



RUSPS AS EFFECTIVE APPROACH IMPROVING ENVIRONMENTAL DIMENSION IN EGYPTIAN CITIES

Madbouly, M¹, Farouk Hassan, G²,

¹ Associate professor, Housing and Building National Research Center, Ministry of Housing, Utilities and Urban development

² Associate professor, Urban Planning Department, Faculty of Engineering Ain Shams University

Key words: environment, planning, profiles, Menouf city, Tanta city

Abstract

In the beginning of the new Millennium, Egyptian cities are confronted with several challenges that threaten the sustainability of natural environmental resources and their urban environment. These challenges are concentrated on accommodating the apparently rapidly growing populations in cities while ensuring sustainability as well as enhancing economic growth. In 2004, UN-HABITAT Regional Office for Africa and Arab States took the initiative to develop this new tool defined as *Rapid Urban Sector Profile for Sustainability (RUSPS)*. The tool has been implemented in 6 Egyptian cities.

The paper aims to discuss the involvement of the environmental dimension in this the RUSPS locally adapted to enable cities to address their critical environmental problems and to define rapidly their potentials and constraints in sustaining their environment.

It begins with highlighting the effectiveness of the environmental issues considered in traditional planning methods to determine areas of weakness. Then, the paper presents the cases of two cities: Menouf and Tanta, who suffer from a number of environmental problems related to air and water pollution and solid waste accumulation.

The paper ends with recommendations on how to maximize the environmental concern in the planning process as an important step to ensure the environmental sustainability within Egyptian cities.

1. INTRODUCTION

Several cities around the world have adopted new approaches such as strategic planning, city development strategy or sustainable city program in order to realize this objective. However, since these approaches may require some local capacities that may not be available at local level, a new tool has been developed by UN-HABITAT to enable the cities to rapidly assess its urban, environmental and socio-economic issues in order to guide immediate, mid and long term interventions. The idea behind RUSPS is to help to formulate urban poverty reduction policies at the local, national and regional levels through rapid, participatory, cross cutting, holistic and action oriented assessment of needs.

The paper begins with highlighting the environmental challenges facing Egyptian cities in general and then presents the RUSPS tool and how the environmental issues are considered in comparison with other traditional planning method. Then, the paper presents the cases of two cities: Menouf and Tanta, who suffer from a number of environmental problems related to air and water pollution and solid waste accumulation.

2. THE ENVIRONMENTAL CONTRIBUTION IN TRADITIONAL METHODS OF DEVELOPMENT

2-1 Traditional Approaches to Development Planning

Historically, most studies for development planning have tended to concentrate either on the physical requirements or on the economic considerations, often with serious shortcomings (Inskip, E. 1991). Different concepts of integrated approaches to planning are compared from the environmental respects, in other words, the environmental weight through the development process as important aspects.

2-1-1 The Physical Approaches

In this earliest approach, most tourism development plans were based on the following:

- Detailed surveys and appraisals of the physical resources of country or city.
- Market information was often deficient; this deficiency was due to the fact that the global demand of needs emanating countries was growing at a fast rate, then, market information was invariably followed by ambitious projection forecasts
- An assumption was a common factor to many of the reports produced in this period.

Assumptions were usually based on the fact: that, with adequate planning and incentives, the destination country or region under consideration would within a specific period (10 years in usual) greatly increase its share of the total market.

2-1-1-1 Planning procedures

1. The preparation of a physical master plan involved a series of stages of survey, evaluation, and planning.

2. Proposals generally included a very detailed map of locations for future facilities, and allocation of zones for different tourism uses, including areas designated for protection and the steps to be taken for their conservation.

The master plan was intended to provide a general framework for state and municipal investments and for guiding and evaluating proposals from private developers.

This approach is based on the followed steps:

A-Surveys and analysis:

- Determination of the main potentials and the main sites and areas of interest are determined by comparing the existing and potential overall demand with existing resources.
- Analysis and comparison of policies and priorities and identifications of possible objectives in development.

b- Policies and priority flows

- An analysis to define the best options of development is undertaken.
- Alternatives products are defined and analyzed in collaboration with all interested parties who will control their implementation.
- Each product is compared for cost, group of beneficiaries etc, with competitive products.
- The investment feasibility of each product is evaluated, as well as its socio-economic impacts on the region under consideration.

2-1-1-2 Comments

The environmental and nature considerations are deficiently treated and confined to defining some natural zones to be protected or conserved. This protection always failed to be implemented because of the lack of corresponding management or investment.



Figure (1) Diagram Showing the physical planning Approach
Source: edited by authors depending on Fred Lawson, 1989

2-1-2 Products' Analysis Sequence Approach for sustainable development

This approach is proposed by Fred Lawson and Baud Bovy, in 1977, and has been modified 1998 to meet new trends of sustainable development.

The modification is concentrated in the fourth phase, which is defined as the implementation phase. It adds measures for effective implementation (legislation,

finance, administration), as well as procedures for monitoring progress and correcting imbalances. An action plan (instead of a master plan) is proposed for first phase of development to realize flexibility to face the unexpected changes.

