A UNITED AFRICA FOR A RESILIENT FUTURE.

ROAD TO COP 27

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Produced by the Ministry of Environment of Egypt
STATEMENT BY H.E. PRESIDENT ABDEL FATTAH AL SISI PRESIDENT OF THE ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT

Twenty-Seven years after the adoption of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, it has become clearly evident that climate change is the gravest existential threat facing our planet today. As part of its Sixth Assessment Report, the most recent findings of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change indicate that delaying action is a luxury we can no longer afford. Unless countries expeditiously boost climate action and ambition on mitigation, adaptation and support provided to developing, least developed and small island states, we would be facing a future of 2 °C or more, with all the challenges that would entail for future generations, added to the existing pandemic challenges the world is still coping with.

Nevertheless, Egypt believes that avoiding this fate is still within reach. As we came together to adopt the Paris Agreement in 2015, today we can still work together to deliver on its goals; mitigate the current global climate crisis, build our resilience, and enhance our capacity to adapt, all while turning this global challenge into an opportunity for growth, development and a green future. This is well within our grasp if all Parties would meet their commitments, bear their responsibilities and preserve the delicate balance on which global climate action is based.

Our vision and policy in Egypt stem from these principles, and thus we were able to make tangible progressive steps to this effect in the past few years. We look forward to continuing this work, including with our development partners.

Our African continent remains one of the most affected regions by the negative impacts of climate change despite not contributing to its causes. Yet, Africa is keenly working on enhancing its ambition in relation to the support it is provided. The vast number of climate initiatives launched by Africa is a true testament to its commitment to global climate action and to the goals of the Paris Agreement. In addition, Africa possesses a vibrant civil society that plays a crucial role in the fight against climate change.

In this vein, Egypt gladly submitted its bid to host COP27 in 2022 on behalf of Africa, a COP that we hope will be a turning point to actual implementation and delivery of our respective commitments. We will reach out to all the Parties so that we may guarantee a better future for us all.

I look forward to welcoming you in Egypt, and I assure you that no effort will be spared in hosting a successful COP with outcomes that would contribute to putting us on the path of environmental sustainability and climate-friendly growth; the path to 1.5 °C.
Egypt is committed to deliver its fair share as part of the global efforts to tackle climate change. Considering Egypt’s high vulnerability to climate change, adapting to the adverse impacts of climate change is an imperative necessity. From this standpoint, Egypt prepared its first National Strategy for Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction in 2011. In addition, a Low Emission Development Strategy (LEDS) was issued in 2018. Despite this, there was still a gap to consolidate all aspects of climate change in one strategy to be a basic reference that ensures the integration and mainstreaming of climate change dimension into national planning of all sectors in the country.

Therefore, a recent decision was taken to prepare the first comprehensive national climate change strategy – 2050, which lays down the directions and policies to be adopted by the country to fulfill its aspirations for its climate action. The strategy includes five main goals (a) achieving sustainable economic growth and low-emission development in various sectors, (b) enhancing adaptive capacity and resilience to climate change, and alleviating the associated negative impacts, (c) enhancing climate change action governance, (d) enhancing climate financing infrastructure, and (e) enhancing scientific research, technology transfer, knowledge management and awareness to combat climate change.

We have created an institutional structure for the management of climate change through the National Climate Change Council back in 2019. Recently the political level of such council was elevated to be headed now by H.E. the Prime Minister. This ensures that climate change issues are given the highest consideration by our government.

We have undertaken notable steps in the fields of mitigation and adaptation to climate change impacts, immediately after Paris Agreement. Egypt has successfully implemented an ambitious pivotal shift in mainstreaming environmental sustainability across the policy domain in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement. This is translated in a huge number of mega projects in the fields of adaptation and mitigation to climate change in different sectors.

Mitigation interventions include a massive renewable energy program, an ambitious sustainable transportation program and integrated national solid waste management program. Adaptation efforts include comprehensive efforts for water conservation, which includes a huge program for canal lining, desalination and water recycling projects, in addition to pilot projects for coastal protection of our northern coast. These comprehensive efforts to mainstream environmental sustainability positions Egypt to provide global leadership in the environmental domain and push the frontier of climate ambitions.

