Research Field Development for Community and Heritage in Egypt

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Abstract

In the last years there has been a collapse in Research Field Our project contributes the development of the scientific research system in Egypt.

Findings: there is a lack of organizations that aim to develop scientific research field in addition there is no awareness from community specially educated class of the value of scientific research field. The efficiency of scientific field in Egypt isn't suitable enough to contribute in conserve heritage and community restoration.

Practical implications: our case study is located in "Soor Magra Al Oyoon" district which is considered a cultural heritage district where "Soor Magra Al Oyoon Wall" is located, which is considered the main land mark of this district, it is facing many problems, it is partly dilapidated and surrounded with slums, this slums have a lot of issues such as population and health problems. Our basic design of study including; Historical study about 'Soor Magra Al Oyoon' heritage, Social, Legal , Urban studies and SWOT analysis for the current situation. As a result of our analysis and studies in the context of the research topic, we found that the most suitable types of innovation centers are 'Medical Research Center' and 'Monument Restoration and Research Center'.

1. Introduction

Heritage is features that belong to the culture of a specific community, like believes, traditions, culture, languages, or buildings, which were created in the past and still have historical significance. People don't appreciate or give attention to their heritage cause they don't have awareness about their culture and its value. (Cambridge Dictionary, 2019).

Poverty, illiteracy and health care deterioration play a pivotal role in people awareness absence. Information is the best weapon to confront heritage degradation by people awareness raising , "people become more inclined to study something of which they can reach, easily grasp of, and can discover an individual and solitary meaning." (Hoskins, 1959) (Perez & Templanza, 2012).

This personal and individual meaning may involve the experiences and records of such persons, events or events in the area to which they belong. This is generally part of the scenario of what is called local history. Mibolos (1998) assigned the local history to Group experiences for a specific group of people.

As the informational approach, especially local studies, differs by time, the idea of dealing with these information changes subsequently. In addition to libraries involvement in this Intellectual transformation, also other associations like museums and archives and recently also the research centers. (Julius, Perez & Templanza, 2012)

The paper is based on the case study approach by concentrating on the urban regeneration of Soor Magra Al Oyoon, Cairo, Egypt. The experimental survey used extensive fieldwork conducted during several site visits. The paper debate that a method to rediscover the urban identity of Soor Magra Al Oyoon is to return to its roots trying to preserve them in a confrontation of arising global environments. Along the Urban Heritage Regeneration scheme, this paper scout a new practice in Egypt of creating a new urban identity influenced by heritage.

The fundamental interest of this paper is to recognize and describe the nature, habits and status, with affirmation on programs, projects and services, of research centers in Cairo. Specially, the next research queries were inspected:

1. What are the features and status of Research centers in the Egypt?

2. What are the contributions of research centers to history, culture and heritage studies?

3. What are the impacts of these contributions of research centers to history, culture and heritage studies in Cairo specially in 'Soor Magra Al Oyoon' district?

2. Historical Review

Research centers were linked to the development of the *scientific revolution*, which was one of the products of the modern industrial revolution, while these centers were integrated in the beginning of their establishment in the centers of scientific institutions and universities. Over time, they have become industrial in the light of the integration of scientific institutions in industry. And design their policies while conducting research and studies to develop new products for companies or undertake the task of developing existing products.

3. Literature Review

A research center is a facility or building devoted to research, usually with concentration on a certain area. The research center is dedicated to research on a broad variety of aspects of historical investigation covering from classical antiquity to nowadays time. Research concerns are primarily aimed on the cultural, social, political, economic and etc..

