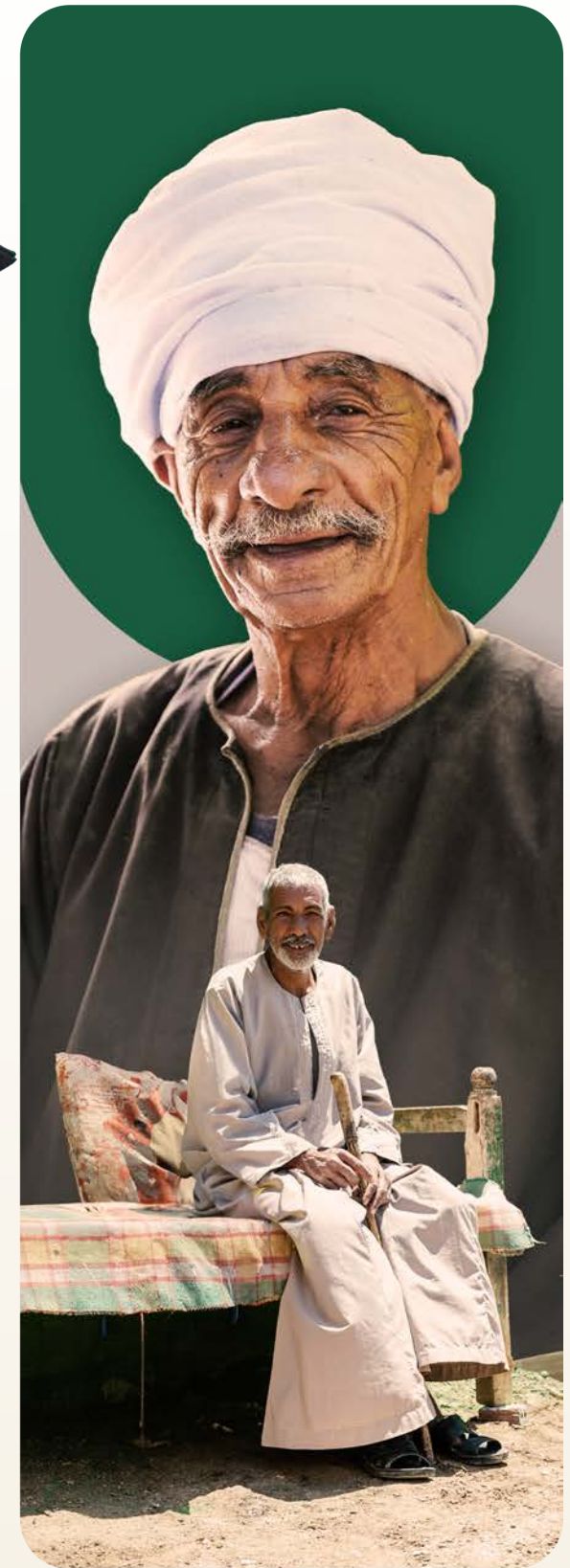




SAWIRIS FOUNDATION  
مؤسسة ساويرس

# ANNUAL REPORT 2024

Reducing Multidimensional Poverty  
and Empowering Change Agents



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## Message from the Chairwoman of the Board of Trustees

Established in 2001, Sawiris Foundation for Social Development (SFSD) was founded on the conviction that human dignity should never be the preserve of a privileged few, but rather a fundamental right afforded to all. Every individual—regardless of origin or circumstance—deserves a fair opportunity to quality education, a safe home, and decent work. Over twenty-four years, we have realized that a true legacy is defined by the impact we inspire in people's lives—the dreams we help children pursue, and the future we strive to shape for a nation we hold dear and are proud to serve with dedication.

SFSD has never viewed itself as a charity in the conventional sense. Rather, an active partner in meaningful development. We did not stand at a distance, removed from the realities of hardship; instead we made a conscious choice to witness challenges, to listen with attention to those who endure them, to discern how we might meaningfully contribute to the solution, and to work in genuine partnership with communities—not merely on their behalf, but shoulder to shoulder with them.

Throughout our journey, we have faced many trials and drawn valuable lessons along the way. We have paused to honor the milestones that have illuminated the path ahead, even as we navigated the full spectrum of challenges that any institution inevitably faces in the pursuit of growth and continuous learning. Now, more than twenty years on, we move forward with deeper insight, greater maturity, and a renewed sense of purpose—prepared to carry the mission onward with steadfast resolve.

In 2024, we advanced with renewed purpose and steadfast determination to deepen and broaden our impact. A total of sixty-four development projects were carried out across multiple governorates throughout Egypt, with cumulative investments exceeding EGP 650 million, to reach more than 21,000 beneficiaries across sectors, including education, economic and social empowerment, and culture.

This year marked a pivotal juncture, witnessing the early outcomes of the SFSD's 2023–2028 strategy, anchored in evidence-based interventions and sustained through long-term investment. At its core, the strategy is designed to reduce multidimensional poverty and to empower agents of change to drive lasting, meaningful impact in the lives of individuals and communities alike.

Within this framework, the Bab Amal ("Door of Hope") program stands as a cornerstone to our strategic efforts. Its impact has reached over 6,750 of Egypt's most vulnerable households. With an expansion plan, the program aspires to reach 100,000 households by 2028 through close collaboration with partners across the public and private sectors, as well as civil society.

In the realm of scholarships, SFSD has continued to create a meaningful impact on the lives of thousands of high-achieving Egyptian students. Through a diverse portfolio of scholarship programs, SFSD have expanded access to quality academic opportunities at leading institutions—both within Egypt and internationally.

Concurrently, we have remained resolute in our commitment to enhancing the quality of basic education and advancing student learning outcomes. More than 7,680 children have benefited from our interventions in early childhood development and basic education, including the 'Teaching at the Right Level' program, which has proven effective in strengthening children's reading/numeracy skills.

As part of our strategic vision to elevate technical education and vocational training, while reshaping societal perceptions, SFSD continued investing in its flagship educational institutions. In addition to El-Gouna Technical Nursing Institute (GTNI) and the German Hotel School El Gouna (GHS), 2023 marked the launch of Red Sea Yacht (RSY) Institute—the first facility of its kind in Egypt and the broader region. In 2024, we embarked on a new chapter with the enrolment of the inaugural cohort at Onsi Sawiris School for Applied Technology and Construction (OSATC), with an endeavor to cultivate a new generation of highly skilled technicians, ready to meet the evolving needs of the job market.

Amid the escalating global challenges—from humanitarian crises and the repercussions of climate change to the decline in international development financing—the imperative for more resilient and high-impact solutions has never been more urgent. As pressures on public and international funding streams continue to intensify, private philanthropy is increasingly emerging as a vital driver for transformative change, with its independence, agility, and capacity for innovation.

In this context, we believe that strategic, impact-driven philanthropy is far more than a mere source of funding. Rather, it stands as a foundational force in reconceptualizing the notion of development through its emphasis on measurable outcomes, its prioritization of investment in transformative solutions, and its commitment to cross-sector partnerships that foster sustainable change.

From this vantage point, SFSD's model assumes particular significance—seamlessly integrating strategic foresight with an unwavering commitment to social responsibility, and a genuine capacity for adaptation in an ever-evolving landscape, both locally and globally.

Looking ahead, we aspire to remain a learning and impactful organization, not only through the programs we implement but also through rigorous research and data-driven decision-making. Through this, we aim to support policymakers and foster a culture of innovation, transparency, and accountability while also building trust-based partnerships grounded in knowledge-sharing.

In recent years, we have placed a particular emphasis on expanding strategic partnerships across the public and private sectors, as well as with civil society—locally, regionally, and internationally. These efforts have enabled us to mobilize nearly EGP 574 million in funding through collaborations with more than 84 organizations, reflecting the growing confidence in our model, and credibility.

None of our achievements over the years would have come to fruition without the dedication and commitment of our partners—those who dared to dream with us, who shouldered the responsibility alongside us, and who walked by our side every step of the journey. To each of you, we extend our deepest gratitude and heartfelt appreciation. It is your trust, spirit of collaboration, and belief in our mission that have rendered this shared impact not only possible but truly enduring. Much like the Egyptian artisan whose hands, attuned to the essence beyond mere appearance, craft beauty from the humblest of fibres.

I would also like to extend my gratitude and sincere appreciation to the esteemed members of our Board of Trustees, whose visionary insight has been a driving force throughout our journey. Their sincere guidance and unwavering commitment have been instrumental in shaping the impact we have collectively achieved.

At this juncture, I wish to convey my profound gratitude to the remarkable team at SFSD—the dedicated, often unsung heroes who work quietly and steadfastly on the frontlines. They shoulder the hopes, aspirations, and concerns of those we serve. They embody each day the very mission upon which our foundation was established.

As we look to the future, we remain acutely aware of the challenges that lie ahead and ever more certain that development is not merely a goal to be quantified in numbers, but rather a long-term commitment to humanity. Together—hand in hand—we are empowered to shape a future rooted in greater justice and imbued with dignity for every individual in Egypt.

**Mrs. Yousriya Loza-Sawiris**  
Chair of the Board of Trustees





## Message from the Executive Director

**"No aspiration lies beyond the grasp of those who dare to pursue it with resolve." — Ahmed Shawqi**

I am pleased to present the 2024 Annual Report of Sawiris Foundation for Social Development (SFSD)— an edition inspired by the timeless poetic words of Ahmed Shawqi, which speak to the courage required to confront adversity. It is this very spirit of determination and boldness that has guided our course through a year marked by significant changes and defining decisions.

Today, we find ourselves in a world increasingly unsettled by a cascade of crises — from devastating wars and global pandemics to persistent economic volatility and profound social disruption — traditional solutions are no longer sufficient. Development can no longer be approached as a series of fragmented, short-term interventions; rather, it must be envisioned as a forward-looking and integrated endeavor— one that demands deep insight, bold action, and sustained collaboration across all sectors of society.

Since its establishment in 2001, SFSD has dedicated a commitment to tackling the most urgent challenges facing marginalized populations, channeling over EGP 4.4 billion in support over more than two decades. As I assumed the role of Executive Director in 2024, we embarked on a new chapter guided by a renewed sense of purpose to accelerate the implementation of our five-year strategy (2023–2028). This vision is firmly anchored in the ethos of *'effective altruism'* and guided by a rigorous, evidence-based approach to decision-making, all in pursuit of delivering the greatest possible impact.

Despite the considerable challenges encountered over the past year, SFSD achieved tangible milestones across its strategic performance indicators, with improvements ranging from 10% to 30%. Throughout, we remained committed to operational efficiency, with administrative expenditures maintained at approximately 13% of total spending. On the technical and programmatic front, we invested over EGP 650 million across 64 development-focused projects, positively impacting the lives of more than 20,000 citizens. In the Social Empowerment sector, over 6,750 of Egypt's extremely poor households benefited from the services provided through the Bab Amal ("Door of Hope") program. In the Economic Empowerment sector, a total of 1,300 young men and women secured employment within the healthcare sector, while 900 small enterprises accessed financial support through our innovative Micro-Equity model.

In the Education and Scholarships sector, we extended support to more than 300 students pursuing higher education and over 400 students enrolled in technical education. These efforts were complemented by a diverse portfolio of thematic programs— most notably Mawheba ("Talent"), an initiative dedicated to nurturing emerging musical talent, delivered in partnership with the Grand Egyptian Museum, the Royal College of Music in London, and Community Jameel. Through Sawiris Cultural Award, in its twentieth edition, SFSD continued to uphold its legacy of championing creative literary talent. At the same time, our support for the El Gouna Film Festival enabled the participation of 150 emerging filmmakers, helping to foster the next generation of creative voices shaping the landscape of Arab cinema.

This year witnessed a significant expansion of our strategic partnerships, with more than nine new collaborations forged across government entities, international institutions, research centres, and civil society organizations.

At SFSD, we do not regard partnerships merely as avenues for funding, but as dynamic frameworks for collective action, crucial to navigating today's rapidly evolving and deeply interconnected challenges of our time. At the core of this approach lies a steadfast belief that the strength of meaningful development stems from synergistic integration, the cross-fertilization of knowledge, and the deliberate cultivation of long-term trust.

We have continued to reinforce our commitment to evidence-based philanthropy, the cornerstone of SFSD's institutional approach. Rather than asking simply, *'What are we doing?'*, we hold ourselves to a higher standard by posing more consequential questions, *'Is this the most effective course of action?'* and *'Is it generating the impact we aspire to achieve?'* To answer these questions meaningfully, we have enhanced our monitoring and evaluation systems and deepened our collaboration with leading research institutions, both locally and internationally. In doing so, we strive to ensure that every investment is purposeful and that every initiative delivers a tangible and measurable impact.

I extend my sincere gratitude to the SFSD's Board of Trustees, under the esteemed leadership of Mrs. Yousriya Loza-Sawiris, for their unwavering support and strategic foresight. I would also like to express my heartfelt appreciation to Eng. Noura Selim, who led the Foundation with wisdom and dedication for nearly a decade, established a resilient and enduring institutional ethos. Her legacy is deeply woven into the fabric of SFSD. It is a pleasure to congratulate her on the appointment to the Board of Trustees in continuation of her distinguished legacy of service. I am equally pleased to extend a warm welcome to His Excellency Ambassador Sameh Shoukry, whose appointment to the board of trustees brings a wealth of experience and depth of insight that will undoubtedly enrich our shared mission.

We hold that true development is measured not merely by what we achieve, but by what we transform—by the opportunities we help unlock and the dignity we strive to restore to those long denied it. United by unwavering courage, we press forward with purpose toward a future defined by greater justice and deeper equity.

**Ms. Laila Hosni**  
**Executive Director**

Sawiris Foundation for Social Development - 2024





## About Sawiris Foundation

Sawiris Foundation for Social Development (SFSD) is one of the first development grant-making institutions in Egypt. It was established in 2001 through an endowment from the Sawiris family, with a mission to support innovative and impactful solutions that advance inclusive and sustainable development in Egypt. It focuses on addressing the most pressing challenges facing the most marginalized communities, including poverty, unemployment, and limited access to quality education, while also contributing to the enrichment and empowerment of Egypt's cultural and artistic landscape.

Under its 2023–2028 strategy, the Foundation is committed to reducing multidimensional poverty, empowering agents of change, and providing emergency support for crisis response and recovery. SFSD firmly believes in the optimal use of resources and works to implement evidence-based development programs in collaboration with government and private sector partners, civil society organizations, and international agencies.



# Our Vision

A society where all individuals, communities, and organizations can maximize their full potential.

# Our Mission

To reduce multidimensional poverty and empower agents of change through utilizing impact-driven strategies.

