



وزارة التعاون الدولي
Ministry of International
Cooperation

International Partnerships for Sustainable Development

WRITING THE FUTURE IN A CHANGING GLOBAL DYNAMIC

Annual Report 2020

“RIGHT WE WRITE”

@RaniaAlMashat

Table of Contents

Chapter 1:

Chapter 2:

Chapter 3:

Chapter 4:

Chapter 5:

Chapter 6:

Chapter 7:

Chapter 8:

Chapter 9:

Chapter 10:

06 Statement of the President

08 Foreword

12 Shifting Mindsets Through Economic Diplomacy

14 With Cooperation Comes Progress

16 Economic Diplomacy: Changing the Face of the Global Economy

50 COVID-19

52 Egypt's Response & Rebuild Strategy
Rebuilding & Recovering with Resilience in the Backdrop of COVID-19

60 Sectors

62 The Road to Somewhere New: Egypt's Development Story

64 Health
Healthier Citizens, Healthier Economy

76 Agriculture and Food Security
From Farm to Table: The Behind the Scenes

88 Gender Equality
Between Economy & Equality: Women's Participation is Macro-Critical

104 Education
Education, Empowerment, Economic Growth

112 Infrastructure
Infrastructure for an Inclusive Economy

122 Transportation
Redefining Safe & Better Transportation

130 Energy
Think Green. Act Green.

138 Water
The Resource that Underpins all Drivers of Growth

144 Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
The Power of 'Small'

152 Jobs of Tomorrow
Digital, Innovative & Sustainable

158 The Digital Economy Powering Global Recovery
Innovation, Digitalization, Entrepreneurship, Actions for a Digitally Transformed World

166 Sinai
Inspiring Stories. Impactful Stories.

172 Private Sector Engagement
Diversification and Job Creation

176 Governance

178 Transparency, Accountability and Governance
Pathway to Effectiveness

182 Africa

184 Unlocking Africa's Potential

190 The Great Reset

192 From the Great Lockdown to the Great Reset

204 Partnerships

206 Partnerships to Accelerate the Goals
Innovative and Inclusive Partnerships

216 Championing Multilateralism

218 Egypt's Story of Resilience Singled out on the Global Stage

224 Active Engagement

226 Active Global Media Engagement

228 Phygital

230 Multilateralism Onground & Online
From Stories to Tweets

Annex

238 2020 Total Development Financing Agreement

Statement by H.E. President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi

75th Session of the UN General Assembly

Egypt, by virtue of its geographic location, its African, Arab, Islamic, and Mediterranean affiliations, the pride it takes that its land extends into Asia and as a founding member of the United Nations, has a clear vision on the approach that should be adopted to improve the performance and enhance the effectiveness of the multilateral system in general and the United Nations in particular.

Egypt firmly believes that fostering developmental efforts is a fundamental precondition to enhance international peace & security and to establish a stable world order. This is the paramount path to prevent extremism, as well as to prevent armed conflicts and humanitarian crises.



Egypt has supported the adoption of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and performed a vital role to support the efforts of the Secretary General to reform the United Nations developmental system, as we believe in the importance of bolstering the Organization's efforts in order to accomplish these optimistic objectives.

While bearing in mind that these efforts are considered as an important initial step on the right path, these efforts have to be followed by additional steps that help the countries to lessen the socioeconomic gap between the developed and developing states, and to cure the problem of financing for development.

Furthermore, the current profound crisis due to COVID-19 pandemic mandates the world to provide support for the developing countries through offering stimulating packages for their economies, reducing their accumulated debt liabilities, and utilizing the available instruments of the international financial institutions aiming at contributing to create a favorable environment for them. This would help these developing countries to contain

the impacts of the pandemic and to deal with their already-existing problems, such as terrorism, disorderly migration and treating the root-causes of conflicts.

At the economic level, it would not have been possible to overcome the difficult and painstaking stages of the structural reform programme without the legitimacy granted by the Egyptian people to state institutions by their direct and free will. The success of these reforms had a major contribution to fortifying the economy and limiting its losses due to the pandemic, taking into consideration that Egypt is among the few countries that were able to achieve positive growth rates despite the pandemic, in addition to controlling inflation rates and the decline of unemployment to its lowest levels in twenty years.

If mere data and statistics do not depict the magnitude of what is being achieved in Egypt, then the best witness and evidence are the tangible and continuous achievements and major national projects in infrastructure, provision of decent housing and energy, especially the production of new and renewable energy, which directly contribute to safeguarding the citizen's right in a decent living.

Structural reform processes have always been precarious due to their negative repercussions on some groups of society. This called upon us to formulate social programmes targeting those on lower income to provide them with the necessary protection, and mitigate the effects of reforms on them in a framework of solidarity that preserves their dignity.

Concurrently, we were keen on prioritizing health care as a fundamental right, as Egypt has already started implementing the universal health coverage programme for all its citizens. In parallel, we succeeded in launching the largest medical survey campaign in history to detect and eliminate hepatitis "C" and non-communicable diseases and dispense free-of-charge treatment for discovered cases. In addition, initiatives were launched to end the waiting lists for critical surgeries, support women's health, and treat various diseases that affect newborns and schoolchildren in particular.

If hope is born out of pain, then perhaps we will find in the current crisis what motivates us to breathe new life into our relentless efforts to enhance international multilateral action and the role of the United Nations as its driving force.

Egypt, as a founding member of the United Nations, and in lieu of its contributions to human civilization since the dawn of history, will spare no effort to achieve the vision of renewal and reform. This is based on a firm conviction that "the world has room for us all." as long as the relations between countries and people are governed by abandonment of conflicts, peace-making and building, and international cooperation in order to achieve development and prosperity for both current and future generations.

H.E. President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi
President, Arab Republic of Egypt

FOREWORD

Foreword

The road between the world we want to live in and the world we live in, tells a story. In Egypt, that plot line reflects vision, resilience and recovery.

In line with the proverb in the Book of Odes (Shijing), “pursuing reform is a continuous mission regardless of the glorious past.” Egypt has embarked on its economic transformation through comprehensive reforms to promote growth that is sustainable, inclusive and green.

The year 2020 has been one of upheaval, marked by an unexpected health shock with unprecedented consequences that altered the socio-economic fabric of countries, proving that the world today is more coupled than ever. But it was also the year of renewal, at the end of which many countries enjoyed the fruits of solidarity, multilateralism and cooperation.

It may sound counter-intuitive, but the pandemic could be the moment when the world has been given a second chance to get things right.

Writing the future in a Changing Global Dynamic

As we leave one year behind and roll into the next one, we reflect on the work we have laid for sustainable impact and progress. Our 2020 Annual Report “International Partnerships for Sustainable Development” covers the past 12 months of development cooperation, with four key commitments put to action: Engage, Accelerate, Align, Account, working hard to leave no one behind, the core essence of the Sustainable Development Goals.

- With a focus on an integrated approach to development financing, where public and private stakeholders work together, Egypt’s Ministry of International Cooperation developed a framework to strengthen ‘Economic Diplomacy’ through 3 key principles:
- Regularly organizing Multi-Stakeholder Platforms to ensure that all projects between development partners are streamlined and effectively coordinated to accelerate the pace of development for the achievement of the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- Mapping Official Development Assistance to the SDGs for all development projects with Multilateral and Bilateral Development Partners.
- Adopting a consistent Global Partnerships Narrative which is People & Projects & Purpose (P&P&P).

Together, we will move forward.

The pandemic hasn’t stopped us or derailed us from pushing forward. Our commitment to chart our progress towards the sustainable development goals helped us secure **\$9.891 billion** in development financing since January 2020 that meet various targets by 2030. We are redesigning development finance to ensure that collectively, international partners, the private sector and civil society - achieve a world that is more inclusive, with more than **\$6.7 billion** secured for financing sovereign projects and **\$3.191 billion** in support of the private sector.

Today, we are designing financing initiatives that push forward economic and structural reforms, designed to foster private-led inclusive growth tailored to **People** at the Core through **Projects** in Action with **Purpose** as the Driver.

As we all watch history unfold in real time, we are witnessing the creation of new jobs, new technologies, and new opportunities all of which successfully demonstrated that it is through the power of collaboration that we can bridge economic cooperation and expand growth.



We continue to be hopeful and helpful as policy makers, but more importantly as a community.

Centered around supporting a resilient recovery, Egypt’s economic and development performance was singled out and celebrated by IFIs, driven by sound policy choices and robust partnerships that have supported economic growth and employment, despite the pandemic.

Egypt’s political leadership’s vision came to life through strength, devotion, pure passion and persistence of fellow colleagues in the Cabinet who collectively designed development projects that can not be pushed forward without our strategic international partnerships. We have witnessed crises that turned into victories when we are joined in common values of solidarity, remaining true to our commitment to serve our nation and the world.

To the architects behind the groundwork featured in this report, my team, I would like to thank you for the diligence, hard work and

concerted efforts that have not been overshadowed at any point by the uncertainties of the year. You have shown all of us that when we free ourselves from worry and keep the faith, we allow the universe to work its magic, and take our life on a whole new different course.

To move forward, to build on the progress of the past years and put the stresses of this year’s adjustment behind us, we need multilateralism and cooperation more than ever, creating the future we all want to be part of. I always say that multilateralism is in its essence just like sports, it creates complementarities despite competition. It is by shifting mindsets through the principles of ‘Economic Diplomacy’ that we can imagine new ways to enhance livelihoods, empower and inspire communities to achieve sustainable development.

Together, we write the future.

*H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat
Minister of International Cooperation, Arab
Republic of Egypt*

SHIFTING MINDSETS THROUGH ECONOMIC DIPLOMACY

With Cooperation Comes Progress

What We do & Where We Want to Go

First, we focus on building partnerships to achieve greater impact

Extraordinary times require extraordinary action. There are no limits to our commitment to Egypt’s inclusive and sustainable development. We are determined to use the full potential of our tools within our mandate.

The Ministry of International Cooperation’s mandate issued by Decree of the President of Egypt clearly outlines our mission. The first is to **develop and strengthen the economic cooperation between the Arab Republic of Egypt and other countries as well as international and regional organizations.** Through cooperation and collaboration with various development partners, progress will be both sustainable and inclusive.

The second is to **propose the criteria for obtaining external financing; both funds and grants.**



To be able to achieve the 2030 national agenda and the SDGs, external financing and grants are invested in priority sectors that ensure Egypt’s continuous progress.

The third is to **follow-up and monitor ministries and national agencies that benefit from foreign financing within the framework of the general economic policy of the country to ensure achieving the economic development goals.** Part of ensuring that projects are being carried out effectively and efficiently comes from monitoring their development.

Last but not least, the Ministry also **manages Egypt’s economic relations with international organizations of economic cooperation, the international financial institutions and specialized agencies of the United Nations.** For a circular economy to be in place, cooperation with partners is necessary. Inevitably, development has everything to do with cooperation.

With a vision that will accelerate progress to sustainable development

Second, we translate our mandate into a full vision to drive change

2030 is only 9 years away. From healthcare, clean energy to quality education, International Partnerships for Sustainable Development are the drivers of human promise and change.

Our vision primarily centers around pushing for a human-centered economy. Economists and experts around the world are currently debating new policies to confront the world’s future challenges; and that’s the focus of today.

To achieve this, we focus on implementing economic diplomacy, which aims to push the frontiers of multilateralism and cooperation through strengthening inclusive multilateral and bilateral engagement with development partners, governments, global policy makers, the private sector and the civil society to achieve a circular economy.

Multilateralism enables opportunities to exchange shared experiences, learning from both successes as well as pitfalls. This contributes to the

design of constructive national public policy that internalizes the interests of all stakeholders to maximize public welfare. Twinned with the global goals in a decade of action, multilateralism builds for sustainable and inclusive economic development.

The SDGs were adopted by all UN member states, including Egypt, as a “universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity by 2030.” Egypt launched its own 2030 vision, in tandem, to promote economic development incorporating the global goals.

The SDGs bring the world together to put an end to life-challenges such as, but not limited to, hunger, poverty, and gender inequality. This is where our role comes in.

We all know the imperative - keep up the momentum on the policy actions needed to put uncertainty to rest, and progress towards building back better. This can be achieved through a circular economy, a systematic approach when it comes to economic development in the sense that nothing goes to waste.

A new generation is on the march, one that thinks differently, with more openness, creativity, in a more interconnected world than ever before in history.

“Strengthen Egypt’s inclusive multilateral engagement with Development Partners, Governments, Policy Makers, Private Sector and the Civil Society to effectively deliver the 2030 National Agenda, consistent with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), aimed at achieving a circular economy.”

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat

The Key to All Things ‘Effective’ & ‘Efficient’

Third, we turn visions into actions

Global Partnerships for Effective Development Cooperation

We are focused on achieving results; but not just in numbers, but also by the impact it has on our people.

It means seeing the humans that are behind every target of the SDG goals.

For that to happen, development cooperation has to be effective, inclusive and engaged - harnessing and harmonizing the development efforts of all diverse actors involved in development.

The whole purpose of becoming a more globally-oriented society means development needs to be ‘effective’, cooperation needs to be ‘effective’, and progress needs to be ‘effective’.

The key word here is... ‘effective’.

The Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC) is a multi-stakeholder platform to advance the effectiveness of development efforts by all actors, to deliver results that are long-lasting and contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The work of the Global Partnership is based on four principles of effective development co-operation including country ownership, a focus on results, inclusive partnerships, and transparency and mutual accountability.

These principles were agreed in 2011 by more than

160 countries and 50+

organisations in the Busan Partnership Agreement, the outcome of the Fourth High-Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness in Busan, South Korea.

The GPEDC supports achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by promoting knowledge sharing and peer-learning on effective approaches, learning from all types of development cooperation, supporting engagement of the private sector through development cooperation and strengthening political momentum for effective development cooperation.

It helps track the progress of SDGs. This by default fulfills the 17th SDG “Partnerships for the Goals” in itself which is to enhance multi-stakeholder partnerships for development in support of goals and to respect country policies and leadership to actually implement these goals.

2018 Monitoring Framework

Principles	Indicators
Country Ownership	5a. Development cooperation is predictable: annual predictability
	5b. Development cooperation is predictable: medium-term predictability
	9a. Quality of countries' public financial management systems
	9b. Development partners use country systems
Focus on Results	10. Aid is untied
	1a. Development partners use country-led results framework
	1b. Countries strengthen their results frameworks
Inclusive Partnerships	2. Civil society enabling environment and development effectiveness
	3. Quality of public-private dialogue
Transparency and Mutual Accountability	4. Transparent information on development cooperation is publicly available
	6. Development cooperation is on budgets subject to parliamentary oversight
	7. Mutual accountability is strengthened through inclusive reviews
	8. Gender equality and women's empowerment

For the successful execution of the Ministry's mandate and vision, in April 2020, we convened the first Multi-Stakeholder platform “Global Partnerships for Effective Development Cooperation” with more than 120 representatives from 45 international institutions and foreign courts to discuss Egypt's Response and Rebuild Strategy.

During the meeting, we presented the Global Partnerships for Effective Development Cooperation 2018 Survey Results, which showcased Egypt's improved development cooperation performance over the years.

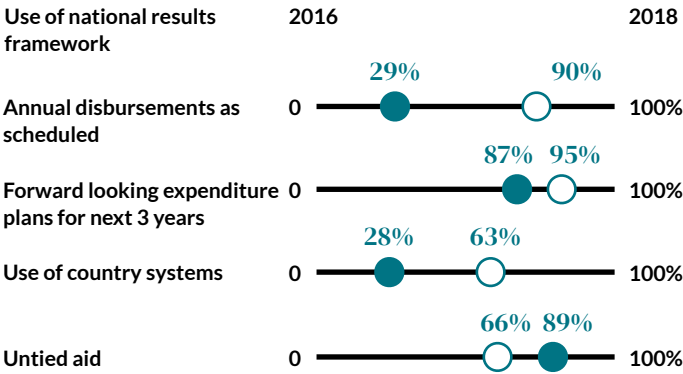
Full Presentation: bit.ly/MOICxGPEDCxSurveyResults

The results help align development partners to national priorities. They help increase the predictability of country systems for development financing, address reporting gaps in information systems, mobilize and effectively engage with the private sector and civil society, establish multi-stakeholder partnerships, and strengthen development cooperation policies and coordination.

Egypt's Progress

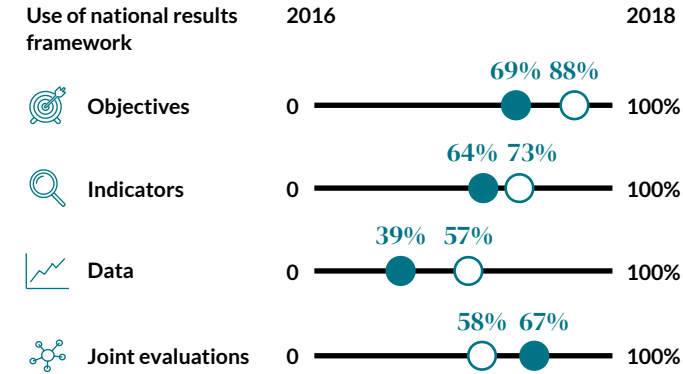
Country Ownership

- Egypt's annual predictability of development cooperation increased by **61%**
- Egypt's medium-term predictability of development cooperation decreased by **-8%**
- On average, the use of country systems by development partners increased by **35%**
- The percentage of untied aid increased by **22%**



Focus on Results

- The quality of national development planning (national results framework) in Egypt is reported to be **93%**
- On average, the use of national results framework by development partners has increased by **10%**
- In Egypt, development partners align to country priorities to a **73%** - SDG indicator 17.15.1



National results framework

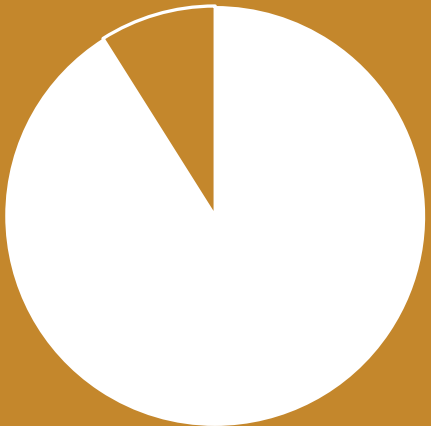
- ✓ Defines priorities, targets and indicators
- ✓ Includes budget or costing information
- ✓ Aligns to SDGs
- ✓ Regular progress reports are available

Transparency & Mutual Accountability

- Information on development cooperation has been assessed to be publically available **70%**.
- The share of development cooperation recorded on budgets subject to parliamentary oversight at **91%**.
- Egypt has put in place transparent systems to track public allocation for gender equality and women's empowerment meeting all requirements of SDG indicator 5.c.1.
- Mutual accountability was strengthened through inclusive accountability reviews put in place.



70% Transparency of development cooperation



91% Oversight of development cooperation

- ✓ Comprehensive policies for development cooperation
- ✓ Country-level effectiveness targets
- Regular joint assessments
- ✓ Assessments are inclusive and involve non-state actors
- ✓ Publically available results of assessments

Egypt has shown significant improvements in almost all indicators of the monitoring framework exceeding the average score of its peers from other Lower Middle Income Countries (LMICs).

Significant Scores

	Egypt		LMICS
Overall quality of national results framework	93%	>	80%
Extent of use of country-owned results frameworks by development partners	73%	>	64%
Overall use of country systems by development partners	63%	=	63%
Annual-term predictability of development cooperation	90%	=	90%
Medium-term predictability of development cooperation	87%	>	75%

“By working together, we can rebuild better. And now is the time. We are not only thinking about returning to a world we once had, but creating and advancing to the world we want to live in. This is how we build back better.”

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat



As previously asserted, being ‘effective’ is where results’ monitoring comes in. By monitoring the results of the GPEDC, there is a drive towards transformative change, a major mission as part of the Ministry of International Cooperation’s mandate.

From Egypt’s Response and Rebuild strategy to the silver linings that came through, COVID-19 did shake the world intensely; however, the recovery is the story to tell.

And through multi-stakeholder platforms, the concept of working together towards a global solution is what helps countries progress and ‘make it through’.

All in all, effective and inclusive development cooperation necessitates Economic Diplomacy, going hand in hand with cooperation for effective and efficient results.

Economic Diplomacy: Changing the Face of the Global Economy

The global economy is changing as we speak; growing emerging economies are paving the way for a new multipolar world.

The seeds of this transformation were planted a while back. Over the past few decades, emerging economies’ share of international trade flows rose from 26% in 1995 to around 42% in 2010*, and now account for one-third of world trade.

Not only did we see increasing integration at the global scale, but also at the regional level. Currently, there is a unified roadmap for countries in the Middle East and North Africa that aims to accelerate inclusive economic growth in the region. This roadmap is defined as ‘Stakeholder Capitalism’* which centers on the idea of public-private cooperation to push for an economy that is socially conscious and addresses environmental, social and governance (ESG) criteria. It will achieve this by focusing on

7 principles: crafting inclusive economic policies, stimulating economic integration, re-shaping the education system, harnessing the 4th industrial revolution, promoting environmental sustainability, mitigating global health risks and committing to good and agile governance. Countries that adopt, foster and implement these principles are those that will march ahead.

While the COVID-19 pandemic has created doubts on the future of multilateralism, the reality is that it has shown that we need **more creativity** to push forward.

We risk becoming obsolete if we do not innovate, and this is why it is the most opportune time for a renewed and reinvigorated kind of multilateralism – a global economic system in which there is increased dialogue, resilience, connectivity, transparency and meaningful partnerships that ultimately serve human ends and goals.

*Source: World Trade Organization, International Trade Statistics Report 2015.
*Refer to Chapter 6 - The Great Reset for more details.

First, we need to start introducing **new terms** to our thinking. The term ‘diplomacy’ is not often associated with economics, but in an increasingly multilateral world where more development actors are appearing, we need to rethink our approach to diplomacy.

Diplomacy should not necessarily concern national security or non-economic elements; nor should trade and investment encompass foreign policy aims.

At the heart of diplomacy is leaving a clear mark on human lives. The world is currently facing unprecedented crises that threaten humanity as a whole, from food insecurity to climate change, which means that more concerted efforts are needed for **development cooperation**.

In our case, ‘Economic Diplomacy’ is about **uniting all actors working in development** – governments, multilateral institutions, the private sector, and civil society – towards achieving the global 17 sustainable development goals.

Second, we need to set out **new principles**. Cooperation is not possible without governance, and this is why we need to put greater emphasis on dialogue, connectivity and transparency in order to push the frontiers of collaboration and overcome competing aims.

Egypt has set out new principles in conducting economic diplomacy to shift mindsets on development cooperation - one that is inclusive and collaborative serving future generations.

To rebuild better and more effectively amid the COVID-19 pandemic, Egypt’s Ministry of International Cooperation has been working to strengthen ‘Economic Diplomacy’ through three main principles: regularly organizing Multi-Stakeholder Platforms to ensure that all projects between development partners are streamlined and effectively aligned with the national agenda and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); mapping ODA financing to SDGs for all projects with multilateral and bilateral development partners and adopting a consistent Global Partnerships Narrative People & Projects & Purpose (P&P&P).

Fostering Trust

1. Multi-Stakeholder Platforms

Trust is the engine that drives development cooperation forward.

In April of this year, we launched our first Multi-Stakeholder Platform "Global Partnerships for Effective Development Cooperation", virtually with more than 100 participants and together, we were able to carefully pinpoint financing priorities and objectives across sectors including health.

The main objective of the platform is to strengthen partnerships for achieving value-centric results through regular interactive and

participatory consultations with all development partners. The platform ensures harmony and complementarity of development collaboration to maximize impact and achieve sustainability. The platform also provides an opportunity to capitalize on successes, learn from pitfalls and harness the power of group interaction. Ever since the launch of the platform, the Ministry of International Cooperation organized a number of participatory workshops in various sectors. The workshops focused on different areas related to the Health Sector, Public Enterprises, Private Sector Engagement in Development, Rural and Agricultural Development, Transportation and Closing the Gender Gap Accelerator.

Micro Visions

2. ODA SDG Mapping Framework

Along with our macro narrative, micro visions are important to identify targets and ensure the optimal contribution of development cooperation projects to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

We concluded the extensive first-of its kind comprehensive mapping exercise of all current effective projects to identify their alignment with relevant SDGs, ensuring optimal contribution of development cooperation projects to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Our mapped cooperation portfolio includes both

financing to sovereign projects as well as financing to the private sector, and also accounts for projects developed by the United Nations and its agencies.

The mapping exercise highlighted a number of cross cutting themes, where many projects included as part of their activities, general objectives and/or intended impact. These included Goal 1, Poverty alleviation; Goal 5, Gender Equality; Goal 10, Reducing inequality; Goal 12, sustainable Production and Consumption; Goal 13, Climate Act; as well as Goal 17, Global Partnership for Sustainable Development.

Mobilizing the International Community

3. Global Partnerships Narrative

With a powerful narrative, mobilization towards the achievement of development goals occurs.

Economic diplomacy is not solely based on results, but on the values of solidarity and serving humanity. The issues that the world currently faces are universal, and this is why we have unified all our development efforts under one core narrative to mobilize the international community towards development goals.

In other words, it helps us forge a common language to communicate and clearly understand one another in order to push the agenda forward.

Our narrative is People & Projects & Purpose:

People at the Core: Egypt has made investment in people a top priority, as contributing to human capital is integral to the country's overall development. Committed to improving the Egyptian people's lives, every partnership identifies existing gaps and provides multi - sectoral assistance to millions of beneficiaries through public private partnerships that push Egyptians towards realizing their full potential.

Projects in Action: Projects have been implemented across multiple sectors that serve social, economic and environmental dimensions including education, transportation, water desalination, renewable energy, entrepreneurship, women empowerment, among others. The several projects completed and the many in progress answer to each of the United Nations 17 SDGs. Through its communication framework, the Ministry of International Cooperation aims to transparently showcase projects and their impact on communities as a means to promote SDGs and bolster credibility.

Purpose as the Driver: Our partnerships with purpose have been a driver to generate sustained and inclusive growth, stay agile in a rapidly changing world, and deepen ties with our stakeholders. Purpose in our projects serves important strategic roles: defining our playing field through collaboration with our multilateral and bilateral partners, and allowing us to shape our growth potential.































Pushing forward for a resilient recovery

It is time we talk about the opportunities to rebuild a resilient recovery, through pushing forward with economic diplomacy imagining new ways to enhance livelihoods, empower and inspire communities, and achieve sustainable development for the entire world.

Sowing the Seeds of Economic Diplomacy

Egypt's Agreements with Bilateral and Multilateral Partners during 2020

As the year comes to an end, our development path gets closer to reality. In 2020, the Ministry of International Cooperation secured agreements worth **\$9.891 billion** in development financing for various sectors with **\$6.7 billion** to the public sector and **\$3.191 billion** to the private sector, as shown in the following table:

	Sector	Amount (in USD million)	Development Partner	
	Budget Support	638	Arab Monetary Fund	
	Housing, Utilities, and Local Development	1,417	AFESD, WBG, KFAED, AfDB, Germany, EIB, EBRD	
	Transport	1,794	AFD, EIB, EBRD, China, KFAED	
	Energy, Renewable Energy and Petroleum	677	AFD, AfDB, EBRD	
	MSMEs	457	OFID, AFESD, WBG, Germany, AfDB	
	Gender	7	Spain, Canada	
	Trade and Industry	11	Italy, Germany	
	Governance	68	USAID, Spain, WBG, China	
	Education and Higher Education	252	USAID, SFD, Korea, Italy, Germany	
	Social Protection	505	WBG, Germany, Italy	
	Health	477	WBG, AFESD, USAID, Japan, Canada, AfDB	
	Local Development	89.9	EBRD	
	Agriculture, Supply and Irrigation	100	AfDB, EBRD, USAID, OFID, Germany	
	Environment	208	WBG, Germany	
	Private Sector (Direct financing to private sector and credit lines to commercial banks to finance MSMEs)	3,191	EBRD, EIB, IFC, AFESD, AFD, AfDB	

Total9,891

More on each of these sectors will be discussed in the coming chapters.

Pillar I:
Multi-Stakeholder
Platforms

Cooperation,
Collectivism &
Collaboration

“Today, vocabulary related to cooperation, collectivism and collaboration are more relevant than ever. It’s all about making a difference by bringing everyone together, even if virtually, engaged and motivated, ready to build for Egypt’s sustainable future.”

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat



Ever since the launch of the first Multi-Stakeholder Platform (MSP) in April 2020, the Ministry has organized several consultation meetings with line ministries to provide national priorities that the country needs to work on; some of those projects include long-term planning and some are quick, and rather immediate.

Several virtual MSPs pertaining to health, public enterprises, private sector engagement in development, rural and agriculture development, transportation, and closing the gender gap accelerator were conducted this year.

The MSP also includes all of our multilateral and bilateral development partners to ensure alignment, harmonization and complementarity of development interventions to maximize impact and achieve sustainability.

Harnessing the power of group effort and global commitment to shared global values is key to building a more resilient economy that can continue to sustain challenges.

Multi-Stakeholder Platform:



Health

In light of the pandemic, health has been at the center of people's share of mind.

As a response, the Ministry resorted to agile, innovative and collaborative means to push forward. Immediately, after remote working, the Ministry of International Cooperation and its multilateral and bilateral development partners quickly adapted to convening online to decide on courses of immediate action to address COVID-19, to fulfill the priorities set out by the Ministry of Health and Population, including equipment ranging from ventilators to masks.

As a result of the first Multi-Stakeholder Platform, we have received positive responses from several multilateral and bilateral partners on the requests issued by the Ministry of Health and Population to combat the immediate effect of COVID-19.

“We have been noticing the strong involvement by the political leadership in the fight against COVID-19 in Egypt. We also understand the strong social distancing measures that have been undertaken in accordance with the global best practice. We have also noted the recent report by World Health Organisation mission to Egypt, which highlights the strong management of the outbreak, the closure of points of entry, the good documentation of surveillance and contact tracing, the process for referral and clinical management, the structured infection prevention and control program, the scaling up of reliable testing capacity, and the good use of communication channels with the right messaging.”

Marina Wes, Regional Director of the World Bank in Egypt, Yemen and Djibouti

COVID-19 had its silver lining and it somewhat pushed policymakers to think outside the box in innovative and original ways. The pandemic enforced a need for global collaboration when it comes to national issues. No country was isolated. While more will be addressed on COVID-19 in an upcoming chapter, there is more to health than just the pandemic.

Health has a lot to do with many of the UN's SDGs including Zero Hunger (SDG 2), Good Health and Well-being (SDG 3), Clean Water and Sanitation (SDG 6), Affordable Clean Energy (SDG 7), Sustainable Cities and Communities (SDG 11), and Climate Action (SDG 13). All of which we have been addressing, alongside collaborations with partners to push forward sustainable and inclusive development.

In 2020, more than **\$477 million** of development finance were secured for the health sector from multilateral partners including the World Bank, Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development (AFESD), USAID and the African Development Bank (AfDB) and bilateral partners including Japan and Canada.

COVID-19 merely re-established the importance of strengthening the healthcare sector across all countries.

“Expanding health care services is a national priority for Egypt. One of the great examples is The Universal Health Insurance project with the World Bank, which encompasses mandatory coverage for citizens and unifies, for the first time, efforts with the private sector.”

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat



Public Enterprises, Private Sector Engagement in Development

To close the financing gap, partnerships between the public and private sector must be reinforced. Supporting Egypt’s private sector is key to build for economically resilient communities.

For instance, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) has approved several financing packages to local banks in Egypt in support of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), which are the backbone of the country’s economy.

“Support the competitiveness of Egypt’s private sector through stronger value chains, improved access to finance for SMEs, better economic integration and increased opportunities for women and young people.”

the EBRD in Egypt.

About \$457 million

were secured for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises from OPEC Fund for International Development, the AFESD, the World Bank, AfDB, and bilateral cooperation with Germany.

In 2020, the private sector and its SMEs, through commercial banks, also secured a total of \$3.191 billion of development financing from the EBRD, European Investment Bank (EIB), AfDB, AFD, AFESD, Agence Française de Développement (AFD), and IFC. This goes hand in hand with SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth and SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure.

Several banks in Egypt benefited from these finances such as Bank Al-Ahli with \$951 million from EIB, \$200 million from EBRD, and Banque Misr received \$892 million from EIB and \$200 million from EBRD.

The International Finance Corporation (IFC) is also expanding its activities in Egypt as a way to encourage more engaged activity from the private sector when it comes to sustainable development projects.

The inclusion of the private sector in decision making and development projects brings fresh ideas to the table and helps revamp publicly owned businesses. Generally, public enterprises can borrow talents coming in from the private sector as a way to collaborate and bring everyone to the same page in Egypt’s development story.

“We are very happy with the Ministry’s initiative to create a Multi-Stakeholder Platform which is helping increase coordinated efforts and work among international institutions. The second meeting on Private Sector Engagement in Development, showed already an increased dialogue to set up the country’s priorities and is key for the development of various sectors based on the expertise of each institution, putting the impact on people’s lives at the heart of our efforts. This will help avoid work duplication and achieving quicker results and impact in developing the Egyptian economy”,

Heike Harmgart, Managing Director for the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean (SEMED) at the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

Rural & Agriculture Development

Africa is the world’s breadbasket, and Egypt is the gateway to Africa. Developing rural and agriculture areas in Egypt, has become ever more prominent due to the importance of food security highlighted post the pandemic.

Agricultural development also tackles initiatives such as women empowerment, climate change, establishing clean energy sources and clean water, and much more. The total ongoing development projects in the agriculture sector within the Ministry of International Cooperation’s portfolio amounts to

\$545 million.

