



# TDPC SYMPOSIUM: SOME URBAN FACTS IN THE OECD

TDPC 28<sup>th</sup> Session  
4 December 2012



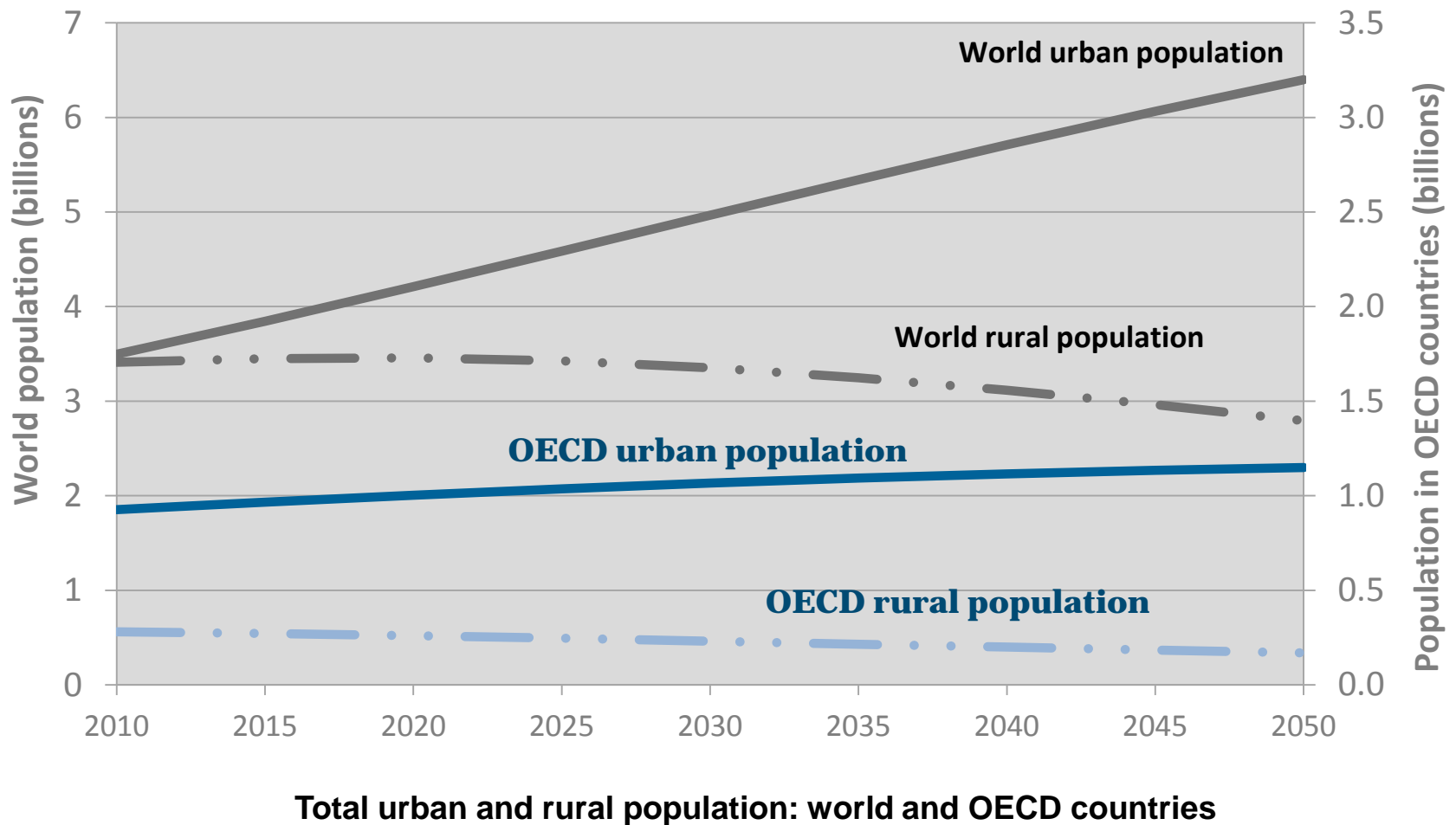
# Is urbanisation still important in the OECD?