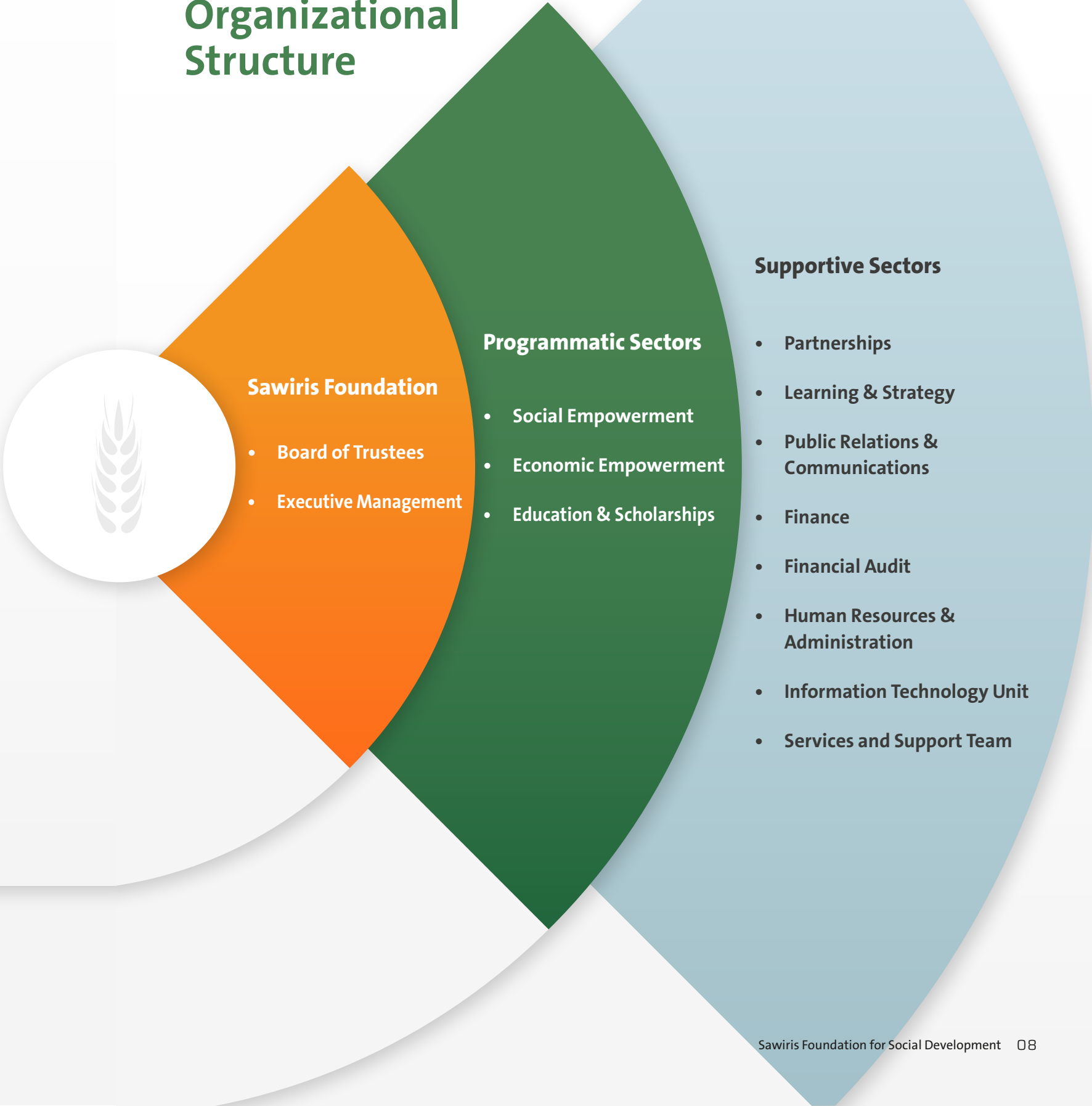
# Our Philosophy

At Sawiris Foundation, we believe that philanthropy must go beyond traditional aid, toward an approach rooted in scientific evidence. We recognize that good intentions alone are not enough; meaningful development requires calculated decisions and strategic investments to ensure the most effective use of resources.

Our philosophy is grounded in effective altruism, guided by knowledge and evidence-based practices. This enables us to continuously improve towards “*Doing Good Better*.” To maximize our impact, we invest in rigorous evaluation, effective monitoring systems, and collaborative learning.

In partnership with policymakers, civil society, the private sector, and academic institutions, the Foundation works to design context-specific solutions and support the most effective initiatives, ultimately fostering lasting positive change in Egyptian society.

# Sawiris Foundation’s Organizational Structure





# SFSD Portfolio of Projects (2001 – 2024)



Investing

4.4

 EGP  
Billion

Implementing

500

 Projects

To Serve

850

 Thousand  
Beneficiaries

Social  
Empowerment  
Sector

1.3   
EGP Billion

606   
Thousand  
Beneficiaries

Economic  
Empowerment  
Sector

656   
EGP Million

142   
Thousand  
Beneficiaries

Education &  
Scholarships  
Sector

2.1   
EGP Billion

74   
Thousand  
Beneficiaries

Learning &  
Strategy  
Sector

312   
EGP Million

30   
Thousand  
Beneficiaries

Sawiris  
Cultural Award

72   
EGP Million

326   
Authors and  
Literary Figures

In addition to

574   
EGP Million  
Mobilized through

84   
Partner  
Organizations

# Local

 **24**  
Governorates

With a focus on remote governorates and Upper Egypt

# Globally

The Foundation's scholarships have enabled outstanding students to pursue their education at some of the world's top universities.



Germany



USA



United  
Kingdom



Switzerland



Czech  
Republic



Spain



# SFSD Strategic Goals According to the 2023 - 2028 Strategy and Expected Results by 2028

## Goal I Reducing Multidimensional Poverty

Supporting families living in multidimensional poverty to strengthen their ability to become self-reliant, meet over 80% of their basic needs, and access quality education.



### Outcome 1

Providing social protection for

100,000

Families and individuals living in extreme poverty



### Outcome 2

20,000

Poor families have increased their income to cover their basic needs



### Outcome 3

Improving learning outcomes of

46,000

Poor and extremely poor students, aged from two years old to 22 years old

## Goal II Empowering Agents of Change

Empowering individuals and organizations who have shown potential for affecting positive social change to achieve their highest potential in serving their communities.



### Outcome 4

Improving the qualifications of

600

Higher education and vocational students and executive leaders



### Outcome 5

Recognizing

140

Writers and literary figures for their contributions to enriching Egyptian culture



### Outcome 6

Building the capacities of

190

Implementing partners, through intensive training programs, to enable them to deliver effective programs within the most underserved and marginalized communities

**In tandem with the Foundation's efforts to advance its strategic goals and achieve targeted outcomes, we worked in 2024 on developing a draft Disaster Preparedness and Response Strategy which is designed to support the achievement of three key outcomes:**

**1** Safeguarding SFSD's primary beneficiaries and ensuring the continuity of its mission


**2** Linking development with humanitarian action and peace


**3** Establishing a well-defined mechanism for effective humanitarian action



Sawiris Foundation for  
Social Development | 2024

Investing 650+  EGP Million

Implementing  
64   
Projects

To Serve  
21,000   
Beneficiaries



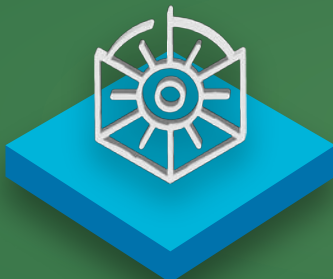
Social  
Empowerment  
Sector

  
204  
EGP Million



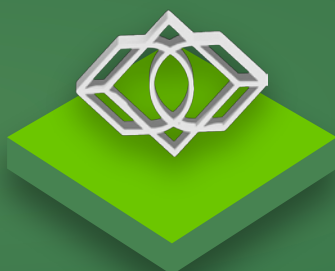
Economic  
Empowerment  
Sector

  
54  
EGP Million



Education &  
Scholarships  
Sector

  
289  
EGP Million



Learning &  
Strategies  
Sector

  
74  
EGP Million



Partnerships  
Sector

  
15  
EGP Million



Sawiris  
Cultural Award

  
15  
EGP Million



# Key Events Throughout the Year



JANUARY

Honored 15 writers for their outstanding literary work during the 19th edition of the Sawiris Cultural Award.



Graduation of the 2023 & 2024 cohorts from the Gouna Technical Nursing Institute.

FEBRUARY

Continued sponsoring Diarna Exhibition for Arts and Handicrafts for the fourth consecutive year, under the auspices of the Ministry of Social Solidarity, Alexbank, and Cairo Festival City Mall.



Inaugurated one of the first solar-powered fruit and vegetable dryers as part of the “Improving the Production and Value Chain of Tomato Farming” project, in partnership with the Embassy of Japan.

MARCH

Held one of the seminars in the “Bridging Evidence and Policy” Series, in collaboration with the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) and the Egyptian Food Bank, focusing on relief and development in times of crisis.

Participated in the annual meeting of the OECD Development Centre's Network of Foundations Working for Development.



APRIL

Concluded the ‘Spreading Hope’ medical outreach initiative across villages in Upper Egypt, in partnership with the Commercial International Bank (CIB) Foundation and the Ibrahim Badran Foundation (IVBF) for Charitable Work.







Graduation of the 2023 & 2024 cohorts from the German Hotel School in El Gouna.

## MAY

Signed a new cooperation agreement with the Leipzig Chamber of Commerce and Industry to improve employment opportunities for graduates of the German Hotel School in Germany.



Supported the 3rd Arab Forum for Equality (AFE-2024), in collaboration with the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UN ESCWA), under the auspices of the Ministry of Social Solidarity.

## JUNE

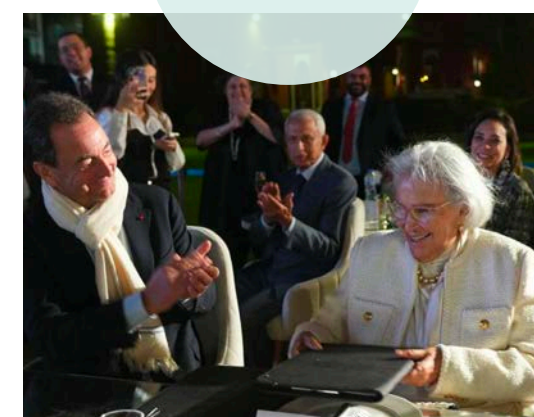
Launched the third edition of the Chicago Booth Executive Education Program in Gouna, in partnership with the University of Chicago Booth School of Business.

Participated in a high-level Egyptian delegation's knowledge exchange visit to Jakarta, Indonesia, organized by the Egypt Impact Lab, which aimed to strengthen knowledge systems in Egypt through partnerships and exchanging best practices between the governments of Egypt and Indonesia.



Published the results of the impact evaluation of the General Feeding Program (GFP), in partnership with IFPRI and the Egyptian Food Bank.

## JULY



Signed a cooperation agreement with the French Development Agency (AFD), ORA Developers, RATP (Régie Autonome des Transports Parisiens) Foundation, RDMC, and Samusocial International to empower marginalized children through access to quality education and sports programs.



Participated in the National Conference for Civil Society Organizations Supporting Education in Egypt.

## AUGUST

Hosted the final pitching competition of the Gemini Upper Egypt Accelerator, providing critical funding and support to empower emerging entrepreneurs.







## SEPTEMBER

Held the annual “Back to School” event for the fourth consecutive year.

Contributed to the second edition of the Global Congress on Population, Health, and Human Development (PHDC'24), held under the auspices of the National Council for Women (NCW).



Expanded our partnership with El Gouna Film Festival in its seventh edition to empower emerging filmmakers and uplift art communities.

## OCTOBER

Participated in the 2024 African Development Forum held in Marrakech, Morocco.

Sponsored Art D'Egypte's annual «FOREVER IS NOW» exhibition at the Pyramids.



## NOVEMBER

Launched “Mawheba”, to support emerging musical talents in collaboration with Community Jameel, the Royal College of Music in London, and the Grand Egyptian Museum.

Participated in the ‘Empowering Women in the Workforce’ conference.



Held activities under the “Josour” initiative to empower youth in the Egyptian labor market.

## DECEMBER

Organized a seminar under the ‘Bridging Evidence and Policy’ (BEP) Series, in partnership with the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) and the Egyptian Food Bank, focusing on the burdens posed by malnutrition and undernutrition in Egypt.



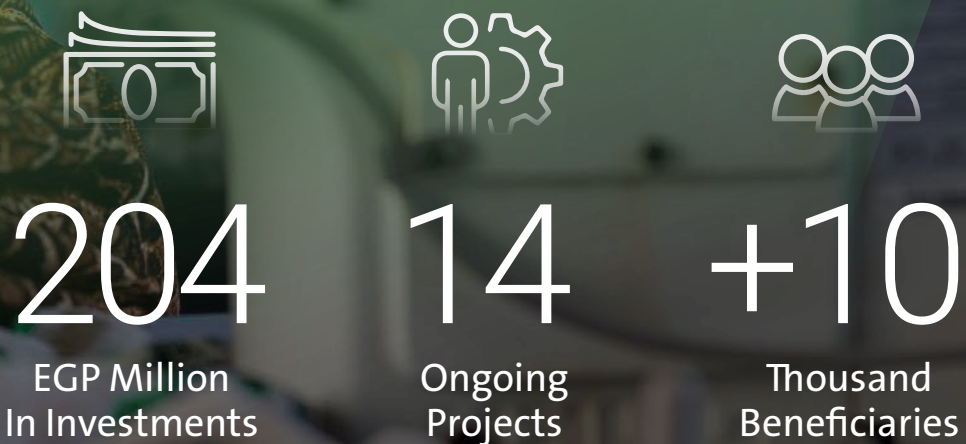




# Social Empowerment Sector

The Social Empowerment Sector works to strengthen social protection pathways and maximize impact in the lives of marginalized groups and families living in extreme poverty. It implements an interconnected portfolio of programs and interventions, including support for ultra-poor families to graduate out of poverty, provision of basic services, child protection services for children without parental care, and women’s empowerment initiatives.

## Sector Performance | 2024





# Sector Objectives According to 2023 - 2028 Strategy



Providing social protection to  
**100,000**  
Families living in extreme poverty

**%10.25**  
Achieved by the end of 2024



## Strategic Objectives of Social Empowerment Sector by Thematic Program



**Bab Amal Program**

**80,000**

Ultra-poor households placed on a path toward sustainable livelihood



**Basic Services Program**

**18,000**

Poor households experience an improved quality of life



**‘Supporting Children Without Parental Care’ Program**

**2,000**

Children deprived of parental care have gained access to protection services



# Bab Amal:

## A Sustainable Pathway Out of Poverty

The Bab Amal (Door of Hope) program aims to reduce multidimensional poverty by placing ultra-poor families on a sustainable livelihood pathway through four interconnected pillars:

- 1. Social Protection
- 2. Livelihood Enhancement and Income Generation
- 3. Financial Inclusion
- 4. Social Empowerment

In 2018, the Sawiris Foundation adopted the “Graduation Approach,” originally developed by BRAC International. It was successfully implemented in over 50 countries and has positively impacted more than 14 million individuals worldwide. Global evaluations have consistently demonstrated its effectiveness in achieving sustainable improvements across social, economic, and psychological dimensions.

In Egypt, Sawiris Foundation conducted a comprehensive evaluation of the program. Forty months after the interventions concluded, results indicated sustained improvements in income and employment opportunities, with a strong focus on women’s empowerment, adapted to the local context. The evaluation also confirmed the effectiveness of low-cost implementation models, reinforcing the case for scaling to reach more families.