Research center is recognized to be an organization that merges a records office, a research library and occasionally a museum (see Figure 1). (Julius, Perez &Templanza, 2012)

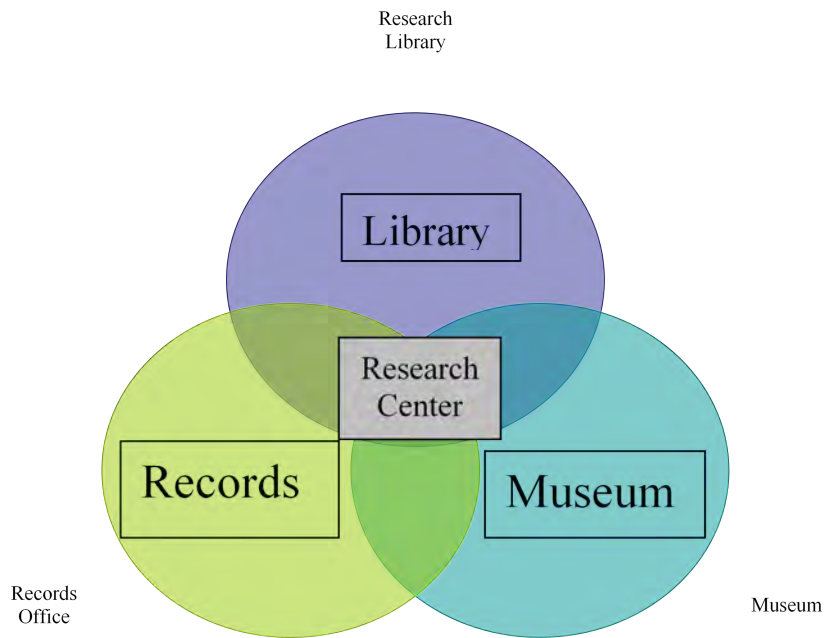Research center is a broad facility has a lot of components (see Figure 2)

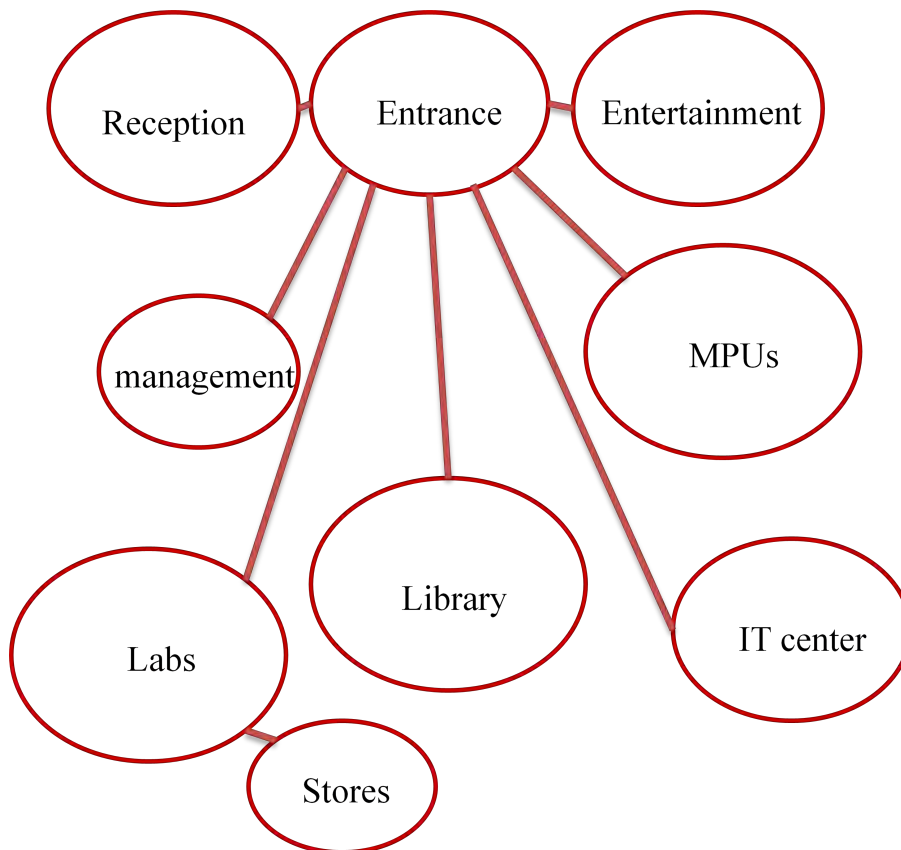Figure 1. Research center: a library, records office and a museum.

Figure 2. TheResearch center components

4. Aims

The major aims of the research center:

* Offering a hub for research activities associated to Egyptian community.

