

Implementing the Rapid
Planning Toolkit in your city

01



**Writing a Charter for
Your Growing City**

Step 1

Key Concepts



THE
KING'S
FOUNDATION

Rapid Planning Toolkit
for Urban Expansion

STEP 1

Writing a Charter



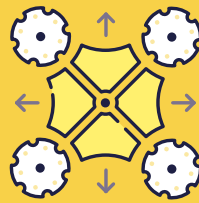
1A Making the case for the 'Rapid Plan'

1B The Charter workshop

1C Consulting the public on the Charter

STEP 2

Creating a Plan for Growth



2A Preliminary mapping

2B Creating a Rapid Growth Plan

2C Structuring the growth areas

STEP 3

Implementing the Plan



3A Identifying landowners & occupants

3B Finalising the plan

3C Demarcating the plan on the ground

STEP 4

Building the Neighbourhoods



4A Preparing for the workshops

4B Neighbourhood workshop

4C Concept designs workshop

STEP 1

Writing a Charter for Growth



Step 1 is a call to rapid action and will help you to foster collaboration amongst a range of stakeholders to create a critical guide for how you will accommodate expected population growth whilst improving the lives of residents.

At the end of Step 1 you will have a **City Growth Charter** that is shared and endorsed by the community, stakeholders and collaborators.

1A

Making the case for the Rapid Plan

- Gain an understanding of your city and its future growth,
- Establish and communicate the need for a Rapid Plan,
- Prepare an plan to implement the Rapid Planning Toolkit and allocate resources.

1B

WORKSHOP

Running the Charter Workshop

- Engage with stakeholders representing various communities, authorities and sectors,
- Create a draft City Growth Charter - a vision for how your City will adapt and grow.

1C

Consulting the public on the Charter

- Publicise the draft City Growth Charter,
- Review feedback on the Charter,
- Finalise the City Growth Charter which will serve as the reference point for stakeholders throughout the development process.

Step 1

Key Concepts

Introduction & Aims

The Key Concepts section provides some additional information that may help you to implement the activities and tasks in Step 1 of the Rapid Planning Toolkit.

You can revisit these topics at any point during implementation.

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References and further reading

Key Concepts

Section i

Section i

Understanding planning

Fundamentally, planning is about managing and protecting land. It can encompass many activities, which may differ depending on your context, but usually will involve authorities coordinating and regulating all development in the area, in the interests of wider city objectives.

Whilst planning can at times be complex, it is essential to have a basic understanding of its importance to be able to act quickly to address rapid urbanisation.

This section will help you to:

- Describe why planning is important,
- Understand the different levels of legal frameworks related to urban planning.

This section has two parts:

1. Why urban planning is important
2. Understanding planning frameworks

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Step 1 Key Concepts - Section i - **Part 1**

Why urban planning is important

Planning is necessary to organise the infrastructure and systems of an urban area to be efficient and effective for all its residents, businesses and visitors. Effective planning can help to address cross-cutting issues such as the climate emergency, rapid urbanisation, biodiversity loss, pandemics and disasters.

Cities and urban settlements must plan to implement infrastructure projects, deliver utilities and services, create transport systems and develop land efficiently. Without planning, cities can become chaotic, unsustainable and expensive to live in.



Image: Stakeholders participating in a planning exercise

How can planning help?

Spatial mapping

Planning involves understanding the urban area spatially, through maps and plans that illustrate how the many functions and layers of the city take place and interact, above and below ground.

Coordinating sectors

Urban planning is often seen as a coordinating role that draws together many professions and groups such as architects, surveyors, politicians, scientists, the private sector and the community.

Improving infrastructure

Development of any individual site will place demands on the city or municipality's services - requiring utility provision, affecting transport routes and producing waste that needs to be removed and processed. Planning is needed to monitor the demands that will be placed on services as a result of growth.

Increasing the capacity of infrastructure, including roads and utilities, is a necessary step that must take place before development. This is vital to be able to deliver power, water and sanitation to all residents, and ensure connectivity within the urban area. To add or improve services after development has already taken place can be very complex and costly.

Accommodating growth

If there is no city plan, much of the development taking place will be reactionary, responding to events as they happen. This can cause volatility in the supply and demand for housing and services.

The role of an urban plan is to anticipate changes that will take place in the future in order to proactively prepare and accommodate these changes. If a city is able to anticipate a sudden and significant growth in its population, it can plan to increase capacity and ensure that housing and living costs remain affordable and that roads, utilities and other infrastructure can meet growing needs.

Increasing resilience

Planning plays an essential role in mitigating the effects of drought, floods, sea-level rises and other threats as a result of climate change. A forward-thinking approach is necessary to build resilience for a city.

Planning is needed to ensure sure that sites that are ecologically sensitive or unsuitable for development are conserved, and that solutions to emerging threats are considered, funded and implemented before there is a risk to the population.