2-1-2-1 The Planning Procedure

- The preparation of a detailed physical master plan is preceded by three preliminary studies which examine: the additional facilities needed, the main prospective uses for each of the major sites or regions, and the main destinations preferred by tourists
- A corresponding strategy for implementing these provisions is produced, taking national policies and priorities into account.
- The possible economic and social consequences of development can be assessed from the previous analysis of resources and products.
- Problems of resources and land control are given specific attention through a monitoring system that control, correct and re-adapt the plan.

This approach is equally appropriate for demand-led approaches to determine how resources can best be utilized to maximize benefits and supply-led requirements to identify appropriate markets and the feasibility of development.

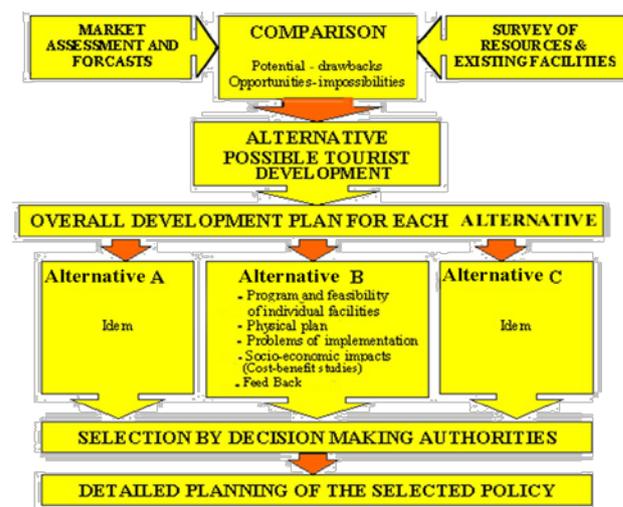


Figure (2) Diagram Showing the Products' Analysis Sequence Approach for sustainable development

Source: Fred Lawson, *Tourism and recreation handbook of planning and design 1998*.

2-1-2-2 Comment

It is a more appropriate approach providing the balance between socio economic interests and products taking into considerations, the international situation, and competing destination.

It identifies the proposals, which can fully be implemented, by taking into consideration, needs, and financial abilities of the potential clientele.

Environmental issues through this approach have a relatively secondary importance to other factors controlling the decision. its lack the considerable weight accordingly to the importance of nature and environment.

Even this approach is modified to reinforce the implementation phase by creating a monitoring system to readapt plans according to changes, but the environmental

problem is remaining, because of the inadequate relative consideration of its irreversible impacts.

2-2 The Environmental Planning Through Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)

Many countries and regions have adopted environmental protection legislation. Environmental impact assessment is an approach used to identify the key attributes of the natural environment and the natural assessment of a site or region.

The objective is to identify in advance, factors, which may affect the ability to build a desired development, or be affected by the proposed activity.

The results can then influence the decision whether or not to precede, the choice of design and phasing, and identify the need to mitigate unwanted effects.

EIA stems from the United States National Environmental Assessment Act 1972 (Inskip, 1992). The US department of commerce requires a comprehensive approach, which includes:

2-2-1 Planning procedure

- Inventory of social, political, physical and economic environments;
- Forecast or projection of trends;
- Setting of goals and objectives (usually at the project level);
- Examination of alternatives to reach these goals;
- Selection of preferred alternatives;
- Development of implementation strategy;
- Implementation;
- Evaluation;

Other authorities may accept simpler review procedures. For example, site focused EIAs examine the engineering concerns, (drainage, soil depth, stability) and selected on-site phenomena (vegetation, fauna), which would be directly disturbed.

Whilst site-specific reviews, have value in identifying key physical and biological factors there is neither examination of alternative sites, options, nor of the off-site effects (damage down stream or cumulative impact of pollution. The trend in EIA is towards evaluation ecological damage or disturbance against the wider benefits which the ecosystems profile (ecosystem evaluation, ecosphere approaches).

2-2-2 Comments

The environmental impact assessment is a way to forecast environmental impact resulting from development. This way succeeds in transforming damages to environmental degradation resulting by man-made actions in quantitative means. Then comparison between environmental factors and other qualitative factor would be acceptable.

Therefore, the problem remains when the loss of environmental values could not be translated in physical or economical loss, as result of mining and stone quarries. Such environmental impact may not be of valuable importance versus economic gains due to those actions. Consequently, environmental impact assessment is not then taken into consideration and then it cannot defend environmental values, in other term; this

approach can only be useful when environmental damages cause direct economical damages that are greater than the economic benefit in the short term.

This diversity of fields of study is usually a result of the involvement of political or economic forces that determine the study context. As a consequence, the resulted approach is directed according to political or economical aims and not to environmental aim

2-3 the Environmental Contribution in the Rapid Urban Sector Profile For Sustainability (RUSPS) Methods

As part of our drive to address this crisis, UN-HABITAT is working with the executive committee of the European Union (EU) to support sustainable development around the world for implementation of Millennium Development Goals (MDG) 7, Target 10 and 11 addressing both the provision of safe drinking water and improving the lives of 100 million slum dwellers.

