



ANNUAL REPORT 2022

Cairo Office
EGYPT



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An aerial photograph of the Citadel of Cairo in Egypt. The image shows the massive, golden-brown stone walls of the fortress, featuring several prominent cylindrical towers with crenellated tops. In the background, the minarets and domes of a large mosque are visible against a clear blue sky. A semi-transparent white circle is overlaid on the center of the image, containing the text 'AICS CAIRO'.

**AICS
CAIRO**



COUNTRY PROFILE

Demographic data

Official language: Arabic

Other spoken languages: English and French are fluently used by the most educated classes

Area: 1,001,450 km²

Capital city: Cairo

Population: about 109 million

Population density: 104 inhabitants per km²

Population growth rate: 1.7 %

Life expectancy: 71 years

Literacy rate: 73.1 %

Religions: Islam 90% (predominantly Sunni), christianity 10% (mostly Coptic Orthodox, there are also Apostolic Armenians, Catholics, Maronites, Orthodox and Anglicans)

Human development index: 0,700

Economic data

GDP: 404.14 billion USD

GDP yearly growth rate: 3.3%

GDP per capita at purchasing power parity: 12,320 international USD

Unemployment rate: 7%

Inflation rate: 8% january 2022 – 21.6% december 2022

Export goods: Unrefined oil and derivatives, gold, chemical and agricultural sector, cotton, textile sector, metal products

Import goods: Grain, oil, food sector, chemical sector, machinery and equipment, wood

Main export partners: The United Arab Emirates, Italy, Turkey, the United States, Germany





THE ITALIAN COOPERATION IN EGYPT

The Italian Cooperation has forty years of activity in Egypt, promoting since 1982 projects that help foster sustainable socio-economic development in the country. Egypt is one of the 22 Priority Countries for Italian Cooperation, which operates there on the basis of the "Development Cooperation Framework Agreement" and the "Memorandum of Understanding regarding a New Development Partnership," signed in 2010. The Italian Cooperation's areas of intervention in Egypt have been identified in agreement with local stakeholders, including the Egyptian Ministry of International Cooperation, and in harmony with other donors' programs, particularly in coordination with the European Union Delegation in Cairo.

The areas of intervention are in line with the priorities of the EU-Egypt Partnership for 2017-2020 and take into account the development sectors identified by Egypt as priorities within the Egypt vision 2030 document and in the Strategic Framework for the National Economic and Social Development Plan launched by the Egyptian Ministry of International Cooperation and the Egyptian Ministry of Planning.

With a committed total of more than EUR 190 million, the work of the Italian Cooperation in Egypt is currently divided into eight areas of intervention that include: (i) rural development, in which Italy stands out for a long and appreciated action, including with a view to food security and the creation of sustainable and inclusive supply chains; (ii) support for the development of the private sector, with particular reference to micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MPMIs) and the promotion of employment opportunities, especially for young people; (iii) a focus on the social dimension, particularly in support of the most vulnerable population groups such as minor children and people with disabilities; (iv) combating all forms of gender-based violence and supporting the socio-economic empowerment of women and girls; (v) migration and development interventions, such as the involvement of the Egyptian diaspora in local development initiatives, the protection and integration of the migrant population, and the prevention of irregular migration; (vi) human resource development through education and technical and vocational training; (vii) environmental protection; and (viii) the enhancement of Egypt's cultural and archaeological heritage.

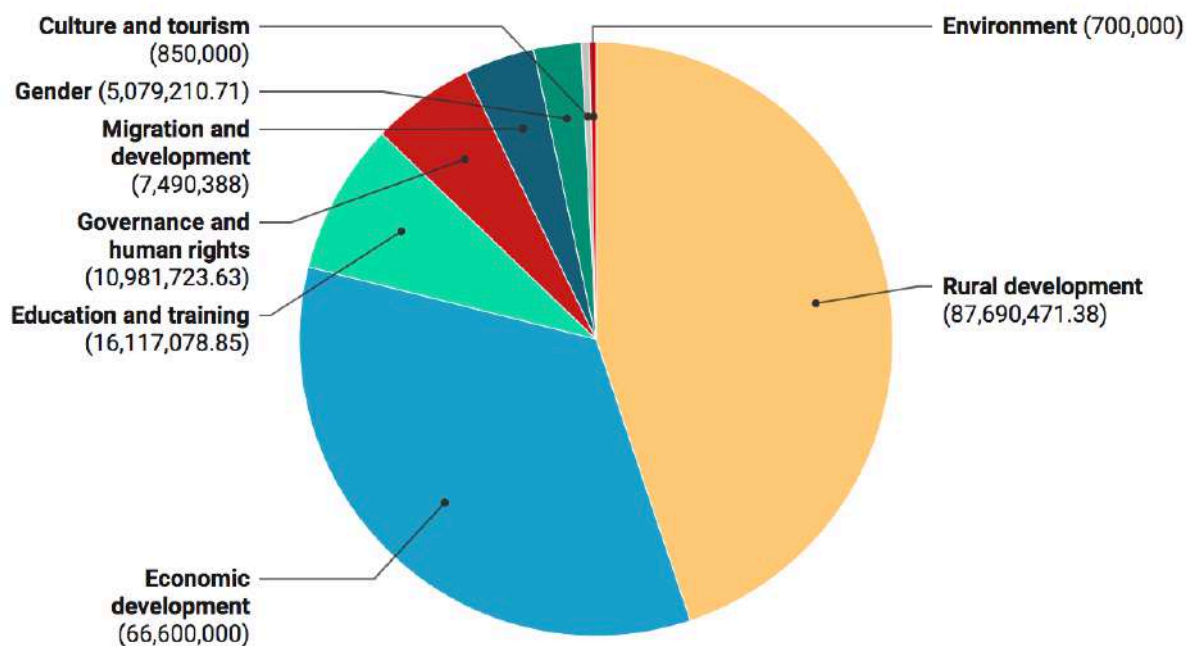
The ongoing and planned initiatives follow up on what has already been achieved in the past years and expand activities in support of the country's socio-economic development, with special attention to the most disadvantaged and vulnerable segments of the population.

In 2022, initiatives remained in line with the priorities signaled by the Egyptian government to respond to the lingering consequences of the crisis generated since 2020 by the Covid-19 diffusion in the country and to support the socio-economic fabric harshly affected by the consequences of the outbreak of the war in Ukraine with interventions aimed at addressing food insecurity.

DATA AND AREAS OF INTERVENTION

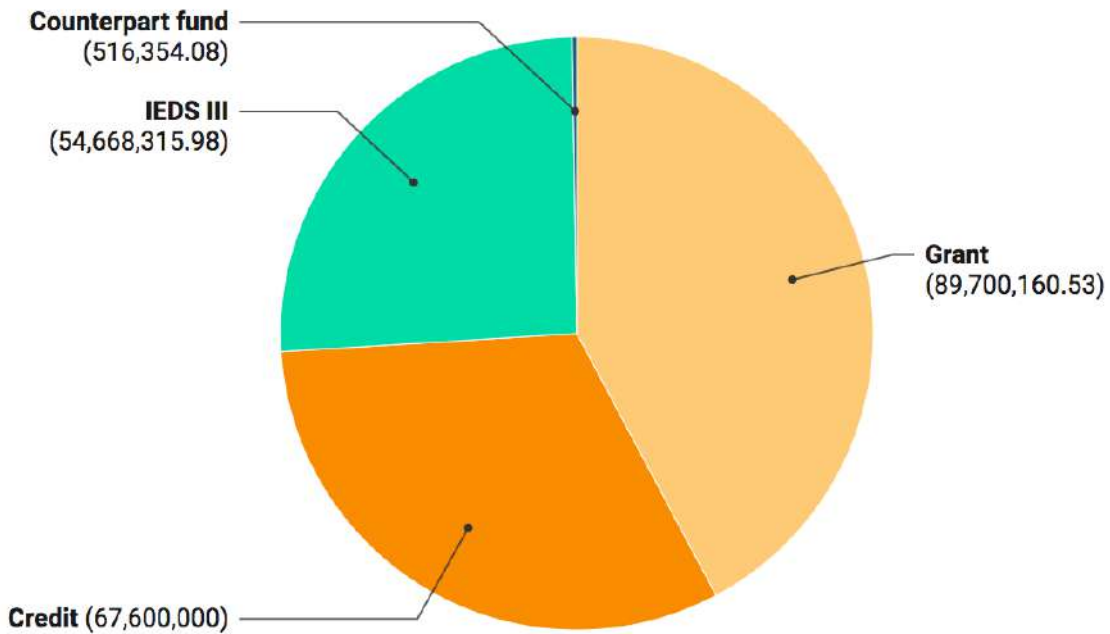
During 2022, the Italian Cooperation in Egypt operated within eight macro-sectors of intervention totaling about EUR 200 million. The priority sectors of the AICS Cairo programming are (i) Rural Development and Food Security, (ii) Economic Development, (iii) Education and Training, (iv) Governance and Human Rights, (v) Gender, (vi) Migration and Development, (vii) Environment, and (viii) Culture and Tourism.

Sectors of intervention (2022)



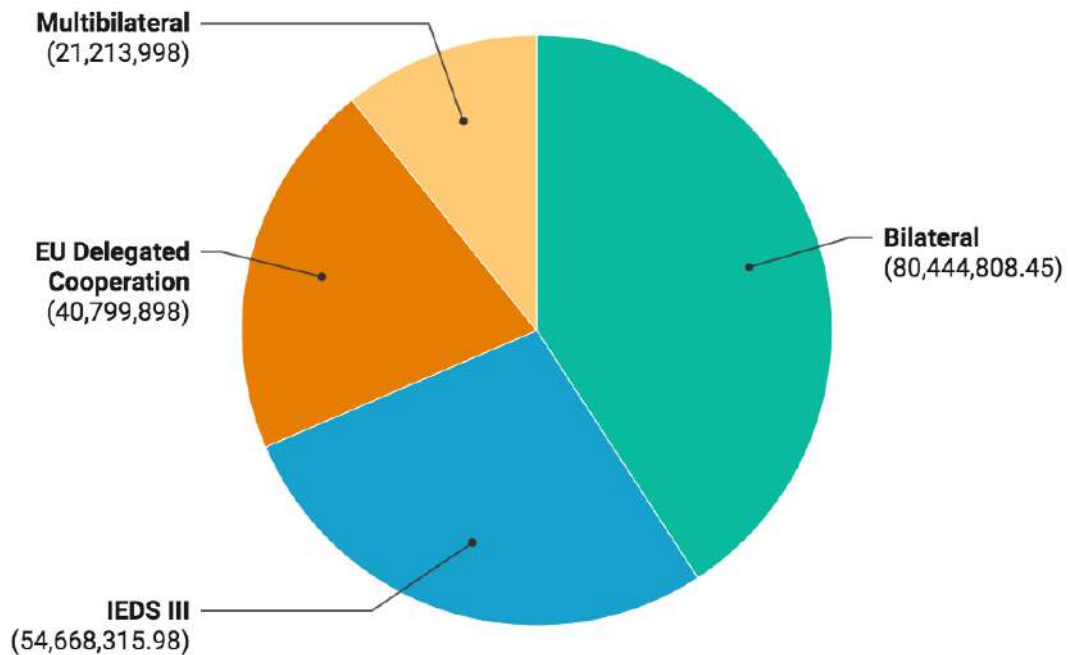
The Italian Cooperation operates with grant and aid credit financing. Grant funding is provided on the bilateral channel (contributions to local entities and institutions) and multilateral channel (contributions to International Organizations and UN Agencies). Many projects are also financed through the Debt Swap Program, which is currently in its third phase (Italian Egyptian Debt Swap program - IEDS III) and has allocated a total of LE 765,356,424 (EUR 54,668,315.98) for 2022. An additional type of funding is counterpart funds, amounting to LE 516,354.08 and generated by the food aid program.

Type of funding (2022)



In addition, AICS Cairo directly manages projects funded by the European Commission. Since 2020, the project worth EUR 6 million " Multi-Educational Program for Employment Promotion in Migration-affected areas" (MEPEP) has been active. In 2022, the programs "EU-ZIRA3A - European Union Integrated Rural Development Program for Egypt," for EUR 27.3 million, and "WATDEV - Climate Smart Water Management and Sustainable Development for Food and Agriculture in East Africa," for EUR 7.5 million, were also launched.

Funding channels (2022)





OUR PROJECTS



RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND FOOD SECURITY


In the field of agriculture and rural development, which have always been priority sectors of Italian Cooperation in the country, the Agency has over the years relied on fruitful collaborations with local and international actors and institutions, including the Ministry of Agriculture and Reclamation, the Desert Research Center the Agricultural Research Center, General Authority for Fish Resources Development (of the Egyptian Ministry itself), the Ministry of Trade and Industry, the Mediterranean Agromonomic Institute (IAM) in Bari, various Italian and Egyptian NGOs, and United Nations agencies such as FAO, UNIDO, and WFP. Since 2014, the Italian Cooperation has assumed the role of coordinator, together with FAO, of the related thematic platform for the agriculture and rural development sectors, which groups donors in Egypt (Development Partners Group - DPG).

With the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the Egyptian Cotton Supply Chain Development Project plays a considerable role in promoting sustainability and inclusion along the cotton value chain, while strengthening the valuable quality of Egyptian cotton and fostering new market opportunities. The program to support the tomato supply chain, also with UNIDO, aims to support the value of production destined to processing by improving the technical skills of young people and thus their employment opportunities. With the Ministry of Agriculture and Reclamation, on the other hand, the "SAMSIMIFA" project enables, through the technical assistance of IAM Bari, the improvement of agricultural mechanization systems in the governorates of Minya and Fayoum.

In this sector AICS is also implementing the delegated cooperation program "EU-ZIRA3A -Integrated Rural Development Program for Egypt." The program aims to strengthen smallholder farmers but also local counterparts to provide quality services to support food security, irrigation and the dairy sector.

Two projects are being implemented with funding from the Italian-Egyptian Debt Swap Program: The first aims to improve food security and the value of local grain production by increasing storage efficiency and reducing the government's physical and economic losses through the introduction of modern technologies; the second aims to develop and consolidate the aquaculture sector in Egypt's northern coast by providing technical support to the public and private sectors to establish a state-of-the-art aquaculture district and improve the technical and economic capacities of farmers as well as the





performance of the General Authority for Fisheries Resources Development (GAFRD, in its English acronym) to provide up-to-date technical service.

Finally, a project is being implemented to strengthen the Siwa date production chain through the use of sustainable farming practices and the creation of a geographical indication while also supporting marketing strategies for the product.



1. Agricultural mechanisation in Minya and Fayoum – SAMSIMIFA - AID 10368

Type of funding	Bilateral
Total funding	€ 10.000.000, 00 – 100%
Financial allocation as grant	€ 0, 00 – 100%
Financial allocation as soft loan	€ 10.000.000,00 – 0%
Counterpart funding	€ 0,00 – 0%
Contribution implementing partner	€ 0,00 – 0%
Beneficiary country	142 – Egypt
Place of intervention	Governorate of Minya, Governorate of Fayoum
OCSE-DAC Sectors	311 – Agriculture 31150 – Agricultural inputs 31166 – Agricultural extension 31194 – Agricultural co-operatives
Implementing partner	Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation, IAMB
Local partner	Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation
Type of aid	C01 – Project-type intervention
Description	The project aims to provide small and medium-sized agricultural enterprises and agricultural cooperative associations of the Governorates of Fayoum and Minya with effective, sustainable and innovative mechanization for the main agricultural systems at ground level. The project also aims to strengthen and strengthen human resources centers and applied mechanization stations through sustainable innovations and a participatory system for knowledge management.
Duration	30 years
SDGs	SDG 2 - End hunger, achieve food security, improve nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture. 2.3: By 2030, double agricultural productivity and income of small-scale food producers, especially women, indigenous peoples, farming families, shepherds and fishermen, including through safe and equal access to land and others productive resources, knowledge, financial services, markets and opportunities for added value and non-agricultural employment. SDG 8 - Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all. 8.2: achieving higher levels of economic productivity through diversification, technological updating and innovation, also aiming for high added value in labor-intensive sectors.

