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## CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE AS INPUTS OF SUSTAINABLE PLANNING

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### ABSTRACT

For some cities like İstanbul, Rome, Paris and Cairo etc. as being the ones having natural and cultural heritage intensively, the most dominant planning data is the heritage itself. If we talk of sustainable planning, we should talk of not only the true planning regarding ecological principles, but also protection and reassessment of cultural and natural heritage at circumstances regarding sustainability, therefore this has to be recognized as a true sign of ecological approach. On the other hand, one of the applied tools of Sustainability; "Sustainable Planning" as a correspondence of "Sustainable Development" in planning, is meant to use the nature and resources in the name of protecting them, for the sake of caring future generations. Today, World's energy strategies based on solid fuel and petrol, unbalanced resource consumption with least sense, consuming environment negatively, increasing rates at population, consumption and urbanization, the lack of fast regeneration in nature, and many other parameters like the ones above which will remain unmentioned, threaten 'Sustainability' in direct. The purpose of this article, instead of consuming resources in the sense above, is to show of assessing cultural and natural heritages (for being ecological resource in essence and reflecting histo-cultural aggregation of humanity) and of using it as an input, by verifying the feasibility of it to be a parameter providing-supporting the mentality of ecological planning and cultural sustainability. Sustainable planning must be expected to create principles and decisions regarding to protect-use balance for this heritage which is under the threat and pressure of civic developments. The use of cultural and historical heritage as an argument in Sustainable planning is given as of work and reports, international contracts and reported decisions related to these all are also given as references

**Keywords:** Sustainability, Urban Development, Sustainable Planning, Natural Heritage, Cultural Heritage.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

This process, which the world has been experiencing, has been discussed for a long time because of some reasons such as rapid changes around the world and the consumption of resources via wrong usage. Moreover, nature is not able to renew itself in spite of its renewable structure, because too much pressure has been put on natural resources. National and international studies are carried out within this concept as it has been understood that the world, in which we live, is unique and natural resources are about to extinguish rapidly. Environment friendly approaches in terms of urban planning and structure design began to appear a long time ago, but the awareness concept in terms of comprehensive, scientific and international studies is something quite new. This studies lead to some new concepts such as sustainability, sustainable development, sustainable urbanization, ecological planning, ecological designs..etc.

This study within this framework addresses sustainable planning as an important tool for sustainable urbanization; and one issue to be discussed within this concept is that whether it should contain the protection and the new assessment period of cultural and natural heritages. According to a thesis, the definition of cultural and natural heritage represents an important resource for sustainability, while the content of this heritage is to be considered as an important contribution in terms of sustainable urbanization planning. Therefore, this topic shall be considered within the framework of this thesis.

## 2. LITERATURE REVIEW

The researchers have done a lot of research on the subject. Some of these researches have been published as articles. Some are published as books or book chapters. In a number of studies, the sustainability of cultural and natural heritage has been addressed together with tourism and touristic routes. Some of the related articles are: "Tourism, Environment, and Sustainable Development, Environmental Conservation" (Butler, 1991); "Developing Sustainable Tourism for World Heritage Sites" (Drost, 1996); "A new model to assist in planning for sustainable cultural heritage tourism" (du Cros, 2001); "Challenges of sustainable tourism development in the developing world: the case of Turkey" (Tosun, 2001); "Planning for Urban Heritage Places: Reconciling Conservation, Tourism, and Sustainable Development", (Nasser, 2003); "Sustainable development prospects for Italian coastal cultural heritage: a Ligurian case study" (Callegari, 2003); "Relationship between tourism and cultural heritage management: evidence from Hong Kong" (Mc Kecher, Ho, and du Cros, 2005). "Culture as the fourth pillar of sustainable development" (Nurse, 2006); "Managing for sustainable tourism: a review of six cultural World Heritage Sites" (Landorf, 2009); "Sustainable development and cultural heritage management in Botswana: towards sustainable communities" (Keitumetse, 2011); "Social and Cultural Sustainability: Criteria, Indicators, Verifier Variables for Measurement and Maps for Visualization to Support Planning" (Axelsson and others, 2013); "Culture as the fourth pillar of sustainable development" (Astara, 2014); "Built cultural heritage and sustainable urban development" (Tweed, and Sutherland, 2007); "Cultural ecosystem services provided by landscapes: Assessment of heritage values and identity" (Tengberg and others, 2012). A few of the books on the subject are: "The Fourth Pillar of Sustainability: Culture's essential role in public planning" (Hawkes, 2001); "Tourism, Recreation, and Sustainability: Linking Culture and the Environment" (McCool and Moisey, 2001); "Sustainable Tourism in Protected Areas - Guidelines for Planning and Management" (Eagles and others, 2002).