The projects cover several SDGs, such as SDG 1: No Poverty, SDG 2: Zero Hunger, SDG 3: Good Health and Wellbeing, SDG 5: Gender Equality, SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth, SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities, SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities, SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production and SDG 13: Climate Action. In 2020, the Ministry signed a

\$12 million

deal in agriculture, trade and industry with the USAID, AFD and Italy.



During the third Multi-Stakeholder Platform on Rural and Agriculture Development, Egypt’s Minister of Agriculture and Land Reclamation Mohamed El-Quseir said that it was important to set priorities for the Agricultural Bank of Egypt’s programmes, to better enable it to play its pivotal role of meeting the demands of labourers in the sector, adding that the Ministry is about to start a new initiative for strengthening village households, providing them with livestock in order to help them have their own projects.

That is besides the national mega projects launched by the state in the field, including horizontal expansion and developing related infrastructure such as roads and energy, and diversifying water resources, in addition to adopting several programmes such as the national veal project and others that

aim at combating poverty, building capacity, enhancing food quality, providing job opportunities and achieving development across the whole country.

“We predict a growth in the agriculture sector through collaboration with the Ministry of International Cooperation and its development partners.”

H.E. Mohamed El-Quseir, Minister of Agriculture and Land Reclamation.

One of the ways to curb the impact of COVID-19 is through agriculture. Ensuring food security, less food loss, and supporting farmers with modern equipment is helpful in developing their jobs and in improving their health.

Agriculture is a vital sector when it comes to national development as it represents a major portion of Egypt’s GDP with 14% and provides 28% of job opportunities and 55% of rural labor in Egypt. Developing this sector helps farmers meet the demands of the economy.

Transforming rural and agricultural areas comes in through sustainable development and collaborations with public-private partnerships that improve agricultural land, farming, and the environment for communities, including ensuring that women have access to equal jobs and education.

Walid Labadi, country manager for Egypt, Libya and Yemen for the IFC, emphasised that gathering development partners through a stakeholders platform was highly significant for creating dialogue on mobilising support for Egypt’s main development priorities, adding that the IFC is looking forward to working with the Egyptian government and development partners to support private sector sustainable agricultural investment.

Egypt’s revenues from agro-products increased by

20%

in 2019 as compared to 2009, while exports of vegetables alone increased by

40%

during the same period.

Transportation

In July 2020, The Minister of International Cooperation convened development partners with the Minister of Transportation for the third Multi-Stakeholder Platform: Financing Priorities for a Sustainable Transport Sector. Clean and inclusive transportation is a priority for Egypt going forward, for its direct impact on the community through the inter-connectivity of people and goods. The sector contributes 4.6% to GDP and provides about 6.2% of jobs.

In addition, the railway alone caters to approximately 500 million passengers annually, at the rate of 1.4 million daily.

The overall current transportation portfolio of development projects with the Ministry of International Cooperation includes 30 ongoing projects worth **\$5 billion**, financed by various international institutions such as the EIB, WBG, EBRD, the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development (KFAED) and AFESD, in addition to bilateral development partners such as the Government of China, Japan, Korea and France.

In 2020,
\$1.794 billion

in development financing were secured for the transportation sector in Egypt from the Agence Française de Développement (AFD), EIB, EBRD, bilateral cooperation with China, and KFAED.

Lieutenant General Kamel ElWazir commended the cooperation efforts with Egypt's development partners in the transportation sector, and praised the ongoing developments projects in place, reflected in Egypt's enhanced ranking according to global competitive indicators in various reports, stressing the significance of projects carried out by the Ministry for achieving inclusive sustainable development and their impact on improving connectivity of services for the people.

The Ministry of Transportation's strategy regarding the railway network focuses on developing its infrastructure, including signals, stations, crossings, locomotives and cars. Concerning metros, focus was on completing the network lines, renovating the first and second lines, and expanding electric means

of transportation, such as the future electric train, monorail and express train.

The Ministry is also developing ports according to a comprehensive plan aimed at promoting handling, exports and imports, and linking maritime ports to land ports and logistics hubs to facilitate trade and cargo handling, while continuing to develop the internal transport network in Egypt, which has witnessed a great leap over the past 6 years.

The Government of Egypt, in order to facilitate the private sector's involvement in developmental projects, has invested in establishing an electric train to connect between Damietta and New Mansoura across New Damietta and Gamasa, the renovation of the second metro line, the provision of 32 cars/trains for the first metro line, in addition to carrying out infrastructure works for LRT line across the ring road, the construction of a multi-purpose station and conducting feasibility studies for land ports and logistic hubs (El Tor Port - upgrading Barkeen logistics center studies - Kostol logistics center - El Salum logistics center).



“Efficient, inclusive and sustainable transportation plays a key role in regional development. Investments in transportation infrastructure with public-private partnerships is key for bolstering inclusive economic growth.”

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat

In November 2020, the Ministry of International Cooperation witnessed the signing of development financing agreements worth

\$1.6 billion

to finance SDG - aligned infrastructure projects that connect several districts with the New Administrative Capital, in partnership with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and the Chinese Exim Bank for the electric train.

Public-Private Partnerships are key in the implementation of successful transportation projects with political leadership directives that encourage the engagement of the private sector. “Reinforcing PPPs is essential for boosting investments in transport projects. EIB is committed to support the Government of Egypt’s

infrastructure development schemes, with a strong cooperation portfolio in the transport sector.”

Flavia Palanza, Director EU Neighborhood Countries, European Investment Bank.

Developing transportation goes hand in hand with SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities and SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure. Developing the transportation sector will help the transition from heavy-use of private cars to more efficient, clean transportation. This is what a sustainable future city would look like.

Closing The Gender Gap Accelerator

When women are empowered, society as a whole does better.

“Addressing gender equality and women economic empowerment is at the heart of Egypt’s program to ‘build back better’, as we see its quantifiable impact on GDP, productivity and as a catalyst to push the UN SDGs forward.”

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat

The Ministry of International Cooperation and the National Council for Women (NCW), together with the World Economic Forum launched the “Closing the Gender Gap Accelerator” in July 2020. This accelerator is the first of its kind in Africa and the Middle East and North Africa region, a public-private collaboration model built to take proactive action to advance women’s economic empowerment.

The model supports public and private leaders in shaping innovative pathways to promote gender equality, diversity, inclusion and economic mobility through a three-year action plan, which is central to Egypt’s reform agenda.

The Accelerator will engage with up to 100 private sector companies in various economic sectors, in addition to civil society experts targeting the endorsement of policies and plans to advance women’s economic empowerment in different fields and on all levels.



This should bring together multi-stakeholder actors across the public and private sectors to generate in-depth local assessment, as well as develop needs-based policies and action plans to address all deficiencies hindering complete and equal female economic participation. Of course, this all goes back to goal 5 of the UN SDGs; gender equality.

In August 2020, Egypt’s Ministry of International Cooperation and the National Council for Women along with the World Economic Forum hosted the first multi-stakeholder platform on “Closing the Gender Gap Accelerator.”

The virtual platform saw the participation of over 80 participants from the World Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), the French Development Agency (AFD), the USAID, and United Nations and its agencies. This is in addition to foreign courts including the Embassy of UK, Canada, China, South Korea, USA, Germany, and France, among others.

To ensure better results, the accelerator creates a structure for all stakeholders to engage in three stages: initiate projects, facilitate discussions to prioritise actions according to key objectives, and measure impact according to defined targets and metrics before final approval.

The presentation included the women policy reports and tracker issued on the policies and programmes taken by the Egyptian government amidst the covid-19 pandemic, responsive to the needs of women. Egypt is the first country to provide a women-specific response and tracker to COVID-19.

“The accelerator is a full-fledged programme, which includes legislation and culture as cross cutting pillars, as well as social empowerment, protection, and political empowerment. While economic empowerment is considered to be the main pillar, creating a safe environment in the world of work for women is vital to help achieve this.” H.E. Dr. Maya Morsy, President of the National Council for Women.

A key element is to support the private sector in playing a prominent role in formulating initiatives that can help increase women inclusion in the sector.

“Women’s participation is “macro-critical” and if parity is achieved in Egypt, GDP would increase by 34%.”

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat

Around
34
projects,worth
\$3.3 billion,
in projects executed with gender sensitive interventions being a cross cutting theme in
Health
20%,
Education
14%,
and Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSMEs)
15%.

The Ministry of International Cooperation’s current portfolio of projects that exclusively target SDG 5 include 13 projects amounting to \$82 million. This is in addition to the other projects in the portfolio that achieve the same goal as a collateral effect to their development. In 2020, the Ministry has secured an additional financing dedicated to SDG 5, with a total of \$7 million through bilateral cooperation with Spain and Canada.

Pillar II: ODA SDG Mapping Framework



Putting Progress on the Map

People only believe in tangible results. When it comes to the SDGs in particular, the Ministry has established an Official Development Assistance - Sustainable Development Goals (ODA-SDG)

Mapping framework. The ODA mapping framework is the allocation of development financing by Egypt and its multilateral and bilateral partners that goes into the different projects as mapped out to the UN SDGs. The ODA-SDG mapping framework is merely a tool to

ensure the allocation of resources in the right place, for the right cause.

This first of its kind mapping exercise highlighted a number of cross cutting themes, where many projects included as part of their activities, general objectives and/

or intended impact. These included Goal 1, Poverty alleviation; Goal 5, Gender Equality; Goal 10, Reducing inequality; Goal 12, sustainable Production and Consumption; Goal 13, Climate Act; as well as Goal 17, Global Partnership for Sustainable Development.

Egypt's Development is Happening Right Before Our Eyes.

Essentially, over 50% of ODA allocations are directed toward lagging regions to combat multidimensional poverty. Poverty is one of Egypt's top priorities as working on this area will help in achieving many of the SDGs, such as, but not limited to, Zero Hunger, Quality Education, Clean Water and Sanitation, and Gender Equality.

Some of the exemplar cases from the ODA mapping happen to be goals 7, 9 and 6 (in the respective order of the amount of money invested in each): Affordable and Clean Energy; Industries, Innovations and Infrastructure; and Clean Water and Sanitation. These three goals have received 62% of

ODA financing, and this is where Egypt is over-performing.

Across all the SDGs, there are a total of about **377 projects** all amounting to **\$25.662 billion**. This consistent approach to mapping the SDGs contributes to a stronger narrative overall.



Developing Institutional Framework: Contribution to SDGs



Pillar III: Global Partnerships Narrative

Streamlining Efforts under One Umbrella: Mindful Mobilization

With a powerful narrative, mobilization towards the achievement of development goals occurs. Economic diplomacy is not only based on results, but on the values of solidarity and serving humanity. The issues that the world currently faces are universal, and this is why we have unified all our development efforts under one core narrative to mobilize the international community towards development goals.

The Global Partnerships Narrative is committed to improving the lives of people and to contributing to human capital. This is being achieved by highlighting Egypt's successful cooperation story with its partners that helped foster inclusive growth in line with the UN SDGs.

PEOPLE AT THE CORE

Egypt has made investment in people a top priority, as contributing to human capital is integral to the country's overall development. Committed to improving the Egyptian people's lives, every partnership identifies existing gaps and provides multi-sectoral assistance to millions of beneficiaries through public private partnerships that push Egyptians towards realizing their full potential.

For a change, these big words and statements hold meaning, and have already proved to be efficient. Having 'People at the Core' of every project and plan means that those who are impacted by certain situations get to be a part of the change. With everyone playing a role in sustainable development, they simultaneously get to 'realize their full potential'. The people who are most in need and the number of people being reached get to be empowered.

There are more than **377** ongoing projects, totaling **\$25.662 billion** in our development cooperation portfolio, and a lot of these projects help improve people's lives, empower them and help them achieve their potential.

PROJECTS IN ACTION

Projects have been implemented across multiple sectors including in education, transportation, water desalination, renewable energy, entrepreneurship, women empowerment, among others. The several projects completed and the many in progress answer to each of the United Nations 17 SDGs. Through its communication framework, the Ministry of International Cooperation aims to transparently showcase projects and their impact on communities as a means to promote SDGs and bolster credibility.

Our projects serve as a way to get one step closer to the world's 2030 vision, through sovereign projects, through private sector developments and through public-private partnerships.

PURPOSE AS THE DRIVER

Our partnerships with purpose have been a driver to generate sustained and inclusive growth, stay agile in a rapidly changing world, and deepen ties with our stakeholders. Purpose in our projects serve important strategic roles: defining our playing field through collaboration with our multilateral and bilateral partners, and allowing us to shape our growth potential.

Every project with defined strategic goals serves some kind of bigger, life-long impact that will help Egypt's sustained growth. But it's not just about growth, purpose is our driver as it makes each development impactful. This is reflected in the SDGs as they serve to create progress in Egypt, and the world. They create a context for the different projects put forward and they render the impact they have on the country more tangible. This helps achieve a well-rounded and circular development of the different sectors in Egypt.



‘Beyond Food’: A Story on Inclusivity and Sustainability

One of the examples of creative storytelling under the Global Partnerships Narrative is the World Food Programme’s (WFP) Beyond Food film. In celebration of the UN’s 75th anniversary, the Ministry together with WFP produced a short video titled ‘Beyond Food’ showcasing the cooperation portfolio between Egypt and WFP when it comes to transforming communities into healthy,inclusive and sustainable ones.

“Food is powerful. It builds peace, promotes stability and brings opportunity. Above all, it paves the way to a brighter future.”

said WFP.

Egypt’s Ministry of International Cooperation, alongside the WFP have long cooperated in developing rural communities and in supporting local farms in Upper Egypt. Overall, the collaboration with WFP has helped in the achievements of the second SDG primarily: ‘Zero Hunger’.

The projects revolve around **health and nutrition** when it comes to providing the resources and knowledge of what a healthy diet is, **women empowerment** in the sense of aiding women and girls to rebuild flourishing communities, and **sustainability** which teaches communities the skills needed to strengthen their food security.



“Guided by our principles: People and Projects and Purpose, we are looking beyond to provide better opportunities for everyone.”

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat

In September 2020, we expanded our projects with WFP due to COVID-19 because support was needed. Together they worked to supervise various development projects in Luxor and Qena as part of developing Rural Communities and Upper Egypt.

These projects include promoting women’s empowerment, establishing community schools, and making sure families have access to healthy diets.

Full Video: <https://youtu.be/uzzMoS5kwPc>

Ministry of International Cooperation’s Projects with the World Food Programme

People & Projects & Purpose

\$586 Million

Amount of WFP-funded projects

PEOPLE AT THE CORE



Improve farmers' skills and capacity



Increase incomes



Saving crops suitable for the climate in the governorate



Reduce crop losses



Introduction of modern irrigation systems



Empower women economically



Combat child labor



Promote innovation and knowledge sharing

PROJECTS IN ACTION



Luxor Coordination Center to Promote Flexibility and Innovation



Small Farmer Resilience Program



Smart Community Schools

63 villages in 5 governorates

134 schools in Luxor

PURPOSE AS THE DRIVER

01



NO POVERTY

02



ZERO HUNGER

03



GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

04



QUALITY EDUCATION

05



GENDER EQUALITY

08



DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

10



REDUCED INEQUALITIES

12



RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

13



CLIMATE ACTION

17



PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

Egyptian Rural Women: Agents of Change

Another example of byte-sized content under the Global Partnerships Narrative is the cotton project, alongside the support of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), launched in celebration of the International Day of Rural Women on October 15th. It is one that encompasses gender equality and agricultural development.

The UNIDO cotton project puts women at the forefront of every agricultural project to ensure the sustainability of rural communities (People at the Core). Overall, the cotton project aims to improve the technical and entrepreneurial skills of young Egyptian women and this in turn, create 1,000 more jobs (Projects in Action).

It goes without saying that the Purpose of the project clearly aims to make sure women are fully, actively and effectively participating. In turn, this grants and promotes equal opportunities for women in agriculture. Incorporating women will help double the productivity, and will help increase women's income. Alongside the women empowering project, this inevitably helps enforce modern and resilient agricultural practices.

Full Video: <https://twitter.com/MOICEgypt/status/1316738520938094599>



“Rural women are the frontlines of our economy. This rural women day, we celebrate their role in making a difference and our commitment to sustainable and inclusive development.”

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat

“There is no such thing as a man’s job... being a girl is not an excuse.”

said one of the girls.



Girls are Egypt’s Future

For International #DayofTheGirl, our message was: girls are Egypt’s future. We aim to unlock their inner power and help them become the driving force for change.

Achieving gender equality cannot happen without stronger partnerships. Through the Ministry of International Cooperation, around 34 projects are being executed with various partners to achieve the targets of gender equality, with the top targeted sectors including Health (20%), Education (14%), and MSMEs (15%).

One of the projects developed with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), helps young girls excel in STEM careers. STEM schools are heavily focused on science, mathematics, engineering and technology. Generally, these are subject areas that are seen as more male-centric; the Government of Egypt helps in encouraging girls to enter these schools and continue in scientific career paths.

The girls featured in the STEM content spoke about the opportunity to obtain education in such fields, how they first struggled to gain approval from their parents considering they’d had to live away from home, their hopes and career goals, and what they love most about their education.

Full Video: <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=215863232885533>

It's Not What We Build, It Is How We Are Building

For communities to prosper, we need resilient, inclusive and culturally inspiring living conditions. In another piece of content created for the Global Partnerships Narrative, we took a journey through our Sinai Development Projects, which includes one of the largest wastewater treatments in the world, and the most recent Community Development Housing project.

The Narrative Task Force:

How Do We Want to Position Egypt & What Story Are We Telling?

Development and storytelling go hand in hand to a certain extent. With every development project and with every policy, there is a story to tell; whether it's of how that story came to be or whether it's the people or the project itself.



There is always a story.

The Ministry's Narrative Task Force is a strategic ecosystem we created with all our development partners to ensure alignment, consistency, integration and inclusivity. Basically, every development partner has nominated one person from their end to be part of the Taskforce on the Global Partnerships Narrative.

To document, communicate and publish stories under the People & Projects & Purpose (P&P&P) Framework, there are four elements under this Task Force: Content Co-Creation, Knowledge Hub, SDG Mapping Framework, and Activating the Ongoing Communication Plans.

Under "Content Creation & Co-curation", the Ministry aims to create an integrated ecosystem for the Narrative Taskforce by providing and exploring multiple solutions for documenting stories and communicating new, local initiatives, and exchanging final content pieces. With the "Knowledge Hub", there is a focus on campaign monitoring, insights mining, and data reporting.

The "SDG Mapping Framework", contributing to a stronger narrative, aims to set the framework of reference for the SDG mapping. Each previous, ongoing and future project will be mapped in accordance to the SDGs to effectively capture and measure the goals.

For the "Activating the Ongoing Communication Plans", there are three pillars: "Frame Action", "Collaborate" and "Scale & Disseminate Impact". With "Frame Action", the Narrative Playbook provides the P&P&P strategy and content initiation roadmap. This is used to inform communication plans to partners and to have the content structured in a way that scales up across different projects.

Under "Collaborate", the Ministry created an online system with space for resources, questions and requests. The hub will facilitate proactive interaction between the network. When it comes to "Impact", the ultimate goal of the Taskforce is to multiply the opportunities for impact. Whenever relevant, the Ministry will help scale and disseminate successful experiences.



Egypt’s Response & Rebuild Strategy

Rebuilding & Recovering with Resilience in the Backdrop of COVID-19

It is safe to say that 2020 was a globally challenging year, but it was also a year with opportunities. But to find opportunities amid the crisis, agility is crucial.

The World Health Organization (WHO) declared COVID-19 a pandemic on March 11th 2020, which is right about the time the first fatality was recorded in Egypt. This led to the suspension of educational facilities and a transition to remote learning, and also led to an initial COVID-19 partial lockdown that included the

closure of religious sites, overnight curfew, and the shutdown of leisure activity venues, such as sports clubs.

On April 2nd, the 75th day from patient zero in Egypt, the Ministry of International Cooperation convened all multilateral and bilateral development partners in a virtual multi-stakeholder platform to share Egypt’s Response and Rebuild Strategy to COVID-19, which outlines all the fiscal, monetary and structural measures taken to flatten both the health and recession curves.

“Resilience is our ability to withstand, adapt to and recover from disruption to sudden shocks or changes. It is the only way to remain relevant, leading transformation to building back better.”

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat

Egypt’s Respond & Rebuild Strategy

**“We Protect, Provide & Progress...
Protect: the population from the spread of the virus.**

Provide: easier access to credit to help households smooth consumption and provide liquidity for firms to survive the disruption.

Progress: by expediting structural reforms through and beyond COVID-19.”

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat

Flattening the Health Curve

In April 2020, more than 27 laboratories were immediately set up across the country that have the capacity to test cases, and additional university laboratories were added. A scale up Infection Prevention & Control (IPC) programme with WHO was set up to prevent transmission, and ensure patients and health workers are protected.

The country expanded capacity to conduct up to 200,000 tests within two weeks, alongside a recurring 15-Day sterilization campaign to be carried out in cities and villages to stop the virus spread. On top of spreading awareness, the facilities needed to treat the virus were also made available. This includes equipment from ventilators to masks and personal protective equipment.

In the situation that cases would dramatically increase, isolation hospitals were established with over 2,000 beds, 1,000 ICU beds, and 400 ventilators.

Part of fighting the virus also has to do with information, preparedness and governance, led by the Prime Minister and implemented through the Ministry of Health and Population. This means that combating digital wildfires and ensuring the public is updated on the current situation, including working with other sectors to reach vulnerable populations have been a key priority.

Flattening the Recession Curve

One of the ways that Egypt has mitigated the economic implications of the pandemic is through the support of the private sector. In some cases, there was a reduction of interest rates, delaying and alleviating tax payment on several firms, and allowing for lower interest rates.

In tourism, EGP 50 billion was placed for a postponement of real estate tax payment due on factories and tourism facilities for the period of three months. In real estate, EGP 50 billion went to real estate development for middle-income groups through banks for 20 years.

EGP 20 billion went to the stock exchange during the economic slowdown. EGP 4 billion went to financing labor tax to raise the tax exemption limit from EGP 8,000 to EGP 15,000.

Moreover, EGP 1 billion went to healthcare for the sake of providing necessary equipment, EGP 15 billion went to agriculture to assist farmers in the beginning of the farming season, EGP 8.7 billion went to urgent commodity and service needs, EGP 4 billion went to sectoral support in health, education, and social solidarity.

When it comes to trade and export services, there was a reduction in the price of natural gas for all industrial activities, a reduction in electricity prices, a postponement of real estate tax payment in factories, and export subsidies were provided EGP 1 billion to exporters.

The Government of Egypt focused on immediate socio-economic challenges and worked to mitigate impact on an unorganized labor force through employment protection, legislation and unemployment benefits, they put forward a social protection and social safety agenda, and they expedited financial inclusion and the digital reform agenda.

Preparing for the Future

Re-imagining the Next Normal: Dealing with the immediate socio-economic challenges

- 01 Labor Force
- 02 Social Reform
- 03 Financial Inclusion
- 04 Gender Parity

- Mitigate impact on an un-organized labor force through employment protection legislation and unemployment benefits.
- Putting forward a social protection & social safety agenda.
- Expediting the financial inclusion & digital reform agenda.
- Leading Women Economic Empowerment leadership

The Silver Lining to COVID-19

While the pandemic is first and foremost a humanitarian challenge, it should not derail the world from progressing towards the achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In the case of Egypt, the Government has pushed through with many of the planned structural reforms, related to social safety nets, financial inclusion, and digitalization, accelerated by the pandemic that helped bring the goals to the fore.

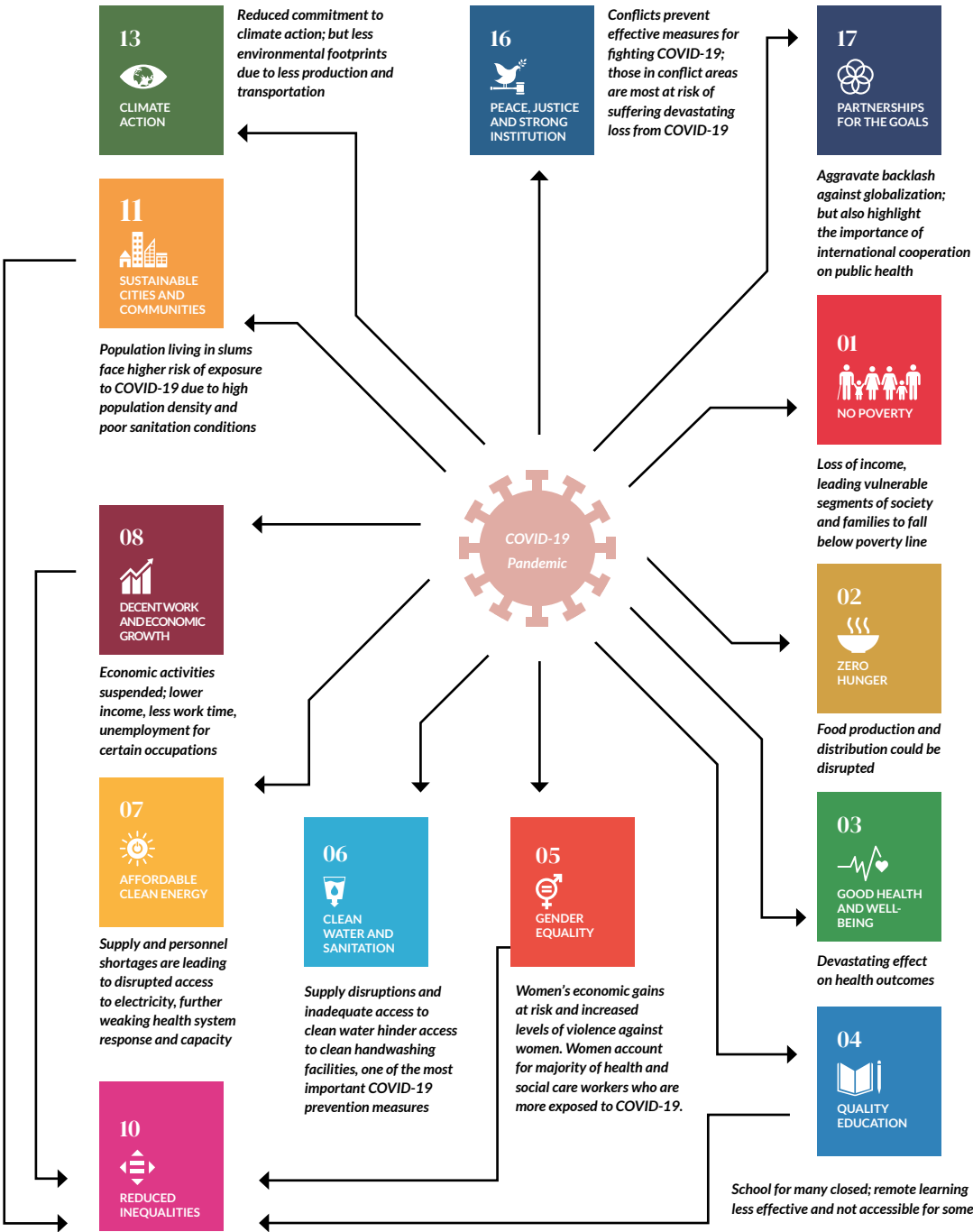


COVID-19 Affecting all SDGs

Partnerships are required
to accelerate **GLOCAL**
(Global/Local) response to
COVID-19

The COVID-19 should not
derail us from pushing forward
with SDG agenda

Source: UNDESA



In an interview with CNN's Richard Quest on "Quest Means Business" Minister Al-Mashat stated that there is a silver lining that policy makers witnessed when it comes to the pandemic, and that is reforms. In Egypt, that can be seen through formalizing the informal sector and widening social safety nets.

Link to Video:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=98H5vBJy2mM>

COVID-19 pushed policymakers, the business sector, civil society and citizens to think outside the box. In Egypt, this forward thinking made for a good story. By accelerating many of the reforms, this helped progress towards the SDGs through multilateralism and cooperation.

"A lot has been done in reforms related to financial inclusion, digitization, and one very important lesson in all of this is that reforming is a continuous process."

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat

In the Middle East Institute's Virtual Webinar "Pandemics and Public Shutdowns: Challenges for MENA Economies" while presenting Egypt's Response and Rebuild Strategy, Al-Mashat indicated that all measures aimed at mitigating the impact of the pandemic did not disrupt development efforts from their intended purpose, achieving the SDGs. MEI President Paul Salem hailed measures taken by the Government of Egypt to halt the spread of the coronavirus, noting that COVID-19 should pose a historic incentive for regional cooperation. Link to Video:
https://www.instagram.com/p/B-wj_Q9Hkrz/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link

Common problems can only be solved through global solutions.

Today, vocabulary related to cooperation, solidarity and collaboration are more relevant than ever. Locally and globally, the pandemic has posed a challenge, but collectiveness and collaboration is what helped certain countries push through into the everchanging new normal.

While every country was hit differently, no country was left isolated.

As a result of the first Multi-Stakeholder platform, the Ministry of International Cooperation with its development partners set out the courses of immediate action required to combat the immediate effect of the pandemic, by fulfilling the priorities set out by the Ministry of Health and Population, including equipment ranging from ventilators to masks.

Many of the development partners praised the Government of Egypt: Respond and Rebuild Strategy and noted the importance of the pivotal role that the Ministry of

International Cooperation plays in bringing everyone together, for an effective, agile and solution driven dialogue.

"The International Fund for Agricultural Development is ready to provide all support to Egyptians to ensure reducing the negative impact of the coronavirus on the agricultural sector."

Dina Saleh, Director of the sub-regional office of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) of the United Nations in Egypt and the Middle East region.

"The EBRD is working urgently across Egypt to deliver our \$1.2 billion global solidarity package to companies and banks that are suffering from the impact of the coronavirus pandemic."

Dr. Heike Harmgart, Managing Director of EBRD for its Southern and Eastern Mediterranean (SEMED) region, said,

"We are already working with existing clients across Egypt to understand their needs and support them with working capital, trade finance as well as taking an enabling view to re-scheduling if existing loans."

Reform – Recover – Rise

Egypt is not new to crisis and has shown resilience over the past decade.

The global pandemic would have been more difficult for Egypt if not for comprehensive fiscal and monetary reforms as well as structural changes on sectoral level. Egypt's homegrown reform program with the IMF that extended between 2016 and 2019 has helped in mitigating the impact of the global economic shock of COVID-19, entering the crisis with fiscal as well as foreign reserve buffers, which helped weather the shock.

Egypt, a country with a population of over a 100 million meant that there is continued demand of labor skills enough to provide in different sectors, regardless of the pandemic.



“COVID-19 is, first and foremost, a global humanitarian challenge. We continue to be hopeful & helpful as policy makers but more importantly as a community. Egypt is not new to crises and has shown resilience over the past decade. Through our partnerships & the development story showcased with the new narrative, we will move forward.”

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat

“Sector-based projects that prioritize strengthened infrastructure related to electricity, renewable energy, and transportation to enhance private sector development have been expedited. Moreover, availing credit lines to SMEs, the engine of growth going forward, has been a key theme of cooperation with development partners.”

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat

In the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)'s latest “Regional Economic Prospects” report launched in September 2020, Egypt's economy is on track to grow at 2% in 2020 and rebound to a 5% growth in 2021.

The report mentioned that Egypt is the only economy across all of the EBRD regions likely to escape recession in the 2020 calendar year.

The IMF has also forecasted in the October issue of the World Economic Outlook, an increase in the growth rate of the Egyptian economy to 3.5%, so that Egypt

would maintain its position among countries in terms of growth rates, in light of a wave of contractions for the largest economies around the world, with the continuing repercussions of the outbreak of the new coronavirus. This comes as a clear indication of the success of the structural and economic reform measures and the success of the government's plan in facing the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

In an interview with Bloomberg's Manus Cranny, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat said that post the pandemic, countries will be distinguished by how much effort they put in trying to implement structural reforms that helped the economy pave the way for employment and inclusive growth.

Before, during and after as Egypt recovers from the crisis, the Government of Egypt has adopted agility, innovation and the principles of stakeholder capitalism to strengthen the economy and position the country in a way that makes it resilient.

Link to Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xgU9a2h3pcU>

STEPHENS

The Road to Somewhere New: Egypt’s Development Story

“Creating a powerful story in the context of human connection... collaborating around one shared purpose.”

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat

In the next few sections of this chapter, we will walk you through the details of the many development projects that the Ministry of International Cooperation has designed with line ministries in collaboration with its multilateral and bilateral development partners including the public and private

sector. Projects that answer to multiple sectors including Health, Entrepreneurship, Agriculture and Food Security, Gender Equality, Transportation, Education, Energy, Water and Housing, and Digitalization, that put Egypt on the roadmap to inclusive and sustainable development.

Evolution of Success Drivers

We’ve outlined the main focus points regarding drivers for success of projects, derived from our Global Partnerships Narrative:

PEOPLE AT THE CORE

For the first pillar, Egypt is committed to improving the Egyptian people’s lives by identifying existing gaps and providing multi-sectoral financing and technical assistance that push Egyptians towards realizing their full potential.

Through this pillar, we are committed to measuring the impact of all our projects on the people and ensuring that people gain the most among all the other stakeholders of a project.

It is not just measuring the end results, but also putting ‘people’ at every stage of the project – from design to implementation.

PROJECTS IN ACTION

As for the second pillar, projects are being implemented across multiple sectors that serve economic, social and environmental dimensions.

Based on addressing people’s needs, this pillar focuses on projects that include more partners in the bigger picture: the government, international development partners, the private sector and civil society.

PURPOSE AS THE DRIVER

For the third pillar, our partnerships are based on purpose as the key driver to generate sustained and inclusive growth in a rapidly changing world.

