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Are Red Sea Parks Compatible with Ecotourism?



Outline

PART (I)

- **Questioning Tourism Concepts**

PART (II)

- **Tourism Planning & Challenges in the Red Sea Parks, Egypt**

PART (III)

- **Landscape Planning & Strategies & Opportunities in the Red Sea, Egypt**

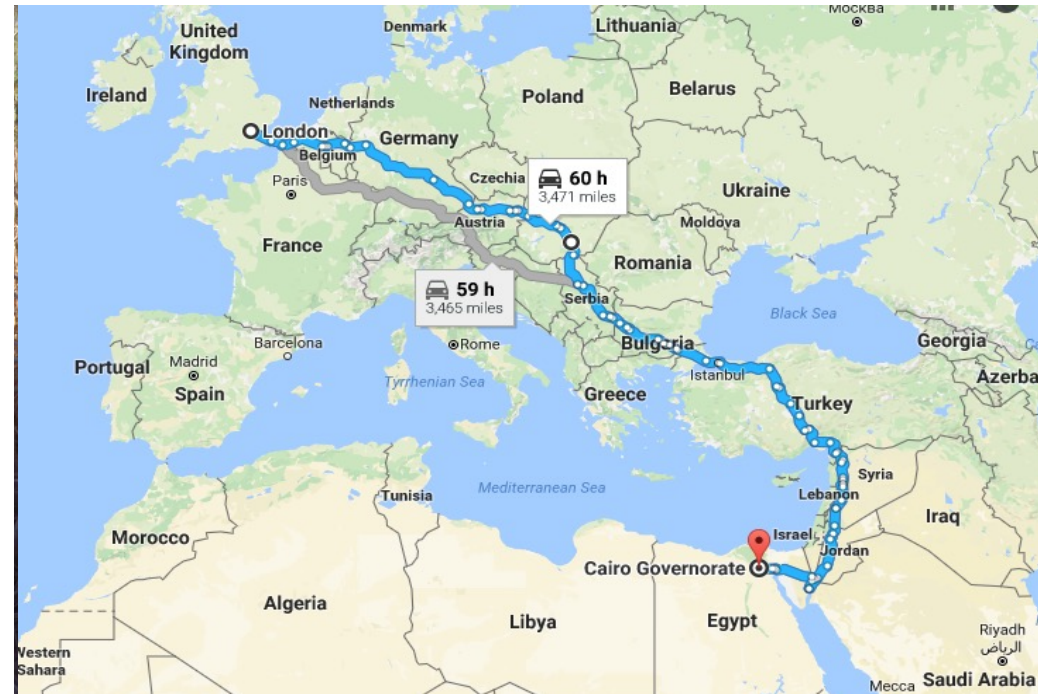
Part (I)

QUESTIONING TOURISM CONCEPTS

Ecotourism by the Eye of an Ecotourist

**Scout Leader
(80s)**

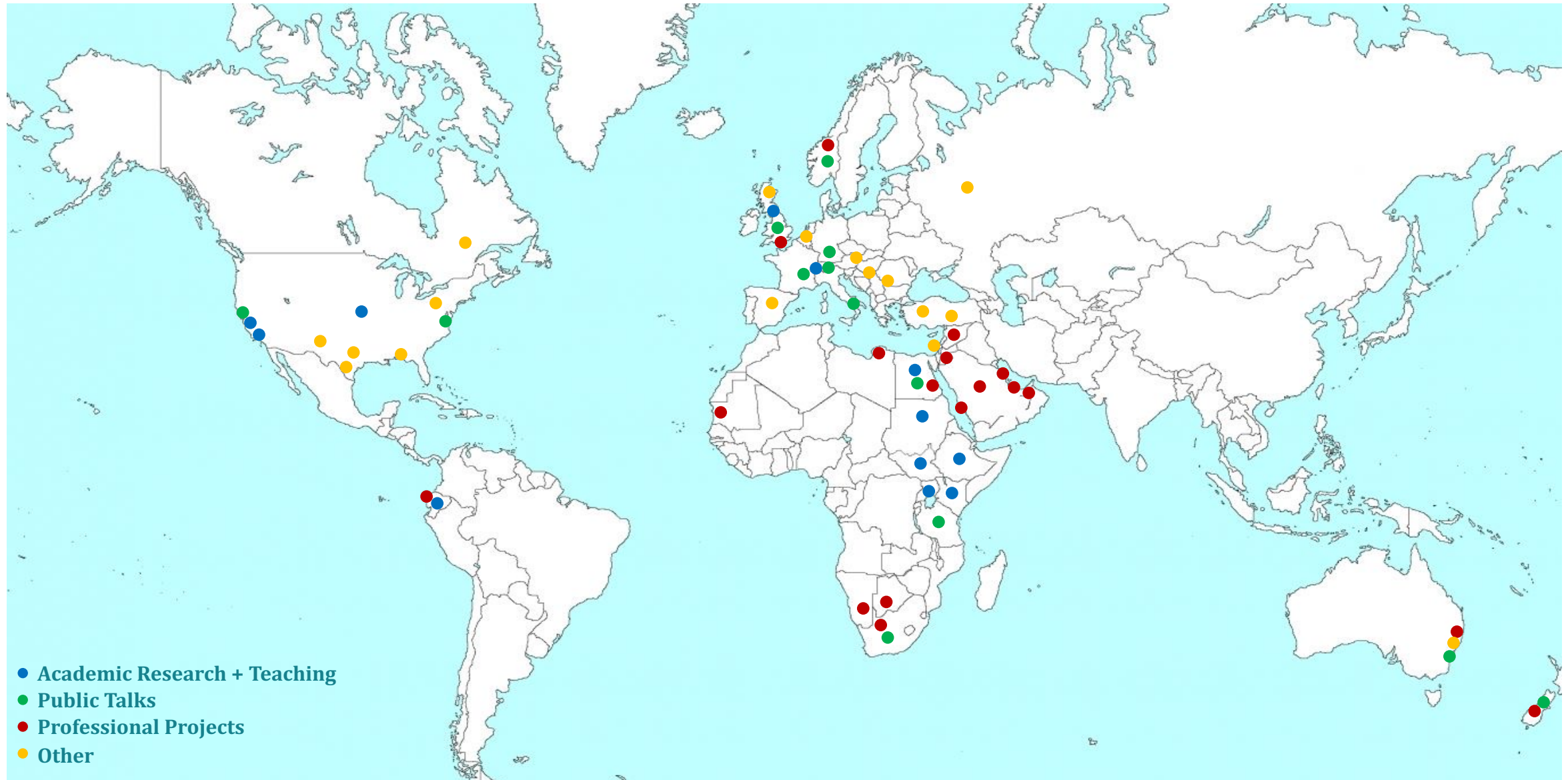
**Desert Rally
Support Team
(90s)**



**Worked with
National Park
Rangers in
Countries
(90s)**

**Advanced Open Water Scuba Diver
(2000s)**

Work – Research – Public Talks



Types of Tourism

Philanthropic Tourism

Ecotourism

Sustainable Tourism

Sex Tourism

Cultural Tourism

Wine Tourism

Wellness Tourism

Spiritual Tourism

Food Tourism

Mass Tourism

Dark Tourism

Religiose Tourism

Definitions

Tourism suffer from so many definitions that prevent from understanding it. And suffers from so many classifications that makes it difficult to understand such as Ecotourism (ET), Sustainable Tourism (ST) and Mass Tourism (MT)

ET

“Responsible travel to natural areas that conserves the environment, sustains the well-being of the local people, and involves interpretation and education”
(Ecotourism Society)

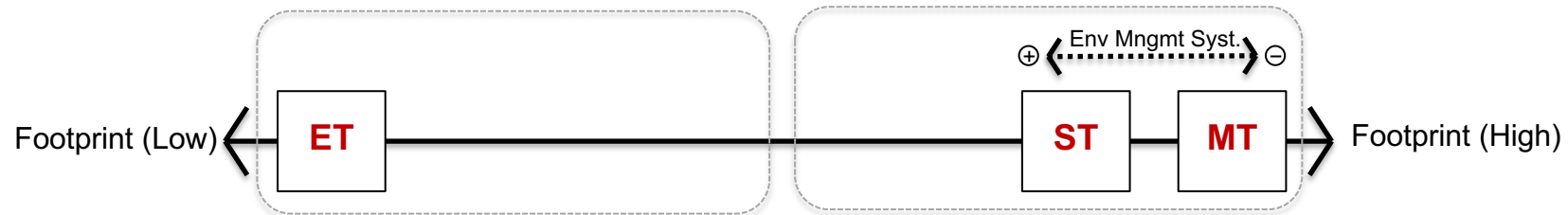
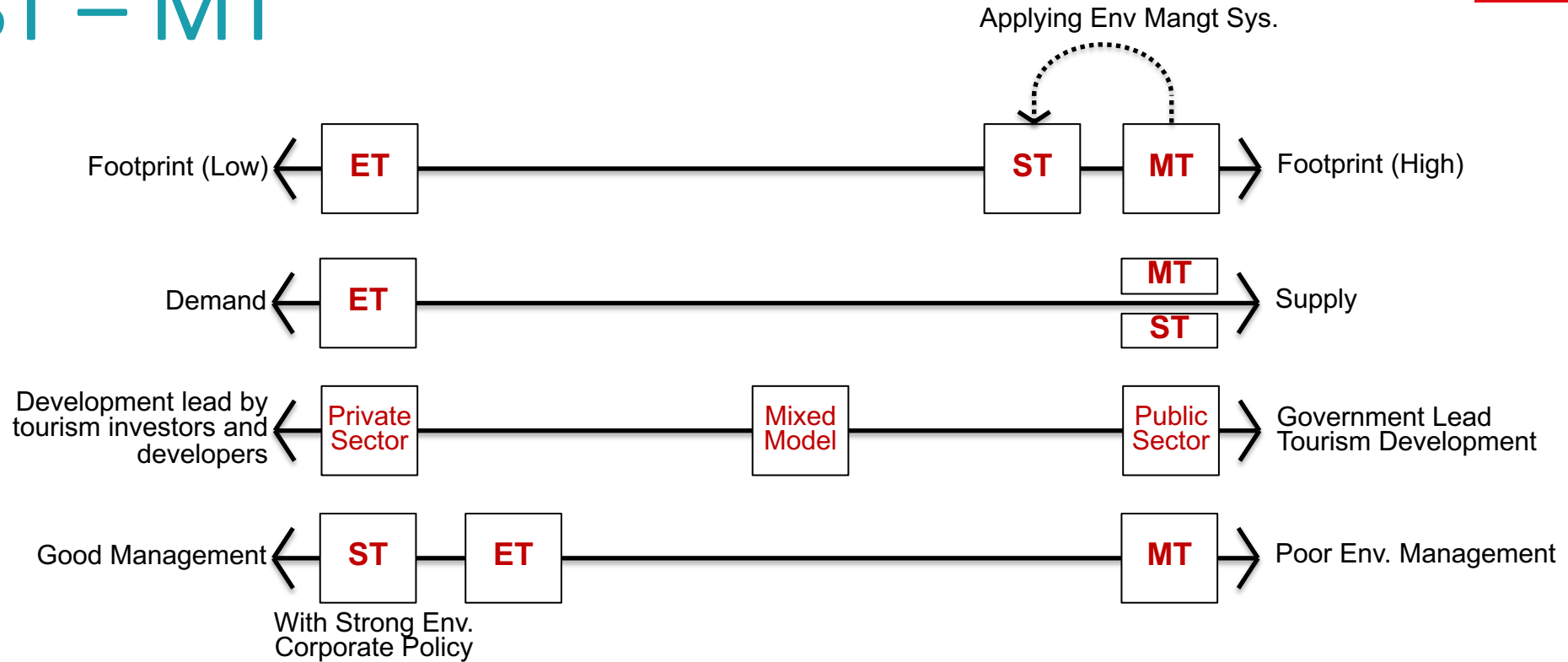
ST

"Tourism that takes full account of its current and future economic, social and environmental impacts, addressing the needs of visitors, the industry, the environment and host communities”
(UNWTO)

