

Sustainable Development in Iran

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Introducing Iran:



The map retrieved from
<http://omaniadventures.blogspot.ca/2012/04/where-is-oman-located.html>



The map retrieved from <http://www.worldofmaps.net/en/middle-east/map-iran/topographic-map-iran.htm>

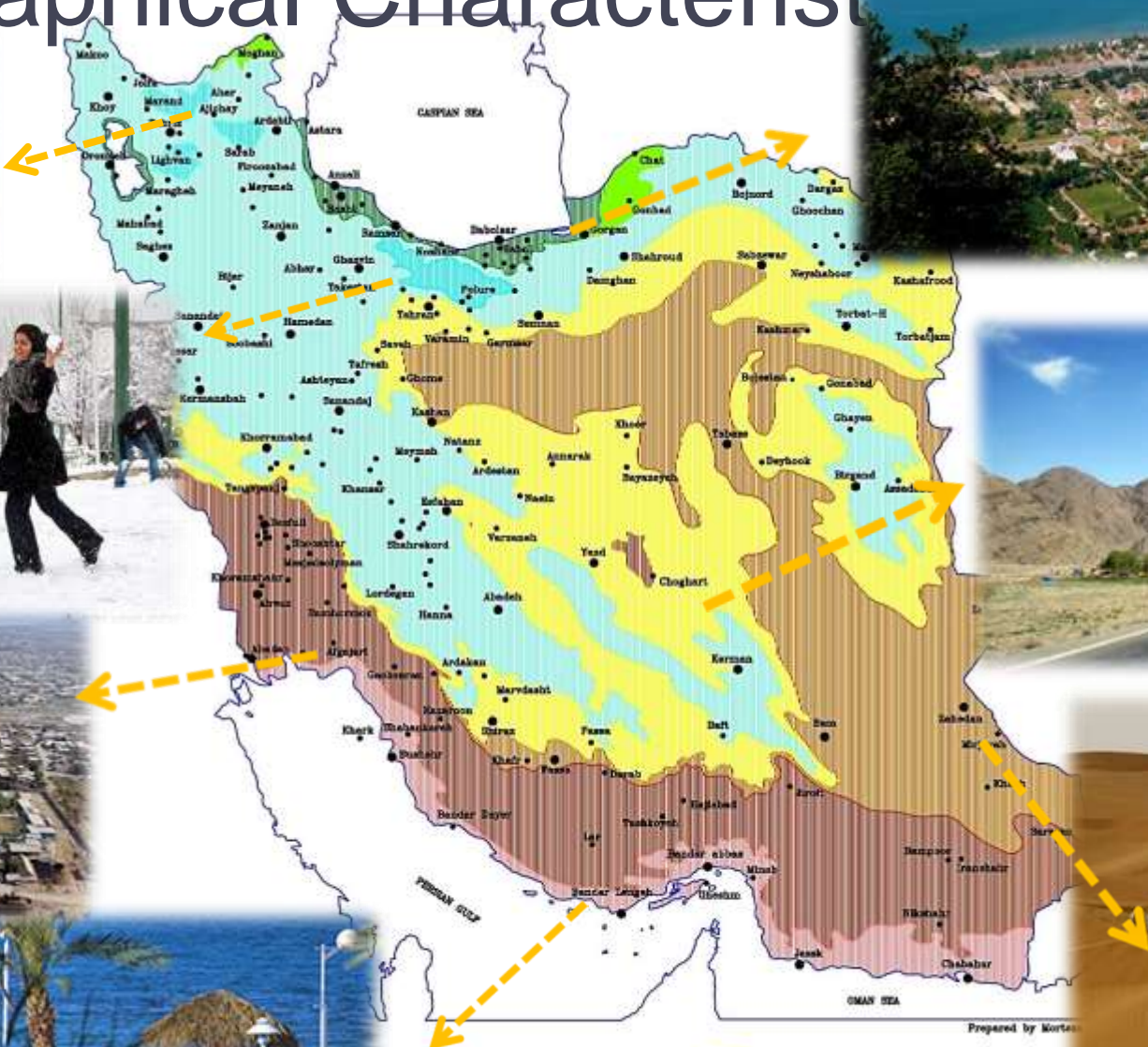
Geographical Characteristics

- ❑ Iran is the eighteenth largest country in the world
- ❑ Area of 1,648,195 km² (636,372 sq mi)
- ❑ It is one of the world's most mountainous countries,
- ❑ The mountain separate various basins or plateaux.

