Sustainable Urbanization: A Challenge or an Opportunity?

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Urban centers are drivers of economic growth. Normal principles of economics apply here and due to economies of scale, because of larger population, synergies take place. In hunger of self-interest, and if system fails to optimize benefits vis-à-vis cost, the cities become hell rather than heaven. Sustainable development of city is based on three major performance indicators:

1. Economic Performance
2. Social Performance
3. Environmental Performance

In race of increasing economic performance, the other indicators are sacrificed. Therefore, the system should be so designed that, the ven-diagram of these three indicators gives the larger pie. To better, the economic activities, we require infrastructure, industry, commerce, trade and skilled people. The populace with peace, harmony, safety, facilities (and opportunities) for self development, health & education, entertainment and so on and so forth, but not at cost of environmental damage, taking climate change & global warming into consideration. The process of optimization is not easy, as diverse interest groups are to be handled. But it is not impossible, if the leader are visionary, impartial, good administrators having democratic style of functioning, equity and rendering justice in their heart.