



DELIMITATION OF BORDERS OF THE HISTORIC CAIRO

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Integrated Urban Planning Course 2008

Blekinge Tekniska Högskola

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Project by:

The National Organization for Urban
Harmony

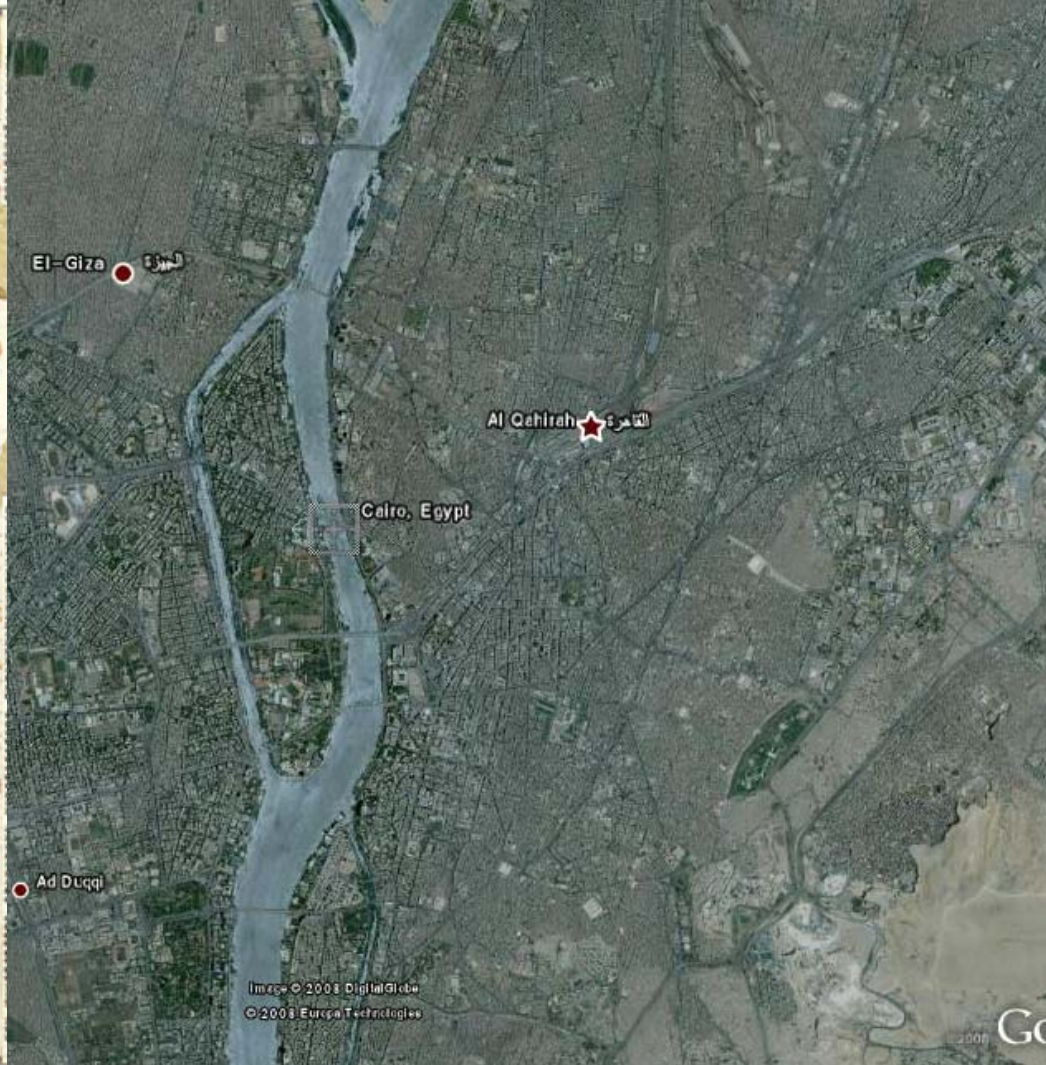
Studies, researches & policies Dep.