- ❑ Elevation
- ❑ 8climate zones

- ❑ Annual rainfall
 - ❑ Wide range 13-150 cm
- ❑ Mountain area
 - ❑ snow

Geographical Characterist



- | | |
|---|---|
| ■ Very Cold | ■ Semi Arid |
| ■ Cold | ■ Hot & Dry |
| ■ moderate & Rainy | ■ Very Hot & Dry |
| ■ Semi moderate & Rainy | ■ Very Hot & Humid |



Kasmaei,1992,
[http://climaticdesign.net/?page_id=312,](http://climaticdesign.net/?page_id=312)

- Divers Flora and fauna:

6 major types of forest :

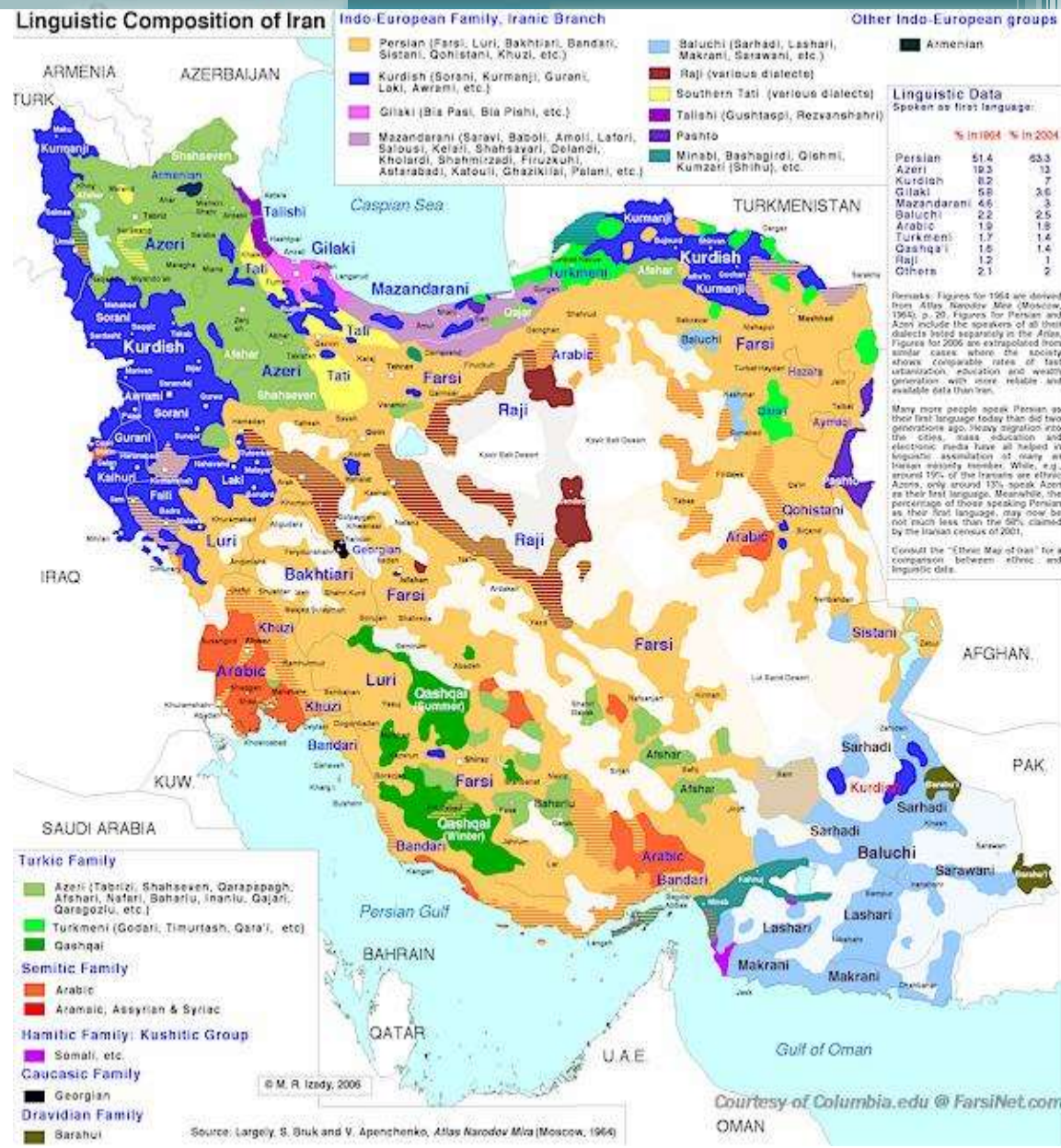
1. Caspian forests
2. Limestone
3. Pistachio
4. Oak
5. Shrubs
6. Sub-tropical
the Hara forests

