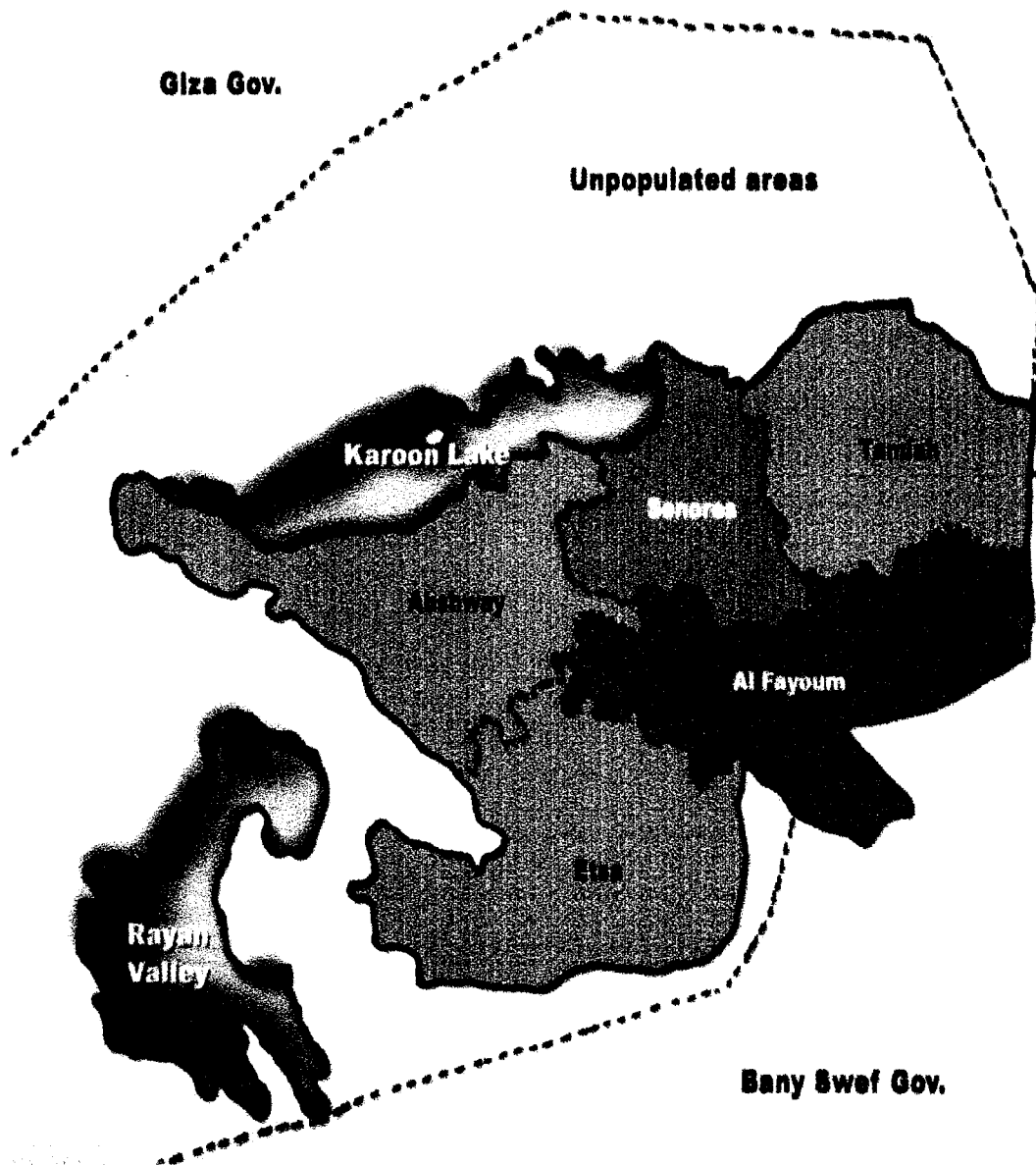


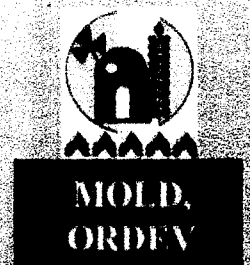
Fayoum

Human Development Report

2003



Egypt



About the Report

Why is the report issued?

The focus of Human Development Reports "HDR, is to examine the current status of human development in the intended country or region.

The Global or Regional Human Development Report therefore reveals the human development achievements every country has realized separately. It shows development gaps and disparities among different countries. Specifically, it shows the ranking of a given country compared to other countries in the world or the region in terms of what these countries, whether advanced or least developed, have achieved for their people. This definitely helps to direct international aid and assistance to the least developed countries, and to draw the attention of ruling regimes of different countries to the feasibility of the results of their development policies and methodologies for the advancement, well-being and prosperity of their people.

