ANNUAL REPORT 2016







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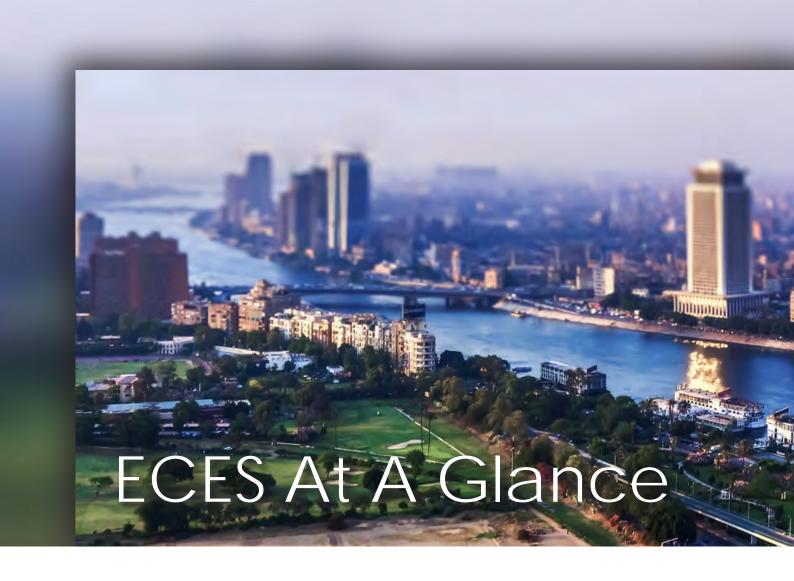




ECES AT A GLANCE	4
Our Mission	4
Our Strategic Direction	4
Message from the the Chairman of the Board of Directors	6
Message from the Executive Director and Director of Research	8
In Memory of Dr. Taymour	10
ECES Selected as One of the Top Think Tanks in MENA	
ECES Board of Directors	14
Members of ECES	16
ECES Team	20
ECES IN RETROSPECT	22
Establishment	22
Take-off	22
Sustainability	23
Accomplishments	24



ECES PUBLICATIONS	26
2016 ACTIVITIES IN FOCUS	28
Conferences and Workshop	30
Egypt's Economic Crises: The Way Out & Possible Solutions	36
Parliamentary Papers Series	
Quality of Life in Rural Egypt	
Economic Reporters Workshops	44
Contribution of Services in Value Chains and Product Cost	
Activities in Partnership with Other Institutions	50
Regular Reports	
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	58
APPENDIX: LIST OF PUBLICATIONS	80



Our Mission

The Egyptian Center for Economic Studies (ECES) is an independent, non-profit think tank that conducts specialized economic research, drawing on international experience and constructive discussions among various stakeholders. ECES's main objective is to propose sound economic policies, as well as institutional and legislative reforms that contribute to sustainable development in Egypt, all on the basis of combined economic efficiency and social justice.

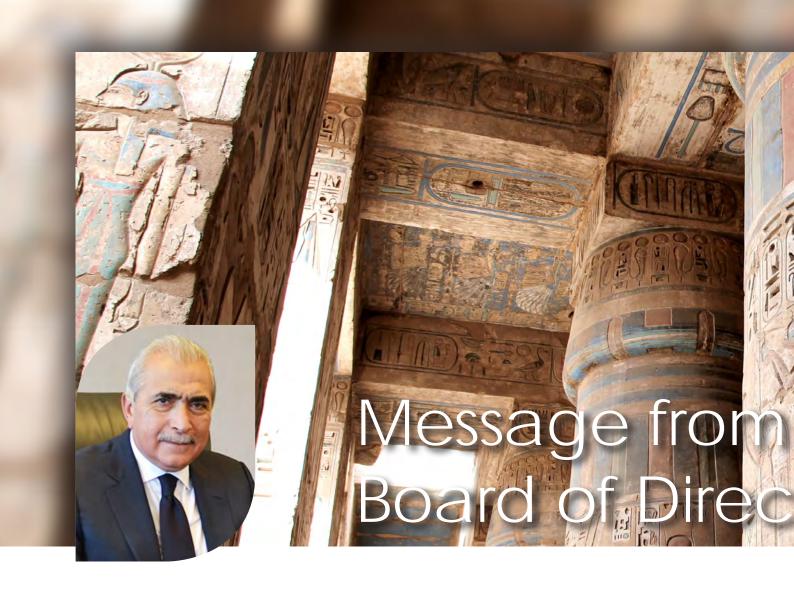
Our Strategic Direction

Economic efficiency and social justice are of core interest to ECES. Combined, they constitute the Center's strategic direction. The research and activities done by ECES focus on studying past, present and future challenges facing the Egyptian economy, whether related to macroeconomic stability, microeconomic efficiency or political economy aspects, on both the internal and external dimensions. In its analysis, ECES is keen on adopting a comprehensive approach that encompasses legislative, institutional, policy and structural aspects of the problem or area addressed, not to mention their implementation mechanisms. In all its activities, ECES relies on its competent team of in-house researchers, in addition to collaborations with external experts and like-minded think tanks as needed.





ECES widely disseminates its research through conferences, workshops, seminars, lectures and roundtable discussions. The objective of these events is to provide a forum for constructive discussions among policymakers, the private sector, academia, parliamentarians, civil society and the media. In addition, the Center produces a variety of publications, (downloadable free of charge at www.eces.org.eg), and engages the wider public through social media platforms (https://www.facebook.com/eces.org.eg).



Looking at our activities in 2016, I am proud to say that ECES continues its efforts and is pursuing its mission aiming at improving and reshaping the policy making process in Egypt through quality economic research, as well as by engaging all stakeholders in quality discussions that are of relevance to the fast changes that are taking place in the Egyptian economy. A role that has enabled ECES to maintain its position as one of the leading think tanks in Egypt. In this respect, it is worth noting that in September 2016, ECES was ranked 12 out of 75 top think tanks in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) in the report entitled "Global Go-To Think Tanks" issued by the University of Pennsylvania in the US. ECES also came second in Egypt to Al-Ahram Center for Political and Strategic Studies in the same report.

Bridging the gap between policy research and decision-making has always been a key objective for ECES. 2016 activities reflect the Center's relentless efforts to keep up with the economic challenges that Egypt is facing. Between new research, new tools and lots of interaction with all stakeholders, I believe that ECES has definitely made a difference. I am also confident that ECES will pursue its efforts throughout the years to come until Egypt's economy reaches the position it deserves on the world map, and hopefully thereafter.



None of this would have been possible without a hard working team and a dedicated management. I would hence like to seize this opportunity to thank ECES management and staff for their dedication, hard work and valuable contributions. I would also like to extend my thanks to all members of the Board and to ECES members, as well as to ECES's wider constituency who took time and were all diligently engaged in ECES various activities.

Omar Mohanna



As I began writing this letter, I realized how quickly my first year as ECES Executive Director and Director of Research elapsed; a surprising revelation when taking into account how rich the Center's activities have been this year. I'm confident that the vibrant nature of ECES, its value-adding activities and its warm, friendly environment are all reasons why I feel that way.

I'm proud that ECES has kept up with Egypt's rapid economic changes throughout the past year, providing its stakeholders with detailed, timely analysis of key issues through a combination of daily and weekly products and more than 30 workshops and conferences. This year, we've addressed pressing issues of poverty, social justice, employment, investment, fiscal and monetary policies, waste management, energy, local development and institutional reforms. Additionally, the Center also provided detailed analysis of the government's economic reform program, pursuing that and all the aforementioned activities with a clear, strategic approach combining sustainable development and social justice.

In addition to quality research, which has long been ECES's differentiator in the field, I'm particularly proud of two series of events: "Parliamentary Papers" and "Economic Reporters Workshops," where certain laws and the 2016/2017 government plan were analyzed in parallel with their discussions in the parliament. It is also worth mentioning that all our content is now



fully published in both Arabic and English; thus enabling a broader outreach and benefit to policymakers, graduate students, business communities, parliamentarians and NGOs.

It is important to note that ECES's impressive progress this past year was made possible due to its hardworking team of junior and senior economists, consultants, and dedicated assistants and administrators. In fact, the ECES team feels more like a family than just work colleagues; one cannot help but fall in love with each and every one of them. Additionally, nothing can be achieved without a supportive board; so I would like to extend very special thanks to the Chairman and all members of the board.

Going forward, ECES is committed to continuing as one of the top think tanks in Egypt and addressing impactful research topics that support the current drive towards placing the country on the right path to sustainable development.

