE

UNIVERSAL TUBES OF DIFFERENT SIZES ?

EACH TUBE A FUNCTION ?

BURRIED TUBE  
= OPEN SPACE

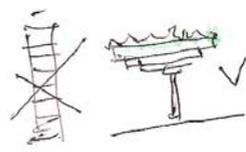
PULL YOUR CITY OUT  
OF THE GROUND



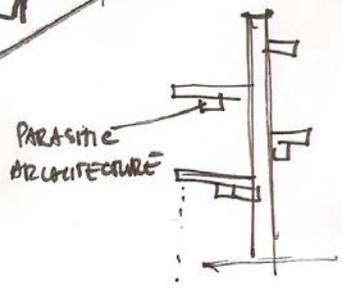
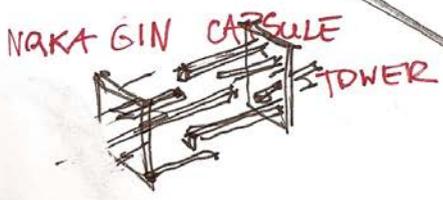
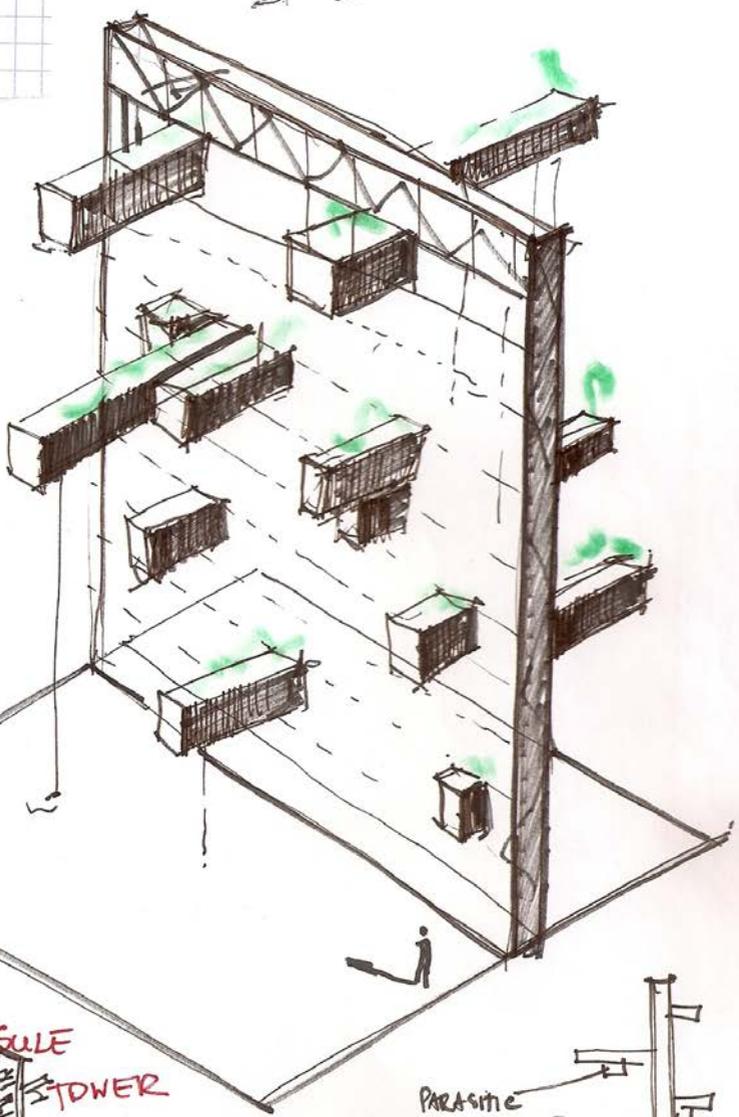
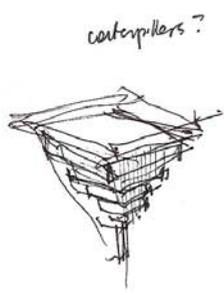
# NARROW IT DOWN

STRUCTURE  
MULTI FUNCTION

DENSITY FROM  
THE TOP  
~~WAYS~~ MODULES  
EXPANDING



DENSITY FROM  
THE TOP

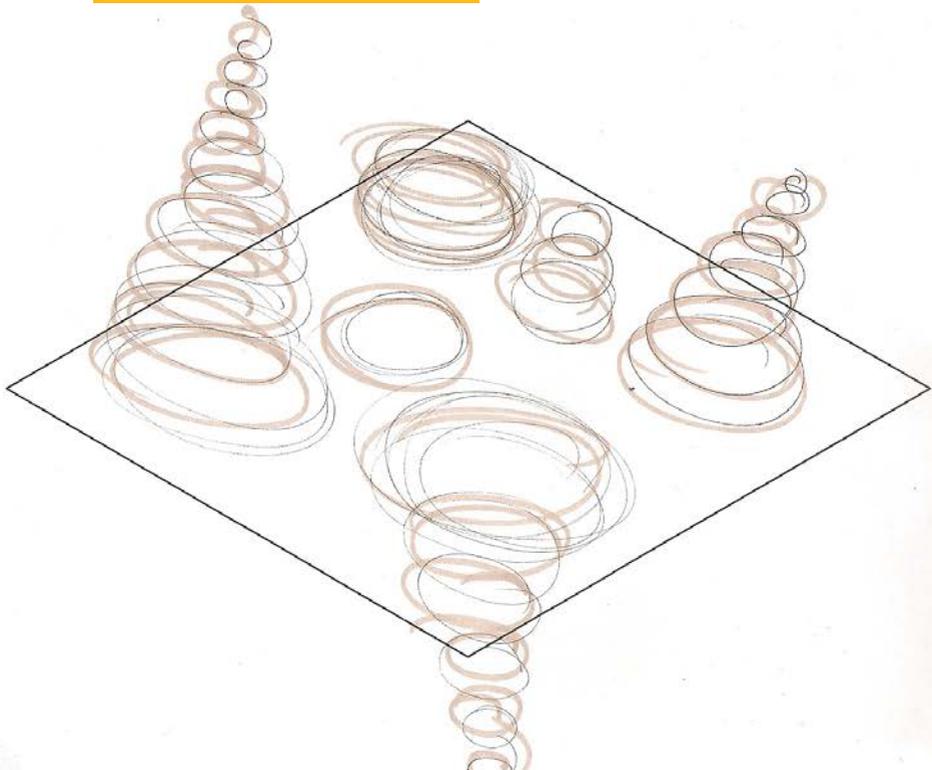


# popup city

OPEN VS BUILT

pop up  
MOVING  
TEMPORARY  
ADAPTABLE to people

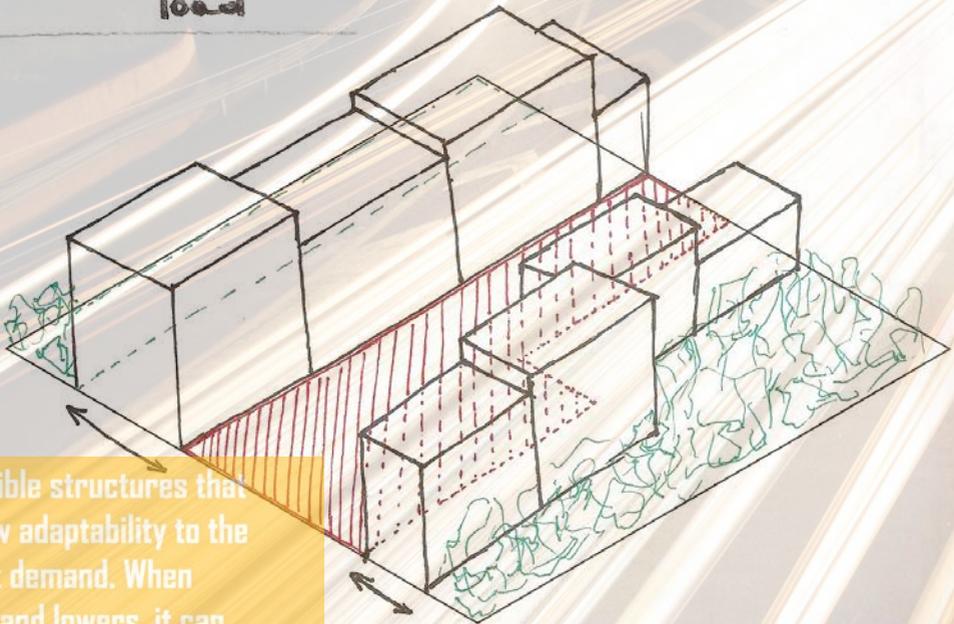
What if we could simply deconstruct structures when we stop using them and reconstruct them when they are once again needed? What kind of structures allow that?



# ROAD VS. NATURE City

Malement  
Flexibility. / Adaptability  
Ecological

Percentage road/green  
according to  
population / user  
load



Flexible structures that allow adaptability to the built demand. When demand lowers, it can shift to public/private green space.



**Take exactly  
the space you  
need, not a mm<sup>2</sup>  
more.**

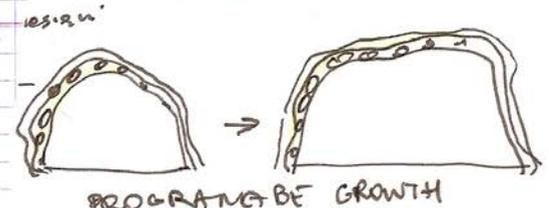
**How compact  
can we go?**

MULTIFUNCTIONAL MATERIALS

Flexibility  
ADAPTABILITY  
OPEN

PIG SCALE

# HOMEOSTATIC CITY



## LIVING CITY

THICKNESS OF THE WALL OPTIMIZATION

NANOMATERIALS

· NANOTECHNOLOGY  
PROGRAMMABLE GROWTH  
MATERIALS - MUSCLE STRUCTURE

PLATON CAVE 2.0

METABOLISM

FLEXIBLE

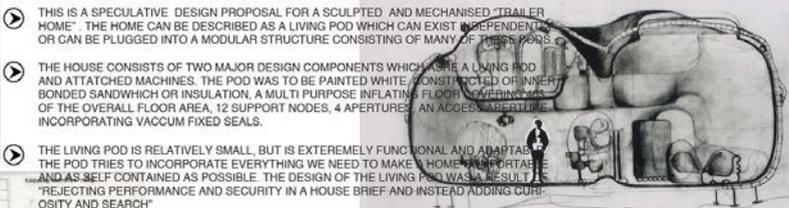
MUSCLE STRUCTURE

LIVING POD ARCHITECTURE

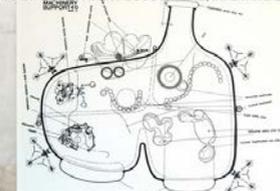
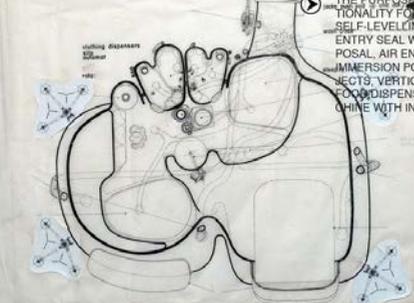


