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Framework To Effectively Integrate Gender Mainstreaming In The Planning Of A Housing Layout To Achieve Social Sustainability

Urban development in India needs a gender perspective because women and men experience the city differently. Diversity in needs of women and men has to be recognized and specific spatial interventions applied since housing layouts are a microcosm in themselves and represent a scaled down version of the city and any change is possible only by moving beyond the policy interventions and into a detailed spatial framework constructed through the gender lens. Kerala's vision for 2030 warrants change in terms of measurable indicators, the creation and maintenance of a culturally diverse, safe and just society with a gender equity dimension which can be achieved through Gender Mainstreaming as a strategy. This study aims to create a framework which can be used as a guideline to apply the concept of gender mainstreaming in a housing layout. Various criteria which create a gender mainstreamed neighbourhood with respective indicators are identified through reviewing literature and they are applied to create the framework which has been rated on a 5 point Likert scale by experts based on a questionnaire. The results have been used to generate a final framework which when applied in housing layouts helps in the creation of social sustainability through gender mainstreaming as a strategy.

Keywords: *gender mainstreaming, housing, social sustainability, urban planning, parameters, indicators, framework*