



SAWIRIS FOUNDATION
مؤسسة ساويرس

عاماً من الأثر 25 YEARS OF IMPACT

ANNUAL
REPORT

2025

Reducing Multidimensional Poverty
and Empowering Change Agents



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Message from
Ms. Yousriya Loza-Sawiris
Chairwoman of the Board of Trustees

As the Sawiris Foundation approaches its twenty-fifth anniversary, I find myself reflecting upon a journey of steadfast dedication to advancing Egypt's pathways to development. This journey has never been merely about a series of initiatives or programs; rather, a profoundly human and institutional experience; one that has revealed a simple yet enduring truth: real development is achieved not solely through the allocation of resources, but through clarity of vision, the strength of collective endeavor, and an abiding belief in humanity's capacity to reshape reality when afforded just and equitable opportunity.

When the Foundation was established in 2001, its founding vision stemmed from a dialogue I had with several prominent experts, foremost among them the late Egyptian economist and thinker, Dr. Ibrahim Shihata, one of the world's most renowned experts in economics and international law, who had a key role in the establishment of the Foundation. Together, we explored how the accumulated knowledge and experience of the private sector could be harnessed as an enabling force to advance Egypt's development.

The question, seemingly simple in its phrasing, was this: how might philanthropy move beyond immediate, short-term responses to urgent needs and evolve into a fully institutional endeavor capable of generating lasting, sustainable impact? From that moment, the idea gradually took shape, ultimately maturing into a leading model of strategic philanthropy in Egypt.

Since its inception, the Foundation has been guided by a principle that appears simple, yet is profoundly consequential: that human dignity is an inalienable right, and that development can endure only when those who benefit from it are engaged as equal partners on the path to achieving it. We have never regarded ourselves as a charitable organization in the conventional sense. Rather, we have embraced a model that transcends traditional grant-making, positioning the Foundation as an active partner within Egypt's development ecosystem—working in close collaboration with government, the private sector, and a vibrant civil society to address the nation's most pressing challenges.

The social challenges Egypt faces—from rising youth unemployment to the intricate realities of multidimensional poverty—require more than goodwill; they demand precise, evidence-based interventions. In this context, the philosophy of effective altruism and the principle of “Doing Good, Better” have directed our efforts. We have moved beyond providing safety nets to creating sustainable pathways out of poverty, grounded in rigorous methodology to ensure that every pound invested delivers the greatest possible social return.

The Foundation's achievements clearly reflect this transformation. We have consistently endeavored to scale up initiatives that demonstrate tangible impact. Of particular note is the Bab Amal program—launched in 2018 as a pilot project inspired by BRAC's Ultra-Poor Graduation

model—, which has since become a cornerstone of the Foundation's 2023–2028 strategy. Its mission is to empower 100,000 households to break out of the cycle of extreme poverty through a robust, data-driven social protection framework.

As development paradigms evolve globally, the Foundation has remained committed to adopting innovative, evidence- and data-driven methodologies in both program design and evaluation. This commitment is reflected in our partnerships with leading international research institutions, through which we provide policymakers with rigorous scientific evidence on the programs most effective in reducing poverty and empowering agents of change.

Additionally, the Foundation embraces a holistic vision of development, recognizing that building resilient communities requires more than improving livelihoods—it calls for empowering agents of change, nurturing creativity, and fostering culture. Through the Sawiris Cultural Award (SCA), we seek to cultivate creativity and innovation as forces that shape social consciousness and open broader avenues for dialogue, thereby enriching Egypt's cultural landscape. In parallel, our educational programs and scholarship initiatives have provided thousands of exceptional Egyptian students with access to high-quality education, both domestically and abroad, nurturing a generation of young leaders poised to contribute meaningfully to Egypt's developmental journey.

Concurrently, the Foundation places increasing emphasis on advancing technical and vocational education, recognizing its pivotal role in accelerating economic growth and enhancing the competitiveness of the labor market. We take pride in our educational institutions, which seamlessly integrate rigorous theoretical instruction with practical, hands-on training in authentic workplace environments, cultivating a skilled and competent technical workforce fully prepared to meet the diverse demands of Egypt's productive sectors.

The Foundation's impact over the past twenty-five years cannot be measured solely by the scale of its investments, which have exceeded EGP 5.3 billion, but rather by the profound transformation it has catalyzed in the paradigm of development work—from traditional philanthropy to a holistic, evidence-based model of social investment. We have demonstrated that rigorous impact evaluation, when combined with human empathy, can bring about sustainable change. Throughout this quarter-century, the Sawiris Foundation has remained a steadfast partner within Egypt's development ecosystem, working shoulder to shoulder with communities to restore dignity to those long denied it. As we mark this milestone, we recognize that our true legacy lies in the lives of over a million individuals whose circumstances have been meaningfully and sustainably transformed for the better.

The remarkable impact achieved over this journey, is owed above all to a steadfast spirit of commitment and

collaboration with our partners from government institutions, civil society organizations, the private sector, and international organizations. I wish to express my heartfelt gratitude to our partners who have accompanied us on this journey, united by the shared conviction that development is a collective responsibility. Their trust and collaboration has been instrumental to extending the reach of our programs and amplifying their impact; fostering meaningful and enduring positive change in people's lives.

I also wish to convey my deepest appreciation to the esteemed members of the Board of Trustees of the Sawiris Foundation, whose unwavering support and vision have been instrumental in shaping the foundation's direction and enhancing its capacity to deliver meaningful and sustainable developmental impact. I thank Eng. Naguib Sawiris, Eng. Samih Sawiris, Eng. Nassef Sawiris, Ambassador Sameh Shoukry, Dr. Nadia Makram Ebeid, Dr. Ismail Serageldin, Ms. Mona Zulficar, Eng. Osama Bishai, Eng. Noura Selim, Mrs. Hala Hashem, Ms. Taya Samih Sawiris, and I extend particular appreciation to Mr. Hazem Hassan for his distinguished role and invaluable contributions, which have had a tangible impact in supporting the Foundation's strategic direction and cementing the sustainability of its work over the years.

I am also pleased to welcome the third generation of the Sawiris family to the Foundation's journey, represented by the appointment of Onsi Naguib Sawiris and Talia Samih Sawiris to the Board of Trustees. This reflects a continuity of commitment to the values of giving and development work, and deepens our confidence in a future that carries forward the same vision and belief in achieving lasting impact.

Lastly, I wish to express my appreciation to the Foundation's team, who continually work to translate the Foundation's vision into a tangible reality in the lives of the communities we serve. The impact achieved over the years is the fruit of this collective effort, of a genuine belief in the Foundation's mission, and of a steadfast commitment to learning, growth, and working with a spirit of responsibility.

Today, as we celebrate twenty-five years, the Sawiris Foundation steps into a new chapter with confidence, drawing on a wealth of experience and an enduring commitment to a more just society, where human dignity is protected, and opportunity is within everyone's reach.

Ms. Yousriya Loza-Sawiris



Message from
Ms. Laila Hosny
the Executive Director

Dear Partners, Colleagues, and Friends,

In recognition of the principle that human beings must lie at the heart of any genuine renaissance—a concept eloquently reflected in the thought of the Egyptian thinker Gamal Hamdan—I am pleased to present the Sawiris Foundation Annual Report for 2025. This report chronicles a year of dedicated effort aimed at maximizing the impact of our development programs across Egypt. It goes beyond the mere presentation of outcomes, capturing instead an ongoing journey of learning and growth, through which we continually strive to design interventions that are ever more sustainable and effective.

Behind every number is a story, and behind every intervention lies a genuine opportunity—one that has reshaped the life of a family or a young person, guiding them toward a future of greater stability and renewed hope.

The year 2025 marks a momentous milestone in the Foundation's ongoing journey. Throughout this year, we have further consolidated our evidence-based approach—one that places human beings at the very core of development and emphasizes the imperative of addressing the root causes of multidimensional poverty, rather than merely its visible manifestations. Amid mounting economic and social challenges, the significance of this approach has become even more paramount, directing us toward a sustainable impact that extends well beyond temporary solutions.

Over the course of this year, we remained dedicated to advancing our 2023–2028 strategy, grounded in a dual mandate: reducing multidimensional poverty and empowering change-makers. In 2025, these efforts translated into substantial progress, with total development investments reaching approximately EGP 795 million. Through this work, the Foundation has positively impacted more than 27,000 beneficiaries, with particular focus on the most underserved communities in Upper Egypt.

This progress represents a profound shift in the Foundation's mandate—from a sponsor of initiatives to a strategic partner in the design of evidence-based development programs. We remain steadfast in the belief that true impact is measured not by the number of projects undertaken, but by the quality of the models we develop, their capacity to address the structural roots of poverty, and their potential for both scalability and sustainability.

Against this backdrop, the Social Empowerment sector has continued to develop comprehensive models

designed to support the most underserved households. Foremost among these initiatives is the Bab Amal program, through which the Foundation and its partners have invested approximately EGP 475 million to assist nearly 6,000 households in Upper Egypt with an integrated suite of interventions—strengthening their capacity to generate sustainable sources of income and enhancing their resilience in the face of crises.

The year also witnessed significant progress in consolidating this model, with rigorous evaluation results confirming its effectiveness in enhancing food security and stabilizing income levels, while simultaneously advancing women's economic participation. We are now directing our efforts toward integrating the program within the national social protection framework, with the ambitious objective of reaching 100,000 households by 2028.

The Foundation's interventions have further expanded to reach the most vulnerable through its Essential Services programs. A total of 4,074 households benefited from initiatives aimed at enhancing quality of life, 3,874 households gained access to clean water, and 200 homes were upgraded or rehabilitated.

In the Economic Empowerment sector, our efforts have focused on cultivating sustainable economic opportunities. Through 11 projects, a total of 2,850 beneficiaries have benefited from initiatives in entrepreneurship, skills development, and connecting youth with the world of work.

Education remains a cornerstone of our programmatic interventions, aimed at empowering individuals to break free from the cycle of poverty. Investment in this sector reached EGP 472 million, benefiting over 12,000 students, alongside 344 individuals supported through scholarship programs.

We have further strengthened the technical education ecosystem through support for our educational institutions, most notably the Onsi Sawiris Applied Technology and Construction School (OSATCS), launched this year as a pioneering model of technical education—underscoring our commitment to investing in technical talent as a backbone of economic development.

On the knowledge front, the Learning and Strategy sector has reinforced our evidence-based approach through the execution of nine impact studies, the launch of the second phase of the Egypt Impact Lab with a budget of EGP 100 million, and the introduction of new knowledge initiatives aimed at informing development policies.

Our experience has shown that lasting impact cannot be achieved in isolation from partnerships. In 2025, we witnessed a significant expansion of our collaboration network, both domestically and internationally, including engagements with the Agence Française de Développement (AFD) and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), alongside a new strategic partnership valued at EGP 200 million to advance joint programs.

In this context, I wish to extend my heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to all our partners, whose contributions have been indispensable in realizing this impact.

I would also like to express my deepest gratitude to Ms. Yousriya Loza-Sawiris, Chair of the Board of Trustees, and to the esteemed members of the Board, for their steadfast support and insightful guidance, which have been pivotal in shaping the Foundation's trajectory.

I would like to extend special recognition to the Foundation's staff, whose tireless dedication and unwavering commitment continue to effect meaningful and lasting change in the lives of the people we serve.

As we approach the Foundation's twenty-fifth anniversary, we remain steadfast in our commitment to continuous learning and the pursuit of meaningful impact, guided by the enduring conviction that investing in human capital is the most sustainable path to building a just and prosperous society.

The Executive Director - Laila Hosny

24 Years of Continuous Learning

About Sawiris Foundation

The Sawiris Foundation is one of Egypt's pioneering development grant-making institutions. Founded in 2001 through an endowment from the Sawiris family, The Sawiris Foundation is dedicated to supporting innovative, high-impact solutions that promote inclusive and sustainable development across the country. Its efforts focus on addressing the most pressing challenges facing marginalized communities, including multidimensional poverty, unemployment, and limited access to quality education and essential services. The Foundation also places particular emphasis on strengthening Egypt's cultural and artistic landscape, demonstrating its firm belief in the transformative role of culture and the arts in human development.

Over the past twenty-four years, Sawiris Foundation has cultivated extensive institutional expertise in designing scalable intervention models, collaborating with government agencies, the private sector, civil society, and international organizations. Its work systematically targets the most underserved communities, particularly in Upper Egypt's governorates and remote villages. This approach rests on the conviction that sustainable impact can only be achieved through strategic, evidence-based investments, strong partnerships, and robust, long-term systems for monitoring and learning.

Guided by its 2023–2028 strategy, Sawiris Foundation is committed to two primary objectives: reducing multidimensional poverty and empowering agents of change, while also establishing a structured approach to disaster and crisis response and recovery. The Foundation has developed enabling frameworks to integrate climate change considerations and gender equality into the design and implementation of interventions across all sectors. This ensures institutional coherence while maximizing sustainable, meaningful impact.

Our Vision

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

Our Mission

We strive to alleviate multidimensional poverty and empower agents of change through strategies that are both evidence-based and impact-driven.

Our Philosophy

At the Sawiris Foundation, we believe that philanthropy must go beyond traditional aid, embracing an approach firmly grounded in scientific evidence. We recognize that good intentions alone are insufficient; meaningful development requires informed decisions and strategic investments to ensure the most effective use of resources.

Our approach is grounded in a deep understanding of poverty as a multidimensional phenomenon—extending beyond income deprivation to include limited access to quality education, essential services such as healthcare and housing, economic opportunities, social protection, and food security. Accordingly, Sawiris Foundation applies multidimensional poverty indices to design interventions that target the interconnected root causes of poverty, rather than merely its symptoms.

Anchored in effective altruism and guided by knowledge and evidence-based practices, our philosophy emphasizes the principle of “Doing Good Better.” This enables us to continuously refine our methods, maximizing impact through rigorous evaluation, robust monitoring systems, and collaborative learning.

In partnership with policymakers, civil society, the private sector, and academic institutions, Sawiris Foundation develops context-specific solutions and supports the most effective initiatives, driving lasting, positive change across Egyptian society.

SF Projects Portfolio (2025–2001)

Investing
5.3+
Billion EGP

Supporting
526
Projects

Impacting
+1
Million Beneficiaries

Social Empowerment Sector	Economic Empowerment Sector	Education & Scholarships Sector	Learning & Strategy Sector	Sawiris Cultural Award
1.4 Billion EGP	776 Million EGP	2.6 Billion EGP	385 Million EGP	98 Million EGP
648 Thousand Beneficiaries	148 Thousand Beneficiaries	189 Thousand Beneficiaries	30 Thousand Beneficiaries	353 Authors and Writers

In addition to **EGP+1.1 BILLION** Provided by partners

Geographic Presence

24
Governorate

Focus on Remote Villages and the Most Underserved Areas of Upper Egypt

In 2023, Sawiris Foundation adopted its five-year strategy, prioritizing interventions in the Upper Egypt governorates with the highest rates of multidimensional poverty—specifically Fayoum, Assiut, Sohag, Qena, and Minya—based on data from the Global Multidimensional Poverty Index. During the strategy's mid-term review in 2025, Sawiris Foundation expanded its geographic scope to include Matrouh Governorate, following data indicating that it had the highest multidimensional poverty rate nationwide.

Globally

SF extends scholarships to exceptional students pursuing higher education at leading universities around the world.



SF Strategy 2028–2023

Goal I

Reducing Multidimensional Poverty

Supporting families living in multidimensional poverty by strengthening their capacity for self-reliance, enabling them to meet more than 80% of their essential needs, and ensuring access to quality education.



Outcome 1

Providing Social Protection to

100,000

Families Living in Extreme Poverty.

Outcome 2

Enabling



20,000

Poor Families to Increase their Income and Meet their Essential Needs.

Outcome 3

Enhancing Learning Outcomes for



46,000

Students from the Poorest Families, Aged 2 to 22 Years.

Goal II

Empowering Agents of Change

Empowering individuals and organizations that have demonstrated the ability to drive high-impact social change, enabling them to fully realize their potential in service of their communities.



Outcome 4

Enhancing the Qualifications of

768

Students and Egyptian Government Officials, Enabling them to Achieve their Educational and Professional Goals.

Outcome 5

Empowering



580

Talented Egyptians to Realize their Artistic and Professional Goals.

Outcome 6

Building the Capacity of



3,000

civil society and government officials to design and implement evidence-based programs that achieve sustainable impact in their communities.

From Supporting Initiatives to Evidence-Driven Interventions

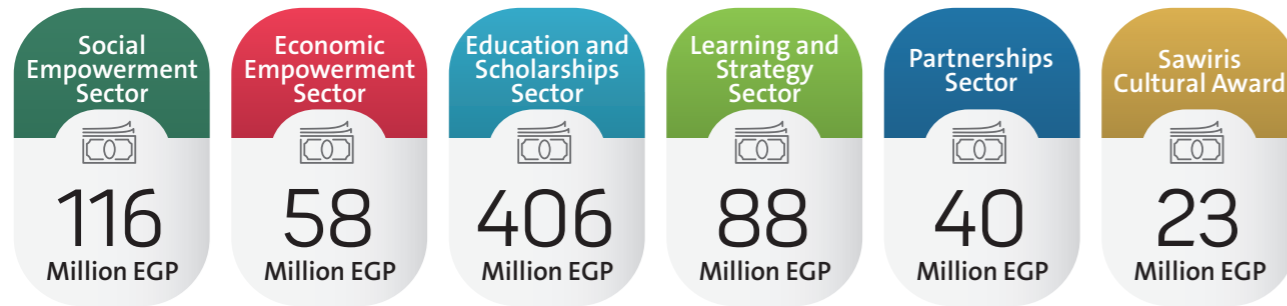
In its early years, SFSD focused on supporting a wide array of initiatives aimed at addressing urgent community needs. Over time, experience revealed that sustainable impact is not determined by the sheer number of projects implemented, but through the quality of intervention design and its effectiveness in addressing the root causes of poverty. This insight led to a gradual evolution of SFSD's role—from a project funder to a strategic partner in program design—actively shaping intervention models, formulating hypotheses, and rigorously evaluating outcomes. Building on this approach, the 2023–2028 strategy was crafted to be both evidence-driven and scalable, representing a deliberate shift from short-term grants toward clearly defined strategic pathways focused on testing, learning, and systematic expansion.

Over the course of twenty-four years of development work, SFSD's journey has been neither linear nor predetermined. It has been shaped through experimentation, reflection, and continuous refinement. Experience has shown that the scale of interventions alone does not guarantee lasting impact. Rather, it is the disciplined practice of learning from results—including unexpected outcomes—that constitutes the foundation for building effective models to combat multidimensional poverty.

In 2025, Sawiris Foundation undertook a comprehensive strategic review, refining the conceptual framework for Goal II, "Empowering Agents of Change," and recalibrating its targets to define clear pathways and measurable outcomes for empowerment. This enhancement strengthens Sawiris Foundation's ability to systematically track progress and assess impact with greater precision.

