

EDITORIAL PREFACE

THREE COMPONENTS OF SUSTAINABILITY FROM THE MICRO CONTEXT OF ALAM CIPTA ARTICLES SUHARDI MAULAN^{1,2}

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The scope of ALAM CIPTA is about sustainability in the context of planning and design. Brundtland Commission Report in 1987 coin the term “sustainability” and since then, it is a norm to accept that sustainability comprises of three main components namely environment, people and economy. These three tenets have been widely used as a basis to formulate issue related to development either at the global or national scale. The most recent is Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) by United Nations which set 17 goals that should be achieved by the year 2030.

However, it is very important to discuss each component of sustainability thoroughly to ensure the main goal of sustainable development which is to have the “development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs” (Brundtland, 1987). Therefore for June 2019 Alam Cipta issue, ten articles are published. The articles can be categorized according to their inclination towards each component of sustainability.

For environmental component, four articles were published and two of them are related to buildings design specifically on daylighting and thermal comfort. It is crucial to understand how building design relates to environmental sustainability. Good daylighting and the thermal environment will ensure energy consumption by the buildings to be less especially in the tropic where heat is the main issue that needs to be solved. The other two articles are about waste management. As the technology of managing the waste are continuously improved, the question lingers on how to reuse the old landfilled. In a developed country, landfilled have been converted to be a park but how about in developing countries. Is the issue about leachate and gas can be resolved? In addition, wastes from the farms are another issue that needs to be tackled. Whilst it is a common knowledge to use farms’ wastes as fertilizer but the process of collecting the waste is important as well. An industrial design may offer clues on how the process can be done.

For people components of sustainability, five articles were published. Two articles discussed people understanding or perception for design namely buildings’ façades and products. The appearance of the design artifacts is crucial to prolong products life cycle. It is more crucial if we discussed in the context of sustainability as people are the main players and the relationship of the design appearance and sustainability is key factors to ensure people supports and awareness of sustainability remain intact. Two articles focus on the managing conflict of public spaces. In the context of inter-ethnic relationship, multi ethnic perception on design is crucial to be understood. Moreover, minority or special groups such as women also need special study especially in relation to the usages of public spaces such as a park. We also acknowledge that the understanding of sustainability and minimizing conflict could be achieved through education especially at the early stages; therefore one article specially discusses how toys design is crucial to increase social competency.

One article discusses sustainability from the perspective of the economy, in specific, creative economy in the developing world. Many efforts have been done by many countries to make creativity and innovation as a basis for economic development but how they has been carried out and have they been successful? By looking at Cyberjaya near Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, the author critically analyzed the development of the city and provide suggestion how academia, government and industries players can joint force to ensure the successfulness of such an effort.

ALAM CIPTA accepts articles that concern with architecture, art, and design related to the process, methods, techniques, practices, and theories in expanding our understanding to ensure sustainability. All articles in this issue provide very relevant knowledge about how can we plan and design our environment, built environment and products better. On behalf of the editors, I would like to thanks all the authors and reviewers who had work very hard. Your contribution is very valuable as it helps the advancement and dissemination of knowledge to “cipta” [create] a better world. We encourage your feedback at alamciptaeditor@upm.edu.my and thank you for your continuous support of ALAM CIPTA.