

CHAPTER VI: IMPACT OF URBANIZATION ON SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

- ❖ **Housing**
- ❖ **Urban Slums**
- ❖ **Sanitation**
- ❖ **Health**

HOUSING

Cities in developing countries are homes of millions of migrants from other areas. In order to cope up with this population surge, building with stories is very crucial. Therefore, with current problems of land prices, environmental and population pressure in developing country's urban areas, multi story building is more preferable than single houses. The majority of houses in the city are the non storied type constituting 97.15 percent (Plate-6.1, & 6.2). In this regard, the great majority of building/housing type in the study area did not conform to economic, environmental and population situations in the study area. Land prices are increasing from time to time, more and more people are concentrated in the city; and environmental problems became more serious through time. *The other important thing to discuss here is whether a housing unit is detached or attached type. An attached house means that a house shares a common party wall usually on both sides of the property. A detached home means that a home is free of any shared walls and stands alone.*

The majority (58.14 percent) of non storied houses of the study area was attached while the remaining proportion (39.01 percent) of the non storied houses was detached. Detached houses are preferable since they offer the greatest privacy, as well as the freedom of letting homeowners manage their own plants and gardens. However, they consume more plots of land; it consumes more time for home maintenance, including caring for a yard and the home's exterior; and generally more expensive than attached homes or apartment-style condos (WHO, 1988). Therefore, the majority of housing units did not conform to advisable housing standards which fit with rapid population growth, economic challenges and land shortages.



Source: AACG, 2010

Plate-6.1 Non Storied Attached Housing Units



Plate-6.2 Non Storied Detached Housing Units

Distribution of the Density Status of the Housing Units

Overcrowding in urban areas is caused by a shortfall between the supply and demand for housing that people can afford to rent or buy (i.e. Occupancy rate decreases in proportion with an increase in income levels). Thus, in higher income groups, the family is smaller and the number of rooms increases, resulting in lower occupancy rate, while in the low income groups, the family is bigger and can afford fewer rooms, which subsequently have a much higher occupancy rate.

It can be observed from the data in Table-6.1 that the majority (39.4 percent) of the housing unit of the study area consisted of one room, while about 25.94 percent of the housing unit had two rooms. In general, less than one fifth of the total housing units of the study area contain four or more rooms.

The percentage distribution of households per housing unit shows that about 96.44 percent of the housing unit was occupied by a household with one person. The remaining very few proportion of the housing unit was occupied by a household with two or more. It appears from the data in Table-6.2 that the average number of persons per housing unit of the city was 4.2. Peripheral sub cities were relatively less overcrowded than central ones. At sub city level, Addis Ketema was the most

overcrowded sub city with an average number of persons per housing unit of 4.8, followed by Gullele (4.5).

Table-6.1 Distribution of the Density Status of the Housing Units

Sub City		Number of Rooms (%)				
		One	Two	Three	Four	Five or more
Central	Lideta	2.95	2.36	1.01	0.34	0.39
	Kirkos	3.42	2.28	1.18	0.63	0.86
	Arada	3.15	2.21	1.16	0.49	0.53
	Addis Ketema	3.42	2.47	1.06	0.38	0.45
	Total	12.93	9.32	4.41	1.84	2.23
Peripheral	Yeka	5.50	3.35	2.25	1.25	1.53
	Bole	4.80	2.27	1.61	1.13	2.32
	Akaki Kaliti	3.14	1.94	1.17	0.53	0.49
	Nefas Silk Lafto	4.35	2.88	2.07	1.10	1.54
	Kolfe Keranio	5.23	3.74	2.62	1.43	1.80
	Gulele	3.44	2.43	1.64	0.75	0.92
	Total	26.47	16.62	11.36	6.21	8.60
Total		39.40	25.94	15.77	8.05	10.83

Source: CSA, 2010

The least overcrowded sub city was Akaki Qaliti (3.8) (Fig-6.1). Therefore, the distribution of average persons per housing unit shows that the dwelling units of study area were overcrowded i.e. it is beyond the country's standard (2.5 persons per housing unit, according to CSA, 2007)).