# 1966

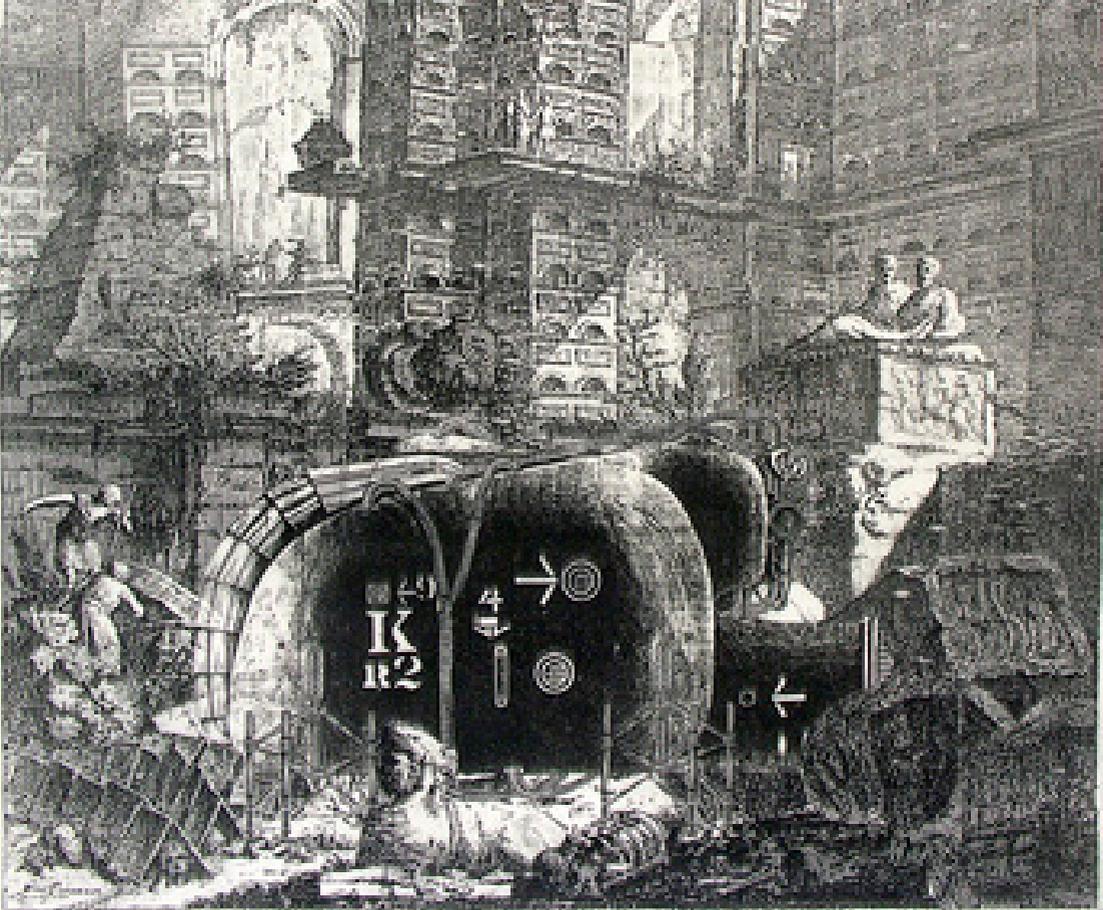
## LIVING POD, DAVID GREENE



- THIS IS A SPECULATIVE DESIGN PROPOSAL FOR A SCULPTED AND MECHANISED "TRAILER HOME". THE HOME CAN BE DESCRIBED AS A LIVING POD WHICH CAN EXIST INDEPENDENTLY OR CAN BE PLUGGED INTO A MODULAR STRUCTURE CONSISTING OF MANY OF THESE PODS.
- THE HOUSE CONSISTS OF TWO MAJOR DESIGN COMPONENTS WHICH ARE A LIVING POD AND ATTACHED MACHINES. THE POD WAS TO BE PAINTED WHITE, CONSISTED OF INNER BONDED SAND WHICH OR INSULATION, A MULTI PURPOSE INFLATING FLOOR COVERING OVER THE ENTIRE OF THE OVERALL FLOOR AREA, 12 SUPPORT NODES, 4 APERTURES, AN ACCESS APERTURE INCORPORATING VACCUM FIXED SEALS.
- THE LIVING POD IS RELATIVELY SMALL, BUT IS EXTREMELY FUNCTIONAL AND ADAPTABLE. THE POD TRIES TO INCORPORATE EVERYTHING WE NEED TO MAKE A HOME AS PORTABLE AND AS SELF-CONTAINED AS POSSIBLE. THE DESIGN OF THE LIVING POD WAS TO BE SUCH THAT "PROJECTING PERFORMANCE AND SECURITY IN A HOUSE BRIEF" AND INSTEAD ADDING COMPLEXITY AND SEARCH".
- THE PURPOSE OF THE LIVING POD WAS TO INCREASE MOBILITY, ADAPTABILITY AND FUNCTIONALITY FOR THOSE WHO OCCUPIED THE POD. THE POD FEATURED FOUR AUTOMATIC SELF-LEVELLING SECTIONALIZED SLIDING APERTURE SEALS WITH MOTORS, TRANSPARENT ENTRY SEAL WITH RAMP AND HYDRAULICS, TWO WASH CAPSULES WITH ELECTROSTATIC FILTRATION, POSAL, AIR ENTRY, TOTAL AUTOMATIC BODY CLEANING EQUIPMENT, ONE WITH A BATH, ONE WITH IMMERSION POSSIBILITY, TWO ROTATING SILOS FOR DISPOSABLE TOILET AND CLOTHING OBJECTS, VERTICAL BODY HOIST, CLIMATE MACHINERY FOR TEMPERATE ZONE, AIR AND FOOD DISPENSER WITH SELF-COOK MODIFICATIONS, NON-STATIC MEDIA AND WORK MACHINERY WITH INSTANT TRANSPARENT COCCON RING, INFLATING SCREENS TO SELF-PROTECT.



CONCEPTUAL ARCHITECTURE  
MECHANICS  
ROUND TWELVE CAPSULES  
HABITABLE BURROWING  
SUPPORT STRUCTURE  
DIFFERENT HOUSES  
STACKING ENGINEERED LEGS  
SEALS



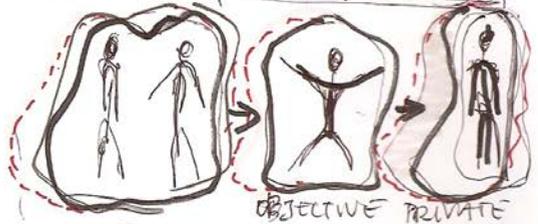
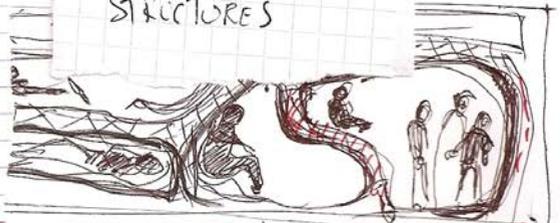
*Comunità popolare inventata e progettata confluente nel raffinato e all'incirca ragguardevole dell'Imperatore Fu Lian, Nidarsi in parte di Nidarsi e Nari, ma "quali nelle narrazioni le conosci di Loran, de Liorbi, e di qualunque altro della Finanzia. Vedersi ben conosciuti il capobene, in cui stanno ripelle le conosci dell'Imperatore e Imperatrice di lui Nidaglio. In qualche lontananza conosciuta, conosciuta come Piramide, la quale parte fanno servizio di regolarsi a qualche altro ragguardevole l'esplosione della Città Esplorata.*

MOVEMENT  
 FLEXIBILITY - UNIT  
 TEMPORALITY  
 MATERIAL  
 SCALE  
~~SCALE~~  
~~SCALE~~  
 OPEN  
 MULTI FUNCTION

# SOFT SPACE

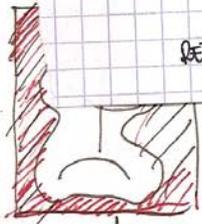
HUMAN MEASURED SPACE

MOVEMENT OF  
 STRUCTURES

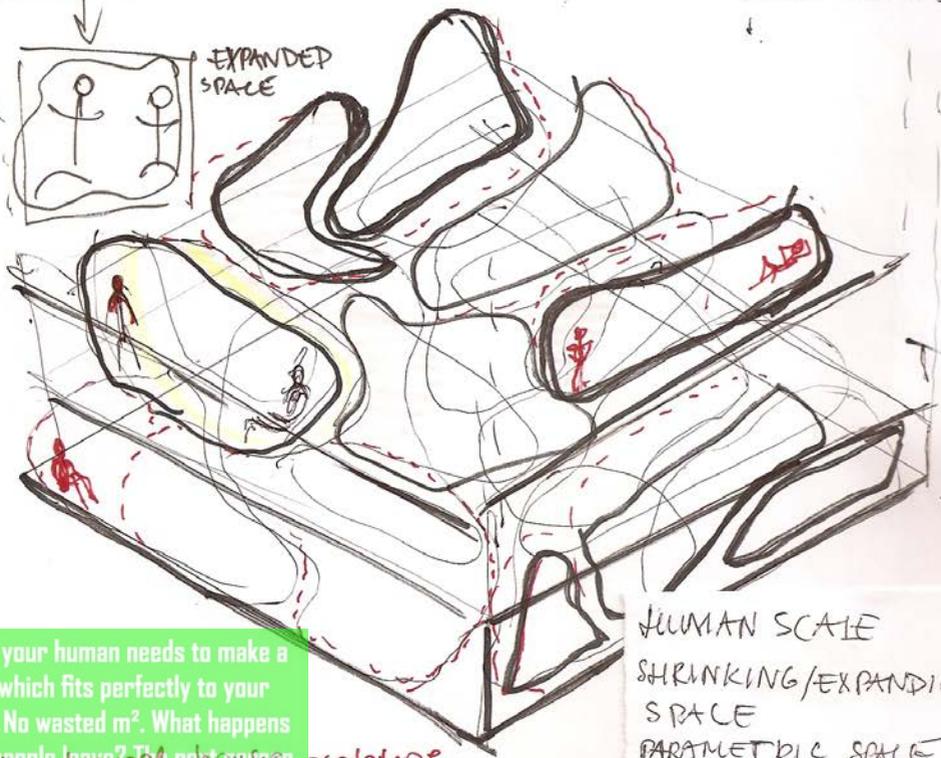


OBJECTIVE PRIVATE  
 SPACE AREAS

REFERENCE:  
 LIVING POD  
 ARCHITECTURE



EXPANDED  
 SPACE



HUMAN SCALE  
 SHRINKING/EXPANDING  
 SPACE  
 PARAMETRIC SPACE  
 (HUMAN PARAMETER)

prototype  
 exhibition 2007

Define your human needs to make a space which fits perfectly to your needs. No wasted m<sup>2</sup>. What happens when people leave? The next person has other demands. What happens when people's needs change? What about collective needs and collective space?

Ethnological  
 gll.com  
 Gen (H)ome



Nakagin

六福

ポ77  
日本郵政  
ATM

テナン

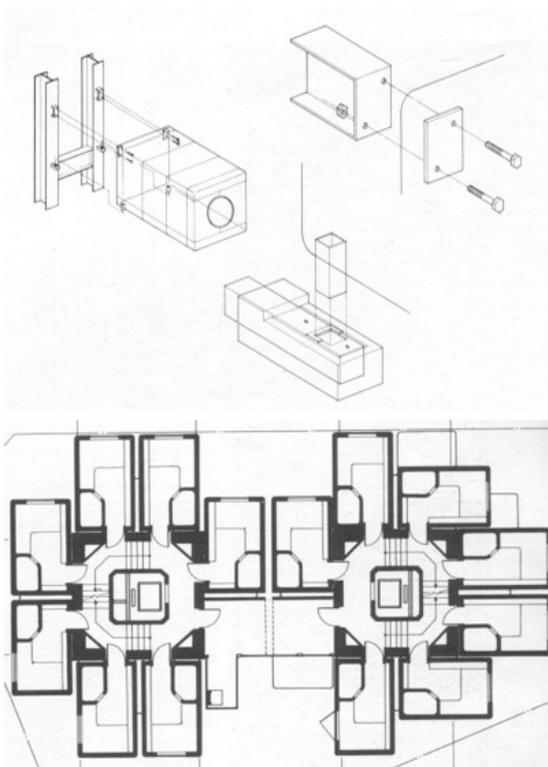
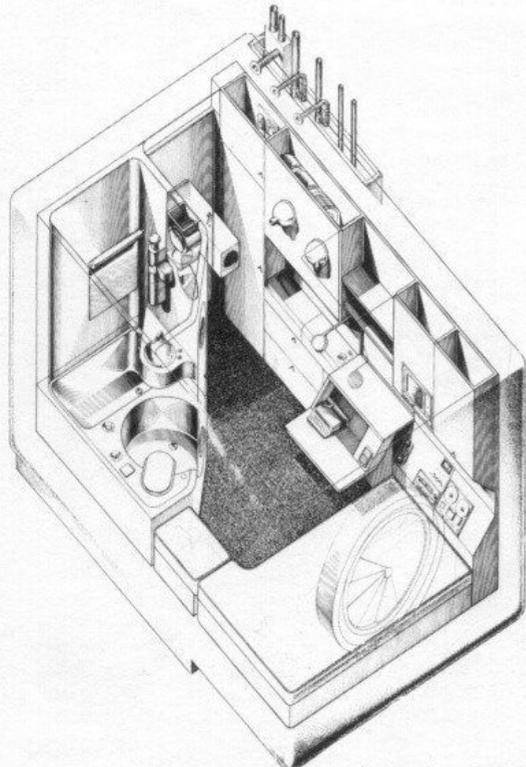
ポ77

