

A Documentary Appendix

Facts about the 29th international colloquium of the IGU- CSRS, in Egypt, February 28 - March 4, 2022.

- A concise report about the conference.
- Identification of the conference's participants

A report on the 29th Colloquium of the IGU Commission on the Sustainability of Rural Systems hosted in Menoufia University & The Egyptian Geographical Society, Egypt, February 28- March 4, 2022

By

Prof. Salah Abdel Gaber Eisa

Emeritus Professor of Geography, Faculty of Arts, Menoufia University
Chairman of the Organizing and Scientific Committee of the Conference

Conference title:

"Necessities and implementations for Sustaining Rural Systems in both Developed and less Developed Environments"

Conference's two organizers:

- 1- The International Geographical Union (IGU) Commission on the Sustainability of Rural Systems (CSRS).
- 2- The Egyptian Geographical Group for Rural Development (EGGRD) of the Egyptian Geographical Society (EGS).

Conference Objectives:

- 1- Promoting the study of geographical problems related to rural ecosystems
- 2- Activating and coordinating geographical research through international cooperation
- 3- Allowing the participation in applied research among the worldwide geographers interested in rural development
- 4- Exchange experiences of rural development between developed and less developed countries
- 5- Encouraging young researchers to gain experience through participating in international scientific conferences
- 6- Sharing the international efforts for standardization the geographical terms, symbols, methods, and approaches

7- Confirming Egypt's leadership in organizing international and regional geographical conferences and specialized seminars.

Coordination procedures for hosting the conference in Egypt

This task was undertaken by Dr. Salah Abdel Gaber Eisa, the professor emeritus of geography at the Faculty of Arts, Menoufia University, and head of the EGGRD, in time of his participation in six previous international conferences of IGU- CSRS between 2013-2021, where it was possible to agree with the Co-chairs of the CSRS to enroll Egypt in countries wishing to host a forthcoming annual colloquium of that commission. The event was scheduled to be in 2021, then postponed to 2022 because of COVID 19 pandemic. Responding to a demand of prof. Salah Eisa, supported by Geography Department and the Faculty of Arts, Menoufia University approved to host the event from February 28 to March 4, 2022, to be held in a hybrid manner, activating the precautionary measurements. At the same time, prof. Salah Eisa caught a strong contact with Prof. El-Sayed El-Husseini, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Egyptian Geographical Society for its appreciated approval to share in hosting the event using of the society's capabilities of museums and memorial halls that witnessed holding of the Eleventh International Geographical Union Congress in 1925.

The conference's organizing committee included the following six members of the EGGRD:

- **Salah Abdel-Gaber Eisa**, Emeritus Professor of Geography, Faculty of Arts, Menoufia University, as President
- **Ismail Youssef Ismail**, Emeritus Professor of Geography, Faculty of Arts, Menoufia University
- **Alaa Abdel-Khaleq Elwan**, Assistant Professor of Geography, Faculty of Arts, Menoufia University
- **Ismail Ali Mohamed**, Assistant Professor of Geography, Environmental Research Institute, Sadat City University
- **Ashraf Hussein Mahrous**, Lecturer of Geography, Faculty of Arts, Menoufia University
- **Reham Shaaban Ghorab**, Lecturer of Geography, Faculty of Arts, Menoufia University

A web site for the conference has also been established on the international information network: <https://mu.menoufia.edu.eg/art/igucsr2022/ConHome/en>

The first and second calls for papers were sent via the web site to concern geographers worldwide asking to participate and prepare research relating to the frame and main themes of the conference. Information about important dates,

subscription fees, abstract qualification and submission, and so on, were explained and uploaded. On December 30, 2021, the Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research approved for holding the conference. The security approval for the foreign participant's attendance in the conference was received by Menoufia University on February 20, 2022.

Conference financing and expenses

The financing of the conference was entirely based on the registration fees paid by Egyptian and foreign participants, according to the values indicated in the conference calls, directed by participants' choices regarding the subscription period and the type of accommodation rooms.

The expense items included: Transportation by a travel bus - Conference bag and related publications – Conference symbolic shield - Accommodation for four nights at Menoufia University Hotel in Shebeen El-Kom - Breakfast, lunch and dinner throughout the five days of the conference - Medical care services and tools throughout the conference –Notification plates and identification cards - Refreshments within breaks amid scientific sessions - Entry fees for monuments included in the conference program - Entertainment during field trips - Preparation visits to field trip locations - Rewards for extraordinary effort concerning the conference.