## 3. METHODOLOGY

This study is aimed at determining whether cultural and natural heritage can be the source of sustainable planning. In this study, a theoretical framework will be established for the determination of all variables that cultural and natural heritage may have entered into the plan. For this purpose, firstly, international policies and scholarly work on sustainability and sustainable urbanization and planning will be examined. Second, the relationship between cultural and natural heritage and sustainability will be addressed within the framework of international basic policies and contracts and decisions. The relationship between cultural and natural heritage and planning will be examined, and whether this heritage contributes to sustainability will be discussed. Third, sectoral headings and subcategories related to planning will be determined. The factorial effects of cultural and natural heritage may be introduced into the planning sectors. Finally, a theoretical framework for the topic will be established. International policies, agreements, decisions, charters etc. all texts have been examined through basic primary sources.

## 4. SUSTAINABILITY

The concept of sustainability occurred on the basis of some concepts related to environment and ecology (human environment, environmental management, ecological process, ecosystem, ecological balance) that were presented through the Stockholm "World Environment Conference" declaration in 1972 and the principles and rules (UNEP, 1972) related to the environment law together with the concepts of optimum sustainable productivity, environment and development (UN – WCN, 1982) that were presented through the "World Charter for Nature" and accepted by the General Board of UN in 1982. A broader sense of discussion and examination related to the sustainability concept was recommended by The World Commission on Environment and Development (WCED) with a report published under the name of "Our Common Future." According to this report (WCED 1987), sustainable development is "development that meets the needs of present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs." The sustainability term was used together with the development term in those years and this usage aimed to define the issues that had to be taken into consideration within the concept of sustainability. Namely, a general framework in terms of sustainability was aimed. Different comments related to the concept occurred after the publishing of "Our Common Future." According to a commonly accepted approach, sustainability is "to supply a long term based social link between the society and the environment" (Becker and others 1996). It is possible to find out that various definitions and comments related to this concept were revealed until 1994 and those comments and definitions shared the same vision, which was defined in "Our Common Future" (Mebratu, 1998).

It can be said that the concept of sustainability is based on two important concepts: Requirements and limitations. The Requirements concept is related with providing acceptable levels of opportunities in terms of food, wearing, accommodation and job, so that everyone can increase his own life quality. On the other hand, the concept of limitations includes the protection of all natural resources, living fields and varieties and the inspection of the qualities. Sustainability does not only include the protection of biological varieties and human health, but also the maintenance of acceptable soil, air and water quality for the benefit of human existence, human welfare, and animal and plant life ( EC, 1994). According to the sustainability concept, the speed of our consumption in terms of renewable resources such as water and energy shall not exceed the speed of the renewing process.

The report of “World Protection” includes nine important principles, which can form a basis for the sustainability strategies. These principles are; To protect the common life standards and interests and to pay respect, to increase the life standards, to protect life and variety on earth, to decrease the consumption of un – renewable resources, to remain within the borders of the natural environment capacity, to change personal behaviors and applications, to protect the own natural environment of the societies, to form a national framework for unifying the development and protection terms and to establish a global partnership ( IUNC, UNEP, WWF, 1991).

In this framework, resource consumption is inevitable to establish a sustainable environment and according to this information, sustainability may appear as a concept based on a dilemma because it requires both consumption and consumption limitations in terms of resources. Therefore, understanding and accepting this concept has led to many discussions ( Kremers, 1995). An important point in terms of sustainability is to adapt the life styles and standards according to the natural environment capacity. To inform people about this issue has become the most important aim of sustainability.

## **5. SUSTAINABLE URBANIZATION AND PLANNING**

The framework of this concept has become narrower, since it has been thought that sustainability as a whole can be achieved by sustaining its components. Sustainability in environment, economy, production, society, health, urbanization, planning, architecture... etc has become an objective because of a restructuring need in terms of natural, individual, physical, economical, institutional, technological, cultural and social systems that compose the world (Hatfield, 2000; Paehlke, 1999; Sachs 1999).

Sustainability can be defined as the ability to provide a limitless renewal opportunity for the current system and maintenance in terms of environment, society or any other system operation by using the system resources in a productive way and by avoiding excessive consumption. Like all other environment friendly concepts, sustainability also has brought new approaches related to developing and planning urban areas. “ When the sustainability concept is applied on urban areas, it means that the urban areas and regions continue to sustain the life quality levels desired by the society by not limiting the opportunities of the present and future generations and by avoiding negative impacts within and outside the involved city borders” (Keiner, 2005). It is obvious that the concept of sustainable urban development includes issues such as social justice, sustainable economy and environmental sustainability.

