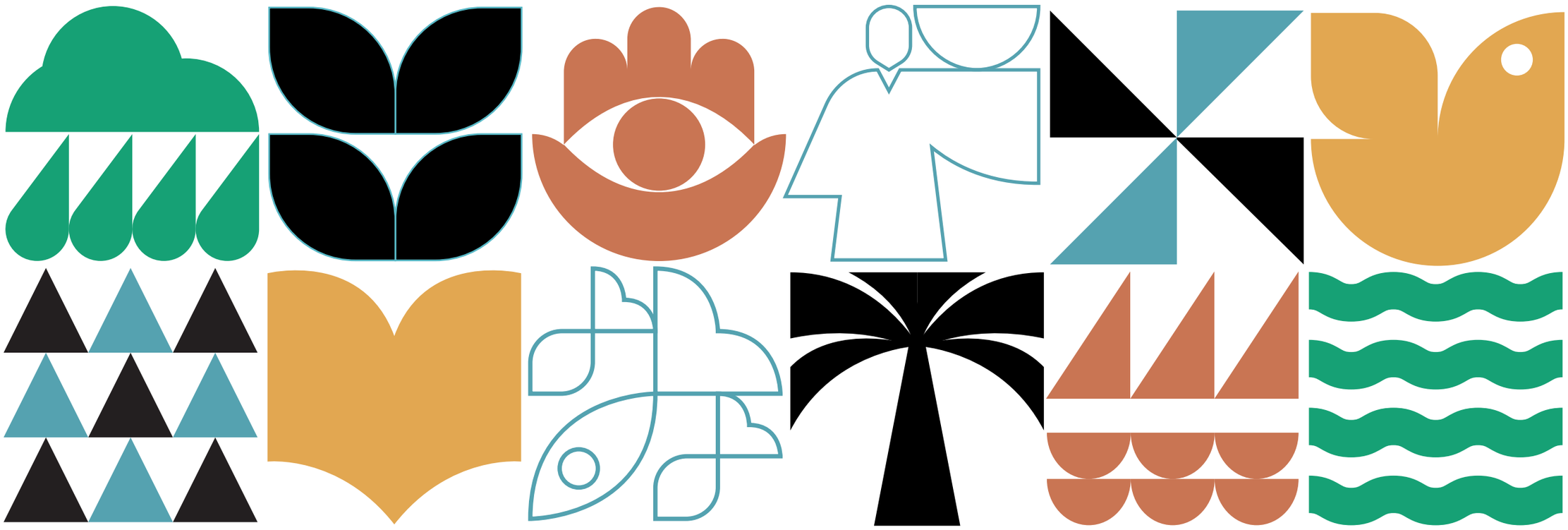
وزارة التعـاون الدولـي

Ministry of International Cooperation



International Partnerships for Sustainable Development

PLATFORMS FOR POLICY & PRACTICE

Annual Report 2023



“There’s No Eventuality.”

@RaniaAlMashat

TABLE OF CONTENTS

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

10 **Foreword by H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat**

12 **Executive Summary**

From National Agenda to International Partnerships

66 **Introduction**

Navigating Global Uncertainty: From Vision to Action

80 **Section 1 United for Impact: Creating Change through International Cooperation**

82 Introduction
-
Power of Partnerships

86 Chapter 01
-
Leaving No One Behind: Cooperation with the UN

122 Chapter 02
-
MDB Evolution: Ending Poverty & Promoting Shared Prosperity

152 Chapter 03
-
Building Bridges: Cooperation with Multilateral & Bilateral Partners

186 Chapter 04
-
Debt Swaps for Sustainable Development

196 Chapter 05
-
International Cooperation between Egypt & Asia & Africa

236 Chapter 06
-
Fostering Regional Collaboration

246 **Section 2: Global Efforts: Highlighting Egypt's Efforts in the Global Green Transition**

248 Introduction
-
Center Stage Subject: Towards a Greener World

252 Chapter 01
-
From COP27 to COP28

262 Chapter 02
-
Let's NWFE نُوَفِّي Together: Joining Forces for a Greener World

310 Chapter 03
-
The Building Blocks

338 Chapter 04
-
Global Efforts for Sustainable Development

370 Chapter 05
-
Upholding Accountability

380 **Section 3: Seizing the Moment: Engaging with Private Sector & Empowering SMEs**

382 Introduction
-
The Power of Collaboration: Empowering the Future

386 Chapter 01
-
Driving Economic Growth

412 Chapter 02
-
From Small Beginnings to Big Impact

430 Chapter 03
-
Developing Digital & Educational Landscapes

442 **Team Photos**

450 **Active Media Engagement**

454 **Phygital**

472 **Annex**

STATEMENT BY H.E. PRESIDENT
ABDEL FATTAH EL-SISI
THE PRESIDENT OF THE ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT



The new reality imposed on us today requires that we all join efforts to enhance the multilateral, multi-party international system to better meet the needs of developing countries and to become more resilient in the face of crises, which would enable us to face the challenges of climate change. Although we were not the main cause for this dilemma, yet we are the most affected by it.

There is no doubt that the Summit for a New Global Financing Pact in Paris is held amid successive crises that have stormed over the world for over three years, casting a great shadow, and increasing the burdens of developing countries with fragile economies. This could threaten the development gains achieved by these countries over the past period.

Egypt's hosting of the COP27 in Sharm El-Sheikh has helped in pointing out the magnitude of the climate change dilemma that the world is going through, and the need to secure the necessary funding to face its impacts and to act on national and international levels so as to translate ambitions and vows into a reality that would support the just transition towards green growth, and contribute to achieving SDGs in line with the national priorities of each country.

In order to achieve the climate promises and overcome the negative effects of climate change, Egypt's vision in achieving "green growth" involves contributing to providing job opportunities, decent means of living, and enhancing the countries' capabilities through a just transition to sustainable production and consumption patterns, in addition to the optimal use of natural resources and compliance with energy efficiency determinants.

Hence, it is imperative to recognize that green growth is not an alternative to sustainable development, but rather a stimulant for it. Within this context, a group of projects have been implemented within a framework that serves green growth and, at the same time, achieves sustainable development.

It is worth mentioning here that there was great international interest in the innovative initiative of NWFE Program launched by Egypt, as it aimed to promote international partnerships, and provide just and sustainable financing, in order to advance climate action with emphasis on the nexus of water, food and energy within an integrated framework. The program is also deemed a national platform for investable projects.

It was launched with the participation of international financial institutions, development partners and the private sector, which supported the program through a facilitated blend of developmental financing.

This sheds light on the importance of financing, as it is the main factor for the achievement of sustainable development, including facing climate change, achieving the Paris Accords goals, as well as addressing the structural imbalances of the global financial system that limit the ability to respond quickly and effectively to crises.

It is thus essential to adopt an inclusive vision that places development-related financing at the heart of the multilateral/ multi-party agenda, and ensures fairness and sustainability, in addition to addressing relevant challenges.

Perhaps revisiting the global financial system would improve the ability of countries, especially developing and emerging ones, to overcome the cumulative impact of the successive financial crises since 2020, starting with the COVID-19 pandemic, followed by the Russian-Ukrainian crisis, as such crises have contributed to the occurrence of successive repercussions, including high global inflation rates that have reached unprecedented levels, as well as the dangerous escalation of debt problems and their extension to middle-income developing countries, in addition to the lower benefit from development aid and the associated conditionalities.

> ***"Perhaps revisiting the global financial system would improve the ability of countries, especially developing and emerging ones, to overcome the cumulative impact of the successive financial crises since 2020."***

From this standpoint, we look forward to the contribution of the Summit of the New Global Finance Pact, which can open discussion channels in various international events, by conveying several messages, most importantly the need that all stakeholders, especially international financial institutions, join efforts to achieve SDG's in developing countries, with emphasis on implementing the SDGs Stimulus recommended by the UN Secretary- General, in cooperation with development partners, and in line with national priorities.

I would also like to reiterate the need to expedite international decisions to prevent the outbreak of a bigger debt crisis, to develop inclusive sustainable mechanisms to address the debts of low- and middle-income countries, as well as to expand debt-swap programs to protect nature. It is also necessary to reform the global financial structure in order to improve financing conditions for sustainable development, including the IMF's conditions on drawing/ disbursement rights and the suspension or elimination of additional fees in times of crises.

In addition, multilateral development banks have a major role to play, as it is important to improve their policies and practices, to maximize their lending capacities, to facilitate the access of developing countries to such banks, as well as promote dialogues between the concerned parties and credit-rating agencies so as to increase lending capacities without compromising ratings, bearing in mind that the international community has agreed to address many of these reforms at the Sharm El-Sheikh Summit.

Speech from Summit for a New Global Financing Pact in Paris, France

FOREWORD

FOREWORD



As we reflect on the past four years, and amidst the numerous global challenges that have arisen, we witnessed the immense value of international cooperation and multilateralism. **By working together, we have been able to scale up action, drive measurable change, and foster resilience.**

This has been particularly evident in our efforts to address issues such as climate change, COVID-19, and economic challenges posed by the Russian-Ukrainian war. We prioritized collaboration and partnership, recognizing that it is only through collective action that we can truly make a difference. And as we move forward, we must remain committed to the principles of multilateralism, recognizing that this is essential to achieving a just, sustainable, and equitable world.

Our efforts on this front are detailed in the pages of our 2023 Annual Report "Platforms for Policy & Practice" to highlight international partnerships for sustainable development.

While there is a focus on 2023, this report also addresses progress since 2020, a "turning point" year for the world, where global priorities shifted and the focus on sustainable development took precedence. **To put the wheels in motion for Egypt, since 2020, we have worked to strengthen Economic Diplomacy in line with the Ministry's mandate.**

The Ministry of International Cooperation's mandate clearly defines the importance of sustainable, inclusive development, innovative financing, efficient and effective monitoring of development projects, and continuous cooperation with development partners and all stakeholders.

This includes: developing and strengthening the economic cooperation between the Arab Republic of Egypt and other countries, as well as international and regional organizations, proposing the criteria for obtaining external financing, both funds and grants, following up and monitoring ministries and national agencies that benefit from foreign financing within the framework of the general economic policy of the country to ensure the achievement of economic development goals, and managing Egypt's economic relations with international organizations of economic cooperation, international financial institutions and specialized agencies of the UN. To execute the mandate, we are focused on enhancing international cooperation with multilateral and bilateral development partners, governments, the private sector and civil society, to support the country's national development agenda, which is consistent with the United Nations SDGs.

Through this, we adopt a country-led multi-stakeholder engagement framework that includes the principles of Economic Diplomacy: hosting multi-stakeholder platform meetings to streamline efforts, mapping ODA to the SDGs, and adopting a global partnerships narrative for transparent communication.

In turn, this framework maximizes socioeconomic returns from ODA, ensures the alignment of development interventions with national objectives and the SDGs, and enhances the management of development cooperation.

This is in accordance with the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC), thus prioritizing: country ownership, a focus on results, inclusive partnerships, and transparency and mutual accountability.

These are not merely buzz words. They are the cornerstones of on-ground implementation.

Taking national plans to international partnerships with an on-ground impact, the past 4 years witnessed the signing of many new country strategies with our multilateral development banks, encompassing full-fledged development strategies with diverse projects in the pipeline, all in line with Egypt's national strategies and presidential initiatives.

This includes the World Bank Country Partnership Framework from 2023 to 2027, the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework from 2023 to 2027, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) Country Partnership Framework from 2022 to 2027, the Agence Française de Développement (AFD) Country Strategy from 2021 to 2025, and the new Country Strategy Papers (CPS) 2022 from 2026 with the African Development Bank (AfDB).

We also unlocked new opportunities with Asia as Egypt strengthens its strategic partnership with China, especially by signing a new MoU on a debt swap and by joining the New Development Bank (NDB) in affiliation with the BRICS.

Through these strategies, a variety of development projects have been rolled out to support investing in human capital, food security, enhancing productivity and employment, sustainable infrastructure, and the green transition.

> ***"The development of Egypt is a people-centered, project-powered & purpose-driven narrative."***

With that mission in mind, in the past 4 years, the Ministry of International Cooperation secured a total of **$28.5 billion for state sectors** and **$10.3 billion for the private sect**or, bringing the total to **$38.8 billion**; dedicated to accelerating progress towards sustainable development in electricity, renewable energy, transportation, MSMEs, water, education, health, and many other sectors.

In this report, we feature a variety of projects done in cooperation with our development partners, often all collaborating under one objective, leveraging complementarities, knowledge and expertise sharing, all while fulfilling Egypt's national plans.

This kind of progress also requires the game-changing role of the private sector, innovation and entrepreneurship.

While the private sector has supported development across a variety of priority sectors in Egypt, it has also brought needed innovation and fresh thinking. Inevitably, the private sector is a fundamental and integral component in the international strategies for cooperation with development partners, through necessary financing, technical support and an enhanced business environment.

Taking into account cooperation with all our previously mentioned stakeholders, we have managed to contribute to a diverse set of initiatives over the past few years.

With shared commitments as our driving force, we have worked to **strengthen global partnerships, act swiftly on climate action, and enhance livelihoods, while working towards addressing the SDGs.**

One of our most notable achievements was the launch of the **Country Platform for the Nexus of Water - Food - Energy NWFE نُوَفّي program**, supporting international climate action efforts, and developed on the back of the 2050 Country Climate Strategy and the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). Leveraging Egypt's partnerships with multiple stakeholders, the Ministry led efforts to mobilize finance, avail technical assistance, and catalyze private investment, through innovative financing modalities including blended finance and debt swaps for NWFE.

To quote the President of the Arab Republic of Egypt H.E. Abdel Fattah El-Sisi, Egypt's NWFE program is an embodiment of the country's climate action ambitions; a practical translation of the transition from pledges to implementation.

With over 100 partners, we also launched the **Sharm El-Sheikh Guidebook for Just Financing**, presenting the dire need for just climate financing and providing 12 guiding principles to serve as a framework for stakeholders to adopt, focused on country ownership, governance and equitable pathways. This is the same system adopted through the NWFE program, thus becoming an actionable and implementable system for other developing countries and emerging economies.

Both of these initiatives were highlighted during the **Egypt - International Cooperation Forum (Egypt - ICF)**, hosted by the Ministry twice and held under the patronage of H.E. Abdel Fattah El-Sisi, the President of the Arab Republic of Egypt. The high-level event ahead of COP27 looked into unlocking mobilization and access to needed finance for Africa, deciding on steps for mitigation and adaptation efforts, and showcasing progress on Egypt's national actions.

Another landmark initiative is **mapping ODA to the SDGs**, highlighting accountability, transparent communication, and data driven decision making to close development gaps in sectors that need it the most. We documented this in a book titled "Stakeholder Engagement Through Economic Diplomacy" back in 2021.

This year, we also established the **ODA Monitoring and Information Management System (IMS)** to ensure the availability of all necessary information on development finance to the Ministries, Cabinet and Presidency and national entities to enhance the Ministry's role in monitoring, evaluation and project follow-up.

These are just a few of the Ministry of International Cooperation's projects and initiatives put into action over the last few years, in line with the mandate and the country's national objectives.

Reflecting on these achievements, I would like to thank the **Prime Minister H.E. Dr. Mostafa Madbouly and all my colleagues in cabinet**. As the Ministry of International Cooperation, we negotiate on their behalf, but work closely to effectively design projects and programs.

I thank my team at the Ministry for their hard work and commitment to contributing to building a better Egypt for all of us.

I also express my gratitude to our development partners and stakeholders who have worked with us to achieve these goals. Our collaboration has demonstrated the power of multilateralism and how it can bring about positive and impactful change.

This year has been an incredibly challenging one, to say the least. However, through new and enhanced partnerships, as well as our commitment to strategic cooperation and innovative financing, we are putting people at the center of our decisions today, tomorrow and in the years to come.

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Ministry of International Cooperation Snapshot



IN 4 YEARS, 2020, 2021, 2022 & 2023, THE MINISTRY OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION SECURED:

$38.8 BILLION

OF DEVELOPMENT FINANCING DEDICATED TO VARIOUS ECONOMIC SECTORS IN LINE WITH EGYPT'S VISION 2030.

THIS INCLUDES

$28.5 BILLION

DIRECTED TO PUBLIC SECTOR DEVELOPMENT.

THIS INCLUDES

$10.3 BILLION

DIRECTED TO PRIVATE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT.

Total ODA Directed to Finance Public and Private Sector Development from 2020 to 2023

SECTOR	AMOUNT (in USD million)
Total ODA Finance directed to public sector development	$28.5 Billion
Total ODA Finance directed to private sector development	$10.3 Billion
TOTAL	**$38.8 Billion**



FROM NATIONAL AGENDA TO INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

The past 4 years have been special, earmarked with major progress made in international partnerships, strengthening our cooperation with all of Egypt's multilateral and bilateral development partners, while accelerating progress on the globally agreed upon Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in line with our national agenda and plans.

All despite a challenging global backdrop in terms of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Ukrainian-Russian war, food security crises and disruption in global supply chains. *The next few pages summarize the efforts and work of the Ministry of International Cooperation, later detailed within the diverse sections of our annual report.*

It is important to underscore that Official Development Assistance secured by the Ministry of International Cooperation represents 16% of total external debt, according to Central Bank of Egypt's statistics.



TOTAL ODA DIRECTED TO FINANCE PUBLIC SECTOR DEVELOPMENT THROUGH MULTILATERAL & BILATERAL DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS FROM 2020 TO 2023

SECTOR	AMOUNT (US MILLION $)	DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS	SDGS
TRANSPORT	7289	EBRD, WB, AFD, SPAIN, EIB, KOREA, KFAED, AFDB, CHINA, AUSTRIA , AIIB, JAPAN	
BUDGET SUPPORT	3922	WB, AIIB, AMF, JAPAN , AFDB, AFD	
AGRICULTURE, SUPPLY AND IRRIGATION	3346	USA, IFAD, EU, GERMANY CANADA, SPAIN	
ENERGY, RENEWABLE ENERGY & PETROLEUM	1966	SIDA, AFD, GERMANY, ITFC	
HOUSING AND UTILITIES	1776	EU, EIB, GERMANY, AFD, AFESD, KFAED, WB , SWITZERLAND	
GENDER & SOCIAL PROTECTION	1111	SPAIN, AFD , WB , EU	
EDUCATION	490	USA, GERMANY, JAPAN, SWITZERLAND	
MSMES	456	EU, AFD	
ENVIRONMENT	440	USA, GERMANY, AFD,EIB	
GOVERNANCE	276	USA, GERMANY, EU	
HEALTH	136	WB, USA, CANDA , CHINA	
LOCAL DEVELOPMENT	90	EBRD	
TRADE AND INDUSTRY	53	GERMANY, ITALY, EU	
FRAMEWORK AGREEMENTS	7187	ITFC, CHINA, SPAIN, AFD	
TOTAL $28.5 BILLION			

STRENGTHENING ECONOMIC DIPLOMACY

The Ministry of International Cooperation seeks to push the boundaries of international cooperation with multilateral and bilateral development partners, governments, the private sector and civil society, to support the national development agenda, which is consistent with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

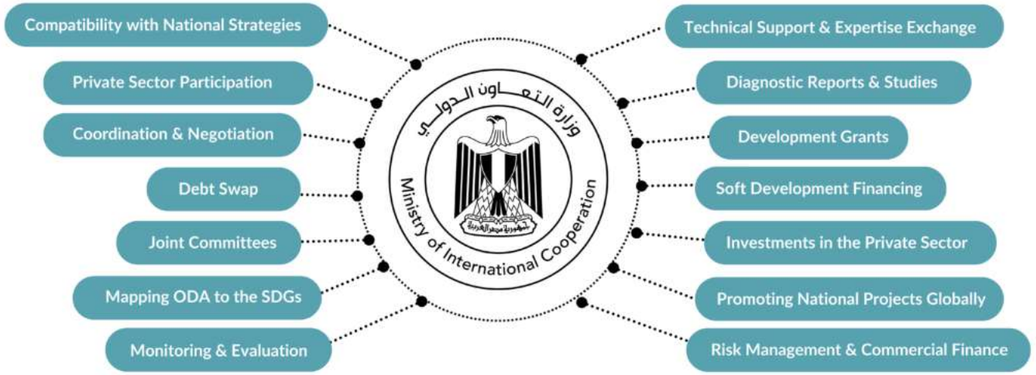
FRAMEWORK FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION & DEVELOPMENT FINANCING

MAXIMIZES SOCIO-ECONOMIC RETURNS FROM ODA.

ENSURES THE ALIGNMENT OF DEVELOPMENT INTERVENTIONS WITH NATIONAL OBJECTIVES AS WELL AS WITH THE SDGS.

ENHANCES THE MANAGEMENT OF DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION FOR BETTER IMPLEMENTATION OF DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS WITHIN EGYPT.

WITHIN STRENGTHENING ECONOMIC DIPLOMACY, WHAT DOES OUR WORK INCLUDE?



The Ministry of International Cooperation's mandate clearly defines the importance of sustainable, inclusive development, innovative financing, efficient and effective monitoring of development projects, and continuous cooperation with development partners and all stakeholders.

1. DEVELOPING AND STRENGTHENING THE ECONOMIC COOPERATION BETWEEN THE ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT AND OTHER COUNTRIES, AS WELL AS INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.

2. PROPOSING THE CRITERIA FOR OBTAINING EXTERNAL FINANCING, BOTH FUNDS AND GRANTS.

3. FOLLOWING UP & MONITORING MINISTRIES AND NATIONAL AGENCIES THAT BENEFIT FROM FOREIGN FINANCING WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE GENERAL ECONOMIC POLICY OF THE COUNTRY TO ENSURE THE ACHIEVEMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GOALS.

4. MANAGING EGYPT'S ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS OF ECONOMIC COOPERATION, INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND SPECIALIZED AGENCIES OF THE UN.

MULTILATERAL & BILATERAL DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS





THE BENEFICIARIES:

- Ministries
- Government Entities
- Universities & Research Centers
- Private Sector
- Civil Society



GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR EFFECTIVE DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION:

THE GPEDC INCLUDES:

Country Ownership

To ensure the alignment and complementarity of development partners with national objectives.

A Focus on Results

Through monitoring and evaluation systems for achieving measurable results.

Inclusive Partnerships

To utilize the engagement of civil society and the private sector in development activities through Official Development Assistance (ODA) projects.

Transparency & Mutual Accountability

So that development cooperation information is a shared responsibility by all stakeholders.

TRANSLATING NATIONAL STRATEGIES & PRESIDENTIAL INITIATIVES INTO INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

While curating country strategies through multilateral and bilateral cooperation, the Ministry of International Cooperation ensures that all partnerships are in line and in support of all national strategies and presidential initiatives. This includes:

20/30 VISION OF EGYPT

- Egypt's Vision 2030
- The National Country Climate Strategy 2050
- The National Human Rights Strategy
- The Government Program "Egypt Takes Off"
- The Integrated Sustainable Energy Strategy (ISES 2035)
- National Strategy for the Empowerment of Egyptian Women 2030
- The National Population Strategy

And Presidential Initiatives, such as:

- The Presidential Initiative to Develop the Villages of the Egyptian Rural "A Decent Life" (Haya Karima)
- 100 Million Health Initiative

حياة كريمة
لكل مصرى .. لكل مصرية

COUNTRY STRATEGIES FOR COOPERATION BETWEEN EGYPT & MULTILATERAL DEVELOPMENT BANKS

THE PAST 4 YEARS WITNESSED THE SIGNING OF MANY NEW COUNTRY STRATEGIES WITH OUR MULTILATERAL DEVELOPMENT BANKS, ENCOMPASSING FULL-FLEDGED DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES WITH DIVERSE PROJECTS IN THE PIPELINE.

Such As:



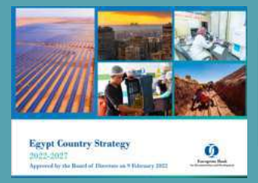
Egypt - World Bank Group Country Partnership Framework 2023-2027

The CPF puts the people of Egypt at the center of the strategy in pursuit of three high-level outcomes (HLOs): (1) more and better private sector jobs; (2) enhanced human capital outcomes; and (3) improved resilience to shocks. Governance and citizen engagement, and women's empowerment are cross-cutting themes that underpin progress toward the HLOs.

Egypt - United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2023-2027

The UNSDCF is the tool for planning and implementing cooperation programs between the Arab Republic of Egypt and the United Nations system in Egypt from 2023 to 2027. Marking the beginning of a new phase of our strengthened partnership, the UNSDCF is focused on 5 areas: people, prosperity, planet, governance, and women and girls. This new strategy incorporates national strategies and goals which are in line with UN principles, global goals and SDGs.





Egypt - European Bank for Reconstruction & Development Country Partnership Framework 2022 - 2027

The partnership with the EBRD for 2022-2027 aims to stimulate joint efforts with the bank to support development through three axes: Promoting a more inclusive economy for Egyptian businesses, women and youth, Accelerating Egypt's green economy transition, and Enhancing the country's competitiveness by supporting private-sector growth and strengthening governance.

Egypt - Agence Française de Développement (AFD) Country Strategy 2021 - 2025

The AFD's Country Strategy for Egypt from 2021 to 2025 builds on the joint programming and partnership initiative established between AFD and Egypt's Ministry of International Cooperation, in line with national objectives and with the bank's North Africa Regional Strategy. It looks into three main pillars: Fostering the integration of Egyptian financial, trade and industrial systems at the regional and continental scales; Supporting the development of efficient, green and inclusive network and social infrastructure at the national scale; and Promoting fair, inclusive and sustainable territorial development at the local scale.





Egypt - United States Agency for International Development (USAID) CDCS 2020 - 2025

The USAID's 2020 - 2025 Country Development Cooperation Strategy (CDCS) is "A More Inclusive and Globally Competitive Economy for the Benefit of all Egyptians", identifying three overarching objectives that will contribute to the achievement of the Goal: Effectiveness of Reforms of Key GOE Entities Strengthened; Enabling Conditions Promoting Social Equity Improved; and Inclusive Economic Development Accelerated.

Egypt - African Development Bank (AfDB) CPS 2022 - 2026

The new Country Strategy Papers (CPS) 2022 - 2026 with the African Development Bank (AfDB) 2022-2026 identifies priority areas for joint action to enhance regional integration, based on two main axes: Enhancing the competitiveness of the Egyptian economy to support private sector-led growth and Building resilience in food, water, and energy security sectors

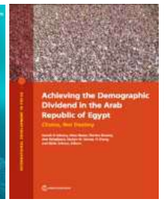


DIAGNOSTIC REPORTS & STUDIES

With many of these partners, we have also curated several diagnostic reports and studies detailing Egypt's progress in development.























More on cooperation with our development partners is detailed in Section 1 of this report.

A STORY OF DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN EGYPT & THE DIVERSE DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS

THE DEVELOPMENT OF EGYPT IS A PEOPLE-CENTERED, PROJECT-POWERED AND PURPOSE-DRIVEN NARRATIVE.

There has been a focus on several areas, especially investing in human capital by increasing job opportunities, empowering women and youth, among other areas, addressing the food security crisis, enhancing productivity and employment, developing sustainable infrastructure, and working towards the green transition.

The development work also includes several development partners, often all collaborating under one project, leveraging complementarities, knowledge and expertise sharing, all while fulfilling Egypt's national plans.

I. INVESTING IN HUMAN CAPITAL

1) Takaful & Karama

The Takaful & Karama project, done in cooperation with the **World Bank Group** and the **United Kingdom**, supports over 20 million citizens, with 75% of them being women and including the automation of social solidarity offices on a nationwide level.

2) School Feeding Programme

Done in collaboration with the **World Food Programme (WFP)** and implemented in coordination with government entities and civil society, the School Feeding Programme supports 12.5 million students, with 77% of the beneficiaries being young girls. Providing motivation to prevent students from dropping out of school, the school meal represents more than 25% of students' daily nutritional needs.

3) FORSA Programme

In partnership with the **World Bank Group**, the FORSA Programme is a partnership between the government, private sector and civil society to create employment opportunities and easy financing for the most vulnerable families, contributing to alleviating poverty and increasing financial inclusion.

4) Noura Framework

Empowering girls by providing them with health, social, economic and digital skills to enable them to make better choices in partnership with the **United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)**, the Noura Framework creates positive and supportive perceptions of girls within their families and communities, while strengthening local systems to ensure the provision of quality and accessible services to girls in villages, via the Presidential Decent Life (Haya Karima) Initiative.

5) STEM Schools

In partnership with **USAID**, 15 schools in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics were established across 11 governorates in Egypt, reaching 12, 000 students, 44.5% of which are girls. This also includes 18 public-private partnerships to support the STEM schools network.

6) Japanese Schools in Egypt

With the **Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)**, 11,367 students are benefiting from Japanese experiences and Japanese education systems and methodology and applying them to 200 schools across 26 governorates in Egypt.

7) Implementation of the Comprehensive National Strategy for Developing Pre-university Education

With the **World Bank Group**, Egypt is supporting 22 million students, both male and female, in various educational levels and building the capacities of 500,000 teachers, mentors and school principals, on the republic level.

8) Universal Health Insurance Program

This project, with the **World Bank, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and Agence Française de Développement (AFD)** aims to provide treatment and comprehensive health coverage for all Egyptians; improving the quality of medical services with the highest quality and lowest possible cost. So far, the project supported the medical examination of 52 million citizens and provided treatment to about 2.2 million, while also improving the quality of care in 600 primary healthcare facilities and 30 university hospitals.

9) Supporting the Family Planning Program in Egypt

In collaboration with the **USAID**, the family planning program provides services to approximately 1.2 million women in the fifth year of the program with services, and this includes providing medical equipment to 21 clinics and 19 mobile clinics that were renovated to provide services.

10) Supporting the National Population Strategy

With the **United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA),** this project trained 1,177 nurses on reproductive health services and 670,000 women received awareness messages on reproductive health.



WHILE THIS IS A SMALL SNIPPET OF THE MANY PROJECTS UNDER THE UMBRELLA OF INVESTING IN HUMAN CAPITAL, THERE IS A DIVERSE LIST OF PROJECTS UNDER THE EDUCATION AND HEALTH SECTORS, AND WOMEN EMPOWERMENT FIELD.

MORE PROJECTS:

EDUCATION



- The Egyptian-Japanese Educational Partnership Program to Support and Establish Japanese Schools
- Supporting the Implementation of the Comprehensive National Strategy for Developing Pre-university Education
- Improving Basic Education
- Technical Cooperation to Support Teaching French as a Foreign Language in Public Schools
- Technical and Financial Support Project for the Comprehensive Initiative for Technical Education in Egypt
- Centers of Excellence in the Field of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET).
- Egyptian-American Cooperation for Science & Technology
- EgyptSat 2 Satellite for Remote Sensing Applications
- King Salman bin Abdulaziz University project
- Supplying Research and Scientific Equipment to the Egyptian-Japanese University of Science and Technology
- A Research Project on Producing Industrial Membranes for Water Desalination
- Human Resources Development Project
- Enhancing Metrology of Measurement Systems to Improve the Competitiveness of the Egyptian Economy
- Supplying Educational Equipment to the Egyptian Chinese College at Suez Canal University
- Development of Kasr Al-Aini Hospital

PARTNERS:



HEALTH



- Improving Health Outcomes
- Emergency Response to Combat COVID-19
- Support Primary Health Care
- Establishing Basic Health Care Units
- Universal Health Insurance Project
- Project to Support the National Population Strategy
- Improving Conditions of Syrian Refugees
- Developing the Health System in Egypt
- A Fund Dedicated to Technical Expertise and Exchange of Experiences to Support the Ministry of Health and Population
- Supporting Social Protection Budget in Egypt (Universal Health Insurance)
- Hazardous Waste Management for Hospitals

PARTNERS:



Women's Empowerment



- Supporting Social Safety Networks "Takaful & Karama"
- Equal Opportunities and Social Development
- Supporting Women in Entrepreneurship
- Noura
- FORSA programme

PARTNERS:



II. FOOD SECURITY

A main priority for Egypt these past few years has been on food security, especially with the implications posed by the Russian-Ukrainian war.

MUCH OF THE PROJECTS ADDRESS:



1) Increasing the Storage Capacity of Silos

- Increasing storage capacities from 1.2 million tons to 3.5 million tons.
- Reducing the gap between local wheat production and imported quantities.

2) Wheat & Oil Supply Project

- Opening new markets for the supply of wheat in response to the Russian-Ukrainian crisis.

3) Emergency Project to Support Food Security & Resilient Response

- Financing wheat imports equivalent to one month of supplies for the benefit of about 70 million low-income Egyptians.

4) Promoting & Increasing Food Security & Economic Resilience

- Support the food security response, increase agricultural productivity, and build the private sector and financial resilience.
- Reducing the effects of the food crisis.
- Increasing the storage capacities of silos and establishing field silos in 5 locations.

5) Urgent Transformation of the Supply Chain for Strategic Crops

- To support the Ministry of Agriculture, Land Reclamation, Communications and Information Technology in minimizing wheat losses and taking proactive measures to reduce losses at the farm level through an enhanced early warning system.

6) Land Reclamation

- To finance support for agricultural mechanization regarding strategic crops (wheat-corn).
- Developing varieties of strategic crop seeds that are tolerant to drought and salinity.

MORE PROJECTS:

Irrigation & Agriculture

- Developing North Sinai by Reclaiming 400,000 acres
- Integrated Program for Improving Irrigation and Drainage Methods (Third National Drainage)
- Establishment of the Bahr El-Baqar Wastewater Project
- Canals and Waterways Rehabilitation Project
- Construction of the New Dairut Barrage
- National Drainage Program
- Cleaning the Kitchener Bank and Increasing its Efficiency
- Project to Support Food Security and Economic Resilience
- Grain Storage Silos
- Emergency Project to Support Food Security and Resilient Response
- A Project to Construct Metal Silos with a Capacity of 100,000 tons to Store Wheat in West Port Said Port
- A Project to Provide Water and Develop the Agricultural System in the Sinai Peninsula
- Sustainable Transformation of Agricultural Harmonization in Upper Egypt (STAR) Project

III. ENHANCING PRODUCTIVITY & EMPLOYMENT

1) Sustainable Agricultural Investment Project & Raising the Standard of Living

In cooperation with the **International Fund for AgriculturalDevelopment (IFAD)**, this project increases food security, income of small farmers and improves agricultural production, benefiting 14,593 rural families including 72,965 individuals.

2) Creating Job Opportunities

With the **Egyptian Saudi Joint Committee and the Saudi Fund for Development (SFD)**, over 3,524 projects were funded and 17 thousand job opportunities were created in the sectors of industry, agriculture, livestock, health care, and solar energy, in addition to the commercial sector.

3) Supporting Female-Led MSMEs Projects

This project facilitates the availability of financial resources and non-financial services to MSMEs owned by women in agriculture, in cooperation with **France and the Agence Française de Développement (AFD)**.

4) From Cotton Seeds to Clothes

Increasing employment and entrepreneurship opportunities for 1,000 individuals by allocating 20-40% of the targeted quota to women, in cooperation with the **United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)**.

5) Empowering & Integrating Youth into Host Communities

With the **International Labor Organization (ILO)**, this project establishes an industrial education program that resulted in the employment of 72% of trainees.

6) Skills to Thrive - Higher Education for Life and Work (S4P)

With the **International Labor Organization (ILO)**, this project created a number of electronic platforms to develop the skills of university students.

MORE PROJECTS:

Trade & Industry

- A Training & Employment Initiative for the MENA Region to Support Private Sector
- Economic Empowerment of Women for Comprehensive & Sustainable Growth in Egypt
- Opportunities for Women in Agribusiness
- Multi-education Program to Promote Employment in Migration-affected Areas
- Program to Enhance the Export Competitiveness of the Textile and Clothing Sector
- Supporting Innovation in the Private Sector
- Supporting the Egyptian Private Sector Through SMEs

PARTNERS:

Small & Medium Enterprises

- Supporting Micro-Enterprises
- Supporting Entrepreneurs & SMEs
- Line of Credit for MSMEs
- Supporting Women-led MSMEs
- Support the Private Sector and Innovation
- Addressing the Root Causes of Irregular Migration Through Labour-Intensive Projects
- Community Development (Slum Development & Employment Support)

PARTNERS:

Tourism & Antiquities

- Completion of the Grand Egyptian Museum Project
- Sustainable Investment in Tourism in Egypt
- Preparing the 1st Stage of Special Studies for the Seven Halls in the Sultan Places in the Area below the Muhammad Ali Mosque in the Citadel
- Supporting the Creation of a Safe Work Environment that Achieves Equality for Women in the Tourism Sector

PARTNERS:

IV. INVESTING IN SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE





1) Benban Solar Park

This is a story of true development cooperation with the solar park producing 1,465 megawatts of electricity, providing 10,000 job opportunities and avoiding 200,000 tons of emissions; all with partnerships with 32 private sector companies and contributions from 12 countries. This project was also done in cooperation with the **European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), the African Development Bank (AfDB), the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) and the International Finance Corporation (IFC).**

2) Zaafarana, Gabal El-Zeit & Gulf of Suez Wind Farms

These wind farms generate renewable energy with a capacity of 1,300 megawatts and are among the largest wind power plants in the world and Africa, done in partnership with the **European Union, Agence Française de Développement (AFD), European Investment Bank, KFW Development Bank, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Spain, Germany and Norway.**

3) Natural Gas Delivery Project to Homes

This project delivers gas to 2.3 million housing units and 9 million beneficiary citizens across 20 governorates, done in partnership with the **World Bank Group, European Union and Agence Française de Développement (AFD).**

4) Bahr El-Baqar Wastewater Treatment Plant

This water project treats 5.6 million cubic meters/day, reclaims 400,000 acres in northern and central Sinai and provides 100,000 job opportunities. This is done in partnership with the **Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development (AFESD) and the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development (KFAED).**

5) Comprehensive Program for Financing Social Housing

This project creates housing units for about 2 million low- and middle-income people, across 27 governorates, in partnership with the **World Bank Group.**

6) New Assiut Barrage

This New Assiut Barrage provides irrigation water for about 1.6 million acres in 5 governorates, provides clean electricity to 130,000 families through the hydroelectric power station and provides income for about 5 million vulnerable people in the agricultural sector; all in cooperation with the **Agence Française de Développement (AFD), KFW Development Bank, the European Investment Bank (EIB) and Switzerland.**

7) 1st Phase of the 4th Metro Line in Greater Cairo

The Cairo Metro Line 1, 2 and 3 transports 3 million passengers per day and the 4th line would be transporting 2.5 million passengers per day., connecting Cairo to the Pyramids of Giza thus supporting the tourism sector. This is being done in cooperation with the **Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).**

8) Development of Egypt's Railways

This project includes the electrification of 362 km of railway signals, increasing security and safety, reducing train accidents by increasing the number of trains from 78 to 200 per day, implementing an automatic train protection system, and providing the 953 km long railway line with a modern European automatic control system. This is being done in cooperation with **Japan, the World Bank Group, Agence Française de Développement (AFD) and the African Development Bank (AfDB).**

9) 1st Dry Port in 6th of October City

This dry port accommodates 250 thousand containers annually, which may reach 720 thousand containers and provides 3,500 job opportunities. This is in cooperation with the **European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and the International Finance Corporation (IFC).**

AND THERE IS MUCH MORE STILL HAPPENING IN THE SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE SECTOR ACROSS THE ENERGY, HOUSING AND TRANSPORTATION SECTORS...

MORE PROJECTS:

Energy

- Assiut Power Station
- Increasing the Energy Efficiency of 3 Electricity Distribution Companies
- Developing the Green Hydrogen Sector in Egypt
- Establishing a Power Station Using Photovoltaic Cells with a Capacity of 50 MW in Zafarana
- Development of the Electricity Transmission Network
- Improving the Continuity & Efficiency of the Electricity Network
- The Egyptian Project for Transferring & Extending the National Electricity Grid Electrical Connection between Egypt and Saudi Arabia
- Wind Station in the Gulf of Suez
- Delivery of Natural Gas to Homes
- Development of Assiut Refinery
- EGAS Energy Efficiency Project
- Energy Efficiency & Development Program for Suez Petroleum Manufacturing Company SOPC

PARTNERS:

Housing & Utilities

- Drinking Water and Sanitation Services in Kafr El-Sheikh
- Sewage Treatment in Fayoum
- Improving Water Quality in Kitchener Drain
- North Sinai Initiative Agreement
- Improving Drinking Water and Sanitation Services
- Providing Integrated Sanitation Services in Rural Areas in Luxor Governorate
- Providing 240 Vulnerable Villages with Drinking Water
- Establishment of the Bahr El-Baqar Wastewater Treatment Plant
- A Project to Establish 5 Water Desalination Plants in South Sinai Governorate
- Establishment of 2 Seawater Desalination Plants in the New City of Rafah and the New City of Bir al-Abd
- Expansion and Development Project of the Western Sewage Treatment Plant in Alexandria
- Sanitation in the areas adjacent to Al-Rahawi Drainage
- Facilities for Syrian Refugee Areas
- Residential Complexes Project in Sinai

Sustainable Transport

- The 3rd Phase of Metro Line 3
- Supporting the Development of the 1st Cairo Metro Line
- Manufacturing & Supplying Air-Conditioned Trains for the 1st Metro Line
- Rehabilitating & Enhancing 2nd Metro Line
- Developing the Abu Qir Railway line & Converting it into an Electric Metro
- Purchasing New trains for the Egyptian Railways Authority
- Developing Signaling Systems for the Egyptian Nag Hammadi - Luxor Railway
- Development & Safety of Egypt Railways on the Alexandria-Cairo-Nag Hammadi axis
- Supplying Machines for Egypt's Railway Maintenance
- Railway Line Development Project (Tanta - Mansoura - Damietta)
- Supporting the Manufacture & Supply of Trains for the 3rd & 4th Phases of Cairo Metro Line 3
- Rehabilitation of the Raml Tram
- Development of the Cairo-Alexandria Navigational Channel

PARTNERS:

PARTNERS:

V. TRANSITION TOWARDS A GREEN ECONOMY

1) National Solid Waste Management Program

The solid waste program works to improve the municipal solid waste system in four governorates, benefiting over 6 million people and providing 571 direct job opportunities. This was done in partnership with the **KFW Development Bank, EU, Switzerland, and the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ)**.

2) Project to Improve Air Quality & Combat Climate Change in Greater Cairo

Done in cooperation with the **World Bank Group**, this project will contribute to improving air quality, benefiting 23 million people in Greater Cairo.

3) Sustainable POPs Management Project

In collaboration with the **World Bank Group**, the sustainable persistent organic pollutants (pops) management project works to improve the health conditions of approximately 3.1 million people living in vulnerable communities in Egypt, 50% of whom are women, by disposing 1,082 tons of old pesticides from 65 sites across Egypt.

MORE PROJECTS:

Environment & Local Development

- National Solid Waste Management Program
- Climate Initiative Agreement
- Managing Air Pollution & Climate Change in Greater Cairo
- EU Support for Growth Through Egyptian Environmental Networks
- 3rd Phase of the Egyptian-Italian Environmental Program
- Industrial Pollution Control Program - Phase III EPAP III
- Program for Transforming Climate Finance Systems in Egypt
- Supporting Local Development in Upper Egypt
- Solid Waste Management at Kitchener Bank

Economic Governance & Stimulating Trade

- Studies and Experts Fund
- Stimulating Trade & Investment in Egypt (Tipe)
- Joint Project to Build Capabilities in the Technical Education System)
- Study Fund Grant Agreement (Vocational Training, Health, Energy and Urban Transport)
- Citizen Rights Promotion Project
- Comprehensive Economic Governance
- Strengthening Egyptian Government Institutes to Improve Public Service
- EU Support to Strengthen General Administrative & Economic Governance in Egypt

DEBT SWAP

As the debt burden is threatening the achievements of the last decade, there is a need to increase the usage of innovative financing tools such as debt swaps. Utilizing debt swaps is a key way to generate additional investment and liquidity for economic resilience, rather than restructuring.

Using debt swap instruments, in a blended finance vehicle, can catalyze private capital through using concessional tools and philanthropic funding.

Moreover, debt swaps could generate additional investment and liquidity for economic resilience, rather than restructuring, and they can be a getaway to achieve development objectives while relieving debt distress.

Bringing this into application, Egypt's NWFE is considered a practical example of how concessional funding can de-risk investments to attract the private sector. In NWFE, 8% of total financing directed to the energy pillar ($3.2 billion) was composed of debt swaps and grants components, which enabled private capital of $2 billion.

It is important to realize that debt swaps do not necessarily target countries with debt sustainability issues.

They also aim at encouraging climate/nature-related investment, target new ESG financiers, enable the countries to realize relevant KPIs and meet their NDCs. Rating Agencies are to take country-specific factors in their assessment of debt for climate/nature swaps and not consider debt swaps as a method of debt relief.

We have 2 Main Debt Swap Programs between Egypt, Germany and Italy.

The debt swap program for development between Egypt and Italy is a unique model for development cooperation at the bilateral level, in which two successful phases were implemented where many projects were implemented in various priority sectors.

A number of development projects are being implemented in various fields, such as the environment, agriculture, nutrition, education, cultural heritage and civil society, to contribute significantly to achieving the SDGs.

Additionally, the German-Egyptian debt swap program is one of the most successful models of debt swaps with a diverse set of projects it supported.



The Egyptian - German Debt Swap Supported:

- School Feeding to Decrease Dropouts & Child Labor
- Supporting Quality Education
- Rehabilitation of Hydroelectric Stations
- Reducing Environmental Pollution Resulting from Thermal Power Plants
- Assiut Barrage & Power Plants
- Improving Drinking Water & Sanitation Services
- Investing in Human Capital in Rural Areas of Upper Egypt
- Comprehensive Technical Education Initiative in Egypt
- Egyptian Electricity Transmission



The Egyptian - Italian Debt Swap Supported:

- Project "Development of Marine Fish Farming"
- Establishing 10 Vertical Field Silos
- Establishing Vocational Secondary Schools in the Technological Education Complex
- Establishing an Integrated Technology Complex in Abuo Ghaleb Village
- Solid Waste Management Project in Minya Governorate
- Applied Technology Schools & Enhancing Teachers' Skills
- Social Protection & Human Capital Development in Upper Egypt
- Psychological Rehabilitation for People with Special Needs & Their Families
- Rehabilitation & Preservation of the Historical Center of Siwa Oasis
- Empowering Organic Agriculture & Handicraft Producers
- Creating Job Opportunities & Economic Development for Women in Upper Egypt
- Enhancing the Work Environment for Ecotourism
- Protecting & Empowering Children at Risk in Social Care Homes in Greater Cairo



The Egyptian - Chinese Debt Swap Supported:

During the visit of H.E. Dr. Mostafa Madbouly, the Prime Minister of Egypt, to China to participate in the Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation, Egypt and China signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) in debt swaps for development.

The memorandum of understanding was signed by H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat and Mr. Luo Zhaohui, Chairman of the China International Development Cooperation Agency (CIDCA), with the aim of exploring new horizons and areas of cooperation, to enhance the comprehensive strategic partnership between the two countries.

The signing of an MoU for debt swap between Egypt and China reflects the strength of the joint relations between the two countries, which are linked by long-standing historical ties and friendship. This was especially enhanced under the leadership of H.E. President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi, the President of the Arab Republic of Egypt, to achieve joint development and benefit from the Chinese experience in development.

Egypt has accumulated expertise and distinguished experience since the beginning of the 2000s in debt swaps with the German and Italian sides, and that the agreement with China comes in light of the diversification of financing mechanisms through innovative tools in line with calls for developing the global financial architecture.



THE ROLE OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR

The previously mentioned projects, and many more, are implemented in close cooperation with private sector companies and civil society organizations and in line with the government's policy of stimulating private sector participation in development.

SINCE 2020,

$10.3 BILLION

HAS BEEN SECURED FOR THE PRIVATE SECTOR FROM MULTILATERAL & BILATERAL DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS.

TOTAL ODA DIRECTED TO FINANCE PRIVATE SECTORS DEVELOPMENT THROUGH MULTILATERAL & BILATERAL DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS FROM 2020 TO 2023

DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS	AMOUNT (US MILLION $)
EUROPEAN INVESTMENT BANK	2803
EUROPEAN BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT	2122
INTERNATIONAL FINANCE CORPORATION	1660
OPEC FUND FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT	1278
JBIC	521
UNITED KINGDOM (CDC)	420
FRENCH DEVELOPMENT AGENCY	331
CREDIT LINE BETWEEN JICA & MITSUBISHI FINANCIAL GROUP	200
JAPAN INTERNATIONAL COOPERAION AGENCY	188
ASIAN INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT BANK	150
NETHERLANDS	115
MIGA & EBRD	100
ABU DHABI EXPORTS OFFICE	100
AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK	51.5
WORLD BANK GROUP	50
ARAB FUND FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT	50
AFREXIMBANK	44
ISLAMIC CORPORATION FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR	30
SAUDI FUND FOR DEVELOPMENT	27
GREEN CLIMATE FUND	24
EUROPEAN UNION	15
KFW	7
SWITZERLAND	5

TOTAL $10.3 BILLION

MOST PROMINENT BENEFICIARIES BY SECTOR

Transformative Industries

- Mining industries
- Food Industry
- Metal Industries
- Construction and Building Materials Industries

Finance Sector

- Commercial Banking Services
- Private Equity Funds
- Risk Capital Funds
- Microfinance

Service Sector

- Communications & Emerging Technology Companies
- Tourism & Hotels
- Health

Infrastructure

- Electricity & Renewable Energy
- Shipping & Logistics Facilities
- Transportation



UNDER DIRECT MECHANISMS, THE PRIVATE SECTOR HAS PROVIDED SUPPORT THROUGH GUARANTEES, TECHNICAL SUPPORT AND CREDIT LINES.

Inevitably, the private sector is a fundamental and integral component in the international strategies for cooperation with development partners, as it:

PROVIDES NECESSARY FINANCING FOR COMPANIES & FUNDS

PROVIDES TECHNICAL SUPPORT

ENHANCES THE BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

Stimulating Private Sector Participation & Role of Multilateral and Bilateral Development Partners

Direct Mechanisms

- Financing Major Development Projects
- Investment
- Foreign Trade Facilitation
- Consulting, Technical & Capacity Building Services
- Investment Guarantees

Indirect Mechanisms

- Technical & Advisory Support to Empower the Private Sector
- Credit Lines
- Financing Development Projects in Partnership with the Private Sector

POWER OF YOUTH & ENTREPRENEURSHIP

THE POWER OF YOUTH AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP IS A FORCE TO BE RECKONED WITH.

Young people bring fresh perspectives and ideas to the table. When combined with the drive and ambition necessary to succeed as an entrepreneur, this can lead to incredible innovation and success, often creating new jobs for generations to come.



Under **Shabab Balad, Egypt's Version of the UN's Generation Unlimited**, this is a public-private-youth partnership to design and implement projects that support youth in education, employment, engagement and entrepreneurship.



Under **supporting Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)**, Egypt ranked second in the Middle East and North Africa in terms of the number of investments in startups during the year 2021.

With **Egypt Ventures**, investing in startups is a key part of development with over 175 emerging companies in various fields of technology.



With **Orange Corners**, there is a focus on building a healthy entrepreneurship system in Egypt with local consulting companies where 62 startups were launched, of which 57% were female-led.



EGYPT VENTURES
INVESTING IN YOUTH

UNITED NATIONS EGYPT | SHABAB BALAD

ORANGE CORNERS

STORIES OF SUCCESS IN EGYPT'S SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

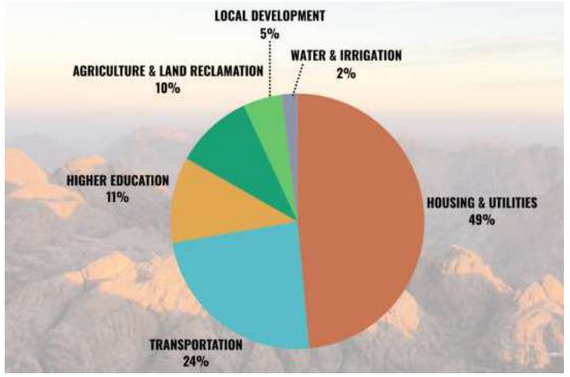
A SNIPPET OF HAYA KARIMA... A DECENT LIFE

The story of Haya Karima is a special one; a presidential initiative ensuring a "Decent Life" is a full-fledged development program focusing on investing in human capital, environment, education, jobs, health and much more.

Within our cooperation with the UN under the umbrella of the Haya Karima initiative, **over 400 activities have been implemented in rural areas with 1.4 million citizens supported.**

This builds on previous national and international experiences in order to enhance the contribution of a decent life by investing in human capital, enhancing job creation, supporting the green transformation, and developing the health and education sectors; all while combating poverty and implementing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).





AN AMBITIOUS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM IN THE SINAI PENINSULA

Under this project, over **150 villages in the Sinai Peninsula** are benefiting, **supporting 558,000 citizens with basic services**.

This includes providing **2,600 new homes**, reclamation and cultivation of 28 thousand acres, and the creation of **20 thousand job opportunities**.

This program works towards enhancing the lives of youth, unlocking the power of human capital, reducing unemployment, developing food self-sufficiency and reducing poverty in Sinai.

The sectors that benefit include: 49% dedicated to housing and utilities, 24% to transportation, 11% towards higher education and research, 10% to agriculture and land reclamation, 5% to local development and 2% to water and irrigation.

UNLOCKING THE POTENTIAL OF NEW COOPERATION OPPORTUNITIES

COOPERATION WITH ASIA

Marking a new phase of enhanced cooperation with Asia, Egypt is expanding its international partnerships with more collaboration with China, Japan and South Korea.

This is especially the case given multiple visits to high-level events in China such as the High-Level Meeting of the Forum on Global Action for Shared Development and the **New Development Bank (NDB)** Annual Meetings to which Egypt has joined as a member in affiliation with the BRICS.

As part of the Arab Republic of Egypt's efforts to expand its cooperation with diverse entities, and in an effort to enrich its relations with multilateral financing institutions, Egypt officially joined, in March 2023, the NDB, affiliated with the BRICS countries. The Ministry of International Cooperation is currently formulating a new strategy with the NDB and translating it into development projects based on national priorities and strategies.

The past few years have also witnessed enhanced cooperation with the **Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), and the Export-Import Bank of China, among others.**



SOUTH-SOUTH & TRIANGULAR COOPERATION

The Ministry of International Cooperation utilizes the South-South Development Academy as a platform to showcase successful development practices, especially those implemented in cooperation with international development partners.

Some of these projects include the development of the Bahr El-Baqar Wastewater project with the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development, the Egyptian Anti-Corruption Academy, the Benban Solar Park with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and the World Bank, the Luxor Centre for Knowledge Sharing and Innovation, Takaful and Karama with the World Bank, and the Haya Karima initiative in rural Egypt.

Examples of South-South Economic Cooperation & Triangular Cooperation Projects in the Next Page.

EXAMPLES OF SOUTH-SOUTH ECONOMIC COOPERATION & TRIANGULAR COOPERATION PROJECTS

Railway Connection Between Egypt & Sudan

With the **Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development (KFAED)**, this project strengthens cooperation between the two countries in the field of railway connectivity and rehabilitates the current railway, while preparing the necessary infrastructure.

Navigational Connection between Lake Victoria & Mediterranean Sea

With the **African Development Bank (AfDB)**, this project supports trade movement and creates an outlet for landlocked countries to connect to global seas and ports through the Nile River; also reducing transportation and trade insurance costs.

Electrical Connection between Egypt & Saudi Arabia

With the **Islamic Development Bank (IsDB), the Arab Fund for Economic & Social Development (AFESD) and the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development (KFAED)**, this project connects two electrical systems in the Arab world using direct current, 500 kV, with a length of about 1,300 km and a transmission capacity of about 3,000 MW.

JOINT HIGHER COMMITTEES

Bilateral joint committees are also one of the most important platforms for South-South cooperation, as they serve as a comprehensive umbrella of cooperation between developing countries.

This is in addition to being an important mechanism for exchanging views and experiences on development issues and challenges, and exchanging knowledge and information about the most important areas in which each country has a comparative advantage.

THE MINISTRY OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION CHAIRS 68 JOINT COMMITTEES.

This includes: 10 higher committees, 15 technical/ sectoral committees, and 43 ministerial committees.

Overall, the Ministry of International Cooperation supervises 68 committees between Egypt and countries from different continents of the world, including 8 Asian committees, 30 European committees, 14 committees with Arab countries, 9 African committees, and 7 committees with Latin American countries.

THE MINISTRY OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION'S INITIATIVES

OVER THE PAST 4 YEARS, THE MINISTRY HAS CONTRIBUTED TO A DIVERSE SET OF INITIATIVES TO ENHANCE INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION, STRENGTHEN GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS AND ACT SWIFTLY ON CLIMATE ACTION, WHILE WORKING TOWARDS ADDRESSING THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGS).

MAPPING ODA TO THE SDGS

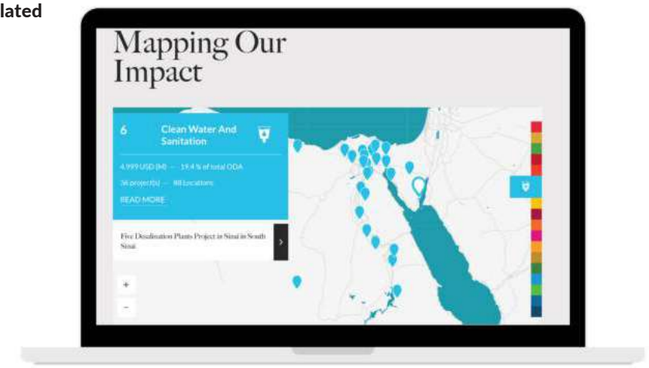
In 2021, the Ministry of International Cooperation documented Egypt's experience in mapping the Official Development Assistance (ODA) to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in an international event in June at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE).

The mapping exercises utilize the methodologies of the United Nations and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), aiming to ensure the accurate implementation of mapping the ODA to the SDGs so that decisions are data-driven with impactful results, alongside ensuring a clear vision in plans with development partners.

In order to implement the ODA-SDG mapping, the two main methodologies adopted were: (1) Sectoral Mapping Methodology, and (2) Project-Based Mapping Methodology. The second methodology was implemented through two distinct but related approaches: (a) single SDG mapping, and (b) multiple SDG mapping.

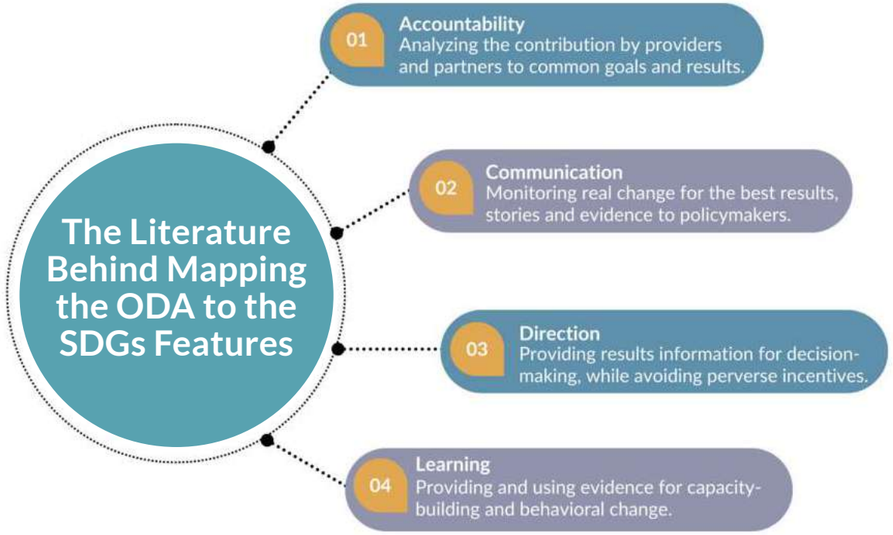
The value of sectoral mapping is to understand the national level of contributions and needs in each sector, the value of project-based mapping shows more accurate visibility and tracking of finance to different SDGs, and project multiple mapping shows the multidimensional linkages of projects to different SDGs.

As an example, SDG 5: Gender Equality shows overlap and interconnectedness with other SDGs. While SDG 5 includes 13 projects that identify gender equality as their primary objective, with a total value of $82 million, making up for 0.32% of the total active ODA portfolio in Egypt, its goal is to promote gender equality and empower all women and girls, mainstreaming gender equality across projects in various sectors. With this wider scope of influence, and after further investigations, gender equality had emerged as a cross-cutting theme in 99 projects worth $ 6.7 billion.

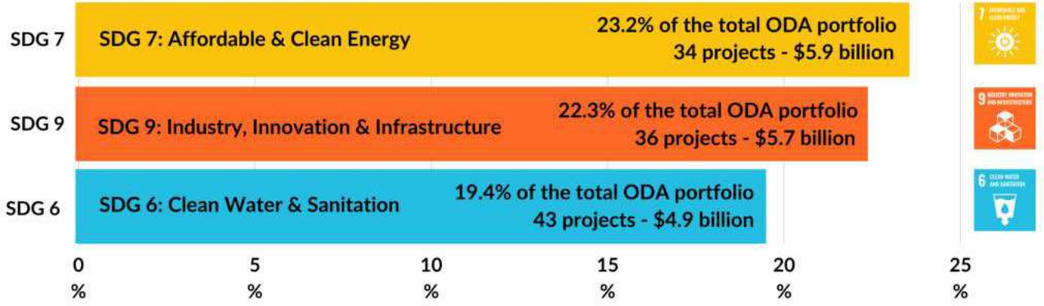


VISIT OUR WEBSITE

WWW.MOIC.GOV.EG



The overall ODA-SDG mapping experience showed that the SDGs with the highest development finance are SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy, covering 23.2% of the total ODA portfolio (34 projects - $5.9 billion), SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, covering 22.3% of the total ODA portfolio (36 projects - $5.7 billion), and SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation with 19.4% of the total ODA portfolio (43 projects - $4.9 billion).



THE EGYPT - INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION FORUM 2021 & 2022

1ST EDITION

The Ministry of International Cooperation has hosted the Egypt - International Cooperation Forum twice, once in 2021 and once in 2022.

In 2021, the forum was held under the theme "Engaging For Impact", bringing together over 1,500 participants and ideas from around the world in the two-day forum; September 8 and 9, held under the patronage of H.E. Abdel Fattah El-Sisi, the President of the Arab Republic of Egypt.

The two days concluded with a Cairo Communiqué outlining the way forward with recommendations aimed at reinforcing multilateral cooperation, financing for development through international institutions and the provision of technical support to achieve collective development aspirations towards a better future, presenting an opportunity for all stakeholders to prioritize efforts towards advancing a post-pandemic green, inclusive and sustainable recovery, and identifying the priorities and provides realistic global solutions that reflect the world's challenges, thus guiding policymakers and governments through, and out of, the post-pandemic recovery.



"As one of the first countries that set a strategic plan to achieve the 2030 SDGs, aligned with national priorities, Egypt has taken a pledge to move forward towards achieving development; overcoming cumulative challenges. In recent years, we succeeded in pushing forward purpose-driven projects and we've taken effective measures towards a green economy and a better tomorrow." ***H.E. Abdel Fattah El-Sisi, the President of the Arab Republic of Egypt.***

EGYPT–ICF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION FORUM 2021
ENGAGING FOR IMPACT

2ND EDITION

Under the patronage of H.E. Abdel Fattah El-Sisi, the President of the Arab Republic of Egypt, in 2022, the Ministry of International Cooperation held the second edition of the Egypt — International Cooperation Forum, from September 7 to 9, co-organized with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Finance, and Ministry of Environment.

This edition of the forum places a special focus on the mobilization of and access to finance, mitigation and adaptation, and national actions, also by inviting African ministers of finance, economy, and environment to meet ahead of COP27, including diverse high-level roundtables, panels, workshops and training.

EGYPT–ICF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION FORUM 2022
AFRICAN MINISTERS OF FINANCE & ENVIRONMENT MEETING FOR COP27

Mobilization of & Access to Finance

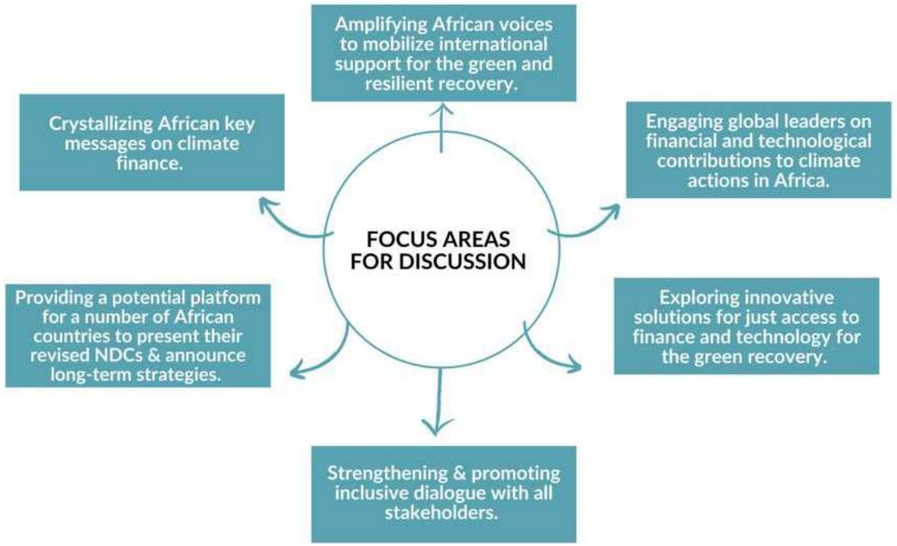
The forum focuses on innovative tools to mobilize financing and catalyze private sector investments; focused on developing countries and Africa.

Financing Climate Action: Mitigation & Adaptation

The forum addresses the needs, resources and modalities to leverage the necessary public and private support to accelerate climate action.

National Actions

The forum provides a timely platform to explore needed national actions that would help progress towards a just and #green transition.



STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT THROUGH ECONOMIC DIPLOMACY

In a "by Egypt, for Egypt" approach, a book titled "Stakeholder Engagement Through Economic Diplomacy" with a foreword written by Chairman of the World Economic Forum Klaus Schwab was launched documenting the country's pioneering experience in upholding the three principles of Economic Diplomacy.

This includes hosting multi-stakeholder platforms to ensure transparency, complementarity and harmony between all stakeholders to maximize collaboration and capitalize on success; mapping the Official Development Assistance (ODA) to the UN SDGs in a first-of-its-kind comprehensive mapping exercise; and the Global Partnerships Narrative that forms a consistent dialogue between the Government of Egypt and all its partners.

The virtual book launch includes international economic figures and heads of international institutions; Minouche Shafik, the LSE Director, Carmen Reinhart, Vice President and Chief Economist of the World Bank, and Erik Berglof, the Chief Economist of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB).

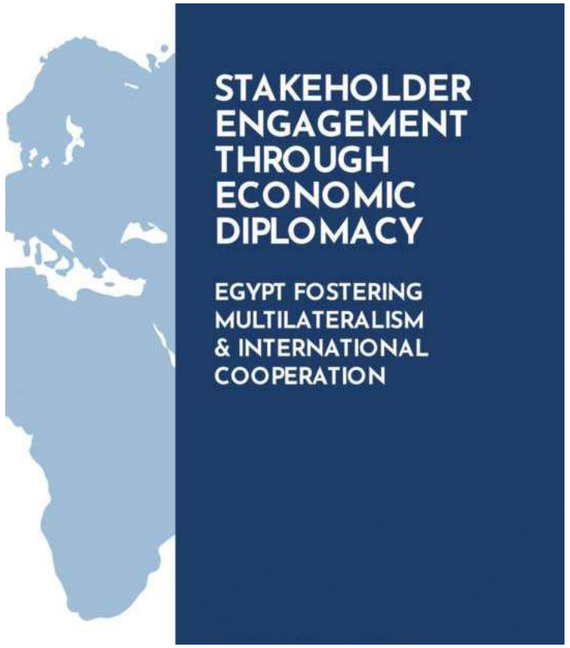
The event also included Achim Steiner, the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), H.E. Munir Akram, Former President of the UN Economic & Social Council at the time, Elena Panova, Egypt's UN Resident Coordinator, and other representatives.

More on all of what has been explained in the executive summary is detailed within this report in a diverse set of sections and chapters.

For more information on the Ministry of International Cooperation's Economic Diplomacy Principles, read more in the "Stakeholder Engagement Through Economic Diplomacy book", published by the London School of Economics (LSE).

READ MORE

LSE THE LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICAL SCIENCE



A NEXUS OF WATER, FOOD & ENERGY NWFE نُوَفِّي

COP27 SHARM EL-SHEIKH EGYPT 2022

NWFE EGYPT'S NEXUS OF WATER, FOOD & ENERGY FROM PLEDGES TO IMPLEMENTATION

Ambitious climate cooperation is the way forward, and what we have witnessed these past few days has been the importance of multilateralism to address common goals.

In 2022, we launched Egypt's Country Platform for the Nexus of Water - Food - Energy NWFE نُوَفِّي programme, within the framework of the political leadership's ambitious vision in supporting international efforts and developed on the back of the announcement of 2050 Country Climate Strategy, and the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).

LAUNCHED WITH OUR PARTNERS:

THE WORLD BANK
European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK GROUP
IFAD
European Investment Bank
AIIB ASIAN INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT BANK
UKaid from the British people
AFD
IsDB البنك الإسلامي للتنمية Islamic Development Bank
CIF CLIMATE INVESTMENT FUNDS
IFC International Finance Corporation WORLD BANK GROUP
citi
HSBC
GFANZ
IRENA International Renewable Energy Agency

The NWFE Program represents an integrated Egyptian model that is internationally applicable - in accordance with the standards of international and regional financing institutions - for combat climate change challenges, and is an approach to equitable and blended financing to address issues of adaptation, mitigation and resilience.

While also showing the power of partnerships, the NWFE Program reinforces that international cooperation towards a just green transition is based on our shared ambitions.

Under the auspices and with the participation of our Prime Minister H.E. Dr. Mostafa Madbouly at COP27, we signed over 30 partnership and financial agreements worth close to $10bn, dedicated to the NWFE Program and to the E—PACT, Egypt Partnerships Agreements for the Climate Transition. These agreements go towards supporting the country's green transition, offering a unique opportunity for the international community to show solid support for the climate agenda.

Leveraging Egypt's partnerships with multiple stakeholders, the Ministry of International Cooperation has led efforts to mobilize finance, avail technical assistance, and catalyze private investment, through innovative financing modalities including blended finance and debt swaps for NWFE Projects.

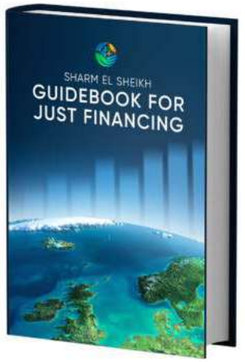
This year, the Government of Egypt has officially endorsed its updated Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), reflecting the country's commitment to accelerating the transition towards a low-carbon development pathway by increasing the development and deployment of renewable energy to reach the target of 42% installed capacity by 2030 instead of 2035.

This milestone comes in line with the Political Declaration released at COP27 between the Governments of the Arab Republic of Egypt, the Federal Republic of Germany, and the United States of America, whereby the update of NDC by Egypt secures an initial amount of more than $250 million to support the Energy Pillar through €85 million in grants, €100 million in debt swap and €100 million in highly concessional loans; all within the energy pillar of the NWFE Program.

More on the NWFE Program is detailed in Section 2 of this report.

SHARM EL-SHEIKH GUIDEBOOK FOR JUST FINANCING

The Ministry of International Cooperation also launched the Sharm El-Sheikh Guidebook for Just Financing, bringing the idea of justice to climate finance and presenting a definition for just financing with 12 guiding principles serving as a framework to help stakeholders adopt innovative climate finance modalities, while reducing risk and uncertainty with investments in developing countries.



THE 12 PRINCIPLES OF JUST FINANCING FALL UNDER 3 OVERARCHING THEMES

COUNTRY OWNERSHIP

- Recognize, respect, and take concrete action to support developing countries' Right to Development and Industrialization through equitable pathways.
- Align global climate mitigation and adaptation targets with national development objectives.
- Support and fund the creation of enabling environments, and strengthening of technical capacities that are aligned with climate goals.

GOVERNANCE

- Require strong institutional governance mechanisms at the international and national levels.
- Require robust transparency and accountability mechanisms.
- Is anchored on balanced multi-stakeholder participation and collective agreements that enhance international, regional, and local coordination and commitments.

EQUITABLE PATHWAYS

- Require global stakeholders to actively consider and take progressive action to address historical disparities and responsibilities to meet climate needs.
- Mainstream the concept of Just Financing across all financial stakeholders at national and international levels.
- Ensure the right to quality and quantity climate finance.
- Address access, affordability, and resource allocation bias.
- Promote "Additionality".
- Address the loss and damage caused by climate change.

Launched with over 100 stakeholders, the guidebook presents a definition of Just Financing "that accounts for historical responsibility for climate change while ensuring equitable access to quality and quantity climate financing that supports resilient development pathways leaving no one behind".

CLIMATECH RUN COMPETITION

ClimaTech RUN 2022 & 2023

The Ministry of International Cooperation, in partnership with the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Communication and Information Technology, has launched the global "ClimaTech Run 2022", for startups working within the field of climate action and technology.

The ClimaTech Run is a competition addressing startups from around the world, and digital artists, aiming to increase the role they can play in raising awareness on climate change, and also establishing innovative and sustainable solutions for climate action, with two main tracks: startups working in the field of climate technology in the ICT for Climate Action Track, and digital art in the DigitalArt4Climate Track.

The competition was organized by the Ministry of International Cooperation, the Ministry of Environment, and the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, and is in partnership with the USAID, Afreximbank, World Food Programme, Google, the United Nations Population Fund, General Motors, and the Mansour Group. The event is also in collaboration with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), the United Nations Development Programme Accelerator Labs (UNDP), Microsoft, AfriLabs, the Youth Entrepreneurs Network, the International Association for the Advancement of Innovative Approaches to Global Challenges, and Falak Startups.

Over 422 startups across 77 countries from Asia, Africa, Europe, the Americas and Australia applied to the climate track and over over 166 artists from 55 countries applied, including 16 from Africa, to the art track.

The shortlist of finalists included 15 startups, including 8 from the African continent, that work in a variety of sectors aimed at combating climate change, reducing harmful emissions and expanding clean energy practices for the green transition, and using technology, such as AI, big data and analysis for innovative solutions.

Interestingly, the 15 finalist startups, together, reduce emissions by a total of about 400,000 tons of carbon dioxide, through the solutions they provide.

The competition concluded with 5 winners focusing on adaptation and resilience: Ryp Labs with first place, Earthy at second place, Koltiva at third place, and Bleaglee and LiquidGold as first and second place in Africa.

In 2023, and in response to the insights from the competition's first edition, the ClimaTech Run 2023 prioritized early-stage startups in the climate tech sector by giving a second chance for those who didn't make it to the final stage last year.

In collaboration with the UNDP, USAID, Microsoft and the World Bank and the Ministries of Information Technology, and Environment, 3 more additional selection criteria were added: Growth, Resilience and Potential, where 44 countries participated leading to the top 3 finalists: Powerstove from the electricity sector, Fresh Source from the agriculture and food security sector and Kumulus from the water sector.

OFFICIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE (ODA) MONITORING AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (IMS)

Within the framework of Egypt's commitment to a digital transformation and enhancing the principles of transparency and governance, the Ministry of Cooperation established and developed an integrated automated information management system for concessional development financing as a mechanism for linking and unifying data on concessional development financing agreements and projects in coordination with the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology.

This is the Official Development Assistance (ODA) Monitoring and Information Management System (IMS), aiming to make relevant information available at all levels between the Ministry and all relevant national entities, including the Presidency, the Prime Minister, the ministries and entities benefiting from development financing, in addition to the Ministry of Planning and Economic Development, the Ministry of Finance, and the Central Bank of Egypt.

This also enhances the role of the Ministry of International Cooperation in the monitoring and evaluation process and supports decision-making and the ability of relevant entities to follow up on the status of projects that fall within their responsibility.



THE PRIVATE SECTOR PORTAL



The Ministry of International Cooperation initiated the development of an Official Development Assistance (ODA) Private Sector Engagement Portal, a crucial step towards facilitating effective collaboration and maximizing the impact of ODA in promoting private sector contribution in development. This dedicated online portal serves as a one-stop platform and a centralized hub, connecting development partners, implementing agencies, the government, and local business community.

Operated by the Private Sector Engagement Unit, being established at the Ministry of International Cooperation as one of the outcomes of the Egypt's Economic Conference 2022, the need for such a portal arises from the recognition that coordinated efforts and streamlined information exchange are essential for leveraging ODA resources to their fullest potential, especially given that ODA has been instrumental in leveraging private sector investment by offering targeted financial and technical support.

Scan to visit the portal.

STORIES FROM THE STORYTELLERS

Documentation of all our work is a key part of maintaining transparency and accountability.

In the past 4 years, we have published 4 Annual Reports, each of which covers 2020, 2021, 2022 and in this current report, we cover 2023.







We also regularly update the Ministry of International Cooperation's website with the day-to-day activities in press releases, as well as on social media.



VISIT OUR WEBSITE
WWW.MOIC.GOV.EG

THIS ALSO INCLUDES THE PUBLICATION OF SEVERAL REPORTS SUCH AS:





HOPE. ACT. THRIVE. MAGAZINE



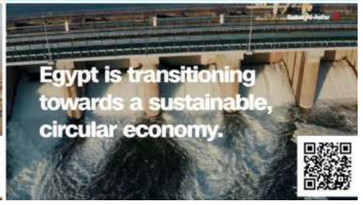
CNN

Bloomberg











COUNTRY OWNERSHIP TOWARDS CLIMATE AMBITION

Across the year, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat has also contributed to opinion editorials and articles in diverse publications, as well as in the World Economic Forum (WEF) and in the International Monetary Fund (IMF), sharing Egypt's development story, expertise and experience.

MAKING THE INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL SYSTEM WORK

Published in October 2023 in Project Syndicate and co-written with Chrysoula Zacharopoulou, the French Minister of State for Development.



CLIMATE FINANCING THAT PUTS PEOPLE FIRST

Published in September 2023 in the IMF Finance & Development report.



EGYPT'S NEXUS FOR WATER, FOOD AND ENERGY PROGRAMME – THE BLUEPRINT TO FIGHT CLIMATE CHANGE?

Published in September 2023 in the World Economic Forum as part of the Sustainable Development Impact Meetings.



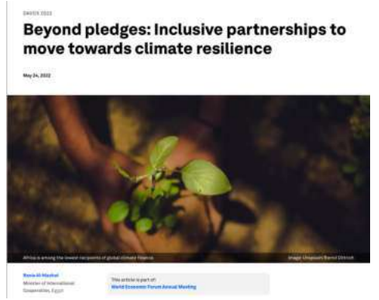
FOSTERING CLIMATE AGENCY WHERE IT COUNTS

Published in June 2023 in Project Syndicate and co-written with Erik Berglof, Chief Economist at the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB).



BEYOND PLEDGES: INCLUSIVE PARTNERSHIPS TO MOVE TOWARDS CLIMATE RESILIENCE

Published in May 2022 in the World Economic Forum as part of the Davos meetings.



4 WAYS STAKEHOLDER CAPITALISM CAN CREATE A MORE RESILIENT POST-COVID MENA REGION

Published in June 2020 in the World Economic Forum.



INCLUSIVE MULTILATERALISM IN ACTION

Published in December 2021 in The Banker.

SIX WAYS TO CUT THROUGH THE MIDDLE EAST'S GEOPOLITICAL FOG

Published in January 2020 in the World Economic Forum.

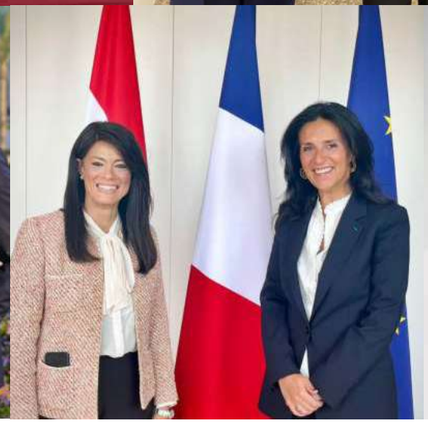

MEETINGS
BANK GROUP
NWFE


AIIB
IFAD
FAO
USAID










NEW GLOBAL
FINANCING PACT
Paris • 22 - 23 June 2023












ECONOM
FORUM


















United Nations
Development Programme





Introduction

NAVIGATING GLOBAL UNCERTAINTY

From Vision to Action



PARTNERSHIPS FOR PROGRESS

In an ever-evolving world, characterized by global challenges and unpredictable uncertainties, the Ministry of International Cooperation is committed to working towards sustainable development and progress, in line with both the global goals and national objectives.

The 2023 Annual Report provides a narrative of the Ministry of International Cooperation's work throughout the year, showcasing dedication to driving change through collaboration and cooperation.

From forging inclusive international partnerships to shaping global agendas, the Ministry has positioned itself as a key player in driving the global sustainability agenda, focused on building bridges, unlocking untapped potential, and nurturing the future.

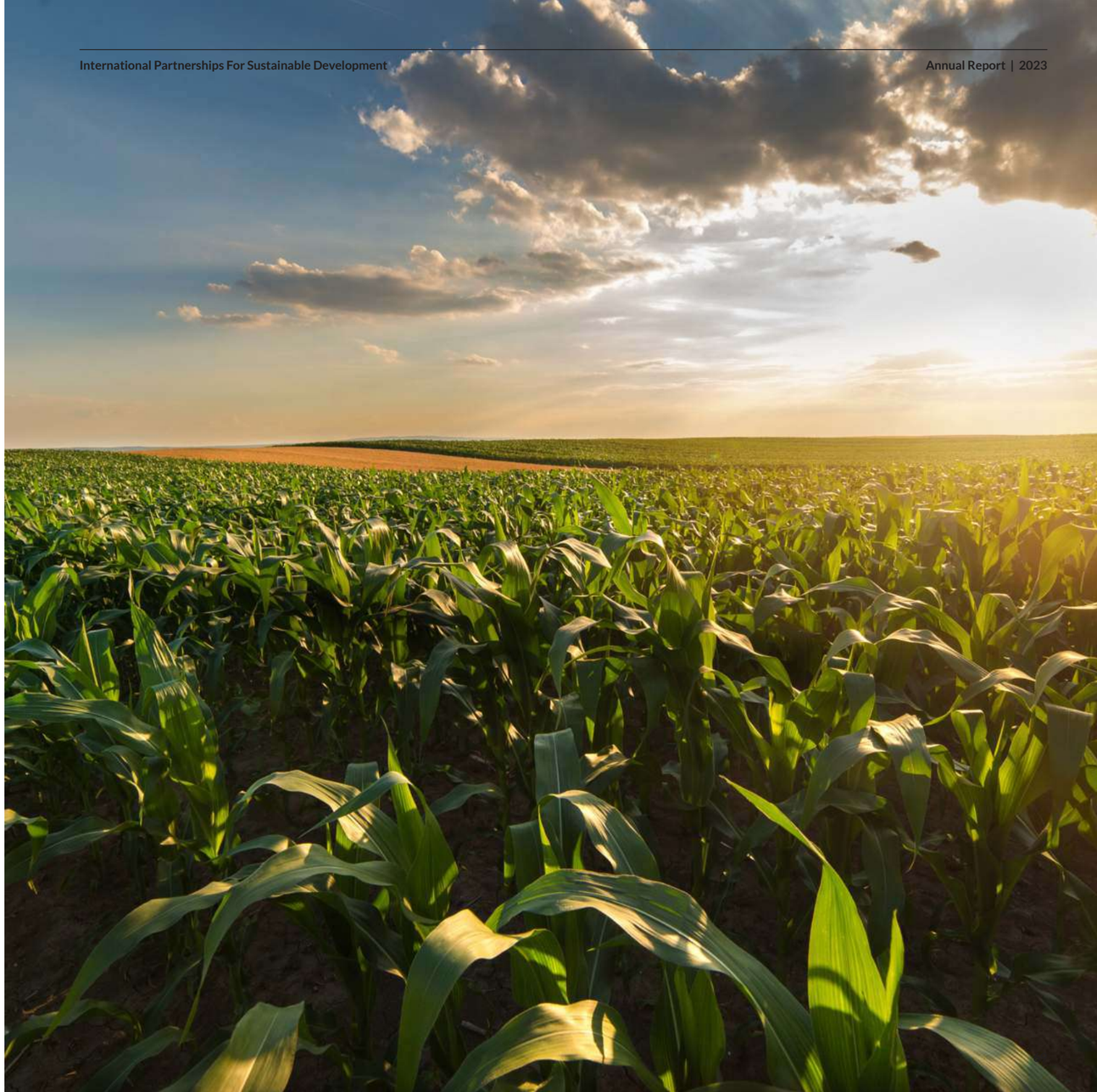
This report illuminates the urgency of collective action and highlights the imperativeness of pioneering innovative approaches to surmount the pressing challenges of poverty, inequality, and climate change; a key subject matter in many of the global high-level events this year.

The Ministry's work is centered around further advancing and forging transformative partnerships with many development partners including: the World Bank Group, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), the USAID, the European Investment Bank (EIB), the African Development Bank (AfDB) and many others that will be detailed within the report, as well as enhancing bilateral cooperation with France, the European Union, the United Kingdom, Canada, Germany, Norway, the Netherlands, China, Japan and Austria, among many other countries. The report also takes a special focus on cooperation with Africa and Asia, emphasizing the importance of knowledge exchange and south-south cooperation.

Journeying from COP 27 to COP 28, the 2023 Annual Report highlights the tapestry of progress, potential, and infinite possibilities, delving into the intricate preparations and far-sighted initiatives leading up to the climate conference in Dubai, including the New Global Financing Pact, which sets the stage for the world to forge ahead towards a greener, more sustainable future.

The year has shown a profound importance of empowering the youth, fueling creativity and innovation, while also illuminating the path towards gender inclusion and diversity.

It has been a year of impactful engagement, with increasing public-private partnerships, harnessing the power of international cooperation to address the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in line with national agenda, despite on-going challenges with COVID-19 repercussions, the war in Europe and food and energy crises.





A NARRATIVE OF RESILIENCE: TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE TRANSFORMATION

Today, and on a global level, there is an urgent need to embark on a transformative journey towards sustainable development and progress.

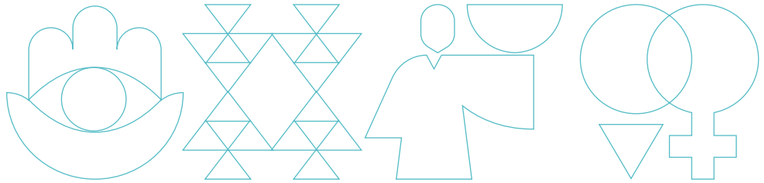
Within the 2023 Annual Report, the work highlights the drive towards change through collaboration and cooperation. By fostering international partnerships, the Ministry has positioned itself at the forefront of building sustainable solutions through public-private partnerships, empowering micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), collaborating with relevant stakeholders and ensuring alignment with Egypt's Vision 2030 and national strategies.

A key stellar example from the year is Egypt's country platform for the Nexus of Water, Food and Energy (NWFE نُوَفِّي) Program, aiming to accelerate the national climate agenda and providing opportunities for mobilizing climate finance and private investments to support the country's green transition reflecting the interlinkages and complementarity between climate action and development efforts. More of this will be explained within the coming chapters, as well as the launch of the Sharm El-Sheikh Guidebook for Just Financing.

Overall, Egypt has played a prominent role on the international stage, particularly in global efforts for sustainable development.

In line with this, the Ministry of International Cooperation's mandate clearly defines the importance of sustainable, inclusive development, innovative financing, efficient and effective monitoring of development projects, and continuous cooperation with development partners and all stakeholders.

- Developing and strengthening the economic cooperation between the Arab Republic of Egypt and other countries, as well as international and regional organizations.
- Proposing the criteria for obtaining external financing, both funds and grants.
- Following up and monitoring ministries and national agencies that benefit from foreign financing within the framework of the general economic policy of the country to ensure the achievement of economic development goals.
- Managing Egypt's economic relations with international organizations of economic cooperation, international financial institutions and specialized agencies of the UN.



THE PRINCIPLES OF ECONOMIC DIPLOMACY

Hosting Multi-stakeholder platforms for streamlining projects with relevant stakeholders.

ODA-SDG mapping to ensure transparency and identify funding gaps.

Global Partnerships Narrative to document success stories, creating clear and transparent communication between all stakeholders.

This is in accordance with Egypt's Vision for 2030, which is a long-term strategic plan to achieve the principles and goals of sustainable development, in line with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Egypt Government Action Plan (2023- 2027).

The Ministry is working through the Principles of Economic Diplomacy to enhance effective development cooperation efforts to implement the National Development Agenda 2030 and the SDGs, and to ensure that the principles of transparency and accountability are established in international partnerships in a way that supports the effectiveness of development cooperation, explaining that through multi-stakeholder platforms we have succeeded in ensuring national priorities in all development cooperation projects.

The Principles of Economic Diplomacy: organizing Multi-Stakeholder Platforms, mapping Official Development Assistance (ODA) to SDGs and pushing forward the Global Partnerships' Narrative that puts People at the Core, Projects in Action and Purpose as the Driver, is shaped by the "Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation" (GPEDC), established in 2011, as a direct result of the Busan Partnership agreement, with the aim of advancing the effectiveness of development efforts by all actors, focused on close cooperation and effective governance.

THE GPEDC INCLUDES:

1. **Country Ownership** to ensure the alignment and complementarity of development partners with national objectives.

2. **A Focus on Results** through monitoring and evaluation systems for achieving measurable results.

3. **Inclusive Partnerships** to utilize the engagement of civil society and the private sector in development activities through ODA projects.

4. **Transparency & Mutual Accountability** so that development cooperation information is a shared responsibility by all stakeholders.

This platform has become the primary multi-stakeholder vehicle for generating and sharing knowledge on effective development cooperation, to "maximize the effectiveness of all forms of cooperation for development for the shared benefits of people, planet, prosperity and peace"; all while taking into role different stakeholders: government, development partners, private sector and civil society; with technical support to the GPEDC provided by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP).

This especially comes within the framework of the role played by the Ministry of International Cooperation, to develop and strengthen economic cooperation relations between the Arab Republic of Egypt and international and regional countries and organizations, follow up on development partners, as well as follow up on foreign grant beneficiaries in use, and manage economic relations in the Arab Republic of Egypt with organizations, economic cooperation entities and institutions, international financial institutions and UN specialized agencies, with the aim of enhancing the effectiveness of development cooperation and supporting the National Development Vision 2030.

IN 2023, THE MINISTRY OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION SECURED:

$8.8 BILLION IN DEVELOPMENT FINANCE FOR PUBLIC SECTORS & THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

TOTAL ODA DIRECTED TO FINANCE PUBLIC SECTOR DEVELOPMENT THROUGH MULTILATERAL & BILATERAL DEVELOPMENT IN 2023

SECTOR	AMOUNT (US MILLION $)	DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS	SDGS
Agriculture, Supply & Irrigation	2298	Canada, USA, Spain, EU, ADFD, ITFC	
Transport	1738	EIB,AIIB , Japan, Korea, EBRD , AFDB, Spain	
Gender & Social Protection	578	WB, EU	
Budget Support	458	Japan,AFDB	
Energy, Renewable Energy & Petroleum	458	ITFC	
Environment, Local Development	166	EIB, USA, WB, IDB	
Housing & Utilities	140	Switzerland, USA, AFDB	
Governance	55	USA, EU	
Education	54	USA, Switzerland	
Health	15	USA, China	
Trade & Industry	9	EU	
TOTAL	$ 5.9 BILLION		

TOTAL ODA DIRECTED TO FINANCE THE PRIVATE SECTOR THROUGH MULTILATERAL & BILATERAL DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS IN 2023

DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS	AMOUNT (US MILLION $)
International Finance Cooperation	758
European Investment Bank	733
Japan Bank for International Cooperation	521
European Bank for Reconstruction and Development	396
Netherlands	115
MIGA & EBRD	100
Abu Dhabi Exports Office	100
Japan International Cooperation Agency	88
Afreximbank	44
Islamic Corporation for the Development of the Private Sector	30
Saudi Fund for Development	15
KFW	7
French Development Agency	5
Switzerland	3
TOTAL	$ 2.9 BILLION





The Way Forward

Today, the global conversations have been loud and clear, revolving around climate action, clean energy, food security and economic resilience.

And this requires establishing international partnerships to accelerate the pace of development, which has been setback due to the aforementioned global challenges.

Advancing the climate agenda hinges on not only inclusive dialogue and partnerships, but also on the delivery of tangible results on the ground.

This means enhancing equitable access to climate finance and paving a green pathway that promotes carbon-neutral investments, green jobs, and reduced pollution to achieve sustainable development. In turn, this further emphasizes a need for international cooperation more than ever, putting climate action and development as a priority on a national level to be reflected on a global scale.

Commitments to Climate Action

This year, on June 26, Egypt updated its NDCs and finalized a debt swap to support the transmission grids. Moreover, renewable energy investments with a capacity of 3,700 megawatts have already been signed with the private sector. Within the NDC report, Egypt committed to reducing its greenhouse gas emissions by 25-30% below 2005 levels by 2030, to increasing the share of renewable energy in its electricity mix to 42% by 2030, to improving energy efficiency by 30% by 2030, and to taking adaptation measures to address the impacts of climate change, such as increasing water storage capacity and improving early warning systems.

Calling for international support to help achieve its NDCs goals, the renewable energy target will be achieved through a mix of solar, wind, and hydropower, the energy efficiency target will be achieved through a variety of measures, such as improving insulation in buildings and using more efficient appliances, and the adaptation measures will focus on sectors that are most vulnerable to climate change, such as agriculture, water resources, and coastal areas.

During COP27, Egypt, the USA and Germany agreed on a political declaration whereby Egypt accelerates its green transition by reaching 42% renewable energy in the energy mix by 2030 instead of 2035. And as President of COP27, the Government of Egypt set a practical example for moving from pledges to implementation by “operationally” identifying investable projects to fulfill the national climate & development agenda, through the NWFE نُوَفِّي program, which will support the commitment to the updated NDCs.

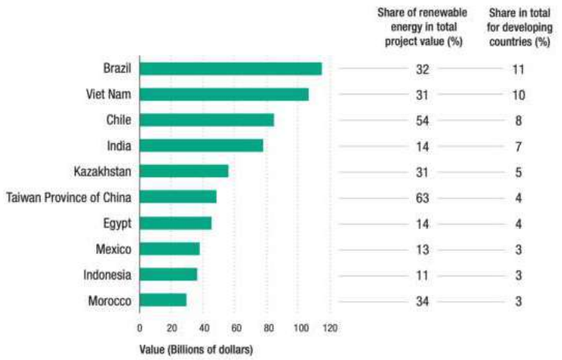


Egypt: In Global Numbers

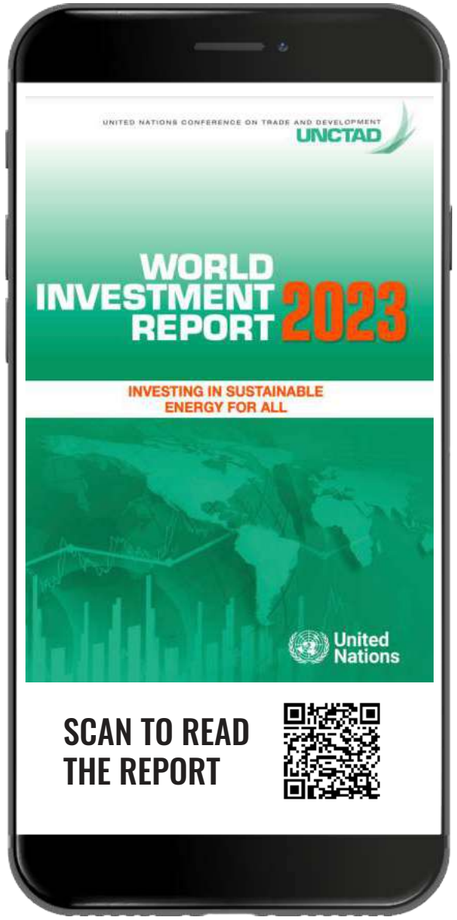
According to the World Investment Report 2023 by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), there are several positive indicators for Egypt. This includes: an increase in Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) flows in Egypt to $11.4 billion in 2022, compared to $5.12 billion in 2021; and Egypt came in first place in terms of inflows in North Africa and second place in Africa after South Africa, where foreign direct investment inflows into countries amounted to about $ 49 billion.

The report also highlights the Sharm El-Sheikh Guidebook for Just Financing, which was issued by the Egyptian government on the Finance Day of COP27, referring to it as one of the most prominent documents published last year for investment policy guidance.

Moreover, the report notes that Egypt is one of the top 10 developing economies in international investment in renewable energy from 2015 to 2022. It also mentions the country's efforts in introducing measures to report on sustainable development, and spotlights two mega projects: the Suez Canal Economic Zone Green Hydrogen Plant and the 400 MW Egypt Solar Powered Desalination Plant.



Source: UNCTAD, based on information from The Financial Times, fDi Markets (www.fdimarkets.com), and Refinitiv SA.
Note: Includes international project finance and greenfield investment values.





Egypt: In the SDGs

According to the World Economic Forum, in 1987, the modern definition of sustainable development emerged from the Brundtland Report "Our Common Future," at the World Commission on Environment and Development: "Development that meets the needs of the present generations without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."

The Atlas of the Sustainable Development Goals 2023 bwy the World Bank Group reports that Egypt has made progress on a number of SDGs, including reducing poverty, improving access to education, and increasing access to clean water and sanitation, however there are still ongoing challenges in accelerating progress towards the SDGs.

For example in SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being, Egypt had a 51% COVID-19 vaccinate rate, in SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy, 100% of Egypt's population had access to electricity, with SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth, there was a 3.6% increase in GDP growth in 2020, with SDG 17: Partnership for the Goals amounts to $26 billion in development assistance as a catalyst for progress.

As per the Sustainable Development Report 2023, Egypt ranks 81/166 in the SDG Index Rate, compared to the 87/ 163 last year. This includes SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation, SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production positioned as on track to achievement, with improvements in SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being, SDG 5: Gender Equality, SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy, SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth, SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities, and SDG 13: Climate Action.

SECTION 1



United for Impact:

CREATING CHANGE THROUGH INT'L COOPERATION

INTRODUCTION

The Power of Partnerships

Throughout the year, the power of partnerships emerged as a central theme in the Ministry of International Cooperatione's endeavors.

From bilateral engagements to high-level international events, the Ministry embraced collaboration as a catalyst for driving change, recognizing the fundamental importance of international cooperation in today's interconnected world. The coming chapters showcase the tangible impact of the country's strategies and bilateral cooperation, highlighting successful initiatives that have paved the way for transformation.

Fulfilling the national agenda and national goals contributes to the overall global goals. Today, we are more coupled than ever before, whether it's through markets, food supplies or the implications of pandemics. For over 3 years now, multilateralism has been put to the test with successive global challenges.

However, we have also seen how important international cooperation is in scaling up action, driving measurable change and fostering resilience.

The World Economic Forum (WEF) says that International cooperation is essential for sustainable development. No country can achieve the SDGs on its own. Hence, we need to work together to share knowledge, resources, and best practices. We need to build stronger partnerships between governments, businesses, and civil society.



"What we need is hyper-collaboration with all stakeholders to define adaptability and enhance resilience in the face of shocks that are in many instances impossible to predict, be it pandemics, wars and climate repercussions. And hence, we need international cooperation and stakeholder engagement to meet our common challenges."
H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat.

ONLY BY WORKING TOGETHER CAN WE CREATE A MORE SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR ALL.



In 2023, we focused on enhancing and launching new strategic partnership frameworks, in line with Egypt's 2030 Vision, guided by country ownership and country-led initiatives.

Among our work this year, we launched the new 2023 - 2027 Egypt - United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) after visiting a series of governorates and projects done within the previous 2018 - 2022 United Nations Partnership Development Framework (UNPDF). Each project and location explored provided a comprehensive understanding of the positive changes that have been realized and emphasized collaboration on a larger scale.

As the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is a global agreement that requires the participation of all countries, we need to collaboratively work together to address the interconnected challenges of poverty, inequality, climate change, and environmental degradation; building a just and equitable world for all.

Referencing the report's title "International Partnerships for Sustainable Development", to be able to go from pledges to implementation,, public-private partnerships to accelerate progress towards development are key; as well as incorporating youth, NGOs, and philanthropic organizations, alongside international financial institutions and multilateral development banks in the design and architecture of on-ground implementation.

This year, we also launched the Egypt - World Bank Group (WBG) Country Partnership Framework (CPF) 2023-2027. This represents a significant milestone in advancing shared prosperity, as the CPF sets out a strategic framework for cooperation between the two sides over the next five years.;identifying five priority areas for cooperation; economic transformation, human capital development, climate change adaptation and mitigation, governance and public sector reform, and regional cooperation.

As Egypt's Governor at the World Bank, the Ministry's presence in the World Bank and International Monetary Fund's (IMF) Spring and Annual Meetings also highlightedEgypt's engagement and participation with the international community to promote the country's development priorities, including highlighting the NWFE Program, work with the private sector, and more.

Egypt has also fostered strong partnerships with various international organizations and bilateral partners, enabling collaborative efforts in achieving its development goals.



Cooperation with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) has been instrumental in promoting sustainable economic growth. Through joint initiatives, Egypt and the EBRD have supported infrastructure development, private sector engagement, and renewable energy projects, contributing to job creation and enhancing the country's economic resilience.

