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Living conditions and associated health and mortality indicators are, we recognize, on average better in urban than rural settings. Infant and child mortality are lower in urban than rural settings. Infrastructure such as sanitation, potable water, and electricity is usually better in cities, as are educational opportunities. Overall, urban conditions are better than rural. In pockets, however, and especially in slums, urban dwellers have living

Rapid urbanization is an emerging issue of immense importance, and one that defies simple solutions. It is an especially difficult issue for most bureaucracies to address because in fact it is not a single issue but rather an intersection of many jurisdictions and areas of responsibility – housing, water, sanitation, power, health, employment, pollution, crime, education, politics, transportation, loss of agricultural land, and more.

	It is also important to recognize that policy interventions must be						
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