* Further advanced research in the wide field of Egyptian Heritage conservation.

* Facilitating cooperation between members of team working in similar fields across variety of types of research centers.

* Stimulating and supporting multidisciplinary research particularly across the civic health care and heritage preservation.

5. Case study

Lately, the UN Special Report in the area of cultural rights has indicated that the intentional devastation of cultural heritage is a violation of cultural rights. The Report explores a timely issue but stands on fine identifications' 'heritage' as irreplaceable and 'destruction' as ideologically inspired and assertive.

5.1. Heritage regions crisis in Egypt

Now it seems that Egypt too may be suffering from the effects of the breakdown in security that has taken place over the past three years and since the 25 January Revolution. While no one is suggesting that this breakdown has led to the kind of losses seen in other Arab countries, where heritage sites and establishments have in some cases been seriously damaged or even partly ruined, the situation of also archaeological areas near Cairo is getting further disturbing. (Al-Ahram weekly, 2014).

5.2. Soor Magra Al Oyoon region crisis:

One of the most famous walls of historic Cairo is the wall of the eye stream in the Citadel and Ancient Egypt, which dates back to the reign of the Ayyubid state. The region surrounding the wall Considered one of the heritage regions in Cairo and Egypt.

The wall that contains a water-conveying arch and runs 2,800 km from the mouth of the Gulf to the Bab Al-Qarafa area, by Aisha. The remaining part of the water cannons and the wall of the eye were about three kilometers long.

Figure 3. The wheel of Soor Magra Al Oyoon

Soor Magra Al Oyoon is considered a cultural heritage district where "Soor Magra Al Oyoon Wall" is located, which is considered the main land mark of this district, it is facing many threats, it is partly dilapidated and surrounded with slums, this slums have a lot of issues such as population and health problems (Fig 4) .

Figure 4. Soor Magra Al Oyoon Wall surroundings

5.3. Egyptian government plan to restore 'Soor Magra Al Oyoon' district

The General Organization for Urban Planning, in cooperation with the Institute for Planning and Exclusion of the Paris Region (the Institut d'Amenagement et D'Urbanisme de La Region Ile de France-IAURIF), is establishing a project for restoration of 'Soor Magra Al Oyoon' district and through a clear general framework with the area, north residential area of Al-Uyun and the south residential area of Al-Uyun. This has achieved a set of specific objectives for development in the region, and its integration with the surrounding areas and other urban areas, has been in the stages of clear and integrated steps to access the development process, which are as follows:

Definition of the objective of the project: the process of developing the eye stream and upgrading through the transfer and replacement of unwanted uses (Almdab and tanneries) and dealing with it

Studies and preliminary surveys of the project: the collection of data on the project at different levels of architecture, to the basic data in the region.

