

Sustainability-Sustainable Development and Life Quality



Dr. Olçay AYDEMİR
İstanbul Sabahattin Zaim University, Department of Architecture
T. C. Ministry of Culture and Tourism, Istanbul Surveying and Monuments Manager
ogokal74@yahoo.com, <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-7293-8335>

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Abstract: *The city and its environment are important because it is the place where the greatest proportion of people live on earth. The quality of life, which is one of the goals of sustainable development, is a concept that aims to provide economic and social welfare in a secure and comfortable urban environment. The studies being carried out today at international level pressure governments to develop urban policies and to carry out at urban level. However, method studies are required in order to classify and analyze the urban quality relatively. The methods to be used for description, interpretation and development of the quality of urban life stand as subjects of this article.*

Keywords: *Sustainability, quality of life, urban development*

Sürdürülebilirlik – Sürdürülebilir Gelişme ve Yaşam Kalitesi

Özet: *Kent ve çevresi yeryüzündeki insanların büyük oranının yaşam alanıdır. Sürdürülebilir gelişmenin hedeflerinden biri olan yaşam kalitesi, güvenli ve rahat bir kent çevresi ile ekonomik ve sosyal refahı sağlamayı hedefleyen bir kavramdır. Günümüzde uluslararası seviyede yapılan çalışmalar, hükümetlerin yaşam kalitesine yönelik kentsel politikalar geliştirmelerine ve kentsel ölçekte uygulamalara yol açmaktadır. Ancak kentsel kalitenin göreceli olarak sıralanması ve çözümlenmesinde yöntem çalışmalarına gereksinim duyulmaktadır. Kentsel yaşam kalitesinin tanımlanması, değerlendirilmesi ve geliştirilmesinde izlenen yollar bu makalenin konusudur.*

Anahtar Kelimeler: *Sürdürülebilirlik, yaşam kalitesi, kentsel gelişim*

1. INTRODUCTION

Sustainability is the talent of a society, an ecosystem or a stable system that carries on its function continuously and without being spoiled or destroyed because of extreme consuming [1]. Sustainability is the programme that aims to change the economical development process by protecting the ecosystem and society systems which makes life worth living and possible and also to create a life quality for all people [2]. In the context of this programme; a balance of economical, social and ecological development processes is required which differ from each other.

The word “ecology” is formed by E. Haeckel with the combination of the words “oikos” which means the place to live, homeland and “logia” which means science or statement in Greek (Figure 1). Ecology is a branch of science that examines the natural environment of organisms and the relation between the organisms and their environment [3].

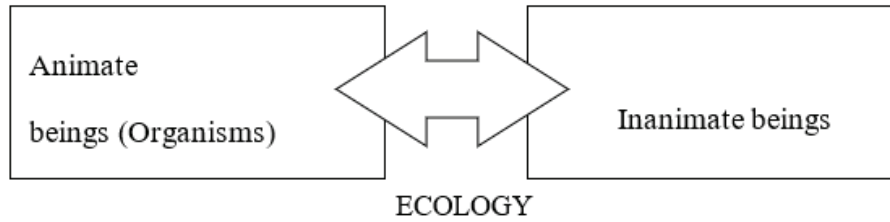


Figure 1. Ecology and Ecosystem [3].

Environment is the overall aggregate of physical, chemical, biological and social factors which might affect human being and other organisms directly or indirectly and instantly or within time (Figure 2). Human being is part of environment in terms of examination either in natural or unnatural surrounding. Thus, environment is interpreted as more comprehensive than ecological system. From this point of view, the following items need to be emphasized [3].

- All organisms including human being
- All physical, chemical, biological and social factors which affect or might affect activities of organisms
- Inanimate beings

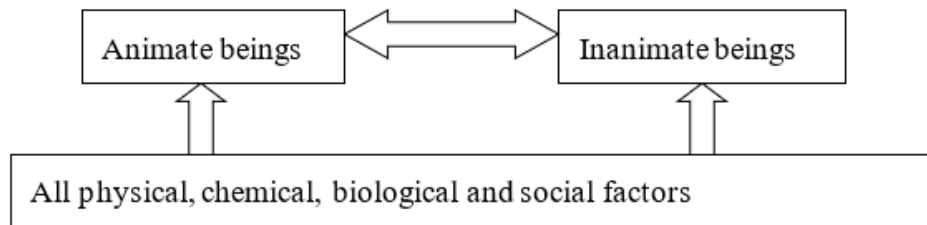


Figure 2. Environmental components [3].

The entire planning operations system which is a way of enabling the continuity of sustainability could be named as "space science". The relation between the effects which forms and impacts the space, revealing the cause and effect relation and analyzing of it constitutes the scope of space science (Figure 3).

