



Urbanisation and the Global Development Agenda

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One billion urban
dwellers in informal
settlements

Why has urbanisation not been on the Global Development Agenda?

- ▶ My Institute set up an urban research group in 1977
- ▶ Obvious pressing issues then: rapid growth of cities without infrastructure provision....
- ▶ Innovation in 1970s: slum upgrading, provision for water and sanitation.....
 - But urban agenda forgotten in 1980s and 1990s
 - Most aid agencies with no urban policy
 - Only in last few years has urban got serious attention

New interest in urbanisation

- ▶ World Bank's 2009 World Development Report
- ▶ MDGs ...significantly improving lives of slum dwellers
- ▶ IFRC: disasters and urban areas in 2010
- ▶ UN-Habitat's global reports
- ▶ Preparations for Habitat III in 2016
- ▶ High Level panel; battle for the planet

2014: urbanisation being considered by: humanitarian agencies, health and foreign policy specialists, demographers, aid agencies, minority rights, maternal health.....



Third Global Report on Local Democracy
and Decentralization



Basic Services for All in an Urbanizing World



**GOLD III
2014**



CLIMATE CHANGE 2014: IMPACTS, ADAPTATION, AND VULNERABILITY

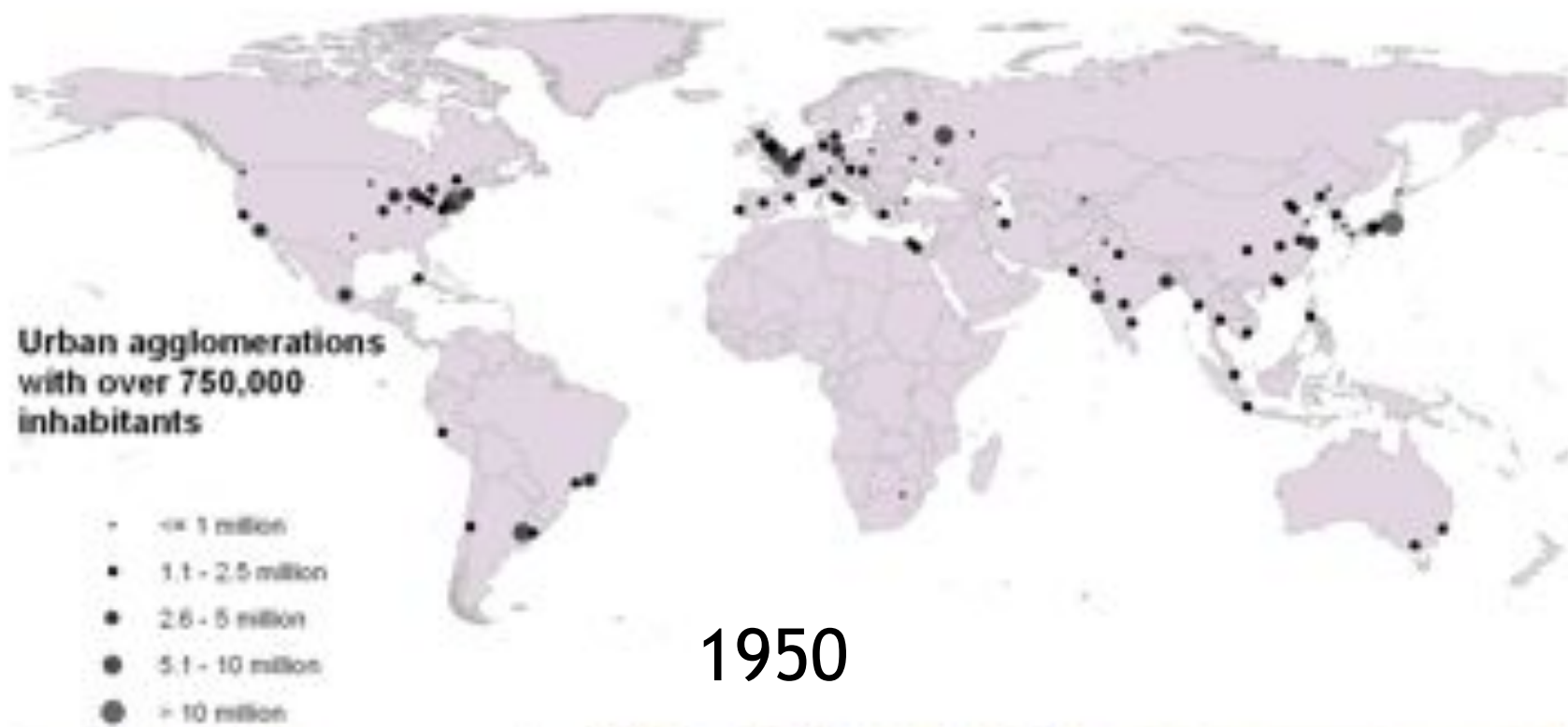
IPCC: Detailed chapters on urban areas in relation both to adaptation and mitigation

