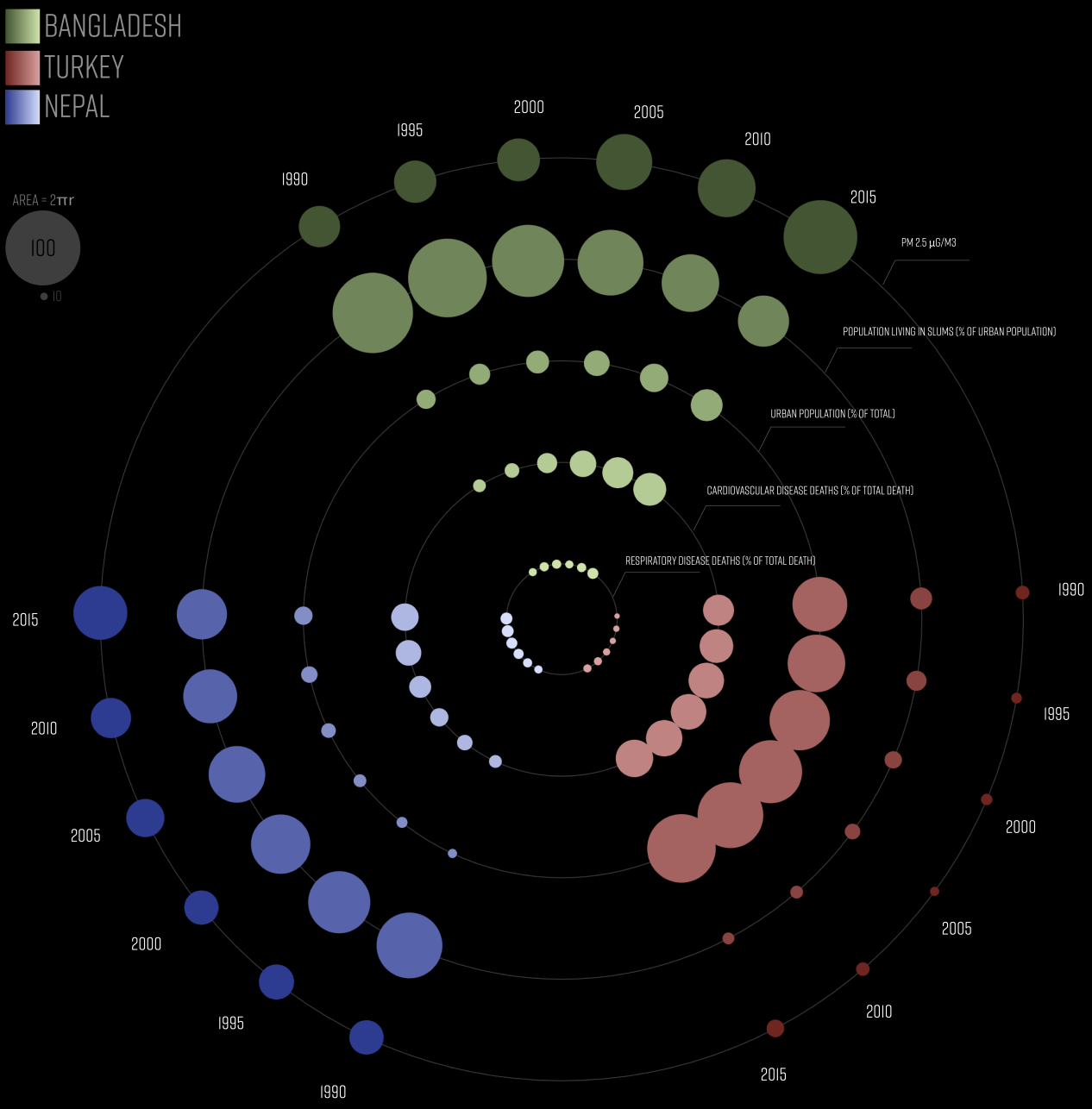
HIGH AIR POLLUTION AND URBAN SLUMS DENSITY CORRELATES TO HIGH RATES OF DEATHS FROM CVD AND RESPIRATORY DISORDERS



AIR POLLUTION, ILLNESS AND DEATH FOR APAC MOST POLLUTED NATION (1990 TO 2015)

An estimated 4.2 million premature deaths globally are linked to ambient air pollution, mainly from heart disease, stroke, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, lung cancer, and acute respiratory infections. PM penetrates deep into the lungs then entering the bloodstream causing cardiovascular, cerebrovascular and respiratory damage. In 2013, it was classified as a cause of lung cancer by WHO's International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) https://www.who.int/airpollution/ambient/health-impacts/en/

Urban areas with high population densities and large numbers of people without substantial housing have often have high levels of air pollution and Bangladesh's urban areas have some of the highest levels in APAC region

In the nation's largest city brick kilns and motor vehicles contribute to 60% of fine particulate pollution in during dry season.
The huge amount of urban traffic is often brought to a standstill for long periods of times adding to the problem.

The city is encouraging the adoption of cleaner kiln technology that require less energy and are cheaper to run, enforcing fines for big polluters improving 70km of sidewalk with 23 new foot over bridges. It is also improving traffic management by improving 40 intersections, installing traffic signals, and plans to install a separate bus lane line from the airport.

How to avoid risk

- Walking or cycling in parks or country roads instead of busy streets during rush hours.
- Using more public transport rather than private cars and motorbikes.
- Avoiding outdoor exercise at times of high PM2.5 (especially those with cardiorespiratory disorders).