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### For More Information:

Address: 1081 Corniche El-Nil, Garden City,  
26th Floor, Cairo- Egypt

Tel.: +202 27941841/ 27942020

Fax: +202 27920272

Email: [info@eu-jrdp.org](mailto:info@eu-jrdp.org)

Website: [www.eu-jrdp.org](http://www.eu-jrdp.org)

 European Union Joint Rural Development Programme

### European Union Delegation to the Arab Republic of Egypt

Address: Nile City Towers, North Tower, 10th floor,  
2005C Corniche EL Nil, Ramlet Boulaq, Cairo, Egypt

Tel.: +202 24619860

Website: <http://eeas.europa.eu/delegation/egypt>

 @EUinEgy

 EUDelegationegypt

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The European Union's ENPARD (European Neighbourhood Programme for Agriculture and Rural Development) Initiative in Egypt

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

*The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union*





## The Programme

The European Union - Joint Rural Development Programme (EU-JRDP) is a rural development intervention under the European Neighbourhood Programme for Agriculture and Rural Development (ENPARD). The total cost of the Programme is € 21, 89 million entirely funded by the European Union.

The Programme duration is five years (2015-2019). The final stakeholders are: the local rural associations (farmers and non-farmers).

## Overall Objective

To improve the quality of life of the people living in the rural areas of the three targeted governorates of Egypt (Matrouh, Minya and Fayoum), with the focus on the sustainable management of territorial resources.

## Specific Objectives

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

## Institutional Framework

The Programme is implemented by the Italian Development Cooperation through a Delegation Agreement with the European Union, signed on December 2014.

The Programme Management Unit (PMU) is based in Cairo; a support unit is located in the focus governorates.

The Ministry of International Cooperation is the National Coordinator. 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.

## Expected Results

### In Matrouh, Minya and Fayoum:

- Agricultural production enhanced and income of targeted communities improved through the introduction and dissemination of Good Agricultural Practices;
- Institutional and technical capacity of rural communities enhanced;
- Agricultural associations and cooperatives promoted with special focus on women, in order to provide efficient services to farmers and non-farmers.

### In Minya and Fayoum:

- Irrigation infrastructures and efficiency improved, through rehabilitation of irrigation schemes and minimizing water wasting and excessive water utilization.

### In Matrouh:

- Water harvesting schemes rehabilitated and/or constructed;
- Forage accessibility improved, local breed of sheep enhanced, geographical indication products developed.

### In Fayoum:

- Local Action Groups created, archaeological sites enhanced and eco-tourism facilities created;
- Final stakeholders trained in both agricultural and non-agricultural sectors (e.g. eco-tourism and handicraft) and demonstration plots established.

## Approach During Implementation

The Programme seeks full involvement of stakeholders by adopting a participatory development approach improving ownership and sustainability.

The EU-JRDP is implemented through grants, services, supplies and works contracts.

## Italian Parallel Co-financing

The Italian Development Cooperation contributes to the EU-JRDP with a parallel co-financing of € 11 million through two initiatives in support of the farm mechanization in Minya and Fayoum Governorates and of the socio-economic development of the North West Coast Matrouh Governorate.