Through a shared sense of purpose, all projects are streamlined and harmonized under one umbrella to achieve common goals: the 2030 National Agenda and 17 Sustainable Development Goals.

Purpose elevates all of our projects to the higher level, beyond merely achieving tasks. It is key to ensuring continuity and ensuring that projects do not end after budgets or finances, but persists in performance, outcomes and creativity.

Health



Healthier Citizens,
Healthier Economy

*“Investment in the
healthcare sector is
on every government
and people’s mind.”*

*H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat, during the OECD
Roundtable of Investment and Sustainable
Development.*

Before anything else, we recognize that the health of citizens must always come first. As the world begins to rebuild itself following the COVID-19 pandemic, we are using this opportunity to reimagine healthcare projects that can improve health and prosperity in our societies.

Through the Global Partnerships Narrative: People and Projects and Purpose (P&P&P), we start by measuring our potential to address **people’s** challenges by putting people at the core. By intervention, we implement **projects** aimed at improving the health of an individual on many levels, whether through the provision of essential services or promoting healthier lifestyles, through public, private and public-private projects. Finally, with **purpose**, we make sure that we achieve several sustainable development goals so that all our development projects create a better, and more sustainable world.

Link to Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bt_WbITjrGo



PEOPLE
AT THE CORE

Protecting Citizens

Our strategy starts by focusing on the individual. By putting people at the core, we focus on going beyond just providing healthcare services, but also to protect citizens and promote healthier lifestyles - a key building block of a healthy society.

PROJECTS
IN ACTION


Healthier Citizens

To achieve our goal in building a healthier society, we have been implementing projects through multilateral engagement with development partners and different stakeholders in society to meet the targets of the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

In 2020, the Ministry of International Cooperation secured **\$477 million** in development financing for **7 agreements** supporting the healthcare sector, with development partners that include the World Bank, Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development, USAID, African Development Bank (AfDB), Japan and Canada.



International Cooperation Agreements with Development Partners for the Health Sector

03  GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING		(Million USD)
	World Bank	457.9
	Agence Française de Développement (AFD)	17
	USAID	11.2
	Japan	9.3
	UNICEF	7.74
	Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development	3.2
	South Korea	0.9
	Canada	0.5
	African Development Bank	0.5

On May 17th, 2020, the World Bank financed

\$50 million

to Egypt as an emergency response under the World Bank Group's "Fast Track COVID-19 Facility" a global effort to strengthen the response and shorten time to recovery in the pandemic.

The project focused on the immediate and critical areas of support identified by the Government of Egypt's National COVID-19 response plan. The project supports **(1) procuring** and distributing medical equipment and supplies necessary for the COVID-19 response; **(2) training** health workers; **(3) supporting** operations of specifically designated quarantine, isolation and treatment centers; **(4) mobilizing** rapid response teams in contact tracing of COVID-19 cases; **(5) developing** of contextualized messaging platforms and tools to improve public awareness of COVID prevention; and **(6) innovating** Monitoring and Evaluation of social distancing strategies including community mobilization.

"We acknowledge the efforts undertaken by the World Bank Group at these unprecedented times. This project supports the preparedness efforts and governance of Egypt's healthcare system. Increased coordinated action to expedite healthcare spending and pave the way for an inclusive post-COVID economic recovery is a national priority."

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat

"The World Bank is quickly mobilizing to help Egypt strengthen its pandemic response and health care systems. This phase of our support aims to protect the poorest and most vulnerable households and help the country implement emergency health operations and strengthen economic resilience."

Marina Wes, World Bank Country Director for Egypt, Yemen and Djibouti.

Another swift response to the pandemic, the Ministry of International Cooperation together with the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development (AFESD) provided

\$3.2 million

in development financing to Egypt in 'Supporting the Healthcare Sector in Combating COVID-19'.

The Agence Française de Développement (AFD) has also provided

\$17 million

to purchase medical and protective equipment, to support the fight against the pandemic. Moreover, in October 2020, an agreement with Japan was signed for a

\$9.4 million

grant that will be used to provide devices and medical supplies for hospitals, combatting the virus.

We always say that the pandemic is a wake-up call for multilateralism, as it pushed for stronger cooperation between countries to meet evolving humanitarian needs. In August 2020, we welcomed the arrival of

250 ventilators donated by the United States to the Government Egypt for intensive care units to support Egypt's efforts to combat the pandemic. The specialised, state-of-the art equipment is a response to the Government of Egypt's donation of medical aid packaged to the US to help with the COVID-19 relief efforts.

"Egypt's partnership with the United States has reflected a spirit of collective responsibility and reciprocated solidarity for the benefit of our communities."

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat

The Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, the Ministry of Health and Population together with the USAID have identified 24 hospitals in 12 governorates that have a need for both ventilators and staff who can use them immediately to treat patients suffering from the effects of COVID-19.

“Early in the pandemic, Egypt generously provided the United States with a donation of personal protective equipment so our healthcare workers could stay safe. The innovation of American private industry has allowed us to return the favour today with these state-of-the-art, lifesaving devices.”

H.E. Ambassador Jonathan R. Cohen, US Ambassador to Egypt.

As initiated by the Ministry of International Cooperation in its message to the international community earlier this year for the list of requirements identified by the Ministry of Health and Population, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Government of Canada provided a grant worth

\$500,000

to support screening and testing capacity in Egypt.

“Canada is proud to support Egypt’s response to COVID-19, and all of our projects are currently supporting either a health response or a socio-economic response to the coronavirus pandemic.”

H.E. Ambassador Jess Dutton, Former Ambassador of Canada to Egypt.

Health and food security are necessary to human life, and in this specific context can not exist in some imbalance. The connection between nutritious food and health status is, from the world’s perspective today, fundamental. The Ministry of International Cooperation together with the African Development Bank in May, 2020 approved a

\$500,000

emergency assistance grant “Supporting in Contribution to Providing Necessary Food Supplies to Vulnerable Groups” to Egypt to provide food relief, restoring the livelihoods of vulnerable populations severely affected by COVID 19.

The intervention will seek to complement ongoing activities by the Government of Egypt, contributing to critical interventions to ensure food security for all following the outbreak of the pandemic, which has left many struggling to make ends meet.

Coordinated, Collaborative Action to Close the Health Gap

In our first development project launched virtually, the Ministry of International Cooperation with the United States Government through USAID, the Ministry of Social Solidarity and the Egyptian Red Crescent (ERC) on June 8th, 2020, signed an agreement worth

\$3.2 million

for a new initiative supporting ERC’s network of 30,000 volunteers and health professionals. The initiative brought together all key stakeholders, including civil society and the private sector to work on addressing market needs that, in turn, helped contribute to Egypt’s social development and economic growth.

“The effective response to the impact of COVID-19 requires pulling efforts and combining resources of international organizations in providing the maximum possible protection for the most vulnerable groups and all humanity.”

H.E. Dr. Nivine El-Kabbag., Minister of Social Solidarity and Deputy Chairperson of ERC.

COVID-19 has disrupted mental health services in 93% of countries. Prioritising the importance of mental wellbeing during the COVID-19 pandemic, the USAID has also assisted ERC in providing psycho-social support services to health workers so that they can continue to serve the public.



Beyond the now, a long-term approach to a healthier lifestyle, and a healthier citizen.

Achieving universal health coverage is integral to increasing access to quality essential health-care services for all citizens, which is being carried out through the most recent World Bank

\$400 million

financing agreement approved in July 2020 to support Egypt's Universal Health Insurance System (UHIS). The project encompasses mandatory coverage for citizens and unifies, for the first time, efforts with the private sector. It also aims to achieve value care services, including to the most vulnerable, by eliminating existing disparities and offering them temporary financial protection.

Expanding health care services is a national priority for the Government of Egypt. The UHIS is expected to complement and contribute to Egypt's focus on improving human capital. As an early adopter of the World Bank's Human Capital Project, the Government of Egypt has committed to the 'whole of government' approach to build, protect, and utilize human capital. Egypt's Universal Health Insurance Law (UHIL) guides the implementation of the Universal Health Insurance System and accelerates progress toward Universal Health Coverage in line with the health pillar of Egypt's 2030 Sustainable Development Vision. The law envisions mandatory coverage for all citizens in the country, including vulnerable groups who will be subsidized by the government.

Promoting healthier lifestyles in local communities is also a key cornerstone in our development strategy, as we believe that the flourishing of these communities depends primarily on their good health and well-being. Through the 'Investing in Human Capital in Rural Upper Egypt' project, 136,000 poor families will be supported with their nutrition and education needs to help build their resilience in coping with the social and economic impacts of the COVID-19 crisis. Awareness activities on nutrition education will also be carried out on a larger scale to reach millions of Egyptians nationwide.

In addition, the project will ensure that pregnant and nursing mothers carry out regular medical checkups at health clinics after they receive their food assistance, which will help increase their access to public primary health.

“We are pleased to partner with the World Bank through the Ministry of International Cooperation to support Egypt's universal health insurance system, which will help Egyptians access affordable health care they need without suffering financial hardships. The project will support Egypt to achieve long-term stability in health financing with less dependence on state budget and less exposure to economic fluctuations.”

H.E. Dr. Mohammed Maaït, Minister of Finance

Over the years, the World Bank has strengthened its engagement in Egypt's health sector, including the "Transforming Egypt's Healthcare System Project" which was launched in September 2018 to help improve health service delivery in Egypt. The Project supported the screening of 52 million citizens for Hepatitis C and Non-Communicable Diseases; provided ongoing treatment for 2.2 million patients, in addition to supporting the improvement of quality of care in 600 Primary Health Care facilities and 30 tertiary hospitals; trained and contracted 2,800 community health workers; boosted demand- and supply-side interventions for family planning programs; and provided advanced nucleic acid testing for public blood supply.

Adopting a gender-oriented approach to health is also extremely important, as many women still lack access to sexual and reproductive health services. In 'Addressing Gaps in Reproductive Health and Rights in Egypt', Canada directed \$3.5 million through a grant to raise awareness on family planning, and increase access to and quality of family planning services in Egypt. The agreement signed in March 2020, empowers women and involves men in family planning, countering the social and behavioral obstacles preventing girls and women from accessing good health services. The project, implemented by the United Nations Population Fund will include means to purchase contraceptives, develop distribution in targeted areas, and incorporate family planning in the educational system.

Moreover, the USAID supports the Government of Egypt in its national development objective of strengthening family planning as a matter of human rights as well as fundamental to empowering women, reducing poverty and achieving sustainable development. Across the years, USAID has also directed

\$31 million

to build the capacities of the Ministry of Health and Population staff in providing quality voluntary family planning services and information. The program targets strengthening family planning and reproductive health services through building the capacities of the Ministry of Health and Population staff, which in return contributes to improving the quality of voluntary family planning services and information, in an effort to stem the rapid total fertility rate in Egypt. The program concentrates on women and youth, while addressing gender inequalities in the health sector while focusing on geographical areas where there are severe health disparities.

In July 2020, the Ministry of International Cooperation with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) signed an additional 6 agreements for

\$90 million,

one of which supports the health sector for a total of

\$10 million

by enhancing Egypt's family planning and reproductive health program and increasing its effectiveness and sustainability.



PURPOSE
AS THE DRIVER

Meeting the SDG Goals

Through these projects, we were able to meet several SDG targets. In SDG 3: Good Health and Well Being, Egypt has

36 projects
making up for
\$1.443 billion
which is
5.62%
of the total ODA.

However, health goes hand in hand with other SDGs as well, such as SDG 1: No Poverty and SDG 5: Gender Equality when it comes to ensuring low-income families have good health-care access and in ensuring that women have the health support they need.

Below are some of the targets met through these projects:

- Goal 3 for Good Health & Well-being (Target 3.4): Promoting mental health and well-being.
- Goal 3 for Good Health & Well-being (Target 3.7): Integrating reproductive health through the provision of universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services and family planning.
- Goal 3 for Good Health & Well-being (Target 3.8): Ensuring good health and wellbeing through promoting access to quality essential health-care services and safe and affordable essential medicines.
- Goal 3 for Good Health & Well-being (Target 3.C): Increase health financing and the training of the health workforce to build their capacities.
- Goal 5 for Gender Equality (Target 5.A): Empower women to have equal rights to economic resources.
- Goal 8 for Decent Work and Economic Growth (Target 8.3): Promote policies that support decent job creation.
- Goal 17 for Partnerships for the Goals (Target 17.6): enhance the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development through multi-stakeholder partnerships that share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources

Agriculture and Food Security



From Farm to Table: The Behind the Scenes

Africa is the world's future breadbasket, and Egypt is the gateway to Africa. We envision Egypt's future through the empowerment of local farmers, with all stakeholders coming together to achieve a paradigm shift in the agriculture sector.

Food security goes beyond putting an end to hunger, it's about empowering farmers and their communities. Our development projects in the sector offer solutions that start from the bottom-up rather than focus on merely the market and consumers.

In Egypt's economy, agriculture contributes to 14.5% of the country's GDP, and accounts for 28% of all jobs as well as over 55% of employment in Upper Egypt. According to the Food Agriculture Organization, the agriculture sector witnessed a 20% increase in export revenue in 2019. The good news this year as well is that Egypt's food exports were not severely affected by the pandemic, with the country being one of the few countries in

the region that continued to provide supply despite the challenging circumstances.

To strengthen Egypt's inclusive multilateral engagement with development partners, we launched the first agriculture Multi-Stakeholder Platform in July 2020 with discussions on the implications of the pandemic on food security, and bringing to the table innovative ideas to scale up efforts in this globally as well as locally important sector.

We aim to push for farmer-led sustainable agriculture to unleash the potential and productivity of small scale-farmers, creating a big impact for the country's economic growth.

In 2020, the Ministry of International Cooperation secured

\$100 million in agriculture, irrigation, and national supply through the AFD, EBRD, USAID, OPEC Fund for International Development and bilateral cooperation with Germany.



PEOPLE AT THE CORE

Transforming Communities

Our strategy starts by putting small scale farmers and communities at the core. The Government of Egypt aims to achieve this by building their capacity and improving their access to the right inputs, knowledge, finance, and markets. Going beyond, our vision is for the transformation of communities as a whole through providing technical support as well as loans for women to finance off-farm activities such as animal keeping and agro-processing, and in-kind ensure that children will be given the opportunity to attend school and support their families.

Digitization has also been pushed forward to empower farmers and has placed them in the loop of constant information on sanitation and food safety standards, which not only protects the public health, but also increases exports of fresh products to Europe and the MENA region.

PROJECTS IN ACTION

Protecting Food Security

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat joined a high level virtual panel on the significance of international development cooperation to face the implications of the COVID-19 pandemic on the agricultural sector and food security. The panel, "Government Responses and Possible Venues for Coordinated Actions" was organized by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD).

“Food security is not just important today at the national level, but for the entire globe, which necessitates that each national narrative and each national policy adds up, so as to protect livelihoods.”

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat

This is the most opportune time to push for a multi-level strategy that brings everyone together, where different countries can share their experiences and multilateral institutions can provide technical assistance and vision on how to move forward on different topics. For more than four decades, the United Nations' International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) has financed

14 projects

totaling about

\$1.11 billion

in Egypt, reaching over 7 million rural people. These investments helped promote climate-smart strategies, more sustainable use of natural resources and improve productivity in the old lands in the Nile valley and Upper Egypt. It also provided the private sector with an opportunity to expand its involvement and investments in agriculture.

Strategic discussions on the expansion of projects with IFAD have been initiated, outlining future areas of cooperation to enhance food and nutrition security and support resilient livelihoods. The projects aim to primarily build the capacity of Egyptian farmers and

Link to Video: https://www.instagram.com/tv/B_N1Z3lnzys/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link

improve their access to knowledge, finance, and markets, as well as support micro-enterprises and modern climate-smart farming practices. The inclusion of women and youth is also prioritised to ensure the sustainability of communities.

On the first-ever Day of Food Loss and Waste, the United Nations praised Egypt's efforts in partnership with the FAO aimed at reducing food loss and waste and increasing food security. Together with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of International Cooperation announced a joint project to digitize the sector, raising crop yields production by improving access to information and connecting farmers to new markets.

In April 2020, Egypt and Italy signed an agreement worth

\$2.7 million

for the Social Welfare Project in Luxor within the framework of the Debt Swap Program in cooperation with the United Nations World Food Program (WFP). The project advocates inclusion and focuses on empowering communities, as it includes supporting families and primary school students in community schools through providing meals, vocational training, life skills training, and loan recycling.

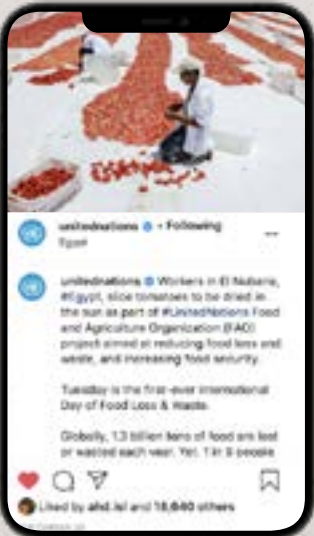
From public to private, another agreement in August of this year through the EBRD was signed on a

\$200 million

loan targeted to benefit 5

different countries including Egypt. The fund aims to strengthen the country's agribusiness sector through helping local farmers adopt environmentally friendly agricultural practices. Egypt is one of only five economies across the Eastern Mediterranean, Eastern Europe, and the Black Sea regions to receive such a loan from the EBRD.

The initiative helps transform Egypt's agriculture value chain into "smart farming" through new methodologies that include climate - related risk management and stress testing. It will also strengthen farmers' agribusinesses and improve their financial wellbeing by financing purchases of various agricultural commodities such as hazelnuts, dry dairy products, grain, and onions, in selected countries of operation.



\$243 million Ongoing Cooperation Portfolio with the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

People & Projects & Purpose

\$ 1.1 billion 

Within the Historic Cooperation
Portfolio with the International
Fund for Agricultural Development

\$ 1.4 million 

Families have benefited
from IFAD projects

PEOPLE AT THE CORE



Improving the citizens'
standard of living



Capacity development of
small farmers



Combating climate change

PROJECTS IN ACTION



Sustainable agricultural
investments and improving
standards of living



Enhancing the marketing
capacity of small rural
farmers



Enhancing the ability
to adapt to desert
environments



Development of irrigation
in desert lands

PURPOSE AS THE DRIVER

01  NO POVERTY	02  ZERO HUNGER	05  GENDER EQUALITY
08  DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH	13  CLIMATE ACTION	17  PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



Egypt is the second largest producer of
sun-dried tomatoes in the world.

The Future Breadbasket: The Story of Upper Egypt

Together with the USAID, the “Advanced Marketing and Agribusiness Logistics” (AMAL) Horticultural Pack House, has helped provide 78,000 job opportunities and link 9 markets to farmers in Sohag, Qena, Al Qasr, and Aswan. It will also help farmers increase their productivity through applying smart farming technologies. Providing training and technical assistance to more than 8,000 farmers in 7 governorates,

and more than 12,000 women and their families on nutrition, another project is the USAID-funded El Mahrousa Village Egypt Food Security and Agribusiness (FAS) which aims to promote food security for at least 14,000 Upper Egyptian smallholder farmers across 7 focal governorates – including Assiut, Aswan, Beni-Suef, Luxor, Minya, Qena, and Sohag.

The WFP has been working in cooperation with Egypt since 1968 to respond to humanitarian needs, empower communities and tackle the underlying causes of food insecurity and malnutrition in the country. Currently, the WFP’s Egypt country strategic plan for the period 2018–2023 expands this partnership and builds on lessons learned from the past, aiming to transition the lives of millions of Egyptians through strengthening the capacity and resilience of farmers, empowering women and responding to humanitarian needs, including those of refugees and migrants.

Driving inclusive and collaborative action, we recently announced expansions with the WFP on projects to support over a million farmers until 2030. The recent expansion will support the capabilities of 280,000 small farmers in 64 villages in Luxor Governorate, as well as four other governorates in Upper Egypt. Targeting 53 villages, modern and smart farming techniques, as well as renewable energy technologies such as solar panels are provided, and helping farmers organize into groups of at least 70 to promote land consolidation and double their incomes.

“We are proud to have been a strong partner of the Government of Egypt in implementing programmes that are aligned with the Country’s 2030 Vision. As a result of this solid collaboration, we are able to scale up successful integrated development models to assist more communities in need, especially at such difficult times resulting from the COVID-19 crisis where more and more people are becoming vulnerable.”

Menghestab Haile, WFP Representative and Country Director in Egypt.

We are also transforming 139 community schools into centers that provide integrated services in technology to combat child labor, child marriage and poverty, and built entrepreneurial capacities of 102,000 women, of which more than 33,000 received micro-loans to start their own businesses through the 'She Can' initiative. Committed to reshape our communities through empowering women, the Sun-Dried Tomato (SDT) Unit project in Luxor’s El Boghdady village invests in greater female participation in agriculture, by employing only women and providing 200 seasonal job opportunities. It also contributes to protecting against food security through reducing crop losses, whilst also increasing farmers’ incomes by 30%, and raises Egypt's market value in exports to ensure that families and households become more sustainable.

Agriculture, just like any other sector, also has job opportunities and careerlines. In June 2020, the Ministry announced a

\$4.4 million

agreement with the USAID for agricultural and rural development to increase incomes and employment opportunities for those working in the agricultural sector in Upper Egypt, Greater Cairo, and the Nile Delta. An additional grant of

\$780,000

from Agence Française de Développement (AFD) signed in March went to “Developing Food Markets in Egypt” to ensure quality production and to maximize the use of products.

Turning Projects Into Human Stories

“These projects are changing our mindsets and are opening doors for us to the outside world. It implanted inside all of us a new love for the land of Luxor.”

Khaled Mohamed, one of the beneficiaries in El Boghdadi village.

Khaled is just one character in the biggest story in agriculture: the quest to turn Africa into the world’s future breadbasket. This ambition to transform the sector can only happen through cooperation, diligence and engagement with local communities.

To celebrate the 75th Anniversary during UN General Assembly Week, together with the World Food Programme, we launched the thematic film “Beyond Food” shedding light on the activities in Upper Egypt that aim to support community development, food security and empower women entrepreneurs.

Along with the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation, the U.S. Embassy, WFP and USAID, the Ministry of International Cooperation embarked on a 3 Day visit to Upper Egypt, reaffirming the collective commitment to multilateralism during UN General Assembly Week through People at the Core and Projects in Action and with Purpose as the Driver . The field mission included a visit to a number of development programmes in partnership with USAID and WFP supporting farmers, women and youth in Luxor, which include the El-Fatih community school that provides quality primary education for vulnerable children between the ages of 6 and 14, who would otherwise not be attending school, AMAL Horticultural Pack House, El Mahrousa Village Egypt Food Security and Agribusiness (FAS), and visiting projects that support farmers in El Boghdadi Village.

Farmers in Luxor noted that modern farming technologies helped increase their crop yield by about 25%, as did their revenues, as costs went down by 15%.

In October 2020, **The Nobel Peace Prize 2020** was awarded to **the World Food Programme** “for its efforts to combat hunger, for its contribution to bettering conditions for **peace** in conflict-affected areas and for acting as a driving force in efforts to prevent the use of hunger as a weapon of war and conflict.”

“Listening to the stories told by the farmers and women entrepreneurs manifests the real human impact these programmes are achieving. Concerted efforts are needed to push forward with the United Nations SDGs, with the sustainable development of agriculture being a center pillar in this endeavor.”

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat

Sustainable Value Chains

Engaging with key market actors is also another way to go about food security. The International Labour Organization (ILO), in partnership with the Ministry of International Cooperation, and the Chamber of Food Industries (CFI) within the Federation of Egyptian Industries (FEI), is supporting the dairy sector in Egypt. The project comes within the framework of the ILO Egypt Youth Employment (EYE) Jobs, and Private Sector Development in Rural Egypt (RAWABET). Danone Egypt collaborated with “Al Pharaonia Group”, a milk collection center in Gharbia, to supply crude milk collected from the center to the food company. The story that needs to be told here is the integration of private sector engagement in improving market conditions with leading firms integrating SMEs across the value chain.





PURPOSE AS THE DRIVER

Meeting the SDG Goals

For all of our projects in agriculture, to ensure that we are maximizing impact and achieving targets, specific objectives were cross checked to the corresponding SDG targets and indicators. Below are some of the SDGs being met.

In Egypt, SDG 2: End Hunger makes up 1.89% of the ODA financing in **17 projects with \$486 million.**

SDG 5: Gender Equality makes up for 0.32% of the ODA financing in **13 projects with \$82 million.**

Moreover, SDG 8 makes up for 4.2% of the ODA financing in **42 projects worth \$1.075 billion.**

- Goal 2 for End Hunger (Target 2.1):** Ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food.
- Goal 2 for End Hunger (Target 2.3):** Double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, in particular women, through increasing access to knowledge, financial services, and markets.
- Goal 2 for End Hunger (Target 2.4):** Ensure sustainable food production systems and support adaptation to climate change, drought, flooding and other disasters.
- Goal 2 for End Hunger (Target 2.A):** Increase investment in rural infrastructure and technology development.
- Goal 5 for Gender Equality (Target 5.A):** Provide women with equal rights to economic resources.
- Goal 8 for Decent Work and Economic Growth (Target 8.3):** Promote policies that support productive activities and decent job creation.

Gender Equality



Between Economy & Equality:
Women’s Participation is
“Macro-critical”*

*“It is no longer
lip service, all
stakeholders are
coming together to
progress towards
gender parity.”*

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat

Gender equality is a necessity for any country to realize its full economic potential. Enabling women to achieve social, economic and political equality strengthens social fabric and accelerates progress in achieving developmental objectives. It matters because it has a fundamental bearing on whether or not economies and societies thrive.

The emergence of female leaders can become a centrifugal force for good in the world. For the



first time, we’re seeing examples of female leaders emerging from across the generations to cross-weave their knowledge and drive for change. In our world, we have Madame Lagarde, the first woman to become finance minister of a G8 economy and the first women to head both the IMF and the ECB. This year we witnessed the election of France’s Renaud-Basso as the First Female President of EBRD, the US Kamala Harris as Vice President Elect and Ursula Von Der Leyen, as Head of the European Commission.

In Egypt’s case, women are playing a larger role; more so every day. For the first time in history, 25% of the Egyptian Parliament seats are allocated to women, with 8 crucial ministries led by women in the Egyptian cabinet. Such a number of women in leading positions and with influential powers can encourage and inspire young ladies to achieve their potential, and push through the social barriers.

We are dismantling the
gender roles stigmas, one
strong woman at a time.

There is political will, there is economic empowerment when it comes to access to finance, and there is social empowerment where we are changing societal ideas of the participation of women.

* IMF: Women, Work, and the Economy: Macroeconomic Gains from Gender Equity. Author/Editor:Katrin Elborgh-Woytek; Monique Newiak; Kalpana Kochhar; Stefania Fabrizio; Kangni R Kpodar; Philippe Wingender; Benedict J. Clements; Gerd Schwartz



SDG 5: Gender Equality in Action

Our Goal is to Have Greater Impact

Achieving gender equality cannot happen without strong partnerships. To achieve gender equality at a large scale, our goals must be streamlined, local, inclusive and also specific, so that all targets are met in a harmonious manner.

This year, Egypt's Ministry of International Cooperation has been keen on integrating a gender perspective in all of its projects. We work in close collaboration with our multilateral and bilateral development partners, civil society organizations, the private sector and policy makers to achieve impact.



Around
34 projects,
worth
\$3.3 billion,
in projects executed
with gender sensitive
interventions being a cross
cutting theme in

Health
(20%),
Education
(14%),
and Micro, Small and Medium
sized Enterprises (MSMEs)
(15%).

The Ministry of International
Cooperation's current portfolio
of projects that exclusively target
SDG 5 include

13 projects
amounting to
\$82 million.

This is in addition to the other
projects in the portfolio that
achieve the same goal as
a collateral effect to their
development.

In 2020, the Ministry has secured
an additional financing dedicated
to SDG 5, with a total of

\$7 million
through bilateral cooperation
with Spain and Canada.

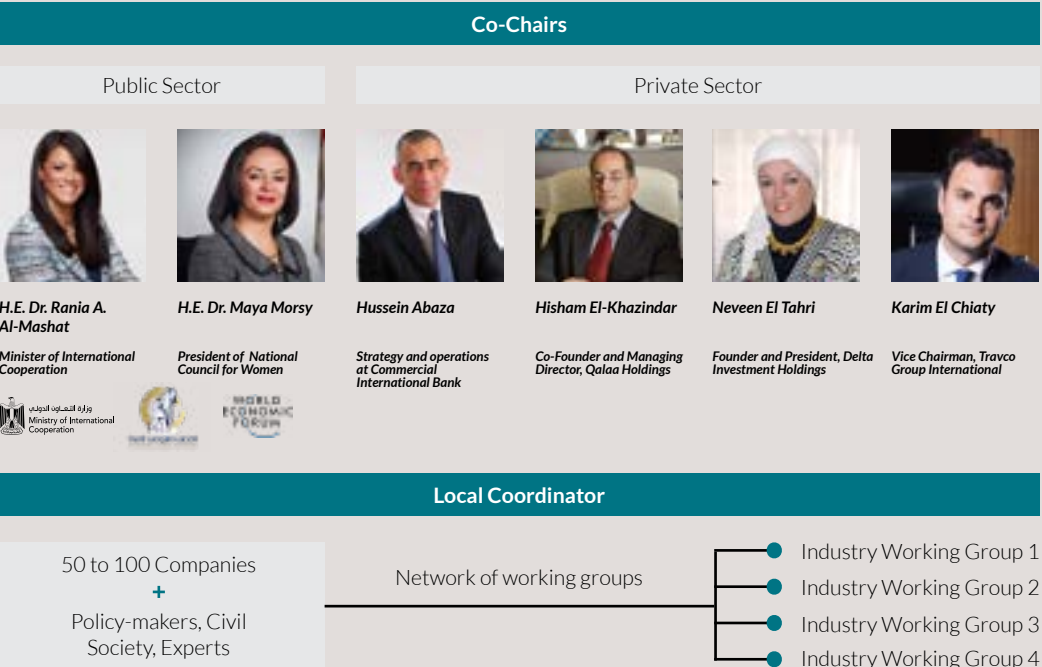
Closing the Gender Gap Accelerator

In July 2020, the Ministry of International Cooperation, the National Council for Women (NCW), and the World Economic Forum (WEF), launched the “Closing the Gender Gap Accelerator” the first of its kind public-private collaboration model in Africa, and the Middle East and North Africa, that aims to help governments and businesses take decisive action to close economic gender gaps.

Aiming to increase women’s participation in the labour force, close gender gaps in remuneration, advance more women into management and leadership positions, and hardwire gender parity in the future of work, the accelerator is built to take proactive action to advance women’s economic empowerment.

To ensure better results, the accelerator has created a structure for all stakeholders to engage in three stages. This will see stakeholders: initiate projects; facilitate discussions to prioritise actions according to key objectives; and measure impact according to defined targets and metrics before approval.

Closing the Gender Gap Accelerator Egypt Governance structure



257
Years

Global Context and Accelerator Objectives

According to the Global Gender Gap Report 2020, at current rates of progress it will take **257 years** to close the economic gender gap, even though many countries have the capacity to reap the benefits. If female employment rates were to match male employment rates, this would result in **%34 increase in Egypt’s GDP**.

(Source: Empowering the Third Billion: Women and the World of Work, Booz and Company, 2012)

The four key Closing the Gender Gap Accelerator objectives

- Preparing women for the post COVID19- world of work
- Close gender gaps in remuneration between and within sectors
- Enable women’s participation in the labour force
- Advance more women into management and leadership

Note: The model does not focus on broader issues related to gender equality such as health or gender based violence. The model is currently designed to tackle the most urgent issues around economic gender gaps first (current workforce) while exploring possibilities for the future workforce.

The launch of the accelerator highlights the Government of Egypt’s continued commitment to applying needed policies and structural reforms to push the gender agenda and empower Egyptian women, as women’s participation in the economy is macro-critical. It is also a means to bring together multi-stakeholder actors across the public and private sectors to generate local insight, develop local needs-based action plans and drive their execution.

“Creating economic opportunities for women in Egypt is a strategic priority for IFC, we look forward to future projects under the accelerator that support inclusiveness in the workforce.”

Beatrice Maser, MENA Regional Director at the International Finance Corporation (IFC).

In August 2020, Egypt united the international community in the first “Closing the Gender Gap Accelerator’ Multi Stakeholder Platform. The platform, held virtually brought together the National Council For Women, World Economic Forum and representatives from IFIs, Development Partners and Foreign Courts to ensure streamlined and sustained commitment related to SDG 5.

“Egyptian Women represent 50% of the population, and removing legal and social barriers, through partnerships under the accelerator, will have a direct impact on women’s active participation in the economy and hence growth and poverty reduction in Egypt.”

Robert Bou Jaoude, World Bank Operations Manager for Egypt, Yemen and Djibouti.

Our Covid-19 Women Story

Needless to say, the pandemic, a global humanitarian challenge derailed the progress to achieving the sustainable development goals but was also an initiator to “The Great Reset”, as championed by the World Economic Forum. One of the silver linings of COVID-19, is that it has accelerated reforms, including closing the gender gap, to be able to build back better through inclusivity and nurturing diversity.

Egypt was the first country to provide a women-specific response during COVID-19 launched by the National Council For Women. The country scored 1st place in the Middle East and West Asia regions with 21 policy measures according to the UNDP COVID-19 Global Gender Response Tracker.



