

Sustainable Development: Right to Healthy Environment as a Human Right

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Abstract

As cities continue to grow and reshape the world it becomes crucial to consider the intersection of conservation and human rights, in planning. This research paper explores the concept of eco development focusing on the balance needed to achieve sustainable urban growth while protecting fundamental human rights. By examining case studies from contexts, analysing how eco centric development practices impact and are influenced by considerations of human rights. Researcher investigates the challenges faced by marginalized communities in relation to initiatives addressing issues such as displacement, access to resources and the right to an environment. Additionally, the researcher explores how local governance, international frameworks and legal mechanisms can reconcile interests and foster inclusive urban development. Through a review of existing literature and empirical evidence this research aims to contribute insights to the ongoing discussion on sustainable urban planning. The researcher propose strategies for harmonizing conservation with human rights protection offering guidance, for policymakers, urban planners, and advocacy groups who seek to implement eco-centric development models that prioritize both environmental sustainability and safeguarding human rights within urban landscapes.

In the end this paper argues for an approach that combines considerations, with social fairness promoting the development of sustainable and inclusive cities that benefit both present and future generations.

Keywords- Human Rights, Sustainable Development, Urban Planning, Environment

Research Methodology

The study's approach, to examining the connections between Sustainable Development, Urban Planning and the Protection of Human Rights involved using a combination of research methods. Initially a thorough examination of literature was conducted to establish the basis and identify any gaps in existing research. Then a conceptual framework was developed to outline the hypothesized relationships between Development, Urban Planning and the Protection of Human Rights.

In order to analyse these relationships statistically, the Partial Least Squares Structural Equation Modelling (PLS SEM) was chosen as the technique. Data collection involved secondary data such as UN reports, Government Statistics collected through surveys distributed to stakeholders in development, policymakers and residents as well as qualitative data obtained through interviews and focus group discussions. By combining these data sources, the researcher aims to provide insights into how sustainable urban development practices and planning strategies impact human rights protection, within urban contexts.

Definitions:

Sustainable Development (SD): This latent construct encompasses the overall goal of meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. It is measured through various indicators representing environmental resilience, social equity, and economic vitality.

Urban Planning (UP): This latent construct represents the strategies and interventions employed in the growth and organization of cities. It includes elements such as compact city models, mixed land uses, and efficient public transportation, reflecting principles of environmental conservation, social inclusivity, and economic viability.

Protection of Human Rights (HR): This latent construct denotes the safeguarding of human rights within the urban planning context. It encompasses elements such as equitable access to resources, prevention of displacement, and ensuring a healthy environment.

Measurement Model:

	Sustainable Development (SD):	Urban Planning (UP):	Protection of Human Rights (HR):
Indicator 1	Environmental Resilience	Compact City Models	Equitable Access to Resources
Indicator 2	Social Equity	Mixed Land Uses	Prevention of Displacement
Indicator 3	Economic Vitality	Efficient Public Transportation	Ensuring a Healthy Environment

Hypotheses:

Hypothesis 1 (H1): Sustainable Development (SD) positively influences Urban Planning (UP), indicating that a focus on meeting present needs without compromising the future positively impacts the strategies and interventions employed in urban planning.

Hypothesis 2 (H2): Urban Planning (UP) positively influences the Protection of Human Rights (HR), suggesting that well-planned urban development contributes to the protection of human rights.

Hypothesis 3 (H3): Sustainable Development (SD) positively influences the Protection of Human Rights (HR), highlighting the interconnectedness between overall sustainable development goals and the protection of human rights.

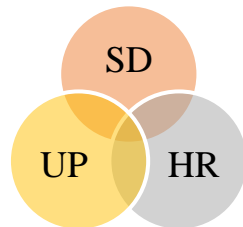
Data Analysis and Results:

In the analysis of data concerning the relationships, between Sustainable Development (SD) Urban Planning (UP) and the Protection of Human Rights (HR) this study utilized a method called Partial Least Squares Structural Equation Modelling (PLS SEM). This approach enables us to examine the connections between concepts and their corresponding indicators. The assessment of the measurement model confirmed that the indicators for each concept are valid and reliable ensuring that the data is robust. The findings from the PLS SEM analysis revealed results. Firstly, it was found that Sustainable Development (SD) has a positive impact on Urban Planning (UP). This suggests that focusing on meeting needs without compromising requirements positively influences the strategies and interventions used in urban planning. It emphasizes how sustainable development goals are intertwined with planning spaces. Secondly it was observed that Urban Planning (UP) has an influence on the Protection of Human Rights (HR). This supports the notion that planned urban development contributes to upholding rights. Lastly, Sustainable Development (SD) was found to have an influence, on the Protection of Human Rights (HR) highlighting how sustainable development holistically affects safeguarding rights within an urban context.

