

Mapping Informal Areas in Egypt Between the Past Interventions and Next Urban Revolution

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Abstract

This Paper is a clear attempt to analyze the efforts that done towards informal settlements in Egypt in the years with emphasis on the role of the public participation on the planning process. The aim of this paper is to map the dimensions of successful participation especially after the uprising of 25th of January revolution, the perception of participation must be different and deeper now, as in some previous cases; participation process was not completely transparent with the public, and in some cases the participation was limited or excluded to certain people or representative that worked with the government and doesn't represent the sound of local residents of informal areas. This will happen through studying and analyzing some cases of upgrading informal areas in Egypt and analyze its negative and positive points.

Keywords: GCR, public Participation, participatory planning, informal areas.

ملخص البحث

يهدف هذا البحث الي القاء الضوء وتحليل الجهود المبذولة التي تم القيام بها للتعامل مع المناطق العشوائية خلال العقود الماضية وتأثير المشاركة الشعبية على عملية التخطيط. ويهدف البحث أيضا الي محاولة فهم الأبعاد المختلفة التي أثرت على المشاركة وخصوصا بعد ثورة الخامس والعشرين من يناير، حيث أن إدراك مفهوم المشاركة لا بد أن يكون مختلفا وأعمق، وكما هو معروف من خلال النماذج والتجارب المختلفة، أن عملية المشاركة لا تمتاز بالشفافية الكاملة، وفي بعض الحالات تكون عملية المشاركة محدودة أو تجتنب بعض الأشخاص أو ممثلي بعض الكيانات. سيحدث ذلك من خلال دراسة وتحليل التجارب والممارسات المختلفة لتطوير المناطق العشوائية في مصر وتحليل النقاط الايجابية والسلبية بها.

1. Introduction

The challenge of upgrading slums is a global concern and a growing one. Slums are an increasing challenge that has a global apprehension. By 2030, it expected that 2 billion capita will be added to the world population, where most of this increase almost happens in urban areas (Pitcher, 2009). The large Egyptian cities have ceased to attract a large proportion of the migratory population. Greater Cairo, for example, now constitutes 17 percent of the total population, the same proportion as in 1966. The prime reason for this is an apparent "saturation" in the big cities for accommodating the low-income (or even very affluent) groups. (Kipper, 2011) In recent years, it has become obvious that informal housing is not just the domain of the poor but also important for the middle class, even the elite, of Second World and Third World cities (Roy & AlSayyad, 2004). Such trends point to a complex continuum of legality and illegality, where squatter settlements formed through land invasion and self-help housing can exist alongside upscale informal subdivisions formed through legal ownership and market transaction but in violation of land use regulations. (Roy, 2005)

According to UN-HABITAT's 2003 report, "Slums are the product of failed policies, bad governance, corruption and a lack of political will. Very few countries have recognized this critical situation, and very little effort is going into providing jobs or services" (El-Jesri, 2011). The failure of the Egyptian government's housing policy to provide affordable housing for a significant number of citizens has led many to build homes either semi-legally or illegally on privately-owned or public lands. (Kipper, 2011) Egyptian Governmental Intervention towards "Ashwaeyat" had passed through substantial phases. It was only a reaction of dramatic events or catastrophic incidence facing the state. Ways of intervention had mostly changed in accordance of the diagnosis of the apparent cause of this incidence. (Hassan, G. F. 2012)

2. The Definition of the (Informal Area)

Currently, the definition of what comprises a slum or informal is the argumentative issue. The term "slums" glimpsed not only wretched and miserable living circumstances, but also other key aspects of informality (The World Bank and UNCHS (Habitat), 2000) Currently, there are many connotations and concepts for the term "slum". It indicates poor residential districts where residents do not have land tenure, depicted by the poor quality of dwellings. (Carrie, 2009; UN-Habitat, 2003).

