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***Manisa Statement 2023***

***& Sustainability Policy recommendations***

***by project teams and participating students of the  
 ERASMUS+ project Le\_MOON***

***We, the students participating in the ERASMUS+ project Le\_MOON …***

***Acknowledging*** the United Nations Agenda 2030

***Reaffirming*** the endeavors of the local, national & international policy makers for the sustainable development transition,

***Stressing*** problems associated with high density of population in urban areas leading to creation of underdeveloped infrastructure and in the most extreme cases the creation of slums. That process boosts the emission of greenhouse gasses like CO2 which then contribute to the global warming as well as air pollution,

***Engaging*** in local initiatives organized by city councils, Erasmus+ projects and school-led activities in environmental education we are ***Calling upon*** policy makers and civil society

and in trust, that our voices matter, we are Proposing:

***1-URBANIZATION AND HEALTH***

1. To resolve the problem of spreading of epidemic diseases in densely populated urban areas (for instance: coronavirus or the ebola virus) we recommend:
   1. Implementation of laws that would make wearing masks in densely populated areas to prevent the spreading of airborne diseases, especially in places related to public transport i.e., metro stations, bus stops.
   2. Providing vending machines which would contain masks in the aforementioned areas, since those are the places where people are exposed to such pathogens the most.
   3. Promotion of reliable contraception methods in urban areas of developing countries struggling with overpopulation in order to reduce the number of venereal diseases and illnesses among children. Providing the struggling population with birth control/making it cheaper.
2. To reduce the development of respiratory diseases including lung cancer caused by air pollution in overpopulated urbanized areas we suggest:
   1. Spreading the Eco-Neighbourhood project worldwide. This way the green areas will be protected from car fumes and more solar panels will be implemented.
   2. Possibly partially moving factories from urbanised areas to different parts of countries in order to reduce air pollution in cities.
   3. Promoting planting trees in urbanised areas also by children.
   4. Establishing programmes that would inform people about the importance of trees, perhaps commercials in television.
3. Establishing measures to reduce the number of non-communicable diseases (especiall obesity) among the population:
   1. Call for the creation of more bike lanes to enable people to commute in eco-friendly ways.
   2. Encourage investing in public bicycles and electric scooters, while keeping in mind welfare of visually impaired people. That’s why more bike lanes are needed
   3. Recommend informing people about the consequences of obesity through social campaigns and TV/internet advertisements

***2-URBANIZATION AND INJUSTICE***

**INTRODUCTION**

Injustice is the attitude of condemning a social phenomenon as unjust in a certain society, in a certain historical period. People are the main source of injustice. Urbanization causes an increase in the number of people in that region and inevitably, an increase in injustice.

***Problem 1: Substructers for little Cities***

Young people desire to move to big cities due to the lack of workplaces and substructure in small cities. Also small cities don’t have the same educational benefits and health support as the big cities have. This causes internal migration and abnormal crowding.

***Solutions***

1) Education service in small cities can be improved.

2) Schools in small cities can be provided with areas for young people's hobbies and activities, thus reducing the need of young people for big cities.

3) New work places can be opened in small cities, and in this way, it can be ensured that people can easily continue their livelihood in small cities.

4) The state can allocate more resources to infrastructure works of small cities. In this way, people do not pile up in big cities.

***Problem 2: Economical İnjustice***

In general there isn't any economic balance between poor and rich people. And its more visible in the big cities. It affects people’s lives. They don’t get the same education, they don’t get the same health services and they don’t go to same places to socialize. Even though they live in the same city it creates a big hole between them.

Solutions

1)We should develop the control systems of the organisations about employment. The government should find jobs for unemployed people to make them usefull for themselves and also their country.

2)The government should support the families especially kids to make new generation gets educated easy.

3)The government should settle the homeless people to the guest houses and certificate them to get suitable for a job.

***Problem 3: Ecological Problems***

1- To decrease the injustice in lack of green places in big cities we will support people to build green spaces and make them protected by the government. That way there will be more green places in big cities and the air quality will be better.

2-The government should protect places which has good quality soils that are suitable for farming and agriculture. And it should be forbidden to build on these lands.

Subtitle: Poluted water and the things that it causes

1-The government should make strict rules about recycling water, that way the soil and the products that the soil produce become more healty and richer when it comes to nuteients that they include.

2- At the same time, recycling should be very strict and subject to sanctions. People must be fully informed about recycling.

***3-URBANIZATION AND MIGRATION***

Migration İs the act of moving to another settlement or another country, for political, social or economic reasons, by leaving the settlement where individuals or communities are located. Due to urbanization, the amount of migration also increases and this leads to various problems.

Problem 1: UNEMPLOYMENT

There is an increase in population with migration (due to urbanization). As a result of this the number of people in need of care will increase. This increase in population raises the problem of unemployment.

