



EUROPEAN UNION
Delegation to Egypt

Cairo, 31 January 2015

Press Release

Awarding Ceremony of the Research, Development and Innovation Programme (Phase II)

Within the Framework of the Research Development and Innovation Programme II (RDI-II), funded by the European Union and implemented by the Ministry of Scientific Research, 26 research grants were awarded on Saturday at a ceremony in Conrad Hotel. These grants are to link industry and academia in the fields of Renewable Energy, Agriculture, Health, Information and Communication Technologies, Industry, Robotics for demining, research and innovation management and other fields of mutual interest for collaboration. The EU's contribution is 7.5 Million Euros in grants out of the total cost which is 10 Million Euros.

Ambassador James Moran, Head of EU Delegation to Egypt said: " *Cooperation in the fields of science, research and innovation is of vital importance to EU-Egypt relations. I am sure that our contribution will help pave the way for great ideas to turn into products and services that will bring growth and jobs to the Egyptian economy. 41 Egyptian partners will collaborate with 30 European partners working hand-in-hand to share knowledge, expertise and know-how that will benefit our partnership for a better future*".

The European Union has funded the 11 - Million Euros first phase of the Research Development and Innovation (RDI) Programme with 51 research and innovation projects. RDI ended in 2011 when the European Union committed 20 Million Euros for the second phase of RDI which will end in 2018.

The European Union values the importance of science, research and innovation in the relationship between Europe and Egypt. Innovation is vital in creating new jobs and sustainable economic growth. It is thus of immense importance to put every effort to create an ecosystem where governments, NGOs, research, academic, educational, financial institutions, and other institutions cooperate to support researchers and entrepreneurs to leverage their innovation potentials.

Contacts:

Programme Manager: Kareem Abdel Monem, kareem.abdel-monem@eeas.europa.eu

Press Officer, Rasha Serry: rasha.serry@eeas.europa.eu

Website: www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/egypt

Facebook: www.facebook.com/EUDelegationegypt