



Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst
German Academic Exchange Service



- Meeting of Architecture Students -

MAS # 4 REPORT

HISTORIC DISTRICTS FOR TOMORROW

Cairo University, October 25th – 26th, 2015
Transformation Partnership in Urban Design
and Architecture

MEETING OF ARCHITECTURE STUDENTS OF EGYPT (MAS)

Cairo University, October 27th, 2015

Brief

MAS is an initiative that brings together students of architecture from different Egyptian universities, in a friendly environment. Where they get to connect, exchange and develop.

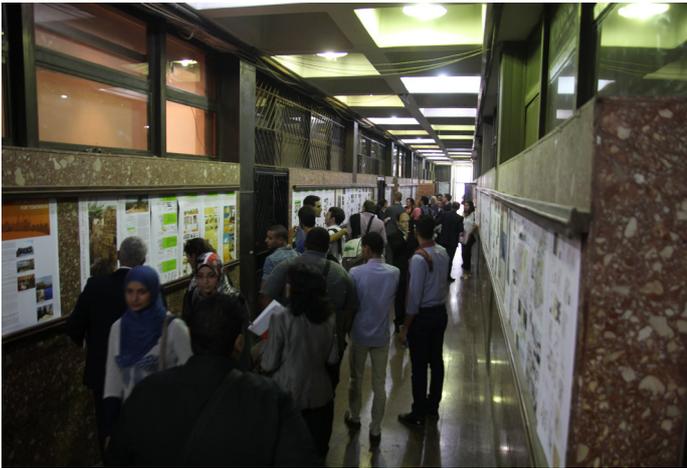
The idea to establish such a network in Egypt started at the change by exchange workshops between Cairo, Alexandria and BTU Cottbus.

In the past year, four student meetings were organized, in different Egyptian cities, Cairo, Alexandria and Port Said. The meetings which were composed of discussions, presentations, city walks/rides and activities, also created bonds between students from different universities that pushed them to collaborate in their own study or projects. This kind of snowball effect is exactly what we look for in **MAS**.



MAS#4

Cairo University



MAS #4 took place as a part of the “Historic districts of tomorrow” conference, students from 10 universities and 5 Egyptian cities attended, in addition to guests from Germany, for three days this group had the following experiences:

1- Historic cities conference; for the first two days, the students attended lectures for top Egyptian Professionals, expanding their knowledge and making new contacts

2- City tours: for the three days, the students would have group dinners and once they joined on a night bicycle ride discovering Cairo in a new way. The activity of city touring is an important part of MAS meetings, local students always try to show their colleagues the hidden gems that they love in their cities. For the cairenes among us, the growing movement of cycling in Cairo and popular cairene food spots were some lovely and architecturally significant details we had to share.





3- Discussions: the third day was solely for students. Students would present an initiative they started, a unique experience they had, a project they made, a conference they attended or a book they read. All of these discussions were related to the theme 'right to the city'. After that, questions and conversations among them develop, some of these would continue in the lunch breaks, and some would evolve to further cooperations. In all cases, students were very provoked by the topics as it felt very relevant to their studies and urban experiences

4- MAS discussion; it Was important to look at the next steps for MAS. So, we decided to show the students how the idea started, how it works and what we need to do. At the end, we got students from several universities willing to organize the next MAS





5- Group activity: in all MAS meetings, students tour a city, and have experiences in places that are usually not listed on any map. So, as a group activity students would design maps for four cities, personalized maps that has interesting information that is only known by the locals.

6- Guest lecture; We invited a lecturer who is one of the most important architects working in participatory urban development in Cairo. His work defends the rights of people to the city. Hence, his lecture was consistent with our topic. Also, students from Cairo university has to work in a university project on an area he worked in before. So, his lecture was especially important to those students.

7- Podium discussion: at the end of MAS 4 it was a very strong opportunity to present our initiative to our invited professors from Cairo University and BTU Cottbus, and had a discussion about the current structure and future plan of MAS; and it was very fruitful discussion between professors, organizers and the participating students.

This was the program of **MAS # 4**. Seeing the enthusiasm of the students, their thanks messages and further cooperation, encourages us to consider it a very successful event.



MAS#4 Cairo University

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