

Evaluation of a Capital City's Transformation over 40 Years in Relation to the Sustainable Development Goals: The Case Study of Ankara, Turkey

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SUMMARY

Reviews of the interaction of urban planning and housing policies, programmes and outcomes over a long period in a city can offer a valuable foundation for future planning. Ankara (Turkey) is a prime example of a city that has evolved from a small town to a major capital in less than a century. It has experienced all the challenges caused by rapid growth similar to many cities in urbanizing countries and is, therefore, an interesting research subject. This paper aims to evaluate Ankara's current situation in terms of urban planning based on a reference study undertaken in the early 1970s. The reference study includes a large number of household surveys, key informant interviews with leading stakeholders in public and private sectors and in-depth case studies with individual households. The research was conducted four decades ago, and it has never been published before. In the presented study, the city's situation since the 1970s, key urban planning decisions and the city's social structure are updated and analysed parallel to the reference work and other sources. These aspects of the study are given in relation to the three Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) [i.e., No Poverty (SDG 1), Decent Work and Economic Growth (SDG 8) and Sustainable Cities and Communities (SDG 11)]. A future expectation to achieve the SDGs is investigated considering the city's improvement in the last 40 years. The study also identifies current issues of interest for the development of future policies to address the needs of an expanding city and the needs for land, housing and services for its population with the support of the SDG targets.

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