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## **STRATEGY FOR SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT GUIDELINES FOR TEHRAN**

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### ***ABSTRACT:***

Why do we need urban sustainable development strategy? Are our towns and cities in Iran sustainable now? Have we respected and implemented the international conventions which are approved by us? According to the rate of population growth , and need of social, economical, physical development and evaluation of present statement, this article emphasizes on population needs, growth speed, and management institutions in different dimensions from national to local management and focuses on urban development ,through the researchers that had been done in Tehran university, so at first I am going to define sustainable development concept and background and propose comprehensive strategy aims ,for achieving into sustainable urban development strategies, which strategies can be continued through, appropriated process to action plan process.

**KEY WORDS:** *Sustainable development, Unsustainable factors, Strategy for Sustainable Urban Development, Public participation, good governance*

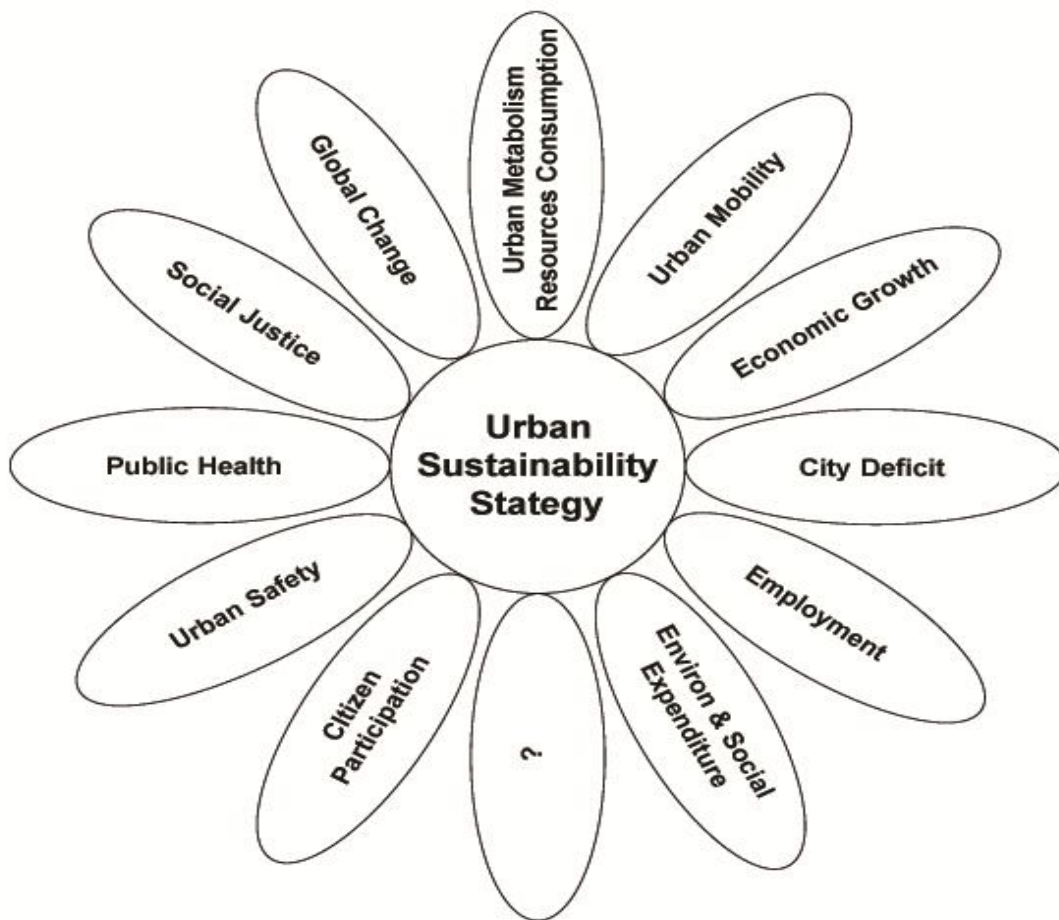
## **1. INTRODUCTION**

To where urban sustainable development be end? Recognition of unsustainable factors becomes so necessary ,according to instruction of Agenda 21, Johansburg Summit 2002, Habitat conference Istanbul 96 ,World Health Organization plan ,under the name of healthy city project , bringing up and considering Istanbul +5, annually ratification CSD, that Ratified 17 years ago and based upon unsuccessful of comprehensive plans and unsustainable urban development.

Recognition of unsustainable factors was gained by assessment and polling of experts in retraining courses of country managers and urbanity doctorate courses, that we pointed just to priorities of those factors in Iran and what should we do now? In fact the research includes analysis of urban sustainable indicators and syllogistic examination of them with executive realities in Iran, so we can solve the problems.

## **2. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT AND BACKGROUND**

The subject of sustainable development lies in the institution of so many organizations ,constitutions and had suggested various descriptions in statements, conferences, researchers, articles and books ,and the existing Varity in these descriptions shows that there is no comprehensive description and concept yet, that can be acceptable for all.



### European Urban Sustainability Complex Concept

We should remind United Nations organization conference on human environment, resulted in Stockholm proclamation in 1972 and this conference was point of inflection in history of human formal view to natural sources and operation systems from earth. Further meetings eventually led to formation of environmental conference and development or "earth session" in 1992.