Identify problems, potentials and determinants install the design of the area to access the processes of upgrading and development.
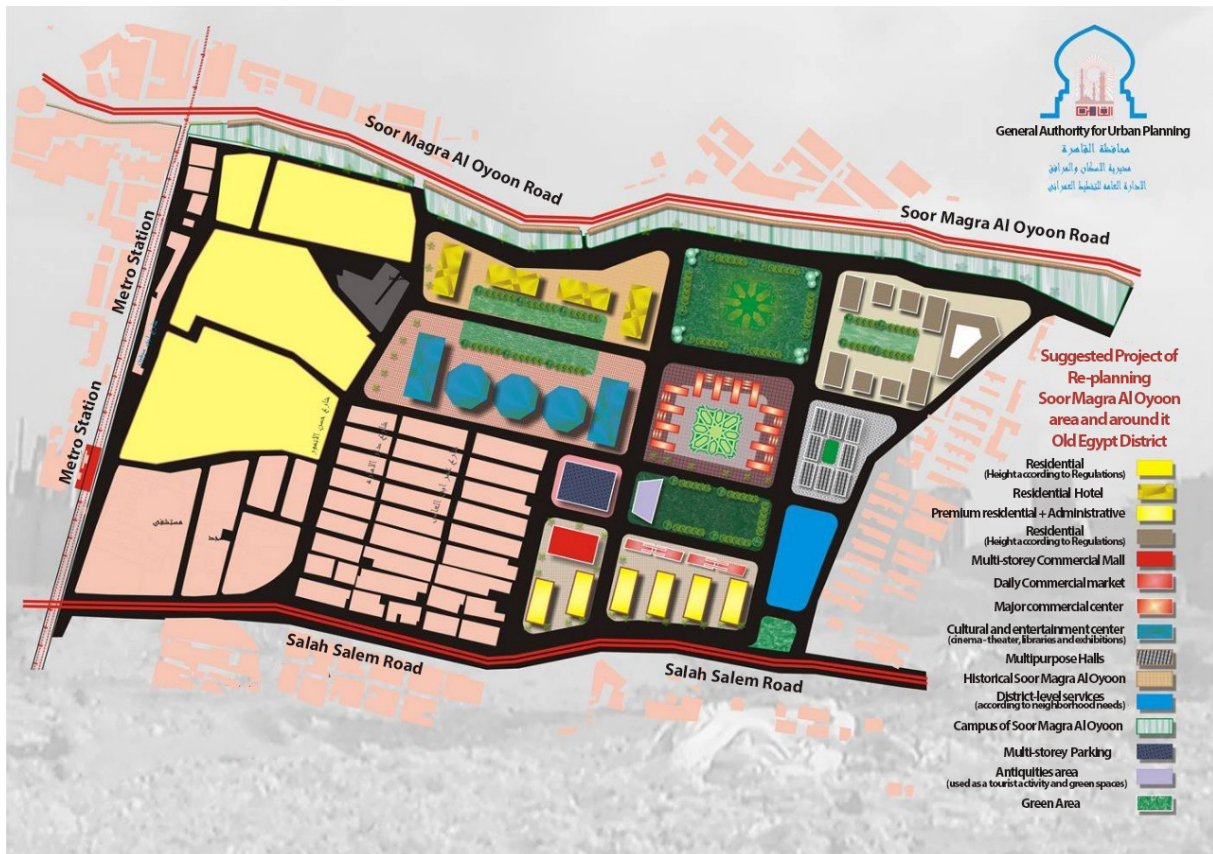
Figure 5. Government suggestedurban plan for Soor Magra Al Oyoon region restoration

5.4. Research centers role in developing Soor Magra Al Oyoon region

The development project, according to Abdul-Aziz, the director general of Cairo Historic Development Project, aims at improving the public and health environment of the residents of the area, developing and maintaining the facilities network, establishing a non-polluting environmental community to increase the economic environment of the region, Tanneries after removal, and improving the living conditions of the population.

These aims can be realized by establishing a research center in the district, as the research centers offer several advantages to academic organizations. Research centers can assist in facilitating cooperation in research, safe research resources, propose a sense of community and encourage continual knowledge, provide organizational flexibility, and emphasis on community challenges and raise funds.

6. Method:

Survey analysis and investigations are the research technique utilized in this study. A structured online questionnaire was used for data collection for the community's opinion concerning the importance of the research center for the development and heritage conservation.

The questionnaire was targeting researchers, students, and others to measure the different perception of different levels of people to the importance of research center and how they see the role of the research center in the development of the country and in the Heritage conservation.

7. Results:

7.1. First Question: Do you think that the research filed has a big role in developing the society?

While the first question was measuring the importance of research center according to the different levels, the result was confirming the importance of the research center by over 85% from the different levels.
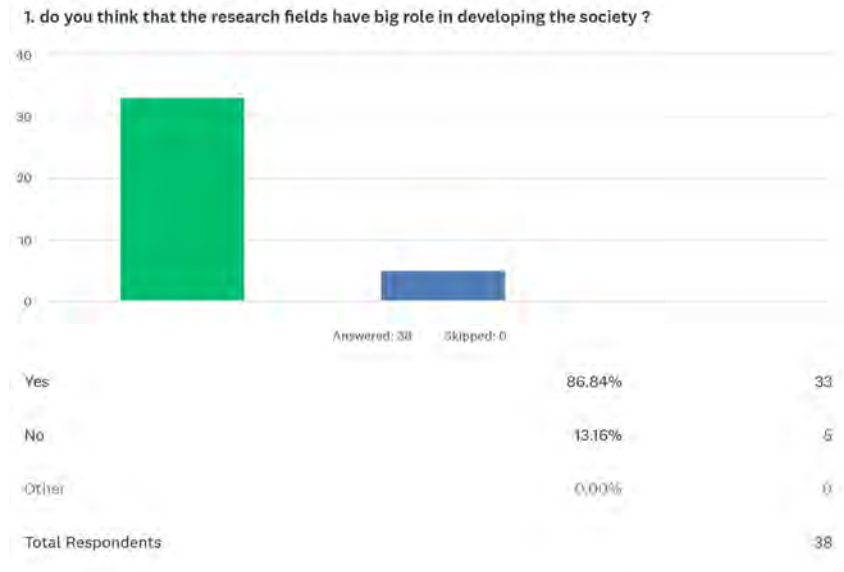

