

The importance of regional planning in the processes of development and modernization in Syria: the challenges and the scopes of priority for working¹

Roula Ahmad Maya²

Abstract

The research attempted to recognize the challenges of development in Syria, through observation, analysis and evaluation of the most important indicators of development (economic, social and environmental). The assessment of the degree of defect in the direction of development leading up to put the policies, procedures and tools can be used for return the spatial balance, and for vitalization the mechanism, policies and the tools of regional planning to achieve the sustainable and balanced regional development which is principal goal in the process of development and modernization in Syria. This research provides also a dense image about the state of development and its challenges, and it can help the decision makers at all levels to look at the specific data related to the indicators of development and the disparity of development situation between the Syrian governorates. This research can help integral thinking (multi scopes) about putting and developing the future plans and selecting the aims according to the specific indicators in each governorate. It doesn't mean to recite the components of plans and recent programs of development, but look for research tools and planning methods which we can develop for the purposes of development and modernization and the processes of sustainable and balanced development in Syria.

¹ For the paper in Arabic see pages (431-473).

² Dept. of City Planning and Environment Faculty of Architecture, Damascus university.