Policy objectives OCSE-DAC <i>Principal, Significant, Not targeted</i>	Gender equality policy marker (Not targeted) Aid to environment (Significant) Participatory development / good governance (Significant) Trade development marker (Significant)
Rio markers <i>Principal, Significant, Not targeted</i>	Biodiversity (Not targeted) Climate change (Not targeted) Desertification (Not targeted) Adaptation (Not targeted)
Social and Health markers <i>Primary – 4, Most of funding – 3, Half of funding – 2, A quarter of funding – 1; Negligible – 0</i>	Disability (0) Maternal Health (0) Minors (0)
Programme-based approach	No
Tied/untied project	Tied

2. From cotton seeds to clothing: enhancing sustainability, inclusiveness and value addition of the cotton value chain in Egypt– AID 11084

Type of funding	Multilateral
Total funding	€ 1.500.000,00 (I phase) – 100% € 1.500.000,00 (II phase) – 100%
Financial allocation as grant	€ 1.500.000,00 (I phase) – 100% € 1.500.000,00 (II phase) – 100%
Financial allocation as soft loan	€ 0,00 – 0%
Counterpart funding	€ 0,00 – 0%
Contribution implementing partner	€ 0,00 – 0%
Beneficiary country	142 – Egypt
Place of intervention	Governorate of Damietta and Kafr El-Sheikh
OCSE-DAC Sectors	31181 Agricultural education/training 32163 Textiles, leather and substitutes 31110 Agricultural policy and administrative management 31192 Plant and post-harvest protection and pest control 31194 Agricultural co-operatives
Implementing partner	United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)
Local partner	Ministry of Agriculture Ministry of Industry and Trade
Type of aid	C01 – Project-type intervention
Description	The project aims to improve the sustainability, inclusiveness and value creation of the Egyptian long and extra long staple cotton value chain, improving the economic, social and environmental performance of cotton growers and processors and strengthening the supporting institutions. The project has two main results: 1) Cotton growers (especially long and extra long staple cotton) have improved their economic performance, inclusion and sustainability. 2) Private sector textile enterprises (converters of long and extra long staple cotton, including SMEs and youth-led start-ups) have improved their economic performance, inclusiveness and sustainability.
Duration	24 months + ext. 24 months (I phase). From 18.07.2017 to 30.06.2021 24 months (II phase). Agreement in signing process.
SDGs	SDG 1 - End poverty in all its forms, everywhere 1.a Ensure significant mobilization of resources from a variety of sources, including through enhanced development cooperation, in order to provide adequate and predictable means for developing countries, in particular least developed countries, to implement programs and policies to end poverty in all its dimensions SDG 8 - Encourage lasting, inclusive and sustainable economic

	<p>growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all</p> <p>8.2 Achieve higher levels of economic productivity through diversification, technological updating and innovation, including through a focus on high value-added sectors and labor-intensive sectors</p> <p>SDG 9 - Building a resilient infrastructure and promoting innovation and fair, responsible and sustainable industrialization</p> <p>9.3 Increase the access of small industrialists and other enterprises, particularly in developing countries, to financial services, including affordable credit, and their integration into value chains and markets</p> <p>SDG 12 - Ensuring sustainable production and consumption models</p> <p>12.2 By 2030, achieve sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources</p> <p>12.5 By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse</p> <p>SDG 17 - Strengthen the means of implementation and renew the global partnership for sustainable development</p> <p>17.5 Adopt and implement investment promotion regimes in favor of least developed countries</p>
<p>Policy objectives OCSE-DAC</p> <p><i>Principal, Significant, Not targeted</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gender equality policy marker (Significant) • Aid to environment (Significant) • Participatory development / good governance (Significant) • Trade development marker (Principal)
<p>Rio markers</p> <p><i>Principal, Significant, Not targeted</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity (Not targeted) • Climate change (Significant) • Desertification (Significant) • Adaptation (Negligible or no funding is targeted to the objective)
<p>Social and Health markers</p> <p><i>Primary – 4, Most of funding – 3, Half of funding – 2, A quarter of funding – 1; Negligible – 0</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disability (0) • Maternal Health (0) • Minors (0)
<p>Programme-based approach</p>	NO
<p>Tied/untied project</p>	Untied

3. Improve the value chain of SIWA date palm through enhancing good agricultural practices on Geographic Indicators

Tipo di finanziamento	Bilaterale
Totale finanziamento	EGP 9.000.000, 00 – 100%
Partecipazione finanziaria a dono	EGP 0,00 – 0%
Partecipazione finanziaria a credito	EGP 0,00 – 0%
Fondo di contropartita	EGP 9.000.000, 00 – 100%
Contributo ente esecutore	EGP 0,00 – 0%
Paese beneficiario	142 – Egitto
Località d'intervento	Oasi di SIWA, Governatorato di Matrouh
Settore OCSE-DAC	311 - Agriculture 31120 Agricultural Development 31162 Industrial crops/Export crops 32130 Small and Medium enterprises (SME) Development
Ente esecutore	Ministero del Commercio e dell'Industria
Partner locale	Ministero del Commercio e dell'Industria
Tipo di aiuto	C01 – Project-type intervention
Descrizione	L'Egitto è il primo Paese produttore di frutti di palma da dattero al mondo e le potenzialità per aumentare la produzione sono elevate. Nell'Oasi di Siwa, per le sue particolari caratteristiche ecologiche, la palma da dattero è la coltura più importante e rappresenta la principale fonte di reddito della popolazione. La maggior parte dei frutti delle palme da dattero a Siwa sono biologici e hanno caratteristiche speciali e uniche adatte ad essere prese in considerazione per un nuovo marchio unificato. Il progetto mira a valorizzare questo prodotto migliorandone la qualità e le quantità, potenziare il suo processo agroindustriale, potenziarne la commercializzazione a livello nazionale e internazionale attraverso un pacchetto di attività pratiche da attuare nell'Oasi. Per assicurare la sostenibilità del progetto, il progetto registrerà un nuovo marchio per la palma da datteri di Siwa e formerà una struttura istituzionale che disponga di preziose risorse umane e finanziarie.
Durata	24 mesi
SDGs	SDG 1 – Porre fine ad ogni forma di povertà nel mondo SDG 2 – Porre fine alla fame, raggiungere la sicurezza alimentare, migliorare la nutrizione e promuovere un'agricoltura sostenibile SDG 8 – Incentivare una crescita economica duratura, inclusiva e sostenibile, un'occupazione piena e produttiva ed un lavoro dignitoso per tutti

	<p>SDG 9 – Costruire un'infrastruttura resiliente e promuovere l'innovazione ed una industrializzazione equa, responsabile e sostenibile</p> <p>SDG 12 – Garantire modelli sostenibili di produzione e di consumo</p> <p>SDG 17 – Rafforzare i mezzi di attuazione e rinnovare il partenariato mondiale per lo sviluppo sostenibile</p>
<p>Policy objectives OCSE-DAC</p> <p><i>Principal, Significant, Not targeted</i></p>	<p>Gender equality policy marker (Significant)</p> <p>Aid to environment (Significant)</p> <p>Participatory development / good governance (Significant)</p> <p>Trade development marker (Principale)</p>
<p>Rio markers</p> <p><i>Principal, Significant, Not targeted</i></p>	<p>Biodiversity (Significant)</p> <p>Climate change (Significant)</p> <p>Desertification (Significant)</p> <p>Adaptation (Not targeted)</p>
<p>Marker socio-sanitari</p> <p><i>Primary – 4, Most of funding – 3, Half of funding – 2, A quarter of funding – 1; Negligible – 0</i></p>	<p>Disability (0)</p> <p>Maternal Health (0)</p> <p>Minors (0)</p>
<p>Programme-based approach</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>Progetto legato/slegato</p>	<p>Slegato</p>

4. Inclusive and sustainable development of the tomato value chain in Egypt – AID 170251

Type of funding	Multilateral
Total funding	€ 2.000.000, 00 – 100%
Financial allocation as grant	€ 2.000.000, 00 – 100%
Financial allocation as soft loan	€ 0,00 – 0%
Counterpart funding	€ 0,00 – 0%
Contribution implementing partner	€ 0,00 – 0%
Beneficiary Country	142 – Egypt
Place of intervention	Agricultural areas in Egypt
OCSE-DAC Sectors	11330 Vocational Training 31120 Agricultural Development 31162 Industrial crops/Export crops 32130 Small and Medium enterprises (SME) Development 32161 Agro-industries
Implementing partner	United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)
Local partner	Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation
Type of aid	C01 – Project-type intervention
Description	The project aims to support the development of an inclusive and sustainable tomato supply chain in Egypt by increasing the value of production for processing and improving the technical skills of young people and therefore their job/business opportunities. The project promotes agricultural and factory-level activities by encouraging agriculture and quality transformation while respecting the environment and food hygiene standards, paving the way for new business opportunities. The initiative also intends to create a Pilot Training and Assistance Center that serves the tomato processing chain by connecting primary producers with the processing industry, offering a series of services for existing and new tomato processors to develop their business through specialized training courses and the introduction of innovative products and/or processes to compete in internal and external markets.
Duration	24 months Agreement signed on 14/01/2020
SDGs	SDG 1 - End all forms of poverty in the world SDG 8 - Encourage lasting, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all SDG 9 - Building a resilient infrastructure and promoting innovation and fair, responsible and sustainable industrialization

	SDG 12 - Ensuring sustainable production and consumption models SDG 17 - Strengthen the means of implementation and renew the global partnership for sustainable development
Policy objectives OCSE-DAC <i>Principal, Significant, Not targeted</i>	Gender equality policy marker (Significant) Aid to environment (Principal) Participatory development / good governance (Significant) Trade development marker (Significant)
Rio markers <i>Principal, Significant, Not targeted</i>	Biodiversity (Not targeted) Climate change (Not targeted) Desertification (Not targeted) Adaptation (Not targeted)
Social and Health Markers <i>Primary – 4, Most of funding – 3, Half of funding – 2, A quarter of funding – 1; Negligible – 0</i>	Disability (0) Maternal Health (0) Minors (0)
Programme-based approach	No
Tied/untied project	Untied




ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

With a portfolio of about 66 million euros allocated in grant and aid credit, the Italian Cooperation in Egypt is committed to promoting inclusive and sustainable economic development and technological innovation in the private sector. In particular, the initiatives work on improving industrial sectors where Italy can bring added value, such as tanning, and on the growth of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) by increasing access to credit through the local banking system. In addition, existing and planned initiatives pay special attention to environmental protection, respect for workers' rights, and support for those most affected by unemployment in the population such as young people and women.

In the industrial sector, the "Robbiki Leather City" program, worth EUR 6 million in direct management grant, is currently underway. This project supports the ambitious Robbiki Program launched in 2004 by the Egyptian government with the aim of creating a new industrial district for leather processing in the Robbiki Industrial Zone, about 50 km from Cairo (Robbiki Leather City - RLC), where the production activities related to leather tanning that were located in the central Cairo area of Magra el Eyoun, where leather processing operations were carried out with obsolete and highly polluting means of production, were relocated. To date, the infrastructure of the Robbiki industrial zone has also been completed thanks to the previous major contribution of Italian Cooperation under the first and second phases of the Debt Swap Program. The current initiative intends to consolidate what has already been achieved, through support to tanners in the decisive phase of the transfer to RLC and the upgrading of leather production activities. The project focuses on supporting the management of the Leather Tanning Technology Center (LTTC) and the common facilities of the RLC. In addition, a new program for the development of leather, wood and marble industrial districts, worth EUR 3 million grant funding, has been approved.

Among the initiatives promoting access to credit are two projects financed through aid credit. The first amounts to EUR 12.6 million and is implemented by the Egyptian Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise Development Agency (MSMEDA), which offers credit with favorable interest rates through the local banking system to be used both for the purchase of machinery and technical assistance services. In addition, an initiative implemented by the Ministry of Industry and Trade in the amount of EUR 45





million allocated for aid credit is being launched, which will enable not only the activation of credit lines for local MPMIs, but also that of a system of credit guarantees, and a Venture Capital fund of funds to support innovation in the industrial sector.



1. Italian credit line with the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise Development Agency (formerly Social Fund for Development)– AID 99/009/00

Type of funding	Bilateral
Total funding	€ 12.600.000, 00 – 100%
Financial allocation as grant	€ 0, 00 – 100%
Financial allocation as soft loan	€ 12.600.000,00 – 0%
Counterpart funding	€ 0,00 – 0%
Contribution implementing partner	€ 0,00 – 0%
Beneficiary Country	142 – Egypt
Place of intervention	Egypt
OCSE-DAC Sectors	32130 - Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME) development
Implementing partner	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Agency (MSMEDA)
Local Partner	Ministry of International Cooperation
Type of aid	C01 – Project-type intervention
Description	This initiative aims to make available to Egyptian MSMEs loans at subsidized interest rates through the local banking system for the purpose of acquiring machinery of Italian origin to cope with a technological update necessary for the sustainable development of their business. The priority, but not exclusive, sectors identified are: agricultural mechanization and agro-food industry, leather, wood, marble, textile, packaging processing.
Duration	24 years
SDGs	SDG 8 - Promote lasting, inclusive and sustainable economic growth 8.3: Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, the creation of decent work, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation and encourage the training and growth of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services SDG 9 - Resistant infrastructures, sustainable industrialization and innovation 9.3: Increase access by small industrialists and other companies, particularly in developing countries, to affordable financial services, including soft loan, to enable their integration into chains and markets
Policy objectives OCSE-DAC <i>Principal, Significant, Not targeted</i>	Gender equality policy marker (Significant) Aid to environment (Significant)

	Participatory development / good governance (Not targeted) Trade development marker (Significant)
Rio markers <i>Principal, Significant, Not targeted</i>	Biodiversity (Not targeted) Climate change (Not targeted) Desertification (Not targeted) Adaptation (Not targeted)
Social and Health Markers <i>Primary – 4, Most of funding – 3, Half of funding – 2, A quarter of funding – 1; Negligible – 0</i>	Disability (0) Maternal Health (0) Minors (0)
Programme-based approach	YES
Tied/untied project	Untied

2. Private sector development in Egypt– AID 10698

Type of funding	Bilateral
Total funding	€ 45.000.000,00 – 100%
Financial allocation as grant	€ 0,00 – 100%
Financial allocation as soft loan	€ 45.000.000,00 – 0%
Counterpart funding	€ 0,00 – 0%
Contribution implementing partner	€ 0,00 – 0%
Beneficiary Country	142 – Egypt
Place of intervention	Egypt
OCSE-DAC Sectors	321 – Industry 32130--Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME) development
Implementing partner	Ministry of Industry and Trade
Local partner	Ministry of International Cooperation
Type of aid	C01 – Project-type intervention
Description	The project aims to contribute to the creation of a favorable environment for the development of the private sector, ensuring sustainable development and inclusive growth of the country's economy. To this end, the initiative will provide both financial services (credit line, technological updating) and non-financial services (training and development of human resources).
Duration	36 months
SDGs	SDG 8 - Promote lasting, inclusive and sustainable economic growth 8.3: Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, the creation of decent work, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation and encourage the training and growth of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services 8.10: Strengthen the capacity of domestic financial institutions to encourage and expand access to banking, insurance and financial services for all SDG 9 - Resistant infrastructures, sustainable industrialization and innovation 9.3: Increase access by small industrialists and other companies, particularly in developing countries, to affordable financial services, including soft loan, to enable their integration into chains and markets
Policy objectives OCSE-DAC <i>Principal, Significant, Not targeted</i>	Gender equality policy marker (Significant) Aid to environment (Significant) Participatory development / good governance (Not targeted) Trade development marker (Significant)

