



Mediterranean
Action Plan
Barcelona
Convention



Simplified Peer Review Mechanism (SIMPEER) of National Strategies for Sustainable Development

Second 2018-2019 exercise

Egypt National report

December 2019

DIRECTOR OF PUBLICATION

François Guerquin, Plan Bleu

AUTHORS

Wafa Essahli and Spyros Kouvelis

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The SIMPEER methodology was developed by Wafa Essahli, Spyros Kouvelis and Julien Le Tellier, with the support of Christian Averous and Aldo Ravazzi, both Vice-presidents of Plan Bleu.

The preparation and edition of this report received the support of the national correspondents and SIMPEER key contacts in Egypt, Mohamed Moatamed Eissawy.

GRAPHIC DESIGN AND AND LAYOUT

The final layout was done by Sandra Dulbecco (Plan Bleu).

LEGAL NOTICE

The terms used and the documents presented in this publication in no way represent either Plan Bleu's or UNEP/MAP's opinions regarding the legal situation of any country, territory, city or region whatsoever, nor on their authorities, or their borders delimitation. The analyses and conclusions expressed in this publication are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of Plan Bleu and/or UNEP/MAP.

COPYRIGHT

This publication may be reproduced in whole or in part and in any form for educational or non-profit purposes without special permission from the copyright holder, provided acknowledgement of the source is made. Plan Bleu would appreciate receiving a copy of any publication that uses his publication as a source. Plan Bleu's written agreement is mandatory for any use of this publication for resale or any other commercial purpose.

© 2019 Plan Bleu

For bibliographical ends, quote this present document as follows: Plan Bleu (2019) Simplified Peer Review Mechanism of Sustainable Development Strategies in Mediterranean Countries. 2018-2019 exercise: Egypt national report. Plan Bleu, technical report

PREFACE

Egypt confirmed its interest and willingness to take part in the second round of the Simplified Peer Review Mechanism (SIMPEER) exercise for the review of National Strategies for Sustainable Development (NSSD).

The Ministry of Environment of Egypt appointed Mr. Mohamed Moatamed Eissawi, Assistant Minister for Monitoring, Reporting and Evaluation, Head of Environment Indicators and Report Unit, Egyptian Environment Affairs Agency (EEAA), as National Correspondent for the SIMPEER process. Mr. Mohamed Moatamed Eissawi provided the necessary support in collecting the national documents for preparing their analysis and synthesis, and completing the questionnaire, reviewing the country fact-sheet and, finally, preparing and organising the mission of the project team in Egypt.

Mr. Mohamed Moatamed Eissawi is hereby gratefully acknowledged for his cooperation, determination, availability and support in acting as an interface with the SIMPEER project team.

The preliminary results of the literature review were presented to national policymakers and stakeholders during the mission carried out by the project team in Cairo, Egypt, on October, 27th – 29th, 2019. During their mission, the project team accompanied by Mr. Mohamed Moatamed Eissawi and his colleague, Ms. Zeineb Zaki, met several decision-makers and other stakeholders and had three meetings bringing together various ministry representatives, universities, the private sector, civil society, and qualified experts. Discussions with national decision-makers and stakeholders during the three-day mission focused on lessons learned, best practices and success stories, as well as the challenges encountered both during the sustainable development strategy elaboration process and its implementation phase.

All the results of these activities are summarized in the national report, which was submitted to the peer countries as a working and discussion document for facilitating the Peer Review Meeting in Marseille, France, on November 19 & 20, 2019. Unfortunately, it did not become possible to have a representative of Egypt present at this meeting, so the final recommendations were developed by the Peer countries without Egypt's participation, yet there is a lot of value in them as they aim at sharing experience and lessons learned from other Mediterranean countries

Plan Bleu would like to take this opportunity to thank the Ministry of Environment and, in particular, Mr. Mohamed Moatamed Eissawi National Focal Point of the Plan Bleu, Ms. Sameh Saleh national representative of Egypt at the Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development, and Ms. Zeineb Zaki, EEAA, for their availability and valuable contribution to performing the SIMPEER activity, along with all the Egyptian stakeholders met during the country mission.

FOREWORD

The Simplified Peer Review Mechanism (SIMPEER) was decided by the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean during their 19th Ordinary Meeting (Barcelona Convention, COP19, Athens, Greece, February 2016).

SIMPEER is based on the voluntary and equal participation of the Parties, and seeks to use an agreed methodology for sharing experiences, policies and best practices for the implementation of sustainable development at national level. This peer review mechanism is also an important incentive for reviewing sustainable development structures and processes at the national level, notably the NSSD, using the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development 2016-2015 (MSSD 2016-2025) as a reference framework and a regional variation of the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The SIMPEER methodology draws on the provisions of the COP19 Decision IG.22/17 and analysis of existing peer review mechanisms, to include the following three main phases:

1. **A preparatory phase** with an analysis and synthesis of the relevant documents provided by the Voluntary Contracting Parties. The main results of this phase are a table of analysis of the country's sustainable development reference documents. This analysis is intended to identify the issues to be discussed with stakeholders during the country mission.
2. **A consultation phase**, during which the project team carries out a mission in the voluntary country to meet national decision-makers and other stakeholders (public sector, private sector, civil society, local authorities, academia, media) involved in the implementation of the NSSD. From interviews and plenary meetings, this phase will lead to the preparation of the draft national report to be submitted to peer countries for consideration at their meeting.
3. **A review phase** at the heart of the process: the national reports produced during the previous phase are shared among the countries involved. These reports are the background documents for the Peer Review Meeting. This phase must lead to the finalization of the national reports, including the recommendations of the Peer Review Meeting, with a view to preparing a final report of the SIMPEER pilot test.

The three phases presented above are followed by an output dissemination phase, both at national and regional levels, so that all Contracting Parties, national stakeholders and other partners can benefit from the results and lessons learned.

The SIMPEER was tested during a pilot exercise where three volunteer countries got involved, namely France, Montenegro and Morocco. The pilot exercise took place during the 2016-2017 period and the results were submitted to the Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development and the Conference of Parties of the Barcelona Convention. The country Parties reaffirmed their interest in this mutual learning exercise and recommended that the process be maintained while:

- Strengthening stakeholder participation in participating countries in the review.
- Improving the links between the SIMPEER and the voluntary national review of the SDGs presented to the UN High Level Political Forum.
- Involving the participating countries in the first exercise to strengthen exchanges between the Mediterranean countries and ensure the continuity of the SIMPEER.

The Plan Bleu was responsible for facilitating the SIMPEER exercise.

Following the completion of the first (pilot) round and the recognition of the usefulness of the process by the COP, an invitation was sent to the CPs for countries that would volunteer to participate in the second round. Albania, Egypt and Tunisia have voluntarily committed to participate.

