

“Urban systems based on human settlements of 50,000 or 250,000 may be able to accommodate urban populations of 1 million, but they begin to break down at 4 million and are blatantly unworkable at 10 million. What is needed is a management capability more sophisticated and sensitive than anything developed to date”(Perlman.1993).

Abstract

Generally, the phenomena of institutional urban management weakness in less developed countries (LDCs) and correlation with macro economic context have been addressed in many literatures and researches (Brusi1990, Cheema 1993, Hardoy 1999). Fewer attempts, however, were made to investigate the problem's political contributory framework taking into account social and cultural aspects as well. This paper is concerned with investigating the impact of particular nature of political ideology, mechanisms, and structure anatomy on the institutional urban management capacities, especially transactional and operational controls activities in developing countries. The paper will briefly explain the basic framework of the urban management system in big cities of developing countries as they relate to the Egyptian context. A situational analysis of Egyptian framework gives some general evaluation and discusses implications. The theoretical underpinning will be implicated in a guidance for enhancing institutional urban management capacities in these developing countries.

Key words: urban planning; management; Egypt; developing countries.