INDICATIVE OF THE GOOD GOVERNANCE: ASSESSMENT OF THE DEGREE OF THE INHABITANTS’ PARTICIPATION IN LARGE URBAN PROJECTS.

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1. INTRODUCTION

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the need for change and reform in order to achieve balance between the society development and governance systems, and more precisely reach a governance called "good."
the "urban" public action must be based on good governance in order to achieve its objectives for the management of cities and a better development.

Then, as soon as it comes to co-produce the city through the collective reflection and the involvement of all, the urban project joins the theories of governance and it becomes an instrument.

the Urban project is included in an inclusive approach (Pinson, 1999), which aims to analyze the project regarding to the participation and participatory democracy.

Then the evaluation of public action and more specifically its aspect of good governance can be done by the assessment of this inclusive approach of actors (mainly the inhabitant) in the urban project.
In this research, we will emphasize on:

- The urban project as an instrument of good urban governance in the framework of public action.
- The participatory democracy and more specifically the civic participation as a means of the inclusive approach of mobilization of actors around the urban project;
- The assessment of this participation that serves as a first time in the evaluation of the urban project itself, then revealing good governance and this based on two cases of urban project: the urban project of Brisbane and the urban project of Constantine.
In this research, we relied on the research tools that can help us to get information regarding:

- The rules on the participation in the two countries where are located these two urban projects;
- The state of fact of the participation in urban projects;
- The process of implementation of the participation (if it exists) in the two projects including the means and tools for this implementation.

**the case of the urban project of Brisbane**

- the literature that handled the project and its processes;
- The written press;
- The various Web sites and citizen's forum created in the framework of the participation implementation

**the case of the urban project of Constantine**

- the same tools are used however, we have also conducted a survey (since it is possible in the case of Constantine) with citizens to be able to detect the level of participation and its existence in the project. This investigation has focused on a sample of 300 inhabitants of the metropolis of Constantine shared between its various municipalities.
3. PRESENTATION OF THE TWO CASES OF STUDY

* THE URBAN PROJECT OF BRISBANE “THE MASTER PLAN”

* THE URBAN PROJECT OF CONSTANTINE “MODERNIZATION OF THE METROPOLIS”
a large city in Australia that dominates the region of Queensland

high urban growth; combined to this rapid urbanization (expected to reach 1,150,000 inhabitants in 2026)
An integrated development strategy that affects several areas (social, spatial, economic, environmental...) has been developed. It is based on an information system which is, at the same time, a system of management of this strategy and a system of organization of the various actors and interventions on the city by sharing the databases.

Baptized *Integrated Development Assessment System* IDAS which is operational since 1998.
By using the IDAS a major urban project has been developed by and for the city, "Brisbane city master plan". An urban project that belongs to an overall strategy:

* Local Growth Management Strategy "city Project";
* the Brisbane City Master Plan" major urban project";
* the Brisbane City Center Master Plan" urban project local“
* the Plan for Action on Climate Change and Energy.
The draft Brisbane Cityshape 2026 has defined **five major objectives**, which are:

1. welcoming city

   **Calling Brisbane home**

   Building new **sustainable** developments that recognise the unique qualities of the neighbourhood in the style of an urban village around stations, growth corridors and major shopping centres in new living areas.

2. city in movement:

   **“Urban villages need to be community–inclusive, have a mix of heights, mixed use and be subtropically designed.”**

   Brisbane resident, CityShape Conference 2005

   **“Promote and encourage alternatives to the car: public transport, cycling and walking.”**

   Brisbane resident, CityShape Conference 2005
3. green city

Keeping Brisbane green

Keeping green spaces large and connected and protecting them, and our waterways, from development

4. city at work

Putting Brisbane to work

Encouraging employment in major centres, major industrial areas and specialist employment precincts, with an expanded city centre as the economic heart

“Ensure employment and businesses are located close to public transport and high-density residential areas.”

Brisbane resident, CityShape Conference 2005

5. city protecting its identity

Protecting Brisbane’s identity

Protecting neighbourhoods with backyards and character housing from intense development, while allowing for a mix of housing styles
This project being rich in lessons in several areas, to know the overall strategy of development, constantly updated sustainable design and management systems put in place, we are interested in its participatory approach which is a very interesting case capitalizing an important return of experience.
Constantine: One of the most ancient cities, not only in Algeria, but in the world, Constantine, the city of more than 20 centuries (2500 years), metropolis of the East.

within a panorama of landscapes on different trays of rocks: it is the city of bridges and rocks.
However suffering of unhealthy, frenetic and uncontrolled urbanization, fragmentation of the urban fabric, lack of infrastructure and especially of congestion of the city center, which is in ruins.

The economic and social level, as serious as those urban ills are also poignant: unemployment, crime, social insecurity, imbalance and social segregation.

