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Preface

The African Union Committee for Health, Population and Drug Control (STC- HPDC) adopted, in 2017, a decision to undertake a ministerial review of the implementation of the Addis Ababa Declaration on Population and Development in Africa beyond 2014 (AADPD) as a contribution to the global review and appraisal of the implementation of the ICPD Program of Action to be carried out by the UN Commission on Population and Development in April 2019, the 25th anniversary of the ICPD.

All 54 Member States of the African Union Commission (AUC) are to undertake a multi-sectoral and consultative review process and to submit a national AADPD+5 Report that aim to review progress in the implementation of the AADPD during the specified period. These reports are to be based on the Operational Guide of the AADPD beyond 2014 and the indicators specified within its Monitoring and Evaluation Framework. It aims to identify gaps and challenges and subsequently develop policies to strengthen efforts to achieve national development objectives and priorities that are aligned with Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

In accordance with this approach, Egypt's initiated the multi-sectoral review and appraisal process with the main stakeholders including, the Ministries of Health and Population, Planning, Monitoring and Administrative Reforms, Local development as well as the National Population Council (NPC), the National Population Council for Women (NCW) and the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics (CAPMAS). Moreover, the process benefitted from the available information from the Ministries of Finance, Social Solidarity, Housing and Urban Communities/ New Urban Communities Authority and the Ministry for Environment, as well as the Central Bank of Egypt.

CAPMAS played an important role in providing estimates for the available indicators through their response to the monitoring and evaluation framework as well as their various official publications, especially concerning the outcomes of the 2017 Population, Housing & Establishment Census and the National Statistical Report for Monitoring SDGs (2030) as well as other official statistical publications.

The Ministry of Planning, Monitoring and Administrative Reforms highlighted Egypt's national objectives and goals as specified within the Sustainable Development Strategy (Egypt's Vision 2030) as well as provided detailed information about the policies and strategies to be adopted in some specific thematic areas. Moreover, the Ministry reviewed Egypt's overall ICPD/PoA report (AADPD+5) which will contribute to the overall progress in achieving the SDGs agenda.

Egypt's National Report would feed into Africa continental progress report that will be discussed in the Expert and Ministerial Meeting to be held in October 2018. The preparation and publication of Egypt National Report (AAPDP+5) was made possible through the support of the United Nations Fund for Population (UNFPA) Egypt Country Office.

Executive Summary

Demographic, Social and Economic Characteristics:

Egypt's population was 94.8 million as per 2017 Census, compared to 72.6 million in 2006. This indicated a rise in the average annual population growth to 2.56% during the inter-censal period 2006-2017, compared to 2.05 in the previous inter-censal period. The sex ratio was around 104-105% during 1976-2006 and increased to 106.5% during the following period. The 2017 census also confirmed the unbalanced population distribution within various areas of the country. Urban governorates represent about 1.6% of the total land, and host about 17 % of the total population. The five frontier governorates host 1.7% of the population while represent about 77.7% of Egypt's land. Both Lower and Upper Egypt host about 43.2 and 38.1 % of the population successively although they significantly differ in size. Lower Egypt is about 3.3% of total land compared to 17.3 % for Upper Egypt. Such differentials are also observed if we examine the data for Egypt's 27 governorates.

Egypt is undergoing the demographic transition since the seventies of the twentieth century, when fertility started to decline in response to the continuous decrease of mortality levels after the Second World War. This was mainly due to the decline in infant and child mortality levels during the past forty years. Various fertility indicators document overall decline trend since the seventies irrespective of some fluctuations and although the number of annual births was increasing. By early eighties, the TFR was 5.3 children per woman and continued to decline to three children per woman according to the EDHS (2008). However, fertility levels showed stalling trends with the beginning of the third millennium that was confirmed by the EDHS (2014) pointing out to the increase in the level of fertility to 3.5 children per woman. Such increase was observed across all regions except the urban governorates. Overall fertility level in rural areas increased by about 19% during the period 2008-2014 compared to 11% in urban areas.

The rise in fertility levels slowed down a long history of demographic transitions throughout the past four decades. In the EDHS 2014 the average age at first marriage for women in Egypt was 20.8 years compared to 20.6 in 2008. Child marriage is still noticed and it was documented by the 2017 census. The population dynamics impact on the population age-structure was documented by the 2017 population census showing that Egypt have a marked "youth bulge". About 34.2% of the population is under the age of 15 and around 61% of the population is below the age of 30 years, which reflects the impact of the rising fertility in recent years. At the sub-national level, wider differentials between overall Urban and Rural areas are observed when considering age-structure indicators. This points to higher potentials for the demographic opportunity in urban areas (about 31% below age 15 in urban compared 37% in rural areas).

Re-vitalizing the demographic transition would also strengthen the economy which is significantly recovering from the set-back and the challenges of the post 2011 period. The GDP growth rate reach 5.2-5.3% in the second quarter of FY17-18. This was the result of the successful implementation of the transformational reforms program aiming at enhancing the country's business environment and staging a balanced and inclusive growth. **The January 2018 review of the IMF documented these positive results and highlighted the interaction between population and development through focusing on the need to enhance the integration of women in the labor force, expand youth employment and overall job creation.**

From the institutional point of view, the National Population Council (NPC), established in 1985, is the main governmental body responsible for approving proposed population policies; develop comprehensive integrated population plans, in collaboration with all stakeholders, coordination as well as monitoring and evaluation. The Council is currently headed by the Minister for Health and Population (MOHP) and includes representative from various relevant Ministries. However, other mechanism for coordination are also functioning to serve specific groups, such as the National Council for Women (NCW), the Mother and Childhood Council and the Council for Persons with Disabilities.

The National Population Strategy (2015-2030) stated four main goals with relevant targets and five pillars, also it included a five-year executive plan (2015-2020) that listed required activities, responsible implementing organization and the needed financial sources. The plan indicated that about 46% of the needed funds are available. The strategy provided a detailed list of indicators to monitor and assess progress in all activities within its five pillars.

Recently, the Cabinet established a Ministerial Committee, headed by the Prime Minister and included relevant ministries. The Committee reflects the highest political determination of the government to address and tackle the reproductive health and family planning agenda in an integrated concerted manner. The Committee Reporter is the Secretary General for NPC. For gender activities, the National Council for Women (NCW) is shouldering the responsibility for coordinating gender activities. The changes in the population dynamics are being regularly assessed and data are made available by CAPMAS for in-depth studies and analysis. The national statistical system is providing decision-makers with necessary official statistics and for monitoring both national and global initiatives (SDS and SDGs). Overall, both internal and international active partnership and cooperation is providing the needed support.

Implementation and Impact of AADPD

Assessing Egypt's performance during past years concerning the implementation of the Addis Ababa Declaration on Population and Development demonstrates its serious commitment to take the necessary actions to create positive environment for its implementation. **Both Egypt 2014 Constitution and its Sustainable Development Strategy, Egypt Vision (2030), are instrumental in supporting the adoption of these commitments.** Both focus on granting equal rights to all individuals, without any discrimination of any form, and emphasize the rights for health, education and safe environment. Both documents provide the umbrella that allow formulation and adoption of a set of policies, strategies and legislations needed to strengthen the opportunity to create a supportive environment for furthering the commitments within various specified pillars. Special attention is given to youth and women to enhance their participation in various aspects and to ensure their ability to enjoy all their rights without discrimination. This is documented throughout the assessment of different commitments of the AAPDP in this report.

Moreover, both human and financial resources required for the advancement of such commitments were also specified and actions were taken for their availability to re-vitalize the current programs and to develop new programs that respond to prevailing challenges, such as child marriage, violence against women and harmful practices (FGM) as well as sexual harassment and hate crime. **The government support for SME projects, is noticeable from the allocation of Egypt Central Bank of LE 200 billion for initiatives aiming to expand youth and women participation in active employment.** Currently around 35% of available funds were used to support 62 thousand projects. This will be also instrumental in supporting innovation and creative endeavor.

The comprehensive health insurance system, covering reproductive and sexual health, and the new education system that are being endorsed by the government would lead to significant improvement in the availability and quality of these rights and secure fair and equal opportunities for all individuals, especially women, persons with disability and older people as well as special groups such as persons living with HIV/AIDS. Free movement and migration were also given due attention, especially in view of the instability of the region, where Egypt's policies to absorb immigrants with normal living conditions. In the meantime, the government established 32 new cities in the past 20 years (out of which 8 are being recently added) to absorb the expected population growth and to reduce high-level concentration in some areas. It aims to absorb 27 million people. A total of LE 75 billion are allocated in the budget 2018/2019 for that purpose.

The economic reform program was also coupled with an expanded safety net program to support vulnerable groups and enhance their ability to cope with the outcome of the reform program. This included increasing subsidy for essential food commodities, introducing specific pension systems and expanding conditional cash transfer program (Takafol and Karama) and other programs.

Six Thematic Pillars:

Although the AAPDP would affect all segments of the population, the primary target groups were women, youth, and persons with disability. Families around the poverty line were also given due attention to be covered by programs within the social safety net. Egypt's records show that it is working on all AAPDP six pillars. Nevertheless, special attention was given to the dignity and equality, health and place & mobility pillars as can be noticed from the actions undertaken. Other pillars were also covered. Similarly, almost all rights highlighted in the AAPDP were covered.

Micro-monitoring

Out of the 88 commitments highlighted in the AAPDP, 81 should be directly implemented by the country. **For these commitments, Egypt carried out relevant actions to pave the way for their implementation through policies, strategies, and legislations as well as programs to facilitate and to create supportive environment for achieving the goals.** This is clearly demonstrated in the micro-monitoring analysis about the status of each of the various commitments highlighted in the adopted monitoring framework.

The macro-evaluation provides evidence about the impact of the overall set of commitments on the population and development situation and the overall performance of the AAPDP. The assessment clearly indicates that policies, strategies and legislations were needed inputs and they were instrumental in advancing the implementation of AAPDP framework and its commitments. Moreover, both human and financial resources required for their implementation were also specified and actions were being taken for securing them. This was also enhanced by the principles and the rights plainly stated in the 2014 constitution and Egypt's vision 2030 (SDS).

DD focused Macro Evaluation:

Assessing Egypt's efforts to harness the demographic dividend and to measure its progress in that direction, at the national and governorate level, is important to determine how the overall impact of the implantation of various commitments is affecting the demographic situation. Especially since recent data are providing mixed indicators about the ability of Egypt to benefit from the demographic opportunity and its ability to translate it into dividend, at national and sub-national (governorate) levels.

The 2017 population census and other relevant data provided an opportunity to assess Egypt's position concerning the demographic dividend and to measure its pillars, namely the demographic window and the dividend component that was measured through the Demographic Dividend Index (DDI) estimated on the basis of the framework elaborated by the World Economic Forum (WEF). The threshold level for these indicators are: a) percentage population below age 15 should be less than 30%, b) DR should be less or equal to 66% and the value of the DDI should exceed 50%.

Examining the dependency ratios, at national and governorate levels indicates that although at national the data indicates the presence of the opportunity for the demographic dividend, the situation at the governorate level differs as shown by the wide variations in the values of the age dependency ratios for various governorates. In turn, this situation reflects also the different status of various governorates within the transition process. For a large number of governorates, the percentage population below age 15 is fluctuating between 31 – 32%, thus showing a favorable demographic situation for the demographic dividend. All urban Governorates, namely: Cairo, Alexandria, Port-Said and Suez,

are highly able to attain the opportunity of benefiting from the demographic dividend. These are directly followed by Luxor and several Lower Egypt Governorates. On the contrary, the situation in rural areas of various governorates is clearly reducing the opportunities of these areas to benefit from the demographic opportunity. The percentage population less than 15 years of age is fluctuating between 33 – 37% in Lower Egypt and increase to 36 - 41 % for most of Upper Egypt governorates, with some exceptions in Luxor (32.2%) and Aswan (33.9%). In sum, the transition process is being affected by the recent changes in fertility levels which are touching the potentials of harnessing the demographic dividend, although at different pace in urban/rural areas within governorates.

Estimated DDI values for all governorates, exceeds 60%, indicating that the specified human capability priority areas (empowerment, education and Employment) are being taken into consideration within current efforts to harness the demographic dividend, although at different levels. Both the DR and DDI indicators confirm that a large number of Egypt governorates are on the right direction to harness the benefits of the demographic dividend. However, the data also indicates that these governorates are at different levels of the demographic transition and accordingly relevant public policies to affect both sides of the demographic dividend (demographic and human capital development) should be adopted either to sustain the current progress or to reverse directions in some other governorates.

In sum, the previous analysis indicates that Egypt, at the macro level, have made noticeable progress to harness the demographic dividend. However recent changes in fertility level and impact on the age structure and dependency ratio indicate that more efforts are needed to benefit from such opportunity. This should also be coupled with significant progress in improving human capital indicators which are in line with the overall economic reform plan. Overall, this macro-level assessment indicates that AADPD framework implementation is feasible and would in turn contribute to advance the goals of sustainable development and agenda 2063. Egypt has already created the supportive environment for advancing the implementation of the AADPD agenda through introducing the relevant policies, strategies and legislations as well as operationalized their execution. This interactive pathway is also complemented with the shown potentials for the demographic dividend to materialize and allow the country to harness its possible benefits if successful efforts to speed-up the process through the fine-tuning of policies and programs that will affect both the opportunity and the human capital development. The impact of the recent fertility trends on the process would be minimized through effective programs to speed up the demographic transition at both national and governorate levels.

Part One

Introduction

Egypt is a transcontinental country expanding over the northeast corner of Africa and southwest corner of Asia by a land bridge formed by the Sinai Peninsula. It is bordered by the Mediterranean Sea, Libya to the west, Gaza Strip and Israel to the northeast, Sudan to the south, the Red Sea to the east. Egypt is the most populous country in the Arab world and the third most populous country in Africa, behind Nigeria and Ethiopia according to the Medium variant of the UN World Population prospects (2017 Revision) and is ranked 14 by population size (compared to 20 in 1950). Its population represents 1.29% of the global population and about 7.77% of Africa population. Within the Arab region, Egypt's population is about 27.3% of its total inhabitants.

Egypt total area is around one million square Km and is divided into four regions:

- 1) Valley & Delta: about 40 thousand square Km, i.e. about 4% of Egypt's total area;
- 2) Eastern Desert: about 220 thousand square Km, i.e. about 22% of Egypt's total area;
- 3) Sinai Peninsula: about 60 thousand square Km, i.e. about 6% of the total area; and,
- 4) Western Desert: about 680 thousand square Km, i.e.68% of total area.

Thus, much of the land is desert and only about 6.8% is inhabited area in all governorates (CAPMAS, 2018, p. 15). The density of inhabited area per square Km, by the middle of 2017, is estimated to be 1393.8 which make it the largest densely country among Arab States. The Egyptian government, however, has a policy of land reclamation and fostering of new settlements in the desert. Despite these efforts, the majority of Egyptians live either in the Nile Delta located in the north of the country or in the narrow Nile Valley south of Cairo. Administratively, Egypt is divided into 27 governorates. The three Urban Governorates (Cairo, Port Said, and Suez) have no rural parts while the fourth one Alexandria in currently having a small rural area. Each of the other 23 governorates is subdivided into urban and rural areas. Nine of these governorates are located in the Nile Delta (Lower Egypt), nine are located in the Nile Valley (Upper Egypt), and the remaining five Frontier Governorates are located on the eastern and western boundaries of Egypt. Overall, the Nile River is running within Egypt for about 1532 Km.

Population Size and Growth

Egypt's population reported by the 2017-census amount to 94.8 million (April 18, 2017) compared to about 72.6 million in 2006. The estimated annual growth rate for the inter-censal period reached 2.56 %, which is above the estimated annual growth rate of 2.04% for the immediately preceding period 1996-2006. Such high annual population growth rate was only surpassed by the level noticed during the period 1976-1986 as can be seen from Table (1) presenting the returns of the regularly undertaken population censuses.

Annual population growth rate started to significantly increase in the forties (1.75% by 1947) and continued to increase till the period 1986 - 1996. By the end of the 20th century, the annual growth rate, although still high, reversed its direction and declined to slightly over 2% which was again changing its direction in the recent period. During the period 1897 – 2017 Egypt population increase was around ten-fold and while the first doubling of the population took slightly over 50 years, the data indicated that the population almost doubled again in 31 years, during the period 1986 – 2017, thus increasing from 48.3 to 94.8 million. The Population increased by about 22.2 million during the most recent inter-censal period reflecting the pressure on various aspects of sustainable development. By mid-2017, CAPMAS estimate of the population amount to about 95.203 million out of which 51.6% are males. The sex-ratio was around 100 during the periods till 1937, with the exception of 1897, and after declining to around 98% in 1947 it started to increase to around 101% in the sixties, and continued to increase to around 104 - 105% during the period 1976 – 2006. The 2017 census data reported another significant increase to about 106.5%.

Table 1: Reported Population by censuses and sex ratio as well as annual population growth for the period (1882 -2017). (Population Unit: per 1000s)

Census year	Male	Female	Total	Sex Ratio (1)	Annual Pop. Growth Rate %
1882	3345	3367	6712	99.3
1897	4914	4755	9669	103.3	2.43
1907	5617	5573	11190	100.8	1.46
1917	6369	6349	12718	100.3	1.28
1927	7058	7120	14178	99.1	1.09
1937	7967	7954	15921	100.2	1.16
1947	9392	9575	18967	98.1	1.75
1960	13118	12967	26085	101.2	2.34
1966 (2)	15176	14900	30076	101.9	2.52
1976	18648	17978	36626	103.7	1.92
1986	24709	23545	48254	104.9	2.75
1996	30351	28961	59312	104.8	2.08
2006	37219	35579	72798	104.6	2.05
2017	48892	45907	94799	106.5	2.56
(1) Sex Ratio: Males per 100 Females					
(2) Sampling Census					

Source: CAPMAS, Egypt in Figures, 2018

Population Distribution

Estimated population by Mid-2017 displays the unbalanced population distribution in major areas of Egypt (Table 2). Both Lower and Upper Egypt are hosting about 43.2 and 38.1 % of the total population successively although they significantly differ in size. Lower Egypt is only about 3.3% of total land compared to about 17.3 % for Upper Egypt. Similarly, Frontier governorates which represent about 78% of the total land is only hosting 1.7% of the total population. On the other side, urban governorates area is only 1.7% but it is hosting around 17 % of the total population.

The population distribution by urban/ rural residence shows that around 42.4 % of the population is living in urban areas. This slightly below what was observed in 2006 (43.1%) which might be due to the fall back of rural/urban migration and the higher level of fertility in rural areas. Such distribution, however, differs when considering major area of Egypt as shown in Table 2. With the exception of urban governorates (99.6 % urban), the situation differs in other areas. About 28 % of Lower Egypt population is living in urban areas compared to 32.4 % in Upper Egypt. The highest population concentration in urban areas, although small in size, is noticeable in the Frontier governorates (67%). On the other hand, the population distribution by sex within the major areas of Egypt is almost identical where the percentage of males slightly differs between 51 – 52 % in all areas.

This unbalanced population distribution confirms the importance of handling such situation as one of the dimensions of the population situation of Egypt, which is certainly reflected on the quality of life in the crowded areas. The overall population density (97 person per square Kilometer), ranks Egypt as 119 out of 249 counties and territories. However, if we focus on inhabited areas, the population density by Mid-2017 would increase to 1394 person by square kilometer.

Table 2 Population Distribution by Place of Residence, Sex at Mid- 2017, % of Place of Residence & Area in Km2 to Total Population & Area

Place of Residence		Population by Area in 000		Total	Population by Sex in 000		% Place of Res. Pop. to total	% Area of Place of Res. to total area
		Urban	Rural		Males	Females		
Urban Governorates	No.	16,160	71	16,231	8,399	7,832	17.0	1.6
	%	99.6	0.4	100	51.7	48.3		
Lower Egypt Governorates	No.	11,448	29,633	41,081	21,102	19,979	43.2	3.3
	%	27.9	72.1	100	51.4	48.6		
Upper Egypt Governorates	No.	11,755	24,548	36,303	18,772	17,531	38.1	17.3
	%	32.4	67.6	100	51.7	48.3		
Frontier Governorates	No.	1,069	519	1,588	822	766	1.7	77.8
	%	67.3	32.7	100	51.8	48.2		
Total		40,432	54,771	95,203	49,095	46,108	100	100

Source: CAPMAS, Egypt in Figures, 2018.

The same observation is being noticed when we consider the population distribution by area of residence for governorates as per Table 3.

Table 3: Reported Population in 2017 Census by Place of Residence, Sex and Sex ratios

Governorate	Place of Residence		Total Population		Sex		Sex (1) Ratio %
	Urban %	Rural %	No.	%	Males	Females	
Cairo	100.00%	0.00%	9,539,673	10.10%	4,960,625	4,579,048	108.3
Alexandria	98.70%	1.30%	5,163,750	5.40%	2,654,824	2,508,926	105.8
Port-Said	100.00%	0.00%	749,371	0.80%	385,129	364,242	105.7
Suez	100.00%	0.00%	728,180	0.80%	374,399	353,781	105.8
Damietta	39.40%	60.60%	1,496,765	1.60%	769,505	727,260	105.8
Dakahlia	28.30%	71.70%	6,492,381	6.80%	3,302,847	3,189,534	103.6
Sharkia	24.30%	75.70%	7,163,824	7.60%	3,688,761	3,475,063	106.1
Kalyobia	42.70%	57.30%	5,627,420	5.90%	2,908,670	2,718,750	107
Kafr-El-Sheikh	23.90%	76.10%	3,362,185	3.50%	1,720,214	1,641,971	104.8
Gharbia	28.10%	71.90%	4,999,633	5.30%	2,555,427	2,444,206	104.6
Menoufia	20.70%	79.30%	4,301,601	4.50%	2,219,798	2,081,803	106.6
Behera	18.20%	81.80%	6,171,613	6.50%	3,181,812	2,989,801	106.4
Ismailia	44.50%	55.50%	1,303,993	1.40%	673,431	630,562	106.8
Giza	61.00%	39.00%	8,632,021	9.10%	4,487,640	4,144,381	108.3
Beni-Suef	22.70%	77.30%	3,154,100	3.30%	1,626,567	1,527,533	106.5
Fayoum	23.00%	77.00%	3,596,954	3.80%	1,875,592	1,721,362	109
Menia	18.00%	82.00%	5,497,095	5.80%	2,834,948	2,662,147	106.5
Asyout	25.90%	74.10%	4,383,289	4.60%	2,266,684	2,116,605	107.1
Suhag	21.20%	78.80%	4,967,409	5.20%	2,569,032	2,398,377	107.1
Qena	18.80%	81.20%	3,164,281	3.30%	1,623,352	1,540,929	105.3

Aswan	41.10%	58.90%	1,473,975	1.60%	749,400	724,575	103.4
Luxor	40.40%	59.60%	1,250,209	1.30%	645,329	604,880	106.7
Red Sea	96.50%	3.50%	359,888	0.40%	187,479	172,409	108.7
ElWadi ElGidid	46.00%	54.00%	241,247	0.30%	124,057	117,190	105.9
Matrouh	62.70%	37.30%	425,624	0.40%	223,459	202,165	110.5
North Sinai	62.90%	37.10%	450,328	0.50%	229,617	220,711	104
South Sinai	52.90%	47.10%	102,018	0.10%	52,920	49,098	107.8
Overall Egypt	42.40%	57.60%	94,798,827	100.00%	48,891,518	45,907,309	106.5

(1) Sex Ratio: males per 100 females. Source: CAPMAS, Egypt in Figures, 2018

The percentage urban areas vary significantly between governorates since it is almost 100% for urban governorates and Red Sea, and amount to 50% and over in boarder governorates (Matrouh as well as North and South Sinai) and Giza. For other Upper Egypt Governorates (except Giza 61%, Luxor and Aswan 40-41%) the percentage of urban areas varies from 18% in Menia to about 26% in Asyout. Similarly, in Lower Egypt the percentage of urban areas varies in the 20's with the exception of Behera (18%) and Dameitta, Kalyobia and Ismailea which fluctuates between 39 – 45%. Overall only 12 governorates have percentage urban areas that exceed that for overall Egypt.

Estimated population density for various governorates, based on the returns of the 2017 census (Table 4) confirms their wide differences. The data show that Cairo is the most crowded governorate, where the number of persons per Km² is slightly over 50 thousand persons, followed by Giza and Kalyoubia (7248 and 5246 persons per Km² successively) which are part of grater Cairo. The two remote Upper Egypt governorates, namely Luxor and Aswan followed where the population density for inhibited areas varies for the two governorates between 5514 and 5060 persons per Km². For other Lower and Upper Egypt governorates, the population density for inhibited areas differs between slightly less than one thousand per Km² (Kafr-ElSheikh) to about 3117 persons in Sohag, with the exception of Behera and Ismailia where the density is about 870 and 257 persons per Km² successively.

Low level of crowdedness for inhibited areas is noticeable in the frontier governorates where the least value is observed in South Sinai (around 6 persons per Km²) and increased to 5060 persons for the Red Sea, while for other frontier governorates it varies between 214 -248 person per square Km. Both Alexandria and Suez showed population densities that amount to 3082 and 3531 persons per Km² while Port-Said showed a low level of crowdedness (567 persons per Km²).

The share of each governorate within overall population differs significantly through the years irrespective of minor changes in the size percentages. According to the 2017 population census, Cairo governorate comes at the top of the least with 10.1 % of the total population, followed by Giza (9.1%), Sharkia, Dakhliya, Behara and Kalyoubia (7.6, 6.8, 6.5 5.9 % successively). Within Upper Egypt, both Menia and Sohag are showing the largest population percentages amounting to 5.8 % and 5.2 % in turn although they are ranking as 8 and 9 within overall governorates as can be seen from Table 5.

The data also indicate that both Cairo and Giza governorates are assuming the same raking since 1986 although their level is showing a different direction. While both are increasing in population size, their percentage population within overall population takes different directions. The share of Cairo governorate is continuously declining from 12.6% in 1986 to 11.6% in 2006 and to 10.1% in 2017. On the other direction, the share of Giza is regularly increasing from 7.7% in 1986 to 7.8% in 2006 and reaches 9.1% in 2017. Generally, the first nine governorates in percentage population are on their places since 1986 although some minor fluctuations in ranking might be observed. As expected, Frontier governorates ace showing the least population percentages among various governorates and irrespective of their growth rates during the years they assume the same ranking since 1986.

Table 4 : Population density for inhabited areas by governorates (2017 Census)

Governorates	Areas by Km ²		% Inhabited to Total Area	Population 2017 (000)	Inhabited density person/km ²
	Total	Inhabited			
Cairo	3,085	190	6.2	9,540	50,098
Alexandria	2,300	1,676	72.8	5,164	3,082
Port-Said	1,345	1,321	98.2	749	567
Suez	9,002	206	2.3	728	3,531
Damietta	910	669	73.5	1,497	2,238
Dakahlia	3,538	3,538	100	6,492	18,345
Sharkia	4,911	4,911	100	7,164	1,459
Kalyoubia	1,124	1,073	95.4	5,627	5,246
Kafr ElSheikh	3,467	3,467	100	3,362	970
Gharbia	1,942	1,942	100	5,000	2,574
Menoufia	2,499	2,436	97.5	4,302	1,766
Behera	9,826	7,094	72.2	6,172	870
Ismailia	5,067	5,067	100	1,304	257
Giza	13,184	1,191	9	8,632	7,248
Beni-Suef	10,954	1,369	12.5	3,154	2,303
Fayoum	6,068	1,840	30.3	3,597	1,955
Menia	32,279	2,412	7.5	5,497	2,279
Asyout	25,926	1,574	6.1	4,383	2,785
Suhag	11,022	1,594	14.5	4,967	3,117
Qena	10,798	1,741	16.1	3,164	1,818
Aswan	62,726	1,005	1.6	1,474	1,467
Luxor	2,410	227	9.4	1,250	5,514
Red Sea	119,099	71	0.1	360	5,060
ElWadi ElGidid	440,098	1,082	0.2	241	223
Matrouh	166,563	1,716	1	426	248
North Sinai	28,992	2,101	7.2	450	214
South Sinai	31,272	16,791	53.7	102	6
Overall Egypt	1,010,408	68,303	6.8	94,799	1,388

Source: CAPMAS, Egypt in Figures, 2018 for areas in Km² and the 2017 population census.

The average annual population growth rates, shown in Table 5, are in line with the governorates population size dynamics. The least annual population growth rate is observed in Cairo amounting to 1.22% (2006 - 2017) while the highest one is noticed in Giza reaching about 4% during the same period. Almost other governorates are showing higher population growth rates in the recent period with the exception of Frontier governorates. Their declining annual growth rates might be partly due the change in the methodology of the recent census where counting according to usual place of residence was adopted.