Conference Activities

The conference activities duration covered five days. The first two days were devoted to research presentation and discussion in morning scientific sessions, and to local visits in the afternoon. The last three days were devoted to field trips within different geographical areas allocated in: mid and north of the Nile Delta, west of the Delta, Pyramids of Giza area, and Fayoum Depression. The sequence of activities occurred as follows:

The first day: February 28, 2022, the activities set forth 8 am at the headquarter of the Egyptian Geographical Society in Cairo, by receiving delegations, making registration, providing conference bag, followed by visiting the museums of the EGS. The opening session was launched at nine am by the following speakers: Prof. Salah Eisa; chief of the organization committee – Prof. El-Sayed El-Husseini; president of the EGS – Prof. Osama Madani, dean of the faculty of Arts, Menoufia University– Prof. Serge Schmitz, and Dr, Paul Valeria; co-chairs of the CSRS – Prof. Rubén GONZÁLEZ; vice president of the IGU.

The first scientific session has been held in the Main Hall. In parallel, the second scientific session was managed (online) in Maps Hall, while the third scientific session has been held in the Main Hall in continue.

The participants left the EGS and visited the Egyptian Museum in Tahrir Square, then they got lunch at Rowing Club of Cairo University, on the Nile, where they received a geographical illumination about place overlooking the Nile course between Cairo and Giza conurbation, plus monitorization the features of the Religious Complex area in Fustat (Old Cairo).

The activities ended by departure to Shebeen El-Koum for accommodation at Menoufia University Hotel and getting a light dinner.

The second day: (March 1, 2022), at the headquarters of the Faculty of Arts, Menoufia University, in Shebeen El-Kom town.

The program began with welcoming and reception for the conference participants by Prof. Dean of the faculty of Arts in his office. Six scientific sessions have been operated within sequent and parallel order in two halls between nine am in the until two pm, during which a break and refreshments were provided. A meeting has been arranged by President of Menoufia University to welcoming the conference participants in his office.

After getting lunch at Menoufia University Hotel, the conference participants visited to the UNESCO Regional Center of occupational education for adults in the town of Sirs Ellayan, followed by a visit to identify models of rural dwellings in Ezbet El-Attar belonging to El-Bagour town. At 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm, the participants got a traditional rural dinner at the University Hotel with a music concert, then, they obtained their certificates of attendance.

The third day: (March 2, 2022). It has been devoted for a field trip to the area of the Edfina Barrages and the estuary of the Rashid (Rosetta) branch. The trip pursued the rural geographical change from the dense zone in Menoufia and South Delta, to the transitional zone in Gharbia and south of Kafr El-Sheikh, then the coastal zone in Rashid vicinity within Beheira Governorate. The first spot concentrated on Edfina barrages which was built as a control to prevent intrusion of sea water into the norther end Nile branch. King Fouad Palace is located south of Edfina barrages as an advancing point for land reclamation in norther delta swamps. The second spot was Burj Rashid village where Qait Bey Castle is located for military defense purposes. The third spot was the estuary area of the

Rashid branch and the location Rashid new resort. Participants got lunch in Rashid town (sea fish restaurant), then, they took the return route via the international coastal road from Rashid to Burullus, turning southward to Kafr El-Sheikh, Tanta, reaching to Shebeen El-Kom, where they got a packed dinner.

The fourth day: (March 3, 2022). The field trip was directed to West Delta and Wadi El-Natrun region. It achieved reasonable geographical living knowledge the famous Dina farms, the unique lakes of Wadi El-Natrun, and rural dwellings near the fenced farms inside Wadi El-Natrun. The participants got lunch in an amazing Bedouin restaurant on the desert road. Finally, they visited Deir (monastery) of Abu Makar in Wadi El-Natrun, then took the return road to Shebeen El-Kom, where they enjoyed a popular dinner at (Koshary) restaurant and received their memorial shields after arriving to the hotel.

