

## Urban Planning and Rising Urban Slums in Anambra State, Nigeria, 2015 - 2025

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### **Abstract**

*This study examines urban planning and the rising prevalence of urban slums in Anambra State, Nigeria from 2015 - 2025. It investigates the extent to which urban planning interventions have addressed housing deficits, overcrowding, and the proliferation of informal settlements within the study period. The research is anchored on Edward Soja's Spatial Justice theory, which emphasizes the equitable distribution of resources and opportunities in urban space and highlights how spatial inequalities contribute to urban deprivation. A descriptive research design was adopted, relying on secondary data from relevant literature, policy documents, and empirical studies on urban development in Nigeria. Findings show that urban planning efforts have had limited impact on reducing housing deficits, as rapid urban population growth continues to outpace housing provision. It further reveals that while some planning interventions have helped to moderately ease overcrowding, particularly through rural development initiatives and infrastructural expansion, persistent rural-urban migration and weak implementation frameworks continue to undermine these gains. In addition, urban planning measures such as enforcement actions and slum clearance have not significantly reduced informal settlements, as affordability constraints and weak housing policy persist. The study concludes that urban slum growth in Anambra State is driven by structural inequalities in spatial development and inadequate planning capacity. It recommends a more inclusive and justice-oriented planning approach that prioritizes equitable housing provision, infrastructure development, and integration of informal settlements into formal urban systems in line with spatial justice principles.*

**Keywords:** *Urbanization, Urban Planning, Urban Slum, Housing Deficits, Informal Settlements*

### **Introduction**

Urban planning occupies a strategic position in policy discourses and academics in many developing countries of the world, particularly in recent times. It plays a very crucial role in the social, political and economic sphere of any given society. The focus on demographic growth underscores the reason for increased interest in urban planning. Rapid urbanization, both in size and number of urban centres, creates two major problems, namely: 'environmental pollution' and social crimes. Hence, addressing the core issues relating to urban planning in Nigeria is indispensable for national development.

According to Mark (2014) urbanization started in ancient Mesopotamia in the 'Uruk Period' (4300-3100 BCE), where a certain village began to attract people from other villages for reasons yet to be concurred on. It is though conjectured to be as a result of the prosperity and efficiency of the village at the time. From Mesopotamia, it spread to Egypt and Greece. Overtime, urbanization then

gradually spread throughout the western world. Prior to westernization, urban settlements reflected a collective body of residents under the jurisdiction of an elite possessing political, economic or religious authority. Although pre-colonial cities in Nigeria were basically agrarian, many could boast of well-organized and active industries, as well as trappings of commercial ventures. Urbanization is somewhat intrinsic to civilization. Hence, urban centres reflect the philosophy, thoughts and social values of the inhabitants. Ojiako, Nweke, Okoye and Oju (2023), posit that urban centres play an indispensable role in national development. Empirical insights relating to urban planning is cross-cultural and comparative in nature. All over the world, there is a trend of spontaneous growth in urban areas, arising from rapid rural-to-urban migration and life-threatening natural disasters, particularly at the dawn of the 21st century. Hence, there is urgent need to contend with the challenges associated with such unprecedented urban growth through proper planning so as to avert the undesired consequences.

In a bid to address the emerging trend in urban development, the Nigerian Urban and Regional Planning Decree of 1992 was enacted by the Gen. Ibrahim Babangida led military government, to form a basis of common and uniform practice for the nation and to coordinate standard development control in the country. This Decree was promulgated by the then federal military government on 15th December, 1992. Broadly speaking, it aimed to facilitate the preparation and implementation of development plans and planning schemes, with a view to creating a better environment for living, working and recreation, (FGN, 1992).

More so, according to Agbola (2005), urban planning practice in Nigeria is anchored on the goal of National Urban Development Policy (NUDP), which is ‘to develop a dynamic system of urban settlements which will foster sustainable economic growth, promote efficient urban and regional development and ensure improved standard of living and well-being of all Nigerians (FRN, 2002)’. The level of demographic growth and diversity, as witnessed in urban areas, is largely linked to the search for greener pastures and the desire to seek fun in the bright lights of the cities, among rural dwellers. According to Ojiako, Nweke, Okoye and Oju (2023), some of the cases of migrations are voluntary while others are not.

Another grave consequence of unmitigated urban growth and expansion is the rising phenomenon of urban slum across the country. According to Morakinyo, Ogunrayewa, Koleosho and Adenubi, (2012) a slum is usually used to describe informal settlements within cities that have inadequate housing, as well as squalid and miserable living conditions. They are mostly overcrowded with lots of people crammed into very little living spaces. Generally speaking, these settlements usually lack essential municipal services such as access to portable water, proper sanitation, waste collection and disposal system, quality education, health care facilities, street lightning, etc. Urban centres in most parts of the country have turned into breeding grounds for countless number of social vices such as armed robbery, kidnapping, prostitution, advanced fee fraud, political assassination and lots more, owing to survival instincts.

According to the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population division of the United Nations, in 1950 only about 30% of the world's population lived in urban areas but this had increased to 55% by 2018 (United Nations, 2018). Cities play multifaceted functions in all known human societies. They are the main point of technological development and economic growth of many nations, while at the same time serving as a breeding ground for poverty, inequality, environmental hazards, and communicable diseases especially in third world countries (Kuddus, Tynan and McBryde, 2020). Urban areas serve as the breeding ground, melting point and boiling

point of the society. In 2019, 51.1% of the populations of third world countries were residing in urban areas (UNCTAD, 2020).

The challenges facing urban planning in Nigeria reflects a bigger problem in the structure of governance. According to Emma-Ochu and Onwuka (2013), ‘the present state of the Nigerian urban environment is characterized by over population, over stretching of infrastructure, corruption, gross inadequacy of housing, poverty, lack of political will around the issue, emergence of numerous slums and squatter settlements, as well as insufficient legal and regulatory systems. Poverty and its concomitants are associated with a feeling of social exclusion and psychological burden. In this regard, the urban poor, particularly the inhabitants of slums appear to be the worst hit.

The inability of urban planners to come up with useable and up-to-date demographic data of urban residents, as well as the issues of demographic projections in most urban areas within a specified time frame, also constitute impediments to proper urban planning in Nigeria. Inadequate housing resulting from the tremendous influx of people from rural to urban areas has become a major social problem among urban dwellers. The poor people residing in urban areas are continually faced with abject poverty. The implication of urban growth bothers on the demographic issues of poverty, crimes and pollution. Another notable implication of urbanization in third world countries is the increase in the growth of urban slums. Majority of the urban slum settlers in the world reside in third world countries. Due to the inability of the government to cater for the housing needs of the increasing urban population, the expansion and development of slums has become a means of meeting housing needs by urban dwellers especially the urban poor (Pat-Mbano and Nwadiaro, 2012).