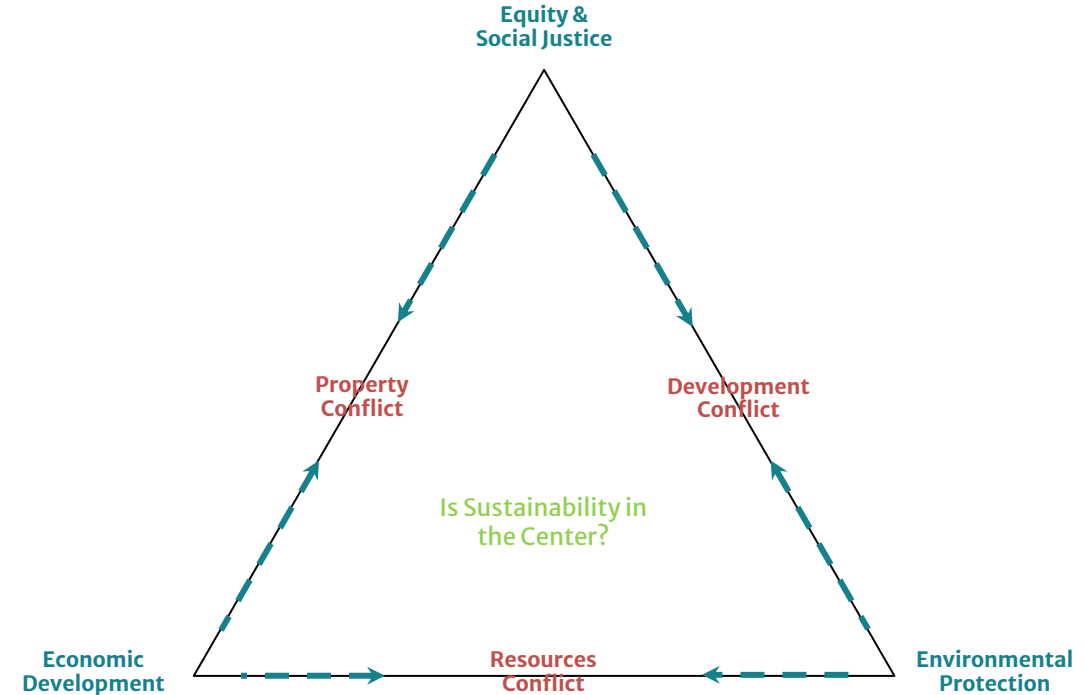
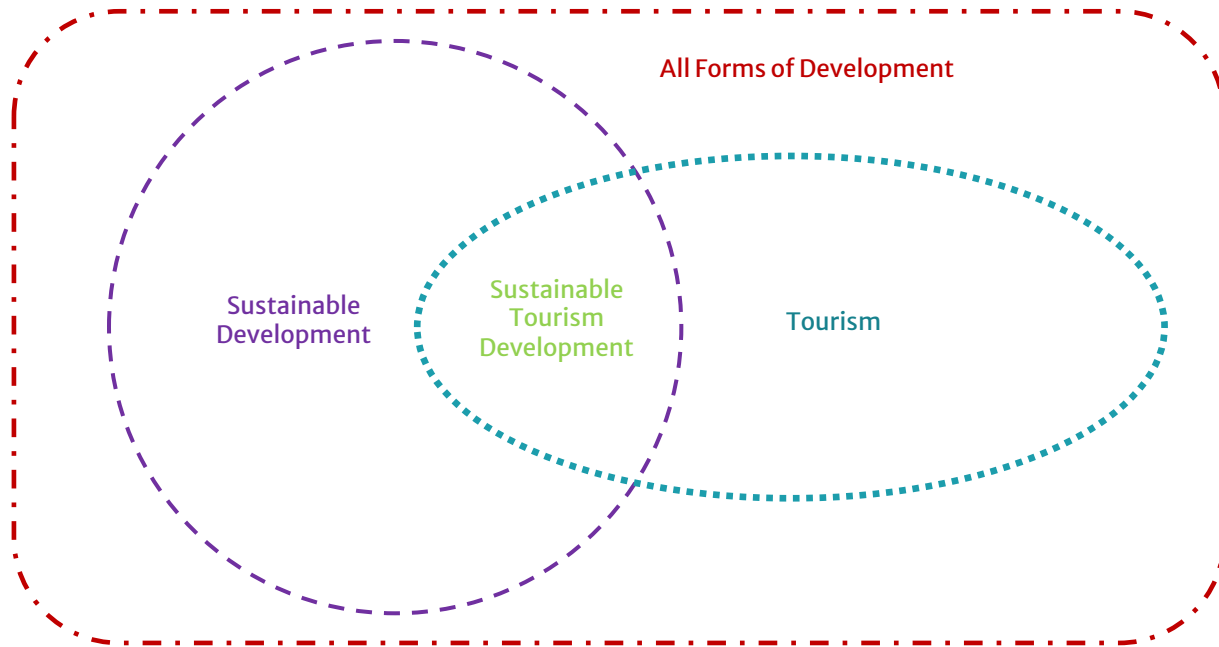
MT

???

ET – ST – MT



Questioning Sust. Tourism Dev.



PROPERTY CONFLICT

Rises from competing claims on and uses of property, such as between conflict tourism authority and developer, land owners and hotel management, or the conflict between tourism authorities and gentrifying professionals and long-term community. This growth-equity conflict is further complicated because each side not only resists the other, but also needs the other for its own survival.

DEVELOPMENT CONFLICT

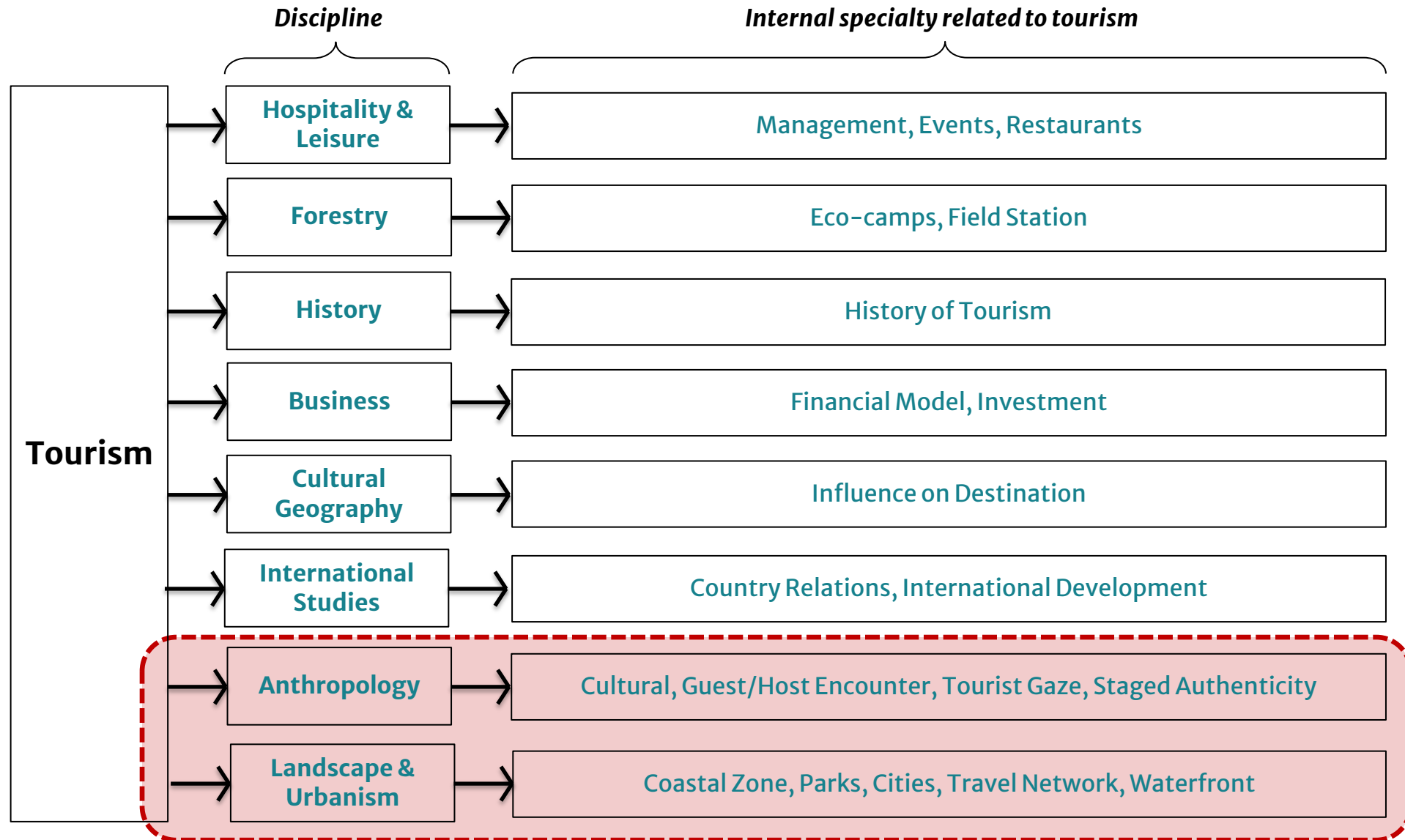
How to increase social equity and protect the environment simultaneously? How could those at the bottom of society find greater economic opportunity if environmental protection mandates diminished economic growth?

RESOURCES CONFLICT

Business resists the regulation of its exploitation of the parks, but at the same time needs regulation to conserve those parks' resources for present and future demands.

Tourism development as a subset of sustainable development (source: Fridgen 1991).

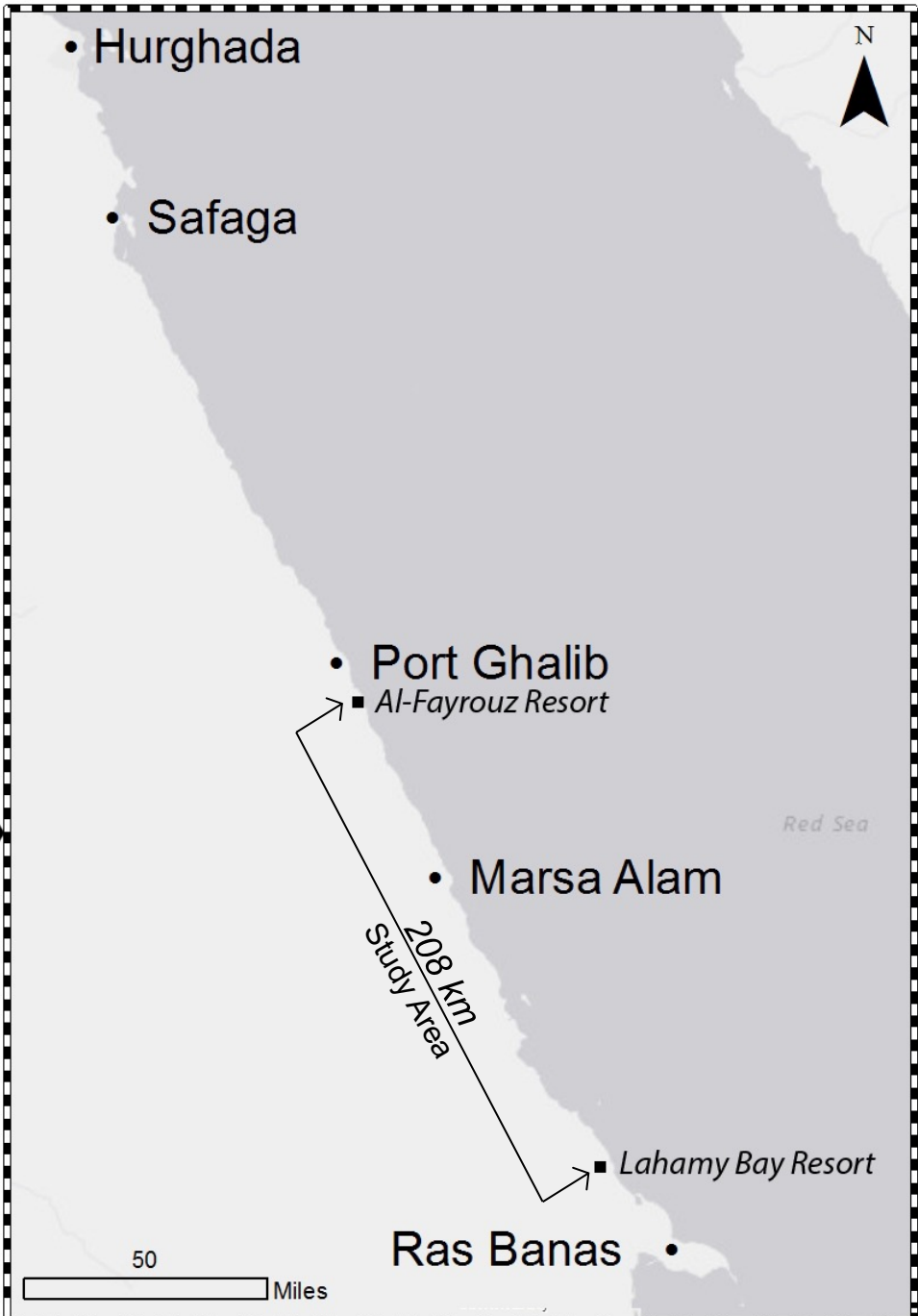
Tourism in Education



Part (II)

**TOURISM PLANNING CHALLENGES IN THE RED SEA,
EGYPT**

STUDY AREA



Existing Dev. & Planning Pattern



Is There Unified Understanding?