Sawiris Foundation is working with partners to expand the program, aiming to reach 100,000 Egyptian families by 2028 to lift them out of extreme poverty and onto more sustainable livelihood paths. This expansion directly supports Egypt’s national goals of poverty eradication and social

Under the Auspices of



Contributing Partner



Research Partner



Implementing Partners



Shared Prosperity Dignified Life



Providing advisory support for government policymaking

Hosniya Abo Al-Ghait - Bab Amal Beneficiary  
Al-Shanabila Village - Abnub District - Assiut Governorate



For more details on the program's impact assessment



Budget  
**+256**  
EGP Million  
since the program's inception



Families Impacted  
**+6750**  
Since the program's inception



**+1450**  
In 2024

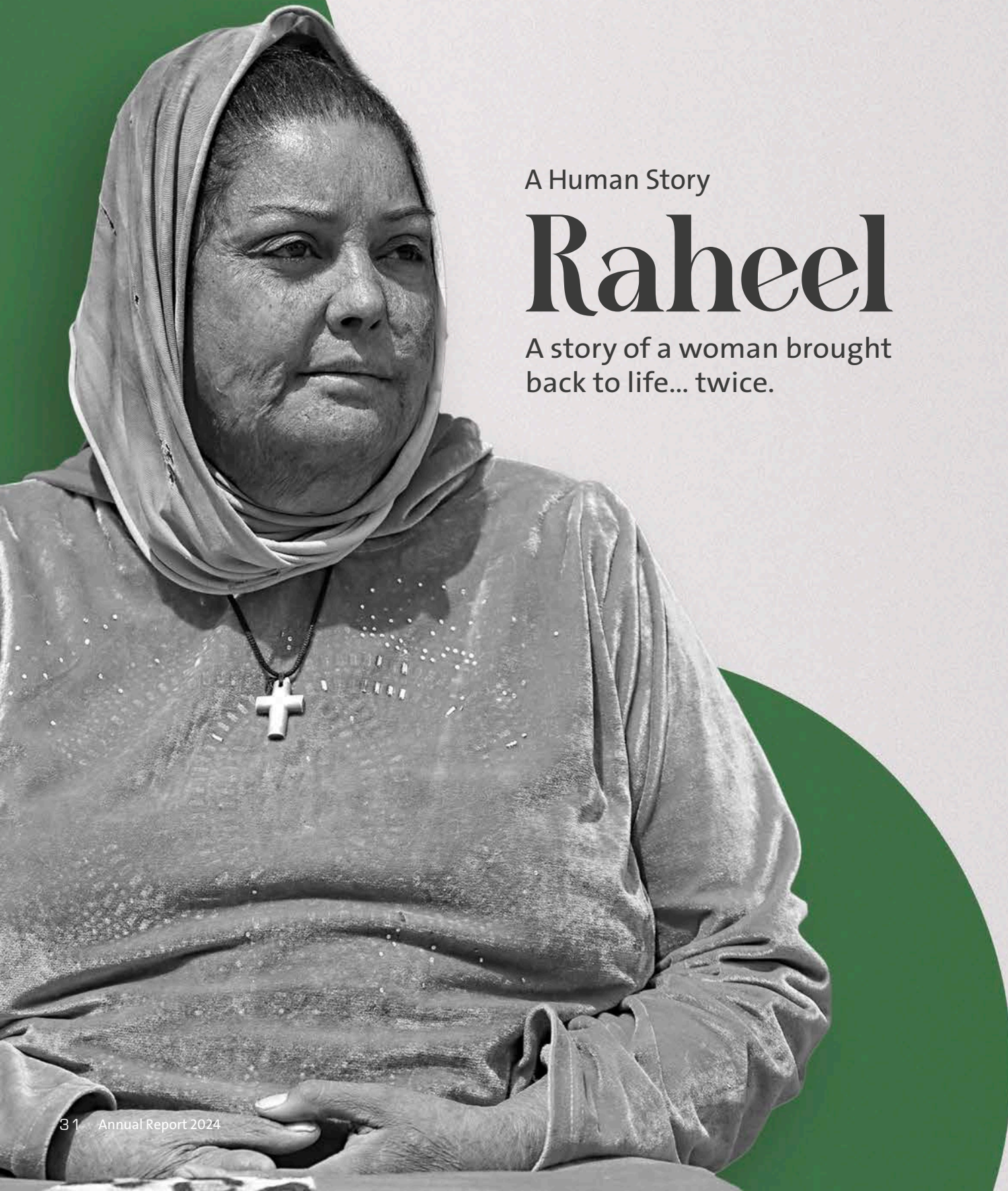
Assiut  
Sohag



Various photos of "Bab Amal" beneficiaries in the villages of Assiut and Sohag.







A Human Story

# Raheel

A story of a woman brought back to life... twice.

In the village of Hagar Mishta, amid narrow alleyways and collapsing homes, Raheel endured a life of unrelenting hardship. She shared a crumbling house with her husband—who subjected her to constant physical and psychological abuse—and their five children. She was denied even the most basic human rights. Her home was not a refuge, but a prison—its walls built not of stone, but of silence and fear.

For Raheel, hope had disappeared long ago—and with it, her will to keep going. In a moment of suffocating despair, she set herself on fire in a desperate attempt to escape her suffering. The fire indirectly led to the death of two of her children. Raheel survived, but with severe burns that disfigured her body. A brave neighbor wrapped her in a blanket to extinguish the flames, saving her life. In that moment, fate offered her a second chance.

A tragic as the incident was, it marked a turning point in Raheel's life. After coming so close to death, a flicker of hope emerged when her family was selected to join the Bab Amal (Door of Hope) program. Through the initiative, she received a small livestock project—two female sheep and their newborns. This marked the beginning of a new chapter.

Raheel managed the project herself. Slowly but steadily, her work began to grow. She sold one sheep and used the proceeds to buy another, investing her earnings in feed to increase productivity. In a short time, she had a small, diversified business, combining sheep rearing with a small grocery.

Eventually, the value of her business reached 11,000 Egyptian pounds.

With every step forward, Raheel felt as though she was rebuilding her life. But the most profound transformation happened within. In a moment of quiet reflection, she said: “God brought me back to life twice—once when I survived the fire, and once when I received the business.” Her words captured a deep inner shift—from a woman seeking escape to one embracing life with renewed purpose and hope.

The transformation didn't stop with Raheel. Her children, once forced to drop out of school, were able to resume their education. She enrolled in a literacy class and became the first woman in her village to earn an educational certificate. The family also benefited from the Hayah Karima (Decent Life) initiative, which helped renovate their home and secure access to clean drinking water. Raheel underwent three state-funded reconstructive surgeries to reduce the physical scars left by the fire.

Raheel's community came to see her as a symbol of strength and determination. She emerged from her isolation, joined savings groups, and rebuilt social relationships. For the first time, she felt a sense of security and dignity, secured by a legal agreement her husband was required to sign, pledging not to harm her physically or emotionally.

Today, Raheel is not only a woman who survived a tragedy. She is a living story of resilience, courage, and the will to achieve what once seemed impossible.



## Basic Services Program

The program aims to ensure access to essential services for ultra-poor households, with the goal of improving their quality of life. This includes housing improvements, access to clean water and sanitation, and enhanced food security.



Mohamed Ahmed Aly

Karima Abdelrahman Ismaeel

## Key Projects

### Dar wa Salama “Home and Safety”

The project aims to improve the quality of life for 2,500 poor households in the Awlad Yahya Bahary village cluster in Sohag, through a set of interconnected development interventions.



Rehabilitating  
**130**  
Homes



Installing  
**53**  
Water Connections



Providing  
**1768**  
Health Services through  
Medical Caravans



Conducting  
**180**  
Surgeries

In collaboration with



Sohag

## Key Program Achievements in Other Projects:



### Water is Life

Supporting  
**8000**  
Individuals

With access  
to clean water

Implemented in collaboration with



مؤسسة و من الماء حياة  
Life From Water Foundation



Menya - Assuit  
Sohag - Qena

### Humanitarian Relief Support

Allocating  
**5**  
EGP Million

To support humanitarian  
relief in Gaza

Implemented in collaboration with





## Support for Children without Parental Care Program

**This program aims to strengthen child protection systems and services by advancing the following key objectives:**

- Raising awareness among different groups of the target communities about the situation of children without parental care.
- Creating a safe and nurturing environment that supports the healthy development of children whether in residential care institutions or with alternative families.
- Providing targeted support to children living in high-risk situations, including those in street situations.

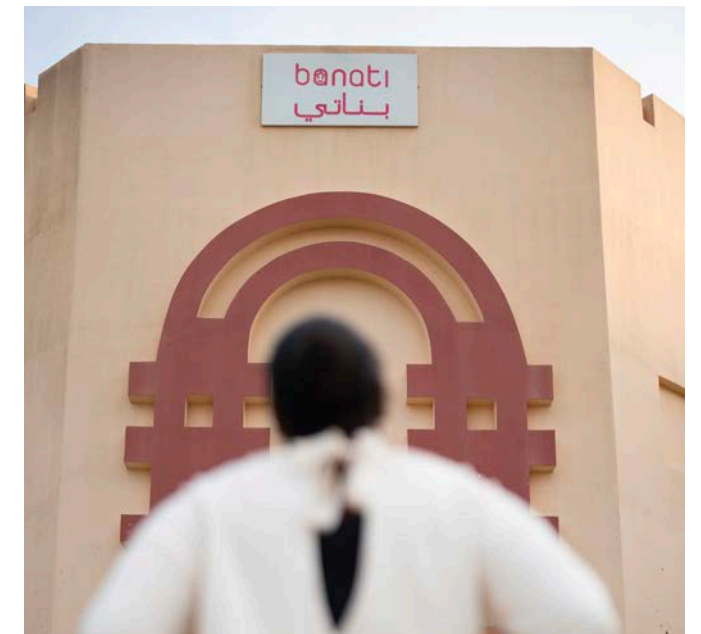
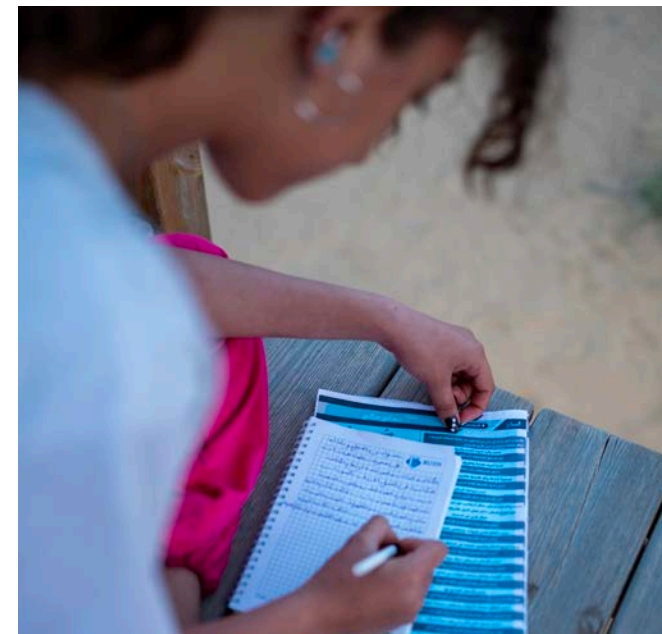


Arzaq, one of the beneficiaries of the Children Without Parental Care program, standing beside two friends at Banaty Foundation.

## Key Projects

### Protecting and Empowering Children Without Parental Care

The project works to enhance child protection centers for children experiencing homelessness, with the aim of empowering them and ensuring the sustainability of their protection. That is through comprehensive interventions targeting 866 children and families across residential care centers, reception units, and mobile outreach services.



### Project Achievements in 2024:

Rehabilitating  
**166**  
Children  
in residential  
care centers

Supporting  
**700**  
Children living in street  
situations with social,  
psychological, health,  
and nutritional care

Raising awareness  
among the families of  
**200**  
Children at-risk

Implemented in collaboration with



In partnership with



Greater Cairo



## Key Program Achievements in Other Projects:

### Raising Society's Awareness about the Situation of Children without Parental Care



Preparing the content for the "Guidelines for Alternative Care" and an introductory program on the new foster family system



Delivering a training on the procedural guide for the foster family system to 274 staff members from the Ministry of Social Solidarity.

Training

200 

Prospective Foster (KAFALA) Families

Campaign - Product Example



Implemented in collaboration with



In partnership with



All Egyptian Governorates



## Supporting Children at Risk, Including those in Street Situations

Supporting

900 

Male and Female Children in street situations where they stay or work by referring them to specialized support services or day cares or emergency shelters

Implemented in collaboration with

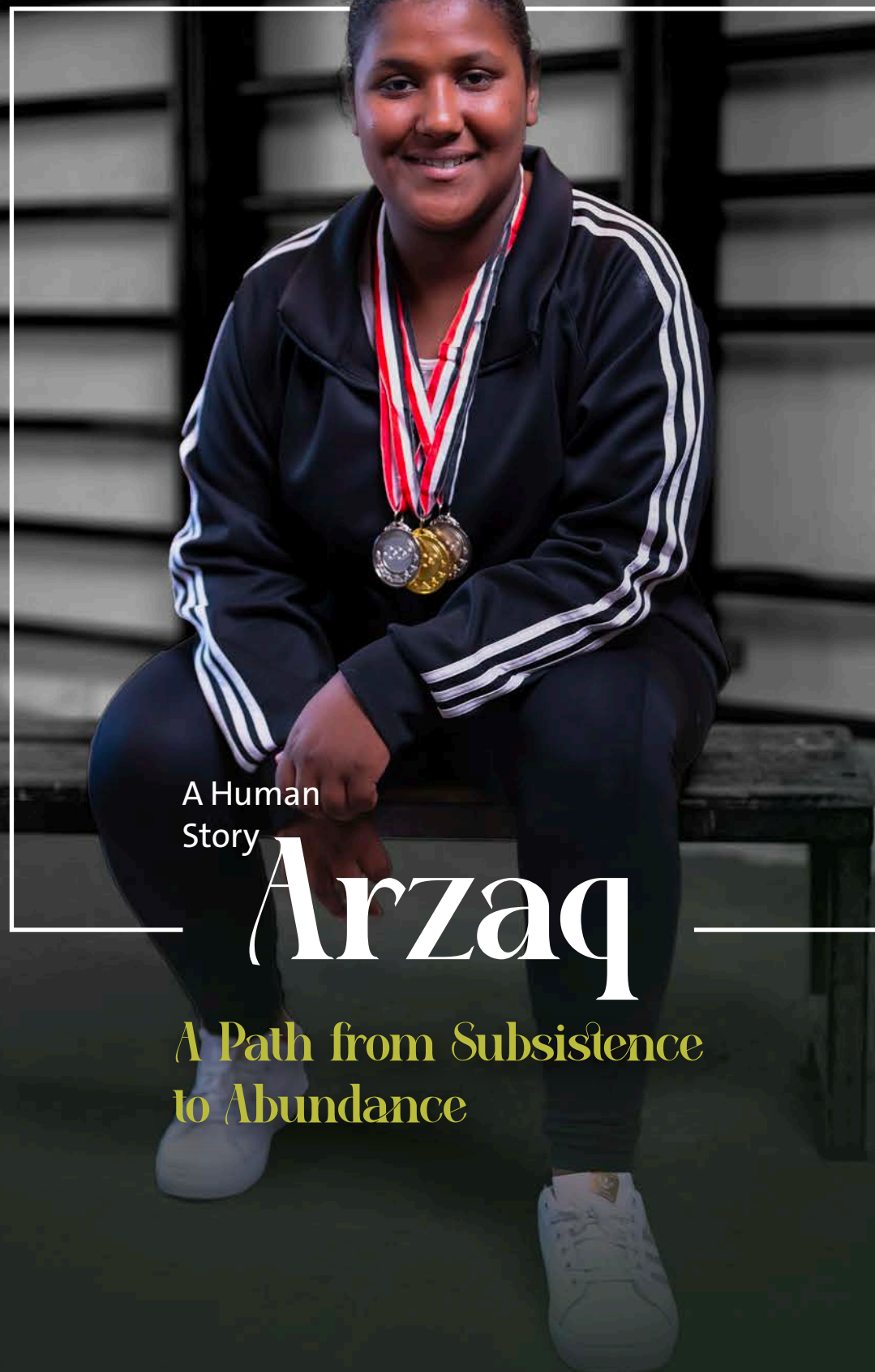
samusocialInternational Egypte  
سامو سوشيال انترناسيونال مصر

In partnership with



Greater Cairo





A Human  
Story

# Arzaq

A Path from Subsistence  
to Abundance

On a cold winter night, eight-year-old Arzaq stood silently in the corner of a wide public square, watching other children play joyfully with their parents. Her small eyes shimmered with wonder as she watched a girl twirling with delight, clutching a brand-new doll, and a boy nestled warmly in his family's embrace, sharing a warm meal. In silence, Arzaq's thoughts drifted: Do these children have warm homes? Do they have rooms of their own? Do they feel safe and cared for? She, on the other hand, had no shelter but the pavement, and no refuge except the corner she had chosen to rest her exhausted body.

Arzaq is a child of unknown parentage, homeless since birth, save for the streets and public squares. Deprived of the warmth of a family and denied even the most basic rights of childhood, she learned from her earliest days that life had little to offer beyond hardship. Every day, she struggled for food and fought against the cruel stares of strangers that made her feel like a shadow, undeserving of existence. Her dark skin made her the target of ridicule and bullying. Fate had other plans for her.

One day, a mobile unit from the Banati Foundation was making rounds, and a social worker caught sight of Arzaq. She was carrying a cardboard box filled with tissue packets and knocking on car windows to ask for food. The caseworker gently approached her, asked about her story, and tried to reassure her with kindness. Arzaq looked at her with suspicion, silently wondering,

"Is this real?" Despite her hesitation, she decided to go with her. That decision marked the beginning of her new life.