Abla Abdel-Latif
Abla Abdel-Latif

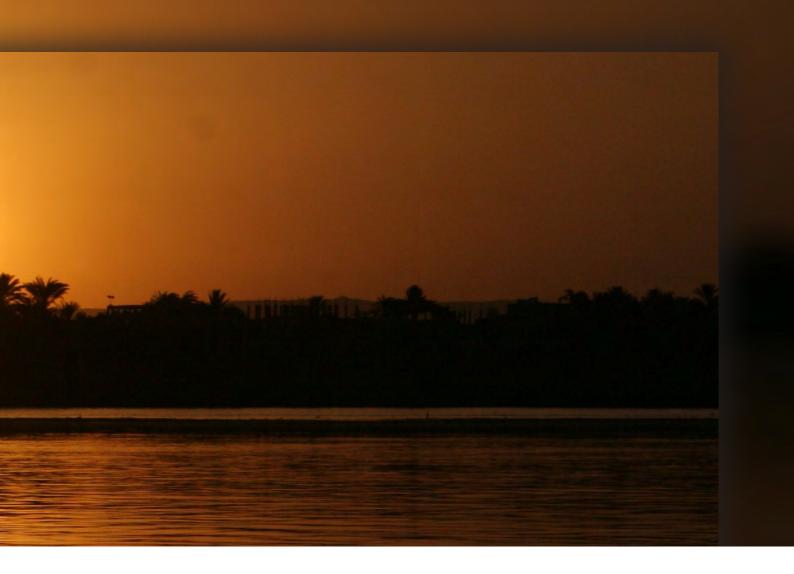


The Egyptian Center for Economic Studies has mourned the death of one of its distinguished members, Dr. Mohamed Taymour, who passed away at the age of 75.

Dr. Taymour chaired the ECES board of directors from July 2007 to April 2009. He was also the vice chairman of ECES from May 2005 to July 2007, and from September 2013 to April 2017. His mark on ECES is deeply established through his invaluable contributions during his different roles at the Center.

Dr. Taymour had a long respectable career in the financial sector, as chairman of the Egyptian Capital Market Association, EFG Hermes, and Pharos Holding. He was an active member of the board of the Tourism Fund and served on the boards of Audi Bank and the Arab Investment Group.

With the passing of Dr. Taymour, ECES and the finance community have lost a remarkable person, but his legacy and contributions will certainly live on.





Dr. Mohamed Taymour (1947 – 2017)



The Egyptian Center for Economic Studies was selected in 2016 as one of the leading think tanks in the MENA region in the report entitled "Global Go-To Think Tanks" issued by the US University of Pennsylvania.



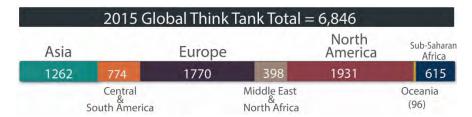


Objectives

"Helping to bridge the gap between knowledge and policy"

- Researching the trends and challenges facing think tanks, policymakers, and policy-oriented civil society groups
- Sustaining, strengthening, and building capacity for think tanks around the world
- Maintaining the largest, most comprehensive database of over 6,500 think tanks

Number of Think Tanks in the World in 2015





Global Distribution of Think Tanks by Region



ECES Rankings

Category	Ranking	Rank among Egyptian Entities
Top Think Tanks in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA)	12 out of 75 Think Tanks in MENA Region	2 nd *
Top Domestic Economic Policy Think Tanks	48 out of 135 Think Tanks around the World	1 st

For more about this report, please visit their link below or scan this QR code: http://repository.upenn.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1011&context=think_tanks



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Hisham Ezz ElArab

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Senior Principal, Helmy Hamza & Partners (Baker & McKenzie International)

> Helmy Hamza & Partners.



Tarek Hassan Selim

Chair, Department of Economics, School of Business, AUC

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EFGHERMES



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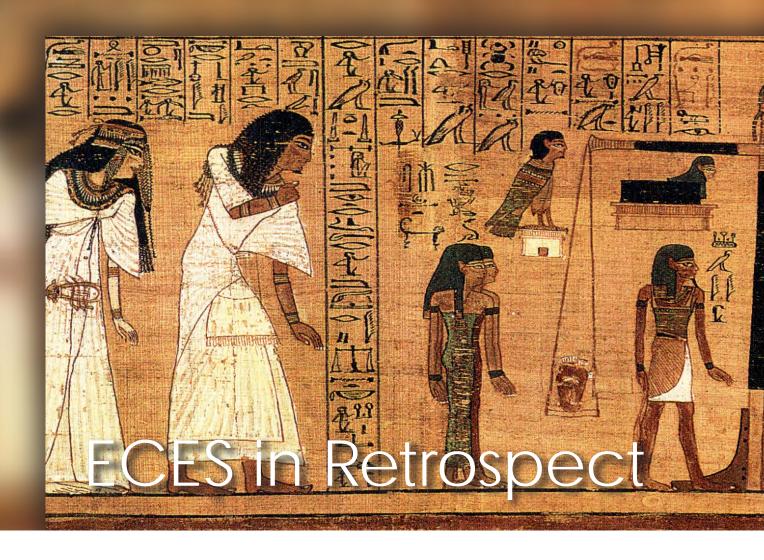
Hussein Mohamed Support Staff

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Establishment

ECES was established in 1992 under Law 32 of 1964 as a non-profit, non-governmental organization. It was founded with the objective of promoting economic development in Egypt by conducting and disseminating applied policy research in light of international experience. The Center's founders believed that the creation of an independent think tank was in the best interest of Egypt, especially since the economy was undergoing a process of transformation that has continued to this day. Financially, ECES received support as per an endowment agreement between the Egyptian government and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). Support was also provided by the ECES members themselves, as well as organizations such as the World Bank and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Take off

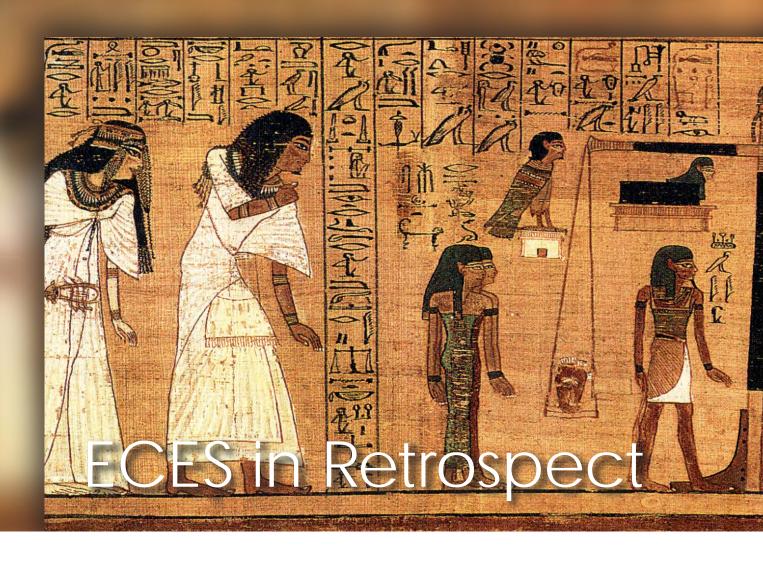
After a gestation period, during which the Center's physical infrastructure was put in place and key staff appointed, ECES initiated a number of research activities. However, it was not until 1996 that



the founders' vision was translated into a systematic work program with diverse activities, including regular forums for discussion and dissemination of research, and a series of publications. Since then, the strategy of the Center has been based on two main pillars: knowledge generation and knowledge dissemination. Knowledge generation is decidedly in favor of applied policy research, and knowledge dissemination is guided by the strong desire to reach out to as many stakeholders as possible, whether through open forums, publications, and/or the ECES website www.eces.org.eg.

Sustainability

Slowly but surely, the Center has acquired a reputation for producing relevant, quality research and for offering objective advice on the economic challenges facing Egypt. This reputation helped the Center acquire an endowment of LE 50 million, which will ensure the independence and sustainability of ECES for years to come.



Accomplishments

In terms of sheer numbers, by the end of December 2016, ECES published as many as 184 working papers, 14 books, 34 distinguished lectures, 32 policy viewpoints, 41 editions of the Business Barometer, 8 policy briefs, 2 draft law reviews, 10 editions of Egypt's Economic Profile and Statistics, 168 issues of View on News and 40 issues of Our Economy and the World (in Arabic and English), 4 issues of Egypt's Economic Crises: The Way Out Series, two issues of the Sectoral Competitiveness Observatory, as well as 150 various translations. The average is 28 publications per year. While most publications were written in English, some were written in Arabic and others were translated to ensure wide readership. For the same reason, the writing style of most of these publications is essentially non-technical.

Besides publications, during the same period, the Center organized 264 forums for the exchange of views among different stakeholders, averaging at least one event per month. The number of conference participants typically exceeded 200, while each roundtable discussion included around 70 participants. In both instances, the speakers and participants were carefully selected to ensure diversity of views and representation. Policymakers, parliamentarians, academia, private sector leaders, non-Egyptians, and members of civil society were invited, without prejudice to political affiliation.



