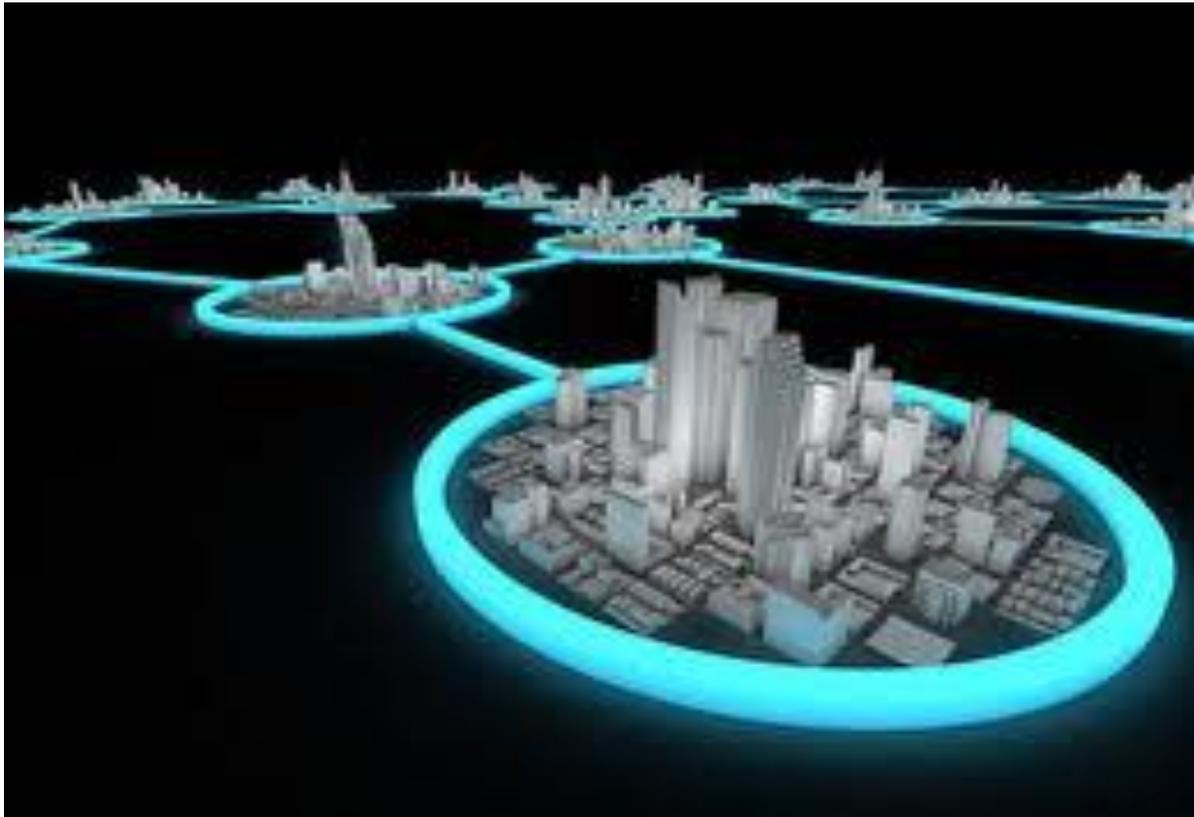


MICRO CITIES



BY

NAVED JAFRY

Abstract

The world is increasingly becoming unequal, unstable, and unsustainable, and most of that can now be witnessed in our cities. In the event of these social, ecological and economical crises, more optimal models of city planning must ensue. This paper explores a city's policies on legal systems, infrastructure, conducive health care programs, and productive economic paths to address the challenges we face as a society. The creation of a Micro City is the perfect idea for improving current conditions of preexisting cities where the overall sustainability and well-being of all parties involved becomes a priority. By examining models of developed cities, a Micro City could facilitate a prosperous city charter within or near the borders of an existing city. The new city managers of Micro Cities could implement key laws to encourage fairness, transparency, privacy, safety and productivity to fulfill the needs of all its residents. The Micro City concept requires sound policies that are sustainable and which attracts investors and firms who are willing to build the city's infrastructure.

Since 50% of the world's population now lives in cities. Cities now account for 75% of the world's energy consumption, 90 % of the global population growth, 80% of all CO2 emissions, and most of the world's economic productivity. Every year nearly seventy million people migrate from rural areas to the slums and ghettos of the world's cities. Most of these new immigrants end up in these illegal townships, where they collectively become part of the world's second largest, \$1 trillion informal economy. Moreover this trend does not seem to slow down, as impoverished immigrants are actually escaping a life of crime, poverty, disease, and a backbreaking lifestyle of the rural economy.

One of the several challenges for these host cities is that that they cannot catch up fast enough to develop adequate infrastructure and public services to regulate and maintain an acceptable standard of living for all its residents. The cities regulated free-market economy is quickly becoming an unregulated flea market. Most local residents now feel that their traditional culture is overrun by the new immigrants, creating serious social, environmental, and economical pressures. Even large and medium size legitimate trade and businesses are now negatively impacted with the unfair competition the informal sector enjoys from the tax, regulations and standard labor costs it bypasses. Therefore, Micro Cities if established can totally revolutionize our societies, our economies and more importantly our cities which we are connected to, while giving the legitimate world an effective tool to effectively mitigate the underground society.

Micro Cities: Helping mitigate the Rise of the Underground Society

When living conditions become unfavorable in rural parts of the world, most people consider opting for a new lifestyle. Unfavorable conditions may relate to economic, social, political, or security considerations. Imagine that you are among those who are impacted by these conditions but you do not have the necessary means to be able to pack your belongings in hopes to search for a better future elsewhere. If people had the option of leaving their situation permanently, they would take it in a heartbeat, but voters in countries with favorable rules and living conditions will not let them settle there unless the new residents can contribute something intellectually and economically substantial. According to Robert Neuwirth (2011), every year 70 million people are moving into cities, primarily squatter or shadow cities (p. 59).