In 2017, Arzaq joined the Banati Foundation, starting her journey. While her education had previously been a distant dream, the foundation supported her to enroll in a community school and a psychosocial rehabilitation program that helped her overcome her fears. It wasn't long before she began to shine: she completed primary school in less than four years and transitioned to formal education at the preparatory level. Today, she is in the third year of preparatory school, and is among the top of her class.

Arzaq also joined the swimming team, taking on new challenges. She quickly rose to become one of the team's strongest athletes, earning several trophies, like the Cairo Winter Championship for two consecutive years (2023 and 2024), as well as the national championship title in 2023.

Today, Arzaq stands as a living example of determination and willpower. She no longer dwells on her painful past; she looks proudly toward her future. She dreams of becoming a world swimming champion so that her story might reach every child who has endured what she once did. She says "Believe in your strength. Start from where you are. Know that you have the power to achieve the impossible—no matter the circumstances." The little girl, once left to face life alone, has become a radiant symbol of resilience and success.





# Economic Empowerment Sector

The Economic Empowerment Sector aims to bridge the gap between labor supply and demand in the Egyptian job market, particularly in marginalized communities in the poorest governorates. This is achieved by implementing development programs that target both current and potential job seekers, as well as existing and aspiring entrepreneurs.

## Sector Performance | 2024



54

EGP Million  
In Investments



13

Ongoing  
Projects



+3850

Beneficiaries



# Sector Objectives According to 2023 - 2028 Strategy



Empowering  
**20,000**

Poor families to increase their income to cover their basic needs

**%29.7**

Achieved by the end of 2024



## Strategic Objectives of Economic Empowerment Sector by Thematic Program



**Training and Employment Program**

**5,000**

Trainees have successfully secured decent job opportunities



**Developing Small Enterprises Program**

**15,000**

Poor families have successfully launched income-generating businesses



## Training and Employment Program

The program aims to equip Egypt's most vulnerable communities with the technical skills needed to secure decent job opportunities. It falls under the Foundation's economic empowerment strategy, which seeks to reduce multidimensional poverty by funding projects that provide accredited and high-quality training programs to job seekers, enabling them to secure sustainable, dignified jobs that can increase their income and alleviate poverty.

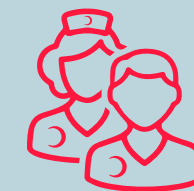
### Key Projects

#### Benaa



Now in its second phase, BENAA project aims to expand employment opportunities for young women and men in the field of care work for the elderly and those with chronic illnesses.

### Project Achievements in 2024



159

Trainees were employed in the care sector either in healthcare facilities or as companion nurses for elderly people, bringing the total number of individuals employed through the project to

959



303

Trainees received first aid, elderly care, and life skills training to enter the labor market, bringing the total number of individuals trained since the start of the project to

1269

Implemented in collaboration with



Directorate of Health Affairs in Assiut



Assiut - Sohag



## Key Program Achievements in Other Projects

### Aswan Jewelery

97

**Trainees**  
received skills training  
in loom beading and  
jewelry making,  
bringing the total  
number of project  
trainees to  
**180**

69

**Trainees**  
were employed

57

**Trainees**  
launched their  
self-funded projects

In partnership with



Implemented in collaboration with



Aswan

Yasmine Hossam – One of the project's beneficiaries

## Uplift 4 Upper Egypt



Implemented in collaboration with



14

Upper Egyptian startups participated in  
the Gemini Accelerator and received  
technical support and opportunities for  
market linkages



Assiut - Sohag - Qena  
Luxor - Aswan

## Improving the Production and Value Chain of Tomato Farming



In partnership with



Implemented in collaboration with



97



Trainees received skills  
development training in  
tomato post-harvesting

60



Trainees were employed  
after the training



Luxor



A Human  
Story

# Abeer

From Aspiration to Vocation

In the heart of Mansheat Al-Iqal Al-Bahary village in Assiut, lives Abeer, a 32-year-old woman who shares a modest rural home with nine members of her family. Raised in a conservative community where rigid social norms restrict women's roles and divorce carries unforgiving stigma, Abeer refused to see herself through society's narrow lens. Since childhood, she carried a quiet dream that lit something inside her: to become a nurse.

From a young age, she was known in her village as "Dr. Abeer," and the dream of joining nursing school accompanied her every step, but life had other plans. A series of devastating losses shook her world: first, the death of her eldest brother from brain atrophy; then, the passing of her sister to the same illness. A third tragedy followed when her youngest sister died from a bee sting while in North Sinai. In the face of such sorrow, Abeer's dreams stopped; she had no choice but to enroll in a commercial secondary school.

After graduation, she worked as a receptionist at a private hospital. There, her dream awakened, bringing with it renewed hope. However, that spark was soon dimmed by yet another hardship: a marriage that lasted less than a year, ending with Abeer returning to her village as a single mother to her young daughter, Hanin. There, she was met not with compassion, but with the harsh judgment of a society quick to condemn.

Despite the stares and judgment, Abeer started over with a modest job at an accessories shop,

Despite the stares and judgment, Abeer started over with a modest job at an accessories shop, earning no more than EGP 500 a month to carve out a better future for herself and her daughter. During that period, a marriage proposal stirred a brief sense of renewed hope. But once again, life took an unexpected turn: the suitor disappeared without explanation, even after the marriage contract had been signed. The label of "divorced" returned— but this time, it did not break her. On the contrary, her spirit grew more resilient, her resolve deepened, and her sense of self became stronger than ever.

Abeer made a conscious choice to rise above her circumstances. She enrolled in a caregiving and elder support training program, implemented by the Giving Without Limits (GWLA) Association with funding from the Sawiris Foundation. In this program, she found not only a valuable opportunity but also a space to unlock her potential. She worked hard and excelled, earning an accredited certificate from the Faculty of Medicine at Assiut University.

This milestone marked a profound turning point in Abeer's life. She began working as an elderly caregiver, and over time, both her financial and social circumstances improved. More importantly, she regained her confidence and the courage to dream once more. "I lived under the pressure of a harsh society, but the program gave me a new family. It taught me how to live independently and fight for myself and my daughter."



## Small Enterprise Development Program

The program aims to support small business owners who operate independently by helping them establish or manage small enterprises—or both. This support may take the form of in-kind or financial assistance to help them meet their basic needs.



Samah Mohamed Mansour

### Key Projects

#### New Vision: Micro-equity Funding Impact Assessment

The project provides micro-equity loans in the form of in-kind assets tailored to meet the needs of diverse microcredit-eligible groups. It builds on a piloted approach that underwent a randomized evaluation for measuring impact.

#### Key Project Achievements in 2024:

900  Livestock  
Herders

received a range of comprehensive support services to establish their own micro-enterprises

Implemented in collaboration with



Research Partner



Assiut



Fatma Abdel Aal and her family



Ahmed Mohamed Farghaly

The initiative now undertakes a study comparing interest-accruing loans with participatory financing schemes. This research examines how these distinct financial modalities influence decision-making, investment behavior, agricultural productivity, and household income among livestock herders in Egypt.



Fatma Mahmoud and her family



## Key Program Achievements in Other Projects:



### Income Development and the Transition from Informal to Formal Economy

3720 

#### Beneficiaries

received financial support—including loans and grants—to improve their livelihoods and were integrated into formal economic pathways through six SFSD-supported projects

### Administrative and Technical Capacity Building

440 

Small and micro-enterprise owners received technical skill development training

1846 

Small and micro-enterprise owners received administrative training

#### Program Partners



#### Implementing Partners

Small Projects Development Association (SPDA) in Fayoum  
The Family and Environmental Development Association in Qena (FEDA)  
The Family Development Foundation  
The Assiut Business Women Association (ABWA)  
The Nag' Saba' Community Development Association  
REDC for Sustainable Development  
The Upper Egypt Association for Education and Development (AUEED)  
The Islamic Charitable Society for Community Development in Abnoub  
The Fekra Association for Education and Development



# Education & Scholarships Sector

The Education and Scholarships Sector remains firmly dedicated to alleviating multidimensional poverty by supporting students in Egypt's most underserved governorates and enabling their access to high-quality educational opportunities. These programs are purposefully crafted to foster advanced skills, enhance learning outcomes, and broaden students' prospects—laying the foundation for a brighter and more secure future.

In parallel, this sector is deeply invested in nurturing the next generation of change agents by offering transformative educational experiences that unlock their full potential and catalyze meaningful progress in their lives and communities. By harnessing a dynamic and diverse network of partners—including government ministries, private sector actors, civil society organizations, and research institutions—we aim to deliver rigorously designed, evidence-based programs that strive to deliver sustainable and transformative impact.

## Sector Performance | 2024



289  
EGP Million  
In Investments



32  
Ongoing  
Projects



+6600  
Beneficiaries



# Sector Objectives According to 2023 - 2028 Strategy

## Scholarship Programs



Strengthen the qualifications and competencies of

600

Individuals across technical education, higher education, and executive leadership

%22.6

Achieved by the end of 2024



## Education Programs



Improve learning outcomes of

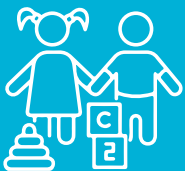
46,000

Poor and extremely poor students

%16.7

Achieved by the end of 2024

## Strategic Objectives of the Education and Scholarships Sector by Thematic Program



### Training and Employment Program

Provide

30,000

children aged 2 to 4 years with access to early childhood education and development services



### Training and Employment Program

Ensure that

15,000

Elementary school-aged students benefit from high-quality educational services



### Training and Employment Program

Equip

1,000

technical education graduates with the skills and qualifications required to access meaningful employment opportunities



## Key Milestones in 2024

### AUC Dedicates Its Business School as the Onsi Sawiris School of Business



The American University in Cairo (AUC) has officially renamed its School of Business the Onsi Sawiris School of Business, in honor of the late Onsi Sawiris—celebrating his extraordinary legacy and the school's longstanding tradition of academic excellence and distinction.

This historic renaming follows a landmark philanthropic gift from the Sawiris family, including the Nassef Sawiris Foundation, Naguib Sawiris Charity Foundation, Naguib Samih Sawiris, Sawiris Foundation for Social Development (SFSD), and Orascom Construction.



Representing the largest donation in AUC's history, this contribution underscores a deep and enduring commitment to expanding access to quality education and fostering visionary leadership in the field of business— ushering in a new era for business education in Egypt, the region, and beyond.





## Third Edition of Chicago Booth Executive Education Program Launched in El Gouna

The Chicago Booth Executive Education Program—the first of its kind in Egypt—continues to serve as a dynamic platform for advancing impactful collaboration between the public and private sectors in support of Egypt’s national development agenda and economic resilience. Addressing a broad range of critical themes—including financial technology, artificial intelligence (AI), leadership, innovation, and strategic decision-making—the program provides full scholarships for public sector participants and partial scholarships for private sector executives, ensuring inclusive access and broad participation.



In 2024, the program launched its third edition in El Gouna, convening 50 senior leaders from across the public and private sectors for a rigorous 14-day experience. Designed to enhance strategic thinking, informed leadership, and effective decision-making, the program combines traditional instruction with experiential learning—engaging participants in real-world problem-solving with a particular focus on the complexities and opportunities of emerging markets.

Since its inception, the program has delivered an exceptional educational experience across three consecutive editions, graduating 150 senior executives from both sectors. It continues to make a meaningful contribution to building leadership capacity and advancing sustainable economic development in Egypt.







ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC  
London



Community  
Jameel



GEM  
EXPERIENCE

# موهبة MAWHEBA



SUPPORTING EMERGING  
MUSICAL TALENT IN EGYPT

دعم المواهب الموسيقية  
الناشئة في مصر

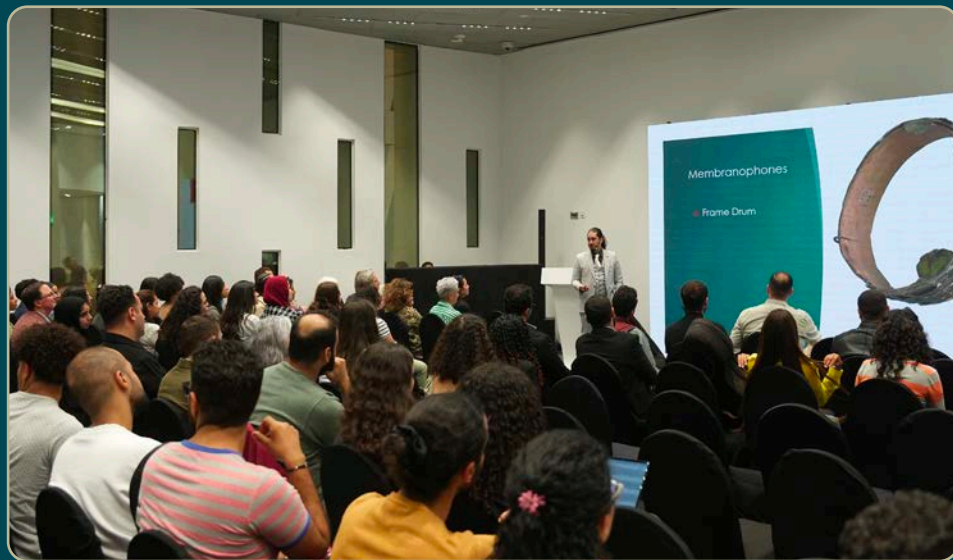


A remarkable three-day journey unfolded at the Grand Egyptian Museum in Cairo, where aspiring musical talents from across Egypt gathered to participate in the Mawheba workshop. Under the guidance of esteemed faculty from the Royal College of Music in London, the program delivered an exceptional, world-class educational experience. Participants immersed themselves in the disciplines of classical singing and string performance through personalized mentoring, intensive masterclasses, and dynamic panel discussions, led by some of the world's most acclaimed music educators.

Delivered in partnership with Community Jameel, the Royal College of Music in London, and the Grand Egyptian Museum, Mawheba provided young musicians with a transformative opportunity to refine their craft, expand their artistic vision, and engage with the highest standards of musical excellence.









## The Early Childhood Education Program

The Early Childhood Education Program is dedicated to advancing awareness of the critical importance of preschool education and its foundational role in shaping early childhood development. At its core, the program focuses on expanding access to early learning opportunities, introducing high-quality, age-appropriate educational services, and enhancing parental understanding of the developmental needs and characteristics unique to early childhood.



## Key Projects

### Enhanced Access to Early Childhood Education

This initiative aims to strengthen early childhood systems through a holistic and integrated approach. Its core components include upgrading the physical infrastructure of early childhood learning facilities, building the professional capacity of caregivers, and empowering mothers to participate more fully in the workforce. Simultaneously, the initiative promotes child nutrition through the distribution of food baskets to preschool-aged children—ensuring a well-rounded foundation for both early cognitive development and overall well-being.

#### Project Achievements in 2024:



Beni Suef  
Minya  
Assuit

Enhanced the learning environment of

13



Kindergarten facilities in Beni Suef, benefiting

649



Children, through the provision of age-appropriate furniture and educational materials.

Delivered positive parenting education sessions to

421



Families of enrolled children, enabling home environments that reinforce early development and learning outcomes.

Distributed

1160



Monthly food baskets to the families of enrolled and prospective children, bolstering household food security and encouraging preschool enrollment



ORASCOM  
CONSTRUCTION

unicef



بنك الطعام  
المصري  
الطعام أساس الحياة

J-PAL  
ABDUL LATIF JAMEEL POVERTY ACTION LAB  
MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

Housing & Development Bank  
بنك التعمير والإسكان

To rigorously assess its effectiveness, the initiative is undergoing a randomized controlled trial (RCT)—widely regarded as the gold standard in program evaluation. This assessment is designed to measure the impact of improved kindergarten quality and targeted nutritional support on early childhood development outcomes, as well as on women's participation in the labor force in Egypt.



## The Basic Education Program

The rising cost of public education remains a serious barrier for Egyptian families living in extreme poverty. Field-based observations have consistently revealed the inability of many households to afford school enrollment fees, rendering their children vulnerable to early dropout and long-term educational marginalization.