20 mammal and 14 birds sp
bears, gazelles, wild pigs,
wolves, jackals, panthers,
Eurasian lynx, and foxes



Cultural/Social

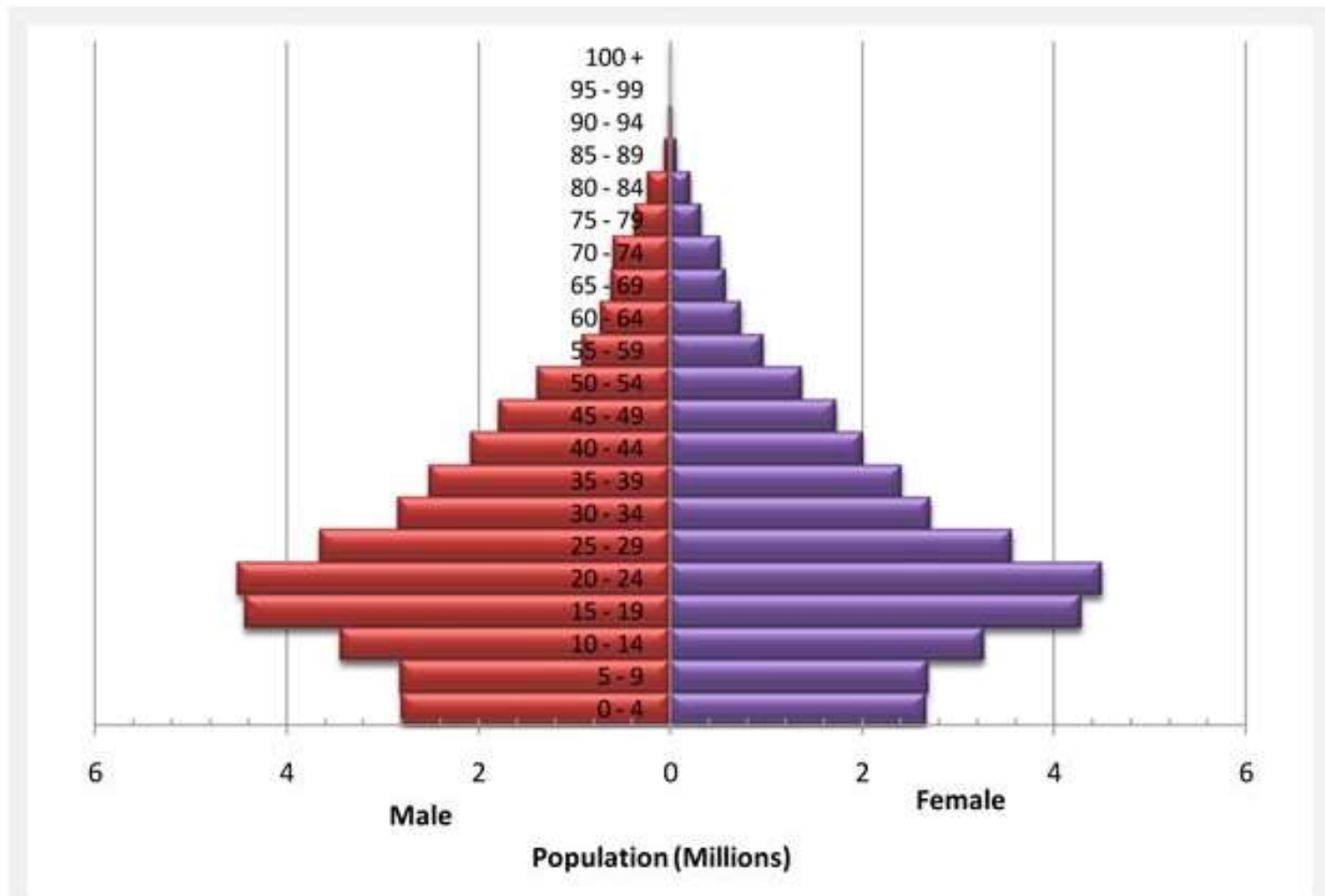
- Iran has **31** province
- Population:
 - more than 74 Million
- Tehran is a capital
 - More then 8 Million
- There are 8 cities
 - More than 1 million
- 6 different races
- 11 different accent