A sustainable urban development approach aims to unify the below mentioned objectives for the purpose of achieving a balanced development. The involved objectives are: to strengthen economic welfare and employment within the scope of urban areas; to encourage equality, social participations, and urban restructuring activities in urban areas; to protect and develop urban environments; to contribute to urban management and local capacity (EC, 1998).

Three dimensions have to be examined in order to obtain a sustainable urbanization definition by taking the urban definition of “ to harmonize socio- economic worries with worries related to environment and energy in order to provide sustainability and change process” (Nijkamp and Perrels 1994) into consideration. Natural and cultural environment has been an important point when providing sustainability in terms of urban areas. Environment contributed directly to the quality of human life, the natural atmosphere of humankind, general peace and welfare. Moreover, it increases the tendencies towards the idea that the heritage of past will be transferred to the future. (WCED, 1987). The objectives to be achieved in order to obtain urban sustainability are: to minimize the consumption of natural resources; to manage the urban flows effectively; to protect the health of urban population; to provide equal access to resources and services; to maintain cultural and social variety (Lautso, Spiekermann, vd. 2004).

The Brutland report and studies related to the meetings held after this report define the environment as a resource group that has to be protected and emphasize that it has psycho – social effects. Moreover, environment is an economic criteria that imposes a direct effect on social health. The ecologic debates that are handled under the concept of sustainable development support an environment friendly planning system. Therefore, we can consider “ sustainable development” as an area included within the sustainable development plan that aims to protect the environment/ nature and to transfer the current opportunities to the future generations by taking the productive and optimal usage principles into consideration. The sustainable development plan includes all of the structured environments, natural and social environments and economic factors that affect the urban developments and that are also affected by urban developments. Moreover, it foresees the unification of economic and social development with environment protection and improvement aims and it requires the determination in terms of the development style (Conclusions of Bristol, 2005).

According to Wheeler, the concept of “sustainable urbanization” approach complying with the general framework formed by the sustainability principle should include issues such as: the inspection of growth and the planning of area; urban design; buildings; transportation; environment protection and restoration; energy and material usage; green architecture and structuring; variety and environmental justice; economic development; population etc (Wheeler, 2004: 66-84). Restoration studies are related with cultural and natural heritages. Therefore, they include activities that aim to protect the nature, the species, the ecosystems and the damaged urban environment. The main strategies of sustainable resource usage are reduction, reuse and recycling. The reduction strategy aims to decrease material usage and to protect the current products in order to prolong their usage lives. The reuse strategy is related with using the same product again within the same cycle. The recycling strategy is applied for the purpose of reproducing products by using waste materials. (Wheeler, 2004:79).

Different models reveal different features related to urban planning and sustainable planning. These features may be listed as: Complete planning and strategy development, minimum and optimal resource and energy usage, the protection of basic ecological processes, the protection of biodiversity, a high life quality, a high economic welfare level and a strong employment condition, a balance between economic growth and the natural resources, a qualified physical environment, diversity and environmental justice, optimum diversity, a controlled and inspected growth process, living areas with mixed functions, a strong transportation and road traffic, an effective and strong local management, equality in terms of opportunities, a strong social interaction, equal access to resources and services, cultural and natural heritage sustainability, historical and cultural sustainability, cultural and social diversity, a strong ownership and urban feeling, a living city center, individual and social behaviors and applications that provide sustainability, a long term based productivity, a growth that provides opportunities so that environment is protected for future generations, the ability of a city to stand as a whole...etc.

## **6. CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE AND SUSTAINABILITY**

### **6.1. Cultural and Natural Heritage**

According to definition of cultural and natural heritage, this issue has an important place within the concept of sustainability and it includes some ecological features. Therefore, it is one of the most important components of a sustainable urban planning process. International definitions and categorizations in terms of cultural and natural heritage also support that the content of this heritage is environment friendly.

The world assets that have to be protected are categorized and defined by UNESCO under the topic of “ cultural heritage and natural heritage” (UNESCO, 1972b). The assets that have to be protected in Turkey are examined under two categories: Immovable Culture Assets and Immovable Natural Assets. Moreover, the man made immovable assets that include archeological, historical, aesthetical, and ethical importance are also considered as heritage (Resmi Gazete, 18113, 1983). The definition has been broadened in 2004 and according to this new definition, cultural heritage assets include movable and immovable assets on and under the earth related to scientific, cultural, religious and artistic values of historic and pre – historic times (Resmi Gazete, 25535, 2004) .