Ministry of Culture, Egypt

Background Information



Cairo 1888



Cairo 2008

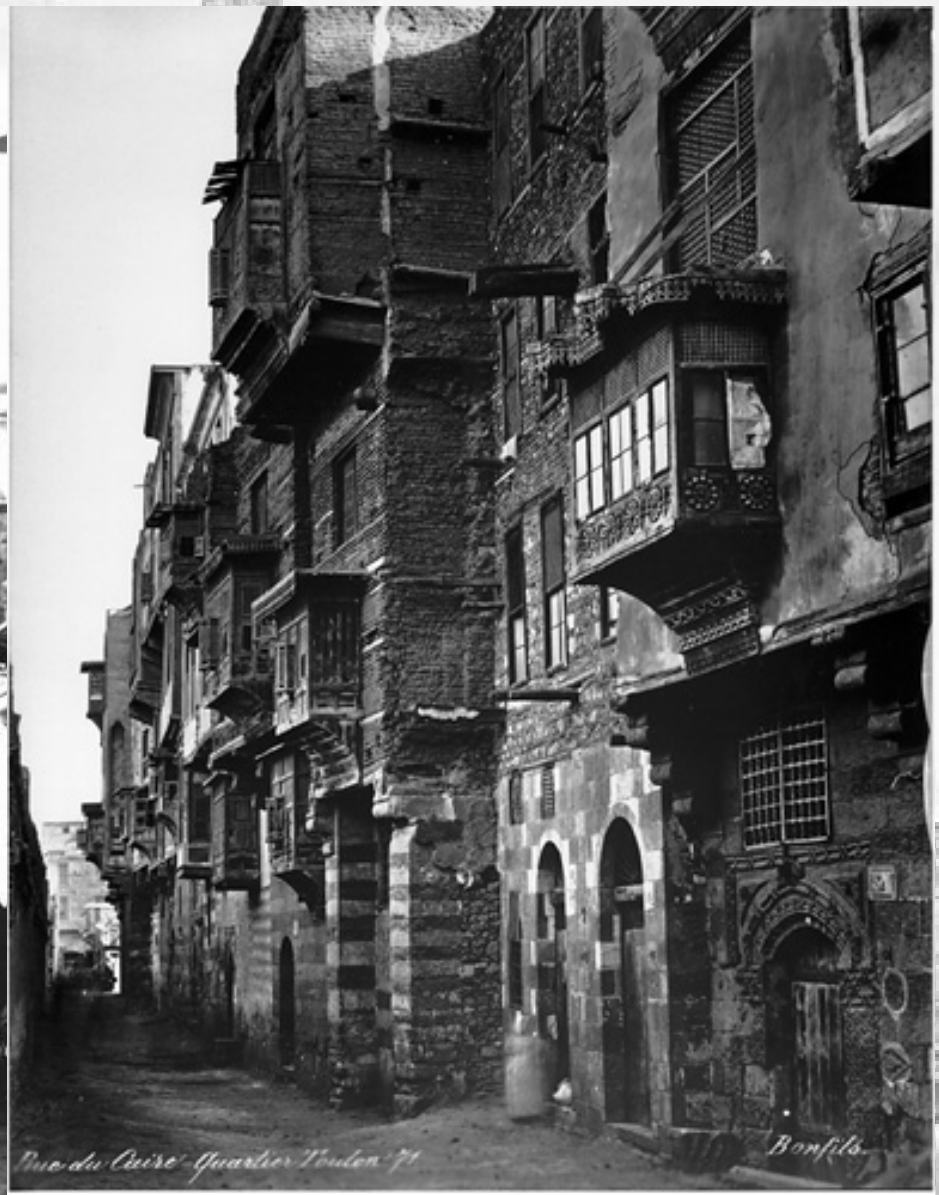
Cairo is the greatest city of Egypt. But the extremely precious historic core, from which today's huge metropolis grew, is in great danger.



A black and white photograph of a narrow street in Historic Cairo, showing multi-story buildings with balconies and a street sign.

Historic Cairo is now spreading over more than 450sq km

- **Occupied by some 16 million people**
- **Severe housing shortages**
- **Unemployment rate of 20 %**
- **Many of the historic district are ruinous and given over to virtual slums.**
- **Poverty, unemployment and illiteracy**
- **Lack of awareness of the value of historic buildings.**



