

abstract

Thesis/Creative Project: A Model Community Design
for Equitable, Responsible, and Viable Development
A Sustainable Standard

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Global economic competition and rapid population growth are creating unique and difficult circumstances for the developing world. The world has been concerned with the issue of population growth; however the challenges are more clear and pressing in the developing world. Urbanization and modernization have been a blessing for developed countries, industrialization and technological advances have increased quality of life. Rapidly growing cities are promising economic expansion at the cost of sustainable development. Numerous competing factors must be balanced in a sustainable compromise. Social, economical, and environmental issues are the three components of most definitions of “sustainability.”

Kathmandu Valley is an urbanized region of Nepal that is experiencing population growth complications. The population of Kathmandu Valley is increasing rapidly as it is the center hub of politics, business, education, and health care. Numerous demands such as demand for quality housing, energy, environmental quality, and a vibrant economy are causing difficulty in meeting sustainable benchmarks. How can we plan for sustainable development? How can the new housing be developed for the growing population of Kathmandu? How can we generate equitable opportunities for people migrating to the Kathmandu Valley? How can adapting new technologies answer these questions?

The creative project is based on findings through research and on my own experience with the city. Most of the studies are found through the internet and with the help of my brother Sachin. The Creative Project is a proposed answer for above questions. In this project, I did research finding the essence of the three types of sustainability issues. The project then elaborates on one obstacle to sustainability, the brick kiln. Kilns are one of the main sources for air pollution in the Valley. Brick makers are “one form of migrating people.” I was able to picture the life style of migrating people who come to the city for opportunities. This project has produced a vision of the sustainable development for Kathmandu Valley’s growing population. It studies the changing cityscape of Kathmandu and complications generated by a growing population. This project explores how the city is accommodating population growth and proposes housing solutions for the growing population of the city of Kathmandu. This project prepares a hypothetical community design in order to demonstrate a possible solution to current problems associated with population growth.