UNESCO and the Council of Europe categorized the assets to be protected as: monuments, structure groups and sites. Moreover, they emphasized that the involved sites must bear historical, aesthetical, archeological, artistic, scientific, natural and social values. (UNESCO 1972a; COE, 1985). Benchmarks related to protected monuments and sites were later also extended. According to these extensions, monuments must



bear archeological, artistic, historical or scientific values, while sites must bear topographic, archeological, historical, ethical values. (UNESCO, 1972b).

According to the European Charter of the Architectural Heritage, architectural heritage does not only include the important monuments, but also the ancient cities, the characteristic villages, the building groups that have less importance within the nature and human atmosphere. Moreover, this convention emphasizes that architectural heritage is something that aims to use and protect the spiritual, cultural, social and economic values (COE, 1975a). Cultural and natural heritage includes man-made structures that have an artistic and cultural value. Moreover, natural structures, which occurred as a result of the involved situation, topography, and climate, are also considered within this framework (COE, 1992).

It has been revealed that cultural heritage helps to establish a common approach and awareness among the people and it represents the fundamental richness of the present and future generations. As a cultural asset that should be protected the term “architectural heritage” is generally used for real cultural asset. The Council of Europe has touched on that architectural heritage is an economic asset that can be used for using resources carefully; expression of the cultural richness, variety and history; advisor of the social coherence and contributor of social integrity; it can also provide substantial material for the forms, styles, and the expression and comparison of their application forms; can take an important role in the field of education by keeping the evidences of different periods alive. It has been stated that architectural heritage includes the assets having mental, cultural, social and economic values. It has been also emphasized that architectural heritage contains the environment being essential for an equal and complete life and besides the structure of the historical center and sites are the advisors for a social coherence and accordingly the evidences of different periods should be kept alive (COE, 1975a)

It is also stated that old structures contribute resource saving and waste preventing and the artificers and craftsmen taking part in the protection studies are needed. Renewal of the present settlement, reduction of using agricultural areas for urban functions and the protection of present settlements help reducing and even preventing population movements (COE 1975b). Although it is not stated in definitions, historical, urban and street fabrics, squares, traditional construction practices, material, color, fabric and folk architecture; regional, traditional and rural architecture are accepted as going to be protected assets (Şahin,2004:33, 34).

## **6.2. Cultural – Natural Heritage and Planning**

The most important means of protecting cultural and natural heritage is planning. It is implied that in the site areas defined within laws, by taking interaction-transition field of the area into consideration, the necessity of making reconstruction plan for protect cultural and natural assets in the direction of sustainability principle is stated. But a protecting plan including only the site area is not sufficient. Today, protection cannot be thought alone. It is inadequate in providing sustainability alone. It is necessary to accept and aim the idea of renovation and conversion that are suitable for the requirements of the age.

It has vital importance for the protection that cities with urban heritage perceive the protection of the heritage as a necessary aim for the sustainable and total planning in high scaled plans. That obliges the protection program to be in a sustainable approach. From past to present many opinions have showed that the studies of protection planning have positive contributions as well as studies of sustainable planning. In this sense, the principles for protection planning envisaged by ICOMOS share similarity with the principles of sustainable urbanization (ICOMOS, 1987). In international studies and acceptances it is admitted that urban heritage constitutes a reference for the next generations; integration of historical urban fabric with modern life by joining planning as a basic data. In this context, economic development can be brought to life with protection of urban heritage and cities can be seen as the guards of the tradition, culture and cultural heritage, so cities are responsible for protecting this heritage and carrying it to the future and for this reason the mission falls to the local authorities.

It is clear that in order to adapt sustainability in all fields of the cities and in urban settlements local authorities must necessarily take measures; cultural heritage and architectural heritage are essential for the sustainable cities (EC,1996). In this context, a sustainable urban planning with development of the projects, programs, strategies or plans designed by the specialists containing the physical, social, economic and environmental values of the city is demanded. Planning must be a means in order to find solutions to the problems in reaching sustainable development between development and protectionism (COE, 1992).

Studies of protection taking part in sustainable planning must be interdisciplinary and they must be carried on actively in cooperation with the other sector specific policies such as environment, economic development, social policies, culture, housing, transportation, etc. This planning must put the other actors except the ones in public administration into effect and enable the people of the city to form actively the environment they live (EU 2007). The term “sustainable planning” must be thought as the total value of especially the cultural and natural heritage, economic, technologic, social and environmental/ ecologic, health, etc. Sustainable planning must protect the cultural variety of the cities, provide social balance between the cities and create principles and programs reaching high quality in the fields of urban design, architecture and environment. For social justice, besides environmental sustainability, economic sustainability and equality are needed (EC, 1994).