Social glance

Population:	74.7986 million (UNDP, 2011)
Population Density:	45 people per sq. km
Rural Population:	21.5 million (28.7%)
Urban Population:	53.3 million (71.3%)
Peoples:	Persian (52.4%); Arabs (4%); Azeri (25%); Baluchis (1.9%); Kurds (5.7%) Lurs (3.5%) Other (7.5%)
Language:	79 spoken languages – 75 indigenous; 4 immigrant Official Language Persian (Farsi) – 61.2 million (82.5%).
Religion:	98.6% Muslim :90.8% Shi'a; 7.8% Sunni 1.4% non-Muslim minorities.
Estimated Christians:	300,000-390,000 (0.41%)

Population Pyramid for Iran (2006)



Source: United Nations Population Division (2006)

Economic Glance

Economic index	Iran	Middle East
GDP per capita growth, 2000-08 (average annual %)	5.9	4.8
Inflation, consumer prices 2008 (annual %)	25.5	11.1
Inflation, consumer prices 2000-08 (average annual %)	15.5	4.47
Unemployment, total (% of total labour force) 2005-08	10.5	10.6
Youth Unemployment rate, 15-24, total (%)	22	27
Employment-to-Population Ratio, 15+, total (%)	49	45
Employment-to-Population ratio, 15-24, total (%)	36	29

UNDP (2009) The Human Development Index: Iran Country Profile.
World Bank (2010) World Development Indicators 2010. World Bank: Washington D.C.

Sustainable development

- Iranian literatures borrow sustainable development ideas from UN world commissions
- Some Authors believe Father of Iran Environmental studies
 - Professor Firooz addressed the basic concepts in caring about natural resource and environment
 - in first environmental commission Stockholm in 1972
- Professor Firooz phrase was “ **Rational Use of Natural Resource** “
- In 1980, sustainable development was used at International Union for Conservation of Nature for first time



Iranian perception of SD:

- Sustainable development is about “Our common future” which was emphasized in Rio conference “Earth Summit “in 1992(WCED, 1987, p. 43),
- In 1992, Iranian government establish a National Committee for Sustainable Development (NCSD)
 - long term vision for balancing economic and social needs with the capacity of natural resource.
 - Sustainable development emerged as a new paradigm of development integrating :
 - economic growth,
 - social development
 - environmental protection
 - Shift the from fixed -goal to process based approaches



Iranian perception of SD:

- The government has completed two national initiatives
 - 1- the National Plan for the Protection of the Environment
 - 2- the National Strategy for Sustainable Development

Iranian perception of SD:

National Plan for the Protection of the Environment



Nation biodiversity

Promotion of public awareness and participation;

Formation of biodiversity information systems;
Sustainable use of biodiversity resources; and
Integrated management of biodiversity

National Strategy for Sustainable Development



Has 40 chapters

Poverty

Consumption pattern

Health

Sustainable human settlement development

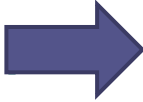
Environment

Decision making

Iranian perception of SD:



Iranian perception of SD:

- Survey Iranian student knowledge about SD(2008)
 - University students  majors :business, engineering, humanities and medicine
 - High school students
- The result of this study shows:
 - 1- women are more knowledgeable than men
 - 2- High school students with environmental education have significant knowledge about SD

Perez-Batres et.al, 2012, Sustainable Development in Iran: An Exploratory Study of University Students' Attitudes and Knowledge about Sustainable Development, Wiley Online Library

- The other interesting outcome:
Students have
 - positive attitude toward SD
 - were knowledgeable about some SD concepts
 - does not mean**
 - behavior is consistent with SD goals (Perez-Batres et.al, 2012)

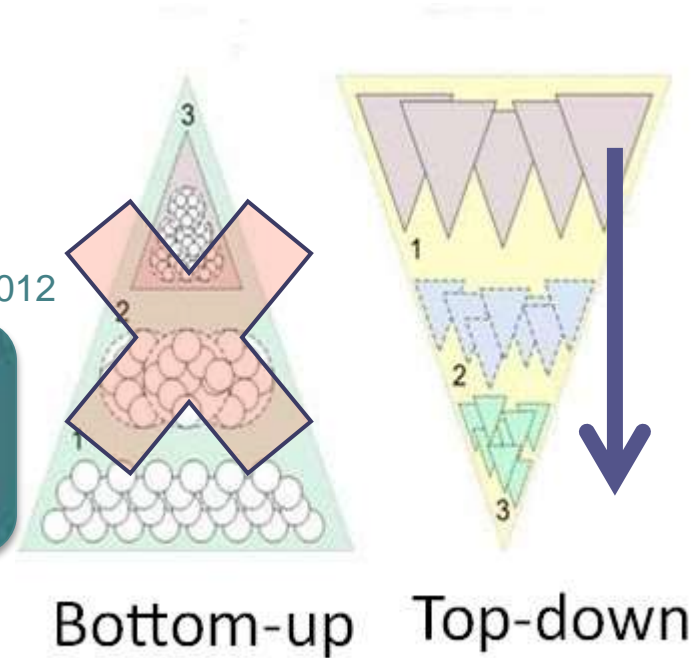
Sustainable development also emphasize a
participatory, multi stakeholder
approach to policymaking and implementation

Iran 's management approach Top- down
(Control and commend).

Interpret sustainable development differently

Disadvantages of Top-down approach

- Lack of knowledge
- Lake of relationship between different level
- Time consuming



Case studies

- The Next two case studies are focused on international plans with sustainable development goals:
 - I. Describe the plan
 - II. How it been implemented in Iran
 - III. What is the outcome

**1= Wastewater treatment plant(WWTP) in Tehran
(Wold Bank Support)**

2= The City Development Strategy(Wold Bank and under grant from the Cities Alliance)

These two plans have been used:

- 1- Plan's design are international
- 2- Plans have been implemented in various countries
- 3- The outcomes of the plans are clear and the plans themselves are successful
- 4- How did it work in Iran

First Study: wastewater treatment plant(WWTP)

- **Tehran Sewerage Project**
 - Improving the environmental conditions in the Greater Tehran area,
 - Installation of wastewater collection, and treatment facilities,
 - improve public health, and further enhance irrigation systems in the surrounding areas.