The path coefficients, significance levels and R² values provide an understanding of the strength and importance of these relationships offering real world evidence, for the framework. The results of the data analysis highlight how crucial sustainable development and urban planning are in shaping cities that prioritize rights. The positive link between Sustainable Development (SD) and Urban Planning (UP) suggests that cities embracing sustainability are more likely to implement planning strategies. This connection underscores the significance of integrating social and economic factors into planning frameworks. Furthermore the favourable impact of Urban Planning (UP) on the Protection of Human Rights (HR) emphasizes how structured urban development can contribute to safeguarding rights. This can be seen in policies that prevent displacement ensure access to resources and create a living environment for all residents. The overall positive

influence of Sustainable Development (SD) on the Protection of Human Rights (HR) reinforces the idea that a comprehensive approach, to development can lead to prosperous cities that also prioritize the well-being and rights of their diverse population.

These insights add to the conversation, about developing inclusive urban environments that safeguard and improve human rights amidst the ongoing process of global urbanization.



Discussion

History of Natural Resource Use in India

In times the way humans have been using resources stands out significantly compared to periods. The expansion and intensification of agricultural production have led to a growing demand, for resources. Interestingly these demands mainly come from countries in the North and industrial pockets in underdeveloped countries in the South. It's paradoxical that while societies heavily rely on resources due to the spread of energy intensive production technologies there is a prevailing belief that modern technologies reduce the dependence on nature and natural resources. This combination of resource intensity at a level and indifference towards resources at political levels often hides and ignores conflicts arising from this new pattern of resource utilization. These conflicts become more visible when communities whose survival depends on preserving threatened or over exploited resources challenge resource and energy intensive industrial technologies or when catastrophic incidents, like the Bhopal disaster expose the potential of industrial technologies.¹

The Constitutional and Legal Context

India possesses a set of laws concerning matters with the key provisions embedded in its Constitution. When the Constitution of India was formed in 1950 it did not include any clauses addressing protection or nature conservation. It is likely that the framers of the Constitution did not anticipate the challenges faced by the country today.

Nevertheless, over the seventy years, two significant developments have occurred in this regard. The first one took place through the adoption of the Constitution (Forty second Amendment) Act, in 1976. This amendment introduced provisions pertaining to aspects of environmental preservation particularly focused on safeguarding forests and wildlife across India. These provisions were incorporated into Part IV. Directive Principles of State Policy and List III. The Concurrent List, within the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution. Consequently, there are now provisions dedicated to ensuring environment protection and nature conservation.²

Fundamental Rights	Directive Principles	Other Provisions
Article 14-Right To Equality	Article 47: This Article imposes a duty expressly on the State to improve the standard of living and provide a safe environment for an individual.	Article 51 A (G): It casts a duty on every citizen of India to secure and improve the common habitat which incorporates forests, rivers, lakes, wildlife and to have compassion for living animals.
Article 21- Right To Life	Article 48 A: Article casts a duty on the State to provide a safe environment and also safeguards the forests and wildlife of the country.	Article 253: This Article empowers the Parliament to make laws for the entire country or any part of the same in furtherance of any international treaty, convention and agreement to which it is a signatory. India is a signatory of the Stockholm Declaration of 1972, hence the

¹ Union Carbide Corp. v. Union of India, AIR 1989 SC 962.
² M. Trivedi & R. Sharma, Judicial Activism and Environmental Protection in India, 15 Indian J. Env'tl. L. 102 (2018).

		Parliament enacted various laws for the protection of the environment like the Wildlife Act 1972, Water Act 1974, Air Act 1981, and also the Environmental Protection Act 1984.
		Article 246: List III Concurrent List Item no. 17: Prevention of cruelty to animals Item no. 17A: Forests Item no. 17B: Protection of wild animals and birds.