To help mitigate this critical challenge, the Basic Education Program offers merit-based scholarships that grant students access to primary education and support them in pursuing diverse academic trajectories—whether toward higher education or technical and vocational training. Simultaneously, this program supports the establishment and advancement of community-based schools in underserved regions, while investing in the professional development of educators to elevate the overall quality of instruction.

## Key Projects

### Teaching at the Right Level (TaRL)

The current phase of the “Teaching at the Right Level” (TaRL) projects is dedicated to strengthening foundational literacy and numeracy skills among approximately 6,000 primary school students in Sohag. As part of a broader national strategy to enhance educational quality in marginalized areas, this initiative plays a pivotal role in strengthening learning outcomes at the foundational level.

## Project Achievements in 2024:

The program marked a major milestone with the successful localization and adaptation of the TaRL methodology. This milestone involved the development of contextually tailored instructional guides, customized educational materials, comprehensive implementation frameworks, and detailed operational timelines.

The project was formally launched with the enrollment of

2,500 

Students



Assuit - Sohag

Implemented by



In partnership with





## Technical & Vocational Education Program

The Technical and Vocational Education Training (TVET) Program is dedicated to cultivating a new generation of highly skilled and competent technical professionals. Through the provision of scholarships, TVET enables students to enroll in premier technical schools and institutes across Egypt—including institutions established and managed by the Foundation itself.

In tandem, SFSD remains committed to documenting and disseminating the knowledge, methodologies, and best practices developed through its initiatives, with the aim of promoting scalable and impactful models within the technical education sector. In addition, TVET endeavors to guide students toward high-quality vocational education pathways that offer strong prospects for gainful employment and long-term career development.

### SFSD Educational Institutions

#### German Hotel School El Gouna (GHS)



GHS is Egypt's first private international institution dedicated to hospitality education. Accredited at the highest level by the German Chamber of Industry and Commerce and recognized by the Egyptian Ministry of Education, it offers a certified hotel diploma that combines academic rigor with real-world industry relevance.

GHS follows a dual vocational education model that integrates theoretical instruction with hands-on practical training, delivered under the guidance of both Egyptian and international industry experts. This model is implemented in collaboration with leading hotels across the Red Sea region, equipping students with the skills required to meet the evolving demands of the global hospitality sector.

Students are admitted upon successful completion of preparatory school and are granted partial scholarships or full scholarships. GHS features state-of-the-art classrooms and fully-equipped training laboratories, delivers advanced curricula grounded in experiential learning and hands-on instructional methodologies, and provides high-quality boarding accommodations.



### Key Milestones In 2024

- A landmark cooperation protocol was signed between the Leipzig Chamber of Industry and Commerce, SFSD, and GHS, with the aim of expanding employment opportunities for graduates in Germany.
- Ahmed Hamdy, a student at the school, achieved first place nationwide in Egypt's three-year hotel diploma program—an outstanding accomplishment that reflects the school's commitment to academic excellence.
- A strategic partnership with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) was successfully concluded, contributing to the enhancement of the school's educational infrastructure and furthering efforts to promote women's employment in the tourism and hospitality sectors.

27



Students

graduated from the school in 2024

1000



Students

have graduated from GHS since SFSD assumed its management





## Key Milestones in 2024

A+

Ranked in the A+ category among private higher education institutes by the Ministry of Higher Education—an affirmation of its academic excellence and institutional distinction

99



Nurses

graduated as part of the 2023/2024 cohort

400



Nurses

have graduated since the institute's establishment

## El Gouna Technical Nursing Institute (GTNI)

Established in 2009 by SFSD, GTNI is recognized as one of Egypt's foremost institutions for technical nursing education. It was founded through an international academic partnership with Lawrence Memorial/Regis College in Massachusetts, USA (2009–2017), and operates under the supervision of the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research.

GTNI is equipped with state-of-the-art facilities and cutting-edge educational technologies, including fully equipped laboratories, providing students with a rigorous and comprehensive academic experience. Its curriculum blends theoretical coursework with practical, hands-on training, effectively preparing students to meet the demands of professional nursing practice.

Through SFSD, full scholarships are offered to eligible high school graduates, with admissions administered and processed through Egypt's national placement system. The academic program spans two and a half years of combined theoretical and clinical instruction, culminating in a mandatory hospital-based internship—a prerequisite for earning the technical nursing diploma.





## Red Sea Yacht (RSY) Institute



Established in 2023 under License No. (1) Issued by the Egyptian Authority for Maritime Safety, the Red Sea Yacht (RSY) Institute is Egypt's first specialized training institution dedicated exclusively to professional yachting. With international accreditation from the Royal Yachting Association (RYA) in the United Kingdom, RSY is positioned at the vanguard of maritime education and training in the region.

Each year, the Institute offers a select number of fully funded scholarships designed to equip aspiring yacht crew members with the skills and certifications required to obtain the prestigious Yachtmaster Certificate for vessels up to 300 tons. Scholarship recipients benefit from an intensive, fully integrated training program that includes:



**Mandatory maritime coursework** at the Maritime Postgraduate Studies Institute in Alexandria, qualifying participants to obtain a national seafaring license.



**Certification from RSY**, enabling graduates to obtain a Yachtmaster license from the Egyptian Authority for Maritime Safety, authorizing them to operate within Egypt's territorial waters.



**Certified training in maritime ethics and environmental stewardship** delivered by Rayzem.



**Internationally recognized credentials** from the Royal Yachting Association (UK), facilitating access to employment aboard international yachts.



**Accredited English language certification** from Berlitz.

Since its founding and through the end of 2024

**84**

Students have enrolled

**30**

Successfully graduated from the program

In collaboration with



مدرسة  
أنسي ساويرس  
للتكنولوجيا  
التطبيقية  
والإنشاءات

**ONSI SAWIRIS**  
APPLIED TECHNOLOGY &  
CONSTRUCTION SCHOOL



In 2024, the Onsi Sawiris School for Applied Technology and Construction proudly welcomed its inaugural cohort of students. Established to develop a highly skilled technical workforce in the finishing and construction trades, the school operates within a robust institutional framework, awarding an Egyptian diploma calibrated to internationally recognized quality benchmarks.

Alongside a rigorous academic curriculum, students engage in extensive, hands-on training integrated throughout their studies. Upon graduation, they are offered job placement opportunities—underscoring the school's commitment to applied learning and industry integration.

This forward-looking initiative is closely aligned with Egypt's national vision to enhance the quality of technical education and expand its impact on workforce preparedness, ensuring that graduates possess the knowledge, competencies, and confidence needed to thrive in a dynamic labor market.

In partnership with





## Higher and Executive Education Program

These scholarships enable outstanding students to pursue undergraduate and graduate degrees across a broad spectrum of academic disciplines, while also supporting executive education programs tailored for leaders in both the public and private sectors. To help students access these competitive opportunities, SFSD invests in preparatory initiatives for high school students, equipping them with the academic foundation required for admission to top-tier national and international institutions. Aligned with its strategic plan, SFSD remains deeply committed to expanding access to quality higher education for exceptional students from disadvantaged backgrounds, while continually advancing the scope and impact of its scholarship offerings.


### Flagship Scholarship Programs | 2024



Kenzy Daa, Ahmed Mohamed, and Aseel El-Fareed — recipients of the 2024 Onsi Sawiris Undergraduate Scholarship — pictured alongside Eng. Osama Bishai, member of SFSD Board of Trustees and CEO of Orascom Construction

### Onsi Sawiris Scholarship Program (OSSP)


OSSP is a prestigious, fully funded program that offers exceptional Egyptian students the opportunity to pursue undergraduate and master's degrees at world-renowned universities in the United States. At the undergraduate level, the scholarship supports studies in high-demand fields such as engineering, economics, finance, and management. For graduate students, it offers funding for advanced degrees in engineering and business administration (MBA).

99  Students have been granted the scholarship since 2000



### Yousriya Loza Sawiris Scholarship (YLSS)

YLSS supports exceptional Egyptian students in pursuing a Master's Degree in Development Practice at the Hubert H. Humphrey School of Public Affairs, University of Minnesota, USA. This distinguished program is designed to equip graduate students with the interdisciplinary knowledge and practical skills required to effectively navigate and address today's complex global development challenges—including poverty, population dynamics, public health, environmental sustainability, climate change, and the protection of human rights.


20  Students have been granted the scholarship since 2016

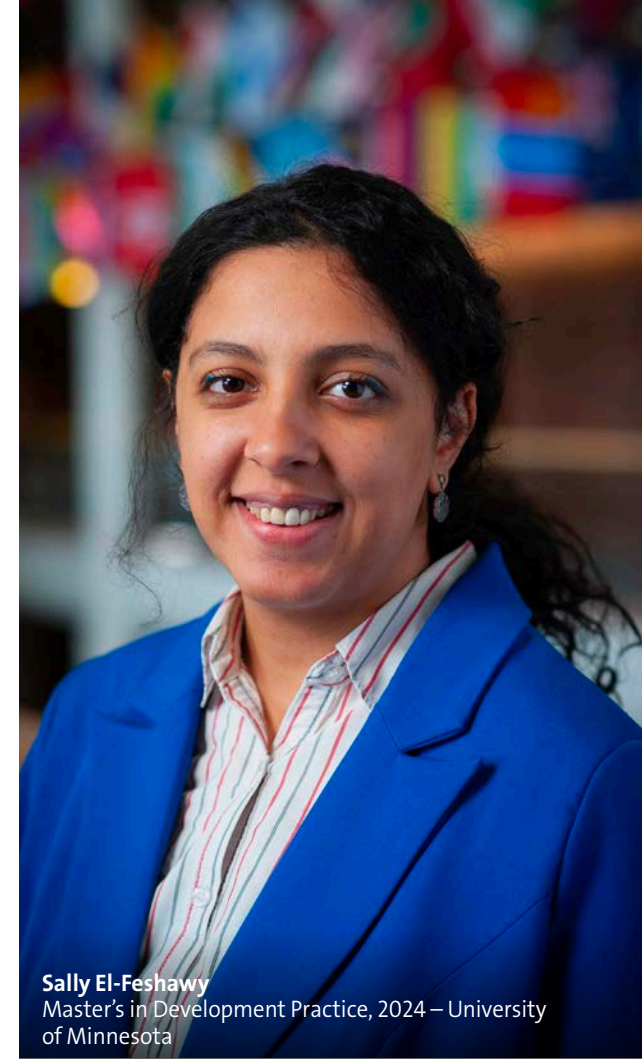


### Sawiris Arts and Culture Scholarship (SACS)



SACS offers exceptional emerging artists fully funded opportunities to pursue undergraduate or master's degrees, or to engage in artistic residencies, in the fields of visual arts, performing arts, film studies, or music. By granting access to some of the world's most prestigious universities and art institutions, the scholarship nurtures creative potential and empowers recipients to refine their artistic practice on a global scale.

12  Students have been granted the scholarship since 2019



Sally El-Feshawy  
Master's in Development Practice, 2024 – University of Minnesota



Youssef Basseer – Bachelor of Music, 2024  
Royal Conservatoire of Scotland



Sawiris Distinction Scholarship (SDS)

SDS is a prestigious, fully funded program designed to expand access to high-quality higher education for approximately 60 outstanding Egyptian students each year—including high-achieving students with disabilities. The program offers a transformative academic experience at a select group of top-tier Egyptian universities, with a focus on disciplines critical to Egypt’s sustainable development and economic advancement.

The scholarship is structured around two distinct tracks:



High-Achieving Students with Disabilities Track

180 Students have been granted this track of the scholarship since 2018

General High School Education Track

60 Students have been granted this track of the scholarship since 2021

Partner Universities

High-Achieving Students with Disabilities Track

General High School Education Track

Managed in collaboration with ASPIRE YOUTH EMPLOYABILITY AND EMPowerMENT

SFSD Higher Education Scholarship Programs

SFSD remains steadfast in its commitment to supporting and closely monitoring the academic journeys of **over 300** students currently enrolled in a diverse portfolio of higher education scholarship programs—both in Egypt and abroad.



Scholarships	Degree	Disciplines	Country
Onsi Sawiris Scholarship Program (OSSP)	Bachelor's Degree Master's Degree	Engineering, Economics, Finance, Management Business Administration, Engineering	 In collaboration with Administered by
Yousriya Loza-Sawiris Scholarship (YLSS)	Master's Degree	Development Practice	In collaboration with UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
Sawiris Arts & Culture Scholarship (SACS)	Bachelor's Degree Master's Degree Artistic Residencies	Visual Arts, Performing Arts, Film Industry, and Music	Global with focus on Europe and North America.
Sawiris Distinction Scholarship for Public High School Graduates	Bachelor's Degree	Engineering, Sciences, Information Technology, Economics and Political Science, Business, Media, Law, Agriculture, Nursing	 Administered by
Sawiris Distinction Scholarship for Students with Disabilities	Bachelor's Degree	Various disciplines offered by partner institutions	 Arab Academy for Science, Technology & Maritime Transport
Sawiris–DAAD Scholarship	Bachelor's degree (with the possibility of a subsequent scholarship for a master's degree)	All academic disciplines (excluding medicine)	In collaboration with  DAAD Egypt
Scholarship for Preparatory Year	Bachelor's Degree	Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics (STEM), and German Language	In collaboration with
Sawiris Scholarship for Scientific Research in Stem Cells	Scientific Research	Stem Cell Science	In collaboration with




# Learning & Strategy Sector

The Learning & Strategy Sector serves as a cornerstone for SFSD architecture—advancing its development mission and amplifying the long-term impact of its interventions. Anchored in a philosophy that champions knowledge generation, rigorous inquiry, and evidence-based decision-making, this sector operates through five seamlessly integrated components that collectively ensure the effectiveness and long-term sustainability of SFSD’s efforts.

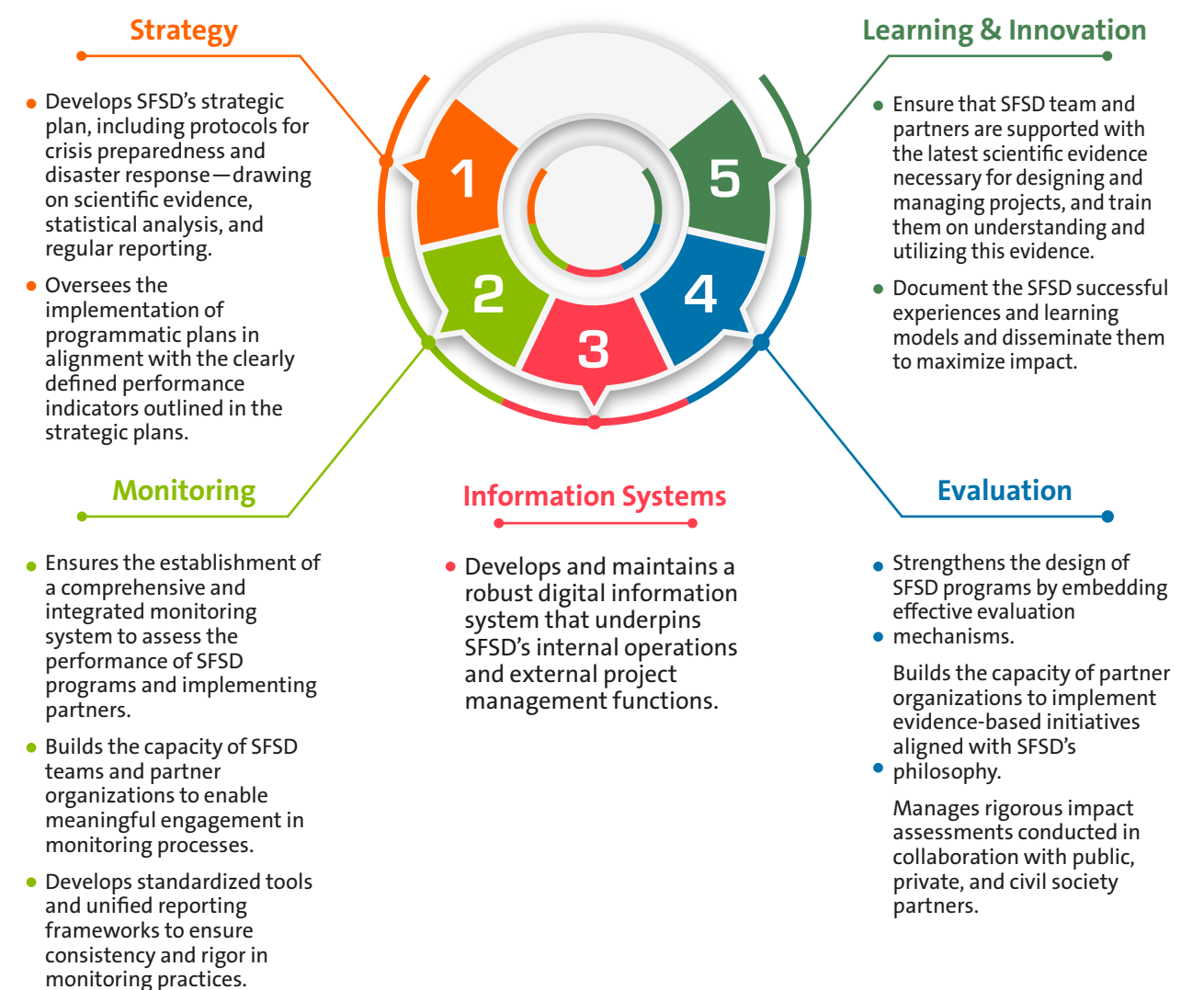
L&S Sector emphasizes the development of learning frameworks and performance metrics. Its core responsibilities include program design, systematic documentation and dissemination of lessons learned, technical oversight, and promotion of public policy grounded in data-driven insights. In addition, L&S undertakes comprehensive needs assessments, spearheads tailored capacity-building initiatives, and manages the ongoing evolution of SFSD’s digital information infrastructure.