To ensure wider dissemination, ECES paid special attention to the media and the development of a well-functioning website. With respect to the media, the Center established a tradition of holding an annual three-day workshop for economic reporters, providing a forum for economic reporters to discuss topical issues and share best practices in effective economic reporting. As for the website, every effort was made to ensure that it is user-friendly and continuously updated to convey information about the Center's recent and upcoming events. Also, in keeping with the spirit of public interest, visitors have been allowed to download ECES publications free of charge. For a complete list of all our available publications since 1996, please review the Appendix (page 80).

ECES Publications





View on News*

A daily comment on important news on the same day of its release. Issued in Arabic only, **View on News** aims to inform the public opinion and business community on key domestic and global economic developments and their impact on the Egyptian economy.



Our Economy and the World*

A weekly comment on important world news. Issued in both Arabic and English, **Our Economy and the World** aims to inform public opinion and the business community about global economic developments and their implications for the Egyptian economy.



Business Barometer

An assessment of the state of economic activity in Egypt based on a survey of firms in the manufacturing, construction, tourism, transportation, communications and financial sectors. Each edition reports the firms' views about production, sales, inventory, investment and employment.



Distinguished Lectures Series

Based on lectures delivered by international scholars and thought leaders known for their practical experience and contribution to economic thought. Each publication includes the paper as well as a summary of the subsequent discussion.



Policy Viewpoint Series

Reflecting the official stance of ECES on key economic and policy issues in Egypt, the Policy Viewpoint Series is used to convey the results of extensive research in a concise, non-technical manner.

* New publications introduced in 2016.





Egypt's Economic Profile and Statistics

Intended mainly for investors and the business community, it provides summary data and information on various aspects of the Egyptian economy.



Books

Published on key economic issues, each book comprises multiple working papers that address a wide range of issues.



Working Paper Series

It represents work in progress rather than conclusive results, and aims at making research results available early on to promote the exchange of ideas.



Egypt's Economic Crises: The Way Out and Possible Solutions*

This series of working papers aims to support economic reform in Egypt through a set of policy recommendations that would contribute to placing the Egyptian economy on the right track.

* New publications introduced in 2016.



Sectoral Competitiveness Observatory*

To keep up with the rapid changes in the global economic environment, the Center has launched an observatory that tracks the different variables affecting the competitiveness of the Egyptian economy at both the macro and sectoral levels.



Survey of Professional Forecasters (forthcoming)

A quarterly report that includes numerical short- and mediumterm forecasts of the main macroeconomic indicators based on the input of reputable local and international institutions producing forecasts for the Egyptian economy.



Social Justice Observatory (forthcoming)

ECES is in the process of developing an observatory of social justice indicators. As a first step, a set of indicators are being compiled for the quality of life in rural Egypt based on a comprehensive survey conducted by CAPMAS (2015), in addition to an analysis of the problems and challenges facing 4,500 villages nationwide.



In 2016, ECES underwent a change of leadership and a re-orientation of its strategic direction to focus primarily on supporting policy reform in Egypt, with the objective of enhancing economic efficiency combined with social justice. ECES aims to position itself as a leading catalyst for change during this period of adjustment. This has been reflected in an ambitious work program, with a clear focus on the following pillars:

- identifying research and information gaps where ECES can provide a notable contribution,
- enhancing the economic policy debate through awareness and dissemination, and
- providing targeted support to stakeholders to ensure the policy reform process results in a sustainable and equitable growth path.

Stakeholder involvement is crucial for the creation of a platform for public debate that is based on both updated information and solid analysis. Since the beginning of 2016, ECES has been actively engaging with members of the Egyptian Parliament, which is unprecedented for economic think tanks in Egypt. Through a specialized series of workshops entitled "Parliamentary Papers," ECES has provided a platform for MPs to establish direct dialogues with economic experts on various issues pertaining to policy reform.



In addition, channels of communication with the government have been re-opened to identify areas where ECES could provide support with maximum impact. Through its renowned network of economic experts and representatives from the business community, as well as active channels of communication with various local and international think tanks, ECES is uniquely positioned to act as a catalyst in the reform process, in addition to ensuring that efforts are concerted to achieve maximum impact. To augment its communication strategy, ECES launched its new Facebook page in early 2016 as a platform to reach out to the wider community (https://www.facebook.com/eces.org.eg).

In what follows, a brief description is given of ECES research activities completed over the course of 2016 until the end of October, followed by ongoing research activities. More detailed descriptions and policy recommendations are available through the ECES website (www.eces.org.eg) and Facebook page (@eces.org.eg).

You can easily scan this QR code using your smart phone to visit our website

* This feature requires a QR code scanner app





Education Reform in Egypt: The Road That Must be Traveled

es and Work

January 16th

While Egypt has made excellent improvements in access to basic education over the past decade, its free public basic education system enduresvv significant inequities and inefficiencies. In collaboration with the Specialized Presidential Council for Education and Scientific Research and AI Alfi Foundation, ECES held a conference to contribute, together with some of the foremost Egyptian education thought leaders, to: i) reach a common understanding of the most critical elements of Egypt's education reform agenda; and ii) explore the new frontier of thinking behind the global education agenda.

The conference shed light on the main elements of the Global Education Reform Agenda. It then focused on the Egyptian Education Reform agenda, highlighting both the initiatives of the Specialized Presidential Education Reform Agenda and the initiatives of the Specialized Presidential Council for Education and Scientific Research, in addition to non-governmental initiatives and success stories. Finally, it discussed the future of education reform in Egypt and the key elements thereof, with a view to identifying reform priorities.



Speakers of the Conference









Shots from "Education Reform in Egypt: The Road That Must be Traveled" Conference.



Special Thanks to Mr. Sherif El-Diwany, ECES Executive Director (2014 – 2015)

Solid Waste: A Jewel in the Rough

April 9th

Waste management is one of the key problems in Egypt due to the ever-expanding volume and complexity of municipal and agriculture waste. Such waste can be turned into organic fertilizers, energy and refuse-derived fuel (RDF). However, such resources remain untapped, not to mention the misconceptions about the sector as a whole. In this context, an ECES conference was held to provide a forum for discussing scientific information and working on the current situation of waste management among professionals, researchers, investors and government officials.

In particular, it discussed the need to arrive at suitable strategies to waste management and raise awareness about the importance of linking recycled solid waste products to mega projects such as the reclamation of 1.5 million feddans of desert land, cement industry and energy production, in a way that achieves improved allocation of resources, economic efficiency and better quality of life.

Conferences and Works



Left-to-right: Dr. Khaled Fahmy, Minister of Environment; Eng. Ibrahim Mehleb, President's Advisor for Mega and Strategic Projects; Mr. Omar Mohanna, ECES Chairman; & Dr. Abla Abdel-Latif, ECES Executive Director and Director of Research.



Left-to-right: Mr. Karim ElSabee, Reliance Investments; Dr. Fatma El-Zahraa Mohsen, Ministry of Environment; Dr. Hisham Sherif, Egyptian Company for Solid Waste Recycling (ECARU).



Left-to-right: Dr. Reda Farahat, Governor of Qualiobeya; Gen. Mohamed Kamal El-Daly, Governor of Giza; Gen. Yassin Taher, Governor of Ismailia; & Dr. Abla Abdel-Latif, ECES Executive Director and Director of Research.



Left-to-right: Ms. Dalia Sakr, International Finanace Corporation (IFC); Dr. Hatem El-Gamal, Empower for New and Renewable Energy; Mr. Ayma, Korra, Consukorra; & Dr. Omaima Sawan, Agricultural Research Center.



Shots from "Solid Waste: A Jewel in the Rough" Conference.



Building Inclusive Institutions: Lessons from South Africa

May 30th

South Africa has achieved a lot on its path to socio-economic transformation since the beginning of democracy in 1994. Although much is known about the motivation and nature of the policies and institutional changes that drove this transformation, little is known about how they were executed. This workshop aimed to review the South African experience in institutional reforms to draw lessons about why they succeeded. The emphasis is less on the "what" of reforms and more on the "how." In particular, insights were provided on the trade-offs policymakers faced, as well as the sequencing and complementarities among the various reforms. The goal was to discuss how Egypt can benefit from the South African experience in reforming its institutions.



Left-to-right: Mr. Asad Alam, Country Director, Egypt, Yemen, and Djibouti, the World Bank; Mr. Omar Mohanna, ECES Chairman; & Dr. Abla Abdel-Latif, ECES Executive Director and Director of Research.



Guests and attendees of the Discussion.











Shots from "Building Inclusive Institutions: Lessons from South Africa" Discussion.



Announcing Results of the 2016-2017 Global Competitiveness Report in Egypt and Launching the Sectoral Competitiveness Observatory

October 3rd

In the context of announcing the results of the World Economic Forum's (WEF) Global Competitiveness Report (GCR) 2016-2017 in Egypt, this conference analyzed the results of the GCR report and its implications for the Egyptian economy from the perspective of economic analysts, the government and the business community. In addition, ECES launched its Sectoral Competitiveness Observa-tory (SCO), which aims to enhance the com-petitiveness of specific productive and service sectors through benchmarking Egypt against comparator countries. It also aims to contribute to guiding economic policies that positively impact these sectors. This new activity started with the ready-made garments and food processing industries. Other sectors will follow.