Similarly, the National Human Development Report (NHDR) shows human development achievements every governorate has realized separately. It sheds light on the development gaps and disparities among different governorates, and the position of a given governorate in the general ranking. In this context, it shows the achievements of both advanced governorates as well as the least developed governorates for their people. Again, this will definitely help decision-making concerning sharing national resources among the different governorates based on fair and objective standards.

Moreover, HDR at the local "governorate" level will address the human development progress achieved in every village, district ("markaz") or city within the governorate. It will show the development gaps and disparities among villages, markazes and cities within the same governorate. Similarly, it shows the ranking of every village compared to other villages of the governorate, and their respective human development achievements for their people. Again, this will help to

direct the available resources among the different villages and cities based on their HDI ranking.

Development disparities and gaps among countries are a function of their natural resources and wealth as well as their political system and economic power, in addition to their abilities in international negotiations to maintain their interests.

When interpreting development gaps among governorates in the same country, the previous interpretation, which is based on disparities of natural resources and wealth, can be applied since there are real differences among these governorates. However, we cannot rely on this interpretation in terms of the political and economic influences of advanced governorates or on the fact that they can impose their own conditions on other weaker governorates. This is simply because this authority is, first and foremost, exercised by the stronger central authority, which is responsible for distributing the country's sovereign resources, and is able legislatively and institutionally to interfere to balance the available resources among the population of the different governorates, unless this central authority fails justly to exercise its role, and favors one governorate or certain governorates over others.

Nevertheless, this interpretation, which is based on disparities of natural resources and wealth, cannot be applied when interpreting the development gaps and disparities among different villages within the same governorate, since it is difficult to identify real differences in terms of natural resources among the neighboring villages in the governorate. However, if the HDI findings show apparent disparities or wide gaps among villages of the same markaz in a

This local HDR reveals the existing development gaps and disparities between the villages, towns, and cities of the governorate, and helps direct resources with equality

The central authority is responsible for balancing public investment distribution among the different governorates

Development gaps between the villages of the same governorate show the need to redistribute efforts and resources to restore equality

given governorate, this means that the local administration policies pertaining to resources distribution among the villages under its control, require review and reconsideration to restore equality. Since the central authority may not allow the local authority to exercise full control over the allocated resources, it will always maintain an influential and stronger role. The dominant intervention of central government policies and initiatives must be reviewed to ensure disparities and development gaps do not continue.

Thus, the local HDR, at the governorate level, is considered a guiding tool that helps local and central authorities identify the results of their local development administration practices, establish local development policies and fairly distribute the local resources based upon objective and just standards that facilitate achievement of the human development goals.

Preparation of the Report:

Since 1990, there have been successive international annual reports published by UNDP that monitor human development achievements accomplished throughout the world. These reports have helped identify the development gaps and disparities among different countries, based on standardized human development index "HDI" applied on all countries to measure the achieved human development. The HDI consists of three sub-indices of health, education and income. However, since this index does not include all human development components, supplementary indices addressing a greater number of relevant human development elements are added.

Egypt has been one of the pioneering countries in the world to start publishing its annual NHDR since 1994. The NHDR covers all governorates of Egypt, and includes three main human development indices, in addition to supplementary indices. Therefore, this national report has played a substantial role in identifying the development gaps and disparities among different governorates of the country, and rural and urban areas, and has helped the authorities to reconsider national

policies and resources allocation to achieve human development goals.

Moreover, there have been continuous attempts, after the publication of the 2nd NHDR in 1996, to expand the human development measurement to address all districts ("markaz"), cities, boroughs ("hai") and villages. These attempts only succeeded in 2002, when the national report published by the Institute for National Planning included, for the first time, human development indices at the governorate and markaz levels (27 governorates + 179 markazes); however, it did not include villages.

Realizing the importance of applying the HDI and its supplementary indices in all villages, markazes and cities in Egypt, the Ministry of Local Development approved the initiative made by the Organization for Reconstruction and Development of Egyptian Village (ORDEV) to assume responsibility for preparing a local Human Development Report for every governorate in cooperation with UNDP. This report addresses in detail the human development status in all villages, cities and markaz of each governorate.

A close look at the nature and efficiency of the available data on municipalities and villages in particular shows that applying HDI and its supplementary indices on villages, markaz and cities is a very difficult venture and thorny scientific challenge. This process, as a matter of fact, requires availability of up-to-date and detailed data on every village, markaz and city of the governorate in order properly and scientifically to apply these indices.