1-- Responsible travel to natural areas that conserves the environment and improves the well-being of local people
International Ecotourism Society
www.ecotourism.org

2-- A tourism market based on an area's natural resources that attempts to minimize the ecological impact of the tourism.
Centre for Biodiversity & Conservation
research.amnh.org/biodiversity/symposia/archives/seascapes/glossary.html

3-- The practice of touring natural habitats in a manner meant to minimize ecological impact.
Conservation international (Expedition Guyana)
investigate.conservation.org/expeditions/guyana/glossary.htm

4-- Nature-based tourism which involves education and interpretation of the natural environment and is managed to be ecologically sustainable.
NSW Department of Environment and Conservation incorporating (Environment Protection Authority)
www.epa.nsw.gov.au/soe/95/28.htm

5-- Tourism which takes account of environmental, cultural and social considerations.
A Dictionary of Travel and Tourism Terminology - Professor Allan Beaver - Bournemouth University and Buckingham Chilterns University
www.leisuretourism.com/Books/dictionary.asp

6-- Environmentally sensitive travel. Environmentally sensitive travel.
McGraw-Hill Higher Education
highered.mcgraw-hill.com/sites/0767420438/student_view0/chapter12/glossary.html

7-- Using natural resources for tourism without being destructive or wasteful
www.sitesalive.com/acctg/glossary.htm

8-- Tourism to exotic or threatened ecosystems to observe wildlife or to help preserve nature
WordNet reference system
www.cogsci.princeton.edu/cgi-bin/webwn

TOURISTS WHO VISIT, CONSIDER & CONTRIBUTE TO PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL & CULTURAL ASSETS IN A SPECIFIC REGION:

FLORA
NATURAL HERITAGE
LOCAL PEOPLE
WILD LIFE
GEOLOGY
HISTORICAL REMAINS
FAUNA
SHORELINE
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES
Etc.....

MASS TOURISM (MT)

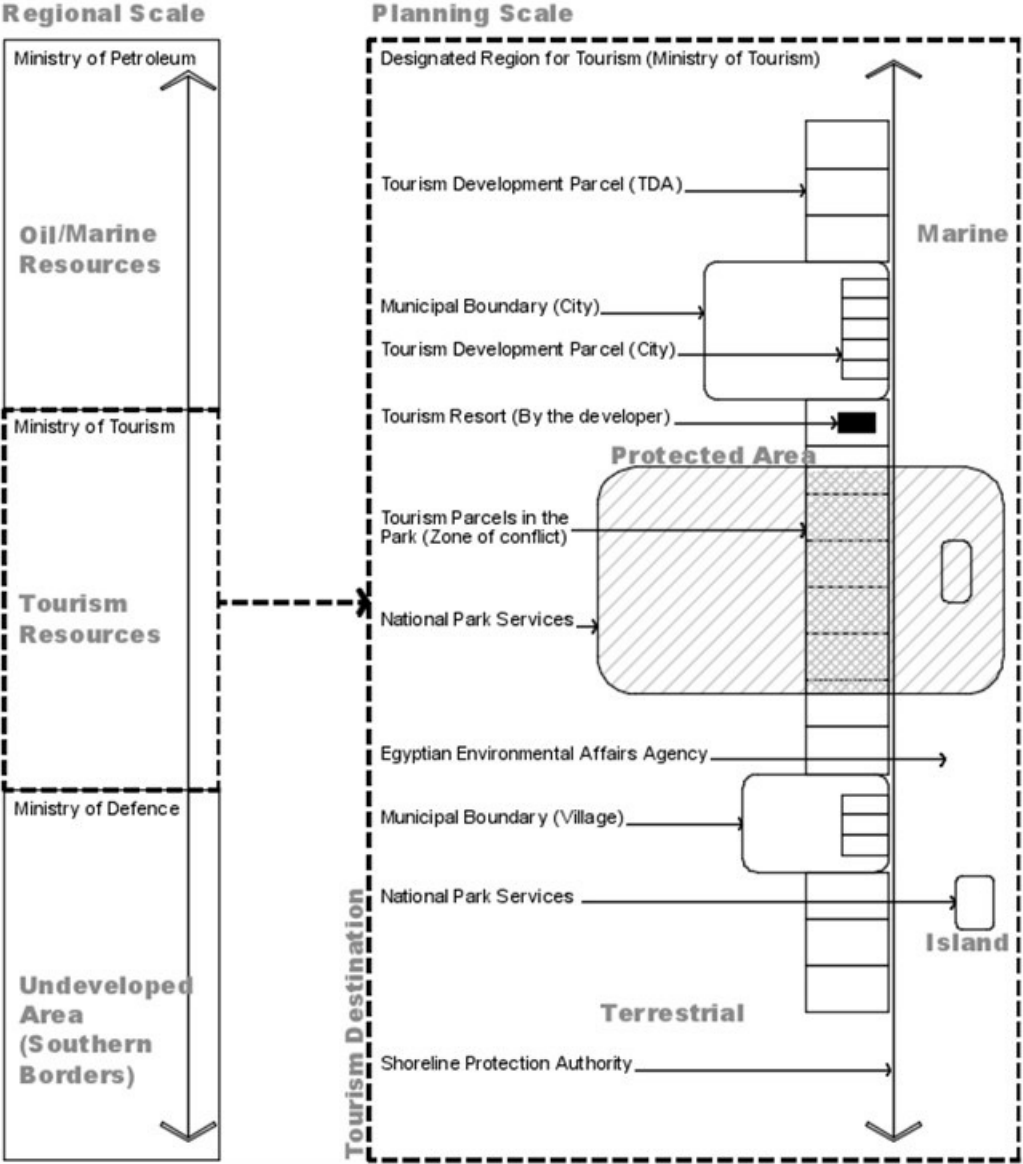
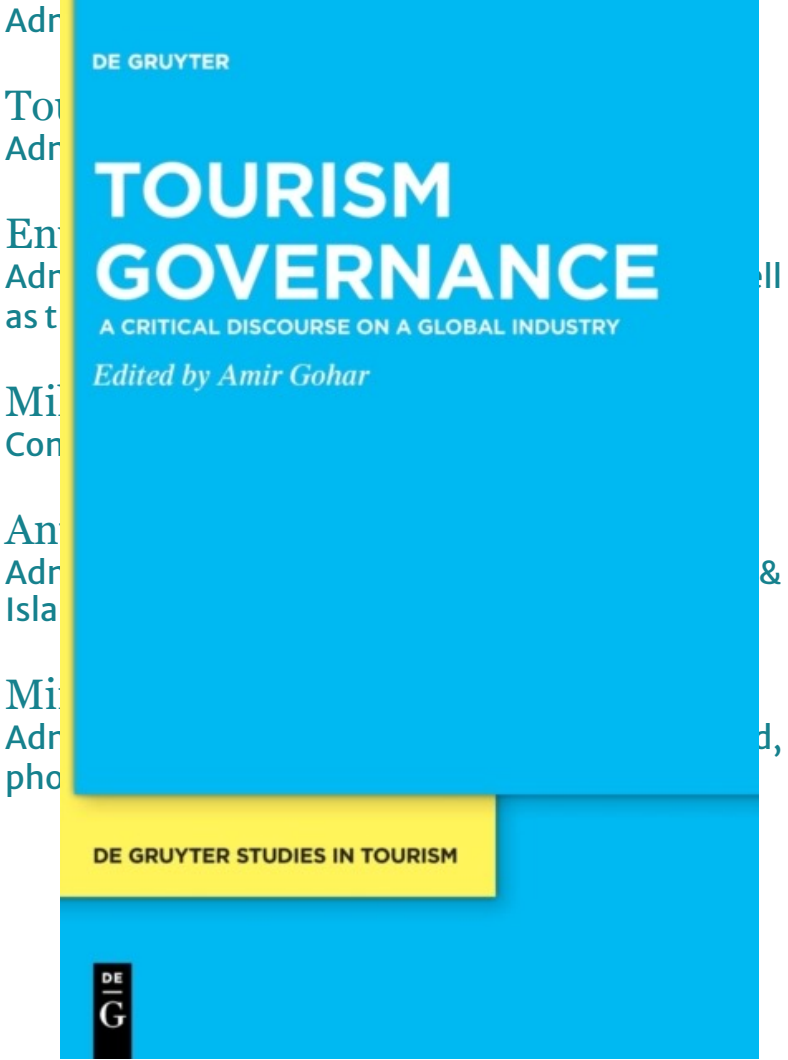
- Individualism, selfishness
- Shortsightedness, now-oriented
- Greed, commodity based
- Material, consumption based
- Arrogance
- Anthropocentrism

SUSTAINABLE TOURISM (ST)

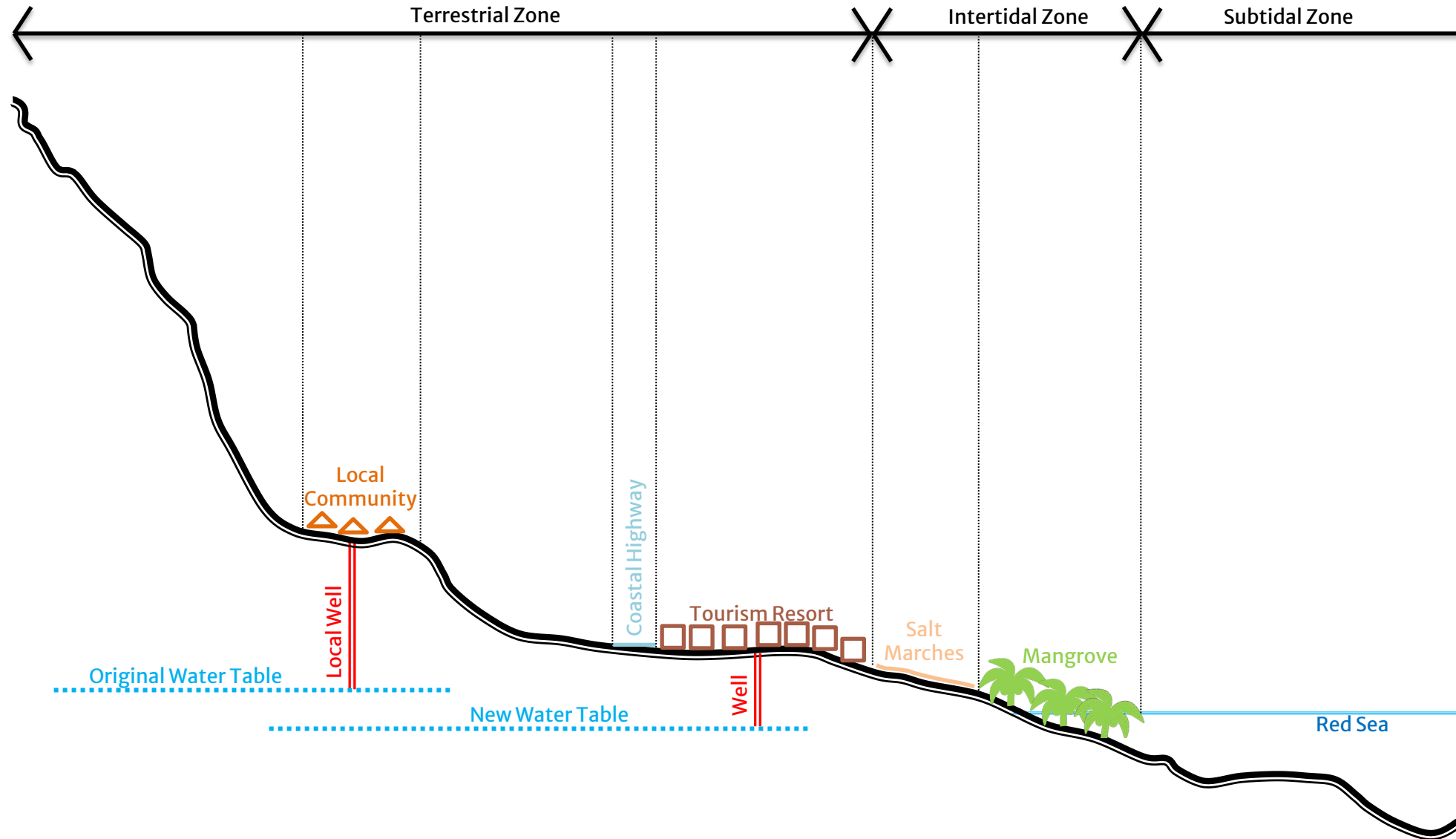
- Interdependence, community
- Farsightedness, future oriented
- Altruism
- Nonmaterial, community based
- Humility, caution
- Kinship

Complex Uncoordinated Stakeholders

The Governorate:



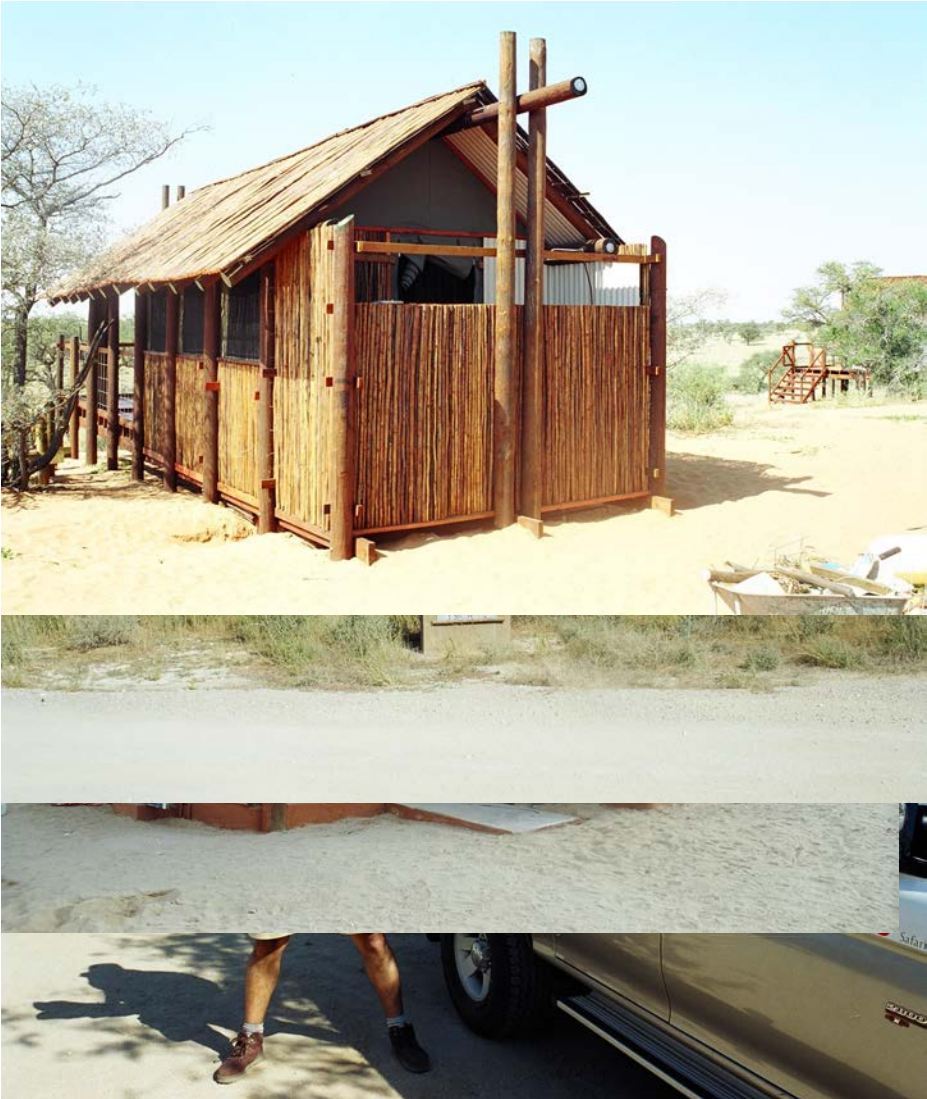
Hydrology & Local Wells



Tourism Standardization



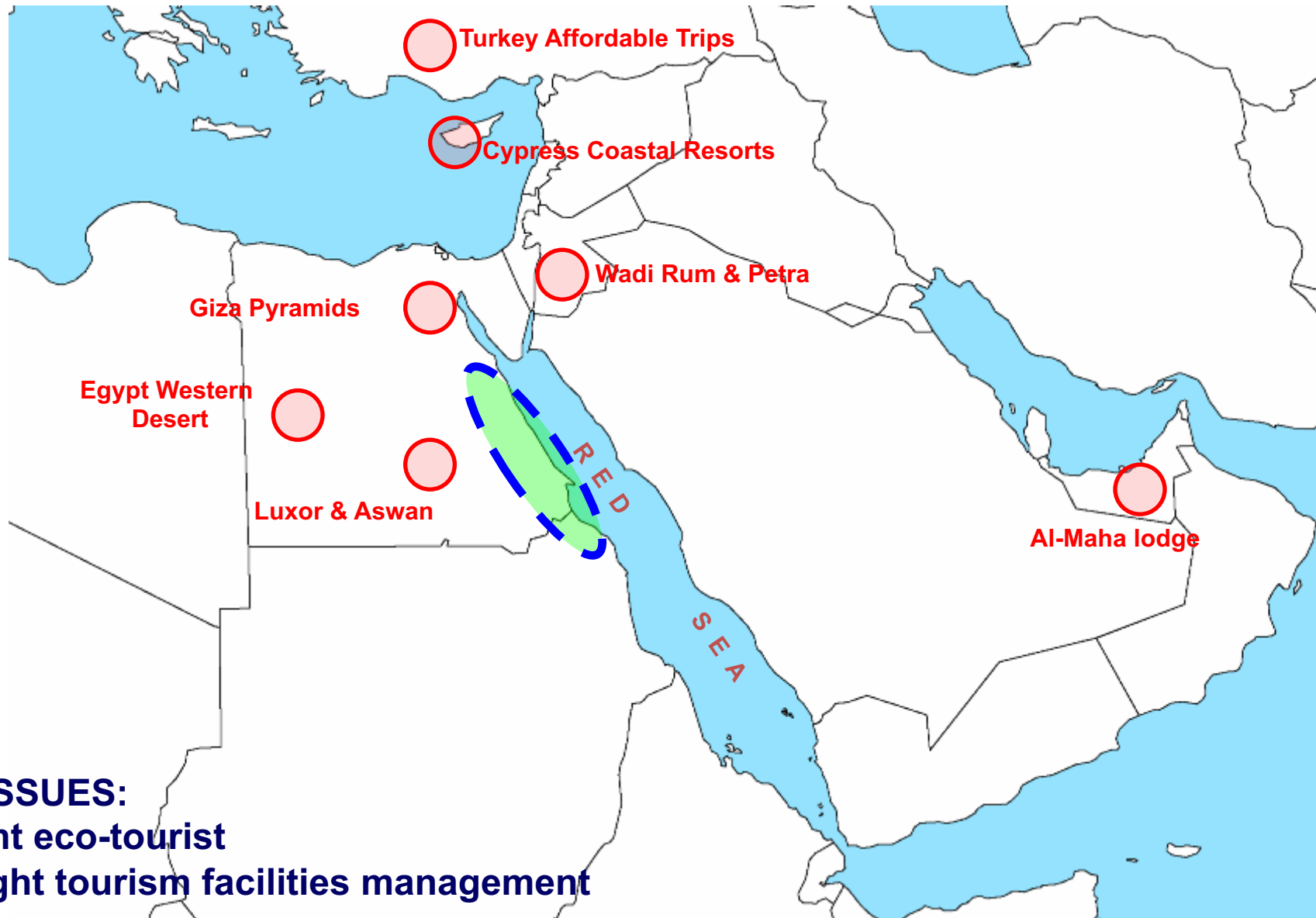
Influenced By Irrelevant Architecture



Foundations of rocks and earth mortar



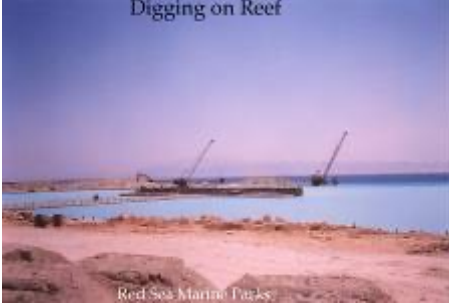
Near by Competition



MARKETING ISSUES:

- Invite the right eco-tourist
- Attract the right tourism facilities management

Lack of Monitoring & Patrolling

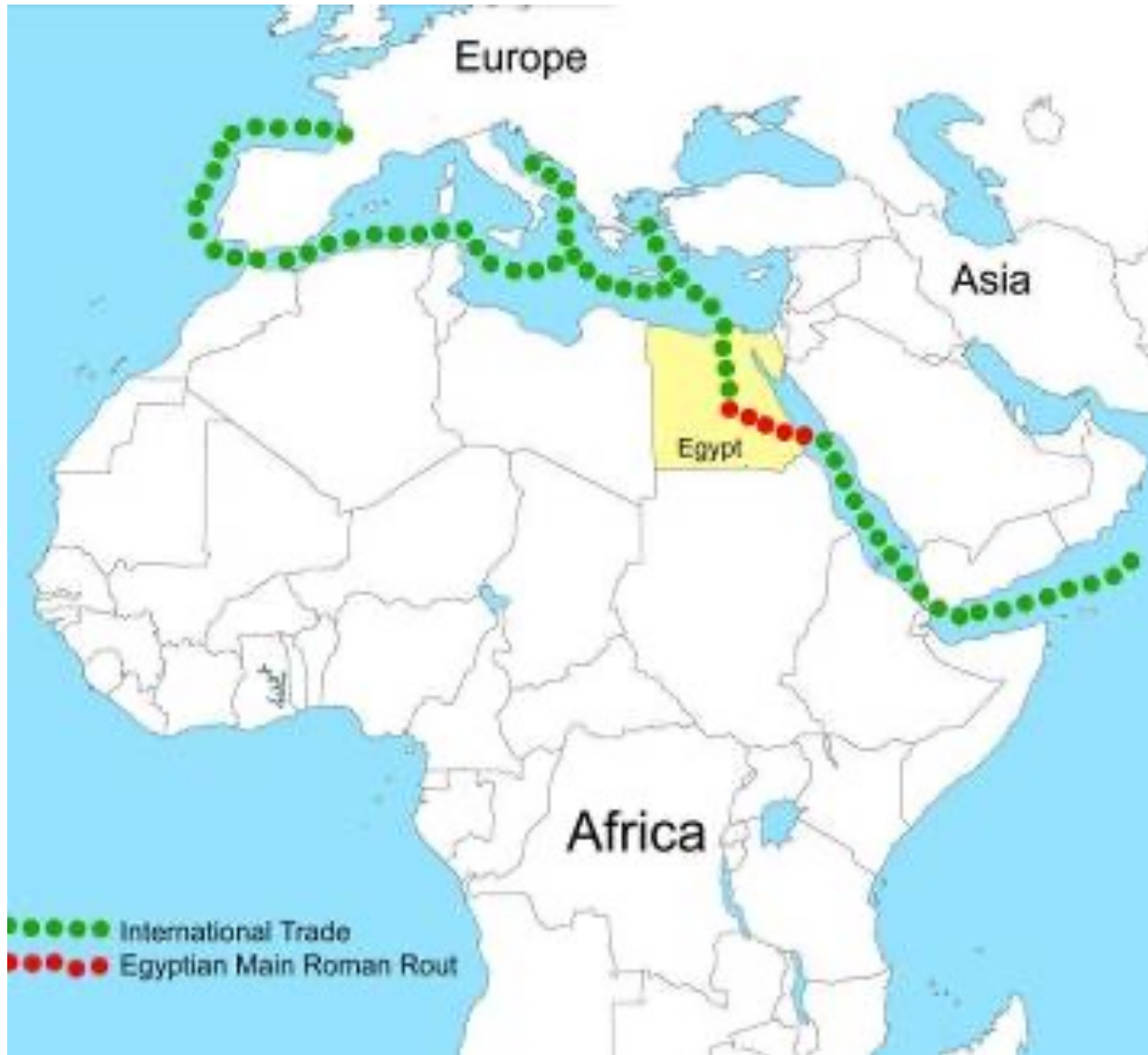


Part (III)

