

Application Form

PART 1: BASIC DATA

Experience data (complete the information below in a clear and concise manner)

Title of the experience: Establishment of environmental houses in the neighbourhoods of 22 districts of Tehran		
Name of the city or region: Tehran		
Inhabitants of the city or territory : 8.7 Million people		
Country: Iran		
Institution presenting the candidacy (name of the municipality, department, government, institution leading the candidate experience): Tehran Municipality, Deputy of Urban Services and Environment, Environment and Sustainable Development Department		
Website of the experience or institution: doe.tehran.ir		
Profiles in social networks of the experience or the institution:		
Start date of the experience: 2016/05/21		
End date of the experience (if operational, indicate "ongoing"): the process is ongoing		
Budget of the experience (indicate the budget of the experience or the resources mobilized for its development and implementation):		
Type of candidacy (Mark with an X in the right column)	New experience	X
	Innovation on an existing experience	
	Continuity of an experience	
Type of experience (Mark with an X in the right column) (<i>you may choose more than one</i>)	Participatory budgeting	
	Participatory planning	X
	Standing council	
	Workshop/meeting for diagnosis, monitoring, etc.	X
	Public Hearing/Forum	X
	Poll/referendum	X
	Assemblies / Citizen juries / Deliberation spaces	X
	E-government/Open government/Digital platforms	
	Citizen initiative	X
	Other (specify):	
Objective of the experience	To achieve higher levels of equality in terms of participation	X
	Including diversity as a criterion for inclusion	
	Community empowerment	X
	To empower non-organised citizens	X
	To increase citizen's rights in terms of political participation	X

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(Mark with an X in the right column) <i>(you may choose more than one)</i>	To connect different tools of participation within a participatory democracy “ecosystem”		
	To improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the mechanisms of participatory democracy		X
	To improve the quality of public decision-making through the mechanisms of participatory democracy		X
	To improve the evaluation and accountability of the mechanisms of participatory democracy		X
	To improve any public policy through the active participation of the public		X
Territorial area (Mark with an X in the right column) <i>(you may choose more than one)</i>	All the territory	Local	
		Regional	X
	District		X
	Neighbourhood		X
Thematic area (Mark with an X in the right column) <i>(you may choose more than one)</i>	Governance		
	Education		X
	Transport		X
	Urban management		X
	Health		X
	Security		X
	Environment/Climate change and/or urban agriculture		X
	Civic associations, grassroots and new social movements.		X
	Culture		X
	Housing		
	Job creation		X
	Decentralization		
	Local development		X
	Training/learning		X
	Economy and/or finances		
	Legal regulations		
	Social inclusion		X
	All		
Other (write the topic)			
Sustainable	SDG 1 - No poverty		

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Development Goals (SDG) associated with the practice <i>Mark with an X in the right column (more than one option can be chosen)</i> <i>You can also add the specific target</i>	SDG 2 - Zero hunger	
	SDG 3 - Good health and well- being	
	SDG 4 - Quality education	X
	SDG 5 - Gender equality	X
	SDG 6 - Clean water and sanitation	X
	SDG 7 - Affordable and clean energy	X
	SDG 8 - Decent work and economic growth	
	SDG 9 - Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure	X
	SDG 10 - Reduced inequality	X
	SDG 11 - Sustainable cities and communities	X
	SDG 12 - Responsible consumption and production	X
	SDG 13 - Climate action	X
	SDG 14 - Life below water	
	SDG 15 - Life on land	X
	SDG 16 - Peace, justice and strong institutions	X
	SDG 17 - Partnership for the goals	X

PART 2: DESCRIPTION OF THE EXPERIENCE

Fill in the following fields clearly and concisely. You can add links if you consider it appropriate.

Context

*In a **maximum of 300 words**, it presents the cultural, geographical, historical, institutional and socioeconomic context of the city, the territory in which the experience takes place.*

Providing a space for participation, voluntary and effective presence of citizens in various fields has always been one of the most important goals of urban management. In the metropolis of Tehran, local institutions such as councils and neighbourhood management have an important role in delegating activities to people. Considering the key role of citizenship behaviours in improving or destroying the environment therefore voluntary, informed, and maximum participation of citizens in the sustainable context of neighbourhoods structure can lead to a clean city and improve the health of citizens and also the urban environment. Finally, it helps to improve the performance of Tehran Municipality in sustainable management of the city.

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Precedents

Explain the precedents and origins of the experience: if it is the innovation of an existing experience, what are its origins, if it is a new experience, what are the antecedents in participation in your city/municipality/region. You can also indicate if you have been inspired by experiences in other cities/countries. (maximum 300 words)

The model of public administration of the city is a new topic in urban management. According to this model, decisions related to urban affairs are made with the cooperation of the government, the private sector, and civil society that challenge top-down policies made by the central government. The level of people's participation in urban plans and projects is one of the important issues in a democracy. Therefore, in developing countries, it is necessary to eliminate the instability of urban development by effectiveness, more responsibility in managing urban affairs, delegating duties, and empowering local governments and stakeholders. All this indicates a new way of governing cities called the People's Administration of the city. In this model, top-down urban management has given way to bottom-up urban management and citizen participation in the management of urban affairs is an integral part.

Objectives of the experience

What is the objective listed in Part 1 that you think is the most important, and indicate other outstanding objectives of the experience (maximum 100 words)

If decision-makers and city managers considered trusting and believing in people and involving them in the management of city affairs, decisions, and policies as a necessity, this point of view can lead to more effective results in the process of development and increase trust between government and people and promote social capital and improve the quality of life of citizens.