Equally integral to its mandate is the continuous monitoring of SFSD’s portfolio—identifying effective models, capturing institutional learning, and proactively addressing persistent challenges. L&S also leads the Foundation’s knowledge management agenda, represents SFSD in academic and professional settings, forges strategic partnerships, and fosters a culture of critical reflection and adaptive learning.

## Sector Objectives According to 2023 - 2028 Strategy

Building the capacities of **190**  Implementing partners, through intensive training programs, to enable them to deliver effective programs within the most underserved and marginalized communities.

### The Learning & Strategy Sector is structured around five principal components:





## Key Projects

### Egypt Impact Lab

Egypt Impact Lab (EIL) was launched to support Egypt's poverty reduction policy agenda through the rigorous evaluation of innovative, government-led programs. EIL funds randomized evaluations of government innovations across its core thematic areas, which include:

- 1 Social protection and poverty alleviation
- 2 Employment generation and support for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)
- 3 Women's empowerment and family development
- 4 Environment, energy, and climate change

In January 2024, EIL hosted the second iteration of the Social Program Evaluation Training at the American University in Cairo (AUC). This intensive, three-day program convened 54 participants from government institutions, development organizations, and donor agencies. Through applied learning, the workshop equipped participants with the practical skills necessary to design and implement randomized evaluations—furthering EIL's broader mission to promote evidence-based policymaking and strengthen the effectiveness of social development initiatives.

In 2024, EIL also launched the second cohort of the MENA Scholars Fellowship—a regional initiative designed to equip researchers across the Middle East and North Africa with the knowledge, tools, and hands-on experience required to develop and conduct high-quality randomized evaluations that inform poverty alleviation policies and advance the reform of social programs.

The Fellowship offers two tailored tracks to support researchers and scholars in their academic and professional journeys:

- **Track One** is designed for PhD candidates in economics or related disciplines. It offers early-stage academic mentorship, along with foundational training and practical exposure to evaluation methodologies.
- **Track Two** targets postdoctoral researchers and recent PhD graduates in economics or adjacent fields. This track supports their academic advancement and professional growth.

In collaboration with



## Capacity Development for Egyptian Civil Society Organizations



In partnership with CARE Egypt Foundation for Development, and as part of SFSD's ongoing commitment to empowering change agents, a long-term initiative was launched to strengthen the institutional capacities of key civil society organizations (CSOs) across Egypt.

This initiative offers robust capacity-building support—aimed at amplifying the impact and outreach of civil society efforts in Egypt's most underserved communities. At its core, the initiative aspires to enhance the quality and accessibility of civil society services, while nurturing a dynamic ecosystem capable of responding to the evolving needs of marginalized populations.

In 2024, the initiative successfully finalized and deployed a comprehensive Institutional Assessment Tool, which captured and analysed data from 120 beneficiary CSOs. Additionally, it oversaw the establishment and operationalization of new training centres across several governorates—including Cairo, Minya, Assiut, Sohag, and Qena—positioning each as a hub for localized capacity development.

Below is a summary of the operational training centres launched through this initiative:

<p><b>Civil Society Organizations Capacity Building Center (COC)</b></p>  <p><b>Governorate Qena</b></p> <p>Partner Civil Society Organization (CSO)</p> <p><b>Regional Enterprise Development Center (REDEC)</b></p> <p>More Information</p> 	<p><b>Nour: Together Center for Training</b></p>  <p><b>Governorate Assiut</b></p> <p>Partner Civil Society Organization (CSO)</p> <p><b>Together Association for Development and Environment (TAD)</b></p> <p>More Information</p> 	<p><b>Jesuit Center for Capacity Building (JCCB)</b></p>  <p><b>Governorate Minya</b></p> <p>Partner Civil Society Organization (CSO)</p> <p><b>The Jesuit and Frere Development Association</b></p> <p>More Information</p> 	<p><b>Kheir Wa Baraka Training Center</b></p>  <p><b>Governorate Cairo</b></p> <p>Partner Civil Society Organization (CSO)</p> <p><b>Khair wa Baraka and New Woman Association</b></p> <p>More Information</p> 
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## Key Milestones and Events

### Development of SFSD's Institutional Framework for Crisis Preparedness, Response, and Recovery

Crafted through close collaboration with the following global partners:



SFSD has developed its first comprehensive institutional strategic framework for crisis preparedness, response, and recovery. This framework sets forth a clear, cohesive roadmap to guide SFSD's actions during times of crisis —ensuring it remains responsive, resilient, and mission-driven.

- **Safeguard SFSD's primary beneficiaries, while reaffirming the Foundation's unwavering dedication to its values and mission during times of crisis.**
- **Integrate development, humanitarian response, and peacebuilding into a cohesive, unified strategic approach that reinforces long-term impact and sustainability.**
- **Establish a robust operational model for the timely delivery of high-impact and responsive humanitarian assistance during moments of acute need.**



### Bridging Continents: South–South Learning Exchange between Egypt and Indonesia

As part of its commitment to advancing evidence-based policymaking, SFSD took part in a high-level Egyptian delegation comprising 15 national entities—including key ministries, public councils, and development institutions—on a strategic knowledge exchange mission to Jakarta, Indonesia.

Organized by Egypt Impact Lab (EIL), the visit aimed to strengthen Egypt's knowledge systems through cultivating cross-regional partnerships and exchanging best practices between the Egyptian and Indonesian governments. The mission focused on supporting the design and implementation of effective, data-driven social protection programs rooted in evidence tailored to local contexts.

The exchange program featured site visits and high-level meetings with leading Indonesian institutions and agencies, including the Ministry of National Development Planning (BAPPENAS), the National Team for the Acceleration of Poverty Reduction (TNP2K), the Coordinating Ministry for Human Development and Cultural Affairs, and the Ministry of Social Affairs. These engagements offered valuable insights into Indonesia's nationally coordinated efforts to reduce poverty.



## Joint Events with the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UN-ESCWA)



More Information



### The Third Arab Forum for Equality

Held for the first time in Egypt, the Third Arab Forum for Equality (AFE) convened over two days under the auspices of the Ministry of Social Solidarity. This high-level forum brought together a distinguished array of regional and international actors—including the UN-ESCWA, Sawiris Foundation, Pathfinder Group, and the International Monetary Fund’s Middle East Regional Technical Assistance Center (METAC).

Against the backdrop of mounting global disruptions and interlocking crises, this high-level Forum focused on addressing the growing challenge of inequality across the Arab region. Anchored in the findings of the newly released report, “Inequality in the Arab Region: A Vicious Cycle of Crises,” the gathering served as a platform for dialogue and discussion—exploring strategic policy pathways towards fostering more inclusive, equitable, and resilient societies.



More Information



### National Launch of the “Josour” Initiative in Egypt

As part of the AFE’s activities, a dedicated session marked the national launch of the “Josour” initiative in Egypt—an effort supported by SFSD. Launched as a pilot in 2022, Josour is a digital platform designed to enhance youth employability by expanding access to job opportunities and equipping young people with the skills essential for success in today’s labor market.

Following its national rollout, two flagship events were convened in Cairo at the end of 2024 to address the evolving challenges facing youth employment. The first was a high-level policy conference that brought together experts and policymakers from Egypt and across the Global South to explore evidence-based strategies for bridging the skills gap and facilitating young people’s transition into the workforce.

The second event—a youth-centered roundtable—provided a dynamic platform for dialogue between Egyptian youth and representatives from government, the private sector, academia, and civil society. Key themes included access to employment opportunities, practical training, and the critical role of youth in shaping policy and decision-making processes.





## Bridging Evidence and Policymaking (BEP)

A collaborative seminar series developed in partnership with the Egyptian Food Bank and the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI). Conceived as a dynamic platform for participatory learning and interdisciplinary exchange, the series brings together government bodies, academic and research institutions, civil society organizations, and development partners. BEP seeks to embed data-driven approaches within Egypt's public policy ecosystem—strengthening the effectiveness and long-term impact of development efforts through open exchange and collective inquiry.

In 2024, two seminars were convened. The first, “Crises and Response – Development and Humanitarian in the MENA,” addressed the urgent imperative to integrate humanitarian response efforts with long-term development strategies—particularly in light of the overlapping crises facing the region. Discussions underscored the need for rapid, evidence-based humanitarian action that balances immediate relief with development goals.

The second seminar, “The Double Burden of Malnutrition,” examined one of the most pressing public health challenges facing Egypt today. Participants delved into the complex social, environmental, and systemic factors that contribute to malnutrition, with attention to disparities within food systems, unequal access to nutritious foods, and shifting consumption patterns. SFSD's Learning and Strategy team is developing a policy paper aimed at informing and strengthening national initiatives to reduce malnutrition across all segments of society.



## Seminar on the Impact Assessment of the General Feeding Program

SFSD, in partnership with the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) and the Egyptian Food Bank (EFB), convened a seminar to present the findings of an independent impact evaluation of the General Feeding Program. Designed to support households most vulnerable to hunger, the program provides monthly food boxes containing non-perishable food items aligned with widely preferred dietary patterns.

Conducted by IFPRI with funding from SFSD, the evaluation sought to support EFB in assessing the program's effectiveness in enhancing food security and improving nutritional outcomes among underserved populations. This collaborative initiative reflects the shared commitment of all three partners to grounding social protection and poverty alleviation efforts in rigorous scientific research and data-informed policymaking.



## Key Ongoing Impact Evaluation Studies

### Bab Amal (‘A Door of Hope’)



To evaluate the effectiveness of the poverty graduation approach, adapted from BRAC International, in improving the livelihoods of ultra-poor households in Upper Egypt. Beyond assessing the program’s outcomes, the evaluation also seeks to identify ways to enhance the intervention’s cost-effectiveness and scalability.

### Water is Life



To evaluate different strategies for providing clean water in rural Egypt, specifically by comparing filtered water from treatment units with chlorinated water solutions, to guide policymakers towards more cost-effective alternatives and improve health conditions for millions of Egyptians.

### Inclusive and Sustainable Development



To explore whether reframing employment opportunities as “volunteering” rather than “formal employment” can enhance women’s participation in the labour force and their empowerment in rural Egypt. The evaluation is embedded within a broader development program implemented in Tama District, Sohag Governorate.

### Public Nutrition



To compare a standard basic food box versus a more nutrient-rich food assistance package fortified with essential micronutrients, delivered with and without behaviour change communication, targeting female headed households. It analyzes how household demographics relate to key nutritional outcomes, including caloric intake, dietary diversity, and food insecurity levels.

### Micro-Equity



To examine how varying financial modalities—namely, interest-bearing loans versus collaborative, interest-free financing, shape decision-making processes and influence outcomes among livestock farmers in Egypt. Key dimensions of analysis include financing preferences, patterns of investment, agricultural productivity, and overall household income.

### Increasing Access to Preschool Education



To assess how expanding access to preschools, featuring high-quality infrastructure and professionally trained educators, could enhance early childhood development outcomes. In parallel, the evaluation explores how access to reliable preschool services enables women to engage more actively in socially and economically empowering activities.

## Key Blogs

### Equitable Distribution of Resources and Fair CSOs Funding

This blog explores the equitable resource allocation for civil society organizations (CSOs). It underscores how equitable support not only enhances the sustainability of these organizations but also amplifies their impact on development outcomes.



### Water is Life: Interventions to Support Healthy Water Practices for the Most Vulnerable Communities in Upper Egypt

This blog spotlights SFSD’s ongoing efforts to champion innovative and sustainable solutions for ensuring access to clean, safe water, particularly in some of the most underserved communities in Upper Egypt.



### Egyptian Nutritional Health: Insights from a Public Nutrition Program Evaluation

This blog analyzes key lessons learned from the Public Nutrition Program’s impact evaluation, highlighting the need for evidence-based food assistance interventions that are firmly grounded in scientific evidence to effectively improve nutritional outcomes.



## Key Learning Products

### Advancing Arab Philanthropic Partnerships and Collaborations

This follow-up report presents key insights from the 2023 Arab Philanthropy Forum in Cairo, bringing together over 40 philanthropic organizations. It analyzes the evolving landscape, highlights collaboration opportunities, and outlines strategic pathways to build a more inclusive, effective, and enabling ecosystem for sustainable partnerships and collective impact across the Arab world.



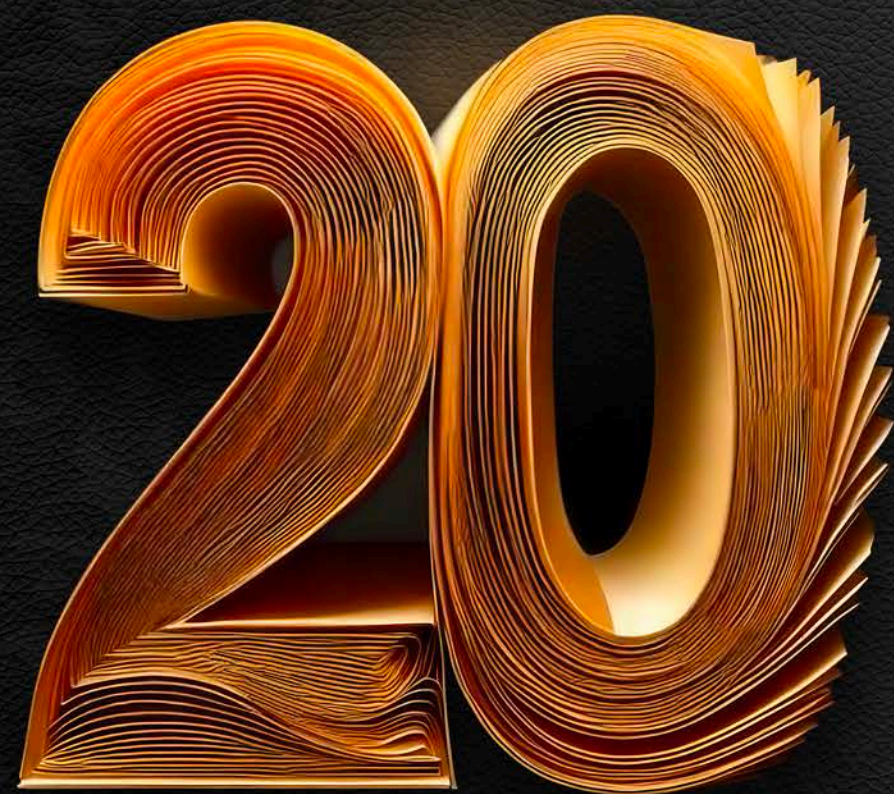
### Targeting in Development Projects in Egypt – Policy Note

This policy note captures the key outcomes of a high-level workshop convened in Cairo in October 2023, which convened researchers, development practitioners, and policymakers for an in-depth dialogue on development targeting. Held as part of the seminar series “Bridging Evidence and Policymaking (BEP),” the session focused on exploring strategies for the effective allocation of resources, grounded in the principles of social justice, equity, and the universal right to access support.





