



5th International Conference on Research in Applied Science

11-13 March, 2022
Berlin, Germany

Slums in Casablanca: Assessment of the VSB program, case study: Er-hamna Slum

M.A. Sakina Boufarsi ¹, Prof. Dr. Behiye Isik Aksuku ², Prof. Dr. Mehmet Emre Aysu ³

Istanbul Okan University, Faculty of Architecture and Design, Istanbul, Turkey

Abstract

The Cities Without Slums Program (VSBP) is Morocco's most well-known slum elimination initiative. It was established in 2004 on royal orders. The slum clearance effort has resulted in a 66 percent relocation rate. This rapid reduction in slums earned the Moroccan Government, the UN-Habitat Award of Honor in 2010. Nonetheless, slums continue to resist owing to exogenous systemic problems such as the informal sector, as well as flaws in the housing delivery system in the context of the clearance program.

This issue will be addressed by exploring the previous strategies and analyzing in details the strengths and shortcomings of the recent VSB Program. One of these flaws is the inability of mechanisms intended at slum dwellers to gain access to property ownership, the concentration on clearing land rather than establishing new communities, and the one-size-fits-all strategy. This study examines the current literature on slums in the Third World in order to place the problem in a theoretical context. Following that, the focus is on Moroccan slum policy, with an analysis of prior strategies and the VSB program, to address slum concerns.

Then, the focus is placed on whether enhancing physical housing comfort is a significant element in people's improvement of their living condition, using an analysis through Er-hamna slum, to explore the suitability of these option in regard to the overall actual situation of the slum dwellers and assessing people attitudes towards resettlement, and therefore to direct an improved and valuable recommendations to address the slum problem at all levels.

Keywords: eradication of slums; resettlement projects; slums policies; VSB program