



**FACT SHEET**  
**WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT JUNE 2014-May 2020**  
**Ever since President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi assumed Presidency of Egypt**

Egypt has witnessed notable positive progress on the women's empowerment and gender equality agenda during the past six years. Progress is recognized on several levels, starting with a strong political will to fulfill women's constitutional rights, and commitment that is evidence based as it becomes translated into strategies and programmes that are implemented by state and non-state actors. The strong political will has created momentum and space that enabled stakeholders, including youth, academic institutions, legislators, religious leaders, rural women, and many others to advocate for--- and commit to the empowerment of women and girls at many levels. The **Egyptian Constitution of 2014** established values of justice and equality and included more than 20 Constitutional Provisions that guarantee the rights of women in all spheres of life.

Egypt is the first country globally to launch its national women strategy 2030 aligned with the SDGs, confirming the country's commitment to achieve the empowerment of Egyptian women and its will to play an active role in the advancement of women. **The National Strategy for the Empowerment of Egyptian Women 2030 was adopted by the President of Egypt** in 2017. Directive to the Government of Egypt to adopt all its contents and consider it as a guide and a roadmap for all the work concerning the empowerment of women.

The Strategy has 34 SDG's indicators and is comprised of four main pillars:

- 1) **Political empowerment and leadership**
- 2) **Economic empowerment**
- 3) **Social empowerment**
- 4) **Protection**

**With Legislation, culture as cross cutting pillars**

To ensure rigorous monitoring framework for the strategy, NCW established **Egypt National Observatory for Women (ENOW)**<sup>1</sup> that follows up on its implementation through the rigorous application of monitoring and evaluation mechanisms, including **the establishment of baselines and follow up indicators** to measure and track progress. ENOW indicators and studies have been accessed **120 thousand times** since ENOW portal was launched.

The Egyptian President – in a historical precedent– announced 2017 as the “**Year of Egyptian Women,**” describing expediting steps towards the empowerment of women, in addition to safeguarding their constitutional rights as a “**national duty**”.

Egypt is the first country to localize the SDGs quantitative targets at the governorate level and started the localization roll-out activities to ensure whole-of-society engagement and guarantee that no one is left behind.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://enow.gov.eg/>



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**Some General Information on Women in Egypt** (CAMPAS data)

- **Egyptian population** reached 100,300,000 (2020).
- 51.6% of the Egyptian population are males while 48.4% are females. (2017)
- **18% female heads of households** (2020)
- Percentage of **Dropouts from Education** is the age group between 6-20 years old is 52.4% for women and 46.6% for men. (2017)
- **Illiteracy rate** among Egyptians is 25.8%; While it is 30.8% for women & 21.2% for men (2017)
- **Marital Status:** above the age of 15, 4.7 million women never married, 19.5 million are married, 3million are widows, 461,000 are divorced. (2017)
- Around half of the Egyptian population has **health insurance**; 46.8% women & 54.6% men (2017)
- **Women and technology:** 60.1% of women use phones & 26.4% of women use computers/laptops (2017)

- The Government of Egypt (GoE) has dedicated 242 billion Egyptian pounds to the *women agenda* from July 2018 – December 2019.



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### WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT JUNE 2014-May 2020

#### Ever since President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi assumed Presidency of Egypt In the pillar of Women's leadership and Political empowerment

-Percentage of **women Ministers in the Cabinet** has increased from 6% in 2015 to 20% in 2017 to 25% in 2018 (**Highest Ever representation of women in the Cabinet**).

-Percentage of **women holding Deputy Minister** has increased from 17% in 2017 to 27% in 2018.

-Percentage of **women holding deputy Governors** reached 31% in 2019.

-Percentage of women in upcoming **local councils is 25% according to the constitution (Highest Ever Quota for women in local council 25%)**.

- **Percentage of Women in the Egyptian Parliament** has increased from 2% in 2013 to 15% in 2018 (**Highest Ever women representation in the Parliament since women were ever given the right to be elected in 1957**) While recent constitutional amendments in 2019 mandated a quota for women requiring that 25% of all seats of the parliament be reserved for women.