The challenge of urban poverty is most visible in urban slums which are generally characterized by over-crowding, inadequate safe water, lack of adequate sanitation, low quality infrastructure, inadequate power supply and general poor living condition. According to Arimah (2002), squatter settlements are often found on the urban fringe and in high-risk vulnerable areas such as steep slopes, deep gullies, near dump sites, under overpass, as well as flood prone areas. As a result of the high cost of land in the urban areas, slums are found in places prone to natural disaster like flooding, building collapse, fire outbreaks, epidemic diseases, gully erosions, exposure to chemical hazards and other pollutants.

In most cases, these migrants relocate to urban areas without any known arrangement relating to accommodation and means of basic sustenance – an indication of a spontaneous decision. The inevitable outcome of such actions is a strain on the already overstretched inadequate urban amenities, as well as increased level of social vices in a bid to make ends meet. While the challenges facing urban growth and expansion in Nigeria may slightly vary across cities, they are generally plagued with the problems of population explosion, traffic congestion, environmental pollution, rising unemployment, infrastructural deficits, existence of squatter settlements, deterioration of amenities, poverty, indiscriminate disposal of refuse, unauthorized erection of structures, flooding, air and noise pollution and lack of affordable housing units. These have continued to undermine the efforts of policy makers and urban planners, thus, leading to the formation of new slums.

In the light of the above, the following research questions were formulated to guide the study:

1. How has urban planning contributed to addressing the problem of housing deficits in Anambra State between 2015 and 2025?
2. How has urban planning contributed to addressing the challenge of overcrowding of urban dwellers in Anambra State between 2015 and 2025?

3. In what ways have urban planning reduced the existence of informal settlements in Anambra State within the period under study?

### **Objectives of the Study**

The broad objective of this study is to examine the effect of urban planning on rising urban slums in Nigeria. While the specific objectives are to:

1. determine the contribution of urban planning to addressing the problem of housing deficits in Anambra State between 2015 and 2025
2. ascertain the contribution of urban planning in addressing the challenge of overcrowding of urban dwellers in Anambra State between 2015 and 2025
3. identify ways in which urban planning reduced the existence of informal settlements in Anambra State within the period under study

### **Hypotheses**

The following hypotheses have been formulated to guide this study:

1. Urban planning has significantly contributed to addressing the problem of housing deficits in Anambra State between 2015 and 2025.
2. Urban Planning has significantly contributed to addressing the challenge of overcrowding of urban dwellers in Anambra State between 2015 and 2025.
3. Urban Planning has significantly reduced the existence of informal settlements in the urban areas of Anambra State within the period under study.

## **Literature Review**

### **Conceptual Review**

#### **Urbanization**

Urbanization as a concept simply refers to the shift in the balance between rural and urban sectors which is closely linked to industrialization and changing patterns of employment, and to rapid changes in cultural, social and political conditions throughout the world. It also refers to the process of a society becoming more urban or having an increasing number of its population residing in her urban areas. It also refers to the increasing concentration of people in urban areas and the physical expansion of cities due to population growth and rural–urban migration. According to United Nations (2018), it is widely understood as both a demographic and spatial process involving the transformation of rural settlements into urban ones and the growth of existing cities.

Sociologically, urbanization is viewed as a process that reshapes social relations, lifestyles, and economic structures. Soja (2009) further extends this understanding by emphasizing the spatial dimension of urbanization, arguing that cities are socially produced spaces that reflect inequalities in access to resources and opportunities. In essence, urbanization is not only about population growth in cities but also about the complex social, economic, and spatial transformations that accompany this shift, often resulting in both development opportunities and urban challenges such as congestion, informal settlements, and inequality (UN-Habitat, 2020).

## **Urban Planning**

Urban planning is associated with a wide range of tasks. It refers to the proper use of land available in urban areas in such a way that it will serve the best interests of urban dwellers, while maintaining the aesthetic beauty of cities. It includes the mapping out of strategic locations for residential, commercial, industrial and recreational purposes. Urban planning, by its very nature, encompasses series of activities aimed at regulating the physical development of an urban area. Here, the emphasis lies in designing cities in such a manner that reflects an organized pattern of settlement and standard of living of residents.

Urban planning, also known as city planning or regional planning, is a technical and political process that is focused on the development and design of land use, as well as the general environment, including air, water and the infrastructure passing in and out of urban areas such as transportation, communications and distribution networks and their accessibility (McGill University Archive, 2008). Similarly, according to Wikipedia, urban planning refers to a technical and political process concerned with the development and use of land, protection and use of the environment, public welfare and the design of the urban environment, including air, water and the infrastructure passing into and out of urban areas, such as transportation, communication and distribution networks.

Specifically, urban planning entails the evaluation and allocation of lands located in urban areas, as well as the appropriate use of such lands to meet the needs of urban dwellers. It also implies the design and regulation of the use of space that focus on the physical form, economic functions and social impacts of the urban environment, as well as the location of different activities within it. The central objective of urban planning is to establish integrated and sustainable human settlements that can withstand increased environmental, social and economic problems, while improving the quality of life of rural dwellers.

## **Urban Slum**

According to Morakinyo, Ogunrayewa, Koleosho and Adenubi, (2012) a slum is usually used to describe informal settlements within cities that have inadequate housing, as well as squalid and miserable living conditions. They are mostly overcrowded with lots of people crammed into very little living spaces. Generally speaking, these settlements usually lack essential municipal services such as access to portable water, proper sanitation, waste collection and disposal system, quality education, health care facilities, street lightning, etc. Such settlements are often found in hazardous locations. These locations usually flood plains, unstable cliff sides, close to industrial plants etc. are not necessarily chosen by the people, but they are forced to reside in such places as a result of exclusion due to dearth of land and other safer settlements, and therefore are more vulnerable to disasters (Voigtlander, Breckenkamp and Razum, 2008). These slum settlers often times are also forcibly removed from their homes by city authorities. In many cases, urban slums are centers of negative social development effects and a hideout for societal misfits.

Teklemariam (2018) posits that what entails a slum actually differs from one place to another, and that loosely describing it as an informal settlement is not a justifiable means to describe the people and the conditions of all those living in slums, as not all slums are characterized by crime, diseases, etc. and that the common feature is that they reflect the poverty of the marginalized urban population. This inequality stems from an immense concentration of wealth, assets, purchasing capacity, economic activities and other services in urban areas and the ceaseless neglects and degradation of rural areas.

