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# **Urban Planning & Infrastructure in Migration Contexts VISION, SCENARIO BUILDING & ACTION PLAN REPORT NEW DAMIETTA** Egypt

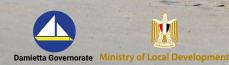
12th October 2023

**UN-HABITAT** 



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Project Manager: Herman Pienaar Project Technical Supervision: Niina Rinne Project Coordination: Dina Dabash, Rowaida Dweik, Jia Cong Ang Contributors HQ: Sammy Muinde, Myriam Azar Contributors Egypt Country Office: Rania Hedaya, Amr Lashin Cover Photo: District four in New Damietta city, Damietta Governorate, Egypt. Source: UN Habitat

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12<sup>th</sup> October 2023



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## Abbreviations

#### Units

	1 feddan = 1.038 acres 1 hectare = 2.38 feddans 1 sq. km = 247.105 acres
SECO: UPIMC: UN-Habitat: UNHCR: IDPs: MHUUC: MALR: MODMP: MOH: MOH: MOLD: MOF: EEAA: NUCA: CAPMAS: SDG: SUP: SWOT:	Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs Urban Migration & Infrastructure in Migration Contexts United Nations Human Settlements Programme United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Internally Displaced People Ministry of Housing, Utilities and Urban Communities Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation Ministry of Defence and Military Production Ministry of Defence and Military Production Ministry of Housing Ministry of Local Development Ministry of Finance The Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency New Urban Communities Authority Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics Sustainable Development Goals Strategic Urban Plan Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats analysis
CO:	Carbon Monoxide
MCA:	Multi Criteria Analysis
PwD:	People with Disabilities

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#### **Executive Summery**

#### The UPIMC Programme in Damietta

Being a safe haven in a region that has experienced much turmoil, Egypt has welcomed several waves of refugees over the years. Enormous population growth patterns coupled with rapid urbanisation and internal displacement has resulted in Egypt being one of the most urbanised countries in the world as 43% of the population lives in urban areas<sup>1</sup>. There is no doubt about the fact that Egypt's population has been and will keep increasing in relation to the economic growth and increased development, with forecasts predicting a total population of 160 million in 2050<sup>2</sup>. This has posed various challenges and strains on the country's infrastructure, economy, and the quality of services. Additionally, the rapid population growth has led to an increase in housing demands and congestion. In response, United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) partnered with the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) to improve access to reliable services and socio-economic opportunities for migrants and displaced populations in New Damietta city through the Urban Planning & Infrastructure in Migration Contexts Programme (UPIMC). The program recognizes the need to support municipalities with a long-term strategic approach in connecting needed community members, migrants and displaced population with access to public services through financeable infrastructure investments.

#### Approach

The UPIMC programme is being implemented in three countries: Cameroon (Douala), Egypt (New Damietta), and Jordan (Amman and Irbid). This report is a product of the programme implementation in Egypt.

The programme consists of four interlinked

components: (1) spatial analytics and urban profiling, (2) developing a strategic vision and scenario building, (3) defining prioritised infrastructure investments and establishing linkage to financing, and (4) contributing to knowledge exchange.

#### **Spatial Analytics and Urban Profiling**

In the first component, Eqypt UPIMC team developed the Damietta Spatial Profile based on a spatially focused cross-sectoral situational analysis of urban settlements hosting displaced populations, allowing local stakeholders to get a comprehensive spatial understanding of the existing situation as a basis for decision-making, long-term urban development strategies, and infrastructure investment planning. The spatial profile identified and mapped challenges, provisions, and gaps in public infrastructure<sup>1</sup> services in coordination with humanitarian interventions at the national, regional, and city levels. A Geographic Information System (GIS) program was utilized to undertake the spatial analysis throughout the profile, which included measuring the accessibility to basic services within 5, 15, and 30-minute distances at different scales, and measuring the demand on infrastructure networks. The urban profiling itself has been built upon data already collected by the various actors using a participatory and area-based approach. It developed a baseline that can be used as a consultative mechanism to support vertical and horizontal integration of stakeholder requirements including government entities at various levels and other relevant stakeholders.

#### **Develop a Strategic Vision and Scenario Building**

In the light of the analytical work and the exchanges carried out during the first part of the study, this component will develop a strategic vision based on an urban strategy developed in full engagement of all stakeholders. This report, which is the output of the second component, draws on the spatial profile that has been created to generate a common strategic vision and scenario and to provide an action plan for accomplishing it by identifying priority infrastructure investments which seek to enhance the living conditions for both local communities and refugees. This method is fully described in the report's chapters.

As this report indicates, key institutional stakeholders and representatives from civil society participated actively in the creation of a common strategic vision. The residents of Damietta city and Kafr El Battikh shared their aspirations, dreams, and hopes for a better future of their cities during community engagement workshops. In light of this, the neighborhood's vision statement was created, taking into account the needs and objectives of both cities for the next 10 years "A **Dignified, Equitable, and Connected City for All".** 

Throughout the scenario-building process, it was examined how the urban environment would change in New Damietta and Kafr El Battikh over the course of the following ten years. This took into account potential events, or what were called "variables," that would cause significant changes to the built environment, as well as the anticipated impacts and probability of these developments. The variables that were assessed are: 1) Population Growth; 2) Urban Footprint; 3) Catalytic Development Projects 4) Local Economic Development; and 5) Natural Resources and Environment.

<sup>1</sup> Infrastructure in the context of UPIMC refers to the fundamental physical and organizational structures and facilities needed for the functioning and development of a society. Infrastructure includes: transportation, energy, water, healthcare, education, and housing.

To build these scenarios, detailed data on the current state of the neighbourhood was collected using a combination of methods, namely GIS mapping and on-site observation and interviews. This data was then thoroughly analysed in relation to the five selected variables to determine how New Damietta and Kafr El Battikh could be spatially and functionally configured in 2035.

First, the "Business As Usual (BAU)" scenario showed how both cities will look in 2035 if no or minimal measures are implemented. The "Optimal" scenario, on the other hand, rethinks the future in order to establish a clear connection between what has to be done to transform both cities in accordance with the developed vision and how the various sectors may support in this transition. This optimal scenario calls for the implementation of 17 necessary projects during the decade that follows. According to their urgency, transformative social, environmental, economic, and spatial impacts, as well as their alignment with the current governmental plans, and the views of the local community and key stakeholders, a scoring matrix (Annex A) was developed to identify the highest priority projects. The optimal includes the necessary projects that were prioritized to determine when they should be implemented after conducting a technical review of each project and consulting the community and relevant governmental entities.

The scenario development will be supported by an action plan outlining possible projects and their timeframes. This will also unlock the next step for the clear identification of strategic infrastructure interventions and allow a technical assessment of the prioritisation of interventions.

## • Define Prioritized Infrastructure Investments and Linkage to Financing

This process explains implementing the strategic suggestions outlined in the optimal scenario by creating a thorough action plan that can address progressive changes in the social, economic, environmental, and spatial realms. Damietta Governorate and New Urban Communities Authorities (NUCA) and key stakeholders from relevant institutions can follow the general framework provided by this action plan to provide a proactive and manageable approach to implementing the necessary projects at city level. It describes the best way to organize and coordinate implementation efforts, the responsible entity, and a planned timeline for completion and maintenance to guarantee that the available resources are used in the most effective and economical manner to provide the greatest impact. The projects with potential synergies were then grouped together and phased based on critical areas in each city as outlined in each section of the action plan chapter.

The action plan is divided into three phases (short, medium, and long term) to be implemented over a span of almost 10 years starting from the year 2024 until 2035 to reflect the desired vision derived from the optimal scenario map. The short-term phase (2024- 2026) is the period in which the high priority needed projects identified through the scoring matrix must be implemented. These projects include the development of the beach and corniche; establishing urban farming pocket parks; covering the Balamoon Canal; construction of more shops to extend the commercial spine in New Damietta. The mid-term phase (2027-2031) consists of the medium-priority projects, including bike-friendly lanes network in New

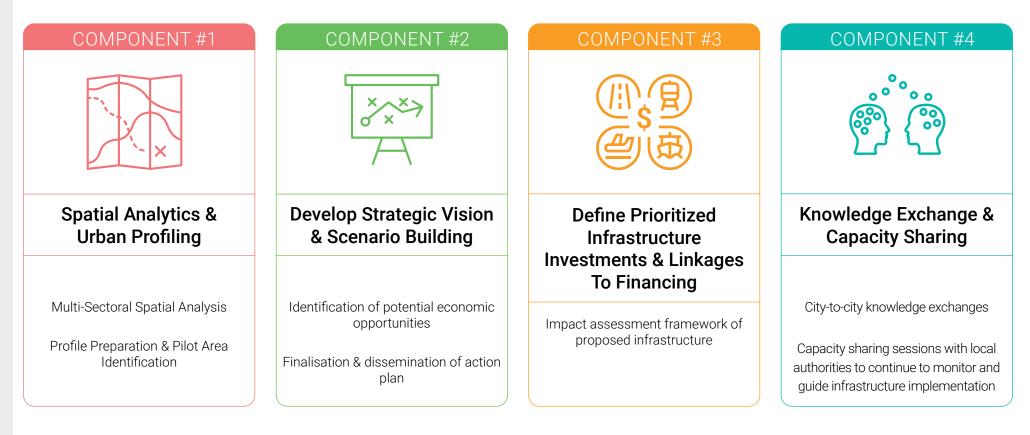
Damietta; establishing a public transportation station; establishing a central fresh food market; construction of intermediate waste collection plant in Kafr El Battikh. Finally, the long-term phase (2032-2035) includes neighborhood upgrading and maintenance and schools' rehabilitation & construction in New Damietta.

To start the resource mobilization in 2023, investment cards (Annex B) for each high-priority project were created. They provide information about the project's goal, beneficiaries, impact, partners, life cycle, budget, and financials. These cards will establish connections between the top-priority infrastructure investments and possible partners for funding and implementation.

#### Knowledge Exchange

This last component will build and foster knowledge exchange and awareness in the cities among stakeholders for the importance of good data management and urban observatory platforms for future use. Through forums and digital media, the Programme will also connect cities at the national and international levels through events and international conferences, including the Cities Investment Platform events. It will also make use of UN-Habitat's platforms and those of partners i.e., Cities and Migration Joint Work Programme of the Cities Alliance, share respective knowledge and experiences, as well as other examples such as UN Migration Network, UCLG or MMC.

### Four components of the UPIMC Programme



### Introduction

## Moving From Assessment To Strategic Vision And Scenario Building

This component covers the second component of the UPIMC Program, mainly the visioning and scenario building based on the main outcomes from the profiling exercise of New Damietta and Kafr El-Battikh, the project aims at formulating strategic orientation of the interventions needed in the area.

The spatial profile has established and summarized the challenges and opportunities that impact New Damietta in Egypt. Understanding these challenges and opportunities, which span over categories of urbanisation, climate change, socio-economic challenges, refugee concentration and land management, provides a contextual framework to the current status of New Damietta city. These challenges and opportunities are aligned to the SDGs and have been verified by stakeholders through UN-Habitat hosted engagement sessions.

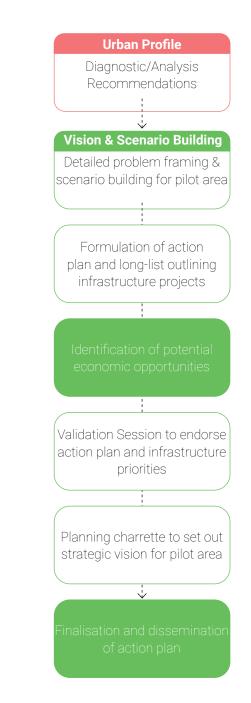
New Damietta serves as a major hub for domestic traffic. It is one of the most fully urbanized cities in Egypt's north coast and amongst the most expensive areas <sup>3</sup>. It stands out as one of the most highly developed urban areas in the region. The existing infrastructure in New Damietta plays a vital role in accommodating refugees, offering them essential support and resources.

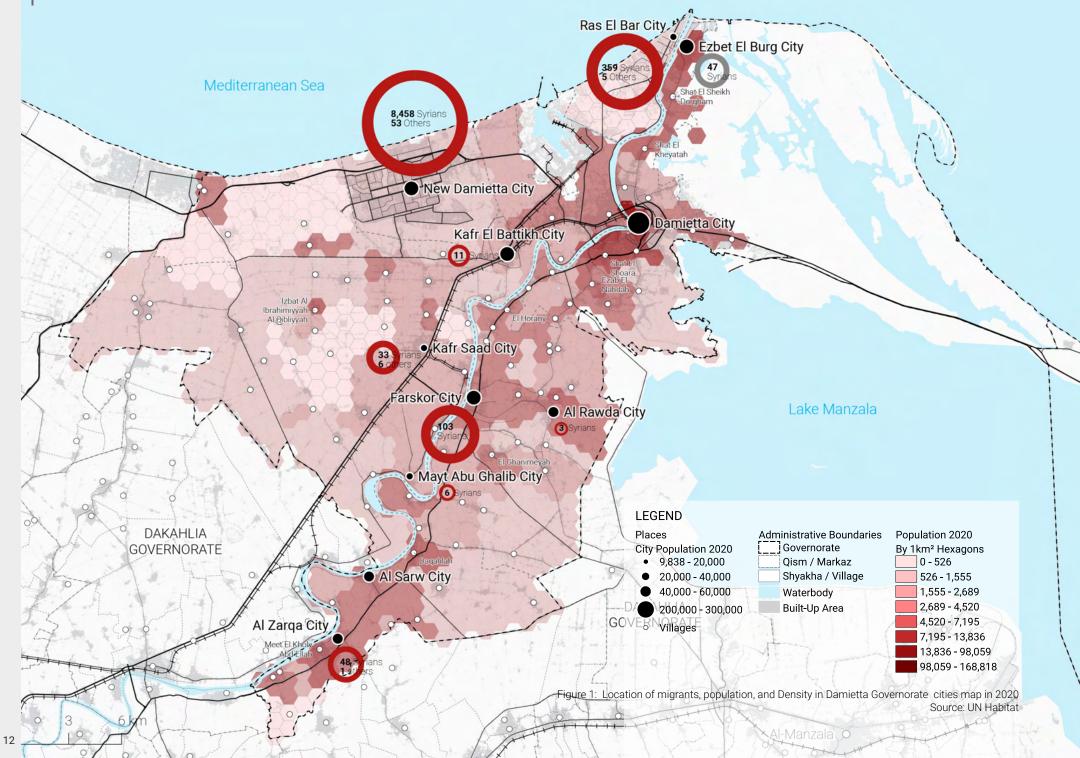
On the other hand, Kafr El-Battikh holds a dynamic position in a strategically diverse location, close to New Damietta, old Damietta, and the port. Given its advantageous proximity and considering the escalating cost of living and housing in New Damietta, Kafr El-Battikh is likely to emerge as the preferred destination for both migrants and local communities unable to afford living in New Damietta. The city's attractiveness stems from its potential to provide more affordable living options while maintaining accessibility to vital amenities and opportunities in the nearby areas. However, its semi-urban neighborhoods and inadequate infrastructure make it a non-desirable place for refugees. There is an agricultural pillow surrounding both New Damietta and Kafr El-Battikh, therefore, both city faces a high negative environmental impact from coal kilns surrounding the area, further becoming a health hazard for the entire area's residents, and suffering from inadequate infrastructure.

New Damietta occasionally provides services to Kafr El-Battikh while residents commute for work, visit relatives, and leisure. New Damietta has an area of 26.30 km<sup>2</sup>, a total population of 71,342 inhabitants, and a concentration of a total of 8511 refugees residing in the city <sup>4</sup>. On the other hand, Kafr El Battikh has an area of 1.8 km<sup>2</sup>, and a total population of 48,990 <sup>5</sup>.

Both cities form a sub-region with various economic potentials, especially with the existing flow of relations between the two areas, mainly related to economic opportunities and social networks. Yet, the weak infrastructural connectivity between the two cities has been revealed to be hindering the future growth of the area, especially for the high number of Syrian refugees who reside in New Damietta.

The UPIMC project's goal in this component is to identify which action could contribute to the improvement of the conditions for a larger spectrum of local residents by resolving challenges that both cities are facing more comprehensively.





