



# The Empowerment Story of Egyptian women 2014-2019

Egyptian Women: Where the story began





- This year, Egypt is celebrating 100 years of women empowerment 1919-2019
- Notable positive progress had been witnessed on the women's empowerment and gender equality agenda during the past four years
- Women had been be part of
  1. Enhancing National institutional arrangements
  2. Legal framework ,policies and strategies
  3. The Decision Making process
  4. Enhancing their political participation and leadership
  5. Empowering women in economic sphere
  6. Empowering women in Social sphere
  7. Ensuring their protection

**All in the presence of a strong political will and the values of justice and equality of the Egyptian constitution**

# Enhancing National Institutional Arrangements

## THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR WOMEN

NCW, the highest specialized national machinery for the advancement of women in Egypt.

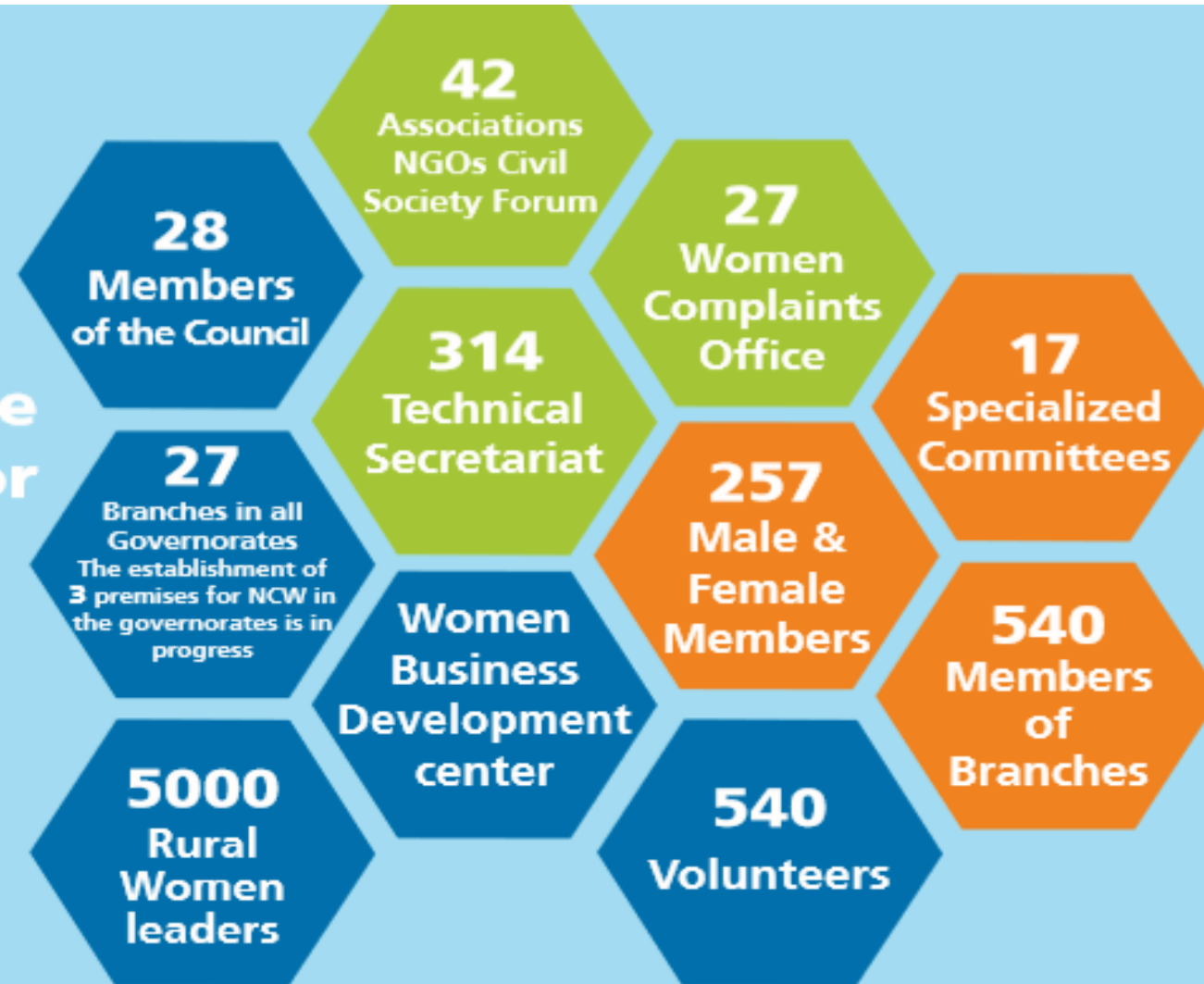
- Entrusted with:
  - ✓ planning for the advancement of women,
  - ✓ following up on the plans' implementation,
  - ✓ proposing policies for women's development and empowerment,
  - ✓ enabling them to play their essential role in society,
  - ✓ integrating their efforts into national comprehensive development programs