こどもの遊び場  
瀬田商店

ポ77

ポ77

ポ77



**TOKYO  
CAPSULE  
HOTEL**

**Integrate the  
green without  
losing m<sup>2</sup>'s to  
build.**

**Can we have  
both?**

# GREEN WALLED CITY

MATERIALS

~~BRICKS~~

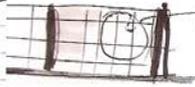
~~CONCRETE~~

ECOLOGICAL  
STRUCTURE

Multi function

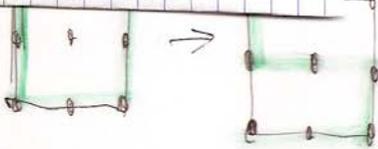
PLANT BASED WALLS  
SKELETAL STRUCTURE  
ALTERNATIVE REDISTRIBUTION  
OF FOOD

STRUCTURE

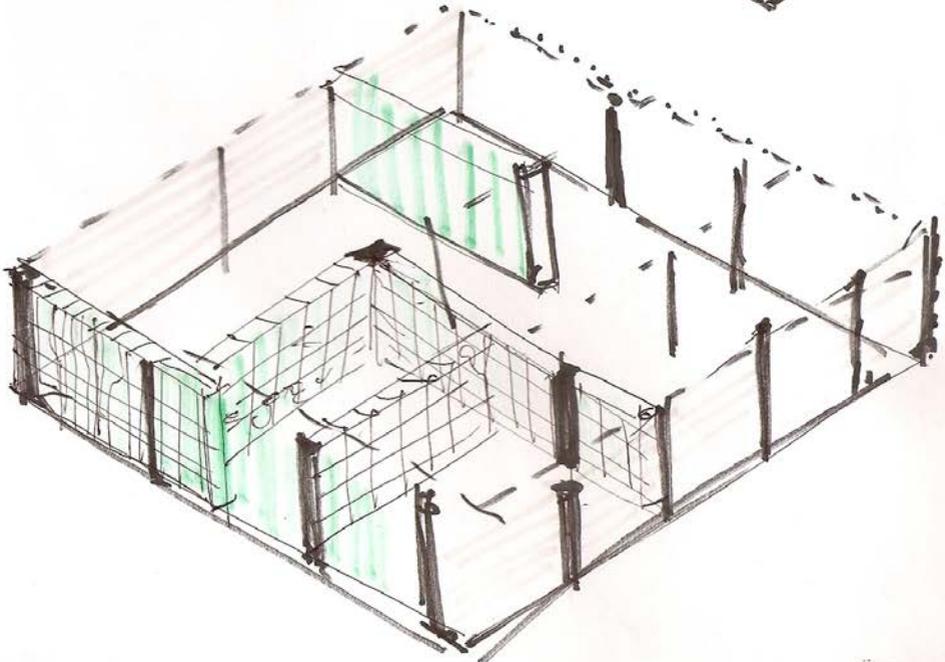


PLANT BASED WALL

Integrating the green in our structures so we can build m<sup>2</sup> without losing space for green.



reconfiguration



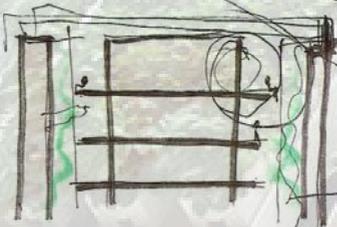
STRUCTURE  
MATERIALS  
ECOLOGICAL

SO YOU  
WANT A PARK  
INSIDE / OUTSIDE

VERTICAL GREEN  
WALL

INSIDE / OUTSIDE  
SPACE

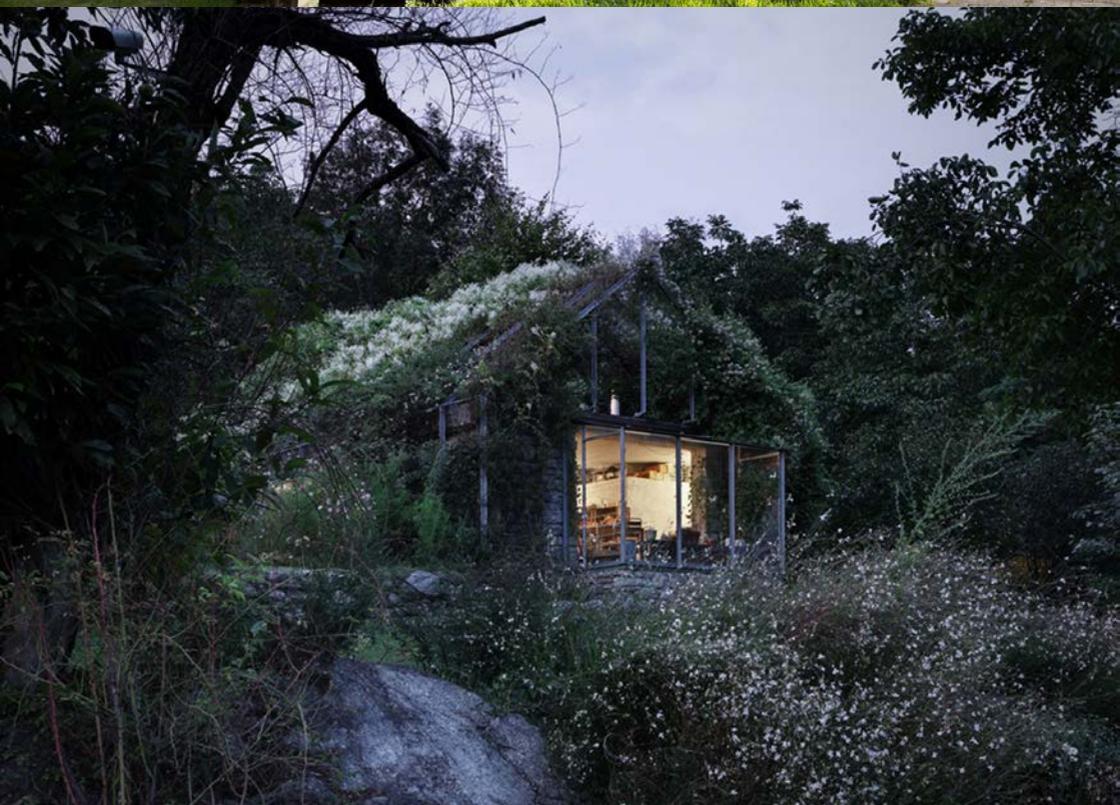
GREEN ELEVATION



PART OF THE  
STRUCTURE

Use the vertical  $m^2$  to  
integrate green, we need  
the horizontal to expand  
the built.





# GREENHOUSE CITY

EMPTY STRUCTURES BECOME GREEN

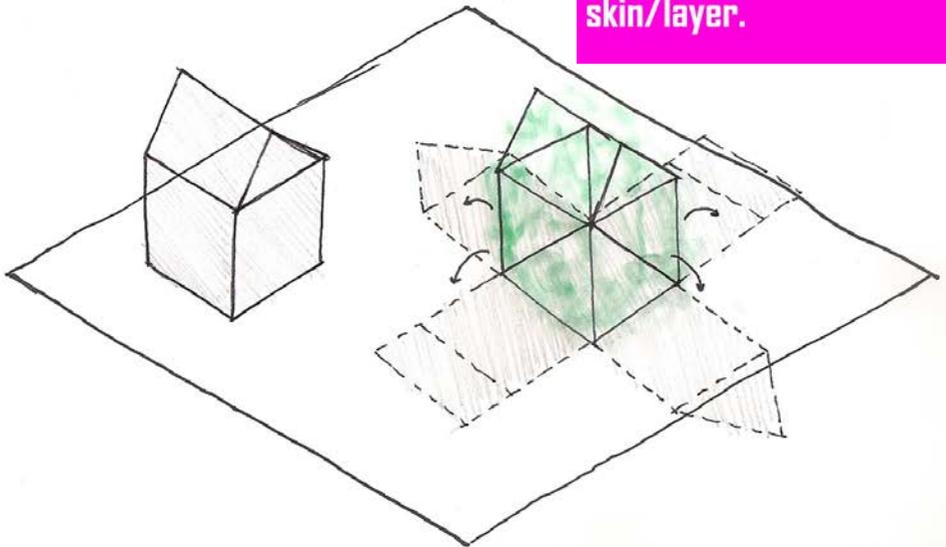
ABANDONED SPACES SHED THEIR 'SKIN' TO BECOME

'GREENHOUSES' FOR FARMING & GREEN PURPOSES

↳ YOU CAN REOCCUPY IT BY HARVESTING THE 'GREENHOUSE' AND REATTACHING THE 'SKIN'

VERTICAL FARMING  
FOOD  
BUILDING SCALE  
FOLDING FACADE  
DOUBLE SKIN  
STATIC  
MULTIFUNCTIONAL  
URBAN FARMING

**Structures that can shift from living space to green space and vice versa by shedding a skin/layer.**



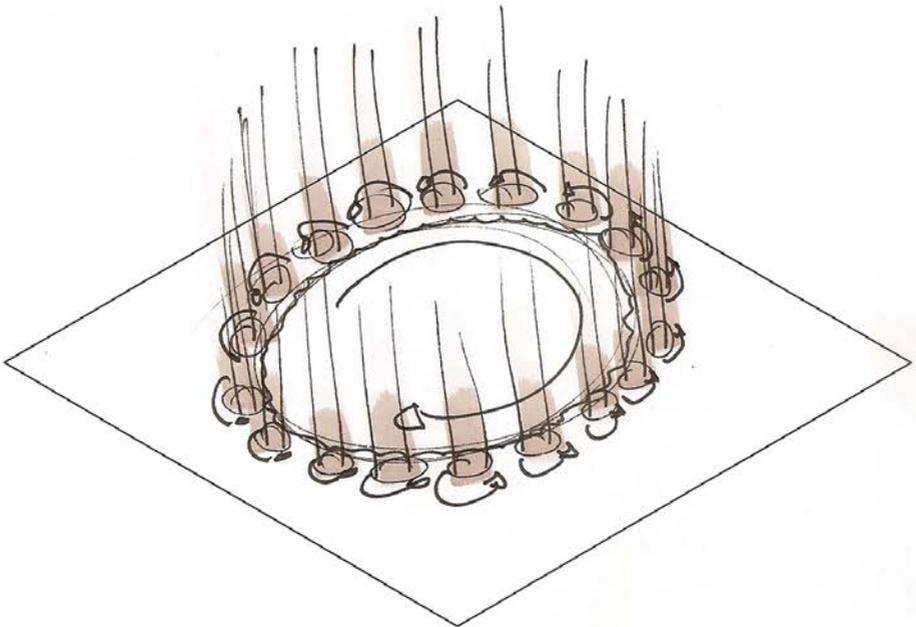
**Other ways of  
expanding into  
infinity.**

