

# Towards A Sustainable Development of Al-Quseir: as a Coastal Intermediate City in Egypt نحو تنمية مستدامة للقصور كمدينة متوسطة ساحلية في مصر

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## المخلص

القصور تعتبر مدينة متوسطة صغيرة تقع على الساحل الغربي على البحر الأحمر وهي واحدة من أوائل المدن التي تم تمهيدها للسكن على البحر الأحمر . الموقع الاستراتيجي الجغرافي للقصور وأيضا بيئتها المهمة لعبوا دوراً هاماً في تكوين المدينة وتنميتها

المدن المتوسطة تعتبر واحدة من أهم المدن التي تلعب دوراً أساسياً وقوي في تكوين وإنشاء اقتصاد قوي وتواصل اجتماعي جيد والقصور تعتبر من المدن التي تصنف على انها مدينة متوسطة ( تحت تصنيف برنامج IA- CIMES ) والتي تحتوي على بيئة ساحلية مع قيمة اقتصادية وعمق تاريخي أيضا  
الورقة البحثية تهدف إلى توضيح ملامح التنمية المستدامة وخطط التنمية للمدن المتوسطة ذات البيئة الساحلية ومن ثم التحكم والتنبؤ بمعدلات تنمية العمران ، لكي تتحكم في توجيه التنمية المستدامة العمرانية للمدن المتوسطة عاما والقصور بصفة خاصة .

كل هذا تم دراسته من خلال الجزء النظري الذي يتناول المفاهيم التي تتعلق بالمشكلة البحثية ومراجعته من خلال الدراسة التحليلية للمدينة المتوسطة الساحلية والقصور كمدينة متوسطة ساحلية على ساحل البحر الاحمر، من ثم تحليل النتائج.

## الكلمات المفتاحية

المدن المتوسطة - المدن المستدامة - التنمية المستدامة - المدن الساحلية - الساحل - القصور

## Abstract

Al-Quseir is considered to be a small intermediate City situated on the western Red Sea Coast (latitude 34 015" N, Longitude 260 04'E).It was one of the first places in the Red See basin to be settled. Al-Quseir Strategic geographical position and local environment have played an important role both in the city's formulation and development.

The intermediate cities are considered to be one of the cities that had a vital and powerful foundation in establishing a significant economic and social interaction. Al-Quseir is classified as an intermediate city (according to UIA-CIMES program) that has costal environments with great economic value. This Paper aims to highlight the features of sustainable development to prospers coastal intermediate cities and provide plans and new approaches to be applied to its counterpart, then to control and predict the rates of urban development in order to control the direction of sustainable urbanization in intermediate cities.

All of these issues were studied previously from the theoretical point of view that deals with the concepts related to the research problematic, reviewed it through an analytical study of the city represented in Al-Quseir city as a coastal intermediate city on the coast of the Red Sea, to come with an analytical research ended with results & recommendations.

## Keywords

Sustainable development - Intermediate cities - coastal cities – Coastal Area - Al-Quseir city

## 1. Introduction

Intermediate cities are considered to be one of the cities characterized by having a vital and powerful foundation in establishing a strong economic and social interaction which in return plays an important role in connecting small and mega cities to each other through a regional network which is one of the characteristics of these cities. This point is the most important one and should be taken in consideration when developing intermediate cities case as it represents a dynamo engine for huge development elements. So when the historical background of the cities was added to the pervious point, in addition to other features of intermediate cities, this increases the inevitable development and maintenance of those cities.