Figure 6. Average of answers of the first question

7.2. Second Question: In your opinion; is Egypt a suitable place for implementing Scientific research Complexes?

The second question was measuring the community's opinion about the suitability of implementing scientific research center in the country, the result was ranging for about 60% suitability for a scientific research center while about 40% see it as unsuitable.
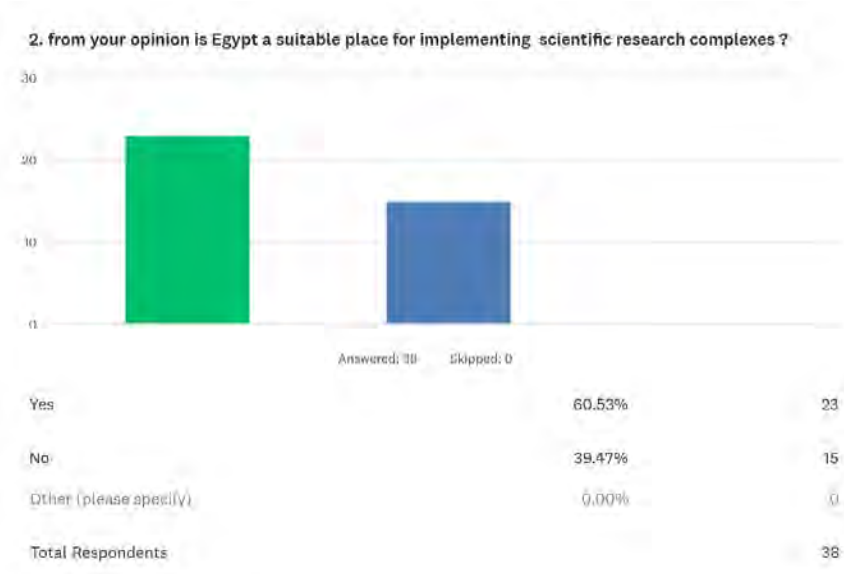

Figure 7. Average of answers of the second question

7.3. Third Question: From your point of view; are the research centers considered from the priorities of the developing plan for Egyptian Government?

The third question considering the priority of the research center in the Egyptian development plan, the result shows a percentage of over 75% see it as considered of great priority, while the rest see as not considered priority.
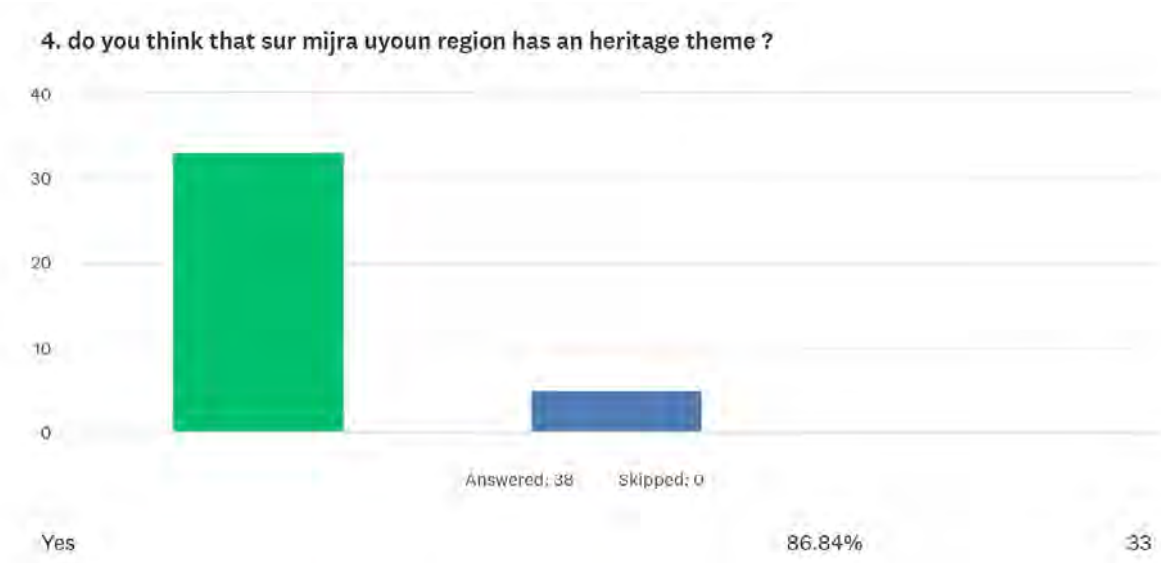