Table 5: Percentage Population by Governorates in Censuses (1986 – 2017) & Annual population growth rates during inter-censal years

Governorates	Percentage Population in Census years				Average Annual Pop. Growth Rates %		
	1986	1996	2006	2017	1986- 1996	1996 – 2006	2006 - 2017
Cairo	12.6%	11.5%	11.6%	10.1%	1.14	2.11	1.22
Alexandria	6.1%	5.6%	5.7%	5.4%	1.32	2.09	2.18
Port-Said	0.8%	0.8%	0.8%	0.8%	1.63	1.87	2.64
Suez	0.7%	0.7%	0.7%	0.8%	2.42	2.03	3.39
Damietta	1.5%	1.5%	1.5%	1.6%	2.10	1.83	2.99
Dakahlia	7.2%	7.1%	6.9%	6.8%	1.93	1.66	2.53
Sharkia	7.1%	7.2%	7.4%	7.6%	2.26	2.22	2.81
Kalyoubia	5.2%	5.6%	5.9%	5.9%	2.72	2.53	2.70
Kafr ElSheikh	3.7%	3.7%	3.6%	3.5%	2.06	1.64	2.40
Gharbia	6.0%	5.7%	5.5%	5.3%	1.66	1.63	2.12
Menoufia	4.6%	4.7%	4.5%	4.5%	2.17	1.69	2.63
Behera	6.7%	6.7%	6.5%	6.5%	2.07	1.73	2.52
Ismailia	1.1%	1.2%	1.3%	1.4%	2.71	2.85	3.03
Giza	7.7%	8.1%	7.8%	9.1%	2.50	1.74	4.00
Beni-Suef	3.0%	3.1%	3.2%	3.3%	2.49	2.09	3.07
Fayoum	3.2%	3.4%	3.5%	3.8%	2.49	2.33	3.45
Menia	5.5%	5.6%	5.7%	5.8%	2.24	2.30	2.66
Asyout	4.6%	4.7%	4.7%	4.6%	2.35	2.06	2.32
Suhag	5.1%	5.3%	5.2%	5.2%	2.44	1.82	2.71
Qena	4.7%	4.1%	4.1%	3.3%	0.78	2.06	0.51 ²
Aswan	1.7%	1.6%	1.6%	1.6%	1.85	1.96	2.09
Luxor ¹	----	0.6%	0.6%	1.3%	----	2.24	9.78 ²
Red Sea	0.2%	0.3%	0.4%	0.4%	5.62	5.50	2.67
ElWadi ElGidid	0.2%	0.2%	0.3%	0.3%	2.23	2.78	2.44
Matrouh	0.3%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	2.74	4.21	2.65
North Sinai	0.4%	0.4%	0.5%	0.5%	3.89	2.81	2.87
South Sinai	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%	0.1%	6.39	7.94	-1.66
Overall Egypt (000)	48,254	59,313	72,613	94,799	2.06	2.04	2.56

1, Established after 1986, 2. These abnormal growth rates are due to territorial changes between the two Governorates, Source: CAPMAS, Egypt in Figures, 2018

Population Dynamics

Mortality Trend

Vital registration returns, presented in Table 6, indicated that the level of overall mortality for Egypt continued its declining trend that started in the sixties. The crude death rate (CDR) declined from 9.5 deaths per 1000 people in 1987 to about 6.3 in 2000 and slightly fluctuated around that level during the recent years to reach 5.7 deaths per thousand people in 2017. Vital statistics also reported that mortality level among males is higher than that of females where the CDR for males in 2017 reached 6.1 deaths per 1000 males compared to 5.3 for females. Such male/female differences are prevalent in all preceding years.

At the same time, this data set also shows that mortality levels are higher for urban areas compared to rural areas. In 2017, the CDR for both areas amounted to 7.9 and 4.1 deaths per 1000 people in these areas successively. This unexpected result might be mainly attributed to the adopted system of event-registration (actual event place rather than usual place of residence) and since people, at critical health conditions,

might be seeking the comparatively higher-level health services in urban areas this result in high-level fatality rates reported in such area (CAPMAS, Egypt in Figures, 2018, P.38).

Attention should be given to infant and child mortality levels since they represent the measure component of overall mortality level for the country. According to vital registration of 2016, infant and under-five mortality levels amounted to 15.1 and 19.6 deaths per 1000 live births. It also indicated that their levels are higher for males than females (20.7 vs. 18.5 per 1000 live births) and for urban compared to rural areas (24.9 vs. 14.8), thus confirming the above observation. A different picture however, can be noticed when we consider the EDHS findings, although limited to infant and child mortality. The EDHS (2014), provided estimates for infant and under-five mortality to be around 22 and 27 deaths per 1000 live births for the period 2010-2014 and it confirmed their declining trend over the past fifteen year preceding the survey.

Considering urban/ rural differentials, based on the EDHS 2014, both infant and under-five mortality are higher for rural areas in the 10-year period preceding the survey. Estimated infant mortality for urban areas is about 20 deaths per 1000 live births compared to 29 deaths for rural areas, i.e. about 45% higher. Similarly, the level of under-five mortality for urban areas is about 23 deaths per 1000 live births while it increases to about 34 deaths for rural areas, an increase of about 48%. The data also confirm the shift in the age pattern of mortality within the first year since in both urban and rural areas about 62 - 65% of deaths took place in the first month of life (neonatal mortality).

Trends in mortality levels can be assessed through the comparison of relevant measures from successive surveys carried out at different points in time. Table 7 presents the levels of both infant and under-five mortality for the preceding five-years of these surveys. It documents the noticeable decline of both measures in the past four decades. Infant mortality rates declined from 141 deaths per 1000 live births in the mid-sixties to only about 22 deaths during the period 2010 – 2014, a reduction of about 9 folds during this period. Similarly, under-five mortality level dropped from 243 deaths per 1000 live births to only about 27 deaths during the same period. The survey's findings also point out to the changing age pattern of mortality which is becoming concentrated in the early months of life. According to the EDHS, 2014, only 19% of all deaths under age five took place in the first 12 months of life compared to about 40% in the mid-sixties.

Differentials in the levels of infant and under-five mortality levels for places of residence and governorates are presented in Table 8. Based on the EDHS 2014, the highest level for both variables is noticeable in Upper Egypt (32 and 38 deaths per 1000 live births successively), followed by Lower Egypt (23 and 26 deaths), frontier governorates (19 and 25 deaths) and the least estimate is observed in urban governorates (17 and 20 deaths per 1000 live births).

As expected, the highest levels of infant and under-five mortality is noticed in Upper Egypt governorates (Except Giza and Fayoum) where it fluctuates between 31 and 38 deaths per 1000 live births successively (Qena and Aswan) to 41 and 50 deaths (Asyout and Luxor). Within Lower Egypt, three governorates, (namely Sharkia, Kalyoubia and Ismalia) are showing infant and under-five mortality levels similar to some Upper Egypt governorates, while some other governorates are achieving lower levels that even below those of the urban governorates (namely Damietta, Menoufia and Behara) that varies between 12 and 19 deaths, followed by Dakahlia and Kafr ElSheikh (18 and 22 infant and under-five deaths per 1000 live births). The observed levels for Gharbia are high, especially for infant mortality.

Table 6: Number & Rates of Births, deaths and Natural Increase as well as population size (1987 – 2017)

Year	Births		Deaths		Natural Increase		Mid-Year Pop. In (1000's)
	No. in (1000's)	Rate (CBR)	No. in (1000's)	Rate (CDR)	No. in (1000's)	Rate in (1000's)	
1987	1903	38.8	466	9.5	1437	29.3	
1988	1913	37.8	427	8.4	1486	29.4	
1989	1723	33.2	414	8.0	1309	25.2	
1990	1687	31.7	393	7.4	1294	24.3	51,911
1991	1637	30.0	392	7.2	1245	22.8	52,985
1992	1497	26.9	382	6.9	1115	20.0	54,082
1993	1601	28.1	380	6.7	1221	21.4	55,201
1994	1611	27.7	385	6.6	1225	21.1	56,344
1995*	1605	27.9	385	6.7	1220	21.2	57,642
1996	1662	28.3	380	6.5	1282	21.8	58,835
1997	1655	27.5	389	6.5	1265	21.0	60,053
1998	1687	27.5	400	6.5	1287	21.0	61,296
1999	1693	27.0	401	6.4	1292	20.6	62,565
2000	1752	27.4	405	6.3	1347	21.1	63,860
2001	1741	26.7	405	6.2	1336	20.5	65182
2002	1767	26.5	424	6.4	1343	20.1	66,627
2003	1777	26.2	440	6.5	1337	19.7	67,964
2004	1780	25.7	441	6.4	1339	19.3	69,303
2005	1801	25.5	451	6.4	1350	19.1	70,653
2006	1854	25.7	452	6.3	1402	19.4	72,008
2007	1950	26.5	451	6.1	1499	20.4	73,644
2008	2051	27.3	462	6.1	1589	21.2	75,194
2009	2217	28.8	477	6.2	1741	22.6	76,925
2010	2261	28.7	483	6.1	1778	22.6	78,685
2011	2442	30.3	493	6.1	1949	24.2	80,530
2012	2630	31.9	529	6.4	2101	25.5	81,305
2013	2621	31.0	511	6.0	2110	25.0	84,629
2014	2720	31.3	531	6.1	2188	25.2	86,814
2015	2685	30.2	574	6.5	2111	23.7	88,958
2016	2600	28.6	556	6.1	2044	22.5	91,023
2017**	2553	26.8	546	5.7	2007	21.1	95,203

*Starting from 1995 data are only covering those born and dead within Egypt
**Preliminary Figures
Source: CAPMAS, Annual Statistical yearbook, 2017 and for 2017 CAPMAS (2018).

The variations with urban governorates are wider for Under-five mortality (17 and 27 deaths) compared to 8 points for infant mortality (15 and 23 deaths). Within this region, the levels shown for Alexandria are clearly high compared to other urban governorates (23 and 27 deaths for infant and under-five mortality successively per 1000 live births), which is not consistent with its overall socio-economic situation. Within the three frontier governorates covered by the EDHS (2014), El Wadi ElGidid governorate is showing the highest level for both variables amounting to 26 and 28 deaths for infant and under-five mortality levels successively, while Matrouh has the lowest levels within the region.

Estimated life expectancy at birth in recent years reflects the impact of positive changes in mortality indicators. In 2017 its value was estimated to be about 70.8 and 73.6 years for males and females respectively, which represents a gain of 4.3 and 4.5 years of life since 2006¹. In sum, life expectancy at

¹ CAPMAS, Egypt in Figure, 2018

birth has risen spectacularly also, from 41 to 71 years for males and 44 to 74 years for females from 1950 to 2017.

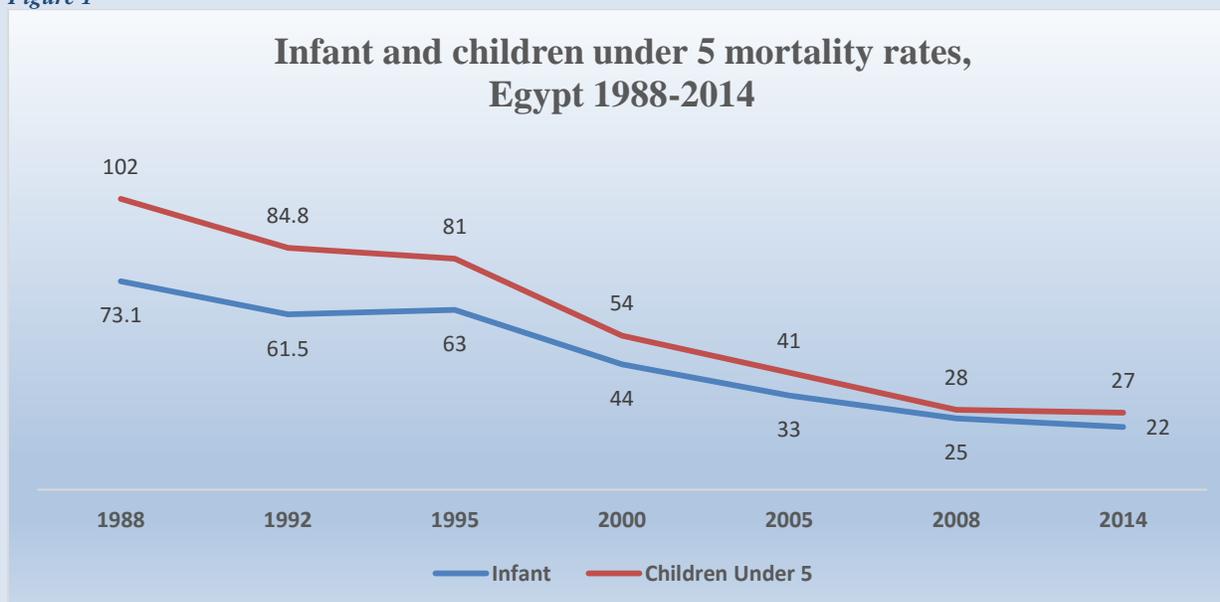
Table 7: Trends of neonatal, infant and under-five mortality from various Selected Surveys

Reference Period	Approximate midpoint	Survey	Neonatal mortality	Infant mortality	Under-five mortality
2010 -2014	2012	2014 EDHS	14	22	27
2005 - 2009	2007	2014 EDHS	19	30	33
2000 - 2004	2002	2014 EDHS	19	33	39
1996 - 2000	1998	2005 EDHS	26	48	59
1991 - 1995	1993	2005 EDHS	32	60	81
1986 - 1990	1988	1995 EDHS	44	82	110
1975 - 1979	1977	1980 EFS	59	132	191
1965 - 1969	1967	1980 EFS	63	141	243

Source: EDHS, 2014, P. 102.

Estimates of infant and under-five mortality obtained from the successive EDHS surveys are shown in Figure 1. It confirms the declining trend throughout the period 1988 – 2014.

Figure 1



Source: EDHS 1988-2014

Table 8: Early Childhood mortality rates by Governorates for the 10-year preceding the Survey (EDHS, 2014)

Area & Governorate	Neonatal Mortality	Post neonatal Mortality	Infant Mortality	(1-4) Child Mortality	Under-five Mortality
Urban Gov.	14	4	17	2	20
Cairo	11	4	15	2	17
Alexandria	19	4	23	4	27
Port-Said	11	4	16	6	22
Suez	16	3	19	3	21
Lower Egypt Gov.	14	9	23	3	26
Urban areas	10	9	19	2	21
Rural areas	16	8	24	4	28
Damietta	8	4	12	4	15
Dakahlia	13	6	18	4	22
Sharkia	21	12	34	2	35
Kalyoubia	19	14	33	6	39
Kafr ElSheikh	9	9	18	4	22
Gharbia	17	9	26	3	29
Menoufia	9	5	13	3	17
Behera	11	6	16	3	19
Ismailia	22	11	33	5	38
Upper Egypt Gov.	19	13	32	6	38
Urban	14	8	23	5	27
Rural	21	14	35	7	42
Giza	10	11	20	4	25
Beni-Suef	26	12	37	6	43
Fayoum	14	5	19	6	25
Menia	17	21	38	6	42
Asyout	28	12	41	5	50
Suhag	27	13	40	10	47
Qena	16	15	31	7	38
Aswan	26	5	31	7	35
Luxor ¹	25	15	41	8	48
Frontier Gov.	12	7	19	6	25
Red Sea	17	4	21	(7)	(28)
ElWadi ElGidid	8	17	26	4	(28)
Matrouh	9	5	14	(7)	21
Rates in parentheses are based on 250-499 exposed births.					
Source: EDHS, 2014, Pages 103 and 271.					

Fertility Trends

Various fertility indicators document its overall declining trend since the seventies irrespective of some fluctuations and although the number of annual births was increasing. The CBR, presented in Table 6, clearly declined in the early nineties (31.7 births per 1000 people) and continued to decline at a slower pace since in the early years of the millennium to be around 25 - 26 births per 1000 people while the data showed a continuous increase in the annual number of births. Starting from 2006 a systematic increase in the estimated CBR was noticeable to reach its peak in 2014 where its value reached 31.3 births per 1000 people and the annual number of births was about 2.7 million. The CBR, however, started to slightly decline again to reach 26.8 births per thousand people in 2017.

Assessing estimates of TFR confirm its declining trend. By early eighties, the TFR was 5.3 children per woman and the results of the successive Egypt Demographic and Health Surveys (EDHS) documented

continuous decrease although at different pace till 2008 where the average number of children per woman was about three children. The period between mid-eighties and mid-nineties witnessed the rapid decline in fertility levels which continued to decrease at slower pace in the following period until 2005. The EDHS (2014) pointed out to the increase in the level of fertility to about 3.5 children per woman, thus reversing the long-term pattern of declining (Table 9). This was the result of the substantial rise in estimated TFR during the period 2006-2015.

The increase in fertility level between 2008 -2014 was noticeable in all residence areas; expect urban governorates, where estimated TFR slightly declined to 2.5 children per woman in 2014 compared to about 2.6 births in 2008. Substantial increase in 2014 was observed in rural Lower Egypt (from 3.0 to 3.6 children per woman during the specified period) followed by rural Upper Egypt and the frontier Governorates. Overall fertility level in rural areas increased by about 19% during the period 2008-2014 compared only to about 11% increase in urban areas.

The magnitude and direction of fertility change over the past several decades in Egypt can be noticed through comparing the values of the TFRs and the relevant mean Children Ever Born (CEB). For overall Egypt, the recent rise in fertility level narrowed the gap between the two measures where the mean CEB for women ages 40-49 years slightly exceed the TRR by only 0.3 children. The same trend is observed for overall Urban and Rural areas where the estimated CEB is higher by about 0.4 children per woman in both areas.

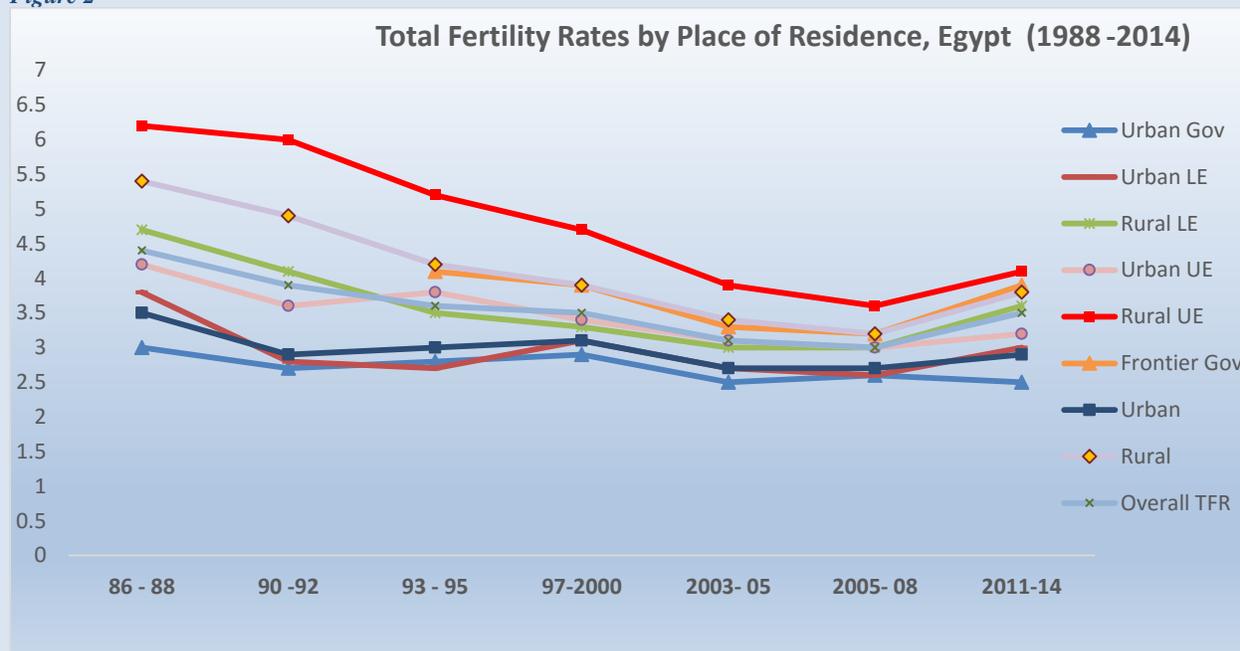
Wide differentials by place of residence can be observed from the data presented in Table 10. The mean CEB for woman aged 40-49 years, varies between 2.9 children in urban governorates to about 4.9 children in rural Upper Egypt. Upper Egypt shows the highest mean CEB (4.5 children) compared to 3.6 and 4.0 children in both Lower Egypt and frontier governorates.

Table 9: Total Fertility Rates (Per one Woman) by Urban-Rural Residence and Place of Residence, Egypt (1988 – 2014)

Residence	Egypt Demographic & health Surveys (EDHS)						
	1988	1992	1995	2000	2005	2008	2014
	86 - 88	90 -92	93 - 95	97-2000	2003- 05	2005- 08	2011-14
Urban /Rural							
Urban	3.5	2.9	3.0	3.1	2.7	2.7	2.9
Rural	5.4	4.9	4.2	3.9	3.4	3.2	3.8
Place of Residence							
Urban Gov	3.0	2.7	2.8	2.9	2.5	2.6	2.5
Lower Egypt	4.5	3.7	3.2	3.2	2.9	2.9	3.4
Urban	3.8	2.8	2.7	3.1	2.7	2.6	3.0
Rural	4.7	4.1	3.5	3.3	3.0	3.0	3.6
Upper Egypt	5.4	5.2	4.7	4.2	3.7	3.4	3.8
Urban	4.2	3.6	3.8	3.4	3.1	3.0	3.2
Rural	6.2	6.0	5.2	4.7	3.9	3.6	4.1
Frontier Gov	4.1	3.9	3.3	3.2	3.9
Overall TFR	4.4	3.9	3.6	3.5	3.1	3.0	3.5

Source: EDHS (2014), P.45

Figure 2



Source: EDHS 1988-2014

The data also indicate that the mean CEB levels are higher in almost all Upper Egypt governorates (except Giza) compared to all other governorates in all places of residence. Measures for fertility preferences are also presented in Table 10 for various places of residence and by governorates. The estimated wanted TFR for overall Egypt in 2014 was 2.8 births per woman, indicating a rise of about 16.7% over its value in 2008 (2.4 births per woman in 2008). Generally, estimated wanted TFRs for all places of residence and various governorates are lower than the estimated TFRs indicating high potential for possible declining in fertility levels if unwanted births are eliminated. Possible decline in fertility levels varies by major place of residence where it is about 20% for overall Egypt, increase to about 21% for Lower Egypt and decrease to about 18% 16% for Upper Egypt and urban governorates successively.

The mean ideal number of children is around 3 children per woman and slightly differs by place of residence, although it is generally higher for Upper Egypt governorates. Its value amounts to 3.4 children per woman and varies between 3.5 – 3.9 in all governorates, except Giza and Beni-Suef. For Lower Egypt and urban governorates, the estimated mean ideal number of children varies between 2.6 – 2.9 children per woman. It should be noted, however, that the mean ideal number of children slightly exceeds the wanted TFRs in most Upper Egypt governorates (except Fayoum) and the gap is narrow (or none exists) in most Lower Egypt governorates. Within urban governorates the wide gap of one child between the two measures is noticeable in Alexandria (1.7 wanted births per woman vs. 2.7 mean ideal numbers of children).

In sum, recent years showed a rise in fertility levels that slowed a long history of demographic transitions reflected in declining fertility throughout the past four decades. Such increase was noticeable in all regions and except urban governorates and would have a significant impact on Egypt's demographic situation. Fertility differentials by governorates are also clear where the TFR varies between 2.2 children per woman in Alexandria to 4.6 and 4.8 children per woman in Fayoum and Matrouh successively.

Table 10: TFRs for the three years preceding the 2014, EDHS survey & mean number of children ever-born to women 40 - 49 years (CEB), wanted TFRs and mean ideal number of children

Governorate	Fertility Level		Fertility Preference	
	TFR	Mean Number of Children (CEB)	Wanted TFR	Mean Ideal No. of Children ¹
Urban Gov.	2.5	2.9	2.1	2.7
Cairo	2.6	3.0	2.2	2.7
Alexandria	2.2	2.7	1.7	2.7
Port-Said	3.0	2.9	2.4	2.7
Suez	3.2	3.4	2.7	2.8
Lower Egypt Gov.	3.4	3.6	2.7	2.8
Urban areas	3.0	3.2	2.4	2.7
Rural areas	3.6	3.7	2.8	2.8
Damietta	3.0	3.2	2.7	2.7
Dakahlia	3.1	3.3	2.3	2.6
Sharkia	3.6	4.0	2.9	2.8
Kalyoubia	3.8	3.5	2.8	2.9
Kafr ElSheikh	3.4	3.3	2.7	2.6
Gharbia	3.1	3.4	2.4	2.7
Menoufia	3.5	3.6	2.8	2.8
Behera	3.5	3.8	2.7	2.8
Ismailia	3.7	3.5	2.9	2.9
Upper Egypt Gov.	3.8	4.5	3.1	3.4
Urban	3.2	3.7	2.7	3.1
Rural	4.1	4.9	3.3	3.6
Giza	3.3	3.7	2.7	2.9
Beni-Suef	3.9	4.6	3.1	3.3
Fayoum	4.6	4.8	3.6	3.6
Menia	3.9	5.1	3.0	3.5
Asyout	4.2	5.0	3.3	3.6
Suhag	4.3	4.6	3.5	3.8
Qena	3.7	4.7	3.1	3.9
Aswan	3.6	4.2	2.9	3.6
Luxor	3.4	4.3	3.1	3.7
Frontier Gov.	3.9	4.0	3.4	3.4
Red Sea	3.4	3.7	2.8	3.0
ElWadi ElGidid	3.7	3.7	3.1	3.2
Matrouh	4.8	5.1	4.4	4.6
Overall Egypt	3.5	3.8	2.8	3.0
1. For those who gave numeric answers only Source: EDHS, 2014, Pages 257 and 261.				

Migration Trend

The absence of accurate data about the level of international migration from and to Egypt led to different sources depending on the source of the available statistics. According to the ESCWA/IOM report “2017 Situation Report on International Migration: Migration in the Arab Region” provide estimates for Egyptian’s migrants that slightly exceed 3 million in 2015. At the same time, the Population Division wall chart (2017) pointed out that about 478 thousand is the estimate of mid-year in migrants, living in the country while they were born elsewhere.

A higher level of Egyptian out-migrant is reported for the beginning of 2017 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. A total of 9471 thousand Egyptians is living abroad representing about 10% of 2017 census population counted in the country. The majority of them (65.8%) are living in the Arab region, followed by living in American continents (16.7%), European countries (13.2%), Australia (3.6%), while the smallest percentage of Egyptians abroad are living in African and Asian continents (0.5 and 0.1 % successively).

The report of the migration survey carried out by CAPMAS in 2013 provided some detailed information about the characteristics of Egyptian migrants. It shows that 98% of them are males, mainly in the working age groups (below age 60) with specific skills. The study confirms that the Arab region is the main destination for Egyptian migrants, although at a higher level. About 95.4% of total migrants were moving to such area with KSA as the highest country of destination (40%), followed by Libya (21%), Kuwait (14%), Jordan (11%), UAE (4%) and Qatar (3%).

This data supports the argument that migration is playing a key role in both demographic and economic situation of the country since it intensified after the 1973 war. Its trend was also affected by the stability of the political situation in other countries of the region. Evidences are indicating that Egypt hosted large number of migrants from disturbed countries of the region, namely, Iraq, Syria, Libya and more recently from Yemen. This is in addition to the large number of Sudanese and nationals of other African countries living in Egypt. The impact of such migration trends is diversified. On the one hand, in-coming migrants create pressure on various services, especially from those who are treated as Egyptians (Sudanese and Syrians) while on the other hand the remittances from Egyptians abroad represent a major contribution to the country's resources of foreign currency.

Marriage and Divorce

Trends of marriage and divorce during the period 1986 – 2017 are presented in Table 11. The marriage rate varies during the period between 7 – 8 cases of marriage per thousand populations for most years. However, a noticeable increase in the level was observed in 2008, where the marriage rate was about 9 per thousand and continued to rise to fluctuate between 10 -11 during the period up to 2017.

Table 11: Marriage and divorce, size and rates, for the period 1986 – 2017.

Year	Marriage		Divorce		Year	Marriage		Divorce	
	in 000	Rate	in 000	Rate		in 000	Rate	in 000	Rate
1986	414	8.5	69	1.4	2002	511	7.7	70	1.1
1987	406	8.5	69	1.4	2003	537	7.9	70	1.0
1988	402	8.2	68	1.4	2004	551	7.9	64	0.9
1989	413	8.2	65	1.2	2005	523	7.4	65	0.9
1990	392	7.5	67	1.3	2006	523	7.3	65	0.9
1991	405	7.6	64	1.2	2007	615	8.4	78	1.1
1992	400	7.3	62	1.1	2008	660	8.8	84	1.1
1993	397	7.1	65	1.1	2009	759	9.9	141	1.8
1994	432	7.8	67	1.2	2010	865	11.0	149	1.9
1995	452	7.9	68	1.1	2011	898	11.2	152	1.9
1996	471	8.3	69	1.2	2012	922	11.2	155	1.9
1997	489	8.2	71	1.2	2013	909	10.7	163	1.9
1998	494	8.2	72	1.2	2014	954	11.0	180	2.1
1999	504	8.2	73	1.2	2015	969	10.9	199	2.2
2000	525	8.4	69	1.1	2016	939	10.3	192	2.1
2001	592	9.3	70	1.1	2017	910	9.6	190	2.0

Source: CAPMAS, Statistical Yearbook, 2007 and Egypt in Figures, 2018.