Given the urgent and diverse needs, the agency found it necessary to developing a tool for rapid assessment to guide immediate, mid and long term interventions. In 2002, based on the European Development Co-Operation, UN-HABITAT successfully implemented An Urban Sector Profiling for Sustainability in Somalia. In 2004, UN-HABITAT's Regional Office for Africa and the Arab states tool the initiative to develop the approach further for application in over 24 countries. This was achieved in collaboration with other departments within the agency – the Urban Development Branch with the Urban Environment Section, the Global Urban Observatory, the Shelter Branch, the Urban Governance Unit and the Training and Capacity Building Branch. This new Approach is known as Rapid Urban Sector for Sustainability (RUSPS). Issues of interventions include:

- Legislative and institutional reform in view of the accelerated shift towards decentralization,
- Slum Upgrading of increasing informal areas,
- Developing job opportunities and strengthening local economies arising for extended war periods,
- Mainstreaming gender issues in development,
- Overcoming the increasing environmental deterioration
- Providing means to address the run-down infrastructure.
- Providing partnerships on the local level

RUSPS consists of rapid profiling of urban conditions at national and local levels. Varied cities are studied to provide a representative sample in each country, and in Egypt six cities were selected to show a wide range of local conditions. The analysis focuses on four original themes: governance, slums, gender and HIV/AIDS, and environment. Later, three additional themes were added: Local Economic Development, basic urban services, and urban heritage. Information is collected through standard interviews and discussions with institutions and key informants, in order to assess the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats (SWOT) of the national and local urban settings. The findings are presented and refined during city and national consultation workshops and consensus is reached regarding priority interventions.

2-3-1 Main Themes in RUSPS

In the core of the initial RUSPS methods, topics are concentrated in four sectors: governance, slums and shelter, gender and HIV/AIDS, and environment. In each sector, a general background is provided and the regulatory framework, institutional set-up, performance, accountability, and capacity buildings gaps are assessed. Priority needs and projects are revealed.

The objectives of RUSPS program can be summarized thus:

- identifying priority issues and needs
- Identifying capacity gaps and existing potential resources
- enhancing decision making and inducing cooperation

The goal is to develop urban poverty reduction policies and contribute to wider-ranging implementation of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

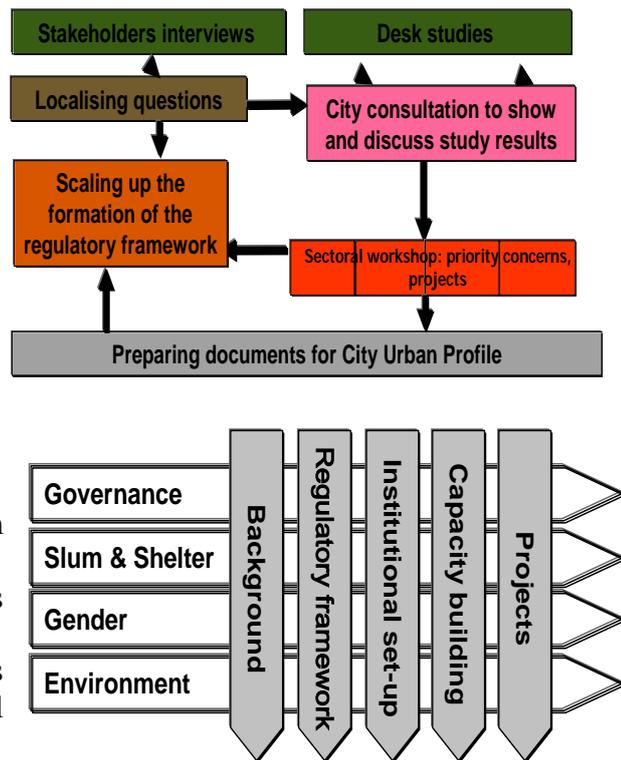


Figure (3) Original method and steps of the RUSPS

Source: UN-habitat, 2006, Localization of RUSPS methods, paper by consultants team.

2-3-2 Comment

The incorporation of the environmental dimension through this tool enables the cities to address their critical environmental problems, possible stakeholders and their capacities to deal with these problems and the possible priority projects that should be implemented to improve the overall living environment within the city. Such an important dimension has been neglected for long time in other traditional urban planning methods such as master planning.

3- THE APPLICATION OF RUSPS METHOD IN EGYPTIAN CITIES

3-1 Cases of Tanta & Menouf Cities profiles by RUSPS method

RUSPS in Menouf and Tanta are ones of seven similar exercises conducted in Egypt. The studies go through preparing profiles of main issues and the exciting situation and then analyze this situation focusing on point of weaknesses and of strengths that define the issues, then the opportunities and threats be that can be used or evicted to formulate the strategy, and then the priorities of projects.

The next section will show summary of the profiles focusing on the environmental profile, the SWOT analysis and then a brief on the environmental selected projects.

3-1-1 Background and Level of Development

A- Case of Menouf City

Menoufiya Governorate has many cities. Menouf is the ancient capital of the governorate. The city is located in the mid-west of the governorate near the outlying areas of El-Sadat city. Shebin Al-Kom is the current capital. Menouf is located 42 km from the Menouf-Tanta railway and 86 km from Cairo. The average number of passengers who travel by train each month is about 2 million.

Markaz Menouf (District of Menouf) consists of 7 local units (Fisha El-Kobra, Monshaat Sultan, Brahim, El-Hamoule, Zawyet Razine, Tamlay, and Sodoud) in addition to Menouf city and 29 villages. Menouf has a population of around 95,000.

Table (1) population growth at Menouf Markaz and city
Source: UN-habitat, 2006, profile of Menouf city, paper by consultants team

Artisan work, especially carpentry, characterises the activities of 34 percent of the productive labour force of the city. This is followed by tailoring then public services.