2025 in Numbers

Investing **795+** Million EGP to Serve **21,000** Beneficiaries



92% of total funding is allocated to Upper Egypt Total **9** Programs **61** Projects

Achievements in 2025

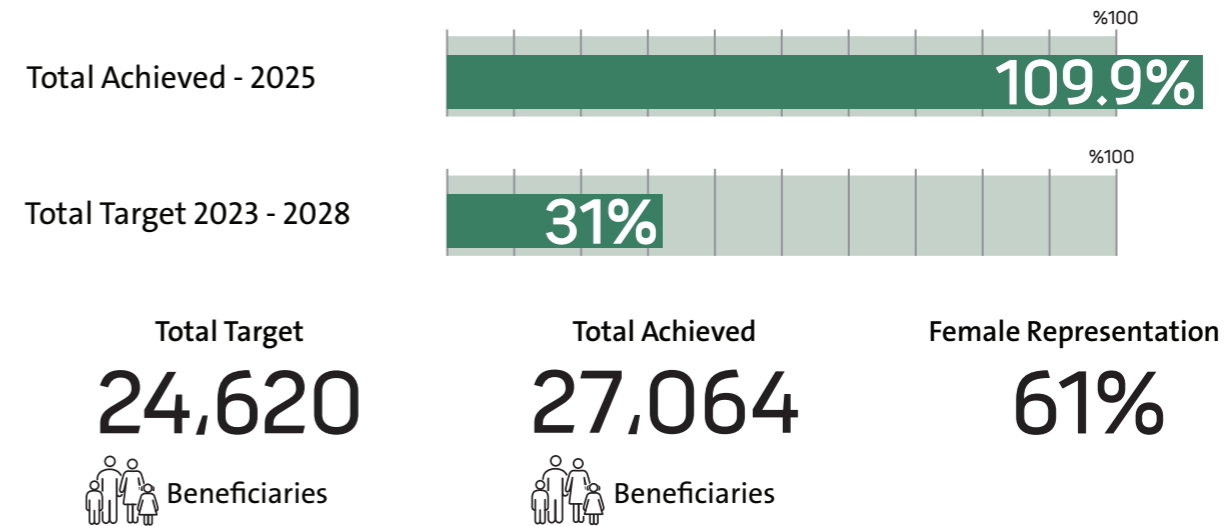
A Pivotal Year in the Implementation of the 2023–2028 Strategy

The year 2025 marked a defining juncture in the execution of SFSD’s five-year strategy (2023–2028). During this period, strategic objectives were systematically translated into measurable outcomes. The Foundation also made significant strides in forging robust partnerships, strengthening learning and evaluation systems, and consolidating the institutional transformations that underpin its ongoing growth.

This section highlights the year’s key milestones—not merely as a record of activities, but as tangible indicators of SFSD’s strategic trajectory, the maturation of its intervention model, and its capacity to respond effectively to an evolving socioeconomic landscape.

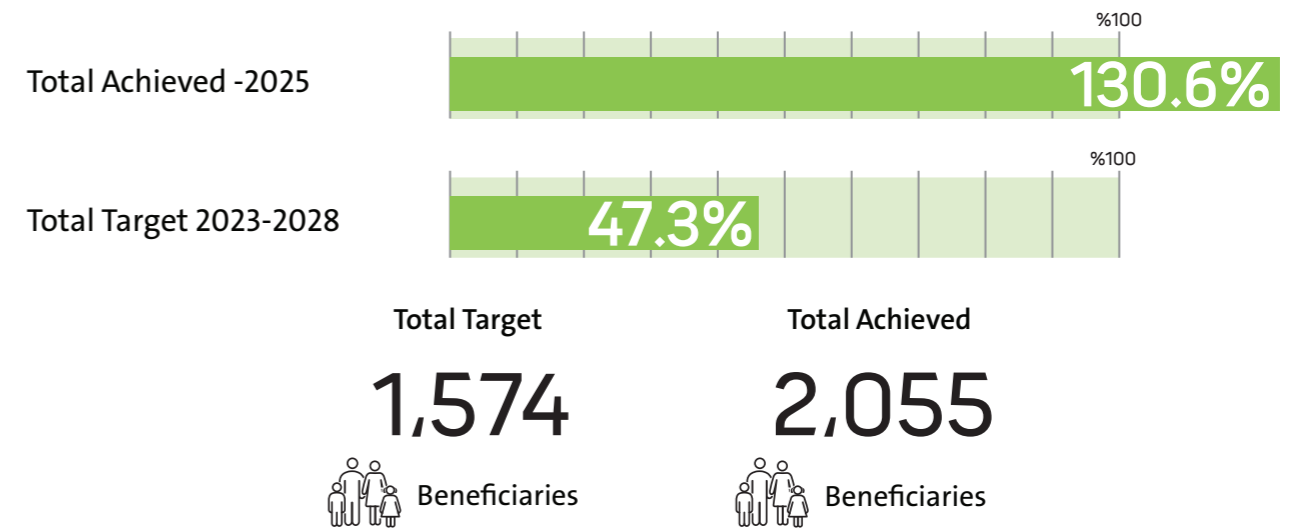
2025: Achievements Versus Planned Targets

Goal I Progress Toward Goal 1: Reducing Multidimensional Poverty



This achievement demonstrates not only the efficiency of implementation and strategic allocation of resources but also the effectiveness of evidence-driven intervention models. It further underscores the programs’ readiness for sustainable scaling.

Goal II Empowering Change Agents



This achievement represents a qualitative expansion in investment in individuals and institutions with the capacity to generate lasting impact within their communities.

Strategic Decisions and Transformations in 2025

Programs and Initiatives

Selection of interventions through the 'Scaling' and 'Innovation' Pathways

In 2025, an extensive call for proposals was launched under a two-pronged approach, following the 'Scaling' and 'Innovation' tracks:

Track (A)

Projects Not Yet Backed by Scientific Evidence

112
Proposals
Submitted

4
Proposals
Selected

Track (B)

Evidence-Based, Scalable Projects

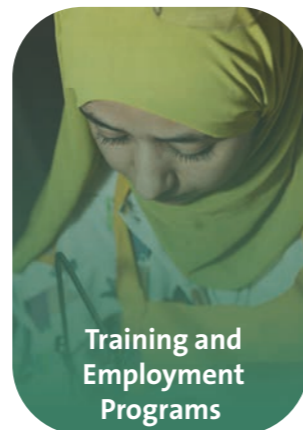
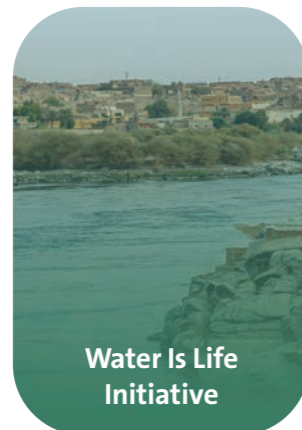
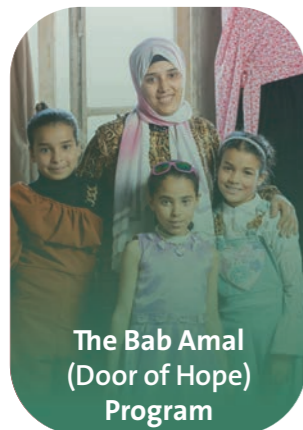
43
Proposals
Submitted

2
Proposals
Selected

This framework establishes a clear institutional distinction between innovations that require testing and models that are ready to scale and are evidence-based.

Expansion of Leading Evidence-Based Programs

Based on the results of rigorous evaluations, decisions were made to scale up a number of programs, including:



Partnership Impact

432
Million EGP
Total New Partners
Commitments,
(to be disbursed
gradually until 2029)

206
Million EGP
Total Partners
Contributions in 2025

8
New Partners
in 2025

31
Existing
Partnerships
Continued

Sectoral Integration



Evaluations, Evidence, and Knowledge Building

Developed and refined the conceptual framework and indicators for Goal 2: Empowering Agents of Change.

Completed 9 impact evaluations in partnership with the Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab and the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI).

Convened a series of seminars under the theme: "Bridging Policy and Evidence."

Produced policy briefs and knowledge outputs directly aligned with targeting priorities, nutrition, and evidence-based development.

Delivered knowledge sessions for policymakers and Public Policy Forum students.

Major Engagements and Events in 2025



The 20th Edition of the Sawiris Cultural Award Annual Ceremony



Publishing the Impact Evaluation Results of the Bab Amal Program



Participating in the Regional Conference on Evidence Awareness



Participating in World Governments Summit 2025 (11–13 February)



Opening of the "Diarna" Exhibition in Cairo



Joined the Arab Philanthropy Commitment on Climate Change (APCCC) under the Arab Foundations Forum (AFF)

January

Naming the School of Business at the American University in Cairo after the late Onsi Sawiris



Signing a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Social Solidarity to expand the Bab Amal Program



February

Participating in the Abdulla Al Ghurair Foundation Conference in Dubai, UAE



Launching The Hub of Advanced Policy Innovation for the Environment (HAPIE)



Major Engagements and Events in 2025



Ceremony marking the handover of rehabilitated homes to beneficiaries of the Dar wa Salama Project, attended by Eng. Naguib Sawiris, Vice Chairman of the Board of Trustees



Opening of the "Diarna" Exhibition in El Gouna



Graduation ceremony of the German Hotel School El Gouna (GHS) for the 2024/2025 cohort



Honoring Mrs. Yousriya Loza-Sawiris at the Ministry of Youth and Sports "Ibda'a" Festival at Cairo University

April

Participating in the OECD netFWD Annual Meeting

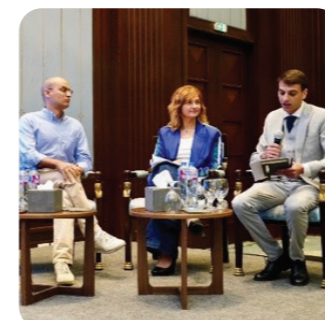


Establishing a new partnership with the Carrefour Foundation and the French Development Agency (AFD) to support children in street situations



May

The Fifth Session of the "Pathways to Evidence-Based Policymaking" Seminar Series



Mrs. Yousriya Loza-Sawiris, Chairwoman of the Board of Trustees at SF, named to the TIME100 Philanthropy List – 2025



Major Engagements and Events in 2025



Co-hosting the African Philanthropy Forum (APF)



Signing new MoUs with the French Development Agency (AFD) and the Essam and May Allam Foundation



Participation in a panel discussion on the double burden of malnutrition in Egypt



Participating in the Swiss Foundations Forum, held in Bern



Announcing the Sawiris Foundation as the Impact Partner of the El Gouna Film Festival



Conducting a script development workshop as part of the Sawiris Screenplay Lab

July

August

September

Participating in the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4)



Renewing the partnership with the Abla Art Foundation and launching the second edition of the StARTing Point Residency Program



Attending the signing ceremony for the launch of the Egyptian Observatory for Evaluation and Policy Making (EOEPM)



Organizing the fifth edition of the "Back to School" annual celebration



Launching a strategic partnership between the Sawiris Foundation and the Essam & Mie Allam Foundation for Development



Major Engagements and Events in 2025



Celebrating the conclusion of the third phase of the "Schools for Egypt" project



Participating in the Artificial Intelligence and the Future of Work Forum, UAE



Organized the sixth seminar in the "Bridging Policy and Evidence" series

October

Attending the 2025 Global Action Summit to End Hunger



Participating in a multi-country knowledge exchange visit for the "Bab Amal" Program



Participated in the El Gouna Film Festival as an impact-supportive partner



"Weaves of Hope" – Special event featuring Cate Blanchett, UNHCR Global Goodwill Ambassador



Youssef Chahine Exhibition – "Bab Al Hadid (Cairo Station)"



CineGouna Emerge Program to empower Egypt's next generation of filmmakers



"American Dream: The Return of Captain Kabonga", supported by the Sawiris Foundation, selected for CineGouna Funding 2025

Sawiris Foundation Handicrafts Cabana



Sawiris Screenwriting Lab – Pitching Session



Cinema for Humanity Award



Production of the Festival's Official Giveaway Bag



Major Engagements and Events in 2025



Consultative Meeting on the Results of the National Census of Nurseries in Egypt



Roundtable on Strengthening Partnerships Between the Private Sector and Civil Society for Sustainable Development



Opening of the "Starting Point" Artist Residency Program Exhibition



Signing an MoU with Shaghalni and Education For Employment (EFE) to launch a youth employment initiative in Upper Egypt

November

Participating in the Third World Summit for Social Development held in Doha, Qatar



Press Conference Announcing the Results of the National Census for Nurseries in Egypt



December

Organizing the "Diarna" Exhibition in El Gouna



Social Empowerment

A Holistic System for Transitioning from Extreme Poverty to Sustainable Livelihoods

The Social Empowerment Sector at the Sawiris Foundation works to strengthen social protection pathways and maximize the sustainable impact of development interventions for households living in extreme poverty. Its efforts focus on improving the quality of life of vulnerable families while also strengthening protection systems for children deprived of parental care. Through this integrated portfolio of interventions, the sector seeks to break cycles of multidimensional poverty and enable more stable, sustainable livelihood pathways.

Sector Performance | 2025



116

Million EGP



15

Ongoing Projects



11,950

Beneficiaries





The Sector's 2023 - 2028 Targets



Providing social protection to
100,000
households living
in extreme poverty

%22.3
Progress Achieved
by the End of 2025

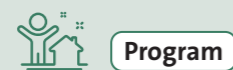
Targeted Results by 2028



Program

80,000

Ultra-poor households placed on a path toward sustainable livelihoods



Program

18,000

Ultra-poor households experience improved quality of life



Program

2,000

Children deprived of parental care gain access to protection services

Bab Amal:

An Evidence-Based National Framework for Escaping Extreme Poverty

The Bab Amal Program was launched in 2018 as a strategic, evidence-based intervention designed to address multidimensional poverty in Egypt through a holistic model that tackles the structural drivers of poverty rather than merely its symptoms. The program is grounded in the Graduation Approach—a carefully sequenced methodology for poverty alleviation pioneered by BRAC International and proven effective in more than 50 countries worldwide. The Sawiris Foundation adopted and thoughtfully adapted this approach to the Egyptian context in partnership with the Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab – Middle East and North Africa (J-PAL MENA), ensuring rigorous and methodologically sound impact measurement.

The program targets ultra-poor households in the governorates of Assiut, Sohag, and Minya, where poverty rates remain particularly high in certain communities. It delivers a comprehensive and integrated package of services designed to empower families to transition from extreme poverty to more sustainable livelihoods.

The program aims to reach 100,000 households by 2028, in line with Foundation's commitment to creating a sustainable, scalable impact that can ultimately be integrated into Egypt's national social protection system.

How the Program Works?

Intervention Framework



Bab Amal is implemented through a holistic package of interventions delivered over 18–24 months, including:

Social Protection

Connecting households to essential services such as healthcare, education, and access to official documentation.

Livelihoods and Income Generation

Providing productive assets, along with technical and financial training, to enable families to effectively manage and sustainably develop these assets.

Financial Inclusion

Training on financial management, facilitating access to savings accounts, and linking households to formal financial systems.

Social Empowerment

Offering life skills training and establishing community-based solidarity groups to strengthen local support networks.

Program Development Timeline: 2018–2025

2018

- doption of the Graduation Approach
- Adaptation of the program to the Egyptian local context
- Launch of the program in Assiut and Sohag
- Design and initiation of the impact evaluation study

2022 - 2024

- Conducting a rigorous evaluation in partnership with J-PAL MENA
- Publication of evaluation results, demonstrating sustained impact 40 months after the end of the intervention



2019 - 2021

- Implementation of the pilot phase with approximately 2,400 households across 35 villages
- Development of targeting, monitoring, and measurement tools

2025

- Launch of Phases II and III of the program
- Launch of Phase IV
- Geographic expansion to Minya Governorate
- Initiation of the institutional integration pathway with the Ministry of Social Solidarity
- Establishment of a Steering Committee, including representatives of program partners

The Program in Numbers

Budget

475
Million EGP
Invested since the
Program's Inception

122.6
Million EGP
Contributed by
Partner Organizations

7449
Beneficiary
Households



Assiut, Sohag,
and Minya

Program Impact | 2025

5996
Beneficiary
Households

Including

5175
Female Beneficiaries
and Households have
achieved food security



2876
Households Connected
to Essential Services

Impact Evaluation and Findings

In January 2025, a joint seminar was convened with the Ministry of Social Solidarity and the Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab – Middle East and North Africa (J-PAL MENA) to present the final findings of the program's impact evaluation. The results highlighted several key outcomes:



These findings demonstrate the model's effectiveness in delivering sustainable social and economic improvements for the poorest households, supporting its scalability to additional governorates across Egypt.

For full details of the Bab Amal Program's final impact evaluation, Scan:



Institutionalization Pathway | Towards National Integration

The year 2025 marked a pivotal step in positioning Bab Amal as a sustainable component within the national social protection system, through:

- Signing a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Social Solidarity, in collaboration with ESCWA
- Partnering with ESCWA to institutionalize the program and integrate it into national social protection frameworks
- Launching the Social Protection Arab Platform (SPAR) as the first unified regional hub for knowledge and exchange in social protection
- Developing an updated operational and procedural manual, in collaboration with Al-Qurra Foundation for Sustainable Development, to standardize tools in preparation for scale
- Organizing an international knowledge exchange visit with delegations from Jordan, Somalia, and Djibouti, attended by H.E. Dr. Maya Morsy
- Mobilizing resources through new strategic partnerships
- Expanding to Minya Governorate in partnership with Shorouk Misr Association and Essam & Mai Allam Foundation for Sustainable Development

Under the Auspices of



Funding Partners



Knowledge and Technical Support Partners



Implementing Partners



Samah

From Dreaming to a Life Rewritten

"Each of us ought to set our gaze upon a dream of our own... for as long as we place our trust in God, the path shall surely unfold."



In the village of Saadallah in Sohag Governorate, Samah Abu Taleb carried the weight of daily survival on her shoulders. A mother of four, she bore full responsibility for her household amid the near absence of her husband, eking out a living on an income that scarcely covered the bare essentials.

She worked as a seamstress for others, earning a meager thirty Egyptian pounds a day. Her hours were long, her labor relentless, and by evening she returned home with barely enough to support her family. Yet even amid this struggle, her thoughts remained fixed on her children's future—most of all on her enduring dream that her daughter would one day complete university.

Even in the harshest circumstances, Samah never lost faith in her resilience. She knew she possessed a gift in sewing, but what she lacked was the opportunity to transform that gift into something greater.

At the dawn of 2025, that opportunity arrived through the Bab Amal program, which placed a sewing machine in her hands—the first tangible step toward a home-based enterprise of her own. She recalls the moment with quiet awe: "I could hardly believe it. I felt that, at last, something in my life was about to change."

Within the stillness of her home, Samah set to work, shaping garments and household linens with deft, practiced hands. Over time, demand for her creations grew, nurturing a quiet confidence—an emerging belief not only in her craft but in her ability to run a business and sustain her livelihood. Yet she did not rest on early success. With steadfast resolve, she sought training and embraced every opportunity to learn, refining her craft, elevating the quality of her work, and steadily expanding her income.

When faced with the challenge of lacking an overlock machine, Samah neither faltered nor despaired. She joined

a community savings group, which enabled her to purchase one—an investment that soon bore fruit, increasing her production and widening her circle of clients. As her sewing business found its rhythm, Samah looked beyond the present toward greater stability. Determined to diversify her income, she began raising small livestock at home, creating an additional stream of earnings to support her family.

Today, Samah's monthly income ranges between 2,500 and 3,000 Egyptian pounds—enough to strengthen her family's means, provide for her children, fulfill her long-held dream of sending her daughter to university, and refurbish and upgrade parts of her home, transforming it into a safer, more comfortable haven.