The divorce rates were around 1.4 cases per thousand population and declined to around 0.9 – 1.1 cases till 2008. This was followed by a noticeable increase starting from 2009 to fluctuate between 1.9 – 2.2 cases per thousand populations.

Recent years (2009 -2017) showed higher level of entry into marriage status that also has contributed to the noticeable increase of fertility level for these years. The 2017 census shows a decline in the percentage of non-marital status in comparison to 2006 from 26.5% in 2006 to 24.0% in 2017, as presented in Table 12. This was also valid for both males and females It also confirm the increasing level of divorce between 2006 and 2017 where the total percentage of divorcee increased by about 50%, from 0.8% to about 1.2%.

The 2017 census results document the presence of child marriage for both sexes. A total of 111 thousand females below age 18 were classified by marital status, representing about 0.19% of the total number of those eligible for marriage. It is also worth noting that out of these cases 1455 cases were reported as divorced or widowed.

Table 12: % distribution of population (18 years and above) by sex& Marital Status (2006 – 2017)

Census	Sex	% Population by Marital Status				
		Never married	Contract	Married	Divorced	Widowed
2006	Male	33.6	0.5	63.7	0.4	1.8
	Female	19.3	0.5	67.5	1.3	11.5
	Total	26.5	0.5	65.7	0.8	6.5
2017	Male	30.6	0.3	65.9	0.9	2.3
	Female	17.0	0.4	70.3	1.7	10.7
	Total	24.0	0.4	68.0	1.2	6.4

Source: CAPMAS, Census results 2006 and 2017.

The EDHS (2014) returns generally confirm the previous findings. Marriage is nearly universal for women in Egypt. Table 13 presents the distribution of all woman aged 15-49 by marital status. Overall, the percentage never married (26.5%) is slightly over to the percentage obtained from the 2016 census and about 70% of women 15-49 are married, 1.6% divorced and 2.3% are widowed.

The data also confirm the presence of child marriage where 6.4% of women aged 15-17 years of age are reported ever-married. It is also noted that the percentage of women widowed slowly increase in the twenties and thirties of age and significantly increase after age 35 to reach 11.3% for women in the age group 45-49 years.

The comparison between the overall percentage distributions of women aged 15-49 by current marital status in 2008 and 2014 documents the decline in the percentage of never-married in 2014 indicating that percentage of married women increased in the recent survey.

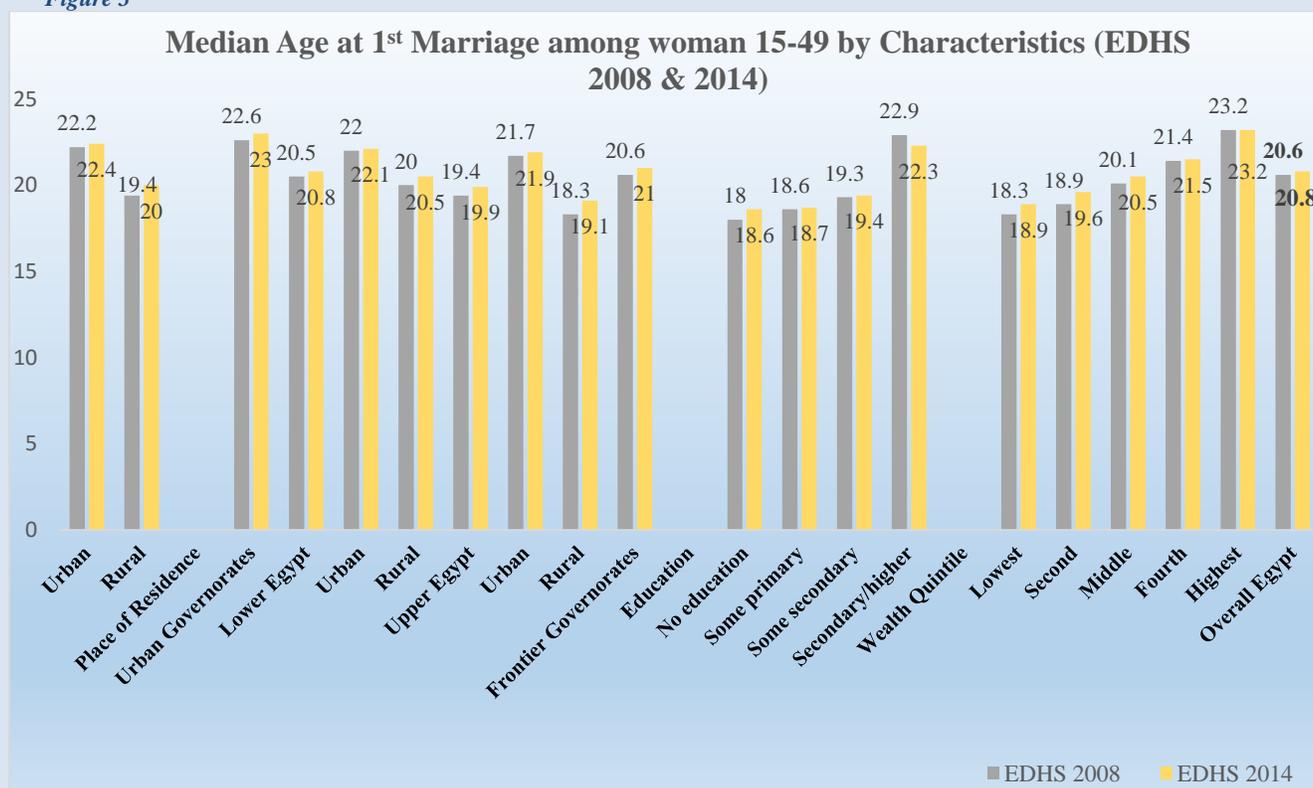
The early pattern of marriage for women in Egypt is demonstrated by the value of the median age at first marriage which was almost stable during the period 2008-2014. In the EDHS 2014 the average age at first marriage for women in Egypt was 20.8 years compared to 20.6 in 2008.

Table 13: % distribution of women aged 15-49 by current marital status according to age (EDHS, 2014)

Age	Marital Status				
	Never Married	Married	Divorced	Separated	Widowed
15 – 19	85.3	14.4	0.2	0.2	0.0
15 – 17	93.6	6.2	0.1	0.1	0.0
18 – 19	72.2	27.2	0.3	0.3	0.0
20 - 24	38.9	59.6	0.4	0.4	0.1
25 – 29	12.9	84.5	0.8	0.8	0.3
30 – 34	6.8	89.9	0.5	0.5	1.0
35 – 39	3.1	91.0	0.8	0.8	2.6
40 – 44	2.0	88.3	0.7	0.7	6.6
45 – 49	1.7	83.0	1.1	1.1	11.3
Total 15 – 49 (2008)	30.7	64.5	1.5	0.5	2.8
Total 15 – 49 (2014)	25.9	69.7	1.6	0.6	2.3

Differences by background characteristics are clearly shown in Figure 2. Women in urban areas and urban governorates marry older by about 2.5 to 3.0 years than women from rural areas. The same is observed for women from Lower Egypt who marry about two years older than those from Upper Egypt. Wider differences are observed when we compare age at first marriage by education or wealth characteristics. The difference range between 3.7 to 4.3 years for the various levels of both education and wealth respectively, in favor of the top level.

Figure 3



Source: EDHS, 2008 and 2014 Reports

Age Structure

The trend of fertility level over the past forty years significantly affect the population age-structure. It shows that Egypt is at a stage of demographic transition with a marked "youth bulge", a period in which the proportion of youth in the population increases significantly compared to other age groups. The 2017 census indicated that about 34.2% of the population is under the age of 15 and 61% is below the age of 30 years, in comparison with 31.7% and 63.1% successively in 2006. This clearly reflects the impact of the rising fertility in recent years that led to the increase in the percentage population of the young age group to the level observed in the seventies.

Table 14: Percentage Population Distribution by Age-groups, Censuses (1976 -2017).

Age group	1976	1986	1996	2006	2017
< 5 years	13.8	15.3	11.6	10.6	13.6
5-	12.8	13.2	12.9	10.5	11.1
10-	13.4	11.6	13.3	10.6	9.5
15-	10.9	10.6	11.6	11.8	9.5
20-	8.4	8.9	8.6	10.8	8.7
25-	7.3	7.7	7.4	8.8	8.6
30-	5.8	6.4	6.7	6.5	7.7
35-	5.6	6.1	6.5	6.4	6.8
40-	5.1	4.4	5.3	5.6	5.4
45-	4.2	4.0	4.5	5.1	4.6
50-	4.0	3.5	3.4	4.2	4.2
55-	2.4	2.6	2.5	3.1	3.4
60-	2.7	2.4	2.4	2.3	2.8
65-	1.4	1.4	1.6	1.6	1.8
70+	1.2	1.1	1.0	1.1	1.1
75+	1.0	0.8	0.8	1.0	1.0
Total Population	36,626	48,254	59,312	72,798	94,799

Source: CAPMAS, Egypt in Figures, 2018

Examining the age pyramid for the 2017 census clearly show the demographic changes that took place in recent years and led to widening the base of the pyramid contrary to what noticed in 2006. This can be observed when we examined the population distribution by broad age categories.

Table 15: Percentage distribution by broad age-categories for censuses 1976-2017

Census Year	Age Categories			Dependency Ratio %	Young Dep. Ratio %
	0 - 14	15 - 64	65 +		
1976	40.0	56.3	3.6	77.4	71.0
1986	40.1	56.6	3.3	76.7	70.8
1996	37.7	58.9	3.4	69.8	64.0
2006	31.7	64.6	3.7	55.0	49.2
2017	34.2	61.9	3.9	61.5	55.3

Source: CAPMAS (2016). Egypt in Figures 2016, Ref. No. 71-01112-2016, Cairo, Egypt, P.12

The changes in fertility levels during the last forty years significantly affect the population age-structure by broad age-groups presented in Table 15. This percentage population distribution is almost stable for the period 1976 -1986 where the percentage population below 15 years of age amounted to 40% and those in the labor force reached 56 -57% while those 65 years and over were around 3 – 4%, and the demographic dependency ratio was about 77%. Favorable trend in the age-structure started in 1996 where the percentage

below 15 years of age slightly declined (37.7%) and the percentage population in the labor force increased to about 59%. The same trend was also noticeable in 2006 and the dependency ratio dropped to 55 % indicating that Egypt might be benefiting from the demographic window. In 2017, however, the increase in fertility level led to significant changes in the age structure where the dependency ratio rose to about 61.5%.

The data also indicates that the child dependency ratios represent the large component of the overall dependency ratios, as can be seen from Table 16. In 1976 and 1986 the child dependency ratio was around 71% and declined thereafter to reach 49.2% in 2006 and 55.3% in 2017. The child dependency ratio represents about 92% of the overall dependency ratio during the period 1976 - 1996 and gradually decline to 89 - 90% in 2006 and 2017 respectively.

Wider differentials are noticeable when we consider the broad age groups percentage distribution for overall urban/rural areas of Egypt. The percentage of persons below age 15 years amount to 30.8% and 36.8% in urban and rural areas successively and accordingly the percentages of persons in the labor force amount to 65% in urban areas against 60% in rural area. This indicates that while there is a potential for overall urban areas to harness the demographic opportunity sooner, the demographic situation for rural area is not supportive (Table 16).

Within various governorates, the broad age distribution for urban areas indicate that three of the urban governorates (Cairo, Alexandria and Port-said) have a percentage population for the age group (0 – 14) years of age below 30% (26.8, 29.5, 27.2 % successively) and a larger size of the labor force category that varies for these governorates between 65.7 and 68.3%. This points out that these governorates are on the verge of the peak of the demographic opportunity. Similarly, the 2017 findings indicate that Gharbia governorate can be considered within the same group since the population less than 15 years of age is about 29%. In addition, for a large number of governorates such percentages are fluctuating between 31 – 32 %. For these governorates, the broad population distribution shows a favorable demographic situation that should be accompanied by the adoption of relevant policies to absorb the increase in the labor force in productive jobs and enhancing the productivity of current workers as well as to strengthen efforts to further decrease fertility levels in these governorates, to benefit from the demographic opportunity.

The situation in rural areas of various governorates is clearly reducing the opportunities of these areas to benefit from the demographic opportunity. The percentage population less than 15 years of age is fluctuating between 33 – 37% in Lower Egypt and increase to 36 - 41 % for most of Upper Egypt governorates, with some exceptions in Luxor (32.2%) and Aswan (33.9%).

Population dynamics shown by the trends of mainly fertility and mortality would also reflect on the estimates of median –age based on census data. In 2017 the median –age was about 23.6 years compared to about 23.1 in 2006, i.e. an increase of about half-year. A significant increase in the estimated median-age was observed in the period 1996-2006 which was followed by a continuous improvement, but at lower pace. The differences in the age-structure of the two recent censuses, 2006 and 2017, are clearly demonstrated in the age pyramid for the two censuses. The wider base of the age group 1-4 years is obvious in 2017.

The population dynamics between 2006 and 2017 are clearly shown from the population pyramid for the two censuses (Figures 3 &4). The base of the 2017 population pyramid is wide, compared to 2006, which is reflecting the increase in the annual number of births during the inter-censal period.

Such an increase which is observed in all governorates, especially in Upper Egypt, would affect all aspects of life in Egypt and harden its opportunity to achieve sustainable development objectives. It would also make it harder for the country to harness the demographic dividend since the increase in the size of the age-group (0 – 14) would consume all possible savings and reduce Egypt efforts to enhance the quality of the labor force as well as its ability to create productive jobs to absorb the new entrants to working age.

Table 16: Percentage Distribution of Broad Age Groups: Overall Egypt, Urban & Rural Areas

Governorates	Overall Egypt %			Urban %			Rural %		
	0 - 14	15 - 64	65+	0 - 14	15 - 64	65+	0 - 14	15 - 64	65+
Total Egypt	34.23	61.91	3.86	30.76	64.99	4.24	36.78	59.63	3.58
Cairo	26.84	68.32	4.84	26.84	68.32	4.84	--	--	--
Alexandria	29.58	65.65	4.78	29.46	65.72	4.81	38.09	60.07	1.84
Port-Said	27.22	66.76	6.01	27.22	66.76	6.01	--	--	--
Suez	32.19	63.72	4.09	32.19	63.72	4.09	--	--	--
Damietta	33.86	62.21	3.93	32.03	63.58	4.39	35.06	61.32	3.63
Dakahleya	33.97	61.72	4.31	31.31	64.01	4.68	35.02	60.81	4.17
Sharqia	35.55	60.86	3.59	33.39	62.98	3.63	36.24	60.17	3.58
Qaliyubia	34.36	62.58	3.06	32.21	64.81	2.97	35.96	60.91	3.13
Kafr El sheikh	34.25	61.82	3.92	31.33	64.17	4.50	35.17	61.08	3.74
Gharbia	32.43	63.21	4.36	28.99	65.89	5.12	33.77	62.17	4.06
Monufia	34.77	61.22	4.01	32.34	63.47	4.19	35.40	60.63	3.97
Beheira	35.16	61.27	3.57	32.09	63.64	4.27	35.83	60.75	3.42
Ismailia	35.66	61.03	3.31	33.20	62.93	3.87	37.63	59.51	2.86
Giza	35.05	61.93	3.02	31.96	64.65	3.39	39.89	57.66	2.45
Beni Suef	38.39	58.04	3.58	35.24	60.82	3.94	39.31	57.22	3.47
Faiyum	39.84	56.97	3.19	36.26	60.21	3.52	40.91	56.00	3.09
Minya	37.17	58.98	3.85	32.91	62.82	4.27	38.11	58.13	3.76
Asyut	36.73	59.64	3.63	33.02	62.92	4.06	38.02	58.50	3.48
Sohag	37.87	58.42	3.71	35.51	60.60	3.89	38.51	57.83	3.65
Qena	35.57	60.41	4.02	32.76	62.88	4.37	36.22	59.84	3.94
Aswan	33.62	62.51	3.87	33.31	62.89	3.80	33.85	62.24	3.91
Luxor	31.82	63.64	4.55	31.09	64.35	4.57	32.31	63.15	4.53
Red Sea	36.18	61.12	2.70	36.19	61.18	2.63	35.76	59.45	4.79
New Valley	33.18	62.33	4.49	32.21	63.53	4.26	34.01	61.31	4.68
Matruh	41.23	56.85	1.92	40.43	57.68	1.89	42.58	55.46	1.96
North Sinai	39.04	58.65	2.31	37.49	60.39	2.12	41.67	55.70	2.63
South Sinai	39.35	58.96	1.69	38.57	59.80	1.63	40.22	58.02	1.77

Source: The 2017 Census results.

Figure 4

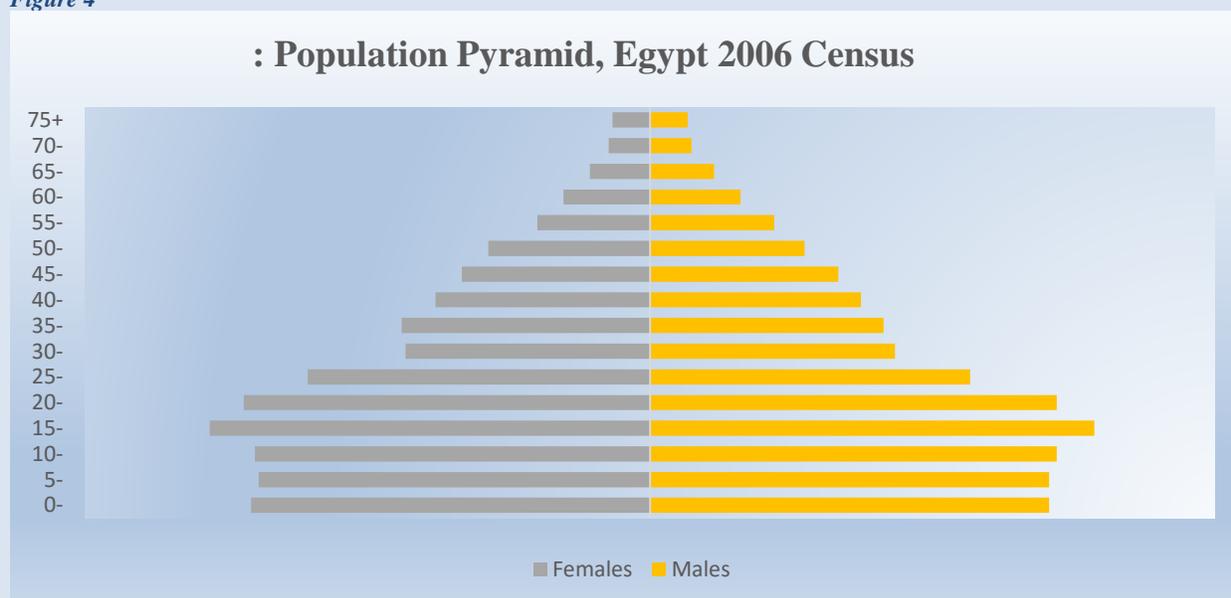
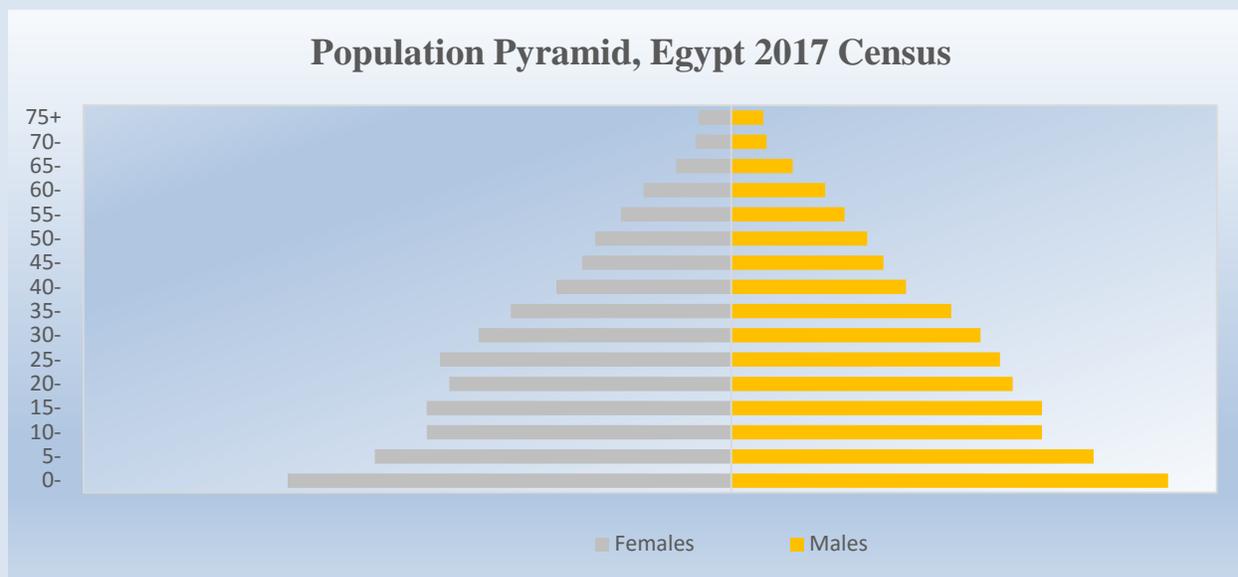


Figure 5



Economic Characteristics

Egypt is currently classified as a low middle income country. According to the WB, the nominal Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in Egypt was worth 336.3 billion US dollars in 2016, which represents 0.54 percent of the world economy. Estimated GDP (PPP) amount to US\$1065.2 billion for 2016 and it is expected to increase to 1199 billion in 2017 according to IMF. Service sector is the main contributor to GDP by about 55%, followed by industry and agriculture representing 33% and 12% respectively. Gross National Income (GNI) per capita is \$3,477.9(WB 2016) and GDP (PPP) per capita amount to US\$ 11,132 in 2016.

The political instability of the country after the 2011 uprising and the internal pressure of various groups led to severe economic challenges. The economy continued to drift, as the growth rate remained low, unemployment high and foreign exchange reserves was fast depleting. During the period 2011-2014 the macroeconomic indicators worsened significantly. Economic growth during this period averaged 2.5 percent per year and by 2015 the unemployment rate had risen to 12.9 percent with youth unemployment reaching a staggering 35 percent. The action taken by the transitional governments contributed to such economic situation since it adopted policies to increase subsidies and government employment as well as wages.

New policy directions were adopted in 2014, when President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi took office. The new mandate was to revive the economy and aimed at sustained high economic growth and low unemployment. Egypt must work toward consistently growing at a rate of at least 6-7 percent per year to create sufficient jobs to reduce unemployment and absorb the new entrants into the labor market as a result of high-level population growth; which will require, among other things, the implementation of major economic and institutional reforms.

The economy is gradually improving with the increasing annual growth rates of GDP reaching 4.3 percent in 2015/2016, compared to an average of only 2 percent during the period 2010/11-2013/14 and grew at 5.2- 5.3% in the second quarter FY17-18. This is mainly due to investment, exports and consumption. Such positive trends were preceded by a transformational reforms program aiming at enhancing the country's business environment and staging a balanced and inclusive growth. The first phase included the simultaneous adoption of the VAT Law; reducing energy subsidies, containing the high growth of the wage

bill and the liberation of the Egyptian Pound. The second phase aimed at improving governance and investment climate. It adopted a set of intervention including issuing the Civil Service Reform Law in 2016, removing all investment barriers and attracts local and foreign investments. Both the reform package and the gradual restoration of confidence and stability are starting to yield positive results.

The latest review of the IMF (January 2018) documented the positive results of the economic reform program. The report stated that “Bold measures taken by the authorities since November 2016 to stabilize the economy and rebuild market confidence are increasingly yielding results. GDP growth has picked up and inflation is moderating. Capital inflows have risen and foreign exchange reserves have reached the highest level since 2011. Egypt’s economic outlook is favorable, provided prudent macroeconomic policies are maintained and the scope of growth-enhancing reforms is broadened”. It also raised its forecast for Egypt’s GDP growth for the 2017/18 fiscal year ending in June to 4.8 percent from 4.5 percent in a report last year, citing a recovery in consumption and private investment.

The review, however, pointed out to several import issues concerning the population situation and the potential ability of Egypt to harness the demographic dividend. These include:

- 1) The need to integrate women in the labor force. Women participation in the active labor force is low in Egypt amounting to only 23% of Egyptian women in the active labor force, despite Egypt’s success in promoting gender equality in primary and secondary education. This level of participation even drops when they get married confirming the difficulty for women to balance a job and a family. The report highlighted the main factors behind such low level of women participation, especially in the private sector, including mobility constraints, safety of transportation, inflexible working conditions, lack of connections, high wage gaps with men, and lack of child care. Creating a supportive environment for women participation was accordingly, given due attention. The Central Bank of Egypt is committed to spend EGP500 million to improve the availability of public nurseries for (0 – 4) year old children and other facilities that can enhance the ability of women to actively seek jobs. The government is also committed to exploring ways to simplify registration of home nurseries, expand job opportunities for women and child care for working mothers.
- 2) Supporting youth employment since about one-third of young persons in the labor force is unemployed. This requires improving the education system and the vocational training programs to enhance their skills and ensure that they are responsive to the requirement of the labor market.
- 3) Lift Egypt’s potential growth rate and meet the needs of its growing population requires creating around 700,000 jobs annually to absorb new entrants to the labor market. In addition, another 100 thousand jobs might be needed to absorb the current unemployment level, and both policy directions would lead to sustainably lifting the living standards. To this end, the private sector should take the lead in investment and employment, as well as maintaining a supportive environment for the sector to enhance its ability to create productive jobs.

These are being taking into consideration by the governments through various policy directions. It should be noted, however, that recent rising fertility levels would augment the pressure on the economy and eventually increase the number of jobs needed to cope with growing cohorts in size which will also require intensified actions to rationalize population growth.

The economic reform program was also coupled with an expanded safety net program to support vulnerable groups and enhance their ability to cope with the outcome of the reform program. This included increasing subsidy for essential food commodities, introducing specific pension systems and expanding conditional cash transfer program (Takafol and Karama) that up to May 2017, provided about 1.7 million household (about 8 million person) with basic funds to invest in children education and to sustain students, especially girls, into compulsory education levels to reduce child marriage, as well as improve both women and children health (vaccination, coverage of needed RH &FP services), secure the rights of vulnerable groups that are unable to work (disable person, old persons and orphans). Priority was given to Upper

Egypt governorates to improve their socio-economic status and narrow the inequality gap, thus taking about 72% of the total budget which amounted to about EGP 7.5 billion.

Based on the household surveys carried out by CAPMAS the estimated Gini coefficient was about 31.5% in 2010, declined to 29.8% in 2012 and increased again to 31.8% in 2015, indicating that its fluctuations during the period is narrow and limited. It shows that Egypt's inequality is low by international standard and comparable with those of other countries in the Middle East and North Africa. It is even comparable with the estimated values for some developed countries and below that of some countries such as the US where the coefficient is around 41% in 2013.

The last five-years witnessed a significant progress in the Egyptian economy as indicated by macro indicators that can be seen from the following:

Indicator	2012 / 2013	2017 / 2018
Total Revenues currency	350.3 billion	813.4 billion
Total Expenditure	588.2 billion	1.234 trillion
Subsidy & Social benefits	197.1 billion	322.7 billion
Annual growth rate	2.1%	5.3%
Unemployment rate	12.7%	10.6%
Total investment	242 billion	490 billion
Total Reserve	14.9 billion	44 billion

The budget deficit for 2017/2018 is expected to be around 9.8% of GDP which is less by 2.4 percentage point of the level noticed for 2013/2014.

Further improvement is expected in the budget for 2018/2019. It is targeting a growth rate of 5.8 % of GDP and aim to continue reducing unemployment rate to less than its current level. Moreover, it aims to achieve a primary surplus of 2% of GDP and reduce public debt to 91- 92% of GDP as well as seeks to reduce inflation rate to about 10% during the budgeted year. This, however, will require the government to further increase its revenue, continue its plan to trim energy subsidies, which decreased from a peak of 5.9 % of GDP in 2013-14 to 3.3% in 2016-17 and is expected to decline further to 2.4% of GDP in 2017-18. Subsidies on fuel will be cut by around 21 per cent, leaving total spending at around LE89 billion in the new budget and Electricity subsidies will be also cut by around 45%.

Such difficult measures will contribute to the success of the economic reform program and are also coupled with an increase in government investment, which is considered among the main drivers of economic growth. The 2018/2019 budget has allocated LE148 billion for investment representing 43% increase compared to last year's level. The national mega-projects that were launched in the last four years contributed to the reviving of the economy, stagnant since 2011, since they have involved pumping in investment and created significant numbers of work opportunities.

Institutional Issues

The National Population Council (NPC), established in 1985, is the main governmental body responsible for approving proposed population policies, develop comprehensive integrated population plans, in collaboration with all stakeholders, coordination as well as monitoring and evaluation. The Council is currently headed by the Minister for Health and Population (MOHP) and includes representative from various relevant Ministries and 4 Expert members. The Council has local branches in all governorates to support customized population activities at local level, ensure decentralization of population plan implementation and allow monitoring activities at the local level.