Figure 8. Average of answers of the third question

7.4. Fourth Question: Do you think that Soor Magra Al Oyoon region has a Heritage Theme?

In the fourth question the perception for the heritage of Soor Magra Al Oyoon was being investigated as being valued by the citizens, the result was confirming its value with over 85%.
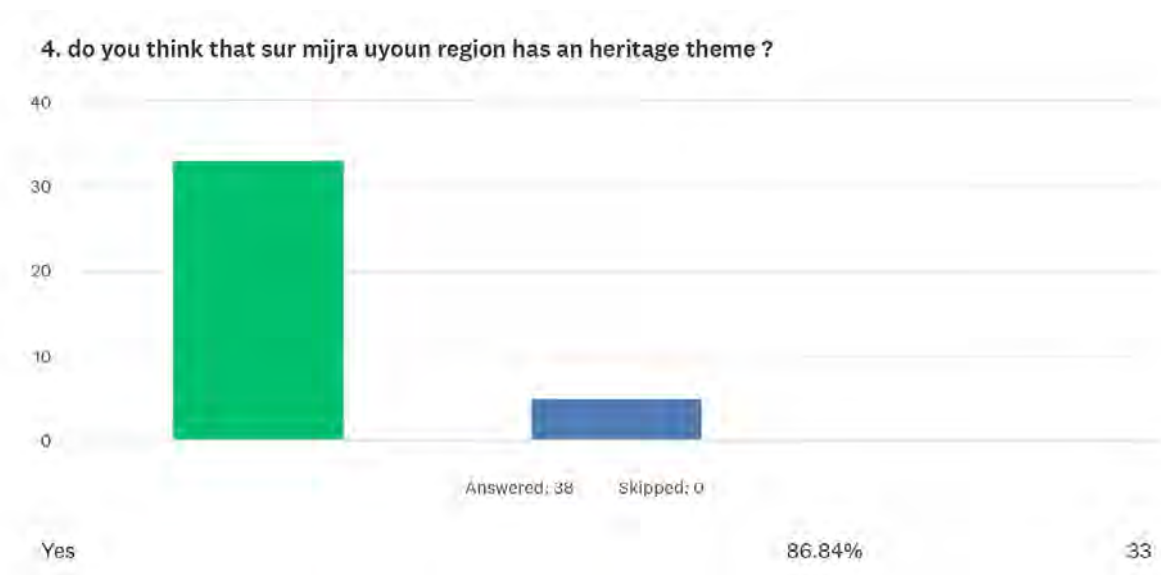