Rio markers <i>Principal, Significant, Not targeted</i>	Biodiversity (Not targeted) Climate change (Not targeted) Desertification (Not targeted) Adaptation (Not targeted)
Social and Health markers <i>Primary – 4, Most of funding – 3, Half of funding – 2, A quarter of funding – 1; Negligible – 0</i>	Disability (0) Maternal Health (0) Minors (0)
Programme-based approach	No
Tied/untied project	Tied up to 60%

3. Support for the development of the Tanning District “Robbiki Leather City – RLC” AID 11128

Type of funding	Bilateral
Total funding	€ 6.000.000,00 – 100%
Financial allocation as grant	€ 6.000.000,00 – 100%
Financial allocation as soft loan	€ 0,00 – 0%
Counterpart funding	€ 0,00 – 0%
Contribution implementing partner	€ 0,00 – 0%
Beneficiary Country	142 – Egypt
Place of intervention	Robbiki Leather City – Badr City
OCSE-DAC Sectors	25010 Business and other services. 32130; 32163 Industry 41010; 41081 Multisector/crosscutting (general environmental protection).
Implementing partner	Ministry of Trade and Industry; Industrial Development Authority – IDA
Local partner	Ministry of Trade and Industry– MTI
Type of aid	C = project type intervention; D = expert and other technical assistance;
Description	<p>The initiative is implemented as part of the "Robbiki Program" launched in 2004 by the Egyptian government, and aimed at creating an industrial district for leather processing in the Robbiki area, and at moving all tanning production and activities to this district, instead of the center of Cairo (Magra el Eyoun), where this used to take place with obsolete and highly polluting production techniques.</p> <p>The Egyptian government requested the support of the Italian Cooperation for technical assistance and training for the benefit of the tanneries, the common services of the industrial district and the Leather Tanning Technology Center - LTTC, including the supply of machinery.</p> <p>The current initiative ensures continuity, providing support to the Egyptian government and tanners in the Robbiki Leather City and contributes to the development of production activities with modern and environmentally friendly techniques in line with international standard.</p> <p>At the moment, the operations relating to the infrastructures and the transfer of production activities to Robbiki Leather City have been completed, thanks to an important contribution of the Italian Cooperation (about 40 million Euros), mostly disbursed in the years 2004-2010 and to technical assistance provided by the Project Management Unit (PMU) of the current program, which began its functions on January 2, 2018.</p>

	The initiative contributes, in particular, to providing the Cairo Investment Development Co. – CID (management company of ecological services) and the Leather Tanning Technology Center - LTTC (training center), set up within the Robbiki Leather City, with support for the organization of their service activities, through the supply of equipment and of specialized technical assistance provided by Italian experts.
Duration	24 months + extension (Sept. 2017 – Dec 2022) Agreement signed on 2.11.2020
SDGs	SDG 9 - Industry, innovation and infrastructure. 9.4 by 2030, upgrade infrastructure and retrofit industries to make them sustainable, with greater resource efficiency and greater adoption of clean and environmentally friendly industrial technologies and processes, with all countries acting in compliance with their respective capabilities. SDG 11 - Making cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable 11.6 by 2030, reduce the negative per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying particular attention to air quality and urban and other waste management SDG 12 - ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns. 12a By 2030, achieve sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources; 12b By 2020, achieve environmentally sound management of chemicals and all waste throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and waste. soil in order to minimize their negative impacts on human health and the environment.
Policy objectives OCSE-DAC <i>Principal, Significant, Not targeted</i>	Gender Equality Policy Marker (not targeted); Aid to environment (Principal); Participatory Development/ Good Governance (Significant) Trade development marker (Principal);
Rio markers <i>Principal, Significant, Not targeted</i>	Biodiversity (Principal) Climate change (Not targeted) Desertification (Not targeted) Adaptation (Significant)
Social and Health markers <i>Primary – 4, Most of funding – 3, Half of funding – 2, A quarter of funding – 1; Negligible – 0</i>	Disability (0); Maternal Health - Contributions to reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health (0); Minors (1)
Programme-based approach	YES
Tied/untied project	Partially untied

4. Support to the private sector and entrepreneurship through the establishment of a technical assistance team in favour of Egyptian SMEs – AID 9377

Type of funding	Bilateral
Total funding	€ 585.305,00 – 100%
Financial allocation as grant	€ 585.305,00 – 100%
Financial allocation as soft loan	€ 0,00 – 0%
Counterpart funding	€ 0,00 – 0%
Contribution implementing partner	€ 0,00 – 0%
Beneficiary Country	142 – Egypt
Place of intervention	Egypt
OCSE-DAC Sector	32130 - Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME) development
Implementing partner	AICS Cairo
Local partner	AICS Cairo
Type of aid	C01 – Project-type intervention
Description	The project aims to support and strengthen the development of the Egyptian private sector with particular attention to micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, and to contribute to sustainable and inclusive economic growth of the country, through the creation of a Technical Assistance Team which offers assistance credit extended by the Italian Government to the benefit of the SMEs, as well as to the other initiatives of the Headquarters in the sector of economic development.
Duration	43 months January 2018 – July 2021
SDGs	SDG 8 - Promote lasting, inclusive and sustainable economic growth 8.3 Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, the creation of decent work, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation and encourage the training and growth of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to services financial 8.10 strengthen the capacity of domestic financial institutions to encourage and expand access to banking, insurance and financial services for all SDG 9 - Resistant infrastructures, sustainable industrialization and innovation 9.3 Increase access by small industrialists and other companies, particularly in developing countries, to affordable financial services, including soft loan, to enable their integration into chains and markets

Policy objectives OCSE-DAC <i>Principal, Significant, Not targeted</i>	Gender equality policy marker (Significant) Aid to environment (Not targeted) Participatory development / good governance (Not targeted) Trade development marker (Significant)
Rio markers <i>Principal, Significant, Not targeted</i>	Biodiversity (Not targeted) Climate change (Not targeted) Desertification (Not targeted) Adaptation (Not targeted)
Social and Health markers <i>Primary – 4, Most of funding – 3, Half of funding – 2, A quarter of funding – 1; Negligible – 0</i>	Disability (0) Maternal Health (0) Minors (0)
Programme-based approach	No
Tied/untied project	Untied

5. Technical Support to the Industrial Districts of Leather, Furniture and Marble – AID 12231

Type of funding	Bilateral
Total funding	€ 3.000.000,00 – 100%
Financial allocation as grant	€ 3.000,000 – 100%
Financial allocation as soft loan	€ 0,00 – 0%
Counterpart funding	€ 0,00 – 0%
Contribution implementing partner	€ 0,00 – 0%
Beneficiary Country	142 – Egitto
Place of intervention	Egitto
OCSE-DAC Sector	32120 – Industrial Development 25030 – Business Development Services 11430 – Advanced Technical and Managerial Training 41081 – Environmental Education and Training
Implementing partner	AICS Cairo
Local partner	Ministry of International Cooperation
Type of aid	C01 – Project-type intervention
Description	The program aims to contribute to the strengthening of the Egyptian industrial system by improving the production capacity of the leather, furniture and marble industrial districts. It aims to support the country's industrial and technological development, focusing on technology, innovation, know-how transfer and sustainability, including from an environmental point of view, consistent with development policies and taking into account the problems of the country of intervention.
Duration	24 months
SDGs	SDG 8 - Decent work and economic growth 8.2: Achieve higher standards of economic productivity through diversification, technological progress and innovation, including with a focus on high value-added and labor-intensive sectors SDG 9 - Resilient infrastructure, sustainable industrialization and innovation 9.2: Promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and significantly increase, by 2030, the shares of industry employment and gross domestic product, in line with the national context, and double this share in the least developed countries SDG 12 - Responsible Consumption and Production 12.2: By 2030, achieve sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources

	12.4: By 2020, achieve environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water, and soil to minimize their adverse impact on human health and the environment
Policy objectives OCSE-DAC <i>Principal, Significant, Not targeted</i>	Gender equality policy marker (Not targeted) Aid to environment (Significant) Participatory development / good governance (Significant) Trade development marker (Principal) Nutrition (Not targeted) Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) (Not targeted)
Rio markers <i>Principal, Significant, Not targeted</i>	Biodiversity (Not targeted) Climate change (Not targeted) Desertification (Not targeted) Adaptation (Not targeted)
Social and Health markers <i>Primary – 4, Most of funding – 3, Half of funding – 2, A quarter of funding – 1; Negligible – 0</i>	Disability (0) Maternal Health (0) Minors (0)
Programme-based approach	YES
Tied/untied project	Untied




The education, technical and vocational training sector is supported by the Italian Cooperation in Egypt through the strong commitment to support the Ministry of Education and Technical Education, the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, the Ministry of Trade and Industry, and finally the Ministry of Health and Population. The activities funded by the Italian government through AICS aim to support the Egyptian government in achieving the strategic goals outlined in Egypt's Vision 2030.

In 2022, interventions continued to support the Egyptian TVET system to promote skills that meet the needs of the local labor market and increase the competitiveness of Egyptians in regional and global markets. During the second phase of the Italian-Egyptian Debt Swap Program, an Italian-Egyptian Integrated Technical Education Center (ITEC project) was established in the electronics and mechanical manufacturing sector in the Fayoum Governorate, which succeeded in establishing a pilot model of technical education serving industrial sectors of national priority. The ITEC project in Fayoum is one of the flagship projects of the Italian Cooperation in Egypt. Since its inception, it has been essential to create a link between the vocational and technical education system and the private sector, adapting the training modules to the concrete needs of the Egyptian labor market.

As a result of the positive results achieved by the ITEC in Fayoum, during the third phase of the ongoing Italian-Egyptian Debt Swap Program, a new high school diploma was established within the same ITEC and a new integrated technical education hub was created in the city of Abu Ghaleb, Giza Governorate. In addition, in 2020, again as part of the third phase of the Program, a new intervention was launched that will help improve the quality of technical education in the country through the creation of a network consisting of one hundred Applied Technology Schools (ATs), managed by a unit based in the





Ministry of Education. The initiative aims to train students to obtain certified skills recognized by employers nationally, regionally and internationally and to improve the skills of trainers and teachers in order to replicate the educational model in each ATS. The project envisions that in ten years, the Unit (ATs-MU) established at MoETE will operate a network consisting of one hundred applied technology schools, attended by some 53,600 students and employing 7,600 staff, including teachers and trainers.

In the same area, the project "Supporting the Improvement of Nursing Care in Three Governorates in Egypt," the second phase of an earlier program, implemented nursing education courses; pediatric heart disease diagnosis activities; and curriculum revision of nursing high schools. The activities carried out and the results achieved were presented by the University of Sassari and AISPO during a ceremony in Cairo on Dec. 1, 2022 to the Italian and Egyptian parties and guests in attendance. Among the most successful achievements are the missions to Egypt of Prof. Frigiola's cardiac surgery team, San Donato Group, to operate at Atfal Hospital in Cairo; the provision of specific training on mentorship to 5 Egyptian clinical specialists at San Raffaele Hospital and an additional 5 at the University of Sassari, in collaboration with the Sawiris Foundation; the training of more than 4.000 people on topics such as psychosocial support for Covid 19 patients; recording, interpretation and management of basic cardiac rhythms; trauma management; infection control; mechanical ventilation; intensive care; and medication and pain management, to name a few.

The initiative, which ends March 31, 2023, has contributions from the Ministry of Health and Population in the Governorates of Port Said, Sharm el Sheikh, Luxor and Ismailia.

The Water Knowledge initiative is also being implemented in cooperation with IAM Bari for a duration of two years with the aim of improving the managerial and technical skills of water resource operators in Egypt and the Region.

1. Enhance the nursing sector in three governorates in Egypt (Port Said II) – AID 11816

Type of funding	Bilateral
Total funding	€ 2.493.508,45– 69,66%
Financial allocation a grant	€ 2.493.508,45 – 100%
Financial allocation as soft loan	€ 0,00 – 0%
Counterpart funding	€ 0,00 – 0%
Contribution implementing partner	€ 1.086.000,00 – 30,34%
Beneficiary Country	142 – Egypt
Place of intervention	Port Said, Ismailia, Sharm el Sheikh, Luxor
OCSE-DAC Sectors	12181 Medical education/training 12191 Medical services
Implementing partner	University of Sassari (UNISS)
Local partner	Ministry of Health and Population
Type of aid	B03: Contributions to specific-purpose programmes and funds managed by international organisations (multilateral, INGO)
Description	The project aims to improve the quality of care in health services in three governorates (Port Said, Ismailia and South Sinai) by strengthening their nursing institutes and schools through the training of trainers, continuing education and the provision of technical equipment. Recently, following the needs of the Ministry of Health and Population, the governorate of Luxor was also added as an intervention area.
Duration	24 months + extension Agreement signed on 15/07/2019 and valid until 31/03/2023
SDGs	SDG 3 - Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, guarantee access to justice for all, and create effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels 3c Significantly increase health funding and the recruitment, development, training and retention of health personnel in developing countries, especially in least developed countries and small island developing states 3d Strengthen the capacity of all countries, especially developing countries, for national and global early warning, risk reduction and risk management to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages
Policy objectives OCSE-DAC <i>Principal, Significant, Not targeted</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gender equality policy marker (Significant) • Aid to environment (Significant) • Participatory development / good governance (Principal) • Trade development marker (Not targeted)
Rio markers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity (Not targeted)

<i>Principal, Significant, Not targeted</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate change (Not targeted) • Desertification (Not targeted) • Adaptation (Not targeted)
Social and Health Markers <i>Primary – 4, Most of funding – 3, Half of funding – 2, A quarter of funding – 1; Negligible – 0</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disability (0) • Maternal Health (4) • Minors (0)
Programme-based approach	YES
Tied/untied project	Untied

2. Water knowledge: Egyptian-Italian water training programme – AID 11808

Type of funding	Multilateral
Total funding	€ 2.268.838,00 – 100%
Financial allocation as grant	€ 2.268.838,00 – 100%
Financial allocation as soft loan	€ 0,00 – 0%
Counterpart funding	€ 0,00 – 0%
Contribution implementing partner	€ 0,00 – 0%
Beneficiary Country	142 – Egypt
Place of intervention	The project and activities will mainly be carried out in the Regional Water Resources and Irrigation Training Center (RTSWRI) in Cairo, Giza governorate.
OCSE-DAC Sector	14081 Education and training in water supply and sanitation 11413 Advanced technical and managerial training
Implementing partner	CIHEAM BARI
Local partner	Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation
Type of aid	C01 – Project-type intervention
Description	<p>The initiative aims to improve specific and professional knowledge and a shared vision on water as a valuable contribution to improve an integrated water management approach at an institutional level through the development of institutional capacities, infrastructural intervention, the strengthening of the network and the improvement of the quality of trainings.</p> <p>The above objective, fully pertinent to both the priorities of the Italian Cooperation and the Egyptian Government, will be achieved through the achievement of the following 2 results:</p> <p>Risultato 1: RTSWRI's physical and technical infrastructure and equipment have been enhanced to host an innovative hub of water education services in the region.</p> <p>This result contributes to achieving the project objective by ensuring adequate physical and methodological support for a better level of training delivery for RTSWRI.</p> <p>Result 2: The quality of the RTSWRI training system in the field of water has improved respectively in terms of teaching methodologies and management skills for trainers and knowledge / leadership acquisition for trainees.</p> <p>This achievement contributes to achieving the project goal, aiming to ensure a flexible and efficient training hub in Egypt and the region.</p> <p>High-level training courses in Egypt and Italy will be provided to 20 young Egyptian employees, 60 Egyptian officials from different key water management ministries at different levels, 20 regional officials from Nile basin countries and 20 Egyptian trainers, 2 laboratory technicians, for a total of 142 direct</p>

