



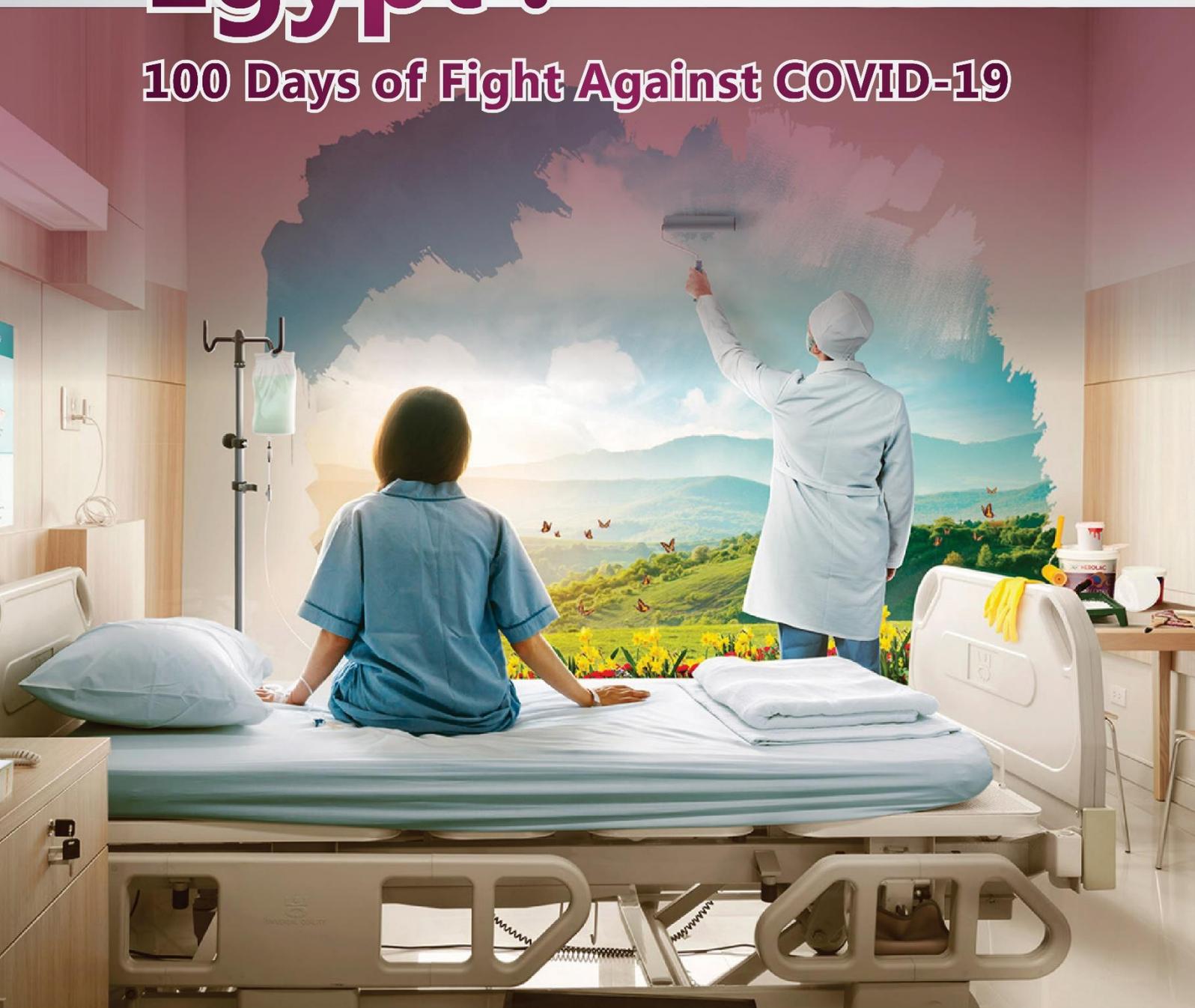
The Cabinet of Ministers



Information and Decision
Support Center (IDSC)

Egypt :

100 Days of Fight Against COVID-19



MAY 2020

The Egyptian Cabinet's Information and Decision Support Center (IDSC) is the leading Egyptian governmental think tank, which is entitled with the responsibility of conducting high quality policy research through utilizing and disseminating information to support the decision-making process in Egypt.

IDSC has a diversified working agenda which tackles several economic, social and political issues related to the development process.

IDSC relies on highly qualified staff and experts, with distinguished academic backgrounds who are able – at the same time – to creatively think ahead for realizing prosperity nation-wide.

“

In view of Egypt's ultimate goal of upgrading the Egyptian citizen's quality of life, the Government of Egypt (GOE) has embarked on a very comprehensive economic reform program, and has undertaken very bold measures towards a more stable resilient economy. In this context, Egypt has succeeded in creating an enabling environment for inclusive growth and sustainable development, where economic fundamentals are stabilizing with reduction in fiscal deficit, curbing in the rate of inflation, and increasing the growth rate of output, together with strengthening the local currency, This is met with increased confidence from national and international investors, which makes Egypt the promise land for businessmen to come and invest.



While the government is reaping the rewards of the economic reform program, the world witnessed the emergence of a COVID-19 Pandemic. Although this crisis was considered a health problem at the beginning, but it also has several economic, and social implications.

As the health of Egyptian citizens is always considered a top priority for the government, the GOE was keen from the beginning of the crisis on raising the readiness of the health sector, and implementing an effective infection prevention program. In the same regard the GOE is always taking various economic and social measures to minimize the losses incurred by this pandemic and guarantee a stable standard of living for Egyptian citizens.

Coming from its strong belief that international cooperation is a key for finding a way out from the serious consequences of this crisis, the GOE enhances the cooperation among international development partners to ensure the efficacy of the measures taken to minimize the negative implications.

”

Dr. Mostafa Madbouly
“The Egyptian Prime Minister”



#STAY AT HOME

Protect yourself and your loved ones from COVID-19

Preface

In The context of tracing the development path in Egypt, the Egyptian Cabinet's Information and Decision Support Center (IDSC) published its second periodic report entitled «Egypt: 100 Days of Fight Against COVID-19» to shed light on the governmental efforts in fighting the Coronavirus pandemic. The report is divided into five main sections: **Section one** highlights the efforts exerted by the government with the aim of raising infection prevention and control program,, while **Section two** records economic responses to COVID-19. **Section three** presents the efforts related to social protection & reform agenda, **Section four** tackles major efforts in the field of international cooperation in fighting coronavirus, **Section five** presents the highlights of corporate social responsibility in fighting coronavirus.

Osama El-Gohary
Chairman

Information & Decision Support center

Egypt :

100 Days Of Fight Against Covid-19

Mission ...

Tracing the development Phase in Egypt, on economic, social, political, and international levels.

Egypt :

100 Days Of Fight Against Covid-19

Report Team

Lobna Mohamed
Mai Mohsen
Sara Salem
Monica William
Omneya Gaber

Technical Office - Information and
Decision Support Center (IDSC)

Graphic Design

Mohamed Adel

Ayat Mekky

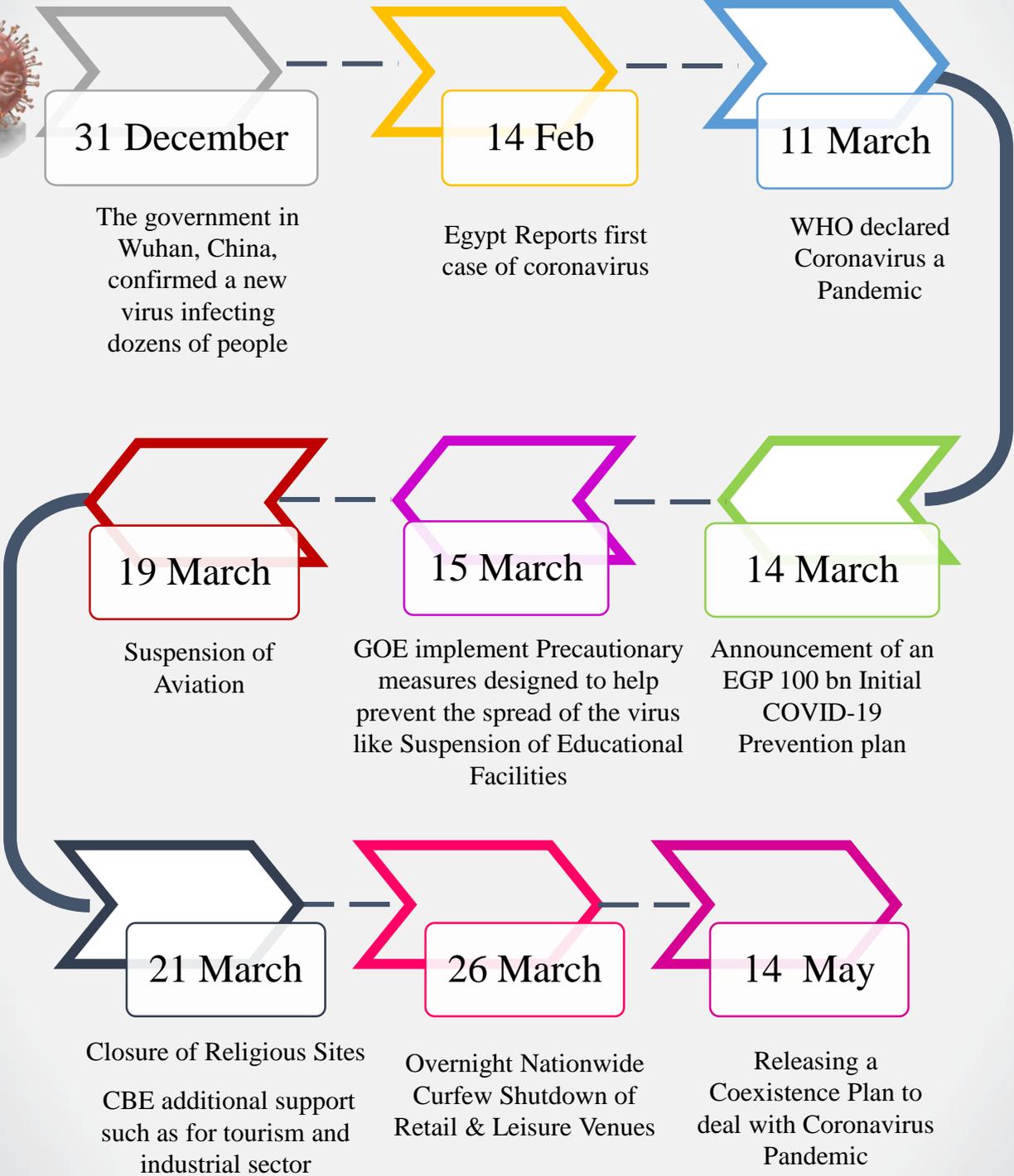
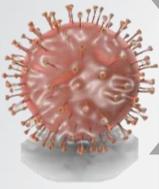
The report team wish to acknowledge with gratitude the generous assistance of Reham Abo Donia, Mohamed Magdy, Samah Nasr, Mohamed Nasr.