In recent years, the European Investment Bank (EIB) has stepped up its cooperation with Egypt, supporting a number of projects, including the development of the Suez Canal Economic Zone, the expansion of the metro system in Cairo, and the construction of renewable energy projects.

Egypt's cooperation with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) has played a pivotal role in promoting inclusive development and addressing key challenges. With a focus on sectors such as health, education, agriculture, and governance, USAID has provided significant support to Egypt's socioeconomic development, including capacity building, technical assistance, and financial aid. This partnership has facilitated the implementation of impactful programs and projects that benefit Egyptian communities and contribute to their well-being.

Furthermore, Egypt's cooperation with the Agence Française de Développement (AfD) has bolstered sustainable development initiatives in the country. This partnership has focused on various sectors, including renewable energy, water and sanitation, urban development, and entrepreneurship. The AfD's support has contributed to the implementation of key projects, such as the development of sustainable cities and the expansion of clean energy infrastructure, furthering Egypt's transition to a greener and more inclusive economy.

Moreover, the European Union (EU) has been a vital partner in Egypt's development journey, providing substantial support across a wide range of sectors. Collaboration with the EU has focused on areas such as economic development, trade, governance, human rights, and social inclusion. Through financial assistance and technical expertise, the EU has helped enhance Egypt's institutional capacity, promote good governance practices, and support social and economic reforms, positively impacting the lives of millions of Egyptians.

In addition to partnerships with international organizations, Egypt has engaged in bilateral cooperation with several countries, including Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, and Austria. These collaborations have spanned various sectors, including agriculture, education, health, and infrastructure development; facilitating knowledge exchange, technical assistance, and financial support, empowering Egypt to address critical challenges and implement sustainable development projects.

In 2023, Egypt entered into several agreements with key Asian countries, including China, South Korea, and Japan, with the objective of stimulating trade, investment, and cooperation in vital sectors like infrastructure development, agriculture, and tourism. The burgeoning partnership with Asia presents a remarkable opportunity for Egypt to diversify its economy and attract fresh investment. Asia, known for its economic prowess, offers a significant market for Egypt to tap into; seen as a means for the country to bolster its regional standing, recognizing Asia's prominent role in the Middle East.

Egypt also hosted the African Development Bank (AfDB) annual meetings in Sharm El-Sheikh, providing an opportunity for the country to showcase its commitment to Africa and to promote South-South cooperation.

As part of our mandate, Egypt's Joint Higher Committees (JHCs) were a mechanism for high-level dialogue and cooperation between Egypt and other countries. In 2023, Egypt held JHCs with a number of countries, including Hungary, Iraq and Uzbekistan, among others, providing an opportunity for the countries to discuss a wide range of issues, including trade, investment, energy, electricity, food security, and cultural cooperation.

In this section of the report, we include all the country strategies and bilateral cooperation and main high-level events, referencing the importance of international cooperation today. The work detailed is in line with the Principles of Economic Diplomacy, shaped by the "Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation" (GPEDC).

The Ministry of International Cooperation is focused on exemplifying the importance of collaboration in driving change.

The 2023 report details the core pillars of cooperation, the impact created through partnerships across Egypt and the year, and the Ministry's engagement with regional and international partners; setting the tone for the subsequent years of partnerships, initiatives, and regional cooperation that have shaped the work.

Chapter 1

LEAVING NO ONE BEHIND: COOPERATION WITH THE UNITED NATIONS



PEOPLE, PLANET, PROSPERITY, WOMEN & GOVERNANCE

The Defining Pillars of Building a Sustainable, Inclusive Future in Egypt

Egypt and the United Nations (UN) have a longstanding and close relationship that dates back to the founding of the UN in 1945.

Egypt was one of the original 51 member states of the UN and has played a leading role in the organization ever since.

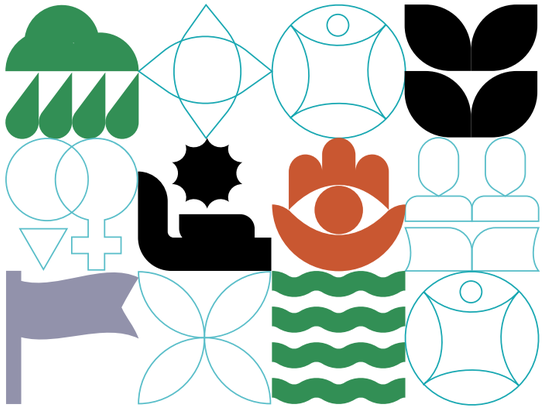
Egypt has also been a strong supporter of the UN's development goals. In 2016, Egypt launched its Vision 2030, which sets the country's long-term development goals in alignment with the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and Egypt is committed to working with the UN to achieve these goals.

The relationship between Egypt and the UN is based on mutual respect and cooperation. The two organizations have worked together on a wide range of issues, including development, peace and security, human rights, and humanitarian assistance, helping improve the lives of millions.

Following the success of the prior United Nations Partnership Development Framework (UNPDF) 2018-2022, on May 9th, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat and Elena Panova, the United Nations Resident Coordinator in Egypt, signed the Egypt - UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) for the period of 2023-2027. The signing ceremony was attended by numerous dignitaries, including H.E. Dr. Mostafa Madbouly, the Prime Minister of Egypt, various ministers, representatives from international financing institutions, the private sector, civil society, the House of Representatives and the Senate, as well as other relevant entities.

The UNSDCF was done in cooperation with the Food and Agriculture Organization, International Civil Aviation Organization, International Fund for Agricultural Development, International Labour Organization, International Organization for Migration, International Telecommunication Union, Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction Regional Office for Arab States, United Nations Environment Programme, United Nations Human Rights, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, United Nations Women, United Nations Habitat, United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Industrial Development Organization, United Nations Population Fund, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, United Nations Volunteers Programme, and World Food Programme.

The Minister especially thanked their excellencies Dr. Hala H. Elsaid, Minister of Planning and Economic Development, Dr. Nivine El-Kabbag, Minister of Social Solidarity, Dr. Yasmine Fouad, Minister of Environment, and Dr. Maya Morsi, President of the National Council for Women, for their efforts during their presidency of the working groups in the past five years, as well as the members of those groups for their efforts, guidance and support for the technical groups on the ground in implementation of joint action partnership with specialized UN agencies and business partners from the relevant ministries and national authorities.





"Egypt has made great progress over the past years, through the participation of its development partners in addressing many development challenges at the country level. The support of the United Nations, as the most diverse development partner, has come to the forefront of development partners with multiple experiences in various sectors." ***H.E. Dr. Mostafa Madbouly, Prime Minister of Egypt.***



"The new generation of cooperation frameworks provides a transformative pathway for achieving the SDGs in Egypt, providing greater resilience to socioeconomic shocks and integrated policy advice. In response to national priorities, I commend the government and specifically the Minister for International Corporation, Your Excellency Dr. Rania Almachet, for leading an inclusive and robust process in developing this corporation framework." ***Amina J. Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations.***



"What we are witnessing today is not isolated from reality and its challenges, and we have all seen documentation of realistic models through on-ground projects and programs that are being implemented and supported by all relevant parties. In implementation of the national plans entrusted to it, we're keen to enhance opportunities to benefit from international partnerships on a general level, and from the strategic partnership between Egypt and the United Nations in particular." ***H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat.***



"The UN in Egypt signed the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework for the next five years with the Government of Egypt. This is the main strategic instrument to guide UN support to deliver the SDGs in Egypt. The Cooperation Framework is anchored in national development priorities and Egypt's Vision 2030. Now is the time for action to fulfill the promise of the SDGs to leave no one behind. The UN will forge partnerships and mobilize the full range of its assets from analysis, to policy advice, to direct assistance to those in need." ***Elena Panova, the UN Resident Coordinator in Egypt.***



The UNSDCF serves as a vital tool for planning and implementing collaborative programs between the Arab Republic of Egypt and the United Nations system within Egypt.

Its timeframe aligns with Egypt's Vision 2030, national sectoral strategies, the cooperation framework for sustainable development strategy in Egypt, and the priorities outlined in major policies, initiatives, and international human rights covenants.

The development of this framework involved close coordination with the Egyptian government, specifically the Ministry of International Cooperation, and was executed through an inclusive and participatory process engaging various stakeholders and the United Nations, co-led by H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat and Elena Panova. Over the span of nearly two years, more than 40 national partners from ministries, specialized bodies, and concerned entities actively participated in 5 working and technical groups, alongside 28 international partners representing UN agencies and programs, private sector entities, multilateral and bilateral development partners, civil society organizations, trade unions, academic institutions, and the private sector.

The preparation phase commenced in May 2021 and spanned two years, during which multiple discussion sessions, workshops, and high-level ministerial meetings were conducted. These sessions aimed to present the outcomes of joint analyses, monitor sectoral priorities, incorporate feedback from relevant partner authorities, and thoroughly review the framework until a final version was achieved, accurately reflecting the desired goals and national priorities.













This 2023 - 2027 Egypt - UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF):

1. Acts as the legal umbrella and the cornerstone for development cooperation between the United Nations and Egypt.
2. Is a tool for formulating the development activities of the United Nations and the country programs of the specialized UN agencies.
3. Regulates development cooperation between the UN and Egypt for the next 5 years.
4. Supports countries in addressing the challenges and national development priorities to achieve the SDGs.
5. Fulfills the promise of the UN to leave no one behind.

By 2027, it is expected to achieve the national development goals compatible with the sustainable development goals through four strategic priorities.

1 STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1

Quality services for all, social cohesion and enhanced youth and child-focused human capital.

2 STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2

Inclusive competition, diversified, environmentally sustainable and knowledge economy.

3 STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3

Sustainable natural resource management for food security and climate resilience.

4 STRATEGIC PRIORITY 4

Transparency, good governance and rule of law.

By utilizing the ability of the UN system to bring together various relevant parties and provide advice in drawing up development policy programmes, promoting international best practices and advocating leaving no one behind, the government and the UN are set to work to address the main challenges and risks of acceleration the pace of achieving the goals of sustainable development.

Leveraging its principal roles as convenor of diverse stakeholders, advisor on development policy programming, promoter of international best practices, and advocate for the overarching UN principle of leaving no one behind, the UN System will work with the Government of Egypt to address the major challenges and risks, and to accelerate the achievement of the SDGs.

TOWARDS IMPACT

The cooperation framework will have five results by 2027 that contribute to achieving strategic priorities, as follows:

People
Strengthened human capital through equal access to quality services, social protection and social justice ensured for all people.

FOCUS AREA: Social protection, universal health coverage and access to basic services of high quality, inclusive education, sustainable food and nutrition services and decent assistance for migrants, refugees and asylum seekers.

Prosperity
Enhanced people-centered inclusive and environmentally sustainable economic development driven by productivity growth, industrialization, decent jobs, digitalization and integration of the informal economy.

FOCUS AREA: Development of micro, small and medium enterprises and entrepreneurship, improving employment opportunities including decent jobs, integration of corporate groups and MSMEs into regional and global value chains, innovation, R&D and digitization and improving the business environment and ecosystem.

Planet
Enhanced climate resilience and efficiency of natural resource management for all people in a sustainable environment.

FOCUS AREA: Managing renewable natural resources and the agricultural system, transition to a green circular economy and green jobs, early warning, preparedness and adaptation to climate change, land-use planning, infrastructure, utilities and spatial development.

Governance
Improved, safe and equal access to information, protection, justice & a peaceful & inclusive society through transparent, accountable, participatory, effective and efficient governance based on the rule of law and international norms and standards.

FOCUS AREA: International peace and cooperation, transparency, responsibility, data protection and anti-corruption measures, public participation and efficiency of public administration, equal access to justice, effective judicial services and protection, strengthening institutions, monitoring and evaluating systems and statistical capacities.

Women
Women and girls realize their rights in the social health and livelihood spheres, as laid out in the Egyptian Constitution, and their leadership and empowerment are guaranteed in a society free of all forms of discrimination and violence against women and girls.

FOCUS AREA: Women's access to decent jobs, economic opportunities and resources, reducing the risks of violence against women and girls, including harmful practices, enhancing capabilities and achieving equal access for adolescent girls to services and opportunities of high quality, women's civic participation as well as leadership, and decision-making and participation in public life.

These Focus Areas are in Line with the 4 Strategic Prioties:

- Quality services for all, social cohesion and enhanced youth and child-focused human capital.
- Inclusive competition, diversified, environmentally sustainable and knowledge economy.
- Sustainable natural resource management for food security and climate resilience.
- Transparency, good governance and rule of law.

With Strategic Enablers:

- Digitalization & Technology
- SDGs Financing
- Data
- Integrated Solutions
- Innovation & Strategic Foresight

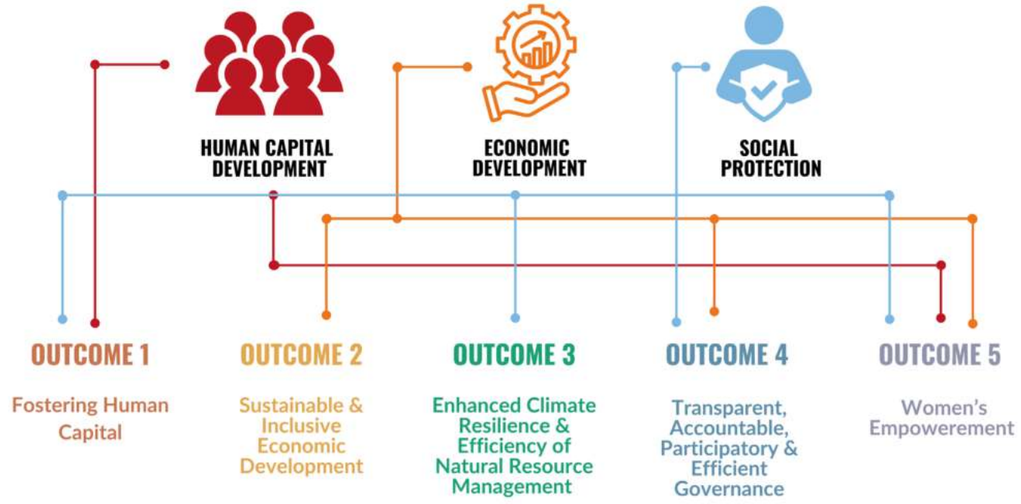


IN LINE WITH EGYPT VISION 2030: A NATIONAL AGENDA FOR DEVELOPMENT

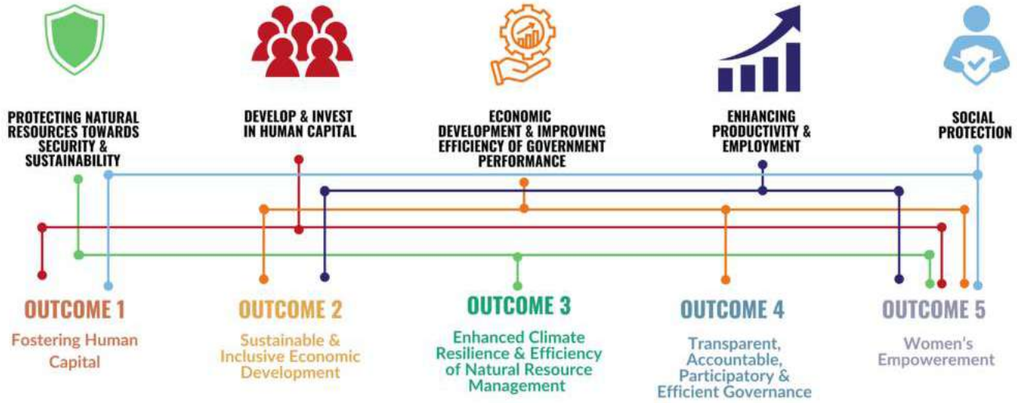
In line with the directions on updated Egypt's Vision 2030, and the directives of the government's work program, there are many pioneering multi-sectoral initiatives in the Government of Egypt, which are already ongoing and will play a major role in accelerating the pace of achieving the SDGs in view of the size and scope of their applications. It is expected that the country's pioneering initiative "Haya Karima", which addresses about 5,000 villages representing about 50% of the population, will lead to significant progress towards achieving a wide range of SDGs in these villages, by addressing some key areas of inequality between urban and rural areas.

The new framework is consistent with the goals of many national initiatives such as the National Human Rights Strategy, the National Strategy for Sustainable Energy 2035, and the National Climate Change Strategy 2050, in addition to its consistency with the presidential initiative Haya Karima, where there are nearly 400 projects by UN agencies supporting 1.4 million Egyptian citizens.

HAYAH KARIMA: A DECENT LIFE PRESIDENTIAL INITIATIVE



THE GOVERNMENT OF EGYPT'S ACTION PLAN







What is the UNSDCF 2023-2027?

The United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) is a five-year agreement between the Government of Egypt and the United Nations Development System (UNDS). It was launched in May 2023 and aims to support Egypt's Vision 2030, which sets out the country's long-term development goals.

The five priorities of the government's action program 2023-2027 are consistent with the Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework, aiming to improve the standard of living of Egyptian citizens by enhancing infrastructure, productivity and employment, achieving economic development and raising the efficiency of government performance, developing and investing in human capital, and protecting natural resources for security and sustainability.

The UNSDCF is based on the following key priorities:

Economic Transformation: The UNSDCF will support Egypt's economic transformation through reforms that promote inclusive growth, job creation, and sustainable development.

- Supporting the development of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)
- Investing in education and skills development
- Promoting renewable energy and energy efficiency

Human Capital Development: The UNSDCF will improve the quality of education and healthcare in Egypt, and promote gender equality.

- Expanding access to quality education
- Improving the quality of healthcare
- Promoting gender equality in education and employment

Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation: The UNSDCF will help Egypt adapt to the impacts of climate change and to reduce its emissions.

- Developing climate-resilient infrastructure
- Promoting sustainable agriculture
- Reducing greenhouse gas emissions

Governance and Public Sector Reform: The UNSDCF will support Egypt's efforts to improve governance and public sector efficiency.

- Strengthening the rule of law
- Improving transparency and accountability
- Modernizing the public sector

The UNSDCF will be implemented through a series of projects and programs, which will be developed in consultation with the Government of Egypt and the UNDS. The projects and programs will be implemented by the UNDS agencies and by Egyptian government agencies.

The UNSDCF is a significant step forward in the cooperation between Egypt and the United Nations. The framework will help Egypt to achieve its Vision 2030 and to build a more prosperous and sustainable future for its people.

The preparation of the UNSDCF 2023 - 2027 included the participation of about 28 UN agencies and programmes, more than 30 national entities, and about 125 representatives of development partners, the private sector, civil society, academia, think tanks and research, to discuss priorities and strategies, and take into account the comments of relevant entities, to develop an integrated strategic framework that meets national priorities, supports the efforts of the development sector and enhances the achievement of sustainable development.

The participatory approach promotes more sustainable results at the local level and increased participation that leads to more resilient communities and local actors.

The UNSDCF is a comprehensive and ambitious framework that has the potential to make a significant contribution to Egypt's development, based on the principles of country ownership, results-based management, and transparency and accountability.

Aligned with Egypt's Vision 2030, which sets out the country's long-term development goals, the framework is a sign of the commitment of both sides to working together to build a better future for the country.

CREATING IMPACT THROUGH COOPERATION:

ACROSS EGYPT

In the lead-up to the launch of the new UNSDCF 2023-2027, teams from the Ministry of International Cooperation and the UN country office in Egypt, headed by H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al Mashat and UN Resident Coordinator Elena Panova, organized a week-long series of field visits to highlight the diverse development projects and programs implemented through the United Nations Partnership Development Framework (UNPDF) 2018-2022.

The Egypt-UNWeek events took place in different governorates across Egypt and showcased the work of the UN agencies and their partners in areas such as education, health, economic development, and social protection, providing an opportunity for the public to learn more about the UN's work in Egypt, raise awareness, show the acceleration of the SDGs and to share feedback on the new UNSDCF.

The projects we visited follow stories that fall within the 4 pillars of People, Planet, Prosperity and Women. These are the 4 defining pillars of building a sustainable, inclusive future in Egypt…They were also the basis of our cooperation framework with the UN from 2018 to 2022.

Telling heartwarming stories from farmers, women entrepreneurs and school children, scan the QR code on the right to watch a documentary that wraps up our visit to several joint development projects in Minya, Alexandria, Aswan and Damietta, showing the power of collaboration.

Through the visits to 4 governorates, in line with the Government of Egypt's agenda, the Ministry of International Cooperation is putting People at the Core & Projects in Action & Purpose as the Driver, by showing several points:

In the next few pages, we can only try to recreate the special moments of the field visits on paper.



SCAN TO WATCH WRAP-UP

Development is about people. It has always been about improving livelihoods and better opportunities.

Development is about establishing impactful development projects on-ground for positive change.

Development is about ensuring purpose through international partnerships, mapping the work to the SDGs.

#EGYPTUNWEEK

MINYA

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE AND LIVELIHOODS



The first visit within Egypt - UN Week was to the Minya Governorate, where we visited the Sustainable Agriculture Investments and Livelihoods Programme (SAIL) project in Aljehad Village, and we met with the beneficiaries of the "Parenting Programme in Haya Karima Villages and the "Women Economic Empowerment for Inclusive and Sustainable Growth" programme.



"Minya is our first stop in the Egypt UN Week, that we are jointly organizing with the Ministry of International Cooperation ahead of launching our new Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2023-2027. It is designed to reflect upon our joint programmes with the Government and development stakeholders that addresses sustainable solutions to major development challenges - ranging from poverty and gender inequality to climate change…The UN in Egypt programmes in Minya prioritizes the empowerment of vulnerable groups leaving no one behind – including children, women, farmers, youth, and others." UN Resident Coordinator Elena Panova.



The project includes the availability of 172 livestock development projects, supporting 3,440 beneficiaries, including 2,400 men and 1,040 women, to adopt smart agricultural practices and technologies that take into account climate action and enhance the management of natural resources.

Addressing SDG 1: No Poverty, SDG 2: Zero Hunger, SDG 5: Gender Equality and SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth, supporting over 40,000 households and 280,000 people, the SAIL programme has several components: **Community and Livelihood Development, Agriculture Development and Diversification and, Rural Financial Services.**

"We are proud of our fruitful cooperation with the Government of Egypt and the Sustainable Agricultural Investments Program team, which continues to have a strong impact on increasing the incomes of farmers and smallholders, building their employability and improving agricultural production." Mohamed Abdel Kader, IFAD Representative.

The very first stop in Minya was in Aljehad Village for the Sustainable Agricultural Investments and Livelihoods (SAIL) program, supported by the International Fund for Agricultural Cooperation (IFAD), in the light of the strategic partnership between the two sides, with the participation of Mohamed Ibrahim Abid, Deputy Governor of Minya Governorate, and a working team of representatives of the IFAD, and the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

The SAIL program focuses on supporting the livelihoods of 40,000 families by implementing livestock farming projects. The goal is to improve living standards, enhance agricultural production, and increase women's participation in these initiatives.

This project supports the Planet, Prosperity and Women Pillars of the 2018 - 2022 UNPDF.

During the visit, Al-Mashat engaged with field officials, learning about the field schools and the development of agricultural investment projects. H.E. emphasized the importance of supporting small agricultural holders to enhance food security and prioritize the country's development goals. The collaboration between the UN and the Government of Egypt aims to address community needs, empower farmers and youth, and bridge gender gaps.

A significant milestone achieved through the SAIL program is the implementation of 176 field schools, which expand agricultural extension services and promote participatory learning for small-scale farmers. The FAO played a crucial role in enhancing crop and livestock productivity through innovative agricultural practices and technologies.

Moreover, the project encompasses training programs to raise awareness among 240 relevant stakeholders on the needs of smallholder farmers. In collaboration with FAO, 66 farmer field schools have been established, enabling 125 beneficiaries to effectively promote Climate-Smart Agricultural techniques and Natural Resource Management.





"The SAIL programme contributes to empowering farmers, and smallholders, enhancing their income, increasing profitability, and diversifying their livelihoods, which contributes to achieving the Egyptian government's sustainable development goals: Egypt's Vision 2030 and Egypt's Strategy for Sustainable Agricultural Development. It also contributes to making agriculture more productive and sustainable while preserving natural resources and utilization Al-Rushaid Water." Nasredin Hag Elamin, FAO Representative in Egypt.





HEALTH & GENDER EMPOWERMENT PROJECTS

In addition to the SAIL program, they also visited various projects in Minya, including the Primary Health Care Unit, the Parenting Program in Haya Karima Villages, and the Women Economic Empowerment for Inclusive and Sustainable Growth project.

The Al Sharqiya Primary Health Care Center in Minya Governorate is a center that hosts two projects in collaboration with United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF): 1) The primary health care units and a parenting program under the Decent Life (Haya Karima) initiative and 2)The parenting program focuses on promoting positive parenting practices, community engagement, and supporting families with an information system to encourage positive parenting. Workshops and seminars are conducted to share scientific methods of parenting and support child development.

Under the People Pillar, these initiatives address crucial aspects of health care, parenting, and economic empowerment for women. Through partnerships with UNICEF and the Ministry of Health and Population, and the Ministry of Social Solidarity, and the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood, these programs aim to provide comprehensive support, improve health services, promote positive parenting practices, enhance economic participation, and reduce gender disparities in the labor market. These efforts contribute to Egypt's sustainable development strategy and align with the United Nations Partnership Development Framework (UNPDF) 2018-2022.

"UNICEF is proud to support the Government of Egypt in advancing health care and expanding the range of services through a comprehensive approach to prevention, health care, proper nutrition, and the promotion of mental health with a focus on positive education and enabling healthy growth and development of children." UNICEF Deputy Representative in Egypt.

Under the Women, Prosperity and People Pillars, the Women Economic Empowerment for Inclusive and Sustainable Growth in Egypt program (Raheba), aims to increase women's economic participation, enhance productivity, provide job opportunities, and support entrepreneurship and business development. It addresses the challenges arising from gender gaps in the labor market, aiming to improve the livelihoods of over 3,188 women through employment opportunities and small projects.

The project is being implemented by the United Nations Women (UN Women) and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), in cooperation with the national entities represented by the National Council for Women (NCW), the Ministry of Industry and Trade, Micro, Small and Medium Development Agency (MSMEDA), and Global Affairs Canada (GAC).





Focus Areas:

- Increase productivity and job opportunities generated by women entrepreneurs.
- Increase employment of women by businesses.
- Reduce gender-specific barriers to women's entrepreneurship and to women entering into and remaining in the workforce.







"Women's empowerment and full equality is a key driver of Egypt's growth and resilience. In Minya, in partnership with the Government, working closely with private sector and civil society, UN Women supports capacities and opportunities of women-owned business and women start-ups while adopting climate- smart approaches; women to find decent employment; and the digital financial inclusion of rural women and women at risk of poverty. The diversity of economic activities in Minya makes it a great potential for women's economic empowerment." ***Christine Arab, UN Women Egypt Country Representative.***



"Our focus as UNIDO under the Rabeha programme in El Minya Governorate is to promote the role of micro scale businesses as part of larger value chains steering the local industries of this important Governorate. Only through enhancing the quality of micro suppliers, can we ultimately enhance the overall performance and global competitiveness of our industries at large. UNIDO under Rabeha focuses on ensuring that women led micro businesses in El Minya can meet market and supply chain requirements to connect with their respective industries, through both training and in-depth technical coaching and support. UNIDO also works hand in hand with our governmental counterparts to ensure our approaches and achievements remain fully sustainable and far reaching beyond the programme's lifetime." ***Ahmed Rezk, UNIDO National Program Officer of the Regional Hub in Egypt.***

ALEXANDRIA

The second part of the Egypt - UN Week took place in Alexandria.

The delegation visited projects involving the utilization of solar panels for industrial heating processes, initiatives to support refugees, and social and educational programs aimed at reintegrating juveniles.

INDUSTRY & ENVIRONMENT



The day started with a visit to the "Solar Energy for Industrial Process Heat" & "Industrial Motors Energy Efficiency Programme" Projects at the Sidi Kerir Petrochemical Company (SIDPEC). Al-Mashat and Panova along with other government officials and UN representatives, visited the site of these projects, implemented by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), aimed to enhance the local manufacturing environment and expand the use of solar power systems in industrial heating processes. The Industrial Motors Energy Efficiency Programme (IMEEP), with a grant of $3 million, focused on promoting energy-saving engine systems in the industrial sector and improving the efficiency of electric motor-driven systems.

These programs fall within the partnership between Egypt and the UN to prioritize environmental sustainability and natural resource management. The initiatives align with national development priorities, supporting sustainable development, enhancing the competitiveness of the Egyptian economy, and promoting the transition to a green economy.

Ahmed Rizk, the UNIDO representative in Egypt, highlighted the organization's efforts to meet Egypt's needs in technology transfer, capacity building, and financing for energy efficiency and renewable energy expansion in the industrial sector.

UNIDO had trained energy experts and technicians and worked with industrial establishments in Alexandria, it also collaborated with the Ministry of International Cooperation to further expand green transformation efforts.

Through the program implemented in Sidi Kerir Company, Petrochemical Company, has managed to train 142 energy experts and technicians and 13 industrial establishments in Alexandria so far. He continued that SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure SDGs mediates the international goals of the importance of sustainable industry in supporting the implementation of all other goals, and they are working with the Ministry of International Cooperation through the "NWFE" program to expand efforts aimed at the green transformation.



"We are pleased with such successful partnerships, and we look forward to generalizing the successful experience and partnership between Sidi Kerir and the UNIDO affiliate, with other companies in the petroleum sector." ***Ibrahim Mekki, Chairman of the Egyptian Petrochemicals Holding Company (ECHEM).***



"Achieving the SDGs requires successful partnerships. We welcome the Minister of International Cooperation and her accompanying delegation within the framework of the activities of the Partnership Week between the Arab Republic of Egypt and the United Nations. We succeeded, through a partnership with UNIDO, in promoting energy efficiency, maximizing competitiveness, supporting the company's production capabilities, which export 45% of its production to the foreign market, and training cadres that enable it to transfer expertise in the production of polyethylene." ***Mohamed Ibrahim, Chairman and CEO of Sidi Kerir Petrochemicals (Sidpec).***

Through the program implemented in Sidi Kerir Company, Petrochemical Company, has managed to train 142 energy experts and technicians and 13 industrial establishments in Alexandria so far. He continued that SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure SDGs mediates the international goals of the importance of sustainable industry in supporting the implementation of all other goals, and they are working with the Ministry of International Cooperation through the "NWFE" program to expand efforts aimed at the green transformation.







FROM PROSPECTS TO FUTURE

The visit then moved to Caritas, Al-Agamy where Al-Mashat and Panova visited the "Partnership for Improving Prospects for Forcibly Displaced Persons and Host Communities (PROSPECTS)" as well as the "Restorative Approach to Juvenile Justice: Socio-educative Model of Reintegration and Alternative Measures to Detention" projects.

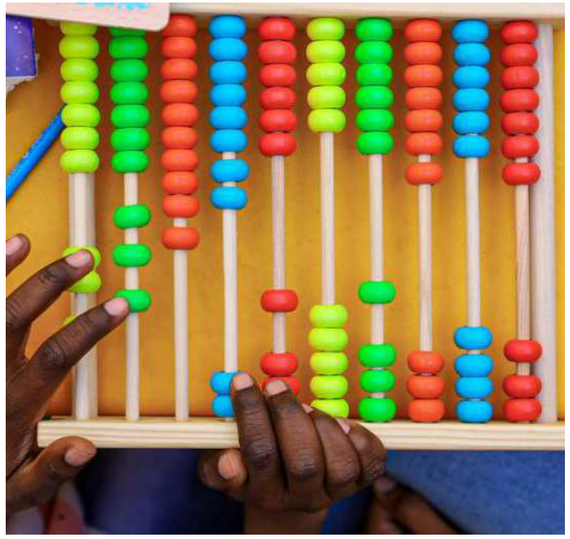
This visit took place in the presence of Major-General Mohamed Taher El-Sherif, the Governor of Alexandria, and officials from various UN organizations and national entities.

The PROSPECTS project aims to improve the living standards of refugees, displaced people, and host communities by providing social and economic opportunities, enhancing education, and delivering social protection services. The project established centers in Sidi Bishr and Burj Al Arab to serve 8,000 refugees. Another center was recently opened in Sidi Bishr to cater to refugees in that area as well as central Alexandria, benefiting around 12,000 refugees and asylum seekers of different nationalities.



The project enrolled **140,000 children** and youth in educational programs and offered protection and integration services to over **200,000 individuals,** including case management and social support.

This was accomplished through collaboration between national entities, the International Labor Organization (ILO), the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR); promoting the achievement of SDG 8: Decent Work & Economic Growth, SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals and addressing the People and Prosperity Pillars.





In addition, they visited the “Restorative Approach to Juvenile Justice: Socio-educative Model of Reintegration and Alternative Measures to Detention” project, within the People Pillar.

This initiative provides support to children in conflict with the law and enhances their sociaal, educational, and economic integration, in light of the memorandum of understanding signed between the Government of Egypt and the relevant United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in 2021 to provide technical support to social welfare institutions in Egypt.

Addressing SDG 1: No Poverty, SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being, SDG 4: Quality Education and SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions, it is worth noting that this project operates in 9 social care institutions across Egypt in the governorates of Alexandria, Beni Suef, Cairo, Giza, and Kafr El Sheikh. The nine institutions host 860 children, including 695 boys and 165 girls, to enhance social justice efforts.

ASWAN



“Aswan has forever been known for its scenery, crystal blue nile, and all year round summer season. But if you haven’t met its people, then you’ve seen nothing. We visited several development projects and programs in Aswan that support investing in human capital, education, food security, health, women’s empowerment and culture. As part of Egypt-UN Week, we met with students, teachers, farmers, health and youth unit experts, and many others with the UN Resident Coordinator Elena Panova, Major General Ashraf Attia, the Governor, along with many stakeholders and teams.” H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat.



STUDENTS & CHILDREN AT THE CENTER OF THE FUTURE

Al-Mashat and Panova began their day in Aswan by visiting the Human Capital Investment Program in Upper Egypt at the Raghamah School in Qom Ambo; focused on the People and Women Pillars.

The visit was attended by the Governor of Aswan, Major General Ashraf Atiya, Deputy Minister of Agriculture for Livestock, Fisheries and Forestry Engineer Mustafa Al-Sayyad, World Food Programme (WFP) Country Director Praveen Agarwal, and representatives from various ministries, entities, and organizations.

Addressing SDG 1: No Poverty, SDG 2: Zero Hunger, SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 5: Gender Equality, SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth, SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities, SDG 11: Sustainable Cities & Communities, SDG 17: Partnership for The Goals, the Human Capital Investment Program, implemented in partnership with national entities, including ministries and the WFP promotes human capital development through skills development for children, school nutrition, and traianing for women in target communities.

The program has provided school feeding to approximately 2,600 children in 105 community schools and entrepreneurship skills training to around 3,100 women. Out of them, 560 women have obtained small loans to support their businesses. Additionally, 100 employees were hired from local administrations in 10 villages to expand proper nutrition for children through the National School Feeding Program. The program has also facilitated educational opportunities and training for children in Aswan Governorate, emphasizing the role of rural women pioneers in education.

The two-part project is in partnership with the Ministry of Education and Technical Education, Ministry of Social Solidarity, Ministry of Supply and Internal Trade, Ministry of Health and Population, Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation, National Council for Women, National Nutrition Institute, Egyptian Food Safety Authority, Egyptian Knowledge Bank, Ministry of Military Production, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology Ministry of Emigration and Egypt's Expatriates' Affairs and the German Debt Swap.







At the national level, the program benefited around

118,000 CHILDREN in **3,800 COMMUNITY SCHOOLS** across **11** Upper Egypt governorates.

It has provided training for approximately 67,000 women entrepreneurs, with about 28,000 receiving small loans for business development. Furthermore, 720 employees have been trained in administrative and local units across 72 villages in 6 governorates.



"The WFP's close work with the Government, has established solid ground for communities under national development initiatives, such as Haya Karima - Decent Life, not only to improve their food & nutrition security, but also thrive with access to education, health, improved livelihoods and advanced SMART agriculture. WFP will be amplifying these results in the new 2023-2027 UNSDCF through new partnerships, SMART technologies, and designing a innovative Private Public Alliance that will help us move closer to achieving the SDGS and Egypt's Vision 2030." Praveen Agrawal, WFP Representative and Country Director in Egypt.

RURAL INNOVATION

During the second visit of the day, the teams visited the "Climate Resilience and Food Security through Livelihood Enhancement and Rural Innovation" project in Al-Kajouj village centered around climate resilience and food security through improving living standards and promoting rural innovation.

The project, implemented in collaboration with national entities, the WFP, and other entities, support small agricultural holders by providing training, knowledge, and production inputs, with a focus on the use of smart tools and technologies in agriculture, establishing partnerships with community development associations, implementing solar energy and modern irrigation models, and launching programs for agricultural waste recycling.

Hearing from the farmers and entrepreneurs, the project benefits around 10,000 small agricultural holders in Aswan, while at the national level, approximately 68,000 small agricultural holders were supported.

The project also strengthened 84 community development associations, implemented solar energy and irrigation programs, and facilitated training for women in entrepreneurship and animal husbandry. Additionally, 12.6 thousand women received small loans to support their projects, and efforts were made to annex 3,000 acres of agricultural land and small holdings to optimize utilization and market access for farmers.

There is a focus on the People and Women Pillars within SDG 1: No Poverty, SDG 2: Zero Hunger, SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 5: Gender Equality, SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth, SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities, SDG 11: Sustainable Cities & Communities, SDG 13: Climate Action, and SDG 17: Partnership for The Goals:

- ***Building resilience and improving livelihoods of vulnerable rural communities in Southern Egypt.***
- ***Institutional capacity at the central and local levels for upscaling and sustaining project interventions in Southern Egypt.***

This project is in partnership with the Ministry of Education and Technical Education, Ministry of Social Solidarity, Ministry of Supply and Internal Trade, Ministry of Health and Population, Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation, National Council for Women, National Nutrition Institute, Egyptian Food Safety Authority, Egyptian Knowledge Bank, Ministry of Military Production, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology Ministry of Emigration and Egypt's Expatriates' Affairs and the German Debt Swap.



HEALTH & WELL-BEING

The third visit of the day was at the Family Medicine Unit and Al-Bayara Youth Center in Kom Ombo, Aswan.

Focused on the People Pillar with SDG 1: No Poverty, SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being, SDG 5: Gender Equality, SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities and SDG 17: Partnerships For The Goals, this project looks into:

- ***Scaling-up family planning services.***
- ***Raising awareness of family planning.***
- ***Strengthening institutional capacities for monitoring and coordinating the implementation of the National Population Strategy.***

The program focused on reducing population growth by making family planning accessible and sustainable, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Population to develop awareness materials and train relevant staff across governorates.

2000 primary healtcare units, nurses and doctors

5435 family planning clinics

8641 training were conducted

The program supported access to services for over 4 million women, expanded the "Two is Enough" campaign in collaboration with the Ministry of Social Solidarity, improved healthcare service quality, provided technical expertise in family planning, and offered counseling and services.



It also trained doctors in over 2,000 primary healthcare units and nurses and doctors in 5,435 family planning clinics, and 8,641 trainings were conducted by awareness-raising activities.

At the Al-Bayara Youth Center, the youth performed a theater show on challenges faced by women and the importance of countering misconceptions that hinder women's empowerment.

The Ministry of Youth and Sports' population clubs, in collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund and the Trend Foundation, carried out awareness campaigns on population issues. This has led to programs reaching approximately 182,000 young people through innovative education technologies and established population clubs in youth and sports centers. Work teams were created to support the program in 22 provinces.



"The UNFPA works with the Ministry of Health and Population to provide high-quality services in the field of reproductive health and family planning so that women have a choice between the number of children they have as well as distance between each child. This is done through training family planning service providers, conducting awareness campaigns, providing youth-specific services, and sensitizing women among other things. UNFPA also works with the Ministry of Youth and Sports to enable youth to acquire the skills and knowledge necessary to make decisions and be Informed about their bodies, health and lives, as well as building their capacities to become agents of change in their communities. Through this approach we can achieve the 2030 Agenda." Germaine Haddad, Assistant Representative of the United Nations Population Fund.

ART, HISTORY & HERITAGE

The last visit to Aswan was at the "Capacity Upgrade of the Nubian Museum and Establishment of Community Learning Centers (CLC)" project, a follow-up of the International Campaign to Save the Monuments of Nubia (1960-1980) and has been done in collaboration with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Ministry of Antiquity and Tourism, Ministry of Social Solidarity, and Ministry of Education and Technical Education.

The Nubian Museum is one of the pillars of cooperation with UNESCO and is among the 22 museums that the organization supported; preserving the Nubian heritage and Egyptian antiquities.

Highlighting the Prosperity Pillar during the visit, the achievements of UNESCO's efforts to enhance the institutional development of the Nubian Museum were presented.

These included the establishment of Community Learning Centers, the production of information on artifacts, specialized training, and database maintenance. The project addresses SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth and SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities, where the results of the project include:



- *Providing equipment and technological tools for the Community Learning Centers*
- *Producing and presenting information on 60 artifacts from the Nubian Museum collections*
- *Periodic follow-up of works through specialized missions, implementing training on maintaining and updating databases*
- *Training 20 Nubian Museum employees*

Governor Attia expressed gratitude to the Ministry of International Cooperation and the United Nations for choosing Aswan as a location for field visits, highlighting the longstanding cooperation in economic, social, and environmental fields to achieve the SDGs and Egypt's Vision 2030.

Nuria Sanz, Director of the UNESCO Office in the Arab States, commended UNESCO's campaign to support Nubian monuments and the educational services provided by the Nubian Museum. She also mentioned the upcoming pilot of a UNESCO-affiliated community learning center in Aswan, which will prioritize literacy programs, entrepreneurship, parenting education, and vocational training.



"UNESCO's international campaign to support the monuments in Nubia is a global reference for the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage of 1972, as it represents the long-standing cooperation of UNESCO in Egypt since 1959. Over the past six decades, millions of visitors from around the world, educators and students have benefited from the museums' educational services, including researchers from more than 50 archaeological missions in UNESCO World Heritage Sites."
Nuria Sanz, Director of the UNESCO Office in the Arab States.

DAMIETTA

We wrapped up #EgyptUnWeek in Damietta governorate, where H.E. and Elena Panova, alongside teams from both the Ministry of International Cooperation and the UN Egypt office, visited development projects.

The day started with visiting the Enhancing Climate Change Adaptation in the North Coast & Nile Delta. The project was a cross-cutting between the People and Planet pillars with the green transition at the center. It was developed with the UNDP, Green Climate Fund, with the Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation.

The objective of the project was to reduce coastal flooding in Egypt's North Coast by constructing 69 km of sand dune dikes along five vulnerable hotspots within the Nile Delta that were identified through an engineering assessment and technical feasibility study. The development of an integrated coastal zone management (ICZM) plan for the North Coast, to manage long-term climate change risks.

CREATING IMPACT THROUGH COOPERATION: ACROSS THE YEAR

Earlier in the year, the UN held a briefing session, at the headquarters in New York to shed light on the pioneering experience of the UN's Resident Representative system that has been implemented and activated in Egypt since the launch of the United Nations Secretary-General's vision for the development and reform of the UN system in 2017 to strengthen the United Nations development role in assisting member states in order to maximize the development impact of UN projects and programs and the sustainability of results, in a way that stimulates efforts towards achieving SDGs and the 2030 Agenda.

The session was attended by the Minister of International Cooperation and Co-Chair of the Steering Committee of the Strategic Framework for Partnership between Egypt and the United Nations for Cooperation for Sustainable Development H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat, UN Resident Coordinator in Egypt and Co-Chair of the Steering Committee of the Strategic Framework Elena Panova, Permanent Representative of Egypt to the United Nations in New York Ambassador Osama Abdel-Khalek, and Director of the Climate, Environment and Sustainable Development Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Ambassador Mohamed Nasr. The session was moderated by interim Deputy Head of the United Nations Development Coordination Office (DCO) Rosemary Kalapurakal, Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations and Chair Development Coordination Office Fernandez Taranco, as well as permanent representatives of many member states to the UN.

H.E. applauded the UN Resident Coordinator system and its role in enhancing communication and achieving flexibility in responding to the priorities and requirements of development in the country, referring to the efforts made by the United Nations during COP27, strengthening efforts with all international institutions and development partners to push forward the climate action session, and the opportunity provided by the conference in Sharm El-Sheikh to advance climate action and demonstrate Egypt's efforts with the international community in going from pledges to implementation.

For her part, the United Nations Resident Coordinator in Egypt, Elena Panova, expressed her happiness for the continuous cooperation and coordination with the Government of Egypt and the launch of the partnership. She thanked Al-Mashat and officials in various government agencies for facilitating the work of the UN in Egypt.

Panova continued, "The launch ceremony of the UNSDCF between Egypt and the UN 2023-2027 was distinguished, and we were honored by the presence of H.E. Prime Minister Dr. Mostafa Madbouly. It was a historic moment for us that strengthened the close partnership with Egypt for the next five years."

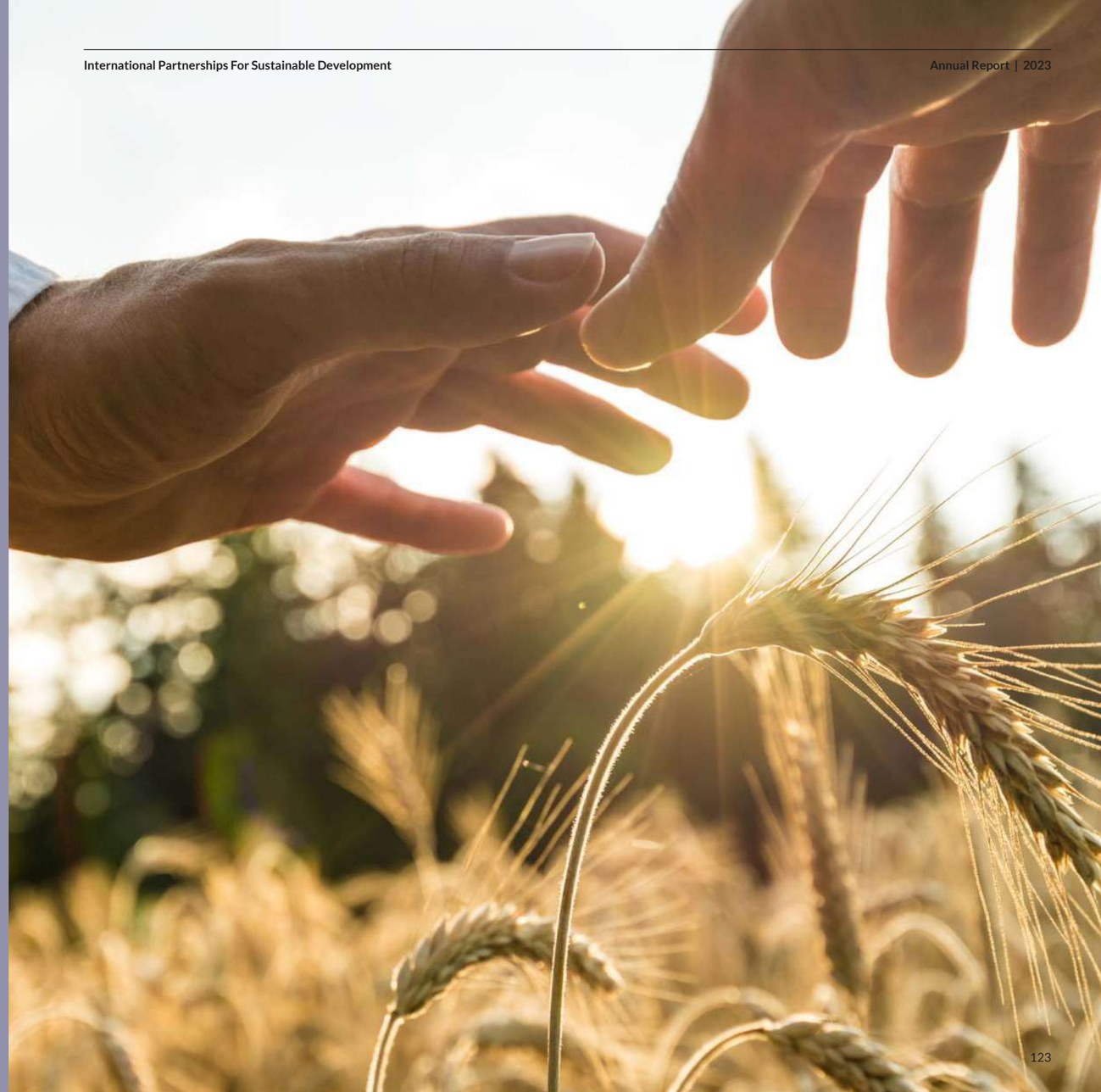
The Deputy Permanent Representative of Morocco Omar Kadiri, commented, stressing that the briefing session is a critical session and a clear testimony to the efforts that Egypt is undertaking in the areas of economic and social development and the participation of civil society and relevant parties, applauding Egypt's pioneering role in organizing COP27 on behalf of African and developing countries and stressing the importance of innovative financing mechanisms to address climate change.

In his concluding speech, Permanent Representative of Egypt to the UN Ambassador Osama Abdel Khalek indicated that the Egyptian experience proves the important impact of the Resident Representative system, and it represents a clear way to practice development work with the support of the UN, which represents a wealth of knowledge with complete flexibility.

Egypt's experience is clear proof of the reform of the UN system, and therefore there is an importance to transfer those successful experiences to African countries and other developing countries in order to help those countries in formulating their development vision.

Chapter 2

MULTILATERAL DEVELOPMENT BANK EVOLUTION: ENDING POVERTY & PROMOTING SHARED PROSPERITY



EGYPT'S COOPERATION WITH THE WORLD BANK GROUP

Egypt and the World Bank Group (WBG) share a long-standing, fruitful relationship, with Egypt being a founding member and the bank's third-largest shareholder in the Middle East and North Africa region.

The World Bank is also one of Egypt's most important development partners, as it started supporting Egypt's development program in 1959, and since then, the Bank has financed 175 projects in Egypt, with a total of nearly $26 billion in many important sectors.

The most prominent ongoing projects being implemented in partnership between Egypt and the Bank are to support entrepreneurs and small and medium enterprises, the air pollution and climate change management project in Greater Cairo, the local development project in Upper Egypt, the project to support social protection efforts, among many others. Moreover, there are also diverse projects in infrastructure, human rights, public sector reforms, service provision, and private sector development.

Moreover, the bank's affiliates: the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) established in 1944, International Development Association (IDA) which supports the lowest-income countries through highly concessional financing, along with the International Finance Corporation (IFC) which enhances efforts to engage and empower the private sector and increase its investments, the (MIGA), and the International Center for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID) which includes the Bank 189 countries are represented by Governors who contribute to the policy development of the World Bank; are all part of our cooperation framework.

The ongoing development cooperation portfolio between the Arab Republic of Egypt and the World Bank Group includes 14 projects worth $6.9 billion, in the fields of education, health, transportation, social protection, renewable energy, water desalination, housing, local development, and the environment.

The development cooperation portfolio is divided into several sectors, namely financing, competitiveness and innovation, which accounts for 16% of the portfolio, social protection and employment promotion at 19%, health, population and nutrition at 13%, transportation at 11%, water at 12%, agriculture and food security at 7%, education at 7%, urban development and resilience at 7%, macroeconomics, trade and investment at 5%, environment, natural resources and blue economy at 3%.

Moreover, cooperation between Egypt and the World Bank is not limited to development finance, as the issuance of diagnostic and analytical reports is one of the most prominent areas of cooperation between Egypt and the World Bank in order to develop clear visions of the economy and analyze the current situation. During the past year, the Country Climate Development Report (CCDR) was launched, which identifies measures at the level of policies and investment opportunities that can be implemented within 5 years. It will lead to more efficient use and allocation of natural resources, reduce the effects of climate change on citizens, companies and business establishments, and enhance Egypt's ability to compete in global markets.

In addition to the Systematic Country Diagnosis (SCD), the private sector diagnosis report in Egypt in 2020, and the public expenditure review report in Egypt for the human development sectors in 2022, the Bank also launched the demographic report in cooperation with the Government of Egypt in 2022.



Private Sector Engagement

The partnership with the World Bank Group also enhances private sector empowerment efforts through collaborations with the International Finance Corporation (IFC) and the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA), supporting investments in key development sectors, including renewable energy, industry, education, and women's empowerment.

In line with the country's vision and efforts to empower the private sector and broaden the base of its participation in achieving development, work is being done with the IFC and the MIGA, to enhance investments for the private sector in various priority areas of development and to promote green financing.

The IFC's investment portfolio in Egypt records more than $1.46 billion, directed to vital sectors such as renewable energy, industry, education, health, women's empowerment, and the financial sector.

Through cooperation with MIGA, more than $470 million in guarantees has been invested for 17 ongoing projects in the infrastructure, manufacturing and renewable energy sectors, and the Benban solar power plant is one of the most important projects funded by MIGA.

This year, the World Bank Group Board of Executive Directors approved a new Country Partnership Framework (CPF) for Egypt for 2023 to 2027, aiming to support Egypt in achieving comprehensive and sustainable growth, focusing on eradicating poverty, promoting prosperity for all, and enhancing resilience to shocks.

A New Phase of Collaboration: The 2023 - 2027 CPF



After its approval by the World Bank Board of Executive Directors on March 21, Egypt, represented by the Ministry of International Cooperation and the World Bank Group, launched the new 2023 - 2027 Country Partnership Framework (CPF) on May 8, 2023, marking a new chapter in our partnership and providing a solid foundation for cooperation on a wide range of issues that are important to the future of Egypt and the region; providing a roadmap for the next 5 years.

As Egypt's relationship with the World Bank Group has witnessed numerous successful development projects and programs, playing a crucial role in supporting Egypt's economic and social progress over the years, the recent launch of the theCPF is of utmost importance,signifying a renewed commitment to addressing Egypt's developmental challenges and leveraging the country's potential for sustainable growth.

Through the CPF, Egypt can access a strategic framework that aligns with its national priorities and helps in mobilizing resources, technical expertise, and knowledge to implement targeted initiatives that will enhance infrastructure, education, healthcare, and job opportunities. This collaborative approach is instrumental in promoting inclusive and equitable development, ultimately transforming Egypt's socio-economic landscape and improving the quality of life for its citizens.

As Egypt's Governor to the World Bank, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat gave opening remarks at the CPF's launch event, highlighting country-ownership and alignment to Egypt's national objectives, seeing as how the new framework takes a holistic and multi-stakeholder approach to cross-cutting priorities, ranging from decreasing poverty to climate action, in the presence of the Vice President of the bank's MENA Region Ferid Belhaj.

During the event, Prime Minister H.E. Dr. Mostafa Madbouly said that the CPF is a "historic milestone" in Egypt's development, helping to "unlock Egypt's potential" and make the country a regional economic powerhouse.



"The Country Partnership Framework 2023 - 2027 between Egypt and the World Bank Group establishes a new phase of development cooperation and joint action to support efforts in achieving inclusive and sustainable growth. This is anchored in national objectives, the country's 2030 vision and presidential initiatives. Through our extended partnership with the World Bank Group, more work will be done over the next 5 years to stimulate private sector engagement in development projects, increase job opportunities, enhance investment in human capital and promote climate action." ***H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat.***



"The World Bank Group's new Country Partnership Framework strengthens our close relationship with Egypt and places the Egyptian citizen at the heart of this strategy to achieve green, resilient and inclusive development. It also supports the country's development needs, including creating the climate for the private sector to play a greater role in development." ***Ferid Belhaj, World Bank Vice President for the Middle East and North Africa.***



We are proud to continue our strategic partnership with Egypt and we are committed to supporting ongoing efforts dedicated to improving the quality of life for Egyptians. This CPF supports Egypt's efforts to build back better by creating conditions for green, resilient, and inclusive development. It puts the Egyptian people at the center of its strategy, with a heavy focus on job creation by improving the business environment and leveling the playing field." ***Marina Wes, World Bank Country Director for Egypt, Yemen and Djibouti.***



"The private sector plays a critical role in supporting the development of a green, resilient, and inclusive economy. This Country Partnership Framework demonstrates that when the private sector grows, people have access to more and better jobs – which ultimately helps them lead better lives." ***Cheick-Oumar Sylla, IFC Regional Director for North Africa and the Horn of Africa.***







During the event, H.E. highlighted the strong and growing relationship between Egypt and the World Bank Group, noting how Egyptian expertise has also enriched the Bank's work, with notable figures holding high-level positions in the Bank.

Al-Mashat also honored Marina Wes, Country Director for Egypt, Yemen and Djibouti at the World Bank, and Robert Bou Jaoude, Director of Operations at the World Bank's Egypt Office, as part of the near end of the term of the World Bank's country director in Egypt.

On the sidelines of the launch event, Al-Mashat and Belhaj met for a bilateral meeting, confirming the depth of joint relations between Egypt and the World Bank, and the Government of Egypt's keenness to broaden horizons through the new partnership and enhance focus on areas of priority cooperation to advance progress towards achieving the SDGs.

Al-Mashat thanked the Belhaj for the efforts made in preparing the partnership and coordinating joint cooperation through the meetings held during the World Bank Spring Meetings, pointing out that the new partnership comes at a very important time in light of the regional and international challenges facing developing countries and emerging economies, and government efforts and measures taken to overcome these challenges to accelerate development and economic reform.

The new strategy also coincides with the preparation of the evolution roadmap for developing the role of the World Bank to enhance its functions in supporting development in emerging economies, in addition to the announcement of a new president. These discussions will look into developing the role of the World Bank, working to end poverty and promote shared prosperity by promoting sustainable, resilient and inclusive development and development efforts based on country ownership and increasing the impact of effective development cooperation.

More on the bank's evolution is explained in the coming pages.

Later in the year, in August, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat, Egypt's Minister of International Cooperation and Governor at the World Bank Group (WBG), and the new Regional Director of the World Bank in Egypt, Yemen, and Djibouti, Mr. Stephane Guimbert, held a meeting to discuss various dimensions of the partnership and development cooperation between Egypt and the WBG. They addressed the launch of the CPF 2023-2027 and explored avenues to strengthen private sector involvement and support a national strategy for industrial and export development. Al-Mashat highlighted ongoing projects that benefit citizens, such as social protection programs, specifically "Takaful and Karama" and health insurance initiatives, while Guimbert acknowledged the depth of the existing partnership and the WBG's commitment to expand collaboration to meet development priorities and stimulate private sector participation. The discussions also covered plans for WBG's annual meetings, a roadmap for the WBG's role evolution, and the importance of integrating global and regional dimensions into Egypt's development model.

Following this meeting, the Minister also met with Fadia Saadah, Regional Director for Human Development at the World Bank, at the Ministry's headquarters in the New Administrative Capital, during her visit to Egypt at the 1st World Conference on Health, Population and Development, which was held under the patronage of H.E. the President of the Arab Republic of Egypt, H.E. Abdel Fattah El-Sisi.

What is the CPF?

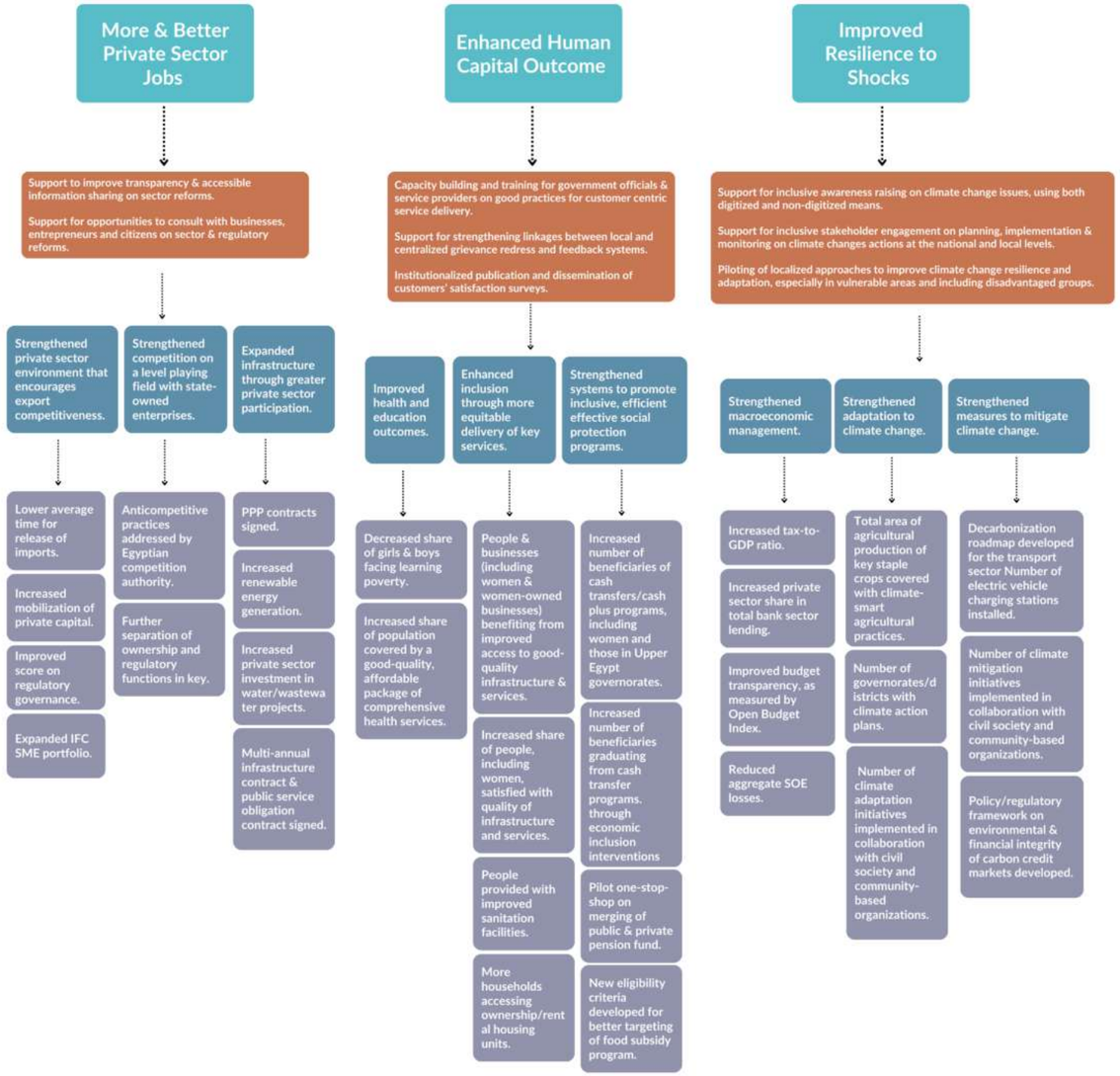
Placing citizens at the core, the new 2023-2027 CPF is a strategic document that outlines the World Bank Group's support for Egypt's development priorities over the next five years. The CPF focuses on three main areas:

1. **More and Better Private Sector Jobs:** Through supporting the creation of an empowering environment for private sector-led investments and job opportunities as well as creating a level playing field for the private sector.

2. **Enhanced Human Capital Outcomes:** Through supporting the provision of inclusive, equitable and improved health and education services as well as effective social protection programs.

3. **Improved Resilience to Shocks:** Through strengthened macroeconomic management, and climate change adaptation and mitigation measures.





The CPF is important for a number of reasons.

First, it provides a clear framework for the World Bank's support of Egypt's development priorities, helping to ensure that resources are used effectively and efficiently.

Second, the CPF is aligned with Egypt's national development plan, which means that the Bank's support will be complementary to the government's own efforts.

Third, the CPF is a product of extensive consultation with Egyptian stakeholders, which means that it reflects the priorities of the Egyptian people.

In addition to the key priorities outlined above, the CPF also includes two interlinked cross-cutting themes: governance and citizen engagement and women's empowerment.line with Egypt's Vision 2030 that has a strong focus on economic development.



In Relation to Egypt's Vision 2030

The CPF was designed to support Egypt's efforts to achieve its economic, social, and environmental goals.

The CPF aligns with Egypt's Vision 2030 in a number of ways.

- Sharing a common goal of promoting inclusive and sustainable economic growth, the CPF supports Egypt's efforts to create jobs, reduce poverty, and improve the lives of all Egyptians, in line with Egypt's Vision 2030 that has a strong focus on economic development.
- Focused on the importance of social justice and protection, the CPF supports programs that protect the most vulnerable groups in Egyptian society, such as women, children, and people with disabilities, in line with Egypt's Vision 2030's emphasis on creating a more equitable society.
- A need for good governance and human rights, the CPF supports Egypt's efforts to strengthen its democratic institutions, promote human rights, and fight corruption, in line with Egypt's Vision 2030.
- A commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the CPF and Egypt's Vision 2023 The CPF is designed to support Egypt's efforts to achieve the SDGs, which are a set of global goals for sustainable development. Egypt's Vision 2030 also has a strong focus on the SDGs, with the goal of making Egypt a leader in sustainable development.

In Washington on Reshaping Development

The 2023 Spring Meetings

Under the theme "The Way Forward: Building Resilience and Reshaping Development," H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat participated in the World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF) Spring Meetings, along with the participation of central bank governors, finance ministers, development partners, senior officials from the private sector, philanthropic organizations and academics, to discuss global issues.

One of the most important topics discussed during the spring meetings in Washington focused on the development roadmap of the World Bank, where the Board of Executive Directors of the bank, in coordination with the bank's management, prepared a development roadmap to more effectively address the size of the growing and accelerating development challenges.

The World Bank's development plan is based on reformulating the Bank's mission to be "ending extreme poverty and enhancing shared prosperity by promoting sustainable, resilient and inclusive development", emphasizing the importance of defining sustainability and resilience and working to become more specific so that they include financial, social and environmental aspects, as well as developing indicators that reflect those terms and definitions.

The operational model pillars include three goals: supporting results at the country level in a way that addresses global challenges, increasing and improving the scope of development impact, and creating a stronger operational capacity to respond to crises.

Moreover, the focus of the financial model includes enhancing the financial capacity of the bank and its financial model, in cooperation with various economic groups, including the G20.

During the Spring Meetings, Al-Mashat engaged in various events and discussion sessions, including the G-24 Ministers and Governors Meeting, the Development Committee Meeting, and the Human Capital Ministerial Conclave.

H.E. also held bilateral meetings with multiple partners, including the WBG, the US government, the European Investment Bank (EIB), the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), the Rockefeller Foundation, the International Finance Corporation (IFC), Climate Investment Funds (CIF), international companies, the private sector, and other relevant entities.

The main focus of discussions during the Spring Meetings was on development challenges and the evolution roadmap for the Bank's role in developing more effective solutions to support development, poverty reduction, and addressing inequality.

Scan this QR code to watch a media interview with the World Bank on what was discussed during the Spring Meetings.



From the G24 to High-Level Roundtables

As Egypt's World Bank Governor, Al-Mashat gave a speech at the G-24 Ministers and Governors Meeting, convened by the IMF's Kristalina Georgieva and World Bank's David Malpass at the time.

In her remarks, Al-Mashat said that they are meeting under particularly challenging global circumstances, but also with the potential and hope that come with the discussions on the bank's evolution roadmap to enhance its operational model, which Egypt welcomes. H.E. emphasized the role of multilateral development banks in increasing access to finance to mitigate the socioeconomic repercussions faced by developing and emerging countries, especially in their progress towards global development goals and climate action.



"As we embrace a more interconnected multilateral approach for just and impactful action, we also must maintain the centrality of country-based models and preserve country ownership principles." H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat.

The G-24 expressed its appreciation for the role played by Egypt in hosting and chairing COP27, efforts to enhance climate action, and affirmation of support in implementing the Sharm El-Sheikh plan to implement climate pledges, especially what was agreed upon in terms of launching the Loss and Damage Fund.

In conclusion, the G-24 issued a closing statement in which it stressed the seriousness of the successive crises facing the world and their impact on all aspects of development, and the need for the international community to play its role in overcoming these challenges, calling for expanding the role of the World Bank to enhance its mission to end poverty, achieve shared prosperity, and support developing countries.

The Human Capital Ministerial Conclave

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat participated in the 2023 Human Capital Project (HCP) Ministerial Conclave "Investing in Human Capital to Accelerate Green Transition".

The session included Axel Van Trotsenburg, Senior Managing Director of the World Bank responsible for development policies and partnerships, where he discussed the role of countries in ensuring the resilience of citizens to face climate change and mitigate its effects, building resilience and adaptive capacity through awareness, and expanding the scope of social protection programmes.

During the meeting, the participating ministers discussed practices and experiences in various sectors in order to share experiences and knowledge, where senior managing director of the World Bank referred to Egypt's country platform for the NWFE program, the Egyptian experience in promoting mitigation efforts and adaptation to climate change, and prioritizing investment in human capital and climate action.

The Human Capital Project helps countries address obstacles that prevent the development of individuals, through cooperation within the government fully. There are 78 countries participating in this project, within a network of committed governments that have expressed interest in investing in human capital.



Roundtable on Multilateral Development Bank (MDB) Evolution

The challenges facing the world place a great responsibility on the multilateral development banks to achieve integration and stimulate climate action and development.

Hence, a roadmap for the development of the World Bank's role is an opportunity for developing and least developed countries to actively participate in shaping the bank's work approach and financing framework to become more equitable and inclusive.

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat, participated in the high-level round table organized by Janet Yellen, United States Secretary of the Treasury, on developing the role of the World Bank, the largest multilateral development bank, with the participation of David Malpass, President of the WBG, finance and development ministers from Brazil, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Congo, Japan, South Africa, the United Arab Emirates and Uruguay, as well as the executive directors of the World Bank.

The roundtable discussion looked into the roadmap for the development of the role of the World Bank, its operations and resources, and to enhance its role in facing development efforts and the complex challenges facing the global economy in the current period. It is a review of the bank's vision and mission, a review of the operating model, and an exploration of options to enhance financial capacity.

Al-Mashat emphasized that the evolution roadmap for developing the role of the World Bank is a practical opportunity for developing and least developed countries, especially within the African continent, to participate effectively in formulating the bank's work approach and financing framework to become more just, comprehensive and resilient in the face of crises; enabling the achievement of the SDGs.

MDB Reform to Finance the SDGs

In the same line of discussions, invited by UN Secretary-General Antonio Gutterres, Al-Mashat participated in a roundtable on "SDG Stimulus and MDB Reform", chaired by Amina J. Mohammed, the Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations and Chair of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group, with Prime Minister of Barbados H.E. Mia Mottley, Ministers of Finance and International Cooperation, representatives of G-20 member countries, and heads of state, international financing institutions, business leaders and the private sector, to discuss financing the SDGs and the required MDB reform.

The meeting was held in light of the great importance of MDBs in financing the SDGs, especially in facing the complex challenges in the world and in enhancing the ability to develop countries to face shocks and the importance of significantly expanding investments and financing to meet the needs of developing countries and emerging economies to finance development.

Moreover, the meeting discussed the G20's calls at the summit held in Bali, on the need to mobilize and provide additional financing to support the achievement of the SDGs; also calling for increased coordination and joint action between the relevant parties from governments, multilateral development banks and the private sector, to expand innovative financing tools, risk reduction tools and increase incentives that encourage private investment.



Rockefeller Foundation on MDB Reform Roundtable

There is a need to develop constructive solutions to address the escalating debt crisis since the pandemic and to mobilize financing to complete the development process.

To do so, strengthening multilateral development banks and increasing efficiency and financing is necessary to support inclusive growth in middle-income and least-developed countries.

Al-Mashat participated in the round table organized by the Rockefeller Foundation and the Open Society Foundations to discuss multilateral development bank reforms, the escalating global debt crisis, development efforts and climate action.

As the world is going through unprecedented challenges that require reforming the development financing landscape to address economic challenges through effective solutions, H.E. pointed out that there is an urgent need to mobilize financing to support the sustainable development implementation agenda and to address the gap in development financing, which reached over $3.7 trillion due to the Russian-Ukrainian war and the COVID-19 pandemic.

Private Sector Engagement Talks

Al-Mashat also participated in the discussion session titled "Measure, Manage, Magnify: The Role of Public and Private Finance Institutions in Maximizing Climate Finance," on the crucial need to mobilize resources from various parties to finance climate change efforts in the face of global challenges.

Egypt's efforts to mobilize various financing mechanisms through multilateral cooperation with development partners, the private sector, philanthropic organizations, and civil society are a reference and replicable example for countries to follow. However, there is a need for expanding risk reduction tools to attract increased private sector investment and ensure funds reach developing countries.

Many officials of international financing institutions participated in the discussion session, including Amina J. Mohamed, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations and Chair of the Commission on Sustainable Development, Axel van Trotsenburg, the World Bank's Senior Managing Director, and Dr. Mahmoud Mohieldin, Executive Director for Arab States at the IMF and Climate Pioneer of Egypt's COP27 Presidency, among others.

In another panel discussion on "The Power of Private Capital in Sustainable Development," Al-Mashat discussed the World Bank's evolution roadmap, which plays a significant role in supporting global development efforts. She emphasized the importance of complementarity between multilateral development banks to unify efforts in addressing climate change.

This session included David Malpass, President of the World Bank; José Viñals, Group Chairman, Standard Chartered PLC; Anshula Kant, Managing Director and World Bank Group Chief Financial Officer; Julie Monaco, Managing Director, Citi; and Rosalia V. De Leon, Treasurer of the Philippines.



***"Any middle-income country needs to leverage on the partnerships it has with the global community…And while reform is being discussed, each multilateral development partner has its own comparative advantage, and this also brings complementarity. Through this level of integrated cooperation, we are able to leverage needed finance to address climate action and national development objectives."* H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat.**

An IMF Session on Climate



Guided by country ownership, equitable pathways to climate finance and governance structures, this comes at a key time with the financial architecture of multilateral development banks being discussed, especially in light of the World Bank evolution roadmap.

Al-Mashat participated in a discussion session organized by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) on "Climate Finance and Energy Security", moderated by Michelle Fleury from BBC, underscoring the urgency of mobilizing just finance, accounting for the historic responsibility of countries and ensuring quality and quantity climate finance for a resilient development.

As developing countries are often accused of not being ready to receive climate finance and the lack of clear and clearly formulated projects to attract private sector investments, hence the conference worked to highlight the efforts made by the continent of Africa through its specific strategies and national contributions to attract climate finance.

Al-Mashat highlighted Egypt's efforts during COP27 to transform climate pledges into actionable projects that stimulate climate action and support sustainable development, emphasizing the importance of clear and formulated projects to attract private sector investments and the need for relevant parties, including governments, the private sector, development partners, and philanthropic organizations, to play a role in stimulating climate financing.

The discussions referenced the agreement of the international community to launch the Loss and Damage Fund is one of the most prominent results of COP27 and a major development in the world's march towards confronting climate change, in light of how the least-income countries suffer the most from climate change repercussions.

Enabling countries to implement their commitments, their ownership of national plans and the consistency of priorities with international goals is of extreme importance, in addition to transparency and clarity in the formulation of projects where it is also necessary for the international community and international institutions to consider debt sustainability in order to reduce the burdens on developing countries and emerging economies to stimulate their path towards development.

African Consultative Group

The Spring Meetings featured an African Consultative Group Meeting with World Bank Group President David Malpass, where Al-Mashat said that the climate crisis undermines development gains achieved over the past decades and raises poverty rates, especially in the African continent.

The establishment of the Scaling Climate Action by Lowering Emissions (SCALE) trust fund will mobilize financing and expand the scope of climate action by reducing emissions and making funds and grants available from countries, the private sector and international financing institutions, to support global climate action efforts.

However, the World Bank has played a key role in addressing the repercussions. For example, the Bank delivered $14.3 billion worth of climate finance to Sub-Saharan Africa, in addition to issuing CCDRs, adding that these reports will enable the World Bank and other development partners to tailor climate support to country needs by ensuring alignment with existing Country Partnership Frameworks (CPFs).

Egyptian Expertise & Experience

Energy security is one of the important axes that has become of great importance to all countries, and in this regard, green hydrogen enhances Egypt's efforts to increase energy security, reduce its dependence on traditional fuels, reduce harmful emissions and stimulate the transition to a green economy, by producing 42% of electrical energy from renewable sources by 2030.

Showcasing Egypt's development stories at the spring meetings, two meetings were held on "Accelerating Climate Smart Development - Implementing Lessons from the MENA CCDRs" and "MENA Day Event: Green Hydrogen Development – What does MENA need to do to become a Global Hub?"

The two events were attended by WBG MENA Vice President Ferid Belhaj, WBG Country Director for Egypt, Yemen and Djibouti Marina Wes, as well as many representatives of member states, ministers and governors from the region.

Al-Mashat shared Egypt's experience in preparing the Country Climate Development Report (CCDR) in cooperation with the World Bank and relevant national entities across the year, studying the economy and challenges facing development and climate action and providing a holistic and detailed assessment of climate risks, and presents opportunities and policy options that pave the way forward to achieving climate action goals.

The CCDR Includes:

1) Cost-effective adaptation methods and approaches to reduce the negative impacts of climate change.

2) Policy interventions and actions to improve the efficient use of natural resources, and create additional fiscal space to finance projects that reduce people and the economy's vulnerability to risks of climate shocks.

3) actions that can help avoid compliance with carbon-emitting activities through changes at the policy level with consideration to reduce related costs.

The Minister also highlighted the launch of the Nexus for Water, Food and Energy, the (NWFE Program), which takes into account the recommendations issued in the CCDR, with the aim of accelerating the pace of transition to a green economy, through specific projects in the fields of water, food and energy, while working to mobilize climate finance and private investments. This also reflects the interdependence and integration between climate action and development efforts and enhances the efforts of the Government of Egypt to move from pledges to implementation, within the National Climate Change Strategy (NCCS 2050).

A New Phase of Cooperation

On the sidelines of the spring meetings, Al-Mashat met with David Malpass, President of the World Bank, who at the time was leaving his position at the end of the bank's fiscal year on June 30.

The Minister expressed gratitude to Malpass for his efforts in supporting the partnership between Egypt and the World Bank over the years, acknowledging that their collaboration has strengthened development cooperation programs and led to the implementation of numerous projects aligned with Egypt's development priorities and the 2030 development agenda.

Malpass' support was particularly valuable in sectors like food security, investment in human capital, and social protection, as well as in the launch of the new CPF and the CCDR.

Welcoming the new World Bank Group President Ajay Banga, Al-Mashat also held a bilateral meeting with him on the bank's evolution roadmap and cooperation with Egypt.

They emphasized the importance of enhancing the bank's operational role to meet the needs of member countries in the face of complex challenges such as climate change, geopolitical crises, food security issues, and rising poverty rates.

They discussed proposals to strengthen the operating model of the bank, taking into account the specificity of each country and the need for country ownership in development procedures, also during the Arab Governors meetings with Banga, where the Minister presented Egypt's experience in debt swaps for development, implemented with various development partners.



Bilateral Meetings







Al-Mashat met John Kerry, the United States Special Presidential Envoy for Climate, and David Thorne, Senior Advisor to the Secretary of State, during a reception organized by Michael Bloomberg, UN Special Envoy for Climate Ambition and Solutions, on the sidelines of the Spring Meetings, to honor Kristalina Georgieva, Managing Director of the IMF, for her leadership in climate action efforts.

They discussed Egypt's Nexus of Water, Food and Energy NWFE Platform, and Kerry noted the United States' keenness to support Egyptian efforts in transitioning to a green economy, pointing out that the NWFE program is a practical and effective model for the world in terms of national platforms for climate action and development.

Moreover, Al-Mashat met with Axel van Trotsenburg, Senior Managing Director for Development and policy; Ferid Belhaj, the MENA Regional Vice President; Mansour Al-Shamali, the Executive Director, and Anna Bjerde, the Managing Director of Operations.

The discussions revolved around enhancing the role of the World Bank in financing development and climate action across member states, exploring innovative solutions and mechanisms to address complex global challenges, and expanding climate financing; the NWFE Program; the Sharm El-Sheikh Guidebook for Just Financing; and cooperation with the bank.

During her visit, Al-Mashat also met Alexia Latortue, Assistant Secretary of the US Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for International Trade and Development, on details related to the US vision of the World Bank's evolution roadmap and on maximizing the role of development cooperation in supporting developing countries and emerging economies.

The reforms being discussed should reflect the demands of developing countries, especially middle-income and less-developed countries, in order to strengthen efforts to withstand the complex challenges facing the global economy, especially across the African continent.

Additionally, Al-Mashat met with Werner Hoyer, President of the European Investment Bank (EIB), and Odile Renaud-Basso, President of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD).

Al-Mashat then met with Ambassador Karan Bhatia, Global Vice President for Government Affairs and Public Policy at Google, on Egypt's efforts to promote digital transformation and improve public services through the "Digital Egypt" platform, aligning with Egypt's Vision 2030.

They emphasized the importance of digital inclusion, capacity building, and innovation to transition to a knowledge-based economy and support sustainable development.

INVESTING IN HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

The Launch of the Demographic Report on Human Development

The ***"Achieving the Demographic Dividend in the Arab Republic of Egypt: Choice, Not Destiny"*** report was launched in Egypt on February 7, 2023, with the World Bank Vice President for Human Development Mamta Murthi.

This also took place in the presence of Marina Wes, WBG's Country Director, Egypt, Yemen and Djibouti, H.E. Dr. Khaled Abdel Ghaffar, Minister of Health and Population, H.E. Nevin Al-Qabaj, Minister of Social Solidarity, H.E. Reda Hijazi, Minister of Education and Technical Education and Ahmed Kamali, Deputy Minister of Planning and Economic Development.

The report highlights the importance of the demographic dividend in Egypt's development and provides recommendations on how to maximize this opportunity by fostering inclusive growth and addressing demographic challenges. The report's preparation exemplifies Egypt's commitment to proactive policymaking and multi-stakeholder engagement to drive positive change and enhance human development outcomes.



Leading Initiatives and Inclusive Governance

The initiative to develop the Demographic Report on Human Development underscores Egypt's proactive approach to understanding and addressing its demographic landscape.

The government's leadership in spearheading this effort highlights its commitment to evidence-based policymaking and data-driven decision-making. The Ministry of International Cooperation played a pivotal role in coordinating efforts and ensuring inclusive governance by engaging key stakeholders from various sectors, including government agencies, academia, civil society organizations, and international partners.

Coordination of Multi-Sectoral Efforts

Recognizing the complexity of demographic challenges and their implications on human development, Egypt adopted a multi-sectoral approach to gather diverse perspectives and expertise.

Through active collaboration with partners such as the World Bank, UN agencies, and development organizations, Egypt created a conducive platform for knowledge exchange and the sharing of best practices.

This approach allowed for a comprehensive analysis of demographic trends, social indicators, and development goals to inform evidence-based policies that address the specific needs of the population.

Incorporating Global Expertise

The World Bank's vast experience in working with countries worldwide on human development issues enriched the report's insights and recommendations. Egypt's openness to learning from global experiences demonstrates its willingness to adapt successful strategies from other contexts and tailor them to suit the country's unique challenges and opportunities.

Key Themes Explored

The Demographic Report on Human Development examines key themes critical to inclusive growth and sustainable development.

It delves into areas such as population dynamics, health, education, employment, social protection, and gender equality. By identifying demographic trends and socio-economic indicators, the report provides an evidence-based roadmap for designing targeted policies and interventions that prioritize human capital development and well-being.

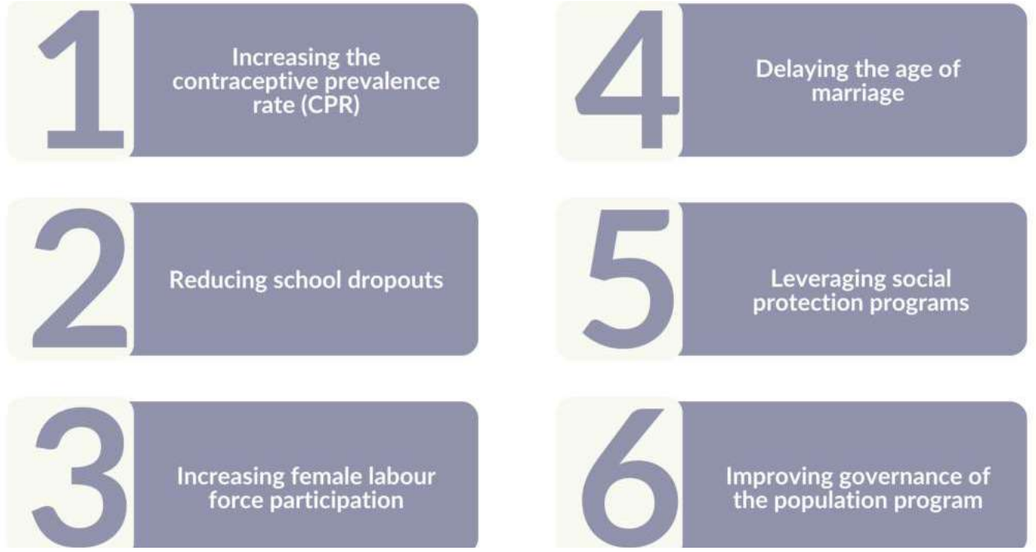
Path to Inclusive Growth

The report emphasizes the central role of human capital in driving inclusive economic growth and social progress.

It outlines strategies to invest in education and health, improve labour market opportunities, and enhance social protection systems to ensure that all segments of society can participate in and benefit from the country's development journey. The focus on gender equality and women's empowerment further underscores Egypt's commitment to fostering an inclusive and equitable society.

Egypt's demographic dividend is the potential economic growth that can be achieved as a result of a large and young working-age population. However, in order to realize this potential, Egypt needs to invest in its people and create an enabling environment for young people to thrive.

The demographic report identifies six political and strategic priorities to address:



The report also recommends that Egypt coordinate multi-sectoral efforts across all partners to achieve these goals. This will require strong leadership from the government and the private sector, as well as the participation of civil society and the international community.

Private Sector Engagement

Egypt has a long history of private-sector engagement. The country has a number of large and successful private businesses, and the government has taken steps to create a more favourable environment for private investment.

The World Bank's private sector arm, the International Finance Corporation (IFC), supports a wide range of private sector projects, including investments in infrastructure, agriculture, and manufacturing.

Promoting sustainable economic development, the IFC has been working in Egypt since 1976 and has invested over $7 billion in the country.

More on our cooperation with the IFC is detailed in section 3 under the chapter titled "Driving Economic Growth: Private Sector's Vital Role in Development".

In Marrakech on Global Action, Global Impact

The 2023 Annual Meetings

A New Vision to Eradicate Poverty & Promote Shared Prosperity

This year, the world is witnessing severe challenges at various economic and climate levels, in addition to ongoing discussions to develop the role of the World Bank Group (WBG) and the International Monetary Fund (IMF), to increase the effectiveness of their role in confronting poverty and promoting shared prosperity.

This year, the Minister of International Cooperation and Governor of Egypt to the World Bank, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat participated in the annual meetings of the bank that were held in Marrakesh, Morocco under the theme “Global Action, Global Impact”.

The annual meetings focused on the reforms being implemented by the World Bank to advance efforts on eradicating poverty, confronting global challenges, and advancing job opportunities, digital infrastructure, and climate action. During the annual meetings, the Minister participated in several bilateral meetings, as well as in many main activities and discussion sessions.

At the Core of the Annual Meetings....

Meeting of the Intergovernmental G24 on International Monetary Affairs & Development

The Intergovernmental G24 on International Monetary Affairs and Development held its meeting in the presence of the ministers of member states and in the presence of Axel van Trotsenburg, Senior Managing Director of the World Bank, Kristalina Georgieva, IMF Director General, and Nand Kishore Singh, Co-Chair of the Independent Expert Group of the G20.

Representatives of the G24 countries discussed a number of main and important topics; they stressed that the recovery in the global economy is slow and unbalanced, as inflationary pressures gradually recede as major central banks raise interest rates. As a result, external debt is affected and borrowing costs increase in low- and middle-income countries.

The G24 also stressed the importance of the role played by the World Bank in development; they emphasized the necessity of implementing its two goals of expanding the scope of its vision and mission, and confronting global challenges, taking into account the national priorities of all countries, in addition to praising the efforts made by the World Bank to increase Financing resources for the International Development Association (IDA) and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), with the importance of urging all donors to fulfill their pledges reaffirming the importance of providing additional financing on reasonable financial terms, including grants and concessional terms.

The group urged the IMF, the World Bank, and other multilateral development banks to continue to intensify their support for developing countries that need the necessary financing to mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change, as well as the resulting losses and damages, and to allocate resources to them. This support should include the provision of adequate and affordable financial resources, innovative financing mechanisms, technology transfer, and capacity-building initiatives.

The Plenary Sessions of the Development Committee & Annual Meetings

The meetings highlighted the significant progress the bank has made since it began its development process a year ago. The most important objectives of the development process are: increasing the financial capabilities of the bank, promoting stronger partnerships, deepening participation with the private sector, and raising efficiency in the work procedures and operations carried out by the bank.

The bank adopted new tools that could help provide an additional $157 billion to provide more development finance over 10 years. This included blended capital tools, a mechanism for guarantees for investment portfolios and projects, and adjusting the ratio of equity contributions to loans.

The President of the World Bank Ajay Banga, stated that the bank is considering granting loan maturities from 35 to 40 years to help countries better deal with long-term investments in social and human capital, and is examining the possibility of lowering interest rates to stimulate the cessation of the use of coal in Energy transition framework.









Meeting of Arab Ministers & Governors with the President of the World Bank Group





During participation in the meeting of Arab ministers and governors with the President of the World Bank Group, Al-Mashat delivered a speech on behalf of the Arab group that included many points.

They discussed the future partnership and deepening relations between Arab countries and the World Bank, especially in light of the development of the Bank's road map, as well as emphasizing the importance of the Bank's role in confronting the humanitarian, social, and economic impacts of current developments in the Middle East region.

In the discussion, H.E. welcome the development of the Bank's role, the new vision of the World Bank Group "to create a world free of poverty on a livable planet" and the new mission "to end extreme poverty and promote shared prosperity on a livable planet." Al-Mashat emphasized that in our quest to expand engagement in addressing global development challenges, we must prioritize inclusive economic growth to reduce poverty and inequality while taking into account resource constraints, debt levels, rising interest rates, and pressure on government budgets.

Moreover, the Minister emphasized the importance of the World Bank's role in helping the Arab region achieve the SDGs, mobilizing private investment, stimulating growth, and creating job opportunities, especially for women and youth, through partnership with relevant actors, and enhancing country ownership, while improving the speed and effectiveness of implementation.

They also highlighted the importance of the private sector as one of the pillars of sustainable development, and the World Bank Group has a major role to play in introducing innovative mechanisms for joint financing with the private sector for IBRD/IDA projects.

Emphasizing that the issue of climate change requires a comprehensive approach in line with the Paris Agreement and subsequent Conferences of the Parties, and with the SDGs that include mitigation, adaptation, losses and damages, and climate finance commitments. Hence, the meetings stressed the importance of a balanced mix of policies to ensure that emissions reduction targets remain on track, while addressing energy security and a just energy transition.

A Meeting with the Ministers and Governors of African Countries with the President of the World Bank

Al-Mashat also co-chaired the African Group Ministers and Governors meeting with the President of the World Bank, during which many important points were emphasized, the most prominent of which are:

- The importance of developing new mechanisms to finance economic development in Africa, with a focus on the future of debt as a financing tool for growth in Africa, energy financing, financing climate activities, and private sector development in Africa.
- Pointing out the continued high levels of debt and borrowing costs in Africa, which has exacerbated the financial and financing gaps in African countries, and pointing to the importance of the role of the World Bank in increasing support for the development of local financial markets and providing financing in local currency to mitigate the relevant exchange rate risks for all member states.
- Emphasizing expanding the scope of concessional long-term financing for African countries, reducing the cost of borrowing and providing emergency financing in times of crises, while reviewing financing fees to reduce the burdens on middle-income and least developed countries.





Financing Climate and Energy Projects in Africa

On the other hand, the meeting welcomed the outcomes of COP27 in Sharm El-Sheikh, and the African Conference of the Parties, especially the historic commitment to financing arrangements to respond to losses and damages associated with the harmful effects of climate change.

The meeting called on the World Bank to accelerate the implementation of the Sharm El-Sheikh Plan, as it was indicated that they are looking forward to stronger commitments at the COP28 to help bridge financing gaps in low - and middle-income African countries by establishing stronger partnerships with other multilateral development banks, to address climate-related challenges; strengthening incentives for private investments in climate funds.

Enhancing Private Sector Involvement

Regarding private sector engagement, the meetings called on the World Bank to provide the necessary technical support in African countries, through preparing reports and research to develop the labor market and develop skills in an effort to increase and develop the private sector.

There was also a focus on ensuring that the World Bank highlights energy security, food security, water security, digital development, human development, faster and effective debt resolution, and regional integration.



"Involving the private sector requires a paradigm change by developing new methods and mechanisms for financing economic development in Africa, through pumping large and concessional financing, in an effort to achieve sustainable development goals, and focusing on eradicating poverty and enhancing shared prosperity in light of the new vision of the Bank, with the importance of laying the foundations Strong private sector development in Africa." ***Ajay Banga, President of the World Bank Group.***

Ministerial Meeting for the Human Capital Ministerial Conclave

To enhance efforts to invest in human capital, Al-Mashat participated in the Human Capital Ministerial Conclave, with the participation of the World Bank Vice President for Human Development Affairs, Mamta Murthi, who pointed out the importance of investing in people in order to create more job opportunities. However, there are challenges facing developing countries to create an additional billion job opportunities by 2050, where youth skills must be developed, barriers for women must be removed and governments must also give priority to investing in people, as well as increased private sector engagement.

In her speech, Al-Mashat stated that Egypt is one of the leading countries in developing human resources and creating decent job opportunities for people, as the presidential initiative for developing Egyptian rural villages "Hayah Karima" was launched in 2019, with the aim of improving the living standards of those who live in vulnerable areas of the initiative's four main objectives, two focus on investment in human capital and social protection.

It also indicated the efforts of the Ministry of International Cooperation to support youth and emerging companies and stimulate innovative solutions in the field of climate action, among them is the launch of the Climatech Run initiative to support startups and digital artists around the world, and the launch of the Egyptian version of the United Nations Generation Unlimited initiative under the name "Shabab Balad" to support the country's efforts in cooperation with development partners to develop youth skills and provide means of learning, training and entrepreneurship.



"The private sector has a major role in developing labor skills, and therefore, investors from the private sector are motivated to participate and create platforms that work to raise the technical and professional capabilities of youth in Egypt. The World Bank launched the report on achieving the demographic dividend in Egypt, which indicated that Egypt has a rich population and demographic composition that qualifies it for growth and progress by increasing employment rates, maximizing productivity, enhancing financial inclusion, improving the work environment for women, supporting the stability of macroeconomic indicators, and raising the contribution of the private sector." ***H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat.***

Bilateral Meetings

Towards Comprehensive Partnerships with the World Bank

During the annual meetings, Al-Mashat held numerous meetings with senior officials of the World Bank and its affiliated institutions, to discuss strengthening comprehensive partnerships in light of the joint strategy with the Bank.

Al-Mashat met with the Director General of Operations at the World Bank, Anna Bjerde, and the Vice President of the World Bank for the Middle East and North Africa, Dr. Farid Belhaj, on various aspects of partnerships and development cooperation between Egypt and the Bank in terms of development financing and technical support and its importance in implementing many projects that directly benefit citizens, highlighting the impact of the Country Climate Development Report (CCDR) and the role the bank has played in the NWFE Program.

With the International Finance Corporation (IFC), Managing Director Makhtar Diop applauded the distinguished relations between Egypt and the IFC and the institution's role in supporting development priorities in Egypt, especially with the private sector through investment projects and technical support. The meeting also noted the IFC's role as a strategic advisor in the government's Asset Monetization Program,

Al-Mashat also met with the Head of Risk Management, Legal Affairs, Sustainability and Partnerships of the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA), Ethiopis Tafara, to discuss efforts to deepen MIGA's role in empowering the private sector and increasing its investments in Egypt, especially in the dry port of 10th of Ramadan, Safaga Port, and other projects.

To strengthen partnerships with the World Bank on climate action, Al-Mashat met with Luis Tineo, interim CEO of the World Bank's Climate Investment Fund (CIF). They discussed the Nature, People and Climate Initiative during COP27, to implement the projects of the NWFE program through soft financing worth $40 million and a grant worth $4 million. They also referred to the intensive discussions that went on in October between the CIF mission, the Ministry of International Cooperation, and the relevant parties, to begin preparing the investment plan for the project.



"We look forward to Egypt's participation in new programs by 2024 in the areas of smart cities and carbon reduction in the field of industry, in light of the importance of these programs. A workshop could be prepared in 2024 to introduce the new programs and present the Fund's work to the relevant national authorities to learn about the Fund's role in climate action." ***Luis Tineo, President of the Climate Investment Fund.***

Strengthening Relations with Development Partners and the Private Sector

H.E. Al-Mashat met the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) President on areas of joint cooperation, in the presence of the Regional Director for the Bank's Southern and Eastern Mediterranean Region, Heike Harmgart, and Khaled Hamza, Director of the Bank in Egypt. In this regard, Renaud-Basso applauded the continuous cooperation and coordination to implement the development projects that the EBRD finances in Egypt, in addition to the fact that the Bank is the leading partner in NWFE's energy pillar.

With the European Investment Bank (EIB), Al-Mashat met with President Werner Hoyer on the role of mobilizing blended finance that stimulates the private sector to participate in pumping investments in projects included within the NWFE program and the importance of presenting these financing tools at the investment forum scheduled to be held in COP28 and Egypt during 2024.

To enhance relations with the United Kingdom, Al-Mashat met with the Governor of the World Bank in the United Kingdom and the Secretary of State at the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), Andrew Mitchell.

Al-Mashat also met with the Director of the Middle East and Europe Region at the Japanese JICA Agency (JICA), Matsunaga Hideki on the projects being implemented with JICA, including the fourth metro line, the Egyptian-Japanese University, and the Grand Egyptian Museum.

During the event, the Minister met with the Jordanian Minister of Planning and International Cooperation, Zeina Toukan on the World Bank's evolution roadmap, with with Rula Al-Dashti, Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) on the Sharm El-Sheikh Guidebook for Just Financing, and with the Raghu Malhotra, President of MasterCard in the Middle East and Africa region.

Events & Discussions on the Global Stage

Closing Remarks: Accelerating the Rechanneling of Special Drawing Rights through Multilateral Development Banks

Al-Mashat participated in a high-level discussion session hosted by the African Development Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, the Rockefeller Foundation, and the Center for Global Development, to discuss redirecting special drawing rights from contributing countries through multilateral development banks, with the aim of enhancing their financing for development and climate resilience for countries most in need.

Al-Mashat delivered the closing speech, stressing that the world is going through a historic turning point in reformulating global economic governance, and we aim for a more comprehensive and flexible world that is equipped to deal with global shocks with greater flexibility in developing a long-term strategy to achieve true sustainable development.

Al-Mashat also stressed that the private sector plays an important role in facing current challenges, as it provides the necessary funding and expertise to equip countries to deal with them more effectively and efficiently. Moreover, exploring new innovative tools to strengthen the financial capacity of governments and their development partners is now critical to raise the current risks facing low- and middle-income countries to allow financing to flow to mitigate the effects of global crises. H.E. pointed out that developing and least developed countries face economic, social and environmental challenges, and developed countries and multilateral development banks must mobilize Special Drawing Rights to achieve development and flexibility.





"We affirm Egypt's commitment to its pledge to support the 13th Replenishment of the Resources of the IFAD, based on its status as one of the member states, and to strengthen its efforts in achieving agricultural and rural development, in light of the three priorities, which are climate and biodiversity, engaging the private sector, and addressing the causes and effects of poverty." H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat.

High Level Roundtable on the Thirteenth Replenishment of IFAD

Within the framework of the thirteenth replenishment cycle of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Al-Mashat participated in a high-level round table, where the Fund presented a presentation explaining the most important projects and achievements of the Fund. The presentation focused on the national priorities of member states, and reference was made to the Fund's proposed priorities for the period 2025. -2027, and the level of financing that the IFAD can provide depends on voluntary contributions from member states within the framework of its replenishment cycles.

The Fund applauded the effective partnership between Egypt and the Fund in implementing projects that contributed to the advancement of rural communities and the empowerment of small farmers, which reflects positively on enhancing agricultural productivity and rural entrepreneurship and supporting farmers' ability to withstand climate change.

In her speech, Al-Mashat reviewed the distinguished partnership, as the IFAD, in cooperation with national entities, works directly with small and lowest-income farmers in Egypt, and the areas most vulnerable to climate change, while also being at the forefront of institutions that have strengthened efforts to empower women and youth to enable them to contribute effectively to strengthening development efforts.

H.E. stated that during COP27 the IFAD was officially chosen as the main development partner for the food pillar within the NWFE program, which reflects Egypt's commitment to mobilizing climate finance and private investments for the green transformation and translating climate pledges into implementation through projects that are executable, realistic and attractive for investments.

Engaging Women as Leaders: Innovation, Financing and Collective Action

Along with the Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations and Chair of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development, Amina Mohammed, and the Director General of Operations at the World Bank, Anna Bjerde, Al-Mashat participated in a discussion session on "Engaging Women as Leaders: Innovation, Financing and Collective Action."



During her speech, H.E. stressed that women's participation in the economy is crucial at the macro level. Statistics indicate that women's participation in the labor market and that gender equality in Egypt could boost domestic product growth by 34%. H.E. also touched on the launch of the national strategy for women's empowerment in 2015.

Al-Mashat explained that the work with all multilateral and bilateral development partners and with the United Nations, and most of the programs and projects we undertake are driven by national strategies that include women's empowerment and youth skills development where government participation becomes important to create integration so that we can benefit from the comparative advantage of each of our partners to be able to achieve our national goals.

