

# **Role of Surveyors in Urban Regeneration Projects in Turkey**

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## **SUMMARY**

Unhealthy living spaces caused by rapid urban growth, rural-to-urban migration, poverty, lack of affordable housing supply, deteriorations of existing building stocks, etc. are one of the most important problems in urban areas in many countries. Regeneration of those spaces is necessary and urgent to make them livable places. “Demolish-rebuild approach” may help renovation of aging buildings. However it will not provide sustainable results in problematic areas with insufficient physical infrastructure and social problems. Urban regeneration (UR) at this point provides an encouraging holistic method to renew and upgrade living spaces with the consideration of physical, social, economic and environmental aspects. Because of the inter-disciplinary nature of UR, many different professions get involved in the regeneration projects in order to address the differentiated needs such as engineering, architecture, planning, laws and regulations, sociology, economy, finance and environment. Geomatics engineers or surveying engineers with the help of their ability on spatial data acquisition and analysis, land management etc. are expected to take a substantial part in the design and implementation of projects mostly from the engineering and technical point of view. In this paper, the role and effectiveness of geomatics and surveying engineers in UR projects in Turkey are analyzed. The positions they held, the works they carry out and the issues they experience in the projects and proposals for future directions on the surveyors’ roles in urban regeneration are discussed in the light of statistical data and interviews with professionals from the UR sector.