#### **MEGACITIES AND MIGRATION** IN THE CONTEXT OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



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### Outline

- Levels and Trends of World Megacities
- Tokyo: Experience of the World Largest Megacity
- Challenges and Opportunities of Megacities

# Megacities in the World 1990



UN World Urbanization Prospects: the 2014 Revision

# Megacities in the World 2014



# Urban population growth is propelled by the growth of cities of all sizes



#### Population of Megacities, 1970-2030



UN World Urbanization Prospects: The 2014 Revision

## **Components of urban growths**

- To ascribe urban growth to a single causal factor (ruralurban migration) is a misleading oversimplification.
- Demographically, urban growth is caused by: 1) a positive net in-migration, 2) natural increase in population, and 3) reclassification of city boundaries.
- Net in-migration appears to play a larger role in determining the growth of large metropolitan centers, than in the case of small urban areas.



#### **Tokyo:** Experience of the World Largest Megacity

# The population of Tokyo increased by absorbing the growing suburban population in adjacent areas

In Million



#### Population of Tokyo is projected to decline, due to ....

- Population ageing
- Declining net in-migration



Note: Date refer to Tokyo prefecture only.



#### Will immigrants boost the population of Tokyo?



Note: Date refer to Tokyo prefecture only.

- Foreign population has quadrupled since 1980.
- It represents 3.1% of population in Tokyo prefecture; accounted for ¼ of population growth in 2014.
- Major countries of origin: China, Republic of Korea, the Philippines
- The future growth in number depends on economic performance and immigration policy.

### Megacities: Challenges and Opportunities

## **Multifaceted challenges**

- Diverse challenges of megacities
  - Transportation, infrastructure, utility
  - Food, water
  - Public safety, security
  - Unemployment
  - Urban divides, inequality, etc.
- In developing countries, the rapid increases in population with a weak economic growth, enhance people's health risks and poverty.
- The uncontrolled migration adds to the increase in the number of people living in slums.



## **Productivity and inequality**

- Cities generate wealth, but it is not shared equitably.
- Inequality is growing in many cities – a process that undermines urban prosperity.



Source: State of the World's Cities 2012/2013

### **Urban population living in slums**



Right axis: proportion of urban population living in slums

- The proportion of population living in slums in developing world cities has fallen significantly,1990-2014.
- But, their numbers remain high. Over 880 million urban residents live in slum conditions today.

### What determines a city's prosperity?

- Economic opportunities
- Level of development
- Institutional arrangements
- Policies/visions
- City-specific factors





## **Summary and conclusions**

- Megacities will continue to grow both in numbers and resident population, especially in developing regions.
- The experience of Tokyo suggests that demographic factors play an important role to determine a city's dynamics and prosperity.
- For sustainable development of megacities, comprehensive policies are needed. Keys to mitigate challenges include efficient use of resources, technologies and public-private interface, which take into city-specific factors.

#### Thank you !