- The Egyptian Definition of the (Informal Area):

Formally, Decadent areas or poor-served urban areas are articulated by the term "Ashwaeyat", this term truly means "random," which beholds that these areas are unpremeditated and spontaneous with illegal constructions. These areas usually culminated the poor accessibility and congestion. The Egyptian term "Ashwaeyat" turned out to be a synonym in the traditional language which holds a contempt connotation. The media and governmental authorities considerably considered these areas as black splatters inside the urban agglomeration that comprise an entire assortment of illness, crime, and bad behavior. (Sims, 2003)

3. Informal Areas in Egypt

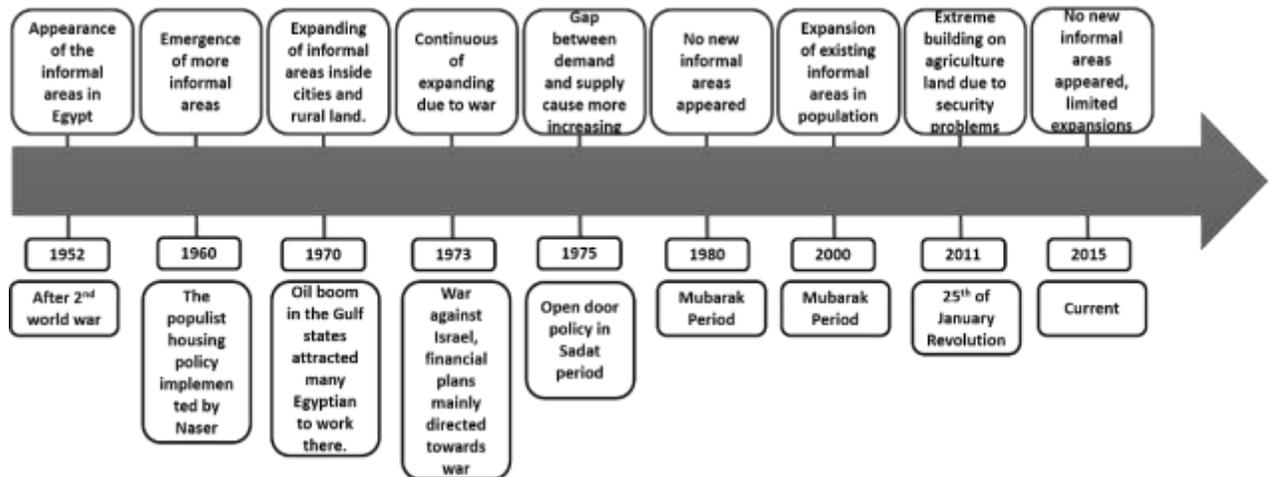
History of informal Areas in Egypt

The urban growth in Egypt expedited under the socialist government after 1952 revolution, where the government considered itself the preface of development, and latterly, that had a significant effect on the urban expansions of Cairo in the last five decades. (Sims, 2003). The progression of "Ashwaeyat" or slums phenomenon sped up during the fiftieth of last century, because of migration of people from rural to urban areas, where they looked for chances to work inside the city (Khalifa, 2011). The shift from an agriculture-based into industrial / service based economy, made the large cities more attractive for immigrants from rural areas. (Shehayeb, 2011) Therefore, that migration in addition to high demographic growth exaggerated the housing demand inside Cairo City. Also, the populist housing policy performed in Egypt during that period was also inconvenient for providing shelter to the poor and low-income families who were precipitating to the capital. (Séjourné, 2006)

During the oil boom period or the seventieth, many Egyptians who came back from Gulf cities wanted to invest their savings in buying residential units were the informal housing the only propitiate type for them because the formal supply still was inappropriate for their needs and affordability. (Khalifa, 2011) From 1967 till 1973, (The war against Israel), the military needs to be absorbed all financial resources. Hence, all investments in the public sector construction were limited. Furthermore, the popular demand was not achieved by the private sector. (Sims, 2003)