Indeed, many have advised us against the risk of this scientific venture, warning that many substantial impediments would confront the preparation of this local report, which would cover all villages, cities and markaz of Egyptian governorates. In fact, some recommended that the report should be confined to one governorate only with a limited number of villages as a demonstration.

However, the political leadership brought this argument to an end, when

The HDR focuses for the first time on the satellite villages

the Prime Minister approved the recommendation of the Minister of Local Development that ORDEV, with technical support from UNDP, within the framework of EGY/00/02" project, would assume responsibility for preparing detailed human development reports for an initial six governorates, covering human development at the village, markaz, city levels. The ORDEV later added another governorate, based on its own resources.

Taking into consideration the geographical representation of all regions of Egypt, the following governorates were selected: Alexandria, Kafr El-Sheik, Menoufia, Sharkia, Qalyobia, Fayoum and Assyout. It is worth mentioning that these governorates comprise approximately one third of the total number of villages and cities of Egypt. Accordingly, it was agreed to prepare a total of seven HDRs, one for each of the seven selected governorates.

The seven reports were prepared under the responsibility and coordination of the director of ORDEV, as the lead author and coordinator, in his scientific capacity as a university professor.

To ensure decentralization and a locally-specific approach in preparing the local report, seven scientific teams were formed to prepare the seven reports. Every local team included experts and professors from the regional university, which is co-located within the geographical reach of the governorate, supported by a central team. These eight teams included a total number of 57 experts and professors, who diligently and consistently worked at the same time at eight different locations.

Difficulties of Preparing the Report:

After nine months of hard work (January – September 2002), the team managed to overcome many challenges and obstacles during the preparation of the seven local reports.

One of the most difficult obstacles was that the population data at the village and city level, which is critical for the HDI, is published every 10 years by the Central Agency for Population Mobilization and Statistics

"CAPMAS", in the public census. As the last census was carried out in 1996, it was not logical to use this data in the preparation of a Human Development Report published after six years full of changes. It was necessary to prepare detailed estimates in 2001 for all relevant villages, cities and districts ("markaz"), based on the results of the 1996 public census.

Tremendous efforts, therefore, were exerted to accomplish this difficult objective, since there have been numerous administrative changes in the boundaries of these villages and cities in every governorate, compared to their status during the census of 1996. For example, many hamlets ("ezbah", "kafr" and "nag") have been administratively changed into villages, or villages into village local units, or village local units into cities. Moreover, borders of some governorates were changed to include locations of other governorates, making the mission of completing these "estimates" based on 1996 census data very difficult.

Again, the team could not reach a final consensus with the incumbent authorities on determining the numbers and names of the villages in every governorate until early in 2002. More importantly, the team continued its endeavors with the incumbent authorities to conclude a final agreement on the number and names of satellite hamlets ("ezbah", "kafr" and "nag") of every village, resulting in huge problems for determining the data of every village separately (including its satellites).

Furthermore, the data derived from the information maps prepared by ORDEV was updated in 2000, and the "Description of Egypt" document, prepared by the Information and Decision Support Center (IDSC) in cooperation with the (previous) Ministry of Local Administration, was mostly related to local village units, and addressed in less detail the satellite villages, although the satellite villages were the main target of this local report. All relevant governorates presented the same problem regarding the data available, making the team's job more difficult. In terms of human development element data sources, it was noticed that these sources are spread out across many ministries,

The Prime Minister approved the recommendation of the Minister of Local Development that ORDEV, with technical support from UNDP, prepare detailed human development reports for an initial six governorates, at the village, markaz and city levels

Seven reports have been prepared for seven governorates, which include one third of Egypt's villages

Numerous modifications in the administrative boundaries of the villages and cities made it very difficult to use these estimates

57 experts in eight teams worked consistently and simultaneously together in preparing the seven reports

authorities and agencies. That created additional problems for the preparation team and called for strenuous efforts to obtain approval to give out this data. More surprisingly, it was noteworthy that this data was collected and processed, in most cases, to meet the needs and requirements of these ministries and authorities, and not necessarily the needs and requirements of the human development report. It was necessary, therefore, to rearrange this data, through diligent and hard processes, in order to meet the reports' needs and requirements.

It was hoped that the preparation team would obtain adequate data to help compare the human development results achieved in 2001, with a previous base year. Nonetheless, due to the difficulties associated with obtaining current and up-to-date data, the team's efforts were exhausted and it did not have enough time to collect older base data for comparison. This report could be used therefore for such comparison in the future. Coordination among the large scientific team members (57 experts) was not an easy task either, in terms of content and timing, as they were spread out across eight different geographical locations, and working in this report as part-timers, in addition to carrying out their main job responsibilities in their capacity as university professors.