Four main contexts ratified in mentioned session:

- Agenda 21
- Rio statement about environment and development 1992

- Main principles of earth forest sustainable management.

- UNDP, ENR'S Handbook and Guidelines for Environmental Management and Sustainable Development.

Instruction 21 includes 40 sections propounding 4 main parts including economical and social dimensions, necessary sources for development, strengthening main groups and at least executive methods. According to these goals, another conference had formed in the name of earth session in United Nations Organization of New York in 1997 that its goal is emphasis on executing instruction 21. After introduction and adding the word of "sustainability" to development, in addition to international conferences and seminars, so many articles and research books had published from 70s till now. And so many authors tried to define, explain and interpret this idiom. As noted above various interpretations were presented by experts individuals. But common axis is the same attention to "our common future" in all descriptions.

According to emphasis and definition of environmental development world commission, in the name of "our common future" that means Brant Land Commission in 1987, our today function has a serious effect on earth in sequences of posterity to supply their needs. It means that sustainability development is a kind of development that considers supplying today's need without decreasing posterity ability to supply their needs.

In fact, sustainability development and management is such a development consider creating, maintaining and increasing life quality of all human kinds in all periods of time.

As noted, this subject didn't find a common acceptable and equal meaning for us yet. Besides attention to common points in these definitions, we should remind a twofold state which is observed among the various definitions, so that in addition to some ideas, the words describe a goal, but in some definitions specially recent definitions "sustainable development" is as a principle or leader code to supply a form for various decisions. This two folding can make problem in exact understanding of sustainable development. It is

notable that it seems that unbelieving to plan for the future, searches a means of scope by different explanations.

It seems in recent years, the definitions are going to become more exact and sustainable development formatting in Iran.

Now we should understand by which mechanism, sustainable development can be fulfilled.

To fulfill this affair, its essential to analyze sustainable development content, according to existing definitions and to examine its dimensions and elements. One of the subgroups of this development is urban sustainable development executive

Mechanisms, that is main subject of this article.

### **3.Sustainability development principles and elements**

It's clear that mentioned principles should be risen from existing facts in economical, social, cultural, formal, legal, political and executive patterns in every country.

Proclaimed formal principles in instruction 21 and healthy city program can be a suitable base for understanding sustainability development concept.

The main goal of human residence is improving social, economical and environmental quality of human residence and work and life environment for all people specially urban and rural poor people. This important must be based upon common technical actions and cooperation of public and private sector and social groups and participates these groups and other particular groups such as women, native people and adults, in decision making process. These approaches should form central part of settlement national strategies.

This programs dimensions including:

A-Supplying suitable residence for all

B-Improving Habitat management

C-Coordinated environmental infrastructural actions: water, healthy water, stringing and solid waste management

D-Advancing land use planning and management in territorial context

E-Development of transport and energy systems in human residence

F-Planning and management development of human residences in disastrous areas.

G-Industrial activities development for making curable residences

H-Human source development and increasing settlement capacity

The important point in agenda 21 is bringing up program dimensions and principles of actions that are essential to achieve every mentioned goal. There is often used the word "must" in describing these actions and their executive instructions, as government commitment in solving problems of human residence.

They emphasis on the cases below in the field of development and urban sustainability achievement:

A-The cities should institute public and private sector, social group specially native men and women ,based on continuous conversations among active elements in urban sustainable development.

B-City environment should improve supplying urban infrastructural actions, by strengthening social organizations and people environmental knowledge through local society's partnership in recognizing people needs for public services implementation.

C-They should strengthen local executive administrations capacity and use urban planning pattern, through society approach to plan according to particular need for every city.

D-Participating in international sustainability city networks to exchange experiences and mobilize international, financial and technical supports.

Whereas instruction, obliged representative board of participation governments to take part in participial, affairs, optimum performance participatory planning,

Participatory management, strengthening interested groups, assessment and controlling the process through networking and applying modern technologies.

The Habitat program of United Nations asked countries for representing assessment of executed program after 5 years. Now we point to key elements in this regard.

