



# Global consensus : Cities as critical actors

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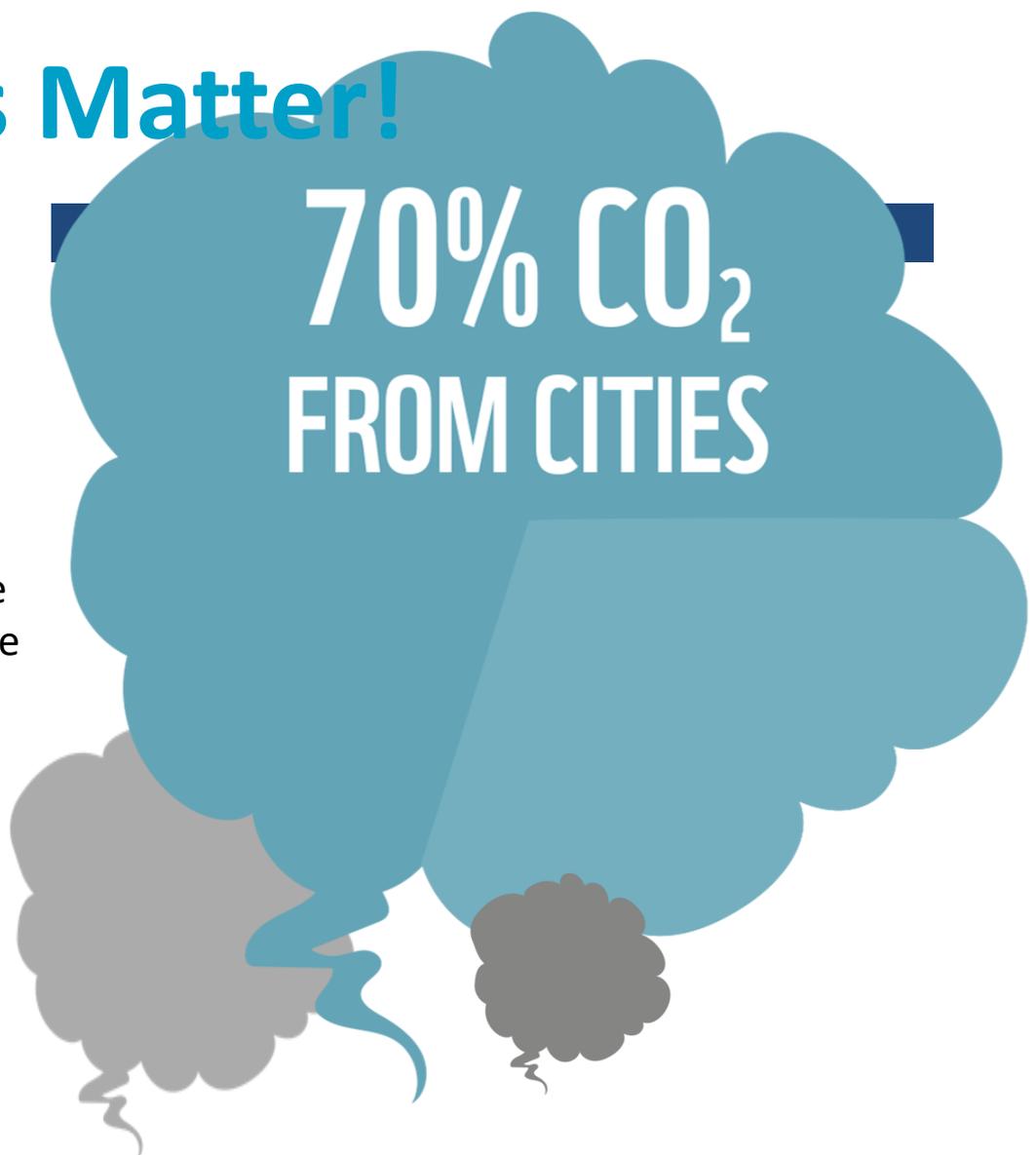
# Roadmap

