

1994 - 2009
ICPD/15 International Conference on
Population and Development

ICPD – ‘15 YEARS ON’

SRI LANKA

A review of progress

By 12 Sri Lankan scholars and practitioners

Presented by



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FPA Sri Lanka (The Family Planning Association of Sri Lanka) is the premier sexual & reproductive health organization in Sri Lanka which was established in 1953. It seeks to promote multiple aspects of reproductive health and quality of lives of people.

FPA Sri Lanka is an accredited member of IPPF.



International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) is a global network of Member Associations, and works in over 150 countries - providing and campaigning for sexual and reproductive health care and rights. The IPPF South Asia Regional Office (SARO) covers Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Islamic Republic of Iran, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, through its Member Associations in these countries.

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Vision

FPA Sri Lanka envisages a country in which every woman, man and young person has access to the information and services they need; in which sexuality is recognized both as a natural and important aspect of all our lives and as a fundamental human right; a world in which choices are fully respected and where stigma and discrimination have no place.

Mission

Advocate, promote and provide; information, education and services, on family planning and reproductive health to all segments of the population to improve the quality of life of the people.

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Dilemma in Measuring Urbanization in Sri Lanka – ICPD and the Millennium Development Goals

Professor W. Indralal De Silva

Indralal De Silva is a Senior Professor (Chair) of Demography and the Dean of the Faculty of Arts. He has published a number of books, monographs and over 60 research articles in reputed local and international journals. He has also presented over 50 research papers at many international conferences. Professor De Silva obtained his Bachelor's Degree in Development Studies from the University of Colombo in 1977, specializing in Statistics. He was a Visiting Professor at the National University of Singapore, Harvard School of Public Health and was also a Fellow at the Australian National University. He has obtained a number of prestigious awards including a Senior Fulbright Fellowship, a Takemi Fellowship and a Rockefeller Foundation Fellowship. He has acted in the capacity of a consultant to umbrella organizations of the United Nations such as ESCAP, WHO, UNFPA etc. In recognition of his academic excellence and contribution to his discipline Prof. De Silva was appointed to the Chair in Demography in the University of Colombo in the year 2000.



Abstract: When identifying a particular area as urban, the size of the population, size of the land area, population density and the social economic setup of that area is considered. This analysis uses secondary data in order to **understand** the problems that occur in measuring urbanization in Sri Lanka and the manner in which urbanization affects achieving Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). In the Sri Lankan context, a particular place is classified as urban or rural based on an administrative decision. In this administrative classification, consideration of the size, composition etc of that particular area is at a minimum level. However in Sri Lanka, Municipal Councils, Urban Councils and Small Town Councils are considered as urban areas. On the other hand, Grama Niladhari Divisions are considered as rural areas.

defined as a community where people have gathered based on non agricultural activities (De Silva, 2004). According to United Nations (2002), 48 percent of the world's population is believed to be living in areas considered as urban. In classifying a particular area as urban, various measures are taken in to consideration. Namely, the amount of population living in that area, land coverage, population density and socio-economic structure of that community.

Urbanization means the process of increasing the internal migration of people from rural areas to urban areas.