This report presents the results of the review of the Egyptian sustainable development process. It covers the five key dimensions presented in the methodological report: (i) leadership and ownership; (ii) integration and links between the three dimensions of sustainable development (economic, social and environmental); (iii) governance and stakeholder participation; (iv) resources and means for implementation, and; (v) monitoring and assessment.

Table of contents

General presentation of Egypt	5
Brief Sustainable development context analysis	9
Sustainable development context in Egypt	9
Leadership and appropriation	11
Recommendations by the peers	13
Completeness and integration	13
Recommandations by the peers	15
Governance and inclusion	15
Recommendations by the peers	17
Resources and means of implementation	17
Recommendations by the peers	18
Monitoring and evaluation	19
Recommendations by the peers	21
Conclusion	22
Bibliography	24
Publication	24
Annex	25

I. General presentation of Egypt

The Arab Republic of Egypt. The country is situated in the north-east part of Africa, although the Sinai Peninsula forms a land bridge with south-west Asia, and so Egypt is also called a Middle East country. Therefore, it's a transcontinental country, which helps it in being a major power in Africa, the Middle-East, the Mediterranean, and the Muslim world.

In ancient times, the country was known as Kemet, or the black land, due to the alluvial soil deposited during the Nile's annual flooding. This yearly event gave Egypt the fertile land that enabled it to expand along the length of the river, especially in the Delta where various crops were, and still are, harvested.

Egypt covers an area of approximately **1,001,450 km²** and is bordered by Israel and the Gaza Strip in the north-east; the Red Sea in the east; Sudan in the south; Libya in the west; and the Mediterranean Sea in the north. Its coastline is 2,450 km long which includes the Mediterranean Sea, the Red Sea, the Suez Canal and the Gulf of Aqaba.

It is the 3rd most populous country in Africa and the most populous in the Middle-East with the majority of its estimated 98 million people living on, or near, the banks of the Nile. Only 5.5% of the total land area is actually used by the population, mainly in the area that borders the River Nile, the other 94.5% is desert.

The Libyan Desert is home to an enormous area of sand known as the Great Sand Sea, and located within that area are several depressions that fall below sea level. These include the Qattara Depression, which covers an area of approximately 18,000 km² and reaches a depth of approximately 133m below sea level, the lowest point in Africa.

Most of the Eastern Desert lies on a plateau that gradually rises from the Nile Valley to heights of approximately 600 m in the east. Along the Red Sea coast are many jagged peaks that reach as high as 2,100 m above sea level. The Nubian Desert lies to the extreme south of the Eastern Desert, along the border with Sudan, and it is an extensive area of dunes and sandy plains.

The Sinai Peninsula primarily consists of sandy desert in the north with rugged mountains in the south; the summits here towering more than 2,100 m above the Red Sea. Mount Catherine, or Gebel Katherina, at 2,629 m high, is the highest point in Egypt, slightly dwarfing the nearby Mount Sinai, or Moses Mountain (Gabal Musa), at 2,285 m.

The Nile is considered as the longest river in the world. It enters Egypt from Sudan and flows north for about 1,545 km until it exits into the Mediterranean Sea. From the Sudanese border to Cairo, the Nile flows through a narrow cliff-lined valley, which, south of Edfu, is hardly more than 3km wide. From Edfu to Cairo, it is about 23km in width, with most of the arable land lying on the western side. Just north of Cairo, the valley merges with the Delta before the River Nile joins the Mediterranean Sea.

The Delta is a triangular plain bordering the Mediterranean coastline for approximately 250 km. Silt has been deposited here by the many tributaries of the Nile river and this has made the Delta the most fertile area of Egypt. The Aswan High Dam, however, has reduced the flow of the Nile, putting an end to the annual flooding, and this has caused the salty waters of the Mediterranean Sea to erode most of the land along the coast. Nowadays a series of four shallow, salty, lakes extend along the seaward extremity of the Delta.

Lake Nasser, the world's largest human-made reservoir, was formed by the building of the Aswan High Dam in 1970. It is approximately 480 km long and 16 km across at its widest point.

Egypt has one of the most diverse economies in North-Africa and the Middle-East, and one of the largest in the Arab countries. The largest sectors are natural resources, agriculture, tourism and industry and GDP continues to grow. The economy depends also on cash remittances from Egyptians working abroad, mainly in Saudi Arabia and the Gulf countries.

Foreign investments in the petroleum and mining sectors in Egypt are governed by individual concession agreements between the foreign company and the Ministry for Petroleum and Mineral Resources or the Egyptian Mineral Resource Authority (EMRA). Sukari is the only gold mine in Egypt. However other companies have established mines in other parts of the Arabian-Nubian Shield, such as Eritrea, Ethiopia and Saudi Arabia.

Egypt faces numerous challenges, including rapid population growth, high population density, dwindling natural resources, an increasing demand for energy and water, rising unemployment, especially among young people, lack of

good quality education and health, equity and gender balance. A rapidly growing population (the largest in the Arab world) and limited arable land, and dependence on the Nile are major constraints facing the Egyptian economy.

During the last several years, the Government of Egypt implemented a first wave of macro-economic and structural reforms that addressed a number of deep-seated issues and helped to stabilize the economy, sustain growth and lay the groundwork for more dynamic private sector participation in the economy.

In the Financial Year (FY) 2019, the growth of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) reached 5.6 percent, up from 5.3 percent in FY18. The growth was associated with a decrease in unemployment to around 7,5% from 10% in 2018, although accompanied by shrinking labour force participation. This has been driven by an increase in exports. Private investment is also picking up, although from a low base and with sluggish Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) mainly directed to hydrocarbons.

On the sectoral side, gas extractives, tourism, wholesale and retail trade, real estate and construction have been the main drivers of growth.

While the macroeconomic environment has improved, social conditions remain difficult. Between 2016 and 2018, nominal wage growth fell below inflation. Official estimates reported that the share of the population living below the national poverty line in FY18 increased to 32.5 percent, from 27.8 in 2015, with the highest poverty rates still in rural Upper Egypt.¹ Thus, poverty remains a key challenge exacerbated by high inflation. The Government has beefed up its poverty eradication efforts, notably through improved targeting and cash transfers. But ongoing population growth precludes Egypt from benefiting from a demographic dividend over the medium term. Thus, the private sector-led inclusive growth remains paramount.²

Water and sanitation remain key challenges for Egypt, especially given the rapidly rising population of 96.7 million. Renewable water resources average 59.3 billion cubic meters a year, while water use is 100 billion cubic meters a year. Egypt fills the gap with desalinated seawater, reuse of drainage water, shallow groundwater, and treated wastewater. The Government has made considerable achievements in monitoring, controlling, and minimizing the pollution of the Nile. Moreover, over four years, 80 sanitation projects have been completed, covering 414 villages, at a cost of 9 billion Egyptian pounds. Expanding and upgrading mega-urban wastewater treatment remains a top government priority.