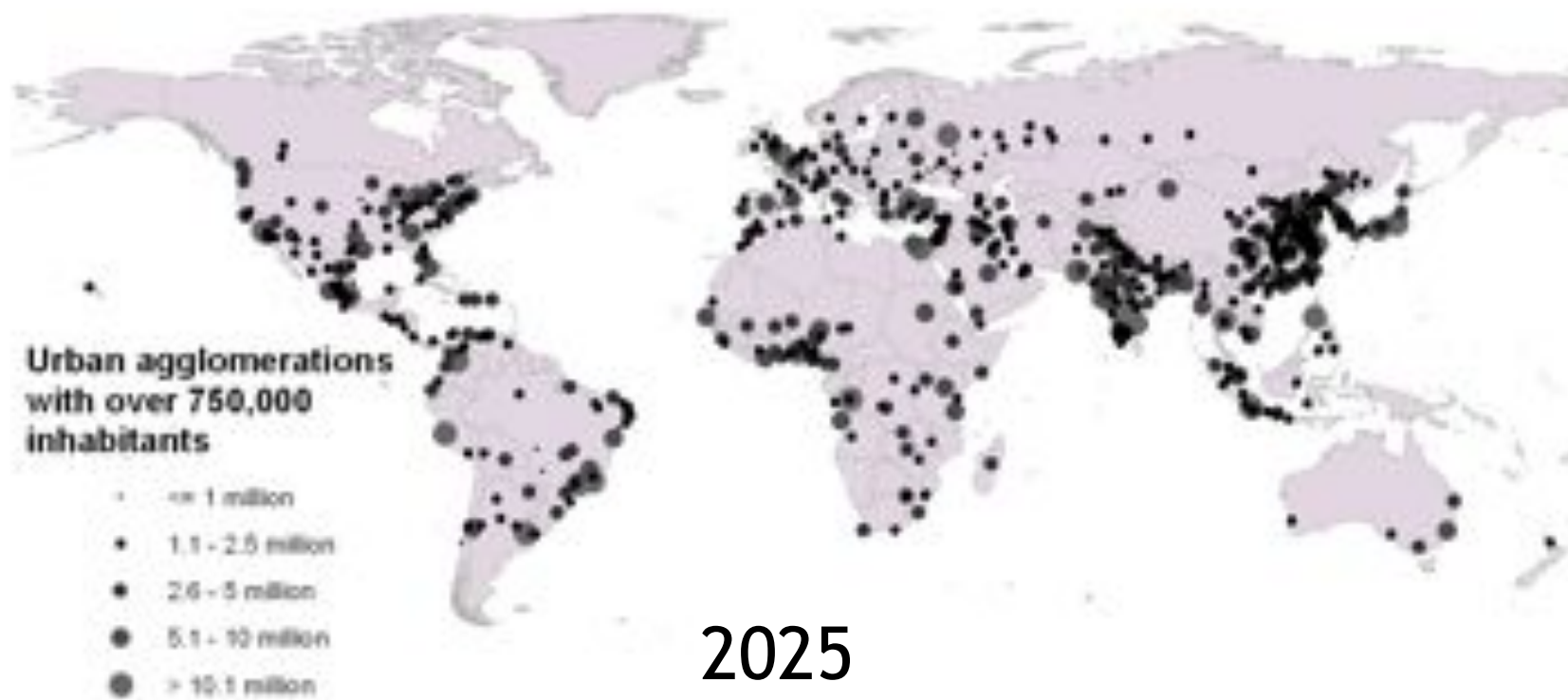


Focus on urbanisation often as ‘a problem’

