

# Opportunities for Practicing Sustainable Building Construction in Kurdistan Region, Iraq

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## ABSTRACT

Construction sector of Kurdistan region of Republic of Iraq has witnessed a huge development in construction sector last ten years. However, there are lack of awareness and legislation regarding the sustainable construction in buildings sector. The aim of the paper is to find the required mechanism to introduce sustainable practice and implement sustainable construction in the buildings construction sector at Northern Iraq. The main objectives in this study are identifying the barriers in sustainable construction at Northern Iraq and investigate the law and regulations in dealing with these barriers.

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## 1. Introduction

The necessity to overcome the global warming and climatic changes, which the world facing it in 21<sup>st</sup> century, requires the action towards sustainability are crucial subject nowadays. Growth population and expanding of urbanization will continue increasing the buildings construction. In the same context, the needs for the safe and good life of future generations are also important.

To reach this goal there is vital requirement to control urban planning, design and construction. Thus, sustainability in design and construction became crucial for the storing of natural resources for next generations. United Nations World Commission on Environment and Development (UNWCED), defined Sustainability was defined as that which

*“meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future*

*generations to meet their own needs” (1987), (Al Surf, 2014).*

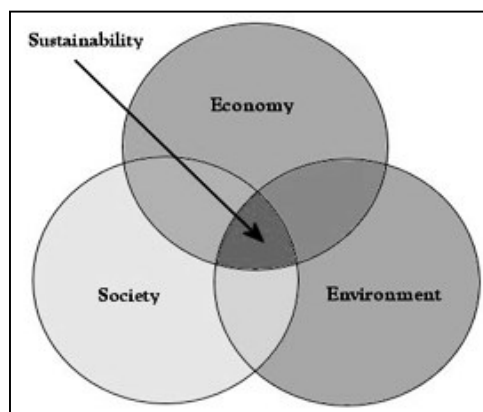


Figure 1. Three main aspects of sustainability (from Juneau Commission on Sustainability)

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