Green Infrastructure

Al-Mashat participated in a talk on "Green Infrastructure: Boosting financing, PPPs, and innovation for greater impact", with the IFC Managing Director Makhtar Diop, on the role of the private sector in the provision of innovative financing tools, and partnerships between the government and private sectors to enhance cooperation and efficiency.

H.E. pointed to the fruitful partnership with the IFC in the Benban Solar Park, which will be the largest solar energy project in the world once it is completed. The IFC also contributed and announced a $1 billion financing package in November 2022 to support AMEA Power to build, own and operate two solar and wind power plants in Egypt, with a total capacity of more than 1 gigawatt of renewable energy.

Financing Resilience, Growth and Shared Prosperity

Al-Mashat participated in the discussion session "Financing Resilience, Growth and Shared Prosperity," in the presence of the IMF Deputy Director General Kenji Okamura, the President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Alvaro Lario, and the Chief Economist and Vice President of the African Development Bank (AfDB), Kevin Urama, touched on the damage to many countries caused by sudden shocks, especially low-income countries facing multiple challenges - including inflation, food insecurity, high cost of lending, and high debt.

H.E. said that in an effort to strengthen partnerships and build relationships with development partners and multilateral financing institutions, there are three important principles:

1. The government's commitment to its national priorities.

2. The necessity to clarify the projects to be implemented and which MDBs have the comparative advantage.

3. The credibility of the international community through previous cooperation relationships.

Global Challenges & Solutions to Address Water Scarcity in the MENA Region

Al-Mashat participated in the "Thirsty for Solutions: Global Challenges and Local Solutions in Tackling Water Scarcity and Security in the Middle East and North Africa", session along with Dr. Ferid Belhaj, Senior Vice President of the Middle East and North Africa Region at the World Bank, and Dr. Mohamed Al-Jasser, President of the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB), Nizar Baraka, Minister of Equipment and Water in Morocco, and Dr. Zeina Touqan, Minister of Planning and International Cooperation of Jordan.

The session discussed identifying the policies, innovations, and procedures necessary to respond to the global water crisis, based on the experiences of the Middle East and North Africa region, in the context of the complex effects of climate change.

In this regard, Al-Mashat reviewed Egypt's measures to enhance water security and enhance the flexibility and sustainability of the water supply system as a top national priority. In March 2023, the Egyptian government signed a consultative agreement with the EBRD, the International Finance Corporation (ITFC) and the Sovereign Fund for Investment and Development of Egypt (TSFE) to support the preparation of four seawater desalination plants.

Al-Mashat indicated that the advisory agreement works to support Egypt in structuring and implementing water desalination projects in partnership between the government and private sectors, which would increase the country's water supply, especially from sustainable sources. The goal of the desalination project is to help ensure Egypt's water security, improve its resilience, mitigate the impact of freshwater scarcity caused by climate change, and promote sustainable economic growth.

High-level Ministerial Meeting on Accelerating the Financing of African Emergence

Upon the invitation of the Kingdom of Morocco, Al-Mashat participated in the high-level ministerial meeting on accelerating financing for African development, in the presence of about forty African ministers of finance and economics, where the challenges specific to Africa and the enormous opportunities provided by the continent in all fields were reviewed. The interventions also addressed the need to accelerate cooperation and integration between the various economies of the continent, in addition to strengthening South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation in Africa.

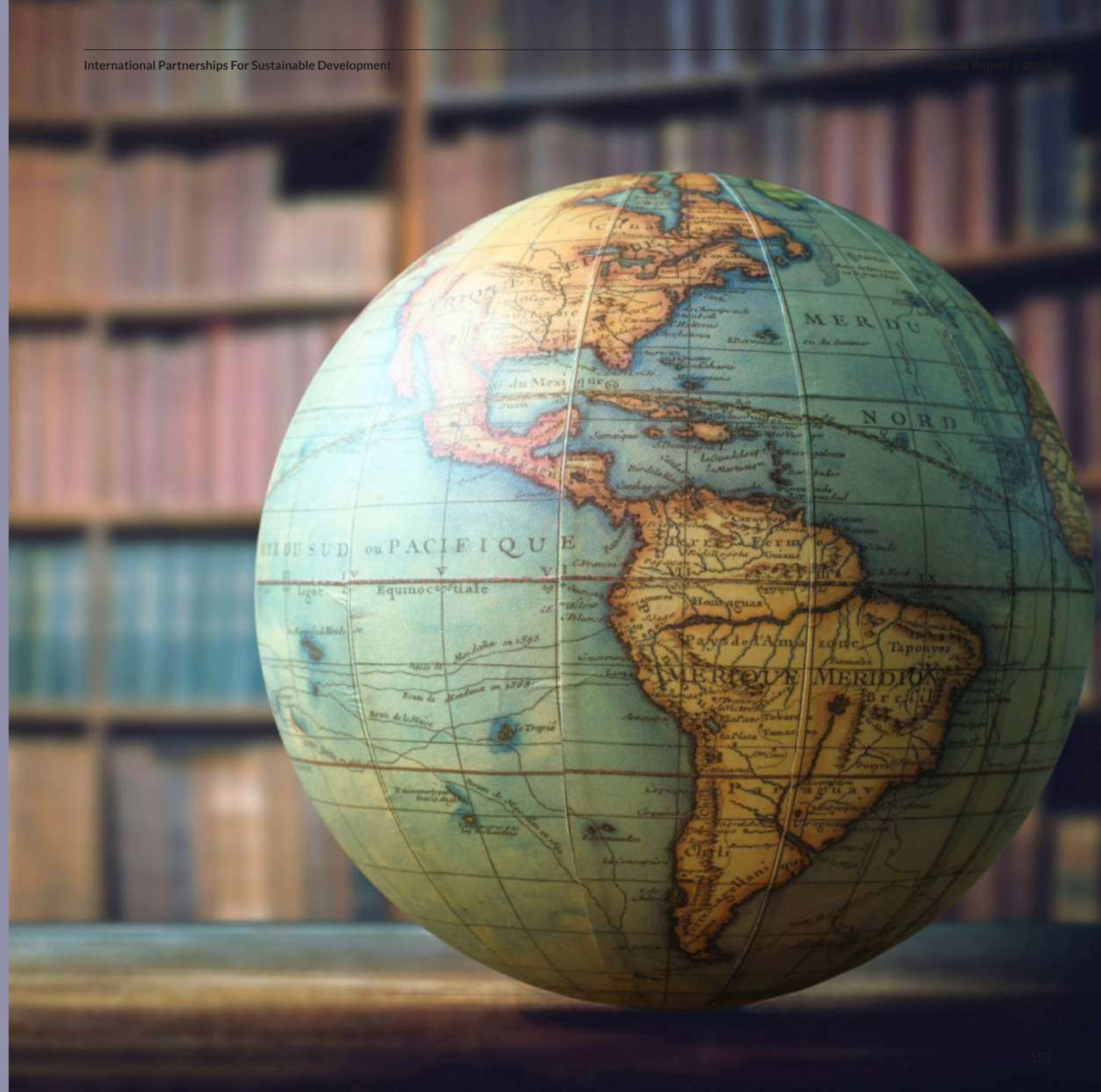
Al-Mashat also participated in the breakfast ceremony organized by the Rockefeller Foundation, with the participation of ministers and stakeholders to discuss issues related to debt, development and climate.





Chapter 3

BUILDING BRIDGES: COOPERATION WITH MULTILATERAL & BILATERAL PARTNERS



COLLABORATING FOR A BETTER TOMORROW

The core of the work at the Ministry of International Cooperation is centered around building country strategies and setting cooperation frameworks with all multilateral and bilateral partners; fostering collaboration with the global community and positioning Egypt's national agenda at the center.

In light of the Government of Egypt's vision to strengthen economic relations with multilateral and bilateral development partners at the regional and international levels and to mobilize efforts to achieve economic development in all sectors, the Ministry of International Cooperation is developing an integrated framework for development cooperation that acts as an umbrella under which all strategies with multilateral and bilateral development partners are involved.

This is a way to enhance integration efforts, maximize the use of development funds in meeting the country's priorities, stimulate the principles of transparency, inclusiveness and integration, maximize the use of concessional development funds to achieve development, promote climate action and expand mechanisms of private sector support.

Egypt has long-standing and historical relations with all multilateral and bilateral development partners. We continue to strengthen it over decades by financing projects through concessional development financing.

Moreover, strategies are formulated between Egypt and bilateral and multilateral development partners according to a participatory and transparent approach that reflects the values of integration and consistent efforts to contribute to the enrichment and implementation of sustainable development efforts. In this regard, strategies are in line with Egypt's Vision 2030, the government development program, the National Human Rights Strategy, the Integrated Strategy for Sustainable Energy 2035, the National Strategy for Climate Change 2050, as well as strategies for empowering women, youth and girls, and presidential initiatives, especially "Hayah Karima"

Through establishing country strategies, we work towards achieving integration between the finance provided by development partners in the various sectors according to the comparative advantage of each development partner.

The national strategy for international cooperation & development financing is based on 3 main foundations:

Mapping the paths of international cooperation and development financing with national development priorities to enhance the impact of international partnerships and in turn, contribute to achieving national development and the SDGs.

Enhancing the methodology for managing and governing the development financing file, which will focus on achieving development results with a tangible and measurable impact and included within the strategy of the Egyptian state.

Following-up on ongoing and new projects and mapping them with national priorities on an ongoing basis, and that the strategy represents a comprehensive framework for formulating strategic planning processes for Egypt's bilateral and multilateral development partners.



Over the past two years, the Ministry of International Cooperation led an extensive consultation process with all multilateral institutions to update strategies for the next five years, in cooperation with the relevant national authorities, to update strategies with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), the African Development Bank (AfDB), the WBG, the UN, the EU and the European Investment Bank (EIB), in addition to updating strategies with bilateral development partners, including the partnership with Germany until 2024, the partnership with the French Development Agency (AFD) until 2025, the Egyptian-Japanese partnership, the Egyptian-Korean partnership 2022-2026, and the economic cooperation and technical agreement with China.

The previous 2 chapters addressed the most recent country strategies launched in 2023, specifically featuring the World Bank and the UN, and this chapter addresses our work with all our other partners as well, specifically Europe & the United States.

Moreover, cooperation with our African and Asian partners is detailed in the coming chapter.

A ROADMAP OF COOPERATION

European Bank for Reconstruction & Development

Early last year, the Country Partnership Framework was launched with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) 2022-2027, with the aim of stimulating joint efforts with the bank to support development through 3 axes:

1. Promoting a more inclusive economy for Egyptian businesses, women and youth.
2. Accelerating Egypt's green economy transition.
3. Enhancing the country's competitiveness by supporting private-sector growth and strengthening governance.

The 3 pillars of the framework are aligned with the Government of Egypt's Work Programme, "Egypt Takes Off", through:

- Improving the Standard of Living for Citizens - **Second Pillar**
- Enhancing Productivity and Employment - **First Pillar**
- Economic Development and Improving Efficiency of Government Performance - **Third Pillar**
- Develop and Invest in Human Capital- **First Pillar**
- Protecting Natural Resources Towards Security and Sustainability - **Second Pillar**

Under the 1st and 3rd pillars of the cooperation framework with the EBRD:

- The EBRD invested over €1.3 billion euros in the last year in Egypt across 25 projects to promote a green and inclusive economy. 59% of these projects fall under the green economy, 62% focus on gender equality and social inclusion and 78% are focused on the private sector.
- In 2022, the bank provided a loan of $100 million to Banque Misr to support small and medium enterprises.

Under the 2nd pillar of the cooperation framework with the EBRD:

- Providing financing for green transportation projects worth €250 million for the second metro line.
- Providing financing of up to $80 million US dollars to "Egypt for Green Hydrogen" for the Norwegian company Scatec to develop and operate the first hydrogen production plant in Egypt.
- The European Bank invested $100 million in issuing green bonds to SCATEC Egypt to support the company's solar energy plants in the Benban complex, in addition to providing reserve liquidity facilities worth $30 million to other investors participating in the issuance.

The partnership between the Arab Republic of Egypt and the EBRD exceeded about €10 billion in 163 projects since Egypt became a country of operations in 2012, and the private sector acquired 78% of this investment. Over the past 5 consecutive years, from 2018 to 2022, Egypt was the largest country of operations in the southern and eastern Mediterranean region, reflecting the partnership's importance and role in driving economic growth.

Moreover, the EBRD contributed to the diversification of Egypt's energy mix with a commitment to finance an additional 1.6 GW of installed renewable energy capacity and an expected 8,303 kilotonne reduction in CO_2e emissions (equivalent to emissions from the electricity use of about 1.4 million homes or the consumption of more than 17 million barrels of oil).

Strengthening access to finance for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), the bank extended close to €1 billion to 19 private financial institutions and invested €128 million into SME equity funds to ensure the availability of long-term financing.



"Implementing the new strategy, the Bank will continue to couple its investments with robust policy engagement to help facilitate greater private-sector participation and enhanced corporate and economic governance in the public sector." ***Heike Harmgart, EBRD Managing Director for the Southern & Eastern Mediterranean region.***

The 32nd EBRD Annual Meeting

As Governor of Egypt at the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat participated in the 32nd EBRD Annual Meeting in Uzbekistan under the theme "Investing in Resilience".

The annual meetings include the governors of the bank's member states, representatives of the private sector and CEOs of major companies from around the world, businessmen and civil society, as well as representatives of many international financing institutions.

During the meetings in Samarkand, Uzbekistan, Al-Mashat delivered the speech of the Arab Republic of Egypt at the plenary session of the EBRD Board of Governors chaired by Odile Renaud-Basso, President of the Bank, which witnessed discussion and approval of a number of new decisions to enhance its expansion in new regions and support its operations aimed at supporting developing countries and emerging economies in enhancing their development path.

H.E. announced Egypt's approval of the decisions taken regarding amending the articles of association to enable the bank to expand its operations in sub-Saharan Africa and Iraq, which reflects the growing role of the bank and multilateral development banks in supporting development efforts and climate action in various countries.

The bank's board of governors approved the decision to amend the articles of association to enable it to expand in sub-Saharan Africa and Iraq, provided that the bank receives requests from interested countries and studies them through the applicable governance system. The study conducted by the bank showed that the current business model enables 6 countries: Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria and Senegal to join the membership of the bank, and Iraq is also scheduled to join the countries of the southern and eastern Mediterranean region that includes (Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Tunisia, the West Bank and the Gaza Strip), which was granted investments of more than €19 billion in 363 projects by the bank since it began its work in the region in 2011.



"In order for development partners to be more aware of local variables, an approach to development cooperation that is based on state ownership and its priorities is extremely important to help developing countries and emerging economies align their strategies with the global development agenda, and to ensure the achievement of the SDGs, taking into account environmental and social standards, and applying strict governance rules." ***H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat***

The 32nd Governors Annual Meeting Plenary Session, with fellow governors, concluded with the approval of several important decisions, including the launch of a process to increase our paid-in capital in line with the Capital Adequacy Report of the G20 and extending the bank's geographic reach into sub-Saharan Africa and Iraq.

Moreover, Egypt was voted as Vice Chair of the Board of Governors for 2023-2024.

EBRD x COP27: An Energy Transition

The EBRD is Egypt's lead energy partner in the NWFE platform, a nexus of water, food and energy. More on NWFE is in the next section.

A Green Cities Initiative

Promoting the concept of green transformation and resilience requires joint action between the relevant parties and constructive partnerships; the "Green Cities" initiative is innovative and promotes sustainable solutions for the transition to a green economy.

Al-Mashat participated in a panel discussion at the EBRD's annual meetings, in Samarkand, Uzbekistan, on the "EBRD Green Cities: Resilient Solutions for Cities of the Future," with well as Lynn O'Grady, Vice President of Sustainable Infrastructure Policy EBRD, Nandita Parshad, General Manager of the EBRD's Sustainable Infrastructure Group, Thierry Déau, Chief Executive Officer of Meridiam, Erikson Turdimov, Governor of Samarkand City, and Catherine Workman, President Middle East Division of Pinsent Masons, and Almaskhan Smatlayev, First Deputy Akim, East-Kazakhstan Region.

The "Green Cities" initiative was launched by the EBRD, highlighting the importance of development partners and international institutions launching such innovative initiatives that enhance communication and stimulate inclusive and sustainable growth.

The concept of Green Cities revolves around 3 main pillars: government policies, citizens and the private sector, which are largely interrelated and complement each other.

SCAN QR CODE TO WATCH THE FILM:

This is very much in line with Egypt's hosting of the World Urban Forum at its 12th session in November 2024, which is the second largest international conference after COP27, to enhance the global and local trend towards green transformation and to enhance the smart urban development efforts undertaken by the country.

During the session, EBRD's Nandita Parshad said that Egypt is one of the bank's main partners in the "Green Cities" initiative, and she also reviewed the results of the initiative so far, which has succeeded in investing about €7 billion in 80 projects, for sustainable infrastructure since the launch of the initiative.

What is the Green Cities Initiative?

The EBRD launched the Green Cities Program in late 2016, to support cities to transition to a green, low-carbon and more resilient future. It achieves this by helping cities identify their most pressing environmental priorities, and addressing them through targeted investment and public policy actions. To date, the program includes 50 cities globally, 80 projects are being implemented, saving 4.57 million tons of CO_2 emissions, and mobilizing about €5 billion from the project's bilateral and multilateral development partners, including the Green Climate Fund, the European Commission, the European Bank Technical Support Instrument, South Korea and Japan.

During the Annual Meeting, the EBRD presented a promotional film to highlight the projects that are being implemented specifically in Egypt within the framework of partnership with the bank within the "Green Cities" program, through which the bank aims to help cities meet environmental challenges, improve the quality of life, and combat the effects of climate change, through an action plan to be implemented, to shift towards green cities, and to provide green funds for projects to be implemented in various fields; overall it aims to include 100 cities around the world by 2024.

Through the close partnership between Egypt and the EBRD, three Egyptian cities joined the Green Cities Program: Greater Cairo Governorate, Alexandria Governorate, and Sixth of October City, and during the visit of the President of the bank Odile Renaud-Basso to Egypt in April 2021, a memorandum of understanding was signed to include the governorates of Cairo and Alexandria in the program, in addition to the city of 6th of October.

The film, prepared by the EBRD, and broadcast during a panel discussion on the "Green Cities" program, attended by government officials and EBRD governors from dozens of countries, and representatives of international institutions, included 3 projects in particular: **the dry port in the 6th of October City, and the Greater Cairo metro lines and the Abu Qir Metro in Alexandria.**

These are projects that reflect the importance of partnership between the government and private sectors to develop sustainable infrastructure and its impact on creating an investment climate.



The 1st Dry Port in Egypt

The dry port of 6th of October City is the first of its kind, as part of the Government of Egypt's plan to expand dry port projects to enhance logistic centers in Egypt, and the first of its kind to be implemented in partnership between the government and private sectors. The EBRD had provided development financing in the amount of $25 million, for the first dry port in Egypt, which will serve as an extended gateway to seaports in the northern and eastern regions.

The port provides many advantages, the most important of which is reducing waiting time and enhancing work efficiency in seaports, reducing congestion in ports and on roads due to containers used in transporting containers, replacing them with railways, and reducing fuel use by providing 14 million liters of diesel fuel, used to transport containers every year, besides reducing CO_2 emissions by about 40,000 tons.

Earlier, the 6th of October dry port project won the "IJ Global" award as the best and first transportation project within the framework of EBRD's Green Cities program in the Middle East and North Africa region, which serves the industrial zones in Egypt.

SCAN QR CODE TO READ MORE:



The 2nd Line of the Greater Cairo Metro

Among the pioneering projects to which the EBRD contributes, to enhance the sustainability of infrastructure in Cairo, is the second line of the Greater Cairo Metro, which comes in light of the Government of Egypt's vision to develop the sustainability of transportation infrastructure, through the expansion of electric-powered means.

The Greater Cairo Metro transports about 200 million passengers annually, with the possibility of increasing the capacity by about 50%, and reduces carbon dioxide emissions that pollute the air by about 31 thousand tons annually.

SCAN QR CODE TO READ MORE:

Abu Qir Electric Metro in Alexandria

The EBRD is financing the Abu Qir metro in Alexandria at a value of €250 million. The project provides many benefits, as it connects the city of Alexandria to Abu Qir through a 22-kilometer subway line, and contributes to removing traditional transit places that threaten the lives of citizens, as well as reducing carbon dioxide emissions by about 22 thousand tons per year.

SCAN QR CODE TO READ MORE:

Bilateral Meetings

At the EBRD Annual Meeting, Al-Mashat met with the EBRD President Odile Renaud-Basso on the ongoing partnerships between Egypt and the Bank, and future steps to enhance joint cooperation with regard to the energy pillar within the Country Platform for NWFE program and to stimulate private sector participation in development through technical support and investments.

Also, the Minister met with bank heads to discuss areas of joint cooperation and enhance future cooperation in light of the state's priorities and the country's strategy between the two countries for 2022-2027, including Mr. Jürgen Regeterink, Senior Vice-President of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Kazuhiko Koguchi, Secretary General of the Bank, Ms. Nandita Parshad, Director of the Infrastructure Group of the Bank, Mr. Harry Boyd-Carpenter, Managing Director of Climate Strategy at the Bank, and Mr. Thomas Ostros, Managing Director of the Bank's Financial Institutions.

Moreover, Al-Mashat sat with the Founder and Chairman of the Board of Directors of ACWA Power, Mohammad A. Abunayyan and the CEO Marco Arcelli. During the meeting, they discussed the company's investments in Egypt, and their interest to expand in the field of renewable energy, water desalination and green hydrogen.

It is worth noting that ACWA Power is working on the construction of a wind power plant in the Gulf of Suez with a capacity of 1100 megawatts as part of the projects being implemented within the framework of the energy pillar of the "NWFE" program, through which it aims to implement renewable energy stations with a capacity of 10 gigawatts to reduce harmful emissions and stimulate a just transition towards renewable energy in Egypt.

The company's officials affirmed their endeavor to expand investment inside Egypt through the implementation of renewable energy projects, as well as green hydrogen production and water desalination projects, in a way that enhances development efforts in the country.

The company had obtained $114 million in financing to inaugurate the largest solar power plant belonging to the private sector in Egypt, in the city of Kom Ombo in Aswan, with a capacity of 200 megawatts. Last April, the company obtained new financing of $123 million within the framework of the same project from the EBRD, the OPEC Fund for International Development, the African Development Bank, the Sustainable Energy Fund for Africa of the African Development Bank, the Green Climate Fund, the Arab Bank, and the Arab Company for Petroleum Investments "APICORP".







Highlights of the Year with EBRD: A Commitment to Green



This year, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat witnessed the launch of the second phase of the Green Economy Financing Facility Egypt II – GEFF Egypt II and greening value chains for the private sector, with a value of $175 million. This comes as a result of the effective partnerships between the Government of Egypt and the EBRD to stimulate the participation of the private sector and increase its role in development efforts in Egypt.

The second phase of the program was launched during an event titled "From Pledges to Implementation: Boosting Green Finance in Egypt" in the presence of H.E. Dr. Yasmine Fouad, Minister of Environment, H.E. Christian Berger, Ambassador, Head of the European Union (EU) Delegation to Egypt and Dr. Heike Harmgart, Managing Director for the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean region at the EBRD in addition to a number of financial and banking institutions in Egypt and development partners.

Through the second phase of the program, which is being implemented in partnership with the EBRD, financing estimated at $175 million will be directed specifically to micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), with the aim of supporting their participation in development, creating more job opportunities, and enhancing the sustainability and resilience of value chains. During the program's first phase, concessional financing of $157 million was made available to several financial institutions, which contributed to financing 101 projects to advance green transition and reduce harmful carbon emissions.

Moreover, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat witnessed the launch of the second phase of the technical support programme for the digitalisation of the Suez Canal Economic Zone (SCZone).

This is being implemented in partnership with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and the country strategy with the bank for 2022-2027 that focuses on promoting an inclusive economy, accelerating Egypt's green economy transition, and enhancing the country's competitiveness by supporting private-sector growth and strengthening governance.

The first phase achieved great progress in terms of accelerating the pace of procedures for investors in the SCZone, which enhances the efficiency of the services that are provided, and supports the Government of Egypt's priorities to transform the region into a major development hub and enhance the competitive advantages available to investors from different sectors across the world. To add on, the second phase aims to simplify administrative procedures and speed up the management of investor services, launch a unified and automated window that provides services to investors, and develop an effective, competitive and environment-friendly business environment.

In Private Sector Engagement

In continuation of the efforts made through international partnerships to empower the private sector in Egypt and to provide concessional development financing via cooperation with multilateral and bilateral development partners to meet development priorities and implement the pillars of the country strategy between the Arab Republic of Egypt and the EBRD from 2022-2027, the bank approved soft development financing that is worth more than $630 million for private sector institutions in Egypt.

The EBRD Board of Directors approved development financing for the National Bank of Egypt worth $400 million, to support small, medium and micro enterprises, with a focus on regional companies led or owned by young entrepreneurs.

The EBRD Board of Directors also approved a development financing of $100 million for Banque Misr to enhance financing directed to micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in a way that supports inclusive and sustainable growth, and to increase financing directed to MSMEs in areas that have less access to financial services.





In the same context, the bank approved new financing for the Mediterrania Capital IV Fund worth €30.2 million, equivalent to $32.5 million. The fund aims to direct investments of €350 million in investments for medium-sized companies in the health care, retail, financial services and manufacturing sectors to develop the economy in Egypt, Tunisia and Morocco, paying special attention to companies led by women to enhance their access to the necessary economic opportunities. It is worth noting that Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat, Minister of Cooperation, witnessed a signing with the International Finance Corporation (IFC) last March to provide €25 million for the fund during the visit of the IFC Vice President Sergio Pimenta.

The European Bank's Board of Directors also approved development financing for the Egyptian German Industrial Company worth $50 million, to support the company's capital and finance its imports of production inputs. It also approved development financing worth $50 million for the benefit of the United Metals Company, and these financings would enhance the efficiency of supply chains and enable companies to move forward in expanding their business, and the funding also includes goals related to promoting equal gender opportunities and women's economic empowerment.

In general, the bank provided financing during the past year worth €737 million for the private sector to support SMEs, while the bank's total investments in Egypt amounted to €1.3 billion in 2022, to come at the forefront of the countries of operations in the southern and eastern Mediterranean region.

European Investment Bank

In light of the cooperation with the European Union, a new partnership framework was developed with the European Investment Bank (EIB) for 2021-2027, which enhances areas of joint cooperation, especially in the sectors of health, education, environment, energy, water treatment, transportation, agriculture, and supply, and stimulates joint work with the private sector, within the framework of the "Team Europe" initiative, through which it targets the European Commission and the European Union's Neighborhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument, with the aim of stimulating the green transition and enhancing sustainable development efforts.

The EIB is the only bank that represents the interests of EU countries, and works closely with other EU institutions to implement policies. The current cooperation portfolio with the EIB amounts to €3.5 billion to finance 20 development projects in various sectors, including the transport and sanitation sectors.

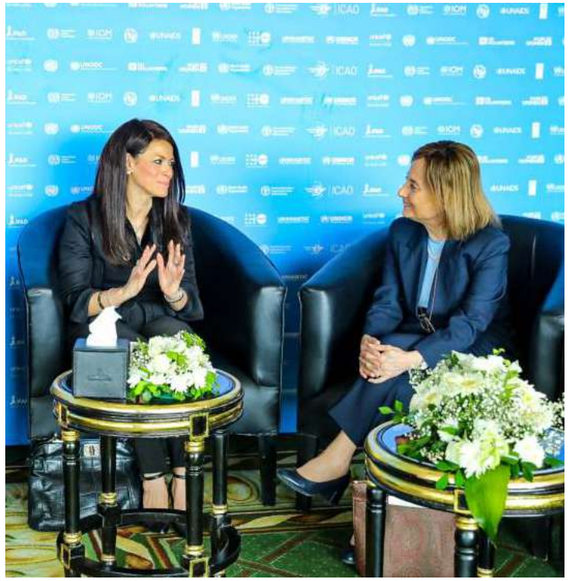
The Ministry of International Cooperation, in coordination with national entities, is working to implement the new cooperation strategy 2021-2027 in priority areas. The new strategy is of great importance for Egypt to enhance the transition towards a green economy, especially in light of the EIB's commitment to allocate investments for climate action and green recovery. In light of its selection as Europe's climate bank.

The development financing that the Bank made available to the Egyptian private sector during the period from 2020 until the first half of 2023 amounted to about €2.36 billion, in various development fields, to empower the private sector and increase its role in achieving comprehensive and sustainable development, including €662 million in the first half of 2023 to support the Egyptian private sector through credit lines to a number of banks, and participation in investment funds.

In addition, during the visit of Gelsomina Vigliotti, Vice President of the EIB for the Levant Region to Egypt, financing worth $15 million was recently signed from the EIB for the Bank of Alexandria, to finance small and medium enterprises (SMEs), with the aim of supporting energy efficiency and renewable energy investments in the service sectors. Industrial, commercial and agricultural operations carried out by private companies.

The bank is also scheduled to make available, within the framework of the new strategy, about €4 billion for the NWFE program projects and other projects in Egypt.

Across the year, Al-Mashat has met with representatives from the EIB, including President Werner Hoyer, during the World Economic Forum (WEF) Annual Meeting 2023 in Davos, Switzerland and during the World Bank and IMF Spring Meetings, on the NWFE Program, and the NWFE+ Program which promotes the mobilization



of blended finance mechanisms and stimulates private sector engagement in implementing green projects within the transport sector.

Moreover, in her visit to Egypt, Al-Mashat held a meeting with Gelsomina Vigliotti, Vice President of the EIB, during her visit to Egypt to discuss strengthening joint cooperation with the government and meeting many representatives of national authorities, in light of the strategic relations with the EIB, the financing arm of the EU.

The meeting witnessed discussions on future cooperation projects between the government and the EIB, especially in the environment and food security sector, and the contribution of the EIB to the implementation of the projects of the Nexus for Water, Food and Energy, the "NWFE" program. Al-Mashat applauded the fruitful cooperation with the bank over the past period, especially in 2022, which witnessed the implementation of many cooperation and partnership programs at the level of the government and private sectors.



In another context, Al-Mashat met with Thomas Östros, representative of the EIB, in the Board of Governors of the EBRD, where the meeting discussed the ongoing partnerships between Egypt and the EIB in light of the country's development priorities, and the bank's role in stimulating the sector's participation private sector projects in the "NWFE" program, as well as the "NWFE +" program, which includes sustainable infrastructure projects in the transportation sector, and strengthening partnership between the government and private sectors

During the year, Al-Mashat delivered the closing speech of the 2023 edition of the EIB MED Conference, which is jointly organized by the Spanish Presidency of the European Union and the Union for the Mediterranean and held under the theme "Connectivity in the Mediterranean: Together for a Better Future."

This included the participation of Gelsomina Vigliotti, Vice President of the European Investment Bank (EIB), Hassan Abdallah, Governor of the Central Bank of Egypt, Ambassador Nasser Kamel, Secretary General of the Union for the Mediterranean, and other government representatives, leaders of the EIB, the private sector, international financing institutions, and relevant stakeholders.

In early 2023, the Minister had welcomed the delegation of the European Investment Bank (EIB) led by Lionel Rapaille, EIB Director of the Neighboring Countries Department, in the presence of Alfredo Abad, head of the EIB's Cairo office, the banks' technical team, and the team of the Ministry of International Cooperation, where H.E. also noted the importance of intensifying joint work in light of Egypt's priorities and the joint strategy with the bank to stimulate the financing mechanisms available to the private sector, especially climate finance and blended finance, especially as the EIB operates according to a plan aimed at increasing financing and commitments towards climate action to reach the level of 50% of investments by 2025.

Launch of the New Regional Hub in Cairo

This year, also and in the presence of Prime Minister H.E. Dr. Mostafa Madbouly, the EIB formally opened its new regional hub in Cairo, Egypt, to strengthen engagement and cooperation with private and public partners across the Middle East and North Africa.

Building on decades of engagement and presence in Egypt, this was announced during the launch of the NWFE Progress Report 1 where the bank is represented as the lead partner for the sustainable transport pillar.



"The EIB is Egypt's leading international financial partners, and has provided financial and technical support for climate action, business, energy, water and transport investment that has improved opportunities and services across Egypt over more than 40 years. Egypt welcomes the EIB's decision to locate the regional hub here in Cairo and I welcome Guido Clary as new Head of the Regional Hub. The strengthened Cairo presence will deepen our partnership with the EIB and unlock new opportunities in the years to come." ***H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat.***







"Strengthening the local presence of EIB Global is crucial to better address investment challenges and increase the impact of engagement with public and private investment partners. The new Regional Hub will further deepen European Investment Bank cooperation with Egypt and countries from Lebanon to Morocco." ***Gelsomina Vigliotti, Vice President of the EIB.***



"The European Union Delegation welcomes the decision of the EIB, the EU Bank, to establish a regional hub in Cairo. The EIB has unique financial, technical, environmental and social expertise and will support new investments in Egypt and in the region improve livelihoods and enhance economic opportunities." ***Ambassador Christian Berger, Head of the European Union Delegation to Egypt.***

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

In 2023, H.E. Dr. Rania A, Al-Mashat participated in the activities of the "Green Finance and Investment Forum" held by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) in France.

During the visit, H.E. met with the Secretary-General of the OECD, Mathias Corman, on various aspects of cooperation between Egypt and the organization in various fields, in light of the extended history between Egypt and the organization in enhancing the effectiveness of development cooperation, and benefiting from OECD methodologies, policies and platforms in stimulating blended finance, empowering the private sector, and applying international standards in development cooperation efforts.

The OECD plays an important role in strengthening the role of the organization's bilateral development partners and the role of multilateral development finance institutions in developing new mechanisms for multilateral cooperation that suit the needs of emerging and developing economies, and the need to increase the financial resources and technical support necessary to meet the challenges of developing countries in development at the international level.

It is important to highlight the efforts undertaken by the OECD through the Development Assistance Committee (DAC), which was established in 1960 and whose membership includes 32 major countries that provide concessional development financing, and aims to enhance the effectiveness of development cooperation and stimulate policies in order to implement the 2030 SDGs.

By reviewing and formulating policies, analyzing data, and promoting innovation in the field of development cooperation, stressing that Egypt has provided a model as it is one of the countries that apply international standards related to improving the effectiveness of development cooperation, through the "Principles of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation," which works to follow up indicators of the effectiveness of development cooperation to achieve the 2030 SDGs, and to enhance integration between relevant entities, and the two entities have been cooperating in it for more than fifteen years, and the partnership is based on 4 main principles; country ownership, focus on results, inclusive partnerships, transparency and accountability.





The OECD is also implementing a study on the private sector's participation in development in Egypt through development cooperation, which was a comprehensive dialogue at the country level, as it worked to study and analyze the challenges facing the private sector and the opportunities available through international partnerships.

Moreover, the OECD works to advance growth and stimulate economic reforms, governance structures, and private sector development, and in light of the close cooperation with Egypt, many activities and events have been implemented, including the participation of the Ministry of International Cooperation, the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation, and the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) in the organization of a workshop on triangular cooperation in Africa during the 1st edition of the Egypt - International Cooperation Forum (Egypt - ICF). The organization was also among the partners contributing to the preparation of the Sharm El-Sheikh Guidebook for Just Financing.

During her participation in the event, Al-Mashat participated in two high-level panels.

The first was on "Scaling Up Finance for Adaptation and Resilience," along with the Chair of the Green Finance Institute, Emma Howard Boyd, Partner and Head of ESG at Meridiam Foundation, Ginette Borduas, Deputy Director for Development Cooperation at OECD, Haje Schutte, Managing Director at Pollination, Gavin Templeton and the session was moderated by the Senior Policy Analyst of OECD, Michael Mullan.

The second was on "Delivering Just Climate Action in Developing Countries: From Theory to Implementation," with the participation of the Director of the Development Cooperation Department at the OECD, María del Pilar Garrido Gonzalo, Head of Strategy and Corporate Policies of the African Development Bank (AfDB), Victoria Chisala and President of Investisseurs & Partenaires, Jean-Michel Severino.

Cooperation with the EU & European Countries

Through Egypt's cooperation with the EU, we work on maximizing the use of development finance to support projects of national priority in various sectors, the most prominent of which are: health and food security, sanitation and environment, in addition to strengthening partnership with the EU in clean energy and green hydrogen.



The current cooperation portfolio with the EU amounts to approximately €1.3 billion to finance several development projects in various sectors, including health, environment, wastewater treatment, clean and renewable energy, and gender equality.

The **Country Partnership Framework between Egypt and the European Union (EU) for 2021-2027** was approved in June 2022 with the aim to enhance cooperation between the two sides for the coming period in Luxembourg during February and March, determining priorities for cooperation during the coming period, based on the existing cooperation with the EU in renewable energy, the environment, social protection, food security, water resources management and sustainable transport.

During the meetings, the Ministry held two committees:

1. Transport, Environment & Energy

Representatives from the Ministries of Environment, Petroleum and Mineral Resources, Transport, Water Resources and Irrigation, Electricity and Renewable Energy, Civil Aviation, Foreign Affairs, and the General Authority for Suez Canal Economic Zone, where areas were discussed on current and future cooperation between the two sides through bilateral and regional cooperation, in terms of the environment, climate change, transportation and energy.

2. Information Community: Visual, Audio, Communications, Scientific Research, Innovation, Education & Culture

Representatives of the Ministries of Higher Education and Scientific Research, Communications and Information Technology, and Education participated in the committee. Discussions included education and technical education, youth and sports, tourism and antiquities, culture, and foreign affairs. They discussed the current and future between the two sides through bilateral and regional cooperation across sectors.

Within the framework of the Ministry of International Cooperation's role in following up the implementation of projects/programs funded by development partners, in particular with the EU, the Ministry works to maximize the EU's benefit through the results of both committees.

Some of the highlights:

- An agreement was signed between the EU and the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS) to carry out activities related to the Ministries of Agriculture and Land Reclamation, Supply and Internal Trade with a total amount of €40 million, within the framework of the "EU-KAFI Contribution Agreement Under the EU Food Facility" programme, funded by a grant of €100 million, while deliberating the projects funded by the remaining amount - estimated at €60 million. Through the grant agreement, the AICS will cooperate with the Ministry of Agriculture to support wheat and grain production by increasing access to approved and mechanized seeds at a value of €25 million, with the aim of implementing activities related to agricultural mechanization for the production of grains and improved seeds. In cooperation with the Ministry of Supply, it will work on establishing field silos, as well as completing the information system to control the movement of wheat in Egypt, at a value of €15 million.
- The Ministry of International Cooperation coordinates with the EU to provide funding specific to 5 programs/projects in the areas of empowering women and supporting the presidential initiative "Hayah Karima", increasing trade, equal opportunities and technical assistance in a variety of sectors through a €91 million grant to be signed before the end of 2023. The EU will also participate in financing the project "Sustainable Green Industries" through co-financing with the EIB, within the framework of the "European Fund for Sustainable Development" and the "Team Europe initiative" with a value of €30 million.
- The completion of the first tranche of the Health Sector Policies Support Program - Phase Two (Budget Support) worth €80 million, and ongoing efforts to disburse the second and last trance worth €9 million.
- The Ministry of International Cooperation maximizes the use TAIEX, the Technical Assistance and Information Exchange instrument of the European Commission, where many activities have been implemented in the textile industry, public administration, food security, youth and sports, administrative and legislative simplification of procedures, among other areas, to meet national needs and priorities.
- The EU will provide technical support to help prepare and complete the necessary studies to start the technical design for the "Adaptation of Northern Delta Affected by Sea Level Rise" project, included in the NWFE Program.
- Within the framework of the "Global Gateway" initiative announced by the EU Commission worth €300 billion until 2027, which includes several pillars that Egypt can benefit from, the Ministry prepared a list of national priority projects consistent with strategic objectives in: digitization, sustainable transportation, clean energy, urban development, water desalination, electricity, and healthcare, education; all in coordination with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- Negotiations are underway with the EU, in coordination with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, to maximize the benefit for regional cooperation with the EU through the INTERREG NEXT MED program for 2021-2027, which is a new phase of the "Cross Border Cooperation for the Mediterranean Basin" program (ENI CBC MED), which benefited many Egyptian entities, including the public and private sectors, federations, universities and research centers, and civil society organizations, by financing 26 projects. A group of key indicative sectors were identified: sustainable tourism, cultural heritage, creative and cultural industries, digital transformation, agriculture and agri-food, blue and circular economy, education and training, and energy.
- An MoU agreement on clean energy and green hydrogen was signed between Egypt and the EU on switching to renewable energy sources that limit the use of traditional sources polluting the environment.
- A declaration of intent was signed regarding the contribution of the European Commission's support to the energy pillar of the NWFE program with a grant of up to €35 million.

Germany

The ongoing development cooperation portfolio between Egypt and Germany amounts to €1.6 billion, covering 30 projects in the form of soft financing, technical support grants and financial contributions to address many sectors, including energy efficiency, renewable energy, wastewater and irrigation, innovation in the private sector, technical education, vocational training, urban development, women and youth and social development.

The Ministry of International Cooperation and Germany signed 31 documents worth €634 million from January 2021 to November 2022 in the form of soft financing, debt swaps, grants and technical support.

At COP27, 9 documents worth €160 million were signed with the German government:

- A financial cooperation agreement for 2020 between the Egyptian and German governments worth €80 million.
- A financing agreement for the financial support project for the comprehensive technical education initiative in Egypt worth €26 million to the Ministry of Education and Technical Education.
- A €16.5 million financing agreement and €2 million grant for rehabilitating canals to the Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation.
- A financing agreement (complementary grant) worth €12.5 million for the rehabilitation of vocational schools for the Ministry of Education and Technical Education.
- An executive contract for the Nile Delta Water Management Program worth €11 million as a grant to the Ministry of Housing, Utilities & Urban Communities, Agriculture and Land Reclamation.
- An executive contract for the project to support e-government and innovation in public administration: in the amount of € 8 million as a grant, of which the Ministries of International Cooperation, Communications and Information Technology are beneficiaries of.
- The implementation contract for the Participatory Infrastructure Project worth €2 million as a grant to the Ministry of Housing, Utilities & Urban Communities.
- The executive contract for the capacity building project through the development of infrastructure in areas affected by illegal immigration worth €2 million as a grant to the Ministry of Housing, Utilities and Urban Communities.



Progress & Potential

On November 3, 2022, two declarations of intent were signed with the German side on cooperation in the fields of green hydrogen and liquefied gas, which aims to enhance cooperation on the green transition, in accordance with the Paris Agreement to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, as well as promoting cooperation between public and private sectors.

The Egyptian-German governmental negotiations were held under the chairmanship of the Ministry of International Cooperation in December 2022 to define the framework for future cooperation until 2024, within which development funds, grants and debt swaps amounting to €370.8 million will be made available to finance 16 projects in various sectors, mainly education, technical education, vocational training, innovation support and green transformation, as well as the implementation of an axis within the NWFE program.

Within these agreements, €258 million has been allocated to support the energy pillar of the NWFE program.

More on our cooperation in debt swaps with Germany is detailed in the next chapter.

Events & Activities

This year, Al-Mashat met with Bärbel Köfler, Parliamentary State Secretary of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development where they discussed additional areas in light of the country's developmental priorities.

They discussed the development of the ongoing portfolio of cooperation in light of joint work within the implementation of the energy axis of the "NWFE" program, through debt swaps and blended financing, and the pioneering debt swap program for development, where the first and second tranches were implemented. Within the program, with a value of €160 million euros, 10 projects were implemented in the sectors of sanitation, renewable energy, competitiveness promotion, e-government, and technical and vocational training.

They also looked into the technical support efforts that are made available through the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ) in various fields, and Al-Mashat stressed the importance of the grant which was recently signed with the GIZ- to implement the e-government and innovation support project, in a way that enhances national efforts in this area.

In The Digital Transformation

In terms of the German Agency for International Cooperation in Egypt (GIZ), H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat, and Minister of Communications and Information Technology H.E. Dr. Amr Talaat signed an agreement between the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology and the German Agency for International Cooperation in Egypt (GIZ) on behalf of the German government for cooperation in implementing the first phase of the project to support e-government and innovation In the Public Administration (INNOPA), with a grant of €8 million out of a total of €17.5 million.

The project aims to support innovation in digital transformation and the promotion of e-government, including cooperation in establishing a laboratory to develop applications in the field of government services. The agreement was signed by Deputy Minister of Communications and Information Technology for Administrative Development, Digital Transformation and Mechanization Khaled Al-Attar and Director of the GIZ Alexander Solga, on behalf of the German government.

Green Hydrogen

Moreover, Al-Mashat participated in the 1st High level Steering Committee Meeting on Energy and Hydrogen Cooperation between the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Federal Republic of Germany. This aims to build on the existing cooperation in renewable energy generation and the declaration of intent signed last November between the two countries.

Italy

Bilateral cooperation between Egypt and Italy has been active since the signing of the economic cooperation protocol between the two countries in 1975. The areas of cooperation vary in multiple fields, including infrastructure, health care, environment, small and medium enterprises, and medium industries.



Moreover, Egyptian-Italian cooperation is divided into bilateral cooperation, the Egyptian-Italian debt swap program, in addition to the goods import program.

Through joint cooperation mechanisms, Italy, under the bilateral cooperation program, provides grants and concessional development financing to Egypt. The bilateral cooperation portfolio between the two countries for ongoing projects amounts to about €42.9 million, in the following various fields, which constitute a priority between the two governments: trade and industry, developing SMEs, and supporting the agricultural sector, environment, cultural heritage, and education, in addition to social development, empowering women, and enhancing the health sector.

Preparations are currently being made to begin implementing the "Supporting the Egyptian Private Sector" project, which is scheduled to be financed with soft financing worth €45 million for the benefit of the Ministry of Trade and Industry.

Preparations are also being made to provide soft financing and grants within the framework of the bilateral cooperation program, the most important of which are:

- Soft financing worth €10 million to implement the second phase of the project "Improving the Sustainable System of Agricultural Mechanization" for the benefit of the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation.
- A grant worth €1,650 million for the program "Promoting the Rights of People with Special Needs in Egypt and Their Integration into Society" for the benefit of the Ministry of Social Solidarity.
- A grant to implement the third phase to support the improvement of nursing services for the Ministry of Health and Population.

In addition, Egypt cooperates with Italy in an ambitious debt swap program for development, which will be mentioned in detail in the following chapter.

France

On May 30, 2022, the new country strategy between Egypt and the Agence française de développement (AFD) until 2025, titled "For Common Prosperity", presenting a shared vision of the partnership that is capable of aligning AFD group's sustainable development financing instruments and actions with the Egyptian government's sustainable development policy and investment priorities laid out in "Egypt Vision 2030". The strategy is implemented in close coordination with Proparco, the private sector financing arm of the group, and together with Expertise France, in charge of technical cooperation.

The Strategy is Based on the Following Axes:

1. Supporting the integration of Egyptian financial, commercial and production systems at the regional and continental levels; 2. Supporting the development of social infrastructure at the national level; 3. Promoting fair and sustainable regional development at thelocal level.

The Strategy Includes 3 Basic Pillars:

1. Fostering inclusion and promoting shared prosperity; 2. Reconciling development goals with climate goals; 3. Creating job opportunities and developing entrepreneurship through innovation.

From 2022 onwards, agreements were signed with the AFD in the fields of energy, housing, transportation, education, energy, and especially technical cooperation in the field of hydrogen and the environment. Some of the highlights include:

- Tanta-Mansoura-Damietta Railway Development Project (concessional financing in the amount of €95 million and a technical support grant in the amount of €2 million for the Ministry of Transport.
- Transforming climate finance systems project with a grant of €1.5 million.
- The construction of the Alexandria-Abu Qir metro, with soft financing of €250 million, in two tranches, which is funded by: the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and the European Investment Bank (EIB), for the Ministry of Transport.
- An MoU on strategic technical cooperation between Egypt and France for the development of the green hydrogen sector in Egypt in a grant worth €500 thousand.
- Amending the partnership agreement between the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt and the AFD to implement the technical cooperation project to support teaching the French language, which includes adding a grant of €500,000.
- Amending the funding agreement between the governments of Egypt and France regarding the slum development program and employment support with a grant from the EU worth €3 million to be managed by AFD.

During the year, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat met with the Minister of State for Development Cooperation of France, Chrysoula Zacharopoulou, in light of efforts to strengthen joint relations with multilateral and bilateral development partners. The meeting witnessed discussions of efforts to strengthen bilateral cooperation relations between Egypt and France and follow-up on the results of the Paris Summit for a New Global Financing Pact. Strengthening multilateral cooperation with the International Organization of La Francophonie in many areas of development was also discussed.

Also this year, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat met Rémy Rioux, Executive Director of the AFD and Clémence Vidal de la Blache, Country Director of the AFD in Egypt, where the two sides discussed the ongoing development cooperation portfolio and the projects to be implemented, ahead of the "New Global Financial Pact" that was held in Paris.

Al-Mashat pointed out the importance of the summit in light of global successive crises, especially at the level of food and energy security challenges and their impact on developing countries and emerging economies, and the need to promote development and climate action by mobilizing innovative finance. More on the Summit for a New Global Financing Pact held in Paris in the next section.

Moreover, during the visit of the French Minister of Economy and Finance, Bruno Le Maire, in June 2021, new development financing agreements were signed in light of the 2021-2025 strategy worth €1.76 billion; Including €776 million from the French treasury and €990 million from the AFD.

It is worth noting that since the signing of the framework between the government and the AFD in 2006, the agency has made available more than €3 billion in concessional development finance for the government and private sectors, in addition to €12.6 million in grants, and it also manages grants from the European Union amounting to €150 million, to finance environment, housing, energy, transportation, agriculture, small and medium enterprises, health and antiquities projects.

Moreover, the total economic cooperation portfolio between Egypt and France from 1974 to date amounted to €7.5 billion, through more than 42 cooperation protocols in various sectors, including transportation, electricity, civil aviation, housing, sanitation, health, agriculture, and irrigation. Small and medium enterprises, environment, antiquities, and basic and technical education, while the current development cooperation portfolio records about €1.8 billion.

Norway & Sweden

In 2023, H.E. Al-Mashat met with Mr. Johan Forssel, Swedish Minister of International Development Cooperation and Foreign Trade, at the Ministry's headquarters in the New Administrative Capital. The private sector on both sides, as well as strengthening relations with the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA).

The meeting touched on discussing the details of what has been accomplished within the framework of the national platform of the NWFE program, the nexus of water, food and energy projects, and the steps taken to move forward towards mobilizing investments to implement projects for mitigation and adaptation to climate change in light of the National Climate Change Strategy 2050.

With H.E. Diana Janse, they discussed national measures to stimulate investment and attract more companies, especially in priority areas such as industry, renewable energy, electricity, tourism, agricultural development and water resources management, in order to implement the large-scale projects targeted by the state through partnerships between the public and private sectors. H.E. Al-Mashat shared some of the Government of Egypt's progress on stimulating green transformation efforts through projects that take into account environmental standards, sustainability and digital transformation in all sectors, as well as the launch of the National Country Climate Strategy 2050.



The relations between Egypt and Sweden are characterized by diversity in many commercial, cultural and educational fields. Over the past two years, the Egyptian market has witnessed an increasing presence of Swedish companies, especially in the fields of electronics, medical equipment, and technology. A joint committee for economic, commercial and technical cooperation took place between Egypt and Sweden in 1975, supervised by the Ministry of International Cooperation and a joint business forum for businessmen from both.

Al-Mashat also met with the Minister of State for International Cooperation at the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, H.E. Bjørg Sandkjær on enhancing common priorities in food security, stimulating investments in the field of climate action and renewable energy, stressing the depth of relations between Egypt and the EU and mutual relations in the fields of work, with priority to strengthening food security efforts, building silos to enhance the country's ability to face the challenges facing the world.

Switzerland

Al-Mashat met with Swiss Ambassador to Egypt H.E. Dr. Yvonne Baumann within the context of the periodic meetings she holds with multilateral and bilateral development partners to follow up on the portfolio of ongoing development cooperation and discuss future programs and projects to enhance the country's development vision.

The meeting also addressed the Swiss participation in implementing the projects of the national platform for the "NWFE" program, a nexus of water, food and energy projects, in the presence of officials from the Swiss Embassy and the Ministry of International Cooperation.

Within the framework of the Swiss cooperation program in Egypt for the period from 2021-2024, about USD 94 million was allocated to various sectors, such as water and sanitation, green transformation, and enhancing private sector development.

Through cooperation with Switzerland, $4.8 million was allocated to supporting refugees in response to the Sudan crisis in Egypt.

Currently, talks are underway to prepare for the new Swiss cooperation program in Egypt for the period 2025-2028 which will continue on the line of the current Swiss cooperation program 2021-24 addressing governance and human rights, green growth, skills development for the youth and protection and migration issues.



"We had a fruitful exchange on the current and future international cooperation of Switzerland in Egypt, particularly with regard to green growth, climate change and urban development, as well as the upcoming high-level visit of State Secretary for Economic Affairs Helene Budliger Artieda." H.E. Dr. Yvonne Baumann, Swiss Ambassador to Egypt.



In Sharm El-Sheikh

Al-Mashat met with Swiss State Secretary for Economic Affairs Helene Budliger Artieda in Sharm El-Sheikh to discuss ways to boost bilateral economic cooperation.

The Minister welcomed the Swiss State Secretary to Egypt, emphasizing the depth of development cooperation between the two sides that have extended to about 40 years, and which witnessed the implementation of many projects and programmes, pointing out the Egyptian state's aspiration to move joint relations with the Swiss side to broader horizons in light of its development priorities.

For her part, the Swiss State Secretary pointed out the importance of joint relations with Egypt, which is embodied in the total Swiss investment stock amounting to USD1.2 billion until June 2022 with around 100 Swiss companies operating in Egypt, and that Switzerland comes in seventh place among the sources of foreign direct investment in Egypt, noting Switzerland's keenness to further promote trade and investment with Egypt.

Austria

The history of cooperation between Egypt and Austria dates back to 1975, with subsequent agreements for economic and technical cooperation. Recent developments, such as the signing of a letter of intent and preparations for the 3rd session of the joint committee, signify the growing collaboration between the two countries in various domains, promising a bright future for their economic ties, fortifying economic, trade, and technical cooperation within the framework of the Joint Committee for Economic Cooperation.

The trade volume between Egypt and Austria amounted to $1.5 billion in 2022, and there are over 1,000 Austrian companies operating in Egypt. The two countries also have a number of joint cooperation projects in various fields.

On the sidelines of the Egyptian-Austrian Business Forum, which Cairo hosted last April the, Prime Minister of Egypt, Dr. Mostafa Madbouly and the Federal Chancellor of the Republic of Austria, Karl Nehammer, witnessed the signing ceremony of a letter of intent regarding enhancing economic cooperation between Egypt and the Federal Ministry of Labor and Economy of the Republic of Austria, through The Joint Economic Committee, within the framework of the strong bilateral economic relations between Egypt and Austria, and the desire to increase economic cooperation. The letter of intent was signed by the Minister of International Cooperation, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat, and the Secretary-General of the Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs of Austria, Ambassador Peter Launsky-Tieffenthal.



"The letter of intent aims to strengthen relations between the two countries in the fields of economic, commercial and technical cooperation in a way that achieves mutual benefit, as well as intensifying the exchange of information, experiences and best practices between the two governments at all levels, through official visits, economic missions and business forums, in cooperation with the Austrian Federal Economic Chamber." ***H.E. Dr. Mostafa Madbouly, Prime Minister of Egypt.***

Austria Export Day 2023

During H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat's visit to Vienna, she delivered a keynote speech at the Austrian Federal Economic Chamber conference during the "Austrian Export Day 2023". This event, attended by thousands of private sector companies, featured discussions on the prospects of economic collaboration between Egypt and Austria, emphasizing the need to strengthen relations between the private sectors of both countries.

Austrian companies were invited to explore investment opportunities in Egypt, particularly in government-announced projects and in line with Egypt's commitment to attracting green investments, concessional development financing, and debt exchange through cooperation with various development partners.

In a separate meeting, Al-Mashat held discussions with the Vice President of the Austrian Federal Economic Chamber, Carmen Goby, regarding the strengthening of cooperation between the private sectors of both countries. They explored avenues for expanding the scope of relations, enhancing collaboration in various fields, and fostering joint business forums to promote trade exchange and cooperation.

The upcoming 3rd session of the Joint Committee for Economic and Technical Cooperation between Egypt and Austria will focus on sectors



of mutual interest, including water, sanitation, energy, digital transformation, manufacturing, tourism, training, and climate action.

Goby expressed Austria's keen interest in enhancing cooperation with Egypt, particularly through the logistical link between the Suez Canal Economic Zone and the European continent via ports like Trieste and the dry port of Fürnitz. This connection holds significant potential for strengthening relations and joint investments between the private sectors of both nations.

OPEC Fund

The OPEC Fund has been working with the Government of Egypt since 1976, and throughout this time, 28 concessional financing agreements have been made worth $1.4 billion to support sustainable development, including projects in a variety of sectors such as agriculture, health, transportation, education and electricity. This year, Al-Mashat, participated as a keynote speaker in a panel discussion on "Regional Collaboration as a Catalyst for Scalable Solutions", as part of the activities of the OPEC Fund Development Forum.

The OPEC Fund works in cooperation with developing partner countries and the international development community to stimulate economic growth and social progress in low- and middle-income countries around the world. It was established in 1976 with the specific objective of: advancing development, supporting population groups, and empowering individuals, with a focus on financing projects that meet basic needs, such as food, energy, infrastructure, and employment, especially with regard to MSMEs, clean water supply, sanitation, health care and education.

While in Vienna, H.E. met with the OPEC Fund's Director General, Dr. Abdulhamid Alkhalifa to discuss strengthening joint cooperation efforts in various fields of development based on the close and extended partnerships between the two sides.

Egypt holds a long-term partnership with the fund and a mutual commitment to moving forward in supporting sustainable development efforts in Egypt, during which development and concessional funds and development grants worth about $1.5 billion were made available, promoting development in the fields of energy, financial services, agriculture, education, industry, health and other priority sectors.

The OPEC Fund is an intergovernmental development finance institution established by member states of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) in 1976 and it is focused on:

- Providing financial assistance on easy terms in the form of loans for projects and development programmes to support the balance of payments as well as to finance international trade.
- Co-financing private sector activities in developing countries.
- Grants in support of technical assistance, food security, research and emergency humanitarian relief.
- Contribute to the resources of other development institutions whose activities are beneficial to developing countries, such as the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD).

The forum is being held in Vienna, Austria and attended by Vice President of the World Bank for the Middle East and North Africa Farid Belhadj, Professor of Business Administration at the University of Offenburg in Germany Andreas Claassen, Director of the UN Office for South-South Cooperation Dima Al-Khatib, General Manager of the Private Sector Operations Department of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) Susan Jubouri, and, CEO of Banque Central America Dante Musi.





African Development Bank

During the activities of the second edition of the Egypt-International Cooperation Forum (Egypt-ICF) last September, the new partnership was launched with the African Development Bank (AfDB) 2022-2026 after a series of consultations and meetings with all national entities, with the aim of identifying priority areas for joint action to enhance regional integration, based on two main axes:

- Enhancing the competitiveness of the Egyptian economy to support private sector-led growth
- Building resilience in food, water, and energy security sectors

The 2 pillars of the framework are aligned with Egypt's national agenda, "Egypt Takes Off", through:

- Improving the Standard of Living for Citizens - 2nd Pillar
- Enhancing Productivity and Employment - 1st Pillar
- Economic Development and Improving Efficiency of Government Performance - 1st Pillar
- Develop and Invest in Human Capital - 1st Pillar
- Protecting Natural Resources Towards Security and Sustainability - 2nd Pillar

Since the launch of the new cooperation framework in 2022, here are some of the developments:

First Pillar:
- Support for the private sector through Banque Misr
- Providing a credit guarantee for the Ministry of Finance to issue international bonds in Chinese Yuan Panda-Bonds. The proceeds will be used in the implementation of national projects aimed at eco-friendly projects

Second Pillar:
- Electricity support and green growth program for €83 million
- Food and economic security program $271 million
- The third phase of the Gabal El Asfar Wastewater Treatment plant €110 million
- Financing the 2nd phase of preparing studies on the Mediterranean Sea and Lake Victoria $2 million

Also, in line with cooperation with the AfDB, the Ministry of International Cooperation, Agriculture and Land Reclamation participated in the Dakar Summit 2: Feed Africa on "Food Sovereignty and Resilience".

Moreover, this year, the AfDB held its 2023 Annual Meetings on Mobilizing Private Sector Financing for Climate and Green Growth in Africa in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt. More on the activities of the annual meeting is detailed in the next chapter on Africa and Asia.



The United Kingdom

The UK provided over £50 million between 2016 and 2020, to support Egypt's continued stability and prosperity, in addition to guaranteeing a $150 million World Bank loan to Egypt. Support focuses on inclusive economic growth, education and youth, social development, and regional cooperation. This includes £12 million to support Egypt's basic education reforms, targeting marginalized communities, as per the UK-Egypt Joint Statement on Economic Cooperation.

Moreover, the UK is one of the largest investors in Egypt, investing $48 billion across all sectors, including oil and gas, telecommunications, pharmaceuticals, and fast-moving consumer goods. Egypt and the UK have established a British Investors Forum to encourage investment in Egypt.

With the UK this year, Al-Mashat met with the UK's Minister for International Development and Africa, Andrew Mitchell, where they discussed developments in the Climate Finance Accelerator (CFA), which was launched in cooperation with the United Kingdom in light of joint efforts to support emerging companies and innovative solutions in the field of climate action, with a value of £10 million, to advance climate action and collaborate with governments of middle-income countries to catalyze increased climate financing, through joint action between financing providers, experts and stakeholders in climate action.

The CFA also encourages projects that contribute to the implementation of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) in the country and builds the capacity of the cadres working on these projects. It has been implemented before that in Nigeria, Mexico, Colombia, Turkey, South Africa and Peru.

During the meeting, the Al-Mashat stressed the importance of Egyptian-British relations and the joint statement issued in 2020 to enhance economic cooperation between the two countries, pointing to the importance of formulating a vision for future relations between the two sides in light of common priorities to enhance technical support efforts and development funds to support Egypt's Vision 2030.

Moreover, Al-Mashat witnessed the announcement of the United Kingdom and the AfDB about the first tranche of projects benefiting from the United Kingdom's guarantee to support the AfDB in financing climate projects on the continent, including the provision of a guarantee of €80 million, to cover part of the financing provided by the bank for the implementation of the third phase of the Al-Gabal Al-Asfar water treatment plant project. More on this project in section 2.



"I thank the Arab Republic of Egypt for hosting the annual meetings of the AfDB, at this time of great challenges facing the continent and the countries of the world, and I express my happiness to launch the Room 2 Run guarantee through which the UK supports the ability of the AfDB to increase its investments in the continent, and we have chosen the first two projects in Egypt and Senegal, to be the first projects to benefit from the guarantee, which amounts to $2 billion." British Minister H.E. Andrew Mitchell.

The USA & Canada

USAID & USA

The ongoing cooperation with USAID under the umbrella of the strategic partnership between the Arab Republic of Egypt and the United States of America, which extends over the past decades, the results of which are reflected in the programs and projects implemented in many vital sectors, including basic education, higher education, health, governance, support for small and medium enterprises, tourism and agriculture, and stimulating the private sector, explaining that in 2022, the grant signed was worth $160 million directed towards advanced development efforts by targeting several sectors, on top of which are education, health and a new climate initiative grant agreement of $15 million.

The ongoing development cooperation efforts include 11 ongoing technical support projects in various sectors, and implementation is also underway in 41 projects and programs in several fields, mainly education, economic development, health and governance, which is done in cooperation with 14 ministries and entities, where the projects are being implemented in light of strategic objectives: comprehensive economic development, promotion of social justice, support for economic reform, and improvement of governance, in a way that supports efforts to achieve sustainable development in Egypt.



Basic education and higher education programs account for the largest proportion of development cooperation programs with the USAID by 47%, as many projects are being implemented to launch applied schools in addition to the successful experience of schools for outstanding students in the fields of science, technology and mathematics, as well as scholarships in the field of higher education, while economic development programs come second with 33% of the development cooperation portfolio.

The projects that are being implemented in cooperation between the concerned authorities and the US Agency were also discussed and are consistent with the presidential initiative for the integrated development of the Egyptian countryside, “Hayah Karima”, where 7 projects are being implemented in 17 governorates, out of the 20 governorates targeted by the initiative, and the projects vary in the areas of water management solutions and the development of agricultural businesses in the Egyptian countryside, women empowerment and support for female entrepreneurs, the economic and social empowerment program for women, literacy support for children and mothers, and the family planning program.

In efforts to empower the private sector through the Workforce Egypt, which is one of the results of the trade and investment stimulus agreement, memorandums of understanding were recently signed with 6 companies to establish schools in the field of international applied technology in engineering, marketing for financial services, modern trade, artificial intelligence, and 3D printing. In addition to cooperation with Google through the Maharat Min Google program to enhance the skills of beneficiaries in digital marketing, partnership with Visa in the She’s Next initiative to support women-owned startups, and the launch of the Climatech Run 2022 start-up initiative, among other activities with university centers related to professional development.



It is worth noting that the development cooperation portfolio between the government and the USAID has amounted to about $1 billion dollars since 2014, within the scope of which many projects and programs are being implemented in the fields of basic education, higher education, small and medium enterprises, support for the private sector, tourism and agriculture.

In its plenary session, the House of Representatives approved the second amendment on the comprehensive economic governance grant agreement between the Arab Republic of Egypt and the United States of America at a value of $26.9 million. This is in light of the joint development cooperation relations between the two countries, and with this, the total grants directed to the comprehensive economic governance program become about $77.5 million.

This comprehensive economic governance program with USAID comes in line with the government’s adoption of an integrated program to promote comprehensive economic governance with the participation of all relevant national entities. This aims to improve the principles and mechanisms of the decision-making process, improve communication channels between the government and private sectors, enhance the efficiency of government services provided for citizens, especially for women and lower-income citizens, and improve efforts to create job opportunities.

At the end of 2022, the Ministry of International Cooperation, with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), signed grants worth $160 million, within the framework of joint economic relations between the two, which enhances development cooperation in several fields, and is consistent with the state’s development vision. The agreements varied in the sectors of comprehensive economic government, the Egyptian-American Initiative for Higher Education, the basic education sector, the health sector, stimulating trade and investment in Egypt, developing agricultural and rural businesses and increasing income, in addition to the climate change initiative agreement worth $15 million.

Also this year, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat welcomed Mr. Sean Jones, the new USAID Mission Director in Egypt, in the presence of the leadership of the Ministry of International Cooperation and the USAID.

Moreover, H.E. Al-Mashat met with a delegation of representatives US Congress Foreign Affairs Committee within the framework of their visit to Egypt, in the presence of Chargé d’Affaires of the US Ambassador to Cairo, John Deroche, and Margaret Sancho, Deputy Director of the USAID Mission in Egypt, Deputy Senior Chief Council at United States House Committee on Foreign Affairs, Aaron Jordan, Foreign Affairs Council in the U.S. House foreign affairs committee, Chris White and Chief Professional Officer for the U.S. House Foreign Affairs Committee, James Walsh.

Canada

Since 1976, the Egyptian-Canadian development cooperation relations have developed, recording about $CA 1.22 billion, of which $CA 567.6 million are in the form of grants, and the remaining value is soft development funds.

This year, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat and Canadian Ambassador to Cairo Amb. Louis Dumas signed a grant agreement worth CA$10 million Canadian dollars, to enhance food security efforts and combat climate change through the project “Promoting Climate-smart Agriculture and Agricultural Biodiversity” to support the ability to adapt in rural communities most affected by climate changes in the old and new lands of the Nile Delta and Upper Egypt”, at the Ministry’s headquarters in the New Administrative Capital.

This is within the framework of the Government of Egypt’s implementation of the national platform for the NWFE program, the nexus of water, food and energy projects. The project is scheduled to be implemented in cooperation with national entities, including the Ministries of Environment, Agriculture and Local Development, the National Council for Women and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). More on this project is detailed in the food security chapter.

Earlier in the year, Al-Mashat met the Canadian Minister of International Development at the time H.E. Harjit Sajjan in the presence of Louis Dumas, Canadian Ambassador to Cairo.

They expressed appreciation for the progress of joint efforts during the recent period, as a reflection of the relationship that extends over more than 6 decades, to promote common development priorities and advance sustainable development efforts.

H.E. stressed the importance of the efforts made with the Canadian side in empowering women, in line with the national strategy for women empowerment in 2030, in addition to joint programs to support family planning efforts and promote commercial and agricultural businesses. The meeting also witnessed a discussion on the scholarship program in light of the efforts to enhance investment in human capital, in addition to expanding the scope of cooperation in the field of health care.

The two sides discussed the pillars of the Nexus for Water, Food and Energy platform, the “NWFE” program, and the Government of Egypt’s efforts to stimulate climate action, through the program that promotes the transition from pledges to implementation, via joint work with multilateral and bilateral development partners, international partnerships for climate action, the private sector, and multilateral development banks pointing out that these projects and other development experiences represent pioneering models that can be replicated on the African continent within the framework of South-South cooperation in cooperation with Canada.

Later in the year, Al-Mashat also met with the new Candian Minister for International Development H.E. Ahmed Hussen.



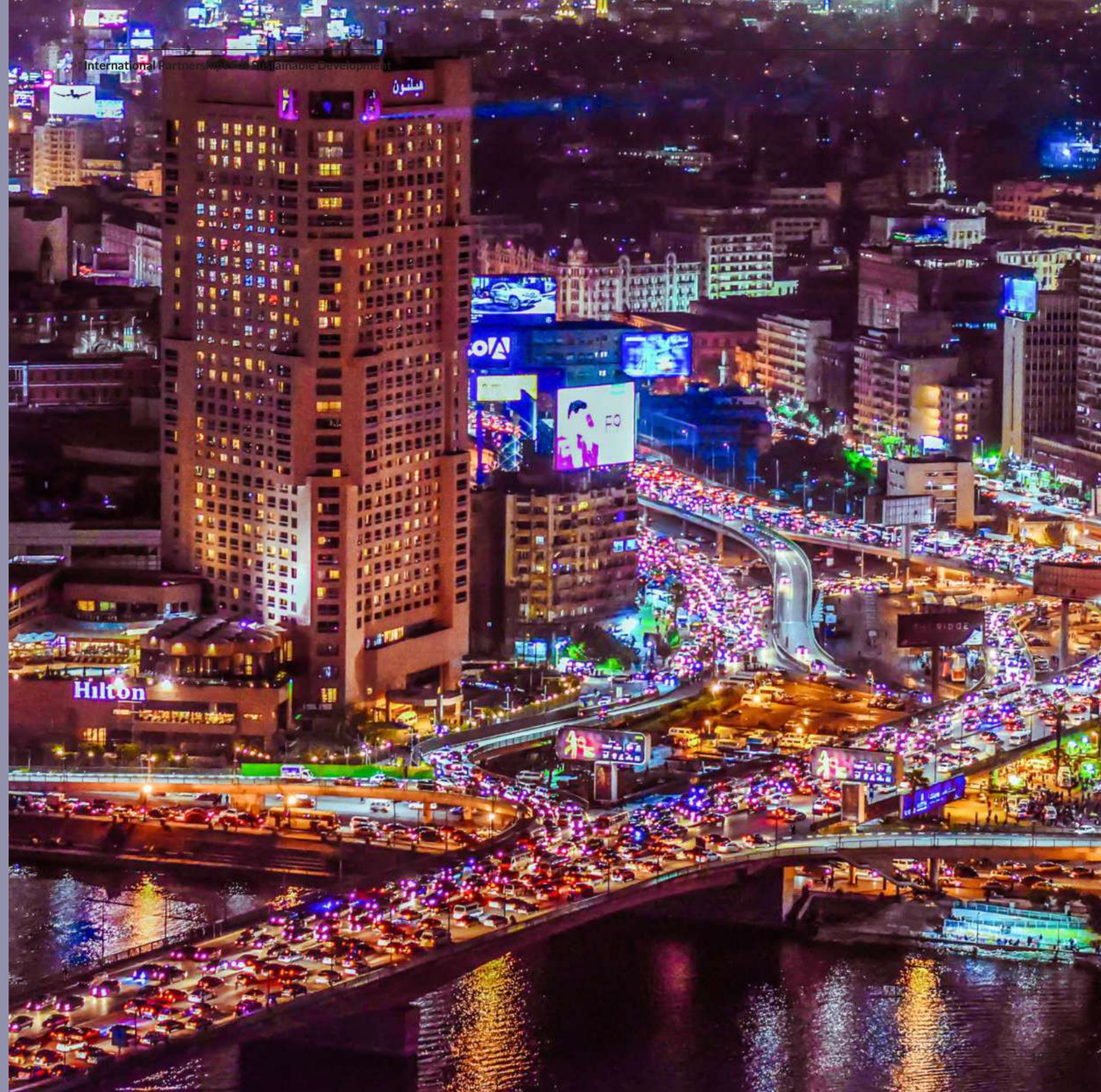






Chapter 4

DEBT SWAPS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT





INNOVATIVE FINANCING TOOLS TO ACCELERATE PROGRESS

The debt swap mechanism is a means to enhance the financing available for development projects through signing agreements under which a portion of the debts owed to development partner countries is exchanged, with the aim of reducing the burden of external debt, achieving sustainable development by financing priority projects, and supporting efforts to achieve SDG 17: Partnership for the Goals. Basically, according to the mechanism, debts in local currency are used to finance development projects agreed upon between the two parties.

In light of global demands to expand debt swap programs for development, with developing countries and emerging economies, to confront global challenges, Egypt has pioneering experiences in this regard, the most important of which is the debt swap program with Germany.

Over the past twenty years, the Government of Egypt has succeeded in implementing a debt swap program with the Italian and German governments, with a value exceeding $720 million.

Through nearly 120 projects in various fields of development, the value of the debt swap program with Italy reached $350 million to support achieving sustainable development in Egypt in line with national goals. In addition, Germany, during the G8 summit in Deauville in May 2011, agreed to offer a debt swap worth €240 million to implement development projects in Egypt aimed at enhancing job creation, competitiveness of the private sector, and energy.

The Debt Swap Program between Egypt and Italy

Egypt and Italy have had close relations since the 1970s, and the implementation of the first phase of the debt swap program for development with Italy began in 2001, during which 54 projects were implemented. The second phase was signed in 2007 and witnessed the implementation of 32 projects, followed by the third and final phase in 2012, during which a number of projects are being implemented. The total amount of the three phases is about $350 million where a diverse set of projects were established.

Last May, an agreement was signed to extend the work of the third phase until 2024 with the Italian ambassador to implement many projects.

At the top of these projects, in the food security sector, is the project “Establishing Field Silos and an Information Technology System for Wheat Management” at a value of EGP 416.7 million, and the second phase of the “Development of Fish Farming in Egypt” project at a value of EGP 138.9 million, and in the environment sector, financing the third phase of the “Solid Waste Management in Minya Governorate” project at a value of EGP 70.5 million.



“Egypt and Italy have long-standing relation, especially through the debt swap program for development, which achieves diverse goals simultaneously, the most important of which is reducing external debt and increasing development cooperation projects implemented by both countries. The program being implemented with Italy is a model that many countries and development partners seek to emulate.” ***H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat.***

THE 1ST PHASE OF THE PROGRAM, WORTH $150 MILLION, BEGAN IN 2001, WHERE 54 PROJECTS WERE IMPLEMENTED, THE MOST IMPORTANT OF WHICH ARE:

- RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN WESTERN NUBARIYA
- ESTABLISHMENT OF SCHOOLS & DEVELOPING EDUCATION
- GREEN TRANSFORMATION PROJECTS
- FOLLOW UP ON THE PRODUCTION CYCLE OF AGRICULTURAL CROPS
- REHABILITATION OF WATER SUPPLY SYSTEMS IN BEHEIRA

THE 2ND PHASE OF THE PROGRAM, WORTH $100 MILLION, BEGAN IN 2007 WHERE 32 PROJECTS WERE IMPLEMENTED, THE MOST IMPORTANT OF WHICH ARE:

- MODERNIZATION OF SECONDARY INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS
- POVERTY ALLEVIATION & JOB CREATION
- MANAGEMENT OF ORGANIC WASTE
- ESTABLISHMENT OF A WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT IN RUBIKI
- ESTABLISHMENT OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION COMPLEXES IN FAYOUM

THE 3RD PHASE OF THE PROGRAM, WORTH $100 MILLION WAS SIGNED IN 2012. A NUMBER OF PROJECTS HAVE BEEN IMPLEMENTED AND OTHERS ARE IN THE PIPELINE IN THE THESE SECTORS:

- FOOD SECURITY & AGRICULTURE
- SUPPORTING CIVIL SOCIETY
- HIGHER EDUCATION
- PROJECTS TO EMPOWER FEMALE BREADWINNERS
- ESTABLISHING 10 WHEAT STORAGE SILOS
- PROJECTS TO EMPOWER & PROTECT CHILDREN
- ENVIRONMENT & PRESERVATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE

GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE OF THE DEBT SWAP PROGRAM WITH ITALY

The debt swap program with Italy is managed through a governance structure to ensure optimal implementation of the agreements and achieve maximum benefit, headed by the Ministry of International Cooperation and the Italian Embassy through:

- A committee to manage the local compensation for debts, headed by the Ministry of International Cooperation and the Italian Ambassador.
- Selecting projects according to national priorities.
- A technical support unit to follow up on project implementation.
- Annual meetings to approve debt swap decisions.

The Debt Swap Program between Egypt and Germany

The implementation of the debt swap program with Germany began in 2011 at a value of €240 million, and so far the first and second phases have been implemented as follows:

THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 1ST PHASE BEGAN IN 2012 WORTH $70 MILLION, AND THE PROJECTS IMPLEMENTED INCLUDE:

- School feeding program for the benefit of the Ministry of Education and Technical Education in cooperation with the World Food Programme (WFP), worth €22.4 million.
- The 1st stage of supporting the quality of education for the Ministry of Education and Technical Education, worth €22.3 million.
- Rehabilitation of hydroelectric stations for the benefit of the Ministry of Electricity and Renewable Energy, worth €1.4 million.
- The 3rd phase of reducing environmental pollution from thermal power plants for the Ministry of Electricity and Renewable Energy, worth €6 million.
- The assiut barrage and power plants for the Ministries of Electricity, Renewable Energy, Water Resources and Irrigation, worth €14.8 million.
- The 2nd phase of improving drinking water and sanitation services for the Ministry of Housing, Utilities and Urban Communities, worth €2.9 million.

THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2ND PHASE BEGAN IN 2019/2020, WORTH $90 MILLION, AND PROJECTS IMPLEMENTED, INCLUDE:

- The 2nd phase of a project to support quality education for the Ministry of Education and Technical Education, worth €10 million.
- A project on investment in human capital in rural areas in Upper Egypt for the World Food Program (WFP) in cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Technical Education, worth €15 million.
- The first phase of improving drinking water and sanitation services for the Ministry of Housing, Utilities and Urban Communities, worth €24 million.
- Financial support for the Comprehensive Technical Education Initiative in Egypt for the Ministry of Education and Technical Education worth €41 million euros.



THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 3RD PHASE BEGAN IN 2022/2023, WORTH €80 MILLION, AND THE PROJECTS INCLUDE:

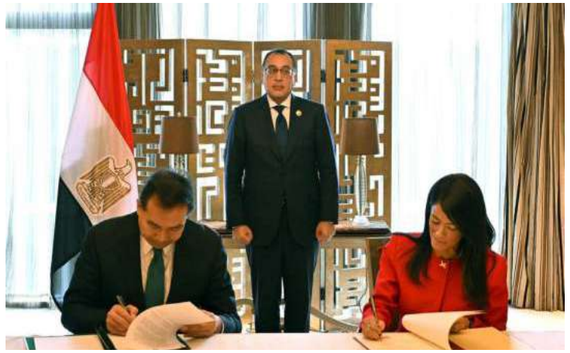
- Allocating an amount of €26 million, including the "School Nutrition to Combat Dropout and Child Labor" project for the Ministry of Education and Technical Education in cooperation with the World Food Programme (WFP).
- The financing agreement for the electricity transmission project, worth €54 million remaining from the third tranche, with the Ministry of Electricity and Renewable Energy, the Central Bank of Egypt, and the German KfW Development Bank for the electricity transmission project. This project aims to support increased use of renewable energy sources, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and increasing the shift towards green within the NWFE program. The agreement also aims to develop the transmission network to integrate renewable energies into the electricity transmission network and strengthen the network. The project contributes in particular to the establishment of two substations and the connection of two wind farms (the "Amyunt" farm and the Red Sea Wind farm) with a capacity of 500 megawatts each to the national transmission network.

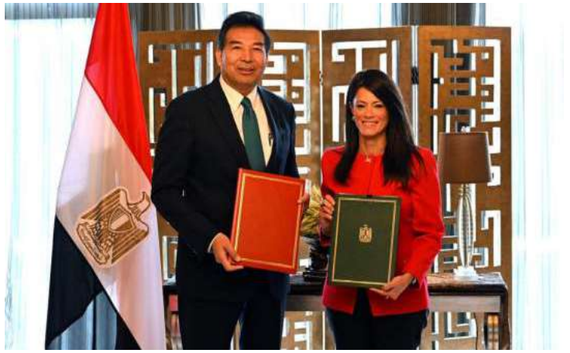
GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE OF THE DEBT SWAP PROGRAM WITH GERMANY

The debt swap program with Germany is managed through a governance structure to ensure optimal implementation of the agreements and achieve maximum benefit through:

- The Ministry of International Cooperation coordinates with the German side regarding projects.
- Negotiating with the German KfW Bank and the national beneficiary entities.
- Finalizing the technical details and financing agreement.

The Debt Swap Program between Egypt and China





During the visit of the Prime Minister H.E. Dr. Mostafa Madbouly, to China for the Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation, H.E. witnessed the signing of an MoU in the field of debt swaps for development between Egypt and China, signed by H.E. Dr. Rania Al-Mashat and Chairman of China International Development Cooperation Agency (CIDCA) Luo Zhaohui.

This MoU is the first of its kind within the framework of joint cooperation between Egypt and China, as well as the first of its kind between China and any country in the world, reflecting the strength of relations between the two countries.

The MoU aims to enhance cooperation between the two countries in the field of debt swaps in order to implement development projects, which is one of the innovative financing tools that works to support Government of Egypt's efforts in partnership with China to achieve sustainable development, by using tranches of Chinese debt to implement development projects, agreed upon by both sides.

This MoU comes in light of the commitment by both countries to enhance the comprehensive strategic partnership, reflecting their keenness to strengthen the bonds of constructive cooperation based on the principle of mutual benefit between Egypt and China, as the economic relations between both represent an effective model of South-South cooperation.

During his reception of the Prime Minister and the accompanying Egyptian delegation in China President Xi Jinping stressed his country's keenness to expand the scope of cooperation, including teaching of the Chinese language. He also highlighted the importance of panda bonds in the Chinese market and China's support for Egyptian efforts in this regard, as well as approving a debt swap program between the two countries to implement development projects in Egypt.



"We view China as a role model for emerging economies and look forward to further cooperation and coordination in the trade, economy and other areas of cooperation. We applaud the recently issued yuan "panda bonds" in China, which will contribute to supporting Egyptian monetary reserves." H.E. Dr. Mostafa Madbouly, Prime Minister of Egypt.





"The signing of the MoU on a debt swap between Egypt and China reflects the strength of the joint relations between the two countries, our long-standing cooperation and partnership. This also confirms the development of joint work under the leadership of H.E. President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi, to achieve common development and benefit from the Chinese experience in development. Egypt has accumulated expertise and distinguished experience since the beginning of the 2000s in debt swaps with the German and Italian sides, and it is the first country to conclude a debt swap agreement with China, in light of diversifying financing mechanisms through innovative tools." ***H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat.***

Over the past few months, and in implementation of the presidential directives to strengthen Egyptian-Chinese relations, the Ministry of International Cooperation held successive rounds of discussions with the Chinese side in many forums, especially during the visit to Beijing last July, to participate in the high-level meetings, as well as bilateral meetings held with Chinese financial institutions and government officials during the African Development Bank (AfDB) and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) annual meetings in Sharm El-Sheikh.

Since last February, the Ministry has held intensive rounds of discussions with the Chinese side, in coordination with the relevant national authorities, to establish an experience that is the first of its kind between the two countries, and the first for the Republic of China with any other country, to formulate a debt swap agreement for development.

During the Minister's visit to China last July, negotiations on the debt swap program continued, and an MoU was signed on the "Global Development Initiative (GDI)" with the CIDCA, strengthening the Egyptian-Chinese partnership while including a clause on establishing a consultation mechanism at the departmental level, as well as working to formulate an integrated strategy for development cooperation between Egypt and China for 3-5 years for the first time.

In August and September, continuous coordination meetings were held with the relevant national entities to discuss national priorities within the framework of the debt swap program, before the MoU was signed during the Prime Minister's visit to China.

The Minister had affirmed continued coordination with the Chinese side as well as the relevant national authorities in order to put the debt swap agreement into effect, in a way that enhances joint development efforts, advances Egyptian-Chinese relations, and consolidates Egyptian leadership in efforts to achieve development.

It is worth noting that the total cooperation portfolio with China amounts to about $1.7 billion to implement many projects in various development sectors, including electricity, health, education, vocational training, and others. Recently, the Minister also witnessed the ceremony Misr Sat 2, in cooperation with the Chinese side, at the headquarters of the Egyptian Space Agency.

More on this cooperation is detailed in the next chapter.

Chapter 5

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION BETWEEN EGYPT & ASIA & AFRICA



UNLOCKING NEW OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH LONG-STANDING COOPERATION

Egypt has a long history of trade and economic cooperation with the world.

In recent years, Egypt has sought to expand its trade and investment ties with Asia and Africa, as these regions are seen as having significant potential for growth.

There are many potential benefits to closer collaboration between Egypt and Asia. For Egypt, Asia can provide a source of investment, technology, and expertise, as it is also a growing market for Egyptian goods and services. For Asia, Egypt is a gateway to the Middle East and Africa, with a skilled workforce.

Over the year, there have been some significant highlights of Egypt's new collaboration with Asia, featuring a number of agreements with China, Japan, and South Korea, to promote trade and investment.

When it comes to Africa, Egypt has a long and rich history of cooperation, especially as a founding member of the African Union and a strong supporter of the continent's efforts to promote development. Egypt has established itself as a significant proponent of intra-African cooperation, engaging in numerous initiatives to bolster ties and contribute to the continent's development. The country's commitment is exemplified by its support for trade and economic integration within Africa. As of 2021, Egypt was a signatory of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) agreement, aimed at creating the world's largest free trade area. This commitment reflects Egypt's dedication to fostering economic growth and regional prosperity through increased intra-African trade, a key driver for job creation and poverty reduction.

Egypt's cooperative efforts extend beyond economics, encompassing sectors such as infrastructure, health, and education. Over the years, Egypt has been involved in various development projects across the continent. For instance, the Cairo-Cape Town Highway project, launched in 1994, aims to enhance road connectivity spanning from North to South Africa. Additionally, Egypt's partnership with other African nations has led to collaborative ventures in education and healthcare, contributing to human capital development across the continent.

Furthermore, Egypt's collaboration within pan-African organizations underscores its commitment to collective advancement. As a founding member of the African Union (AU), Egypt has actively participated in initiatives aimed at resolving conflicts, promoting peace, and strengthening governance across the continent. Egypt's role in supporting the AU's Agenda 2063, a strategic framework for Africa's socio-economic transformation, showcases its determination to contribute to a prosperous and united Africa.

Egypt also hosted the 58th Annual Meetings of the African Development Bank Group (AfDB) "Mobilizing Private Sector Financing for Climate and Green Growth in Africa", in Sharm El-Sheikh this year, bringing together over 5,000 delegates from across Africa and around the world to discuss the continent's development challenges and opportunities.

A NEW PHASE OF COLLABORATION WITH ASIA

CHINA

Egypt and China share a long-standing historical relationship as the two countries are among the most important, oldest, and most ancient civilizations in the world.

Since 2014, Egyptian relations have witnessed an unprecedented boom based on the comprehensive strategic partnership agreement signed by H.E. Abdel Fattah El-Sisi, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt, and the Chinese President Xi Jinping, during his visit to Beijing, which is the agreement that regulates all aspects of bilateral relations between both countries, including economy, trade and investment.

The total portfolio of cooperation with China amounts to about $1.7 billion to implement many projects in various development sectors. Moreover, in 2022, technical cooperation for capacity building and human resource development was strengthened with the Chinese side through the implementation of approximately 301 training programs.

Back in 2021, an economic and technical cooperation agreement was signed between Egypt and China, according to which cooperation will be strengthened in many priority areas, based on existing efforts in the field of scientific research, the transport sector, capacity building, and the promotion of human resources.

A key result of these agreements can be seen in the completion ceremony of the assembly and testing of the EgyptSat 2 satellite in cooperation with China. The ceremony was held at the headquarters of the Egyptian Space Agency in the presence of the Chinese



Ambassador to Cairo, Liqiang Liu, CEO of the Egyptian Space Agency, Dr. Sherif Sedky, and the financial director of the Chinese company CASC.

The assembly and testing process for the EgyptSat 2 satellite is a reflection of the close cooperation between Egypt and China in the field of space, as the project is being implemented with two grants worth $92 million and represents a unique model for knowledge exchange and effective cooperation between the two countries.

The event inaugurated an important station in the history of development cooperation between Egypt and China and will be the beginning of intensive future cooperation in the field of space and remote sensing applications between the two sides; going beyond bilateral relations to include more countries in Africa.

FROM SHANGHAI, CHINA: NEW BEGINNINGS WITH THE NDB

This year, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat participated in the annual meetings of the New Development Bank (NDB) 8th session, held at its headquarters in Shanghai, China, on May 30th and 31st, in light of the role played by the Ministry to strengthen development cooperation relations with multilateral and bilateral development partners and promote a national development vision that is consistent with the UN SDGs.

The annual meeting was held under the theme of "Shaping a New Era for Global Development." and aimed to enhance infrastructure development efforts and implement development projects.

Egypt's accession to the membership of the NDB enhances the efforts made by the Government of Egypt to promote development and achieve integration of efforts with emerging economies and developing countries, to mobilize the necessary resources to finance infrastructure projects and sustainable development.

The NDB is a multilateral development bank founded by the BRICS countries (Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa) in 2015 with a mission to promote sustainable development and regional cooperation by investing in infrastructure projects in emerging economies. Since its establishment, the NDB has approved financing for more than 90 projects totalling $32 billion. These projects have helped to improve transportation, water supply, energy, and other infrastructure in developing countries.

As alternate governor of the bank, Al-Mashat's participation in the NDB's annual meeting is a sign of Egypt's commitment to working with international partners to promote development and an opportunity to discuss Egypt's development priorities with other leaders, exploring ways to cooperate on future projects.





BILATERAL MEETINGS AT THE NDB

During the activities of the annual meeting, Al-Mashat delivered a speech at the plenary session of the Board of Governors of the New Development Bank (NDB), where she stressed that Egypt's membership in the bank, along with the major emerging economies members of the BRICS group, enhancing South-South cooperation efforts, and supporting the efforts made by the government to transfer development and international cooperation expertise, especially in line with the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC): country ownership, transparency, shared responsibility, and measurable results.

In a discussion session held by the NDB President Dilma Rousseff, with the delegation of the Arab Republic of Egypt, Al-Mashat reviewed the country's framework of international cooperation and development financing for the Arab Republic of Egypt, stressing that Egypt's relations with multilateral and bilateral development partners are based on clear and strong foundations and a precise governance structure to support development efforts and climate action, and stimulate Egypt's 2030 vision.

Al-Mashat also met with the NDB Vice-Presidents, Vladimir Kazbekov, the Chief Operations Officer; Leslie Maasdorp, the Chief Financial Officer Anil Kishora, Chief Risk Officer and Chief Administrative Officer Qiangwu Zhou in a series of meetings which were held to discuss ways to enhance joint cooperation between Egypt and the NDB in light of Egypt's recent membership in the bank. They discussed the bank's future cooperation with Egypt, in light of the country's long-standing relations with all multilateral and bilateral development partners and effective multilateral cooperation.

To enhance work with major developing countries that are NDB members, Al-Mashat met with the Russian Minister of Finance and Governor of Russia at the bank, Anton Siluanov, and the International Affairs Officer at the Brazilian Ministry of Finance, Tatiana Roseto, and the Minister of Finance and Governor of South Africa at the bank. Dr. David Masondo, to discuss efforts to enhance the exchange of experiences among member states, and discuss the strategic objectives of the New Development Bank and its role in supporting developing countries and emerging economies.

Moreover, Al-Mashat met Dr. Zhang Wencai, Vice President of the Export-Import Bank of China, and expressed his country's appreciation for Egypt as a strategic partner in the Arab region and in Africa. He also highlighted the Bank's aspiration to strengthen and deepen its strategic partnership with Egypt and implement more pioneering development projects in the country.





FORUM ON GLOBAL ACTION FOR SHARED DEVELOPMENT

The 1st High-Level Meeting of the Forum on Global Action for Shared Development was held in Beijing, China, in July 2023 to discuss strengthening joint action to implement the Global Development Initiative (GDI) proposed by the Chinese president in 2021, with the aim of redirecting global development towards a new phase of balance and comprehensive coordination to face global challenges, promote more equitable and balanced global development partnerships, and achieve more synergy through multilateral cooperation to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 SDGs.



The Egyptian participation, with Al-Mashat's presence, stems from the strong relations with the Chinese side and the Egyptian state's keenness to move forward in pushing it towards more joint action, which is reflected in development cooperation efforts and joint development that enhance national development priorities. It also aims to build on existing cooperation, especially in the field of scientific research and construction capabilities to expand in more areas. The forum includes high-level delegations from 27 countries and more than 20 UN agencies and international non-governmental organizations.



Within H.E.'s agenda, Al-Mashat gave the keynote speech on "Capital Mobilization and Sustainable Financing Development" as part of the 1st High-Level Meeting of the Forum on Global Action for Shared Development.The session was organized by the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) to discuss the GDI that was put forward by the Chinese President in 2021, as well as the promotion of global development efforts to confront the shocks facing different countries, through multilateral cooperation

The session included Mr. Albert Shingiro, Burundi's Minister of Foreign Affairs Development Cooperation; Mr. Angellah Jasmine Mbelwa Kairuki, Tanzania's Minister of State Affairs at the Provincial Level Administrative and Local Affairs Department of the President's Office; the AIIB's Sir Danny Alexander, Vice President, Policy and Strategy; Mr. Fengtao Zhao, Vice Chairman of China International Development Cooperation Agency; Mr. Ban Ki-moon, Chairman of Ban Ki-moon Foundation, the 8thSecretary-General of the United Nations; Dr. Min Bahadur Shrestha, Nepal's Vice Chairman of the National Planning Committee; Mr. Siddharth Chatterjee, UN Resident Coordinator in China; Ms. Nena Stoiljkovic, Under Secretary General for Global Relations, Diplomacy and Digitalization, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies; and many representatives of governments and international organizations.

AMONG THE MINISTER'S KEY HIGHLIGHTS IN THE SPEECH:

- East Asia and Pacific, Western Europe, and North America receive 75% of the financing, regions contributing the least to greenhouse gas emissions, like Africa, receive less than 5%.
- On a sectoral level, climate change adaptation investment is severely under-resourced, receiving less than 10% of climate flows.
- The importance of the role of the private sector in accelerating the fulfilment of the SDGs, as they manage an estimated $300 trillion in assets. However, their engagement in development activities remains limited or untracked.
- If all Multilateral Development Banks dedicate their funds to the SDG Agenda, it would only amount to 4% of the needed finance, while shifting only 1.4% of global private financial assets would be sufficient to fill the climate finance gap.
- The Sharm El-Sheikh Guidebook for Just Financing brings the idea of 'Justice' to climate finance, with the objective of catalyzing needed investments in countries that need them the most.
- The NWFE Program is working on attracting investments and moving from climate pledges to implementation, to implement the National Strategy for Climate Change 2050 and the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC).

BILATERAL MEETINGS

Vice President of China

H.E. Al-Mashat participated in a high-level meeting with Chinese Vice President Mr. Han Zheng on the sidelines of the 1st High-Level Meeting of the Forum on Global Action for Shared Development in Beijing.

The meeting was held to discuss the results of the forum and to identify the views of the participating officials and proposals for the development and improvement of work mechanisms during the upcoming sessions in light of strengthening efforts to implement the SDGs.

The conference comes at a vital time, especially at the level of development challenges and global crises impacting emerging economies and developing countries.

There is a need for the establishment of an institutional framework for the Forum on Global Action for Shared Development, and turning it into an annual meeting, provided that a semi-annual review and workshops be held in partnership between China and one of the countries of the South to emphasize the role of South-South cooperation in promoting global development goals in parallel with the GDI.

Chinese Export-Import Bank

Al-Mashat also met with the President of the Chinese Export-Import Bank Dr. Wu Fulin to explore opportunities to enhance joint cooperation and mechanisms to stimulate private sector participation in development.

The two sides discussed the portfolio of ongoing projects, including the electric train LRT project, which is one of the most important projects and modern means of transportation to help enhance Egypt's efforts towards sustainable infrastructure.

The President of the Chinese Export-Import Bank affirmed that Egypt is one of the bank's most important countries of operations, and expressed their keenness to enhance bilateral relations and development cooperation efforts with Egypt.

Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development

Al-Mashat also met with the OECD Director for Development Co-operation, María Gonzalo to discuss efforts to enhance joint cooperation in assessing development cooperation, strengthening the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC) and increasing triangular cooperation to achieve the SDGs.

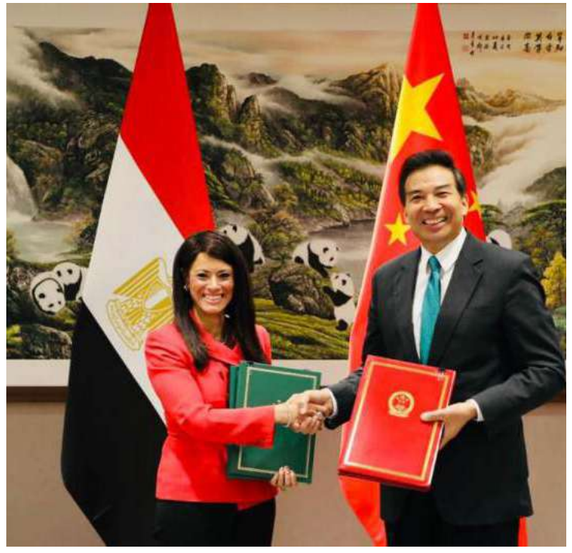
Investment Opportunities on the Horizon

Al-Mashat met with a group of major Chinese investors and private sector companies to discuss investment opportunities in Egypt and the role of international financing institutions in enhancing private sector participation at the headquarters of the Egyptian Embassy in Beijing, China, as part of H.E.'s visit to the country.

During the meeting, Al-Mashat reviewed the role of international financing institutions and development partners in enhancing the participation of the private sector in Egypt, and highlighted examples such as the Benban solar energy complex in Aswan, which was implemented by dozens of local and foreign companies and development partners.

The Minister referred to the role played by the Ministry of International Cooperation under the umbrella of the government's program to enhance the participation of the private sector and support small and medium-sized enterprises, start-ups and entrepreneurs in cooperation with multilateral and bilateral development partners.

Memorandum of Understanding with CIDCA



During H.E.'s visit to China, Al-Mashat and the Chinese International Development Cooperation Agency (CIDCA) signed an MoU on the Global Development Initiative (GDI), launched by the Chinese President for 3 to 5 years, for the first time in light of the common relations between the two countries, including areas and projects that will be implemented through the development cooperation program.

H.E. also signed 4 cooperation documents with the head of the CIDCA to provide Chinese grants for the supply of equipment for the Ministry of Transport, the establishment of a vocational training center in the Suez Canal economic zone, and the preparation of a feasibility study for the third-level biosafety laboratory for the benefit of the Ministry of Health.

Following the signing, Al-Mashat and Chairman of CIDCA Luo Zhaohui reviewed the most important milestones of the strategic partnership between Egypt and China, the development cooperation portfolio between the two sides, and the need to strengthen cooperation efforts to advance areas of common development. In this regard, Zhaohui stated that Egypt is one of China's most important partners in the African continent and the Middle East region, and that the historical friendship relations extended since ancient civilisations and are currently witnessing great development based on the priorities of the two countries and their joint efforts to achieve development.







Multilateral Cooperation Center for Development Finance

While in China, H.E. met with the CEO of the Multilateral Cooperation Center for Development Finance (MCDF), Zhongjing Wang and discussed advancing joint cooperation, especially to increase grants for the implementation of feasibility studies, enhancing capabilities, and developing skills and training.

Established in 2020 to support developing countries & IFIs in addressing #sustainability challenges & promoting infrastructure investments, Egypt is one of the MCDF founding members.

She also discussed the Sharm El-Sheikh Guidebook for Just Financing, which was issued during COP27, to promote just financing and provide recommendations and principles aimed at stimulating partnerships between all relevant parties, especially the public and private sectors.

THE ASIAN INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT BANK (AIIB)







In light of cooperation with the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), Al-Mashat signed an agreement for the bank's participation in financing the Abu Qir metro project in Alexandria at a value of €250 million.

The Abu Qir railway, which connects the center of Alexandria with the Abu Qir area in the northeast of the governorate, is set to become an electric metro system that contributes to reducing traffic congestion in Alexandria, supports the transition to environmentally friendly transportation and reduces harmful emissions. The total cost of the project amounts to €1.5 billion, co-financed by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), the European Investment Bank (EIB), the French Development Agency (AFD) and the AIIB.

