Why the world needs an urban SDG?

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Urban transformation: Shanghai (1987)

Photo: REUTERS

Urban transformation: Shanghai (2012)

Photo: REUTERS

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A stand-alone
Urban Sustainable Development Goal

a 21st century idea whose time has come

www.urbanSDG.org

SDSN Proposal for 10 SDGs

1. **End extreme poverty including hunger**
2. **Achieve development within planetary boundaries**
3. **Ensure effective learning for all children and youth for life and livelihood**
4. **Achieve gender equality, social inclusion, and human rights for all**
5. **Achieve health and wellbeing at all ages**
6. **Improve agriculture systems and raise rural prosperity**
7. **Empower inclusive, productive, and resilient cities**
8. **Curb human-induced climate change and ensure sustainable energy**
9. **Secure ecosystem services and biodiversity, and ensure good management of water and other natural resources**
10. **Transform governance for sustainable development**

Partners: #urbanSDG Campaign

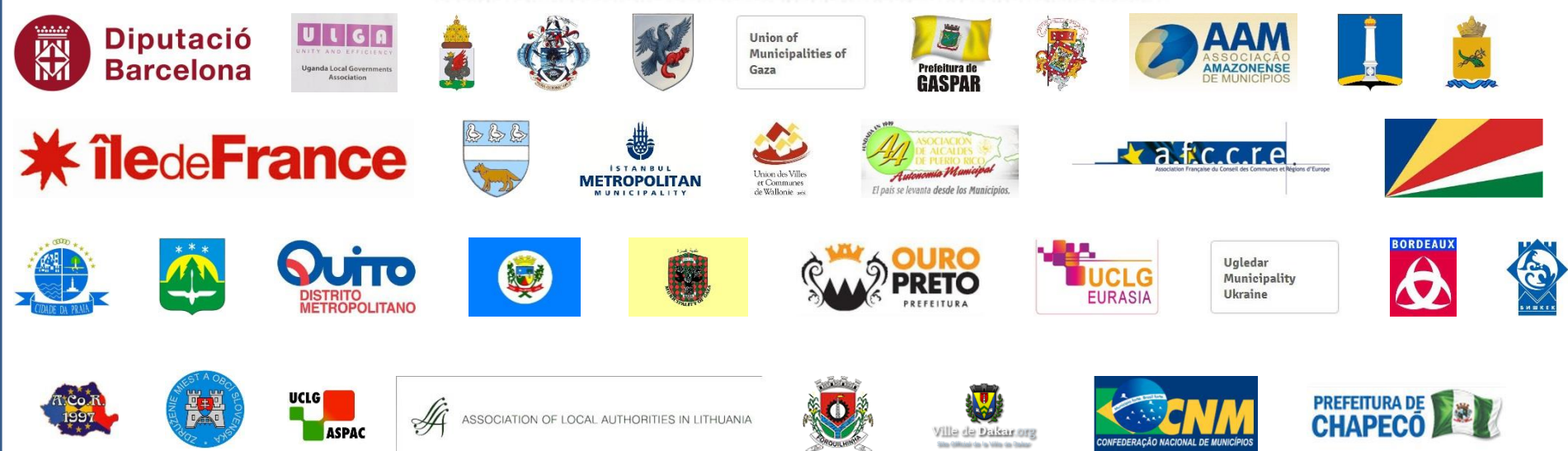# >170 Cities & regional Governments

SUPPORTS collected and promoted by
United Cities and Local Governments, the major
Global Network of Local and Regional Governments

> 170 Cities & regional Governments

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www.urbansdg.uclg.org

Supporting organisations: #urbanSDG

Mayor Eduardo Paes & Chair of C-40

"..as a global mayor , and one whose city is who will forever be linked to the global sustainable development agenda, I cannot stress enough the fact that without an urban goal the SDGs will be incomplete"

Over **200** cities, regional governments, international organisations, people' movements & universities, support an stand alone

Urban Sustainable Development Goal

*www.**urbansdg.org***

Campaign for an Urban Sustainable Development Goal

The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) adopted by UN member states in 2000 have successfully focused world attention and action on ending extreme poverty in all its forms. The fifteen-year MDG period will be completed at the end of 2015. Participants at the Rio+20 Summit in June 2012 resolved to finish the job of ending extreme poverty and hunger as a matter of urgency, and to place poverty reduction in the broader context of sustainable development.

Well-crafted Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for the period 2015 to 2030 will help guide the public's understanding of complex sustainable development challenges, inspire public and private action, promote integrated thinking, and foster accountability.

Urbanization will be the defining trend over the next several decades. Today, 50% of the world's 7 billion people live in cities, and, by 2050, this will rise to 70%. Cities are home to extreme deprivation and environmental degradation with one billion people living in slums. At the same time, roughly 75% of global economic activity is urban, and as the urban population grows, so will the urban share of global GDP and investments.

The Campaign for an Urban SDG has been launched because the dynamism of cities represents a major sustainable development opportunity and we believe that a dedicated and stand-alone urban SDG is essential to mobilize stakeholders, promoted integrated, city-level approaches, and accelerate progress towards sustainable development, including the end of extreme poverty.

Support an #urbanSDG

Join the global campaign for an URBAN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL

✔ **Support an #urbanSDG**

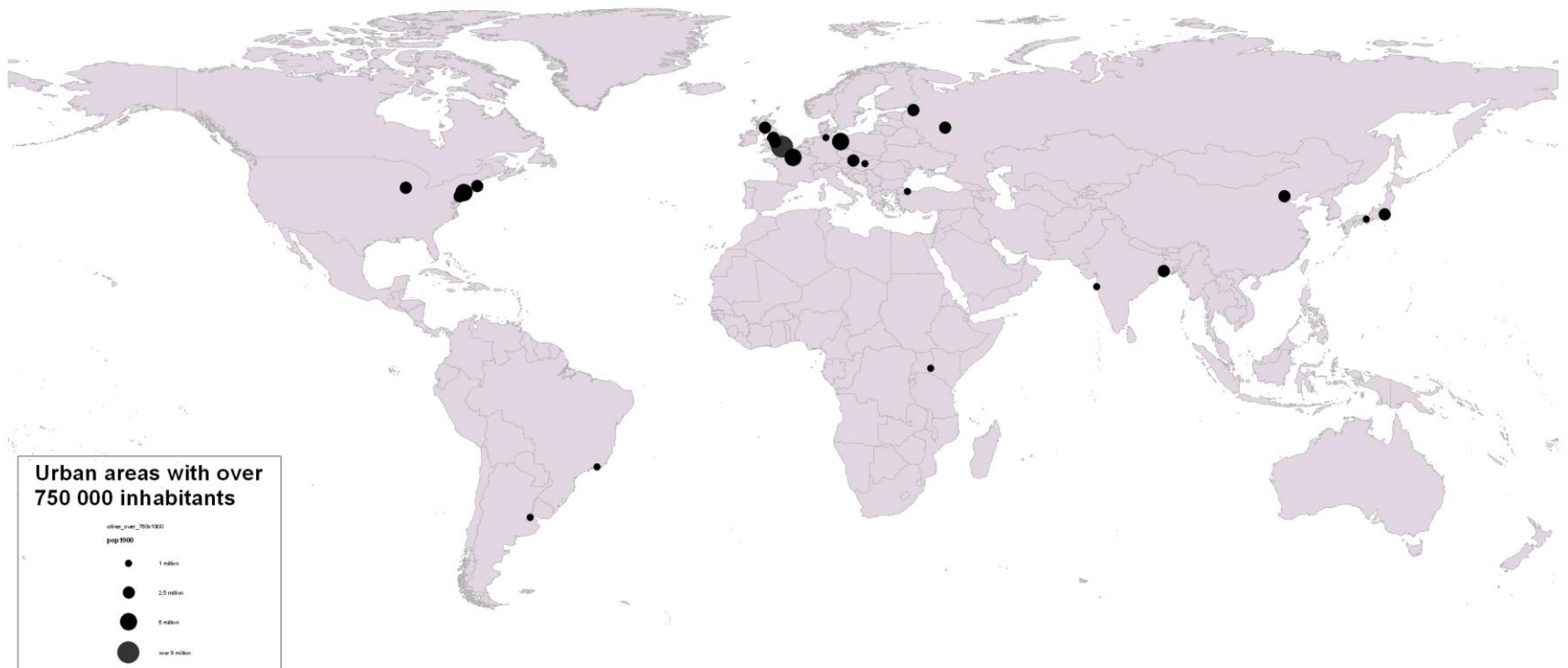**SUPPORTING PARTNERS**

UN@HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

161 SUPPORTING LOCAL & REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS

ULGA
UNITY AND EFFICIENCY

Uganda Local Governments Association

UCLG CGLU   **urbanSDG**

Why the world needs an urban SDG?

