



A STUDY OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ON URBANIZATION

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ABSTRACT In the last 10,000 years, humans have become increasingly powerful environmental forces. With the arrival of agriculture 8,000 years ago, we started changing the land. And with the Industrial Revolution, we started to influence our environment. Recent growth in the world's population has increased the effects of our agricultural and economic activities. But the increase in the world population has masked that there can be another important human-environmental conversation: While the population of the world is doubling, the urban population of the world is three times as fast as possible. Over the next few years, half of the world's population lives in urban areas.

KEYWORDS : Urbanization, environmental, Impact

INTRODUCTION

In 1800, almost 2 percent of the world's population lived in urban areas. It was surprising: Until one century ago, there was some unhealthy place for people living in urban areas. The increasing density of population in urban areas has spread rapidly to infectious diseases. Consequently, in rural areas there was more death in historically urban areas. Urban areas recently introduced the only way to maintain their existence during the continued migration of rural people.

In just 200 years, the world's urban population has increased from 2 percent to almost all 50 percent of all people. The most striking example of the world's urbanization is the megacity of 10 million people or more. In 1975 only four megacities were present; in 2000 there were 18 years. And by 2015 the United Nations estimates that 22.5 will increase in the future, although not in these large groups, but in small to medium sized cities around the world.

Increase in urban areas comes from the increase in both migration and fertility of the urban population in cities. In most areas of urban migration, most of the urban migrations are motivated for rural population's desires. Urban benefits include more opportunities for services like education, health care and entertainment. The urban poor have less opportunity for education than urban non-poor, but they still have more than 7 rural population

Urban fertility rates, although less than the rural fertility rate in every region of the world, contribute to the development of urban areas. In urban areas, women migrating from rural areas have more children than those born in urban areas. Of course, rural expatriates in urban areas are not random selection of rural population; they wanted weak children, even if they were in rural areas. So the difference between fertility of urban migrants and rural women probably exacerbates the effect of urban migration on fertility.

In sub-Saharan Africa, there are about 1.5 children in urban fertility rate compared to rural areas; the differences in Latin America are about two children. Therefore, population growth in the world is likely to slow down. It is also likely to focus on some environmental impacts geographically.

ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECT ON URBANIZATION

The urban population interacts with their environment. Urban people change their environment through food, energy, water and land consumption. And in turn, the polluted urban environment affects the health and quality of life of the urban population.

People living in urban areas have very different consumption patterns compared to the residents of rural areas. For example, the urban population consumes more food, energy and durable goods than rural population. During the 1970s in China, the urban population consumed twice as much pig as a rural population raising pigs. With economic development, the gap in consumption decreased because the rural population eats better diet. But even after a decade, compared to the rural population, the population of the urban population had 60 percent more pig's meat. Increasing consumption of meat is a sign of growing prosperity in Beijing; In India, where many urban residents

are vegetarians; high concentration of milk is seen in more prosperity. The urban population not only consumes more food, but they also consume more durable goods. At the beginning of the 1990s, the possibility of having a TV in Chinese homes was twice as high, washing machine was eight times more likely, and it is likely to be 25 times more refrigerators than rural households. Increased consumption is a celebration of urban labor markets, wages, and domestic structure.

Compared to rural villages, energy consumption is high in urban areas for electricity, transport, cooking and heating. For example, there are many cars in comparison to rural population per capita urban population. In the 1930s, almost all of the cars in the world were in the United States. Today we have a car for every two people in the United States. If it became ideal, there would be 5.3 billion cars in the world in 2050, using all the energy.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Modern advancements in science and technology leading to industrialization and urbanization coupled with increase in population have created a better life for the mankind. But, at the same time it causes a great loss to the delicate system of ecology by contaminating the natural resources by the way of waste accumulation.

United Nations Habitat 2004, the water scarcity situation will get worse in the world's urban areas where it is projected that over 50% of the world's population will live by 2015. Between 2000 and 2030, it is projected that there will be an increase of 2.12 B in urban population of with over 95% of this increase expected to be in low income countries.

Roger Beckmeann 2001, the use of large quantities of water for transportation of wastes results into massive wastewater flows, which make its management not only difficult but also costly. This situation is aggravated by use of centralized wastewater treatment plants. Of course, treatment plants are costly both to build and to operate, especially where a lot of nutrient and chemical removal is necessary to protect sensitive water bodies. The plants also generate solid waste, which needs to be disposed of.

WHO 1973 defines municipal sewage as "The spent water of the community consisting of water carried wastes from the residence, commercial buildings and industrial plots and surface and ground water that enter the system? It consists of managing a mixture of water and wastes which generally includes dissolved and suspended solids, made up of human and animal wastes, oils and greases, vegetables and animal residues, household chemicals, soil bacteria, etc."

Mohan 2003, in India for example, bulk of the population growth is expected to occur in 40-45 cities each with a population greater than 100,000, not just in the mega cities. Based on the Central Pollution Control Board data for 2001, the Infrastructure Development Finance Corporation estimates that 73% of urban wastewater in India is untreated. This may require an investment in treatment capacity of the order of US \$ 65 B or ten times greater than what the Government of India proposes to spend.

Nguyen et al 2007, Peri-urban areas are the transition or interaction

zone, where urban and rural activities meet. The landscape features in peri urban areas are subject to rapid anthropogenic modification and development.

Richter et al 2000, in many peri-urban areas of Southeast Asia, land use has been transformed from rice-based to more profitable vegetable-based systems.

In Tamil Nadu, as per 2001 Census, 12.7% people live in major urban centres such as in Chennai 42,16,268 (6.8%), Madurai 9,22,913 (1.5%), Thiruchirappalli 7,46,062 (1.2%), Coimbatore 9,23,085 (1.5%), Salem 6,93,236 (1.1%) and Thirunelveli 4,11,298 (0.7%).

URBAN ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY CHALLENGES

Since the 1950s, many cities in developed countries have met urban environmental challenges. Los Angeles has dramatically reduced air pollution. Many towns that grew up near rivers have succeeded in cleaning up the waters they befouled with industrial development. But cities at the beginning of their development generally have less wealth to devote to the mitigation of urban environmental impacts. And if the lack of resources is accompanied by inefficient government, a growing city may need many years for mitigation. Strong urban governance is critical to making progress. But it is often the resource in shortest supply. Overlapping jurisdictions for water, air; roads, housing, and industrial development frustrate efficient governance of these vital environmental resources. The lack of good geographic information systems means that many public servants are operating with cataracts. The lack of good statistics means that many urban indicators that would inform careful environmental decision-making are missing.

When strong urban governance is lacking, public-private partnerships can become more important. These kinds of partnerships can help set priorities that are shared broadly, and therefore, implemented. Some of these public-private partnerships have advocated tackling the environmental threats to human health first. "Reducing soot, dust, lead, and microbial disease presents opportunities to achieve tangible progress at relatively low cost over relatively short periods," concluded conferees at a 1994 World Bank gathering on environmentally sustainable development. But ultimately there are many other urban environmental priorities that produce chronic problems for both people and the environment over the long term that also have to be addressed.

Much of the research that needs to be done on the environmental impacts of urban areas has not been done because of a lack of data and funding. Most of the data that exist are at a national level. But national research is too coarse for the environmental improvement of urban areas. Therefore, data and research at the local level need to be developed to provide the local governments with the information they need to make decisions. Certainly the members of the next generation, the majority of whom will be living in urban areas, will judge us by whether we were asking the right questions today about their urban environments. They will want to know whether we funded the right research to address those questions. And they will also want to know whether we used the research findings wisely.

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