	<p>beneficiaries. Furthermore, through e-learning about 700 beneficiaries could be reached.</p> <p>The initiative is part of the Egyptian national 2030 strategy for sustainable development and will have a total duration of 24 months.</p> <p>The Executive Agency is CIHEAM Bari, jointly with Hydroaid.</p>
Duration	24 months (estimated start date: beginning of 2022)
SDGs	<p>SDG 6 - Ensure sustainable management and availability of water and sanitation facilities for all</p> <p>6.4 Significantly increase water use efficiency in every sector by 2030 and ensure sustainable supplies and supplies of drinking water to address water scarcity and substantially reduce the number of people affected</p> <p>6.5 Implement integrated water management at all levels, including through cross-border cooperation, in an appropriate manner by 2030</p> <p>SDG 4 - Quality Education: Ensure inclusive education for all and promote fair and quality lifelong learning opportunities</p> <p>4.4 By 2030, considerably increase the number of young people and adults with specific skills - including technical and professional - for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship</p> <p>4.c Considerably increase the presence of qualified teachers by 2030, also thanks to international cooperation, for their training activities in developing states, especially in less developed countries and small island developing states</p> <p>SDG 17 - Strengthen the means of implementation of the objectives and renew the global partnership for sustainable development</p> <p>17.9 Increase international support to implement effective and targeted capacity development in non-industrialized countries in order to support national plans for the achievement of all Sustainable Development goals, through North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation</p>
Policy objectives OCSE-DAC <i>Principal, Significant, Not targeted</i>	<p>Gender equality policy marker (Not Targeted)</p> <p>Aid to environment (Significant)</p> <p>Participatory development / good governance (Significant)</p> <p>Trade development marker (Not Targeted)</p>
Rio markers <i>Principal, Significant, Not targeted</i>	<p>Biodiversity (Not targeted)</p> <p>Climate change (principal)</p> <p>Desertification (Significant)</p> <p>Adaptation (Significant)</p>
Social and Health markers <i>Primary – 4, Most of funding – 3, Half of funding – 2, A quarter of funding – 1; Negligible – 0</i>	<p>Disability (0)</p> <p>Maternal Health (0)</p> <p>Minors (0)</p>
Programme-based approach	No
Tied/untied project	Tied amount € 2,268,838.00




GOVERNANCE AND HUMAN RIGHTS

The Italian Cooperation in Egypt has always been committed to protecting the rights of the most vulnerable segments of the population, such as minors at risk, people with disabilities, women, migrants and refugees.

With this in mind, the project "Promotion of Children's Rights and Family Empowerment in the Governorate of Fayoum" concluded in 2022 in collaboration with the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood (NCCM), the body responsible for the social protection system in the country. The project has worked since 2018 to ensure the protection of the rights of children and their families, contributing to the concrete and effective implementation of the National Plan on the Rights of Children in Fayoum Governorate, one of the poorest and most populous governorates in Egypt. The protection urged concerns the rights to health, survival, education, and protection, and the response aims to counter situations of violence and abuse, or harmful practices such as female genital mutilation, child labor, and early marriage, or other risk situations such as school dropout, non-registration at birth, and maternal and child malnutrition. The project systematized child protection interventions through strengthening the quality and quantity of social services on the ground in response to requests for help coming to the Child Helpline established by the NCCM. In addition, the initiative assisted the Governorate of Fayoum in establishing a Central Committee and six Child Protection Subcommittees, whose staff IS subsequently trained. The committees will contribute to the sustainability of the protection system along with trained staff, adopted Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), and archive digitization work. Within the project, NCCM conceived the Dawwie initiative, in collaboration with the National Council for Women (NCW). Through a series of activities for girls and children between the ages of 10 and 16, the initiative spread awareness with respect to the importance of girls' education and the various manifestations of gender-based violence. Activities have included digital literacy, self-expression, participation, intergenerational dialogue and community theater in safe and culturally sensitive spaces such as civic education centers. Finally, the project initiated workshops to support artistic creativity for children and handicraft production for women with a view to revitalizing interest in the processing of typical products likely to generate income.





The initiative, "Surrounded and Engaging Platforms Campaign: Innovative Outreach Approach to Addressing Population Growth in Egypt," aimed at addressing one of Egypt's greatest challenges: population growth, was also concluded. As of today, there are more than 100 million inhabitants, an increase of more than 20 million in the past decade, and according to the United Nations the country could reach 153 million by 2050. This is an alarming number especially when correlated with the poverty rate at 32.5 percent, the literacy level at 32 percent in rural areas of the country, and a level of GDP growth that cannot sustain such a population increase, with consequent repercussions on health, education and food systems. Italian Cooperation has therefore supported the Egyptian government in the implementation of the National Population and Development Strategy 2015-2030 and the National Action Plan for Family Development by promoting an initiative with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) to address overpopulation in order to ensure population containment through the promotion of women's and family rights. The program has envisioned an innovative outreach approach, consisting of a transmedia entertainment educational campaign that combines the production of a TV series- which will air during 2023- with community mobilization activities on the ground, and the improvement of reproductive health services.

Also on social protection a program called "Restorative approach to juvenile justice: socio-educational models of social reintegration and alternative measures to detention" is currently ongoing. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and AICS Cairo have joined efforts to support Egypt in the implementation of the Children's Convention and the National Law on Children's Rights in Juvenile Justice. The three macro-results under the project partners contribute to: advancing changes in the national restorative justice law; improving coordination among various actors involved in the field; providing support for the reintegration of children in conflict with the law; and supporting national experts through targeted trainings responsive to the needs for improvements in juvenile justice in Egypt.

The initiative of "Promoting the Rights and Social Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Egypt," for strengthening the National Council for Persons with Disabilities and improving concrete services for taking care of persons with disabilities awaits the end of the authorization procedures. Finally, in December 2021, two initiatives were approved, respectively, for combating the worst forms of child labor, "Combating the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Small Industries and on the Streets and Contributing to the Implementation of the National Action Plan in Egypt," and for promoting alternative forms of care for minors of age, "Strengthening the Alternative Care System for minors of age without family care in Egypt." The former will be managed by the International Labor Organization (ILO), while the latter by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). The three projects mentioned above will hopefully be launched during 2023.

1. Restorative approach to Juvenile Justice: socio-educational models of reintegration and alternative measures to detention – AID 11925

Type of funding	Bilateral
Total funding	€ 1.994.000,00 – 100%
Financial allocation as grant	€ 1.994.000,00 – 100%
Financial allocation as soft loan	€ 0,00– 0%
Counterpart funding	€ 0,00 – 0%
Contribution implementing partner	€ 0,00 – 0%
Beneficiary Country	142 – Egypt
Place of intervention	Egypt
OCSE-DAC Sectors	Government and civil society (150); Human rights (150160).
Implementing partner	UNICEF –UNODC –AICS
Local partner	Ministry of Social Solidarity
Type of aid	C01 – Project-type intervention
Description	<p>The initiative contributes to the protection of the rights of children/adolescents in conflict with the law in Egypt, contributing to the application of the Convention on the Child and the Child Law on juvenile justice. In particular, the initiative promotes the implementation and dissemination of a socio-educational model of social reintegration and alternative measures to deprivation of liberty with a restorative approach within the framework of the reform of the juvenile justice system.</p> <p>The program includes 3 results:</p> <p>R.1: A developed, promoted and systematized socio-educational model, with an integral and restorative approach in the 3 juvenile detention centers of El Marg, Ain Shams and Beni Suef (UNODC).</p> <p>R.2: Decriminalization measures (diversion) with or without restorative justice mechanisms, alternative measures to deprivation of liberty (UNICEF) are adopted by the juvenile justice system.</p> <p>R.3: The operational and interinstitutional coordination skills of the juvenile justice system have been improved and the knowledge and skills of the operators in the field of juvenile restorative justice consolidated (Direct management AICS Cairo).</p>
Duration	24 months for UNICEF and UNODC (expected closure: October 2022), 24 months + extension for AICS (expected closure: June 2023)

	Agreement signed on 10/04/2020
SDGs	<p>SDG 16 - Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, guarantee access to justice for all, and create effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.</p> <p>16.3 Promote the rule of law nationally and internationally and ensure equal access to justice for all.</p> <p>SDG 10 - Reduce inequality within and between nations.</p> <p>10.2 By 2030, enhance and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, regardless of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion, economic status or other.</p>
Policy objectives OCSE-DAC <i>Principal, Significant, Not targeted</i>	<p>Gender Equality Policy Marker (Significant);</p> <p>Aid to environment (Not targeted);</p> <p>Participatory Development/ Good Governance (Principal)</p> <p>Trade development marker (Not targeted);</p>
Rio markers <i>Principal, Significant, Not targeted</i>	<p>Biodiversity (Not targeted)</p> <p>Climate change (Not targeted)</p> <p>Desertification (Not targeted)</p> <p>Adaptation (Not targeted)</p>
Marker socio-sanitari <i>Primary – 4, Most of funding – 3, Half of funding – 2, A quarter of funding – 1; Negligible – 0</i>	<p>Disability (0)</p> <p>Maternal Health (0)</p> <p>Minors (4)</p>
Programme-based approach	YES
Tied/untied project	Untied

2. Promotion of the rights of minors and family empowerment in Fayoum governorate – AID 9659

Type of funding	Bilateral
Total funding	€ 1.500.000,00 – 100%
Financial allocation as grant	€ 1.500.000,00 – 100%
Financial allocation as soft loan	€ 0,00 – 0%
Counterpart fundings	€ 0,00 – 0%
Contribution implementing partner	€ 0,00 – 0%
Beneficiary Country	142 – Egypt
Place of intervention	Governorate of Fayoum
OCSE-DAC Sectors	16010: Social /welfare services
Implementing partner	Consiglio Nazionale per l'Infanzia e la Maternità (NCCM)
Local partner	Consiglio Nazionale per l'Infanzia e la Maternità (NCCM)
Type of aid	C01: Project-type interventions
Description	The initiative intends to strengthen the capacities of the competent Egyptian institutions to ensure the protection of the rights of minors and their families, with particular reference to the most disadvantaged. The intervention aims to reduce practices and phenomena such as female genital mutilation, child marriage, school dropout and child labor, failure to register at birth, maternal and child malnutrition harmful to the realization of the fundamental rights of children and of their families.
Duration	24 months + extensions (expected end of project: Dec 2022) Agreement signed on 26/06/2012 and valid from 13/08/2013
MDGs	MDG 1 - Eradicate extreme poverty 1.b - Ensure full and productive employment and decent work for all, including women and young people MDG 2 - Make primary education universal MDG 3 - Promote gender equality and women's autonomy MDG 4 - Reduce infant mortality MDG 5 - Improving maternal health
Policy objectives OCSE-DAC <i>Principal, Significant, Not targeted</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gender equality policy marker (Principal) • Aid to environment (Not targeted) • Participatory development / good governance (Principal) • Trade development marker (Not targeted)
Rio markers <i>Principal, Significant, Not targeted</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity (Not targeted) • Climate change (Not targeted) • Desertification (Not targeted) • Adaptation (Not targeted)
Social and Health markers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disability (1)

Primary – 4, Most of funding – 3, Half of funding – 2, A quarter of funding – 1; Negligible – 0

- Maternal Health (4)
- Minors (4)

Programme-based approach

NO

Tied/untied project

Untied

3. Surrounded and engaging platforms campaign: integrated approach to address population growth – AID 11624

Type of funding	Multilateral
Total funding	€ 2.000.000,00 – 100%
Financial allocation as grant	€ 2.000.000,00 – 100%
Financial allocation as soft loan	€ 0,00 – 0%
Counterpart funding	€ 0,00 – 0%
Contribution implementing partner	€ 0,00 – 0%
Beneficiary Country	142 – Egypt
Place of intervention	National
OCSE-DAC Sectors	13030 Family planning
Implementing partner	United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
Local partner	Ministry of Youth and Sport (MoYS), National Council for Population (NPC)
Type of aid	B03: Contributions to specific-purpose programmes and funds managed by international organisations (multilateral, INGO)
Description	L'iniziativa ha come obiettivo generale quello di affrontare le sensibili tematiche legate alla rapida ed insostenibile crescita della popolazione egiziana al fine di assicurare il contenimento demografico e, di conseguenza, una migliore qualità della vita e delle condizioni socio-economiche del Paese. Essa intende, a tal proposito, supportare il Governo egiziano ad attuare la "National Strategy for Population and Development 2015-2030", che si pone come obiettivo principale il miglioramento della qualità della vita e la crescita economica attraverso la il contenimento demografico.
Duration	24 months + extensions (Expected end of project: December 2022) Agreement signed on 16/12/2018
SDGs	SDG 3 - Promote the health and well-being of all at all ages 3.7 - By 2030, ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health care services, including family planning, information, education and the integration of reproductive health into national strategies and programs. SDG 5 - Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls 5.6 - Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights, as agreed in the Program of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Beijing Platform for Action and the documents produced in subsequent conferences.
Policy objectives OCSE-DAC <i>Principal, Significant, Not targeted</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gender equality policy marker (Significant) • Aid to environment (Significant)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participatory development / good governance (Principal) • Trade development marker (Not targeted)
Rio markers <i>Principal, Significant, Not targeted</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity (Not targeted) • Climate change (Not targeted) • Desertification (Not targeted) • Adaptation (Not targeted)
Marker socio-sanitari <i>Primary – 4, Most of funding – 3, Half of funding – 2, A quarter of funding – 1; Negligible – 0</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disability (1) • Maternal Health (4) • Minors (0)
Programme-based approach	YES
Tied/untied project	Untied

4. Promotion of the Rights and Social Inclusion of People with Disabilities in Egypt – AID 11710

Type of funding	Bilateral
Total funding	€ 1.831.047,00– 100%
Financial allocation as grant	€ 1.650.000,00 – 90%
Financial allocation as soft loan	€ 0,00 – 0%
Counterpart funding	€ 0,00 – 0%
Contribution implementing partner	€ 181.047,00– 10%
Beneficiary Country	142 – Egypt
Place of intervention	National
OCSE-DAC Sectors	150160 Human rights; 16010 - Social/welfare services
Implementing partner	Ministry of Social Solidarity (MoSS) National Council of People with Disabilities (NCPD) AICS
Local partner	Ministry of Social Solidarity (MoSS) National Council of People with Disabilities (NCPD)
Type of aid	C01: Project-type interventions
Description	<p>The initiative aims to contribute to the implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the recently enacted Egyptian law (19.02.2018). The specific objective is to promote the human rights of people with disabilities through strengthening the NCPD and promoting inter-institutional dynamics and concrete actions to foster social inclusion.</p> <p>Concretely, it aims to develop strategic action plans, policies, programs and actions on the ground, with a rights-focused approach to people with disabilities that is twofold: specific activities/policy integration.</p> <p>The project will support the NCPD, the entity in charge of promoting, coordinating, and overseeing the human rights of persons with disabilities, to be able to mainstream disability issues across ministries, international/local nongovernmental entities, media, and any other relevant partners.</p> <p>As a field component, in collaboration with the Ministry of Social Solidarity (MoSS), a pilot project will improve integral services (health, education, culture, recreation, family/community services) in four governorates that will serve as a model for reforming the more than 640 existing care centers scattered across the country.</p>

