



European Union- Joint Rural Development Programme (EU-JRDP)

THE PROGRAMME

The **EU-JRDP** is a rural development intervention funded by the European Union (EU) under the European Neighbourhood Programme for Agriculture and Rural Development (ENPARD) initiative in Egypt.

The Programme duration is five years (2015-2019) and aims at strengthening the capacities of rural associations, both farmers and non-farmers, in terms of sustainable management of local resources, especially water and soil, and exploring new and innovative solutions for income generating activities by offering tailored support.

OBJECTIVES

The **EU-JRDP** specific objectives are:

- To increase sustainable agricultural production by managing water resources more effectively and adopting Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs);
- To improve rural livelihoods by promoting income-generating activities (agricultural/non-agricultural) and making best use of local resources.

INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

- The **EU-JRDP** is implemented by the Italian Development Cooperation through a Delegation Agreement with the European Commission.
- The Programme Management Unit (PMU) is based in Cairo. A sub office unit (SPMU) is planned at the governorate level.
- The Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation is the lead partner. Other institutional partners are the Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation and the Ministry of Local Development. The Ministry of International Cooperation is the National Coordinator.

AREAS OF INTERVENTION

- The Programme operates in the Governorates of Matrouh, Minya and Fayoum.

APPROACH & IMPLEMENTATION

The Programme seeks full involvement of stakeholders by adopting a participatory development approach. Thus, all actors involved work together in order to ensure sustainability.

The Programme is implemented through grants, services, supplies and works contracts.

EXPECTED RESULTS

- Irrigation infrastructures and efficiency improved in Minya and Fayoum through rehabilitation of irrigation schemes and minimizing water wasting and excessive water utilization.
- Water harvesting schemes rehabilitated and/or constructed in Matrouh Governorate increasing new agricultural lands and satisfying communities' needs of water.
- Forage availability improved, local breed of sheep enhanced, Geographical Indication products marketed in Matrouh Governorate.
- Local Action Groups created, archaeological sites enhanced and eco-tourism facilities created in Fayoum Governorate.
- Agricultural production enhanced and income of targeted communities improved in all Governorates through the introduction and dissemination of Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs).
- Final stakeholders trained in both agriculture and non-agriculture sectors (e.g. eco-tourism and handicraft) and demonstration plots established.
- Agricultural associations and cooperatives promoted with special focus on women, in order to provide efficient services to farmers and artisans.

ITALIAN PARALLEL CO-FINANCING

The Italian Development Cooperation contributes to the **EU-JRDP** with an additional parallel co-financing for the realization of two initiatives in support of the farm mechanization in Minya and Fayoum and for the socio-economic development of the North West Coast, Matrouh Governorate.