Decreasing inequality & poverty

The poorest often suffer the most from the consequences of poorly planned cities, as they have little resources to be able to invest in the long-term future of their communities themselves.

For communities that lack basic services in their homes, it can be costly and time-consuming to find alternatives, as well as a serious threat to health. Planning can alleviate extreme inequality and poverty by ensuring a minimum quality of life by providing access to essential services, as well as making housing and transport affordable.

Reflection questions

- Can you identify where planning has created positive change in your city or country?
- Can you think of any examples where a lack of planning is evident? What are the consequences of this?

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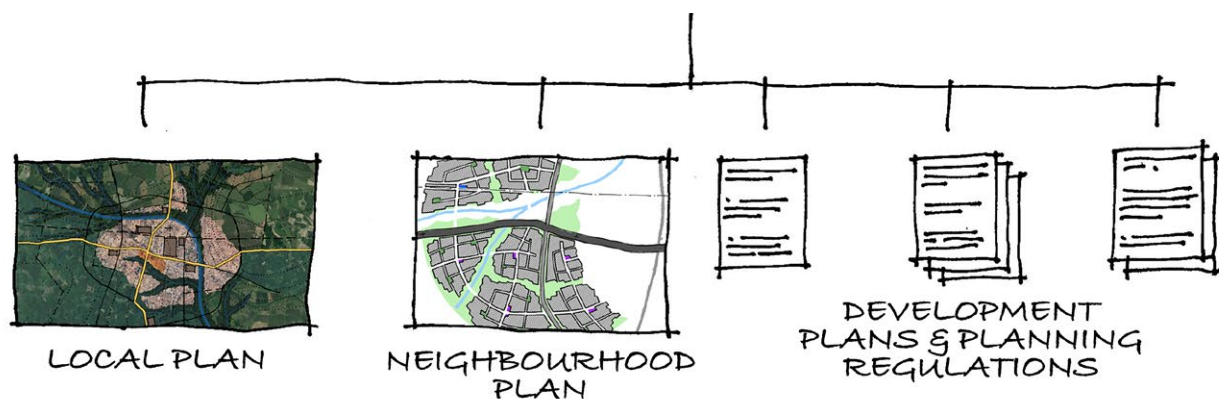
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Step 1 Key Concepts - Section i - Part 2

Understanding planning frameworks

Planning happens at many different scales, by various parties and authorities, and can be implemented using a number of different documents, tools and legislations. Depending on your town, region and country, there may be multiple planning frameworks that outline legal requirements with which developers must comply, or guidelines that suggest best practice.

Planning frameworks will be different in each country, region and city. To implement the Rapid Planning Toolkit you will need to be familiar with the planning context of your location.



Planning frameworks and legislation will apply to different areas and at different scales, meaning not all will be relevant and applicable.

Nevertheless you will need to understand what documentation exists to assess how the Rapid Planning Toolkit process can build on established planning objectives in your region. In Step 1A, you will undertake a task to research and assess relevant planning frameworks. This information could be presented in the form of objectives, policies, maps and illustrative plans.

The Rapid Planning Toolkit affects planning at the city-wide, district / neighborhoods and building scale, but may be able to support objectives of national and regional planning too.

International goals and objectives

These are policies, charters and commitments to global objectives that your country may have signed up to.

Examples of international frameworks that may be relevant to urban planning for sustainable cities include:

- United Nation's Vision 2030 Sustainable Development Goals
- Commonwealth Heads of Government Declaration on Sustainable Urbanisation

National frameworks

These frameworks will be adopted by the national government or national bodies and institutions.

National frameworks will reflect the broad objectives and strategies for the development of the entire country. This may be in the form of a Vision 2030 or a plan for economic growth and development.

These may consider the role of particular cities and regions as part of a bigger plan, and can be useful to channel the country's resources to particular areas for development.

Understanding national objectives may help you make the case for implementing the Toolkit by supporting some of the strategic goals for your country's growth, development and advancement.

Regional frameworks

These frameworks would be adopted by regional authorities such as a borough or county council, or an agglomeration of nearby cities.

In many cases, it is useful to see what policies are implemented as part of a wider strategy and how other cities close to you are planning for the future. It is especially useful to establish regional connections if your city is already expanding beyond its administrative city boundary.

The regional plans may also be used to designate larger sites for conservation and protection, and identify strategic development opportunities and challenges.

City / local frameworks

Local plans will provide more insight into the appropriate use and development of your city's neighbourhoods.

These may dictate the possible land uses for certain sites, and can be used to ensure the appropriate provision of services for the community. These frameworks would be adopted by a local council or mayor.

It is important to have good knowledge of these city or local frameworks, plans and policies as they may be able to provide a large amount of information to develop a Rapid Growth Plan in Step 2.

District / neighbourhood frameworks

A district or neighbourhood plan may be adopted by local councils, but could equally be created by developers, landowners or community organisations, to define the character and quality of a specific local area.