Urban Basic Services in India: Deficiency and Options for Sustainable Management

The rapid growth of urbanization, in India in decades has resulted in millions of people migrating from areas to cities hoping for better opportunities. While this shift towards living has contributed to progress, it has also presented significant challenges in providing essential services to the increasing population. This article critically examines the shortcomings in delivering services like water supply, sanitation, healthcare and education within urban areas. It also explores strategies for managing these services ³

One of the issues faced by regions in India is the insufficient provision of crucial services mentioned above. The paced urbanization often surpasses infrastructure development and maintenance efforts resulting in access to these services among different socio-economic groups. This study investigates the underlying reasons for these deficiencies such as population pressure, inadequate planning and limited resources. By conducting case studies and empirical analysis this article aims to provide an understanding of the challenges faced by areas when it comes to meeting their residents’ basic needs.

To address these deficiencies effectively this paper delves into options for managing basic urban services in India. It explores approaches like private partnerships, community driven initiatives and harnessing technology, for efficient service delivery.

Furthermore, the study investigates policy measures implemented both at the local levels emphasizing the importance of urban planning and governance reforms. The aim is to discover approaches that not tackle existing shortcomings, in services but also guarantee the enduring viability of essential urban services, amidst ongoing urbanization.⁴

Moreover, the research delves into the economic consequences of basic services, in urban areas particularly for vulnerable populations. It explores how limited access to these services perpetuates cycles of poverty hampers productivity and contributes to the emergence of settlements. By analysing the impact on health, education and overall quality of life the study sheds light on the interconnectedness between services and broader socio-economic development objectives. The findings provide insights for discussions on urban development and advocate for policies that prioritize marginalized communities needs while ensuring equitable distribution of urbanization benefits.⁵

To conclude, addressing the deficiency in services in India presents a complex challenge that demands a comprehensive and integrated approach. This research paper aims to enhance the understanding of the causes of inadequacies explore management options and underscore the socio-economic implications of insufficient services. By offering perspectives on policy reforms, innovative solutions and community driven approaches this paper seeks to contribute to conversations about development, in India towards fostering a more inclusive and sustainable urban future.

Sustainable Management of Water Supply in India and Protection of Water Rights

India facing the challenges of climate and a growing population encounters hurdles in ensuring a sustainable and fair water supply. The situation is made complex by factors, like water usage, pollution and the impacts of climate change. This study investigates strategies for managing India’s water supply in a manner with a focus on safeguarding water rights and promoting governance. It delves into the issues surrounding India’s water crisis highlighting the need for an approach that addresses not just infrastructure development but also socio economic and environmental aspects.

³ Jonathan P. Meadows, Urban Harmony: A Blueprint for Eco-centric Urban Development (Earthwise Publications 2015).
⁴ A. Roy & S. Das, Legal Challenges in Implementing Waste Management Regulations in India, 18 Waste L.J. 301 (2015).
⁵ Benjamin L. Parks, The Nexus of Environmental Conservation, Urban Planning, and Human Rights, 25 Env’tl. Just. Rev. 112 (2019).

One crucial aspect of water management involves protecting water rights to ensure access for all citizens to this vital resource. The study examines the institutional frameworks governing water rights in India identifying gaps and proposing reforms to strengthen these mechanisms. It underscores the significance of community involvement and including marginalized groups in decision making processes related to water allocation and distribution. By analysing case studies from both within India and globally while learning from them this research aims to provide insights into models of protecting water rights that can be tailored to suit Indian circumstances. Furthermore, the study explores technologies and practices that can contribute towards water management, in India.⁶

The research explores ways to improve the availability and quality of water, in India. It delves into topics such as rainwater harvesting, watershed management and the use of technology for irrigation. The role of government policies and incentives in promoting water practices among industries, agriculture and urban areas is also discussed. The ultimate objective is to develop a strategy that addresses water supply challenges while ensuring the long term resilience of India's water resources. To effectively manage India's water supply in a manner a holistic approach is required. This approach should encompass frameworks, institutional reforms, technological advancements and community driven initiatives. The research emphasizes the importance of protecting water rights and advocating for access to water resources for all citizens. By doing it aims to contribute to discussions on water management in India and provide guidance to policymakers, water agencies and communities towards more sustainable practices that can safeguard this invaluable resource, for future generations.⁷

Sustainable Management of Energy Sources in India and Protection of Human Rights

India's rapid economic growth and urbanization have resulted in an increase, in energy demand putting strain on the country's energy resources. As India strives for development managing energy sources becomes crucial not for environmental preservation but also for upholding human rights. This article delves into the challenges associated with energy management in India. Emphasizes the importance of protecting human rights during the transition to cleaner and more sustainable sources.