The National Strategy for Population and Development (2015-2030) specified its main objectives and the road map for implementation. The five-year executive plan (2015-2020) clearly specified the activities,

the main responsible implementing organization and those supporting, as well as performance indicator and the resources required. The strategy also provided a detailed list of indicators to monitor and assess progress in all activities within the five pillars of the plan.

To ensure proper coordination and to closely monitor the implementation of the national population and development program, the Cabinet established a Ministerial Committee, headed by the Prime Minister and includes as members; Ministers of Health and Population, Social Solidarity, Youth & Sports, Local Development, Education, Planning, Monitoring and Administrative Reform as well as other relevant Ministers. The Committee reflects the highest political determination of the government to address and tackle the reproductive health and family planning agenda in an integrated concerted manner. The Committee reporter is the Secretary General for NPC, who became the Deputy Minister for health and population for Population Affairs.

The Ministry of Planning, Monitoring and Administrative Reforms (MPMAR) is shouldering the responsibility of follow-up of Egypt's progress in the implementation of various international and national programs. Regular timely reports are produced by the Ministry for both areas including progress in achieving the SDGs as well as quarterly reports to monitor the development in the implementation of Egypt's vision 2030.

For gender activities, however, the National Council for Women (NCW) is shouldering the responsibility for coordinating gender activities within the various Government organizations as well as other sectors and is directly attached to the President. It is composed of 30 members known for their expertise in women affairs and social activity and its mandate focus mainly on:

- 1) Proposing the general policy of the society and its constitutional institutions concerning the development of women's affairs and enabling them to fulfill their economic role and integrate their efforts into comprehensive development programs.
- 2) Developing proposed national plan for the advancement of women and for solving the problems they are facing.
- 3) Monitoring and evaluation of public policies concerning women and presenting their proposals and observations to the relevant authorities in this regard.
- 4) Provide their opinion on the draft laws and decisions concerning women before their submission to the concerned authority, and to propose draft laws and decisions that are necessary to improve the status of women.
- 5) Provide expert opinion on all conventions related to women.
- 6) Representing women in international forums and organizations concerned with women's affairs.

The Strategy for the Empowerment of Egyptian Women 2030, approved by the President for the coming years, is to activate plans, programs and projects included in this strategy, which include four integrated action axes: a) political empowerment, b) promotion of women's leadership roles, c) economic empowerment, and d) social empowerment and protection. It focuses on changing the culture of the society towards women and enhancing their access to their legal rights. The National Observatory for Women was established under the umbrella of the Council, to collect data and information on women's issues and to build indicators that will be used for following-up and evaluation of progress and to prepare a report on the status of women in Egypt, to be issued every two years.

Creating work opportunities, especially for women and youth, is one of the top priorities of the country. The results of the first quarter of the labor force survey pointed out to the decline in the unemployment rate for the first quarter of 2018 to 10.6% of the total labor force compared to about 11.3% for the fourth quarter of 2017 (CAPMAS, May 2018). On annual bases the same trend was also noticed where unemployment rate for 2017 dropped to 11.8% against 12.5% for 2016. A higher level of unemployment, however, is observed among youth and women. The results of the 2017 annual labor force survey showed that about 24.8% of youth (15-29) years of age are unemployed and it increases to almost one third of all

persons within the labor force of this age group (31.8%) among youth with intermediate and above education levels (CAPMAS, April 2018).

Gender differentials in the level of unemployment are clearly noticed in 2017. Male unemployment was only 8.2% while female unemployment was about three times that level (23.1%). Such male/female difference is also noticed for various years. This is also noticed in the level of female participation in the labor force which amounted to 21.9% in 2017 compared with 22.9% for 2016 against the level of male participation amounting 66.8% and 69.6% in 2017 and 2016 respectively.

Part Two

Micro Evaluation: Implementation and Impact of the AAPDP

First Pillar: Dignity and Equity

Commitment 1: Develop, strengthen and implement appropriate legislation, national policies and programs that guarantee and promote human rights, dignity and equality for inclusive sustainable economic and social development in all sectors.

The constitution of the Arab Republic of Egypt, endorsed in 2014, included several articles that guarantee and promote human rights, dignity and equality in all aspects of life. The introductory part emphasized equality of all citizens in rights and duties without discrimination of any kind. Moreover, it includes many articles that ensure social justice such as protection of labor rights, provision of social insurance and retirement pensions for laborers and farmers, as well as the right to education and health care. Specifically, the constitution referred to:

- Article 9: The State shall ensure equal opportunities for all citizens without discrimination.
- Article 11: The State shall ensure the achievement of equality between women and men in all civil, political, economic, social, and cultural rights in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution. The State shall take the necessary measures to ensure the appropriate representation of women in the houses of representatives, as specified by Law. The State shall also guarantee women's right of holding public and senior management offices in the State and their appointment in judicial bodies and authorities without discrimination. The State shall protect women against all forms of violence and ensure enabling women to strike a balance between family duties and work requirements. The State shall provide care to and protection of motherhood and childhood, female heads of families, and elderly and neediest women.
- Article 13: The State shall protect workers' rights and strive to build balanced work relationships between both parties to the production process.
- Article 18: Every citizen has the right to health and to comprehensive health care which complies with quality standards. The State shall allocate a percentage of government spending to health equivalent to at least 3% of Gross National Product (GNP), which shall gradually increase to comply with international standards.
- Article 19: Every citizen has the right to education ... Education is compulsory until the end of the secondary stage or its equivalent. The State shall provide free education in the various stages in the State's educational institutions according to the Law.
The State shall allocate a percentage of government spending to education equivalent to at least 4% of the Gross National Product (GNP), which shall gradually increase to comply with international standards.
- Article 46: Every person has the right to a sound healthy environment. Environment protection is a national duty.

- Article 51: Dignity is the right of every human being and may not be violated. The State shall respect and protect human dignity.
- Article 53: All citizens are equal before the Law. They are equal in rights, freedoms and general duties, without discrimination based on religion, belief, sex, origin, race, color, language, disability, social class, political or geographic affiliation or any other reason.
- Article 57: The right to privacy may not be violated, shall be protected and may not be infringed upon.
- Article 65: Freedom of thought and opinion is guaranteed. Every person shall have the right to express his/her opinion verbally, in writing, through imagery, or by any other means of expression and publication.
- Article 68: Information, data, statistics and official documents are the property of the People and the disclosure thereof from their various sources is a right guaranteed by the State for all citizens.

To enhance the adoption of these rights and to increase awareness of their importance, the government declared:

1. Years for specific groups to highlight and address needs. The President declares year 2016 for Youth, 2017 for Woman, year 2018 for persons with disability;
2. Organize public campaigns and education programs to promote awareness of human rights, and to raise public awareness on government subsidies (IDSC).

The Constitution also ensures equal opportunities, fair distribution of development outcomes, and reduction of income gaps, full adherence to minimum and maximum wage laws, and a progressive income tax. Each citizen has the right to healthy and sufficient food and clean water.

The social justice pillar, within Egypt's Strategic Development Vision (2030), confirmed the country's policies toward achieving the constitution. It adopts three strategic objectives and identified the relevant indicator for their assessment, namely: a) Enhancing social inclusion; b) Achieving equal rights and opportunities; and, c) Providing protection for the neediest groups. To this end, it covers several dimensions that include:

- 1) Economic Dimension that refers to participating in the production process and reaping its benefits.
- 2) Social Dimension that aims to achieve equal rights and social opportunities in the education, health, and other basic services.
- 3) Human Dimension aiming to provide a decent life, human rights protection, and equal opportunities for all.
- 4) Regional Dimension that reduces the geographical gaps and address the misallocation of resources among different regions of the state.
- 5) Generational Dimension aiming at ensuring justice among different generations.
- 6) Organizational Dimension that deals with freedom issues, political rights, and political empowerment.

The overall objective is to reduce disparities within development indicators, and the relevant indicators are: 1) Egypt rank in the HDI; and, 2) Inter-state disparities in each social indicator.

This confirm that while Egypt is adopting an economic reform policy, it is at the same time ensuring social protection for vulnerable and needy groups through effective safety net and achieving social justice. The resources for such intended outcome is noticed in the budgets for the years beyond 2014. About 21% of the total budget for fiscal year 2016/2017 was allocated for social protection (MOF, Budget 2016/2017, 2016).

The government also continued to implement the policy of minimum wage for State employee that was initiated in 2014. At the same time government is promoting and enforcing laws to guarantee human rights

at all levels. Similarly, tax policies were fully operational and its revenues represent about 52% of the total budget resources for 2016/2017. According to budget same period, the percent allocated for:

- Education is about 12% of the total Budget; and for
- Health is about 6% of the total budget.

Measures to reduce inequality levels were adopted and the data show a low level of inequality in the distribution of family income as represented by Gini coefficient which is about 30% for overall Egypt in 2015 (HIECS, 2015) and it drop out to about 21% for urban areas.

However, if we consider the In-equality Human Development Index (IHDI), estimated for 2015, it will be noticed that Egypt's HDI amounting to 0.691 would falls to 0.491, a loss of 29.0 percent due to inequality in the distribution of the HDI dimension indices.

Commitment 2: Develop, strengthen and implement effective national strategies aimed at eradicating extreme poverty, inclusive growth and economic development, as applicable, that also target disadvantaged groups, especially women, older persons, youth, unemployed persons, people living with HIV and AIDS and persons with disabilities, in both urban and rural area.

Strategies to eradicate poverty were integrated within the context of social justice strategies (Egypt V2030) that include plans and procedures to eliminate poverty through:

- Expanding social safety net and extending the umbrella of social protection to reach poor families and vulnerable groups to provide them with health care, education and basic services. The target for these policy are:
 - ✓ Output 1: Expand the umbrella of social protection to include 18 million person including those of priority vulnerable groups;
 - ✓ Output 2: Cover 70% of households headed by women, from the priority vulnerable groups by social protection services;
 - ✓ Output 3: Addressing the geographic gap in the percentage population below the poverty line who are covered by monetary support;
 - ✓ Output 4: Automating the entire social protection system and issuing the national database for poor families.
- Ensure coverage of priority families for assistance, in poor villages, by water and sanitation services:
 - ✓ Output 1: Provide connections to sanitation services for 600 thousand households in poor villages that are linked to public networks;
 - ✓ Output 2: Provide drinking water connections to 250 thousand households in poor villages that are linked to public networks;
 - ✓ Output 3: Construction and restoration of ceilings for a total of 200 thousand families who suffer from the collapse of the infrastructure of their homes;
 - ✓ Output 4: Providing adequate social housing for low-income persons and those from unsafe slums.

These policies aim to improve the status of low-income and vulnerable groups that was increasing in recent years and the Government is allocating 30% of its resources for poverty eradication Programs, as shown in 2016/2017 budget (CAPMAS, May 2018).

The Multi-Dimensional Poverty Index (MPI) estimated for 2014 shows that 4.2% of the population (3,750 thousand people) are multidimensional poor while an additional 5.6% live near multidimensional poverty (5,002 thousand people). The intensity of deprivation, which is the average deprivation score experienced by people in multidimensional poverty, is 37.4 percent. The percentage contribution to overall poverty of deprivations is 46.7 for health, 45.6 for education and 7.8 for living standard (UNDP, HD Report 2016). This is compared to 27.8% of the population in 2015 when measured in monetary terms through the

National Poverty Line, with large disparities between Lower and Upper Egypt as well as between rural and urban areas.

A recent study by the Ministry of Social Solidarity (MoSS), CAPMAS and UNICEF (2017) concluded that about 10.1 million children are multidimensional poor in Egypt since they experience two or more deprivations (about 29.4% of total children). Those who are deprived of three or more dimensions represent around 8.8% (3.0 million), and children deprived in four or more dimensions represent 1.9% of total children (0.67 million). Although the intensity of multidimensional poverty shows no significance difference by gender, the mapping of child poverty shows wide differences. Four out of every five children suffering multidimensional poverty reside in rural areas (79.4%) and poor children from rural Upper Egypt account for about 42.9% of all Multi-dimensionally poor children.

One of the important programs for reducing poverty and giving priority to the poorer villages is “Takafol and Karama”. The project provides conditional cash transfer to families and ensure that such subsidy is directed toward investment in children education, mothers and children health care, enhance mother's awareness about healthy nutrition practices and family planning, in addition to preserving the rights of disabled, aging and orphans' persons. During the period 2015-2017, the program achievements include:

- Provide support to a total 1.7 million families including 8 million persons;
- A total of LE 7.5 billion were distributed to families enrolled within the program;
- About 72% of the project resources were directed toward Upper Egypt, the poorer area.

The population dimension of these projects provides incentives to expand the adoption of family planning within the overall objective of rationalizing population growth rates. Such actions include:

- 1) Ensure students attendance and regularly presence in schools for at least 80% of the educational year and limit such benefits to only 3 children;
- 2) Adopting health condition that ensure that women benefiter 'of subsidy are regularly having check-up at the health unit (4 times annually) which covers RH/FP follow-up;
- 3) In collaboration with the Ministry of Health &Population provide regular continuous awareness social programs about health, nutritional and breastfeeding, through 2500 social “Raida” and a total of 7500 health “Raida”.

Moreover, the Ministry of Social Solidarity is adopting other projects in the area of population and development that include:

- 1) Intensify awareness as well as heath and RH services provided by 250 civil society under the umbrella of "two is enough" project;
- 2) Adopting the project “the first thousand day” in the life of a child, in three governorates that achieved the highest population growth rates, through providing small families only with rationing box that include important food products for maternal heath;
- 3) Provide ultra-microcredit for young mothers and those of middle age to motivate their productive role rather than being limited to reproductive role. The project “Mastoor” implemented by Nasser’s Social Bank, through financial support from “Tahia Misr Fund”. Up till now, 7000 ultra-micro projects for women were covered with about LE 105 million in various commercial, industrial, agriculture and crafts.

According to 2015 data, the percentage of households living below national poverty line increased to about 27.6% of household compared to about 26.3% in 2012/2013. Based on the HIECS (2015), differences are noticed by age-groups and gender as follows:

- For age-group 15 year+: the percentage living below national poverty line is 26.3%, which increased to 27.7% for males and decline to 25% for females;

- For age –group (15-24) the percentage is about 33.1%, and for males is about 35.4% and for females 30.1%;
- For age-group 25+, the percentage is about 23.9% and for males is about 24.3% while for females is about 23.5%.

To a large extent such increase is the result of the instability period after 2011 and adopting various components of the economic reform program although the social protection measures reduced its effect, especially for vulnerable groups. The poverty gap index (income) is estimated to be around 5.6%, which is indicating a low-level in-depth poverty.

The percentage of people living in housing with access to basic services, including vulnerable groups, is very high as was shown by the 2017 census:

- About 97% of households are having safe drinking water from the public network, and even in rural area the percentage is about 95.55;
- About 99.7% of households are connected to the public network for electricity and it is almost the same in rural areas;
- About 68.2% are having safe sanitation connection whether through public or private networks and the percentage for urban areas is about 93.0% while in rural areas is about 48.2%.

Government is adopting policies to establish a supportive environment and to create working opportunities, especially for youth and women. To this end, several projects are initiated or continuing, such as:

- Expand the creation of Micro and ultra-micro projects and remove women's obstacles in obtaining a loan and increasing the value of micro and ultra-micro lending from the central bank which allocated about LE 2 billion for that purpose;
- Establishment of micro-projects funded by the National Foundation for Family and Community Development for associations (loans) - from 2004 to 2016;
- Continuing the Poverty Reduction and Job Creation Project in Assiut, Sohag and Qena Governorates starting from 1/8/2004 with a total funding of LE 37.5 million from the Egyptian Debt Swap Agreement;
- Improve skills and capacities of those seeking work through: 1) centers for productive families to train individuals to improve their craft skills and ability to practice any profession; 2) vocational training centers (train drop- out of basic education stages to equip them with needed skills for the labor market); 3) initiate family supportive projects; and, 4) entrepreneurship program.

Commitment 3: Harmonize national legislation with ratified international instruments and accelerate the implementation of the respective national, regional and international commitments on gender equality and women's empowerment in all sectors and eliminate all forms of discrimination against women and girls.

The National Council for Woman (NCW) was established, by Presidential Decree, in February 2000 to be an independent body directly attached to the President. It aims to promote women's activities and involvement in national efforts for development and to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women and girls.

The legal frameworks are in place, in various ministries, to promote, enforce and monitor equality and non-discrimination on the basis of sex. Moreover, a specialized unit was established to receive all complaints about discrimination and follow them within various government bodies.

Increase women participation in political life and legislative matters which shown by the increasing percentage of seats held by women in national parliaments and local governments. These are:

- National parliament, 2015: 14.9%
- Local governments, 2008: 5%

The NCW issued in June 2015 the National Strategy for Combating Violence against Women (NSVAW) for the period 2015/2020. It aims to safeguard the dignity of women and protect them from all acts of violence (whether domestic or community), as well as placing them on an equal footing to men in the domestic and public spheres, allowing women to thrive in their lives. The strategy general objective is to combat all forms of violence against women and girls and it is based on four pillars:

- 1) Prevention through developing public awareness, rectifying the religious discourse, and changing the culture of the masses of people through education, awareness and training programs;
- 2) Protection by the way of activating and developing and implementing legislations and laws that provide for combating violence against women as stipulated in the constitution, and enacting a comprehensive legislation that criminalizes committing any form of violence against women and girls so as to eradicate this phenomenon;
- 3) Intervention throughout psychological, health services and counseling to women affected by violence as well as providing safe shelters for women victim of violence;
- 4) Legal Procedures through establishing a mechanism for preventive arrangements to protect women victims of acts of violence that is compatible with international covenants, especially within the legal system.

The strategy specifies the role and responsibilities of all stakeholders (Government Ministries, Religious Institutions and other national organizations and civil societies) as well as specified the set of indicators that will be used to measure the impact of the national strategy.

In addition to the 2014 constitution, several changes were introduced, within various Law, during past years to ensure equal rights for women and fair treatment at all levels.

Women are also present within the managerial system as can be seen from the following indicators for year 2016/2017:

- General manager (In person): 24.6%
- General manager: 16.3%
- Senior positions: 16.1%
- Special senior positions: 11.5%
- Ministers: 5.1%
- Deputy Ministers: 6.7%.

Elimination of all forms of discrimination against women in employment (appointment, wages, benefits, etc.), and ensure the right of women to suitable job and their equal status with men in employment and wages. (Articles of the 2014 Constitution and the Civil Service Act 2016).

In sum, the government is committed to ensure equal opportunity for both sex based on merits and create supportive environment that aim to gradually increase women's participation in various aspects of life. The country is supporting the National Strategy for the Empowerment of Egyptian Women 2030, which was issued in 2017.

Commitment 4: Review, revise, amend or abolish all laws, regulations, policies, practices and customs that have discriminatory impact on women, youth, especially girls, without distinction of any kind, and ensure that the provisions of multiple legal systems comply with international human rights regulations and laws.

Egypt's constitution endorsed in 2014 confirms the country commitment to eliminate all kinds of discrimination against women. Article 11, state "the State shall ensure the achievement of equality between women and men in all civil, political, economic, social, and cultural rights in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution." It added "The State shall take the necessary measures to ensure the appropriate representation of women in the houses of representatives, in the manner specified by Law. It grants women the right to hold public posts and high management posts in the state, and to appointment in judicial bodies and entities without discrimination. The State shall protect women against all forms of violence and ensure enabling women to strike a balance between family duties and work requirements. The State shall provide care to and protection of motherhood and childhood, female heads of families, and elderly and neediest women."

Both the constitution and the NCW mandate provide a solid base for the protection of women from all forms of violence and discrimination that could be exercised against them and to ensure that all State institutions are committed to its institutionalization to guarantee the sustainability of such process. The Council is responsible for monitoring any type of discrimination against women and to take necessary actions for their elimination whether at individual level or nationally through proposing required legal framework, according to its mandate.

The target is to improve the gender gap situation which was noticeable. In 2016, the gender gap index (GGI) scored 61% and Egypt ranked 132 out of the 144 countries included in the calculation. The index which is based on four sub-indices: health, education, economic and political participation, and Egypt position on each was as follow:

- Health sub-index: The score amount to 97%, indicating a relative improvement;
- Education sub-index: the score was about 95%;
- Economic sub-index: the score was about 44%; and lastly,
- Political participation: the score was 9%.

This baseline information indicates that further actions are required to improve Egypt's situation since its rank in 2017 dropped to 134 out of the 144 countries included in the list. The GGI value for 2017 is almost the same and the status of the four sub-indices did not show any improvement (WEF, November 2017).

The percentage of seats held by women in Parliament and local government is presented earlier. However, it should be noted that the new constitution allocated 25% of seats in local governments for women.

Based on the 2014 constitution, the government adopted policies to eliminate the gender gap within the education system. The outcomes of these programs are seen from the following indicators:

- Pre- educational system: 31.6% in 2016/2017 for both male and female for those who are one year younger than the age for primary education;
- Secondary education in the last 12 months in 2016: Male 29.7% and females 36.5%;
- Overall pre-university education stages in 2015/2016: male 80.0% and females 80.9%;
- Higher Education enrolment: m ale 39.4% and females 38.4% and for both 38.9%.

The returns of the 2017 census also document the improvement of women status in various education levels which enhanced efforts to narrow the gender gap which is still noticeable. The relevant indicators are:

- The percentage of illiterate women (10 years and above) declined to about 30.8% compared to 37.3% in 2006. However, the gender gap still prevail since the similar percentage for males is about 21.1%. The parity index is about 1.45 indicating significant improvement in favor of women;
- Percentage of women completing intermediate level education increased to 26.7% versus 23.3% in 2006 which narrowed the gender gap;
- Similarly, the percentage of women completing university increased to 10.8% (compared to 7.8% in 2006).

At the same time, the government is working on reducing violence against women in all its forms (laws to criminalize circumcision and raising age at marriage). The law for violence against women is under way and the Penal Code 2016 has been amended to criminalize the perpetrator of this crime against women.

Commitment 5: Increase and enhance the equal participation of women, especially those living in rural areas, in high added value production by increasing their equal access to training and decent work, including, equal pay for equal work, access to social security, paid parental leave, sick and care leave, and other socio-economic benefits, through the design and implementation of gender sensitive budgets with full accountability.

All government and public sector employee are treated on the basis of equal-pay for equal work and they have equal access to social security.

Available indicator, for 2015, point out to the absence of gender bias in the average monthly earning of female and male. The estimated total average amount to LE 879 and for males it is about LE 884 compared to LE 853 for females.

For unemployment the gender bias is noticed. According to the annual data of the labor force survey (2017), the male/female rates are:

- Male participation in the labor force in 2018 amount to 66.8% compared to only 21.9% for females;
- Labor force size in 2017 is 29.5 million, out of which 76.2% are males 23.8% are females;
- Overall unemployment rate is 11.8% while for males it is 8.2% and for females about 22.1%;
- Unemployment rate for males in urban areas is about 9.9% compared to about 28.7% for females; while in rural areas the unemployment rate for males is about 7.1% against 18.8% for females.

The objective is to increase the proportion of women in productive projects and increase their access to development projects of their own, especially in poorer and rural areas.

Commitment 6: Enhance male participation and equal and equitable sharing of responsibilities through support programs that promote gender equality in rights and opportunities.

Eliminate gender disparity is one of main objectives of NCW as specified by the Constitutions and stated in its mandate. Efforts to reduce /eliminate gender disparity in domestic work need to be strengthened.

In 2015, the percentage of time spent on unpaid domestic work was about 17% for males compared to about 83% for females.

Overall the policy is to increase the representation of women and girls in cultural life away from any form of discrimination through some specific programs such as, “our future is in our hands” and “empowering youth”. The constitution's articles support women participation in all fields and the implementation of awareness programs to support women involvement in entering political life through Parliament and local councils.

Commitment 7: Enact and implement laws and introduce institutional reforms to ensure economic empowerment of women and young people through equal access to ownership and control of economic resources, technology and markets, including land, property and inheritance rights.

The existing law guarantee women’s equal access to ownership and control of resources and government is currently laws that penalize those who are not adopting the law, and the same time encouraging

awareness campaign to support the rights of women. The NCW is undertaking several programs to promote gender equality and women's empowerment through established systems to track all types of abuse. The council is primarily supported by public funds.

The percentage of women with agriculture land ownership is very low (1.0%) compared to men. The EDHS (2014) provided information about the percentage of ever-married women 15-49 years of age who own house or land. It shows that very few women own either house (5%) or land (2%). The use of technology for information and communication represented by having mobiles is wide where the percentage of women in that category in 2015 is 84.2% compared to 90.7% for males. The percentage of women who have say in household decision for large purchases, their own health and movement can also be obtained from the EDHS (2014). It shows that the majority of currently married woman are usually involved in making various type of decisions:

- More than 80% indicated that they make decision about their health care either alone (15%) or jointly with husband (68%);
- About 75% of currently married women make decisions about visiting relatives or friends (movements), either alone (11%) or jointly with husband (64%);
- About two-thirds of currently married women stated that they are involved in the decision-making about major household purchases either alone (6%) or jointly with husband (61%).

The data also indicate that involvement of currently married women in the decision-making of all above mentioned actions varies according to various background variables. The level of involvement increases with older age-groups, women in urban areas, higher level of education, also among those working for cash and in the highest wealth quintile.

To rectify this situation, the government introduced legislations and undertook programs that deal the current status, such as:

- The enactment of legislation guaranteeing women's right to separate financial assets and their right to own property and land (the law of ownership and tenure of land);
- Allowing Egyptian women to give her nationality to her sons;
- Adopting the strategy for violence against women 2015-2020 and undertaking training courses to follow the implementation of previous programs on gender-based violence, including data collection and analysis for policy makers and evidence-based advocacy programs to follow up the implementation of the strategy to combat violence against women at the level of ministries and governorates;
- Undertake a project in 2017 to follow national programs from gender perspectives, with the context of the national strategy for women.

Commitment 8: Increase and enhance women's and youth's participation in decision-making and leadership positions at all levels through effective implementation of appropriate policies, programs and affirmative action;

The government is adopting policies for women's and youth participation in decision-making to ensure equal opportunity for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life.

The government is well aware of the importance of youth and their pivotal role in the future of the country, it has adopted and restructured its institutions as a cornerstone for young people. The Government has begun to take effective measures to prepare young cadres for leading. The President declared 2016 as Youth year, the successive conferences of youth and the selected candidates for the presidential program for the rehabilitation of youth for leadership, which turned into a Training Academy for young people shortly, resulted in selecting a number of them for leadership positions, such as assistants to ministers and governors and other senior positions in various sectors. The country is keen on the development of political life through the participation of young cadres, and to ensure that they will be given the chance to fully

participate in the Local Elections, which by Law they should represent 25% of all its members. Fixing the date for such election, as requested by the President, would enhance the role of youth and their overall participation in shaping the future.

The percentage of seats held by women in national parliaments and local governments are:

- National parliament, 2015: 14.9%
- Local governments, 2008 : 5%

Women are also present within the managerial system as can be seen from the following indicators for year 2016/2017:

- General manager (In person): 24.6%
- General manager: 16.3%
- Senior positions: 16.1%
- Special senior positions: 11.5%
- Ministers: 5.1%
- Deputy Ministers: 6.7%.

Commitment 9: Develop and strengthen the implementation of public, civic and adult education programs which address issues of gender equity, equality and women's empowerment.

NCW is adopting policies to track and make public allocations for gender equality and women's empowerment to achieve gender parity in women's parity in employment and representation in leadership and managerial positions.

The percentage of women in parliament and key managerial posts was previously presented and the new law for local government stated that women representation should not be less than 25% of total seats.

Women's representation in the judiciary remains limited. In 2003 the first female judge was appointed to the Constitutional Court. Subsequently, female judges were appointed in 2007 and 2008, and by 2015 the total number of female judges amounted to 66, comprising less than 1% of Egypt's 12,000 judges. Women's representation is still absent in the State Council and in Public Prosecution.

Commitment 10: Address the needs of all girls, boys and children with disabilities, with regard to their rights to health, nutrition and education at all levels.

The target is that by 2030, end hunger and malnutrition for all children through national policies and programs to address children's rights to health, nutrition and education including those with disabilities.

Based on the methodologies developed by FAO and WFP to measure food insecurity by levels, it was estimated that 28% of the population are mildly in that position for the period 2014-2016.

The EDHS (2014) indicated that nutritional status for children below age 5, which is a primary determinant of child health and well-being, is as follows:

- Stunting rate (Height-for age): 21.4%
- Wasting rate (weight-for age): 5.5%
- Weight-for height: 8.4%

The WFP complements the Government's school feeding initiative by providing food incentives in community schools, one-classroom schools built in remote areas, to encourage parents to send their children to school and keep them there.