# Enhancing National Institutional Arrangements

## THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR WOMEN

### Mechanisms of The National Council for Women

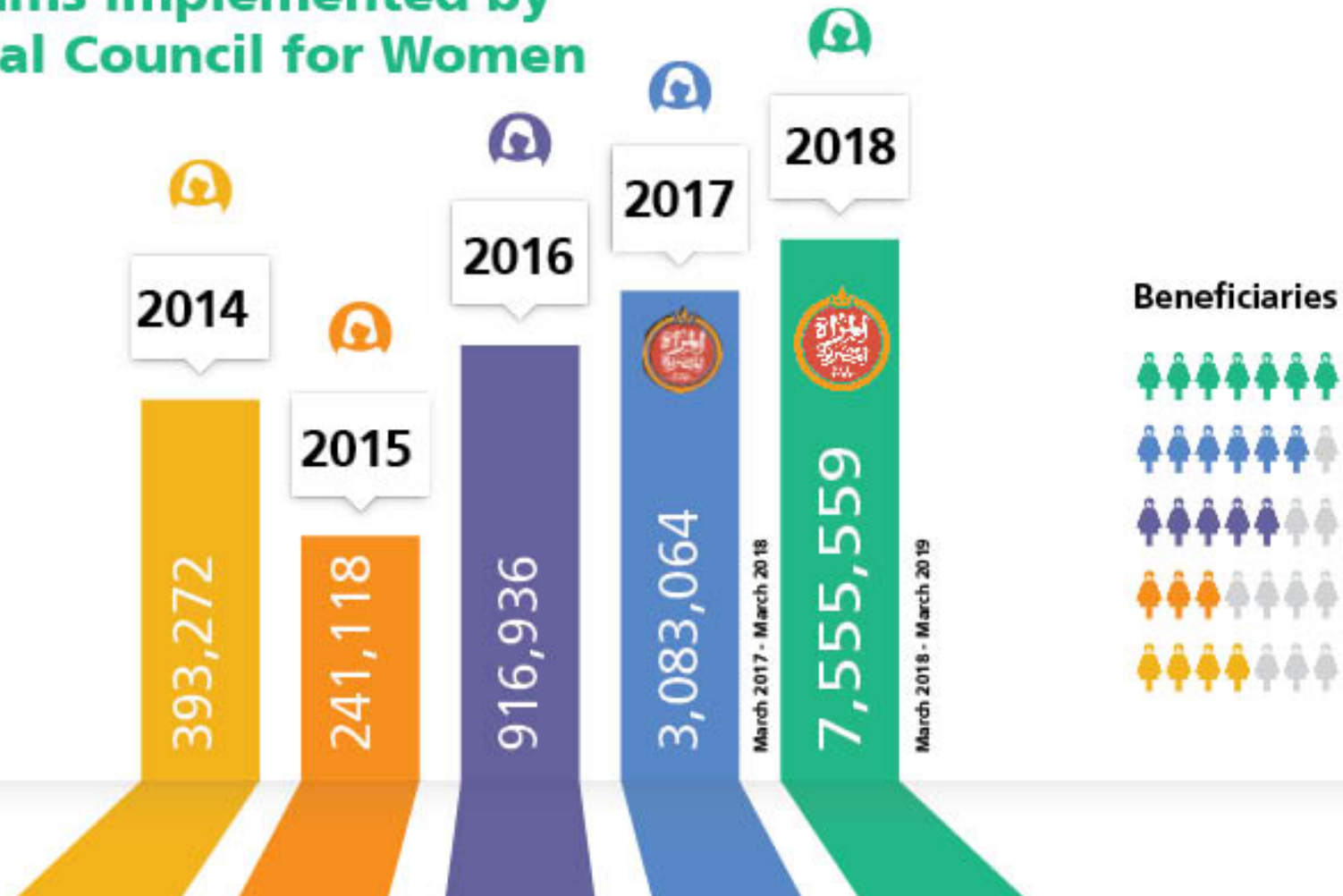




# Enhancing National Institutional Arrangements

## THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR WOMEN

Number of Beneficiaries of the activities and programs implemented by the National Council for Women



