**Topic**: Amsterdam Sustainability Index (ASI)

**Instructions**:

* Need minimum 400 words initial post.
* Need 3 APA references
* Need 3 Responses (Use uploaded document to see other student’s initial posts)

**Initial Post 1**:

Urban governance is about building cities that are inclusive and accountable to their citizens. Recognizing and strengthening the relationships between various stakeholders including citizens, civil society organizations, elected officials, and the public and private sectors is critical to changing how cities are governed. These actors comprise the urban governance community and how they interact plays a vital role in making cities more sustainable. Moving forward, it will take engagement, continuity, and capacity to strengthen this community and ensure that cities are governed equitably and inclusively.

Engagement and continuity are key aspects of urban governance, but the success of a policy or project also hinges on the capacity of local governments to implement, develop, and maintain projects well. Typically, cities are responsible for providing a range of services, including public transportation, secure energy, waste management, and clean water. Hiring staff, making planning decisions, interacting with citizens, raising money, collecting taxes, and negotiating contracts require substantial capacity so that cities can function sustainably (Yigitcanlar, T., & Teriman, S., 2015). Ensuring that cities have adequate institutional capacity is absolutely vital to improving quality of life for urban residents and reducing environmental impact.

Genuine sustainability at the local level can only come from inclusive and accountable governance processes. Engagement, continuity, and capacity are three key components of ensuring sustainable urban development that is responsive to the needs of local communities. Many cities and countries often experience a lack of continuity when it comes to decision making about urban development (Carley, M., & Christie, I., 2017). For example, elected officials often face term limits and, as a result, prefer easily-implementable projects. However, sustainable urban development is a continuous process and is not confined to the four or five year terms common across many city governments (Wei, Y., Huang, C., Lam, P. T., & Yuan, Z., 2015). Improving urban governance can help cities overcome these challenges. In particular, keeping citizens, civil society organizations, and the private sector active in decision making processes and supporting them with the appropriate procedural rights can provide this continuity across elections.

**Initial Post 2**:

Today, more than 4 billion individuals around the globe – the greater part the worldwide populace live in urban areas. This pattern is relied upon to proceed. By 2050, with the urban populace dramatically increasing its present size, about 7 of 10 individuals on the planet will live in urban communities. With over 80% of worldwide GDP created in urban areas, urbanization can add to feasible development whenever oversaw well by expanding efficiency, enabling advancement and new plans to rise.

Be that as it may, the speed and size of urbanization brings difficulties, including satisfying quickened need for moderate lodging, admirably associated vehicle frameworks, and other foundation, fundamental administrations, just as occupations, especially for the almost 1 billion urban poor who live in casual settlements to be close chances. As indicated by the developing needs of our present reality, numerous endeavors were risen to make progressively liveable urban communities and networks. A noteworthy exertion has been made to coordinate development such that diminishes changes to condition and to make a harmony between the four changing posts of urban development: economy, society, condition and legislative issues (Gehan,2003).

We need assets to help this development, and that can just originate from a solid planet. By quickening the pace of mechanical advancement, and democratizing the advantages of the cloud, individuals can all the more likely adjust and flourish in this asset compelled world. A developing populace means expanded interest on our vehicle frameworks, medicinal services administrations, and utilities. (Mandana,2018).

Houses create their own vitality through these inexhaustible sources, which is then sent back to the network for appropriation among the network. The lattice itself consolidates the Internet of Things (IoT), Big Data, and Machine Learning innovation into one framework, enabling Energy Koplopers to divert vitality bi-directionally, to any place it's most required, progressively. Never again will vitality be a single direction trade from the provider, out. Innovation will empower everybody to add to a more astute and greener vitality stream.

**Initial Post 3**:

Urban development has been one of the heated topics in recent years. Many countries have urban regions that are becoming populated and crowded every day. At the same time, urban areas are becoming polluted pushing the government to implement policies of controlling population and pollutions in urban areas. In Europe, various governments under the European Union (EU) have identified multidisciplinary dimensions of e-government projects aimed at ensuring energy efficiency in urban development. The projects strive to promote sustainability and practical development in the future. One of such projects is the Solar Atlas of Berlin. This project applies ICT inefficient use of energy and promoting renewable sources of energy. This wiki discusses the Solar Atlas of Berlin in details.

The Solar Atlas of Berlin was initiated by calculating the potential solar energy from the roof known as the SUN-AREA 1. The project was initiated by a team of researchers from the University of Osnabruck Germany. The leading researcher was Prof. Martina Klaerle. The purpose of the SUN-AREA project was to optimize the use of solar energy from the roof of buildings in an urban area using photovoltaic (PV) and thermal panels (Palz & Greif, 1996). Areas of high potential solar energy were identified and made available to homeowners as well as business owners.

The two areas that were started showed that they would produce about 100 gigawatts per hour of solar energy every year using an area of 0.8 square kilometers of aggregated roof area. This product is equivalent to 1% of Berlin's energy consumption. The project also showed that 67% of the energy consumed in Berlin can be generated from the roof (Krüger & Kolbe, 2012). Today, real estate developers and homeowners can access the atlas online to figure out whether their roofs have the potential to produce energy and whether, if installed, the system would be efficient.

In conclusion, urban development has been the topic of interest in the recent year. One of the reason is that urban areas are increasing every day. With the increase, comes with new challenges of energy consumption, overpopulation, and pollution. This is the reason policies are put in place to tackle the said issues. There are various urban policies in the EU. One of such is the Solar Atlas of Berlin. The atlas aims to produce solar energy from the roof and hence reduce energy production and use renewable resources.