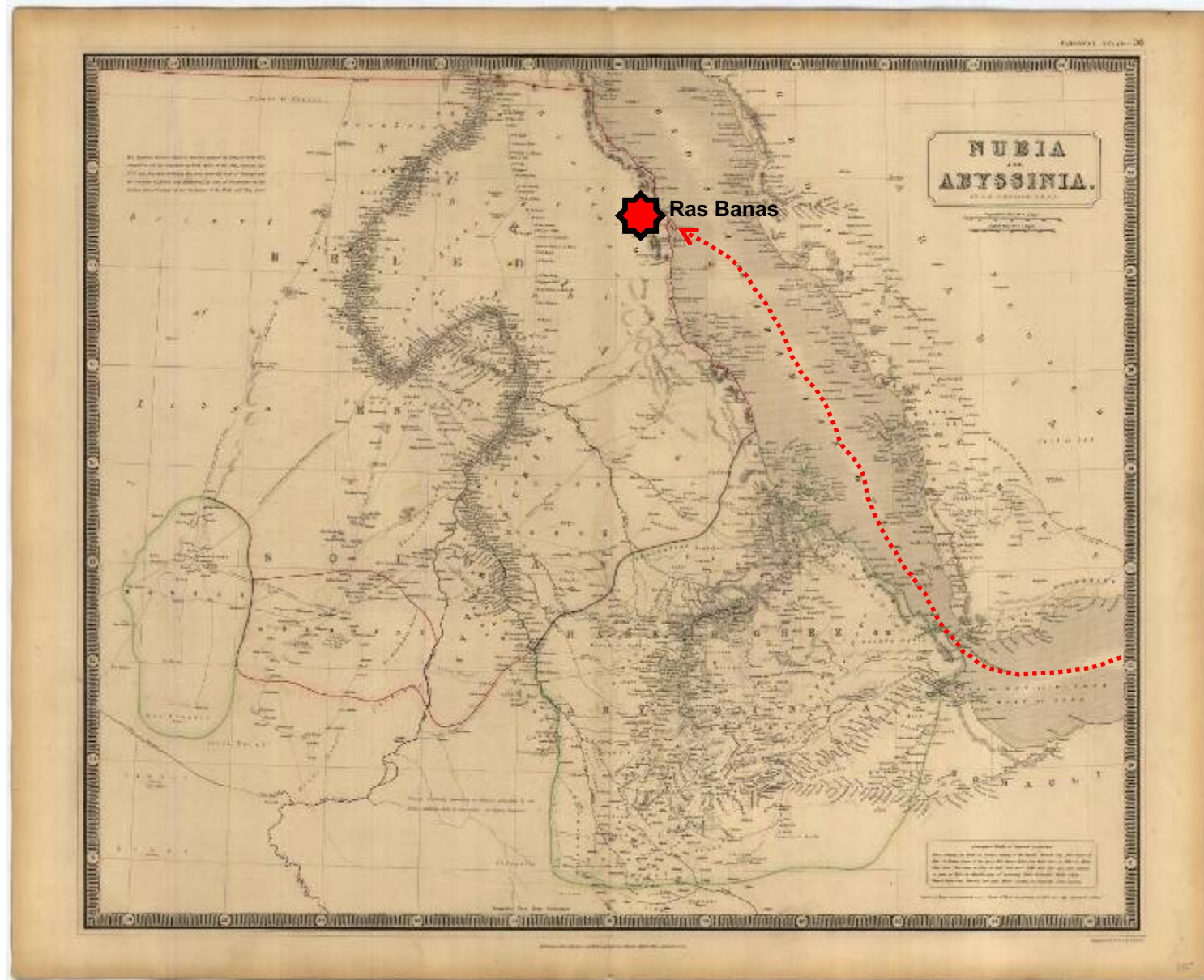
LANDSCAPE PLANNING STRATEGIES

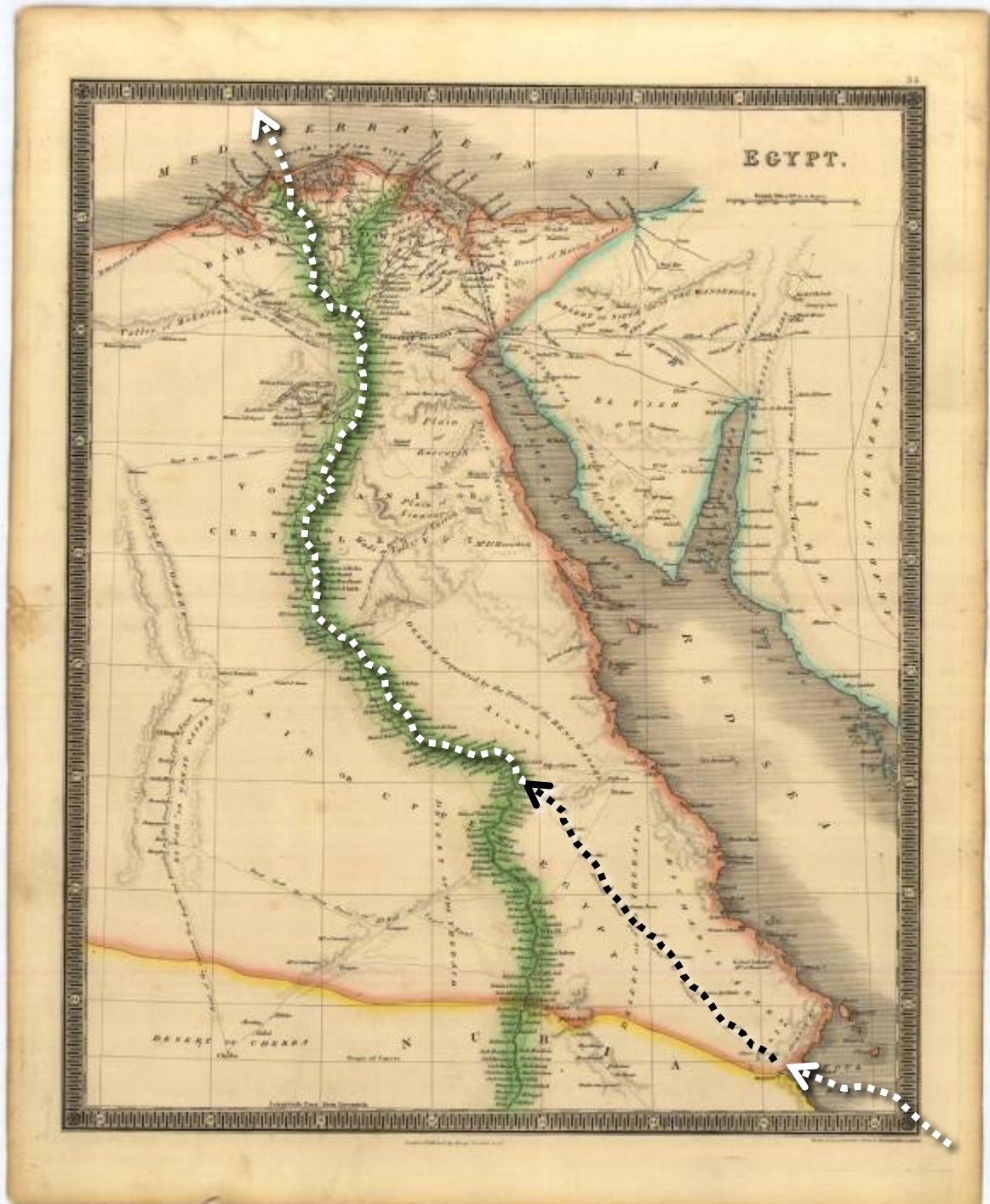
Along The Red Sea Region, Egypt

History & Background - (The Roman Empire)



History & Background - (The Roman Empire)





History & Background - (The Early Muslim Times)