The world in 1900*

Population of Urban Agglomerations with 750,000 Inhabitants or more in 1900

Urban areas with over 750 000 inhabitants

Pop:1.5 billion Urban share:13% Gross World product:~$2 trillion Urban share:~30%

Sources: UN (2011) ; Satterthwaithe, D , Revi, A, et. al. (2014) forthcoming; De Long (1998)

The world in 1950

Population of Urban Agglomerations with 750,000 Inhabitants or more in 1950

Urban areas with over
750 000 inhabitants

- 1 million
- 2.5 million
- 5 million
- 10 million
- over 10 million
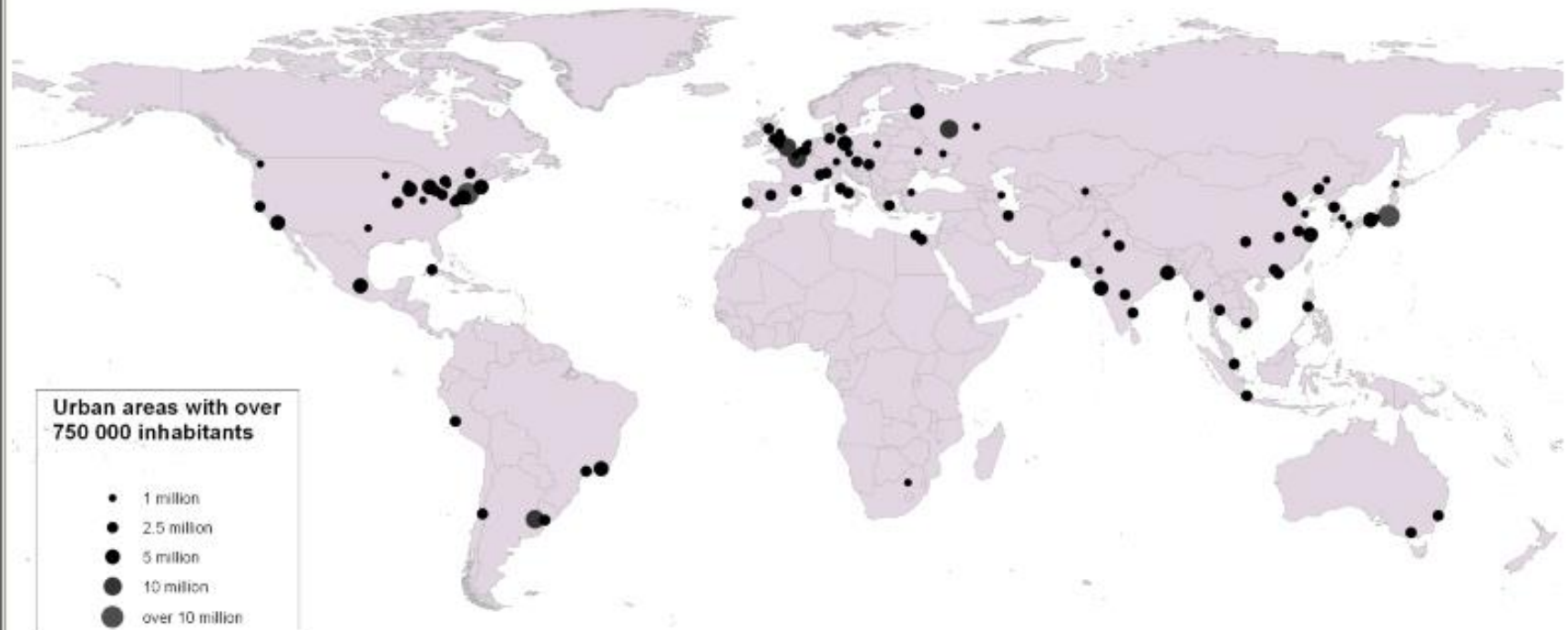
Pop:**2.5 billion** Urban share:**29%** Gross World product:~**$7 trillion** Urban share:~**45%**