Speakers of the Conference.











Shots from "Announcing Results of the 2016-2017 Global Competitiveness Report in Egypt and Launching the Sectoral Competitiveness Observatory" Conference.



In support of economic reform in Egypt, ECES prepared a proposed policy package of comprehensive reforms that would contribute to placing the Egyptian economy on the right path.

To present its vision, ECES held a series of workshops throughout September and October 2016 under the umbrella of "Egypt's Economic Crises: The Way Out and Possible Solutions."

Workshop 1

Egypt's Choice: The High Road to Prosperity or the Low Road to the Abyss

September 20th

This workshop presented a review of the current state of the Egyptian economy, benchmarking Egypt against comparators. It highlighted paths to development, comparing the high road of reform versus the low road of reform, as well as the role of investment in physical infrastructure. It also highlighted a three-year development plan (take-off plan) in addition to a six-month rescue plan. Implementation was assessed in light of the latest developments in the international arena.



Speakers of Workshop 1: "Egypt's Choice: The High Road to Prosperity or the Low Road to the Abyss"

Vay Out and Possible Solutions







Guests of Workshop 1: "Egypt's Choice: The High Road to Prosperity or the Low Road to the Abyss"

Workshop 2:

An Alternative Vision for Reforming Investment Regulations in Egypt

September 25th

This workshop discussed the evolution of investment in Egypt, in addition to high-lighting investment regulations over 45 years and presenting a proposed legislative agenda. The success of the latter, it noted, hinges on proper follow-up of implementation, building on previous studies and legislations instead of starting from square one, and drawing on international experience. Special emphasis was placed on universal rather than fragmented implementation, avai-lability of human and financial resources and outreach efforts.

Workshop 3: The Future of Energy in Egypt

October 17th

This workshop shed light on new and renewable energy sources in light of their increasing significance and growing concern for the country's energy security. The broad aim is to develop and deploy renewable energy, energy efficiency and energy conservation measures to supplement the energy requirements of the country and gradually move away from traditional energy sources that rely on fossil fuel.

Egypt's Economic Grises: The V







Speakers and Guests of Workshop 3: "The Future of Energy in Egypt "

Workshop 4: Reforming Tax Policy in Egypt

October 24th

This workshop discussed the current features of Egypt's tax policy, including the high rates of tax evasion, tax avoidance and lack of tax administration capacities. The aim was to highlight the main problems in the current tax system in order to recommend reforms that can improve tax compliance and economic competitiveness, while taking into account social justice, sus-tainable development and job creation.





Speakers of Workshop 4: "Reforming Tax Policy in Egypt"

Vay Out and Possible Solutions





Guests of Workshop 4: "Reforming Tax Policy in Egypt"

The Eigenborn Certage States of Control of C





Speakers and Guests of Workshop 5 "Urban Transport and Solving Greater Cairo's Traffic Problem"

Workshop 5:

Urban Transport and Solving Greater Cairo's Traffic Problem

October 31st

This workshop analyzed Greater Cairo's traffic woes and offered ways to solve the problem, drawing on international experience and stud-ies about Egypt conducted by the World Bank, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and Egypt's Ministry of Transport. The workshop also highlighted lessons learned from previous unsuccessful experiences.

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Workshop 6:

Proposals to Reform the Education System in Egypt

November 7th

This workshop put forth specific recommendations for improving the education system in light of targets set in the Constitution and spelled out in the government reform plan. Among the main recommendations of the workshop is the importance of establishing an education commission to improve curricula, boost quality control and enforce accountability.







Workshop 6 Guests & Attendees.









Workshop 7:

Fighting Poverty and Inequality: What Works and What Doesn't

November 14th

This workshop discussed the twin goals of the World Bank, namely to eliminate extreme poverty and boost shared prosperity. In fighting poverty, the workshop stressed on the importance of promoting high and sustained growth, investing in human capital and insuring the poor and the vulnerable. Transparency and accountability in government, prudent macroeconomic management and pro-poor growth policies are examples given of some policies that help reduce poverty and inequality.



Workshop 8: The Role of the State

November 21st

This workshop discussed the economic role of the state from a historical perspective and outlined how this role has evolved over the years. The aim is to assess whether state intervention leads to benefits to society, what the determinants are, why policy makers intervene and how to bring about a healthier balance between states and markets for the benefit of both the economy and society.





Workshop 8: "The Role of the State"

Workshop 9:

Consumer Protection Agency and the System of Internal Trade

December 5th

The final workshop in this series discussed basic consumer rights as enshrined in the UN Charter and Egypt's Constitution. It reviewed ongoing efforts to enhance consumer awareness of their rights as well as the efforts made to enforce those rights.





Workshop 9: "Consumer Protection Agency and the System of Internal Trade"

Parliamentary Papers Series

Parliamentary Papers is a series of workshops that primarily aim to explain the technical aspects of various economic issues facing Egypt with a view to supporting the members of parliament in their quest to serve their country. These workshops have been initiated with the belief that stakeholder involvement is crucial to creating a platform for public debate that is based on updated information and solid analysis. As of March 2016, ECES held 9 workshops for Parliamentarians that discussed the following topics:

Workshops 1 to 4: Reading the Government Program

Workshops 1 to 4: Reading the Government Program March 30th, April 3rd & April 16th



1st Workshop speakers: Dr. Ziad Bahaa Eldin, founder of Tiba Consultancy Center; & Dr. Ahmed Galal, Executive Director, Economic Research Forum (ERF).



 4^{th} Workshop speakers from the Industrial Sector: Mr. Mohamed Kassem, Egyptian International Co. for Trade; & Mr. Mohamed Tayel, Orion for Food Industries.





2nd Workshop speakers: Dr. Magued Osman, CEO and Director of the Egyptian Center for Public Opinion Research "Baseera"; Dr. Hossam Badrawi, founder of Badrawi for Education & Development; & Dr. Khaled Zakaria, Faculty of Economy & Political Science, Cairo University.



3rd Workshop speakers: Dr. Alaa Ghannam, Health Sector Reform Policies Expert; Dr. Ali Al-Saedy, former Minister of Industry & Electricity; & Dr. Osama Okail, Professor of Highway, Transportation, Traffic & Airports Engineering, Ain Shams University.



 4^{th} Workshop speakers, from the Agricultural Sector: Mr. Ayman Korra, Consukorra; & from Tourism Sector: Mr. Elhamy El-Zayat, EMECO Travel.



2nd Workshop guests & attendees.

Parliamentary Papers Series













Shots of guests and attendees of the 4 workshops titled "Reading the Government Program"



Workshop 5: How to Read the Government Budget

April 26th



5th Workshop speakers: Dr. Khaled Zakaria, Public Finance Professor, Faculty of Economy & Political Science, Cairo University; & Dr. Mohsen Adel, Financal Analyst & Deputy Head of the Egyptian Association for Finance and Investment.

Workshop 7: Food Safety Commission Law July 31st



7th Workshop speakers: Dr. Emil Eskander, the renowned Food Security Professional; Cons. Hisham Ragab, Legal Counselor to the Minister of Trade and Industry; & Dr. Hussein Mansour, Director of the National Food Safety Agency Unit.

Workshop 6: The Value-Added Tax (VAT) July 4th



6th Workshop speakers: Dr. Mohamed Allam, Tax Sector, KPMG Hazem Hassan; Dr. Amr Al-Monayer, Deputy Minister of Finance; & Mr. Mamdouh Omar, former Head of the Tax Authority.

Workshop 8: The Local Administration Law: Local Administration Issues, Planning, Local Financing (A Comparative Study of Proposed Draft Laws)

November 12th



8th Workshop speaker: Dr. Khaled Zakaria, Public Finance Professor, Faculty of Economy & Political Science, Cairo University.

Qualit Life in Rural Ed

Towards a Better Quality of Life in Rural Egypt: Qalyoubia

May 10th

Capitalizing on a recent detailed survey carried out by CAPMAS covering the characteristics of life in Egypt's 4,500 villages, this ECES project has three interlinked objectives. It aims, first, to construct a quality of life index to rank governorates as well as the villages within each one. The ranking is done to reveal the geographical injustice in the accessibility to basic services influencing people's quality of life, as well as identify the responsibility for such injustices. Based on this information and analysis, the second objective of the project is to prepare a detailed action plan for each governorate to improve the quality of life in all villages of the governorate, along with a priority list for the worst ten villages in each one for immediate action.

The last objective of the project is to follow up on the implementation of proposed actions through a follow-up survey by CAPMAS and the measurement of specific KPIs.

The quality of life indicator comprises seven dimensions: education, health, infrastructure (access to water, sanitation, telephones, electricity and gas, and roads), housing, transportation, environment and culture.









"Towards a Better Quality of Life in Rural Egypt: Qalyoubia" Conference.



