

LOCAL INITIATIVES FOR SUSTAINABLE CITIES IN PAKISTAN

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ABSTRACT

If we will involve local communities for various purpose, these will use the initiative and will help in bringing sustainability in the cities. For this purpose we have to strengthen our scholarly groups and they will provide a guidelines education and solutions to various urban affairs.

- * In order to involve local people, we have to design small scale technologies with emphasis on employment. Various small scale industries will create at least self employment. These should be encouraged resulting into additional employment and creation of new enterprises and growth of small industries. These can employ a large number of people and further solve the problem of un-employment, the development of low-cost or appropriate labour intensive, technologies will utilise more people and show better results socially.
- * We have to develop local contractors, who will hire local people, will reduce the work-load of the government and will help the government in taking the challenges under various government departments namely, agriculture, irrigation, communication, road and transport, education, housing, sanitation and etc.

The urban cities are un-sustainable due to

1. **Air pollution caused by**

- * Vehicles emitting smoke due to lubricating oil.
- * Riksha (a locally assembled taxi with three wheel and 2-stroke engine) emitting unburnt fuel.
- * Domestic generators emitting gas.
- * Burning of house-wastes.
- * Burning of plastics materials emitting formaldehydes.
- * Pollution develop fog ended into many road accident due to poor visibility

2. **Noise pollution**

- * Noise by radio, TV played at high pitch all over the cities.
- * Noise of vehicular traffic specially with damaged silencers.
- * Noise of street hawkers.
- * Noise of loud speakers at restaurants, hotels, marriage parties, political and social gatherings and from mosques.
- * Noise from equipment used in shops, factories and etc.
- * Noise caused by children playing in every street, due to absence of public parks.

3. **Street pollution**

- * Caused by hawkers, their customers throwing litter every where on street
- * People throwing house rubbish on the streets.

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- * Shopkeepers throwing waste material on streets.
- 4. Compound wall of houses, shops and factories
 - * These are polluted by posters, un-authorised righting on walls.
 - * People shelters against other peoples compound walls.
- 5. Pollution caused leaky water supply and sewerage.
 - * Some sewerage and water supply lines leak in the sheets.
 - * Some water supply and drainage lines checked in the housing cause leakage.
 - * Which is disposed of in the street.
- 6. Pollution caused by construction
 - * New construction leads to pollution by extra sand, gravel and other type of construction materials.
 - * New construction leads to disposal of many unusable aggregates.
 - * New construction leads to pollution by pieces of wood, nails glass, stone, marble, electric cables, cement/asbestos/cast iron/G.I pipe wastes in small quantities.
- 7. Pollution caused by Modern equipment
 - * Modern equipment leads to discarding rubber, tyres, tubes, seals, lubricating oils, metallic components, which if not sold out properly leads to dumping on city streets sewerage lines.

The urban area of Pakistan cities are suffering with bad roads, poor way of transportation, un-efficient railway system, over crowded road with heavy smoke emission vehicles, few hospitals in bad shape, intermittent supply of electricity, lack of drinking water facilities results the citizen take water tanker those supply water from the ground water, which is heavily polluted with heavy metals and pathogens. These are the few problems which make cities un-sustainable for living.

SOLUTIONS

But these can be changed into decent way of living by using education, because education bring awareness and people force the well-to-do to pay taxes to the government and with the help of these taxes government can carry out missionary work efficiently. Educated people can also design better road system, which can be according to the growing population needs for example in 1981 Pakistan population was 131 millions and it is increasing at the rate of 2.80, so the educated engineers can design food and wider road, which can take a load of increasing population. Educated people can also bring awareness of health and provide advocacy service to stop bringing smoke emitting vehicles on the roads. They also use new and better technologies to generate power and meet the population needs. Educated doctors can bring better hospital facilities, and provide better laboratory tests for drinking water. They can guide the public about the safe drinking water provide guidelines to the government to use chlorination to disinfect the water and provide advocacy to the civilian to boil water before using it.

The building engineers design multi-stories buildings which are cheap enough so the middle class people can afford it. They can provide low-cost housing schemes and technologies in which local cheap raw material will be utilised.

INTERESTING - 7

INFORMATIVE - 7

PRACTICAL
REALISTIC
UTILITY

- 7

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