The informal urbanization procedure formed through different changes in socioeconomic conditions that affected later on the urban life inside those areas. As an example, when young people married they cannot find affordable housing in the planned housing sector due to high rental and selling value. As a result, a lot of units in the formal market are left empty, and there is no other choice for those young people from lower and medium financial classes to require their needs in the informal market. (Bayat & Denis, 2000) The supply remained in the market was fundamentally luxury housing, where most of the units were for sale not for rent. This was spectacularly accelerated after declaration of open door policy in 1974, stated by the remittances sent those days from people who were working in Gulf those days. (Sims, 2003). Accordingly, the gap was increasing day by day between supply and demand, were those slums areas became the only suitable solution for poor Egyptian people to live in this areas. (Hassan, G. F. 2012)

Figure (1) History of informal areas in Egypt



(Researchers, 2015)

Egypt after 1973 war, through President Sadat, was engaged in a new economic policy called "Open Door Economic Policy," where more openness economically and politically towards the east was the new situation, the economy shifted to the market economy instead of the state-controlled economy. The middle and luxurious strata housing had provided through the private sector, where on the other side, the government announced that low-income housing should be its responsibility. Moreover, the government released itself from rental housing, and defended the rent control policy, just with immaterial amendments. (El-Batran & Arandel, 1998). Since 1980, almost there were new slums

areas manifested; yet, the rate of growth of the existing informal areas was not decreased, despite the drop in rates of population growth, in addition to issuing rigid mensuration that deprive contravention the agriculture land like military decrees no. 1 and 7. (Khalifa, 2011)

Governmental Bodies Responsible for Informal Areas in Egypt:

Ministry of Housing represented in general organization for physical planning (GOPP) was the State Authority responsible for informal areas in Egypt before 2008, but we must mention that the state land authority in some cases can be governorates, governmental bodies or even private companies. But after 2008, the Informal Settlement Development Facility "ISDF" become the governmental body that responsible for putting upgrading plans for informal areas in Egypt, but currently due to fund and priorities issues all work is dedicated for the unsafe area only, and accordingly GOPP still the administrative body responsible for putting development programs for other informal areas (unplanned areas).

Analyzing some Statistics/ Characteristics of Informal Areas in Egypt:

There is no accurate or consistent data about the exact no. of people live in Egyptian slums areas, consequently, obtaining factual and efficient plans, policies and budgets need precise and cohesive data and information. (Sabry, 2009) Nowadays, not only the poor people who lived in the slums areas, about 17 million Egyptians live in slums areas stated by the governmental authorities. (Shehayeb, 2011) according to a ministry of social development, more than 1100 informal settlements are existing in Egypt; accommodate more than 17 million people (about 25 of total population). (The Cities Alliance, 2008) The population profile implicates a broad spectrum of socio-economic classes, like professionals, employees, doctors, engineers, shops' owners and craftsmen, where the prevalent prototype is the family-owned apartment building. Informal areas have many potentials, such as "self-adequacy" of daily and weekly needs, "walkability", "suitability" and "Homework vicinity", "security" and "precaution of public amenities". (Shehayeb, 2011)

Types of Informal Areas

Informal areas can be classified according to the type of land as shown in the following table:

Table (1) types of informal areas based on land type

Prior agriculture land comprises informal buildings	Prior desert state land includes informal buildings	Decadent Historic Core	Decadent Urban Pockets
The process in this type happens where former agriculture lands divided into several parts to many buyers, where everyone constructs his private building without building license. (Sims, 2003) In lots of cases, good quality concrete structures are identified, with 3 and above floor height.	This process is called, "Hand claim," where inhabitants have constructed their buildings on vacant state lands, which is similar to the Latin America typology. . (The Cities Alliance, 2008) (Hassan, G. F. 2012)	The medieval urban fabric had an effect on some of old Egyptian cities that characterized by old, deteriorated structures that lead to discomfited ownership. (Sims, 2003)	Problematic land tenure status leads to the presence of these pockets, where poor people who need to the frugal allowable housing

4. Past Intervention from Governmental towards Informal Areas (from its Emergence till the 25th Revolution)

Plans before the Establishing of ISDF (1970-2008)

"Site and services" and "settlement upgrading" were two pilot projects that exemplified an extra shift in governmental intervention with slums; those projects were corroborative by World Bank, the Egyptian government, in addition to many international grantees. These projects started in Ismailia, Helwan and Mansheit Nasser districts in (1977-1978-1979) respectively, and then in Nasseriya in Aswan in 1986. (Egyptian Cabinet, 2011).