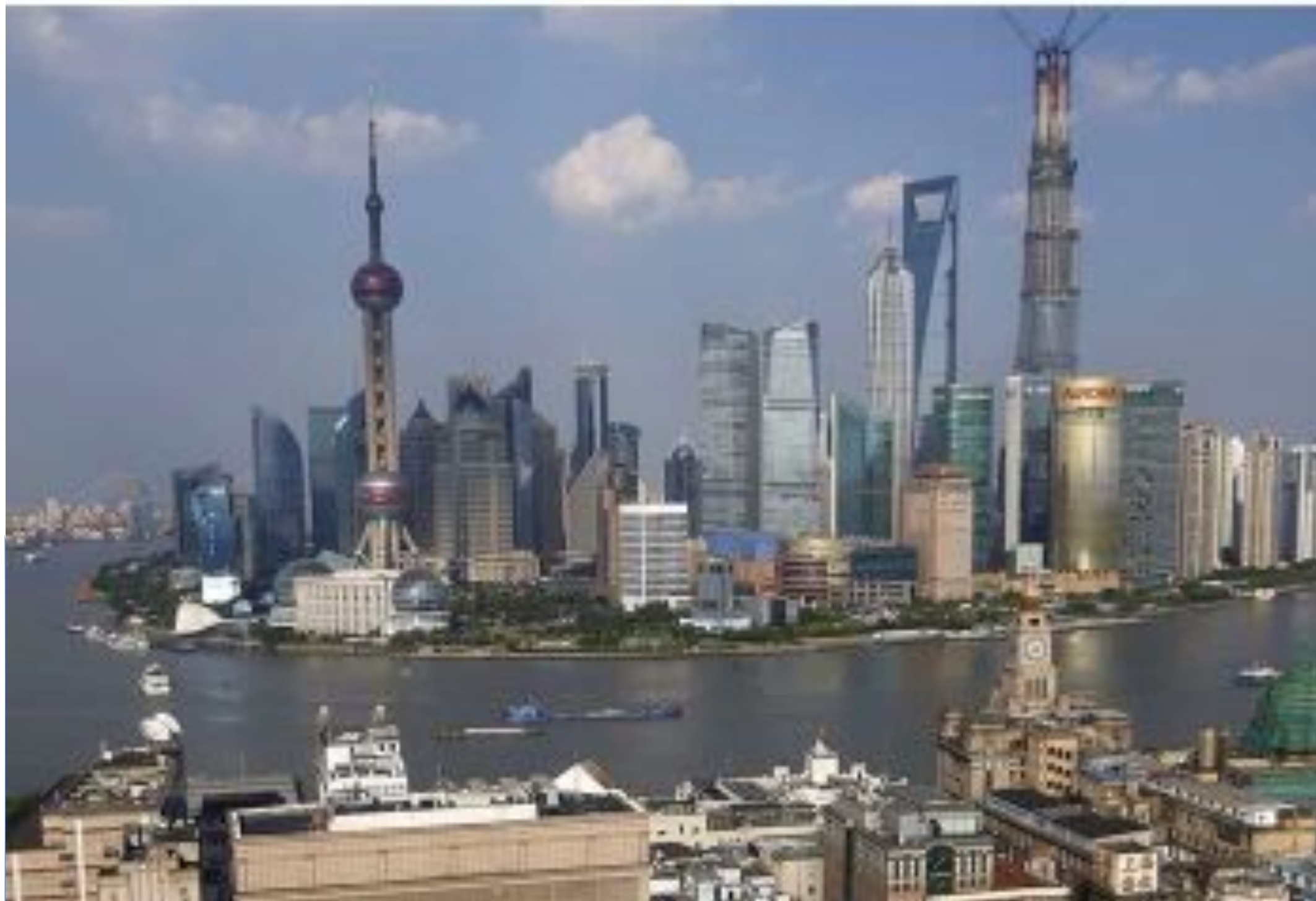
- ▶ BUT: Urban areas have more than half the world's population & most of its most healthy citizens
 - ▶ *3/5^{ths} of its economically-active population & over 90% of its GDP*
 - ▶ Most new investments, jobs and innovations
 - ▶ *Incredible concentrations of culture, historic heritage, social, economic & political innovation, new ideas, fun.....*

Cities' large potential to sustain high living standards with smaller ecological footprints









Urbanisation and the SDGs

Great on commitments

- ▶ *Universal provision for water, sanitation, health care, schooling, safe affordable housing... adequate food....*