Figure 9. Average of answers of the fourth question

7.5. Fifth Question: What types of research centers could contribute in developing Soor Magra Al Oyoon district?

In the last question the recommended type of research center was investigated between 4 main types, the result was focused on two main types; Medical research centers and Heritage and Monuments restoration Center.
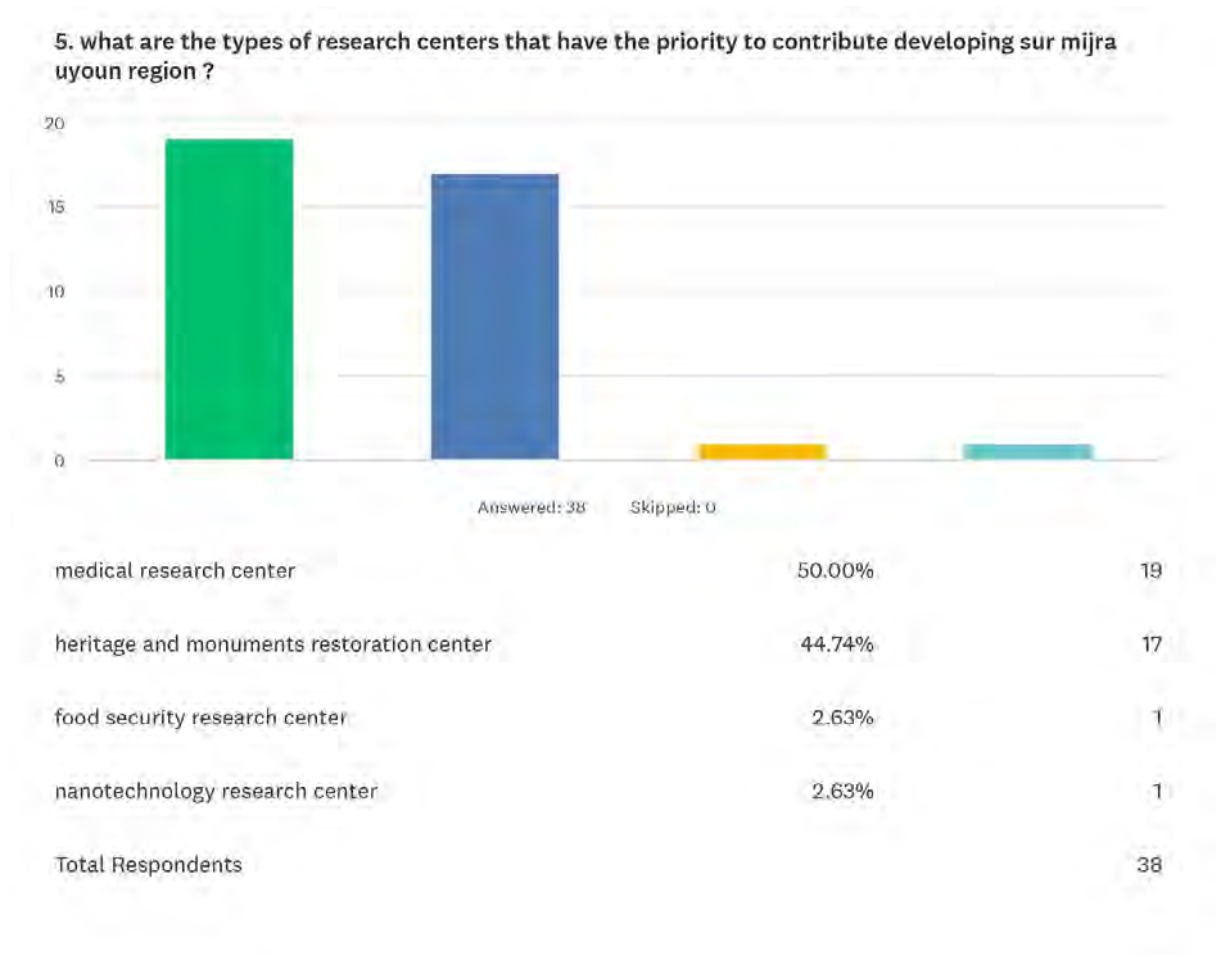

5. what are the types of research centers that have the priority to contribute developing sur mijra uyoun region ?

Answered: 38   Skipped: 0

medical research center	50.00%	19
heritage and monuments restoration center	44.74%	17
food security research center	2.63%	1
nanotechnology research center	2.63%	1
Total Respondents		38

Figure 10. Average of answers of the fifth question

8. Proposed types of research center for Soor Magra Al Oyoon:

8.1. Types of Research Centers suggested:

According to studies about the region we recommend that the most effective types of research center that will contribute developing the region are:

– Heritage research center

– Medical research center

5. what are the types of research centers that have the priority to contribute developing sur mijra uyoun region ?