“The NCW has presented a policy paper responding to the needs of women for the government to counter the outbreak of COVID-19, and will work with various government partners to support the development and implementation of mitigation and response policies to ensure the protection of women and girls.”

H.E. Dr. Maya Morsy.

Another success story in providing for women during COVID-19 came through with the story of Kemama.

Link: https://www.instagram.com/p/CA-kDvJn6GO/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link

While putting people at the core, Kemama, a community based initiative and in partnership with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and El Nidaa Foundation, engages Egyptian women from Upper Egypt, to produce medical face masks, a shift from their previous ready-made garment production, embracing agility and flexibility to create value during these times. All while providing jobs for women during these trying times, Kemama managed to produce over 3,000 masks daily.



Bottoms Up: From Education to Leadership

PEOPLE AT THE CORE

Education gives major benefits to women and girls to gain better knowledge and skills. With education, they gain self-confidence—and, in turn, can improve their chances in the labor force and provide better nutrition, health care, and education for their families.

Investment in women’s education is a top priority. This is done not only by expanding their access to education, but also by improving the quality of their education, countering stereotypes in school curriculums and preparing them to become future experts in sectors that are in most demand and lack female representation, such as STEM and technology.



“Believe in yourself. Work on your competencies. Don’t feel intimidated by circumstances. Just stay at it. It’s all within you.”

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat,
International Women’s Day 2020

Collaborations are necessary through public-private partnerships. During the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development’s (EBRD) webinar “Women20 Gender and Crisis Recovery: Building Back Better”, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat stressed gender-inclusive policies to move forward. In an interview with CNBC’s Hadley Gamble and Dan Murphy on Gender Equality in the MENA region, Al-Mashat explained that for women issues to be pushed forward, policy from governments and private sector involvement is important. The Government of Egypt aims to push for financial inclusion of women from 9% to 18% by 2030.

Link to Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t8tjwn8NUWk>

PROJECTS IN ACTION

Through the 'Basic Education Program', **USAID directs \$604 million through grants to support the Education Reform Program in Egypt.** This project focuses on expanding access to quality early childhood education, encouraging female participation in STEM schools, improving student assessment systems, increasing the quality of instruction through professional development activities for educators and administrators, and incorporating technology in the classroom to include more digital resources and improve classroom data collection.

"To institutionalize Egypt's journey to self-reliance in STEM education, USAID is now supporting the development of teacher education degree programs at public universities to build a cadre of qualified STEM teachers and administrators."

USAID Egypt.

As part of the project, mothers' are also provided literacy classes to learn how to engage with their children while learning at home. The USAID also launched the "Inter-Community Girls' Empowerment" where a new grant agreement in cooperation with USAID, worth

\$3 million

went to empowering girls in Upper Egypt. Symbolically launched on the International Day of the Girl, this grant gives girls access to education, health, and teaching cultural diversity.

To counter gender stereotypes in school curricula, the 'Supporting Egypt Education Reform', which is backed by the World Bank through a

\$500 million

to support the Education Reform Program in Egypt, integrates gender sensitivity into the design of its framework to address gender gaps and stereotypes in

education (attendance, dropouts, and enrollment in science and mathematics tracks). They also look into the constraints that face girls, the role of mothers in education, and gender-based violence or sexual harassment in schools.

With the participation of women being macro-critical, both public and private economic recovery post the pandemic need to include women as workers, business owners, and entrepreneurs. For example, two \$11 million grant agreements between Egypt and Canada were signed in March under a bilateral development assistance program, covering health, socio-economic support and empowerment of women.

"The agreements serve Egypt's inclusive sustainable growth by enhancing health services, as well as creating new job opportunities for women and enabling a healthy and resilient environment that promotes women entrepreneurship in growth sectors such as those of agriculture and energy."

Jess Dutton, Former Ambassador Of Canada to Egypt

The first program implemented by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) addresses gaps in reproductive health and rights in Egypt, is in partnership with the Ministry of Health and Population and the Ministry of Youth and Sports. While the second program that is implemented by the UN Women and United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) in partnership with the National Council of Women (NCW) and the Ministry of Trade & Industry, will serve about 36,300 beneficiaries in issues concerning women's economic empowerment.



Valuing Women's Work

According to a UNDP report in 2018 on Africa, if women entered the workforce at the same rate as men, the economic output would increase to \$962 billion. During the 'The Women Entrepreneurs Finance Initiative' (We-Fi) as part of the Global Women Forum held in Dubai, Minister Al-Mashat said that about 23 million Egyptian women are the heads of households, accounting for 14% of Egyptian families. We must shift gears and change mindsets to be gender blind, in order to see competence as the sole determinant to what a person is capable of, not their gender.

Link to Video: <https://youtu.be/sjY-umiTrLw>

In November 2020, the Ministry of International Cooperation and the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation for Development signed a grant worth about **\$225 thousand** in financing for a project to create job opportunities for women in Upper Egypt, and **\$168 thousand went to youth.** The International Finance Corporation also launched an advisory program



to improve the employment opportunities for women in the Egyptian market. It is a three-year program aimed at highlighting how private sector companies can include women to increase economic growth.

"Ensuring economic opportunities for women in Egypt is one of IFC's top priorities in terms of boosting the economy."

Walid Labadi, IFC's Country Manager for Egypt, Libya and Yemen.

Helping Women Feel Safe

In the summer of 2020, Egypt won two Sustainability Awards granted by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) for its development in “Sustainable Energy” and “Gender and Inclusion”. One of those awards went to the Egyptian National Railways (ENR) for contributing to safe transport for women’s economic inclusion and providing access to education.

A safe environment in the streets, homes or workplaces is integral to helping women achieve their full potential and contribute to society. This is why we also believe that projects dedicated to gender equality must be committed to eliminating all forms of violence against women.

In the ‘Youth Against Sexual Harassment’, Germany had directed a **\$4.4 million** grant to eliminate violence against women, which supports the Ministry of Youth and Sports (MoYS) in formulating a policy against sexual harassment at the national level as well as the ministry’s local structures.

Training on existing laws and principles against harassment, and how to prevent harassment, constitutes a major part of the project.

PURPOSE AS THE DRIVER

Considering that many of the SDGs work hand in hand, every sector previously mentioned and in the next few pages, encompass an element of gender equality. Below are some of the targets being achieved:

- **Goal 4 Quality Education (Target 4.1):** Ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes.
- **Goal 4 Quality Education (Target 4.3):** Ensure equal access for all women and men to affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education, including university.
- **Goal 4 Quality Education (Target 4.4):** Increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship.

- **Goal 4 Quality Education (Target 4.6):** Ensure that all youth and a substantial proportion of adults, both men and women, achieve literacy and numeracy.
- **Goal 5 Gender Equality (Target 5.1):** End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere
- **Goal 5 Gender Equality (Target 5.2):** Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation.
- **Goal 5 Gender Equality (Target 5.5):** Ensure women’s full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life.

Working on a Better Future Together

We can only achieve gender equality together. Over the next decade, we will be committed to building more partnerships to help our women feel safe, valued and empowered. We hope to build deeper connections with women across all of Egypt, and understand their challenges and struggles to implement more projects that directly target their needs. This way, we not only dream for a better future, but also work according to the realities on the ground.

Education



Education, Empowerment, Economic Growth

With the global economy becoming increasingly knowledge-based, the education and skills of a country’s people are more important than ever in securing its future. Investments in education provide a catalyst for economic growth, job creation, and increased social mobility.

Educating younger generations and preparing them for new jobs, for a digitally transformed and globalized world is something that is at the core of Egypt’s reform strategy. “Quality Education” being the fourth United Nation (UN) Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) is one of the Ministry of International Cooperation’s top priorities. For the country to continue developing sustainably in all sectors of the economy, education is necessary.

President Abdel Fattah El Sisi’s declaration that 2019 would be the year of education followed the government’s announcement in 2018 of a major education overhaul programme. The year 2019 thus saw a number of initiatives put in place, most of which were aimed at increasing uptake of technology in classrooms and ultimately creating a dramatic cultural shift in the way society views education. Many of these reforms were set to continue in 2020.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, according to the World Economic Forum, more than a billion students worldwide have been affected by school closures with traditional learning methods disrupted. In the case of Egypt, the Government responded swiftly to remote-learning, adapted through an agile approach to a digital-first education curriculum. These renewed efforts through collaborative action accelerated the use of technology in learning, expediting the reforms that were set to take place this year.



PEOPLE AT THE CORE

Education is at the heart of development

The future of the country is heavily reliant on the output the education system and youth will produce. With every human development project being developed across Egypt, establishing and upgrading the education system through schools and vocational training centers to cope with the Fourth Industrial Revolution is a target.

PROJECTS IN ACTION

In 2020, the Ministry of International Cooperation secured financing agreements with a total of **\$252 million** from multilateral and bilateral partners in Education, from the USAID, Saudi Fund, South Korea, Italy and Germany.

With more than **21 million** students, Egypt is home to the largest school system in the Middle East and has achieved near-universal access to primary education as well as gender parity in both enrollment and completion rates. Within the framework of the “Basic Education” agreement Phase Two, worth **\$15 million** from the USAID, the project aims to enhance students’ basic skills in reading, writing and numeracy. In the higher education initiative project, **\$30 million** from the US was placed in increasing employment opportunities for graduates of higher education. An additional **\$4 million** was granted to strengthen capabilities and tech advances in the fields of STEM, supporting projects, research and joint studies between both nations.



Life-Long Learning

Beyond schools, to the future. A total of **\$140 million** in development financing was concluded from the Saudi Fund For Development, for the King Salman International University. The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) also supports several projects, during COVID-19 particularly, in the Egypt-Japan University of Science and Technology (E-JUST). By 2030, Egypt aims to set up a big number of applied technology schools, alongside its many vocational education centers that are focused on teaching specific fields, such as industry, agriculture, trade and hospitality.

An **\$8 million** grant grant from South Korea went into inventions through enhancing public research and supporting developing technology all in the interest of achieving socioeconomic development goals. Within the Italian-Egyptian Debt for Development Swap (IEDS) Programme, a joint Italian-Egyptian partnership that aims to direct Egypt’s debts to Italy in development projects, Egypt and

Italy signed an **\$2.6 million** deal in April that is aimed at upscaling technology in high schools and at upgrading technical education within the country. Signed by Al-Mashat, Shawki and Italian Ambassador to Cairo Giampaolo Cantini, the project is setting up a network of applied technology schools and about 130,000 students will benefit, alongside 3,000 educators and administrative employees that will also receive training by 2030.

One of the latest developments in the education sector was the addition of Chinese language classes. In September 2020, a Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Education and Technical Education and Confucius Institute in China was signed agreeing to teach Chinese in preparatory and secondary schools as an optional foreign language. This deal lasts for six years and can be perpetually renewed.

Multilingualism is a positive factor in any economy as it ensures that our next generation of students will have the knowledge and skills they need to increase their opportunities and expand their

horizons. This initiative is part of a wider collaboration between the Governments of Egypt and China, which includes projects as Egyptian-Chinese Friendship School in 6th of October City and the Kafr Mosleha Primary School in Menoufia Governorate, as well as a Chinese grant to the Ministry of Education to implement a project to develop the online learning system through the Chinese company ZTE.

In November 2020, during the launch event of the World Bank Group “Egypt Economic Monitor” Report co-hosted by the Ministry of International Cooperation, H.E. Dr. Tarek Shawki, Minister of Education and Technical Education shared the “Education 2.0” which focuses on digitising education in Egypt by providing servers, screens and tablets to 25,000 public schools, changing the assessment model for high school and other levels of education in the future, and uploading the curricula from kindergarten through to Grade 12 to a digital library online that is freely accessible.

The reform, supported by the partnership between the Ministry of International Cooperation and the World Bank, helped improve education services to 12.2 million primary school students, 8.9 million in junior high and 2.8 million at the secondary level. The project, worth

\$500 million supports increasing access to quality kindergarten education, improving the quality of learning and adopting technology as a vehicle to achieve reform objectives.

“Education is more than just an exam. We are changing people’s perceptions, creating a cultural and behavioral shift, through the modernization of the system”

H.E. Dr. Tarek Shawki, Minister of Education and Technical Education.

These are the necessary steps that will eventually lead into the bigger picture of what education in Egypt looks like, and this will determine the caliber of the output it produces.

PURPOSE AS THE DRIVER

There are around 36 projects on SDG 4: Quality Education amounting to \$2.361 billion, 9.2% of the total ODA.

- **Goal 4 Quality Education (Target 4.1):** Ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes.
- **Goal 4 Quality Education (Target 4.2):** Ensure that all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and pre-primary education so that they are ready for primary education.
- **Goal 4 Quality Education (Target 4.3):** Ensure equal access for all women and men to affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education, including university.
- **Goal 4 Quality Education (Target 4.4):** Substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship.
- **Goal 4 Quality Education (Target 4.5):** Eliminate gender disparities in education and ensure equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for the vulnerable, including persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and children in vulnerable situations.
- **Goal 4 Quality Education (Target 4.6):** By 2030, ensure that all youth and a substantial proportion of adults, both men and women, achieve literacy and numeracy.
- **Goal 4 Quality Education (Goal 4.c):** By 2030, substantially increase the supply of qualified teachers, including through international cooperation for teacher training in developing countries, especially least developed countries and small island developing States.



Infrastructure



Infrastructure for an Inclusive Economy

The power of infrastructure to shape economies and societies is enormous. It underpins commercial life, provides vital social services and supports human interaction across every road. Developing infrastructure and innovation alike are the driving force of economic growth, enabling the reinvention of the surrounding built environments. Public-Private Partnerships are becoming increasingly important in shaping the future of Egypt's sustainable infrastructure.

In July 2020, H.E. President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi was awarded the Babiker Ndiaye Great Road Builder by the AfDB; a prize for Heads of State that initiate transformative projects in their countries with outstanding achievements in terms of road development, transportation and mobility. His Excellency was recognized for his personal leadership in the development and construction of projects in Cairo such as the Heliopolis Metro Station, as well as a Suspension Bridge Project on the Nile.

Much of the world today lives in bustling cities where population growth is rapid, relying on transportation for daily life activities is crucial, and technology is on the rise. Technologically advanced, sustainable and resilient infrastructure paves the way for an inclusive, private sector led green economic recovery.

The development cooperation portfolio with the Ministry of International Cooperation answering SDG 9: Industry,

Innovation and Infrastructure includes

36 projects
with a total financing of
\$5.737 billion,

making up 22.3% of ODA financing. With an additional

30 projects
for SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities, worth
\$1.497 billion

and

34 projects
for SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy, worth
\$5.950 billion

Egypt continues investing in resilient infrastructure to unleash the potential of dynamic and competitive economic forces, generating employment, promoting inclusive entrepreneurship and facilitating trade to build back better.

“Investment in infrastructure is critical to promoting an inclusive society through enhancing connectivity, allowing new actors such SMEs to have better access to opportunities and integrate into regional and global value chains.”

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat, World Bank Annual Meetings 2020, “Global Economic Prospects” Session.



PEOPLE
AT THE CORE

Education is at the heart of development

The tech advances of the Fourth Industrial Revolution have fundamentally altered the society in ways both seen and unseen. This digital transformation has changed how people live and work, and everything in between. One area of our daily life is how infrastructure is designed, developed and delivered, requiring all stakeholders to come together, implementing effective strategies and creating enabling environments to allow for innovation and opportunities.

The “Bridgital Nation: Solving Technology’s People Problem”, a book by the Executive Chairman of Tata Sons N Chandrasekaran and Roopa Purushothaman, Chief Economist and Head of Policy Advocacy at the Tata Group, launched during the Tata Consultancy Services event with Satya Nadella, CEO of Microsoft, during the 2020 World Economic Forum Annual Meeting in Davos, looked into how artificial intelligence can generate new jobs in emerging economies, and that it is not simply a case of technology replacing human labor. During the event, as a tech-optimist, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat expressed that in the process of developing artificial intelligence there is a need to ensure that humans are at the heart of technology, with advancements built without bias. Discussions are imperative alongside coordination and partnerships, to capture these opportunities in the road ahead.

Innovation is the driving force in the Era of Digitalization

During the “Horizons of Scientific Research and Knowledge Economy in the Arab World” virtual discussion as part of the Sharjah Research, Technology and Innovation Park, Al-Mashat stressed on the importance of investing in innovation. Working closely with multilateral and bilateral partners on Official Development Assistance (ODA), the Ministry of International Cooperation believes that having a strong tech infrastructure will help in advancing productivity and human capital. This kind of developmental innovation will lead to Egypt’s sustainable future and progress towards a competitive and inclusive economy.

The interest in tech - innovation provides necessary technical skills that are needed in a modern, contemporary industry; whatever that industry may be. Hand in hand with the National Agenda for 2030, infrastructure investments are complementing educational reforms as well. The progress in every sector goes back to the people, because it’s the people who help in building the nation for a sustainable and resilient future.

PROJECTS
IN ACTION

In 2020, the Ministry of International Cooperation concluded agreements worth **\$1.3 billion** in total dedicated to building resilient infrastructure and promoting inclusive and sustainable industrialization; **SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure and a total of \$1.066 billion** in total dedicated to promoting sustainable cities and communities, making settlements more inclusive, safe and resilient; **SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities.**

According to the Global Infrastructure Hub, the world is expected to face a \$15 trillion gap between projected investment and required development assistance to provide adequate global infrastructure by 2040. To bridge the infrastructure gap, MDBs play a vital role in the suspension of debt service payments, and boosting crisis lending as an alternative to other expensive forms of financing to enable a faster recovery. In the case of Egypt, blended finance has helped execute major national projects, particularly in infrastructure, which has helped Egypt achieve a positive growth rate amidst a general global downturn.

An example, for alternative means of financing urban infrastructure development is the EBRD support of Egypt’s New Urban Communities Authority (NUCA) through the diversification of funding sources by tapping the debt capital market with an investment of \$103 million in the latest \$638 million bond issuance by El Taamir, the securitisation special purpose company of NUCA. The EBRD’s investment brings its total contribution to \$206 million in NUCA’s \$1.3 billion bond programme, helping free up much-needed resources to continue developing new sustainable towns on desert land with the aim of relocating some of Egypt’s population away from the

Nile Delta. This helps in stimulating the economy and creating new job opportunities. NUCA has developed more than 20 cities in Egypt, attracting strong support of the private sector including developers and contractors. The contribution of the EBRD comes within the framework of the Ministry of International Cooperation’s endeavor to provide the necessary financing for development projects and diversification of funding sources, as well as a product of the Ministry’s Multi-Stakeholder Platforms convened between development partners and line ministries.

Public – Private Partnerships for Infrastructure Transformation

The Government of Egypt has been able to scale up private sector involvement in infrastructure and develop successful public-private partnership models, owing to a national policy encouraging private investments. We have been undergoing a gradual but significant strategic shift towards pursuing private finance and commercial investment for infrastructure prior to the pandemic.

During the World Bank Annual Meetings 2020, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat, as Governor of Egypt at the World Bank Group, highlighted the government’s efforts to diversify financing for sustainable infrastructure projects as well as its keen interest in green financing,

as it recently issued the first green bonds in the Middle East and North Africa worth

\$750 million,

in the session “Beyond Covid - A New World for Investing in the Infrastructure of the Future” with the participation of Patricia de Lille, South Africa’s Minister of Public Works and Infrastructure; Cora van Nieuwenhuizen, Netherlands’ Minister for Infrastructure and Water; Veronica Scotti, Chairperson of Public Sector Solutions at Swiss Reinsurance; Hans Peter Lankes, VP of Economics and Private Sector Development at IFC; and Imad Fakhoury, Global Director of Infrastructure Finance, PPPs & Guarantees at the World Bank.

Engaging with the private sector, there are currently more than 1,000 private sector companies and nearly two million Egyptian workers working on national mega projects that are contributing to a new chapter in Egypt’s economic progress with 35 projects in the housing sectors with a total of **\$5.657 billion**, 23 projects in the electricity and energy sector with a total of **\$4.896 billion**, 17 projects in the transport sector with a total of **\$4.762 billion**, 6 projects in the petroleum sector with a total of **\$1.129 billion**, 10 projects in the irrigation and water resources sector with a total of **\$982 million** and 17 projects in Sinai with a total of **\$1.950 billion**. One notable example is building the world’s

largest solar array at the Benban Solar Park in the Governorate of Aswan, which employs more than 4,000 people and is part of the Government of Egypt’s Sustainable Energy Strategy 2035 that aims to produce 20% of electricity from renewable sources by 2022. In the event of a global downturn, multilateral development banks should boost crisis lending and provide capacity building and technical support to avoid lasting socioeconomic damage and enable a faster recovery.

Achieving Sustainability through Quality Infrastructure

In November 2020, an agreement with Italy for a grant worth

\$7.5 million

was signed to support the Robiki Leather City through the financing of technical assistance. The city, specialized in the production and tanning of leather in Badr City, encourages and supports the competitiveness of Egyptian Leather production locally and abroad, and eliminates environmental pollutants resulting from chemicals used in tanning operations. The goal for the establishment of the city, is to cope with the worldwide competitiveness in the industry but also to reduce waste.

“Emerging innovations with purpose that are safeguarded have the potential to drive progress in sustainability, inclusivity and significant economic growth.”

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat

Technology has shifted the way information is created and consumed, underlying the importance and value of the Intellectual Property (IP) Ecosystem. In June 2020, together with the Government of Korea, Egypt signed an agreement to help the implementation of the Intellectual Property Automation System at the Egyptian Intellectual Property Office, raising the efficiency of IP management enabled by technology through an electronic gateway susten. The **\$3.45 million** grant from South Korea focuses on developing an automated intellectual property system at the Egyptian Patent Office (EPO). The agreement aims to maximize meaningful protection and recognition for ideas, encouraging entrepreneurship through fostering innovation and research in Egypt.

PURPOSE AS THE DRIVER

Infrastructure is compelling in attracting investment and development financing and Egypt provides a unique example where cooperation and partnership were showcased due to the efforts in infrastructure. In the 2020 Global Infrastructure Forum hosted by the EBRD, and organized by the International Project Finance Association in collaboration with the World Bank, Al-Mashat took part in the “Building a Better Future” panel which also looked into how to rebuild better post the pandemic.

The Global Infrastructure Forum aims to enhance coordination among multilateral development banks and their development partners to better develop sustainable, accessible, and resilient infrastructure for emerging countries. During the session, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat pointed to the importance of infrastructure projects for their widespread involvement related across various sectors such as the establishment of new cities, transportation and closing the water gap. Addressing renewable energy and climate change, and establishing a better

living for people goes hand in hand with developing like-minded infrastructure projects.

Infrastructure in the UN SDGs falls under SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure. Here are some of the global target goals, of which Egypt is also heavily working towards.

Goal 9 Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure (Target 9.1): Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including regional and transborder infrastructure, to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all.

Goal 9 Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure (Target 9.2): Promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and, by 2030, significantly raise industry’s share of employment and gross domestic product, in line with national circumstances, and double its share in least developed countries.

Goal 9 Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure (Target 9.3): Increase the access of small-scale

industrial and other enterprises, in particular in developing countries, to financial services, including affordable credit, and their integration into value chains and markets.

Goal 9 Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure (Target 9.4): Upgrade infrastructure and retrofit industries to make them sustainable, with increased resource-use efficiency and greater adoption of clean and environmentally sound technologies and industrial processes, with all countries taking action in accordance with their respective capabilities.

Goal 9 Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure (Target 9.5): Enhance scientific research, upgrade the technological capabilities of industrial sectors in all countries, in particular developing countries, including, by 2030, encouraging innovation and substantially increasing the number of research and development workers per 1 million people and public and private research and development spending.

Goal 9 Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure (Target 9.a): Facilitate sustainable and resilient infrastructure development in developing countries through enhanced financial, technological and technical support to African countries, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States.

Goal 9 Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure (Target 9.b): Support domestic technology development, research and innovation in developing countries, including by ensuring a conducive policy environment for, inter alia, industrial diversification and value addition to commodities.

Goal 9 Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure (Target 9.c): Significantly increase access to information and communications technology and strive to provide universal and affordable access to the Internet in least developed countries by 2020.



Transportation



Redefining Safe & Better Transportation

Today more than ever, there is a great need to develop sustainable infrastructure. The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) reports that by 2040 global infrastructure investment needs for transport could cost up to \$94 trillion (in 2015 prices).

The transportation sector contributes to 4.6% of Egypt's GDP and 6.2% of the job opportunities in the market. Redefining “safe mobility”, looking beyond just the reduction of road accidents, to address the health of citizens, and push for driver assistance technologies and highly automated driving systems, is imperative in today's world. To move forward, ensuring that a broader and more comprehensive understanding of safe mobility is applied is necessary as this puts the life and livelihood of the citizen at the core of every project.

PEOPLE AT THE CORE

Improving Productivity

True change requires considering both infrastructure and transportation at once – like looking through a pair of glasses with two lenses to see. With transportation, the story is centered around improving people's productivity and incomes by connecting them to jobs, schools and healthcare, and delivering goods and service to rural and urban communities, all supported by a strong infrastructure.

We look at transport through a human-centered lens to achieve value-centric results and reduce poverty, inequality and inefficiency.

In our current portfolio, development projects have helped over 2 million passengers use train services per day in 27 governorates, and 3.5 million people to use Borg Al-Arab International Airport.

PROJECTS IN ACTION

Promoting Sustainable Transport

In 2020, the Ministry of International Cooperation secured \$1.794 billion in development financing in support of the transportation sector, with development partners that include the EIB, AFD, EBRD, China, and Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development (KFAED).

Multilateralism aligned with the SDGs is key in advancing a more resilient economy. Cairo Metro Line 1 was designed to transport 60,000 passengers/hour. Public-private partnerships are an effective way to build and implement new infrastructure or to renovate, operate, maintain or manage existing transport infrastructure facilities.

The rehabilitation of Cairo Metro Line 1 falls under the multilateral cooperation between development partners, as it brings together the AFD, the EBRD, and the EIB in the collaborative funding of the project, implemented by Egypt's National Authority for Tunnels (NAT). This project demonstrates inclusive multi-stakeholder engagement between Egypt & its development partners, to enhance transportation infrastructure enabling connectivity and in turn productivity.



“The agreement falls under the integrated comprehensive framework implemented by the Ministry of Transportation, which covers the renovation of the railways, signals and central control systems, as well as other railway and electro mechanic enhancements.”

Lieutenant General Kamel al-Wazir.

Millions of commuters have benefited from the development financing obtained in support of Line 1, with investments provided by additional MDBs such as the EBRD complementing the existing financing with

\$3.5 million

grant to increase the line's capacity by 40% by reducing headway from 3.5 minutes to 2.5 minutes, thereby improving levels of safety, comfort and service reliability. The project will also introduce on-the-job training opportunities for young people.

In July 2020, the Ministry of International Cooperation with the AFD signed

\$59 million

within the financial rehabilitation deal aiming to renovate the Metro Line 1 which extends from New El-Marg Station to Helwan.

In February 2020, the Ministry of International Cooperation and EIB signed an agreement to provide up to

\$1.8 million

of financing for a Feasibility Study including an Environmental and

Social Impact Assessment for the Tanta – El Mansoura – Damietta Rail project which will improve railways safety, availability and reliability of a vital rail corridor through the Nile Delta. This technical assistant grant is funded from the Economic Resilience initiative (ERI).

The upgrade includes the doubling of the section El Mansoura-Damietta (65 km), the re-signaling of the whole line and investments in the railway stations, and potentially a freight yard and a freight link to Damietta port.

“The Government of Egypt intends to push ahead with the upgrading and expansion of its railway infrastructure. As the European Union bank, we believe that a well-functioning railway transport network can make a vital contribution to reducing the number of cars on the roads and in this way lower pollution and mitigate climate change.”

Flavia Palanza, EIB Director of Operations for Eastern and Southern Neighbourhood.

“Transport projects have undeniable positive socioeconomic impacts. The EU is largely supporting the

Government of Egypt in expanding its transport infrastructure through a number of projects”

Ivan Surkoš, Former Ambassador of the EU to Egypt.

In November 2020, an agreement with the EIB was signed for

\$1.27 billion

to finance three NAT projects, namely: the development and expansion of the El-Raml Tram Station and the Abu Qir railway line in Alexandria; and the development of Cairo Metro's Line 2. The EIB has also provided another

\$1.31 million

grant in Cairo's Metro Line 2 for the “Feasibility Study for the Rehabilitation and Upgrading of the 2nd Metro Line”. This project will help sustain and provide access to safe transport systems for all, improving road safety. This is in addition to taking in consideration the needs of those in vulnerable situations, women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons.

Transportation; a prerequisite for social and economic development

Transportation projects carry much significance in terms of driving Egypt’s inclusive economic growth and empowering Egyptian citizens across the country, connecting remote areas of the country with bigger cities and business districts, and provide more job opportunities.

In November 2020, a total of **\$1.6 billion** in two executive contracts previously signed were redesigned to include implementation through the private sector, during the TransMea 2020 Transport Technology Conference. The agreements foster economic development and empower citizens by providing affordable transport and equitable access to opportunities for all. The first contract, worth **\$400 million**, is signed in partnership with JICA to finance the project, “Phase One of Establishing Cairo Metro Line No. 4” which will connect the 6th of October and Giza districts with Cairo and the New Capital, and will target 1.3 million passengers a day. Funded through an international yen loan by JICA, this allows

the project to take advantage of railway technologies developed in Japan. Inevitably, this will help ease Greater Cairo’s traffic congestion and transport tourists from central Cairo to the pyramids and the Grand Egyptian Museum, which is currently under construction.

The second contract, worth **\$1.2 billion**, was signed in partnership with the Export-Import Bank of China to finance the Electric Train project between Salam City, 10th of Ramadan city and the NAC. This project will connect Greater Cairo, the Industrial Zones in 10th of Ramadan with the NAC located in eastern Cairo, and will target 60,000 passengers per hour. The projects also engage with the private sector such as Mitsubishi, Orascom, and Talis Consortium in the Cairo Metro Line 4 project, as well as the CREC Chinese Consortium in the electric train project.

Current portfolio with Japan ODA-SDG

13 Projects worth \$2.48 billion



Sector	Amount (Million USD)	SDGs		
Electricity	1120	07 AFFORDABLE CLEAN ENERGY	12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION	13 CLIMATE ACTION
Transportation and Navigation	552	09 INDUSTRY INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES	13 CLIMATE ACTION
Tourism and Antiquities	450	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES	08 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH	12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION
Education and Technical Education	168	04 QUALITY EDUCATION	08 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH	09 INDUSTRY INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE
Higher Education and Scientific Research	137	16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTION	17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS	
Irrigation	57	03 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING	04 QUALITY EDUCATION	10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



Strategic Partnerships Fostered by Cooperation



PURPOSE AS THE DRIVER

The previous projects help to achieve the following targets of the SDGs:

- Goal 8 Decent Work & Economic Growth (Target 8.2): Achieve higher levels of economic productivity through diversification, technological upgrading and innovation, including through a focus on high-value added and labour-intensive sectors
- Goal 9 Industry, Innovation & Infrastructure (Target 9.1): Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including regional and transborder infrastructure, to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all.
- Goal 9 Industry, Innovation & Infrastructure (Target 9.2): Promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and, by 2030, significantly raise industry's share of employment and gross domestic product, in line with national circumstances, and double its share in least developed countries.
- Goal 9 Industry, Innovation & Infrastructure (Target 9.A): Facilitate sustainable and resilient infrastructure development in developing countries through enhanced financial, technological and technical support to African countries, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States.
- Goal 11 Sustainable Cities & Communities (Target 11.2): Provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, improving road safety, notably by expanding public transport, with special attention to the needs of those in vulnerable situations, women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons.
- Goal 17 Partnership for the Goals (Target 17.16): Enhance the global partnership for sustainable development, complemented by multi-stakeholder partnerships that mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, to support the achievement of the sustainable development goals in all countries, in particular developing countries.

Energy



Think Green. Act Green.

The high ambitions for a greener future in Egypt are based on strong commitment, as well as capacity to unlock a green transformation in the country. The Ministry of International Cooperation's mission has not just been to 'think green', but also to 'act green' in all of the projects and policies to help preserve the environment.

We stand at the precise moment of a transformational period in human history, a moment that requires further collaborations, solidarity and passion to build for a better world.

The new **"Future of Nature and Business Report"** from the World Economic Forum has found that prioritizing nature could create \$10.1 trillion annually in business opportunities and create 395 million jobs by 2030, proving that investment in clean energy does not just support public health, but also could bring about economic opportunities.

To meet the rising energy demand as the population increases, the government has been implementing its Sustainable Energy Strategy, ISES 2035, which involves increasing the use of renewable energy and improving energy efficiency in the power sector. The government has set targets for renewables to make up a share of 42% of the country's electricity by 2035.

Since the Renewable Energy Law (Decree Law 203/2014), the private sector has been encouraged to play a role in the country's green transformation strategy and produce electricity from renewable energy sources.

A number of initiatives have appeared in the market such as KarmSolar, which was the first private solar integrator in Egypt to obtain a license from the Egyptian Electricity Regulatory Agency. This helped Egypt become one of the region's leading countries in renewable energy in the MENA region in the recent 2020 Solar Outlook Report.

Egypt won the Silver Award in the EBRD's 2020 Sustainability Awards for the "Sustainable Energy" category for innovation, green skills, promoting renewable energy sector and taking major steps in establishing a clean environment, with the Egyptian Electricity Transmission Company (EETC).

In the renewable energy, electricity and petroleum sector in 2020, the Ministry of International Cooperation signed major financing agreements totaling

\$677 million

with the AfDB, the AFD, and EBRD.



