

**Enriching Planning  
Education with Multidisciplinary Insights:  
The Efforts of an Economist<sup>1</sup>  
A.T.M. Nurul Amin\***

**Abstract**

This paper stresses on the incorporation of economic and financial insights for enriching the urban planning and environmental management paradigms. Based on the insight of environmental economics, it derives an analytical framework for management of the urban environment. On the financial side, the paper focuses on cost recovery, which is seen as a key for mobilizing financial resources including the foreign direct investment required for the urban environmental infrastructure and service provisions. For cost recovery to succeed, the author suggests pricing of services based on considerations of the service users' willingness to pay, affordability to pay and by using the economic principles of subsidization and cross-subsidization, particularly to ensure the poor's access to basic services. For effective design and implementation of environmental policy instruments, the paper suggests their formulation and application to influence human behaviour towards sustainable development.