19.0 Vision Statement

19.1 Evolving the Vision

Vision broadly means foresight, a pleasing, imaginative development plan. It sets our sights, our goals and encourages us to dedicate ourselves to a chosen course of action in a disciplined and coordinated manner. A vision statement perceives the future without any bias and thereby, it flows out of the felt needs and aspirations of the future (*Figure 50*).

The vision needs to be translated to strategies, strategies to plan – which when implemented becomes reality.

Figure 50: Evolving the Vision
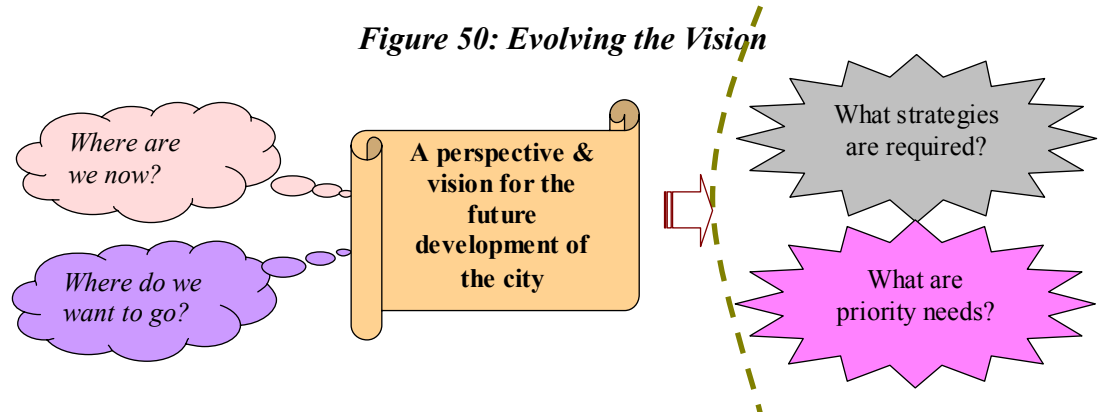
It is the wish of our revered President, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam that India as a nation should aim to reach at least the fourth position in global community by 2020. In this era of globalisation and rapid changes, the space-time-distance concept is changing and even the remote village can benefit from the latest advances in technology. In the fast changing and competitive world there are a number of opportunities and challenges to improve the quality of life of the people. However, we need a vision to plan and secure the means to translate dreams into reality.

19.2 Stakeholder Consultations

The true success of any planning lies in effective participation of the stakeholders in the decision making process. Recent years have seen a rapid growth of interest in stakeholders' participation in a wide range of sectors and contexts including urban regeneration, environmental management, economic development, and physical infrastructure.

Future may not be predicted or projected but is to be chosen;

Where there is no vision, the people perish; this is true for every nation or a region or city.

The participative exercises lead to people getting increasing involved in their own society and influencing decisions that affect their lives. The complexities of real world problems need solutions developed by all stakeholders. In many cases, these forms of participation have substantial positive impacts.

The Consultants, after having carried out detailed situation analysis (rapid assessment) into various infrastructure, urban basic services, governance and finance etc, fixed up a stakeholder workshop (consultative meeting) with various concerned officials and community representatives in the presence of Municipal Commissioner and the District Magistrate (also the Administrator of the MCA). This workshop was a 2-day affair and held in the meeting hall at the MCA on May 19-20, 2006. A total of 70 stakeholders participated in the proceedings on the two days.

The situation analysis was presented before deliberating upon identifying the vision for the city in the horizon year 2031. This was intended at updating and rectifying

errors if any, in developing the understanding of the city and its various infrastructure components.

Once through, several perceivable options towards city vision such as follows were deliberated upon –

➢ To make Allahabad a Tourist destination (Religious/ Institutional)
➢ Development as Hi-tech city/ knowledge hub
➢ Development as Industrial hub (agro-based units)
➢ Development as Transport hub

In the next stage, small working groups (*Table 62*) were made to focus on the sectoral vision for various sectors/ aspects of the CDP. The participants were welcome to join the group of their choice/ interest. The second day of the workshop attended mostly by the community representatives, including the former Councillors and women was conducted on similar lines as on day one. The issues discussed and agreed to in the workshop together with the names of the participants, are given as *Annex 7*.