PEOPLE AT THE CORE

While its environmental benefits are well known, the socio-economic benefits of renewable energy are not as apparent.

By putting people at the core, we recognize all opportunities that lie ahead for our people with regards to renewable energy.

By investing in renewable energy, we are also investing in improving people's employment, health and access to affordable energy.

- **Improvement of Public Health:** Reducing emissions will ultimately mean reducing air pollution and improving the quality of the air people breathe. In consequence, cleaner air can also help improve public health and save many lives.

- **Reduction of Future Energy Prices:** Renewable energy cannot be bought and sold in a market, as all natural energy sources can provide a consistent and cheap supply of energy for many years.

- **Reduction in Household Electricity Bills:** By investing in renewable energy, households can automatically reduce their reliance on electricity and in turn electricity bills.

- **Create More Jobs:** According to the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), doubling renewable energy's share of global energy by 2030 would create 24 million jobs and benefit the global economy by \$1.9 trillion.

- **Renewable Energy is Clean:** Since renewable energy comes from clean sources, this will help reduce emissions that can contribute to future challenges such as global warming and climate change.

PROJECTS
IN ACTION

The importance of multilateralism and the involvement of the international community to tackle a green recovery cannot be overstated.

Egypt progressed significantly with multilateral and bilateral development partners with regards to energy and sustainability in advancing towards the UN SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy.

Benban Solar Park in the Aswan Governorate employs about 4,000 people. It is part of Egypt’s Sustainable Energy Strategy 2035 that aims to produce electricity from renewable sources. It is also the fourth largest solar power plant in the world. In another success story answering to SDG 12: Responsible Consumption & Production, Egypt’s 250 MW wind farm in the Gulf of Suez, supports renewable energy increased capacity and is expected to further improve the environmental characteristics of the country’s power sector.

“Egypt is fostering renewables and being a role model for countries to follow with the success of Benban Solar Park and Kom Ombo Solar Power. We continue working with our multilateral and bilateral partners to contribute to the achievement of Egypt’s sustainable future.”

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat



Similarly, Egypt is also looking for ways to develop waste to energy technology in cooperation with the Ministry of Local Development, Ministry of Environment and Ministry of International cooperation. The waste to energy technology is one mechanism for waste treatment and recycling that will help deal with Egypt’s solid waste system sustainably, provide clean energy, and increase job opportunities.

“It’s about doing more with less. Egypt continues investing in the efficient management of its natural resources towards a more sustainable future, one that is low carbon and one that is green.”

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat

The following are some of the projects implemented this year:

Unlocking a Green Transformation

To achieve building back greener through strengthened partnerships, the AfDB Board of Directors have approved in July 2020 the financing of Egypt’s Electricity and Green Growth Support Program (EGGSP) with **\$254 million**. The project aims to enhance financial sustainability, improve management and operational efficiency of the energy sector, and support the use of renewable energy. The agreement includes a grant to finance technical support for reforming the energy sector in Egypt and helping it to become more in line with international standards to promote a sustainable, competitive and diversified electricity sector. A **\$169.63 million** loan went to finance the energy sector budget support project in addition to a **\$1.1 million** grant from the AFD which aims to support the implementation of reforming the electricity and energy sector in Egypt.

Moreover, the Ministry of International Cooperation and

the Ministry of Electricity and Renewable Energy, signed the Egyptian-Danish Energy Partnership Program (2019-2022) agreement with the Energy Agency of the Danish Ministry of Climate, Energy and Utilities, to unlock Egypt’s green transformation and invest in renewable energy.

“Egypt wants to accelerate the pace at which the country is transforming to ‘green energy’ whether it’s through having access to clean energy or implementing wind and solar projects.”

H.E. Dr. Mohamed Shaker, Egypt’s Minister of Electricity

The agreement aims to support the state in accelerating the pace of Egypt’s green transformation by developing plans to ensure access to affordable clean energy and implementing wind energy projects, as Egypt seeks to increase the share of renewable energy to more than 42%.

Moreover, the Ministry of International Cooperation and

“The Government of Egypt’s strong dedication to renewable energy, combined with excellent wind and solar resources, offers Egypt a great opportunity to become a regional, green pioneer.”

Dan Jørgensen, Danish Minister of Climate, Energy and Utilities.

Supporting the Energy Sector Budgetary Support Program

Through pushing the frontiers of collaboration, the Ministry of International Cooperation signed an agreement with the AFD for financing allocated to the Energy Sector Budgetary Support Program.

Going Green

To support Egypt’s Green Recovery Plan, the Ministry of International Cooperation with the World Bank approved a \$200 million project in October 2020 to support initiatives to reduce air and climate pollution, as well as increase resilience to air pollution in Greater Cairo. The project prioritizes integrated climate solutions through reducing vehicle emissions, improving the management of solid waste, and strengthening the air and climate

decision-making system - promoting new methods and technologies that accelerate Egypt’s transition to a green economy and aligns with the 2030 national agenda.

The project will contribute toward Egypt’s key environmental goal of halving Particulate Matter pollution and toward developing and implementing a strong, economically feasible climate impact mitigation program that would meet Egypt’s 2030 targets for reduced emissions.

“We are prioritizing integrated climate solutions that strengthen resilience, protect the health of Egyptians and promote an economically productive society.”

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat

“Through this partnership we aim to give our children and youth a healthier future, where they can prosper, grow, and fulfill their potential.”

H.E. Dr. Yasmine Fouad, Egypt’s Minister of Environmental Affairs.

The new air pollution reduction and climate change project aims to: i) **modernize** Egypt's Air Quality Management System and strengthen the ability of Greater Cairo's population to cope with high pollution events, including events caused or exacerbated by emissions and climate extremes; ii) **support** solid waste management in Greater Cairo, including plans for the construction of an integrated waste management facility at the 10th of Ramadan City, the closure and rehabilitation of the Abou-Zaabal dumpsite, and strengthening the regulatory framework for waste management; iii) **contribute** to vehicle emissions' reduction by supporting the piloting of electric buses in the public sector and related infrastructure, including charging stations, and assessing the technical and financial feasibility of scaling this up; and, iv) to **implement** activities aimed at behavioral change by communities and service providers and ensure citizen engagement in project design and implementation.

“Egypt is undertaking steps to accelerate the transition towards a more green, sustainable, resilient and inclusive development model.”

Marina Wes, World Bank Country Director for Egypt, Yemen and Djibouti.

Egypt sold **\$750 million** in green bonds in September in what was the region's first sovereign offering of climate-friendly securities. The issuance was almost 5 times oversubscribed, attracting some **\$3.7 billion** worth of orders for the bonds, pointing to growing appetites for climate-friendly securities worldwide. The government had been expected to sell \$500 million of the bonds. The sale consists of five-year notes, which were initially taken to market at a yield of 5.75% but were sold 50 bps lower at 5.25%. The bonds will finance the development of Egypt's **\$1.9 billion** portfolio of green projects, including clean transportation, renewable energy and sustainable

water management. Egypt's first sovereign green bond sale comes as part of the government's debt diversification strategy, which entails a shift towards longer-term debt, which the government hopes will constitute some 52% of borrowing by June 2022.

Moreover, the EBRD will dedicate an additional **\$50 million** for a program to improve the efficiency of energy use by the Suez Oil Processing Company, dedicating to enhancing the energy efficiency of the oil and gas sector's performance and ensuring the effectiveness of the company's petroleum refinery. The EBRD and AFD also signed two agreements worth \$400 million set to strengthen Egypt's electricity network and its sustainable renewable energy strategy.

The deal with EBRD, worth \$217 million, is looking into strengthening Egypt's electricity network via construction and improvement of five substations across the country, including in the South Sinai, Eastern, Port Said, Assiut and Minya governorates. It will also provide a \$176,000 grant to the Egyptian Electricity Transmission Company (EETC) to support internal capacity building.

Through the AFD, \$169.63 million will go into implementing reforms in Egypt's electricity network. This is alongside a grant of \$1.19 million for the next three years to help progress Egypt's national sustainable agenda.

The Ministry of International Cooperation with the AFD signed a Development Program Financing (DPF) agreement worth \$89 million to improve Egypt's Electricity sector.

“The DPF will enhance the financial sustainability and improve the governance along with the operational efficiency of Egypt's electricity sector. It will also support clean energy for fostering green growth through development of renewables and energy efficiency actions.”

AFD Egypt.

In February 2020, the EBRD helped boost small businesses and green investments in Egypt with a

\$82 million

financial package to a local financial institution, one of the country's largest commercial banks, for on-lending to local enterprises. The

financing consists of a

\$17 million

loan under the Green Economy Financing Facility (GEFF) for Egypt, two loans of up to \$54 million cumulatively, of which \$13.5 million is co-financed by the Green Climate Fund (GCF); and a loan of up to

\$11.3 million

for small businesses.

The EBRD's funds will be provided to private companies to invest in climate change mitigation and adaptation measures through the reduction of energy and water usage, sustainable land management or renewable energy. The package will be supported by technical assistance of

\$3.1 million

and grants of

\$9 million

to be provided by the European Union, the EBRD's SEMED Multi Donor Account (Australia, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Taipei China and the United Kingdom) and the GCF.

PURPOSE AS THE DRIVER

In Egypt, there are

34 projects

within the Ministry of International Cooperation's portfolio answering SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy with a total of


\$5.95 billion


thus making up for


23.2%

of the ODA.

Below are some of the SDGs that fall under the energy sector in Egypt:

 **Goal 7 Affordable & Clean Energy (Target 7.1):** Ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services.

 **Goal 7 Affordable & Clean Energy (Target 7.2):** Increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy.

 **Goal 7 Affordable & Clean Energy (Target 7.3):** Double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency.

 **Goal 7 Affordable & Clean Energy (Target 7.A):** Enhance international cooperation to facilitate access to clean energy research and technology, including renewable energy, energy efficiency and advanced and cleaner fossil-fuel technology, and promote investment in energy infrastructure and clean energy technology.

 **Goal 17 Partnership for the Goals (Target 17.16):** Enhance the global partnership for sustainable development, complemented by multi-stakeholder partnerships that mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, to support the achievement of the sustainable development goals in all countries, in particular developing countries.

Water



The Resource that Underpins all Drivers of Growth

Water plays a fundamental role across the economy, as it underpins all drivers of growth, be it agricultural production, energy generation, industry or manufacturing. It also connects these sectors into a broader system that must balance social development with environmental interests.

Egypt seeks to embed water at the center of economic growth planning. To do so, it supports a range of collaborations to identify and scale up a new generation of public-private partnerships that can accelerate the implementation of UN SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation.

From elevating the role of wastewater technology, to driving resilience across supply chains and ecosystems, the Government of Egypt engages a diverse set of partnerships to re-energize and re-frame the dialogue on water.

This year under housing and wastewater management, the Ministry of International Cooperation secured financing for **\$1.417 billion** from the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development, World Bank, Kuwaiti Fund for Arab Economic Development, and the AfDB, EBRD and Germany.



PEOPLE AT THE CORE

Throughout history, the Nile River has been Egypt’s main artery of transport, fertility and wealth used for a variety of purposes including domestic use, agricultural irrigation, industry, and fisheries. Amidst an increasing consumption rate, the river can not be the only source for clean water, which is why the Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation has adopted a four-way strategy to mitigate water scarcity and bridge the water gap for its people. The Egypt 2050 strategy is based on four pillars*: 1) improving water quality 2) developing water resources 3) rationalizing consumption and 4) creating an enabling environment for sustainable development.

*Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation

PROJECTS IN ACTION

Decisions Today, Impact Tomorrow.

In June 2020, together with the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development (AFESD), a **\$249 million** financing agreement for Bahr El-Baqar drainage system was signed for sewage and agricultural waste treatment to achieve the optimum utilization of Egypt’s available water resources and is part of the Sinai Peninsula development programme.

The objective of the system is to recover all the wastewater that flows along the Bahr El-Baqar drain. It winds for 106 km, from the governorate of Dakahlia to Sharqia, and from the governorate of Ismailia to the governorate of Port-Saïd. The effluents that enter the drain during the flow come from Sinai households, industries and plantations in the region. The plant handling the wastewater will have a capacity of 5 million m³/day, making it the largest in Egypt and one of the largest on the African continent.

An additional **\$183 million** went into the same project to optimize sewage. This mega project is being implemented through a joint

venture with two private sector companies; the Arab Contractors and Orascom Construction.

The project’s cost is estimated at **\$1.15 billion** and aims to treat 5.6 million cubic feet of water per day, and reclaim 473,256 acres in the northern and central Sinai Peninsula.

“This is one of the biggest water treatment projects in the world, and we are very happy that on top of allowing farmers and workers to gain access to drinking water, it will also help protect the environment and achieve sustainability.”

Dr. Mohamed Sadeqi, Engineering Advisor of The Kuwaiti Fund for Arab Economic Development.

Another major national project in Sinai, is the Water Desalination Plant for Eastern Port Said, that has reached 95% completion. The new plant is designed to fulfill the demand for water for various purposes, including drinking, agricultural, and industrial activities. The desalination plant will have a capacity of 150,000 cubic metres per day, with plans to be expanded in the future to a capacity of 250,000 cubic metres per day to serve about 500,000 people. In September 2020, Al Mahmasa Water Reclamation Plan was awarded the ENR Global Best Projects Award in the Water/Wastewater category. The plant has the capacity to treat up to 1 million cu m of water a day and was built on 42,000 sq m of land and will irrigate up to 100,000 acres of land in central Sinai.

“Al Mahsama plant will significantly contribute to combating water scarcity in the country and will have a resounding impact on Egypt’s water-security agenda, transforming the scope of wastewater treatment across Africa.”

Hassan Allam, Chairman of Hassan Allam Construction.

Moreover, a loan for the project “Establishing Seawater Desalination Plants” in the new city of Rafah and the new city of Bir al-Abd amounting to \$18 million from the Kuwaiti fund was signed, which aims to meet the needs the water consumption of the people in the area.

Valuing Water, Valuing Livelihoods

“Contributing to transformative projects provides immediate benefits to our society and prepares our people for a sustainable future.”

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat

In September 2020, and during the UN 75th Anniversary, the Ministry of International Cooperation together with the USAID inaugurated the Wastewater Treatment Plant expansion location in the Al-Hubail region of Luxor. The inauguration took place in the presence of H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat, Ambassador Jonathan Cohen, US Ambassador to Egypt and a number of representatives from the USAID. The expansion of the wastewater treatment plant in Luxor complements the Egyptian Facility Management Agreement, which aims to further develop drinking water and water sanitation. The agreement, worth **\$450 million**, increases the wastewater services available to people in Luxor district to reach over 300,000 people, including 50,000 people in rural areas and villages.

The Ministry of International Cooperation joined another visit to Egypt’s Holding Company for Water and Wastewater and Cairo’s main water treatment plant on Rod El Farag, in November 2020. The U.S. Government through USAID helped establish the HCWW and Egyptian Water Regulatory Authority to improve Egypt’s ability to provide

water and sanitation services. The plant continues to serve more than 5 million people every day, with plans to expand the Central Cairo Water System.

Green & Blue

Stimulating the development of clean technologies in Egyptian agriculture is the aim of an alliance that was recently initiated between the Ministry of International Cooperation, IFC, the National Bank of Egypt (NBE), Agricultural Bank of Egypt (ABE) and MSMEDA. Under this partnership, the IFC will provide technical assistance to Egyptian financial institutions, including the NBE and the MSMEDA, to help develop a financial product that will enable farmers to purchase solar water pumps at an affordable price. The IFC estimates that 960,000 diesel-powered water pumps are currently being used for irrigation in Egypt, at an annual cost of

\$894 million.

Replacing these polluting and costly to maintain and operate with solar photovoltaic systems would save farmers fuel and maintenance costs, which would contribute to a cleaner environment.

“Through solar pumps, farmers have the opportunity to use a clean and free source of energy, but they can also irrigate more plantations and increase production.”

H.E. Mrs. Nevine Gamea, Egypt’s Minister of Trade and Industry

According to the FAO, Egypt has the largest irrigation area among the Nile Basin countries, with a total area equipped for irrigation estimated at 3.45 million hectares (3.4% of the country’s total area). Moreover, the IFC has partnered with the Agricultural Bank of Egypt (ABE) to help Egyptian farmers access financing to purchase solar irrigation systems, and reduce their reliance on diesel-powered generators.

Through this partnership, IFC will help ABE build capacity and design new financial products to enable Egyptian farmers, most of whom lack direct access to grid electricity, to purchase and install solar irrigation pumps. Using solar power for water pumping could potentially save farmers an estimated

\$875 million

annually in diesel fuel costs, helping reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Fit for Purpose

The World Bank’s Sustainable Rural Sanitation Services Program in Egypt aims to strengthen institutions and policies in increasing access and in improving rural sanitation services in Beheira, Dakahlia, and Sharkiya, operating in coordination with six water and sanitation companies in the Nile Delta; and finances the companies to achieve fully functional and independently verified sanitation household connections.

“The Sustainable Rural Sanitation Services program is doing much more than financing household connections, it is helping Egypt reshape the water and sanitation sector through a paradigm shift by aligning incentives to results.”

Dr. Sayed Ismail, Deputy Minister for Housing Utilities and Urban Communities.

The program activities are described through three key result areas: improved sanitation access; improved operational systems and practices of water and sanitation companies (WSCs); and strengthened national sector framework, and the scope of each results area. The total cost of the project amounts to about

\$500 million,

covering both sanitation and health.

PURPOSE AS THE DRIVER

Within the development portfolio of the Ministry of International Cooperation, there are 43 projects worth **\$4.99 billion on SDG 6, making up 19.4% of total ODA.**

Goal 6 Clean Water & Sanitation (Target 6.1): Achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all.

Goal 6 Clean Water & Sanitation (Target 6.2): Achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations.

Goal 6 Clean Water & Sanitation (Target 6.3): Improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally.

Goal 6 Clean Water & Sanitation (Target 6.5): Implement integrated water resources management at all levels, including through transboundary cooperation as appropriate.

Goal 6 Clean Water & Sanitation (Target 6.a): Expand international cooperation and capacity-building support to developing countries in water- and sanitation-related activities and programmes, including water harvesting, desalination, water efficiency, wastewater treatment, recycling and reuse technologies.

Goal 6 Clean Water & Sanitation (Target 6.b): Support and strengthen the participation of local communities in improving water and sanitation management.

Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises



The Power of ‘Small’

The role of renewed and inclusive multilateralism is key to moving ahead in unity to harness the potential of the private sector and civil society and direct them towards achieving national goals. In this case, it is connecting Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) ambitions with support to Egypt’s private sector, where there is a greater focus on enablement rather than just delivery. It aims to cultivate the right conditions to unleash the domestic workforce through an adequate legal and regulatory framework, effective infrastructure and services, and reliable and clean energy supplies.

Micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSME) are considered the backbone of local and global businesses. As part of our ‘P&P&P’ Global Partnerships Narrative, putting people at the core means

dedicating our efforts to improve the livelihoods of people who run their own businesses and those who work for them. In other words, it means looking much closer and deeper at the smaller pieces of the puzzle. This way, we are not only comprehensive but also deepening our vision so that we are able to push for a human-centered approach for the future of work.

In Egypt, MSMEs contribute to 99% of private enterprises, employing 60-70% of Egypt’s workforce, according to recent research by UNDP. It also plays an important role in employing Egyptian women, as female owners represent 10% of all entrepreneurs. By supporting SMEs to capitalize on opportunities and overcome challenges, the Government of Egypt is creating waves of positive effects for individuals, families, and communities in this sector.

In 2020, the Ministry of International Cooperation secured a total development financing worth **\$457 million** to MSMEs through the OPEC Fund for International Development, the Arab Fund for Economic & Social Development (AFESD), World Bank, African Development Bank (AfDB) and Germany.

Moreover, **\$168,000** from the bilateral cooperation with Spain went to the “Creating Job Opportunities Through Trainings and Establishing Companies” project.

To tap into the power of the small, we are focusing on three main themes: to **strengthen** the resilience of SMEs, help SMEs **grow** by going digital to adjust to the new normal; and **enable** businesses to become more sustainable and competitive.



PEOPLE AT THE CORE

Looking at the Small: How Can We help SMEs?

The role of the private sector does not just generate wealth or create jobs, but can also ensure social inclusion, food security, environmental conservation, and most importantly, reduce poverty. To adequately respond to the challenges SMEs face, we start by putting people at the core: pushing employers and employees towards realizing their full potential. Through our human-centered agenda, we acknowledge that the SMEs sector also includes informal workers and women entrepreneurs that demand further support. In line with that, we dedicate our resources to achieve partnerships with purpose as key drivers to generate sustained and inclusive growth.

PROJECTS IN ACTION

Helping SMEs Grow: Empowering, Enhancing and Excelling

With a value of \$95 million from the OFID, the project “Supporting SMEs” aims to improve economic and social conditions for vulnerable families through financing SMEs. This provides easier loans to marginalized groups that include women, low-income women workers, small farmers, fishermen and small entrepreneurship projects.

Another financing of \$50 million from AFESD also aims to support and increase the efforts by SMEs through economic empowerment; whether it’s by creating job opportunities or improving the capabilities of the people being the projects.

Charting the path to empowerment, together with the Saudi Grant Management Committee, a grant was provided to the Bank of Alexandria, to support the digitalization of SMEs and local Egyptian artisans and craftsmen. 1,475 beneficiaries, 30% for women-owned enterprises and 45% for enterprises owned by people

under the age of 35. The grant aims to revive local artisanship and reinvigorate the new artisan economy, which has become increasingly important in the face of increased global demand for high quality artisanal products, produced in a sustainable way.

Financing for SMEs through Commercial Banks

“Egypt has been prioritizing building for economically resilient and inclusive communities in the road ahead.”

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat

Due to COVID-19, the private sector globally including MSMEs and start-ups suffered due to the measures taken to flatten the health curve through lockdowns and remote-working.

In Egypt, putting small business support at the heart of its investment and advisory support, the EBRD provided a swift response

within its “Solidarity Package” with the mobilization of substantial loan agreements reaching **\$850 million** with local banks for on-lending to domestic enterprises and to support trade transactions.

The response package provides urgently needed liquidity, working capital, balance sheet restructuring, trade finance and infrastructure support. The funding came as a response to the Multi-Stakeholder Platform that the Ministry of International Cooperation convened in April 2020.

Supporting small businesses was also carried out through the Star Venture programme to help accelerators embrace innovation, entrepreneurship and business development. Youspital lately joined the programme, which is a booking platform for discounted healthcare that targets underserved or uninsured citizens. During this pandemic, Youspital launched a free hotline for medical consultations on COVID-19, as well as home visits for laboratory tests that will help reduce the spread of the disease. To tap on the potential of future generations, which is part

of the Ministry’s strategy to invest in human capital, the EBRD also rolled out a youth employment programme that provides vocational training, addresses skills mismatch and creates jobs. The bank started a technical cooperation project supported by SECO to enhance skills standards with the El Sewedy Technical Academy (STA) in Cairo. To help ensure that employers and employees have better access to finance, and as such, improve their competitiveness by allowing them to invest more in training and technology, the European Investment Bank has provided nearly \$1.9 billion to local banks in support of SMEs, including \$109 million for Banque du Caire, \$952 million for the National Bank of Egypt, and \$893 million for Banque Misr in addition to contributing to the financing of the Lorax Fund with an amount of \$22 million.

“Egypt should remain one of the most attractive markets among emerging economies after the pandemic. The country has gone through a difficult period of economic reform but the positive results are already quite visible.”

Alfredo Abad, Head of the European Investment Bank, Egypt.



Small and Medium Agribusiness Driving Growth Across Egypt

Small and medium-sized agrifood enterprises play a critical role in achieving food security in Egypt. A healthy SME sector can ensure that the continent’s smallholders – who make up the vast majority of Egypt’s farmers – are in a better position to secure inputs, produce what the market demands, and find offtakers for their products. These market linkages are crucial.

With agriculture as a central pillar, the Ministry of International Cooperation and the Saudi Grant Management Committee are financing five projects in 27 Governorates this year with a total financing of \$12 million. Three of the projects are for the Agriculture Bank of Egypt (ABE), which aims to promote food security and support farmers in Upper Egypt through their small and micro-sized projects; doubling their agricultural productivity and their incomes, and ensuring sustainable food production systems through implementing resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production.

Agriculture is in the hands of small-scale farmers, many of them women. We continue working with our partners to build their capacity, scale up their production and develop mechanisms for upgrading the ecosystem through integration and digitization.

Pushing for the Formalization of Informal Workers

The COVID-19 pandemic has quickly revealed the vulnerability of informal sector workers who are neither visible in social protection programs nor protected by formal sector employment, even though they make up the majority of workers in an economy. Tapping into the potential of this sector is critical to inspire innovation and push for inclusivity.

According to the Federation of Egyptian Industries, the informal sector absorbs over 50% of total employment in Egypt, as of 2019. While informality is a widespread phenomenon in Egypt, it is not necessarily a permanent state of being. For some young people, the informal economy serves as a 'stepping stone', a place where they can gain practical experience and overcome skills mismatches on the road to formal employment.

In the webinar organized by the Middle East Institute, the oldest think tank and cultural center in Washington dedicated to Middle Eastern studies, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat, noted that Egypt is pushing

for structural reforms that include the formalization of the informal sector.

Putting forward a social protection & social safety agenda during Covid, a one-off monetary compensation (500 EGP) was offered to informal workers registered at the database of the Ministry of Manpower, which included around one million individuals working in construction, agriculture, fishing and plumbing. An addition of 100,000 households were added to the Social Protection Program and the FY21 budget will increase to

\$1.23 billion

compared to \$1.18 billion.

To offset the challenges faced in the business environment, such as lack of access to financial, markets and business networks, projects such as 'Supporting and Financing Micro Sized Projects', supported by the Khalifa Fund for Enterprise Development (KFED), directs

\$200 million

in financing to improve market conditions in remote and disadvantaged areas, targeting

100,000 projects and creating more than 12,000 job opportunities.

In June 2020, the Ministry of International Cooperation, the EU, EIB and MSMEDA launched the second phase of the 'Community Development Program' (CDP) with a total financing of **\$7 million**; to enhance community facilities such as, drinking water, sewage networks, paving roadsides, schools, health clinics, and youth centers. The two phases of the community development program with MSMEDA stimulate sectors that are labour intensive accelerating job creation and generating employment opportunities.

The CDP aims at financing investments in community infrastructure to improve living standards for disadvantaged and vulnerable persons living in and around urban centres in several Governorates in Egypt.

"We continue to support a sustainable, modern economy in Egypt and to reinforce its economic resilience."

Dario Scannapieco, EIB Vice President.



PURPOSE AS THE DRIVER

Achieving SDG Targets Through SMEs

Several of these projects help in achieving important SDG targets. Most notably is SDG 8: to promote employment and decent work, which is met by allowing SMEs to achieve higher levels of economic productivity through diversification, technological upgrading and innovation. SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth includes

42 projects

totaling

\$1.075 billion

with a

4.2%

ODA financing.

The projects also promote development-oriented policies that support decent job creation, entrepreneurship, and the formalization of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises. Among some of the targets met are SDG 1: No Poverty, through ensuring that all men and women have equal rights to economic resources and financial services, SDG 5: Gender Equality through giving women equal rights to economic resources and access to financial services as well as SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, and SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities are also fulfilled.

Goal 1 for No Poverty (Target 1.b): Create sound policy frameworks at the national, regional and international levels, based on pro-poor and gender-sensitive development strategies, to support accelerated investment in poverty eradication actions.

Goal 8 for Decent Work and Economic Growth (Target 8.3): Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services.

Goal 8 for Decent Work and Economic Growth (Target 8.5): Achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value.

Goal 8 for Decent Work and Economic Growth (Target 8.6): Substantially reduce the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training.

Goal 10 for Reduced Inequalities (Target 10.1): Progressively achieve and sustain income growth of the bottom 40% of the population at a rate higher than the national average.

Jobs of Tomorrow



Digital, Innovative & Sustainable

The best time to plant a tree is 20 years ago. The next best time is now.

Right now, is the time to plant the seeds for short, medium and long term resilience through a strong entrepreneurial sector. In recent years, Egypt has shown itself as a startup hub as many of its youth are growing up with an entrepreneurial drive wishing to establish their own businesses.

New data from the World Economic Forum “Jobs of Tomorrow” report reveals that 96 jobs across seven professional clusters are fast emerging in tandem reflecting “digital” and “human” factors driving growth in the professions of tomorrow. The jobs of the future are set to grow by 51% and will present 6.1 million jobs globally, supported by an increase in new and innovative entrepreneurial workforce.

Egypt is witnessing the growth of a thriving sector, reflecting the adoption of new technologies, creativity and innovation coupled with sustainable solutions. The growth and scale of these businesses is determined by the public-private partnerships that take place today.



PEOPLE AT THE CORE

“Entrepreneurship and youth lie at the heart of development in the digital economy.”

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat

Digital entrepreneurship is of high topicality as technological developments and advances in infrastructure create various opportunities for entrepreneurs. Egypt is increasingly becoming the region’s entrepreneurial hub for its majority of young population, who are agile, adaptive, talented and innovative.

In the virtual panel, “Digital Transformation for Economic Recovery” to launch the initiative Grow ‘Stronger’ with Google on October 26th, 2020, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat spoke about the impact of digital transformation and adapting to a tech-based lifestyle. She also emphasized the importance of the development of a solid, sustainable and inclusive entrepreneurship ecosystem that has a multiplier effect on job creation, leading to the delivery of a circular economy in the future. The Grow ‘Stronger’ with Google supports small businesses and entrepreneurs in Egypt and the Middle East and North Africa.



The renowned Egyptian fashion brand “Okhtein” is a success story and a living proof of how the financing of the multilateral development bank EBRD has supported the young brand founders to digitalize their brand, making it a global sensation.



PROJECTS IN ACTION

Sailing with the Wind in their Sails

Leading the transformation of Egypt’s entrepreneurship ecosystem, the Ministry of International Cooperation is fostering the potential of innovation, digitization and entrepreneurship through mobilizing the vibrant national and international startup environment, identifying and financing efficient, innovative, agile and scalable ideas.

Established in 2017, Egypt Ventures is an investment firm seeded by the Ministry of International Cooperation and the General Authority for Investment and Free Zones (GAFI) with a mandate of supporting and investing in startups from a diverse range of sectors across Egypt. Egypt Ventures has created a blended finance model through which investments are directed into accelerators, venture capital

firms, and startups at the early and growth stages. The one-of-its kind investment firm drives innovation-centric enterprises led by strong and resilient entrepreneurs that have the potential to create high economic value and compete on a global scale. Egypt Ventures aims to cultivate and foster a startup culture in the Egyptian economy, catalyze the development of the entrepreneurship ecosystem, and build economic competitiveness leading to GDP growth.

With a fund that equates to more than **\$40 million**, Egypt Ventures and its subsidiary enablers invested in over 150 companies in Egyptian growth stage startups and scale ups.

The 2020 Global Startup Ecosystem Report (GSER) highlighted Cairo as the perfect test bed for innovation and an attractive market for scalability where it was ranked as one of the top 10 global ecosystems for talent in 2020 and one of the top 10 Africa and the Middle East ecosystem in funding.

In October 2020, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat with John Barsa, USAID Director in Washington, who was visiting Egypt for the first time, Ambassador Jonathan Cohen, US Ambassador to Egypt and Leslie Reed, Director of USAID, Cairo Office visited Flat6Labs, where they met with young entrepreneurs to learn about their business plans and successes.

Flat6Labs, supported by the United States through USAID and the Egyptian American Enterprise Fund, is one of the leading business accelerators in Egypt, helping 106 businesses create 7,450 jobs, of which 6,000 are women. Since 2011, the United States, through USAID, has invested over \$150 million to support thousands of entrepreneurs and small- and medium-sized businesses in Egypt. Harnessing the power of young entrepreneurs, Flat6labs is a model for cooperation to foster youth employment in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region and offers a wide range of services including mentoring, training, and financing.

PURPOSE AS THE DRIVER

The jobs of the future are highly dependent on several UN SDGs all at once. It is not restricted to one goal or one target, but rather a collection of several ones successfully coming together to achieve as many as SDGs as possible for new jobs to exist.

- Goal 4 Quality Education (Target 4.4):** Substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship.
- Goal 4 Quality Education (Target 4.7):** Ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture’s contribution to sustainable development.

- Goal 5 Gender Equality (Target 5.b):** Enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology, to promote the empowerment of women.
- Goal 8 Decent Work & Economic Growth (Target 8.2):** Achieve higher levels of economic productivity through diversification, technological upgrading and innovation, including through a focus on high-value added and labour-intensive sectors.
- Goal 9 Industry, Innovation & Infrastructure (Target 9.a):** Facilitate sustainable and resilient infrastructure development in developing countries through enhanced financial, technological and technical support to African countries, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing states.
- Goal 9 Industry, Innovation & Infrastructure (Target 9.c):** Significantly increase access to information and communications technology and strive to provide universal and affordable access to the Internet in least developed countries by 2020.

The Digital Economy Powering Global Recovery



The Digital Economy Powering Global Recovery

The digital revolution has transformed our lives and societies with unprecedented speed and scale, with new technologies inevitably leading to a major shift in the labour market.

With the pandemic hitting global economic and social development, the rise of the digital economy is viewed as a new engine for global economic recovery, with internet-related industries becoming more of a key focus area for development opportunities. The digital economy will require a range of new and different skills, a new generation of social protection policies, and a new relationship between work and leisure.

Today, there are incredibly vast opportunities for Egypt to become a regional powerhouse for digital transformation. We are seeing the rise of young, fresh and talented innovators and entrepreneurs in the market, particularly in the digital and fintech sectors, which places the country in a unique position to harness this potential and capitalize on the trends that are growing at present.