Yet the most profound transformation was not material—it unfolded within. Samah began to see herself anew: no longer a woman bound by circumstance, carrying every burden alone, but one endowed with agency—capable of making choices, reauthoring her future, and shaping a brighter life for her family. With this newfound confidence came a turning outward. She began sharing her journey, mentoring women and girls in her village in the craft that had once sustained her, and contributing as a trainer in workshops. In doing so, she became a living embodiment of empowerment—rooted in resilience and shared through community.

Today, Samah dreams of opening her own atelier in the city, nurturing her enterprise with care and growing it steadily, one step at a time.

Samah's story is far more than that of a thriving business; it is the story of an opportunity that reshaped the life of an entire family—and swung open a new door to hope.

Basic Services Program

The Basic Services Program is a core component of the Social Empowerment Sector, designed to address multiple dimensions of deprivation and improve the quality of life for ultra-poor households. The program delivers direct interventions in areas such as access to clean water, housing improvements, and food security, fostering healthier and more socially stable conditions that enable households to benefit from other empowerment pathways.



The Program in Numbers

12+

Thousands of Beneficiary Households since the Introduction of the Strategy



Minya - Assiut
Sohag - Qena

Program Results | 2025



4074

Beneficiary Households

Including



2384

Female Beneficiaries



200

Households Now Living in Decent Housing



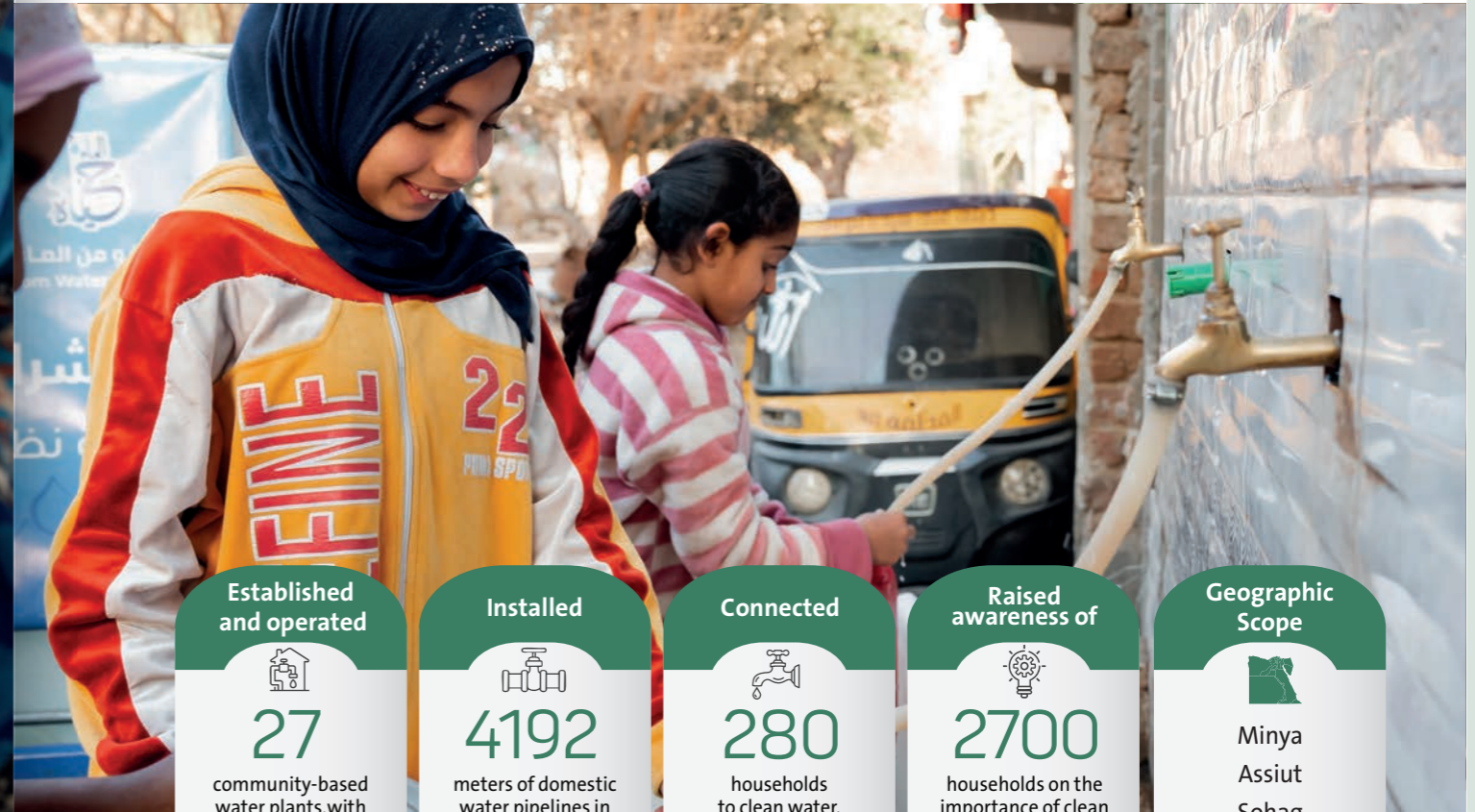
3874

Households with Access to Clean Water

Key Projects:

1. "Water is Life" Project – An Evidence-Based Model

The "Water is Life" project represents a strategic pillar of the Basic Services Program. It is underpinned by a rigorous scientific evaluation that confirmed its effectiveness, replicability, and potential for scale. The project was launched to address gaps in access to safe drinking water in the most underserved rural communities across Assiut, Minya, Sohag, and Qena. It employs locally appropriate water purification technologies and community-based management mechanisms to ensure long-term sustainability.



Established and operated



27

community-based water plants, with local association staff trained in management, operation, and maintenance.

Installed



4192

meters of domestic water pipelines in Qena Governorate.

Connected



280

households to clean water.

Raised awareness of



2700

households on the importance of clean water and proper hygiene practices.

Geographic Scope



Minya
Assiut
Sohag
Qena

Key Findings from the Impact Evaluation of the Project's First Phase

- **Increased Access to Safe Water:** Expanded the proportion of households with access to safe water while reducing reliance on unsafe sources.
- **Reduced Time and Effort:** Decreased the daily time spent collecting water, allowing households more time for work and education.
- **Improved Hygiene Practices:** Lowered the incidence of water-related illnesses.
- **Enhanced Household Economic Condition:** Reduced household spending on water and enabled participation in income-generating activities.
- **Beneficiary Satisfaction:** Strengthened community trust and overall satisfaction with the services.
- **Infrastructure Readiness:** Improved water networks and plants, minimizing operational breakdowns.

Access the full study here:



Building on the success of the pilot phase, the project will now enter the expansion phase, informed by a rigorously documented scientific study confirming the effectiveness of the model.

Implementing Partner



Key Projects:

2. Dar wa Salama - "Home and Safety" Project

The Dar wa Salama – "Home and Safety" project aims to improve the living conditions of ultra-poor households by addressing multiple dimensions of poverty affecting housing infrastructure, access to basic services, and overall health and safety. The project seeks to ensure that every household has a safe, healthy, and stable home environment.



Delivered
200

Houses

Fully Upgraded and
Rehabilitated for Families

Health and Relief
Services Delivered



10K+

Beneficiaries

Project Partners



وزارة التخطيط والتنمية الاقتصادية
والتعاون الدولي
Ministry of Planning, Economic
Development & International
Cooperation



Implementing Partner



Support for Children without Parental Care Program

The Support for Children without Parental Care Program aims to strengthen and enhance systems and services for the protection and development of children deprived of parental care. The program adopts a holistic approach, combining community awareness-raising, capacity-building for alternative and aftercare systems, and direct support for children at risk.



The Program in Numbers

1933

Total Beneficiaries Since the Introduction of the Strategy



Greater Cairo

Potential exists to expand the program to additional governorates based on the number and scale of children without parental care.

Program Results | 2025

400

Children Targeted at the Beginning of 2025

1880

Children Reached by the End of 2025

Including

1602

Girls

278

Children received psychosocial support services

466%

Achievement Rate of the targeted number of beneficiaries

Key Projects:

Development of Protection Centers for Children without Shelter: Empowerment, Sustainability, and Prevention

The project aims to address the challenges faced by homeless and at-risk children through integrated protection and empowerment interventions, including:

1. Ensuring children have access to healthcare and psychosocial support
2. Facilitating children's integration into formal education systems or alternative learning platforms
3. Supporting the safe reintegration of children into their families, wherever possible

Project Results in 2025

Direct Interventions for Children at Risk:

Provided field services to

1306

children through night-time street rounds, day centers, and temporary and long-term care placements

Conducted

410

night-time street rounds, resulting in 3,500 direct interventions

Delivered long-term support to

166

children under the supervision of qualified specialists

Assisted

1300

families through a 24-hour reception center in Imbaba

Capacity Building and Strengthening Alternative Care:

Trained

353

Caregivers

Trained

243

Foster Families

Launched **4**

Awareness Campaigns on the Alternative Care System and the Role of Civil Society Organizations

Implementing Partner

banati
بناتي

Economic Empowerment

Building Sustainable Income and Aligning Skills with the Labor Market

The Economic Empowerment Sector at the Sawiris Foundation seeks to enable the most vulnerable households to meet their basic needs by increasing their income. This is achieved through integrated interventions that address gaps between labor market supply and demand, support the establishment and growth of small and micro enterprises, and provide access to decent and sustainable employment—particularly in the most underserved governorates.

The sector serves both job seekers and existing or aspiring entrepreneurs, fostering stable economic pathways that enable households to move beyond financial vulnerability toward stable and sustainable sources of income, while strengthening their long-term economic resilience.

Sector Performance | 2025



58

Million EGP



11

Ongoing Projects



2,850

Beneficiaries





Small and Micro Enterprise Development Program

The program supports small business owners and self-employed individuals in establishing or expanding income-generating enterprises. It provides a comprehensive package of financial and non-financial services aimed at increasing household income and promoting economic stability, particularly in the most underserved governorates.

The program's design draws on impact assessment studies conducted between 2016 and 2018, which demonstrated that low-interest loans and grants—especially those targeting women—substantially increase household income and reinforce economic resilience over the medium and long term.



The Program in Numbers

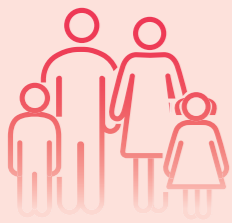
6660

Beneficiaries Since the Launch of the Strategy



Assiut, Qena, Fayoum, and Luxor

Sector Objective: 2023 - 2028



Empowering
20,000
poor households to meet their basic needs by increasing their income

%44.9
Progress Achieved by the End of 2025

Target Outcomes by 2028



Program

Small and Micro Enterprise Development

15,000

Poor households operating income-generating businesses



Program

Training for Employment

5,000

Trainees securing decent employment opportunities

Program Results | 2025



1896
Beneficiary Households Reached

Including



783
Female Beneficiaries

1528
Beneficiaries Integrated into the Formal

1896
Beneficiaries Achieved at Least a 10% Increase in Business Capital

378
Beneficiaries Received Managerial Training

60
Beneficiaries Received Technical Training

Key Projects:

“ERADATY” (“MY WILL”)

A Model for Economic and Psychosocial Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities

Launched in 2018, the Eradaty Project seeks to advance the social and economic inclusion of persons with disabilities in Egyptian society through a comprehensive, holistic approach. Moving beyond traditional loan-based support, the program focuses on building sustainable business management capacities, enabling participants to engage effectively in economic life and pursue livelihoods free from discrimination.

The current phase of the project is informed by impact evaluation findings demonstrating that low-cost financing, when combined with targeted capacity-building interventions, generates significant income gains. These outcomes are particularly pronounced when financial support is complemented by psychosocial services for the most vulnerable participants, thereby fostering long-term economic independence and greater social stability.



Intervention Framework

Eradaty is structured around three interconnected focus areas:

Economic Empowerment

- Providing access to soft loans to support the establishment and expansion of small enterprises
- Strengthening integration into formal financial systems

Capacity Building and Management

- Delivering training in business management, financial planning, and entrepreneurial skills development

Psychosocial Support

- Offering individualized psychosocial support sessions (both in-person and remotely) to boost self-confidence and encourage active community engagement
- Developing a scientifically grounded reference guide tailored to the local context

Project Development Timeline: 2018 - 2025

2018

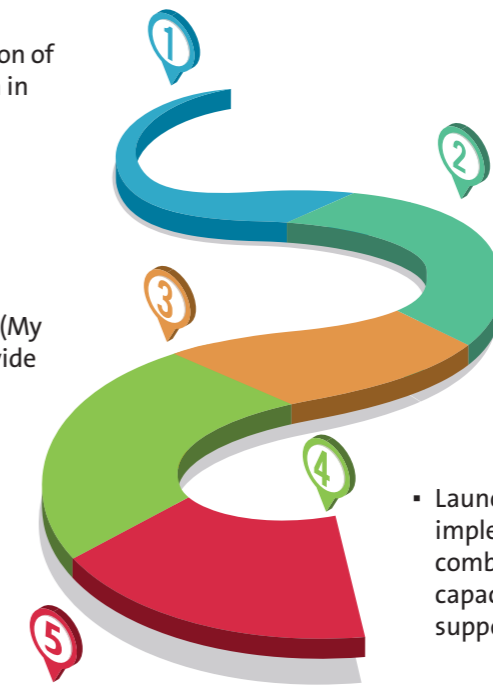
- Launch of Phase I and organization of the “Eradaty” product exhibition in Fayoum.

2022

- Launch of Phase III and inauguration of the “Mesahaty” (My Space) Center in Fayoum to provide psychosocial support services to project beneficiaries.

2025

- Implementation of an impact evaluation in partnership with the Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL), ensuring a rigorous, evidence-based assessment of the program’s outcomes.



2020

- Launch of Phase II, expanding access to microloans and business management training.

2023

- Launch of Phase IV with a focus on implementing an integrated model that combines interest-free financing, capacity building, and psychosocial support.

Project Results -2025



262

Beneficiaries Received Microloans



209

Beneficiaries Participated in Psychosocial Support Sessions, both In-person and Remotely



The WHO Health Guide was adapted to address the health, psychological, and social needs of persons with disabilities



Awareness campaigns on the rights of persons with disabilities were launched

Implementing Partner



Fayoum Governorate



Training for Employment Program

The Training for Employment Program aims to equip and empower the most vulnerable groups to access decent and sustainable employment opportunities. It delivers high-quality vocational training through accredited centers aligned with actual labor market demands. These efforts contribute to increasing household income and reducing poverty, particularly in the most underserved governorates.



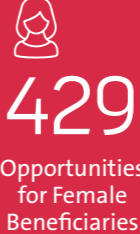
The Program in Numbers



Program Results | 2025



Including



Key Projects:

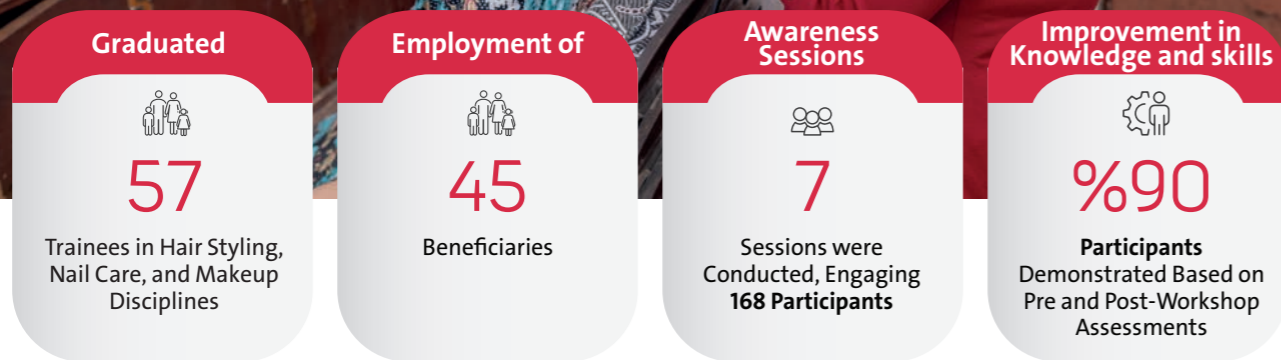
“Beauty and Hair Care Professionals 2” Project

The project aims to economically and socially empower Egyptian women by providing access to professional technical education in the fields of beauty and hairdressing. It is built on a comprehensive curriculum developed by L’Oréal experts, combining both theoretical and practical components to equip participants with industry-recognized skills and prepare them for the labor market.

The project also offers clear employment pathways, either through decent job opportunities with private sector partners or by supporting graduates in launching their own businesses—contributing to sustainable income generation and strengthening their economic independence.



Project Results | 2025



Christine

From Passion to Profession

"The training was more than learning a new craft—it ignited a new start."



From her earliest years, Christine was drawn to the subtlest nuances and finest details, discovering within them a distinct way to express herself. Colors, with their delicate harmonies, and gentle touches of beauty held a cherished place in her world, as if each tiny detail whispered the promise of something even more exquisite, waiting to be brought to life.

Christine grew up in foster care in Minya Governorate, a haven that nurtured her formative years with care and guidance. There, she met mentors who recognized her budding talent and believed in her exceptional potential—until that talent became a thread woven inseparably into the fabric of her identity. She experimented with hairstyles and handled beauty tools with growing confidence, while her caregivers, captivated by her flair, encouraged her to pursue it, certain she was destined to achieve something truly remarkable.

Yet upon reaching her eighteenth year, Christine confronted a far more complex reality. She had no home beyond the walls of the foster care system, nor a circle of support to rely on. Independence was no longer a dream to be deferred—it had become an urgent necessity, pressing upon her with relentless insistence.

Christine came to understand that even the most ardent passion could not alone illuminate the path ahead—that true stability demanded both skill and a fair chance. Though her heart overflowed with longing to craft an independent future, she lacked the professional training that might fling open the doors of opportunity and ignite a genuinely fresh beginning.

When Christine learned of the ‘Beauty Professional’ program, she felt that at last the long-awaited opportunity had come within reach. It was far more than a mere training program—a turning point, a catalyst with the power to reshape the course of her life.

The program offered Christine the chance to master advanced technical skills while embracing the essentials of professional life—from discipline and commitment to engaging clients with poise and professionalism and collaborating seamlessly as part of a skilled team. It was a fully immersive, transformative experience—one that reshaped her sense of self and endowed her with the confidence she had long sought.

The defining moment, however, did not arrive at the close of her training, nor with the receipt of her certificate—it came the day she stepped into a real beauty salon, practicing her craft with assurance and a well-earned sense of accomplishment. In remarkably little time, she secured a position at one of Minya Governorate’s leading salons, swiftly demonstrating her ability to grow, master new skills, and earn the trust and admiration of those around her.

Today, Christine no longer sees herself as a girl with a pastime—she has blossomed into a young woman with a profession, walking with steady, purposeful steps toward independence.

Christine’s story is far more than a tale of a career opportunity—it is a story of a new beginning, through which she has forged a clear and purposeful path for herself, grounded in the passions and convictions she holds dear. In the years ahead, she aspires to continue refining her skills and, one day, to establish her own enterprise—making her journey a living testament to the power of passion: when met with the right opportunity, it can blossom into a truly lasting and meaningful future.