We have established a series of long-term goals to reconcile rapid economic development and environmental sustainability, integrating environmental dimensions in the fields of development and linking environmental challenges with the nation’s economy. It has pursued its vision of being a green and sustainable economy using targeted policies and strong spatial planning, setting an ambitious target of 50% of the country’s projects to be green by 2024.

Despite all the efforts made by the Egyptian Government, long-term finance is a key pillar of the Paris Agreement and is critical to global efforts to tackle the climate crisis. For many countries around the world, securing the financing necessary to spur their own transition cannot happen without fulfilling the agreed upon support from developed countries. Therefore, commitments of developed countries to provide adequate finance and support to developing countries under the Paris Agreement is crucial to global efforts to tackle the climate crisis.

Finally, we have shown decisive leadership in shaping of the global environmental policy discourse. During its Presidency of the Biodiversity COP, Egypt launched the Egyptian Initiative, which aims at harnessing the synergies of the three Rio Conventions (on Climate Change, Biodiversity and Desertification). As the nominated host of COP-27, Egypt aims to continue to lead and shape the global cooperation on the environmental policy arena.
INTRODUCTION

CHAPTER 01

INTRODUCTION
CHAMPIONING THE TRANSITION TOWARDS NATURE POSITIVE

Momentum is building, yet the commitment and action gap is still significant. Nations are working together to tackle climate action, with public and private sector, civil society and development partners through significant dialogue and partnerships.

COP 21 took place in Paris in 2015, with the birth of the Paris Agreement. Nations pledging to reduce emissions, adapting to the impacts of a changing climate and committing to financing the climate change road ahead. Under the Paris Agreement, countries committed to bring forward national plans setting out how much they would reduce their emissions with policies to navigate the climate change. Egypt’s road to the 27th UN Climate action of the Parties in 2022, on the behalf of Africa, will feature innovative solutions that will help close the gap this decade. Our predecessors in COP 22, the last summit held in Africa, in Marrakech, Morocco taking place more than 5 years ago, was the beginning of a roadmap of action and impact for the continent; one of the most vulnerable regions in the world to the consequences of climate change. We’ve started the journey from Sharm El Sheikh, the city renowned for its eco-tourism and protected diverse natural habitats, through the UN Convention of Biodiversity Conference of Parties (COP 14) and will continue ahead to COP 27. We are committed to working with all countries and joining forces with civil society, companies and people on the frontline of climate change to inspire climate action ahead of COP 27 in 2022.

WEAVING THE PAST INTO THE FUTURE

Guided by deep connections to their habitat, Africans have always lived with the harmony of nature, embedding a cosmology that cherishes the oneness of life, and encompasses ways to ensure the balance of the environment in which we live. By acknowledging the past, we are weaving the past into the future, inspiring the world to look at global challenges through an African lens and recognizing that environmental protection is our only common language and common voice that can transcend social, political and economic boundaries.

EGYPT’S CLIMATE ACTION FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

Egypt, bolstered by its cooperative system of governance and strategic location, has made vigorous commitments to rejuvenate the continent and build upon African countries’ nascent synergies that have developed organically over time. Egypt headed the Committee for African Heads of State and Government on Climate Change (CAHOSCC) from 2015 to 2017. We have presented two bold initiatives during 2015 as African Priorities. This includes the “African Renewable Energy Initiative” and the “African Adaptation Initiative”. Egypt has also played a leading role in organizing regional conferences, with the most recent example being the first forum of the heads of African Investment Promotion Agencies (IPAs) in Sharm El Sheikh under the slogan “Integration for Development.”

Collectively, we are taking on the triple threats of accelerated climate change, a global economic crisis, and unprecedented biodiversity loss, but using creative tactics and working with local partners are only half the battle. To tackle these threats, Egypt is striving to reform, reimagine and recreate.