It is worth mentioning that the first NHDR published in 1994 required approximately two full years of preparation and was prepared at the governorate level (27 administrative units), without addressing the markaz, villages and cities of the governorates. This local HDR, however, addresses the markaz, cities, hai and villages of seven governorates, with a total of 2000 administrative units in less than nine months.

Additionally, the preparation of these seven reports went through a diligent and difficult process of reviewing and editing for over five months (October 2002-February 2003), as the local teams exchanged the first drafts of the report for review and comment and, based on their feedback, modifications were made. The second draft was then presented to a group of independent readers who, in turn, expressed further

comments, requiring further changes. The third draft of the report was then presented to the incumbent governors to voice their opinions and further changes were made. The fourth draft was finally presented to the UNDP office, which generated additional changes. Finally, a fifth draft was presented to the Minister of Local Development, and the seven reports went into printing phase.

As a result of these difficulties faced during the preparation process, it is important to acknowledge that this local report at the governorate level should be considered as an initial attempt to be followed in the near future by other improved reports.

Remarks on the Methodology:

It is difficult to claim that there has been a complete consensus on the components of the human development concept, as there are various viewpoints. The most common viewpoint in this respect is based on the series of HDR published by UNDP, which measures specific human development components, including health, knowledge/education and income status of the population. These three components make up the Human Development Index "HDI", which is used to rank the different countries and regions. Supplementary indices were later introduced, but are not directly used in the calculation of the HDI.

Considering this local report a continuation of the HDR series at the global and national levels and a preliminary attempt to prepare a HDR at the local level, it has been decided that following the methodology, indices and measurements of global and NHDR would be more convenient and appropriate for preparing the first local report, with two main reservations:

First Reservation:

The first reservation is related to the needs of applying the HDI and its traditional indices at the village level, although the available data is insufficient for adequate measuring. Preference was given to using the available or potential data in the future, rather than relying on large-scale "estimates". That will help

Five successive phases to review the contents of the report

The current report is a first attempt that should be followed in the near future by improved attempts

enhance the powerful and scientific utilization of the indices and measurements.

Second Reservation:

The second reservation is related to the content and adequacy of the HDI and its indices, intended to fully reveal any human development improvement in terms of the quality of life of the targeted population, and their participation on making this improvement. It is important to expand and update the content of HDI and its supplementary indices, while addressing other essential development aspects that are not part of this content, such as the environmental conditions, knowledge accumulation, participation, scope and depth of freedom and justice and successes of sustainable development.

Toward Successive and Better Reports:

The report's authors are fully convinced that several improvements and positive modifications can be introduced to the content of the local HDR at the governorate level in its future editions.

This conviction is mainly due to the availability of a modern information infrastructure in Egypt, which is extended to cover all villages and districts ("markaz") over the country, through ensuring continuation of the "Local Development Information Centers Project", adopted by the government early in 2002. It is worth mentioning that this project employs around 30,000 full time data collectors who are spread out across the country, at a rate of five collectors per village, and 10 collectors per markaz and city. This process will provide up-to-date detailed and comprehensive data on all human development components at the local level. The project is considered a unique experiment and one of its kind all over the world.

Moreover, this conviction becomes even stronger as this local human development report allowed, within the available timetable, participation of all local community stakeholders and groups to discuss the contents of the

report during the preparation phase. This was achieved through holding "round table meetings" in all relevant markaz and governorates, as part of the "Partners in Local Development Project" in cooperation with ORDEV and UNDP, in which local community beneficiaries, representing official, natural, political and executive leaderships, private sector,

voluntary and cooperative sectors, media, academics, women and youth participated. The core discussion was on human development indices, development gaps and disparities, human development achievements, and their future visions to achieve these development goals. If this effective community participatory approach is allowed longer time in the coming years, the HDR, in itself, will be the focus of these visions of the community groups, allowing real contribution to the report preparation.

More importantly, there are numerous scientific viewpoints contributed by the report's team members, and views of national and international figures that were not utilized, calling for providing more comprehensive contents for the HDI and its supplementary indices.

Therefore, it is necessary to continue to prepare and publish the local HDR at the governorate level in coming years, and to cover all other governorates. It is equally important during this process to keep up the relationship with the Local Development Information Centers Project on one hand, to continue the "Partners in Local Development Project", and to maximize the use of accumulated scientific viewpoints in order to improve the human development indices and measurements on the other side.

In conclusion, in spite of the valuable contribution of this great number of experts at the local and national level in completing this report, the rich viewpoints of the governors, readers' group and UNDP office in Cairo, which are all reflected in the report, the report as a whole, including all information, analysis, measurements, results, opinions and recommendations, will remain the responsibility of the report's lead author and coordinator.