Distribution of the Status of Housing Tenure

The other indicator of housing quality is tenure status. Tenure status measures the extent to which the urban population is housed legally. The distribution of housing units by type of tenure shows that 34.4 percent of all housing units were owner occupied and 56.8 percent were rented. Out of the rented housing units 40.4 percent was rented from government, 16.4 percent was rented from private household and the remaining 8.78 percent was rented from other organizations (Table-6.3). AACG (2010) reported that the government owned housing units are very poor in status when compared to other housing units. In relative terms, households rented from the government were living in substandard houses made of non-durable materials. In addition to this, the extent of unauthorized housing or informal settlement can also be seen under housing tenure. According to the report made by CSA (2010), the size of

informal houses was estimated to be 60,000, which accounted for about 20 percent of the total residential housing stock in the city and occupy about 4 percent of the total area, 7 percent of the built up areas, and were estimated to provide shelter for about 3000,000 people living in the city. Minwuyelet (2005) identified three major points as reasons for informal settlement. These are high building standards of the legal houses, delayed responses and procedural problems of the legal land provision, and higher housing rents.

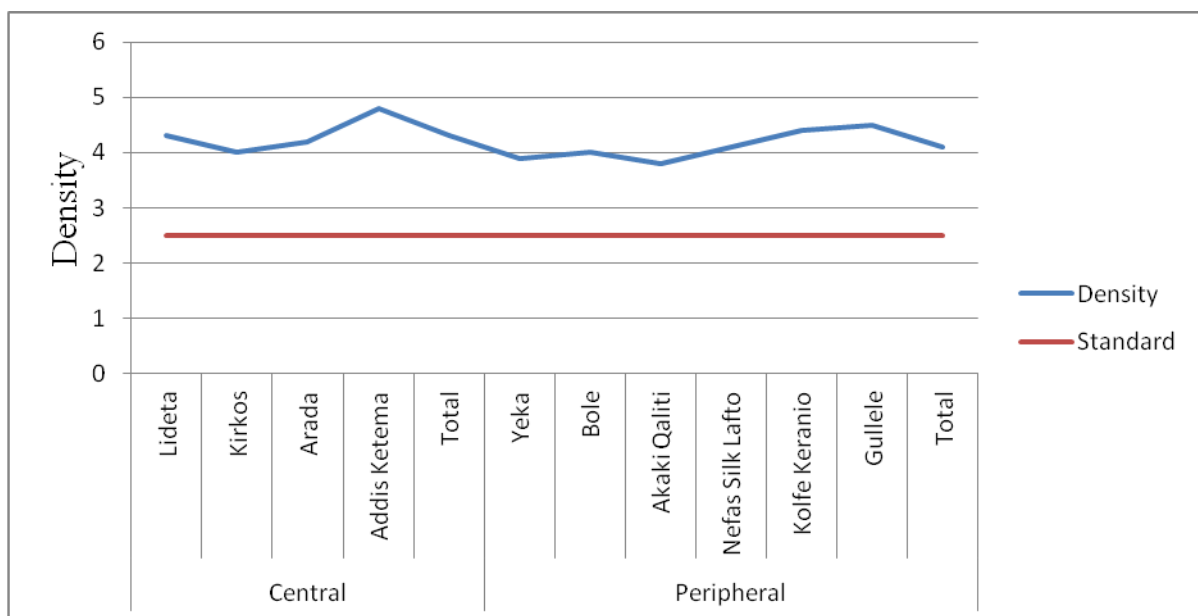


Fig-6.1 Overcrowding Status

Table-6.2 Percent Distribution of Households per Housing Units (Density)

Sub City		Average number of Persons per Housing Units
Central	Lideta	4.3
	Kirkos	4.0
	Arada	4.2
	Addis Ketema	4.8
	Total	4.3
Peripheral	Yeka	3.9
	Bole	4.0
	Akaki Qaliti	3.8
	Nefas Silk Lafto	4.1
	Kolfe Keranio	4.4
	Gullele	4.5
	Total	4.1
Total		4.2

Source: CSA, 2010

Hence, informal settlements were mainly located in the peripheral areas of the city, where they were numerous, and irregular in shape. In most cases they were characterized by large plot sizes and had greatly contributed to the unplanned and rapid horizontal expansion of the built-up area of the city. In addition to this, since they are informal, they didn't have building regulations and therefore lack basic services and amenities.