-Percentage of **women on boards** in Egyptian exchange stock 10.1% & banking sector 14.8% & public enterprise sector 6.1 & Financial Regulatory Authority (FRA) 11% , The % of women leaders in executive positions is 7.1%, which is higher than the average in the MENA region estimated at 5.4%. (Source: ministry of planning).

-Percentage of **women Editors in Chief of National magazines** is 18%.

5 Women were appointed as **managers in 5 administrative prosecution offices**, one of which is placed in upper Egypt (for the first time in Egypt)

The results of public opinion polls reflect an improvement in the values and perceptions of Egyptians regarding the appointment of women in leadership positions between 2014 and 2018. In 2014, the percentage of Egyptians who believed that women are capable to hold the position of prime minister rose from 43% in 2014 to 54% in 2018, and 62 % of them said that women are able to hold the position of governor in 2018 compared to 42% in 2014. (Baseera)

- Appointment of **26 new Female Judges in Courts** of first instance in 2015, or 66 female judges were appointed in the Egyptian courts.

#### The First-ever: Breaking the Glass Ceiling of Women

Appointment of the **1<sup>st</sup> Woman Advisor to the President of Egypt on National Security** (2014);

Appointment of the **1<sup>st</sup> woman Governor in Beheira Governorate** (2017) and the appointment of a **Female Governor in Damietta** (2018) in the second reshuffle;

Appointment of **Woman deputy to the Governor to the Central bank of Egypt**

**First woman judge to appear on the panel of judges in criminal courts in Egypt**

**Woman Assistant Minister of Justice on Women and Children Affairs** (2015);

Appointment of a woman **President of the Economic Court in Egypt** (2018);

Appointment of **Woman with disability and Rural Woman on the Board of the National Council for Women** (2016);



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***In the pillar of Women's leadership and Political empowerment***

- Appointment of **6 women judges** as deputies to the president of Egyptian State Lawsuits Authority and the number of female judges in the authority **is 430 judges**
- **Executive Women Leadership program to build the Capacity of 130 Government employees**
- Launching of "***the Women mentoring program - women lead the future***" to guide and qualify young women to develop their leadership and management skills and build their capacities (2017).
- Launching of the ***1st Professional Master Program in Gender and Development Studies*** in National Universities in 2016.
- An application was launched to by ***the financial Regulatory authority titled" Empowering Women" to avail a database*** on successful women who eligible to be on boards of financial institutions.



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*In the pillar of economic empowerment*

**Women unemployment rate is 21.4%** in 2018

**Percentage of women owning private companies 16%**

**Percentage of women holding bank accounts** has increased from 9% in 2015 to 27% in 2017.

**51%** of women benefited from **the microfinance loans** & **less than 1%** the rate of women defaulting on loans, while **69%** of women benefited from **small enterprise loans** (2018)

Number of **women trained in the business & marketing sector** is **30,400 women** (March 2020)

**Percentage of women investors in stock exchange is 30%**

**Percentage of women working in governmental agencies is 44.5%**

- Egypt is part of the **World Bank's Universal Financial Access (UFA)** initiative.
- Adoption of the **Maya Declaration** made through the alliance for financial inclusion network of regulatory institutions (AFI). The declaration focuses on creating the right environment, implementing the correct framework, ensuring consumer protection measure are taken and using data to inform and track financial inclusion efforts.
- **Egypt Also hosted** The Alliance for Financial Inclusion (AFI) – Global Policy Forum GPF in Sharm el Sheikh city 2017.
- The Egyptian economy has achieved a real growth rate with 5.6% in 2018/2019, which is considered the best growth rate achieved during the past 10 years, and also the third best economic growth rate globally during this year.
- 2384 companies established through Gender Job Accelerators Program for Entrepreneurship Company in 2018/2019, 8 local & international partnerships were held, benefiting 10,000 people from services to stimulate the entrepreneurial environment.