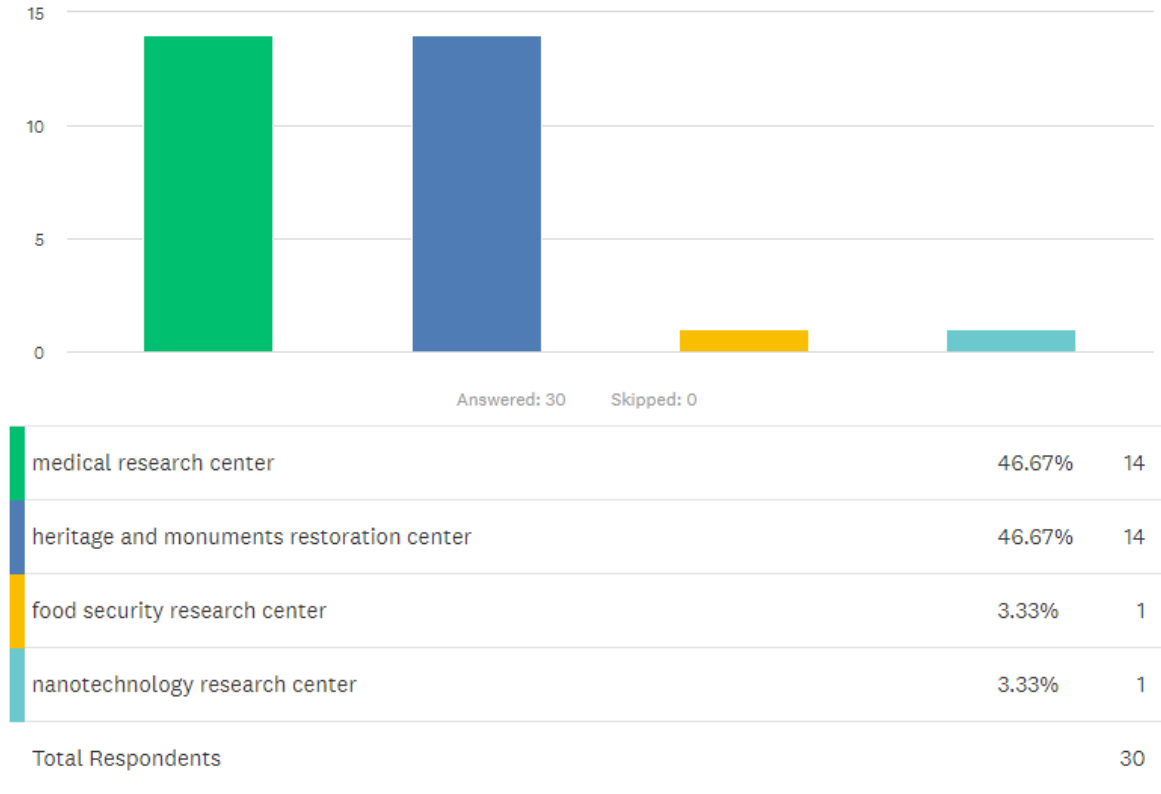|		
medical research center	46.67%	14
heritage and monuments restoration center	46.67%	14
food security research center	3.33%	1
nanotechnology research center	3.33%	1
Total Respondents		30

Figure 11. The most effective types of research centers according to studies

8.2. Location suggestions

According to previous studies about the Soor Magra Al Oyoon region we recommend research center locations at the region.

Figure 12. Recommended locations

9. Conclusion and Recommendations

As a conclusion to the studies and survey done on this research, it has been noticed that the research centers in Egypt is a very neglected in the development plan of the Egyptian Government; while it has a major role in heritage conservation and community development of the country. Therefore, a special attention should be paid for the importance of research centers in multidisciplinary areas. To maintain and reach a heritage conservation; community empowerment should play an important role by increasing the awareness to the cultural heritage and maximizing the role of research centers in the development.

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