

Marwa Al Khalidi

Community Participation in Physical Urban Planning Decisions, the Case of Jordan

This PhD-project will analyze existing laws and regulations in general that insure the effective community participation within planning process, determining its weakness points, and defining possible strategies and indicators to achieve eight main principles; vision and strategy, biodiversity in socio-cultural integrated policies without the loss of local identity, economy and partnerships, society and culture, sense of belonging and local identity, empowerment, sustainable production and consumption, and finally governance and participation. Within Jordanian context, planning regulations and laws, local community's awareness, and political situation, there is no many current research in this regard. So this research; community participation within the planning process will organize its involvement, and will discuss the two main questions: What prevents effective community participation within physical urban planning decisions and plans: Is it the existing regulations and laws, and the process of applying these? Is it awareness of local communities to the existing regulations and existing community participation methods?

The project aims at applying Workshop Based Methods and suggested possible strategies and indicators on an ongoing small project in Al.Nohza, Jordan. This research will create strategies and baselines to enhance community participation within the urban planning process, including analysis of communities, needs and expectations. This will also be done to show the work in process, and to investigate and test adaptability to the intervention priorities within processes of planning.