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
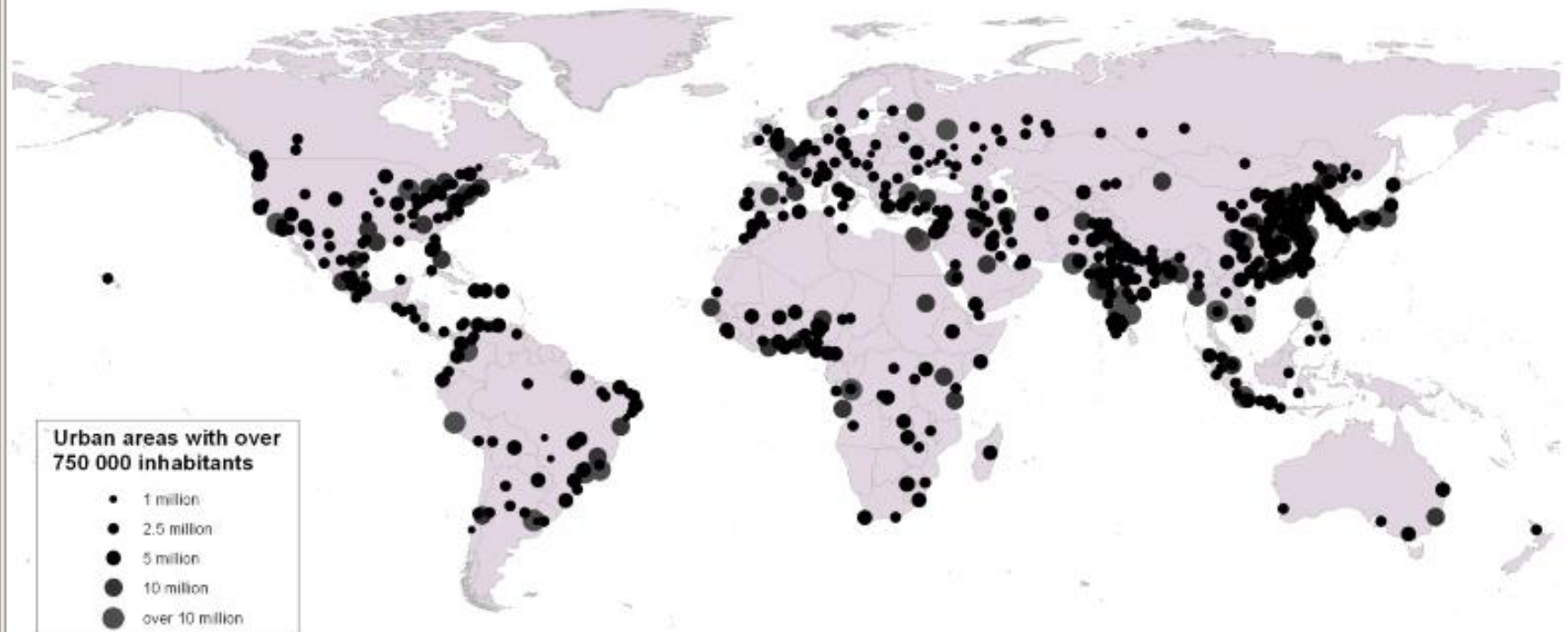SOLUTIONS NETWORK
A GLOBAL INITIATIVE FOR THE UNITED NATIONS
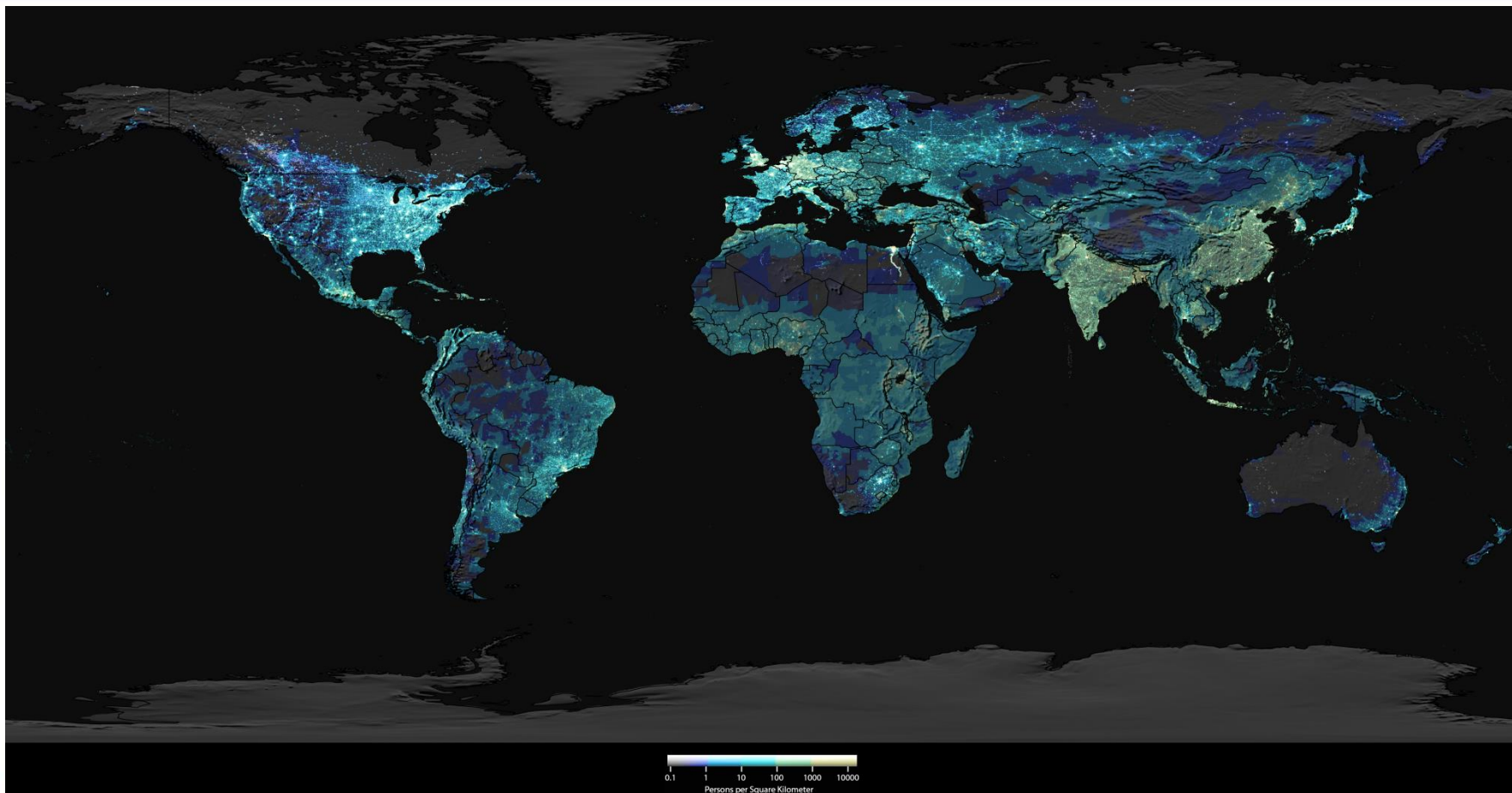
The world in 2013

Pop: **7 billion** Urban share:~**50%** Gross World product:~**$70 trillion** Urban share:~**70%**

The world in 2025

Population of Urban Agglomerations with 750,000 Inhabitants or more in 2025

Urban areas with over 750 000 inhabitants
- 1 million
- 2.5 million
- 5 million
- 10 million
- over 10 million

Pop: 8 billion Urban share:~58% Gross World product:~$85 trillion Urban share:~75%
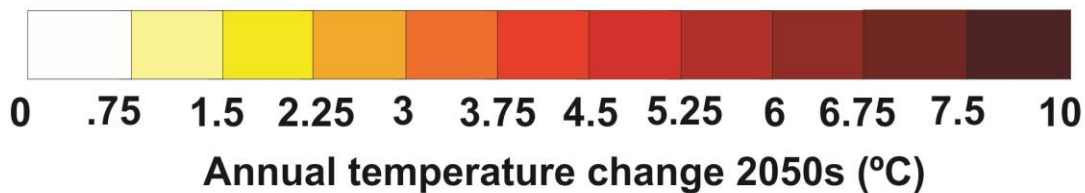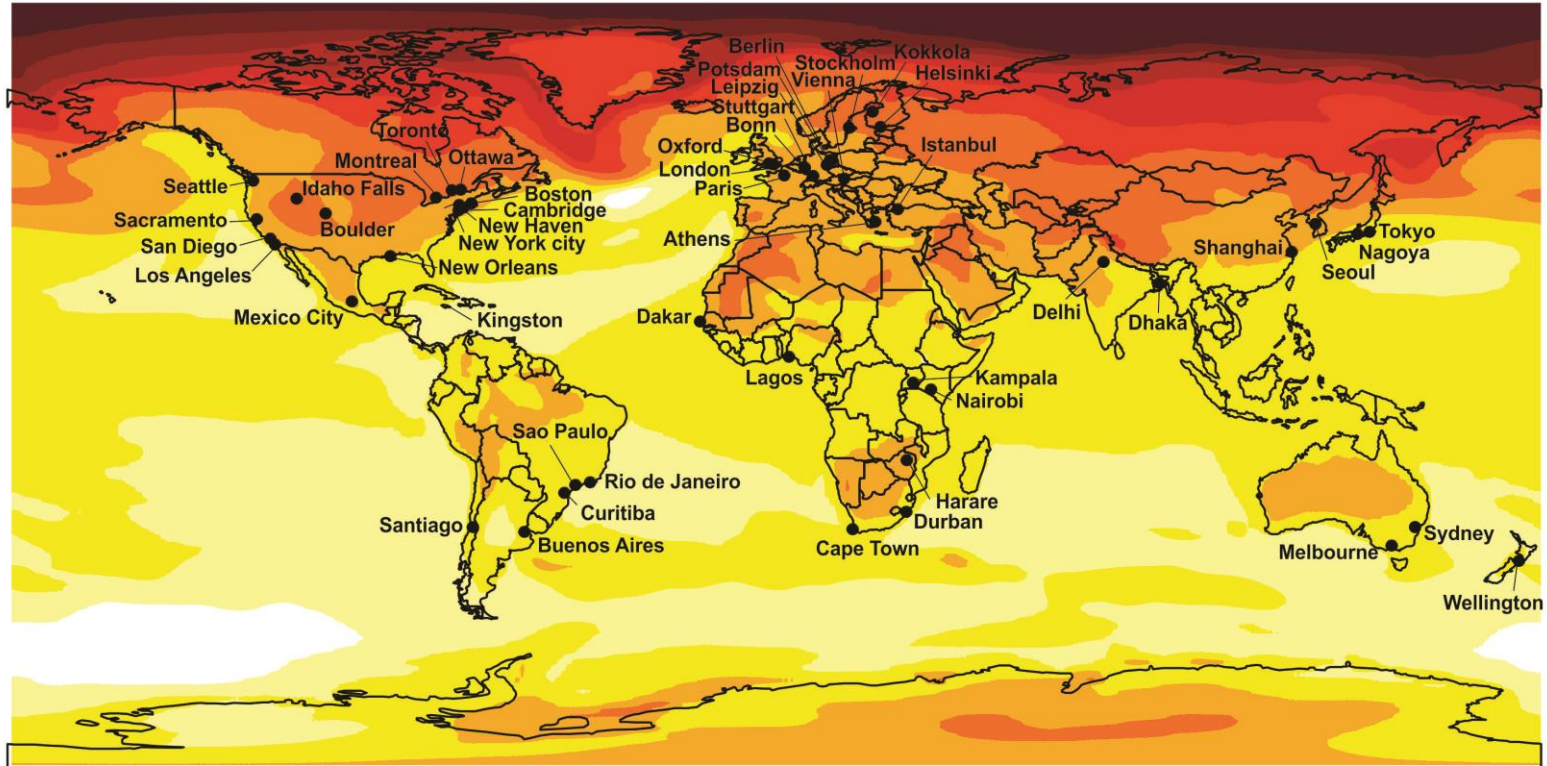
Cities as First Responders: Mitigation and Adaptation