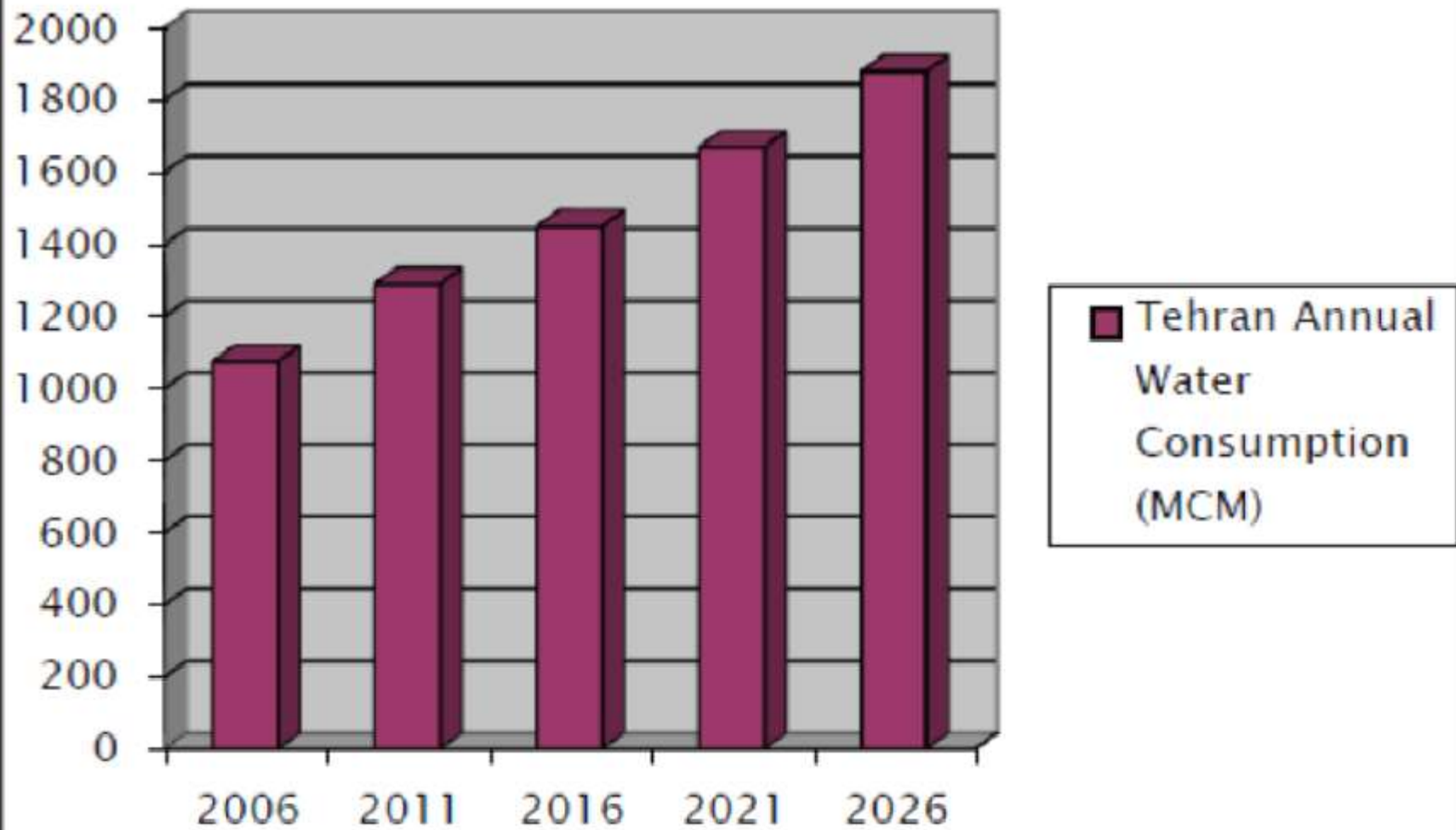
First study: wastewater treatment plant(WWTP)

- Tehran, the capital city of Iran,
- In 2010 the rate of population growth in Tehran was 2.8%