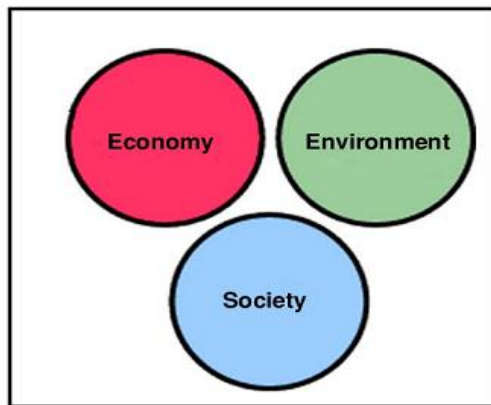
The Paper investigates Al-Quseir, which is an intermediate city that has costal environments with significant economic value as part of (CIMES) Program for intermediate cities held by UIA Organization. When we take in consideration the historical background characteristic of this city, we recognize the Urban and Regional influence of this city which is considered a distinguished one according to its location, and this influence plays a vital role in sustainable development of this city and its urban territories, as well as it significantly impacting on the direction of urban development. But coastal intermediate cities suffer from lack of implementation mechanisms and directions of its sustainable development; there for this Paper presents a question relating to that issue **“Is it possible to achieve a sustainable development of Al-Quseir as coastal intermediate City?”**The Paper aims to obtain features of the sustainable development prosperity for coastal intermediate cities, then it investigates the possiblity to reach a new methodology that could be applied to counterparts cities, and then control and predict development rates of construction in order to control the

direction of sustainable urbanization in intermediate cities, and in order to achieve the objectives of this paper , we have to provide a hypothesis to be tested through the study, which represents the way to reach the results that will be discovered in this Paper which states : **Sustainable development of coastal intermediate city can be achieved by a specific strategy based on the studies on the nature of the city and the particularity of each city in studying and application,** that has been done through a demo of some definitions and concepts that have been studied through the theoretical part such as : The concept of Sustainable development and its objectives, characteristics of its operations, its interlocutor, and its fields. Then recognize intermediate cities in terms of its concept and its definition, and its most important characteristics, and then identifying concept of coastal cities. As the paper reviews the concept of the sustainable development of coastal intermediate cities through the hypotheses of sustainable development plan for Al-Quseir city, the challenges it faces, and its ecosystems advantages, and the principles of sustainable development for it , the strategy of sustainable development for it , then the Paper reviews through the analytical part the study of Al-Quseir as a model for coastal intermediate cities sited on the Red Sea coast ,then reaching the results and finally set the recommendations.

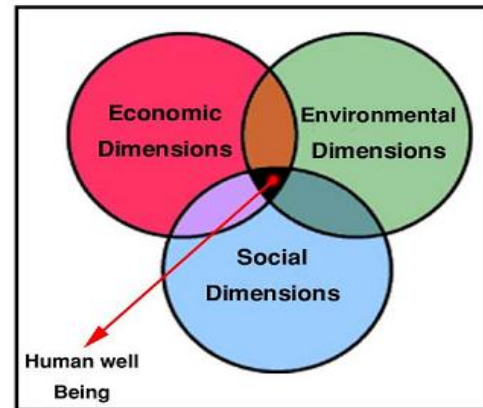
## 2. Sustainable Development

### 2.1 The concept of Sustainable development:

The origins of the concept of sustainable development have been seen to lie in two bodies of literature. These are 'development thinking' and 'environmentalism' which were quite separate previously.



*Fig (2-1) a diagram illustrating the three dimensions of sustainability as separate parts*  
 Source: Source: Sam C. M. Hui. (2002)



*Fig (2-2) a diagram illustrates the three dimensions of sustainability as related parts.*  
 Source: Source: Sam C. M. Hui. (2002)

Within the notion of sustainable development, the vision of the two areas of study came closer together with the realization that environment and development were interdependent and mutually reinforcing issues. Development is no longer seen in exclusively economic terms. The view now indicates that we need to conserve in order to develop, rather than the reverse. Sustainable development as a concept aims to resolve the environment- economic- social conflicts by portraying itself as a multi-dimensional concept, which perceives environmental, social and economic objectives in an integrated way. This is what was missing in previous strategies, which seemed to overemphasize on the economic dimension of development and gave no attention to addressing the cost of the environmental dimensions.

The community has many links with the three systems, if the development strategy deals with the community as if it was made of three separate parts, they don't overlap as shown in Fig (2-1). The community problems in this case are viewed as isolated issues; solving one problem can make another problem even worse.