According to UN-HABITAT Report (2003), slum dwellers are in low paying occupations such as informal jobs in the garment industry, recycling of solid waste, a variety of home-based enterprises and many are domestic servants, security guards, piece rate workers, self-employed hair dressers, and furniture makers. Not many of such people who engage in informal jobs can secure comfortable apartments in decent parts of the town, considering their meager income and the exorbitant prices of apartments in the cities. Hove, Ngwerume and Muchemwa (2013) asserts that amidst widespread threats of crime, many of the urban poor are forced to live in situations of extreme human insecurity, sheltered in informal settlements, usually in the outskirts of cities, as a result of inadequate availability of affordable housing units.

Furthermore, what constitute urban slums vary across climes, but African Development Bank (2013) Report shows that they are usually characterized by overcrowding, little or no access to portable water, sanitation, shelter deprivation, lack of personal security and inadequate basic social, education and health facilities (African Development Bank, 2013). The challenge of urban poverty is most visible in urban slums which are generally characterized by over-crowding, inadequate safe water, lack of adequate sanitation, low quality infrastructure, inadequate power supply and general poor living condition. These constrained living conditions expose residents of slum squatter settlements, particularly the vulnerable children and expectant mothers to multiple health risks emanating from poor hygiene, as well as food and water contamination, and in extreme cases, it results to high mortality rate.

### **Urbanization, Urban Planning and Housing Deficits in Nigeria**

Urbanization, like any other concept in the lexicon of social sciences has continued to lack a generally accepted definition as scholars tend to explain it from their diverse points of views and backgrounds. According to Hussain and Imityaz, (2018), it entails the process of becoming urban and the influx of people into urban areas. From the above definition, the central idea for determining what constitutes an urban area becomes the demographic composition, arising from migration issues. Population, however, plays a key role, yet, inadequate in discussions relating to urbanization, particularly in developing countries of the world. According to Chen, Zhang, Liu and Zhang, (2014), urbanization is not only about an increase in the population of urban areas, but also involves strings of change from rural to urban styles in relation to industry structure, employment, living conditions, and social services. This appears to be a more elaborate explanation to the meaning of urbanization, as it captures the essential indicators of demographic issues, a change from primitive way of life to modernity, departure from subsistence means of livelihood to formal employments, as well as a more organized pattern of settlement which is characterized by the availability of essential social services.

Generally speaking, urbanization refers to a change in the economic, social and cultural aspects of the society. It is the process whereby a society changes from a rural to an urban way of life. Central to the understanding of urbanization is the existence of closely packed heterogeneous population who are largely engaged in more modern means of livelihood, other than the traditionally accepted subsistence agriculture for basic sustenance. Urbanization in most developing countries of the world is largely triggered by the quest better means of livelihood, as well as the desire to escape rural misery. Adamtey and Yajalin, (2018) pointed out that urban growth most especially in Sub-Saharan and Western Asia occur majorly in city slums, where new city residents face the problems of overcrowding, inadequate housing and a lack of water and sanitation, etc.

Aluko (2010) posits that urbanization process in the developed countries is as a result of rapid development, modernization and industrialization, and not the agglomeration of people which

usually result from rural-urban drift. While the urbanization in Nigeria, and in most other developing countries of the world, is a consequence of the 'push' of the rural area, and the 'pull' of the urban centres. Olotuah and Taiwo (2013) maintained that the available public infrastructure and services in Nigerian urban areas is low compared with the demographic surge which results in great strain on the available facilities and near collapse in many places. Lack of urban infrastructure is a good catalyst for squatter formation and worsening housing conditions in Urban districts. Put differently, a slum dweller and a non-slum dweller area is differentiated with the presence or absence of the essential facilities (Otegbulu and Adewumi, 2009).

In addition, effective urban planning is further constrained by increasing population density, changing climatic conditions, unplanned migration, strain on resources, as well as lack of pragmatic urban development models. Another challenge undermining urban planning in Nigeria is the issue of altering previously approved development rights of properties located in strategic parts of cities. More so, proper urban planning in Nigeria has also faced the challenge of systemic failure and lack of political will on the part of leaders to properly articulate long-term sustainable development policies to enhance safer and healthier urban environment, while contending with the pressing needs of urban dwellers. Environment-related issues and the fact that population growth outweighs economic growth, have further contributed to this trend.

Urban settlements in Nigeria are consistently faced with the challenge of inadequate basic infrastructure and amenities required for healthy living, despite the ever-growing populations. Otegbulu and Adewumi (2009) pointed out that essential infrastructure services should include services on health treatment, education and other needs. Ekpo (2019) identified that housing is indispensable to the development of any urban area. This informed the decision of the United Nations to advocate for the adoption of Goal 11 globally, aimed at a holistic perspective of the housing sector with a view to achieving quality and affordable housing units for all by 2030.

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According to Ezeigwe (2015), the major factors responsible for increased housing deficits in Anambra State include: non-implementation of housing policies, high cost of building materials, high cost of lands in urban areas of the state, failure on the part of government at various levels to fund and maintain housing schemes, as well as demographic surge arising from rapid urbanization. Emma-Ochu and Onwuka (2013) added that the urban infrastructure in Nigeria is under great pressure from the teeming population migrating from the rural areas, including search of better means of livelihood. Hence the urban centers are experiencing growth that is not matched with development, resulting in emergence of numerous slums and squatter settlements and a breakdown of infrastructural amenities due to over-stretching. There is therefore gross inadequacy of housing and other municipal social services in Nigeria.

### **Urban Planning and Overcrowding in Nigeria**

The need for proper planning in any given urban society cannot be over-emphasized. According to Pinson (2007), urban planning is a technical and political process concerning a whole set of social

activities aimed at anticipating, representing and regulating the development of an urban area. Urban planning can also be understood as the set of activities relating to government approved development plans and land use within the cities and their environs. While the challenges facing urban growth and expansion in Nigeria may slightly vary across cities, they are generally plagued with the problems of population explosion, traffic congestion, environmental pollution, rising unemployment, infrastructural deficits, existence of squatter settlements, deterioration of amenities, poverty, indiscriminate disposal of refuse, unauthorized erection of structures, flooding, air and noise pollution and lack of affordable housing units. These have continued to undermine the efforts of policy makers and urban planners, thus, leading to the formation of new slums.