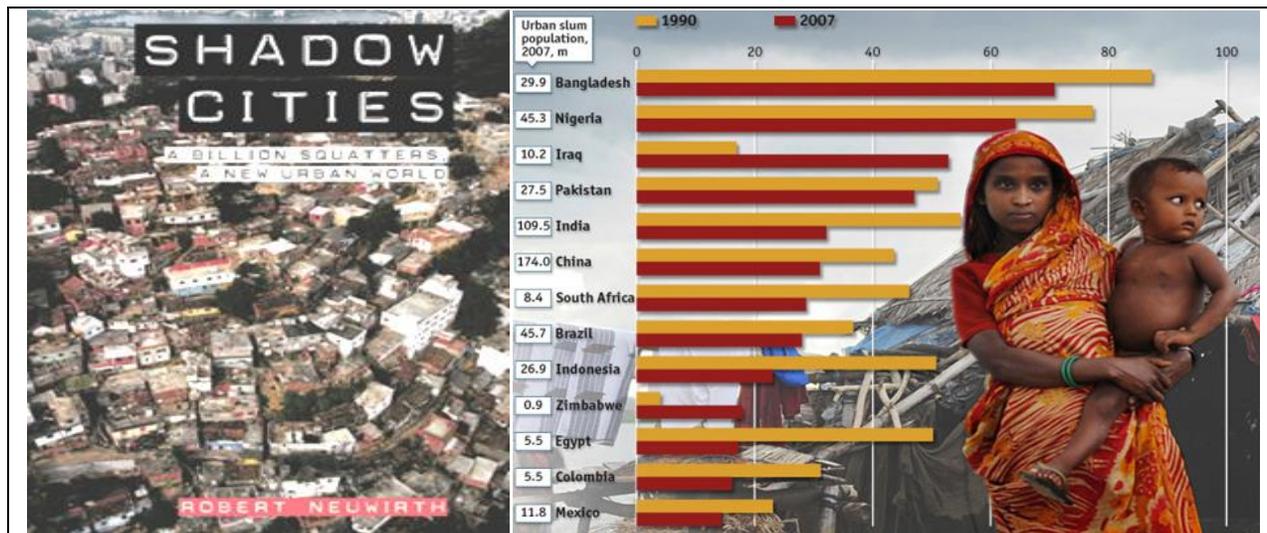


Figure 1 and 2. *Shadow cities* by Robert Neuwirth. Neuwirth shares his experiences visiting a vast amount of squatter areas and how majority of urban populations are living in slums. The second figure illustrates the increased percentage comparison of a country's urban population now living in slums during 1990 and 2007.

Should individuals be forced to become squatters and just be another item on their respective country's list of burdens? Neuwirth states that one billion people already live in shanty towns and by 2050, a third of humanity will be living in these poor conditions (p. 59).

Being a squatter in itself requires exasperated effort since so-called residents run the risk of having their illegal homes removed.



(See Figure 3 and 4(a)/4(b) show how villages like these are depopulating and moving to urban centers and settling into slum, such as the one in Mumbai India. by Stewart Brand in 2006 TED talk).

These shanty towns and illegal townships are now exploited by violent criminals, corrupt corporations and politicians to source their cheap labor and votes from. Many of these organizations operate partially or wholly outside the law by underreporting employment, avoiding taxes, ignoring product quality and safety regulations, infringing copyrights, and even failing to register some of their divisions as legal entities. Even developed economies like Portugal and Italy have significant portions of their economy operating in the gray area. According to estimates from The World Bank the informal economy comprises 40 percent of the GNP of low-income nations and 17 percent of the GNP of high-income ones. Economic sectors like the retail and construction has been known to be up to 80 percent operating in the informal or underground economy. Diana Farrell the director at the McKinsey Global Institute explains how the informal sector hurts economic growth by preventing larger, more productive formal

companies from gaining market share. The cost benefit of avoiding taxes and regulations often amounts to more than 10 percent of the final price. This advantage takes away Market share from legitimate entities and discourages them from making important investments and bringing in new technology and sophisticated operating methods.

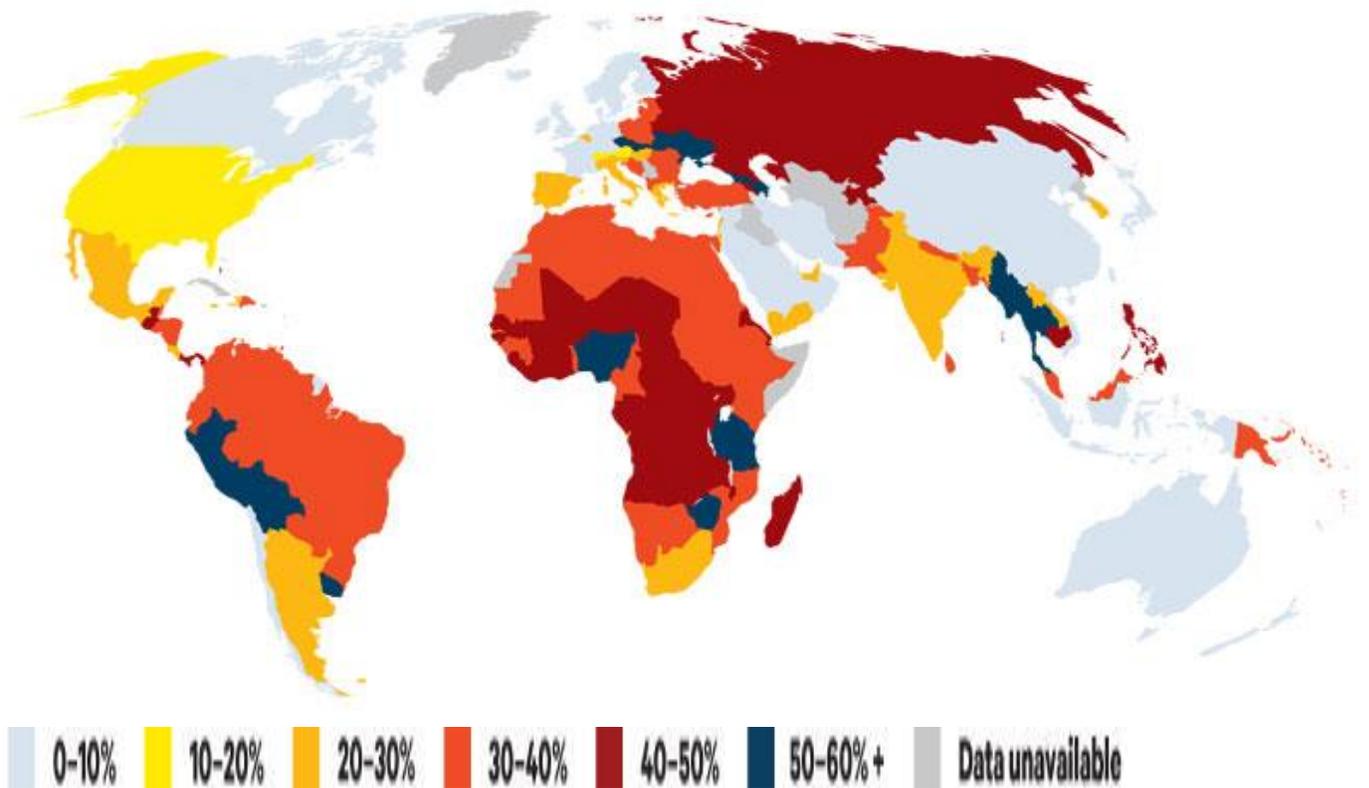


Figure 4(c) indicates with the colors on this map the size of each country's underground economy, as a percentage of its GDP. Source: Friedrich Schneider et al., "New Estimates for the Shadow Economies All Over the World," *International Economic Journal* 2010.