**Ever building,  
ever growing,  
ever spreading.**

# ROTATING City

Movement  
Flexibility  
Technology

IN CONSTANT MOVEMENT  
Multiple circles  
Multiple positions  
(SEMI) MOBILE



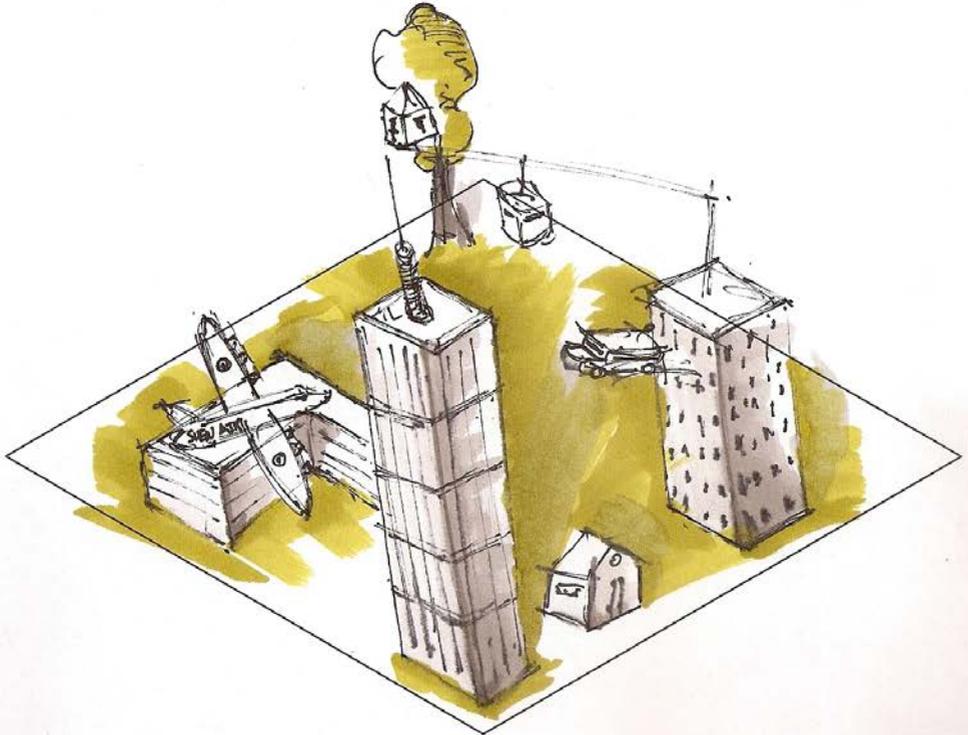


Reclaimed city

Build with found materials

materials  
Build  
Social needs  
Recycling

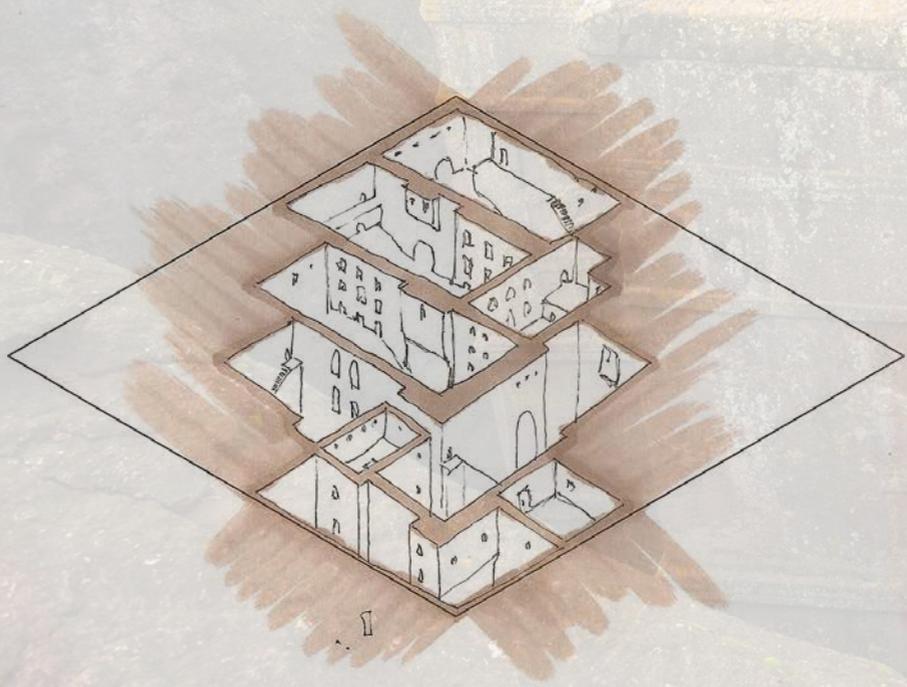
RECLAIMED  
BUILD STRUCTURE  
GREEN  
APOCALYPTIC



Sunken city  
goes till middle Earth

OPEN VS BUILT

UNDERGROUND  
EVER EXPANDING  
FIXED STRUCTURE  
MASSIVE





**Remixes.**

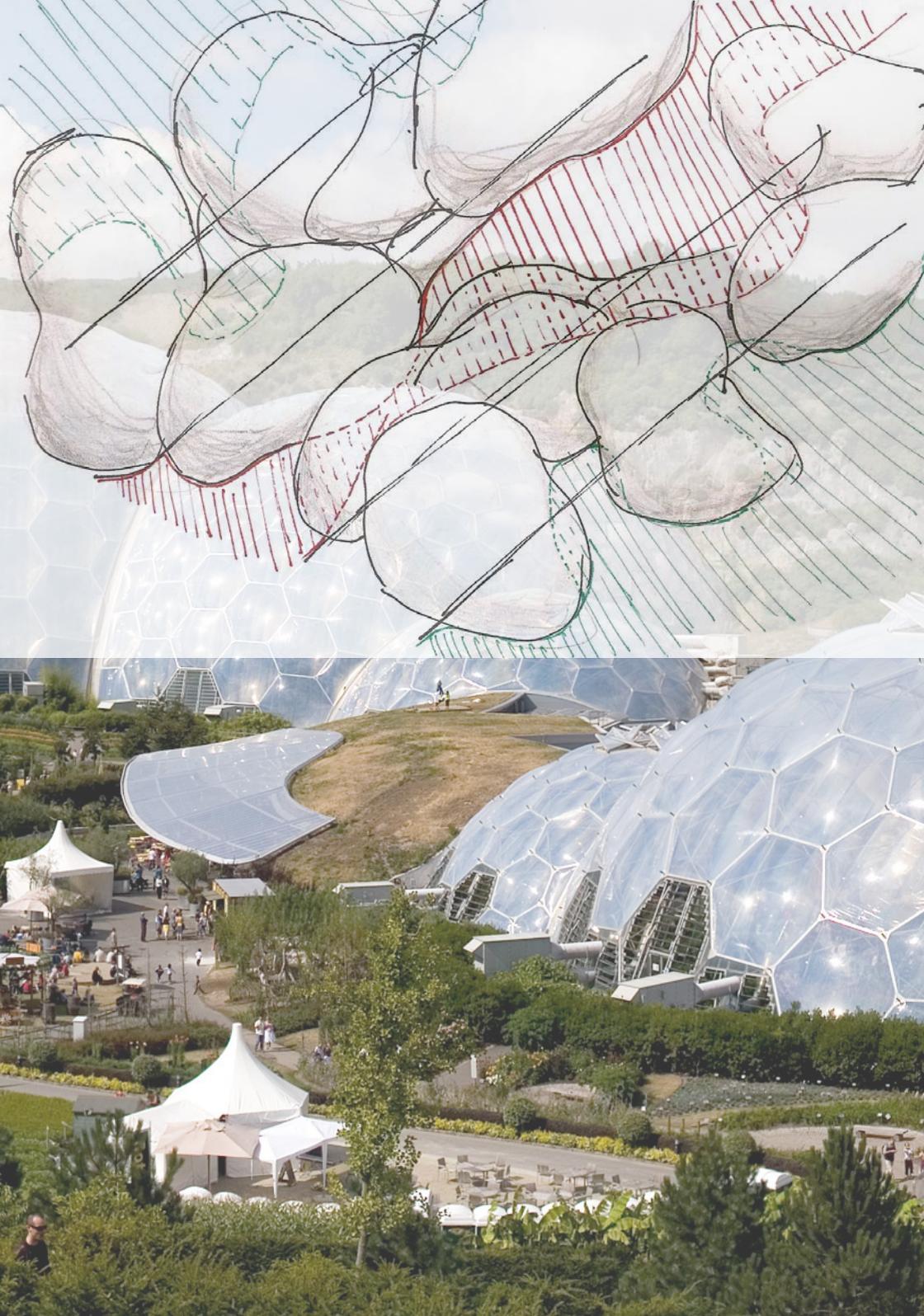
**Looking to  
multiply the  
benefits.**

**Destroy?**

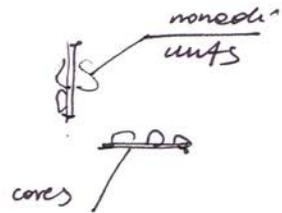
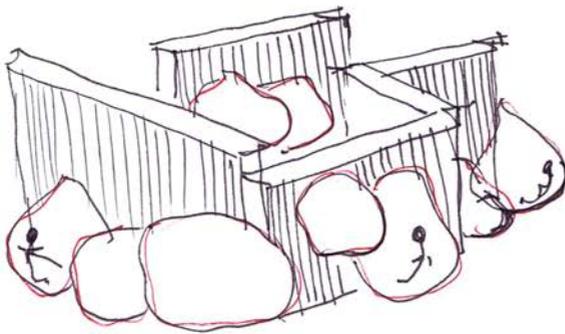
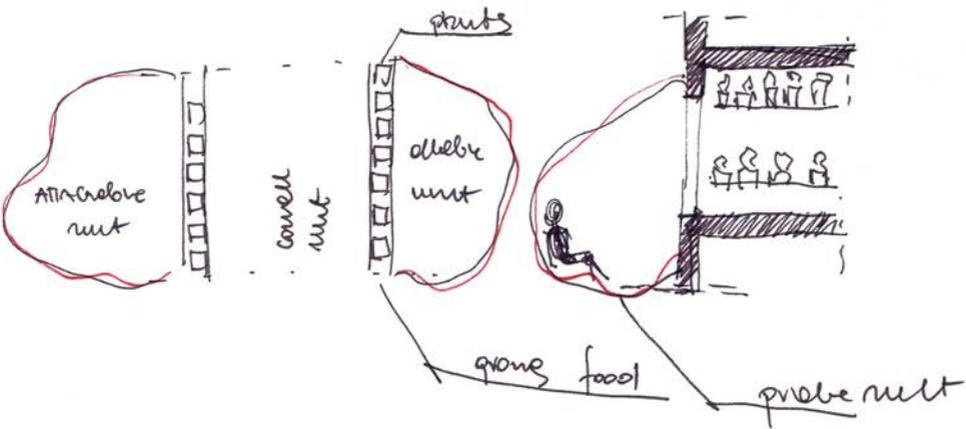
**Enhance?**

**Compromise?**





# GREEN / SOCIAL / NOMADIC



Could units with green roofs  
 with attachebe private and flexible  
 human social units

PLUG IN YOUR HOME

~~BUILDING~~ ⇒ SHELL

- NOMADIC
- GREEN WALLS
- HUMAN SCALE
- NOMADIC

# FLYING GARDEN

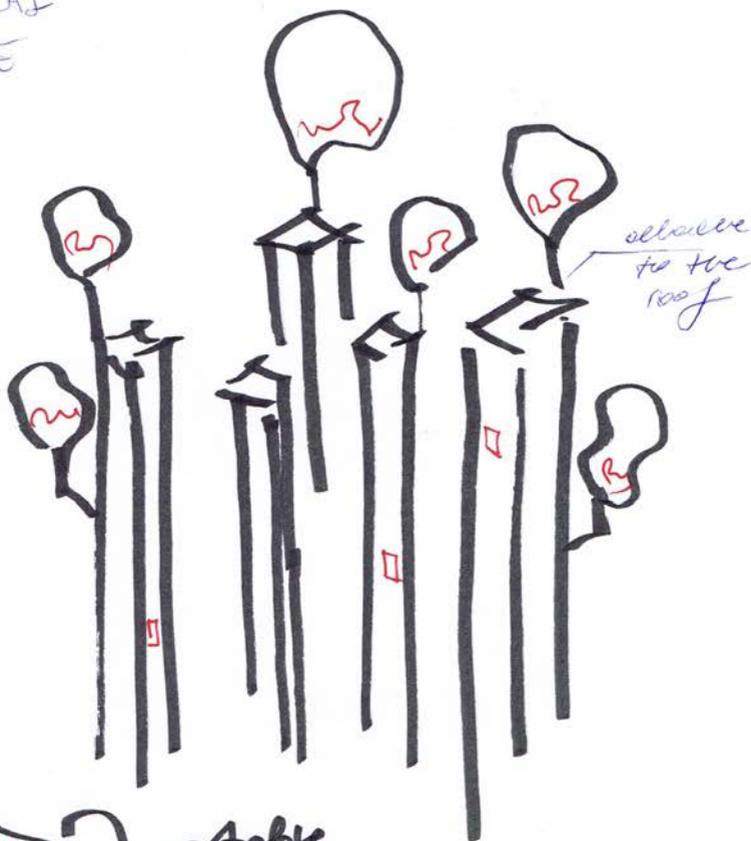
FLOATING BLOBS + GREEN WALLS = VERTICAL FARM