**Legal framework 2014-2016**

The **new Investment Law** (article 2) dedicated for assuring equal investment opportunities for both men and women.

The **Inheritance Law was amended** (Law No. 219 for 2017) to impose stricter sanctions on those who withhold the inheritance from whoever has the right to such inheritance, which will have a great impact on women

**Recognition of women as breadwinner** in accordance with the unified tax law No. 91 of 2005 and amended by Law No. 11 of 2013

**Amendment of Civil Service Law 2016** granting benefits of working mothers such as 4 months maternity leave instead of 3 months.

**New regulations issued for the mobile payments.**

Amendments in the **bylaws regarding the development of saving group accounts.**

In 2019, two decrees (123, 124) issued by the Financial Regulatory Authority stated that **at least one women should be represented on boards of the financial companies**



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#### *In the pillar of economic empowerment*

- The total value of Interest free loans and soft loans from Nasser Bank is 434 million during 2018/2019, where 35,000 citizens have benefited
- **Egypt is the 2<sup>nd</sup> country globally to launch Gender Equality award certification program** for private and public organizations to recognize the good performance of those organizations and deliver transformational gender equality results. Medium, small, and micro enterprises development agency **MSMEDA is the first agency in Egypt and the Arab region to receive this seal.** Tourism sector is also the first to start applying the gender equality award principles & criteria globally.
- **A presidential decree** has been issued in February 2017 to establish a **National Council for Payments**, headed by the President of the Republic
- The **Central bank of Egypt has signed an unprecedented MOU with the National Council for Women.** The first ever Central Bank globally to sign an MOU with a national women Machinery.
- Financial Savings Schemes established and supported by the Government. **The VSLAS Village Savings and Loans Associations** were applied, allowing women to save and grow their financial capital and starting their own micro-projects; more than **18,000 women beneficiaries** were part of this programme. The initiative was made with the purpose of **unlocking the unbanked population through greater financial inclusion programs for the graduates of the VSLA.**
- **Financial and banking products as well as MSME's Awareness to Egyptian women** in all Governorates of Egypt of reached out to 119,170 women up to 2019 & **Training 883 rural women leaders on financial inclusion** topics in all governorates of Egypt.
- The government has sought to support the activities of the "productive families" during 2018/2019, through organizing exhibitions for their products and contributed in increasing sales worth 120 million LE, and the implementation more than 68,5 thousand micro projects to empower women economically, these projects target the rural women and mothers of school children with financial cost around 468.5 million beside providing 41.3 thousand job opportunities through the small and micro projects for women and youth, as well as training of 18,000 women in the business and marketing field.
- Addressing social norms through launching a **media campaign dedicated to financial inclusion and raising financial knowledge and culture.**
- The **Women Business Development Center (WBDC) within the National Council for Women** has carried out numerous activities such as: "Zaneen Market", a *women friendly environment market* - ICT, vocational and entrepreneurship training for SMEs and new graduates - product development program called "Addaha W2doud" - the first Social Innovation Hub has been launched at the National Council for Women (NCW) in 2016- 1m youth outreach through "masr taamel egypt works" initiative - launch of the hour code campaign for computer science and coding education- An environmental camp that has been implemented in 6 Governorates - Speed Mentoring Program in the field of entrepreneurship and SMEs development - IBDL Program -International Business Driving License for business management - **The "Basic Guide to start your own business Program - GET Ahead Manual- Community Kitchen Initiative "Mumm" model - The Operator's " Mashaghl" Initiative Model. "**



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*In the pillar of social empowerment*

**Girls represent 54% of universities students.**

**56% of Masters and Ph.D. holders are females.**

**Percentage of women professors in universities is 48.6% (2018)**

**89% women benefiting from social protection programs** (2.25 million households – 10 million individuals) (2018)

**235% increase in cash transfer budget** (through Takaful and Karama Program)

Dedication of **250 million** Egyptian pounds to **child care services** from the national budget