The choice of dimensions is based on ECES's field and desk research on what contributes most to the reduction of inequality and improved quality of life in rural areas. The 'culture' dimension is an innovation to quality of life indicators, which are typically restricted to physical needs. The output of this research was presented in a roundtable discussion at ECES.



Left-to-right: Hisham El-Helbawy, Advisor to the Minister of Local Development; Dr. Abla Abdel-Latif; ECES Executive Director and Director of Research; Mr. Omar Mohanna, ECES Chairman; Gen. Abu Bakr Al-Gendy, Head of Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics (CAPMAS); & Dr. Reda Farahat, Qalyoubia Governor.



ECES Team, left-to-right: Morkos Magdy, Assistant Researcher; Rama Said, Senior Economist; & Aliaa Abdallah, Research Analyst.

Towards a Better Quality of Life in Rural Upper Egypt

September 29th - October 1st

Capitalizing on the Qalyoubia pilot project, this workshop, held in El Gouna, discussed the construction of a quality of life index for Upper Egypt with a view to using it to rank governorates as well as the villages within each one. The rankings will reveal the geo-graphical injustice in the accessibility to basic services influencing people's quality of life, as well as identify the responsibility for such an injustice. The objective is to provide a detailed action plan for improving the quality of life in Upper Egypt.



Guests of the 2nd workshop.



To ensure proper dissemination, ECES has paid special attention to the role of the media by establishing the tradition of holding an annual three-day workshop for economic reporters, providing them with a forum to discuss topical issues and share best practices in effective economic reporting, in addition to exposing them to new ideas that can enable them to do their jobs more effectively.

Workshop 1:

Media, between Dominance of the Economy, the Public Pulse and Sovereignty of the State

May 26th

The first workshop addressed the following topics:

- Regional developments and their implications for the Egyptian economy;
- Major economic and social issues in Egypt;
- Public policies and the popular mood: With a focus on the Suez Canal Economic Zone;
- Professional development for economic reporters;
- How to read the state budget;
- Main forecasting and economic analysis tools for economic reporters;
- Population census and economic indicators: Concepts and tools;
- Egyptian parliament and economic and social issues;
- Anticipated legislations to regulate the media.

Series





Dr. Magued Osman, the Egyptian Center for Public Opinion Research (Baseera); & Dr. Ahmad Fikri Abdul Wahab, the General Authority for the Suez Canal Economic Zone.





Eng. Mohamed Zakaria Mohieddin, member of parliament; & Eng. Khaled Youssef, member of parliament.





Dr. Diaa Noureddine, American University in Cairo (AUC); & Dr. Mohsen Adel, the Egyptian Association for Finance and Investment.





Mr. Amr Khafagi, Al Shorouk Newspaper; & Mr. Ahmed Eid, member of parliament.





General/ Abu Bakr El-Gendy, the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics; & Dr. Hala Yousef, the Presidential Community Development Advisory Council.



Left-to-right: Dr. Abla Abdel-Latif, ECES Executive Director and Director of Research; Mr. Amr Moussa, Former Secretary General of the Arab League; Mr. Omar Mohanna, ECES Chairman; & Mr. Mohamed Negm, Association of Economic Reporters.

Economic Reporters Workshop



Economic Reporters Workshop 1: Media, between Dominance of the Economy, the Public Pulse and Sovereignty of the State.



Economic reporters, editors and guests of the 3-day workshop.

Workshop 2:

Debates outside Parliament

November 23rd

This three-days workshop held in Luxor explored Egypt's economic outlook following the latest economic developments and critical decisions taken by the government. The latter include receiving the first tranches of the World Bank and IMF loans, floating the Egyptian pound, raising the interest rate and increasing energy prices. Specifically, the workshop discussed a vision for Egypt following the recent decisions, the investment law, the local administration law, the civil association law and the media law. Pros and cons of these developments were explored and specific recommendations spelled out to promote economic growth and social justice with a view to placing Egypt on the high road to development.



Left-to-right: Dr. Alaa Sabaa; Eng. Tarek Tawfik; Dr. Ziad Bahaa Eldin; Mr. Omar Mohanna; Dr. Abla Abdel-Latif; Mr. Abdallah El Sennawy; Eng. Khaled Youssef; Mr. Alaa Hashem; & Mr. Haitham El Hariri.

Series



3-days Economic Reporters Workshop 2: Debates outside Parliament

Contribution of Services in Valu



With a Focus on Ready-Made Garments, Engineering and Food Industries and Agricultural Crops

April 27th - 28th

Services play a strategic role in providing inputs to the production of goods or services. The backward and forward linkages with other sectors of the economy make the services sector the real "glue" for value chains, be they global or domestic. This reality is not only true for advanced industries such as ICT equipment or sophisticated cars, but it also holds for the most basic of production operations such as producing a loaf of bread. A recent case study by the Fung Global Institute in Hong Kong on the value-chain for the production and consumption of bread revealed that services account for 72 percent of the final cost of a loaf of bread.

In this context, three roundtables were held to respectively address the ready-made garments industry, engineering industries, and food industries and agricultural crops. Each roundtable analyzed the results of a survey conducted by ECES to determine the services related to the product's value chain and the cost thereof. The aim is to reduce the cost of the product through improved economic efficiency of these services and to identify policies and measures that need improvement to achieve this objective.

ie Chains and Product Cost









"Contribution of Services in Value Chains and Product Cost" Roundtable Discussion

Activities in Partnership with Ot



Local Economic and Employment Development Intervention Plan – with the International Labor Organization (ILO)



This project tackles Egypt's most pressing employment challenges, particularly the lack of decent work for the youth in the governorates of Qalyoubia and Monoufia. It is part of the ILO's framework "Decent Jobs for Egypt's Young People - Tackling the Challenge Together," designed to address the labor market challenges of the youth at the regional level. The overall objective of the project is to strengthen the economic security of the two governorates through the creation of more and better employment opportunities and increase employability of the local labor force.

In this context, two studies were prepared to determine the problems facing youth employment in order to find appropriate solutions. They focused on identifying the investment opportunities available to the youth in both governorates. In December 2016, ECES organized a conference entitled, "The Search for Sustainable Jobs for Egypt's Youth: Qalyoubia and Monoufia Governorates" in collaboration with the ILO to discuss the main findings of the two studies. Subsequent studies of other governorates in Egypt will be conducted as part of the ECES-ILO collaboration.

her Institutions

for Sustainable Jobs for Egypt's Youth: ubia and Menoufia Governorates



Left to right: Dr. Abla Abdel-Latif, ECES Executive Director and Director of Research; Dr. Ahmed Zaki Badr, Minister of Local Development; Mr. Omar Mohanna, ECES Chairman; Mr. Luca Fedi, International Labor Organization (ILO).

ch for Sustainable Jobs for Egypt's Youlyoubia and Menoufia Governorates



Left to right: Dr. El-Hosseiny Nowar, Faculty of Agriculture, Benha University: Eng. Khaled Youssef, Member of Parliament; Dr. Abla Abdel-Latif, ECES Executive Director and Director of Research; & Dr. Hossam Shalabi, El-Arabi Foundation.



Left to right: Ms. Nashwa Belal, International Labor Organization (ILO) Dr. Abla Abdel-Latif, ECES Executive Director and Director of Research; Mr. Alaa Hashim, ECES Treasurer; Mr. Ahmed El-Alfi, Sawari Ventures; & Mr. Luca Fedi, International Labor Organization (ILO).



Left to right: Mr. Mahmoud El-Shami, Asfour Crystal; Dr. Abdel-Moneim Hafez, Alexandria Business Association (ABA); Dr. Hesham Abdel-Basset, Monoufia Governor; Eng. Tarek Tawfik, ECES Vice Chairman; Mr. Mostafa El-Gabaly, Abo Zaabal for Fertilizers & Chemicals; & Gen. Farahat El-Sobky, Qalyoubia Governor.





"The Search for Sustainable Jobs for Egypt's Youth: Qalyoubia and Monoufia Governorates" Conference Speakers & Guests.

Activities in Partnership with Ot

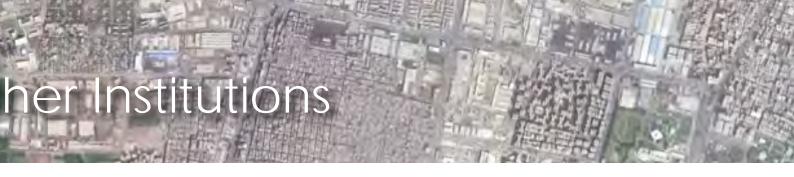
Towards Gender-Responsive Economic Policy and Legislation in Egypt – with the National Council for Women (NCW) & UN Women





Undertaken in collaboration with UN Women and the National Council for Women, this project aims to identify the gender impact of economic policy in Egypt. It also aims to highlight women's need for better economic performance, in addition to promoting women's knowledge and their participation in existing initiatives in Egypt, such as "SMEs Presidential Initiative" and "Your Job Near Your Home," among others. Through holding several focus group meetings across the country as well as several field surveys, the project aims to raise awareness about the gender issue in Egypt.