Table of Contents

I	Section 1: Scaling up infection Prevention and control program	14
II	Section 2: Economic Responses to COVID-19.	30
III	Section 3: Social Protection & Reform Agenda.	42
IV	Section 4: International Cooperation.	48
V	Section 5: Corporate Social Responsibility during a global pandemic (Major Highlights)	62

Timeline: 100 Days From Patient Zero



Egypt's economic performance indicators Prior to COVID- 19 pandemic



5.6% was the GDP growth rate for 2018/2019 the highest since 11 years.



USD 45.4 bn The largest Net international reserves in the history of the Egyptian economy in December 2019.



8.1% overall Budget deficit as percentage to GDP in 2018/2019.



USD 12.57 bn The highest tourism revenues in 2018/2019 since the 25 January revolution.



9.2% inflation rate in 2019 compared to 14.4% in 2018.

Egyptian Government Measures taken to overcome the COVID- 19 pandemic



EGP 100 bn was allocated to confront the Coronavirus Pandemic.



EGP 50 bn was allocated To finance tourism enterprises for renovation & hotels development.



EGP 20 bn was allocated to support the Egyptian Stock Exchange.



LE 500 monthly grant for irregular employment for 3 months.



3% interest rate cut.







Scaling up infection Prevention and control program

I

In an attempt to contain the spread of the coronavirus, Egypt has recently adopted a series of strict preventative measurements, which include imposing a night-time curfew, bringing flights to a standstill, closing down mosques as well as churches and suspending classes at schools and universities.

The GOE works on containing the virus by testing, tracing, isolation & treatment, along with imposing various restrictive measures, which ensures social distancing. Raising up infection prevention and control program to fight corona virus is based on various pillars taken by the Egyptian government which includes: Scaling up the readiness of the Health Sector, Limiting the price of supplies for coronavirus prevention, together with raising awareness about the virus, and Taking preventive measures and carrying out sterilization campaign nationwide, Setting out a coexistence plan to deal with the coronavirus pandemic.

1. Scaling up the readiness of the Health Sector

Health sector races to scale up readiness for coronavirus pandemic, Egypt has ramped up efforts to fight the coronavirus, according to the WHO team of experts who concluded their mission in 25th of march 2020, The Egyptian Government has made considerable efforts to allocate more human and financial resources dedicated to contain the virus outbreak, Progress has been also made in expanding the number of regional laboratories that are now able to do COVID-19 tests, **major efforts in this regard comes as follows:**

- **On 14 March 2020, Egypt decided to increase its emergency Health Spending where the president Abdel Fatah El-Sisi allocated EGP 100 billion for a plan to combat COVID-19 and fund preventive measures.** The funds come from public reserves designated for exceptional circumstances. The government also ordered manufacturers to direct medical protective equipment to public hospitals.



- **With the aim of enhancing the early detection process of COVID -19, EGYPT succeeded in securing new early detection devices for COVID-19 from the International Atomic Energy Agency, The X-ray machines will be used to examine the patients' respiratory system after a confirmed diagnosis.**

“Egypt’s strong disease surveillance system” and contact tracing efforts have proved effective “in controlling and managing sporadic and clusters of cases before they can spread,” but that further efforts are needed. ”

The World Health Organization

- According to the ministry of health in the 29th of April 2020, **17 quarantine hospitals across the country, with 3,214 beds, 257 intensive care beds and 413 ventilators. 13 further buildings, including university dorms and youth centers, have been prepared for patients coming in with minor symptoms of the virus. The installations have provided further 2,288 beds.**
- And as a way to take a step further in the containment of the virus, Egypt has set up a **whole field hospital** that is fully equipped with a thousand ambulances, hundreds of isolation beds, as well as operation and intensive care rooms.
- To increase the **number of isolation units**, the Egyptian government has decided to turn some state owned facilities into coronavirus isolation units – including, but not limited to, university hospitals and youth centers – in Cairo, Alexandria, Dahaklia, Luxor, Assiut, Ismalia, Minya, Damietta and Qena. The new isolation facilities will be able to accommodate 4,305 beds, according to Minister of Social Solidarity. Additionally, UNESCO headquarters in Menoufia was prepared as well to receive 200 Covid-19 patients, adding two dormitories in Cairo and Alexandria, as well as the headquarters of Ahl Masr (Egypt's people) Foundation are being equipped to be used as isolation centers.



“Egypt had taken all precautionary measures to reduce the spread of Coronavirus, stressing that the country has provided a list of hospitals applying the approved treatment protocol, to which the infected cases were referred.”

John Jabbour, The World Health Organization's representative in Egypt.

- The ministry of Health announced expansion of testing for the new coronavirus, **that all the country's 340 general hospitals would offer testing to people** showing symptoms of the illness.
- With the aim of increasing the number of medical staff to fight coronavirus, The Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research has launched the "**Be Ready**" initiative for students of medicine the initiative aims to have qualified doctors to be ready for supporting the health sector to fight the outbreak of COVID-19. Several faculties of medicine have put the initiative into force for volunteer senior students with practical explanation on how to deal with the virus-infected cases.
- The Ministry of Health has also launched the "**Be A Hero**" initiative, inviting volunteers from all over Egypt to lend a helping hand in the nation's efforts to combat the spread and deal with the repercussions of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). The Central Unit of Medical Services Affairs at the Ministry of Health and Population announced that they are accepting applications from individuals involved the medical field, whether in an educational field or a more professional one. However, those who aren't in the medical field would still like to lend a helping hand, the initiative needs all the help it can get to curb the spread of the virus. Aside from the medical work that needs to be done, there are several other jobs at the quarantine hospitals, not to mention the work that needs to be done with regards to isolating anyone who may have been in contact with an infected individual.



- The world health organization has also highlighted also that it will work with **Egypt's health authorities to enhance the isolation, quarantine and referral mechanisms, and scale up infection prevention and control practices to ensure that patients and health workers are protected.**



Mechanism of receiving Suspected cases of coronavirus in Egypt:

- Ministry of Health revealed the mechanisms of receiving suspected cases of coronavirus at fever hospitals, examining them and dealing with them
- The patient is kept in an isolation room upon arrival at the hospital in order to prevent the spread of the virus. The hospitals are equipped with isolation rooms for patients, as well as doctors and nurses in contact with the patients.
- Patients are then monitored around the clock, undergo chest x-rays and necessary tests, and their temperature is measured every 8 hours. They start wearing protective clothing once the infection is confirmed.
- A double sample is taken from the patients' mouths and noses to determine which type of virus they are carrying; they are not only tested for Covid-19
- Medium Care departments have been recently established inside hospitals to receive patients infected with coronavirus, with isolation beds for old and young men and women to rapidly deal with the cases
- If the patients test negative for Covid-19 and have medium respiratory symptoms, they are transferred to isolation units and continue their treatment inside the hospital. If they test positive, they are immediately transferred to one of the quarantine hospitals.
- The nursing staff is also trained to deal with all cases, and receive coronavirus patients in separate clinics to prevent the spread of the virus to the rest of the patients at other clinics.

- **Egypt also decided to move forward with procedures for a \$400 million loan from the World Bank to help fund the nation's Universal Health Insurance program**, the fund is coming to support Egypt's gradual rollout of its universal healthcare scheme, which aims to provide all citizens residing within Egypt with basic healthcare insurance by 2032.

2. Limiting the price of supplies for coronavirus prevention

- **The Egyptian Prime Minister Mostafa Madbouly issued a decision on the 16 th of April to limit the price of products necessary for preventing the spread of the novel coronavirus COVID-19.** He also demanded that all shops and pharmacies advertise the prices and make them visible to customers. The price of face masks will be set at LE2. The price of gloves, meanwhile will be set at LE80. Hand sanitizer will range in price depending on the volume purchased, with a 30 ml bottle selling for LE10 and a liter selling for LE100.



- **The decision also prohibits shops and pharmacies from hiding products or refusing to sell them.** Those violating the law will be fined between LE100,000 and two million pounds, or the value of the products. They can also be imprisoned for a period of two to five years.
- **The Ministry of Trade and Industry has banned exports of surgical masks, disinfectants and medical alcohol for three months** to ensure that Egypt has enough supply to cover local needs.



3. Raising awareness against coronavirus

- With the aim of spreading the awareness among Egyptians about coronavirus, Egypt has launched [care.gov.eg website](https://care.gov.eg) to spread public information about the deadly virus, such as means of transmission, protective measures, and answers to the most frequent **questions** about the virus, in addition to **the** latest updates on the situation nationwide and worldwide in accordance with the World Health Organization.
- As part of its effective communication campaign to raise the awareness against coronavirus, the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology's technical center for services for persons with disabilities **has launched "WASEL mobile application"** to enable people with hearing or speech related disability to have access to information on the coronavirus (COVID-19). The service is available around the clock, the app aims to support those with disabilities who show symptoms of the virus reach the necessary health services. the service responds to inquiries from hearing impaired citizens on the coronavirus.

“ Awareness leaflets and banners have been distributed to all ministries and government bodies to raise awareness about the fast-spreading virus in implementation of the directives of Egypt’s ”

Prime Minister, Mostafa Madbouly.

- The Ministry of Health has also established a **hotline for citizens** to report suspected coronavirus cases. thousands of calls were being received daily, mostly from worried citizens who ask about coronavirus symptoms and seek advice from the ministry of health staff on where to go if they develop a fever, people also ask about preventive measures that they can take to reduce the risk of infection.
- The Ministry of Health also cooperates with Facebook to launch an initiative on the social media platform to spread awareness of the risks of coronavirus (Covid-19) among nationals and foreigners inside Egypt.

4. Precautionary measures to curb the spread of the novel coronavirus

The GOE enforced a number of precautionary measures which targets enabling social distance to limit the spread of the virus, **the most important measures could be listed as follows:**

- **partial lock-down has been implemented in the country.** This curfew is also applicable on all methods of transportation and vehicles. Only cases of emergency is permitted to move in public spaces during the curfew hours. And this excludes its application to vehicles and means of transportation of petroleum products for the local market or intended for exports. This also excludes transport vehicles of goods, warehouses as well as supply vehicles for the health sector.
 - **All cafes, cafeterias, casinos, and clubs continue to be closed.** This is also the case for recreation venues such as parks, gardens and beaches. Food service industries remain operational as ‘take away’ service until curfew hours where they hereby provide delivery options while adhering to all health precautions. The decision excludes supermarkets,
- grocery stores, pharmacies and bakeries outside of commercial centers beyond the hours of the curfew. This would enable the reception of goods as well as management without taking on crowds or the public,
- **All commercial and craft shops, including shops for selling goods and providing services, are closed.** Commercial centers, such as malls, are allowed to operate between 6 AM and 5 PM. All restaurants are allowed to operate pick-up services, after having been limited to operating exclusively through delivery.

