

# SUMMARY

Egypt has recently conquered the vast desert areas to reclaim, cultivate the lands, reconstruct the areas there and utilize all the resources available all over the different areas since conquering the desert is the vital strategic pedestal for establishing agricultural development not to mention its importance toward redistributing the population over the Egyptian geographical map.

The nature and type of agriculture in the new lands is totally different from that in the conventional lands, besides the economic and social difference through which all the horizontal development efforts to be undertaken since the problems and obstacles of the horizontal agricultural development outreach that of the vertical one.

Although the government is considering the horizontal expansion and undertaking the enormous projects to expand the cultivated lands, this was not received with much concern by the extension sector in the newly. Reclaimed lands, which appear in the constraints, the extension work faces there where the extension services to farmers and investors are varied.

The governmental organizations that perform such services lack liaison and connection among one another and to the agricultural research systems and to the extension-involved fund systems, besides, there are other non-governmental extension organizations that render the service either paid or preen of charge the farmers or the interned individuals in the new lands, such a service comes as a result of the free economy and privatization adopted recently in the agriculture sector.

Agricultural extension in the new lands is a recent important educational system aims at enhancing farmer s awareness and updating them via transferring the recent techniques and technology from research sites in a simple and straight methods, mean while reporting problems and constraints that

farmers encounter while performing their cultural practices and getting back the proper solutions. Agricultural extension system apply several methods and aids to disseminate the recent knowledge and research results and recommendations in a simple demonstrating methods and convincing farmers to give effect to such techniques.

For the extension system to accomplish its goals effectively and completely, it must depend on the extension staff after enhancing their efficiency and tackling their problems as well as fascinating whatever impedes performing their duties so that the system could identify the obstacles that are faced by the extension work in the desert areas and trying to find the proper solutions to achieve agricultural development there.

So this study aims to:

- Identification of the extension work impediments which facing the extension guides, and their impact on the extension work at the study area.
- Defining the differences between how much obstacles are available and how effective they are from the point of view of the extension guides (staff) who work for the agricultural extension system.
- Determining the relationship between the total available obstacles from the extension guides, point of view and the independent variables under study.
- Identification of the extension work impediments in north Sinai Govern orate and the proposals to solve it from the viewpoint of:
  - Non-official extension workers from governmental non — official organizations.
  - Non-extension workers from non-governmental organizations

The study was conducted in north Sinai governorate centers- on an analytical descriptive basis representing the real agricultural extension there. The study included three categories i.e.; the extension agents, non-official extension workers from governmental organizations (staff and assistants at college of agriculture in al arish, research staff at al sheikh zowaid and al maghara station —D. R. C, and agricultural cooperatives, directors) and non—official extension workers from non-governmental organizations that included agricultural supplies dealers there.

The study considered some hypothesis to the extension agents category who work for the agricultural extension system in north Sinai governorate where they totaled **162** extension agents, a regular random sample of **114** ones was collected according to krigsy&morgan equation to represent (70.3%) of the total size of extension agents. The total extension agents of the governmental organizations who render unofficial services was **175** ones, a regular random sample of **148** extension guide were taken according to krigsy&morgan equation representing (84.6%) of the whole sample, and the total non-governmental organization trader who deal in agricultural supplies was **28** traders, **25** out of which were collected as a regular random sample according to krigsy&morgan equation representing (89%) of the total sample.

Data were collected from May 1<sup>st</sup> to mid June **2006** via interview on questionnaire forms designed to meet the study goals. Pre-test was done for the forms to leave out some items and paraphrase others to get the final form in a plain and understandable way. To analyze the data statistically, samples " **T** " test, then **Chi square ( $X^2$ )** coefficient was used . All data were computerized by analyzed using program **spss version 11**.

The main results of the study revealed that:

- 1- Half of the categories of extension work obstacles were available in a high or moderate extent and are ordered in the following countdown: financial-related obstacles of the agricultural extension system were (2.64), desert-environmental obstacles were (2.32), constraints that are related to the relationship of the extension system to the other agricultural services systems were (2.12) obstacles that are related to the agricultural extension programs (1.92), and the ones that belong to the desert environmental farmers (1.90) the second half were weakly available and were countdown as follows: job obstacles (1.82), administration and organizational ones (1.74), obstacles that are related to the extension recommendations (1.62), the extension system available potentials impediments (1.61), and the obstacles that relate to the extension philosophy (1.51).
- 2- Most of the categories had either high or moderate effect on the extension work are countdown as follows: obstacles related to the extension fund (2.76), obstacles related the desert environmental farmers (2.598), obstacles associated with the desert environment (2.578), constraints connected to the available potentials of the extension system (2.413), obstacles related to the connection of the extension system to the other agricultural service systems (2.302), job restrictions (2.263), extensional programs-related impediments (2.149), and obstacles that are related to the extension recommendations (2.214).