For self preservation reasons even several legal businesses willingly choose to operate in the gray area so as to prevent government and competitor's scrutiny and attacks. But sadly these very good companies also lose their ability to enhance its operations and finance its growth. As informal companies aren't legal entities, they lose their capability to raise or borrow capital from the legal economy and instead rely on illegal moneylenders that charge exorbitant rates and advance only small amounts. Informal businesses also are limited to do business

within their immediate underground circles. These underground networks of suppliers and customers are needed and are a necessity as these illegitimate entities can't seek legal recourse during disagreements to enforce their contracts, protect property rights, or resolve disputes with the outside community within the legitimate legal systems.

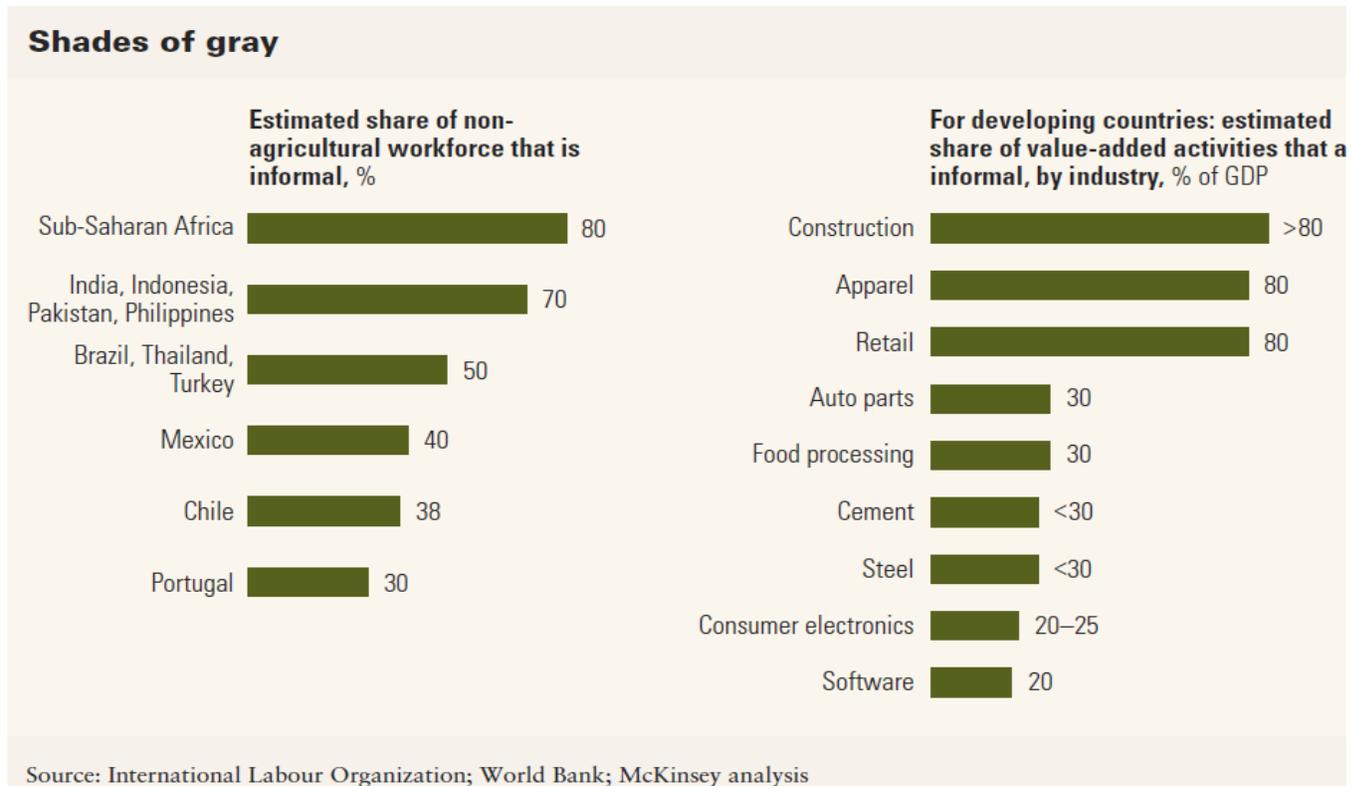


Figure 4 (d) indicates the % of non agricultural workers in the in underground economy by region and industry sectors. Source: International Labour Organaization, World bank, Mckinsey Analysis.

The social costs of the informal society are also very high. Unlike workers of the formal sector the workers of the informal economy relinquish their rights to generous social security benefits, labor rights and earn, on average, lower wages, receive poorer health and safety protections. Moreover, consumers have less choice too. In developing countries, they can typically buy either very expensive, high-quality goods or services like those found in rich countries or cheap, low-quality goods and services lurking with hazards and risks from shady businesses and informal enterprises.

Paul Romer, a renowned economics professor at New York University and former professor at Stanford University, formulated an idea similar to Micro Cities called Charter Cities. Just like Micro Cities, a charter city is a special reform zone, but on a larger scale with inhabitants sourced both locally and internationally. The reforms of Micro Cities involve considering the needs of the new settlement, as well as supporting a set of rules that allow a modern market to thrive. Through the power of their operating contracts Micro Cities could make corporations and citizens accountable to their environment and their communities. Micro Cities ensure that there is better accountability all through the production, supply, and marketing chain, while maintaining acceptable standards for security of life and property in the new city. Just like Romer (2010) suggested, Micro Cities could allow cross-national government partnerships to take place, as parent countries, cities and communities transfer existing rules to new settlements as needed hence having the residents abide by a new and more favorable set of rules, while still possessing local legitimacy.

