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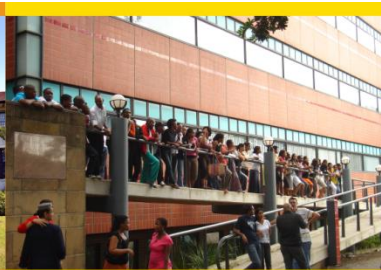
INYUVESI
YAKWAZULU-NATALI



EDGEWOOD CAMPUS



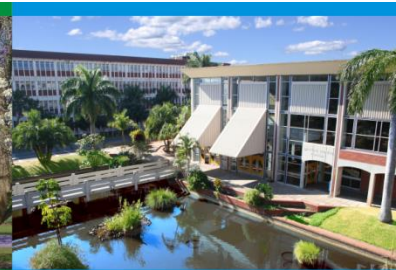
HOWARD COLLEGE CAMPUS



NELSON R MANDELA SCHOOL OF MEDICINE



PIETERMARITZBURG CAMPUS



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INSPIRING GREATNESS



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Urbanism and regional economic development in South Africa

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So, what is urbanization?

Urban theory revolves around flows of people, products and information In a time-space continuum through the forces of convergence, divergence and agglomeration economies
(Roy, 2009)

Stages of urbanism

According to François Mancebo (2006)
Urbanization occurs in three broad stages:

1. when improvements in agriculture lead to population growth and more densely populated settlements

Continues...

2. **Period of industrialization.** New jobs associated with industrialization draw even more people from rural areas, often causing public-health crises as the cities become overcrowded and the infrastructure fails to keep pace with the population

3. Finally, **specialization of urban space** occurs through agglomeration economies

African Urbanization

While the continent is still largely rural, it is one of the **fastest urbanizing regions** around the world.

Africa's urban population is expected to increase more than triple over 40 years, from **395 million** in **2010** to **1.339 billion** in **2050**

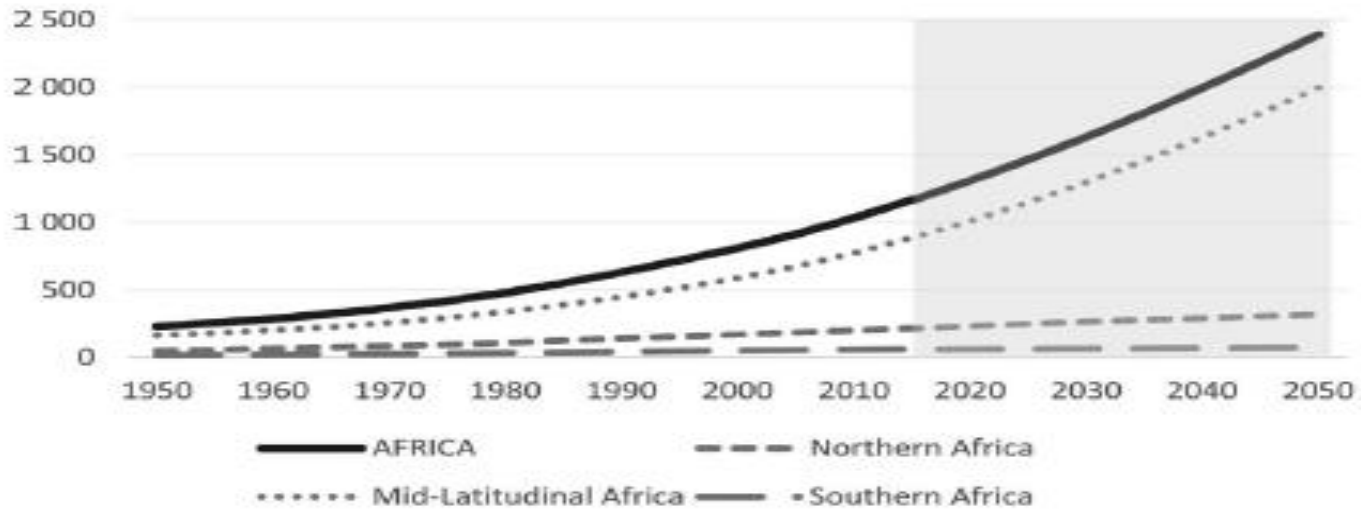
Constituting 21% of the world's projected urban population

What do the numbers say?