New emerging technologies such IoT (Internet of Things), Artificial Intelligence, Big Data and Machine Learning are currently coming to the fore, and this is most exemplified by the New Administrative Capital. The city is set to become the country's first ever smart city, which will include a city-wide digital security system as well as a smart infrastructure to reduce consumption and cost with a focus on renewable energy using IoT.

The Government of Egypt has also undertaken major investments in education reform, rooted not just in learning but in learning how to learn, and in providing lifelong access to learning opportunities for all.

With a burgeoning young population, it's not just emerging technologies that are paving the way for digital transformation, but also a thriving entrepreneurial ecosystem. Currently, Egypt has the highest number of startups deals in the MENA region with total funding in Egypt worth \$95 million.

To move in the right direction forward, fostering partnerships with development partners, private sector and civil society organizations as well as mobilizing the vibrant national and international startup and innovation ecosystem are key steps that the Government of Egypt is currently undertaking.



PEOPLE AT THE CORE

“Digitalization reshapes the transition to sustainable development.”*

To ensure streamlined and efficient implementation of efforts, the Ministry of International Cooperation is working on connecting all stakeholders on the opportunities that lie ahead for digitization and entrepreneurship. Planning for the new world of work, the Ministry is bringing together development partners to promote technology transfer knowledge which will in return enhance and build the tech-capacity of the people.

The Government of Egypt is also integrating ICT solutions at the heart of its digital economy, to raise awareness and accelerate movement from the informal to the formal sector, for business owners to be able to thrive in an organized modern sector. Tech-inclusion also opens the door to innovative crowdfunding and P2P lending solutions to finance the Sustainable Development Goals and enable Gender Parity.

*** The United Nations Task Force on the Digital Financing of the SDGs**

PROJECTS IN ACTION

From Ideation to Scalability

To encourage SDG-focused tech-inclusion and scale up impact, the Ministry of International Cooperation crafted a strategic framework to shift development ambitions into real tangible digital solutions; through four main components:

First: Prioritization; through the Ministry of International Cooperation's Multi-Stakeholder Platforms to support economic cooperation between Egypt and its multilateral and bilateral partners in the field of digitalization and entrepreneurship.

Second: Idea Generation; through addressing challenges and opportunities in the tech-sphere in coordination with development partners to search for new innovative ideas that can be implemented and encourage technology transfer through financing agreements on technical assistance.

Third: Project Implementation; looking at the design and implementation of all digitalization and entrepreneurship projects.

Fourth: Monitoring and Optimization; integrating the use of ICT solutions to ensure agility and efficiency in monitoring the implementation of projects; in addition to the Ministry of International Cooperation activities.

The strategic framework centers on collaborative action with development partners, the private sector, and the community to scale up resources dedicated to building the foundations of a thriving digital, innovative and inclusive economy.

In November 2020, the Ministry of International Cooperation with the Saudi Grant Management Committee signed a **\$6.4 million** financing agreement to finance the digital transformation to support

MSMEs in rural villages, targeting projects by women in the field of handicrafts. The implementation of the program will be through the Bank of Alexandria with more than

1,475  clients

benefiting from the financing, 30% of which are women-owned enterprises and 45% to firms owned by people under the age of 25.

The potentials for innovation in financial technologies (i.e. Fintech) has been growing more than ever. Demographic changes, rapid advancement in technology, growth of e-commerce and the COVID-19 pandemic are all important factors that made Fintech a top priority for governments towards financial inclusion. Egypt Ventures and EFG-Hermes (one of Egypt's leading investment banking institutions) have jointly established in 2018 the "EFG-EV Fintech" as a pioneering fintech-focused investment company. EFG-EV Fintech offers a startup accelerator and an early

stage VC fund both designed to nurture, support and empower financial technology startups. In addition to funding, the startups are offered office space, legal and accounting services, tailored training and mentorship programs.

In 2020, five startups graduated from the third acceleration cycle with more than \$160,000 of total seed investment and a fourth cycle was launched. Additionally, EFG-EV Fintech, through its VC arm has directly invested in 4 high-growth fintech companies with total investments of \$650,000. This increases the company's portfolio to 20 fintech startups - 13 graduates from the accelerator program and 7 with direct investment.

In the high level virtual panel organized by the International Fund for Agriculture and Development (IFAD) in April 2020, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat highlighted Egypt's efforts to promote smart farming to boost sustainability and that there are currently plans to digitize agriculture and lower the expenses for farmers. In partnership with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the Government of Egypt is working to activate the role of ICT in the agriculture sector through digital maps of the country's landscapes and carrying out training programs on the transfer of technical knowledge for farmers.

Insights to Incite

For the first time for an Egyptian minister, H.E Dr. Rania Al-Mashat participated in the LinkedIn Live Webinar Series on Women Empowerment for the Leadership in 2020 session with more than

5,600  viewers

from Europe and the Middle East and North Africa. Microsoft – owned LinkedIn is one of the fastest growing social media platforms with more than 690 million users globally, more than half of them are university graduates. Professionals watch nearly 4 million hours of content on LinkedIn Learning monthly, a nearly 50% increase month-over-month, with LinkedIn Live streams viewership up by 158% since February 2020.

With a changing global economy, calling for new approaches can quickly create value and generate sustainable jobs, Al-Mashat stressed on the importance of the youth expanding on interests and not being confined to any particular profession or place, but increasing and diversifying knowledge to gain skills and expertise, in an increasingly changing labor market. According to the World Economic Forum's 'Dynamic Briefing of Transformation Map on Workplace and Employment', a significant portion of net employment growth since 2005 has occurred in the independent and self-employed categories.

The rise of "platform" economies (based on broad, far-reaching digital entities like Amazon or Uber) has created more flexible work opportunities and a "gig" economy that, under ideal circumstances, allows the self-employed to fully participate.

In March 2020, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat was featured in a video series by Google, where she emphasized the importance of technology in unleashing a new potential in Egypt, transforming industries and countries.

PURPOSE
AS THE DRIVER

Within the portfolio of the Ministry of International Cooperation, there are currently

34 projects

in innovation, digitalization and entrepreneurship contributing to

13 SDGs

with a total development financing of

\$1.014 billion;

4%
of Egypt's ODA portfolio.

- Goal 1 No Poverty (Target 1.a):

Ensure significant mobilization of resources from a variety of sources, including through enhanced development cooperation, in order to provide adequate and predictable means for developing countries, in particular least developed countries, to implement programmes and policies to end poverty in all its dimensions.
- Goal 2 Zero Hunger (Target 2.a):

Increase investment, including through enhanced international cooperation, in rural infrastructure, agricultural research and extension services, technology development and plant and livestock gene banks in order to enhance agricultural productive capacity in developing countries, in particular least developed countries.
- Goal 4 Quality Education (Target 4.4):

Substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship.
- Goal 5 Gender Equality (Target 5.5):

Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life.
- Goal 5 Gender Equality (Target 5.b):

Enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology, to promote the empowerment of women.
- Goal 7 Affordable & Clean Energy (Target 7.a):

Enhance international cooperation to facilitate access to clean energy research and technology, including renewable energy, energy efficiency and advanced and cleaner fossil-fuel technology, and promote investment in energy infrastructure and clean energy technology.
- Goal 7 Affordable & Clean Energy (Target 7.b):

Expand infrastructure and upgrade technology for supplying modern and sustainable energy services for all in developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing States, and land-locked developing countries, in accordance with their respective programmes of support.
- Goal 8 Decent Work and Economic Growth (Target 8.2):

Achieve higher levels of economic productivity through diversification, technological upgrading and innovation, including through a focus on high-value added and labour-intensive sectors.
- Goal 8 Decent Work and Economic Growth (Target 8.3):

Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services.
- Goal 9 Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure (Target 9.4):

Upgrade infrastructure and retrofit industries to make them sustainable, with increased resource-use efficiency and greater adoption of clean and environmentally sound technologies and industrial processes, with all countries taking action in accordance with their respective capabilities.
- Goal 9 Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure (Target 9.5):

Enhance scientific research, upgrade the technological capabilities of industrial sectors in all countries, in particular developing countries, including, by 2030, encouraging innovation and substantially increasing the number of research and development workers per 1 million people and public and private research and development spending.
- Goal 9 Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure (Target 9.b):

Support domestic technology development, research and innovation in developing countries, including by ensuring a conducive policy environment for, inter alia, industrial diversification and value addition to commodities.
- Goal 12 Responsible Consumption and Production (Target 12.a):

Support developing countries to strengthen their scientific and technological capacity to move towards more sustainable patterns of consumption and production.
- Goal 17 Partnerships for the Goals (Target 17.7):

Promote the development, transfer, dissemination and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed.
- Goal 17 Partnerships for the Goals (Target 17.8):

Fully operationalize the technology bank and science, technology and innovation capacity-building mechanism for least developed countries by 2017 and enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology.
- Goal 17 Partnerships for the Goals (Target 17.16):

Enhance the global partnership for sustainable development, complemented by multi-stakeholder partnerships that mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, to support the achievement of the sustainable development goals in all countries, in particular developing countries.

Sinai





Inspiring Stories.
Impactful Stories.

Sinai’s story is one that is multifaceted. There is culture, history, communities, and impactful development. But there is also so much more that cannot be restricted to words.

Our current efforts are aimed towards putting integrated sustainability at the heart of development projects to unleash the potential and development of communities through diversifying their sources of income and increasing agricultural activity.

Ministry of International Cooperation’s
projects within the Global Partnerships
for Effective Development:

People & Projects & Purpose

PEOPLE
AT THE CORE

18

Development
Communities

18

Fisheries
development



Community and
social services

45,000

Direct and indirect job
opportunities

PROJECTS
IN ACTION



Build more
sustainable
communities



Provide job
opportunities



Encourage
young investors



Protect the
environment



Supporting economic
particularly
agricultural growth



Increase
incomes of
citizens

PURPOSE
AS THE DRIVER



PEOPLE
AT THE CORE

Fostering Connections

Community is all about connection. The value of community connection created a healthier and happier environment creating opportunities to drive together positive change.

Our policy towards the development of Sinai is centered on fostering connections with its communities and recognizing their challenges as well as opportunities. Finding ways to benefit communities has been the main driver in all of our projects to achieve the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

PROJECTS
IN ACTION

Sustainability at the Heart of
Development

A successful sustainable development agenda requires partnerships between governments, the private sector and civil society. Through a shared vision that is built upon common goals and values, all stakeholders are given the opportunity to contribute, share their knowledge and technical expertise as well as support access to technology, science and innovation.

In implementing the Sinai Peninsula Development Program, Egypt partnered with several financing institutions (the Saudi Fund for Development, the Kuwaiti Fund for Arab Economic Development, the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development) for the development of several projects in the Sinai Peninsula with a value of **\$2.698 billion** allocated to a diverse portfolio of sectors including transportation and infrastructure, higher education and scientific research, agricultural development, community development, irrigation and water resources.

Water Desalination Plant for
Eastern Port Said, Bahr El
Baqar Water Drainage System

The Kuwaiti Fund for Arab Economic Development (KFAED) financed developmental projects currently taking place in North Sinai, which include the water desalination plant for eastern Port Said as well as the Bahr El Baqar water drainage system.

In 2020, The Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development (AFESD) provided **\$249 million** for the Bahr El Baqar water drainage system. This is the fourth agreement as AFESD previously signed a **\$238 million** agreement and another two at a value of **\$255 million**.

To meet the increasing demand for drinking water for the commercial and industrial activities in the city, the desalination plant, with a value of **\$182 million**, has a production capacity of 150,000 cubic meter and can be increased to 250,000 cubic meter a day. The Bahr El-Baqar drainage water drainage system also has a capacity of 5 million cubic meter a day and can reclaim 400 thousand acres of the Sinai Peninsula.

Additionally, it aims to preserve the environment by reducing water losses for agricultural development which makes for a great impact in the agricultural development in North Sinai through 400,000 feddans and 100,000 job opportunities that can help sustain families.

Al-Mahsama Irrigation Drain Water Treatment Plant

During the inauguration of a number of national projects east of the Suez Canal in celebration of Sinai Liberation Day, the Ministry of International Cooperation witnessed the conclusion of the drilling at the Suez Canal’s Martyr Ahmed Hamdy 2 Tunnel.

We also visited the Al-Mahsama Irrigation Drain Water Treatment Plant, which has been named Infrastructure Project of the Year at the 2019 Construction Innovation Awards. The plant was developed in cooperation between Egypt and the Saudi Fund for Development (SFD), and in partnership with the Ministry of Housing, Utilities and Urban Communities as well as the Ministry of Water Resource & Irrigation with the execution of private sector companies.

With people at its core, the plant provides more than 12,500 direct jobs and 150,000 indirect jobs. The project provides irrigation water for 50,000 hectares of remote, dry land in northern and central Sinai, with the purpose of paving the way for the sustainable development of Egypt’s Sinai Peninsula, delivering on SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation, SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth and SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities.

Sustainable Infrastructure

The importance of investing in infrastructure is that it is a fundamental pillar of economic and social development, and in light of this, 7 projects have been implemented within the Sinai Peninsula Development Program in the transportation sector to upgrade the infrastructure and integrate the road network, with a total of **\$637.3 million** in development financing implemented in partnership with the Saudi Fund for Development and the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development. Some of the upgraded roads include locations in Taba and Sharm El Sheikh.

These projects aim to integrate the road network in the Sinai Peninsula, improve safety levels, reduce operating costs and travel time. This contributes to serving development efforts in Sinai in general by providing job opportunities and facilitating access to educational and health services for residents, and serving new residential communities. And linking roads with industrial zones, ports and the Suez Canal, facilitating internal trade movement, as well as serving future trade movement between the Arab Republic of Egypt and surrounding countries.

Community Development Program

Putting investment in people as a top priority, as contributing to human capital is integral to the country’s overall development, the project aims to contribute to the development of 18 communities, which will include social housing, educational institutions, a health unit, a sports square, a commercial complex, and 18 agricultural complexes to capitalize on the human potential of the communities and provide job opportunities for youth. It includes 1,181 housing

units with 10,610 feddans across North and South Sinai. The project also includes access to clean drinking water through 286 wells.

Together with the Ministry of International Cooperation, the projects are funded by the SFD and the Arab Fund for Economic Social Development as part of the Sinai Peninsula Development Program.

Supporting the Livelihoods of People

The Ministry of International Cooperation with the USAID signed an agreement worth \$6 million to increase educational opportunities and enhance the livelihoods of communities in North Sinai.

It will focus on the provision of water to 300,000 residents and wastewater services to 100,000 residents, as well as providing access to transportation for rural communities and an economic livelihood programming for families to increase job opportunities.

PURPOSE AS THE DRIVER

“The Community Development national project creates an interlinked yet independent ecosystem for each family in Sinai ”

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat

- Goal 1 No Poverty (Target 1.2): Reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions
- Goal 1 No poverty (Target 1.4): Ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance.
- Goal 2 Zero hunger (Target 2.4): Ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, that help maintain ecosystems, that strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters and that progressively improve land and soil quality.
- Goal 5 Gender Equality (Target 5.A): Undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, in accordance with national laws.
- Goal 6 Clean Water & Sanitation (Target 6.1): Achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all.
- Goal 6 Clean Water & Sanitation (Target 6.3): Improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally.
- Goal 8 Decent Work & Economic Growth (Target 8.3): Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services.
- Goal 11 Sustainable Cities & Communities (Target 11.2): Provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, improving road safety, notably by expanding public transport, with special attention to the needs of those in vulnerable situations, women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons.
- Goal 17 Partnerships for the Goals (Target 17.6): Enhance North-South, South-South and triangular regional and international cooperation on and access to science, technology and innovation and enhance knowledge sharing on mutually agreed terms, including through improved coordination among existing mechanisms, in particular at the United Nations level, and through a global technology facilitation mechanism.

Private Sector Engagement



Private Sector Engagement: Diversification and Job Creation

Private sector engagement is a powerful force in development cooperation for providing better livelihoods, creating innovative solutions, and pushing ahead towards transformational action to meet the 2030 Agenda.

The Ministry of International Cooperation secured development financing agreements in 2020 with a total of \$3.191 billion through direct financing to private sector companies as well credit lines to commercial banks for the financing of SMEs.

Since our development financing is **purpose-driven**, mapped according to the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, the Government of Egypt recognizes that engaging with the private sector is critical to accelerate the private sector's embracement of environmental, social and governance (ESG) principles. This helps us to achieve transformative changes and positive social impact.

Experience shows that private sector engagement requires coordinated action, inclusive dialogue and common understandings on the impact they can have on communities. For this reason, we are pushing the frontiers of cooperation through providing new windows for engagement with the private sector, through the three principles of 'Economic Diplomacy' with an emphasis on Multi-Stakeholder platforms which was launched in April 2020.

Pushing Ahead with Reforms

The Government of Egypt is committed to pushing ahead with the second wave of reforms and accelerating the delivery of development financing to achieve a more sustainable future.

The Ministry of International Cooperation coordinated a detailed matrix of structural reforms with the Ministries of Finance, the General Authority for Investment, Social Solidarity, Transportation, Communication and Information Technology, Trade and Industry,

Public Business Sector, Justice, Environment, Irrigation and Water Resources, National Council for Women, and the Financial Regulatory Authority.

This was followed by negotiations on a "Development Policy Finance" (DPF) Framework with the World Bank, led by the Ministry of International Cooperation in December 2020.

The DPF framework is based on four principles, namely:

- 1. Preserving** Macroeconomic gains;
- 2. Promoting** access to women's economic opportunities;
- 3. Strengthening** Firm and Financial Sector Resilience;
- 4. Improving** Infrastructure Sector Governance for Greater Private Sector Participation

This framework will provide the springboard of sectoral policies which constitute the Government's second wave of structural reforms.



Creating Markets in Egypt

To scale up and sustain increased private sector engagement, the Ministry of International Cooperation launched the "Country Private Sector" diagnostic in 2020 with the IFC, titled "Creating Markets in Egypt: Realizing the Full Potential of a Productive Private Sector." The report revealed that the launch of Egypt's homegrown reform program improved macroeconomic stability and helped restore confidence in the economy through predictive policies that contributed to increasing the share of private investment in the economy over the recent years.

According to the report, there are plenty of opportunities ahead for Egypt to harness the full potential of a productive private sector.

First, Egypt has a critical opportunity to leverage its ICT sector and use it as the gateway for a digital economy that will be based on innovative solutions to healthcare, transport and learning.

Second, there is an opportunity for the country to promote agribusiness and private sector investment in agriculture through strengthening supply chains and improving the adoption of food standards.

Third, private investment in the health sector can also foster partnerships for innovation.

Lighting the Way to the Next Normal

The pandemic has removed barriers previously thought impossible, challenged the idea that "nothing changes" and opened minds to the need for sustainable and innovative new "norms".

Through fostering lasting linkages in the year ahead, the Ministry of International Cooperation aims to catalyze and galvanize efforts in promoting private sector engagement by putting people first. The role of the private sector can create transformational impact through job creation, digitalization and sustainability to address the world's most pressing humanitarian challenges.

GOVERNANCE

Transparency, Accountability and Governance

Pathway to Effectiveness

To ensure no one is left behind, the Government of Egypt has set a targeted approach to openness, transparency and participation, through constructive dialogue with all stakeholders, including civil society in the sphere of development cooperation. The Ministry of International Cooperation aims to shift mindsets through 'Economic Diplomacy' through its three key principles: 1) Multi-Stakeholder Platforms, 2) ODA SDG Mapping Framework and 3) Global Partnerships Narrative. These principles aim to ensure that development financing is more accountable and effective by enabling stakeholders to have access to comprehensive information on ODA initiatives and opportunities to engage on its programs, playing a key role in mobilising resources to support the Sustainable Development Goals.

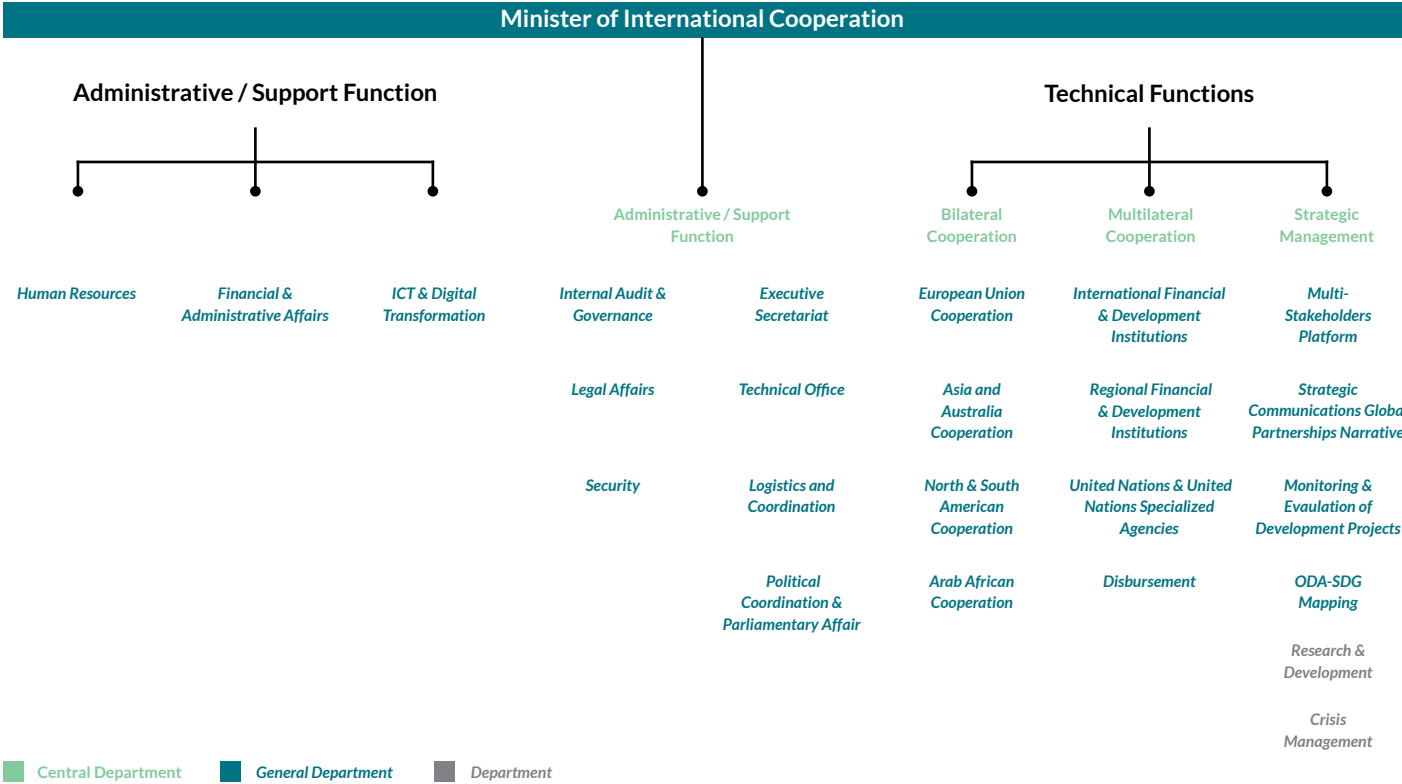
Reform as an Imperative

In its continuous efforts to implement reforms, the Ministry of International Cooperation announced the new senior-staff team, initiating a new structure to optimize resources and procedures to enhance efforts under the Ministry's Economic Diplomacy.

Act Together, Differently, As Well As We Can

Together, in a collective effort, the team brings to the table imagination and innovation, designing a modern modus operandi to further develop and strengthen cooperation between Egypt and its multilateral and bilateral partners. This culture of open governance is based on innovative and sustainable practices inspired by accountability, commitment and transparency that fosters sustainable and inclusive growth.

Ministry of International Cooperation Organogram



External Debt Management Committee

The External Debt Management Committee was established by the Prime Minister Decree No 2003 of 2018 to manage external borrowing, head by the Prime Minister, with the Ministries of International Cooperation, Finance, Planning and Economic Development and the Central Bank of Egypt.

The Mandate of the External Debt Management Committee is the effective and sustainable management of external debt and maintain a competitive credit rating of Egypt through setting an annual ceiling for external borrowing (exceptions possible pending the committee approval), receiving financing needs of ministries and national entities accompanied with feasibility studies on the estimated cost and consistent with the national objectives, identifying the financing gap and sources of finance to be provided externally. The gap is either financed through ODA or Commercial Loans. The main procedures of ODA Loan Request are as follows: 1. Ministries and national entities submit the

request of financing to the External Debt Management Committee including the estimated cost and the potential impact and consistent with the national objectives; 2. Upon the Committee’s approval of financing projects through ODA, the Ministry of International Cooperation is approached to secure financing; 3. The Ministry of International Cooperation studies the financing requests submitted, determines the appropriate development partner, and negotiates the most suitable financing terms, taking into account the degree of sectoral concentration and diversification of the international cooperation portfolio, technical support and grants required, complementarity with existing projects.

Open Dialogue with Stakeholders

Dialogue creates more than just verbal ties, but also common destinies. Communicating with openness, accuracy and transparency deepens our understanding of the challenges we face and the solutions that we can offer. In November, the Ministry of International Cooperation co-hosted the ‘Development Partners Group’ meeting in November 2020 with the United Nations and representatives from development partners.

The DPG meeting aims to harness and harmonize the development efforts of all diverse actors involved in development – government, development partners, private sector, and civil society and pave the road to effective and transparent cooperation.

“Egypt is pushing towards more open, inclusive and responsive development cooperation through our principles of Economic Diplomacy.”

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat

“The Ministry of International Cooperation is pushing the envelope on transparency and open dialogue. The United Nations are determined to deepen the existing strategic partnership to promote prosperity, and economic, social and technological development.”

Richard Dictus, UN Resident Coordinator.

Another Multi-Stakeholder Platform meeting was virtually convened on the 26th of November with representatives from development partners for an open discussion on the “External Debt Management Committee”; creating an environment in which information on the objectives, frameworks, rationale and accountability is provided to all stakeholders in a comprehensible, accessible and timely manner. The MSP encouraged development partners to actively play a role in the service design and delivery of the committee, through the provision of consultation and engagement.

The Comprehensive Picture

Providing a comprehensive picture of the Ministry of International Cooperation’s efforts through providing innovative and creative data-intelligence reporting on ODA through the Sustainable Development Goals mapping framework and efficiently disseminating the activities and results of the comprehensive exercise through contemporary and effective channels of communication, leveraging the MoIC Global Partnerships Narrative dynamic web content and interactive social media channels.

“Commitments are only tangible if reported. We continue our efforts to progress towards the SDGs and telling our story through People & Projects & Purpose.”

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat

Egypt scored the highest implementation of a national reporting platform for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 50% in the region, as reported by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA). To promote engagement and open dialogue on progress, the Ministry of International Cooperation has institutionalized regular monitoring of ODA financed projects at all stages of the project cycle to review projects’ performance and implement corrective actions.

In 2020, the Ministry secured \$68 million in governance from cooperation with USAID, the World Bank, China, and Spain. SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions includes 32 projects making up for \$240 million and 0.9% of total ODA financing.

Storytelling in Audio / Video

In Egypt, there is an appetite by the nation to be edu-tained through informative, transparent and positive news related to progress in the country and its development projects. The nation is having the conversation, we need to join it.

According to the January 2020 “We Are Social Digital Report”, there were 54.74 million internet users in Egypt in January 2020 and

42 million social media users. The report explained that 90% of Egyptians between the ages of 16 and 64 have a smartphone, with social media penetration at 41% and an average time spent of 7 hours and 21 minutes on the internet.

Digital and social media platforms pose an opportunity for effective and purposeful development communication; as they provide the means to document the

physical results of development projects across the country. People connect to the powerful storytelling showcasing the impact of development financing on ground. The Global Partnerships Narrative Strategic Ecosystem; plays an important role in streamlining development cooperation efforts under one umbrella of mindful mobilization; and through the MoIC Narrative Task Force with members of the Development Partners community, create a variety of messaging to engage stakeholders through “pitch, plunge and play” content adopting to a shared vision and language for collaboration.

Together with all development partners, the Ministry of International Cooperation calls for a “new era” of cooperation championing effective development cooperation, nurturing transparency, open dialogue and governance.

This ‘new era’ is tech-based, harnesses the meteoric rise of digital and social media and is built on powerful storytelling and prefers two-way communication where we collectively inform, and engage the people.

AFRICA

Unlocking Africa's Potential

“Africa is a continent of promise and vast potential. Collaboration with shared learnings and experiences between countries in Africa, and between Africa and other countries, is the path towards building a resilient future for all of us.”

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat

Now is the time to unlock Africa's potential. We have an opportunity to bridge economic cooperation and expand growth amongst its nations, with plenty of complementarities so that together and collectively, we are building for a better and inclusive future.

Based on data from the UN World Population Prospects, Africa is estimated to represent half of the world's future labor force as of 2050. Coordination is now more important than ever, whether through the African Union or Development Financing Institutions, the agenda to unlock Africa's vast potential should continue.



Partnerships for Progress

The African continent is one with promising investment opportunities, making it one of the world's top business destinations. On 20 January 2020, the UK hosted the UK-Africa Investment Summit in London bringing together stakeholders to showcase and promote the breadth of economic development opportunities across Africa.

Discussions during the summit included adopting measures meant to boost trade exchange within the continent - through opening British markets for African products - providing international funding for small and medium sized projects in African countries, along with improving the manufacturing and service rates.

Major pillars of cooperation include promoting infrastructure projects that aim to achieve integration within the continent by linking major roads, railways and undertaking renewable energy projects, activating the African Continental Free Trade Agreement, addressing the key role of the local private sector in attaining development, and empowering African women and youth by creating job opportunities and honing their skills.

Together, with the Secretary of State for International Development of the United Kingdom Alok Sharma, the Ministry of International Cooperation announced an agreement to enhance economic cooperation during the summit.

“The UK is committed to deepening its bilateral cooperation with Egypt and growing our strong trading relationship. Our joint statement paves the way for us to intensify our economic partnership and support Egypt to develop a sustainable economy that can benefit future generations.”

Alok Sharma, the Secretary of State for International Development of the United Kingdom

Prosper Africa

Prosper Africa is a U.S. Government initiative to substantially increase two-way trade and investment between the United States and Africa. The Initiative offers a robust package of U.S. Government services and resources to support U.S. and African businesses and investors. By connecting U.S. and African companies with new trade and investment opportunities, Prosper Africa creates jobs and drives shared economic growth and prosperity for the United States and our African partners. The Prosper Africa brand reflects a modern, whole-of-government effort geared toward private sector audiences.

In March 2020 during an official visit to Washington D.C., H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat met with US Deputy Secretary of Commerce Karen Dunn Kelley, to discuss the 'Prosper Africa' initiative that seeks securing financing and guarantee for US firms to facilitate their work within the content encouraging trade exchanges along with building economic links between the US and African countries.

“The initiative mobilizes and scales up private enterprise, fostering two-way trade and investment opportunities through public - private collaboration.”

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat

According to the USAID, for every \$1 of public funding, Prosper Africa is expected to leverage more than \$9 in private investment, which will deliver billions of dollars in exports and investments and create hundreds of thousands of African and American jobs by 2026.

It's time to 'Reset Africa'

In a first of its kind high-level virtual event dedicated to Africa "Resilient World: An African Call for a New World Order", in May 2020, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat joined 5 African Head of States and Global Leaders with more than 14,0000 people from 129 countries tuned virtually to accelerate international efforts for the continent.

“The pandemic has acted as a catalyst for innovation across the region, it has pushed us and tested us, and instilled faith in ourselves that reforms are possible, and with this we can reset Africa”.

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat

The roundtable discussion was held by New York forum Institute (NYF - Institute) and gathered African Heads of State and Government officials who have shown exemplary leadership during the pandemic, highlighting the lessons the world can learn from Africa, addressing the socioeconomic risks, and exploring visions for the world post-health crisis.

“The time has come to work together so as to bring about a world order that puts human beings and humanity at the center of international relations.”

H.E. Macky Sall, President of the Republic of Senegal.

Dr. Al-Mashat explained that the crisis drove the all countries, on all levels, including governments, policy-makers, the private sector and the civil society to become more innovative in taking action and finding solutions, pointing out that the challenges caused by the pandemic require concerted efforts, and emphasized the importance of bridging economic cooperation and expanding growth among African nations leveraging on the complementarities between them.

“African governments have more scope than is often assumed to mobilize domestic resources for their own development and improve efficiencies in public spending. If scaled up across the continent, such solutions could eliminate Africa's entire budget deficit or unlock sufficient funding to close the infrastructure-spending gap.”

Acha Leke, Chairman, McKinsey Africa.

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat joined President of the Republic of Niger Mahamadou Issoufou, President Cote d'Ivoire Alassane Ouattara, President of Senegal Macky Sall, President of Kenya Uhuru Kenyatta, President of Sierra Leone Dr. Julius Mmada Bio, in addition to the Minister of the Economy, Planning and Cooperation of Senegal Amadou Hott, Special Envoy of the African Union on COVID-19 and Board Chair of the Vaccine Alliance Dr. Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, Under-Secretary General of the UN Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa Dr. Vera Songwe, Senior Partner and Chairman of McKinsey Africa Dr. Acha Leke, Group Chairman of the United Bank for Africa Mr. Tony Elumelu and the Founder of NYF Institute Mr. Richard Attias.

Protecting Africa's Human Capital

As part of the 2020 African Caucus Meeting of the Governors of the World Bank Group and the International Monetary Fund, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat spoke about how African countries are working to limit the spread of COVID-19 while mitigating the economic and social impacts caused by the pandemic.