The fifth day: (March 4, 2022) The final field trip targeted some spots in Giza pyramids area and in Fayoum depression. It started by a strongly desired visit to the pyramids and the Sphinx in a recorded scene. Acquiring valuable geographical knowledge about the landmarks of the Pyramid-Fayoum Road to Lake Qarun was highly appreciated. The participants enjoyed a rural lunch in Tunis village west of Fayoum, and then they did a tour in that tourist village. The last visit intended Qasr Qarun temple on the western skirt of Fayoum depression. From that return spot, the travel moved, having a ready-made dinner, to Cairo. In Tahrir Square of Cairo, an unforgettable farewell to the conference's participants happened at eight pm nearly.

Conference Achievements

- Carrying out an international scientific meeting under the auspice of the IGU, gathering twenty - five scholars in the field of rural geography, including seventeen participants from ten European, American and Asian non-Arab countries (Spain - Portugal - Italy - Belgium - Romania - Poland - the United States of America - Argentina - China - South Korea), in addition to eight Egyptians. This fact indicates the increasing confidence of global scholars and international bodies in some branches of science in the ability of their Egyptian peers to organize international events at a high level.

- Researches presentation and discussion occurred face to face in eight sessions in addition to the opening session. Only one session (includes four research) was managed online, a matter confirms Egypt's attractiveness and readiness to host foreign attendees face to face due to its cultural richness, security, safety, and

infrastructure facilities, which encouraged five foreign participants to accompany their families, while many developed countries put restrictions on out travel.

- The twenty-four papers presented in conference sessions tackled global issues and experiences from multiple countries and environments in the scope of rural geography. Specially, the sustainable development of rural systems. This interest was framed in four themes: Promoting approaches for current Rural Geographies- Benefiting the integrated fundamentals of Rural environment: territorial, Economic, Social, and Physical- smart rural innovations - Challenges and compromises of rural-urban Equilibrium. One of the conference sessions concentrated on the "Decent Life" initiative to develop the Egyptian village.

- The program of visits and field trips made it possible for geographers from outside to know the unique characteristics of three geographical sectors with different characteristics: the middle of the Nile Delta (high rural density in Menoufia and South Delta, medium density in Gharbia and south of Kafr El-Sheikh, and a coastal environment in the Rashid area), west of the Delta in Wadi El-Natrun and areas of desert reclamation, and in the Fayoum depression, which is geographically called "Little Egypt", as well as cultural attractions in Cairo and Giza, especially Giza pyramids and Sphinx, as a global tourist pole.

- The conference provided a valuable opportunity for young Egyptian researchers to participate in research and organization in international English-language conferences with limited encouraging fees.

After the conference

- The organizing committee of the conference, at the time of the farewell of the foreign participants, received praises and thanks for the care and information they provided. The Chairman of the Organizing Committee also received e-mails from most of the participants, thanking them for the good organization, warm hospitality, and knowledge about Egypt, its land, its civilization, and its people in the rural, urban, and desert areas, and in the sectors of science, culture, services, infrastructure, and highway network, which cannot be erased from memory.

- It was repeated and confirmed that all the Egyptian and foreign participants praised the good reception, hospitality, and quality of the facilities available in the two-hostingheadquarters: the Egyptian Geographical Society in Cairo, and the Faculty of Arts and Menoufia University in Shebeen El-Kom.


- Everyone praised security efforts at the highest levels for holding the conference activities and the movement of field trips within the governorates of Cairo, Giza, Menoufia, Gharbia, Kafr El-Sheikh, Beheira and Fayoum, and the facilities provided for tourist guidance in locations of Giza pyramids, Burj Rashid Castle, the lakes of Wadi Al-Natrun in Beheira, and Qarun Palace in Fayoum.


- The Vice-President of the International Geographical Union, the Chairs of the Committee on the Sustainability of Rural Systems, and the conference participants appreciated what was stated by Prof. The President of the Egyptian Geographical Society expressed the Society's readiness to publish the research presented at the conference - after its arbitration - in a special number of scientific publications of the Egyptian Geographical Society documenting this important geographical event.