Population of Markaz Menouf

Annual rate	growth	population	year
-	-	432013	2004
1.9	8320	440332	2005

Population of Menouf City

Annual rate	growth	population	year
-	-	93373	2004
2.4	2212	95485	2005

Population growth was calculated for each local units and was 2.4 for Menouf city

It is noted that there are no mineral resources such as quarries in Menouf; indeed, there is no industrial zone in the city. Nevertheless, Menouf is dotted with small workshops, representing a large percentage of the city's overall land use. According to statistics of the General Organization of Physical Planning, the natural extension of Menouf around the old city includes nine unplanned areas that are overtaking agricultural lands.

Menouf's Development

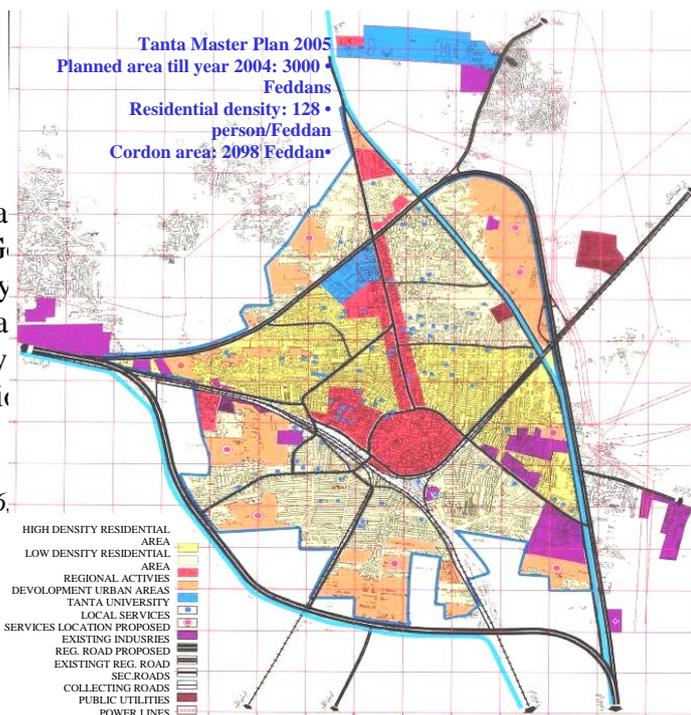
The urban residential city of Menouf was planned in 1935; it was divided into 30 partitions (published in the Egyptian Facts Journal). Nine of them have been accredited and the remainder are pending legal status. The old area represents an area of 9 km², but there has not been a master plan for Menouf city in 70 years. There has been no new legislation that allows the sale of land owned by the government to unlawful tenants since law no. 31/1984. Since 1984, unlawful tenants have been considered encroachers on state land. Law no. 3/1982 on physical planning presents an obstacle to the division of land in Menouf (created because the city's limited land leads to frequent violations and abuses). Surrounded by agricultural land in all directions, Menouf requires the optimal use of land for building – vertical expansion is needed, as is the creation of special legislation for the delta region.

Figure (3) Master plan of Tanta city1 Figure

B-Case Of Tanta City

Tanta is the capital city of the Delta region and is administratively divided into seven sheikhas. It is located in the delta midway between the Ra north it borders Kafr El-Sheikh G Kom city, to the east Zakazik city considered the link between Gha Dakahlia Governorates. The city has a famous shrine, which attracts two million pilgrims annually on Badawy's birthday.

Source: UN-habitat, 2006.



Source: UN-habitat, 2006, profile of Tanta city, by consultants 2 team

SHEIAKHA	POPULATION			ANNUAL GROWTH RATE			Estimated Population 2005
	1976	1986	1996	86/76	96/86	96/76	
Total of 1 st Kism of Tanta	151425	175272	193667	1.47	1.00	1.24	215775
Total of 2 nd kism of Tanta	131815	161245	179226	2.04	1.06	1.55	204168
Total of Tanta city	283240	336517	372893	1.74	1.03	1.38	419944

and environmental pollution. This has also contributed to the emergence of several slum areas. The average population increase during the last fifty years has been at a rate of 2.5% with a rate of 3.36% between 1960-1976, and decreased over the following three periods of 1976, 1986, 1996 as 2.08%, 1.72% and 1.03% respectively.

3-1-2 The Environmental Profile

A- Case Of Menouf City

Environmental problems in Menouf result from traffic congestion, coal incinerators on the border of the city, spray paint workshops, furniture workshops, mosquito spraying, and private vehicles.

First: Urban Environment Issues

High rates of air pollution result from many sources: motor vehicle exhaust, coal incinerators at the city's edge, dust

BEST PRACTICE

The efforts of Menoufiya Governorate in the field of environmental protection:

- Fighting bird flu.
- Implementing the Human Sanitary Waste (El-Hamaa) Project: human waste is recycled and transferred into organic compost (the results till now are not satisfactory).
- Ensuring compliance of clay brick factories with environmental regulations.
- Ensuring compliance of coal incinerators with environmental regulations.
- Preparing paid environmental assessment studies to ensure compliance with the law, especially for carpentry and mechanics workshops.
- Providing the Pharaoh Sea with fresh water from Om Abdalla canal in order to decrease water contamination.

from unpaved roads, and furniture paint workshops.