The challenge of living congestion being witnessed in many urban areas of the country is most visible among the inhabitants of informal settlements. It more or less constitutes an indication of growing poverty and widening inequality among urban dwellers. Ojiako, Nweke, Okoye and Oju (2023), argue that rural-urban migration would persist as long as rural-urban inequalities exist. The emergence, continued existence and proliferation of informal settlements in various urban areas have been identified as a global phenomenon. It constitutes inevitable outcome of urban growth and expansion of city boundaries. Slum settlements are often dilapidated, deteriorated or incomplete structures. Essentially, such settlements usually have limited access to hygienic environment, clean water, electricity supply, good roads and schools, and general infrastructures. The rising phenomenon of urban slums points to the inadequacies of urban planning. According to Bolay (2006), slum is not only a manifestation of mismanaged urban planning in countries of the south, rather, its existence and proliferation across the globe indicates that slum is a crucial element in contemporary urbanization.

The rate of urbanization in Nigeria and other developing countries of the world have been very alarming, particularly at the turn of the 21st century. Olalekan (2014), identified urbanization as a major demographic issue in Nigerian cities which has persistently resulted in uncontrolled demographic surge, severe pressures on available infrastructure, environmental degradation, traffic congestion, housing shortages and high level of crimes. According to Oleyele (2013), the rapid urbanization in Nigeria can largely be attributed to the prevalent inequalities in terms of infrastructural facilities, essential services, social amenities and heterogeneity economic activities in favour of urban centres.

The well-being of slum dwellers, as well as their rights and aspirations formed the focus. To this effect, the United Nations General Assembly established the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements as an immediate response to the issues raised at the conference, with the aim of combining spatial urban planning with the social, cultural and economic aspirations of slum dwellers. Urban inequalities arising from disparities in income and which is more visible among slum settlers showed that they have been trapped in the 'circles of poverty'.

Slum settlements manifest in various forms across different climes. But generally speaking, they are characterized by overcrowding, lack or inadequate essential facilities and infrastructures, mostly incomplete structures, poorest housing and unhygienic conditions inhabited by low class or the poor people. In addition, slum settlements are usually considered unfit for decent habitation. Studies have shown that densely populated developing countries of the world, such as Nigeria, play host to most of the world's largest slums.

Lobo (2016) observed that the challenge of urban planning and the needs of the poor communities are linked by the need to exchange information and agency across levels of urban organization,

from the household, to the neighbourhood and the city. In line with Lobo's assertion, the need to collect adequate and reliable data of urban dwellers, migrants and inhabitants of informal settlements forms the basis for any meaningful panacea to their plight, as well as addressing the challenge of proper planning in the society. Slum Dwellers International (SDI) advocates for the need to create a path of dialogue and inclusion of the urban poor as well as responsive and knowledgeable government around practical issues for official organizations and private firms. Effective planning process ought to create room for sustainability of both policies and objectives. Ibietan and Ekhosuehi (2013) maintained that planning in Nigeria is largely hindered by lack of coordination and harmonization of programs and policies, between the tenure of a given administration and that of the succeeding administration. Bolay (2006), observed that in line with a whole range of material, natural and socio-economic indicators in developing countries, special and demographic urban growth is characterized by the deterioration of physical and social living conditions for a large and increasing part of the urban population.

All over the world, the need to have possible projections of demographic data of cities within a given time frame by official planners, researchers and international organizations forms the basis for any meaningful and sustainable urban planning process. Efobi and Anierobi (2013) added that public participation is an indispensable catalyst for effective policy implementation. Supporting this view, Etemire (2020) maintained that the hegemonic view of the current approach to Nigeria's urban planning and management neither encourage nor promote citizen participation. This is also applicable to residents of slum settlements. Lobo (2016) maintained that by transparently collecting verifiable data about themselves, informal communities and neighbourhoods can join the discussions about their own local development.

In addition, the need for public participation in the urban planning process is further strengthened in the Nigerian Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Decree No. 86, 1992 which states that 'the relevant overseeing agency must provide government agencies, the public and relevant agencies the opportunity to participate during the Environmental Impact Assessment processes' (Adomokai and Sheate, 2004). Regrettably, despite the extant laws which create the enabling room for citizen's participation in the urban planning process, it appears to have been monopolized by planning officials and the relevant commissions. Hence, Echendu (2023) attributed poor support from members of the public which has continuously hindered effective execution of proper urban planning to lack of public participation in the planning process.

### **Urban Planning and the Challenge of Informal Settlements in Nigeria**

The need for adequate supply of high-quality housing units in any given human society, especially in urban settlements, cannot be overemphasized. Housing quality, in this context, refers to the character, disposition and nature of housing units within a given location. According to Uzoma (2022), it entails the attribute, properties, special features and degree or grade of excellence which should be possessed by housing units. Adewale, Olabisi and olawunmi (2018) observed that in Nigeria and other developing economies, the need to provide qualitative housing based on users' responsive and culturally determined considerations - particularly for the vast majority of the urban population is central to the achievement of sustainable cities and human development.

Section 16(1) (d) of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, as amended, under the Fundamental Objectives of State Policy, compels the Nigerian State to: "provide suitable and adequate shelter for all citizens". Ugonabo and Emoh (2013) added that even though this provision is not actionable, it reinforces the call for public sector driven mass housing provision in Nigeria.

The United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA, 2014), projections show that by the year 2050, 66 per cent of global population will be urban dwellers, as against the 30 per cent which was witnessed in 1950. The greatest need for affordable housing emanates from the lower income households in urban areas. Almost 50 per cent of Nigeria's population resides in cities and about 80 per cent reside in substandard conditions (World Bank, 2016).

Olotuah and Taiwo (2013) added that in order to achieve adequate housing for poor urban dwellers, there is need on the part of government to devise means of reducing the cost of housing so as to fall within the reach of the poor. According to the National Bureau of Statistics Report (2012), Nigerian government has not been proactive in terms of policy formulation in the housing sector. In the face of outrageous housing deficit, for instance, government expended only 2 per cent of its total expenditure in the housing sector. However, over time, the rate of rural-urban migration has quickly outweighed the rate of job availability in developing and underdeveloped countries with overstretched available social and infrastructural facilities in the urban areas (Kanu & Ukonze, 2018). Ajewole (2008) asserts that Nigeria's major cities experience increased social and environmental problems of air, land and noise pollution; non-conducive local microclimatic conditions and stressful social and psychological living environments. These, according to him, emanate from inadequate, dilapidated and overstretched infrastructure, degraded urban physiognomy, increasing levels of unemployment, crime, insecurity and other related social vices.

Glaeser (2013) and Marx, Stoker and Suri (2014) observed that there is a growing concern that the rapid pace of slums' formation and growth in some urban areas are turning them into 'poverty traps'. Lobo (2016) maintained that traditional urban planning usually practiced in terms of organizing urban space and determining land uses, has a poor record of solving fundamental socio-economic problems, especially those typically associated with human development. In particular, large scale infrastructural development projects such as good road network, power generation and supply, housing schemes and lots more have largely failed at fomenting inclusive cities and has often been associated with increasing inequality in terms of opportunities and income (Baker, 2008, Buckley, and Kalarickal, 2006, Gulyani and Bassett, 2007).