#### Background Challenges and Interventions needed in New Damietta

The challenges and necessary interventions in relation to the SDGs are outlined in this part based on the spatial analysis that was undertaken for New Damietta after the city's residents and refugees had highlighted the challenges, needs, and possibilities.



#### SDG 3: Good Health and Well Being

The analysis revealed that there is a lack of access to health care facilities within a five- and 15-minute walking distance in New Damietta, specifically in District 2, 3, and 5. This was validated by the technical staff and the residents. Accordingly, the needed intervention is to **construct a comprehensive health centre** close to those areas or upgrade and transform the existing hospitals within the city.

#### 4 EDUCATION

#### SDG 4: Quality Education

There are no schools in New Damietta's northern and northwestern districts. To relieve the pressure and overcrowding on other educational facilities, locals stressed the need for new schools in particular locations. **Building new schools** on undeveloped land in Districts 3 and 5 is one of the necessary interventions to improve the accessibility of all educational facilities to accommodate students with disabilities.

#### 6 CLEAN WATER AND SANJTATION

## SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation

Residents mentioned the need to improve the safe potable water service supply in some areas of the city. The main issue with water remains its quality; faucet water has high turbidity and salt concentration, where clay is considered one of the main pollutants. This is based on feedback from the community, the UPMIC did not validate or analyze the water.

According to interviews with New Damietta residents, there is an assumption that the water treatment and purification plants are not providing the right filter for the water to become drinkable. Overall, the water capacity assessment revealed a relatively high demand for the water network. Upper floors in some housing units do not get water, and the existing water network and pipes are dilapidated and weak especially in the seventy and eighty neighborhoods. Residents also explained that the sanitation network needs regular maintenance. This is aligned with the capacity analysis conducted that revealed that the water and sewerage networks within these neighbourhoods are overloaded. Therefore, the needed intervention is to upgrade water and sewerage infrastructure networks and pumping stations to accommodate the increase in population.

#### SDG 8: Decent work and Economic Growth

Residents expressed the need to enhance employment opportunities and improve individuals' capacities and skills. The needed interventions in this regard are to **unlock economic opportunities and enhance the economic connectivity of the city** with its surroundings by **introducing an Eco-cultural tourism corridor** and strengthening and extending the commercial spine of the city by **increasing the number of commercial shops** while upgrading and developing the industrial areas.

## SDG 11: Sustainable Cities & Communities

The per capita share of green areas in New Damietta is less than the national standard. Recreational outlets are concentrated in the central area of the city and not within walking distance. Residents stressed that the overall existing condition of the beach is not utilized or attractive. Therefore, the needed intervention is creating green pockets within the city and introduce urban agricultural gardens and rehabilitate and improve open space and seafront.

As for transportation, citizens and refugees find public transportation modes to be highly disconnected and insufficient to service all areas of the city. In order for users to reach inner areas of the desired destination they seek the use of unaffordable taxi cars. Introducing other green means of transportation such as **creating a network for bikes and walking could help with this.** The analysis of housing and infrastructure indicated that some of the roads are in poor condition and that there are inadequate dwellings. In order to tackle the challenge of floods, it is necessary to **maintain the storm-water drainage network and upgrade those deteriorating buildings.** 



## SDG 13: Climate Change

According to interviews with residents. There is an overall need to manage garbage and regulate air quality that is being impacted by agricultural burning and smoke from coal kilns surrounding the city. The proposed recommendation is to ultimately close and fully remove all burning sites and establish an agricultural and household waste recycling factory in the industrial zone. Increasing green urban pockets in all areas of the city will further contribute to better air quality.



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Figure 2: Map of New Damietta & Kafr El Battikh Source: UN Habitat

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COMPONENT #2

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Participants in workshops in New Damietta, Egypt Source: UN Habitat

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## Objectives for the city of New Damietta

I IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION	<ul> <li>Construct, rehabilitate and establish education facilities and learning spaces as well as provide gender-sensitive WASH facilities</li> <li>Improve the accessibility of all educational facilities to accommodate students with disabilities</li> <li>Improve the physical capacity of the public and community schools</li> <li>Improve the quality of formal and non-formal education within a protective learning environment</li> <li>Expand the free enrolment in the Egyptian public educational system to include all groups of refugees such as the Iraqis</li> </ul>
2 IMPROVING ACCESS TO LIVELIHOOD & ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT	<ul> <li>Enhance employment opportunities and improve individuals' capacities and skills</li> <li>Having greater price regulation by the consumer protection authority</li> <li>Expand humanitarian assistance (e.g., multi-purpose cash assistance) to include the most vulnerable refugees</li> </ul>
3 STRENGTHENING INFRASTRUCTURE NETWORK	<ul> <li>Provide sustainable, safe, and equitable access to potable water as per minimum standards</li> <li>Improve sanitation services</li> <li>Contribute to safer streets through expanding the lighting network</li> </ul>
4 STRENGTHENING GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING	<ul> <li>Contribute to equal access to comprehensive and quality primary health care improved for refugees</li> <li>Improve the capacity of health care services to provide quality health care.</li> <li>Build the capacity of health care staff at public emergency, secondary, and tertiary healthcare facilities</li> </ul>
5 IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF HOUSING AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES	<ul> <li>Improve access to adequate, secure, and affordable housing provided for vulnerable individuals in the community.</li> <li>Provide safe and clean environment (addressing the stray dogs challenge)</li> <li>Increase the accessibility and affordability of open spaces</li> <li>Rehabilitate and improve open space and seafront</li> <li>Develop the waterfront</li> </ul>
STRENGTHENING TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE	<ul> <li>Provide affordable and adequate transportation means</li> <li>Improve, expand, and upgrade the road network</li> <li>Expand the public transportation network to cover all the neighborhoods</li> <li>Provide green modes of transportation and provide biking lanes</li> </ul>
7 INCLUSION OF VULNERABLE COMMUNITY & PwD	<ul> <li>Promote social inclusion programs and awareness raising</li> </ul>

The second state of the se

Double

UPIMC project Vision Workshop in Kafr El Battikh, Egypt. Source: UN Habitat





## **VISION** THE VISION ABOUT HOW A COMMUNITY

WILL GROW, REFLECTING COMMUNITY PRIORITIES AND VALUES WHILE SHAPING THE FUTURE.

UPIMC-Egypt

### **Vision Formulation**

Through a participatory approach, the community of New Damietta identified a common vision and their aspirations for the future of the city.

The vision statement was developed through five groups formation sessions with technical staff and the residents. Refugees also participated in another group to voice their aspirations for the town.

#### **Vision Workshop and Flow**

The workshop's objectives were to inform the local residents about the UPIMC Programme and its objectives, provide a recap on the first component of city profiling and analytics, provide an overview of the process for developing a vision, discuss the value of having a vision and how to achieve it, and get their thoughts on how they see New Damietta in the next 10 years. Each session began with a validation of the needs identified during the intensive community meetings held earlier. After the validation, each group worked on its own interpretation of the city's future and expresses their shared aspiration at the end of each session in a written statement.

It is critical to point out that while the citizens might extend their vision to a longer and more strategic time frame, refugees in New Damietta continued to push for short-term improvements to the current conditions (mostly in the areas of education, health, and the economy). The reason behind this is, refugees were more concerned with immediate interventions which could already improve their lives for they are living in far less adequate situations than the citizens who have been treated with reserved rights.



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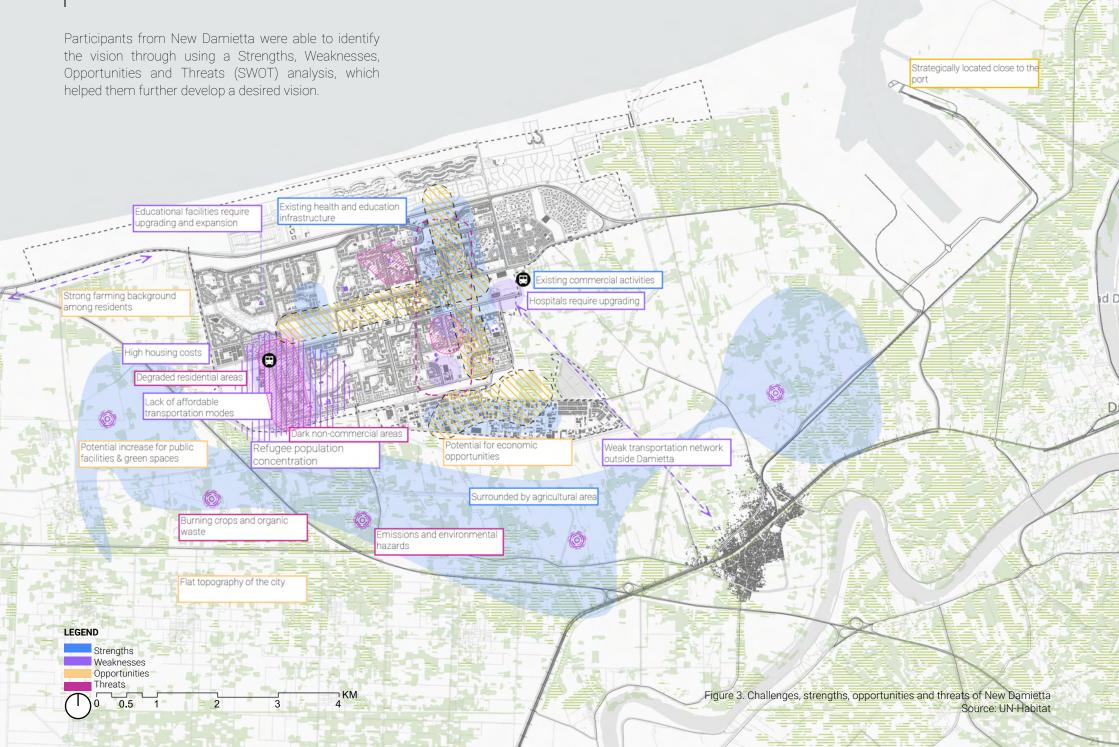




Planning & Infrastructure in Migration Contexts



Community participation in New Damietta, Egypt. Source: UN Habitat



## **Voices From The Refugees**

Refugees' voices transported their aspirations, anticipations, and hopes for the city of New Damietta. Refugees want to transform the city and create program of initiatives to improve urban planning, alleviate poverty and maximize service delivery efficiencies.

#### **Vision Statement:**

Refugees have varying perspectives on what the most successful version of the city could be. Almost 80% agreed on the need of creating an inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable city and community, with a focus on upgrading the educational system to serve as an incubator for its youth and children. Others felt that making the process of renewing residency easier was crucial. They envisioned a vibrant city that welcomes all refugees and provides equal work opportunities for all. An anticipating city for a cultivating, advancing environment for small and home businesses. Provision of programmatic initiatives to support the rental cost for housing and pioneer social housing for refugees. Imposing strict control measures over offered goods in the market to battle rising inflation (solving the increase of bread prices problem).

Refugees also desired for a sustainable inclusive city that gives dignified access to recreational spaces for persons with special needs, equitable opportunities for all, and a supported standard of living, along with enhanced affordable transportation means.

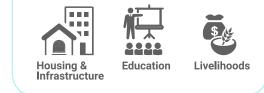
Mainly the refugees asked for a persistent act upon improving the educational system and enhancing the school environment to eliminate and reject private lessons. A healthy and fair city with excellent services.



Refugee Vision Key Words

## Voices From Refugees Living In New Damietta:

Inclusive city, providing equitable services to all its residents. A city that offers affordable housing and good education. A city that protects its residents economically and provides humanitarian assistance for the displaced. An embracing city that provides dignified access to recreational spaces.



## **Voices From The Citizens**

During the visioning workshops, the UN-Habitat team and local residents created the city's vision statement, which takes into account their needs and goals over the next 10 years. The sessions started by combining predicted trend keywords and team members' goals to create future vision ideas. Visualization using a map and illustrations contributed to developing the future vision.

All key community members and stakeholders in New Damietta were part of the discussion and decisionmaking. The next step was brainstorming with the community alist of issues that will affect the community in the future. Typically, these issues were long-term trends that are slowly changing the community.



Local Community Vision Key Words

## Voices From Local Community Living In New Damietta:

A just city that provides affordable amenities and reliable infrastructure services. A city with a vibrant economy that imports vocational abilities to the region. A clean and green city where its citizens are healthy and motivated. A city that celebrates its open spaces and provides dignified access to those spaces (especially the beach).



## Voices From Technical Staff Of New Damietta :

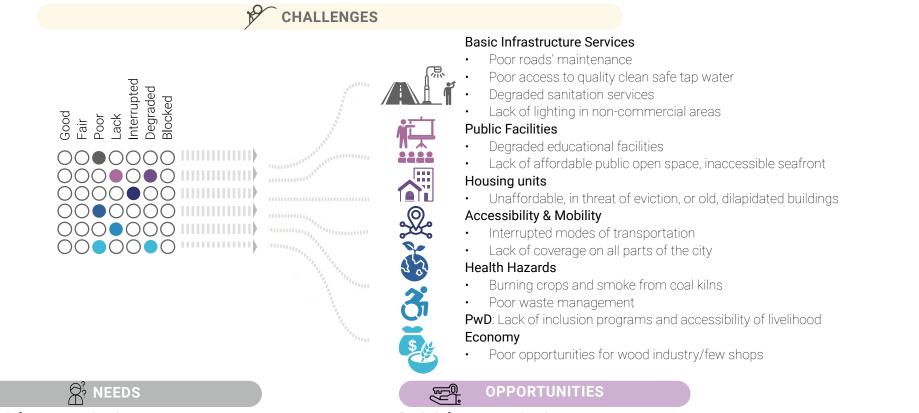
A sustainable and responsible city that provides quality education and health services to its residents. A connected city with active mobility systems. An incubator for sustainable energy solutions projects that drives the transformation into an eco-city. A healthy and athletic city that embraces its youth and provides competitive job opportunities. A scientific city that employs science to solve real challenges.



#### Commonly addressed issues included:

- Growth, both commercial and residential
- Education and schools
- Open space issues
- The environment
- Economic development & diversification
- Housing affordability
- Recreation opportunities
- Beautifying city entrances
- Traffic, congestion
- Tourism
- Regional concerns
- PwD issues of accessibility

### Challenges, Needs, and Opportunities in New Damietta



#### Basic Infrastructure Services:

- Improve water and infrastructure systems
- Rehabilitate roads in poor conditions and add more lighting poles
- Maintain storm-water drainage system

Housing: Upgrade old housing buildings

#### **Public Facilities:**

- Enhance greening pockets across the city
- Support commercial and industrial area
- Upgrade existing schools and possible expansion

#### Accessibility & Mobility:

- Add biking lanes as a cheaper method of transportation
- Expand existing bus routes

#### Basic Infrastructure Services:

- Proximity to the port for potential trade
- Existing water treatment plant
- Existing vacant plots in industrial area for a potential recycling agricultural waste factory

#### **Public Facilities:**

- Available vacant land for urban green pockets/potential housing to accommodate future population growth
- Available vacant land for new schools
- Existing commercial spine of the city

#### Accessibility & Mobility:

- Existing public transportation lines and potential space for cycling lanes
- Local community expressed their will to support in the city's improvement.

## The Urban Vision at a Glance

After reviewing the existing conditions for New Damietta and identifying the main challenges, needs, and opportunities, the UPIMC team collected and reviewed all the voices to create a common ground for all different voices and a shared long-term vision, and identified the objectives which were mainly focused on economy, education, health, and open spaces, which resulted in harmonizing the groups visions into a common vision.

### OBJECTIVES

**1. Economic growth and diversification:** To promote sustainable economic growth and diversification in the city by supporting the development of new industries, attracting foreign investment, and strengthening existing economic sectors.

**2. Infrastructure development:** To improve New Damietta's infrastructure by investing in transportation systems, public utilities, and public spaces, in order to enhance the quality of life for residents and attract new businesses and investors.

**3.** Environmental sustainability: To promote environmental sustainability by implementing green initiatives, reducing carbon emissions, and conserving natural resources in order to create a healthier and more livable city for current and future generations.

**4. Social and cultural development:** To promote social and cultural development in the city by supporting education and training programs, promoting arts and culture, and enhancing the sense of community and civic pride.

**5.** Housing and urban development: To ensure equitable access to affordable housing and sustainable urban development, while preserving the city's cultural heritage and natural resources.