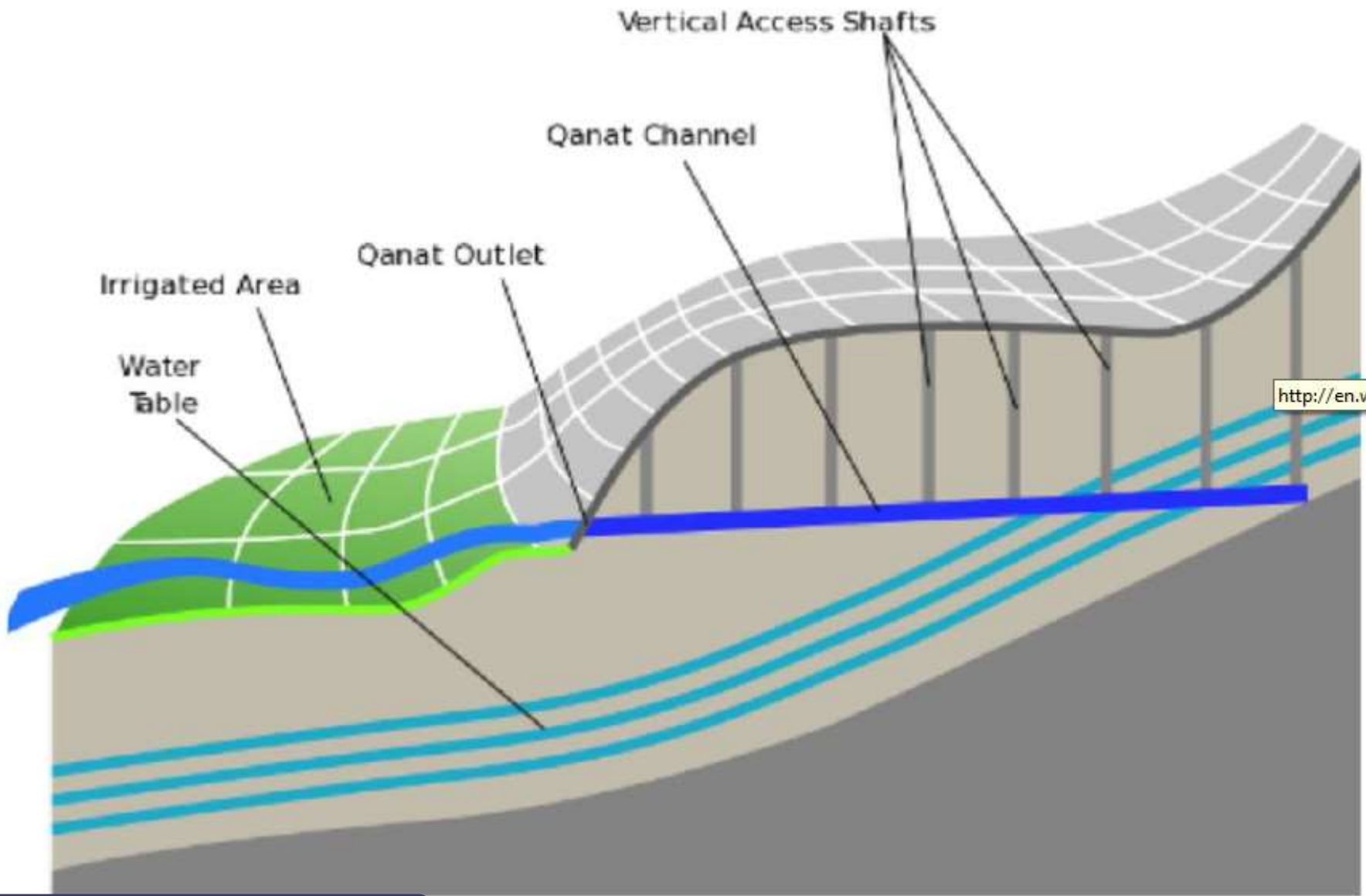
- water consumption was also increasing; whereas Iran is a semi-arid region in general and access to surface and ground water supplies is limited







(Saemian, 2010)