	<p>As a third component, a training program will disseminate best practices, methodologies, and the new comprehensive and integrated approach in five governorates (Cairo, Menya, Aswan, Sharqeya, and Daqahleya).</p> <p>Finally, a media component involves the NCPD's design and launch of a media campaign to raise awareness about the basic rights of people with disabilities and overcome the social stigma surrounding them.</p>
Duration	<p>24 months</p> <p>Waiting for agreement signature</p>
SDGs	<p>SDG 10 - Reduce inequality: reduce inequality within and between countries.</p> <p>10.2 By 2030, enhance and promote the social, economic, and political inclusion of all, regardless of age, gender, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion, economic or other status.</p>
<p>Policy objectives OCSE-DAC</p> <p><i>Principal, Significant, Not targeted</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gender equality policy marker (Significant) • Aid to environment (Not targeted) • Participatory development / good governance (Principal) • Trade development marker (Not targeted)
<p>Rio markers</p> <p><i>Principal, Significant, Not targeted</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity (Not targeted) • Climate change (Not targeted) • Desertification (Not targeted) • Adaptation (Not targeted)
<p>Marker socio-sanitari</p> <p><i>Primary – 4, Most of funding – 3, Half of funding – 2, A quarter of funding – 1; Negligible – 0</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disability (4) • Maternal Health (0) • Minors (0)
Programme-based approach	YES
Tied/untied project	Untied

5. Combating the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Small Industries and on the Streets and Contributing to the Implementation of the National Action Plan in Egypt – AID 12517

Type of funding	Multilateral
Total funding	€ 1.500.000,00 – 100%
Financial allocation as grant	€ 1.500.000,00 – 100%
Financial allocation as soft loan	€ 0,00 – 0%
Counterpart funding	€ 0,00 – 0%
Contribution implementing partner	€ 0,00 – 0%
Beneficiary Country	142 – Egypt
Place of intervention	National
OCSE-DAC Sectors	16010 Social Protection
Implementing partner	International Labour Organisation (ILO)
Local partner	Ministry of Social Solidarity (MoSS) Ministry of Manpower (MoM)
Type of aid	C01: Project-type interventions
Description	<p>The initiative aims to help implement the National Action Plan (NAP), launched by the Egyptian government in July 2018, and targets children working in small industries, workshops, and on the roads.</p> <p>The initiative has four main components.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Strengthening the capacity of the Egyptian government, (Ministries and Agencies that are members of the National Committee Against Child Labor), the Egyptian Federation of Industry, and workers' organizations, to deal with countering child labor and effectively implement the NAP. 2. Ensure that all stakeholders within the framework of the project are able to deal with countering child labor, especially in small industries and roads. 3. The use of art and media to effectively raise awareness of the risks and dangers of child labor. These artistic tools are also used for the psychosocial rehabilitation of children. 4. Institutionalization, coordination and complementarity among services provided to working children or children at risk of labor exploitation and their families at the central and district levels.
Duration	24 months Waiting for agreement signature
SDGs	SDG 8 - Fostering sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all. 8.6 - Reduce by 2030 the share of young people unemployed and out of education or training

	<p>8.7 - Take immediate and effective steps to eradicate forced labor, end modern slavery and human trafficking, and ensure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labor, including the recruitment and use of child soldiers, and end child labor in all its forms by 2025.</p> <p>SDG 10 - Reduce inequality within and among nations.</p> <p>10.2 - By 2030, enhance and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, regardless of age, gender, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion, economic or other status.</p> <p>SDG 4 - Provide quality, equitable and inclusive education and learning opportunities for all.</p> <p>4.1 - Ensure by 2030 every girl and boy freedom, equity and quality in the completion of primary and secondary education that leads to appropriate and concrete learning outcomes.</p> <p>4.4 - Substantially increase by 2030 the number of youth and adults with specific skills -including technical and vocational skills- for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship.</p> <p>SDG 16 - Peace, justice and strong institutions.</p> <p>16.2 - End the abuse, exploitation and trafficking of children and all forms of violence and torture against them.</p>
<p>Policy objectives OCSE-DAC <i>Principal, Significant, Not targeted</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gender equality policy marker (Significant) • Aid to environment (Not targeted) • Participatory development / good governance (Principal) • Trade development marker (Not targeted)
<p>Rio markers <i>Principal, Significant, Not targeted</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity (Not targeted) • Climate change (Not targeted) • Desertification (Not targeted) • Adaptation (Not targeted)
<p>Marker socio-sanitari <i>Primary – 4, Most of funding – 3, Half of funding – 2, A quarter of funding – 1; Negligible – 0</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disability (0) • Maternal Health (0) • Minors (4)
<p>Programme-based approach</p>	<p>NO</p>
<p>Tied/untied project</p>	<p>Untied</p>

6. Strengthening the Alternative Care System for minors of age without family care in Egypt – AID 12518

Type of funding	Multilateral
Total funding	€ 1.500.000,00 – 100%
Financial allocation as grant	€ 1.500.000,00 – 100%
Financial allocation as soft loan	€ 0,00 – 0%
Counterpart funding	€ 0,00 – 0%
Contribution implementing partner	€ 0,00 – 0%
Beneficiary Country	142 – Egypt
Place of intervention	National
OCSE-DAC Sectors	16010 Social Protection
Implementing partner	UNICEF
Local partner	Ministry of Social Solidarity (MoSS)
Type of aid	C01 – Project-type intervention
Description	<p>The overall goal of the project is to improve access and quality of child protection services for children at risk and children who have experienced violence, particularly those without parental care.</p> <p>Project interventions are designed on 3 main levels:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Legal/policy framework: high-level legal reform and advocacy processes are undertaken in order to include community and family-based care options in the Children's Law and incorporate implementation costs into the MoSS statutory budget. 2. Institutional capacity: child protection case management services, information management, social service workforce accreditation, gate keeping mechanisms to prevent and respond to family separation at the national level are strengthened and improved. 3. Service infrastructure: fully functional alternative care services are established, including specialized rehabilitation and reintegration services for children without parental care, with a special focus on victims of violence, abuse and exploitation.
Duration	<p>36 months</p> <p>Waiting for the signature of the agreement</p>
SDGs	<p>SDG 10 - Reduce inequality within and among nations.</p> <p>10.2 - By 2030, enhance and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, regardless of age, gender, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion, economic or other status.</p> <p>SDG 16- Peace, justice and strong institutions.</p> <p>16.2- End the abuse, exploitation and trafficking of children and all forms of violence and torture against them.</p> <p>16.6 - Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels.</p>

	<p>16.9 - By 2030, provide legal identity for all, including birth registration.</p> <p>16.a - Consolidate key national institutions, including through international cooperation, to build capacity at every level, particularly in developing countries, to prevent violence and to combat terrorism and crime.</p> <p>16.b - Promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and sustainable development policies.</p> <p>SDG 5 - Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.</p>
<p>Policy objectives OCSE-DAC <i>Principal, Significant, Not targeted</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gender equality policy marker (Significant) • Aid to environment (Significant) • Participatory development / good governance (Principal) • Trade development marker (Not targeted)
<p>Rio markers <i>Principal, Significant, Not targeted</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity (Not targeted) • Climate change (Not targeted) • Desertification (Not targeted) • Adaptation (Not targeted)
<p>Marker socio-sanitari <i>Primary – 4, Most of funding – 3, Half of funding – 2, A quarter of funding – 1; Negligible – 0</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disability (0) • Maternal Health (0) • Minors (4)
<p>Programme-based approach</p>	NO
<p>Tied/untied project</p>	Untied




GENDER

The gender approach cross-cuttingly characterizes the programs funded or directly implemented by AICS Cairo. The intent is to support Egypt in its journey toward building a more inclusive and gender-sensitive society through projects on women's empowerment and combating gender-based violence, as defined in the Egyptian National Strategy for Women's Empowerment 2030.

In this context, the project "Enhancing the Role of Women in Southern Egypt," which will be managed by the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (UN Women) in collaboration with the Egyptian National Council of Women (NCW), is in its start-up phase and aims to socially and economically empower women in the target areas of Assiut and Sohag, particularly women in rural and marginalized areas. The project will incorporate economic and social dimensions and bring together different actors, both at the community and government levels, involving women's rights organizations and community leaders as agents of change. The social empowerment component aims to ensure that women in the focus areas have better access to gender-responsive services and actively participate in public life; while the economic empowerment component aims to foster their financial inclusion through support to the national initiative of NCW and the Central Bank of Egypt (CBE) and to strengthen existing women-owned enterprises in the area through increased participation in micro, small and medium-sized enterprises and productive clusters.

In 2022, the activities of the regional program "Assistance and Empowerment of Syrian Refugee Women and Girls and Vulnerable Women and Girls from Host Communities in Egypt Jordan and Lebanon" were completed in partnership with UNFPA and two NGO consortia, led by ARCS and OXFAM (for which Caritas and MAIS work in Egypt, respectively). The initiative aims to contribute to the improvement of the living conditions of Syrian refugee women and girls and women and girls in particularly vulnerable conditions belonging to host communities in Egypt, Jordan and Lebanon. The interventions carried out have a specific focus on sexual and reproductive health rights, stakeholder capacity building for the implementation of the international agenda for women, peace and security, and the socio-economic empowerment of both Syrian and host community women. In Egypt, the project has supported the establishment and operation of 13 "safe spaces" (Safe Spaces) across the country, where migrant women and girls have access in dignity and safety to services in gender-based violence prevention and response as well as sexual and reproductive health and family planning support. The activities of these spaces also include art therapy workshops, awareness sessions, vocational trainings,





customized psychological support, and a comprehensive redirection service to specialized facilities in case of specific needs. The economic empowerment component, on the other hand, funded an in-depth market analysis following which vocational training courses were conducted in areas such as design, marketing and administration. The project subsequently accompanied interested women in applying for microcredits to establish small businesses. This intervention produced numerous success stories of women entrepreneurs, both migrant and Egyptian, which were shared with the community to encourage other women to embark on a path of social and economic empowerment.

Among the Debt Swap Program projects, the economic development project "Becoming leaders," implemented by the NGO MAIS in Upper Egypt, demonstrates a strong gender approach and contributes to supporting the entrepreneurial capacities of Egyptian women in rural areas of the country and improving their access to legal services.

Lastly, the project "Protection, Services, Empowerment: for a zero-tolerance environment against all forms of gender-based violence", entrusted to UNFPA, which aims to address gender-based violence by promoting and supporting greater social and economic empowerment of women, improved quality and accessibility of specialized services, advocacy actions on gender policies, and active engagement of the affected community, is being programmed. The intervention focuses on long-term social norm change processes that are characterized by strong local as well as national ownership, and ensures the engagement of men both as active decision makers within the family and as allies in combating gender-based violence at the community level. The program includes the first research on domestic violence trends in Egypt, the implementation of the first One-Stop Shop for survivors of gender-based violence, and the implementation of UNFPA's global model called the Girls Assets Framework (GAF), which has a specific focus on the empowerment of adolescent girls.

1. Enhancing the Role of Women in Southern Egypt – AID 12206

Type of funding	Multilateral
Total funding	€ 1.000.000,00 – 100%
Financial allocation as grant	€ 1.000.000,00 – 100%
Financial allocation as soft loan	€ 0,00 – 0%
Counterpart funding	€ 0,00 – 0%
Contribution implementing partner	€ 0,00 – 0%
Beneficiary Country	142 – Egypt
Place of intervention	Upper Egypt (Assiut and Sohag)
OCSE-DAC Sectors	15170 Women’s rights organisations and movements, and government institutions 15180 Ending violence against women and girls
Implementing partner	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women)
Local partner	National Council for Women (NCW)
Type of aid	C01: Project-type interventions
Description	<p>The project aims to socially and economically empower women in the target areas of Assiut and Sohag, particularly rural and marginalized women, and will adopt an integrated approach that incorporates economic and social dimensions to facilitate women's empowerment and will bring together different actors, both at the community and government levels, involving women's rights organizations and community leaders as agents of change.</p> <p>The envisioned goals are (a) Women in the focus areas have better access to gender-responsive services and actively participate in public life; (b) Women in Assiut and Sohag are economically empowered through increased participation in micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises and production clusters.</p>
Duration	24 months Waiting for agreement signature
SDGs	<p>SDG 5 - Achieve gender equality and empowerment (greater strength, self-esteem and awareness) of all women and girls</p> <p>5.5 - Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal leadership opportunities at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life</p> <p>5.c - Adopt and strengthen concrete policies and enforceable laws for the promotion of gender equality and empowerment, i.e., strength, self-esteem, awareness, of all women, girls and children at all levels</p> <p>SDG 1 - End all forms of poverty in the world.</p>

	<p>1.b - Create strong policy frameworks at national, regional and international levels, based on pro-poor and gender-sensitive development strategies, to support accelerated investments in anti-poverty actions</p> <p>SDG 8 - Fostering sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all</p> <p>8.5 - By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and people with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value</p>
<p>Policy objectives OCSE-DAC <i>Principal, Significant, Not targeted</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gender equality policy marker (Principal) • Aid to environment (Not targeted) • Participatory development / good governance (Significant) • Trade development marker (Not targeted)
<p>Rio markers <i>Principal, Significant, Not targeted</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity (Not targeted) • Climate change (Not targeted) • Desertification (Not targeted) • Adaptation (Not targeted)
<p>Social and Health markers <i>Primary – 4, Most of funding – 3, Half of funding – 2, A quarter of funding – 1; Negligible – 0</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disability (0) • Maternal Health (0) • Minors (0)
<p>Programme-based approach</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Tied/untied project</p>	<p>Untied</p>

2. Assistance to and empowerment of Syrian refugee women and girls and vulnerable women and girls in host communities in Egypt, Jordan and Lebanon– AID 11528

Type of funding	Multilateral and bilateral
Total funding	€ 6.000.000,00 – 100% (of which € 1.244.660,00 for Egypt)
Financial allocation as grant	€ 6.000.000,00 – 100% (of which € 1.244.660,00 for Egypt)
Financial allocation as soft loan	€ 0,00 – 0%
Counterpart funding	€ 0,00 – 0%
Contribution implement in partner	€ 0,00 – 0%
Beneficiary Country	589 – Middle East 189 – Northern Sahara
Place of intervention	Egypt (Governorates of Damietta and Sharqeya), Jordan and Lebanon
OCSE-DAC Sectors	15170 Women's rights organisations and movements, and government institutions
Implementing partners	AICS Cairo, UNFPA, UN-ESCWA, Oxfam Italy, ARCS, MAIS, Caritas
Local partner	Ministry of Social Solidarity (MoSS), Ministry of Youth and Sport (MoYS)
Type of aid	B03: Contributions to specific-purpose programmes and funds managed by international organizations (Multilateral, INGO)
Description	The aim of the initiative is to support Syrian refugee access to sexual and reproductive health and support services for gender-based violence, to promote the participation of Syrian women in the peace process and in the reconstruction phase of Syria in the context of the International program on Women, Peace and Security. In addition, Italian civil society organizations, in collaboration with local organizations, will carry out activities aimed at the socio-economic emancipation of both Syrian refugee women and host communities.
Duration	36 months 2021 (closing dates: UNFPA Egypt: Dec. 31, 2020; MAIS: Oct. 2021; CARITAS: June 2022) Agreements signed between 2018 and 2019.
SDGs	SDG 5 - Achieve gender equality and empowerment (greater strength, self-esteem and awareness) of all women and girls 5.1 End all forms of discrimination against all women, girls and boys in every part of the world 5.2 Eliminate all forms of violence against all women, girls and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking for prostitution, sexual exploitation and other types of exploitation

	<p>5.3 Eliminate all harmful practices, such as forced and arranged marriage of girls and female genital mutilation</p> <p>5.a Initiate reforms to give women equal rights of access to economic resources, such as access to ownership and control of land and other forms of ownership, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, in accordance with national laws</p> <p>SDG 1 - End all forms of poverty in the world</p> <p>1.2 By 2030, reduce by at least half the percentage of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions</p>
<p>Policy objectives OCSE-DAC</p> <p><i>Principal, Significant, Not targeted</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gender equality policy marker (Principal) • Aid to environment (Not targeted) • Participatory development / good governance (Significant) • Trade development marker (Not targeted)
<p>Rio markers</p> <p><i>Principal, Significant, Not targeted</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity (Not targeted) • Climate change (Not targeted) • Desertification (Not targeted) • Adaptation (Not targeted)
<p>Social and Health markers</p> <p><i>Primary – 4, Most of funding – 3, Half of funding – 2, A quarter of funding – 1; Negligible – 0</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disability (0) • Maternal Health (3) • Minors (2)
<p>Programme-based approach</p>	NO
<p>Tied/untied project</p>	Untied

