**LESSON NOTE 9**

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| **SETTLEMENT INTERACTIONS**  Urban and rural settlements interact because they are interdependent on each other for their continuous existence.  Some of the general interdependency that exist between Rural and Urban centers include:   * Rural areas provide agricultural raw materials and food stuff to the urban areas while the urban centers in turn supply manufactured goods to the rural areas. * Urban areas supply farm inputs, fertilizers etc. to rural areas. And also provide markets for sale of farm products from rural areas. * Urban areas provide higher education facilities, social amenities like electricity to the rural areas.   Some urban rural dependency include   * Unskilled labor * Medicinal herbs * Lumbered wood and fuel * Housing * Cultural and traditional sites etc.   **URBANIZATION**    This refers to growth of towns especially in terms of physical size and human population. It means a change in functions of a rural character to an urban character.  Factors Responsible For Urbanization or Growth of Urban Settlement   1. Accessibility 2. Absence of natural and man-made disasters 3. Low reliefs and lowlands favors settlement 4. Favorable climate 5. Soil fertility 6. Presence of economic activities   Problems of Urbanization   1. Increase in demand for goods and services 2. Increase in social vices and crimes 3. High cost of living 4. Environmental pollution 5. Traffic congestion 6. Unemployment 7. Housing congestion. Etc.   Solutions to the problems of urbanization   1. Construction of housing estate 2. Rapid industrialization 3. Provision of social amenities 4. Effective waste management 5. Improved security 6. Poverty alleviation measures and employment generation |