Moreover, in face of the chronic problem of undernutrition and the vicious circle of its relationship with poverty, the government in collaboration with UNICEF is formulating a National Nutrition Policy and Strategy that would be aligned to important national and global commitments such as the Egypt Vision 2030, the Sustainable Development Goals as well as the World Health Assembly (WHA) nutrition targets for 2025 that include:

- 1) Reduction of chronic undernutrition in children under 5 years by 40%;
- 2) Reduction of anemia in women of child-bearing age by 50%;
- 3) Reduction of Low Birth Weights by 30%;
- 4) No increase of overweight in children under 5 years of age;
- 5) Increase in exclusive breast-feeding during the first six months by 50%;
- 6) Reduce and maintain childhood wasting to less than 5%.

The proposed Agenda for Action that point out to Egypt's commitment, suggest a number of immediate actions, including decisive measures to reverse the downward trends in breast-feeding and launching a major public nutrition education and communication initiative. It also aims to strengthen nutrition management structures and information systems, including mapping and monitoring of ongoing and planned nutrition activities by different stakeholders. The MOHP would revise existing nutrition services and activities into a 'standardized protocol of action' which establishes a clear focus on the 'first 1000 days of life.

Estimates of under-five mortality (EDHS, 2014) show noticeable decline during the 15 years preceding the survey. It declined from 39 deaths per thousand births in 10-14 years preceding the survey to 27 deaths in the 0-4 years before the survey.

According to recent vital registration data, under-five mortality rate for 2016 is 19.6 deaths per 1000 births and it varies by region and sex as follows:

- Estimated under-five mortality for males is 20.7 deaths per thousand births against 18.5 for females;
- Estimated under-five mortality for urban area is about 24.9 deaths per thousand births compared to only about 14.8 for rural areas (CAPMAS, 2018). This abnormal result might be due to adopting place of incidence for registration rather than place of residence.

Concerning boys and girls with disabilities the government is adopting relevant policies to eliminate any type of discrimination against them and to ensure fair treatment for them in all spheres of life. In that respect, the Government approved:

- 1) Re-establishing the National Council for persons with disabilities in February 2018 to replace the old body. The Council aims to promote, develop and protect the rights of persons with disabilities in accordance with the provisions of the 2014 Constitution and in light of the international conventions and treaties ratified by Egypt as well as to deepen its values, increase awareness about them and ensure their implementations;
- 2) The ratification of the Law for Persons with Disability (Law 10 for 2018) by President Abdel-Fattah al-Sisi, after it was passed by the House of Representatives. The law includes 58 articles that cover health and medical rights for persons with disability; their right to education, vocational training and work, and the State's commitment towards securing their rights. They also tackle legal and criminal protection for persons with disability, and their political rights. A whole chapter is dedicated to their right to sports and entertainment, and the final chapter covers penalties against violators of the law.

Commitment 11: Address the causes of high school drop-out rates, among boys and girls while creating a conducive environment to enroll those who have never been to school.

The global target is to reduce by half, the number of persons (20-24) who do not complete high-school by 2030, while the 2014 constitution stated that secondary education is becoming part of the compulsory

educational stages and the government is adopting policies to encourage students to continue and complete high school.

Currently the estimated percentage of young adults not completing high school is about 31.05%.

Commitment 12: Create a supportive environment to keep the girl child, including married girls and pregnant girls, in school at all levels of education, and ensure admission or re-entry to school after deliver.

Government policies and programs are to encourage civil societies and NGOs to work in this area. For pre-university level, non-governmental organizations are having programs to cover those who dropped out and to encourage them to attend “community school” that takes into consideration their status and creates favorable environment to ease their participation, especially in Upper Egypt and in remote areas as well as girls.

One of the leading NGOs in Egypt (Misr-el-Kheir) is supporting the establishment of community schools to create opportunities for educating children from age 6 to age 14, who are living in rough or deprived areas in Egypt. Community schools are considered to be one of the methods of non-systematic flexible education, as it suits the needs and the circumstances of its community, and guarantees the commitment of the students (especially girls) to go to school and get an education.

In 2015, they are supporting and managing 859 community schools serving a total of 32,309 students and 700 students have graduated the primary level.

Commitment 13: Develop and ensure full implementation and enforcement of policies to prevent all forms of child abuse, including school-based violence, violence against girls, sexual violence and harassment and the promotion of safe space programs for girls.

Government policies aim to eliminate all forms of child abuse including school-based violence, sexual violence and harassment. Legal actions are being adopted to eliminate such actions. This was accompanied with an awareness campaign to enhance children and parents of their rights.

One important area for intervention is ending child marriage. The National for Childhood and Motherhood, with the support of UNICEF is advocating against such dangerous situation and to highlight policy work related to poverty, child protection, health and overall child wellbeing. This is in line with Egypt’s National Strategy for the Reduction of Child Marriage, launched in 2014 by the National Population Council, which aims to reduce its prevalence by 50% over five years.

This shows a high-level political will to end child marriage, especially after the results of the 2017 population census confirming that one of 20 girls in the age group 15-17 and one in 10 girls in the age group 15-19 is currently ever-married. Policy intervention is to improve opportunities for the development of girls and ensure that adolescents are empowered.

The government is also pushing for issuing the Law that will criminalize such action which is being currently reviewed from the legal point of view and is to be debated by the Council of deputies.

Percentage of children aged (1-14) years who experienced any physical punishment and/or psychological aggression by caregivers in the past month is about 93% (CAPMAS).

Commitment 14: Enact and enforce as a matter of urgency, the legal age of marriage in accordance with Article 6 (b) of the Protocol to The African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa.

A law is being finalized to enforce legal age of marriage and to penalize all those who are involved in that act, including the parents. The law would be shortly approved by the Parliament and issued by the president.

At the same time, a wide public campaign is being carried out with strong support from the President. The campaign highlights the negative implications of such act on girls' education and overall livelihood.

The Percentage of women aged 20-24 who were married before age 15 and 18, respectively, are:

- Those married before/at age 15; 2%
- Those married before/at age 18: 20.6%.

Commitment 15: Protect the dignity and rights of women and girls by eradicating all harmful practices, including early and/or forced marriages, female genital mutilation /cutting, through adopting and enforcing laws that prohibit such practices and creating awareness around the harmful health consequences.

The current Law for marriage criminalizes the registration of child marriage, i.e. before age 18 and is being adopted though legally charging those who proceed with such marriages. The new prepared law, however, is tackling the problem in a comprehensive approach that hold all partners responsible for such offence.

A law to criminalize female genital mutilation is being in place for several years but the prevailing culture is still supporting such behavior. According to the EDHS (2014), the prevalence of female genital mutilation is about 92.3%. The data by age, however, indicate mild progress in eliminating such phenomena where the prevalence among women aged 45-49 was about 95% and dropped to 87.5% for those aged 15-19 years of age.

Higher prevalence is being noticed in rural areas (95.4%) in general and in Upper Egypt (95.5%) while it is lower in urban areas (86.3%) and urban governorates (81.7%). The differences by background variable is only noticed for those who completed secondary level education or higher (88.8%) and the highest quintile of the wealth indicator (81.4%), while no differences is observed by work status.

Commitment 16: Adopt and implement legislation, policies and measures that prevent, punish and eradicate gender-based violence within and outside of the family, as well as in conflict and post-conflict situations.

Government is adopting actions against gender-based violence at all levels aiming to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls in the public and private spheres.

By 2015, the impact indicators of such policy are:

- Percentage of ever-partnered women and girls 15+ years of age ever subjected to physical, sexual, or psychological violence by current or former partner in the last 12 months, are:
- Physical violence: 11.8% and increases for those aged (20-24) to about 19.1% and drop to only 2.2% for those aged 60-64 years of age;
- Sexual violence: 6.5% and the highest level is observed for those 18-19 years (11.7%) and drop to 0.8% for those 60-64 years;
- Psychological violence: 22.3% and the highest value (34.3%) for age group (20-24 years) and the lowest (6.9%) for age group (60-64 years).
- Percentage of women or girls 15+ years subjected to sexual violence by person other than intimate partner. In 2015, for women aged (18-64 years) 1.1%. (Source: violence against women survey by CAPMAS).

Commitment 17: Adopt and protect the human rights of all individuals, without distinction of any kind, and guarantee equality before the law and non-discrimination for all people, in accordance with national policies, laws, religious, ethical values and cultural backgrounds.

As previously indicated the 2014 constitution included several articles that guarantee and protect the human rights of all individuals without any distinction. Accordingly, several Laws are developed or modified to ensure human rights for all and equality before the law and criminalize any form of discrimination.

The National Council for Human Rights (NCHR), established in 2003 as an independent body directly related to the President, aims to develop a national plan to enhancement, to develop the protection of human rights in Egypt, and to suggest the means by which to achieve this plan, provide suggestions and recommendations to the specialized bodies in order to support, protect, and develop human rights and express opinions, views, suggestions, and recommendations for the issues introduced or referred to it by the authorities and specialized bodies for matters related to the strengthening and protection of human rights. It currently maintains its status “A” by the Global Alliance for National Human Rights Institutions.

NCHR is also receiving complaints about human rights to study them and rise to the attention of the relevant authorities and specialized bodies, and to follow up with them. It also works to spread awareness to individuals about the legal procedures that they should follow and to assist them in the implementation of these procedures or their settlement with the associated bodies.

The NCHR is producing annual reports that highlight the human rights situation in Egypt through discussing the constitutional and legislative development, basic rights, and public freedom as well as economic and social rights. It also devotes a section for complains, their analysis and further development of the mechanisms for their assessment. The last two section provide information about NCHR responses and recommendations.

Commitment 18: Promulgate, where absent, and enforce laws to prevent and punish any kind of hate crimes without distinction of any kind, and take active steps to protect all persons from discrimination, stigmatization and violence; in accordance with national laws and policies.

Government is aiming to enforce laws to ensure equality and eliminate incidence of hate crimes including those related to discrimination, stigmatization and violence.

In that respect, the government issued Law No. 50 of 2014 amending Law No. 58 of 1937, promulgating the Penal Code. The amendments include:

- 1) Replacing Article 306(bis)(a) of Law No. 58 of 1937 on promulgating the Penal Code with a new paragraph that stated: individuals who carry out sexual or obscene gestures in any manner, including by modern means of communication, will be punished with a term of imprisonment of not less than six months or a fine of EGP 3000. It also states that if the act of sexual harassment is repeated by the same individual, the punishment of imprisonment will be increased to one year and the fine to EGP 5,000-10,000.
- 2) Additional paragraph (b) added to Article 306(bis) of Law No. 58 of 1937 on promulgating the Penal Code that states that: if the harassment is done with the intent of receiving sexual gratification from the victim, the punishment will be a term of imprisonment of not less than one year and a fine of EGP 10,000-20,000. Moreover, any individual who uses duress to receive sexual gratification will be punished with a term of imprisonment of between two and five years and a fine of EGP 20,000-50,000.

Such policy is also supported by religious institutions. Al-Azhar plans to submit a draft law opposing hate speech and violence conducted in the name of religion to be discussed with the community and civil societies and later submitted to the Parliament.

Commitment 19: Provide universal access to affordable quality, comprehensive education and skills development, including retention and completion, in a safe and participatory environment, at all levels of education as well as free elementary education, to adequately respond to labor market needs.

The 2014 Constitution guarantee that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary, preparatory and secondary education levels (compulsory stages).

Available indicators for 2015/2016 indicate:

- Total enrolment percentage in pre-university education: 80.4% (males 80.01% and females 80.9%).
- Total enrolment percentage in higher education: 38.9% (male's 39.4% and females 38.4%).

The Panel Survey of Young People in Egypt (SYPE, 2014) also confirms these positive results. Primary school enrollment is nearly universal since more than 95% of youth aged 13–18 in 2014 had attended school. However, the percentage of young people completing preparatory education by age 16 ranges from 86.9% in Urban Lower Egypt to 69.1% in the Frontier Governorate, indicating a high-level of those who do not complete mandatory basic education, especially in Upper Egypt. The survey also indicates that among youth aged 25-29 years in 2014, 18.4% of women and 7.4% of men were illiterate.

The 2017 population census indicated that for persons of four years and over, about one third of this group (34.1%) either didn't enroll or drop out of school (primary and preparatory levels only) with significant differences by gender or between governorates. However, if the focus is on the age group 6-20 years of age, the number of those didn't enroll or drop out would decline to only 1.1 million and out of which 37.2% as a result of lack of interest from the person and 18.9% because the family did not want education while the same percentage miss schools as a result of financial difficulties by the family.

Commitment 20: Provide equitable access, retention and completion, to comprehensive and quality education for all disadvantaged persons and groups, as well as meeting the learning needs of individuals requiring different pedagogical styles.

The education system ensures equality access to all compulsory education levels, and to higher education level, for all students including vulnerable groups.

In 2016, 36.6% of schools have access to internet and the government is initiating a new e-learning education system that ensures that all schools are covered with internet.

Schools provided with computers for pedagogical purpose in 2017: 34.2%

Schools having electricity connection in 2017: 99.2%

Commitment 21: Provide decent work and appropriate skills for young people through effective policies and programs that generate employment and sustainable work, consistent with international conventions and regional declarations, to ensure higher social, economic and human development returns from the demographic dividend.

Within Egypt's vision 2030, the Social Justice and Employment pillars includes some clear objectives about creating employment opportunities and achieving optimal employment rates while protecting and protecting the rights of workers internally and externally, and to provide all resources to create skilled

workers qualified to join internal and external labor market as well as upgrading the competitiveness potentials of Egyptian workers in general.

Among the specified goals concerning the creation of new and sustainable jobs, are:

- 1) Reduce unemployment rates and provide decent and productive employment opportunities;
- 2) Support and enhance the role of career guidance units to provide advice to potential workers and to guide them to the professions that suit their potentials and qualifications;
- 3) Promote policies aimed at sustainable development and support productive activities and decent work, as well as establish an integrated, efficient and advanced system to monitor and collect statistical information about the labor market;
- 4) Establish an effective and sustainable mechanism for linking labor market needs with education and training outcomes.

To enhance youth education and work opportunities, the government tools several actions that include:

- Improve the quality of education to suit the country's development challenges by raising the awareness of one million students through the National Program for the Prevention of Smoking and Drugs (choose your life). This included building the capacity of psychologists and social workers in 25 governorates, developing educational curricula to raise awareness about such problems in basic education;
- Arrange and hold forums for youth employment and for training to introduce small projects to provide employment opportunities for young people in the governorates from 2013 to 2017;
- Encourage youth to serve as members on the boards of youth centers and clubs;
- Holding summer camps in the governorates of Alexandria and Matruh through “the capacity building program” and prepare youth volunteer associations in all governorates (covered a total of 26 thousand volunteers);
- Building youth capacity in entrepreneurship through training courses conducted by the National Council for Women in 2016;
- Undertake awareness-raising workshops in the governorates about reproductive and sexual health among young people and adolescents, including sex education in schools and equal opportunities for access to reproductive and sexual health services, including HIV-related services from 2013 to 2016. This also included having awareness workshops for youth in youth centers and sports clubs, with the of participation of volunteers, about early awareness and prevention programs for HIV/Aids and drugs;
- Improve access of youth to loans and development projects without any discrimination in terms of gender in coordination with the General Administration of Women though a new project to finance small and medium projects for young people recovering from addiction. This was supported by the Social Fund and Nasser Social Bank from 2013 to 2016 and still working.

Overall policies aimed to enhance youth employment, however indicators about the level of unemployment for youth are:

Percentage of out of school youth in the age-group (15-29 years) that is unemployed is: 33.9% for males while for female it increases to 54.4%. Participation rate of youth and adults in formal and non-formal education and training in the previous 12 months, by sex, for 2015/2016 are:

- Total enrolment percentage in pre-university education: 80.4% (males 80.01% and females 80.9%).
- Total enrolment percentage in higher education: 38.9% (male's 39.4% and females 38.4%).

Commitment 22: Maximize the benefits of the demographic dividend by investing in creating opportunities and a supportive environment for innovation, creativity and entrepreneurship for young people to create and access jobs and realize their full potential.

Government through the banking system is encouraging and supporting ultra-small, small and medium projects, especially for youth and women. Loans for such projects are given at a low interest rate between 5 -7%. The main target of such actions is youth and women to lower unemployment for these categories and encourage innovation and entrepreneurship. This would also add to efforts to enhance the private sector and will have impact on the demographic situation with the increasing number of participating women.

The Central Bank of Egypt allocated a total of LE 200 billion and encourages banks to expand their activities in support of SME. The latest appraisal of this initiative indicated that it funded 62,000 enterprises at a cost of LE 70 billion. The President also directed the government to make the small and medium-sized enterprises SMEs initiative cover the whole country in order to reduce the percentage of unemployment among youths and raise the standard of living as well as increasing the gross domestic product and the Egyptian exports.

Commitment 23: Address and improve the welfare, livelihoods and stability of families and communities and the longevity of people through inclusive social protection policies and programs.

Several social protection programs are being adopted by the country to cover various vulnerable groups including poor families with low-income (according to national poverty line) and those female-headed and child-headed families. In addition, disabled and old age persons are also covered.

The MoSS is adopting an expanded social justice protection program that is implemented by various sectors to target different groups of needy people. The social affairs sector provides:

- Monthly protection security assistance
- Special security assistance
- Assistance to the families of martyrs and civilians injured as a result of and because of military operations (mine explosion)
- Disaster and disaster assistance
- Assistance to families of army recruits and fighters
- Assistance to those affected by desertification and drought in areas of desertification and drought
- Monthly financial assistance because of emergency conditions
- Children pension.

The sector for social insurance provides special pensions, marriage grant and death support as well as support to the person permanently accompanying a completely disabled person or the disabled child.

The largest conditional cash transfer programs in that respect is “Takafol and Karama” providing support to 1.7 million household (8 million person) and these families received about LE 7.5 billion.

Estimated life expectancy (April 2018) for males and females are: 71.2 years and 73.9 respectively.

Commitment 24: Develop and strengthen family-related programs that would address challenges facing emerging family structures such as female-headed households, child-headed households and households headed by older persons.

Programs to address housing, food and health needs of emerging family structures are being adopted:

- Programs to allocate land for housing purposes to youth, newly married and for those in emergency situation;
- Programs to re-settle those living in unsafe slum areas into new housing units in new areas is being progressing and it is planned to eliminate all slum areas by 2020;

- Subsidy system for food covering low-income households is being expanded and the amount of subsidy is increased within a flexible arrangement. It is estimated that around 70 million are benefiting from the system;
- A new law for health insurance is issued by the president which will start in one governorate and the whole country will be covered within 12 years.

Commitment 25: Promote a culture of respect, support; active and healthy ageing for older persons to ensure that they receive needed long-term care, equitable access to social services, and protection against violence, abuse and social discrimination.

This age-group would be covered with the national health insurance program to ensure that they are receiving needed long-term health care.

According to the 2017 population census, the percentage population 65+ amounts to 3.9% and increase to 4.0% for males compared to 3.8% for females.

Commitment 26: Introduce and strengthen policies that promote lifelong learning and facilitate the integration and participation of older persons in society, and benefit from the accumulated life experience and knowledge in all spheres of life.

Programs aiming at the integration and participation of older person in the society are in place through government and non-government organizations.

Old person are covered by Takafol program since the Percent of elderly (60 +years) living below poverty line amounts 17.5%.

Commitment 27: Eliminate child labor and all forms of child exploitation including trafficking, abuse and neglect, and provide adequate care for the development and welfare of children including the establishment of child protection units at the national and sub-national levels.

The National Council for childhood and Motherhood (NCCM) is adopting several programs aiming to ensure equal rights for every child.

The Council is entrusted with policymaking, planning, coordinating, monitoring and the evaluation of activities in the areas of protection and development of children and mothers. NCCM operates through a strong network of NGOs, students, volunteers, community leaders, academia, youth centers and schools and in partnership with a large number of donors as well as the UN family.

The Council has child protection units at national and sub-national levels.

Percent of children aged 5-17 engaged in child labor amounts to 7% (8.1% males, 5.8% females); Incidence of child neglect and abuse (% of children aged 1-14) who experienced any physical punishment and/or psychological aggression in past month amount to 93% of children aged 1-14 years.

Commitment 28: Protect and fulfill the rights of all migrants, including economic migrants, internally displaced people and forced migrants as a result of humanitarian crisis, natural disasters and conflicts and victims of human trafficking, through policy and programs that ensure their access to work and basic social services as well as enhancing the capacity of security and law enforcement agencies to protect the rights of such persons.

Migrants are generally living within Egyptian communities and not isolated in camps. Moreover, some nationalities are having the same privileges as Egyptians concerning free education, health care, entrepreneurship and work.

Commitment 29: Accelerate the implementation of the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities to ensure non-discrimination and equitable access to basic social services and access to physical environment and structures.

Government is adopting policies to integrated persons with specific disabilities within the school system and to equip public accommodations to meet the needs of persons with disabilities.

This was clearly stated in the new law about the rights of persons with disability, issued by the President on February 2018. The new law provides a wide range of legal rights and protections for disabled people. These include rights to non-discrimination in employment, health, political activity, rehabilitation and training, and legal protection. The law also includes provisions for the rights of persons with disabilities in education at all levels.

The new Law adopted a set of important principles that generally aims to protect persons with disability, secure equal opportunities for them in various areas and improve their welfare. Specifically, the Law adopts, among other things, the principles of empowerment, prevention, social protection, caring, communication and eliminating any distinction on the basis of disability. Moreover, the Law adopts the concept of universal integration of persons with disability within the community, especially the education system. It requires that educational institutions adopt policies to support disabled people, and that they provide equal opportunities in education. Most important, it prohibits institutions from rejecting applications from students on grounds of disability.

The Law provided a detailed reference to the different rights that would be secured to all persons with disabilities. These include:

- 1) Health rights for person with disabilities which requires issuing a health card for each person specifying his/her status, services needed and health file;
- 2) Procedures for the prevention of disabilities and providing them free of charge of all health tests;
- 3) Education right witch requiring all education institutions, including the university level, to create the relevant environment for achieving such objective;
- 4) Professional preparation and training as well as the right to work though the arrangements that will ease their participation in the process;
- 5) Ensure the rights of persons with disabilities to enjoy all culture, recreational and sport activities.

The Law also provided legal and penal protection for persons with disabilities through providing them with monthly financial assistance and approve their rights to combine the possibility of having two pensions. In addition, the government is committed to:

- 1) Allocate no less than 5% of housing units build or subsided by the government to persons with disability according to the set regulations;
- 2) Making special arrangement for them in army recruiting centers;
- 3) Including the rights and needs of persons with disabilities in all the programs to eliminate poverty;
- 4) Adopting all necessary arrangements in the design and the establishment of various facilities that enable persons with disability ease of access and proper utilization of the place.

The Law also included derailed list of penalties that is attached to each act that is against the rights of the disabled persons as specified.

Second Pillar: Health

Commitment 30: Strengthen health systems, down to the primary health care level, towards the provision of equitable and universal access to a comprehensive range of health care services by ensuring, sustainable health financing and addressing the critical shortage of resources including human resources for health, and infrastructure.

The new national health insurance system aims to achieve equitable and universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health services.

The level of health financing in 2016/2017 budget amounts to LE 48.9 billion. The allocation level is being increased over past years where it was higher in 2016/2017 by about 9% of the allocations for 2015/2016 (LE 45.0 billion) and this in turn was higher by about 21% of the allocations for 2014/2015 (LE 37.2 billion).

The share of health component in the budget of 2016/2017 amounts to 6% compared to 5.2% in the budget for 2015/2016.

The Percentage of people with access and benefits from health insurance, according to the 2017 population census, is about 49.1% and increase to about 53.2% for females compared to 45.3% for males. No significant differences are noticed in the percentage of people having access/benefits from health insurance in both urban and rural areas where it was around 49.7% and 48.1% respectively.

Focusing on women of reproductive age, the EDHS (2014) indicated that only 8.1% are covered by any health insurance. The percentage of women covered increases to 12.5% in urban areas against only 5.8% for rural areas and the highest percentage covered is in urban Lower Egypt (14.0%), those with completed secondary or higher (14.1%) and the upper wealth quintile (17.5%).

Health worker density and distribution, Rate per each 1000 of population, 2015:

- Doctors: 1.1
- Nursing: 2.1
- Dentists: 0.21
- Pharmacists: 0.5.

Commitment 31: Operationalized the right to the highest attainable standard of health by adopting equity and rights based planning and resource-allocation, facilitating community participation in health decision-making and programming, educating health care providers and communities on what the right to health means in service provision and ensuring the delivery of health care that is free from stigma, coercion, discrimination, violence and respects human rights, including the rights to confidentiality, privacy, and informed consent.

The new health insurance system which will be fully covering the country by 2030 aims, among other things, to ensure that 100% of the people receive quality health care that is stigma-free, coercion-free, and discrimination-free. The system would ensure equity and rights-based policies and planned programs.

Commitment 32: Create a supportive environment to eliminate preventable, communicable and non-communicable diseases, including HIV and AIDS, sexually transmitted infections, Tuberculosis and Malaria and heart-related diseases and cancers.

The target is, by 2030, reduce by one third premature deaths from non communicable diseases; end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis; combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases.

MOFP integrated HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment services into reproductive and sexual health services.

The rate of new HIV infections per 1000 uninfected people in 2015 is 9.1 for each 1000 uninfected person in the age group (15-49). The sex differentials indicate higher level of incidence for males (7.6) compared to females (1.5).

According to UNAIDS Egypt, HIV and AIDS Estimates are:

Adult aged 15 to 49 HIV prevalence rate	<0.1 [<0.1 - <0.1]
Women aged 15 to 49 HIV prevalence rate	<0.1 [<0.1 - <0.1]
Men aged 15 to 49 HIV prevalence rate	<0.1 [<0.1 - <0.1]

No incidence of tuberculosis and malaria were reported in 2015.

Mortality rate (per one 100 thousand population in 2015) attributed to cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes or chronic respiratory diseases are:

- Cardiovascular: 304.4
- Cancer: 36.4
- Diabetes: 9.5
- Chronic respiratory diseases: 27.8.

The health profile of Egypt elaborated in collaboration between the Government and WHO highlighted the current status of communicable diseases in Egypt, especially HIV and Hepatitis C and B:

- 1) HIV/AIDS: it confirms that HIV prevalence is low amounting to less than 0.1% among adults 15-49 years. People who inject drugs are the most affected group, with an HIV prevalence of 7.0%, although 65.0% of those are sterile injecting equipment. Estimated number of pregnant women living with HIV is less than 200), while the estimated antiretroviral therapy coverage to prevent mother-to-child transmission is 10.0%. Routine testing is administered on 100.0% of blood collected and estimated antiretroviral therapy coverage is 24%. The government goal is to maintain low prevalence through strengthening prevention, and providing treatment, care and support to people living with HIV.
- 2) Focusing on Hepatitis C was a priority because of its high prevalence. This affected its level that declined among people aged 15–59 years from 9.8% in 2008 to 7.0% in 2014, while among the population aged 1–59 years, hepatitis C virus prevalence is 4.4% (2014) and hepatitis B prevalence is 1.0% (2014).

The action plan for the prevention, care and treatment of viral hepatitis 2014–2018 developed by MOHP collaboration with WHO and the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), is comprehensive and addresses both prevention and treatment, focusing on surveillance, infection control and prevention, injection and blood safety, vaccination against hepatitis B, communication, research and care and treatment of patients. Effective implementation of the plan was supported by the success of the government in negotiating a price reduction of 99.0% of the hepatitis C drug Sofosbuvir, from US\$ 84 thousands to US\$ 900 for a 12-week course.

Commitment 33: Intensify efforts to achieve universal access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support for people living with HIV, and to eliminate mother-to-child transmission.

The prevalence of HIV /Aids in Egypt is very low and the estimated rate among women aged 15-49 indicate that the possibility of mother-to-child transmission is minimal.

Judicial ruling confirms the need to eliminate any discrimination against people living with HIV/Aids. In February 2016, a historic decision for Egypt and the region, a court in Cairo ruled that people living with HIV cannot be dismissed from work because of their HIV status. The court's directive, issued stated that employment is a basic human right for all Egyptian citizens, regardless of their health condition, as long as they can still work.

Commitment 34: Achieve universal access to reproductive and sexual health services, free from all forms of discrimination by providing an essential package of comprehensive reproductive and sexual health services including through the primary health care system for women and men, with particular attention to the needs of adolescents, youth, older persons, persons with disabilities and indigenous people, especially in the most remote areas.

Government adopted policies that aim to create a positive environment for the implementation of the national population and family planning programs that is being operationalized within the context of Egypt strategic direction: vision 2030. Moreover, it aims to guarantee universal access to all RH/FP information and services. This included the development of various strategies and protocols:

- National Strategy for Reproductive Health 2015-2030, to ensure the right of all citizens to obtain quality reproductive health information and services;
- The disciplined population strategy (2017 -2021);
- National Strategy to reduce early marriage, 2014;
- Strategy to prevent female circumcision that target girls in childhood and adolescence;
- Increase women's access to comprehensive reproductive and sexual health services, regardless of family status or age;
- Increased access to health care during pregnancy and prenatal care;
- Promote adolescents' and youth's access to reproductive and sexual health services;
- Integration of HIV prevention and treatment services into reproductive and sexual health services;
- Access to safe abortion services under the law;
- Eliminate any discrimination in access to comprehensive reproductive and sexual health services, including HIV services;
- Take measures and laws to ensure that women and victims of violence receive protection, health and psychological care, and transfer to the competent authorities, including health, justice and police, through the National Strategy for the Prevention of Female Genital Mutilation;
- Providing family planning services to all groups in deprived areas, supporting the prices of contraceptives in public units and introduce more effective and long-lasting methods.