STATE

OPEN VS BUILT

ECOLOGICAL

STRUCTURE



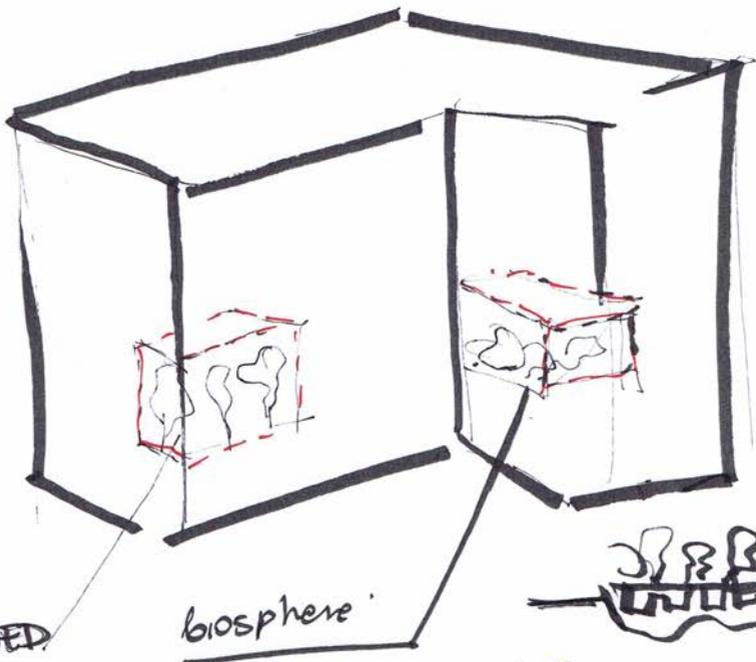
MODULE COMES WITH THE GARDEN

# BACK TO THE HILLS

SOCIAL  
ADAPTABILITY  
MULTI-FUNCTIONAL  
GREEN

shinking  
repurposing  
biosystem

repurposing vacant spaces as green land



ABANDONED  
SPACE  
↓  
GARDEN

biosphere  
HUMAN / NATURE  
VACANT SPACES  
↓  
GREEN SPACES

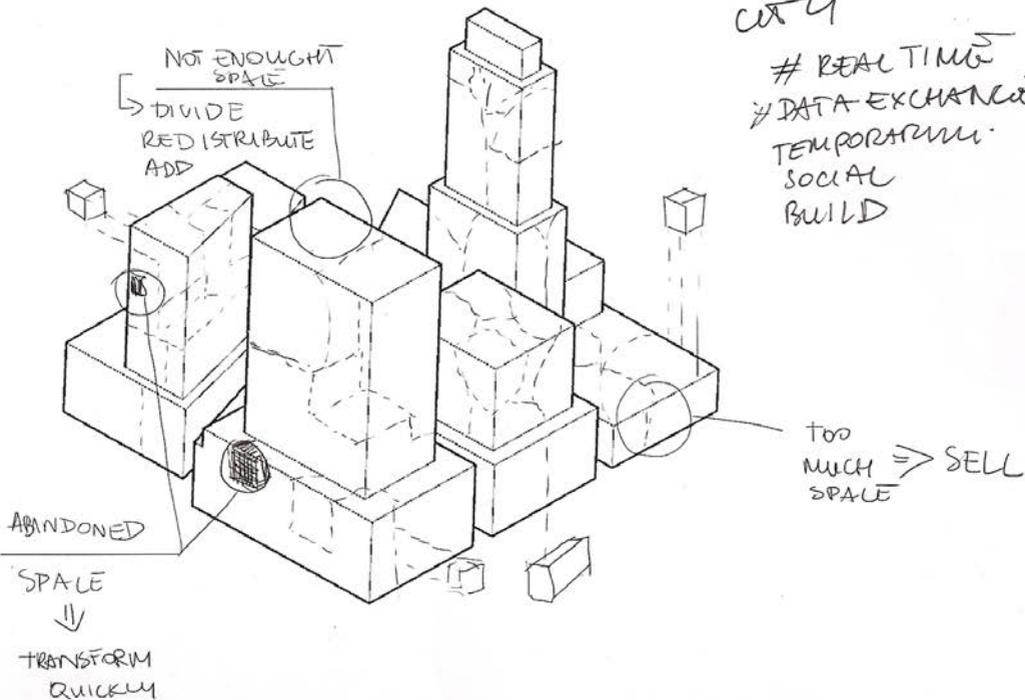
CO-EXISTENCE OF SPECIES  
URBAN BLOCK = 5% NATURE  
50% HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

HOW GREEN CAN WE GO?

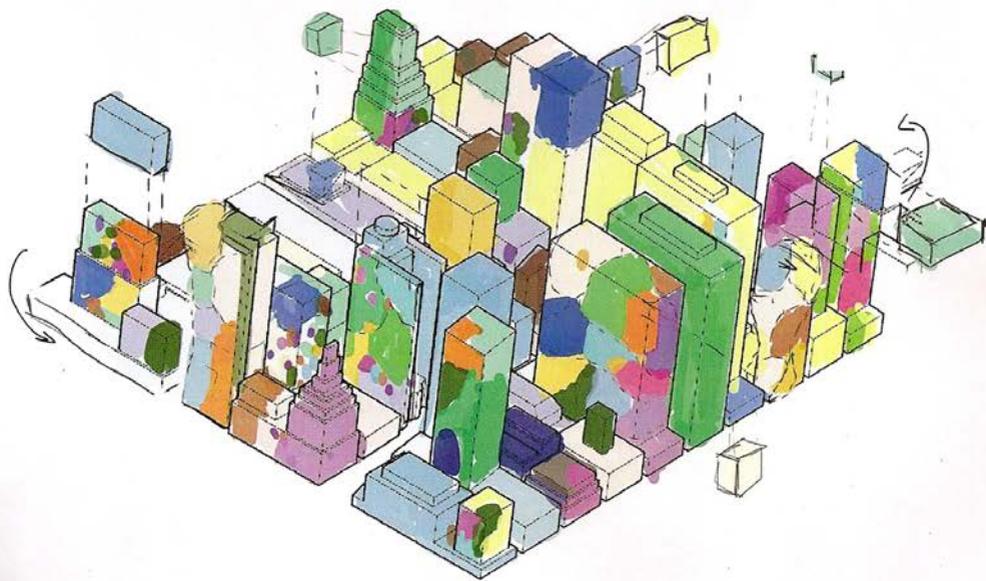
WHAT IS MASS PER M?

# REAL TIME CITY

# PROGRAMMED CITY



# REAL TIME  
# DATA EXCHANGE  
TEMPORARY  
SOCIAL  
BUILD



AMTZONSPACE.COM

How much space you want buy?  
• 105m<sup>2</sup> → 2645m<sup>3</sup> → 40300 m<sup>3</sup>  
• 10' x 10' x 10' → 1000 m<sup>3</sup>  
• 10' x 10' x 10' → 1000 m<sup>3</sup>  
• 10' x 10' x 10' → 1000 m<sup>3</sup>  
• 10' x 10' x 10' → 1000 m<sup>3</sup>

Let's generate a volume!  
Total sum of 84500m<sup>3</sup>

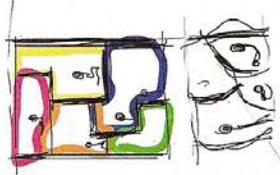
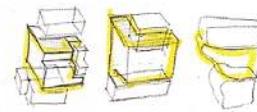
LOW HIGH  
DO YOU NEED SPACE  
BUY M<sup>3</sup> OF SPACE

EVERYONE HAS A RIGHT TO OWN SPACE

GENERATING A BUILDING STRUCTURE

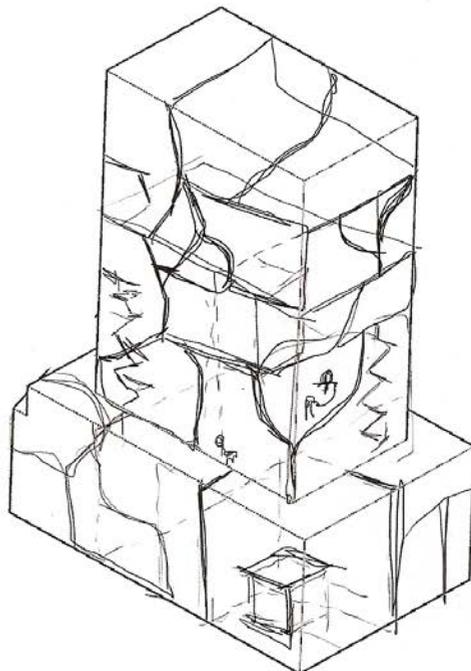


MAPPING THE SPACE IN THE CITY REAL TIME  
ARCSGIS?



ONLY FOR TEMPORARY USE!