**6. Innovation and technology:** To promote innovation and technology in the city by supporting research and development, attracting technology companies, and promoting the use of digital technologies in urban planning and governance.

#### VISION

#### Dignified, Equitable, and Connected City for All

New Damietta has clean, safe streets and beaches. An inclusive city for all of its people and refugees that fosters a healthy street life with adequate welllit urban areas that support its users serviced by an economical public transit network that covers the entire city. Wide plains of planted areas and flowers.

## **Urban Vision for New Damietta**

The vision of New Damietta city is constructed through a collaborative and iterative process, with a focus on creating a sustainable, livable, and vibrant urban environment that meets the needs of residents and supports economic growth and development. The construction of the urban vision of New Damietta is built upon the strengths and ongoing opportunities identified to respond to the identified challenges and create an urban vision corresponding to the expectations of stakeholders.

Strategic interventions are articulated around three main pillars based on the previously described vision objectives.

#### 1. SUPPORT NEW DAMIETTA'S DYNAMIC ECONOMY AND INCREASE ACCESS TO OPPORTUNITY

Creating new economic centers and reinforcing existing ones will enable the provision of a diverse range of job opportunities.

## 2. DEVELOP PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES AND IMPROVE THE LIVING CONDITIONS

Prioritizing areas that require urgent attention and focus resources on developing and improving the critical public infrastructure such as roads and transportation systems. In addition to increasing access to basic services such as healthcare, education, and public utilities by building new facilities and upgrading existing ones.

## 3. PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE NATURAL RESOURCES

Promoting green infrastructure by developing green infrastructure such as parks, green spaces, and bike lanes to improve the quality of life for residents and enhance the city's overall sustainability.





### LEGEND

#### Transportation



#### City boundaries

-	-	-	-	New	Dar	mietta

Kafr El Battikh

#### Natural system



Agriculural land (no-building zone)

#### Urban hubs

Commercial Spine
Industrial Zone
Vacant lands

#### 1. SUPPORT NEW DAMIETTA'S DYNAMIC ECONOMY AND INCREASE ACCESS TO OPPORTUNITY

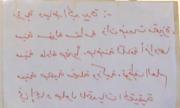
- Attracting foreign investment
- $\odot$ Strenghtening of existing urban hub
- Linkage between New Damietta and the port <-->
- Improvement of road network connectivity  $\longleftrightarrow$
- <--> Linkage between New Damietta and Kafr El Battikh
- Develop Eco-tourism corridor 0
- Development of urban node

#### 2. DEVELOP PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES AND IMPROVE THE LIVING CONDITIONS

- Develop access to beach front for all
  - Upgrade old delapidated residential & commercial buildings in vulnerable areas
- Creation of open and inclusive spaces Improve access to infrastructures, utilities, transportation, and connectivity ه پر سا 0
  - Increase security by eliminating violence and crime
- Encourage affordability 272?
- Reduce urban sprawl 01

#### **3. PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE NATURAL RESOURCES**

Protect the agricultural pillow around New Damietta Invest in better distribution of open space Provide clean potable water and foster healthy living (city-wide issue) Add green areas in the city  $\bigcirc$ Supporting local tourism Improve access to beach



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> Participants in scenario building exercise, New Damietta, Egypt Source: UN-Habitat





Urban Planning & Infrastructure in Migration Contexts

## Introduction

The confirmed challenges, needs, and opportunities mentioned in the spatial profile and during the focus groups discussion and community vision workshops point to several trends that will have an impact on the trajectory of development. These trends, or variables, will be used to project possible future scenarios for New Damietta's development until 2035.

#### Why Scenario Building?

Scenario building for sustainable development provides an opportunity to make guided assumptions about the future, including, but not limited to potential changes to the built environment. It is a mean to explore, create, measure, and test possible future situations, both desirable and undesirable, and to evaluate the probability and impact of the different scenarios on the area in accordance with past and present trends.

Furthermore, scenario building can guide long-term planning, including policies, strategies, and plans, to help align the desired and likely future circumstances, and outline the important milestones along the way. These scenarios can help policy and decision makers to understand the long-term requirements for sustained benefits and growth.

A thorough examination of all potential events and developments is part of the "chain of plausibility" approach, which is frequently used when creating scenarios for urban situations. With this method, creating scenarios begins with identifying the presumptions or minimal criteria that must be met in order for any scenario to be developed. The next step is to identify the factors that are likely to set off a series of events that could have a variety of possible impacts.

#### What is a Variable?

A variable is a development or an event that has the potential to cause a change in a situation. An assumption is based on the direction that a variable is most likely to proceed (e.g. increases or decreases in specific conditions).

The outcomes of each isolated variable are broadly outlined and then explored in a more composite manner when combined together as part of the potential scenario. The research questions listed below will be taken into account during the scenario-building process.

•	How c	can the regio	on be im	proved	to f	oster more
	inclusi	ive and resili	ent com	munitie	s?	
•	What	scenarios	would	result	in	significant
	alterat	ions to the b	ouilt envi	ronmen	t?	
•	What a	are the antici	pated ef	fects ar	id pr	obabilities?
۰						

## Methodology

After collecting detailed data for New Damietta, those were thoroughly analyzed in relation to the five selected variables.

In order to analyze how the urban situation in both cities might change over the course of the next 10 years in connection to the built environment, this section discusses the scenario-building method. As a result. it makes an effort to identify the developments that would cause significant changes in the urban fabric as well as their anticipated effects and probability.

The complex interrelationships between variables, priorities, and realities have been simplified to provide two scenarios of how New Damietta could be spatially and functionally configured in 2035.

The first scenario is the "Business As Usual" scenario, which intends to show how both cities might look in 2035 if no or minimal measurements are taken into account for the future.

The second scenario is the "Optimal" scenario, which will rethink the nature of the city in alignment with the Governorate Strategic Plans. This "Optimal" scenario will aim at achieving the desired vision of a dignified, equitable, and connected city.

The five chosen variables are explained in further detail and their connection between each other is examined in the pages that follow.



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#### WHAT ARE THE OVERALL ASSUMPTIONS?

#### WHAT ARE THE KEY VARIABLES THAT AFFECT BOTH SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND URBAN PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS IN THE AREA?

- What are the outcomes which would influence the direction of the area's future development?
- What are the actions that enable this?
- What are the impacts upon the area as a result of the identified outcome?

## WHAT ARE THE SCENARIOS THAT THE COMBINATION OF THE VARIABLES COULD RESULT IN?

- Will they positively, negatively, or marginally affect the area?
- How likely will the scenario occur?
- What are the spatial, environmental, and socio-economic impacts on the area?

It is important to note that it is common for variables to influence one another (e.g., population growth may present correlations to the total urban footprint in an area).



#### **Overall Assumptions:**

1. Egypt's political situation remains stable, and the country's refugee policy does not deteriorate.

2. Damietta Governorate and NUCA have continued to support efforts to find long-lasting solutions for the host and refugee populations in New Damietta.

3. The investment level must remain stable or improve to enable for structural changes and the establishment of investor confidence in order to implement any transformative scenarios.



#### Variables

The key variables for scenario building were selected as follows:

- 1. Population growth/decline
- 2. Urban footprint
- 3. Catalytic projects
- 4. Local Economic Development
- 5. Natural resources and the environment

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Participants in vision workshops in New Damietta Source: UN-Habitat

### Variable: Population Growth/Decline

#### Context

Population growth and rapid urbanization could eventually put pressure on public infrastructure, the environment and basic services while frequently resulting in an inefficient utilization of resources. The population growth is a significant factor that will influence New Damietta's future in 10 years. The development of the city's scenarios will be significantly impacted by the rise or decline of both the resident population and the refugee communities, which will dictate future infrastructure provision needs and possible economic growth.

#### **Population Growth**

The built environment can be significantly altered by natural population expansion. One of the potential outcomes will be the 2.4% current natural population growth rate in New Damietta based on the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics in Egypt. Although CAPMAS has aspired to publish a 3.5% growth rate among citizens in New Damietta, this number will account for the highest increase in population under uncertain conditions. The region would have modest population growth of 1.5%, the lowest growth rate increase in 2009 prior to the onset of the Syrian conflict. The following diagram shows these three growth rate scenarios.

In the graph (fig.6), the expected growth results are represented as high, medium, and low growth scenarios. By 2035, there would be an additional 22,258 individuals, or a 31.1% increase over the existing population, if New Damietta (including the population of the refugees) continued to expand at the same rate of 2.4% per year as the region as a whole. By 2035, there would be an additional 13,911 individuals, or a 19.5% increase over the existing population, if development in the New Damietta area were to be below the average growth rate of 1.5%.

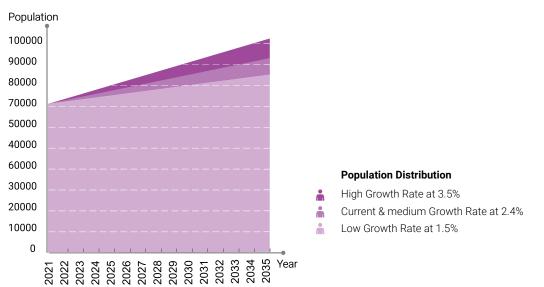
Finally, if New Damietta's population growth rate significantly increased to 3.5% per year during the following 10 years based on CAPMAS census, this would result in an increase of 32,460 persons.

In addition to these anticipated growth rates, a population surge driven on by a wave of refugees may occur within the coming ten years. However, future refugee influx of immigrants are unforeseeable. Therefore, without taking into account any significant refugee influxes, the population growth outcomes

represented in the graph focus on the natural growth of the current citizen and refugee population.

In case of a significant increase in growth rates for New Damietta due to a significant conflict or dispute in the region, this might lead to a massive influx of refugees and asylum seekers, resulting in an additional 6.5% population increase. By 2035, the population will have increased by 85.5%, leading to this outcome.

The probability of population decline as a result of repatriation from the refugee population is another outcome to take into account. Given the ongoing political pressures in the region, protracted situations, political will, better lives, and refugees forming new families and settling well, it is less likely that this will occur in the near future.



POPULATION GROW	TH OUTCOMES	
Outcome 1: Low Population Growth (1.5%) Taking into consideration the lowest possible increase of population percentage in New Damietta. There will be a population increase of 13,911 residents, a 19.5% increase after 10 years.	+19.5% Population increase by 2035 Total population: 85,253 inhabitant Density (person/km <sup>2</sup> ): 3241.55	<b>.</b>
Outcome 2: Medium Population Growth (2.4%) Using the annual growth rate of 2.4% in New Damietta, then the city will continue to grow without any sudden influx of migrants. This would result in an additional 22,258 inhabitants by 2035, or a population increase of 31.1%	+31.1% Population increase by 2035 Total population: 93,600 inhabitant Density (person/km <sup>2</sup> ): 3558.93	<u>Ů</u>
Outcome 3: Large Population Growth (3.5%) Under the normal future predictions for the city of New Damietta, the highest growth rate was 3.5%. This will reflect into a high population growth of an additional 32,460 residents by 2035, a total increase of approximately 45.5% from the current population	+45.5% Population increase by 2035 Total population: 103,802 inhabitant Density (person/km <sup>2</sup> ): 3946.8	<b>^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ </b>
<b>Outcome 4: Substantial Population Growth (6.5%)</b> If another major struggle, warfare, or conflict in the region occurs, Egypt will be affected by another wave of refugees who may choose to settle in New Damietta. The total population will be 132,553 in 2035 which is a 85.8% increase of the existing residents to the medium growth outcome (+31.1%), resulting in an additional 6,084 refugee.	+6.5% Increase to the medium growth outcome (+31.1%) Total population: 99,684 inhabitant Density (person/km <sup>2</sup> ): 3,790.2	<b>Ů Ů Ů Ů Ů Ů Ů Ů Ů Ů</b> Ů Ů Ů Ů Ů <b>Ů Ů Ů Ů</b>
<b>Outcome 5: Decline in Population (Unpredictable)</b> There is a possibility for the refugee and citizen population to decrease due to internal displacement looking for better conditions for living of job opportunities takes a major reduction. Some refugees may choose to migrate to other countries seeking better access to rights.	<b>??%</b> Unpredictable decrease in population	<b>* * * * * * * *</b> * * * *

Represents existing 5000 inhabitant

Represents forecasted additional 5000 inhabitant

Represents forecasted additional refugee, migrants and IDPs 5000 inhabitant

Figure 7: New Damietta Population Growth Outcomes Source: UN Habitat

### Variable: Urban Footprint

#### Context

As previously mentioned, the projected population growth will have an impact on the growth of New Damietta's urban areas. This will determine how much additional land has to be developed to support the anticipated population expansion, together with the density of the built areas.

An analysis of the existing settlements demonstrates different densities as shown in (fig. 8):

• Kafr El Battikh is a heavily densely populated settlement in Damietta Governorate, with a density of approximately 12,242 p/km<sup>2</sup> over 1.80 km<sup>2</sup>.

• New Damietta on the other hand is with a density of approximately 2,712 p/km² over 26.3 km².

#### Maximum City Capacity in New Damietta

In order to foresee future impacts of population growth on the urban footprint variable, the city's maximum capacity was predicted based on the current land use plan. Population growth in New Damietta would put a significant strain on the already-existing infrastructure (such as the electrical grids, water pipelines, and sewage lines). This also applies for non-network types of infrastructure, such schools and hospitals.

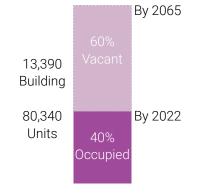
The scenario-building process has been carried out in accordance with the city's land use plan and according to the assumptions regarding the number of apartments, average household size of 4.25, and an average number of 3 floors per building. According to the current population, only 40% of the residential buildings are occupied, meaning that the city has not yet reached its maximum density. Therefore, the maximum population of the city would be 175,000 residents if all housing units in residential buildings were fully occupied<sup>6</sup>. In these conditions, the city's maximum population density would be 6654 people per square kilometer.

Accordingly, it is anticipated that the city will reach full capacity based on the following growth outcomes:

• Medium Growth Outcome (2.4%): The city can reach its maximum capacity in 2084.

- High Growth Outcome (3.5%): The city can reach its maximum capacity in 2065.
- Substantial Growth Outcome (6.5%): The city can reach its maximum capacity in 2045.

Therefore, New Damietta does not need to add any new housing units to accommodate growing population and is not considered on the short term goals of the city throughout this scenario building process. Meanwhile, the potential infill of the vacant lands will consider other shortages in public facilities such as schools and health centers. This will be considered during the optimal scenario development.



Projected Demand for Housing

2022	New Damietta	Kafr El Battikh
Total City Area (km²) (Boundary)	26.30 km²	1.80 km <sup>2</sup>
Percentage of Total	100.0%	6.84%
Area of Kafr El Battikh compared to New Damietta		
Built up Area (km²)	12.12 km²	1.3 km²
Percentage of built up area compared to the city boundary	46.08%	72.22%
Area of vacant lands within the city boundary (km²)	1.6 km²	0.50 km²
Percentage of vacant lands compared to the city boundary	6.08%	27.78%
Population	71,342	48,990
Population Density = Population/land area (p/km²)	<b>2,712 km²</b> (Low-density)	<b>27,216 km²</b> (High-density)

Figure 8: Comparison of urban footprint, population, and population density Source: UN Habitat

#### Outcome

There are numerous possible outcomes for how the urban footprint can develop in the region over the upcoming years. But four distinct possible outcomes based on density and population growth are discussed in (figure 9).

#### MAXIMUM BUILT UP CAPACITY OF NEW DAMIETTA

## Outcome 1: Infill of existing residential buildings at a low density at 70% capacity

Based on Damietta's current medium growth rate of 2.4%, this result assumes an additional 52,830 resident by 2084. Existing structures will be occupied to a level of occupancy of 70% to support this increase at a low density of 4657.8 p/km<sup>2</sup>. Due to people's continued preference for sprawling outside the city boundaries, the capacity will remain low.

## Outcome 2: Infill of existing residential buildings and 50% infill of vacant lands

This outcome assumes an additional 105,330 resident by 2065 based on Damietta's current high growth rate of 3.5%. To accommodate this growth, 100% of existing buildings will reach full capacity. In addition to 50% infill of all unoccupied/vacant lands in New Damietta in accordance with land use typology.

