

What Makes a City Sustainable: The Importance of Stakeholder and Community Engagement

Abstract:

The abstract used for the proposal submission will be used.

Introduction: Goal 11: Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

First, information from the UN about the rationale and overall goals and objectives of SDG 11 and its specific targets will be used to describe what makes a city 'sustainable'. Second, what is in SDG 11 will be compared to other definitions of sustainable cities from the World Bank Sustainable Cities Initiative, the Cities 100 Report from 2016, Oxfam Australia's report '5 Essential Features of Sustainable Cities and Eco-Cities' and Arcadis' 2018 Sustainable Cities Index.

A common definition of a sustainable city will be created from these different sources, and the key players involved in the various components that make a city sustainable will be identified.

Part 2: Ranking Cities for Their Sustainability

This section will track how the leading sustainable cities as determined by Arcadis in its annual ranking lists (beginning in 2015) have changed over the years, and will identify the key elements that, in its view, make a city sustainable. Focus will be put on the 2018 report, which puts a focus on 'citizen centric' cities.

An additional purpose of this section is to identify the key stakeholders who are involved in making a city sustainable and how they are engaged with different constituencies in the city.

Part 3: Best Practices

Following Part 2, this section will describe the 'best practices' that are involved in creating a sustainable city, identify the actors who should be involved in them, and discuss the ways to keep the actors engaged. Contrasting opinions from academic papers and articles will be presented to provide nuance to how to apply best practices.

Part 4: Summary and Conclusion

This section will refer back to the Introduction, particularly how SDG 11 and its targets are defined, to discuss how the ranking list view of a sustainable city differs from the SDG view. Ways to resolve differences will be discussed.