Table-6.3 Tenure Status of the Housing Units

Ownership Status	Percentage
Privately Owned	34.42
Rented from government	40.40
Rented from private households	16.40
Others	8.78
Total	100.00

Source: AACG, 2010

Distribution of Number of Housing Units and Rooms According to Sub City

It can be observed from Table-6.4 that there were about 628,990 housing units in the city, out of which 193,341 (31 percent) was found in central sub cities and the remaining 435,649 (69 percent) of the housing units were found in peripheral sub cities. The maximum number (93,334) of housing units was concentrated in Kolfe Keranio, followed by Yeka (87,346), constituting 15 percent and 14 percent respectively. The least number (44,352) of housing units was found in Lideta sub city. However, according to Addis Ababa City Government (2010), the majority (about 80 percent) of the housing units were built without a plan.

Data in Table-6.4 portrays that there were about 1,524,810 rooms shaped a total of about 628,990 housing units in the study area. The majority, 1,104,267, of number of rooms was concentrated in peripheral sub cities constituting about 72 percent, while about 420,543 rooms were found in central sub cities. About 16 percent of the total number of rooms in the study area was concentrated in Kolfe Keranio, followed by Yeka and Bole each constituting about 14 percent of the total.

Hence, housing units of peripheral sub cities were more housed by having a greater number of rooms.

Table-6.4 Distributions of the Housing Units and Number of Rooms as per Sub Cities

	Sub City	All Housing Unit	%	Total Number of Rooms	%
Central	Lideta	44,352	7	91,827	6
	Kirkos	52,583	8	125,083	8
	Arada	47,364	8	102,757	7
	Addis Ketema	49,042	8	100,876	7
	Total	193,341	31	420,543	28
Peripheral	Yeka	87,346	14	212,288	14
	Bole	76,297	12	217,474	14
	Akaki Qaliti	45,751	7	98,858	6
	Nefas Silk Lafto	75,080	12	196,470	13
	Kolfe Keranio	93,334	15	237,174	16
	Gullele	57,841	9	142,003	9
	Total	435,649	69	1,104,267	72
Total		628,990	100	1,524,810	100

Source: CSA, 2010

URBAN SLUMS

One of the worst problems of urbanization is the growth of slums. Slums are characteristic feature of major cities of the world. In the context of urban society, it is related to a decline in the standard or quality of the environment both physical and social in which people live. It is an area of unhygienic living condition with degraded physical and economic environment. Almost all cities are captured by slum dwellings. Urban slums are marked by deplorable living environment and are often marked by a lack of civil amenities and facilities leading to environmental degradation and higher incidences of morbidity and mortality. A study conducted Solomon and McLeod (2004) has found that more than 80% of the city's population is living in slums which are characterized by overcrowded neighborhoods with no or little basic infrastructure and municipal services, worn out physical structures, under unhygienic conditions lacking safe drinking water and sewage, sprawling informal settlements in disaster prone areas, illegal land occupation and absence of tenure security, high rate of HIV/AIDS, high rate of unemployment and informal economy being vulnerable to all kinds of risks.

SANITATION

Sanitation is one of the basic necessities of public life in an urban area. It plays an important role in the city's sanitary condition, public health and beauty. It forms an important component of a city's public places' where mobility is much and production density is high. Details which are presented in Table-6.5 show that the total number of public toilets in the study area was 65, with the maximum number of toilets found in central sub cities (36), and peripheral ones had the remaining quantity (29). At sub city level, the maximum number of public toilets was found in Addis Ketema (13), followed by Arada (11) and Akaki Qaliti (10), while no public toilet was found in the Bole sub city.

Regarding the number of public toilets to population ratio, central sub cities were more beneficial than peripheral ones. This is because in central sub cities, on average, one public toilet served about 26330 populations, while in peripheral sub cities one public toilet served about 67911 populations. At sub city level, larger ratios were found in Akaki Qaliti (19527) followed by Arada (20545) and Addis Ketama (20896), while Bole did not have any public toilet.