Within her visit to China, Al-Mashat met with the President of the AIIB Jin Liqun on the ongoing partnership with Egypt.

The total development cooperation portfolio of the AIIB in Egypt records about $1.3 billion, including $300 million in water management, $360 million for budget support, €250 million for launching the Abu Qir electric metro, $210 million for financing 11 private sector companies in the field of renewable energy, and a $150 million line of credit for the National Bank of Egypt.

During the annual meetings of the African Development Bank (AfDB) held in Sharm El-Sheikh, Al-Mashat had also engaged in discussions with the Vice Presidents of the AIIBregarding their upcoming strategy for development cooperation.

Moreover, an important agreement was reached to discontinue the utilization of the "LIBOR" reference interest rate, aligning with the practices of major international organizations. The two sides agreed to sign an agreement to abandon the reference interest rate "LIBOR", which is the approach adopted by other international institutions.

Moreover, Al-Mashat met with the President of the AIIB at the 5th UN LDC Conference in Doha on the future cooperation programs.

They also discussed the $360 million in financing that the AIIB has allocated for private sector companies in Egypt, and the Ministry's plans to expand this through more mechanisms that stimulate private sector participation in development efforts.

The bank has expressed interest in discussing the possibility of formulating a strategy for cooperation with Egypt. Among the most important cooperation areas are:

- Financing priority projects in the field of infrastructure in general, especially green projects and technological infrastructure.
- Financing projects related to productive sectors and regional connectivity projects.
- Supporting the private sector.

It is also worth noting that opening of a representative office of the AIIB in Cairo will be among the most important topics raised during discussions on a cooperation strategy with Egypt, as this represents an enhancement of the country's pivotal role in Africa. The representative office shall be the headquarters for managing and supervising the Bank's projects and activities across the continent.

THE ASIAN INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT BANK (AIIB) ANNUAL MEETINGS

Coinciding with the launch of the annual meetings of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) in Sharm El-Sheikh, under the patronage of H.E. President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt, the Ministry of International Cooperation reviews the details of the development cooperation portfolio ongoing with the bank since Egypt officially joined its membership in 2016, as it is one of the specialized multilateral international development banks in financing and investing in sustainable infrastructure projects and stimulating green and smart investments that enhance regional connectivity.

Since Egypt joined the bank, the AIIB has contributed to financing a number of projects that come in light of the country's strategic priority for the public and private sectors, with the portfolio recording about $1.3 billion, in various infrastructure sectors, in order to promote sustainable and comprehensive economic development.

The Private Sector

Among the AIIB's portfolio, it provided soft development financing worth $360 million, including $210 million in financing to 11 private sector companies that contributed to the implementation of the Benban Solar Energy Park in Aswan. This is one of the solar energy parks in the region and the world with capacities of up to 2000 megawatts. The complex is an example of the importance of multilateral cooperation, as many international financial institutions contributed to its financing, including the AIIB, the International Finance Corporation (IFC), and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD).

In addition, the AIIB made $150 million available in credit lines to banks to re-lend to small and medium enterprises, enhancing the financing available for these types of projects that stimulate comprehensive and sustainable growth and provide job opportunities. Over the past three years, the Ministry of International Cooperation has strengthened international partnerships aimed at empowering the private sector, which resulted in soft development financing for the private sector amounting to approximately $7.3 billion, in addition to $2 billion from the beginning of 2023 until now, which reflects the pivotal role of international financial institutions in stimulating the private sector through concessional development financing.

The Government Sector

Additionally, the AIIB has contributed to providing soft development financing worth $300 million to the water sector in light of the priority given by the state to sustainable water resources management projects and the implementation of SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation.

During the past year, the bank also provided development policy financing worth $360 million, which aims to support development efforts by enhancing overall sustainability, opening horizons for private sector participation in development, and stimulating women's empowerment efforts.

The financing achieves three basic pillars: enhancing overall financial sustainability -which includes its improvement- managing state-owned enterprises by enhancing transparency and reporting, and stimulating the transition towards a green economy. This includes improving the management of state-owned companies by enhancing transparency.

Moreover, the bank is one of the multilateral development banks contributing to the financing of the Abu Qir Metro Project in Alexandria, as it provides concessional development financing worth €250 million.

The Minister of International Cooperation, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat, signed the financing agreement with the President of the Bank during her visit to the Chinese capital, Beijing, last July. The project contributes to reducing traffic congestion in Alexandria, supports the transition to environmentally friendly means of transportation, and reduces harmful emissions. Alongside the AIIB, the EBRD, the European Investment Bank (EIB), and the French Development Agency (AFD) contributed to the project's financing.

AIIB Business Roundtable



During the round table of the board of governors during the activities of the AIIB annual meetings, Al-Mashat delivered Egypt's speech.

At the beginning of her speech, Al-Mashat welcomed the President of the AIIB, the Bank's Board of Governors, and member states in the city of Sharm El-Sheikh at a time witnessing many economic challenges, in order to discuss issues, areas of common interest and building a comprehensive dialogue to develop a road map towards enhancing multilateral cooperation.

H.E. indicated that the bank, since its establishment, has expanded its support for green, flexible and sustainable infrastructure sectors, and as a founding member from outside the continent of Asia, Egypt has launched comprehensive, strong and unique partnerships with the AIIB over 8 years.

H.E. noted the close partnership with the bank in implementing water and energy projects, within the Nexus for Water, Food and Energy Platform, the NWFE program, which is a partnership that builds on the tireless efforts made since 2016.

H.E. also thanked Jin Liqun, the AIIB President, and the teams for their diligent and joint work to advance development efforts in Egypt.





"Despite efforts made in international cooperation globally, the world's economies in transition, as well as developing and emerging countries, are concerned about the global consecutive crises, which range from the unprecedented climate risks, rapid and volatile market dynamics, tight fiscal space, in addition to economic and political turbulence, jeopardize hard-won development gains."
H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat.

The AIIB plays a pivotal role alongside the multilateral development banks in providing and mobilizing the capital that developing and emerging countries are most in need of, not only at the level of providing soft development financing to governments but also making financing tools available and stimulating private sector investment.

Al-Mashat participated in a discussion session entitled **"How Resource Mobilization, Blended and Innovative Finance Can Help Bridge the Infrastructure Financing Gap in the Middle East and Africa,"** with the participation of Dr. Mohamed Farid, Chairman of the Financial Regulatory Authority (FRA), Executive Director of Africa's Finance Corporation (AFC), Mr. Sanjeev Gupta, Vice President of ICBC International, Mr. Sen Yang, and CEO of HSBC Bank Egypt, Mr. Todd Wilcox.

Moreover, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat participated in a discussion session titled **"Nature as Infrastructure"** within the 2023 Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) annual meetings in Sharm El-Sheikh with the AIIB's Chief Economist, Dr. Eric Berglof, Senior Climate Change and Biodiversity Advisor UNDCO Aban Marker Kabraji, Executive Director of Nature Finance, Dr. Simon Zadek, and the session was moderated by Co-founder and CEO of Verityv Analytics, Dr. Samah El-Shahat.

The session discussed the report scheduled to be issued by the AIIB on stimulating investment in nature, **"Nature as Infrastructure"**, its importance in driving economic growth, the importance of consistency between infrastructure projects, preserving nature and the environment, protecting biodiversity through nature-based solutions, addressing social and economic environment challenges effectively through these solutions, and increasing investments in projects that preserve nature.

AIIB Bilateral Meetings



Al-Mashat met with Dr. Zhang Wencai, Vice President of the Export-Import Bank of China, in the presence of Ambassador Abu Bakr Mahmoud, Advisor to the Minister of International Cooperation for Asian Affairs, and Dr. Mohamed Abdel Gawad, Head of the Cooperation Sector with the United Nations, Multilateral International Financial Institutions, and officials from the Chinese side. The meeting included discussions on joint cooperation in light of the development of Egyptian-Chinese relations and strengthening joint efforts to advance sustainable development and stimulate concessional development financing.

The Vice President of the Export-Import Bank of China expressed his keenness to explore cooperation opportunities with Egypt and cooperate with other development partners in stimulating blended financing that enhances development efforts in areas of common interest, explaining that the bank cooperates closely with many regional financial institutions such as the African Export-Import Bank and the African Finance Corporation (AFC).

Additionally, Al-Mashat held a meeting with the Chinese International Development Cooperation Agency (CIDCA) Head of the Global Development Promotion Center Tang Ying, and the agency's work team.

The Director General of CIDCA applauded Egypt's representation in the Forum on Global Action for Shared Development in Beijing last July. She also noted the Chinese side's praise and welcome of the speech delivered by the Minister of International Cooperation, during the meeting that brought together the participating delegations with Vice President of the People's Republic of China, Han Zheng, during which she stressed the necessity of establishing an institutional framework for the forum to enhance cooperation between the countries of the South, and how Egypt's welcome to host the first edition of these meetings outside China. She also stressed the Chinese side's keenness to enhance joint cooperation in various priority areas of development.

In another meeting with Hong Kong's Secretary for Financial Services & the Treasury Christopher Hui, they discussed joint cooperation with the two AIIB Vice-Presidents, where Al-Mashat highlighted Hong Kong's government for the warm reception during their participation in the Belt and Road Forum, stressing its importance as a prelude to the Beijing summit, with the aim of strengthening cooperation in light of the international initiative and stimulating South-South cooperation efforts.



KOREA

Egypt and Korea have a long history of cooperation, dating back to the early 1960s. In recent years, this cooperation has expanded and diversified, covering a wide range of sectors, including trade, investment, tourism, education, and development.

On Transportation

On June 13th, in line with the cooperation and strategic partnership between the two countries, and after South Korea chose Egypt to become the strategic partner in the field of development cooperation for the next five years, a development financing agreement worth $460 million for the implementation of the manufacturing and supplying 40 train units (320 wagons) for the 2nd and 3rd lines of the Greater Cairo Metro project, through the concessional financing window provided through the Korean Cooperation Fund for Economic Development of the Export-Import Bank of Korea.

During the signing activities, the Minister of International Cooperation H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat, welcomed the new South Korean ambassador to Cairo, H.E. Kim Yong-hyon, applauding the efforts exerted by the Egyptian and Korean sides during the past year to implement this project, which aims to localize the railway industry and electric traction units in Egypt, through joint cooperation between the National Egyptian Railway Industries Company (NERIC) and Hyundai Rotem in the Suez Canal Economic Zone.

The new project comes in light of the Government of Egypt's efforts to localize the railway industry in Egypt, to meet development requirements and enhance the ability to export to Africa by establishing a global manufacturing center for heavy and strategic industries.

This is to be done through the effective participation of the private sector and learning from Korean expertise in the area of localization of technology and attracting foreign investments, which contributes to the creation of approximately 5,000 job opportunities in the Suez Canal Economic Zone, in order to achieve social and economic progress in the region.



With regard to the project, the Korean ambassador explained that the project contributes to strengthening Egypt's efforts to develop means of transportation and provide advanced means of transportation for citizens, stressing the great capabilities that the Egyptian state possesses in its large number of youth, which enables it to achieve significant growth through comprehensive partnerships.

The Managing Director of the Egyptian National Company for Railway Industry Eng. Ahmed Fekry said that the project does not only represent a mere supply of equipment, but also aims to localize the railway carriage industry in Egypt in the Suez Canal Economic Zone, gradually enhancing the local component, and enhancing the supply efforts for markets in the Arab region and Africa through public-private partnership.



On Cooperation

It is also worth noting that a high-level annual consultation session was held with the Korean Ministry of Finance and Economy, the Korean Cooperation Fund for Economic Development of the Korean Export-Import Bank and the Korean Embassy to review the developments of the current cooperation portfolio amounting to about $1.2 billion in several areas, and to discuss ways to provide concessional financing for development projects. The future that serves Egypt's 2030 plan, with the participation of many government agencies; the Ministries of Transport, Housing, Local Development, Petroleum, Finance, Irrigation, Electricity, the Suez Canal Authority, and the Agricultural Development Bank.

A Strategic Partner

Moreover, back in 2021, South Korea chose Egypt to be a strategic partner at the level of development cooperation plans during the period from 2022-2026, and the Korean presidential visit to Egypt in early 2022, during which a framework agreement for development cooperation was signed between the two countries to implement a number of projects worth one $1 billion dollars.

Under this strategy, during the presidential visit, a memorandum of understanding was signed between the Ministry of International Cooperation and the Export-Import Bank of Korea in a financing package worth $1 billion, being negotiated to benefit the Ministries of Transport - Local Development - The National Training Academy - Suez Canal Authority.

The strategic pillars for the next 4 years are based on:

- **Achieving macroeconomic stability, enhancing industrial competitiveness, and creating job opportunities.**
- **Achieving green growth, enhancing energy security, and reducing carbon emissions.**
- **Establishing innovation and knowledge exchange systems based on information infrastructure between the two countries.**
- **Raising the efficiency of the government apparatus and creating digital systems to improve the transparency of government work.**
- **Integrating adaptation and mitigation measures into government policies.**
- **Improving the efficiency of transportation and railway signaling systems networks.**
- **Improving the efficiency of vocational training and technical education in Egypt by increasing the number of graduates trained to become skilled workers.**



For financing and technical mechanisms for cooperation between the two countries, the Ministry of International Cooperation cooperates with all its counterparts from Korean institutions responsible for development and development financing and annually holds coordination meetings and consultations with the presence of representatives from the Korean government and Egyptian national entities to present cooperation priorities and introduce the ministries and entities.

For example, in 2022, the annual meeting was held in the presence of a delegation from the Export-Import Bank of Korea and the Korean Embassy in Cairo. It was agreed to finance a number of projects in the transportation sectors (railway and maritime transport) with the Ministry of Transport, and in the field of solid waste with the Ministry of Local Development and Military Production, as well as cooperation to establish an Egyptian branch of the prestigious Korean University in cooperation with the National Training Academy.

Earlier in the year, Al-Mashat had held a bilateral meeting with the Vice President of the Export-Import Bank of Korea, Soo Young Hwang, during the annual meetings of the African Development Bank (AfDB) in Sharm El-Sheikh, where bank officials welcomed the launch of a regional office for the bank in Cairo, which was intended to be a base for expanding the scope of the bank's operations in the African continent and confirms the strong bilateral relations between the two sides.

It should be noted that the Export-Import Bank of Korea is a financial institution within the Korean government and operates under the supervision of the Ministry of Economy and Finance in South Korea. It was established in 1976 and plays a vital role in the development financing structure in South Korea.

As for the Economic Cooperation and Development Fund, it is a dedicated fund within the Korean Bank, established in 1987, and its role is based on supporting the provision of development funds and the economic and social development of many sectors in the partner countries, where the total size of the cooperation portfolio for implemented and ongoing projects with the Korean Bank so far has reached $771 million.

Among the most important pillars of cooperation with South Korea is the transportation sector, which accounts for about 90% of our development portfolio with Korea.

Cooperation Follow-up with Korea

Within the framework of strengthening cooperative relations with Korea and in light of following up on the status of the implemented projects, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat held a meeting with the Director General of the Korea Economic Development Cooperation Fund (ECDF) responsible for Africa, and a representative of the Export Import Bank of Korea.

During the meeting, they noted a representative for Egypt was also appointed to start work next year, working to follow up on the position of the currently implemented projects. They also discussed the achievements to date and their continued progress, as well as future ways of cooperation between Egypt and the Korean Bank in various fields.

The EDCF is a dedicated fund within the Korean EXIM Bank, established in 1987 with the role of supporting the provision of concessional development financing, to support the economic and social development of many sectors in partner countries.



JAPAN

The Egyptian-Japanese relations began full-force in 1983, when the first meeting of the joint committee was held in Cairo, which resulted in a boom in cooperation relations between the two countries at the economic and political level, where also a technical cooperation agreement was signed to implement general and specialized training programs, workshops and grants. Many Japanese grant and loan projects have been implemented in several development sectors, including health, agriculture, small and medium industries, renewable energy, electricity and infrastructure.

Relations witnessed a quantum leap during the era of H.E. President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi, when then-Japanese Prime Minister, Shinzo Abe, visited Egypt in 2015, followed by the visit of President Abdel-Fattah El-Sisi to Tokyo in 2016, based on which advanced steps were taken to start a new stage of bilateral relations and the launch of several joint cooperation initiatives in the fields of education, health, electricity and infrastructure.

Japan is one of Egypt's most important Asian development partners, as the development cooperation portfolio includes more than 18 development projects in support of the government's plan to achieve the SDGs, with a value of about $3.9 billion, since 2010 until now, in addition to many grants in development in the fields of health, education, energy, electricity, transportation, civil aviation, tourism and antiquities, irrigation, and education, in a way that supports sustainable economic growth, social inclusion, education development, human resource development, regional cooperation and support for the national strategy to combat climate change.

One of the key cornerstones of cooperation with Japan is through the High-Level Policy Dialogue.

The policy dialogue includes witnessing a process of exchanging visions and views on future cooperation in accordance with development priorities, as well as discussing ongoing projects and overcoming any obstacles that prevent their implementation, which will reflect on the efforts of the two countries to achieve the SDGs. The annual policy dialogue is scheduled to be held for the year 2023 in June, in light of the role played by the Ministry of International Cooperation to coordinate between government agencies and multilateral and bilateral development partners.

In August 2022, the annual strategic dialogue for the Egyptian-Japanese partnership was held with the participation of 11 national and relevant Japanese entities, represented by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC), and the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO), to set cooperation priorities for the coming period.

This year, its second meeting was held at the headquarters of the Ministry of International Cooperation in the New Administrative Capital in light of following up on the development of joint relations and discussing future cooperation opportunities.

The importance of the Egypt-Japan High-Level Policy Dialogue is highlighted, as it has become a platform for strategic dialogue between the Egyptian and Japanese governments and a national mechanism to be followed with various multilateral and bilateral development partners to develop strategies for future development cooperation in line with the priorities of the Egyptian and Japanese governments and the financing policies of development partners, with the participation of representatives of the Egyptian government representing various national bodies in the government.

The discussions included senior officials, representatives of the Embassy of Japan, JICA, JBIC, JETRO, and representatives of various Egyptian ministries, namely the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Civil Aviation, Education, Housing, Tourism and Antiquities, Health, the Suez Canal Authority, the Cairo Opera House, the Egypt-Japan University of Science and Technology, and representative of the Cabinet of Ministers.

The high-level policy dialogue is an opportunity for the exchange of opinions and experiences, and enables both sides to identify shared development priorities, referring to the recent visit of the Japanese Prime Minister to Cairo, which marked a turning point in the bilateral relations between the two countries, as it witnessed the signing of an agreement to elevate the relationship to a strategic partnership level. It is also an opportunity to reflect and reaffirm this strategic partnership by formulating a joint strategy for development cooperation policies that reflects the evolution of relations between the two countries.



Mr. OKA Hiroshi, Ambassador of Japan to Egypt, noted the initiative taken by Minister Al Mashat to hold the second High-Level Policy Dialogue, and gave a review of policy development for the past year, including TICAD8 (8th Tokyo International Conference on African Development), COP27, New Plan for a Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP), Prime Minister Kishida's visit to Egypt, G7 Hiroshima Summit, and the revision of Japan's Development Cooperation Charter. He then introduced concrete priority areas: "investment in people" in education and health sectors; "quality growth" through green transition and quality infrastructure development; and regional stability through trilateral cooperation and joint work with partner countries. Ambassador Oka also highlighted the importance of private sector mobilization with Japan's strength in technology and finance for the development of Egypt.

The two sides applauded the important achievements made in 2022/2023, including the signing of the Exchange of Notes on the Greater Cairo Metro Line No.4 and E/N on the Development Policy Loan to support Universal Health Coverage, and the Japanese government's provision of a grant for the project of "Enhancing Food Security through Improving Agricultural Productivity" to be implemented through Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), and the opening of the outpatient clinics project of the Cairo University Specialized Pediatric Hospital - Abu El-Rish funded by a Japanese grant, as part of the comprehensive development and modernization processes taking place in Cairo University hospitals, which contributes to the advancement of the health system and the upgrading of the level of medical services provided to citizens.

Some of the Ongoing Projects with Japan

Electricity Budget Support Sector

Financing the development of policies to support the electricity sector and budget support in cooperation with the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA), which aims to finance the budget support program to develop the policies of the reform program for the electricity sector implemented in cooperation with the French Development Agency and the African Development Bank, in addition to enhancing financial sustainability management and operational efficiency of the energy sector, supporting the use of clean energy to promote the “Green Transition” strategy.

Comprehensive Health Insurance

Financing development policies to support the universal health coverage program, enhancing the government’s efforts to achieve universal health insurance by supporting financial protection and providing high-quality services to low-income people, and supporting economic stability and development efforts in Egypt.

Transportation & Infrastructure Sector

Financing the project of the first phase of Line 4 of the Greater Cairo Metro, where the importance of the project comes in providing a means of transportation that serves 2 million citizens daily in a number of areas with high-population density, by linking the 6th of October city and the archaeological area with the pyramid using the metro network, which is in line with the government’s plan to reduce emissions and provide environmentally friendly transportation.

Development of Burj Al-Arab Airport

Financing the modernization project of Burj Al-Arab International Airport, aiming to enhance services provided to passengers on low-cost flights by constructing a new passenger terminal at the airport with an annual capacity of 4 million passengers.

Antiquities and Tourism Sector

The Grand Egyptian Museum construction project (first and second phase): One of the most important projects funded by the Japanese side due to its importance in supporting the tourism sector in Egypt through a global tourist destination.



Energy Efficiency

For three electricity distribution companies (North Cairo, Alexandria, and North Delta): The project contributes to improving energy use within the electricity distribution sector by reducing losses during the distribution and sale of electricity to the consumer, and the purchase of electric energy from public and private energy production companies (with low and medium power), maintenance and operation management of low and medium power generators.

Education & Human Resources Development Sector

Human resource development project in the field of education and health (EC2), with the aim of dispatching 1,505 students and researchers over 5 years to train and obtain master’s and doctoral degrees in various scientific fields.

The “Egyptian-Japanese Education Partnership” Program

Aims to inaugurate 100 Egyptian-Japanese schools that implement the Japanese Tokkatsu education system, and within the framework of the project, 51 Egyptian-Japanese schools have been opened so far, 30 new schools have been selected in the governorates of a decent life to start applying the system to improve educational services, services and facilities in those Schools and teacher training, in line with the objectives of the “Haya Karima” initiative.

Construction of Outpatient Clinics for the Children’s Specialized Hospital - Abu El-Rish

A grant for a project to supply medical equipment and services for the benefit of the Ministry of Health, as well as a grant for the supply of research equipment for the Egyptian-Japanese University. In addition to a grant of $9.3 million to supply medical equipment and services for the Ministry of Health to overcome the COVID-19 crisis.

Supplying Research Equipment for the Egyptian-Japanese University (E-JUST) First phase

The project aims to enhance education and scientific research at the university, as the necessary educational and research equipment will be provided for engineering education at the undergraduate level for eight departments at the university.



The most important projects implemented by the private sector in cooperation with the Japanese Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) to support the electricity sector:

An agreement was signed to implement a project to establish a wind farm with a capacity of 500 MW in the Gulf of Zayt region, through cooperation with Sumitomo Company, with the remaining amount of $281 million. Last March, JBIC signed an agreement with the Red Sea Wind Energy Company worth $240 million to implement a project to establish a wind energy farm in Ras Ghareb in the Red Sea with a capacity of 500 megawatts, to be implemented through Toyota Tsusho Corporation and Egyptian Electricity Holding Company.

The project will be co-financed by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation, Norinchukin Bank, and Societe Generale SA.

In November 2022, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) signed a loan agreement with the Abydos Solar Energy Company to finance the Kom Ombo solar energy project in the Arab Republic of Egypt. The International Finance Corporation (IFC) will jointly finance the project. This project aims to increase electricity supply from renewable energy sources by building and operating a 500 MW solar power plant in Kom Ombo, Aswan Governorate, southern Egypt, thus contributing to climate change mitigation by reducing CO2 emissions in Egypt.

Projects through international financing institutions (The United Nations):

The “Enhancing Food Security by Improving Agricultural Productivity for Small Farmers” project at a value of $3,750 million in cooperation with the Food and Agriculture Organization “FAO” to implement the project for the benefit of the Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation.

The “Supporting Circular Economy Practices in the Value Chain in Single-use Plastic Production” project with a grant of $3.5 million through the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) for the Environmental Affairs Agency.

The project of small photovoltaic systems connected to the electric grid of the Arab Republic of Egypt at a value of $3.5 million in cooperation with the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) for the benefit of the New and Renewable Energy Authority - Ministry of Electricity.

The “Expanding Access to the COVID-19 Vaccine in Egypt” project, worth $3.4 million, in cooperation with UNICEF, to establish effective cold chain systems for storing and preserving vaccines for the Ministry of Health.

Health Sector

This year, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat, and the Japanese Ambassador to Egypt, Oka Hiroshi, signed letters of intent to finance a $330 million Health Insurance Policy Development Project. The project is set to help develop healthcare services and enhance their quality for all citizens, especially those with low income.

It will also support the e-service system to implement the project in several hospitals and medical centers in Port Said, Damietta, Ismailia, and Luxor governorates.





Japan Bank for International Cooperation

H.E. Dr. Rania Al-Mashat met with the Global President and Head of the Environment and Infrastructure Finance Group at the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC), Uchida Makoto, on mechanisms for implementing the memorandum of understanding for the strategic partnership for financial and economic cooperation that was signed during the visit of the Japanese Prime Minister to Egypt where he met with H.E. President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi; witnessing several MoUs signed.

They also discussed efforts to enhance the role of Japanese private sector companies to support Egypt’s development efforts, climate action, and implementation of infrastructure projects.

VIETNAM

Egypt and Vietnam have strong economic ties, with Vietnam being Egypt's 17th largest trading partner, with relations dating back to the 1960s, where in 1997, an agreement was signed to form a joint committee.

In 2017, President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt, visited Vietnam as the first visit of an Egyptian president to the Republic of Vietnam, and the visit witnessed the signing of many joint cooperation documents.

Egypt exports mainly agricultural products, machinery, and textiles to Vietnam, while Vietnam exports mainly garments, footwear, and electronics to Egypt. There is also growing cooperation between the two countries in the tourism sector. In recent years, there has been a growing interest in cooperation between Egypt and Vietnam in the fields of infrastructure, renewable energy, education and agriculture.

This year, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat, met with the H.E. Mr. Tran Luu Quang, Deputy Prime Minister of Vietnam, and his accompanying delegation, during his visit to Egypt at the head of a high-level delegation on the first visit of officials from the Vietnamese government since the COVID-19 pandemic. During the meeting, enhancing the common cooperation relations between the two countries in various fields was discussed.

H.E. noted that the current visit coincides with the 60th anniversary of the start of diplomatic relations between the two countries, which presents an opportunity to move towards a new phase based on the development priorities of both countries to enhance economic cooperation, especially in light of the challenges facing all countries in the world.

Al-Mashat also met with the Minister of Industry and Trade of Vietnam, H.E. Mr. Nguyen Hong Dien, on July 27, 2023, as part of a high-level delegation led by the Deputy Prime Minister of Vietnam.

The two ministers discussed the preparations for the 6th session of the Egyptian-Vietnamese Joint Ministerial Committee, which will be held soon, and strengthening cooperation between the two countries' private sectors and exploring investment opportunities.

Held previously 5 times between 1997 and 2017, the committee will be chaired by the Ministry of International Cooperation from the Egyptian side and the Ministry of Industry and Trade from the Vietnamese side, directing their technical teams to start discourses with the relevant parties to discuss proposed areas of cooperation to enhance them during the upcoming session of the Joint Committee.





THE 8TH BELT AND ROAD SUMMIT IN HONG KONG

The Hong Kong Forum, which is jointly organized by the Hong Kong Administrative Region and the Hong Kong Trade Development Council, witnessed extensive discussions on the promising prospects for economic cooperation between various countries as well as international companies to promote economic recovery and seize development opportunities, with the participation of business leaders and government representatives, decision makers and international and Chinese financing institutions such as the China Development Bank, the Export-Import Bank of China, and HSBC Bank.

The Minister of International Cooperation participated among an Egyptian delegation that included the Chairman of the General Authority for Investment, Mr. Hossam Heiba, representatives of the General Authority for the Suez Canal Economic Zone, and other national entities. The Minister of International Cooperation visited the Egyptian pavilion participating in the summit activities and met with the CEO of the General Authority for Investment and the Ambassador Baher Sheweikhi, Consulate-General of Egypt in Hong Kong.

Within the framework of the role played by the Ministry of International Cooperation to support and strengthen Egypt's economic relations with countries around the world, Dr. Rania Al-Mashat, Minister of International Cooperation, participated in the policy dialogue on "Tapping into the Potential of the Middle East", within the opening activities of the 8th Belt and Road Summit in Hong Kong. This coincides with the 10th anniversary of the launch of the initiative by Chinese President Xi Jinping, and in preparation for the Belt and Road Summit in Beijing next month with the participation of world leaders.



The main session of the summit discussed taking advantage of the opportunities available in the Middle East region, moderated by Christopher Hui, Hong Kong's Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury, with the participation of Abdulla bin Touq Al Marri, Minister of Economy of the United Arab Emirates, and Fahd Abdulmohsen Al-Rasheed, Advisor in the General Secretariat of the Council of Ministers of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

The Belt and Road Initiative helps diversify trade routes through investing in new ports, railways, roads and energy pipelines to access new markets and resources more efficiently and securely exchange industrial capacity, innovation and technological knowhow among countries, it identifies with Egypt's strategic priorities of expanding investments and connectivity particularly through the Suez Canal Economic Zone.

Moreover, The BRI has boosted the economic development and investment opportunities in the SCZone, covering an area of 455 square kilometers, and China has also been one of its major investors, with projects such as the China-Egypt Suez Economic and Trade Cooperation Zone (TEDA), which hosts several Chinese enterprises in textiles, electronics, building materials, and logistics. In the area of ports, the Hutchenson – CMA – COSCO consortium was signed. Furthermore, it has promoted tourism and education cooperation with Egypt in the SCZone.

Bilaterals



While in Hong Kong, Al-Mashat met with Hong Kong's Minister of Finance H.E. Paul Chan, discussing aspects of enhancing joint cooperation, discussing stimulating green financing tools and blended financing.

They discussed ways to stimulate joint economic cooperation in light of the country's development priorities and the government's commitment to expand the scope of cooperation in various fields, especially under the umbrella of the BRI, and the successive developments in Egyptian-Chinese relations since the signing of the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership Agreement in 2014 between the leaders of the two countries.

The meeting also touched on the steps taken by the government recently to strengthen development cooperation relations with the BRICS countries, as it recently obtained membership, in addition to Egypt's membership in the New Development Bank affiliated with the BRICS countries, as these steps strengthen the relations of the Arab Republic of Egypt with China and the BRICS countries, as well as enhancing development cooperation efforts to promote national priorities.

Also in Hong Kong, Al-Mashat met with Mr. John Lee, Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, during her participation in the activities of the Belt and Road Summit.

The two sides discussed ways to enhance joint cooperation and benefiting from Hong Kong's position as one of the largest global financial centers to enhance joint economic cooperation, via the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) in this regard, as well as promoting investment opportunities in the Egyptian market and the efforts made by the country to stimulate private sector and attracting investments.

During the meeting, the Minister expressed Egypt's appreciation for the existing cooperation at all levels with China, stressing that the coming period will witness more joint work based on the comprehensive strategic partnership agreement signed by the leaders of the two countries in 2014, as well as the continued development of joint relations, referencing the MoU signed on the Global Development Initiative (GDI) last July, which establishes a new phase of economic and development cooperation and explores prospects for cooperation with China.

For his part, the Chief Executive of Hong Kong spoke about the financial benefits and services available in the region and the available capabilities that could contribute to enhancing joint cooperation efforts with Egypt in Belt and Road Initiative projects.

Moreover, Al-Mashat sat with officials of the China International Capital Corporation (CICC), founded in 1995 and provides financial services and investments through 200 branches and 7 main centers around the world in Hong Kong, the United States, Singapore, the United Kingdom, Europe and Japan.

H.E. also met with Nicholas Ho, Commissioner of the BRI, in the presence of Ambassador Baher Sheweikhi, Consulate-General of Egypt in Hong Kong, Hossam Heiba, Chairman of the General Authority for Investment and Free Zones (GAFI), and Dr. Ibrahim Abdel Khaleq, Vice President of the General Authority of the Suez Canal Economic Zone for Investment and Promotion Affairs.

In another context, Al-Mashat met with Mr. Nicholas Ho, Commissioner of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), where she stressed during the meeting the importance of the BRI to expand the scope of cooperation in various fields between China and various countries of the world, expressing the government's keenness to advance joint cooperation within the initiative's framework.

BELT AND ROAD FORUM FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

The Minister participated within a high-level Egyptian delegation, headed by H.E. Dr. Mostafa Madbouly, Egypt's Prime Minister, in the third session of the "Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation," under the slogan "High-quality Belt and Road Cooperation: Together for Common Development and Prosperity."

During the event's activities, Chinese President Xi Jinping delivered a keynote speech on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the launch of the Belt and Road Initiative, which was launched by the Chinese President in 2013, and aims to develop and establish trade routes and economic corridors linking more than 60 countries. Through this initiative, Beijing is trying to strengthen trade ties and economic relations between Asia, Europe and Africa.

The New Development Bank

The Minister also participated in the meeting held by Dr. Mostafa Madbouly with the President of the New Development Bank (NDB) of the BRICS, Dilma Rousseff, and a number of bank officials, where he confirmed that Egypt will be an active and effective member of the BRICS' NDB, where a clear plan and strategy are being prepared to determine aspects of cooperation with BRICS, as well as the bank itself.

The Prime Minister expressed his aspiration for the NDB to finance projects in the economic zone, especially new and renewable energy projects, including the production of green hydrogen, green ammonia, etc., where a strategy for producing green hydrogen has already been developed.

Moreover, the NDB President indicated her aspiration to visit Egypt and discuss the proposed projects, explaining that she greatly respects the priorities of countries in determining their national projects, stressing that there is immense interest on the energy issue, especially green hydrogen, and that the bank intends to visit the Suez Canal Authority and its economic zone next January.



"Egypt looks forward to the Bank's participation and financing of priority development projects, and to work on achieving harmonization between the activities of development banks. We are working on developing a specific strategy to enhance the targeted sectors." H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat.

China International Development Cooperation Agency

To enhance cooperation with the Chinese side, Dr. Mostafa Madbouly held a discussion session with the China International Development Cooperation Agency (CIDCA), in the presence of Al-Mashat, where H.E. pointed out his aspiration for the agency's cooperation with the Ministry of International Cooperation to develop a cooperation strategy.

The Prime Minister referred to the electric train project, which is considered a model of joint cooperation between the two sides, where the first and second phases are already operational, noting that Egypt is looking forward to completing the third and fourth phases.

For his part, Chairman of CIDCA Luo Zhaohui said, "We hope that Egypt will benefit from the new development cooperation mechanisms provided by the agency," stressing that Egypt is a pivotal and important country in the African continent and has strong cooperation relations with the agency, featuring immense progress in cooperation, especially in advanced technology and satellites.

African Export-Import Bank

On the sidelines of the forum, Al-Mashat participated in a meeting with Dr. Mostafa Madbouly, with Dr. Benedict Oramah, President of the African Export-Import Bank (Afreximbank), where the Prime Minister stressed the importance that Egypt attaches to empowering the private sector, expressing his aspiration to increase the soft financing provided by the Bank to the private sector in Egypt. The meeting also witnessed a discussion of the importance of the Intra Africa Trade Fair in Cairo, in cooperation with the African Union (AU) and the secretariat of the African Continental Free Trade Area, which enhances intra-trade opportunities between the countries of the continent as well as investment opportunities, featuring more than 1,600 exhibitors, 75 exhibiting countries, and more than 35 thousand visitors from various countries of the continent.



"I thank the Government of Egypt for its response and welcome in hosting the third session of the exhibition following the apology of the State of Côte d'Ivoire, in confirmation of its commitment and keenness to advance areas of trade cooperation between the countries of the continent and increase the rates of intra-state trade, and as a reflection of the distinguished relationship between Egypt and the African Export-Import Bank, as it hosts Cairo, the bank's main headquarters." Dr. Benedict Oramah, President of the African Export-Import Bank (Afreximbank).

The meeting also discussed the cooperation portfolio and financing tools that the Afreximbank provides to private sector institutions in Egypt to promote comprehensive and sustainable economic growth in many sectors, whether through credit facilities, credit lines to Egyptian banks, or guarantees, etc.

The Minister explained that enhancing private sector participation is one of the main pillars of international partnerships with multilateral and bilateral development partners, noting that development partners have made $9.7 billion available to the private sector since 2020 in the form of concessional development financing, lines of credit, investment guarantees, and contribution to companies.

Moreover, the Minister confirmed that - since its establishment - the Afreximbank has provided facilities and financing to various parties in Egypt worth $29 billion, including $6 billion in facilities to Egyptian contracting companies to implement projects in 15 African countries, and $15 billion to the banking sector. Additionally, $25 billion has been pumped from that portfolio over the past five years, which reflects the great development of joint relations in the recent period, especially in the sectors of financial institutions, energy, and major industries that are considered the focus of Egypt's attention to promoting economic development. The current portfolio, recorded until June 2022, is worth about $6.6 billion.

INDIA

The diplomatic relations between Egypt and India have extended for more than 75 years, and the relations are scheduled to witness a pivotal development in light of the signing of a memorandum of understanding to raise the level of joint relations by the two countries' leaders.

Over the past year and a half, 15 delegations representing 600 Indian companies have visited Egypt to learn about the investment opportunities available, Indian companies have also signed agreements to expand in the field of green hydrogen, and the country looks forward to more joint work and cooperation in the coming period.

Between 2021 to 2022, there has been an increase in the levels of trade exchange to about $7.2 billion with a growth of 75%, and there are 25 Indian companies investing in Egypt and the amount of their investment to about $3.2 billion in various industries.

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat met with the Ambassador of India to the Arab Republic of Egypt, Mr. Ajit Gupte, at the headquarters of the Ministry of International Cooperation in the New Administrative Capital on strengthening strategic cooperation between the two countries in light of the Ministry's assignments to head India's unit in the Cabinet, with the aim of strengthening various aspects of cooperation.

There was a great qualitative shift in relations between the two countries, against the background of the two mutual visits of the leaderships of the two countries, the visit of President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt, to India in January 2023, and the visit of H.E. Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of Republic of India, to Egypt last June. These high-level visits reflect the desire of both sides to raise relations to the strategic level and open new horizons for cooperation between the two countries at all levels.

The Indian ambassador expressed India's interest in cooperating with Egypt in various fields, and looked forward to witnessing more cooperation in the coming period that will achieve great benefits for both parties.

Earlier in the year, the 59th anniversary of the launch of the e Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation Program (ITEC) program, in the presence of the Indian Ambassador in Cairo, Ajit Gupte, was held, where Al-Mashat attended as the guest of honor.

The ITEC program has boosted investment efforts in human capital and contributed to training more than 1600 trainees and cadres in banking, finance, communications, management, urban development, renewable energy, environment, public health and nursing.

SINGAPORE

The diplomatic relations between Egypt and Singapore in November 1966, a year after Singapore's independence. The cooperation between both is characterized by joint consultation and coordination at all levels, and over the course of more than 4 decades, the two countries signed many partnership agreements that are reflected in strengthening development partnership efforts in various fields of economy, trade, investment and culture.

Trade relations between Egypt and Singapore doubled during 2021, as the total volume of trade exchange between the two countries reached $677 million, compared to $307 million in 2020; an increase of 120%.

Moreover, Singaporean investments in Egypt amounted to $175 million dollars in 33 projects in agriculture, manufacturing, services, information technology and tourism.

Within the framework of strengthening economic cooperation relations between Egypt and Singapore, H.E. Dr. Rania Al-Mashat held a meeting with Mr. Dominic Goh, Ambassador of the Republic of Singapore in Cairo, to discuss future cooperation between the two sides at all development levels.

H.E. stressed that Egypt is paying attention to benefiting from the pioneering experience of Singapore in the field of port digitization and capacity building in the maritime transport sector through the development partnership with the Singapore Cooperation Enterprise (SCE) and specialized companies, to implement the Maritime Single Windows (MSWs) project at the level of all ports in line with the organization's standards of international shipping.

H.E. pointed out that a national working group was formed, headed by the Ministry of International Cooperation and the participation of relevant entities, to enhance coordination and joint work to advance areas of cooperation with Singapore and to accelerate the pace of various cooperation mechanisms, in order to achieve the implementation of projects and to stimulate foreign investments, especially in the areas of shipping and marine logistics.

For his part, the Ambassador of Singapore stressed the depth and strength of relations between Egypt and Singapore, in light of joint cooperation and coordination at all levels. He applauded the breakthrough Egypt has achieved in implementing projects in energy and infrastructure in conjunction with comprehensive development initiatives that contribute to achieving the aspirations of the Egyptian people for prosperity and sustainable development.

UNLOCKING UNTAPPED POTENTIAL: FROM EGYPT TO AFRICA TO THE WORLD

AfDB Annual Meetings

The African Development Bank (AfDB) is one of Egypt's main development partners.

Since its inception, the AfDB has contributed to financing a number of important development projects in various sectors through development funds, grants and technical assistance, providing more than $6 billion in development funds, including more than a billion dollars to finance 24 operations for the private sector.

This year, the bank held its 2023 Annual Meetings d in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, from May 22 to 26. The meetings, which comprised the 58th Annual Meeting of the Board of Governors and the 49th Meeting of the Board of Governors of the African Development Fund, were the first to be held in Egypt since 2010.

The AfDB President, Dr. Akinwumi Adesina, announced the announcement at a press conference in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, where he said that the decision to hold the meetings in Egypt was made in recognition of the country's important role in the African development landscape.



"Egypt is a key partner of the AfDB, and we are grateful for the support of the government and people of Egypt in hosting our annual meetings…We are confident that the meetings will be a success and will provide an opportunity for us to discuss the challenges and opportunities facing Africa's development."
Akinwumi Adesina, AfDB President.

The 2023 Annual Meetings were held under the theme of "Mobilizing Private Sector Financing for Climate and Green Growth in Africa", bringing l together African leaders, development partners, and the private sector to discuss how to accelerate the transition to a green economy across the continent.

The meetings also provided an opportunity for the AfDB to present its work on climate finance and green growth, where the Bank has committed to mobilizing $25 billion in climate finance by 2025, and it is working with its partners to develop innovative solutions to address the challenges of climate change in Africa.

As a major event for the African development community, the 2023 meetings posed an opportunity to discuss the challenges and opportunities facing Africa's development and chart a course for the future.

The Ministry of International Cooperation's Activities at the AfDB



H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat met with AfDB President Akinwumi Adesina on the sidelines of the annual meetings in Sharm El-Sheikh.

The meeting witnessed the discussion of all cooperation files with the bank, most notably its participation as a major development partner in the water pillars within the national platform of the "NWFE" program, and efforts to mobilize blended financing and climate financing mechanisms for the platform's projects, and discussing future cooperation projects and enhancing South-South cooperation.

Adesina expressed his appreciation to Egypt and his sincere thanks for hosting the bank's annual meetings in its 58th session, and facilitating ways for the participation of all the bank's governors from African countries and others. He also thanked Egypt's leadership in COP27, and the bank's plans to support climate action locally, regionally and internationally.

Adesina continued, saying, "I also thank the Minister of International Cooperation, for her launch of the NWFE program, which aims to mobilize investments exceeding $14 billion in the mitigation and adaptation sectors to support climate action in Egypt, and we have heard from our talks with many countries of the continent several inquiries about the program themes."

He also pointed to the importance of the steps that Egypt has already taken in the field of stimulating green financing and climate action, noting that the guarantee that the bank recently approved at a value of $345 million will enhance Egypt's ability to issue panda bonds, enabling it to increase financing for green and social projects.

The 1st Sustainable Panda Bonds in the Chinese Market

Last October, Egypt, as the first country in the Middle East and Africa, succeeded in issuing Sustainable Panda Bonds in the Chinese market, which are allocated to finance projects worth about 3.5 billion Chinese Yuan, equivalent to $500 million.

This success comes in light of the guarantee provided by the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), worth $200 million, and the African Development Bank (AfDB), worth $345 million, in light of Egypt's efforts to diversify sources of financing.

High-Level Panels & Roundtables





South-South Cooperation

During the meeting's activities, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat delivers the keynote speech at the panel discussion on "Mobilizing Blended Finance to Facilitate the Green Transition in Emerging Economies," as part of the preparations for the annual meetings of the AfDB.

H.E. Dr. Yasmine Fouad, Minister of Environment, Dr. Mahmoud Mohieldin, Executive Director of the International Monetary Fund, Dr. Mohamed Farid, Chairman of the Financial Regulatory Authority, Mr. Rami Aboul Naga, Deputy Governor of the Central Bank, and Mr. George Elombi, Vice President of the African Export-Import Bank, participated in the discussion session, moderated by Mr. Aliou Maïga, Regional Director of IFC.

The Minister reviewed the recommendations of the "Sharm El-Sheikh Guidebook for Just Financing," which was launched in the lead-up to COP27, and spoke about the NWFE Program.

H.E. highlighted the urgent need to act on climate change, given its impact on the African continent.

The reports issued by the Climate Policy Initiative indicate the total investments needed worldwide annually until 2030 to maintain an increase in global temperature at the level of 1.5 degrees, amounts to about $4.5 trillion worldwide, while the needs of developing countries amount to about $842 billion, noting that Africa alone amounts to $250 billion.

The actual flows of climate finance between 2019-2020 amount to about $632 billion, representing 14% of the actual needs, including $80 billion for developing countries, representing 9% of their needs, and $29.5 billion for Africa, amounting to about 11.8% of their needs. She pointed out that the private sector has made available about $306 billion in climate finance, of which $14 billion has been directed to developing countries and only $4 billion to Africa.



South-South Cooperation

Also during the meetings, Minister Al-Mashat and New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) Executive Director Nardos Bekele-Thomas co-chaired a high-level discussion on South-South and Triangular Cooperation to promote economic integration in Africa with 50 development partners and heads of international organizations in attendance.

The session was held with the participation of Abdullah Al-Dardari, Assistant Secretary-General and Director of the Regional Office for the Arab States at the UNDP, Elena Panova, UN Resident Coordinator in Egypt, Heiki Harmgart, Regional Director for the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean Region of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), Alessandro Fracassetti, Director of the UNDP in Egypt, Dima Al-Khatib, Director of the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC), Hanan Morsi, UN Economic Commission for Africa's Deputy Executive Secretary and Chief Economist, Jay Collins, Vice President of Citibank, and representatives of the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB), the International Islamic Trade Finance Corporation (IFTC-IDB), the World Food Programme, the French Development Agency (AFD), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the United States Agency for Development (USAID), the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and others.

During the session, Mengisteab Haile, Regional Director of the WFP, announced the provision of $100,000 to the countries of the Southern African Development Group, which includes 16 countries, with the aim of enhancing knowledge exchange efforts with Egypt within the framework of South-South cooperation, and benefiting from development experiences represented in the Presidential Initiative for the development of rural areas under "Haya Karima".



When it comes to knowledge exchange within the continent, the Ministry of International Cooperation has played a key role in advancing South-South cooperation by renewing the launch of the South-South and Triangular Cooperation Academy (SSTC) in 2021, and strengthening its role during the years 2020 and 2021 to push South-South cooperation to become a key player in this framework, as the first framework Institutional integrated into the Middle East and Africa within the framework of the SSTC to support development efforts in the region.

Moreover, several activities have been organized by the Ministry of International Cooperation during the years 2020 and 2021 to enhance South-South cooperation efforts, including the organization of a workshop on adapting to climate changes in development cooperation policies, and hosting the Egypt - International Cooperation Forum, which worked to advance South-South cooperation and Triangular cooperation through discussions, training events and workshops, as well as the launch of the "Sharm El-Sheikh Guidebook for Just Financing", and participation in the 5th UN Conference on the Least Developed Countries in Qatar.



"We have development cooperation programs and accumulated experiences with all partners, and they can represent a strong base for strengthening the role of these institutions in Africa by transferring development experiences through South-South cooperation, as Egypt is a gateway to the African continent." ***H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat.***

Initiatives Launched

The African Pharmaceutical Technology Foundation

The "African Pharmaceutical Technology Foundation (APTF)" initiative, launched by the African Development Bank (AfDB), aims to support African pharmaceutical companies by enhancing their technological infrastructure and strengthening healthcare and pharmaceutical manufacturing capabilities.

H.E. Al-Mashat said that this will have a pivotal and important role in supporting African pharmaceutical companies, which require highly efficient technological infrastructure, and strengthening the capabilities of African healthcare and pharmaceutical manufacturing.

The session on this initiative was attended by Akinwumi Adesina, President of the AfDB, Padmashree Gehl Sampath, Special Adviser to the President of the bank for Medicines and Health Affairs, Victor Oladokun, Senior Advisor for Communications of the bank, and Berbel Loeffler, Governor of the AfDB and Parliamentary Minister of State of Germany, Christian Happe, Director of the African Center of Excellence in Infectious Disease Genomics Research, and Markus Brindt, Director of Global Affairs, European Investment Bank (EIB).

Al-Mashat elaborated on Egypt's pharmaceutical market, which boasts an approximately $3 billion volume and is projected to experience substantial annual growth. She underscored the government's commitment to restructuring the pharmaceutical industry and how Egypt managed to address the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, as noted by the World Health Organization (WHO). Egypt's investment in scientific research, presidential initiatives such as "100 million health," and the "Haya Karima" initiative, which seeks to provide equitable healthcare services to citizens and refugees alike, were highlighted.

Al-Mashat discussed Egypt's endeavors to localize the pharmaceutical industry through attracting foreign investments and establishing projects aimed at achieving self-sufficiency. The launch of the "Drug City" in April 2021, covering 180,000 square meters with an annual production capacity of 150 million packages, aligns with Egypt's vision to become a regional hub for the pharmaceutical sector.



Egypt, UK & Senegal

At the AfDB meetings, Al-Mashat witnessed the announcement of the United Kingdom and the AfDB about the first tranche of projects benefiting from the United Kingdom's guarantee to support the AfDB in financing climate projects on the continent, including the provision of a guarantee of €80 million, to cover part of the financing provided by the bank for the implementation of the third phase of the Al-Gabal Al-Asfar water treatment plant project.

This took place in the presence of the British Minister of State for International Development and Africa, H.E. Andrew Mitchell, President of the AfDB, Akinwumi Adesina, Minister of Economy, Planning and Cooperation of Senegal, Oulimata Sarr, as well as AfDB officials and the Ministry of International Cooperation technical team.

This enhances the bank's ability to expand financing of other projects in the fields of mitigation and adaptation in Egypt within the framework of the guarantee that was announced during COP26, at a value of $2 billion. The bank aims to increase climate financing in the countries of the African continent until 2027, and to enable countries to implement their NDCs, divided between efforts and projects to mitigate and adapt to the repercussions of climate change.

The guarantee for the 3rd phase of the Al-Gabal Al-Asfar wastewater project reflects the great value that the project represents in light of the steps taken by the Government of Egypt to promote sustainable management of water resources and stimulate efforts to adapt to climate changes, as the project provides its services to about 12 million people in the first and second phases, and the third phase provides services to about 5.5 million people, which reflects the commitment to achieving water security and enhancing climate resilience.

H.E. stressed the importance of the water sector in Africa in light of the climatic challenges facing the continent and the increase in water needs, adding that the AfDB provides financing for the third phase of the project at a value of €110 million, with €80 million from the bank and €30 million from the "Africa Grows Together" Fund, pointing out that the project achieves many goals, including improving environmental sustainability by protecting the environment and water resources from pollution and reducing health risks due through the discharge of untreated water into drains and canals; enhancing agricultural production by increasing water reuse to achieve food security, which results in treated water suitable for cultivation of 700,000 acres; and increasing and expanding the capacity of the treatment plant by one million cubic meters/day (phase three) from 2.5 million cubic meters to 3.5 million cubic meters per day for primary and secondary treatment.

Al-Mashat emphasized that Egypt's selection for this guarantee underscores the nation's strong relationships with development partners and its commitment to advancing development and climate action efforts. She noted that the guarantee for the Al-Gabal Al-Asfar project aligns with Egypt's initiatives to manage water resources sustainably and adapt to climate change impacts. The project, serving millions of people, promotes water security and resilience.

The Al-Gabal Al-Asfar project not only addresses environmental sustainability by preventing water pollution but also supports agriculture by reusing water for cultivation, contributing to food security. Additionally, the project aims to increase the capacity of the treatment plant to better serve a growing population.



"I thank the Arab Republic of Egypt for hosting the annual meetings of the AfDB, at this time of great challenges facing the continent and the countries of the world, and I express my happiness to launch the Room 2 Run guarantee through which the UK supports the ability of the AfDB to increase its investments in the continent, and we have chosen the first two projects in Egypt and Senegal, to be the first projects to benefit from the guarantee, which amounts to $2 billion." British Minister Andrew Mitchell.

Moreover, he stressed the importance of the two projects for which the guarantee was issued in light of the necessity of water security for the continent of Africa, pointing out that the Al-gabal Al-Asfar water treatment plant project in Egypt enhances the state's ability to manage water resources and benefits millions of citizens.

Bilateral Meetings

On the sidelines of the AfDB Annual Meetings, Al-Mashat held several bilateral meetings.

One significant focus of these meetings was Egypt's collaboration with the United States. Al-Mashat held discussions with Alexia Latortue, Assistant Secretary for International Trade and Development, where they explored strategies to strengthen Egyptian-US relations and enhance multilateral financing institutions' ability to support development efforts in emerging economies.

They emphasized the significance of the Nexus for Water, Food and Energy (NWFE) program, particularly its energy pillar, and the joint political declaration between Egypt, the US, and Germany during COP27, discussed the New Global Financial Pact and private sector engagement.

Moreover, Al-Mashat met with Djibouti's Minister of Economy in charge of Finance, Ilyas Moussa, and the Governor of Djibouti at the AfDB. They discussed Egypt's international cooperation and development financing portfolio, emphasizing Egypt's commitment to developing cooperation strategies aligned with national priorities and enhancing south-south cooperation.

The Minister also met with the Director of the African Legal Support Facility (ALSF), Oliver Pognon on how the facility is working to provide legal support and consultations for green hydrogen projects in Egypt. Future cooperation projects were also discussed in light of its role based on providing legal advice and technical support for projects implemented in the infrastructure and energy sectors, for the government and private sectors.

Al-Mashat met with Jay Collins, Vice President of Citibank, to explore collaboration in promoting equitable climate financing, mobilizing private sector investment, and providing innovative financing for NWFE program projects; and with Rémy Rioux, Executive Director of the AFD and Clémence Vidal de la Blache, Country Director of the AFD in Egypt.

Throughout these bilateral meetings, the emphasis was on strengthening collaboration with various partners, enhancing south-south cooperation, and driving sustainable development and climate action through innovative financing mechanisms and technical support.





Focus on Africa Across the Year

During the World Economic Forum Annual Meeting 2023 in Davos, Switzerland, H.E.Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat conducted high-level meetings with Nigeria's Minister of Finance, H.E. Zainab Shamsuna.

They discussed the developments in the global economic situation and the impact of the African continent on these changes and ways of cooperation and strengthening joint efforts to face challenges through the expansion of economic relations and trade exchange.

Al-Mashat stressed the interest of Egypt's political leadership in supporting development in the countries of the African continent through strategic partnerships in several areas, including infrastructure, health, transport, water and others, noting that the country is making diligent efforts to promote sustainability of cities and achieve green growth, as well as activating cooperation with the countries of the South through international cooperation efforts, and the possibility of strengthening technical cooperation and exchange of experiences with the Nigerian side in this regard.

Africa on the International Stage

During the African Consultative Group Meeting with World Bank Group President David Malpass, within the activities of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) Spring Meetings in Washington, the impact of the climate crisis on the African continent was discussed, with the suggestion to create the Scaling Climate Action by Lowering Emissions (SCALE) trust fund.

The establishment of the Scaling Climate Action by Lowering Emissions (SCALE) trust fund will mobilize financing and expand the scope of climate action by reducing emissions and making funds and grants available from countries, the private sector and international financing institutions, to support global climate action efforts.

Also during the EBRD Annual Meetings in Uzbekistan, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat, Egypt's Minister of International Cooperation and Governor at the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), engaged in discussions with EBRD President Odile Renaud-Basso. Al-Mashat expressed Egypt's backing for the EBRD Board of Directors' decision to expand operations in sub-Saharan Africa and Iraq.



Chapter 6

FOSTERING REGIONAL COLLABORATION



JOINT HIGHER COMMITTEES & REGIONAL COOPERATION

In 2023, the Ministry of International Cooperation held several joint higher committees, including with Hungary, Iraq and Uzbekistan, among others, one of the key ways to strengthen strategic bilateral relationships

Within its mandate, the Ministry of International Cooperation is responsible for 68 committees between the Arab Republic of Egypt and countries from different continents of the world, including 8 Asian committees, 30 European committees, 14 committees with Arab countries, and 9 African committees, along with seven committees with Latin American countries.

It is worth mentioning that the Ministry of International Cooperation, within its mandate, works on developing and strengthening economic relations between the Arab Republic of Egypt and multilateral and bilateral development partners, in light of which the Ministry undertakes the preparation of joint committees with countries.

This is one of the effective mechanisms to open the prospects of cooperation between Egypt and other countries in various fields.

Egyptian-Hungarian Committee for Economic, Scientific & Technical Cooperation

Egypt and Hungary have long-standing relations as Egypt is the first Arab country to establish diplomatic relations with Hungary in 1928. The Egyptian embassy in Budapest was opened in 1957, and following Hungary's accession to the European Union in 2004, the countries signed the New Economic Cooperation Agreement in 2007, under which three sessions of the Joint Egyptian-Hungarian Committee for Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation were held, the first in November 2008 in Cairo, the second in June 2015 in Budapest, and the third in Cairo in 2018.



This year featured the joint Egyptian-Hungarian Committee for Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation in Budapest, Hungary, headed by the Ministry of International Cooperation from the Egyptian side and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade from the Hungarian side, where areas of common interest were be discussed within the framework of Egypt's commitment to strengthen bilateral relations with Hungary across all areas, especially economic, scientific and technical cooperation.

The fourth session of the Egyptian-Hungarian Commission was held at a time when the world is witnessing successive crises, from the COVID-19 pandemic to the Russian-Ukrainian war and climate change, which casts its shadow on development efforts in the world and also highlights the importance of consultation and joint coordination through bilateral and multilateral cooperation mechanisms to intensify efforts and overcome these challenges and try to overcome the negative effects of everything that happens in the world on the economies of developing and emerging countries.





The ministerial committee was chaired by H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat, Minister of International Cooperation, and H.E. Dr. Peter Szijjarto, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary, followed by a number of bilateral meetings with senior Hungarian officials.

The Minister of International Cooperation also held a number of bilateral meetings with senior officials of the State of Hungary to discuss efforts to strengthen joint relations, discuss development priorities for the two countries, and joint projects between the two countries.

In light of the development of relations between the private sector of the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Republic of Hungary, the agenda of the committee in its fourth session included holding the Egyptian-Hungarian Business Forum in the presence of a number of Egyptian and Hungarian businessmen, during which ways to increase economic cooperation between the two countries were discussed through the role the private sector, areas of common interest, and investment opportunities in the two countries, especially in the agricultural industry, food industry, medical care, pharmaceutical industries, water, renewable energy, tourism, communications, information technology, and others.

In-Depth Talks

Within the framework of the activities of the joint Egyptian-Hungarian Committee for Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation Al-Mashat held extensive discussions with Szijjártó on efforts to strengthen joint Egyptian-Hungarian relations, and open horizons on all economic, commercial and investment levels; utilizing the positive relations between both countries.

This included the participation of the Ambassador of Egypt in Hungary H.E. Mohamed Ibrahim Abdelkhalek El Shinawy; the Chairman of the General Authority for Investment and Free Zones (GAFI) H.E. Hossam Heiba; Chairman of the Suez Canal Economic Zone, H.E. Waleid Gamal El Din; and Head of the Egyptian Commercial Service, H.E. Yehia ElWathik; and Egypt's Ministry of International Cooperation team.

From the Hungarian side, the session included the Chairman of the Hungarian-Egyptian Friendship Group, Dr. Imre Vejkey; Chairman of the Hungarian-Egyptian Business Council, Dr. Riad Naboulsi; Ambassador of Hungary in Egypt H.E. András Kovács, and other officials from the Hungarian Government and the private sector.

During her meeting with the Hungarian Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Al-Mashat emphasized the commitment of the Egyptian state under the leadership of the President of the Arab Republic of Egypt, H.E. President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi, to strengthen the framework of common relations with friendly and brotherly countries, and expand the areas of cooperation reflecting the efforts and development path between the countries.

H.E. noted that overcoming the challenges facing development efforts at the global level will not come without strengthening joint cooperation and creating constructive



partnerships that strengthen the path of countries towards achieving sustainable development.

The Minister applauded the Egyptian-Hungarian relations that began in the beginning of the twentieth century, and varied in many areas of cooperation, pointing to the opportunities available to strengthen this cooperation and diversify it in various areas under the efforts made by the Government of Egypt to achieve comprehensive and sustainable development and its efforts towards localizing industry, encouraging investments, and stimulating the participation of the private sector in development.

For his part, the Hungarian Foreign and Trade Minister stressed the importance of bilateral relations between Hungary and Egypt and enhanced relations between both countries that took place over the past years and were represented in many aspects of cooperation, especially the agreement to supply about 1,300 train cars for the Egyptian railways, noting, “We have a lot to do in order to deepen cooperation.”

Moreover, he stressed that the Joint Committee includes more than 80 Hungarian companies along with the government delegation, is an opportunity to discuss cooperation frameworks between the two sides and open prospects for constructive partnerships between the private sector of the two countries, noting that Hungary considers Egypt a strategic partner in light of the consensus in common goals and economic cooperation between the two countries, especially in the sector of agriculture, transport, scholarships and tourism.

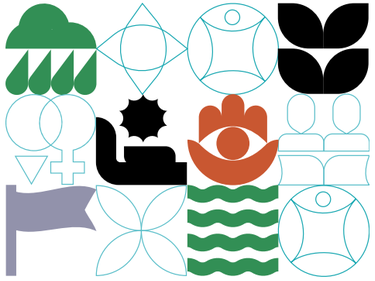
During the meeting, the two ministers agreed on the importance of increasing scholarships for Egyptian students available from the Hungarian side. They also discussed areas of cooperation in the field of energy and natural gas.

Moreover, Hossam Heiba, President of the General Authority for Investment and Free Zones (GAFI), reviewed the measures taken by the state to stimulate investments and increase the participation of the private sector and the opportunities available for joint cooperation between investors from the two countries. Chairman for the General Authority of Suez Canal Economic Zone (SCZONE), also reviewed opportunities available for investment in the region and incentives provided by the region to encourage investments in a number of sectors.

Putting Plans into Action

During the ministerial session, a Memorandum of Understanding on the Exchange of Expertise in the area of International Development Cooperation was signed between the Ministry of International Cooperation and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of the Republic of Hungary, a Memorandum of Understanding between the Egyptian Ministry of Social Solidarity and the Hungarian Ministry of Interior on the field of Cooperation in Social Affairs, as well as the Protocol of The Fourth Session of the Egyptian- Hungarian Joint Committee for Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation which includes a number of areas most notably trade and investment, finance, the Suez Canal, oil and gas, water resources and irrigation, electricity and energy, international cooperation, media, health, tourism.

Opening new prospects in sectors of importance and common interest to both our countries, particularly given evolving global dynamics, the MoUs and discussed held within the committee reflect a commitment to move forward in consolidating cooperation and joint investments, especially in the fields of industry, agriculture, food, healthcare, pharmaceuticals, water, renewable energy, telecommunications, information technology, construction materials and other fields.



Summary Highlights:

Sectors of cooperation include energy, renewable energy, sustainable agriculture, and irrigation, as well as opportunities in manufacturing, education, and tourism.

A joint business forum was held, including business representatives from both countries to discuss investment opportunities.

One of the biggest areas of cooperation between both countries is in the transportation sector, financed by the Hungarian Export-Import Bank.

3 bilateral agreements were signed, marking the groundwork for more partnerships and collaboration ahead.

From Budapest to Cairo

The Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orbán met with H.E. the President of the Arab Republic of Egypt, President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi, and a joint declaration on the strategic partnership between the two countries was signed, which represents a framework for increasing the level of relations between the two friendly countries.

Within the framework of the prime minister’s visit, the joint Egyptian-Hungarian Business Forum, where the Minister of International Cooperation and Hungarian Foreign Minister chaired the closing session; is a mechanism to meet the two countries’ aspirations to open the prospects of the partnership between the private sector.

The business forum saw high-level participation from the public and private sectors of Hungary, including the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary, together with representatives of the Hungarian Export Promotion Agency (HEPA), and representatives of many companies working in areas of common interest such as water, renewable energy, transport, oil and gas, biotechnology, health, information technology, automotive, medical devices, agricultural machinery and food industries.

Representatives of the Federation of Egyptian Chambers of Commerce, the Association of Egyptian-African Businessmen (EABA), the Arab Manufacturing Authority, the General Authority of the Suez Canal Economic Zone (SCZone), the Egyptian Businessmen’s Association (EBA), the General Authority for Investment (GAFI) and many companies in priority areas also participated from the Egyptian side.

The Egyptian-Hungarian Business Forum is an important mechanism for strengthening the relations between the private sector of the two friendly countries, and discussing all areas of joint cooperation that reflect the priorities and interests of the two governments, stressing the need for partnerships between the private sector of the two countries to be as high as the aspirations of leaders to raise the level of common relations.

Moreover, the involvement of the private sector and increasing its role in development efforts is a top priority for the Egyptian government, and for this reason, it has taken many steps to create an investment environment and support the presence of the private sector in many areas.

At the end of the events, the two ministers witnessed the signing of a memorandum of understanding for joint cooperation between the General Authority of the Suez Canal Economic Zone and the Hungarian Export Promotion Agency.

2nd Egyptian-Iraqi Joint Committee



In continuation of efforts to develop joint Egyptian-Iraqi relations, in implementation of the directives of President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt, preparatory meetings at the expert level for the second session of the Egyptian-Iraqi joint committee, headed by the Ministry of International Cooperation from the Egyptian side, and the Ministry of Trade from the Iraqi side, were held in Cairo.

Earlier in the year, Al-Mashat met H.E. Dr. Nizar Amedy, Iraqi Minister of Environment, on the sidelines of the 2023 Spring Meetings of the World Bank Group (WBG) and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in Washington on areas of joint cooperation as well as the Egyptian-Iraqi Joint Higher Committee.

They had discussed preparations for convening the Egyptian-Iraqi Joint Higher Committee in its second session, following the success of the first session that was held in 2020 and resulted in the signing of 15 joint cooperation agreements in various fields of development and the organization of an economic and trade forum between the private sectors of the two countries.

This is especially given that the second session of the joint committee comes with the purpose of implementing the directives of the leaders of the two countries in hopes of strengthening and building on the results of the first session to enhance joint relations between the two countries and achieve common development goals.

Ahead of the preparations, experts from the Egyptian and Iraqi sides discussed files of joint cooperation in various fields to enhance joint development efforts, stimulate relations between the private sector to support development efforts, and expand the scope of cooperation in the economics, trade and investment fields, all working towards improving bilateral relations and activate joint Arab action and overcome the challenges facing development efforts in Arab countries.

On the Egyptian side, representatives of more than 40 relevant entities participated, including representatives of the Ministries of Social Solidarity, Housing, Health and Population, Youth and Sports, Petroleum and Mineral Resources, Electricity and Renewable Energy, Higher Education and Scientific Research, Education and Technical Education, Defense and Military Production, Justice, Economic Planning and Development, Supply and Internal trade, the Public sector, Trade and Industry, Transport, Civil Aviation, Immigration and Affairs of Egyptians abroad, Manpower, Culture, Communications and Information Technology, Water Resources and Irrigation, Agriculture and Land Reclamation, Local Development, and the Environment, along with representatives of The Egyptian Federation of Construction and Building Contractors, the Federation of Industries, the General Federation of Chambers of Commerce, the Egyptian Businessmen Association, the Egyptian Federation of Investors Associations, the Supreme Council for Media Regulation, the National Academy for Training, the National Authority for Social Insurance, the Central Agency for Organization and Administration, the Egyptian Medicines Authority, and the General Authority for Investment Free Zones, the Financial Regulatory Authority, the Egyptian Stock Exchange, the Central Bank, the Consumer Protection Agency, the National Food Safety Authority, the Arab Organization for Industrialization, the Small and Medium Enterprises Development Agency, and the National Planning Institute.



On the Iraqi side, representatives included the Ministries of Trade, Culture, Tourism and Antiquities, Foreign Affairs, Defense, Finance, Oil, Planning, Industry and Minerals, Electricity, Construction and Housing, Water Resources, Youth and Sports, Agriculture, Environment, Transport, Tourism, Agriculture, Immigration, in addition to the Border Ports Authority, the Central Bank of Iraq, the Tourism Authority, the Federal Public Service Council, the Iraq Stock Exchange, the Iraqi Media Network, the Civil Aviation Authority, and other relevant entities.

In the joint committee, the details of all the documents to be signed during the meeting of the Supreme Committee, and the challenges that may prevent the promotion of joint cooperation were discussed along with ways to overcome them, in a way that enhances economic integration between the two countries and achieves maximum benefit from competitive advantages; which would in turn reflect in the standard of living of the citizens of both countries and enhance common prosperity.

The Egyptian-Iraqi Higher Committee constitutes the main umbrella that regulates the bilateral relations between Egypt and Iraq, noting that the two sides aim to improve cooperation relations to achieve strategic integration and focus on deepening cooperation in the economics, trade and investment fields and translating what was approved during the three presidential triangular summits; Egypt, Iraq and Jordan. The projects approved were to serve the interests of the three countries, as well as the necessity of translating the cooperation documents signed in the first session into realistic measures that are reflected in increasing cooperation between the two countries.

Al-Mashat and the Iraqi Minister of Trade, Atheer Al-Ghurairi, chaired the preparatory meetings at the ministerial level for the 2nd session of the Egyptian-Iraqi Joint Committee. During the meeting, final discussions were held to discuss the mutual cooperation documents to advance development efforts in the two countries, prior to their signing.

The meeting of the joint supreme committee headed by the prime ministers of the two countries.

The meeting was later chaired by Dr. Mostafa Madbouly, Egyptian Prime Minister, and Engineer Muhammad Shia' Al-Sudani, Iraqi Prime Minister. This was in the presence of ministers and senior officials from both the Egyptian and Iraqi sides at the government's headquarters in the New Administrative Capital. The two countries signed 11 cooperation documents that state the following:

- A memorandum of understanding in the field of small and medium enterprises, for cooperation in the field of enabling small and medium enterprises to achieve economic growth.
- A memorandum of understanding for cooperation in the fields of diplomatic training and exchange of experiences.
- A memorandum of understanding in the field of administration, public service and civil service.
- A memorandum of understanding for cooperation in the field of tourism between the Ministries of Culture, Tourism and Antiquities.
- Memorandum of understanding on technical cooperation with the aim of joining the World Trade Organization.
- Memorandum of understanding for cooperation in the field of youth and sports.
- A memorandum of understanding on joint cooperation between the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs in the Republic of Iraq and the Ministry of Social Solidarity in the Arab Republic of Egypt.
- A memorandum of understanding in the fields of work between the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs of the Republic of Iraq and the Ministry of Labor of the Arab Republic of Egypt.
- A memorandum of understanding for cooperation between the Iraqi Ministry of Planning and the National Planning Institute in the Arab Republic of Egypt.

Egyptian - Uzbek 7th Joint Committee on Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation



During his first visit to Egypt, H.E. Uzbekistan's President Shavkat Mirziyoyev and H.E. President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi held important meetings to discuss joint areas of cooperation, where several agreements were signed, paving the way for the 7th session of the Egyptian - Uzbek Joint Committee on Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation which H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat co-chair's with the Uzbek Minister of Investments, Industry and Trade Laziz Kudratov.

Ahead of this, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat sat with Uzbekistan's Deputy Prime Minister Jamshid Kuchkarov; Minister of Investments, Industry and Trade Laziz Kudratov, and representatives of the accompanying delegation, to discuss joint cooperation, ways to strengthen bilateral cooperation and convening the Joint Committee.

Moreover, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat participated in the round table, chaired by the President of Uzbekistan, Shavkat Mirziyoyev, with Egyptian businessmen and companies at the conclusion of the Egyptian-Uzbek Business Forum.

The round table was part of the president's first visit to Egypt, in light of the distinguished relations between the two countries, and the mutual high-level visits in order to advance relations on all levels, as well as given the previous visit of the President of the Arab Republic of Egypt, President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi to Uzbekistan, which witnessed the signing of several documents of joint cooperation.

This included the participation of the Uzbek Ambassador in Cairo, the ministers within Uzbekistan's delegation, and many businessmen and private sector companies in the field of data centers, medicines, renewable energy and other industries, including Eng. Ahmed El Sewedy, CEO of El Sewedy Electric; Eng. Khalil Ibrahim, CEO of Fresh Electric Company; Eng. Ihab Mehawed, Managing Director of Orascom Construction; Eng. Hossam Gabr, Chairman and CEO of Lotus Garment Company; Ibrahim Mahmoud Al Araby, Chairman of Al-Araby Group; Dr. Olfat Ghorab, the Chairman of the Board of Directors of Acdima Pharmaceutical Company; Dr. Sherine Hassan Abbas Helmy, Pharco's CEO; Dr. Eng. Sherif El-Gabaly, the Chairman of Board of the Egyptian Chamber of Chemical Industries (FEI); Medhat Al Araby, Vice President of El-Araby Group; and Eng. Abdel Rahman Al-Jabbas, CEO of Al-Rawad.

The round table, culminates the results of the Egyptian-Uzbekistan Business Forum, with the participation of various businessmen from both sides of the sectors: electronics, industry, tourism, pharmaceutical industries and electrical products, and the signing of 7 trade contracts between the Egyptian and Uzbek sides in the fields: pharmaceutical manufacturing and electronics, and increasing trade and investment cooperation between the two countries, thus strengthening and strengthening economic ties between the two countries and allowing the parties the opportunity to show investment opportunities and relative advantages in different economic sectors.

31st Egyptian - Jordanian Joint Higher Committee

The Egyptian-Jordanian Joint Higher Committee is the most regular of the joint committees in convening since its launch in 1985, to play a major role in strengthening joint relations at all levels between Egypt and Jordan, where 30 sessions were held over the course of four decades; featuring dozens of documents in various fields that have greatly reflected on the indicators of economic, commercial, investment and cultural cooperation between the two countries. Moreover, a number of technical committees in various fields emerged from this committee to regulate the progress of work and solve all obstacles that may impede efforts to strengthen joint cooperation relations.

This year, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat & Jordanian Minister of Industry, Trade and Supply Mr. Yousef Mahmoud Al Shamal chaired the preparatory meetings at the ministerial level for the 31st Egyptian-Jordanian Joint Higher Committee in Amman, Jordan; coming in light of the close relations that unite the two countries and the continuous discussions to expand the scope of cooperation and common development objectives.

This took place ahead of the convening of the Joint Higher Committee, chaired by the Prime Ministers of the two countries, H.E. Dr. Mostafa Madbouly and H.E, Dr. Bisher Khasawneh; reaching an agreement on a number of cooperation documents that enhance joint efforts for development in the two brotherly countries, especially in employment, health, environment, culture, financial control, and other fields.

The preparatory meetings witnessed an agreement to activate a number of memorandums of understanding and agreements previously signed to advance Egyptian-Jordanian relations, including the memorandum of understanding in the field of consumer protection, the memorandum of understanding for cooperation in the establishment and management of industrial zones, and the memorandum of understanding for administrative and technical cooperation in the field of free zones and development zones, and a memorandum of understanding in the field of roads and bridges.

The committee also stressed the importance of exchanging experiences in the field of green hydrogen and benefiting from the Egyptian experience, enhancing cooperation in the field of natural gas, emphasizing the importance of mutual participation in international exhibitions, providing the necessary facilities for the participation of private sector companies, and stimulating mutual visits between businessmen, investors and companies to present investment opportunities in both countries.

Economic relations between Egypt and Jordan have witnessed remarkable development over the past years, reaching close to $1 billion by the end of 2022.

The private sectors of the two countries also contribute to pushing investments in various fields, especially energy, legal investment, financial services, information technology, tourism, and other fields.

During the session, the prime ministers of the two countries witnessed the signing of 12 cooperation documents in various fields, a memorandum of understanding (MoU) in the field of drawing economic and development policies and exchanging experiences, an MoU between the Financial Regulatory Authority in Egypt, the Jordan Securities Commission, and the executive program for cooperation between the two countries in the field of environmental protection for the years (2023/2025), an executive program for cooperation in the field of social affairs for the years (2023/2024), a joint cooperation program between the Jordanian News Agency and the Egyptian Middle East News Agency, the executive program for cultural cooperation between the two countries for the years (2023/2026), and the executive program for technical cooperation in the field of vocational training for the years (2023/2024).

In addition to a MoU between the Ministry of Health in Egypt and the Jordanian Ministry of Health, a MoU between the Egyptian Ministry of Endowments and the Jordanian Ministry of Endowments, Islamic Affairs and Holy Sites, a bilateral agreement in the field of electronic postal payment services, and the seventh executive program for the cooperation agreement in the field of manpower for the years (2023/2024) and a MoU for cooperation between the National Authority for Social Insurance and the General Organization for Social Security.

With the conclusion of the committee's work, the harvest of cooperation documents has increased overall sessions since 1985 to about 173 joint cooperation documents in all priority areas, including economic, trade, investment, cultural, scientific and technical, which was reflected in advancing bilateral cooperation between the two countries in priority areas and increasing the rates of trade exchange, investments and facilitating the exchange of experiences.

SECTION 2



Global Efforts

HIGHLIGHTING EGYPT'S EFFORTS IN THE GLOBAL GREEN TRANSITION

INTRODUCTION

Center Stage Subject: Towards a Greener World

To build the state capacities needed to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050, developing and emerging countries must work with development partners on devising innovative financing mechanisms.

Egypt's new climate-finance initiative provides a useful model for pursuing economic development while accelerating climate action.

This year featured a diverse set of global events centered around climate action, especially in the lead-up to COP28, developments and updates in the platform for the Nexus of Water, Food and Energy (NWFE) Program, the Sharm El-Sheikh Guidebook for Just Financing, and much more in terms of new agreements signed within climate action; all to be detailed in the coming chapters, as well as progress in terms of food security and the green transition. Some of the events attended this year include the New Global Financing Pact, events in Abu Dhabi held ahead of COP28 with the Independent High-Level Expert Group (IHLEG), alongside the previously discussed annual and spring meetings with multilateral development banks, COP28, the World Economic Forum activities, OPEC Fund for Development meeting in Vienna, the World Government Summit, and several regional events.

Fostering Climate Agency Where It Counts

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat co-authored an article on "Fostering Climate Agency Where It Counts" with Erik Berglof, Chief Economist of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), looking into much of the growing gap between the resources needed to achieve net-zero greenhouse-gas emissions by 2050 and the resources that are available currently.

As many developing and emerging economies lose ground in the wake of the pandemic, public and private capital must be mobilized to accelerate mitigation and adaptation efforts. However, this requires governments to produce credible plans for achieving global sustainability goals, to design and implement these policies themselves, and to ensure that their strategies' costs and benefits are fairly distributed.

As expressed in the article, last November's United Nations Climate Change Conference in Egypt (COP27), dubbed the "implementation COP," laid the groundwork for a fairer, more robust climate-finance system. The conference's "guidebook" called on the international community to advance a transformative agenda that accounts for developing countries' national priorities and ensures equitable access to financial and technical resources. It included in its definition of climate justice "equitable access to quality and quantity climate financing" that considers "historical responsibility for climate change" and "supports resilient development pathways, leaving no one behind."

With this in mind, Egypt launched its Nexus of Water, Food, and Energy investment program during COP27, providing a practical and replicable model for ensuring a just net-zero transition through the NWFE's concept of "country platforms." These platforms are meant to help countries build state capacities, and emphasize the importance of developing countries' agency (or "ownership," in aid parlance). NWFE (pronounced "nuafiy," which is Arabic for "fulfilling pledges") builds on Egypt's commitments under the 2015 Paris climate agreement and aims to attract financial support for the country's development agenda while accelerating climate action. The stakeholders include multilateral development banks (MDBs) such as the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the African Development Bank, the European Investment Bank, and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank.

More on the NWFE program and its developments is detailed in this section.

SCAN TO READ THE ARTICLE

Al-Mashat also highlighted the importance of climate financing in an article for the International Monetary Fund (IMF) Finance and Development September 2023 issue.

With an urgent need to find an equitable approach to financing for a climate-resilient future, there is an unprecedented number of calamitous climate events—floods and heat waves, superstorms, droughts, and uncontrollable forest fires, all connected to human activity—are putting people's lives in danger, disrupting economies, and causing havoc in the natural world.



"The need for climate action has never been more pressing, and innovative approaches to financing carbon mitigation and climate adaptation are critical to address these mounting problems. It's time to move from mere promises and pledges to concrete implementation, and resources must be allocated equitably and generously— putting people and the planet first." H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat.

Over 75% of global climate financing is spent in the countries where it is raised. As a result, many vulnerable regions—including those with a negligible impact on global warming in the first place—have limited access to climate financing.

For example, the African continent contributes less than 8% of global greenhouse gas emission, and yet suffers the most from climate-related maladies, including severe water scarcity, rising sea levels, and climate-sensitive diseases, while only receiving less than 5.5% of global climate financing, despite the UN's calls for it being a highly vulnerable region.

SCAN TO READ THE ARTICLE



We have shared, but differentiated responsibilities, and a moralobligation to act on climate change urgently.

According to the International Energy Alliance (IEA), while there are more countries announcing pledges to achieve net zero emissions, it still falls short of what is needed "to bring global energy-related carbon dioxide emissions to net zero by 2050 and give the world an even chance of limiting the global temperature rise to 1.5 °C."

The amount of climate investment needed to prevent catastrophic degradation of the environment is staggering, estimated to hit $4.5 trillion a year by 2030 and rise to $6 trillion a year by 2050. Today, by comparison, a mere $632 billion is spent annually. These figures are sobering, especially considering that about 60% of developing economies' needs are not included in their Nationally Determined Contributions—pledges made under the Paris Agreement—which renders the $100 billion pledge made in 2009 at COP15 in Copenhagen pitifully inadequate.

Moreover, according to the World Bank, "up to 132 million people will be pushed into extreme poverty by climate change by 2030." With climate change, there is also its growing impact on food security. As per the World Food Programme (WFP), 345 million people are currently facing acute food insecurity in 2023, and this is a number that increased in just two years from 135 million in 53 countries pre-pandemic, to 345 million in 79 countries today.

In Al-Mashat's F&D article, H.E. adds that a large pool of funds to implement the climate agenda - both adaptation and mitigation - is highly needed, and unfortunately exceeds the currently deployed resources.

If multilateral development banks dedicated all their funds to the green transition, it would amount to about 4 percent of the financing needed, according to the World Bank, but if 1 to 1.5% of global private sector assets, which are worth $450 trillion are included, this would bridge the climate financing gap, as referenced in the article.

Among global initiatives and calls for a restructuring of the global financial architecture has been the Bridgetown Initiative and the G20 Capital Adequacy Framework.

Zooming in on Egypt and COP27, we launched the Sharm El Sheikh Guidebook for Just Financing, leveraging on the interrelationship between climate action and sustainable development; identifying key players, including climate capital providers, and clarifying opportunities, risks, and potential partnerships for a climate-resilient future.



More on the Guidebook is explained in this section, but briefly, we introduced the first definition of "just financing", as "financing that accounts for historical responsibility for climate change while ensuring equitable access to quality and quantity climate financing that supports resilient development pathways leaving no one behind".

The Guidebook raises the critical question of what stakeholders need to do to translate commitments into implementable projects while capturing opportunities to leverage and catalyze needed finance and investments for climate action.

Simply, it brings the idea of justice to climate finance, contributes to bridging the information gap and sets forth key recommendations and an actionable agenda, through 12 core principles that fall within: country ownership, governance and equitable pathways.

For all of this to go smoothly, we must prioritize accountability in terms of transparency, good governance and documentation.

Hence, this section also looks at the Official Development Assistance (ODA) Monitoring and Information Management System (IMS), ODA - SDG mapping process, the role of the house of representatives, as well as the collaboration between diverse stakeholders across projects.

Chapter 1

FROM COP27 TO COP28



PROGRESS, POTENTIAL & POSSIBILITIES

Over the past 12 months, a lot of work has been dedicated, both locally, regionally and globally, to climate action.

En Route to COP28

Climate action is of paramount importance in today's world. Our planet is facing a grave threat from climate change, which is causing unprecedented natural disasters, rising sea levels, and widespread environmental degradation.

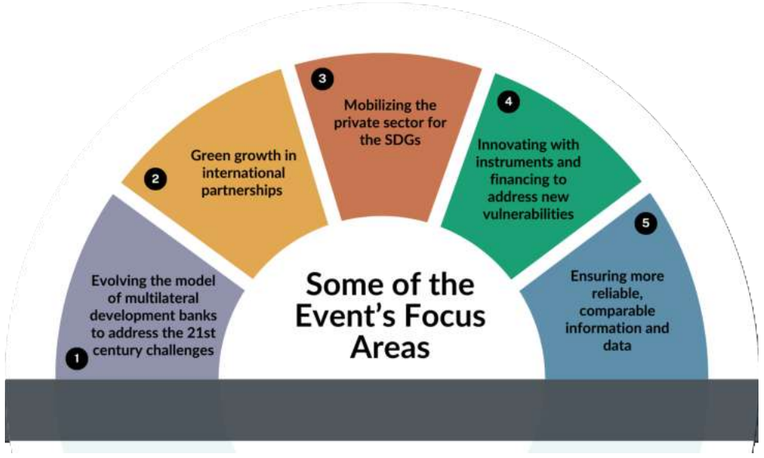
One of the most critical reasons why climate action is essential is that it can help us prevent some of the worst effects of climate change. By reducing our greenhouse gas emissions, adopting sustainable practices, and investing in clean energy, we can slow down the rate of global warming and limit the damage caused by extreme weather events, droughts, and sea level rise, all while creating new jobs, spurring economic growth and improving public health, making it a win-win for everyone.

A NEW GLOBAL FINANCING PACT SUMMIT

Ahead of COP28, France hosted the New Global Financing Pact Summit, including the participation of over 300 countries, international organizations, and civil society representatives, 6 high-level roundtables, and 50 side events. The gathering was focused on how the world is being confronted with massively challenging environmental disasters, alongside public debt crises, inflation, increased poverty and obstacles in meeting the SDGs and net zero objective.

"The urgent need is to strengthen policies and mobilize financing, from all sources in a predictable, adequate, and timely manner to address climate change, biodiversity loss, and environmental degradation including significantly increasing support for developing countries." A New Global Financing Pact Summit.

The key is to create a financial architecture that is equal to today's challenges, one that can deliver more resources, recover from geopolitical shocks, and meet the needs of people.



During H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat's participation in the Summit for a New Global Financing Pact in Paris, as part of the Egyptian delegation headed by H.E. President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt, the Minister participated in a session on "Private Capital Mobilization in EMDCs" in an invitation by the Glasgow Financial Alliance for Net Zero (GFANZ), the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank Group (WBG), and the COP28 UAE presidency.

The roundtable discussed priority actions and proposals related to increasing private capital for climate investments in emerging markets and developing countries, identifying risk management mechanisms, financing structures and other tools to stimulate private investment, and discussing steps that governments, multilateral development banks and international financing institutions can take to expand the scope of implementable solutions.

Many representatives of governments and the international community participated in the discussion session, including United States Secretary of the Treasury Janet Yellen, COP28 President Dr. Sultan Ahmed Al Jaber, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) President Odile Renaud-Basso, Dr. Mark Carney from GFANZ, WBG President Ajay Banga, European Commission Executive Vice President Frans Timmermans, President of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) Jin Liqun, and Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Simon Stiell.

In a related context, Al-Mashat participated in the Climate Capital Mobilization Accelerator, which is a platform between the government and private sectors aimed at addressing the main challenges that prevent the mobilization of capital for climate financing, headed by Nigel Topping, the British climate action pioneer for COP26, with the participation of representatives of several countries, international financing institutions, and civil society.

The Minister also held bilateral meetings with Ajay Banga, the newly elected President of the WBG, as the meeting is the first after he was officially selected as the President of the World Bank, and Mia Mottley, Prime Minister of Barbados, and Makhtar Diop, President of the International Finance Corporation (IFC), H.E. Bruno Le Maire, French Minister of Economy and Finance, Mafalda Duarte, the Executive Director of the Green Climate Fund (GCF), H.E. Harjit Sajjan, Minister of International Development of Canada, Ambroise Fayolle, Vice President of the European Investment Bank (EIB), and Jay Collins, Vice President, Citibank.

During the various meetings, Al-Mashat discussed the pillars of joint cooperation between Egypt and the multilateral and bilateral development partners, the objectives of the New Global Financing Pact in Paris, and the efforts undertaken by the Government of Egypt through cooperation with the international community to stimulate just climate financing, and strengthen efforts mobilizing development funds for developing countries and emerging economies to support comprehensive and sustainable development efforts.





IN ABU DHABI AHEAD OF COP28

H.E. Dr. Rania Al-Mashat participated in a number of preparatory events organized by the United Arab Emirates, ahead of COP28, where H.E. spoke in a panel discussion on “Inclusive Finance: Progress and Obstacles for a Just Transition to a Resilient, Nature-Positive World” in the High-Level Meeting on “Finance for Action: Taking Stock and Moving Forward”.

This was attended by the Independent High-Level Expert Group (IHLEG) on climate finance and representatives of international financing institutions and development partners, including H.H. Sheikha Shamma, President and Chief Executive Officer, UAE Independent Climate Change Accelerators (UICCA); Katherine Stodulka, co-Chair, Blended Finance Coalition; and Vera Songwe, Co-Chair of the IHLEG.

In a related context, the Minister participated in the Independent High-Level Expert Group on Climate Finance (IHLEG), assessing the progress achieved and innovative means of financing since the COP26 in Glasgow, the role of the private sector, as well as defining the structures of climate financing tools and development progress; identifying the gaps and challenges that need urgent action, as well as the road map from COP27 to COP28.

The event was also attended by Managing Director of the IMF Kristalina Georgieva, COP28 President Designate Dr. Sultan Al-Jaber, COP27 Climate Champion Dr. Mahmoud Mohieldin, co-Chairs of the IHLEG Vera Songwe and Nick Stern, G20 Expert Group Larry Summers, GFANZ President Mark Carney, President of Center for Global Development Masood Ahmed, COP28 Secretary General Amb. Majid Al-Suwaifi, IFC Managing Director Makhtar Diop.

The participants presented their recommendations to establish a new framework for international climate financing and a road map for implementation mechanisms during the COP28 conference. They also agreed at the meeting to take the necessary steps to establish a new framework for international climate financing, and to achieve tangible progress in the next climate conference and its subsequent sessions.

On the sidelines, Al-Mashat also held several bilateral meetings. H.E. met with CEO of Africa50 Alain Ebobisse on efforts to enhance joint cooperation in light of the role played by NWFE in promoting investment in infrastructure, bridging the financing gap for infrastructure development in Africa, mobilizing funds from the government and private sectors, and expanding the organization’s work in Egypt based on successful experiences and its contribution to strengthening technical support for companies implementing the Benban solar complex.

The Minister also met the Managing Director of the Climate Policy Initiative Barbara Buchner on strengthening joint cooperation to support climate action efforts and exploring cooperation opportunities to stimulate development efforts and green transformation, pointing to the vital role that the initiative is doing to provide new financing solutions, monitor climate finance flows globally, collect and analyze data related to climate finance globally, and promote efforts to adapt to the repercussions of climate change.









A Year After COP27

Egypt chaired the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change COP27, last November in Sharm El-Sheikh, and witnessed the exceptional participation of about 120 heads of state and government from around the world, and the participants agreed to launch a new five-year work program in COP27 to enhance climate technology solutions in developing countries, and the Mitigation Action Program was launched in Sharm El-Sheikh, with the aim of accelerating the expansion and implementation of mitigation ambition; all while reaching a historic agreement on the Loss and Damage Fund, in addition to many other agreements.

During the conference, Egypt made great progress on the level of climate action by launching many initiatives and signing agreements to promote the transition to a green economy, including the NWFE program, to stimulate climate investments and blended financing for the private sector, signing several agreements were signed to stimulate green financing, and the Sharm El-Sheikh Guidebook for Just Financing was issued as an international initiative to stimulate climate finance in developing countries and emerging economies.

More on NWFE and the green transition is detailed in the next chapter.

A New Framework on Climate Finance



Within the framework of the preliminary ministerial meetings ahead of COP28, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat participated in a high-level discussion on the report issued by the Independent High-Level Expert Group (IHLEG) on the new framework for climate financing in Abu Dhabi. The session was chaired by COP28 President Designate Dr. Sultan Al-Jaber, and included the participation of a number of experts and stakeholders, including the UN Deputy Secretary General Amina J. Mohammed.

The Minister referred to the cooperation between the COP27 Presidency and the COP28 Presidency, and the assignment of a IHLEG to prepare a report on the features of the new financing framework for climate action, the nature of the challenges and implementation mechanisms, stressing the importance of joint efforts in order to formulate a comprehensive vision for moving forward on climate action in developing and emerging economies.

The Finance for Climate Action: Scaling up Investment for Climate and Development report clarifies that we are in a moment of great risk and opportunity, and highlights that acting on climate and nature is not a cost but an opportunity to unlock new and better forms of growth. This includes more concessional finance especially for adaptation and loss & damage, stronger IFIs that work together for climate action at much larger scale, building on the work of the G20 MDBs expert group work, and better instruments to unlock a highway of private finance to EMDEs

During the discussion, Al-Mashat stressed the importance of mainstreaming the principles of just financing in development strategies and climate action in order to address pressing issues related to debt sustainability and allocate development financing efficiently through just financing. H.E. pointed out that mainstreaming the principles of just financing across national strategies and sector planning also means ensuring the right of developing countries to obtain qualitative and quantitative financing, especially for lower-income countries.





AT COP28: UNITE, ACT, DELIVER

From COP27 TO COP28



H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat also participated in the COP28 in Dubai, UAE with a diverse agenda of bilateral meetings and high-level events.

A Landmark Energy Agreement

The government of Egypt is now engaged in the Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) Consortium of the Global Energy Alliance for People and Planet (GEAPP), being one of the first-mover countries to the initiative, which highlighted Egypt's commitment to embracing innovative storage solutions.

The BESS Consortium aims to mobilize additional financial resources, and technical assistance, in addition to sharing best practices for BESS projects, in efforts to reach its goal of reaching 10 GWh of commitments to battery storage system projects in Low and middle Income Countries by the end of 2024.

Al-Mashat witnessed the signing of a groundbreaking project between the government of Egypt and Scatec company, which aims to generate 1GWP of solar photovoltaic (PV) power with a Battery Energy Storage Solution (BESS) under the Build Own Operate Scheme, marking the first deployment of BESS technology on a utility-scale basis in Egypt and becoming the largest project of its kind in the region.

Recognizing its timeliness, the project received the support of various entities including the esteemed Norwegian government, the African Development Bank (AfDB), British International Investment (BII) among others.



Global Energy Alliance for People and Planet
GEAPP



The Blue Mediterranean Partnership "BMP"

Union for the Mediterranean
Union pour la Méditerranée
الاتحاد من أجل المتوسط

Also at COP28, The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), the European Investment Bank (EIB) and the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) announced the creation of Blue Mediterranean Partnership "BMP" which aims to support the development of a sustainable blue economy in the European Union's Southern Neighbourhood countries in the Mediterranean region.

This Partnership seeks to increase coherence, cooperation and coordination among all stakeholder to increase the impact and visibility of sustainable blue economy investments, through the following three objectives:



- Supporting sustainable blue economy investments that crowd-in public and private sector finance.
- Enhancing capacity on sustainable and innovative blue economy practices and in the design and delivery of projects.
- Creating and reinforcing enabling environments for sustainable blue economy investments through the support and development of strategies, policies and regulatory frameworks.

This all wouldn't have been successful without having a strong partnership between the Arab republic of Egypt with different development partners both multilateral and bilateral. This includes the European Union, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the European Investment Bank, the Agence Française de Développement (AFD), Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KFW), and the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) and the participating countries, such as Jordon, Morocco, and Spain.

Chapter 2

LET'S NWFE نُوَفِّي TOGETHER: JOINING FORCES FOR A GREENER WORLD



COLLABORATING FOR A BETTER TOMORROW: A COUNTRY PLATFORM FOR ACCELERATING PROGRESS

Accelerating progress towards the SDGs, climate action and national development is about going from policy to practice.

And this is what Egypt's Country Platform for the Nexus of Water, Food and Energy (NWFE) program is all about.







Progress Towards the Green Transition: Endorsement of an Updated NDC & NWFE in Action

In May 2022, Egypt launched the National Climate Change Strategy 2050 (NCCS), which encompasses the country's key targets for relevant sectors, through a collection of high-priority projects that will be implemented before 2030.

This includes 26 projects covering 5 main sectors, including electricity, energy, food, and water. This is based on the three pillars of climate action; mitigation, adaptation, and resilience to address the loss and damage resulting from climate change, while using the principles of a just transition to a green and sustainable economy, as announced by the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) to reduce emissions by 2030.

In light of Egypt's hosting and presidency of COP27, the Ministry of International Cooperation began working to implement the mandates of the Egyptian cabinet issued within the framework of enhancing Egypt's opportunities to benefit from development funds, by working on cross-paths to promote and attract foreign and local investments, and provide soft financing and technical support for the green projects package.

This year, the Government of Egypt has also officially endorsed its updated Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), reflecting the country's commitment to accelerating the transition towards a low-carbon development pathway through increasing the development and deployment of renewable energy to reach the target of 42% installed capacity by 2030 instead of 2035.

This milestone comes in line with the Political Declaration released at COP27 between the Governments of the Arab Republic of Egypt, the Federal Republic of Germany, and the United States of America, whereby the update of NDC by Egypt secures an initial amount of more than $250 million to support the Energy Pillar through €85 million in grants, €100 million in debt swap and €100 million in highly concessional loans; all within the energy pillar of the NWFE Program.

Based on these efforts, and regional and international studies, innovative solutions were explored that could advance climate action efforts to implement these strategies, through an integrated framework that implements priority projects to make the most of technical capabilities and funds.

To that end, the NWFE country platform, launched back in July 2022, aims to integrate climate projects with a unified national vision and complementary efforts of development partners; representing an effective regional model and a facilitated approach to equitable financing intended to deal with issues of adaptation, mitigation and resilience, by creating a nexus of water, food and energy projects.

NWFE

EGYPT'S NEXUS OF WATER, FOOD & ENERGY
FROM PLEDGES TO IMPLEMENTATION

The Government of Egypt has identified 9 priority projects for the 3 pillars.

Sector	Project	Beneficiaries	Category	Lead Partner
Water	Water Desalination of Using Solar Energy	Ministry of Housing, Utilities & Urban Communities	Mitigation & Adaptation	AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK GROUP
	Expanding Solar Irrigation Systems	Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation, Ministry of Commerce & Industry	Mitigation & Adaptation	
	Improving Agricultural Climate Resilience by Modernizing Agricultural Practices	Ministry of Water Resources & Irrigation	Mitigation & Adaptation	
Food	Adaptation of Crop Production in the Nile Valley & Delta	Ministry of Agriculture & Land Reclamation	Adaptation	IFAD
	Adaptation of the Northern Delta Affected by Sea Level Rise	Ministry of Agriculture & Land Reclamation, Ministry of Water Resources & Irrigation	Adaptation	
	Enhancing Resilience in Vulnerable Areas	Ministry of Agriculture & Land Reclamation, Ministry of Water Resources & Irrigation	Adaptation	
	Modernizing Irrigation System in Old Agricultural Lands	Ministry of Agriculture & Land Reclamation, Ministry of Water Resources & Irrigation	Adaptation	
	Establish an Early Warning System	Ministry of Agriculture & Land Reclamation	Adaptation	
Energy	Replacing Inefficient Thermal Power Plants with Renewable Energy	Ministry of Electricity and Renewable Energy, The Ministry of Environment	Mitigation	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development

Country Platform Projects: NWFE +

Within the framework of priority sectors and specific relevant green projects, in accordance with the NCCS 2050, and in integration with the country platform, the Ministry of International Cooperation in coordination with the relevant national entities (Ministry of Environment and Ministry of Transport) launched the national platform NWFE+ (Sustainable Transport Hub), Which includes the following projects:

Sector	Project	Beneficiaries	Category	Lead Partner
Transport NWFE+	Extension of the 1st Line of the Metro to Shibin Al-Qanater	Ministry of Transport (National Authority for Tunnels)	Mitigation	European Investment Bank
	Extension of the Abu Qir Railway Line Development Project in Alexandria & its Transformation into an Electric Metro	Ministry of Transport (National Authority for Tunnels)	Mitigation	
	Construction of a Railway Line (Al-Rubiki-10th of Ramadan-Belbeis)	Ministry of Transport (National Railways Authority	Mitigation	
	Development of the railway line (Tanta-Mansoura-Damietta)	Ministry of Transport (National Railways Authority	Mitigation	



Innovative Financing Solutions

The NWFE program is a comprehensive platform to mobilize innovative financing mechanisms in order to accelerate the pace of transition to a green economy in Egypt, based on the objectives of the NCCS 2050 and NDCs, through grants to provide technical support for program projects, and debt swaps for climate action and technical assistance to qualify projects and prepare feasibility studies, credit guarantees, risk reduction, private sector investments, and concessional development financing.