To alleviate the adverse effects of the economic reforms on the poor and vulnerable and increase investments in Egypt's human capital, the Government has scaled up key short-term social protection mitigating measures, including through higher allocations of food smart cards and expanded targeted conditional and unconditional cash transfer programs.³

General index and data

HDI	0,696 – Rank 115 ⁴
GDP per capita	235.37 Billion \$US (2017) ⁵
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	11%
Industry, including construction	34%
Exports of goods and services	16%
Imports of goods and services	29%
Annual GDP growth	4,2% (2017) ²
Global competitiveness index	3,90 – Rank 115 ⁶
Environmental performance index	61,21 - Rank 66 ⁷
Total ecological footprint (gha/person)	0,68 per capita ⁸
SDG Index (2018)	63,5 (97 of 156) ⁹

¹ <https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/egypt/overview> and Egypt Economic Outlook, https://www.afdb.org/fileadmin/uploads/afdb/Documents/Publications/2019AEO/AEO_2019-EN.pdf

² https://www.afdb.org/fileadmin/uploads/afdb/Documents/Publications/2019AEO/AEO_2019-EN.pdf

³ <https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/egypt/overview>

⁴ <http://hdr.undp.org/en/countries/profiles/EGY>

⁵ https://databank.worldbank.org/data/views/reports/reportwidget.aspx?Report_Name=CountryProfile&Id=b450fd57&tbar=y&ddy&inf=n&zm=n&country=EGY

⁶ <http://www3.weforum.org/docs/GCR2017-2018/05FullReport/TheGlobalCompetitivenessReport2017-2018.pdf>

⁷ <https://eni.envirocentrale.edu/eni-fonline?country=egypt>

⁸ https://data.footprintnetwork.org/#/sustainableDevelopment?cn=all&yr=2014&type=RCoc_FECoc

⁹ <http://sdgindex.org/assets/files/2018/02%20SDGs%20Country%20profiles%20edition%20WFB%20V3%20180718.pdf>

Environment¹⁰

Forest area (sq. km) (thousands)	0,7
Terrestrial and marine protected area	11,6 %
Annual freshwater withdrawals	4,100 of total internal water resources
Urban population growth	1,9% (2017)
Energy use (kg oil equivalent per capita)	815 (2017)
Renewable energy consumption	38,6% of total final energy consumption
CO2 emission (metric tons per capita)	NA
Electric power consumption (kwh per capita)	1,658 (2017)

Population¹¹

Population (millions)	97.55 million inhab. (2017)
Human capital index	0,49 (scale 0-1)
Population density	98 inhab./km ²
Poverty headcount ratio at national poverty line	27.8% (2017)

¹⁰https://databank.worldbank.org/data/views/reports/reportwidget.aspx?Report_Name=CountryProfile&Id=b450fd57&tbar=y&dd=y&inf=n&zm=n&country=EG¹¹ ibid.

II. Brief Sustainable development context analysis

Table 1. Brief SWOT analysis of the sustainable development context in Egypt

	Strengths	Weaknesses
I N T E R N A L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commitment to achieve SD in the Egyptian Constitution which covers the three dimensions of sustainable development and addresses many of the 17 SDGs in its different articles as national goals and calling upon different stakeholders to participate in a state-led, nationally owned, developmental process towards achieving them • Major improvements in human development • Expanding access to Education • Reducing burden of communicable diseases and increasing life expectancy • SDS: Egypt Vision 2030 serves as national umbrella through which SDGs are implemented • Pioneer country in the VNR-HLPF (2016), and second VNR in 2018 • On-going update and review process of the SDS-Egypt's Vision 2030 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human and institutional capacity gaps • Harnessing the demographic dividend and investment in human capital; Increased rates of population growth 2.56 percent • Reduce unequal access to resources and ensure sustainability, regional disparities • Expansion of urban settlement over the agriculture area / migration from the countryside to the cities • Food security, water security, standard for living, social justice • Involvement of civil society and private sector in the SDS and SDGs implementation process • SDS: Egypt Vision 2030 website is no more functioning, in 2019 (www.sdsegypt2030.com) • Significant pressures to the environment and natural resources and social imbalances due to population rise and migration
	Opportunities	Threats
E X T E R N A L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support of the International financial institutions to the Egyptian economic reform program • Revival of the Silk Road by China to regain Egypt's historical prominence as a major trading and logistical hub linking the East with the West and the North with the South • African Union agenda and the position and role of Egypt • Strategic cooperation with the Gulf Council and with emerging powers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional and international geopolitics' contexts • Security challenges in the region • Increased immigration flows in the region, adding to population pressure and increasing poverty, health and other critical social, economic and environmental challenges. • Increasing resource availability challenges (e.g. water) due to climate change.

III. Sustainable development context in Egypt

By the end of 2015, with the political roadmap in place, and based on the embodiment of the new constitutional spirit, Egypt started developing its vision for a better future through the preparation of the Sustainable Development Strategy (SDS): Egypt Vision 2030). In alignment with the 2030 Agenda, the Egyptian forward-looking strategy spans over the three dimensions of sustainable development, and outlines the broader principles which will guide Egypt in pursuing its developmental agenda. The overarching aim of the strategy is for Egypt to enhance its competitiveness, diversify economy, emphasizing innovation and knowledge, justice, social integrity and participation, in a balanced and diversified ecological system, investing its strategic location and human capital to achieve sustainable development and to improve Egyptians' quality of life, in a participatory driven process, involving all relevant stakeholders.

The launch of the strategy, in the earlier part of 2016, signals the start of its implementation process, which is aligned with the SDGs in terms of both content and implementation period. To move forwards with implementation, the strategy was reflected in the Government program for the period 2016- 2018, which represented the executive program of the SDS in the medium term. In addition, the Government developed the sustainable development plan for the FY 2016/2017, which represents the execution plan for the first year of SDS implementation. The strategy and the midterm program were presented and ratified by the Parliament with absolute majority in April 2016, and the annual plan was approved in June 2016.

The SDS's vision "By 2030, Egypt will be a country with a competitive, balanced, and diversified economy, depending on knowledge and innovation, and based on social justice, integration, and participation, with a balanced and varied ecosystem, a country that capitalizes on its strategic location and human and resource base to achieve sustainable development and improve the quality of the life for all".

Moreover, the Government aims at positioning Egypt among the top countries in the world, in terms of economic development indicators, fighting corruption, human development, market competitiveness, and the quality of life.