Cluster-based Development as an Opportunity for Job Creation and Poverty Reduction in Egypt - with the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)



The conventional thinking is to provide developing countries with what they lack, such as financial resources and sound institutions. However, it can be a daunting task to establish well-functioning financial systems and institutions. An often more viable approach is to enhance existing strengths embedded in rural areas.

One noted approach is the cluster-based development model. Egypt has a large number of clusters; however, unlike many Asian and Latin American countries where cluster-based development was a driver of agricultural and rural development, most of these clusters remain small.

This roundtable was held in collaboration with the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) under the USAID-funded project "Evaluating Impact and Building Capacity" (EIBC). The objective of the roundtable was to inform policy makers in Egypt and to refine the research agenda on cluster-based development.



Left-to-right: Dr. Abla Abdel-Latif, ECES Executive Director and Director of Research; Dr. Clemens Breisinger, Economist and Senior Research Fellow at IFPRI, Xiaobo Zhang, Senior Research Fellow at IFPRI; & Heba Handoussa, Director of the Egypt Network for Integrated Development (ENID)



View on News

View on News is a new ECES activity that presents a daily comment on an important piece of news on the same day of its release. Issued in Arabic only, **View on News** aims to inform the public opinion and business community on key domestic and global economic developments and their impact on the Egyptian economy. As of end of December 2016, ECES produced and disseminated 168 issues of **Views on News**.





Our Economy and the World

Our Economy and the World is a new ECES activity that presents a weekly comment on important world news. Issued in both Arabic and English, It aims to inform public opinion and the business community about global economic developments and their implications for the Egyptian economy. As of end of December 2016, ECES produced and disseminated 40 issues of **Our Economy and the World**.



Business Barometer

1. Issue #39, March 2016:

The March 2016 edition of the **Business Barometer (BB)** presented the survey results of a stratified panel of 474 firms regarding their perceptions about the performance of the Egyptian economy, as well as an assessment of their own business for the second quarter of FY15/16 (October-December) and their outlook for the third quarter of FY15/16 (January-March). In this quarter, **the Business Barometer Index (BBI)** dropped two points, reflecting the business community's concerns about the slow recovery of the Egyptian economy. These concerns were in line with the decline in real GDP growth rate in July-September of FY14/15, which decreased to 3.1 percent from 5.6 percent in the same quarter in the previous year.





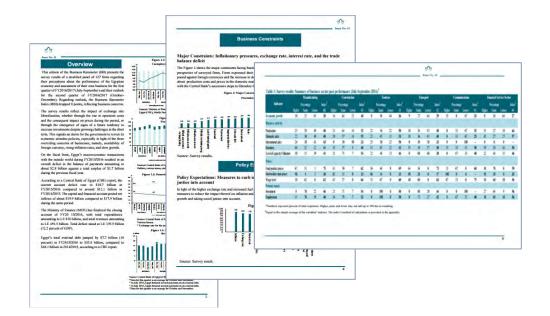
Regular Reports

2. Issue #40, August 2016:

The August 2016 edition of the **Business Barometer (BB)** presented the survey results of a stratified panel of 120 firms regarding their perceptions about the performance of the Egyptian economy, as well as an assessment of their own business for the fourth quarter of FY15/16 (April-June), and their outlook for the first quarter of FY16/17 (July-September). Despite the relative improvement in economic indices, the limited increase caused the government to revisit its policies with a view to stimulating the Egyptian economy, particularly in light of the three overriding concerns of the business community; namely, foreign currency availability, escalating inflation and slow growth.

3. Issue #41, December 2016:

The August 2016 edition of **the Business Barometer (BB)** presents the survey results of a stratified panel of 127 firms regarding their perceptions about the performance of the Egyptian economy, as well as an assessment of their own business for the first quarter of FY16/17 (July-September) and their outlook for the second quarter of FY16/17 (October-December). Regarding outlook, the **Business Barometer Index (BBI)** dropped eight points, reflecting business concerns.

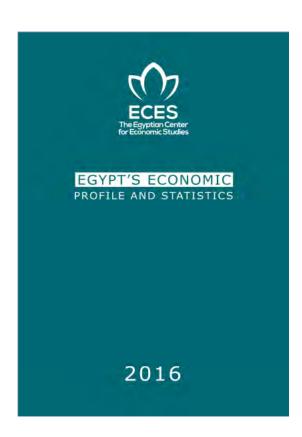




Egypt's Economic Profile and Statistics

Egypt's Economic Profile and Statistics is an annual booklet containing summary data and information about the various aspects of the Egyptian economy. Designed in a graphical and tabular format, this publication is intended mainly for the business community and investors seeking convenient information about the main developments in the Egyptian economy.

Besides reviewing the main developments in 2015 and the statistical report (2014/2015), the 2016 edition includes new sections that highlight the government plan (2015/2016) and Egypt's future development maps.



Financial Statements



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Auditor's Report

TO THE MEMBERS OF

THE EGYPTIAN CENTER FOR ECONOMIC STUDIES (ECES)- NOT FOR PROFIT ORGANIZATION

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Egyptian Center for Economic Studies (ECES) - not for profit organization, which comprise the statement of financial position as of 31 December 2016, and the statements of revenue and expenses, and receipts and disbursements for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes.

Management's responsibility for the Financial Statements

These financial statements are the responsibility of the Center's management, as the management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the Egyptian Accounting Standards and cash basis as shown in note (3/A) of the notes to the financial statements and in light of relevant Egyptian laws and regulations. The management's responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. This responsibility also includes selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Egyptian Standards on Auditing and in light of relevant Egyptian laws and regulations. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the Center's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Center's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.



We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion on the financial statements.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Egyptian Center for Economic Studies (ECES) –not for profit organization. As of 31 December 2016, its financial performance and its receipts and disbursements for the year then ended in accordance with the Egyptian Accounting Standards and cash basis as shown in note (3/A) of the notes to the financial statements and in light of relevant Egyptian laws and regulations.

Basis of Accounting

As stated in note (3/A) to the financial statements, the statement of receipts and disbursements is prepared in accordance with the cash basis, while the statement of revenue and expenses is prepared in accordance with the accrual basis.

Emphasis of Matter

Without qualifying our opinion, we draw attention to Notes No. 7 and 11 to the financial statements where the Center retains amounts received from various donors to finance research activities in a suspended bank account until the approval of the Ministry of Social Solidarity is obtained for each amount separately.

Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

The Center maintains proper books of accounts that include all that is required by the Law and the Center's bylaws, and the financial statements are in agreement therewith.

The financial information included in the Board of Directors' report, which has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of Law No. 84 of 2002 and its Executive Regulations, is in agreement with the relevant information in the Center's books.

Taha M. Khaled

What &

Fellow of ICAEW

Fellow of ESAA

RAA No. 5136

EFSA No. 28

Khaled of Co. BDO

Cairo, 11 April 2017

Financial Statements

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

31 December 2016

	Note	2016 L.E.	2015 L.E.
ASSETS			
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Fixed assets	5	5,154,273	5,085,332
Restricted cash	6	50,000,000	50,000,000
Total Non-Current assets		55,154,273	55,085,332
CURRENT ASSETS			
Balance of fund investment certificates	9	3,382,414	3,095,386
Other debit balances	8	1,773,787	167,038
Cash and bank balances	7	2,786,785	4,254,702
Total current assets		7,942,986	7,517,126
Total assets		63,097,259	62,602,458
SURPLUS, ENDOWMENT AND LIABILITIES			
SURPLUS AND ENDOWMENT			
Surplus funds	10	10,510,111	12,334,057
Restricted endowment fund	6	50,000,000	50,000,000
Total surplus and endowment		60,510,111	62,334,057
LIABILITIES			
Other credit balances	11	2,587,148	268,401
Total surplus and endowment and liabilities		63,097,259	62,602,458

Ms. Magda Awadallah

Magde Awadallah

Deputy Executive Director for Finance & Administration

2 -- 5

Mr. Alaa Hashim Treasurer Q 12-

Mr. Omar Mohanna Chairman

	Note	2016 L.E.	2015 L.E.	
S:				
ment Fund interest income – Net	12	5,340,078	4,766,041	
mbers subscriptions/contributions	13	590,000	460,000	
earch and seminars revenues		243,000	1,340,682	
cation Revenue and others		280	5,679	
n exchanges gain		972,067	7,257	
hange in market value of fund's	9	287,028	250,828	
venues		7,432,453	6,830,487	
NSES:				
ries and other benefits		(5,457,910)	(4,025,007)	
rational and administrative expenses	14	(3,586,705)	(2,243,890)	
		(9,044,615)	(6,268,897)	
d assets depreciation	5	(211,784)	(145,111)	
al expenses		(9,256,399)	(6,414,008)	

(Shortage)/Excess of revenue over expenses

(1,823,946)

