

Assessing Criteria for Integrated Intervention in Planning Informal Settlements using Urban Governance Approach (Case Study: Naysar District in Sanandaj)

Sheida Heidaryan

M.A in urban palning , Shahr-e-Qods Branch, Islamic Azad University, Tehran, Iran

Mahmoud Rahimi*

Member of Faculty, Department of , Shahr-e-Qods Branch, Islamic Azad University, Tehran, Iran

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Extended Abstract

Introduction

Growth of urbanization and development of informal settlements within or adjacent to large cities, resulted from contemporary urbanization and the urbanization of poverty, has necessitated a change in attitudes towards urban management. Today, it is not organization and empowerment programs that improve urban fabrics, it is rather the urban management system that determines the effectiveness of urban plans and programs. The best developed program may fail to be implemented and remain a library program due to its disregard to the place of people and other management issues. Following the critique of traditional management in the 70s and 80s, with the advent of the concepts of participatory planning, community-based planning, sustainable urban development, and good governance, integrated urban management patterns, which are the result of urban good governance system, develops. With regard to integrated or new management, it should be said that integrated urban management is a synergistic management with the participation of all urban stakeholders and influential figures within a given institutional and legal framework with the aim to enhance the level of urban management and promote sustainable urban viability. Integrated urban management is inspired by urban good governance and includes such parameters as efficiency, transparency, participation, public opinion, fairness, knowledge, etc. It integrates various urban institutions to improve the urban environment and solve various urban problems such as informal settlements, achieve sustainable urban development, and improve living quality. In the past, the majority of urban managers used to look at these settlements as a community problem and, instead of trying to organize and empower this group in order to enjoy urban infrastructure and services, attempted at cleaning up these settlements regardless of its consequences. This view was mainly due to inability, mismanagement, diversity of institutions involved in urban management affairs, inconsistency between these institutions in controlling and dealing with these settlements, and financial inability of their inhabitants. Today, in order to be able to have an integrated intervention, existing urban management approaches in the country's management system must lose their traditional nature and move towards new urban management approaches in the form of urban governance so that they can solve the problem of urban poverty and the resulting class gap through collaborative, synergetic and integrated practices.

Methodology

This paper seeks to develop and evaluate integrated intervention criteria in the organization of informal settlements with urban governance approach. Naysar District in Sanandaj was selected as the case study. The research attempts to find the integrated intervention criteria and their

* Corresponding Author:

Email: Adish6161@yahoo.com

conformity with synergistic and integrated indicators in this district. This research is an applied study based on descriptive-analytic approach. Field research, library documents and a questionnaire were used to collect data. First, integrated intervention indicators were selected according to the opinions of 15 experts and then a questionnaire was designed. Study population consisted of three groups: people, government and public institutions (members of the Empowerment Headquarters), and private sector. A sample of 384 residents was randomly selected with Cochran formula. Also, all the 18 members of the Empowerment Headquarters were selected. Moreover, 400 activists were randomly selected from the private sector through Cochran formula. Then, the questionnaire was distributed among the samples. Data was analyzed through T-test and Pearson correlation method. The study findings reveal that the indicators are not correlated with integrated measures. In fact, intervention management is not currently integrated because it follows the traditional outlook.

Result and Discussion

The result of such an outlook is ineffectiveness of organization plans and development of urban problems in informal settlements. In fact, to have an integrated intervention, it is necessary to improve local institutionalization capacity, encourage people participation, encourage public and private management in the urban management process, and support intra- and inter-institutional social capital. In fact, what has reduced the effectiveness of social intervention programs has not been the constructive and influential nature of these types of programs, but the management practices and mechanisms that govern their development and implementation.

Conclusion

In this study, urban governance was considered as a goal and integrated urban management was considered as a gradual process and an executive model serving as the effective wings of this model. The results show that the governmental wing of the governing structure is the most important barrier to the integrity of urban management system. The results also indicate that the civilian and popular wing has a higher potential in the integrated management. Therefore, what can be addressed as a first step in this gradual process of integration is to establish a link between people and the state in a variety of ways, including election of deputy councils and formation of an elected local council, developing comprehensive mechanisms related to the Islamic Council of the cities with informal settlements, development of local institutions and institutional capacity building through educational and awareness-raising means, appropriate legal grounds, readability of laws and formulation of local laws of intervention for urban management. The presence of local institutions and economic activists of informal settlements in the decision-making system of urban areas is also one of the pillars of integrated urban management.

Key words: integrated intervention criteria, informal settlements, urban governance, Nicer District, Sanandaj