This type of documentation should be reviewed and consulted in advance of Step 2 of the Rapid Planning Toolkit's in which you will develop a Rapid Plan and Key Fixes Plan.

Building frameworks and regulations

Building regulations and codes are often legal requirements that are adopted on a national scale to ensure that buildings are safe and that habitable buildings are appropriate for use.

There may also be design codes or guideline documents that may indicate the character, aesthetic or material quality of buildings in particular areas.

It is important that you are aware of these regulations and guidelines ahead of Step 4, which involves developing building types.

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Section ii

Section ii

Participatory planning

Planning for the consequences of rapid growth of our cities needs to involve those who live, use and are involved in the city, understand how it works and its unique strengths, weaknesses and opportunities.

In the Rapid Planning Toolkit, you will be required to identify your stakeholders in Step 1A and engage with them in Step 1B and 1C.

This section of the Key Concepts will provide background information about involving stakeholders in the process of planning.

Completing this section should help you to:

- Explain the benefit of participatory planning compared to planning in isolated teams,
- Describe what is meant by 'stakeholders',
- List some examples of stakeholders that you may wish to involve or consult as you implement the Rapid Planning Toolkit.

This section has three parts:

1. What is a 'stakeholder'?
2. Making your process inclusive

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Step 2 Key Concepts - Section ii - **Part 1**

What is a 'stakeholder'?

Throughout the Rapid Planning Toolkit, we refer to 'stakeholders' who need to be engaged in the process of creating and implementing a plan for growth. These stakeholders could be anyone with a legitimate interest in your city plan, whether they are citizens and community members or professionals, specialists and authorities. You might like to think of them as those that may have a 'stake' in the process or its outcomes.



Image: Stakeholders that took part in a Rapid Planning Toolkit workshop in Bo, Sierra Leone

Why involve stakeholders?

Collaborative planning and a shared understanding of the issues will facilitate a vision that responds to local concerns and aspirations, whilst preparing people for change.

Some stakeholders will actively contribute to a project - they may be able to provide key information or offer crucial support to enable the delivery or implementation of a project. Other stakeholders may be affected by a project, and have to live with the outcomes and any consequences.

Therefore, it is necessary to identify and engage stakeholders from the start of any planning process, to ensure the outcomes will be fit for purpose.

Which stakeholders should be involved?

In Step 1A, you will undertake a stakeholder mapping task and prepare a plan to consult them. Although your stakeholders will be specific to the needs of your city, you should consider the following stakeholder groups and whether they need to be involved:

At the technical level, stakeholders include built environment professionals such as planners, architects, and engineers. There is also the political dimension, as strong leadership and management are needed at all levels.

Consider stakeholder representation from the following groups:

- People with specialist knowledge or expertise
- Local authority and government figures
- Political advisors and decision-makers
- Built environment professionals
- Specialist interest experts in environment, conservation, heritage etc.

Community members who live or work in the city or affected area will be affected by the consequences of planning decisions. However, they are not always included, and this creates tension between decision makers and communities, often resulting in facilities and infrastructure projects that are ineffective, inappropriate or don't meet their needs.

Consider stakeholder representation from the following groups:

- Community and neighbourhood representatives
- Tenants and residents (including informal tenants)
- Minority groups, which could include women, youth, the elderly, people with disabilities, ethnic, native or indigenous populations
- Community service providers such as teachers, educators and healthcare providers
- Public service operators such as public transportation, mail and waste services.
- Religious and local political leaders
- Investors and the private sector groups
- Businesses and workers that may live outside the city

Reflection questions

- To your knowledge, what level of stakeholder engagement takes place in your city as standard practice?
- As a citizen, how informed and engaged are you when it comes to planning development in your city?

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Step 2 Key Concepts - Section ii - **Part 2**

What is inclusivity?

In Step 1, you will need to engage with a variety of stakeholders representing the diversity of your city's population. To ensure you get the necessary participation from these individuals, you may need to consider how you can make the participation in the process inclusive.



Making your process inclusive

Ensuring an inclusive process means that access is as easy for any one disadvantaged person as it is for the most advantaged. This means that those that need the most help to participate may need to be given greater resources or consideration.

Here are some suggestions to make your planning process inclusive.

Access to documents and information

- Provide key information in digital and print format.
- Provide key information in multiple languages where needed.
- Provide audio recordings or deliver messages in person for the visually impaired or those unable to read.
- Provide opportunities for comments and responses from wider audiences where appropriate.

Communications

- Use a variety of media tools to reach different demographics or community groups.
- Use language that is clear, understandable and receptive, and is appropriate for the audience.

Venue considerations

- Try to choose a venue that all stakeholders will feel comfortable when visiting, for example a town hall or community building rather than a private venue.



