

# Goal 11: Sustainable cities and communities

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C2

English lesson



- More than half of the world's population now live in urban areas. By 2050, that figure will have risen to 6.5 billion people – two-thirds of all humanity. Sustainable development cannot be achieved without significantly transforming the way we build and manage our urban spaces.
- The rapid growth of cities in the developing world, coupled with increasing rural to urban migration, has led to a boom in mega-cities. In 1990, there were ten mega-cities with 10 million inhabitants or more. In 2014, there were 28 mega-cities, home to a total 453 million people.
- Extreme poverty is often concentrated in urban spaces, and national and city governments struggle to accommodate the rising population in these areas. Making cities safe and sustainable means ensuring access to safe and affordable housing, and upgrading slum settlements. It also involves investment in public transport, creating green public spaces, and improving urban planning and management in a way that is both participatory and inclusive.

# THE FUTURE LOOKS BRIGHT



- 80% of Mexico's population live in big cities. Another well-known destination in Mexico is the lush tropical city of Cancún, a striking city known for its endless beaches, captivating azure waters, and nearby Mayan ruins. Though the country has a reputation for natural beauty, beaches, and jungles. As these cities grow, there have been advances in human development over the past several decades, but many challenges exist. For there to be a future in which cities provide opportunities for all, access to basic services, energy, housing, and transportation must be planned for.

# BETTER CITY , BETTER LIFE



- Resilience in cities does not happen incidentally, it requires constant vigilance and support to develop their capacity to absorb the impact of hazards, protect and preserve human life, and limit damage to and destruction of public and private assets while continuing to provide infrastructure and services after a crisis. Cities can be hubs for ideas, commerce, culture, science, productivity, social development, and much more. At their best, cities have enabled people to advance socially and economically.

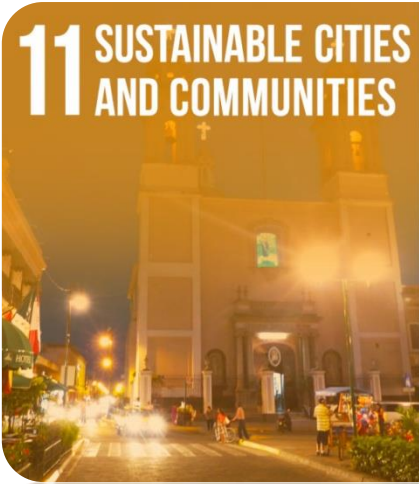
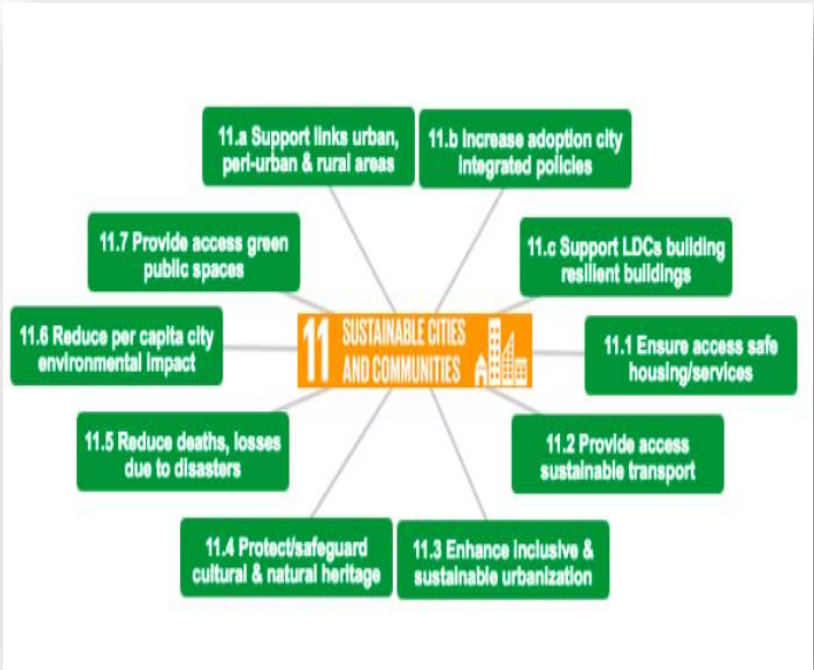
# IMAGES

**Challenges**

- The **RAPID** and **unplanned** urbanization witnessed worldwide has led to **INCREASED PRESSURE ON THE ENVIRONMENT**
- Our cities account for up to **60% OF ENERGY CONSUMPTION**, as well as **70% OF GLOBAL WASTE AND CARBON EMISSIONS**
- Due to the high concentration of people, infrastructure, housing and economic activities, **CITIES ARE PARTICULARLY VULNERABLE** to climate change and natural disasters

**Solutions**

- PROMOTE SOUND URBAN PLANNING**, sustainable building, resource efficiency, green spaces and sustainable transport
- SWITCH TO RENEWABLE ENERGY**, waste management, sustainable and green infrastructure
- PRACTICE GREEN CITIES** - which are compact, walkable, vibrant and resilient



## 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

*“ ...cities are also our greatest opportunity. They are the places where innovation happens, where solutions that improve lives are born, where wealth generation is accelerated.”*

– Michael Berkowitz  
President, 100RC



# LINKS

- [Cities-United Nations Sustainable Development Cities And Communitis](#)
- [Goal 11: Sustainable Cities And Communitis/UNDP](#)
- [UNDP Environment](#)

