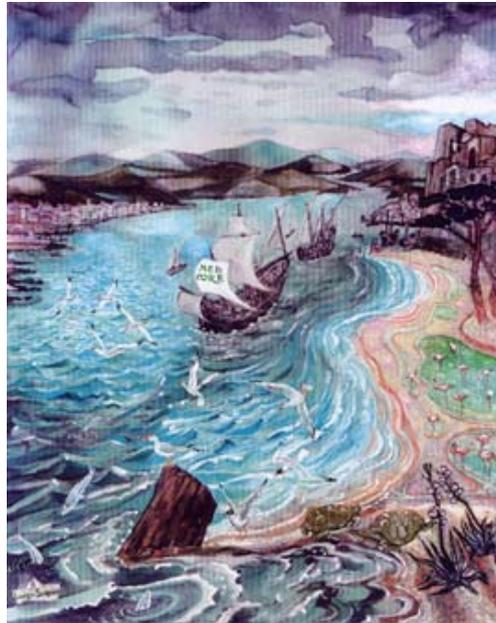


MEDCORE Project



Guidelines for Sustainable Development of Rosetta Area, Egypt

CEDARE

November, 2005

1. Introduction

Rosetta area is one of the Egyptian regions, which has its own character. The area has great potentials for tourism activities, especial economic structure, prevailed by high level of poverty, low levels of public participation. All of these conditions, affect adversely the socioeconomic conditions of the residents and threaten consequently the environmental quality. Therefore, there is an urgent need to build on a set of guidelines for sustainable development of the area.

The development of the area should have long term horizon, so that any development plan should be multi-focus integrating various interests and perspectives. Also, the development plan should be based on participatory approach, according to which, all stakeholders should be incorporated in all stages of development; planning, decision making and implementation processes. Such a participatory approach could ensure that the development efforts will reflect the actual requirements of the residents and meet their needs. Also, it could ensure strong support of the residents for the development efforts and consequently the success of these efforts.

Based on the above mentioned notion, a number of guidelines for the sustainable development of the area were developed. Stakeholders of the area were consulted on these guidelines. The feed back of the participants in the consultation were significant in finalizing the guidelines.

2. Guidelines

1. The need for a comprehensive development plan for the area, which incorporates economic, social and environmental aspects, though:

- Creating more job opportunities and improve income levels. In this context, some economic income-generating activities should be motivated particularly those activities that have not adverse impacts on the environment such as handcrafts.
 - Services provision at adequate quantity and high quality. This can contribute largely to upgrade the living conditions in the area and raise the residents' satisfaction.
 - Protecting the environment and working within the carrying capacity of the natural system. For that purpose the haphazard industrial activities should be controlled. Also some irresponsible activities such as aquaculture on the Nile should be relocated to inland aquaculture in the northern parts of Rosetta where marshy and sandy land are dominated.
2. Such a concrete actions may break the vicious circle between poverty and environment in the area as they may diminish the pressure on the poor and consequently on the environment.
 3. Provision of technical, institutional and financial support at the local level to promote sustainable development through well-organized efforts need to be undertaken at the regional level to provide
 4. Promoting public participation and improving environmental awareness among the residents of the area.
 5. Activating the role of NGOs. In this respect it should be noted that the low levels of public participation and weakness of NGOs in the area can be attributed to fear, poverty, and frustration. So that, in order to promote public participation and activate the role of

NGOs, there is a need for providing an institutional framework ensuring better public participation and more active role of NGOs.

6. Administratively, Rosetta city should have an independent locality, such as Luxuor city, which may be more effective administrative setup and consequently may contribute to sustainable development of the area.
7. Promoting n of tourism activities in the city. This requires more effective efforts to protect and maintain historical assets.
8. Motivation of some industrial activities, which have least effects on the environment such as traditional industries (e.g. handcrafts). In this respect, some industrial firms existing in the city and did not work could be utilized.
9. Subsidize farmers to maintain crop cultivation and palm trees land to limit the conversion of crop land to fruit tress land.