Education & Scholarships

The Education and Scholarships Sector is dedicated to expanding access to high-quality education and enhancing learning outcomes for students in the most underserved governorates, thereby contributing to the reduction of multidimensional poverty. In parallel, the sector seeks to empower the next generation of changemakers by unlocking access to world-class educational opportunities and offering a diverse portfolio of scholarships spanning technical, higher, and executive education. Through these efforts, it enables individuals to realize their full potential and maximize their positive impact on society.

This work is advanced through a robust and far-reaching network of partnerships encompassing government ministries, private sector stakeholders, civil society organizations, research institutions, and international entities. Together, these collaborations enable the design and delivery of evidence-based programs that are measurable, impactful, and scalable.

Sector Performance | 2025



472
Million EGP
Total
Investments



32
Ongoing
Projects



12+
Thousands of
Beneficiaries
(Education Programs)



344
Beneficiaries
(Scholarship Programs)



Sector Objectives



Enhance learning outcomes for

46,000

children aged 2 to 18 from poor and ultra-poor backgrounds by 2028.

Strengthen the academic and professional competencies of

600

beneficiaries, including students in technical and higher education, as well as executive leaders, through a comprehensive portfolio of scholarship programs.

Target Outcomes by 2028

Program



Early Childhood Education

20,000

children aged 2 to 6 access high-quality early childhood education and development services.

Program



Basic Education

25,000

children in basic education demonstrate improved foundational skills.

Program



Technical Education and Vocational Training

1,000

young people acquire high-caliber technical and vocational skills, positioning them for successful entry into the labor market.

Program



Higher and Executive Education

600

scholarship recipients demonstrate enhanced academic, professional, and leadership competencies.

Key Milestones in 2025

Selection of the Sawiris Foundation as the Coordinating Agency for the Global Partnership for Education (GPE)

Within this mandate, the Sawiris Foundation serves as the primary coordinating body between the Global Partnership for Education (GPE), the Ministry of Education and Technical Education (MoETE), and members of the Local Education Group (LEG). In this capacity, the Foundation fosters effective collaboration, facilitates streamlined access to GPE funding opportunities, and drives the development and strengthening of education initiatives across Egypt, thereby contributing to the sustained advancement of the national education system.

The Early Childhood Education Program

Expanded Opportunities for Early Childhood Growth and Development

The Early Childhood Education Program invests in children's early years, widely recognized as the most formative stage of their educational and personal development. It focuses on expanding access to high-quality early childhood education services, strengthening the capacity of kindergarten facilities and service providers, and raising parental awareness of the critical importance of early childhood development and positive parenting practices.



Key Projects

Enhanced Access to Early Childhood Education

The Project seeks to expand access to high-quality early education by improving kindergarten learning environments, strengthening the skills and capacities of early childhood educators, and incorporating a social component that fosters positive parenting practices while encouraging greater enrollment in kindergarten facilities. The project also supports healthy nutrition for children, ensuring a holistic approach to their early growth and development.

Project Results | 2025

Early childhood services were provided to

958

children across 16 kindergartens in Beni Suef Governorate.

Raising awareness of

199

parents of children enrolled in nurseries.

Capacity-building training was delivered to

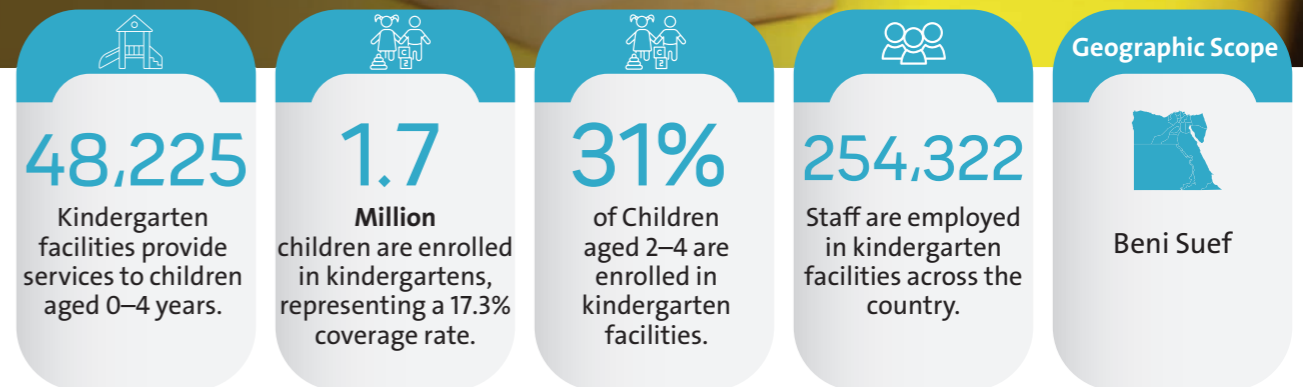
134

kindergarten educators and administrators.

Launch of the National Kindergarten Mapping Activity Across 27 Governorates

In 2025, the National Kindergarten Mapping Activity (NKMA) was launched nationwide with the support of the Sawiris Foundation, in partnership with the Ministry of Social Solidarity (MoSS). Its findings, released in late November 2025, provided a critical foundation for planning nationwide expansion and offered key insights to guide the main phase of the Enhanced Access to Early Childhood Education project. This milestone marked a significant shift from a small-scale initiative to a broader, more impactful approach to early childhood education across Egypt.

Key Statistics



Implementing Partner



The Basic Education Program

Bolstering Foundational Skills: An Entry Point to Breaking Cycles of Poverty

The Basic Education Program (BEP) is committed to strengthening students' foundational skills in reading, writing, and numeracy—core competencies that form the bedrock of sustained educational progress. This is achieved through effective educational models, including community-based schools and evidence-based interventions designed to enhance literacy and numeracy outcomes. The program specifically targets children at greatest risk of dropping out or underperforming academically, with a focus on the country's most underserved governorates.

Program Results | 2025



Key Projects

Schools for Egypt (SfE) – Phase III

In 2025, the Sawiris Foundation celebrated the completion of Phase III of the “Schools for Egypt” (SfE) project in Assiut Governorate, reaffirming its commitment to strengthening community-based schools and expanding access to basic education for children in Upper Egypt. Since 2013, the Foundation has championed the community school model as a cornerstone for broadening access to quality education in remote and underserved villages and hamlets where educational services are scarce.

Supported & equipped

60

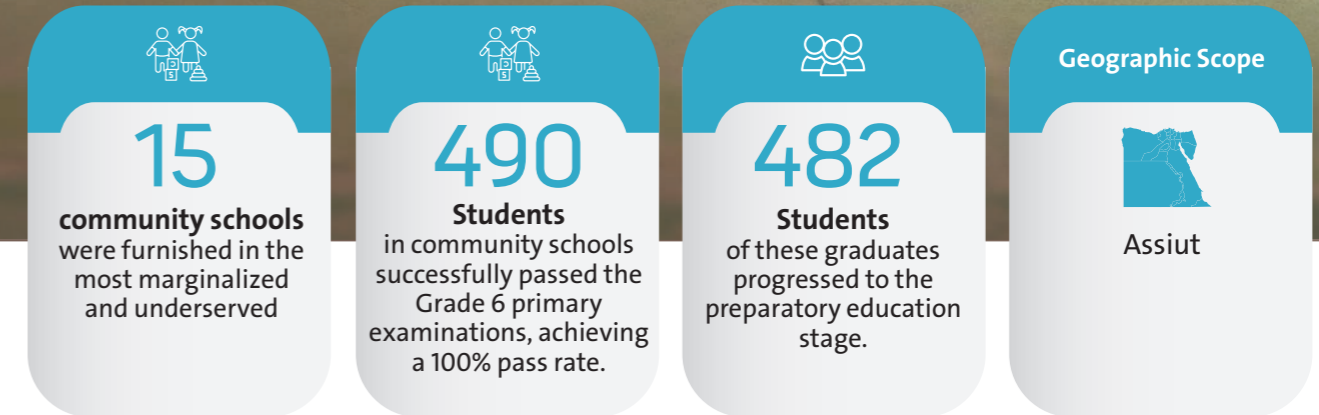


community schools

across Assiut, Sohag, and Qena Governorates.



Project Results | 2025

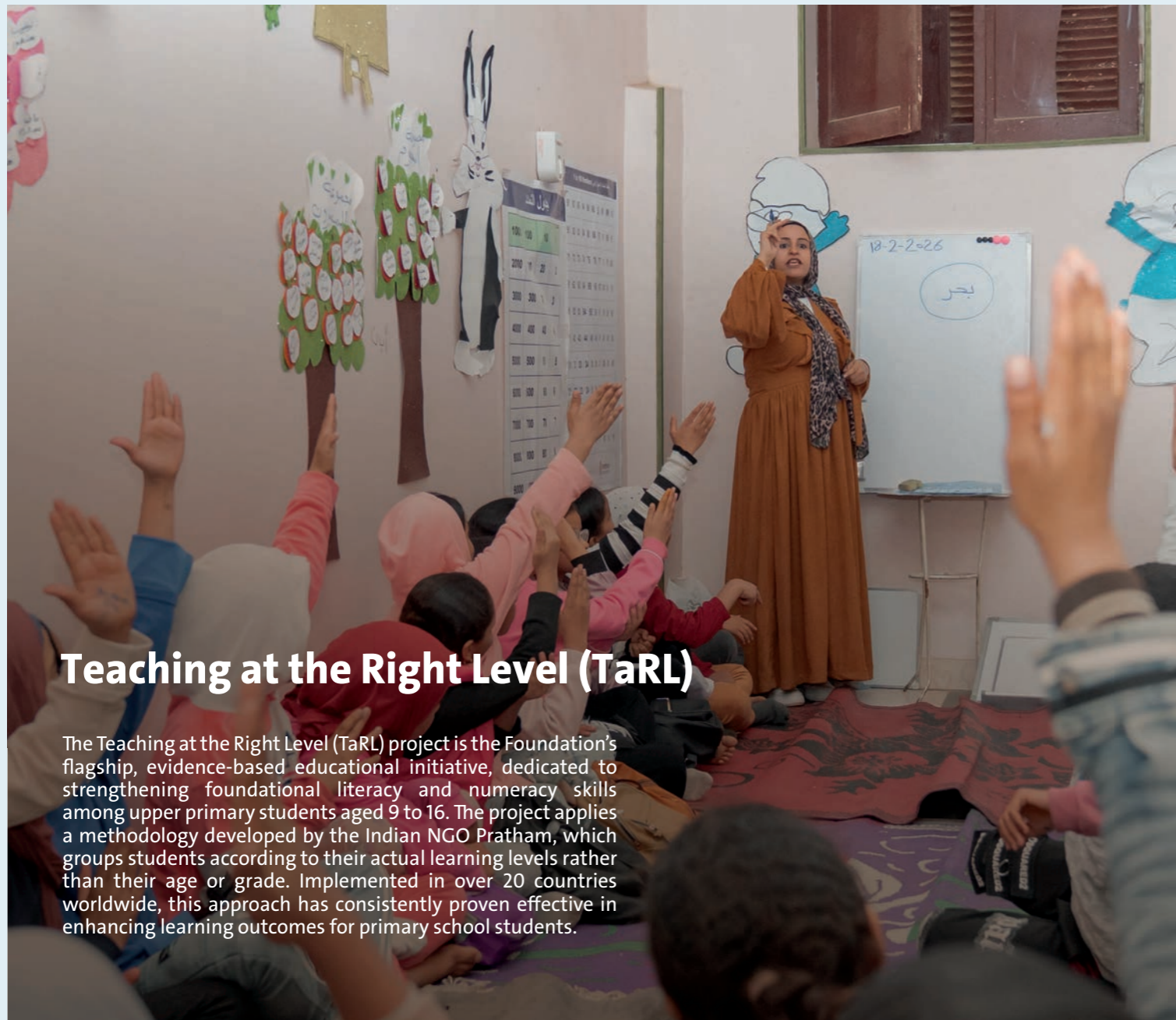


Implementing Partner:



Partners





Teaching at the Right Level (TaRL)

The Teaching at the Right Level (TaRL) project is the Foundation's flagship, evidence-based educational initiative, dedicated to strengthening foundational literacy and numeracy skills among upper primary students aged 9 to 16. The project applies a methodology developed by the Indian NGO Pratham, which groups students according to their actual learning levels rather than their age or grade. Implemented in over 20 countries worldwide, this approach has consistently proven effective in enhancing learning outcomes for primary school students.

Project Results | 2025

3

Learning camps were organized

9,431

students in the upper grades of primary school



Sohag - Assiut Governorates.

Implementing Partner:



مؤسسة المرأة الجديدة
The New Woman Foundation



بنك الإسكندرية
ALEXBANK
Intesa Sanpaolo Group

STAR CARE
WE HELP CHILDREN

Partners

Key Program Deliverables Across Other Projects

Tawasol Project

The Tawasol Project provides high-quality educational opportunities for children in Ezbet Khairallah and surrounding areas by supporting students at Tawasol Community School. As a targeted intervention, it reaches children in vulnerable urban communities through an adaptive model that combines accessible community-based education with high-quality learning experiences.



75

Students received support at Tawasol Community School.



Cairo Governorate

Implementing Partner:



One Dream Project – Phase IV

The One Dream Project continued to provide direct educational support to children in Tora, Haram City, and Manshiyat Nasser, addressing learning gaps and promoting academic achievement. The project also piloted scalable and effective instructional methodologies, establishing a foundation for wider, sustainable impact.



580

Students continued to receive educational support.



3

Pilot Classes implementing the "Teaching at the Right Level" (TaRL) approach, were conducted, with 75 students.

Implementing Partner:



Cairo Governorate



The Technical Education and Vocational Training (TEVT) Program

Developing a Skilled Technical Workforce to Meet Labor Market Demand

The Sawiris Foundation is committed to advancing technical education and vocational training (TEVT), nurturing a generation of professionals equipped with the practical and technical competencies essential across diverse industries. Through the strategic support and development of leading vocational institutions that integrate hands-on training with classroom instruction, along with the provision of scholarships for students, the Foundation seeks to expand employment opportunities and strengthen economic productivity. These efforts also promote effective models of technical and vocational education, inspiring young people to pursue high-quality vocational education and unlocking pathways to fulfilling careers and sustained professional growth.

Sawiris Foundation's Educational Institutions



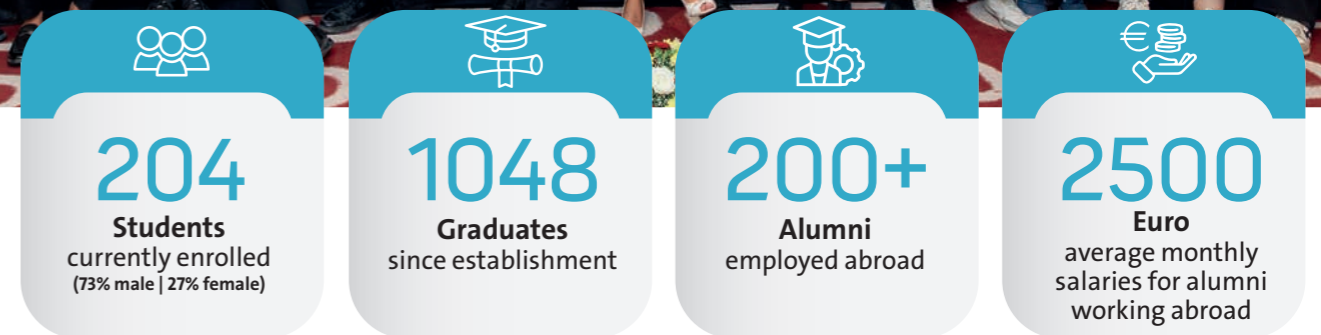
German Hotel School El Gouna (GHS)

Egypt's first private international institution dedicated to hospitality education, the German Hotel School El Gouna (GHS) is accredited at the highest level by the German Chamber of Industry and Commerce (AHK) and recognized by the Egyptian Ministry of Education and Technical Education (MoETE), offering a fully certified hotel diploma. The school follows a dual vocational education model that seamlessly integrates academic instruction with hands-on practical training, delivered in partnership with leading hotels across the Red Sea Governorate, including El Gouna. This approach ensures that graduates are fully equipped with the competencies required to meet the evolving demands of both local and international hospitality markets.

Students enroll upon completing preparatory school, with all receiving partial scholarships, while outstanding students are awarded full scholarships covering tuition and accommodation. GHS provides a modern learning environment with state-of-the-art classrooms and fully equipped training laboratories, alongside high-quality boarding facilities for out-of-town students, with separate accommodations for male and female residents.



GHS in Numbers



Results | 2025

ISO certification audit was successfully completed.

A delegation from Leipzig-based hotels visited the school, conducting interviews with graduates for potential employment opportunities.

Goodwill Ambassador Cate Blanchett visited, in collaboration with UNHCR, to support refugee students.

57 students were admitted for the 2025–2026 academic year.

51 students successfully passed the (IHK) examinations, achieving a 98% pass rate.

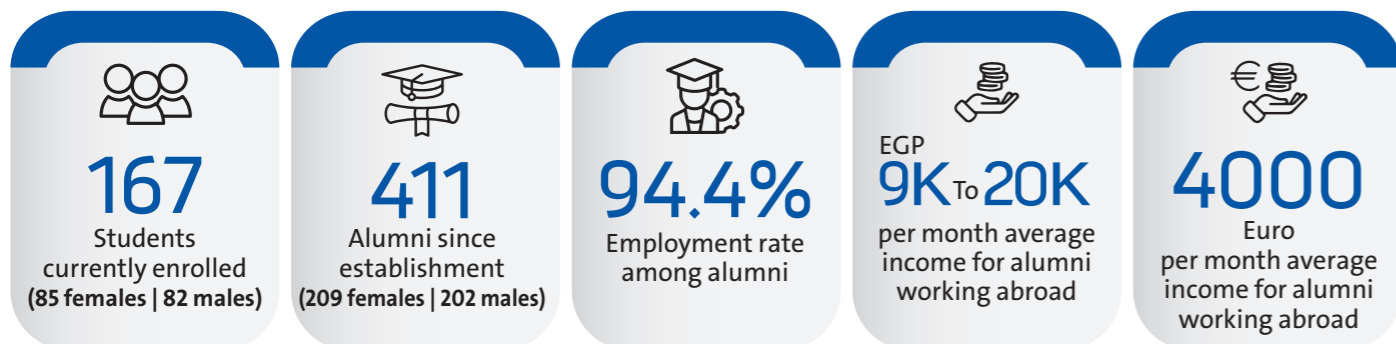
El Gouna Technical Nursing Institute (GTNI)

Established in 2009, the El Gouna Technical Nursing Institute (GTNI) is dedicated to developing a cadre of highly qualified nursing professionals to support Egypt's healthcare sector. Founded through an international academic partnership with Lawrence Memorial/Regis College in Massachusetts, USA, the Institute operates under the supervision of the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research.

GTNI offers a modern learning environment that integrates theoretical instruction with hands-on clinical training, equipping students with the scientific knowledge and practical competencies needed to excel in healthcare institutions and contribute to enhancing the quality of healthcare services throughout Egypt.