3. Enhancing gender mainstreaming for sustainable rural development and food security (Gemaisa II) – AID 11155

Type of funding	Multilateral
Total funding	€ 2.304.000,00 – 100% (of which € 200.000 for Egypt)
Financial allocation as grant	€ 2.304.000,00 – 100% (of which € 200.000 for Egypt)
Financial allocation as soft loan	€ 0,00 – 0%
Counterpart funding	€ 0,00 – 0%
Contribution implementing partner	€ 0,00 – 0%
Beneficiary Country	589 – Middle East 189 – Northern Sahara
Place of intervention	Egypt (Governorates of Fayoum e Sohag), Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine, Tunisia
OCSE-DAC Sectors	15170 Women’s rights organisations and movements, and government institutions 43040 Rural Development
Implementing partner	Mediterranean Agronomic Institute (IAM) of Bari
Local Partner	Ministry of Agriculture
Type of aid	B03: Contributions to specific-purpose programmes and funds managed by international organisations (multilateral, INGO)
Description	The program represents a continuation of the previous GEMAISA regional program implemented by the IAM between 2015-2016 in Egypt, Lebanon and Tunisia in order to promote the empowerment of women in rural areas by promoting the management of natural resources, food security, economic empowerment and access to resources. As a continuation of the previous program, GEMAISA II has also expanded the intervention area to Jordan, Morocco and Palestine.
Duration	36 months + extensions (end date: October 2021) Agreement signed on 24/07/2017
SDGs	SDG 5 - Achieve gender equality and empowerment (greater strength, self-esteem and awareness) of all women and girls 5.1 End all forms of discrimination against all women, girls and boys in every part of the world 5.4 Recognize and enhance unpaid care work and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructures and social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the family unit, according to national characteristics 5.5 - Guarantee women full and effective participation and equal leadership opportunities at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life

	<p>5.a Initiate reforms to give women equal rights of access to economic resources, such as access to ownership and control of land and other forms of ownership, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, in accordance with national laws</p> <p>SDG 2 - End hunger, achieve food security, improve nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture</p> <p>2.3 By 2030, double agricultural productivity and income of small-scale food producers, in particular women, indigenous peoples, families of farmers, shepherds and fishermen, including through safe and fair access to land, to other productive resources and stimuli, knowledge, financial services, markets and opportunities that create added value and non-agricultural employment</p>
<p>Policy objectives OCSE-DAC <i>Principal, Significant, Not targeted</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gender equality policy marker (Principal) • Aid to environment (Not targeted) • Participatory development / good governance (Significant) • Trade development marker (Not targeted)
<p>Rio markers <i>Principal, Significant, Not targeted</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity (Not targeted) • Climate change (Not targeted) • Desertification (Not targeted) • Adaptation (Not targeted)
<p>Social and Health Markers <i>Primary – 4, Most of funding – 3, Half of funding – 2, A quarter of funding – 1; Negligible – 0</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disability (0) • Maternal Health (0) • Minors (0)
<p>Programme-based approach</p>	<p>NO</p>
<p>Tied/untied project</p>	<p>Untied</p>



MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT


Egypt's geographical location at the crossroads of North Africa, the Middle East, East Africa and Europe makes the country a destination for many mixed migration movements. Egypt is therefore becoming an increasingly important partner in the field, both regionally and globally, as evidenced by its recent appointment as a Global Compact for Migration Champion and its participation in various regional platforms, such as the Khartoum Process and the Pan-African Forum on Migration.

Historically a country of emigration, with a diaspora that has recently reached between 10 and 12 million expatriates, Egypt is gradually becoming a transit and destination country for increasing numbers of migrants. According to the latest estimates from U.N. agencies, there are more than 270,000 refugees and about one million migrants in vulnerable situations in Egypt. At the same time, the country is the largest supplier of labor in the region, mainly to Saudi Arabia, Jordan and the United Arab Emirates, while 3 million Egyptian citizens and their descendants reside in Europe, North America and Australia.

The Italian Cooperation in Egypt is actively engaged in different migration and development initiatives that aim at engaging diasporas in local development initiatives, protecting and socio-economic empowerment of migrants, and addressing the root and structural causes of irregular migration.

The year 2022 will see the launch of new program, titled "PLAY - Positive Living Alternatives for Egyptian Youth," entrusted to the International Organization for Migration (IOM), which aims to promote employment opportunities in the tourism sector for Egyptian youth, raise awareness regarding the risks of irregular migration, and promote youth mobility through regular migration opportunities. Specifically, the intervention will strengthen the capacities of national authorities in terms of human development policymaking in the tourism sector and, in parallel, pursue actions to maximize the potential of existing vocational education and training institutions in this sector. The project aims to work in the hotel school in Fayoum, a Governorate where young Egyptians are at high risk of irregular migration to Italy, to improve -on the one hand- their skills for integration into the Egyptian working world and -on the other hand- to fill labor shortages in the Italian tourism sector during the high seasons by exploiting existing regular migration channels.





Under EU delegated cooperation funding, the program called "MEPEP - Multi Educational Program for Employment Promotion in Areas Affected by Irregular Migration," supported by the Trust Fund for Africa, addresses the trend of irregular migration through improving the quality of the vocational education and training (TVET) system in Egypt. The project provides advanced TVET training courses to better meet the needs of the labor market and, thus, increase youth employability and the Egyptian economy in general.

In addition, as detailed in the previous chapter, AICS Cairo helped coordinate a regional initiative for the socioeconomic empowerment of Syrian refugee women and girls from host communities. The interventions, implemented by Caritas Egypt, MAIS and UNFPA, include vocational training activities and the creation of livelihood opportunities as well as the provision of gender-based violence protection and prevention services for those with limited access to national systems. Through the involvement of both migrant and host populations, the program fosters important processes of social cohesion and integration.

Finally, the project "SAWA: 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" was included in Planning 2022. The intervention aims to integrate migration into national systems by influencing government policies and promoting the inclusion of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers in government plans related to health and education. At the same time, the intervention will respond to the immediate needs of these groups by promoting greater access to education and improved health, with a focus on basic education and women's health, and by including services for the Egyptian host community in its outreach.

1. Initiatives for local development of Egypt through the support of Egyptians abroad (ILDEA II) – AID 11625

Type of funding	Multilateral
Total funding	€ 500.000,00 – 100%
Financial allocation as grant	€ 500.000,00 – 100%
Financial allocation as soft loan	€ 0,00 – 0%
Counterpart funding	€ 0,00 – 0%
Contribution implementing partner	€ 0,00 – 0%
Beneficiary Country	142 – Egypt
Place of intervention	Egypt (Governorates of Sohag) and Italy
OCSE-DAC Sector	16010 Social/ welfare services
Implementing partner	International Organization for Migration (IOM)
Local Partner	State Ministry for Emigration and Egyptian Expatriate Affairs (MoSEEEA)
Type of aid	C01: Project-type interventions
Description	The project aims to support the Egyptian government in consolidating efforts to involve Egyptian expatriates in the development of the country by building a strategic policy framework on expat engagement for development along with a communication strategy with expat communities through a participatory approach which involves the involvement of various stakeholders engaged in migration and development issues.
Duration	16 months (end date: December 2021) Agreement signed on 05/02/2019
SDGs	SDG 1 - End all forms of poverty in the world SDG 10 - Reduce inequality within and between nations 10.7 Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and the mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies 10.c By 2030, reduce the transaction costs of migrant remittances to less than 3 percent and eliminate remittance corridors costing 5 percent higher SDG 17 - Strengthen the means of implementation and renew the global partnership for sustainable development 17.18 By 2020, strengthen the capacity support mechanism for developing countries, including least developed countries and small island developing states, to significantly increase the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable disaggregated by income, sex, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts
Policy objectives OCSE-DAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gender equality policy marker (Significant)

<i>Principal, Significant, Not targeted</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aid to environment (Significant) • Participatory development / good governance (Principal) • Trade development marker (Not targeted)
Rio markers <i>Principal, Significant, Not targeted</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity (Not targeted) • Climate change (Not targeted) • Desertification (Not targeted) • Adaptation (Not targeted)
Social and Health markers <i>Primary – 4, Most of funding – 3, Half of funding – 2, A quarter of funding – 1; Negligible – 0</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disability (0) • Maternal Health (0) • Minors (0)
Programme-based approach	NO
Tied/untied project	Untied

2. Providing Positive Life Alternatives to Egyptian Youth (PLAY) – AID 11963

Type of funding	Multilateral
Total funding	€ 1.490.388,00 – 100%
Financial allocation as grant	€ 1.490.388,00 – 100%
Financial allocation as soft loan	€ 0,00 – 0%
Counterpart funding	€ 0,00 – 0%
Contribution implementing partner	€ 0,00 – 0%
Beneficiary Country	142 – Egitto
Place of intervention	Fayoum Governorate
OCSE-DAC Sectors	11330 Vocational training 32130 Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME) development
Implementing partner	International Organization for Migration (IOM)
Local partner	Ministry of State for Emigration and Egyptian Expatriate Affairs (MoSEEEA), Ministry of Tourism, Egyptian Agency for the Development of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEDA)
Type of aid	C01: Project-type interventions
Description	The general objective of the project is to help prevent the illegal migration of young Egyptians by offering them viable alternatives. We want to achieve this goal through the implementation of a series of activities divided into three components: i) raising awareness and empowerment of young people and other vulnerable groups regarding the risks of irregular migration; ii) improve training and increase job opportunities in the tourism sector; iii) promoting the mobility of young people through regular migration.
Duration	24 months Waiting for the signing of the agreement
SDGs	SDG 1 - End all forms of poverty in the world SDG 8 - Encouraging lasting, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all SDG 10 - Reduce inequality within and between nations 10.7 Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and the mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies SDG 11 - Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, long-lasting and sustainable SDG 17 - Strengthen the means of implementation and renew the global partnership for sustainable development
Policy objectives OCSE-DAC <i>Principal, Significant, Not targeted</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gender equality policy marker (Significant) • Aid to environment (Not targeted)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participatory development / good governance (Principal) • Trade development marker (Not targeted)
Rio markers <i>Principal, Significant, Not targeted</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity (Not targeted) • Climate change (Not targeted) • Desertification (Not targeted) • Adaptation (Not targeted)
Social and Health Markers <i>Primary – 4, Most of funding – 3, Half of funding – 2, A quarter of funding – 1; Negligible – 0</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disability (0) • Maternal Health (0) • Minors (0)
Programme-based approach	SI
Tied/untied project	Untied



ENVIRONMENT


In Egypt, environmental protection and biodiversity face several challenges: the effects of climate change, mass tourism, degradation of natural habitats, and poaching have a direct effect on Egypt's ecosystems. To address these threats, Egypt adopted Law 102/1983, establishing a national system of Protected Areas, initiated a national strategy, and signed several international protocols and conventions.

The Italian Cooperation has supported various environmental protection and safeguard activities for the development of the Egyptian Protected Areas system. Since the 1990s, Egypt has been sustained by the Egyptian Italian Environmental Cooperation Program (EIECP). The first phase of the program began in the late 1990s, while its second phase ended in 2010. The third phase is currently underway.

The EIECP supports Egypt in the protection of natural resources and cultural heritage through, in its first phase, (i) the strengthening of the legal framework and capacity-building and institutional support activities; (ii) the implementation of the Siwa Environmental Amelioration Project (SEAP), the Gebel Elba National Park Development Project, and the intervention in the Wadi Rayan and Wadi Hitan Protected Area, which has been declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site. In the second phase, the focus was on improving the governance of natural resources and strengthening local communities.

Today, the Egyptian Ministry of Environment is supported by the third phase of the EIECP, which aims at sustainable use of protected areas through community-based eco-friendly management of natural resources. Through stakeholder involvement for each intervention area and under the management of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), the initiative promotes sustainable eco-tourism with the direct involvement of local communities. As part of these activities, the Program encourages increased income for families living around protected areas through the promotion of local handicrafts, while also encouraging participation in management choices affecting the same areas and at the same time diversifying their production opportunities such as by encouraging beekeeping and the sale of honey and natural cosmetics.





Continued collaboration with the Ministry of Housing and Urban Planning, for the development of the "Zabaleen" community of informal recyclers in the city of May 15 in Cairo, which is among the most discriminated against and poor, and is plagued by major urban, health, and educational problems, such as the lack of basic services, sewage system, schools, and health centers. The presence of large amounts of garbage and the high concentration of households generates widespread health risks. The project, in the first phase, has made the area safe and flood-protected by funding the construction of a drainage channel, and is now developing, with the participation of the entire community, an urban plan. In the next phase, the project will help implement the aforementioned plan and campaigns to raise public awareness about the environment, health and education.

As a result of the increasing anthropogenic pressure on the use of natural resources and the production of urban and agricultural solid waste, the Inclusive Green Growth initiative is being launched together with UNIDO to stimulate growth, productivity and job creation in Egypt in the green economy sector and in particular in the management and valorization of urban and agricultural solid waste.

The Italian government's important contributions to the management of Protected Areas in Egypt were presented by the AICS Headquarters in Cairo during COP 27 - Meeting of the Conference of the Parties on Climate Change - held in Sharm el Sheik in November 2022.


1. Egyptian Italian Environmental Cooperation Program – AID 5299

Type of funding	Multilateral
Total funding	€ 3.100.000, 00 – 100%
Financial allocation as grant	€ 3.100.000, 00 – 100%
Financial allocation as soft loan	€ 0,00 – 0%
Counterpart funding	€ 0,00 – 0%
Contribution implementing partner	€ 0,00 – 0%
Beneficiary Country	Governorate of Fayoum and Governorate of the Red Sea
Place of intervention	Fayoum Governorate and Red Sea Governorate
OCSE-DAC Sectors	41030 Biodiversity 41040 Site preservation 41010 Environmental policy and administrative management
Implementing partner	United Nations Development Program (UNDP)
Local partner	Ministry of environment
Type of aid	Grant B03
Description	The initiative aims to support the Nature Conservation Sector, the Egyptian Ministry of the Environment agency for the management of protected areas, in promoting community-based income generation mechanisms for the management of protected areas. The program will support eco-tourism activities to strengthen local communities living next to protected areas and at the same time implement plans for the sustainable management of natural resources.
Duration	36 months + 36 months no cost extension Agreement signed on 17/06/2015 and valid until 31/05/2021 Activities started on 01/06/2016
SDGs	SDG 15 - Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of the terrestrial ecosystem, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation and stop the loss of biological diversity 15.a Mobilize and significantly increase economic resources from all sources to preserve and sustainably use biodiversity and ecosystems. SDG 13 - Promote actions, at all levels, to combat climate change 13.1 Strengthen resilience and adaptation to climate-related risks and natural disasters in all countries. SDG 14 - Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development 14.1 By 2025, prevent and significantly reduce all forms of marine pollution, especially that from activities carried out on land, including pollution of marine debris and nutrients

Policy objectives OCSE-DAC <i>Principal, Significant, Not targeted</i>	Gender equality policy marker (Significant) Aid to environment (Principal) Participatory development / good governance (Significant) Trade development marker (Significant)
Rio markers <i>Principal, Significant, Not targeted</i>	Biodiversity (Principal) Climate change (Not targeted) Desertification (Not targeted) Adaptation (Significant)
Social and Health Markers <i>Primary – 4, Most of funding – 3, Half of funding – 2, A quarter of funding – 1; Negligible – 0</i>	Disability (0) Maternal Health (0) Minors (0)
Programme-based approach	YES
Tied/untied project	Untied