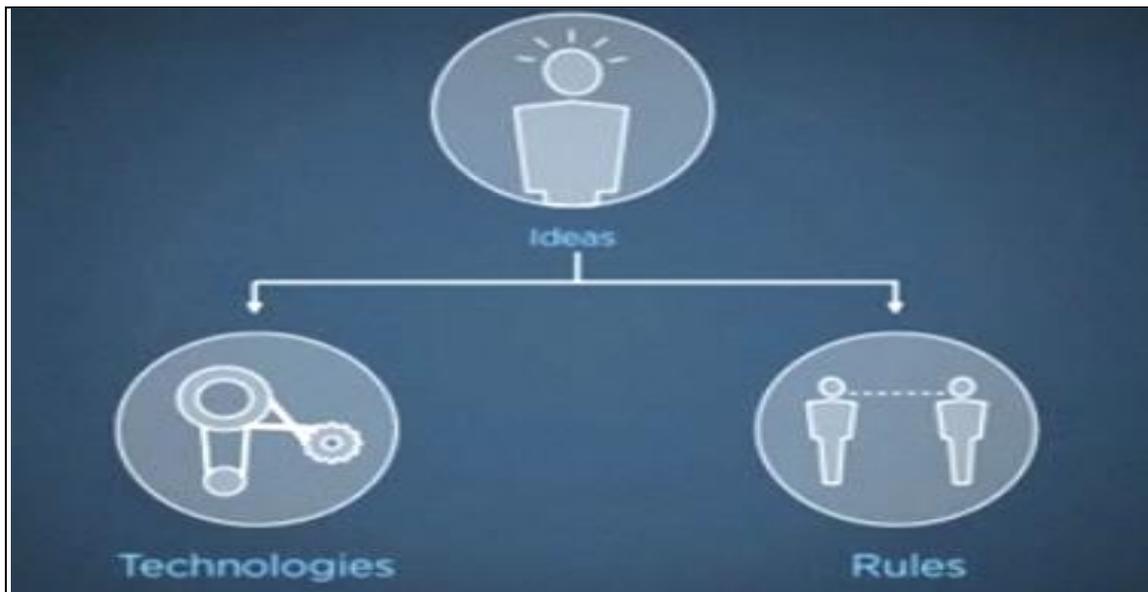


Figure 5. Components of a Micro City. Rules and technologies fitting to the new city's new ideas are the major components of a successful Micro City. Inspired from Paul Rome's concept of Charter City 2012.

One of the initial decisions to be made when building a Micro City is a desired location. In his 2011 TED Talk, Romer suggests that, “The laws and rules of any city have to be made to attract people into the city.” A Micro City operates under a unique set of laws that is fitting to the lifestyle of the new settlement, but those laws should not conflict with the parent country’s constitutional, state, or local laws. The new city is entitled to produce revenue in their method of choice, but a certain percentage of that money is given back to the parent country. In order for such a situation to be successful, the parent countries, cities and community’s (CCC) government must cooperate with the drafters of the Micro City.

Key items in the creation of a Micro City consist of laws and rules that must be abided by in order to maintain structure within the society. Distinct roles in participating countries, cities, and communities include a host, source, and guarantor (“Charter cities,” 2012). The host provides the land, while a source country has the potential residents that will move into the new city. The guarantor country ensures that the charter will be enforced for as long as the city is sustained. Other factors that play a crucial role in the creation of a city include implementation and creation of necessary infrastructure and the welfare of citizens through health, security, and financial well-being.

Society should be organized to serve and facilitate the growth and development of four primary groups such as those who defend us (lawyers, police, military), those who innovate (teachers, scientists, engineers, other intellectuals), those who trade (individuals involved in small business companies and firms), and those who support (blue-collar workers). The creation of a Micro City implements these dimensions of society and makes certain that these groups can bring their ideas together to create a city that fulfills its needs.

How the City Will Be Economically Sustained

It is imperative for Micro Cities to attract and retain a diverse group of service, industrial, manufacturing and knowledge creating firms and entities. By increasing its tax base through incentives and better tax enforcements, Micro Cities can further increase their competitiveness by lowering taxes which in turns hinders the growth of the informal sector and brings unregulated workforce into its system. It is no accident that developed nations have a much more advanced and efficient tax regulatory and audit systems in place. Governments and City policy makers’ often forget that high taxes, complex tax systems and regulations, weak enforcement, and social norms actually breeds more corruption, economic inefficiencies and the growth of the underground economy.



By merely collecting taxes from more companies, Cities could enable a government to cut tax rates without reducing its tax revenue. In Turkey, for instance, Mckinsey Global Institute (MGI) found that the state collects just 64 percent of the value-added-tax (VAT) revenue it

is owed on retail sales. If it increased enforcement and collected 90 percent, the VAT rate could be lowered to 13 percent (from 18 percent) without decreasing government revenues. In many countries, the collection of retail value-added taxes is a good place to start, since it enables the government to gain information about the revenues of the companies that supply the retailers and therefore improves enforcement among suppliers as well.

Since cities with significant portions of informal sectors can provide the biggest opportunities in the building a Micro City, the cities management must attract investors who are willing to build the infrastructure, such as roads, power system, airports, and buildings. Industrial, service and manufacturing firms will need to be attracted as well since they have the power to hire people who will move into the city in the first place. In Paul Romer's (2009) TED Talk, he discusses that when employees are hired, their families will move to the city and become permanent residents, have children, get an education, and enter the workforce; this will result in an ongoing cycle.



Figure 14 and 15. Shadow cities by Robert Neuwirth. Neuwirth shows the informal economies in the slums are now collectively the second largest economy in the world, and the shortfall of the legitimate economy which excludes two thirds of the workforce.

Figure 16: Major companies such as Procter & Gamble derive 20 % of all its revenues from the informal sector. It could be Ideal for companies such as these to position itself into the Micro Cities of the world without supporting the underground economy . Ref:- P&G public disclosure in its reporting documents.⁹

Although Investors and the private sector may provide financial means to build a Micro City, they cannot shoulder all financial burdens. Aid from developed countries alleviates financial loads, but trade allows the new settlement to sustain itself and restore dignity to its people. It is true that international firms collecting fees for their services may possibly provide a large portion of the new settlement's infrastructure, but the city's development authority must finance remaining public services. This includes border security, police, firefighting, courts, and other necessary services. Usually cities rely solely on income and property taxes to generate the funds needed for these operations. On the other hand, Micro Cities employ a different approach. The city may make long-term leases to private developers, causing rent to fluctuate parallel to land value. The price of rent will increase as land value rises (Fuller & Romer, 2010). Such a method would not only provide income for the city's government, but it also gives the government an incentive to maintain the city. Maintenance ensures that living and working conditions remain attractive since revenues rely on the city's land value (Romer, 2009).