**Urbanisation is not just a 'Megatrend'
it's a 'Gigatrend'**

a millennial transformation of human culture, society, economy, polity & planetary systems

Did the MDGs (2000-2015) do 'justice' to urban areas?

1. No 'urban' MDG, but some progress

2. Slum MDG 'achieved'

3. Questions:

   a. Goals for poor people in 'poor' countries

   b. Role of local & regional governments?

   c. Urban employment & economic development?

   d. Urban sustainability & Resilience?

   e. Urban social inclusion?

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Why the World Needs an SDG on Cities

1. Given that urbanization is now a global-scale process, a sustainable planet depends on how cities grow, function, and respond to stress.

2. Leaders and citizens of urban areas need to be empowered to mobilize sustainability action.

3. An Urban SDG would motivate public-private partnerships for measurable implementation.

4. If urban issues are 'mainstreamed' across the other SDGs, the role of cities will disappear.

5. An Urban SDG would promote linkages and strengthen other SDGs

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21st century: a new governance architecture for Sustainable Development?

- **A new set of 21st century SDGs that balance: intra-generational & inter-generational equity**

- **A new governance architecture balancing interests of:**
  - **Nation-states**
  - **Local & Regional governments**
  - **Firms**
  - **Rights of communities & citizens**

Counterfactuals

1. The rural-urban dictomy
2. The too many goals challenge
3. The infrastructure opportunity
4. The 'mainstreaming' into other goals opportunity
5. The 'localizing' of other SDGs opportunity

1. **Evidence that local & regional governments & partnerships can deliver around mixed universal with national/ regional / local indicators**

2. **Real issue: political & fiscal devolution**

Why use 19th century ideas & institutional frames to address a 21st century challenge?

One (SDSN) articulation of an Urban Sustainable Development Goal

SDSN: Proposed Urban SDG (2015-2030)

Make all cities socially inclusive, economically productive, environmentally sustainable, secure, and resilient to climate change and other risks.

Develop participatory, accountable, and effective city* governance to support rapid and equitable urban transformation.

*and metropolitan region

SDSN: Three Proposed Urban SDG Targets

a. End extreme urban poverty, expand employment and productivity, and raise living standards, especially in slums.

b. Ensure universal access to a well-designed, secure, and affordable built environment and basic urban services including housing; water, sanitation and waste management; low-carbon energy and transport; and mobile and broadband communication.

c. Ensure safe air and water quality for all, and integrate reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, efficient land and resource use, and climate and disaster resilience into investments and standards.

From these proposed targets, Urban Indicators are being developed via the Sustainable Cities Initiative in Accra, Bangalore, Durban, Rio de Janeiro & New York

Operationalising an #urbanSDG:
the case of Bangalore & New York City

Criteria for Successful SDGs

1. Guide public understanding of complex challenges

2. Mobilize key actors

3. Support effective public policies and private action

4. Be universal

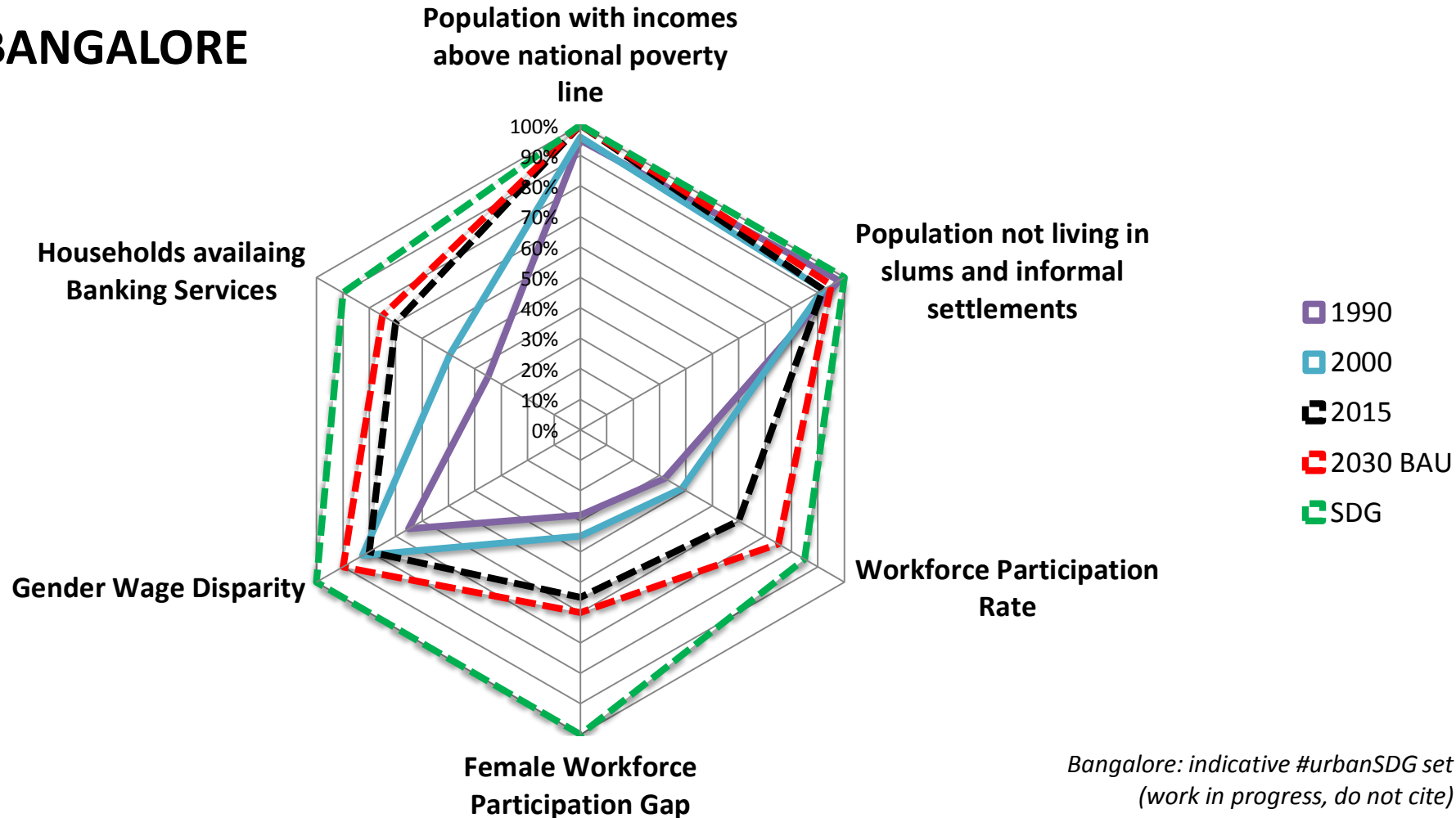5. Promote monitoring and accountability

Bangalore

New York City

SDSN: Urban SDG Target A

End extreme urban poverty, expand employment and productivity, and raise living standards, especially in slums.