70%

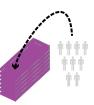
Capacity of existing buildings

Total population: 122,500 inhabitant Density (person/km<sup>2</sup>): 4657.8 p/km<sup>2</sup>

## 100%

Full capacity of existing buildings

Total population: 175,000 inhabitant Density (person/km<sup>2</sup>): 6653.99 p/km<sup>2</sup>

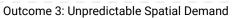


## +.

## **50%**

Infill of vacant lands

Anticipated users: 89,250 inhabitant Number of additional buildings: 3500



Less land is required overall as a result of the repatriation of refugees or change of desired place to live.

This result is predicated on the notion that the population of refugees in New Damietta returns to their home country on a large scale voluntarily, which would cause a significant decline in the overall population. **??%** Less land required



Figure 9: New Damietta Urban Footprint Outcomes Source: UN Habitat

#### Types of expansion

Kafr El Battikh and New Damietta both have room to grow in different directions. Possible growth options can be summarized as follows:

#### New Damietta's expansion

#### Current situation: Urban sprawl on agricultural fields

There is an undesired seed for urban sprawl taking place in the southern main road outside of New Damietta. This sprawl settlement is not recommended, nevertheless, it is affordable among many who work in New Damietta and want to live in close proximity. Nevertheless, construction outside the city's boundary is prohibited due to NUCA's strict law. Therefore, Intensification of built up area is the only other option for expansion, and some parts of the city's existing buildings have not reached its full capacity.

#### Ideal situation: Urban Infill of existing vacant lands

12.12 km<sup>2</sup> of the total area of the city, or about 30%, is made up of vacant land in New Damietta. According to the land use, such areas could be used as a suitable area to develop more residential structures if there is a need to increase the number of housing units. The implementation of 34 residential buildings on those undeveloped lands would stop further urban sprawl on green fields, farms, and agricultural plots. Also, the areas in (fig. 8) that are indicated are close to all services, institutions of higher learning, and hospitals. Also, these areas have infrastructure that might support an additional population. Nonetheless, NUCA's top objective is to fill all of the residential structures that are currently in use. This result would make it possible to perhaps make use of current infrastructure. Consequently, building new dwellings is a theoretical possibility that is extremely unlikely to take place.





## Variable: Catalytic Projects

#### Context

Catalytic projects are initiatives or investments that have the potential to stimulate economic growth, attract further investment, and trigger positive change in New Damietta.

For the vision to be achieved, multiple projects could be considered as critical enablers for improving employments and livelihoods opportunities in New Damietta. The area would benefit from these project by getting equitable access to the infrastructure, services, and public facilities.

Three projects have been highlighted as drivers that, if implemented, would catalyse New Damietta and Kafr El Battikh into more active, self-sufficient, and inclusive urban centers. There are many projects that might be viewed as essential drivers for revolutionary change in the area. However, it has been determined by the UPIMC team and after consultation with the local administration that these significant projects will have a particularly substantial impact on the region's future growth. Each initiative will eventually bring certain advantages on its own, but because they are interdependent, their overall impact will be significant. Due to the likelihood that their implementation will encourage new investment and infrastructure projects, funding for these projects will have a significant multiplier effect.

#### **Catalytic Project #1:** Improved Eco-cultural tourism highway connecting New Damietta & Kafr El Battikh coupled by improved walkability and access to public transportation

There are various chances for interventions that would further open up potential development in the area with regard to accessibility and connectivity, but the most crucial one involves building a stronger highway connection between the two cities. The path will start from Kafr El Battikh passing through the city to further connect with the industrial area in New Damietta then extending to its waterfront.

The project will have a broader cultural, social, environmental and economic impact on the region. This path will not only open up the dialogue between involved cities, but also help unlock the potential of new institutional partners by triggering them to reveal often unknown and unacknowledged potentials of agricultural and wood furniture industries and logics tied to the area. During vision workshops, Community members in both cities were eager to develop tourism as an alternative source of income.

# **Catalytic Project #2:** Improved access to beach, revitalization and upgrading of waterfront

Designing a vibrant, attractive urban beach is part of a more comprehensive tourist vision in order to transform the face of the area. Utilizing the beach as an attraction to support the current tourism pattern and considering that the city overlooks the Mediterranean shore will give it the tourist benefit of being used as a summer resort. Improved access to the beach will make an important contribution to the quality of life and integrate more into the everyday urban context and make it accessible to different groups of people around the clock.

The residents stressed that the overall existing condition of the beach is not utilised due to its poor and unattractive conditions. Users do not find urban outlets,

local suppliers, playgrounds or greenery, or tracks for jogging and bikes. In summary, beach improvement is needed in the city.

# **Catalytic Project #3:** Upgrading and developing the industrial area (introducing novel interventions)

In regard to future development of the area, the port is located along a strategic regional highway, while the industrial area is the largest agglomeration of organized industrial zone in the area, which could in the future serve as a major trading hub between Kafr El Battikh, Damietta, and the areas of the Delta region. The industrial zone represents about 19% of the total urban mass of the city. Revitalizing the industrial area will attracts new residents and businesses to the area while establishing a strong connection with the port.

All proposed interventions under these catalytic projects are aligned with NUCA's Strategic plans to stimulate the economy and create new job opportunities.



To boost New Damietta's economic potential and make it more desirable as a place to live and work, **eight** local development projects were identified. These projects will eventually make it easier to realize the defined vision.

# **Development Project #1:** Green and safe mobility network

Having means to access safe Public Transport provides a way for people who do not have access to private motorised transport to access essential services, as well as employment, entertainment and social activities. During the workshops held, both refugees and residents stressed that the overall bus network is not reaching all parts of the city, and in order to commute to a desired destination, users are forced to take unaffordable private taxi cars. In summary, expansion of the current bus routes is needed in the city. Also walking and cycling have huge benefits for residents, short distances can be covered quickly with low (or no) cost transport options, with additional health benefits. Building a network of segregated bicycle lanes by re-purposing on-street parking spaces is highly encouraged by residents during held workshops.

#### **Development Project #2:** Urban agricultural pockets

There is a potential for food security and urban agriculture. New Damietta's community will benefit from urban agriculture in many different ways. The community will benefit from cleaner air, fresher food, and a decrease in the greenhouse impacts of urban areas when urban farms incorporate more green space on rooftops or within urban pocket locations. There are a lot of vacant urban spaces to be utilized as urban farming pockets, especially when the community of current refugees have extensive background in farming. Streetscape, open space, arts, and public space enhancements will improve the quality of the public realm and reflect local culture.

#### **Development Project #3:** Neighborhoods upgrading and maintenance (dwelling rehabilitation and infrastructure maintenance)

The residents explained that a main challenge facing the city is having unaffordable housing units for the refugees and the low income citizens. Yet almost 90% of the refugees choose to reside in the dilapidated, and old parts of New Damietta, mainly due to its affordability. Those dwellings are located in the twentyseventh, sixtieth, and seventieth neighborhoods. Due to their old condition, these residential buildings are in a deteriorated condition and the Infrastructure in these areas are in poor condition. Water supply and sanitation facilities, and drainage networks in particular need maintenance and improvement.

Therefore, these neighborhoods require upgrading. Possible additional interventions include capacitybuilding activities under the project which will create a strong sense of community ownership as well as active participation in community management and residential outreach.

# **Development Project #4:** Schools rehabilitation (extension and maintenance)

Based on CAPMAS census, the total population who are under 15 years old are 30% of the total population, and based on growth analysis, there will be a yearly increase of students.

Current capacity of existing public schools was analyzed. The current number of primary schools in the city are nine schools, seven of which are overcrowded and suffer a deficit to accommodate at least 100 more students which leads to high density of students per class at 35 students per class or more. The other two schools which currently are not overcrowded may eventually face more pressure from lack of sufficient classrooms and high density of students per class.

After 10 years from now, it is expected that the deficit will grow five times more the current shortfall. The maximum expected increase of the student population for the target year is an additional 6584 students. Since NUCA doesn't permit for vertical expansion, there is a need for construction of an additional **5 new schools** to meet the educational needs. Each school will be four floors, accommodating 1500 students.

# **Development Project #5:** Strengthening and extending the commercial spine of the city

The city will connect residents to jobs, by encouraging job growth and small business growth, by establishing job-training programs in the city, and by improving public transportation connections to job centers. Additionally, the existing undeveloped commercial core can expand to accommodate housing and jobs, and bring jobs closer to established neighborhoods.

# **Development Project #6:** Upgrading and developing the industrial area

The current industrial area occupies around 11% of the city's area. There is a need to add a factory for recycling agricultural waste which will have huge environmental and economic benefits. Therefore, and based on the analysis and identified needs, it is necessary to expand the use of the industrial zone. This can be achieved through updating the existing land use plan to Introduce novel interventions to the existing industrial area, such

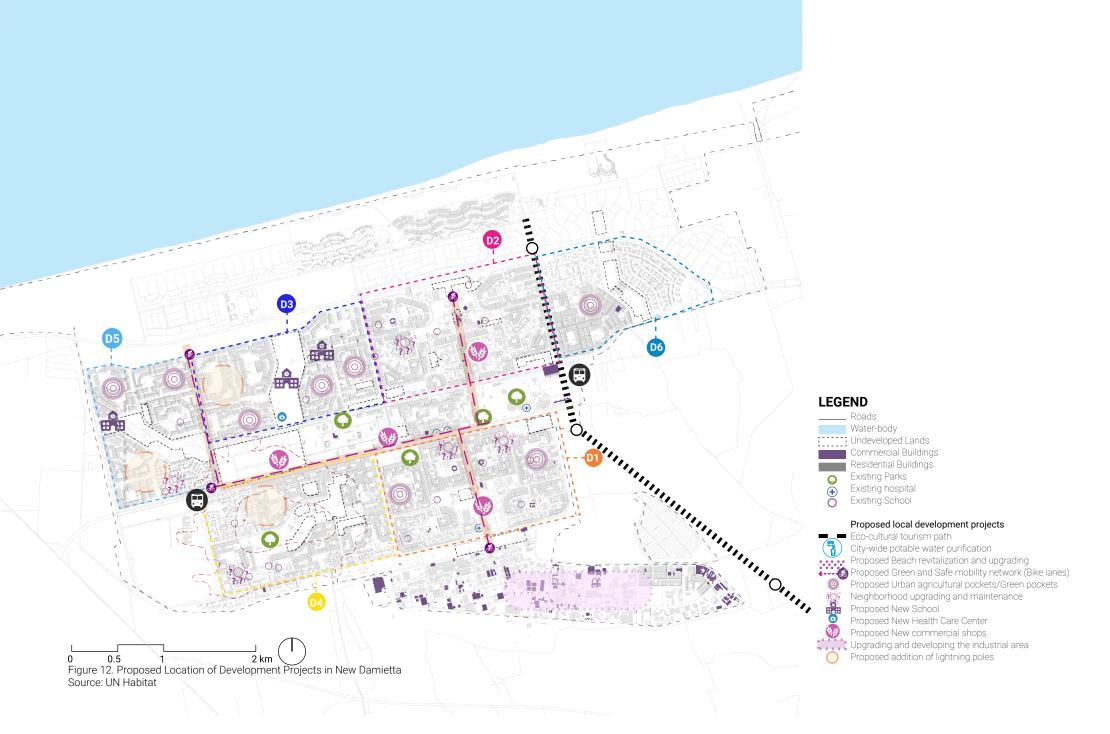
as, furniture and supporting furniture industries, and creating a craft area to enhance the city's touristic vision.

# **Development Project #7:** Improved access to potable water in the city

Water that is safe and easily accessible is essential for public health, whether it is utilized for drinking, residential use, food production, or pleasure. Improved water supply and sanitation, as well as better water resource management, can boost New Damietta's economic growth and contribute significantly to poverty reduction. This project can be implemented through water purification and introducing clean water technology.

#### Development Project #8: Enhancing streets' security

During interviews held with residents and refugees, many emphasized the importance of improving streets' lightning and controlling stray dog population. Improved street lighting will help reduce crime and violence.



#### Outcome

There are numerous possible outcomes for how the region can develop economically over the upcoming years. But three distinct possible outcomes based on level of implementation are discussed.

0/3 catalytic projects implemented <b>NO</b>	Outcome 1: No Planned Catalytic Projects are Implemented If none of the proposed projects take place and operate properly, the chain of development is disrupted. This disruption hinders growth, which can cause slow economic growth or deficit and, in turn, brings low standards of living for the entire cluster of New Damietta and Kafr El Battikh.				
2/3 catalytic projects partially implemented <b>PARTIAL</b>	Outcome 2: Partial Implementation of Catalytic Projects This outcome forecasts if part of the development projects were implemented in would benefit the area and improve pressing issues for the refugees and the citizens Partial Improvements, however, may block other potential opportunities and do not provide a high standard of living for all people, especially given the anticipated population growth.				
3/3 catalytic projects fully implemented <b>FULL</b>	<b>Outcome 3: Extensive Implementation of all Catalytic Projects</b> The implementation of all development projects would be the ideal scenario Improving economy is crucial for the area's viability, when combined with access to public amenities, will ensure that people are connected as well as have access to resources and new business opportunities in the area, all of which will ensure a viable, enabling city that offers its residents a high standard of living.				

Figure 13: Outcome of proposed catalytic projects in New Damietta & Kafr El Battikh Source: UN Habitat

## Variable: Local Economic Development

Egypt faces many economic challenges, such as high unemployment and poverty rates. Russia-Ukraine crisis poses a serious threat to Egypt -the world's largest wheat importer- leading to an increase in poverty among refugees and host communities <sup>7</sup>.

Unemployment rate at the national level is 7.20% in 2022 <sup>8</sup>. The unemployment rate among young people between 15-29 years old is 62%, the highest level of unemployment was recorded among those aged 20 to 24, who made up 29.4%, Unemployment was markedly higher in urban areas, at 10.7% of the viable workforce. With record-high inflation making it difficult for many Egyptians and refugees to afford basic products and services<sup>9</sup>. The number of people living below the national poverty line of USD 4 a day by more than 9 million in 2030<sup>10</sup>.

Similarly, the unemployment rate in New Damietta and Kafr El Battikh is around 12% and 5% respectively, increased among women and youth<sup>11</sup>. Additionally, the highest numbers of refugees are concentrated in New Damietta, driven by low wages and high costs of living.

Ensuring the growth of the local economy in New Damietta is an essential factor in reducing poverty and promoting social inclusivity. It plays a critical role in achieving the best possible outcome for the coming years. Therefore, a combination of factors were taken into consideration when developing the Local Economic Development variable. The factors include the significant working-age population (ages15-60,which constitute around 66.9% of the city's total population)<sup>12</sup>, the strategic location of the city, the land use plan, and the general strategic plan. Furthermore, a key factor in promoting solutions that integrate refugees with host communities in a planned and coordinated way is to

leverage the potential inclusive economic benefit that the investments in the area can have for all.

Two primary outcomes that are connected to the spatial dynamics of the city are drawn when taking into account the land use plan of New Damietta and the possibility for how the suggested necessary projects could effect the future economic development that would help enable (if implemented) or continue to constrain (if not implemented) the economic vibrancy and development potential in the area.

# Outcome 1: Natural economic growth resulting in marginally improved access to opportunities

In this outcome, the LED strategy for the city of New Damietta will focus on supporting existing businesses and industries to promote natural growth and economic stability. Currently, based on the existing situation, a total of 41,518 job opportunities are available in New Damietta. This means that if natural economic growth continues to be the same trend, there will be and additional 6,482 job opportunities provided by 2035, mainly in the manufacturing, construction, and retail sectors which is equal to 14.4% increase of that total current jobs.

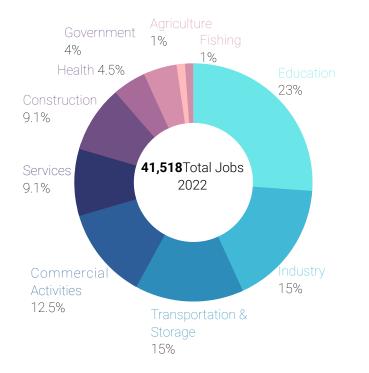
This outcome considers the natural economic growth in New Damietta.