The Importance of Implementing Good Laws

When a Micro City is built, the foundation of its laws originates from the country, city or community in which it is built. Creating effective laws gives residents the option to choose the lifestyle they prefer. Administrative laws should be simple enough that they can be interpreted properly by law enforcement and citizens. Alan Siegel (1983) insists that tax forms, credit agreements, healthcare legislations, and other laws are incomprehensibly long, and he strongly suggests a sensible approach to simplifying legal paperwork. (p. 252). Regarding trade laws, using the corporation's purchasing power of their contracts, companies can now keep the global supply chain honest as they have a moral obligation to society. These contracts could be

instrumental in delivering human rights and safe goods and services, effectively having corporations take the place of failed governments. In general, laws should be kept straightforward in order for citizens to trust and abide by them. Laws should impact society as a whole to prevent citizens with hidden agendas from finding loopholes in litigations with teachers, doctors, and other professionals. Kee-Cheok Cheong (2010) discusses the effectiveness of aiding parent countries by using charter cities: “Aid can be broken down in four elements: changes must be taken in a smaller scale to have a chance to succeed; rules must be transparent and have incentives; the residence has the power of choice; and the government of the developing country must have the power of choice”. (p. 165)

Laws are the foundation of any settlement, especially a country. Without laws, the world would be in a state of anarchy. Ring, Bigley, D’Aunno, and Khanna (2005) make four arguments to address this issue: “The extent to which government action can foster industry creation and economic development, the impact of corrupt governments on firm-level decision making by management of multinational enterprises, the concept of attractiveness of political markets and the impacts they have on a firm-level strategies, and how deregulations can affect the governance mechanisms of firm” (p. 308). Government is essential at both the federal and local level. Therefore, it is imperative that a Micro City establishes a strong government before it implements any laws. Although the government will never reach perfection, it must function to the best of its ability in order for the Micro City to become successful.

The uniqueness of Micro Cities lies in the interpretation and implementation of efficient laws with strict penalties and consequences for businesses facilitating corruption. The Romans believed that local laws could be implemented without negatively affecting the Roman Empire; this is where the idea of a city was conceived. The cities governed themselves but were required

to remain within the legal parameters of the Roman Empire. The laws created in a municipal were called “municipal charters.” This laid the foundation for American law. Keller later states, “Local governments in the U.S. are creatures of the state government; charters are like laws made in the city; and cities can practice some home rule” (p. 57).

A Micro City may be placed anywhere as long the parent nation’s government approves. Third world countries would be the best places for these cities to thrive, such as the Philippines, India, and Thailand. Third world countries have a common denominator; their governments are not strong. India is an example. Although structure is present in India, the country has a major problem with corruption. Jon Quah (2008) states that in 2007, nearly a quarter of the elected members of congress were charged with crimes, including rape and murder to name a few (p. 244).

In order to alleviate this corruption issue, India can create several Micro Cities. First, drafters will need to find land that is able to occupy at least 100,000 people. This size allows the city to make a profit for the state. The space cannot be too large because it will be more difficult to manage. As stated by Cheong, “Changes must be taken on a smaller scale to have a chance to succeed” (p. 165). Implementing a government provides structure within the city. Once a government is settled, laws may be implemented; this is the foundation of the city. The charter commission must be strong enough to implement the correct laws and rules in order for the city to thrive. Hassett (2011) discusses the process involved with this tedious endeavor and explains the position and responsibility of the commission (p. 48). Laws will make or break a city. Once all items are agreed upon, the city can be built to prosper.

The government should work hand-in-hand to enforce laws. In “Police, prosecutors, and judges,” Franklin M. Kremel (1958) states “[t]he law, however, is ineffective without

enforcement” (p. 43). In other words, without law enforcement, the law made by the government would have no meaning. Law enforcement is created to deter people from breaking the rules. Security personnel must be non-corrupt and well trained because if they cannot do their job, then the security force is ineffective and unnecessary. They have to maintain a balance of how to enforce the law since they want to win the “support of the people” (p. 43). This would make their job safer and less troublesome. Once the government and law enforcement are established, the city can start accepting new residents.



Figure 6 Robert Neuwirth shares his study on how respectable companies like Siemens paid \$1.9 billion in bribes during a period between 2001 to 2007, making a case for better accountability among governments and corporations for the benefit of all.

Cheong uses Hong Kong as an example of a successful charter city. Hong Kong was once ruled by a combination of the British and Chinese governments. Since Hong Kong was mainly under British control, they did not adopt Chinese governmental tactics. Instead, they utilized the United Kingdom’s structure of government. The laws and way of life in Hong Kong were mostly derived from the British, which attracted residents from mainland China. By operating this way, Hong Kong gradually became one of the richest cities ever created. A certain percentage of their revenue was given back to mainland China. During the 1990’s, the government of Hong Kong switched gears when the city was turned over to mainland China. Laws, policies, and holidays were changed when the Chinese declared possession of Hong Kong.

Some residents of Hong Kong opted to leave because they initially sought refuge from the Chinese government. Turmoil was present in the beginning, but Hong Kong was able to break free again and become the city it is today.

Infrastructure and Environmental Planning

Modern Micro Cities need to be compact, so they must grow vertically (Bhaskar, 2010). Since Micro Cities need to be built in a timely manner rather than evolving over a period of time, there should be an extensive use of fast building materials such as steel, glass, and pre-fabricated structure. Citizens should be able to design their own communities before construction takes place while keeping cities sustainable under required building codes. Dave Wanns and Dan Chiras (2003) suggest that when designing a neighborhood, drafters must create a community with zero carbon emission (p. 40). Instead of having private vehicles, more emphasis should be placed on public transportation. A small-scale city allows residences to be closer to work and school settings. By having a smaller city, residents will now be able to sustain their everyday lives without dramatically impacting the ecosystem.

With climate change, skyrocketing energy costs, and a weak economy on people's minds, Van Jones' (2008) recent book, *The green collar economy*, addresses ongoing issues of social inequality. He discusses the environment and arrives at large-scale solutions that focus on improving the "greenness" of individual corporations. By examining case studies of prospective companies' green initiatives and their effects on marketing and consumers, Jones demonstrates how going green can be a win-win situation for both the bottom line and the environment. Hence making the case for Micro Cities, as it provides the perfect opportunity to implement all innovative designs, that could sustain the green collar economy.

