

EC Partners

National Council for
Childhood and
Motherhood (NCCM)

United Nations
Development
Programme

German Technical
Cooperation (GTZ)

Facts and Figures

- EC contribution:
€ 20 million
- Duration: March
2005 - June 2009
- 182 working children
withdrawn from
hazardous
occupations
- 500 working children
re-enrolled in formal
education



EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Gender equality

Children at Risk Programme in Egypt

"Thanks to the Children at Risk Programme 191 Girl Friendly Schools have been built providing formal quality active learning to thousands of girls and more children are free from commercial exploitation in the labour market".

Moushira Khattab, Minister of State for
Family and Population, Egypt



Context

More than 19 % of people live on less than two euros per day in Egypt. Poverty affects many children, and drives them to the streets, to work in dangerous environments, and denies them a chance to go to school. The EU and the Government of Egypt work together to protect poor and deprived children at risk, and their families.

Objective

- Improve the conditions of disadvantaged children (children with disabilities, street children and children working in hazardous occupations) while increasing the awareness of related issues in Egyptian society.
- Support the Girls Education Initiative of the government to build one-classroom schools in remote areas to improve girls' access to education.
- Reduce the practice of female genital mutilation.
- Improve the capacity of NGOs working with children to deliver their services and enhance their dialogue with governmental bodies.

Impact

- 191 girl friendly schools built in addition to providing equipment and materials for more than 1000 schools in Egypt.
- Grants awarded to 14 leading NGOs and 72 associated community development associations to implement projects in areas related to children.
- Legal protection of children improved through the 2008 amendments to the Child Law, including the criminalisation of female genital mutilation and increasing the minimum legal age for marriage.

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EuropeAid

Remorseful father donates land for school

One father in a village in Upper Egypt decided to donate a piece of land that he owns to build a school for girls in his village. He said that the reason he did that was the feeling of guilt that he carried to that day for not having allowed his daughter to go to school. In tears, the man admitted that his daughter was too old to attend school, but he did not want other girls in the village to miss out on schooling.



A girl friendly school in the south of Egypt