### **Theoretical Framework**

This study is anchored on Edward Soja's (2009) theory of Spatial Justice, which argues that space is socially produced and actively shapes human life, just as social relations shape space. Spatial justice therefore refers to the fair distribution of resources, opportunities, and services across geographic areas. Soja also highlights how locational discrimination produces inequality by privileging some areas while marginalizing others, often through unequal access to infrastructure such as hospitals, schools, water, and sanitation. The theory emphasizes that unequal spatial arrangements contribute to poverty and urban inequality, particularly in slum areas. It therefore provides a framework for addressing urban deprivation by promoting equitable access to basic services and ensuring that marginalized communities are not excluded from essential urban resources and opportunities.

### **Methodology**

#### **Research Design**

Survey research design was adopted for this study. A survey design is one in which data is collected and analyzed from a selected group of people or items that are assumed to be representative of the

entire population. It specifies the volume of data that will be gathered and examined. This method of data collection was chosen because it allows the researcher to seek information that may not be available in secondary data sources such as journals, textbooks, website publications etc.

### Population of the Study

The population for this study consists of urban dwellers in Awka and Onitsha Metropolis which is estimated at 2.5million (according to Wikipedia, 2023). This represents a significant increase from the 2006 census which put the population of Awka at 301,657. The growth in Awka urban population is due to a number of factors including economic growth, increase investment in infrastructure and a high birth rate. The Population of urban dwellers in Anambra State is quite enormous and the Sample will be drawn from the population of urban dwellers in Awka and Onitsha where there is rising rate of urban slums.

### Sampling Technique

In determining the sample size, Kregarie and Morgan’s sample size determination table was adopted (Kregarie and Morgan, 1970). The sample size determination Table was derived from the calculation which is expressed below:

$$n = \frac{x^2 NP(I-P)}{(d^2(N-1)+X^2P(1-P)}$$

**Where:**

- $n$  = Sample size
- $X^2$  = Chi-Square for 1 degree of freedom at desired confidence level (expressed as 3.841)
- $N$  = Population size
- $P$  = Population proportion (assumed to be 0.5)
- $d$  = Degree of accuracy expressed as proportion (0.05)

**Table 2.1:** Sampling size computation and distribution (cont’d)

Location	X <sup>2</sup>	N	P	D	X <sup>2</sup> (NP)	(1-p)	d <sup>2</sup>	(N-1)
<i>Onitsha</i>	3.841	2500000	0.5	0.05	4,801,250.00	0.5	0.0025	2499999
<i>Awka</i>	3.841	301657	0.5	0.05	579,332.27	0.5	0.0025	301656

Source: Field survey, 2023

**Table 2.2:** Sampling size computation and distribution (cont’d)

Location	P(1-P)	X <sup>2</sup> *P(1-P)	d <sup>2</sup> *(N-1)	d <sup>2</sup> *(N-1) + X <sup>2</sup> *P(1-P)	X <sup>2</sup> (NP)(1-P)	n
<i>Onitsha</i>	0.25	0.96025	6249.998	6251	2,400,625.00	384.04
<i>Awka</i>	0.25	0.96025	754.14	755	289,666.13	383.61
<b>Total Sample Size</b>						<b>767.65</b>

Source: Field survey, 2023

From the Kregarie and Morgan’s model for sample size determination, the study therefore focused on approximately 768 respondents in Onitsha and Awka.

## **Sources and Method of Data Collection**

Data for this study were gathered from both primary and secondary sources. The primary sources of data for this study were collected from structured questionnaires. On the other hand, the secondary sources of data for this study were obtained through the review of relevant literature and materials from text books, internet sources, journals, official reports, workshops and seminar papers.

## **Validity of Instrument**

The instruments were validated by three experts in the Department of Public Administration and Local Government of the University of Nigeria Nsukka. Their observations, suggestions and comments added value to the study, and they were used in the final draft of the instrument.

## **Reliability of Instrument**

To determine the reliability of the instrument, the ‘test-retest technique’ was used. The instruments were administered on a pilot sample drawn from ten (10) aware members of the public, all of whom are residents of urban areas, not included in the sample size. The pre-tests were carried out on two occasions with the interview guide, in an attempt to ascertain the reliability of the research instrument.

## **Method of Data Presentation and Analysis**

Cross tabulation descriptive statistics and histogram charts were used in presenting the data for this study, while mean simple average was used to determine the frequency of opinion of the respondents. The data presented was analyzed using the One-Way ANOVA with the aid of Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS). The level of significance is 5%, while 95% confidence interval was adopted for the study.

$$\text{Mean } [\bar{x}] = (5+4+3+2+1)/5 = 3.0$$

## **Decision Rule**

For the questionnaire responses, a cut point of 3.0 was adopted as the criterion mean. This implies that any mean score that is 3.0 and above will be considered as Agreed/Acceptable while mean score below 3.0 will be considered as disagreed/Unacceptable. In the validation of hypotheses, the study will reject the null hypothesis if the probability value (sig.) is less than 0.05 (prob. < 0.05) otherwise, the study will fail to reject the null hypothesis and accept the alternate hypothesis.

## **Data Presentation, Findings and Discussions**

### **Findings and Discussion**

Out of the 768 questionnaires administered, as determined by Kregarie and Morgan’s model for sample size determination, only 705 questionnaires were properly completed and returned. 63 questionnaires representing 8.20% of the entire questionnaires distributed were not properly filled and/or returned by respondents, hence could not be used in the analysis. The study was therefore carried out using only the 705 questionnaire which were correctly filled and returned. This represents 91.80% of the entire questionnaire distributed.

The study carefully presented the findings and discussion of the study under the following sub-headings: 3.1 Demographic analyses of respondents by location; 3.2 Analysis of research questions; and 3.3 Test of hypotheses.

### Descriptive Statistics of Respondents by Location

The study presented cross tabulation analysis to describe the respondents according to the major groups which is Awka and Onitsha.