Cairo at 19th Century

217 Balcons (Moutahar)

J.P. Sebah



Cairo...now

Wall for water flows, now becomes a trash area

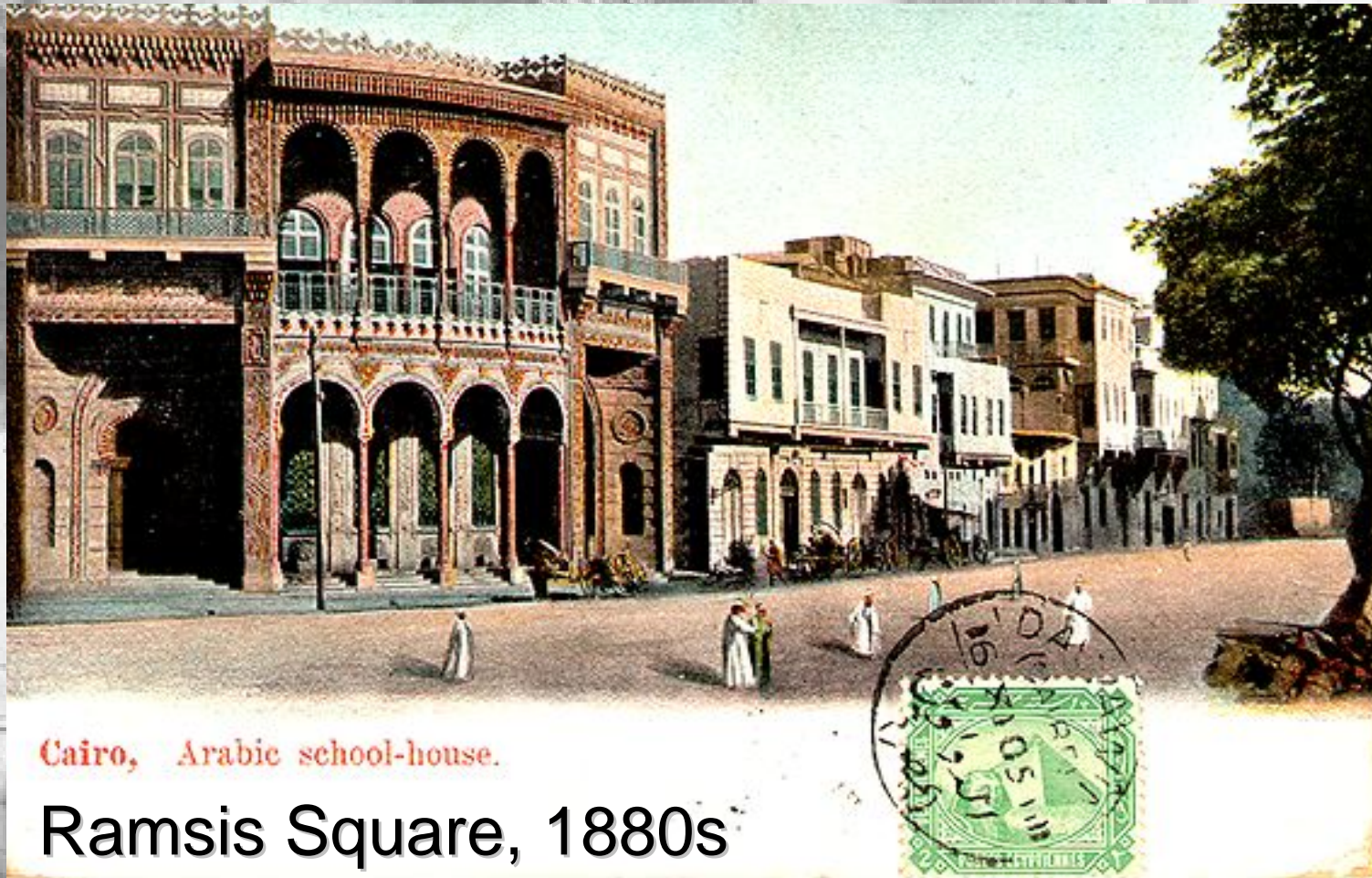


Monuments deterioration , context isn't fitting



Some monuments drowned

Yet historic Cairo has a distinctive architectural identity and contains the largest concentration of Islamic monuments in the world, both in quality and in quantity. The historic components are included in Unesco's Heritage List, **but Historic Cairo is not considered as a World Heritage Site, or any of its components.**



Cairo, Arabic school-house.

