

Research (1)

**A Geographical Perspective on the Management of Solid
Wastes of the Resorts in Hurghada (Egypt):
The Recycling Unit of El-Gouna Farm as a Case Study**

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Abstract

The paper deals with the problem of managing the solid wastes of the resorts as they are of characteristic features considering their quantity and quality. A case study was conducted in the recycling unit of El-Gouna Farm, Hurghada. The study covers the solid wastes management systems, the land use map of El-Gouna Farm, how wastes are managed in the recycling unit, its economics, its sphere of influence, its problems and future.

The main conclusions of the study are:

- The quantitative and qualitative homogeneity of the components of the solid wastes disposed out of El-Gouna resort, although of seasonal variability and of variable methods of treatment. An intimate relation was also found to exist among the form, nature, characters of wastes and the area occupied by each form in the treatment and recycling unit.
- The treatment unit does not run with its full capacity. Its monthly capacity is 150 tons, and the monthly volume of the waste disposed out of El-Gouna resort is 104.4 tons.
- The net monthly mean benefit from the treatment and recycling unit is estimated at about 15.000 pound, a figure that reflects the importance of the project, not only on economic basis, but also on environmental considerations.
- The El-Gouna Farm, giving its spatial characteristics and its producing units can be viewed *vis-à-vis* the recycling unit, and as an integral part of the activities of El-Gouna resort, it achieved a net monthly mean benefit estimated at 58.400 pound, of which 60% are from livestock and 40% from vegetables.
- The main problem that confronts the waste management in El-Gouna resort is the multiplicity of regulations and the agencies responsible for granting the licenses and for the follow-up. Another problem is its inability of the treatment of the wastes of the other resorts, as the contractors with the Governorate monopolize the gathering of wastes.

The study recommends:

- Supporting the resorts that commit themselves to the treatment and recycling of wastes, and granting the serious companies the rights of implementing recycling units comparable to that of El-Gouna, so as to gather the wastes from other resorts and to get rid of the present monopoly.
- Encouraging the investors in the manufacturing industry to establish plants of paper and plastic products, and implementing recycling unit in Makadi Bay in Hurghada with a farm to be integrated with it.