

**Gr 12 Geography**  
**SETTLEMENT GEOGRAPHY**  
**RURAL SETTLEMENT ISSUES**

### **3.1 Rural-urban migration**

**Important terms:**

- 1. RURAL-URBAN MIGRATION:**  
The movement of people from rural areas to urban areas.
- 2. RURAL DEPOPULATION:**  
The decline in the population of a rural area.
- 3. URBANISATION:**  
The increase in the proportion or percentage of people living in towns and cities.
- 4. AGEING POPULATION:**  
Only the older members of a population remain in an area.

### **3.2 Causes and consequences of rural depopulation**

**On people and the economy;**

**CAUSES:**

**PUSH FACTORS (repelling migrants from the countryside)**

- ✓ Unemployment
- ✓ Mechanisation of farms
- ✓ Poor medical and family planning services
- ✓ Few primary and secondary schools
- ✓ Poor housing
- ✓ Limited socialising opportunities
- ✓ Poor services
- ✓ Widespread poverty
- ✓ Natural hazards
- ✓ Population pressure leading to insufficient land

**PULL FACTORS (attracting migrants to the cities)**

- ✓ Better career prospects
- ✓ Better medical and family planning facilities
- ✓ Better educational opportunities
- ✓ Better housing
- ✓ Better social life
- ✓ Better shops, transport and communications
- ✓ Higher wages and standards of living
- ✓ Less threat from natural hazards

- ✓ Relations have migrated

## **CONSEQUENCES:**

- ✓ Spending in smaller service centers decreases because local farmers leave the farms - Business people and service providers in small rural towns lose their business and work.
- ✓ Services in smaller centers closes down, eg. Schools and shops. Thus, local residents do not have access to services and are unemployed.
- ✓ Young men migrate first: women, children and the elderly are lagging behind in rural areas - impact on the family unit: women and children are forced to take roles usually performed by men.
- ✓ Crime (farm murders) increases - less supportive systems or services.
- ✓ Unemployment
- ✓ Properties have low value, farmhouses are abandoned and neglected.
- ✓ Tertiary services are below standard because population size is too small.
- ✓ Productivity in rural areas drop
- ✓ Income decline
- ✓ Poverty increases

### **3.3 Social justice issues in rural areas, such as access to resources and land reform.**

- ✓ Access to resources is limited in rural areas as people live far apart and this makes it difficult to offer improved services
- ✓ HIV/Aids is a major problem as people get sick and then return to family in rural areas, which place an increased burden on the limited income of the family and the limited health resources in rural areas.
- ✓ Land reform is necessary in South Africa inequalities exist due to apartheid legislation of the past which prevented all people to own land
  - Land reform – equitable distribution of landownership by changing laws about ownership of land
  - Land redistribution – some agricultural land must be bought and given to black owners by the state
  - Land restitution – return of land to people who fell victim to forced removals
  - Land tenure reform – to secure the residential rights of people living on the land of other people