“ I have been following closely and around the clock, the precautionary measures taken by the state to address the coronavirus outbreak, we continue our actions to combat this epidemic to preserve the lives and health of all Egyptians. ”

President Abdel-Fattah El-Sisi statement, 23 march 2020.

- **All services provided by ministries and governorates to citizens, such as civil registry services, work permits, passports and renewal of driving licenses, are all suspended.** The only services that are still functional are those provided by health offices. These measures are to remain as to ensure the protection of citizens from the spread of the virus.
- **All sports clubs, popular clubs, youth centers and gyms are to remain closed nationwide.**
- **Colleges, universities and school remain suspended.** This is also applicable for any educational centers or institutions such as tutoring centers and kindergartens.
- **Precautionary measures taken to reduce the number of employees in the facilities of the state's administrative apparatus,** public sector companies, and public business sector companies continues to be applied. The suspension of all activities that require the presence of any large gatherings of citizens, continues to be applied, also the performances held in cinemas and theaters, are being suspended until further notice.
- **Egypt's mosques have been closed to daily prayers and Friday congregations since 21 March as part of government measures to combat the coronavirus.** Tarawih prayers, which are special evening prayers performed during Ramadan, were also suspended this year, due to the outbreak.
- **The suspension of international air traffic continues in all Egyptian airports until further notice.**
- **The Ministry of Local Development, has announced that the Nile Corniche as well as every other beach and park will undergo closure until further notice, in order to preserve public health.**
- **Parliament approves new law allowing health minister to make wearing face masks obligatory.**



5. Taking preventive measures and carrying out sterilization campaign nationwide

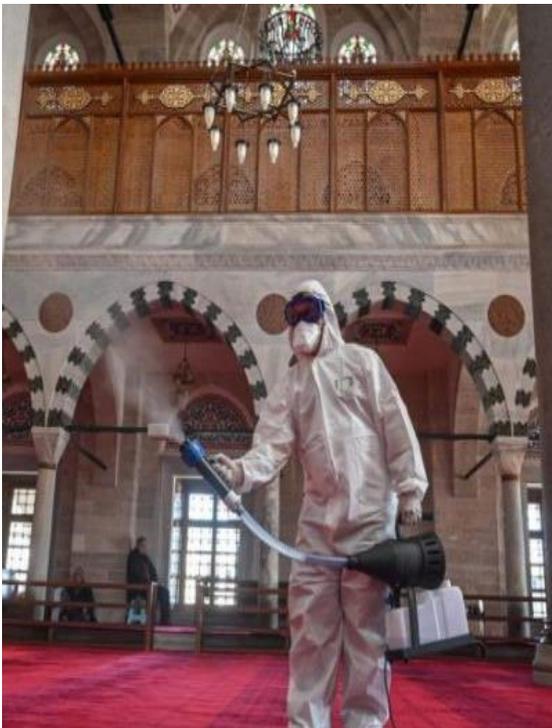
Egypt has decided to carry out a national campaign to disinfect and sterilize all facilities with the aim of controlling the spread of the virus, the campaign includes: government buildings, religious premises, metro stations, public buses, and seaports, schools and universities. **Considerable efforts in this regard could be highlighted as follows:**

- **The Armed Forces have played a major role in Egypt's efforts to combat the coronavirus**, by regularly disinfecting and sterilizing main roads, railway stations, metro stations, and hospitals across the country. During curfew hours, the Egyptian Armed Forces carried out a number of sterilization campaigns in various areas to fight the spread of COVID-19 including: sites and streets that are subject to visitor density in various areas including but **not** limited to Downtown and Old Cairo as they constitute large markets of garments, textiles, and houseware products, and Al-Azhar Sheikhdom and Coptic Orthodox Cathedral in Cairo.
- **The Ministry of Military Production started manufacturing sterilization booths as part of the state's precautionary measures to curb the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak**, Helwan Machinery and Equipment Company and Helwan for Engineering Industries Company have collaborated to manufacture the automated booths. The booths are also equipped with a device to measure body temperature. As part of their ongoing efforts, they have also launched five new face mask production lines with a daily capacity of 100,000 units.

The military has also prepared 45 military hospitals as part of state efforts to limit the spread of the virus, alongside 22 quarantine hospitals and 1,000 ambulances allocated to the efforts.



- **The ministry of Religious Endowments announced that manufacture will start on disinfectant booths to be placed at mosque entrances to curb the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19).** The ministry has started to equip mosques as part of its plan to sanitize and continuously sterilize places of worship. This comes in addition to mosque carpets and furniture being renewed, a comprehensive plan for disinfection and sterilization of mosques, and the modernization of the acoustic systems used in mosques.
- **Many preventive measures are being taken to protect Train & Metro Passengers including:**
 - **sterilizing Train carriages regularly, including door handles, seat rests and windows,** as well as ticket offices, gates, benches, elevators, escalators and toilets.
 - **Sanitizing metro cars and stations along the three lines on a daily basis,** as part of measures to contain the spread of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.
 - **Using the internal radio of each station to raise awareness about the virus.**
 - **Bringing additional metro cars into operation to prevent overcrowding.**
 - **Distributing medical face masks to workers and passengers at Cairo metro stations at peak times and on busy train lines,** as a precautionary measure to prevent the spread of the new coronavirus.
 - **Posters about the symptoms of the coronavirus and how to prevent infection have been put up at all stations,** and the metro's internal radio station is broadcasting dos and don'ts for protection against the virus.





over the country under the supervision of the Health Ministry due to the coronavirus outbreak.

- **The Ministry of Youth and Sports also carried out sterilization campaign in all state's 4,300 youth centers, as a part of precautionary measures adopted by the government to contain the spread of the novel coronavirus.**
- **The Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities started to disinfect and sanitize museums and tourist sites nationwide over coronavirus concerns.** The sterilizing campaign includes various historical Islamic, Christian and Jewish religious sites, and museums and archaeological sites nationwide.
- **The Egyptian Hotels Association, in coordination with the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, started the sterilization of hotels and resorts all**



- **The Ministry of education planned to sterilize and disinfect exam rooms in schools, as 1.4 million students are set to take the final exams for the Thanaweya Amma and technical certificates over 20 days, it's worth mentioning that Schools have been closed since 14 March under a directive from President Abdel Fattah Al-Sisi, amid efforts to curb the ongoing coronavirus outbreak.**

6. Setting out a three-stage coexistence plan to deal with the coronavirus pandemic:

Egypt has **released a coexistence plan** to deal with the coronavirus pandemic over the coming period until a vaccine would be found. The plan comes as a bid to reduce the number of infections and mortalities, achieve a balance between maintaining a normal life cycle and abiding by the precautionary measures, to get rid of the negative psychological effects of the outbreak, and to avoid crowds resulting from services like transportation and shopping.

The plan will be applied over three stages, as follows:

- The **first stage** implements strict measures to avoid any resurgence in infection rates, and will be applied until the daily average of infections reduces. During this stage: Entertainment venues, cinemas, theatres, cafes, gyms, and sports clubs will remain closed, and all delivery employees working for online shopping and delivery services will be obliged to wear face masks.



- The **Second Stage** imposes moderate procedures, which include measuring people's temperature before entering facilities; everyone should wear masks once they leave home; business owners should place sanitizers at their doors; keeping medium density inside shops; and cinemas, theatres and cafes will remain closed.
- The **Third stage** will last until the World Health Organization (WHO) reduces its global risk assessment of the virus to low levels. This stage implies mitigating procedures which encompasses commitment to good ventilation, avoiding crowding, receiving the vaccine if adopted by the WHO, following hygiene measures, complying with the precautionary measures in the case of dining at restaurants and hotels, and continuing to regularly monitor the virus activity.

The plan also indicates that if a person tests positive for the virus and has mild symptoms, they will have to self-isolate. Those from high-risk groups will be required to call the COVID-19 hotline, 105, for help. Businesses and mall owners will be obliged to provide disinfectant sprays and hand sanitizers, whilst also maintaining a low density of clients, and keeping up disinfection and sterilization efforts.

Measures also include the regular monitoring of body temperatures before entering facilities, the Cairo metro, and trains, whilst refraining from over crowding in public areas. The plan also includes preventing weddings, funerals and any other kind of gatherings until infection numbers start to drop. Schools, universities and nurseries are to remain closed.

7. Launching “ Sehet Masr ” Mobile App To Track COVID-19 Patients

The Ministry of Health announced launching a new app dedicated to tracking COVID-19 patients in Egypt as well as providing the population with necessary advice on how to stay safe, the new app was created to reduce congestion on the ministry’s COVID-19 hotlines.

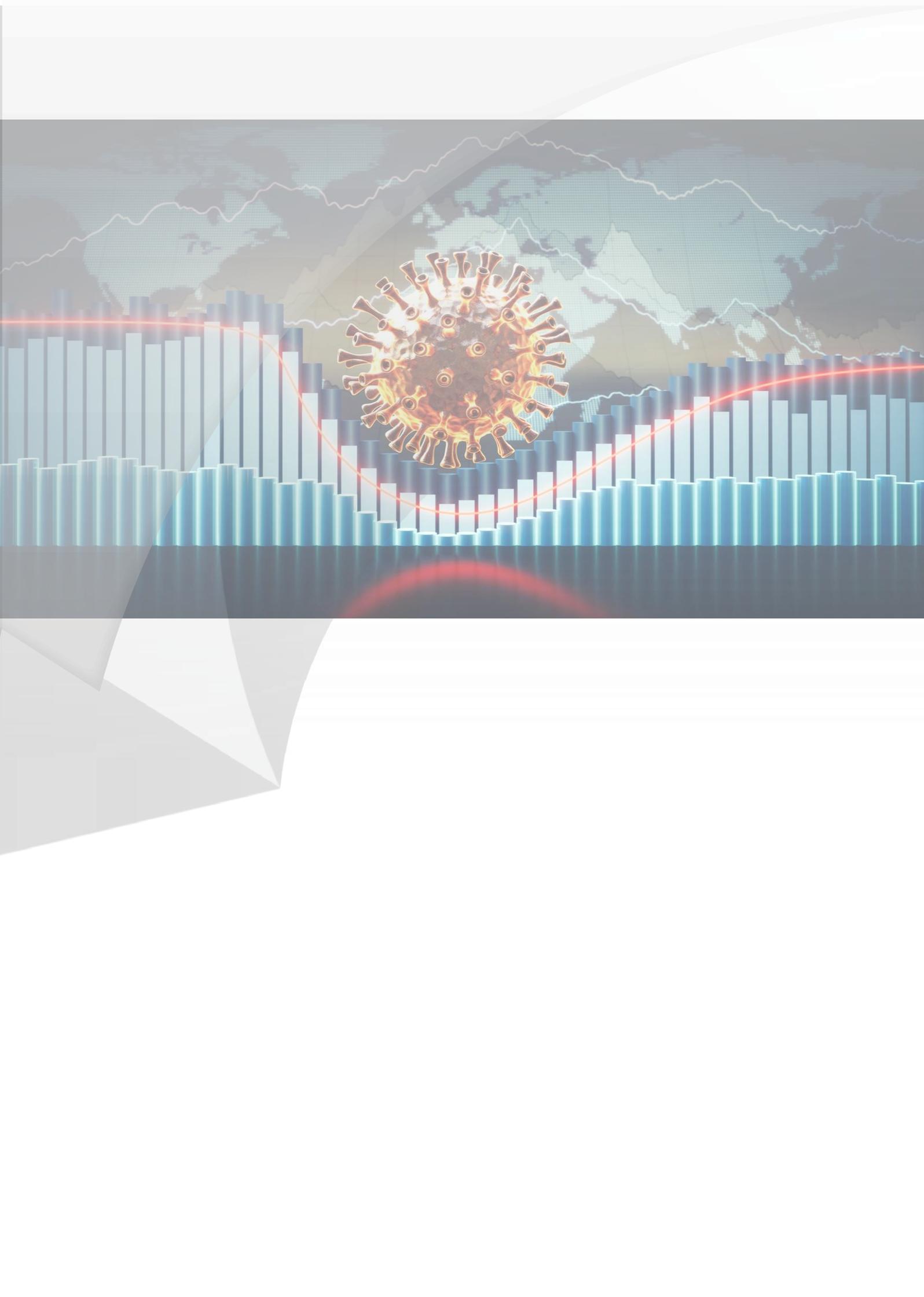
The application also allows reporting suspected COVID-19 cases, where everyone can report their own cases or those of any other person with coronavirus symptoms.