# Outcome 2: Significant economic expansion that effectively enhances opportunities for both hosts and refugees.

This outcome considers the potential increase in job opportunities if LED strategy for the city of New Damietta will focus on the development of a robust tourism sector to drive economic growth. This will involve investing in infrastructure such as hotels, restaurants, and entertainment venues, as well as promoting the city's natural beauty and cultural heritage to attract visitors. If all proposed needed projects are implemented in the city. New Damietta is expected to add more than 40,815 jobs by 2035, a 42.27 % increase from 2020.

The LED plan also encompasses the improvement of urban infrastructure and basic services. If the five identified schools, a health care center, waste plant, public transportation station, 90 shops of fresh food market, and other commercial shops and services are constructed, these developments will provide more economic growth for the working-age population in the neighbourhood, including the host community and refugees.

In summary, the local economic development variable addresses the potential to build the capacity of a defined area to improve its economic future and the quality of life for inhabitants. Education, industry, commercial services, professional services, construction, health, agriculture and fishing, and government are the main economic sectors for New Damietta's economy.



#### Outcome 1: Natural Economic Growth **ECONOMIC STABILITY/** This outcome predicts under the normal SMALL GROWTH circumstances that the local economy will continue to grow in the city. The few activities that may continue to occur may include improvement Total increase in to future infrastructure development but at a slow opportunities when 20% pace and there is limited concrete improvement of vacant housing and to develop the entire area, New Damietta and commercial land use are Kafr El Battikh combined developed: Furthermore, as refugees do not have access to property rights therefore limiting potential for a large proportion of the local areas inhabitants to +14.4% invest in their homes and businesses. **Outcome 2: Substantial Economic Growth** Accelerating the implementation of the various SIGNIFICANT ECONOMIC development projects proposed, including GROWTH infrastructure interventions, the upgrading of public facilities such as schools and health centers, improvements to public spaces, the transformation of residential land uses into Total increase in all opportunities mixed land use, and the potential utilization of the when development projects are existing vacant lands will result in substantially implemented: improved access to opportunities for both the local community and refugees. Action in attracting the private sector to the area will support local and refugee entrepreneurs and has the potential to expand job opportunities, improve services, provide more choice, and +42.27%reduce prices.

Figure 14: Outcome of proposed local economic development projects in New Damietta & Kafr El Battikh Source: UN Habitat

## Variable: Natural Resources & Environment

#### Context

Around the city of New Damietta lies a large amount of earth mound kilns used for charcoal production. These kilns are incredibly inefficient and release a substantial amount of air emissions. The effect of burning and heavy smoke can last for days. According to a study done by Damietta University <sup>13</sup>, high concentration levels of carbon monoxide (CO) and heavy metals are found in the air which exceeds the prescribed limit as outlined by the Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA). Repeated exposure to coal kiln smoke will induce chronic diseases and respiratory problems, adding to the strain on the current health care infrastructure.

Combining both adaptation and mitigation interventions is the most effective way to combat land degradation and pollution as a result of coal kilns burning, examples of actions that respond to the direct impacts:

- Clear the agricultural pillow area from coal kilns
- Switch to alternative fuels such as natural gas, biomass, or waste materials.
- Promote the use of modern and more efficient technologies for coal kilns.
- Establish green buffer zones around coal kilns to absorb pollutants and improve air quality.
- Develop and implement an awareness campaign.
- Green belt measures to be taken to limit the use of unsustainable resource
- Conduct an assessment of existing and planned burning locations to determine the source of their use and relationship to historical practices
- Implement recycling and waste reduction measures.
- Regular monitoring and reporting of emissions can help identify opportunities for improvement and measure progress towards sustainability goals.



#### **NATURAL RESOURCES & ENVIRONMENT OUTCOMES**

Outcome 1: No Environmental mitigation or adaptation actions are taken, resulting in increased vulnerability of populations. If no climate change mitigation or adaptation actions are taken for coal kilns in New Damietta, several negative consequences could arise. These include increased greenhouse gas emissions, which contribute to climate change and air pollution, as well as potential health problems for nearby residents. Additionally, without mitigation and adaptation measures, the coal kilns could exacerbate the effects of climate change, such as sea level rise and extreme weather events, which could impact the city's infrastructure, economy, and public health.	NO ADAPTATION OR MITIGATION MEASURES TAKEN
Outcome 2: Partial environmental adaptation and mitigation measures are taken. If only partial environmental adaptation and mitigation measures are taken for coal kilns, this may provide some benefits. However, there still be negative impacts on the environment and human health. While these measures may reduce the severity of the impacts, they may not eliminate them completely and a comprehensive and integrated approach is needed to effectively address the environmental impacts of coal kilns burning.	PARTIAL ADAPTATION OR MITIGATION MEASURES TAKEN
Outcome 3: Environmental adaptation and mitigation measures are taken to reduce vulnerability to impacts and to strengthen the adaptive capacity and resilience of the population. If all environmental adaptation and mitigation measures are taken to combat land degradation and pollution as a result of coal kilns burning, it can result in significant improvements in the overall environmental and health conditions of the area. The air quality would improve, reducing the amount of particulate matter and harmful pollutants emitted into the atmosphere. The land degradation would be reduced, leading to healthier soil and vegetation cover. Additionally, the overall quality of life for people living in the area would improve, with a reduced risk of health issues related to air pollution. It can also create new job opportunities and promote sustainable economic growth by adopting clean energy practices and reducing the reliance on non-renewable energy sources.	ALL ADAPTATION AND MITIGATION MEASURES TAKEN

## Scenario A - Business As Usual

#### Scenario

If host and refugee communities' natural population growth remains at the current growth rate of 2.4% without any significant actions taken to address planning and development measures.

#### Likely Impact

#### Population growth:

The built footprint will continue to be the same within the city boundary without adding new construction for housing as the city's buildings are below the expected capacity. Healthcare facilities and schools will continue to face more challenges as the number of population increases without further expansion or rehabilitation to existing structures.

#### **Environment:**

Due to the lack of regulation on coal kilns use and lack of awareness in sustainable alternatives, degradation of the natural environment will increase. Smoke and heavy dust caused by coal kilns are likely to become more frequent as the number of burning locations will increase.

#### Infrastructure:

The community will continue to face the same issue with the quality of current potable water. Refugees will continue to face challenges in access to job opportunities and livelihoods and increasing costs of housing and transportation. The quality of residential buildings in the old parts of the city will also continue to deteriorate worsening infrastructure.

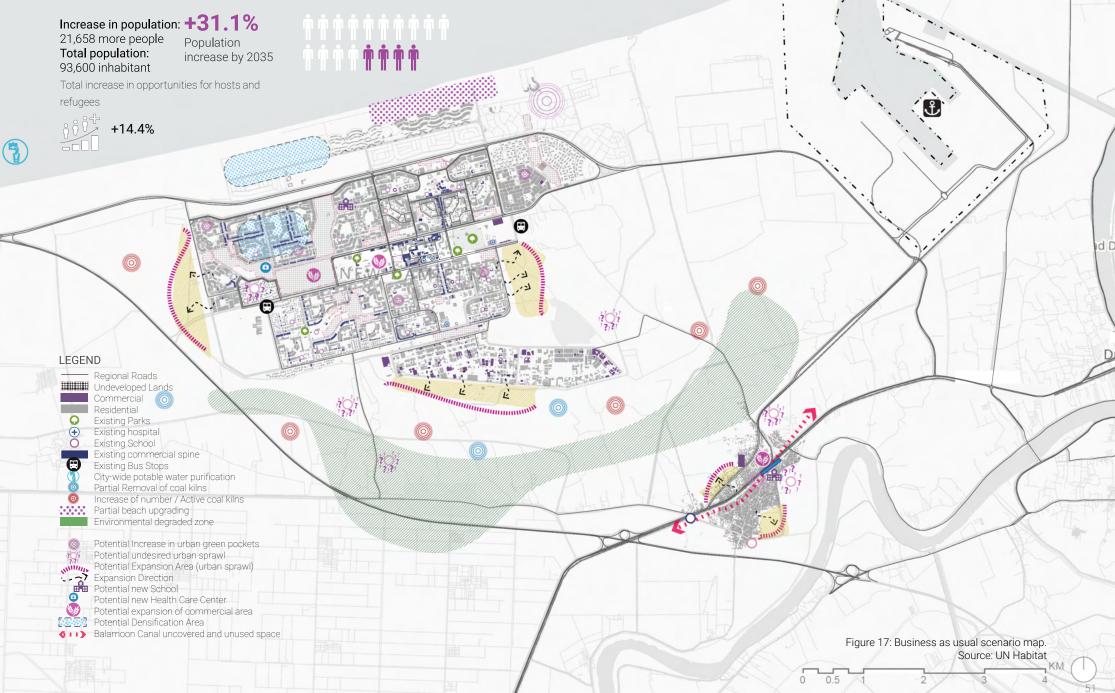
#### Investment:

Significant investment in businesses and industries in the area will be less likely to occur due to inefficient use of the industrial area or commercial spine.

The business as usual scenario will not allow New Damietta and Kafr El Battikh to reach its full potential, and will further decrease access to jobs and livelihood opportunities.

Variable	Population	Urban Footprint	Catalytic Projects	Local Development Projects	Natural Resources and Environment
Outcome 1	Low Growth Scenario Population growth rate will decline to 1.5%	Infill of existing residential buildings at 70% urban infill	No development projects are implemented	Natural Economic Growth Slow pace improvement to future infrastructure development	Major environmental deterioration if no mitigation or adapta- tion actions are taken leading to increasing environmental hazards
Outcome 2	Medium Growth Scenario: Populations growth rate will continue as the annual growth rate of New Damietta at 2.4%	Infill of existing buildings & 50% Infill of vacant lands Full saturation in existing empty residential buildings	Partial implementation of development projects		Partial environmental actions are taken, leading to some environmental deterioration, no mitigation actions are taken
Outcome 3	High Growth Scenario Population growth rate will increase to 3.5%	Unpredictable spatial demand Less land is required	Extensive implementation of all development projects		Both mitigation and adaptation actions are taken leading to <b>better</b> <b>quality of air</b> and full removal of coal-kilns
Outcome 4	Substantial Growth Scenario Large influx of new population will cause growth rate to spike				
Outcome 5	Decline population Scenario (-??%)				
odds	Highly Unlikely	Unlikely	Marginal	Likely	Highly likely
Impact	Significant Deterioration	Slight Deterioration	Marginal	Slight Improvement	Significant Improvement

## **Business As Usual Scenario**



## Scenario B - Optimal Scenario - Planning for a Dignified, Equitable, and Connected City

#### Scenario

For a resilient and sustainable city, the population growth rate considered is 2.4% as the current trend in the next 10 years. As a result, this scenario suggests upgrading all dilapidated residential structures and using 50% of unoccupied lands for development projects that will expand the number of opportunities and livelihoods the city offers. The environment's remaining issues brought on by coal kilns will be resolved. Additionally, all suggested development initiatives would be put into action by 2035.

#### Likely Impact

#### Population growth:

Promoting sustainable patterns of population growth will require strategies that favor efficient use of land by revitalizing the infrastructure and buildings of the old residential parts and expansion of public facilities, schools, and health care centers. Catalytic development projects would further encourage population expansion.

#### **Environment:**

The environmental effects of population increase will be reduced by utilizing the advantages of both cities and supporting compact patterns of growth. Efforts to stop urban sprawl on agricultural land and the deterioration of the air quality, like establishing a green zone to reduce the quantity of coal kilns, are also taken.

Infrastructure:

Making targeted upgrades to the water, energy, and transportation infrastructure to support livelihoods and increase safety.

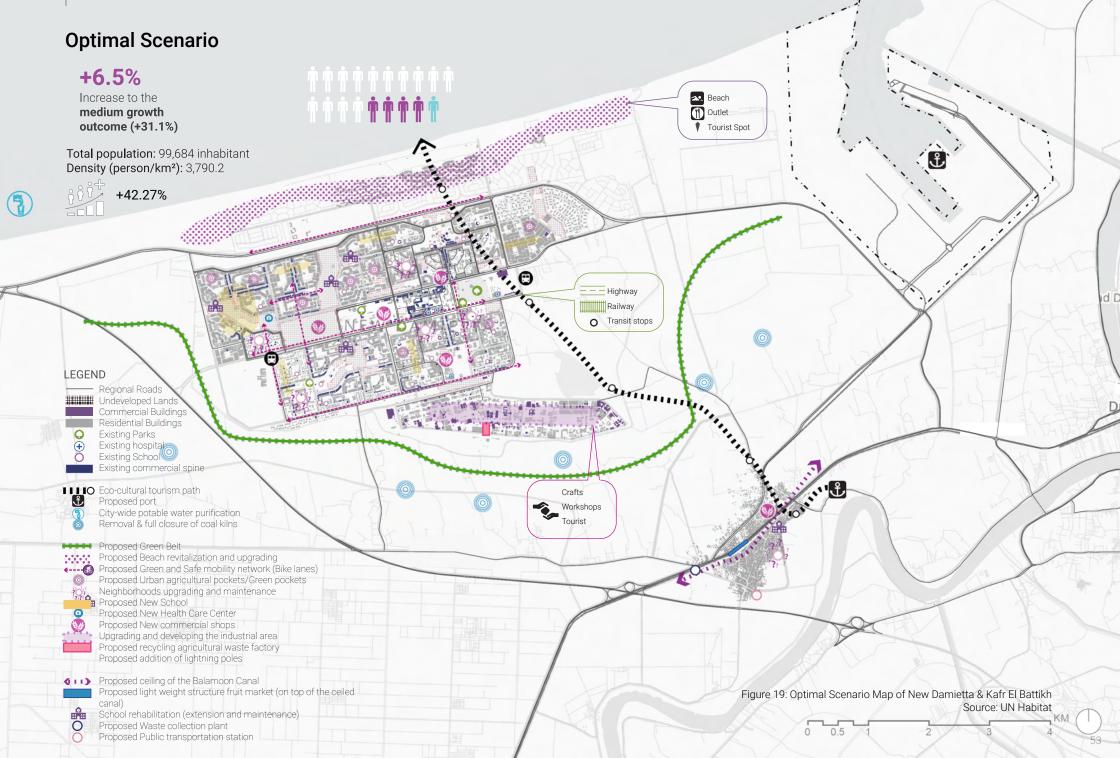
#### Investment:

More industries may be established in addition to existing businesses. A strong highway between the two cities can be built for supporting increased economic activity that will facilitate improved trade and increase livelihood options by designating specific stops along the road to engage the public in each area.

Variable	Population	Urban Footprint	Catalytic projects	Local Development projects	Natural resources and environment
Outcome 1	Low Growth Scenario Population Growth rate will decline to 1.5%	Infill of existing residential buildings at 70% urban infill	No development projects are implemented	Natural Economic Growth	Major environmental deterioration if no mitigation or adaptation actions are taken leading to increasing environmental hazards
Outcome 2	Medium Growth Scenario: Populations growth rate will continue as the annual growth rate of New Damietta at 2.4%		Partial implementation of development projects	Increase Business and livelihood opportunities are increased, providing additional jobs and local economic stimulus	Partial environmental actions are taken, leading to Some environmental deterioration, no mitigation actions are taken
Outcome 3	High Growth Scenario Population Growth rate will increase to 3.5%	Unpredictable spatial demand Less land is required	Extensive implementation of all development projects		Both mitigation and adaptation actions are taken leading to better quality of air and full removal of coal-kilns
Outcome 4	Substantial Growth Scenario Large influx of new population will cause growth rate to spike				
Outcome 5	Decline population Scenario (-??%)				
odds	Highly Unlikely	Unlikely	Marginal	Likely	Highly likely
Impact	Significant Deterioration	Slight Deterioration	Marginal	Slight Improvement	Significant Improvement



Urban Planning & Infrastructure in Migration Contexts





#### LEGEND

#### Transportation

Regional road Secondary road +++ Railway £ Damietta's port ē Bus stop

#### Natural system

Waterbody Agriculural land (no-building zone)

#### Urban hubs

A

£)-->

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6

272?