In order to ensure consistency and coherence between national targets to achieve sustainable development and the SDGs, each SDS's pillar includes its own construction elements: the strategic target, the sub-targets to achieve these goals, the performance indicators, the planned quantitative targets, the expected challenges, the necessary programs and projects, and the priority of executing these programs in their time sequence.

The national strategy acts as the national version of the SDGs.

Box 1. Update and review of the SDS-Egypt's Vision 2030

Two years after the launch of the SDS, the Ministry of Planning, Monitoring and Administrative Reform has initiated a review process of the strategy.

The review process started in 2017 and it is planned to end by the end of 2019. Changes in the strategy were needed to reflect major structural changes, in particular, the introduction of the structural adjustment program in 2016, and the outcome of the 2017 national census, which revealed increased rates of population growth amounting to 2.56%, and the impact this growth has on the already-strained state budget, on infrastructure, and on social services.

The high priority the country attaches to achieving food, water, and energy security also had to be clearly reflected in the strategy. This is in addition to the country's current geopolitical situation, and the desire to ensure a secure and stable economic and business environment conducive to investment and development. As such, the review process was initiated based on the following principles:

- Reinforcing the multidimensional aspect of sustainable development and its interconnected nature.
- Highlighting the benefits of sustainable development, i.e. adoption of a "green economy" as a tool to achieve sustainable development.

- Stakeholder engagement to create ownership. The process involved extensive stakeholder consultations and participation to provide input and contributions to the sustainable development strategy. Stakeholders involved included parliamentarians, trade unions, women, youth, NGOs, and the private sector. Over 60 workshops were organized and convened for the designated teams from the different ministries as well as representatives of relevant stakeholders.

The new version of the SDS includes 9 objectives, two for each of the three dimensions of sustainable development and some more cross-cutting objectives on governance, broad security (food, health, etc.), international relations and a separate goal has been set for institutional development systems and governance as well as M&E system. The water sector and the issue of climate change are better developed in the new version of the strategy to take into account their cross-sectoral dimension, commensurate with the challenge they represent. It is complemented by two annexes: one on projects and programs and the other on key performance indicators. The results of the process are integrated policies and programs that take into account the links between the three dimensions of sustainable development.

The budget planning is aligned with the new conceptual form of the SDS: budget granted by programme and not by sector (Box 6).

Sources: Voluntary National Review, 2018 // Meeting with stakeholders during country mission, Cairo, 27th – 29th October, 2019

IV. Leadership and appropriation

At the national level, inclusive and sustainable development is a core constitutional value and an overall strategic objective: the Egyptian Constitution which was endorsed by national referendum in January 2014 is highly aligned with the philosophy, principles and goals of sustainable development and of Agenda 2030. It indicates the importance of sustainable development in Clause no.27; efficient use and management of natural resources in Clause no.32; and healthy environment in Clause no.46.

At the launch of the SDS-Egypt Vision 2030 in December 2015, a national committee was established by Prime Ministerial Decree. It was mandated with the mission to coordinate efforts toward the SDGs. The committee, which is under the direct supervision of the Prime Minister, is comprised of the Ministries of: International Cooperation; Planning, Follow-Up and Administrative Reform; Environment; Social Solidarity; Local Development; Higher Education and Research; Health; Housing, Utilities, and Urban Communities; and Education and Technical education. The National Council for Women, the National Council for Motherhood and Childhood, and the Central Authority for Public Mobilization and Statistics are also members of the committee. The Ministry of International Cooperation is the rapporteur.

The Committee is mandated to act collaboratively to ensure that Egypt is moving in the right direction towards achieving sustainable development.

The governing policy framework outlined above was further reinforced by the establishment of sustainable development units and working groups in different ministries and entities assigned to act as the focal points for developing and implementing sustainable development plans and strategies within their own entities. The units and working groups also facilitate the coordination and monitoring process, led by the Ministry of Planning, Monitoring and Administrative Reform.

The Ministry of Planning, Monitoring and Administrative Reform is leading the review of the first version of the SDS in order to cope with existing challenges in the implementation process and to integrate the emerging issues as well as the change in national circumstances. The review process is based on a participatory and inclusive approach. Working groups have been set up to encourage ministries to work together in a more complementary and synergistic way. The different axes of the strategy emanate from the results of the working groups and are then discussed with all the stakeholders. Goals and targets are more inclusive (Box 1).

Box 2. « Sharek* » to increase youth participation in the SDS-Egypt Vision 2030 review and update process (*In Arabic « Sharek » means « Participate! »)

Additionally, in an effort to increase stakeholders' engagement, a mobile application, "Sharek" ("Participate"), was launched by the Ministry of Planning, Monitoring and Administrative Reform as a digital platform to allow citizens and particularly the youth to actively participate in the review process, to follow up and update Egypt's Vision 2030. The application also aims at raising awareness of sustainable development in general and of the goals of the SDS in particular.

The initiative is part of the SDS' review and update broad consultation process. It is also part of the broader framework of a number of measures introduced by the 2014 Constitution, that aim at promoting the participation of the young. 2016 was declared the "Year of the Youth". Youth conferences have been organised as a dialogue mechanism to promote the voice of youth. The Ministry of Social Solidarity has started an initiative to promote the participation of young people in the public sphere, implemented in cooperation with the Ministry of Youth and CSOs, with the objective of reaching 45,000 beneficiaries.

Sources: Voluntary National Review, 2018 // Compact for Economic Governance Stocktaking Report: Egypt, Deauville Partnership, OECD, 2018
<https://www.oecd.org/mena/competitiveness/Compact-for-Governance-Stocktaking-Report-Egypt-2018-EN.pdf>

RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE PEERS

- Placing the process under the direct authority of the Prime Minister and involving the key ministries is very important; yet such leadership and appropriation needs to also trickle down to the entire administration and involve the ministry structures – especially those not directly involved with SDG implementation matters. Appropriate structures, including sub-committees and training/information programmes are needed for this.
- The SDS review process presents a very significant opportunity to involve administration structures at all levels by inviting different departments and units that are not directly related to the SD process to identify their potential role and connection through simple awareness tools that outline the social, environmental and economic aspects of the SDGs, and to require ideas and solutions to be put forward by all parts of the administration.
- Similarly, such an approach may be useful at a regional level so that decentralized administration will not find itself only at the “receiving end” of SD policies, but will have contributed to its making, thereby incorporating regional needs and specificities.

V. Completeness and integration

SDS-Egypt's Vision 2030 has followed the sustainable development principle as a general framework for improving the quality of life and human welfare, taking into consideration the rights of current and future generations to a prosperous life. It contains 45 strategic goals that cover each of the three dimensions of sustainable development: economic, social and environmental. Each dimension is subdivided into pillars followed by their key performance indicators for measurement of progress.