GTNI in Numbers

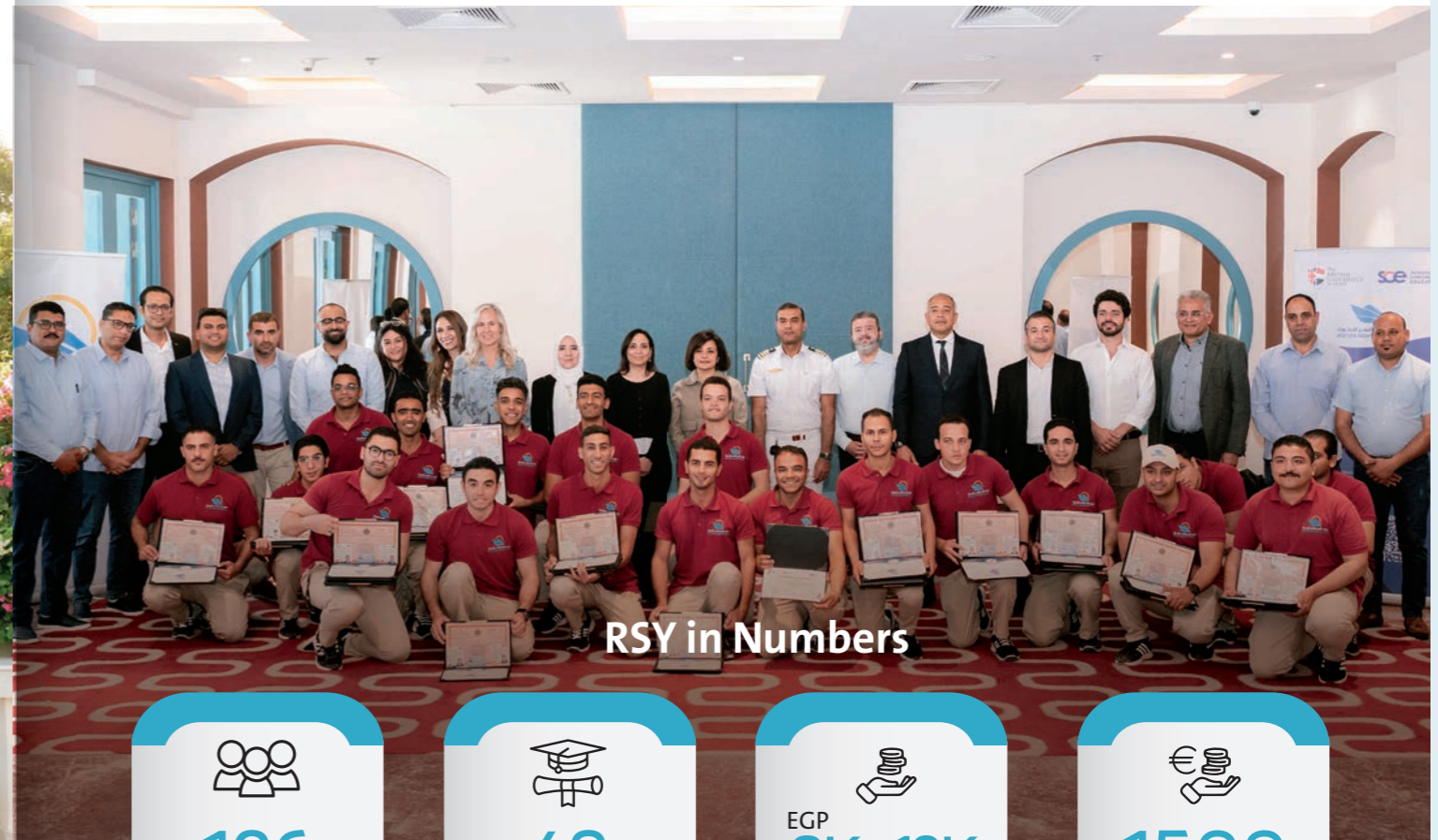


Red Sea Yacht Institute

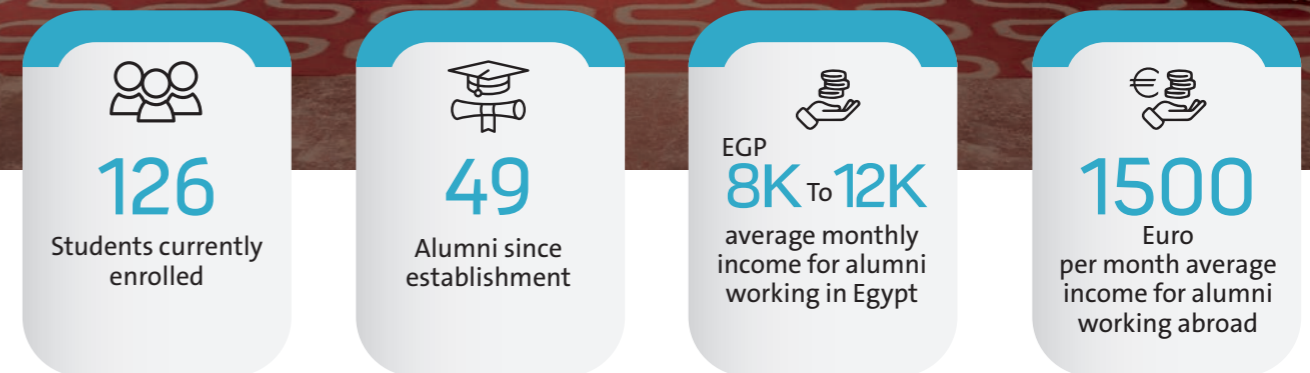
Established in 2023, the Red Sea Yacht (RSY) Institute is Egypt's first specialized institution dedicated to professional yachting training. Licensed by the Egyptian Authority for Maritime Safety (EAMS) and accredited by the Royal Yachting Association (RYA) in the United Kingdom, the Institute seeks to prepare a cadre of highly qualified maritime professionals for careers in the yachting and broader maritime sectors. Its training programs combine theoretical knowledge with hands-on practical experience, ensuring alignment with international standards.



معهد البحر الأحمر لليخوت
RED SEA YACHTING INSTITUTE



RSY in Numbers



Results | 2025

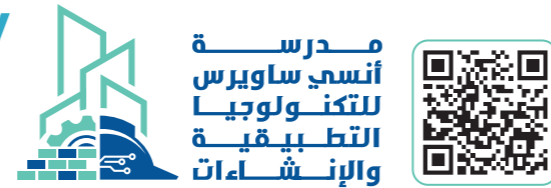
Field visits to marinas and yachts organized to enhance hands-on practical experience.

Onboard behavior and maritime environment training conducted to advance professional competencies.

English language development programs delivered in collaboration with Berlitz.

Onsi Sawiris Applied Technology & Construction School (OSATCS)

A leading model of applied technical education in Egypt, dedicated to cultivating highly skilled professionals in construction and finishing trades. The school offers a cutting-edge learning environment featuring fully equipped workshops and laboratories, complemented by hands-on training at real work sites. Accredited at Level B by the German Chamber of Industry and Commerce (AHK), OSATCS equips students with internationally recognized competencies tailored to meet the evolving demands of Egypt's construction sector.



مدرسة
أنسي ساويرس
للتكنولوجيا
التطبيقية
والإنشاءات

بالشراكة مع



The school embodies the vision of the late engineer Onsi Sawiris, who championed investment in technical education as a key driver of economic growth and the development of a highly skilled workforce.



66

Students currently enrolled

Key Activities | 2025

- First-year high school students achieved a 100% pass rate in their end-of-year examinations.
- A summer camp in Badr City was conducted, focusing on entrepreneurship and artificial intelligence
- Students participated in hands-on internships at Orascom Construction sites.
- School facilities were renovated and upgraded, with workshops and laboratories fully equipped.



The Higher and Executive Education Program

Investing in Leaders... Empowering Change Agents

The Higher and Executive Education Program is designed to enable young leaders and high-achieving students to advance their academic, professional, and leadership capabilities through a diverse portfolio of executive education programs and scholarship opportunities, both in Egypt and abroad. The program seeks to cultivate a generation of talented individuals poised to drive meaningful progress within their institutions and communities by providing access to high-quality learning experiences across management, public policy, science, the arts, and innovation.

Additionally, the program establishes diverse educational pathways—including executive education, international scholarships, and local scholarship programs—positioning education as a transformative force for empowerment and the full realization of human potential.



The Executive Education Program

The Executive Education Program is designed to enhance the capabilities of emerging leaders and professionals across sectors through targeted training initiatives. These programs focus on developing expertise in good governance, public policy, digital transformation, and institutional innovation, equipping participants to drive meaningful change within both public and private sector organizations.



Results | 2025

54 Leaders received scholarships through executive education programs.

77 Students were awarded scholarships within Egypt.

6 Students received international scholarships.

2 Students were awarded the Sawiris Arts and Culture Scholarship.

9 Artists participated in art residency programs.

71 High-achieving secondary school students were awarded scholarships.

54 

Executive leaders completed specialized training in good governance, digital transformation, innovation, and healthcare governance.

Program is Managed by

المعهد القومي للحكومة
والتنمية المستدامة
National Institute for Governance
& Sustainable Development



Highlights of the scholarships offered


Onsi Sawiris Scholarship Program

The Onsi Sawiris Scholarship (OSSP) is one of the Sawiris Foundation's most distinguished international scholarship programs, supporting exceptional Egyptian students in pursuing undergraduate and master's degrees at leading universities in the United States across a wide spectrum of scientific and economic disciplines. The scholarship is designed to cultivate a generation of highly skilled professionals poised to drive Egypt's development, empowering them to become transformative agents of change within their communities and professional spheres.



Yousriya Loza Sawiris Scholarship Program

The Yousriya Loza Sawiris Scholarship (YLSS) supports exceptional Egyptian students pursuing a Master's degree in Development Practice (MDP) at the Humphrey School of Public Affairs, University of Minnesota, USA. The scholarship is designed to equip graduate students with the knowledge and competencies necessary to analyze and address complex global sustainable development challenges, including poverty, population dynamics, public health, environmental conservation, climate change, and human rights.

 **19** Total Students Since Program's Launch in 2016

Results | 2025

2 students were awarded the YLSS Scholarship.

Program is Managed by




Partner University



Sawiris Arts and Culture Scholarship (SACS) Program




The Sawiris Arts and Culture Scholarship (SACS) supports talented Egyptian students aspiring to careers in the arts and creative industries, offering opportunities for advanced study and specialized training at leading universities and prestigious artistic institutions worldwide. The program aims to cultivate a new generation of creative talent, empowering them to elevate and promote Egyptian art and culture on both regional and global stages.

 **15** Total Students Since Program's Launch in 2019

Results | 2025

2 students were awarded scholarships to pursue master's degrees in Film and Music.



 **18** Total Students Since Program's Launch in 2000

Results | 2025

3 students were awarded scholarships to the University of Pennsylvania, pursuing majors in economics and mechanical engineering.

Partner



Program is Managed by



Partner University



stARTing

نقطة انطلاق Point




ART RESIDENCY SCHOLARSHIP

منحة الإقامة الفنية

StARTing Point Art Residency Program

Building on the success of its inaugural edition, the second edition of the StARTing Point Art Residency Program was launched to support emerging artists and foster their creative skills across disciplines such as painting, sculpture, photography, and printmaking. The program offers a dedicated creative space at the Fayoum Art Center in Tunis Village, where artists can develop their projects during residencies ranging from one to three months. This year, the program generated strong interest, attracting nearly 600 applications from across Egypt.



 **13** Total Artists Supported Since Program's Launch in 2023

Results | 2025


18 artist residencies were supported at Fayoum Art Center.



Sawiris–DAAD Scholarship Program (Germany)

The Sawiris–DAAD Scholarship enables outstanding Egyptian students to pursue their studies at leading German universities in partnership with the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD). The program aims to cultivate a cadre of academic and research professionals equipped to advance higher education and scientific research in Egypt.



 **13** Total Students Since Program Launch in 2016

Results | 2025

One student was selected to pursue an integrated bachelor's and master's program at Heidelberg University in Germany.

Partner

DAAD Egypt

Sawiris Distinction Scholarship Program

The Sawiris Distinction Scholarship (SDS) is designed to expand equitable access to higher education for approximately 60 academically outstanding Egyptian high school graduates, including high-achieving students with disabilities. Through fully funded scholarships, the program enables recipients to pursue high-quality tertiary education at leading universities across Egypt.



Launch of the Sawiris–Vodafone Scholarship (Tech-Start):

In 2025, the scholarship expanded with a new track in partnership with Vodafone: the Sawiris–Vodafone Technology Scholarship (Tech-Start). This track supports high-achieving students in technology and digital fields, aiming to cultivate a skilled young workforce ready to meet the demands of a rapidly evolving digital landscape. With the addition of Tech-Start, the scholarship now comprises three main tracks, fostering academic excellence while addressing the evolving needs of the labor market.

Partner  مؤسسة فودافون للتوعية المجتمعية

 **25**
Total Students Awarded

Sawiris Distinction Scholarship for Public High School Graduates

45  Total Students Awarded

Sawiris Distinction Scholarship for Students with Disabilities

11  Total Students Awarded

Partner Universities

Student Track for People with Disabilities



General track for high school graduates



Digital Technology Student Track

Managed by



Higher Education Grants

Continued monitoring of **392** students who received various scholarships from the Foundation, both inside and outside Egypt.



Scholarships	Degree	Disciplines	Country
Onsi Sawiris Scholarship (OSSP) (USA)	Bachelor's Degree	Engineering, Economics, Finance, Management	
	Master's Degree	Business Administration, Engineering	Managed by Partner
Yousriya Loza-Sawiris Scholarship (YLSS)	Master's Degree	Development Practice	Partner
Sawiris Arts & Culture Scholarship (SACS)	Bachelor's Degree Master's Degree Art Residencies	Visual Arts, Performing Arts, Film Industry, and Music	The world's leading universities, with a focus on Europe and North America
Sawiris Distinction Scholarship for High School Graduates	Bachelor's Degree	Engineering, Sciences, Information Technology, Economics and Political Science, Business, Media, Law, Agriculture, Nursing	
			Managed by Partner
Sawiris Distinction Scholarship for Students with Disabilities	Bachelor's Degree	Various disciplines offered by partner institutions	
Vodafone-Sawiris Tech-Start Scholarship	Bachelor's Degree	Computer Engineering and Software Systems, Communication Systems Engineering, Mechatronics and Automation Engineering, Bioinformatics Technology, Software Engineering, Artificial Intelligence, Cybersecurity, Digital Multimedia, Robotics Computing, Mechatronics and Robotics Engineering, Electromechanical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Graphics and Game Development	
			Managed by Partner
Sawiris-DAAD Scholarship	Bachelor's degree, with the possibility of a subsequent scholarship for a .master's degree	Available across all academic disciplines, excluding medicine.	Partner

Ahmed

From Challenge to Change, Innovation in Range

"In my journey through illness, I knew no despair; it became the force that spurred me to dare."



From his earliest years, life had not been easy for Ahmed. Every movement demanded effort, and words sometimes lingered, reluctant to emerge; yet within him thrived a boundless inner world, fearless and unwavering. He grew up aware of his difference, yet never saw it as a flaw—rather, as a singular experience that shaped his consciousness and gifted him with a rare sensitivity, both to pain... and, just as profoundly, to hope.

In quiet moments, he dreamed—gently—of deciphering the mysteries of the human body and of creating something that might reach beyond the confines of his own experience.

During his high school years, Ahmed's dream began to take clearer shape. He came to believe that science could illuminate his struggle—and perhaps serve as a means to ease the suffering of others walking a similar path. Yet the journey was far from easy. Alongside his health challenges, he carried a quiet sense of isolation, often hesitant to reach out for fear of rejection. His confidence sometimes wavered, and he longed for a space where he could simply be himself—free, unjudged, and fully embraced.

Then came the Sawiris Excellence Scholarship—a defining juncture that opened a new path, fostering both confidence and a sense of belonging within a community that champions innovation and collaboration.

Upon majoring in electrical engineering and control systems, Ahmed began to discover his potential from an entirely new perspective. No longer merely a student striving for grades, he became a seeker of solutions—a young man who viewed every challenge as an opportunity to grow and to push the boundaries of what was possible.

Within just two brief years, Ahmed and a group of like-minded peers joined forces, driven by curiosity and purpose, to develop an ambitious innovation: a device designed to support individuals with motor impairments

and assist physiotherapists in their work. It could measure muscle responses and monitor heartbeats, intervening automatically when needed—ensuring greater precision in treatment while easing the burden on both patients and caregivers. This innovation was far more than a university project—it mirrored a profound personal journey, transformed into a driving force to innovate.

When Ahmed took the stage at the GEN Z program, he was doing more than pitching an idea—he was telling the story of an entire journey, from challenge to newfound confidence. In that moment, he earned not only the admiration of the judges but also the heartfelt acclaim of the audience. The applause was more than mere appreciation; it was a true acknowledgment of what a person can accomplish when given the right opportunity. Soon after came triumph and tangible support: he secured funding to bring his project to life, drawing his dream ever closer to reality.

Today, Ahmed is no longer the young man who once observed from the sidelines; he has stepped into the heart of the action as a leader and innovator, shaping a solution capable of transforming countless lives.

Ahmed's story is far more than a tale of academic achievement or success in an innovation competition; it is a deeply human journey, demonstrating that challenges can signal the start of a path, not its end. Looking ahead, he aspires to refine his innovation further and broaden its reach, continuing his work in research and development, and turning knowledge into tangible impact that resonates in people's everyday lives. This inspiring journey reminds us that access can be potentially transformative, and that a single genuine opportunity holds the power to spark a story of change far greater than we could ever imagine.

Learning & Strategy

Knowledge-Driven Impact and Informed Decision-Making

The sector operates through four seamlessly integrated components, collectively dedicated to the generation of knowledge, the advancement of evidence-based practice, and the promotion of continuous organizational learning. Together, these efforts safeguard the effectiveness and sustainability of programs, inform strategic decision-making, support the rigorous monitoring and evaluation of projects, and systematically capture and document lessons learned alongside exemplary practices.

Through these integrated efforts, the sector enables the Sawiris Foundation to make informed, agile, and high-impact decisions that respond to the evolving needs of the communities it serves.



Sector Objectives in line with the Foundation's 2023–2028 Strategy

The Learning & Strategy Sector is entrusted with guiding and shaping the Foundation's overarching vision and strategic trajectory, with a particular emphasis on advancing the learning framework and generating robust, evidence-based insights. Its mandate encompasses the design of programs, the systematic capture and documentation of lessons learned, the assurance of technical accountability across projects, and the continuous refinement of policies grounded in empirical evidence.

The sector further leads comprehensive needs assessments, delivers targeted capacity-building initiatives, and strengthens the Foundation's digital information systems. In parallel, it coordinates the dissemination of development knowledge, represents the Foundation in scientific and policy fora, cultivates strategic partnerships, and nurtures a culture of continuous organizational learning.

The Learning & Strategy Sector is structured around four principal components:

Strategy

- Lead the development of the Sawiris Foundation's strategic plan, including protocols for crisis preparedness and disaster response, informed by scientific evidence, rigorous statistical analysis, and regular reporting to optimize the impact and outcomes of the Foundation's initiatives.
- Oversee and ensure the effective implementation of programmatic plans in alignment with clearly defined performance indicators, fostering measurable progress and strengthening the effectiveness of development interventions.