This virtual meeting took place with the theme "Protecting Africa's Human Capital in the Face of COVID-19: Saving Lives, Preserving Well-being and Safeguarding Productivity and Jobs" as it looked to discuss the development opportunities and challenges that the continent faces. The 250 delegates from Africa as well as the WB and IMF met to set the vision and identify the ambitions for Africa to build and strengthen resilience to future shocks as the region recovers from the pandemic.

“No country can overcome the pandemic crisis alone, noting that coordination between the African countries and development partners is required to surmount the current crisis.”

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat

Established in 1963 as the "African Group," the African Caucus was set up with the objective of strengthening the voice of African Governors in the two Bretton Woods Institutions on development issues of interest to Africa. Membership is open to all African countries that are members of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank Group.



Egypt: The Gateway to Africa

India is the third largest export destination for Africa, as 18% of its imports of crude oil and liquefied natural gas come from West Africa, and this percentage is expected to rise to 90 percent by 2025.

In September 2020, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat participated in the 15th session of the CII-EXIM Bank Digital Conclave on the India-Africa Project Partnership, which was attended by state officials from the two regions. The attendees included Minister of State for External Affairs of India Shri Moraldahran, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Trade of Zimbabwe Sebusiso Moyo, and the deputy minister of foreign affairs and regional integration of Ghana Charles Ooredoo.

During the meeting, Al-Mashat underscored the strength of Indo-African relations, noting that today these relations are developing in a dynamic manner, which reflects a promising future for achieving sustainable development goals.

Recent years have witnessed strong levels of economic growth for both Africa and India, which has contributed to a deepening of relations and an increase in intra-trade, as well as increased interest by Indian companies to invest in the African continent, particularly in agriculture, infrastructure, education, skill development, healthcare, manufacturing and more.

“There is no better time to capitalise on partnerships and invest in Africa's fast-growing potential.”

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat

A report by the World Trade Organisation entitled 'India and Africa: Trade and Investment between the South and the South,' revealed that intra-regional trade grew by 32 percent annually between 2005 and 2011. Al-Mashat highlighted the historical relations between Egypt and India, which extend for 65 years, stressing that India is one of the most important economic partners for Egypt, as it is the country's 10th largest export and import destination. More than 540 Indian companies are investing in Egypt with more than \$3.5 billion in various fields, such as petrochemical, industry and services. In the discussion, the Minister called for Indian companies to engage more in the Egyptian and African markets and benefit from free trade agreements that can enable India to reach more than 600 million consumers in Africa, Arab countries and Europe via the Suez Canal axis.

Building a Future-Proof Smart Grid

The Government of Egypt through the Ministry of Electricity and Renewable Energy is in charge of developing the continental electrical linkage grid upon the request of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD). The project would enable African countries to achieve the optimal use of energy resources available in the continent through the establishment of a unified African energy market.

With the introduction of a new legislation as part of the Electricity Act in 2016, Egypt partnered with the private sector in the renewable energy market through the introduction of the Feed-in Tariff (FIT) program, which governed the price and system through which private energy producers would sell to the government. This framework helped bring us Benban solar park, the Gulf of Suez Wind Farms and the plans to export around 15 GW of the excess capacity to neighbouring countries in Africa, the GCC and Europe.

THE GREAT RESET

From the Great Lockdown to the Great Reset

The pandemic, and the political, economic and social disruptions it has caused are fundamentally changing the traditional context for decision-making. The inconsistency and contradiction of multiple systems from health and financial to energy and education are more exposed than ever amidst a global context of concern for lives, livelihood and the planet.

There is also a unique window of opportunity to shape the recovery. The initiative ‘The Great Reset’ launched by the World Economic Forum in May 2020, offers insights to help inform all those determining the future state of global relations, the direction of national economies, the priorities of societies, the nature of business models and the management of a global commons. Drawing from the vision and vast expertise of the leaders engaged across the Forum’s communities, The Great Reset initiative has a set of dimensions to build a new social contract that honours every human being.



“In The Great Reset, we are the architects and shapers of a greener and more circular economy, through continuous reforms designed to foster inclusive growth.”

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat

Realizing a Great Reset for Sustainable Development

The fourth World Economic Forum Sustainable Development Impact Summit (SDIS) was convened under the theme “Realizing a Great Reset for Sustainable Development”. This virtual summit brought together more than 4,500 leaders from government, business and civil society from more than 141 countries.

In the closing session of the summit titled ‘Global Closing Moment on Resetting Cooperation’ on September 24th, 2020, stakeholders from governments, business and civil society called for the creation of new kinds of cooperation to tackle COVID-19 and build back greener. To achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), diplomats urged leaders to seize the opportunity for a Great Reset, the idea championed by Klaus Schwab, Founder and Executive Chairman of the World Economic Forum.

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat, highlighted Egypt’s story of resetting cooperation in COVID-19 during the session alongside Børge Brende President, World Economic Forum, Dr. S. Jaishankar, External Affairs Minister of India, Susana Malcorra, Minister of Foreign Affairs in Chile, and Tiffany Yu, co-chair at the World Economic Forum. Global partnerships working through multilateral frameworks can still be extremely effective, Al-Mashat noted, citing the example of a collaborative initiative between Egypt’s Ministry of International Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture and the World Food Programme, in which 60 villages in the Luxor region have implemented a small-scale circular economy that consolidates land and water use and has shifted from diesel to solar power – a project that will now be scaled up to 500 villages. The stubborn persistence of an investment gap and a digital divide in Egypt and across the Global South, while problematic, can also be viewed as opportunity and as a spur to innovation.



“Everybody has to be part of a collective solution. No country has the silver bullet. All of us had a chance to learn from each other, and despite many of the shortcomings from the pandemic, there have also been successes.”

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat

The pandemic has shown us that there are many gaps that need to be closed, the protection gap, digital gap, gender gap, water gap, investment gap and many more, but with multilateralism and global cooperation if leveraged intentionally and inclusively, we can push forward towards a resilient and better future.

“The concept of globalization needs to be redefined, the previous focus on trade, investment, and capital flows has to be broadened.”

H.E. Subrahmanyam Jaishankar, India’s Minister of External Affairs.

The summit was designed around the five pillars of the Great Reset: Better Business, Catalysing Cooperation, Harnessing Technology, Liveable Planet and Shared Prosperity. Key outcomes follow: Better Business, Catalysing Cooperation, Harnessing Technology, Liveable Planet and Shared Prosperity.

In another session titled “Risk Reset” during the summit, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat discussed an action plan for building a more resilient and sustainable world following the COVID-19 pandemic and the biggest risks and opportunities coming ahead. The session engaged with influential leaders in government, business and academia including Chander Prakash Gurnani, CEO & Managing Director of Tech Mahindra, Lutfey Siddiqi, Global Head of Emerging Markets, and Peter Giger, Chief Risk Officer at Zurich Insurance Group, to tackle the world’s most pressing problems.

Minister Al-Mashat highlighted the importance of prioritizing resilience to build sustainable models, as the current model pressures governments to bear the brunt of growing protection gaps through public financing, which leads to negative drawbacks such as the costs of financing and public debt. **Risk needs to be embedded within “our psyche, where governments, companies, risk advisors all come together in order to build resilience.**

“Resilience needs to be within the DNA of any organization”

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat

A new ‘Societal Risk Compact’ is needed, wherein companies, civil society, policy-makers, risk advisors and investors all play a part in decision-making and managing catastrophic risks.

“Humanity must be better prepared to face future threats.”

Peter Giger, Group Chief Risk Officer, Zurich Insurance Group.

To mitigate the negative impacts of public financing and public debt, the minister noted that prioritizing investments in relevant sectors such as the clean energy, artificial intelligence and social inclusion will also ensure resilience in the face of future risks, there shouldn't be a trade-off between profit and purpose, customers are now voting with their feet and turning to companies with strong ESG credentials.

“Technology is the bridge between people and businesses. We can all agree to a minimum agenda and address some of the world’s challenges we were unprepared for.”

Chander Prakash Gurnani, CEO of Tech Mahindra.

Minister Al-Mashat referred to an example of good practice on public-private cooperation through the World Economic Forum’s Regional Action Group, bringing together a group of senior decision-makers from Government, Private Sector and Civil Society, to design a new roadmap that applies the principles of Stakeholder Capitalism for the Middle East and North Africa, which aims to push for an inclusive, sustainable and resilient recovery for the region.

Following community members of the Regional Action Group for the Middle East and North Africa endorsed the “Principles of Stakeholder Capitalism”:

members of the Regional Action Group for the Middle East and North Africa endorsed the “Principles of Stakeholder Capitalism”:							
							
H.E. Mohammed Al-Jadaan	H.E. Abdulla Bin Touq	H.E. Thani Ahmed Al Zeyoudi	H.E. Rania Al-Mashat	H.E. Mohammad Al-Ississ	H.E. Bandar Hajjar		
Minister of Finance, Economy and Planning of Saudi Arabia	Minister of Economy of the United Arab Emirates	Minister of State for Foreign Trade of the United Arab Emirates	Minister of International Cooperation of Egypt	Minister of Finance of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan	President, Islamic Development Bank, Saudi Arabia		
							
Adeeb Ahamed	Khadim Al Darei	Yousuf Mohamed Al- Jaida	Mina Al-Oraibi	Tareq Al Sadhan	Mohammed Alshaya	Ali bin Masoud Al Sunaidy	Alain Bejjani
Managing Director, Lulu Financial Group, United Arab Emirates	Vice-Chairman and Co- Founder, Al Dahra Holding, United Arab Emirates	Chief Executive Officer, Qatar Financial Centre Authority, Qatar	Journalist, United Arab Emirates	Chief Executive Officer, Riyad Bank, Saudi Arabia	Executive Chairman, Alshaya Group, Kuwait	Chairman, General Authority for Special Economic & Free Zones; Minister of Commerce and Industry of Oman (2012- 2020)	Chief Executive Officer, Majid Al Futtaim, United Arab Emirates
							
Mazen S. Darwazeh	Hisham Ezz Al Arab	Fadi Ghandour	Mohamad Ali Hamade	Khalid Humaidan	Mohammad Jaafar	Majid Jafar	Samer S. Khoury
Executive Vice-Chairman; President, Middle East and North Africa, Hikma Pharmaceuticals, Jordan	Former Chairman and Managing Director, Commercial International Bank (CIB), Egypt	Executive Chairman, Wamda Capital, United Arab Emirates	Chief Executive Officer Amanat Holdings, United Arab Emirates	Chief Executive Officer, Economic Development Board, Bahrain	Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Kuwaiti Danish Dairy Company, Kuwait	Chief Executive Officer, Crescent Petroleum, United Arab Emirates	President, Engineering and Construction, Consolidated Contractors Company (CCC), Greece
							
Luciano Poli	Hashim Shawa	Ayman Tamer	Inam ur Rahman	Shamsheer Vayalil	Helmut von Struve	Marc Waters	
President, India, Middle East and Turkey, Dow Chemical Company, United Arab Emirates	Chairman, Bank of Palestine, Palestinian Territories	Chairman and Partner, Tamer Group, Saudi Arabia	Chief Executive Officer, Dawood Hercules, Pakistan	Minister of Finance, Economy and Planning of Saudi Arabia	Chief Executive Officer, Siemens Middle East, United Arab Emirates	Managing Director UK, Ireland, Middle East & Africa, Hewlett Packard Enterprise, UK	

Stakeholder Capitalism: A Manifesto for a Cohesive and Sustainable World

The World Economic Forum Annual Meeting 2020, took place on 21-24 January in Davos-Klosters, Switzerland, and focused on establishing stakeholder capitalism as a way of addressing the world's greatest challenges, from societal divisions created by income inequality and political polarization to the climate challenge we face today. The annual meeting touched on a range of important issues of our time, including fair taxation, zero tolerance for corruption, executive pay and respect for human rights. The outcomes of the annual meeting uncovered new opportunities to build sustainable and inclusive societies that proved to be ever more prominent post-pandemic.

In the "A Strategic Outlook: Middle East Economies" panel during the Annual Meeting, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat spoke alongside Prime Minister of the State of Palestine Mohammad Shtayyeh, Minister of Communications and Information Technology in Saudi Arabia Abdullah AlSwaha, CEO of the Majid Al Futtaim Group Alain Bejjani, and CEO of Crescent Petroleum Majid Jafar, moderated by Nadine Hani, Al Arabiya News Channel Presenter. The panel focused on growing Middle East economies and reforms, how policy makers need to respond to youth, the geopolitical challenges of the region, the Fourth Industrial Revolution, and the presence of women in the workforce. The heterogeneity of our region really creates a different policy perspective for each type of group, the Minister stated.

Egypt is embarking on its second phase of reform through the implementation of structural reforms at sectoral levels, accelerated today due to the pandemic. Al-Mashat stressed the importance of embracing tech-advances as it enables economic growth and pushes the frontier for increase in GDP. In Egypt 48% of activities will become automated, requiring policy makers and business leaders to engage, empower and leverage the agility of youth to adapt to the Fourth Industrial Revolution.

In another meeting during the conference, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat joined CEO of Crescent Enterprises and Professor Stephen Toope, Vice Chancellor of Cambridge University for a session titled "The Role of Philanthropy in Emerging Economies". Unlocking philanthropic capital creates a real system change and can be used to deploy long - term social impact, achieving the goals over the next couple of years. The public sector plays a catalytic role in mobilizing resources to build a supportive system for the next-generation philanthropists to ensure the effective delivery of public benefit, she said.



A Resilient Post – Covid MENA Region

Covid-19 does not recognize borders. Contagion has been evident not only in the transmission of the virus across countries but in the global economic propagation of this health shock on production, consumption and the consequent slowdown in economic activity. A fresh new wave of thinking is needed when it comes to making the MENA region resilient, and this is something that needs leaders in government, the private sector, civil society and the academic and scientific community to adopt a shared vision and language for collaboration.

In an op-ed, co-authored by H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat with Mirek Dušek, Deputy Head of the Centre for Geopolitical and Regional Affairs, Member of the Executive Committee, World Economic Forum and Alain Beijani, Chief Executive Officer, Majid Al Futtaim, a call to action was published identifying 4 ways public-private collaboration can build resilience:

1. **Accelerating** inclusive economics and societies
2. **Shaping** a new vision for economic integration
3. **Harnessing** the Fourth Industrial Revolution
4. **Promoting** environmental stewardship

Link: <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/06/4-ways-stakeholder-capitalism-can-forge-a-more-resilient-post-covid-mena-region>
Fresh thinking is needed on how the region can become more resilient. In particular, the region's diverse stakeholders – leaders in government, the private sector, civil society and the academic and scientific community – must adopt a shared vision and language for collaboration. A key pillar of this new understanding of cooperation is around the role and responsibility of companies in society – encapsulated in the principles and practice of stakeholder capitalism. Stakeholder capitalism proposes that companies should consider the interests not only of customers,

suppliers, employees and shareholders, but also of the wider community, the environment and society at large. Especially relevant to the societies of MENA, it also puts the emphasis on companies' responsibility with respect to the most vulnerable segments of the population.

Today, as Covid-19 affects health and economic systems globally, these principles have acquired an even greater sense of urgency. Now, they are part of the Forum's Great Reset initiative to shape a more inclusive and resilient post-Covid world.

To this effect, the members of the Regional Action Group of the World Economic Forum, believe that the principles and practice of Stakeholder Capitalism provide the outlines of a shared vision for building more resilient, inclusive and sustainable social and economic systems in the Middle East and North Africa.

These 7 principles are as follows:

1. Crafting Inclusive Economic Policies and a New Social Contract

Economic Policies, whether fiscal, monetary, or within trade and public investments, should be steered collaboratively together with all sectors of society. Policies should be designed in such a way as to serve the needs and interests of all societal actors, including women and marginalized communities. Furthermore, they should be based on the imperatives of providing social safety nets for the vulnerable, consider economic inequality, and consider the contributions of the informal economy. Finally, as the region transitions away from rent-based towards more diversified economic models, policies should target concrete areas of impact such as ethical supply chain management and fair income distribution.

2. Stimulating Economic Integration

Stimulating inclusive economic development and regional competitiveness requires greater levels of intraregional trade and investment, which can only be achieved through the facilitation of an effective cross border collaboration between different economies. Across the region, development is often stifled by trade friction and endemic economic fragmentation, leaving out the potential that more integrated economies could generate, including in the areas of the digital economy, tourism, or non-tariff barriers. Furthermore, public-private cooperation should envision the adoption of more flexible visa policies, as well as broader and mutually supportive institutional mechanisms and regulatory environments.

3. Re-shaping Education Systems

The implementation of effective labor market reforms needs to be complemented by state-of-the-art educational curricula that can produce graduates who are ready to enter the 21st-century labor force. In light of growing competition globally, and given the challenges of automation and artificial intelligence, education systems should be geared towards promoting skills and faculties such as critical thinking, creativity, emotional intelligence, entrepreneurialism and teamwork. Furthermore, the imperative of providing access to education for all urges stakeholders to design education systems that embrace the speed of technological progress and life-long learning.

4. Harnessing the 4th Industrial Revolution

In light of unprecedented technological change, now accelerated by the impact of COVID-19, stakeholders must collaboratively shape regulatory environments to balance the imperatives of privacy and efficiency. Existing conditions and resources in the region, such as high rates of internet penetration and the availability of tech-savvy youth populations, should be leveraged as a basis for the integration on a regional level of national digital infrastructures and markets, including the provision of a diversified range of social and financial services. Such efforts need to be underpinned by the creation of integrated technology ecosystems on a national, as well as an overarching governance architecture on a regional level. Finally, technology solutions should be geared towards closing the digital divide while being centered on the individual human being as the chief agent and beneficiary of technological progress.

5. Promoting Environmental Sustainability

In a region faced with acute environmental risks, such as those related to desertification, water scarcity and heat waves, social and economic policies should be

designed in a way as to mitigate potential future climate-related disruptions. Such policies need to particularly consider the principles of environmental sustainability and invest in innovative projects such as those within the field of the circular economy.

Furthermore, companies should be incentivized to re-design their business models for sustainability, thereby re-shaping business ecosystems and value propositions in order to generate value and reduce costs for business and the environment. Finally, environmental policies should advance net-zero emission standards, in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

6. Mitigating Global Health Risks

As COVID-19 has exemplified, epidemics and pandemics can cause severe disruptions to economic and social life. Against this backdrop, governments and private sector players need to cooperate on a regional level in order to mitigate the impact of global health risks affecting their populations, as well as guestworkers, and collaborate

in the areas such as research and development, digital health and vaccine development and distribution.

7. Committing to Good and Agile Governance

Stakeholders from across the societal spectrum, including government and the private sector, but also civil society actors and the academic-scientific community, must work together in order to strengthen good governance, fight corruption, ensure the guarantee of the rule of law and enable citizens to enjoy fairness, prosperity and dignity. They must also strive jointly to increase the agility of governmental norms and regulations to effectively respond to the interconnected risks and opportunities of this new era.

Link: <https://www.weforum.org/press/2020/09/leaders-sign-unique-roadmap-for-stakeholder-capitalism-in-the-middle-east-and-north-africa/>

Link: http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_Principles_Stakeholder_Capitalism_MENA_Endorsements_2020.pdf

Jobs Reset

As we emerge from the pandemic, we can proactively shape more inclusive, fair and sustainable economies, organizations, societies and workplaces. To do so, we must mobilize the best of human capabilities, technologies, innovative policies and market forces in service of “The Great Reset” new vision.

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat participated in the World Economic Forum’s Job Reset Summit in October 2020, supporting such a mobilization, working closely with partners around the world. The virtual meeting brought together leaders from business, government, civil society, media and the broader public to shape the new agenda for growth, jobs, skills and equity.

Moderated by President of WEF, Borge Brende, the CEO of Unilever Alan Jope and Founder of Bridgewater Associates Ray Dalio also participated in the webinar.

The minister began by stating that though the COVID-19 pandemic caused high unemployment rates worldwide, this disruption causes an opportunity to reskill employees in a way that promotes a sustainable and inclusive economy.



“The true challenge from the pandemic is that more than 195 million jobs were lost globally, and from the estimate that the WEF puts out, 54% of those employed need to be reskilled. I find that Egypt’s young population, which constitutes 60% of the total population, is a major opportunity.”

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat

She elaborated on how Egypt’s education system has evolved into becoming more tech-based and how the future of jobs require tech savvy people.

She mentioned projects that are currently ongoing, such as the Youth Enablement for Freelancing’ Initiative, which aims to train 20,000 young people, nationwide, on freelancing skills, through e-platforms. This is achieved in collaboration with the Ministry of Youth and Sports, through the integrated community centers that the Ministry of Communication Informational Technology (MCIT) has technologically developed, with Persons with Disabilities making 10% of the trainees.

In Egypt, there has been extensive effort and work done by the government to reshape the education system so that it could allow for more technological tools. Since these developments were already in action before the pandemic hit, considering Egypt’s population size, homeschooling and resorting to online education and work was significantly important to mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 crisis. MCIT has also taken many initiatives related to reskilling youth and providing them with technological advancements. Egypt’s new cities, such as the New Administrative Capital also provides a landscape for foreign companies and the private sector to employ youth.

PARTNERSHIPS

Innovative and Inclusive Partnerships

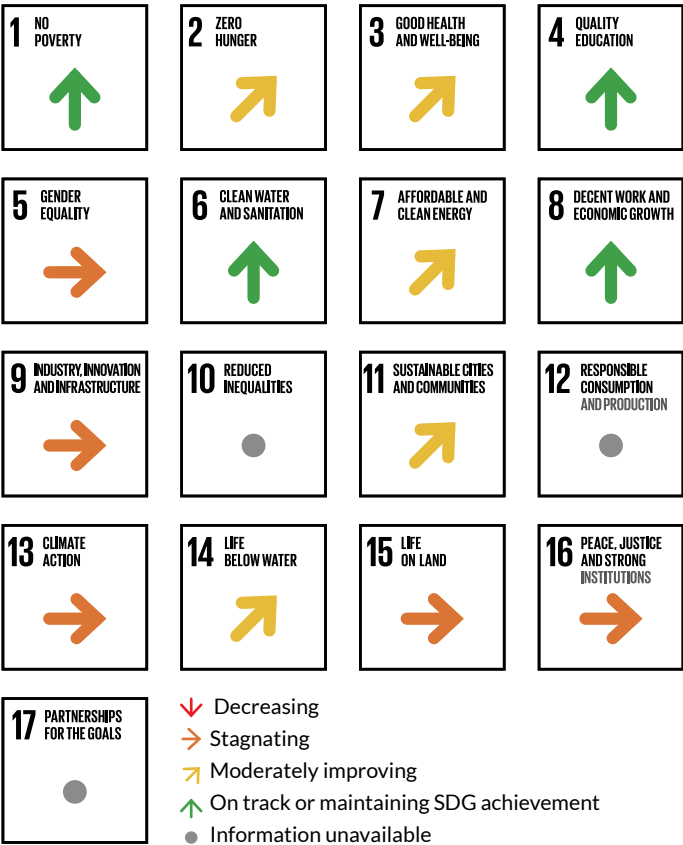
The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals can only be realized with strong global partnerships and cooperation. A successful development agenda requires inclusive partnerships — at the global, regional, national and local levels — built upon principles and values, and upon a shared vision and shared goals placing people and the planet at the centre.

“Cooperation is now more important than ever. Egypt is committed to inclusive multilateralism that accelerates progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals, building a resilient future for all of us.”

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat

In light of the consequences of the global COVID-19 pandemic, we have seen that strengthening multilateralism and global partnerships are more important than ever if we are to solve the world’s problems. The Sustainable Development Goals remain the framework for building back better, with everyone coming together to enhance development effectiveness and impact and accelerate progress in achieving the goals.

According to the United Nations Sustainable Development Report 2020, **Egypt** ranks **83rd** from **166 countries** with **SDG achievement** on track, moderately increasing or stagnating with no decrease.



A Circular Economy: Integral to the Sustainability Agenda

In recent years, the circular economy has gained increasing prominence as a tool which presents solutions to some of the world's most pressing crosscutting sustainable development challenges.

By addressing root causes, the concept of a circular economy, an economy in which waste and pollution do not exist by design, products and materials are kept in use, and natural systems are regenerated provides much promise to accelerate implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

Egypt was featured as a 'Grow Country' in the 2020 Circularity Gap Report alongside China, Brazil and Vietnam, the only group with an overall positive trade balance, accelerating transition to a circular economy.



Setting the Way Forward: Multilateralism for a Resilient Recovery

United Nations Partnership Development Framework

The UN Partnership Development Framework for Egypt (UNPDF), launched in 2006 with the Ministry of International Cooperation as co-chair represents the UN's cooperation framework with the Government of Egypt. It recognizes the substantial gains already made by Egypt on a whole range of development indicators and takes into account lessons learnt from previous cooperation.

Formulated in coordination with the Government of Egypt through a highly participatory and inclusive process, the UNPDF for the period of 2018 - 2022 is fully aligned with national development priorities, as articulated in the national Sustainable Development Strategy: Egypt Vision 2030 as well as the global Sustainable development Goals and is based on a number of key priorities.

The UNPDF is composed of four pillars: 1) Inclusive Economic Development, 2) Social Justice, 3) Environmental Sustainability and Natural Resource Management and 4) Women's Empowerment.

The first pillar aims to achieve comprehensive economic development through providing job opportunities, building capabilities, increasing access to technology in local areas as well as supporting small and medium enterprises.

The second pillar aims to support access to public services, expand social protection in health, nutrition and education, and enhance efforts to control population growth.

The third pillar on environmental sustainability aims to mitigate environmental risks including climate change and promote sustainability housing and management of water and energy resources.

The fourth pillar on women empowerment aims to build women's capacities and participation in leadership positions and the labor market, as well as their empowerment on a socio-economic level.



<https://www.circularity-gap.world/2020>

\$210.9 million Size of Cooperation between Egypt and UNICEF under the United Nations Partnership Development Framework (UNPDF)

People & Projects & Purpose

\$33 million

People reached with awareness campaigns through the UNICEF digital platform

1.3 million

People were provided with disinfectant services

250,000

Women and children were provided with care services

50,000

Educational books were provided to children

PEOPLE AT THE CORE



Supporting children's health during the first 1000 days



Supporting maternal health



Improving the nutritional status of children



Providing educational opportunities



Protecting children from violence



Combating malpractices against children



Improving Child Nutrition Project



Social Inclusion Project



Education and Protection Project

PROJECTS IN ACTION

PURPOSE AS THE DRIVER



Beneficiaries of UNICEF programs during the COVID-19 pandemic

“Egypt’s partnership with the United Nations remains indispensable”

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat

The Ministry of International Cooperation as the National Coordinator, and the co chair of the UNPDF with the UN Resident Coordinator, convened the periodic meeting of the Steering Committee for the UNPDF on the November 4th, 2020 with the participants of all the national entities and UN Agencies under the 4 workgroups and chart the new path for cooperation during 2020/2021.

More than 40 representatives from all United Nations agencies in Egypt participated, in addition to representatives from the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Justice, Education, Local Development, Agriculture, Manpower, Trade, Industry, Environment, Social Solidarity, Planning and Health, the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics, MSMEDA as well as the National Council for Women.

In the framework of the UNPDF strategic cooperation, the UN is supporting the Government of Egypt's efforts to mitigate the socio economic impact of COVID 19 (Socio Economic Response and Recovery Plan SERRP).

During the meeting, the heads of the four working groups presented reports on the efforts made during the year 2019/2020 and what had been achieved during the pandemic, as well as the objectives of the partnership development framework during the year 2020/2021, and announced that an estimated budget of

\$80 million
will be provided for economic development,
\$346 million
for social justice,
\$58 million
for environmental sustainability and
\$48 million
for women empowerment.

For his part, Mr. Richard Dictus, United Nations Resident Coordinator in Egypt, praised the role of the Ministry of International Cooperation to strengthen the frameworks for joint cooperation and permanent coordination with government agencies, stressing the commitment of the United Nations to support Egypt in building on the successes of the economic reform program.

Egypt and the EU Cooperation Framework

The strategic relationship between Egypt and the EU, since 1977, has extended across several sectors, positively contributing to economic development. Currently, the cooperation portfolio between the two sides amounts to

\$1.6 billion.

This year, the EU has supported the Government of Egypt's COVID-19 National Preparedness and Response Plan through reallocating **\$106.5 million** under the Health Sector Policy Support Programme – II.

Additionally, it has contributed to the restoration of the Shali Fortress in Siwa Oasis to stimulate the influx of visitors travelling to Siwa attracted by its cultural heritage and local culture, the restored Fortress was inaugurated in November 2020. The project was designed and implemented by the Environmental Quality International for Small and Medium Enterprise Development (EQI-SME) under the “Promoting Inclusive Economic Growth in Egypt Programme”.

Under the “Cross Border Cooperation Programme for the Mediteranean – ENI CBC Med”; 13 projects were awarded to 8 Egyptian Institutions. During 2020, there has been a total of \$8.4 million spread across sectors including social inclusion, technology transfer and support to startups, environmental sustainability and mitigation of climate change.

Cooperation Portfolio between Egypt and the European Union Amounts to \$1.63 billion

People & Projects & Purpose

PEOPLE
AT THE CORE



Improving sanitation and water services



Slum clearances for better standards of living



Educational opportunities for children



Delivering natural gas to homes



Supporting small and medium enterprises



Reducing pollution



Sanitation development



Supporting the National Population Strategy



Implementing Reforms in the water and renewable energy sectors



Rural Development Program



Natural Gas Delivery Project



Supporting small and medium enterprises

PROJECTS
IN ACTION



Education Project



Slum development program



Depollution of Kitchener Drain

PURPOSE
AS THE DRIVER

01 NO POVERTY	03 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING
04 QUALITY EDUCATION	05 GENDER EQUALITY
06 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION	07 AFFORDABLE CLEAN ENERGY
08 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES
12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION	17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

Italy Debt Swap Programme

The cooperation portfolio between Egypt and Italy within the framework of the debt swap program is worth

\$350 million,

in which

\$149.9 million

is allocated for the first phase, and

\$100 million

is allocated for the second phase, through which about

88 projects

were funded. H.E. Dr. Rania Al - Mashat and Giampaolo Cantini chaired a meeting of the Committee for the Management of the Egyptian-Italian Program for the Debt Swap for Development, to review the third phase of the program. Discussions have commenced to launch a fourth phase of the debt swap program to reduce the burden of external debt and provide adequate financing for development projects.

2020 witnessed the signing of two agreements within the third phase of the Egyptian-Italian debt swap program for development, including an agreement for the Social Welfare development project in Luxor worth \$2.68 million, which is implemented in partnership with the World Food programme and aims to provide an integrated package of development to support the most vulnerable families in Luxor. The second agreement was also to expand the

projects of applied technological schools, and enhance the skills of teachers with a total of \$2.6 million, which is used to develop technical education, support the capabilities of graduates, and establish a network that includes a large number of applied schools that are managed through the Applied Technology Schools Administration Unit at the Ministry of Education and Technical Education.

Egyptian-Italian Cooperation within the Debt Swap Program for Development

People & Projects & Purpose

Third phase of the Program Worth

\$100 million

350 million

The value of the three phases of the Egyptian-Italian debt swap program

88

Development projects have been implemented within the framework of the first and second phases of the program

PEOPLE AT THE CORE



Enhancing food security



Promote technical education



Fisheries development



Promote education and build the capacity and skills of teachers



Reduce pollution and manage wastes



Development of archaeological areas

PROJECTS IN ACTION



Construction of 10 field silos



Improve marine fish farming



Establish applied technology schools



Abu Ghalib Complex for Integrated Education



Solid waste management project in Minya



Social welfare project in Luxor

PURPOSE AS THE DRIVER



Egypt and USAID 2021 / 2025 Strategic Framework

The Ministry of International Cooperation with the United States of America through the USAID) have started discussions on expanding the economic cooperation strategy between Egypt and the US during the next five years (2021-2025). The new strategic framework mainly targets economic and social development by supporting structural reforms in the various development sectors and supporting the institutional development of ministries and government agencies, as well as contributing to improving the quality of basic education, improving health care services and implementing infrastructure projects in priority sectors, as well as cooperation in the field of women's economic empowerment under the "Closing the Gender Gap Accelerator".

The agreement came during a meeting between H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat, US Ambassador to Egypt Ambassador Jonathon Cohen, USAID Acting Administrator John Barsa, USAID Country Director Leslie Reed and Sarah McCain, Senior Advisor at the US National Security Council.

Egyptian Iraqi High Committee

A joint Egyptian-Iraqi High Committee in Baghdad was held for the first time in 30 years with a series of meetings with the presence of the Ministry of International Cooperation as a way to establish industrial, economic and investment development in both countries.

With the Egyptian Prime Minister Mostafa Madbouly and the Iraqi Prime Minister Mustafa Al-Kazemi, 15 agreements and memorandums of understanding were signed in aspects such as, strategic development, investment, transportation, infrastructure, agriculture, environment, health, customer rights, legal systems, and industry production.

Moving Forward

Strategic discussions on the cooperation framework have been initiated with bilateral and multilateral partners to identify the way forward; including the World Bank, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, European Investment Bank, USAID, African Development Bank, Germany and Japan.

* Further negotiations are ongoing.



CHAMPIONING MULTILATERALISM

Egypt’s Story of Resilience Singled out on the Global Stage

Egypt’s economic and development performance was singled out and celebrated in 2020, driven by sound policy choices and robust partnerships that have supported economic growth and employment, despite the pandemic. In the EBRD Regional Economic Prospects report issued in October 2020, Egypt is the only economy forecasted to grow by 2% in 2020 and projected to rebound by 5% in 2021. It is also one of the countries with a positive growth rate for business as per the latest PMI data, which shows Egypt’s PMI passing 50 making it one of the Arab World’s three largest economies.