~~FIXED SPACE~~  
FLEXIBLE SPACE  
• FIT ASSEMBLING SPACE / MATERIALS  
BUILDING  
FABRICATING

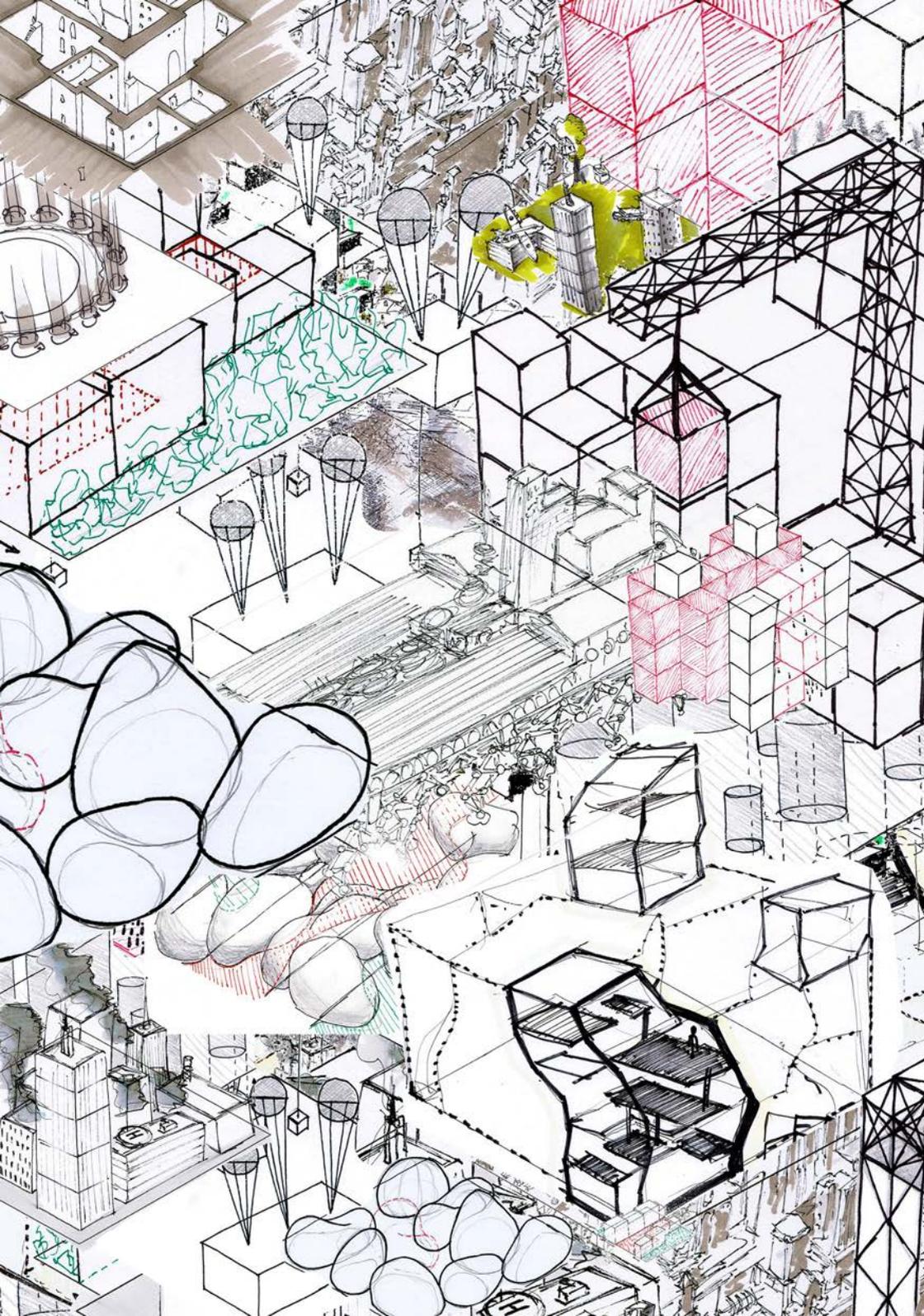


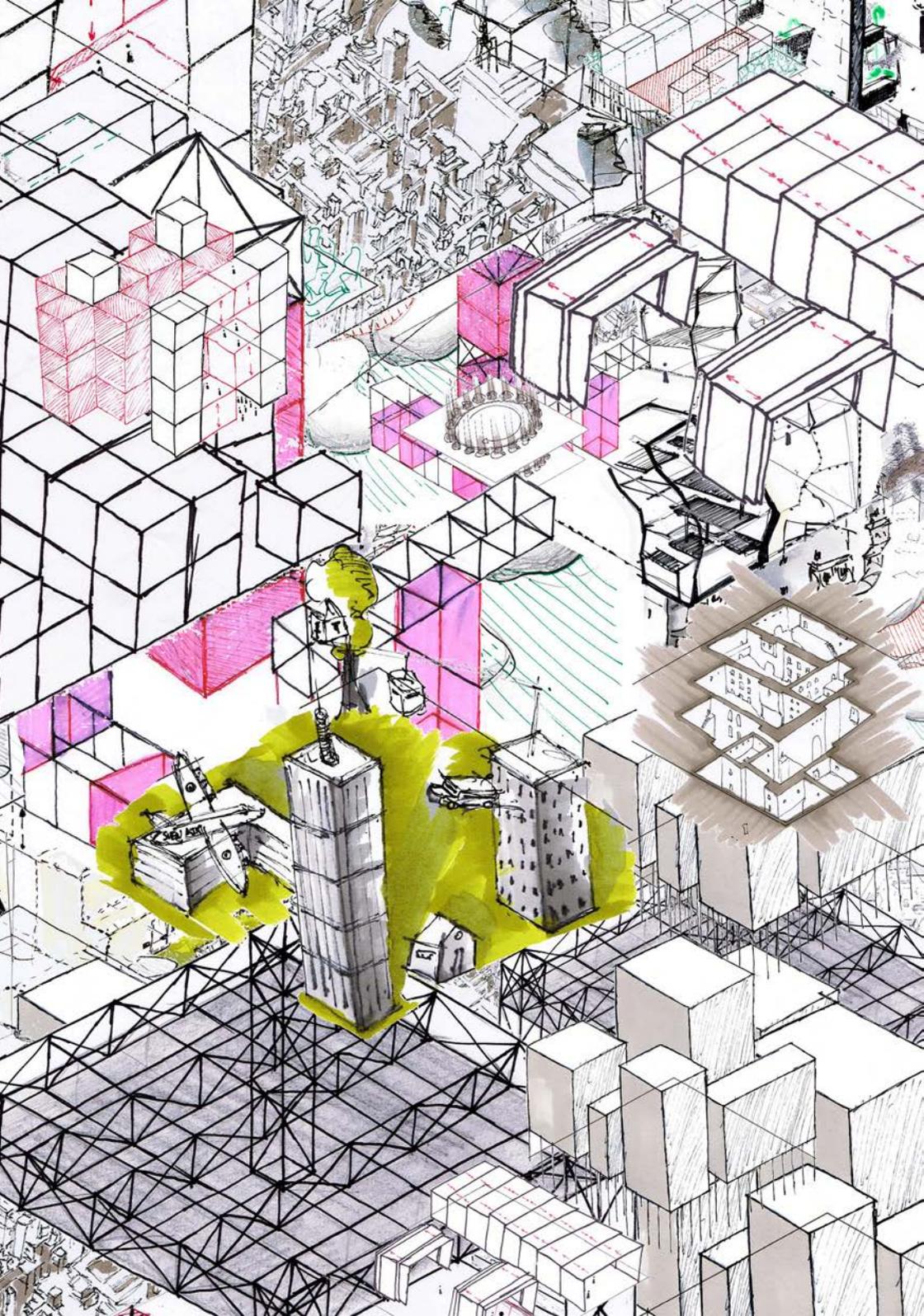


# one prototype

can't answer the different  
fluctuations of density  
in the city, as this constant  
movement is too complex  
to be solved by one system.  
we need to **combine**  
these systems  
in a smart way  
to match the  
complexity  
of

# the city.







**The city isn't a single minded  
in need of multiple approach**

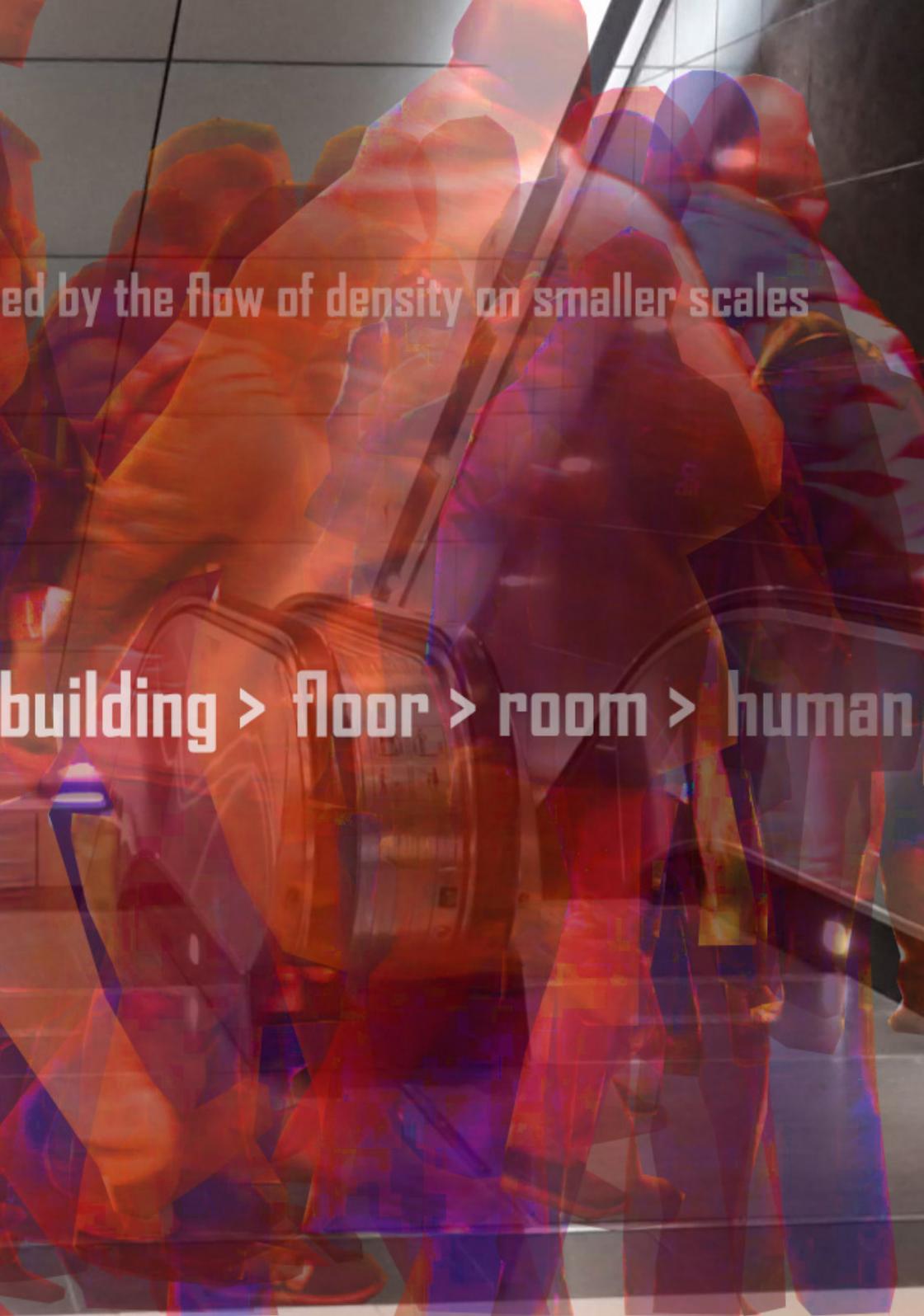
A detailed architectural sketch of a city, rendered in a dense, layered style. The drawing features numerous buildings of varying heights and shapes, some highlighted in vibrant pink and yellow. A large, cloud-like structure composed of overlapping circles is prominent in the upper right. The overall composition is complex and intricate, with many lines and details visible. The text is overlaid in the center of the image.

**entity, it's a complex system  
aches to various problems**



The flow of density in the city is influenced

**City > neighbourhood > street >**

The background image is a blurred, multi-colored photograph of a crowd of people. The colors are primarily warm tones like orange, red, and yellow, with some cooler tones like blue and purple. The image has a soft, ethereal quality, with the figures of people overlapping and blending together. The text is overlaid on this image in a clean, white, sans-serif font.

ed by the flow of density on smaller scales

building > floor > room > human



The flow of density in the cities is influenced

**CITY < Region < Country**



ed by the flow of density on smaller scales

ry < **Continent** < **World**



2

time/m

density distribution  
flow

density of a building per hour

... head into personal care each  
... work, eat breakfast, relax for

... morning

Phone Calls

Meal

Clothing

Personal Care

Eating & Drinking

Education

... ent from work or housework to  
... y also take the time to relax.

... morning

Phone Calls

Meal

Clothing

Personal Care

Eating & Drinking

Education

... m work or housework to  
... take the time to relax.

... morning

Phone Calls

Meal

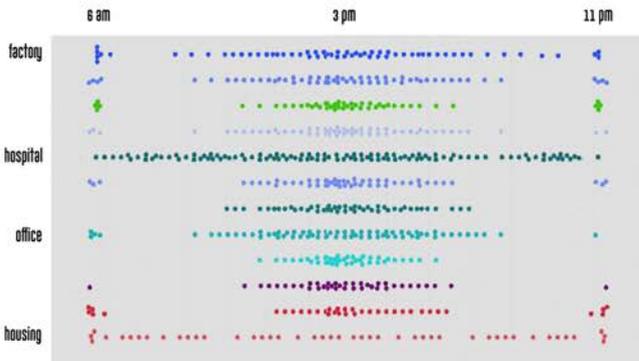
Clothing

Personal Care

Eating & Drinking

Education

d on m<sup>2</sup>?

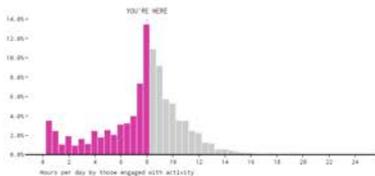


HOW MANY HOURS DID YOU SPEND WORKING YESTERDAY?

8 hours

TALLER BARS MEAN MORE PEOPLE.

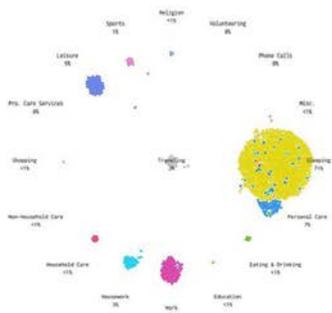
On average, about 60% of people engaged in this activity per day. Of those, 60% of them spend 8 hours or less on it.