HDI content can be expanded and updated in the future with other indicators

This report follows traditional methodology in calculating the human development measurements and indices.

Preference was given to using available data, rather than relying on estimates

Effective preparation of future reports at the governorates level requires maintaining the relationship with the Local Development Information Centers Project, Partners in Local Development Project and improving the HD indices and measurements

The report's authors are responsible for its contents

Report Overview

Human Development (HD) is a process for expansion of people's choices to fulfill the dream of a better future.

The **Human Development Index (HDI)** value depends upon the sub-components related to health, education and income.

The report is aimed at examining the dual development reality of a developed urban environment and a rural setting attempting to catch up with it.

Fayoum governorate has six markazes, 160 villages and 1,883 'ezba' 'kafr' and 'nag'.

The local human development report at the governorate level is considered a detector which helps local and central authorities to explore the results of their practices in the management of local development, to develop their local development policies and to distribute their resources in the light of fair and objective criteria so as to facilitate the achievement of development goals.

Being aware of the important extension of human development measurement and indicators to villages, neighborhoods and cities, the Ministry of Local Development approved ORDEV's initiative to assume responsibility for preparing a local report on human development for each governorate, containing in detail the human development status in all villages, cities and neighborhoods of the governorate, in cooperation with the UNDP.

In order to achieve decentralization and localism in preparing the local report, a local team from the governorate was mobilized for this purpose and included experts and university professors whose work was supported by a central team. They work all together under the supervision of the head of the ORDEV, a university professor.

Chapter One dealt with the concept of human development regarded as a process for expansion of people's options in an attempt to fulfill the dream of a better future. It also tackled the applied measurement method in calculating the human development index in its three components (Health - Education - Income), and the complementary human development indicators as well. In addition, chapter one included an outlook at the national level, which explored the dual development reality of a developed urban environment and a rural setting attempting to catch up with.

Therefore, the report demonstrated certain development features in urban and rural areas, which reflect the quality of life, education, health, labor,

income and spending, energy, participation and management of the community. The report also showed the efforts exerted to bridge the development gap between urban and rural areas in the light of ten general future orientations stressing the concept of integrated development based upon popular participation within a proper legislative framework which deepens the decentralization concept. The main goal is to achieve integration of the efforts of the government, the private sector and the domestic sector.

Chapter Two dealt with the general characteristics and particular features of Fayoum Governorate, which is one of the governorates of the Northern Upper Egypt Province and is considered a smaller model of Egypt as a whole in its geographic nature and the numerous economic activities and sources of irrigation. Its agricultural production is diversified and covers the two types of agriculture applied in Upper and Lower Egypt.

Fayoum consists of six districts (Markaz) comprising six cities, 58 rural local units, 160 satellite villages, 1,883 hamlets, farms and settlements ('ezba', 'kafr' and 'nag').

The total surface area of Fayoum amounts to nearly 6,000 km². The agricultural lands amount to nearly 424 thousand feddans, most of which are of the 3rd and 4th grades. The main source of irrigation is the "Youssef (Joseph) Sea" lake, and drainage occurs primarily in the lakes of Karoon and Wadi Al Rayan.

Fish production amounts to nearly 12.8 thousand tonnes annually from different sources. Fayoum also contains farms for dairy products amounting to 143 thousand tonnes per year.

Some oil wells are located around Karoon and Wadi Al Rayan lakes and produce about 3,000 barrels daily. The reserves amount to nearly 5.6 million barrels. The area also contains mineral

materials such as clay, basalt and limestone.

On the other hand, the total financial resources of Fayoum governorate in 2002/2003 amount to about 728 million LE, including government and Shorouk investments and the loans from the Local Development Fund, as well as the urgent plan loans and foreign grants.

The total population reached about 2.24 million in 2001, of whom 78% were living in rural areas and working in agriculture. The industrial and trades and handicraft sector comprises only 4% of the labor force who work in industrial establishments and workshops in the different governorate areas, the industrial city in Kom Ochem and Qouta and the new Fayoum city. Their activities are mainly in food processing and manufacturing of thermal products, paper, metals and woods.

The state educational services include 743 schools at all educational levels, enrolling nearly 518,000 students, alongside the 20 private schools. The illiteracy rate in Fayoum is about 52%. The people targeted for illiteracy eradication were nearly 49,000 in 2001 in the age group of 10 years and above.

As for government health services, Fayoum contains a general hospital in Fayoum city and central and specialized hospitals. There are also 17 health groups, 108 healthcare units and 142 units for family planning in the rural areas. These health establishments comprise 1,962 treatment beds and 826 ministry of health physicians, assisted by 2,417 nurses.