NWFE's Finance Structure

- **Credit Guarantees & Risk Reduction**
- **Private Sector Investment**
- **Soft Development Financing from Financing Funds**
- **Maximizing Partnerships**
- **Grants**
- **Debt Swap**
- **Technical Assistance to Quality Projects & Preparation of Feasibility Studies**

It is also important to note that the program received significant international momentum to provide just and sustainable financing to support climate action by focusing on the water, energy and food sectors, within an integrated framework. The President explained that the program includes a national platform for investable projects, with the participation of international institutions and the private sector, to support the program through concessional development financing.

Scan to Watch:

NWFE on the Global Stage at the World Economic Forum

In an article co-authored by Al-Mashat and the World Economic Forum's Managing Director for the Centre for Nature and Climate Gim Huay Neo "Egypt's Nexus for Water, Food and Energy programme – the blueprint to fight climate change?", they share the novel approach to promote international cooperation, combining resources from government budgets, private sector, philanthropies and multilateral and bilateral development partners.

"In an ever-evolving world, building resilience and preparing for the future has become necessary to protect the next generation in the face of complex global challenges. Energy, water and food are some of the planet's most vulnerable sectors and where converging issues are most pertinent."
H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat & the WEF's Gim Huay Neo.

In the article, it is detailed that NWFE نُوَفِّي integrates a set of high-priority projects for adaptation and mitigation, where government and concessional financing will unlock vast opportunities for private sector engagement. These climate action projects are to be implemented under a programmatic approach and include initiatives that would replace existing inefficient thermal power plants with renewable energy, enhance small farmers' adaptation to climate risks, increase crop yields and irrigation efficiency, build the resilience of vulnerable regions, establish early warning systems and modernize on-farm practices.

The NWFE program shares synergies with the World Economic Forum's Giving to Amplify Earth Action (GAEA) , a public-private-philanthropic partnership designed to address systemic challenges across value chains.

GAEA is already exploring ways big philanthropy can catalyze financing and enhance on-the-ground capacity in Asia in collaboration with Philanthropy Asia Alliance. These efforts aim to establish best-in-class public-private-philanthropic partnership models, with philanthropies, that can serve as a blueprint for the different actors to unlock action at scale across industries and geographies, which includes the $3 trillion needed annually for climate action and green economy solutions.

The synergy between NWFE نُوَفِّي and GAEA also aspires to create a similar blueprint for a new type of country package vehicle, as exemplified in Egypt. Such a model can be scaled and adapted by other countries to unlock additional finance and projects related to climate adaptation and resilience.

Scan to Read the Full Article :

The Most Important Outcomes of the NWFE Program at COP27

8 Ministries & Many National Bodies Participating

25 Bilateral & Multilateral Development Partners

4 Partnership Agreements

25 Bilateral & Multilateral Development Partners

1 Partnership Letter

1 Memorandum of Understanding

1 Joint Political Declaration

During COP27, the Ministry of International Cooperation organized a high-level event with the participation of 8 relevant government ministers, 25 representatives from international financial institutions, and multilateral and bilateral development partners, including Mark Carney, Chairman of the GFANZ Alliance, and John Kerry, the US Presidential Climate Envoy, where 6 letters of intent, 4 partnership agreements, a memorandum of understanding, and a letter of partnership were signed, to begin moving towards implementing the projects of the NWFE program.

This is in addition to announcing the joint political declaration between the Arab Republic of Egypt, the United State of America, and the Federal Republic of Germany where they agreed to support the energy pillar of the NWFE program, in addition to the Egyptian file for the NWFE program winning first place in the North Africa and Europe region to benefit from the Climate Investment Fund (CIF) initiative on investing in nature, people and climate.

Post COP27 Climate Conference...Together Towards Implementation

Following the signing of partnership agreements and letters of intent with multilateral and bilateral development partners during COP27, the Ministry of International Cooperation, in continuous coordination with development partners and national entities benefiting from the implementation of projects, to begin the technical qualification phase for each project, and put the pledges into practice, which will be presented, successively within the framework of the following pillars:

- **Technical assistance to qualify projects and prepare feasibility studies.**
- **Promoting private sector investments.**
- **Maximizing national and international partnerships**
- **Implementing national priorities and strategies**
- **Grants platform to support NWFE projects**

Building Strategic Partnerships

Through the NWFE Platform, strategic partnerships were forged, drawing on the unique strengths of various multilateral and bilateral development partners. These collaborations extended to a broader array of stakeholders, aligning efforts with Egypt's development and climate agenda as outlined in Vision 2030, Egypt's Climate Strategy 2050, and the updated NDCs. The selection of the lead partner in each pillar was driven by their comparative advantage, aiming to enhance project efficiency and effectiveness.

In the Energy Pillar, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) emerged as the key partner, leveraging its experience in financing and implementing electricity, clean, and renewable energy projects on the national and international levels. With a substantial history of private sector partnerships in Egypt, where 76% of their total portfolio is directed towards the private sector, the EBRD expertise aligns with the Energy Pillar's goal of mobilizing USD 10 billion in private capital.

For the Water Pillar, the African Development Bank (AfDB) assumed the central partnership role, providing necessary financial and technical support based on its expertise in sustainable practices, particularly in solar pumps for irrigation. Aligned with the AfDB-Egypt's Country Strategy 2022-2026, projects in this pillar aim to engage the private sector in advancing the green transition, fostering food, water, and energy security.

Under the Food Pillar, the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) takes the lead as the main partner, bringing significant experience in financing and implementing agricultural projects. IFAD's vision aligns with the pillar's goal of achieving sustainable rural development and food security. IFAD will support the adoption of climate-smart strategies and enhance private sector involvement to boost food production and create job opportunities.

In the case of NWFE+, the European Investment Bank stands out as the lead partner, leveraging its extensive experience in implementing infrastructure projects, particularly in the transport sector, both nationally and internationally. The bank is a key development partner in Egypt's transport sector, financing six projects with a total value of EUR 2.3 billion.

Moreover, the NWFE Platform has played a pivotal role in fostering meaningful strategic alliances with various international coalitions dedicated to development and climate action. These alliances involve actors of significant repute and expertise on the global stage, with the goal of catalyzing private capital and provision of technical assistance.

Within this context, the United Nations assumes a central role by providing substantive support to ensure the efficacy of the Platform's project interventions. It evaluates the impact of these interventions on environmental sustainability and ensures alignment with the International Labour Organization's (ILO) Just Transition guidelines.

This active involvement is crucial within the context of the Egypt-United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2023-27. It signifies the UN's dedication to the NWFE Platform, which was collectively launched in July 2022 with the United Nations and the Development Partners Group (DPG). The overarching objective is to enhance climate resilience and promote the efficient management of natural resources for all people in a sustainable environment by 2027.

On another front, new opportunities have emerged with the Climate Investment Fund (CIF), affording Egypt access to concessional development funding and a substantial grant of up to USD 44 million. This development acts as a catalyst, stimulating further funding and investment from both development partners and the private sector. These resources are dedicated to supporting communities most in need within the NWFE projects.

Furthermore, the Glasgow Financial Alliance for Net Zero Emissions (GFANZ) provides advisory services and assumes a crucial role in facilitating discussions on fostering a conducive investment environment and attracting private sector involvement in NWFE projects. Intergovernmental organizations, such as the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), are also integral contributors. IRENA's substantial contribution involves enhancing the visibility of NWFE projects. This is accomplished by showcasing these projects on the Agency's platform, which enjoys widespread accessibility among major international energy investors actively seeking opportunities to finance such projects upon their readiness for implementation.

I. THE WATER PILLAR

Number of projects:	Estimated Cost:	Total Pledges So Far:
3	$1.43 billion	$2.355 billion

Water Desalination Project Using Solar Energy - (Mitigation & Adaptation)

DEVELOPMENT IMPACT:

Launching 5 solar-powered water desalination plants in 4 governorates with a total capacity of 525 thousand cubic meters per day, rising to 1.75 million cubic meters per day by 2050, which will provide clean water and enhance efforts to confront water scarcity.

MAIN DEVELOPMENT PARTNER:

AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK GROUP

OUTCOMES OF COP27:

- Signing Letter of Intent: To establish institutional arrangements for the main development partner to provide the necessary technical support to prepare the technical design of the project, and to promote and mobilize the necessary funds to implement its projects. (Joint signature with the Ministries of Housing and Environment).
-
- Signing a partnership agreement with the African Development Bank and a number of development partners with the aim of setting the regulatory framework for the support provided by the Bank and development partners for financial offers for water pillar projects in general and the water desalination project using solar energy in particular.

TECHNICAL QUALIFICATION STAGE AFTER COP27:

- A series of technical meetings and discussions were held nationally and with development partners.
- The African Development Bank sent technical missions and experts to work on qualifying the project technically and activating the technical and financial support provided by it under the partnership agreement.



"The African Development Bank strongly supports the NWFE Program which is in line with the bank's five priorities. Which are "Illuminating and Powering Africa, Feeding Africa, Industrializing Africa, Integrating Africa, and Improving the Quality of Life for the Peoples of Africa." African Development Bank President Dr. Akinwumi Adesina.

These Discussions & Missions Resulted in the Following Results:

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO QUALIFY PROJECTS & PREPARE FEASIBILITY STUDIES:

- Utilizing the technical expertise available at the African Development Bank to work on technical qualification and determine the details of the project stations in coordination with the relevant national authorities.
- Providing the necessary technical support to national agencies through the African Development Bank by appointing two consultant experts: a technical expert in water desalination systems, and a project financing expert in the field of water desalination plants and infrastructure development to provide the necessary assistance to the Ministry of Housing in rehabilitating and preparing the project.
- Preparing the technical, economic, environmental and social studies necessary for the project.
- Providing the necessary consulting services for the stations for the tender stage - using the tender method - and contracting with the private sector after completing the preparation of studies for the project, through the African Development Bank as a main partner.
- Building the capabilities of national entities with the technical expertise necessary to prepare and manage the project.

GRANTS PLATFORM TO SUPPORT NWFE PROGRAM PROJECTS:

- Providing two grants to prepare the necessary studies for the project, from the resources of the Technical Assistance Fund for Middle-Income Countries in the amount of about $380 thousand, as well as the "African Water Facility" in the amount of €500 thousand.

MAXIMIZING NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS:

- Exploring many national entities related to the project and engaging in technical discussions and debates that took place at the national level and also with development partners, in an effort to optimally prepare for the project and make the most of the resources available for preparations and implementation.

National Entities Concerned with the Project

Ministry of Housing, Utilities and Urban Communities

Participating National Entities for Technical Qualification Requirements

Ministry of Housing, Utilities and Urban Communities
Sovereign Fund of Egypt
Private Sector Partnership Unit - Ministry of Finance
Ministry of Electricity and Energy
The Ministry of Environment

- Strengthening coordination efforts between development partners and maximizing partnerships between them in an effort to benefit from previous experiences in implementing water desalination projects and the advisory services to be provided for the project.
- Access to new financing sources through the grant to be provided through the African Water Facility, which is the first cooperation between the facility and the Egyptian government.

PROMOTING PRIVATE SECTOR INVESTMENTS:

- Discussing the proposed tools and mechanisms for financing the project and providing appropriate financing conditions to support the companies participating in the implementation after completing the preparatory phase.

IMPLEMENTING NATIONAL PRIORITIES & STRATEGIES:

- The project is an integral part of the national water desalination strategy, and the geographical scope of the stations to be implemented in the project has been determined in accordance with the priorities of the strategy and the needs of the Egyptian state, as the project includes the implementation of a total of 5 desalination stations in East Port Said (100,000 m3/d), Alexandria (250,000 m3/d), West Ras El-Hekma (250,000 m3/d), Hurghada (150,000 m3/d), and Ras Benas (100,000 m3/d)

THE ROAD TO COP28 AND BEYOND:

- Announcing the grant agreements that have been arranged to prepare technical, economic, environmental and social studies for desalination plants.
- Announcing the consulting services agreements to be provided for the tender stage - using the tender method - and contracting with the private sector to implement desalination plants.
- Project implementation begins after the completion of the preparatory phase (preparing studies) and consulting (the tender phase - using the tender method - and contracting) according to the specified timetable.

Solar Irrigation Systems Expansion Project - (Mitigation & Adaptation):

DEVELOPMENT IMPACT:

- This project benefits about 1.75 million citizens, and enhances the achievement of the state's plans to increase renewable energy production by about 42% by 2030.
- Expanding the use of solar irrigation by small farmers and rural communities in remote areas in order to reduce carbon dioxide emissions.
- Avoiding the negative effects of future energy crises and their impacts on food production and creating a replicable model that can be used by other countries.

MAIN DEVELOPMENT PARTNER:

ARAB FUND FOR ECONOMIC & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

OUTCOMES OF COP27:

- Announcement of the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development as a leading technical development partner for the project.

TECHNICAL QUALIFICATION STAGE AFTER COP27:

- Holding a series of national technical meetings and discussions with development partners.
- The AFESD sent a technical mission to make the necessary arrangements to activate the technical and financial support provided by it to the project.



These Discussions & Missions Resulted in the Following Results:

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO QUALIFY PROJECTS & PREPARE FEASIBILITY STUDIES:

- Utilizing studies that have been prepared related to the project, which were previously funded by development partners in irrigation with renewable energy and localization of the industry.
- Building on the findings of these studies to avoid repetition in approaching feasibility studies and relevant technical reports, which will reflect positively on the financial structure of the project.

GRANTS PLATFORM TO SUPPORT NWFE PROGRAM PROJECTS:

- Arranging the necessary financial support to prepare the necessary studies for the project through the technical support to be provided by the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development.

MAXIMIZING NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS:

National Entities Concerned with the Project	Participating National Entities for Technical Qualification Requirements
Ministry of Housing, Utilities and Urban Communities	Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation. Ministry of Commerce and Industry. Ministry of Military Production.

- Forming a national working group that includes all relevant national entities to maximize the benefit from the project operations, as well as support to be provided for the design and implementation of the project from all development partners.
- The national technical discussions resulted in the inclusion of the Ministries of Trade and Industry and Military Production to discuss ways to benefit from military production companies to localize the solar panel industry in Egypt as per international standards.
- Benefiting from all funding previously provided by development partners, building on the development efforts made within the scope of the project and its components, and enhancing synergy between those efforts to maximize the use of available resources.
- Achieving integration and coordination between the work being implemented in the project and the food pillar projects within the NWFE program, related to the geographical scope of the project (the project to achieve resilience in remote and most vulnerable areas under the leadership of the Islamic Development Bank).
- Discussing the benefit of the localization component of the industry on a larger scale within the framework of all food pillar projects that include the modernization of the irrigation systems component, which constitutes an incentive to attract investors to invest in that industry.



IMPLEMENTING NATIONAL PRIORITIES & STRATEGIES:

The technical qualification discussions for the project resulted in identifying the main geographical areas for the project's work locations in accordance with the needs and priorities of the Government of Egypt.

The geographical scope was determined to include government wells in oasis areas, as follows:

- 19 wells in the Al Suhub area of the General Administration of Groundwater in Kharga and Darb Al-Arbaeen.
- 11 wells belonging to the General Administration of Groundwater in Dakhla and East Owainat.
- 10 wells belonging to the General Administration of Groundwater in Farafra.

PROMOTING PRIVATE SECTOR INVESTMENTS:

- Researching investment opportunities available to localize the solar panel industry in Egypt, and formulating proposed tools and mechanisms to stimulate investors and attract the private sector.

THE ROAD TO COP28 AND BEYOND:

- Announcement of the technical agreement to be provided by the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development to help begin the preparation and design of the project.
- Beginning the preparation of the necessary studies for the project, which are planned to be financed through the aid provided by the Arab Fund.

II. INTEGRATION OF WATER & FOOD PILLARS

Water Pillar	Food Pillar
Improving Agricultural Climate Resilience by Modernizing Agricultural Practices (Mitigation & Adaptation)	Modernizing Irrigation System in Old Agricultural Lands (Adaptation)

Development Impact:

Water Pillar	Food Pillar
• The project enhances water use efficiency and productivity. • The number of beneficiaries is about 7.5 million, focusing on old agricultural lands that use traditional irrigation. • Reduces emissions and achieves low-carbon development, in addition to enhancing efficiencies, resilience and climate finance for infrastructure.	• Increases the efficiency of the irrigation process from 50% to 70%, • Creates job opportunities for more than 21,000 men and women who are most in need in rural areas. • Improves adaptation capacities, reducing vulnerability, and empowering communities exposed to the dangers of climate change. • Maximizes the return on water resources, reduces irrigation water losses by 20%, and increases crop production by 15%. • Provides water to add 2.5% of the area to cultivated land.

The Beneficiary:

Water Pillar	Food Pillar
The Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation	The Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation, Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation

Main Development Partner:

Water Pillar	Food Pillar
The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)	The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

OUTCOMES OF COP27:

- Signing the letter of intent with the aim of establishing institutional arrangements for the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) to provide the necessary technical support to prepare the technical design for two projects to develop field irrigation in ancient lands and improve climate compatibility by modernizing agricultural practices, promoting the food pillar and mobilizing the necessary funds to implement its projects. (Joint signature with the Ministries of Agriculture, Irrigation and Environment).
- Signing a partnership agreement with the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) to establish the regulatory framework for the support provided by the Fund and development partners to the food pillar, which includes financing for food pillar projects in general and two projects to develop field irrigation in ancient lands and improve climate compatibility through modernizing agricultural practices in particular.

TECHNICAL QUALIFICATION STAGE AFTER COP27:

- A series of national technical meetings and discussions were held with development partners, in addition to the International Fund for Agricultural Development sending technical missions and experts in an effort to work on qualifying the projects and activating the technical and financial support under the partnership agreement signed during COP27.

These Discussions & Missions Resulted in the Following Results:

- It is necessary to achieve linkage and integration between the project "Improving Agricultural Climate Resilience by Modernizing Agricultural Practices" from the water pillar and the project "Modernizing Irrigation System in Old Agricultural Lands" from the food pillar. This is in light of the points of similarity in the general scope and the targeted geographical scope, with the aim of achieving the maximum possible benefit from resources, which will be made available by development partners.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO QUALIFY PROJECTS & PREPARE FEASIBILITY STUDIES:

- Compatibility between IFAD and the World Bank regarding the component of activities that focus on modernizing the irrigation system, by dividing the implementation of the two projects geographically so that the IFAD's "Climate-Resilience On-Farm Water Management in the Nile Valley" (CROWN) project is implemented in the governorates of Central and Upper Egypt, while the World Bank's "Climate Resilient Agri-Food Transformation" (CRAFT) project is implemented in the Lower Egypt (Delta) governorates. This was designed to avoid overlaps and ensure the implementation of a coordinated program to modernize irrigation in all governorates as much as possible.
- Benefitting from the technical support provided by development partners (IFAD) to work on the detailed technical design of the project operations.
- Utilizing international expertise to formulate the optimal financial framework for financing agricultural development operations in a way that enhances the involvement of the private sector in development operations.
- Building on the lessons learned from the portfolio of projects previously implemented in the agricultural development and irrigation sectors, and working to complement the successes achieved through these projects to improve the standard of living of poor groups, achieve food security, fight poverty, and improve the infrastructure of the two sectors.



MAXIMIZING NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS:

- Coordination between the national entities related to the project, especially the Ministries of Agriculture and Irrigation, and their involvement in the technical discussions and debates that took place at the national level and also with development partners, in an effort to optimally prepare for the project, avoid any obstacles that may face implementation, and maximize the use of the resources available for preparation and implementation.
- The discussions that took place with the various development partners helped to maximize development partnerships between them and enhance coordination efforts in this framework, especially integration efforts between the various food pillar projects and the intensive technical discussions between IFAD and the World Bank to achieve coordination and integration between the support provided for the design and implementation of the projects that they design.
- Compatibility between the IFAD and the World Bank regarding the component of activities that focus on modernizing the irrigation system. This is done by dividing the implementation of the two projects geographically so that IFAD's CROWN project is implemented in the governorates of Central and Upper Egypt while World Bank projects are implemented in the governorates of Lower Egypt-Delta in order to avoid interventions and ensuring the implementation of a coordinated program to modernize irrigation in all governorates as much as possible.

PROMOTING PRIVATE SECTOR INVESTMENTS:

- Discussing the proposed tools and mechanisms for financing the project and providing appropriate financing conditions to support the entities involved in implementation and enhance the role of the private sector in comprehensive rural development projects.
- Preparing to hold a workshop with the aim of supporting the private sector's involvement in project activities, discussing ways of support and motivation, and exploring the challenges facing its participation.

IMPLEMENTING NATIONAL PRIORITIES & STRATEGIES:

- Determine the main geographical areas for the project's work locations in accordance with the needs and priorities of national entries and national strategies, especially the national strategy for developing irrigation systems. Project operations will be implemented in the governorates of central and southern Egypt.
- Take into account the equitable distribution of development projects across the various parts of the country and areas highly affected by climate change, while focusing operations to improve the standard of living in the most vulnerable areas.

THE ROAD TO COP28 AND BEYOND:

- Completion of the detailed technical design of the project's operations and components.
- The project implementation begins after the completion of the design phase, the negotiation phase, and the signing of the project documents and agreements.

III. FOOD PILLAR

Number of projects:	Estimated Cost:	Total Pledges So Far:
5	$3.35 billion	$1.74 billion

Projects

Adaptation of Crop Production in the Nile Valley and Delta (Adaptation)

Project to Establish an Early Warning System - (Adaptation)

Development Impact:

- Enhancing crop productivity and adapting to climate changes in the Nile Valley and Delta region.
- Supporting the capabilities of small farmers to adapt to the risks and repercussions of climate change,
- It is expected that about 30 million citizens living in the Nile Valley and Delta will benefit from it.
- Improving adaptive capacity in the Nile Valley and Delta region in areas expected to be exposed to climate change.
- Increasing crop productivity by 10-15% and increasing income by 10-20%.
- Establishing early warning units and systems to improve the weather forecasting system and support the services provided to farmers within the framework of agricultural weather forecasting.
- Establishing an agricultural insurance system against the risks of climate change in risk-prone areas.
- Developing a database for the flow and analysis of agricultural information and promoting modern agricultural extension, which contributes to building the capacity of small farmers to withstand the repercussions of climate change.
- Disseminating recommendations for agricultural operations according to climate variables, through the use of the latest advanced technologies in the field of communications and digital information.

Main Development Partner:

The World Bank

The World Bank

OUTCOMES OF COP27:

- Announcement of the World Bank as a major technical partner for the project.
- Signing a partnership letter: With the aim of establishing institutional arrangements for the World Bank to provide the necessary technical support to prepare the technical design of the two crop production adaptation projects in the Nile Valley and the Delta and to establish an early warning system for climate change. (Joint signature with the Ministries of Agriculture, Irrigation and Environment).

TECHNICAL QUALIFICATION STAGE AFTER COP27:

- Holding a series of national technical meetings and discussions with development partners.
- The World Bank dispatched technical missions and experts to work on the two projects technically and activating technical and financial support.
- Discussions with technical authorities concluded with approval of the Merging of the two projects under the title "Climate Resilient Agri-Food Transformation" to achieve integration between processes for comprehensive agricultural and rural development.

These Discussions & Missions Resulted in the Following Results:

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO QUALIFY PROJECTS & PREPARE FEASIBILITY STUDIES:

- Utilizing the technical expertise available at the World Bank, as a major development partner for the two projects, to work on developing the formulation and preparation of the detailed conceptual memorandum for the project after merging both projects.
- Formulating the vision for the main project components and the general framework of the targeted operations, focusing on the concept of comprehensive and sustainable rural development in its broadest and most comprehensive sense.
- Seeking to include support for technology developed to confront climate change in agricultural development projects in Egypt.
- Benefitting from the technical support provided by the World Bank and its expertise to work on the detailed technical design of the project operations.
- Utilizing international technical expertise at the World Bank to formulate the optimal financial framework for financing agricultural development operations in a way that seeks to enhance the private sector's involvement in development operations.



"The NWFE Program will change the lives of many smallholder farmers and will also change the agricultural sector itself. With millions of small farmers suffering from the effects of the shocks we are witnessing due to climate change, this program will give them hope and show how we can combine climate and food action to achieve food security." Mr. Álvaro Lario, President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD).

MAXIMIZING NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS:

- The technical qualification phase of the project after COP27 included the Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation in the national working group to maximize the benefit from the operations of the project to be implemented and to enhance coordination between the two ministries to optimally prepare for the project, avoid any obstacles that may face implementation, and make use of the resources available for preparation and implementation.

National Entities Concerned with the Project	Participating National Entities for Technical Qualification Requirements
Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation	Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation. Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation.

- The discussions that took place with the various development partners helped to maximize development partnerships between them and enhance coordination efforts in this framework, especially integration efforts between the various food pillar projects and intensive technical discussions between IFAD and the World Bank to achieve coordination and integration for the support provided for the design and implementation of projects.
- Compatibility between IFAD and the World Bank regarding the component of activities that focus on modernizing the irrigation system, by dividing the implementation of the two projects geographically so that the IFAD's "CROWN" projects are implemented in the governorates of Central and Upper Egypt, while the World Bank's CRAFT project is implemented in the Lower Egypt (Delta) governorates. This helps avoid overlaps and ensure the implementation of a coordinated program to modernize irrigation in all governorates as much as possible.

PROMOTING PRIVATE SECTOR INVESTMENTS:

- Discussing the proposed tools and mechanisms for financing the project and providing appropriate financing conditions to support the entities involved in implementation and enhance the role of the private sector in comprehensive rural development projects.

THE ROAD TO COP28 AND BEYOND:

- Completion of detailed technical design of project processes and components.
- The project implementation begins after the completion of the design phase, the negotiation phase, and the signing of the project documents and agreements.

IMPLEMENTING NATIONAL PRIORITIES & STRATEGIES:

- Identifying the main geographical areas for the project's work locations in accordance with the needs and priorities of the national entities (the Ministries of Agriculture and Irrigation) and national strategies, especially the national strategy for developing irrigation systems. It is intended to implement project operations in the Delta governorates for the modern irrigation component (Centers and Villages of the Decent Life Initiative) and all parts of the country regarding the component of establishing an early warning system.



Adaptation of the Northern Delta Affected by Sea Level Rise - (Adaptation):

DEVELOPMENT IMPACT:

- Benefiting about 10 million citizens, and enabling smallholder farmers to implement policies related to adaptation and combating sea level rise.
- Strengthening the response of rural communities to disasters and the effects of sea level rise, encouraging agricultural diversification in order to achieve food security and increase incomes, and reducing internal migration rates from these areas towards cities.
- The project targets the governorates of Kafr El-Sheikh, Beheira, Damietta, Dakahlia, and Port Said, and contributes to preserving the fertile agricultural area in this region, in addition to expanding the reclaimed desert lands.

MAIN DEVELOPMENT PARTNER:

European Investment Bank The EU bank

OUTCOMES OF COP27:

- Signing 2 letters of intent: This was signed with the European Investment Bank and the European Union with the aim of providing the necessary technical support to prepare the technical design of the project in cooperation and coordination between them, as well as carrying out their tasks as two main development partners for the implementation of the project (joint signing with the Ministries of Agriculture, Irrigation and Environment)

TECHNICAL QUALIFICATION STAGE AFTER COP27:

- A series of national technical meetings and discussions were held with development partners, in addition to the European Investment Bank and the European Union sending technical missions from them to make the necessary arrangements to activate the technical and financial support provided by them for the project.

These Discussions & Missions Resulted in the Following Results:

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO QUALIFY PROJECTS & PREPARE FEASIBILITY STUDIES:

- The European Union and the European Investment Bank appointed a consulting team to prepare the necessary economic pre-feasibility studies for the project, within the framework of the technical support they provide to design the project.

GRANTS PLATFORM TO SUPPORT NWFE PROGRAM PROJECTS:

- The European Union allocated a grant worth €125 thousand to finance the preparation of the necessary study for the project in coordination with what is being prepared by the European Investment Bank.

MAXIMIZING NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS:

- Achieving integration and coordination between the project-specific work being implemented and the NWFE Food pillar projects that are related to the geographical scope of the project or that are similar in the type of operations to be implemented.

THE ROAD TO COP28 AND BEYOND:

- Determine the main geographical areas of the project's work locations according to the needs and priorities of national entities.
- Begin preparing the necessary pre-economic feasibility studies for the project.
- The project implementation begins after the completion of the design phase, the negotiation phase, and the signing of the project documents and agreements.



Enhancing Resilience in Vulnerable Areas- (Adaptation):

DEVELOPMENT IMPACT:

- Increase the resilience of climate-vulnerable areas through specific interventions to improve the livelihoods of farmers in desert and remote areas.
- The population of these areas, which are expected to benefit from the project activities, is about 5 million people, through the introduction of many adaptation techniques that will help vulnerable communities reduce losses.

MAIN DEVELOPMENT PARTNER:

IsDB
البنك الإسلامي للتنمية
Islamic Development Bank

OUTCOMES OF COP27:

- Announcement of the Islamic Development Bank as a leading technical development partner for the project.

TECHNICAL QUALIFICATION STAGE AFTER COP27:

- A series of national technical meetings and discussions were held with development partners. Moreover, the Islamic Development Bank sent a technical mission to make the necessary arrangements for activating the technical and financial support secured for the project.



These Discussions & Missions Resulted in the Following Results:

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO QUALIFY PROJECTS & PREPARE FEASIBILITY STUDIES:

- The Islamic Development Bank contracted consultants to work on developing the project's concept paper, setting the framework for the project's details, including work sites and targeted areas, and defining the project's activities according to the characteristics and needs of each region, while also working to enhance private sector participation, attract investments, and provide job opportunities.
- A draft of the detailed concept note for the project has been completed.

MAXIMIZING NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS:

- Forming a national working group that includes the Ministries of Agriculture, Land Reclamation, Water Resources, and Irrigation, and holding a series of national technical discussions with the aim of coordinating to determine the project's work areas and targets, and designing interventions and operations that will maximize the benefit of the project and achieve comprehensive development.
- Achieving integration and coordination between the work being implemented in the project and the food and water pillar projects related to the geographical scope of the "Expanding Solar Irrigation Systems"project.
- Benefitting from previous experiences and building on lessons learned from a portfolio of projects previously implemented in the agricultural development and irrigation sectors, and work to complement the successes achieved through these projects to improve the standard of living in vulnerable areas, achieve food security.

PROMOTING PRIVATE SECTOR INVESTMENTS:

- The project areas have been identified to ensure the strengthening of existing industries in the New Valley Governorate, achieving a strong economic return from the interventions to be implemented, and supporting the private sector working in those areas.

IMPLEMENTING NATIONAL PRIORITIES & STRATEGIES:

- The technical qualification discussions for the project resulted in the identification of the main geographical areas for the project's workplaces according to the needs and priorities of the concerned Egyptian entities, especially the Ministries of Water Resources, Irrigation and Agriculture, paying attention to the areas most vulnerable to climate change and making the most of the project's interventions and operations.
- The geographic scope has been determined to include oases in Giza and New Valley governorates with the possibility of including areas of central Sinai into the project.

THE ROAD TO COP28 AND BEYOND:

- Beginning the preparation of the necessary feasibility studies for the project, which is intended to be financed through the Islamic Development Bank.
- The project implementation begins after the completion of the design phase, the negotiation phase, and the signing of the project documents and agreements.

IV. ENERGY PILLAR

Estimated Cost:
$10 billion

Total Pledges So Far:
$3.2 billion

MAIN DEVELOPMENT PARTNER:

European Bank
for Reconstruction and Development



"Egypt is a force in the field of transition to renewable energy among emerging countries, and this creates huge opportunities to transition from dependence on gas and open the way for new industries. The NWFE program will be a transformative paradigm shift for Egypt and will also be a model for application in many other countries that face the same challenges and have the same opportunities. We are proud of our partnership with the Government of Egypt in efforts to launch the country platform for green projects, the NWFE program, and expand the scope of partnership between the government and private sectors." Odile Renaud-Basso, President of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD).

Replacing Inefficient Thermal Power Plants with Renewable Energy (Mitigation):

DEVELOPMENT IMPACT:

- The implementation of the energy pillar project enhances the achievement of the objectives of the National Climate Change Strategy to reach sustainable economic growth and implement the NDCs.
- Shutting down 12 conventional power plants to stop 7 million tons of carbon dioxide emissions.
- Operating 10 GW of solar and wind power plants (30 million MWh/annum) saving 17 million tons of CO2 emissions
- Saving $1.2 billion annually that would have been spent on providing the fuel needed to operate these stations.

Egypt recognizes the urgent need to decarbonize energy systems by gradually reducing the proportion of thermal energy and increasing the proportion of renewable energy sources, to reach 42% by 2030, accelerating progress towards the just transition.

To that end, Egypt has developed the NWFE program to determine national priorities that support national contributions towards the green transition.

PRE-COP27:

- The Ministry of Environment, in cooperation with the Ministry of Electricity and Renewable Energy, developed an initial technical paper on the project idea, which includes the development goal and main objectives in accordance with the relevant national priorities and the Government of Egypt's strategies.
- The Ministry of International Cooperation took the initiative to lay the initial basis for cooperation between all relevant parties by signing the relevant letter of intent in June 2022, between the Ministry of International Cooperation, the Ministry of Electricity and Renewable Energy, and the Ministry of Environment, and it was sent to the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development; the main energy pillar partner.

OUTCOMES OF COP27:

- Signing the partnership agreement for energy pillar projects.
- Issuing a joint political declaration between Egypt, the United States of America, and Germany to support the energy pillar through innovative financing mechanisms, including development grants and debt swaps.
- The Glasgow Finance Alliance for Net Zero (GFANZ) formed a private finance working group that enhances funding mobilization efforts for the program through consultation, overcoming challenges, and identifying methods and tools that help mobilize private finance on a large scale. The working group includes 6 international financial institutions: Bank of America, Citigroup, Commercial International Bank, Deutsche Bank, HSBC, and Standard Chartered.



"Despite the turmoil the world is going through and the test of multilateral cooperation. The NWFE program is a unique model of international cooperation, through which it proves that we are capable of fulfilling pledges, through a country platform that can be replicated in other countries." John Kerry, US Presidential Envoy for Climate.

Following the launch of the NWFE program, the GFANZ issued an official statement to support and endorse the program, forming a working group that includes 6 major international banks to enhance technical support and stimulate efforts to mobilizing investments that enhance Egypt's transition towards renewable energy. In it, the GFANZ expressed strong support for the country's ambitious plan to transition to renewable energy through the NWFE program.

THE GFANZ WORKING GROUP STATEMENT INCLUDED 5 MAIN POINTS:

- Express our continued support for the implementation of NWFE as part of a wider programmatic effort to deliver just transition in Egypt for the implementation of its NDC, noting the strong interest of the wider private sector in identifying transition-aligned financing opportunities, and a willingness to engage with the wider objectives of NWFE.
- Welcome the strong foundations for these efforts built on the collective commitment of the Government of Egypt with support from its key international partners, both governmental and multilateral development banks (MDBs), including the leading role played by EBRD in relation to the energy pillar of NWFE.
- Welcome the support that MDBs, particularly EBRD, are playing in working with Egypt to develop the NWFE energy pillar, including through technical assistance in turning climate transition ambitions into actionable plans, and their commitment to providing and raising financing for key elements including decommissioning, grid upgrades and just transition.
- Welcome the Government of Egypt's acknowledgement in its November 2022 Partnership Agreement on the important role of the wider private sector as a strategic partner for implementing NWFE in Egypt and commit to continuing to work with MOIC and EBRD to provide structured feedback on NWFE plans as they progress to help ensure these stand the best chance of crowding in the necessary private finance. This includes but is not limited to feedback on any necessary domestic policy enabling environment reforms, data needed to measure progress, and structures and forms of financing that will help support crowding in of private finance.
- On this latter point, commit to working collaboratively to identify ways to use scarce public finance effectively and efficiently, and in a catalytic manner, to crowd in private finance to support NWFE and wider NDC implementation, and to model the benefits for the region and the world.



"Egypt is showing tremendous leadership in developing its Country Platform, driven by the Egyptian Government's ambitions for a just climate transition, while working collaboratively with international partners across governments and multilateral development banks (MDBs), and the local and global private financial sector. Egypt's NWFE Program represents an innovative approach that other countries can follow to catalyze a just, global transition and GFANZ is working actively to support this bold programme." ***Mark Carney, Co-Chair, GFANZ and UN Special Envoy on Climate Action & Finance.***



"The EBRD welcomes the support and expertise that GFANZ and its members can bring to the NWFE Energy Pillar, especially in the critical task of mobilizing and scaling much needed private finance to enable the fast decarbonisation of Egypt's energy sector. We look forward to closely engaging with the GFANZ and members of the Private Finance Working Group to come up with practical solutions that would further open up the Egyptian renewable energy market for long-term private finance". ***Mark Bowman, Vice President, EBRD.***



"Commercial International Bank (CIB) is an active member of GFANZ, the NZBA, and the Advisory Board of the GFANZ Africa Network. CIB, is Egypt's leading private-sector bank, and is very keen to work with other international parties to support Egypt's Nexus on Water, Food and Energy Programme (NWFE)." ***Hussein Abaza, Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director, CIB.***

Read More of Statement:

TECHNICAL QUALIFICATION EFFORTS: FROM COP27 TO COP28

- Joint coordination efforts between the Ministry of International Cooperation and the main partners at the national, regional and international levels resulted in the joint political declaration between Egypt, the United States of America and Germany, which included the signing of the debt swap financing agreement worth €54 million with Germany.
- Signing 9 project contracts with the private sector to generate renewable energy with a capacity of 7.3 GW.
- Providing the necessary funds for the financial closure of 4 agreements from development partners concerned with supporting the energy pillar.
- Activating the technical support component, represented by 3 technical support programs, the most important of which is strengthening green supply chains, which will contribute to attracting foreign direct investments, enhancing the localization of local industries, and the just transition plan, which will provide training for workers.
- Providing job and training opportunities for workers in the energy sector, in addition to providing support to the Electricity Utility Regulatory Authority to set regulatory rules for energy production and selling it to the private sector on the P2P system.
- Some special projects have been identified to invest in strengthening the electricity network (control centers/lines/stations/and distribution).

A Just Transition Towards Renewable Energy: Innovative Financing Solutions

GRANTS PLATFORM TO SUPPORT ENERGY PROJECTS

- Investment grants from the High Impact Partnership for Climate Action (HIPCA) Fund, which is the first time that this fund has benefited from Egypt during the NWFE program.
- Investment grants with Germany through the Germany's Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), USAID, Netherlands.
- Investment grants from the United Kingdom will be directed to support the development of old stations, and investment grants from the European Union will be directed to support network strengthening.
- A grant from the Transformative Carbon Assets Fund (TCAF) provided through the World Bank is now being discussed.
- A financial debt swap agreement was signed with Germany worth €54 million, which will be directed to support the strengthening of the network.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO QUALIFY PROJECTS & PREPARE FEASIBILITY STUDIES:

- The NWFE Energy pillar provides a package of institutional technical support to ensure that key features of fossil fuel decommissioning and renewable energy building are efficiently delivered.

The Following Programs Have Been Activated:

The Master Plan for Decommissioning is being developed by the EBRD to provide a comprehensive framework for the comprehensive decommissioning of 12 conventionally powered plants and serve as a strategic document to define objectives, milestones, timeline and strategies for safe and effective decommissioning.

The Egyptian Electricity Holding Company conducted a preliminary assessment of the stations for decommissioning in 2023, resulting in the decommissioning of approximately 1 GW of capacity.

The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development is partnering with other partners to secure $40 million in performance incentive payments needed to complete the decommissioning of the total capacity of 5 GW.

Status: Ongoing

The Just Transition Survey aims to assess the social impacts of decommissioning.

The study arose in the context of labor relocation as part of the transition from a fossil fuel-based economy to a fair and green economy.

The results of this technical assistance will shape strategic workforce management.

Status: Launched

Technical assistance support in preparing a decommissioning master plan applicable to 12 retirement stations.

This study will serve as a strategic guidance based on international standards for environmental and safety considerations related to the decommissioning of thermal power plants, approaches to equipment dismantling and site repair, etc.

Status: Starting in October

- **Just Transition Plan:** The EBRD launched the Just Transition Scoping Study to identify training and reskilling needs and ensure an effective and fair transition plan for affected workers.
- **Promoting Green Supply Chains:** To take advantage of the many investment opportunities in the renewable energy sector, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development launched a mission to support increased local participation in green supply chains in order to facilitate the development of renewable and low-carbon industries in Egypt.
- **Supporting the Electricity Utility Regulatory Authority** to establish regulations for the development of production and sale by the private sector of renewable energy projects in a "private-to-private" system to support renewable energy development. This also includes tasks such as wind measurements, strategic environmental assessment, and green certification.
- Currently, the Egyptian Electricity Transmission Company is **conducting a study of the electrical network**. The results of this are expected to identify the need for further technical support. Additional studies may include assessment of electricity storage needs, grid code for renewable energy projects, etc.

PROGRESS IN STRENGTHENING THE NWFE ENERGY PILLAR

- Distribution Center Project with the Electricity Holding Company (Partners: EBRD with other partners).
- The OHL Transmission Line project unloads about 2.1 gigawatts from the Gulf of Suez region. (Partners: EBRD).
- Modernization of Cairo transformer stations (500), reducing losses in transportation networks and optimizing Shubra El-Kheima (Partner: EBRD).
- Alexandria Regional Control Center Project (Partner: France/ Agence Française de Développement).
- Two lines connecting the second Gulf of Suez and AMEA to the network (Partner: Germany: KFW).
- Transformer terminals for unloading power from the Second Gulf of Suez and AMEA to the grid. (Partner: Germany: KFW).
- Technical assistance for network strengthening studies
- Egyptian Electricity Transmission (EETC) Network Study

PROMOTING PRIVATE SECTOR INVESTMENTS:

All agreements for renewable energy projects with a capacity of 3.7 GW were signed between the Ministry of Electricity and United Energy and private sector companies (such as ACWA Power/Masdar/Al Nowais/Orascom/and others).

Providing the necessary funding from development partners within the energy pillar to implement these projects, and signing their financial closure agreements, such as:

- Signing the financial closing agreement for the project to establish a new wind farm in the Gulf of Suez 2 area with a capacity of 500 km between the Red Sea Wind Energy Alliance (the alliance of Orascom Construction of Egypt, Engie of France and Toyota of Japan), the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD). The expected date for the beginning of commercial operations is in February 2025.
- Signing the financial closing agreement for the project to establish the "Abydos" station for producing electricity from solar energy with a capacity of 500 megawatts in the city of Kom Ombo in Aswan Governorate. This is funded by the International Finance Corporation (IFC), the Netherlands Development Bank (FMO), and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), and operations are expected to begin in July 2024.
- Signing the financial closing agreement for the project to establish the "Amont" station, in the Ras Gharib region of the Red Sea Governorate, to produce electricity from wind energy with a capacity of 500 megawatts, funded by the International Finance Corporation (IFC), the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC), and Standard Chartered Bank, Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation (SMBC) and Sumitomo Mitsui Trust Bank, and commercial operations are expected to begin in May 2025.
- Signing of the financial closing agreement for the Kom Ombo photovoltaic solar power station project with a capacity of 200 MW. The total investment cost of the project amounted to $182 million, funded by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), the OPEC Fund for International Development (OPEC Fund), the African Development Bank, the Green Climate Fund, the Arab Petroleum Investments Company (APICORP), and the Arab Bank. The commercial operation of the station is expected to begin by January 2024.

IMPLEMENTING NATIONAL PRIORITIES & STRATEGIES:

- To ensure and maximize the benefit from the expertise of multilateral and bilateral international financing institutions, coordination was established between the various development partners concerned with implementing the energy pillar with the aim of dividing the work and integration among them.
- This is especially based on the comparative advantage of each development partner to avoid duplication or overlapping of any of the components or activities carried out by any partner.

V.TRANSPORT PILLAR: THE NWFE +



The EIB is the main development partner for the sustainable transport pillar, given its international and local experience in implementing transport infrastructure projects, as Egypt is the bank's first country of operations in the region since the start of cooperation in 1979. The choice of the bank also comes In light of its adoption of the 2021-2025 climate roadmap, it has effectively transformed into the EU Climate Bank.

"The NWFE program brings together partners from Egypt and international partners to accelerate priority investments and achieve the green transformation, and our meeting today supports the program's success in addressing investment challenges…The EIB supports the NWFE program to promote new investments that improve the lives of millions of Egyptians and build on our long journey with Egypt, during which €15 billion were saved invested in the sectors of energy, transportation, food security, climate action, and investment all around Egypt over the past four decades. Our technical and financial contribution to the NWFE program will be further strengthened through the new regional headquarters of the EIB in Cairo." Vice President of the EIB, Gelsomina Vigliotti.

The NWFE+ includes several projects.

Firstly, the project to extend the first line of the metro to Shibin al-Qanater, where the first line extends from Marj to Helwan and transports about 2.5 million passengers daily. The length of the extension is about 19.5 km to connect the governorates of Cairo (Marg) and Qalyubia (Shebin).

Secondly, there is also the project to develop the Abu Qir railway line in Alexandria and convert it into an electric metro (Alexandria Metro), which extends over a distance of 22Km and includes 20 stations to connect downtown Alexandria to the city of Abu Qir.

Thirdly, the project to construct the railway line (Al-Rubiki - 10th of Ramadan - Belbeis), which aims to establish the 10th of Ramadan/Belbeis railway line with a length of 60 km to connect the dry port on the 10th of Ramadan with the railway network.

Fourthly, the Tanta-Mansoura-Damietta railway line project. These projects are scheduled to be implemented by 2030.

Moreover, a partnership agreement was signed between the Ministry of International Cooperation, the Ministry of Environment, the Ministry of Transport, the European Investment Bank (EIB), the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), and the French Development Agency (AFD), where the three financing bodies pledged financing contributions amounting to €3.5 billion in the form of soft development financing, with €1.5 billion from the EIB, €1.5 billion from the EBRD, and €500 million from the AFD to implement sustainable transport projects within the NWFE+ program.

This is in addition to the EBRD coordinating to provide technical support grants to prepare the necessary studies for projects, and providing technical and investment grants from the EU.



The Nature, People and Climate (NPC) Investment Program

In 2022, the Climate Investment Fund (CIF) launched the Investment in Nature, People and Climate Program, as part of international efforts to stimulate green transformation in developing and emerging countries.

After The Ministry of International Cooperation's efforts in preparing Egypt's file on the energy pillar within NWFE, in cooperation with EBRD, AfDB, World Bank and IFC, the file won first place in the North Africa and Europe region, announced at COP27.

To follow up on developing the executive plan for Egypt to benefit from the program, the Ministry of International Cooperation received a technical mission from the CIF, and intensive discussions were held to discuss the executive plan for the Nature, People and Climate (NPC) Investment Program, and to benefit from the funding; all in line with the NDCs and the NWFE program.

Representatives of the World Bank Group (the main development partner) in implementing the initiative, participated in the discussions, along with representatives of the IFC, the EBRD, and the AfDB, as well as the IFAD, the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ), and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), the United Nations, the Canadian Embassy, the Swiss Embassy, the British Embassy, the European Union, and the French Development Agency, in addition to many representatives of the private sector, ministries, national agencies, and research centers, including HSBC Bank, the Commercial International Bank (CIB), the Arab Society of Young Scientists, the Bank of Alexandria, and the Qalaa Holdings, the Ministries of Finance, Foreign Affairs, Environment, Agriculture and Land Reclamation, Water Resources and Irrigation, Trade and Industry, Electricity and Energy, the International Center for Agricultural Research, and the International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas.

The CIF has provided a grant worth $500,000 to begin the necessary studies to implement the projects. It is planned to provide $40 million in soft financing and another grant worth $4 million to implement the project to be prepared with the participation of all relevant parties in the application of the participatory approach followed by the Ministry of International Cooperation in implementing development cooperation projects.

At the end of the workshop, a number of outcomes were reached and this includes:

- Determining the technical, economic, social, environmental and institutional information required to prepare the project's executive plan, and provide guidance and assistance to the expert team in preparation for completing the preparation of that plan.
- Introducing relevant entities to the program, including multilateral and bilateral development partners, the private sector, think tanks and civil society, to enhance coordination in all stages of cooperation and project implementation, and setting a timetable for implementation.
- Establishing 3 main areas to focus on in the context of contributing to the implementation of the NWFE program, which are: climate-smart agriculture, including water management, agribusiness and finance, and coastal zone management.
- It was agreed to complete the discussions through two missions in December 2023 and February 2024 to finalize the formulation of the executive plan, agree on the projects to be implemented, and set future steps in consensus between all relevant parties in accordance with national priorities and needs by June 2024.

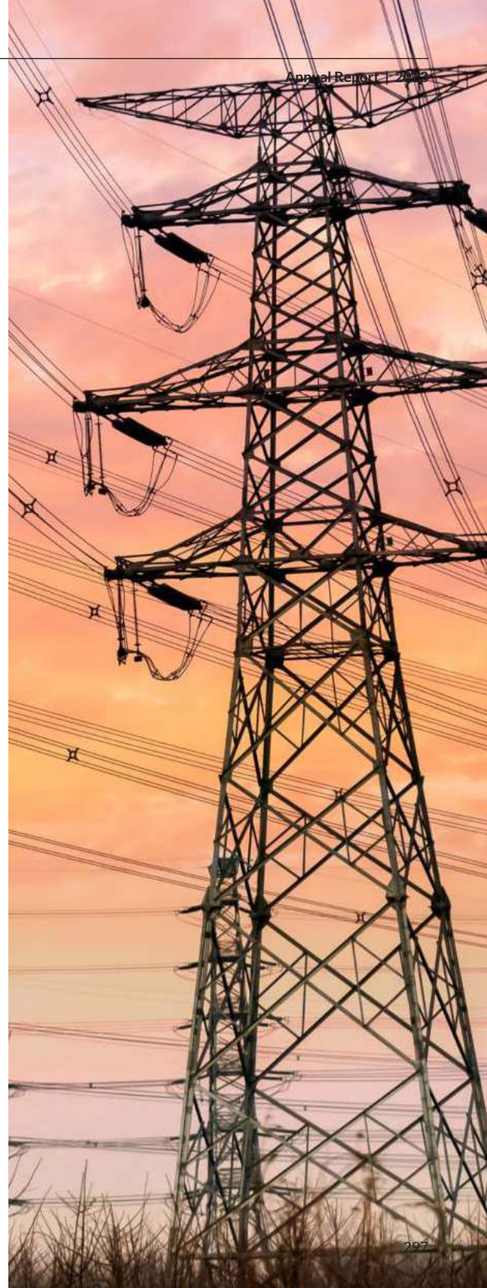
AHEAD OF COP28

Last October, the Ministry of International Cooperation held a high-level coordination meeting to follow up on the development of efforts to mobilize innovative financing tools to implement renewable energy projects within the NWFE program. This included the entities relevant to implementing the projects, namely the Ministry of Electricity and Renewable Energy, representatives of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Germany, and the United States of America, the World Bank Group, the KfW Development Bank, the French Development Agency, the European Investment Bank, the European Union, and the embassies of the United Kingdom and the Netherlands.

The meeting aimed to follow up on the implementation of pledges from development partners and the implementation steps of the projects.



"Before COP27, we began joint work on preparing the national platform for the NWFE program, as a comprehensive platform for climate and development efforts at the same time. Our partners have contributed to strengthening its role to become one of the most important national platforms known among development partners and the international community, and a model that can be replicated across countries to implement their climate ambition. I extend my thanks to H.E.Dr. Mohamed Shaker, Minister of Electricity and Renewable Energy, and the development partners for their commitment throughout the year and joint coordination regarding putting the projects into practice." H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat.





"The electricity sector has made great progress in attracting renewable energy investments as part of a plan to attract the private sector to increase renewable energy capabilities by about 10 gigawatts, and we were able to start implementing projects with a capacity of 3.7 gigawatts of wind and solar energy. In coordination with the European Bank for Reconstruction for Development, technical support for electricity chains will be strengthened, and green sourcing stimulates foreign direct investment with local participation to promote growth and job creation. Through the National Green Hydrogen Strategy, we aim to benefit from Egypt's competitive capabilities to achieve its ambitious plans in the hydrogen sector, which targets up to 5-8% of the global tradable market by 2040." ***H.E. Dr. Mohamed Shaker, Minister of Electricity and Renewable Energy.***



"We are very excited about holding the first coordination meeting led by the Ministry of International Cooperation and the Ministry of Electricity and Renewable Energy with all international financing institutions and entities relevant to the NWFE program. We are committed to supporting Egypt in its transition towards a green economy, and so far we have mobilized financing worth $2 billion from the private sector in the NWFE program projects, in addition to grants and concessional development financing." ***Dr.Heike Harmgart, Regional Director for the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean Region at the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development.***



"We greatly appreciate the role played by Dr. Rania Al-Mashat, Minister of International Cooperation, and Dr. Mohamed Shaker, Minister of Electricity and Energy, in leading efforts to achieve progress in energy sector projects. There has been great development since COP27, and how the projects are compatible with the goals and joint coordination between all partners are a very constructive and valuable opportunity for us." ***Mario Sander, Head of the Middle East Department at the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development.***



"The French Development Agency is committed to supporting the implementation of the NWFE program, and providing €100 million of blended financing stimulating the private sector, in addition to a €10 million grant from European Union partners, with the aim of supporting the energy transition in Egypt, participating in enhancing the participation of the private sector and moving forward towards implementing projects included within the program and demonstrating the progress achieved during COP28." ***Clémence Vidal de la Blache, Director of the French Development Agency in Egypt.***



A GENERAL SUMMARY OF THE MOST IMPORTANT OUTPUTS OF THE NWFE PROGRAM

- Implementing an integrated approach to innovative financing solutions to enhance Egypt's opportunities to benefit from climate financing for NWFE projects, as it is a key factor to support and accelerate the transition of Egypt and other developing countries to comprehensive and flexible development models.
- Establishing a strategic partnership framework that includes the most important actors in climate action and all relevant entities to stimulate the private sector.
- Supporting the implementation of the international strategy for a just transition towards a green economy, relying on clean energy sources, and stimulating the private sector to enter clean energy production projects in Egypt.
- Achieving linkage and integration between a number of projects given similarities and complementarity in the general scope and the targeted geographical areas, as well as achieving integration between the data required and its sources without repeating the feasibility studies and related technical reports, which will reflect positively on the project's financial structure.
- Achieving the maximum possible benefit from the resources that will be made available by development partners, which requires linking a number of projects and the main targeted components and finding an effective mechanism for coordination between these projects, starting from the project design phase and ending with the implementation, evaluation and follow-up phase.
- Comprehensive integration and coordination between national authorities and development partners implementing food and irrigation projects, aiming to stimulate private sector participation in projects related to adaptation and enhancing resilience.
- Utilizing available resources provided by climate finance and investment funds as well as available financing mechanisms to qualify climate action projects and facilitating financing opportunities for the private sector by encouraging investment in sustainable agriculture and food supply, resilient coastal systems, and the development of rural communities.
- Initiating project implementation and technical qualification, as well as moving towards completing the financing and investment framework for platform projects.

THE LINK BETWEEN NWFE & THE SHARM EL-SHEIKH GUIDEBOOK FOR JUST FINANCING

For the first time, the Guidebook introduced a definition for Just Financing that goes beyond the notions of climate justice and just transition, which focuses on the equitable allocation of benefits and burdens resulting from the climate emergency, as well as safeguarding labor rights. It aims to operationalize the principle of 'Common but Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities', addressing country ownership, access, affordability, and resource allocation bias, all the while promoting 'additionality' and good governance.

Just Financing is "financing that accounts for historical responsibility for climate change while ensuring equitable access to quality and quantity climate financing that supports resilient development pathways leaving no one behind".

The Guidebook sets forth 12 core principles for just financing. They serve as a framework to unlock scale financing from diverse sources of capital by adopting innovative climate finance modalities and instruments. These principles represent a call for action to assess the current global climate finance architecture and institute reforms aligned with these principles. The overarching goal is to stimulate interlinkages between climate action, inclusive growth, and social and economic equity.

The Sharm El Sheikh Guidebook for Just Financing categorizes the principles into three main themes:

Country Ownership

Prioritizing national needs and resources is vital for reinforcing country ownership. This approach helps overcome investment obstacles, particularly when these priorities are translated into a pipeline of investable projects.

Equitable Pathways

Given the considerable cost of implementing the climate action agenda, which often surpasses the capacity of developing countries already committed to development plans, international financial institutions and climate funds must offer additional resources under reasonable conditions. These conditions should account for the current global context and align with development priorities.

Governance

The absence of a comprehensive global governance structure for climate finance hampers the effective disbursement and utilization of funds. Therefore, it is important to establish governance structures for climate finance at both national and international levels to ensure the delivery of impactful results.

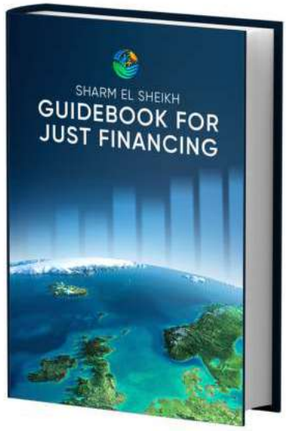
The Principles of Just Financing in NWFE

The Guidebook also addresses the information gap for both national governments and investors, aiming to reduce the risk and uncertainty associated with climate investments. It offers a comprehensive mapping of capital providers, considering access criteria, risk appetite, regional and sectoral focus, ticket size, and financing instruments, including those available through climate funds. This visibility empowers low- and middle-income countries to strategically plan their response to climate change, considering national challenges and opportunities.

Moreover, the Guidebook introduces innovative financing approaches as solutions to key barriers identified in the private investment realm, with a particular emphasis on blended finance to amplify climate investments through the deployment of concessional and non-concessional finance. It explores other innovative instruments, such as carbon and resilience credits, as means to monetize mitigation and adaptation outcomes.

Finally, it concludes with an actionable agenda for each stakeholder that lists the roles they could play to achieve just financing outcomes. It presents a realistic and implementable blueprint aimed at maximizing the effectiveness and efficiency of the existing climate finance system in the short-run, while rethinking the international architecture in the medium and long-term.

In accordance with the Guidebook's principles of "Equitable Pathways", NWFE Platform bridges the information gap, harmonizing efforts and ensuring a sustainable and conducive interaction between the different stakeholders while creating the necessary enabling environment. Through the design, structuring and preparation of concrete and implementable climate action projects, the platform significantly increased Egypt's access to previously untapped sources of climate finance, and investment funds and was able to catalyze private investment,



leveraging innovative financing modalities. The total investment within the platform is worth $14.7 billion, including $10 billion for the energy sector, $1.35 billion for the water sector and $3.35 billion for the agriculture and food security sector.

The platform adopts a blended finance approach, proactively addressing socio-economic challenges associated with climate change. By leveraging technical cooperation and financing from over 30 stakeholders, the platform taps into diverse capital sources, encompassing debt swaps, guarantees, concessional loans, grants, and private investments. The overarching goal is to alleviate the burden of debt and facilitate a more sustainable financial structure.

Focusing on the Energy Pillar, a debt swap agreement with Germany, totaling USD 113 million, was announced during COP27 to pave the way for a green transition and revise Egypt's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). In line with the Political Declaration involving the Governments of Egypt, Germany, and the USA, the updated NDCs were announced in June 2023. This underscores the country's dedication to accelerating the transition toward a low-carbon development pathway, achieving a 42% installed capacity of renewable energy by 2030 instead of the initially set target of 2035. In terms of private sector investments, the platform successfully mobilized a total of $2.18 billion to finance solar and wind energy projects.

The platform successfully secured 'additional' financing, extending beyond the annual commitments from development partners. This strategic move ensures that climate finance supplements, rather than replaces, development finance. Notably, it obtained EUR 2.8 billion from the EIB and the EBRD.

Within the Water and Food Pillars, advisory services and technical assistance are provided to national stakeholders to facilitate the effective implementation of projects. This support, funded by grants from development partners, includes a capacity-building component aimed at strengthening institutional capabilities to prepare comprehensive feasibility studies that take into consideration economic, social and environmental aspects.

According to the Sharm El Sheikh Guidebook, just financing can only be achieved when there are systems that promote transparency and accountability. In that regard, the NWFE platform reinforces good governance through its steering committee and a robust M&E system. These mechanisms not only facilitate coordination among all stakeholders but also help track the progress made in mobilizing necessary investments, ensuring the effective utilization of climate finance and resources. Furthermore, a dedicated M&E component will be integrated into the design of each project, leveraging the Ministry's Automated Information Management System to monitor project activities.

The Sharm El Sheikh Guidebook: Just Financing Principles

Against this backdrop, the NWFE Platform seamlessly embodies the principles of Just Financing. This is evident in its establishment of multi-stakeholder partnerships, utilizing innovative financing solutions to address an existing pipeline of projects that directly align with national priorities. Consequently, the NWFE Platform serves as a practical implementation of the 12 Core Principles of Just Financing, a feature that will be prominently showcased throughout this report.

Country Ownership

Principle 1

Recognize, respect, and take concrete action to support developing countries' Right to Development and Industrialization through equitable pathways.

Principle 2

Align global climate mitigation and adaptation targets with national development objectives.

Principle 3

Support and fund the creation of enabling environments, and strengthening of technical capacities that are aligned with climate goals.

Equitable Pathways

Principle 4

Require global stakeholders to actively consider and take progressive action to address historical disparities and responsibilities to meet climate needs.

Principle 5

Mainstream the concept of Just Financing across all financial stakeholders at national and international levels.

Principle 6

Ensure the right to quality and quantity climate finance.

Principle 7

Address access, affordability, and resource allocation bias.

Principle 8

Promote "Additionality".

Principle 9

Address the loss and damage caused by climate change.

Governance

Principle 10

Require strong institutional governance mechanisms at the international and national levels.

Principle 11

Require robust transparency and accountability mechanisms.

Principle 12

Is anchored on balanced multi-stakeholder participation and collective agreements that enhance international, regional, and local coordination and commitments.

Applying the Principles

COUNTRY OWNERSHIP:

Principle 1

Recognize, respect, and take concrete action to support developing countries' Right to Development and Industrialization through equitable pathways.

Principle 2

Align global climate mitigation and adaptation targets with national development objectives.

- The country platform of the NWFE Program, through the Food pillar projects, supported the efforts of the Egyptian state towards achieving sustainable agricultural development. It worked in line with Egypt's development priorities to mobilize climate investments and private sector investments to transform food systems, achieve food security, build sustainable rural communities capable of adapting to the climate, and identify measures to help the country achieve climate action goals in agricultural and food systems.
- The country platform for the NWFE Program supported the Government of Egypt's pursuit of achieving sustainable development, as it worked in line with the country's development priorities. The water pillar of the country platform for the NWFE Program included two main projects, each of which is consistent with the country's development path, its national strategy and objectives, country ownership, and the strategic directions towards localization of industry.
- The platform sought to secure the necessary funds to implement national strategies related to the water, irrigation, agriculture and industry sectors through the operations of the projects to be implemented and priority sites (the National Strategy for Water Desalination, the National Strategy for the Development of Irrigation Systems).

Principle 3

Support and fund the creation of enabling environments, and strengthening of technical capacities that are aligned with climate goals.

The country platform of the "NWFE" program aimed to support the national efforts made by the Government of Egypt to create an enabling environment to stimulate and attract private sector investments in development projects and climate action, through:

- Raising the institutional capabilities of the ministries and supporting them with the technical competencies and expertise necessary to supervise the implementation of the project, by including grants provided by development partners for the capacity building component of their employees and providing the necessary training courses in this regard.
- Providing the necessary consulting services to expedite the offering and contracting for the implementation of projects under the "participation with the private sector" system through the resources available from development partners.
- Benefiting from distinguished international experiences in the field of financing desalination projects and striving to reach the optimal framework for financing and implementation.
- Focus on policies, regulatory reforms and market structure that will support Egypt in transforming the country's food system into a climate-smart one.
- Deliberate on incentive mechanisms to mobilize climate and private sector investments, and identify implementable measures to help Egypt achieve climate action goals in agricultural and food systems.

EQUITABLE PATHWAYS TO CLIMATE FINANCE:

Principle 4

Require global stakeholders to actively consider and take progressive action to address historical disparities and responsibilities to meet climate needs.

The country platform for the NWFE Program created a coordination platform that included many national and international entities in order to coordinate on defining procedures and developing optimal arrangements to support the implementation of water pillar projects and achieve the country's climate action goals. The coordination included the Ministries of Housing, Utilities, Urban Communities, and the Holding Company for Potable Water and Sanitation. It also included the subsidiaries: the New Urban Communities Authority, the Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation, the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Environment, the Ministry of Electricity and Energy, and the Sovereign Fund of Egypt, while it included a number of development partners (the African Development Bank, the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development, the European Investment Bank, the European Bank European Union for Reconstruction, European Union, World Bank)

Principle 5

Mainstream the concept of Just Financing across all financial stakeholders at national and international levels.

The projects of the country platform for the NWFE Program represented an actual implementation on the ground of development partners' pledges within the framework of climate change projects, as development partners were quick to join the working groups related to the NWFE projects and provided the necessary technical expertise to support the preparation and preparation of these projects. They also announced their soft financial pledges to contribute to implementation. . This includes efforts to mobilize grants and financing on easy terms in an effort to reduce the burden on the state and limit borrowing from abroad.

Principle 6

Ensure the right to quality and quantity climate finance.

- The efforts made within the framework of the platform sought to secure funds that are commensurate with the current needs of the country (quantitatively and qualitatively) and that are also consistent with the current directions of the development path. This takes a focus on supporting the private sector and encouraging investments in the areas of development and climate action as the platform aims to mobilize funds that support the work of the private sector. It also discusses incentive mechanisms to encourage involvement in the implementation of projects across the pillars, and attract foreign and local strategic investors.
- There is also a focus on maximizing the grant component, advisory services, and technical support for use in the technical design of projects, preparing their technical and environmental studies, and supporting technical agencies and ministries for implementation.
- The platform worked to maximize the grant component and technical and advisory support necessary to prepare and implement projects in a way that reduces the burdens on the state and technical ministries.
- The platform chose the main partners according to the relative advantage of each of them, to ensure obtaining appropriate and efficient technical expertise to help in effective implementation.

Principle 7

Address access, affordability, and resource allocation bias.

- The NWFE Program is an effective application of the principle of equitable distribution of development funds and work to distribute them geographically, ensuring the achievement of justice and comprehensiveness of their development impact.
- The geographical scope of the water desalination plants to be implemented in the project has been determined according to the priorities and needs of the Government of Egypt. The project includes the implementation of a total of 5 desalination plants between the governorates of Port Said, Alexandria, Matrouh and the Red Sea.
- Equitable distribution was also taken into account among the implementation areas of irrigation development projects, covering all regions, with priority given to areas that need rapid intervention to meet their needs and overcome the repercussions of climate change.
- The geographical scope of the areas for implementing rural and irrigation development projects has been determined to cover all regions of the Republic, with priority given to areas that need rapid intervention to meet their needs and overcome the repercussions of climate change in them.

Principle 8

Promote "Additionality".

- The efforts made within the framework of the platform were able to secure the necessary advisory services and technical and financial support from the resources of development partners to work on qualifying and designing projects and preparing their studies, which represents a new precedent for cooperation.
- The platform aims to access new funding sources and private funds to provide the necessary grants to prepare and implement projects.

COUNTRY OWNERSHIP:

Principle 10

Require strong institutional governance mechanisms at the international and national levels.

Principle 11

Require robust transparency and accountability mechanisms.

- During the detailed technical design of the projects, organizational arrangements for implementation, supervision and coordination were developed and formulated to ensure the inclusion of all national entities relevant to the project and coordination among them. This includes ensuring efficiency and effectiveness in implementation and accountability.
- The country platform for the NWFE Program also resulted in the creation of a coordination platform between relevant development partners to present all developments and discussions, which enhances transparency, information sharing, and competitiveness to provide the best services with the best requirements.



To read more about the NWFE Program, take a look at the 1st Progress Report published in November 2023.

A YEAR OF IMPLEMENTATION: CELEBRATING 1 YEAR OF NWFE PROGRESS



The Ministry of International Cooperation launched the 1st Progress Report for the Nexus for Water, Food and Energy platform, the NWFE program, in the presence of H.E. the Prime Minister, Dr. Mostafa Madbouly, the Ministry of International Cooperation's team and development partners. The first report highlights the efforts and coordination between multilateral and bilateral development partners, international federations in the field of climate action, and national entities, to date.

During the high-level roundtable titled "A Year of Implementation", the Ministry of International Cooperation reviewed the results of coordination with multilateral and bilateral development partners and national entities over the past year, with regard to the implementation of water, food, energy and transport projects.

The Progress Report pointed out that Egypt has taken concrete steps towards a sustainable development model that is in line with its plans to protect the environment, address climate change, and improve the climate needed to support the participation of the private sector in the development process.

Participating in the round table are the Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Electricity and Renewable Energy, Environment, Petroleum and Mineral Resources, Housing, Agriculture, Transport, Water Resources and Irrigation, along with the Chairman of the General Authority for the Suez Canal Economic Zone, and the Chairman of the General Authority for Investment and Free Zones.





The round table also witnessed the international participation from the heads of international financial institutions and development partners, including Odile Renaud Basso, President of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), Gerardine Mukeshimana, Vice-President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Gelsomina Vigliotti, Vice-President of the EIB, Mohamed Al-Azizi, Director General of North Africa at the African Development Bank (AfDB), and Ambassador Christian Berger, Head of the European Union (EU) Delegation to Egypt, along with representatives of the World Bank Group (WBG), the International Finance Corporation (IFC), the EU, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the German Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development, the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa, the World Food Programme (WFP), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the German International Cooperation Agency (GIZ), the African Export-Import Bank (Afreximbank), representatives of France, the United States of America, Denmark, Canada, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom, as well as representatives of the private sector, the parliament, and media institutions.







The Joint Communiqué

At the conclusion of the roundtable with the Prime Minister, we released a joint communiqué with development partners that applaud Egypt's efforts in advancing the Country Platform for NWFE, commend Egypt for implementing sound sector policies and updating its NDCs, underscore the importance of country-led multi-stakeholder platforms, affirm the replicability of the platform in other developing and emerging economies, recognize the vital role of collective efforts to unlock finance and new partnerships, and reiterate continued international support towards the implementation of the NWFE projects.

The Communiqué was signed by **EBRD, African Development Bank Group, International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), European Investment Bank (EIB), The World Bank, IFC - International Finance Corporation, Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), Islamic Development Bank (IsDB), European Union, USA, Germany, Denmark, UK Aid, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), France, Agence Française de Développement, Invest International, International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), Glasgow Financial Alliance for Net Zero (GFANZ), The OPEC Fund for International Development & the United Nations.**



Scan to read the joint communiqué:

Chapter 3

THE BUILDING BLOCKS



ACHIEVING A GREEN, CLEAN & INCLUSIVE FUTURE THROUGH SUSTAINABLE COOPERATION



According to the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) 2022 Adaptation Gap Report, international adaptation finance flows to developing countries are five to ten times below estimated needs and will need over US$300 billion per year by 2030, where most of the climate funds available now, particularly private finance, is more targeted towards mitigation.

The reports issued by the Climate Policy Initiative indicate the total investments needed worldwide annually until 2030 to maintain an increase in global temperature at the level of 1.5 degrees, amounts to about $4.5 trillion worldwide, while the needs of developing countries amount to about $842 billion, noting that Africa alone amounts to $250 billion.

However, the actual flows of climate finance between 2019 to 2020 amount to about $632 billion, representing 14% of the actual needs, including $80 billion for developing countries, representing 9% of their needs, and $29.5 billion for Africa, amounting to about 11.8% of their needs, while the the private sector has made available about $306 billion in climate finance, of which $14 billion has been directed to developing countries, and only $4 billion to Africa.

As the world aligns its efforts to build back better on its route to recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, climate change has been pushed to the forefront of the international agenda. And given the multidimensionality and complexity of climate change, its consequences extend to affect every aspect of the peoples' and nations' sustainability efforts.

Combating climate change and the enhancement of the citizens' social, economic, and environmental resilience is at the heart of the Government of Egypt's national agenda. To that end, investment in sustainable infrastructure is fundamental to meet the climate agenda and abide by the Paris Agreement commitments.

This requires innovative finance as an effective tool to support the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

A BRIEF OVERVIEW: DRIVING RESILIENCE

Green and sustainable infrastructure is the driving force of economic growth, creating a multiplier effect by reflecting on human capital and on the country's overall sustainable development by: expanding outreach of public services, facilitating access to markets, reducing logistical costs, and unleashing the potential of the economy and enhancing private sector engagement.

Electricity & Renewable Energy

Starting 2014, Egypt has put the sector on top of its priorities to keep pace with the growing demand for energy. As it accounts for 13% of the country's GDP, Egypt seeks to increase private investments in projects related to renewable energy sources such as wind and solar energy, in addition to investing in electricity transmission networks given its distinct geographical location that enables it to produce wind and solar power in large quantities.



A Regional Hub for Electricity & Interconnectivity

Egypt has become a regional hub for electricity & interconnectivity and there are many investment opportunities to participate in electrical interconnection projects. The government especially seeks to achieve electricity connectivity with neighboring countries in Africa, Europe and Asia which stimulates the intra-regional electricity trade.

This includes renewable energy through solar power, such as the landmark project: Benban Solar Park, involving 13 private sector companies, employs more than 10,000 people, and houses 32 power plants.

The solar park produced more than 1,650 megawatts of electricity, enough to power hundreds of thousands of homes and businesses and is expected to avoid 2 million tons of greenhouse gas emissions a year, the equivalent of taking about 400,000 cars off the road.

This includes renewable energy through wind power, such as the Gulf of the Suez Wind Farm, considered Egypt's first private and largest wind farm, developed by Ras Ghareb Wind Energy, a special-purpose joint venture company established by Engie, Orascom Construction, Eurus Energy and Toyota Tsusho Corporation.



Adaptation Efforts

Under **hydropower**, Egypt also aims to re-energize and re-frame the dialogue on water as its availability and sustainable management is crucial for survival, and is a basic human right to all communities. Since the construction of the Aswan High Dam in the 1960s, Egypt has been investing in hydropower energy generation.



Under the **water sector**, the National Water Resources Plan is a four-pillar strategy that will be executed by nine ministries, including housing, agriculture, health, environment and planning, with four key areas of activity:

1) Purification and recycling of water, including industrial wastewater.

2) Rationalization of agricultural water consumption through modern irrigation systems and using seeds that consume less water.

3) Improving new sources of water, such as desalination plants, rainwater collection, and improved cooperation with Nile Basin countries.

4) Establishing open and clear channels of communication with the Egyptian population in order to raise awareness about water-resources.

This includes projects such as the Water Desalination Plant for Eastern Port Said and the **Bahr El-Baqar wastewater project**.



With **transportation**, Egypt is making progress in building a highly connected city with sustainable infrastructure, including the electric train, the monorail and increased metro lines to decrease congestion on the roads.



Food Security at the Center

The food security sector is also of utmost importance, with the Government of Egypt focused on strengthening food security, improving health and security, promoting sustainable agriculture, decreasing poverty in rural areas, enhancing living standards, increasing competitiveness and creating employment opportunities especially for youth and women.

This also includes development projects that feature renewable energy technologies such as solar panels as well as modern and smart farming techniques that conserve water and promote land consolidation, such as the 1.5 Million Acres Project which aims to increase the agricultural land by 20% and to create promising investment opportunities in various fields, including reclamation of agricultural lands, establishment of industrial clusters in food and beverages manufacturing.

Ensuring food security is at the basis of sustainable development, because it entails and accounts for better livelihoods and healthier communities.

Accordingly, the Ministry of International Cooperation is strengthening efforts with development partners, and multilateral and bilateral parties to provide concessional development funds, technical support and exchange of experiences to promote agricultural and rural development and achieve food security through programs that meet the requirements and needs of various national entities.

The implemented programs and projects vary in the light of international relations to enhance food security in light of the diversity of partners, as many programs are implemented in cooperation with the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), and the World Food Program (WFP), which are programs that fall under the United Nations. This is in addition to ongoing cooperation with the European Union, USAID, Arab funds, the World Bank and other partners.

Among the most prominent recently announced projects is laying the foundation stone for a silo at West Port Said port with a storage capacity of 100,000 tons. In addition, a number of silo projects are being implemented through a $115 million grant from the Saudi Fund for Development.

With the outbreak of the Russian-Ukrainian crisis and its challenging impact on food security and global supply chains, the Ministry of International Cooperation intensified its discussions with development partners to secure supplies of wheat. In this context, a concessional development financing agreement of $500 million was signed from the World Bank, to enhance the flexibility of the agricultural sector in Egypt and support food security efforts, in addition to a $271 million agreement with the AfDB to support the “Program to Support Food Security and Economic Resilience in Egypt.”

The government also signed with the International Islamic Trade Finance Corporation (ITFC) a framework agreement worth $6 billion for a period of 5 years to provide imports of strategic commodities such as wheat and petroleum, as well as another project worth $600,000 in cooperation with the Japanese side to support the state’s actions in reducing waste of wheat through systems early warning.

In addition, the European Union’s support program for food security in Egypt was launched through a grant of €100 million to enhance food security efforts and reduce the negative effects of global challenges, in addition to a project of €40 million, a grant from the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS) in favor of the Ministry of Agriculture, to finance the agricultural mechanization project in strategic crops and other related projects.

Since the beginning of 2023, the Ministry of International Cooperation has continued to enhance food security efforts, and among the agreements and programs that have been signed is a grant agreement of CA$10 million, to enhance food security efforts and combat climate change through the project “Promoting climate-smart agriculture and agricultural biodiversity to support adaptive capacity.” In the rural communities most affected by climatic changes in the old and new lands of the Nile Delta and Upper Egypt,” in addition to a grant agreement between the Japanese Embassy and the FAO worth $3.8 million to support increasing agricultural productivity and enhancing water security.

The WFP also approved the country program for bilateral cooperation with Egypt, at a value of $431 million, to promote national priorities related to social protection, food security and school feeding. The Minister of International Cooperation and the Italian Ambassador to Egypt signed the exchange of letters to extend the agreement for the third phase of the debt swap program for development until December 2024 to ensure the optimal completion of all projects implemented within its framework. The agreement’s value amounts to $100 million and is intended to finance several development projects being implemented in various areas, especially food security.

The Minister of International Cooperation participated in IFAD’s the Board of Governors, where she discussed, through a number of bilateral meetings, the development of joint relations to advance food security efforts, based on close relations over a period of 40 years, during which the fund funded 14 projects worth $1.1 billion has had a significant impact on small farmers, including the SAIL Project for Promoting Sustainable Agricultural Investment and Livelihood Improvement, the PRIDE Project for Promoting Harmonization in Desert Environments, and the STAR Program for the Sustainable Transformation of Agricultural Adaptation in Upper Egypt.

The Cairo Water Week

Under the theme “Action on Water Adaptation for Sustainability”, H.E. Dr. Rania Al-Mashat, Minister of International Cooperation, participated in the opening session of the EU - Egypt Water Business Forum within the framework of the partnership between Egypt and the European Union, which was organized by the European Union within the activities of the sixth session of Cairo Water Week, which is held under the patronage of H.E.President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi, President of the Arab Republic of Republic.

The session included: H.E. Prof. Hani Sewilam, Minister of Water Resources and Irrigation; H.E. Mr. Michele Quaroni, Ambassador of Italy to the Arab Republic of Egypt; H.E. Mr. Peter Mollema, Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to Egypt; Dr. Florika Fink-Hooijer, Director-General of the Environment Department of the European Commission; H.E. Ambassador Christian Berger, Head of the European Union Delegation to Egypt; and Secretary-General of the Federation of Egyptian Chambers, Dr. Alaa Ezz.

In her speech, Al-Mashat said that Egypt is keen to strengthen international partnerships with multilateral and bilateral development partners in the water sector based on country ownership and priorities, pointing out that Egypt has issued many legislative and structural reforms in the water sector like other sectors.

H.E. also pointed out that the new irrigation law sets a framework to enhance private sector participation in water resources and irrigation projects.



The current development portfolio of the Ministry of International Cooperation includes 30 projects worth $4.741 billion related to the SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation which represents 19.5% of the total Official Development Assistance (ODA), and this includes 9 projects dedicated to the Ministry of Irrigation and 21 to the Ministry of Housing.

BUILDING BETTER LIVELIHOODS

In Cooperation With the EU



Within the framework of the program "EU-KAFI Contribution Agreement Under the EU Food Facility" with a value of €100 million, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat, Minister of International Cooperation, H.E. Dr. Ali Al-Al-Moselhi Minister of Supply and Internal Trade, and H.E. Dr. Al-Sayed Al-Qaseer, Minister of Agriculture and Land Reclamation, witnessed **the signing of a grant agreement of €40 million provided by the EU with the implementation of the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS), to enhance food security efforts in Egypt.**

This included the the participation of Ambassador Amr Abu Eish, Head of the National Office for the Implementation of the Egyptian-European Partnership Agreement at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Gert Jan Koopmann, New Director General for Neighborhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations of the European Commission, Ambassador Christian Berger, Ambassador of EU to Egypt, Martino Melli, Head of the AICS Cairo office, and the team from the Ministry of International Cooperation and representatives of the relevant entities.

Through the grant agreement, the AICS will cooperate with the Ministry of Agriculture to support wheat and grain production by increasing access to approved and mechanized seeds at a value of €25 million, with the aim of implementing activities related to agricultural mechanization for the production of grains and improved seeds. In cooperation with the Ministry of Supply, it will work on establishing field silos, as well as completing the information system to control the movement of wheat in Egypt, at a value of €15 million.

This comes within the framework of the "EU-KAFI Contribution Agreement Under the EU Food Facility" programme, funded by a grant of €100 million, while deliberating the projects funded by the remaining amount - estimated at €60 million.

Moreover, the agreement signed between the EU and AICS in light of the efforts made by the Government of Egypt, through development cooperation with multilateral and bilateral development partners, is to face food security challenges resulting from the Russian-Ukrainian war, in addition to enhancing national efforts in the field of grain production and storage, stimulating climate resilience and increasing strategic grain storage capacities.

For his part, H.E. Dr. Ali Al-Al-Moselhi Minister of Supply and Internal Trade, thanked the Ministry of International Cooperation for its continuous coordination with development partners, pointing to the importance of cooperation with the Italian side as well as the EU in strengthening the state's plans and what the Ministry of Supply is doing to expand wheat storage silos and stimulate food security efforts.

He stressed that the Government of Egypt, in the last eight years, has taken many steps to achieve food security through land reclamation and cultivation of strategic crops, explaining that the Russian-Ukrainian war affected global commodity prices, the high cost of transportation and high energy prices, which requires concerted international efforts to achieve food security.

For his part, H.E. Dr. Al-Sayed Al-Qaseer, Minister of Agriculture and Land Reclamation thanked Al-Mashat for her efforts as well as preparation for the event. He also welcomed Al-Moselhi expressing his gratitude to the Italian side and the EU for their continuous support to the Egyptian agricultural sector in light of the global changes that affected the food security of countries.

H.E. Al-Qaseer pointed out that there is great cooperation and coordination between all Egyptian ministries to support the food security system and that there is good cooperation with the Italian side to implement a number of projects in the agricultural sector, especially in the field of rural development, digital transformation, agricultural mechanization and others. He added that the current project would include two main components; the first is to support programs and the production of high-yielding varieties of strategic crops such as wheat and corn, the aim of which is to obtain varieties that are more adaptable to the climatic and dry conditions that the world is witnessing, adding that Egypt has high-yielding varieties and this grant will contribute to obtaining new varieties, which represents support for the food security system in producing varieties that are more sustainable and tolerant of climate change, through the Agricultural Research Center and the Desert Research Center.

The other component of the project will be directed to support modern agricultural mechanization and enhance the resilience of food security, as well as support small farmers, especially in the Delta and Coastal governorates.



In Cooperation With Canada & FAO

This year, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat and Canadian Ambassador to Cairo Amb. Louis Dumas signed a grant agreement worth CA$10 million Canadian dollars, to enhance food security efforts and combat climate change through the project "Promoting Climate-smart Agriculture and Agricultural biodiversity" to support the ability to adapt in rural communities most affected by climate changes in the old and new lands of the Nile Delta and Upper Egypt.

This is within the framework of the Government of Egypt's implementation of the national platform for the NWFE program, the nexus of water, food and energy projects.

The project is scheduled to be implemented in cooperation with national entities, including the Ministries of Environment, Agriculture and Local Development, the National Council for Women and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

The signing event was attended by the Minister of Local Development H.E. General Hesham Amna; the Assistant Director-General and Regional Director for the Middle East and North Africa at the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Dr. Abdel Hakim El-Waer; Egypt's UN Resident Coordinator Elena Panova; and FAO Country Director Nasr El-Din Haj Elamin. This is in addition to leaders and representatives of the Ministry of International Cooperation, FAO, the Canadian Embassy, and the Ministries of Local Development and Agriculture.

The agreement comes in light of the efforts made by the Ministry of International Cooperation, in cooperation with multilateral and bilateral development partners, to enhance food security efforts, support the country's vision in combating climate change through the National Climate Change Strategy 2050, and stimulate efforts to move from climate pledges to implementation.



For his part, the Minister of Local Development H.E. General Hesham Amna, thanked Al-Mashat, for the fruitful cooperation between the two ministries and the support of the Ministry of Local Development and the governorates in many programs and projects. H.E. also indicated that the existing cooperation between the Governments of Egypt and Canada help farmers and youth, in addition to empowering women in the countryside, referring to the close relations between both countries, which have always been characterized by strength and distinction, in all political, economic and social fields.

The Minister of Local Development also pointed to the great importance this project represents to enhance the resilience of the governorates of Aswan, Beheira, and Kafr El-Sheikh through cooperation with a number of partner ministries, led by international cooperation, agriculture, environment, and the National Council for Women.

The project promotes the improvement of the lives of citizens in rural areas most in need in Egypt, by reducing the poverty rate and enhancing food security, developing and implementing practices that enable them to adapt to climate changes, and ensuring that the project serves all people whose work depends on agricultural products and agricultural food, in Aswan, Beheira, and Kafr El-Sheikh.



Additionally, the project's implementation will continue over a period of 4 years, from 2023-2027, and it will achieve a number of goals, including enhancing the ability of 4,536 small farmers, male and female, to adapt to climate change, while increasing their agricultural production and productivity through the adoption of innovative and developed technologies and practices for climate-smart agriculture.

That, in addition to enhancing the biodiversity of agricultural systems for smallholders, as a strategy to adapt to climate change with a focus on soil and plant health, and create an enabling environment for integrating climate change adaptation, climate-smart agriculture, nature-based



"I represent FAO at the regional level, and we are proud of what we have achieved in Egypt. Our cooperation with the Egyptian authorities is a model of success that can be applied in other countries and we will work in cooperation with the Ministry of International Cooperation to utilize international forums to highlight success stories applied in Egypt in promoting the SDGs through the NWFE program for potential replication in other countries at the regional level." ***Regional Director of FAO Dr. Abdul Hakim Al-Waer.***



"The FAO has always sought to support Egypt to achieve sustainable development, and they have spared no effort in promoting opportunities towards that, and we are pleased with this signing. The Canadian government has been pivotal in formulating a project to enhance adaptation efforts by supporting small farmers and strengthening food value chains within the NWFE program. Egypt has always been supportive of FAO's efforts by embracing the regional office that was established 70 years ago when the country office was inaugurated in 1967." ***Country Director of FAO Nasr El-Din Haj Elamin.***

In Cooperation With Abu Dhabi, UAE

In light of the close relations between the Arab Republic of Egypt and the United Arab Emirates and to enhance development efforts and government measures to support food security, the Ministries of International Cooperation, Finance, and the General Authority for Supply Commodities signed with the Abu Dhabi Exports Office (ADEX), affiliated to the Abu Dhabi Fund for Development, a financing program agreement.

The roundabout is worth $100 million for a period of five years, with a total of $500 million, with the aim of financing wheat imports. The agreement is the first of its kind with the ADEX of the Abu Dhabi Fund for Development.



The signing events were held at the headquarters of the Ministry of International Cooperation in the New Administrative Capital, where the Ministry of International Cooperation, H.E. Dr. Rania Al-Mashat, signed the framework agreement, the Minister of Finance, H.E. Dr. Mohamed Maait, signed the financing guarantee agreement, and H.E. Ahmed Youssef Mansour, Vice President of the General Authority for Supply Commodities signed the financing agreement. H.E. Mohamed Saif Al Suwaidi, the Director General of the Abu Dhabi Fund for Development and Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Abu Dhabi Office for Exports, signed the financing agreements on behalf of the Emirati side, in the presence of senior officials from the Egyptian and Emirati sides.

The new agreement reflects the depth of the strategic relations between Egypt and the UAE, and the keenness to enhance economic integration and advance joint development efforts, explaining that through revolving financing, the needs of the local market for wheat will be met in light of the procedures that are being taken by the Egyptian state to enhance food security through soft development funds, pointing to cooperation, continuous coordination and technical cooperation between the ministries of international cooperation, finance and supply to complete the agreement.

Overall, the UAE supported the inauguration of 25 silos in 17 governorates to increase the storage capacity of wheat by 1.5 million tons, adding that the coming period will witness discussions on more future areas of cooperation in light of Egypt's development priorities and the implementation of Egypt's Vision 2030.

Minister of Finance, H.E. Dr. Mohamed Maait, noted the Government of Egypt's commitment to enhance cooperation with regional and international development partners. In order to accelerate sustainable development, especially the backdrop of geopolitical challenges and the disruption to supply chains, more cooperation is required to provide the necessary development finance. This is especially the case when realizing the magnitude of external challenges, and the financing burdens they impose to meet the basic needs of citizens, especially in light of the high cost of financing from international markets.



"Today's agreement builds on the existing relations and partnership between the UAE and the Ministry's side to implement a project to increase storage capacities for wheat by about 1.5 million tons through the implementation of 25 silos, and today we are witnessing new cooperation in the field of financing wheat imports for stimulating food security efforts undertaken by the country, which reflects the depth and strength of the joint relations between the two countries." ***Minister of Supply and Internal Trade, H.E. Dr. Ali El-Moselhi.***



"This agreement represents a pioneering model for the distinguished relations between the UAE and Egypt, which reflects the keenness of the leadership of the two brotherly countries to develop and develop them in various fields. The agreement comes in light of the efforts made by the Abu Dhabi Fund for Development to sustain strategic cooperation with the Egyptian government, noting that the agreement contributes to expanding the volume of trade exchange to achieve economic benefit for both countries." ***H.E. Mohamed Saif Al Suwaidi, Director General of the Abu Dhabi Fund for Development.***



THE 46TH SESSION OF THE IFAD GOVERNING COUNCIL



In Rome, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat participated in the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) 46th Session.

H.E. participated in a panel discussion on "Challenges and Opportunities in the Water-Food -Energy Nexus" during her participation in the 46th session of the IFAD Governing Council in Rome, Italy, which focused on accelerating action for food security in the face of the challenges facing the world, with high-level participation from the IFAD Senior Management, the UN Food and Agriculture Organization, Heads of State, government and various international organizations.

The panel included Kevin Kariuki, Vice-President of Power, Energy, Climate and Green Growth, African Development Bank Group (AfDB), Aaron Leopold, CEO of EnerGrow, Esther Penunia, Secretary-General, Asian Farmers' Association, moderated by Kitty van der Heijden, Director-General for International Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Kingdom of the Netherland.

During the events, Al-Mashat met with several food security focused institutions, including the IFAD, World Food Programme (WFP) and Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

IFAD President

Al-Mashat met with Alvaro Lario, President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), where the meeting emphasized the close and extended cooperation and strong partnership between the Government of Egypt and the IFAD in order to promote rural and agricultural development, improve the standard of living of small farmers and enhance their ability to Adaptation to climate change, pointing out that over the course of 40 years, the fund has funded 14 projects worth $1.1 billion that have had a significant impact on small farmers.

In the same context, the Minister met Donal Brown, IFAD Associate Vice-President of the in a meeting with Dina Saleh, the Regional Director of the Near East, North Africa and Europe Division (NEN) in IFAD. H.E. also met with Indira Naidoo, IFAD's Director of the Independent Evaluation Office and Head of Training, where they discussed Egypt's leading experience in the field of evaluations and follow-up of IFAD projects, which represents an area for cooperation and exchange of experience with other countries and institutions, as well as a catalyst for further joint work and expansion of relations between Egypt and the fund.



Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) & World Food Programme (WFP)



Al-Mashat met with QU Dongyu, Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and expressed her appreciation for the existing cooperation between the Government of Egypt and the UN and their eagerness to consolidate cooperation to expand food security efforts further and enhance the exchange of experience and trade among the countries of the South.

Al-Mashat also discussed with Menghestab Haile, WFP Regional Director for Southern Africa, joint cooperation efforts and regional cooperation programmes to promote food security on the African continent, the exchange of experience and best practices in development cooperation efforts, and the transfer of Egyptian experience in development cooperation efforts to the African continent.

The 13th Replenishment of the IFAD

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat participated in the 2nd session of the consultation on the 13th replenishment of the International Fund for Agricultural Development's (IFAD) resources, held in Italy this year.

Al-Mashat, delivered a speech to members of the IFAD Executive Board and Senior Management to increase capital and mobilize the necessary resources to support the Fund's efforts to promote development in a discussion where President of IFAD, Alvaro Lario, invited Al-Mashat to review aspects of the effective partnership between Egypt and the Fund and its role in promoting comprehensive and sustainable rural development, supporting small farmers and motivating member states to inject more resources.

The consultations of the 13th replenishment of the resources of the IFAD in Italy confirms the collective commitment to strengthening efforts to eradicate poverty and promote sustainable development, stressing Egypt's keenness to participate in these consultations in light of the vital role it plays with the IFAD to enhance food security and stimulate agricultural and rural development efforts.

The percentage of those suffering from food insecurity increased by 25% over the past year, to record 258 million people. In this regard, the IFAD has supported more than 6 million people in 41 countries, by allocating funds and reaching $990 million in 70 development projects, which reflects the great developmental impact achieved by the Fund through its projects in different countries.

It is important to note the partnership with the IFAD over the past 4 decades is based on a joint commitment to sustainable rural development and raising living standards for rural communities. The Fund cooperates with national agencies directly and small and lower-income farmers in Egypt and the regions, especially those most vulnerable to climate change. Through development cooperation, the portfolio with the fund has increased to a record of $1.1 billion, through which 14 projects have greatly contributed to making a significant change in the lives of farmers and citizens, benefiting about 1.3 million farmers, along with millions of beneficiaries indirectly.

Dduring COP27, the IFAD was selected as the main development partner for the food pillar within the NWFE program, the linkage between water, food and energy projects. That was in cooperation with the EBRD, lead partner for the energy pillar, and the AfDB the lead partner in the water pillar. This selection was not random, but rather it was based on its accumulated experience in providing integrated and innovative solutions to promote sustainable rural development, and the Fund's extensive global experience in financing programs. Its cost-effective solutions reflect the benefit of citizens and its track record of being one of the most prominent international institutions working in the field of financing agricultural and rural development and mobilizing resources to confront climate changes and supporting farmers with small holdings.

Egypt has contributed to the 12th replenishment of the IFAD with a value of $3 million, and according to those contributions, the value of development funds allocated to Egypt amounted to about $63 million.

A GREEN TRANSITION

For a well-rounded sustainable development transition, a lot of sectors come into play. In the next few pages, we share some of the highlights that took place this year.

On the Green Hydrogen Front

Green hydrogen has become of great importance in the world as it is one of the clean fuels that can advance green transformation efforts, and promote the transition to clean energy in conjunction with the world's decline in conventional energy reserves, and international efforts to stimulate climate action and reduce emissions.

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat participated in the 1st High level Steering Committee Meeting on Energy and Hydrogen Cooperation between the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Federal Republic of Germany, aiming to build on the existing cooperation in renewable energy generation and the declaration of intent signed last November between the two countries.

The meeting included Eng.Tarek ElMolla, the Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources; Dr.Mahmoud Esmat, Minister of Public Enterprises; Stefan Wenzel, Parliamentary State Secretary, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK) in Germany; and Dr. Jan Noether, Chief Executive Officer, German-Arab Chamber of Industry and Commerce in Germany. It also featured Ahmed Mahina, Senior Undersecretary of the Ministry of Electricity and Renewable Energy for Strategic Planning and International Cooperation; Stephanie Sorensen, Secretary and Deputy Head of the Development Cooperation Sector at the German Embassy in Cairo; and several representatives of the business community. This was organized by the German-Arab Chamber of Industry and Commerce Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action abbreviated BMWK (was BMWi).

The 1st High level Steering Committee Meeting on Energy and Hydrogen Cooperation between Egypt and Germany reflects the joint efforts between the two countries in stimulating green entry efforts, and builds on the steps taken by both. The most important of which was the signing of the joint declarations of intent to cooperate in the fields of natural gas and green hydrogen, with the aim of contributing to securing clean energy supplies, achieving sustainable development and addressing climate change.

Last year, an MoU to launch the Mediterranean Hydrogen Partnership with the European Union (EU) and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) during COP27 to promote investments in renewable energy was signed.



The Kitchener Drain

The Kitchener Drain Rehabilitation Project is the largest agricultural drain in Egypt, with a length of 69 kilometers starting from the Gharbia Governorate and passing through the Dakahlia and Kafr El-Sheikh Governorates, to serve more than 11 million people in 182 villages. The project aims to raise the drain's efficiency and improve the health and environmental conditions of the residents of the areas.

Within the framework of coordinating efforts to accelerate the implementation of the Kitchener Drain Rehabilitation Project, the ministerial management committee concerned with implementing the project, formed in accordance with Prime Minister Resolution No. 1687 of 2020, was held at the headquarters of the Ministry of International Cooperation in the New Administrative Capital, headed by Dr. H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat, Minister of International Cooperation, with the participation of H.E. Dr. Yasmine Fouad, Minister of Environment,H.E. Dr. Hani Sweilem, Minister of Water Resources and Irrigation, Major General Hisham Amna, Minister of Local Development, and H.E. Dr. Sayed Ismail, Deputy Minister of Housing for Infrastructure Affairs, on behalf of H.E. Dr. Assem Al-Gazzar, Minister of Housing, Utilities and Urban Communities, with the aim of following up on the situation with the executive director of the Kitchener Drain Rehabilitation Project at the level of its various components, in a way that enhances the development impact of the project and accelerates the pace of its implementation with the participation of leaders and representatives of the relevant ministries, and the head of the Holding Company for Potable Water and Wastewater.

The aim of the meeting is to continue close coordination between the relevant entities to implement the project and accelerate the pace of its completion; achieving the maximum benefit from the development financing and development grants made available from multilateral and bilateral development partners, in a way that achieves the expected return from the project at the economic, social, health and environmental levels.

According to the recommendations of the Cabinet, a ministerial administration was formed in 2020, then a technical committee was formed and headed by the Ministry of International Cooperation and included all relevant entities. Since then, many meetings were held at the technical level to follow up on all aspects of implementing the project, noting that the project includes three basic components, including the establishment of wastewater treatment plants, increasing the design capacity of existing plants, establishing an integrated system for collecting and recycling solid waste, creating sanitary landfills for solid waste, improving the quality of water in the drain and reducing pollution, in a way that maximizes the overall development impact and sustainable development goals in those governorates.

Cleaner Air, Cleaner Cities

In light of the ongoing partnerships between the Arab Republic of Egypt and the World Bank Group (WBG) and the ongoing project to reduce pollution in Greater Cairo, the bank has approved a $9.13 million development grant from the Global Environment Facility (GEF) to expand the air pollution and climate change management project in Greater Cairo. This grant would enhance the environmental benefits of the original project, both locally and nationally, by improving e-waste and healthcare waste management.

The Greater Cairo Air Pollution Management and Climate Change Project, approved earlier, supports the state's efforts to improve air quality, combat climate change, reduce emissions of air pollutants and greenhouse gasses, and improve solid waste management in Greater Cairo, with a value of $200 million, in light of the state's efforts to transition to a circular, green economy and promote environmental practices.

The new grant allows for improved management levels of healthcare waste, along with e-waste, and disposal to reduce the release of more unintentional persistent organic pollutants.



"We have a serious commitment to supporting wider environmental conservation efforts in Egypt. This project is also in line with the upcoming Strategic Partnership Framework with Egypt for the financial years 2023-2027, which puts citizens at the heart of its strategy, and aims to support Egypt's efforts to improve its resilience to climate change in parallel with its efforts to shift towards a green economy". Marina Wes, Former Regional Director of the World Bank for Egypt, Yemen and Djibouti.

The expansion of the Greater Cairo Air Pollution Reduction Project aims to achieve its main goal by supporting the National Action Plan on Unintentional Persistent Organic Pollutants, with a particular focus on strengthening: (1) the regulatory framework; (2) data collection; (3) management and monitoring; (4) awareness raising; (5) safe handling capacity; and (6) sector capacity of management of special types of waste and recycling.



Green Economy Financing Facility Egypt II – GEFF Egypt II

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat witnessed the launch of the second phase of the Green Economy Financing Facility Egypt II – GEFF Egypt II and greening value chains for the private sector, with a value of $175 million. This comes as a result of the effective partnerships between the Government of Egypt and the EBRD to stimulate the participation of the private sector and increase its role in development efforts in Egypt.

The second phase of the program was launched during an event titled "From Pledges to Implementation: Boosting Green Finance in Egypt" in the presence of H.E. Dr. Yasmine Fouad, Minister of Environment, H.E. Christian Berger, Ambassador, Head of the European Union (EU) Delegation to Egypt and Dr. Heike Harmgart, Managing Director for the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean region at the EBRD in addition to a number of financial and banking institutions in Egypt and development partners.