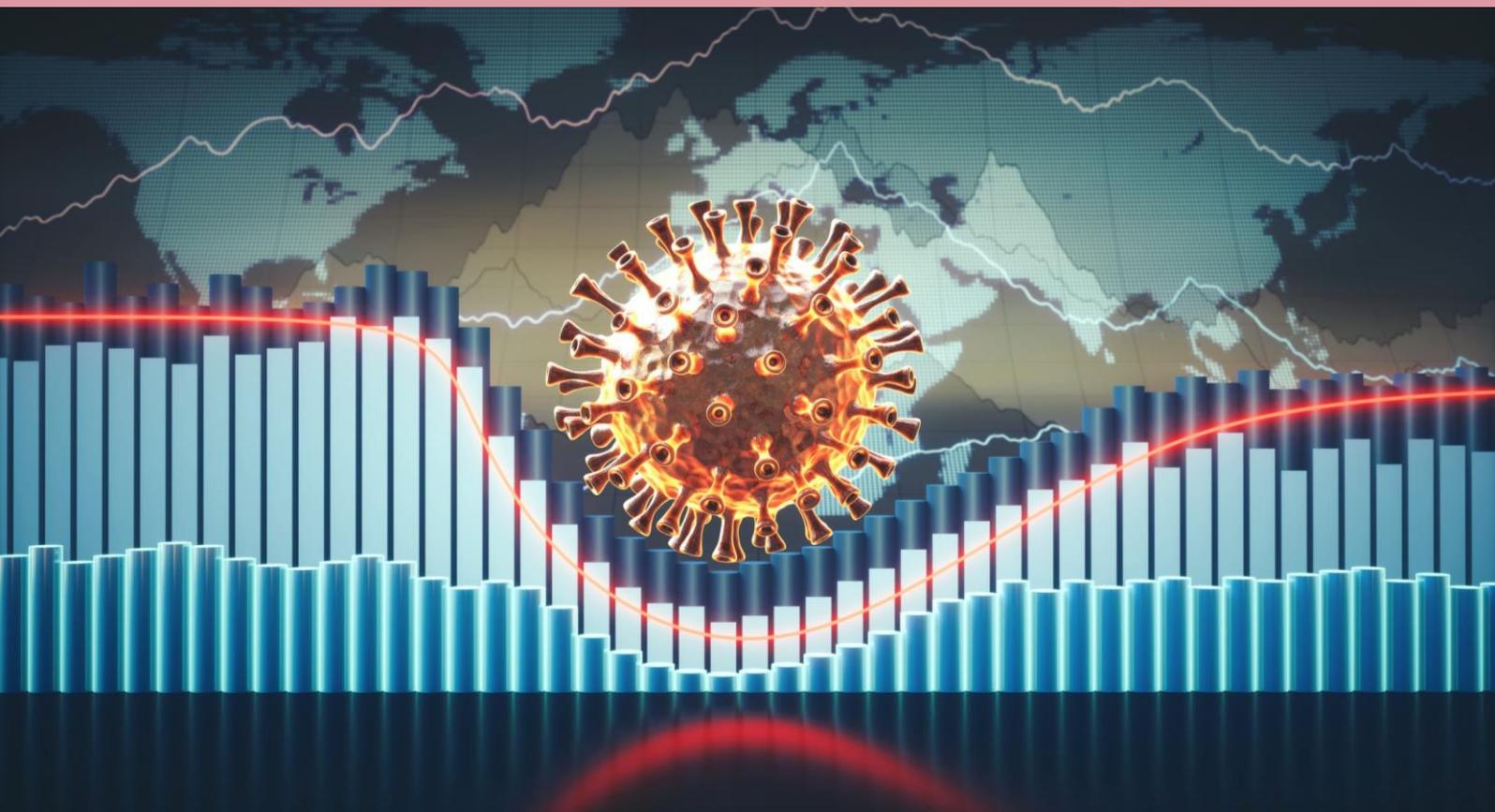
The application also includes FAQs section where the most prevalent questions that had been asked to ministry personnel via the hotlines are answered as well as a wealth of articles advising people on how to practice better preventive measures for them and their families.

By turning on-location services, the app can send alerts to users whenever they are close to a location where coronavirus cases or quarantine centers are present to help them take necessary precautions to avoid infection.









Economic Responses to COVID-19

II

The outbreak of pandemic COVID-19 all over the world has disturbed the global economic, social, and financial structures. The COVID-19 pandemic has already severe ramifications on the global economy.

In this regard, Egypt has been working tirelessly to face the economic impact of the virus especially on the most affected sectors. GOE took several steps to mitigate the economic impact of the restrictive measures to contain the virus and to protect the economy from potential shocks due to the spread of the pandemic.

These quick actions taken by GOE helped to mitigate the economic impact. In addition, the GOE is trying to strike a balance between imposing social distancing and protecting the economy from any potential shock.

The GOE took **several steps to mitigate the economic impact** of measures designed to slow the spread of the virus and contain the anticipated economic fallout. The COVID-19 outbreak comes just when Egypt's GDP growth was projected to hit 6%, threatening to set back the economic progress the country has achieved in the past four years.

To minimize this threatening and to protect the Egyptian economy recently progress, **GOE has been quick to introduce comprehensive stimulus package**, which includes major fiscal easing in the form of social safety spending, a higher number of tax exemptions, and energy subsidies for the industrial sector.

The Central Bank of Egypt (CBE) has also **eased monetary policy** by increasing liquidity, lowering key interest rates and providing subsidized loans and debt relief to sectors that have been hit hardest.

“**IMF Expected Egypt to be the only country with positive economic growth in MENA at in 2020.**”

IMF, World Economic Outlook report.

Measures taken in this regard stated be listed briefly as follows:

- **Directing the Ministry of Finance to allocate EGP 100 Billion to confront the Corona virus.**



- **Allocating an amount of EGP 50 Billion (\$3.2 Billion) for real estate financing** for middle-income groups through banks for 20 years.
- **Allocating EGP 20 Billion (\$1.27 Billion) from the Central Bank to support the Egyptian Stock Exchange.**
- **a 3% interest rate is cut by the Egyptian central bank**, which will contribute in reviving the local stock market, while providing credit limits for capital financing, and in particular the salaries of employees.

- **Reducing the price of natural gas provided to industries to \$4.50 per million British thermal units (Btu), down from \$5.50.**
- **Reducing the price of electricity to heavy industry to EGP 0.10 (\$0.0064) per kilowatt-hour, down from EGP 1.10.**
- **Deferring the credit entitlements of small, medium and micro enterprises for a period of 6 months.**
- **For exporters, Egypt is providing EGP 1 Billion in March and April to help cover some of the dues they pay into a government fund for their benefit. The government also will pay 10% of those dues in cash to exporters in June.**
- **Allocating EGP 50 Billion To finance tourism enterprises for renovation & hotels development. Postponement of real estate tax payment due on factories & tourism facilities for the period of 3 months.**
- **Lifting administrative reservations on all the financiers who have due payable taxes, for only 10% of their tax due.**

“ **The package of decisions taken by the government reflects its determination to quickly support the industrial sector and confront current repercussions.** ”

Prime Minister, Mostafa Madbouly.

- **The government was also cutting a tax on dividends for companies listed on its stock exchange by half to reach 5% and lowering stamp duty on stock market transactions.**
- **Increasing the tax exemption ceiling to EGP 15,000, up from EGP 8,000, in addition to raising the personal exemption ceiling to EGP 24,000.**
- **New tax bracket of 2.5 percent for those whose income is under EGP 35,000 annually will be offered by FY2020/2021.**
- **Studying the sectors most affected by the spread of the Corona virus to provide the necessary support and exempt foreigners from capital gains once and for all.**

1. Fiscal policy

The Egyptian government has adopted **expansionary fiscal policy** to maintain economic stimulation, minimize tax burdens, reduce health concerns, & counter the slowdown in consumption and production and the decline in employment, wages, and exports, expected because of epidemic prevention measures. In this regard, the government has announced stimulus policies of **EGP 100 Billion** to absorb the shocks of the pandemic.

Fiscal measures to support the economy and the financial market include:

- **Lowering Energy costs for the entire industrial sector;** where the price of electricity for industrial use has been lowered by 10 piasters per kilowatt hour (kWh) for the medium, high and ultra-high usage tiers, and freezing rates for the next 3-5 years. Government sources estimate these electricity price cuts could cost around EGP 6 billion alone.
- **Real estate tax payment settlements for industrial and tourism companies have been given a three-month tax break. In addition,** companies will also be allowed to settle existing real estate tax liabilities in monthly installments until September 2020.



- **Reducing the stamp tax on EGX transactions to 0.125% (from 0.15%) for foreign investors and 0.05% (down from 0.15%) for local investors. All spot transactions on the EGX will also be exempt from the stamp tax.**

“Egypt’s reforms could shield the economy from covid-19 shocks according to Moody’s Corporation, also the ratings agency expects our debt-to-GDP ratio to continue declining this fiscal year, even when accounting for the expected shock impact covid-19 will have on our growth and fiscal position.”