416,479

Financial Statements

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2016

	Note	2016 L.E.	2015 L.E.
Cash and bank balances at the beginning of the year		4,254,702	4,918,062
ADD:			
Receipts during the year:			
Endowment Fund interest income-Net	12	5,340,078	4,766,041
Members subscriptions/contributions	13	590,000	460,000
Revenues from research and seminars		243,000	1,340,682
Publication revenues and others		280	5,679
Change in other credit balances	11	2,318,747	(906,502)
Foreign exchange gain		972,067	7,257
Total receipts		9,464,172	5,673,157
LESS:			
Disbursements during the year:			
Purchases of fixed assets	5	(280,725)	(51,863)
Operational and administrative expenses	14	(3,586,705)	(2,243,890)
Salaries and other benefits		(5,457,910)	(4,025,007)
Change in other debit balances	8	(1,606,749)	(15,757)
Total disbursements		(10,932,089)	(6,336,517)
Cash and bank balances at the end of the year	7	2,786,785	4,254,702



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 December 2016

ACTIVITIES

Introduction

The Egyptian Center for Economic Studies ("ECES" or the "Center") is a non-profit, non-government research center, established in January 1992 and registered with the Ministry of Social Affairs and Cairo Governorate, in accordance with Law No. 32 of 1964 as amended by Law No. 84 of 2002. The Center's head office is located at 2005C Cornish El Nil, Ramlet Boulaq Nile City Building- North Tower, 8th Floor, Cairo, Egypt.

The mission of the Center is to promote economic development in Egypt by conducting and disseminating applied policy research. The aim is to develop viable policy options for Egypt in light of international experience. The Center's activities are carried out in the spirit of public interest.

The Management of the Center approved the issuance of the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2016 on 29 March 2017.

ECES Objectives are to:

- Provide policy-makers with results of applied economic policy research to support the policy formulation process.
- Foster an active dialogue between policy makers and private sector institutions.
- Strengthen the capacity of government institutions for policy analysis.
- Promote applied economic policy research and the advancement of the science of economics, finance and management.
- Promote public understanding of economic development issues and encourage active participation in the economic process.

Sources of Funding:

Restricted Endowment Fund

In May 2001, the Ministry of International Cooperation (MIC) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) entered into an Agreement with the Center to endow ECES with a grant of L.E. 50 million to be invested for the benefit of the recipient. The objective of this grant is to ensure the independence and sustainability of the Center. This grant is considered to be the main source of finance for the Center. The actual transfer of the fund was made in April 2002. The center is allowed to utilize the interest generated from investing the Endowment Fund, and is prohibited from utilizing the principal amount without the prior written approval from USAID in accordance with the terms of the agreement.

According to the agreement, two asset managers currently manage the endowment portfolio. This endowment creates a legacy for the Center. (Note 6)



Financial Statements

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

31 December 2016

Other Sources of Finance

In addition to the Endowment Fund, there are other sources of funding, such as the income derived from research activities received from various donors and approved by the Ministry of Social Solidarity, as well as the annual subscription, membership fees, and contributions made by ECES members.

2. USE OF ESTIMATES AND JUDGMENTS

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with Egyptian Accounting Standards requires management to make judgments, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of policies and reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis of making the judgments and assumptions about the carrying values of assets and liabilities. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognized in the period in which the estimate is revised and the future periods, if affected.

The estimates and underlying assumptions that affect the financial statements are as follows:

- Estimated useful life for property and equipment
- Assets Impairment
- Taxes

3. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The Center applies the following accounting policies with consistency, which agrees with the policies applied in preparing the annual financial statements as follows:

a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements were prepared in accordance with the Egyptian Accounting Standards and related local laws and regulations.

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention, modified for measurement of investments in fund investment certificates at fair value through revenues and expenses.

The statement of revenues and expenses was prepared on accrual basis and the statement of receipts and disbursements was prepared on a cash basis as required by the Ministry of Social Solidarity.

The financial statements are presented in Egyptian pound.





3. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - Continued

b) Property, equipment and their depreciation

Property and equipment are recorded on purchase at cost and are presented in the financial statements net of accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Historical costs include costs associated with the purchase of the asset.

Depreciation is provided on a straight line basis to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life for each category of fixed assets as follows:

	Estimated useful life
Office premises	50 years
Decoration & fixtures	10 years
Motor vehicles	5 years
Office furniture	5 years
Office equipment	3 years

c) Assets impairment

Asset values are reviewed at the financial statements date to determine if there is any indication of impairment. In case of such an indication, an estimate is made of the recoverable amount and compared to the book value. Impairment loss, being the excess of book value over its recoverable amount, is taken to the statement of revenues and expenses.

d) Cash and cash equivalents

For the purposes of preparing receipts and disbursements statement, cash and cash equivalents comprise cash at banks and cash held by both asset and investment managements. Restricted cash represents the amount of the Restricted Endowment Fund, which is disclosed in the financial statements as long term assets.

The center retain amounts received from various donors to finance research activities in suspended bank accounts, subject to the approval from Ministry of Social Solidarity, then transfers the approved amounts to the bank current accounts.

e) Fund investment certificates

Fund investment certificates are recognized at the acquisition by cost and are revalued on the financial statements date at fair value and net change in market value of fund's investment certificates is to be included in the statement of revenues and expenses.

f) Provisions

Provisions are recognized when there is a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of a past event, it is probable that an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits is required to settle this obligation and then a reliable estimate can be made for the obligation.

Provisions are reviewed at the financial statements date and adjusted (if necessary) to present the best current estimate.



Financial Statements

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

31 December 2016

g) Debtors

Impairment losses for other debit balances are provided when there is estimation for amounts not expected to be collected in full and these impairment losses are to be included in the statement of revenues and expenses.

h) Accounts payable

Liabilities represented in amounts to be paid in the future for goods received or services rendered to the Center, whether billed or not billed by the supplier.

i) Revenue recognition

- The endowment fund interest income after deducting taxes of treasury bills is recognized as revenue based on accrual basis.
- The subscription and membership fees are recognized as revenue based on accrual basis.
- Research conducted to others is recognized as revenue based on accrual basis, and upon being approved by the Ministry of Social Solidarity, if needed.
- Interest income is recorded on a time apportionment basis.

j) Expenses

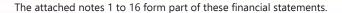
The operating expenses are recognized in the statement of revenues and expenses for the periods during which they are incurred.

k) Pension and social insurance

The Center contributes in the social insurance scheme for the benefit of its employees in accordance with the Social Insurance Law No. 79 of 1975 and its amendments. Contributions are charged to the statement of revenues and expenses in salaries and other benefits item on accrual basis.

I) Foreign currency transactions

The accounting records are maintained in Egyptian pound. Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate ruling at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rate of exchange ruling at the date of the financial statements. All retranslation exchange profit and loss on the date of the financial statements are taken to the statements of revenues and expenses and receipts and disbursements.





4. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS AND RELATED RISK MANAGEMENT

On-balance sheet financial instruments comprise receivables, payables, cash and bank balances and balance of fund investment certificates. Note (3) to the financial statements includes the accounting policies adopted in the recognition and measurement of financial instruments. The significant risks associated with the financial instruments and the procedures followed by the Center to mitigate these risks are as follows:

Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is represented in the nature of ECES activities which maintain significant interest bearing assets. ECES uses two asset managers to ensure that exposure to changes in interest rates is minimized.

· Foreign currency risk

Foreign currency risk is represented by changes of exchange rates, which affect cash inflows and outflows in foreign currency, and the valuation of assets and liabilities in foreign currencies.

Most of ECES's transactions are in Egyptian pound as the main activities are carried out in Egypt. Contracts of services quoted in foreign currency are paid in Egyptian pound, whenever possible. Additionally, total assets and liabilities in foreign currency which has cash nature on the financial statements date are equivalent to LE. 958,936 and LE 436,900 respectively and the following is a list of net of foreign currency balances at the financial statements date:

Foreign currencies	2016 Surplus Equivalent to L.E.	2015 Surplus Equivalent to L.E.
US Dollar	522,036	116,176

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued) 31 December 2016

5. FIXED ASSETS

		vehicles	furniture	equipment	Total
L.E.	L.E.	L.E.	L.E.	L.E.	L.E.
6,660,000	1,051,911	560,053	609,928	1,263,600	10,145,492
-	-	259,000	-	21,725	280,725
6,660,000	1,051,911	819,053	609,928	1,285,325	10,426,217
1,626,880	1,048,309	560,053	609,928	1,214,990	5,060,160
133,200	2,935	51,800	-	23,849	211,784
1,760,080	1,051,244	611,853	609,928	1,238,839	5,271,944
•					
4,899,920	667	207,200	-	46,486	5,154,273
5,033,120	3,602	-	-	48,610	5,085,332
	6,660,000 - 6,660,000 1,626,880 133,200 1,760,080 4,899,920	6,660,000 1,051,911	6,660,000 1,051,911 560,053 259,000 6,660,000 1,051,911 819,053 1,626,880 1,048,309 560,053 133,200 2,935 51,800 1,760,080 1,051,244 611,853	6,660,000 1,051,911 560,053 609,928 259,000 - 6,660,000 1,051,911 819,053 609,928 1,626,880 1,048,309 560,053 609,928 133,200 2,935 51,800 - 1,760,080 1,051,244 611,853 609,928	6,660,000 1,051,911 560,053 609,928 1,263,600 - - 259,000 - 21,725 6,660,000 1,051,911 819,053 609,928 1,285,325 1,626,880 1,048,309 560,053 609,928 1,214,990 133,200 2,935 51,800 - 23,849 1,760,080 1,051,244 611,853 609,928 1,238,839 4,899,920 667 207,200 - 46,486

Cost of property and equipment include fully depreciated assets which are still in use as follows:

	2016 L.E.	2015 L.E.
Motor vehicles	560,053	560,053
Office furniture	609,797	609,797
Office equipment	1,207,265	1,200,186
	3,399,678	3,392,599



6. RESTRICTED CASH

As prescribed in Note (1/C) the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) had endowed the Center with a grant of L.E. 50 million. The restricted cash is invested by two asset managers in treasury bills, bonds and investment certificates of mutual fund. The gross average interest rate on the Endowment Fund restricted cash is approximately 12.38% during the year.