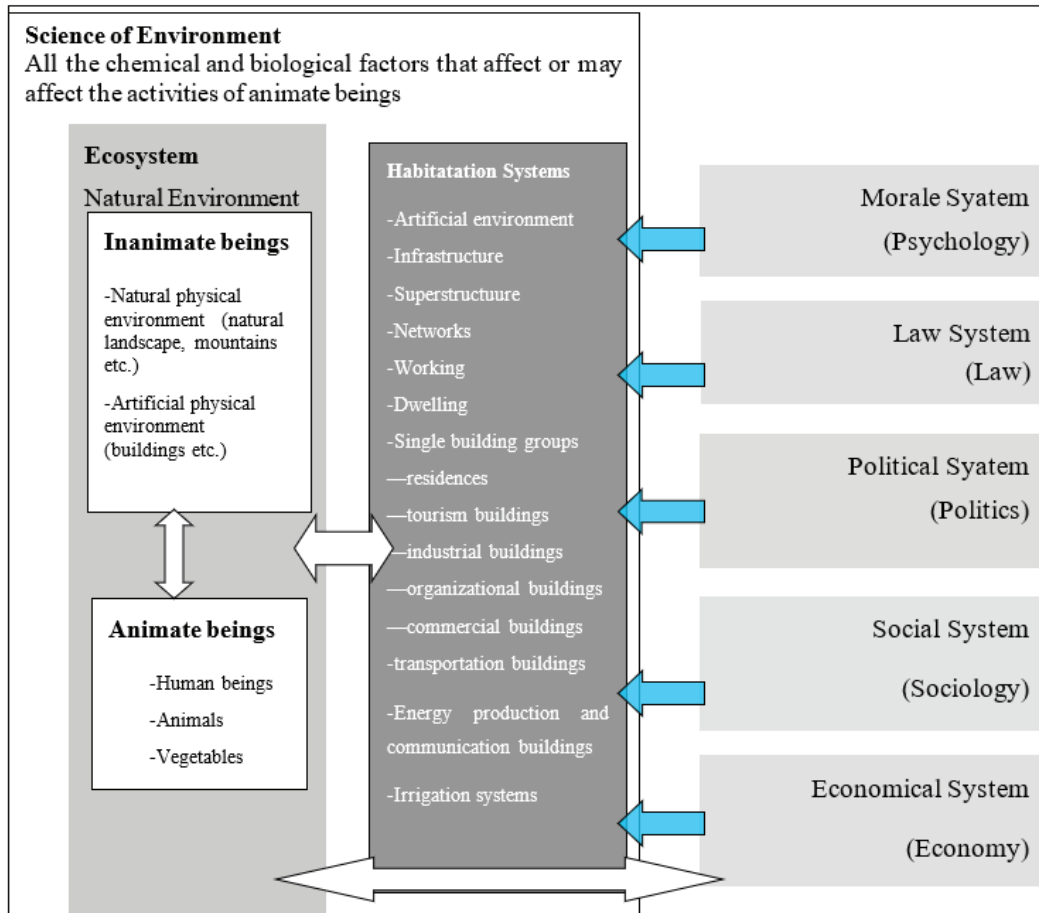


Figure 3. Components of sustainability and affecting systems [4].

2. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Increasing population, unsteady growth and consumption cause irrevocable impacts on earth. The earth is having difficulties with providing the needs of current population rather than the next generations' needs in terms of global view. Areas of rain forests decrease. Biological diversity dies away because of hunting/shooting and consumption. Moreover, consumption practices leave negative effects on environment and climate. Since the population growth continues especially in undeveloped and developing regions; more than one billion people try to survive with an income of less than one dollar per day, more than 800 million people get insufficient food and 2.5 billion people can not reach proper health service.

Sustainable development means providing the needs and expectations of current generation without compromising the needs and expectations of next generation.

Briefly, planning of sustainable development is a system which;

- Can provide the needs of current generation in equality and participation principles.
- Does not block the needs of next generations
- Providing a life quality compatible with the capacity of the ecosystem
- Is interpreted in terms of international, national, regional and local aspects

Conserves itself in terms of social, economical and environmental factors

Almost every study states similar definitions on sustainability. Environmental protection, social welfare and economical development are the key aims that are reflected within the notion of sustainability. Sometimes, sustainability is limited with various criteria depending on the point of view. Different criteria might be stated due to different aims. Indicators might change depending on the scale assessed.

Globalization- Sustainability Development Paradox and Solution Approaches

Economical growth, extreme consumption of natural sources, social sidelining in the world increase with the effect of globalization and stand as negative pressure on sustainable development. In this context, cities become the dynamic areas where many global interactions come true and where international level decisions are carried out at city scale. Progressively globalization of economy and increase of international labour division converted many cities the hidden control and administration points of production and consumption.

Absence of economical activity and unemployment caused by growing population

Employment issue becomes top problematic topic since the technological development is replaced with human effort. Quick movement of capital affects economical systems of countries and hence economical systems of cities directly. Since production processes are started to be carried out where effort costs very little, employment issue of developed countries started to increase. Hence this situation triggers fast and unhealthy built-up areas where effort costs very little. At the same time, environmental pollution problems increase where production activities get intense. This process leads to consumption of natural sources fast.

Growth-poverty dilemma

Growth-poverty dilemma is the most significant problem of cities which is required to be solved. Besides the continuing studies on this issue, international associations and consultants support the economical&financial success model or developer's intervention model.

