

FACTORS RESTRAIN ACHIEVING AN EFFICIENT URBAN MOBILITY IN AMMAN, JORDAN.

The case of the Rapid Bus Transit (BRT).

BACKGROUND

Amman is a host for more than 4 million people, but lacks mass public transportation systems of all kinds.

The city's consecutive governments have been offering a pack of solutions, including a BRT and LRT systems, supported by a bus feeder system.

In 2009 the city approve only the BRT system and postponed the LRT due to financial reasons. The project was completely halted by the prime minister shortly after its implementation aimed corruption and other issues, only to be resumed in 2015 after it was cleared of all accusations.

CURRENT CONDITIONS

In the period between 2009 to 2017, the city's population has grown from about 2.6 million to more than 4 millions, driven by immigration and refugees from neighbouring countries. the planned BRT is already out dated and does not satisfy the city's needs. the interest rate of the project's funds has been increased by the investor as the project faced continuous delays. the traffic suffers of chronic congestions, directly influencing the quality of life and environment in the city, increasing the cost of living, causing economical losses...etc.

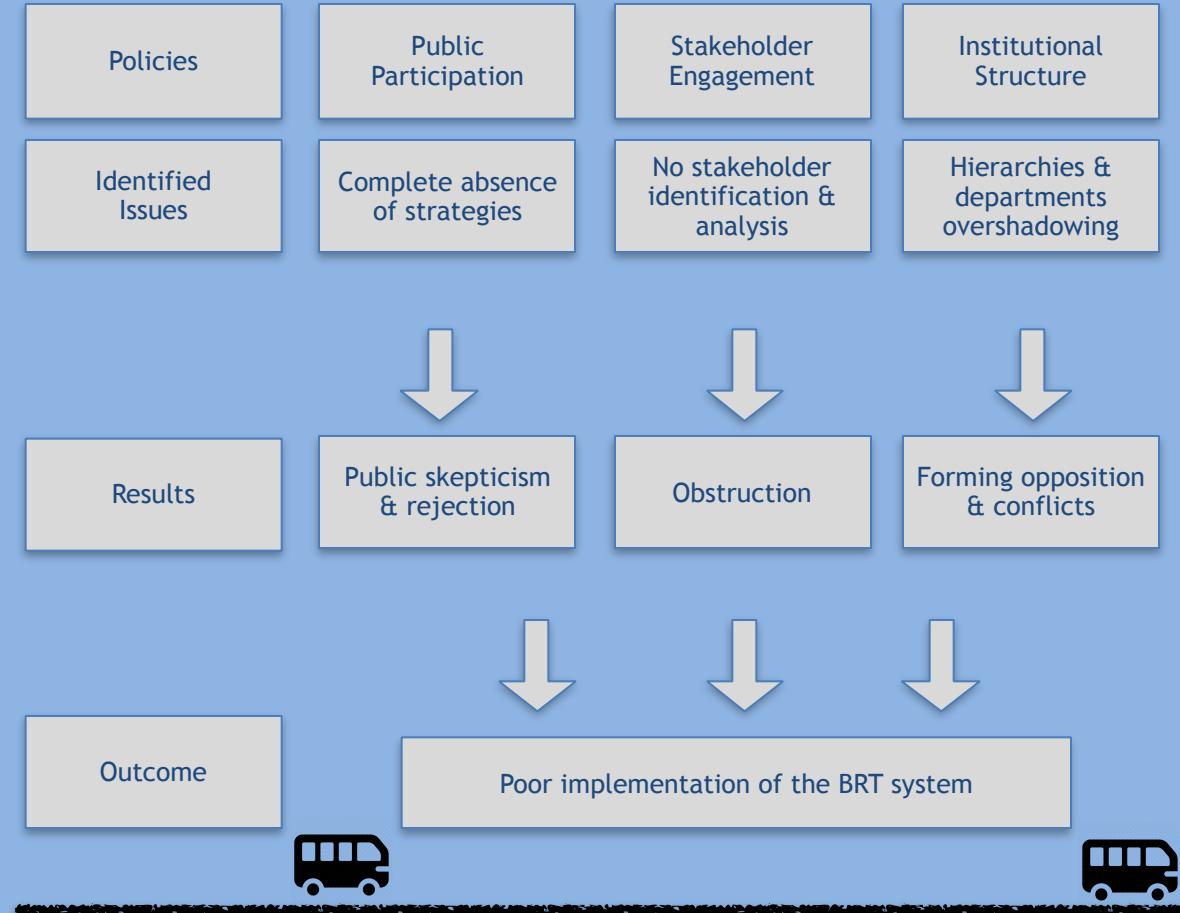


Demonstrators ride a donkey on the segregated BRT lane, with a sign reads "the rapid donkey".
september 2011 Ammannet .net

Opportunities

- Developing public participation strategies to involve the public in planning their communities and taking decisions that touch their daily life.
- Build a stakeholder database and stakeholder engagement plans.
- Horizontally restructure the institutional factors and decision makers for better cooperation.

RESEARCH RESULTS



Over the course of the implementation years, the public mood has changed in favour of the BRT and other mass public transportation systems, driven by the continuous and incremental pressure on the city's inhabitants daily life, and supported by phenomenal social movements at a grass root level.

DISCUSSION

Public Participation as a concept is widely doubtful in the governmental halls. Arab Spring has been mentioned in almost every interview with local authorities, fearing that if the public participation concepts were largely practiced, the public opinion might be manipulated by few political parties and could result in unrest and turmoil.