Through the second phase of the program, which is being implemented in partnership with the EBRD, financing estimated at $175 million will be directed specifically to micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), with the aim of supporting their participation in development, creating more job opportunities, and enhancing the sustainability and resilience of value chains. During the first phase of the program, concessional financing of $157 million was made available to a number of financial institutions, which contributed to financing 101 projects to advance green transition and reduce harmful carbon emissions.

Developing the Water Sector

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat, witnessed the announcement of the United Kingdom and the AfDB about the first tranche of projects benefiting from the United Kingdom's guarantee to support the AfDB in financing climate projects on the continent, including the provision of a guarantee of €80 million, to cover part of the financing provided by the bank for the implementation of the third phase of the Al-Gabal Al-Asfar water treatment plant project.

This enhances the bank's ability to expand financing of other projects in the fields of mitigation and adaptation in Egypt, within the framework of the guarantee that was announced during COP26, at a value of $2 billion.

The bank aims to increase climate financing in the countries of the African continent until 2027, and to enable countries to implement their NDCs, divided between efforts and projects to mitigate and adapt to the repercussions of climate change.

This came during the high-level event that was held within the activities of the 58th Annual Meetings of the AfDB 2023, in the presence of the British Minister of State for International Development and Africa, H.E. Andrew Mitchell, President of the AfDB, Akinwumi Adesina, Minister of Economy, Planning and Cooperation of Senegal, Oulimata Sarr as well as AfDB officials and the Ministry of International Cooperation technical team.

The guarantee for the 3rd phase of the Al-Gabal Al-Asfar wastewater project reflects the great value that the project represents in light of the steps taken by the Government of Egypt to promote sustainable management of water resources and stimulate efforts to adapt to climate changes, as the project provides its services to about 12 million people in the first and second phases, and the third phase provides services to about 5.5 million people, which reflects the commitment to achieving water security and enhancing climate resilience.

PEOPLE-CENTERED DEVELOPMENT

While working towards sustainable development, a core part of the equation is enhancing the lives of people.

Within the framework of enhancing multilateral cooperation efforts to support various areas of development in Egypt, Dr. Rania Al-Mashat, witnessed the signing of 7 grant agreements funded by the Italian government and implemented by United Nations organizations and programs and the World Bank in cooperation with the relevant national entities, worth $34 million.

These agreements come within the framework of bilateral cooperation between the Arab Republic of Egypt and Italy and joint efforts to promote development, and are as follows:

“Combating the worst forms of child labour through the implementation of the National Action Plan for the Elimination the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Egypt and Supporting the Family, 2018-2025” with ILO”.

“The Socio-Economic Empowerment of Rural Women in Assiut and Sohag” with UN Women”.

“Towards Equitable Access to Quality Education and Health Services in Egypt for Women, Children and Other Members of Migrant and Host Communities in Vulnerable Situations” with IOM.

“Strengthening the Alternative Care System for Children without Parental Care in Egypt” with UNICEF; “Accelerating High Growth Entrepreneurship in Egypt” with World Bank.

“Tackling Climate Change through Sustainable Livestock Management” with FAO.

“Protection, Services and Empowerment: Invest in a zero-tolerance environment against all forms of Gender Based Violence Against Women and Girls in Egypt” with UNFPA.



This covers a variety of sectors including education and health services for women and children, economic empowerment of rural women, combating child labor, supporting the national action plan, accelerating entrepreneurship and combating climate change.

This was in the presence of H.E. Hassan Shehata, Minister of Labour, Dr. Maya Morsi, President of the National Council for Women (NCW), Nevin Othman, Secretary-General of the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood, Elena Panova, UN Resident Coordinator, and Basil Rahmi, CEO of the Egyptian Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises Development Agency (MSMEDA).

The agreements were signed by the Italian Ambassador to Egypt, H.E Michele Quaroni, with representatives of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), UNICEF in Egypt, the United Nations Women, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the International Labor Organization (ILO), and representatives of the World Bank, at the headquarters the Italian embassy.



“I would like to stress the importance of the agreements that we signed; we are convinced that they will contribute to promoting sustainable economic growth and promoting development in Egypt, in addition to directing special attention to the social dimension by supporting groups Women and children, as well as immigrants and refugees, in need, as well as developing human resources and the entrepreneurship system in Egypt.” H.E Michele Quaroni, the Italian Ambassador to Egypt.







Takaful and Karama

The House of Representatives in Egypt approved in October a project agreement with the World Bank, valued at $500 million, to expand the “Takaful and Karama” program.

This initiative underscores Egypt’s commitment to enhancing social protection programs. The program aims to protect vulnerable groups through cash transfers and system building. It builds on previous efforts to launch comprehensive social protection systems, particularly targeted at low-income families affected by economic challenges resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic and the Russian-Ukrainian war.

The expansion will support increased investment in human capital, foster sustainable growth, create job opportunities, and promote financial inclusion, benefiting millions of individuals, with a focus on Upper Egypt. The project also aims to enhance institutional capabilities and strengthen the Ministry of Social Solidarity’s ability to implement the program. This initiative is part of Egypt’s broader strategy to invest in human capital and stimulate economic development.

On Building Food Security Efforts

This year, the “Green Food Hub Egypt” project was launched in the Ismailia Governorate in the presence of H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat, and H.E. Dr. Ali Al-Moselhi, Minister of Supply and Internal Trade, Dr. Ibrahim Al-Ashmawy, First Assistant Minister of Supply and Internal Trade and Head of the Internal Trade Development Authority (ITDA) and Clémence Vidal de la Blache, AFD Office Director.

This is part of a greater project to launch 17 Green Food Hubs across the country for the retail and wholesale of vegetables and fruits, using modern technology, clean energy and sustainable waste recycling.

The strategic selection of the location of the pilot project in Ismailia will enable the wholesale market to have an impact beyond the governorate level, and this transformative concept depends on trust and belief in the experience and excellence that the efforts of the private sector add to this project, highlighting fruitful cooperation between the government and private sector.

Ensuring food security is the basis of sustainable development, because it requires and represents better livelihoods and healthier societies. Food security is also a pivotal issue for all countries of the world, and therefore, the Government of Egypt is working on many pillars to enhance food security and increase agricultural areas for strategic crops, and increasing the storage capabilities of silos, by providing concessional development financing, technical support, and exchanging experiences, to enhance agricultural and rural development and achieve food security.



Egypt's Network for Integrated Development: Empowering & Equipping Our Most Vulnerable Communities

The Egypt Network for Integrated Development (ENID) project is a partnership between the Ministry of International Cooperation and UNDP that started in 2012.

The initiative was designed to adopt a unique comprehensive area-based development model focusing on multidimensional poverty reduction and employment creation. With a specific focus on Qena, and some villages in Luxor and Sohag. The project facilitated the introduction of innovative interventions that targeted skills development, job creation, sustainable agriculture, and policy advocacy.

The Vision:

Contribute to the economic development of Egypt's South and in line with the SDGs and Egypt's Vision 2023.

The Mission:

Socioeconomic empowerment of impoverished women and youth in rural upper Egypt through skill formation for employability and job creation.

The Approach:

Area-based integrated development, working in Upper Egypt mainly in Qena.

To ensure sustainability, El Nidaa Foundation was created as a social enterprise that identifies investment opportunities, which will ultimately take off into self-sustaining growth with the help of women and youth entrepreneurs in the South of Egypt. El Nidaa Foundation: Registered as a not-for-profit foundation in January 2016 – Registration No. 759. El Nidaa Foundation exists in parallel with the ENID project.

Among the Key Achievements:

- 50 interventions are being piloted and scaled up in 119 villages reaching directly and indirectly over 100 thousand people.
- More than 4000 jobs were created.
- Cooperation with 11 Ministries, 5 Governorates and over 70 local CDAs/ NGOs in Upper Egypt.
- 25,828 direct beneficiaries with more than 75% of them being female.
- More than 2,150 craftswomen trained.
- 39 policy briefs & 19 case studies.

ENID Covers 51 indicators of the first 9 SDGs & SDG 13 on Climate Action.





A New Phase of Cooperation

It is worth noting that in November 2022, a celebration was held at the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization, during which the Ministry of International Cooperation, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the UNDP signed the document launching the new phase of ENID in Egypt.

The expected budget for the new phase of the project over the next five years is $31.7 million, and the United Nations Development Program is providing support worth $100,000. The new phase aims to enhance efforts to improve the deteriorating social and economic conditions in Upper Egypt and use integrated methodologies to support comprehensive and sustainable growth, based on the lessons learned and accumulated experiences from the previous stage in development efforts in Upper Egypt since 2021, in addition to expanding the geographical coverage of development efforts in Upper Egypt.

The Expanded Interventions (2022 - 2026) & Support of Hayah Karima in the newly signed project has its focus on:

- Integration with national initiatives including Hayah Karima.
- Knowledge sharing and capacity building of development agents and partners to replicate successful model.
- Expanding in digital solutions in knowledge sharing, e-learning, marketing, and basic services (including medical services).
- Focusing on the promotion of the private sector and entrepreneurship in productive and service activities.
- Supporting the development of value chains and productive clusters in order to increase productivity and employment in the South of Egypt.



Under Program A: Upgrading Basic Services

Following ENID's rights-based approach, Program A has benefited 9,428 direct beneficiaries and another 35,000 indirect beneficiaries within the local communities.

The program has focused on combined literary classes and vocational training workshops, preschool and early childhood education, healthcare services and awareness-raising.



Under Program B: Promoting MSMEs & Entrepreneurship

Program B is focused on developing existing clusters through apprenticeships, including in handicrafts such as embroidery, woodwork, stoneware, metalwork, jewelry and much more. Moreover, program B is focused on graduating women from small to medium-sized enterprises and on building entrepreneurship skills.

Under Program C: Sustainable Agricultural Development

Program C is focused on sustainable agricultural development by training people in safe milk processing, roof gardens, fish farming, beekeeping and honey production,and many other agricultural activities. Program C is working towrds establishing a Center for Innovative Sustainable Agriculture (CISA) and to increase support to women in rural communities.

Under Program D: Knowledge Dissemination & Hub

Under program D, ENID is focused on influencing national and local policies based on the on-ground interventions and lessons learnt and to engage policymakers and private businesses on the best practice interventions at the field level.



A Review on the Work Done

This year, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat, held a high-level consultative session to discuss the new expansions in the projects of the Egypt Network for Integrated Development (ENID) for the period from 2022-2026, in the villages of the Presidential Initiative for the Development of the Egyptian Rural Development "Hayah Karima", with the participation of the Director Assistant to the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and Administrator of the United Nations Capital Development Fund, Dr. Mourad Wahba, Resident Representative of the UNDP in Egypt, Alessandro Fracasetti, Representative of UN Women in Egypt Christine Arab, and Director, Executive Director of the ENID Al-Nidaa Foundation and ENID Director, Dr. Heba Handoussa alongside with representatives of the World Food Programme, the International Labor Organization, the United States Agency for International Development, the Embassy of Canada, the Bank of Alexandria, the American University in Cairo, Laurel Company, Raya Holding Company, Tetra Pak Company, and Qalaa Holding Company also participated in the meeting and the Ministry of International Cooperation's team.

During the meeting, Dr. Heba Handoussaa reviewed future integration aspects with the Haya Karima Initiative for the period from 2022-2026, through the axes of knowledge exchange, capacity building, and strengthening partnerships with development partners to advance digital solutions, with a focus on the private sector and entrepreneurship. She explained that the interventions that were implemented through ENID are already integrated with many national initiatives such as a Hayah Karima, by contributing to improving the lives and livelihoods of rural communities, increasing the income of the most needy rural families, economically and socially empowering women and youth, and improving income through appropriate projects. It is a pioneer in various activities: agricultural, service, industrial, and craft workshops, improving basic services, and literacy classes, developing nurseries for children, and contributing to continuing to improve food and nutritional security conditions at the family and village levels, with attention to women and children.



"With ENID, we have trained more than 21,000 individuals and contributed to creating 4,000 job opportunities, 75% of which are for women. We have strengthened efforts to implement 9 of the UN SDGs by focusing on efforts to reduce poverty, promote gender equality, and empower women, so we seek deeper integration and coordination with the 'Haya Karima' initiative to enhance efforts to improve the standard of living of the lowest-income groups in Egypt." ***Resident Representative of the UNDP in Egypt, Alessandro Fracasetti.***

Chapter 4

GLOBAL EFFORTS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



INTERNATIONAL & REGIONAL EVENTS FOR IMPACT

I. Global Discussions

This year, the World Economic Forum (WEF) was a discussion center for topics on climate action and sustainable development, where H.E. attended both the Davos meetings in early January and the Sustainable Development Impact Meetings (SDIM) in New York.

IN DAVOS 2023

The WEF Annual Meeting 2023 was held in Davos, Switzerland from January 16 to 20, 2023 and themed "Cooperation in a Fragmented World."

H.E. Dr. Rania Al Mashat had prominent participation in the WEF's Annual Meetings, where H.E. delivered a keynote speech at the meeting, participated in a number of panels and discussions, and met with high-level government officials and business leaders.

Discussions included the importance of international cooperation in addressing the challenges of climate change, sustainable development, and global security, as well as Egypt's efforts to promote climate action and sustainable development, and to attract foreign investment. Moreover, the Minister participated in a number of panels and discussions on topics such as climate finance, the future of work, and the role of the private sector in sustainable development, and held bilateral meetings with several development partners.



The Launch of GAEA

Climate change is a global challenge and efforts must be unified, along with commitment to climate action and strengthened joint work among relevant stakeholders to utilize all available resources in line with the green transition.

It is important to note the role of philanthropic organizations and the resources available to them in stimulating climate action through a partnership with both the private sector and the public sector to mobilize the required investments and help in the flow of capital.

And hence, the launch of the "Giving to Amplify Earth Action" (GAEA)...

What is GAEA?

GAEA aims to catalyze people-focused climate and nature solutions by forging new, diverse, public-private-philanthropic partnerships (PPPPs).

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat began her agenda at the World Economic Forum Annual Meetings 2023 in Davos by participating in the launch of the "Giving to Amplify Earth Action" (GAEA); call to action initiative to philanthropy at the speed required to achieve an equitable climate- and nature-positive future in a World Economic Forum Session titled "Philanthropy: A Catalyst for Protecting Our Planet".

This session included WEF President Børge Brende; Special Presidential Envoy for Climate, National Security Council (NSC) John Kerry; Managing Director for the Centre for Nature and Climate at the WEF Gim Huay Neo; United Nations Special Envoy for Climate Action and Finance Mark Carney; CEO for Temasek Trust Desmond Kuek; CEO for Crescent Enterprises Badr Jafar; and Vice Chairwoman of Carbon Direct Nili Gilbert.

The initiative aims to create constructive partnerships between philanthropic organizations and the government and private sectors, in order to mobilize financing and investments to address climate change and promote the green transition, increase available resources and additional financing to implement the climate action agenda worldwide, and support international efforts aimed at bridging the climate financing gap as discussed at COP27.

Inevitably, this initiative is based on the calls of Egypt's COP27 Presidency which stressed the importance of the role of philanthropic organizations to expand the scope of climate finance and launch private investments to stimulate the transition to a green economy.



Read More on GAEA



"This call to action is extremely timely, as it builds on the directions set during COP 27 in Sharm El-Sheikh, 'the COP of implementation' under the Egyptian presidency. We need more philanthropies to join us at the table and help scale up multilateral development bank finance to unlock private investments to accelerate the green transition. Egypt will work closely with the World Economic Forum to build effective and impactful philanthropic public-private partnerships, and promote the role of the prominent 'P' – Philanthropy." H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat.



"We are proud to support the launch of the GAEA initiative. The global figure of philanthropic capital for climate mitigation currently stands under 2% – and that is just not acceptable. But this is also a massive opportunity to leverage philanthropic giving for climate action. Philanthropies can play a unique role in encouraging urgent, radical and unprecedented collaboration between the public and private sectors. It's only by working together at scale that we can unlock the investment required to achieve our ambitious climate goals and protect the planet." Per Heggenes, Chief Executive Officer, IKEA Foundation.



"There is a historic opportunity to harness the full potential of philanthropic organizations, family offices and other innovative capital players, in unity with government and business to address our climate and nature goals. COP28 in the UAE will raise the bar in terms of ambition and the creation of a global architecture for all capital actors to act together at speed and at scale. The World Economic Forum and GAEA is a powerful platform and amplifier to enhance these efforts." Badr Jafar, Chief Executive Officer, Crescent Enterprises.



"We are very excited to support GAEA's aim to better connect philanthropic capital with public and private sector efforts to strengthen climate and nature solutions. Our collective hope is to accelerate thinking and action towards tipping points in these arenas, and to assure economic growth is increasingly sustainable and inclusive." Bob Sternfels, Chief Executive Officer, McKinsey & Company.



Diverse Panel Discussions

ON PROMOTING THE SDGS

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat participated in two panel discussions on encouraging investment in the SDGs titled **"Promoting Investment for Sustainable Development Goals: Repurposing Capital"** and another session on the current global situation and challenges facing development efforts.

The first session **"Promoting Investment for Sustainable Development Goals: Repurposing Capital"** the Minister participated in was the discussion session organized by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), with the participation of UNCTAD Secretary-General Rebecca Greenspan Mayovis; Minister Delegate for Foreign Trade, Economic Attractiveness and Foreign French Nationals Abroad Olivier Becht; and the opening speech was delivered by President of Timor-Leste and Nobel Peace Prize Laureate H.E. Jose Ramos-Horta.

The session discussed current economic conditions and the role of stakeholders in stimulating private sector participation and investment in developing countries, the role of relevant parties and the UNCTAD in supporting developing countries to enhance their participation in the global economy, and the use of trade, investment, finance and technology as tools for inclusive and sustainable development.

In another context, Al-Mashat participated in the **Agility Tandem Talk** on the current state of the global economy and how to move forward in stimulating investments to build sustainable economies, alongside Stephen Gerard Pagliuca, co-chairman of Bain Capital, an international private sector firm.

ON SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE







Discussions also featured a focus on the importance of developing sustainable and resilient infrastructure to withstand climate change.

Al-Mashat joined the high-level roundtable discussion on "Investing in Infrastructure for Resilience" which was also attended by the President of the Philippines Ferdinand Marcos Jr., the Prime Minister of Belgium H.E. Alexander De Croo, President of McKinsey & Company, President of the WEF, and President of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD).

H.E Al-Mashat also participated in the WEF's session on "Rewiring the Globe for Resilience", to advance economic development plans and climate action, moderated by Børge Brende, WEF President; Bob Sternfels, Managing Partner of McKinsey & Company; Khaldoon Al Mubarak, Managing Director of Mubadala Investment Company; Robin Vince, Vice Chair of BNY Mellon Foundation; and Mariya Gabriel, European Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth.

The discussions highlighted that investing in resilience, enhancing the ability to adapt to economic variables, and stimulating private-sector participation is crucial to meeting the challenges facing development efforts, so that countries can move forward and sustain development gains.

Moreover, Al-Mashat also participated in the "Open Forum: Energy Transition Rush", which discussed the global energy crisis that has reinforced the need to shift towards renewable energy and make it affordable for all in the implementation of SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy.

Ajay Mathur, Director General of the International Solar Alliance (ISA), Maarten Wetselaar, CEO of CEPSA Energy, Lauren Shum, Curator at Boston Hub, as well as a number of officials from the private sector and international institutions participated in the session.

ON INVESTING IN NATURE

Al-Mashat also participated in the **Meeting of the Advisory Board of the Center for the New Economy**, in order to discuss the 2023 - 2025 action plan and strategy which aims to work towards shaping resilient, equitable and prosperous economies and societies to create equal opportunities for all, through initiatives in five key areas; economic growth and transformation, employment and wages and job creation, education, skills and learning, equality, inclusion, social justice, and global risk management.

The meeting touched upon the joint work between Egypt and the WEF to promote gender equality and equal opportunities through the Closing the Gender Gap Accelerator and other cooperation proposals that enhance social protection and stimulate investment in human capital. This was followed by a high-level discussion session on investing in nature conservation, promoting biodiversity and closing the estimated $700 billion global nature investment funding gap.

ON HOW TO ADVANCING COOPERATION



The world is going through unprecedented challenges that require immediate action by strengthening multilateral cooperation to reach effective solutions, preserve development gains, accelerate the progress of implementing the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and bridge the financing gap that records $3.9 trillion in 2020 and was exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic and successive crises.

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat participated in the "How to Turbocharge Development Finance" session with the Chair of The Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment at the London School of Economics, Lord Nicholas Stern; President of the Center for Global Development, Masood Ahmed; and Federal Minister for Climate Change at the Ministry of Climate Change of Pakistan, Sherry Rehman, moderated by The National's Editor-in-Chief Mina Al-Oraibi.

Al-Mashat also participated in the discussion session on partnerships in trade and investment in order to enhance development efforts, which discussed accelerating public-private partnerships between the government and private sectors in the fields of trade and investment to achieve sustainable development and enhance the capacity-building process.

In another context, Al-Mashat participated in a high-level closed session with a large number of global economic leaders to discuss the challenges facing the global economy and preparing for a new era that keeps pace with current changes, along with Børge Brende, President of the WEF.

Moreover, the Minister participated in the panel discussion with Tony Blair, Owner and Executive Chairman of the Tony Blair Institute for Global Change, during the WEF 2023, to discuss ways to stimulate innovation and build new partnerships that promote development efforts. This included the participation of 15 business leaders and government representatives including the Prime Ministers of Greece and Albania, the Minister of Communications of Rwanda, Ministers from Ghana and Angola, and many representatives of private sector companies and technology companies.

ON PEOPLE-CENTERED DEVELOPMENT

The Minister participated in the press conference, which was titled "New Frontiers for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion", with the participation of Saadia Zahidi, Managing Director of the World Economic Forum, Megan Greenfield, Partner at McKinsey & Company, and Robert F. Smith, Founder, Chairman and CEO of Vista Equity Partners, on the insights on the impact of the initiatives of the WEF's Center for New Economy and Society, and the partnerships it implemented in accelerating the pace of diversity and social inclusion, in light of the importance of partnerships between the public and private sectors to create societies and institutions that are more sensitive to social diversity Inclusion and equal opportunity.

In another session on investing in environmental sustainability "30x30 Ambition: Next Steps after Montreal", Al-Mashat discussed the results of the COP15 United Nations Biodiversity Conference, along with Andrew Steer, President and CEO of the Bezos Earth Fund, Katherine Garrett-Cox, Managing Director and CEO of the UK subsidiary for the Gulf International Bank of Bahrain, and Peter Fearnhead, Chief Executive Officer and co-founder of African Parks, a philanthropic organisation.

DIVERSE BILATERAL MEETINGS







H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat met with the President of the IFAD, WEF's Managing Director, EBRD President, UNCTAD and Bezos Earth Fund, among others.

H.E. also met with Khedaim Abdulla Al Derei, Co-Founder and Managing Director of the Al Dahra Group, which invests in Egypt's agricultural sector, and with the IFAD President Alvario Lario on food security in Egypt. During the meetings, they reviewed three ongoing vital projects: PRIME, SAIL, and PRIDE, which focus on strengthening the marketing capabilities of small farmers, sustainable agricultural investments, and adaptation in desert environments in the province of Matrouh.

Focused on philanthropic organization, Al-Mashat met CEO and President of Bezos Earth Fund Dr. Andrew Steer on the role of philanthropic entities in supporting development and climate action.

With WEF, Al-Mashat met with Managing Director Saadia Zahid to discuss collaboration in women's empowerment and gender equality through the "Closing the Gender Gap Accelerator." This initiative, launched by WEF in partnership with the Ministry of International Cooperation and the National Council of Women (NCW), aims to increase economic opportunities for women and promote gender equality. Al-Mashat highlighted Egypt's efforts in promoting gender equality, women's empowerment, social protection, and human capital investment.

Moreover, H.E. met with Rebecca Greenspan Mayovis, Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), to explore ways to enhance cooperation. The discussions highlighted the productive partnership between Egypt and UNCTAD over the past year, particularly regarding the Sharm El-Sheikh Guidebook for Just Financing. Mechanisms for collaborative efforts were explored, emphasizing UNCTAD's role in supporting developing countries' participation in the global economy and sustainable development.

Also regarding the Guidebook, Al-Mashat spoke with Masood Ahmed, President of the Center for Global Development, an international think tank focused on reducing poverty and promoting development. They discussed potential collaboration in development research and the Ministry's efforts in issuing the Sharm El-Sheikh Guidebook for Just Financing. Al-Mashat also spoke with Tharman Shanmugaratnam, the Senior Minister of Singapore, to explore opportunities for cooperation between the two countries, and with Nigerian Minister of Finance, H.E. Zainab Shamsuna, to discuss global economic developments and their impact on Africa.

IN NEW YORK: THE 2023 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IMPACT MEETINGS

It was a busy time in New York City this summer with both the 78th United Nations General Assembly (UNGA78) and the World Economic Forum's (WEF) Sustainable Development Impact Meetings.

While attending UNGA78, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat participated in several WEF events including the high-level meeting chaired by Her Majesty Queen Rania Al Abdullah, and Mr. Klaus Schwab, WEF Chairman, to follow up on the implementation steps of the"Giving to Amplify Earth Action" (GAEA) initiative, aiming to catalyze comprehensive partnerships between the government, private and philanthropic organizations to drive climate action.

Her Majesty Queen Rania Al Abdullah and Mr. Klaus Schwab, Chairman of the WEF spoke about the importance of the initiative to maximize partnerships and mobilize funds based on shared responsibilities and the implementation of climate pledges. Mr. Badr Jafar also pointed out the importance of the initiative in light of the UAE's hosting of the COP28 climate conference, which aims to enhance the role of philanthropic institutions.





Synergy Between NWFE & GAEA

After sharing NWFE's role in climate action, H.E. Al-Mashat also met with the WEF's Managing Director for the Centre for Nature and Climate, Neo Gim Huay on aspects of joint cooperation to enhance development efforts and benefit from the initiatives launched by the WEF, especially the maximizing the role of the Giving to Amplify Earth Action (GAEA), increasing the efforts of philanthropic organizations in financing climate action and cooperating with the private and government sector; stimulating the transition to a green economy.

They looked into the discussed the synergy and integration between the country platform of the "NWFE" program and the GAEA initiative, and the importance of implementing the initiative through the program that aims to mobilize climate investments to stimulate the transition to a green economy and implement the national strategy for climate change, through joint cooperation between the government, private sectors, multilateral and bilateral development partners, and philanthropic organizations, pointing out that the "NWFE" program is an example of national platforms that are based on country ownership and include projects that attract investments in mitigation and adaptation to climate change.


Egypt's Nexus for Water, Food and Energy programme – the blueprint to fight climate change?

Rania Al-Mashat
Minister of International Cooperation, Egypt

Gim Huay Neo
Managing Director, Centre for Nature and Climate, World Economic Forum

This was further discussed in an article they co-published in the WEF "Egypt's Nexus for Water, Food and Energy programme – the blueprint to fight climate change?"

"The synergy between NWFE نُوَمِّي and GAEA also aspires to create a similar blueprint for a new type of country package vehicle, as exemplified in Egypt. Such a model can be scaled and adapted by other countries to unlock additional finance and projects related to climate adaptation and resilience."



Building Sustainable Trust in a Fragmenting World

Al-Mashat participated in a high-level discussion titled "Building Sustainable Trust in a Fragmenting World", chaired by WEF's President Børge Brende, featured notable figures like Svein Tore Holsether, President and Chief Executive Officer of Yara International ASA, and Miroslav Lajcák, the Special Representative of the European Union for the Belgrade-Pristina Dialogue and Western Balkans from the European Commission.

The session discussed developments in geopolitical challenges at the global level and their negative impact on economic, social and envi-

H.E. noted that in emerging markets & developing economies, there is a perceived risk that is quite high, hence the need for concessional finance to attract private sector engagement, noting the G20 outcomes:

Eliminate extreme poverty and prioritize national objectives in line with global public goods.

Triple lending capacity and concessionality by 2030 to increase private sector engagement.

Flexible and innovative funding.

H.E. also outlined three key principles for just financing, including ensuring access to quality and quantity of finance, efficient resource allocation, and additional funding to address rising climate change costs.







THE 78TH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The 78th Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA78) week took place from September 19 to 26, this year in New York.

This annual gathering represents the largest congregation of world leaders, drawing participation from over 100 heads of state and government.



High-Level Dialogue on Financing for Development



During Dr. Rania A. Al Mashat's participation, H.E. delivered the speech of the Arab Republic of Egypt at the High-Level Dialogue on Financing for Development, with the aim of discussing reform of the global financial architecture and strengthening the call for increasing climate financing for developing countries.

In H.E.'s speech, the Minister highlighted a number of key recommendations to address the issue of equitable financing for development, the most important of which are ensuring the rights of developing countries to quality and quantity finance, especially for the most vulnerable; ensuring access, affordability and resource allocation to overcome insufficient financing and distribution of finance in mitigation and adaptation efforts.

THIS INCLUDES:

- QUALITY & QUANTITY FINANCE FOR VULNERABLE COUNTRIES.
- INCREASE ACCESS, AFFORDABILITY & RESOURCE ALLOCATION.
- PRIORITIZE DEBT RESTRUCTURING & DEBT RELIEF.
- UTILIZE INNOVATIVE FINANCING TOOLS.
- INCREASE MULTI-STAKEHOLDER COUNTRY PLATFORMS.
- EXPLORE PUBLIC-PRIVATE-PHILANTHROPIC PARTNERSHIPS.



"It is our collective responsibility to bridge the financing gap, support climate action, and empower developing countries to achieve sustainable and inclusive development. By working together and implementing just financing principles, we can make significant strides towards a more equitable and resilient world for all." ***H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat.***

MOBILIZING PRIVATE CAPITAL

Climate Policy Initiative Advisory Council Roundtable

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat participated in the Climate Policy Initiative (CPI) Advisory Council meeting, which was held to discuss enhancing sustainable financing in developing countries, with the participation of the Capital Mobilization Steering Group.

The meeting was hosted by the Energy, Environment and Water Council, where the Minister delivered the closing speech, reviewing the challenges facing climate financing in countries undergoing economic transformation, as well as the available opportunities.

The opening speech of the conference was delivered by Ms. Barbara Buchner, Global Managing Director of the CPI, and Dr. Arunabha Ghosh, CEO of the Energy, Environment and Water Council. The session also included Dr. Mahmoud Mohieldin, UN Climate Change High-Level Champion for COP27, Ms. Rachel Kitty, member of the G20 Independent Expert Group on Strengthening Multilateral Development Banks, and other representatives of international institutions, climate action organizations and governments.

The Minister stressed that the international community must generalize the principles of just financing, including to guarantee the right of developing countries to obtain just financing in quality and quantity, overcome challenges related to allocating financing to specific areas, increase funds directed to adaptation projects, and expand the use of the debt swap mechanism to enhance climate action to reduce burden, especially for developing countries and emerging economies. This includes the need to direct funding to climate projects that reduce emissions, promote the transition to a green economy, and stimulate infrastructure projects to withstand climate change.

The Advisory Board of the CPI discussed the opportunities and challenges facing sustainable finance, the main initiatives for climate finance, and the roadmap for mobilizing capital and green investments, as they work to issue a series of reports supporting efforts to reform the international financial structure, with a focus on mobilizing capital and enhancing the innovative operating model of international financial institutions.

Private Capital Mobilizations in Emerging Markets & Developing Economies

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat participated in a high-level discussion session on “Private Capital Mobilizations in Emerging Markets and Developing Economies”, organized by the Glasgow Financial Alliance for Net Zero (GFANZ), the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank, and COP28.

This took place in the presence of Ms. Kristalina Georgieva, IMF Director, Mr. Ajay Banga, President of the World Bank Group, Mr. Sultan Al Jaber, President Designate of COP28, Mr. Mark Carney, GFANZ Chairman, and Mr. Mike Bloomberg, Chairman of Bloomberg Philanthropies, Dr. Mahmoud Mohieldin, climate pioneer for the Egyptian presidency of the COP27, and representatives of global investment banks and international institutions.

The session comes within the framework of international efforts to address investment risks and the high levels of external debt in emerging economies and developing countries, and their effects on development efforts, and to search for new methods of financing capable of curbing global crises to enhance sustainable financing for developing countries and emerging economies (EMDCs), to advance development efforts and reduce project risks, as well as to unleash climate finance in EMDCs to support the just, clean energy transition for climate action.







Resilience Credit Evaluation Initiative

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat chaired the first meeting of the Advisory Committee for the Resilience Credit Evaluation Initiative, which was organized by the Ministry of International Cooperation, in partnership with the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and Duke University.

This is part of the activities of the 78th session of the United Nations General Assembly, which included representatives of various relevant entities from development partners, the private sector, commercial banks, philanthropic organizations, academia and think tanks, including the Rockefeller Foundation, the World Economic Forum, representatives of the Climate Policy Initiative, Citi Bank, Mitsubishi Financial Group, the Environmental Defense Fund, and the Shell Foundation, The Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and others.

The Ministry of International Cooperation, in partnership with the IFAD, and with technical support from Duke University, worked to develop methodologies for implementing the resilience credit, and to identify the main indicators that enhance the private sector’s participation in development, pointing out that the meeting is working to pave the way to activate resilience measurement tools in preparation for COP28, stressing the importance of harnessing joint efforts to open new horizons for sustainable investment, improve communities’ livelihoods, and build resilience.



WORKING FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

Building the Economies of the Future

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat delivered the opening speech at the high-level conference organized by Germany and Peru in cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) on "Building the Economies of the Future: The Power of Investing in NDCs and LTS to Deliver the Paris Agreement and the SDGs".

The conference aimed to discuss and demonstrate the opportunities offered by nationally determined contributions (NDCs) for implementing the Paris Climate Agreement, and the challenges and realistic experiences facing financing climate action. The conference also reviewed the Egyptian experience in debt swaps for development and climate action within the framework of the "NWFE" program.

The conference was attended by Mr. Jochen Flasbarth, State Secretary of the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Albina Ruiz, Minister of the Environment of Peru, Mr. Achim Steiner, Administrator of the UNDP, representatives of the United Kingdom and the United Arab Emirates, and many representatives of governments and development partners.

Bilateral Meetings

As part of H.E.'s ongoing meetings within the activities of the 78th session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York, Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat met with Ajay Banga, President of the World Bank Group, who assumed his position this year. During the meeting, they discussed efforts to enhance joint cooperation and the expected visit of the bank's president to Egypt. This is especially in light of the close relations with Egypt as it is one of the most important countries of operations for the World Bank in the Middle East and North Africa region.

Al-Mashat also met with Carl Skau, Deputy Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer of the World Food Program (WFP), with Vice Chairman of Citibank Jay Collins, with Hassan Al-Mulla, CEO of Silatech, and with the Minister of State in the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development Jochen Flasbarth, and the Director of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Achim Steiner.



Global Energy Alliance for People and Planet (GEAPP)

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat participated in the 2nd Meeting of the Global Leadership Council (GLC) of the Global Energy Alliance for People and Planet (GEAPP) within the activities of the meetings of the UNGA78 in New York, to follow up on the initiatives launched to stimulate the transition to green transformation and renewable energy.

The alliance was launched last year during UNGA77 where Al-Mashat was a founding member, along with an elite group of government officials, international financial institutions, development partners, and non-profit organizations.

The meeting was attended by Prime Minister of Norway, Jonas Støre, President of the RockFire Foundation, Rajiv Shah, CEO of the GEAPP, Simon Harford, Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Achim Steiner, Vice President of the African Development Bank (AfDB), Kevin Kariuki, President of the Bezos Earth Fund, Andrew Steer, President of the Green Climate Fund, Mafalda Duarte, Director-General of the World Trade Organization, Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, President of the European Investment Bank, Werner Hoyer, CEO and Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General (UN SRSG) for Sustainable Energy for All, Damilola Ogunbiyi, Executive Director of the German Corporation for International Cooperation (GIZ), Ingrid-Gabriela Hoven, and other members of the Council.

The GEAPP aims to expand the just transition to sustainable energy around the world, and keep the Earth's temperature below 1.5 degrees, through cooperation between international leaders, and enhancing joint work between relevant parties from non-profit institutions, governments in emerging and advanced economies, technology companies, and international financial institutions. They also aim to push the transition to a green economy, especially in developing countries, as well as enabling access to sustainable energy in order to achieve comprehensive, equitable and sustainable economic growth. Egypt was chosen last year to become one of the first countries to benefit from the coalition's initiatives.

The alliance sets goals, including creating 150 million jobs over the next decade, reducing 4 gigatonnes of carbon emissions, and expanding access to clean energy for about a billion people worldwide by creating the appropriate environment, stimulating private sector participation, and supporting innovative solutions through entrepreneurship in cooperation with philanthropic organizations.





THE G20 IN GERMANY



On behalf of H.E. President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt, Dr. Rania Al-Mashat participated in the G20 Compact with Africa Summit. This was organized by the German government, aiming to enhance dialogue between Germany and African countries, and advance economic cooperation and progress in taking concrete measures to enhance private investment, intra-African trade, and cooperation in the field of energy.

In the same context, the Minister participated in the G20 Investment Summit between the German business community and the partner countries with Africa. This was organized with the support of the German-African Business Association, the German Industries Confederation, the German Foreign Trade Federation, and the German Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The summit aims to attract more German companies to the markets of African countries participating in the cooperation with Africa Summit, while enhancing the participation of entrepreneurs and politicians from Africa and Germany.

The German Chancellor Olaf Scholz and President of France Emmanuel Macron participated in the two summits, along with a number of leaders and heads of African countries, including the heads of state of Côte d'Ivoire, Nigeria, Senegal, and Kenya, and the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Morocco, as well as the African Union President President Azali Assoumani and the Prime Minister of the Netherlands. The event also included heads of international financial institutions, including the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank Group, the African Development Bank, the President of the European Union, the President of the European Commission, and many others.



Within her participation, Al-Mashat was the keynote speaker in the "Shaping the Future with Africa – Young Entrepreneurship as Key to a Just Transition" conference which was organized by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, on the sidelines of the G20 Summit in Berlin, Germany. It aims to exchange visions, ideas, and best practices regarding innovation, entrepreneurship, and the international achievements that have been achieved in this field.

At the conference, the Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development of Germany, Svenja Schulze, delivered the opening speech. Also participating in the conference was the President of the African Development Bank (AfDB), Akinwumi Adesina, Executive Vice President of the African Center for Economic Transformation, Mfants Joyce Afemi, Founder of the African Development Platform, Kola Aina, and Director of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Birgit Brägel, in addition to representatives of the private sector from Ghana and Tanzania.



5TH UN CONFERENCE ON LDCS

Under the theme "From Potential to Prosperity", the 5th United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (LDC5) was hosted by Doha, Qatar this year.

On behalf of H.E. the President of the Arab Republic of Egypt, H.E. President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat addressed the 5th UN Conference on the LDCs, with the participation of world leaders, representatives of the private sector, civil society, parliamentarians and youth to bring forward new ideas, obtain new commitments of support, and stimulate the fulfillment of the commitments agreed through the Doha Programme of Action.

In her opening remarks, the Minister expressed appreciation and gratitude to H.E. President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi, His Highness Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al Thani, Crown Prince of Qatar and Chairperson of the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, H.E. President Lazarus Chakwera, H.E. President of the Republic of Malawi and Chairperson of the Least Developed Countries Group, and António Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations, for convening this edition of the conference, which is one of the most important international forums and platforms that monitor the challenges faced by the least developed countries and the international community's efforts to stimulate and build international and regional partnerships to address these challenges and find solutions that promote the achievement of sustainable development in those countries.



The speech also highlighted Egypt's chairmanship of the current session of the Steering the African Union Assembly on AUDA - NEPAD during 2023-2025. It intends to strengthen cooperation efforts with African countries through the Agency's Secretariat through a clear vision of specific goals and objectives through:

1) Intensifying efforts to mobilize financing resources in areas of priority for the continent, including infrastructure development in order to achieve the goals of the African Development Agenda 2036, especially mobilizing resources for 69 projects until 2023, including the Lake Victoria project, the Cairo-Cape Town road, and other projects.

2) Industrial transformation and building on the outputs of the extraordinary Africa Summit held in Miami last November, and developing continental value chains.

3) Accelerating the realization of the aspirations targeted by the Continental Free Trade Agreement, while supporting African countries to benefit from the opportunities that the agreement will provide for integration into the global economy and provide job opportunities, especially among youth and women.

4) Emphasizing the participation of African countries for their expertise in the field of infrastructure, as Egypt has engaged in a pioneering development experience over the past eight years, and has contributed to the implementation of many vital projects on the continent, including the Julius Nyerere Dam in Tanzania, which was implemented in partnership with Egyptian expertise and companies.

5) Intensifying cooperation and coordination with international partners and international financing institutions in order to bridge the financing gap in sustainable development projects and reduce debt burdens on the most affected countries, while taking advantage of the new initiatives that are being put forward during the partnership summits of the African Union.



PANEL DISCUSSIONS

Transforming & Investing



H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat participated in two high-level panel discussions on “Structural Transformation as a Driver of Prosperity in LDCs”, and “Investment in R&D in LDCs for Smart and Innovative Societies”.

The session on “Structural Transformation as a Driver of Prosperity in LDCs” discussed the long-term transition process in economic activities from primary sectors, such as resource extraction and agriculture, to productive activities, such as manufacturing and services, in order to achieve comprehensive and sustainable economic growth and double the share of the LDCs in world trade.

The session also discussed patterns through the Doha Programme of Action, the UN is working to achieve a comprehensive and sustainable structural transformation capable of increasing productivity and promoting infrastructure development, especially transportation and energy, and linking to global and regional value chains.

This was in the presence of the Prime Minister of Bangladesh, the Prime Minister of Nepal, officials of the London School of Economics, the Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, officials of the International Trade Centre, the European Investment Bank, and other representatives of governments, international institutions and UN organizations, participated in the session.

The second session “Investment in R&D in LDCs for Smart and Innovative Societies”, featured several representatives of governments and international institutions, including the Prime Minister of Bangladesh who delivered the keynote address, UN officials, World Intellectual Property Organization officials, and others.

The panel highlighted the importance of research and development (R&D) capabilities in promoting inclusive and sustainable growth, particularly in the face of a changing world with the participation of several representatives of governments and international institutions, including the Prime Minister of Bangladesh who delivered the keynote address, UN officials, World Intellectual Property Organization officials, and others. During the panel, challenges faced by LDCs in strengthening their capacities in R&D were highlighted, including weak economic growth hindering investment in education, health, infrastructure, and innovation. Additionally, technology gaps and governance issues were discussed as factors limiting competitiveness and global market positioning.

Accelerating South-South Cooperation

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat led a panel discussion on accelerating south-south cooperation and triangular cooperation to support recovery from current challenges, building resilience and accelerating the pace of implementation of the Doha Programme of Action, with the participation of Hon. Dr. Teuea Toatu, Vice President and Minister for Finance of Kiribati, Pamela Coke-Hamilton, Executive Director of International Trade Centre, H.E. Mr. Aurélien Agbenonci, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of the Republic of Bénin, and H.E. Mr. Francisco André, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Portugal.

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION INCLUDED:

- SIGNIFICANCE OF SOUTH-SOUTH & TRIANGULAR COOPERATION
- CHALLENGES FACED BY LDCS
- THE DOHA PROGRAMME OF ACTION
- THE “SHARM EL-SHEIKH GUIDEBOOK FOR JUST FINANCING
- PROMOTION OF BLENDED FINANCE
- COLLECTIVE WORK TOWARDS SDGS

Bilateral Meetings

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat met with Diana Janse, State Secretary to Swedish Minister for Trade and International Cooperation, Dima Al-Khatib, Director of the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC), Isobel Coleman, Deputy Director of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), and with the delegation of the Republic of Cuba participating in the 5th UN LDC conference.

As the meetings discussed ongoing cooperation, H.E. also spoke with Jin Liqun, President and Chair of the Board of Directors, the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), and Khalifa Bin Jassem Al-Kuwari, Director General of the Qatar Fund for Development (QFFD), to discuss areas of joint action and to enhance development cooperation efforts.

OPEC FUND DEVELOPMENT FORUM

Following the conclusion of the 2nd session of the consultation on the 13th replenishment of the International Fund for Agricultural Development's (IFAD) resources, Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat, went to the Austrian capital, Vienna, to participate in the OPEC Fund Development Forum themed "Driving Resilience and Equity", as well as being a keynote speaker at the Austrian Federal Economic Chamber.



This comes in light of Egypt's distinguished relations with multilateral and bilateral development partners, and continuous efforts to enhance development efforts in Egypt in accordance with national priorities, through development cooperation programs and projects and technical support provided by development partners.

The OPEC Fund Development Forum discusses many topics, including how to achieve a balance between protecting the environment and meeting the needs of the international community from various energy sources, and the role of innovations in the field of technology as well as financing mechanisms in achieving this balance, as leaders of governments and partner countries of the Fund participate in the forum, Heads of institutions of the Arab Coordination Group, multilateral development banks, and international organizations, as well as experts from the government and private sectors.

Regional Collaboration as a Catalyst for Scalable Solutions

Al-Mashat participated as a keynote speaker in a panel discussion titled "Regional Collaboration as a Catalyst for Scalable Solutions" at the OPEC Fund Development Forum.

The session featured discussions on the importance of regional cooperation in achieving sustainable development goals and the role of multilateral development banks (MDBs) in supporting developing and least-developed countries.

SOME OF THE KEY DISCUSSION POINTS INCLUDED:

- **Expanding partnerships for economic development**
- **Integrated solutions & collaboration between stakeholders**
- **The role of MDBs & IFIs in accelerating global development**
- **The importance of South-South cooperation**

Meeting with the Director General of the OPEC Fund

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat held a bilateral discussion with the OPEC Fund's Director General Dr. Abdulhamid Alkhalifa as part of the OPEC Fund Development Forum in Vienna. The meeting discussed strengthening joint cooperation efforts in various fields of development based on the close and extended partnerships between the two sides.

Al-Mashat expressed her appreciation for the enduring partnership with the OPEC Fund and the shared commitment to advancing sustainable development initiatives in Egypt. Over the years, development and concessional funds, along with development grants totalling approximately $1.5 billion, have been made available to support various sectors such as energy, financial services, agriculture, education, industry, and health.

The two sides discussed the future of the development cooperation framework between the government and the OPEC Fund to maximize the return from joint efforts to serve national priorities and enhance the Fund's efforts in supporting global development efforts, in a way that ensures the sustainability of joint efforts to support sustainable development.

It is worth noting that the OPEC Fund works in cooperation with developing partner countries and the international development community to stimulate economic growth and social progress in low- and middle-income countries around the world. It was established in 1976 with the specific objective of: advancing development, supporting population groups, and empowering individuals, with a focus on financing projects that meet basic needs, such as food, energy, infrastructure, and employment, especially with regard to MSMEs, clean water supply, sanitation, health care and education.



At the Austrian Federal Economic Chamber

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat, participated as a keynote speaker at the Austrian Federal Economic Chamber conference within the framework of the "Austrian Export Day 2023" activities, with the participation of thousands of private sector companies, in Vienna. This was in the presence of the President of the Austrian Federal Economic Chamber Harald Mahrer, the Minister of Economy and Labor of Austria Martin Kocher, the Minister of Transport of the State of Singapore, and representatives of Austrian institutions and the private sector.

Al-Mashat affirmed that Egypt is a gateway to Africa given its strategic location, and the efforts made by the country to transform into a logistical and commercial center in the African continent and the Middle East and North Africa region. Moreover, the free trade agreements signed with Egypt provide a great opportunity to reach more than 1.5 billion consumers in the continent of Africa. H.E. added that due to the recent economic reforms adopted by the political leadership in Egypt, the Egyptian economy was able to maintain stable growth rates and show resilience towards the multiple challenges it faced recently, particularly COVID-19 and the Russian-Ukrainian war.

H.E. called on Austrian companies to explore investment opportunities in Egypt, especially in implementing projects announced by the government, including the Suez Canal Economic Zone, the Golden Triangle Economic Zone (GTEZ), the New Administrative Capital, and new cities.

H.E. reviewed the national efforts to enhance Egypt's position as a regional and global logistics center, and the recent inauguration of President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi of the multi-purpose Tahya Misr station in Alexandria port, to be the first station of its kind to be operated in Egyptian ports that supports transit trade. This reflects Egypt as a center of trade and logistics, which is part of the country's ambitious vision to expand the development of ports and enhance Egypt's position as a vital logistics hub.

During the event, the Minister also met with the Vice President of the Austrian Federal Economic Chamber Carmen Goby on strengthening aspects of cooperation and moving forward in expanding the scope of relations, and enhancing cooperation between the private sectors of the two countries. They referred to the ongoing preparations for the convening of the 3rd session of the Joint Committee for Economic and Technical Cooperation between the two countries to reach new understandings regarding sectors of common interest, especially the areas of water, sanitation, energy, digital transformation, manufacturing, tourism, relevant training and areas related to climate action, based on the letter of intent



which was signed between the two sides to enhance economic cooperation through the Joint Economic Committee last April.

For her part, the Vice-President of the Austrian Economic Chamber affirmed keenness to enhance all areas of cooperation with Egypt, and the opportunities available for the logistical link between the Suez Canal Economic Zone and the European continent through the ports of Trieste and the dry port of Fürnitz, and to benefit from this link to strengthen relations between the private sector and companies on both sides and strengthen Joint investments. In this regard, Al-Mashat reviewed the ongoing Egyptian efforts to enhance its position as a regional and global logistics hub.

It is worth noting that the history of cooperation between the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Republic of Austria dates back to 1975, when the two countries signed an agreement for economic and technical cooperation, and after Austria joined the European Union, a new agreement for economic and technical cooperation was signed in 1996, and within its framework, two sessions of the Egyptian Joint Committee were held in Austria in 2001 and 2005. In 2007 a financial cooperation agreement was signed between the governments of Egypt and Austria, through which many projects were funded, and according to the letter of intent that was signed last April, preparations are underway for the 3rd session of the joint committee between the two countries.

THE WORLD GOVERNMENT SUMMIT

Within the framework of the participation of the Arab Republic of Egypt as a guest of honor at the World Government Summit (WGS) in Dubai 2023, with a high-level delegation headed by President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi, where H.E Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat took part.

Al-Mashat played a prominent role in this global event, which centered around the theme **"Shaping Future Governments,"** with the participation of government leaders, ministers, officials, thought leaders and experts in various fields from around the world to exchange knowledge and ideas aimed at advancing global development and prosperity.

During the summit, Al-Mashat engaged in two panel discussions. The first, titled **"Leadership in a Volatile World,"** featured discussions on leadership in challenging times and included prominent speakers like Dr. Muhammad AlJasser, Terence Mauri, and Mansour AlAwar.

The second panel, "Women in Government: Powering the Future by Her," explored the role of women in government and featured discussions with notable figures such as H.E. Kersti Kaljulaid and H.E. Mona AlMarri, moderated by Mina AlOraibi of The National.

The World Government Summit, held under the patronage of H.H. Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid, aimed to accelerate development and governance across six key areas. These included promoting innovative government models, enhancing government services and innovation, addressing societal and healthcare issues, improving work ethics and behavior, analyzing global health systems, exploring advancements in science and technology, fostering economic resilience and connectivity, designing sustainable cities, and prioritizing education and employment for future generations.

The event featured over 280 government delegations, 80 international and government organizations, and more than 200 speakers participating in over 300 sessions and 22 forums.

Additionally, the summit addressed the governance of economic resilience, connectivity, support and implementation of economic frameworks, structures and policies that contribute to promoting economic recovery and enable governments to achieve economic resilience, prosperity and transparency by reducing the effects of man-made crises, designing and sustaining global cities, highlighting the importance of accelerating sustainability and resourcing our world towards rapid urban expansion, and finally education and jobs as government priorities and focusing on prioritizing learning and work as key to bringing about changes for future generations and their development.



II. Regional Cooperation

THE ARAB-CHINA BUSINESSMEN CONFERENCE

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat participated in the opening of the tenth session of the Arab-China Business Conference in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on June 11 and 12, under the auspices of Prince Mohammed Bin Salman, the Saudi Crown Prince, with the participation of delegations from 23 Arab countries along with a delegation from the Republic of China, to discuss prospects and opportunities for economic cooperation and joint investment.

The conference is organized by the Saudi Ministry of Investment in partnership with the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States, the Chinese Council for the Promotion of International Trade and the Union of Arab Chambers under the slogan “Collaboration for Prosperity” where various sectors, especially renewable energy, agriculture and technology, shall be discussed through many dialogue sessions and bilateral meetings.

During the activities, Al-Mashat spoke at the opening session on “Investment and Financing along the Belt and Road Initiative”, with the participation of the Saudi Minister of Investment H.E. Dr. Khalid A. Al-Falih, President of the Omani Investment Authority H.E. Abdul Salam Al-Murshidi, Founder and Chairman of ACWA Power Mohammad A. Abunayyan, Chairman of the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade Ren Hongbin, and Chairman of Hang Lung Properties Ronnie C. Chan.

In her intervention, H.E. said that Egypt and China have close relations and pivotal investment and economic partnerships, and that the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) launched by China in 2013 is consistent with national development priorities and the goals of Egypt’s Vision 2030.

Egypt has a distinguished geographical location linking the continents of the world, the presence of the Suez Canal Economic Zone and its pivotal role in the maritime road network within the BRI and the fact that the Suez Canal is one of the most important sea lanes for global trade that connects the continents and acquires a significant proportion of global trade.





ANNUAL HIGH-LEVEL MEETINGS WITH THE ARAB FINANCIAL AUTHORITIES & INSTITUTIONS

This year in April, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat took part in the Annual High-Level meetings with Arab Financial Authorities and Institutions held in Rabat, Morocco, bringing together ministers responsible for finance, economy, and international cooperation from various Arab nations, along with the heads of Arab financial institutions.

These gatherings were a part of the regular annual meetings conducted by Arab financial institutions and authorities, including the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development (AFESD), Arab Investment and Export Credit Guarantee Corporation, the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA), the Arab Monetary Fund (AMF), and the Arab Authority for Agricultural Investment and Development (AAAID).

Egypt has maintained strong relationships with various Arab financial institutions as part of its commitment to strengthening economic ties with multilateral and bilateral development partners, and the country aims to boost regional integration and encourage the active involvement of financial institutions in supporting its development initiatives across all sectors.

The Egyptian delegation included Mr. Hassan Abdullah, Governor of the Central Bank of Egypt , Dr. Mohamed Maait, Minister of Finance, and Mr. Al-Sayed Al-Qaseer, Minister of Agriculture and Land Reclamation.

It is also worth noting that Egypt participates in the capital of Arab financial institutions and entities, as it is one of the countries that contributes the most to the AFESD with a capital of 183.2 million Kuwaiti dinars, also contributing to finance SMEs in Arab countries with a value of $20 million, and with the Arab Investment & Export Credit Guarantee Corporation with a value of 1.9 million Kuwaiti dinars.

During her activities, Al-Mashat met with Morocco’s Minister of Economy and Finance, H.E. Nadia Fettah Alaoui, and discussed strengthening joint cooperation and coordinating efforts for the annual meetings of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund hosted by Morocco.

Additionally, Al-Mashat met with the Director General of the OPEC Fund, Dr. Abdulhamid AlKhalifa, aiming to expand cooperation mechanisms based on Egypt’s development priorities and infrastructure projects, and with the Arab Investment and Export Credit Guarantee Corporation, emphasizing the expansion of cooperation in concessional development financing and investment attraction.

Next year, Egypt will be hosting the Annual High-Level meetings With Arab Financial Authorities and Institutions in light of the country’s keenness to support the efforts of various joint Arab institutions, in order to achieve its development mission effectively and efficiently.



The South Helwan Power Station project received the Abdul Latif Youssef Al-Hamad Development Award for the Arab Region.

During the meetings, the South Helwan Power Station project received the Abdul Latif Youssef Al-Hamad Development Award for the Arab Region. This recognition marked the first time the award was presented and included a competition among 11 projects from different Arab countries.

The South Helwan Power Station project, which added 1,950 megawatts to the national grid, also played a significant role in generating job opportunities, creating employment for approximately 6,000 individuals during its construction phase and offering 4,000 permanent job positions for operation and maintenance, in addition to indirect job opportunities. The project is a model for Arab financial institutions' collaboration in supporting large-scale infrastructure projects. This project is part of Egypt's efforts to develop its energy sector and expand its electricity capacity, contributing to regional stability and exports of electricity to neighboring nations.

This award recognizes and promotes economic and social development projects funded by Arab financial institutions, emphasizing their impact on job creation, export growth, domestic product enhancement, adherence to environmental standards, and alignment with SDGs. The recognition also adds to Egypt's track record of successful development projects that have received both regional and international awards. These achievements underscore Egypt's dedication to formulating and executing projects in collaboration with development partners, ensuring their sustainability and contribution to regional progress.

ISLAMIC DEVELOPMENT BANK'S ANNUAL MEETINGS

This year in April, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat took part in the Annual High-Level meetings with Arab Financial Authorities and Institutions held in Rabat, Morocco, bringing together ministers responsible for finance, economy, and international cooperation from various Arab nations, along with the heads of Arab financial institutions.

These gatherings were a part of the regular annual meetings conducted by Arab financial institutions and authorities, including the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development (AFESD), Arab Investment and Export Credit Guarantee Corporation, the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA), the Arab Monetary Fund (AMF), and the Arab Authority for Agricultural Investment and Development (AAAID).

Egypt has maintained strong relationships with various Arab financial institutions as part of its commitment to strengthening economic ties with multilateral and bilateral development partners, and the country aims to boost regional integration and encourage the active involvement of financial institutions in supporting its development initiatives across all sectors.

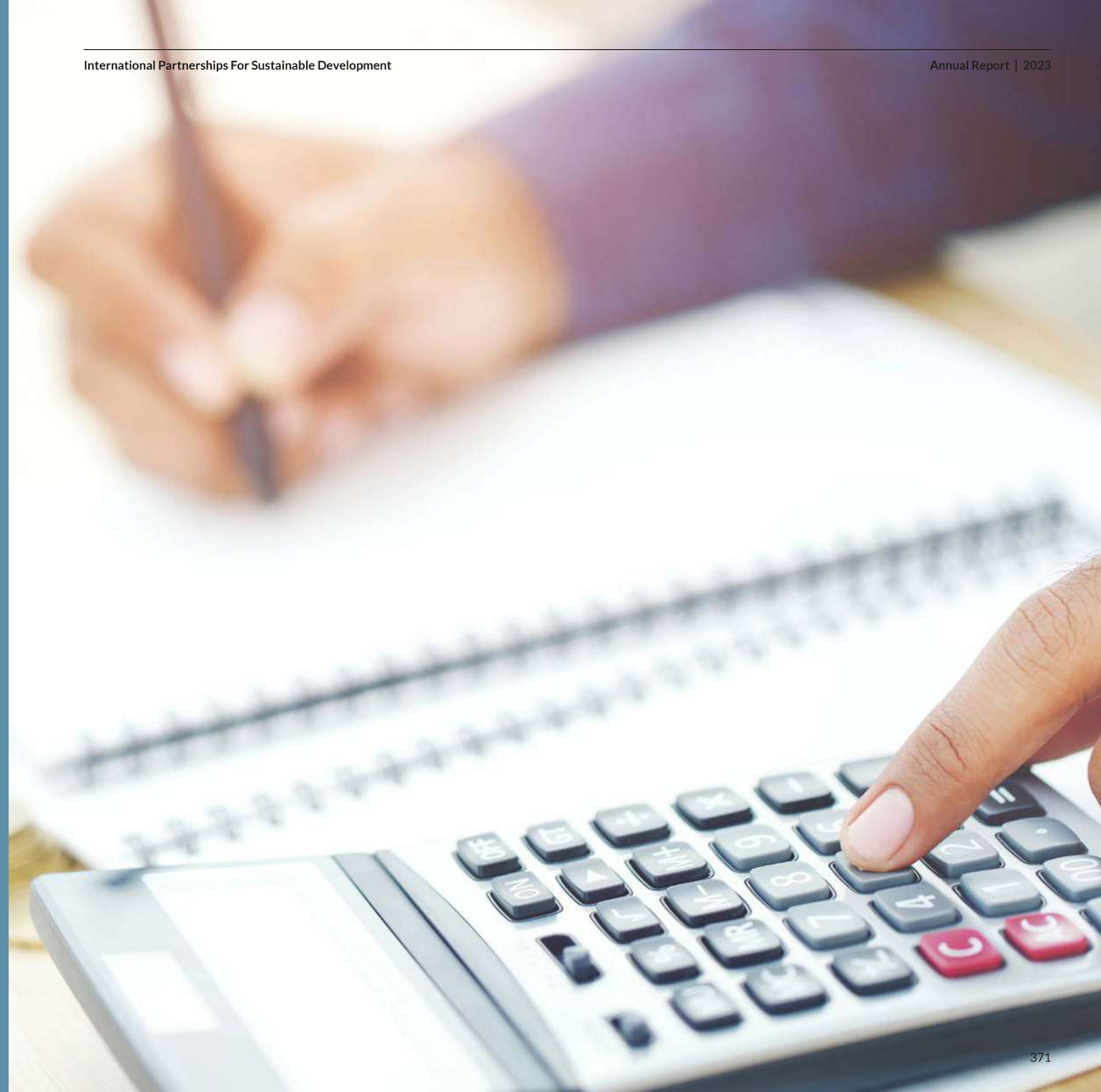
The Egyptian delegation included Mr. Hassan Abdullah, Governor of the Central Bank of Egypt , Dr. Mohamed Maait, Minister of Finance, and Mr. Al-Sayed Al-Qaseer, Minister of Agriculture and Land Reclamation.





Chapter 5

UPHOLDING ACCOUNTABILITY



TRANSPARENCY, GOVERNANCE & DOCUMENTATION

Transparency, governance, and documentation are crucial aspects of monitoring development projects and international cooperation, ensuring that all stakeholders have access to information about the project and its progress, which promotes accountability and trust.

Governance refers to the structures and processes in place to manage the project and ensure that it aligns with the goals of all involved parties.

Documentation is necessary to record the decisions made and actions taken throughout the project's lifecycle, providing a historical reference for future efforts.

Together, these elements create a foundation for effective collaboration and successful project outcomes. By prioritizing transparency, governance, and documentation, development projects and international cooperation can thrive and produce meaningful results.

At the Ministry of International Cooperation, this is a key part of our work to ensure streamlining development efforts with all our stakeholders. This is very much in line with the principles of Economic Diplomacy, built on the ***Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC)***, to enhance the effectiveness of cooperation with multilateral and bilateral development partners, through an institutional framework for multilateral cooperation in Egypt, to advance progress towards achieving the SDGs that are consistent with national priorities through three principles: hosting Multi-stakeholder platforms, mapping ODA to the SDGs, and the Global Partnerships Narrative.



"The Ministry of International Cooperation is working through the principles of Economic Diplomacy to enhance effective development cooperation efforts to implement Egypt's Vision 2030 and the SDGs, and to ensure that the principles of transparency and accountability are established in international partnerships in a way that supports the effectiveness of development cooperation, explaining that through multi-stakeholder platforms we have succeeded in ensuring national priorities in all development cooperation projects." ***H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat.***



The Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation



This year, Al-Mashat held a joint multi-stakeholder platform for launching the fourth evaluation round of the GPEDC, through which progress in development cooperation efforts in Egypt is discussed, in cooperation with multilateral and bilateral development partners, representatives of development partners, the private sector and civil society, alongside physical presence and virtual participation, including Elena Panova, the United Nations Resident Coordinator in Egypt, Alessandro Fracassetti, Director of the United Nations Development Program in Egypt, and representatives of the World Bank, the World Health Organization, the French Development Agency, and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), in addition to the technician team at the Ministry of International Cooperation.

The GPEDC is the main platform for relevant parties and stakeholders to exchange knowledge, experience and information about development cooperation and its evaluation, to maximize benefit in order to achieve development and promote mutual benefit. It was agreed to launch this partnership in 2011 in Nairobi, with more than 161 countries and 56 organizations, which is the result of the high-level forum on development cooperation activities that took place in Busan, South Korea, as it helps track progress in achieving the SDGs and strengthen development partnerships to support the goals, and through which periodic evaluation of the effectiveness of development cooperation takes place in each country based on 4 principles that are: country ownership, focus on results, inclusive partnerships, transparency and accountability. The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) provide technical support to the GPEDC.

This comes within the framework of the role played by the Ministry of International Cooperation, to develop and strengthen economic cooperation relations between the Arab Republic of Egypt and international and regional countries and organizations, follow up on development partners, as well as follow up on foreign grant beneficiaries in use, and manage economic relations in the Arab Republic of Egypt with organizations, economic cooperation entities and institutions, international financial institutions and UN specialized agencies, with the aim of enhancing the effectiveness of development cooperation and supporting the National Development Vision 2030.

Egypt had been actively contributing to the GPEDC since its inception, as it participated in the past three sessions of its follow-up, also conducting a study in cooperation with the OECD in 2018 to measure the impact of the private sector's contribution to development through international cooperation, and to study available solutions and tools to push and stimulate its contribution further in all aspects of development. Noting that this study was used as a basic reference for the Kampala Principles for Enhancing the Role of the Private Sector through International Cooperation, which were launched in 2019.







The current evaluation rounds aim to identify priorities in addition to the available opportunities for development partnerships to maximize their effects and benefit from them, as the follow-up framework for the GPEDC has been updated during the past three years to ensure positive change, address common issues, thus promoting inclusive dialogue, shared responsibility and results tracking while consolidating national priorities.

Al-Mashat gave a presentation on the results of the last follow-up session that the ministry conducted in 2018, explaining the improvement in performance indicators, especially those related to strengthening state ownership, national planning, public financial management systems, follow-up systems, and the ability to predict future needs, as Egypt made progress at the level of "The Four Principles", including 61% progress to become more able to predict the annual disbursement rates of development cooperation programs, the increase in Egypt's ability to plan and manage development cooperation programs by 93%, focus on national priorities in international partnerships by 73%, and the percentage of transparency in development cooperation programs was recorded at 70%, and the parliamentary oversight of development cooperation programs at 91%. These results were presented in the Ministry's annual report for the year 2020.

Al-Mashat also highlighted some indicators of the progress made in the governance of development cooperation over the past period, including the launch of the automated system for data management and follow-up on concessional development financing projects, within the framework of the state's direction for digital transformation and to enhance the principles of transparency and governance around development cooperation efforts with multilateral and bilateral development partners.



The Official Development Assistance (ODA) Monitoring & Information Management System (IMS)

This year, the Ministry of International Cooperation launched an automated system for data management and follow-up of development financing for projects within the framework of the country's digital transformation and to enhance the principles of transparency and governance within development cooperation efforts with multilateral and bilateral development partners.

In line with our commitment to pushing forward transparency and accountability, the Ministry of International Cooperation developed an Integrated Monitoring and Information Management System to facilitate the regular follow-up of ODA projects, including financial and technical data: the Official Development Assistance (ODA) Monitoring and Information Management System (IMS).

Having trained over 250 government officials already, ODA IMS aims to track progress achieved, pinpoint successful practices, identify and resolve bottlenecks, and support evidence-based decision-making; designed in accordance with international standards and good practices with the objective of collecting, analyzing and disseminating ODA data in line with the GPEDC effectiveness principles which focus on country ownership, inclusive partnerships, managing for results in addition to transparency and accountability.

The system is a mechanism for linking and unifying data related to development cooperation agreements, projects and programs with development partners in order to ensure that relevant information is available at all levels between the ministry and all national entities to enhance its role in the follow-up, evaluation and decision-making support process. Moreover, the new system monitors the financial and technical performance of projects funded by multilateral and bilateral development partners, extracts periodic reports for decision-makers, and shares data with project-related entities.

Through the system, the beneficiaries from national entities can continuously review everything related to the implementation of development cooperation projects within the framework of the ongoing portfolio of the ministry with multilateral and bilateral development partners, as well as identify the sectors most benefiting from the funds that come in light of the country's priorities, efforts and the government work program rather than the separate contribution of each development partner in each of the economic sectors benefiting from the funds.



COOPERATION WITH DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS

The Ministry of International Cooperation is developing an integrated framework for development cooperation that acts as an umbrella under which all strategies with multilateral and bilateral development partners are involved. This is a way to enhance integration efforts, maximize the use of development funds in meeting the country's priorities, stimulate the principles of transparency, inclusiveness and integration, maximize the use of concessional development funds to achieve development, promote climate action and expand mechanisms of private sector support.

The national strategy for international cooperation and development financing is based on three main foundations:

Mapping the paths of international cooperation and development financing with national development priorities to enhance the impact of international partnerships and in turn, contribute to achieving national development and the SDGs.

Enhancing the methodology for managing and governing the development financing file, which will focus on achieving development results with a tangible and measurable impact and included within the strategy of the Egyptian state.

Following-up on ongoing and new projects and mapping them with national priorities on an ongoing basis, and that the strategy represents a comprehensive framework for formulating strategic planning processes for Egypt's bilateral and multilateral development partners.



INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC GOVERNANCE

In its plenary session, the House of Representatives approved the second amendment on the comprehensive economic governance grant agreement between the Arab Republic of Egypt and the United States of America at a value of $26.9 million. This is in light of the joint development cooperation relations between the two countries, and with this, the total grants directed to the comprehensive economic governance program become about $77.5 million.

The aim of the grant agreement is to enhance comprehensive economic governance, its effectiveness, stimulate women's participation in the workforce, support low-income citizens and enable them to access public services by increasing the efficiency of public institutions and increase the socioeconomic participation of women, as well as automating procedures within the economic courts.

The comprehensive economic governance program with the USAID comes in line with the government's adoption of an integrated program to promote comprehensive economic governance with the participation of all relevant national entities. This aims to improve the principles and mechanisms of the decision-making process, improving communication channels between the government and private sectors, and enhancing the efficiency of government services provided for citizens, especially for women and lower-income citizens, and improving efforts to create job opportunities.

Moreover, Al-Mashat inaugurated the high-level conference on "Support to Enhanced Administrative & Public Economic Governance in Egypt" Project, done with the European Union (EU) and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). This included the participation of H.E. Saleh El-Sheikh, President of the Central Agency for Organization and Administration; H.E. Ambassador Christian Berger, European Union Ambassador to Egypt; Dr. Ahmed Kamaly, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Planning and Economic Development; Eng. Ghada Labib, Deputy Minister of Communications and Information Technology; and Mr. Janos Bertok, Deputy Director, OECD Directorate of Public Governance.

The program is based on three main pillars; supporting Egypt's Vision 2030, supporting the National Plan for Administrative Reform, and implementing effective functioning financial systems through effective participation among all national entities and development partners and continuous coordination among all relevant parties.

Transparent Communication Across the Government: House of Representatives

In a meeting with the Foreign Relations Committee in the House of Representatives to review the Ministry of International Cooperation's 's Budget and Investment Plan, Al-Mashat discussed the 169 ongoing projects with development grants worth $3.4 Billion, distributed by 23% for the housing and utilities sector, 15% for scientific research and higher education, 13% for supporting the efficiency of the Government of Egypt's administrative apparatus, 8% for education and technical education and 41% for other sectors.

ODA -SDG MAPPING

The Ministry launched the Official Development Assistance (ODA) to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in an international event in June at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE). The mapping exercises utilizes the methodologies of the United Nations and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), aiming to ensure the accurate implementation of mapping the ODA to the SDGs so that decisions are data-driven with impactful results, alongside ensuring a clear vision in plans with development partners.

The ODA-SDG mapping process incorporates 377 ongoing projects amounting to $25.6 billion, showing the methodologies of work used, and the overlap between projects and SDGs.

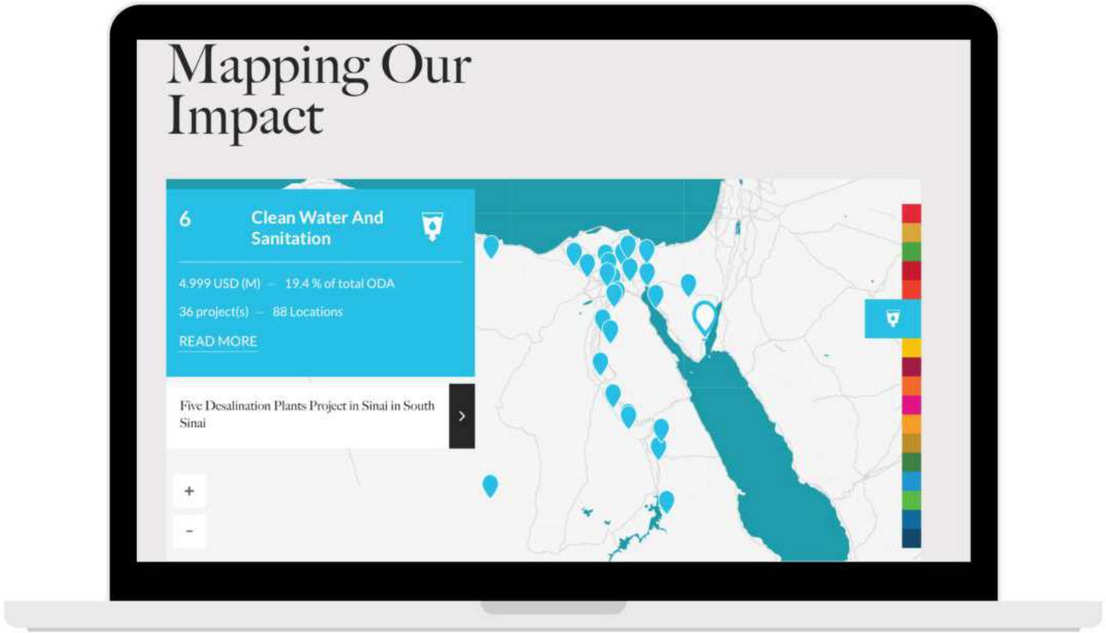
During a virtual event in June 2021, the Ministry of International Cooperation launched the book titled "Stakeholder Engagement Through Economic Diplomacy: Egypt Fostering Multilateralism and International Cooperation" from the London School of Economics, with the aim of documenting Egypt's experience in international cooperation and development financing, recognizing the Egyptian leadership's pioneering efforts in economic diplomacy, and spotlighting it as a replicable reference for emerging and developing countries.

In order to implement the ODA-SDG mapping, the two main methodologies adopted were: (1) Sectoral Mapping Methodology, and (2) Project-Based Mapping Methodology. The second methodology was implemented through two distinct but related approaches: (a) single SDG mapping, and (b) multiple SDG mapping.

As an example, SDG 5: Gender Equality shows overlap and interconnectedness with other SDGs. While SDG 5 includes 13 projects that identify gender equality as their primary objective, with a total value of $82 million, making up for 0.32% of the total active ODA portfolio in Egypt, its goal is to promote gender equality and empower all women and girls, mainstreaming gender equality across projects in various sectors. This wider scope of influence, and after further investigations, gender equality had emerged as a cross-cutting theme in 99 projects worth $ 6.7 billion.

Enabling users to be well informed of the direct impact of the Government of Egypt's projects financed by bilateral and multilateral development partners across various sectors of development, mapping the ODA to the SDGs was implemented under the directives of H.E. President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi to accurately determine the contribution of development financing in supporting the state's vision, and to enhance the ability of data-driven decisions regarding international partnerships.

This is also within the framework of the Ministry's keenness on enhancing transparency and governance of the development financing, as well as to raise people's awareness on the state's efforts, as part of the international partnerships framework.



VISIT OUR WEBSITE

WWW.MOIC.GOV.EG

SECTION 3



Seizing the Moment:

ENGAGING WITH PRIVATE SECTOR & EMPOWERING SMES

INTRODUCTION

The Power of Collaboration: Empowering the Future

In an era marked by globalization and increased interdependence, the role of international cooperation in fostering economic development and progress has gained paramount importance, and through this, there is a collaboration between public entities and the private sector as well as small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).

This kind of partnership not only underscores the private sector's vital role in development but also serves as a catalyst for empowerment and economic transformation.

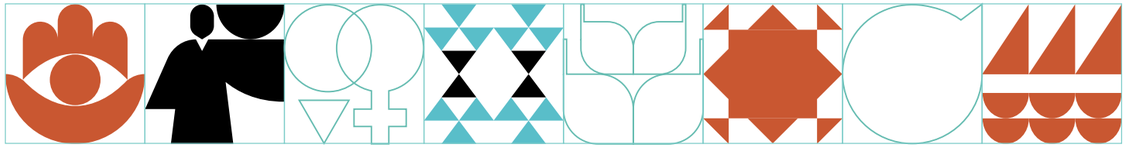
The Ministry of International Cooperation works within the framework of the government's program in collaboration with all in ter national development partners, in addition to the private sector, startups, and entrepreneurs, to enhance comprehensive and sustainable economic growth and provide support to small and medium sized enterprises that represent a potential force that can drive economic growth in Egypt.

The private sector, especially startups, is a driving force for promoting innovation in various societies, in addition to its role in increasing economic growth and enhancing the status of countries in a world witnessing intense competition in presenting new ideas and innovations in various sectors and industries to overcome the challenges facing the world today.

Regarding the private sector, the Ministry works to promote the development cooperation agenda in favor of the private sector in order to maximize the benefits of all mechanisms and support channels provided by development partners.

The Ministry also works on expanding the role of startups and entrepreneurship, improving the entrepreneurship environment and relevant legislation, as well as encouraging international investments from development partners in startups. The ministry participates in the new unit specialized in supporting entrepreneurship and startups (one of the decisions of the Supreme Council for Investment).

On the next page, we have detailed the development finance secured for the private sector in 2023.



THE SIGNIFICANCE OF PRIVATE SECTOR ENGAGEMENT & EMPOWERMENT OF SMES:

World Economic Forum

The WEF's 2022-2023 Global Competitiveness Report ranked Egypt 114th out of 141 countries in terms of overall competitiveness. However, Egypt ranked higher in terms of private sector engagement, coming in at 87th place. The report noted that Egypt has made significant progress in improving its regulatory environment for businesses and in promoting public-private partnerships.

World Bank Group

The World Bank's 2023 Egypt Economic Update found that Egypt's private sector is playing a vital role in the country's economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. The report noted that the private sector is driving investment and job creation. The report also found that Egypt's SMEs are showing resilience and are adapting to the challenges of the post-pandemic environment.

Organization for Economic Cooperation & Development

The OECD's 2023 Going for Growth report found that Egypt's private sector is a key driver of economic growth. The report noted that Egypt's private sector accounts for over 90% of GDP and 70% of employment. The report also found that Egypt's SMEs are playing an increasingly important role in the economy, accounting for over 90% of businesses and 70% of employment.

United Nations

UNCTAD's World Investment Report 2023 published on 5 July shows that Egypt saw Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) more than double to $11 billion as a result of increased cross-border merger and acquisition (M&A) sales during 2022. The report noted that the increase in FDI was due to a number of factors, including Egypt's improved macroeconomic stability, its attractive investment climate, and its focus on developing key sectors such as energy and infrastructure.

International Monetary Fund

The IMF's 2023 Egypt Article IV Consultation report found that Egypt's private sector is essential to the country's sustained economic growth and development. The report noted that Egypt's private sector is facing a number of challenges, including access to finance, limited market access, and a lack of skilled labor. The report also found that the government needs to do more to support the private sector and to create a more enabling environment for businesses to operate and grow.

THE PRIVATE SECTOR'S VITAL ROLE IN DEVELOPMENT

Job Creation & Economic Growth

The private sector stands as a formidable driver of economic growth, extending its influence far beyond the realms of profit generation.

At its core, it is a potent source of job creation.

SMEs, in particular, play a pivotal role in this regard, constituting a substantial portion of the private sector in many economies.

In turn, the Ministry of International Cooperation, recognizing the importance of SMEs, has embarked on strategies to empower these enterprises, not merely for short-term economic gains, but for sustained, long-term development.

As SMEs are renowned for their adaptability and agility, these traits are essential in the innovation-driven global economy.

Egypt is home to over 2.5 million small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), which account for over 90% of businesses and 70% of employment in the country, reflecting that SMEs play a vital role in the Egyptian economy, but they often face challenges such as access to finance, limited market access, and a lack of skilled labor.

The Government of Egypt is committed to supporting SMEs, and has implemented a number of initiatives in recent years to improve the business environment for SMEs. These initiatives include:

- **Establishing the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Agency (MSMEDA) to provide support and services to SMEs.**
- **Launching a number of SME financing programs through the Central Bank of Egypt and the Egyptian Financial Supervisory Authority.**
- **Reducing challenges and simplifying administrative procedures for businesses.**
- **Promoting public-private partnerships to support SMEs.**

In recent years, there has been a significant increase in the number of SMEs in Egypt, and they are now playing an even greater role in the country's economy.

Innovation & Technological Advancement

The private sector's role in driving economic growth is intricately intertwined with innovation.

The competitive nature of businesses compels them to continually seek new ways to enhance products, services, and operational processes, leading to technological advancements that can benefit various sectors of the economy. Innovations in healthcare, energy, transportation, and information technology, to name a few, have been largely driven by private sector investments and ingenuity.

These innovations not only improve the quality of life but also position nations as global leaders in emerging industries, fostering economic resilience and competitive advantage

Infrastructure Development & Market Expansion

The private sector's contributions to development extend beyond employment and innovation.

Large corporations and SMEs alike often play a crucial role in infrastructure development, a fundamental prerequisite for economic progress, not only facilitating economic activities but also enhancing the overall quality of life for citizens.

EMPOWERING THE FUTURE THROUGH COLLABORATION

Knowledge Transfer & Skill Enhancement

One of the key aspects of public-private partnerships is the transfer of knowledge and expertise, where governments can facilitate the transfer of skills and best practices from larger corporations to SMEs, enhancing their competitiveness on a global scale.

This knowledge transfer is invaluable, as it ensures that SMEs have access to the latest technologies and business strategies, enabling them to thrive and remain relevant in an ever-evolving global landscape.

Access to International Markets

In addition to knowledge transfer, partnerships with the private sector open doors to international markets. By breaking down trade barriers and providing SMEs with the necessary resources and guidance, nations can empower these businesses to compete on a global stage, expanding economic opportunities and positioning countries as active participants in the global economy, contributing to their long-term growth and development.

Social Inclusion & Community Development

Collaboration with SMEs also aligns with broader development goals, such as poverty reduction and social inclusion.

As governments and the private sector work together to strengthen these enterprises, they contribute to the social fabric of their nations, uplifting communities and creating a more inclusive society.

THE POWER OF COLLABORATION: A WIN-WIN APPROACH

Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs)

Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) leverage the strengths of both sectors, allowing for the efficient allocation of resources, risk-sharing, and the pursuit of common development objectives.



"A key driver in our economy is the private sector. Enabling the private sector to grow and increase public-private partnerships in development projects, as well as creating a suitable environment for entrepreneurs and innovators to thrive and grow, is of high priority to the government, as this reflects positively on the economy." ***H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat.***

Chapter 1

DRIVING ECONOMIC GROWTH



PRIVATE SECTOR'S VITAL ROLE IN DEVELOPMENT

The Ministry of International Cooperation plays a key role in engaging with the private sector, a fundamental and integral component of curating international strategies with development partners.

1) Providing the Necessary Financing for Companies & Funds.

- Providing financing at different stages of the company's life cycle, from inception to growth stages.
- Offering investments in stocks or financing through loans or a combination of both.
- Playing a stimulating role in attracting additional investments to the direct investment system and venture capital by signaling confidence in the market and setting standards for best practices.

2) Providing Technical Support to the Private Sector.

- Providing technical support and consulting services to the private sector, such as business model development, financial management, and market research.
- Providing opportunities for knowledge sharing and expertise exchange between local and international entrepreneurs.

3) Enhancing the Business Environment.

- Facilitating partnerships between companies and other relevant entities, such as universities and government organizations.
- Assisting in building and enhancing the ecosystem for startups, such as supporting the development of incubators, accelerators, and coworking spaces.
- Promoting a spirit of initiative and innovation through support for education and training programs, events, and competitions.
- Encouraging the adoption of environmental, social, and governance (ESG) standards by companies and investors, and promoting responsible and sustainable growth.



"The private sector has a crucial role to play in addressing climate change, & collaboration among government, financial institutions, and consumers is essential. Together, we can reduce greenhouse gas emissions, develop climate-resilient infrastructure, and create green jobs". ***H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat.***

The engine of a nation's prosperity often roars to life through the concerted efforts of both the public and private sectors.

DIRECT SUPPORT TO THE PRIVATE SECTOR

Guarantees

- These guarantees provided by development partners aim to protect investments from risks, as well as enhance investors' ability to access financing sources with favorable terms and conditions.
- Providing investment guarantees for private sector companies across state sectors such as telecommunications, electricity, and renewable energy contributes to enhancing private sector participation in national development efforts.

Technical Support

- Development partners provide capacity building programs and technical support to private sector companies, which contributes to enhancing their capabilities to enter new markets.
- Additionally, technical support projects also aim to support entrepreneurship and micro enterprises and encourage the private sector to play a larger role in development, which positively reflects on improving the competitiveness of the Egyptian economy, and pave the way for youth to join the labor market.

Credit Lines

- These projects aim to achieve economic development, reduce poverty, and boost production by providing permanent financial facilitation to micro, small, and medium sized enterprises that are eligible for it
- These projects provide small loans through banks, which leads to the creation and preservation of jobs in Egypt This support has a positive impact on the Egyptian labor market.

INDIRECT SUPPORT TO THE PRIVATE SECTOR

Government Support to Participate in Enhancing the Legislative Environment

- The Ministry of International Cooperation, in collaboration with development partners, is working to create a favorable legislative environment and improve the enabling environment to attract private sector investment.
- This is done through holding dialogue sessions between the public and private sectors in areas such as developing analytical capacity and managing reforms in labor laws and finance management, to enhance the competitive capabilities of the Egyptian economy.
- In this regard, several laws have been enacted to support private sector investments in several sectors, such as the electricity sector where the Electricity Law No 87 of 2015 was issued to attract private sector participation in the generation, transmission, and distribution sectors The Renewable Energy Law No 203 of 2014 was also issued to encourage investment in renewable energy.

Enhancing the Role of Non-Banking Financial Sector

- Providing tools, mechanisms, and systems to ensure the efficiency and transparency of financial markets and instruments, regulating and developing non bank financial markets and maintaining its stability, as well as achieving a balance of the rights of market participants.

PROMOTING COMMUNICATION WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR

Regular Dialogues with Chambers of Commerce & Councils

The Ministry has held dialogues with chambers of commerce, councils, business associations, and unions, as part of the ministry's efforts to enhance private sector partnership in development efforts.

Multi-stakeholder Platforms

It aims to create interaction and integration between government efforts and the role played by the private sector and related stakeholders. The MSPs have been targeting digitalization to promote the private sector and small and micro enterprises, localize the electronics industry, and enhance the partnership between the public and private sectors and sustainable value chains.

Innovative & Blended Finance

An extensive discussion session was held on innovative mechanisms and tools to support the state's efforts in achieving sustainable development goals, with the participation of Citibank, private sector representatives, and development partners. The session aimed to encourage private sector participation in adapting to climate change, particularly in the areas of agriculture, water, and energy.

Panel Discussions

Sessions were held on the importance of enhancing the role of the private sector in development and climate action during the first and second editions of the Egypt International Cooperation.

Feedback Form

The "Comments Model" provides an opportunity for the private sector to submit their comments and inquiries through the ministry's website.

Together for Partnerships: Private Sector's Role in Advancing Sustainability

The private sector plays a pivotal role in advancing sustainability, serving as a driving force in the global transition towards more environmentally responsible and socially conscious business practices.

This year, we participated in a collection of events and collaborations with Egypt's development partners that vividly demonstrate the pivotal role played by the private sector in driving economic growth.

These initiatives and partnerships underscore how the private sector's active engagement, investments, and innovations are instrumental in advancing Egypt's economic development agenda.

Through a series of impactful projects and collaborations, we shall delve into the tangible benefits that accrue from a vibrant and dynamic private sector, showcasing its indispensable contribution to Egypt's journey towards sustainable and inclusive economic growth.

BOOSTING INCLUSIVE GROWTH

Within the efforts made through international partnerships to empower the private sector in Egypt and to provide concessional development financing via cooperation with multilateral and bilateral development partners to meet development priorities and implement the pillars of the country strategy between the Arab Republic of Egypt and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) from 2022-2027, the bank approved soft development financing that is worth more than $532 million for private sector institutions in Egypt.

The EBRD approved development financing for the National Bank of Egypt worth $400 million, to support Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) with a focus on regional companies led or owned by young entrepreneurs.

The EBRD Board of Directors also approved a development financing of $100 million for Banque Misr to enhance financing directed to micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in a way that supports inclusive and sustainable growth, and to increase financing directed to MSMEs in areas that have less access to financial services.

In the same context, the bank approved a new financing for the Mediterrania Capital IV Fund worth €30.2 million, equivalent to $32.5 million. The fund aims to direct investments of €350 million in investments for medium-sized companies in the health care, retail, financial services and manufacturing sectors to develop the economy in Egypt, Tunisia and Morocco, paying special attention to companies led by women to enhance their access to the necessary economic opportunities. It is worth noting that Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat, Minister of Cooperation witnessed a signing with the International Finance Corporation (IFC) last March to provide €25 million for the fund during the visit of the IFC Vice President Sergio Pimenta.

Moreover, the EBRD's Board of Directors approved development financing for the Egyptian German Industrial Company worth $50 million, to support the company's capital and finance its imports of production inputs. The Board also approved development financing worth $50 million for the benefit of the United Metals Company to enhance the efficiency of supply chains and enable companies to move forward in expanding their business. The financing also includes objectives related to promoting gender equality and the economic empowerment of women.

The cooperation between Egypt and the EBRD is reflected in strengthening development efforts in many sectors, especially SMEs, combating climate change, promoting job opportunities, and stimulating the private sector in general. The bank provided financing during the past year worth €737 million for the private sector to support SMEs, while the bank's total investments in Egypt amounted to €1.3 billion in 2022, to come at the forefront of the countries of operations in the southern and eastern Mediterranean region.

THE SECOND PHASE OF DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION IN THE SCZONE

Earlier in the year, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat witnessed the launch of the second phase of the digitization program for the Suez Canal Economic Zone (SCZone) in partnership with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD). This initiative aligns with Egypt's strategic goals to stimulate private sector investment and create a more efficient and competitive business environment.

The first phase of the program, completed in 2020, significantly improved investor services within the SCZone. The second phase aims to further simplify administrative procedures, establish an automated service window for investors, and promote an environmentally friendly business environment.

Al-Mashat highlighted the critical role of digital transformation in advancing economic growth, job creation, and sustainable development, emphasizing the importance of collaboration with the EBRD to achieve these objectives.

Over 70% of the EBRD's investments in Egypt over the past decade have been directed towards the private sector, showcasing the bank's commitment to supporting Egypt's economic development through partnerships like this one.



7TH ANNUAL MENA INVESTOR CONFERENCE

Earlier in the year, at the CI Capital's 7th Annual MENA Investor Conference, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat, highlighted the country's commitment to stimulating private sector participation in development through international partnerships.

At the time, Al-Mashat noted that Egypt has secured over $7.3 billion in development financing for the private sector over the past three years. This funding is being used to support private sector involvement in various fields, including SMEs, green hydrogen, and climate action.

H.E. also spoke about the importance of aligning national strategies with development partners and the country's priorities and objectives. This is achieved through multi-stakeholder platforms, which provide opportunities for the private sector to engage in development efforts. She highlighted the government's commitment to transparency and partnership in implementing state projects. This is evident in the Ministry's focus on technical support and capacity building, as well as its alignment of the development financing portfolio with UN SDGs.

Egypt's participation in CI Capital's 7th Annual MENA Investor Conference is a testament to Egypt's commitment to enhancing private sector participation through international partnerships. This is essential for achieving the country's sustainable development goals.

UN GLOBAL COMPACT NETWORK EGYPT

SUSTAINOVATION: UNLOCKING FINANCIAL PATHWAYS FOR ADAPTATION PROJECTS

The inaugural event on "Unlocking Financial Pathways for Climate Adaptation Projects," held as part of the Sustainovation Sessions organized by the UN Global Compact Network Egypt, marked a pivotal moment for fostering collaboration among business leaders, government representatives, civil society, and international development partners. This gathering provides a platform to identify common ground, explore joint opportunities, and contribute to Egypt's United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) for 2023-2027.

As the world's largest initiative for corporate sustainability, the UN Global Compact Network holds a vital role in mobilizing businesses and organizations toward achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). By advocating for the adoption of the Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact, which encompass labor standards, environmental protection, anti-corruption measures, and human rights, the network strives to nurture a more sustainable and inclusive global economy.

In Egypt, the local chapter of the UN Global Compact is instrumental in localizing and implementing these Ten Principles, with over one hundred member companies. The network serves as a platform for dialogue, knowledge exchange, and collaborative initiatives, empowering businesses to drive positive change and contribute to the sustainability agenda. Egyptian companies, in particular, benefit significantly from their involvement, gaining increased visibility, exposure to best practices, access to resources, capacity building, and opportunities to network with both private and public organizations.

THIRD EDITION OF THE INTRA-AFRICAN TRADE FAIR

In November, during the Third Edition of the Intra-African Trade Fair in Cairo, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat, and the President of Afreximbank, Benedict Oramah, launched the Electronic Platform for Engineering, Procurement, and Construction (EPC).

The event was under the patronage of H.E. President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi, and is aligned with the President's call for increased investment in Africa's infrastructure with the involvement of the continent's people and companies.

At the event, it was announced the EPC platform was to be linked to the Ministry of International Cooperation's private-sector participation portal.

Afreximbank contributed to supporting the activity of engineering and contracting companies in Africa with contracts worth more than ***$12 billion in the past five years.***

The EPC platform works to:

- Address the financing gap by enhancing international cooperation and attracting investments in the field of infrastructure.
- Bridge the information gap, by enhancing transparent communication between governments, the private sector, and international development partners.
- Address the skills gap by providing technical support, capacity building and skills development to build a skilled workforce.





The Minister also participated in a session on **"The Power of IATF2023 in Driving Trade and Investments to Connect African Markets: The Role of Engineer, procure, Construct (EPC) and contract companies in Driving Trade and Investment"** with Kanayo Awani, Executive Vice President, Afreximbank; Eng. Hani Salem Sonbol, CEO, International Islamic Trade Finance Corporation (ITFC); Dr. Sidi Ould Tah, Director General, Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA); and Solomon Quaynor, Vice President, African Development Bank Group.

The panel discussed the potential of the IATF to boost the industrialisation of the continent, and further connect the continent's markets to drive intra-African trade and investments in the context of evolving global dynamics.

THE PRIVATE SECTOR ENGAGEMENT PORTAL

HAFIZ: Hub for Advisory, Finance & Investment for Enterprises

The Ministry of International Cooperation initiated the development of an Official Development Assistance (ODA) Private Sector Engagement Portal, a crucial step towards facilitating effective collaboration and maximizing the impact of ODA in promoting private sector contribution in development.

This dedicated online portal serves as a one-stop platform and a centralized hub, connecting development partners, implementing agencies, the government, and local business community.

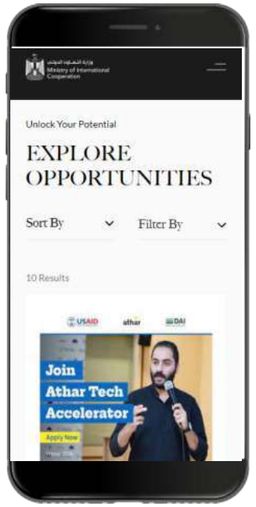
Operated by the Private Sector Engagement Unit, being established at the Ministry of International Cooperation as one of the outcomes of the Egypt's Economic Conference 2022, the need for such a portal arises from the recognition that coordinated efforts and streamlined information exchange are essential for leveraging ODA resources to their fullest potential, **especially given that ODA has been instrumental in leveraging private sector investment by offering targeted financial and technical support.**

Why is this Important?

These ODA initiatives not only enhance the competitiveness of Egyptian enterprises but also foster an environment conducive to innovation, entrepreneurship, and sustainable economic growth. By aligning ODA with the Egyptian government's goals, the private sector is poised to benefit from increased investment, thereby creating more job opportunities and driving overall development in the country.

This portal basically consolidates all the financial instruments and advisory services offered by development partners to facilitate the provision of technical support and opportunities to local companies and entities across the private sector in Egypt; all in relation to the Ministry's mandate of mobilizing international cooperation for development of the private sector

This portal serves as a catalyst for Egypt's economic progress, empowering businesses to become engines of innovation, job creation, and sustainable growth. By leveraging the information and support readily available through the portal, businesses can unlock their true potential, driving Egypt's economy towards a prosperous and sustainable future. This is facilitated by fostering seamless engagement with the private sector, leading to a deeper understanding of existing gaps and opportunities, enabling tailored support for local businesses to maximize their contribution to economic development.



Greater Picture: Private Sector Participation

The private sector is a vital contributor to development in Egypt, creating valuable job opportunities. Of the 800,000 graduates entering the job market each year, 78% find employment in the private sector, although this figure falls short of the global average of 90%.

The private sector has been always considered as the source for innovation, efficiency, and productivity, which are all essential for promoting sustainable economic growth in the country.

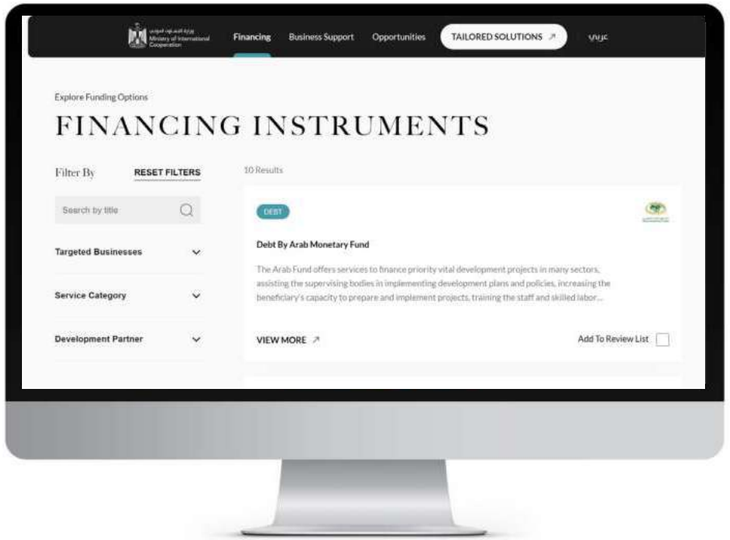
Therefore, the Government of Egypt has set a target of increasing private sector investment to 65% in the next three years, up from the current 30%, and attracting $40 billion in investments over the next four years.

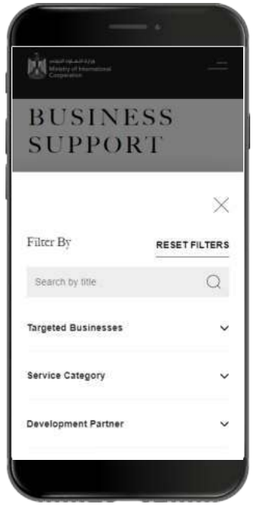
The Portal's Features

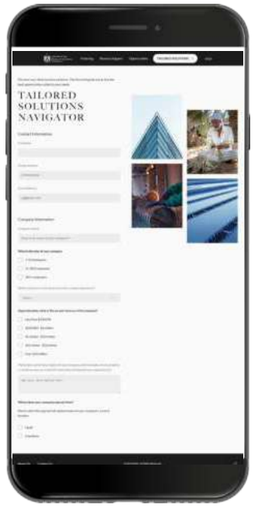
In line with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) framework for private sector engagement, as well as the International Labour Organization (ILO) standards for private sector engagement, the platform on the Ministry's website is expected to have all the following properties:

- Consolidation of Financial Instruments and Advisory Services
- Tracker for Ongoing Tenders by Development Partners
- Latest News and Success Stories Section
- AI-based Chatbot
- Forms for Networking, Matchmaking, and Requesting Services
- Knowledge Center with latest publications by Development Partners
- Capacity Building Programs
- Networking and Collaboration Opportunities
- Interactive Questionnaire to match user's needs with available services
- Newsletter to keep users alert with the latest updates





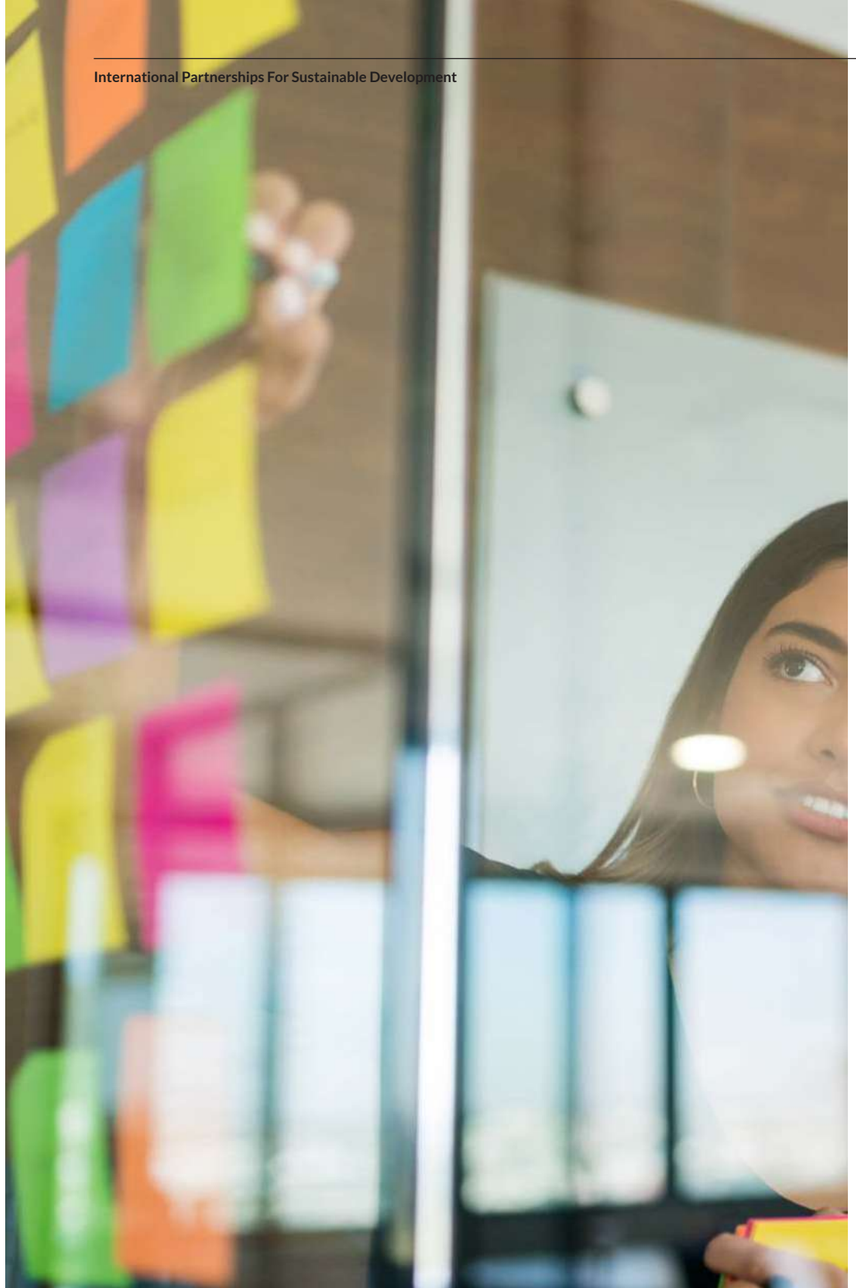




Navigating through the portal, users are able to access an extensive directory of financial products tailored to their specific business needs. They can browse a wide range of options, including debt, equity, grants, trade financing, insurance, and co-financing instruments, all conveniently categorized for easy navigation and comparison. Additionally, users can discover a vast array of opportunities, including open tenders, calls for applications, and events, meticulously curated to match their business aspirations by utilizing the portal's advanced filtering options to refine their searching process.