Social sidelining

Another significant problem of cities is social sidelining. Destruction of city structure occurs because of globalization, economical reconstruction and competition/reforms in developed countries. Creating and sharing unfair wealth by social sidelining which causes problems is an obstacle for urban development (class, geographical, inter-generational). Environmental deterioration and social sidelining can be observed intensely even in many wealthy European cities which are known as steady in terms of city culture and city balance. This sort of areas are mostly the outskirts of the city which are far from the downtown and have high population. It is stated that poverty, bad sheltering conditions, ignorance, crime, high unemployment, less variability, less education and difficulty of reaching to information are the extensive features of the area.

Difficulty at service activities in terms of globalized economical development

The basic service demands of the poor get over against the globalized economical gist in many big cities of underdeveloped countries causes problems for economical growth.

Devastation of natural environment

Economical growth causes environmental problems (environmental pollution, consumption of natural reserves etc. The development in which natural sources are used once and wastes are left over is not the sort of sustainable development. This sort of development destroys the living environment of human being and other organisms inevitably by consuming the natural reserves.

In Search of Solutions

Supplying the needs of the inhabitants of the city and economical activities of the city with the limited sources in city scale stands as an important problem. Thus, this leaves a limited space to move around both for the city officers and inhabitants in terms of city development. In order to work off the mentioned problems, urban development strategies are prepared and thus getting benefit of the opportunities of globalization by the city officers stands as a point of origin for the solution. For a sustainable economical development, importance of dynamic and synergistic effects 2) impulsive power of competition instead of preventive effect, a flexible economic situation of the city that answers to different and irregular demands, creation of enterprise and flexibility are the emphasized issues. Besides, the urban development strategies become the subjects of criticism in terms of sustainability. The mentioned criticism and related solutions are summarized as below.

Characteristic of urban development strategies as dual political arena

While the cities transform to competitive arenas, some sort of political enterprises are undertaken in order to encourage global economic competition [5]. The foreseen urban development strategies create dual political arena in terms of both economical growth and development. One of those arenas leads to global capital practice and on the other hand, new mechanisms are described to provide sustainability across the capital power. Primarily issues of the second arena involve democracy, local economic development/ balanced growth, re-sharing, recycled source use and similar issues. Progress of multiple supported processes by all diverse factors in the city is aimed in order to debug the insufficiency of infrastructure for urban development and in order to determine strategies for economical activities (Figure 4, 5).

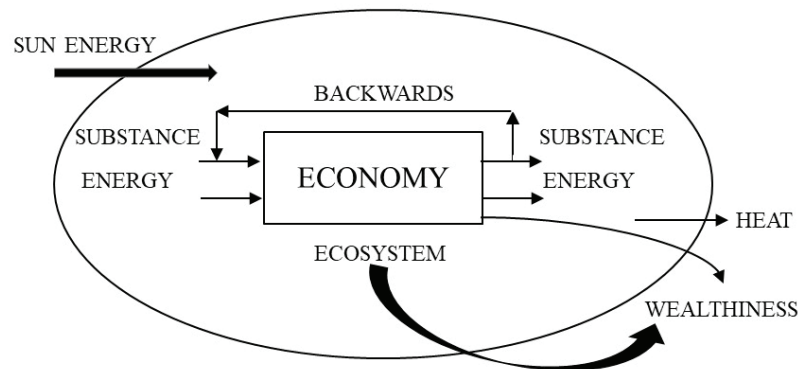


Figure 4. Relation of ecosystem, economy and ecology with each other [4].

