

Participatory Planning for Local Sustainability Engaged by the SDGs: Case of Paleegama Village, Puttalam

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Initiatives are essential worldwide, nationally, and locally to accomplish the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). To coordinate between scales, local initiatives must be wisely planned to be aligned with worldwide and national priorities. Local planning for sustainability must be adaptive and heterogeneous but reliable and motivated by the local community. As Planners, we describe an approach called ‘Fixed Goal Approach’ to co-create a local sustainability plan using the SDGs such as SDG-3, SDG-6, SDG-8, SDG-11, SDG-13 and SDG-15 for a rural community in Puttalam District, village called Paleegama using participatory techniques for co-creation such as ‘Listening Post’ and ‘Kitchen Table Discussion’ and Contextual Analysis such as ‘Snowball process’ and ‘Comprehensive Desktop Review’. The community placed high importance on infrastructure for accomplishing social equity and sustainable growth while conserving its unique setting. By formulating their priorities in this community-led plan, the community is permitted to advocate for the sustainable development of their village with decision-makers. If local communities develop sustainability plans using the SDGs, then such planning will be reliable between and across environmental scales and associated with global goals. This will also help accomplish the SDGs at national and global scales, as encouraged by the United Nations in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Keywords: *Community, Local, Participatory, Planning, Sustainability, Sustainable Development Goals*

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RESEARCH TITLE: "PARTICIPATORY PLANNING FOR LOCAL SUSTAINABILITY ENGAGED BY THE SDGs: CASE OF PALEEGAMA VILLAGE, PUTTALAM"

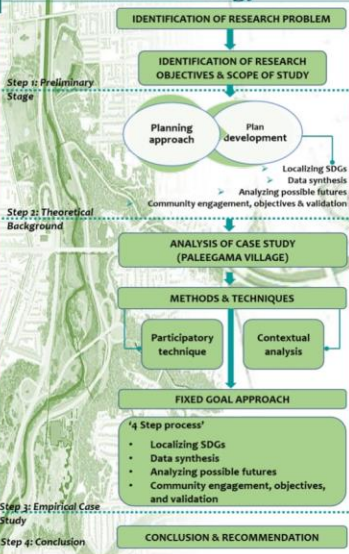
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Introduction

- Sustainable development & plans for how to achieve it is needed worldwide & across all types of settlements in order to meet the challenges of climate change & other uncertain futures.
- The UN have advocated for both government-led & community-led, i.e., local, implementation. (UN 2015).

Research Methodology



Research Objectives

- To examine peoples' perceptions & personal meanings of local sustainability by using SDGs.
- To explore how participatory planning, contribute to achieve the optimum levels of sustainability of village development.

Sample size & Techniques

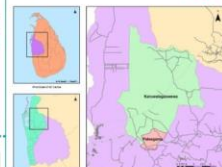
- Participatory techniques
 - Listening Post
 - Kitchen Table Discussion

Sample size: 50

Contextual Analysis

- Snowball process
- Comprehensive desktop review

Location



North Western | Puttalam District | Karuwalagas wewa DS | Paleegama Village

Results

Existing Situation

Forest :67% Residential: 10.5%
Families: 447 Population: 1533

RESULT 3: ANALYZING POSSIBLE FUTURES

Driving forces have been identified like population & demographics; residential land development; affordability of property & suitability of housing; inequality; local economy; environment; major infrastructure projects; transport & connectivity; local school; & climate change.



Outcomes

RESULT 1: LOCALIZING SDGs

Local SDGs identified from community engagement activities form the foundation of the plan.

RESULT 2: DATA SYNTHESIS

Identified six major themes within the community engagement data, which encompass the SDGs.

RESULT 4: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, OBJECTIVES, & VALIDATION

Forest village plan has been created by community participation.



Discussion

- * Participatory planning approach is vital to enhance harmonized settlement.
- * Development of a local sustainability plan guided by the SDGs is vibrant for society.