---

- Population in OECD urban areas continues to grow
- Urbanisation interacts strongly with periphery and rural areas
- Functional analysis of urban areas helps design urban governance solutions

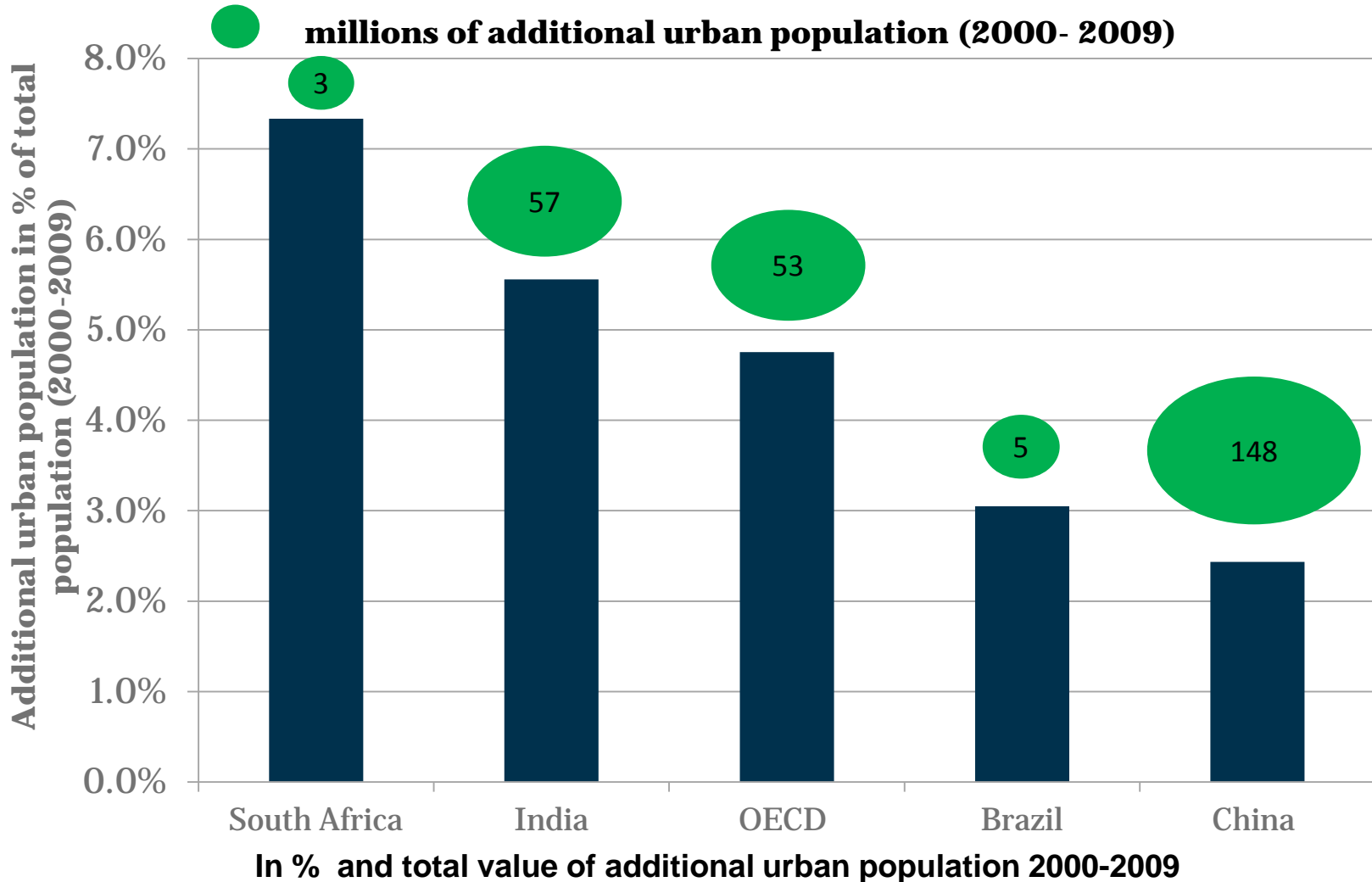


