



CURRICULUM VITAE

Dr. Mohamed Abouelhassan Ali

Ph.D. in Regional Policy and Innovation

Assistant Professor

Faculty of Urban and Regional Planning

Cairo University

Regional Urban Development & Smart Cities Policy Expert

17 Years of Experience



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DR. MOHAMED ABOUELHASSAN ALI

Ph.D. in Regional Policy & Innovation | Assistant Professor, Faculty of Urban and Regional Planning, Cairo University
Urban & Regional Planning | Smart Cities Policy | Regional Economic Development
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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

International urban planning and development expert with over 15 years of experience spanning academic research, policy development, and applied consultancy across Egypt, Europe, and the MENA region. Holds a Ph.D. in Regional Policy and Innovation from the University of Pécs, Hungary (EU), and a Diploma from the University of Vienna. Currently serving as Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Urban and Regional Planning, Cairo University. Author of 10+ peer-reviewed publications indexed in WoS and Scopus with 150+ citations. Resident of Egypt's New Capital, bringing firsthand insight into one of the world's most ambitious smart city projects. Expertise spans smart cities governance, detailed planning, regional innovation systems, strategic urban planning, and blue/regional economics.

CORE COMPETENCIES & KEYWORDS

Urban & Regional Planning • Smart City Policy • Regional Innovation Systems • Regional Economic Development • Blue Economy • Strategic Planning • Sustainable Urban Development • Land Use Planning • GIS & Spatial Analysis (QGIS, GeoDa) • Stakeholder Engagement • Capacity Building • Policy Analysis • UN-HABITAT Projects • Master Planning • Detailed Planning • Industrial Zone Planning • Tourism Development Planning • M&E Frameworks • Academic Research & Supervision

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Regional Policy and Innovation 2018 – 2023

Doctoral School of Regional Policy and Economics, University of Pécs, Hungary (EU)

- Dissertation focus: Smart City Policy and Urban Regional Innovation in Developing Countries
- Secured €30,000 in competitive research funding
- Established collaborative networks with 7 international research institutions

Diploma in Regional and Economic Development Policies 2019

Faculty of Business, Economics and Statistics, University of Vienna, Austria

M.Sc. in Urban and Regional Planning 2015

Faculty of Urban and Regional Planning, Cairo University — Distinction

- Research area: National Projects and Their Role in Regional Development Policies

Preliminary Master's Studies (M.Sc. pre-stage) 2010 – 2011

Faculty of Urban and Regional Planning, Cairo University — Very Good

B.Sc. in Urban and Regional Planning 2009

Faculty of Urban and Regional Planning, Cairo University — Very Good with Distinction

- Graduation Project: Urban Development of North Delta Region for 2100 in Light of Potential Environmental Changes — Grade: Excellent (Highest Honours)

ACADEMIC & RESEARCH POSITIONS

Assistant Professor 2024 – Present

Department of Urban Regional Development, Faculty of Urban and Regional Planning, Cairo University

- Coordinator Artificial Intelligence Unit for FURP - Cairo University
- Leading 3 major research initiatives in sustainable urban development affecting cities with 1M+ population
- Developed urban planning guidelines adopted by 5 Egyptian governorates

- Supervising 8 graduate researchers in regional innovation, regional planning, and smart city development
- Teaching core courses in City Region, Urban theory, Urban Geography, Regional Planning, Economic Development, Demography Studies, National Land use, National urban systems, Graduation Project, and smart city policy.

Research Fellow

2018 – 2024

Doctoral School of Regional Policy and Economics, University of Pécs, Hungary

- Conducted cross-cultural comparative research on smart city development across MENA and Europe
- Published 5+ peer-reviewed papers (WoS/Scopus indexed) with 150+ citations
- Secured €50,000 in competitive research funding for cross-cultural urban development studies
- Presented findings at international doctoral and regional science conferences

Assistant Lecturer (Lecturer Assistant)

2015 – 2018

Department of Urban and Regional Development, Faculty of Urban and Regional Planning, Cairo University

- Assisted in undergraduate and postgraduate teaching in urban planning and regional development
- Contributed to departmental research projects and academic planning studios