Then Constantine wants to become a metropolis. So, an urban project is born in this perspective.
This major urban project, which is the PMMC (Projet de Modernisation de la Métropole de Constantine), has the vocation to be the engine of a synergy for the revitalization of the city. It has to bring life and dynamic to a metropolis in distress.

Figure: the major components of the Modernization (Source: wilaya Constantine, 2011 with auteur translation).
Its objectives are divided between (Cherrad et Al, 2007):

- The improvement of the conditions of life and the comfort (qualitative);
- The revitalization of development; (Competitiveness)
- The revalorization of the image of Constantine (attractiveness);
- The modernization; by equipment and the projects;
- The realization of social equity (cohesion and reduction of disparities) and citizen participation;
- The response to the needs and the urban, economic and social crisis.
- The consistency between the punctual actions.
Participation in Australia is one of the more developed fields; methods of implementation are continuing to revolutionize. Several Laws treat public participation in several fields concerning their daily lives, as:

- The rights to the notification;
- The right of access to the information;
- The rights of application for the revision of the decisions;
- The rights of forcing a government agency to act;
- The ability to sue in court to prevent any breach of the participation rights.

So, Australia has become one of the most advanced countries, not only in the field of actors participation but also of citizen participation, such as a wide range of involvement methods is used, from investigations and survey, jury of citizens … to the e.participation witch represents the most important system of participation in the world.
In Algeria, the involvement of residents in the definition of their living environment and decision-making concerning the development is still in its beginning. This is not due to a lack of legislative text regulatory and governing the rights of involvement of citizens and of the participation of the actors, but it is rather a question of the application of these texts.

Several legislative texts provide the legal anchoring of the participatory democracy:

- the law 90 -29 relative to the development and the urban planning that requires the concertation in its article 15
- Article 14, Article 16 article 31 of the Constitution of the country itself,
The BCC (Brisbane City Council) has prepared a plan for the development and planning of the city of Brisbane and asked for a feedback with all suggestions, opinions and advices on the project from the inhabitants. The question that has been asked is: "How the City of Brisbane will develop in a horizon of 20 years."
A feedback is expected to the document produced and a response to the question of the fate of the city were the bases of the consultation program launched. The population was targeted for comments, advices and expertise of user and of the one who lives the city, however, this program has not stopped to the population, the BCC has also appealed to the competencies of the various professionals.

This draft was developed through Council's Neighbourhood Planning initiative, where residents are helping to decide how and where Brisbane will grow. Since March 2005, we’ve asked thousands of Brisbane residents to tell us what they think about the future of our city. Last year, Council held input workshops and five Neighbourhood Planning fairs around Brisbane, and more than 40,000 people attended. At the fairs, almost 10,000 people nominated one of four different shapes – CityShapes – that Brisbane could take in the future.

Council also asked for advice from those directly involved in the planning processes – town planners, community and environmental groups, developers and architects.

Now we want your thoughts.

Please read this document and tell us what you think by filling out a CityShape Survey online at www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/neighborhoodplanning or by phoning Council on (07) 3403 8888 for a hard copy.

When Council gets your feedback, we will collate it, add further technical considerations and then send it out again for your final comments. We will then have a clear direction for how to manage Brisbane’s growth over the next 20 years.

Thank you for investing the time now so that Brisbane will still be a great place to live and work in 2026.
It should be noted that this program was planned in the form of go and returns between policy makers and actors through several time of participation searching for an effective feedback.
THE URBAN PROJECT OF BRISBANE: PARTICIPATION PROCESS IN THE PROJECT

As well, more than 60,000 inhabitants have responded to this program through their ideas and comments on the site dedicated to this effect. The scenarios on what has brought this program of consultation was four

The preferred scenario by the inhabitants and users of the city has been identified in 2006 is a combination between the scenario *multi-centered city* with elements of the *Corridor scenario city*. 
4. RESULTS

B* THE PARTICIPATION IN THE TWO URBAN PROJECTS

THE URBAN PROJECT OF CONSTANTINE

Through the investigation carried out and playback of content in the case of the urban project of Constantine on 300 inhabitants, we come to the results that can be synthesized in the following points:

• The urban project of Constantine has not been the subject of dissemination and the population in its majority has not learned of its existence
• For the few people having learned about the project it was by the entourage and by the mean of university

• The population knows the majority of projects during implementation and that are part of the urban project of Constantine, however does not know that these projects are part of an urban strategy in the form of a major urban project of Constantine
4. RESULTS

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- The population surveyed, after learning about the objectives of the project (that we had submitted), are in great majority in favor of its implementation and for its realization.