Monitoring & Information Systems

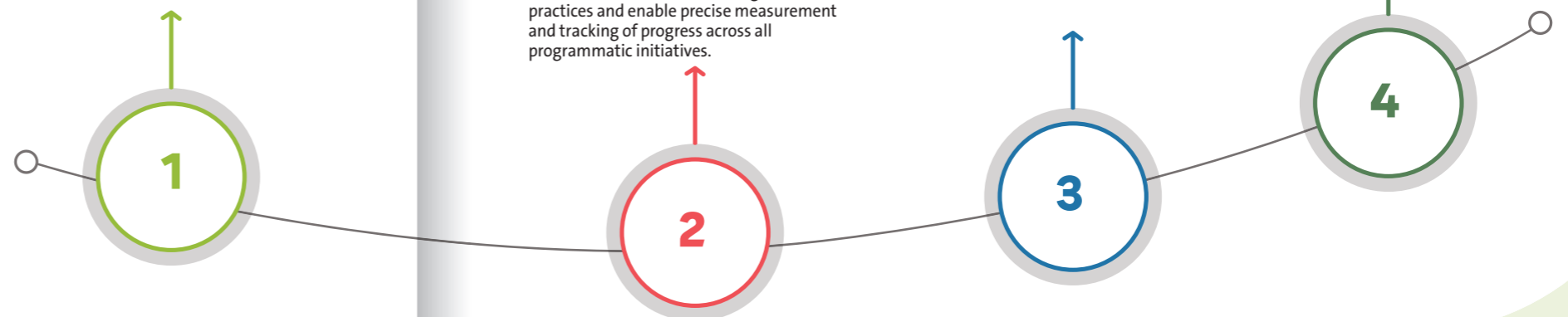
- Ensure a robust, integrated monitoring system to assess the performance of the Foundation's programs and partner organizations, enabling thorough data collection, insightful analysis, and rigorous assessment of implementation quality against clearly defined benchmarks and performance indicators.
- Strengthen the capabilities of the Foundation's teams and partner organizations by equipping them with the knowledge, expertise, and skills required for meaningful and effective engagement in monitoring, data collection, and analysis.
- Develop and implement standardized monitoring instruments and reporting frameworks that harmonize organizational practices and enable precise measurement and tracking of progress across all programmatic initiatives.

Evaluation

- Enhance the design of the Foundation's programs and projects by leveraging rigorous scientific evidence and insights generated through systematic monitoring and evaluation.
- Produce knowledge and develop policy-relevant evidence to inform the decision-making process.
- Lead process evaluations of the Foundation's projects and oversee impact assessments in partnership with governmental and non-governmental stakeholders.
- Conduct comprehensive community needs assessments and identify critical development gaps to guide and prioritize the Foundation's interventions.

Learning and Innovation

- Support the Foundation's teams and partners by providing access to the latest scientific evidence to inform the design and management of development projects, while enhancing their capacity to interpret and apply this knowledge effectively in program implementation.
- Document the Foundation's successful experiences and institutional learning models, disseminating them both internally and externally to foster knowledge exchange, promote best practices, and amplify development impact.

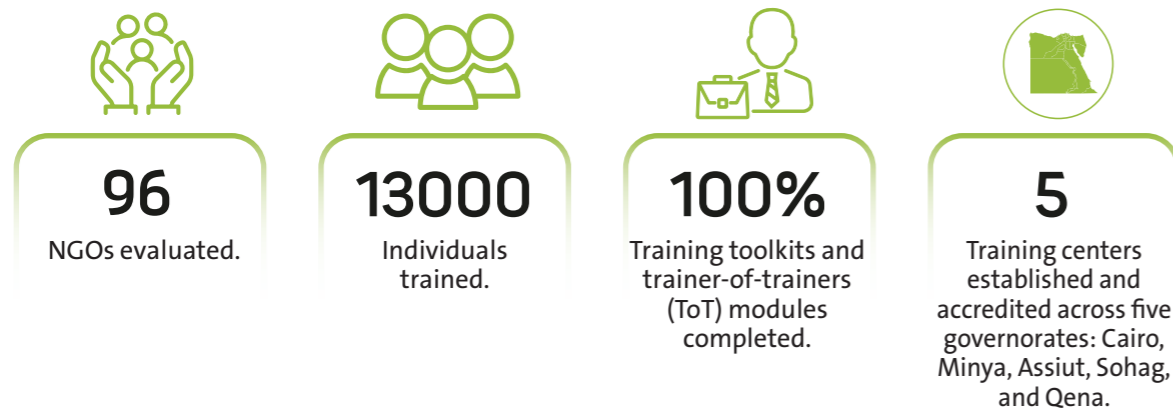


Key Projects

"Capacity Building of Egyptian Non-Governmental Organizations" Project

The project aims to maximize the impact of development programs implemented by civil society organizations across five governorates by strengthening their institutional capacities and enhancing their ability to design and deliver evidence-based programs aligned with best development practices.

Key Project Milestones



The "Comprehensive Survey of NGOs" Project

Amid growing social and economic challenges, the role of NGOs has become increasingly vital in supporting development efforts. In this context, the Sawiris Foundation is collaborating with the Economic Research Forum (ERF) and the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics (CAPMAS) to implement the first comprehensive survey of NGOs in Egypt. The initiative aims to provide a deeper understanding of the sector's landscape and the challenges it faces, thereby informing the development of more effective policies and programs.

The survey focuses on assessing the operational status of NGOs, their scope of impact, and the activities they undertake. It also examines key challenges, including funding constraints and the policy and regulatory environment, while evaluating the effectiveness and impact of their programs. In addition, the study analyzes funding sources and financial management practices, and explores patterns of collaboration and partnerships between NGOs, government entities, the private sector, and donor agencies.

'Egypt Impact Lab' Project – Phase II

As part of ongoing efforts to strengthen evidence-based policymaking, Phase II of the Egypt Impact Lab (EIL) was launched in collaboration with the Ministry of Planning and Economic Development (MoPED) and Community Jameel, under the supervision of the Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL), with a total budget of EGP 100 million over three years. The EIL aims to support national initiatives by designing and implementing interventions grounded in rigorous evaluations, while delivering training programs to enhance the capacity of civil servants to apply evidence-based methodologies.

Phase II of the EIL specifically encompasses:

- Funding the Hub of Advanced Policy Innovation for the Environment (HAPIE).
- Conducting rigorous impact assessments of social protection programs.
- Providing scholarships to academic researchers and scholars in economics and related fields.

Hub of Advanced Policy Innovation for the Environment

With the support of the Sawiris Foundation and Community Jameel, the Ministry of Planning, Economic Development, and International Cooperation has launched the Hub of Advanced Policy Innovation for the Environment (HAPIE) in collaboration with the Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL) Middle East and North Africa. HAPIE, as part of the Clean Air and Water Labs initiative and an extension of the Egypt Impact Lab (EIL), seeks to expand the lab's mandate to address critical environmental, energy, and climate change challenges. Working closely with government stakeholders, HAPIE designs and implements evidence-based solutions to tackle these urgent issues.

Promotional Video



The Egyptian Observatory for Evaluation and Policy Making

The Egyptian Observatory for Evaluation and Policy Making (EOEPM) was established with the support of the Sawiris Foundation, which serves as both a founding member and a principal funding partner. The Observatory is the outcome of a strategic collaboration between the National Planning Institute (NPI), the Information and Decision Support Center (IDSC), the Ministry of Planning and Economic Development (MoPED), and the International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie). This initiative underscores the Foundation's steadfast commitment to advancing evidence-based policymaking in Egypt and across the broader region. EOEPM is tasked with promoting the integration of rigorous scientific evidence into the development of national public policies by establishing systematic mechanisms for evidence review, prioritizing research agendas, and providing technical guidance to government entities for implementing interventions grounded in robust evaluations. The Observatory represents a landmark step in mainstreaming evidence-informed practices across decision-making circles and state institutions, strengthening transparency, enhancing accountability, and elevating the overall quality of public policy.

The Integrated Observatory for Early Warning of Crises and Disasters

The Integrated Observatory for Early Warning of Crises and Disasters (OEWCDC) was launched by the Sawiris Foundation in partnership with the Information and Decision Support Center (IDSC) at the Egyptian Cabinet, with the aim of strengthening the national disaster risk reduction system. The initiative focuses on developing advanced early warning systems that leverage high-quality data and rigorous scientific analysis, enhancing the capacity of governorates to anticipate crises and disasters and enabling timely, coordinated, and effective responses.

Key Milestones and Events

Pathways to Prosperity – Dissemination of Impact Evaluation Results of the Bab Amal Program

In 2025, the final impact evaluation results of the Bab Amal Program—implemented through a partnership between the Sawiris Foundation and the Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL), under the auspices of the Ministry of Social Solidarity (MoSS)—were officially announced at an event titled “Creating Pathways to Prosperity.” The findings revealed statistically significant improvements across multiple key areas, including household consumption, food security, livestock ownership and asset value, and women’s participation in the labor market, alongside modest yet meaningful gains in women’s empowerment. The event also presented a forward-looking strategy to scale the program across Upper Egypt, targeting the most vulnerable households in Assiut, Sohag, Qena, Fayoum, and Minya.

The convening brought together policymakers, development partners, practitioners, and local stakeholders—particularly from Assiut and Sohag—providing a dynamic platform for the exchange of insights and the dissemination of lessons learned. By presenting findings derived from a rigorous randomized evaluation, the event aimed to inform the program’s next phase of expansion, strengthen cross-sector collaboration, and advance innovative, evidence-driven approaches to addressing multidimensional poverty in Egypt.



Conclusion of the Initial Phase of the “Bridging Evidence and Policy” Seminar Series

The Sawiris Foundation successfully concluded the initial phase of its seminar series, “The Pathway to Evidence-Based Policymaking,” implemented in collaboration with the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) and the Egyptian Food Bank (EFB). Held over the course of 2023 and 2024, the series comprised six high-level seminars that convened researchers, policymakers, and development partners to engage in dialogue on a range of priority development issues.

The series made a substantial contribution to the generation and dissemination of development knowledge. Building on the insightful discussions and research presented, the Learning and Innovation team produced two policy briefs: the first examines targeting approaches in development programs in Egypt, while the second addresses the country’s double burden of malnutrition.

During 2025, the following seminars were organized:

Fifth Seminar: Climate-Smart Agriculture and Development Practices in Egypt

This seminar explored pathways for integrating climate-smart agricultural practices into development strategies, enhancing support for smallholder farmers, and addressing the financing challenges they face.

Sixth (Closing) Seminar: Early Childhood Development—Nutrition and Women’s Employment

Held under the auspices of the Ministry of Social Solidarity (MoSS), this concluding seminar presented evidence on effective interventions to support early childhood development while simultaneously promoting women’s participation in the labor market.



**Roundtable:
“The Future of Egyptian Civil Society in the Context of Funding Scarcity”**

The Sawiris Foundation, in partnership with CARE Egypt, convened a roundtable discussion to examine the challenges confronting civil society in Egypt amid a declining international funding landscape. The event brought together over 31 development leaders and experts, alongside representatives from 18 organizations, including donors, civil society organizations, and private-sector partners. Organized as part of the “NGOs Capacity Building” program, the roundtable provided a platform for practical, solution-oriented dialogue. Participants explored the key challenges confronting civil society organizations and proposed strategies to enhance sustainability, including fostering partnerships with the private sector and financial institutions, developing local and regional funding mechanisms, and investing in income-generating social ventures.

The discussion concluded with a set of recommendations emphasizing the importance of collaboration, knowledge-sharing, and cross-sector engagement, ensuring that Egyptian civil society continues to play a pivotal role in advancing the country’s development agenda.

Key Strategic Updates

Launch of the Disaster Preparedness and Response Strategy: Institutional Framework for Relief Funding

The Sawiris Foundation has finalized its Disaster Preparedness and Response Strategy (DPRS) in preparation for the launch of the Integrated Early Warning Observatory (IEWO), established in partnership with the Information and Decision Support Center (IDSC) at the Egyptian Cabinet. IEWO is designed to enhance local preparedness and early detection across five governorates. The strategy provides a comprehensive institutional framework for crisis anticipation, risk management, and the strengthened readiness of local actors, fostering greater coordination, integration, and synergy across national disaster response efforts.

Mainstreaming Climate and Gender Perspectives into the Sawiris Foundation’s Strategy

The Sawiris Foundation has systematically integrated climate change and gender considerations across its programmatic mandate. Its Climate Mainstreaming Strategy has been finalized and is reinforced by a comprehensive set of monitoring and evaluation tools, including climate-specific indicators and sustainability guidelines. Concurrently, a dedicated capacity-building program equips staff with the expertise and skills necessary to effectively embed environmental and gender perspectives across all programs and projects.

Climate Change Mainstreaming Strategy

The Climate Change Mainstreaming Strategy seeks to enhance resilience to climate change and reduce emissions by systematically integrating climate considerations across the Foundation’s programmatic areas and individual initiatives. Its approach focuses on:

- Integrating climate-focused interventions to mitigate climate risks while addressing multidimensional poverty.
- Empowering change agents to adopt and promotes sustainable climate practices.
- Embedding climate-responsive approaches within the Foundation’s management systems and program operations.

Gender Mainstreaming Strategy

The Gender Mainstreaming Strategy seeks to advance gender equity and equality by systematically integrating a gender perspective across the Foundation’s policies, programs, and projects. Its approach focuses on:

- Establishing a robust institutional approach to ensure gender considerations are fully mainstreamed.
- Designing, implementing, and monitoring programs informed by gender analysis to respond to the diverse needs of all populations.
- Strengthening the capacity of partners to effectively integrate gender considerations into their interventions, fostering inclusive and sustainable outcomes.

Foundation programs designed based on rigorous evidence:

Impact Evaluation Studies

In 2025, the Sawiris Foundation conducted nine impact evaluations to generate robust scientific evidence for innovative projects and development interventions that had not previously been studied or tested. These evaluations aimed to measure the actual developmental impact of each initiative while assessing cost-effectiveness. The studies were carried out in partnership with the Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL) and the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), under the guidance of distinguished researchers and experts from leading international universities. This rigorous approach ensures the accuracy and reliability of the findings, strengthens sustainable developmental outcomes, and informs the strategic allocation of resources toward the most effective, high-impact interventions.

Comprehensive Development Project – Tama District, Sohag

Purpose

To determine whether reframing paid work as “volunteering” could serve as a strategy to increase women’s participation in the labor market within the bounds of prevailing social norms, compared with traditional employment, and to examine its effects on women’s decision-making power within the household.

Build 2

Purpose

To assess the impact of employment-focused training programs on young women’s participation in the labor market, their negotiation skills and household decision-making capacity, and to evaluate the effects on their social networks among relatives and peers.

Expansion of Financial Inclusion through Participatory Financing (Micro-Equity)

Purpose

To compare conventional loans with participatory financing models, examining their impact on farmers’ livestock production decisions and the subsequent effects on household income.

Optimal Interest Rate

Purpose

To identify a balanced interest rate that encourages investment and employment among beneficiaries while safeguarding the financial sustainability of microfinance institutions.

Adjusting and Enhancing CSO Preschool Facilities to Increase Enrollment (Ages 0–4)

Purpose

To assess the impact of improved preschool infrastructure and staff training on child development and women’s economic and social empowerment, while examining how targeted empowerment interventions—such as boosting self-efficacy, addressing social norms, and providing employment opportunities with food incentives—affect children’s attendance and women’s participation in the labor market.

Flexible Microfinance

Purpose

To determine whether conventional financing restricts beneficiaries’ investment opportunities by introducing alternative financing modalities—such as grace periods, insurance, and grants—and to assess their effects on profits, as well as on long-term or higher-risk investments among beneficiaries and entrepreneurs.

“Eradati” Financial and Non-Financial Services for Persons with Disabilities and Their Families

Purpose

This evaluation aimed to assess the effectiveness of interest-free loans and technical training in promoting self-employment and improving the economic conditions of persons with disabilities, while comparing the impact of two types of psychosocial support on their economic empowerment and overall well-being.

Transition to Whole Wheat Consumption

Purpose

This evaluation aimed to assess the cost-effectiveness of enhanced nutrition programs and their impact on children’s nutritional status, cognitive development, and academic performance, as well as their indirect effects on younger siblings, benchmarked against international standards.

Integrated Agricultural Solutions for Smallholder Farmers to Enhance Climate Resilience

Purpose

This evaluation aimed to identify the most effective strategies for enhancing smallholder farmers’ profitability and climate resilience through integrated interventions, including targeted financing, contract farming, and digital agricultural advisory and extension services.

Process Evaluations

In 2025, the Sawiris Foundation completed several key process evaluations, including:

Evaluation of “Huli Aswan” (Aswan Jewellery) project The evaluation

Evaluation of “Huli Aswan” (Aswan Jewellery) project
The evaluation demonstrated exceptionally high participant satisfaction, with 96% of trainees expressing contentment with the quality of the training. Additionally, 88% of participants showed measurable improvements in their technical skills. The project also generated a significant social impact, notably in advancing women’s empowerment.

Evaluation of Foster Care System Operationalization Project

This evaluation was conducted to inform and strengthen the design and implementation of future interventions in alternative care, ensuring that its findings are systematically applied to enhance and scale similar programs

Mid-Term Review of the Teaching at the Right Level (TaRL) Project

The evaluation aimed to measure progress against the project’s objectives and outputs, assess the quality of activity implementation consistent with the TaRL methodology, and provide actionable recommendations to enhance performance during the second half of the project’s implementation

Final Evaluation of the Dar wa Salama (“Home and Safety”) Project

This evaluation provided a comprehensive assessment of the project’s overall performance and offered guidance for the design of future initiatives in essential service delivery, aiming to enhance the quality of life in underserved communities

Key Knowledge Products

Blogs

Enabling Evidence-Based Environmental Policy in Egypt: Launch of the Hub of Advanced Policy Innovation for the Environment (HAPIE)

This blog explores Egypt's escalating climate challenges. Despite the country's relatively modest contribution to global emissions, rising temperatures and worsening water scarcity are creating significant environmental pressures that threaten development and exacerbate poverty.

The blog also highlights the launch of the Hub of Advanced Policy Innovation for the Environment (HAPIE), a collaborative initiative designed to bridge gaps in climate knowledge and translate scientific research into actionable policies, thereby strengthening Egypt's capacity to adapt effectively to climate change.



Reports and Policy Briefs

As part of the Sawiris Foundation's efforts to generate and disseminate rigorous development evidence, the Learning and Innovation team produced two policy briefs:

Targeting in Egypt's Development Projects: Methodologies, Challenges, and Lessons Learned

This policy brief synthesizes the key outcomes of a high-level workshop held in Cairo on 20 October 2023, which brought together researchers, development practitioners, and policymakers for an in-depth dialogue on effective targeting in development interventions.

The workshop was organized as part of the seminar series "The Path to Evidence-Based Policymaking," a collaborative initiative between the Egyptian Food Bank, the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), and the Sawiris Foundation (SF). The series provides a platform for knowledge exchange and collaborative learning among donors, local and international implementers, and government representatives, with a particular focus on enhancing the effectiveness and impact of targeting in development programs.



The Double Burden of Malnutrition in Egypt

This policy brief examines the complex challenges affecting access to nutritious food in Egypt, including gaps in infrastructure and fragmented policy and research frameworks. It also outlines a set of proposed solutions to improve nutrition outcomes, such as raising awareness and promoting nutrition education, transitioning from a commodity-based food support system to a voucher-based model, strengthening nutrition service infrastructure, imposing taxes on unhealthy food products, and fortifying staple foods with essential nutrients.



