

New Settlements Around Greater Cairo Region Urban Planning Study using GIS

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Abstract

The study discusses what the new urban Settlements around Greater Cairo look like, and sheds light on the program of planning that was designed for Greater Cairo in an attempt to alleviate the problem of overpopulation there. In the endeavor, ten new urban settlements were planned, the positions of which are outside the ring-road that circulates the Cairo region. This strategy comes as an attempt to benefit from the experiences of new cities in many countries of the world.

The study then highlights the gap between the planning and the execution of these ten settlements, as their original designs were changed as follows:

- Annexation of some of them to be a new city, as happened to Settlements number 1, 3 and 5, which were conjoined to establish the city of Al-Qahira Al-Jadida (or New Cairo city).
- Turning others into a new city and make some addition of new tracts of land around the former residential areas, as happened to "El-Sheikh Zayed" city, which was basically the settlement no. 6, and for the settlement no. 2, which turned into the "El-Shorouq" city.
- Other settlements were added to other already existing new cities, such as settlement no. 7, which was added to the 6th of October City.
- The others have been fully overlooked and never came into existence, such as settlements number (4, 8, 9, and 10).

At the end, the study reviews the impact of the shift in strategic planning on the Greater Cairo Region, through shedding light on the region during the period of work on the preparing the plans for the settlements at the first shape, and after the change in plans and its reality now, then the study discusses the trends of urban growth in the region, in order to predict the future through using GIS and remote sensing techniques.