SDS aims to meet the need to develop a comprehensive, long-term political, economic, social and environmentally aware sustainability vision, and to be a base for short- and medium-term development plans at the national, local, and sectoral levels, to meet the ambitions of Egyptian citizens.

The SDS review and update process started in 2017-2018 to address challenges and take into account emerging issues and new national circumstances. A more integrative way of planning is adopted, with emphasis on an inclusive consultation process.

The process takes into account the inter linkages and integrated nature of the strategic goals, the program definition approach is then more integrated and more inclusive, funding is planned to be program-driven, by targets, and then broken down by sector to ensure coherence and integration.

Each Ministry has clear responsibilities and defined tasks in the related Action Plan. For example: the air pollution programme involving the Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Transportation and so on; solid waste management programme; etc. The responsibility of planning, coordinating, and following up on implementation of the SDS falls on the Ministry of Planning, Monitoring and Administrative Reform, while the responsibility for implementation is a collaborative effort between different ministries and governmental units.

Box 3. Integration of SDS and SDGs in line ministry strategies

The integration of the SDGs through the SDS was adopted by a number of ministries and entities that have developed their own medium- and long-term strategies:

- The National Strategy for Science and Technology for Sustainable Development 2030 (Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research);
- The Industry and Trade Development Strategy 2020 (Ministry of Trade and Industry);
- Egypt's Education Transformation Program 2030 (Ministry of Education and Technical Education);
- Integrated Energy Strategy 2035 (Ministry of Electricity and Renewable Energy);
- The Agricultural Sustainable Development Strategy (Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation).

In an unprecedented move towards translating the concept of inclusive sustainable development into action, the National Council for Women (NCW) has also launched its National Strategy for Women Empowerment 2030. The strategy focuses on empowering women to accelerate the achievement of sustainable development, as well as promoting gender equality in all fields of life.

Likewise, the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood launched its strategy in April 2018, which aims at promoting the well-being of mothers and children.

The Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation is working on Water Vision 2050 which will be circulated to all 26 ministries before finalization and submission to the Cabinet.

The irrigation is regulated by a unified water resource law which is in the process of being amended. It needs a strong concertation within ministries to define and reach agreements on the quantities of water required for each use, and to incorporate trade-offs between different priorities.

Sanitation is also a cross sectoral issue which involves the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Infrastructure, of industry, of Housing as well as the Ministry of Environment.

The national strategy for integrated coastal zone management is an important output of the process which involves all ministries. Another example is related to climate change which was mainstreamed in the SDS new version. Among other actions, a specialised centre for climate change is instrumental to adapt agriculture to

climate change. The Centre is a tool to improve capacity at local level, research program, data collection and knowledge transfer as well as to work with farmers to raise awareness and change production patterns.

The Ministry of Health is mainstreaming environmental issues in its main programmes. Its objectives are to protect public health and to cope with the environmental origin of pollutions. It works under the frame of an annual action plan which integrates sustainability dimensions.

Each Ministry has its own channel to consult with Civil Society. The MALR in particular has a group of accredited NGOs to collect assessments, needs and expectations in terms of water uses.

Sources: Voluntary National Review, 2018//Meetings with stakeholders, country mission in Cairo, 27th – 29th October 2019

RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE PEERS

- The SDS review process is a very important but also highly demanding process, if it can be expected to deliver all the benefits of such an effort. In this sense, the incorporation of input from different ministries and stakeholders in the process is very important and welcome. It is of key importance to translate such input into action points related to the key objectives of the revised SDS, and to connect them to operational and budgeting matters so that their implementation may be secured.
- Avoiding the “silo effect” in the course of this process is key: line ministries and specific directorates should not be expected (or allowed) to work in isolation and/or regarding their own field of focus, but to engage in an ongoing dialogue that integrates the issues, problems and approaches of other sectors, directly or indirectly related to them.
- A system of double-checking the completeness of approaches taken by looking at the effects that programme-driven action points may have on diverse SDGs and targets.

VI. Governance and inclusion

The strategy aims to continue engaging all stakeholders, including private sector and civil society, in achieving its vision and objectives. It also aims at enabling the Parliament to monitor the implementation of the strategy's objectives, targets, programs and projects within a specific timeframe and against a clear set of SMART key performance indicators (KPIs). At the regional and global levels, the strategy aims at aligning its objectives with those of the 2030 Agenda and the African Union's Sustainable Development Strategy for 2063.

The strategy development process included all categories of public sector, the private sector, and civil society actors as well as international institutions and development partners in the country. The dialogue includes the banking sector.

However, the implementation of the strategy has highlighted some difficulties. In terms of horizontal integration, inter-ministerial coordination mechanisms do not percolate at the level of lower-level civil servants, nor at the level of administration at regional and local level.

The civil society action in the field is often fraught with official procedures. The lack of awareness and knowledge of civil servants are important constraints that civil society encounters. There is a great need to improve knowledge and strengthen communication on the Government's new strategic frameworks (e.g. Climate change issue, programme of scrapping old taxi vehicles...).

Projects on climate change, on the environment, on the improvement of the living conditions of the populations do not receive the necessary authorizations of the administration whereas they are fully aligned with the orientations and the objectives of the SDS or other sectoral strategies. Awareness needs to be enhanced on action frameworks and the necessary knowledge needed to understand the contribution of projects to meet the priority needs of the local populations (links between environment, adaptation to climate change, pollution mitigation, etc. and the fight against poverty and improvement of living conditions, etc.). The low-carbon strategy should also be linked to future projects.

The lack of coordination between citizens and the Government on the one hand, between citizens and civil society on the other is another problem that limits the scope of action of civil society. Public programs should increase civil society and the private sector involvement. The role of civil society implementation should be better defined to achieve tangible results very quickly so that citizens can appreciate the impact of the programs and joint actions. Nevertheless, there are around 40,000 local NGOs registered in the country, and Egypt is described as having "one of the largest and most vibrant civil society sectors in the developing world".

Similarly, the enabling environment needed to scale up successful experiences of innovative technologies is not always appreciated, and the private sector is not always encouraged to pursue transformative initiatives.

In an effort to create a better environment for the private sector, the Government in the past 12 years has instituted major reforms, as reflected in the 2016 "Ease of Doing Business" report that noted that Egypt had had the biggest score increase in the Middle East and North Africa. However, efforts are still needed for an enabling environment to help private sector developing green industries: studies and benchmarking to support (technical and institutional) private sector investments; enabling conditions to build on pilot projects and ensure continuity of efforts leading to scaling up experiences.

Box 4. Mobile network operators and international banks experiences on SDG implementation

Mobile phone operator experience is part of a process of corporate social and environmental responsibility to safeguard the environment in which it operates. This experience intervenes at two levels: internally to improve the environmental efficiency of the Operator management in Egypt (waste reduction, energy efficiency) and at the environmental level with the planting of 1 million trees and the creation of a source of income for young graduates from the University of Agronomy.

