

Demo Site Selection Report

A site visit committee was formulated during the third learning alliance – LA meeting in Alexandria. It was decided that this committee will visit three designated areas to choose between them the most suitable one to have SWITCH's demonstration project. Such project will indicate some features of the Integrated Urban Water Management – IUWM system which will be applied upon its feasibility, suitability to the areas conditions, and the stakeholders common vision.

The **committee members** were:

- Dr. Mohammed abd Rabu (SWITCH consultant)
- Dr. Ahmed Hossam (the public Health Institute)
- Dr. Hellaly Abd ElHady Hellaly (the Sanitation company)
- Eng. Eman Fathy (Dr. Hellaly's assistant) (the Sanitation company)
- Eng. Halh abd elsalam (from the governorate urban planning sector)
- Eng. Hanan (the water company)
- Eng. Noha (the water company)
- Eng. Gamal (EEAA at Alexandria)
- Eng. Ahmed Essam (SWITCH Facilitator)

The **visited areas** were:

- Almrawi district
- Naga Elarab district
- Fishermen village

SWITCH facilitator arranged some terms of reference (selection criteria) from the beginning as guidelines to help the committee in the selection decision, these **selection criteria** were:

- The area selected should be a (sub-urban) area
- It should be Easy to access
- The area selected should be of controllable size (not so big)
- It should NOT have high percentage of population
- The stakeholders should be easy to identify and deal with
- It's desirable that the area selected should already have a project running of water and/or sanitation, or will be, that (SWITCH) project can join in, with-in its budget limits.
- It should have at least the infrastructure features for water and sanitation system, without complexity
- It's desirable that the area selected have the potential for getting use of different water resources (rain water, ground water, brackish water, ...) along with the reuse of drainage and/or sewage water

- It's desirable that the area selected have the potential for applying water demand management schemes and technologies
- It's desirable that the area selected had previously similar service project(s) done over there by other agencies.

The committee started their visit at 10:00 a.m. with (**Almrawi district**), and the main characteristics of the area were:

- It's area of about 96 fedan(s)
- The **eastern** boundary is: elnabawy elmohandis st.
- The **western** boundary is: a road separating Almrawi district from the sit around land (called Haud Aramaa)
- The **northern** boundary is: a road parallel to mostafa kamel st.
- The **southern** boundary is: mostafa kamel st.
- **Sanitation services:** there is a good sanitation network, which are relatively newly installed. It conveys the sewage to the pumping station at street 45, which pumps the sewage to the EASTERN sanitation water treatment plant
- **Water services:** the services are good but some people are suffering from low water pumping pressure, that they can't get water sometimes.
- **Buildings & population:** the area is distinguished with residential towers although some apartments appears to be empty. But definitely the area has a high percentage of population, and its not of controllable size
- Some very small service projects have been done there, but not related water and sanitation services.

The committee then, moved to the second location at 11:30 a.m. to (**Naga Elarab district**), and their findings were:

- It's area is more than 100 fedan(s)
- The **eastern** boundary is: a small salina (Malaha), which used to be a sewage drainage area for the southern part of the district
- The **western** boundary is: the western sewage treatment plant (Elkabbary plant)
- The **northern** boundary is: a rail road (Elkabbary rail road).
- The **southern** boundary is: lake Maryut.
- **Sanitation services:** the northern part of this area is served with sanitation services but the other part is not, because the land was seized by criminally registered locals but the government had to retrieve it back by force and

demolish most of the buildings there. The northern part is discharging its sewage to the adjacent treatment plant and after the primary treatment the effluent is discharged to Lake Maryut.

- **Water services:** the services are good but the water quality is questionable.
- **Buildings & population:** there are no residential towers at this district. It has a large number of relatively small buildings of 3 to 5 floors, but still the area is crowded, and its also not of controllable size.
- There was No knowledge of previous service projects been done over there before.

Then the committee moved to the third location at 12:30 p.m. to the (**Fishermen village**), and their observations were:

- It's area is about 65 fedan(s)
- The **eastern** boundary is: the highway entrance
- The **western** boundary is: lake Maryut
- The **northern** boundary is: Tarek St.
- The **southern** boundary is: Elkabbary road
- **Sanitation services:** it is a random sanitation service done by their public efforts, through connecting each household to a main sewage line working by natural decline to discharge the sewage to lake Maryut (it is a very bad condition)
- **Water services:** it doesn't look like there is any problem related to water but, changing the behavior of dealing with water as an important resource would be beneficial.
- **Buildings & population:** most of the households are small buildings of 1 to 2 floors, but the area is of controllable size, and of reasonable population.
- That area have been a place for 2 or 3 previous service projects done by foreign agencies, and a non-governmental origination can be identified over there.

At 1:30 p.m. the committee went back to the sanitation company headquarters building, and held a meeting for half an hour, to decide on the final choice:

- Dr. Ahmed Hossam noted that:
 - The most suitable place in terms of area, population, social dimension, and services situation is the fishermen village
 - The other areas: Almrawi district doesn't suffer of such problems and it's area is not of controllable size, for Naga Elarab district it is also of large

area and moreover for its safety and security conditions it is not wise to choose it.

- We can have there a model of sanitation system improvement, and reuse of sewage water in a wetland for vegetating wooden trees around the area
 - The stakeholders are used to deal with such projects and that is an advantage, and SWITCH project is all about learning alliances and social inclusion
- Dr. Hellaly noted that:
 - There was a previous study carried out on fishermen village area resulted in; that its not possible to have the traditional used sanitation system for that area, it needs an innovative sanitation system that can overcome the problem of this area.
 - Eng. Halh noted that:
 - The fishermen village are is distinguished with its very small buildings of mostly 1 floor, which makes it easier to the governorate to remove them because the area wasn't planed from the beginning
 - On the other hand there is a threat if the services are improved hen the development of the area will just vanish any improvement done there.
 - Dr. abd Rabu noted that:
 - The concept of removing the area is not there as long as the people living over there are not protesting
 - The services are usually designed to withstand the development at the community for at least 50 years ahead
 - In comparison to the other vested sites (Almrawi district & Naga Elarab district) what are the water & sanitation problems that really can make them in preference to the fishermen village? I think there is not.

The committee finished there meeting at 2:00 p.m. deciding that the (fishermen village) is the most suitable place for SWITCH demonstration project.

The committee assigned tasks for some members in order to collect more data on the village, and it should be submitted as soon as possible :

- Dr. Ahmed Hossam: is going to submit a complete data report of a project previously done on the fishermen village and he was participating in it.
- Dr. Hellaly: is going to submit a historical data report on the sanitation services of the fishermen village, and the results of previous studies done on it.
- Eng. Hanan & Eng. Noha: are going to submit a report on the water services conditions of the fishermen village.