- 3- There was no significant differences between the range obstacles availability and how much the effect on the extension work for all categories.
- 4- There was a significant relationship at a level of (0.01) significance between the total obstacles of extension activity and four of the extension agents' studied variables i.e.; age (**Chi square=20.197**), extension work experience (**Chi square=17.517**), number of training courses attended by the extension agents (**Chi square = 13.887**), and source of agricultural information the extension agent deal with (**Chi square=15.349**). There was also a significant relationship at a level of (0.05) significance between the extent of availability of the extension work obstacles and three of the studied variables for the extension agents i.e.; the major (**Chi square=8.756**), the awareness all developmental and environmental issues (**Chi square = 9.572**), dealing with the developmental associations at the study area (**Chi square = 12.087**), whereas there was no connection between the total extent of the availability of extension work obstacles and the rest of the studied variables for the extension agents i.e.; nurture , residence, qualification , forming possession size supervised by the extension agent, equipments and supplies at the extension work disposal , as well as the extensional methods and aids used at north Sinai govern orate .
- 5- It was shown form the staff sample who perform unofficial extension service through professional authorities in north Sinai that there were obstacles the extension agents face for most among which: inadequate extension agents working there (97.2%), lack of experience for some extensionists' (91.8%), the extended supervision the extension agents are covering govern orate — wide

(88.5%), absence of the efficient extensionists, role toward the extension work (87.1%), misdistribution of extension staff as most of them are concentrated in the main centers and towns of the govern orate rather than the rural areas (85.8%), lack of confidence between the extension agent and the farmers (84.4%) , absence of serious supervision over the extension work (79.7%) , the obscure structural extension from work in north Sinai govern orate ( 74.3%) , and the in sufficient fund allocated to the extension work there (73.6%).

- 6- With regard to the staff sample who render their services unofficially through unofficial associations i.e.; agricultural supplies traders, who experienced some other constraints such as, the inadequate number of extensionists who work in the govern orate (100%), misdistribution of skilled extension agents, mostly in the main centers and towns rather than the villages all our the govern orate (96.0%), the weak connection and liaison between the extension system staff and the agricultural supplies dealers (92%), the restricted extensionists role to only performing agricultural survey (88.0%) , the wide covering of supervision done by extension service centers in towns rather than the villages (80.0%),some of the extensional recommendations are not financially affordable by the Bedouin farmers(76.0%),and the exclusive agricultural cooperatives services to big holder farmers (72.0%)

Applicable benefits:

- 1- Since there was several sources of extension work in north Sinai, it has been take into consideration when planning and executing the agricultural policies in the desert areas that those sources or associations be considered when planning and applying the

extensional programs for their effective and impressing role on the farmers and hence for meeting the desired agricultural development.

- 2- There were also obstacles associated with several classifications, which faced the extension system in the desert areas, so that the system could identify the obstacles that are faced the extension work and trying to find the proper solutions to achieve agricultural development there.
- 3- The results showed also significant differences between the extent of existing obstacles and the impact an extension work for all obstacles, so the staff in charge of the agricultural policy in general and the extension work in particular are advised to take into account these obstacles and work on limiting and eliminating them.
- 4- According to the study sample of the professional staff who perform unofficial extension services, the results showed some existing obstacles faced by extension work, so extension staff in charge are used to work on over coming such obstacles and find suitable solutions through increasing the number of skilled extension agents, locate their work places, linking between the extensionists and the farmers to ep up th confidence between them to eventually enhance efficiency up the extension work in north Sinai .
- 5- Whereas the study sample of non-professional staff, such as agricultural supplies dealers, who undertake un-official extension services showed some obstacles, so the study . calls the extension staff in charge's attention to figure out these obstacles by means of providing enough extension staff and distribute them all over the govern orate's villages, towns and cities to promote extension work there.
- 6- Considering the recent extension system in the desert areas and providing them with an adequate number of extension agents who are to deliver the recommended information and techniques with full authority so that they could address any problem they face in these areas.

- 7- Working on coordinating and consolidating the connection between the agricultural extension and the other parties involved with the extension system to achieve integrated rural development in these areas.
- 8- It has also been advised to conduct similar deep study to investigate all the other extension sources and associations from different perspectives and make a link among them on one part and between them and the extension system on the other part to set conclusive concepts and basis that could be a guiding reference for agricultural policy planners in the desert areas.