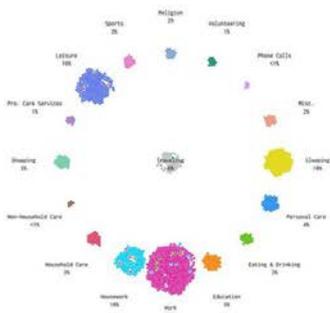
is a density of m<sup>2</sup> per hour?

# DENSITY/HOUR/FUNCTION

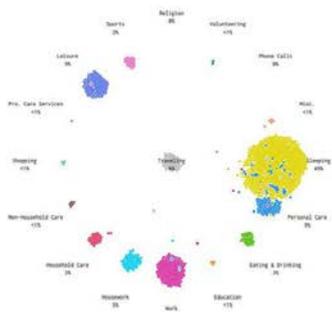
6:00am



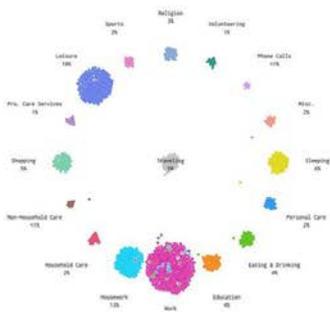
10:00am



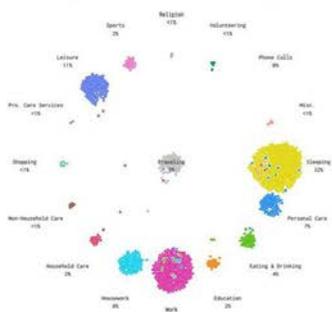
7:00am



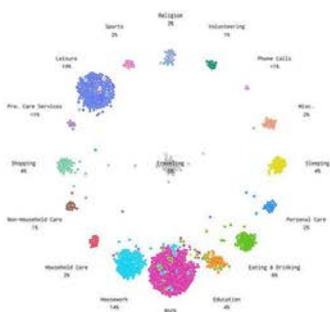
11:00am



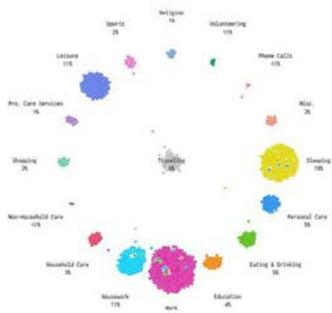
8:00am



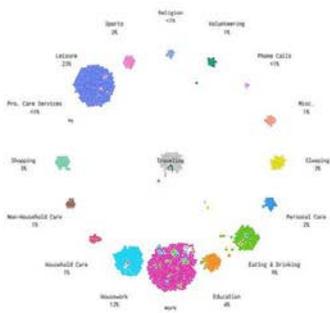
12:00pm



9:00am



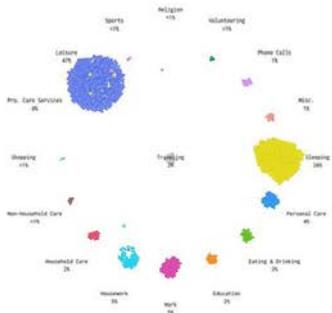
1:00pm



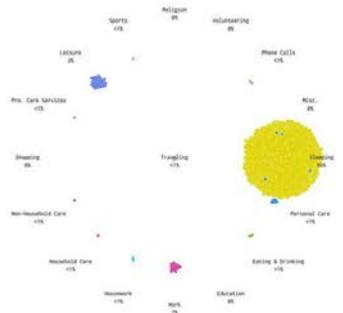


# DENSITY/HOUR/FUNCTION

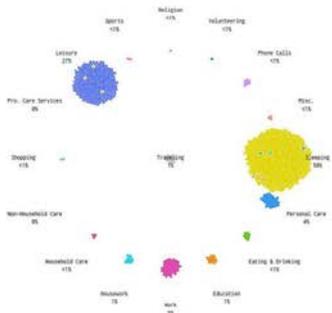
10:00pm



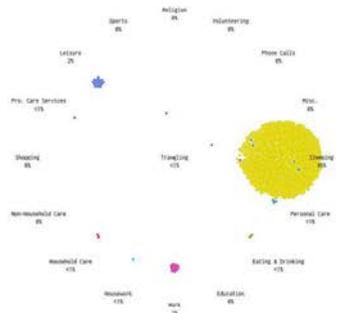
2:00am



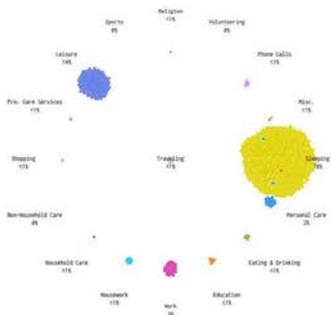
11:00pm



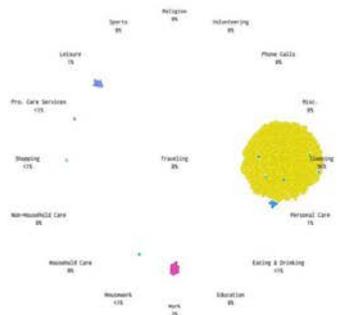
3:00am



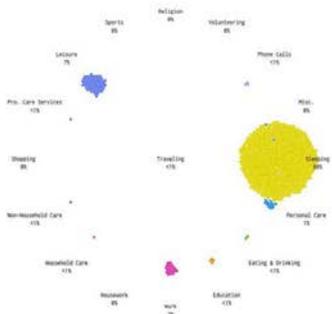
12:00am



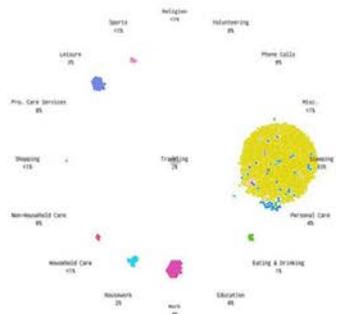
4:00am



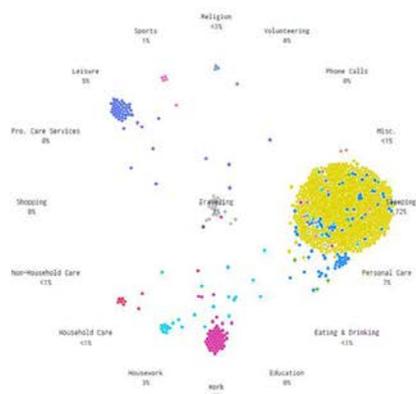
1:00am



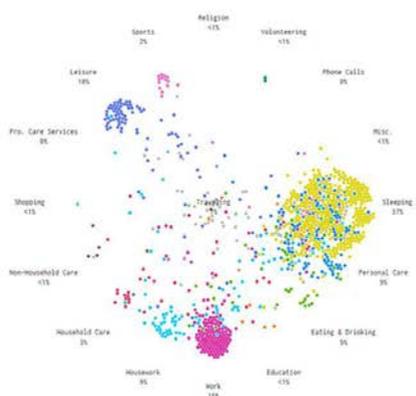
5:00am



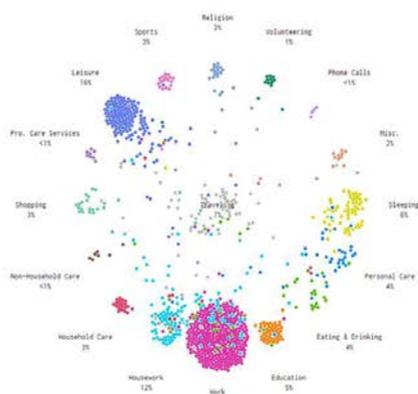
5:38am



7:12am



10:14am

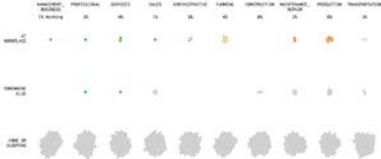


# DENSITY/HOUR/WORKTYPE

1:00am

US CA NY

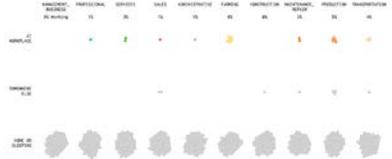
Most people are sleeping or getting ready for bed.



2:00am

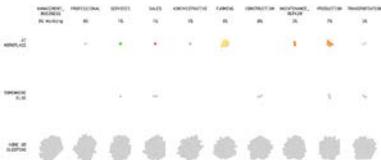
US CA NY

Most people are sleeping or getting ready for bed.



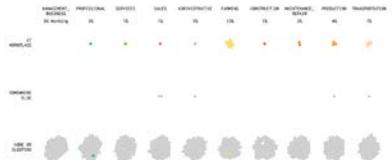
3:00am

US CA NY



4:00am

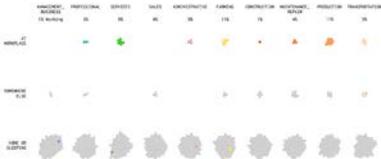
US CA NY



5:00am

US CA NY

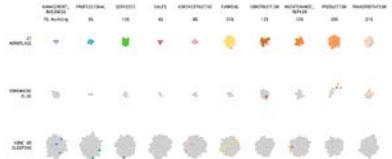
Each dot represents a person moving between work, home, and elsewhere. Colored, non-gray means a person is working.



6:00am

US CA NY

Occupations in farming, construction, and production tend to start early.



7:00am

US CA NY

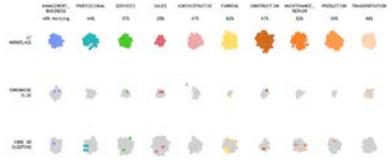
Occupations in farming, construction, and production tend to start early.



8:00am

US CA NY

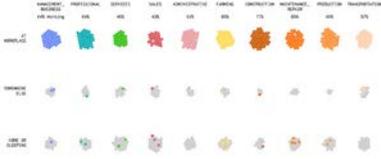
Most people are at work or on their way.



9:00am

US CA NY

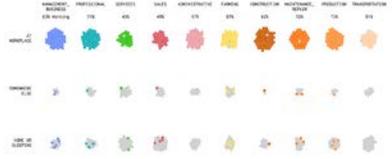
Some work from home, especially in business and professional fields.



10:00am

US CA NY

Some work from home, especially in business and professional fields.



11:00am

US CA NY

Some work from home, especially in business and professional fields.



12:00pm

US CA NY

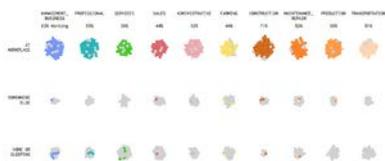
It's time for lunch.



1:00pm

MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

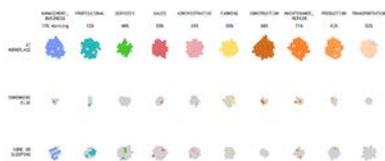
Back to work, but you can see people take breaks. (Click here to go to workplace)



2:00pm

MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

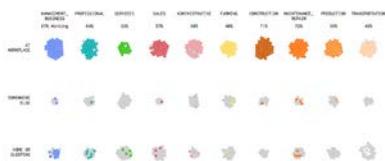
Back to work, but you can see people take breaks. (Click here to go to workplace)



3:00pm

MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

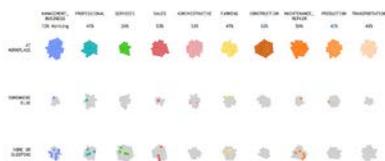
Back to work, but you can see people take breaks. (Click here to go to workplace)



4:00pm

MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

Back to work, but you can see people take breaks. (Click here to go to workplace)



5:00pm

MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

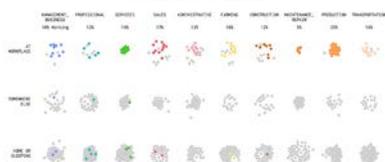
Calling it a day, although some will work from home.