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07

Public School Private School CTTTT Vacant lands

#### **1. SUPPORT NEW DAMIETTA'S DYNAMIC** ECONOMY AND INCREASE ACCESS TO **OPPORTUNITY**

Markets/Shops Strenghtening of existing urban hub Linkage to commercial spine Improvement of road network connectivity Construction of bike-friendly lanes network Develop Eco-tourism corridor Development of urban node

#### 2. DEVELOP PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES AND IMPROVE THE LIVING CONDITIONS

Develop access to beach front for all

Old neighborhood upgrading and maintenance Cultivating green pockets Enhance refugee concentration

School construction/rehabilitation

Enhancing streets' security/ lightning poles Reduce urban spraw

#### **3. PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT &** THE NATURAL RESOURCES

- Protect the agricultural pillow Invest in better distribution of open space Green corridors: planted walks Proposed park
  - Supporting local tourism

Development of beach & corniche

Ensuring access to the waterfront for all

## Identification of Needed Projects

To proceed with the development of the optimal scenario action plan, it is necessary to evaluate the identified projects and prioritize the investment projects that should be performed within the first five years of the action plan implementation.

#### INITIAL LIST OF PROPOSED INVESTMENT PROJECTS FROM THE OPTIMAL SCENARIO MAP:

- Eco-cultural tourism highway connecting New Damietta and Kafr El Battikh
- 2. Establishing a river port in Kafr El Battikh
- З. Potable water purification (Implementing clean water technology)
- Establishing a recycling agricultural waste factory/entity 4.
- 5. Clearing the agricultural pillow area from coal kilns/Green Belt
- Cluster Projects

El Battikh

- Development of New Damietta Beach & Corniche б.
- Construction of Bike-friendly lanes network
- Urban agricultural pockets 8.
- Cultivating green pockets 9.
- 10. Neighborhood upgrading and maintenance (dwelling rehabilitation and infrastructure maintenance)
- 11. School rehabilitation (extension and maintenance)
- New Damietta 12. Strengthening and extending the commercial spine of the city (construction of more shops)
  - 13. Upgrading and developing the industrial area (introducing novel interventions)
  - 14. Enhancing streets' security (addition of street lightning poles)
  - 15. Covering the Balamoon Canal
  - 16. Construction of Central Market for Fresh Produce (on top of the covered canal)
  - 17. Improving and beautifying the city's entrance
  - 18. Governmental compound
  - 19. Construction of intermediate waste collection plant
- Kafr I 20. Establishing a public transportation station
  - 21. School rehabilitation (extension and maintenance)
  - 22. Street, road, and pavement network improvement
  - 23. Accessible buildings (classrooms, clinics)
  - 24. Accessible open spaces and recreational facilities and sport clubs
- **Cross-cutting** 25. Awareness raising related to disability, cultural diversity and inclusion

#### Urban Planning & Infrastructure in Migration Contexts

### Multi Criteria Analysis

A multi-criteria analysis (MCA) assessment framework is a valuable tool for prioritizing projects because it provides a comprehensive, transparent, objective, and flexible approach to decision-making. By using MCA, decision-makers can identify the projects that are most likely to deliver the greatest benefits and allocate resources more efficiently and effectively.

To do so, the UPIMC team developed a scoring matrix to prioritize and select projects or activities based on a set of criteria and their relative importance. It allows for a systematic and transparent way of comparing options and making informed decisions. By using a scoring matrix, stakeholders can evaluate and rank options based on specific criteria, ensuring that the most relevant and feasible projects or activities are selected. This approach helps ensure that resources are used efficiently and effectively, and that decisions are based on objective criteria rather than subjective preferences.

#### STEPS USED TO BUILD THE SCORING MATRIX

- 1. Identify the objectives and criteria: Define the objectives and criteria that will be used to evaluate the projects.
- 2. Assign weights: Assign weights to each criterion based on its relative importance.
- 3. Score the projects: Evaluate each project based on the identified criteria and assign a score for each criterion.
- 4. Normalize the scores: Normalize the scores to a common scale to facilitate comparison.
- 5. Rank the projects: Rank the projects based on their weighted scores.
- 6. Review and adjust: Review and adjust the scoring matrix as needed.

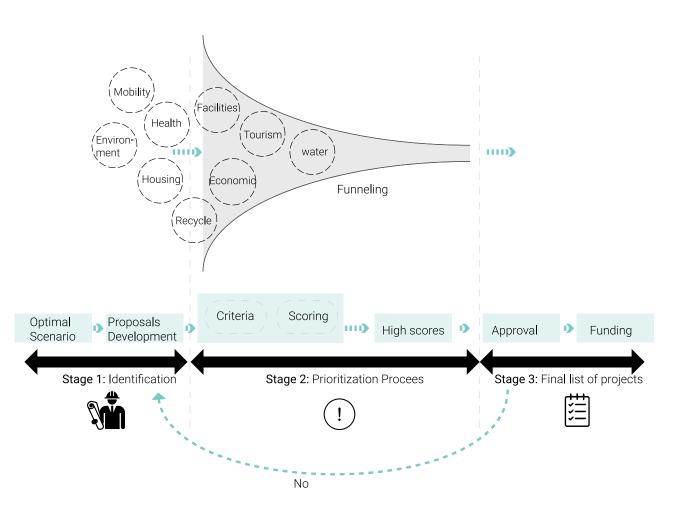


Figure 21: Overview diagram of the projects prioritization process Source: UN-Habitat

# Methodology and Development of the Scoring Matrix

The scoring matrix was created to identify the highest priority projects based upon five principal assessment pillars as follows: **Social Impact, Environmental Impact, Economic Impact, Spatial Impact, Participatory Engagement Perspective.** Furthermore, this criteria takes into account the local community's and key stakeholders' opinions of the needed development projects identified by the local community and refugees.

Each of these pillars is assigned a percentage weight based on their relative importance

- Social Impact 20%
- Environmental Impact 15%
- Economic Impact 20%
- Spatial Impact 30%
- Participatory Engagement Perspective 15%

Once the weights have been established, specific subcriteria is identified under each pillar. For example, under the social impact pillar, sub-criteria included provsision of public services, social cohesion, well being, and social inclusion.

A scoring system is then be developed for each subcriterion, allowing for a more precise assessment of each project. This scoring system is based on a numerical scale, from 0-4, with higher scores indicating greater impact. Finally, all scores will be summed to arrive at a total score for each project, allowing for a comparison of their overall impact and prioritization for implementation.

For more information about the scoring in the scoring matrix, please refer to the scores definitions grid (see annex A.) which details the scoring for each criterion.

		Priority Scoring Criteria
	Social Impact 20%	Provision of Public Services: Improving the access to public services (Health/Education/Utilities)
	JÜ	Social Cohesion: Maintaing social cohesion and eliminating inequalities within the society
I		Well Being: Effect on the wellbeing of residents
		Social inclusion: Promoting or showing inclusivity to migrants as well as vulnerable groups
I	Environmental Impact	Climate Change: Contributes to Adaptation
	15%	Climate Change: Contributes to Mitigation
I		Healthy Ecosystem: Overall Environmental Impact of the project
5	Economic Impact 20%	Economic Linkages: Promoting output of other economic sectors and thus maximizing the value-added of the economy
IIIhac		Private Investments: Potential for promoting new privtae investment
		Job Creation: Job opportunities the project can create (Measured by Employment Multiplier)
		Income Generation: The project will increase the revenues of the city by generating new revnue streams
I		Served population: % of beneficiaries from the project
	Spatial Impact 30%	Vibrancy: How much does the project contribute to the mixed land use or social mix of the city
		Increasing Properties' Values: Properties in proximity of the project location will increase in value
I		Urban Spaces: Improving Public Spaces
	<u>K</u> A	Butterfly Effect: Linkages with other development projects and/or public projects or facilities
I		Location Competitiveness: Boosting competitveness of the city, productivity of inhabitants and reducing regional imbalances
	Participatory Engagement	Local Communities/ Stakeholders (Government) : workshop based on needs/ priorities
	Perspective 15%	Plans Policies and Frameworks alignement
		Technical Priority based on need assessment: how much is the project a priority/urgent on the short term action plan
		Figure 22: The Technical Needs Perspective (Step 1) Scoring Matrix

Figure 22: The Technical Needs Perspective (Step 1) Scoring Matrix Source: UN-Habitat UPIMC-Egypt

I

# **OBS STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT** STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT IS CRUCIAL FOR EFFECTIVE PLANNING AND

CRUCIAL FOR EFFECTIVE PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF POLICIES AND PROGRAMS



## Vision and Scenario Building Validation Workshop

Stakeholder input has been a key feature of the New Damietta vision and scenario building process. Stakeholders were identified and mapped at the start of component one (Spatial Profiling), a Stakeholder map was developed. the attendees were asked to provide a score for the prioritized projects according to their opinion on which ones should be implemented first.

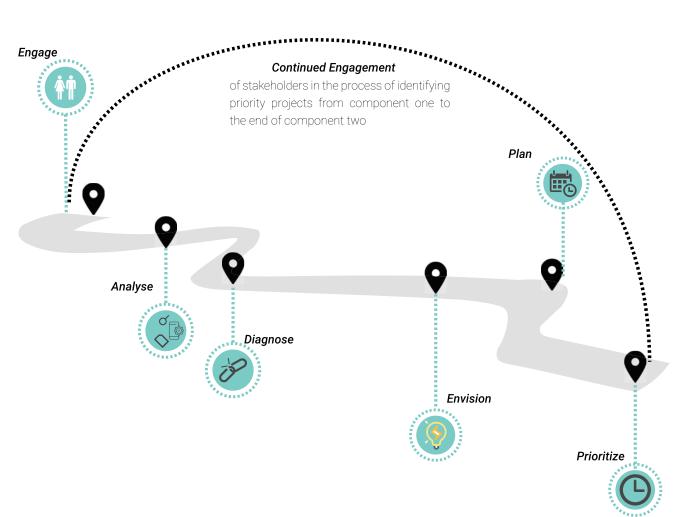
#### LIMITATIONS

It should be noted that the scoring of the matrix by various stakeholders reflects the majority view rather than a consensus.

On the 6<sup>th</sup> of December 2022, UN-Habitat Egypt team held a stakeholders validation workshop with New Damietta city council to discuss and validate the profile, vision, and the scenarios for the next 10 years, which were formulated in a participatory manner with the local community. The scenarios include the "Business As Usual" which reveals expected conditions in 2035 if no actions were taken, while the "Optimal" Scenario envisions the situation with all the actions needed being implemented.

The validation workshop was attended by 10 representatives from different departments, including city project planning management and monitoring, city public relations department, city council, project design department, and health department.

The workshop began with a recap of the first component of the UPIMC project, which involved presenting national, regional, and city data along with a spatial analysis. Next, the UPIMC team presented the challenges, opportunities, needs, and strengths identified by the local community and the refugee population living in New Damietta. This was followed by a comprehensive explanation of the vision and scenario building analysis, which resulted in outcomes for each selected variable developed with the local community. The optimal scenario was then explained and discussed, which provided a list of necessary projects and interventions at both city scales. Finally,



#### CONCLUSION

Stakeholders endorsed the spatial profile, vision and the optimal scenario for New Damietta and identified the top priority projects. The city technical staff focused more on new needed interventions that would improve the living conditions drastically. Other projects related to water and infrastructure were eliminated which are already mentioned in the strategic plans.

#### Stakeholders roles and responsibilities

1	Donor		Support the city coordinator and focal points in the preparation of meetings
2		<b>m</b>	Participate in engagement activities and discuss collaboration for implementation options
3	Local		Support the overall program objectives and coordinate with national government the process from initiation to technical support
4	Staff		Present outcomes and scenarios needed for achieving the vision in coordination with city government & local stakeholders
5	Migran	ts Ø	Participate in vision mapping charretes and workshops which will feed the bottom up approach in planning
6	Private Sector	\$	Explore potential interest in implementing projects on ground
7	NGOs	iii	Provide feedback and support based on past experience
8	Acader	nia	Support in providing marketing for project implementation and further develop detailed designs
9	Internat Agencie		Find interest in project which align with their funding strategy







# **O4** THE BLUEPRINT FOR IMPLEMENTATION DAMIETTA ACTION PLAN

## **Priority Development Projects**

After the validation of the needed projects, the technical scoring matrix assessment, as well as the local community and stakeholder scoring session, the priority projects were evaluated based on all principal assessment pillars. The scoring matrix then was completed and the development projects got scores. The UPIMC team was able to identify the highest scored projects and rank them based on priority.

The implementation of the scoring matrix led to a rational economic ranking of projects, with the highestranking projects being those that exhibit economic and environmental characteristics that promote sustainability and resilience. The matrix has proven to be an effective tool for determining priorities for public investment, particularly when decision-makers are evaluating various project implementation options under the constraint of limited financial resources.

Each project on the preliminary list was scored according to the scoring matrix, with the final ranking reflecting a larger effect and thus priority in implementation. As explained previously, this list includes projects that are not currently being implemented in either city's plans but have been mentioned in project team consultations with the community of residents and refugees in New Damietta; some of those projects are also included in the SUP.

Among the initial 25 projects, seven priority projects

with a score above 32 have been highlighted, and have been further detailed into investment cards with the support of financial expert.

The projects were further categorized based on their expected implementation period in accordance with the optimal scenario plan. This additional classification resulted in the grouping of projects into three phases:

**Short-term phase:** Projects that can be completed within the first three years

**Medium-term phase:** Projects that can be completed within the first five years

**Long-term phase:** Projects that can be completed within the 10 years



Figure 23: Final Ranking of Development Projects Source: UN-Habitat

## **Donor Perspective Assessment**

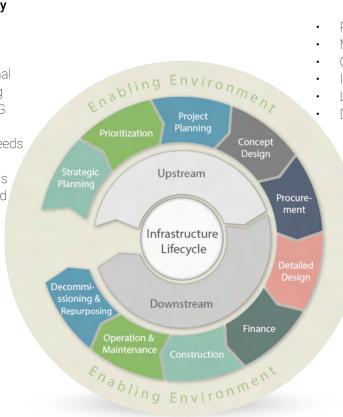
Donor Perspective Assessment is a comprehensive evaluation process that provides valuable insights from the perspective of donors involved in funding and supporting humanitarian and development initiatives. This assessment aims to gather feedback, assess donor satisfaction, and identify areas of improvement for enhancing donor engagement and partnership. By conducting in-depth interviews, surveys, and data analysis, the assessment examines various aspects such as funding mechanisms, transparency, accountability, communication, and the overall effectiveness of donor-funded programs. The Donor Perspective Assessment serves as a valuable tool for organizations and initiatives to understand donor expectations, tailor their approaches, and strengthen collaboration with donors to achieve shared goals in the development of New Damietta.

An additional step after the prioritization should take place for the selection of which projects to be financed to decision-making process for prioritizing infrastructure projects. This funnelling method is critical at the stage of seeking financing from various donors or potential financiers.

"Funnelling" in the context of priority development projects from a donor perspective refers to the process of narrowing down potential projects to a select few that align with the donor's priorities and funding capabilities.

#### Integrating financiers perspective in early phase

- Strategic fit national/regional
- Spatial profiling
- Integrating SDG
- Meeting beneficiary's needs
- Matching with
   financier's focus
- Institutional and governmental predictability



Detailed Investment cards & Funding proposal closing

#### **Detailed Analysis**

- Project description (Investment card)
- Market analysis
- Cost-benefit analysis
- Implementation strategy
- Linking municipal with project finance
- Donor/financier mapping and engagement

## **Development Of New Damietta's Framework For Action**

#### What is an action plan?

An action plan is a proposed strategy or course of actions needed to complete or deliver a project.



#### Methodology

Building on the spatial assessment, The UPIMC was able to develop a strategic plan to identify the strategic areas which are critical for helping sustainable urban development in the city.

In order to develop a sustainable strategic response, there needs to be an implementation plan studying what type of projects are required to be implemented first to achieve the desired objectives. Given the limited funding, strategic locations were identified in New Damietta and Kafr El Battikh, and accordingly, any project that is localized within this strategic area gets the higher priority to be implemented first.

#### Strategic development nodes are mapped as follow:

- 1) Central economic hub
- 2) Industrial zone

3) Refugee population and vulnerable people cluster zone

4) Environmental degradation area.

Projects which are located within any of these area are prioritised to be implemented over the short term action plan. These strategic areas are well defined and should be connected as shown in the map (fig.21).

#### Phasing

This action plan is divided into three phases (short, medium, and long term) to be implemented over a span of almost 10 years starting from the year 2024 until 2035 to reflect the desired vision derived from the optimal scenario map.