# Urban population will keep growing even in OECD countries



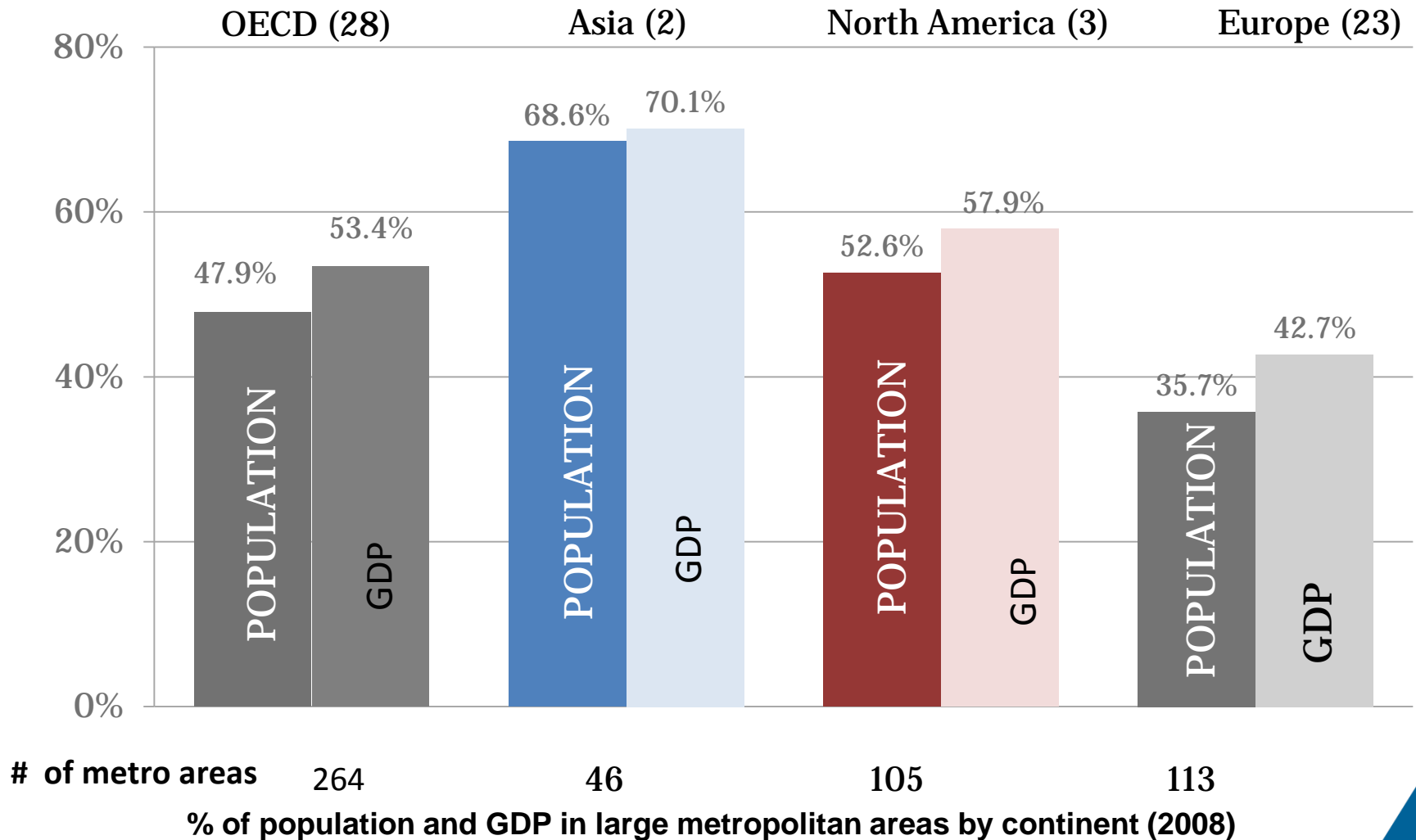


# Recent increases in urban population in OECD and Major emerging markets





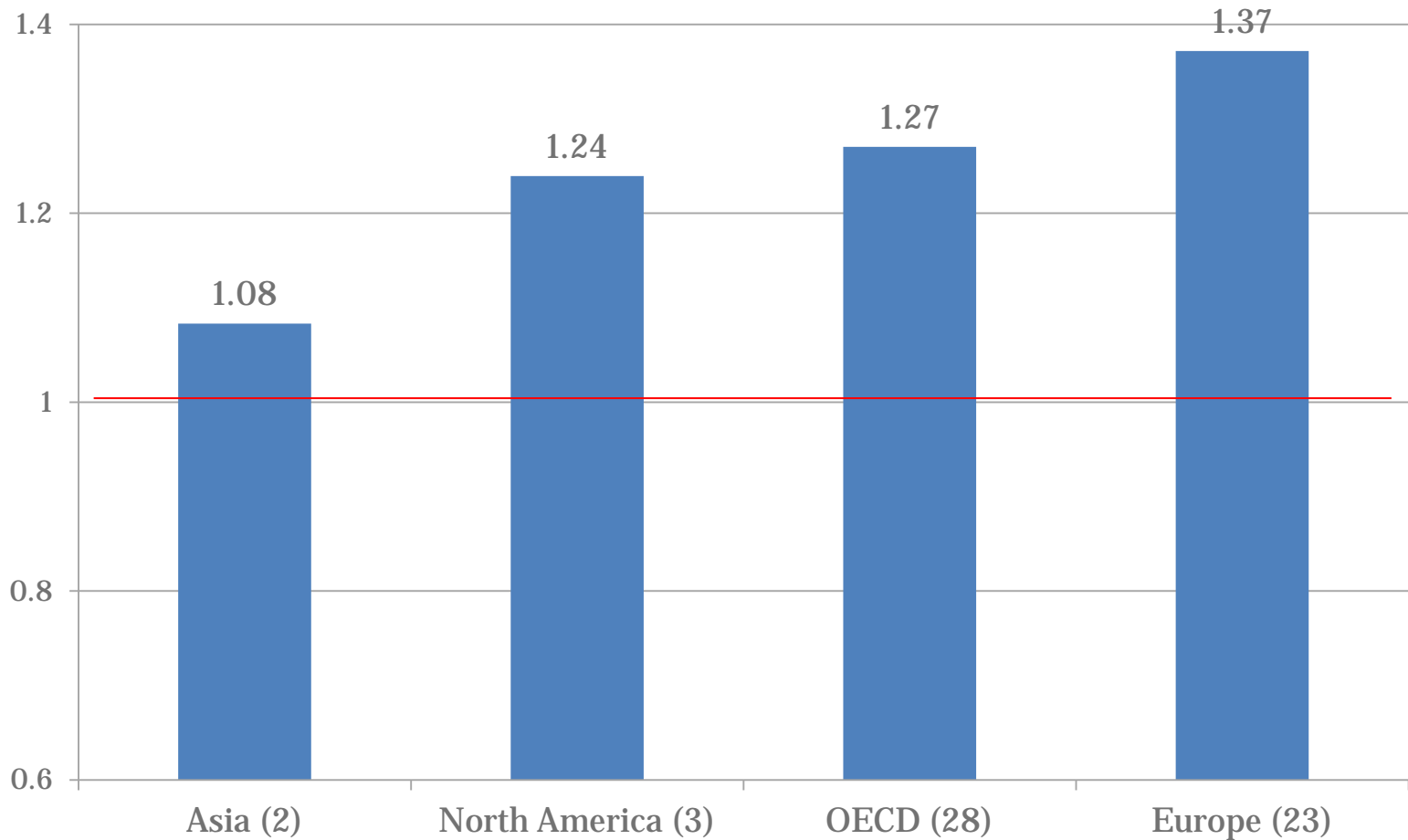
# The 264 large metropolitan areas in OECD countries account for more than 50% of the OECD GDP



Source: OECD metropolitan database; the large metropolitan areas have at least 500,000 population



