Abstract
Housing and Construction Industry contributes significantly to the prosperity of nations. The share of Housing sector and construction industry to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and Gross Fixed Capital Formation (GFCF) shows, to some extent, the level of development of that nation. This industry accounts for a sizeable proportion of worldwide economic activity. Productivity and profitability increases within housing and construction would therefore have sustainable benefits to the broader economy.

The Objective of housing in general is to provide facilities necessary for the economic development and well being of the people. The building materials and components industries are some of the most important inputs for the construction industry.

This paper is supposed to describe the general features of the building materials used in the housing sector in developing countries in general and Sudan in specific i.e. definition, materials as an indicator of development, the traditional and modern sectors, trade structure, production, trends in demand an supply.

The availability, supply, quality, and distribution of materials are one of the most serious problems facing the construction industry and Housing Sector in Sudan. This situation motivated the authors to attempt to throw light on it.

Comparative analysis on different and complimentary building materials is needed to determine the most suitable and feasible materials to be used in housing in Sudan.

Keywords: Housing, Building Materials, Construction Industry, Economy, Demand, Supply