2. Development of 15th of May Zabaleen Recyclers Community – AID 04704

Type of funding	Bilateral
Total funding	€ 850.000, 00 – 100%
Financial allocation as grant	€ 850.000, 00 – 100%
Financial allocation as soft loan	€ 0,00 – 0%
Counterpart funding	€ 0,00 – 0%
Contribution implementing partner	€ 0,00 – 0%
Beneficiary Country	142 – Egypt
Place of intervention	15 May, Governorate of Cairo
OCSE-DAC Sector	43030 – Urban development and management 43031 – Urban land policy and management 43032 – Urban development
Implementing partner	Informal Settlements Development Funds (ISDF)
Local partner	Ministry of International Cooperation
Type of aid	C01 – Project-type intervention
Description	The project contributes to the development of the “zabbaleen” community (i.e. those who collect and sort urban waste) in the May 15 district of the Cairo Governorate
Duration	48 months Dec 2017 - Dec 2021
SDGs	SDG 11 - Making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, flexible and sustainable 11.1: By 2030, ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and the elimination of slums 11.3: By 2030, improve urbanization and inclusive and sustainable capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable planning and management of human settlement in all countries
Policy objectives OCSE-DAC <i>Principal, Significant, Not targeted</i>	Gender equality policy marker (Significant) Aid to environment (Significant) Participatory development / good governance (Significant) Trade development marker (Not targeted)
Rio markers <i>Principal, Significant, Not targeted</i>	Biodiversity (Not targeted) Climate change (Not targeted) Desertification (Not targeted) Adaptation (Not targeted)
Social and Health markers	Disability (0 - 1) Maternal Health (0)



<i>Primary – 4, Most of funding – 3, Half of funding – 2, A quarter of funding – 1; Negligible – 0</i>	Minors (1)
Programme-based approach	No
Tied/untied project	Untied



3. Inclusive Green Growth in Egypt - AID 012587

Type of funding	Multilateral
Total funding	€ 800.000, 00 – 100%
Financial allocation as grant	€ 800.000, 00 – 100%
Financial allocation as soft loan	€ 0,00 – 0%
Counterpart funding	€ 0,00 – 0%
Contribution implementing partner	€ 0,00 – 0%
Beneficiary Country	142 – Egypt
Place of intervention	Governorate of Beni Sweif
OCSE-DAC Sector	23270 Biofuel-fired power plants – 25% 23360 Non-renewable waste-fired electric power plants 25% 25030 Business development services 50%
Implementing partner	United Nations Industrial Development Program (UNIDO)
Local partner	Ministry of Industry and Trade and Ministry of Environment
Type of aid	Dono – B03
Description	The project contributes to the efforts of the Egyptian government, and in particular the Ministry of Trade and Industry, to stimulate growth, productivity and job creation in Egypt, and the Ministry of Environment to safeguard the environment through the upgrading of municipal and agricultural solid waste. The project implements concrete actions that will contribute to the development of a green economy in the country. The initiative expands opportunities for inclusive green growth in Egypt. Through the project's interventions in waste management, the project's green economy sectors, funded through a multi-donor approach by the Swiss government, will be extended to an additional governorate in Upper Egypt: the governorate of Beni Sweif. The initiative involves the implementation of a pilot plant to convert waste to energy (waste-to-energy) through the use of innovative technology.
Duration	24 months Waiting for the signature of the agreement
SDGs	SDG 7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy systems for all 7.a Increase international cooperation by 2030 to facilitate access to clean energy-related research and technologies-including renewable resources, energy efficiency, and cleaner, more advanced fossil fuel technologies-and promote investment in energy infrastructure and clean energy technologies

	<p>SDG 8. Fostering sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all</p> <p>8.2 Achieve higher standards of economic productivity through diversification, technological progress and innovation, including with a focus on high value-added and labor-intensive sectors</p> <p>SDG 9. Build resilient infrastructure and promote innovation and equitable, responsible and sustainable industrialization</p> <p>9.3 Increase access of industrial and non-industrial small businesses, particularly in developing countries, to financial services, including affordable loans, and their integration into supply chains and markets</p> <p>SDG 13 Promote action, at all levels, to combat climate change</p> <p>13.3 Improve education, awareness, and human and institutional capacity for climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction, and early warning</p>
<p>Policy objectives OCSE-DAC <i>Principal, Significant, Not targeted</i></p>	<p>Gender equality policy marker (Significant)</p> <p>Aid to environment (Principal)</p> <p>Participatory development / good governance (Significant)</p> <p>Trade development marker (Significant)</p>
<p>Rio markers <i>Principal, Significant, Not targeted</i></p>	<p>Biodiversity (Not targeted)</p> <p>Climate change (Principal)</p> <p>Desertification (Significant)</p> <p>Adaptation (Significant)</p>
<p>Social and Health markers <i>Primary – 4, Most of funding – 3, Half of funding – 2, A quarter of funding – 1; Negligible – 0</i></p>	<p>Disability (0)</p> <p>Maternal Health (0)</p> <p>Minors (0)</p>
<p>Programme-based approach</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>Tied/untied project</p>	<p>Untied</p>



CULTURE AND TOURISM

The Italian Cooperation in Egypt supports the Ministries of Environment and Antiquities in the field of environmental protection and conservation and promotion of historical, archaeological and cultural heritage. In particular, objectives planned for the coming years include strengthening and improving the management of historical and cultural heritage (e.g. archaeological sites and national museums).

A project to rehabilitate the collection of the Cairo Museum of Islamic Art (MIA) was completed in 2022. The MIA is considered one of the most important in the world for its exceptional collection of rare objects made of wood, metal, ceramics, glass, crystal and textiles. On January 24, 2014, the museum was severely damaged due to a terrorist attack against the main security posts located in front of the building. As a result, the Egyptian government issued a request for cooperation to which the Italian government responded immediately with this project. The Ministry of Antiquities and Tourism (MoTA) and the executing agency of the initiative, The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), then selected three other museums that would participate in the project: The National Museum of Egyptian Civilization (NMEC), the Gayer Andesron Museum and the El Manial Palace Museum. This network of museums has benefited from high-level theoretical and practical trainings in collaboration with the Egyptian Museum in Turin and the La Venaria Reale Conservation and Restoration Center. The project has, in addition, included the restoration and display of emblematic objects from the collections of the museums involved, to be carried out in the context of the aforementioned training activities. As for the part of communication and visibility, the initiative promoted some examples of the use of technologies digital technologies to promote the Islamic art collections of the selected museums, such as 3D exploration of the historical sites from which the museum objects originate.



1. Rehabilitation of the Museum of Islamic Art in Cairo – AID 10439

Type of funding	Multilateral
Total funding	€ 800.000,00 – 100%
Financial allocation as grant	€ 800.000,00 – 100%
Financial allocation as soft loan	€ 0,00 – 0%
Counterpart funding	€ 0,00 – 0%
Contribution implementing partner	€ 0,00 – 0%
Beneficiary Country	142 – Egypt
Place of intervention	Cairo
OCSE-DAC Sectors	16350 – Culture and recreation
Implementing partner	UNESCO
Local partner	Ministry of Turism and Antiquities (MoTA)
Type of aid	C01: Project-type interventions
Description	The Cairo Museum of Islamic Art is considered one of the most important in the world for its exceptional collection. On 24 January 2014 it was heavily damaged in a terrorist attack. The government has launched a request for cooperation to which the Italian government has responded. Therefore, the Italian Cooperation in Cairo, the Ministry of Antiquities of Egypt and UNESCO have agreed to join forces through this project which aims to improve the enhancement of Islamic art in Egypt by contributing to the full rehabilitation of the Museum.
Duration	12 months (Project expected to end on Dec 2022) Agreement signed on 27/11/2014
MDGs	MDG 1 - Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger 1.2 Achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all, including women and young people
Policy objectives OCSE-DAC <i>Principal, Significant, Not targeted</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gender equality policy marker (Not targeted) • Aid to environment (Not targeted) • Participatory development / good governance (Not targeted) • Trade development marker (Not targeted)
Rio markers <i>Principal, Significant, Not targeted</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity (Not targeted) • Climate change (Not targeted) • Desertification (Not targeted) • Adaptation (Not targeted)
Social and Health Markers <i>Primary – 4, Most of funding – 3, Half of funding – 2, A quarter of funding – 1; Negligible – 0</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disability (0) • Maternal Health (0) • Minors (0)
Programme-based approach	YES
Tied/untied project	Untied



ITALIAN-EGYPTIAN DEBT SWAP PROGRAM PHASE III

The Debt Swap Program is one of the most important instruments of cooperation between Italy and Egypt, not only because of the amount of resources mobilized, but also because of the strong local ownership in development processes. The Program was established in 2001, the year in which the first debt conversion accord was signed between the Government of the Republic of Italy and the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt, amounting to 149 million USD worth of debt generated from aid credits, converted into resources to finance fifty-three initiatives, operating in sectors such as environmental protection, cultural heritage, rural development, small and medium enterprise development, education, social protection, etc.


In light of the success of the first phase, a second intergovernmental agreement, signed in 2007, provided for the conversion of an additional \$100 million of debt. These resources enabled the implementation of thirty-one projects that, in continuity with the initiatives carried out under the first agreement, worked on issues such as human resource development, technology transfer, primary production development, environmental protection and social development.

The current phase of the Program, on the other hand, is based on the third agreement, signed on May 10, 2012 for an expected duration of 11 years, which provided for the conversion of a portion of debt of a total value of USD 100 million (specifically corresponding to credits of EUR 13,087,911 and USD 82,755,369). To date, the entirety of the installments covered by the Agreement, is already converted, and deposited in the Counterpart Fund (CPF), established at the Central Bank of Egypt for actual countervalue of LE 926,017,366.07.

These resources are earmarked for the implementation of development initiatives jointly identified by the Parties within five priority sectors defined by the Agreement, namely (1) nutrition and food security; (2) education and vocational training; (3) agriculture/primary sector; (4) environmental and cultural heritage protection; and (5) civil society.

A total of twenty-three initiatives have been formalized to date: seven of them are promoted by Egyptian ministries and government agencies, one by the World Food Program (WFP), and fourteen by Italian (5) and Egyptian (9) civil society organizations (CSOs), for a total expenditure commitment of LE 812,145,598. Of these initiatives, to date there are eleven projects that are still ongoing, three that are in the start-up phase, and nine that have already been completed. Considering also the operational and technical assistance costs, entrusted to the Technical Support Unit (TSU), the total value committed is LE 830,663,964.07, or about 90 percent of the resources generated by the Agreement.





In addition to the funds already committed, other resources have been preliminarily set aside for the granting of an additional contribution to one of the ongoing projects (Ministry of Supply) and for the financing of six additional initiatives (four promoted by Ministries and two by Egyptian CSOs), already identified and/or approved by the Management Committee, which will imply the commitment of the entirety of the remaining resources .

Against this allocation, as of December 31, 2022, funds worth a total of LE 686,248,042.61 had been disbursed to the projects by the CPF, which translates into the cancellation of about 75% of the total amount of debt under the Agreement, corresponding specifically to EUR 10,258,688.89 and USD 71,653,607.43.

Below is a summary description regarding the allocation of the resources generated by the third Conversion Agreement to the various sectors of intervention.

- **Food Security and Nutrition.**

- Ministry of Supply and Internal Trade: "Construction of 6 vertical silos and implementation of a grain management information system in three governorates (Sharqiyya, Minya and Monufiyya)" for a total grant of LE 416,708,000. The project includes the construction, testing and implementation of 6 grain storage sites composed of vertical silos (each site consisting of 4 silos with a capacity of 1.25 tons each for a total capacity of 30 thousand tons) as well as the development and introduction of a pilot information system for managing grain flows between storage sites nationwide.


- **Technical and vocational education and training**

- Education Development Fund: "Establishment of an Integrated Italian-Egyptian Technical Education Cluster (ITEC) in the Governorate of Giza" - Contribution of LE 63,206,254. The initiative aims to establish a new Integrated Technical Education Cluster (ITEC) in the city of Abu Ghaleb, replicating the model successfully tested under Phase II of the Conversion Program through the establishment of the ITEC Cluster in Demo in the Governorate of Fayoum. The new ITEC Pole will offer three-year basic courses in two areas of specialization (electrical/photovoltaic plant engineering and clothing) and two-year specialized courses.

- Education Development Fund: "New Vocational Secondary School course at the Integrated Italian-Egyptian Technical Education Cluster (ITEC), in the Governorate of Fayoum" - Contribution of LE 12,960,000. The initiative aims to establish within the aforementioned ITEC Pole in Demo, established under Phase II of the Conversion Program, a new Vocational Secondary School (VSS) educational per-course that will offer three-year courses in four areas of specialization (electrical/photovoltaic systems; automobile repair and maintenance; air conditioner manufacturing and maintenance).

- Ministry of Education and Technical Education (MoETE): "AT-STEP Improvement of Technical Schools and Teacher Capacity" - LE 40,800,000 grant. The project aims to contribute to the improvement of the quality of technical education in the country through the creation of a network of one hundred Applied Technology Schools (ATS), managed by a specific Management Unit (MU) with se-de at the Ministry of Education. The initiative aims to train students with certified skills recognized by employers nationally, regionally, and internationally, as well as to improve the skills of trainers and teachers in order to replicate the educational model in each ATS.

- World Food Program "Social Protection and Human Capital Development in the Government of Luxor" - Contribution of LE 42,000,000. The initiative offers support to first-grade community school students and their families through an innovative multi-disciplinary approach that, acting in a complementary manner to national social protection programs, includes: distribution of meals




within schools, provision of monthly financial contributions to families of students who regularly attend classes, support for economic empowerment, particularly of women and youth, through strengthening practical life skills, vocational training courses, access to micro-credit funds for starting micro-enterprises, etc.

- **Protection of cultural and environmental heritage**

- Ministry of the Environment "Solid Waste Management in Minya Governorate - Third Phase" - LE 70,487,019 Grant Following up on the initiatives already implemented during the previous two phases of the Conversion Program, the initiative aims to improve the solid waste collection and management system in Minya Governorate through the transfer of technology and technical expertise for the construction and operation of a new biomechanical treatment plant for municipal waste in the city of Minya with a capacity of 500 tons per day. As a result of technical and financial issues that emerged during 2021 related on the one hand to rising market costs and on the other hand to the desirability of replicating the biomechanical treatment model already used for the plant implemented in Edwa district during Phase II, the Management Committee precautionarily suspended the project as of March 31, 2022 by requesting a new feasibility study and an update of the project document from the proposing entity.
- (under formulation) Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities "Supporting the Development of the Abusir Archaeological Area in the Governorate of Giza" - Estimated grant of LE 10,727,000. This initiative aims to strengthen the accessibility and usability of the Abusir archaeological area by promoting its opening to the public through integration into the Saqqara turistic circuit.
- (under formulation) Ministry of Environment "Nature Conservation Monitoring Project" - Estimated contribution of LE 15,680,000. This initiative, working synergistically with the Italian-Egyptian Environmental Cooperation Program funded on the bilateral channel, will promote biodiversity conservation in the country's Protected Areas.
- (under formulation) Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities "Creation of a gallery of the Fayyum Portraits at the Egyptian Museum in Cairo" - Estimated contribution of LE 10,000,000 from the residual funds of the Second Phase.
- (under formulation) Ministry of Environment "Support to the Water-Food-Energy Nexus Program (NWEFE)" - Estimated contribution of LE 12,174,065.29 from the residual funds of the Second Phase.
- **Agriculture and primary sector.**
- Ministry of Agriculture "Development of Marine Aquaculture in Egypt - Phase 2 (MADE 2)." The project, which is a follow-up to the MADE initiative implemented in Phase II of the Conversion Program aims to consolidate the marine aquaculture sector in Egypt, sustainable and responsible approach through the completion of the integrated technical district in the Governorate of Alexandria whose construction was initiated during the previous initiative, and the construction of a new district in the Governorate of Port Said. These districts, in addition to state-of-the-art technology for fish production, such as hatcheries for hatchlings, veterinary laboratories, and multi-trophic rearing facilities, also provide facilities for training and technical assistance to the private sector. The original grant allocated to the project in 2015 of LE 59,824,000 was subsequently supplemented in 2018 with additional funds of LE 46,000,000 (partly covered by residual funds from Phase II) for a total value of LE 105,824,000.
- Ministry of Agriculture "Establishment of a Red Tilapia Fish Hatchery in North Sinai" - Contribution of LE 14,176,000. The initiative to establish a Red Tilapia fish nursery in the Lake Bardawill region of North Sinai on the model already utilized in Port Said was officially launched on June 1, 2022 for an expected duration of 24 months.