Another workshop with stakeholders at the state level was conducted at Research Centre for Urban and Environmental Studies (RCUES)/ State Resource Centre (SRC), Lucknow on July 10, 2006. This workshop was attended by the following:

➢ Principal Secretary (Urban Development)
➢ Special Secretary (Urban Development)
➢ Secretary, Environment
➢ Secretary, Tourism

> ➢ Divisional Commissioner, Allahabad
> ➢ Municipal Commissioner, Allahabad
> ➢ Executive Engineer, JN
> ➢ Chairman, UP Awas Vikas Nigam
> ➢ Director, RCUES
> ➢ Faculty & Consultants, RCUES
> ➢ Others

Table 62: Team Composition for Visioning Workshop

Sl. No.	Sector	Consultants' Team
1.	City Vision	Entire project team
2.	Urban renewal & slums	Team Leader, Urban Planner, Social Planner
3.	Infrastructure & services	Municipal Engineer, Infrastructure Planner, Transport Planner
4.	Finance & institutions	Finance Expert, Institutional Expert
5.	Overview	Entire project team

19.3 Vision Statement

The vision adopted at the conclusion of the 2-day stakeholder consultations (visioning workshop) is that the city wishes as follows:

> ➢ A *Tourist destination* – for both religious as well as institutional/ other tourists;
> ➢ International significant *knowledge hub/ hi-Tech city*;
> ➢ *Sustainable and vibrant economy* (tourist/ agro-industry based);
> ➢ *High quality of urban life*;
> ➢ *Unique urban image* flowing out of natural and built heritage;
> ➢ Transparent, participative *hastle free e-governance*

A forceful overall view emerged that the city of Allahabad wishes to respond to the needs of the 21st century to be known as a *hi-tech city* together with continuing maintaining its cultural and religious traditions by laying a good focus on *religious tourism*. The tradition of education in the city shall neverthess be given maximum thrust for it to come a *knowledge hub*.

Vision thus evolved is translated into strategies in the next section.

FEEDBACK VENTURES

20.0 Formulation of Strategies

20.1 Urban Infrastructure & Governance

Strategies are meant at broadly taking the vision towards project identification. While the sector specific strategies have been dealt together with identification of projects in various sectors, broad strategies for provision of urban infrastructure and effective urban governance so as to achieve the ultimate vision/ goals for the city of Allahabad have been spelt out as follows:

i.   Adequate, effective, sustainable, pollution free service delivery
   ➢ Potable drinking water (as per CPHEEO manual) to all with major thrust on exploiting available surface water
   ➢ Sewerage network to connect all urban development within the ADA jurisdiction
   ➢ 100% collection, treatment of sewage & safe disposal
   ➢ Separate & efficient storm water drainage network for the city
   ➢ Provision of hi-tech solid waste management system
   ➢ Suitable, sustainable, efficient, environment friendly transportation system
   ➢ Provision of tourism infrastructure to support pilgrimage/ tourism
   ➢ Conserving culture & heritage
   ➢ Infrastructure for industrial development
   ➢ Pollution free & healthy environment

ii.   Transparent, efficient & reformed governance
   ➢ Clarity of roles & responsibilities between different institutions
   ➢ Capacity building program for staff
   ➢ Double entry system for fool-proof & transparent accounting
   ➢ Innovative Public-Private Partnerships in infrastructure projects
   ➢ Provision of graded tariff/ tax system for various services offered by ULBs
   ➢ GIS based management for efficient service delivery, checking of theft & taxation purposes
   ➢ E-governance for a hassle-free, efficient & transparent system

20.2 Urban Basic Services for the poor

Strategies regarding urban basic services for the poor are meant at broadly taking the sector specific vision towards project identification. Strategies for effective service delivery in poor/ slum areas are as follows:

i.   Enhanced life quality for urban poor by provision of basic services
   ➢ Rehabilitation (*in-situ*/ *ex-situ*) of existing slum dwellers by provision of affordable housing for EWS & LIG strata
   ➢ Provision of adequate core amenities/ services
   ➢ Provision of community toilets for better sanitation
   ➢ On-site management of waste/ sewage water in inaccessible areas
   ➢ Educating the slum dwellers about environmental sanitation & personal hygiene