

An economic Study of Some Land Reclamation Projects in Egypt

Summary And Conclusions Land reclamation represents an important activity in the Egyptian economy since it is the way to sufficient and low cost food for the overall size of population. This study aims at making an economic study for land reclamation projects in Egypt. It was divided into five chapters in addition to the introduction, summary and conclusions. The study showed that there is a continuous decline in the average per capita of cultivated and cropping areas, since each of them have been decreased from about 0.48 and 0.68 feddan in year 1907 to about 0.12 and 0.22 in year 1994. This decline leads to increasing the gap in food needed. The study also includes the total area of the new land in Egypt in 1995, which is about 1.750343 million feddan. The area of Nubia comes at the first degree of the new land reclaimed in Egypt, it's about 39.58 % and the Sharkia governorate comes in the second degree. The study declared that the winter cropping formulation of the new land in 1995 took automatically the same direction of the insufficient crops, such as wheat, barley and beans. In the same time the summer cropping formulation took the direction of the exporting crops such as peanut, rice and cotton. The study summarized the objectives of land reclamation projects in: military and safety, political, economic and social objectives. The study showed that the total available quantity of water to use in the horizontal expansion in Egypt in 1998 is 8 billion m³, which will be sufficient to reclaim 1.350 million feddan only, but the available areas for horizontal expansion are 6.7 million feddan. The study also included a financial and economic analysis for land reclamation projects of the sample chosen in the South of Houssinia Valley in Sharkia governorate. The financial analysis showed that these projects achieved a positive present value even in the graduate projects and the private sector projects. The internal rate of return was about 23.16 %, 22.85 %, 29.6 %, 26.6 % and 29.4 % for the graduate projects of area 5, 10, 20, 50 and 100 feddan, the private sector area 20, 50, 100 and 200 feddan in the same sequence. The pay-back period were 4.32, 4.38, 3.38, 3.96 and 3.40 year for the previous projects in the same sequence. The economic analysis of these projects showed that these projects achieved an additional positive present value, this means that they cover not only the salaries paid for their operation, but also gain additional positive social benefits. The study also shed lights on the economic maturity of the reclaimed land of the sample projects even for the graduate or the private sector. These projects have reached the super marginal stage of production after three years of cultivation. The study also showed the role of management to reach quickly economic maturity stage of these projects. It showed that there is significant positive relation between factors of management (planning, organizing, directing and controlling) and the economic rate of return. It included indicators of managerial efficiency of land reclamation companies, such as the general company, Arabic company and Com. Embo company. The study found that there are modest standards of planning, organizing, directing and controlling in these companies. The modest standards lead to increasing the cost of land reclamation per feddan, comparing with the private sector. The average cost of reclamation per feddan in the private sector was LE 2250 and LE 3500 in these companies. The study recommends the following: • Increasing the utilization of agricultural and housing water drainage for irrigation purpose. Increasing the role of information and acknowledgment organizations to develop the proper understanding of the importance of water rationalization in Egypt. • Continuity of implementation programs of graduate projects prosperity.

•and giving opportunities for the private sector to contribute effectively in these projects by using encouraging prices and credits needed. •Developing technical and administrative efficiency in the area of land reclamation even for the companies 1 graduates and the private sector 1 through suitable technical and administrative training programs . oviding extension and research services related to land reclamation on the spots .