

Analysis of Differences between Public and Experts' Views Regarding Sustainable Development of Developing Cities: A Case Study in the Iraqi Capital Baghdad

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Abstract : This paper describes the differences in views on sustainable development between the general public and experts in a developing country, Iraq. This paper will answer the question: How do the views of the public differ from the generally accepted view of experts in the context of sustainable urban development in Iraq? In order to answer this question, the views of both the public and the experts will be analysed. These results are taken from a public survey and a Delphi questionnaire. These will be analysed using statistical methods in order to identify the significant differences. This will enable investigation of the different perceptions between the public perceptions and the experts' views towards urban sustainable development factors. This is important due to the fact that different viewpoints between policy-makers and the public will impact on the acceptance by the public of any future sustainable development work that is undertaken. The brief findings of the statistical analysis show that the views of both the public and the experts are considered different in most of the variables except six variables show no differences. Those variables are 'The importance of establishing sustainable cities in Iraq', 'Mitigate traffic congestion', 'Waste recycling and separating', 'Use wastewater recycling', 'Parks and green spaces', and 'Promote investment'.

Keywords : urban sustainability, experts views, public views, principle component analysis, PCA

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