The total population in the continent is projected to reach almost **2.5 billion** people by 2050 with about **55%** living in urban areas

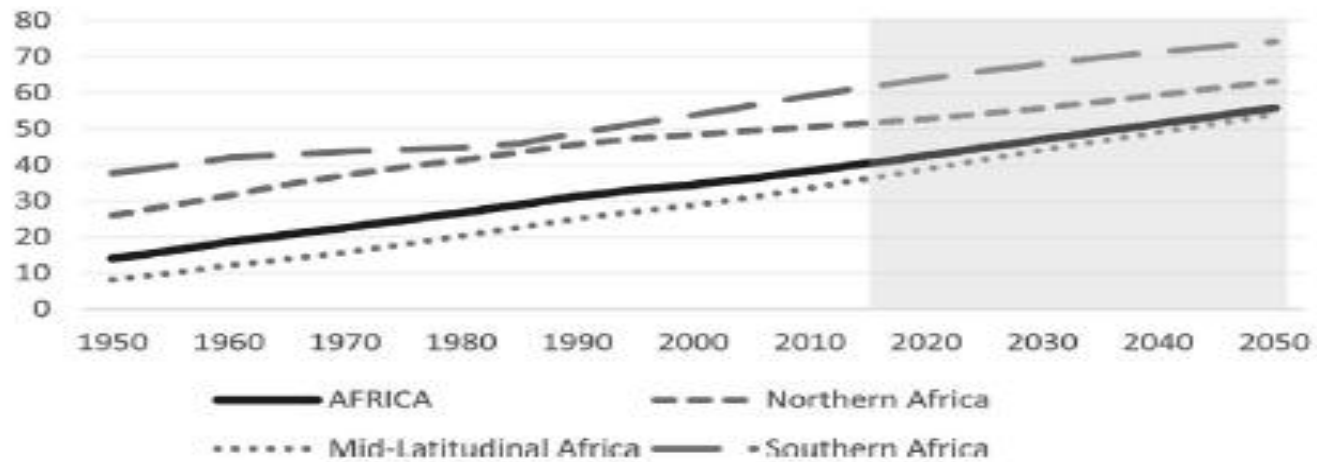
This is a significant increase given that less than 10% of Africa's population resided in urban areas in 1950. Most of the increase in urban population **is natural increase** compared of migration.

Total Population (millions)



(a)

Percentage of Total Population Residing in Urban Areas



(b)

Noteworthy,

Much of urban expansion in Africa is characterized by unplanned and unregulated growth, exacerbated by the legacy of colonialism, globalization, civil war migration, structural adjustment, and effects of neo-liberal spatial planning.