- **Postponing Capital gains tax on stock market transactions until January 1, 2022** and permanently exempting foreign investors from the duty.
- **Cutting tax on dividends by 50%: investors will now pay a withholding tax of 5% (down from 10%) on dividend payouts from listed companies.**
- **Extending the suspension of tax on agricultural land for two more years.**
- **Extending the deadline for personal tax filings until mid-April and waiving e-payment fees for online payments.** The Tax Authority is looking into postponing the filing deadline for auditors and businesses, specifically SMEs.
- **Real estate tax relief has been provided for industrial and tourism sectors; and subsidy pay-out for exporters has been stepped up.**
- **Fast-tracking payouts from the Export Subsidy Fund**, which will see EGP 1 billion in arrears fully paid out by the end of April and 10% in cash payments for new obligations during June.
- **The Egyptian Ministry of Finance has issued a decree requiring VAT**

registrant taxpayers to issue electronic invoices, comprising the following information: electronic signature of the invoice issuer (i.e. the supplier or the service provider) and the unified code of the relevant good and/or service, as pre-approved by the ETA.



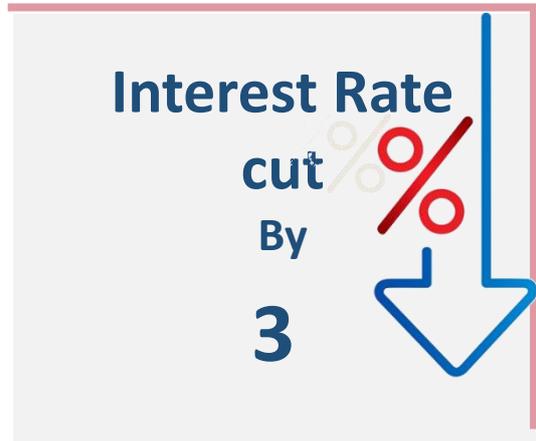
- **To support medical professionals, including doctors working in university hospitals, a 75 % allowance over the wages has been announced**, disbursing bonuses is being also provided for medical staff working in isolation hospitals and labs.

2. Monetary policy

The Central Bank of Egypt (CBE) has taken various measures to counter the economic impact of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak, and to ensure the security and stability of the Egyptian banking sector amid the coronavirus pandemic.

Monetary measures to support the economy could be stated as follows:

- **CBE's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) slashed interest rates, cutting the benchmark rates by 300 basis points (bps)** at an emergency meeting on March 16, the latest cuts are meant to encourage industrial sector growth and capital expenditure lending.
- **Offering one-year, EGP-denominated certificates with 15% yield via public sector banks to discourage dollarization.** However, other banks haven't resorted to raise rates on deposits, since demand for lending is very low and they do not highly invest in sovereign instruments.
- **The overnight deposit and lending rates now stand at 9.25% and 10.25%, respectively.**
- **Extending EGP 50 billion in financing for middle-income housing, to be disbursed through local banks.**
- **The preferential interest rate on loans to SMEs, industry, tourism and housing for low-income and middle-class families, has been reduced from 10% to 8%.**
- **Postponing all bank loan payments for businesses and retail clients for a six-month period, including SMEs, corporations and individual borrowers.**



- Postponement of customer credit liabilities for a period of six months without applying additional returns on the postponement. (Whether short-term facilities, current or future loan installments; so that all clients merits and payment schedules are automatically posted and issued starting from the date of issuance of instructions and for a period of six months).
 - Extending the exclusion period for some basic food commodities, namely rice, lentils and fava beans, from their 100% cash cover for one year, or until March 15, 2021.
 - Local banks were ordered to raise daily transaction limits on credit cards, in addition to canceling fees and commissions that are applied at points of sale and on withdrawals from ATMs.
 - CBE instructed banks to provide the credit limits necessary to finance working capital, or the capital of a business used in its day-to-day trading operations, especially the payment of salaries for companies' employees.
- “ Egypt’s banking sector is also acting as “a deep and stable domestic funding base” that will further support the country’s external liquidity. ”

Moody’s Corporation.
- CBE has also ordered banks to monitor the sectors most affected by the spread of the virus and to develop plans to support companies operating during the outbreak, and has moved as well to give small- and medium-sized businesses a six-month extension on credit repayments.
 - **Launching a debt relief initiative for individual borrowers where marginal interest on debt under EGP 1 million will be waived for borrowers at risk of default.** Eligible customers will have to pay 50% the original debt up front and arrange a payment plan with their bank; they will then be removed from the CBE and i-Score’s blacklist and have restrictions on their assets lifted. The Financial Regulatory Authority has allowed mortgage finance, factoring and leasing companies to give their clients a six-month period to repay debts.

3. Egypt's stock exchange

The Egyptian Government actions included a catalytic package for Egypt's stock market, to ease the economic impact of the flu-like virus on the country's stock exchange, **most important of which could be highlighted as follows:**

- lowering stamp tax for foreign investors from EGP 1.5 to EGP 1.25 per EGP 1,000 and for local investors from EGP 1.5 to EGP 0.50 per EGP 1,000, until the implementation of a capital gains tax in 2022.
- Exempting immediate stock transactions from stamp duty to boost trading, and exempted foreign investors from the capital gains tax and delayed its implementation for local investors to January 2022.
- Reducing the dividend tax rate for companies listed on stock exchange from 10% to be 5%.
- Following that, the National Bank of Egypt and Banque du Caire allocated EGP 3 billion to boost the stock market after a deteriorated performance on the back of COVID-19 outbreak.
- Completely exempt the spot transactions on the shares from the stamp tax to activate the volume of transactions and increase the depth of the Egyptian market.
- Moreover, President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi instructed CBE on 22 March to invest EGP 20 billion in the stock exchange.
- Egypt's stock exchange has set different times. Daily trading sessions on the basic index and the Nile bourse for small and medium-sized enterprises will start at 10am and close at 1:30pm. The exploring session will start at 9:30 am.
- Registration for the mega deals market will be held at 9:15am until 9:30am. Corresponding orders registration will be from 9:30am until 9:45am. The Consolidated accounts division is open from 1:30pm to 2pm.



4. Supporting Tourism

The global effect of COVID-19 spread to the Egyptian economy, causing hardships to many sectors, all economic sectors will be affected by the coronavirus crisis, and especially those related to the external factors, such as tourism. In this regard, The GOE has already moved to support the most affected sectors; **major steps taken on the path of supporting tourism sector could be listed as follows:**

- **Provide two-year soft loans to tourism companies to pay wages, commitments to suppliers, and maintenance as part of the EGP 50 billion tourism initiative launched in 2019. Hotels, tour operators, restaurants and tourism transport companies can also access loans with a tenor of two years and a six-month grace period at an interest rate of 8%.**
- **Irregular laborers will receive a monthly grant of LE 500 for three months in compensation for lost income due to the Covid-19 crisis. Those who receive the first payment will be given a free ATM card from the post office, through which they will be able to receive the second and third payments. Beneficiaries will receive a total of EGP 1500 over the course of the following three months, as per the President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi's orders.**
- **The Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities has launched an initiative, in collaboration with its partners from scientific and archaeological institutes, enabling a series of virtual and guided video tours of museums and archaeological sites around Egypt.**



Virtual tour inside Ramses II Cemetery

- The tours are available on the ministry's website as well as on social-media networks under the title "Experience Egypt from Home. Stay Home. Stay Safe."



A virtual view of the Red Monastery

- **According to a presidential decree, hotels and tourist establishments will be exempted from paying real-estate taxes for six months,** the payment of their dues will also be postponed for three months without fines.
- **The Ministry had activated a hotline to receive the opinions and inquiries of tourism sector employees. It will take the caller's data and complaint or inquiry and present them to the relevant department. An investigation will then be carried out to find an appropriate solution, with customer service reaching out to the**

complainant as follow-up.

- **The tourism ministry also sent a message to thank those working to protect us from coronavirus, writing in short phrases illuminated in Arabic and English on the front of the pyramid, "Stay at home -- protect yourself -- a greeting to those who protect us.**
- The Egyptian government has announced that domestic tourism, which had been suspended for over two months due to the COVID-19 pandemic, can now resume. That The government approved a number of measures in coordination with the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities and the Ministry of Health, and in accordance with the directions of the World Health Organization.



5. Maintaining national food security

Egyptian agriculture is considered the backbone of economic and social structure where it represents a major role in comprehensive development of the country. Food security exists when all people, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient safe and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life.

President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi encouraged authorities to boost the country's reserves of strategic commodities amidst of rising global fears for food supplies due to the coronavirus pandemic.

- **Egypt has invested heavily in agricultural expansion throughout its last five-year national plan**, which has led to considerable growth in crop production, fisheries, processed food factories and storage facilities such as grain silos and dry ports. This long-term effort should be continued and complemented to ensure a strategic stock of essential foods largely dependent on domestic production, to minimize reliance on imports. It also necessitates temporary restrictions on strategic food exports, making it a national priority to fulfill local demand first. In relation to this, all food-related transportation should be exempted from curfew hours.
- **development Minister Mahmoud Shaarawy directed governors to start intensive crackdowns on markets to ensure traders abide by the official prices of goods** and not exploit people's demands at this time. The ministry will follow up the availability of basic food commodities in markets and ensure that they are in their proper quantities and prices, he assured. The minister also instructed governors to work with the Consumer Protection Agency and the Supply police to crackdown against violators.

“ Egypt has enough reserves of staple commodities sufficient for around three months, some good for up to 5 or 6 months, we are working now on increasing the reserves of all the staples to 6 months ”

Prime Minister, Mostafa
Madbouly





Social protection and reform agenda

III

The COVID-19 pandemic has far-reaching consequences beyond the spread of the disease itself and the efforts to contain it on political, cultural, and social levels. The GOE while fighting the virus has stressed on the importance of protecting the population.

To deal with the socio-economic challenges, the GOE exerted considerable efforts with the aim of mitigating the impact of this crisis on the most vulnerable groups, especially the unorganized labor force, as well as the social protection programs and social benefits.

1. Protecting workforce

With the aim of protecting workers, the government issued a decree On March 15 to reduce the number of civil servants at government offices during working hours. The decree also stipulated:

- Exemptions for vital employees in the fields of transportation, hospitals, ambulances, sanitation services and electricity.
- Granting exceptional leaves for employees with chronic illnesses, pregnant employees and those caring for children younger than 12.
- Granting employees who had recently returned from abroad a 15-day paid leave (or permission to telework) from their return date.

The private sector adopted new policies to protect their staff while maintaining operations at minimal losses, which include: teleworking, reduced staffing on premises and paid sick leave. While Companies that need workers physically present, such as factories and other production-oriented businesses, are implementing social distancing strategies by reducing shift hours and work weeks, they also decided to Suspend fingerprint

biometric attendance, replace in-person meetings, training, with virtual alternatives.