**65 % of the beneficiaries of training programs** for Government agencies are women. (2018)

**38 million women** benefited from **bread and flour subsidiary**. (2018)

**34 million women** benefited from **food ration cards**. (2018)

**10 million women** benefited from **health care support**. (2018)

**8 million women** benefited from **family and reproductive health services**. (2018)

**Adoption of the National Strategy for Reproductive Health** (2015)

*Egyptian constitution 2014 ensured the care and protection and care for motherhood and childhood, and for female heads of household, and elderly women, and women most in need.*

- **National ID cards programme adopted** and ongoing; **700,000 ID cards & 670,000 identification document** were issued for women to practice their constitutional rights and access services;
- Launching of **Conditional Cash transfer program** “Takaful and Karama” reaching out to 563, villages, 345 district, 27 Governorates with around **2,000,000 women out of which 175,000 are women with disabilities. (80% women beneficiaries of the program)** with the aim of Improving household consumption, Boosting human capital through conditionality, Increasing women’s control over decision making, Improve economic productive inclusion, increase financial inclusion of women & Reduce violence against women.

**Relevant Legislations issued between 2014-2019**

**Recognition of women as breadwinner** in accordance with the unified tax law No. 91 of 2005 and amended by Law No. 11 of 2013

**Social security and pension law** ratified in 2019



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#### *In the pillar of social empowerment*

- During the year 2019, the number of households registered on the databases of the Ministry of Solidarity, reached around 6.5 million families with a total of 8.164 million individuals. According to the year 18/2019, cash support amounting to 17.434 billion LE has been disbursed, benefiting 3.2 million families in total.
- **426,000 women are covered by social security** with an amount of **146 million** Egyptian pounds (march 2020).
- **113,000 microfinance projects** have been dedicated for women amounted to **620 million egp.**
- Through the credit line Mastoura, **320 million egp were disbursed to 19,000 women beneficiary** while 3000 of mastoura loans were dedicated for women with disabilities.
- Issuance of a new **Social Insurance Policy Scheme "Aman Certificates"** (2018). The government has launched the policy free of charge for **50,000 Egyptian Women heads of households.**
- **65 million egp** has been disbursed as **alimony** for 389,000 women
- **41 support centers for working women** provides services that help working mothers do both family and work duties, reaching out to 195,000 women beneficiaries. (march 2020)
- **Premarital Program** launched to aware the youth about marriage responsibilities reaching to 75,000 youth with 74% girls beneficiaries.
- In the field of family planning during the year 2018/2019:
  - 2.5 million Women received family planning methods.
  - 15.9 million Women visited family planning clinics, and 22.4 thousand visited mobile clinics.
  - 1.9 million visits were made through door to door campaigns to raise awareness of the importance of family planning in various governorates of the Republic
  - Holding more than 23.8 thousand seminars to raise awareness of the importance of family planning and the reduction of population growth were organized
  - Implementation of 339 reproductive health convoys in remote, random and deprived areas
  - Opening of 13 clinics to provide family planning services in NGOs in each some governorates (Kafr El-Sheikh, Beheira, Qena, BeniSuef, Assiut, Red Sea, Giza).
  - Launching the "2 are enough" program to raise awareness about family planning importance targeting 1,148,000 family in Egypt.





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***In the pillar of social empowerment***

- 50 shelters are dedicated for elderly women while 80 shelters have both men and women with a total reach out to 5500 old women benefiting from shelter's services.
- Accessibility initiative: The Governorates of Egypt have started to commit to apply accessibility code to people with disabilities in Government agencies and new developed projects.
- The "100 million healthy lives" initiative to screen for HCV, diabetes, high blood pressure and BMI.
- Launching of Presidential health initiative "100 million health/ Egyptian women health" **including awareness and screening for 4million women**. The initiative shall target 28 million women nationally to detect breast cancer and non communicable diseases . It aims to reduce the incidence of non communicable diseases, spread awareness and culture of these diseases for early detection, avoid short and long-term complications, and support the reproductive health of the Egyptian woman.
- **Awareness on the importance of Early detection of breast cancer for women** reaching 67,670 women up to 2019
- **Decent housing for the most vulnerable households**. New projects were launched to build around 250,000 housing units for slum inhabitants, with the objective of developing slums and impoverished villages into proper districts in to guarantee a safe and decent life for citizens. This has direct impact on the safety and wellbeing of many women and girls who lived in those slums. Moreover, the needs of 58,000 families were met in the "Decent Housing" program. **Social programs and camps** conducted to the decent housing programs reaching out to 4330 beneficiary.



