

Pro Contentions:

Value

1st:

- Healthcare
 - Healthcare will improve with ongoing urbanization
 - Better access to healthcare, assuming that exists
 - Mortality
 - 40% decrease in infant mortality
 - Easier distribution of healthcare
 - Life expectancy
 - Medicine, not necessarily ever aspect of quality of life

2nd:

- Industrialization
- Modernization
- Bad vs good
 - Urbanization is necessary, but right now it would do more harm than good

3rd:

- Reminisces
 - 1/7 receive reminisces
 - What about the other 6/7? The majority is what matters

4th:

- Foreign aid
 - Foreign aid cannot be a substitute for competent governing. The West African government cannot handle the rapid growth of cities. If it can it would not require foreign aid.
 - Look at China. It's cities have urbanized dramatically over the last 50 years. Did it receive foreign aid? Very little. We're pouring a lot more money into West Africa than we did into China.

5th:

- 200 thousand jobs created each year

Crossfire Questions:

- Definition questions:
 - What is your definition of urbanization? (If the definition of urbanization does not already include) What is your definition of industrialization/ modernization/ urbanization leading to positive growth?

- Under what circumstances do you say does urbanization lead to industrialization and modernization?
- What is your definition of education?
- What does development mean to you in the orthodox sense? What are the differences and shared aspects between social, economical, and individual growth?
- Focus questions:
 - How does the your argument specifically affect West Africa as a region with 15 countries, instead of Africa as a whole continent composed of 54 countries?
 - What do you think of West African countries' socioeconomic infrastructure and its ability to impact the effects of urbanization?
 - How can urbanization negate the negative effects of conflict, especially in Africa where the frequency of such conflicts is a higher than some upper limits for proper development?

Rebuttal:

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Summary:

- The possibility for a promising future with the current socio-economic crisis in Africa is the belief in an idealistic society, and while they are good to think about they are not how Africa should continue to grow. If they continue in their current path of urbanization they will exacerbate their current problems, and inhibit their growth. Further limiting hope for a better future.
 - Africa, in order to preserve the possibility of a brighter future, must end its current rates of urbanization.

My opponent has misquoted us in saying that we referenced Africa as a whole as opposed to Africa specifically

My opponents pointed out that Healthcare will benefit from ongoing urbanization... How can you state such perspectives when in the current state of being Africa's Healthcare

The rapid growth in population will also put a strain on West African finrcountries' social and healthcare infrastructure. Even in normal times West African countries' hospitals and public service are subpar compared to other developing nations, and when faced with a crisis such as COVID-19, the healthcare system nearly collapsed under the weight of the disaster.

- As my partner has pointed out Africa has been in need of foreign aid...

- the sheer fact that Africa is in need of foreign aid simply goes to show the extent that the African government has mishandled their urbanization crisis.

- I believe that my opponents fundamentally misunderstand the role that foreign aid plays in a country's development...

- my partner has also pointed out the exorbitantly high tax rates in Africa

- My opponents themselves have stated that there already is an issue with the sewage system.

- My opponents believed that it is no secret that urbanization leads to better quality of life and industrialization, i

it is not just hard, but impossible, for West African nations to succeed with urbanization under the current status quo. Urbanization is an irreplaceable step within a country's road to prosperity, however right now it would do more harm than good in West Africa. It would be much better if West African nations were to first concentrate on establishing peace before commencing industrialization and modernization, key to developing the nation as a whole. The benefits of urbanization pale in comparison to the problems it faces, which is why we strongly negate the resolution that urbanization will benefit West African countries in its current form.

My opponent pointed out that urbanization has the ability to lead to job opportunities... When looking at job opportunities, we must be aware of the quality of jobs, and

- Informal or formal businesses? Exposure to corruption is significant for urban dwellers living and working informally. Corrupt practices in urban settings include, among others, co-optation of collective organisations of informal workers, dishonest schemes that embed opportunities for rent seeking into urban infrastructure and services, and forbearance as a mechanism to convert informality into private political or economic gain.

- Not under West Africa's current economic climate. The Risk & Compliance Portal, powered by Gan Integrity, reports that West African countries experience a high degree of corruption, as well as complex and costly tax systems: businesses in Chad will spend on average 732 hours a year on tax filing, with a total tax rate of 63.5% of profits. One in four companies is expected to be asked for a bribe, gift, or facilitation payment when interacting with tax officials in Nigeria, and over half of Nigerians consider the tax authorities to be corrupt.

Final Focus:

Our opponent mentioned that urbanization and economic growth are linked, but perhaps diminishing? Or will it diminish should foreign aid be exhausted?

Our opponents mentioned that people in cities will have to get used to being around other people. However, given West Africa's starvation problem, that is unlikely. According to the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the impact of the coronavirus pandemic could increase the number of people at risk of a food insecurity and malnutrition from 17 million to 50 million people between June and August 2020. People will not exercise empathy and sympathy unless their basic needs are fulfilled.

Our opponents mentioned that 200 thousand jobs are created each year. How many jobs are being destroyed? Foreign donations of commodities often stifle local businesses, because who can compete against free? To quote Ron Paul, foreign aid is money taken from poor people in rich countries and given to rich people in poor countries. 50 billion by the UN is a lot, but how much ends up in the pockets of the leaders of the West African countries?

230k jobs estimated created yearly. Not under West Africa's current economic climate. The Rick & Compliance Portal, powered by Gan Integrity, reports that West African countries experience a high degree of corruption, as well as complex and costly tax systems: businesses in Chad will spend on average 732 hours a year on tax filing, with a total tax rate of 63.5% of profits. One in four companies is expected to be asked for a bribe, gift, or facilitation payment when interacting with tax officials in Nigeria, and over half of Nigerians consider the tax authorities to be corrupt. Not only that, according to John Stossel it would sometimes take government permission for employers to fire an employee.

We do not argue that people should return to rural areas. We are saying that urbanization should be slowed down in order for the problems to be resolved without pressure, before urbanization can commence.

West Africa lacks proper infrastructure to make urbanization into a positive force.

West Africa lacks peace and educational opportunity.

West Africa may lack the will to bring everyone's quality of life up, since despotism and plutocracy. It cannot enforce many of its laws, which is seen in its high poverty and crime rates. Non enforcement practically encourages nefarious behavior.

West Africa should stop and solve their problems before continuing to have urbanization.