Dr. Zainab

Change Driven by Evidence



A researcher and professor of economics, Dr. Zainab combines years of rigorous study and experience with leading international institutions with a deep, nuanced understanding of development challenges. Yet she recognized that a space remained largely unexplored—a space bridging theoretical insight with precise, hands-on application capable of generating tangible impact in people's lives.

Dr. Zainab holds a Ph.D. in development economics and public policy evaluation from Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne University and the Paris School of Economics (PSE). She has collaborated with leading international organizations, including the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), the World Bank, and the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI). Her challenge was not a lack of experience, but a subtle gap in the most advanced evaluation tools—particularly in designing and implementing randomized controlled trials (RCTs) and connecting them effectively to policy contexts in developing countries.

Determined to bring her research into closer alignment with real-world challenges and enhance its potential for meaningful impact, she joined the Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab Middle East and North Africa (J-PAL MENA) Scholars Fellowship in October 2024, supported by the Sawiris Foundation and the Jameel Community. This marked the beginning of a new phase in her learning journey. The program offered far more than academic instruction; it provided a holistic experience, seamlessly integrating advanced study with practical, hands-on application.

As part of the MIT MicroMasters program in Data, Economics, and Development Policy (DEDP), Dr. Zainab cultivated deep expertise in data analysis, experimental evaluation design, and translating economic theory into actionable practice. The true turning point, however, came when she began developing a research proposal grounded in a randomized controlled evaluation—shifting from merely asking questions to designing solutions that could be rigorously tested and

implemented. This was more than an academic milestone; it fundamentally transformed the way she approaches research.

Through her involvement in an impact evaluation project, mentored and guided directly by J-PAL experts, she honed her ability to translate research insights into practical interventions—solutions with tangible relevance for informing policy decisions. This transformation also reshaped her role as an educator, as she began weaving experimental evaluation methods more deeply into her courses, giving students hands-on experience in how research can be translated into policies that genuinely make a difference.

Reflecting on her journey, Dr. Zainab notes: "The moments that impacted me the most were those when I realized that each randomized trial was not merely a test of a hypothesis—it could mean a child gaining access to education, a family seeing its income rise, or a marginalized community receiving essential services." This realization redefined her understanding of research—from the mere production of knowledge to a profound human responsibility. It also reshaped her role as an educator, inspiring her to integrate experimental evaluation methods more deeply into her teaching and provide students with practical, hands-on insight into how research can inform policies that truly transform lives.

Today, Dr. Zainab sees the future as an organic extension of this journey. She is actively implementing the research proposal she developed, translating it into a field-based project in collaboration with implementing partners—creating a living model of how evidence-based learning can generate tangible, real-world impact.

Dr. Zainab's story serves as a powerful reminder that investing in knowledge goes far beyond building capacity; it is about empowering researchers to transform science into tools for informed decision-making, more equitable policies, and meaningful, lasting impact in people's lives.

Partnership

The Partnerships Sector is dedicated to reinforcing collaboration with existing partners while forging new, high-impact alliances that expand the Foundation's reach and deepen the influence of its programs. This strategic direction is firmly aligned with Sustainable Development Goal 17: "Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development."

In advancing this mandate, the Sawiris Foundation engages in sustained partnership with government stakeholders, private sector actors, and civil society organizations. This collaborative approach is anchored in the conviction that the meaningful exchange of knowledge and expertise among partners enables more efficient resource allocation and sharper prioritization—thereby enhancing the effectiveness and overall impact of development interventions.

Sector Performance | 2025



8

New Partners



180+

Million EGP in Total Partner Contributions



31

Total Partners Supporting 41 Projects



26

EGP Million – Total Contributions from Implementing NGOs



432

EGP Million in New Funding Agreements to Support Projects and Initiatives to be Implemented in the Coming Years





**Sector Objective
in Line with the
Sawiris Foundation's
2023 – 2028 Strategy**



Scaling partner contributions to

180

EGP Million until 2025

%101

Achievement Rate

**Key Contributions of
the Partnerships Sector in 2025**

Cultivating New Partnerships with Local and International Stakeholders



A Partnership for Change: Signing the First MOU with the Essam and May Allam Foundation for Sustainable Development

The Sawiris Foundation launched a landmark partnership with the Essam and May Allam Foundation for Sustainable Development under the banner “Partnering for Change: Evidence-Based and Impact-Driven” during a ceremony held at the Grand Egyptian Museum on 9 September 2025. The event was graced by the presence of H.E. Dr. Maya Morsi, Minister of Social Solidarity; H.E. Dr. Rania Al-Mashat, Minister of Planning, Economic Development, and International Cooperation; and H.E. Mr. Éric Chevalier, French Ambassador to Egypt, alongside prominent public figures and development partners.

The agreement was formally signed by Eng. Naguib Sawiris and Eng. Hassan Allam, marking the commencement of a four-year collaboration (2025–2029)

 **200**
EG Million total

investments partnership aims to advance evidence-based programs in

Multidimensional poverty reduction

Education

Climate-smart agriculture

thereby enhancing the reach and impact of development interventions across Upper Egypt.

The ceremony also featured a panel discussion titled “How Partnerships Can Forge a New Model of Development in Egypt”, which examined the pivotal role of evidence-driven development partnerships in supporting Egypt’s national agenda for inclusive growth and the empowerment of local communities.



Signing a New Partnership with the Carrefour Foundation and the French Development Agency (AFD) to Support Children Without Parental Care

The Sawiris Foundation has formalized a new MOU with the Carrefour Foundation and the Agence Française de Développement (AFD), marking the Carrefour Foundation's engagement in a project implemented in collaboration with Samusocial International. This initiative is designed to support children living in street situations in Egypt by providing comprehensive, integrated care, including food security, shelter, education, and psychosocial support.

The Carrefour Foundation's contribution to this partnership amounts to approximately €160,000. The signing ceremony, held at the AFD headquarters in France, underscored the partners' shared commitment to enhancing the lives of children without parental care and enabling them to access more stable, secure, and promising opportunities for the future.



Empowering Smallholder Farmers in Partnership with the Agence Française de Développement, the Louis Dreyfus Foundation, and the Essam and May Allam Foundation for Sustainable Development

The Sawiris Foundation has formalized a Memorandum of Understanding in Paris with the Agence Française de Développement (AFD), the Louis Dreyfus Foundation, and the Essam and May Allam Foundation for Sustainable Development to launch a strategic initiative benefiting approximately 1,700 smallholder farmers in the Sohag and Minya governorates. The initiative seeks to facilitate access to finance and promote the adoption of climate-smart agricultural practices, fostering sustainable livelihoods and resilience across rural farming communities.

The Sawiris Foundation's contribution to this initiative totals EGP 14,980,676, complemented by partner contributions of EGP 23,239,291, demonstrating the power of collaborative action in mobilizing resources to empower smallholder farmers.

The project includes technical assistance, the strengthening of agricultural contracting in partnership with Mozare3 as the implementing partner, and a rigorous impact evaluation study conducted in collaboration with the Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL).

The signing ceremony, held at the AFD headquarters in France, was attended by H.E. Alaa Youssef, Egypt's Ambassador to France, alongside representatives from all partner organizations. This initiative builds upon the strategic partnership between the Sawiris Foundation and AFD, established in 2017, which continues to advance high-impact programs supporting Egypt's most vulnerable populations.



Launch of the Vodafone-Sawiris Tech-Start Scholarship for High School Graduates

The Sawiris Foundation has signed a cooperation protocol with the Vodafone Egypt Foundation for Community Development, valued at EGP 21,165,250, to launch the “Vodafone–Sawiris Tech-Start” scholarship. This initiative will provide 25 fully funded scholarships to outstanding high school graduates, enabling them to pursue tertiary studies in computer science, information technology, and technology-focused engineering programs at some of Egypt’s leading universities. The scholarship complements the Foundation’s broader commitment to expanding access to higher education for high-achieving students, alongside its flagship Sawiris Distinction Scholarship.

This partnership aims to create pathways for exceptional young talents to access advanced technological education, equipping them with the skills, knowledge, and expertise required to excel in the technology and digital economy sectors. The program is administered and implemented by Aspire.



Forging Partnership Agreements to Scale the Impact of the Bab Amal Program

The Sawiris Foundation has signed a new agreement with ExxonMobil Egypt, valued at EGP1 million, to expand support for the Bab Amal program in the Assiut governorate, increasing the number of households benefiting from the company’s assistance to approximately 100 families. This collaboration builds on the longstanding partnership between the two organizations, established in 2022, and reflects the partners’ confidence in the program’s evidence-based model and its proven capacity to deliver meaningful, lasting improvements in the lives of Egypt’s most vulnerable households in Upper Egypt.

In parallel, the Foundation formalized a partnership agreement with the Essam and May Allam Foundation for Sustainable Development and the Shorouk Misr Association for Microfinance to implement the Bab Amal program in the Minya governorate, supporting approximately 470 households.

The Sawiris Foundation's Role as Impact Partner in 8th El Gouna Film Festival GFF



In 2025, the Sawiris Foundation significantly strengthened its strategic partnership with the El Gouna Film Festival, supporting eight innovative initiatives that highlighted the transformative power of art in driving positive societal change, empowering youth, and uplifting vulnerable communities.

Waves of Hope: Hosting Academy Award-winning actress and UNHCR Global Goodwill Ambassador, Cate Blanchett, at the GFF

The Sawiris Foundation was pleased to host Academy Award-winning actress and UNHCR Global Goodwill Ambassador, Cate Blanchett, at the eighth edition of the El Gouna Film Festival with the theme “Cinema for Humanity.”

Her visit included a series of high-profile engagements that underscored the transformative power of art in advancing humanitarian causes. Blanchett was honored with the “Champion of Humanity” award in recognition of her global advocacy for the rights of refugees and displaced persons, during a ceremony attended by prominent figures from the arts and development communities.

The visit also coincided with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Sawiris Foundation, the El Gouna Film Festival, and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). The agreement aims to strengthen collaboration in support of refugees and to raise awareness of their challenges through the festival’s platform.

The partnership further underscores the Sawiris Foundation’s commitment to providing annual scholarships for refugee students at the German Hotel School El Gouna (GHS) and to showcasing refugee-produced handicrafts within the Foundation’s dedicated cabana at the festival—thereby promoting both economic inclusion and cultural visibility.



Cinema for Humanity Award: Harnessing the Transformative Power of Film to Inspire Social Change



In 2025, the Sawiris Foundation presented the “Cinema for Humanity” Award, valued at EGP 1 million, jointly honoring the films *Put Your Spirit in Your Hand* and *Walk* (a co-production between France, Palestine, and Iran) and *Happy Birthday* (an Egyptian production).

The award recognizes cinematic works that embody the humanitarian values championed by the Foundation, while supporting their global reach and visibility. Through the compelling portrayal of human stories, these films demonstrate the transformative power of cinema to inspire social change and elevate collective consciousness.

CineGouna Funding: Elevating Influential Egyptian Voices

In collaboration with the Drosos Foundation, the Sawiris Foundation awarded a USD 10,000 grant to support a film in development, aimed at nurturing emerging voices exploring pressing humanitarian and social issues aligned with the Foundation’s mission. The grant was awarded to *American Dream: The Return of Captain Kabonga*, directed by Amir El-Shenawy.

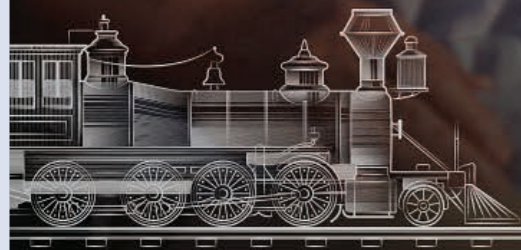


CINEGOUNA WINNERS

CineGouna Emerge: Nurturing Emerging Talent in Cinema



In partnership with the Drosos Foundation and the European Union Delegation in Egypt, the Sawiris Foundation enabled 120 young filmmakers, including recent graduates, emerging professionals, and rising talents, to participate in the CineGouna Emerge program at the El Gouna Film Festival. The Foundation provided comprehensive support covering travel, accommodation, and living expenses, while granting participants unparalleled access to film screenings, panel discussions, masterclasses, workshops, and networking opportunities with leading figures from the global cinema landscape—fostering the next generation of creative voices.



باب الحديد
مئوية يوسف شاهين
100 Years of Youssef Chahine

Youssef Chahine Exhibition: A Centennial Tribute to a Visionary Filmmaker Who Shaped Change



In commemoration of the birth centenary of the legendary filmmaker Youssef Chahine, the Sawiris Foundation honored his artistic legacy through the Bab El-Hadid exhibition, curated by Sherine Fargl with the Foundation's support. The exhibition evokes Chahine's visionary cinema, which addressed pressing social issues and championed marginalized communities, underscoring his pivotal role in redefining Arab cinema and establishing its resonance on the global stage. His body of work continues to inspire successive generations of filmmakers and audiences, perpetuating a lasting legacy of creativity and social engagement.

From Script to Screen: Sawiris Screenplay Lab



The Sawiris Foundation launched the Sawiris Screenplay Lab in partnership with the Sard Initiative – Mariam Naoum and the El Gouna Film Festival. As part of the festival, five shortlisted screenplays were selected for dedicated support, offering their creators the opportunity to present their projects to producers and leading figures in the film industry.

This initiative is designed to nurture emerging cinematic voices and guide the development of their work from initial concept to fully realized film productions.

Our Heritage, Our Strength: Sawiris Handicrafts Cabana

For the fifth consecutive year, the El Gouna Film Festival featured the Sawiris Foundation's Handicrafts Cabana, organized in partnership with the Tawasol Association. This initiative seeks to economically empower Egyptian artisans while preserving the country's rich traditional crafts, offering a platform for their creations to reach both local and international audiences. In 2025, 31 associations and artisans from 13 governorates participated, transforming the Cabana into a vibrant tapestry of cultural creativity and resilience.



El Gouna Film Festival Bag 2025: A symbol of creativity and resilience

For the fifth year running, the Foundation also coordinated the production of the festival's official bag in collaboration with Tawasol and the festival management. Tawasol provides sustainable livelihoods for marginalized communities in Istabl Antar and Ezbet Khairallah. Each bag, meticulously handcrafted by women from Ezbet Khairallah through Tawasol's economic empowerment programs, carries within its threads a story of hope—woven by determined hands shaping a brighter future for themselves and their families.

Strategic Events and Activities



Back to School Heroes: Annual Celebration

Under the patronage of the Ministry of Social Solidarity (MoSS), the Sawiris Foundation hosted the fifth annual Back to School Heroes celebration, in partnership with Bank of Alexandria, Ora Real Estate Development, Star Care Foundation, Majid Al Futtaim/Carrefour Egypt, and Samusocial International Egypt.

Held at Zayed Park in Sheikh Zayed City, the celebration featured a vibrant program of recreational activities, artistic performances, and musical showcases for approximately 1,000 children from marginalized communities, including street-connected children, children without parental care, children with disabilities, and cancer survivors. The event offered encouragement and support at the outset of the academic year, fostering a renewed sense of possibility and confidence among young participants.

This initiative reflects the partners' shared commitment to empowering Egypt's most vulnerable children, rooted in the belief that investing in them today lays the foundation for a more just and equitable future.



Organizing and Supporting New Editions of Diarna Exhibition

Egypt Speaks through Its Crafts

Building on its ongoing commitment to empowering artisans, expanding their access to markets, and preserving Egypt's rich cultural heritage, the Sawiris Foundation supported the organization of three editions of the Diarna Handicrafts and Heritage Exhibition in 2025, held under the patronage of the Ministry of Social Solidarity (MoSS).

The 70th edition opened at Cairo Festival City Mall, bringing together approximately 400 exhibitors from across Egypt's governorates. In addition, El Gouna hosted two further editions, strategically scheduled during major holiday seasons to attract high visitor turnout, thereby offering artisans enhanced opportunities to showcase their work, strengthen their market presence, and engage with a broader audience.

A total of 51 exhibitors participated in the Sham El-Nessim edition, while the number rose to more than 70 exhibitors in the Christmas edition, reflecting the exhibition's growing momentum and expanding reach.

First Athletic Day under the Bridges of Opportunity Initiative



The Sawiris Foundation co-organized the inaugural Sports Day for approximately 300 children without parental care, in partnership with Carrefour Egypt, Ora Real Estate Development, the French Development Agency, RATP Dev Cairo, the RATP Foundation, Bank of Alexandria, and Samusocial International – Egypt.

The event was held under the Bridges of Opportunity initiative, which seeks to support children living in street situations or residing in care institutions through a comprehensive program of activities and services. These include athletic activities that offer a meaningful pathway for social reintegration, complemented by rehabilitation programs designed to strengthen the children's skills and readiness for future economic inclusion.

Regional and International Events

OECD Board Meeting

The Sawiris Foundation participated in the annual meeting of the Global Network of Foundations Working for Development (netFWD) under the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in Paris. The gathering convened prominent leaders from international institutions to examine the role of philanthropy in advancing sustainable development financing. The meeting concluded with a keynote address by Ms. Laila Hossny, the Foundation's Executive Director, who highlighted the importance of collective action, emphasized the need for reinforced multilateral cooperation, and advocated for the adoption of innovative financing mechanisms to support global development initiatives.



African Philanthropy Forum

The Sawiris Foundation took part in the workshop “Strategies for Building Long-Term Partnerships,” held virtually via Zoom and attended by over 100 participants representing civil society organizations and development institutions from across Africa.

Conference on Financing for Development

The Sawiris Foundation participated in the breakout session “Philanthropic Finance as a Catalyst for Development,” organized by the OECD’s Network of Foundations Working for Development (netFWD) on the sidelines of the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4) in Seville, Spain. The session brought together representatives from the Children’s Investment Fund Foundation (CIFF) and the King Khalid Foundation, alongside Ms. Laila Hossny, Executive Director of the Sawiris Foundation, to explore the evolving role of philanthropic finance in advancing sustainable development. Concurrently, the Foundation participated in the launch of the “Scaling Circle” initiative, in collaboration with the OECD and the Agence Française de Développement (AFD). The initiative aims to strengthen collaboration between philanthropic organizations, development banks, and public financing institutions, thereby expanding the scale and enhancing the impact of development interventions. Each partner contributes approximately €120,000 to support this joint effort.



Second World Summit for Social Development

The Sawiris Foundation participated in a breakout session organized by the OECD’s Network of Foundations Working for Development (netFWD) on the sidelines of the Second World Summit for Social Development in Doha, Qatar. The session provided a platform to highlight the role of philanthropic institutions in global development, emphasizing their value as strategic partners in advancing shared priorities and mobilizing resources for sustainable impact. The summit itself focused on accelerating progress toward the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, with particular emphasis on poverty alleviation, the promotion of decent work, and the advancement of social inclusion.



Swiss Foundations Symposium 2025

The Sawiris Foundation participated in the Swiss Foundations Symposium in Bern, a prestigious global gathering that brought together over 600 participants from foundations, donor institutions, and implementing organizations worldwide. The symposium provided a dynamic platform for meaningful dialogue, fostering new avenues for strategic collaboration and partnership.