Research & Teaching Assistant (Demonstrator)

2011 – 2015

Department of Urban and Regional Development, Faculty of Urban and Regional Planning, Cairo University

- Supported faculty in course delivery, student supervision, and research activities

PROFESSIONAL CONSULTANCY EXPERIENCE

Senior Consultant & Urban Planning Expert

2024 – Present

Multiple Projects — UN-HABITAT, General Organization for Physical Planning (GOPP), and Private Consultancies

UN-HABITAT Projects:

- Expert in Blue Economy & Regional Economics, Detailed Strategic Plan — Ezbet El-Borg, Damietta Governorate (UN-HABITAT)
- Expert in Regional Relations & Urban Studies — Ezbet El-Borg Detailed Strategic Plan, Damietta Governorate (UN-HABITAT)
- Expert in Urban Studies, Services & Housing — Detailed Plan of El-Salam Awwal District, Cairo Governorate (UN-HABITAT)

GOPP Projects:

- Senior Urban Studies Expert — Update of the Strategic Plan for Damietta City (General Organization for Physical Planning — GOPP)
- Expert in Services & Housing Studies — Update of the Strategic Plan for Beni Suef City (GOPP)

Private Consultancy (United Consultants for Planning & Urban Design):

- Urban Planning & Housing Expert — Strategic Plan Update for New Nubaria City Extension
- Urban Planning Expert — Strategic Plan for Kafr El-Zayat City
- Urban Expert — Detailed Plans for Selected Districts of Cairo Governorate (El-Sahel, El-Zeitoun, Roda El-Farag, Ain Shams)
- Urban Planning Expert — Detailed Plan for Ras Ghareb City
- Project Manager & Urban Expert — Detailed Plans for Selected South Sinai Cities (Dahab, Ras Sidr, Sharm El-Sheikh)
- Project Manager — Geographic Database Development for Utility Networks of New Nubaria City

Strategic Planning Expert & Capacity Building Trainer

2020 – 2023

Center for Integrated Services (Juhoud) — Prague (Czech Republic), Vienna (Austria), Milan (Italy)

- Led capacity building programs for 100+ senior executives at the Royal Commission for Jubail and Yanbu, Saudi Arabia
- Developed 10 training modules covering strategic planning, time management, and leadership development
- Achieved 95% participant satisfaction rate across all training cohorts
- Delivered programs at international locations: Prague, Vienna, and Milan

Urban Planning Consultant

2014 – 2023

United Consultants for Planning & Urban Design / Cairo University Urban Research Center

Regional Studies:

- Lead Regional Studies Expert & Team Coordinator — Sohag Governorate Strategic Plan (GOPP): 5.2M inhabitants, 25 experts, 15 SDGs, 90% stakeholder approval
- Regional Studies Expert — Strategic Plan Update for New Nubaria City Extension (500,000 residents, 30% green coverage, 35% energy reduction)
- Regional Studies Expert — Giza Governorate Strategic Plan 2030 (9M inhabitants, GOPP)
- Regional Studies Expert — Strategic Development Plan for Deirout–Farafra Corridor
- Regional Studies Expert — Update of Strategic Plans for Kafr El-Zayat Urban Agglomerations (Kafr El-Zayat District, Gharbia Governorate)

City & Master Planning:

- Urban Studies Expert — Strategic Plans for Kafr El-Sheikh City 2027, Fouh City 2027 (UN-HABITAT/50 Small Cities Program), Abu El-Nomros City 2027, Ras Sudr City 2027, Abu Zenima City 2027
- Urban Studies Expert — Strategic Plans for El-Rawda City, El-Husseiniya City, New Damietta City
- Urban Studies Expert — Strategic Plans for Dakronis, Mit Ghamr, Nabroh (Dakahlia); Sinnuris, Tamiya (Fayyum); Kafr Saad (Damietta)

Detailed & Land Use Planning:

- Urban Expert — Detailed Plans for Kafr El-Sheikh City extension areas and Sakha urban development zone
- Urban Expert — Detailed Plan for El-Harfiyeen City (Cairo–Fayyum Desert Road, 6th of October Governorate)
- Urban Expert — Detailed Plan for El-Thawra El-Khadra Zone (Alexandria Desert Road)
- Urban Expert — Technical Proposals for Rodh El-Farag, Boulaq Abu El-Ala, Central Cairo (Cairo Governorate)

Industrial Zone Planning:

- Planning Expert — Industrial zones in Arab Abu Saad (Helwan), Shaq El-Thuban (Helwan), Badr El-Laithi (Tura, Helwan), Abu Rawash (45 feddans, 6th of October)
- Planning Expert — Suez Canal Region Industrial Development Strategy (4 industrial zones, 12,000 acres, 200,000 direct jobs)
- Planning Expert — Sinai Peninsula Industrial Development Strategy

GIS & Data Management:

- GIS Review Expert — Rural settlements (Ezab, Kafour, Nujouh) for Dakahlia Governorate centers: Mansura, Agha, Mahallat Damna, Sinbalawin, Mit Ghamr, Talha
- GIS Expert — Strategic Plans for 50 Small Cities: Fouh (Kafr El-Sheikh), Menouf (Menoufiya), Abu Hummus (Beheira), Kom Ombo (Aswan)

Assistant Regional Planning Expert

2012 – 2014

SPACE Planning Office (Prof. Dr. Medhat Dorra) / GOPP

- Assistant Regional Expert — Dakahlia Governorate Strategic Plan (GOPP)
- Assistant Regional Expert — Greater Cairo Region Urban Restructuring Project
- Assistant Expert — Governorate Strategy Formulation within New Boundary Demarcation Framework (GOPP)
- Urban Planning Expert — Regional Plans for Makkah Al-Mukarramah Districts & Al-Jamous (Saudi Arabia)
- Urban Expert — Regional Plan Presentation for the Holy Capital Secretariat (Saudi Arabia)

Urban Planning Engineer

2009 – 2011

General Organization for Physical Planning (GOPP), Ministry of Housing, Utilities & Urban Development

- Managed 12+ urban development projects across 8 governorates impacting 3M+ residents
- Contributed to the Strategic Plan for 15th of May City (GOPP & New Urban Communities Authority)
- Participated in Technical Proposals for Strategic Plans of 4 Governorates (Matruh, Dakahlia, Qalyubia, Luxor)

- Reviewed urban boundaries (Hiyazat) for rural settlements across multiple Delta governorates
- Supported GIS database development for rural settlement mapping

SELECTED KEY PROJECTS & QUANTIFIED ACHIEVEMENTS

- Sohag Governorate Strategic Plan — 5.2M inhabitants, 25-expert team, 15 SDGs, 90% approval
- Giza 2027 Strategic Plan — 9M inhabitants, 40% commute reduction, 15 urban renewal projects
- New Nubaria City Extension — 500,000 residents, 30% green infrastructure, 35% energy reduction, 50,000 jobs
- Suez Canal Industrial Strategy — 4 zones, 12,000 acres, 200,000 jobs, 25M tons logistics hub, 45% capacity increase
- Sinai Development Framework — 3 industrial clusters, 150,000 jobs, 40% renewable energy integration
- Royal Commission Capacity Building (Saudi Arabia) — 100+ executives, 95% satisfaction, 10 training modules
- Urban Planning Guidelines — Adopted by 5 Egyptian governorates, coordinated for 4 governorates (12M residents)
- Research Funding — Secured €30,000; 10+ WoS/Scopus publications; 150+ citations
- Geographic Database — Utility networks mapping for New Nubaria City (comprehensive GIS database)

RESEARCH & PUBLICATIONS

A. Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles (WoS / Scopus Indexed)