For electricity supply, Fayoum Governorate relies on a hydraulic plant in Al Azab area at a total capacity of nearly 1.1 million kilowatts/hour per year to serve 400,000 subscribers for domestic and industrial use.

The governorate has 30 water plants at a total capacity of 124.5 million cubic meters per year. It contains 44 sewerage plants at a total capacity of 120,000 cubic meters daily to serve about 29% of the households. The road network connecting the different areas of the governorate has a total length of

1,665 kilometers, of which 251 kilometers are unpaved roads.

The communication services include about 154,000 lines, in addition to postal services including 85 post offices.

As for cultural, youth and social activities, the governorate contains 4 cultural houses, 203 youth centers, 71 social units, 340 NGOs, 201 nurseries and 45 NGOs for women.

Fayoum distinctions include Karoon and Wadi Al Rayan national parks, which contain several ancient and tourist sites, such as Gabal Katrani area, Batn Al Bakar, Al Karn Al Zahabi island, Wadi Al Hetan (valley of whales), the waterfall area, Oyoun Al Rayan, Gabal Al Rayan, Gabal Al Medawara and Karet Gahanam area.

Chapter Three sets out in detail the HDI and its components. The HDI value at the governorate level in 2001 was 0.599, up from 0.577 in 1998, which indicates a relative improvement in people's prosperity during this period. The HDI value in the governorate cities ranged between a low of 0.578 in Tamiah city and a high of 0.694 in Fayoum city.

The variation was larger at the village level. It ranged from a low of 0.522 in Al Gomhariah village, Tamiah markaz to a high of 0.636 in Manshaat Halfa village, Atsa markaz. At the markaz level, the highest HDI value of 0.627 was found in Fayoum city and markaz whereas Tamiah markaz had the lowest value of 0.565.

As for the health indicator, life expectancy at birth reached an average of 65.6 years at the governorate level in 2001, down from 67.4 years in 1998, which indicates a relative deterioration of the health services in the governorate. This indicator varied between a low of 62.9 years in Manshaat Doctor Al Gamal village, Tamiah markaz, and a high of 67.6 years in Manshaat Alwy village, Atsa markaz.

The measurement of the education indicator relied on the reading/writing ability rate among inhabitants aged 15 years and above and the percentage of enrolment in all educational levels. At

The state education system contains 743 schools at different levels, attended by almost 518,000 students and 20 private schools.

Some 49,000 people were targeted for illiteracy eradication in the governorate in 2002.

Fayoum has 108 healthcare units to serve the rural areas. The health system includes 826 ministry of health physicians and 2,417 medical assistants.

The main source of electrical energy in the governorate is the hydraulic plant in Al Azab area.

The HDI at the governorate level improved from 0.577 in 1998 to 0.599 in 2001.

Manshaat Halfa village, Atsa district, has the highest HDI value (0.636) and Al Gomhariah village, Tamiah markaz, has the lowest value (0.522).

The highest enrolment rate in all education phases is in Senores markaz (88.1%) and the lowest rate in Fayoum markaz (54.9%).

The labor force constitutes 30.6% of the total population in the governorate.

The highest GDP per capita (\$ 3,916.4) was found in Manshaat Kamal, Fayoum markaz, and the lowest (\$ 2,392) in Manshaat Oteifa, Senores district.

The unemployment rate is 7.4% of the labor force (15 years+) in the governorate.

The child mortality rate under the age of five years is 2.17% in the governorate.

The governorate has 782,000 illiterate people, representing about 34% of the total population aged 15 years or more.

the governorate level, this indicator was 0.536 in 2001 whereas it was 0.682 at the national level in the same year. At the markaz level, it ranged from a high of 0.809 in Fayoum city to a low of 0.600 in Fayoum markaz. It ranged in the different villages from a low of 12.4% in Al Sa'aidah Al Kebliyah village, Abshway markaz and a high of 68% in Al Azab village, Fayoum markaz.

The indicator of the enrolment rate in all educational levels in the governorate reached 65.4%, and it ranged from a low of 54.9 in Fayoum markaz to a high of 88.1% in Senores markaz. At the village level, the value of this indicator ranged from a high of 69.1% in Al Akhsas village, Senores markaz, to a low of 49.9% in Al A'lam village, Fayoum markaz.

As for the income indicator which was measured with GDP per capita (PPPS), it reached about \$3,301.8 at the governorate level in 2001, up from nearly \$2,875 in 1998. The average GDP per capita in the different cities ranged from a low of \$3,284.7 in Tamiah city to a high of \$4,071.8 in Fayoum city. It varied at the village level between a high of \$3,916.4 in Manshaat Kamal village, Fayoum markaz, and a low of \$2,391.8 in Manshaat Oteifa village, Senores markaz.