This portal provides a navigation of an extensive network of development partners, each equipped with a unique blend of expertise and support. Through which their funding opportunities, business services, open tenders, calls, events, and reports can be explored. By exploring the "Collaborative Matchmaking Hub" option, a world of collaboration opportunities for the private sector and other stakeholders is unlocked. Partnerships and strategic alliances can be facilitated through the "Call for Collaborators" and "Request Collaborators" features, seamlessly connecting with ideal partners to complement the businesses' projects and challenges. In addition to fostering meaningful partnerships, businesses would be able to leverage the "tailored-solutions navigator" option by answering a questionnaire to identify the ideal financial products and services for their specific needs.

The portal's users are able to engage with an AI-powered chatbot as their personal guide through the portal's extensive resources to seek tailored recommendations on development partners, financial and non-financial products and easily compare financial products based on the comprehensive database.



In turn, this will support in Ensuring efficient coordination and usage of ODA related to private sector development; Increased awareness of the financial and non-financial instruments offered by development partners among local businesses and entities in Egypt; Increased utilization of these instruments and services by local businesses, leading to increased private sector engagement and investment; Streamlined and efficient access to technical support and funding opportunities, leading to the creation of new jobs and expanded markets; Better understanding of the existing gaps and opportunities to support local businesses in their contribution to economic development; Enhanced coordination between development partners and the private sector in Egypt, leading to more effective partnerships and collaborations; and supporting the Ministry in its digital transformation and innovation management

IFC & EGYPT: A STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

The IFC, a member of the World Bank Group, specializes in promoting private sector development in emerging markets, making its partnership with Egypt a crucial catalyst for economic growth, stability, and sustainability in the country.

The IFC has invested a total of $7 billion since its inception in Egypt & $3.2 billion since 2018.

Strategic Investment & Development

The partnership between IFC and Egypt involves significant financial and technical support, aimed at strengthening the country's private sector and fostering economic development. IFC's investments in key sectors such as energy, infrastructure, manufacturing, and financial services play a pivotal role in addressing these challenges.

Access to Global Capital & Expertise

Egypt benefits from IFC's extensive global network and financial resources, mobilizing private sector investments and enhancing the competitiveness of Egyptian businesses and aligning them with international standards.

Promoting Sustainable Development

The partnership between IFC and Egypt is underpinned by a commitment to sustainability and environmental responsibility, with projects focused on promoting environmental and social sustainability.

Job Creation & Inclusive Growth

The partnership between IFC and Egypt supports small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), facilitates access to finance for women entrepreneurs, and promotes financial inclusion.

Catalyzing Regional Economic Integration

Egypt's strategic geographic location makes it a linchpin for regional economic integration, a key part of our cooperation to bolster Egypt's position as a regional economic hub.

$7bn IN INVESTMENTS SINCE THE BEGINNING OF WORK IN EGYPT.

$34mn ADVISORY & TECHNICAL SUPPORT PORTFOLIO.

The Most Invested-in Sectors:

- Green financing $1.8 billion
- Fintech $95 million
- Startups $340 million
- Agribusiness $200 million
- Sustainable manufacturing $270 million
- Access to financing $210 million
- Supporting 5,500 companies owned by female entrepreneurs

THE TRANSACTION ADVISORY SERVICES AGREEMENT



Unlocking the power of the private sector, in the presence of Prime Minister H.E. Dr. Mostafa Madbouly in cabinet, the IFC's Managing Director Makhtar Diop and H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat signed the Transaction Advisory Services Agreement (TASA), appointing the IFC as the strategic advisor for the government's Asset Monetization Program, following a meeting with President of the Arab Republic of Egypt H.E. President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi,

This agreement will focus on harnessing private capital and the know-how to manage state-owned assets.

It expands the partnership being the first operation to be signed under the 2023-2027 Egypt - World Bank Country Partnership Framework's 2nd objective on strengthening competition to a level playing field with state-owned enterprises and supporting the government's state-owned enterprises reform agenda.

The agreement reflects the importance of the pivotal role played by international financing institutions and development cooperation in empowering the private sector and promoting innovative solutions to accelerate the pace of sustainable development to implement Egypt's Vision 2030, highlighting that the agreement reflects the state's belief in the importance of the private sector in promoting comprehensive and sustainable recovery and accelerating the process of adopting environmental, social and governance standards, in a way that maximizes the impact of joint efforts.

The IFC will play in supporting the government asset monetization program through consultations and technical support and developing an integrated plan to implement the program in a way that accelerates its pace and achieves the precisely set goals, pointing out that the government is looking forward to strengthening the extended partnership with the IFC in an attempt to stimulate job opportunities, increase investment in human capital, and stimulate climate action to meet the country's requirements and achieve a comprehensive and sustainable economic recovery.







YEARS OF CULMINATED EXPERIENCE

Serving as an important link in cooperation with the IFC to enable private sector engagement, attract investments and promote comprehensive, flexible and sustainable economic growth, the TASA provides advisory services and technical support for the government offering program.

The Government of Egypt chose the IFC, based on its experience over more than 30 years in the field of technical support and advisory services to governments around the world, to evaluate the various options for private sector investment, which support comprehensive economic development efforts. The IFC has provided its services in more than 64 deals and projects worldwide to enable the private sector, and provided more than 400 successful advisory operations worldwide, through which private investments of about $3 billion were implemented.

The World Bank and the IFC have a set of diagnostic tools and studies that clarify the opportunities and prospects available in the country, and the role of the joint strategy with the group to support them. One of these tools is the Diagnostic Study of the Country Private Sector Diagnostic (CPSD).

In 2020, the IFC, in partnership with Egypt, launched the CPSD which includes an analysis of challenges and highlighting opportunities for economic development, investment, and increased job creation led by the private sector in Egypt, leveling the playing field for the private sector as one of the four main areas that the diagnostic study noted as in need for reform.



THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE IFC

The relationship between Egypt and the IFC has developed significantly over the past years, based on the great efforts and mega development projects that are being implemented under the leadership of H.E. President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi in various sectors, which contributed to increasing the institution's role in mobilizing and providing investments and technical support services.

In order to enhance said efforts, the IFC prepares diagnostic reports that measure and restrict the role of the private sector. The latest of these is the CPSD report, prepared in 2020 in partnership with the government to analyze the challenges facing the private sector and highlight the development opportunities available to the private sector to enhance job creation and economic growth.

The total cumulative investments that the IFC has provided amounts to more than $7 billion, varying from $1.8 billion in the field of climate finance, investments related to solar energy, green bonds, green buildings, and more, in addition to $95 million in investments in financial technology, venture capital, private equity funds and startups, $340 million in investments in healthcare and pharmaceutical companies, $200 million in agribusiness, and $270 million in sustainable manufacturing. It is also important to note that the IFC has supported more than 5,500 women-owned companies and entrepreneurs in light of efforts to promote social inclusion and support equal opportunities across genders.

Since 2018, the IFC has injected and mobilized investments from other parties at a value of $3.2 billion in Egypt, in various priority development sectors, including $830 million in investments from 2023 to date. The institution aims to increase its investment portfolio in Egypt based on the efforts of ongoing government reforms to promote economic and structural reforms that stimulate private sector investment and launch a document on state ownership policy that aims to expand the base of private sector participation in various fields of development.

By the end of May 2023, the current portfolio of the IFC in Egypt is expected to have recorded about $1.4 billion, of which infrastructure and renewable energy projects account for 36%, followed by manufacturing at 20%, then agricultural business and financial services at 15% each.

Realistic Models that Showcase Private Sector Empowerment

The IFC has a long history of partnership with the Egyptian government as well as the private sector, through stimulating investments, technical support and consulting. Among the most prominent partnerships implemented by the IFC in Egypt is its provision of technical support and consultations for the implementation of the first partnership between the government and private sectors in the sewage treatment plant in New Cairo, in addition to providing technical support in approving the electric feed tariff as well as contributing to mobilizing investments to implement the largest solar energy project in the world, the Benban solar energy project in Aswan, where institutions have mobilized investments of more than $650 million.

With regard to the ongoing portfolio of advisory services for the government and private sectors, it currently records about $33 million with the aim of enhancing competitiveness and inclusive economic growth. Most of the consulting portfolio is concentrated in the financial sector at 33%, manufacturing, agribusiness and services at 25%, partnership between the public and private sectors at 15%, and the application of environmental, social and governance standards at 11%.

IN 2023: PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR

In order to strengthen the existing and fruitful relations between the Arab Republic of Egypt and the IFC, the arm of the World Bank Group for private sector financing, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat witnessed the signing of 3 agreements between the IFC and the private sector in Egypt in the areas of climate action, financing of medium-sized companies, and seawater desalination.

This took place within the IFC's Regional Vice President for Africa Sergio Pimenta's visit to Egypt. The visit also discussed joint programs with the private sector to stimulate its role in supporting comprehensive and sustainable growth efforts in various vital sectors that are consistent with the priorities and efforts of the state.

These agreements focus on expanding climate action initiatives, financing medium-sized companies, and implementing four desalination plants, aligning with the IFC's aim to inject $2 billion in investments for the private sector within the 2023-2027 Country Partnership Framework (CPF).



Stimulating Public- Private Partnerships in the Water Desalination Sector



The first partnership witnessed by Minister Al-Mashat involves the IFC, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), and the Sovereign Fund of Egypt.

This collaboration is aimed at **launching the implementation of four water desalination plants with a capacity of 335 thousand cubic meters per day, contributing to water supply and sustainability goals**. This will increase in the future to 650 thousand cubic meters in Matrouh Governorate and the North Coast region, in light of government efforts aimed at providing clean water and implementing the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Under this partnership, the IFC and the EBRD will provide technical support, funded by Germany and the Global Infrastructure Facility (GIF), for the design and implementation of a competitive international public-private partnership tender for the design, financing, construction, operation and maintenance of 4 desalination plants, as part of the agreement.

The government's strategy and vision is to increase the water supply by about 3.35 million cubic meters per day by 2025. The new projects and stations target the residents of Marsa Matrouh governorate as well as the neighboring areas on the northern coast.

2 Partnership Agreements with the Commercial International Bank & Mediterrania Capital





In another context, Al-Mashat and Pimenta witnessed the signing of two partnerships between the IFC on the one hand, the CIB and Mediterrania Capital to enhance cooperation in the field of supporting medium-sized companies and climate action.

In light of the partnership signed between the IFC and the CIB, the advisory project is set to contribute to enhancing the bank's compliance with climate risks, thus enhancing the guarantee of facing any financial risks related to climate action within the bank's financing portfolio, and integrating the principles of climate risk within CIB's current risk framework which enhances the bank's compliance with international environmental standards and principles of climate action, and builds on the successful previous partnership, according to which the first green bonds for the private sector in Egypt were issued at a value of $100 million during 2021.

Moreover, the IFC is working - in accordance with the partnership with Mediterrania Capital - to invest €25 million in Mediterrania Fund IV, in addition to €20 million in additional joint investments with the fund, to support the growth of the private sector in Africa in vital sectors. Mediterrania directs investments of €350 million in medium-sized companies in the sectors of healthcare, retail, financial services and manufacturing to develop the economy in the continent of Africa, paying special attention to companies led by women to enhance their access to the necessary economic opportunities.



THE EXPANSION OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION

During the World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF) 2023 Spring Meetings, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat, also Governor of Egypt at the World Bank Group, engaged in bilateral meetings focusing on promoting private sector expansion in Egypt and enhancing economic growth. This included:

Introduction of the Private Sector

An introductory forum was discussed to introduce the private sector to the services provided by the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA), aimed at encouraging companies to expand their investments and explore opportunities in Africa.

MIGA's Role in Egypt

The Minister held a meeting with Mr. Junaid Ahmed, Vice President of MIGA, to discuss the institution's role in Egypt in guaranteeing foreign direct investment and expanding risk insurance tools to stimulate investment across various sectors.

Recognition of Egypt's Efforts

Egypt's Country Platform for the NWFE Program received recognition at the Climate Investment Fund (CIF) initiative on nature and climate investments, further emphasizing Egypt's commitment to sustainable development.

IFC Collaboration for Private Sector Development

Minister Al-Mashat met with Sergio Pimenta, Vice President of the IFC for Africa, to strengthen efforts to stimulate private sector participation in development. Discussions included ongoing projects like the "green buildings project" and cooperation under the NWFE Program. The IFC praised Egypt's efforts to enhance the investment and business climate and empower the private sector.

CIF Initiatives

Al-Mashat met with Mafalda Duarte, CEO of the Climate Investment Funds (CIF), to discuss the implementation of CIF initiatives related to nature and climate. The CIF has allocated $500 million in grants to support projects in several countries, including Egypt. The discussions also covered environmentally friendly industrial investments and emissions reduction projects.

These meetings and discussions align with Egypt's efforts to promote private sector growth, encourage investments, and enhance economic resilience, reflecting the theme of the Spring Meetings, "The Way Forward: Building Resilience and Reshaping Development." The goal is to foster partnerships and collaborations with international financing institutions and development organizations to drive economic progress and address global concerns.

IFC REPORTS

Institutional Mapping and Assessment of Regulatory Framework Governing Fintech in Egypt

The reports aims to map and analyze fintech-related regulations and institutions in Egypt, identifying the strengths and weaknesses of the Egyptian legal system governing fintech, and assessing how these are affecting the development of different fintech activities in the country. The report relies on laws and regulations applicable in Egypt as well as international best practices and trends pertaining to the regulation of fintech. Ending the report with recommendations on the short, medium, and long term.



The Country Private Sector Diagnostic (CPSD) Deep Dive Health Sector

The CPSD highlights opportunities for a private sector-led economic development, investment and job-creating growth. The report identifies the opportunities to increase private sector participation in the healthcare system, as well as the challenges that need to be addressed to achieve this. The CPSD engaged key stakeholders from the public and private sector to gain essential insights into investment opportunities and recommendations are addressed in the report and shared with the private sector and GoE for necessary action to unlock investment potential, through addressing constraints that hinder the competitiveness of the healthcare, pharmaceutical, and medical equipment sectors.

FINANCING MSMES

This year, Al-Mashat witnessed the signing of a significant development financing agreement worth 150 million EGP.

This agreement was established between the Saudi Grant Management Committee and the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Agency (MSMEDA) with the goal of supporting industrial projects, particularly focusing on supply chains and the provision of raw materials.

The signing ceremony took place during the committee's meetings held in Cairo over three days from June 11 to June 13, 2023, and attended by Ghadir Hegazy, Chairman of the Committee on the Egyptian side, Hassan Al-Attas, Chairman of the Committee on the Saudi side, and Basil Rahmi, CEO of MSMEDA, who represented the committee.

The agreement is a continuation of the role played by the constructive partnership with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to support and develop SMEs through soft development funds for the intermediaries responsible for financing these projects, thus enhancing the vital role played by the agency in light of the country's vision to promote inclusive and sustainable growth, job creation and employment, and encourage entrepreneurship. Aiming to finance MSMEs related to supporting supply chains, in addition to industrial projects in all Egyptian governorates by providing funds for about 520 beneficiaries, this contributes to creating about 1,200 job opportunities and eventually contribute to the advancement of the Egyptian economy. This is in line with the vision of the grant, which is to enhance concessional financing mechanisms to support SMEs and job creation. The committee also provided the agency with competitive rates of return for industrial projects to pave the way for further growth.

This new cooperation agreement would inject financing amounting to 150 million EGP for SME-related projects intended to support the industrial sector in all governorates and focus on supply chains with the aim of creating a value chain that provides raw materials and various requirements necessary for production and ensuring that products reach consumers. Inevitably, this guarantees the continuation and expansion of said projects, with the aim to finance machinery, equipment, working investment or construction work necessary for the projects.

Moreover, this new financing is a continuation of the previous cooperation with the Saudi Fund also aiming to support SME-related projects in Egypt and maximizing its economic and social role. The agreement's primary goal is to finance MSMEs involved in supporting supply chains and industrial projects across Egypt. It will benefit approximately 520 beneficiaries and is expected to generate around 1,200 job opportunities, contributing to the advancement of the Egyptian economy. The grant's vision is to enhance concessional financing mechanisms for SMEs and job creation. The committee has also provided competitive rates of return for industrial projects, facilitating further growth.

The total funding provided by the committee for financing SMEs since its inception has reached approximately 1.5 billion EGP. These funds have contributed to financing 3,524 projects in 27 governorates, resulting in the creation of around 17,000 job opportunities. These projects span various development sectors, including industry, agriculture, livestock, healthcare, solar energy, and commercial sectors. Notably, this agreement represents the third agreement signed between the committee and MSMEDA, following two previous financing agreements worth 350 million EGP.

Noteworthy beneficiaries of funds from the Saudi grant include the National Bank of Egypt, the Agricultural Bank of Egypt, the Industrial Development Bank, and MSMEDA. Direct grant financing beneficiaries include entities like EFG Hermes Leasing Company, Enmaa Finance Company, Plus Leasing Company, Value Company for Installment Sales Services, Global Lease Company for Financial Leasing, UE Finance Company for Financial Leasing, and Contact Company for Financial Leasing.



COOPERATION WITH SAUDI ARABIA

The Ministry of International Cooperation reviewed the progress of ongoing efforts to develop the micro, small, medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) through the grant provided by Saudi Arabia, amounting to $200 million. This grant is one of the main components of developmental cooperation efforts between Egypt and Saudi Arabia, to provide direct and indirect financing to banks and intermediary institutions to fund MSMEs, promote inclusive and sustainable growth, and provide job opportunities for youth.

This comes within the framework of the visit made by Saudi Arabia's Grant Management Committee for the development of MSMEs to inspect small and micro-sized projects funded by Banque du Caire and the Industrial Development Bank (IDB) as part of the financing provided to these banks from the grant, implemented on the ground in Cairo and Port Said, affirming the importance of the role played by these projects in providing job opportunities for youth, stimulating innovation, and promoting local manufacturing.

The Grant Management Committee inspected six projects in the clothing manufacturing, plastic products manufacturing, and packaging materials manufacturing sectors, in addition to a number of micro-sized projects.

The Ministry of International Cooperation stated that the total financing provided by the Grant Management Committee to finance MSMEs projects since the beginning of its work is around 1.5 billion EGP, which contributed to financing 3,524 projects in 27 governorates resulting in approximately 17,000 job opportunities in various development sectors, including the commercial, agricultural, livestock and industry sectors.

12 entities benefited from the financing, including Banque du Caire, the Agricultural Bank of Egypt, the Industrial Development Bank, the Social Fund for Development (SFD), and the National Bank of Egypt. In addition to the entities that directly benefited from the grant financing, such as EFG Hermes Leasing Company, Enmaa Finance Company, Plus Leasing Company, vaLU for installment sales services, Global Leasing Company, UE Finance, and Contact Leasing Company.

The commercial sector was at the forefront of the sectors benefiting from the financing, with more than 1,384 projects financed, followed by the ride-sharing transport sector with 897 projects, agriculture and livestock with 723 projects, industry with 357 projects, and healthcare with 107 projects. Small projects received the majority of the financing, with 2,087 projects financed, followed by micro-sized projects with 1,350 projects financed.

The commercial sector came at the forefront of the sectors that benefited from the financing, as more than 1,384 projects were funded, followed by the participatory transport sector, which benefited 897 projects, then the agriculture and livestock sector by 723 projects; then the industry sector that amounted to 357 projects, and the 107 projects in the health care sector, and small projects accounted for the most part. Of the financing, 2087 projects were funded, followed by 1350 projects for micro-enterprises. As for the small projects, they received the majority of the financing, with 2,087 projects financed, followed by micro-sized projects with 1,350 projects financed.

BUILDING SUSTAINABLE & RESILIENT AGRICULTURE THROUGH PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION

This year, and in line with the NWFE program, the Ministry of International Cooperation and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) organized a workshop on stimulating the participation of the private sector in strengthening a sustainable and resilient agricultural ecosystem in Egypt, within the framework of cooperation between the two sides to implement the food pillar within the NWFE program, with the participation of 16 representatives of private sector companies and banks, including Injazat, Nabatat, CIB, HSBC Bank, Tamkeen Company, and Themar Agricultural Company.

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat stressed that the workshop highlights the great importance of sustainable development, and the decisive role of the private sector in addressing the issue of climate change, especially in the transition towards flexible food and agricultural systems. H.E. pointed out that the efforts and collective work is currently taking place to mobilize efforts and resources to provide innovative solutions to overcome these challenges.

H.E. also referred to cooperation with the IFAD in implementing food projects within the NWFE program, which serves as the country's main platform for accelerating the pace of green transformation. This is set to build on the close and historical cooperation with the Fund, through which $1.1 billion was dedicated to finance 14 projects in the fields of agricultural and rural development, benefiting about 1.3 million farmers and citizens of rural areas.

As the Ministry of International Cooperation has identified the IFAD as a major partner for the food pillar, the Fund has extensive global experience in the field of comprehensive and sustainable agricultural and rural development, an ability to find integrated solutions, mobilize development funds and address resource burden.

Through innovative financing tools, the Fund has empowered smallholder farmers, promoted climate-smart agriculture and irrigation techniques, empowered rural communities throughout Egypt, strengthened the resilience of rural communities, and enabled them to access larger markets. The Fund is firmly committed to the empowerment of women and youth, which has been a cornerstone of its work and in recognition of the critical role of these groups in driving agricultural transformation and rural development.



Chapter 2

FROM SMALL BEGINNINGS TO BIG IMPACT



SMES AND STARTUPS ON THE PATH TO SUSTAINABILITY

Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) and startups have gained significant traction in Egypt's economic landscape over the past decade.

These dynamic enterprises are not only contributing to economic growth but are also becoming instrumental in the country's journey towards sustainability.

In a nation with a rich history and a population of over 100 million people, the rise of SMEs and startups reflects the spirit of innovation and entrepreneurship that is reshaping Egypt's future. Hence, the Ministry of International Cooperation is committed to supporting the development of SMEs and startups in Egypt.

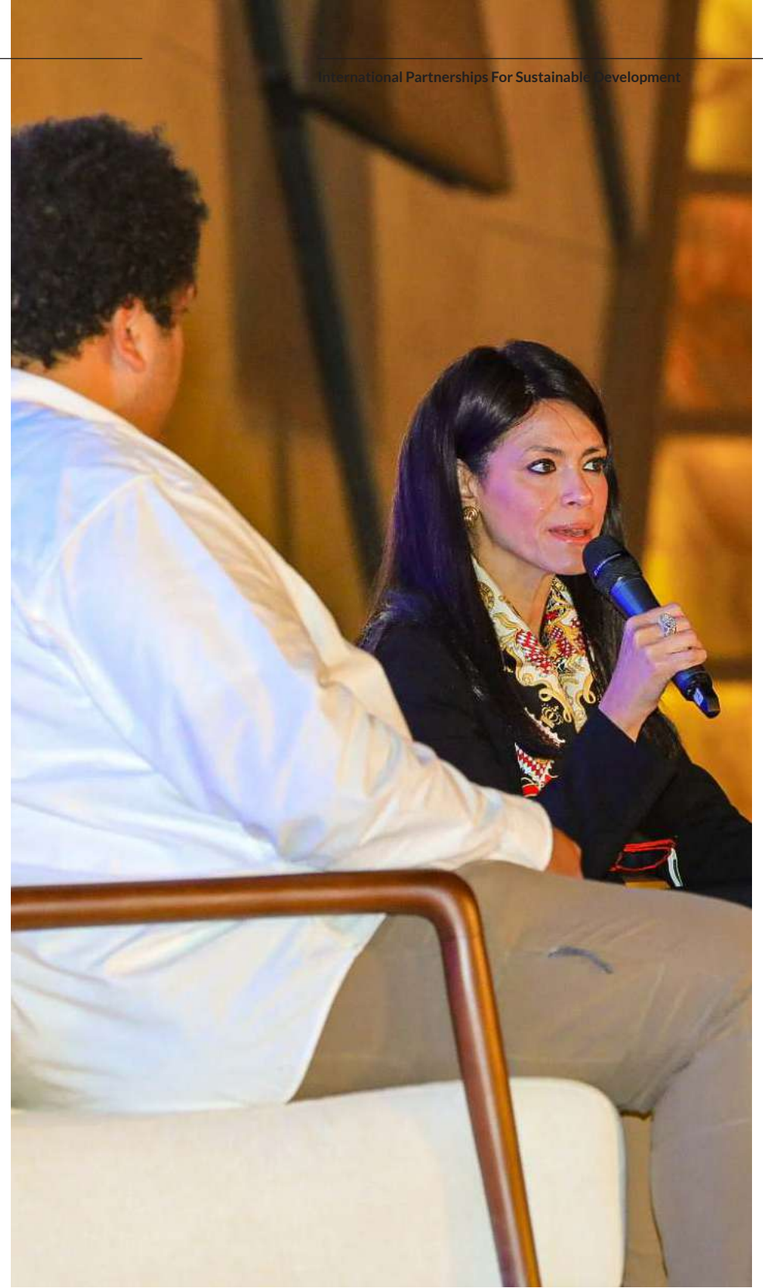
In 2023, we will provide a number of financing options, including grants, loans, and guarantees, to support SMEs while focusing on promoting sustainable development in its support for SMEs and startups. This includes supporting businesses that are working to reduce their environmental impact, that are developing innovative products and services that address social challenges or that are investing in youth.



"You can be an enterprise in anything you do. And this is not advice that is limited to startups. This goes to all of us. It's about always finding a way to be creative and bring new ideas to the table, and that's how you stay real and stay relevant."* *H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat.

And youth play a big role in this.

There are almost 1.8 billion people between the ages of 10 to 24 in the world today, making this the largest generation of youth in history. If we zoom in on the youth of developing and least developed countries, they face issues that limit their own potential and the potential of their societies in achieving sustainable and inclusive economic development, all of which was exacerbated by rising global economic challenges and the pandemic.



Firstly, we need to focus on education.

The future of any country is heavily reliant on the output of its education system and what youth have learned to bring to the workforce. Given that the education system globally is constantly changing, this requires inclusive learning, and agile leadership for swift responses to remote learning and a digital-first curriculum, both requiring the engagement of the private sector.

Secondly, reskilling for the jobs of the future and embracing a digital transformation are essential parts of putting our youth on track.

As the global economy is becoming increasingly knowledge-based, today, education and skills are more important than ever in securing a country's future because investments in education provide a catalyst for economic growth, job creation, and increased social mobility, especially when it comes to supporting youth in vulnerable communities.

Thirdly, entrepreneurship and innovation, as well as access to technology, lie at the heart of public-private-youth partnerships.

This is a clear path to creating impactful progress, and brings creative and new ideas to the table. That's how one can advance anything, be it on a small scale within a company or on a larger scale in terms of the economy.

The Ministry of International Cooperation exerts intensive efforts to keep up with economic and technological developments to serve development projects in Egypt. The Ministry's portfolio currently includes 36 projects in the fields of innovation, digital transformation, and entrepreneurship. These projects contribute to achieving 12 out of the total 17 SDGs with a development financing of over USD 1 billion, representing about 4% of the development finance portfolio in Egypt, in cooperation with 14 development partners.

Egypt Ventures

The first venture capital firm with development partners, dedicated to supporting Egypt's startup environment, Egypt Ventures was established in September 2017 with a paid-up capital of EGP 451 million, alongside the participation of the Ministry of International Cooperation, the Saudi Fund for Development (SFD), General Authority for Investments and Free Zones (GAFI), and NI Capital

The company is focused on investing in tech-based businesses in order to facilitate their access to financing, especially bank financing which offers great opportunities for expansion and high investment returns.

Since its establishment in 2017, Egypt Ventures has invested over EGP 383 million in more than 205 startups, both directly and indirectly. The company also supports business accelerators like Falak Startups, Flat6Labs, and EFG-EV Fintech, which have played a crucial role in nurturing startups and promoting their growth.

EGYPT VENTURES
INVESTING IN YOUTH

The Role of SMEs & Startups in Sustainable Development



SMEs and startups are vital catalysts for sustainable development, contributing to economic growth, innovation, resource efficiency, and social inclusion.

They drive positive environmental and social impacts by adopting sustainable practices, developing green technologies, and creating job opportunities, making them essential agents in achieving global sustainability goals and addressing pressing societal and environmental challenges.

However, SMEs and startups often encounter challenges in accessing adequate financing, which can hinder their growth and sustainability efforts.

The Ministry of International Cooperation plays a pivotal role in addressing these challenges by facilitating development financing agreements and partnerships.

Entrepreneurship falls within part of the Ministry's work to foster an innovation-centric atmosphere, as Egypt aims to cultivate resilient entrepreneurs ready to compete globally, lead GDP growth, and increase economic competitiveness. This is part and parcel of responding to the climate crisis effectively in a way where we also accelerate development.

The ClimaTech Run Success Story



A key example of youth contributing to the green transition, while also utilizing technology, can be found in Egypt's Presidency of COP27 which witnessed the launch of a global startup competition: the global ClimaTech Run competition at COP27.

Showing a true display of innovative technology and unmatched creativity, this brought together over 422 applications from 77 countries, narrowed down to 15 finalists and 5 winners with projects within the key theme of adaptation and resilience with a focus on water, food, agriculture and waste management, reflecting especially the global commitment to moving from pledges to implementation, increasing adaptation efforts.

The 5 Winners:

Ryb Labs as Top Global Startup with $100,000
Develops and delivers patented technologies to combat food waste by doubling the shelf life of fresh vegetables and fruits.

Earthly as Second Top Global Startup with $50,000
Provides technological solutions for companies to decarbonize, restore biodiversity and improve livelihoods through innovative assessments and visualization tools.

Koltiva as the Third Top Global Startup with $25,000
It connects producers and small farmers. It works with the largest multinational companies in digitizing global supply chains, agricultural extension services and microcredit.

Bleaglee as the Top African Startup with $50,000
Using artificial intelligence to quickly automatically detect waste in streets, fields, sewage channels and green spaces and recycle it into useful products.

Liquid Gold Africa as the Second Top African Startup with $25,000
A unique waterless sewage solution that reduces infection and converts it into dry organic compost, preventing water contamination and enabling easier wastewater treatment.



Interestingly, the 15 finalist startups, together, reduce emissions by a total of about 400,000 tons of carbon dioxide through the solutions they provide.

This shows the power of youth in addressing global challenges, the climate crisis and the necessity for a just, green transition.

By connecting SMEs and startups with financial resources, the Ministry empowers them to scale their operations, innovate, and drive sustainable practices, fostering economic growth and accelerating progress towards achieving broader sustainability objectives, benefiting both businesses and the environment.

Since COP27, several of our finalists from the competition have made their own milestones.

For example Ryp Labs was named as a Top 50 Cleantech company and they began pilot studies in Egypt to test its technology on table grapes, mangoes and fresh strawberries. Moreover, Earthly won the World Economic Forum's NatureTech 2023 challenge, received recognition for the market-leading nature-based project and was awarded the 2023 startup of the year at Retail Week Live.

Additionally, Bleaglee secured a patent for innovation, began construction of a new waste recycling factory, enhanced capabilities by investing in 2 new waste collection trucks and expanded in Senegal. Lastly, Nadeera expanded its reach to over 100,000 users and formed new strategic partnerships with government entities.

The 2nd Edition of ClimaTech Run



Building on the success, in 2023, and in response to the insights from the competition's first edition, the ClimaTech Run 2023 prioritized early-stage startups in the climate tech sector by giving a second chance for those who didn't make it to the final stage last year.



In collaboration with the UNDP, USAID, Microsoft and the World Bank and the Ministries of Information Technology, and Environment, 3 more additional selection criteria were added: Growth, Resilience and Potential, where 44 countries participated leading to the top 3 finalists: Powerstove from the electricity sector, Fresh Source from the agriculture and food security sector and Kumulus from the water sector.

Innovation & Sustainability in Relation to SMEs & Startups

Innovation is the lifeblood of SMEs and startups, and it's a powerful driver of sustainability. These businesses often pioneer eco-friendly technologies, resource-efficient practices, and circular economy models, fundamentally reshaping industries for a more sustainable future.

Their ability to rapidly adapt and innovate positions them as key players in addressing environmental and social challenges, making innovation and sustainability integral to their success and societal impact.

Leveraging the untapped potential of startups and committed to continuously striving to catalyze the development of an agile entrepreneurial ecosystem, Egypt is unlocking its position as a hub for creativity and innovation in the Middle East and Africa with a focus on priority sectors centered around a "green mindset".

Ultimately, upskilling is essential for young people to effectively contribute to addressing global challenges, equipping them with the skills, knowledge, and resources needed to drive innovation, create sustainable solutions, and make a positive impact in the world.

A Joint Team of Technology & Innovation in Egypt



The gradual transition towards a digital society has been universally identified as a prerequisite for sustainable and inclusive development in the 21st century.

In that context, innovation and digitalization have been characterized as “enablers” towards achieving the SDGs in Egypt through cooperation between the Government and the UN-system, as defined by the 2023-2027 United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework.

In an effort to build on the global momentum with regards to the rising digital age and emerging technologies and their potential for achieving the SDGs and Egypt’s Vision 2030, the Government of Egypt, represented by the Ministry of International Cooperation, partnered with the UN, represented by the UN Joint Team on Digitalization and Innovation (JTDI), to organize an ideation workshop in 2022 aiming to promote collaboration and synergies between ministries and UN agencies in addition to all relevant stakeholders to achieve digital transformation. **The workshop was centered around the following problem statement: “How can stakeholders (in particular the Government of Egypt and the UN) in Egypt collaboratively innovate to achieve digital transformation in line with the outcome priorities of the 2023 - 2027 UNSDCF?”**

The first ideation workshop was held in April 2022 and it included representatives from 9 national entities and 19 United Nations agencies. The workshop was based on multi stakeholder brainstorming and consultations to formulate non-systematic and innovative government projects that are technology-based and innovative. The ideation workshop resulted in 4 new potential projects that are currently being operationalized by the relevant national and UN stakeholders.



Building on the success of the 2022 ideation workshop, the second workshop brings together key stakeholders from the government, private sector (especially start-ups, MSMEs), academia, development partner community, and the UN for:

- **Leveraging** engagement with a wide range of partners on the potential of accelerating Egypt’s Country Platform for NWFE’s (Nexus of Water, Food, Energy and Transportation) pillars through innovation and digitalization.
- **Identifying** small-scale digital solutions and how they could supplement the accelerated implementation of the three NWFE pillars.
- **Introducing** strategic foresight and design thinking as transformative innovative approaches toward programme design. in the identified small-scale digital solutions.

The second ideation workshop acts as a multi-stakeholder platform that brings together the relevant national entities along with Egypt’s Development Partners (notably UN Agencies, the IFIs leading the different pillars within NWFE, private sector, NGOs, civil society and academia) in order to explore means of supplementing the NWFE program through small-scale innovative and digitally enabled projects in the fields of water, food, energy and transportation. This comes in the aftermath of NWFE’s launch at the MOIC-DPG Strategic Dialogue on Equitable and Sustainable Climate Finance MSP in July 2022, and Egypt’s presidency of COP27 in which various NWFE agreements were officially signed by the Government of Egypt and its bilateral and multilateral partners.

Focused on capacity building and digitalization to accelerate the implementation of NWFE, as well as public-private partnerships to upscale investment, the workshop poses the question: “How can stakeholders in Egypt use innovation and technology to scale-up efforts that contribute to climate mitigation and adaptation through the Nexus of Water, Food and Energy (NWFE)?”

The workshop this year included the participation of H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat; Lieutenant General Engineer Kamel Al-Wazir, Minister of Transport; Major General Hisham Amna, Minister of Local Development; and Ms. Elena Panova, United Nations Resident Coordinator in Egypt. It also included Dr. Ghada Labib, Deputy Minister of Communications and Information Technology, Mr. Adel Darwish, Director of the ITU Regional Office for Arab States, Mr. Patrick Jean Gilbert, Representative of the UNIDO Regional Office in Egypt, and Mrs. Dina Saleh, Regional Director for the Near East, North Africa, and Europe at the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), and other representatives of the government, the United Nations, the private sector, and academic entities.

The first workshop resulted in 4 proposed projects in the field of supporting rural tourism, the unified transportation card system and smart transportation solutions for passengers in Greater Cairo, the Egyptian heritage digitization project, and a project for an integrated coordination platform for local development for the effective use of resources, in coordination between concerned national authorities and international agencies.

H.E. pointed out that based on these results, the importance of the second workshop comes in light of the presidential assignments of the Ministry of International Cooperation to supervise the implementation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Country Framework 2023-2027, which represents the cornerstone of cooperation between Egypt and the United Nations to promote solutions based on technology and innovation.

EGYPT'S GENERATION UNLIMITED

UNITED NATIONS EGYPT

SHABAB BALAD

Our Time. Our Turn. Our Future.

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat is a member of the Generation Unlimited Global Leadership Council that curates public-private-youth partnerships by UNICEF to unlock skills & employment, entrepreneurship, social impact, & opportunities.

The "Generation Unlimited" Gen-U is an international initiative launched by UNICEF, in cooperation with Unilever, SAP, Microsoft, Dubai Cares, PwC and IKEA.

It is an international platform that aims to empower 1.8 billion young people worldwide, between the ages of 10-24 years, by providing sustainable opportunities in various fields, promoting employment opportunities, entrepreneurship and digitization, and enhancing their social role by 2030.This year, Al-Mashat participated in its Global Leadership Council meeting, held virtually, with prominent figures from international institutions, the private sector, and UN organizations, all focused on empowering youth worldwide.

The Board is chaired by Catherine Russell, Executive Director of UNICEF, and Bob Moritz, President of PWC. Its membership includes more than 60 high-level personalities from representatives of international institutions, the private sector, development partners and non-profit organizations, including Achim Steiner, Vice-Chair of the UN Sustainable Development Group; Ahmed Al Hindawi, Secretary General of the World Organization of the Scout Movement; Alan Jope, CEO of Unilever; Audrey Azoulay, Director-General of UNESCO; Beth Dunford, Vice President Agriculture, Social and Human Development of the African Development Bank; Guy Ryder, Former Director-General of the International Labor Organization; Harjit Sajjan, Minister of International Development and Minister Responsible for the Canadian Pacific Economic Development Agency; Jayathma Wickramanayake, UN Youth Envoy; Jose Angel Gurria, Former Secretary-General of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development; Mathias Cormann, OECD Secretary General and others .

In her intervention during the meeting Al-Mashat said that the United Nations initiative "Generation Unlimited" is of great importance to young people around the world, and Egypt launched the Egyptian version of the initiative under the name "Shabab Balad" during 2022, to support efforts, which the state is carrying out in cooperation with development partners to hone youth skills and provide means of learning, training and entrepreneurship in coordination with UNICEF, partner national agencies, and various development partners from the private sector, civil society and youth.

H.E. highlighted last year's ClimaTech Run 2022 which addressed startups and digital artists from around the world, and was launched in cooperation with the United States Agency for International Development, the World Food Programme, the United Nations Development Programme, the African Export-Import Bank, Google, the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, Microsoft Corporation, and among the business accelerators are Falak Startups, Entrepreneurs Network, Afrilabs and many others, which witnessed the presentation of more than 422 startups from around the world, and digital artists, in many sectors including energy, food security and agriculture, water management, industry, urban sustainability, mobility and transportation, and innovation and investment.

Shabab Balad In Egypt

The GenU initiative has been launched in 54 countries worldwide, and in Egypt under the name "Shabab Balad", during the World Youth Forum (WYF) in early 2022, where Al- Mashat is a co-chair of its advisory board.



The "Shabab Balad" initiative is considered one of the comprehensive means launched by the Government of Egypt in the past few years with the aim of empowering young men and women in their transition from education to work and profit in a sustainable manner, such as the Presidential Leadership Program (PLP), in line with the objectives of the Egyptian National Strategy for Youth 2022-2026. These efforts come in succession to the priorities of the development of the country, which is represented in empowering youth in various fields such as education, employment, entrepreneurship, and housing, with the aim of maximizing benefit from the demographic dividend in Egypt, resulting from youth representation in Egypt of about 30% of the total population.

As we are approaching the 2030 SDGs mark, the goals within the Shabab Balad open the door to more collaboration with public-private-youth partnerships, thus contributing to accelerating progress towards the global goals.

Looking at the 5 year vision, Shabab Balad is actually very much in-line with Egypt's Vision 2030, which provides a roadmap for a knowledge-based society that supports sustainable economic growth and social cohesion and is prioritizing efforts to: reform the educational system to equip youth with the tools they need for the future; create decent and productive jobs for youth, including entrepreneurship; and to promote youth engagement as active citizens.

This is aligned with Shabab Balad's five strategic priorities: education, training and skilling, employment, digital accessibility, and positive social engagement.

Additionally, gender equality and climate action are two pillars that have been adopted as cross-cutting priorities that will be mainstreamed across all Shabab Balad activities. This is a key priority for many of the rising entrepreneurs in the country and us.

One of the major strengths of GenU in Egypt is the fact that youth participation and engagement are strongly embedded within its day-to-day operations. Youth are represented on the Advisory Board as well as in every one of the initiative's five subcommittees.

For the next five years and beyond, Shabab Balad will continue to serve and empower youth in Egypt, as this is in tandem with our strong belief that the proportionate participation of youth in our societies is key to unlocking sustainable and inclusive economic growth.



"As the initiative's core mission is to skill young leaders-to-be, especially young women, and connect them to employment, entrepreneurship and social impact opportunities, I would say this could potentially become the largest multi-stakeholder platform for youth empowerment in Egypt, thanks mainly to the diversity of its membership." H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat.

Launch of the Shabab Balad Executive Coalition



The Advisory Board of the UN International Initiative in Egypt, "Shabab Balad", held its second meeting, at the headquarters of the Ministry of International Cooperation in the New Administrative Capital, jointly co-chaired by H.E. Dr. Rania Al-Mashat, Minister of International Cooperation, and Ms. Elena Panova, the UN Resident Coordinator in Egypt.

The Board discussed and agreed on the main founding blocks of the "Shabab Balad" Initiative. Foremost among them is the formation of the initiative's executive coalition and the different working groups, the approval of institutional criteria to join the "Shabab Balad" and a few flagship programs within the initiative that aim to help young people move from the learning stage to the work and earning stage. The "Shabab Balad" Initiative's secretariat, represented by UNICEF in Egypt, presented a proposal to establish a virtual academy under the name "Gen-U Academy" to serve young people and prepare them for the transition from education to work and earning.

The Advisory Board includes 11 members: H.E.Dr. Amr Talaat, Minister of Communications and Information Technology, H.E. Dr. Ashraf Sobhi, Minister of Youth and Sports, Dr. Rasha Ragheb, Executive Director of the National Training Academy, as representatives of the government side; Ms. Mirna Aref, General Manager of Microsoft Egypt, Eng. Mohamed Al-Suwaidi, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Federation of Industries, Ms. Reem Sami Saad, Member of the Board of Directors of Samcrete Investments, as representatives of the private sector; and Ms. Margaret Sancho, Director of the USAID Mission in Egypt, and Mr. Kim Jin Young, Regional Director of the Korean Agency Office For International Cooperation in Egypt "KOICA", as representatives of the development partners, and Ms. Ohood Wafi, Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Foundation of Hayah Karima, represent civil society, in addition to Mr. Jeremy Hopkins, UNICEF Representative in Egypt, and Ms. Omnia El Omrani, member of the Voices of Youth Council of the Commission European Foundation of Hayah Karima.

H.E. Dr. Ashraf Sobhi, Minister of Youth and Sports, confirmed that Shabab Balad Initiative is one of the most important initiatives that were launched last year, and represents a unique model of cooperation between international organizations,





the government, civil society organizations, the private sector, and youth, which aims to invest in youth, and its pillars are based around promoting the values of self-employment and entrepreneurship, improving links between youth and existing job opportunities, increasing the number of good job opportunities available to young people, promoting equal access to quality education, and equipping youth to be problem-solvers, and active members of civil society which will contribute to the creation of a world better.



"Shabab Balad initiative represents an important framework for empowering Egyptian youth, investing in developing their capabilities and creating opportunities for them to participate in the development of society. I am pleased to continue cooperation with both the public and private sectors to support youth in reaching their goals through their journey of learning to earning." Jeremy Hopkins, UNICEF Representative in Egypt & a Member of the Initiative's Advisory Board.



"We are pleased to participate in this meeting; it is part of our strategy with the Egyptian government to promote training and employment for young people in various fields and activities, including entrepreneurship and supporting the most talented. USAID continues to work jointly with various parties to enhance efforts directed at youth development in Egypt." Mrs. Margaret Sancho, USAID Mission Director in Egypt.

Ms. Jin Young Kim, Regional Director of the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) Office in Egypt, explained that the objectives of "Shabab Balad" initiative are directly compatible with the strategic priorities of the agency's development work in Egypt, and therefore the Korean side looks forward to coordinating with all stakeholders in order to maximize and benefit from the future services that the initiative can provide, and its positive impact on the standard of living of young people.

With UNESCO

In February, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat, Egypt's Minister of International Cooperation, held a meeting with Nuria Sanz, Director of UNESCO's Regional Bureau for Science in the Arab States, to discuss collaborative efforts and the "Shabab Balad" initiative, also within the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF 2023-2027).



Al-Mashat highlighted the launch of Egypt's version of the United Nations Youth Initiative, "Shabab Balad," and the Advisory Board's convening during COP27. Five high-level committees were formed under the initiative to address education, employment, entrepreneurship, digital transformation, training, skills, and youth empowerment. This initiative was viewed as a new avenue for cooperation between the Egyptian government and UN organizations, focusing on youth empowerment and skill development.

The conversation also addressed Damietta Governorate receiving the UNESCO Cities of Learning Award for 2021, where the Minister emphasized the need to expand initiatives in Damietta, particularly in education and vocational training through the Youth of the Country Initiative, exploring potential areas for collaboration.

STARTUPS IN ACTION

Climate Finance Accelerator

In June, H.E. Al-Mashat attended the graduation ceremony of the first group of startups from the Climate Finance Accelerator (CFA) technical support program. This program, developed in cooperation with the United Kingdom, focuses on nurturing environmentally friendly projects in various sectors, including energy, blue economy, manufacturing, circular economy, agriculture, and waste management, all aimed at promoting climate action.

The inaugural batch of startups received extensive technical assistance and capacity-building from CFA, delivered by international and local experts. The program seeks projects that meet specific criteria, such as mitigating climate change, demonstrating measurable emission reductions, being in at least the pre-feasibility studies stage, and seeking investment opportunities.

It also emphasizes gender equality, social inclusion, and aligning with Egypt's main sectors: renewable energy, waste management, energy efficiency, waste-to-energy conversion, low-carbon construction, low-carbon manufacturing, and smart and green agriculture.

Last October, Al-Mashat oversaw the launch of the CFA, through which the United Kingdom is working to enhance climate action in Egypt and 8 other countries through technical support of £10 million to stimulate low-carbon projects and contribute to the implementation of national climate goals. The CFA in Egypt stimulates and encourages climate finance by achieving communication and linkage between project owners and companies, as well as investors and financial institutions.

Orange Corners Upper Egypt Entrepreneurship Support Program

The Orange Corners Egypt program is an initiative to provide training, business networks and support for entrepreneurs to start and grow their innovative businesses. The initiative includes two independent business incubation programs - one in Cairo and the other in Upper Egypt (Assiut) - and each program provides repeated training courses for a period of 6 months for 15 to 25 entrepreneurs at a time. The training is particularly concerned with emerging startups in the field of agriculture and creative industries, and ensures the participation of female entrepreneurs at a rate of no less than 50%. The Orange Corners program is implemented by local implementing partners Cultiv (Cairo) and Outreach Egypt for Development Consulting (Upper Egypt).

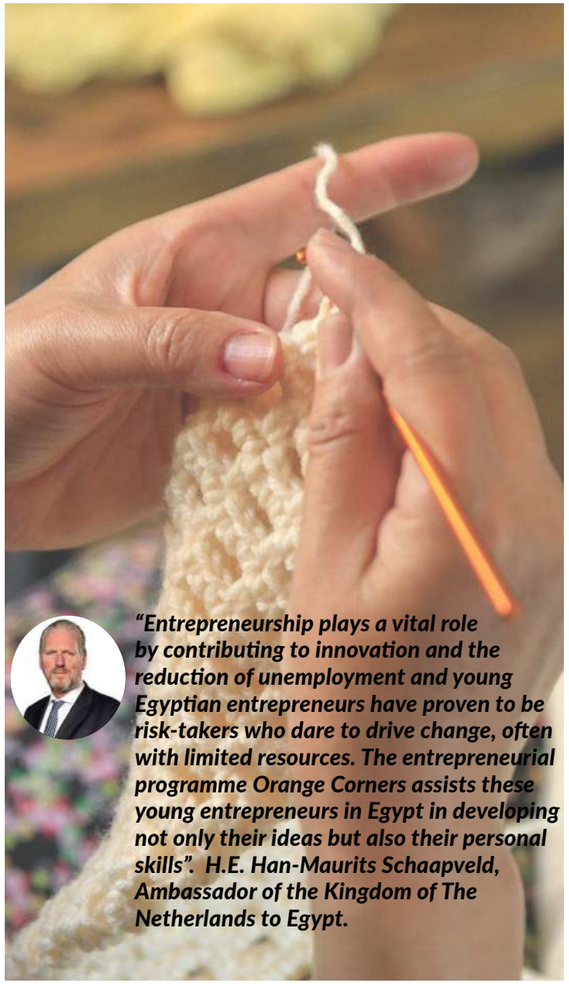
This year, the Ministry of International Cooperation, the Dutch Embassy, and the Bank of Alexandria celebrated the graduation of 76 startups over the course of 4 sessions of the Orange Corners Upper Egypt Program. This is implemented within the framework of the international partnership and cooperation of the Arab Republic of Egypt with multilateral and bilateral development partners, to support entrepreneurship and improve the startup environment in Egypt.

Over the course of 4 sessions, the program witnessed a positive turnout, as it spotlighted more than 970 startups, with 120 startups able to participate in the training courses and incubators provided by the program.

Of the mentioned, 76 companies graduated, 58% of which are led by women and girls, in various fields, with 21% in Agribusiness, 35% in the field of handicrafts and creative industries, 15% in the field of waste management and the circular economy, and 29% in the field of education, e-commerce and health, while more than 1,000 participants attended the events and round tables organized by the program to raise awareness of the importance of entrepreneurship.

In terms of the results achieved in the fourth session, 172 start-up companies applied, and 21 companies graduated from this session in the fields of agriculture, handicrafts, waste management and creative industries, and women represented 67% of the participants. During this course, more than 184 training hours were provided to the participants.

Last year, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat visited the Assiut governorate, marking the first anniversary of the Orange Corners Egypt Programme during the "Orange Corners Egypt Entrepreneurship Festival", to celebrate the graduation of 19 startups and met with a group of already operating small businesses, each of which brought to the table new ideas and faster solutions with defined potential.



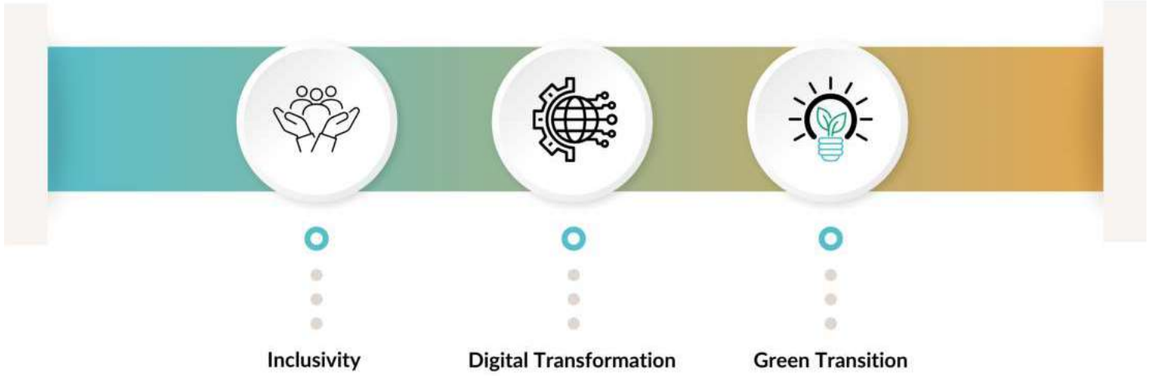
"Entrepreneurship plays a vital role by contributing to innovation and the reduction of unemployment and young Egyptian entrepreneurs have proven to be risk-takers who dare to drive change, often with limited resources. The entrepreneurial programme Orange Corners assists these young entrepreneurs in Egypt in developing not only their ideas but also their personal skills". H.E. Han-Maurits Schaapveld, Ambassador of the Kingdom of The Netherlands to Egypt.

Rise Up Summit

In the backdrop of the pyramids and at the Grand Egyptian Museum, Al-Mashat emphasized the importance of collaboration between development partners and the private sector to provide substantial support to startups, and the crucial role that they play in promoting inclusive development and finding innovative solutions to various challenges.

International partnerships have significantly bolstered Egypt's startup and entrepreneurship ecosystem by contributing to venture capital funds and enhancing technical support.

In the event, Al-Mashat outlined three key factors guiding Egypt's relations with development partners:



These factors also influence the direction of startups and the global economy, emphasizing the pursuit of inclusive and sustainable growth and recovery.

Catalyzing Entrepreneurship for Job Creation Project

On March 20, 2023, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat held discussions with the World Bank Group Mission regarding the Catalyzing Entrepreneurship for Job Creation Project within the 2023-2027 Country Strategy. This project aims to bolster reforms that promote job opportunities, develop small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and micro-enterprises, and enhance training and technical support services.

The meeting with the WBG Mission, led by Marina Wes, then Regional Director of the World Bank for Egypt, Yemen, and Djibouti, along with Robert Bou Jaoude, Operations Manager for the Middle East and North Africa, and Dr. Mohamed A. Gawad, Head of Multilateral Cooperation Sector at the Ministry of International Cooperation, delved into future cooperation programs aimed at providing additional support to startups and SMEs.



The meeting's objectives included reviewing the project's achievements thus far and considering the provision of a new grant, particularly to strengthen the project's third component, which focuses on improving business efficiency.

The Catalyzing Entrepreneurship for Job Creation Project aims to create more opportunities for Egyptian youth and women through three main components:

1. Increasing the availability of credit for SMEs and improving their access to it.

2. Enhancing support for seed, early-stage, and venture capital for innovative startups and SMEs.

3. Developing business capabilities, providing training and guidance services, and enhancing technical assistance. This component involves collaboration with national entities like the MSMEDA.

Chapter 3

DEVELOPING DIGITAL & EDUCATIONAL LANDSCAPES



POWERING A DIGITAL FUTURE

In an era defined by rapid technological advancements and digital transformation, the journey from education to impact has taken on a new dimension. The 21st century has ushered in an age where knowledge is no longer confined to traditional classrooms but flows freely through the interconnected channels of the digital world.

Education & Technology

The paradigm of education itself has evolved, transcending the boundaries of physical institutions and textbooks.

Now, it extends to the far reaches of the internet, where information is accessible to anyone with a connected device and a thirst for knowledge. In this digital age, education is no longer a solitary pursuit of personal growth; it has become a catalyst for meaningful societal transformation.

As we navigate the intricate web of digital education, we -at the Ministry of International Cooperation- uncover stories of innovation, empowerment, and collaboration that showcase the incredible potential of individuals and organizations to harness knowledge for positive impact.



"The future of any country is heavily reliant on the output of its education system and what youth have learned to bring to the workforce. Given that the education system globally is constantly changing, this requires inclusive learning, and agile leadership for swift responses to remote learning and a digital-first curriculum, both requiring the engagement of the private sector." H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat.

The Egyptian Pioneers Program with the USAID

In order to strengthen the partnership between Egypt and the USA, the Egyptian Pioneers Program was launched and implemented by USAID through an $86 million grant, with the aim of providing scholarships and training for Egyptian students, researchers, and future leaders.

Under the stewardship of the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, its primary objectives are multifaceted. The Higher Education Agreement was signed on September 30, 2014, and is set to conclude on September 30, 2029.

The program takes a special focus on sectors that can advance Egypt's climate goals and aims to build a more inclusive, capable, and skilled workforce that supports sectors vital to the country's economic growth, including achieving goals for women's empowerment, health, digitization, and climate action.





This comprehensive agreement acts as a catalyst for academic and professional development, supporting strategic collaborations between Egyptian and American institutions, expanding the reach of scholarships, bolstering technical colleges and universities, and fostering students. Its overarching goal is to address pressing development and economic challenges in Egypt.

One notable initiative arising from this agreement is the Egyptian Pioneers Activity, implemented in partnership with The American University in Cairo, with a project lifespan spanning from October 2022 to October 2031.

This initiative has a nationwide footprint and aims to create a more inclusive and proficient workforce, focusing on sectors pivotal to Egypt's economic growth, including women's empowerment, healthcare, digitalization, and climate objectives. Over its nine-year duration, AUC will administer the program in collaboration with key stakeholders such as the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, the Ministry of International Cooperation, and both private and public sector entities.

The program encompasses a wide array of offerings, such as scholarships for Egyptian and international universities, training initiatives, and support services. These are designed to augment the individual knowledge and skills of professionals, ultimately improving the organizational capacity and performance of government personnel in Egypt.

This comprehensive approach includes providing training and scholarships for mid-career professionals in sectors crucial to Egypt's development. Additionally, it extends undergraduate scholarships to young Egyptians from underserved and marginalized communities, enabling them to obtain degrees and gain meaningful employment in priority sectors. Collaboration with government ministries, institutions, the private sector, and universities, both public and private, is integral to ensuring that the program aligns with Egypt's development objectives.

The USAID Egyptian Pioneers program plays a pivotal role in advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion in Egypt's educational landscape. It awards 700 undergraduate, 60 master's, 50 post-doctorate, and 500 short-term technical training scholarships within Egypt and the United States.

These efforts are particularly attentive to geographic representation and seek to include women and individuals with disabilities in fields that have been traditionally underrepresented. This multifaceted program is poised to have a far-reaching impact on Egypt's workforce and development landscape, aligning with the broader goals of inclusivity, equity, and skill development.

STEM Education in Egypt

STEM schools play a key role in accelerating national efforts in terms of investing in human capital

Egypt has been making significant strides in the field of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) education, with a growing number of STEM schools emerging across the country. These specialized institutions are designed to provide students with a rigorous and comprehensive education in STEM disciplines, equipping them with the skills and knowledge needed to excel in these critical fields.

One of the notable features of STEM schools in Egypt is their focus on extracurricular activities and competitions. Students are encouraged to participate in science and technology competitions, both nationally and internationally. These schools have a track record of success in various STEM competitions, showcasing the talent and potential of Egyptian students in these fields.

Moreover, STEM schools often collaborate with universities, research institutions, and industry partners to provide students with practical exposure to STEM-related projects and career opportunities. These partnerships help bridge the gap between theory and practice, preparing students for future careers in STEM fields.

The Ministry of International Cooperation has been instrumental in facilitating the growth of STEM schools; MoIC has sought partnerships with international organizations and donors to support STEM education initiatives.

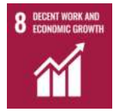
The STEM schools, implemented in the framework of a partnership with the USAID, seek to provide basic education activities that represent significant tax revenues of approximately $124 million since 2014, and require coordination with the Ministry of Education and Technical Education, with the aim of creating an educated workforce to meet the requirements of the job.

The impact of STEM schools extends beyond individual success stories to contribute to Egypt's broader SDGs.



SDG 4: Quality Education

STEM schools align with SDG 4 by providing quality education that prepares students for a rapidly changing world.



SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth

STEM education supports economic growth by creating a skilled workforce and fostering innovation.



SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure

STEM schools contribute to SDG 9 by promoting innovation and technological advancement.



SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities

STEM schools offer opportunities for talented students from diverse backgrounds.



In Assiut: Displaying Drive & Determination

Just last year, Al-Mashat visited a STEM School in Assiut, within the framework of bilateral cooperation between Egypt and the United States of America. During the visit, the Minister was accompanied by Major General Essam Saad, the Governor of Assiut.

The STEM schools project is being implemented in 11 governorates nationwide, where 19 schools were implemented within the framework of joint Egyptian-American cooperation, benefiting more than 5,000 students within the framework of the first phase of the agreement. The schools are distributed in the governorates of Alexandria, Assiut, Luxor, the Red Sea Governorate, Ismailia, Kafr El-Sheikh, Dakahlia, Qalyubia, Qena, Sharqia, Beni Suef, Menoufia, Sohag, Minya, and Fayoum.

To ensure the sustainability of the project, and to provide qualified instructors to work in STEM schools, a one-year diploma and 4-year university program were established in 5 public universities, including Assiut University, to prepare teachers specialized in science, technology, engineering and mathematics to be able to lead the educational process in STEM schools.

The King Salman International University Field Visit



In tandem with the annual meetings of the African Development Bank (AfDB), the Minister of International Cooperation, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat, and the CEO of the Saudi Fund for Development (SFD), Sultan Al-Marshad, embarked on a significant visit to the King Salman International University (KSIU) in Sharm El-Sheikh on May 26, 2023; one of the pioneering projects implemented in cooperation between the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, within the framework of the King Salman bin Abdulaziz Program for the Development of the Sinai Peninsula.

This visit underscored the dedication to nurturing and assessing the outcomes of the burgeoning partnerships between the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. It served as a testament to the enduring and historic relationship between the two nations that has significantly propelled developmental efforts in the North and South Sinai governorates.

This visit aimed to review the outcomes of collaborative efforts between Egypt and Saudi Arabia and underscored the enduring relations between the two nations. The project's significance lies in its substantial impact on bolstering investments in human capital, aligning with Egypt's pursuit of quality education and economic growth as outlined in the SDGs, particularly SDG 4: Quality Education by ensuring opportunities for quality, equitable and inclusive education for all, in addition to the SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth.

During the visit, Professor Ashraf Hussein, President of KSIU, provided insights into the university's growth, highlighting its diverse range of colleges and programs tailored to the regional job market and environment. KSIU, an integral part of the King Salman bin Abdulaziz Program for the Development of the Sinai Peninsula, stands as a testament to the productive cooperation between Egypt and Saudi Arabia, facilitating educational advancements and economic development in the Sinai region.

Currently, KSIU boasts 15 colleges and 56 programs, including three smart programs, with 28 already in operation. The institution aims to accommodate 5,000 students in the coming year, with a long-term goal of enrolling 25,000 students.

KSIU has a unique focus as a fourth-generation university, with faculties dedicated to exploiting the Sinai Governorate's unique attributes. These include the Faculty of Desert Agriculture and programs in tourism and hospitality. Additionally, the university branch in Al-Tur is poised to become a medical center, encompassing medical, dentistry, and nursing specialities.

The King Salman International University (KSIU) stands as a remarkable testament to the collaborative efforts between the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, materializing within the framework of the King Salman bin Abdulaziz Program for the Development of the Sinai Peninsula.

A CAREER LINE FOR FUTURE AMBASSADORS & DIPLOMATS: The Institute of Diplomatic Studies

This year, Al-Mashat engaged in a meaningful discussion with the 55th batch of New Diplomatic Attachés at the Institute of Diplomatic Studies.

The dialogue aimed to provide the diplomatic attachés with insights into Egypt's international cooperation strategies, its relations with development partners, and the pivotal role of the Ministry of International Cooperation in fostering national priorities and the SDGs.

Throughout this meeting, Minister Al-Mashat underlined the significance of balanced political relations, effective economic diplomacy, and the private sector's role in Egypt's development efforts. Additionally, she stressed the importance of cooperation among various national entities and development partners to ensure alignment with national plans and strategies.

Development cooperation is a two-way street, with each partner contributing towards shared objectives and outcomes.

Al-Mashat emphasized that Egypt's relations with development partners, whether at bilateral or multilateral levels, are not merely about "receiving aid" but rather about establishing extensive partnerships grounded in meeting the nation's top priorities. These partnerships encompass various national strategies, internal governance standards, and the governance standards of institutions involved, all aimed at enhancing collaborative efforts to achieve the SDGs.







Discussions Included:

- Development Partnerships Based on National Priorities
- The Role of Economic Diplomacy
- Coordination Across National Entities
- Global Competition for Development Financing
- Supporting the Private Sector and Startups
- Climate Action and Green Economy

ICT FOR DEVELOPMENT

Supporting Innovation in Public Administration



In a significant collaborative effort, Egypt's Ministers of International Cooperation and Communications and Information Technology, Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat and Dr. Amr Talaat, respectively, joined forces to sign a German Grant Agreement on May 31, 2023. This agreement, valued at €8 million, aims to propel Egypt's E-Government initiatives and foster innovation.

The project, known as INNOPA (Innovation in the Public Administration), seeks to revolutionize the digital landscape in Egypt by promoting digital transformation and E-Government services.

The agreement was a product of extensive collaboration between Egypt and the German government, facilitated by the German Agency for International Cooperation in Egypt (GIZ). A grant of €8 million was allocated for the first phase of INNOPA, which is part of a broader €17.5 million commitment.

The project's primary objective is to stimulate innovation within the context of digital transformation while promoting the expansion of E-Government services. A pivotal component of INNOPA is establishing a dedicated laboratory to develop government service applications.

Key Areas of Collaboration:

1. Supporting the regulatory framework.
2. Coordinating digital transformation and efficient management of official development aid.
3. Advancing the digital transformation of public administration.
4. Enhancing electronic human resource management.
5. Promoting user-oriented digital services.
6. Developing innovative solutions and products for public administration.

The E-Government and Innovation project seeks to reform the civil service system and drive innovation in government services. She highlighted that the agreement was a result of the collaborative efforts initiated under the Information and Communication Technology Sector for Development in 2021.

ADVANCING GENDER INCLUSION & DIVERSITY

Advancing gender inclusion and diversity is a critical imperative in today's world.

It encompasses a range of efforts aimed at ensuring that individuals of all genders, backgrounds, and identities have equitable opportunities and representation in various aspects of society.

This includes the workplace, education, politics, and beyond. Gender inclusion recognizes that diversity is not just about numbers but about creating an inclusive environment where everyone's perspectives and contributions are valued.

Furthermore, fostering gender diversity is not only a matter of social justice but also leads to economic success. Diverse teams and organizations tend to be more innovative and adaptable, paving the way for different perspectives that can lead to more creative problem-solving and better decision-making.

When everyone has a seat at the table, the range of experiences and viewpoints can lead to more robust solutions for complex challenges.

Advancing gender inclusion and diversity requires concerted efforts at the individual, organizational, and societal levels, and it involves policies and practices that promote inclusivity, such as diverse hiring practices and inclusive language. It also requires education and awareness-building to challenge biases and stereotypes, and necessitates the active involvement of governments, businesses, and civil society to create an environment where diversity is celebrated and everyone can thrive, regardless of gender or identity.

This is a key part of the focus in the recently signed United Nations Population Fund's (UNFPA) Country Partnership Document (CPD) for the years 2023-2027, part of the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF), representing a comprehensive framework for collaboration with all UN agencies and programs.

The partnership between Egypt and the UNFPA focuses on capacity building, with a specific focus on youth, girls, and adolescents, as well as family planning programs and addressing climate change-related challenges, given that the Government of Egypt is committed to implementing necessary policies and reforms to support family development, enhance the capabilities of youth and women, and improve their access to quality services and care through national programs, including Haya Karima, in line with Egypt's Vision 2030 and the SDGs.

Al-Mashat commended the UNFPA's role in supporting Egypt's national population strategy, with a focus on family planning services, empowerment of women and girls, and the eradication of gender-based violence.

The achievements made during the CPD 2018-2022 period involved multilateral partnerships to advance positive changes in areas such as family planning, maternal health, and youth development.

The UNFPA's efforts, in collaboration with relevant entities, supported in developing capabilities and raising awareness among women.

These efforts have also contributed to launching the general framework of the Egyptian National Strategy for Youth and Adolescents 2021-2026, in partnership with the Ministry of Youth and Sports and relevant ministries, as well as supporting the National Project for the Development of the Egyptian Family.

Closing the Gender Gap Accelerator

To catalyze closing the gender gap, the Ministry of International Cooperation launched the first multi-stakeholder platform in August 2020 bringing together all stakeholders including more than 80 representatives from multilateral and bilateral development partners to ensure streamlined efforts and sustained commitment towards achieving SDG 5: Gender Equality are coordinated and upscaled.

The action plan highlights the Government of Egypt's continued commitment to applying needed policies and reforms to push the gender agenda and help support women's economic empowerment as female participation in the economy is macro-critical. Setting up action coalitions between relevant public and private sector stakeholders is necessary to increase female labor force participation and the number of women in leadership positions, as well as to close wage gaps and prepare women for jobs of the future.

The Action Plan Includes 10 Main Pillars:



Women Lead For Executives Program at the NTA



In July, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat played a pivotal role in the selection process for female candidates applying to the "Women Lead For Executives" program at the National Training Academy (NTA).

This program, as part of the "Women's Leadership School" initiatives, aims to empower women in executive roles between the ages of 22 and 50, enhancing their leadership skills and experiences within both government and private sectors. The selection committees, which included several ministers, academics, and specialists, conducted qualifying assessments for program participants.

H.E. underscored Egypt's recognition of the vital role women play in advancing development efforts and shaping the nation's future, citing initiatives such as the National Strategy for Women Empowerment 2030 and Egypt's Vision 2030 to achieve particularly SDG 5: Gender Equality and SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities.

The "Women Lead for Executives" program aims to equip Egyptian women in executive positions with the skills and capabilities necessary for leadership roles across different sectors, aligning with Egypt's vision to empower women and support SDGs.

Later in the year, in September, Al-Mashat held another meeting with government leaders at the National Training Academy (NTA) to discuss international cooperation and development financing.

During the session, Al-Mashat underscored the Ministry's role as a vital platform for coordinating with development partners, national entities, and institutions, as well as formulating development cooperation projects in alignment with SDGs, stressing the importance of adhering to precise governance rules during the completion of development financing agreements to maximize the benefits of international partnerships. Importantly, the Ministry's responsibilities extend beyond agreement finalization to actively oversee project implementation and address any challenges that may arise.

Top 50 Women Forum

At the 2nd edition of the Top 50 Women Forum, Minister of International Cooperation, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat, emphasized Egypt's commitment to empowering women through collaborative development programs involving public and private sectors as well as civil society organizations.

Al-Mashat highlighted the "Closing the Gender Gap Accelerator," a pioneering initiative in Africa and the Middle East, formed in partnership with the Ministry of International Cooperation, the World Economic Forum (WEF), and the National Council for Women (NCW), aimed at addressing gender disparities in the labor market.

This announcement was made during a ministerial session themed "Iconic Success of an Egyptian Woman… A Minister's Journey" at the Top 50 Women Forum's 2nd edition, promoting the slogan "Empower Women to Empower Egypt."

Furthermore, Al-Mashat stressed the importance of three key factors in development efforts: comprehensiveness, green transformation, and digital transformation, underscoring the role of international cooperation in bolstering development, particularly in sectors such as small and medium enterprises, education, health, and social protection. Her involvement also extended to recognizing efforts in gender equality through the "CEO Gender Equality Awards" and visiting UN-supported programs dedicated to women's economic and social empowerment across Egypt.

THE TEAM


NWFE
EGYPT'S NEXUS OF WATER, FOOD & ENERGY
FROM PLEDGES TO IMPLEMENTATION
A YEAR OF IMPLEMENTATION













SUMMER TRAINING PROGRAM

The Ministry of International Cooperation's Summer Training program included about 35 students this year, coming from different universities across Egypt, most of which study economics.

Over the past 3 years, the Ministry has welcomed over 70 interns in total, exposing students to work with multilateral cooperation in different departments.

This includes the work teams of the World Bank, the IFC, the EBRD, the AfDB, and UN agencies, as well as the bilateral development cooperation sector, including cooperation with the Americas, Asia and Europe, and Arab-African cooperation, as well as interns who worked in the Department of Planning, Evaluation and Follow-up of development finance, the Arab Affairs Unit, the Department of Economic Research, and the Department of Digital Transformation, Innovation and Entrepreneurship.

This year, the program was held for the third year in a row, within the framework of the Ministry's keenness to invest in students and graduates in economics specializations, teaching them about the latest developments in international cooperation, development financing and economic relations of the Arab Republic of Egypt with multilateral and bilateral development partners.

Before heading back to university, H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat met with the graduates of the 2023 Summer Training Program interns at the Ministry's headquarters in the New Administrative Capital.





KNOWLEDGE SHARING INITIATIVE FOR CAPACITY BUILDING

Throughout the year, the Ministry of International Cooperation began an internal capacity building initiative to encourage staff to enhance their skills.

Over 15 sessions have been held with an average of 25 to 30 people attending per topic.

Some of the topics include a session on legal regulatory framework for coastal management in the Mediterranean countries, the participation of youth in the EU, Egypt's startup ecosystem, communication, public-private partnerships, e-government and innovation in the public sector, as well as trainings on leadership, teamwork and time management.

Knowledge sharing initiatives are an important aspect of capacity building for offices because it helps to promote collaboration, improve efficiency, and boost innovation. By encouraging employees to share their knowledge and expertise, we create a culture of learning and development that can lead to better decision-making and problem-solving.

Promotes Continuous Learning: By sharing knowledge, employees can learn from each other and develop new skills, ultimately leading to a more knowledgeable and productive workforce.

Encourages Collaboration: Knowledge sharing lessons can bring people from different departments or teams together. This fosters collaboration and helps break down silos, which can lead to more efficient and effective work.

Builds Trust: When employees share their knowledge and expertise, it can build trust among team members. This can lead to increased job satisfaction, better communication, and a more positive work environment.

Helps Identify Best Practices: Sharing knowledge can help identify best practices. This can lead to improvements in processes and procedures, ultimately improving the overall performance of the company.

Enhances Problem-Solving: Knowledge sharing lessons provide an opportunity for employees to discuss challenges and work together to find solutions. This can lead to more creative and effective problem-solving.





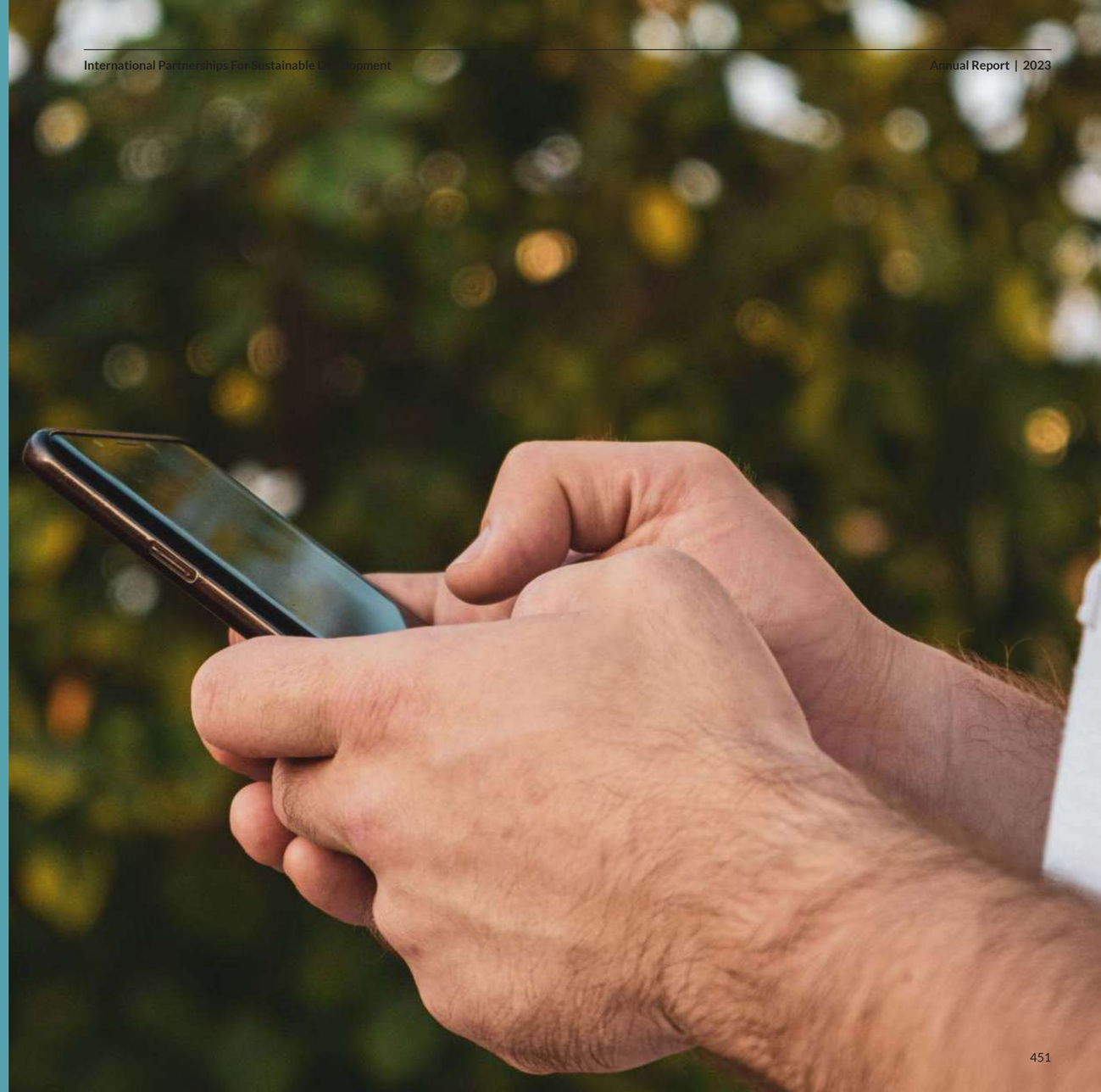








ACTIVE MEDIA ENGAGEMENT



From Events Across The Year

H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat's Speech at the "Hekayat Watan" Conference

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lg٣-TVI٢SQg

UNGA78, The Global Energy Alliance for People and Planet (GEAPP) Global Leadership Council

https://www.energyalliance.org/news-insights/geapp-glc-accelerate-affordable-clean-energy-for-all/

UNGA78, Speech at the high-level dialogue on Financing for Development

https://media.un.org/en/asset/k١e/k١e٦yb٢yz٣

G20, Building Trust in a Fragmenting World discussion session

https://www.weforum.org/events/sustainable-development-impact-meetings٢٠٢٣-/sessions/building-sustainable-trust-in-a-fragmenting-world

WEF article, Egypt's Nexus for Water, Food and Energy programme – the blueprint to fight climate change?

https://www.weforum.org/agenda/٠٩/٢٠٢٣/egypt-water-food-and-energy-nexus-programme-blueprint-fight-climate-change/

CNBC interview

https://www.cnbc.com/video/١٤/٠٩/٢٠٢٣/egypts-relationship-with-china-is-strategic-says-minister-for-international-cooperation.html

IMF article, Climate Financing that Puts People First

https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/fandd/issues/٠٩/٢٠٢٣/POV-climate-financing-that-puts-people-first-rania-al-mashat

CGTN Arabic interview, Egyptian-Chinese relations

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kfW_UGOyhe٠

Interview with Hong Kong's TVB Pearl

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RfNMXgfFqIw

IFC Appointed as Strategic Advisor to the Government of Egypt for its Asset Monetization Program

https://pressroom.ifc.org/all/pages/PressDetail.aspx?ID=٢٧٦٠٣

The joint political declaration between Egypt, the United States, and Germany during COP27

https://moic.gov.eg/ar/news/١٠٩٤

Co-authored article with Chief Economist of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank Erik Berglof on "Fostering Climate Agency Where It Counts"

https://www.project-syndicate.org/commentary/fostering-developing-country-climate-agency-crucial-to-net-zero-transition-by-rania-al-mashat-and-erik-berglof٠٦-٢٠٢٣-

EBRD session, Green Cities: Resilient Solutions for Cities of the Future session

https://www.ebrd.com/news/video/ebrd-green-cities-resilient-solutions-for-cities-of-the-future.html

EBRD session, Connectivity in an Uncertain World

https://www.ebrd.com/news/video/connectivity-in-an-uncertain-world.html

WEF session, Global Economic Outlook: What Next for Globalization?

https://www.weforum.org/events/the-growth-summit-jobs-and-opportunity-for-all٢٠٢٣-/sessions/global-economic-outlook-what-next-for-globalization

WEF session, Growth Hotspots: The Climate Technology Boom

https://cn.weforum.org/event_player/a٠P٦٨٠٠٠٠٠٥pxCfEAI/sessions/what-s-next-for-the-climate-tech-boom

World Bank Spring Meetings interview

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wD٦٢ztAl٥O٠

GZERO Media interview

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BMMjYTwFz٦g

GZERO Media article, The world "is more coupled than we think"

https://www.gzeromedia.com/global-stage/crisis-recovery/the-world-is-more-coupled-than-we-think

World Bank Spring Meetings session on the Power of Private Capital in Sustainable Development

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-K٣JxKnLXyU

IMF Seminar: Climate Finance and Energy Security

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PFJ٣٢wHQ١dg

Davos, Press Conference: New Frontiers for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

https://www.weforum.org/events/world-economic-forum-annual-meeting٢٠٢٣-/sessions/new-frontiers-for-diversity-equity-and-inclusion

Davos, 30x30 Ambition: Next Steps after Montreal

https://www.weforum.org/events/world-economic-forum-annual-meeting٢٠٢٣-/sessions/٣٠x-٣٠ambition

Davos, Open Forum: Energy Transition Rush

https://www.weforum.org/open-forum/event_sessions/open-forum-energy-transition-rush

Davos, How to Turbocharge Development Finance

https://www.weforum.org/events/world-economic-forum-annual-meeting٢٠٢٣-/sessions/how-to-turbocharge-development-finance

Davos, Rewiring the Globe for Resilience

https://www.weforum.org/events/world-economic-forum-annual-meeting٢٠٢٣-/sessions/rewiring-the-globe-for-resilience

Davos, Philanthropy: A Catalyst for Protecting Our Planet

https://www.weforum.org/events/world-economic-forum-annual-meeting٢٠٢٣-/sessions/philanthropy-a-catalyst-for-protecting-our-planet

Making the International Financial System Work

https://www.project-syndicate.org/commentary/imf-world-bank-annual-meetings-global-financial-architecture-reform-by-chrysoula-zacharopoulou-and-rania-al-mashat١٠-٢٠٢٣-

Engaging Women as Leaders

https://live.worldbank.org/en/event/-٢٠٢٣/٢٠٢٣annual-meetings-engaging-women-as-leaders-innovation-financing-and-collective-action

Fireside Chat with H.E. Dr. Rania Al-Mashat, Minister of International Cooperation, Arab Republic of Egypt

https://www.mei.edu/events/fireside-chat-he-dr-rania-al-mashat-minister-international-cooperation-arab-republic-egypt

Egypt & UN Partnership 2018 - 2022

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CqGTVZj-bew

Egypt - World Bank Group CPF 2023 - 2027 Launch Speech

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GFgk٣CWbOAc

LDC 5 in Doha: Ministerial Meeting on South-South Cooperation

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wKNkL١ZnUaY

5th UN LDC: Structural Transformation as a Driver of Prosperity in Least Developed Countries

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QOvQs٤hZJZY

5th UN Conference on the Least Developed Countries Plenary Speech by H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=٣XMv٩l٣qKzA

Shaping the Future with Africa – Young Entrepreneurship as Key to a Just Transition

https://www.bmz.de/en/news/conference-shaping-the-future

PHYGITAL

FROM STORIES TO TWEETS













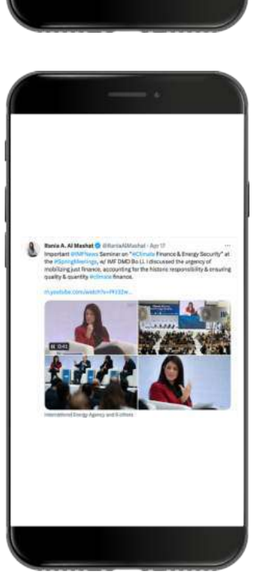


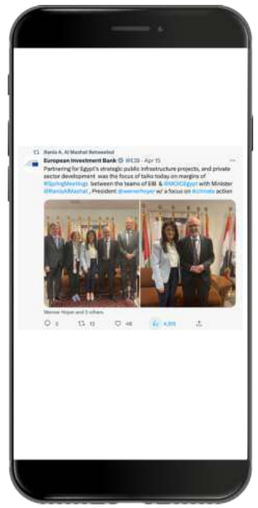




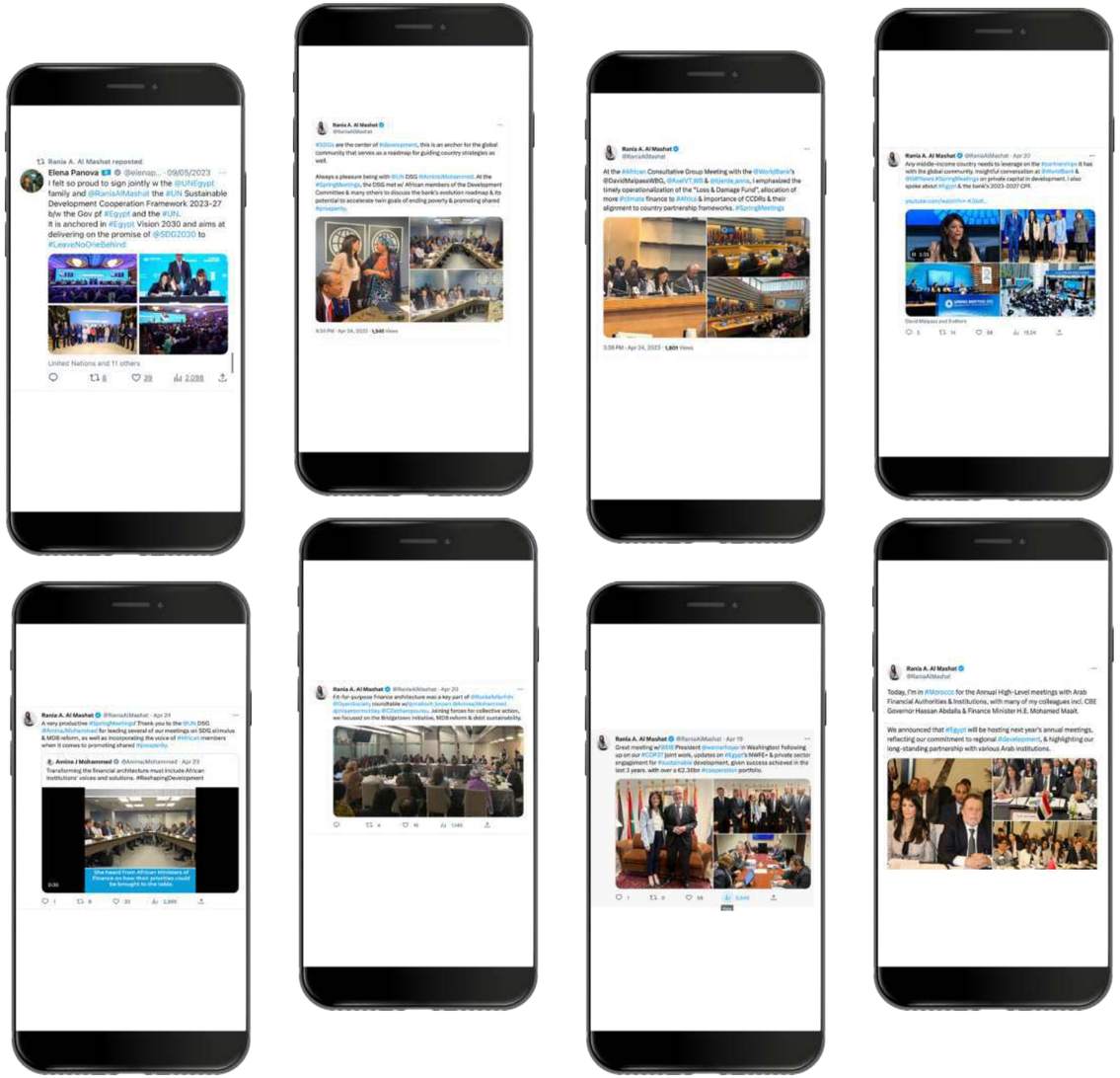


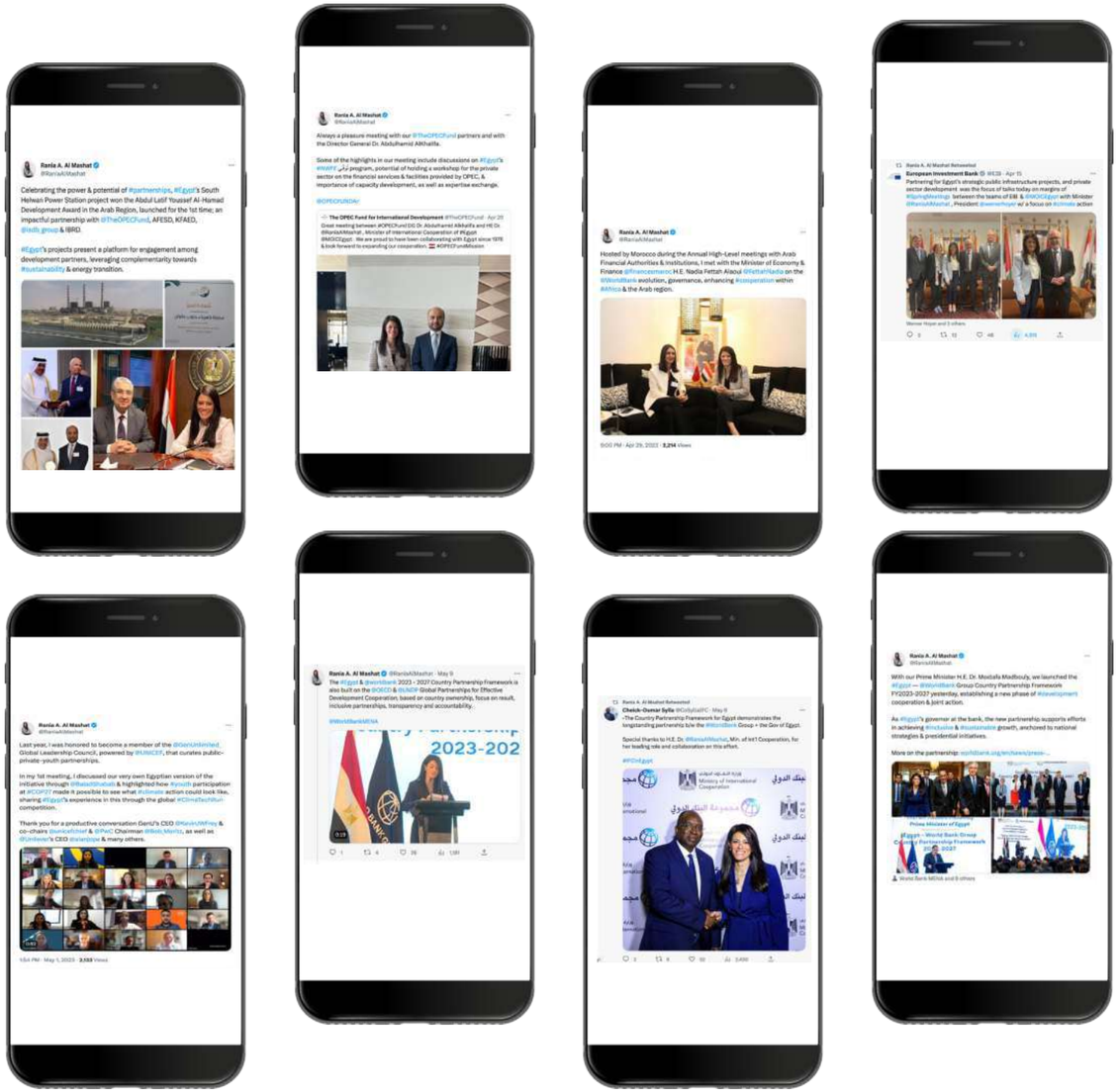




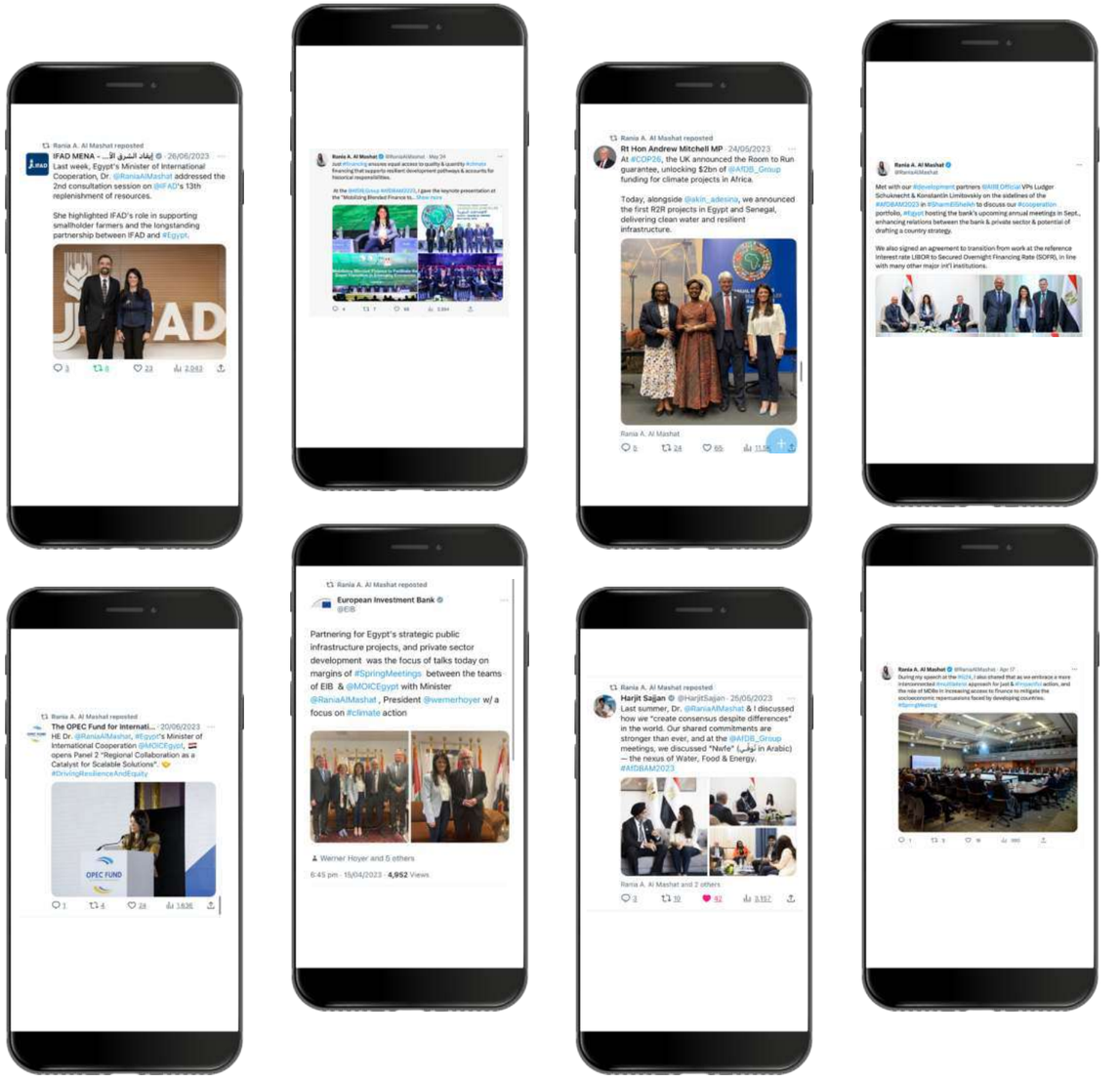


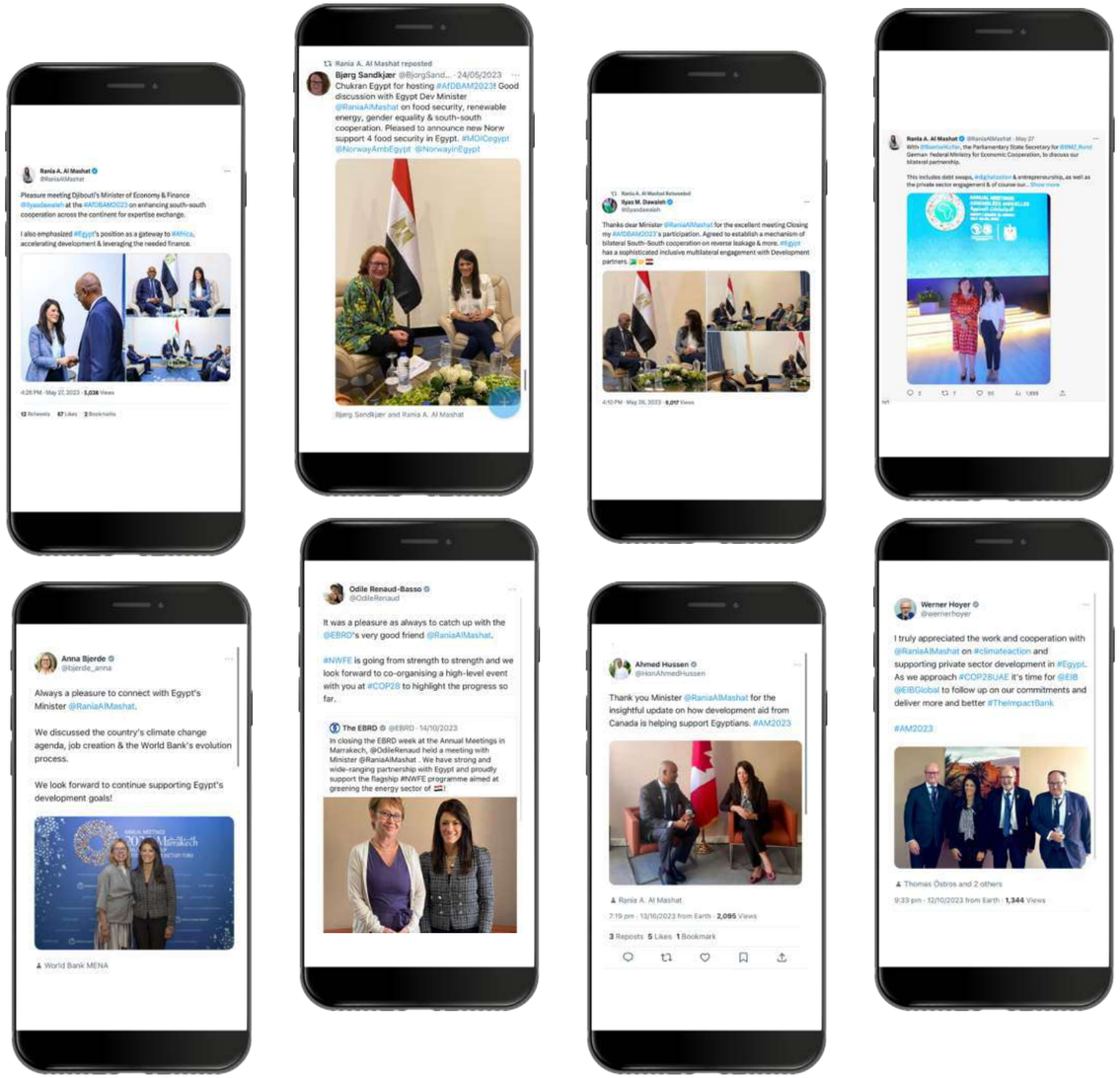


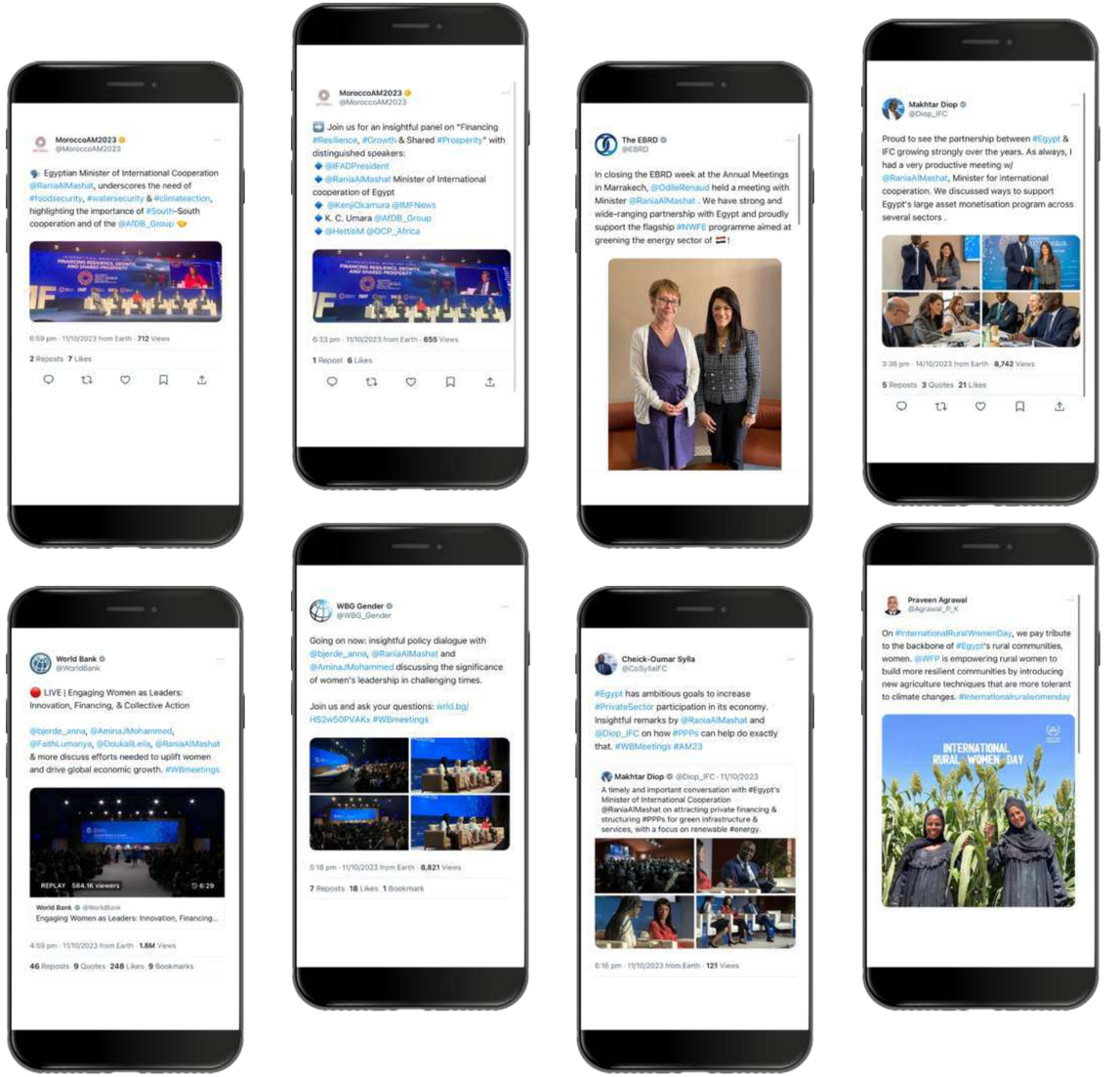

Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
Elena Panova
I felt so proud to sign jointly w the @UNEgypt family and @RaniaAlMashat the #UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2023-27 b/w the Gov of #Egypt and the #UN.
It is anchored in #Egypt Vision 2030 and aims at delivering on the promise of @SDG2030 to #LeaveNoOneBehind
United Nations and 11 others
Rania A. Al Mashat
#SDGs are the center of #development, this is an anchor for the global community that serves as a roadmap for guiding country strategies as well.
Always a pleasure being with @UN DSG @AminaJMohammed. At the #SpringMeetings, the DSG met w/ African members of the Development Committee & many others to discuss the bank's evolution roadmap & its potential to accelerate twin goals of ending poverty & promoting shared #prosperity.
Rania A. Al Mashat
At the #African Consultative Group Meeting with the @WorldBank's @DavidMalpassWBG, @AxelVT3WB & @djande_anna, I emphasized the timely operationalization of the "Loss & Damage Fund", allocation of more #Climate finance to #Africa & importance of CCDRs & their alignment to country partnership frameworks. #SpringMeetings
Rania A. Al Mashat
Any middle-income country needs to leverage on the #partnerships it has with the global community. Insightful conversation at @WorldBank & @IMFNews #SpringMeetings on private capital in development. I also spoke about #Egypt & the bank's 2023-2027 CPF.
youtube.com/watch?v=-K1kxK...
Rania A. Al Mashat
Rania A. Al Mashat
#Amina J Mohammed
Transforming the financial architecture must include African institutions' voices and solutions. #RethinkingDevelopment
She heard from African Ministers of Finance on how their priorities could be brought to the table.
Rania A. Al Mashat
Fit-for-purpose Finance architecture was a key part of @BlackRockFdn @OpenSociety roundtable w/@prakash_kiran @AminaJMohammed @mastercmorisky #CODemExpo.edu. Joining forces for collective action, we focused on the Bridgetown initiative, MDB reform & debt sustainability.
Rania A. Al Mashat
Great meeting w/@WBG President @ajaybanga in Washington! Following up on our #COP27 joint work, updates on #Egypt's NAMA+ & private sector engagement for #sustainable development, given success achieved in the last 3 years. with over a €2.3Bn #cooperation portfolio.
Rania A. Al Mashat
Today, I'm in #Morocco for the Annual High-Level meetings with Arab Financial Authorities & Institutions, with many of my colleagues incl. CBE Governor Hassan Abdalla & Finance Minister H.E. Mohamed Maait.
We announced that #Egypt will be hosting next year's annual meetings, reflecting our commitment to regional #development, & highlighting our long-standing partnership with various Arab institutions.

