**Mistrust or Collaboration? Addressing the NIMBY Syndrome through a Trust-based Urban Planning Model**

**Dr. Benny Furst**

The objective of this study is to explore novel perspectives and practical tools to address the challenges and obstacles presented by the “Not In My Back Yard” (NIMBY) phenomenon. This phenomenon has been quite prevalent in Israel throughout the past two decades and is attributable to a multitude of factors, including rapid infrastructure development as well as socio-political aspects such as public mistrust in the planning system. Unfortunately, it leads to missed opportunities for advancing crucial environmental facilities. One such facility is Waste to Energy (WtE) plants, which are widespread in many developed nations. In Israel, however, this specific type of infrastructure suffers from a negative public image, evidenced by strong objections to projects for constructing these plants in proximity to urban areas. The primary objective of this research is to suggest innovative, practical strategies to navigate this challenge, aiming to educate decision-makers and the public about the missed opportunities for enhancing urban quality of life. The research methodology will encompass: a) Cataloging existing NIMBY cases in Israel, specifically those related to proposed Waste-to-Energy (WtE) plants; b) Characterizing the positions and interests of key stakeholders; c) Proposing practical strategies and tools to more effectively address NIMBYism. This research will employ the “Trust-Based Planning Model,” as proposed in the author's previous research, aiming to foster sustainable partnerships between officials and the public.

Keywords: NIMBY; public participation in planning; public trust; democratic deficit; Trust-Based Planning Model; waste to energy (WtE) plants.