



## The role of migration on sustainable urban development

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### ABSTRACT

In this study, the role of migration and its impacts on sustainable development in urban and suburban areas have been investigated. In order to perform this, by reviewing the theoretical and empirical literature of migration and sustainable urban development and the role of migration on sustainable development of mother city and its relationship with the suburbs, in order to understand and recognize the migration and urban sustainability, by reviewing the quantitative and qualitative indicators, (economic, social, environmental) factors are discussed. The research is descriptive, analytical and inferential. Also qualitative and quantitative indicators have been examined.

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### Introduction

Today, migration is inevitable which has important influences on the human. Despite the saturation of cities and inability of city potentiality to attract immigrant has just caused to increase the population of jobseekers and unemployment.

The growing trend of urbanization and migration to large cities and the development of cities and the modern, industrial life and the lack of urban planning resulted in ecological problems and environmental pollution that have been tied with the lack of (economic, social, environmental) city sustainability. More than half of the world's population is urban dwellers which will be increased to 75 percent in 2020. Cities are consumers and producers of major pollutions. Because of the close relationship between ecosystem habitats and human, lack of attention and continuing the current trend has caused a drop in the quality of our life. Human migration in national and international scale has been recorded at the highest level in the history. Although the proportion of international migrants in the world population is about 3 percent, And for more than the remaining 20 years, their number has increased significantly: In 1990, about 156 million people lived outside of their country, although today the number has increased to about 215 million people. (1) (UNCSO Secretariat June 2012) today about 740 million internal migrants have been estimated who have moved away from their birthplace. (2) (UNCSO Secretariat June 2012) In recent years, Internal and international migration has been increasingly recognized as a positive force for development. (3) (UNCSO Secretariat June 2012) Migration with planning can promote economic growth and innovation in destination places, and reduce poverty in the places of origin. As part of the final document of the International Conference on Migration and urbanization in Rio 1992 commitments are placed on direct approach of sustainable development, which we refer to part of it.

• We are committed to working towards improving the quality of human settlements, including urban and rural residents' living conditions, working in the areas of poverty eradication, so that

all people have access to basic services, housing and mobility, improving urban planning, upgrading the slum dwellers and addressing the social, economic, and environmental sustainability.

• Due to the disastrous risks reduction and climate risks, the emphasis is on flexibility of urban planning with sustainable approach.

• To systematically predict the national and rural population trend and in terms of urban development strategies and policies through planning, we can take opportunities and cope with challenges associated with demographic changes, including migration.

• To increase the number of counties, cities and towns, with emphasis on the implementation of policies for sustainable urban planning and design in order to respond effectively to the growth of the urban population in the coming decades. In migration and sustainable development in urban, rural and small towns it is expected to contribute significantly to the urbanization in areas of Africa and Asia in the coming decades, by considering much of the growth place in cities with medium-sized (population between 1 million and 500,000 people), population is increasingly provides urban growth, and there are many opportunities to reduce poverty and achieve sustainable development. When immigrants are attracted to the cities for job opportunities, the net benefits is likely to accrue wages. The cities which have the potential to focus on providing education, health, finance, other additional services of available networks, communication and transportation assist to participate in community life. Drafts- part of immigrants' income - in addition to helping families to overcome poverty in migrant communities, is discussed below. Without adequate planning, though, the concern of current trend in many urban areas, including the rapid growth of slums affecting many immigrants can be significantly increased. More than one billion people currently live in urban slums, without appropriate interventions, responding to housing, land, health, education, employment, and other needs of immigrants to the city and become a serious

problem for community and city. (1) (UNCSO Secretariat June 2012) so, the need for sustainable urban development is a priority in today's modern world. In this study, we try to perceive the details of sustainable development and the role of migration and help to solve the lack of urban sustainability. It should be added that by commensurate suburbanization with city conditions can help the sustainable urban development.

#### **Sustainable urban development**

A popular definition of sustainable development which is an appropriate point to begin a discussion about this is the definition that provided by BrndtLnd Rpvrt: Sustainable development is development that will meet the needs of the present generation, such that it does not harm the abilities of future generations to meet their needs. (World Commission on Environment and Development, 1987) This definition contains three key ideas: the development, needs and next generation. According to Blvzr, (1993) development should not be confused with growth. Growth is physical expansion or quantitative economic system, while development is a qualitative concept: this concept is related to cultural, social and economic advancement. The other concept is "need" that is related to various methods of resources division: "Meeting the basic needs of all and to create the opportunity for those who wish to have a better life and realize their aspirations." (World Commission on Environment and Development, 1987) Okin (1991) describes four characteristics of sustainable development: Looking into the future, the environment, equality and participation. Looking into the future requires minimal maintenance of environmental investment that includes major supportive systems of the planet's environment and also it emphasizes to maintain the traditional and renewable resources such as forests. This is what BrvtLnd expresses it under this title: "Sustainable development is development that will meet the needs of the present generation, such that it does not harm the abilities of future generations to meet their needs. Other characteristics are related to environmental expenses." (Magtyn, Shirley: 2009, 8-7) According to definition of "Brandt Land" three layers of equality, equity and environmental protection were identified. The three components of sustainable development are environment, economy, society. Others including Zax separately added two dimensions of spatial and cultural. Also some like Jyvar (1966), Jalz (1995), Kumar (1993) and others believed in fundamental or political stability in sustainable development. Not attaining any of the dimensions, causes to weaken the stability and avoidance of sustainable development. (Zax, 1375, 10-2)