In all sub cities, the number of public toilets is not adequate when compared to the city's municipal norm of maximum of 50 persons per seat (AACG, 2010). This wide gap between the norm and the actual figure of the city's toilets absolutely affects the quality of life, and the environment.

HEALTH

The urban environment of Addis Ababa is highly polluted and contaminated as a result of which large number of people is getting ill from diseases like diarrhea, typhoid fever, helminthes, dysentery, meningitis, HIV/AIDs, etc. These disease cases and deaths were the result of biological pollutants which may consist of microorganisms which can cause very harmful diseases.

Major disease cases and deaths are depicted in Table-6.6. This Table portrays that except for malaria, all disease cases showed an increasing trend between the year 2000 and 2010. Typhoid fever had the highest cases of growth rate, followed by HIV/AIDS. While, HIV/AIDS had the highest death rates with about 203.1 percent followed by typhoid fever (200.0 percent).

Table-6.5 Distribution of Sanitary Facilities as per Sub Cities

Sub City		Public Toilet	Ps to Public Toilet Ratio
Central	Addis Ketema	13	20896
	Arada	11	20545
	Lideta	6	35799
	Qirkos	6	39240
	Total	36	26330
Peripheral	Kolfe Keraniyo	3	152073
	Gullele	4	71216
	Yeka	4	92105
	Bole	0	-
	Akaki Qaliti	10	19527
	Nefas Silk Lafto	8	41968
	Total	29	67911

Source: AACG, 2010

Table-6.6 Temporal Variations in the Health Problem (Cases) and Deaths

Type Disease	2000		2010		Growth Rate	
	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
Diarrhea	5367	88	8230	34	53.3	-61.4
Malaria	1356	43	838	2	-38.2	-95.3
Helminthes	1411	18	1923	22	36.3	22.2
Dysentery	4235	12	9145	8	115.9	-33.3
Typhoid Fever	244	1	17,392	3	7027.9	200.0
Meningitis	42	3	58	2	38.1	-33.3
HIV/AIDS	8,221	1312	22,926	3977	178.9	203.1
Total	20,876	1477	60,512	4048	189.9	174.1

Source: AACG, 2010

Health problems can cause several negative impacts on the society. These include loss of income fueled by loss of labor, loss of skilled manpower and knowledge, loss of land, and loss of remittances. Reduction in savings and investment as a result of expenses for treatment, funeral, and other cultural events; and need to sell property to meet expenses is also the impact of urbanization on the city. Another important thing to note is that health problems can cause loss of workers which can be manifested in expenses for recruiting and training replacements; and reduced

productivity in cases of skilled workers or managers. Last but not least, health problems can cause lost work days due to sickness and funeral leave.

IMPACT ON CHILDREN

Table-6.7 portrays that the growth rate of the study area’s street children is more than that of national level. This means that the number of children working and living in the streets with no care and support has been increasing in the study region. Between the year 2000 and 2010, their figure has been grown by about 200 percent. This shows that urbanization due to population growth has impact on the life of children in such a way that it exposed them to different types of problems.

Table-6.7 Number of Street Children in Addis Ababa

Level	2000	2010	Change(Growth Rate)
National	200,000	500,000	150
Addis Ababa	50,000	150,000	200
Total	250,000	650,000	160

Source: UNICEF, 2010

An increasing number of street children have lost their parents to illnesses often associated with HIV/AIDS. Girls who work and live in the streets are faced with extremely harsh conditions including sexual abuse by adults, rape, unwanted pregnancy and early motherhood – sometimes as young as 12. These girls are likely to join the rank of child prostitutes or street mothers and continue the vicious circle of street life and inevitable are highly at risk of being infected with HIV/AIDS, which they often pass on to their children. It is estimated that there are 10,000 street mothers in Addis Ababa (UNICEF, 2010).