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***In the Protection Pillar***

**Adoption of the National Strategy to combat Violence against Women (VAW)** endorsed by the Cabinet and the participation of 20 Ministries (2015).

**Adoption of the National Strategy to Combat Female Genital Mutilation (2016)**

Launch of the **Egypt Economic Cost of Gender Based Violence Survey to support evidence based policy-making (2015)**. Egypt is the **first Arab country** to conduct this survey. Most prominent findings such as:

- **10% of women aged between 18-64 years faced harassment in the streets** in Egypt
- **7% of women aged between 18-64 years faced harassment in public transportation** in Egypt
- **18% of women aged between 18-64 years faced violence from a family member** in Egypt

**Child Marriage:** Girls who have been married under the age of 18 are 118 thousand.

**Percentage of FGM of ever married women** in age group 15-49 has decreased from 92.3% in 2014 to 87.2% in 2015; while **percentage of FGM for girls** in age group 15-17 has decreased from 74.4% in 2008 to 61.1% in 2014

**Institutional baseline** *already existing*

- **National Women Complaints Office** in 27 governorates
- **A Special unit for VAW is established within the Ministry of Interior;** Also Human rights departments as well as VAW departments were established in all security directorates and police departments; with a **Hotline linked** to the Violence against Women Department of the Ministry of Interior established to receive any incidents of violence against women.
- **Violence against Women unit established within the Ministry of Justice** for the protection of women; Its objective is to conduct trainings and awareness raising as well as coordinating with all concerned agencies on VAW.

**Relevant Legislations issued between 2014-2016**

The Penal Code was amended (2015) (articles 306 (a) and 306 (b)) to **criminalize sexual harassment**.

The Penal Code was amended (2016) (article 242) to provide for **prison terms of five to seven years for those who carry out FGM**, and up to 15 years if the case results in permanent disability or death.



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#### Ever since President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi assumed Presidency of Egypt *In the Protection Pillar*

- **Establishment of VAW unit within the National Council for women** to support the implementation of and follow up on the National strategy of combating violence against women
- **8 Shelters** for women survivors of violence
- **Establishment of 3 VAW clinics within the department of forensic medicine** in 3 Governorates. Those clinics are supported by the latest medical equipment to examine women who were subject to VAW; with doctors who are trained to deal with those cases.
- Around **80,000 women beneficiaries of the Complaints office services** - (Victim advocate System, Legal Support, Family Courts and VAW cases)
- Formation of the **first National Committee for eradication of FGM** in Egypt including various concerned stakeholders. The mechanism is established to coordinate effort and renew commitments to end FGM in Egypt
- **21 Anti-Harassment Units in Public – Government Universities**. Their aim is to raise awareness among university staff, professors and students about their rights in case they experienced harassment in the university, make them aware of the mechanisms of reporting and dealing with the concerned parties and finally supporting the victims who experienced harassment.
- **Manual on addressing women issues in Islam** was launched by Al Azhar to train religious leaders
- **Training program of representatives from the prosecution and the judiciary bodies** on Violence against Women (700) in 2018.
- **Training program for Forensic doctors** who are concerned with the medical examination on women subject to violence cases and how to deal with those cases.
- **Training program for the authorized marriage officials** on Violence against Women (60).
- **Manual for the public prosecution & judges** official on VAW cases
- Launching the **Essential Service packages** for women who might be subject to violence:
  - Medical Protocol for healthcare of women subjected to GBV in Egypt
  - Referral pathway for GBV case management in Egypt
  - Judges' Standards of handling crimes of Violence Against Women
  - Procedural Manual on handling cases of sexual and gender-based violence
  - Manual on effective police response to crimes of violence against women