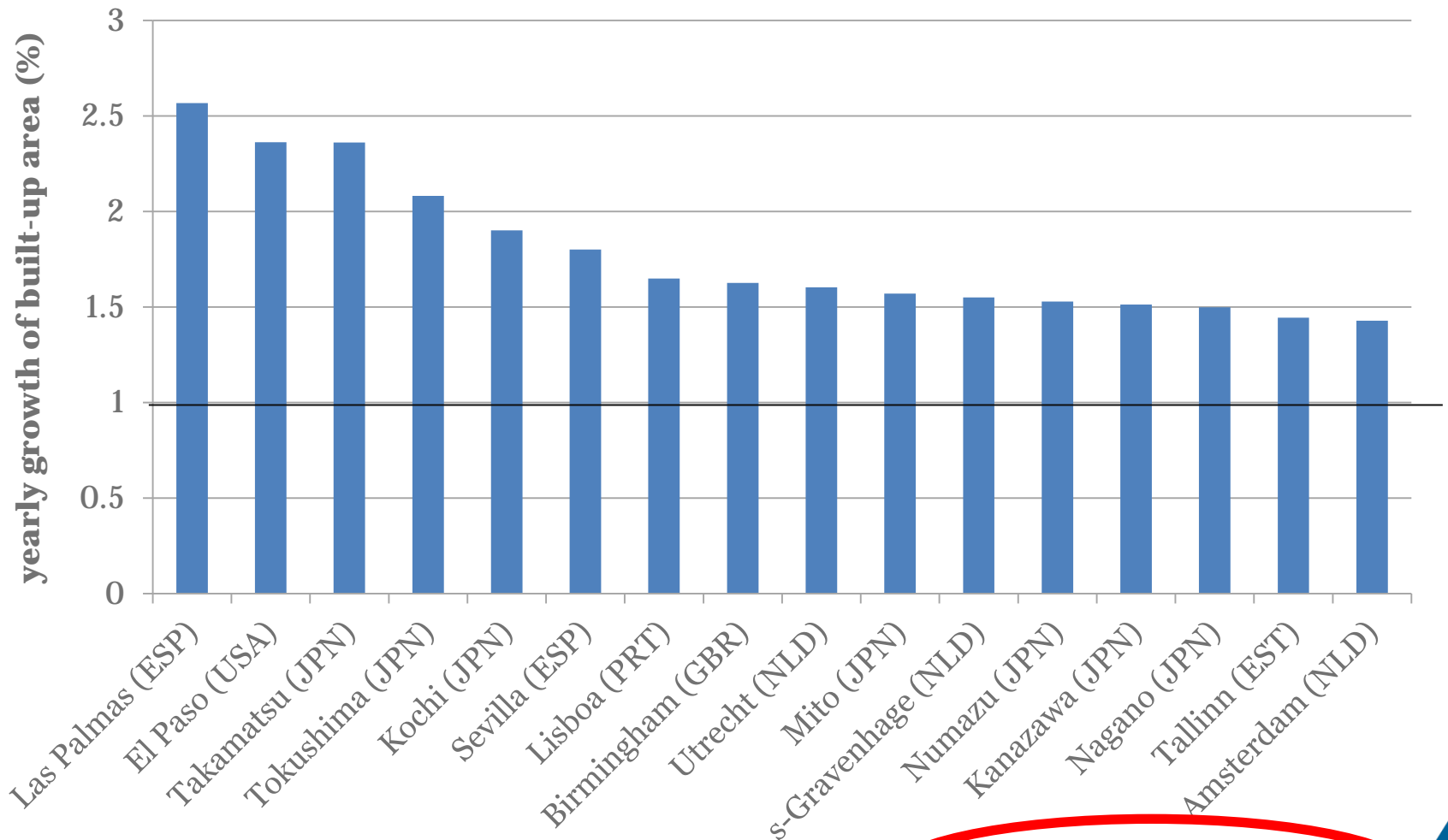
# Large city GDP per capita gaps vary by continent



Ratio between GDP per capita in metropolitan areas (larger than 500,000 population) and GDP per capita in non metropolitan areas (2008)



