



Sinai 2020

*From Rough Terrain of Terrorism to Sustainable
Development*

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Sinai Movement towards Sustainable Development

During 2018 and 2019, according to the president Abd El Fattah El Sisi's decision no. 107 of 2018 in regard to forming a committee headed by the president's assistant of national and strategic projects, the committee was formed to take over North Sinai Development Project on an area of 400 thousand acres. There the development will focus on two axes: infrastructure and providing water resources in addition to targeting establishment of residential compounds and villages to settle the population and taking all necessary procedures and measures to maintain this infrastructure after its implementation and guaranteeing that water is provided for lands. Also the 400 thousand acres will be divided into areas of Sahl Al Tina and South Al Qantara besides including 125 thousand acres in Port Said and Ismailia governorates from an administrative side.

There has been coordination among all concerned ministries and relevant stakeholders and bodies. This has been done through forming technical working groups in the fields of economic development, developing infrastructure, social development, institutional building up, development management and implementation mechanisms to achieve the vision of political leadership in regard to putting development strategy for Sinai and a map for integrated investments and achieving the optimal investment of the economic potentials which Sinai Peninsula rich in along with finding out a base for attracting investments in industrial, agricultural, mining, touristic and other sectors.

Sinai has witnessed a wide, extensive and comprehensive development which aims at improving living standards of citizens using all available resources and makes it an attractive area for investment which in turn will lead to eliminating all forms of terrorism as an inevitable result of building, development and reconstruction. In addition, all state bodies have participated in the development process under the umbrella and leadership of the Armed Forces. The total available funding provided within the Sinai Development Strategy is about 3 billion \$. Also the Ministry of Planning has provided additional 60 million EGP for 2019 and 2020 to support the integrated development projects in the governorate. During 2019 – 2020 governmental investments with 5.23 billion EGP have been dedicated with an increase of 75.1% compared to last year 2018/2019. Sinai Development Strategy targets providing 2 million job opportunities and achieving investments of about 20 billion \$ in addition to increase Sinai portion from national income to 4.5%.



In its preparation, Sinai Development Strategy relied on the Strategic Plan for Urban Development 2052. The political leadership is based on Egypt's vision 2030 to establish large, medium and small projects and create job opportunities for all available resources and capacities to raise living, social and cultural standards Sinai residents. Also the strategy seeks to enhance the full integration of Sinai within the Egyptian 'web' so a huge network of roads and tunnels were established to link Sinai Peninsula with other governorates. All these projects are competitive worldwide because of their hugeness in terms of length, work size and the standard time plan during which they were implemented. All of these will support the security and political dimension of Eastern borders of the country. We can say that the plans of developmental projects in Sinai aim at improving all life fields and living conditions of Sinai residents through establishing agricultural, industrial and constructing communities attracting citizens to stay and work in.

Undoubtedly to achieve development and its goals it is necessary to clean Sinai from terrorist and "Takfiri" focal points in some special areas in Sinai to start up real development processes on the blessed land. So the armed forces and police launched many security and military campaigns to face these terroristic and "Takfiri" members and groups. The police and armed forces greatly succeeded against these groups. In parallel, along with these military confrontations, development has been achieved.

On 30th October 2019, in its meeting that day, the Cabinet approved to consider the victims of terroristic incidents in Sinai as martyrs (the victims of the terroristic incident against ambush at Al Tofaha village, and the incident of North Sinai in B'ir Al Abd on 27th August 2019, the incident of falling of unknown shell on olive farm on 12th October 2019, falling of unknown shell on Abo Al Miraj area in the south of Al Sheikh Zoyid in North Sinai on 19th October 2019). It has been approved to pay compensations for the families of victims and injured people.

The following is an outline of the development and construction processes according to the plan of comprehensive plan in all fields:

The following table illustrates what is done and achieved in each field.

Serial	Sector	Development fields
1	Roads and Tunnels	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Implementing 9 roads with total lengths of 460 km.• Developing and widening 3 roads with



		<p><i>total lengths of 680 km.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Rehabilitating and raising efficiency of 5 squares in Al Arish city.</i> • <i>Establishing 4 tunnels under Al Suez Canal (two tunnels in North Ismailia and two tunnels in South Port Said).</i> • <i>Operating many floating bridges on Suez Canal.</i> • <i>Establishing new bridge above Suez Canal in addition to raise its efficiency and duplicating it.</i> • <i>Marine platforms with length of 5 km and width of 500 m.</i>
2	<i>Ports</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Establishing 5 ports (Sharm El Sheikh Seaport, Nowabaa seaport, Sinai commercial port, Al Sayd port in Tor Sinai and Abo Zanima seaport).</i> • <i>Developing Al Arish seaport, raising its efficiency and linking it to a number of roads.</i>
3	<i>Agricultural Development</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Planting 400 acres from the eastern bank of Suez Canal to Rafah (North Sinai).</i> • <i>14 Bedouin agricultural groupings in South Sinai.</i> • <i>10 agricultural developmental groupings in central Sinai with 93 deep wells.</i> • <i>Planting 5 thousand acres of agricultural greenhouse in the east of new Ismailia.</i> • <i>12 typical farms in the governorate to produce vegetables and fruits.</i> • <i>A lot of agricultural greenhouses and distributing them to Sinai Bedouins.</i>