Therefore, the three systems should be viewed as related parts which are connected, dependent upon each other,

therefore, to solve community problems we should take into consideration the links among its three parts: the economy, the environment and the society. Fig. (2-2).

## 2.4 Definition of Sustainable Development

Sustainable development is known as development which works on optimum exploitation for available resources in developing projects without the need of depletion of other resources which becomes a must for the continuation of those projects,

So sustainable development is the development, which meets the present necessities without prejudice the ability of future generations to obtain their needs. Some international reports has indicated some aspects that have been agreed upon regarding the concept of sustainable development,

So some of them focused on the Physical Aspects in sustainable development and pointed out that sustainable development is the one which emphasizes on the use of natural renewable resources in a way which does not lead to the extinction or degradation or diminishing their usefulness for future generations while preserving the balance of the fixed non-decreasing natural

resources such as " Soil - and groundwater and biomass.

Other reports also focused on the Economic Aspects of sustainable development operations which Emphasizes that the process of sustainable development should focus on the optimal management of resources to get the maximum benefits of economic development, provided to maintain the quality of natural resources and that the usage of the resources must not detract the real income in the future,

Also others focused on the Environmental Aspects which noted that the sustainable development is the one uses a cleaner new technology, more efficient and better ability to save natural resources in order to reduce pollution, help to stabilize the climate, and accommodate growth in population

## 2.4 Objectives of Sustainable Development

Sustainable Development Operations aims to the following:

- Achieve healthy and productive life for man.
- Achieve social justice and promote gender equality and empower women.
- Ensure sustainable environment and to provide the right for future generations in natural resources and wealth through the rational use without extravagance or waste.
- Raise the standard of living for individuals and eradication poverty.
- Popular participation in developing policies, reviewing it and in decision-making.
- Establish a global partnership for development.

## 2.4 Sustainable Development's dimensions

Working with a different emphasis, some researchers and institutions have pointed out that a fourth dimension should be added to the dimensions of sustainable development, since the triple-bottom-line

dimensions of economic, environmental and social do not seem to be enough to reflect the complexity of contemporary society. In this context, the Agenda 23 for culture and the United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) Executive Bureau lead the preparation of the policy statement "Culture: Fourth Pillar of Sustainable Development", passed on 17 November 2010, in the framework of the World Summit of Local and Regional Leaders – 3rd World Congress of UCLG, held in Mexico City.

Although some which still argue that economics is primary, and culture and politics should be included in 'the social'. This document inaugurates a new perspective and points to the relation between culture and sustainable development through a dual approach: developing a solid cultural policy and advocating a cultural dimension in all public policies. The Sustainability approach distinguishes the four domains of economic, ecological, political and cultural sustainability.

Other organizations have also supported the idea of a fourth domain of sustainable development. The Network of Excellence "Sustainable Development in a Diverse World", sponsored by the European Union, integrates multidisciplinary capacities and interprets cultural diversity as a key element of a new strategy for sustainable development.

The Fourth Pillar of Sustainable Development Theory has been referenced by executive director of IMI Institute at UNESCO Vito Di Bari in his manifesto of art and architectural movement Neo-Futurism, whose name was inspired by the 1987 United Nations' report Our Common Future. The Circles of Sustainability approach used by Metropolis defines the (fourth) cultural domain as practices, discourses, and material expressions, which, over time, express continuities and discontinuities of social meaning.