Reform...integration of climate change in national development policies and plans by establishing the National Council for Climate Change to be headed by Prime Minister and membership of other ministries.

Reimagine... by greening its budget for more green projects across all sectors, for a sustainable future for the next generation.

Recreate... by applying new green technologies for reduction of greenhouse gases and better adaptation to the impact of climate change.
CHAPTER 02
CITY FOR THE SOUL
Welcome to Sharm El-Sheikh, the Green City of Peace

Sharm El-Sheikh always has a story to tell, but the most evident one is its story on peace and nature. From humble origins as a small fishing village in Sinai located at the meeting point of Gulf of Suez and Gulf of Aqaba in the Red Sea, the lively coastal city of Sharm El Sheikh is referred to as “city of peace”. It hosted a large number of international conferences, such as the UN Convention of Biodiversity Conference of Parties (COP14) that was held in 2018.

The city frames the world in a new light; with places of natural wonder that not only convey awe for the beauty of nature, but also provides aspiration for what the future ought to be.

Located at a low vulnerable location concerning climate changes, the doors of the city have always been open to the world. Unparalleled in its beauty and strategic location, Sharm El Sheikh was awarded by the United Nations Educational, Science, and Cultural Organization, the UNESCO, as the “finest city in the world for peace and beauty”.

It has also become a triumph in sustainable and green living, maintaining a strategy focused on the importance of preserving magnificent coral shores, marine life and biological diversity. The city is located between two beautiful well preserved Protected Areas namely Ras Mohamed and Nabq, increasing reliance on renewable energy resources through the construction of solar power plants. Various programs are being implemented to promote the use of solar energy and energy efficiency measures at the municipality and hotels levels as well as clean transportation.

Sharm El-Sheikh’s International Conference Centre promises a whole new immersive experience that merges the worlds of the future and technology, fantasy, and our natural world. Ranked among the most advanced and successful venues in the Middle East. The conference centre experienced expansion in 2018 by Technology K.A.R, which included the capital hall that serves around 6000 people, along with other medium sized meeting rooms. Technology K.A.R equipped the international conference center with advanced technologies and broadcast infrastructure, including pro-AV industries, pro lighting and live event technologies. Previously, the international conference centre hosted notable events such as the World Youth Forum, Africa 2018 Forum, as well as the UN Biodiversity Conference.

Looking forward, one of the world’s top favorite tourism destinations for sea and nature lovers, Sharm El-Sheikh is opening new horizons to become the first green city in Africa and the Middle East. Speaking with all of nature’s colours, it is opening its doors to the world to reimagine a future that is sustainable, green and nature driven.
CHAPTER 03

FORCES OF NATURE
A walk in nature in Sharm El-Sheikh is a walk for the soul back home; it reminds us of the infinitely healing characteristics of nature and pulls us into a world full of indescribable sensations. In Sharm El-Sheikh, there are iridescent and shimmering blues everywhere you turn. The sea is a festival full of nature’s breathtaking art and flickering exotic sea life. You breathe a fresh quality of air that emanates from trees that so wonderfully and beautifully line the city, and you sense the warmth and smiles of the local communities from miles away.

When you are in Sharm El-Sheikh, you feel renewed, and rocked in the cradle of the world. To protect and honour the city’s unmatched connection with nature, Egypt has implemented a number of initiatives that rejuvenate ecotourism in the area and maintain a healthy ecosystem that protects diverse natural habitats.

**ECO-EGYPT: A NEW WAVE OF TOURISM**

With the goal of boosting the importance of ecological conservation and raising environmental awareness among citizens, ECO EGYPT Experiences is a campaign led by the Ministry of Environment and is part of the LiveGreen campaign, which is executed under the auspices of His Excellency President Abd El Fattah El-Sisi. It aims to foster stronger connections between visitors and Egypt’s ecological sites and promote natural rediscovery of natural protected areas, shedding light on wildlife, plant diversity, and natural landscapes through “see, stay, meet and do” concepts.

