



SAWIRIS FOUNDATION
سازيس فاؤنڊيشن



STRATEGY LAUNCHING

— 2023 - 2028 —

AGENDA

9:00 AM	Registration & Welcoming Guests	
9:30 AM	Welcoming Note	
9:45 AM	Opening Remark Eng. Noura Selim, Executive Director of Sawiris Foundation	
9:55 AM	Presentation of the Strategy Ms. Mays Abou-Hegab, Programs Director at Sawiris Foundation Mr. Abdelrahman Nagy, Learning and Strategy Director at Sawiris Foundation	
10:25 AM	Explanation of the Sessions	
10:30 AM	Break	
11:00 AM	Session 1 More than the Sum of our Parts: The Power of Partnerships	
12:00 PM	Session 2 NGOs and the Civil Society Ecosystem in Egypt: Capacities, Diversity, and Challenges	
1:00 PM	Break	
1:30 PM	Session 3 A Door of Hope for the Most Vulnerable: The Graduation Approach in Egypt	
3:00 PM	Break	
3:30 PM	Session 4 Innovative Solutions for Job Creation (Microfinance and Training)	Session 5 Catching Up: Teaching according to Students' Level and regardless of Age/Grade
5:00 PM	Closing and way forward - Lunch	



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Strategy Launching Event (2023 - 2028)

Panel Sessions

(11:00 AM – 12:00 PM)

Session One - More than the Sum of our Parts: The Power of Partnerships

Sawiris Foundation is a firm believer that creating and maintaining partnerships truly enriches our developmental interventions through the exchange of experiences, knowledge, resources (whether financial or otherwise), and best practices; aligning with the notion that “no one institution or individual knows everything”. That’s why this session will highlight the power that partnerships hold in the field of social development. Looking at our new strategy for the upcoming 5 years we recognize the importance of having our partners by our side and continue to expand collaboration with co-funding partners, in the hope of bridging the gap between stakeholders in development through maximizing the utilization of resources.

This session will first introduce concepts about partnerships and the rationale behind them. Panelists will discuss the benefits and the challenges of partnering in the field of development. Moreover, we will delve into methods and ways of building effective partnerships. This involves ways to enhance trust, understanding, and collaboration between different stakeholders so as to create a more conducive environment to enhance collaboration.

Moderated By

Mohamed Lotfy, Senior Partnerships Officer at Sawiris Foundation

Panelists

- Clémence Vidal de La Blache, Egypt Country Director, AFD
- Ahmed EL Sayed, Associate Professor & Executive Director, J-PAL MENA
- Salma Fathy, Head of Sustainability, Majid Al Futtaim Retail
- May Ali Babiker Eltahir, Regional Director, The Islamic Development Bank Group Regional Hub in Cairo
- Rosa Abdel Malek, Partnerships Director, Sawiris Foundation



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(12:00 – 1:00 PM)

Session Two

NGOs and the Civil Society Ecosystem in Egypt: Capacities, Diversity, and Challenges

It is an increasingly common objective in the MENA region to strengthen organizations and render them more resilient over time. Stemming from the need to optimize resources and maximize the socio-economic impact resulting from its projects, Sawiris Foundation values the importance of building the capacity of NGOs in Egypt to enable the Egyptian NGO ecosystem to deliver projects that effectively serve beneficiaries and to ensure that they are supporting communities in improving their socioeconomic wellbeing.

This session will delve deeper into the design of the NGO capacity building program “IRTEQA” which features an NGO capacity assessment tool categorizing NGOs upon criteria such as; quality of implementation, capacities, and reporting systems. The session will discuss the ways to establish a community of practice that drives NGO capacity-building in Egypt and an assessment system based on performance, experience, and available skillsets and capacities. Panelists will elaborate on the methods of equipping and investing in the NGO ecosystem and understand the ways in which they complement and work hand in hand with government efforts.