But environmental side of sustainability is not limited with protecting the natural areas in our cities. It contains many other different factors such as important landscapes, traditional structure parties, archaeological fields, monuments, sites, traditional neighborhood, natural reserves and rural areas, Sustainable planning must be a means of sustainable urban development as well as for protecting the factors of natural and cultural heritage. Sustainable urban development should be a chance for creativity, innovatory discoveries, innovation of architectural styles and reacceptance and interpretation of the traditional applications (COE, 2008). It also should protect cultural assets through planning and reaccelerate the social, urban and architectural culture.

It is possible via planning, protecting and extending the important factors of the natural and cultural heritage (ECTP, 2003). It is a positive development for the future of the heritage that reviving the subjects such as protecting environment, sustainability principles, cultural/ urban heritage, natural heritage, cultural landscape in connection with sustainable urban development. International public opinion mostly envisages that it can be only resisted with sustainable urban development containing culture, economy, social relations, environment, cultural and natural heritage and creative and total approach; against demographic differences and effects of that on the growth of the cities, measures against environmental problems climate change, in a situation of economic and social changing providing social balance, protecting architectural and cultural heritage (COE, 2008).

### **6.3. Contribution of Cultural and Natural Heritage to Sustainability**

As it is understood from the definitions about the cultural and national heritage and conceptual explanations, heritage is an existing important resource, and an economic value for urban and rural areas. It creates a coherent social balance and a cultural diversity. Thanks to its formation technique and ingredients of its materials, it does not pollute the nature or the environment. In contrast to this, as it completely consists of ecological materials, it is a friend of nature and life. With its features like sensitivity to nature and environment, consistency to climatic datum, usage of natural and low energy materials and creation of healthy and comfortable living environments, it constitutes a dominant data for the sustainable planning.

With the framework of the sustainability, cultural heritage has economic benefits and impacts like job creation, economic contribution (tourism), catalyst duty for technical innovations, tool for the transmission of information, education tool (information economy), tool for the regional development, energy conservation, energy of formation (energy balance), emission (Europe Nostra, 2009).

The protection of historical values also mostly means a successful urban economic revival. This heritage increases the attraction of the city for tourism and trade sectors. The re-usage of the old, in the areas where the industry partially founded, can provide an economic solution by transforming buildings to houses, hotels, business centers and similar usages. As the protection is a labor-intensive work, it is both a solution for the unemployment and it provides savings from infrastructure (COE, 1992). High quality architecture creativity, which the heritage contains in itself and contributes to its development, can revive the economy and be an attraction element for tourism to cities and towns (COE, 2008). The physical existence of cultural heritage is a source of information as a concrete document. Moreover, it is an indication of establishing dialogue with the past and next- generations, and respect to them. It is also a universal responsibility (Şahin, 2004:1).

The heritage helps the formation of common understanding and consciousness between people, and it is a basic source of prosperity and developing coherence of existing and future civilizations (UNESCO, 1972b). The historical heritage is an economical property to use the sources carefully; an expression of cultural prosperity, diversity and history; a guide of a coherent social balance, and an assistant of social integration. Furthermore, it not only provides rich material for the explanation and comparison of the forms, stiles, and

their way of implementation, but also plays a decision-maker role in education by keeping alive the clues of products of different periods (The COE, 1975a).

Architectural heritage not only contributes the source saving and prevention of wastage, but also supplies the employment by creating the need to artists and high quality artisans, who should keep their talents and skills partaking in the protection works and carry them to future. The restoration of the historical/traditional settlements decreases the usage of agricultural areas for the urban purposes. Moreover, the protection of such existing settlements helps to decrease and even to prevent the population movement on a large scale (COE, 1975b). In our day, in which constructing techniques and architectural forms gradually resemble to each other and the danger of creation of a monotype environment all over the world exists, it is obvious that the protection of historical areas help the protection and development of the cultural and social values of countries, and by this way, it can be possible to contribute enrichment of the heritage of the world in terms of culture, nature and architecture.