The effective implementation of such policies would contribute to the creation of a supportive environment that should be matched by the type of services that are provided in the various health units. A total of 4500 health centers offer an essential package of SRH services spread over various parts of the country.

The target is to ensure that, by 2030, achieve universal access to reproductive and sexual services, including for family planning, information and education.

Percent of currently married women (15-49) with access to family planning (currently using) in 2014 is 58.5% while it was 60.3% in 2008, and the highest level is shown by women ages 35-39 years of age (72.6%).

The current use of FP satisfied with modern methods in 2014 is 56.9% of currently married women aged 15-49 years of age compared to 57.6 in 2008. This percentage increases to 62.4% for women in Lower Egypt compared to only 48.5% for women in Upper Egypt in 2014.

The total demand for FP in 2014 reaches 71.1% out of which 52.8 is for limiting and the remaining (18.3%) is for spacing, while the met need for family planning (currently using) is 58.5% indicating that the percentage of demand satisfied is about 82.3%.

The relevant percentages for 2008 were 71.9% out of which 56.3 for limiting and 16.6 for spacing, while the met need for family planning (currently using) is 60.3% showing a higher level of demand satisfied amounting to 83.9%.

Adolescent Birth Rate (EDHS, 2014) for women aged 15-19 years is 56 births per 1000 women. The EDHS data also indicate that overall is about 10.9%, and increase to about 14.3% for women in rural areas against 5.0% for women in urban areas.

The overall percentage of teenage childbearing in 2014 is higher when compared to the levels observed in 2008 and 2005 reaching 10% and 9% respectively.

Commitment 35: Enact and enforce laws and policies within the national political and legal framework to respect and protect reproductive and sexual health of all individuals.

Egypt's reproductive and family planning program is based on ensuring freedom of choice for families to decide on the number of children they want and the timing and for the program to be responsive to their needs through providing them with relevant information and services. Adopted regulations guarantee that women and adolescents have informed choices regarding their SRH rights as well as women and men access to SRH care, information and education.

Among current users of FP the majority of women indicated that they had the main role in the usage of FP, either on their own where their percentage was about 22.5% or with partners increasing to 74.9% with no major differences by background variables.

Women's informed decisions on contraceptive use are also shown by the data collected in the EDHS 2014. Informed choice indicators point out that a total of 61.6% of current users reported that the provider discussed methods other than the one the used received, 47.8% were told about side effects and 34.6% were told what to do if they experienced side effects.

Commitment 36: Support the integration of reproductive and sexual health services, HIV and AIDS and family planning.

The national program adopted by the MOHP integrated HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment services into reproductive and sexual health services currently provided.

Commitment 37: Eliminate preventable maternal mortality and neonatal mortality through ensuring that births are attended by skilled health personnel, and that there is universal access to prenatal and postnatal care and family planning, emergency obstetric and neonatal care, and management of pregnancy-related complications and preventable complications arising from unsafe abortion in order to protect the health and safeguard the lives of women, adolescent girls and neonates.

The MOHP is aiming to increase the number of qualified health care professionals as a % of the total population (by type) in various units through training programs at all level. In 2015, the health worker density and distribution rate per each 1000 of population is:

- Doctors: 1.1
- Nursing: 2.1
- Dentists: 0.21
- Pharmacists: 0.5.

Maternal mortality ratio per 100 000 live births in 2015: 49 deaths;
Neonatal mortality rate in the 5-year preceding the EDHS 2014 is: 14 deaths per 1000 births;
Percentage of births attended by skilled personnel: 90.7% of live births in the 5-year preceding the survey and it increases to 96.5% and 97.4% for urban areas and urban governorates respectively compared to about 89.3% in rural areas.

Percentage of short-spaced births (<18 months) of non-first births in the 5-year preceding the survey is 8.2%;

Percentage of high parity births (>4) for currently married women is 12.9% of births;

Incidence of late births for women aged (40-44) represented by age specific birth rate per 1000 women is: 17;

Antenatal care for women 15-49 years of age who have a live birth in the 5-year preceding the survey: 90.3%;

Postnatal care for mother and child within 2 days of delivery amount to 81.5% of women aged 15-49 years giving birth in the two years preceding the survey.

Commitment 38: Expand access for all women and adolescent girls to timely, humane and compassionate treatment of unsafe abortion complications and, in accordance with national laws and policies, provide access to safe abortion services.

Safe Abortion is being provided within the context of the law, especially when endangering the life of the mother.

Commitment 39: Create supportive conditions to eliminate preventable maternal morbidities, especially obstetric fistula.

National RH/FP programs emphasize the importance of antenatal care including programs to monitor high-risk pregnancies.

Percentage of currently married women in need for FP satisfied by modern methods: 56.9% (EDHS, 2014).

Commitment 40: Adopt and implement relevant comprehensive sexuality education programs, both in and out of school, that are linked to reproductive and sexual health services, with the active involvement of parents, community, traditional, religious and opinion leaders; and young people themselves.

Health units providing RH/FP package cover both components including information and services as well as the provision of contraceptives.

The Ministry of Health and Population, in collaboration with UNFPA, announced the establishment of youth and adolescent friendly health centers in 13 governorates, namely Alexandria, Dakahlia, Ismailia, Port Said, Damietta, Suez, Kafr El Sheikh, Beheira, Beni Suef, Minya, Qena, Luxor and Aswan. The Ministry indicated that health centers will be extended to the rest of the governorates to cover the whole country during the year 2017/2018. These centers provide awareness services for youth and adolescence, reproductive and sexual health services, oral and dental health, mental health problems during this age period, including combating infectious diseases as well as health education and raising health and nutrition awareness. For cases that require curative treatment services would be referral to existing clinics in the center or to specialized centers. A total of 1610 physician and nurse were trained to provide young people and adolescent of the relevant services.

Commitment 41: Enact and implement fertility-related policies that promote the rights of individuals and couples to decide freely and responsibly, the number and spacing of their births and to have the information and means to do so, taking into account the need for such policies to be based on evidence from research and best practices.

Egypt's program for RH/FP adopts policies promoting the right of people/couples to freely choose their number and spacing of births.

Unmet need for contraception is about 12.6% of currently married women aged 15-49 years, out of which 4.5% for spacing and 8.1 for limiting.

Percent of births to adolescent mothers (< 20 years) that are unplanned is: 6.8% of births in the 5-year preceding the EDHS 2014.

Need for FP satisfied with modern methods: 56.9%.

Commitment 42: Institute measures to prevent unplanned pregnancies through improving access to information, technologies, commodities and services including emergency contraception, that increase the ability of individuals and couples to make free and informed decisions about the number and timing of births.

National RH/FP programs aims to significantly reduce the number of unplanned pregnancies through access to contraceptive information, technology, commodities and services.

Unmet need for contraception is about 12.6% of currently married women aged 15-49 years, out of which 4.5% for spacing and 8.1 for limiting.

Percent of births to adolescent mothers (< 20 years) that are unplanned is: 6.8% of births in the 5-year preceding the EDHS 2014.

Need for FP satisfied with modern methods: 56.9%;

Skilled Birth Attendant at birth: 91.5%.

Commitment 43: Take deliberate and concerted actions to provide affordable and accurate rapid diagnostic tests (RDT) for HIV, other sexually transmitted infections and reproductive tract infections, as well as information, education, and treatment to all women and men.

A study published in 2014 by the International Health Forum² about the Egyptian situation concerning STIs and HIV/AIDS highlighted the policies and strategies adopted by the MOHP in that respect.

It stated that the MOHP is taking tremendous efforts to control any possible spread of STIs through adopting a control strategy that include:

- 1) Establishment and strengthening of the National HIV/STIs Surveillance plan and system;
- 2) Production and validation of National Guidelines for STIs case management;
- 3) Production of STIs training manual for health care professionals including contents about communication, counseling, advocacy, and management of with STIs/HIV;
- 4) Establishment of Pilot STIs Clinics: – Cairo Skin and STIs Hospital (El Hod El Marsoud) and Alexandria Skin and STIs Clinic (Mina El Basal);
- 5) Training and recruitment of qualified health care providers;
- 6) Several trials for the introduction of syndromic approach for the management of STIs.

Similarly, concerning HIV/AIDS, Egypt National Strategic Plan (NSP) specified priority programmatic areas as follows:

- 1) Increase coverage of prevention interventions for most at risk populations; i.e. increase coverage of prevention interventions for vulnerable populations;
- 2) Increase coverage of prevention interventions for general populations, increase coverage of comprehensive and integrated treatment, care and support for PLHIV.
- 3) Ensure availability and use of strategic information for decision-making;
- 4) Ensure supportive and enabling environment for the national response to HIV and AIDS;
- 5) Ensure effective leadership, coordination and management by government, civil society and other actors at national and governorate levels.

The implementation of such strategy requires strengthening Health System capacity for effective HIV response, enhancing coordination and advocacy effort and, ensuring continuum of prevention, testing,

² Amin, T. T. (2014). Sexually Transmitted Infections: The Egyptian Situation with Special Emphasis on HIV/AIDS, International Health Forum, Vol. 1, No. 3.

early detection and timely enrollment into treatment with the objective of saving lives. Moreover, it should promote, protect and respect equity, assure gender equality and greater involvement of people living with HIV. Implementation should in close cooperation between the government and other relevant stakeholders (Civil Society Organizations; Private sector; International donors etc.) to reduce access barriers.

Diagnostic tests (RDT) for HIV, other sexually transmitted infections and reproductive tract infections are available, mainly in the private sector. Identified cases, which are very low, are provided with relevant treatment.

Commitment 44: Put in place measures that facilitate men and boys to access reproductive and sexual health information, counseling and services, promote male participation and equal sharing of responsibilities such as care work, as well as shared decision-making between men and women on reproductive and sexual health.

National program for RH/FP aims to facilitate and encourage male's access to RH information, counseling and services.

As previously stated a total of 13 health centers are already established (MOHP) in a number of governorates to provide information and treatment to young people and adolescents and the plan is to fully cover the country through 2017/2018.

Skilled Birth Attendant at birth: 91.5%.

Commitment 45: Ensure that all victims/survivors of gender-based violence have immediate and cost-free access to appropriate psychosocial and health services, including 24-hour hotlines; treatment of injuries; post-rape care, emergency contraception, and post-exposure prophylaxis for HIV prevention.

A number of health centers provide medical and psychological support to victims/survivors of gender-based violence. Some NGO clinics are also participating in this activity.

Public awareness campaigns on violence against women are being carried out by the National Council for Women (NCW).

GBV from a current or former intimate partner in 2015:

- Physical violence: 11.8%
- Sexual violence: 6.5%
- Psychological violence: 22.3%.

GBV from a non-intimate partner in 2015 is about 1.1% for women aged (18 – 64).

A recent study carried out in collaboration between NCW, CAPMAS and UNFPA about the Egypt Economic Cost of GBV survey (ECGBVS, 2015) indicated that around 7.9 million women suffered from all forms of violence yearly whether perpetrated by spouse/ fiancé or individuals in her close circle or from strangers in public places and about 5.6 million women are exposed to violence by perpetrated husband/fiancé yearly. The study also points out to some important indicators:

- 1) Around 2.3 million women suffer emotionally due to their exposure to violence with all its forms annually;
- 2) A total of 139.6 thousand women were exposed to violence in the work place during the previous year, representing 3.7% of all working women;
- 3) Around 1.7 million women suffer from various forms of sexual harassment in public transport;
- 4) A total of 16 thousand girls aged 18 years or more were exposed to sexual harassment in education institutions in one year;
- 5) Around one million married women leave their marital homes yearly due to domestic violence perpetrated by spouse;

- 6) Children of 113 thousand families are absent from school yearly due to domestic violence perpetrated by husband leading to the loss of about 900 thousand days of school yearly;
- 7) Children of about 300 thousand families are suffer from nightmare and fears due to violence perpetrated by the husband during the previous year;
- 8) The state loses around 500 thousand working days for married women survivors of violence and 200 thousand working days of husband as a result of violence in the household.

The study also indicated that the total cost emerging from violence (including both direct and indirect costs) for women and their families alone amount to around LE 2.2 billion in the past year in only one severe incident. However, the total cost would increase to LE 6.2 billion if the injury rate is maintained for all incidents perpetrated by husband/ fiancé in the last year.

The government policy to combat such high-level GBV and its costly results at all levels led to the endorsement of the National Strategy for combating violence against women (2015- 2020). It is based on four pillars, namely; prevention, protection, intervention and legal procedures.

Commitment 46: Integrate responses to gender-based violence in all reproductive and sexual health programs and services including in humanitarian situations, as part of a broader, multi-sectoral, coordinated response, which include maternal and child health, family planning, and HIV-related services. Government is undertaking relevant measures and laws to ensure that women and victims of all type of violence receive protection, health and psychological care, and transfer to the competent authorities, including health, justice and police. This is elaborated in the National Strategy for the Prevention of Female Genital Mutilation.

The National Strategy for Combating violence against women aims to coordinate and integrate all efforts carried out by various stakeholders (12 partners) to harmonize response to GBV and enhance its impact. However, it is important to have solid mechanisms to timely monitor progress in its implementation according to the specified indicators.

Third Pillar: Place and Mobility

Commitment 47: Facilitate free movement of people and goods within countries to foster rural-urban inter-linkages, and regional integration.

The constitution guarantee free movement of goods and services within the country and there is no administrative restrictions on mobility.

Total length of paved roads by mid-2016 is about 174.6 thousand Km, and the length of unpaved roads is about 5 thousand Km.

Number of passengers in 2015/2016 by type of transportation is as follows:

- Road passengers: 1.9 billion;
- Railway passengers; 236.4 million;
- Ship Passengers: 1.1 million;
- Air passengers: 27.2 million;
- River passengers: 61.8 million.

Number of mobile phones: 99.9 million representing 111.5% of the population;

Number of Fixed Broadband Subscription (ADSL) in April 2017: 4.6 million;

Number of mobile internet users in April 2017: 33.2 million.

Commitment 48: Adopt selective migration policies, maximize the benefits and minimize the costs and repercussions of international migration, and manage irregular migration.

The estimated total number of Egyptian abroad, according to the MOFA is: 9471thousands out of which two thirds are within the Arab region.

Government policies are to facilitate their movement and strengthen their relationship to the country in accordance with the migration law issued in 1983 and are currently being under assessment for its amendment.

The government also adopted a series of policies and legislation that deal with the current situation. This includes:

- Ratification of the Convention on the Protection of Migrant Workers and their Families 1990. It was ratified in 1991 and entered into force in 1993;
- Issued law for irregular immigration and carrying out awareness campaigns on illegal immigration risks;
- Implement an optional insurance policy to provide a social solidarity scheme that allows the accumulation of subscription and benefit periods;
- Propose mechanisms that allow the country to benefit from the expertise and knowledge of Egyptian scientists abroad in the fields of development and production (Conference of scientists abroad);
- Proposing and studying ways to enable Egyptians abroad to participate in development activities within the country (certificates of my country in dollar).

The state Ministry for Migration and welfare of Egyptian abroad was established in September 2015. It is considered the competent authority to manage and care for the affairs of Egyptians residing outside the geographical borders of the Egypt in the framework of coordination and cooperation with ministries and agencies and bodies that are interested in the same subject under the auspices of the Council of Ministers, and is the main body to communicate with Egyptians abroad. The Ministry is developing the relevant protocols to implement its mandate.

Currently no migration policy is being formulated by the government or proposed by research institutes and it is expected that by 2030 a comprehensive policy would be in place.

Commitment 49: Formulate and adopt evidence-based migration policies, particularly those aimed at vulnerable groups, especially women and youth; maximize the benefits and minimize the costs and repercussions of international migration, and to protect the rights of migrants and citizens.

Developing and adopting evidence-based migration policy that cover all groups, especially women and youth, would be considered based on cost-benefit assessment and protecting the rights of migrants and citizens.

Commitment 50: Integrate migration issues in national development plans and strategies.

Egyptian abroad represents an important financial source of foreign currency for development plans. It is currently the most important source of cash inflow.

According to a statement by the Central Bank of Egypt, remittances of Egyptians working abroad since the flotation of the pound currency in November 2016 until the end of December 2017 reached US\$29 billion, up by US\$4.7 billion, representing a 19.2 percent, compared to the same period last year.

Commitment 51: Address, as a priority, the living conditions of people in urban and peri-urban areas through systematic city planning and management while ensuring equal access to quality and affordable basic health and social services for all people.

Government is adopting city planning that ensures access to health and social services to all through strengthening national and regional development planning. The 2017 census indicated that:

- Percent of people with access to adequate housing; including electricity; 99.7%;
- Percent of people with access to adequate housing; including safe drinking water: 96.7%;
- Percent of population with access to sewage system is: 66.2%.

Commitment 52: Ensure equity in access to services by making them sufficiently and geographically available in both urban and rural areas.

Government is adopting a policy of equitable distribution of resources of resources with emphasis on poorer areas and vulnerable groups.

According to Egypt's vision 2030, one of the main principles and directions for achieving sustainable habitat development axis is to target and prioritize the poorer sections of the population as well as marginalized and disadvantaged rural areas when developing policies, plans and programs for habitat development and housing.

The vision also stated that one of the priorities and the extent to which the objectives of sustainable development habitat policy would be achieved through linking the development of such policy, at the national level, to the economic and social development plans. This in turn should be taken into account when formulating the comprehensive national habitat development plan, prepared by the General Authority for Habitat Planning, to introduce structural changes in the distribution of economic activities and population, giving priority to the role of new cities in the development of areas of concern to national security such as Sinai, and marginalized areas such as Halaib, Shalatin, Nubia, as well as poorer areas in Upper Egypt, rural development in general, and reducing rural poverty by empowering the poor to build their capacity and exploit the opportunities available to them.

Commitment 53: Develop innovative plans for urbanization and creation of sustainable cities, and incorporate these plans into the national planning frameworks.

The government is establishing a number of sustainable cities in various areas of Egypt (10 new cities). At the top of the list the new administrative capital city which will operational in 2019. Other cities are adjutant to old cities.

Commitment 54: Promote the social use of space by attending to the land, housing and service needs of the poor, and improve the functioning of land markets.

The social housing project plans to build 1 million homes for poorer people at a cost of about LE 350 billion (about US \$20 billion) over the next five years. However, about 200 thousand new homes added annually would only meet over half the annual demand for cheap housing.

Commitment 55: Plan ahead and invest in urban and rural areas by anticipating future growth and population needs, as well as conducting coordinated regional approaches that include peri-urban areas.

Egypt's vision in that respect is that "By 2030, Egypt will be able to absorb its population and its resources under the management of a more balanced spatial development and meet the aspirations of the Egyptians and improve their quality of life". Among the strategic goals for this area:

Increasing the usable area within global Egypt's land in proportion to the availability of resources and the size and distribution of the population. This goal addresses two dimensions: first the scope of the spatial development that can accommodate the expected population increase in the coming years; and the second is to maximize development revenues for the new areas to ensure that they can attract and accommodate

population growth; Improving the quality of the inhabited/ usable environment. This aim at raising the quality of current and future usable space as well as addressing the increasing and pressing issues of the usable area.

Egypt is adopting a long-term policy to establish new Cities (settlements) to absorb the expected population growth and to reduce high-level population density in some areas and accordingly rectify the problem of the population distribution which is considered one of the dimensions of the population problem of Egypt. A total of 32 additional new cities were established in the past 20 years (out of which 8 are being recently added) and continuous plans are adopted for their extension to absorb the target population amounting to about 27 million people during the specified period compared to only about 7 million people currently.

Industrial investments in new cities (about LE 75 billion) will lead to having about 81 thousand working opportunities in such areas and provide incentives to people, especially youth, to settle down in these new cities.

A total of LE 75 billion are allocated in the budget 2018/2019 to complete the implementation of various projects in the new cities covering infra-structure, services (drinking water, electricity, sewage and transportation) and housing units. The total number of housing units already established in new cities reached 1, 080 million units.

Commitment 56: Develop and strengthen plans, programs and systems for addressing the needs of people living in fragile ecosystems.

Egypt is planning to eliminate all unsafe slum areas by the end of 2019 through moving all those living in unsafe slums to new settlement areas and provide them with flats in newly establishes districts. This ambitious project expected to cost about LE 14 billion (US\$1.58 billion).

Commitment 57: Promote the sustainable use of space, by promoting urban growth within a systematic concern for environmental values, minimizing the size and impact of the urban blot, favoring energy-saving and well-integrated mass transportation, as well as density and compact cities.

National Urban Policy (NUP) is tackling urban development from a multi-dimensional perspective. NUP was developed within a participatory process and all urban stakeholders have been involved in the design and implementation of the coordination framework. These actors include various ministerial departments, local authorities, private sector, civil society organizations and research institutions. It is a framework that provides an overarching coordination/integration to address urban challenges, maximize the benefits of urbanization, while mitigating potential adverse externalities. Its vision is stated as “*Fostering coordinated urbanization for sustainable economic opportunities, social welfare and better urban environment.*”

The overall intent of the policy is to generate vibrant urban environments and sustainable economic growth aligned with the implementation other sustainable development goals. Egypt’s future urban agenda will encourage multi-institutional cooperation, gender equality and women’s empowerment, development of spatially balanced development, population growth of uninhabited new settlements and new developmental projects, spreading urban areas in frontier regions, protecting valuable agricultural land, provision of ample regional and local social services and transport facilities, and friendly well-managed cities.

It is foreseen as a mean to align the road map for urban development in Egypt with both local and international commitments. It merges local issues with global goals (achieving the SDGs by 2030, and the African Union Agenda by 2063).

The City Prosperity Index (CPI) which is a composite index made of six dimensions: infrastructure, productivity, quality of life, equity, environmental sustainability and governance and can be customized

to local conditions, would be calculated for a selected sample of cities (Egypt National Review Report for Input to the 2016 HLPF).

Commitment 58: The development of both rural and urban areas in order to strengthen their symbiotic relations in terms of markets and remittances.

MOP indicated that according to the investment strategy, the principle of attracting investments to achieve social justice and equality in marginalized areas was emphasized through:

- Creating new investment opportunities in the governorates most in need to achieve balanced development that will help reduce unemployment and poverty;
- Better distribution of income in various regions of the country through the integration of all groups of society and attracting investment in those regions.

Commitment 59: Reinforce and establish bilateral, regional and global partnerships on migration to progressively reduce barriers on movement while upholding the fundamental human rights of all migrants, and make migration an instrument of mutual development for the benefit of migrants and countries.

Egypt is undertaking bilateral and international partnership on migration to reduce legal barriers to migration and transactional barriers to remittances.

Percent of migrants with proper legal status: 4% according to Egypt international Migration survey, 2014 (Note: sample of 83.000 household)

Commitment 60: Promote policies that foster the integration and reintegration of migrants and returning migrants.

The government is prepared to absorb and integrate returning migrants from various countries, especially from the Arab region in view of the instability situation prevailing in some of these countries.

Commitment 61: Work towards the regional and international portability of acquired benefits and rights from migration.

The State Ministry for Migration and the Ministry of Labor Force are supporting Egyptians' abroad to ensure the benefits and rights of migrants.

Commitment 62: Ensure that migrants have access to secure and low-cost remittance transfer options.

The country is supporting international arrangement to facilitate and ensure low cost remittance transfer. This is also part of bilateral negotiations with recipient countries of Egyptian labor force.

Commitment 63: Forecast the consequences of climate change-related migration in vulnerable areas, especially cities and coastal areas.

Meteorological Authority and research institutions are assessing the impact of climate-change that might lead to migration. Egypt would not be affected by such trends in the short run.

A Prime Minister Decree established the National Council for Climate Change in July 2015 to headed by the Minister for Environment and includes as members representatives from Ministries of: Environment; Agriculture and Land Reclamation; Commerce and Industry; Electricity and renewable Energy; Investment and International Cooperation; Transportation; Petroleum and Mineral Resources; Scientific Research; Civil Aviation. Moreover, members representing the Federation of Egyptian Industries; General Union of NGOs; IDSC; CAPMAS and national experts.

The main goal of the Council is to develop and update a comprehensive national strategy for climate change, develop national plans concerning climate change within the context of sustainable strategy as well as endorsing the specific plans concerning the country's participation in international efforts about climate change.

Commitment 64: Fund regular national and regional surveys to ensure current migration data for studying migration and development in the region.

The government partially supported a special survey to collect data on migration. The large scale migration survey was carried in 2014.

The migration data sets collected information from a sample of 83.000 household including migrants and returning migrants.

Commitment 65: Recognize the rights of refugees and guarantee their physical and social protection in conformity with international conventions and work towards facilitating their repatriation to their countries of origin.

The country guarantees the rights and protection of refugees and their repatriation, in accordance with international arrangements.

The Country's policy is to integrate those refugees within the society and those from some specific Arab countries are given the same privileges as Egyptians.

Commitment 66: Remove barriers to sustainability inter alia through increased use of technology, including innovation, sound governance, systematic awareness creation and sensitization of the public and sustainable consumption behavior that are beneficial to the environment.

The country is supporting programs to expand the utilization of renewable clean energy, using energy-saving transportation facilities (bicycles) which will have positive impact on the environment.

Percent households using solar energy: 0.0306% (census 2017).

Fourth Pillar: Governance

Commitment 67: Further integrate population dynamics into development planning at the national and sub-national levels in order to comprehensively respond to population and development issues, including population dynamics and its implications for human rights, dignity, quality of life, poverty eradication and sustainable development.

Egypt's national statistical system regularly provides detailed data about various population variables that are fully utilized in development planning at various levels. The system has a long history of over 100 years including undertaking 14 regular population censuses, economic censuses, and vital registration system with high-level coverage (100% for births and 80% for deaths). Moreover, various official statistics are timely released according to a well-defined time table.

The 2017 population, housing and establishment e-census is the most recent comprehensive data set that provide detailed information about population size and characteristics, housing conditions and economic activities (establishment) at the national level as well as for governorates and is fully disaggregated to cover various administrative levels within governorates.

The returns of the 2017 e-census were released after only 2 months of finalizing data collection in the presence of the President who urged all government organizations, research institutions and experts, in all domains, to carefully examine and analyze the new set of data that should be the base for updating all development plans.

The MOP established several working groups including experts in specified domains, for various topics, to assess and analyze the newly available set of data in conjunction with other relevant sets of data to inject their findings in the ongoing process to update Egypt vision 2030. The analysis process would benefit from available analytical infrastructure (modeling tools).

The census database and the computerization of the vital registration system (birth/ death) allow full disaggregation of the data whether by administrative level or by various background variables.

The first SDGs monitoring report was released by CAPMAS in May 2018. It provided indicators at the national level as well as disaggregation by background variables for some areas.

Commitment 68: Create and strengthen relevant institutions with the necessary capacity to ensure effective integration of population dynamics into development planning with a rights-based approach as well as efficiency and accountability, including ensuring effective coordination of all relevant social and planning bodies.

As previously indicated, the capacity of institutions to analyze and integrate population data in development planning is available in the country and is being utilized to update Egypt's strategic vision 2030.

CAPMAS released the first SDFs monitoring report in May 2018. It provides estimates for about 43% of the defined monitoring indicators, at the national level and with disaggregation for some of them.

Commitment 69: Implement policies where needed that ensure the inclusive and effective participation of the whole society inter alia women, young persons, older persons, persons with disabilities, indigenous people and other marginalized groups in all aspects and levels of governance.

Good governance principle within Egypt's strategic vision includes a number of basic principles for its application and its relation to sustainable development, including:

- Good governance is one of the determining factors in specifying growth prospects levels of a given country, while sustainable development would be providing a number of criteria, including: reforming models for traditional development, and ensuring a better balance between short-term and long-term development plans;
- It should take advantage of the triangle partnership, on equal basis, between government, private sector and civil society, although the last two should be given a significant role in the decision-making process to achieve sustainable development. These paradigm shifts require a change in values and directives and also requires a consistent accumulation of sustainable development principles that are quite different from those related to traditional development principles. Both education and human resource development can achieve this, in addition to the integration of the relevant science and technology basis that are consistent with the overall management needs of economic, social and environmental development. At the same time, imposing the rule of law on the unsustainable direction, as well as adopting sanctions and fines that encourage people to move towards the principles of sustainable development. Moral persuasion can also be used by embracing the teachings of religion, spiritual beliefs, customs and cultures to spread more facets of a more sustainable, non-material life.

In addition, the establishment of entities that are interested in good governance should be encourage to stimulate social groups to support sustainable development, through creating networks to attract wider

groups and joint community efforts to replicate the impact of the "I am too" demonstration. This will attract a wider audience to the sustainable development movement and to demand the adoption of good governance principles. The "disgraceful effect" can also be effective for those who fail to meet sustainable development standards. For example, the "dirtiest city award" - which is offered annually in Indonesia to city leaders who do not meet minimum standards of cleanliness - has proven to be effective since all city heads try to avoid such situation.

Percentage of women in parliament in 2015: 14% of national parliament and 5% local governments.

Commitment 70: Institute monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to effectively assess performance in order to ensure accountability.