#### The three phases are:

**Short Term Phase:** is (the project can be completed within the first three years)

**Medium Term Phase:** is (the project can be completed within the first five years)

**Long Term Phase:** is (the project can be completed within the 10 years)

#### Step 1) Mapping Projects



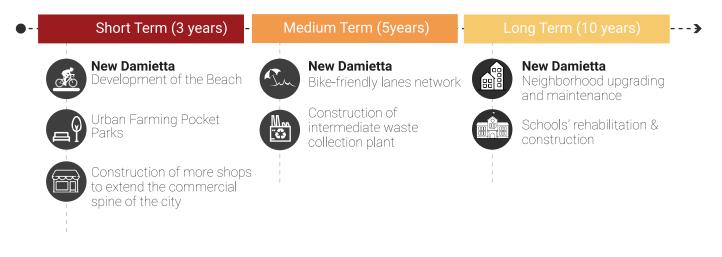
Step 2) Locating Strategic Development Nodes



Step 3) Prioritised Projects



#### Ranked Priority Development Projects over 10 years of implementation





### Roadmap to Implementation

As previously stated, the identified high-scoring projects must be implemented within the next 10 years in order to accomplish the desired vision. This section presents the actions required for each project as well as the project life cycle tasks that must be completed between 2024 and 2035. Several factors were considered in determining this sequence, including the project's high economic impact on everyday life for residents and refugees, as well as the city and the entire region as a whole, the cost, availability of potential land, alignment with local strategic urban plans, lack of disruption on existing activities, and the opportunity to replicate on other sites. These prioritized projects can be implemented independently and separately according to the city's own timing and available resources. This ensures that any gradual implementation reflects huge impact on the life of residents and refugees.

To initiate the work in the city of New Damietta, the first step is to identify the available resources at the involved entity for the implementation of each high-priority project. This includes studying financial capabilities among responsible entities to determine the amount of fund needed to implement the project within the set time frame of the action plan. After assessing the remaining needed budget for the project, the next step is to begin mobilizing funding resources from interested financiers/ donors.

Accordingly, the year 2023 will be considered as the planning phase of the project cycle and mobilisation of funds to secure the needed budget. The second quarter of the year of 2024 will witness the first project steps starting from land allocation to preparation of work plans, concept studies.

#### Actions for the Years 2024 - 2026

After the identification of strategic areas to start implementing prioritized projects, the process of the action plan begins, starting with the highest-scoring project in New Damietta, which is the development of the beach in the first quarter of 2024. This should be directly followed by upgrading all potential locations for urban farming and construction of additional needed commercial shops that fall under the strategic planned priority area.

Therefore, NUCA should start developing feasibility studies, the initial concept and detailed designs in order to get the licensing and necessary approvals to begin the bidding process and awarding the contractors for the corniche, bikeway, commercial shops, and the urban farming lands at these overlapping areas. Execution and civil works should start in first quarter of 2026.

These three projects would result in a more comprehensive and tangible impact on ground that will enhance the provision of public services, reduce CO2 emissions, enhance accessibility and mobility, promote walkability, as well as increase access of refugee population to the economic commercial hub for job opportunities and income generating projects. Any school construction or rehabilitation project should be coordinated by the Ministry of Education to be implemented only at the prioritized identified strategic locations and the same applies for all housing rehabilitation projects through the Ministry of Housing. The estimated direct beneficiaries of these projects are over 100 k inhabitants of the current and future population of New Damietta, including the local community and refugees.

#### Actions for the Years 2027 - 2031

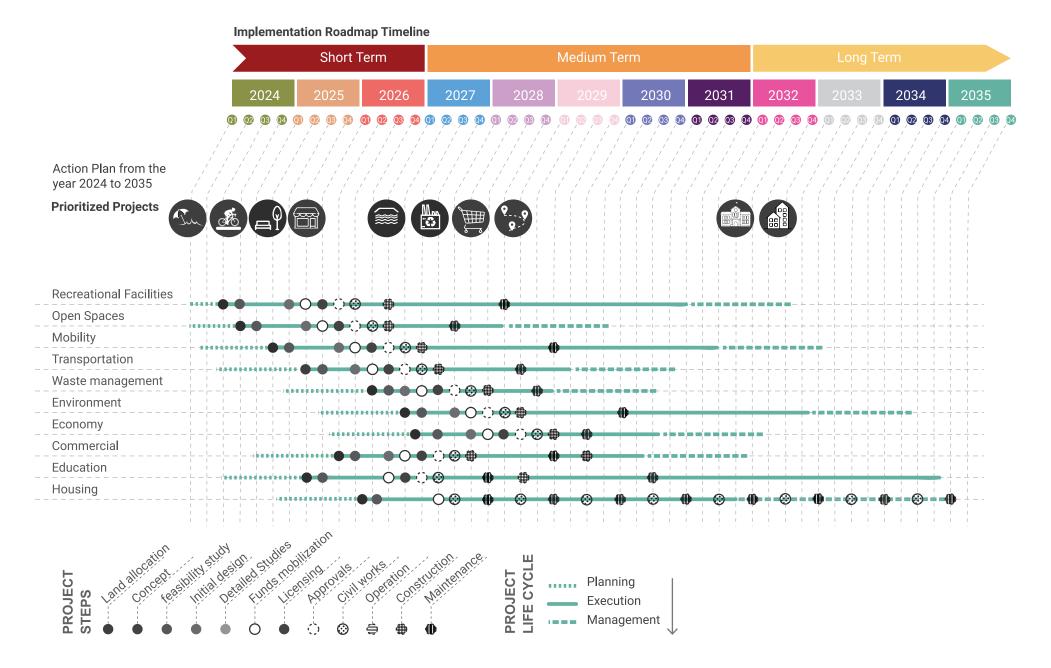
To align efforts of what was implemented in the short term phase, planning for the medium term projects should start during the first quarter of 2027, these projects include the ceiling of the Balamoon Canal and the construction of the intermediate waste collection plant planned by the Governorate of Damietta. These projects aim to reduce the impact of environmental challenges faced by the city and are not contradicting to each other regarding its proposed location, and should be done in parallel to ensure most effective method of time and resources. It should be noted here that some of the priority projects starting from year 2024 will also continue to be implemented in the next years (as phasing) based on available funds and resources.

#### Actions for the Years 2032 - 2035

The identified projects that can be implemented over the long-term phase are the on-going educational projects and the housing sector of the optimal scenario action plan. According to available funding and resources, a continuous cycle of rehabilitating old dilapidated housing units should be carried on. Any shortages in funds should be addressed directly by NUCA to seek more resources (if needed). The same applies to school rehabilitation and construction projects. All the remaining proposed plots for school construction projects should be carried on to achieve desired vision by the end of the year 2035.

The following pages present a breakdown of actions needed according to timeline for each project starting from the top prioritized project in New Damietta.

### **Implementation Roadmap Timeline**



## 1- New Damietta Corniche & Public Beach Development Project

Phase	Responsible Entity	Area	Activity	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029		2030	
Phase A	Ministry of Housing, Utilities and Urban Communities NUCA	3 km <sup>2</sup>	<ul> <li>Prepare budget, workplan, roles and responsibilities</li> <li>Coastal Assesment</li> <li>Concept Design/ planning and development</li> <li>Bidding process</li> <li>Awarding a contractor</li> <li>Construction</li> <li>Maintenance</li> </ul>				estone:1 mpletion off					
Phase B	Ministry of Housing, Utilities and Urban Communities NUCA	2 km <sup>2</sup>	<ul> <li>Prepare budget, workplan, roles and responsibilities</li> <li>Coastal Assesment</li> <li>Concept Design/ planning and development</li> <li>Bidding process</li> <li>Awarding a contractor</li> <li>Construction</li> <li>Maintenance</li> </ul>					Milestor Complet Phase B	tion of			
Phase C	Ministry of Housing, Utilities and Urban Communities NUCA	2 km <sup>2</sup>	<ul> <li>Prepare budget, workplan, roles and responsibilities</li> <li>Coastal Assesment</li> <li>Concept Design/ planning and development</li> <li>Bidding process</li> <li>Awarding a contractor</li> <li>Construction</li> <li>Maintenance</li> </ul>							1	stone 3 pletion	

🗡 Milestone

Ideal Implementation Schedule for New Damietta's Beach Development Project

#### Impacted beneficiaries

Current: 71,342 inhabitants Future: 175,000 inhabitants Alignment with SDGs



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## 2- New Damietta Urban Bikeway Project

Phase	Responsible Entity	Length	Activity	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Phase A Main street bikeway	Ministry of Housing, Utilities and Urban Communities NUCA Contractor under the supervision of NUCA	26 km Two-Way Protected Bike Lane 8' min. (4' min. each Iane)	<ul> <li>Prepare budget, workplan, roles and responsibilities</li> <li>Existing conditions analysis</li> <li>Concept Design/ planning and development</li> <li>Bidding process</li> <li>Awarding a contractor</li> <li>Construction</li> <li>Maintenance</li> </ul>				ase A ompletion			
Phase B Secondary street bikeway	Ministry of Housing, Utilities and Urban Communities NUCA & Consultant Contractor under the supervision of NUCA	35 km	<ul> <li>Prepare budget, workplan, roles and responsibilities</li> <li>Coastal Assesment</li> <li>Concept Design/ planning and development</li> <li>Bidding process</li> <li>Awarding a contractor</li> <li>Construction</li> <li>Maintenance</li> </ul>					Phase Compl		
Phase C Neighborh ood bikeway	Ministry of Housing, Utilities and Urban Communities NUCA Contractor under the supervision of NUCA	20 km	<ul> <li>Prepare budget, workplan, roles and responsibilities</li> <li>Coastal Assesment</li> <li>Concept Design/ planning and development</li> <li>Bidding process</li> <li>Awarding a contractor</li> <li>Construction</li> <li>Maintenance</li> </ul>		Image: matrix	I         I         I         I         I         I           I         I         I         I         I         I           I         I         I         I         I         I           I         I         I         I         I         I           I         I         I         I         I         I           I         I         I         I         I         I           I         I         I         I         I         I           I         I         I         I         I         I           I         I         I         I         I         I           I         I         I         I         I         I           I         I         I         I         I         I           I         I         I         I         I         I           I         I         I         I         I         I           I         I         I         I         I         I           I         I         I         I         I         I           I         I				Phase C Completion

★ Milestone

Current: 71,342 inhabitants Future: 175,000 inhabitants

#### Alignment with SDGs







## 3- New Damietta Cultivating Green Pockets Project

Phase	Responsible Entity	Area	Activity	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Phase A	Ministry of Housing, Utilities and Urban Communities NUCA Local community and refugee involve- ment	150,000 sqm	<ul> <li>Prepare budget, workplan, roles and responsibilities</li> <li>Community Engagement</li> <li>Concept Design</li> <li>Sourcing water &amp; equipment</li> <li>Choosing crops &amp; plan</li> <li>Start Farming</li> <li>Maintenance</li> </ul>				a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a			
Phase B	Ministry of Housing, Utilities and Urban Communities NUCA & Consultant Local community and refugee involve- ment	150, 000 sqm	<ul> <li>Prepare budget, workplan, roles and responsibilities</li> <li>Community Engagement</li> <li>Concept Design</li> <li>Sourcing water &amp; equipment</li> <li>Choosing crops &amp; plan</li> <li>Start Farming</li> <li>Maintenance</li> </ul>					Phase Compl		
Phase C	Ministry of Housing, Utilities and Urban Communities NUCA Local community and refugee involve- ment	150, 000 sqm	<ul> <li>Prepare budget, workplan, roles and responsibilities</li> <li>Community Engagement</li> <li>Concept Design</li> <li>Sourcing water &amp; equipment</li> <li>Choosing crops &amp; plan</li> <li>Start Farming</li> <li>Maintenance</li> </ul>							Phase C completion

#### ★ Milestone

Current: 48,990 inhabitants Future: 64,274 inhabitants Alignment with SDGs



LEGEND

New Damietta Boundary
 Roads
 Undeveloped Lands
 Built-up Area
 Proposed location for Urban parks phase 1
 Proposed location for Urban parks phase 2
 Proposed location for Urban parks phase 3
 Refugee Concentration Area

0 0.5 1 2 km Figure 28. Location & Phasing of New Damietta Urban Farming Project Source: UN Habitat



### 4- New Damietta Construction of Commercial Shops

Phase	Responsible Entity	Area	Activity	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Phase A	Ministry of Housing, Utilities and Urban Communities NUCA Contractor under the supervision of NUCA	35,000 sqm of Built-up space	<ul> <li>Prepare budget, workplan, roles and responsibilities</li> <li>Community Engagement</li> <li>Design Development</li> <li>Land Acquisition</li> <li>Bidding/Awarding</li> <li>Start of Construction</li> <li>Maintenance</li> </ul>				● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ●			
Phase B	Ministry of Housing, Utilities and Urban Communities NUCA & Consultant Contractor under the supervision of NUCA	35,000 sqm of Built-up space	<ul> <li>Prepare budget, workplan, roles and responsibilities</li> <li>Community Engagement</li> <li>Concept Design</li> <li>Land Acquisition</li> <li>Bidding/Awarding</li> <li>Start of Construction</li> <li>Maintenance</li> </ul>					Phase Comple		
Phase C	Ministry of Housing, Utilities and Urban Communities NUCA Contractor under the supervision of NUCA	30,000 sqm of Built-up space	<ul> <li>Prepare budget, workplan, roles and responsibilities</li> <li>Community Engagement</li> <li>Concept Design</li> <li>Land Acquisition</li> <li>Bidding/Awarding</li> <li>Start of Construction</li> <li>Maintenance</li> </ul>							Phase C Completion

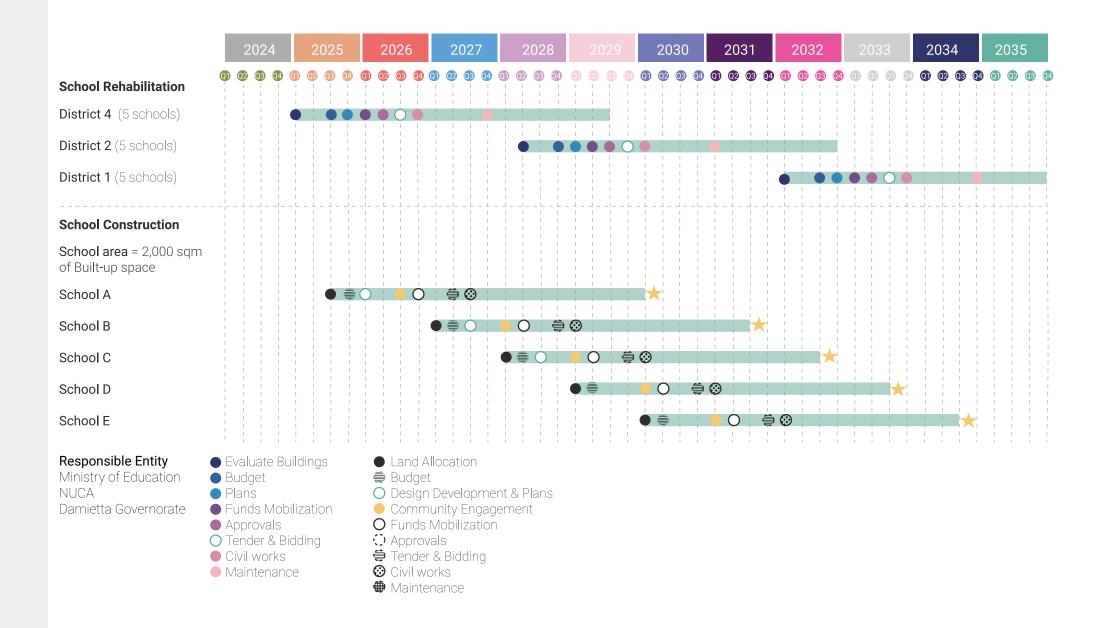
★ Milestone

Current: 48,990 inhabitants Future: 64,274 inhabitants Alignment with SDGs





## 5- New Damietta Schools Construction & Rehabilitation Project



Current: 21,402 students Future: 38,352 students Alignment with SDGs





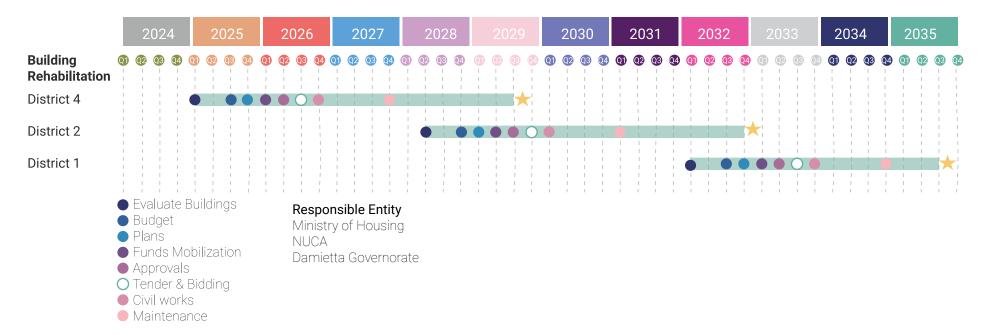


### 6- New Damietta Building Rehabilitation Project

During community meeting workshops and validation session from technical staff in New Damietta, many participants stressed the need to rehabilitate old structures in the city which date back to more than 40 years since establishment. These dilapidated buildings are located in district one, two, and four. The upgrading could include streets maintenance, lighting, and infrastructure.