Challenges

Spatial inequality
over crowdedness

Urban sprawl

Mushrooming of informal/illegal
settlements

Health/illness issues

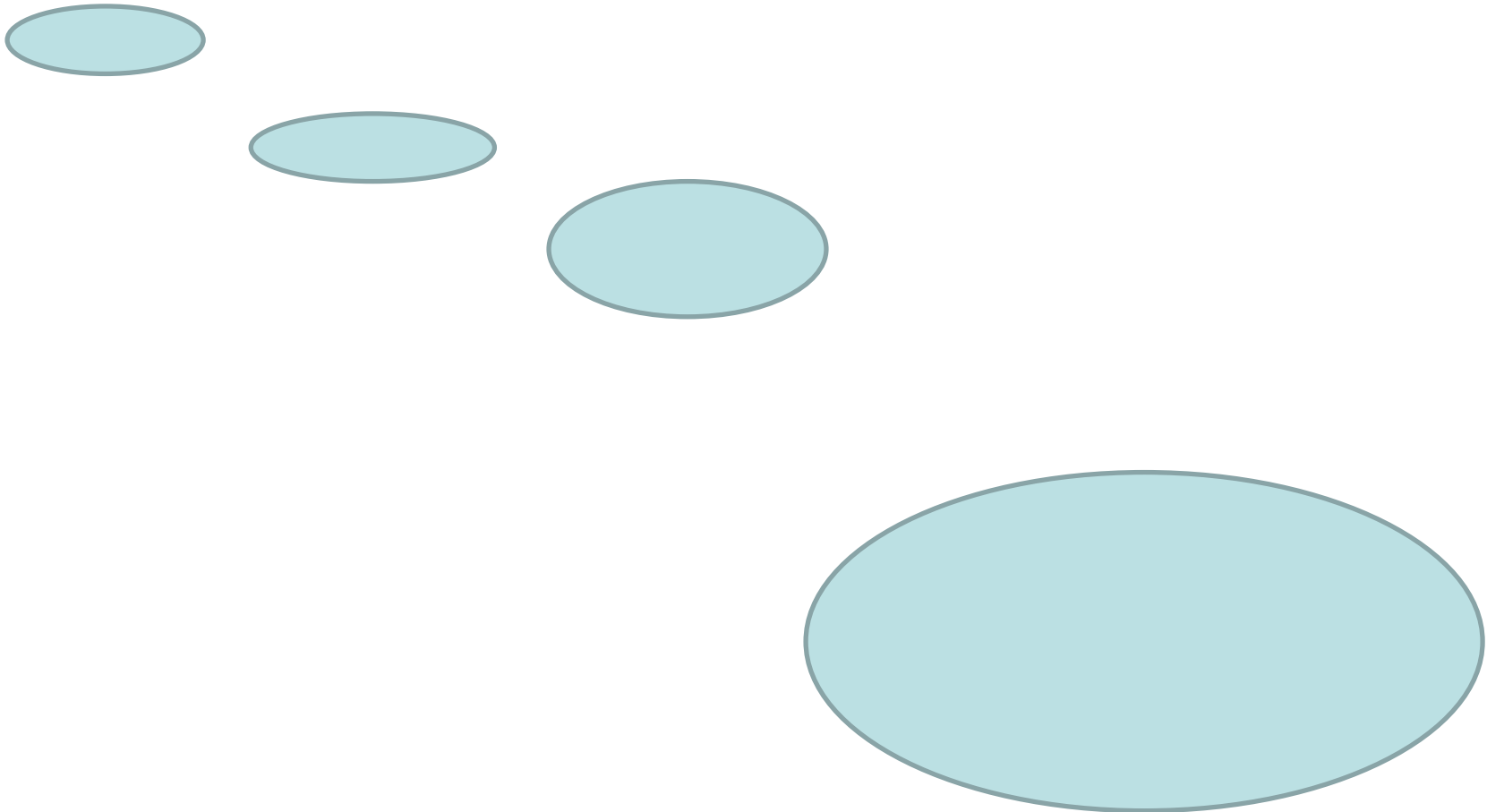
Environmental decay

Biodiversity decay