Banks, Mobile network operators, and other businesses with front-end services also decided to direct their clients to online services, and limit the number of clients allowed in branches to enable social distancing measures.

The finance minister has also announced several decisions that will help employees maintain stable life standards through the current economic difficulties created by the coronavirus pandemic, which includes:

- The fiscal year 2020/2021 will witness an increase in the tax exemption ceiling from EGP 8,000 to EGP 15,000, in addition to raising the personal exemption ceiling to EGP 24,000. a new tax bracket of 2.5 percent for those whose income is under EGP 35,000 annually will also be implemented.



- State employees subject to the civil service law will be granted 7 percent of their basic payroll salary as a salary increase as of 30 June, with a minimum of EGP 75 monthly and no maximum, while employees who are not covered by the law will get an increase of 12% with the same conditions.
- Increments and additional bonuses for state employees in the coming fiscal year will cost EGP 31 billion, while new decreases in earned income tax will cost EGP 4 billion.

The GOE was also keen to improve pensioners' living standards especially during coronavirus pandemic, in this regard:

- Flexible wage pensions will be resettled, adding 80% from the special bonuses which are not included in the basic wage for pensioners whose service ended between 1 July 2006 and 30 June 2016.
- The treasury will also shoulder the cost of the five bonuses that will be paid to pensioners, worth EGP 35 billion for the current year and EGP 7 billion annually over the coming years.

With the aim of combating the current employment crisis due to the novel coronavirus, and to encouraging the

“The initiative aims at encouraging the private sector to retain its workforce and to provide new job opportunities in an attempt to counter the economic implications of the COVID-19 pandemic.”

Dr. Hala El-Saied, Minister of Planning and Economic Development

private sector, along with a large number of business owners, to maintain employment and provide new job opportunities, The Egyptian Ministry of Planning and Economic Development has launched in collaboration with “Terous Misr Foundation” a new initiative, “Egypt Will Pass”. A number of businessmen have stepped forward to partner with the initiative



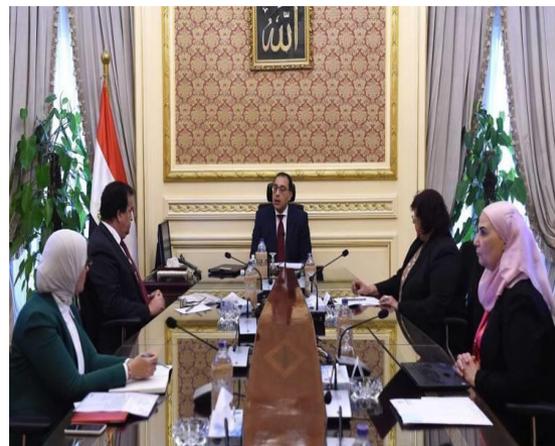
2. Extending Social safety net and protecting Irregular workers:

The government was also keen on supporting irregular workers overshadowed by the negative effect of novel of COVID-19 on economy, in this regard major efforts could be highlighted as follows:

- The Egyptian cabinet launched "Ahalina" initiative, through a community partnership to support non-standard workers impacted by the negative repercussions of the coronavirus crisis on Egypt's economy, providing social protection to individuals and families. A one-off monetary compensation (500 EGP) will be offered to informal workers registered at the database of the Ministry of Manpower through post offices. Registration has already included around (2.5) million individuals working in construction, agriculture, fishing and plumbing.



- Minister of Social Solidarity announced the expansion in scope and coverage of the conditional cash program 'Takaful and Karama' by 160 thousand families, and an additional 50,000 will be added before the coming 30 June, 2020.
- Concerning women protection, payments to women community leaders in rural areas will be increased from LE 350 to LE 900 per month.
- Arab league Hashtag campaign which ask women to share their stories, it is an online initiative to shed a light on the fundamental role that women play during the COVID-19 crisis. The hashtag campaign (#إحكي_قصتك) that encourages women to tell their stories.



3. Protecting students... Switching to E-learning Techniques :

The COVID-19 pandemic has changed the way the world works, produces, learns and communicates. The Egyptian President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi issued a decree to suspend schools and universities in March 15 as part of a comprehensive plan to face the coronavirus outbreak, and switch to E-learning, it worth mentioning that digital learning has been part of the education reform strategy in Egypt .

- The Ministry of Education and Technical Education scaled up technology-based learning with the distribution of tablets and enhanced access to increasingly more sophisticated digital resources, dozens of teachers from diverse stages were trained in dealing with the online educational system.
 - The Ministry of Education and Technical Education scaled up technology-based learning with the distribution of tablets and enhanced access to increasingly more sophisticated digital resources, dozens of teachers from diverse stages were trained in dealing with the online educational system .
- With the aim of extending the online learning for all students, the government decided to deploy a customized version of the Edmodo Learning Management System. The website helps teachers to communicate with their students, and create their own virtual classrooms and invite their students, it also includes new digital library available free to every Egyptian student with learning material. Universities have also resorted to e-learning platforms and online classes.
 - The Higher Education Ministry along with the Supreme Council of Universities has cancelled mid-term testing for all public and private universities and postponed final year exams until 30 May.
 - A number of universities have adopted their own plans to adapt to the new circumstances.







International cooperation

IV

COVID-19 is a preview of the global catastrophe, which ensures the importance of finding better ways to work together. In this regard, Egypt was keen since the beginning of the crisis to present a forward-looking strategy, which prioritizes cooperation among international development partners, and aims mainly to streamline all efforts under one umbrella: mindful mobilization. Rather than focusing on short-term solutions, it hopes to ensure that the promotion of future collaborations is based on an up-to-date, consistent and a complete dialogue between the Government of Egypt and its multilateral and bilateral development partners.

1. Tapping into international finance

Egypt achieved a remarkable turn around prior to the COVID-19 shock, carrying out a successful economic reform program and was able to correct large external and domestic imbalances. The pandemic and global shock pose an immediate and severe economic disruption that could negatively impact Egypt's hard-won macroeconomic stability if not addressed.

In this regard, The Ministry of International cooperation called on international organizations to play an important role, not only restricted to financing, but to include providing specialized technical support, **some of those efforts could be highlighted as follows:**

- **IMF Executive Board Approves US\$2.772 Billion in Emergency Support to Egypt to Address the COVID-19 Pandemic**

- The Executive Board of the IMF approved Egypt's request for emergency financial assistance of US\$ 2.772 billion under the Rapid Financing Instrument (RFI) to meet the urgent balance of payments needs stemming from the outbreak of the

COVID-19 pandemic. The Rapid Financing Instrument will help alleviate pressing financing needs, including for health, social protection, and supporting the most impacted sectors and vulnerable groups.



“ **The Government of Egypt has responded to the crisis with a comprehensive package aimed at tackling the health emergency and supporting economic activity. The authorities acted swiftly to allocate resources to the health sector, provide targeted support to the most severely impacted sectors, and expand social safety net programs to protect the most vulnerable.** ”

Mr. Geoffrey Okamoto, First Deputy Managing Director and acting Chair Statement IMF.

▪ **The World Bank Provides US\$7.9 Million in Support of Coronavirus Emergency Response**

- The World Bank activated on March 20th the Contingency Emergency Response Component (CERC) under the “Transforming Egypt’s Healthcare System Project” US\$ 7.9 million to fund emergency response activities related to the COVID-19 outbreak in Egypt. The objective of the Transforming Egypt's Healthcare System Project is to: improve the quality of primary and secondary health care services, enhance demand for health and family planning services, and support the prevention and control of Hepatitis.
- Also, On May 19th, **the World Bank** has approved \$50 million under the World Bank Group’s new Fast Track COVID-19 Facility for Egypt as an emergency response as well as a global effort to help strengthen the COVID-19 response and promote economic recovery.



▪ **USD 3 Billion social bond to support coronavirus responses in its member countries, including Egypt.**

- AfDB welcomes outreach by the Ministry of International Cooperation, The African Development Bank has issued a USD 3 billion social bond to support coronavirus responses in its member countries, including Egypt.

▪ **€1 billion global solidarity package from The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)**

- The EBRD is working urgently across Egypt to deliver €1 billion global solidarity package to companies and banks that are suffering from the impact of the coronavirus pandemic in affected member countries.
- The package will include working capital facilities of up to two years for energy developers and other corporates as well as balance sheet restructuring and short-term liquidity support for municipal, energy and infrastructure clients.

- **The Arab Fund for Economic and social Development offered a quick loan of 1 million Kuwaiti Dinar to support the Egyptian economy after COVID-19 Outbreak.**

2. International Relations

Since the outbreak of the coronavirus pandemic, Egypt has sent several shipments of supplies and medical aid to some of the world's worst-stricken countries, including China, Italy and the United States of America. Egyptian officials have portrayed the medical shipments as friendly gestures between Egypt and these nations in light of their historical alliances. After the Italian shipments were delivered, the Egyptian presidential spokesman, Bassam Rady, said that the aid "comes in line with the historical ties between the two friendly countries" and that it was designed to ease "the burden on Italy in its current plight".



a. Egypt Medical Supplies

United States of America

- **Egyptian C-130 military aircraft loaded with medical supplies from Egypt landed at Dulles International Airport on April 21, to help fight the coronavirus.** The supplies include anesthesia drugs and antibiotics as well as body bags, masks and testing swabs.
- **the U.S. Embassy Cairo thanks the nation for their donation of medical supplies to the American people, who are currently struggling with the COVID-19 outbreak.** In the United States, the pandemic has claimed over 40,000 lives in the space of a month, making it the country with the highest levels of Coronavirus-related infections and deaths on record.



China

- **In Early February, Zayed flew to Beijing, delivering ten tons of medical equipment and other items to China to help prevent the spread of the new deadly coronavirus, affirming that the Egyptian state would provide support to the Chinese people in Egypt.**
- **The meeting chaired by Zayed with the participation of the representatives of ministries and security authorities was held to discuss the implementation of a medical strategy to receive the Egyptian citizens coming from China, the birthplace of the coronavirus that emerged in December last year, killing dozens of people.**

- **Egyptian President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi sent a cable to his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping to affirm Egypt's trust in China's ability to combat and contain the outbreak of the virus.**

Italy

- **Early in April, president el Sisi sent two military jets to Italy carrying medical equipment, protective suits, detergents and sanitizers to combat the spread of the coronavirus. On the packages, in Arabic and Italian, were the words, "From the Egyptian people to the Italian people."**
- **Egypt's minister of health and population, Hala Zayed, also came with the shipment and personally delivered it to Italian officials in front of the media.**



- In addition to that, on 14 March Egypt offer a medical assistance to Italy to help it fighting or confront the coronavirus, So EgyptAir flight carried medical supplies to Italy which landed in the Italian Malpensa Airport to provide the Italian authority medical aid to fight the spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19)
- Noteworthy, The medical aid includes more than one million medical face masks and will be sent to Lombardy region, which has been locked down since March 8, 2020, in northern Italy

Britain

- In April, government sent a number of medical gowns to Britain, according to a tweet by the British minister of state for international trade, Greg Hands.
- The UK Minister of State for International Trade, Greg Hands, thanked Egypt for the large volume of medical gowns currently on route to the UK.
- The exchange came after joint cooperation with the Egyptian Ambassador in the UK and the British



Ambassador to Egypt Geoffrey D. Adams to help the UK deal with their medical supply shortages due to the rapid rise in the number of Coronavirus cases

Sudan

- On May 5th, 2020, The Egyptian government sent medical supplies to the Sudanese capital of Khartoum to help the Sudanese people amid the current pandemic.
- Following Egyptian President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi directives, the armed forces dispatched four military airplanes carrying urgent medical supplies to Sudan.