A major challenge that a Micro City faces is being able to have an efficient and advanced infrastructure that brings both industry and people into the new area (Bhaskar, 2010). Typically, people flock to places with job openings. However, jobs are created by businesses only when there is good infrastructure with rules favoring trade and security. Potential residents will not move until the Micro City has reliable hospitals, health centers, schools for their children, and other necessities. The success of a Micro City will depend on the methods in which it is managed and promoted. This requires a strong administrator who works like a city-CEO, similar to the job description of a mayor.

By implementing modern sustainable town planning, Micro Cities can become benchmarks for other conventional cities. Micro Cities can reverse the flow of migration as underdeveloped countries, cities and communities (CCC) have been losing significant portions of their populations to mass immigration. Fan and Yakita (2010) argue that brain drain hurts growth in these communities as intellectuals move across state lines in search of better, well planned townships across the developed world (p. 1360). As cities age, they become less attractive, property prices may plummet, stakeholders lose, and voters may become clouded by delusions. A Micro City can reverse all of those challenges through its modern, improved, affordable, and durable infrastructure that stimulate growth and investments. These factors have significantly slowed the external flow of key populations around the world.

Designing cities with the idea of sustainability should be implemented during policy making. Sometimes the very difference between first and third world countries is infrastructure. As infrastructure creates the space for growth and development, innovators and founders of several sustainable organizations, such as Alex Steffen, discuss how cities have the potential to save the future. Steffen (2012) sheds light on sustainably designed, neighborhood-based green

projects that will expand our access to a higher standard of living, while reducing the time we spend in vehicles (p. 2). He emphasizes the importance and urgency of reducing humanity's ecological footprint as western consumer lifestyle spreads to developing countries.



Figure 7 and 8 demonstrates how newer technologies like foldable electric cars and bike share programs could be used to make more compact and cleaner cities possible.

Implementing eco-friendly designs into Micro City planning would set great examples for future city developments. Danish architect, Bjarke Ingels, is another champion of eco-friendly designs. In his TED Talk (2009) he demonstrates that his buildings not only look like nature, but also act like it. His buildings block winds, collect solar energy, and create stunning views. Architects of his caliber usually implement a hands-on, ground-up understanding of the needs of the building's occupants and surroundings, while taking in considerations of the environment. Advocates like Majora Carter (2009) demonstrate how environmental and social activism can influence policy changes on present and future city planning (p. 204). As a founder and executive director of the Sustainable South Bronx, Carter devotes her life to environmental and economic justice for disenfranchised communities. She redefines the field of environmental equality by leading several local economic development movements across the United States. Carter brings several stories of people who are saving their own communities while saving the planet, calling it "hometown security." Pioneers like Carter are key players in promoting and

including ideas of environmental sustainability in city planning through local entrepreneurial and local governmental supervision.

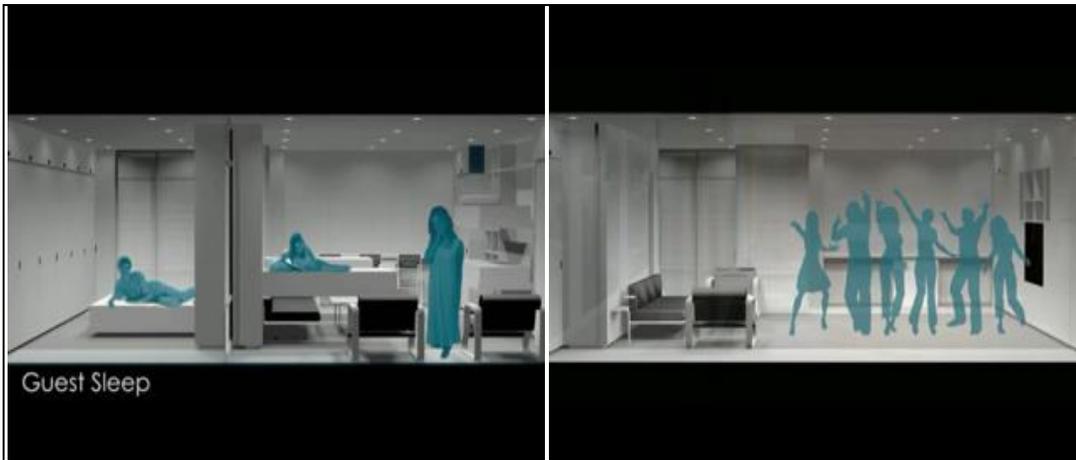


Figure 9 and 10 demonstrates an artist's conception of how the same living space can be used for multiple occasions to make urban living more compact, while reducing the CO2 footprint and benefiting the economy and ecology.

Overall, Micro Cities are here to stay. The demand from both external and internal migration of more than 6 million people a month has posed a serious challenge to city administrators all over the world. In looking at the bigger picture, Van Jones' ideas of a green collar economy, calls for a sustained rebuilding of infrastructure and creating alternative energy sources, which would boost the economy through increased employment and higher wages while decreasing our dependence on fossil fuels (as cited in Morris, 2008, p. 73).

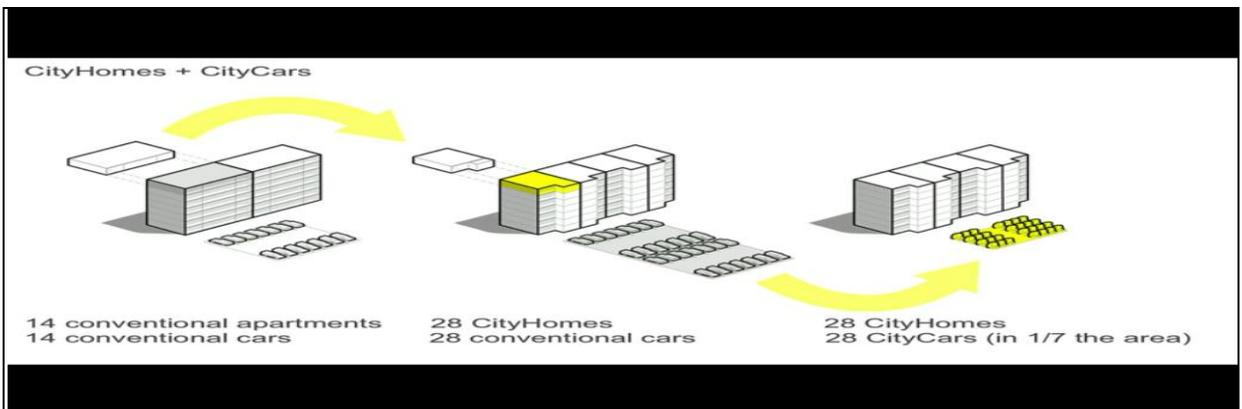


Figure 11 compares the effects of conventional and compact communities and how compact cities and cars can be made possible in the near future.

