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20th-century model



Car-oriented public spaces



**Urban sprawl
&
Land uses specialisation**



Many of the challenges cities are facing today

planet

Air pollution

GHG emissions

Consumption of natural lands

people

Long commute

**Lack of amenities & poor quality of life in many
neighbourhoods**

Climate impact/benefits

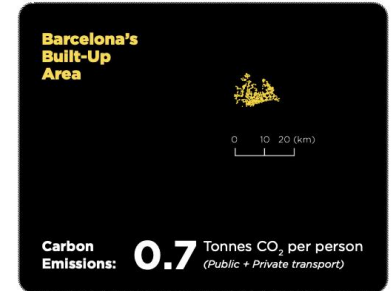
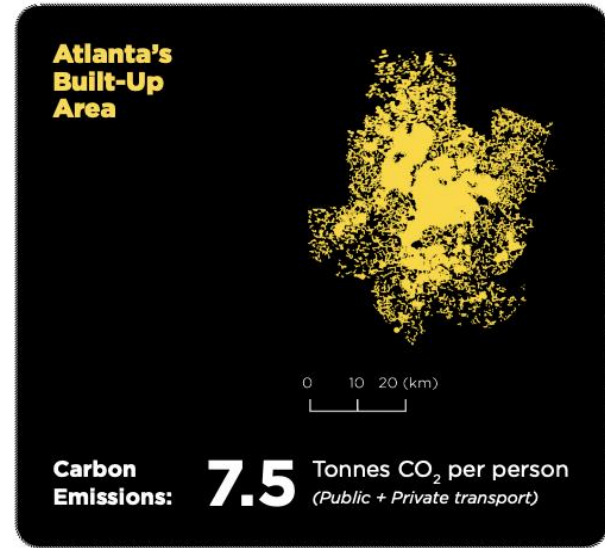
Adopting this better urban planning model - that is compact, mixed-use, transit-oriented - **could cut emissions by around 25% by 2050.**

IPCC report



Climate benefits

- **Reduce transport emissions** by reducing travel distance and enabling mode shift
- **Reduce buildings emissions** by promoting shared walls & smaller homes
- Curb sprawl, **preserve natural land and associated carbon sequestration**

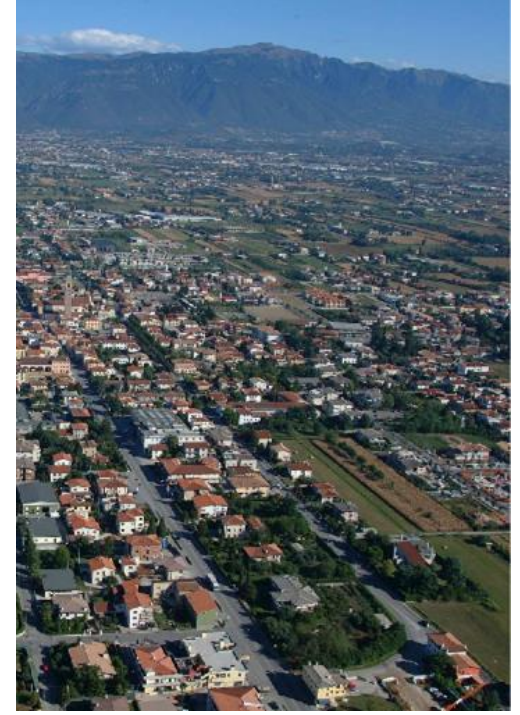


Transport emissions in low-density cities like Atlanta are 10 times higher than in high-density cities like Barcelona.