Ramsis Square, 1880s

Previous Actions taken:

- 1- Urban Planning Plenary Session (Identical Sectors Report) 1988
- 2- The Supreme Council of Antiques & Cairo Municipality 1993
Incomplete studies for putting the borders
- 5- Aga Khan Trust for Culture, Historic Cities Programme
Raw model of Conservation
- 6- Council of Ministers Decision 2007
Construction Law, Urban Harmony section 2008

Activities already done in the project

1. Analysis

Tissue, Monument compilations, circulations, activities, physical & administrative boundaries

2. Surveys, Reviews in original Historic Maps (training)

3. Concluding & Putting the Final Borders of the Area

4. Classify the area into three main categories According to Monuments Density, Importance & unique urban tissue excising

Proposed borders for Historic Cairo

Category A

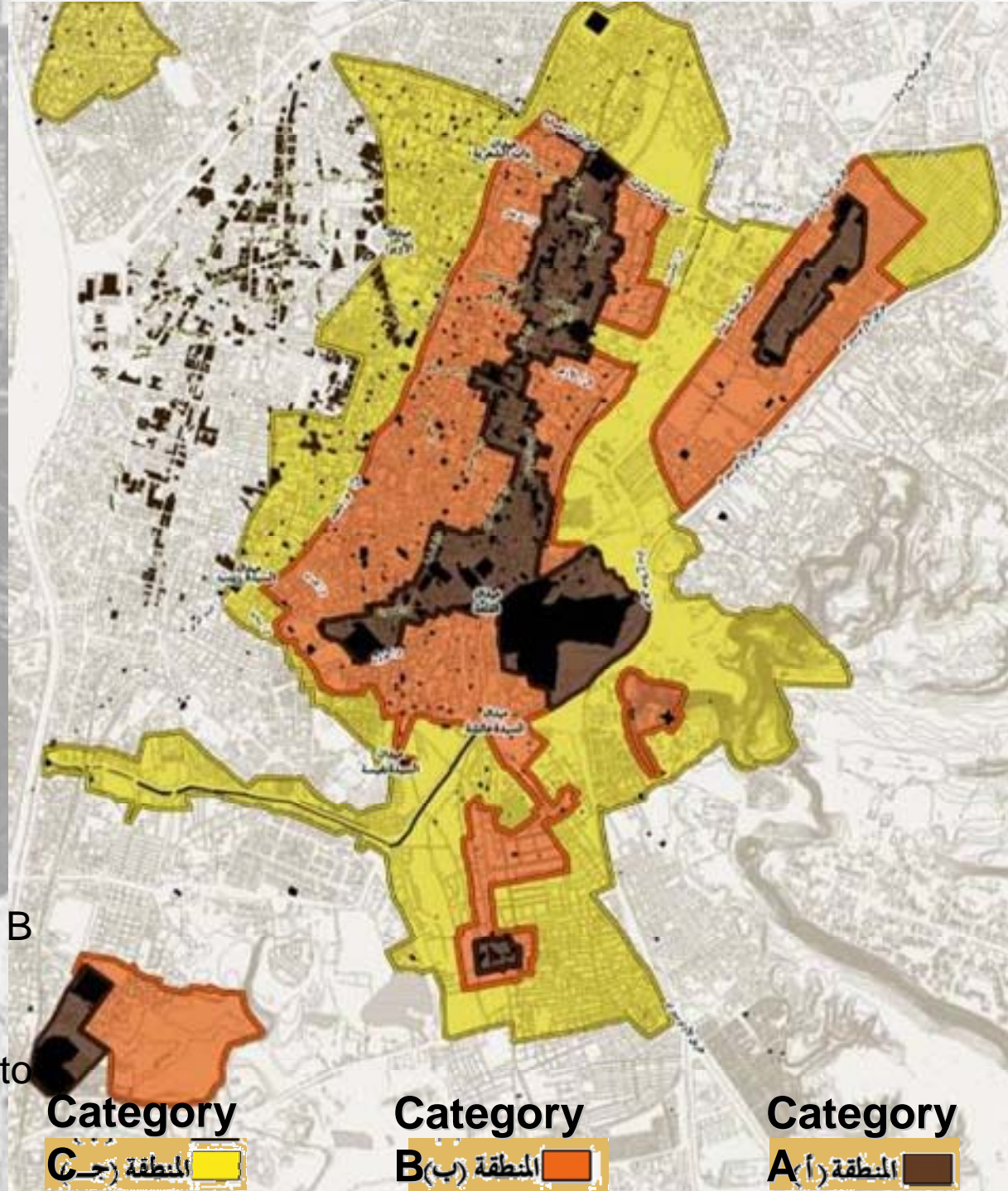
High density of valuable & monuments, & distinct urban tissue

