OVERALL POLICY OBJECTIVES FOR PEGEIA MUNICIPALITY: URBAN SUSTAINABILITY PROSPECTS

An interlinked socioeconomic, technical and natural system.

CHALLENGING ENOUGH TO IMPLEMENT

The prior policies objectives on the highest is at the present, sustainable development comprising a number of policy domains such is the use of land, our environment, housing, energy, health, economy and transport among others. Nevertheless, we should keep in mind that all domains owe to be in equilibrium in order to be called sustainable.

As experience in the past three years has shown us, in case domains are not balanced this will eventually lead to serious urban challenges and unwanted implications such as traffic jams, pollution, segregation, health problems and a declining financial course. The overall policy objective of "sustainable development" should be considered primarily challenging enough to implement, mainly because of the apparent need to balance complex system in place in order to achieve the desired goals.

Before pursuing a developmental course in the time to come, we should consider first and foremost that Pegeia's urban system might also be seen as an interlinked socioeconomic, technical and natural system, in which multiple and heterogeneous actors interact.

By doing so, it can be easily understood that urban policies are dealing with the stochastic behaviour of a complex systems. It can also be noted that a urban system can include settlements and un-built landscapes and is on a medium spatial scale between the community and the island.

CONSTRAINT IN PLACE

So far, in Pegeia Municipality the existing strategy of sustainable development is very much depending on the land use, simply because the land of the urban area is quite limited.

Intelligent "smart" policies should therefore depend on the proper zoning. Consequently urban development should be guided by a sustainable planning and management vision that promotes interconnected green space, a multi-modal transportation system, and mixed-use development.

Diverse public and private partnerships should also be utilized to create sustainable and liveable communities that protect historic, cultural, and environmental resources. In addition, policymaking, regulating and developing actors in place should support sustainable site planning and construction techniques that reduce pollution and create a balance between built and natural systems.

MAJOR DRIVER: PEOPLE AND DEMOGRAPHY

The development of any community, city or Municipality as it is our case is driven by their inhabitants. They are at the beginning of each human settlement and they drive the whole development of it. The number of people determines for example housing demand, traffic volumes and infrastructure. Changes can occur because of the birthrate, immigration and emigration.

Changes in the population of a place are examined by demography, which is the statistical study of human population. It can be a very general science that can be applied to any kind of dynamic human population, that is, one that changes over time or space. It encompasses the study of the size, structure and distribution of these populations, spatial and/or temporal changes in them in response to birth, migration, ageing and death.

Demographic analysis should therefore in our case be applied to the whole of the community or to certain groups defined by criteria such as education, nationality, religion and ethnicity. A key factor for the design of the policy domains is the current human population growth.

Consequently the starting point of any further deliberation on policy topics in Pegeia must be the modeling and simulation of the urban population and its distribution across the available land since this is the main driver of all other policy areas – from land use to housing and traffic.