Urban SDG Target A - Eliminate extreme urban poverty, expand employment & productivity, & raise living standards, especially in slums & informal settlements
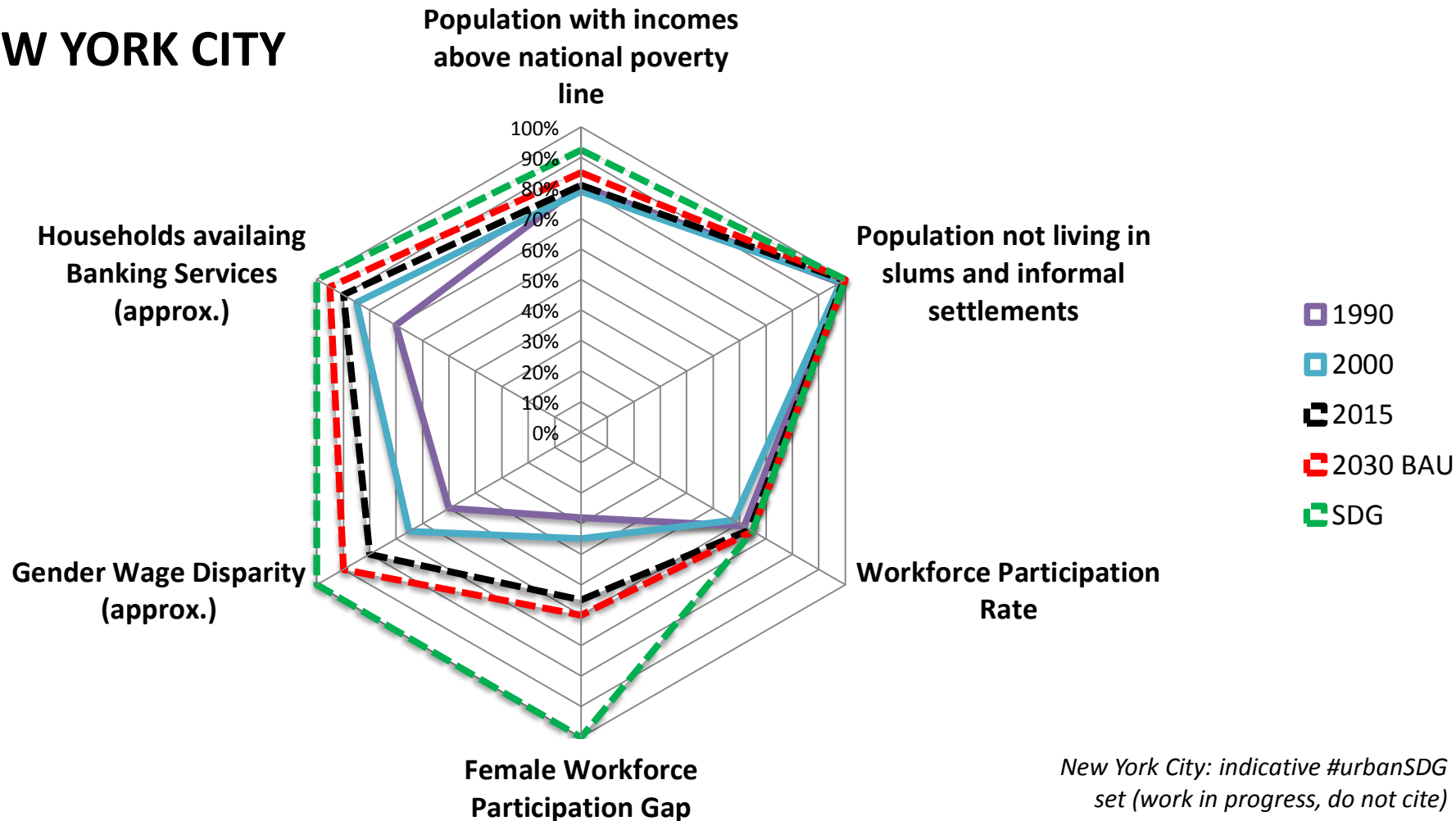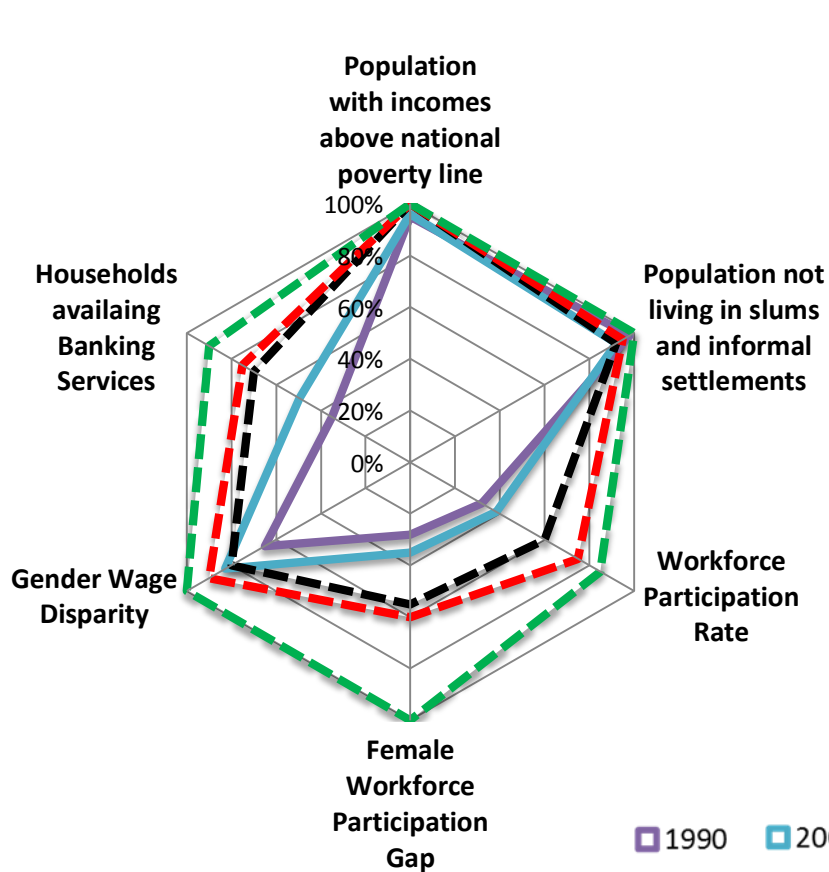

BANGALORE

Radar chart axes:
- Population with incomes above national poverty line
- Population not living in slums and informal settlements
- Workforce Participation Rate
- Female Workforce Participation Gap
- Gender Wage Disparity
- Households availaing Banking Services

Legend:
- 1990
- 2000
- 2015
- 2030 BAU
- SDG

Bangalore: indicative #urbanSDG set (work in progress, do not cite)

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Urban SDG Target A - **Eliminate extreme urban poverty, expand employment & productivity, & raise living standards, especially in slums & informal settlements**
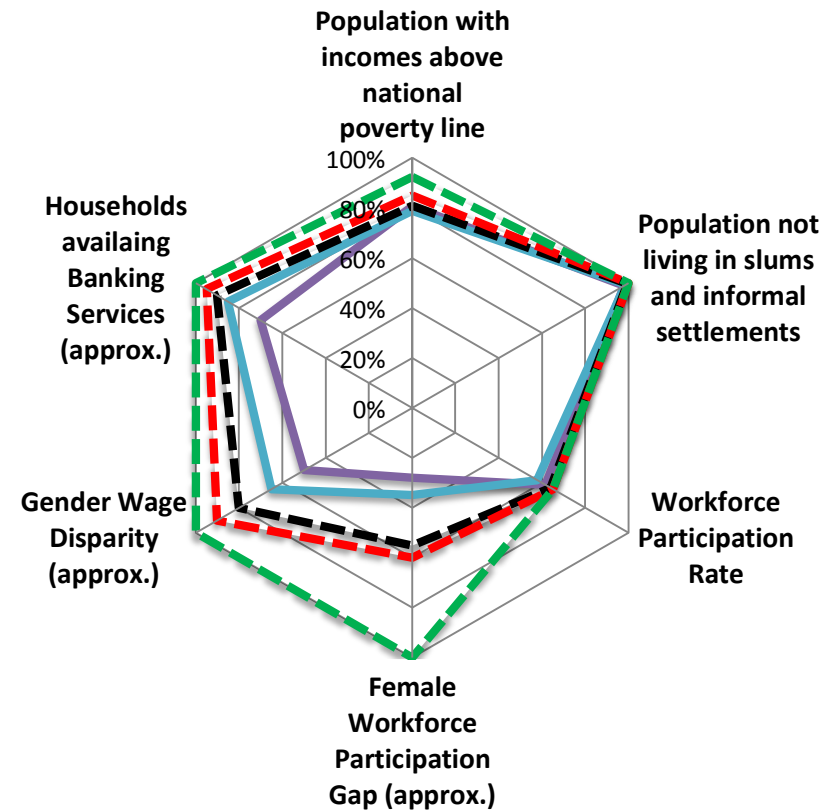
NEW YORK CITY

Population with incomes above national poverty line

Population not living in slums and informal settlements

Workforce Participation Rate

Female Workforce Participation Gap

Gender Wage Disparity (approx.)