- (In start-up phase) Ministry of Agriculture "Support for the National Program for the production of seeds and hybrid varieties of horticultural plants" - Contribution of LE 18,900,000. This initiative, which is inscribed within a national hybrid seed production plan for eleven types of vegetables, provides support for the production, registration, and marketing of hybrid seeds of eight crops, namely pepper, eggplant, squash, cucumber, watermelon, melon, bean, and the potato tuber while the Ministry has already allocated funds for seed production of the remaining three crops (tomatoes, green beans, and peas). As of June 30, 2022, the process of signing the Project Executive Agreement was ongoing.
- **Civil Society**
- Within this component, 14 projects have been approved so far, of which eight have already ended, five are in progress and one is in the start-up phase. Two additional initiatives have been identified and are currently in the formulation phase. The ongoing and newly identified initiatives act in several areas, including the protection and socio-economic inclusion of the most disadvantaged groups, including youth, women, people with disabilities, etc.
- CISS "Strengthening the business environment for ecotourism development in the New Valley Governorate" - Contribution of LE 9,842,150.00. The initiative, which acts in the remote Governorate of the New Valley, aims to strengthen the social and economic role of women and young people residing in the Governorate, through the creation of a business incubator that can offer technical and financial assistance to the start-up and strengthening of formal and informal micro and small businesses in the areas of handicrafts, agriculture and ecotourism, while also promoting the sustainable use of local resources in order to create new economic opportunities.
- Alex Workshop Center (AWSC) "HARMONY." Contribution of LE 7,500,000. The project promoted by the Egyptian OSC AWSC and implemented in the Governorates of Beheira and Alexandria, aims to promote the dignity and social inclusion of people with disabilities and speech difficulties, using art as a tool for personal expression and a means of creating economic opportunities.
- COSPE "HOPE - Empowerment of Organic Agriculture and Handicraft Producers" - Contribution of LE 9'631'070.00. The initiative aims to create a platform for the national representation of small agricultural and artisanal producers in order to promote the improvement of their working and socio-economic conditions as well as facilitate the distribution of products on national and international markets through fair trade channels. The project is awaiting an extension currently under consideration by the Management Committee.
- M.A.I.S., "Becoming Leaders" - Contribution of LE 8,108,950.00. The project, promoted by the Italian CSO M.A.I.S., aims to support the productive activities of a group of women artisans in Sohag Governorate in order to improve the economic and social conditions of the women and, indirectly, of the entire community as well as to safeguard the traditional handicraft of the area.
- Hope Village Society (HVS): "Community support for family and aftercare system for sheltered children and youth." Contribution of LE 7,500,000.00. The project intervenes to protect children without families by promoting the improvement of the quality, effectiveness of care services currently provided by governmental and nongovernmental institutions, as well as introducing life coaching services for young people who, having reached the age of majority, are in the process of leaving foster care institutions.
- (In start-up phase) New Horizon Association for Social Development (NHASD): "Employing few to feed many - Phase II." Contribution of LE 7,500,000.00.
- (Under formulation) Masr El Mahrousa Baladi Association (MMBA): "Care Project for the protection of at-risk children." Contribution of LE 7,500,000.

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- (Under formulation) Key of Life: "Support for economic empowerment and micro and small enterprises in Luxor Governorate. Contribution of LE 1,309,675.00.





EU DELEGATED COOPERATION


The European Union and its member countries, at the aggregate level, represent the largest source of Official Development Assistance on a global scale (OECD-DAC). In 2017, the European Union embraced the sustainable development goals of the 2030 Agenda and placed them at the helm of its cooperation efforts through the "New European Consensus on Development," which is a strategic framework for both EU institutions and member countries. Development cooperation is a pillar of the European Union and the financial instruments it uses are managed by three Directorates General of the Commission, in synergy with the External Action Service (EEAS): DEVCO, NEAR and ECHO.

Art. 6 of Law 125/2014 traces a two-way relationship between the Italian Cooperation system and the European Union: on the one hand, "Italy participates in the definition of the European Union's development aid policy, contributes to the budget and funds of the European Union and harmonizes its own guidelines and programming lines with those of the European Union, favoring the implementation of joint projects," and on the other hand, "Italy contributes to the execution of European development aid programs, also by participating in indirect centralized management, usually through the Agency."

In May 2018, the agency completed the accreditation process as a qualified organization for indirect management of European funding, passing the pillar-assessment. Since that time, AICS has assumed full ownership of delegated cooperation initiatives

The term "delegated cooperation" is used in the framework of the "EU Code of Conduct on Division of Labor in Development Policy" to refer to a management mode that allows the European Commission to delegate funds to a member state for the implementation of cooperation programs following the signing of appropriate Delegation or Contribution Agreements and, in turn, to member states to transfer resources to the Commission itself through the signing of Transfer Agreements, all with the aim of fostering greater concentration and effectiveness of aid in those partner countries and sectors where the added value of a specific donor is most evident, with a view to reciprocity and maximizing aid effectiveness.





Since 2012, delegated cooperation has consolidated to the point of being an indispensable element of Italian cooperation. Italy has been among the top four executing member states of EU cooperation, with obvious positive returns for the Italian development cooperation system as a whole, in terms of both volumes of resources available for cooperation interventions and political visibility: within the EU itself, with partner countries and other donors.


In the framework of Joint Programming, following up on what was positively achieved through the Delegated Cooperation Program "EU-Joint Rural Development Programme (EU-JRDP)" , managed by the Embassy of Italy Cairo for a total of 21.9 million euros with the technical support of AICS and concluded in an extremely positive way during 2021, the AICS-Cairo Office has progressively expanded, also thanks to the Delegated Cooperation Initiatives Support Program fully financed by AICS, its package of programs financed for the channel of European funds under indirect management.

As of today, in fact, the AICS Headquarters in Cairo manages three ongoing delegated cooperation programs worth a total of 37.5 million euros and actively works with the European Delegation in Egypt, the main partners in the area and the Italian system to define new interventions.

The first of them is the "Multi-Educational Program for Employment Promotion in Migration-affected Areas (MEPEP)," worth 6 million euros, now in its second year of implementation, through which it aims to improve socio-economic conditions in the areas of intervention to counter the root causes of irregular migration through the strengthening of the national system of technical and vocational education and training (TVET).

It chronologically follows the regional program funded by the European Union's DeSIRA initiative for a total of 7.5 million euros, "Climate Smart WATER Management and Sustainable DEVELOPMENT for Food and Agriculture in East Africa - WATDEV." The initiative, started during 2022 and implemented in Egypt, Kenya, Ethiopia and Sudan, aims to develop an in-depth understanding of the dynamics and management of small- and large-scale water and agricultural resources, while increasing the resilience of populations to climate, through innovative research, modeling and "capacity building" approaches. AICS Cairo is the lead partner of the WATDEV regional project and is using CIHEAM-Bari as a partner and scientific coordinator of a European research network, which includes CNR (Italy), SYKE (Finland), ISRIC (Netherlands), ASARECA (African Sub-regional Body), KALRO (Kenya), WLRI (Ethiopia), WRC (Sudan), Heliopolis University (Egypt).

During 2022, HQ completed the procedural process to initiate the activities of the EU-ZIRA3A - European Union Integrated rural Development Program for Egypt, funded through a European contribution of €24 million and designed to support the Egyptian Government in implementing the 2030 Sustainable Agricultural Development Strategy in the three governorates of Sohag, Asyut and Beni Suef. The initiative aims to extend over new Egyptian Governments the excellent results achieved under the EU Joint Rural Development Programme (EU-MAECI/DGCS), with the goal of improving the livelihoods of smallholder farmers and rural communities through a sustainable and integrated approach. To support the socio-economic development of the targeted areas, the Program mainly focuses on reducing and mitigating water scarcity. It also aims to provide "extension" services to disseminate knowledge



of good agricultural practices, improve livestock and explore new and innovative income-generating solutions, paying special attention to gender equality.

Demonstrating the trust placed by the European Union in the work of AICS, it is also reported that AICS is in the process of signing a new Contribution Agreement for the European Commission's funding of an additional 40 million euros for the implementation of a new action called "EU كافي (Kafi)-EU Support to Improve Cereal Crops Production in Egypt," which aims to support Egypt in dealing with the consequences of the food crisis caused by the Russian-Ukrainian conflict. The action, in particular, aims to increase cereal production (principally wheat) and reduce losses in the food supply chain.

Funding for other initiatives in key areas such as gender equality (European funding for an estimated €1.5 million) and TVET (European funding for an estimated €6 million) are under discussion.



Multi-Educational Programme for Employment Promotion in Migration-Affected Areas (MEPEP)

The MEPEP represents the component entrusted to Italy of the program called "ERMCE - Enhancing the Response to Migration Challenges in Egypt," part of the European Union Emergency Trust Fund for stability and addressing root causes of irregular migration and displaced persons in Africa (EUTF) established following the "Valletta Summit" in 2017 for a total amount of 60 million euros. The strategic objective of the program is to improve socio-economic conditions in the focus areas to counteract trends of irregular migration due to widespread poverty and vulnerable conditions, while the specific objective is to promote new and more equitable employment and income generation opportunities for young people and particularly vulnerable people by improving their skills and competencies to seize the potential offered by current industrial development in the focus area.

The MEPEP is in line with the operational framework of the North Africa Window of the European Union Fund for Africa, and fits specifically within Priority Action 4 "countering the drivers of irregular migration" and Strategic Objective 4 "promoting a more inclusive social and economic environment and stability in the region." Within the ERMCE program for Egypt it also fulfills Specific Objective 2, namely "addressing the root causes of irregular migration."

With a planned duration of three years, the action aims to strengthen economic opportunities, particularly for vulnerable groups, by improving the quality of the technical and vocational education and training (TVET) system in Egypt. The action identified Sharkeya governorate co-as the target area in consultation with local authorities. Sharkeya is in fact one of the governorates with the highest number of young Egyptians expressing interest in leaving Egypt and emigrating irregularly to other countries. In particular, the 10th Ramadan industrial zone was found to be the most appropriate target area due to the presence of a dynamic industrial force, both Egyptian and foreign, on which the establishment of a top-notch, market-oriented TVET center can have the greatest impact. This area is home to the 10th of Ramadan Training Center belonging to the Department of Productivity and Vocational Training of the Ministry of Industry and Trade, which will be the beneficiary center of the activities.

The expected results of the program are: i) the improvement of the quality of the TVET system relatively to the industrial field both in terms of teaching methodologies for teachers and trainers and skill acquisition for students; ii) the overhaul of the physical infrastructure and technical equipment of the 10th Ramadan Training Center in Sharkeya Governorate to transform it into a modern Vocational Training Center; and iii) the growth of the employability of young people, both girls and boys, through the promotion of job placement and the creation of synergies with local and national companies.

To implement the project, AICS Cairo is collaborating with the Ministry of Education and Technical Education (MoETE) and the Ministry of Trade and Industry (MoTI), in particular its Department of Productivity and Vocational Training (PVDT), as the main national agencies in charge of technical and professional education and training.



EU-Zira3a – EU Integrated Rural Development Programme for Egypt

The initiative "EU-Zira3a- EU Integrated Rural Development Program for Egypt," totaling €24 million fully funded by the EU, aims at improving and enhancing the socio-economic conditions of communities located in the rural areas of the Sohag, Asyut and Beni Suef governorates, located in Upper Egypt, along the course of the Nile River.

Throughout the country, but especially in the affected governorates, agriculture is facing challenges related to the increasing scarcity of resources, particularly water resources and availability of arable superficies, in a general context of strong population growth. Existing water infrastructure and irrigation methods are increasingly suffering from the effects of climate change and need improvements in efficiency and containment of operating costs. The complexity of the land regime over the years has resulted in insufficient conditions with respect to the population's food needs. Small farmers, to whom most of the arable land belongs, hold an average of 1 hectare each, and this strong fragmentation increases progressively over time with the hereditary system transmission of ownership. Despite encouragement for the formation of agricultural cooperatives, access to technical services, agricultural machinery, and especially land credit, are still insufficient compared to the needs.

The Strategy for the Development of Agriculture (SADS), established by the Egyptian government as part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, aims to modernize the sector to achieve food security-related goals. This strategy is based on modernizing the sector in order to achieve minimum standards of food security and efficient and sustainable use of available resources.

The Contribution Agreement, with a duration initially set at 48 months and susceptible to extension up to 60 months as already planned, was signed by the AICS Deputy Technical Director on December 10, 2021. Non-substantial changes to the "Description of the Action," contained in the document of acceptance by the Egyptian government, will be reflected in the addendum to the contract that will be signed at the time of the already planned and aforementioned extension of the Program from 48 to 60 months.

Following the issuance of the VAT exemption and acceptance of funding by the Egyptian Government, on October 31, 2022, AICS notified the start of the implementation period. On November 11, 2022, the first pre-financing installment of €3,812,303 was disbursed.

Currently, consistent with the established timeline, activities are underway to co-establish the Project Management Unit (PMU) with the finalization of the selections and contracts of expatriate staff (Initiative Team Leader and Administrative and Financial Manager), as well as finalization of the lease of program offices. Starting from early in the year 2023 and through the first half of the year, local staff selections and, in close cooperation with local authorities, the start-up of activities can be initiated.





WATDEV – Climate Smart WATER Management and Sustainable DEVELOPMENT for Food and Agriculture in East Africa

The WATDEV - Climate Smart WATER Management and Sustainable DEVELOPMENT for Food and Agriculture in East Africa project is funded, to the tune of €7,499,898, by the European Union's DeSIRA initiative and aims to develop an in-depth understanding of the dynamics and management of small- and large-scale water and agricultural resources, while increasing the resilience of populations to climate change, through innovative research, modeling and capacity building approaches.

Shortage or limited availability of water resources and climatic conditions are severely affecting agricultural production and food security in many East African countries. The WATDEV project targets Kenya, Ethiopia, Sudan and Egypt. These countries need to improve water and soil management and agricultural production methods. However, ensuring long-term individual and institutional capacity for water and natural resource management requires the involvement and commitment of multiple actors, as natural resources provide ecosystem services to diverse communities, particularly in the agricultural sector. The complexity of global problems and the need to develop and implement appropriate methods for water resources management are evident in many East African basins, including the Nile River Basin and other smaller basins such as the Tana River Basin in Kenya.

AICS Cairo is the executive body and ensures the overall coordination and monitoring of the project, while CIHEAM Bari is the main technical and scientific partner in the project. The project involves academia, policy and the private sector to create an enabling environment for agricultural innovation and modern processing.

Informed decisions on natural resource management, investments and policies require reliable data and knowledge management tools. Therefore, WATDEV will collect, analyze and implement the best practices/innovations available in the study areas and simulate their impact scenarios with the use of models and knowledge gained in regional water studies. WATDEV will extract lessons learned from experiences with best water management practices and match them to the specific local situations in the study areas. The project will integrate knowledge already present in recent and ongoing research and operational projects as well as related databases, modeling tools, technologies and operational frameworks.

WATDEV partners will also share information and knowledge within the DeSIRA initiative and beyond as food systems are transformed.





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