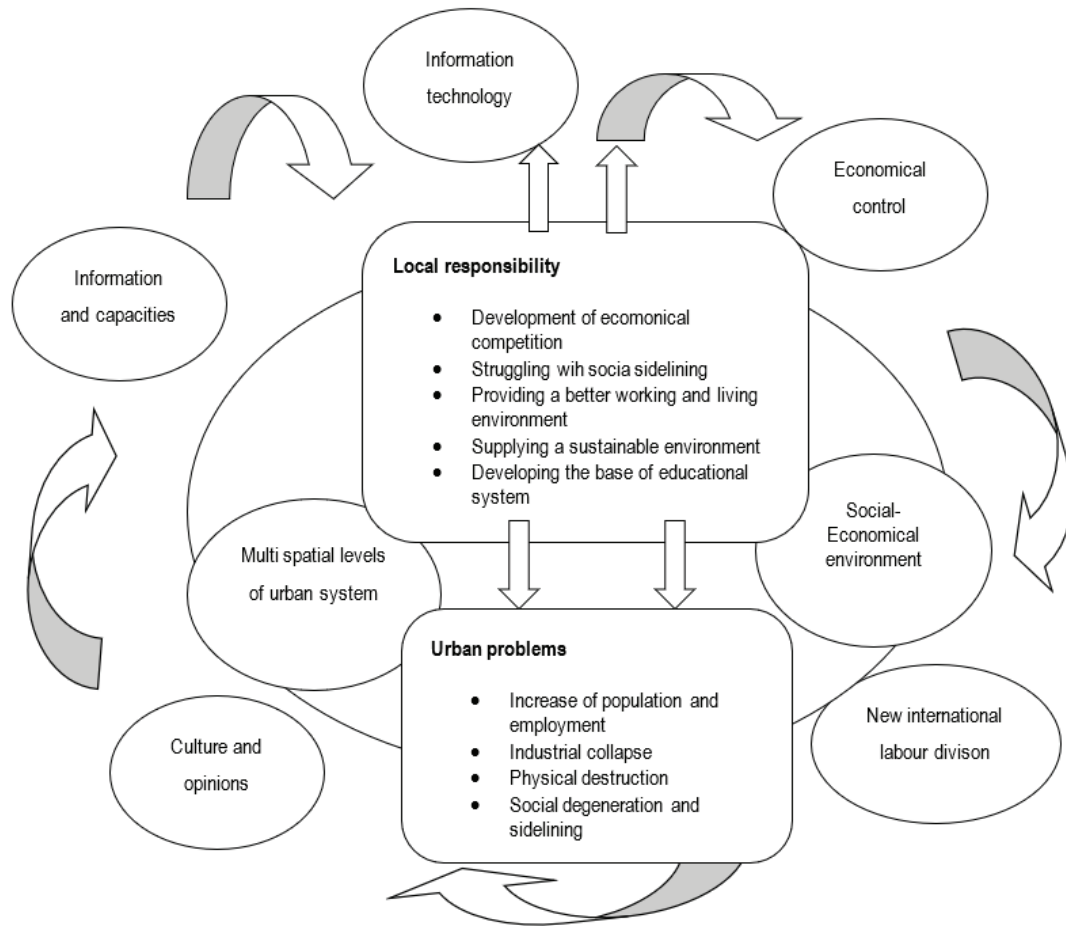


Figure 5. The foreseen urban development strategies create [4].

Appeal of global competition for city officers in many aspects

One of the supporting associations of global capital is the World Bank. The World Bank assumed city administration offices as a traditional customer from the Bank's point of view.

Since the literature and terminology on urban competition are US based, some problems are observed on practice of the issues for other cities even though sometimes for some West European cities. The reason is interpreted as strong, local autonomy and self-governing municipality structure in US. Many cities are encouraged and supported for political autonomy and localization by international finance associations and governments which provide economical support.

Failure of democratic change-participation culture

The theorists used to be pessimist in 1990s about the economical growth and sustainability in underdeveloped countries. From their point of view, replacement of only very small central authority with the locals over the last decade and/or lack of bigger civilian cooperation and failure of the democratic change in streets are because of the ignorance of local reality.

Lack of organizational culture

The urban development strategies might be both opportunity and serious threat for urban development. Since the opportunity hunting process is not followed by the politics, sustainability stands as a threat issue in underdeveloped and developing countries. Negative effects are experienced as a result of lack of national strategy, capital based tendencies and limited aspects. Since there are differences between developed and underdeveloped countries in terms of democratic culture and organizational infrastructure on planning; the planning studies of underdeveloped and developing countries unfortunately can not go further than abstract implementations of versatile solution models of western arguments.

Having success in sustainability even though the globalization, following the principles of the sustainability, determining the practice axes, providing the pre-conditions and consistency between all those are required (Figure 6) [6]. Social, geographical, cultural values at national and international level, getting organized, equality between generations, creating social strategies and enabling unity balance are the basic principles. Environment, economy, social equality, social strategies, unity balance and legal systems stand as practice axes and working on those issues is required.

Handling minimizing the above mentioned problems as an aim, participated process on decisions, clear, understandable and observable approaches during the process and strengthening the information base really matter.