Images: Community members participating in a public engagement activity

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Image: Participants at a workshop for women in Bangladesh

- Ensure the venue is in a location that isn't too far to reach for all the stakeholders. If your stakeholders are coming from lots of different parts of the city you may want to think about offering to support public transport costs or holding workshops in a variety of locations.
- Consider step-free access routes and entry to all venues used for consultation.
- Ensure spaces can accommodate wheelchair users and people with prams.
- Ensure accessible restrooms and baby-changing facilities.

Engagement

- Ensure the safety, security and comfort of participants when consulting them in-person. It is important that they feel able to speak freely without judgement.
- Make sure that participants feel their opinion is valid and important, as some people may be hesitant to offer their comments unless specifically invited to do so.
- Consider whether it is appropriate to group participants into separate events or meetings (e.g. a separate event for women only) if that makes it more comfortable for people to partake in the process.

- Be aware of different levels of education and understanding, which may require different communication approaches, and never be dismissive of a participant's point of view.

For more information about developing inclusive participation processes, the Architecture Sans Frontières UK website has a page containing a range of resources aimed at improving participation. Visit the [Participate page](http://www.asfparticipate.org/)¹ to explore some of these.

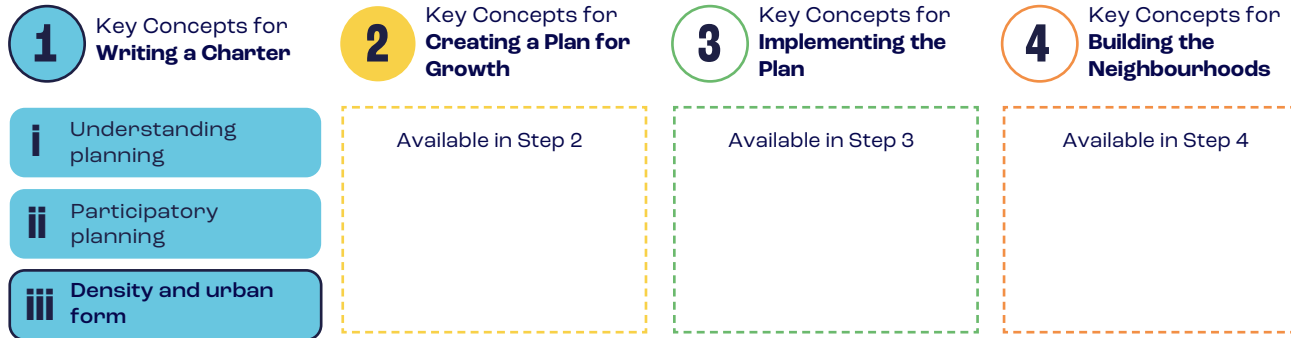
Reflection questions

- What would be an example of a decision made at the city level that wasn't very inclusive?
- What would be an example of a decision made at the city level that **was** inclusive?
- What was the difference in the two approaches, and how could you improve on the process?

References

- ¹ **Architecture Sans Frontières UK**
<http://www.asfparticipate.org/>

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Density and urban form

This final section of the Key Concepts may provide useful background information when projecting your city's expected population growth and the resulting land requirements. Being aware of the concept of urban density will help you to understand the relationship between population growth and the growth of the city's urban extent.

The calculations that you will make in Step 1A are simplified and maintain the existing density of the city. In reality, it is also possible to accommodate a larger population in the existing urban footprint of the city by increasing urban density, through considered planning policy, development and regeneration projects that are specific to the context of your city.

Completing this section should help you to:

- Describe what urban density means,
- Recall how to calculate density,
- Explain the relationship between urban expansion and density,
- Define the multiple factors that affect density.

This section has three parts:

1. What does density look like?
2. Urban forms
3. Density decline and rapid urbanisation

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Step 2 Key Concepts - Section iii - **Part 1**

What does density look like?

Urban density, or population density, is a term used in planning to refer to the number of people populating a given urban area. Density is a useful metric to begin to understand the composition of a city or urban area, and to give an indication of how efficiently land is used.

In Step 1A of the Rapid Planning Toolkit, you will begin by projecting your city's population growth and the land required to accommodate this potential growth. This will determine whether the Rapid Planning Toolkit is an appropriate process for your city to implement.

Density is the key factor in the relationship between population and land. You will need to calculate your city's existing density to be able to project how population growth will impact the requirement for land.

In addition, you may also find it useful to understand the significance of density, and what this figure could indicate.

Calculating urban density

Urban Density = Population / Area

To calculate the urban density of any urban area you need to know two factors: its area and its population.

Defining area

The measurement of area is generally taken as the urbanised area, excluding non-urban land uses such as agricultural land, nature reserves/areas of wilderness, and bodies of water. Streets, urban parks and car parks or other developed lands should be included in the area.

The area should not include additional floor areas of buildings above the ground floor.