The Health Aspect of a Micro City

It is also important to understand the essence of healthcare because of the large role it plays in the lives of those inhabiting the Micro City. Because of the alarming growth rate, Micro Cities need an efficient healthcare model. Governmental programs, such as Medicare, are not accessible to everyone. In this day and age, one must meet a certain threshold in order to prove they qualify for health services. This notion instills a sense of unfairness, ultimate dependency, and helplessness. In a Micro City, residents will not have to experience this. This is why home-based healthcare is a suitable alternative to traditional health care. Home-based health gives individuals the power to control their health. This feeling is also important in stabilizing one's morale in the patient's environment.

According to Christopher Searles (2011), "sickness does not carry a passport" (p. 139). Neglecting underserved populations increases the risk of contamination and the spread of disease for all persons in the community. It is crucial that physicians "take the Good Samaritan approach, no matter what the circumstances are; compassion must rule legalism" (p. 139). In order for health care to reach underserved populations, Micro Cities must review developed nations' records, separate which items work in each healthcare system, implement the necessary services that are fitting to the new settlement, and increase access.

There are alternatives mentioned in the past that may not work. Universal health care sounds ideal and fair to everyone, but rising costs make this approach seem unrealistic. Reducing disease also sounds like a solution, but might be too time-consuming and impractical.

Moreover, it is important to examine locations that can serve as a model for these Micro Cities. In Japan, it is illegal to be obese. Japanese citizens take major preventative actions to ensure the health of their population. Although Japan is a country, it is essential to fit

preventative laws into a city, specifically a Micro City. Examining how health works on a larger scale, such as Japan, can foster a stronger health system. Japan introduced the “metabo law,” which implements the prevention of obesity through certain health precautions. Their “metabo law” is cost-efficient by reducing other health risks related to obesity. Japan also ranks highest in life expectancy (Yamataga et al., 2008). The use of safety screenings prevents disease before it becomes worse. Preventive care is just as essential as reversing the condition.

In “Improving economic equality and health: The case of postwar Japan,” Bezruchka, Namekata, & Siström (2008) discuss how Japan overcame poverty after World War II and became the country with the highest life expectancy in the world. This is a noteworthy article because it identified the link between a country’s mortality rate and a country’s income level (p. 589). They further state, “changes in a society’s economic hierarchy can have profound health effects,” and “Japan’s example is remarkable” (p. 593). These interesting Japanese values serve as an example of measures to increase health and longevity. However, other successful cases unique to their country should not be overlooked.

Other successful models include NxStage and Philips Healthcare (formerly Philips medical systems). NxStage has created over 17,000 health care homes, all providing cost-efficient rates and quality care (Nagpure & Prashant, 2008). A Micro City values the importance of cost-efficiency and adequate levels of quality. Home-based health care may not replace traditional health care, but may enhance it. Clearly, an efficient health care system must be incorporated into the city to sustain the population. This system will best support the population because health services will be more sporadic, and in turn, there will be less reliance on hospitals. Patients and those in need of these services will access healthcare when they need it, and it will always be of high quality.

Christopher Searles (2011) further states, “illnesses are not stopped by borders” (p. 146). Impoverished people are dealing with numerous barriers in their search for medical care. Sadly, those barriers are man-made but can always be brought down if someone is willing to do so. If those barriers are confronted by a Micro City, new development will allow medical care to be delivered in ways that are fitting to citizens’ needs. Micro Cities will be able to demonstrate efficiency in healthcare to the rest of the globe.

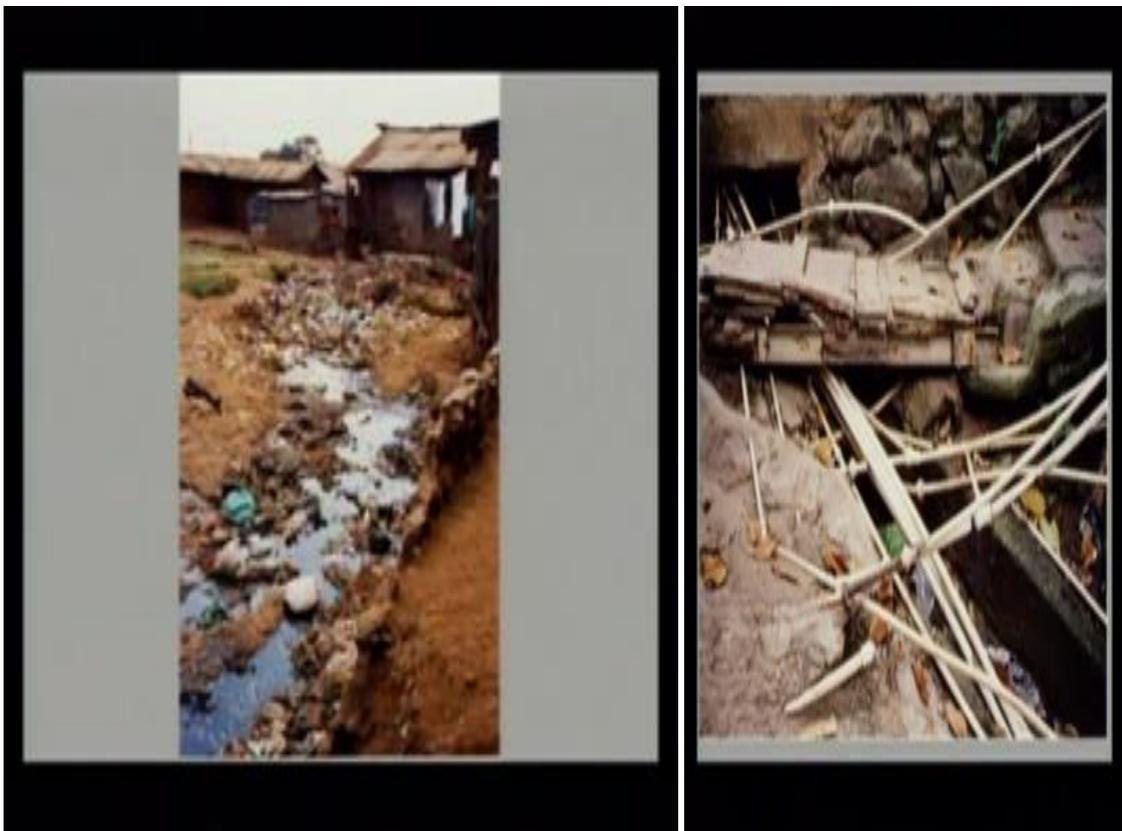


Figure 12 and 13 documents dangers to health and wellness if proper infrastructure for sanitation and pollution control is not put in place from the beginning.