# Pressures on land-use

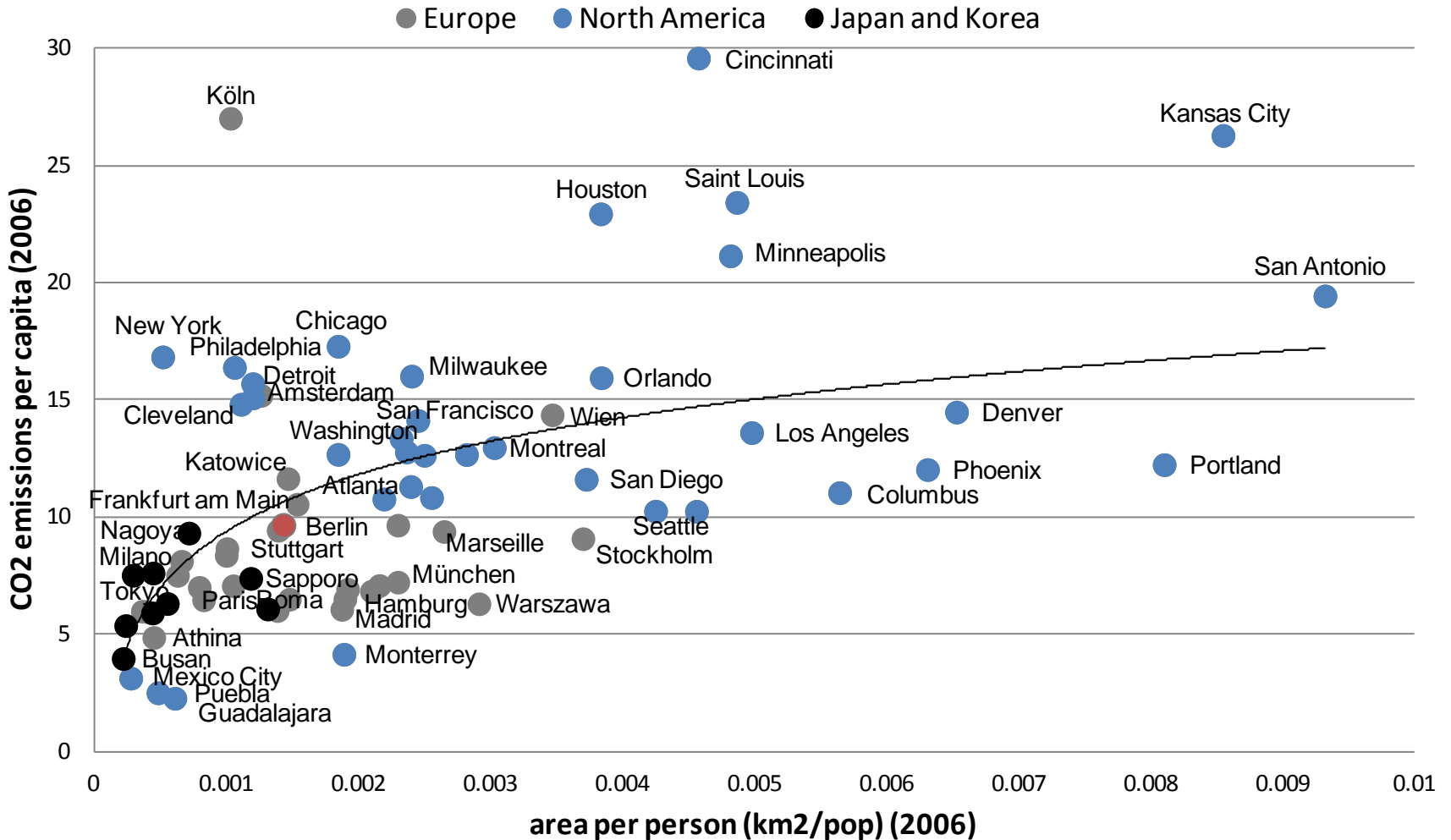


Yearly growth of built-up area in metropolitan areas with population growth less than 1%