- For the surveyed population, the Urban project of Constantine has not really brought a plus for the city, apart from the transport sector, no change has been observed;

- The survey reveals and confirms the fact that the population has not been involved in the project, even if it presents its willingness and its readiness to be involved. They consider the best ways to an effective participation those of delegations like associations and neighborhood comities and websites.

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• The trust between the elected, responsible and the population is very low, such that the latter does not believe in the strength of their opinion and point of view. They consider "they are just the inhabitant».
• The population shows a hope in the achievements and the modernization of their city
• Two workshops have been organized in the framework of the project (January 2009 and October 2009). However, these workshops did not integrate the inhabitant participation.
• A kind of revolt against the lack of participation and the not taken into account the citizen in the design of the future of his city is noted.
• Finally, we also found that the public authorities at their head the former wali of Constantine, bearer and initiator of the project, accuses the non-accession of civil society to be a constraint to the achievement of the projects of the urban project of Constantine in the time. However, the inhabitant did not feel himself invited to participate.
## 5. DISCUSSION

### COMPARISON BETWEEN THE TWO CASES AND REVELATION OF THE GOOD GOVERNANCE

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<th>urban project of Brisbane</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Institutionalization of Participation</td>
<td>The participation has been institutionalized and its implementation has been developed and framed.</td>
<td>The participation has been institutionalized however; its implementation has not been framed.</td>
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## 5. Discussion

### Comparison Between the Two Cases and Revelation of the Good Governance

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<td>Existence of the participation in the project</td>
<td>The participation in the project is existing, it is of the type <strong>top-down</strong> with the call of the BCC to the citizens involvement, this participation has been framed by this organization, consolidated by the inhabitant and planned.</td>
<td>The participation in the project is almost non-existent; the form of participation which tries to develop is the participation of the type <strong>bottom-up</strong> across the various manifestations and the contestation of power which appear in the context of the project from the inhabitants.</td>
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| **Tools of participation**  | *Call for the involvement of the Inhabitant;*  
*Information through the written press, audio and visual;*  
*organization of several workshops and urban workshops;*  
*Web site and forum with the call for the feedback*  | *No call to the participation;*  
*The majority of inhabitants are not informed of the project;*  
*organization of two workshops on the project, however, they have not been able to mobilize the inhabitant neither play the informative role;*  
*No web site dedicated to the project or to the feedback*  |
## Comparison between the Two Cases and Revelation of the Good Governance

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| **Level of Participation** | More than 60 000 inhabitants has been involved and has participated in the development of the project and the choice of scenario.  
* information to the consultation then the consultation through the suggestions and feedback to arrive at a high level of participation in the co-decision procedure through the collective choice of the scenario wanted. | Even the information that the first stage of the participation in the project has been omitted. No other form of participation has been noted in the project. |
5. DISCUSSION

DISCUSSION OF THE LEVEL OF PARTICIPATION IN THE TWO PROJECTS

Based on the fact that participation was institutionalized in both countries, a large gap in the implementation is noteworthy.

Participation found a favorable echo and a good application in the case of the urban project in Brisbane. The scenario that can be observed in his case is a top-down participation beginning with the broad information to the public (citizens and stakeholders of the city) on the current situation of the urban area to establish a shared diagnosis. Then, a call for the involvement of the Inhabitant and of the actors has been launched through multiple channels (written press, audio-visual, Web site, forum, display, workshops, Urban Workshop,). It was followed by active participation in creating the feedback between the inhabitant and the services of urban planning and the elected members responsible of the project in order to co-design and co-decide the future of the city.
This is not observable in the case of the urban project of Constantine, such that the information, which is the first step of the participation, has been omitted.

In addition, no call to citizen involvement has been launched and no device of participation has been implemented. Except for the two workshops organized in the framework of the project, however, these workshops to create an opportunity for people to access information on this strategy and the urban project have not achieved the goal.
As well, if we are talking about level of participation in the two projects, we are in the obviousness to note that there is a large gap between them. Indeed, the urban project of Brisbane has reached the active level of the participation, namely co-decision, whereas, the urban project of Constantine was not even able to access at the passive level of the participation to know the information. However, what is to note in its process is that a certain participation bottom-up is being built, such as the citizen begins to take conscience of its rights and of the role that it can play in the design and the development of his city. As well, a certain revolt and requests of involvement are developed around the project.
Conclusion

the urban project as governance are closely related to participation and more civic participation, so they use both participation with the aim of mobilizing actors and more in their actions management and involvement in decisions and in the governance system.

From this, participation has become an accurate indicator of the achievement of good governance in major cities through the involvement of inhabitants in large urban projects.

Through the study of examples exposed, we can deduce that the governance system differs from one country to another but also that each urban project can choose the participation as a means for the realization of good governance. This participation can be an asset but also an instrument of good design and implementation of the project for the purpose of its good ownership by the inhabitants in the framework of public action in urban areas.
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