The current preoccupation of designers of urbanization (Sustainable Development) is to create the vitality of urban identity, urban quality of compact city and urban forms in human-scale, so that in all cases, non-renewable resources are not used. (Magtyn, Shirley, 2007)

#### **Dimensions of sustainable urban development - economic sustainability:**

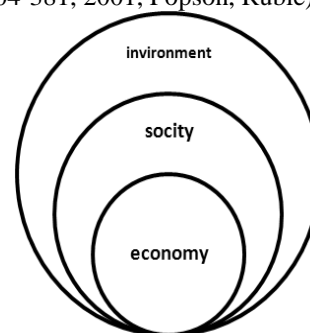
This dimension focuses on maintaining or improving economic conditions. Economic criteria have inseparable relationship with the process of formation of economic policy. Economic welfare is based on a combination of economic factors such as employment, unemployment, rent levels, resource rents, equality distribution and survival in the global and local economy. More expertise, more efficient management of resources and the flow of investments will guarantee this dimension. (Zax, 1374: 5-9)

Dimensions of sustainable urban development - environmental sustainability (ecological):

Ecological sustainability means conservation of basic resources (and related types) at levels that It does not foreclose future options, and maintain or improve the capacity, quality and ecosystem flexibility. This dimension of stability reinforces by reducing consumption of resources and energy, reducing the amount of residues, pollutions and recycling them and finding the right technologies. (511-491, 2001, Edward & Jepson)

Dimensions of sustainable urban development - social sustainability:

Reducing social tensions, method of organization of social adaptation, equality with disabilities, women and ethnic groups, ethnic – religious, human rights, education, environmental awareness, health and shelter for all, expanding the role of family and society, political rights, participation and expanding the social values are fundamental axes of sustainable urban development. (404-381, 2001, Popson, Ruble)



**Figure 1. Balance trihedral model in sustainable development. (Magtyn, Shirley, 2007)**

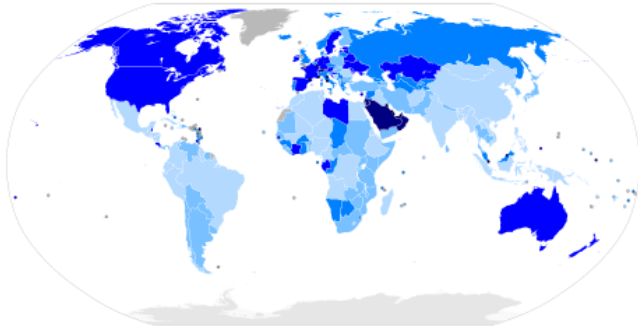
#### **Migration: (Immigration)**

Migration is the movement of people from place to place to work or live. People usually migrate because to move away from unfavorable conditions or factors such as poverty, food shortages, natural disasters, war, unemployment and insecurity. The second reason could be absorbing favorable conditions and factors such as more health care, better education, higher incomes and better housing in the migration destination. In most cases, migration finds different ethnic and cultural conditions. This led to social tensions of fear of foreigners and dealing with local and national identities, in many developed countries. Countries which receive immigrants also benefit from immigrants' labor. Many industrialized countries to circulate their economies need cheap labor immigrants. Immigrants work especially in agriculture, construction, restaurant and hospitality, care of the elderly, home cleaning and serving. While internal migration is movement between regions within a country. Daily movement of people from the surrounding suburbs and towns into large cities to go to work or use the services of the inner city, is an internal migration that is called daily migration. In this type of migration people return to their home at night. Nomadic movement and the movement of workers from cities to villages in season of fruit picking is another type of internal migration that is referred to as the seasonal migration.