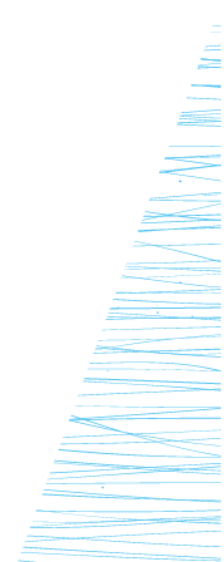
The project is implemented with the University of Cairo and the University of Agronomy, as a contribution to Egyptian commitments under the Paris Declaration, which enters into force in 2020. Vodafone is also collaborating with the Ministry of Energy in the field of renewable energies, solar electricity.

These actions are part of the national efforts to implement the country's commitments under the Paris Agreement. It is to the extent that the Government defines a common and shared direction, clear attributions for different categories of actors, tangible expected results as well as an adequate environment for scaling up, that the private sector can contribute effectively to achieving the SDGs and SDS.

International Commercial Banks are including sustainable development dimensions in its corporate engagements and vision.

RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE PEERS

- Involving the entirety of public administration, and especially those working with departments and units that are not directly related to some activity relevant to the SDGs is very important: reaching the level of lower-level civil servants, or of the administration at regional and local level is key, so that they may be involved in proposing approaches and solutions and being involved in their implementation.
- Equally, addressing the lack of awareness and knowledge of civil servants and improving awareness and communication within and among different units within a ministry/regional/local authority, or between different ministries is of key importance, so that the interaction of SDGs within the design and implementation of the SDS can be inclusive and address the different priorities with relation to different SDGs.
- To this extent, a broad and inclusive campaign/programme to disseminate knowledge and increase awareness, but also to empower the participation of all actors of the public sector at all levels (higher and lower) of public administration, including central and regional/local, such as training seminars, newsletters disseminating objectives and progress on them, and requiring feedback from all.
- The role of civil society in such programmes can be important, it is however necessary to base such activities on specific, measurable, and target-oriented objectives, and include substantial public participation and information priorities, so that the Civil Society – public gap may be bridged, and citizens feel confident to participate.
- In parallel, providing incentives (publicity, fiscal, tax, or other) to the private sector in order to align its CSR activity and investment to the objectives of the SDS is important for the inclusion of the private sector in the process, but also for securing necessary additional financial and human resources (also see section IV below).



VII. Resources and means of implementation

The Ministry of Planning, Monitoring and Administrative Reform prepared the “Sustainable Development Plan for the FY 2016/2017” representing the implementation plan for the first year of both the medium-term Government program and the long-term strategy. Both MoPMAR and the Ministry of Finance presented the FY plan and budget to the Parliament, which was ratified in June 2016, and the implementation started in July 2016 representing the real kick-off to advance Egypt’s sustainable development strategy.

The sustainable development plan and budget for FY 2016/2017 are primarily focused on achieving inclusive economic growth, enhancing social justice, and increasing employment rates, particularly among young people.

Further to this planning framework, the Government of Egypt is committed to incorporating the concept of sustainable development into each and every project. As such, public investment allocation decisions are based on the prioritization of projects that achieve sustainable development in all its dimensions. The integrated electronic system for planning and monitoring is the Ministry of Planning, Monitoring and Administrative Reform’s tool to ensure the projects’ compliance with the criteria of sustainability. The electronic system links all projects submitted by public entities to the goals and key performance indicators of the SDS. This link enhances the process of monitoring and evaluation, whereby the projects’ progress and performance are evaluated based on their contribution to the nation’s goals and achievement of balanced regional development.

Additionally, the transformation from a line-item budget to performance-based budgeting is gradually being implemented in Egypt’s state budget. The transformation reinforces the concept of matching expenses and investments to goals and key performance indicators. Ministries undergoing the budget transformation in pilot form receive intensive workshops and consultations from both the Ministry of Planning, Monitoring and Administrative Reform and the Ministry of Finance to ensure that the alignment process is properly implemented. Performance-based budgeting paves the way for the effective and efficient utilization of public resources, making it one of the financial tools that aid in realizing the goals of sustainable development.

The mobilization of innovative sustainable and impact financing is still underdeveloped and the contribution of the private sector to the financing of the strategy is still mainly limited to a very large extent to renewable energy projects. There is work to be done in terms of implementing the right mix of policy initiatives, particularly environmental-fiscal reform initiatives.

Civil society initiatives are mainly funded by external financing sources which is challenging in terms of coherence with national strategic and planning framework.

Apart from securing additional financial resources, the focus should be on the mobilization and the redirection of existing local financial outlays, both public and private, towards supporting sustainable development programs, plans, and activities, which should be executed in a more efficient manner. Corruption should be eradicated, coherent policies enacted, and investor-friendly conditions established. It would not make economic sense to maintain conventional investment options while at the same time aiming to channel funds to support new and innovative environment-friendly sustainable development paths.

Box 5. Tahya Misr Fund

The Tahya Misr Fund is dedicated to the financing of social projects to address the social integration of the poorest category of citizens. The Fund encourages the participation of the private sector and the promotion of partnerships with the responsible government agencies. There is a need to build on this initiative and to promote a Country Vision not only a Governmental vision of sustainable development.

RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE PEERS

- The linking of the budgeting and project implementation to the criteria on sustainable development and the SDGs is an important point of progress. One necessary and very useful step is the edition of the results of

monitoring and evaluation against the key performance indicators, in such a way as to depict the effects of each budget item and project expenditure in relation to the set objectives for the implementation of the SDGs through the SDS. This will serve not only as a system of pragmatically assessing progress in SDG implementation, but crucially also as a very strong tool for awareness and sensitization, allowing parts of the administration and stakeholders to align themselves with the process.

- Aligning the programmes and projects supported by donors and international/bilateral development institutions with the effort made under the SDS and the projects planned for implementation is an important step, so as to streamline the effort and reinforce the attaining of the agreed priorities, to be measured under the same KPIs as above.
- Tax, fiscal and publicity incentives, including tax returns, interest subsidies, and other means such as national competitions on sustainability of private initiatives are useful tools to be incorporated in the planning to attract private funding and mobilization of human resources for the implementation of SDS, including impact investment and CSR activities.
- The role of civil society, mobilizing international networks and donor support for the implementation of the SDS/SDGs is a very crucial one, not only for the additional human and financial resources that may be raised, but also because this allows work to be carried out to the grassroots and street level, thereby increasing awareness, acceptance and involvement of all citizens and stakeholder groups. Provided that set objectives, measurable targets and transparency are at the base of the effort.