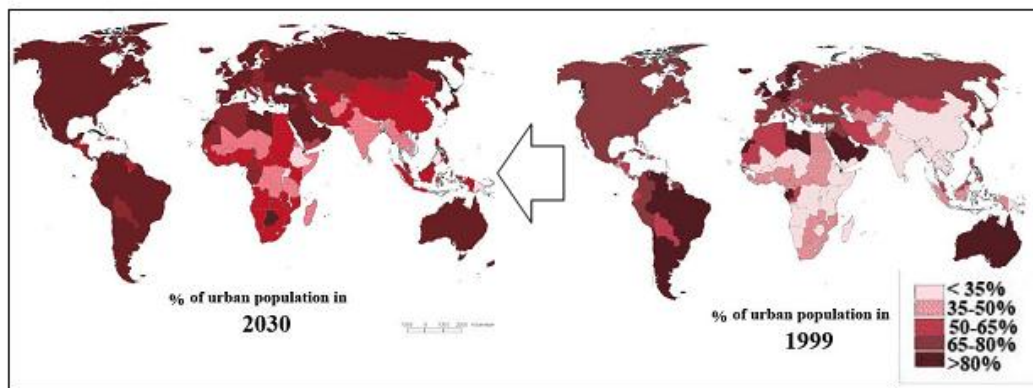


Fig (3-1) the percentage of urban population to the population in the different World's states in 1999 and 2030

Source: Llop, J. M & Bellet, C (2002), "Intermediate Cities. Profiles And Agenda," UIA-CIMES work programme.

### 3. Intermediate Cities:

Intermediate Cities offer rural population better living conditions, jobs in a less polluted environment, and act as local markets for their products. They also provide services and a collective infrastructure, not only to the urban but also to the rural and regional population. In

some regions , generally within more industrial areas or close to large cities , many smaller urban centers have succeeded in attracting new investments that previously would have tended to concentrate in large cities.

Table (3-1) : The Percentage of population living in urban in urban areas and average annual rate of growth by major area.

Source: Data form UN (2002), UNCHS (2001).

	2000	2015	2030	Urbanisation rate of Growth (%)	
				1975-2000	2000-2015
<b>World</b>	47.0	53.4	60.3	2.5	2.0
<b>More Developed Regions</b>	76	79.7	83.5	0.8	0.4
<b>Less Developed Regions</b>	39.9	48.0	56.2	3.6	2.6
<b>Latin America and Caribbean</b>	75.3	79.9	83.2	2.7	1.7

The majority of the world's urban population lives in small and medium-sized cities, which are also notably more numerous. According to the previously cited source, 62.5% of the world's urban population resides in cities with fewer than one million inhabitant.

According to the United Nations (UNCHS 2001), in the year 2000, the world population was 6.05 billion, of

which 47% lived in an urban environment (76% in the western industrialized countries, as against only 39.9% for the totality of developing countries). This rise is bound of continue reaching 53.4% in 2015 for the plant as a whole ( see table 01).However , the most important aspect of this accelerated urbanization process is that it is by no means uniform, It differs depending on the world region and type of

city. All in all, one can say that urban growth affects primarily the developing world (3.6% annual growth rate between 1975 and 2000 against 2.5% worldwide).

### 3-1 Intermediate Cities Definitions Typology

The definitions vary. The most common definition is that of a town with a population of 20,000 up to 200,000, depending on population density and the perspective urban system in a country. Such towns usually have mixes of supply, development, and relief functions for the region in which they are geographically embedded. If located at an inner-European border or at the edge of the European Union they may also have an additional function as an exchange or gateway function. Medium-sized towns can be towns:

- With in larger metropolitan regions,
- On the edge of or in between metropolitan regions,
- In the geographical periphery of Europe.

### 4. Coastal cities :

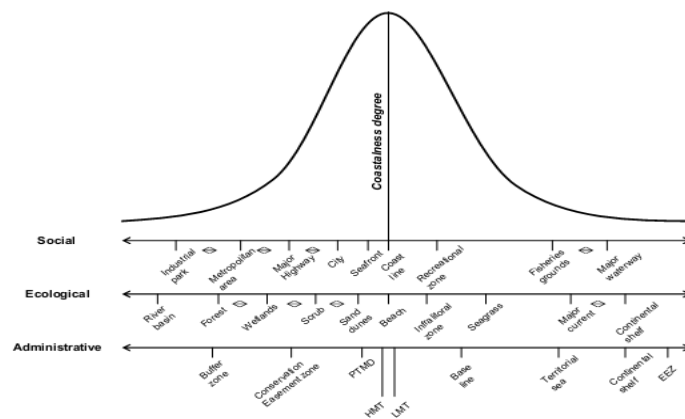
Coastal areas with the historical content are the most populated regions of the world which emphasizes the importance of preservation and development of various resources.

