• Paper / Proposal Title:

Investigating the Possibility of Using the Principles of the Smart Growth Approach in the Empowerment of Spontaneous Settlements (Case Study: KhakSefid District of Tehran, Iran)

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Abstract.
The demographic and physical growth of cities in recent decades, especially in less developed countries, has caused numerous problems in various economic, social and physical dimensions due to the lack of necessary facilities and infrastructure. One of the problems of this rapid growth is the sprawl and creating spontaneous settlements, especially around metropolitan areas. Among these spontaneous settlements is the Tehran's KhakSefid District, which was established in the 1970's in the east of the Tehran metropolis, and various upgrading approaches have been used to improve the neighbourhood over the past decades. Since the Smart Growth approach is one of the recent approaches to manage urban sprawl and environmental promotion of conditions, the goal of this paper is to investigate the influence of the impact of the Smart Growth approach in relation to the improvement and empowerment of spontaneous settlements of Tehran's KhakSefid by referring to theoretical and empirical literature and the settlement conditions. The results indicate that the Smart Growth approach is capable for solving or reducing the problems of KhakSefid as a spontaneous settlements in Tehran.

Keywords: Smart Growth Approach, Empowerment, Spontaneous Settlements, KhakSefid, Tehran.