Integrated Coastal Management for Sustainable Development of Coastal Cities: The Case of El-Mina, Tripoli- Lebanon

American University of Beirut

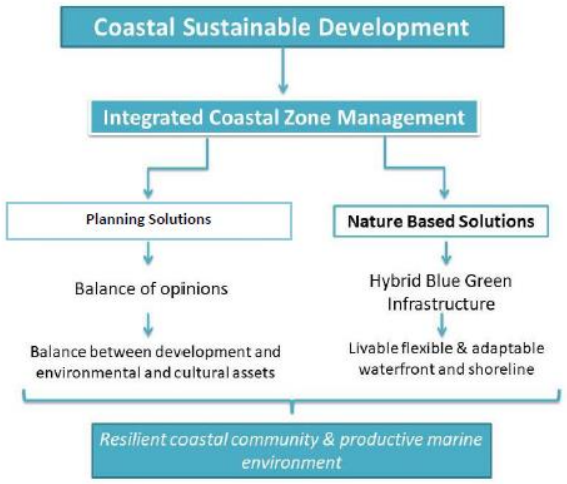
Abstract

Coastal cities are constantly exposed to environmental degradation and economic regression fueled by rapid and uncontrolled urban growth as well as continuous resource depletion (Krishnamurthy et al., 2018). This is the case of the City of Mina in Tripoli (Lebanon) where lack of awareness to preserve social, ecological and historical assets, coupled with the increasing development pressures, are threatening the socioeconomic status of the city residents, the quality of life and accessibility to the coast.

To address these challenges, a holistic coastal urban design and planning approach was developed to analyze the environmental, political, legal and socioeconomic context of the city. This approach aims to investigate the potential of balancing urban development with the protection and enhancement of cultural, ecological and environmental assets under an integrated coastal zone management approach (ICZM).

The analysis of Mina's different sectors adopted several tools that include direct field observation, interviews with stakeholders, analysis of available data, historical maps and previously proposed projects. The findings from the analysis were mapped and graphically represented allowing the recognition of character zones that become the design intervention units. Consequently, the thesis proposes an urban, city-scale intervention that (1) identifies 6 different character zones (the historical fishing port, Abdul Wahab island, the abandoned Port Said, Hammam el Makloub, the sand beach, and the new developable area) and proposes context-specific design interventions that capitalize on the main characteristics of each zone. Moreover, the intervention builds on (2) the institutional framework of ICZM as well as other studies previously conducted for the coast, and adopts (3) nature-based solutions with hybrid systems for providing better environmental design solutions for developing the coast. This enables the realization of an all-inclusive, well-connected shoreline with easy and free access towards the sea; a developed shoreline with an active local economy, and an improved urban environment.

Image



Recent Publications

1. UN-Habitat, 2020, "Hamra City Profile", (Not Published yet, contributed in writing the Space Chapter).
2. Ghamrawi G., Abunnasr Y., Fawaz M., 2019, and Yazigi S., *'Integrated Coastal Management for Sustainable Development of Coastal Cities: The Case of el-Mina, Tripoli'*. **American University of Beirut**: Master Thesis in Urban Design.
3. Ghamrawi G., 'Redefining FLOWS - Reviving the local economy in Badawi and providing its resiliency, American University of Beirut Catalogue.
4. Assisted in producing the American University of Beirut 50th Anniversary book on the different events, projects, thoughts, alumni and students that were important in the Faculty of Architecture and Design.



Biography

Ghadir Ghamrawi has a wide research and practical expertise in the field of Urban Design and Planning. She has been researching the different ways of managing coastal areas especially in the middle east with new innovative planning frameworks adaptive to rigid governments such as Lebanon, where she has been looking to reconcile originality of city design with the well-being of its people. Her passion towards improving community, and advocate for justice, healthy environments, and people's well-being led her to specialize in urban environmental sustainability and climate change especiallu.

She has designed several urban projects in different Arab cities, where she has succeeded to introduce new sustainable strategies and design interventions for fostering better living standards in Arab cities such as in Lebanon, Tripoli and Beirut, Damascus –Syria, and in various cities across KSA.

She has been awarded the Build- it green - Eco-neighborhood design competition where she has proposed with her team new urban and architectural tools, grids and strategies for living.

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