

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

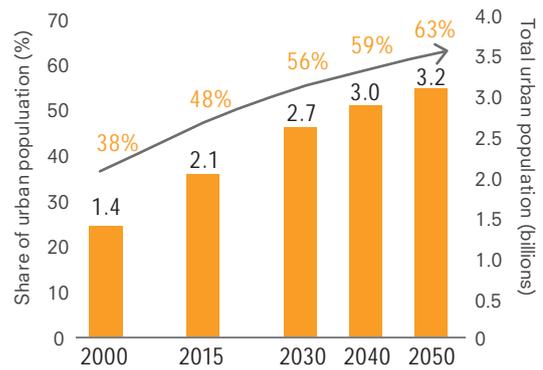


Goal Eleven aims to ensure well-being of the ever increasing urban population-setting targets for a decent quality of life for all, shared prosperity and social stability, building resilience to minimize human and economic losses in the face of effects of natural disasters and climate change-without harming the environment. Highlights of the baseline status of the region draw mainly on data on access to basic services by urban and slum populations, waste generation and air pollution.

If current trends continue, by 2030 2.7 billion of the Asia-Pacific region's population will be urban dwellers

Half the world's 4 billion urban dwellers live in Asia and the Pacific. Between 2016 and 2030, the urban share of the Asia-Pacific population is expected to rise from 49% to 56% with the number of urban dwellers rising from 2.1 billion to 2.7 billion. The increases will be higher in the region's developing economies. Currently, the region has 19 of the world's 31 megacities (with 10 million inhabitants or more); by 2030, it will have 25 of the 41, and the seven with the largest populations.

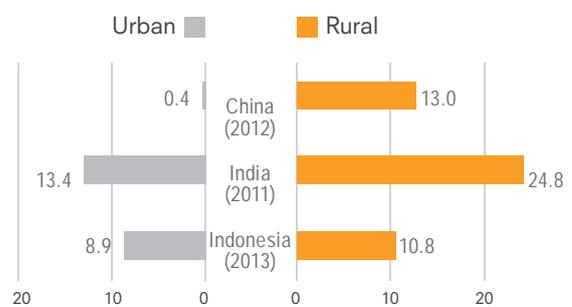
Asia-Pacific: urban population trends and projections



Urban areas typically have lower poverty rates than rural areas

Data on poverty rates disaggregated by urban/rural are infrequently available for countries in the region. Poverty rates from the three most populous countries in the region for the latest year show that poverty rates are typically higher in rural areas.

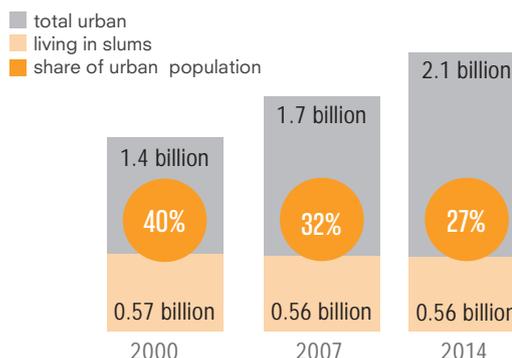
Urban vs. rural: share of population living on less than \$1.90 a day (2011 PPP), percentage



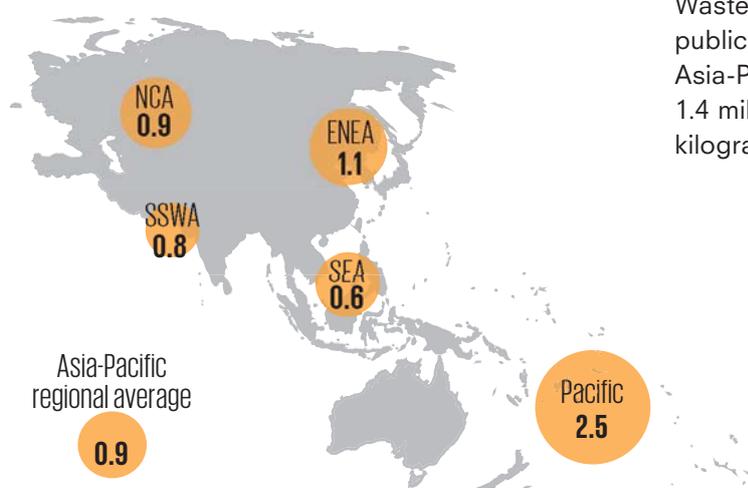
In 2014, around 560 million urban dwellers in the Asia-Pacific region lived in slums

Since 2000, the proportion of the region's urban populations living in slums has come down to about one quarter. This still means that around 560 million people in the Asia Pacific region live in slums, typically in poor-quality housing with insecure residential status, and inadequate access to safe water and sanitation.

Asia-Pacific urban population living in slums, 2000, 2007 and 2014



Municipal solid waste generation, tonnes per capita per day, 2012



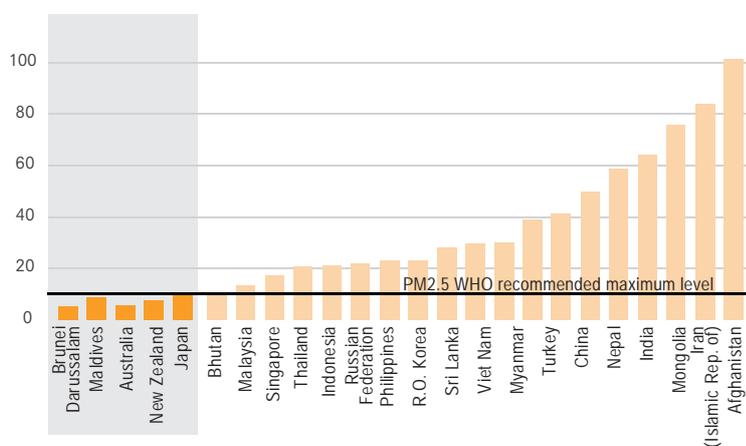
Source: World Bank, *What a Waste: A Global Review of Solid Waste Management*, Washington D.C., 2012

Rising urban populations will put even more strain on waste management

Waste generation has major implications for public health and the environment. In 2012 Asia-Pacific cities and municipalities produced 1.4 million tonnes of solid waste per day – 0.9 kilograms per person.

Waste generation differs by subregion. This partly reflects geographic conditions, particularly for the Pacific. But it is also influenced by the stages of economic development since more developed countries tend to produce more waste. As countries across the region become richer, waste generation is therefore likely to rise.

Annual mean concentration of PM2.5 in cities, micrograms per cubic metre, Asia-Pacific countries, 2008-2013



Rising vehicle ownership in urban areas is contributing to high levels of air pollution in cities

WHO recommends that the annual mean concentration of dangerous fine particulate matter, of 2.5 micrometres or less (PM2.5), should be less than 10 micrograms per cubic metre of air.

Over the period 2008-2013, of the 24 Asia-Pacific countries that had data, only Brunei Darussalam, Australia, New Zealand, Maldives and Japan met that standard.