# Legal framework ,policies and strategies

## Egyptian Constitution 2014

**For the 1<sup>st</sup> time, 20 Articles dedicated to addressing women's issues**

- Ensure equal opportunities for women
- Transfer the nationality to their children
- Allocate a quarter of the seats of local councils for women
- Social, economic and political rights
- Social security services
- Prevent discrimination
- Protection against all forms of violence,
- Women's empowerment in all spheres
- Commitment to care at various stages of the lives
- Commitment to the international conventions on human rights, which all includes the rights for women



# Legal framework ,policies and strategies

## Strategies and policies



Egypt's Vision 2030

National Strategy for the empowerment of Egyptian Women  
2030

National Strategy to combat VAW

National Strategy to combat FGM

National Strategy to combat Child Marriage

# Legal framework ,policies and strategies

## Women's Year 2017

In a historical precedent, The Egyptian President declared 2017 as the “**Year of Egyptian Women,**”



THE EGYPTIAN  
WOMEN'S YEAR  
— 2 0 1 7 —

# Legal framework ,policies and strategies

## Strategic Framework

### National Strategy for the Empowerment of Egyptian Women 2030

Egypt is the **first country globally** to launch its National Women strategy 2030 aligned with **the SDGs and Egypt vision 2030** confirming the country's commitment to achieve the empowerment of Egyptian women.

In March 2017, The Egyptian President **announced and endorsed the National strategy** for the Empowerment of Egyptian Women to be the **national policy and guiding document** for the Government.

The Establishment of the first Egyptian Women's Observatory





## Legal framework ,policies and strategies

### National Strategy for the Empowerment of Egyptian Women 2030

❖ The strategy used a Participatory approach :

- 175,000 contribute in developing of the strategy (Ministers – Governors – parliamentarians – youth – 180 civil society)



# Legal framework ,policies and strategies

## National Strategy for the Empowerment of Egyptian Women 2030

### ❖ The Strategy's Pillars:



And two cross cutting  
Pillars: **Legislation &  
Culture**



# Legal framework ,policies and strategies



Law criminalizing FGM to become a felony with harsher penalties (2016)

More benefits for women in the Civil Service law ( 4 months maternity leave) (2016)

Law institutionalizing the work of the National Council for Women (2018)

Harsher sexual harassment Penalty (2014)

Criminalizing the deprivation of inheritance (2017)

Law for protecting the rights of people with disabilities (2018)

Equal investment opportunity between men and women in the investment law (2017)

Recognition of women as breadwinner in accordance with the unified tax law

# The Decision Making process



**25% Quota for women**  
approved by Referendum in  
upcoming parliament

**Highest Representation in**  
the current parliament **15%**

**Highest Quota for women**  
**Local Councils 25 %**

**Highest Representation in**  
the board of administration  
prosecution **5 out of 7**

**Highest Representation in**  
**Cabinet 25%**

# The Decision Making process



First woman National Security Advisor  
to the President of Egypt

First woman Head of court

Two women appointed as  
Governors and 7 deputy Governors

First woman Deputy Governor of the  
Central Bank



# Enhancing Political participation and Leadership

Political Empowerment and Leadership

## Your Voice to Egypt Tomorrow

The campaign reached **3,378,500** women in all of Egyptian governorates, to raise awareness on the importance of women's political participation and their role in society.





