

# THE USE OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE TO ENHANCE THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT USING THE OF THE CITY OF ALEXANDRIA, EGYPT AS AN EXAMPLE

**Mohammad H. Refaat**

Faculty of Urban & Regional Planning  
Cairo University

## **Abstract**

The landscape architecture profession and its role in the planning process in Egypt are neither clear nor well defined. This led to the production of plans which lacks the existence of an obvious landscape strategy for both existing and new cities. A landscape planning concept which helps to maximize the contribution of the open spaces to the character and appearance of the city; conserve features and areas of historic interest; conserve and enhance existing features of wildlife interest and where appropriate create new habitats; facilitate public enjoyment and recreation in a way which respects the landscape and minimizes its erosion; to provide a linked network of safe, rich and varied open spaces for us all to enjoy throughout the city and to promote links with the surrounding countryside.

The overall objective of this paper is to produce a set of guidelines for developing a landscape strategy for the Egyptian cities. This aims to ensure that the city's landscape is adequately protected and cared for, so that its extent, quality, biological diversity and contribution to the character and appearance of the city can be sustained and enriched for the benefit and enjoyment of the people and visitors. As well as addressing the need to restore a balance within the city's landscape, whereby the natural forces of change are managed, the damaging actions of people are limited and a climate is created to encourage the development of quality landscape design throughout the city. This will be enhanced by using an analytical approach to focus on the city of Alexandria as an example of the Egyptian status of landscape architecture, reaching the development of a landscape strategy check list.

## **الملخص**

ان دور ووظيفة تنسيق المواقع من الادوار الهامة في المنظومة التخطيطية. نتيجة لعدم وضوح مفهوم ودور تنسيق المواقع في المنظومة التخطيطية في مصر ادي الي ظهور العديد ممن المخططات التي تفتقر الي الرؤية المتكامل لأعمال تنسيق المواقع علي مستوي المدن القائمة والمدن الجديدة. ان الهدف من هذا البحث هو الخروج بمسودة متكاملة لإستراتيجية تنسيق المواقع للمدن القائمة والجديدة. تهدف هذه الاستراتيجية الي حماية البيئة الطبيعية والعمرانية للمدينة والحفاظ علي الطابع العمراني للمدن القائمة وضمان الاستدامة للمدن الجديدة. العمل علي تطوير وإثراء الصورة البصرية للمدينة وتحسين البيئة العمرانية لها. لقد استرشد البحث بدراسة حالة لتجربة التنسيق العمراني التي حدثت لمدينة الاسكندرية كنموذج لأهمية وضع استراتيجية التنسيق المتكامل للمدن.