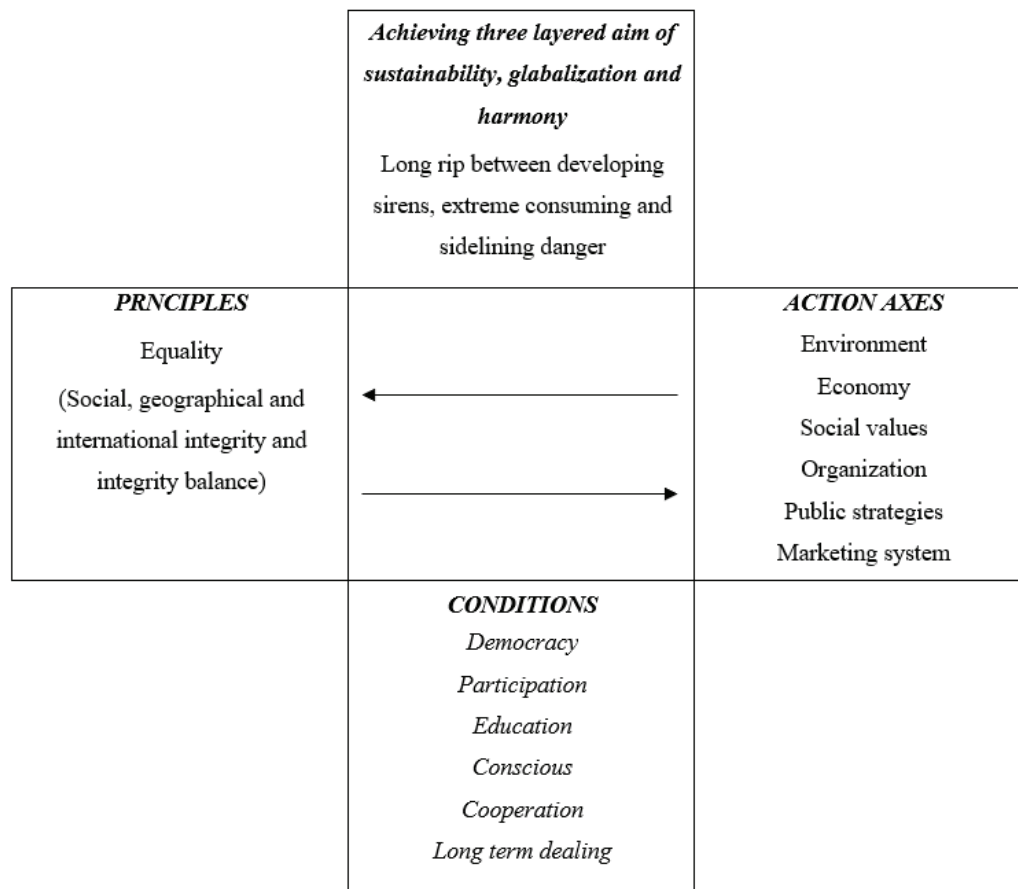


Figure 6. Achieving three layered aim of sustainability, globalization and harmony; principles; conditions and action axes [6].

2.1. International Approaches for Sustainable Development

Because of some reasons like destructive globalization, threats of extreme consumption and pollution over habitats of organisms and feeling of this, increase of inequality and instability the significance of the mentioned issues have been risen at international level. In terms of sustainability, seven important workshops on the subject which started with Habitat 1 in 1972 and continued with the Johannesburg Summit Meeting.

This sort of international cooperations have benefits from several points of view.

1. Commitment of countries for sustainability at international level
2. Support of those commitments for both central and local officers' sustainable development strategies
3. With the help of those cooperations and programmes, more effective sustainable development practices are experienced having support of national and international associations. Capacity of city administratives and network relations get expanded.
4. The first international workshop on the subject is called HABILITAT I United Nations Human and Environment Conference which was held in 1972. The headlines of the discussed issues of the last meeting in Jahannesburg (2002) are as follows.
 - A good local administration in order to create sustainable societies.
 - Connection between urban and rural areas for sustainable development.
 - Governments' role on developing cooperationed activities for sustainable development.
 - Working together with national governments, international associations and non-governmental organizations.
 - Creating opportunities at local level in order to support and courage various activities.
 - Strengthening the authorities of local officer in order to both provide sustainable development and direct the city effectively.

General frame about urban approaches for sustainable development is determined by European Urban Charter. The charter is formed in 1992 based on urban strategies of European Council. The charter has parallel approach with the European Council's on basic rights and freedom. Besides, it is directly related with core features of urban development and life quality. In this context, human rights in cities were highlighted and moreover organization of respect to human rights, spread of the respect and indispensability of each individual without any priority in terms of age, nationality, religion, social/economical/political status, mental/physical disability was emphasized.

This approach provides the following to the society besides other rights:

- Livable, beautiful, with reasonable cost, having environmental conditions, well located, bright and big enough houses.
- Preventive health cautions like enough green areas, sun shine, silence, healthy vegetation and nice opportunities.
- Connections between various functions of city life.
- Cultural opportunities, sportive and recreative facilities, social development, free movement, an harmonic balance between all passengers (public transport, private cars, pedestrians and cyclists).

In addition, this approach supports providing the rights of necessary social facilities, cautions against

poverty, necessary equipments for the disabled, security, welfare, work and education opportunities, having/ conserving cultural and historical heritage [7].

2.2. National Approaches for Sustainable Development

National approach in order to provide sustainability has significance in terms of creating strategies as well as signing international agreements and forming legal regulations.

In many countries, life quality studies are designed in order to collect information on national strategies [8]. The studies aim to determine the life quality at national and additionally to guide local officers, to create strategies at national and international level and to observe results of strategies. The borders of the mentioned studies, which generally start as a social indicator and are limited at national level, get wider at present as life indicators and get richer with various information from local and national sources.

The most familiar indicators are the Sweden Researches and Electronic Information System which is based on ULF System and German Social Indicator System which is known as DISI 2.0. Both systems were developed in 1970s for systematic observation. Getting started from 1999, Canada has been developing life quality reporting system by FMC with the information enabled from government and municipality resources.

The aim is to analyze, observe and report life quality of the municipalities in Canada. Four different tendencies in terms of creating a healthy society in US have been observed in a period of 30 years. The first one has been growth and development. The money is assumed as the key to human happiness and the indicator is the gross national product. The second tendency was revealed in 1960s which was about taking into consideration many issues on having high quality life and interpreting the relation between those issues. The system theories that state the idea “social and environmental systems are animate beings and they are interacted with each other in a complicated way” are the core of sustainable development concept.

