DESCRIPTION

Sustainable development can be envisioned as a unique approach that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. It encompasses the following pillars; environmental, social, cultural development and economic dimensions. The built environment has a broad spectrum of impacts on our lives. It contributes to air pollution, land use and contamination, fossil fuel depletion, water depletion, water pollution, materials depletion, impacts on human health, and climate change. Responsible urbanization practices on micro and macro levels can mitigate the negative effects of the built environment.

The philosophical and analytic framework of sustainability draws on and links with numerous different fields and disciplines. It is studied and examined in various contexts of environmental, social, cultural development and economic angles and managed over many measures of time and space. The focus ranges from macro level starting from the (sustainability) of planet Earth to the sustainability of economic sectors, ecosystems, countries, municipalities, neighbourhoods, and to micro levels encompassed in discrete buildings, envelops, and individual lives and lifestyles.

The primary objective of the International Journal of Sustainable Built environment which is capitalizing on the platform of the global sustainability practices and to promote the research and innovations aimed at creating a sustainable built environment that reduces resources consumption, combats environmental degradation and creates better environment for living through the reconciliation of the sustainability pillars. The journal covers the following dimensions or categories of a sustainable built environment:

**Urban Connectivity**
The urban connectivity dimension relates to factors associated with the urban environment such as zoning, transportation networks and loadings, traffic congestion and pollution, proximity to amenities, light pollution, noise pollution, public transportation, private transportation, sewer and waterway contamination and shading of adjacent properties, building research and architectural science.

**Site**
The Site dimension integrates building research and architectural science and relates to factors associated with land use, land conservation or remediation, planning and development, ecological value of land, habitat preservation, water body preservation, vegetation and shading, desertification, heat island effect, air flow and acoustic conditions. It also covers aspects related to the well-being of a society including walkability, bikeability, landscape amenities, and public spaces.

**Materials**
The Materials dimension relates to factors associated with sustainable materials including production of eco-materials, recycling technologies, disposal of materials, innovative products and recycled materials, responsible sourcing of materials, embodied energy and life cycle assessment (LCA).

**Indoor Environment**
The Indoor Environment dimension relates to factors associated with indoor environmental quality such as thermal comfort, air quality, acoustic quality, light quality, low-emitting materials, natural ventilation, mechanical ventilation, indoor chemical and pollutant source control, glare control, illumination levels, acoustic, and daylight.

**Energy**
Energy conservation and efficiency, renewable energy and low carbon technologies, energy systems, heating ventilating and air conditioning (HVAC), intelligent control systems, wireless, interoperability, air distribution, cooling methods. Also, moderation of internal loads such as lighting, power over Ethernet, task ventilation etc., Periodic and seasonal thermal storage, modelling, systems components, integration and life, impacts on climate change and adaptation, policies and practices, fossil fuel depletion and emissions.

**Water**
The water dimension relates to water conservation, production, treatment, recycling, sustainable drainage, irrigation and rain water harvesting.

**Cultural and Economic Value**
The Cultural and Economic Value dimension relates to factors associated with cultural conservation and support of the national economy, heritage and cultural identity and support of national economy, community and well-being.

**Management and Operations**
The management and operations dimension relates to factors associated with healthy and productive built environment including neighbourhood/building design management and operations, commissioning plan, organic waste management, recycling management, intelligent building control systems and maintenance.

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