Category B

Medium intensity gives the sense of history and the fabric is original or mixed
Buffer zone for area A

Category C

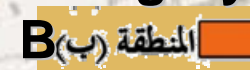
Buffer zone for both areas A & B
Includes some individual monuments
Important Visual axis, Preface to historic area



Category



Category



Category



Stakeholders



Decision makers :

- Ministry of Culture :The National Organization for Urban Harmony, The Supreme Council of Antiquities
- Ministry of Economic Development (Planning)
- Ministry of Infrastructure
- Ministry of Transportation
- Cairo Municipality

Implementers :

- Cairo Municipality
- Related administrative quarters
- Housing Association
- Community/ Citizens
- Private contractors
- Relevant NGOs

Stakeholders (continued)

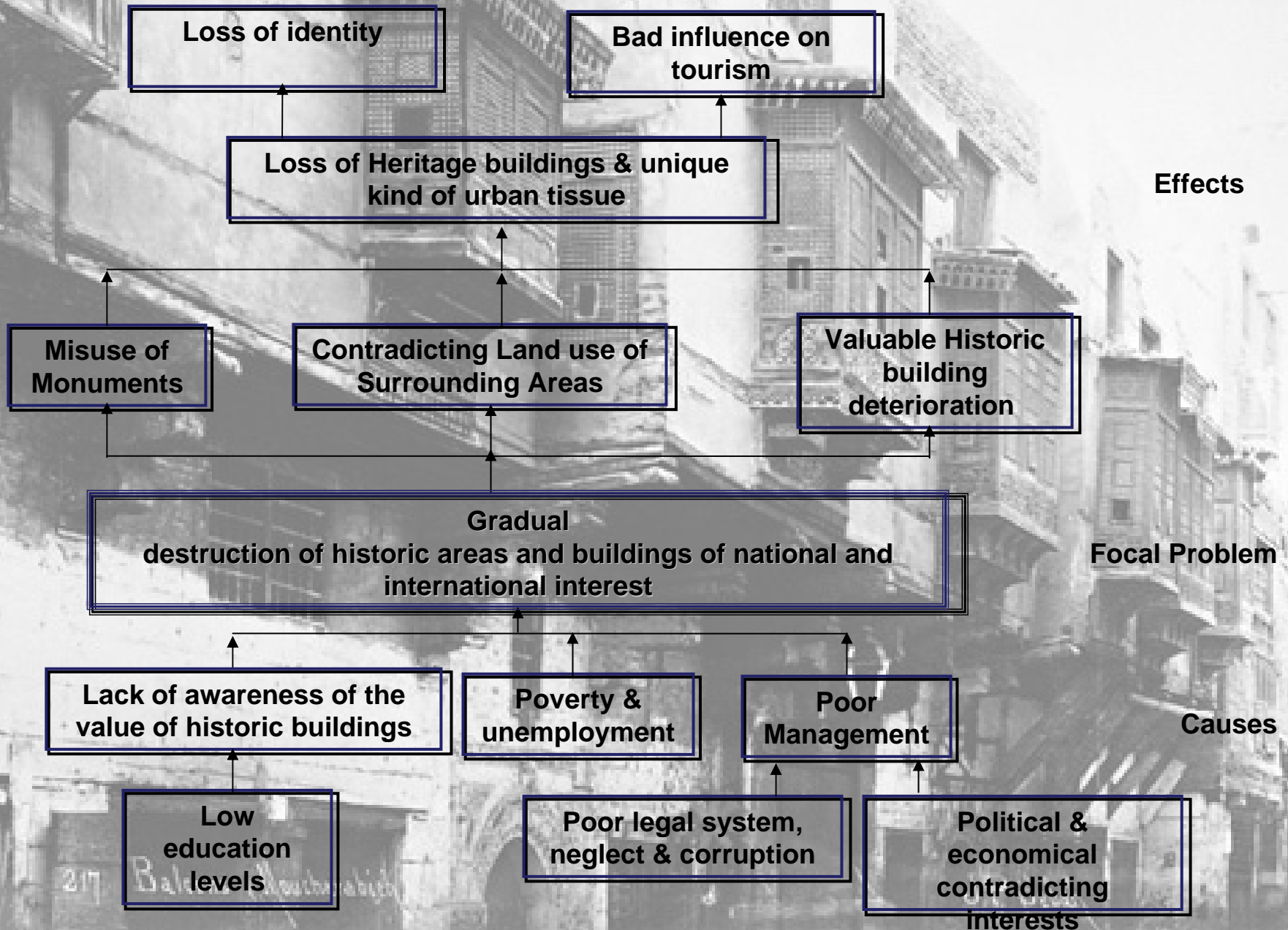
Financiers:

- Ministry of International Cooperation
- Ministry of Culture : The National Organization for Urban Harmony
- Relevant NGOs
- Cairo Municipality
- Property Owners & Communities

Target Group / Beneficiaries:

- Tourism business
- Property owners (Galleries, shops & restaurants)
- Historic Cairo Inhabitants
- Private contractors
- Labors in small businesses like jewelries, potteries...etc inside historic Cairo
- Mosque Imams (Religious Leaders)
- Relevant NGOs

Problem & Situation Analysis





Cairo 19th Century

Objective Analysis



Development Objectives

- Historic buildings & urban tissue conservation
- Tourism attraction
- Economic & social upgrading

Project Purpose

- Combine previous related efforts & studies have made together with final delimitation of Historic Cairo
- Putting special standards & guidelines for new urban & architecture projects inside historical Cairo
- Enforce Stakeholders to accept the project depending on Law no.(119) 2008



Results

- Clear & well defined Historic Cairo limitations, which contains the unique monuments & urban tissue
- Controlling new projects within Historic Cairo so as to keep the harmony in buildings & don't deform the original tissue
- Improve awareness, better education opportunities
- Improve income level of the inhabitants, workers Property owners in the area
- Improve tourism business/ activities

Bymarestan Mo'ayedey (Hospital) 2005



Sultan Hassan Mosque,

Plan of Activities

1. **Analysis of the Planned Process**
2. **Organizational Setup**
3. **Continuous Reference Group Meetings Throughout the Process**
4. **Launching Activities**
 - Renewal of the economic base.
 - Increase in investment.
 - Revitalization of the financial structure to both fund and maintain a restoration effort through a viable authorities.
 - Active participation.



Launching will be through :

Trainings

Exhibitions

Public Hearing (women & children included)