Ras Mohammed was declared a National Park was in 1983 as the first protected area in Egypt that includes both marine and terrestrial areas. The National Park is characterized by the coral shores existing in the depth of the water peripheral of Ras Mohamed and the extinction able colored fish and Sea turtles as well as rare Sea Animals. The coral reefs surround Ras Mohamed from all its sea sides. They have a unique formation which has a great impact on the natural life of the Area. The land falls or “earthquakes” formed water caves under the island. The Area is also a habitat for many important birds and animals such as: The Nubian ibex in the mountainous areas, small mammals, reptiles and insects that appear only at night. The Area is also a habitat for many important birds such as herons and seagulls.

Ras Mohamed received the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Green List certificate at a ceremony in the reserve in 2018. The award recognizes the fair and effective management efforts that have ensured the protection and survival of natural ecosystems, especially coral reefs, mangroves and sea grasses. Coral reefs in the National Park present the visitor with a breathtaking experience, in particular for first time visitor. Reef system is a complex ecosystem that once understood will provide endless hours of enjoyment.

Pristine, peaceful and tranquil - Nabq protected Area is characterized by a number of natural wonders and diverse wildlife like: breathtaking coral reefs, sea and land creatures, Hawksbill Turtles, large dense mangrove forests. It includes environmental systems of desert, mountain and valleys, and animals like deer, mountain goat, hyena, reptiles and a lot of migrating and resident birds beside invertebrates. Some nomad tribes live in this area. The area is a center of tourist attraction for amateurs of diving, safari and bird watching.

The third protected area in proximity of Sharm El-Sheikh is Abu Galum, which is an underwater treasure for divers and snorkelers, which boasts a unique collection of coral reefs that cannot be found elsewhere in the world, and is home to the infamous Blue Lagoon, a natural saltwater pool surrounded by awe-inspiring climbable mountaintops.
St Katherine National Park is located less than 100 Km from Sharm El-Sheikh in Southern Sinai. The Area is characterized by the highest mountain tops in Egypt. These tops were the result of that great tectonic movement called the Great African Rift that occurred 24 Million years ago and led to the creation of the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aqaba, which became the attraction of tourists from all over the world. Saint Katherine has abundant natural riches and cultural heritage. It has a natural habitat for several plants and animals including at least 20 wild plant species that exist only in Sinai and some of it are known as medicinal plants.

St. Katherine is in a region holy to the world’s three major religions, Judaism, Christianity and Islam. It hosts Mount Sinai ad well as a lot of churches and monasteries including St. Katherine Monastery. It includes relics from the byzantine, pharaonic and later eras that makes it an important attraction for tourists searching for serenity, peace of mind as well as unique mountainous scenery associated with oases around water springs in the middle of the desert.

The vision of the protected areas system in Egypt is to essentially preserve the natural asset of Egypt’s natural environment for future generations, which is reflected by the state’s commitment to encourage emerging players, such as the private sector and local community, to invest within the natural protected areas in accordance with the state’s laws.

**WATER, LIFE, BLUE AND GREEN**

We cannot look ahead without seeing what lies below. Every year, snorkelers, divers and tourists embark on an underwater journey in Sharm El-Sheikh’s red sea to explore its awe-inspiring coral reef environment and fascinating marine creatures. Yet their beauty is matched by their fragility to marine plastic pollution.

Egypt’s holistic approach to tackle plastic pollution addresses the role of every stakeholder in society; the government, the visitors, the international community, private sector, and civil society. The country has developed its national strategy for reduction of the use of single use plastic bags in 2021.

In October 2019, the UN Environment Programme’s (UNEP) Green Fins initiative helped identify and mitigate tourism-related risks by providing environmental consultations to dive and snorkel operators in an effort to reduce diving and snorkeling-related damage to marine ecosystems. Egypt is the first country in the MENA and the 11th worldwide to introduce Green Fins certificate.