Water contamination of the Pharaoh Sea area is due to agricultural and sewage drainage and disposal of waste from cheese factories. Waste disposed in this area destroys fisheries prepared by local administration. In addition, portions of the Pharaoh Sea have been reclaimed and filled with soil to construct high buildings.

There is a lack of proper equipment for solid waste collection. The current equipment is in a very bad state and the collection containers lack top covers.

There is a lack of medical waste incinerators. In addition, meat butcheries and other businesses need incinerators.

Second: Legislative Framework

Law 4/1994 is the current legislative framework for addressing environmental issues, and requires environmental impact assessments to be prepared prior to the establishment of any building. Legal enforcement bodies have insufficient authority to stop the contamination of water streams.

Third: Institutional Support

Menouf's Environmental Management Units EMU cooperates with a number of key partners: local departments of irrigation, industrial safety, agriculture, police, and health, as well as the EEAA.

Fourth: Resource Mobilization

The Menouf EMU is not autonomous. Consequently, no budget is allocated for it. It depends on resources from Menoufiya Governorate to support environmental projects. The EEAA provides the Menouf EMU with some measurement equipment and computers. Therefore, Donations collected from businessmen, together with a portion of the collected fines, collected money provides resources to support environmental projects. More over The allocated budget for training activities is small.

Fifth: Capacity Building And training

Current training activities do not address the needs of Menouf EMU officials.

Capacity to implement training programmes is very weak and training topics are repeated. Key Requirements for Capacity Building:

- Generally, there is a need for training, especially in the following topics:
- Environmental impact assessments of different establishments
- The use of measurement equipment
- Environmental inspection
- Legal enforcement authority

AGREED PRIORITIES

- Develop the institutional set-up of the Menouf EMU.
- Build local community associations' capacities to work in the environmental field.
- Mitigate bureaucratic procedures and support partnerships.
- Ensure that the EMU obtains a percentage of collected revenue (environmental fines).
- Support the Menouf EMU financially and provide it with essential measurement equipment.
- Develop training programmes for Menouf EMU officials to improve their performance.
- Implement awareness-raising programmes for inhabitants.
- Implement programmes addressing all kinds of pollution, especially noise and air pollution and pollution resulting from garbage accumulation.

B- Case Of Tanta City

The city suffers from several environmental problems, mainly the solid waste disposal due to the lack of desert hinterland that could enable it to build a new solid waste plant.

First: Urban Environment Issues

The lack of integrated solid waste management system

It's expected that the wells will dry in a period of 3 years or empoisoned due to high percentage of Manganese.

Contamination of water streams as a result of direct disposal of sewage. Moreover, there is Insufficiency of current sewage treatment plants.

High rates of air pollution due to increasing cars' exhaust and smoke from hospitals' incinerators burning rice shaft in agricultural lands result in air pollution in the city.

Mix of industrial and residential activities including workshops and factories.

AGREED PRIORITIES

Develop institutional setup of Tanta environmental management unit (EMU).

Support local community associations' capacities to be able to work in the environmental field.

Mitigate bureaucratic procedures and support partnership establishment.

▪ EMU obtain a percentage of collected revenues from environmental fines.

Support Tanta EMU financially and provide it with essential equipments.

Implement raising awareness programs for inhabitants.

▪ Developing training programs for Tanta EMU officials to raise their performance.

Second: Legislative Framework

EMUs find difficulties to commit big plants to comply with environmental regulations, while small plants most probably respond positively. .

Third: Institutional Support

Tanta EMU cooperates with a number of key partners; local departments of irrigation, industrial safety, agriculture, police, health and EEAA.

Fourth: Resource Mobilization

There is no allocated budget for Tanta Environmental Management Unit (EMU), Mobilization of resources for environmental projects comes from: Governorate service fund and sometimes from local development since it contributed with two composting factories..

Fifth: Capacity Building & Training

weak training on environmental impact assessment (EIA), environmental screening models and evaluating the implementation of environmental conditions.

3-1-4 Comments

RUSPS method are defining existing situation. This approach was participatory and inclusive in identifying priority issues and action in areas of shelter, governance, gender, economy, and environment. The rapid assessment has shown potential involvement of the public and civil society as well as elected leaders in decision-making.

In the environmental profiles of both Tanta and Menouf city, Urban Environment Issues, were investigated to draw a clear illustration about the cases.

Legislative framework, institutional support, resources and capacities were tested to check the availability to achieve proposed vision and objectives.

Both Tanta and Menouf cities were agreed on the priority of developing an environmental management unit (EMU), of supporting local community associations' capacities to be able to work in the environmental field, and of raising awareness programs for inhabitants.