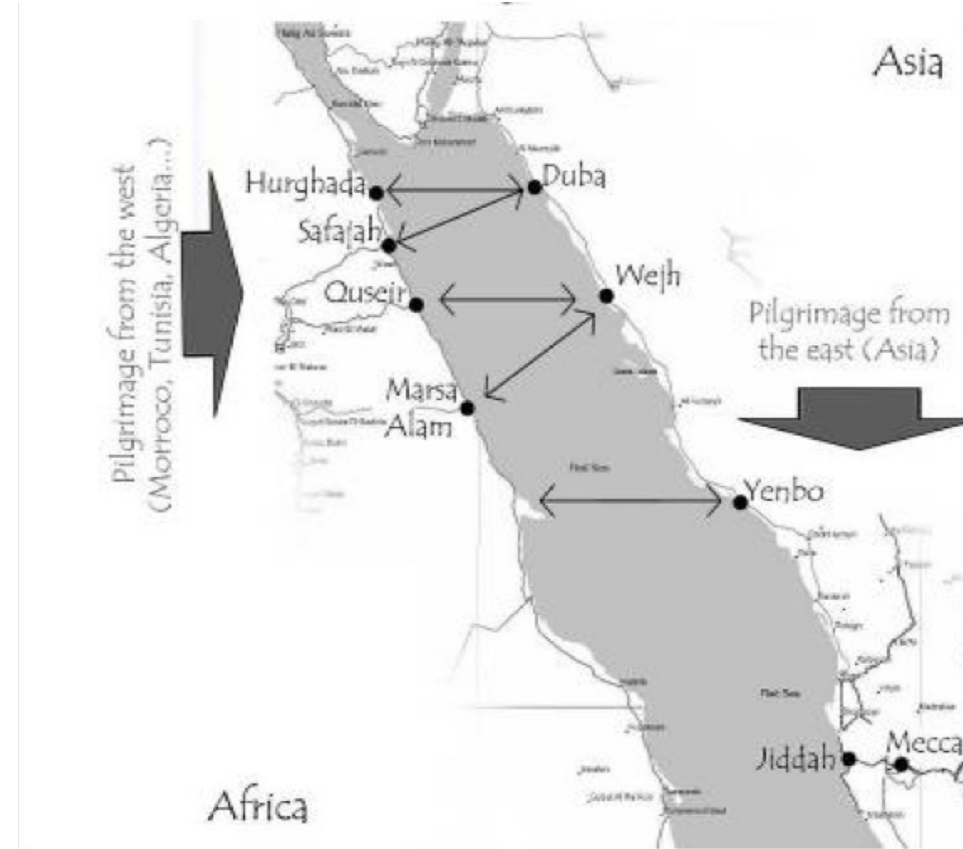
Sheikh Salem



Sheikha Amira



Sheikh Shazli



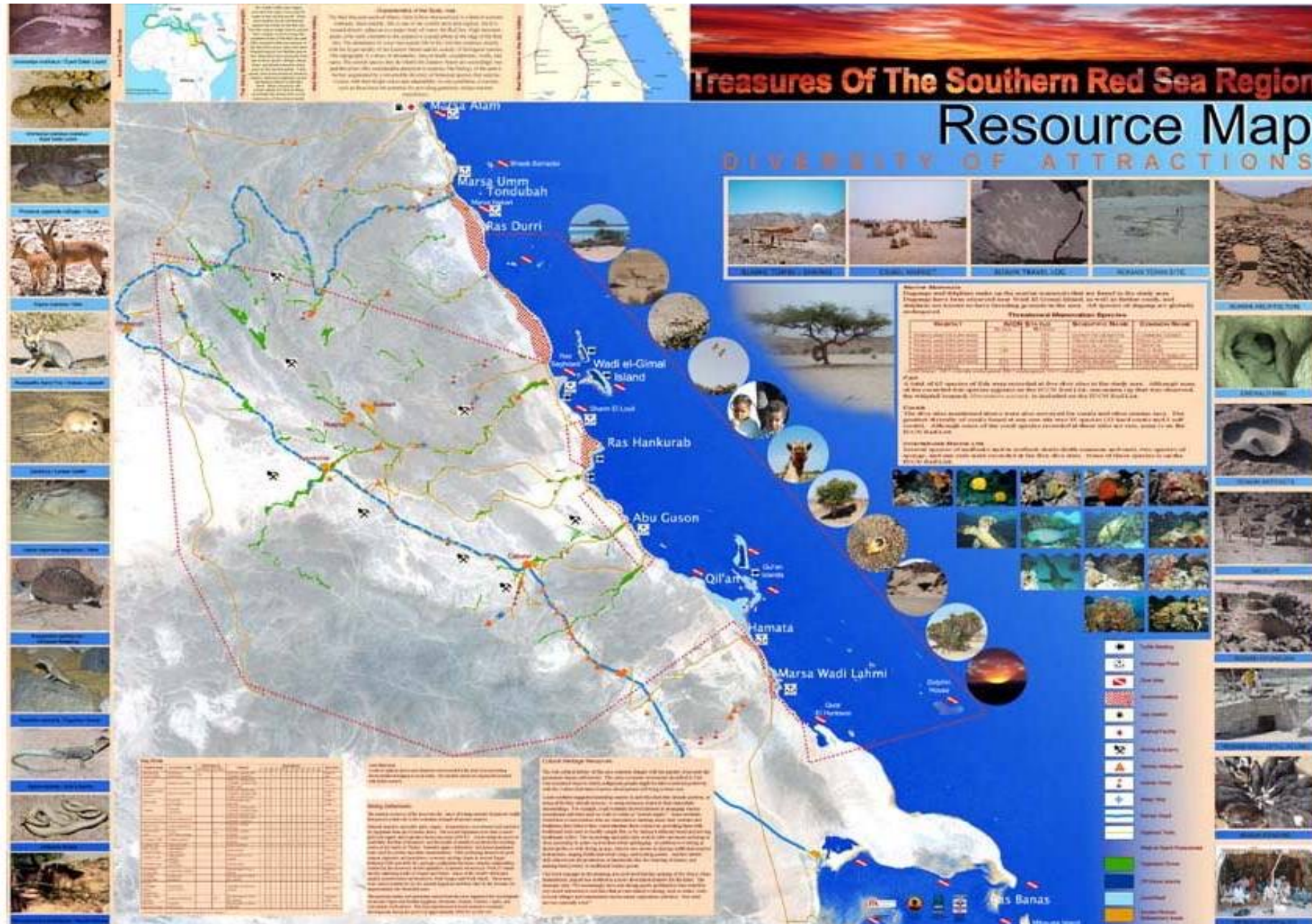
Ecological Landscape



Cultural Landscape

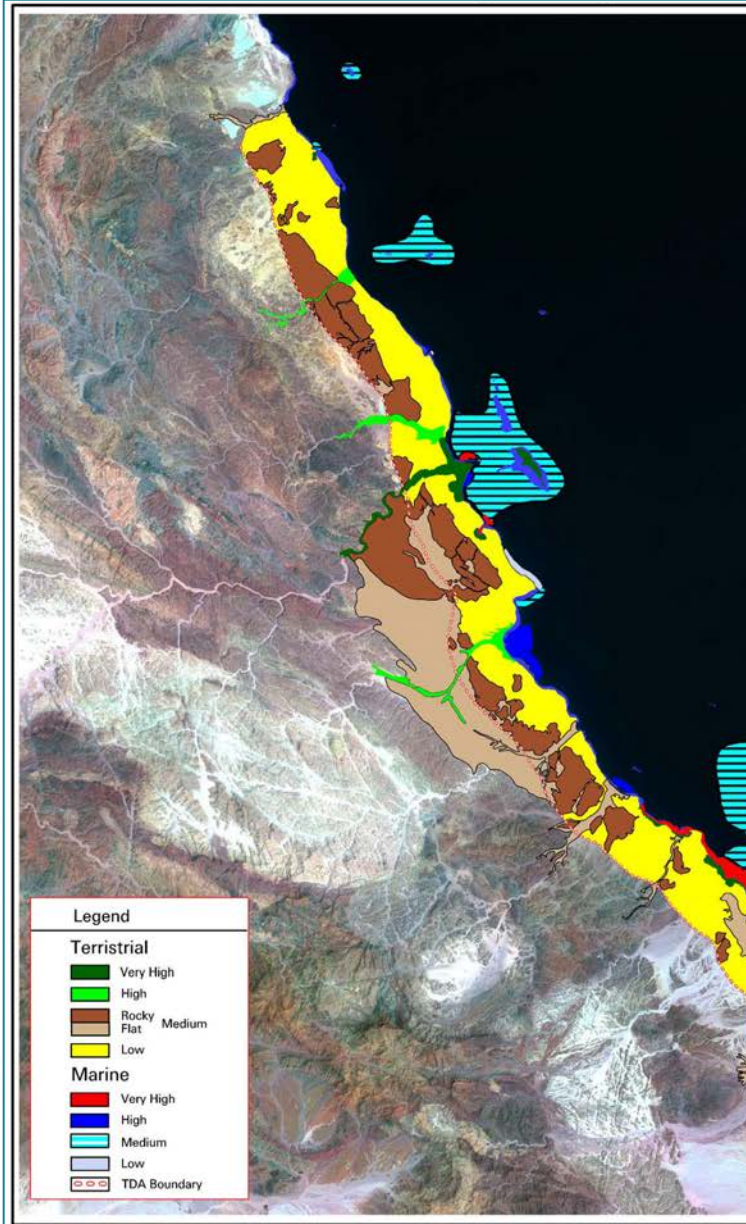


Resources Map – Wadi el-Gimal Park

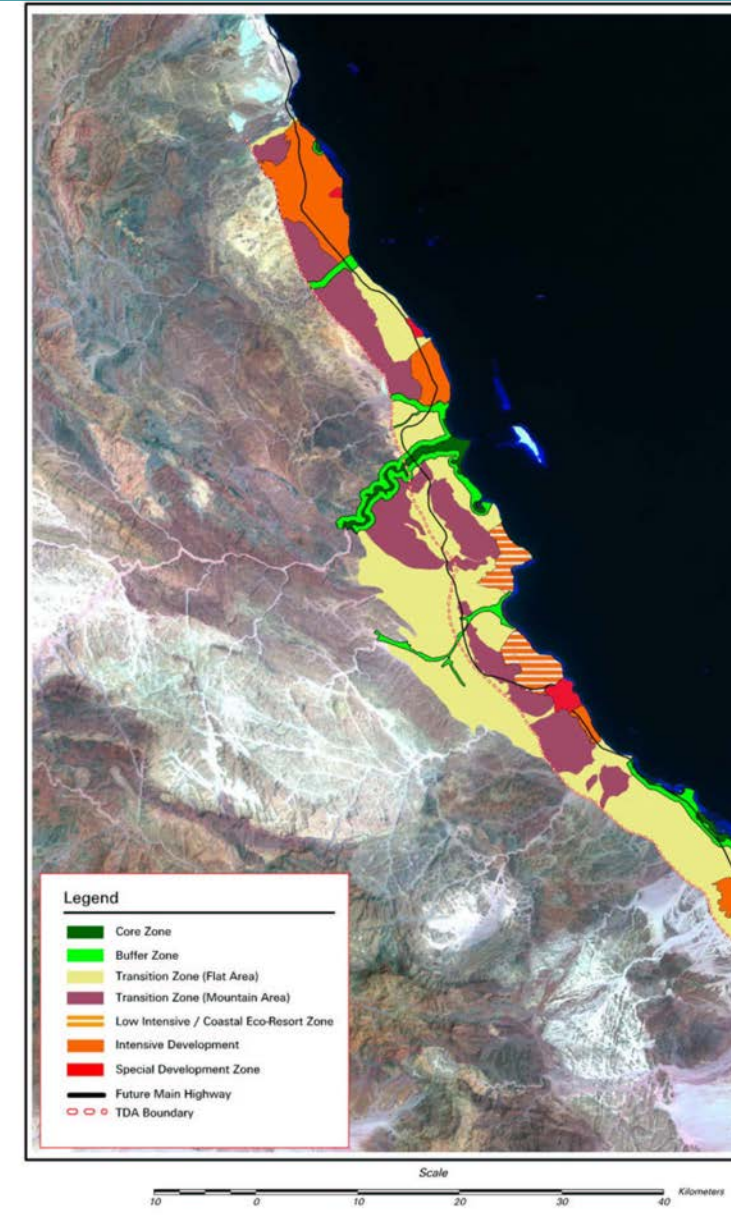


Land Suitability Maps

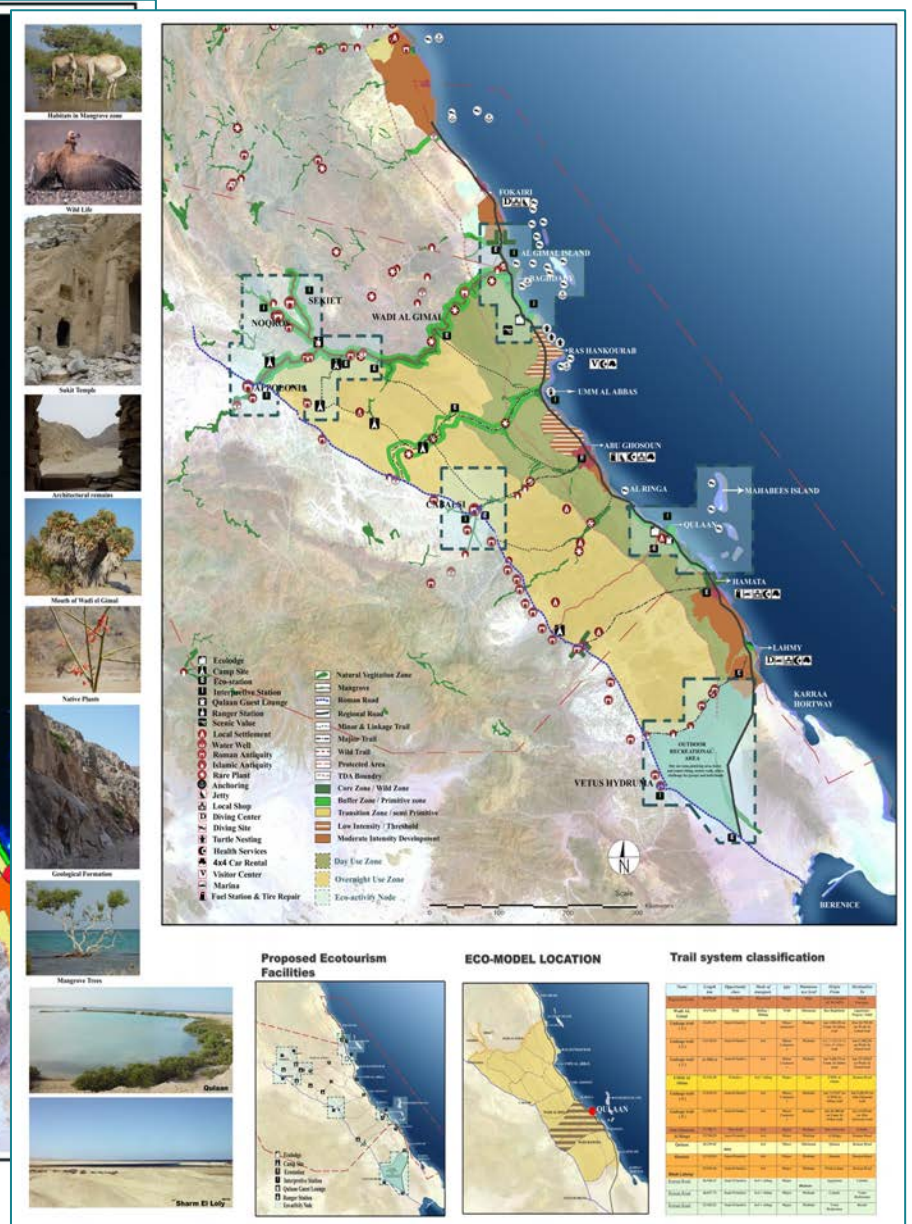
1- Environmental Sensitivity



2- Land Use Management Plan