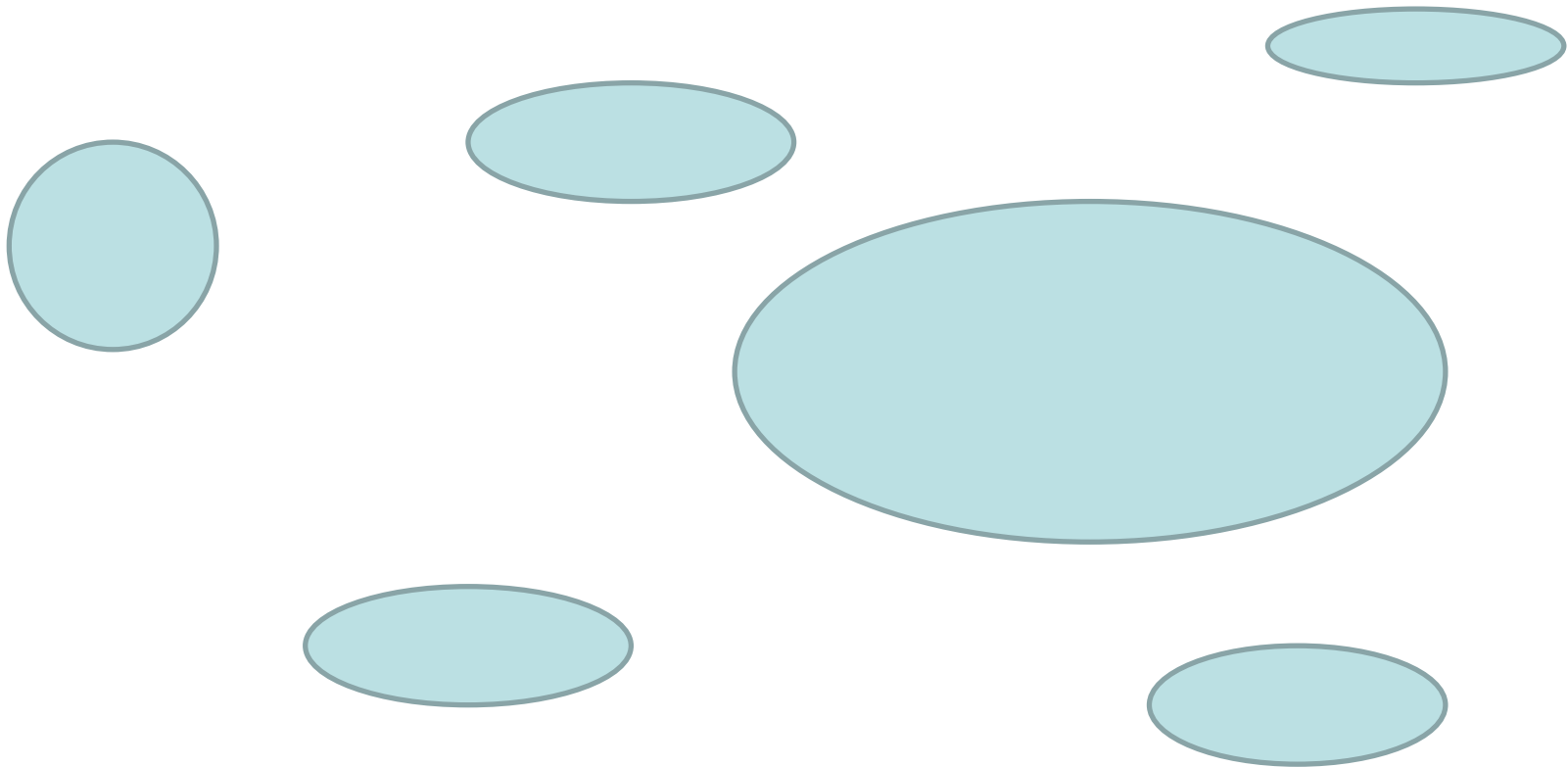
However,

Given Africa's population and urbanization growth challenges, much of the current focus should equally be on opportunities that urbanization can offer for structural transformation