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- Why Cities – context, opportunities and challenges
- Global consensus on role of cities
  - UNFCCC
  - SDGs and
  - New Urban Agenda

# Cities Matter!

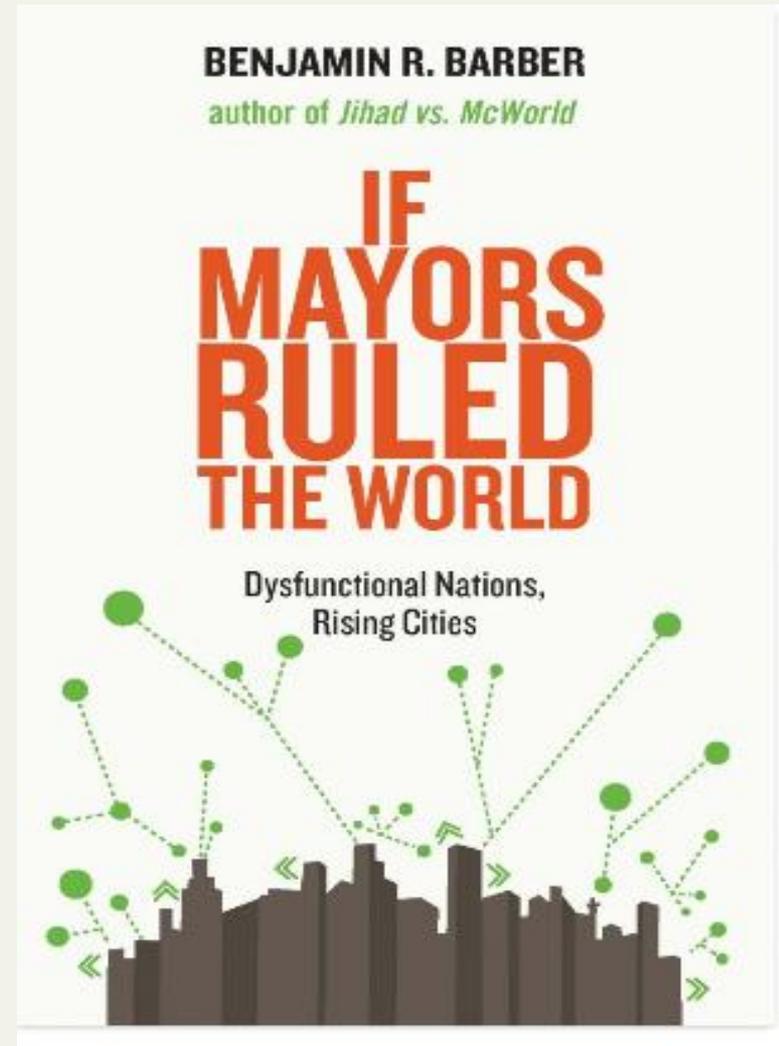
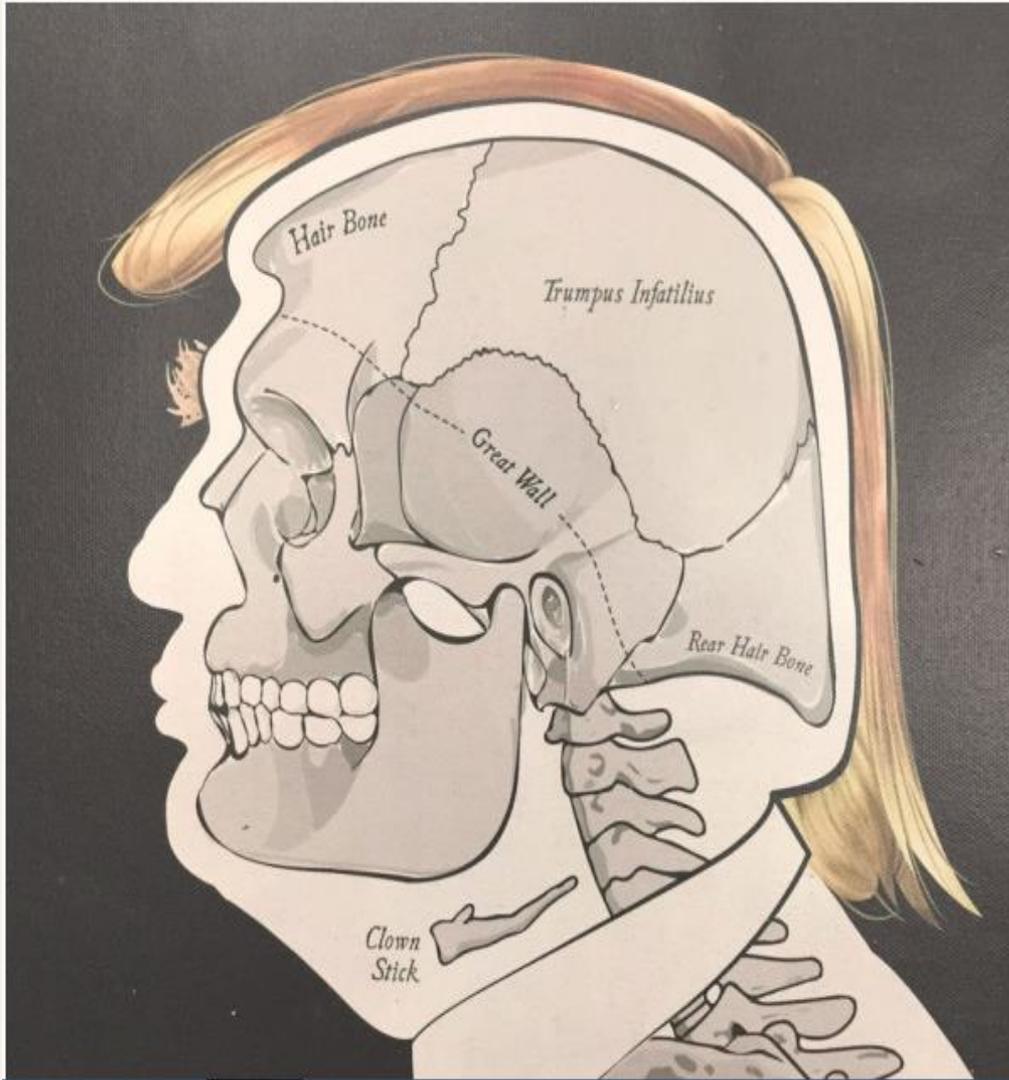
- Rapid urbanisation & emissions
- Cities as a problem space
  - Contributions to climate change
  - Consequences of climate change
- Cities as a solution space
  - *Mitigation*: GHG emission reduction strategies
  - *Adaptation*: preparatory strategies
  - Synergies
  - Scale