As a summarization, all around development that indicates the urban level and planning that has strategic issues are pointed at national based studies at present. This sort of allround development goals involve the issues which might help urban studies which are as following [9]:

- Making urban recreation areas as liveable and attractive points.
- Making the commercial areas dynamic and appalling centers. Transforming the commercial areas living both day and night, increasing circulation throughout the area involving the weekends, making the opportunities reachable and easy to afford.
- Designing the areas close to each other to decrease the necessity of traveling.
- Providing activities for protecting and controlling the natural environment.
- Creating qualified spaces and buildings by conserving historical and cultural heritage.
- Developing neighbour relations and the quality of relations.
- Stimulating mix-used areas and providing affordable residences.
- Determining new residence areas due to development plans and designing development programmes that have high level of living conditions.
- Transforming the existing residential areas.

2.3. Regional Approaches for Sustainable Development

One of the important points about providing the sustainability is the regional level at which the national decisions lead to space scale. This scale enables to communicate with the space and social issues. At this

level, main frame of regional sustainability development is described and strategies are determined. The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (2004) in England require the cooperation of regional planning associations and local administrative officers to enable the sustainable development. The mentioned regulation describes the frame of strategy design period in terms of sustainable regional and urban development. It also stands as a basic reference for sustainable regional and urban approaches.

Office of the Deputy Prime Minister of Scotland (ODPM) states seven principals under the headline of Sustainable Societies and New National Sustainable Development Strategies for 12th Century. Those are as follows:

- Consumption of sources should be decreased.
- Local environmental fortunes should be protected and strengthened.
- A qualified planning is required.
- Inhabitants should have a high life quality.
- Social participation and equality should be increased.
- Participation to administration should be enabled in a wide range.
- The society should be able to achieve affording the living costs without any governmental support.

2.4 Urban Approaches for Sustainable Development

International, national and regional approaches describe the main frame of sustainable urban approaches. Life quality indicators are specified more deeply at urban level in order to point out the problems, to create and follow strategies. Social indicators and life quality researches have been in use recently at social and urban levels and in this context, the urban indicators get diversified which are used in planning studies. Indicator groups more than 200 which point out the economical, environmental and social wealthiness of the society in long term were developed in US. Some projects refer to the life quality while the others refer to healthy societies and sustainability. For instance, “The National League Cities Project” in US aims to create the well-being index in terms of liveable cities. “The Winnipeg Life Quality Project” in Canada offers a measurement system for life quality. “The Big Cities Life Quality Project” which started in 1999 in New Zealand aims to set social well-being indicators involving the economical and environmental indicators. Family researches in almost 20 big cities of Germany are being directed that focus on life quality. A life quality measurement system in England was also set which can be used in each scale due to the strong connections between national and local levels.

Table 1. Priority areas at different levels on sustainability [10]

THREE MAIN STUDY AREAS	INTERNATIONAL 8 millennium goals	INTERNATIONAL AND NATIONAL LEVEL Primarily argued goal	REGIONAL LEVEL Primarily argued goals	URBAN LEVEL European urban condition, primary goals
ENVIRONMENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing environmental sustainability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate change and energy • Protection of natural sources and environmental strengthening • Effective environmental protection • Usage of natural sources sparingly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protecting and strengthening physical and natural environment, using the sources and energy effectively 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renovation of physical urban environment • Improvement of existing building stock
ECONOMY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing global cooperation for development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable production and consumption • Taking control over economical growth and unemployment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable, innovative and effective economy that provides high level employment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economical development
SOCIETY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stopping poverty and starvation • Achieving universal education • Providing gender equality and supporting women • Decreasing children deaths • Developing mother health • Dealing with diseases like HIV, AIDS, malaria and others. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable society • Social approaches which deal with the needs of everyone 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social participation, sustainable communities and a fair society which supports personal wealthiness • Developing a sustainability approach and following that approach which can be presented as a goal by all individuals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encouraging public participation • Supplying social and cultural opportunities within quarters

When all the studies and systems from international level till urban level within the scope of sustainable development concept are scanned, it is clear that they are not independent from each other. In addition, it is observed that the life quality indicators get more detailed towards the local scale due to the main headlines in terms of description of sustainability (Table 1).

3. LIFE QUALITY DESCRIPTIONS

Innovative thoughts and included issues of life quality researches were discussed in the US at the very beginning and were spread in Europe. Afterwards, other international associations started to be interested in life quality researches as well. OECD (Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development) started the social indicators programme in 1970. Meanwhile, Richard Stone was awarded Nobel Prize with his study called “social and demographic statistic” and this project became a guide for the United Nations Social and Economic Commission [10]. Currently, social cost of economical growth and increase of poverty are the main agenda issues of social and political discussions.

The definition of life quality used to correspond to the ability to live in 1980s. In this context, the life quality of the society is determined according to the experiences of the inhabitants who live in a particular area.

For instance, the quality of air and water, existence of traffic, spare time opportunity and subjective opinions of the inhabitants are mentioned experiences.

Rapoport borders the life quality with the physical issues as air, water pollution, consumption of the resources, environmental and industrial pollution, consequences of population increase and sound which have effects on humans [11]. Türkoğlu also interprets the ‘life quality’ topic in terms of physical factors and states the variables of life quality as follows in the study of interpretation of dwelling and environment: age of building, scale of dwelling, type of dwelling, physical condition of the building, average density throughout the neighbourhood, distance to the downtown.