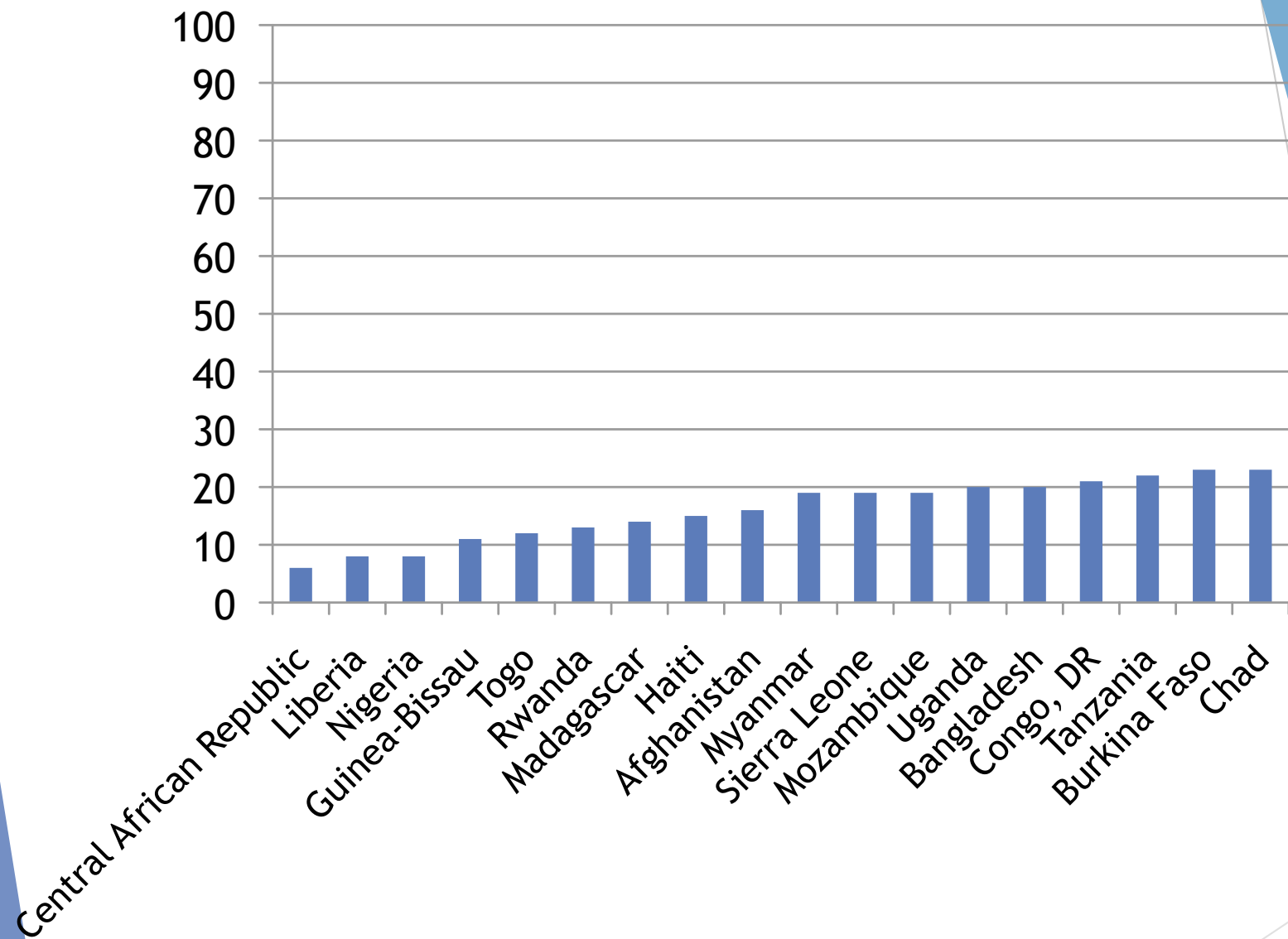
Recognize urban contexts need attention

- ▶ *Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable*
- ▶ *by 2030 enhance ...capacities for participatory, integrated and sustainable planning and management*

Radical agenda for development and environment

- ▶ *Leave no-one behind, avoid dangerous climate change*

- But little attention to how, by whom and with what funding
- Failure to recognize how fundamental local and regional governments are to achieving most goals