The endowment principal has been distributed between the two asset managers as follows:

	2016	2015
	L.E.	L.E.
Beltone Asset Management Co.	30,000,000	30,000,000
Arab African Investment Management Co.	20,000,000	20,000,000
	50,000,000	50,000,000

ECES is allowed to utilize the interest generated from investing the Endowment Fund to finance its activities, and is prohibited from utilizing the principal amount without the prior written approval from the USAID in accordance with the terms of the agreement.

7. CASH AND BANK BALANCES

	2016 L.E.	2015 L.E.
Cash at banks	1,404,137	1,403,767
Cash at banks – suspended (*) (Note 11)	262,101	36,190
Cash held by asset managers (**) (Note 12)	1,120,547	2,814,745
	2,786,785	4,254,702

^(*) The balance represents in amounts received from various donors to finance research activities and the Center retained them in suspended bank accounts, subject to the approval from Ministry of Social Solidarity. Upon the receipt of the approval, ECES will transfer the approved amounts to the bank current accounts and will be recognized as the Center's revenue.

8. OTHER DEBIT BALANCES

	2016 L.E.	2015 L.E.
Prepaid expenses	55,256	37,408
Other Debit balances (*)	1,718,531	129,630
	1,773,787	167,038

^(*) Other debit balances include definite liabilities as a result of contractual agreements between the Center and the granting authorities to fund a specific activity or research to date. The Center is still waiting for the approvals of the relevant authorities on each contractual agreement separately.

The attached notes 1 to 16 form part of these financial statements.

^(**) The cash held by asset managers represented in interest earned from managing restricted cash. The interest earned remains in banks under the supervision of the asset managers. (Note 6)

Financial Statements

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

31 December 2016

9. BALANCE OF FUND INVESTMENT CERTIFICATES

	2016 L.E.	2015 L.E.
Fund Investment Certificates	3,382,414	3,095,386

Fund Investment Certificates are represented in the following:

	2016		20	15
	Number of certificates	Redemption Value per IC L.E.	Number of certificates	Redemption Value per IC L.E.
CIB Osoul Fund investment certificates	12,188	277.52	12,188	253.97

Net change in market value of fund's investment certificates for the year amounted L.E. 287,028 is to be included in the statement of revenue and expenses.

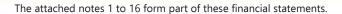
10. SURPLUS FUNDS

	2016	2015
	L.E.	L.E.
Balance at the beginning of the year	12,334,057	11,917,578
(Shortage)/ Excess of revenues over expenses	(1,823,946)	416,479
Balance at the end of the year	10,510,111	12,334,057

11. OTHER CREDIT BALANCES

	2016 L.E.	2015 L.E.
Accrued publication expenses	147,172	17,250
Professional and consulting fees	82,280	141,500
Other suspended credit balances (*)	1,712,748	35,235
Accrued payroll taxes for center's employees (Note 16)	2,099	2,099
Accrued tax (Note 16)	100,533	37,578
Other credit balances	29,289	34,739
Accrued seminar expenses	44,359	-
End of service	468,668	-
	2,587,148	268,401

^(*) Other credit balances include liabilities as a result of contractual agreements between the Center and the granting authorities to fund a specific activity or research to date. The Center is still waiting for the approvals of the relevant authorities on each contractual agreement separately.





ENDOWMENT FUND INTEREST (Restricted Endowment Fund) – NET

Endowment fund interest represented in realized interest after deducting taxes of treasury bills and bonds generated from endowment fund invested by both asset managers. According to Law No. 84 of 2002, ECES as a non-profit organization can receive and invest funds, following the approval of the Ministry of Social Solidarity. ECES obtained such approval to receive the Endowment Fund in September 2002.

The schedule below analyzes the movement of cash transactions held by both asset managers:

	Beltone Asset Management Co. L.E.	Arab African Investment Managemen t Co. L.E.	2016 Total L.E.	2015 Total L.E.
Balance at the beginning of the year	1,567,696	1,247,049	2,814,745	3,535,878
Accrued interest during the year –Net (*)	3,211,824	2,128,254	5,340,078	4,766,041
Cash transferred to the ECES	(4,150,000)	(2,755,000)	(6,905,000)	(5,355,000)
Two asset management fees (Note 14)	(77,378)	(51,898)	(129,276)	(132,174)
Balance at the end of year (Note 7)	552,142	568,405	1,120,547	2,814,745

^(*) Endowment fund interest income is presented after deducting taxes of treasury bills and bonds.

Fees are calculated according to the following:

- Fixed fees amounting to 0.25% annually, of the market value of the portfolio, calculated and accrued on a daily basis, paid guarterly and deducted from the source.
- ECES bears all costs related to the purchase, sale, trading, custody and disposition of the debt securities included in the portfolio.

MEMBERS SUBSCRIPTIONS/CONTRIBUTIONS

	2016	2015
	L.E.	L.E.
Members subscriptions	480,000	460,000
Members contributions	110,000	-
	590,000	460,000

Members' subscriptions/contributions are represented in the following:

• An entry fee of L.E. 25,000 paid by each new member. The Board of Directors in its meeting No. 4 dated 15 June 2011 decided to exempt new members from paying entry fees during year 2011 and this exemption had been extended for subsequent years.

Financial Statements

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

31 December 2016

13. MEMBERS SUBSCRIPTIONS/CONTRIBUTIONS - Continued

- Annual subscription is determined according to the Center's bylaws Articles of Association of the Center. The Extraordinary General Assembly in its meeting held on 20 February 2008, has decided an annual subscription fee of L.E. 10,000.
- ECES members contribute in financing some activities, events operated by the Center, and seminars... etc.

14. OPERATIONAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

	2016 L.E.	2015 L.E.
Consultants and researchers fees	862,790	667,842
Maintenance and insurance for building	698,835	613,669
Roundtable and conferences	668,304	65,905
Auto, insurance and fuel	234,419	146,202
Data and subscriptions	185,257	112,073
Publications	162,706	98,325
Endowment asset managers fees (Note 12)	129,276	132,174
Medical insurance	105,531	43,461
International travel and per-diem	101,057	29,553
Office supplies	99,403	89,745
Water and electricity	52,805	43,792
Rent (warehouse and machines)	41,790	38,790
Auditor fees	40,000	36,000
Local travel	25,260	1,861
Entertainment	23,603	15,770
Medical treatment – ECES staff	16,997	31,279
Bank charges	9,316	7,609
Telephone and fax	9,197	8,264
Courier, postage and shipment	1,038	5,156
Translation expense	-	10,000
Training expenses	-	6,000
Miscellaneous	119,121	40,420
	3,586,705	2,243,890



15. FAIR VALUES

Fair values of financial assets and liabilities are not materially different from their carrying value at the financial statements date.

16. TAXATION

ECES is exempted from income taxes on revenues or surplus of revenues in accordance with Law No. 157 of 1981 as amended by Law No. 187 of 1993 and Law No. 91 of 2005 Article No 50 (3). ECES is also exempted from customs duties in accordance with Ministerial Decree No. 260 of 1984.

Payroll tax

Inspection was executed for years 2001 until 2005 and all differences which amounted to L.E. 10,978 were paid during the year 2011.

Inspection was executed for years 2006 until 2012 and resulted in excess differences which amounted to L.E. 40,984 for benefit of the Center's employees. All amounts due to ECES' employees have been paid except for L.E. 2,099 which are still due to two employees due to inability to reach them. (Note 11) ECES calculates and pays the taxes monthly to the Tax Authority on timely basis.

· Withholding tax

ECES calculates withholding taxes every three months and pays them to the Tax Authority regularly. Endowment fund interest represented in realized interest after deducting taxes of treasury bills



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