But TODAY, we are not going in the right direction

Expansion of urban areas is growing up to **50% faster than the population.**

If we don't change, urban areas could **triple in size by 2050.**



This model is also **Increasing Climate Vulnerability**

Also, not capable of absorbing the population growth, leading to increased climate vulnerability:

- **Urban growth in flood risk areas outpaces growth in low-risk areas**
- **90 % of the urban expansion in Global South happens in or near extreme flood-prone areas.**
- **Many cities extensively pave over permeable soils** for constructions & roads



Example: Catastrophic flooding in Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil

Exacerbated by **poor urban planning**:

- **Extensive development in areas at risk of flooding**, including floodplains
- **Paving over permeable soils** for construction and roads
- **Lax construction standards**
- **Low capacity for enforcement**



Example: Record-breaking heat in Phoenix, USA



Exacerbated by **poor urban planning**:

- Urban sprawl led to a **huge expansion in concrete infrastructure** (buildings, roads, carparks)
- Land use policies **failing to protect and prioritise green infrastructure**
- **Maladapted urban form and architecture**

A turning point *(or a U-turn?)* in urban planning?

~~Urban sprawl~~ → compact city & infill development

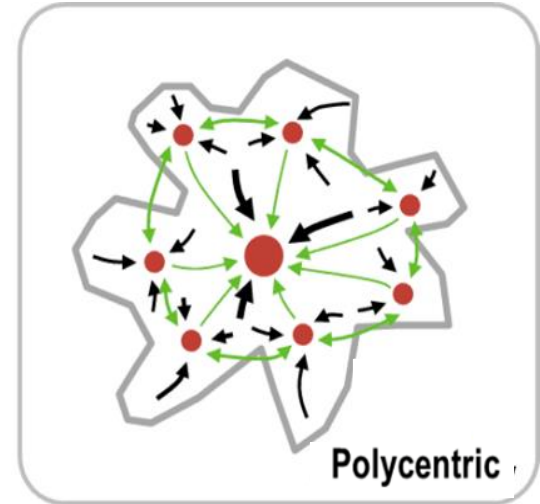
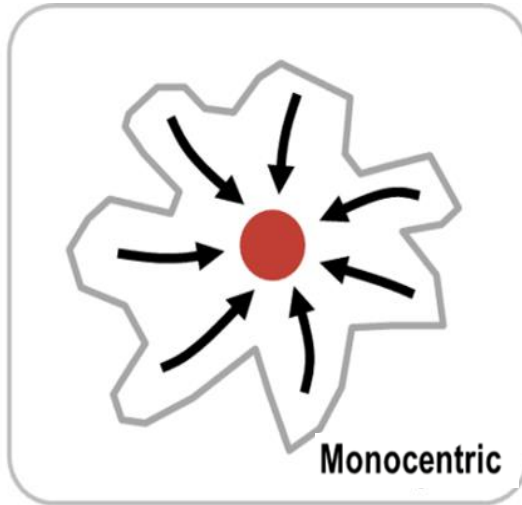
~~Zoning~~ → mixed-use & “complete” neighbourhoods

~~Car-oriented public-spaces~~ → People & nature first

~~Top-down planning~~ → local approaches & community engagement



A polycentric city made of Complete and walkable neighbourhoods



Urban planning policies of **climate resilience**

Require buildings to be constructed with consideration for **thermal/heat comfort**

