

**UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA**

**AN EVALUATION ON THE  
IMPLEMENTATION OF GREEN  
NEIGHBOURHOOD INITIATIVES  
TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE URBAN  
LIVING IN SUBANG JAYA,  
MALAYSIA**

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## ABSTRACT

In an era of globalisation and hyper-urbanisation, cities are rapidly emerging as drivers of social, economic, and environmental change. The current global climate change brings the need for serious, in designing urban development. One of the concepts that have been introduced for sustainable city formation is the Green Neighbourhood Initiative (GNI). Green neighbourhood is a neighbourhood that practices as a way of life to meet the needs of people's activities, regulate pollution, save energy, accessibility, safeguard the environment, increase employment opportunities, and reduce crime rates. Conflicts between rapid development and local communities required a new paradigm to understand about the relationships between green neighbourhood initiatives of communities and Local Authority (LA). Academic literature in key areas of urban sustainability, green cities, urban living, neighbourhood concept and green neighbourhood initiatives elements planning guides the theoretical framework. The aim of this research is to evaluate on the implementation of green neighbourhood initiatives towards sustainable urban living. The case study is the Subang Jaya City Council. The scope and limitation in the implementation of green neighbourhood initiatives are to investigate the current practices of green neighbourhood initiatives, to analyse the effectiveness, to evaluate the challenges and benefits, to evaluate the planning factors contributing green neighbourhood and to develop strategies and framework on implementing green neighbourhood initiatives. The methodology applied was a mixed-method of qualitative, quantitative, spatial and observation analysis. The qualitative research involved the experts survey from LA officers and related agencies via face-to-face interview. The quantitative research involved the community reception with 400 respondents to examining the case study consisted of four (4) neighbourhood areas in Subang Jaya City Council namely is USJ 5, USJ 6 and USJ10, SS14 and SS18, Bandar Sunway and Putra Heights. The analysis of qualitative data is by contents and thematic analysis. Meanwhile, for quantitative data analysis using SPSS to identify relationships between the communities' satisfaction. The findings showed that the implementation of green neighbourhood initiatives in urban living concerned is not fully ready and suggested for improvement strategies with communities' satisfaction. The research recommended a framework and strategies for the implementation of green neighbourhood initiatives by Local Authorities include educating and promoting green neighbourhood initiatives in multi-level development, identifying new urban living indicators and guidelines. The implementation of green neighbourhood initiatives must be reviewed and to continue with the improvement. The recommendations of the research can provide a good reference for other Local Authorities.

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# CHAPTER ONE

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Research Background

The concept of environmental sustainability was first brought to widespread public attention 1992. The growth of the human population and an increase in prosperity would lead to an ecological collapse within 50 years (Meadows et al., 1972). This was followed by the Brundtland Report in 1987 and the Rio Declaration in 1992, which spurred strategies for action towards achieving sustainable development and consequential initiatives in sustainable communities, green development, and green cities to adapt to environmental degradation, climate change, and a carbon constrained future (Torchio et al., 2020). In “The Limits to Growth,” a dynamic model of prediction is presented that takes into account the interactions between humans and earth in relation to the exponential growth of five major interacting variables i.e. food production, industrialization, non-renewable resources, pollution and population.

In 1992, the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), commonly known as the “Rio Earth Summit”, was held in Rio de Janeiro, and it represented the largest meeting of the world’s leaders ever organised, with the aim of beginning an international partnership in order to achieve the target of sustainable development for all of earth’s inhabitants.

In 2012, the United Nations (UN) Rio Earth Summit was held in Brazil, with the aim of creating a new set of goals in order to carry forward the targets of the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) until 2030. A new ambitious UN plan for action, called the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, has been presented in 2015. Thus, the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and their 169 related targets, were introduced as a global challenge in order to achieve them by 2030. The eight MDGs’ main targets were focused especially on poor countries, while the richer countries had to support them with finance and technology. The Paris Agreement was a landmark document that was produced at the 21<sup>st</sup> session of the Conference of Parties (COP21) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in Paris, France, in December 2015. The Agreement entered into force on 4 November 2016. The Paris Agreement also resulted in a historic agreement to combat climate