This project is directly addressing the sustainability and resilience of the city by enhancing the residential facilities and urban spaces in the area of intervention. It is also improving the urban security and safety of residents thus contributing to improving their well being. The rehabilitation of all old buildings in New Damietta could be spanned over the next 10 years depending on available budget and location. Work can start from District four, where most of the refugees are concentrated. Rehabilitation will involve repair of all the building's basic systems and elements of construction, replacement or strengthening of deficient or damaged structural elements, and repair of leaks and damage to roofs and exterior walls, windows and doors.

After securing the funds, the first step in the action plan is to identify the required number of buildings that need rehabilitation, second is to identify maintenance requirements and conduct an evaluation survey to determine the required repairs needed. This process is a repeated cycle on all identified locations through the city.



Current: 48,990 inhabitants Future: 64,274 inhabitants Alignment with SDGs





# **O**5 ENDNOTES

#### Endnotes

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Social Imp

Impact

85

		Definition	0	1	2	3	4		
pact 20%	Provision of Public Services: Improving the access to public services (Health/Education/Utilities)	Health & Educaiton sector are the core social infrastructure in the government plans (Constitution, 2014)	The project has <b>No</b> relation with public service provision	The project can be utilized for <b>indirectly</b> improving access to PS		Renovation of an existing facility offering a public service	New facility offering enhanced public service	vices	No relation
	Social Cohesion: Maintaing social cohesion and eliminating inequalities within the society	Dimensions of SC: 1- Supporting Social Relations, 2- Interconnectedness, 3- Focus on the common good	Not applicable	At least 1 of the Social Cohesion dimensions will be covered	2 of the Social Cohesion dimensions will be covered	All the Social Cohesion dimensions will be covered	The project is covering all dimensions of Social Cohesion and is specifically targeting <b>migrants</b> Autner able Groups	Provision of Public Services	Directly imp Renovation
	Well Being: Effect on the wellbeing of residents	mental health, physical health, being ative, keep learning, giving back	Not applicable	minoreffect	Moderate Effect	Strong Effect	Very Strong Effect	ovision of	New facility
	Social inclusion: Promoting or showing inclusivity to migrants as well as vulnerable groups?	the pracess by which efforts are made to ensure equal opportunities – that everyone, regardless of their background, can achieve their full	Not applicable	from the project	Migrants and vulnerable groups will likely benefit from the project	project	Project Scope is focusing on migrants and vulnerable groups as key beneficiaries		Not applica
ntal Impact 5%	Climate Change: Contributes to Adaptation	processes, practices, and structures to moderate potential damages or to benefit from opportunities associated with climate change	Not applicable	The project is targeting adaptation but with unclear processes, practices and structures	The project is involving only processes to moderate environmental damages	The project is involving processes and practices to moderate environmental damages	The project is involving processes, practices and structures to moderate environmental	jaj	Unclear pro Only proces
	Climate Change: Contributes to Mitigation	decreasing the antidat of emissions released in to the atmosphere and in reducing the current concentration of carbon claxide (CO2) by enhancing sinks (e.g.	Not applicable	The project will less likely decrease the amount of CO2 emissions	The project will Likely decrease the amount of CO2 emissions	The project will decrease the amount of CO2 emissions <b>Indirectly</b>	Definitely decrease the amount of CO2 emissions and/or enhancing sinks	:e Adaptation 	Processes & Processes, structures
	Healthy Ecosystem: Overall Environmental Impact of the project	direct effect of socio- economic activities and natural events on the components of the environment.	Strong Negative Impact	Negative Impact	Neutral	Positive Impact	Strong Positive Impact	Climate	)
mpact 20%	Economic Linkages: Promoting output of other economic sectors and thus maximizing the value-added of the economy	Forward & backward linkages with existing economic activities as dervied from the input- output tables on the national level	Unclassified	Lagging Sector, Backword Linkages & Forward Linkages <1	Forward Linkages >1	Backward Linkages >1	Leading sector, Backward and Forward Linkages >1		Unclassifie Linkages <
	Private Investments: Potential for promoting new privtae investment	Potential to support the ability of the city to attract new private sector business	Not applicable	Less Likely. A public project optional for private sector operations	Likely. A public project essential for private sector activity	More Likely The project can be done jointly with the private sector/PPP	The project can be done entirely through the priavte sector	Linkages	
	Job Creation: Job opportunities the project can create (Measured by Employment Multiplier)	Employment multiplier	1-1.15	1.16 - 1.34	1.38 - 1.77	1.88 - 2.43 Taxes,	253-483	Economic Linkages	Leading see Backward a Linkages >
	Income Generation: The project will increase the revenues of the city by generating new revnue streams	Either dividend payments from investment activities or fees and levies from private activities	Not applicable	Service Fees	Fees/Taxes/Lic ensing up to 50% of	Licensing, Service Fees and/or Land Improvement proceeds up to 75% of	Investment returns/Asset Sales/PPP All	ш <b>—</b> О	No relation
	Served population: % of beneficiaries from the	Refugees/Mgrants in New Darnietta and/or Kafr Elbatikh	No gain or benefit from the project	ants in New Damietta and/or Kafr Elbatkh will benefit from	nts in New Damietta and/or Kafr Elbatikh will benefit from the	benefit from the	arts in New Darnietta and/or Kafr Eibatikh cari/will.benefit	- 	Up to 25%
	Safety & Security: How the project is enhancing urban safety and security of residents?	Crime & Violence, Tenure Security and Response to Disaster	Not applicable	indirectly be related to Urban Safety & Security	tackling only 1 attribute of Urban Safety & Security	tackling only 2 orteria of Safety & Security	Promotion	population	Up to 75% All
	Urban Spaces: Improving Public Spaces	The impact on improving the public spaces and landuse in the city	Not applicable	Promoting vibrant street life only	Promoting vibrant street life & Walkability	Promoting Vibrant street life, walkability & affordability	Vibrant street life, walkability & affordability And Supporting non-physical Space	Served	)
	Increasing Properties' Values: Properties in proximity of the project location will increase in value	Impact of development projects on increasing the value of land or buildings	Noeffect	Weak Effect	Moderate Effect	Strong Effect	Very Strong Effect	government	Cannot be a Aligned with
	Butterfly Effect: Linkages with other development projects and/or public projects or facilities	Complementarity with other development projects or existing utilities	Not applicable	linked to 7 project	linked to 2 or more	linked to 3 or more	linked to 4 or more	with the gc	Aligned and Aligned/vali
	Location Competitiveness: Boosting competitiveness of the city, productivity of inhabitants and reducing regional imbalances	The overall impact on enhancing the city attractivness for residence/work/invest ment	Noeffect	Weak Effect	Moderate Effect	Almaduith	Very Strong Effect Project aligned	Alignment v	Mentioned i
	Alignment with the government (vision 2030) / Local SUP/ Validation with the community	Alignment with identified relevant government strategies, goals and objectives	Cannot be aligned	Aligned only with vision 2030	Aligned with vision 2030 and validated by the community	Algned with vision 2030 and validated by the community, has perfiminary studies	with vision 2030 and is mentioned in SUP and validated by the community	∎ 0 •	Unidentifi
	Alignment with the UN-Habitat and UNHCR Objectives	Alignment with the objectives of UPIMC/UNHCR/UN- Habitat	Cannot be aligned	Can be aligned with SDGs only		Aligned with both	Aligned with both & with SDGs		Unidentified Initial identi Identified/n
ty 5%	Technical and Human factors: Are technical and/or human resources available and identified?	Required resources to implement the project	Unidentified technical specs/human resources	Initial technical specifications identified	Technical requirements identified but resources not available	Technical requirements identified with limited local capacities	Technical requirements identified and available	¢& Security	ldentified/li Identified/a

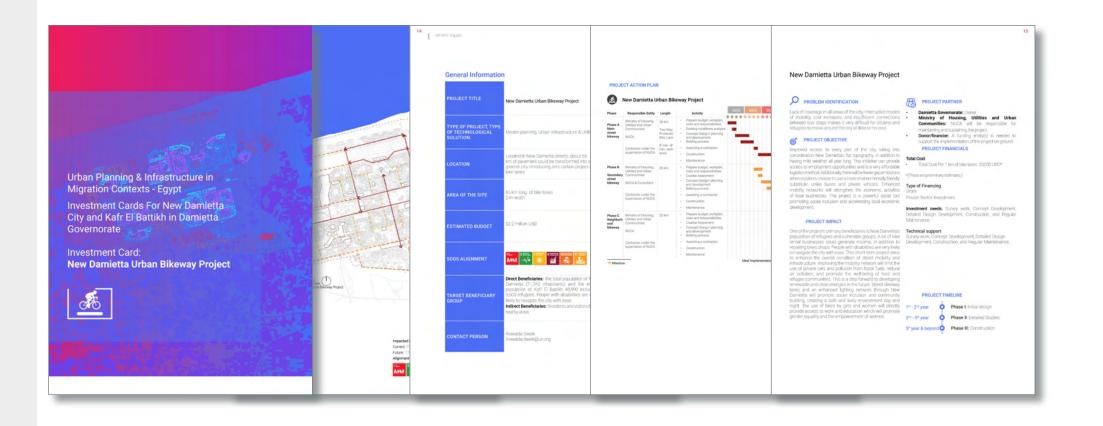
Scoring Criteria

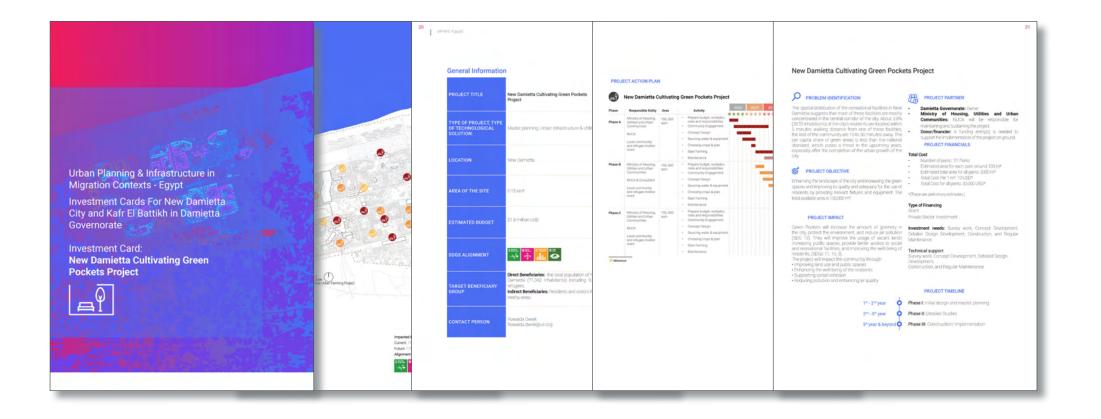


Cluster Projects				New Damietta Projects										Kafr El Battikh Projects					
Eco-cultura tourism slow path	water purification	Recycling agricultur al waste factory	Beach & Corniche	Bike-lanes network	Urban Farming Pocket Parks	Green Pockets	Neighbor- hood upgrading	Schools' construc- tion	commer- cial shops	Upgrading the industrial area	Street lightening	ICana	Food	Communi- ty Center Rehabilita- tion	Public transporta- tion station	Technical school	waste collecti plant		

## **O7** ANNEX B: INVESTMENT CARDS





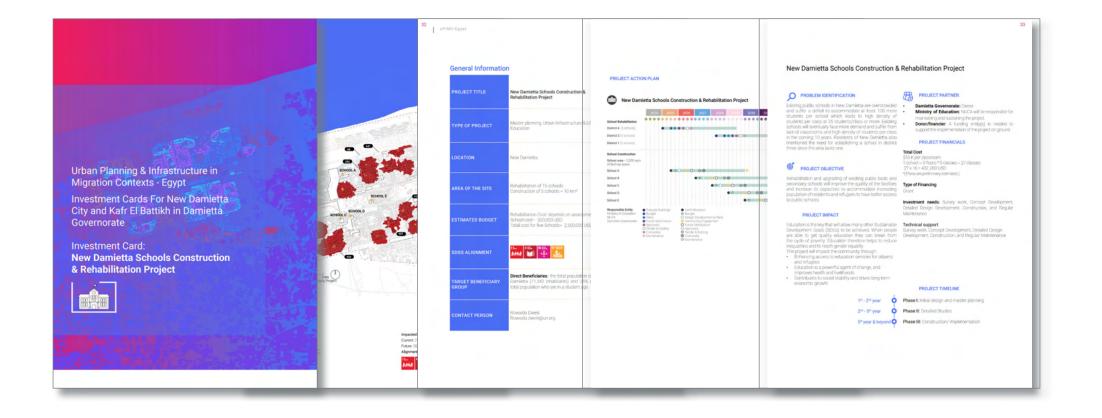


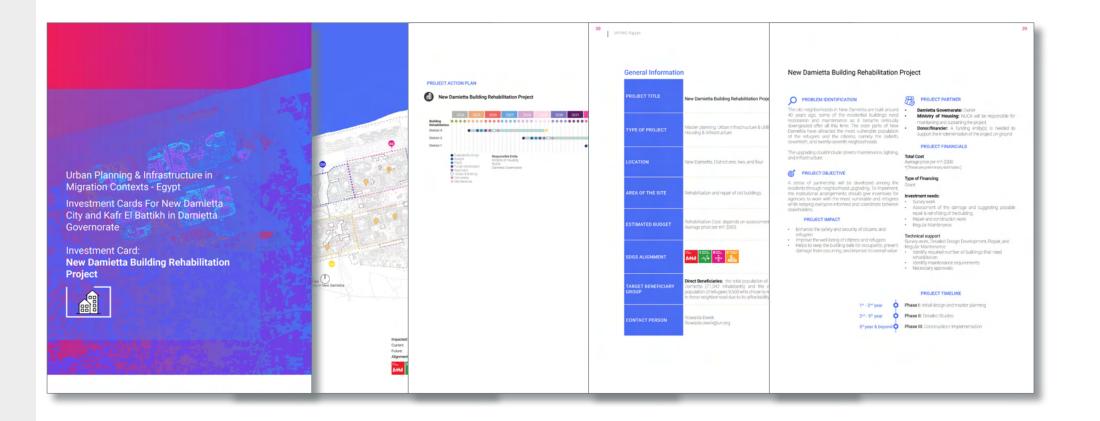


Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft Confederation suisse Confederazione Svizzera Confederaziun svizra Swiss Confederation

Federal Department of Economic Affairs, Education and Research EAER State Secretariat for Economic Affairs SECO







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Damietta Spatial Profile



Contact information

Rania Hedeya Country Program Director Rania.hedeya@un.org

Amr Lashin UN-Habitat Egypt National Programme Coordinator Amr.lashin@un.org

Rowaida Dweik Project Urban Planner for the UPIMC Programme Rowaida.dweik@un.org

#### HS Number: HS/059/20E



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft Confédération suisse Confederazione Svizzera Confederaziun svizra

**UN-HABITAT** 

United Nations Human Settlements Programme P.O. Box 30030, GPO Nairobi 00100, Kenya

Housing and Building Research Center, 87 El Tahrir, St, Dokki, Giza Governorate 3750164, Egypt Telephone: +20 2 37618812 unhabitat.cairo@un.org www.unhabitat.org

