

Adapting to an urban future

Resource Sheet for: Lesson 1: The rise of the urban dweller. Who is he?

Slum dwellers: Who are they?

Here are a just a few of the billion global slum dwellers. Although they all live in squatter settlements, they each have a different story to tell.

The hyperlinks will take you webpages providing background information on these people.

Santosh Bairva

The first female graduate in her slum neighbourhood to study to become a teacher outside of Delhi, India.

- [The Times of India article on Santosh](#)
- [YouTube video of Santosh](#)

Angelina Mwenzi

A slum dweller in Silanga Village in Kibera, Nairobi. She has used her entrepreneurial spirit to collect human waste and convert it into compost.

- [Photo journal article on Angelina](#)

Octopizzo

He is a rapper in Kibera, Nairobi, trying to make the slum dwellers voices heard and bringing change to his community.

- [Slum Stories article on Octopizzo](#)

Grace

She is one of 19000 people evicted from their slum houses in Njemanze, Port Harcourt, Nigeria in August 2009. She has her own hairdressing salon but has struggled to make ends meet since the eviction.

- [Slum Stories article on Grace](#)

Sarath Babu

He is an entrepreneur who set up his business Foodking in 2006 with £24. He now runs a business with 7 food outlets and a turnover of \$1.3 million yet still lives with his mother in the slum in Chennai where he was born and raised.

- [BBC news article on Sarath](#)

Isaac

He is an 8 year old boy living in Kibera in Nairobi, Kenya. He does not go to school but spends his day tidying the house and looking after his young sister. Called 'Lost Chance' this film reflects the lives of millions of children in slums across the world.

- [The Lost Chance – film on YouTube](#)
- [\(Information on 'The Lost Chance'\)](#)

Felomina Cinco

She is a community leader in the Estero de San Miguel, a squatter settlement in Manila, Philippines which is at risk of being demolished.

- [BBC news article on Felomina](#)
- [Newsnight video clip](#)

Research someone and try to imagine what life is really like. Use the pointers below to organise your ideas. Note that not all questions are relevant for each person. You will need to do additional research. You could also use images to show your findings.

Characteristics (features or qualities which are typical of a place and can distinguish it from other places)

Physical: What is their accommodation like? What is it constructed from? Is it secure? Where is it located? What is the land area like? Do they have access to a water and/or electricity supply? Is the infrastructure developed?

Economic: How do they make a living? Is it in the informal sector? What economic activity takes place in the area?

Environmental: What is the state of the surrounding environment? What type of pollution do they experience? Are their waste issues? Is there a clean water supply? Is there a sewage system?

Social: Do they have access to healthcare and education? Is there a sense of community/social cohesion? What are the demographics of the area (population make-up)? Are there any community services and facilities?

For your slum dweller... do they live in a slum of hope or a slum of despair? What does the future hold for them?