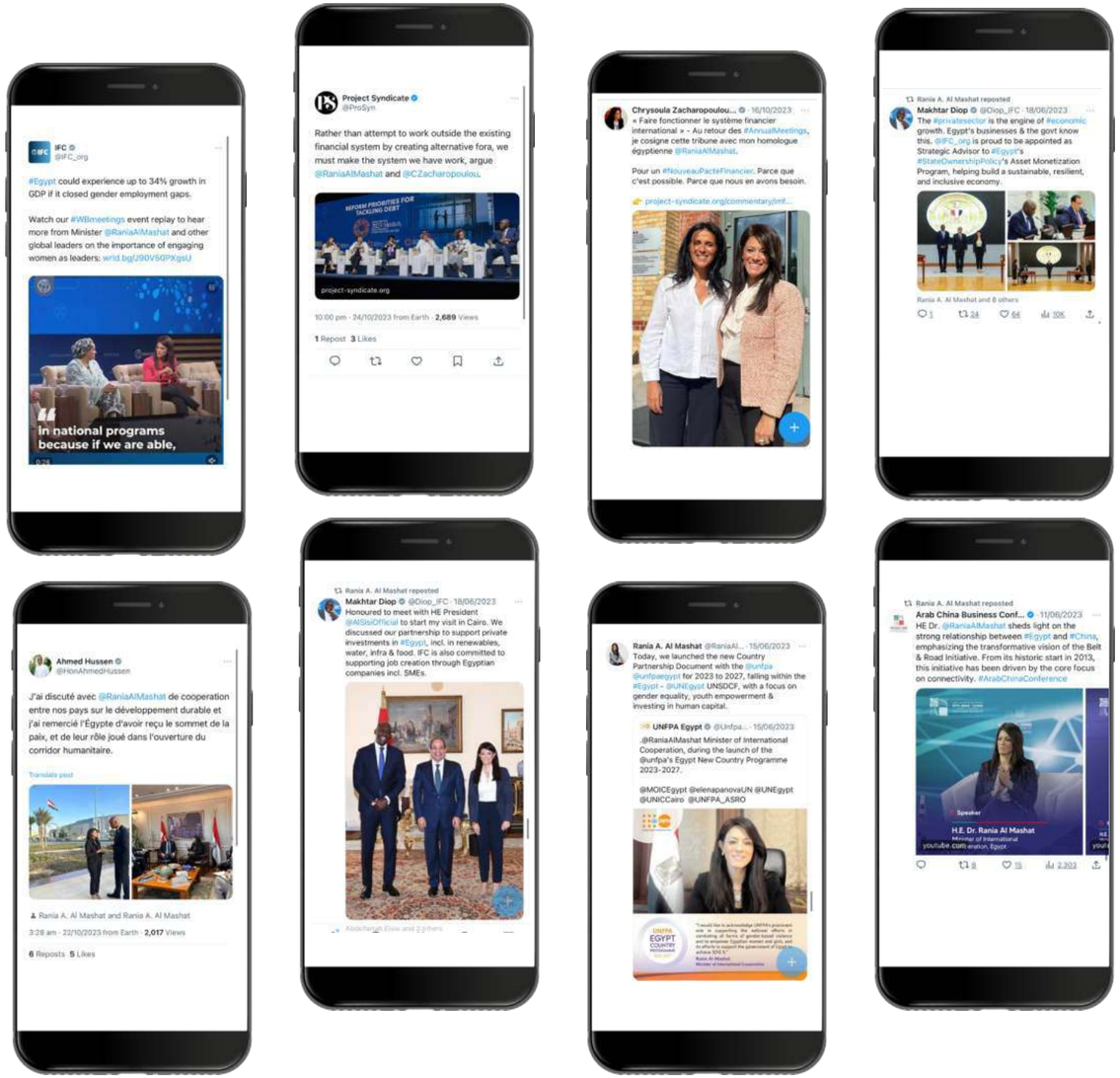

Rania A. Al Mashat
Celebrating the power & potential of #partnerships, #Egypt's South Helwan Power Station project won the Abdul-Latif Youssef Al-Hamad Development Award in the Arab Region, launched for the 1st time; an impactful partnership with @TheOPECFund, AFESD, KFAED, @adb_group & IJRRD.
#Egypt's projects present a platform for engagement among development partners, leveraging complementarity towards #sustainability & energy transition.
Rania A. Al Mashat
Always a pleasure meeting with our @TheOPECFund partners and with the Director General Dr. Abdulhamid AlKhalifa.
Some of the highlights in our meeting include discussions on #Egypt's #NWFP برنامج, potential of holding a workshop for the private sector on the financial services & facilities provided by OPEC, & importance of capacity development, as well as expertise exchange.
@OPECFUNDIN/
The OPEC Fund for International Development @TheOPECFund · Apr 26
Great meeting between #OPECFund DG Dr. Abdulhamid AlKhalifa and HE Dr. @RaniaAlMashat , Minister of International Cooperation of #Egypt @MOICEgypt . We are proud to have been collaborating with Egypt since 1978 & look forward to expanding our cooperation. 🇪🇬 #OPECFundMission
Rania A. Al Mashat
Hosted by Morocco during the Annual High-Level meetings with Arab Financial Authorities & Institutions, I met with the Minister of Economy & Finance @fmreconmaroc H.E. Nadia Fettah Alaoui @FettahNadia on the @WorldBank evolution, governance, enhancing #cooperation within #Africa & the Arab region.
European Investment Bank
Partnering for Egypt's strategic public infrastructure projects, and private sector development was the focus of talks today on margins of #SpringMeetings between the teams of EIB & #WDCEgypt with Minister @RaniaAlMashat , President @wernerhoyer w/ a focus on #climate action
Rania A. Al Mashat
Celebrating the power & potential of #partnerships, #Egypt's South Helwan Power Station project won the Abdul-Latif Youssef Al-Hamad Development Award in the Arab Region, launched for the 1st time; an impactful partnership with @TheOPECFund, AFESD, KFAED, @adb_group & IJRRD.
#Egypt's projects present a platform for engagement among development partners, leveraging complementarity towards #sustainability & energy transition.
Rania A. Al Mashat
Last year, I was honored to become a member of the @GlobalUnlimited Global Leadership Council, powered by @UNICEF, that curates public-private-youth partnerships.
In my 1st meeting, I discussed our very own Egyptian version of the initiative through #BabadiShabab & highlighted how #youth participation at #COP27 made it possible to see what #climate action could look like, sharing #Egypt's experience in this through the global #ClimaTechRun competition.
Thank you for a productive conversation @anci's CEO @MarieMcMay & co-chairs @amicafichet & @PwC Chairman @BobMoritz, as well as @Unilever's CEO @alanjope & many others.
Rania A. Al Mashat
2023-202
Rania A. Al Mashat
Chelsk-Ownar Syllo
-The Country Partnership Framework for Egypt demonstrates the longstanding partnership b/w the @WorldBank Group + the Gov of Egypt
Special thanks to H.E. Dr. @RaniaAlMashat, Min. of Int'l Cooperation, for her leading role and collaboration on this effort.
#FYI2Egypt
Rania A. Al Mashat
With our Prime Minister H.E. Dr. Mostafa Madbouly, we launched the #Egypt — @WorldBank Group Country Partnership Framework FY2023-2027 yesterday, establishing a new phase of #development cooperation & joint action.
As #Egypt's governor at the bank, the new partnership supports efforts in achieving #inclusive & #sustainable growth, anchored to national strategies & presidential initiatives.
More on the partnership:
Prime Minister of Egypt
#Egypt - World Bank Group Country Partnership Framework FY 2023 - 2027


Rania A. Al Mashat
There is greater realisation on what each stakeholder needs to do towards accelerating #development & #climate action, & on the importance of #technology in driving solutions.
But this requires #partnerships, private sector & access to just finance, along with a global strategic vision & cross-country #cooperation.
Powerful discussion this morning at the @wef's #GrowthSummit23 on the #climate technology boom. @pnwelinds, @MouradTamoud, @RajeshNTokyo, @IftiKosmess & @prarjatsharma
cn.weforum.org/invest_playe/a...
2:10 PM · May 2, 2023 · 2,563 Views
Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
European Investment Bank · 10/07/2023
During the #EIBMED Closing Remarks, @MOICEgypt Minister H.E. @RaniaAlMashat highlights the long-term cooperation between Egypt & the EIB as well as the key role that the EIB MED Conference plays in helping address new and longstanding investment needs in the Mediterranean region.
Rania A. Al Mashat and 8 others
Rania A. Al Mashat
Happy #EuropeDay! #Egypt and the #EU have longstanding relations, showing effective & efficient #cooperation over the years. The #EUinEgypt is one of the country's main partners across many #development projects, especially through bilateral cooperation with different European countries, as we work to accelerate progress in line with #Egypt's national objectives & presidential initiatives.
Egypt-EU Partnership
Rania A. Al Mashat @RaniaAl... · 10/07/2023
Starting off the day in #Beijing, China with the 8th Secretary-General of the @UN Ban Ki Moon at the 1st High-Level Meeting of the Forum on Global Action for Shared #Development, circumventing the challenges holding back progress and shared prosperity.
With an inclusive green... Show more
Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
Gelsomina Vigliotti @Gelso... · 17/05/2023
Very productive @EIB mission to Egypt
Meetings with Ministers @RaniaAlMashat, Fouad, Al Wazir and Moselhi
Bilateral with Ambassador Berger and with @CBafeg Governor Abdalla
$15 million @EIB+PALEXBANK deal
Visit to EIB-backed companies
@Moneytellows & #RichFood
European Investment Bank and 23 others
Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
Elena Panova @elenap... · 16/05/2023
The briefing to the @UN Member states on the partnership b/w & the UN Resident Coordinator system on @COP27P was a testimonial that collective UN/Government coordination promotes scalable #climate solutions and delivers on national priorities through leveraging UN expertise.
Egypt PR to the UN in New York and 5 others
Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
Project Syndicate @ProSyn · 14/06/2023
By tying development assistance to progress on a common global target, debt-for-climate swaps could prove to be significant in mitigating the worst effects of climate change, note @MOICEgypt's @RaniaAlMashat and @AfB_Official's @ErikBerglof.
project-syndicate.org
Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
The OPEC Fund for Internati... · 20/06/2023
#OPECFundDevForum: Wonderful meeting with HE @RaniaAlMashat, #Egypt's Minister of International Cooperation @MOICEgypt. We are proud to have been partnering with Egypt since 1976 and look forward to strengthening our collaboration.
#DrivingResilienceAndEquity

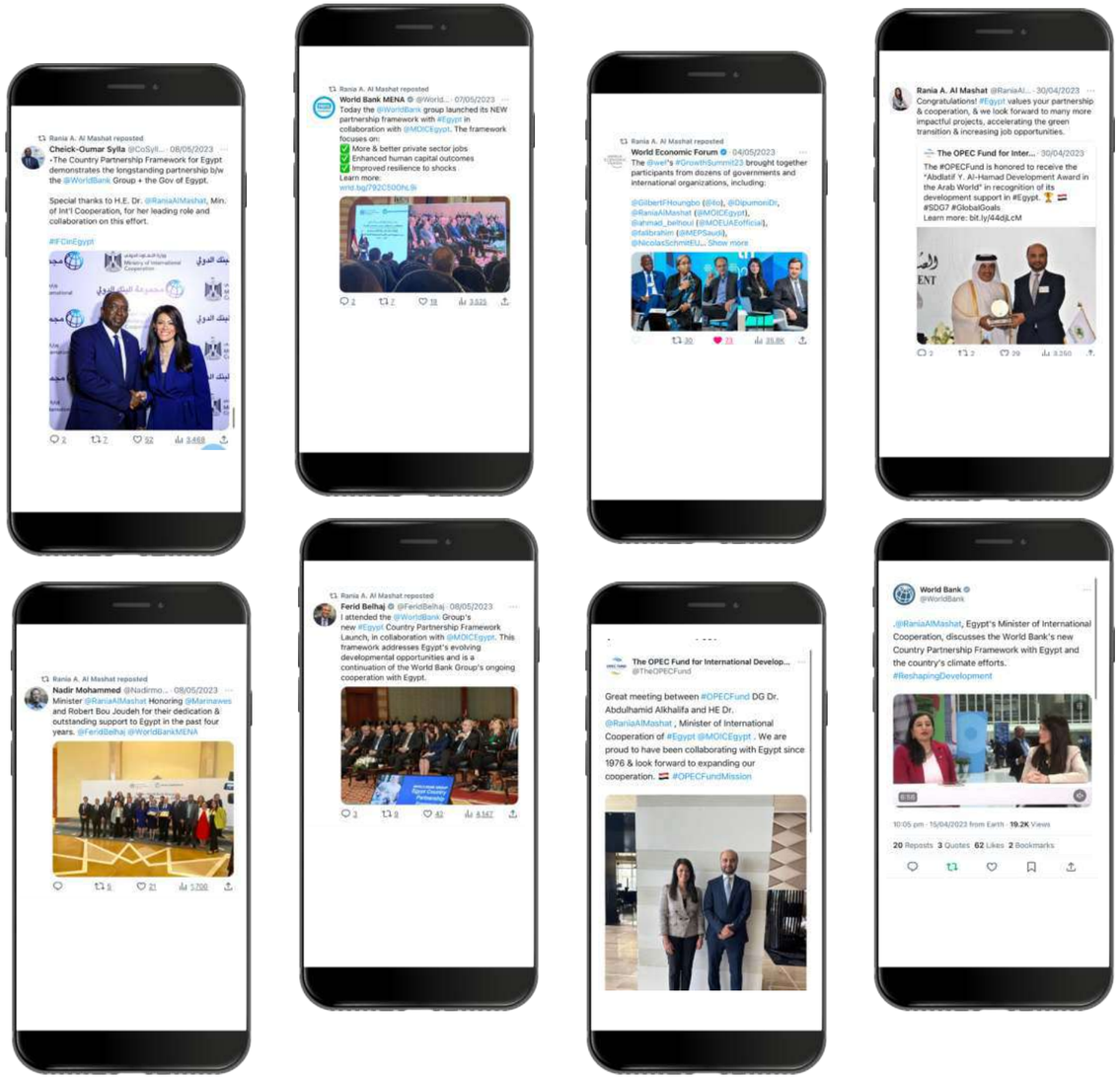

Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
IFAD MENA - إيفاد الشرق الأ... · 26/06/2023
Last week, Egypt's Minister of International Cooperation, Dr. @RaniaAlMashat addressed the 2nd consultation session on @IFAD's 13th replenishment of resources.
She highlighted IFAD's role in supporting smallholder farmers and the longstanding partnership between IFAD and #Egypt.
IFAD
Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
Rt Hon Andrew Mitchell MP · 24/05/2023
At #COP26, the UK announced the Room to Run guarantee, unlocking $2bn of @AfDB_Group funding for climate projects in Africa.
Today, alongside @akin_adesina, we announced the first R2R projects in Egypt and Senegal, delivering clean water and resilient infrastructure.
Rania A. Al Mashat
Rania A. Al Mashat
Met with our #development partners @AIIB_Official VPs Ludger Schuknecht & Konstantin Limitovsky on the sidelines of the #AfDBAM2023 in #SharmElSheikh to discuss our #cooperation portfolio, #Egypt hosting the bank's upcoming annual meetings in Sept., enhancing relations between the bank & private sector & potential of drafting a country strategy.
We also signed an agreement to transition from work at the reference interest rate LIBOR to Secured Overnight Financing Rate (SOFR), in line with many other major int'l institutions.
The OPEC Fund for Internati... · 20/06/2023
HE Dr. @RaniaAlMashat, #Egypt's Minister of International Cooperation @MOICEgypt, opens Panel 2 "Regional Collaboration as a Catalyst for Scalable Solutions".
#DrivingResilienceAndEquity
OPEC FUND
Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
European Investment Bank
@EIB
Partnering for Egypt's strategic public infrastructure projects, and private sector development was the focus of talks today on margins of #SpringMeetings between the teams of EIB & @MOICEgypt with Minister @RaniaAlMashat , President @wernerhoyer w/ a focus on #climate action
Werner Hoyer and 5 others
6:45 pm · 19/04/2023 · 4,952 Views
Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
Harjit Sajjan @HarjitSajjan · 26/05/2023
Last summer, Dr. @RaniaAlMashat & I discussed how we "create consensus despite differences" in the world. Our shared commitments are stronger than ever, and at the @AfDB_Group meetings, we discussed "Nexus" (نوفي in Arabic) — the nexus of Water, Food & Energy.
#AfDBAM2023
Rania A. Al Mashat and 2 others
Rania A. Al Mashat @RaniaAlMashat · Apr 17
During my speech at the #G24, I also shared that as we embrace a more interconnected #multilateral approach for just & #inclusive action, and the role of MDBs in increasing access to finance to mitigate the socioeconomic repercussions faced by developing countries.
#SpringMeeting

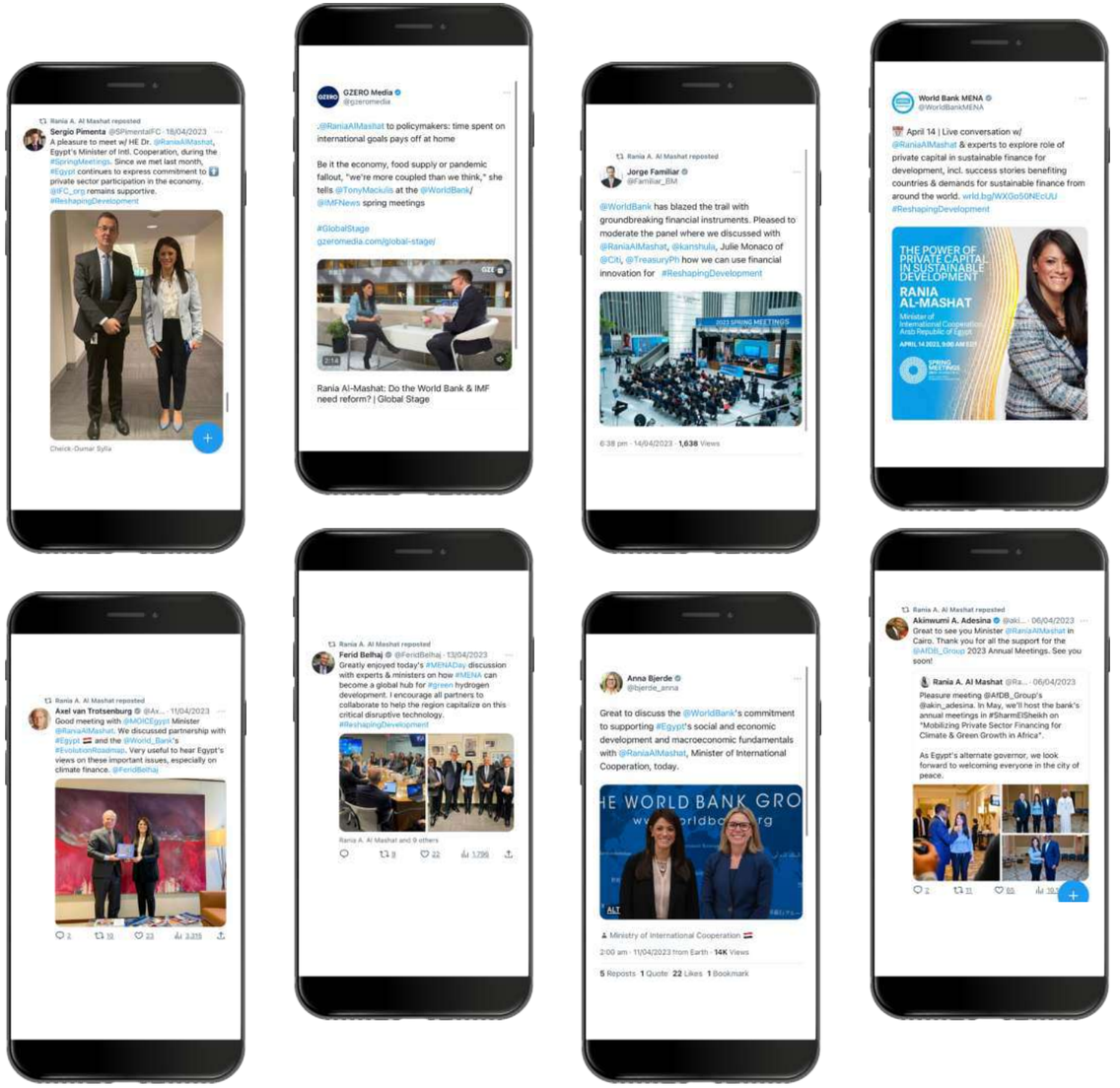

Rania A. Al Mashat
Pleasure meeting Djibouti's Minister of Economy & Finance
I also emphasized #Egypt's position as a gateway to #Africa,
Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
Bjørg Sandkjær
Chukran Egypt for hosting #AfDBAM2023! Good discussion with Egypt Dev Minister
Bjørg Sandkjær and Rania A. Al Mashat
Thanks dear Minister
Rania A. Al Mashat
Anna Bjerde
Always a pleasure to connect with Egypt's Minister
We discussed the country's climate change agenda, job creation & the World Bank's evolution process.
We look forward to continue supporting Egypt's development goals!
World Bank MENA
Odile Renaud-Basso
It was a pleasure as always to catch up with the
The EBRD
In closing the EBRD week at the Annual Meetings in Marrakech, @OdileRenaud held a meeting with Minister
Ahmed Hussen
Thank you Minister
Rania A. Al Mashat
Werner Hoyer
I truly appreciated the work and cooperation with
Thomas Östros and 2 others


MoroccoAM2023
Egyptian Minister of International Cooperation
Join us for an insightful panel on "Financing
The EBRD
In closing the EBRD week at the Annual Meetings in Marrakech,
Makhtar Diop
Proud to see the partnership between
World Bank
LIVE | Engaging Women as Leaders:
WBG Gender
Going on now: insightful policy dialogue with
Cheick-Oumar Sylla
Praveen Agrawal
On
INTERNATIONAL RURAL WOMEN DAY

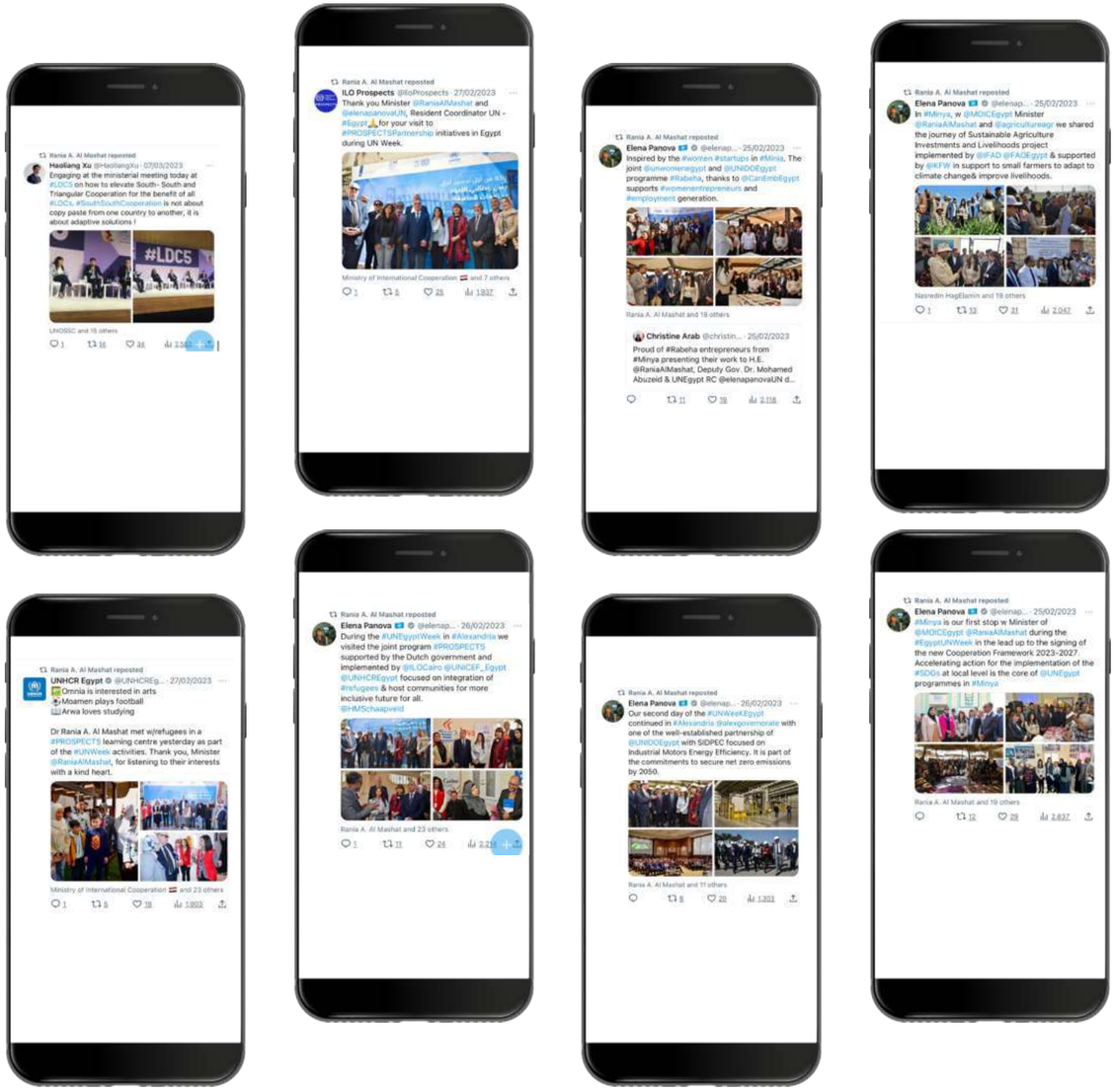

IFC
@IFC_org
#Egypt could experience up to 34% growth in GDP if it closed gender employment gaps.
Watch our #WBImeetings event replay to hear more from Minister @RaniaAlMashat and other global leaders on the importance of engaging women as leaders: wrld.bg/J90V50PXgsU
in national programs because if we are able,
Project Syndicate
@ProSyn
Rather than attempt to work outside the existing financial system by creating alternative fora, we must make the system we have work, argue @RaniaAlMashat and @CZacharopoulou.
project-syndicate.org
1 Repost 3 Likes
Chrysoula Zacharopoulou... · 16/10/2023
« Faire fonctionner le système financier international » - Au retour des #AnnualMeetings, je cosigne cette tribune avec mon homologue égyptienne @RaniaAlMashat.
Pour un #NouveauPacteFinancier. Parce que c'est possible. Parce que nous en avons besoin.
project-syndicate.org/commentary/imf...
Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
Makhtar Diop @DiopIFC · 18/06/2023
The #privatesector is the engine of #economic growth. Egypt's businesses & the govt know this. @IFC_org is proud to be appointed as Strategic Advisor to #Egypt's #StateOwnershipPolicy's Asset Monetization Program, helping build a sustainable, resilient, and inclusive economy.
Rania A. Al Mashat and 8 others
Ahmed Hussen
@HonAhmedHussen
J'ai discuté avec @RaniaAlMashat de cooperation entre nos pays sur le développement durable et j'ai remercié l'Égypte d'avoir reçu le sommet de la paix, et de leur rôle joué dans l'ouverture du corridor humanitaire.
Translate post
Rania A. Al Mashat and Rania A. Al Mashat
3:28 am · 22/10/2023 from Earth · 2,017 Views
6 Reposts 5 Likes
Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
Makhtar Diop @DiopIFC · 18/06/2023
Honoured to meet with HE President @AlSisiOfficial to start my visit in Cairo. We discussed our partnership to support private investments in #Egypt, incl. in renewables, water, infra & food. IFC is also committed to supporting job creation through Egyptian companies incl. SMEs.
Abdelfattah Elsisi and 2 others
Rania A. Al Mashat @RaniaAl... · 15/06/2023
Today, we launched the new Country Partnership Document with the @unfpa @unfpaegypt for 2023 to 2027, falling within the #Egypt - @UNEgypt UNSDCF, with a focus on gender equality, youth empowerment & investing in human capital.
UNFPA Egypt @Unfpa... · 15/06/2023
@RaniaAlMashat Minister of International Cooperation, during the launch of the @unfpa's Egypt New Country Programme 2023-2027.
@MOICEgypt @elenapanovaUN @UNEgypt @UNICCairo @UNFPA_ASRO
UNFPA EGYPT COUNTRY PROGRAMME
Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
Arab China Business Conf... · 11/06/2023
HE Dr. @RaniaAlMashat sheds light on the strong relationship between #Egypt and #China, emphasizing the transformative vision of the Belt & Road Initiative. From its historic start in 2013, this initiative has been driven by the core focus on connectivity. #ArabChinaConference
Speaker
H.E. Dr. Rania Al Mashat
Minister of International
youtube.com/watch
Egypt

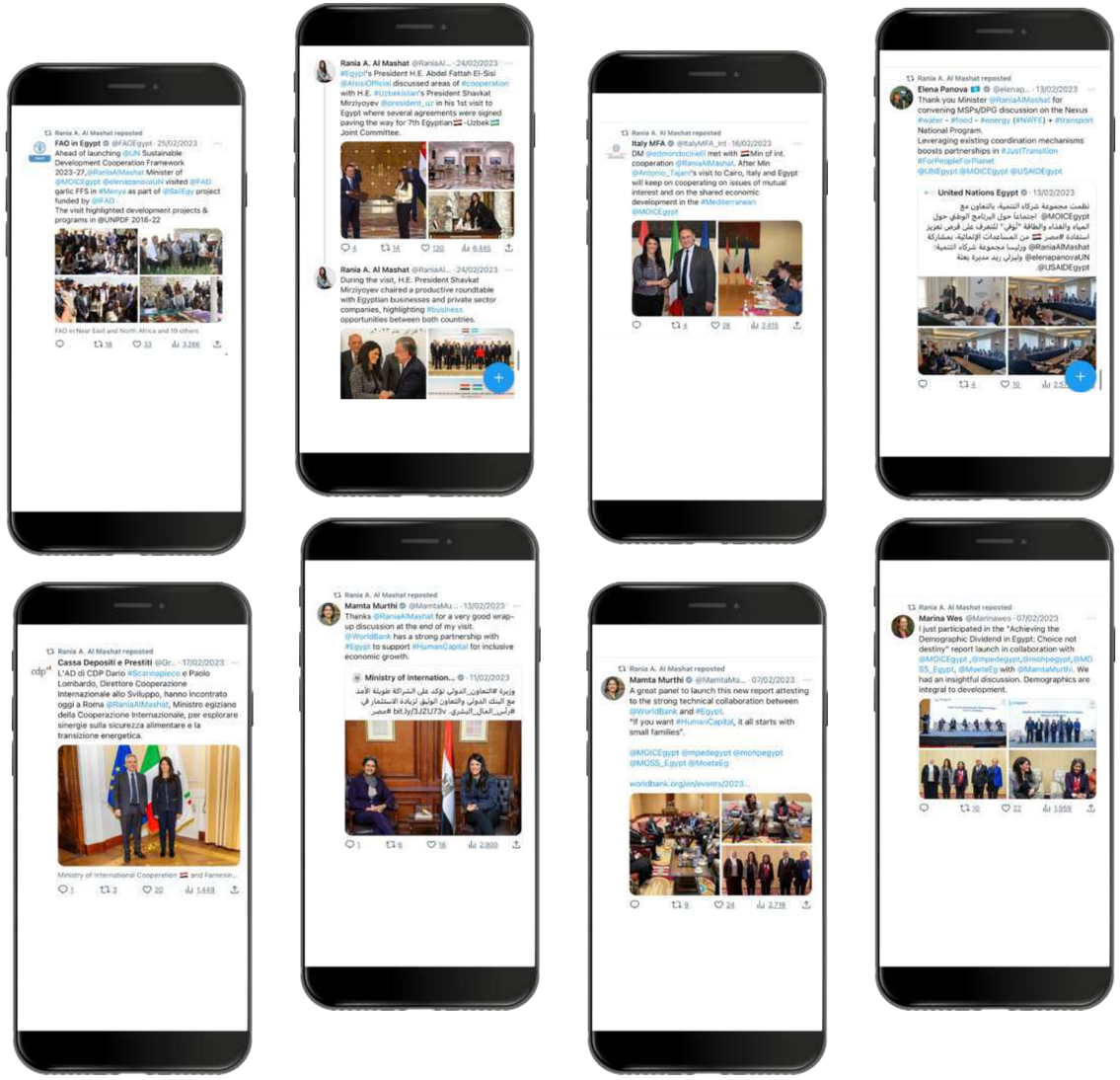

Rania A. Al Mashat @RaniaAl... · 01/06/2023
A special time for #Egypt as the latest country to join the New Development Bank @ndb_int.
In #Shanghai today for the 8th #NDBAnnualMeeting, we met the bank's pres. @dilmabr for discussions on future prospects & engagement, esp. given Egypt's long history of #multilateralism &... Show more
New Development Bank
Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
The EBRD @EBRD · 16/05/2023
Join us LIVE for #EBRDGreenCities panel to learn about resilient solutions for cities of the future LIVE from Samarkand!
#EBRDam
W/ @LinOGrady1, @RaniaAlMashat, @NanditaParshad, @ThierryDeau, @e_turdimov & others
16 May 2PM (GMT +5)
Starting now: youtube.com/watch?v=R5vEkp...
World Bank MENA
@WorldBankMENA
#Egypt's minister of international cooperation @RaniaAlMashat shared her thoughts on the new Egypt Country Partnership Framework from our @WorldBank launch event, held in collaboration with @MOICEgypt.
New framework: wrld.bg/Iyek500mQPq
8:20 pm · 12/05/2023 from Earth · 4,991 Views
3 Reposts 2 Quotes 14 Likes 1 Bookmark
Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
Praveen Agrawal @Agrawal_... · 10/05/2023
The Gov't of 🇪🇬 & #UN launched ystrdy the UN Cooperation Framework 2023-27. W. the framework anchored in Egypt's Vision 2030, @WFP looks frwrd to taking prtnrships, innovations & strtgic financing to new heights to empower communities to achieve food & nutrition security for all
Ministry of International Cooperation 🇪🇬 and 7 others
Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
ECA @ECA_OFFICIAL · 25/05/2023
@HanaanMorsy14 se joint à @RaniaAlMashat, @nardiosbthomas, @dimaakhatib1 & d'autres pr explorer & améliorer l'intégrat° éco. en #Africa via la coopérat° Sud-Sud & triangulaire ; parle de l'initiative @AfCFTA-Anchored Pharma comme une des avancées de @ECA_OFFICIAL ds cette direct°
Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
Heike Harmgart @heikeharm... · 26/05/2023
Stimulating discussion on #south-south-triangular cooperation chaired by @RaniaAlMashat and @nardiosbthomas @EBRD
An excellent opportunity to share the #NWFE energy experience in #Egypt.
Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
Ilyas M. Davaleh @ilyasda... · 26/05/2023
Thanks dear Minister @RaniaAlMashat for the excellent meeting Closing my #AfDBAM2023's participation. Agreed to establish a mechanism of bilateral South-South cooperation on reverse leakage & more. #Egypt has a sophisticated inclusive multilateral engagement with Development... Show more
Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
Elena Panova @elenap... · 09/05/2023
Thank you YE Dr Mostafa Madbouly, the Prime Minister of #Egypt for honoring us w your presence at the signing of the new #UN Cooperation Framework. Your presence means leadership commitment towards strengthening 🇪🇬 🇪🇺 relationship for a prosperous & resilient Egypt.
@CabinetEgy
Rania A. Al Mashat and 11 others
Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
Carlos Oliver Cruz @CarlosO... · 09/05/2023
Today @UNEgypt family witnessed the signing of the UNSSCF under the auspices of H.E. Mostafa Madbouly EG Prime Minister &H.E. @RaniaAlMashat @MOICEgypt
We are proud to be part of this framework that ensures the accessibility of migrants to basic services & dignified assistance.
United Nations Egypt and 29 others

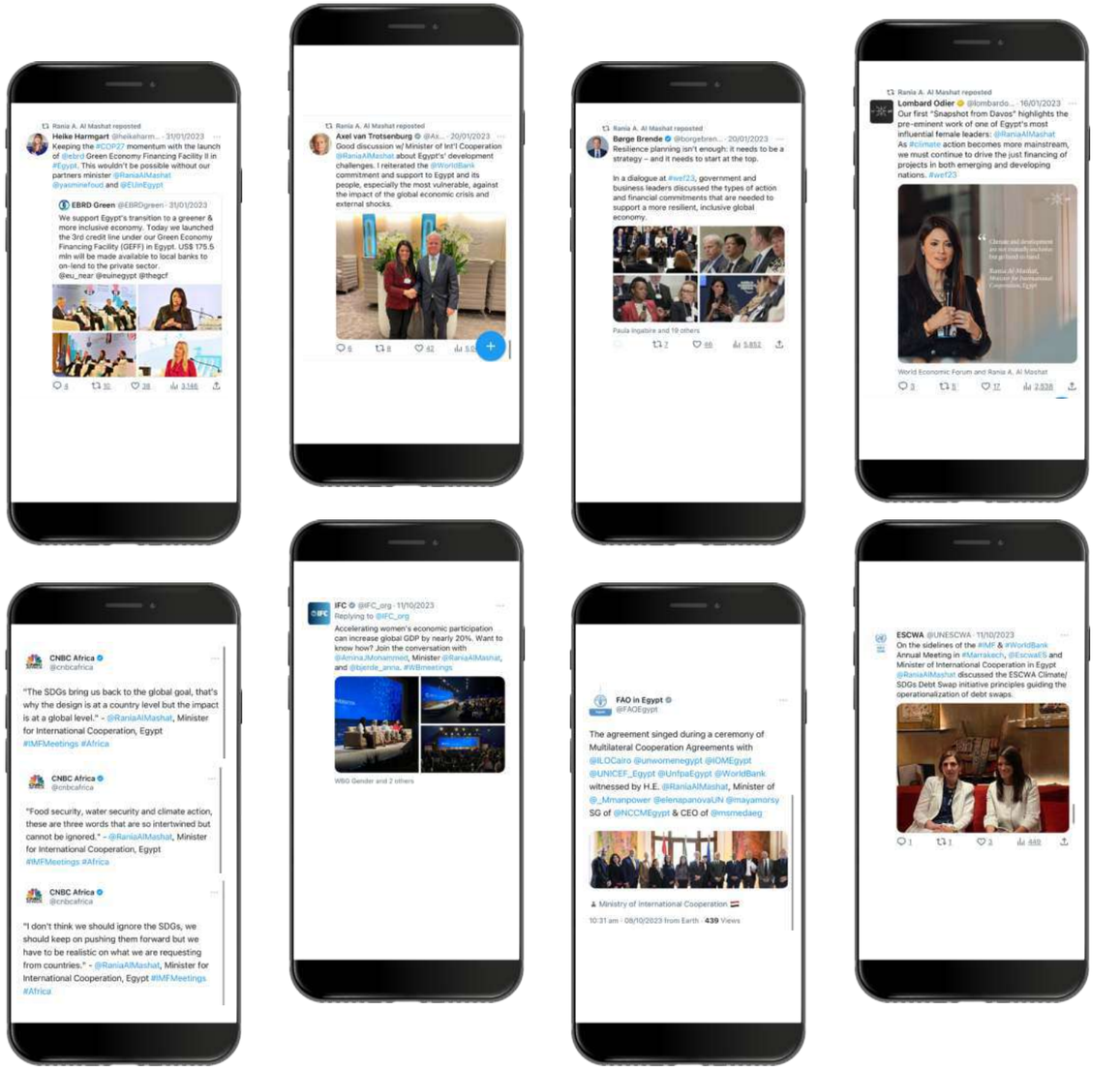

Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
Cheick-Oumar Sylla @CoSyll... · 08/05/2023
- The Country Partnership Framework for Egypt demonstrates the longstanding partnership b/w the @WorldBank Group + the Gov of Egypt.
Special thanks to H.E. Dr. @RaniaAlMashat, Min. of Int'l Cooperation, for her leading role and collaboration on this effort.
#FCinEgypt
Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
World Bank MENA @World... · 07/05/2023
Today the @WorldBank group launched its NEW partnership framework with #Egypt in collaboration with @MOICEgypt. The framework focuses on:
✅ More & better private sector jobs
✅ Enhanced human capital outcomes
✅ Improved resilience to shocks
Learn more:
wrld.bg/792C50OhL9i
Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
World Economic Forum · 04/05/2023
The @wef's #GrowthSummit23 brought together participants from dozens of governments and international organizations, including:
@GilbertFHoungbo (@4o), @DipumoniDr, @RaniaAlMashat (@MOICEgypt), @ahmad_belhoul (@MOEUAEofficial), @fatihbahiri (@MEPSaudi), @NicolasSchmitEU... Show more
Rania A. Al Mashat @RaniaAl... · 30/04/2023
Congratulations! #Egypt values your partnership & cooperation, & we look forward to many more impactful projects, accelerating the green transition & increasing job opportunities.
The OPEC Fund for Inter... · 30/04/2023
The #OPECFund is honored to receive the "Abdlatif Y. Al-Hamad Development Award in the Arab World" in recognition of its development support in #Egypt. 🏆 🇪🇬
#SDG7 #GlobalGoals
Learn more: bit.ly/44dJLcM
Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
Nadir Mohammed @Nadirmo... · 08/05/2023
Minister @RaniaAlMashat Honoring @Marinawes and Robert Bou Joudeh for their dedication & outstanding support to Egypt in the past four years. @FeridBelhaj @WorldBankMENA
Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
Ferid Belhaj @FeridBelhaj · 08/05/2023
I attended the @WorldBank Group's new #Egypt Country Partnership Framework Launch, in collaboration with @MOICEgypt. This framework addresses Egypt's evolving developmental opportunities and is a continuation of the World Bank Group's ongoing cooperation with Egypt.
The OPEC Fund for International Develop... @TheOPECFund
Great meeting between #OPECFund DG Dr. Abdulhamid Alkhalifa and HE Dr. @RaniaAlMashat , Minister of International Cooperation of #Egypt @MOICEgypt . We are proud to have been collaborating with Egypt since 1976 & look forward to expanding our cooperation. 🇪🇬 #OPECFundMission
World Bank @WorldBank
.@RaniaAlMashat, Egypt's Minister of International Cooperation, discusses the World Bank's new Country Partnership Framework with Egypt and the country's climate efforts.
#ReshapingDevelopment
10:05 pm · 15/04/2023 from Earth · 19.2K Views
20 Reposts 3 Quotes 62 Likes 2 Bookmarks


Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
Sergio Pimenta @SPimentalFC · 18/04/2023
A pleasure to meet w/ HE Dr. @RaniaAlMashat, Egypt's Minister of Intl. Cooperation, during the #SpringMeetings. Since we met last month, #Egypt continues to express commitment to 🔝 private sector participation in the economy. @IFC_org remains supportive.
#ReshapingDevelopment
Cheick-Oumar Sylla
GZERO Media @gzeromedia
.@RaniaAlMashat to policymakers: time spent on international goals pays off at home
Be it the economy, food supply or pandemic fallout, "we're more coupled than we think," she tells @TonyMaciulis at the @WorldBank/ @IMFNews spring meetings
#GlobalStage
gzeromedia.com/global-stage/
Rania Al-Mashat: Do the World Bank & IMF need reform? | Global Stage
Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
Jorge Familiar @Familiar_BM
@WorldBank has blazed the trail with groundbreaking financial instruments. Pleased to moderate the panel where we discussed with @RaniaAlMashat, @kamshula, Julie Monaco of @Citi, @TreasuryPh how we can use financial innovation for #ReshapingDevelopment
6:38 pm · 14/04/2023 · 1,638 Views
World Bank MENA @WorldBankMENA
April 14 | Live conversation w/ @RaniaAlMashat & experts to explore role of private capital in sustainable finance for development, incl. success stories benefiting countries & demands for sustainable finance from around the world. wrld.bg/WXGo50NEcUU
#ReshapingDevelopment
THE POWER OF PRIVATE CAPITAL IN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
RANIA AL-MASHAT
Minister of International Cooperation Arab Republic of Egypt
Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
Axel van Trotsenburg @ @Ax... · 11/04/2023
Good meeting with @MOICEgypt Minister @RaniaAlMashat. We discussed partnership with #Egypt 🇪🇬 and the @World_Bank's #EvolutionRoadmap. Very useful to hear Egypt's views on these important issues, especially on climate finance. @FeridBelhaj
Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
Ferid Belhaj @FeridBelhaj · 13/04/2023
Greatly enjoyed today's #MENADay discussion with experts & ministers on how #MENA can become a global hub for #green hydrogen development. I encourage all partners to collaborate to help the region capitalize on this critical disruptive technology.
#ReshapingDevelopment
Rania A. Al Mashat and 9 others
Anna Bjerde @bjerde_anna
Great to discuss the @WorldBank's commitment to supporting #Egypt's social and economic development and macroeconomic fundamentals with @RaniaAlMashat, Minister of International Cooperation, today.
Ministry of International Cooperation 🇪🇬
2:00 am · 11/04/2023 from Earth · 14K Views
5 Reposts 1 Quote 22 Likes 1 Bookmark
Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
Akinwumi A. Adesina @aki... · 06/04/2023
Great to see you Minister @RaniaAlMashat in Cairo. Thank you for all the support for the @AfDB_Group 2023 Annual Meetings. See you soon!
Rania A. Al Mashat @Ra... · 06/04/2023
Pleasure meeting @AfDB_Group's @akin_adesina. In May, we'll host the bank's annual meetings in #SharmElSheikh on "Mobilizing Private Sector Financing for Climate & Green Growth in Africa".
As Egypt's alternate governor, we look forward to welcoming everyone in the city of peace.


Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
Sergio Pimenta @SPimentaIFC · 21/03/2023
Thank you, @RaniaAlMashat, Minister of Int'l Cooperation for #Egypt, for joining today's @IFC_org workshop during which our team shared information about IFC's diverse offerings in #climatefinance, #microfinance, #credit and women's #accesstofinance. #IFCinEgypt
IFC
Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
Sergio Pimenta @SPimentaIFC · 22/03/2023
Always great to catch up w/ long-time partner, Minister of international Cooperation, H.E.@RaniaAlMashat. We discussed how @IFC_org can mobilize the private sector in alignment w/ the Gov of #Egypt's State Ownership Policy - a key reform to boost economic growth. #IFCinEgypt
Elena Panova @elenap... · 21/03/2023
As a chair of @amcham_egypt Int. Cooperation Committee I was pleased to co-moderate the keynote speech of H.E. @RaniaAlMashat, Minister of @MOICEgypt on the important role of partnerships w bilateral & multilateral development partners for the sustainable development of #Egypt.
Private Sector
Rania A. Al Mashat @RaniaAl... · 08/03/2023
Collective effort of government & private sector is fundamental in pushing for the economic empowerment of women. Great talk with my friend @IFC_org's Emmanuel Nyirinkindi on supporting women via impact investment & partnerships. #WD2023 #InternationalWomensDay
IFC Africa @IFCAfrica · 08/03/2023
@IFC_org VP Emmanuel Nyirinkindi #interviews #Egypt's Minister @RaniaAlMashat on International Women's Day.
Watch their conversation on pushing forward women empowerment, particularly in businesses. #EmbraceEquity #WD2023 @MOICEgypt
Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
WFP in the Middle East &... · 12/03/2023
Snippets from our day in #Aswan with Minister @RaniaAlMashat where WFP & the government of #Egypt are supporting students, teachers, families & farmers with access to food, digital education & innovations to make opportunities out of climate challenges.
Ministry of International Cooperation and 5 others
Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
Elena Panova @elenapa... · 11/03/2023
Real transformation in the livelihoods of smallholder farmers in Al-Kajouj village Aswan thanks to @WFP_MENA and #agricultureagr Programme on Strengthening #Climate Resilience & #FoodSecurity through Livelihood Enhancement. @adaptationfund and @NLNetherlands @HMSchaapveld
Rania A. Al Mashat and 2 others
United Nations Egypt · 11/03/2023
شملت الزيارة إلى #أسوان جولات متنوعة لمشروع "الاستثمار في رأس المال البشري" الذي يقوده برنامج الأغذية العالمي، حيث تفقدت د. ...
Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
Praveen Agrawal @Agrawal_P... · 11/03/2023
In #Aswan, @WFP, @MOICEgypt & the Governor take on a holistic approach, addressing #FoodSecurity from "farmer to fork", making sure farmers are financially literate, have access to markets thrgh value chains & by economically empwring women thrgh in-kind loans #EgyptUNWeek
WFP in the Middle East & North Africa and 5 others
Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
FAO in Egypt @FAOEgypt · 09/03/2023
In #Aswan, @FAO and @wpan singed today a funding agreement of the project addressing water productivity in agriculture in to support improving water productivity for #foodsecurity @RaniaAlMashat @HaniSewilam @FAOADG_NENA @elenapanovaUN @alyabousabaa witnessed the signing ceremony.
and 39 others


Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
Haolang Xu @HaolangXu · 07/03/2023
Engaging at the ministerial meeting today at #LDC5 on how to elevate South- South and Triangular Cooperation for the benefit of all #LDCs. #SouthSouthCooperation is not about copy paste from one country to another, it is about adaptive solutions !
#LDCS
LHDSSC and 15 others
Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
ILO Prospects @IloProspects · 27/02/2023
Thank you Minister @RaniaAlMashat and @elenapanovaUN, Resident Coordinator UN - #Egypt for your visit to #PROSPECTSPartnership initiatives in Egypt during UN Week.
Ministry of International Cooperation and 7 others
Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
Elena Panova @elenap... · 25/02/2023
Inspired by the #women #startups in #Minia. The joint @unwomenegypt and @UNIDOEgypt programme #Rabeha, thanks to @CanEmbEgypt supports #womenentrepreneurs and #employment generation.
Rania A. Al Mashat and 19 others
Christine Arab @christin... · 25/02/2023
Proud of #Rabeha entrepreneurs from #Minya presenting their work to H.E. @RaniaAlMashat, Deputy Gov. Dr. Mohamed Abuzeid & UNEgypt RC @elenapanovaUN d...
Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
Elena Panova @elenap... · 25/02/2023
In #Minya, w @MOICEgypt Minister @RaniaAlMashat and @agriculture agr we shared the journey of Sustainable Agriculture Investments and Livelihoods project implemented by @IFAD @FAOEgypt & supported by @KFW in support to small farmers to adapt to climate change& improve livelihoods.
Nasredin HagElamin and 19 others
UNHCR Egypt @UNHCREg... · 27/02/2023
Omnia is interested in arts
Moamen plays football
Arwa loves studying
Dr Rania A. Al Mashat met w/refugees in a #PROSPECTS learning centre yesterday as part of the #UNWeek activities. Thank you, Minister @RaniaAlMashat, for listening to their interests with a kind heart.
Ministry of International Cooperation and 23 others
Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
Elena Panova @elenap... · 26/02/2023
During the #UNEgyptWeek in #Alexandria we visited the joint program #PROSPECTS supported by the Dutch government and implemented by @ILOCairo @UNICEF_Egypt @UNHCREgypt focused on integration of #refugees & host communities for more inclusive future for all. @HMSchaapveld
Rania A. Al Mashat and 23 others
Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
Elena Panova @elenap... · 26/02/2023
Our second day of the #UNWeekEgypt continued in #Alexandria @alexgovernorate with one of the well-established partnership of @UNIDOEgypt with SIDPEC focused on Industrial Motors Energy Efficiency. It is part of the commitments to secure net zero emissions by 2050.
Rania A. Al Mashat and 11 others
Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
Elena Panova @elenap... · 25/02/2023
#Minya is our first stop w Minister of @MOICEgypt @RaniaAlMashat during the #EgyptUNWeek in the lead up to the signing of the new Cooperation Framework 2023-2027. Accelerating action for the implementation of the #SDGs at local level is the core of @UNEgypt programmes in #Minya
Rania A. Al Mashat and 19 others


Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
FAO in Egypt @FAOEgypt · 25/02/2023
Ahead of launching @UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2023-27, @RaniaAlMashat Minister of @MOICEgypt @elenapanovaUN visited @FAO garlic FFS in #Menya as part of @BaitEgy project funded by @IFAD
The visit highlighted development projects & programs in @UNPDF 2018-22
FAO in Near East and North Africa and 19 others
Rania A. Al Mashat @RaniaAl... · 24/02/2023
#Egypt's President H.E. Abdel Fattah El-Sisi @AlsisiOfficial discussed areas of #cooperation with H.E. #Uzbekistan's President Shavkat Mirziyoyev @president_uz in his 1st visit to Egypt where several agreements were signed paving the way for 7th Egyptian🇪🇬-Uzbek🇺🇿 Joint Committee.
Rania A. Al Mashat @RaniaAl... · 24/02/2023
During the visit, H.E. President Shavkat Mirziyoyev chaired a productive roundtable with Egyptian businesses and private sector companies, highlighting #business opportunities between both countries.
Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
Italy MFA @ItalyMFA_int · 16/02/2023
DM @edmondocirielli met with 🇪🇬Min of Int. cooperation @RaniaAlMashat. After Min @Antonio_Tajani's visit to Cairo, Italy and Egypt will keep on cooperating on issues of mutual interest and on the shared economic development in the #Mediterranean @MOICEgypt
Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
Elena Panova @elenap... · 13/02/2023
Thank you Minister @RaniaAlMashat for convening MSPs/DPG discussion on the Nexus #water + #food + #energy (#NWFE) + #transport National Program.
Leveraging existing coordination mechanisms boosts partnerships in #JustTransition #ForPeopleForPlanet @UNEgypt @MOICEgypt @USAIDEgypt
United Nations Egypt · 13/02/2023
Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
Cassa Depositi e Prestiti @Cc... · 17/02/2023
L'AD di CDP Dario #Scannapieco e Paolo Lombardo, Direttore Cooperazione Internazionale allo Sviluppo, hanno incontrato oggi a Roma @RaniaAlMashat, Ministro egiziano della Cooperazione Internazionale, per esplorare sinergie sulla sicurezza alimentare e la transizione energetica.
Ministry of International Cooperation 🇪🇬 and Farnesin...
Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
Mamta Murthi @MamtaMu... · 13/02/2023
Thanks @RaniaAlMashat for a very good wrap-up discussion at the end of my visit. @WorldBank has a strong partnership with #Egypt to support #HumanCapital for inclusive economic growth.
Ministry of Internation... · 11/02/2023
Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
Mamta Murthi @MamtaMu... · 07/02/2023
A great panel to launch this new report attesting to the strong technical collaboration between @WorldBank and #Egypt.
"If you want #HumanCapital, it all starts with small families".
@MOICEgypt @mpedegypt @mohpegypt @MOSS_Egypt @MoeteEg
worldbank.org/en/events/2023...
Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
Marina Wes @Marinawes · 07/02/2023
I just participated in the "Achieving the Demographic Dividend in Egypt: Choice not destiny" report launch in collaboration with @MOICEgypt @mpedegypt @mohpegypt @MOSS_Egypt, @MoeteEg with @MamtaMurthi. We had an insightful discussion. Demographics are integral to development.


Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
Heike Harmgart @heikeharm... · 31/01/2023
Keeping the #COP27 momentum with the launch of @eizrd Green Economy Financing Facility II in #Egypt. This wouldn't be possible without our partners minister @RaniaAlMashat @yasminefoud and @ElinEgypt
EBRD Green @EBRDgreen · 31/01/2023
We support Egypt's transition to a greener & more inclusive economy. Today we launched the 3rd credit line under our Green Economy Financing Facility (GEFF) in Egypt. US$ 175.5 mln will be made available to local banks to on-lend to the private sector.
@eu_near @euinegypt @thegcf
Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
Axel van Trotsenburg @Ax... · 20/01/2023
Good discussion w/ Minister of Int'l Cooperation @RaniaAlMashat about Egypt's development challenges. I reiterated the @WorldBank commitment and support to Egypt and its people, especially the most vulnerable, against the impact of the global economic crisis and external shocks.
Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
Berge Brende @borgebren... · 20/01/2023
Resilience planning isn't enough: it needs to be a strategy – and it needs to start at the top.
In a dialogue at #wef23, government and business leaders discussed the types of action and financial commitments that are needed to support a more resilient, inclusive global economy.
Paula Ingabire and 19 others
Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
Lombard Odier @lombardo... · 16/01/2023
Our first "Snapshot from Davos" highlights the pre-eminent work of one of Egypt's most influential female leaders: @RaniaAlMashat
As #climate action becomes more mainstream, we must continue to drive the just financing of projects in both emerging and developing nations. #wef23
World Economic Forum and Rania A. Al Mashat
CNBC Africa @cnbcafrica
"The SDGs bring us back to the global goal, that's why the design is at a country level but the impact is at a global level." - @RaniaAlMashat, Minister for International Cooperation, Egypt #IMFMeetings #Africa
CNBC Africa @cnbcafrica
"Food security, water security and climate action, these are three words that are so intertwined but cannot be ignored." - @RaniaAlMashat, Minister for International Cooperation, Egypt #IMFMeetings #Africa
CNBC Africa @cnbcafrica
"I don't think we should ignore the SDGs, we should keep on pushing them forward but we have to be realistic on what we are requesting from countries." - @RaniaAlMashat, Minister for International Cooperation, Egypt #IMFMeetings #Africa
IFC @IFC_org · 11/10/2023
Replying to @IFC_org
Accelerating women's economic participation can increase global GDP by nearly 20%. Want to know how? Join the conversation with @Amina_Mohammed, Minister @RaniaAlMashat, and @bjerde_anna. #WBmeetings
WBG Gender and 2 others
FAO in Egypt @FAOEgypt
The agreement singed during a ceremony of Multilateral Cooperation Agreements with @ILOCairo @unwomenegypt @IOMEgypt @UNICEF_Egypt @UnfpaEgypt @WorldBank witnessed by H.E. @RaniaAlMashat, Minister of @_Mmanpower @elenapanovaUN @mayamorsy SG of @NCCMEgypt & CEO of @msmediaeg
Ministry of International Cooperation 🇪🇬
10:31 am · 08/10/2023 from Earth · 439 Views
ESCWA @UNESCWA · 11/10/2023
On the sidelines of the #IMF & #WorldBank Annual Meeting in #Marrakech, @EscwaES and Minister of International Cooperation in Egypt @RaniaAlMashat discussed the ESCWA Climate/SDGs Debt Swap initiative principles guiding the operationalization of debt swaps.


Rania A. Al Mashat
@RaniaAlMashat
At the Rafah Border crossing today, w/ Belgian & Spanish PMs @alexanderdecroo & @sanchezcastejon.
Met @EG_Red_Crescent heroic volunteers & @UNOCHA doing a monumental job organizing humanitarian aid to Palestinians. #Egypt fully supports our Palestinian brothers & sisters.


Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
Ahmed Hussen
@HonAhmedHussen
Follow
Egypt's support has been vital in bringing Canadians to safety and getting humanitarian aid into the region. I spoke with ministers Dr. Nevine El Kabbaj and @RaniaAlMashat, and met @MfaEgypt to thank them for their leadership. We'll continue collaborating on this crisis together.


Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
Odile Renaud-Ba...
@OdileRenaud
Follow
We took the lead on #Egypt's #NWFE energy pillar and, one year on, I am very excited to be back in the country and to see the exceptional progress so far.
It has proved a brilliant model for mobilising and scaling climate finance both here and abroad.
The EBRD and 4 others


Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
Alessandro Fracass...
@AFracassetti
Follow
Great meeting with H.E. Minister @RaniaAlMashat @MOICEgypt.
Discussed our joint project #ENID, upcoming global @COP28_UAE, startup competition #Climatech, support for 🇪🇬's green journey #NWFE & #SouthSouthCooperation.
UNDP Egypt


Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
Stephane Guimbert
@SGuimbert
Follow
I joined our partners from the Egyptian gov't & int'l dev't organizations to celebrate accomplishments of the Nexus of Food, Water & Energy program's 1st year. Focus on implementation! Looking forward to successful #climate action through #NWFE & more! @RaniaAlMashat @MOICEgypt

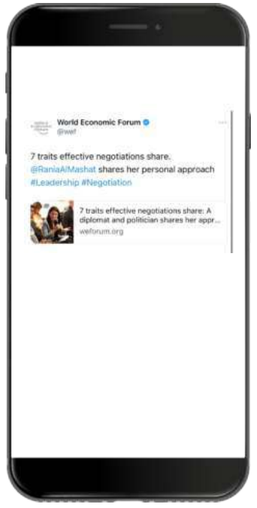

Rania A. Al Mashat
@RaniaAlMashat
NWFE أبوظبي: A Year of Implementation
At our pre #COP28 event on the implementation of #Egypt's Country Platform for the NWFE أبوظبي Program, a Nexus of Water, Food & Energy, we welcomed all NWFE partners with our PM H.E. Dr. Mostafa Madbouly.
A YEAR OF IMPLEMENTATION


Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
Smart Africa Org
@RealSmartAfrica
Follow
"By tapping into the energy and innovation of our young entrepreneurs, we can foster a just transition in Africa" said Lacina Koné, @CEOSmartAfrica during the "Shaping Future with Africa" conference by @BMZ_Bund in presence of @SvenjaSchulze68 @RaniaAlMashat and @akin_adesina

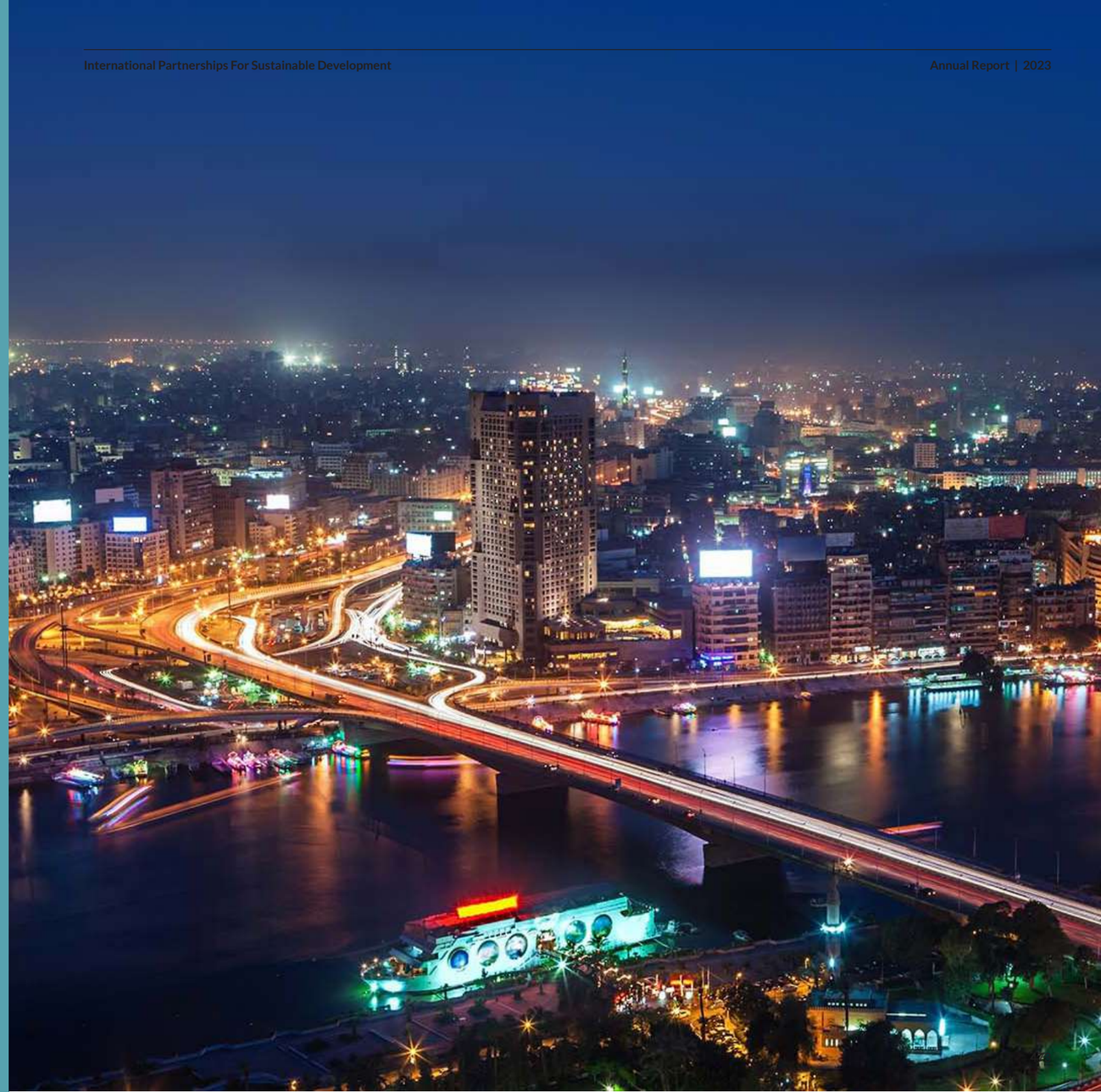

Rania A. Al Mashat reposted
The EBRD
@EBRD
Follow
We are proud to accelerate Egypt's energy transition not just in words, but in deeds!
One year on, the operational results are exceptional and make NWFE's energy pillar an example of a successful country platform, thanks to the mobilisation of numerous partners.
Ministry of International Cooperation 🇪🇬 and Rania A. Al Mashat


Katalin Novák
@KatalinNovak_HU
The Minister of International Cooperation, @RaniaAlMashat accompanied me in Egypt. One of the most popular politicians, and rightfully so. Thanks for the warm welcome and the hospitality of the Egyptians. 🇭🇺🇪🇬 Now off to Dubai for the #COP28


شكرا لك يا مصرا 🇪🇬
Translate post


World Economic Forum
@wef
7 traits effective negotiations share.
@RaniaAlMashat shares her personal approach
#Leadership #Negotiation
7 traits effective negotiations share: A diplomat and politician shares her appr...
weforum.org

ANNEX: 2020 TO 2023



TOTAL ODA DIRECTED TO FINANCE PUBLIC SECTOR DEVELOPMENT THROUGH MULTILATERAL & BILATERAL DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS FROM 2020 TO 2023

SECTOR	AMOUNT (US MILLION $)	DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS	SDGS
TRANSPORT	7289	EBRD, WB, AFD, SPAIN, EIB, KOREA, KFAED, AFDB, CHINA, AUSTRIA , AIIB, JAPAN	
BUDGET SUPPORT	3922	WB, AIIB, AMF, JAPAN , AFDB, AFD	
AGRICULTURE, SUPPLY AND IRRIGATION	3346	USA, IFAD, EU, GERMANY CANADA, SPAIN	
ENERGY, RENEWABLE ENERGY & PETROLEUM	1966	SIDA, AFD, GERMANY, ITFC	
HOUSING AND UTILITIES	1776	EU, EIB, GERMANY, AFD, AFESD, KFAED, WB , SWITZERLAND	
GENDER & SOCIAL PROTECTION	1111	SPAIN, AFD , WB , EU	
EDUCATION	490	USA, GERMANY, JAPAN, SWITZERLAND	
MSMES	456	EU, AFD	
ENVIRONMENT	440	USA, GERMANY, AFD,EIB	
GOVERNANCE	276	USA, GERMANY, EU	
HEALTH	136	WB, USA, CANDA , CHINA	
LOCAL DEVELOPMENT	90	EBRD	
TRADE AND INDUSTRY	53	GERMANY, ITALY, EU	
FRAMEWORK AGREEMENTS	7187	ITFC, CHINA, SPAIN, AFD	

TOTAL $28.5 BILLION

TOTAL ODA DIRECTED TO FINANCE PRIVATE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT THROUGH MULTILATERAL & BILATERAL DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS FROM 2020 TO 2023

DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS	AMOUNT (US MILLION $)
EUROPEAN INVESTMENT BANK	2803
EUROPEAN BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT	2122
INTERNATIONAL FINANCE CORPORATION	1660
OPEC FUND FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT	1278
JBIC	521
UNITED KINGDOM (CDC)	420
FRENCH DEVELOPMENT AGENCY	331
CREDIT LINE BETWEEN JICA & MITSUBISHI FINANCIAL GROUP	200
JAPAN INTERNATIONAL COOPERAION AGENCY	188
ASIAN INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT BANK	150
NETHERLANDS	115
MIGA & EBRD	100
ABU DHABI EXPORTS OFFICE	100
AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK	51.5
WORLD BANK GROUP	50
ARAB FUND FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT	50
AFREXIMBANK	44
ISLAMIC CORPORATION FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR	30
SAUDI FUND FOR DEVELOPMENT	27
GREEN CLIMATE FUND	24
EUROPEAN UNION	15
KFW	7
SWITZERLAND	5

TOTAL $10.3 BILLION



TOTAL ODA DIRECTED TO FINANCE BUDGET SUPPORT THROUGH MULTILATERAL & BILATERAL DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS FROM 2020 TO 2023

SECTOR	AMOUNT (US MILLION $)	TYPE	DEVELOPMENT PARTNER
Total ODA 2020			
Budget Support	1063		
Supporting Financial Sector's Structural Reforms	638	Loan	Arab Monetary Fund
Development Policy Financing Program to the electricity sector	171	Loan/Grant	French Development Agency
Electricity Sector: Electricity and Green Growth Support Program	254	Loan	African Development Bank
Total ODA 2021			
Budget Support	820		
Health sector: Supporting Egypt's Universal Health Insurance System	400	Loan	The World Bank
Health Sector: Social Protection Budget Support Program (Universal Health Insurance)	182	Loan	French Development Agency
Electricity Sector: Development Policy Loan for Power Sector Reform	238	Loan	Japan
Total ODA 2022			
Budget Support	1581		
Development Policy Financing Program in Support of the Egyptian Budget	360	Loan	The World Bank
Development Policy Financing Program in Support of the Egyptian Budget	360	Loan	Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank
Electricity Sector: Electricity and Green Growth Support Program	90	Loan	African Development Bank
Supply Sector: Emergency Food Security and Resilience Support Program	500	Loan	The World Bank
Supply Sector: Food Security and Economic Resilience Support Program	271	Loan	African Development Bank
Total ODA 2023			
Budget Support	458		
Universal Health Coverage	327	Loan	Japan
Budget Support	131	Loan	African Development Bank

TOTAL $3.9 BILLION

TOTAL ODA DIRECTED TO FINANCE HOUSING, UTILITIES AND LOCAL DEVELOPMENT THROUGH MULTILATERAL & BILATERAL DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS FROM 2020 TO 2023

SECTOR	AMOUNT (US MILLION $)	TYPE	DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS
Total ODA 2020			
Housing, Utilities and Local Development	1293		
Financing continuation of Bahr El Baqar Wastewater Treatment Plant	244	Loan	AFESD
Additional Financing Inclusive Housing Finance Program	500	Loan	The World Bank
Establishment of 2 Wastewater Treatments Plants in Rafah & Bir al-Abed	18	Loan	Kuwait Fund for Development
Financing continuation of Bahr El Baqar Wastewater Treatment Plant	183	Loan	Kuwait Fund for Development
Alex West Wastewater Treatment Plant	134	Loan	European Investment Bank
Nile Delta Water Management Program	6	Grant	Germany
Fayoum Wastewater Expansion Programme	208	Loan	EBRD
Total ODA 2021			
Housing, Utilities and Local Development	169		
Integrated Rural Sanitation In Upper Egypt-Luxor Program	131	Loan/Grant	African Development Bank
Nile Delta Water Management Program	6	Grant	Germany
Urban Transportation and Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)	1	Grant	Sweden
Alexandria West Wastewater Treatment Plant Project	25	Grant	European Union
Capacity Building through Urban Infrastructure Development Project	4	Grant	Germany
Participatory Development Programme in Urban Areas (PIP)	2	Grant	Germany
Total ODA 2022			
Housing, Utilities and Local Development	174		
The Helwan Wastewater Treatment project	88	Loan	European Investment Bank
The Helwan Wastewater Treatment project	57	Loan	French Development Agency
The Helwan Wastewater Treatment project	27	Grant	European Union
Developing Infrastructure in Areas Impacted by Illegal Immigration	2	Grant	Germany
Total ODA 2023			
Housing, Utilities and Local Development	140		
The Potable Water Management Program in Upper Egypt Phase II	10	Grant	Switzerland
Second Amendment for Integrated Water Solutions Support	8	Grant	The United States of America
The Sewage Treatment Plant in Al-Jabal Al Asfar III	122	Loan	African Development Bank

TOTAL $1.77 BILLION

TOTAL ODA DIRECTED TO FINANCE TRANSPORT SUPPORT THROUGH MULTILATERAL & BILATERAL DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS FROM 2020 TO 2023

SECTOR	AMOUNT (US MILLION $)	TYPE	DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS
2020			
Transport	1550		
CAIRO METRO LINE 1 UPGRADING AND RENOVATION	56	Loan	French Development Agency
Feasibility Study for the Rehabilitation of Cairo Metro Line 2	1	Grant	European Investment Bank
Tanta-El Mansoura-Damietta Railway Upgrading Complementary Studies	2	Grant	European Investment Bank
Urban Transport Infrastructure Framework Egypt	1270	Loan	European Investment Bank
Economic and Technical Cooperation Agreement between Egypt and China for the Electric Train of Salam -10th of Ramadan to the New Administrative Capital	52	Loan	China
Construction of "New Tunnel Road" Sharm El Sheikh	86	Loan	Kuwait Fund for Development
Continuation of National Roads Project 4	83	Grant	Kuwait Fund for Development
ENR - Locomotive Renewal Programme	1	Grant	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
2021			
Transport	1150		
Railway Improvement and Safety for Egypt Projects	440	Loan	The World Bank
Egypt National Railway Modernization Project (ENRMP)	177	Loan	African Development Bank
Supplying 4 machines to maintain Egypt's railways	10	Loan	Austria
CAIRO METRO LINE 1 UPGRADING AND RENOVATION	244	Loan/Grant	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
Scheme Alexandria Abu Qir Railway	278	Loan	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
Grant assistance in making purchases for a loan to purchase 100 tractors	1	Grant	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development

SECTOR	AMOUNT (US MILLION $)	TYPE	DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS
2022			
Transport	2851		
Scheme Alexandria Abu Qir Railway	262	Loan	French Development Agency
Scheme Alexandria Abu Qir Railway	1	Grant	EBRD
Tanta – EL Mansoura – Damietta Railway Upgrading	250	Loan	European Investment Bank
Tanta – EL Mansoura – Damietta Railway Upgrading	106	Loan/Grant	French Development Agency
Development of Railway Signaling Systems from Naga Hammadi to Luxor Egypt	252	Loan	South Korea
Manufacturing and supplying 55 air-conditioned trains for the first metro line	854	Loan	France
Rehabilitation and Modernisation Cairo Metro Line 2	257	Loan/Grant	EBRD
Cairo Alexandria Trade Logistics Development Project	400	Loan	The World Bank
Rehabilitation 23 Trains For Cairo Metro Line 1	158	Loan	Spain
Preparing feasibility studies for the construction of the railway link between Egypt and Sudan	2	Grant	Kuwait Fund for Development
The Greater Cairo Metro Line No.4 Phase I Project II	309	Loan	Japan
2023			
Transport	1738		
Implementing the Greater Cairo Metro Line 4 phase 1 Project III	730	Loan	Japan
Scheme Alexandria Abu Qir Railway	275	Loan	ADB
Manufacturing & supplying of 40 train sets for Greater Cairo Metro lines 2&3	460	Loan	South Korea
An additional loan to finance the supply of (6) locomotives and (2) tractors for Cairo Metros Line II	26	Loan	EBRD
Importing the 4 sets of mobile security vehicle system equipment	14	Grant	China
Rehabilitation & Modernisation Cairo Metro Line 1	0.38	Grant	EBRD
Financing the third phase of studies for the navigation project between Lake Victoria and the Mediterranean Sea	11	Grant	African Development Bank
Supply of 7 luxury sleeper trains from Talgo on the Cairo-Aswan line	222	Loan	Spain

TOTAL $7.28 BILLION

TOTAL ODA DIRECTED TO FINANCE ENERGY, RENEWABLE ENERGY AND PETROLEUM THROUGH MULTILATERAL & BILATERAL DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS FROM 2020 TO 2023

SECTOR	AMOUNT (US MILLION $)	TYPE	DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS
2021			
Energy, Renewable Energy & Petroleum	1478		
Promoting Energy Efficiency	10	Grant	Germany
Egyptian-Swedish collaboration for improved electricity grid stability and efficiency	1	Grant	Sweden
Suez Oil Processing Company Energy Efficiency and Upgrade Program	50	Loan	European Bank for Reconstructior and Development
Financing importation of commodities such as petroleum, petroleum products, and gas	1400	Loan	International Islamic Trade Financ Corporation
Hydropower plants rehabilitation, re-conversion of the transformers of each of the power plants of the High Dam / Aswan	17	Loan	Germany
2022			
Electricity, Renewable Energy and Petroleum	30		
Rehabilitation of hydroelectric stations in Aswan Governorate - Phase II	29	Loan	Germany
Memorandum of Understanding regarding strategic technical cooperation between Egypt and France to develop the green hydrogen sector in Egypt	1	Grant	French Development Agency
2023			
Electricity, Renewable Energy and Petroleum	458		
Financing importation of commodities such as petroleum, petroleum products, and gas	458	Loan	International Islamic Trade Financ Corporation
TOTAL $1.96 BILLION			

TOTAL ODA DIRECTED TO FINANCE MSMES THROUGH MULTILATERAL & BILATERAL DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS FROM 2020 TO 2023

SECTOR	AMOUNT (US MILLION $)	TYPE	DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS
2020			
MSME's	398		
Micro, small and medium enterprise development project phase 3	95	Loan	OFID
Catalyzing Entrepreneurship for Job Creation	200	Loan	The World Bank
Promoting Energy Efficiency (2) "MSMEDA"	13	Loan/Grant	Germany
Promoting Energy Efficiency (2) " Bank of Cairo "	44	Loan/Grant	Germany
Private Sector and Innovation - Financing for Small and Medium Sized Enter-prises III	36	Loan/Grant	Germany
Strengthening the Entrepreneurship Ecosystem	1	Grant	African Development Bank
Encouraging Labor Market Access	7	Grant	Germany
Egyptian – German Centre for Jobs, Migration and Reintegration	2	Grant	Germany
2021			
MSME's	55		
Urgent Program to Support Small and Medium Private Sector Projects and Enterprises	50	Loan	AFESD
Promoting Access to Financial Services for SMEs	5	Grant	Germany
2022			
MSME's	3		
The Upgrading of Public services and utilities in unplanned areas in Greater Cairo	3	Grant	EU/ AFD
TOTAL $456 MILLION			

TOTAL ODA DIRECTED TO FINANCE GENDER & SOCIAL PROTECTION THROUGH MULTILATERAL & BILATERAL DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS FROM 2020 TO 2023

SECTOR	AMOUNT (US MILLION $)	TYPE	DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS
2020			
Gender and Social Protection	506		
Contribute to the employment of women in Upper Egypt	0.2	Grant	Spain
Women Economic Empowerment for Inclusive and Sustainable Growth in Egypt	6	Grant	Canada
Supporting Social Safety Nets Project (Takaful & Karama) II	500	Loan	The Word Bank
2021			
Gender and Social Protection	26		
The opportunities for women in agribusiness project in Egypt	3	Grant	Canada
The strengthening women entrepreneurs in Egypt project	4	Grant	Canada
Tackling the Root Causes of Irregular Migration and Supporting Integrated Communities in Upper Egypt	1	Grant	European Union
Addressing the Economic Drivers of Irregular Migration	6	Grant	European Union
Equal opportunity and Social Development	10	Grant	Germany
Youth Against Sexual Harassment	2	Grant	Germany
2022			
Gender and Social Protection	1		
Gender Equality in Urban Transport	0.5	Grant	French Development Agency
Supporting the Women's Complaints Office's strategy for Sustainable Rights	0.5	Grant	Spain
2023			
Gender and Social Protection	578		
Takaful and Karama cash Transfer Expansion	500	Loan	World Bank
EU for Decent Life (Haya Karima) – Combatting Multidimensional Poverty in Rural Areas in Egypt	56	Grant	European Union
EU for Women Empowerment in Egypt (EU TAMKEEN)	11	Grant	European Union
European Union Program for Equal Opportunities	11	Grant	European Union
TOTAL $1.1 BILLION			

TOTAL ODA DIRECTED TO FINANCE TRADE & INDUSTRY THROUGH MULTILATERAL & BILATERAL DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS FROM 2020 TO 2023

SECTOR	AMOUNT (US MILLION $)	TYPE	DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS
2020			
Trade & Industry	11		
Technical assistance for the establishment of Robbiki Leather city project	7	Grant	Italy
Promotion of Small and Medium Enterprises	4	Grant	Germany
2021			
Trade & Industry	20		
Multi-Educational Program for Employment Promotion in Migration- Affected Areas	7	Grant	EU
Private Sector Development and Innovation (PSI)	13	Grant	Germany
2022			
Trade & Industry	13		
Special Initiative for the Middle East and North Africa to support the private sector training and employment initiative	13	Grant	Germany
2023			
Trade & Industry	9		
EU- TIGARA	9	Grant	Grermany
TOTAL $53 MILLION			

TOTAL ODA DIRECTED TO FINANCE GOVERNANCE THROUGH MULTILATERAL & BILATERAL DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS FROM 2020 TO 2023

SECTOR	AMOUNT (US MILLION $)	TYPE	DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS
2020			
Governance	52		
Trade and Investment Promotion in Egypt (TIPE)	27	Grant	United States of America
Inclusive Economic Governance	23	Grant	United States of America
The creation of work for young people through training for employment and for the creation of companies	0.2	Grant	Spain
Equal Access and Simplified Environment for Investment (EASE)	2	Grant	MENA Transformation Fund
Statistics Capacity Building Project to support the preparation of the national strategy for the development of statistics	0.2	Grant	World Bank
2021			
Governance	85		
FEXTE Partnership Agreement	1	Grant	French Development Agency
Trade and Investment Promotion in Egypt (TIPE)	28	Grant	United States of America
Inclusive Economic Governance	27	Grant	United States of America
Strengthening Reform Initiatives in the Public Administration	10	Grant	Germany
EU Support to Enhance Administrative and Public Economic Governance in Egypt	19	Grant	European Union
2022			
Governance	84		
Comprehensive economic governance	19	Grant	United States of America
Trade and Investment Promotion in Egypt (TIPE)	19	Grant	United States of America
Improving the public electronic procurement system in Egypt for the benefit of the Authority government services	8	Grant	South Korea
Supporting electronic-government and public administration innovation	9	Grant	Germany
Risk management Egypt	29	Grant	Germany
2023			
Governance	55		
Inclusive Economic Governance – Fourth Amendment	14	Grant	United States of America
EU-Egypt Cooperation and Facility 2022-2024	14	Grant	European Union
Seventh Amendment For TIPE	27	Grant	United States of America
TOTAL $276 MILLION			

TOTAL ODA DIRECTED TO FINANCE HEALTH THROUGH MULTILATERAL & BILATERAL DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS FROM 2020 TO 2023

SECTOR	AMOUNT (US MILLION $)	TYPE	DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS
2020			
Health	88		
COVID-19 Emergency Response	50	Loan	World Bank
Supporting Health Sector to fight COVID-19 pandemic	3	Grant	Arab Fund for Development
Health Outcomes for Target Population Improved- Third Amendment	10	Grant	United States of America
An Emergency Aid from the Government of Japan for procuring Medical Equipment to alleviate COVID-19 impact	9	Grant	Japan
Addressing Gaps in Reproductive Health and Rights in Egypt	4	Grant	Canada
Emergency Humanitarian Relief Assistance Amidst COV-19 Outbreak	0.5	Grant	African Development Bank
Support urgent needs in response to COVID-19. Health Outcomes Improved	11	Grant	United States of America
2021			
Health	20		
Health Outcomes for Targeted Population - Fourth Amendment	18	Grant	United States of America
Supporting Communities - Health for All	2	Grant	European Union
2022			
Health	13		
Health Outcomes for Target Populations Improved- Fifth Amendment	13	Grant	United States of America
2023			
Health	15		
Feasibility study of Biosafety Laboratory level 3 (P3)	0.13	Grant	China
Health Outcomes for Target Populations Improved- Sixth Amendment	15	Grant	United States of America
TOTAL $136 MILLION			

TOTAL ODA DIRECTED TO FINANCE EDUCATION THROUGH MULTILATERAL & BILATERAL DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS FROM 2020 TO 2023

SECTOR	AMOUNT (US MILLION $)	TYPE	DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS
2020			
Education	214		
Basic Education II	15	Grant	United States of America
Implementation of King Salman bin Abdulaziz University project for the Sinai Development Program	141	Loan	Saudi Fund for Development
U.S-Egypt Higher Education Initiative	30	Grant	United States of America
U.S- EGYPT Science and Technology Cooperation	4	Grant	United States of America
Improving the Automation System of the Patent Office affiliated to the Ministry of Higher Education	3	Grant	South Korea
Rehabilitation of Vocational Education Schools II	14	Grant	Germany
Enhancement of the Egyptian Education Dual System	5	Grant	Germany
Technical Cooperation Project to Support the Teaching of the French Language in Egypt Government Schools	2	Grant	French Development Agency
2021			
Education	140		
Multi-Educational Program for Employment Promotion in Migration-Affected Areas	7	Grant	European Union
Basic Education II (second phase)	17	Grant	United States of America
Re-establishment of the Universite`Francaise d'Egypte	17	Loan/Grant	French Development Agency
Strengthening of Metrology for the Competitiveness In the Egyptian Economy	1	Grant	Germany
Construction of Outpatient facility at Cairo University Specialized pediatric Hospital	1	Grant	Japan
U.S.-Egypt Higher Education Initiative (HEI)	31	Grant	United States of America
The US- Egypt Agreement on Science and Technology Cooperation	4	Grant	United States of America
Employment Promotion Program (EPP III)	18	Grant	Germany
Financial Support for the Comprehensive Technical Education Initiative with Egypt -TCTI	32	Grant	Germany
Technical Support for the Comprehensive Technical Education Initiative with Egypt -TCTI	12	Grant	Germany

SECTOR	AMOUNT (US MILLION $)	TYPE	DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS
2022			
Education	82		
Basic Education II -Sixth Amendment	8	Grant	United States of America
Technical Cooperation Project to Support the Teaching of the French Language in Egypt Government Schools	1	Grant	French Development Agency
Financial support for the Comprehensive Technical Education Initiative-FCTI	33	Grant	Germany
THE U.S.-Egypt Higher Education Initiative	40	Grant	United States of America
2023			
Education	54		
Basic Education II -Seventh Amendment	12	Grant	United States of America
THE U.S.-Egypt Higher Education Initiative -Eighth Amendment	35	Grant	United States of America
Developing professional skills in Egypt	7	Grant	Switzerland

TOTAL $490 MILLION

TOTAL ODA DIRECTED TO FINANCE AGRICULTURE, SUPPLY & IRRIGATION THROUGH MULTILATERAL & BILATERAL DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS FROM 2020 TO 2023

SECTOR	AMOUNT (US MILLION $)	TYPE	DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS
2020			
Agriculture, Supply and Irrigation	19		
Implementation of a technical assistance program for the development of wholesale markets in Egypt	1	Grant	French Development Agency
Agribusiness for Rural Development and Increasing Incomes (ARDII)	4	Grant	United States of America
Port said grain storage facilities	14	Loan	OFID
2021			
Agriculture, Supply and Irrigation	924		
Agribusiness for Rural Development and Increasing Incomes (ARDII)	5	Grant	United States of America
Kitchener Drain Dépollution - Drain Réhabilitation	79	Loan	EBRD
The Agricultural Innovation Project (AIP)	8	Grant	Germany
The European Union's Joint Rural Development Program in Egypt	32	Grant	European Union
Financing the importation of commodities such as wheat, foodstuffs and other goods	800	Loan	ITFC
2022			
Agriculture, Supply and Irrigation	105		
Sustainable Transformation for Agricultural Resilience (STAR)	65	Loan/Grant	IFAD
Nile Delta Water Management Program	7	Grant	Germany
Agribusiness for Rural Development & Increasing Incomes 7th Amendment	12	Grant	United States of America
Joint Integrated Sector Approach-JISA	21	Loan/Grant	Germany
2023			
Agriculture, Supply and Irrigation	2298		
European Union Support Program for Improving Cereal Crop Production in Egypt - Kafi	43	Grant	European Union - Italian Agency fo Development Cooperation
Enhancing food security efforts and combating climate change through the project to promote climate-smart agriculture and agricultural biodiversity	8	Grant	Canada
Financing the supply of the needs of the General Authority for Supply Commodities of wheat	500	Loan	Abu Dhabi Fund for Development
Support modernization of water resources in Egypt's agricultural sector	1	Grant	Spain
Supporting grain storage in Egypt	62	Grant	EU- French Development Agency
Agribusiness for Rural Development and Increasing Incomes (ARDII) - Eighth Amendment	15	Grant	United States
Financing the importation of commodities such as wheat, foodstuffs and other goods	1699	Loan	ITFC

TOTAL $3.34 BILLION

TOTAL ODA DIRECTED TO FINANCE ENVIRONMENT THROUGH MULTILATERAL & BILATERAL DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS FROM 2020 TO 2023

SECTOR	AMOUNT (US MILLION $)	TYPE	DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS
2020			
Environment	1		
Greater Cairo Air Pollution Management and Climate Change Project	1	Grant	World Bank
2021			
Environment	228		
Greater Cairo Air Pollution Management and Climate Change Project	200	Loan	World Bank
Egyptian Pollution Abatement Prgramme (EPAP) III	5	Grant	European Union
National Solid Waste Management Program (NSWMP)	7	Grant	Germany
EU support for growth through the Egyptian Environmental Networks	16	Grant	European Union
2022			
Environment	45		
Transforming Financial Systems for Climate (TFSC) in Egypt	2	Grant	French Development Agency
Climate Initiative Agreement	15	Grant	United States of America
National Solid Waste Management Program (NSWMP) III	7	Grant	Germany
National Solid Waste Management Program (NSWMP) III	21	Grant	Germany
2023			
Environment	166		
Green Sustainable Industries	151	Loan/Grant	European Investment Bank
First Amendment For The Climate Change Initiative	6	Grant	United States of America
Strengthening the activities of the Air Pollution and Climate Change Management Project in Greater Cairo	9	Grant	World Bank

TOTAL $440 MILLION

TOTAL ODA DIRECTED TO FINANCE LOCAL DEVELOPLMENT THROUGH MULTILATERAL & BILATERAL DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS FROM 2020 TO 2023

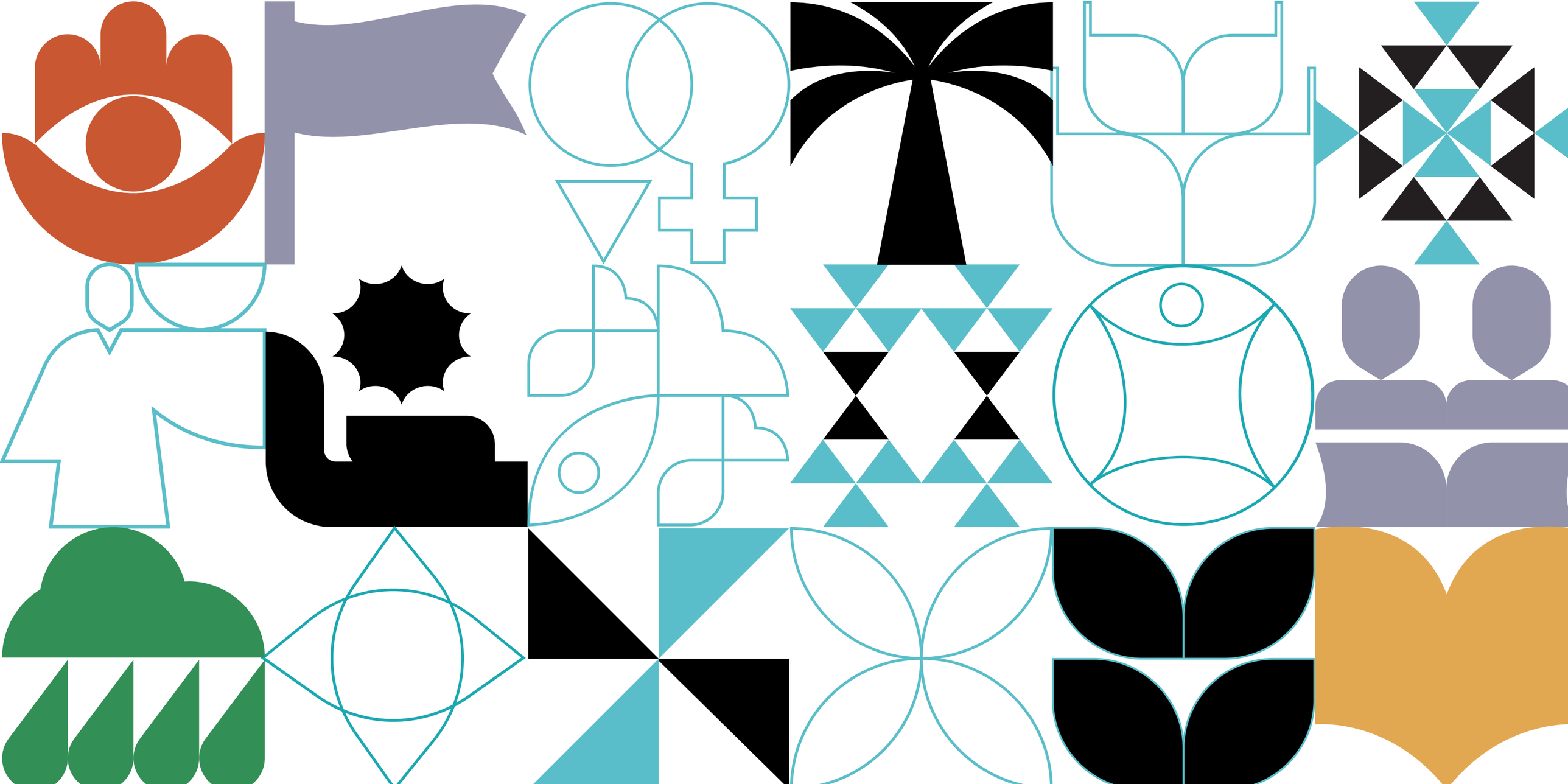
SECTOR	AMOUNT (US MILLION $)	TYPE	DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS
2020			
Local Development	90		
Kitchener Drain Depollution - Solid Waste	90	Loan	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
2021			
Local Development	0.4		
Technical assistance on identifying priority urban development interventions to enhance investments, smart applications and livelihoods in Dahab city	0.4	Grant	Islamic Development Bank

TOTAL $90.4 MILLION

TOTAL ODA DIRECTED TO FINANCE FRAMEWORK AGREEMENTS THROUGH MULTILATERAL & BILATERAL DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS FROM 2020 TO 2023

SECTOR	AMOUNT (US MILLION $)	TYPE	DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS
2020			
Framework Agreements	43		
Developmental Projects	43	Grant	China
2021			
Framework Agreements	1144		
Financial Agreement	597	Loan	French Development Agency – Frenc Government
Development Projects	62	Grant	China
Framework agreement with the Spanish government to support and facilitate funding top priority projects	485	Loan	Spain
2022			
Framework Agreements	6000		
Importing Basic Commodities	6000	Loan	International Islamic Trade Finance Corporation

TOTAL $7.18 BILLION



وزارة التعـاون الدولـي

Ministry of International Cooperation

“There’s No Eventuality.”

@RaniaAlMashat

© Ministry of International Cooperation, Arab Republic of Egypt