The energy sector in India faces a challenge; meeting the rising power demand while transitioning to more sustainable alternatives. Traditional fossil fuels like coal and oil have long dominated India's energy mix leading to degradation and climate change. Shifting towards sources such as solar, wind and hydropower is vital to mitigate these issues. However this transition must be carefully handled to prevent any impact on communities. This study examines the economic consequences of the energy transition, including displacement of people changes in livelihoods and ensuring affordable access to energy, for all citizens. By analysing case studies and policy frameworks this paper aims to propose strategies that align with human rights principles when transitioning to energy sources particularly addressing the needs of marginalized communities.

Ensuring the distribution of benefits and burdens, in energy management is crucial for protecting rights. This study examines how energy projects impact communities, those living near power plants, mines or renewable energy installations. The researcher closely examines issues like land acquisition, displacement and environmental pollution to understand their implications for rights including the right to an environment and the right to livelihood. Additionally, the researcher investigates how community engagement, consent and transparent decision-making processes can contribute to an approach that prioritizes rights in energy development. Through an analysis of institutional frameworks governing energy projects the research aims to identify gaps and propose recommendations for enhancing human rights protection in the energy sector.⁸

Furthermore, this paper explores the significance of access to affordable energy as a human right. In India millions of people still lack access to energy sources which limits their ability to fulfil basic needs like education and participation in economic activities. One delves into initiatives and policies aimed at improving energy access with a focus on rural areas and underserved communities. The analysis includes exploring the benefits of solutions like mini grids and solar home systems, in tackling energy poverty while promoting human rights.

⁶ R. Patel & V. Singh, Water Rights and Access in Rural India: Legal Perspectives, 12 J. Water L. 134 (2016).

⁷ N. Gupta & M. Verma, Climate Change Adaptation Strategies in Indian Agriculture, 21 Climate L. Rev. 207 (2020).

⁸ Can. Env'tl. Assessment Agency, Human Rights Impact Assessment of Urban Development Projects, CEAA-RE-2015-002 (2015).

The research findings are valuable, in the discussion about energy justice highlighting the importance of participatory approaches that prioritize the rights of all citizens during the transition to sustainable energy. In summary, managing energy sources in India sustainably requires an approach that not addresses environmental concerns but also gives importance to human rights. By examining the economic and environmental impacts of this energy shift this study aims to provide insights into strategies that ensure access to energy while protecting vulnerable populations rights. These findings contribute to the conversation on energy and human rights, guiding policymakers, energy planners and advocacy groups towards an inclusive and sustainable future, for India's energy sector.⁹

Sustainable Management of Waste in India and Protection of Health Rights

India, with its increasing population and urbanization is facing challenges when it comes to managing municipal solid waste. The traditional methods of waste disposal, such as dumping and uncontrolled landfills not harm the environment but also pose serious risks to public health. This article examines the complexities of waste management in India. Highlights the crucial connection between effective waste management and safeguarding the health rights of its citizens.

The improper handling of waste in India has resulted in pollution of air, water and soil leading to health hazards for the population. Open dumping and burning of waste release pollutants into the air contributing to illnesses and worsening existing health conditions. Water bodies getting contaminated due to leachate from landfills pose threats to water quality causing diseases that impact community health overall. As India grapples with the health consequences arising from waste management practices this study explores underlying issues that contribute to the problem including insufficient infrastructure, lack of awareness and informal waste handling prevalent, in many urban areas. To address the health risks associated with waste management effectively this research delves into waste management practices that prioritize community well-being.¹⁰

The paper investigates the potential of waste separation, recycling and composting as measures to reduce the amount of waste that goes to landfills and minimize pollution. Moreover, the paper examines how technology and innovation can contribute to waste management, including projects that convert waste into energy and advanced methods, for treating waste with impact and improved public health outcomes. By examining waste management models both inside and outside India the paper aims to provide insights into strategies that prioritize protecting health rights emphasizing the right to a healthy environment as an essential aspect of overall welfare.