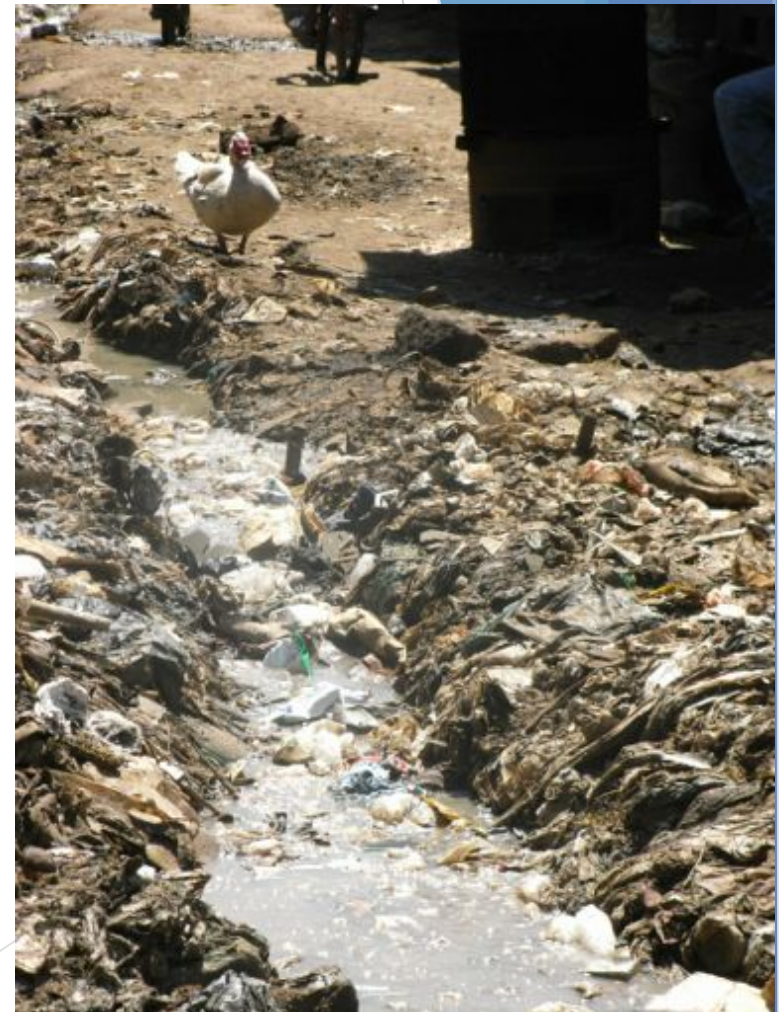


INFRASTRUCTURE DEFICIT: % of the urban population with water piped to premises (2010)

INFRASTRUCTURE DEFICIT 2:

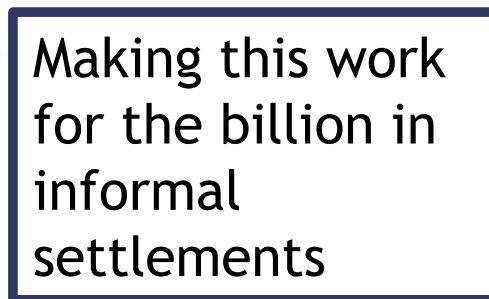
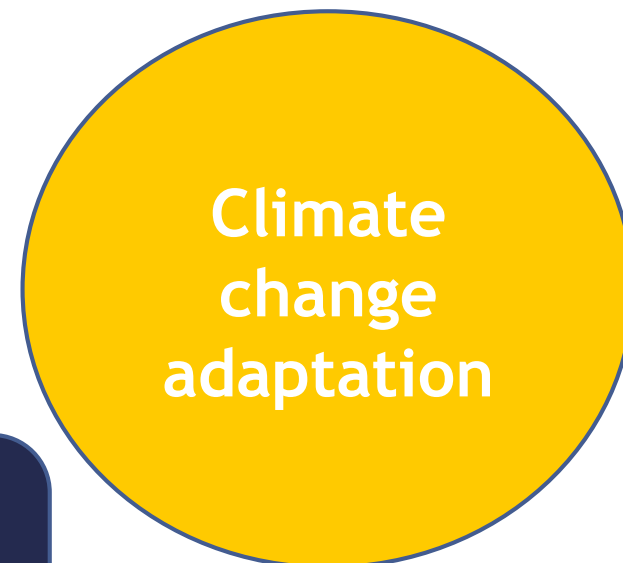
- * Most urban centres in sub-Saharan Africa and much of Asia with hardly any or no sewers or covered drains