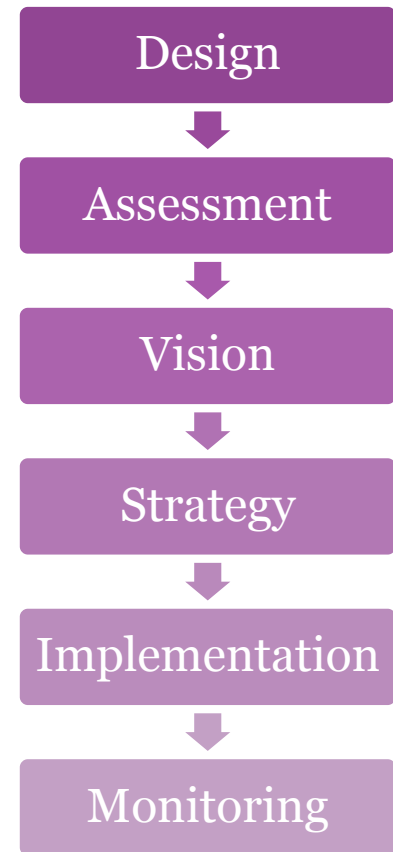
(Saemian, 2010)

Second Study (CDS)

- City development strategy (CDS) program
 - city preparation in long run through short and medium term's action plans to sustain city development
- World Bank recognizes sustainable cities
 - possess livability (livable)
 - Are competitive (competitive)
 - Are banking (bankable)
 - Good management and governance (well managed and well governed)(Sarafi et al.,1388: 67).

- **sustain city development emphasizes:**
 - broad participation of citizens,
 - equitable growth,
 - ecological balance
 - enhance the city economic competitiveness (sarafi et al., 1388: 67).
- **CDS working group** is required to identify and find investors in establishing and maintaining a dynamic corporate culture.
- CDS plan methodology may be composed of five phases:
 - **(vision):** agreement investment structure for the recommended economic characteristics of communities
 - **(goals):** are based on all vision and will determine results of the proposed planning process
 - **(objectives):** set performance standards and target activities for development
 - **(programs):** start working out approaches to achieving realistic goals of economic development

- **Finally best result** of CDS can be including as following:
 - Cities **better understanding with participatory planning** during CDS process.
 - Company official and investors can have better and more successful **negotiation** among themselves.
 - Enhancing **public participation** and group work
 - **Personal efficiency** improves and the skill to search for external funding progress.
 - Better understanding for implementation and managing new projects (un-habitate,2005:30)



- **Over all CDS process consist of five steps:**

1-(**preparation**):identify change stimulus's and systematic, small goals, work plan

2-(**analysis**):gathering main lines of information, analyzing the weaknesses and strengths, identifying areas of consensus of urban issues and priorities

3-(**strategy formulation**): defining a vision, formulation and assessment feature, determining the role of investors, developing active plans in within a framework of financial empowerment.

4-(**implementation**):implementing indicator project, enables resources by capitalists and accepting investment plan and support donor

5-(**consultation**): In parallel with four steps above continual is a participatory process . Also it is a consultation to reach a formal political commitment type as a process to achieve a vision and strategic framework (www.citiesalliance.org/ca/cds-project)

Iran CDS

- In Iran CDS plans have been conducted for some cities: Qazvin, Sharood and Bandar Anzali
 - Small cities
 - Different geographical, economical and social
- If the outcomes are satisfying CDS plan will be implemented in other large cities like Tehran, Shiraz and Isfahan
- The CDS plan are implemented successfully in various cities in Asia
- In Iran CDS plans just stay in first stage and the projects are closed
- There are studies which reviewed the CDS plan and provides many results (Hataminezhaz and Mollaiee,1389)
 - One of the most important results is during the project City Council loss its duties the only sources of public participation became smaller



Conclusion

- To date, in Iran, knowledge about Sustainable development increased significantly
- However increasing the knowledge can not be considered as a sustainable behaviour
- Governments and decision makers have significant effects in achieving a sustainable development in Iran.
- Toward sustainability there are lot of barriers

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