

Strategic Urban Planning for Small Cities Project

Egyptian cities have grown fast in the past 30 years. This has led to the continuous formation of informal settlements on the periphery of cities. In the process, cities and villages have grown at a fast pace surpassing, in some cases, 80 % of its original footprint in 1985. This rapid urbanization has led to the loss of significant areas of prime agricultural land. The migration of the workforce seeking job opportunities has fueled the expansion of cities. Primitive informal industries have flourished in poor migrant areas and a lack of basic urban services has led to environmental degradation. Strategic Urban Planning for Small Cities (SUPSCP) focuses on urban-rural linkages in order to develop small and medium rural enterprises; on sanitation issues including wastewater and solid waste management; and on improving the living conditions of slum dwellers. The project acknowledges the importance of governance, the needs of vulnerable groups and environmental issues as cross cutting themes that require special attention.

The project aims to enhance the planning methods and tools which are adopted by the Government of Egypt in order to produce Strategic Urban Plans which respond to the local priorities in an efficient and realistic manner.

The SUPSCP contributes to improving performance and accountability in programming the development of the city, implementing and coordinating actions, especially those that reduce exclusion and vulnerabilities in Egypt. The Project will contribute to enhancing strategic urban planning and development.

Specific results include:

- Local and national capacity strengthened to regulate integrated and participatory city strategic plans;
- Physical administration and tenure security of cities enhanced;
- National and local urban observatories strengthened; and
- Integrated urban development plans developed and implemented.

