

**European Union** 

Cairo, 18<sup>th</sup> April 2016

## European Union and partners promote Egypt Gas Connection

The European Union (EU) has allocated a 68 Million Euro Grant contribution to the Egypt Gas Connection Project to support key priorities in Egypt's energy sector and boost its economic development. Other partners include the French Development Agency (AFD) that will contribute with a EUR 70 million loan and the World Bank (WB) that offered a USD 500 million loan. The Egyptian government has identified among its immediate priorities the need to increase the household use of natural gas.

Ambassador James Moran, Head of the European Union Delegation to Egypt said: "The EU grant will support an estimated 450,000 underprivileged households by halving the cost of installing their gas connection. Reducing their financial burden will improve their welfare and help them to switch to cleaner natural gas, which is good for the environment. New employment opportunities will also be created. As such it is an excellent example of how the EU is helping Egyptians toward a more prosperous, equitable and sustainable future".

HRVP Federica Mogherini has signed this 68 Million Euro agreement with Egyptian Minister of International Cooperation, Sahar Nasr, last November in Cairo. Through this project, the EU will further support the implementation of gas institutional reforms necessary to ensure the sector's sustainability. Such institutional strengthening is a continuation of the European Union's Assistance to support the reform of the Egyptian energy sector.

## For more information please contact:

Programme Manager: Ahmed El Beltagui, <u>Ahmed.ELBELTAGUI@.eeas.europa.eu</u> Press & Information Officer: Rasha Serry, <u>Rasha.SERRY@eeas.europa.eu</u> Website: <u>http://eeas.europa.eu/delegation/egypt</u> Facebook: <u>http://ww.facebook.com/EUDelegationegypt</u> Twitter: @EUinEgy YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQ1Me9-jssF56KKwzBh0\_7w