Chapter Four examined the complementary indicators for the measurement of human development as the findings of demographic features showed that the governorate population reached about 2.24 million in 2001. Fayoum markaz ranks first (653,000), followed by Abshway markaz (507,100) and Atsa markaz (442,200). The population in Fayoum city reached 291,400. The total population in the different villages ranged from a low of 400 in Manshaat Alwy village, Atsa markaz, to a high of 43,800 in Karoon village, Abshway markaz. The population growth rate in the governorate is 2.566% and the demographic dependency ratio 88.7%. On the other hand, the infant mortality rate at the governorate level is 33.9 infants per 1,000 live births. This rate varied in the different villages between a maximum in Al Nazla village, Abshway markaz (44 infants per 1,000 births) and a minimum in Al Aziziah

village, Tamiah markaz (16.8 infants per 1,000 births).

The labor force in the age group of 15 years and above is estimated at about 30.6%, whereas the rate of population having a secondary school degree or higher is only 20%, which indicates a large percentage of unqualified labor force. The rate of population working in agriculture at the governorate level is 51% and it reaches a maximum of 67.2% in Tamiah markaz and a minimum of 48.9% in Senores markaz. There is a percentage of 18.6% of the population working in the government and in the public sector. The total unemployment for 15+ years is 7.4% of the total population of Fayoum governorate. It ranges from a low of 2.7% in Fayoum markaz to a high of 11.6% in Senores markaz. At the village level, the unemployment rate ranged from a high of 27.6% in Manshaat Oteifa village, Senores markaz, to a low of 0.3% in Manshaat Sabry village, Atsa markaz.

According to findings related to HD indicators regarding education, the value of the reading/writing ability rate in the age group of 15 years and above is as low as 47.7% at the governorate level. The number of primary students per teacher is 21.4 students/teacher. The density of the primary classroom is 44.7 students/classroom. In the preparatory education phase, these two indicators at the governorate level are 23.5 students/teacher and 44.6 students/classroom respectively. There is an obvious disparity in these indicators at the village level. In the primary phase, the student/teacher indicator is as high as 28.7 students/teacher in Al Barrani village, Tamiah markaz, and as low as 8.1 students/teacher in Manshaat Kamal village, Fayoum markaz. In the preparatory phase, this indicator is as high as 21 students/teacher in Manshaat Kamal village, and as low as 13.5 students/teacher in Manshaat Sadate village, Senores village. The value of the primary classroom density is 44.7 students at the governorate level. It ranged among the villages from a high of 47.5 students/classroom in Abou Gandeer village, Atsa markaz, to a low of 41 students/classroom in Al Aaeedeyia village, Senores markaz.

The indicator concerning the population of 15 years+ having a secondary school degree or higher did not exceed 20% at the governorate level, which indicates that a high percentage of the population did not complete studies beyond the primary level.

As for the influence of gender in the education field, the illiteracy indicator with respect to women showed that the illiteracy rate among women reached 66.2% at the governorate level. It ranged from a low of 47.5% in Fayoum markaz to a high of 82% in Tamiah markaz.

As for the health indicator, the low standard of health services is due to the limited number of the ministry of health physicians per 10,000 citizens at the governorate level (3.2 physicians), compared with the ratio at the republic level (13.2 physicians). This ratio ranged from a low of 1.8 physicians in Senores markaz, to a high of 4.3 physicians in Tamiah markaz. According to findings, there are 12.8 nurses and 10.3 treatment beds per 10,000 citizens.

The lack of medical equipment and devices and the low health awareness led to a decrease of the health services standards, in particular in the rural areas. This situation led to an increase in the infant mortality rate to 33.9 deaths per live births and an increase in mortality of infants of less than five years of age to 2.17%, and also in maternal mortality to 16.8 deaths per 10,000 live births at the governorate level.

Chapter Four also tackled certain indicators of human deprivation suffered by Fayoum inhabitants. The number of illiterates at the governorate level was estimated at 782,000 in 2001. Their numbers vary among the villages and cities of the governorate, depending on the population total on one hand, and the standard of the available educational services and economic and cultural norms on the other.

Unemployed citizens amounted to nearly 50,200 at the governorate level, of whom 11,000 are concentrated in Fayoum city alone. Their numbers vary between the rural and urban areas and among the villages of the rural areas, depending on the population total as the rural citizens migrate towards cities seeking job opportunities, and on the prevailing economic activities prevailing in the area.