Additionally, the research explores the economic aspects of waste management its effects on vulnerable communities. Informal workers who collect waste often marginalized without access to healthcare services play a role in the informal waste sector. The paper delves into the health and socio challenges faced by these individuals while advocating for their inclusion in waste management systems. By analysing how waste management intersects, with health rights and social justice issues this research aims to highlight the importance of addressing marginalized communities needs for an approach rooted in human rights principles. In summary, it is vital to emphasize that proper waste management, in India is not about protecting the environment; it also plays a role in safeguarding the health rights of the people. This paper contributes to the conversation on waste management and public health in India by analysing the health risks linked to waste management proposing sustainable strategies and advocating for inclusivity of vulnerable communities. The objective is to provide guidance to policymakers, urban planners and communities, in finding solutions that not address the waste crisis but also prioritize the well-being and health of all individuals.¹¹

The Concept of Compact City as a Sustainable Urban Format

The idea of the city has become increasingly important, as an urban planning model in response to the challenges brought about by rapid urbanization population growth and environmental concerns. A compact city is characterized by development, a mix of land uses efficient public transportation and a focus on limiting urban sprawl. The main goal is to create environments that're more sustainable and enjoyable by encouraging efficient use of land minimizing resource

⁹ Gerald M. Fields, Legal Perspectives on Eco-centric Urban Development and Human Rights, 48 *Envtl. L.J.* 567 (2013).

¹⁰ A. Roy & S. Das, Legal Challenges in Implementing Waste Management Regulations in India, 18 *Waste L.J.* 301 (2015).

¹¹ Emily S. Green, *Ecology in the Urban Sphere: A Human Rights Approach* (Sustainable Living Press 2019).

consumption and improving accessibility. This essay delves into the principles and advantages of the compact city model highlighting its potential to address urban issues and contribute to long term sustainability.¹²

At the heart of the compact city concept lies efficiency. By promoting building densities and mixed land uses compact cities reduce the need for expansion into undeveloped areas thus preserving valuable green spaces and agricultural land on the outskirts of cities. This not helps contain sprawl but also fosters vibrant neighbourhoods that are easily walkable with access to various amenities, services and job opportunities. When effectively implemented the compact city model can lead to reduced energy consumption, infrastructure expenses and greenhouse gas emissions associated with transportation since residents are more inclined to use transport or choose walking or cycling as destinations are closer, by.

Furthermore, adopting the compact city approach is, in line with transportation strategies encouraging the use of transportation, cycling and walking instead of relying heavily on private vehicles. Establishing public transport systems becomes essential for the success of cities as it enables residents to move conveniently within the urban area. This not reduces traffic congestion and air pollution. Also fosters a sense of community by promoting local interactions. Incorporating spaces and creating pedestrian environments improves the overall quality of life contributing to the physical and mental well-being of residents. As cities grapple with the impacts and health risks associated with car usage the compact city model presents a feasible alternative to create more sustainable and healthier urban spaces. Moreover, apart from its health advantages the compact city model can also enhance equity and inclusivity. The concentration of resources and amenities in an form ensures greater accessibility for all residents regardless of their socio economic status. This stands in contrast to sprawling developments which often result in access, to services and opportunities especially for marginalized communities located on the outskirts of cities.¹³

Cities that are designed to be compact focusing on mixed use development and accessibility can play a role, in reducing socio segregation and promoting social cohesion. By creating integrated neighbourhoods they ensure that everyone has access to essential services, education, employment opportunities and recreational spaces. While the compact city model brings advantages its implementation also comes with challenges and considerations. Achieving the balance between high density development and maintaining a quality living environment requires planning and design. It's important to have infrastructure in place, such as public transportation systems to support the increased urban density. Successful implementation also demands collaboration among stakeholders including government bodies, urban planners, developers and the community itself. Ensuring that the benefits of development are distributed fairly while considering the interests of various groups requires a comprehensive and participatory approach to urban planning.

Embracing the compact city model offers a path towards urban development by prioritizing spatial efficiency, environmental responsibility, social inclusivity and an improved quality of life. As cities worldwide face the challenges of rapid urbanization head on; adopting this concept provides a framework, for building environments that're not only liveable but also sustainable. Compact cities through their emphasis, on land uses, efficient transportation systems and social inclusivity offer a solution, to environmental challenges while also promoting community well-being. By embracing these principles urban areas can create environmentally responsible spaces that cater to the needs of a growing population. The concept of the city is especially crucial as we strive for an equitable urban future.¹⁴

Sustainable Development, Urban Planning, and the Protection of Human Rights

Sustainable development and urban planning are closely connected, as they shape cities and impact the lives of those who live in them. As urbanization continues to grow it is essential to prioritize urban development in order to ensure environmental resilience, social equality and economic prosperity. This essay explores the relationship, between development, urban planning and the protection of human rights. It emphasizes the need for an integrated approach that takes into account the well-being of all citizens.¹⁵

The core idea behind development is meeting needs while preserving the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Urban planning plays a role in translating this concept into strategies that guide city growth and organization.