Households availaing Banking Services (approx.)

- 1990
- 2000
- 2015
- 2030 BAU
- SDG

New York City: indicative #urbanSDG set (work in progress, do not cite)

BANGALORE

NEW YORK CITY

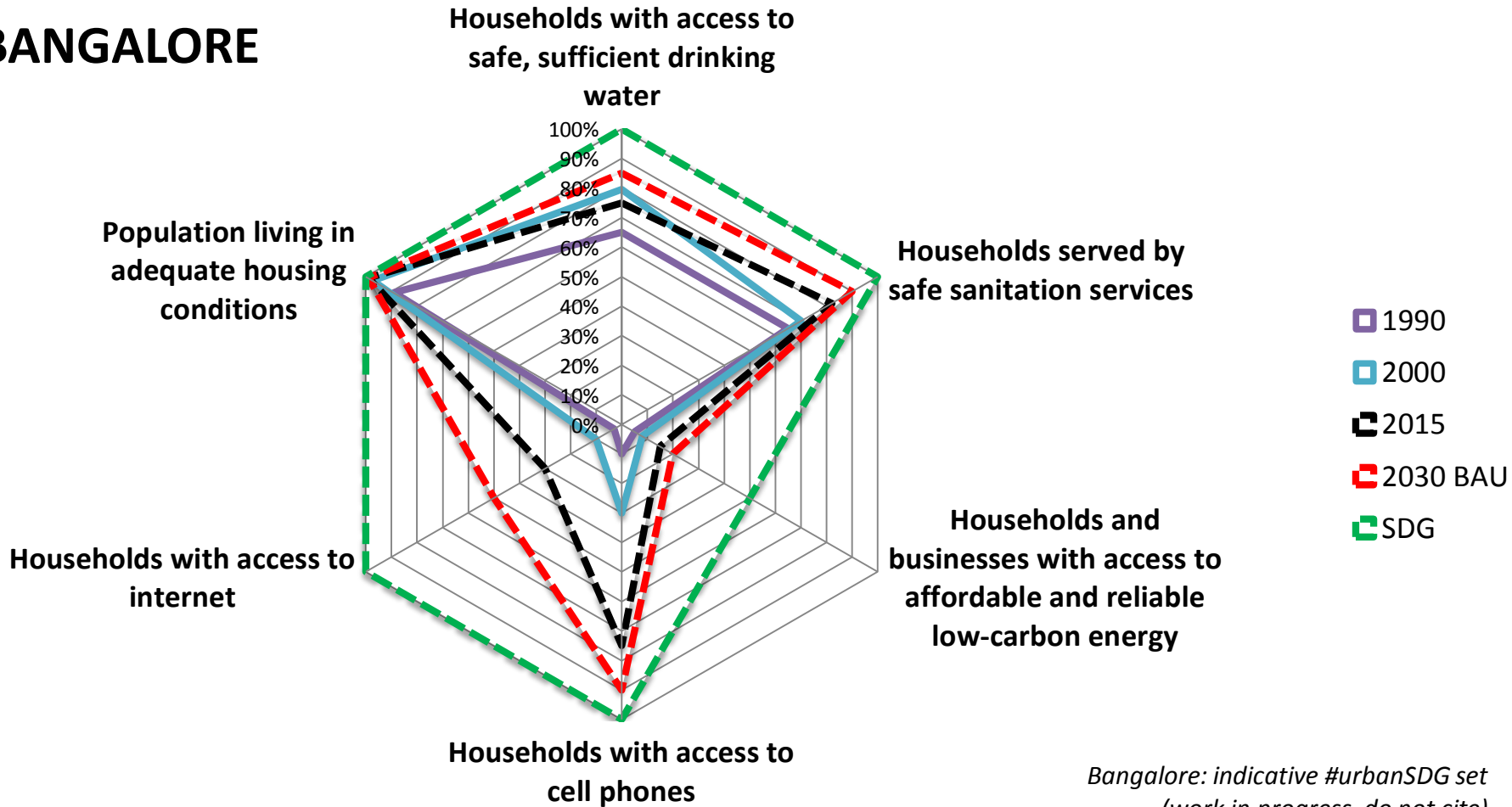Legend: 1990 | 2000 | 2015 | 2030 BAU

NOTE : Indicative #urbanSDG set (work in progress, do not cite)

SDSN: Urban SDG Target B

Ensure universal access to a well-designed, secure, and affordable built environment and basic urban services including housing; water, sanitation and waste management; low-carbon energy and transport; and mobile and broadband communication.

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Bangalore: indicative #urbanSDG set
(work in progress, do not cite)

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Households with access to safe, sufficient drinking water

Households served by safe sanitation services

Population living in adequate housing conditions (approx.)

Households with access to internet

Households and businesses with access to affordable and reliable low-carbon energy (approx.)

Households with access to cell phones (approx.)

- 1990
- 2000
- 2015
- 2030 BAU
- SDG

New York City: indicative #urbanSDG set (work in progress, do not cite)