- The valuable product and delicious fruit of holding the 29th colloquium of the IGU-CSRS in Egypt 2022, is a suggestion set by prof. Mike Meadows, the president of the IGU, during a meeting on April 2022, with Prof. Rubén C. Lois Gonzalez, the vice president of the IGU, and Dr. Valeria Păul, the Co-chair of the CSRS, that an IGU Thematic Conference attending by 100-300 participants, could be proposed in Egypt in 2025, to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the International Congress of Geography held in Egypt 1925. The idea was adopted and promoted by the Vice-President of the International Geographical Union, Prof. Rubén Gonzalez, who linked with Prof. El-Sayed El-Husseini; president of the EGS, and with Prof. Salah Eisa to transmit that proposal. The Board of Directors of the Egyptian Geographical Society has welcomed and approved to host that international event. Prof. Rubén Gonzalez, and Prof. Barbaros Gönençgil, secretary general of the IGU will be in Cairo in January 2023 to start preparation with the EGS for that awaited IGU international thematic conference 2025 in Egypt.

Prof. Salah Eisa

Identification of the conference's participants
Participants & Research titles

Name & Affiliation	Photo	Country	Research title
<p>Prof. SALAH EISA Menoufia University, Faculty of Arts, Department of Geography</p>		<p>Egypt</p>	<p>THE EGYPTIAN CONTRIBUTIONS TO RURAL GEOGRAPHY STUDIES</p> <hr/> <p>PROGRAMS OF THE DECENT LIFE INITIATIVE IN THE CONTEXT OF EFFORTS TO DEVELOP THE EGYPTIAN COUNTRYSIDE, A GEOGRAPHICAL PERSPECTIVE</p>
<p>Prof. Ismail Youssef Ismail Menoufia University, Faculty of Arts, Department of Geography</p>		<p>Egypt</p>	<p>SOME GEOGRAPHICAL FEATURES OF ABU BAKR AS-SIDDIQ AREA IN SIWA OASIS, THE SPATIAL MENTAL IMAGE OF ITS RESIDENTS FOR DEVELOPMENT ISSUES, AND THEIR CONTENTMENT WITH SERVICES</p>
<p>Dr. ISMAIL MOHAMED Environmental Studies and Research Institute, University of Sadat City</p>		<p>Egypt</p>	<p>DIGITAL MAPPING FOR THE HISTORICAL VILLAGES SITES AS MONUMENT RESERVES, A GEOGRAPHICAL STUDY IN BASSOUNA AND BANAWIT VILLAGES, ALMARAGHA DISTRICT, SOHAG, EGYPT</p>
<p>Dr. ARSHAD EISA faculty of Specific Education, Menoufia University</p>		<p>Egypt</p>	<p>E-LEARNING STRATEGIES ACHIEVING QUALITY AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT WITHIN THE DECENT LIFE PROGRAM, AN EMPIRICAL SURVEY STUDY IN SOME VILLAGES OF MENOUFIA, EGYPT</p>
<p>HEND RADWAN (PhDs) Faculty of Women, Ain Shams University</p>		<p>Egypt</p>	<p>PROJECTS OF THE DECENT LIFE INITIATIVE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE EGYPTIAN COUNTRYSIDE- AN APPLIED GEOGRAPHICAL STUDY IN ASHMOUN DISTRICT, MENOUFIA GOVERNORATE</p>
<p>Dr. Elwan, Alaeldin Menoufia University, Faculty of Arts, Department of</p>		<p>Egypt</p>	<p>THE EFFECT OF SHUBRA-BENHA EXPRESS ROAD ON SETTLEMENT SPRAWL OF THE NEARBY VILLAGES USING GEOMATICS TECHNIQUES</p>

Geography			
Dr. Ashraf Mahrous Menoufia University, Faculty of Arts, Department of Geography		Egypt	THE ROLE OF HERITAGE TOURISM IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, A CASE STUDY OF THE BEDOUIN VILLAGE IN MATROUH GOVERNORATE
Prof. Osama Madany Menoufia University, Faculty of Arts Professor of English Literature		Egypt	"Sea in the Desert, Desert in the Sea": An Exploration of an Inflected Spatial Image in English / Arabic Verse
Prof. William G. Moseley Macalester College, Saint Paul		USA	THIS FOOD CRISIS IS DIFFERENT: COVID-19 AND THE FRAGILITY OF THE NEOLIBERAL FOOD SECURITY ORDER
Prof. Hualou LONG School of Public Administration Guangxi University		China	URBAN-RURAL INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT PROMOTED BY LAND USE TRANSITIONS: THEORIES AND APPROACHES
Dr. Valerià Paül Department of Geography University of Santiago de Compostela		Spain	FOOD GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS BEYOND INTERNATIONAL BORDERS
Prof. Rubén C. LOIS GONZÁLEZ Department of Geography University of Santiago de Compostela		Spain	VILLAGES AND SMALL CITIES OF GALICIA (SPAIN) AS THE CENTRE OF SUSTAINABLE RURAL MARKETS
Prof. José Domingo Sánchez Martínez Geography and History & Department, University of Jaen		Spain	SOCIAL INNOVATION IN RURAL AREAS: THE CASE OF OLIVE OIL COOPERATIVES IN ANDALUSIA (SOUTHERN c SPAIN)
Dr., Garrido-Almonacid, A. Geography and History & Department, University of Jaen		Spain	