TV ads

Brochures...etc

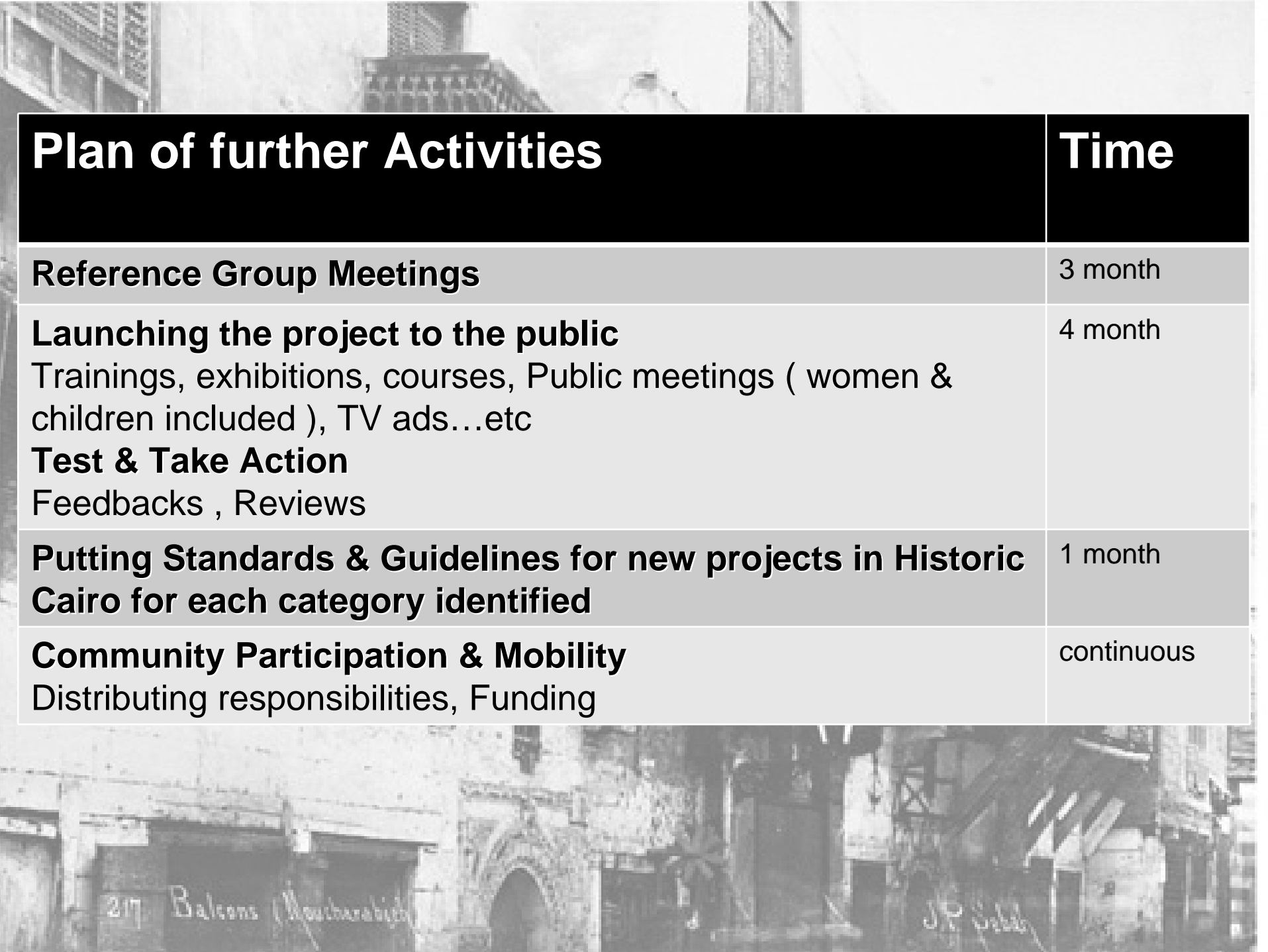
5. Test & Take Action

Feedbacks , Reviews

6. Putting Standards & Guidelines for new projects in Historic Cairo for each category identified

7. Community Participation & Mobility

Distributing responsibilities, Funding



Plan of further Activities	Time
Reference Group Meetings	3 month
Launching the project to the public Trainings, exhibitions, courses, Public meetings (women & children included), TV ads...etc	4 month
Test & Take Action Feedbacks , Reviews	
Putting Standards & Guidelines for new projects in Historic Cairo for each category identified	1 month
Community Participation & Mobility Distributing responsibilities, Funding	continuous

Resource Planning



Equipments

- Original Maps
- Documenting utilities
- Loud Speakers
- Info Materials
- Vehicles
- Electronic Supplies/ Head lights
- Digital Cameras
- Projectors
- Stands for exhibitions in open spaces...etc



Extra Staffing Needs

- Students as field workers
- Marketing people
- Other professionals like carpenters etc.

Premises

- Exhibition Halls
- Meeting Venues...etc

Funding through grants & credits (cost-sharing) from :

- Ministry of International Cooperation
- Ministry of Culture : The National Organization for Urban Harmony
- Cairo Municipality
- National and/ or international donors
- Related NGOs
- Property Owners & Community

Supporting Activities/ Decisions

-Aga Khan Trust for Culture, Historic Cities Programme (Raw Model of Conservation)

- The Azhar Park Project in Cairo
- Conservation and Revitalization of Darb al-Ahmar (part of Historic Cairo)
- Excavation and extensive restoration of the 12th Century Ayyubid wall
- Rehabilitation of important monuments and landmark buildings
- Encompassed an extensive social development programme, including apprenticeship arrangements, housing rehabilitation, micro-credit and health care facilities.

-Council of Ministers Decision 2008

some articles of Law No. 119 of 2008- Chapter II, to determine the responsibility of Identifying areas of outstanding value to the National Organization for Urban Harmony & the development of the bases and criteria for dealing with them.



Risk Analysis & Risk Management



Obstacles for implementation :

- Political & economical contradicting interests or views
- Community mistrust
they will not act positively
- Lack of funding
- Insufficient/ inaccurate information
- Difficulty controlling maintenance
- Some parties related to the project are not cooperative

Expected Outcomes



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Thank you..