Life quality interpretation issue becomes complicated when it needs to be specified how to examine and what to examine. For instance, when it is about the quality of a building, the issue becomes a personal issue in terms of aesthetical and material quality features. On the other hand, the hygiene factor of the quarter is a general issue. Hence a comprehensive life quality assessment including personal and general indicators is required.

Oğuz states that life quality is the total of natural, human, physical factors and lifestyle and classifies the variables as follows: local variables, physical variables, psychological variables, socio-cultural variables.

Variables of another classification are as follows: physical/apatial variables, social variables, economical variables, environmental variables [1]. Local variables are as follows: distance to recreation areas and services, accessibility to various environmental opportunities, micro climate, topography and landscape sight.

The physical variables are as follows: size, existence or lack of some elements, reasonable density, reasonable sharing, success at providing the area organization, harmony of environmental features, continuity, performance, quietness and clearness of air. The psychological variables are as follows: harmony of the perceived density, complexity and comprehension at perception, starvation, unstressed environment and sufficient communication with other people (Table 2).

Table 2. Classification of social factors by DEE [14]

Education/Science	Historical Values	Cultural Values	Psychological Mood
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Archaeology • Ecology • Geology • Hydrology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Architecture and style • Events • People • Religions and culture • Western 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Indian • Other ethnic groups • Religious groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Life standards • Upsetting conditions • Unemployment and employment opportunities • Loneliness • Residence • Mystery
	neighbours		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social interaction • Being in nature

Socio-cultural variables are as follows: family characteristics, reasonable homogeneity, homogeneity at small scaled areas, proper classification of the areas, providing timing organization, providing privacy, status, reasonability at social interactivity, convenience at interpreting the environment, description of the perceived area, reasonability of education system, business and health and minority of crime rate.

Apart from all above, Tobelem-Zanin points out the problem of infinity of “life quality concept” when its description is interpreted in a wide range (1995). The mentioned concept involves personal interests and social desires as well, competition as a result of contemporary society and transportation problems. Life quality might be effected depending on the difference between the environmental conditions and total personal desires. Life quality description is related with the lack and insufficiency of people and society by interpreting positive quantitative features.

Lane defines life quality as a period which involves subjective and objective elements rather than a situation. According to this approach, basic and active role of personal quality-personal experiences and capacities- is emphasized as the core element of life quality. While the subjective elements of high life quality are well-being perception and (learning) personal development, the objective element is interpreted as life quality condition which represents getting benefit of the opportunities in life.

Social harmony and sustainability are the two characteristics of a good society which emphasizes relations between people rather than personal characteristics. The social harmony concept is a subject of the discussions not only at academic level but also at national and international levels. Social harmony connects two features of social state. The first feature is about decrease of inequalities, divisions, differences and breakages. Social sidelining concept is related to the mentioned situations in society. The second feature involves strengthening the social relations, connections and responsibilities. This feature is defined as social comprehension and social capital terms [8]. Johansson states that in case of citizen participation for answers to the questions ‘What is life quality? What should it be? What is it going to be?’ the life quality identifications would service for democratic periods in the best way.

Since the people reflect their life styles and knowledge to the environment they live, the city quality reflects the life quality at the same time. In this context, the World Health Organization recommends including the following criterias for assessment of life quality: usage of the space, protection of historical, cultural and natural values, accessibility to services, planning, building design, urban design [12].

European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions describes life quality as being fine for each person [2003]. Being fine does not mean just having good conditions but also controlling the sources of all habitat, reactions of society and feelings about their lives. According to Fadda, life quality concept generally points out the issue of making life better [2003]. In this context, all elements of life conditions, needs and demands of society have significance rather than personal life standards.

Cobb points out the theory of the source of good life to measure life quality. There are various theories about the source of good life and good society and different welfare and life quality concepts are specified. Each variable points out a different side of life quality and differs from each other. Thus, different variables and different sides are emphasized. Selected indicators for experimental measurements depend on generally highlighted concepts. In other words, the difference between objective and subjective indicators is determined according to conceptual frame. While the objective indicators are the statistics that represent

social, economical, spatial reality which is not related with personal assessments, the subjective indicators are about the assessment of personal perceptions and social conditions.

Use of objective indicators starts with the judgement of positive and negative life conditions in terms of comparison of the rules and real life conditions considering the aim, goal and value issues. Three key points have significance on social and political compromise: welfare issues, positive and negative conditions, tendency direction of the society. There is an agreement about descending of unemployment rate and crime, ascending of income level and education level for development and progress in terms of use of the indicators. However, there are some indicators which are more discussable such as pension age, inequality of incomes, social development, commercial development, sharing, effective, clear economical growth.

Use of subjective indicators depends on welfare which can be best noticed and judged by people. This leads to deep discussions on measurement principles of welfare. Especially the Scandinavian welfare searchers criticize “objective life quality”. What they are interested in is the assessment of people’s desire and satisfaction grade by their own. From this point of view, examining the issues that make people happy measures how they get adapted to the existing conditions.