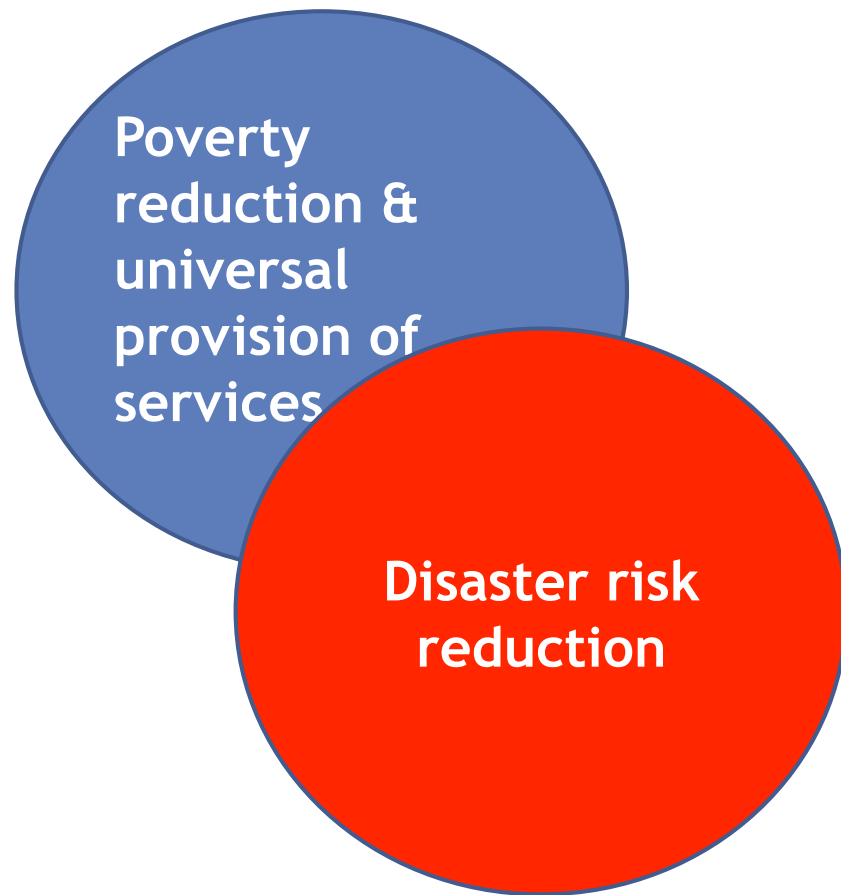
Addis Ababa, Bamako, Benin, Brazzaville, Dar es Salaam, Douala, Freetown, Ibadan, Kaduna, Kinshasa, Kumasi, Lagos; Lubumbashi, Maiduguri, Mbuji-Mayi, Port Harcourt, Yaounde, Zaria.....



How to meet SDGs in urban areas

- ▶ Recognize key role of local government
 - ▶ *inadequate support they get from national governments and international agencies*
- ▶ Recognize the innovation in urban areas
 - ▶ *Local government-led routes*
 - ▶ *civil society led routes*
 - ▶ *Where multi-level governance works*
- ▶ Recognize the agglomeration economies urban centres provide for health, well-being, lower carbon footprints if.....



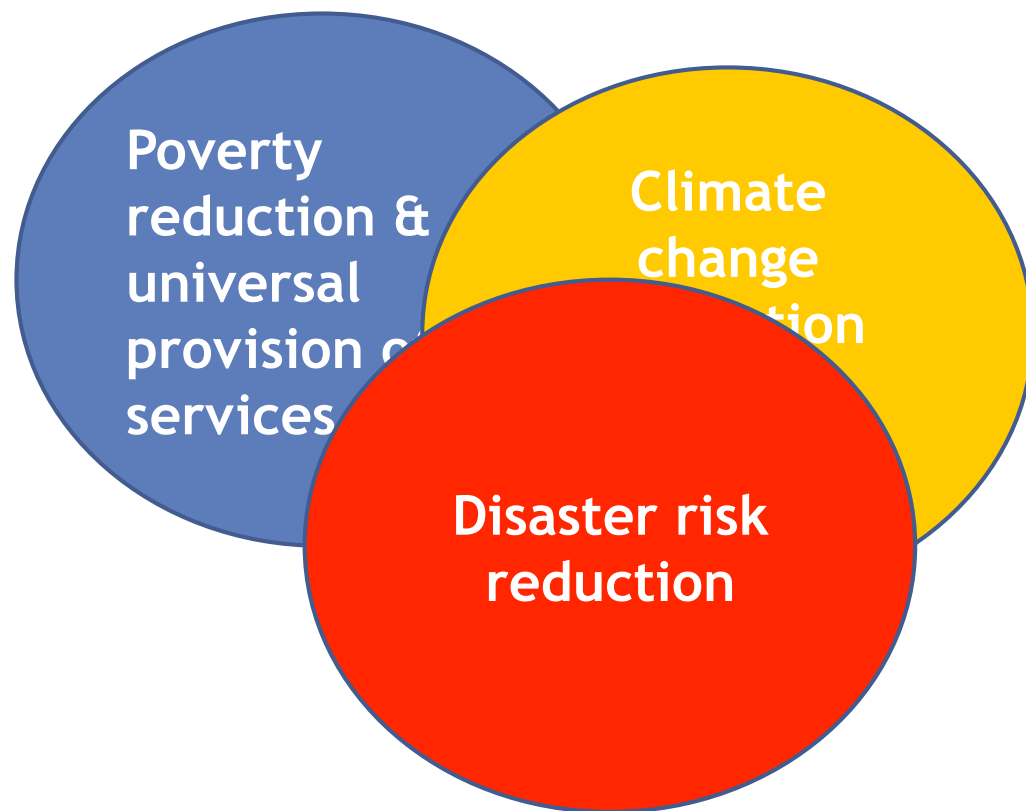


Large overlaps in addressing risks, especially in low- & lower-middle income nations

