3.26 Sustainability Evaluation for Low Cost Housing projects in Sudan: with special reference to Khartoum State Fund for Housing and Development projects

Zuhal Eltayeb Awad 1* and Zeineb Osman 2

1Building and Road Research Institute, University of Khartoum; *zuhaeltayeb@yahoo.com
2Building and Road Research Institute, University of Khartoum

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The Low Cost housing projects in developing countries can be considered a burden more than an investment for governing bodies, trying to apply proper sustainable standards can sometimes be considered a luxury, even though housing projects should be more than a roof over head. It is a community and a source of social and economic development. Because of the lack of adequate assessment criteria for sustainable development in low cost housing projects, a poor living environment and lack of public participation in neighbourhood construction and development has occurred. This research aims to answer the important question; how can equitable, variable and sustainable housing be promoted within a framework of a sustainable neighbourhood? This study examines the sustainability of neighbourhood in Low Cost housing projects in Sudan; accordingly a framework was developed to focus on three main levels: the urban level, the neighbourhood level and the housing level. Five low cost housing projects developed by Khartoum State Fund for Housing and Development are selected as case studies: (Elthora hara 75, Elthora hara 72, Eltelal 1, El Wadi Elakhader 21 and Elandalas 17) in order to assess the current situation in terms of urban morphology, housing typology, urban mobility, Employment and income generation and sustainable building technologies. The paper developed a set of assessment tools for low-cost sustainable neighbourhood to monitor the ongoing development of these projects and recommended introduction of mix land-use within the new low-cost projects and examine developing new housing types that may enhance and improve the local situation of the neighbourhoods.