“Egypt entered the crisis strong and will come out even stronger.”

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat.

Championing multilateralism at a time when it was most called on, Egypt’s Ministry of International Cooperation charted the path forward with the international community showcasing Egypt’s story of inclusivity, sustainability and building back better.



Connect to Rebuild: The 2020 Annual Meetings of the Board of Governors

Egypt participated in many strategic discussions during the World Bank/IMF Annual Meetings under the theme “Resilient Recovery” , including the G-24 Ministers and Arab Governors Meetings ; the Development Committee; Preparation for the LIBOR transition; Investing in Human Capital; Economic Prospects for MENA; Joint WBG/IMF African Caucus; and Financing the Infrastructure of the Future. We’ve also participated in several panels with the IFC - International Finance Corporation, including tackling gender gaps and working upstream to create markets and opportunities.

The Human Capital Project Ministerial Conclave: “Investing in Human Capital in the Time of COVID-19” brought together ministers from the 78 HCP countries to share experiences and push action on: mobilizing and safeguarding resources to protect and invest in people amid the pandemic, and adopting innovative solutions for better and more equitable human capital outcomes.

President of the World Bank Group, David Malpass, opened the session and praised the efforts made by Egypt in the health sector to combat the COVID-19 pandemic, noting that the Egyptian state has allocated 100 billion pounds to strengthen the health sector and finance a comprehensive economic recovery plan to offset the repercussions that

will result from the precautionary measures taken.

In her speech, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat stated that Egypt has made investment in human capital as a top priority, as evidenced by its three-pronged approaches: increase in allocation for health and social spending, ensure continued provision of critical social protection, and undertaking a review of social spending to assess efficiency and look for areas of improvement.

In another session organized by the World Bank Group, Al-Mashat referred to the importance of structural reforms and how it helped in achieving an economic recovery that is flexible and sustainable that enabled it to absorb the shocks of the COVID-19 pandemic. The virtual meeting included four sessions featuring speakers from Johns Hopkins University, the International Association for Official Statistics, the Ford Foundation, the World Bank Group, as well as a policy panel discussion with ministers such as Minister of Planning and International Cooperation of Jordan, Wissam Rabadi, as well as Minister of Economy and Finance of Djibouti, Ilyas M. Dawaleh.

In the session “Beyond Libor, Are We Prepared?” H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat called on the international community and global financial chiefs to agree on an alternative to Libor before it is phased out by

the end of 2021 to avoid disruption when the rate officially expires at the end of next year. All member states, similar to other market participants, have to examine if and how hedging strategies will need to change to manage financial risks of switching away from LIBOR on December 31, 2021. Managing and mitigating risks are a top priority and making sure that countries transit from LIBOR smoothly is essential. Member states have to assess how current debt management systems will need to be reconfigured to accommodate interest rate calculations and debt projections with the switch to the new reference rates, the Minister stated.

To manage the debt crisis and reconcile the financing needs of developing economies, Minister Al-Mashat called for efforts to be streamlined and coordinated in order to support developing countries in their quest to build a sustainable economic recovery during the G24 Meeting of Ministers and Governors.

Al-Mashat showcased Egypt’s success in the execution of major national projects, particularly in the infrastructure sector, which was supported through innovative methods of financing, including through blended finance. Such financing possibilities helped Egypt achieve positive growth at a time when all economies are shrinking. Al-Mashat called on Multilateral Development Banks to display successful projects to create incentives for blended finance to support ODA financing through commercial and private sector resources to support the SDG agenda.

The EBRD 2020 Annual Meeting set sights on a resilient post-coronavirus future. Postponed from May, the virtual session asked all shareholders to approve the new 2021-2025 EBRD strategy that preserves the benefits of successful economic transformation in the face of the pandemic. The strategy, inline with the Government of Egypt’s priorities and efforts going forward on delivering green, low-carbon economic growth, promoting equality of opportunity and accelerating digital transition, promoting a sustainable, inclusive and smart future for all.

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat also participated in the “Building a Better Future” virtual panel hosted by the Global Infrastructure Hub, EBRD and organized by the International Project Finance Association in collaboration with the World Bank, where she noted that Egypt has been witnessing a transformation in infrastructure over the past few years, with a sustainable urban development plan.

In the “Recovering Better: The Role of Multilateralism for a Sustainable and Resilient Restart” op-ed co-authored by H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat and Heike Harmgart, EBRD Managing Director for the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean Region, stressed how harnessing the potential of the private sector and civil society is the way to achieving national goals. The article tackled four main subsections: Partnerships to Achieve the Goals, Gender Equality, Affordable and Clean Energy, and Pushing the Frontiers of Economic Diplomacy.

UN75: A Time to Celebrate

The United Nations this year marked its 75th anniversary at a time of great challenge but also served as a stark reminder of the need for cooperation across borders, sectors and generations.

Uniting Business: Live SDG Business Forum

In celebration of the UN's 75th Anniversary "Transforming the World Through Sustainable Development", H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat contributed to the UN Global Compact Uniting Business Forum during the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) Week in a session titled "Partnerships to achieve the SDGs in the COVID-19 Era" alongside H.E Mr. Wang Yi, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China.

Multilateralism through international cooperation is what will bring development partners, policy makers, the formidable capacities of the private sector and an active civil society together. Through our common goals, we can secure the future we want, she stated.

“Through common goals, we can help the vulnerable, protect the planet and promote stability and shared progress. With determination, big ideas, unity and hope, we can recover better and build a more resilient world.”

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat

World Economic Forum: Sustainable Impact Summit 2020

At the World Economic Forum's Sustainable Impact Summit, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat participated in two sessions "Risk Reset" and "Global Closing Moment on Resetting Cooperation", to showcase Egypt's story of resilience and the importance of multilateralism to build back better.

“I call the years 2020-2021 the ‘Years of Multilateralism.’

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat

Egypt has been prioritizing building for economically resilient, sustainable and inclusive communities in the road ahead, with a forward-looking agenda, pushed through agility and innovation. With political will and leadership, now is the opportunity for the region, and the rest of the world, to come together and collaborate to ensure that no one is left behind, Al-Mashat stated.

MED Talks

At the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean (PAM) on Economic Recovery Post COVID-19, Al-Mashat, alongside parliamentarians from the Euro-Mediterranean region, discussed what governmental and legislative actions need to be like in order to support sectors in Schlaegnhau, Deputy Secretary General, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the discussion revolved around the pandemic; and the successful policies and measures taken to mitigate the socio-economic impact on countries.

“The pandemic was the biggest fire drill in history, with no catalogue. The key to a strong recovery is through resilience coupled with the agility of policy makers, the private sector and people to adapt and innovate.”

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat

Leadership; in times of crisis

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat participated in several virtual webinars during the pandemic tackling the topic on “Leadership”, which included the Horasis Extraordinary Annual Meeting “Nurturing Inclusive Leadership”, LinkedIn “Women Empowerment Series: Leadership in 2020”, AIESEC Global Leadership Day “Transforming Leadership: Empowering Youth” and the Harvard Business School “Leadership Challenges and Opportunities”.

“No time for pessimism or optimism, only time for action”

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat

The Rise of the Regional Champions

In November 2020, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat highlighted the opportunities going ahead with a wealth of public-private partnerships projects taking place in Egypt, during the plenary session “The Rise of Regional Champions: The Search of Resilience” at the 2020 Bloomberg New Economy Forum, alongside H.E. Dr. Sultan Ahmed Al Jaber, UAE Minister of Industry and Advanced Technology and CEO of Adnoc, Bruce Flatt, CEO of Brookfield Asset, moderated by Manus Cranny, Bloomberg Television Anchor. During her speech, Al-Mashat affirmed that 2021 is a ‘critical year’ for regional economies to champion green, sustainable and inclusive growth.

Al-Mashat illustrated Egypt’s success in creating an enabling policy environment that helped ensure macroeconomic stability. Egypt entered the crisis with strong buffers that kept it relatively shielded from the economic fallout, primarily thanks to the IMF-backed home-grown economic reform program which enabled the policy transparency and predictability that is crucial for foreign investors, Al-Mashat said.

The approval of the **\$5.2 billion** standby loan from the IMF during the crisis is a signal to investors that policymakers have not lost sight of the long-term reform goal, she said, adding that investments made in education and digital infrastructure enabled the country to “breeze through” the lockdown period.

“The important thing is to have predictable policy.”

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat

Egypt has continued to expand on reforms, whether fiscal or monetary which created a conducive environment to attract FDIs and ODA. The Government of Egypt endorses the principles of “stakeholder capitalism”, the roadmap to promote inclusive economic growth in the region, which include: crafting inclusive economic policies and a new social contract, stimulating economic integration, reshaping education systems, harnessing the Fourth Industrial Revolution,

promoting environmental sustainability, mitigating global health risks, and committing to good and agile governance.

Global Media Engagement

Egypt was featured in interviews conducted by leading international media channels, including but not limited to CNN, Bloomberg, CNBC and Al Arabiya. H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat presented Egypt’s Response & Rebuild Strategy, positioned Egypt’s modalities of Economic Diplomacy and pushed Egypt’s development story forward through the Global Partnerships Narrative(P&P&P).

They say a tweet can travel a million miles...

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat invited fifth richest billionaire, tech pioneer and inventor of Tesla & SpaceX, Elon Musk to Egypt, after he tweets a cheeky opinion on the origin of the construction of the Pyramids. The original tweet and an answer made it to every top global publication; making Egypt the talk of town. With digital consumption on the rise, the world has turned to more authentic and interactive stories for nation-centric messaging.



“Nations develop through character. It is the will, commitment, discipline and cooperation of the Egyptian character that is helping us in charting inclusive economic growth.”

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat



ACTIVE ENGAGEMENT

Active Global Media Engagement

World Economic Forum Davos 2020: Strategic Outlook: Middle East Economies (January 2020)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rmx-PZIGl4k&t=2815s>

Al Arabiya News Channel's Nadine Hani, World Economic Forum, Davos (January 2020)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N890BquYxSw>

CNBC's Hadley Gamble & Dan Murphy on Gender Equality in the Middle East (February 2020)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t8tjwn8NUWk&t=44s>

We-Fi Summit Dubai (February 2020)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=22lmzrrKuxE&t=297s>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sjY-umiTrLw&t=52s>

Google 'She Can' Series (March 2020)

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/rania-a-al-mashat-a00899182_tech-egypt-ramadankareem-activity-6659167028307345408-DLn0/

The Middle East Institute's Virtual Webinar "Pandemics and Public Shutdowns: Challenges for MENA Economies" (April 2020)
<https://www.mei.edu/events/pandemics-and-public-shutdowns-challenges-mena-economies>

IFAD "Government Responses and Possible Venues for Coordinated Actions" (April 2020)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9DEUwABXvQ0>

AmCham Egypt 1st Pre-Annual General Meeting Webinar "COVID-19 Pandemic: An Imminent Opportunity for Multilateralism" (April 2020)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pfwkDoosyLE>

CNBC's Hadley Gamble: Egypt's Response & Rebuild strategy during COVID-19 (May 2020)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pinAW25vj-k&feature=youtu.be>

Resilient World: An African Call for a New World Order (May 2020)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4DabUD8pqsE&feature=emb_logo

Sharjah Research, Technology and Innovation Park "Horizons of Scientific Research and Knowledge Economy in the Arab World" (May 2020)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WQobaw-K9QY>

European Academy of Young Diplomats "Pandemics: Reviving Multilateralism & Strengthened Cooperation" (May 2020)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Klg-Sdrw1zE>

Bloomberg Manus Cranny and Yousef Gamal El-Din (June 2020)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xgU9a2h3pcU>

Harvard Business School Club of Egypt (June 2020)
https://www.linkedin.com/posts/rania-a-al-mashat-a00899182_egypt-leadership-activity-6681930295345725440-xJRI

Al Arabiya News Channel's Nadine Hani: "Great Reset" for the MENA region (July 2020)
https://www.linkedin.com/posts/rania-a-al-mashat-a00899182_egypt-activity-6683795842731675648-ODLE

Euromoney Live Webinar: Egypt Post Pandemic - People, Projects & Purpose (July 2020)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZuGBCol16Zo>

Enterprise Podcast (July 2020)
<https://enterprise.press/podcast/#103847>

CNBC Steve Sedgwick and Karen Tso (July 2020)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hArfUjLK8oM>



Beirut Institute Summit e-Policy Circle (July 2020)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kQvByHy92Ho&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR22P06f9L5L34d1D_Ild7CK80pxsNUI0V57PHcevJivG1vT8mPhHxq3Eoc

CNN Quest Means Business with Richard Quest (July 2020)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fbI8G5FQIA4>

LinkedIn Women Empowerment Series: Leadership in 2020: A conversation with H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat (August 2020)
<https://www.linkedin.com/video/live/urn:li:ugcPost:6698558533295722496/>

Meridian Virtual Convening with Dr. Rania Al-Mashat (September 2020)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=trHebzNPcYE>

World Economic Forum: Sustainable Development Impact Summit 2020 "Risk Reset" (September 2020)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6MCijLTKjcQ&feature=youtu.be>

World Economic Forum: Sustainable Development Impact Summit 2020 "Global Closing Moment on Resetting Cooperation" (September 2020)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rTY8em14F38&feature=youtu.be>

Global Infrastructure Hub "Building A Better Future" (October 2020)
<https://www.ipfa.org/documents/gi-forum-webinar-od-building-a-better-future/>

Sky News Arabia with Gisele Khouri (October 2020)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LkyevZUdn9M&feature=youtu.be>

Horasis Extraordinary Annual Meeting "Nurturing Inclusive Leadership" (October 2020)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dPCXUOp3ve0&feature=youtu.be>

OECD - OCDE Roundtable on Investment and Sustainable Development 2020 (October 2020)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bt_WbITjrGo

World Economic Forum: Jobs Reset summit "Building a New Economy and Society (October 2020)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eK2gXwCjNM0>

<https://www.weforum.org/events/the-jobs-reset-summit-2020/sessions/the-jobs-reset-reimagining-our-social-and-economic-systems>

Egypt Week: The Egyptian British Business Association (BEBA) and the Egyptian-British Chamber of Commerce (EBCC): Shifting Mindsets Through Economic Diplomacy (November 2020)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=siZ6ieOJnoM>

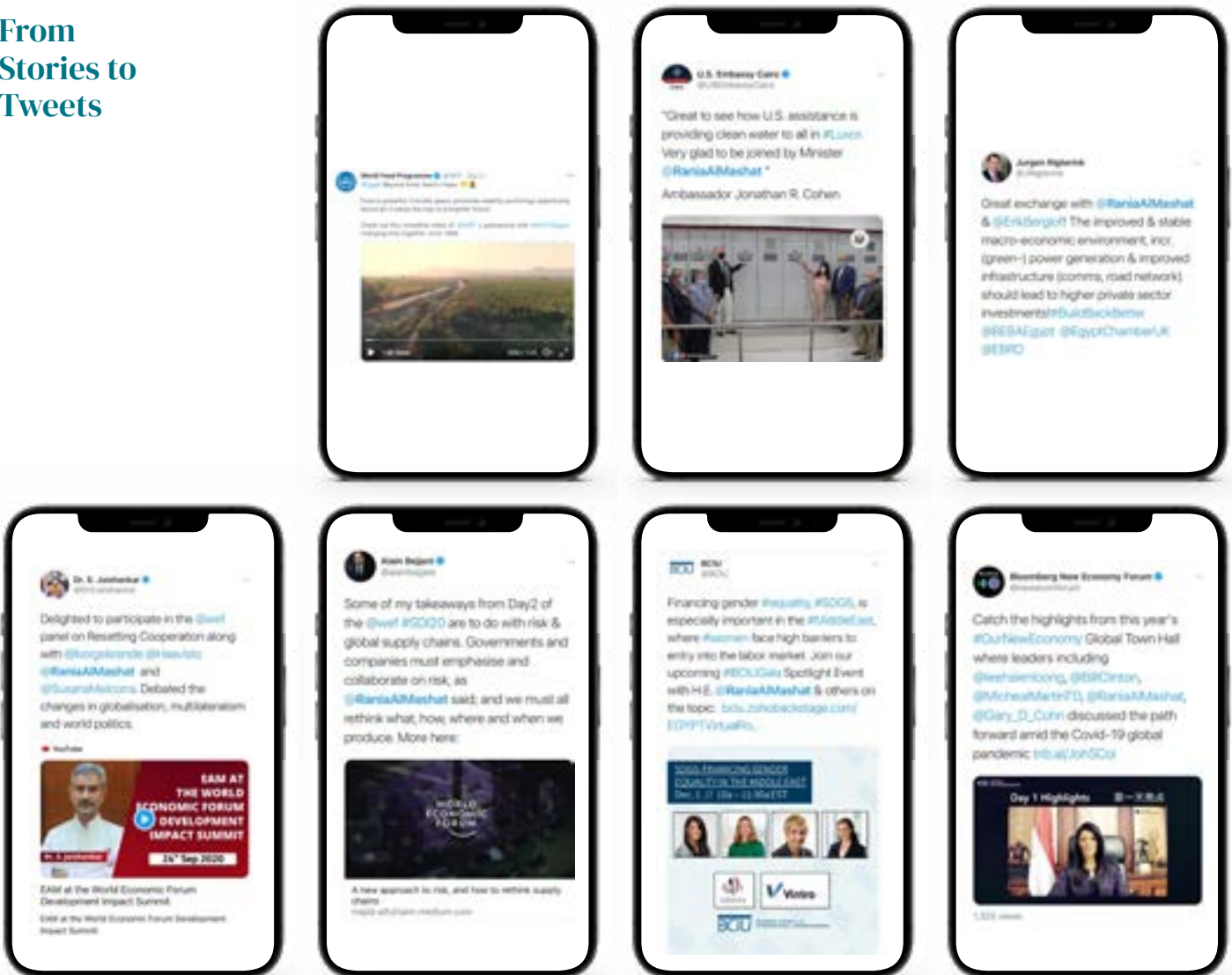
Bloomberg New Economy Forum "The Rise of Regional Champions: The Search for Resilience" (November 2020)
<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/videos/2020-11-17/what-makes-a-resilient-21st-century-economy-video?sref=mmeFTDW1>

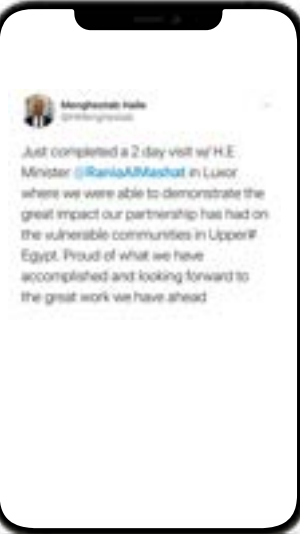
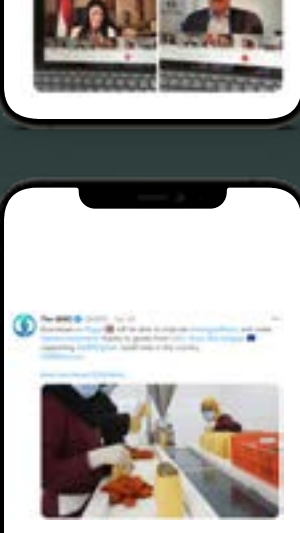
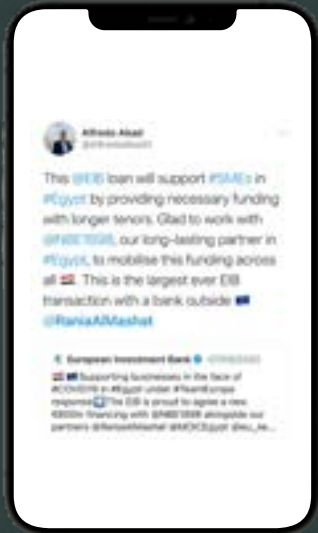
International Monetary Fund, the Policy Center for the New South and The National News: Mitigating the long-lasting impacts from COVID-19 in the Middle East and North Africa (November 2020)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vFkUzHVvv3M&feature=youtu.be>

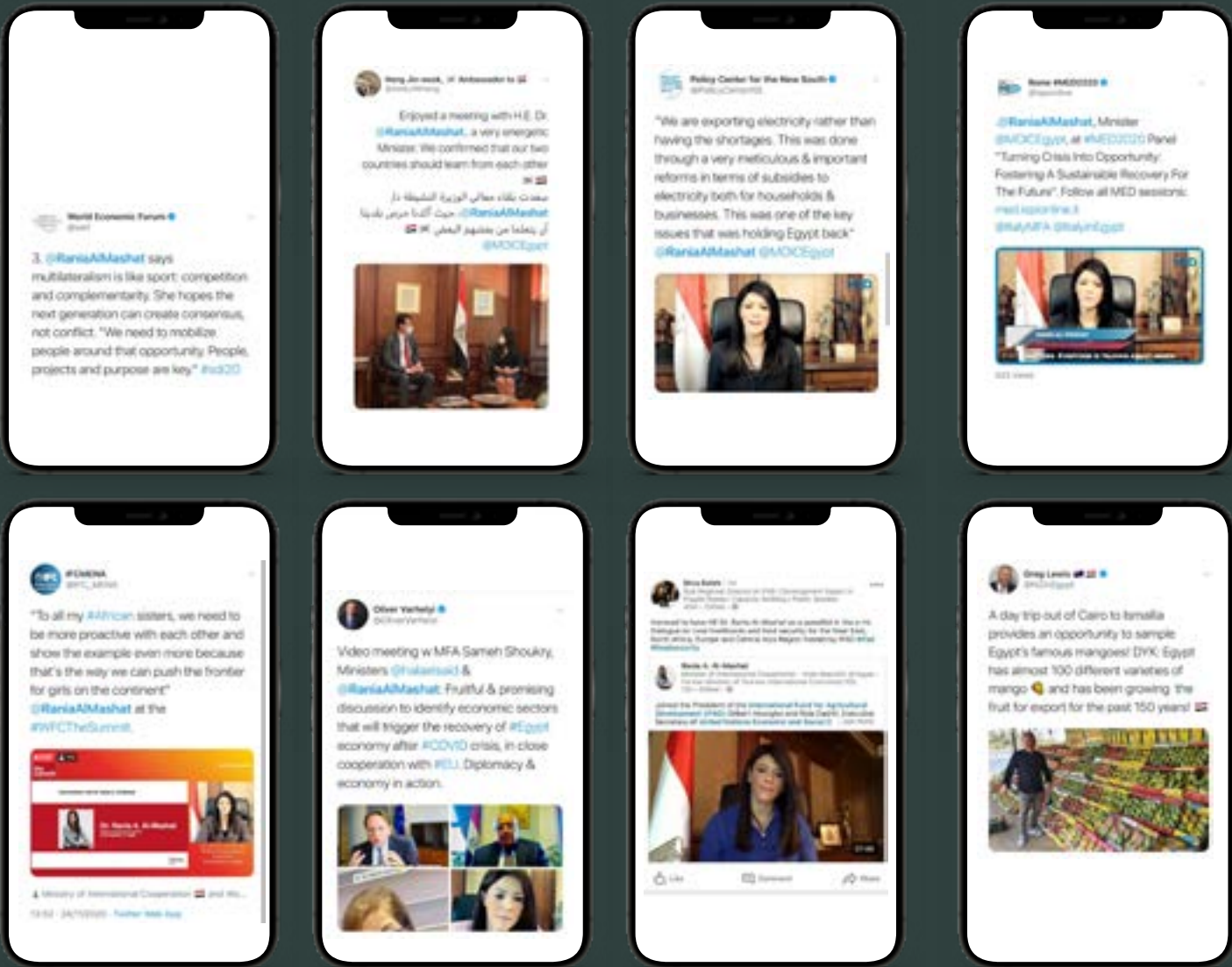
PHYSICAL DIGITAL

Multilateralism Onground & Online

From Stories to Tweets









AWAKE

2020 Total Development Financing Agreement

Total ODA Directed to Finance Public and Private Sector Development In 2020




























































Sector	Total Amount (in USD million)
Total ODA Finance directed to public sector development	6,700
Total ODA Finance directed to private sector development	3,191



Total



















9,891

Total ODA directed to Finance Public Sector Development through Multilateral and Bilateral Development Partners










	Sector	Amount (in USD million)	Development Partner	
	Budget Support	638	Arab Monetary Fund	   
	Housing, Utilities, and Local Development	1,417	AFESD, WBG, KFAED, AfDB, Germany, EIB, EBRD	  
	Transport	1,794	AFD, EIB, EBRD, China, KFAED	 
	Energy, Renewable Energy and Petroleum	677	AFD, AfDB, EBRD	  
	MSMEs	457	OFID, AFESD, WBG, Germany, AfDB	 
	Gender	7	Spain, Canada	  
	Trade and Industry	11	Italy, Germany	  
	Governance	68	USAID, Spain, WBG, China	 
	Education and Higher Education	252	USAID, SFD, Korea, Italy, Germany	   
	Social Protection	505	WBG, Germany, Italy	  
	Health	477	WBG, AFESD, USAID, Japan, Canada, AfDB	   
	Local Development	89.9	EBRD	   
	Agriculture, Supply and Irrigation	100	AFD, EBRD, USAID, OFID, Germany	   
	Environment	208	WBG, Germany	   

Total6,700

Total ODA directed to Finance Private Sectors Development through Multilateral and Bilateral Development Partners

Development Partner		Total Amount (in USD million)		
	European Investment Bank	1,900		
	African Development Bank	12		
	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development	641		
	International Finance Corporation	421		
	French Development Agency	167		
	Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development	50		
Total		3,191		




Total ODA Directed to Finance Public Sector through Multilateral and Bilateral Development Partners

	Sector	Amount (in USD million)	Type of Finance	Development Partner
	Budget Support	638	Arab Monetary Fund	   
	Supporting Financial Sector Structural Reforms	638	Loan	Arab Monetary Fund
	Housing, Utilities and Local Development	1417		  
	Financing the continuation of Bahr El Baqar Wastewater Treatment Plant	244.16	Loan	AFESD
	Additional Financing Inclusive Housing Finance Program	500	Loan	WBG
	Establishment of two Wastewater Treatments Plans in the new cities of Rafah and Bir al-Abed	18	Loan	KFEAD
	Financing the continuation of Bahr El Baqar Wastewater Treatment Plant	183	Loan	KFEAD
	Program for Integrated Rural Sanitation in Upper Egypt-Luxor	120	Loan	AfDB
	Program for Integrated Rural Sanitation in Upper Egypt-Luxor	1	Loan	AfDB
	Alex West Wastewater Treatment Plant	134	Loan	EIB
	Fayoum Wastewater Expansion Programme	208.06	Loan	EBRD
	Capacity Building through Urban Infrastructure Development	2.76	Grant	Germany
	Water and Waste Water Management	5.53	Grant	Germany



Sector	Amount (in USD million)	Type of Finance	Development Partner
Transport	1794		
Cairo Metro Line I Purchase of trains	240.01	Loan	EBRD
Upgrading and renovation of the Cairo Metro Line 1	55.79	Loan	AFD
Feasibility Study for the Rehabilitation of Cairo Metro Line 2	1.32	Grant	EIB
Tanta-El Mansoura-Damietta Railway Upgrading Complementary Studies	1.66	Grant	EIB
Cairo Metro Line 1 Modernisation	3.56	Grant	EBRD
Urban Transport Infrastructure Framework Egypt	1270	Loan	EIB
Economic and Technical Cooperation Agreement between Egypt and China for the Electric Train of Salam -10th of Ramadan to the New Administrative Capital	52.21	Loan	China
Construction of “New Tunnel Road” Sharm El Sheikh	85.92	Loan	KFEAD
Continuation of National Roads Project 4	82.51	Loan	KFEAD
ENR - Locomotive Renewal Programme	1.04	Grant	EBRD



Sector	Amount (in USD million)	Type of Finance	Development Partner
Energy, Renewable Energy and Petroleum	677		  
Electricity Grid Reinforcement Project	202.03	Loan	EBRD
SOPC Energy Efficiency & Upgrade Program	50	Loan	EBRD
Development Policy Financing Program to the electrecity sector	1.13	Grant	AFD
Development Policy Financing Program to the electrecity sector	169.64	Loan	AFD
Electricity and Green Growth Support Program (EGGSP)	254.09	Loan	AfDB



Sector	Amount (in USD million)	Type of Finance	Development Partner
MSMEs	457		
Micro, small and medium enterprise development project phase 3	95	Loan	OFID
Budget Support to MSMEDA	50	Loan	AFESD
Catalyzing Entrepreneurship for Job Creation	200	Loan	WBG
Promoting Energy Efficiency (2)	9.97	Loan	Germany
Promoting Energy Efficiency (2)	38.74	Loan	Germany
Private Sector and Innovation - Financing for Small and Medium Sized Enterprises III	33.20	Loan	Germany
Strengthening the Entrepreneurship Ecosystem	0.54	Loan	AfDB
Promoting Energy Efficiency (2)	5.53	Grant	Germany
Promoting Energy Efficiency (2)	3.32	Grant	Germany
Private Sector and Innovation - Financing for Small and Medium Sized Enterprises III	3.32	Grant	Germany
Private Sector Innovation	6.64	Grant	Germany
Encouraging Labor Market Access	6.64	Grant	Germany
Promotion of Access to Financial Services for Small and Medium Enterprises	2.21	Grant	Germany
Egyptian – German Centre for Jobs, Migration and Reintegration	2.21	Grant	Germany






Sector	Amount (in USD million)	Type of Finance	Development Partner
Gender	7		
Contribute to the employment of women in Upper Egypt by improving their skills and the deployment of productive groups	0.2	Grant	Spain
Women Economic Empowerment for Inclusive and Sustainable Growth in Egypt	6.4	Grant	Canada





Sector	Amount (in USD million)	Type of Finance	Development Partner
Trade and Industry	11		
Technical assistance for the establishment of Robbiki Leather city project	6.99	Grant	Italy
Promotion of Small and Medium Enterprises	4.42	Grant	Germany



Sector	Amount (in USD million)	Type of Finance	Development Partner
Governance	68		
Inclusive Economic Governance	22.30	Grant	USAID
The creation of work for young people through training for employment and for the creation of companies	0.16	Grant	Spain
Developmental Projects-	24.6	Grant	China
Equal Access and Simplified Environment for Investment (EASE)	1.70	Grant	MENA Transition Fund
Statistics Capacity Building Project to support the preparation of the national strategy for the development of statistics	0.15	Grant	WBG





Sector	Amount (in USD million)	Type of Finance	Development Partner
Education and Higher Education	252		
Basic Education II	15	Grant	USAID
Applied technology schools and teachers’ enhancement project	2.6	Grant	Italy
Implementation of King Salman bin Abdulaziz University project for the Sinai Development Program	140.8	Loan	SFD
U.S-Egypt Higher Education Initiative	30	Grant	USAID
U.S- EGYPT Science and Technology Cooperation	4	Grant	USAID
Improving the Automation System of the Patent Office affiliated to the Ministry of Higher Education	2.9	Grant	Korea
Trade and investment Promotion in Egypt (TIPE)	26.5	Grant	USAID
Rehabilitation of Vocational Education Schools II	13.8	Grant	Germany
Enhancement of the Egyptian Education Dual System	5.4	Grant	Germany
Employment Promotion	4.4	Grant	Germany
Employment Promotion	6.6	Grant	Germany





Sector	Amount (in USD million)	Type of Finance	Development Partner
Social Protection	505		
Equal Opportunities and Social Development	2.2	Grant	Germany
Second Phase: Strengthening Social Safety Net (Takaful and Karama)	500	Loan	WBG
Social protection and Human capital development of Luxor	2.7	Grant	Italy











Sector	Amount (in USD million)	Type of Finance	Development Partner
Health	477		
COVID-19 Emergency Response	50	Loan	WBG
Supporting Health Sector to fight COVID-19 pandemic	3.12	Grant	AFESD
Health Outcomes for Target Population Improved- Third Amendment	10	Grant	USAID
An Emergency Aid from the Government of Japan for procuring Medical Equipment to alleviate COVID-19 impact	9.47	Grant	Japan
Addressing Gaps in Reproductive Health and Rights in Egypt	3.59	Grant	Canada
Emergency Humanitarian Relief Assistance Amidst COV-19 Outbreak	0.50	Grant	AfDB
Supporting Egypt’s Universal Health Insurance System	400	Loan	WBG



	Sector	Amount (in USD million)	Type of Finance	Development Partner
	Local Development	89.9		
	Kitchener Drain Depollution - Solid Waste	89.9	Loan	EBRD

	Sector	Amount (in USD million)	Type of Finance	Development Partner
	Agriculture, Supply and Irrigation	100		   
	Implementation of a technical assistance program for the development of wholesale markets in Egypt	0.78	Grant	AFD
	Agribusiness for Rural Development and Increasing Incomes (ARDII)	4.42	Grant	USAID
	Port said grain storage facilities	14	Loan	OFID
	Quality Assurance in Plant Production	2.21	Grant	Germany
	Kitchener Drain Depollution - Drain Rehabilitation	78.54	Loan	EBRD



Sector	Amount (in USD million)	Type of Finance	Development Partner
Environment	208		
Sustainable Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) Management Project	200	Loan	WBG
Greater Cairo Air Pollution Management and Climate Change Project	0.75	Grant	WBG
Solid Waste Management Program	6.6	Loan	Germany

moic.gov.eg



وزارة التعاون الدولي
Ministry of International
Cooperation

“RIGHT WE WRITE”

@RaniaAlMashat