

Investigating the geographical potentialities of Balteem Summer Resort City for sustainable urban development: SWOT analysis applying GIS.

Abstract

Balteem Summer Resort City is that seasonal tourism city located at $31^{\circ} 35' 37''$ N. latitude and $31^{\circ} 06' 15''$ E. longitude (facing the Mediterranean Sea) at the north part of the Nile Delta in Egypt. The city was restructured as an independent city from Balteem city in 2007 . It has experienced some problems . The low population density over the year seasons (except for the summer) due to its main summering job considered as the main problem.

This paper reports a framework for integrating geographic information system (GIS) technique and SWOT analysis method for investigating the geographical potentialities of Balteem Summer Resort City. This enables the possibilities of SWOT analysis to understand the city urban potentialities and preliminary evaluation for sustainable urban development. The integration of geographic information system (GIS) technique and SWOT analysis method was found to be effective in monitoring and analyzing the urban features, considering internal factors (Strengths and Weaknesses) of the city and evaluating of the future requirements considering external factors (Opportunities and Threats) .

The results showed that Balteem Summer Resort City has a lot of urban features Strengths such as its large land substitute, its good planning, the well statues of the majority number of its buildings and its tourist goodwill. Furthermore its good geographic location with potential ecotourism capacity, to attract a lot of sustainable activities. When on the other hand there are some weaknesses such as lack of sewage disposal service , waste management system and the weak contaminated drinking water system.