Solutions:

1) The goverment can give a chance to entrepreneurship. And they can provide various opportunities (such as payment) for entrepreneurs to realize their ideas.

2) Working hours can be reduced. Thus we can provide job opportunities to more people.

3) Language courses can be opened for people from different countries. So they can find job more easily.

Problem 2: LACK OF RESOURCES

With the increase in population due to migration, resources become insufficient.

Solutions:

1) Agricultural areas can be increased

2) Government can encourage people to produce by grant production areas. Thus, with the new productions, the lack of resources is prevented to some extent.

Problem 3: TRANSPORTATION PROBLEMS

When many people come to one country it cause a crowded . because of the crowded there are traffic jams everywhere. As a result there are some problems with transport.

Solutions:

1) People can use carpoling. So the transportation problem. Thus, we both provide a solution to the transportation problem while protecting the environment

2) We can use larger and more comfortable buses. So more people transport at the same time.

3) We can make public transportation cheaper. So people prefer public transportation. As a result We make transportation easier.

Problem 4: BULLYING

Various cultures come together with the migrations. This reveals differences of opinion. This causes bullying and marginalization among people.

Solutions:

1) We can inform and teach people about bullying. And government can give seminars about bullying.

2) We can give free psychological help. Because even though we educate people about bullying. Someone from another country will inevitably be bullied. With this support, we can help that person.

Problem 5: DESTRUCTION OF ECOSYSTEM

Migration causes an increase in the human population. With the increasing number of people, the balance of nature is disturbed. This causes ecosystem degradation.

Solutions:

1) Afforestation can be carried out against the deterioration of the ecosystem. Thus, we preserve the natural balance.

2) We can encourage the people to use more recycled.Government should distribute free recycling bins to every home. In this way, we reduce the waste thrown into the nature to a lesser extent.

3) We can increase the use of renewable energy sources. Thus, we can prevent the deterioration of the ecosystem by preventing harmful gases released into the environment.

4) We can encourage people to use public transport. In this way, we can prevent the deterioration of the ecosystem by preventing air pollution.

***4- Urbanization and Natural Disasters***

**Our problems.**

1. Destroying forests for make bigger cities causes drought.
2. If you make buildings near a river or a sea, you will take more physical and economic damage when the floods occur.
3. If you cut more trees for more buildings it can be cause to landslide and it causes economic/safety problems.
4. People don’t know the disaster risks in their regions. There are so many unconscious people.
5. The time that people devote to urbanization is becoming less and less. this leads to the uneven and uncontrolled progress of urbanization. However, a weak foundation is laid on the buildings and the durability of the buildings decreases.

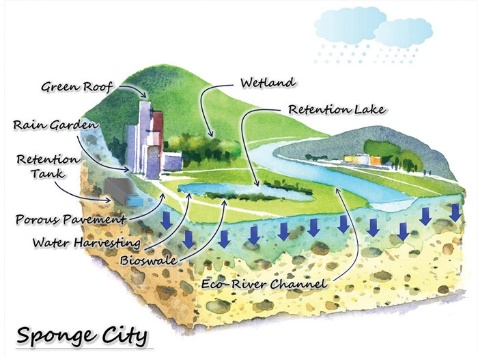
**Our Solutions.**

**1-**

1. We can raise awareness for people to collect Harvesting rainwater (collection and storage of rainwater that runs off from roof tops, parks etc.)
2. We can reserve space for wooded areas in cities.

**2-**

1. We can make barriers like Japan tsunami barriers.
2. We can turn our city to a ‘Sponge City’.



Caption: Sponge city © Li, Yue & Geng, Huacai. (2022) (<https://www.researchgate.net/figure/The-design-concept-of-sponge-city_fig1_363200072>) CC BY 4.0

**3-**

1. We can plant vegetation to retain extra water, [terracing](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Terracing) hillsides to slow flow downhill, and the construction of flood ways (man-made channels to divert floodwater).
2. Defences such as levees, [bunds](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bunding), reservoirs, and weirs are used to prevent rivers from bursting their banks.
3. We can plant ground cover on slopes. This is to support the slopes with more roots and this can help from occurrence of landslide. For example, if the slope is clear from vegetation, the slope should be covered by plants.

**4-**

1. First of all, we have to educate our people about the disaster risks in their areas. They must be aware about the risks. Governments should hold seminars about the disasters. After, lessons about disasters should be added curricula. In this way we can raise awareness among off the students.

**5-**

1. There are a number of elements necessary for a building's disaster resilience. These are metal plate, shock absorber, pendulum management, base insulation and steel cross frames and so on. However, more time is needed to apply these methods. And every building needs to be inspected at least once every 3 years.

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