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#### Ever since President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi assumed Presidency of Egypt

- Victim's advocate manual for NCW complaints office staff
- Practical guide for NCW complaint office hotline operators
- Operational Manual for anti-harassment units in universities
- TOT Manual for complaints office staff on VAW case management
- TOT Manual for health service providers in civil society organizations on VAW case management
- Adapted module on social services for VAW case management and shelters' guidelines



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#### **Awareness Raising & Advocacy campaigns** *Cross cutting pillar*

- **Knocking doors & on ground nationwide campaign.** The campaign reached out to around **17 million women on the ground** over the past 3 years. The campaign relies on face to face communication with women in villages. The campaign addressed topics such as: Violence against women, personal status law, legal rights, risks of FGM, political participation of women and other women issues.
- **Protect her from FGM campaign** was launched on the 13<sup>th</sup> of June reaching out to **22 million beneficiaries (Women, men & children)** (this number is also include knocking doors activities)
- **The Secret of Your Power'/ 'Taa Marbouta' Nationwide Campaign launched reaching out to 135,000,000 viewers.** The campaign is based on an innovative approach that focuses on the women's strength, addresses misconceptions, redefines gender roles, and fosters women's participation in all spheres of life, including in decision-making bodies and in the labor market as active contributors to the economy.
- **'Because I am a Man' Campaign launched** to engage men and boys with gender equality and women's empowerment issues reaching out to **480,000 men** on ground in all governorates of Egypt as well as reaching over 10 million viewers on social media.
- Launching of the first ever "together we serve our country" targeting around **700 religious women leaders** to work on delivering messages on ground on topics such as: Reproductive health and family planning, Combating violence against women, combating FGM, combating early marriage.
- **Don't Let a Station Stop You' Campaign launched** in one of the 4 most prominent Metro/subway stations to raise awareness about: combating sexual harassment, Family Planning, Encourage girls education, combating early marriage.
- A **social media campaign called "Egyptian women Role Models"** was launched with the aim of highlighting success stories and achievements of successful women in different fields on the social media as an encouragement for other women and young girls. The campaign presented **300 women role model with 800,000 viewership**
- Issuing **the first Media Code of Ethics** targeting media agencies to be more gender sensitive.
- **565 women club** all over the governorates of Egypt to raise awareness about women issues reaching to 362,000 women beneficiary.



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#### **Legislations** *Cross cutting pillar*

- The **Egyptian constitution issued in 2014** introduced a provision for the first time obliging the state to protect women from all forms of violence, to empower them and to provide care , as stated in Article 11 that **The State is committed to protect women against all forms of violence** and ensure enabling women to reconcile a balance between family duties and work requirements as well as providing care and **protection of motherhood and childhood, female heads of families, and elderly and women in need.**
- The Penal Code was amended (2014) (articles 306 (a) and 306 (b)) to **criminalize sexual harassment**. Sexual harassment was for the first time defined by the law. Accordingly, verbal, physical, behavioral, phone and online sexual harassment is punished by a prison sentence of 6 months – 5 years, and up to LE 50,000 in fines, representing a major step towards achieving safety for Egyptian women and girls in public spaces.
- The **Law Governing the Family Insurance Fund was amended** (Law No. 113 for 2015) to increase its resources to respond to the needs of women.
- The Penal Code was amended (2016)(article 242) to provide for **prison terms of five to seven years for those who carry out FGM**, and up to 15 years if the case results in permanent disability or death.
- The **new Investment Law** (article 2) dedicated for assuring equal investment opportunities for both men and women.
- The **Inheritance Law was amended** (Law No. 219 for 2017) to impose stricter sanctions on those who withhold the inheritance from whoever has the right to such inheritance, which will have a great impact on women
- The **Law institutionalizing the work of the National Council for Women was passed and issued** (Law No. 30 for 2018) to elevate the President of the Council to a Minister level post and recognize a wider policy role with respect to the empowerment of women.
- The **Law for People with Disabilities was approved** (Law No. 10 for 2018), guaranteeing more rights for disabled women. It establishes the first comprehensive definition for people with disabilities to guarantee the inclusion of all segments of the disability under its umbrella.
- **Recognition of women as breadwinner** in accordance with the unified tax law No. 91 of 2005 and amended by Law No. 11 of 2013
- Issuance of law No. 11 of 2019 of the **National Council of People with Disabilities**
- **Amendment of Civil Service Law 2016** granting benefits of working mothers such as 4 months maternity leave instead of 3 months.