Generally, most cities of our day consists of piles of stone, rock, steel, glass and asphalt and they have monotone green generations and areas which are not used enough (COE, 1992). Within this scope, the cultural heritage of the cities provides an individual identity, symbol, visual impact and aesthetic; and contributes the formulation of cultural identity and diversity. It is a key factor in defining the character of culture, and the character of a city or a region is defined by the cultural and natural heritage. The natural heritage has an important role in specifying the character of city or region by creating a natural or urban landscape identity. It provides and develops the natural, ecological and biological diversity, and forms a recreation area for cities.

With the protection of this heritage, the character of a region can be protected or renewed. The historical heritage also hides the memories/life experiences of the city. The architectural diversity, which is an important criteria for the sustainable urban development and a reflection of architectural quality and cultural diversity, can be reached by protecting and developing the architectural heritage. In addition to this, the new balances between the architectural heritage and technology cause the creation of new urban identities presenting more attractive urban environments (ECTP, 2003).

The cultural and natural heritage contributes the sustainability by promoting development of relations and peace environment between countries and societies by means of cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue. The cultural heritage also supports the sustainability by providing social benefits like contribution to social coherence, catalyst duty for intercultural dialogue, strengthening the local / regional / supranational identity, improving the quality of life, development of sense of belonging and pride, and increasing the quality of life (Europe Nostra, 2009). The form of historical centers and patterns constitutes a consistent social balance. The creation of right circumstances for the development of the activities in the old city patterns provides social integration (COE, 1992).

As protection expertise training needs a different kind of expertise training, young people, who want to learn craft, help the growing up of people, who want to take additional training and gain additional skill, and artisans needing special expertise. These trainings contribute to the increasing the importance of trade relating handicrafts, and creation of professional and social opportunities (COE, 1992).

Findings reached with the researches show that, users in urban areas find the constructions forming our today cities generally indifferent, and they believe that they do not largely reflect social past, tradition, social culture, socio-cultural abilities of individuals and society; and these results reveal that cities have an identity problem. Within this scope, it shows that the cultural and natural assets reflect the social past, tradition, social culture, socio-cultural abilities of individuals and society, and it takes the most important role in creation of the identity with its architectural quality and diversity. It could be possible to reach rich comments and life experiences and historical continuity by taking not only activity, function and location, but also place, time, meaning, identity, symbol, and historical heritage composing visual impacts as an important data in planning the sustainable urban environment

## 7. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

An institutional framework is required in order to evaluate the definitions, explanations and approaches in terms of this issue in a systematic way and to determine the topics that can be considered as inputs within the concept of cultural and natural heritage. Sector specific topics and sub- topics related to this issue and the input factors of cultural and natural heritage are defined with the aim of establishing an institutional framework and determining the goals, targets, strategies and implementation tools for the sake of a

systematic approach, which is formed in order to contribute to sustainable development. The involved sectoral areas of focus are: The Natural Structure, The Economic Structure, and the Socio-Cultural Structure (Table I).

### **The Natural Structure (NST)**

- NST1. Environment: To contribute to the determination process of a natural identification; to define the characteristics of a city and region; to hinder the establishment of a uniform environment; to provide reuse; to behave friendly in terms of nature and environment; to contribute to the process related to the protection of the environment / nature; emission.

- NST2. Ecology: To increase and improve natural and ecological diversities; to maintain bio – diversity; to form concepts such as eco – tourism and ecological agriculture etc.

- NST3. Recreation: To form a recreation atmosphere for cities and regions thanks to the landscaping potential.

### **The Economic Structure (EST)**

- EST1. Economic structure: Equipment maintenance for urban development and regional development; the supply job opportunities; the supply of economic solutions by using historical buildings with the capacity of a house, a hotel, a business center...etc; Contribution to the hindrance process in terms of excessive consumption and to provide training materials for information economy.

- EST2. Manufacturing: The management of resources, raw materials and infrastructure; the usage of natural material that requires lower levels of energy; the development of different kinds of agricultural products; the supply of diversity and richness in terms of products related to the construction sector; the creation of culture and tourism industries.

- EST3. Trade and Services: The operation of commercial activities related to handicraft; contribution to the attractiveness of the city for the sake of commercial sectors and service sectors.

- EST4. Tourism: Financial contribution thanks to tourism activities.

- EST5. Development in terms of Information and Technology: The role of being a catalyzer for technical innovations; the development of different kinds of crafts; The role of being an equipment while transferring information; contribution to scientific areas that focus on protection; contribution to science and technology by transferring information and technology from past.

- EST6. Employment: The creation of vocational job opportunities; creating solutions for unemployment; creating employment areas that require artists and high qualified craftsmen.

- EST7. Energy: Energy savings; embodied energy (energy balance)

- EST8. Transportation: Contribution to pedestrian traffic; pedestrian areas; controlled traffic; reduction of emissions due to closed traffic areas.