Source: OECD metropolitan database; selected metropolitan areas



# Lower urban density may generate higher CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per capita

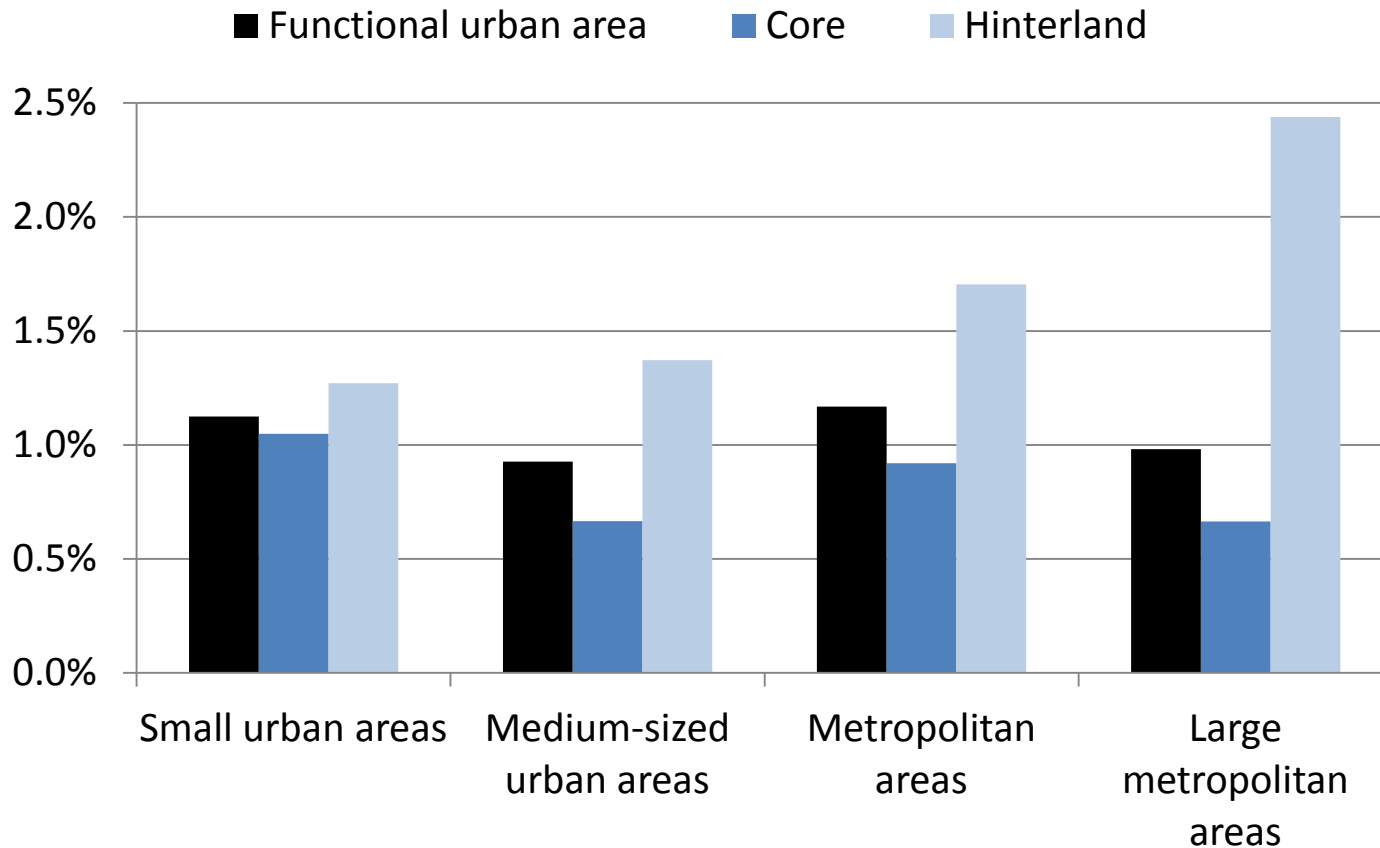






# Cities influence other regions

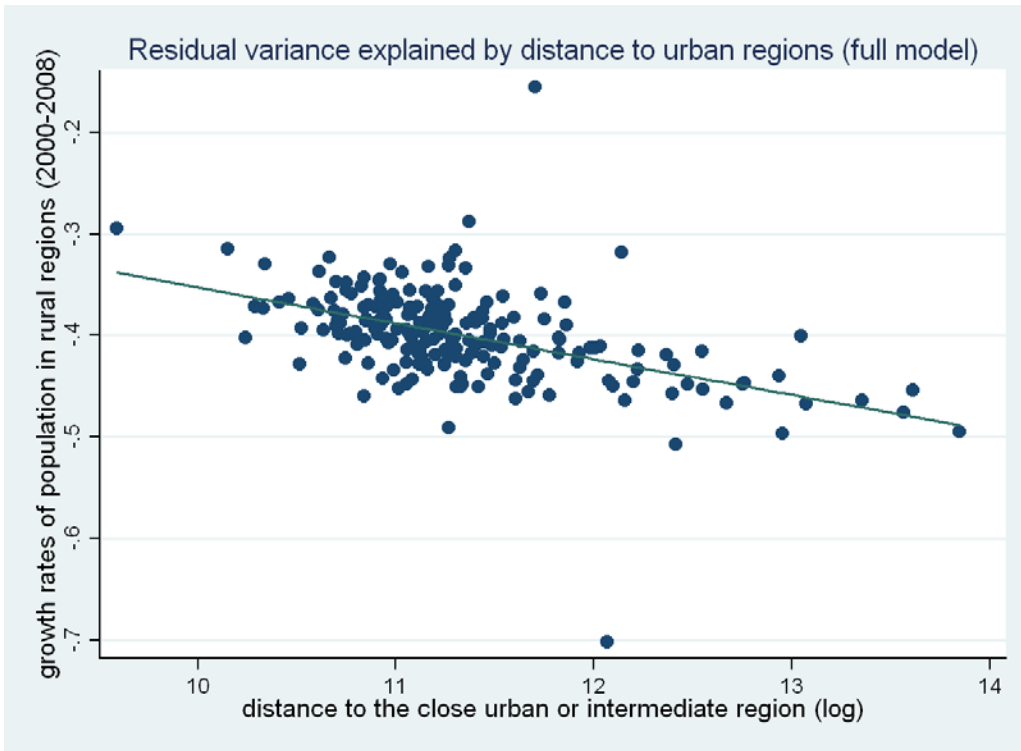
## Rate of urbanisation in OECD countries



Population growth 2000-2006 by city types and core/hinterlands (average yearly growth rates)



# Strong spatial externalities between urban and rural regions are observed



✓ population rural regions grow more, *ceteris paribus*, the more connected they are (the smaller the distance) to the *closest* urban or intermediate region

✓ there *positive growth spillovers* from urban to rural regions in terms of population. These effects are decreasing with distance

## **In addition**

✓ urban areas benefit from rural areas in terms of provision of landscape, recreation, open space, natural resources, etc.