Discussion

Micro Cities can aid in the growth of a country, but it is crucial that appropriate laws are enacted and enforced in order to attract potential residents. Without residents there will be no consumerism, which hinders the possibility of a booming economy. More homes are needed to house the rapidly growing population. This Micro City is not just a mere idea, it can save lives and better the economy. Through the approaches listed above, a fresh, efficient lifestyle can ensure sustainability. When cities are governed by a good set of rules, “They can be cities where people are safe from crime, safe from disease and bad sanitation, [and] where people have a chance to get a job” (Romer, 2009). The concept of a Micro City is gradually gaining acceptance in India. If all goes well, India should have at least 30 private cities across the country by the end of this decade. This number could increase, depending on the manner in which India’s policy makers allow this concept to germinate.

The concept of Micro Cities is a promising and symbolic movement of our time. It is a new lifestyle with a transformed vision of the future, consisting of fitting laws and regulations, a healthy environment and population, and the financial means to sustain its existence. It is where the present and future well-being of humanity as well as the environment is a promising one. This revolutionary idea has the potential to impact communities around the world in profound ways. If the world is committed to a behavioral change, it will not be long until we live in cities whose residents experience high levels of satisfaction.



Figure 17, 18 and 19 Illustrates that if a commitment is placed to build these Micro Cities, a transition can happen from the slums to the mega cities just as Dubai was transformed from the desert to a super city through Oil. The slums of the world can use human energy to transform.

References

- Bezruchka, S., Namekata, T. & Siström, M. G. (2008). Improving economic equality and health: The care of postwar Japan. *American Journal of Public Health*, 98(4). 589-594.
- Bhaskar, R. (2010). The new cities of India. Retrieved from <http://forbesindia.com/printcontent/19662>
- Bjarke, I. (2009, July). Bjarke Ingels: 3 warp-speed architecture tales. [Video File]. Retrieved from http://www.ted.com/talks/bjarke_ingels_3_warp_speed_architecture_tales.html
- Carter, M. (2009). Greening the ghetto. *Anglican Theological Review*, 91(4). 601-605.
- (2012). Charter cities. Retrieved from <http://chartercities.org/concept>
- Cheong, K. (2010). Charter cities—An idea whose time has come or should have gone. *Malaysian Journal of Economic Studies*, 47(2), 165- 168.
- [Components of a charter city]. Retrieved March 30, 2012, from: <http://www.urenio.org/2009/11/21/video-paul-romer-on-charter-cities/>
- [Dubai]. Retrieved March 30, 2012, from: <http://ssqq.com/archive/vinlin23dubai.htm>
- Fan, X., & Yakita, A. (2011). Brain drain and technological relationship between skilled and unskilled labor: Brain gain or brain loss?. *Journal Of Population Economics*, 24(4), 1359-1368.
- Fuller, B. & Romer, P. (2010). Cities from scratch. *City Journal*, 20(4).
- Hasset, W. L. (2011). Reviewing a city charter. *National Civic Review*, 100(2), 48-57.
- Jones, V. (2008). *The green collar economy: How one solution can fix our two biggest problems*. New York, NY: HarperOne.
- Keller, L.F. (2002). Municipal charters. *National Civic Review*, 91(1), 55-62.
- Kremel, F. M. (1958). Police, prosecutors, and judges. *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, 320, 42-52.

Morris, A. (2008). Taking leadership in the green economy: A conversation with Van Jones.

Harvard Journal of African American Public Policy, 14. 73-78.

Nagpure, P. (2008) Homebased healthcare: Issues and challenges. Retrieved from

<http://dspace.mit.edu/handle/1721.1/45232>

Neuwirth, R. (2011). Stealth of nations: The global rise of the informal economy. *Publishers*

Weekly, 258(34). 58-59.

Quah, J. (2008) Curbing corruption in India: An impossible dream? *Asian Journal of Political*

Science, 16(3). 240-259.

Ring P. S., Bigley G. A., D'Aunno T., & Khanna T. (2005). Perspectives on how governments

matter. *Academy of Management Review*, 30(2). 308-320.

Romer, P. (2010). For richer, for poorer. Retrieved from

<http://www.prospectmagazine.co.uk/2010/01/for-richer-for-poorer>

Romer, P. (2009, July). Paul Romer's radical idea: Charter cities. [Video File]. Retrieved from

http://www.ted.com/talks/paul_romer.html

Romer, P. (2011, March). Paul Romer: The world's first charter city?. [Video File]. Retrieved

from http://www.ted.com/talks/paul_romer_the_world_s_first_charter_city.html

Romer, P. (2010). What parts of globalization matter for catch-up growth?. *American Economic*

Review: Papers and Proceedings, 100(2). 94-98.

Searles, C. (2011). Beyond health care reform: Immigrants and the future of medicine. *Ethnic*

and Racial Studies, 35(1). 135-149.

[Shadow cities by Robert Neuwirth]. Retrieved March 30, 2012, from:

<http://www.21stcenturychallenges.org/focus/robert-neuwirth/>

Siegal, A. (1983). Plain English. *Vital Speeches Of The Day*, 49(8), 249-252.

Steffen, A. (2012). How to save the global economy: Build green cities. *Foreign Policy*, 191. 1-3.

[Urban population living in slums]. Retrieved March 30, 2012, from:

<http://www.economist.com/node/15766578>

Wanns, D. & Chiras, D. (2003) *Superbia!: 31 ways to create sustainable neighborhoods*.

Gabriola Island, BC, CAN: New Society Publishers.

Yamagata, K., Iseki, K., Nitta, K., Imai, H., Iino, Y., Matsuo, S.,...Hishida, A. (2008). Chronic kidney disease perspectives in Japan and the importance of urinalysis screening. *Clinical & Experimental Nephrology*, 12(1). 1-8.