- EST9. Infrastructure: Contribution to the present infrastructure; economic contribution due to the use of existing infrastructure and superstructure.

- EST10. Urban Function: Decreasing the usage of agricultural areas with the aim of urban functions; the use of existing structures for urban functioning, and therefore no new areas to be planned

### **The Socio-Cultural Structure (SST)**

- SST1 .Demographic and Social Structure: To establish a harmonic social balance and to provide social unification; to provide a rich approach in terms of the social life; to contribute so that social opportunities shall be available; to undertake the role of being a leader in terms of social balance; to establish a connection between the past and future generations; to decrease the population movements with the aim of protecting the historical placement.

- SST2. Social Infrastructure: To contribute to the establishment of non – governmental organizations; to contribute to the activities of non-governmental organizations.


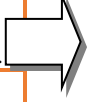

- SST3. Housing: To provide additional contribution to the housing problem by benefiting from the present housing stock.




- SST4. Urban Life Quality: To create healthy and comfortable life standards.



- SST5. Urban Identity: To adopt the city and to be aware of the urban policy; to create a unique identity to the city; to create symbols, visual effects and aesthetic features; to contribute to the process related to reinforcing the city identity on a national/ regional and local basis; to create the feelings of ownership and proud; to hinder the establishment of a uniform framework.

**Table I.** The inputs of cultural & natural heritage for sustainable planning

SUBJECT	CATEGORIES	MAIN ISSUES	SECTORAL AREAS OF FOCUS		
N A T U R A L  &  C U L T U R A L  H E R I T A G E	1. NST The Natural Structure	NST1. Environment:	NTS1.1. Contribution to creating a natural identity, NTS1.2. Determining the character of the city and the region, NTS1.3. Prevention of the danger of a uniform environment creation, NTS1.4. Reuse of the escape, NTS1.5. Sensitivity to nature and environment, NTS1.6. Being friendly to nature and life because it is made entirely of ecological materials, NTS1.7. Contributing to the prevention of pollution & emission,		S U S T A I N A B L E  P L A N N I N G
		NST2. Ecology	NTS2.1. Increasing and improving natural and ecological Diversity, NTS2.2. Maintaining biodiversity NTS2.3. Providing eco-tourism and ecological agriculture etc.		
		NST3. Recreation	NTS3.1. Landscaping potential NTS3.2. Ceating a recreation environment for urban areas and regions,		
	2. EST The Economic Structure	EST1. Economic structure	EST1.1. Equipment maintenance for urban development and regional development, EST1.2. Creating urban economic revival, EST1.3. Supplying job opportunities, EST1.4. Supplying of economic solutions by using historical buildings with the capacity of a house, a hotel, a business center...etc, EST1.5. Contribution to the hindrance process in terms of excessive consumption, EST1.6. Providing training materials for information economy.		
			EST2. Manufacturing		
		EST3. Trade and Services	EST3.1. Handicraft trade EST3.2. Urban charm Est3.3. Revitalization of trade and service sectors		
		EST4. Tourism	EST4.1. Economic development through tourism		
		EST5. Development in terms of Information and Technology	ETS5.1. Catalyst task for technical innovation, ETS5.2. The development of different types of crafts, ETS.5.3. Being a tool for transferring information, ETS.5.4. Contribution to the development of science on conservation, ETS.5.6. Making contributions to science and technology by transferring past information and technology,		
		EST6. Employment	ETS6.1. Creating professional opportunities, ETS6.2. To solve unemployment due to protection and restoration, ETS6.3. Creating the need for artists and highly skilled craftsmen,		
		EST7. Energy	ETS7.1. Energy saving ETS7.2. Energy balancing		
EST8. Transportation	ETS8.1. Pedestrian-oriented and priority traffic, ETS8.2 Pedestrian areas, controlled traffic ETS8.3. Reduction of emissions due to closed traffic areas				
EST9. Infrastructure	ETS9.1. The use of existing infrastructure ETS9.2. The use of existing superstructure				
EST10. Urban Function	ETS10.1. Use of existing structures for urban functioning, ETS10.2. New areas for urban functions not planned				

