

The word on the street: city viewpoints

Look at these different viewpoints and perspectives about cities and urbanisation. How might you use them? We've left some spaces for you to find your own.

"The growth of cities will be the single largest influence on development in the 21st century."

UNFPA's State of World Population, 1996

Cities are the engines of rural development in an environment of strong urban-rural linkages. Improved infrastructure between rural areas and cities increases rural productivity and enhances rural residents' access to education, health care, markets, credit, information, and other services. On the other hand, enhanced urban-rural linkages benefit cities through increased rural demand for urban goods and services and added value derived from agricultural produce.

State of the World Cities 2006

"As entry points to and from the global community, cities are the spaces where the country meets the rest of the world..."

SACN, State of the Cities Report, 2006

"Running the poor out of town" through evictions or discriminatory practices is not the answer. Helping the urban poor to integrate into the fabric of urban society is the only long-lasting and sustainable solution to the growing urbanization of poverty.

State of World Population, 2007

It is particularly ironic that the battle to save the world's remaining healthy ecosystems will be won or lost not in tropical forests or coral reefs that are threatened but on the streets of the most unnatural landscapes on the planet.

State of World Population, 2007