- **According to the Egyptian presidency, the supplies included masks, sterilizers, ventilators, and other items used to limit the spread of the infectious virus.**
- **During his reception of the convoy, Deputy Chairman of the Supreme Committee for Health Emergencies Siddig Tawer emphasized that such a step confirms the strong and timeless relations between Sudan and Egypt.**
- **Tawer described the step as a “noble” gesture from the Egyptian people that confirms the Egyptian continual support for Sudan during tough times.** For his part, Egyptian ambassador to Sudan Hossam Issa said that the support shown to Sudan aims to preserve its key resource: the Sudanese people.

South Sudan

- **As part of Egypt’s leading role in Africa and a solidifying of cooperative relations and historical ties connecting Egypt with the continent. Egypt sends medical aid to South Sudan on May 19, 2020, to help amid coronavirus crisis.** The medical aid includes medicines, medical equipment, disinfectants, protective suits for medical staff and large quantities of formula milk.



Cooperation with the African Union

- **On April 29, Egyptian President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi participated in a mini summit for AU leaders held via video conference to discuss the coronavirus outbreak.** During the meeting, Sisi underlined the importance of the results reached in previous summits, mainly the establishment of an African fund to confront the novel coronavirus aimed to mobilize resources and implement projects in the health-care sector.
- **President El-Sisi stressed the need to communicate with international partners and global institutions to support African countries economically in the medium and long run and offer the necessary support, including medical and preventive supplies to halt the pandemic, as part of the Egyptian initiative proposed in a previous meeting.**

- **During March 26 online mini African summit, African leaders agreed to establish the AU's COVID-19 Response Fund**, under the framework of the African Business Coalition for Health. Sisi, who took part in the meeting, pledged his country's financial support for the fund and proposed a debt relief initiative for African countries, which was widely welcomed by African leaders. His initiative was addressed to the Group of 20 (G-20), the Group of Eight (G-8), the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank to consider easing debt burdens in light of the repercussions of the coronavirus crisis.
- **The COVID-19 Response Fund's Board of Trustees held its first meeting via video conference on April 27.** The fund is tasked with collecting the needed resources to support the already fragile health-care systems in African countries, and providing medical and preventive equipment to the health-care sector, in coordination with the Africa Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The latter estimates that the strategy to deal with the virus requires \$450 billion, of which \$61.5 billion have been collected so far through

donations from businessmen and international partners.

b. Medical Assistances received by Egypt

- **Later on April 16, 2020, Egypt has received four tons of medical protective supplies from China as a measure to help the country combat the spread of the coronavirus.**
- The supplies include 20,000 N95 respiration masks, 10,000 protective gowns and 10,000 polymerase chain reaction (PCR) testing kits.
- Chinese Ambassador to Cairo Liao Liqiangwho, who received the aid along with Egyptian health ministry officials, said the assistance is the first batch in a series of shipments planned for "the next few days."



- **A protective face mask factory inaugurated by China in Egypt earlier this month** will increase its production lines to five, each with a capacity of 100,000 masks a day to help boost the country's reserves of protective gear, the ambassador added.
- **On May 10, 2020, Egypt received a second batch of medical aid from China to help in its fight against the coronavirus pandemic**, the Chinese embassy in Cairo has announced. According to a statement by the embassy, Egypt's health ministry received 10,000 N95 respiration masks, 10,000 protective gowns and 70,000 PCR testing kits in the batch, which weighed an estimated 4.7 tonnes.
- **On May 16, 2020, Egypt received the third largest batch of medical supplies from China.** The batch includes: one million medical masks; 150,000 N95 masks; 70,000 sets of protective medical gowns; 70,000 medical gloves; 70,000 coronavirus test kits; and 1,000 thermometers. These supplies will be distributed nationwide among isolation, fever, and pulmonology hospitals.
- **The timing of the third batch coincides with the 64th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Egypt and China, which falls on 30 May.**
- **On May 20, 2020, The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) donated essential personal protective equipment and medical supplies to the Egyptian Red Crescent (ERC).**
- **The aid, worth more than EGP 1 million, is planned for health facilities in North Sinai, the ICRC statement quoted Egypt's social solidarity minister Nevine El-Kabbag, who is also vice chairman of the ERC, as saying.**
- **The ICRC, in cooperation with the ERC, has carried out four assistance distributions to thousands of households in North Sinai to alleviate the impact of events in the area on the residents.**



- **The World Bank to fund rapid interventions to the Upper Egypt development program** in the governorates of Qena and Sohag to alleviate the impact of the anti-COVID 19 precautionary measures on the program beneficiaries.
 - **The country is keeping its airspace open to inbound charter and special flights to transport outbound passengers,** and to cargo and domestic flights, during the suspension of air traffic that has been in place since mid-March.
- c. Repatriating Stranded Nationals**
- **Egypt began repatriating its citizens in March,** bringing back hundreds of its nationals stranded in various countries due to the pandemic.
 - **The Ministry of Civil Aviation operated a total of 18 exceptional flights to return stranded Egyptians abroad** amid the outbreak of the coronavirus pandemic.
 - **On April 22nd, Egyptian President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi stressed that Egypt is committed to repatriating an estimated 3,500 Egyptians stranded abroad at the earliest opportunity.**
 - All flights landed in Cairo International Airport, or in Marsa Alam International Airport, where the quarantine for Egyptian passengers exists.



- Since the coronavirus crisis started, EgyptAir, the Egyptian flag carrier, has operated many exceptional flights to several countries, including the US, UK, Maldives, Kuwait, South Sudan and Kenya, to bring back stranded Egyptians abroad.
 - The government is requiring returnees to sign before boarding their flights a written acknowledgement that they agree to be quarantined.
 - All the passengers would undergo the necessary preventive procedures, including being tested for the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) and being quarantined for two weeks once they arrive at the airport.
 - Egypt has suspended flights since March 19, with exception to five cases: Air cargo flights, international ambulance trips, domestic flights within the country, and charter trips to enable tourists to return to their countries after the end of their programs, without allowing in new tourists.
- d. Refugees inclusion in Egypt's Covid-19 Response**
- Under the Egyptian Constitution, it is stated that only citizens have the right to social security and comprehensive healthcare. It is included, however, in Article 18 that, “denying any form of medical treatment to any human in an emergency or life-threatening situations is a crime.” This means that also refugees, asylum-seekers, regular and irregular migrants are also entitled to medical treatment in emergency situations and cannot be turned away at public hospitals or clinics.



- In addition, and through cooperation between the Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP) and UNHCR, refugees and asylum-seekers have access to public primary, secondary, and emergency health care equal to that of Egyptian citizens. This cooperation will be extremely important in combating the spread of Covid-19 within Egypt.
- In the region, Egypt stands out with its expansive framework for refugees and migrants. Egypt provides these populations with more entitlements than other refugee-hosting countries, especially with regards to healthcare. So it is expected that, Egypt's plan for combating Covid-19 will be successfully all-encompassing.
- Egypt's response to the Covid-19 pandemic include all segments of society, especially the most vulnerable. In addition, all people accessing emergency healthcare services are treated as equals, regardless of their ethnic, religious, or legal background.
- In the region, Egypt stands out with its expansive framework for refugees and migrants. Egypt provides these populations with more entitlements

than other refugee-hosting countries, especially with regards to healthcare. So it is expected that, Egypt's plan for combating Covid-19 will be successfully all-encompassing.





Cheering On Our Doctors



Cheering On Our Doctors



Corporate Social Responsibility during a global pandemic (Major Highlights)

V

As the pandemic cast its shadow on the international economy, Companies realized that it is essential to support the anti-COVID-19 efforts. Thus, accelerating efforts to contain the coronavirus outbreak would help limit the losses incurred every day due to the COVID-19 lock down.

In this context, large corporations, small businesses, and government bodies cross-country are coordinating together to fight the economic fallout due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. They joined forces to provide all types of aids, from donating to Tahya Misr Fund, providing various types of medical supplies, to supporting families, or even supporting medical staff.

1. Government Bodies:

- **The Cabinet:** Prime Minister “Mustafa Madbouly” announced a **20% cut in ministerial wages over three months**, with the sums allocated to supporting irregular employment and the Tahya Misr Fund. The decision came as an initiative to support irregular workers whose incomes have been affected by the repercussions of the coronavirus.
- **Governmental employers: prime minister** “Mustafa Madbouly” announced A monthly deduction, starting from July 2020, for a period of 12 months, 1% of the net income of workers in all sectors of the state, due from their employer or due to work under any name, and 0.5% of the net income due from the pension to the pensioners, to contribute to Facing some economic repercussions resulting from the spread of the emerging Corona virus. Exemptions from this law workers whose net monthly income does not exceed 2000 pounds. also The Council of Ministers may exempt the owners of entry in the economically affected sectors
- **The Egyptian Armed Forces:** On 21 April, The official body announced **the donation of EGP 100 million for Tahya Misr Fund** to support state

efforts to curb the outbreak of coronavirus.

- **The Parliament:** On 7 April, The members of Egyptian Parliament **donate EGP 20 million to the Tahya Misr fund** in an attempt to help the government’s efforts in curbing the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19).



- **The Financial Regulatory Authority (FRA):** On 22 March, The Egyptian authority **has donated 250 million of** its available surpluses to help the most economically vulnerable groups which suffer from the coronavirus outbreak.