Moderated By

Fouad Mettias, Acting Project Manager at CARE Egypt

Panelists

- Amr Lashin, Advisor to the Minister of Social Solidarity
- Ghada Barsoum, Associate Professor & Chair Public Policy and Administration Department, AUC
- Refaat AbdelKerim, Governance and Civil Society Advisor, CARE Egypt
- AbdelRahman Nagy, Learning & Strategy Director, Sawiris Foundation



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(1:30 – 3:00 PM)

Session Three

A Door of Hope for the Most Vulnerable: The Graduation Approach in Egypt

The “Bab Amal” program was launched in Egypt in July 2018 with the objective of reducing extreme poverty in Upper Egypt for more than 2,000 families as a start, by adopting the Graduation Approach of the BRAC organization; which has been proven in over 50 countries and has made a significant impact on the lives of diverse map of communities and contexts. With promising results appearing in evaluations conducted by the Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL), Sawiris Foundation is currently undergoing the second phase of the program for over 3600 households, supporting them toward socioeconomic resilience, social protection, financial inclusion, and women empowerment.

This session aims to discuss the lessons learned and successes of the “Bab Amal” implementation in Egypt and pave the way for the program expansion on the national level in extremely poor communities.

Moderated By

AbdelRahman Nagy, Learning & Strategy Director at Sawiris Foundation

Panelists

- Ragui Assaad, Professor, Humphrey School of Public Affairs, University of Minnesota
- Claire Hutchings, Director of Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning at UPGI's, BRAC
- Amira El-Shal, Senior Policy Manager, J-PAL MENA
- Noura Selim, Executive Director, Sawiris Foundation



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(3:30 – 5:00 PM)

Sessions four and five are in parallel, you can select to attend one of them

Session Four

Innovative Solutions for Job Creation (Microfinance and Training)

Employment is one of the most complex challenges facing Egyptian demographics, its people, the labour market, and policymakers. With a growing population that has reached 104 million in 2022, approximately 60% of the population now is under the age of 30, and 40% is between the ages of 10 and 29. With that, an influx of labour supply is expected by 2030 to 2050 to enter the market seeking opportunities in the midst of growing challenges and uncertainties. Although total unemployment rates had fallen to 7.4 % in Q2 of 2022, youth unemployment is estimated to be 17.8% in 2021 according to the ILO modeled estimate.

In this session, solutions to the issue will be discussed. For one, this session will delve into the characteristics of high-quality training programs that equip beneficiaries with skills and knowledge required to perform and sustain their livelihoods in the labour market. Moreover, panelists will discuss the impact of microfinance interventions on job creation. This session hopes to allow policymakers to identify policies and interventions that have both medium- and long-term effects as well as the sustainability of poverty alleviation through job creation.

Moderated By

Mays Abou Hegab, Programs Director at Sawiris Foundation

Panelists

- Reham Rizk, Head of Modelling Unit, Ministry of Planning and Economic Development
- Eshrak el Sisi, Head of Banks Financing Department, Medium Small & Micro Enterprises
- Mohamed AbdelHakim, Cooperative Consultant, Egyptian Youth Association
- Nasr Eldien Hamdy Sadek, CEO of Giving Without Limits Association
- Samy Abdel Rehim, Economic Empowerment Program Manager, Sawiris Foundation



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Session Five

Catching up: Teaching according to Students' Levels and regardless of Age/Grade

Despite high enrollment rates in Egypt, the underlying problem of low learning levels remains prominent. Pratham, an Indian NGO, has addressed this very issue through the Teaching at the Right Level (TaRL) approach. Although students go from one grade to another, many of them have still not acquired basic numeracy and literacy skills. TARK makes it so that the level of the child is the sole determinant of what they should be learning, regardless of their age or grade.

The session will discuss the need for such an intervention in Egypt and its contextualization in our education scene. It will go through the rigorous evidence that has been made in regard to this approach and the significant impact it had on students' learning levels. Finally, we will discuss the different methods of implementation for the Egyptian context and the way forward.

Moderated By

Areeg Hegazi, Education & Scholarships Director at Sawiris Foundation

Panelists

- Ramadan Mohamed, Director of the National Center for Examination and Educational Evaluation, Ministry of Education
- Tanvi Banerjee, Associate at Pratham International
- Yasser Hashem, Education Technical Advisor, Save the Children
- Ashraf Maher, Projects Manager, CID Consulting
- Nayera El Hussein, Education Policy Manager, J-PAL MENA