3-2 The SWOT Analysis

3-2-1 Case Of Menouf City

Table (3) the SWOT analysis of environmental situation of Menouf city

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities	Threats	Priorities
REGULATORY AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK				
Governorate is concerned with environmental issues and exerts serious efforts to improve environmental conditions. Coordination between Menouf EMU and different actors: the police, the agriculture sector, the irrigation sector, and persons involved in industrial safety.	Menouf EMU lacks institutional support. Legal enforcement authority is not sufficient to stop contamination of water streams. Local community associations in Menouf city have no activities related to the environment. Non-compliance of private sector owners with environmental regulations , especially if they are costly.	The availability of financial resources from the central governorate to support environmental projects. UN-HABITAT and World Bank project is considered an opportunity for development.	Slowdown of court procedures in finalising environmental cases. Lack of measurement equipment results in reducing monitoring and inspection activities.	Mitigate bureaucratic procedures and support partnerships. Develop institutional set-up of Menouf EMU Improve local community associations 'capacities to work in the environmental field.
RESOURCE MOBILISATION – FINANCE				
EEAA provides Menouf EMU with some equipment and instruments, though they are not sufficient. Donations are collected from businessmen and ,together with part of the collected fines, go directly to the services fund. The collected money provides resources to support environmental projects.	EMU has no allocated budget because it is mainly a coordinating unit. Thus it depends on some resources from the central governorate Menouf EMU lacks measurement equipment and transportation means. There is improper and insufficient equipment for solid waste collection. There is no budget allocated for environmental awareness.	The availability of financial resources from the centre – the Ministry of Local Development and EEAA are to support some environmental projects, though the funds are not sufficient. UN-HABITAT and World Bank concern about Menouf , considering it one of the priority cities for development	Collected revenues from environmental fines that go directly to the environmental protection fund in Cairo progressively weaken the EMU. Lack of equipment essential for environmental monitoring progressively reduces capacities.	Assist Menouf EMU to obtain a percentage of collected revenues from environmental fines. Support Menouf EMU financially and provide it with essential measurement equipment.
PERFORMANCE – REDUCING POLLUTION				
Governorate inclusion of environmental issues (such as air pollution and safe disposal of solid waste) in development plans. Governorate made an effort to force factories to comply with environmental regulations.	Contamination of water streams due to agricultural waste and sewage disposal. High rates of air pollution from different sources. Mix of industrial and residential activities produces harmful emissions, besides noise and annoyance. training are not addressing the needs of Menouf EMU officials .Allocated budget for training activities is rather weak and the training topics are repeated. No allocated budget for awareness-raising programmes .Resistance of private sector to environmental regulations , especially if they are costly.	The Governorate concern about environmental issues. General administration for fishery is exerting efforts to preserve fishery in the Pharaoh Sea. The availability of an incinerator in Sers El-Lian , which could be used temporarily.	Continuation of sewage disposal in water streams will increase water contamination in the future and thus increase the spread of diseases. Villages surrounding the Pharaoh Sea will result in the loss of fish. Solid waste accumulation in city streets results in the spread of diseases. Uncontrolled industrial areas will lead to high rates of noise and air pollution, affecting residential areas.	Developing training programmes for Menouf EMU officials to improve their performance. Implement awareness-raising programmes for inhabitants. Implement programmes addressing all kinds of pollution , especially noise pollution and garbage accumulation.

Source: UN-habitat, 2006, profile of Menouf city, paper by consultants team

3-2-2 Case Of Tanta City

Table (4) the SWOT analysis of environmental situation of Tanta city

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities	Threats	Priorities
REGULATORY and INSTITUTIONAL FRAMWORK				
<p>Governorate concern for environmental issues , particularly, solid waste problem.</p> <p>Coordination between Tanta EMU and different actors such as: police ,agriculture, irrigation , industrial safety. .</p> <p>Promoting workshops for public partnerships between city council and community associations to perform environmental projects.</p> <p>The existence of a number of community associations working in the field of environment improvement.</p>	<p>Tanta EMU suffers from the lack of essential instruments and measurement equipments in addition to police deficiency to support its work .</p> <p>Non-compliance of big establishments' owners with environmental conditions .</p> <p>Ineffectiveness of institutional and administrative capabilities of community associations.</p> <p>They are in need to build their capacities specially in dealing with donor agencies .</p> <p>Bureaucratic procedures are main obstacle facing community associations to perform local partners .</p>	<p>The availability of financial resources from the center to support environmental projects .</p> <p>UN-Habitat and World Bank project is considered an opportunity for development.</p>	<p>Slowdown of court procedures in finalizing environmental cases.</p> <p>Lack of a unified & generalized format for environmental citations at country level in order to make the procedures much faster .</p> <p>Lack of measurement equipments results in reducing the rate of monitoring and inspection activities .</p>	<p>Develop institutional setup of Tanta environmental management unit (EMU).(Support local community associations' capacities to be able to work in the environmental field.</p>
RESOURCE MOBILIZATION - FINANCE				
<p>The availability of financial resources from the state budget, local development and EEAA for environmental improvement projects.</p> <p>Some of community associations working in the environmental field receive donations from foreign agencies.</p> <p>Business men contribute to environmental projects.</p>	<p>EMU doesn't obtain any financial resources because it's mainly a coordinating unit.</p> <p>There is no budget allocated for environmental awareness.</p> <p>Lack of finance is a big obstacle facing the implementation of local community associations' activities in the field of environment .</p>	<p>World Bank concern about Tanta as one of the priority cities for development .</p>	<p>Collected revenues from environmental fines go directly to the environment preservation fund in Cairo.</p> <p>Lack of financial resources allocated for EMU results in lack of equipments ,thus reducing the rate of inspection activities .</p>	<p>Tanta EMU obtain a percentage of collected revenues from environmental fines .</p> <p>Support Tanta EMU financially and provide it with equipments.</p>
PERFORMANCE – REDUCING POLLUTION				
<p>Governorate inclusion of environmental issues in development plans .</p> <p>EMU officials coordinate & cooperate with consultancy centers in Tanta and Menoufia Universities.</p> <p>Achieving a number of partnerships with different actors for environmental improvement projects.</p> <p>Community associations cooperate with social affairs to solve the problems in areas which are uncovered by local authorities .</p>	<p>Accumulation of waste in the streets results in diseases & health problems via insects .</p> <p>Non-compliance of private sector with environmental conditions specially if they are costly .</p> <p>Scarcity of training courses specialized in environmental management.</p> <p>Lack of residents' environmental awareness, besides lack of awareness programs.</p> <p>Rice straw is burned resulting in high rates of air pollution .</p> <p>Production of more than 5 tons/day medical waste with 2 incinerators out of 6 are not working.</p>	<p>An area of 100 feddans in Sadat city was allocated</p> <p>The availability of a piece of land since 25 years, located in Shabsheer El-Hessa and its area is 36 feddan. The land can be used as a landfill or to build the rice straw recycling plant .Community associations showed interest in funding such project .</p>	<p>The far distance of the allocated area for landfill in Sadat city (about 60-70 km), could lead in the future to people denial due to the high cost of transportation .</p> <p>Continuation of sewage disposal in water streams will increase water contamination in the future & thus increase the rate of diseases' spread .</p> <p>Dependence of half of Tanta city on wells for drinking water. It's expected that the wells dry in a period of 3 years or empoison due to high percentage of Manganese .</p>	<p>Implement raising awareness programs for inhabitants .</p> <p>Developing training programs for Tanta EMU officials to raise their performance .</p>