VIII. Monitoring and evaluation

To ensure the implementation of the SDS, and according to the principles of good governance, a governmental entity should be established. This entity is responsible for monitoring the implementation of policies, programs and projects and the fulfilment of the targeted results, as well as reviewing and updating the SDS according to a specific methodology. This entity is also in charge of assessing and measuring the outcomes and the impact of the SDS.¹²

Concurrently, the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics (CAPMAS), a member of the Inter-agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators (IAEG-SDGs), plays a pivotal role in the monitoring process of the sustainable development goals and the SDS through its sustainable development unit. The unit focuses on the classification, identification and measurement of indicators used in both the SDGs and in the national sustainable development strategy. The unit also works on mapping the different indicators used in the SDGs and in the national strategy to maximize the number of relevant indicators that are being utilized. Additionally, one of the unit's most important mandates is the production of the periodical national statistics report on the SDGs. The first national statistical report on the SDG indicators was launched in May 2018; it outlines the classification of SDG indicators into the three tiers prescribed by the global indicator framework on the basis of their level of methodological development and the availability of data. In tandem, the Egypt SDG Observatory was launched in collaboration with UNICEF. The observatory provides a digital platform for tracking progress towards the SDGs in Egypt.¹³

CAPMAS has also identified the expected challenges for data collection, and is exploring ways to overcome these challenges. The main challenges are primarily concerned with the data gap and availability of updated data, as well as the need for capacity building of institutions and individuals involved in the data collection process. They are also linked to unifying methodologies, and to analyse progress.

The Department of statistics under the Ministry of Environment is working with all the other departments on data collection and processing. The National Statistic Strategy (NSS) is under development. It aims to unify data collection and processing and identifies authorised sources to be a reference in order to ensure one unified official message. It also aims to adapt international indicators to national circumstances.

Box 6. Monitoring and evaluation mechanism (as presented in the SDS-Egypt Vision 2030 publication)

To ensure the implementation of the Sustainable Development Strategy (SDS): Egypt Vision 2030, and according to the principles of good governance, a governmental entity should be established. This entity will be responsible for monitoring the implementation of policies, programs and projects and the fulfilment of the targeted results, as well as reviewing and updating the SDS according to a specific methodology.

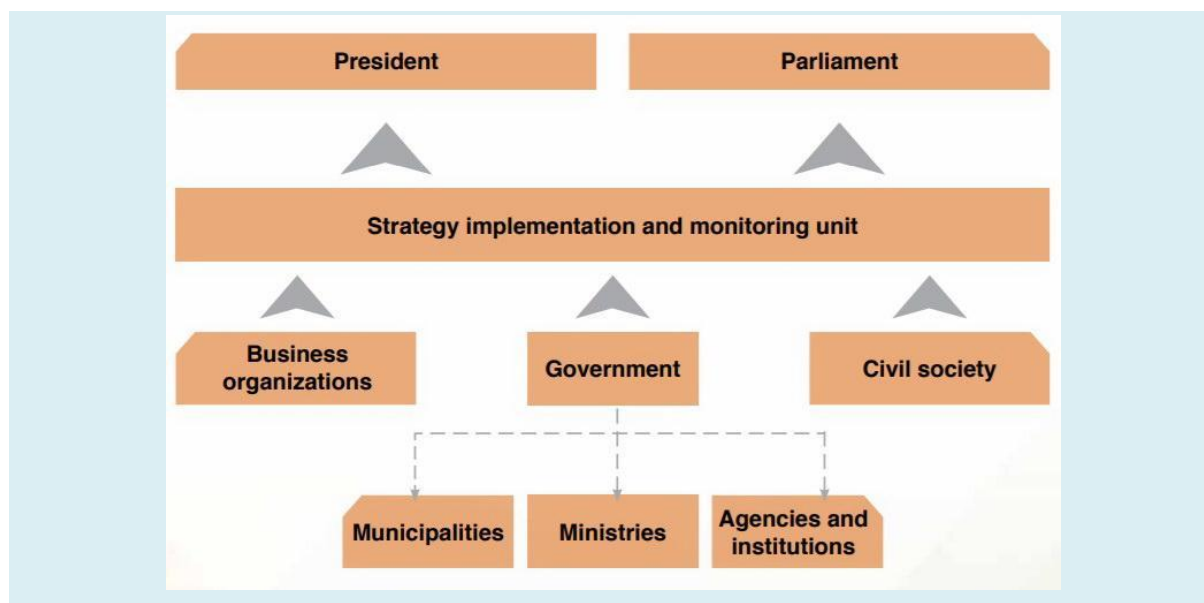
This entity will also be in charge of assessing and measuring the outcomes and the impact of the SDS.

The monitoring and evaluation unit will carry out the following tasks:

- Ensuring the consistency between the implementation plans and the SDS vision.
- Preparing an integrated electronic database.
- Training and capacity building for planning and monitoring units in different ministries and governorates.
- Collecting data to measure KPIs.
- Reviewing and analyzing KPIs.
- Reviewing policies at the macro level.
- Developing technical follow up and evaluation reports.

¹² SDS Egypt Vision 2030

¹³ Voluntary National Review, 2018



Source: Ministry of Planning, Monitoring and Administrative Reform, 2016

RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE PEERS

- The work carried out by CAPMAS to establish a national system and methodology of indicators that assess the implementation of the SDS in line with UN indicators in relation also to indicators on SDGs needs to be finalized and put to application and testing.
- Specific indicators need to be further developed for specific aspects of the economy and social matters, so that they can be incorporated in the introduction of tools that will be used as incentives for the activity of the public sector and civil society, such as ESG finance indicators, human development indicators etc.
- Aligning all such indicators with the tools adopted for the monitoring and evaluation against KPIs for the programmes and projects adopted for the implementation of the SDS and the annual budget.
- Dissemination of assessment and monitoring results to the public, through understandable information, is very important to increase awareness on the SD effort and the implementation of the SDS and SDGs, and to involve the public and the private sector.
- A role must be given to civil society and the private sector to contribute in providing information and data for monitoring the process, in line with the established set of indicators and KPIs by CAPMAS.
- Proper design of the national reporting and monitoring framework, in line with the existing UN and related guidelines, needs to be at the centre of this process, so that compatibility and usability of all data is secured to the maximum level.
- Publication of information and indexes in relation to the implementation of the SDGs is a very important tool, allowing administration, citizens and the private sector to become informed and involved with the process.

Conclusion

Egypt is committed to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through its Sustainable Development Strategy (SDS), Egypt Vision 2030. The national strategic plan's three dimensions (economic, social and environmental). The plan provides programs, policies and measurable indicators in order to put Egypt on the right path towards achieving sustainable development.