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- **Social security and pension law** issued in 2019
- In 2019, **two decrees (123, 124) issued by the Financial Regulatory Authority** stated that at least one women should be represented on boards of the financial companies
- The **inclusive Health Insurance Law** No. 2 of 2018 was issued
- Constitutional Amendments of 2019: Amending Article 102 of the Constitution regarding allocating **25% of seats in Parliament to women**
- Issuance of the law No. 149 of 2019 **organizing the civil work.**
- Issuance of No. 6 of 2020 regarding evading the **payment of alimony.**



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**Gender mainstreaming in Egypt<sup>2</sup>**

Gender mainstreaming's point of departure at the Egyptian central government level dates back to 2002. In 2002, NCW has developed a plan to ensure the mainstreaming of gender equality in the Fifth National Plan of Egypt (2002-2007). This plan was approved by the parliament. This plan is considered to have set gender mainstreaming in motion and paved the way for further steps and action. After this period, another plan was formulated to ensure the mainstreaming of gender in the Sixth National Development Plan of Egypt (2007-2012).

Currently speaking, **the Women's Empowerment Strategy 2030** is considered as the only policy document that represents a comprehensive approach to tackle the Egyptian gender inequality issues and seek women's empowerment. **Strategy packages** for how the strategy will be implemented have been drafted.

### **Gender Equality Architecture**

- A number of ministries and national entities have established gender equality structures (e.g., Gender Units and Equal Opportunity Units) to combat workplace discrimination on one side and promote the engagement of women in policy planning on the other side.

#### ➤ **Gender Equality structures**

1. **32 Equal Opportunity Units (EOU)** in the ministries of Egypt
2. **3 Gender/women Units:**
  - Ministry of Manpower Gender Equality and non-discrimination Unit:
  - Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise Development Agency (MSMEDA) Gender Unit:
  - Federation of Egyptian Industries' Women in Business Unit

#### ➤ **Sex disaggregated data**

1. **The Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics (CAPMAS)** is the main authority for collecting and publishing data.
2. **Unit for sustainable development in CAMPAS** devises several indicators related to sustainable development including the women's empowerment and gender equality indicators

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<sup>2</sup> This section includes already existing programs in Egypt as well as new implemented policies





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3. **Egypt National Observatory for Women (ENOW)** that will follow up on the National Women's Strategy 2030's implementation through the rigorous application of monitoring and evaluation mechanisms. There are 35 indicators of monitoring the National Women's Strategy 2030, these indicators are set to be monitored each five years until reaching 2030
4. **The Women on Board's Observatory** a specialized observatory under the ENOW. It collects data about women on boards of financial companies, exchange stock, banking sector & public enterprises.

#### ➤ Gender mainstreaming Tools and instruments:

1. **Gender mainstreaming Manual.**
2. **Gender impact Analysis (GIA)** is done on different bills and legislations leading to legislative amendments that ensures women are having their full rights.
3. **Gender responsive budgeting**, Egyptian government is reviving its efforts to apply gender responsive budgeting across the government machineries.
4. **Models of institutional transformation:**
  - **Gender Equality seal program**(UNDP)  
Implemented in 2019 in Egypt
  - **Gender Equity Model in Egypt**(GEME) (World Bank)  
Implemented in 2010 in Egypt
  - **Women Empowerment Principles**(WEPS) (UN Women)  
Implemented in 2004-2017 in Egypt
  - **Global Gender Gap Accelerator**(World Economic Forum)  
Currently being designed in Egypt (to be first in MENA).