In order to complement the human deprivation indicators, Chapter Four also explored the availability of potable drinking water for the inhabitants, as well as electricity and sewage services, which are considered a part of the most important infrastructure towards which society directs an important part of its resources.

The rate of families subscribing to potable drinking water networks is 73.8% of the total families in the governorate. The households connected to safe sanitary sewage system represent 63.7% of the total households in the governorate. This rate varied substantially between the rural and urban areas, and between the villages of the rural areas. It reached a maximum of 100% in several villages, while it dropped to the lowest level in other villages, such as Zawiet Al Kerdasa village, Fayoum markaz (5%) and Al Ka'aby Al Kadimah, Senores markaz (2%).

Since the State is attaching great interest to the promotion of women who represent half of society and are considered an important axis of development, Chapter Four dealt with certain indicators related to women. According to findings, life expectancy of women at birth in Fayoum governorate is nearly 66.3 years, while women's representation in the labor force does not exceed 11.9%, with significant variations between the villages. This may be due to the prevailing customs and traditions which do not favor women's work, especially in rural areas. They even prefer not to encourage the education of girls and prefer early marriage. Additionally, women cannot find suitable jobs due to the high employment rates.

Illiteracy among women represents 66.2% at the governorate level, and it reaches a maximum of 82% in Tamiah district.

There are 50.2 thousand unemployed at the governorate level, 11,000 of which are in Fayoum city.

The total enrollment rate in basic education for women is about 70.4%.

2,135 infrastructure and human development projects were implemented through Shorouk project during the past five years.

Only 2% of households in Al Ka'aby Al Kadima village, Senores markaz, are connected to a safe sanitary sewage system, and 5% in Zawiet Kerdasa village, Fayoum markaz.

The round-table meetings within the Participatory Development Project demonstrated that the private sector was ready to provide a contribution of 20 million LE out of the total investments for the proposed projects in the governorate.

The total enrollment rate of women in basic education is 70.4% of those of the relevant age at the governorate level. Women who have a secondary school diploma or higher represent only 14% of school-age women.

As for participation through the "Shorouk" national program for integrated rural development, the total number of projects which were implemented during the period 1995/96-2001/2002 at the governorate level reached 2,135 in the fields of infrastructure and human development. The total investments in these projects reached about 81 million LE. The participation in the implementation of these projects amounted to nearly 16 million LE, representing nearly 20% of the total investments allocated for these projects.

The popular contribution of the borrowers from the Local Development Fund for the implementation of economic projects amounted to 1.5 million LE, in addition to loans amounting to 2.2 million LE in order to implement 334 economic projects.

Finally, this chapter demonstrates that identifying the development gaps in the local community can only be achieved through effective participation which developed during the round-table meetings through the Participatory Development Project which was executed by ORDEV in cooperation with UNDP at two levels, the markaz and the governorate level Meetings were held in this context and were attended by representatives of the civil sector (domestic, cooperative, volunteer and private), the executive, political, popular and natural leaderships, as well as representatives of political parties, syndicates, academics and the media. Women and youth have participated effectively.

These meetings clarified the views of the representatives on the development activities in different fields, the development gaps in local communities and the necessary plans for developmental programs to fill these gaps.

The domestic investments in all proposed projects reached about 51.5 million LE, and those of the private sector about 30 million LE, beside the participation of the domestic and cooperative sectors.

Chapter Five presented a future vision of the human development in Fayoum Governorate, as concluded from the gaps demonstrated by the indicators and from the round-table meetings within the Participatory Development Project. According to this future vision, it is possible to achieve further development and, hence, prosperity for the inhabitants of the local community by concentrating on the implementation of more development projects whenever long-term investments are available, especially in the most deprived areas, as explained in Chapters Three and Four of the present report. It is also necessary to move the human factor related to certain development services from one area to the other in the short run, such as teachers, physicians and nurses, mainly in Al Saidiah village, Senores markaz, Manshaat Faisal, Atsa markaz, and Manshaat Sakran, Abshway markaz. In addition, attention should be given to training and cultural programs in general, and for women and rural youth in particular, according to a logical setting of priorities taking into consideration the filling of development gaps in the fields of health, education, youth, poverty, unemployment and the population issue.

Despite the efforts made in preparing the present report, it remains, from the point of view of its makers and editors, an initial attempt which would hopefully be followed by better attempts in the near future. They are confident they would be able to include positive improvements and changes in the next publications of human development reports on Fayoum

Governorate. This goal may be achieved through a maximum use of continuity with the project of the data centers of local development on one hand, and the continuity of the Participatory Development Project, on the other hand, as well as the use of accumulated academic efforts to improve the context of the measurements and indicators of human development.