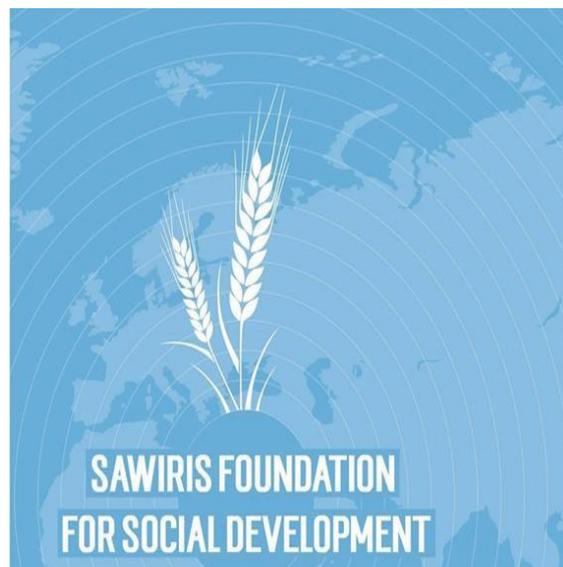
2. Private Sector:

Several companies donate as its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) to support the nation, such as:

- **The Sawiris Foundation for Social Development** donated 100 million EGP to help the government in its battle against the coronavirus. About EGP 40 million was allocated to support daily wage workers and families in need, while EGP 60 million was channeled into buttressing the government and Health Ministry's preventive measures.
- **Ceramica Cleopatra:** On 19 April The Company announced the donation of EGP 78 million, including EGP 25 million to the Tahya Misr Fund and around EGP 28 million to develop healthcare facilities in Suez.
- **Al Mansour Group:** donated EGP 50 million to back the Egyptian government to be able to purchase needed medical supplies and ventilators.
- **Emaar Misr:** Under a protocol signed with the Ministry of Social Solidarity, [Emaar Misr](#) Developments (EMFD) announced a donation of EGP 40 million to Misr El Kheir Foundation, according to the statement released to the Egyptian exchange. On April 7th,

Emaar Misr's board of directors approved the donation to Misr El Kheir Foundation, in addition to supporting the Egyptian government with EGP 10 million.

- **Vodafone Egypt** donated EGP 10 million to buttress the Egyptian Health Ministry in fighting the coronavirus (COVID-19). The funds would help the ministry buy needed medical equipment for isolation hospitals. It also spearheaded a campaign for spreading awareness about COVID-19 and donating via SMS to reinforce state efforts in this crisis., it offered a free SMS service for its customers by sending awareness messages about COVID-19 to their relatives. The company donates EGP 1 for each awareness SMS.



The Health Ministry provides the company with the content of the awareness messages to be circulated among its customers.

Vodafone also launched an educational platform to help Egyptian students continue their studies online in accordance with the government decision to shut down schools as a precautionary measure to contain the spread of the coronavirus. The company has also launched a “Stay at Home” initiative to encourage people to stay at home and go out only for emergency to contain the spread of the coronavirus.

“The social responsibility of the private sector should be embraced in this period. We hope that our initiative would incentivize more companies to follow suit in order to reinforce the Egyptian government’s efforts to confront the coronavirus and overcome this crisis.”

Vodafone Egypt CEO Alexandre Froment-Curtil

- **Novartis Egypt:** The healthcare company highlighted on April 21st it has doled out EGP 6.5 million for personal protective equipment and will help the Health Ministry acquire PCR test kits.
- **Orange Egypt** donated EGP 5 million to offer financial support for poor families who were affected by the precautionary measures adopted over the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. The company coordinated efforts with the Social Solidarity Ministry to ensure that the funds would end up in the hands of needy families, The company also announced in May its collaboration with the Egyptian Food Bank to distribute 50,000 boxes of food to day laborers in six governorates, The company also announced on April 14th that it has set up full connectivity including 4G services to support patients and staff at a new 600- bed quarantine facility in cooperation with Ahl Misr Development Foundation.
- **Misr Insurance Holding Company:** The Company, as well as its subsidiaries Misr Life Insurance and Misr Insurance have allocated EGP 10 million on April 12 to support the seasonal workers and irregular laborers.
- **Centamin:** On 6 April, The mining company has donated 10 million EGP to help Egypt in fighting the COVID-19 pandemic.

- City Edge Developments:** The country's national developer has donated on April 6th EGP 10 million to the Tahya Misr Fund to support the Egyptian government's efforts to curb COVID-19.
- The Commercial International Bank (CIB):** The bank has donated in May \$2.5 million to Tahya Misr Fund to help purchase 100 polymerase chain reaction (PCR) testing machines and kits. This is in addition to \$7 million to the government's emergency fund to combat COVID-19 and \$250,000 to the African Union's COVID-19 Response Fund.
- Al Ahram Beverages (ABC)** has contributed EGP 5.6 million as part of several corporate social responsibility (CSR) projects to support Egypt in combating the ongoing coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. The aid will also go towards those in the community who have been negatively impacted by the crisis. ABC's donation includes 260,000 litres of 96% concentrate ethyl alcohol, to support Egypt's health authorities combat the virus. It will be used in producing and distributing sanitizers for medical and hygiene purpose

لمشاركته في صندوق تحيا مصر

المساهمة من خارج مصر من خلال البطاقات الائتمانية عبر الموقع الإلكتروني • تغطية بنكية على حسابات باي إن سي المركزي Swift Code: CBEGEGXXXX	حساب رقم 037037 في جميع بنوك مصر	ابعث رسالة زهرة جنية على 37037 من أي محمول	ابعث رسالة بجنيتك على 1333 من أي محمول أو خط نصي
---	---	---	---

من خلال البريد المصري 	من خلال خدمة مصيري 	من خلال خدمة بي 	من خلال خدمة فوري 	من خلال خدمة ممكن 	من خلال خدمة أماني 
--	---	--	--	--	---

التبرع عبر الموقع www.tahyamisrfund.org
 من أي مكان في العالم

15118 لمزيد من المعلومات اتصل على:

- At the beginning of the pandemic, ABC also launched an awareness campaign in the communities where it operates. The campaign included the distribution of hygiene kits, containing antiseptic soap and awareness flyers on how to maintain basic hygiene, to 4,000 families.

“ Social responsibility has always been a cornerstone of ABC and its operations in the Egyptian market and society, and in times of crisis this responsibility is multiplied. ”

Hans Essaadi, ABC's Managing Director.

- **Tatweer Misr** also donated EGP 5 million through engaging in initiatives and coalitions with the public sector and the civil society to prop up the state efforts.
- **Pharma** earmarked EGP 4 million for supplying isolation hospitals with needed medical equipment.
- **pepsiCo** supports 15,000 families with Egyptian Food Bank: pepsico Egypt was challenged by mobile operator Etisalat Misr to join Tahady El Kheir initiative in cooperation with the Egyptian Food Bank to help day labourers who were badly affected by COVID-19 spread.
- **Juhayna**: on 11 May, The dairy products company donated ventilators to 300 general hospitals, 1,000 health facilities, and 50 isolation hospitals.
- **Orascom Construction (ORAS)**: The engineering and construction contractor and the Sawiris Foundation for Social Development announced on April 6th funding and arranging the repair of 110 ventilators for several public hospitals. The company has worked with international manufacturers of medical equipment to identify broken ventilators and will reportedly deliver them in the coming days.
- **HydePark Developments**: on 21 April The real estate has donated 2,000 COVID-19 antibody test kits to a number of hospitals.
- **Palm Hills Developments (PHD)**: On 13 April, The real estate company announced it has teamed up with Orman Association to support 10,000 families of irregular workers in Egypt, with a total aid valued at EGP 2.5 million. The real estate corporation also donated a 200-room touristic complex to the ministry of health >

“Egypt, like all countries across the globe, is currently facing a crisis, one that requires everyone to unite in order to overcome. We must all do our part to help our country and countrymen through adhering to local regulations, compassion, and tolerance.”

Yasseen Mansour, Chairman of Palm Hills Developments

3. Donations by Religious Institutions

Religious institutions have also donated to confront the coronavirus outbreak.

- Grand Imam of Al-Azhar Ahmad Al-Tayyeb has donated EGP 5m for Tahya Misr Fund (Long Live Egypt), in support of Egypt's Covid-19 efforts.
- The Coptic Evangelical Authority for social services has donated 6 million EGP to fight Coronavirus: The Coptic Evangelical Authority for Social Services, under Pastor Dr. Andre Zaki, has contributed EGP 6 million to the implementation of several community initiatives aiming to support locals during the Coronavirus pandemic. 20,000 families and 100,000 citizens will directly benefit from the services .
- These initiatives include providing medical supplies and sanitation services of public buildings, places of worship, schools, homes, and streets for over 150 local communities across Cairo, Minya, Assiut, Aswan, Alexandria, and Beni Suef with whom the commission already works.
- The commission is also in talks with Islamic scholars, academics, and media professionals through video calls in order to cooperate effectively in taking on an active role with local communities to face the dangers of the ongoing pandemic. 1,500 families have already received disinfectant bags and tools, and many streets and institutions have undergone sterilization.
- The Coptic Orthodox Church of Alexandria has also donated EGP 3m to the fund, contributing to the purchase of ventilators. It also urged churches to provide antiseptic and sterilization tools.



4. Initiatives by Special Federations:

- **The Egyptian Exporters Association:** The entity donated EGP 1 million to the General Authority For Supply Commodities to purchase medical supplies for healthcare workers.
- **The Federation of Egyptian Industries:** The body signed on April 6th a memorandum of understanding with the Egyptian Cure Bank and the Authority for Unified Procurement to repair 122 ventilators and purchase 21 more for use in public hospitals, at a cost around EGP 7.7 million. A total of 87 will be completed in two weeks and the rest within a month.
- **The Federation of Egyptian Industries' cereals division:** on 14 April, The entity has donated EGP 1 million to Tahya Misr Fund.
- **The Federation of Egyptian Industries' building materials division:** on 14 April The official body has doled out EGP 13 million to support doctors and other healthcare workers.
- **The Insurance Federation of Egypt:** The federation has donated EGY 10 million to Tahya misr Fund.
- **The Federation of Egyptian Banks' initiative:** The Federation of Egyptian Banks has rolled out, in coordination with the Central Bank of Egypt (CBE), an EGP 150 million initiative to support people affected by the coronavirus, according to an April 1st statement. Donations of the federation's member banks will be divided based on four categories according to their 2019 annual profits. Banks with over EGP 5 billion of annual profits will donate EGP 80 million, while banks with annual profits of EGP 3-5 billion will contribute with EGP 40 million. The third category includes banks whose annual profits stand at EGP 1-3 billion and will donate EGP 20 million. In addition, banks with EGP 1 billion annual profit are set to contribute with EGP 10 million.
- **The amount of these donations will be divided into three** consecutive months, namely April, May, and June, according to the federation.

#صحتك_تهمنا



Egyptian Cabinet



Your safest source of information
about noval Coronavirus - covid19
www.care.gov.eg



Powerd by IDSC



**The Egyptian Cabinet
Information and Decision Support Center (IDSC)**

1, Magless El Shaab st., Kasr El Einy, Cairo, Egypt

Postal Code: 11582 P.O. Box: 191 Magless El Shaab Tel: +202-2792-9292 Fax: +202-2792-9222

 www.idsc.gov.eg

 info@idsc.net.eg



www.idsc.gov.eg