Before the early 1990s, Informal settlements were usually neglected by public officials. With a lack of government recognition of the Ashwaeyat, as being informal housing that were built in disagreements of the laws of planning and construction.

Providing Urban Services like; electricity, clean water, sanitary, paved road for 325 informal areas besides developing more than 13 deteriorated areas with total cost 3.2 Billion L.E. (Egyptian Cabinet, 2011). Subsequent government interventions were aiming to upgrade informal areas by providing needed services and amenities. However, the provision of infrastructure to the informal settlements had encouraged their growth. Therefore, these areas also suffer from a lack of infrastructure and services, and often from such problems as a high rate of unemployment and illiteracy. In 1996 was the first definition cited in ElShoura report of informal settlement that addressed to the inhabitants as part of the problem and needed an integrated approach combining infrastructural and socio-economic development. In 1997, Hernando De Soto's ILD and ECES conducted a comprehensive multi-year study of informality in Egypt. (Hassan, G. F. 2012)

Informal Settlement Development Programs

First Stage: 1994 - 2004 Informal Settlements Development Program

Providing Basic Urban Services (electricity, municipal cleanliness, water, sanitary

drainage, road paving) for about 325 informal areas and developed 13 deteriorated areas with expenditure total cost 3.2 Billion L.E. (Egyptian Cabinet, 2011). Subsequent government interventions aiming to upgrade informal areas by providing needed services and amenities. However, the provision of infrastructure to the informal settlements had encouraged their growth. Therefore, these areas also suffer from a lack of infrastructure and services, and often from such problems as a high rate of unemployment and illiteracy. In 1996 was the first definition cited in ElShoura report of informal settlement that addressed to the inhabitants as part of the problem and needed an integrated approach combining infrastructural and socio-economic development. In 1997, Hernando De Soto's ILD and ECES conducted a comprehensive multi-year study of informality in Egypt. (Hassan, G. F. 2012)

Second Stage: 2004 - 2008 Informal Settlements Belting Program

Focus on supporting local government in preparing detailed plans to enable development efforts for restricting the growth of informal areas. (Egyptian Cabinet, 2011). In 2008; The Egyptian government started to incorporate the issues of community participation by the Law 119 of the year 2008. Additionally; the legalization of land tenure of upgrading projects in several areas developed on State-owned land by refunding policies through selling the land to the government. The price of the land fixed per square meter applicable to each zone (ranging from LE 50-200 depending on location). (Madbouly, 2006).

Figure (2) Manshiat Nasser accident in 2008. (ISDF, 2011)



Towards offering credits and microcredit's for poor, The Social Development Fund was established to consolidate this idea. It supports the establishment of small business. It offers many programs performed for youth, women, and poor. On the other hand, the government established The National Committee for Women to defend rights of women, to protect her from violence and to secure social development. (Hassan, G. F. 2012)

Plans after the establishing of Informal Settlement Development Facility "ISDF"

History of establishing Informal Settlement Development Facility "ISDF"

In manshiat Naser In September 2008, a large rock fell from a cliff of the mountain, burying some 35 houses beneath. This catastrophe was not the first of its kind, and experts are warning that it might happen again. (Gerlach, 2011). Before this accident, Ashwaeyat was classified according to the type of major problems. "Unplanned areas" mainly suffer from narrow streets and lack of BUS; "Unsafe areas" are unsecure for souls of its inhabitants and need to be redeveloped. So the informal settlement development fund "ISDF" was established. (Hassan, G. F. 2012) ISDF has established as a fund to support

local government in the provision of safe housing on cost recovery basis. The eradication of Unsafe Areas was the Priority. (Egyptian Cabinet, 2011). Unsafe areas are areas that posing risks to residents, this due to tenure, health or the unsafe houses. These happened due to the buildings experiencing severe deterioration over time, being located in a hazardous site or exposed to the bad health condition such as lack of safe drinking water or basic sanitation. (Khalifa, 2011).