In the Rapid Planning Toolkit, we generally measure large areas in hectares, and therefore density will be measured in people per hectare (p/ha). Area could also be measured in square kilometres or square miles, providing you with a density of people per square kilometre or people per square mile.

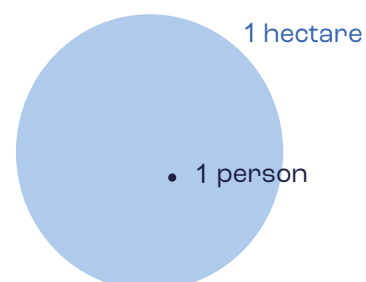
Defining population

The population will normally be based on census data, which usually represents the resident population of the area. Density figures do not take into account visitors, tourists or the working population that resides elsewhere.

It is also quite likely that residents living in informal settlements or undocumented citizens may not be included within official population data. In most situations, this will likely have only a marginal impact on the calculation overall so won't undermine the value of the density metric, but it is important to be aware of this for contexts where these groups are a significant factor.

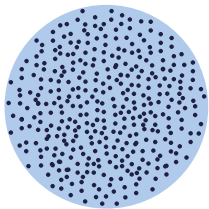
What is density?

The image shows a circle representing an area of 1 hectare. The dot inside this circle represents 1 person. This illustrates a density of 1 person per hectare (1p/ha), or that on average, for each hectare of land, there will be 1 resident.

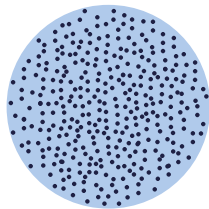


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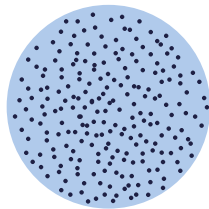
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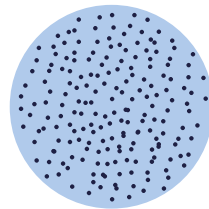
Dhaka,
Bangladesh
372 p/ha



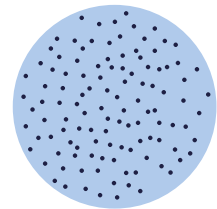
Hong Kong,
Hong Kong SAR
352 p/ha



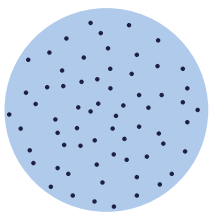
Kinshasa
Democratic Republic
of the Congo
224 p/ha



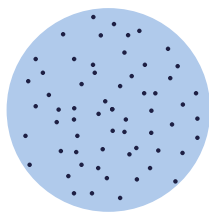
Bogotá,
Colombia
196 p/ha



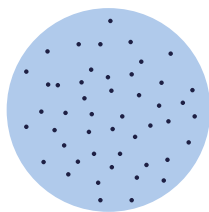
Cairo,
Egypt
115 p/ha



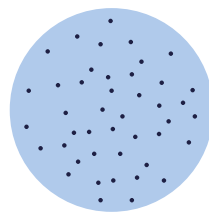
Baku,
Azerbaijan
65 p/ha



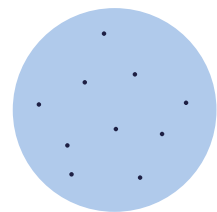
Madrid,
Spain
62 p/ha



Bangkok,
Thailand
48 p/ha



Wuhan,
China
44 p/ha



Minneapolis,
USA
10 p/ha

Data source: NYU Marron Institute of Urban Management

What can density tell you?

Minneapolis, shown here with 10 dots inside the circle, has a density of 10 p/ha (people per hectare). This means that each hectare of land in Minneapolis has, on average, 10 residents.

In contrast, Dhaka is shown to have a density of 372 p/ha, meaning that for each hectare of land in Dhaka, on average there will be 372 people residing there.

Whilst these average city densities can be quite generalised (as this is an average density, there will be areas of the city that have much greater and much lower densities), it can still give a useful overall impression of how land is used, and allow a comparison between different cities.

The order of magnitude in the difference in the densities between Dhaka (372 p/ha) and Minneapolis (10 p/ha) indicates a significant difference in the composition of these two cities.