The Strategy for Sustainable Development: Egypt Vision 2030 includes a mechanism for monitoring and evaluating the implementation of the Strategy and the achievement of its objectives. This includes:

- 1) Electronic linkage between different ministries;
- 2) Preparation of an integrated database and electronic tracking system;
- 3) Ensure consistency of operational plans with the vision and strategy;
- 4) Upgrading competencies, building and developing the capabilities of the staff of the departments of planning and follow-up in ministries and government bodies and provide them with technical support;
- 5) Review of the overall policy and the analysis of indicators performance;
- 6) Preparation of technical reports on the follow-up of process.

Fifth Pillar: Data and Statistics

Commitment 71: Strengthen national statistical capacity to undertake evidence-based analysis and policy studies, as well as the ability to conduct sound monitoring and evaluation programs, while increasing investment in the collection, analysis and utilization of population-based data, including population and housing censuses, surveys, civil registration, administrative records, and other studies, together with social, economic and environmental data.

Several national research institutions and government bodies has the relevant capacity to undertake evidence-based and policy studies including the analysis of population data.

Several university programs and high-level training institutions are in place and professionals are trained in population analysis or statistics.

The Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics (CAPMAS) is the government statistical organization responsible for publishing and disseminating all official statistics. It is also undertaking several regular surveys and is currently allowing accessibility to public use files of their returns. Moreover, CAPMAS initiate and/or participate in several studies and in the analysis of data collected in various surveys.

The Directory of publications provide a long list of statistical areas regularly covered by CAPMAS and the timing of their release,

The National Population Council (NPC) is undertaking several studies to develop population plans at the governorate level as well as monitor demographic indicators and progress in the implementation of local plans. These include:

- Issuing the first and second volumes on demographic indicators for all governorates;
- Measuring the rates of change of population indicators associated with the disciplined national strategy for population at the level of all governorates;
- Issuing the first and second volume of population indicators at the level of administrative units in all governorates;

- Issuing a report on the ranking of demographic indicators for governorates;
- Identifying priority administrative units for intervention within the country;
- Issuing the annual and quarterly statistical reports for various topics including: protection rates, disposed contraception, number of employed women, vital statistics of births and deaths and natural increase, estimate target population of married women;
- Drafting proposed demographic plans for 27 governorates in the light of the disciplined strategy (2017-2021);
- Undertake population studies and research on priority issues and problems;
- Implement and prepare a policy brief on the following topics: regional variation in the type of work; population forecasts for Egypt 2030; criminalization of child marriage: a demographic, health, social and jurisprudential vision.

Proportion of sustainable development indicators produced at the national level with partial disaggregation, in accordance with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics. About 43% of the SDGs indicators are available.

Egypt is one of the countries that have national statistical legislation that complies with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics.

Commitment 72: Establish a functional system of civil registration at national, sub-national and community level using existing traditional and local institutions to ensure the availability of relevant data for planning at all levels.

Egypt has a functional system of civil registration since 1912 and it covers the entire country since the early sixties of the last century. Recently the system was fully computerized and the data base is fully accessible and used to update the “population clock”.

Civil registration data (Birth and Death registration) is timely available to the MOH, CAPMAS and the MOP. Periodic data publication by CAPMAS is reporting the data.

Egypt is one of the countries that (a) have conducted 14 population and housing census and the most recent one was in 2017; and (b) have achieved 100 per cent birth registration and 80 per cent death registration.

Percentage of children under 5 years of age whose births have been registered with a civil authority: 98% (2015).

Commitment 73: Generate, collect, and use quality and timely data from censuses, surveys, vital and civil registration systems, administrative records, studies and research, disaggregated by sex and population groups, for the purposes of planning, monitoring and evaluation.

Systems to collect and analyze social data for planning purposes are in place and the data, according to official statistics, are timely published and is available for the purpose of planning, monitoring and evaluation.

Percentage of sustainable development indicators produced at the national level with partial disaggregation, in accordance with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics: 43%.

Commitment 74: Undertake qualitative and quantitative research and policy studies.

Required funding for needed quantitative and qualitative research and policy studies, is available from public funds in collaboration with international organizations.

Commitment 75: Emphasize the importance of collecting data on older persons and persons with disabilities for planning and research, to take into account their specific needs in implementing policies and programs.

Adequate data on older persons and persons with disabilities for planning and research are available. The 2017 population census collected data on functional disabilities, according to the recommendation of the Washington group, for 10% of the total number of households.

The data are being analyzed by the National Council for disabilities and the Ministry for Social Solidarity to update national strategies and their coverage within the social safety net.

Commitment 76: Conduct regular national censuses according to international standards, in order to generate timely quality data as an essential component of national and regional development frameworks.

Government allocated necessary funding to undertake the 2017 population, housing and establishment e-census (about LE 800 million over the years). It also created institutional mechanism to guarantee the rapid analysis of these data, and the inclusion of this information in the national development process (as previously explained).

Regular census data are available and disseminated in various forms (paper, electronic on CAPMAS site) as well as responding to various requests.

Public use data files are available on sample basis. This part of CAPMAS data dissemination strategy in accordance with the principles of Official Statistics.

The most recent census conducted by Egypt is the 2017 population census which is part of the census rounds 2015-2024.

Commitment 77: Undertake periodic assessment of the national civil registration systems and vital statistics and prepare a plan for needed improvements where necessary.

Government is fully committed to improve the availability and quality of vital statistics. This is clearly noticed in the recent development of computerizing the system which will enable further advancement of quality and analysis of data.

Birth registration is currently covering 98% of births.

Percentage of children under 5 years of age whose births have been registered with a civil authority is: 98%.

Sixth Pillar: Internal Cooperation and Partnerships

Commitment 78: Promote strengthened partnerships with local, national and international civil society organizations in the design, implementation, coordination, monitoring and evaluation of population and development programs and policies, and encourage the promotion of activities directed at increasing the participation and building the capacity of these organizations.

As part of the economic reform policy, Egypt is supporting Public-Private-Partnership (PPPs) to increase private sector involvement in public services, to avoid exclusive dependent on the government. To this end, a PPP unit was established at the Ministry of Finance (MOF) and satellite units were established in line ministries.

A total of 32 projects were implemented during the five-year plan 2009-2014 with financial cost of about US\$ 15.2 billion. These projects were expanded in various sectors including the social sector (12 projects costing around US\$ 6 billion), utilities sector (6 projects costing US\$ 2.2 billion) and transportation sector (7 projects costing about US\$ 7 billion). Currently, several projects are in the pipeline for implementation.

Wide cooperation and collaboration between the Government and CSO in the area of population and development is noticeable in two recent incidences:

- In the preparation and conducting of the 2017 population census where the head of the National Federation of NGOs participated as a member in the high-level steering committee for the census. The federation also provided potential candidates for data collection;
- Recently an agreement was signed with the Ministry of Social Solidarity for 10 active NGOs to collaborate in providing information and services about FP within the context of the recent campaign.

Total number of NGOs Exceeds 45 thousand but the active one in the area of population and development is limited.

Egypt will provide a progress report to the UNSD and the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF).

Commitment 79: Recognize the role of civil society organizations including NGOs and youth in the formulation, monitoring and evaluation of population and development policies and programs including for achieving the goals of sexual and reproductive health.

As presented before cooperation and collaboration between CSOs and the government in the area of population and development is shown in specific areas not including the areas of monitoring and evaluation.

Commitment 80: Promote strengthened partnerships with the private sector in the design, implementation, coordination, monitoring and evaluation of population and development programs and policies, in particular in the areas of service delivery and commodity production, security and distribution.

Representative of the private sector were included in the consultations about the 2017 population, housing and establishment e-census. This covered various stages including question selection, publicity campaign.

Representatives of the private sector were also members of the high-level steering committee for the census which held 9 meetings during the two years preceding fielding of the census.

Commitment 81: Promote international cooperation efforts, including the development of joint programs and initiatives, the strengthening of policy dialogue and coordination, the transfer of knowledge and technology, and the allocation and mobilization of financial and technical resources, for international cooperation in the area of population and development.

Several government Ministries and organizations are collaborating with several international organizations in various areas of population and development according to their mandate. This covers exchange of experiences and lessons learned as well as data analysis and dissemination.

Total ODA for ongoing projects in support of economic transformation and governance: (2) billion US dollars for 2016.

Commitment 82: Mainstream the Addis Ababa Declaration on Population and Development in Africa beyond 2014 into the work plans of the bodies of the African Union and United Nations Economic Commission for Africa.

AU and UN Economic Commission for Africa is taking such commitment into consideration throughout their activities.

Commitment 83: Also mainstream the inclusion of the Addis Ababa Declaration in the Post-2015 development agenda.

AU and UN Economic Commission for Africa are taking actions to respond to this commitment.

Commitment 84: Monitor regularly the achievement of the goals of the Declaration in the context of reporting on the program.

Monitoring framework was developed and approved by the relevant authorities and it being applied for reporting.

Commitment 85: Conduct sound monitoring and evaluation of this Declaration based on reliable population data, projections, and consideration of future scenarios.

An ongoing process.

Commitment 86: Enhance coordination and cooperation among government departments dealing with population and development matters for harmonizing population and policy within sectoral policies on education, youth and health and the need to build capacity and provide funding to national and regional population programs.

National coordination mechanism for department units dealing with population policy is the responsibility of the National Population Council which has representatives from all related Ministries and bodies. Those are supposed to be the focal points responsible for population and development issues within their mandate.

Commitment 87: Periodically review the outcomes of the African regional conferences on ICPD beyond 2014.

Egypt's is following the outcomes of both the African regional and the Arab regional conferences on ICPD post 2014.

Commitment 88: In doing so, we take into account the concerns of all strata of the continent's stakeholders – *including* the public sector; private sector; civil society including NGOs, faith-based organizations, youth, women, trade unions and academia; Members of Parliament; and regional and sub-regional development institutions.

All stakeholders' points of view are fully taken into consideration in advancing the implementation of the outcomes of the ICPD beyond 2014.

Macro Assessment:

The macro-evaluation would provide evidence about the impact of the overall set of commitments on the population and development situation and the overall performance of the AADPD. This would allow better understanding of available inputs; various target groups, human rights perspectives and how the declaration is affecting sustainable development.

This would also provide clear information to assess Egypt's efforts to harness the demographic dividend and to measure its progress in that direction, at the national and governorate level.

Main Resources/Inputs

Overall assessment of progress toward achieving various commitments point out to the country's serious efforts to provide needed resources and inputs for their successful implementation. Such efforts were actually based on two important documents that provide guidance about the future we want for all in economic, social and environmental aspects of life. These are:

- 1) The 2014 Constitution that included several articles that supportive to the overall objectives of the AADPD and the highlighted commitments. It focusses on the equal rights for all individuals, without any discrimination of any form, and emphasize the rights for health, education and safe environment;
- 2) Egypt's Strategic vision 2030 whose goal is to achieve a competitive, balanced and diversified economy, based on innovation and knowledge, grounded on justice, social integrity and participation, investing the ingenuity of place and humans to achieve sustainable development and to improve Egyptians' life quality". Its main four pillars are: a) economic development; b) knowledge and innovation; c) social justice; and, the environment.

Both documents provided the umbrella that allowed the formulation and adoption of a set of policies, strategies and legislations needed to strengthen the opportunity to create a supportive environment for furthering the commitments within various specified pillars. These include:

- The strategy for poverty eradication within the context of social justice which was successful in reducing its level irrespective of some negative impact due to instability and the economic reform program;
- Amending Election Laws to enhance women's representation in the parliament and ensuring that for local elections 25% of the seats will be separately devoted for women and young people;
- The National Strategy for Combating Violence against Women (NSVAW) for the period 2015/2020;
- The enactment of legislation guaranteeing women's right to separate financial assets and their right to own property and land (the law of ownership and tenure of land);
- Allowing Egyptian women to give her nationality to her sons;
- The ratification of the Law for Persons with Disability (Law 10 for 2018);
- Drafting a law for criminalizing child marriage;
- Issuing Law No. 50 of 2014 amending Law No. 58 of 1937, promulgating the Penal Code to intensify penalties for sexual harassment;
- The National Strategy for the Empowerment of Egyptian Women 2030
- Law 10 (2018) about the rights of persons with disability;
- Law for a comprehensive health insurance system;

- National Strategy for Reproductive Health 2015-2030, to ensure the right of all citizens to obtain quality reproductive health information and services;
- The disciplined population strategy (2017 -2021);
- National Strategy to reduce early marriage, 2014;

- Strategy to prevent female circumcision that target girls in childhood and adolescence;
- National Urban Policy (NUP) to tackle urban development from a multi-dimensional perspective.

These policies and legislations were instrumental in advancing the implementation of AADPD framework and its commitments. Moreover, both human and financial resources required for their implementation were also specified and actions were being taken for securing them.

The National Population Strategy (2015 – 2030) included a detailed executive work plan for its five-year period (2015 – 2020). It specified the responsible stakeholder for each activity and the required funds needed and whether they are available or not. The budget required was estimated based on two scenarios, the first is covering all planned activities and the second is to cover priority activities only. The budget for the two scenarios is shown in the following table according to the main pillars of the plan.

Estimated Cost for the main pillars of the 5-year plan (for the two scenario)

Pillars	Estimated budget for the pillar 1 st Scenario (LE million)	Estimated budget for the pillar 2 nd Scenario (LE million)
Family planning & RH	561.7	446.1
Youth& Adolescent Health	3,116.2	3,081.2
Education	15,581.0	3,614.3
Information & community communication	29.8	67.5
Women Empowerment	5,716.8	8.7
Implementation Mechanisms	49.2	16.5
Total	25,054.7	7,234.3

The estimated total budget for the first five-year plan of the strategy according to the first scenario amount to LE 25.055 billion out of which a total of LE 11.505 billion is available (about 45.9% of the required budget), while the data indicate that there is no financial gap when we consider the second scenario since the available funds exceeds the required.

Moreover, the government is working toward securing the required funds for the policies and programs that will also advance the overall achievements of the AADPD. This includes:

- 1) Egypt Central Bank (CEB) is making available through the banking system a total of LE 200 billion to support ultra-small, small and medium projects, especially for youth and women. Loans for such projects are given at a low interest rate between 5 -7%.
- 2) Egypt Central Bank is committed to make available a total of LE 500 million to encourage project to establish nurseries for children (0 -4) to enhance women’s participation in the labor force.
- 3) A total of LE 75 billion was allocated in the annual budget 2017-2018 for continuing plans to establish new cities to contribute in the efforts to change the population distribution.

Primary Target Populations

The implementation of the commitments highlighted in AADPD framework would has its impact on the whole population who will harness the achieved results at various levels. However, it is clear that specific target populations and vulnerable groups will be the focus of the adoption of the AADPD in each country. The prime target can be specified as follows:

- 1) Women representing about 48.5% of the total populations. This is clear from the attention given to various policies aiming to enhance their participation in various aspects of life in the country. The endorsement of the National Strategy for Women Empowerment (2030) and paving the way for its implementation as well as increasing women representation in the Parliament and the Government as well as in senior posts and allocating 25% of the seats of local elections for women, are clear evidence of such direction. Moreover, other strategies to combat violence

against women, changing the Penal code to condemn any act of sexual harassment and penalizing all acts to disallow women of having their inheritance and owning properties is directed toward securing equality for women and ensuring their fair treatment without any discrimination. Providing women with information and quality services of FP/RH to allow them to take decision based informed choices taking into consideration both individual and the country's situation.

- 2) Youth is another priority target population since those below 30 years of age represent slightly more than 60% according to the 2017 population census. Various efforts are directed toward ensuring their wide participation in diverse aspects of life and specifically their right to work. This can be noticed from:
 - The series of youth conferences held under the auspices of the President and his full participation, which provided a forum for discussion about the government policies and priorities and to listen to youth aspirations;
 - The initiative to make funds available for youth and women to support SME projects that actually led to the establishment of 62 thousand projects with a financial support of about LE 70 billion;
 - Allocating 25% of the seats in local elections for youth which will give the opportunity to become part of the decision-making process and enhance their abilities for wider participation at higher-level;
 - The establishment of the National Academy for training which will provide young people with needed skills and abilities to enhance their opportunities for taking senior positions at various levels.
- 3) Persons with disabilities as one of the priority vulnerable groups that need to be given the chance to enjoy life without any discrimination of any form. To this end, the National Council for persons with disabilities was rehabilitated and a new Law for persons with disabilities was endorsed in February 2018. The Law emphasized their economic, health, and education rights, ensure their integration in the society and their fair treatment and equality at all levels. It also provide them some financial advantages and specified penalties for those who do not adopt the Law.
- 4) Families are also being given due attention, especially those living around the poverty line. This clearly noticeable from the level of subsidy of food products provided to this group as well as other projects that are designed to support families according to certain conditions such as Takafel, Karamah and Mastura.

Overall, irrespective of these priority target populations the beneficiaries of the countries' success in achieving these commitments are extended to whole population who take advantage of new cities, expanded quality infra structure and mega projects being implemented.

Main Goals Pursued & Overlap with Agendas SDGs and Africa 2063

The AADPD commitments reflect Africa consensus on adopting the outcomes of the ICPD global review and its proposed framework of action beyond 2014. The goals pursued are in accordance and overlap with the global agenda for SDGs and the African agenda 2063 and show

Egypt's performance, however, indicates that it is targeting all goals because of its integral nature as well as their close linkages to the two global and regional agendas for sustainable development. Nevertheless, special attention was given to the goals of dignity and equality, health and place & mobility as can be noticed from the actions undertaken within the context of such pillars. Other pillars were also covered. The data & statistics pillar's goals are continuously given due attention to provide timely accurate regular official statistics as well as to respond to the emerging needs for data concerning various topics, especially for monitoring progress toward achieving the SDGs and other national projects. The national

statistical organization (CAPMAS) is adopting the UN Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics adopted by the UN General Assembly on January 2014.

CAPMAS carried out its first ever population, housing and establishment E-Census in 2017 which was the 14th census since 1882. This led to producing its returns within two months after completing data collection activities.

To improve the overall performance of Egypt national statistical system, CAPMAS in collaboration with PARIS21, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UN-ECA), the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UN-ESCWA), and the African Development Bank (AfDB) carried out a comprehensive assessment of the national statistical system in September 2015. The objective of the NSS Assessment is to analyze and describe:

- 1) Legislative and regulatory framework,
- 2) Institutional and organizational set-up,
- 3) Statistical processes; and,
- 4) Programs and methodologies of the statistical system in Egypt.

The findings from this multi-agency assessment will provide evidence to be taken into consideration into the drafting of the country's first National Strategy for the Development of Statistics. The assessment will determine compliance of the statistical system in Egypt at both socio-political and technical aspects of statistical production and use in relation to the United Nations Principles of Official Statistics, the African Charter on Statistics, and the Strategy for the Harmonization of Statistics in Africa. The assessment will seek to determine the relevance of statistics produced within the statistical system both at higher levels of policy formulation as well as at sub-national levels and understanding the planning process in the country.

The assessment report was completed by September 2015 and its findings were presented and discussed with senior officials for implementation.

The main Rights Promoted and Pathways to Affect Sustainable Development

The 2014 Constitution and the Sustainable Development Strategy (SDS), Egypt vision 2030, covered most of the rights highlighted in the AADPD. The above-mentioned set of policies, strategies and legislations concerning the various commitments indicate that almost all rights are being considered.

This also indicates that policies, legislations and programs were the main pathways by which AAPDP affects sustainable development.

Contributions to Harnessing the Demographic Dividend

Egypt started its demographic transition process since the early seventies of the last century when fertility levels started to decline. This was in response to the preceding noticeable decline in mortality levels, especially for infants and under-five age groups.

Such population dynamics variations had its impact on the population age structure during past years and accordingly changed the share of various broad age-groups. Table 16 indicate that serious decline in the percentage of the population below 15 years of age was observed in 2006 and this led to an increase of the share of the labor force age group. This change, although still below the preferred level, represent a golden opportunity for the country to benefit from such demographic changes and if the right economic policies are being adopted to be able to harness the demographic dividend.

The 2017 Population, housing and establishment census provided a recent set of data that allow researcher to examine the potential of Egypt in harnessing the demographic dividend, especially after the findings of EDHS (2014) showing an increase in the level of fertility by about half a child per women compared the

results of EDHS (2008). The census documented the impact of such rise that led to an increase of the population under 15 years of age to about 34.2% at the expense of the population (15-64) to be about 61.9%. These recent data are providing mixed indicators about the ability of Egypt to benefit from the demographic opportunity and its ability to translate it into dividend, at national and sub-national (governorate) levels. This question needs to be carefully assessed, especially with Egypt's commitment and support to the AAPDP framework of actions that should have been contributing to harnessing the demographic dividend.

Based on the 2017 population census and other relevant data, a recent paper³, supported by UNFPA, examined the situation and assessed both pillars of the demographic opportunity, namely the demographic window that can be assessed by the percentage population below age 15 years and the dependency ratio (DR) and the dividend component that will be measured through the Demographic Dividend Index (DDI) estimated on the basis of the framework elaborated by the World Economic Forum (WEF). The threshold level for these indicators are: a) percentage population below age 15 should be less than 30%, b) DR should be less or equal to 66% and the value of the DDI should exceed 50%.

Dependency Ratio at various levels

The changes in the age structure during the inter-censal period 2006-2017 as a result of fertility increase negatively reflect on the well-known established pathways for harnessing the demographic dividend and reduces the opportunity of women to participate in the labor force as well as lower the ability of the country to achieve any savings that can lead to enhance the level of human capital investment in the areas of empowerment, health, education and employment, especially for women and young people.

The demographic dependency ratio for the period 1976 – 2017 (Table 16), indicate that for the period 1976-1986 the estimated ratio was about 77% indicating that Egypt was far away from entering the demographic opportunity. In 2006, however, the dependency ratio dropped to 55 % indicating that Egypt was about to benefit from the demographic window. During the period 2006-2017, the estimated demographic dependency ratios were between 55% - 62 %. A value that falls below the level of (66%) indicating that Egypt can be closely on the verge of the demographic opportunity and that its age structure can be further generating such situation leading to the demographic dividend, if relevant economic policies were adopted. The data also indicate that the child dependency ratios represent the large component of the overall dependency ratios, as can be seen from the Table. In 2006 and 2017 the child dependency ratio represent about 90% of the overall dependency ratio.

As expected, urban/rural differences are noticeable from various indicators. The percentage broad age categories for both areas of Egypt show some differences between them, where the percentage of persons below age 15 years amount to 30.8% in urban and 36.8% for rural areas and the percentages of persons in the labor force amount to 65% and 60% in both urban and rural areas successively, indicating that while there is a potential for Urban areas to harness the demographic opportunity sooner, the demographic situation for rural area is not supportive.

At the Governorate level, the overall age-dependency ratios (Table 17), the entry indicator to identify the chances for harnessing the demographic dividend, shows that governorates can be classified into three categories that point out to the presence and the level of the demographic window/opportunity:

- Low age dependency ratios of less than or equal to 60%, actually prevailing in 8 governorates namely, Cairo, Alexandria, Port-Said, Suez, Qalyubia, Gharbia, Aswan and Luxor;
- Relative low dependency ratios that fluctuate between 60 – 66% which is noticeable in the majority of the governorates (11);

³ Sayed, H. A. (2018). Egypt's Demographic Opportunity, Preliminary Assessment based on 2017 Census, CAPMAS, FEPS and UNFPA, Cairo.

- Relative high dependency ratios of over 66%, observed in 8 governorates, namely: Beni-Suef, Faiyum, Menya, Asyut, Sohag, Matruh, and both North and South Sinai, which is mainly governorates of Upper Egypt.

According to this analysis, although the national data indicate the presence of the opportunity for the demographic dividend, the situation at the governorate level differs as shown by the wide variations in the values of the age dependency ratios for various governorates. In turn, this situation reflects also the different status of various governorates within the transition process.

The rank of the governorates based on the value of the overall dependency ratios, presented in Table 18, shows that all the Urban Governorates, Namely: Cairo, Alexandria, Port-Said and Suez, are highly able to attain the opportunity of benefiting from the demographic dividend. These are directly followed by Luxor and several Lower Egypt Governorates.

The success in translating this opportunity into demographic dividend will mainly depend on the efforts that are being devoted to these governorates to enhance their human capital indicators, including education, health, employment and empowerment of various groups within the community as well as individuals. These are the main component of the demographic dividend index (DDI) to assess the potentials of various governorates in harnessing the demographic dividend.

Table 17: Overall Demographic Dependency & child Ratios by Governorates, 2017

Governorate	Overall Dependency Ratio	Child Dependency Ratio	Rank
Cairo	46.37%	39.29%	1
Alexandria	52.33%	45.05%	3
Port-said	49.78%	40.78%	2
Suez	56.93%	50.51%	4
Damietta	60.75%	54.44%	10
Dakahleya	62.03%	55.04%	13
Sharqia	64.32%	58.42%	18
Qaliyubia	59.81%	54.91%	7
Kafr El sheikh	61.76%	55.41%	12
Gharbia	58.20%	51.31%	6
Monufia	63.35%	56.79%	15
Beheira	63.21%	57.38%	14
Ismailia	63.85%	58.42%	17
Giza	61.48%	56.60%	11
Beni Suef	72.30%	66.14%	25
Faiyum	75.53%	69.93%	26
Minya	69.56%	63.03%	21
Asyut	67.67%	61.58%	20
Sohag	71.18%	64.84%	24
Qena	65.53%	58.87%	19
Aswan	59.98%	53.79%	8
Luxor	57.14%	50.00%	5
Red Sea	63.60%	59.18%	16
New Valley	60.43%	53.23%	9
Matruh	75.91%	72.54%	27
North Sinai	70.51%	66.56%	23
South Sinai	69.61%	66.74%	22
Total Egypt	61.53%	55.29%

Source: the 2017 census

Table (18) presents overall demographic dependency & child ratios for Urban and Rural areas of various governorates (2017). The estimated demographic dependency ratios for urban areas of various governorates shows that it is below 66% in all governorates, with the exception of Faiyum, Matruh and South Sinai. This indicates that such areas are in a favorable position to benefit from the demographic opportunity if the supportive relevant economic policies are in place.

On the contrary, the dependency ratios for rural area of only 10 governorates are below 66% while the ratios for rural areas of the remaining governorates are showing ratios that vary between 67% and 80%. The higher dependency ratios are clearly noticeable in rural areas of most Upper Egypt governorates, where it is around 71% to 75%.

In all cases, however, the child dependency ratios are the main contributor to the overall dependency ratios and its share is larger in rural areas in comparison to urban areas.

In sum, the 2017 census findings indicate that the age structure and the demographic dependency ratios for urban areas of almost all governorates and for rural areas of 10 governorates, are leading to the conclusion that they can benefit from the demographic opportunity although the results might be more substantiated if the economic dependency ratios are adopted.

Table 18: Overall DD & Child Ratios for Urban & Rural Areas of Governorates (2017)

Governorate	Urban Areas		Rural Areas	
	Overall Dependency Ratio %	Child Dependency Ratio %	Overall Dependency Ratio %	Child Dependency Ratio %
Cairo	46.37	39.29	----	----
Alexandria	52.15	44.83	63.09	57.17
Port-said	49.78	40.78	-----	-----
Suez	56.93	50.51	-----	-----
Damietta	57.28	50.38	64.17	59.03
Dakahleya	56.21	48.90	63.71	57.59
Sharqia	58.78	53.02	60.87	54.34
Qaliyubia	54.29	49.70	64.93	58.39
Kafr El sheikh	55.84	48.83	64.62	58.99
Gharbia	51.76	44.00	68.04	63.23
Monufia	57.56	50.96	73.42	69.18
Beheira	57.14	50.44	74.77	68.71
Ismailia	58.90	52.75	78.56	73.05
Giza	54.67	49.44	72.02	65.56
Beni Suef	64.41	57.93	70.95	65.00
Faiyum	66.06	60.21	72.91	66.60
Minya	59.18	52.38	67.11	60.52
Asyut	58.92	52.47	60.66	54.38
Sohag	65.03	58.60	58.33	51.16
Qena	59.04	52.10	68.20	60.15
Aswan	59.01	52.96	63.11	55.47
Luxor	55.41	48.32	80.32	76.79
Red Sea	63.44	59.15	79.52	74.80
New Valley	57.40	50.69	72.36	69.32
Matruh	73.39	70.11	67.69	61.68
North Sinai	65.59	62.08	65.59	62.08
South Sinai	67.23	64.50	67.23	64.50

Source: the 2017 census

Demographic Dividend Index (DDI)

Translating the demographic window into a dividend requires the adoption of a set of public policies that mainly aim to enhance human capital indicators to allow the country to reap the expected economic returns and benefits of the demographic dividend.

To this end, the DDI was estimated based on the framework developed by the World Economic Forum/ Global Agenda Council (WEF/GAC) to quantify the key pillars for human capital aspects using essentially the data that were obtained from the 2017 census. The process is as follows:

- For each of the three action areas (empowerment, education and employment) one indicator is to be selected to represent the specific area and if they all combined would produce an index for the demographic dividend (Table 19).
- The DDI is taken as the geometric mean of the selected three indicators for each of the governorates. The distribution of these indicators is standardized to 1- 100 scales to be comparable across all governorates and opposite number (subtracted by 100) is applied for both indicators: child marriage and NEET (without training component), as these two indicators have an inverse relationship with DDI.
- Governorates with a DDI value below 0.5 (50%) are considered having low human capital indicators that would deny them the potential benefits of the demographic dividend.