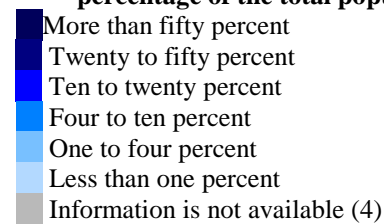
#### **Internal migration**

As international migration, movement within a country's borders is to search better opportunities. Rural to urban migration is primarily due to economic and social development, and with the change of environment is increasingly influencing migration. In Asia, workers are increasingly moving to cities and production centers due to the difference between wages and job opportunities. Current international obligations placed

several international agreements to recognize the importance of immigration on sustainable development of Agenda 21 of the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro with the focus on the spread of knowledge about the relationship between migration and the environment and develop policies and programs for immigrants and environment. (2) UNCSO Secretariat in June 2012



**Figure 2. Immigrant's population is specified as a percentage of the total population of the country.**



#### City (Urban, City)

The term urban in English, is the Latin root of "Uranus" means city or belonging to the city, and has originated from the term "Urban" means Rome. The term "urban" has been created since the fourteenth century and virtually has been common in many European languages since the sixteenth century. The term "urbanization" is too old that goes back to the early years of the sixties. The term "urbanism" which can be translated to the city tendency, has the same roots that is older. English term "city" has originated from the French term "cite" entered English literature since the thirteenth century, this term has been borrowed from the Latin term "Civitas" in France, that means the city is dominated by the legal system, so that it also refers to the Roman tribal federation in the middle Ages. (Fokouhy: 26.2007) A brief review to the creation of urban space in different societies and periods, represents urban economic dependence mainly on commercial and industrial products. Diversity of livelihood, services and businesses along with the fields of production and commerce are important economic characteristics of urbanization. (Paply Yazdi 52, 2008) Urbanization in each region is the result of three factors: 1 - Natural increase 2 - Increase due to migration 3 - Creating new urban centers. Migration is the result of "oriented center forces". These forces absorb the population to urban centers. (Singh, 2006) The definition which is provided for city is the place to settle a group of people and the location of their activities. (Rabbani, 2007) In the discussion of sustainable development, Cities play a key role.

#### Sustainability: (Sustainable)

The verb "Sustain" has been used in English since 1920 and taken from the Latin root of "Sub" and "tenere" means to keep or maintain. The idea of sustainable development was formed in the mid-1990s that economic growth and social development must be done in such a way that does not decrease the environmental investments and development needs for the next generation. By the late 1990s it was found that to identify

sustainable development better, it is necessary to consider simultaneously issues of economic, social, political and environmental protection. (Cedric, 2004, p 36) Sustainability widely used to describe the world in which natural and human systems together survive until distant future. (De Coster, 2003, 34) In the UN World Conference on Environment and Development (1987) sustainable development is defined as a process that meet current requirements without destroying the ability of future generations, in order to meet their needs. (303-289,2008, Tosun) "Ray" states that the duty of sustainable development is reducing unemployment, poverty and lack of work. (56, 1993, Ray) Thus, the main goal of sustainable urban development is urban planning which has always been faced with migration and many studies about the dimensions of sustainable development have evolved in the academic community, international, national, ...

#### Marginalization

In the early nineteenth century, almost sub-urban areas and urban centers of the United States had moved to overseas. Commerce required development in locations and attempt for risky investments and establishing lines of communication within the cities that could not create these activities, or did not allow due to factories activities, unpleasant smells, waste products or smoke is generated in cities. (Ziari, 2010,10) In the mid-nineteenth century, rail, not powerboat was pioneer in suburban transportation, so by the creation of railway there was an unprecedented move in cities. (Ziari, 2010,11) Suburbs, due to the irregular land area, natural landscapes, curve streets that is corresponded to the natural realm, in contrast with the direct main streets with sharp angles and straight and narrow fields like urban network can design a plan which is known as the ideal style of planning. The first example of the ideal suburban planning was Avrang Lovely Park in New Jersey, which was just 13 miles away by train from New York. In 1853, a wealthy merchant named laivellin Haskell described Lovely park as a city in slope of mountain that was encompassed by a roughly cliff. Haskell was a member of a religious sect who believed that evolution on earth is possible through true life. Then in 1870 the upper class created the ideal suburbs, and influenced the development of metropolitan until twenty-first century. Suburbs were intended as shelters to provide welfare and to create a healthy life. They were quite favorable locations for life to combine the advantages of town, country, nature, home, family and environment that all were components of the ideal suburbs of the upper class and should have been preserved. (Ziari, 2010,14-15) ) In the 1920s, by the design of Unwin and encouraging the British government, projects of suburbanization with low density were implemented. These plans, including small houses, were proposed in municipality's executive program of the the country. Consequently, more than one million villas provided in the suburbs of major cities in the UK, this model was later extended to other parts of the world; like the cities' garden and regional planning in the United States in the 1920s which indeed were combinations of Geddes and Howard thoughts. Thus, at this time, there was a relationship between the tradition of cities' garden and planning. (Ward, 10-11, 1992)