Methodology

Describe the methodology of the experience: phases of the process, participation channels (maximum 300 words)

1. Call.
2. Invite trustees, experts, and people with local influence.
3. Create a database of environmental houses by groups.
4. Holding elections to appoint the secretary of the neighbourhood environmental house.
5. Holding briefings and empowering members of the association.
6. Holding local meetings to attract the voluntary participation of citizens.
7. Informing by using local and trans-local capacities.
8. Identify the environmental status of the neighbourhood.
9. Prioritization of environmental problems.
10. Develop an intervention plan.
11. Implement a program to improve the environment.

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12. Monitor the environmental condition of the neighbourhood.

Innovation

*Explain what you consider most innovative in the practice. (In a **maximum of 150 words**)*

1- Through the implementation of the plan to form environmental houses in the 22 districts of Tehran, a step should be taken to expand and promote the culture of urban planning in our country and an effort should be made to institutionalize the culture of participation among the people and city officials, because with Institutionalizing public participation will be a new step in urban management and administration, which will play an important role in meeting the challenges of the city and urbanization and urban management.

2- Efforts to decentralize and delegate affairs to local and grassroots organizations.

3- The process of developing and strengthening civil society as a real symbol of popular participation.

Inclusion

*Point out the importance of including as many groups and diverse populations as possible and how you have achieved it. (In a **maximum of 150 words**)*

Due to the increase in population and the increase in the number of cities and the problems and challenges of the city and urbanization, there is a need for new methods in urban management or such a perception of the city's public administration and citizen participation as a way of urban management should take a step towards expanding and promoting the urban planning culture of countries and an effort should be made to institutionalize the culture of participation among the people and city officials, because, with the participation of the people, a new step will be taken in urban management and city administration, which will play an important role in solving the challenges of the city and urbanization and urban management.

Communication

*What has been the strategy and communication channels of the experience so that the population knows about it and gets involved. (In a **maximum of 150 words**)*

1- Using the capacities of Tehran Municipality, such as the site of Tehran Municipality, the site of the General Department of Environment and Sustainable Development of Tehran Municipality

2- Advertising billboards in Tehran

3- Using the capacities of the members of the environmental houses of the neighbourhoods

4- Using information capacities in the neighbourhood hall of Tehran

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Articulation with other actors

*It explains how the experience was articulated with different actors and simultaneous or pre-existing processes. What roles did these participants assume? Explain the degree of success of this joint. (In a **maximum of 150 words**)*

Environmental houses in Tehran's neighbourhoods are a group of people living in the neighbourhood who gather in the form of a local community-based center in the field of urban environment to attract the participation of neighbourhood residents and empower citizens to achieve environmental goals in Tehran. This center is a place for education, information, maximum participation of citizens and monitoring the environmental status in a neighbourhood scale, which leads to changing environmental behaviours. Members of environmental houses have improved and enhanced the environment of Tehran through empowering citizens, informing, raising awareness and sensitizing in the field of environment.

Evaluation:

*What evaluation mechanisms have been implemented? Develop whether citizenship has participated in the evaluation of the practice (In a **maximum of 300 words**)*

- 1- Holding regular meetings with the secretaries of the environmental houses of the neighbourhoods
- 2- Continuous supervision of the head of the regional environment department on the environmental houses of the neighbourhoods
- 3- Periodic visits of experts to evaluate the performance of environmental houses

Impacts and results

*Describe the impacts and results of the process. How many people have participated, and which are their profiles. What have been the impacts on public policies, on the functioning of the administration and on citizens. (In a **maximum of 300 words**)*

Implementation of environmental houses in Tehran's neighbourhoods, improve the level of practical knowledge and skills of citizens in the field of urban environment through the use of experts and NGOs, identification of neighbourhood environmental problems by neighbourhood residents and action to improve the situation neighbourhoods and the creation of sustainable social structures at the neighbourhood level to improve the environment. This issue has led to the development of capable, committed and responsible citizens and the use of public capacities in managing city affairs and more effective implementation of urban projects in the field of environment.

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PART 3: EXPERIENCE SUMMARY

*A summary of the experience: origin, objectives, operation, results, monitoring and evaluation (Do not hesitate to repeat aspects that have already been written before, this summary is the one that will be shared on the digital platform for open evaluation and in the publication of the award). (In a **maximum of 500 words**)*

In order to educate people and create culture and environmental awareness in society and also planning for the participation of citizens in protection of the environment of Tehran, the General Department of Environment and Sustainable Development of Tehran Municipality develop environmental houses in 22 districts of Tehran in 2016, that follows two main objectives such as Empowering citizens and carrying out small-scale projects which improve the neighbourhood environment. The neighbourhood environmental houses have started operating in the neighbourhood house structure.

Neighbourhood environmental house with consideration Main topics of urban environment protection (including protection of plant and animal environment, reduction of water pollution and optimization of water consumption, using clean energy and optimization of energy consumption, reduction of soil pollution, reduction of producing waste and separation from origin and reduction of air and audio pollution), operates in 4 main groups: 1- Biodiversity and rich nature 2- Clean water and clean energy 3- Clean land 4- Clean air

Through the formation of environmental houses in the neighbourhoods of Tehran, citizen participation in decisions, planning and all stages of implementation and monitoring and control of the urban environment has been created as one of the important tools to empower people to participate in the elimination and improvement. The urban environment has been raised. What is important in this is the participation of citizens in all stages of urban environmental management and that coordinated management of the urban environment, not by providing the city for the people, but by the people, with the people, provides a way for them to participate in the environment.