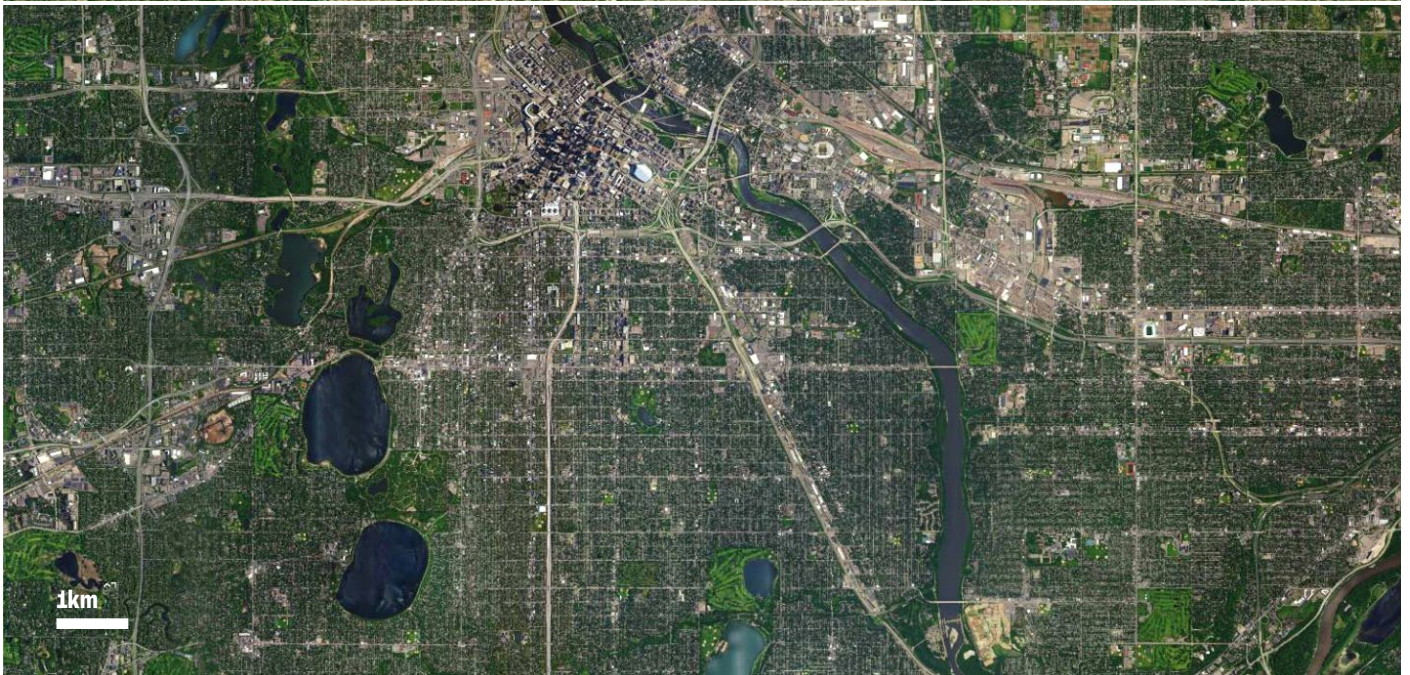
Primarily, it tells us that Dhaka is a much more compact city. The residents of Dhaka may live much closer together than residents of Minneapolis, and Dhaka may have a greater concentration of buildings in order to accommodate this population.

These figures show a more intense use of land in Dhaka, consuming less land per person to accommodate the population and their needs.

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Dhaka: overall density 372 p/ha



Minneapolis: overall density 10 p/ha

Image source: Bing Maps

What doesn't density tell you?

A high urban density for a city does not always signal a large quantity of high-rise buildings. This can be seen in Dhaka which has a density of 372 p/ha but is relatively medium rise throughout the city. Whereas Minneapolis has a high-rise city centre despite an overall density of just 10p/ha. However, Minneapolis has a much larger urban area overall where density is low, whereas Dhaka is a relatively compact city with tightly clustered buildings. In addition, there may be other reasons why urban density on its own may not tell the full story.

Some centres may have a large number of high-rise non-residential buildings – this is particularly common in financial districts or commercial areas that may have a high number of daytime visitors but a low resident population, resulting in a lower urban density overall.

The occupation rate is also an important factor, as there may be a large quantity of vacant residential building units in unaffordable or undesirable areas, resulting in a lower density. Conversely, internal crowding and multiple occupancy can mean that low-rise areas have very high densities. Using other metrics of density, for example 'dwellings per hectare' and 'people per dwelling unit' can provide a more nuanced understanding of a city.

Finally, higher urban density may not always mean 'busier' or 'more crowded' places. Activity levels in an urban area are often the result of the mix of land uses – residential units, but also commercial and retail units and places of work – as well as the ease of access and availability of transport. Good planning of roads, public transport, housing and other uses can ensure the right balance between overcrowded cities and empty, lifeless ones.

The examples of Minneapolis and Dhaka show two extremes of population density - one a low density sprawling city, and the other a very high density compact city.

The [Atlas of Urban Expansion](#)², developed by New York University, analyses population, area and density data for many cities around the world. Here you can compare different city densities.

You can learn more about factors that impact density, and different density metrics by watching this video on [The Anatomy of Density](#)³, part of UN-Habitat's Global Urban Lecture series.

Reflection questions

- What information do you need to find out to calculate the density for your city? How
- What density would you expect for your urban area or city? How does it compare to other similar sized cities?

