RURAL SETTLEMENTS
AND URBAN
SETTLEMENTS

RURAL SETTLEMENT ISSUES
RURAL-URBAN MIGRATION

• Rural Urban Migration is the movement of people from rural areas to urban areas

• Leads to urbanization; process whereby the percentage of people living in urban areas increases

• People once lived in homesteads: demarcated areas set aside for black South Africans during apartheid
Causes and consequences of rural depopulation on people and economy

**Rural depopulation**: the decrease in rural population

1. Causes of rural depopulation
   - Poverty
   - Lack of basic services
   - Few educational opportunities
   - Few employment opportunities
Push factors

Factors pushing people away from rural areas

- Natural disasters e.g. drought, famine
- Limited food production
- Lack of jobs e.g. farm labor becomes lesser
- Lack of safe (clean) water
- Lack of educational and employment opportunities
PULL FACTORS

Factors pulling people towards urban areas

• Employment
• Better educational opportunities
• Better services (health care and entertainment)
• Better housing and better quality of life
• Availability of safe (clean) water
Consequences of rural depopulation

- Population imbalances i.e. fewer men and youth, more elderly people
- Less food production
- Families separated for years
- Rural decline and decay..... Ghost town?
Strategies to address the effects of rural depopulation

- Meeting basic needs
- Tourism and special events

Ecotourism: travel to natural areas that conserves the environment

Adventure tourism: involves the elements of risk and physical effort in unfamiliar surroundings

- Urban-rural migration