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Urban SDG Target B - Ensure universal access to a secure and affordable built environment & basic services: housing, water, sanitation & waste management; low-carbon energy & transportation; & communication.
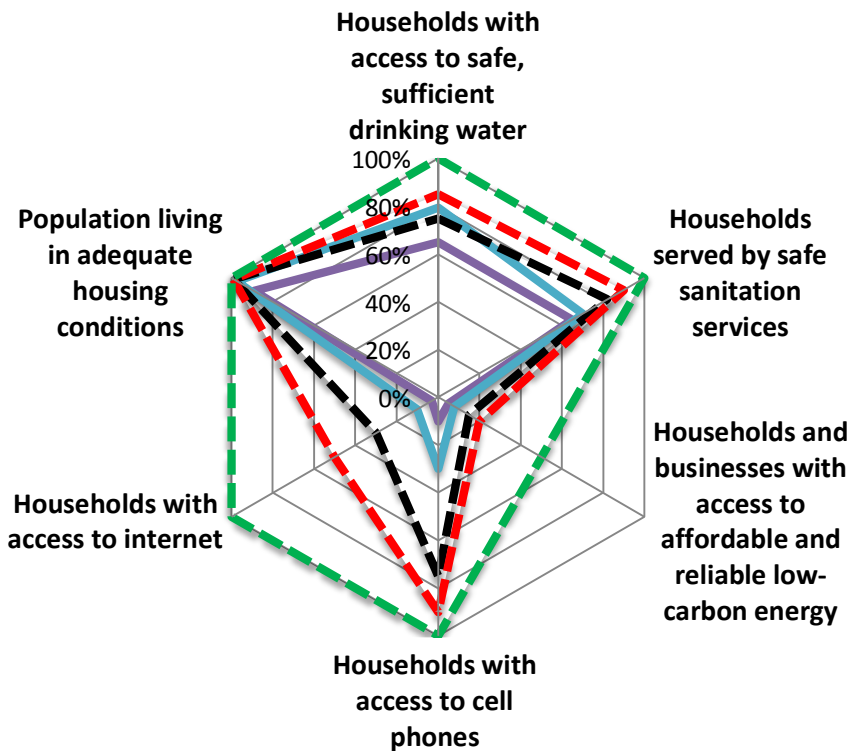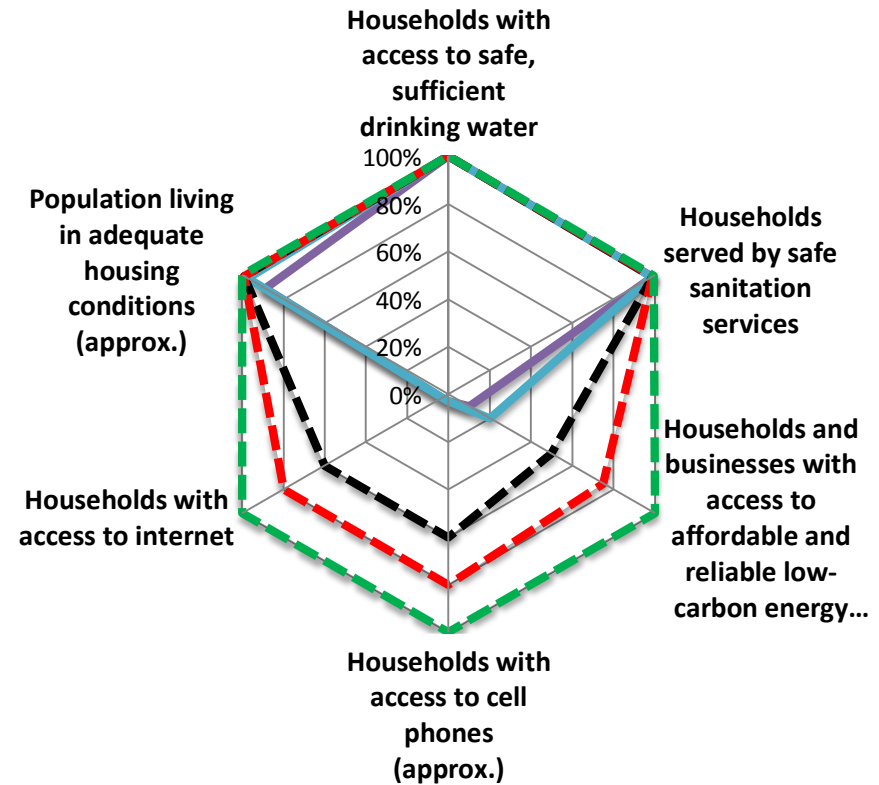
SDSN: Urban SDG Target C

Ensure safe air and water quality for all, and integrate   reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, efficient land and resource use, and climate and disaster resilience into investments and standards.

Urban SDG Target C - Ensure safe air & water quality for all, & integrate reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, efficient land & resource use, & climate & disaster resilience into investments & standards
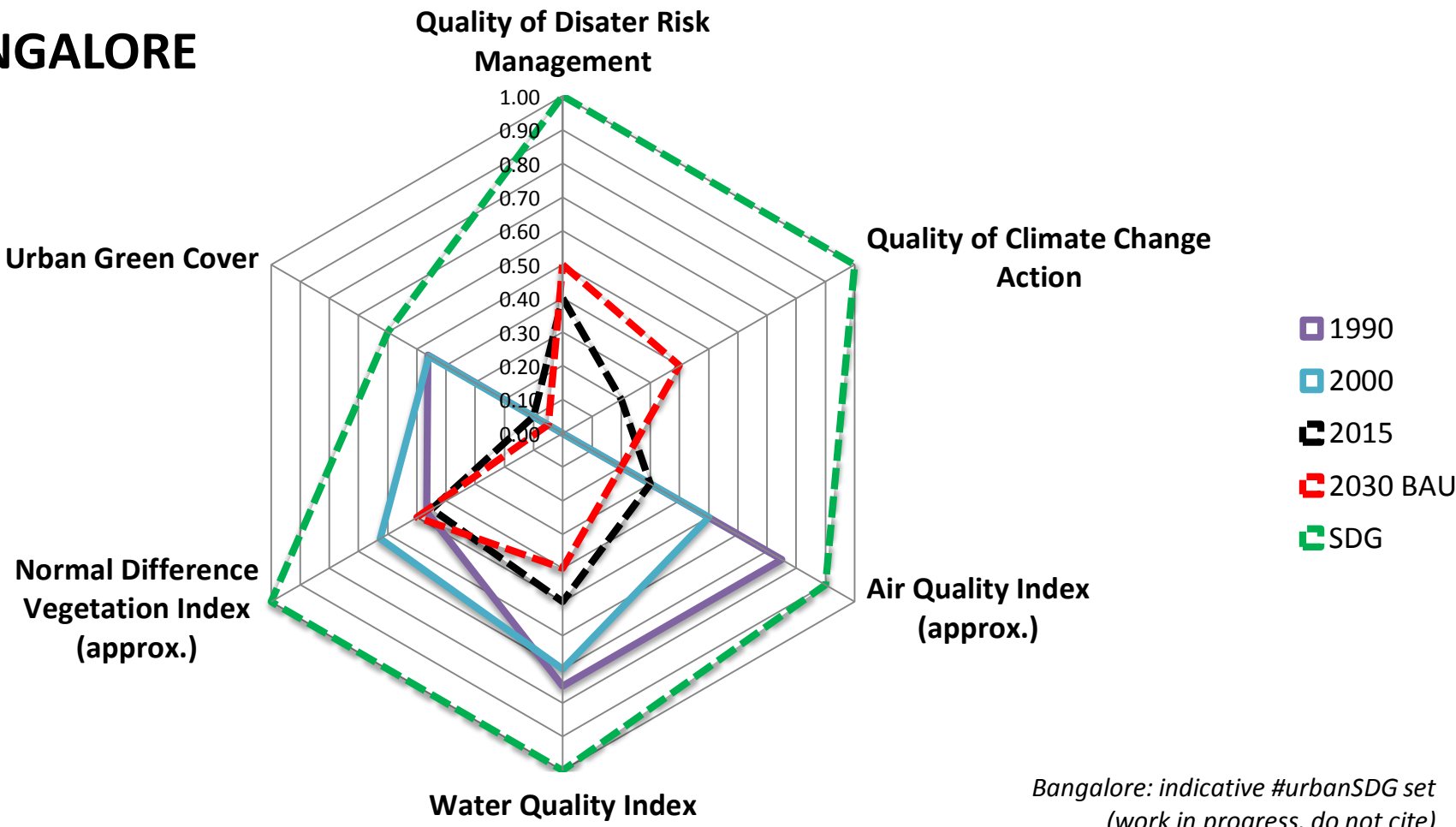

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Bangalore: indicative #urbanSDG set (work in progress, do not cite)