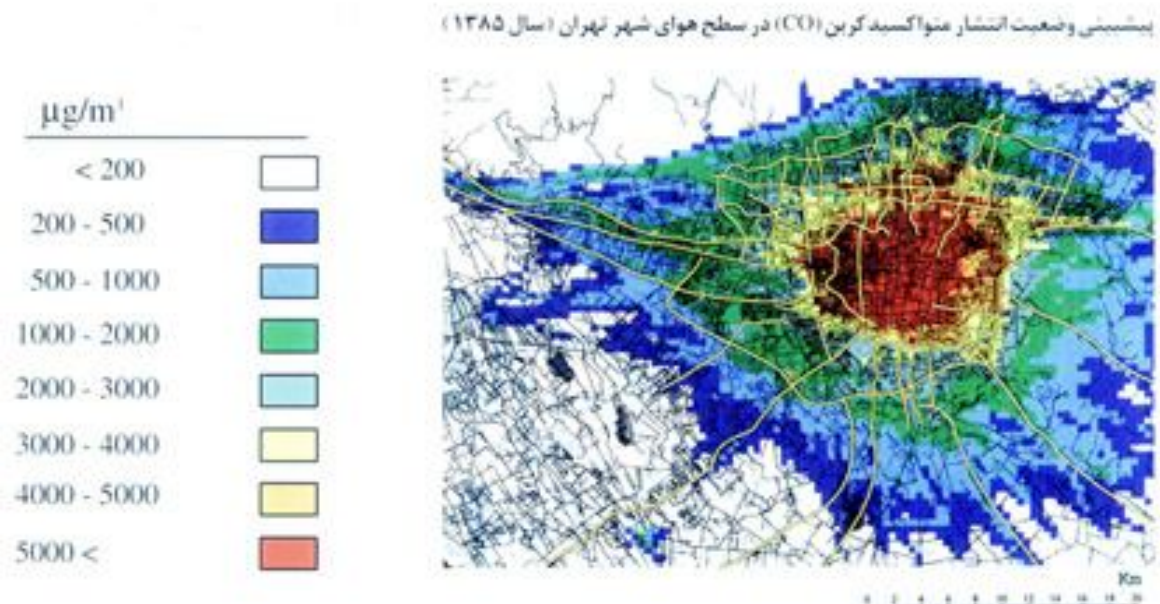
#### **4. UNSUSTAINABLE FACTORS IN URBAN PROGRAM IN IRAN (TEHRAN)**

Before representing strategies for sustainable urban development it is better to take consideration the important unsustainable factors in urban development in Tehran that are mentioned below.

- Absence of single and centralized urban management
- Shortage of comprehensive strategy for development
- Momentarily decision making system
- Neglect assessment of success in development programs
- Giving no worth to world experiences
- Sectoral excessive technicize
- Disbelieving to ratified programs
- Discordance among further programs and country development provisions
- Non measurement of success levels in reforming programs
- Bureaucratic and eroded office systems
- Absence of permanent planning center and control

- Managerial Poor belief to planning
- Excessive centralization of country
- Inability in applying citizen's power
- Inattention to cultural identities of towns and cities

All mentioned factors have fundamental role in creating unsustainability in the cities.



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### **5. STRATEGY FOR URBAN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

The strategies for Sustainable Urban Development represent in 5 parts:

- 1-Environmental goals
- 2- Urban development planning goals
- 3-Urban activity and land use goals
- 4-Strategical Goals in Social Problem solving
- 5- Physical and space development goals

#### **5.1-Environmental goals:**

- Use the existing law for preparing the national land use plan based on carrying capacity of the environment.
- Define achievable horizon of National Sustainable Development.
- Application the results and outputs into the national level programs (SNDS).

- Use the Environmental Impact Assessment in national, regional and local planning.
- Good governance and management through the existent law for air pollution control and finding the necessary cooperation, and public participation (NGOs).
- Organize Youth participation for neighborhood recreational programs.

## **5.2-Urban development planning goals**

- Preparation of a new law for urban planning , urban design and their implementation process and providing monitoring system .
- Define a new complementary role for Ministry of Housing and Urban planning in cooperation with Department of Environment.
- Planning to achieve the necessary speed for research and use the global experiences to satisfy crescent social needs.
- Prevent the gaps and pitfalls with systematic continues monitoring and planning.
- Decentralization of the new settlement with
  - Regional strategic planning development and site selection in coordination with EIA.
- Focus on small town and cities in relation with development axes.

## **5.3-Urban activity and land use goals:**

- Prepare new vision and policy focusing on urban and rural sustainable development in consideration the changing world and entity of new population and their needs, using existent law for preparation new settlement texture.

- Prevent the new centralization with urban regeneration in old cities with public participation in process of planning, design, and implementation monitoring.
- Create a new and sustainable vision for surveying and reviewing urban planning process and its out com in various levels as regional ,municipal, and rural planning.
- Up-to-date the methods of preparation of plans in sense of continue planning.
- (Thinking room of decision makers )
- Use the national traditional knowledge and combine it with up to date environmental, social, technical and economical sciences.
- Create new policies for urban good governance with public participation and stockholders and their organizations to prepare new policies for implementation and instruments.

#### **5.4-Strategical Goals in Social Problem solving:**

- Prepare and organize public participation policy at neighbourhood level, with responsibilities to approve local land use and plan.
- Provide land destination for the new social activities and centers (neighborhood city center and NGOs center).
- Create social communication center in the metropolitan area and give the necessary importance and authority by the law.

#### **5.5-Physical and space development goals:**

- Use Analytical Highrarchy Process (AHP) for defining priority of development zones and its potentialities to define objectives and projects.
- Provide the management organization and interrelation between parts for good governance and management.

- Continuous land survey (remote sensing) and serious control for prevention undesirable settlement growth.
- Prepare the local development plan and use local authority and initiatives for partnership in context of national policies.
- Provide the coordinate urban managing system and prevent uncoordinated implementation.

## 6. CONCLUSION

Here is clearly mentioned that achievement of urban sustainable development is a necessity strategy for tomorrow and that needs appropriated action plans to implement as soon as possible.

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