**Table 3.1:** Location \* Age Cross-tabulation

LOCATION		AGE			Total
		31-45	46-60	61-Above	
Awka	Awka	1	263	111	375
	Onitsha	3	5	322	330
Total		4	268	433	705

**Source:** Field survey, 2023

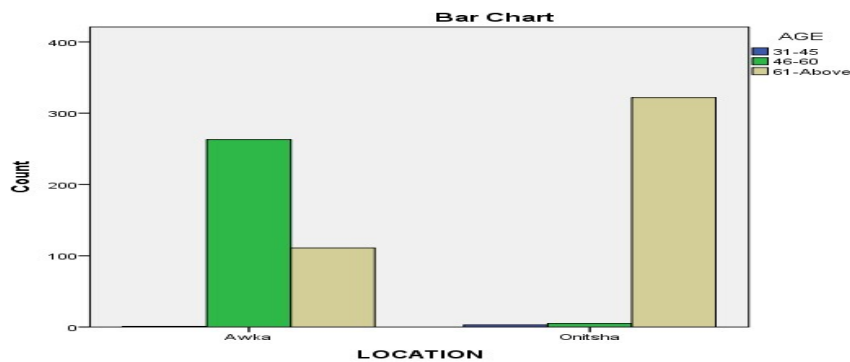


Table 3.1 showed that from the entire questionnaires analyzed, 263 respondents fall within the age bracket of 46-60 years in Awka and only 5 respondents fall within that range in Onitsha. However, Onitsha recorded that 322 respondents fall within the age bracket of 61 and above while 111 respondents in Awka fall within the age bracket of 61 and above. Summarily, the majority of respondents in Awka and Onitsha are from the age bracket of 41-60 and 61-above. We can therefore assume that these categories are settlers in the area.

**Table 3.2:** Location \* Sex Cross-tabulation

LOCATION		SEX		Total
		Male	Female	
Awka	Awka	263	112	375
	Onitsha	105	225	330
Total		368	337	705

**Source:** Field survey, 2023

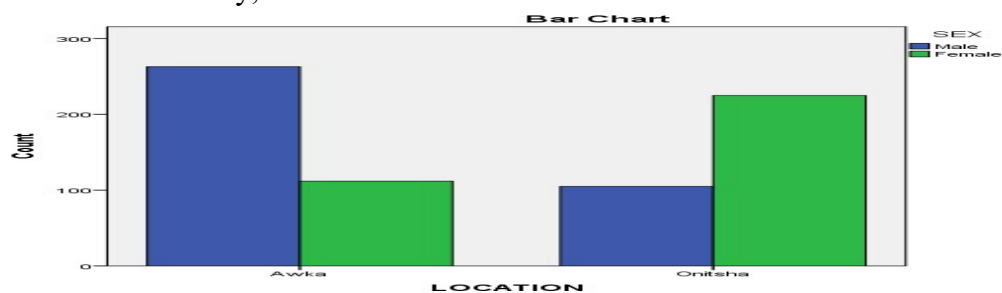


Table 3.2 and visualization from our histogram showed a near-equal spread between the male and female respondent (male = 368; female = 337). This represents 52.20% for male respondents and 47.80% for female respondents. However, close gap between males and females who responded to this questionnaire has nothing to do with the findings of this study. Nevertheless, this result shows that the respondents in Onitsha are mostly dominated by females while Awka is mostly dominated by males. This can be used to make a rough inference on the gender spread of Awka and Onitsha population.

**Table 3.3:** Location \* Marital Status Cross-tabulation

LOCATION		MARITAL STATUS			Total
		Single	Married	Divorced	
Awka	Awka	119	218	38	375
	Onitsha	93	189	48	330
Total		212	407	86	705

**Source:** Field survey, 2023

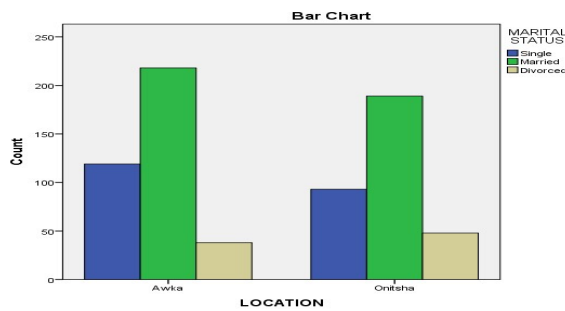


Table 3.3 and visualization from our histogram revealed a highly skewed result towards married people as the results showed that majority of the respondents in Awka and Onitsha were married. The result precisely revealed 57.73%, 30.07% and 12.20% are married, single and divorced respectively and with 407 married respondents, we can therefore conclude based on this result that the majority of our respondents are settlers and knowledgeable enough to give valid opinion on the investigative questions.

### Analysis of Research Questions

**Research Question One:** How has Urban Planning Contributed to Addressing the Problem of Housing Deficits in Anambra State between 2014 and 2022?

CLUSTER ONE - HOUSING DEFICIT	Descriptive Statistics							Sum	Mean	Std. Deviation
	SA	A	UD	D	SD	N				
Urban planning has contributed to addressing the problem of housing deficits through the construction of more access roads in suburbs	93	278	153	117	64	705	2334	3.31	1.165	
Urban planning has contributed to addressing the problem of housing deficits through encouraging estate developers	68	249	162	157	69	705	2205	3.13	1.157	
The problem of housing deficits has partly been addressed through mass production of locally manufactured building materials	56	282	180	135	52	705	2270	3.22	1.076	

The problem of housing deficits has partly been addressed through affordable housing incentives	97	294	167	86	61	705	2395	3.40	1.131	
The problem of housing deficits has partly been addressed through partnership with developers	300	281	84	12	28	705	2928	4.15	.974	
<b>Valid N (listwise)</b>							705			

**Source:** Field survey, 2023

The descriptive statistics of Research Questions One concerning Urban Planning and its contribution to addressing the problem of Housing Deficits in Anambra state which indicates that the mean statistics of all five (5) questions records varying results with the least of them scoring a mean of 3.13 (Question Two) and the upper-class scoring a mean of 4.15 (Question Five). The summary statistics reveals a grand mean value of 3.44 for the investigative questions on the contribution of Urban Planning to addressing the problem of Housing Deficits in Anambra state. This entails that majority of the respondents agrees with the investigative questions and thus affirms that Urban Planning has contributed in no little way towards addressing the problem of Infrastructural Deficits in Anambra state between 2014 and 2022.

**Research question two:** How has Urban Planning Contributed to Addressing the Challenge of Overcrowding of Urban Dwellers in Anambra State between 2014 and 2022?

