Constructing an Urban Future: The sustainability and resilience of cities – infrastructures, communities, buildings and housing.

- **Paper / Proposal Title:**
  Can LEED-ND be used as a Social Impact Assessment tool?

- **Format(s):**
  In-person presentation / Written paper

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- **Abstract (300 words):**
  The process of developing a residential neighbourhood should focus on two major factors; the build-up space and the people, which will resident the neighbourhood. On the other hand, Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design - Neighbourhood Development (LEED-ND) is a rating system that integrates the principles of smart growth, urbanism and green building into the first USA system for neighbourhood design rating. Therefore, LEED-ND should be able to rate the success level in achieving social sustainability as a major sustainability component.

  The paper argues that, while Social Impact Assessment (SIA) is vitally concerned with bringing about a more sustainable and equitable physical and social environment, social
impacts should be conducted within LEED-ND framework, which should encompasses social, economic and environmental considerations. These considerations are highly relevant to assessing the impacts of the development, which among other things, seeks to develop a more “sustainable community”.

The paper intents to analyse the social features and investigates the social dimension considered in the LEED-ND through the analysis of the LEED-ND based on the types of possible impacts associated with a project. Since it is almost impossible to identify all the social impacts, social impacts will be considered as the expected changes to any of people’s way of life, culture, community, political systems, environment, health and wellbeing, personal and property rights or their fears and aspirations.

Mixed, qualitative and quantitative, methods are used to recognize the investigated social dimensions and quantify its consideration in the LEED-ND. This analysis aims at providing evaluation of LEED-ND and highlighting the strengths, weaknesses, successes, and failures and making recommendations for future improvements.

The research finds that LEED-ND rating system considered most of the social impacts; however, LEED-ND did not show how other important social issues should be addressed and rated, as part of the design towards sustainable neighbourhood.

• Author(s) Biography (200 words each):

Urban Designer from Egypt living in UAE, holding a Ph.D. degree in Architectural, dissertation title “Social Impact Assessment toward Achieving Socially Sustainable Urban Development” and a Master Degree in Architecture, dissertation title” Environmental Impact on post-modern Architecture”. Main research focus is on developing a performance-based design method for community development based on evaluating the design according to social dimension consideration.

PMP certified with 19 years of experience in the land development industry, includes master planning, urban, landscape, infrastructure design, and design project management, working as projects Director for design, collaborating with stakeholders. Leading multinational team members in a multidisciplinary context managing projects from presentation of concepts until the tender award stage assuring the integration of sustainability principals into design product. This Includes reviewing, monitoring and technical evaluation of design submittals, design fee payments, projects funding and formulating design projects annual budgets.

Provide the required technical inputs during bid preparation, including the review of RFP’s, methodology preparation, proposed schedules, fees, human resources and organization charts. In addition, review sub-consultants pre-qualifications and give recommendation.
Visiting Professor teaching Design Studios and History of Architecture at the Architectural Engineering Department in the Faculty of Engineering and Applied Sciences, AlHosn University, Abu Dhabi, UAE.