



## **Expert Group Meeting: Population Dynamics and Climate Change**

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### **Urban Form, Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Climate Vulnerability**

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#### **Abstract**

This paper presents an analytical review of the interaction between urban density, climate change, and sea-level rise. The paper has a focus on two main themes: the interaction between urban density and the generation of greenhouse gases and how this affects mitigation strategies; and the consequences of climate change on urban settlements of varying population densities and how this affects adaptation strategies. Throughout, there is a recognition that changing population densities – and broader demographic issues – in urban centres can both affect, and be affected by, global environmental change. Future patterns of greenhouse gas emissions and consequent climate change will be driven substantially by the activities taking place in urban areas; similarly, the ways in which climate change impacts the lives and livelihoods of more than half the world's population will also be mediated through actions that are taken – or not taken – in towns and cities. These are influenced by a complex series of interactions between urban density, economic status, and greenhouse gas emissions.