Source: UN-habitat, 2006, profile of Tanta city, by consultants team

3-2-3 comments

The SWOT analysis of both and Tanta city demonstrate through the analysis of regulatory and institutional framework that both Governorates concerned for environmental issues ,particularly, solid waste problem but lack of essential instruments and measurement equipments in addition to police deficiency to support its work, this fact results in reducing the rate of monitoring and inspection activities ..

Due to the lack of resources and wealness of finance Donations are collected from businessmen and ,together with part of the collected fines, go directly to the services fund. The collected money provides resources to support environmental projects.

Although the efforts done from the part of the two cities to reduce pollution the major problem of pollution of drinking water or air sti threat dwellers of the two cities

3-3 Proposed Environmental Projects

3-3-1- Case Of Menouf

First pro-environment project:

Establishing an area for craftsmen outside Menouf city, relocating all noisy workshops from inside the city

Menouf city suffers from the spread of small workshops, which interpenetrate with residential activities and produce air pollution and noise. The proposed project is a civilised vision for the city

OBJECTIVES: To minimise air and noise pollution in Menouf city in order to achieve higher standards. To gather small workshops in a well-planned area far from residential areas. To reuse the empty sites for urban development (after relocating the small workshops). To create job opportunities for the youth.

Second pro-environment project:

Developing an occupational training centre affiliated with the housing directorate, in order to train youth in micro-enterprise development

The occupational training centre in Menouf city, which is affiliated with the housing directorate, is not adequate to fulfil the training needs of the youth. In addition, there is a lack of available resources to develop it.

OBJECTIVES: To improve small business skills. To create job opportunities for the youth. To open up new markets for products..

3-3-2 Cases Of Tanta City

First pro-environment project:

Transferring workshops from inside Tanta city to Al-Egeezy area (about 20 feddans).

Tanta city suffers from the spread of small workshops which interpenetrate with residential activities, resulting in air pollution and noise. The proposed project is a civilized vision for the city.

OBJECTIVES: To minimize air pollution and noise rates in Tanta city in order to reach standards. To gather small workshops in a well planned area far from residential areas. Reuse of empty sites of small workshops after moving them for urban development.

Second pro-environment project:

Develop an integrated system for solid waste with focus on recycling activities, specifically, agriculture waste.

Tanta city suffers from solid waste accumulation, Tanta Governorate developed many activities to improve solid waste (SW) service, it could be considered as one of the best practices. However, some coordination is still needed to achieve an integrated SW management system

OBJECTIVES: To establish an integrated solid waste management system. To raise cleansing level in Tanta city and minimize pollution and diseases.

3-3-3 Comments

As in the RUSPS Method, the profiles conduct the process in all issues, including environmental issues, until the translation of concerns into priority projects and the demonstration of the ways of its implementation and the partners who are involved.

As all old cities, Tanta and Menouf, being located in the Delta with limited expansion, suffer from the spread of small workshops, which interpenetrate with residential activities, resulting in air pollution and noise. In order to minimise air and noise pollution in both cities and to achieve higher standards of living.

4- FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION

- The environmental and nature considerations are deficiently treated and confined to defining some natural zones to be protected or conserved. This protection always failed to be implemented because of the lack of corresponding management or investment
- In the traditional approach, there was an understanding of the environment and nature, as resources that must be studied in order to realize the maximum profit, to serve tourism development.
- It is a more appropriate approach providing the balance between socio economic interests and products taking into considerations, the international situation, and competing destination.
- It identifies the proposals, which can fully be implemented, by taking into consideration, needs, and financial abilities of the potential clientele.
- Environmental issues through this approach have a relatively secondary importance to other factors controlling the decision. its lack the considerable weight accordingly to the importance of nature and environment.
- Even this approach is modified to reinforce the implementation phase by creating a monitoring system to readapt plans according to changes, but the environmental problem is remaining, because of the inadequate relative consideration of its irreversible impacts.
- Some earlier efforts tried to improve the environment. These approaches actually failed according to its non-reliance on a specific place disregarding the specific environmental condition lead to contradictive results.
- The environmental impact assessment is a way to forecast environmental impact resulting from development. This way succeeds in transforming damages to environmental degradation resulting by man-made actions in quantitative means. Then comparison between environmental factors and other qualitative factor would be acceptable.
- Therefore, the problem remains when the loss of environmental values could not be translated in physical or economical loss, as result of mining and stone quarries. Such environmental impact may not be of valuable importance versus economic gains due to those actions. Consequently, environmental impact assessment is not then taken into consideration and then it cannot defend environmental values, in other term; this approach can only be useful when

environmental damages cause direct economical damages that are greater than the economic benefit in the short term.

- According to that perception, other forces such as economical and political forces has great domination in taking decision to realizing the maximum benefit which has very short term benefit.
- The incorporation of the environmental dimension through this tool enables the cities to address their critical environmental problems, possible stakeholders and their capacities to deal with these problems and the possible priority projects that should be implemented to improve the overall living environment within the city. Such an important dimension has been neglected for long time in other traditional urban planning methods such as master planning.
- RUSPS method is an approach that put equivalent weights for different issues including environment, which go through profiling, analyzing, and then choosing concerned projects.
- RUSPS method are defining existing situation. This approach was participatory and inclusive in identifying priority issues and action in areas of shelter, governance, gender, economy, and environment. The rapid assessment has shown potential involvement of the public and civil society as well as elected leaders in decision-making.
- In the environmental profiles of both Tanta and Menouf city, Urban Environment Issues, were investigated to draw a clear illustration about the cases.
- Legislative framework, institutional support, resources and capacities were tested to check the availability to achieve proposed vision and objectives.
- Both Tanta and Menouf cities were agreed on the priority of developing an environmental management unit (EMU), of supporting local community associations' capacities to be able to work in the environmental field, and of raising awareness programs for inhabitants.
 - The analysis of the environmental situation at both cities, shows that the collected revenues from environmental fines go directly to the environment preservation fund in Cairo. Lack of financial resources allocated for EMU results in lack of equipments. Lack of equipment essential for environmental monitoring progressively reduces capacities.
 - The SWOT analysis of both and Tanta city demonstrate through the analysis of regulatory and institutional framework that both Governorates concerned for environmental issues ,particularly, solid waste problem but lack of essential instruments and measurement equipments in addition to police deficiency to support its work, this fact results in reducing the rate of monitoring and inspection activities ..
 - Due to the lack of resources and weakness of finance Donations are collected from businessmen and ,together with part of the collected fines, go directly to the services fund. The collected money provides resources to support environmental projects.
 - Although the efforts done from the part of the two cities to reduce pollution the major problem of pollution of drinking water or air still threat dwellers of the two cities
 - In both Tanta City and Menouf city, chosen environmental projects are clearly joined to economic issues (creating job opportunities), which show the importance of stressing on environmental projects that have mutual benefit in the cases that faces severe economic problems.

- As all old cities, Tanta and Menouf, being located in the Delta with limited expansion, suffer from the spread of small workshops, which interpenetrate with residential activities, resulting in air pollution and noise. In order to minimise air and noise pollution in both cities and to achieve higher standards of living.
- As in the RUSPS Method, the profiles conduct the process in all issues, including environmental issues, until the translation of concerns into priority projects and the demonstration of the ways of its implementation and the partners who are involved.
- Based on participation, this method rise through its steps concerned of people and decision makers on the importance of environmental issues that are translated into priority projects..

REFERENCES

- Consultants Team (2006), Rapid urban profile for Sustainability for Menouf city, report, UN-habitat regional office, Cairo
- Consultants Team (2006), Rapid urban profile for Sustainability for Tanat city, report, UN-habitat regional office, Cairo
- GOPP (2007) www.gopp.org.eg
- Hassan G., El Refaie M., (2006), localization of RUSPS in Egypt, report, UN-habitat regional office, Cairo
- Hassan G., (2000) ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL THROUGH URBAN PLANNING, Development Of Tourist & Recreation Coastal Zones of the Mediterranean Sea, Unpublished Doctor of Philosophy dissertation, submitted to the Urban Planning Department, Faculty of Engineering - Ain Shams University
- Inskeep, E. ,, 1991– Tourism Planning: An Integrated And Sustainable Approach – Van Nostrand Reinhold
- Inskeep, E., and Kallenberger, M 1992- An Integrated Approach to Resort Development. Madrid , WTO Publications
- Lawson , F., 1998- Tourism And Recreation Handbook Of Planning And Design- Architectural press, Boston.
- Lewis, Philip H., 1996- Tomorrow By Design: A Regional Design Process For Sustainability- John Wiley & Sons, Inc.; USA, Canada
- Stankey, G. H. et al. (1985). “The Limits of Acceptable Charges (LAC) of Wilderness” Planning, Forest Service Technical Report, Int 176, Ogden, UTAH, USA
- UN-HABITAT, 2006, ROAAS Regional Programme,, Rapid Urban Sector Profiling for Sustainability (RUSPS) , UN-habitat , Nairobi, Kenya