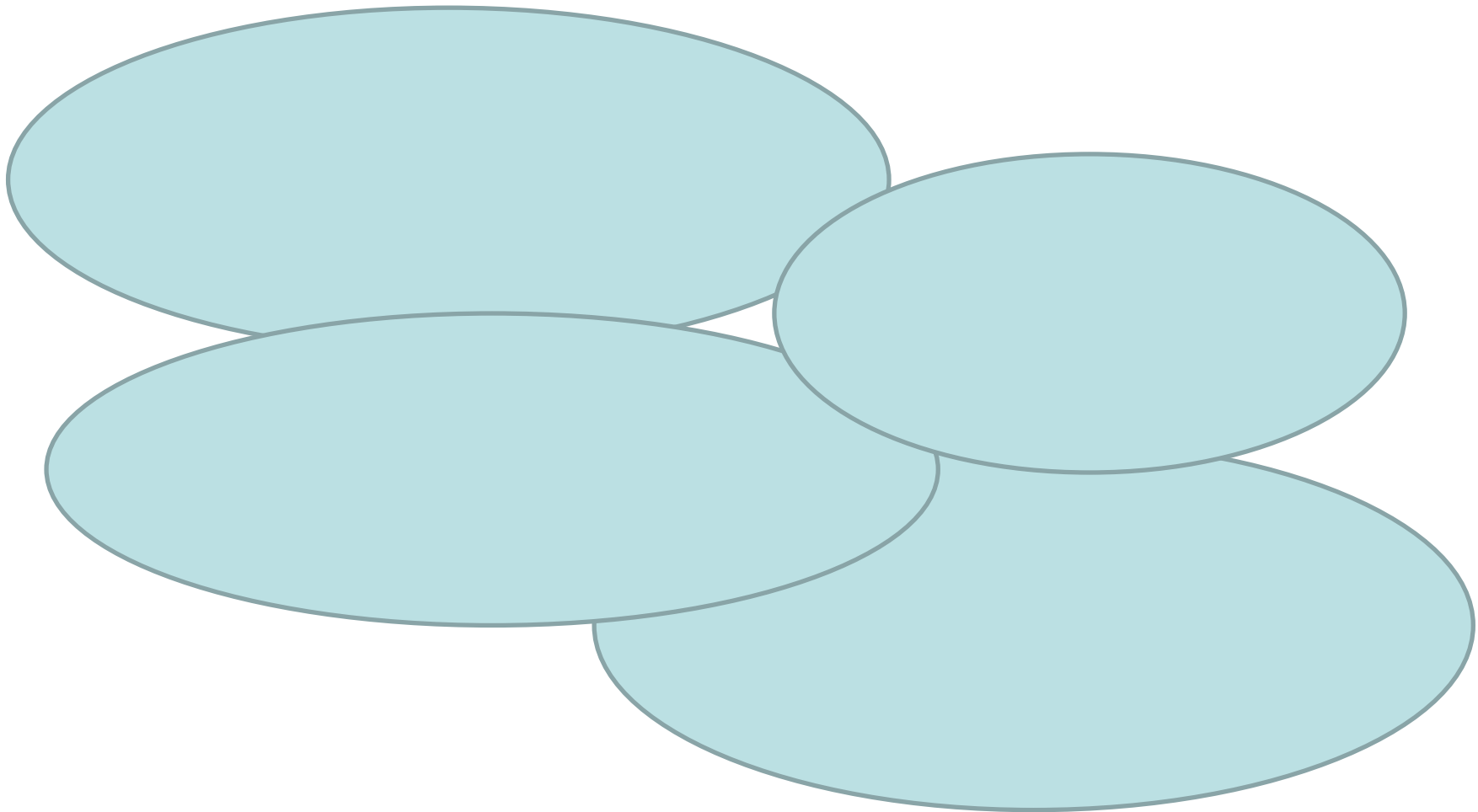
Monocentric Development



Polycentric Development



Regional integration through a nexus between cities and satellite towns =Megacities



Quick Facts

Currently, the continent has **seven megacities**:

Cairo,

Kinshasa,

Lagos,

Accra,

Johannesburg–Pretoria,

Khartoum, and Nairobi.

Intermediary cities

- **Importantly,**
- it is clear that the growth of small and medium cities, some of which were previously not designated 'urban', will be the major contributors to higher levels of urbanization

Predictions

The nature of spatial expansion and growth of smaller settlements will significantly influence Africa's urban landscape and its ability to achieve targets associated with the 2030 Agenda set out by the United Nations (UN) and the continent's own vision for Africa in 2063.

Against this backdrop, how do we then plan ahead and proactively meet these goals?

Lets Explore...

Infrastructural Advancements

- High speed rail,
- increase of road access,
- Effective and reliable electricity supply,
- Invest and innovation in our existing ports,
- increased broadband coverage

Functional Local governments

- Service delivery
- sufficient and efficient public amenities

Continues...

Intensify cross boarder Linkages

-Rural to Town

-Town to Town

-Town-City

-City to City

-Province to Province

**MOVE AWAY FROM DEVELOPMENT IN SILOS
AND PROMOTE ECONOMIC INCLUSIVITY**

Continues....

Invest in existing sectors (Expand export Base)

-Manufacturing

-Mining

-Agriculture

-Tourism

Invest in technology +
communication

Continues...

Promote and align

-Special Economic Zones; SEZs

(Malutim –A- Phofung, OR Tambo, Musina/Makhado)

-Industrial Development Zones; IDZs

(Coega, East London, Dube Trade port, RBAY etc.)

Continues...

Land reform

- Land use management planning
 - Urban revitalization
- Township revitalization programmes
 - Rural development

INDUSTRIALIZATION is IMPORTANT for
any developmental economy

Continues...

Alignment of Growth and spatial plans

- NDP/NSDF (Draft)
- PGDS/PSDF (Not SPLUMA compliant)
- DGDP/DSDF
- IDP/SDF

(MUST BE SPLUMA COMPLIANT)

Conclusion

urbanization

in Africa, and particularly South Africa, if well managed, can act as a catalyst to improve the local, regional, and national growth of a country, but if not, it may very well open Pandora's box to many societal ills we cannot afford

- THANK YOU 😊