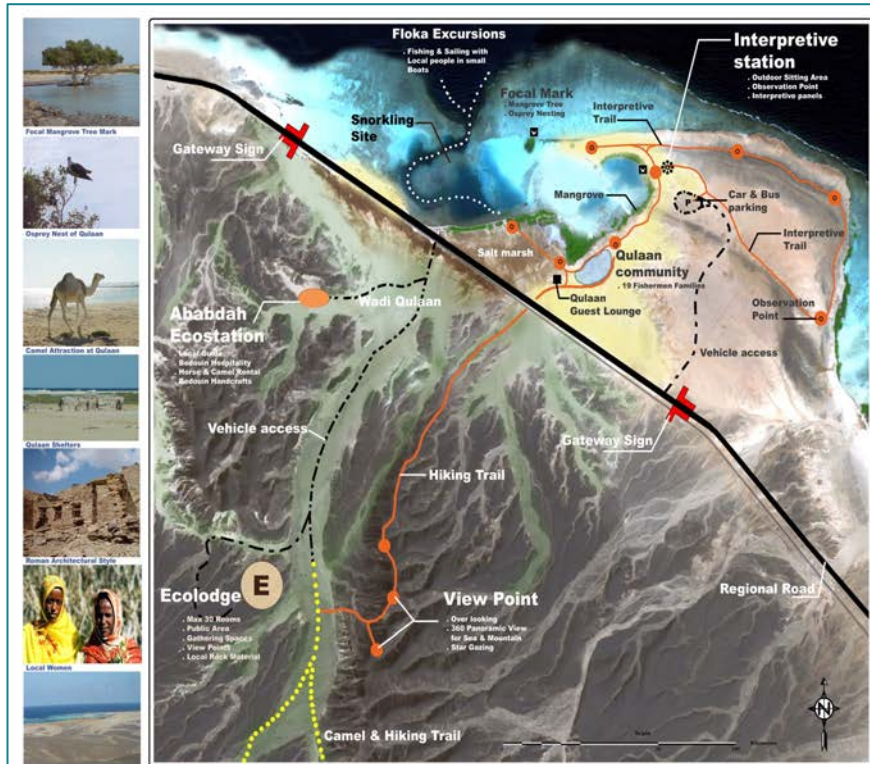


3- Ecotourism Development Plan



Ecotourism & Eco-lodge

4- Eco-model

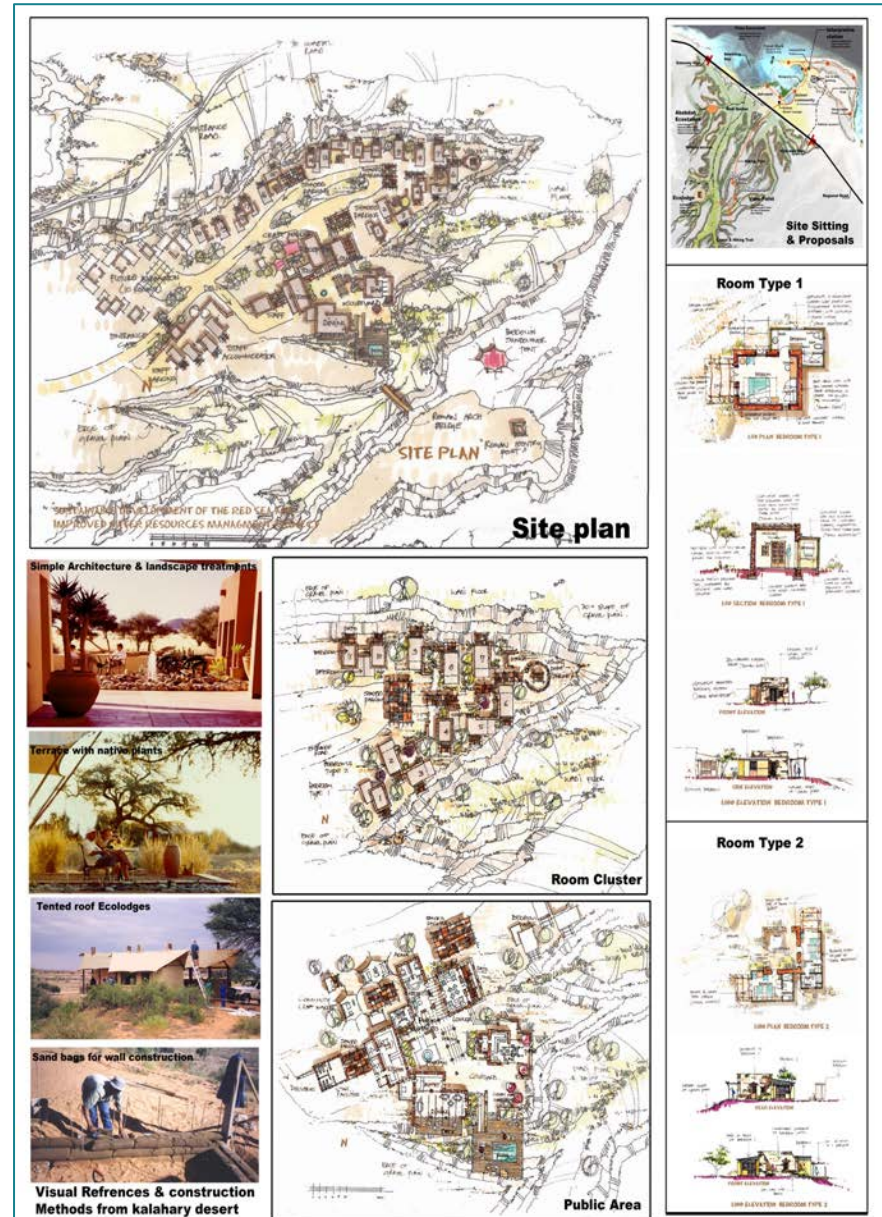


QULAAN SITTINGS & SITE PROPOSALS



QULAAN ECOMODEL ZONE

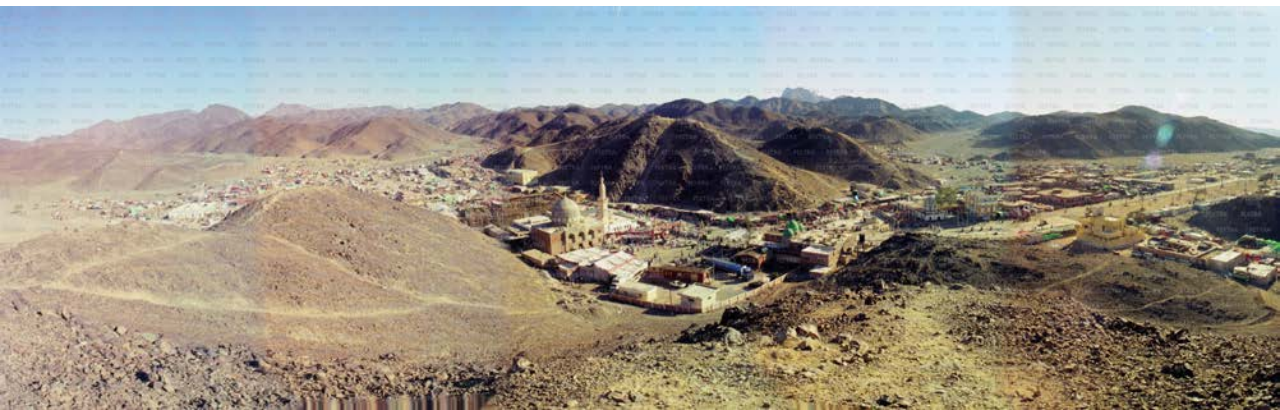
5- Ecologe Design



Planning with the Local Community



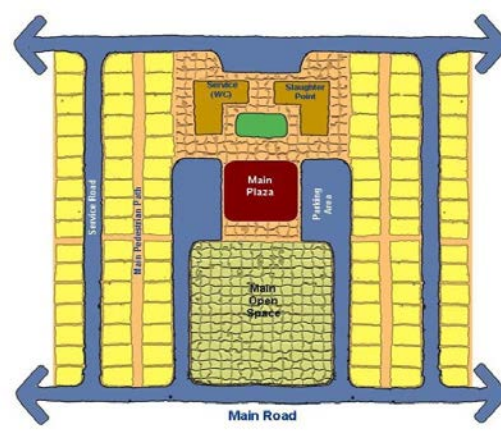
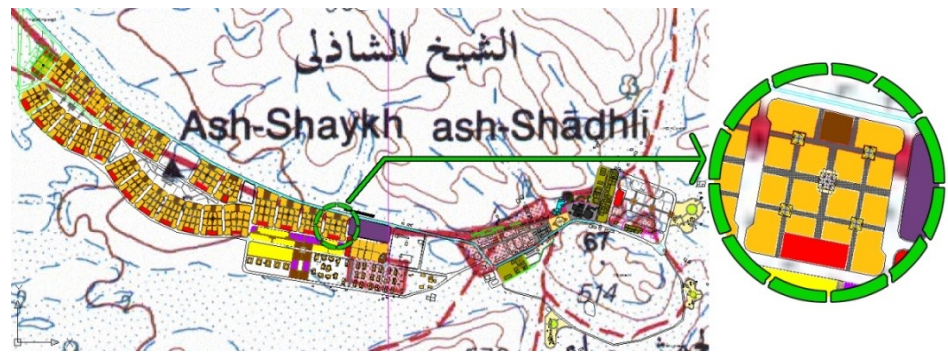
Considering the Local Community