Descriptive Statistics											
CLUSTER TWO – OVERCROWDING	SA	A	UD	D	SD	N	Sum	Mean	Std. Deviation		
The challenge of overcrowding has partly been addressed through the development of suburbs in the state	175	349	105	48	28	705	2710	3.84	1.002		
The challenge of overcrowding has partly been addressed through the provision of affordable housing units for the citizens	257	332	96	4	16	705	2925	4.15	.841		
The challenge of overcrowding has partly been addressed through policies aimed at discouraging rural-to-urban migration in the state	275	310	80	16	24	705	2911	4.13	.941		
The challenge of overcrowding has partly been addressed through improving the living condition of rural dwellers	288	285	80	28	24	705	2900	4.11	.988		
Urban planning has contributed to addressing the problem of overcrowding through discouraging the existence of informal settlements	176	360	133	16	20	705	2771	3.93	.884		
<b>Valid N (listwise)</b>							705				

**Source:** Field survey, 2023

The descriptive statistics of Research Questions Two concerning Urban Planning and its contribution to addressing the Challenges of Overcrowding of urban dwellers in Anambra state between 2014 and 2022 which indicates that the mean statistics of all five (5) questions records varying results with the least of them scoring a mean of 3.84 (Question One) and the upper-class scoring a mean of 4.15 (Question Two). The summary statistics reveals a grand mean value of 4.03

for the investigative questions on the contribution of Urban Planning to addressing the challenges of overcrowding of urban dwellers in Anambra state. This entails that majority of the respondents also agrees with the investigative questions and thus affirms that to a great extent, Urban Planning has contributed to addressing the challenge of overcrowding of urban dwellers in Anambra State between 2014 and 2022.

**Research question three:** In what ways has Urban Planning Reduced the Existence of Informal Settlements in Anambra State within the period under study?

Descriptive Statistics									
CLUSTER THREE – POOR QUALITY HOUSING UNIT	SA	A	UD	D	SD	N	Sum	Mean	Std. Deviation
Urban planning has contributed to addressing the problem of informal settlements through the enforcement of compliance with the approved standards	234	335	96	24	16	705	2862	4.06	.898
The problem of informal settlements has partly been addressed through adequate mobilization of the Materials Testing Laboratory Personnel in the state	56	252	105	168	124	705	2063	2.93	1.270
The problem of informal settlements has partly been addressed through regular supervision of construction sites	142	402	137	8	16	705	2761	3.92	.800
The problem of informal settlements has partly been addressed through demolition and sealing of unauthorized structures	113	349	161	50	32	705	2576	3.65	.981
The challenge of informal settlements has partly been curbed through the demolition of shanty settlements	180	365	104	36	20	705	2764	3.92	.926
<b>Valid N (listwise)</b>						705			

**Source:** Field survey, 2023

The descriptive statistics of Research Questions Three concerning Urban Planning and its contribution to reducing the existence of Informal Settlements in Anambra state which indicates that the mean statistics of all five (5) questions records varying results with the least of them scoring a mean of 2.93 (Question Two) and the upper-class scoring a mean of 4.06 (Question One). The summary statistics reveals a grand mean value of 3.70 for the investigative questions on the contribution of Urban Planning in reducing the existence of Informal Settlements in Anambra state. This entails that majority of the respondents agrees with the investigative questions and thus affirms that Urban Planning has contributed in no little way towards reducing the existence of Informal Settlements in Anambra state.

## Test of Hypotheses

### Hypothesis One

**H<sub>1</sub>:** Urban Planning has Significantly Contributed to Addressing the Problem of Housing Deficits in Anambra State between 2014 and 2022.

**Table 3.4: Descriptives**

	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error	95% Confidence Interval for Mean		Minimum	Maximum
					Lower Bound	Upper Bound		
Awka	375	17.02	3.754	.194	16.64	17.41	5	25
Onitsha	330	17.42	3.735	.206	17.01	17.82	5	25
Total	705	17.21	3.748	.141	16.93	17.49	5	25

Source: SPSS Vers. 23

**Table 3.5: Test of Homogeneity of Variances**

	Levene Statistic	df1	df2	Sig.
	.052	1	703	.820

Source: SPSS Vers. 23

**Table 3.6: ANOVA**

	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	27.274	1	27.274	1.944	.164
Within Groups	9861.075	703	14.027		
Total	9888.349	704			

Source: SPSS Vers. 23

The table 3.4-3.6 shows the analysis of variance (ANOVA) for the Contribution of Urban Planning in Addressing the Problem of Housing Deficits in Anambra state between 2014 and 2022 between the location groups (Awka and Onitsha). The mean score of the contribution of urban planning in addressing the problem of housing deficits in Anambra state for Onitsha respondents shows the highest value (17.42). However, there is slight variation in the mean score of both groups.

The result also shows in table 3.5, the Test of homogeneity of variances. This table ensures that those homogeneity assumptions have been met. The homogeneity assumption is what allows for the pulling of responses from all two groups. In this case, the P-value is greater than 0.05 (Sig = 0.820), thus we do not reject the assumption of homogeneity and we conclude that the variances are equal.

Despite the mean score insight in table 3.4, table 3.6 which shows the F-stat and the P-value between the groups revealed the values (1.944, 0.164) for F-stat and P-value respectively. The P-value shows a value greater than 0.05 (P-value = 0.164) indicating that there is no significant difference between the responses of various settlements groups. Hence, we fail to reject the null hypothesis and conclude that Urban Planning has not Significantly Contributed to Addressing the Problem of Housing Deficits in Anambra State between 2014 and 2022.

### Hypothesis Two

**H<sub>2</sub>:** Urban Planning has Significantly Contributed to Addressing the Challenge of Overcrowding of Urban Dwellers in Anambra State.

**Table 3.7: Descriptives**

	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error	95% Confidence Interval for Mean		Minimum	Maximum
					Lower Bound	Upper Bound		
Awka	375	20.55	3.619	.187	20.18	20.92	5	25
Onitsha	330	19.73	3.749	.206	19.32	20.14	5	25
Total	705	20.17	3.701	.139	19.89	20.44	5	25

**Source:** SPSS Vers. 23

**Table 3.8: Test of Homogeneity of Variances**

Levene Statistic	df1	df2	Sig.
2.073	1	703	.150

**Source:** SPSS Vers. 23

**Table 3.9: ANOVA**

	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	117.749	1	117.749	8.692	.003
Within Groups	9523.834	703	13.547		
Total	9641.583	704			

**Source:** SPSS Vers. 23

The table 3.7-3.9 shows the analysis of variance (ANOVA) for the Impact of Urban Planning in Addressing the Challenge of Overcrowding of Urban Dwellers in Anambra State between the location groups (Awka and Onitsha). The mean score for Awka respondents shows the highest value 20.55 as against 19.73 for Onitsha respondents.

The result also shows in table 3.8, the Test of homogeneity of variances. This table ensures that those homogeneity assumptions have been met. The homogeneity assumption is what allows for the pulling of responses from all two groups. In this case, the P-value is greater than 0.05 (Sig = 0.150), thus we do not reject the assumption of homogeneity and we conclude that the variances are equal.