### **STRATEGIES TO BE CARRIED OUT TO CONSULT THE CONSEQUENCES OF COUNTRY POPULATION:**

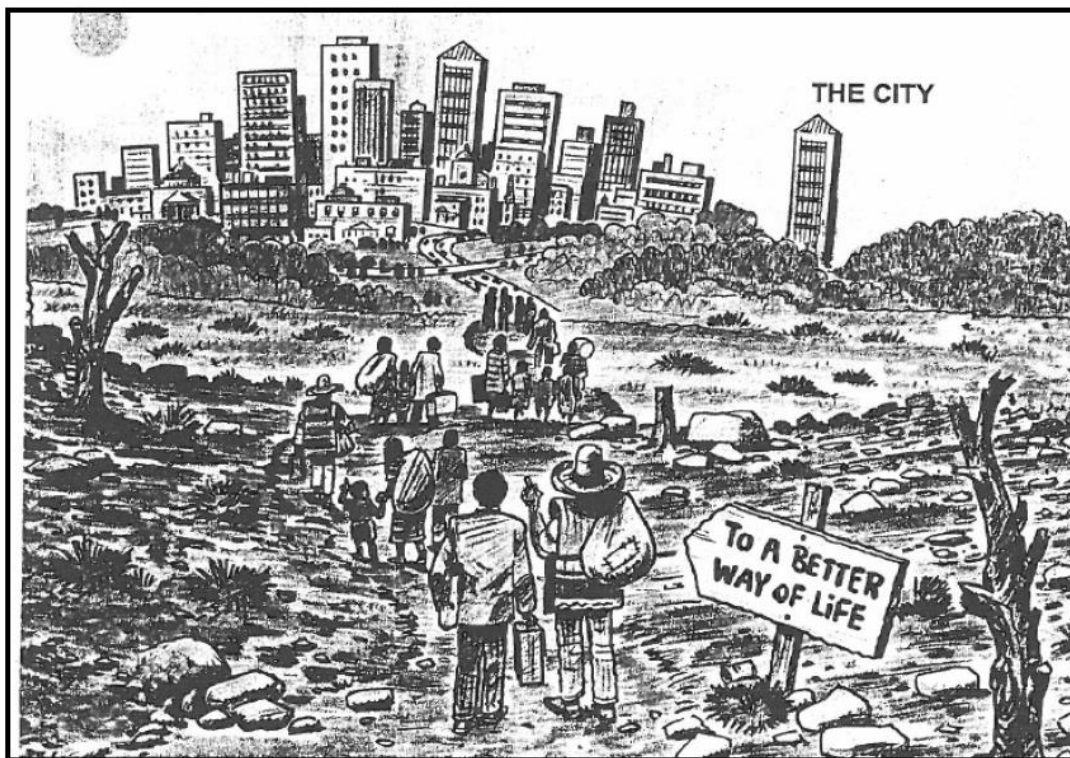
- ✓ Create work
- ✓ Provide water and electricity

- ✓ Stel moderne boerderymetodes en besproeiingskemas bekend
- ✓ The government offers incentives and tax rebates to industries located in rural areas.
- ✓ Improve productivity of rural people by first addressing their basic needs, eg. food, clean water, sanitation, housing, education, health care and employment.
- ✓ Improve local food crops, introduce new cash crops, improve irrigation systems, improve services and improve infrastructure, improve support through training and reform the community ownership system

## WORK SHEET 3 – Settlement geography

### QUESTION 1:

*Study the sketch below and answer the questions below. (Think what it shows)*



*Source: NSC Feb/March 2012 Paper 1*

1.1 Identify the term described by the following definitions:

1.1.1 The process where many people are leaving rural areas to find better lives.

1.1.2 The process where more and more people in a population prefer to stay in cities.

1.1.3 Negative things in rural areas which cause people to leave.

- 1.1.4 Positive things in urban areas that attract people to cities.
- 1.1.5 The process where functions and people cluster in one area. (5 x 1 = 5)
- 1.2 Write a paragraph of no more than 8 lines explaining why so many people move out of rural areas. (4 x 2 = 8)
- 1.3 Write a short newspaper article describing the impact of the process illustrated in the sketch on the rural community. (4 x 2 = 8)
- 1.4 Explain why it is important that some people stay in rural areas. (2 x 2 = 4)
- 1.5 Suggest some measures that can be taken to keep some people in the rural areas. (3 x 2 = 6)
- 1.6 Discuss TWO challenges the people moving to cities may experience on their arrival in the urban areas. (2 x 2 = 4)
- 1.7 Explain what the difference is between the following terms: land reform, land redistribution, land restitution and land tenure reform. (4 x 2 = 8)
- 1.8 Explain how land tenure reform can prevent urbanisation. (1 x 2 = 2)
- 1.9 Give one disadvantage of land tenure reform. (1)