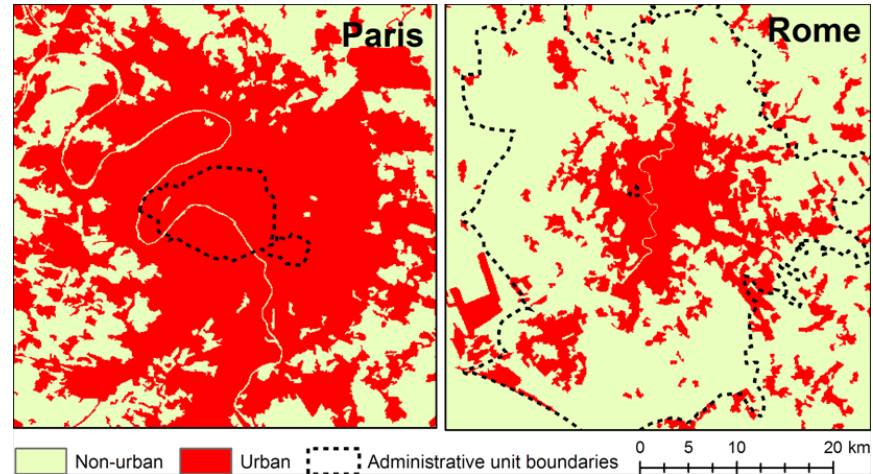
✓ there can be pressures in the use of land from urban to rural areas (e.g. issue of urban sprawl)

The existence of these externalities makes worth shifting the attention from the administrative to the functional organization of the territory (functional regions)

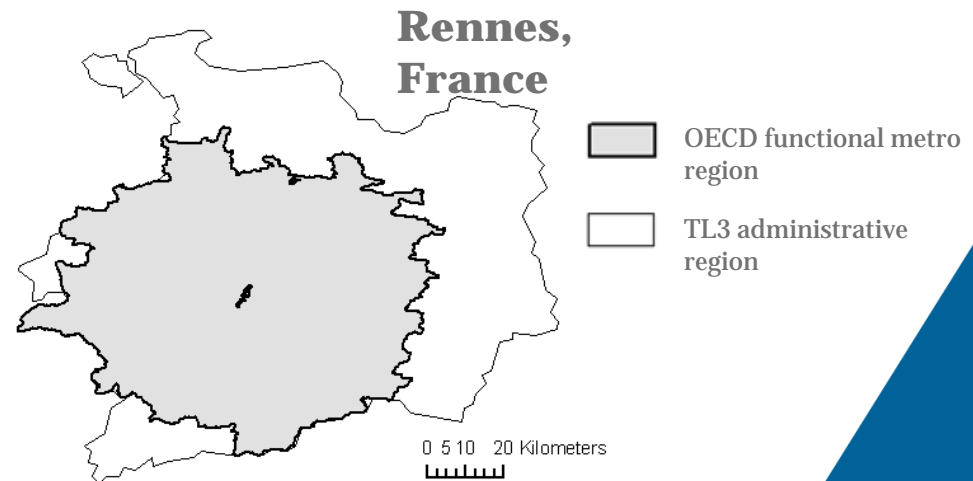


# Functional vs. administrative regions

## 1) Core cities (cities de facto) vs. administrative cities



## 2) Functional regions (e.g. metropolitan areas) vs. administrative regions





# National Urban strategies

---

- **Integrated** national vision of urban development that includes merging of ministries or the strengthening of regional governments to foster local governments' co-operation (cf. NUPR of Poland)
  - National **sustainable urban policy** approach, including a comprehensive, multi-sectoral approach to urban development tailored to the needs of different types of urban areas (cf. NUPR of Korea)
  - The creation of an institution and a framework for **supra-municipal metropolitan administration** such as a metropolitan regional government (cf. NUPR of Chile)
- ➔ *OECD countries have solutions and policy experimentation to share*