According to the most familiar Scandinavian researcher on welfare, R. Erikson, the ideas and preferences of people are not shaped with research questionnaires and opinions but with the activities within the democratic political periods.

In this chapter, under the headline Urban Approaches for Sustainable Development, European Social Quality Indicator, England, Canada Winnipeg, New Zealand New Indiana, US projects’ life quality indicators are examined and compared according to their classifications.

Northeast Indiana Life Quality Draft in the US is assessed which was published in 2003 as an example for indicator groups (more than 200) and which reveals long term economical, environmental and social welfare. This example project is summarized as a representation of the US approach. The aims of the project are as follows: 1) Providing support for development of public strategies at state, regional and local scale 2) Providing help at formulating the investments 3) Providing help to business people about social strategies 4) Encouraging the non-profit organizations to take responsibilities 5) Providing base for discussions on future and focusing the local scale 6) Enabling citizens and other people who concern, understand the local area better 7) Promoting the life lasting education systems and supporting them. Three main principles are considered during the study. The first one is the sustainability concept and focusing on children and families; the second one is sustainability as a guide on developing the social based indicators; the third one is sustainability as an assessment of development period of society, environment and economy for the benefit of current and next generations.

The categories that were assessed in the study are classified in 11 headlines. Those are as follows:

- 1) Social diversity
- 2) Successful societies
- 3) Social opportunities
- 4) Balance between the society and the environment
- 5) Educated society
- 6) Healthy society
- 7) Open and living relations between neighbours in society
- 8) Accessibility of society
- 9) Secure society
- 10) Society that can value living within art and celebrity

11) Society that can take care of citizens and shape relations.

The mentioned categories are measured depending on the headline sequence by demographical features, economical data, income and indicators that reflect the two polars of wealthiness, environmental indicators, education indicators, data on health, residence, transportation, public security indicators, data on cultural and recreational activity and civil points of life [13]. Those indicators are seen on Annex 2.3.

The life quality indicator study of Winnipeg Canada states that life quality is fed by the wide perspective of sustainable development concept however adds that there exists a difference between the two concepts. Sustainable development in general and indirectly points out the significance of equality, on the other hand, life quality is not connected to equality. Winnipeg takes the environmental report of the State dated to 1997 which includes the categories human power, human created capital, social and natural capital, multi-frame of the World Bank, natural sources, society issues and personal well-being about forming the frame of life quality and about measuring the society welfare. Life quality indicators of Winnipeg are defined according to the following five headlines: economy of the city, urban environment, social presence, social leadership and pride, personal well-being [14].

4. CONCLUSION AND ASSESSMENT

Depending on the discussions already mentioned, it is understood that sustainability of life quality is a concept which includes a wide range of issues like environmental, economical, social components besides personal life styles and organizational service presentation. This concept has benefits like noticing and interpreting of the real conditions of society, creating strategies and comparing, observing in many areas. The components of life quality are indicators that are constituted according to the classifications. Those indicators are diverted as international, national and regional and local depending on the assessed scale. However, indicators are not independent from each other and there is a struggle on standardization of the indicators towards worldwide form the local by separating the accurate information. The common indicators are as follows: social indicators, sustainable city and region indicators, regeneration indicators, measurement indicators of performance of local services.

While subjective indicators are in use to measure the satisfaction of families in some countries, social indicators are referred mostly throughout the EU countries. Moreover, there are some examples of forming social, economical and spatial indicators for urban sustainability at city scale in order to compare and observe the cities and create strategies. On the other hand, the literature sources point out that the distance between human perception and existing/ideal conditions could be measured in terms of handling the objective and subjective indicators together.

Some sort of intervention areas are created with the regulations related to urban transformation in Turkey. However it is hard to reach a solid indicator and research about the reason of chosen areas and the criteria. There exists neither a comprehensive approach nor a wide perspective. For this reason, solid assessment results are required in the country more than ever. Both national requirements and update of international studies on life quality have been the motivating powers of this essay. Considering the solutions for the problems in terms of the mentioned headlines above is going to lead to a new approach in the future.

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OLCAY AYDEMİR, Dr.

She is a Doctor Lecturer at Istanbul Sabahattin Zaim University Faculty of Architecture. She also serves as the Manager of T.C. Istanbul Survey and Monuments. She graduated from Istanbul Yıldız Technical University, Faculty of Architecture, Department of Architecture in 1997. In the same year, she started her master's degree in Yıldız Technical University, Faculty of Architecture, Department of Building Science. In 1999, she completed her master's degree with her thesis on “Primavera Business Programs”. In 2008, she completed her doctorate on “Urban Life Quality” at Yıldız Technical University Faculty of Architecture, City Planning Department. In the same year, she received the “Restoration Specialist Certificate” of the General Directorate of Foundations. In 2010, she completed her second master's degree on “Restoration” at Kadir Has University. She also works as a lecturer on the Conservation, Restoration of Cultural Heritage and Urban Policies and Management. She conducts his academic studies on the protection and maintenance of foundation works. In the process of conservation of cultural assets, there are pre-project analysis methods, numerous symposium programs and publications for the project and application.