4	<i>Housing and Urban Development</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 projects with a total of 80955 apartments and 400 Bedouin houses, among which: • 4 new cities (New Rafah, Al Salam in the east of Port Said, New B'ir Al Abd, New Ismailia). • 2000 apartments in Masaeed city in Al Arish. • 6972 social housing units in South Sinai. • 17 Bedouin compounds in North and South Sinai. • Deliver facilities to 14500 social housing units.
5	<i>Irrigation and Water Resources</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish “Sarabium syphon” with length of 400 m and develop the syphon of Al Salam Canal. • Develop many canals such as Al Salam Canals, Al Sheikh Zoyid Canal and Al Sheikh Gaber Al Sabah Canal. • Establish 55 shallow and deep water wells. • Raising the efficiency and operating 27 wells. • 3 ground tanks. • Establishing and developing 12 purifying stations.
6	<i>Education</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 new universities (Al Arish, Al Tor, King Soliman Ibn Abd El Aziz). • 10 acres for students housing in King Soliman Ibn Abd El Aziz Univerisity. • 57 schools with total cost of 209.23 million EGP. • 5 administrative projects with total cost of 5.7 million EGP. • Development and maintenance of 161



		<p><i>schools of total cost of 40.9 million EGP.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>12 schools in Bedouin compounds including 92 classes and equipped rest.</i> • <i>10 one-class schools (44 classes) in Bedouin compounds.</i> • <i>60 Azhari institutes and schools in 7 cities.</i>
7	<i>Health</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Implementing 14 projects to establish hospitals and medicines stores.</i> • <i>15 hospitals and health units.</i> • <i>Raise the efficiency of 10 hospitals with total of 400 beds.</i> • <i>Raise the efficiency and develop three central hospitals.</i> • <i>Raise the efficiency and develop 8 health units.</i> • <i>Raise the efficiency and develop 25 ambulance positions.</i> • <i>Establishing up three levels for health development in South Sinai including 6 central hospitals, one public hospital, Sharm El Sheikh International Hospital, 5 private hospitals, 7 primary care units, 14 health units and 18 health offices.</i>
8	<i>Industrial Development</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Establish huge industrial area in B'ir Al Abd city.</i> • <i>Develop 2 industrial areas (industrial area in Abo Zanima, industrial area for heavy industries in central Sinai).</i> • <i>Increase the productive energy of Al Arish cement factory.</i> • <i>Wholesale market in Port Said on an area of 38.8 acres.</i>



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Complex for marble production.</i>
9	<i>Sanitation</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>5 sanitation projects in B'ir Al Abd, Al Hosna, Nakhl, Al Sheikh Zoyid and Al Tor cities.</i> • <i>Implementing sanitation station and network in Dahab, Ras Sidr, Abo Zenima, Saint Catherine and Abo Radis cities.</i> • <i>Expansions in sanitation network in Al Tor city (Al Wadi village).</i>
10	<i>Youth Care</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Establishing and raising efficiency of 45 youth centers.</i> • <i>Raising efficiency of 35 youth centers.</i> • <i>International rooms and theaters for Youth Forum in Sharm Al Sheikh and Al Tor.</i> • <i>Implementing the second stage of youth city in Sharm El Sheikh.</i>
11	<i>Airports</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Developing 2 airports: Al Arish International Airport and Al Milez Airport for civil usage.</i>
12	<i>Fisheries</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Establish many fish farms such as Om Shihan, Al Roda, and free fishing lake in the east of Port Said.</i> • <i>Fish farms in the national project of Suez Canal on an area of 15590 acres.</i> • <i>5906 fish culture basins in the east of Port Said on an area of 19351.</i>
13	<i>Electricity</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>6 projects to raise the efficiency of electricity networks in three cities.</i> • <i>Connecting electricity for 18 Bedouin</i>



		<i>compounds and 12 areas.</i>
14	<i>Touristic Projects</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Many touristic projects in the east of Port Said, B'ir Al Abd, Al Arish and Rafah with total of 5 billion EGP.</i>

Recommendations

- 1- *Egypt should complete the combating steps and measures against terroristic groups in commitment to the United Nations decisions of combating violent extremism without prejudice to fundamental human rights.*
- 2- *Working upon restoring normal life in Al Arish, Al Sheikh Zoyid and Rafah and ending up the imposed case of emergency soon.*
- 3- *Working upon expanding current development operations in Sinai and creating job opportunities for youth to protect them from being involved in terroristic organizations.*
- 4- *Commit to steps put by the United Nations in its strategies in regard to combat terrorism i.e. enabling youth, families and leaders in religious, cultural and educational fields, involving all stakeholders and concerned bodies from civil society in combating embracement of this violent extremism, raising up with social integration and coherence and developing positive discourse against terroristic ideas.*
- 5- *Enhancing dialogue between the state and actors in tribal communities in North Sinai, protecting human rights and strengthening social coherence which are the most effective ways in combating extremism calls.*
- 6- *Interest in expanding dissemination of sports, cultural, artistic and theatrical activities in Sinai society and working upon increasing cultural movement to attract energies and creativity of Sinai people within a broader framework to face 'Takfiri' ideas by widely spread of culture and arts.*