<p>Prof. Asunción BLANCO-ROMERO Dep. of Géographie. Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona</p>		<p>Spain</p>	<p>PROXIMITY TOURISM IN RURAL AREAS: BENEFITS AND LIMITS OF AN UNDEFINED PRACTICE</p>
<p>Prof., Giacomo ZANOLIN University of Genoa</p>		<p>Italy</p>	<p>APICULTURE AGAINST MARGINALITY: EVIDENCES FROM LIGURIA'S LANDSCAPE, ECONOMY AND ECOLOGY</p>
<p>Dr., Ines Grigorescu Geography Department, Institute of Geography, Romanian Academy</p>		<p>Romania</p>	<p>SPACE-TIME PROCESS AND UNDERLYING DRIVERS OF AGRICULTURAL LAND IN ROMANIA. THE SHOWCASE OF ROMANIAN PLAIN</p>
<p>Dr. Bianca Mitrică H. Geography and R. Development Department, Institute of Geography, Romanian Academy</p>		<p>Romania</p>	<p>INSIGHTS INTO TOURISTS, RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES PERCEPTION ON CULTURAL TOURISM. THE SHOWCASE OF A RURAL AREA OF BUZĂU CARPATHIANS AND SUBCARPATHIANS (ROMANIA)</p>
<p>Prof. Marcin Wojcik Department of Regional and Social Geography, University of Lodz</p>		<p>Poland</p>	<p>BOOSTING POTENTIAL FOR <i>GEODESIGN</i>? SMART RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND DIGITALISATION OF THE SYSTEM OF RURAL PLANNING IN POLAND</p>
<p>Dr. Karolina Dmochowska Department of Regional and Social Geography, University of Lodz</p>		<p>Poland</p>	<p>BOOSTING POTENTIAL FOR <i>GEODESIGN</i>? SMART RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND DIGITALISATION OF THE SYSTEM OF RURAL PLANNING IN POLAND</p>
<p>Dr. Suk-kyeong KANG NiğdeÖmerHalisdemir University, Turkey</p>		<p>South Korea</p>	<p>THE PROBLEMS IN RURAL COMMONS CREATED FOR SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL WORKERS</p>
<p>Prof. Serge Schmitz University of Liège, Department of Geography</p>		<p>Belgium</p>	<p>PRECARIOUSNESS AND MULTIFUNCTIONALITY OF THE AGRICULTURAL LANDS NEXT TO URBAN CONURBATIONS</p>

<p>Luciano COPELLO (PhDs) Université Clermont Auvergne, Agro- Paris Tech</p>		<p>Argentina</p>	<p>URBAN-RURAL INTEGRATION, A FRAMEWORK OF ANALYSIS APPLIED TO THE ECOPOLE OF THE VAL D'ALLIER, CROSSED VIEWS FRANCE-ARGENTINA</p>
<p>Prof., Helena PINA Faculty of Arts and Humanities of the University of Porto,</p>		<p>Portugal</p>	<p>SOALHEIRO ESTATE (NW PORTUGAL): AN EXAMPLE OF SUSTAINABILITY AND INNOVATION</p>
<p>Prof., Felisbela MARTINS Faculty of Arts and Humanities of the University of Porto,</p>		<p>Portugal</p>	<p>PEDRAS SALGADAS SPA AND NATURE PARK: AN INNOVATIVE PROJECT FROM THE NATURAL MINERAL WATERS OF PEDRAS SALGADAS (NNE OF PORTUGAL)</p>