The characterization of historic coastal cities is emphasized by the characteristic aspects of the place, the

natural content; this is on one hand, the fragrance of history and the physical humanitarian output on the other. These aspects are added to the visual, material and functional values formed part of an integrated which distinguishes these cities. Because of the importance of these cities, they need to have conscious policy to deal with its potentials rather than to be wasted and lost. That policy should aim to stimulate the economic development of these cities through a series of changes and direct transformations.

The process of rehabilitation deals in the context of distinct areas, which are specific and possible at the same time. Since urban areas are exposed to change and architectural and urban transformation, it is obvious that this change fits the transforms with the potential of the coastal areas of historical value.

Some of Coastal Cities required renewing it by protecting the vital, economic, social content and environmental resources and activities and of these cities also its inhabitants. It is founded that the coastal areas of historical value are distinct environments in the urban fabric and has many possibilities and different from than the non-coastal areas. These areas that have the same physical and natural fabric



Fig( 4-1) Coastalness degree of some elements of the social and ecological subsystems  
Adapted from Kay and Alder 2000)

#### 4.1 Definition of Coastal Environments

Both the terms *coast* and *coastal* are often used to describe a geographic location or region; for example, New Zealand is West Coast, or the East and West Coasts of the United States. *The coastal region* is a region where the sea and land interact significantly which creates large surface of this region, which is known as the area lies between the axis extending along the coast and the vertical axis on the line of the coast.

A coastal zone is defined as “Lands and waters adjacent to the coast which could be affected by the uses of the sea and its ecology, or whose uses and ecology are affected by the sea.”

It was found that a coastal area contains land connected to the sea as well as the Coastal space connected to the land, and thus it contains:

1. It's Components of sea and land.
2. The limits of sea and land, which are determined by the degree of influence that Land exerts over the sea as well as the impact of the sea on dry land.
3. The coastal zone has no Unified length, width, or depth.

The above three elements are depicted in Fig 4-1 which shows a sandy beach coast, the strength of interaction between coastal and sea processes and uses ,termed here the degree of coastlines ,against the distant away from the immediate coast .

##### ❖ The Egyptian Coastal Zone:

The coastal zone may be defined according to ecological, socio-economic, political or legal criteria or any combination of these. The same factors can also be used to determine the extent and boundaries of a region, sector, or other geographical unit. The National Committee has adopted the following definition for the coastal zone for ICZM:

The coastal zone is a domain of land-sea interface. It encompasses the territorial

water and extends landwards to areas of active interaction with the marine environment for at least 30km in the desert areas, unless major topographical features interrupt this stretch, while in the lower Nile Delta region the terrestrial part would extend up to the 3.0m contour above sea level.

#### 5. Sustainable development of coastal intermediate cities :

A plan of sustainable development of coastal intermediate cities had been made in several points that should be considered a hypothesis Sustainable Development Plan for intermediate coastal cities , and the challenges that faces those cities, and ecological benefits of them, and then determine the principles of development and development strategies, the research exposed to those points as follows: -

##### a) Principles of sustainable development for intermediate cities:

- ❖ The development of intermediate cities should be locally conceived and not imposed from outside.
- ❖ The development of intermediate cities should be based on the sustainable use of their resources.
- ❖ The development of intermediate cities should provide for basic necessities, ensure secure living conditions and promote equity
- ❖ The development of intermediate cities should foster empowerment, encourage greater local control over resources, and promote the participation of the marginalized and under-represented.

##### b) The criteria for sustainable development in intermediate cities should be:

- ❖ A form of development which does not cause irreparable damage to either the natural or planetary system, avoids the use of non-renewable resources, does not pollute and makes efficient use of energy.