The Informal Settlement Development Facility “ISDF” strategy and policy

ISDF was established In October 2008 by a Presidential Decree # 305/2008 with the primary objective to coordinate all efforts and finance for the development of what were formerly called “Ashwaeyat”. The Egyptian Cabinet directly heads the ISDF. The management board of the ISDF has memberships of; the Minister of Local Development (president) and six Ministries, 53 experts and three representatives from NGOs, civil society organizations, and the private sector. The primary sources of funding for the ISDF are including the national budget, loans, donations, grants and revenues from cost recovery. (Presidential Decree, 2008)To define what is slum areas, the ISDF made a paradigm shift by replacing the term “Slums” or “Informal Settlements” or “Ashwaeyat” by two terms; “Unsafe Areas” and “Unplanned areas”. Unsafe areas are characterized by being subject to life threat, or having inappropriate housing, or exposed to health risk or tenure risks while unplanned areas are principally areas that are known by its noncompliance to planning and building laws and regulations. (Khalifa, 2011).

Table (3) difference between unplanned areas – Unsafe area according to the ISDF definition. (ISDF, 2013)

Unplanned area	unsafe area
	
<p>Unplanned areas are 60% of urban areas. Density 500 person/ feddan. Building heights 4-10 floors. Provides optimum level of safe housing. Needs long term development.</p>	<p>Unsafe areas are 1% of urban areas. Density 200 person/ feddan. Building heights 1-2 floors. Doesn't provide safe housing. Needs immediate intervention.</p>

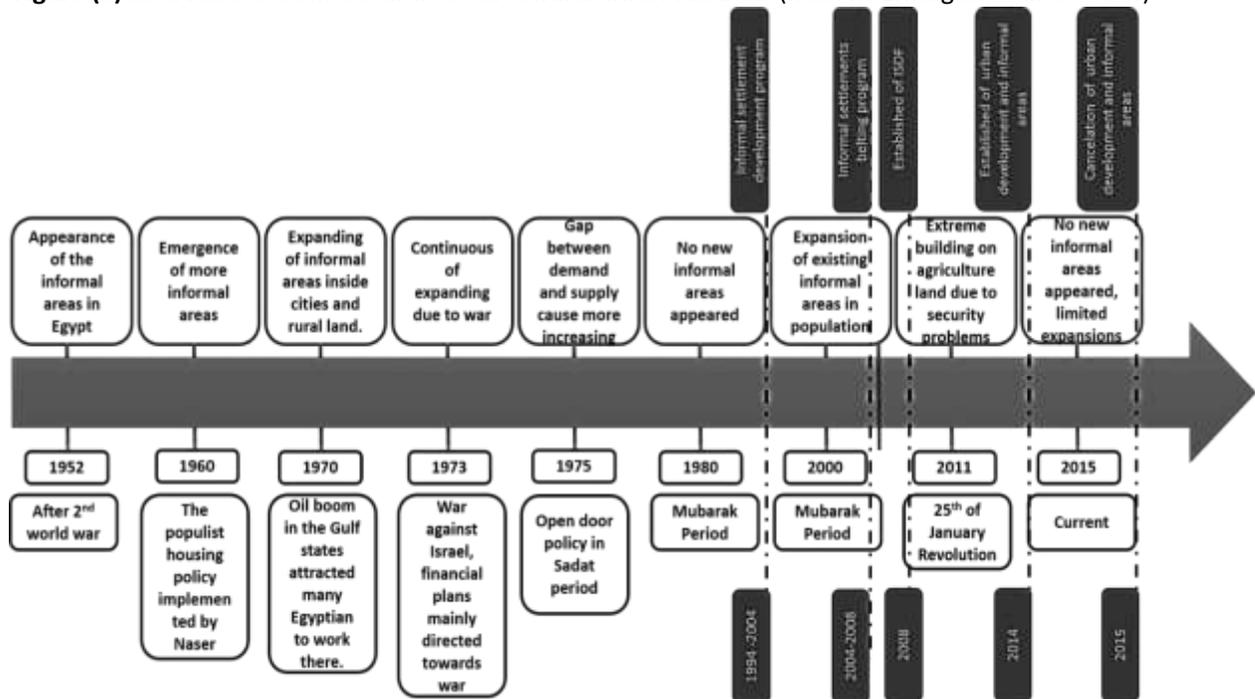
Grades are ordered according to the degree of risk, thus the higher risk overrules the lower. Based on the initial estimates by the ISDF unplanned areas constitute 60% of the total urban area, while unsafe areas constitute 1%. (El-Faramay, 2011). On the other hand, a national strategy was formulated by the Ministry of the housing to define Ways

