

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Ms. Amal Kamal Ali was born in Cairo, Egypt. Her parents believed in the importance of education and did their best to provide good education for their children. After finishing the high school, she decided to study urban and regional planning, although it was unknown as a field of study. She received her bachelor's degree, then her master of urban and regional planning from Cairo University. She worked as an engineer in one of the largest construction companies in Egypt, then as a researcher in the Ministry of Industry. She had the opportunity to pursue PhD studies in the USA through a scholarship from the World Bank. Her dreams to contribute to the development of less developed countries brought her to Florida State University, in which a program for international development planning is offered. Her background as a graduate student from a developing country and her studies in the USA made her recognize that planning should be understood as shared experience in which developing and developed countries could learn from each other's experience. Therefore, she conducted her dissertation in growth management in Florida, which contributes not only to the field of growth management, but also to international development planning. Her doctoral studies were funded by a scholarship from the World Bank; and departmental teaching and research awards and a dissertation research grant from Florida State University. Her major research areas of interest are growth management, regional planning, and international development planning.