6:00pm

MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

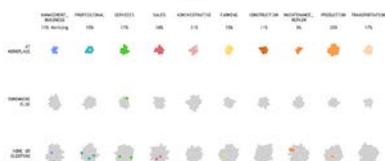
Calling it a day, although some will work from home.



7:00pm

MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

A day ends.



8:00pm

MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

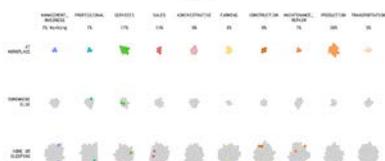
A day ends.



9:00pm

MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

A day ends.



10:00pm

MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

A day ends.



11:00pm

MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

Most people are sleeping or getting ready for bed.



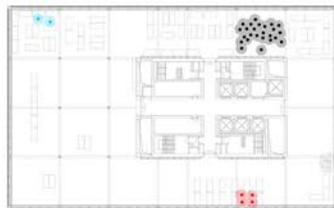
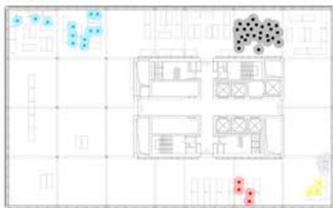
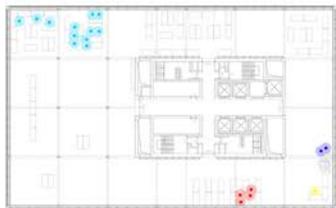
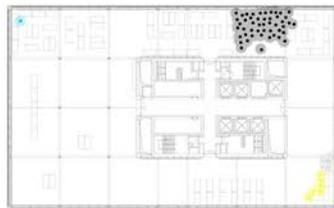
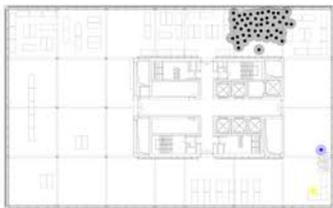
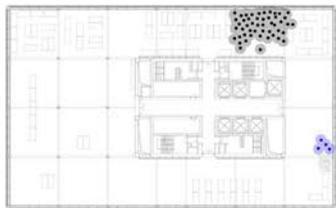
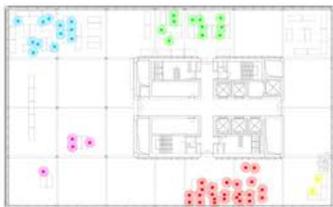
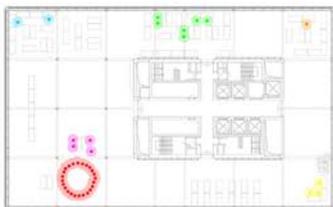
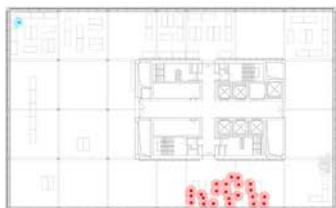
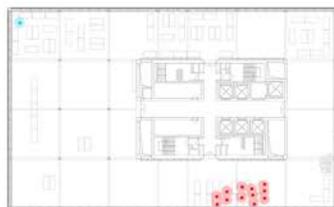
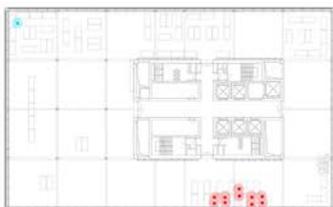
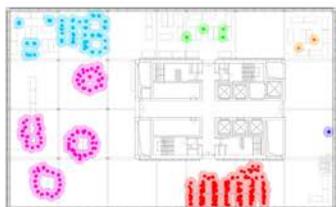
12:00am

MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

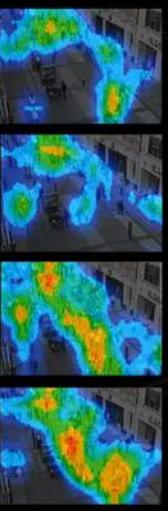
Most people are sleeping or getting ready for bed.



# MAPPING THE 24<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR



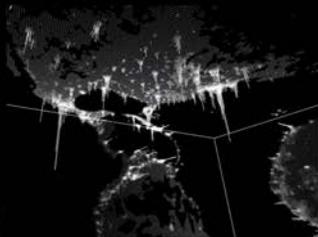
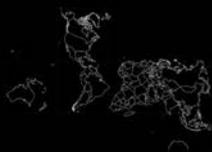
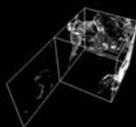




there are no borders



# there is no such thing as a closed city



orders in density fluctuations



Bernard Rudofsky - Architecture without  
3-d Jersey - Paolo Soleri  
Marina Lathauri - Projective  
Favela's Caracas  
Shizimu megacity pyramid  
Urban world: meeting the demand  
The curse of urban  
urban planning ideas for 2030, when billions will live in megacities  
No-Stop city - Archizoom  
Aquarius reef base - Key  
Urbanization and the megacity  
Flexible city - Farzana Gandhi  
Shrinking cities  
The Eggs of Price: An Ovo-Urban Analogy - Frank Jacobs  
Jonathan D. Solomon - public Spheres  
Babal - Paolo Soleri  
Tokyo Bay  
Indianapolis 500 stadium  
Blade Runner  
The  
Corbu  
Misunderstanding density: why we are building the wrong cities  
CHIBB House - Karen Steenwinkel  
Patrik Schumacher - Free market urbanism  
Excrescent Utopia UK  
Boeing Everett Factory  
Aluminium Forest - abbinck x de  
Liv-Lib - team  
Groundlab  
Ocean CM  
Habitation in extreme environments - Harvard GS  
Living Pod - David Greene  
Plasma Studios - Flowing Gardens  
Marine city - Kiyonori Kikutake  
Sea-city - Hal Moggridge  
The Plug-in city  
Sendai Mediatheque - Toyo Ito  
MCNY House - Folding Facade  
Serial System - Hongkong Housing  
Team 123 - Parametric urbanism  
There is no such thing as a city that has  
Venice a shrinking city - Phillip Oswalt  
Corbusier - City of tomorrow  
Architecture of density - Micheal Venturi  
Kiefer Technic Showroom - Foldable Facade  
Underwater servers - Microsoft  
Jorge  
Manifest destiny  
From coexistence to cooperation: living together beyond the family  
Detroit: the 'shrinking city' that isn't actually shrinking - Kaid Benford  
Uneven growth exhibition - MoMa New York

ut architects

Supercube - realliveloze  
urban sprawl: why cities grow, and why this has to change - Mark Swilling  
geographic challenge in cities - Jonathan Woetzel  
Koolhaas - S, M, L, XL

gacities - Margaret Rhodes  
Largo  
megacity - world population history  
Great Mosque of Mecca  
Koolhaas - Great leap forward

es, the rise and fall of global urban populations-mapped - McKinsey Report  
Tesla gigafactory - elon Musk  
Hey, fuck, where 'd city go?  
y - Tanquay  
Hexadecagon - Paolo Soleri

e collective old oak - PLP Architects  
ousier - La ville Radieuse  
e wrong sort of cities - Chris Boyko  
Don't Panic - Hans Rosling  
made runner - Ridley Scott  
Uneven growth exhibition - MoMa New York  
- Milo Ayden De Luca  
An analysis of shrinking cities - Simona Schett  
Saskia Sessin - The global city

Paris Solar Decathlon  
Rungrado 1st of may stadium - North Korea  
The city is but an egg - Cedric Price

D Hidden Studio Spain - Fernando Abellanas  
Eggo Island Inn - Saunders Architecture  
Instant city - Archigram  
Continuous monument - Superstudio

cy - Archigram/Peter Cook  
Brandon G. Donnelly - The City as an Egg  
acade Comparative study of occupation patterns and urban grain  
ty in the air - Arata Isozaki  
Shrinking cities - Phillip Oswalt

run out of room - Emily Badger  
Patrick Geddes - Cities in evolution  
orrow and its planning  
Wolf  
Section Kowloon Walled City - Adolfo Arranz

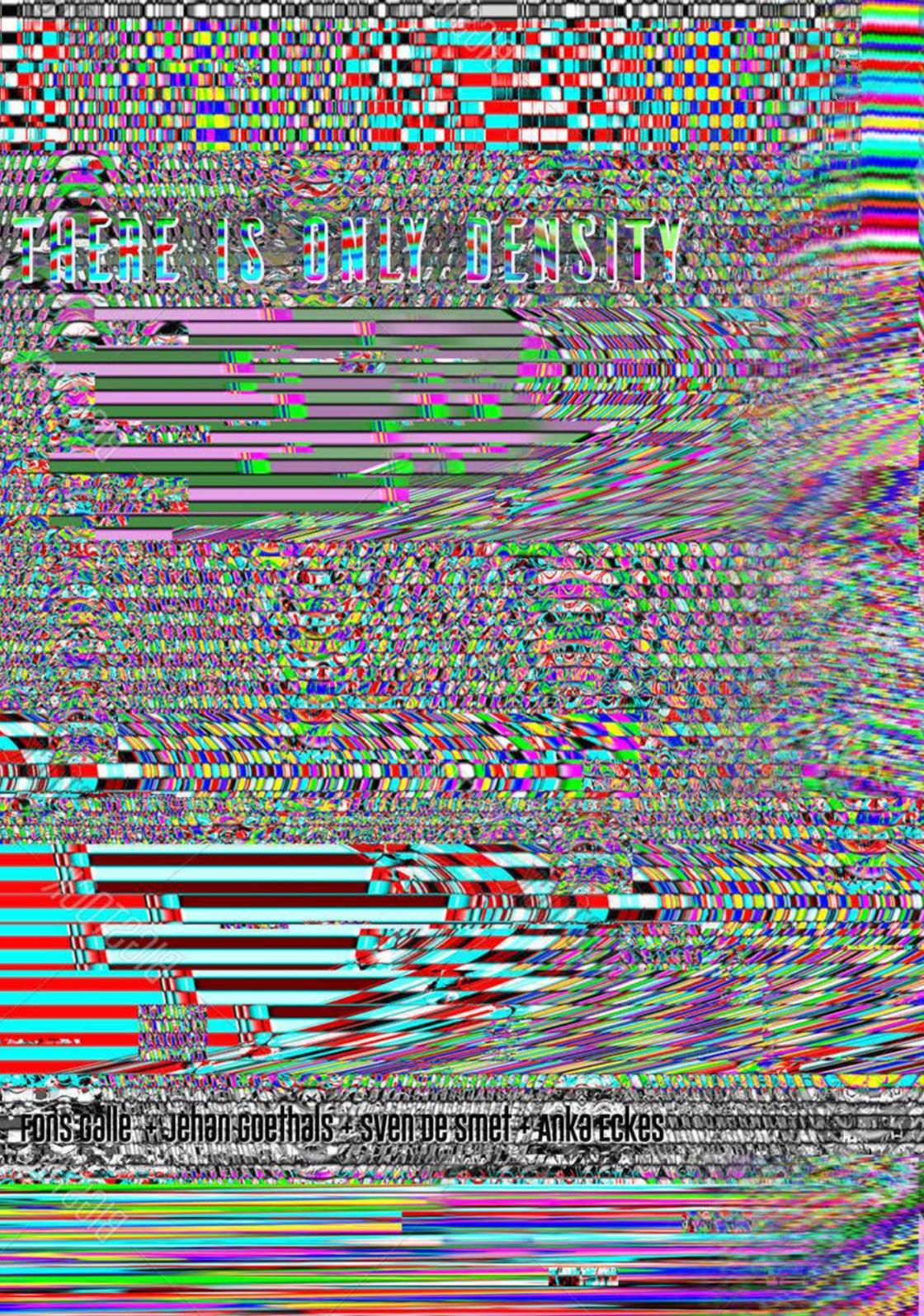
Mad Max  
Seattle beacon Food Forest Project  
Fibre - Informal City  
The Lilypad - Vincent Callebaut

ny US - Mark Reigelman and Jenny Chapman  
y - AAPC  
Whittier - Alaska  
Vertical farm - Biber Architects  
The happiness machine - Mark Lascelles Thornton

field  
Peter Trummer - Morphogenetic urbanism  
York







THERE IS ONLY DENSITY

rons dalle + jehan goethals + sven de smet + anka eckes