❖ A form of development that considers the community when it comes to taking decisions, that does not destroy social structures, offers no risk to health, and does not reduce quality of life.

❖ A form of development that does not reduce the value of property that diversifies the community's sources of income, and provides job opportunities.

❖ - The aforementioned principles and criteria can, and should, be used as a basis for establishing a series of guidelines and objectives that can be personalized in response to the particular circumstances of each time, place and culture in which development occurs.

### c) The challenges of Coastal Intermediate Cities:

- **Globalization and its impact on the coastal intermediate city:** through the multiplicity of local resources, as intermediate coastal cities can contribute in solving the relevant issues by confirming its own identities.

- **Regulate the relationship between those cities and their neighbors:** intermediate cities could organize their relationship to coastal areas and the neighboring cities by improving the ways they are connected to other cities abroad and also by the rationalization of the transportation systems.

- **Developing new forms of movements within it:** by taking advantage of features provided by its size and location on the Mediterranean coast and beaches.

- **Provide economic and human solutions:** coastal intermediate towns could provide more diverse and integrated solutions into the framework of their perimeters and extent of economic spatial and its own human resources.

## 6. Strategy for the sustainable development of coastal intermediate cities:

- Strategy development of the coastal intermediate cities is based on a variety of considerations.

- Achieve the growth balance among the various economic sectors (industry - Agriculture - Tourism - Fishing - mining,...etc.) in all study areas according to productive resources

- Identify the expansion potential in diversity of economic base and strengthen it for various units territorial affecting the cities of research to ensure the continuity of the process of regional development

- Integration between urban communities affecting to coastal intermediate towns and the impact on each other.

Based on the foregoing, the **elements of strategy for the sustainable development of coastal intermediate cities** are as follows:

- Take advantage of the available elements of development on the coast

- Linking the functions of urban communities (urban and rural) with the communities Capabilities (location - back urban - population size - the availability of development economics - service centers - the efficiency of infrastructure - Urban absorption....)

- Dividing the city to developing units which seems homogeneous as these units should have the ability to interact between each other besides their neighbors and those cities that affect it

Thus, the **strategy fields of sustainable development for coastal intermediate cities** as the following four factors:

### 01-In the field of inhabitedness Cities:

- Development of current urban structure and consistent with the absorptive capacity of urban communities of the city.



- Provide opportunity of growth for the city depending on the possibilities of its development.
- Expand the chain of urban centers that serves rural areas in different levels of the city.

**02- In the field of roads and transportation:**

- Show interest to provide a basic services and infrastructure that leads to provision of integrated community and to make a new urban community, not only to be an industrial one, or a trade zone alone.
- Provision of utilities (electricity - water - roads - communication).

**03- In the field of the economy:**

- Reduce unemployment.
- Economic development is characterized by being a multi-faceted one, therefore any activity of the existing activities can have its own unilateral

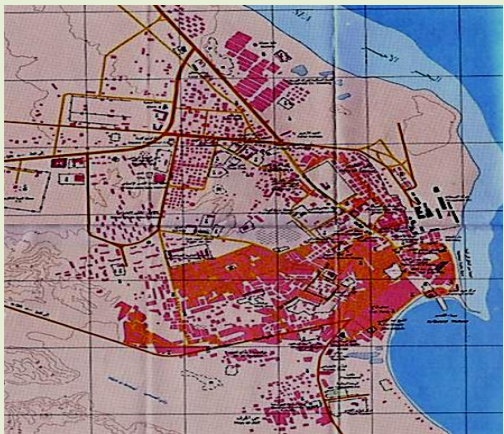
sovereignty over economic development, it is possible that economic development depends on agriculture, industry or crafts or tourism ..... etc.

- Support of complementary activities related to basic activities such as cargo business and branching in order to encouraging investment in such activities, including establishment of tourism activity, such as construction of hotels& restaurants besides other tourism services.