Estimated DDI values for all governorates, exceeds 60%, indicating that the specified human capability priority areas (empowerment, education and Employment) are being taken into consideration within current efforts to harness the demographic dividend, although at different levels. Further assessment of the DDI indicates:

- The highest DDI value is observed in Cairo (78%) followed by other urban governorates (except Alexandria) showing a DDI estimate that slightly vary around 75 %. Qaliubia and Dameitta can also be included in this group with an estimated DDI of about 75%;
- Similarly, other governorates of Lower Egypt (except Beheira) are also having a DDI that are above 72%, confirming that the three dimensions of human capability is being talked;
- All governorates of Upper Egypt are showing a DDI values that falls below those of Lower Egypt. It varies between 71% (Giza and Aswan) to 64% (Beni Suef and Asyut), indicating that further attention should be given to the various components of human capacities in these governorates;
- Boarder Governorates estimates for the DDI are above 71%, with the exception of Matrouh which is having the lowest DDI value of 60%.

Examining both the DR and DDI indicators confirm that a large number of Egypt governorates are on the right direction to harness the benefits of the demographic dividend. However, the data also indicate that these governorates are at different levels of the demographic transition and accordingly relevant public policies to affect both sides of the demographic dividend (demographic and human capital development) should be adopted either to sustain the current progress or to reverse directions in some other governorates.

The analysis by urban/ rural areas of each governorate showed the existence of large potentials in urban area of most governorates to harness the benefits of the demographic dividend while in rural areas only 10 governorates can be in that position. Priority of interventions should be guided by such findings to maximize potential benefits of the demographic dividend.

To further efforts to harness the demographic dividend, activities should cover the two pillars of this opportunity. Clearly, the initial stage for the demographic component of this window of opportunity is to increase the working age population at the expense of the dependent population, especially for young age-group (0 -14) years which can be achieved through effective, quality and comprehensive RH/FP programs

that respond to the need and requirements of various families. This analysis allows decision-makers and program managers to identify priority areas for intervention and specify its type based on their current performance within the two sides of the demographic dividend (namely demographic and human capabilities).

Table 19: Distribution of Governorates as Dependency Ratio (DR), Human Capital Indicators & DDI, Egypt 2017 Census

Governorate	DDI Rank	DDI Index	DR Rank	Depend. Ratio %	NAR %	NEET %	Female Child Marriage %
Cairo	1	77.7	1	46.37	62.9	20.43	2.78
Alexandria	9	73.5	3	52.33	56.9	21.8	5.13
Port-said	2	75.5	2	49.78	62.6	21.81	5.62
Suez	3	75.2	4	56.93	60.9	23.12	3.05
Damietta	5	74.7	10	60.75	60.5	18.72	9.71
Dakahleya	13	72.7	13	62.03	61.0	19.51	15.0
Sharqia	14	72.6	18	64.32	59.9	20.50	13.6
Qaliyubia	4	75.0	7	59.81	61.2	20.02	7.67
Kafr El sheikh	12	72.8	12	61.76	61.6	23.08	13.73
Gharbia	7	73.7	6	58.20	60.7	22.26	8.98
Monufia	10	73.4	15	63.35	59.0	20.89	8.02
Beheira	21	66.5	14	63.21	53.9	26.22	17.85
Ismailia	15	72.2	17	63.85	57.4	23.62	8.18
Giza	16	71.4	11	61.48	56.2	19.52	12.81
Beni Suef	25	64.4	25	72.30	49.4	20.07	22.47
Faiyum	24	65.0	26	75.53	52.0	19.12	26.36
Minya	23	65.8	21	69.56	52.7	25.65	17.58
Asyut	26	63.6	20	67.67	47.5	28.23	13.43
Sohag	22	65.8	24	71.18	49.3	25.61	11.88
Qena	20	69.0	19	65.53	55.2	23.14	13.31
Aswan	17	71.3	8	59.98	58.8	26.74	7.76
Luxor	19	70.3	5	57.14	56.7	25.97	7.45
Red Sea	6	73.9	16	63.60	57.7	21.63	5.20
New Valley	8	73.6	9	60.43	62.8	29.08	5.62
Matruh	27	60.2	27	75.91	41.7	26.01	21.1
North Sinai	18	71.1	23	70.51	53.8	17.02	13.64
South Sinai	11	72.8	22	69.61	60.1	21.08	8.60

In sum, the previous analysis indicates that Egypt, at the macro level, have made noticeable progress to harness the demographic dividend. However recent changes in fertility level and its impact on the age structure and dependency ratio indicates that it needs to further strengthen its efforts to be able to benefit from such opportunity. This should also be coupled with significant progress in improving human capital indicators which are also in line with the overall economic reform plan.

Overall, this macro-level assessment indicates that AADPD framework implementation is feasible and would in turn contribute to advance the goals of sustainable development and agenda 2063. Egypt have already created the supportive environment for advancing the implementation of the AADPD agenda through introducing the relevant policies, strategies and legislations as well as operationalized their execution. This interactive pathway is also complemented with the shown potentials for the demographic dividend to materialize and allow the country to harness its possible benefits if successful efforts to speed-up the process through the fine-tuning of policies and programs that will affect both the opportunity and the human capital development. The impact of the recent fertility trends on the process would be minimized through effective programs to speed the demographic transition at both national and governorate levels.

إعلان أديس أبابا بشأن السكان والتنمية في أفريقيا لمرحلة ما بعد عام 2014

مصر

ملخص تنفيذي

في عام 2017، بلغ عدد سكان مصر وفقاً للتعداد العام الإلكتروني للسكان والإسكان والمنشآت 94.8 مليون نسمة (18 أبريل 2017)، مقارنة بنحو 72.6 مليون نسمة في عام 2006، الأمر الذي يشير إلى ارتفاع متوسط النمو السنوي للسكان إلى نحو 2.56% خلال الفترة الفاصلة بين تعداد عام 2006 وتعداد عام 2017، مقارنة بمتوسط قدره 2.05% سنوياً في الفترة الفاصلة بين تعداد عام 2006 والتعداد السابق له. وبلغت نسبة النوع نحو 104-105% خلال الفترة 1976-2006، وارتفعت إلى 106.5% وفقاً لتعداد السكان الأخير في عام 2017.

ويؤكد التعداد السكاني الأخير عدم التوازن في توزيع السكان بين المناطق المختلفة في البلاد. إذ تستأثر المحافظات الحضرية بنحو 17% من إجمالي السكان رغم أنها لا تغطي سوى 1.6% من مجمل مساحة البلاد، في حين يعيش في المحافظات الحدودية الخمس 1.7% من مجموع السكان في الوقت الذي تغطي فيه نحو 77% من مساحة مصر. ويقدم في الوجه البحري والوجه القبلي قرابة 43.2% و38.1% من سكان البلاد على الترتيب، على الرغم من الاختلاف الكبير في المساحة بينهما، حيث يغطي الوجه البحري 3.3% من إجمالي مساحة البلاد، مقابل 17.3% من إجمالي المساحة للوجه القبلي. وتظهر هذه التباينات أيضاً إذا نظرنا إلى البيانات المتاحة عن محافظات مصر السبع وعشرين.

وتشهد مصر تحولاً ديموغرافياً منذ سبعينات القرن العشرين عندما بدأ معدل الإنجاب في الانخفاض تجاوباً مع الانخفاض المستمر في معدلات الوفيات في أعقاب انتهاء الحرب العالمية الثانية. ويرجع هذا في المقام الأول إلى انخفاض معدلات وفيات الرضع والأطفال خلال السنوات الأربعين الماضية. وتوثق مختلف مؤشرات الإنجاب هذا الاتجاه الأخذ في التراجع عموماً منذ سبعينات القرن الماضي، بصرف النظر عن بعض التقلبات، ورغم تزايد عدد الولادات السنوية. وبحلول بداية الثمانينات، كان معدل الإنجاب الكلي 5.3 طفل لكل امرأة، وظل ينخفض على نحو مستمر وصولاً إلى 3 أطفال لكل امرأة، وفقاً لنتائج المسح السكاني الصحي (2008). غير أن انخفاض معدلات الإنجاب بدأ يتوقف مع بداية الألفية الثالثة وفقاً لنتائج المسح السكاني الصحي (2014)، الذي أشار إلى زيادة معدل الإنجاب إلى نحو 3.5 طفل لكل امرأة. وقد لوحظت هذه الزيادة في جميع مناطق البلاد باستثناء المحافظات الحضرية. وارتفع معدل الإنجاب الكلي في المناطق الريفية بنسبة 19% خلال الفترة 2008-2014، مقارنة بزيادة قدرها 11% فقط في المناطق الحضرية.

وأدى ارتفاع معدلات الإنجاب إلى إبطاء حركة تاريخية من التحولات الديموغرافية على مرّ العقود الأربعة الماضية. وكان ارتفاع معدلات الإنجاب مصحوباً بارتفاع في معدلات الزواج بدءاً من عام 2008. وبوجه عام، فإن نمط الزواج المبكر في مصر تتبين أهميته بالنظر إلى متوسط السن عند الزواج الأول، والذي ظلّ مستقرّاً تقريباً خلال الفترة 2008-2014. فوفقاً لنتائج المسح السكاني الصحي لعام 2014، كان متوسط سن النساء عند الزواج الأول 20.8 سنة، مقارنة بمتوسط 20.6 سنة في عام 2008. ولا يزال زواج الأطفال ظاهرة موجودة وثقتها تعداد عام 2017.

وقد وثق التعداد السكاني لعام 2017 أيضاً أثر الديناميات السكانية على الهيكل العمري للسكان، مبيّناً أن مصر تواجه "طفرة سكانية شبابية" ملحوظة. إذ يستأثر السكان الذين تقل أعمارهم عن 15 سنة بنسبة 34.2% من السكان، في حين أن نسبة 61% من السكان تقل أعمارهم عن 30 سنة، وهو ما يبيّن أثر ارتفاع معدلات الإنجاب في الأعوام الأخيرة.

وعلى المستوى دون الوطني، لوحظت فروق أكبر بوجه عام بين المناطق الحضرية والريفية فيما يتعلق بمؤشرات الهيكل العمري للسكان. وتشير هذه الفروق إلى وجود إمكانات أكبر للفرصة الديموغرافية في المناطق الحضرية (حيث تبلغ نسبة السكان الذين تقل أعمارهم عن 15 سنة في المناطق الحضرية 31% مقارنة بنسبة قدرها 37% في المناطق الريفية). ويلاحظ هذا الوضع الإيجابي أيضاً

في المحافظات الحضرية الثلاث (القاهرة والإسكندرية وبورسعيد)، بالإضافة إلى محافظة الغربية، الأمر الذي يشير إلى أن هذه المحافظات بصدد الوصول إلى ذروة الفرصة الديموغرافية.

وفي عدد كبير من المحافظات، تتراوح نسبة السكان الذين تقل أعمارهم عن 15 سنة بين 31 و32% في المناطق الحضرية، وهو ما يبين وجود أوضاع ديموغرافية مواتية لتحقيق العائد الديموغرافي. وعلى العكس من ذلك، يحدّ الوضع القائم في المناطق الريفية في مختلف المحافظات من الفرص المتاحة أمام تلك المناطق للاستفادة من الفرصة الديموغرافية. وتتراوح نسبة السكان الذين تقل أعمارهم عن 15 سنة بين 33-37% في الوجه البحري، وترتفع إلى 36-41% في معظم محافظات الوجه القبلي، باستثناء محافظتي الأقصر (32.2%) وأسوان (33.9%). وإجمالاً، فإنّ التحول الديموغرافي يتأثر بالتغيرات الأخيرة التي شهدتها معدلات الإنجاب والتي تمسّ بإمكانات الاستفادة من العائد الديموغرافي، وإن اختلفت تلك التغيرات باختلاف محل الإقامة، فضلاً عن اختلافها بين المناطق الحضرية والمناطق الريفية داخل المحافظات.

ومن شأن إعادة تنشيط التحول الديموغرافي أن تدعم أيضاً الاقتصاد المصري الذي تعافى كثيراً من الأزمة والتحديات التي شهدتها فيما بعد عام 2011. فقد بلغ معدل نمو الناتج المحلي الإجمالي 5.2-5.3% في الربع الثاني من السنة المالية 2017-2018. ويرجع تحقيق تلك النتيجة إلى التنفيذ الناجح لبرنامج الإصلاحات الهيكلية الذي يهدف إلى تحسين بيئة الأعمال التجارية في البلاد وتحفيز النمو المتوازن والشامل. ويوثق الاستعراض الأخير الذي أجراه صندوق النقد الدولي (كاتون الثاني/يناير 2018) هذه النتائج الإيجابية، ويسلط الضوء على التفاعل بين القضايا السكانية والتنمية من خلال التركيز على الحاجة إلى تعزيز إدماج المرأة في القوة العاملة وتوسيع نطاق توظيف الشباب وإيجاد فرص العمل عموماً.

وقد اقترن برنامج الإصلاح الاقتصادي أيضاً ببرنامج موسّع يكفل شبكة أمان لدعم الفئات الضعيفة وتعزيز قدرتها على التكيف مع النتائج المترتبة على برنامج الإصلاح. وشمل هذا البرنامج زيادة دعم السلع الغذائية الأساسية، وتطبيق نظم للمعاشات التقاعدية لفئات خاصة، والتوسّع في برنامجي التحويلات النقدية المشروطة (تكافل وكرامة)، فضلاً عن برامج أخرى.

ومن وجهة النظر المؤسسية، يُعدّ المجلس القومي للسكان، الذي أنشئ في عام 1985، الهيئة الحكومية الرئيسية المسؤولة عن اعتماد السياسات السكانية المقترحة، ووضع خطط سكانية متكاملة وشاملة بالتعاون مع جميع الجهات المعنية، والتنسيق، وكذلك المتابعة والتقييم. وتترأس المجلس حالياً وزيرة الصحة والسكان، وهو يضم في عضويته ممثلين عن وزارات مختلفة وأربعة أعضاء من ذوي الخبرة. غير أنّ هناك أيضاً آليات تنسيقية أخرى تعمل لخدمة فئات محدّدة، ومنها على سبيل المثال المجلس القومي للمرأة، والمجلس القومي للطفولة والأمومة، والمجلس القومي لشئون الإعاقة.

وقد حدّدت الاستراتيجية القومية للسكان (2015-2030) أهدافها الرئيسية ووضعت خارطة طريق لتنفيذها. وتحدد الخطة التنفيذية الخمسية (2015-2020) الأنشطة الرئيسية، والمنظمات المسؤولة عن تنفيذها، والمنظمات الداعمة، فضلاً عن الموارد المالية المطلوبة. وتشير الخطة إلى أنّ نحو 46% من التمويل اللازم متوفر بالفعل. وقدمت الاستراتيجية أيضاً قائمة مفصّلة بالمشورات المستخدمة في رصد وتقييم التقدّم المحرز في جميع الأنشطة في إطار ركائز الخطة الخمسية.

ومؤخراً، أنشأ مجلس الوزراء لجنة وزارية برئاسة رئيس الوزراء تضم في صفوفها وزير الصحة والسكان، ووزيرة التضامن الاجتماعي، ووزير الشباب والرياضة، ووزير التنمية المحلية، ووزير التعليم، ووزيرة التخطيط والمتابعة والإصلاح الإداري، وغيرهم من الوزراء المعنيين. ويدلّ إنشاء اللجنة على أن الحكومة تبدي أعلى مستويات الإرادة السياسية فيما يتعلق باعتمادها تناول ومعالجة جدول أعمال الصحة الإنجابية وتنظيم الأسرة على نحو متكامل ومتضافر. ومقرّر اللجنة هو الأمين العام للمجلس القومي للسكان، والذي أصبح نائب وزيرة الصحة والسكان لشؤون السكان.

غير أنّه فيما يتعلّق بالأنشطة المتّصلة بالنوع الاجتماعي، يتحمّل المجلس القومي للمرأة مسؤولية تنسيق هذه الأنشطة داخل الأجهزة الحكومية المختلفة، وبينها وبين قطاعات أخرى، ويقدم تقاريره إلى رئيس الجمهورية مباشرة. ويتكوّن المجلس من 30 عضواً من ذوي الخبرة في شؤون المرأة والنشاط الاجتماعي. وقد وضع المجلس الاستراتيجية الوطنية لتمكين المرأة المصرية 2030 والتي أقرّها رئيس الجمهورية للسنوات القادمة. ويهدف المجلس إلى تفعيل الخطط والبرامج والمشاريع الواردة في هذه الاستراتيجية والتي تشمل أربعة

محاور عمل متكاملة وهي: (أ) التمكين السياسي وتعزيز الدور القيادي للمرأة، (ب) التمكين الاقتصادي، (ج) التمكين الاجتماعي، (د) الحماية.

ويقيم الجهاز المركزي للتعينة العامة والإحصاء التغيرات في الديناميات السكانية على نحو منظم، ويتيح البيانات اللازمة لإجراء الدراسات والتحليلات المتعمقة. ويزود النظام الإحصائي الوطني صانعي القرارات بالإحصاءات الرسمية اللازمة، ويرصد المبادرات الوطنية والعالمية على حد سواء (استراتيجية التنمية المستدامة وأهداف التنمية المستدامة). وبوجه عام، تضمن الشراكات والتعاون الأنشطة على المستويين الداخلي والدولي توفير الدعم اللازم في هذا الصدد.

ويبدأ تقييم أداء مصر خلال السنوات الماضية فيما يتعلق بتنفيذ إعلان أديس أبابا بشأن السكان والتنمية على التزامها الجاد باتخاذ الإجراءات اللازمة لإيجاد بيئة إيجابية لتنفيذ الإعلان. وكان لكلٍ من دستور مصر الصادر عام 2014 واستراتيجية التنمية المستدامة "رؤية مصر (2030)" دور أساسي في دعم اعتماد هذه الالتزامات. ويركز كلٌّ من الدستور والرؤية على منح حقوق متساوية لجميع الأفراد، دون أي تمييز بأي شكل من الأشكال، وتأكيد الحق في الصحة والتعليم والعيش في بيئة آمنة. وقد وفّرت الوثيقتان المظلة التي أتاحت صياغة واعتماد مجموعة من السياسات والاستراتيجيات والتشريعات اللازمة لتعزيز فرصة إيجاد بيئة داعمة لتحقيق المزيد من التقدّم بشأن الالتزامات في إطار في مجموعة متنوعة من الركائز المحددة. وقد وُتّق هذا في مختلف تقييمات التزامات إعلان أديس أبابا بشأن السكان والتنمية. وأولي اهتمام خاص للشباب والمرأة بهدف تعزيز مشاركتهم في مختلف الجوانب وضمان قدرتهم على التمتع بجميع حقوقهم دون تمييز.

وبالإضافة إلى ذلك، فقد تم تحديد الموارد البشرية والمالية اللازمة للنهوض بهذه الالتزامات، وأُتخذت إجراءات بهدف ضمان توفيرها من أجل إعادة تفعيل البرامج الحالية واستحداث برامج جديدة تنصدي للتحديات السائدة مثل زواج الأطفال والعنف ضد المرأة والممارسات الضارة (ختان الإناث)، فضلاً عن التحرش الجنسي وجرانم الكراهية. ويمكن ملاحظة دعم الحكومة للمشاريع الصغيرة والمتوسطة بوضوح، إذ خصّص البنك المركزي المصري 200 مليار جنيه لمبادرة تهدف إلى توسيع نطاق مشاركة الشباب والنساء في سوق العمل، استُخدم منها حتى الآن 35% لدمع 62,000 مشروعاً. وسيكون لذلك أهمية جوهرية أيضاً في دعم الابتكار والمساعي الإبداعية.

وسوف يؤدي نظام التأمين الصحي الشامل، الذي يغطي الحقوق الإيجابية والصحية، جنباً إلى جنب مع نظام التعليم الجديد الذي أقرته الحكومة، إلى تحسّن كبير في إتاحة هذه الحقوق ونوعيتها، وضمان منح فرص عادلة ومتكافئة لجميع الأفراد، ولا سيما النساء والأشخاص ذوي الإعاقة وكبار السن، فضلاً عن الفئات الخاصة مثل الأشخاص المصابين بفيروس نقص المناعة البشرية/الإيدز.

وقد أولي الاهتمام الواجب لحرية التنقل والهجرة، ولا سيما بالنظر إلى مستوى الاستقرار في المنطقة، والسياسات التي تتبناها مصر من أجل استيعاب المهاجرين في ظل ظروف معيشية طبيعية. ومع ذلك، فعلى المستوى الداخلي، أنشأت الحكومة في العشرين عاماً الماضية 32 مدينة جديدة (منها 8 مدن جديدة تجري إضافتها مؤخراً) لاستيعاب النمو السكاني المتوقع وخفض الكثافة السكانية المرتفعة في بعض المناطق. وتهدف الحكومة إلى استيعاب قرابة 27 مليون شخص. وقد خصّص مبلغ 75 مليار جنيه في ميزانية عام 2019/2018 لهذا الغرض.

وإجمالاً، ومن أصل 88 التزاماً حددها إعلان أديس أبابا للسكان والتنمية، ينبغي على مصر أن تنفذ بشكل مباشر عدد 81 منها، اتُخذت البلاد بالفعل إجراءات ذات صلة لتمهيد الطريق لتنفيذ تلك الالتزامات من خلال وضع السياسات والاستراتيجيات وصياغة التشريعات، وكذلك تنفيذ برامج تهدف إلى تيسير تهيئة بيئة داعمة لتحقيق تلك الأهداف. ويتجلى ذلك بوضوح في تحليل الرصد الجزئي لحالة كل التزام من الالتزامات المختلفة التي سلط الضوء عليها في إعلان أديس أبابا.

ويوفر التقييم العام أدلةً حول تأثير مجموعة الالتزامات الكاملة على أوضاع السكان والتنمية، وبوجه عام أداء البلد فيما يتعلق بتنفيذ إعلان أديس أبابا. ويشير التقييم بوضوح إلى أنّ السياسات والاستراتيجيات والتشريعات كانت مدخلات رئيسية في هذا الصدد، وأنّها أدت دوراً فعالاً في النهوض بتنفيذ إطار إعلان أديس أبابا والتزاماته. وبالإضافة إلى ذلك، فقد تم تحديد الموارد البشرية والمالية اللازمة لتنفيذ الالتزامات المفروضة بموجب الإعلان، وتُخذ حالياً الإجراءات اللازمة لتوفيرها. ومما عزز هذا أيضاً المبادئ والحقوق المذكورة صراحة في دستور مصر لعام 2014 ورؤية مصر 2030.

وعلى الرغم من أن إعلان أديس أبابا من شأنه أن يؤثر على جميع شرائح السكان، فإن الفئات المستهدفة في المقام الأول هي النساء والشباب والأشخاص ذوي الإعاقة. وقد أولي الاهتمام اللازم أيضاً للأسر التي تعيش حول خط الفقر، على أن تغطيها البرامج المنفذة في إطار شبكة الأمان الاجتماعي. وتشير سجلات مصر أنها تعمل على جميع الركائز. وقد أولي اهتمام خاص لركائز الكرامة والمساواة، والصحة والسكن وحرية التنقل، كما يتضح من الإجراءات المتخذة. وقد تمت تغطية سائر الركائز أيضاً. وبالمثل، فقد شملت التغطية جميع الحقوق التي سلط عليها الضوء في إعلان أديس أبابا.

ويُعدُّ تقييم الجهود التي تبذلها مصر للاستفادة من العائد الديموغرافي وقياس التقدّم المحرز في هذا الصدد على المستوى الوطني وعلى مستوى المحافظات مسألة هامة في تحديد الأثر الإجمالي الذي يحققه تنفيذ مختلف الالتزامات على الوضع الديموغرافي. ولذلك أهمية كبيرة على وجه الخصوص لأنّ البيانات الأخيرة تقدم مؤشرات مختلطة حول قدرة مصر على الاستفادة من الفرصة الديموغرافية، وقدرتها على تحويل تلك الفرصة إلى عائد ديموغرافي على المستويين الوطني ودون الوطني (مستوى المحافظات).

وقد أتاحت بيانات التعداد السكاني لعام 2017 وغيرها من البيانات ذات الصلة فرصة لتقييم وضع مصر بشأن العائد الديموغرافي وقياس ركانزه، وتحديدًا النافذة الديموغرافية ومكوّن العائد الذي خضع للقياس من خلال "مؤشر العائد الديموغرافي" الذي يُقدّر بناءً على الإطار الذي وضعه المنتدى الاقتصادي العالمي. ومستوى الحد الأدنى لهذين المؤشرين كما يلي: (أ) ينبغي أن تكون نسبة السكان الذين تقلّ أعمارهم عن 15 سنة أقل من 30%، (ب) ينبغي أن تكون نسبة الإعالة أقل من أو تساوي 66% وأن تزيد قيمة مؤشر العائد الديموغرافي على 50%.

وتشير دراسة نسب الإعالة على المستويين الوطني ودون الوطني إلى أنّه على الرغم من أنّ البيانات تشير إلى وجود فرصة ديموغرافية على الصعيد الوطني، فإنّ الوضع مختلف على مستوى المحافظات كما يتضح من التباينات الكبيرة في قيم نسب الإعالة العمرية في مختلف المحافظات. وفي المقابل، يبيّن هذا الوضع أيضاً تباين الحالات التي تمرّ بها مختلف المحافظات في سياق عملية التحوّل. وتتمتع جميع المحافظات الحضرية وهي القاهرة والإسكندرية وبورسعيد والسويس بقدرة كبيرة على تحقيق الاستفادة من العائد الديموغرافي. وتأتي بعدها مباشرة محافظة الأقصر وعدة محافظات في الوجه البحري. وفي نفس الوقت، لا يبدو الوضع في محافظات الوجه القبلي داعماً لذلك.

وتتجاوز القيم المقدّرة لمؤشر العائد الديموغرافي في جميع المحافظات 60%، وهو ما يشير إلى أنّ مجالات العمل المحدّدة ذات الأولوية في مجال القدرات البشرية (التمكين والتعليم وفرص العمل) يجري أخذها في الاعتبار ضمن الجهود الحالية الرامية إلى الاستفادة من العائد الديموغرافي، وإن كان ذلك بمستويات مختلفة. ويؤكد كلّ من نسب الإعالة ومؤشر العائد الديموغرافي أنّ عدداً كبيراً من محافظات مصر يسير في الاتجاه الصحيح نحو تحقيق الاستفادة من العائد الديموغرافي. غير أنّ البيانات تشير أيضاً إلى مستويات مختلفة من التحوّل الديموغرافي في تلك المحافظات، من ثمّ الحاجة إلى اعتماد سياسات عامة ذات صلة تؤثر في كلا جانبي العائد الديموغرافي (التنمية الديموغرافية وتنمية رأس المال البشري) إمّا للحفاظ على وتيرة التقدّم الحالي أو عكس الاتجاهات التي تسير فيها بعض المحافظات الأخرى.

وإجمالاً، يشير التحليل السابق إلى أنّ مصر قد حقّقت على المستوى الكلي تقدّمًا ملحوظًا في الاستفادة من العائد الديموغرافي. غير أنّ التغيّرات الأخيرة في مستوى الإنجاب وأثرها على الهيكل العمري ونسب الإعالة تشير إلى أنّ مصر بحاجة إلى مواصلة تعزيز جهودها الرامية إلى الاستفادة من هذه الفرصة. وينبغي أن يقترن ذلك أيضاً بإحراز تقدّم كبير في تحسين مؤشرات رأس المال البشري، بما يتماشى أيضاً مع خطة الإصلاح الاقتصادي الشامل. وبوجه عام، يُشير هذا التقييم الكلي إلى أنّ تنفيذ إطار إعلان أديس أبابا أمر ممكن، ومن شأنه أن يسهم بدوره في النهوض بأهداف التنمية المستدامة وخطة التنمية المستدامة لعام 2030. وقد هيأت مصر بالفعل بيئة داعمة للمضي قدماً في تنفيذ جدول أعمال إعلان أديس أبابا من خلال وضع وتنفيذ سياسات واستراتيجيات وتشريعات ذات صلة. ومما يكمل هذا المسار التفاعلي أيضاً الإمكانيات المثبتة لتحقيق الاستفادة من العائد الديموغرافي، والسماح لمصر بتسخير فوائده المحتملة في حال نجاح الجهود الرامية إلى تسريع وتيرة عملية التحوّل الديموغرافي عن طريق صقل السياسات والبرامج التي سوف تؤثر في كل من الفرصة الديموغرافية وتنمية رأس المال البشري على حد سواء. ويمكن التقليل إلى أدنى حد من أثر الاتجاهات الأخيرة لمعدلات الإنجاب في عملية التحوّل الديموغرافي من خلال تنفيذ برامج فعّالة تهدف إلى تسريع وتيرة التحوّل الديموغرافي على المستوى الوطني وعلى مستوى المحافظات.