Despite the mean score insight in table 3.6, table 3.9 which shows the F-stat and the P-value between the groups revealed the values (8.692, 0.003) for F-stat and P-value respectively. The P-value shows a value less than 0.05 (P-value = 0.003) indicating that a significant difference exists between the responses of various settlements groups. Hence, we reject the null hypothesis and conclude that Urban Planning has Significantly Contributed to Addressing the Challenge of Overcrowding of Urban Dwellers in Anambra State.

### **Hypothesis Three**

**H<sub>3</sub>:** Urban Planning has Significantly Reduced the Existence of Informal Settlements in the Urban Areas of Anambra State.

**Table 3.10: Descriptives**

	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error	95% Confidence Interval for Mean		Minimum	Maximum
					Lower Bound	Upper Bound		
Awka	375	18.57	3.198	.165	18.25	18.90	5	25
Onitsha	330	18.37	3.407	.188	18.00	18.74	5	25
Total	705	18.48	3.297	.124	18.23	18.72	5	25

**Source:** SPSS Vers. 23

**Table 3.11: Test of Homogeneity of Variances**

Levene Statistic	df1	df2	Sig.
2.624	1	703	.106

**Source:** SPSS Vers. 23

**Table 3.12: ANOVA**

	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	7.497	1	7.497	.689	.407
Within Groups	7644.367	703	10.874		
Total	7651.864	704			

**Source:** SPSS Vers. 23

The table 3.10-3.12 shows the analysis of variance (ANOVA) for the Contribution of Urban Planning in Reducing the Existence of Informal Settlements in the Urban Areas of Anambra State between the level of study groups (Awka and Onitsha). The mean score for Awka respondents shows the highest value 18.57 as against 18.37 for Onitsha respondents.

The result also shows in table 3.11, the Test of homogeneity of variances. This table ensures that those homogeneity assumptions have been met. The homogeneity assumption is what allows for the pulling of responses from all two groups. In this case, the P-value is greater than 0.05 (Sig = 0.106), thus we do not reject the assumption of homogeneity and we conclude that the variances are equal.

Despite the mean score insight in table 3.10, table 3.12 which shows the F-stat and the P-value between the groups revealed the values (0.689, 0.407) for F-stat and P-value respectively. The P-value shows a value greater than 0.05 (P-value = 0.407) indicating that there is a statistically significant difference between the opinions of various settlements groups. Hence, we fail to reject the null hypothesis and conclude that Urban Planning has not Significantly Reduced the Existence of Informal Settlements in the Urban Areas of Anambra State within the period under study.

### **Discussion of Findings**

The study finds that urban planning has not significantly reduced housing deficits in Anambra State. This aligns with Adamtey and Yajalin (2018) and Olotuah and Taiwo (2013), who report that rapid urban growth in developing countries leads to overcrowding, inadequate housing, poor water supply, and sanitation challenges, worsened by a mismatch between population growth and housing supply. Evidence also shows that government housing efforts tend to favour elites, leading to neglect of low-income groups, proliferation of informal settlements, and associated social problems.

Secondly, urban planning has partly helped reduce overcrowding in Anambra State by improving rural infrastructure and discouraging rural–urban migration. This supports Oleyele (2013), who links overcrowding to regional inequalities in services and opportunities, and Lobo (2016), who highlights weak urban data systems as a planning constraint. However, state efforts have encouraged suburban growth, easing pressure on major cities.

Finally, urban planning has not significantly reduced informal settlements. This reflects findings by Adewale et al. (2018) and the National Bureau of Statistics (2012), which point to the lack of affordable housing and weak housing policy. Although measures such as demolition of illegal structures and enforcement actions have been implemented, informal settlements remain widespread due to persistent housing affordability challenges.

### **Summary**

The study investigated the effect of urban planning on rising urban slums in Nigeria. Precisely, the study addressed the core issues relating to urban planning in Nigeria as prior studies have considered this as indispensable for any meaningful sustainable development to thrive. It enquired whether or not efforts had been made to regulate the physical development of the urban areas under study, considering the consequence of unmitigated urban growth and expansion, as well as the rising phenomenon of urban slum across the country. Finally, the study investigated the contribution of urban planning in addressing the problem of housing deficits; challenge of overcrowding of urban dwellers and informal settlements. Hence, the study examined urban planning and rising urban slums in Nigeria: a case of Anambra state.

The methods of data collection for the study were both primary and secondary sources. The study was anchored on the theory of ‘Spatial Justice’ as propounded by Edward Soja (2009). This created a theoretical basis for our analysis. This theory views spatial justice as a framework that seeks to address the underlying causes of poverty and inequality, and to ensure that all residents of the city have access to the basic services and amenities.

The study found that urban planning has not significantly contributed to addressing the problem of housing deficits in Anambra State between 2014 and 2022. On the brighter side, the study found that urban planning has significantly contributed to addressing the challenge of overcrowding of urban dwellers in Anambra State. However, this achievement has not really affected quality as the study found that urban planning has not significantly reduced the existence of informal settlements in the urban areas of Anambra State.

### **Conclusion**

The inadequacies associated with effective urban planning constitute impediment to sustainable urban development, hence, the resultant menace of rising urban slums in the State. Based on the findings, the study concludes as follows: Firstly, despite the efforts of government and policy makers in the area of infrastructural development, urban planning has not contributed significantly towards addressing the problem of housing deficits when compared with the demographic trend in the urban areas of Anambra State within the period under study. Secondly, findings from our analysis implied that urban planning has actually done so much in addressing the challenge of overcrowding of urban dwellers in Anambra State. Although the government of Anambra State has not been able to provide affordable housing units to meet the demands of poor urban dwellers, the

mapping out of new estates and layouts in the suburbs has really contributed in addressing the challenge of overcrowding of urban dwellers in the state. Finally, despite the periodic demolition of some roadside shanties and unauthorized structures which tend to undermine the esthetic beauty of cities, the study concludes that urban planning has not significantly contributed to the reduction of informal settlements in Anambra state within the period under study.

## Recommendations

Arising from the findings and conclusion, the study makes the following recommendations:

1. Government of Anambra state should partner with relevant stakeholders to provide adequate infrastructures, particularly in the areas of housing, healthcare, education, and road construction and maintenance in order to meet the needs of urban dwellers, while improving the aesthetic beauty of the state.
2. There is need for urban planners to map out more layouts for residential purposes so as to ease the pressure associated with overcrowding in cities, as well as to enhance the spread of development.
3. Government of Anambra state should stick to the original plans of cities, discourage the erection of unauthorized structures and ensure full compliance with the professional and ethical standards associated with erecting structures in urban areas to curb the menace of urban slums in the state.

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