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***Gender Responsive budget***

**The basic features of gender responsive budget in Egypt**

The Government of Egypt (GoE) has dedicated 242 billion Egyptian pounds to the *women agenda* from July 2018 – December 2019.

- **14% of the National budget** is directly dedicated to women's issues.
  - 273% increase in social security pension
  - 247% increase in medical expenses for citizens
  - 135% support health insurance for female students
  - 123% support health insurance for children under school age
  - 125% of women benefit from electricity subsidies
  - 376% growth rate for women benefiting from natural gas home delivery support
  - 100% subsidizing social & early childhood benefits
  - 50% health insurance for female heads of households
  - 8% of child's pension
  - 63% wages of workers in government agency
  - 100% Early childhood program
  - 103% support for food supplies
- **75%** growth rate in **allocations serving women issues** directly through 9 different governmental entities.
- **173.3 billion EGP for food subsidies** directed to women between 2015/2016-2019/2020.
- **1398 million EGP for girls students benefiting from health insurance** support for schools students between 2015/2016-2019/2020.
- **663 million EGP for females heads of household** benefiting from **health insurance** between 2015/2016-2019/2020.

The GoE has been working on **performance-based budgets** since 2006. The Egyptian Prime Minister established a committee for performance-based budgets (decree number 1167) to follow up on the AWP of the ministries. The Egyptian Parliament also has a dedicated committee for performance-based budgets.



## FACT SHEET

### WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT JUNE 2014-May 2020

Ever since President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi assumed Presidency of Egypt

## COVID 19: Egypt's rapid response towards women's situation during the COVID19 outbreak

***Egypt is the first country globally to issue a rapid response policy toward's women sitation during covid19.***<sup>3</sup> Since the National Council for Women is the national machinery concerned with proposing the government public policy on women's development pursuant to Law No. 30 of 2018, NCW has prepared a policy paper regarding Egypt's rapid response to women's situation during COVID-19 outbreak, which includes an analysis of the status quo. In this paper, NCW has presented a number of proposed response measures, whether immediate or middle-term responses, for concerned all line ministries & government institutions, regarding the following pillars:

1. Impact on human endowment (health, education and social protection)
2. Women's voice & agency (Violence Against Women, Leadership and Representation in decision making during crisis management)
3. Impact on economic opportunities
4. Promoting data and knowledge

***Egypt is also the first country globally to issue a women policy tracker that tracked 80 measures & policies taken by the government*** in response to covid19, that are considerate to women's need during the first 3 months of the outbreak in Egypt.

- The first edition of Women policy Tracker on Responsive Policies and Programs during the New COVID-19 Pandemic (14<sup>th</sup> March – 6<sup>th</sup> of April)<sup>4</sup>
- The second edition of Women policy Tracker on Responsive Policies and Programs during the New COVID-19 Pandemic (6<sup>th</sup> of April – 6<sup>th</sup> May)<sup>5</sup>
- The third edition of Women policy Tracker on Responsive Policies and Programs during the New COVID-19 Pandemic (6<sup>th</sup> May -6<sup>th</sup> June)<sup>6</sup>

The tracker has tracked 80 policies taken by the government that considers women needs during the first 3 months ever since the COVID hit Egypt.

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<sup>3</sup> Link to the policy note:

<http://ncw.gov.eg/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/policypapereng.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> Link to the first edition of women policy tracker:

<http://ncw.gov.eg/Images/PdfRelease/Second%20Edition%20Women%20policy%20Tr-52020711172342.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> Link to the second edition of women policy tracker:

<http://ncw.gov.eg/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/coronatrackerenglish.pdf>

<sup>6</sup> Link to the third edition of women policy tracker

<http://ncw.gov.eg/Images/PdfRelease/Third%20Edition%20Women%20policy%20Tra-6202063262824.pdf>