To date, Egypt submitted two Voluntary National Reports (VNR) to the UN High Level Political Forum, in 2016 and 2018, demonstrating efforts undertaken to achieve this ambitious agenda. Throughout the writing of the voluntary report, it has become clear that engaging with major interest groups is pivotal to build ownership of the SDGs and capitalize on local efforts for knowledge, resources and increasing mutual accountability of national development results.

Two years after the launch of the SDS in early 2016, Egypt has started to update and review the SDS. The review aims to take into account the major structural changes that occurred in political, economic and social contexts. Those include the structural adjustment programme in 2016, the outcome of the 2017 national census and the high priority the country attaches to achieving food, water and energy security in the context of the changing global environment.

The process is inspired by the values of the new Constitution adopted in 2014, which emphasizes the importance of sustainable development in many of its articles. Consultation and inclusion of all categories of actors is ensured by a Commission bringing together all the ministries, as well as the private sector, the civil society, the academic and research sector as well as the development partners. The Ministry of Planning, Monitoring and Administrative Reform provides the secretariat and the functioning of the Commission.

The new version of the SDS is aiming to address the constraints facing the implementation of the first version, in 2016 and 2017. It is particularly concerned with the need to have a common sustainable development vision shared by all the actors, and the objective of the country's development priorities. It strengthens the process of consultation between and with stakeholders. It defines a new program budgeting process to strengthen inter-ministerial collaboration and coordination, avoid duplication and ensure greater coherence between policies, and between private and public sector and civil society. Green financing mechanisms have been included as a proposed funding mechanism of the Strategy.

However, many challenges remain.

The involvement of the civil society and its role in the implementation of public programs, its relations with the different levels of the administration, its place in the implementation of the structuring programs of the public sector, the internal financing of civil society for its activities... These are all issues that need to be clarified in a climate of trust and transparency. Similarly, the encouragement of the private sector to invest more in sectors of the green economy, social justice and sustainable development, the accompanying measures whether in terms of incentives or regulations, the improvement of the enabling environment ... are the main issues on which private sector investment is currently stumbling.

In terms of financing for sustainable development, access to innovative financing sources and reforming tax, regulation, and policies are needed to better integrate environmental externalities of development programmes and ensure coherence between subsidies and sustainable options.

With regards to particular aspects of monitoring and evaluation, a new national statistic strategy is going to be elaborated to address challenges as: data gaps; harmonized and commonly used methodologies; adaptation of international set of indicators to national circumstances and needs; measuring impacts and forecasting policies; identification of the reference institutions that certify the national value of the indicators.

The role of the media to ensure public access to intelligible and transparent information is also an important issue to improve the implementation of the SDS.

The analysis of the SDS-Egypt Vision 2030 has detailed all of these considerations in relation to the five SIMPEER dimensions of the SIMPEER and sets out the related issues. The Peers, during their meeting in Marseille, in November 2019. Notwithstanding the absence of the national correspondent who was unable to attend the meeting, the peer

countries have taken note of these various questions with interest. The SIMPEER's national report for Egypt includes all of their comments and recommendations.

Bibliography

PUBLICATION

Country Partnership Framework for the Arab Republic of Egypt for the period FY 2015-2019, World Bank, Report no. 94554-EG, November 20, 2015

Country Partnership Programme, UNDP

Deauville Partnership, Compact for Economic Governance, Stocktaking Report: Egypt, OECD

Expanding Horizons in Development: The rising role of the private sector, Egyptian Corporate Social Responsibility Center (ECRC), UNDP, 2016

Financing sustainable development in Arab Countries, Najib Saab, Abdul Karim Sadik, Forum for the Environment and Development, 2018

Recommended National Sustainable Urban and Energy Saving Actions for Egypt, Donors and Financial Initiatives for Egypt, Prof. Dr. Mohsen Aboulnaga, November 25, 2016

Sustainable Development Goals Report: Egypt 2030, Frederick S. Pardee. Center for International Futures, UNDP, November 2018

Sustainable Development Strategy: Egypt's Vision 2030 and Medium-Term Investment Framework 2014-2015 – 2018-2019, Egypt Economic Development Conference, 13-15 March 2015, Sharm-El-Sheikh

Sustainable development strategy: Egypt's Vision 2030, <http://sdsegypt2030.com>

Voluntary national review for the High-Level Political Forum of the United Nations, 2016, <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/memberstates/egypt>

Voluntary national review for the High-Level Political Forum of the United Nations, 2018, <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/memberstates/egypt>

Annex

Table 2. Key policy area relations between SDS: Egypt's 2030 Vision, SDGs and MSSD frameworks

SDS-Egypt's Vision 2030 / Dimensions/Pillars/	Projects/Programmes (Extract)	SDGs	MSSD 2016-2025 Objectives
Economic Dimension			
1 st Pillar: Economic development, balanced knowledge-based, competitive, diversified market economy, characterised by a stable macro-economic...	Sustainable regulations Green economy / Green Tourism Water use / water quality / Sewage Agriculture Climate change and coast Transport	SDG1/1.4 SDG6 SDG8 SDG9	Obj. 5: Transition towards a green and blue economy Obj. 2: Promoting resource management, food production and food security through sustainable forms of rural development
2 nd Pillar: Energy	Innovation Nuclear station	SDG2 / 2.4 SDG 7 / 7A	
3 rd Pillar: Knowledge innovation and scientific research	Stimulate innovation activities by SMEs PPP		
4 th Pillar: Transparency and efficient government institutions	Public management system Fighting corruption	SDG16	Obj. 6: Improving governance in support of sustainable development goals
Social Dimension			
5 th Pillar: Social justice Society characterised by equal economic, social, political rights and opportunities...	Reducing the social intergeneration and gender gaps A balanced geographical distribution for services	SDG2 SDG5 SDG10	Obj. 7: Cross-cutting sustainable development goals related to social issue
6 th Pillar: Health All Egyptians enjoys healthy, safe, and secure life		SDG3	
7 th Pillar: Education and training A high-quality education and training system		SDG4	
8 th Pillar: Culture A system of positive culture values respecting diversity and differences			
Environmental Dimension			
9 th Pillar: Environment Integration to all economic	Water Resource management Sustainable water system Solid-waste management/Hazardous waste Protecting biodiversity Protecting coastal and marine zones Reduce air pollution, adjust to climate change and protect environment	SDG14 SDG13	Obj. 1: Ensuring sustainable development in marine and coastal zones Obj. 4: Addressing climate change as a priority issue for the Mediterranean region
10 th Pillar: Urban Development A balanced spatial development management of land and resources to accommodate population and improve the quality of life	Use of green and sustainable building methods Quality of public transportation in cities Construction capacities in new urban communities	SDG11	Obj. 3: Planning and managing sustainable Mediterranean cities