Some overlaps in what provides resilience

- *For low-income households*
- *For cities*

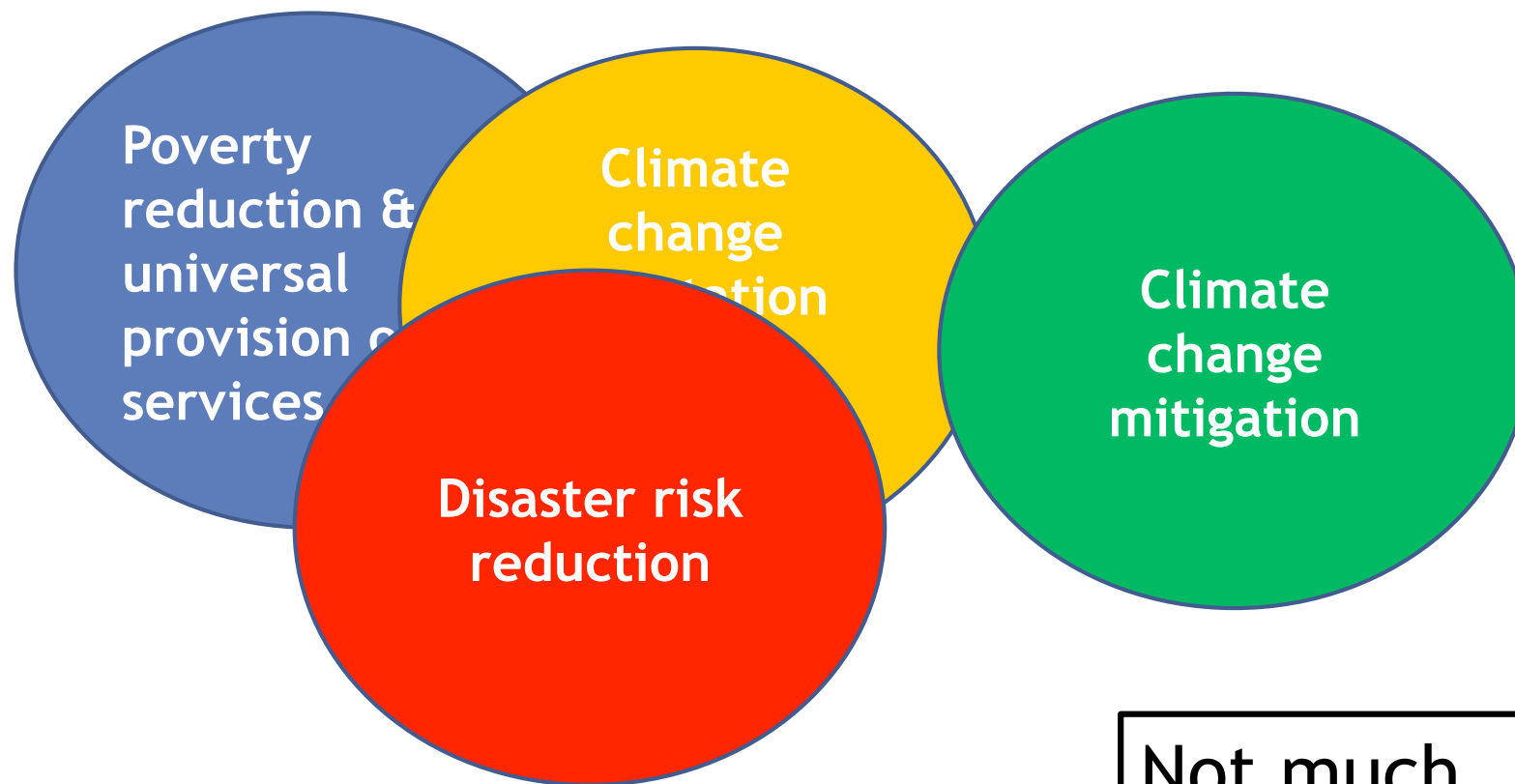
The urban agendas



Large overlaps
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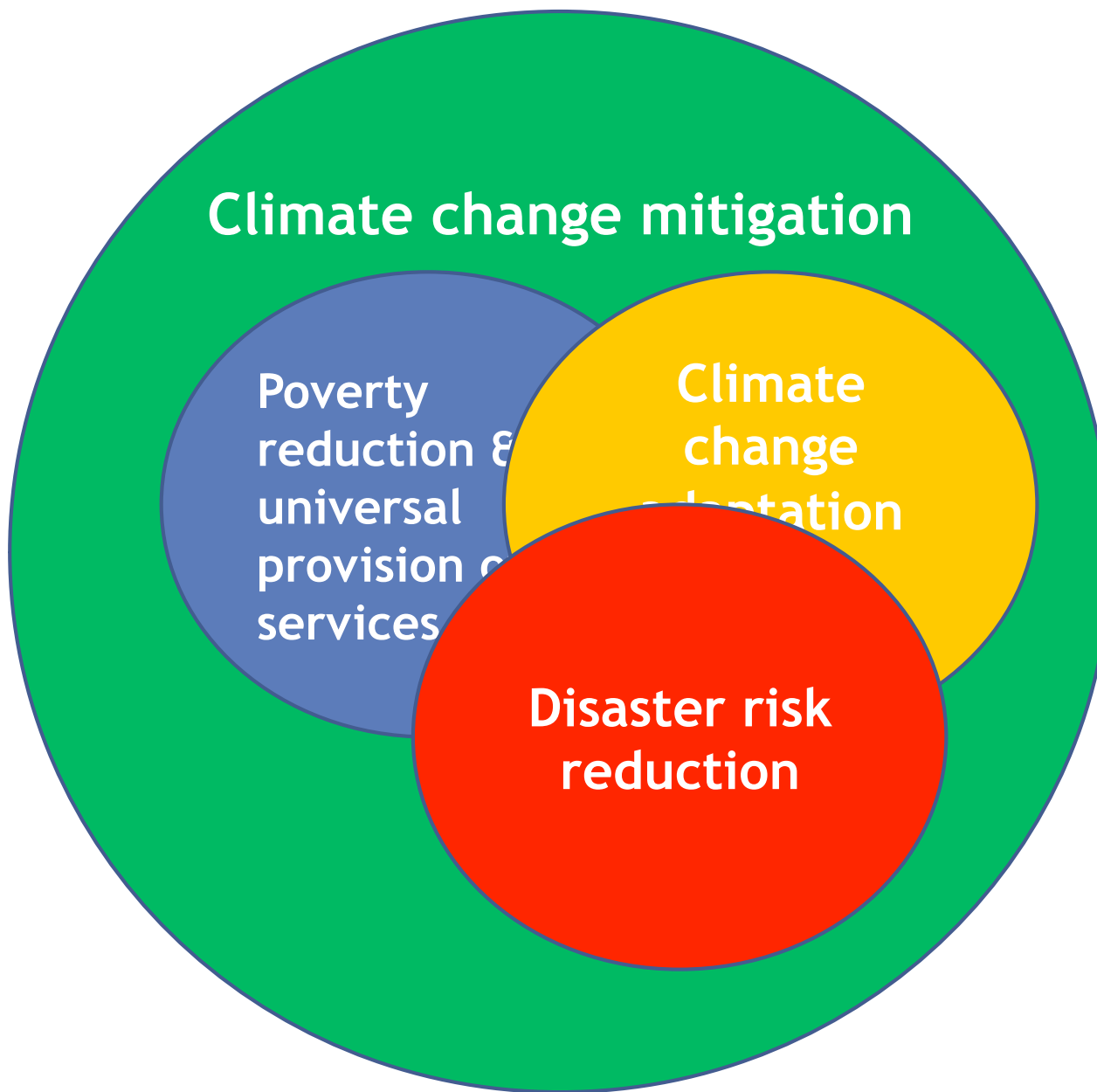
Importance of local
citizen/civil society
pressure &
organization

The urban agendas



Not much
overlap with
climate change
mitigation

The urban agendas



- BUT in long-term 'dangerous' climate change has profound influence on the other three
- Date when even strong adaptation cannot keep down risks without mitigation
- **Transformative adaptation**

The urban agendas

Recognize, celebrate and learn from innovative cities

- *Rosario*
- *Durban*
- *Iloilo, Surat, Manizales.....*
- *Freiburg, Copenhagen.....*
 - *(all the above also working on city-region issues)*
- *Partnerships between local governments and slum/shack/homeless people's federations*
- *New models of decentralized development finance that support these*

....and to dream

- ▶ Local governments taking the initiative in the post 2015 SDGs
 - *Make their SDG commitments and targets*
 - *Get full recognition from national governments*
 - *Local governments represented in setting post-2015 SDGs and in COPs?*