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# Living and Sustainability: An Environmental Critique of Design and Building Practices, Locally and Globally

## 1. Paper / Proposal Title:

Human-centered Approach towards Adoption of Green Homes in Jordan

## 2. Format:

Written paper & verbal presentation

## 3. Author(s) Name:

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## 4. University or Company Affiliation:

Jordan Engineers Association

## 5. Abstract (300 words):

To ameliorate the effects of Climate change, the greening of the building sector is an urgent priority. Buildings have a high carbon footprint; consume considerable amounts of energy and water, and use a lot of the materials. As the residential sector comprises more than three quarters of the buildings built worldwide more efforts should be invested to reduce and neutralize the negative environmental impact of these building blocks. The trajectory of governmental plans towards achieving green homes in the

developed world proved to be more concrete than that of the developing world due to several advantages. Even though the role of quantitative data collection and results modelling have propelled much of the discourse towards designing and constructing environmentally responsive buildings, the qualitative assessment of the social readiness of the people to advocate and embody environmental conscientiousness is severely lacking, especially in third world societies. This paper explores the reasons of a slow adoption of sustainable buildings roadmap in Jordan and advocates for more human-centered strategies that target the housing industry stakeholders and the homeowners. The findings elicit the necessity of integrating environmental psychology analysis when tackling pro-environmental behavioral change from social and cultural realms.

#### **6. Author(s) Biography (200 words each):**

BA in Architectural Engineering from Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST). Master Degree in Architecture from Virginia Tech University. Worked at Dar Al-Omran Architectural Design Office and TURATH Architecture and Urban Design Consultants. Taught at: University of Jordan, German Jordanian University, JUST, Middle East University and Al-Ahliyya Amman University. During her career in the professional and academic practice, she focused on the design of green buildings. Accredited as a REP (Renewable Energy Professional) from AEE and a LEED AP BD+C (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design – Accredited Professional – in Building Design & Construction) from the USGBC. Currently the head of Green Building Architectural Committee at the Jordan Engineers Association, board member at the Energy Conservation & Sustainable Environment Society, and the leader of the voluntary initiative (Bayti-Bee'ati) that aims to spread environmental awareness among the young generation to empower them to counteract pollution of nature and live responsibly in a an ecofriendly built environment (<https://www.facebook.com/envirohabitation>)