of intervention in existing informal areas and preventing the formation of new informal areas at the same time. The governmental intervention was enabling formal lands for needed housing and services, and social housing that absorb population increase and preventing the informal growth. Even though that there is a conceptual shift in the ways of dealing with “Ashwaeyat” to respond to different incidences, but in fact, governmental intervention in the unplanned area was not varying. (Madbouly & Lashin, 2003)

The ministry of urban renewal and informal settlements

In 2014, the ministry of urban renewal and informal settlements was established to supervise the ISDF from one hand and also the enhancement and improvement of rundown neighbourhoods with the cleanliness of the city. Unfortunately, this ministry was cancelled in 2015 and nothing recording towards its achievements or work toward the unplanned & unsafe areas in Egypt.

Figure (3) Intervention from Governmental towards Informal Areas (from its Emergence till the now)



Role of NGOs & Private organization towards informal areas in Egypt

In Egypt there are various efforts that have been exerted towards promoting the participatory planning approach to the informal areas. These efforts are driven mainly by the international firms such as the UN-Habitat, the GTZ, SIDA, DFID and JICA. These projects are usually being done with the acknowledgment of the cooperation with a local authority and are implemented through local consultants. There are fewer attempts that have been driven by local initiatives and these are usually not publicly available. (Salheen, 2006). The intervention of unplanned areas was to decrease population density through enlarging roads, provide public transportation and to encourage the contribution of civil society and NGOs to focus on socio-economic needs for developments. (Madbouly & Lashin, 2003)

5. Current Situation of Informal Areas in Egypt after the Revolution:

The Revolution Effect:

The Egyptian youth played a great role on the 25th January revolution, which has ended by the president, stepped down on 11th February 2011. One of the most noticed things in this revolution that it was done by Egyptians from different backgrounds, ages, education, and gender. They shared one dream; to enhance their living conditions, living in dignity and feel freedom. The revolution effect echoed everywhere, all the people got involved in a way or another in rebuilding Egypt with a motive of shaping their future differently. As we are now practicing the democracy for the first time, some Egyptians think that making demonstrations in every field or areas complaining from certain issue is the democracy, but in fact the solution of our problems won't come by that way, we need people to work together to understand their role in building their new community. It is expected now from everyone to share in building Egypt including with them the residents of the informal areas which represent the high percent of whole Egypt's population.

Community Perspective towards Residents of Unplanned or Unsafe areas "Ashwaeyat"

Inherited generations of Egyptian look bad for the people of the informal areas, accusing them of crime, most of them are "Baltagy" and this is what emerged clearly during the Egyptian revolution and what happened during clashes in some times, as the state media try to convince the public that the cause of these clashes is the population of the neighbouring informal areas. Even if those residents of informal areas make a lot of protest marches prove that they are not the instigators in any way in these actions. In fact, those people are everywhere, as mentioned above that the total informal settlement in Egypt (unplanned – unsafe) represent almost 65% of the urban areas in Egypt. That means that they are everywhere, we cannot neglect them anymore and we must stop marginalizing them, because they are a fact and we must involve them in the community, as well as sharing them in the democracy process.

