



EU-Egypt Innovation Day Opening Session

EU-Egypt Innovation Day brings together stakeholders

The European Commission and the Egyptian Ministry of Scientific Research organized an "EU-Egypt Innovation Day" on 8 February, 2016 in Cairo. Ms. Maria Cristina Russo, Director of International Cooperation at the Directorate General Research and Innovation of the European Commission and H.E Ambassador James Moran, Head of the EU Delegation to Egypt, and Dr. Essam Khames, Deputy Minister of Scientific Research opened the event. The Innovation Day brought together around 300 stakeholders from academic institutions, researchers and representatives of industry, financial institutions, NGOs and government as well as innovators, entrepreneurs and start-ups. The Innovation Day included "Research and Innovation cafes", where EU MS – including Spain, France, UK, Germany, Austria, and Czech Republic - presented their research and innovation programmes that enable cooperation between European and Egyptian organizations. Alongside the event, the EC also organized a roundtable with key research and innovation stakeholders. The roundtable aimed at enhancing current EU-Egypt R&I cooperation by bringing together key stakeholders under a single forum to initiate dialogue around current challenges and opportunities of EU-Egypt cooperation. Ms. Maria Cristina Russo, Director of International Cooperation, Directorate General Research and Innovation said, "Egypt is an important EU partner not only in the Mediterranean. Its strategic role goes beyond the Mediterranean further to the Middle East and Africa" she added, " we are glad to note the very good track record of Egypt's participation in the EU Research and Innovation programmes, including in our current programme Horizon 2020. Egypt's prominent role in bi-regional EU –Mediterranean initiatives in research and innovation and science diplomacy is commendable".