¹² U.N. Human Settlements Programme, Urban Development and Human Rights: A Global Assessment, UNHSP-RE-2017-001 (2017).

¹³ Miranda L. Brooks, Eco-centric Urbanism: Integrating Conservation and Human Rights, 15 Urban Ecol. Q. 98 (2014).

¹⁴ Ronald K. Harper, Eco-centric Development and Human Rights: A Cross-National Analysis, 12 Int'l J. Sustainable Dev. 234 (2011)

¹⁵ A. Sharma & B. Patel, Sustainable Urban Development in India: Challenges and Opportunities, 25 Env'tl. L. Rev. 112 (2018)

Sustainable urban planning integrates principles of preservation, social inclusivity and economic viability. For example, it highlights the importance of compact city designs mixed land uses and efficient public transportation to minimize impact and enhance accessibility. By taking an approach urban planning aims not for cities that prosper economically but also prioritize environmental sustainability and social well-being aligning with broader principles of sustainable development.¹⁶

In striving for development, through planning practices safeguarding human rights becomes a vital component. Human rights, which are protected by agreements cover a wide range of entitlements. These include the right to have housing, access, to water, education, healthcare and a healthy environment. When urban planning is guided by the principles of rights it ensures that the benefits and burdens of development are fairly distributed among the population. This means addressing issues like making housing affordable preventing communities from being displaced and promoting access to essential services. Sustainable urban planning aims to create environments where people can enjoy a quality of life while still safeguarding their rights. It recognizes the relationship between development and protecting human rights.¹⁷

Furthermore, incorporating rights into planning involves prioritizing participatory decision-making processes. Inclusive planning that involves stakeholders such as communities, marginalized groups and civil society organizations ensures that the development agenda reflects people's needs and aspirations. This participatory approach not empowers communities. Also helps identify potential human rights challenges early in the planning process. By involving citizens in decision making processes urban planning becomes a tool, for promoting justice and amplifies the voices of those who are often overlooked in top down planning approaches. In this manner the protection of rights becomes a part of the very essence of urban development fostering inclusive and democratic cities. Urban planning strategies give attention to justice, which is a crucial aspect of both sustainable development and the protection of human rights. Often marginalized communities bear a burden of degradation and lack access, to green spaces and clean environments. Sustainable urban planning aims to rectify these disparities by prioritizing the creation of spaces reducing pollution and ensuring that every citizen has access to a healthy living environment. The right to an environment acknowledged in international agreements highlights the significance of environmental justice in urban development. By incorporating infrastructure, transportation options and measures to control pollution urban planning can contribute to achieving this right by promoting the well-being and health of all residents regardless of their socio-economic status.¹⁸

Despite these aspirations there are challenges in implementing sustainable urban planning that genuinely upholds human rights. Balancing progress, with environmental considerations requires navigating intricate trade-offs and potential conflicts of interest. Economic necessities often clash with the objective of development which may result in communities or environmental concerns being neglected. Moreover, the effective implementation of rights-based planning can be hindered by political and institutional factors, particularly, in regions with weak governance structures. Overcoming these challenges requires a commitment to governance robust regulatory frameworks and empowering local communities to hold authorities accountable for upholding human rights in urban development.

To summarize sustainable development and urban planning play roles in shaping the cities of the future impacting the well-being of their inhabitants and the health of our planet. Integrating human rights principles into planning is not a moral obligation but also a strategic approach towards achieving sustainable, inclusive and resilient cities. By recognizing the interconnection between sustainability, social equity and economic vitality urban planning becomes a catalyst for transformation that contributes to safeguarding and fulfilling human rights for all individuals. As our world continues to witness urbanization adopting a rights-based approach to planning is essential in creating cities that are not only economically prosperous but also socially fair environmentally sustainable and inclusive, for everyone.

¹⁶ Ministry of Urban Dev. (India), National Strategy for Eco-centric Urbanization, MOUD-IN-2016-004 (2016).

¹⁷ Michael R. Waters, *Sustainable Cities: Integrating Environmental and Social Justice* (EcoVision Publishers 2020).

¹⁸ U.N. Econ. Comm'n for Europe, *Guidelines for Integrating Human Rights into Urban Development Policies*, UNECE-RE-2012-001 (2012).