70% CO<sub>2</sub>  
FROM CITIES



# 'Rise of a "New Localism" - reinventing the 21<sup>st</sup> Century City



- Over two-thirds of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) indicate specific **urban content**
  - Clear **relation between sustainable urbanization and climate action**
  - Focus on mitigation, adaptation or a balance of both
- NDCs from **Asia and Africa** indicate **strongest urban content**
  - Most rapidly urbanizing areas, presenting a **window of opportunity** for future sustainable urban development



# 7,100+ CITIES

REPRESENTING

# 600

MILLION  
PEOPLE



# 8%

OF TOTAL  
GLOBAL  
POPULATION

IN OTHER  
WORDS

THE WORLD'S LARGEST  
COALITION OF CITIES  
FIGHTING CLIMATE CHANGE



GLOBAL COVENANT  
*of MAYORS for*  
CLIMATE & ENERGY



COMPACT  
*of MAYORS*



Covenant of Mayors  
for Climate & Energy

**UPDATE:** 7,518 cities, representing 707,674,157 people worldwide and 9.62% of the total global population, have committed to the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy.



# ONE PLANET CITY CHALLENGE

# SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 11

Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

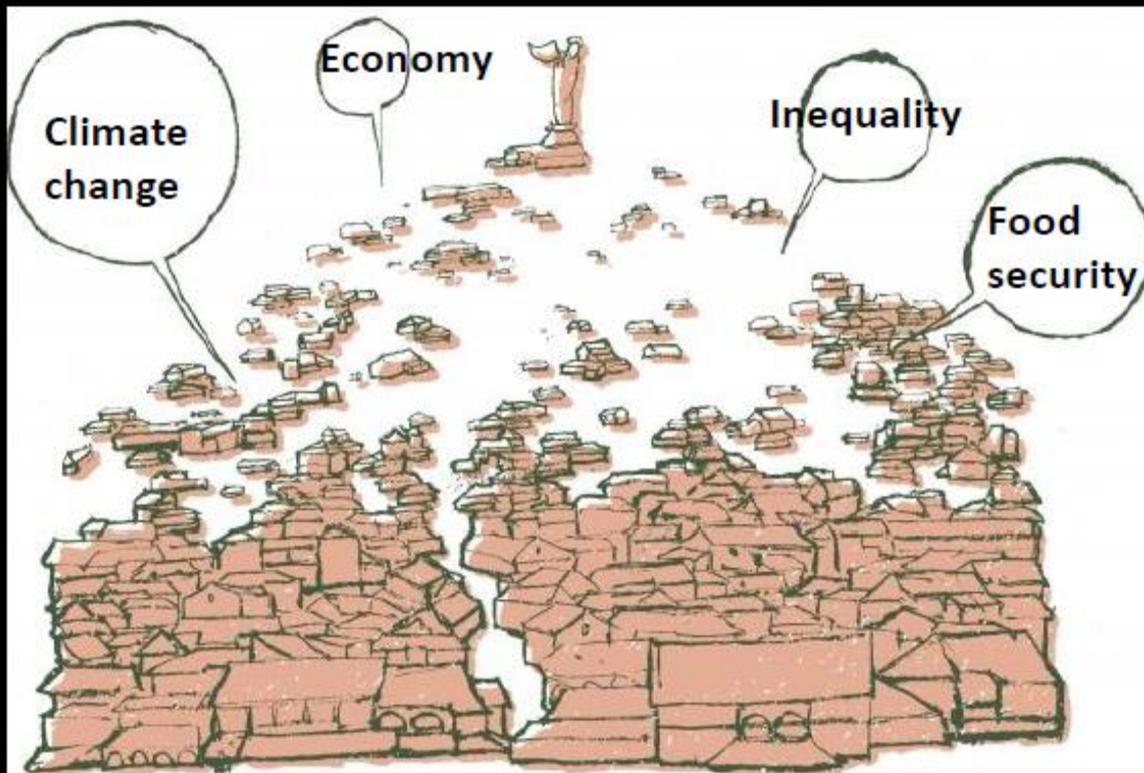


- By 2030, ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable *housing and basic services and upgrade slums*
- By 2030, provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, improving road safety, notably by expanding public transport, with special attention to the needs of those in vulnerable situations, women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons
- By 2030, enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanization and capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning and management in all countries
- Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage



# The new role of cities anticipated by SDG 11

Urban areas (and planning) will be expected to deal with ALL the key global issues. It is assumed cities are the major contributors to these, and offer the greatest potential to address them...



All global processes work horizontally through places – urban places

UN Habitat is the United Nations programme working towards a better urban future. Its mission is to promote socially and environmentally sustainable human settlements development and the achievement of adequate shelter for all

The **New Urban Agenda** was unanimously adopted by member states at the Habitat III Conference in Quito, Ecuador in October 2016

**Plan of action** to effectively address the **complex challenges of urbanization (particularly rising inequality and environmental degradation)** that will help countries seize – and showcase – the opportunities of **good urbanization**, which make cities and human settlements more inclusive, resilient and safe and enable urbanisation to become the **positive transformative force**



Thank you

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