The ‘Live Green’ initiative, which was launched at the World Youth Forum in Sharm El Sheikh in 2019, centers the role of youth in the protection of the environment, and has since then mobilized a group of volunteers that have collected tons of solid waste and plastic bags across the city to help raise awareness among the community on the dangers of using plastic and environmentally friendly alternatives.
CHAPTER 04
RESOURCES RECREATED
FOR COMMUNITIES,  
BY COMMUNITIES

SMALL FARMER,  
BIG IMPACT

Agriculture is a major component of Egypt’s economy, contributing 11.3% of the country’s GDP, with the sector accounting for more than 30% of all jobs and over 55% of employment in Upper Egypt being agriculture related. Climate change is negatively affecting crop yield of traditional crops. With 90% of farmers in Egypt are smallholders with less than 0.4 hectares, extreme weather events and long-term climate change impacts are posing additional threats to productivity and the livelihood of farmers. Since an increase in temperature significantly reduces crop yields, Agriculture Research Center of the Ministry of Agriculture is investing research to develop a cropping pattern with new crop species that are tolerant to heat, water shortages, and increased salinity. Early warning systems to avoid impact of extreme weather events on small farmers. Ministry of Agriculture launched an initiative in collaboration with the World Food Programme to support adaptation of smallholders in Upper Egypt to climate change through land consolidation, early warning systems, heat tolerant varieties of common crops, value addition in agriculture and intercropping as well as building resilience through increasing household incomes from livestock production. Rural women in Upper Egypt offered an opportunity to advance economically and receive a source of income through operating small-scale food processing and in-kind loans to adopt improved breeds of ducks and goats, which are more tolerant to higher temperatures.

COMMUNITY-BASED  
ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Considering that climate change is causing sea level to rise, which threatens the North Coast of Egypt, the low-lying land in the Nile Delta coast is identified by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) as one of the world’s three “extreme” vulnerable hotspots. Nile Delta is home to millions of Egyptians with highly productive agricultural lands and valuable touristic assets. As Egypt is far below food self-sufficiency, any loss of prime agricultural land due to coastal flooding will have a direct adverse impact on the livelihoods of millions of people and lead to hardship throughout the entire economy. Egypt is ensuring flooding and coastal erosion safety by investing large funds in coastal protection systems against sea level rise. Coastal protection systems include ecosystem based approach that Shore Protection Authority, Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation is constructing in cooperation with UNDP with funds from GCF in the form of soft dikes for 69 Km along the Nile Delta. The soft dikes are made of clay core covered with sand and reed fences are installed at the top of the dikes coast to trap wind-blown sand, thus forming a dune system with an elevated land over the sea. This reed fence system is originally a community-based adaptation technique used by local community to increase level of low land by the sea and the established dune system has proven to protect low-lying lands from the sea surges during the strong storms.

A MAP OF THE  
FUTURE OF WATER

Climate change will affect water resources availability in Egypt. Egypt is a water poor country with annual per capita share of water far below water poverty levels. Increased temperature associated with climate change is increasing water evaporation and increasing crop water demand. Climate change will affect stable rainfall patterns on Upper Nile Countries, which can reduce annual River Nile flood which is almost the only source of fresh water to Egypt. Any reductions in the average River Nile water flow will affect the livelihood of millions of Egyptian people. In response, Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation (MWRI) is undertaking strides in the investment in lining canals to reduce irrigation water losses. MWRI has lined 3000 Km of irrigation canals and is targeting to complete lining of 20,000 Km of canals by 2024. Furthermore, Government of Egypt has established the largest drainage water treatment facility in the world at Bahr El-Baqr drain in the Nile Delta. The facility capacity reaches 5.6 million m³/day that will be used for irrigating nearly 500,000 acres in North Sinai. Egypt has also launched a national programme for desalination of sea water for drinking purposes. The capacity of desalination plants is currently 0.85 m³/day that will be increased to reach 6.4 million m³/day of desalinated water by 2050. MWRI is also investing in rain flood protection structures in mountainous areas to protect lives and livelihoods from the flash flood whose frequency and strength are at the rise due to climate change while the stored water is considered an unconventional water resource for the local communities.