			ETS10.3 Reducing the use of agricultural land for urban functions,		
N A T U R A L  &  C U L T U R A L  H E R I T A G E	3. SST The Socio- Cultural Structure	SST1. Demographic and Social Structure	SST1.1. Providing a harmonious social balance, SST1.2. Creating social integration, SST1.3. To add a rich commentary to social life, SST1.4. Contribution to the creation of social opportunities, SST1.5. Moving the social tradition to the future SST1.6. Guiding for social equilibrium, SST1.7. Contributing to dialogue with past and future generations, SST1.8. To significantly reduce population movements through the protection of historical settlements,		S U S T A I N A B L E  P L A N N I N G
		SST2. Social Infrastructure	SST2.1. Contribution to the proliferation of non-governmental organizations, SST2.2. Contribution to the activities of non-governmental organizations,		
		SST3. Housing	SST3.1. Contributing to the housing problem with the existing building stock		
		SST4. Urban Life Quality	SST4.1. Creating health and wellbeing life circles		
		SST5. Urban Identity	SST5.1. The city owns and urbanism consciousness, SST5.2. To provide an authentic identity, SST5.3. Symbol, visual effect, creating aesthetics and symbols, SST5.4. Contributing to the consolidation of local / regional / transnational identity, SST5.6. Creating feelings of belonging and pride, SST5.7. Prevention of the danger of a uniform environment creation,		
		SST6. Technical Infrastructure	SST6.1. Facilitate potential spaces for cultural activities		
		SST7. Education	SST7.1. Training for different types of craftsmen and craftsmen, SST7.2. Protection expertise training, SST7.3. Education for the tourism industry, SST7.4. Providing additional training opportunities for young people,		
		SST8. Culture	SST8.1. Cultural diversity, SST8.2. Architectural diversity creation, SST8.3. Historical and cultural continuity, SST8.4. Being a source of information for communities, SST8.5. Transfer of knowledge of the past,		
		SST9. Social Relations	SST9.1. The development of community relations, SST9.2. Development of intercultural dialogue SST9.3. Contributing to the development of the peace environment, SST9.4. Creating a common understanding and consciousness between individuals and communities,		

• SST6. Technical Infrastructure: To provide opportunities for potential places, so that cultural activities shall be carried out.

• SST7. Education: To provide training and education for different kinds of crafts and craftsmen; to provide training in terms of security; to provide additional education opportunities for youth.

• SST8. Culture: to create concepts such as cultural and architectural diversity; to maintain sustainability in terms of historical and cultural values; to undertake the role of being an information source for societies; to transfer information from past.

• SST9. Social Relations: To create a dialogue among the societies and cultures; to contribute to the establishment process of a peaceful atmosphere; to create a common understanding and approach among the societies.

## 7. CONCLUSION

One of the most important issues that have to be taken into consideration when discussing this issue is that cultural and natural heritage, economic, social and environmental goals, and the sustainable urban planning policies compose a unique framework. In a broader sense, it can be said that the creation of a close and positive relation between the regions, urban and rural areas and cultural and natural heritage is very important within the concept of sustainable country and region. The planning process shall be carried out on an accurate basis by considering that environmental sustainability is not only related with natural resources, but includes also the cultural / natural heritage of a city. It is strictly important to encourage the dissemination of economic and social benefits related to the cultural and natural heritage and to consider the heritage as one of the most significant inputs of the planning process. Moreover, the aim of sustainable planning shall be based on the protection of the resources included within this heritage and the interpretation of those resources by applying suitable operations.

Additionally, a unique framework shall be created and this framework shall aim to protect the environmental and cultural heritage and the cultural and natural assets; and to consider all those assets and heritages as documents, economic resources and an ecological and social values. According to this study, sustainable planning includes environmental, economic and social components and it aims to maintain sustainability in terms of the cultural and natural assets. The usage of data related to sustainability is inevitable within this planning process.

This study reveals that cultural and natural heritage includes some topics and sub –topics that are related to issues such as sustainable urban planning, natural structure, economic structure, and social structure. Moreover, it is obvious that benefiting from present stocks is related with an ecological approach. The evaluation of historical heritage composes another part and dimension within the framework of sustainability because this evaluation focuses on a productive usage in terms of rare resources and a protection in terms of environmental areas.

Protection is related with historical sustainability. If this concept is accepted by societies and if people achieve to integrate those concepts into their daily life, it shall be possible to maintain an accurate process on the basis of a proper sustainability plan. Sustainability in terms of life requires a sustainability process, which is based on structured and physical environments. The key factor, which is taken into consideration within the framework of natural and environmental (structured) heritage sustainability, is related with the life style of the involved societies.

This study points out that cultural and natural heritage is related with previous know – how, experience and information. Moreover, the study focuses on how to find information about the multifunctional structure of this heritage and how to use it as an input for sustainability. This study and the institutional framework will certainly be a preparation for future studies and contributions in terms of this field.

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