References

2 **Atlas of Urban Expansion**, <http://atlasofurbanexpansion.org>

3 **UN Habitat Worldwide** (2020) Shlomo Angel - The Anatomy of Density, Available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y99wA1JOOGg>

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Step 1 Key Concepts - Section iii - **Part 2**

Urban forms

Although we use average values, density will vary significantly throughout the city. Many cities and urban areas are made up of a variety of different urban forms, often varying from high densities in the city centre to low densities towards the city edge, although city's urban morphology may depend on a variety of physical and human factors.

High density urban centre

The centre is usually the innermost part of the city or urban area, and is likely to be the highest density in terms of both population and buildings.

The characteristics of the centre may include:

- mixed uses, with large amounts of commercial and office use,
- some residential dwellings, possibly in the form of apartment blocks,
- may have high building density and building heights,
- restricted vehicle traffic, or areas of high traffic congestion,
- compact central area that is walkable,
- wider regional transport links and connections.

Medium density outer urban areas

Largely residential areas immediately outside the urban centre, providing a range of housing types.

The characteristics of these areas may include:

- large provision of densely clustered residential dwellings,
- mix of dwelling sizes and dwelling types, such as in the form of apartment units and terraces,
- greenspace in the form of public parks and gardens (limited private garden space),
- vehicle parking on streets or in dedicated car parks (limited parking space within dwellings),
- in proximity to an urban centre, possibly within walking or cycling distance.
- Good public transport connections to centre.



Urban centre of Bo, Sierra Leone



Urban area of Tokyo, Japan



Medium density urban area of London, UK

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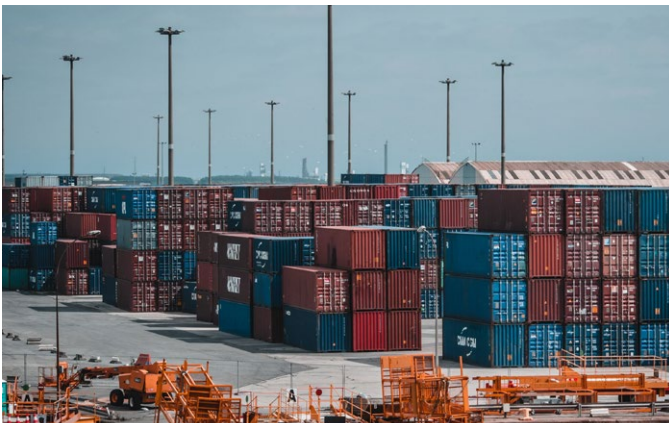
Step 1 Key Concepts



Low density suburban areas of Bo, Sierra Leone



Suburban-rural European village



Industrial port located away from city

Low density suburbs

The suburbs are generally characterised as areas of single-family, low-density housing.

The characteristics of these areas may include:

- predominantly detached or semi-detached houses,
- large dwellings and plot sizes,
- large private garden spaces,
- generous parking provision, on and off street,
- limited other uses,
- distance from urban centres,
- public transport connections may be limited.

Rural

Areas that may be outside the city's urban extents, that have a very low density.

The characteristics of these areas may include:

- large areas of undeveloped land,
- agricultural and industrial uses, and some residential uses,
- poorly developed road and transport connections,
- may be isolated from urban areas and centres.

Industrial areas

Areas specifically designated for industrial use, often located away from city centres and residential areas. These areas may have a low population density due to low numbers of residential dwellings.

The characteristics of these areas may include:

- Heavy industrial uses,
- Connected to major highways and cargo transport networks.

The Rapid Planning Toolkit

for Urban Expansion

Step 1 Key Concepts - Section iii - **Part 3**

Density decline and rapid urbanisation

Density decline occurs when the urban extents of the city grow faster than its population. This can further exacerbate the effects of rapid urbanisation by creating sprawling cities that are unsustainable, inefficient and poorly planned.



A sprawling city

Urban sprawl & declining density

Urban sprawl can be identified as large amounts of low-density suburban areas surrounding the city.

These suburbs are characterised by low-density housing and high levels of vehicle use. They often have a high level of car-dependency, as residents require personal vehicles for frequent journeys to access basic services, such as schools, work places and retailers. This can lead to poor physical and mental health for the population and is very energy and resource intensive.

The growth of these suburbs can lead to a decline of the city overall, if they expand at a greater rate than the population. This can occur if planning policy does not control growth of new housing and development in line with population growth.

A persistent density decline for a city could be an indicator of accelerating urban sprawl. The proliferation of sprawl is an unsustainable trend, as it consumes land inefficiently, and requires greater movement between places.

Is higher density better?

Overall, higher-density cities can often be more sustainable than low-density cities. They generally consume less energy and less land per person, and can give greater viability to city infrastructure and public services.

When people, and the services required to accommodate them, are concentrated in a smaller region, this generally means that the land is being used more efficiently, and residents may benefit from more services provided in their area.

However, planning is required to ensure that high urban density does not create unaffordable housing, over-demand on services, and high congestion and pollution.