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CHAPTER 05
TOWARDS CLIMATE ACTION
A LEAP INTO THE FUTURE

Cities are the invisible backbone that connect people, nature, economies, and are the determinant of success for a true revolution in urban living to ensure that everyday life is seamless through tech-enable, green infrastructure.

Currently cities in Africa are being reimagined to tackle the core of problems of pollution and traffic, the exposure of cities to environmental disasters and loss of biodiversity.

In 2018, Ministry of Electricity and Renewable Energy completed installation of three modern combined cycle power plants with a total capacity of 4.8 GW, operating at very high efficiency that reaches 61%. High efficiency translates into significant fuel savings and together with the electricity generated from mega wind and solar power stations that were contracted after 2015 have decreased the fuel consumption in power generation facilities nationwide by 13.9% in two years (2017/2018 to 2019/2020).

We can’t beat the climate crisis without rethinking mobility since transport sector is the second largest GHGs emitter in Egypt. Egypt envisions a green, safe and seamlessly connected mobility ecosystem that reduces GHG emissions through the expansion of mass transit systems, public transportation and non-motorized transport, including walking and cycling.

The recent years have witnessed implementation of major climate change mitigation actions in Egypt that significantly reduced GHGs from the Business as Usual (BAU) scenario. Egypt’s energy policy reform process initiated in 2014 has triggered win-win situation that encouraged all stakeholders and communities to implement energy efficiency improvement measures at the demand side in commercial, residential and industrial sectors. Energy efficiency improvements has reduced the annual increase in electricity demand to 2-3% vis a vis an average rate of 7-8% between 2000 and 2010 which is associated with large savings in GHG emissions. At the supply side, considering that the power sector is largest emitter, the Government has invested billions of dollars in upgrading the power generation capacities.

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Renewable energy plays a central role detailed in the Integrated Sustainable Energy Strategy to 2035. Ministry of Electricity and Renewable Energy has set renewable energy targets of 20% of the electricity mix by 2022 and 42% by 2035. The feed-in-tariff programme initiated by Egypt in 2015 has attracted investments in large scale solar and wind energy projects.

There are striking examples of large-scale projects led by New and Renewable Energy Authority, Ministry of Electricity and Renewable Energy that have reversed the vicious cycle of environmental degradation.

The Government of Egypt recognizes the role of individuals, corporate and civil society’s increased investments in small scale renewable energy technologies in the energy transition. If we want the motto “power to the people” to become a reality, then we have to inspire a new generation of home-grown and small-scale renewable individual producers. Egyptians are showing a significant growing interest in expanding the use of small-scale renewable energy technologies. These include solar energy applications for water heating and generating electricity, waste to energy projects, and renewable energy solutions for rural areas that are currently spreading in Egypt.
CHAPTER 06
AFRICA SPEAKS WITH ONE VOICE
RESUMING THE TALK ON AFRICA’S PRIORITIES

At a multilateral level, Egypt has hosted several highly successful Africa-centered summits to shape the global conversation on Africa, bridging the gaps between advanced and emerging economies to pave pathways to supporting African countries’ challenges and accommodate their particular difficulties and concerns. Previously, Egypt hosted the Africa 2018 Forum in Sharm El-Sheikh, the ‘Invest in Africa 2019’ conference at the New Administrative Capital, and the Egypt-International Cooperation Forum this year in Cairo, which brought several heads of governments, ministers, international development partners, as well as global businessmen and investors from around the world to spark conversations on investment in Africa.
CHAPTER 07
PARTNERSHIPS FOR CLIMATE ACTION
Egypt is making progress in its efforts to combat climate change, shifting towards a green and sustainable economy, while preserving the environment and natural resources. Positioned as a pioneering country in leading the agenda of green recovery in the region, Egypt has laid down many policies across several fields that allowed for clear plans with all stakeholders that expand environmentally-friendly projects; these projects serve as aspiration for other emerging countries and countries of economic transition that wish to shift towards a green economy.

