Introduction

The Urban Poor

The urban poor, the largest and most visible segment of the population living in poverty, are a major concern in many developing countries. They are characterized by low income, lack of access to basic services, and high levels of unemployment and underemployment.

The Challenge of Urban Poverty

Urban poverty is a complex issue, rooted in historical, economic, and social factors. It is often associated with the rapid expansion of cities, where many people are forced to live in slums and shanty towns. This is particularly evident in many Asian and Latin American cities, where the population has grown at a rapid pace, often without adequate planning and infrastructure.

The Impact of Urban Poverty

Urban poverty has serious implications for both individuals and society as a whole. It can lead to poor health outcomes, educational disparities, and social conflict. It can also have negative effects on the economy, reducing productivity and economic growth.

Therefore, addressing urban poverty is a critical aspect of sustainable development. It requires a multi-dimensional approach, involving policies that address both the structural causes of poverty and the immediate needs of the urban poor.