# جائزة ساويرس الثقافية



SAWIRIS CULTURAL AWARD  
EDITION 20

## 20 Years of Literary Creativity



+12,000

Literary works submitted  
over 20 years



+300

Winners



Best  
Screenplay

Established &  
Emerging Writers



Best Novel and  
Short Story  
Collection



Best Literary  
Criticism and  
Non-Fiction

Established &  
Emerging Writers



Best  
Children's Book  
for readers under  
12 years old



Best  
Playwriting



# Award Objectives According to 2023 - 2028 Strategy

To build upon its successful legacy by recognizing



Writers and Literary Figures whose contributions have meaningfully enriched Egypt's cultural landscape by the year 2028



Achieved by the end of 2024



## About the Award

For 20 years, the Sawiris Cultural Award (SCA) has held a distinguished place in Egypt's cultural landscape, serving as a reliable platform for celebrating literary and artistic excellence in all its richness and diversity. Since its launch in 2005, the Award has succeeded in building a bridge between generations of writers—paying tribute to established literary figures whose works have shaped Egypt's cultural consciousness, while amplifying the voices of emerging talents whose contemporary perspectives mirror the evolving spirit of Egyptian society.

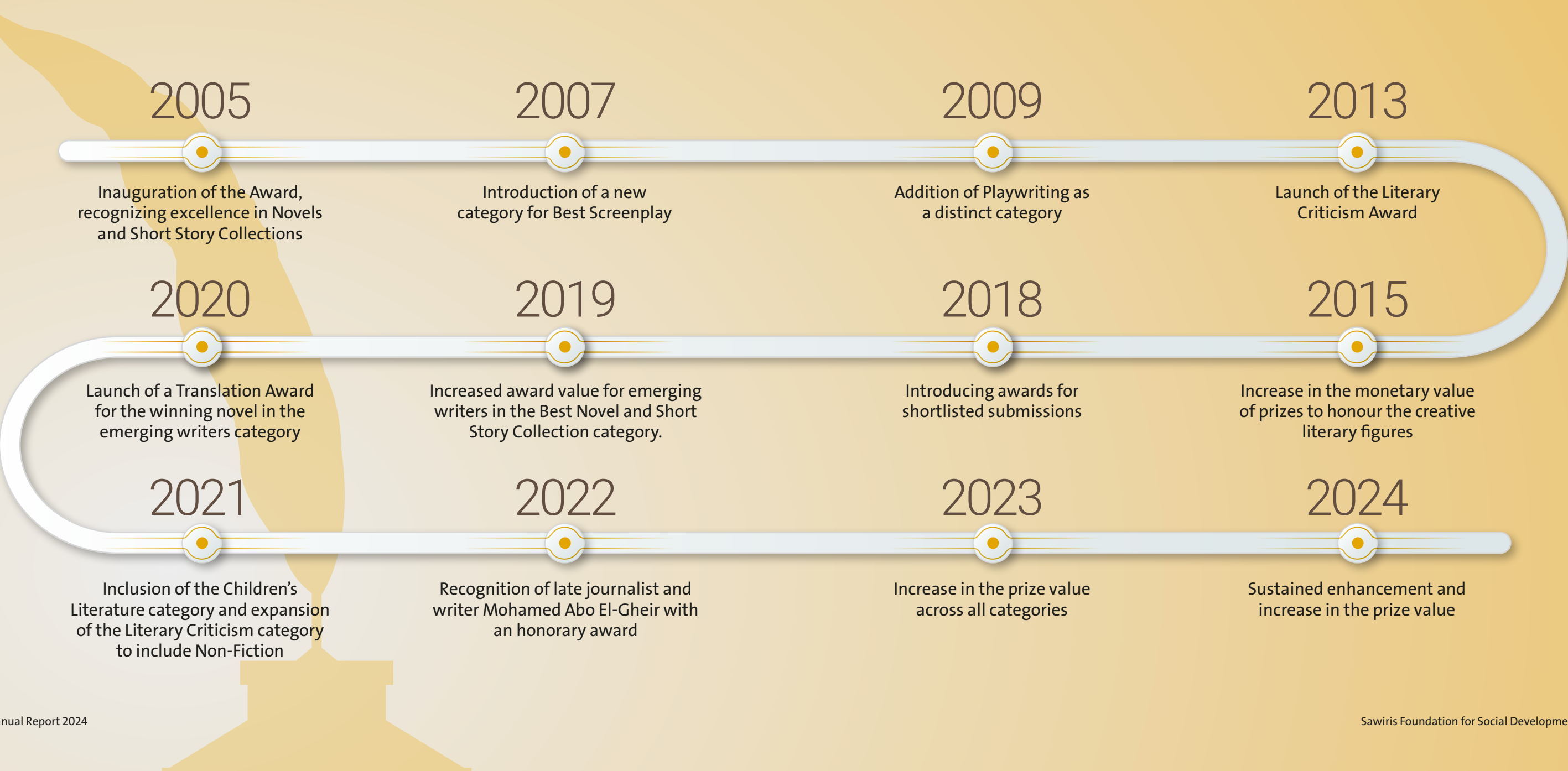
The award aims to create a safe and open space for writers to express themselves, and contribute to cultural discourse by spotlighting works that explore human and social issues with honesty and depth. Its categories span an expansive array of genres – including the novel, short story, screenplay, playwriting, literary criticism and non-fiction, and children's literature - reflecting its commitment to supporting diverse forms of literary expression and expanding their horizons.

Following two decades of giving, the Sawiris Cultural Award stands not only as framework for honouring literary excellence but also as a cornerstone of Egypt's contemporary cultural movement—advocating for the transformative power of literature and the arts as indispensable forces in shaping a more conscious, and humane society. The award will continue to perform its role as a catalyst for literary innovation and a platform that seeks to empower new generations of writers and creators, to draft new chapters that tell the history of Egypt's culture, and fulfil its aspirations.



# Key Highlights in the Award's Legacy

Over the span of two decades, the Sawiris Cultural Award has undergone a dynamic evolution—one that mirrors the vitality and aspirations of Egypt's cultural landscape. From 267 literary works submitted in its inaugural cycle to nearly 1,000 in its twentieth edition, the growth in participation stands as a powerful testament to the Award's rising stature and the literary community's growing confidence in its mission and values.





# The Twentieth Edition of Sawiris Cultural Award

## Celebrating a Legacy of Excellence

In a celebration that underscored the power of literature in shaping Egypt's cultural identity, the Sawiris Foundation held the Award Ceremony of the twentieth edition of the Sawiris Cultural Award on Wednesday, January 8, 2025. Held at the Ewart Memorial Hall, in the Tahrir Cultural Center at the American University in Cairo, the ceremony was attended by a distinguished gathering of ambassadors, intellectuals, artists, and public figures.

The ceremony was commenced by Guest of Honor, the acclaimed actress Laila Eloui, followed by opening remarks from Eng. Naguib Sawiris, Founder and Vice Chair of the SFSD's Board of Trustees and Dr. Mohamed Abou El-Ghar, member of the Sawiris Cultural Award Board of Trustees.

Honouring

14 

Writers and Literary

Figures during the Twentieth Edition of the Award

Documentary Film of the Twentieth Edition, featuring the celebrated actress Yousra



Recap of the Award Ceremony



Jury Committees and Selection Criteria



A Human Story

## Pola Tadros

From the Shortlist to the Award Spotlight



My name is Bola, I'm thirty years old. I studied engineering, but just two or three weeks into my first job, I realized it wasn't the path for me. Before applying for the Sawiris Cultural Award, I was working in advertising—and I still am today. I'm waiting for the day writing can be my sole livelihood.

The story began long ago. As children, my brother and I were obsessed with cinema. There was a video rental shop in our building, and we would borrow tapes almost daily. We watched all the films it had —Egyptian, international, Indian, European. One time we rented an Italian film with no subtitles and we still, we sat fully engrossed—laughing and crying, reacting as if we understood every word. That moment has stayed with me ever since. It was the first time I realized that art could move you even without words. I wanted to be a part of that magic, even if I still had to find my place in it.

I started writing about fifteen years ago. In the beginning, I only shared my work with a few friends—people outside the industry, but they had good taste and understanding. I understood that feedback from the wrong person can kill a promising project before it starts.

I had been following the Sawiris Cultural Award for years and the high calibre of its judges, who were big names in the field. I submitted my first screenplay during the COVID-19 lockdown—when the world was in pause and people had time to write. For me, just applying for the award was a big step in my commitment towards writing, I never imagined I would actually win.

When the results were announced, I couldn't believe it. It felt surreal. It was the first time in my life I had ever been paid for my writing. The Award was more than recognition—it was a turning point. Suddenly, people began to listen, producers took notice, my name started to carry weight. Doors I had long assumed were sealed began to open.

The screenplay that won in the Emerging Writers Category was titled Abdullah. It's inspired by deeply personal story, inspired by my uncle—a man from whom our family had grown estranged due to his difficult nature. When he ended up in a nursing home, he became terribly lonely. One day, after years of silence, he began to speak again—as though something long dormant had been awakened. It was because of a young Sudanese caregiver named Abdallah. That moment stayed with me. I kept wondering: how was it that we—his own family—could not reach him, and yet a stranger could? I decided to write the story.

The film follows a young Sudanese man who flees war and finds work in a nursing home. As he navigates his new life, he begins to connect with others, confront the traumas of his past, and gradually reclaim his sense of self. The story is about the human experience — about forgiveness, companionship, and meaning.

Abdallah was developed through the Torino Film Lab and received production awards from several prestigious institutions and festivals, including the Red Sea Fund, MBC, Rotana, Shift Studios, Canal+, and others. We are now working on the seventh draft of the script, with filming scheduled to begin in November 2025, God willing.

At present, I am working on this film and working on another one with C-Cinema. I'm also working on a new TV series with screenwriter Mariam Naoum, set to be released soon.

My hope is that opportunities in this field become accessible to anyone with talent—not just those with the right name or connections. I hope we continue to judge creative work on its merit, not by who made it. To anyone dreaming of entering this world, I would say: don't chase success. Write because you love to write, not for an award or fame. The road is long, yes—but every step will teach you, and bring you closer to yourself. It's a magical journey with many discoveries, the first of which is, who you truly are.







# Partnership Sector

The Partnerships Sector aims to mobilize current partners, and work with new partners to amplify the impact of the Sawiris Foundation's programs. This is anchored in the ethos of Sustainable Development Goal 17: "Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development." This also aligns with our firm belief that establishing partnerships and maintaining them, enriches development interventions, fosters knowledge exchange and optimizes the allocation of resources (both financial and non-financial). Our approach is grounded in the recognition that no single actor possesses all the answers.

## Sector Performance | 2024



9

New Partners



36

Active Partner supporting 45 projects



94

EGP Million in partner contributions

That is in addition to signing new commitments totaling EGP 195 million in investment to be channeled into the Foundation's projects over the coming years.



# Sector Objectives According to 2023 - 2028 Strategy



To mobilize

117

EGP Million in partner contributions to support the Foundation's development programs in 2024

%80

achieved on annual basis





## Key Contributions of the Partnerships Sector in 2024

### Signing a Memorandum of Understanding with The Agence Française de Développement (AFD) and establishing new partnerships with French and Egyptian companies.

Sawiris Foundation signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Agence Française de Développement (AFD) to launch the “Bridges of Opportunity” project. The initiative aims to support and empower 450 vulnerable children in street situations or those residing in care institutions—through a holistic and multidimensional program that integrates sports, educational, and artistic activities, as well as vocational training. The signing ceremony took place on November 17, 2024, at the French Embassy in Cairo, in the presence of representatives from the French Development Agency, Ora Developers, RATP Foundation, RATP Dev Mobility Cairo, Alexbank, and Samusocial International.

540  
Thousand Euros

The total project budget



150  
Thousand Euros

SFSD is contributing approximately



28%

accounting for the overall funding.



15  
Students

It's contributed in the form of scholarships to attend the German Hotel School in El Gouna for



This partnership builds upon a Letter of Intent signed with the same partners on July 24, 2024, in conjunction with the Paris Olympics.





## MoU Signing to Expand the Impact of Bab Amal



As part of the foundation's efforts to scale its flagship program "Bab Amal (Door of Hope)," which aims to reduce multidimensional poverty and help extremely poor families graduate out of poverty, new strategic partnerships were formed. The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) committed CHF 1 million to serve 2,800 ultra-poor households—enabling sustainable transitions out of extreme poverty. Additionally, ExxonMobil Egypt signed a second annex of the MoU previously signed, contributing an extra EGP 1 million, bringing its total investment to EGP 2,060,000 in Upper Egypt.

In partnership with

**ExxonMobil**

Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération Suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra  
Swiss Confederation  
Federal Department of Economic Affairs FDFA  
State Secretariat for Economic Affairs SECO

## MoU Signing to Uplift Startups in Upper Egypt



In line with its ongoing commitment to fostering entrepreneurship and inclusive economic growth in Upper Egypt, the foundation renewed its Memorandum of Understanding with Gemini Africa to advance the 'Gemini Upper Egypt Accelerator'—an initiative dedicated to supporting social entrepreneurship in the region, with the participation of Mars Incorporated as a partner and supporter.

This agreement forms part of the third phase of the program, which aims to empower startups, micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises in Upper Egypt through training, mentorship, and networking programs that contribute to economic empowerment and the development of the entrepreneurial ecosystem in the region.

In partnership with

**Gemini Africa** *Galaxy*



# A Special Partnership with El Gouna Film Festival: Empowering Talent and Uplifting Communities



## The Festival's Official Bag: A Symbol of Creativity and Resilience



Watch the story behind the bag



For the fourth consecutive year, El Gouna Film Festival has partnered with Sawiris Foundation for Social Development (SFSD) to produce the official festival bag—This year's edition emerged through a meaningful partnership with Tawasol, a grassroots organization dedicated to improving the lives of the residents of Istabl Antar and Ezbet Khairallah in Cairo.

The bag embodies the resilience and creativity of marginalized women and youth, offering them opportunities to improve their livelihoods. Thoughtfully designed and meticulously handcrafted, it features artisanal elements produced by women and youth from some of Cairo's most marginalized neighborhoods. Every stitch tells a story of resilience, skill, and hope, making the bag a powerful symbol of resilience and the transformative power of opportunity.



## CineGouna Emerge: Supporting Emerging Filmmakers



One of the festival initiatives supported by Sawiris Foundation, Drosos Foundation, and the Delegation of the European Union to Egypt. It aims to empower the next generation of filmmakers.

During the Festival's seventh edition, the program provided a unique opportunity for 150 emerging filmmakers, students, fresh graduates, and those interested in working in the filmmaking field to engage with film screenings, panel discussions, and training workshops. This immersive experience laid a strong foundation for their future in the world of cinema.



drosos (...)



Learn more about CineGounaEmerge





## Cities of Egypt Exhibition

The exhibition shed light on how Egypt's urban landscapes and architectural heritage have shaped the visual identity of Egyptian cinema. Through its lens, streets, neighborhoods, and public squares were reimagined as dynamic cinematic partners—telling stories steeped in history, culture, and social meaning. Renowned for its mastery of visual storytelling, Egyptian cinema has long drawn upon these evocative backdrops, which continue to inspire both local productions and international filmmakers alike, reaffirming Egypt's cities as vibrant and culturally resonant cinematic destinations.

