Lesson Description

In this lesson we:

- Explain the concept of *rural-urban migration*
- Discuss the *push and pull factors* that cause rural-urban migration
- Discuss the consequences of *rural depopulation*
- Explore the concept of *social justice* relative to rural settlement problems
- Describe *rural development strategies*

Summary

**Rural-Urban Migration**

The movement of people from rural areas to urban areas.

This is not to be confused with *urbanisation* – the increase in the percentage of people living in towns and cities.

Problems faced by rural-urban migrants:

- Lack of education
- Travel costs
- Lack of capital
- Distance
- Adaptation to a new lifestyle
- Misinformation

**Push and Pull Factors**

*PUSH factors* are undesirable factors that cause people to leave a settlement.

*PULL factors* are desirable factors that draw people towards a settlement.

Consequences of Rural Depopulation

Social Justice and Rural Problems

**Social justice:** All individuals are entitled to satisfy their basic human needs.

Source: Focus Geography Grade 12.
Rural Development Strategies

Rural Land Reform
People are given security of land tenure, including communal ownership informal ownership of land by farm workers and labour tenants.

Rural Land Restitution
Land that was forcibly removed from people under Apartheid law is given back to those people.

Rural Land Redistribution
Land is allocated to poor and disadvantaged people for settlement and farming.

Comprehensive Rural Development Programme (CRDP) - 2009
Aims:
- Eliminate food insecurity and poverty
- Optimise use and management of natural resources
- Create sustainable rural settlements

Methods:
- Land reform
- Skills development
- Improving service delivery
- Improving infrastructure
- Revitalisation of rural towns
- Cooperative development

Other Rural Development Programmes

Test Yourself

Question 1
(Adapted from Exemplar 2014)
Refer to settlements A to E in FIGURE 1. Indicate to which settlement each of the following descriptions refers. Write only the letter (A–E) next to the question number (1.1–1.7) in the ANSWER BOOK. You may use the same answer more than once.
1.1 Settlements located close to a source of water because water is scarce.
1.2 Farmsteads that are dispersed/isolated.
1.3 Farmsteads that follow a linear shape.
1.4 Farmsteads that have a roughly circular shape.
1.5 An isolated settlement most likely associated with subsistence farming.
1.6 Associated with large commercial farms that are profit driven.
1.7 Farmsteads associated with intensive commercial farming.

**Improve your Skills**

**Question 1**

(Adapted from NSC November P1 2010)

Refer to FIGURE 1 showing the cycle of rural decay which also occurs in the South African landscape. This often results in rural-urban migration resulting in specific problems for rural areas.

![Diagram of rural decay cycle]

1.1 Define the term “rural-urban migration”. (1x2) (2)
1.2 Name TWO push factors that may result in rural-urban migration. (2x2) (4)
1.3 Discuss THREE consequences (results) of rural-urban migration for the South African rural community. (3x2) (6)
1.4 Write a single paragraph (no more than 12 lines) in which you discuss sustainable strategies that can be used to manage South Africa's declining rural settlements. (6x2) (12)

**Question 2**

Read the article on a social justice issue in FIGURE 2.

TELLING THE STORY ABOUT SOUTH AFRICA'S RURAL POOR

by Gara LaMarche

This is a story about the Skhosanas, interviewed by Social Surveys Africa:

Until 2001, they survived relatively well on the farm. They had a tap for water; they had firewood.
Then the farm was sold to a new owner who wanted the Skhosanas off the land. For two years, they fought eviction. After all, this was the 'new' South Africa, and, for the first time, they had rights. But the farm owner shut down their water tap and ordered them to stop gathering wood on his land. Finally, the owner came early one morning when the children were still asleep, broke down the door, and threw the family's furniture and belongings onto the road. The children were afraid they would have nowhere to sleep. Mr Skhosana was ill and could not work anymore. Mrs Skhosana says she will never forget the experience of 'being thrown out like rubbish'.

2.1 Explain what is meant by the term social justice. (1 x 1) (1)

2.2 Name the social justice issue that the story captures. (1 x 1) (1)

2.3 Why is the word 'new' emphasised in the article? (1 x 2) (2)

2.4 Name the law that secures the rights of people who live under insecure conditions on land owned by others. (1 x 2) (2)

2.5 Excluding the social justice issue mentioned in QUESTION 2.2, discuss TWO other social justice issues experienced in rural areas. (2 x 2) (4)

2.6 Discuss any TWO problems that the government experiences with land reform. (2 x 2) (4)

Links