1. Xi Chen; Jiayu Hu; Mohamed Abouelhassan Ali; Nurul Amillin Hussain; Dong Wang; Xufeng Zhu; Mohammad Radfar; Alexey Levashev; Ahmad Bin Touq. **"Study on smart city in League of Arab States (LAS): status and trend in 2024."** *International Journal of Urban Sciences*, **2026**. DOI: 10.1080/12265934.2026.2654677 [WoS | Scopus]
2. Mohamed Abouelhassan Ali; Éva Komlósi; Zoltan Orban; Sara Elhadad. **"Egypt's Regional Innovation Capacity Disparities and New Smart City Prospects: A Quantitative Analysis"** *Urban Sci.* **2025**, 9(10), 432, DOI: DOI: 10.3390/urbansci9100432 [WoS | Scopus]
3. Bukhari, A.; Al-Shaibani, S.; Ali, M.A. **"Smart Cities, Entrepreneurship, and Quality of Life: Analysis of the Smart Cities Index."** *Sustainability* **2024**, 16(24), 11209, DOI: DOI:10.3390/su162411209 [WoS | Scopus]
4. Kabil, M.; Ali, M.A.; Dávid, L.D. **"Gender Perspectives in Tourism Studies: A Comparative Bibliometric Analysis in the MENA Region."** *Tourism Planning and Development*, **2022**. DOI: DOI: 10.1080/21568316.2022.2093643 [WoS | Scopus]
5. Ali, M.A. **"Smart City Policy in Developing Countries: Case Study of the New Administrative Capital in Egypt."** *Journal of Public Affairs*, **2021**. DOI: DOI: 10.1002/pa.2774 [WoS | Scopus]
6. Ali, M.A.; Kabil, M.; Alayan, R.; Magda, R.; Dávid, L.D. **"Entrepreneurship Ecosystem Performance in Egypt: An Empirical Study Based on the Global Entrepreneurship Index (GEI)."** *Sustainability*, 13(13), 7171, 2021. DOI: DOI: 10.3390/su13137171 [WoS | Scopus]
7. Ali, M.A. **"Modeling Regional Innovation in Egyptian Governorates: Regional Knowledge Production Function Approach."** *Regional Science Policy & Practice*, 13, rsp3.12450, 2021. DOI: DOI: 10.1111/rsp3.12450 [WoS | Scopus]

B. Book Chapters

8. Moustafa, E.; Ali, M.A.; Iparraguirre, J.L. **"Industrial Clusters and the Five Drivers of Regional Productivity in Egypt."** In: *Industry Clusters and Innovation in the Arab World* (pp. 157–203). Emerald Publishing Limited, 2023. DOI: DOI: 10.1108/978-1-80262-871-520231008

C. Conference Proceedings

9. Ali, M.A. **"Smart City Approach for Sustainable Urban Development in Developing Countries: Egypt Case.."** *University of Central Asia, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, 2021 [Conference Paper]*
10. Ali, M.A. **"Entrepreneurship Development Performance in Egypt: An Empirical Study Based on the GEI Data 2006–2017."** *IX Interdisciplinary Doctoral Conference 2020, University of Pécs, Hungary, 2020 [Abstract]*

Citation Metrics: 150+ citations | 10+ WoS/Scopus publications | Languages: English

TECHNICAL SKILLS & SOFTWARE

- Spatial Analysis & GIS: QGIS, GeoDa, GeoDaSpace, GIS-based urban mapping
- Urban & Regional Planning Software: Strategic plan preparation, detailed plan design, land use analysis
- Statistical & Research Tools: Econometric modeling, bibliometric analysis, regional knowledge production function modeling, Systematic Literature Review (SLR)
- Project Management: Multi-stakeholder coordination, M&E frameworks, capacity building program design
- Academic Tools: Literature review, peer-reviewed writing, grant application, student supervision

LANGUAGES

- Arabic — Native
- English — Professional Working Proficiency (Academic & Professional)
- Hungarian — Working Knowledge

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS & AFFILIATIONS

- Egyptian Engineers Syndicate — Member No. 04371/25 (Architecture Division)
- International Regional Science Association (IRSA)
- European Regional Science Association (ERSA)
- University of Pécs Alumni Association, Hungary

PERSONAL INFORMATION

- Nationality: Egyptian
- Date of Birth: August 11, 1987
- Current Residence: New Capital, Egypt
- Phone: +20 150 712 2484 | +36 70 670 0808
- Email: mhmd_abouelhassan@cu.edu.eg
- Passport No.: A27601016

References and full publication list available upon request