Baladna Plateau was held as part of the seventh edition of El Gouna Film Festival, with Cairo Design District (CDD) serving as the official partner for art and design. The exhibition was supported by the Sawiris Foundation in alignment with its broader mission to foster inclusive social and economic development through strategic investment in Egypt's creative industries.

Learn more about  
the exhibition



## Celebrating Handicrafts and Heritage during the Festival



Learn more about  
SFSD Cabana



Sawiris Foundation Cabana has become a fixture of El Gouna Film Festival—an annual opportunity for the attendees of the festival to explore Egypt's finest artisanal crafts. Presented in collaboration with Tawasol, the Cabana serves as a vibrant platform exhibiting handmade products created by a selection of civil society organizations and community-based associations from across the country. This initiative is rooted in a commitment to supporting artisans, expanding market access for their creations, and promoting Egypt's diverse cultural heritage. It reflects the foundation's broader vision to preserve traditional crafts as living expressions of identity and history—while simultaneously empowering artisans socially and economically, to ensure our heritage's longevity and preservation.



## Organizing and Sponsoring New Editions of “Diarna” Exhibition

Under the auspices of the Ministry of Social Solidarity—and in collaboration with Alexbank, the European Union, and Cairo Festival City Mall, Sawiris Foundation continued its support and sponsorship of the main annual edition of the Diarna Handicrafts and Heritage Exhibition for the fourth consecutive year. The main annual edition of the exhibition was held from February 22 to March 9, 2024. Diarna serves as a vital platform to support Egyptian artisans and safeguard traditional crafts from extinction. By facilitating access to new markets and unlocking economic opportunities, the exhibition empowers craftspeople from across the country to sustain and share their cultural heritage.

Under the auspices of



In partnership with:



2024 also saw the launch of a special edition of Diarna in El-Gouna Town, held from November 29 to December 7 with the support of the foundation and Alexbank and in collaboration with El Gouna. The effort reflects a shared commitment to strengthen Egypt's creative economy and advance geographic decentralization—bringing the celebration and preservation of Egypt's living heritage to various Egyptian cities.

Under the Auspices of



In partnership with



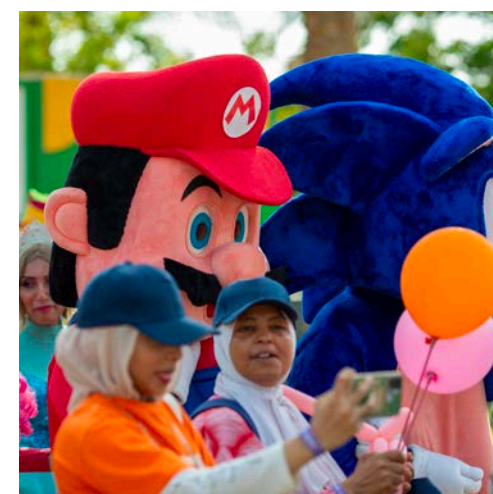


## Holding the Annual “Back to School” Celebration



Under the auspices of the Ministry of Social Solidarity, the Back to School celebration was held for the fourth consecutive year, bringing together 900 children from marginalized communities, including ten care homes and nonprofit organizations across Greater Cairo. This annual event is designed to offer psychosocial support to some of Egypt’s most

vulnerable children—including those experiencing homelessness, children without parental care, children with disabilities, and young cancer survivors. It is implemented through a partnership between the Sawiris Foundation, Alexbank, Ora Developers, Star Care Foundation, Majid Al Futtaim / Carrefour Egypt, and Samusocial International – Egypt.



Hosted at ZED Park in Sheikh Zayed City, the event featured a vibrant program of entertainment, and artistic and musical performances. This annual celebration reflects the partners’ shared commitment to empower the most vulnerable children and that investing in the well-being of children today is the foundation for a more just and equitable tomorrow.

Under the auspices of



In partnership with





# Participation in the African Philanthropy Forum



Sawiris Foundation took part in the African Philanthropy Forum (APF) 2024, hosted in Marrakech, Morocco. The gathering convened leading development practitioners, policymakers, and philanthropic leaders from across the continent.

This year’s forum was held under the theme “Accelerating Transformation through Strategic Partnerships with Governments.” Since its founding in 2014, it has been working to foster collaboration and drive knowledge exchange in addressing Africa’s development challenges.

Laila Hosny, Executive Director of Sawiris Foundation delivered a presentation highlighting the Foundation’s strategic partnerships with the Egyptian government and international development partners. She spotlighted the innovative models and practical solutions adopted by the Foundation to scale poverty alleviation programs, strengthen social protection systems, and advance sustainable development efforts.



# Participation in the French National Council for Development and International Solidarity (CNDSI)



For the third consecutive year, Sawiris Foundation sustained its active engagement with France’s National Council for Development and International Solidarity (CNDSI), serving as the sole member and representative from Egypt. This participation is part of the Foundation’s broader collaboration with the French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs and reflects its longstanding and productive partnership with the Agence Française de Développement (AFD).

Roza Abdel Malek, Director of the Partnerships Sector at SFSD, participated in the Council’s quarterly sessions, where she provided updates on the Foundation’s ongoing partnership with AFD and presented a new proposal for future collaboration in the fields of education and sports. SFSD also contributed to the Council’s ten-year performance review.





# Our Development Partners 2024

## International Partners



## Knowledge Partners



## Local Partners



## Governmental and National Partnerships





# Financial Statements

## Financial Reports and Statements

Sawiris Foundation for Social Development  
(Established in accordance with Law No. 149 of Year 2019 and its Executive Regulations)

### Statement of Financial Position

as at June 30, 2024

	30/6/2024	30/6/2023
	EGP	EGP
<b>Assets</b>		
Cash at banks	177 499 629	81 592 681
Endowment Certificates and current accounts at banks	-	100 000 000
Endowment Treasury Bills	183 390 412	108 574 896
Endowment Cash at banks	126 000 000	126 400 000
Endowment Deposits at banks	100 000 000	100 000 000
Debtors & other debit balances	8 211 409	4 951 507
Loans to Small & Micro Enterprises (SMEs) (net)	-	805 000
Fixed Assets (net)	13 739 350	14 747 862
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>608 840 800</b>	<b>537 071 946</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Creditors and other credit balances	2 904 394	2 578 718
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>2 904 394</b>	<b>2 578 718</b>
<b>Capital</b>		
The capital of the foundation	10 000	10 000
<b>Surplus</b>		
Surplus brought forward from the previous year	534 483 228	507 221 954
<b>Add:</b>		
Year's Surplus /(excess of revenues over expenses)	71 443 178	27 261 274
<b>Total Capital and surplus</b>	<b>605 926 406</b>	<b>534 483 228</b>
<b>Total liabilities , Capital and surplus</b>	<b>608 840 800</b>	<b>537 071 946</b>



Sawiris Foundation for Social Development

(Established in accordance with Law No. 149 Year 2019 and its Executive Regulations)

Statement of Revenues & Expenses

For The Financial Year Ended as at June 30, 2024

	30/6/2024	30/6/2023
	EGP	EGP
<b>Revenues</b>		
Donations from founders - unrestricted	415 274 700	314 483 450
Donations from founders - restricted	37 573 767	24 271 131
Other donations	254 160	4 212 410
Surplus refunded from projects	2 329 877	1 014 477
Interest income from Endowment deposits at banks	5 347 431	8 372 876
Interest income from Endowment Treasury Bills	21 654 056	20 387 221
Interest income on deposits - Current Accounts-unrestricted	43 573 782	13 572 128
Interest income on deposits - Current Accounts- restricted	774 926	104 128
Interest income on loans to Small & Micro Enterprises (SMEs)	-	281 925
Profit from Foreign currency Exchange differences	82 615 090	68 250 215
Profit from selling Fixed Assets	6 300	-
<b>Total revenues</b>	<b>609 404 089</b>	<b>454 949 961</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Projects and scholarships expenses-unrestricted	403 618 153	331 735 765
Projects and scholarships expenses-restricted	54 942 872	40 797 391
General & administrative expenses	28 410 425	23 677 807
Other expenses for projects and scholarships	39 418 178	30 009 672
End of service gratuity	9 803 616	-
Depreciation of fixed assets	1 767 667	1 468 052
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>537 960 911</b>	<b>427 688 687</b>
<b>Surplus /(excess of revenues over expenses)</b>	<b>71 443 178</b>	<b>27 261 274</b>

Sawiris Foundation for Social Development

(Established in accordance with Law No. 149 Year 2019 and its Executive Regulations)

Statement of Cash Flows

For The Financial Year Ended as at June 30, 2024

	30/6/2024	30/6/2023
	EGP	EGP
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>		
Donations from founders - restricted	37 573 767	314 483 450
Donations from founders - unrestricted	415 274 700	24 271 131
Other donations	254 160	4 212 410
Interest income on endowment deposits at banks	53 501 040	19 823 517
Interest income on deposits & current accounts (restricted - unrestricted)	43 736 866	11 405 268
Foreign exchange differences	82 615 090	68 250 215
Surplus refunded from projects	2 329 877	1 014 477
Interest income on loans for small projects	-	281 925
Allocated proceeds - Al - Ahram Projects	408	295
Revenus from selling Fixed Assets	6 300	-
Allocated proceeds - Springboard	72 308	47 031
Projects and scholarships expenses - unrestricted	(402 813 153)	(329 275 765)
Projects and scholarships expenses - restricted	(54 942 872)	(40 797 391)
General & administrative expenses	(28 258 174)	(19 783 969)
Other administrative expenses for projects and scholarships	(39 418 178)	(30 009 672)
End of service gratuity Settlement	(9 803 616)	-
Allocated payments - Springboard	( 475)	(128)
Allocated payments - Al Ahram projects	( 1 122)	(94)
<b>Net cash flows from operating activities</b>	<b>100 126 926</b>	<b>23 922 700</b>
<b>Cash flows from Investing activities</b>		
Payments for purchasing fixed assets	(759 155)	(1 466 951)
Downpayment for Finishing and Renwing SFSD Premises	(3 460 823)	-
Endowment -Treasury Bills Accruals	-	(126 400 000)
Endowment Deposits at banks	-	(100 000 000)
Endowment Cash at banks	-	126 400 000
<b>Net cash flows (used in) investing activities</b>	<b>(4 219 978)</b>	<b>(101 466 951)</b>
<b>Net change in cash &amp; cash equivalents</b>	<b>95 906 948</b>	<b>(77 544 251)</b>
Cash & cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	81 592 681	159 136 932
<b>Cash &amp; cash equivalents at the end of year</b>	<b>177 499 629</b>	<b>81 592 681</b>





## CHAIRWOMAN

**Mrs. Yousriya Loza-Sawiris**

Qualified Accountant & Financial Advisor

# Governance

The Board of Trustees of the Sawiris Foundation for Social Development (SFSD) is composed of thirteen members, including five representatives from the Sawiris family and seven independent members selected from among Egypt's most esteemed leaders and distinguished experts across a range of fields. The Board convenes at least four times annually, in addition to the regular meetings held by the Foundation's Executive Committee. Since 2018, the Board has been chaired by Mrs. Yousriya Loza-Sawiris.

## Board Members



### TREASURER

**Mrs. Hala Hashem**

Senior Partner at Zaki Hashem and Partners Attorneys at Law



### SECOND VICE-CHAIRMAN

**Mr. Hazem Hassan**

Chairman of Hazem Hassan Public Accountants & Consultants



### VICE-CHAIRMAN

**Eng. Naguib Sawiris**

Chief Executive Officer of Orascom Investment Holding (OIH)



### SECRETARY-GENERAL

**Ms. Taya Samih Sawiris**

Investment Manager Orascom for Hotels and Development Holding (ODH)



### CO-FOUNDER

**Ms. Mona Zulficar**

Senior Partner of Zulficar & Partner Law Firm



### CO-FOUNDER

**Mr. Nassef Sawiris**

Honorary Chairman, Orascom Construction PLC, Chief Executive Officer of Orascom Construction Industries (OCI N.V)



### CO-FOUNDER

**Eng. Samih Sawiris**

Entrepreneur and Founder of Orascom Development Holding (ODH)



### SECRETARY-GENERAL

**Dr. Nadia Makram Ebeid**

Executive Director of CEDARE



### Eng. Osama Bishai

Chief Executive Officer of Orascom Construction Limited



### Dr. Sameh Shoukry

Former Minister of Foreign Affairs



### Eng. Noura Selim

Partner, McKinsey & Company



### Dr. Ismail Serageldin

Founding Director of the Bibliotheca Alexandrina



SAWIRIS FOUNDATION TEAM

Laila Hosny

Executive Director

Mays Abou Hegab

Deputy  
Executive Director

Rania Ramses

Senior Manager  
Executive Director's Office

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Nahed Yousry

Social Empowerment Director

Rasha Salem

Children without Parental  
Care Program Manager

Ali Abdel Mohsen

Basic Services  
Program Manager

Hanan Khayal

Principal Social  
Empowerment Officer

Yousra Idris

Senior Social  
Empowerment Officer

Mohamed Gaber

Senior Social  
Empowerment Officer

ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT SECTOR

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Economic Empowerment Director

Rehab Moghazy

Micro-Credit  
Program Manager

Ahmed Salmoun

Economic Empowerment  
Senior Officer

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Areeg Hegazy

Education & Scholarships Director

Mina Magdy

TVET Program  
Manager

Mohamed Shawky

Education Program  
Manager

Heba Elwy

Senior Education Officer

Hadeer Othman

Senior Scholarships Officer

Amira Adel

Senior Scholarships Officer

LEARNING & STRATEGY SECTOR

Abdelrahman Nagy

Learning & Strategy Director

Mohamed Mousa

Evaluation Manager

Nora Ghobrial

Strategy Manager

Mohamed Omar

Monitoring Manager

Ahmed Hamdy

Principal Learning &  
Innovation Officer

Adham Hamdy

Principal Learning  
Innovation Officer

Moustafa Hakeem

Principal MIS  
Officer

Nourhan Soliman

Senior Evaluation Officer

Patricia Samman

Strategy Officer

Mohamed Abdel Kader

MIS Officer

Mahmoud Saeed

Evaluation Officer

Yasmine Ibrahim

Strategy Assistant



PARTNERSHIPS SECTOR

**Rosa Abdel Malek**  
Partnerships Director

**Nadine Reda**  
Principal Partnership  
Officer

**Mohamed Lotfy**  
Principal Partnership  
Officer

**Waguih Wahba**  
Principal Partnership  
Officer

FINANCE SECTOR

**George Fekry**  
Financial & Operational Director

**Bahaa Wagih**  
TVET Accounting Manager

**Mariam Alfred**  
Senior Accountant

**Noha Ayman**  
Senior Accountant

PUBLIC RELATIONS & COMMUNICATIONS SECTOR

**Wessam Ragab**  
PR & Comms. Director

**Ahmed Gad**  
PR & Comms. Manager

**Khaled Fathy**  
Principal Graphic Designer

HUMAN RESOURCES & ADMINISTRATION SECTOR

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HR & Admin Director

**Khaled Salah**  
Admin Assistant

**Mario Nassef**  
Administration Assistant

**Marina Sabry**  
HR & Admin Officer

FINANCIAL AUDIT SECTOR

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Financial Audit Director

**Osama William**  
Manager at the Financial Audit  
on Programs Sector

**Sherif Arafa**  
Principal Auditor

**Hossam Ali**  
Principal Auditor

**Belal Yassin**  
Principal Auditor

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY UNIT

**Mena Nabil**  
IT Manager

**Ahmed Magdy**  
IT Help Desk

SERVICE & SUPPORT TEAM

**Hussein Mostafa**

**Khaled Samir**

**George Milad**

**Abdel Karim Gad**

**Mahdi Shams Eldin**

**Mohamed Othman**

**Hamdy Abdel Aal**





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SAWIRIS FOUNDATION  
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ANNUAL REPORT  
**2024**

Reducing Multidimensional Poverty  
and Empowering Change Agents



[www.sawirisfoundation.org](http://www.sawirisfoundation.org)