Situation of Informal Areas after the Revolution (Negative – Positive Impacts)

As informal areas in Egypt is illegal buildings that were built without any license and rarely the police were represented there, additionally to this situation the 25th revolution played a role in breaking the barrier between the government and people, before the revolution people think that they are against law and the police or any governmental body is their enemy and they are going to arrest them.

But as mentioned that; the revolution helped in changing this perception or by another word it empowering the residents of the informal area in a way or another. This strange situation that happened after the revolution helped in creating new problems in these areas besides some positive points that will be mentioned in the next part.

Negative Impacts of the Revolution:

One of the major negative impacts of the revolution is the security issue, as after the

struggling of the police power people change their attitude and now they are not afraid of this body. As an impact, many crimes appeared in that area, from kidnaping, drug dealers and other crimes. And people had to secure themselves by themselves. This situation didn't stop till now, because the power of police to enter those areas is now very small, and people are not afraid from police as they were.

Another negative impact of the revolution is the growing in the construction of informal housing more and more in urban and in rural areas. People use the transition period that the country passing through to build more illegal housing very fast. And the result is more informal buildings that have minimum access to infrastructure, have a problem in the air supply and sun for the dwelling.

As a result of this uncontrolled increase in the informal housing in those areas, many other problems appeared like building in agriculture lands that has increased rapidly after the revolution besides putting the government in a great challenge in the coming future because of all this illegal housing.

Beside all the above problems; unplanned markets appeared everywhere not only in informal areas but in many other areas in Egypt. But the main problem in those informal markets that there is no control or monitoring by the governorate on them after the revolution and they grow day after day despite of some efforts from the ISDF to survey this illegal markets.

Positive Impacts of the Revolution:

“Urban governance can be defined as the sum of the many ways individuals and institutions, public and private, plan and manage the common affairs of the city. It is a continuing process through which conflicting or diverse interests may be accommodated and cooperative action can be taken. It includes formal institutions as well as informal arrangements and the social capital of citizens” (UNDP, 2010).

One of the most noticed things after the revolution is the empowerment of residents at the expense of the governmental bodies. Based on this; the definition of the governance is now redlined again and accordingly will change as the people expected to play a great role in their future and not just watching what other doing with their life. Validating the meaning of governance is one of the aims of the 25th revolution and must be implemented with the help of people that more and more now regaining their right and have equal opportunities.

Change in Democratic Life & its Impact on any Future Intervention in Informal Areas

Egyptians participated in two elections after the revolution which informal areas present a large percentage, residents of the informal area know now that they are like other Egyptian citizens that have rights and present a vote. This echoed in the real by stopping of one of the major plans in Egypt which is the Cairo2050 development plan that prepared by the GOPP before the revolution. The stopping of this plan because it continue a scenario of changing the look of Cairo city in the coming future to be a competitive city, and in order to do that many informal areas were suggested to be removed. This

investment approach was done away from people or the residents of the area. As an impact of the revolution, this plan stopped because people who demonstrate to change their life to the better will not accept strangers to move them again and play with their life. The same problem happened in other plans like Maspero development project and Embaba development project. One of them stopped and other struggled due to people opposition of the project.

The main problem before the revolution is that participation might be carried in some development or re-planning projects, but the representative of public in this participation were from NGOs that by some way or another follow the old regime and of course it looked for the benefit of the government instead of the local people, other problem that in some of this projects no public participation were done at all, and the third type that the solutions that are offered for the residents of this area were not enough and didn't match their expectation so they came back after leaving their informal area.

People in informal areas were taking care of themselves, and this includes schooling, healthcare, food supply, and social services. People there know what needs to be done to better their community, but there are no channels for them to take part officially in civil society and government. Although this area is part of the country nothing has improved in those areas till now. Residents are avoiding governmental institutions and not considering them as window an efficient mechanism to better their lives. After the revolution this situation increased and people there put their eyes on the representative of the parliament which is for them owning the magic stick that can change their coming future, and this is another problem in those are.

