

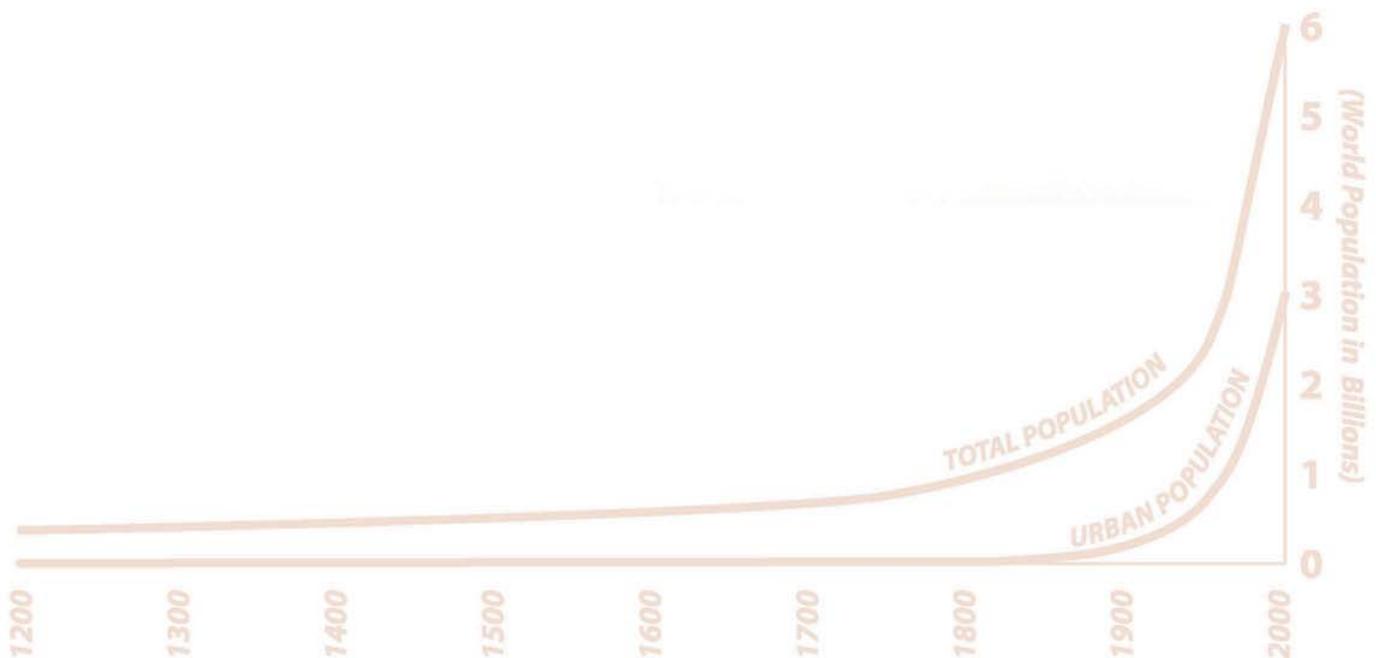
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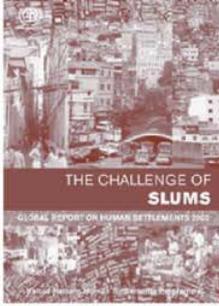
THE CHALLENGE OF SLUMS



Do's and Don'ts of Slum Policy

Do	Don't
Promote good urban governance systems	Assume that slums will disappear automatically with economic growth
Establish enabling institutional frameworks involving all partners	Underestimate the role of local authorities, landowners, community leaders and residents
Implement and monitor pro-poor city development strategies	Separate upgrading from investment planning and urban management
Encourage initiatives of slum-dwellers and recognize the role of women	Ignore the specific needs and contributions of women and vulnerable groups
Ensure secure tenure, consolidate occupancy rights and regularize informal settlements	Carry out unlawful forced evictions
Involve tenants and owners in finding solutions prioritising collective interests	Discriminate against rental housing or promote a single tenure option
Adopt an incremental approach to upgrading	Impose unrealistic standards and regulations
Associate municipal finance, cross-subsidies and beneficiary contributions to ensure financial viability	Rely on governmental subsidies or on full-cost recovery from slum-dwellers
Design and negotiate relocation plans only when absolutely necessary	Invest public resources in massive social housing schemes
Combine slum upgrading with employment generation and local economic development	Consider slum upgrading solely as a social issue
Develop new urban areas by making land and trunk infrastructure available	Provide unaffordable infrastructure and services





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Indicators and thresholds for defining slums

CHARACTERISTIC	INDICATOR	DEFINITION
1. ACCESS TO WATER	Inadequate drinking water supply: (<i>adjusted MDG Indicator 29</i>)	A settlement has inadequate drinking water supply if less than 50% of households have an improved water supply: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Household connection ▪ Access to public stand pipe ▪ Rain water collection with at least 20 liters/person/days available <i>within an acceptable collection distance</i> .
2. ACCESS TO SANITATION	Inadequate sanitation: (<i>MDG Indicator 30</i>)	A settlement has inadequate sanitation if less than 50% of households have improved sanitation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Public sewer ▪ Septic tank ▪ Pour flush latrine ▪ Ventilated improved pit latrine The excreta disposal system is considered adequate if it is private or shared by a <i>maximum of two households</i> .
3. STRUCTURAL QUALITY OF HOUSING	a. Location	Proportion of households residing on or near a hazardous site. The following locations should be considered: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing in geologically hazardous zones (landslide/earthquake and flood areas); • Housing on or under garbage-mountains; • Housing around high-industrial pollution areas; • Housing around other unprotected high-risk zones, e.g. railroads, airports, energy transmission lines.
	b. Permanency of structure	Proportion of households living in temporary and/or dilapidated structures. The following factors should be considered when placing a housing unit in these categories: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quality of construction (e.g. materials used for wall, floor and roof) • Compliance with local building codes, standards and bye-laws
4. OVERCROWDING	Overcrowding	Proportion of households with more than two persons per room. The alternative is to set a minimum standard for floor area per person (e.g. 5 square metres)
5. SECURITY OF TENURE	Security of tenure (<i>MDG Indicator 31</i>)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proportion of households with formal title deeds to both land and residence • Proportion of households with formal title deeds to either one of land or residence • Proportion of households with enforceable agreements or any document as a proof of a tenure arrangement.

Source: UN-Habitat