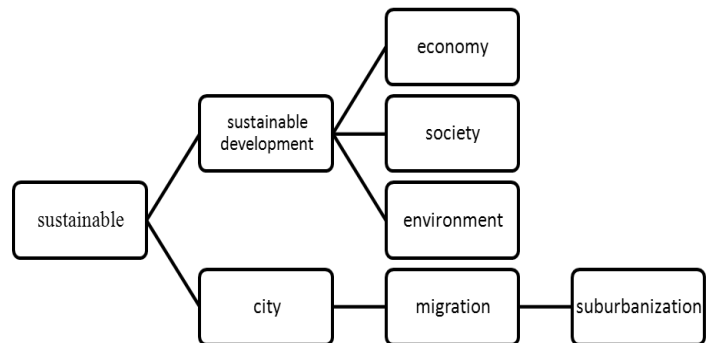
For most Americans, the word suburb evokes images of single-houses in the period after World War II that is the product of machine age and the creation and expansion of the highways. America's suburb is a major example of the tradition of a nation's desire for freedom and change. To benefit from the advantages of abundant land in the surrounding area, pioneers

and seekers of housing, in the nineteenth and twentieth century followed their special wishes in the outlying communities (suburbs). They developed factories, real estates, residential subdivisions and commercial passages there, they created a style of life that was not possible to establish in the limits of the central city. (Ziari, 2010, 9-14) In 1940, Americans realized that the suburb is no longer a temporary stay that will ultimately attract a larger city. But the suburbs were a place to live because suburbs knew the benefits of separation of large cities far beyond the benefits of joining them. In the suburb, each community can independently determine its own lifestyle without having to compromise with other parts of the metropolitan population. (Ziari, 2010, -36) In the early twentieth century, American suburbs considered a place for business and development of cultural domains for African-Americans. In more than a century, half of the migration was due to the success of suburbs, and that was because America was becoming a country of Suburbs. In the nineteenth century, railways abled middle-class residents to transmit widespread and harmful industries out of town or suburbs. In the twentieth century, motor vehicles accelerated rapid centrifugal movement. This was occurred because of independent suburban projects, external and serial shopping centers of the two or three stories houses with car garage. During the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, suburban landscape constituted the big houses, cottages, steel factories and beautiful estates. In the specified opportunity, many Americans moved to the suburbs and invested their life and money in the metropolitan margin. In this period, millions of Americans are seeking houses with scrubs, grasslands and meadows and in the margin of independent and healthy cities far from the cities' center. However, other objectives were nurturing chicken and vegetables in the the farm. The result of this was, easy and painlessly commuting from home to their place of work in the the factory and vice versa. They also wanted to use the advantages of suburbs independence, and create houses next to the routes or away from the causes of air pollution and water with a low tax rate. No suburban merely had residential role, however, the green lands of the suburbs offered different patterns of life in an area away from the influence of large cities, health facilities and police. Suburbs removed corruption, waste, overcrowding, congestion, tumult and disorders of the central city. Border of megalopolises referred to the millions of Americans who were willing to make their surroundings a suitable place for life. Suburbs became pioneers to select location outside the major city, superior to the governmental and social separated points, and in effect, expanded a pattern of life which was known as suburbanization. (Ziari, 2010, -46) Based on the studies about the suburbs of America, the fact was obtained that suburbs were efficient areas for business in the United States. In the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, manufacturing Industries were moved to the suburbs. Retail activities transferred to out of the cities in the three decades after World War II. In effect, many parkings and promenades were created for all Americans outside the cities. Finally, in the last quarter of twentieth century, much of the office space was converted to the business. This established commercial superiority of the suburbs. Increase in commercial activities of suburbs caused to change the performance of highways and the integration of open spaces to the suburbs. This is the turning point in the history of suburbs evolution. In

addition those American suburbs are deeply rooted in the past, the trend has dominated today's American life, and they are suitable place to live, work and play. Current densities in the suburbs raises this question that how will better suburbs be created in future, or how will the reconstruction of the suburban landscapes be occurred in the future.

#### Theoretical foundation

To determine the relationship between theoretical literature and create a better understanding of the key words and its relationship between its components, the following chart was depicted.



**Figure 3. Teorical framework in sustainable development Conclusions**

Today, migration is inevitable which has important influences on the human. The saturation of cities and inability of city potential to attract immigrants only cause to increase the population of jobseekers and unemployment's. The growing trend of urbanization, migration to big cities, development of cities, modern industrial life and lack of urban planning cause to create ecological problems and environmental contaminations that are tied with the problems of lack of (economic, social, environmental) sustainability. By understanding and recognition of the potential of migration and proper planning for sustainable development, migration can be considered as one of the characteristics of growth.

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