At COP27, we will work with partners to take forward action on protecting and restoring ecosystems, and we will champion the transition towards sustainable, resilient and a nature positive future.

Egypt has co-developed the Adaptation Action Coalition in partnership with the UK, Bangladesh, Malawi, the Netherlands, Saint Lucia and the United Nation Development Program in coordination with the World Resources Institute. The coalition is bringing countries together to find solutions to some of the most challenging impacts of climate change, and we are inviting all countries to join us.

In October 2021, Egypt hosted and chaired the Adaptation Action Coalition forum, aimed to discuss the adaptation efforts in the health and water sectors at the international and local levels as well as methods adopted by local communities to boost institutional capacity to support adaptation.

Egypt’s Sovereign Fund has officially joined the “One Planet Sovereign Wealth Funds Initiative”, with more than 18 other sovereign funds around the world working together to integrate hedging against climate change risks into the investment decision-making process, in addition to investing in accelerating the transition towards a low-carbon economy, in line with the Paris Climate Agreement.

Civil society plays a key role in pushing for new laws, programmes, policies or strategies on climate change. On 18th September 2021, Egypt conducted the longest ever beach clean up campaign on World Beach Clean-up Day, stretching over 5 Km of Alexandria’s coast on the Mediterranean Sea. The campaign was conducted with Banlastik, an environmental conservation organization, with other partners, to raise citizen’s awareness of the problems of marine litter and its impact on the environment and marine organisms. The initiative helps to spread and expand a more conservationist culture, as part of the National Programme for Solid Waste Management if the Ministry of Environment’s government scheme to reduce pollution.

Egypt strongly believes that to combat climate change and nature loss, partnership is key through engaging all the relevant stakeholders in a sustainable green platform.
REPURPOSING RESILIENCE FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

Egypt firmly believes in the conviction that it owes future generations a liveable environment. We are not just invoking the interests of our children today, but also unborn grandchildren for decades to come. Our planet, our health and our future is determined by a single choice we make now: either we waste years of progress, or we take serious action to spark hope, change and ambition.

At the heart of a forward-looking climate change plan is to embed youth’s visions, ideas and concerns, and to include them as key partners in any environmental initiative to repurpose their resilience to climate change. We are witnessing the coming of age of a generation of young ecopreneurs who are building their lives around restoring the planet, and are offering innovative solutions to environmental challenges.

For modern private companies today, there is a growing consensus that to prosper, companies must be repurposed; moving beyond the question of “how will we compete?” to “how will we survive?”.

Dorna is a socially innovative solution that incentivizes the informal sector to recover more PET, designed by CID Consulting and paid for by multi-national companies in Egypt producing bottled water. A financial reward is paid to each actor across the informal value chain for each tonne of recycled PET, currently being implemented in Cairo. The actors must pass certain quantity thresholds each month to be eligible for the reward. All quantities are recorded onto a digital platform, from waste collectors all the way to official recycling factories, verified by an on-ground team recruited from the neighborhood. This digital platform determines the financial reward for each actor at the end of every month and disburses it directly to their e-wallets, which they can withdraw from a variety of supporting outlets. As of September 2021, the DORNA system recovered 29,246 tonnes of PET to date from only 2 brand owners with total reverse credits disbursed as of EGP 19m.

A STRATEGY FOR THE LONG TERM, FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

Aligning short-term climate action with long-term climate goals is integral to keep a close eye on the future and create a foundation for future generations. In the immense pressure of adapting to climate change, strategies should not just focus on the immediate action, but also embed green and environmental standards in every policy and initiative.

Egypt is embedding sustainable and environmental principles in every decision-making process, which is manifested by two large-scale projects: the New Administrative Capital and Decent Life initiative (Haya Karima). Embodying a new vision for what the future could be, the New Administrative Capital is destined to become a model for sustainable urban planning through the integration of sustainable infrastructures and increasing green spaces in the city, as well as the use of renewable energy, green infrastructure, and efficient waste management and recycling thus addressing both climate change mitigation and adaptation in one initiative.
Looking forward to welcoming you in COP 27.