Urban SDG Target C - Ensure safe air & water quality for all, & integrate reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, efficient land & resource use, & climate & disaster resilience into investments & standards
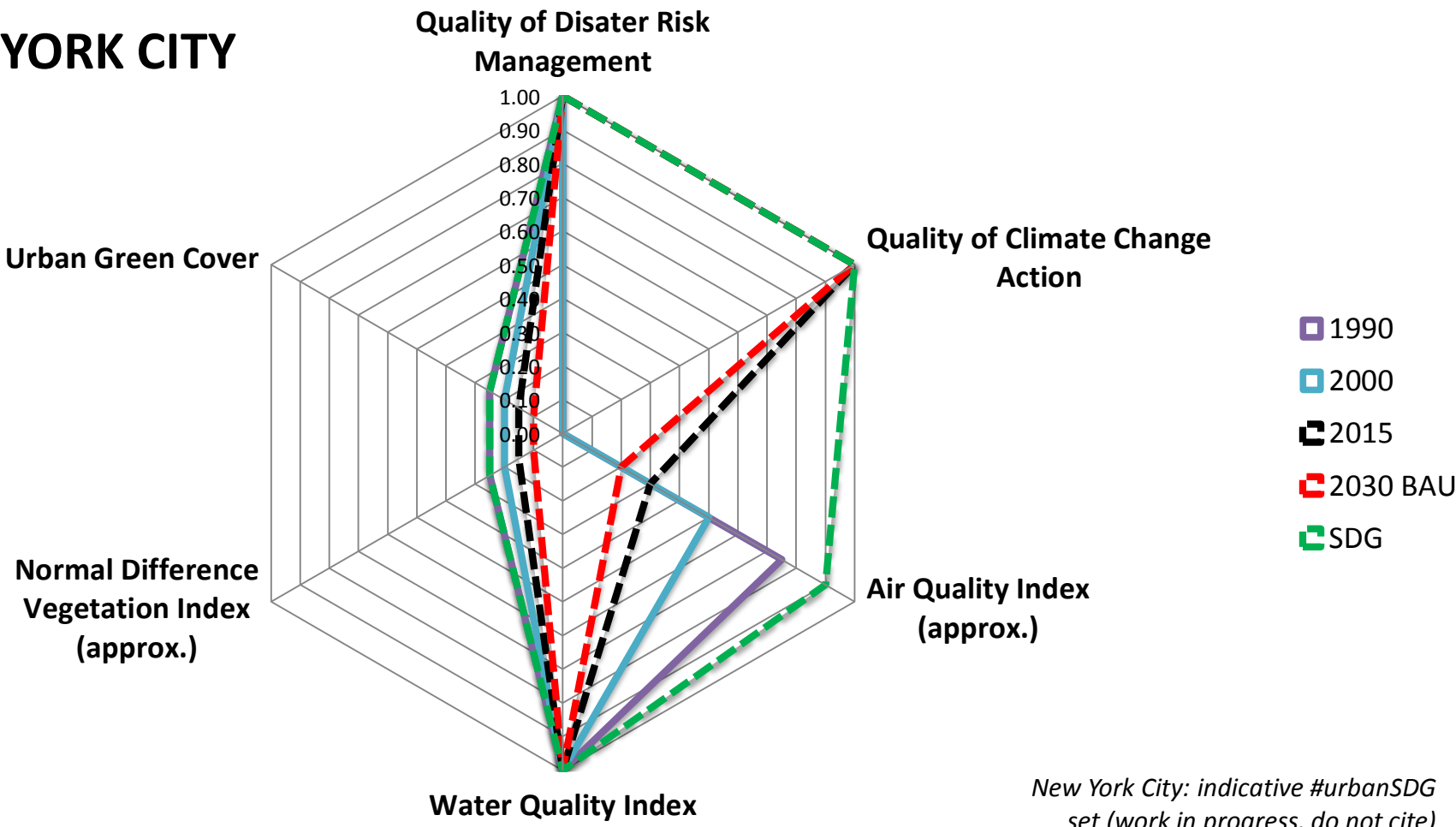
NEW YORK CITY

Radar chart axes:
- Quality of Disater Risk Management
- Quality of Climate Change Action
- Air Quality Index (approx.)
- Water Quality Index
- Normal Difference Vegetation Index (approx.)
- Urban Green Cover

Scale: 0.00, 0.10, 0.20, 0.30, 0.40, 0.50, 0.60, 0.70, 0.80, 0.90, 1.00

Legend:
- 1990
- 2000
- 2015
- 2030 BAU
- SDG

New York City: indicative #urbanSDG set (work in progress, do not cite)

Urban SDG Target C - Ensure safe air & water quality for all, & integrate reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, efficient land & resource use, & climate & disaster resilience into investments & standards
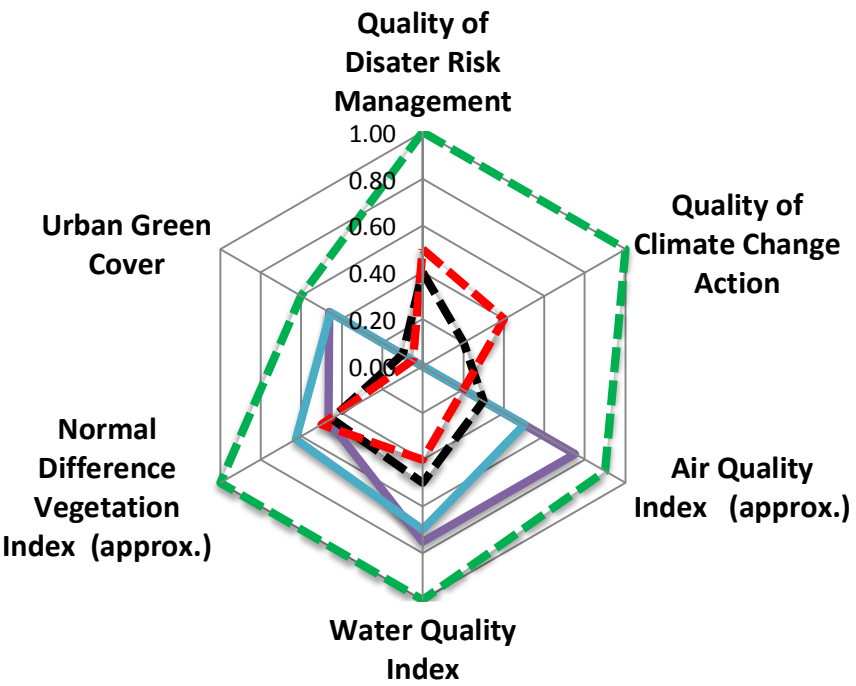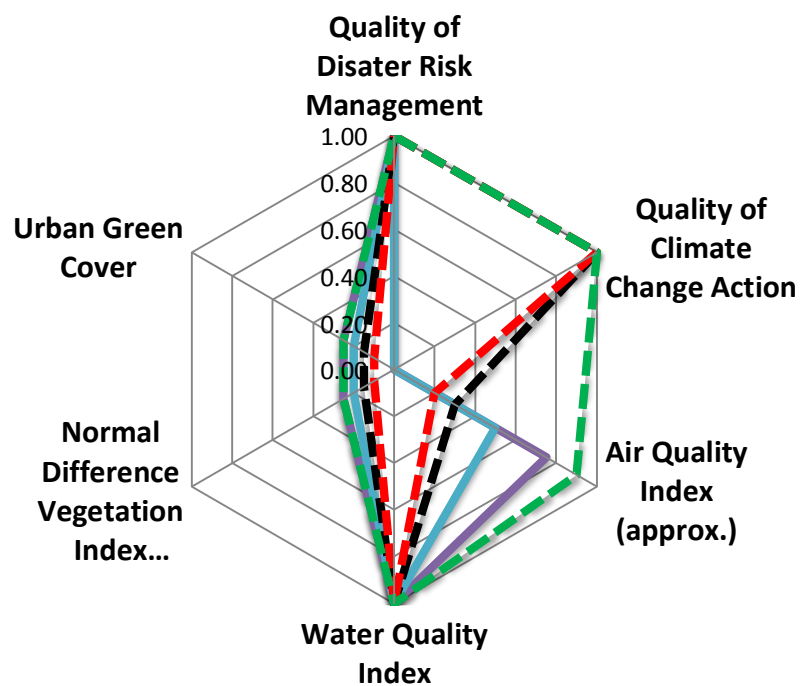

BANGALORE

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Legend: 1990, 2000, 2015, 2030 BAU

NOTE : Indicative #urbanSDG set (work in progress, do not cite)

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Conclusion

1. An urban Sustainable Development Goal is inspiration, aspirational and operationalisable

2. It can bring together multiple sectors, actors and processes in new ways that focus on the synergy between opportunities that overcome the many current systemic & structural challenges

3. This will not be easy, will require a re-imagined institutional and financial architecture, processes & metrics

4. It should be more equitable, politically and economically viable, cheaper and more efficient that 'unstructured' Business-as-Usual

5. The commitment of member-states, regional & local governments, communities, enterprises & the knowledge sector to transform governance could make this possible

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