Step 1

Additional Resources

Participatory Development In Action

open.edu/openlearn/society-politics-law/international-studies/participatory-development-action

This free Open University resource examines how development agencies can empower communities to help themselves by introducing simple technologies, and facilitate the sharing of ideas through education.

Participation or Inclusion?

urbact.eu/whats-new/stories/participation-or-inclusion

In this article, the potential problems of public participation will be illustrated by examples of public square planning in Budapest and Berlin, introducing simple technologies, and facilitating the sharing of ideas through education.

Survey of the Built Environment Professions in the Commonwealth

commonwealthsustainablecities.org/survey/

UN-Habitat estimates that 65% of the targets underlying the 17 Sustainable Development Goals are linked to territorial and urban development, and built environment professionals are central to the design of cities and human settlements that meet the requirements of Goal 11 to be inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable. But how well equipped are the built environment professions to meet this challenge? This is the question that the four Commonwealth associations representing architects, engineers, town planners, and surveyors set out to answer in

the Survey of the Built Environment Professions in the Commonwealth; the first such joint survey ever to have been undertaken.

Commonwealth Sustainable Cities Initiative

commonwealthsustainablecities.org

Commonwealth partners came together to develop and promote the Call to Action on Sustainable Urbanisation across the Commonwealth as part of preparations for the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) in Kigali, Rwanda, originally planned for 2020 but postponed until June 2022. See the webpage for further information on the Call to Action, as well as the activities which have been undertaken since the Initiative was launched, including the resources which we aim to build upon and develop as we continue to move forward.

CAA CPD Series 1

commonwealthsustainablecities.org/cpd/

CPD lectures on sustainable urbanisation aimed at built environment professionals, policy makers, city leaders and students. This includes a lecture on the Rapid Planning Toolkit by Ben Bolgar, Senior Director at The Prince's Foundation.

International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning

unhabitat.org/international-guidelines-on-urban-and-territorial-planning

The International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning serve both as a source of inspiration

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Step 1 Key Concepts

and as a compass for decision makers and urban professionals when reviewing urban and territorial planning systems.

The Guidelines provide national governments, local authorities, civil society organisations and planning professionals with a global reference framework that promotes more compact, socially inclusive, better integrated and connected cities and territories that foster sustainable urban development and are resilient to climate change.

New York University Marron Institute of Urban Management Resources

marroninstitute.nyu.edu

- **How did they do it in Ethiopia? Making room for urban expansion:** marroninstitute.nyu.edu/blog/how-they-do-it-in-ethiopia-making-room-for-urban-expansion
- **Urban expansion work in Colombia:** marroninstitute.nyu.edu/blog/urban-expansion-work-in-colombia
- **ANATOMY OF DENSITY I: Measurable Factors that Together Constitute Urban Density:** marroninstitute.nyu.edu/uploads/content/Anatomy_of_Density_I%2C_3_August_2020.pdf
- **Making Room for a Planet of Cities (publication):** citiesalliance.org/resources/publications/global-knowledge/making-room-planet-cities

The data, images, metrics, and methodology from 'Making Room for a Planet of Cities' are available in an accompanying subcentre, the Atlas of Urban Expansion: atlasofurbanexpansion.org

Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) Resources

rtpi.org.uk/new-from-the-rtpi/?contentType=Research

The RTPI has a research library with a number of resources, some that are particularly related to the Rapid Planning Toolkit are as follows:

- Placed Based Approaches to Climate Change
- Urban Planning after COVID-19
- Plan the World We Need
- Worldwide Value of Planning

UN Habitat Resources

unhabitat.org

- **Urban Planning for City Leaders (publication):** unhabitat.org.mm/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/UN-Habitat-UPCL_English.pdf
- **Sustainable Neighborhood 5 Planning Principles (publication):** unhabitat.org/five-principles-of-neighbourhood-design
- **City Wide Public Space Strategies: A Guidebook for City Leaders:** unhabitat.org/city-wide-public-space-strategies-a-guidebook-for-city-leaders
- **Our City Plans Toolbox:** unhabitat.org/sites/default/files/2020/07/piup_toolbox_final.pdf
- **Tenure Responsive Land Use Planning:** unhabitat.org/sites/default/files/documents/2019-05/tenure-responsive-lup-a-guide-for-country-level-implementation_.pdf

A Manifesto for Climate Responsive Design

feildenfoundation.org.uk/manifesto-for-climate-responsive-de

The Manifesto for Climate Responsive Design from Feilden Clegg Bradley Studios, is aimed towards the particular climate and cultural context of East Africa, referring to case study examples from Uganda, Rwanda, the DRC and Malawi. The principles of the Manifesto, however, which include participation, using local and durable materials, passive ventilation and natural daylighting, sustainable landscape design and water and waste-management, can be interpreted and applied to different contexts and climate zones globally.

Rapid Planning Toolkit

www.rapidplanningtoolkit.org