Encourage **bioclimatic design**

Require new development to provide **% of green & permeable surfaces**

Create a **'plant deficit' zone**

Incentivise building **'green roofs'**

Require **sustainable drainage systems**

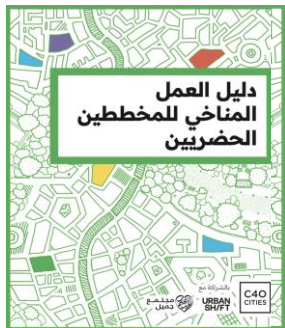
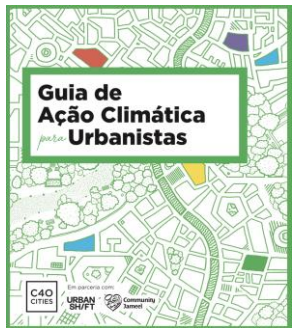
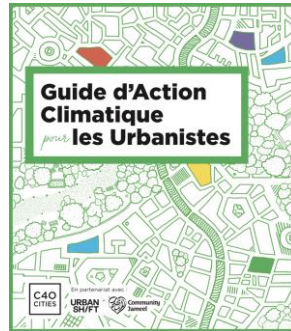
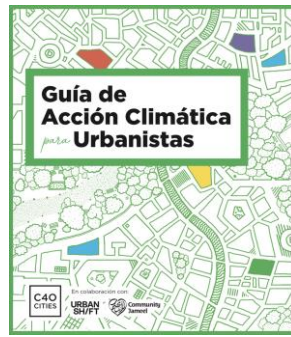
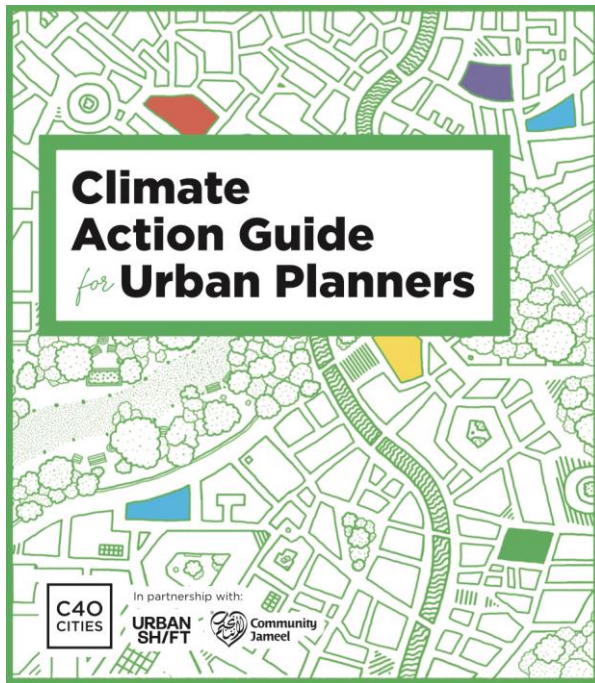
Restrict construction in areas exposed to **riverine or surface water flooding**

Plan for the expansion and safeguarding of **green and blue infrastructure** in coastal areas

Guide Launch

C40 Cities, Community Jameel, UrbanShift are launching a Climate Action Guide for Urban Planners to support cities in embedding climate action within their urban planning frameworks.

Available in Arabic, English, French, Portuguese (BR) and Spanish.



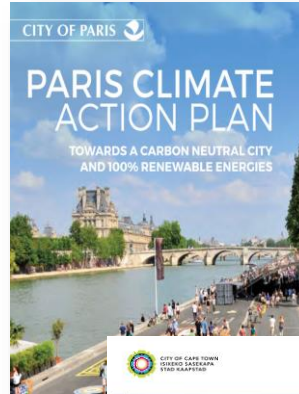
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Mainstreaming Climate Action through Urban Planning

Critical next step to Climate Action Planning and a powerful tool for local governments to **mainstream their climate priorities** and to transpose them into **legally binding policies**.

New C40 Leadership Standard:
Cities report annually on their progress



C40 actions & to advance climate responsive urban planning

3 complementary programmes that

- Combine **different scales** of actions
- Harness the power of **policies, procurements and implementation**
- Build on **city-to-city knowledge sharing** and **collaboration with professionals & youth**



C40 programmes to advance climate responsive urban planning

Platform for cities to accelerate **sustainable land-use policies and mainstream climate actions in city Master Plans**

C40 Land Use Planning Network

C40 x Jameel Urban Planning Climate Lab

Programme that delivers proof of concept for **proximity planning** and implementation of climate-responsive **neighbourhood pilots**

C40 Green & Thriving Neighbourhoods

ReGreenation

Design competitions calling teams of **professionals and youth** to transform urban sites into **innovative, zero-carbon and resilient urban projects**

C40 Reinventing Cities

Youth Reinventing Cities