Many Efforts of Upgrading but no Impact:

As mentioned above people in informal areas are now empowering day after day from one hand and from other hand the government till now didn't find new techniques for future intervention in those area and leave to NGOs, and nongovernmental bodies to solve this dilemma. Some residents of those feel that they have been a case study for years and nothing really changed their level of life or enhanced their community. They waited for ages and now after the revolution they are searching for a fast intervention and fast impact on their life, and currently the ISDF is working only on the unsafe areas leaving the unplanned areas which represent 60 percent of the whole informal areas without any intervention. Also as an impact of the revolution the government allows for the private campaigns or NGOs to develop those areas or collect money for them (like the milliard campaign of Mohamed Sobhy which is aiming to collect donations nationally & internationally for the upgrading of the informal areas). But all this effort doesn't have any deep impact on most of those areas till now, and people there till now still find solutions for their problems alone despite some help they got from parliament representative towards supplying some missing essential goods.

6. Conclusions & Recommendation

The annual housing need of limited-income groups in urban areas is conservatively estimated between 165,000 and 197,000 units. The National Housing Program (NHP),

with its pledge of 85,000 units per year, would thus cover almost 50 percent of the estimated need. Besides that many laws and decrees since the 60s till now directly caused the growth of "Ashwaeyat" in Egypt. The rental control law, before 1967, that froze housing rent to ensure affordability, caused the withdrawal of Private sector from the housing market, resulting in the long-run in a deficit in housing stock mainly for lower-income groups. (Hassan, 2011). The old housing policies from the 1950s till the 1970s had led to the housing shortage, and the exacerbation of informal housing, land speculation in urban areas combined with the lack of access to State land by different low-income segments, reluctance to register real estate or housing properties and lack of financial resources for housing development.

While in the 80s to the early 2000s emerged the concept of directing population growth to the desert outside Nile valley, the government decided to locate subsidized affordable housing to low-income groups only in these new cities. This was part of the problem, as people were moved from their areas inside the city to outside the city without any respect to the location of their job and the additional cost they will pay in transportation besides other social problems like the feeling that they are not belonging to the new city and their relations, family and friends are there, and they are moved with an order from the government without any kind of participation in the decision-making process.

After the January 2011 revolution, practically all controls over informal construction completely dissolved. As a result, informal areas all around Greater Cairo have enjoyed a building boom, with new buildings rapidly being constructed and more floors added to existing structures. Should this trend continue (and there is no reason why it should not), the rate of absorption of greater Cairo's additional population into informal areas will be increased even more; probably exceeding 80 percent of all population increase (Sims, 2011). While private sector and NGOs interventions are generally limited to social charity actions, and temporary donations. The main problem facing this type of intervention is the lack of coordination and integration of efforts done and the lack of visioning for combining objectives and the lack of the clear identification of roles for each partner of upgrading in such areas (Hassan, G. F. 2012).

While many problems in informal areas could be solved by informed intervention and political will, the challenge still remains of stopping such settlements from growing up in other, inappropriate locations, without the necessary guidance and regulation. (Shehayeb, 2011)

The solution is to gather all efforts that are done by governmental bodies and non-governmental bodies in one body responsible of upgrading those areas, and there must be a real cooperation between residents of this area and this body, they must share in putting the development plans and share in its implementation. People there are succeeding from the beginning to build their own community without any help from the government and now they need help to develop their areas and make it a better place for living. This action is a must now especially after the revolution in order not to have another revolution that may happen from those people if they feel that they are still marginalized and didn't gain any benefits after the revolution.

This paper recommends that making people participate in putting the coming development plans of their areas, not the perfect step only, but letting them share in building their community by their hands is the needed one. Teaching those people simple building techniques, make them responsible for cleaning their areas by themselves, and even encourage them to donate for their area's upgrading even with small amounts of money. The idea is to change their perception from being marginalized to being involved and effective part in the Egyptian community. Transforming these informal areas from social disease carrier to creative communities is the solution.

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