

## A SURVEY AT THE POPULATION OF URZICENI, IALOMITA TO DETERMINE THE PROBLEMS FACING THE CITY IN TERMS OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

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### Abstract

*Creating a population survey in the city of Urziceni, Ialomita County, to determine the problems facing the locality, the perspective of sustainable development was seen as a tool for testing the perception of people towards the development of the city of Urziceni and future orientation its development.*

*The main objectives of the survey were: measuring people's satisfaction regarding public services, measuring level of living standard, optimism for the future and identifying the most important problems of the studied area in the opinion of its citizens.*

*Finally, it was established the development needs according to the citizen's needs.*

**Keywords:** citizens, problems, survey, sustainable development, Urziceni

### INTRODUCTION

The concept of sustainable development stands for all forms and methods of socio-economic development, which foundation is firstly represented by a balance between the socio-economic systems of the natural elements (Manoliu and Ionescu, 1998).

The sustainable development means and tries to find a stable theoretical framework for decisions in any situation where such a report as man / environment is to be found, be it environmental, economical or a social one.

Increased attention to environmental is the basis of the sustainable development of Urziceni (Platon, 1997).

Developing such strategies on the environment is a complex process involving various technical analysis, coordination and cooperation between the participants in this action, such as economic, industrial employers' associations, local civic organizations, local officials and the public

Creating a population survey in Urziceni city, Ialomita County to determine the problems facing the locality perspective of sustainable development was seen as a tool for testing the perception of people towards the development of Urziceni and its future development orientation.

Among the most important objectives are the following:

- measuring people's satisfaction regarding the standard of living and optimism for the future of the area
- measuring people's satisfaction with public services and opportunities in the area
- identifying the most important problems of the area in terms of its members.

### MATERIALS AND METHODS

The sample used to interview was a probabilistic one for the adult population of the municipality (Newport, 2007).

The selection of subjects was made using lists dating from 2008.

The interview was face to face at subjects' home.

The sample structure consisted of persons selected according to the following criteria:

- Age of persons
- Sex of persons
- Working place.

The sample structure consisted of 53.14% males and 46.86% females.

The age structure of the sample was 43.43% of people in the age group up to 44 years old and 56.57% of people in the age group of over 45 years old.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

In terms of opinion about the living standard of the inhabitants of the locality, 83.42% are dissatisfied with the standard of living in town, a percentage of 16.57 of the respondents are satisfied with the standard of living in the city.

It is noteworthy that most of the inhabitants, about 83.42%, are not satisfied with the level of living. Some of these, 1.71%, are not satisfied with the standard of living, and the majority of 81.71% is not so happy with the standard of living.

**What is the standard of living of the local people?**

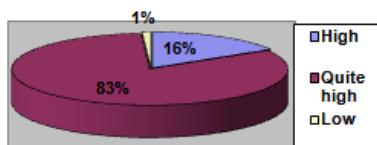


Figure 1. The standard of living of the local people

Although, overall, people are dissatisfied with the standard of living of the city, more than half, about 53.71%, of the respondents believe that the area is more developed than other areas of the country.

Corroborating the two questions above, although the vast majority is dissatisfied with the standard of living, that at the same time they believe that the area is more developed than others in the country, lead to the idea that they would not change their residence in order to work in another area.

Be noted that there were people who believed that their city is as developed as others, is 46.29%.

**Compared to other areas of Romania how do you think is the town you live?**

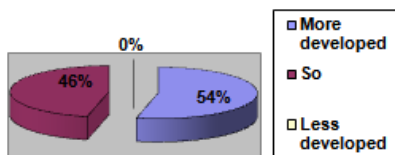


Figure 2. The compared between Urziceni and other areas of Romania

Regarding the level of development of the city, it was found that 94.86% of the respondents considered that city would be developed in five years.

No respondent believed that the locality would be less developed in five years; instead there were people who believed that the town would be as developed in the next 5 years (5.14%) as it is now.

**How do you think your town will look like in 5 years?**

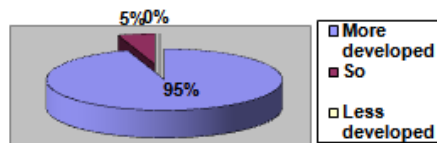


Figure 3. How the town will look like in 5 years

Overall, in terms of living standards, the inhabitants of Urziceni consider that they have a low standard of living and I think in the next five years the situation will be better, considering that poverty is present in all country.

Related to local roads it is found a large percentage, about 56% of the neither satisfied nor dissatisfied with the state of roads in the area, who consider that it could be better, and a percentage of 85.71% of the satisfied state of city sidewalks.

**Local roads**

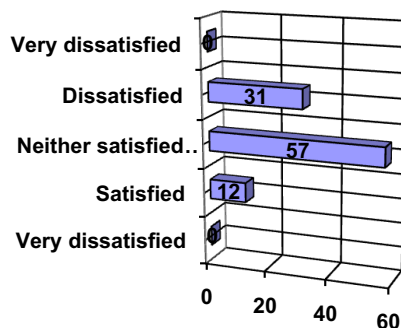


Figure 4. The state of local roads

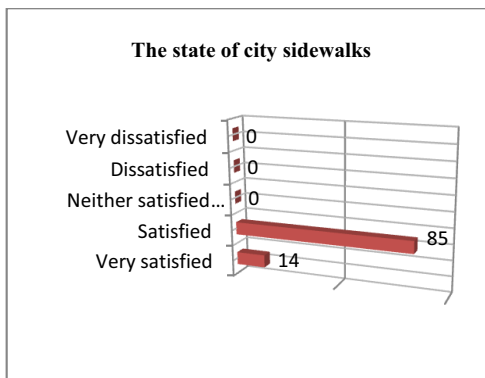


Figure 5. The state of city sidewalks

Regarding health services, all respondents are satisfied or very satisfied with health services in the city, namely 86.29% of people are happy and 13.71 very pleased, especially after the opening of the new Municipal Hospital in 2012.