Drosos Foundation 20th Anniversary Celebration in Switzerland

Ms. Laila Hossny, Executive Director of the Sawiris Foundation, and Ms. Roze Abdelmalek, Director of Partnerships, attended the 20th anniversary celebration of the Drosos Foundation in Zurich, Switzerland. Their participation highlighted the strength of the longstanding partnership between the two foundations—a collaboration that, in 2025, encompassed the co-funding of the Diarna Handicrafts and Heritage Exhibition at Cairo Festival City (CFC) and support for the CineGouna Emerge program at the El Gouna Film Festival.

The 6th African Philanthropy Conference

The Sawiris Foundation participated in the 6th African Philanthropy Conference (6APC), held for the first time in Egypt at the American University in Cairo (AUC). As part of its engagement, the Foundation convened a panel titled “Achieving More with Less: Insights from the Bab Amal Model,” highlighting key lessons from the implementation of the Bab Amal approach in supporting vulnerable households and fostering sustainable pathways out of poverty.

Additionally, Ms. Mais Abu Hijab, Deputy Executive Director of the Foundation, participated in a session titled “Reframing the Discourse on Philanthropy and Development Financing in Africa.” The discussion emphasized the importance of locally driven solutions and underscored the pivotal role of philanthropy in empowering communities and amplifying the impact of development initiatives across the African.



21 | جائزة ساويرس الثقافية

SAWIRIS CULTURAL AWARD

21 Years of Literary Creativity



+372
Total 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 Pursuant to 2023 – 2028 Strategy:

Recognizing and empowering **150** writers and literary figures, whose contributions meaningfully enrich Egypt's cultural landscape by 2028.

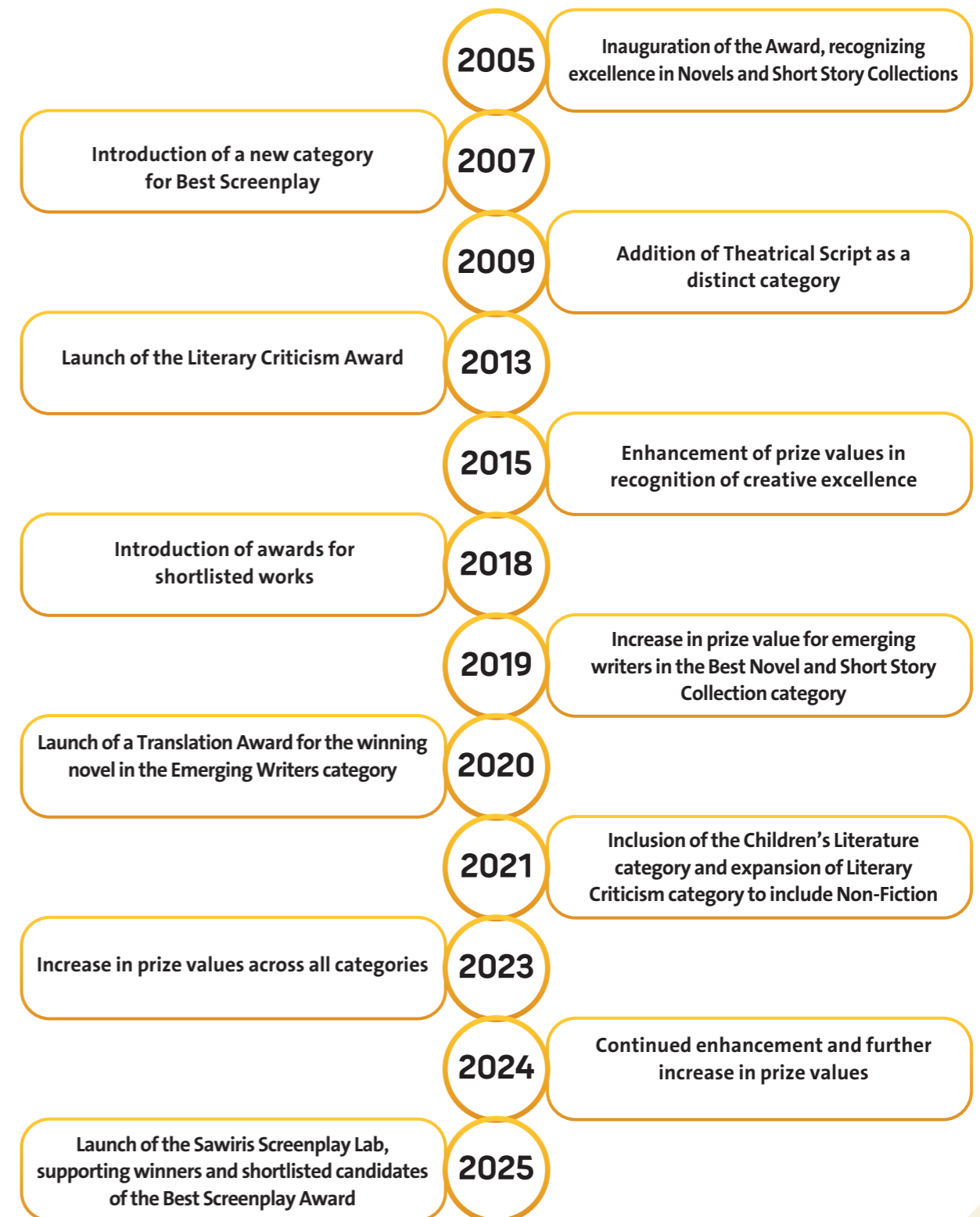
Over twenty-one remarkable years, the Sawiris Cultural Award (SCA) has secured an esteemed and enduring presence within Egypt's cultural landscape, emerging as a luminous platform that both nurtures and celebrates literary and artistic creativity in all its richness and diversity. Since its launch in 2005, the Award has built a bridge across generations of creators, gracefully weaving the recognition of established literary figures with the cultivation of emerging talents, whose inventive visions resonate with the ongoing transformations and aspirations of society.

Far beyond a mere competition, the SCA stands as an authentic space that affords writers the latitude to articulate their creative visions, while fostering cultural discourse by shedding light on works that engage thoughtfully with the concerns of humanity and society. Its scope spans a rich and varied spectrum of genres, including the novel, short story, screenplay, theatrical writing, literary criticism, narrative non-fiction, and children's literature—reflecting its enduring commitment to expanding the horizons of creativity and celebrating the full diversity of its expressions.

Over more than two decades, the SCA has consistently and dynamically evolved, both in the diversity of its categories and in the stature of its prizes, in a manner that mirrors the vitality and aspirations of Egypt's cultural landscape, while continuing to inspire successive generations of creators. This remarkable growth in participation—from 267 submissions in its inaugural edition to nearly 1,000 entries in recent cycles—stands as a compelling testament to the Award's rising prominence and the deepening confidence it commands within the cultural community.

The SCA is far more than a recognition of literary excellence; it stands as a cornerstone of Egypt's contemporary cultural landscape, championing the transformative power of literature and the arts as indispensable instruments of enlightenment and catalysts for nurturing a more conscious and humane society. As it enters its twenty-first year, the SCA continues to serve as an inspiring platform, empowering generations of writers and creators and opening new avenues for them to advance the journey of cultural enrichment, composing new chapters that honor Egypt's rich artistic heritage and fulfill its ambitious cultural aspirations.

Key Milestones in the SCA Legacy





The Twenty-First Edition of the Sawiris Cultural Award (2025)

The Sawiris Foundation concluded the Twenty-First Edition of the Sawiris Cultural Award on 8 January 2025, with a ceremony held at the Tahrir Cultural Center, American University in Cairo (AUC). The event brought together a distinguished assembly of established and emerging writers, intellectuals, artists, and prominent public figures.

The ceremony was graced by the presence of Dr. Mohamed Abu El-Ghar, member of the SCA Board of Trustees; Eng. Samih Sawiris, member of the Foundation's Board of Trustees and patron of the Award; and Eng. Naguib Sawiris, Vice-Chairman of the Board of Trustees, alongside the edition's guest of honour, the acclaimed actress Elham Shatin. The event was hosted by media personality Jasmin

Taha and featured a vibrant artistic program that artfully blended literature and music, with performances by the band Ayamna El Helwa, the Ayoub Sisters, and singer Hanine El Shater.

This edition recognized both established and emerging writers across the Award's diverse categories, including novels, short story collections, literary criticism and non-fiction, theatrical works, screenplays, and children's literature. By honoring these exceptional voices, the SCA continues to celebrate and cultivate the full spectrum of Egypt's literary and artistic creativity, fostering innovation while contributing to the ongoing enrichment of the nation's cultural landscape.

 **17**
Winners

laureates named across the Award's various categories.

 **10**
Works

shortlisted works recognized for their outstanding merit.

The ceremony video



The Award Handbook



مختبر ساويرس للسيناريو SAWIRIS SCREENPLAY LAB

دعم تطوير السيناريوهات الفائزة
والمرشحة لجائزة ساويرس الثقافية
SUPPORTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF
AWARD-WINNING & SHORTLISTED SCRIPTS

Launch of the Sawiris Screenplay Lab


Marking a significant milestone in the evolution of the Sawiris Cultural Award and the expansion of its impact, the Sawiris Foundation launched the Sawiris Screenplay Lab (SCL) in 2025, one of the Award's most distinguished and specialized initiatives. The Lab is designed to support winners and shortlisted candidates in the screenwriting category, guiding them in the professional development of their work. It further seeks to bridge the Award with the film industry by facilitating the transformation of scripts into viable projects, thereby strengthening the Award's lasting influence and opening new horizons for emerging writers.

Presented

 **5**
projects

to producers during the El Gouna
Film Festival.

Development

 **9**
screenplays

by past winners and shortlisted
candidates underwent
professional development through
intensive, hands-on workshops.

The SCL was implemented in
collaboration with

ELGOUNA
FILM FESTIVAL
مهرجان الجونة السينمائي



For further information
about the Lab



Financial Statements

Financial Reports and Statements

Sawiris Foundation

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

Statement of Financial Position

as at June 30, 2025

	30/6/2025	30/6/2024
	EGP	EGP
Assets		
Non-Current Assets		
Fixed Assets (net)	21 223 250	13 739 350
Projects Under Execution – Preparations and Improvements	9 175 006	4 952 942
Total Non-Current Assets	30 398 256	18 692 292
Current Assets		
Cash at banks	186 213 341	177 499 629
Endowment Certificates and current accounts at banks	208 650 787	183 390 412
Endowment Cash at banks	-	126 000 000
Endowment Treasury Bills	226 000 000	100 000 000
Debtors & other debit balances	3 807 111	3 258 467
Total Current Assets	624 671 239	590 148 508
Total assets	624 671 239	590 148 508
Liabilities		
Creditors and other credit balances	3 904 169	2 904 394
Total liabilities	3 904 169	2 904 394
Capital		
The capital of the foundation	10 000	10 000
Surplus		
Surplus brought forward from the previous year	605 926 406	534 483 228
ADD:		
Year's Surplus /(excess of revenues over expenses)	45 228 920	71 443 178
Total Capital and surplus	651 155 326	605 926 406
Total liabilities , Capital and surplus	655 069 495	608 840 800

Sawiris Foundation

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

Statement of Revenues & Expenses

For The Financial Year Ended as at June 30, 2025

	30/6/2025	30/6/2024
	EGP	EGP
Revenues		
Donations from founders - unrestricted	685 877 328	415 274 700
Donations from founders - restricted	51 635 256	37 573 767
Other donations	13 659 930	254 160
Surplus refunded from projects	6 769 002	2 329 877
Interest income from Endowment Treasury Bills	6 892 394	5 347 431
Interest income from Endowment deposits at banks	43 089 505	21 654 056
Interest income on deposits - Current Accounts-unrestricted	40 306 216	43 573 782
Interest income on deposits - Current Accounts- restricted	1 008 981	774 926
Profit from Foreign currency Exchange differences	6 146 243	82 615 090
Profit from selling Fixed Assets	-	6 300
Total revenues	855 384 855	609 404 089
Expenses		
Projects and scholarships expenses-unrestricted	664 194 852	403 618 153
Projects and scholarships expenses-restricted	54 660 456	54 942 872
Project-Related Expenses	10 083 752	4 916 483
General & administrative expenses	40 973 502	28 410 425
Other expenses for projects and scholarships	37 492 988	34 501 695
End of service gratuity	-	9 803 616
Depreciation of fixed assets	2 750 385	1 767 667
Total expenses	810 155 935	537 960 911
Surplus /(excess of revenues over expenses)	45 228 920	71 443 178

Sawiris Foundation

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

Statement of Cash Flows

For The Financial Year Ended as at June 30, 2025

	30/6/2025	30/6/2024
	EGP	EGP
Cash flows from operating activities		
Donations from founders - unrestricted	685 877 328	415 274 700
Donations from founders - restricted	51 635 256	37 573 767
Other donations	13 659 930	254 160
Interest income on endowment deposits at banks	48 523 896	53 501 040
Interest income on deposits & current accounts (restricted - unrestricted)	41 912 496	43 736 866
Foreign exchange differences	6 146 243	82 615 090
Surplus refunded from projects	6 769 002	2 329 877
Allocated proceeds - Al - Ahram Projects	26 575	408
Revenus from selling Fixed Assets	-	6 300
Allocated proceeds - Springboard	13 108	72 308
Projects and scholarships expenses - unrestricted	(664 194 852)	(402 813 153)
Projects and scholarships expenses - restricted	(54 660 456)	(54 942 872)
Project-Related Expenses	(10 083 752)	(4 916 483)
General & administrative expenses	(44 286 817)	(28 258 174)
Other administrative expenses for projects and scholarships	(37 492 988)	(34 501 695)
End of service gratuity Settlement	-	(9 803 616)
Allocated payments - Springboard	(361)	(475)
Allocated payments - Al Ahram projects	(795)	(1 122)
Net cash flows from operating activities	43 843 813	100 126 926
Cash flows from Investing activities		
Payments for purchasing fixed assets	(6 773 462)	(759 155)
Downpayment for Finishing and Renwing SFSD Premises	(7 682 889)	(3 460 823)
Endowment -Treasury Bills Accruals	(20 673 750)	-
Net cash flows (used in) investing activities	(4 219 978)	(101 466 951)
Net change in cash & cash equivalents	8 713 712	95 906 948
Cash & cash equivalents at the begining of the year	177 499 629	81 592 681
Cash & cash equivalents at the end of year	186 213 341	177 499 629



CHAIRWOMAN

Mrs. Yousriya Loza-Sawiris

Founder and Chairwoman of The Enhancement of Integrated Services and Waste Recycling “Ertekaa” and Qualified Accountant & Financial Advisor

Governance

The Board of Trustees of the Sawiris Foundation 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 OF TRUSTEES



VICE-CHAIRMAN
Eng. Naguib Sawiris
Executive Chairman of Orascom Investment Holding (OIH)



SECOND VICE-CHAIRMAN
Mr. Hazem Hassan
Chairman of Hazem Hassan & Public Accountants Consultants (KPMG)



TREASURER
Mrs. Hala Hashem
Senior Partner at Zaki Hashem and Partners Attorneys at Law



FOUNDER
Eng. Samih Sawiris
Founder of El Gouna & Former Chairman of Orascom Development (ODH)



FOUNDER
Mr. Nassef Sawiris
Founder of Orascom Construction and Orascom Construction Industries (OCI N.V)



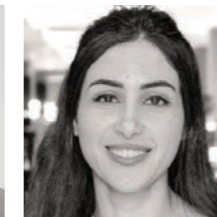
SECRETARY-GENERAL
Ms. Taya Samih Sawiris



MS. MONA ZULFICAR
Founding Partner & Chairperson of the Executive Committee of Zulficar and Partners Law Firm



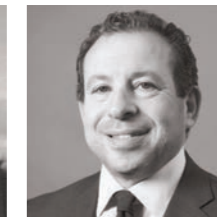
DR. ISMAIL SERAGELDIN
Founding Director of the Bibliotheca Alexandrina



ENG. NOURA SELIM
Partner, McKinsey & Company



AMBASSADOR SAMEH SHOUKRY
Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee - House of Representatives & Former Minister of Foreign Affairs



ENG. OSAMA BISHAI
Chief Executive Officer of Orascom Construction Limited



DR. NADIA MAKRAM EBEID
FORMER EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CEDARE & FORMER MINISTER OF THE ENVIRONMENT

SAWIRIS FOUNDATION TEAM

Laila Hosny

Executive Director

Mays Abou Hegab

Deputy Executive Director

Fatma Akram

Administration Assistant
Executive Director Office

Rania Ramses

Senior Executive Office
Manager

Nahed Yousry

Programs Director

Social Empowerment Sector

Sabreen Mostafa

Acting as Social Empowerment Sector Director

Rasha Sallam

Children Without Parental Care
Program Manager

Ali Abdel Mohsen

Basic Services
Program Manager

Youssef Abou Taleb

Social Empowerment Assistant

Yousra Idris

Senior Programs Officer

Economic Empowerment Sector

Samy Abdel Rehim

Economic Empowerment Director

Yomna Amer

Training for Employment
Program Manager

Rehab Moghazy

Micro and Small Enterprises
Program Manager

Manar Fouad

Programs Officer

Neama Hamdy

Senior Programs Officer

Education & Scholarships Sector

Eman El Rashidy

Education & Scholarships Director

Heba Shaalan

Scholarships
Programs Manager

Nancy El Amir

Education
Programs Manager

Mina Magdy

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Programs Manager

Hadeer Othman

Senior Scholarship
Programs Officer

Amira Adel

Senior Scholarship
Programs Officer

Heba Elwy

Senior Education
Programs Officer

Partnerships Sector

Rosa L. Abdel Malek

Partnerships Director

Mohamed Lotfy

Partnership Manager

Nadine Reda

Partnership Manager

Mario Nassef

Officer

Waguhih Wahba

Principal Officer

PR & Communications sector

Wessam Ragab

PR & Communications Director

Khaled Fathy

Design Manager

Ahmed Gad

PR & Communications Manager

Mina Mounir

Principal Graphic Designer

Caroline Fahmy

Officer

Shereen Yehia

Principal

Learning & Strategy Sector

Mohamed Omar
Monitoring Manager

Nora Gobrail
Strategy Manager

Mohamed Moussa
Evaluation Manager

Adham Hamdy
Senior Strategy Officer

Nourhan Soliman
Senior Evaluation Officer

Ahmed Hamdy
Principal Learning & Innovation Officer

Malak Khalil
NGO Capacity Building Principal Officer

Mahmoud Saeed
Senior Evaluation Officer

Mohamed Abdel Kader
Monitoring and MIS Officer

Yasmin Ibrahim
Strategy Officer

Financial Audit on Programs Sector

Ahmed Abdel Salam
Financial Audit on Programs Sector Director

Belal Yassin
Manager

Osama William
Manager

Sherif Arafa
Principal Auditor

Hossam Ali
Principal Auditor

Finance Sector

George Fekry
Finance & Operations Director

Mariam Alfred
Senior Accountant

Noha Ayman
Senior Accountant

Bahaa Wagih
TVET Accountanting Manager

HR & Admin. Sector

Nermine Rashed
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Rania Salah EL Din
HR Manager

Khaled Salah
Admin. Assistant

Martina Magdy
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Marina Sabry
Senior HR Officer

IT sector

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IT Director

Ahmed Magdy
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Khaled Samir

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Mohamed Mahmoud

Hamdy Abdel Aal

Mohamed Othman

Mahdi Shams Eldin

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