SECURITY POINTS/POLICE STATIONS

Safety is a basic human need and right. Safety creates the very foundation for our well being. Everyone should have the chance to live the whole life-cycle from infancy to youth, from adulthood to old age, without suffering any preventable, human induced accidents (Saari, 2006). In addition to this, the presence of security stations is very crucial in enhancing development. Whether it is in developed or in developing nations, urban areas are becoming a center of crime, illegal drugs, juvenile

delinquency and other criminal activities. To cope up with these types of urban problems, a city should have security points.

Details as are presented in Table-6.8 show that the total number of police stations in the city was about 51. Peripheral sub cities had more number of police stations than central ones. However, when these figures are checked against the standard police stations to population ratio, except Addis Ketema, all central sub cities were adequately served by the existing number of police stations. According to the standard, one police station can serve about 60,000 populations (Green & Argue, 2011). In contrary to central sub cities, the existing number of police stations in peripheral sub cities was inadequate except for Akaki Qaliti.



Source: AACG, 2010

Plate-6.3 Street Children in Addis Ababa in Different Situations

Table-6.8 Distribution of Police Stations According to Sub Cities in the Study Area

Sub City		Police Stations	PS to Police Station Ratio
Central	Addis Ketema	3	90548
	Arada	6	37667
	Lideta	7	30685
	Qirkos	9	26160
	Total	25	37915
Peripheral	Kolfe Keraniyo	5	91244
	Gullele	4	71216
	Yeka	5	73684
	Bole	2	164450
	Akaki Qaliti	6	32546
	Nefas Silk Lafto	4	83935
	Total	26	75747

Source: AACG, 2010

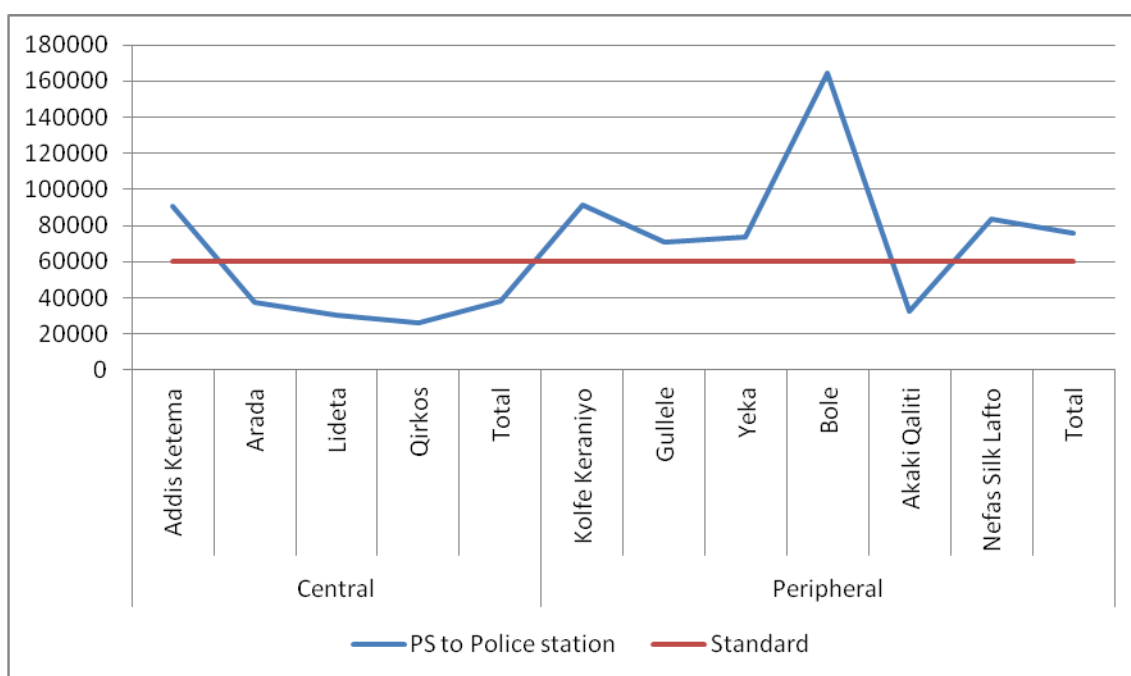


Fig-6.2 Spatial Distributions in the Adequacy Status of Police Stations