**04- In the field of industrial development:**

- Raise industrial growth rates
- Depending on various industries. Small-scale industries are the most important, and adopting light industries
- Link industry with the local market & the needs of population

**7. An analytical study of Al-Quseir City:**

<b>Al-Quseir</b>	
<b>Geographical location</b>	The city of Al-Quseir on the Red Sea at latitude 5156 north latitude and 124 431, the city lies 500 km south of Port Suez Canal and the city follow governorate of the Red Sea, one of the important centers and the city is the capital of Al- quseir center.
<b>Map</b>	
<b>Populated Area</b>	6.065 km <sup>2</sup> .
<b>Space is populated desert without back</b>	1043.935 km <sup>2</sup>
<b>Area surrounded by desert</b>	6586 km <sup>2</sup>
<b>Without the total area surrounded by desert (manned space + is populated desert without back)</b>	1050 km <sup>2</sup>

**Continue the previous table:**

		<b>Al-Quseir</b>
<b>Total area of the city</b>		7636 kkm <sup>2</sup>
<b>Census estimated population</b>	<b>Attended</b>	41,810
	<b>Countryside</b>	1044
	<b>Sentence</b>	42,854
<b>Labor force registered</b>	<b>Work</b>	1748
	<b>Unemployment</b>	1494
<b>Projects that have been working on and approved in the period between (2005-2010)</b>	<b>Urban</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Modify the path to the coastal road short / Marsa Alam (km 79 - km 97).</li> <li>2. Construction of 3 dams for protection from floods.</li> </ol>
	<b>Tourist</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Setting up a "al-quesir Khan tourism" and consists of 18 tourism project</li> <li>2. Restoration of the house of Sheikh Tawfiq</li> <li>3. Castle of Al-Quseir City</li> <li>4. City Police Department</li> </ol>
	<b>Service</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Construction and processing of healt units in the city</li> <li>2. Development and the Construction of several youth clubs and youth centers</li> </ol>
	<b>Industrial</b>	Development of Hamrawein Port
<b>Problems and obstacles to development</b>	<b>Urban</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The existence of unplanned housing patterns in the city and near the center of the city stems from the housing of workers in phosphate factories</li> <li>• Deterioration of the urban environment in spite of continuous attempts to develop buildings</li> </ul>
	<b>Tourism</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The lack of attraction for tourists and the promotion of the city</li> <li>• Apparent neglect of the heritage elements of the city needed for the prosperity of tourism</li> </ul>
	<b>Service</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is no justice in the distribution of services in the city</li> <li>• Lack of regular flights to the city</li> <li>• Demise of the mining profession due to the Shutting down of the Phosphate Company.</li> <li>• Decentralization of certain public and administrative services</li> </ul>
	<b>Industrial</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the demise of some industrial Crafts due to lack of attention paid to employment in the region</li> <li>• Closure of more than one plant in the city</li> <li>• Lack of interest in industrial crafts that fit the nature of the city.</li> </ul>
<b>Development strategies of the coastal intermediates cities</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paying attention to tourism and the city's prosperity throughout the whole year.</li> <li>• A review of the city's heritage buildings</li> </ul>
<b>Vulnerability and impact on adjacent regions</b>		Al-Quseir City lies on the west coast of the Red Sea, 80 km south of Safaga and 600 kilometers from the Sudanese border and is linked to Upper Egypt through a n old commercial Route.

**Continue the previous table:**

		<b>Al-Quseir</b>
<b>Influence of sustainable development of cities</b>	<b>Economic</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Optimum exploitation of tourism resources</li> <li>2. Maximize revenue &amp; benefits of tourism from an economic, social, cultural and political point of view.</li> <li>3. Development of mining activity</li> <li>4. Development of the fishing sector</li> <li>5. achieve balance among various economic sectors in consistent with sustainable development</li> </ol>
	<b>Human</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Increase the cultural and social awareness of labor in the fields of industry</li> <li>2. Improve the level of education and health services</li> <li>3. Secure the requirements of a decent life and to improve the community level in poor urban communities</li> </ol>
	<b>Environmental</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Protection of beaches and plant and animal varieties from the danger of extinction</li> <li>2. Conservation of ecosystems of coral reefs and its biodiversity and protecting them against destruction or infringement</li> </ol>
<b>Development entrances of cities</b>		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Activation of tourism throughout the year</li> <li>2. improving the social level</li> <li>3. Show interest in mining and fishing sectors</li> <li>4. The development of the heritage value of the city</li> </ol>