Different Sufi sects: Building Guest Houses



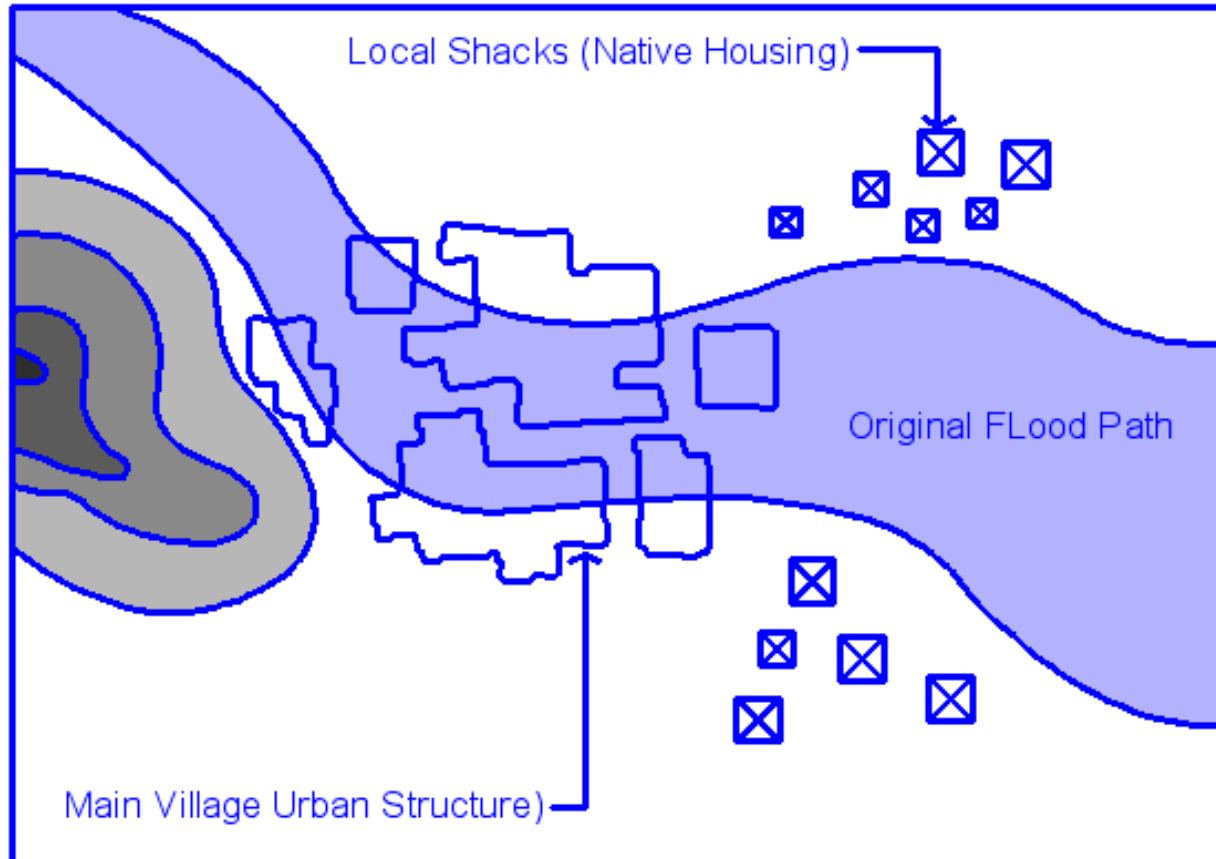
Landscape master planning



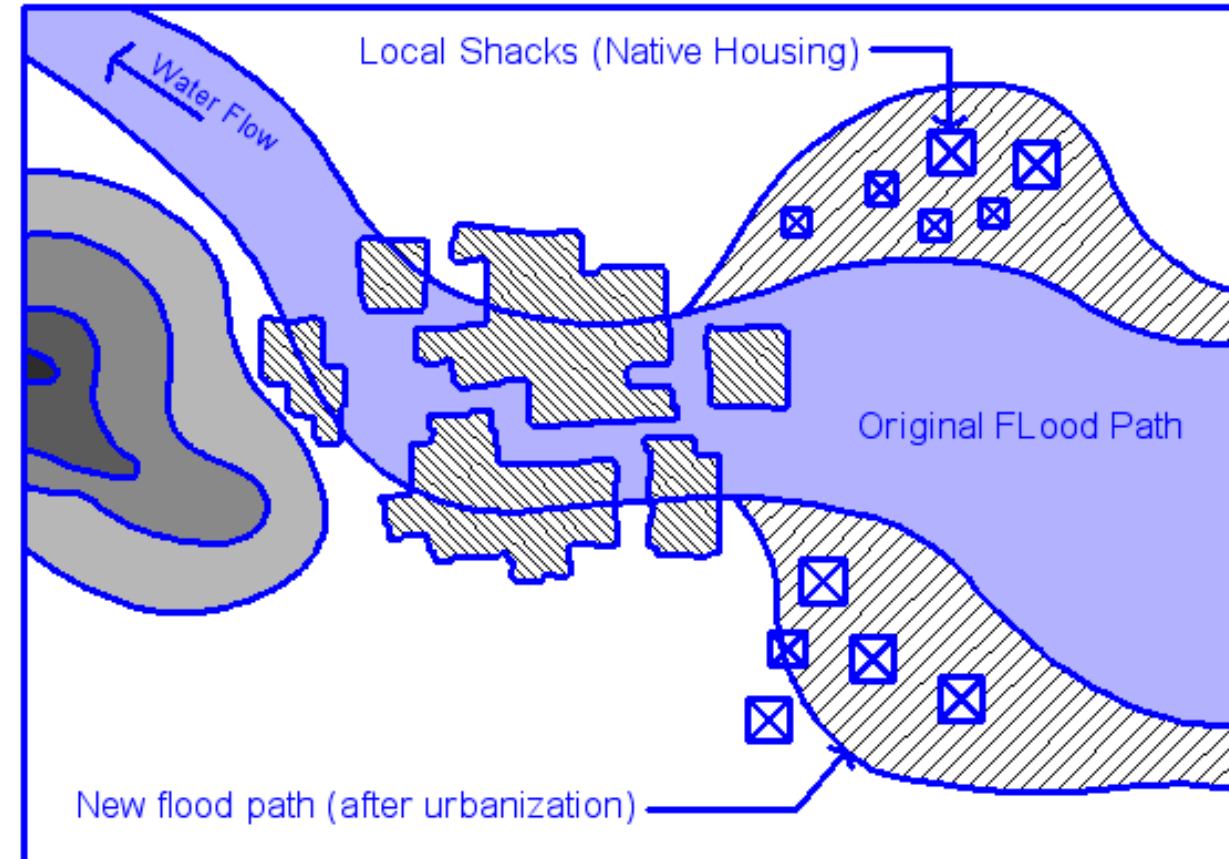
Understanding the Natural Landscape



Compatibility with Natural Landscape

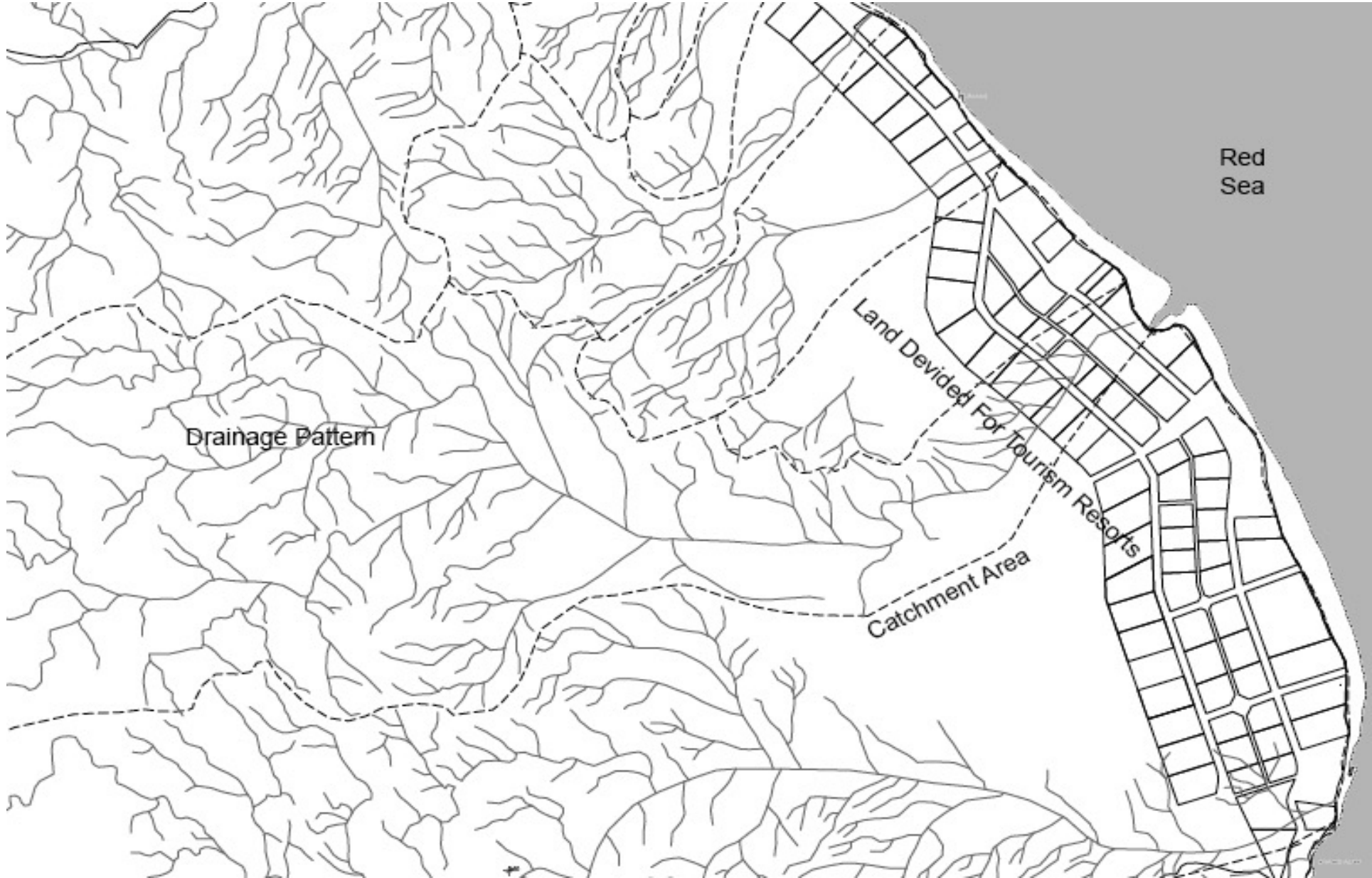


Original flood path before the town is highly urbanized

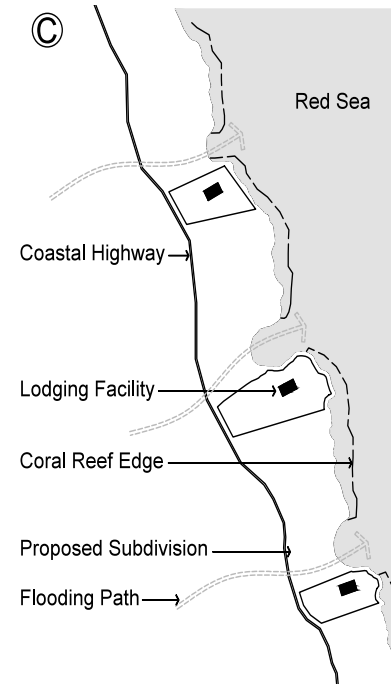
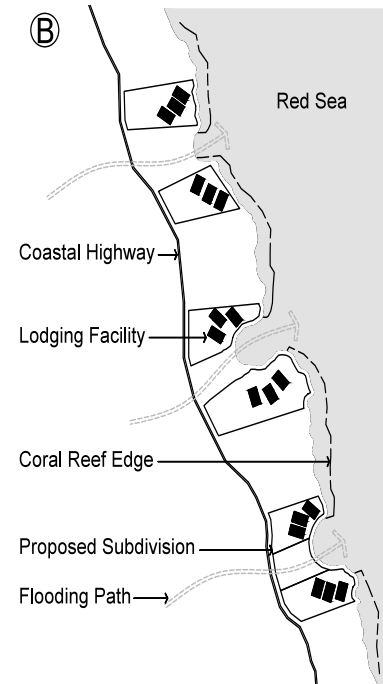
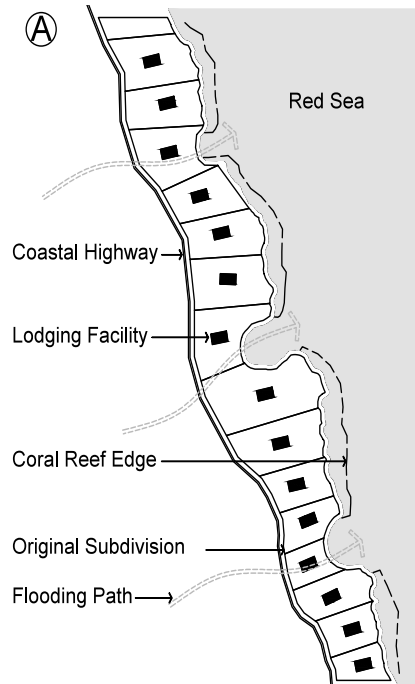


Flood path after increased urbanization of the town

Land Subdivisions Alternatives



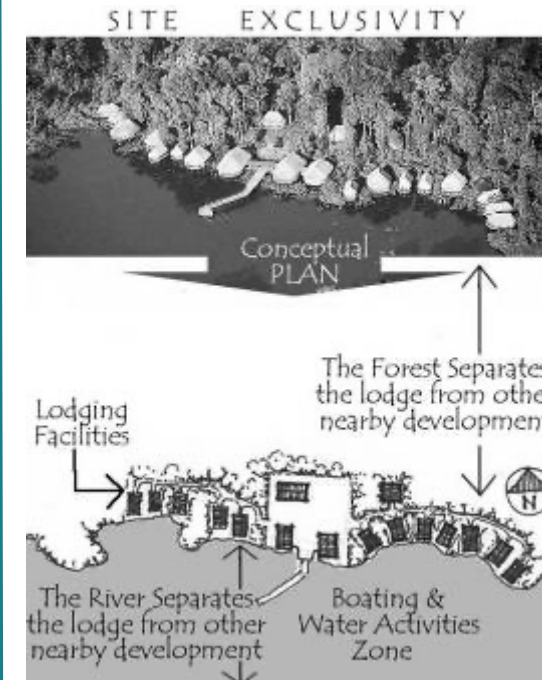
Land Subdivisions Alternatives



- more infrastructure,
- minimize public view of the sea,
- minimise monitoring
- limit control over the marine activities

- guarantee better management,
- More and beneficial environmental monitoring,
- exclusivity
- more sustainability for the existing resources

Why not moving to this pattern if economically feasible, and better to the environment?

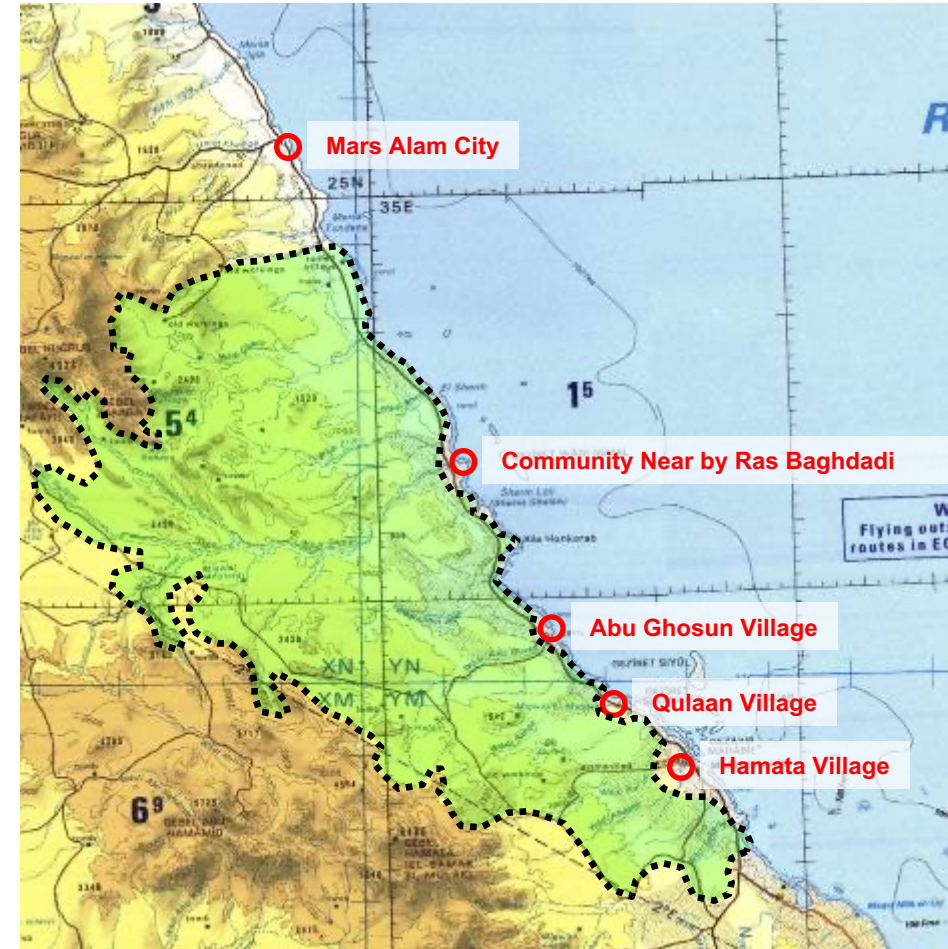


KAPAWI LODGE (Ecuador)

- low density,
- Site exclusivity,
- Separation from nearby traditional development,
- Nearby the attractions and environmental resources to minimize movement

Land Subdivisions Alternatives

- **Involving the developer from the beginning**
- **Local governorates in the region should play a role in the planning process**
- **Define the region naturally then politically**
- **Importing the right expertise**
It is a big plus when the planner is an-eco tourist
- **Make the region attractive for investors and the local residents:**
 - for the investor by: stabilizing the rules of the investment packages provided and also make them clear easy to implement
 - for the local residents by: involving them in the process, consider them as part of the plan, increase their benefits, attract them to the stay within the developed strategy and increase their interest in their region



Local Architecture



Alexandria
University



Cairo
University



Ain
Shams...



Assiut
University



Helwan
University



Al-Azhar
University



Mansoura
University



British
Universi...



German
Universi..



German
Universi...
Cairo, Ne...



Arab
Academ...
Alexandria



Al-Fayyum
University
Al Fayyum



Misr
Internati...
Cairo



University
of Tanta
Tanta



Canadian
Internati...
Cairo, Ne...



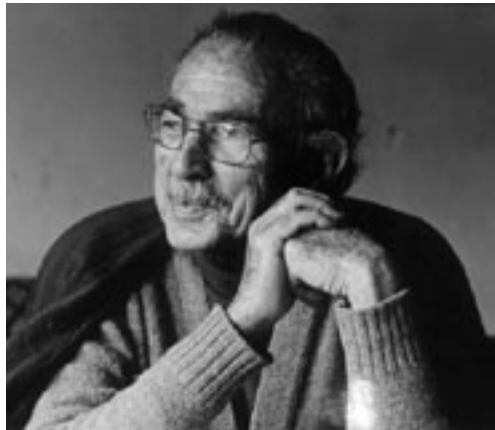
Zagazig
University
Zagazig



Misr
Universi...
6th of Oct...



Future
Universi..
Cairo, Ne...



“Hassan Fathy” Pioneered because he focused on the process – copying his product in other different regions is not the right solutions

Learning from Existing Building



Best way to resolve this issue is the comprehensive involvement & integration of the local people as an asset in the ecotourism planning process.

References

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Thank You

Open For Discussions, Questions, Comments,
Reflections and More



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