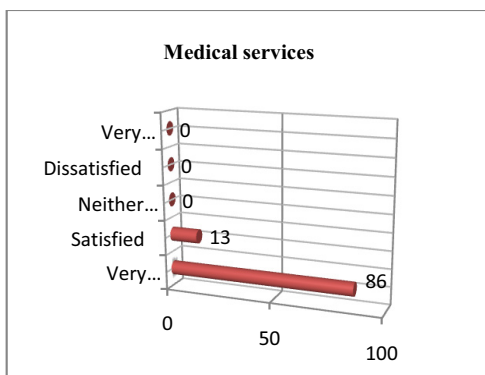


Figure 6. The citizens' opinion over the medical service  
 Regarding the visibility of the work of The City Hall, 82% of respondents mentioned some works done by The City Hall in the recent years.

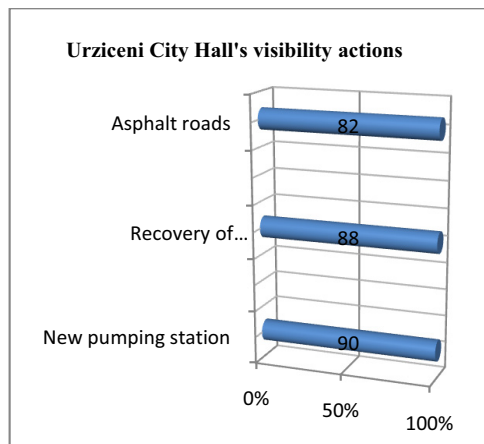


Figure 7. Urziceni City Hall's visibility actions

Thus, 82% mention asphalt roads, 88% recovery of wastewater sewers and 90% construction of a new pumping station for drinking water.

Most of those who mentioned projects undertaken by the Municipality are satisfied with these projects.

Only a minority of respondents, i.e. 4% could not mention any project undertaken by the Municipality.

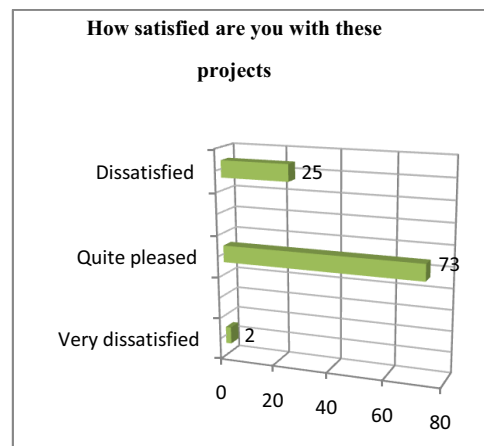


Figure 8. How satisfied are the citizens with these projects

In terms of city inhabitants of Urziceni the most important issues are:

- paving streets in the north part of the city (85%)
- achieving a rainwater sewerage system (75%)
- job creation (87%)
- construction of classrooms for students (70%)
- restoration and reopening of cinema city (60%).

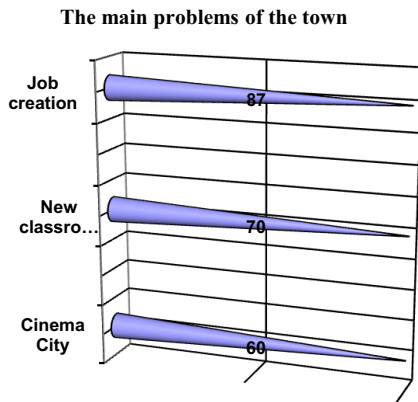


Figure 9. The main problems of the town

Interviewees noted that it is difficult to find a new job in town especially in the current situation.

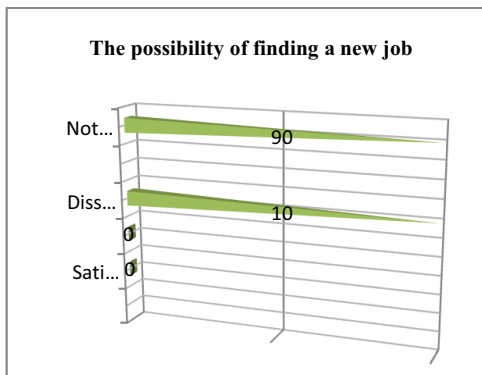


Figure 10. The possibility of finding a new job

## CONCLUSIONS

Urziceni City members are dissatisfied with the standard of living of the city, but the majority, means 53.71% of the people, consider their city is more developed than other areas of the country.

Regarding the visibility of the activity of the Municipality, about 82% of the members of the city mention little involvement done by the City Hall in recent years.

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- construction of classrooms for students (70%)
- restoration and reopening of a cinema city (60%).

Even if they had the opportunity, the inhabitants of Urziceni city would not be willing to change their jobs with another.

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