## 8. Analytical results of the study

From the previous analytical study, we concluded goals and objectives of sustainable development in Al- Quseir & Damietta as examples of the coastal intermediate city as follows:

### 8.1. Objectives of sustainable development in the city under study:

- Reduce the population density concentrated in the city and the exploitation of surplus population in the urban development in achieving a fair distribution of the population.
- Reclamation and cultivation of more land in the light of terrestrial material available through the desert back for Al-Quseir.
- Interest in the tourism sector in Al-Quseir.
- Benefit from the diversity of agricultural production with the industry to encourage integration between industry and agriculture.

- Small-scale development projects and increases the size of the labor and craft activities in the province to create jobs and reduce unemployment.
- The need to control urban Extensions which spreads on agricultural land and restructuring of the distribution of the population.
- Benefit from the distinct geographical location of the cities to draw attention to invest in it.
- Work to reduce illiteracy rate by internal solutions, and allow public participation in it.

### 8.2. Pillars of sustainable development in the cities of the study:

- Show interest in supporting the skills and Human capabilities to raise income levels and living standards of citizens.
- Provide incentives to the private sector and create an appropriate environment to Practice its role in economic development.

- Show Interest in services in the city to improve living and environmental standards.
- Rationalization of energy use and confront the increasing consumption of it.
- Show interest in taking the necessary measures to address the problems of the city Sanitary & industrial Sewage and its impact on waterways and groundwater, and consequently its effect on human health.
- Pay attention to the productive capacity of the province to promote living standards & incomes of citizens.
- Support networks between urban centers and the surrounding desert of the city - if any.

## 9. Research results:

The research paper presented a concept for the most important features of sustainable development in the coastal intermediate cities identifying hypotheses of sustainable development plans and reviewing main challenges to be faced and benefits of the eco-city that may affect the sustainable development plans, principles and strategies for sustainable development and its different elements and fields through several research results that appeared as follows:

1. It must be in mind when making plans for sustainable urban development at the level of regional planning and regional development to put in mind the characteristics of the elements of natural and local environments of the cities of the study, the diversity of locations of Al-Quseir and Damietta with their surrounding environments made that one of the most essential elements in sustainable development for those cities.
2. It must be taking in consideration that sustainable developing plans must set the sustainability criteria for energy, these criteria have been formulated as a hypothesis to achieve the sustainable

development of intermediate city (Al-Quseir).

3. The importance of giving attention to the development approaches for each city separately as an independent input of sustainable development the city can be based upon, as part of a broader more comprehensive sustainable development plan to achieve the objectives of a comprehensive sustainable development in coastal intermediate cities.
4. The validity of the hypothesis was proved which was mentioned at forefront of this research which raised the following question “**Is it possible to achieve a sustainable development of Al-Quseir as coastal intermediate City?**” This hypothesis has been validated, in spite of many different approaches to sustainable development of coastal intermediate cities .

## 10. Recommendations

The main recommendations that came out of study:

- Need to focus on coastal intermediate cities and highlight their importance and the importance of sustainable development in order to establish an economic and social interaction in a vital way to its environment.
- It must be consider the difference between development approaches to Al-Quseir (city of study) and preparing sustainable development plans to the city .
- The importance and the role of different social participation at the process of setting& developing of coastal intermediate cities.
- Find departments for the coastal intermediate cities not only to manage cities, but also extends to the biosphere of those intermediate cities when putting developing plans for their development because its impact zone is Overlapping with its surrounding biosphere.

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