# Enhancing Political participation and Leadership



The first women mentorship program for leadership and decision-making positions

- Duration of the program is **9 months**
- **30 graduate** mentees.
- **20 women mentors** in leadership positions



# Enhancing Political participation and Leadership

**The graduation of the first Professional Masters in Gender and Development** In partnership with the Ministry of Planning, Monitoring and Administrative Reform, UN Women and Cairo University



# Enhancing Political participation and Leadership



**% of women holding Deputy Minister has increased from 17% in 2017 to 27% in 2018**

**% women on board of shareholding companies and public agencies has increased from 418 in 2017 to 441 in 2018.**

**% of women on board of the Central bank of Egypt is 25%**

**Appointment of Disabled Woman and Rural Woman on the Board of the National Council for Women (2016)**

**% of women on boards of Banks has increased from 10% in 2018 to 12% in 2019 )**

**Appointment of 26 new Female Judges in Courts of First Degree**

**Appointment of Four Women Judges in the Secretariat of the "Supreme Elections Committee (SEC)**

# Empowering Women in Economic sphere

- Unemployment rate among women has decreased from 24% in 2014 to 21.4% in 2018 to 19.6% in the first quarter of 2019
- Percentage of women holding bank accounts has increased from 9% in 2015 to 27% in 2017.
- Percentage of SMEs dedicated for women has increased from 23% in 2015 to 46% in 2018
- Percentage of microfinance loans dedicated for women has increased from 45% in 2015 to 69% in 2018
- Percentage of women investors in stock exchange is 30%
- Percentage of women working in governmental agencies is 44.5%
- Beneficiaries of MSMEs is 3 million, 70% of which are women up to 2018
- 500 Microfinance institutions in Egypt





# Empowering Women in Economic sphere

## Financial Inclusion

The Government of Egypt has recently taken concrete strategic steps to enhance the financial inclusion for women such as:

- (1) A presidential decree has been issued in Feb 2017 to establish a **National Council for Payments**, with the President of the Republic being the head of the Council.
- (2) Celebrating the First ever year (2017) of women in Egypt and activating the Economic empowerment pillar in the National Women strategy 2030, The National council for Women signed a **Memorandum of understanding with the Central bank of Egypt (CBE)**; which places Egypt as the **first Country** to have its CBE sign an agreement with a National Women machinery worldwide.



# Empowering Women in Economic sphere

## Financial Inclusion

- **Two credit lines exclusively targeting women** to finance women entrepreneurs
- 3 million beneficiaries of **microfinance** in Egypt, 70% of them are women
- 880 **trained** women in all governorates of Egypt on financial inclusion topics
- Raising **the awareness** of 50,000 women on ground on banking products and financial services during 2018
- National Campaign on the awareness of financial inclusion concepts through **PSAs**
- Production of “Elmasrya” **E-catalogs** to help market products of Egyptian women in areas with less access to services



# Empowering Women in Economic sphere

## Entrepreneurship Skills & Development

- Two **production units** have been established and branded by Al Mashgel through Women's Leadership, Empowerment, Access & Protection in Crisis Response (LEAP) project, funded by the government of Japan and implemented in partnership with UN Women and Care Egypt. The names of these units is Al Mashghel allocated in zahraa Maadi and NCW Giza branch.
- The production unit aims to employ up to 50 women fully through its activities to make a monthly income of 2,200 EGP. 2 more units has been established in Menia NCW branch and Gharbiya governorate to scale up successful models.
- A product development program called "**Addaha W2doud**" is being implemented which targets craftswomen all over the governorates of Egypt to upgrade their products' quality and design to meet market needs and requirements.

# Empowering Women in Economic sphere

## «Gender Equality Seal» Award in Partnership with UNDP :

- Egypt is the **1<sup>st</sup> Arab country** and the **2<sup>nd</sup> globally** to develop a certification program for government and private sector based on the success of the gender equality seal
- The Seal provides Egyptian companies guidance on how to address challenges for women, such as access to work, wage inequities, sexual harassment, work-life balance and access to leadership positions.
- **10 Private sector** companies have undergone a thorough process of assessment
- In 2019 , **the 1<sup>st</sup> agency** to be granted the seal is the medium, small and micro enterprises development agency (MSMEDA)
- The Egyptian private sectors Companies have started to implement Women Empowerment principles



## Empowering Women in Social sphere

- 54% of universities students are females
- 46.5% of Masters and Ph.D. holders are females
- 48.6% of professors in universities are females
- 89% women benefiting from social protection programs (2.25 million households– 10 million individuals)
- 235% increase in cash transfer budget (through Takaful and Karama Program)
- Dedication of 250 million Egyptian pounds to child care services from the national budget
- 65% of the beneficiaries of training programs for Government agencies are women.
- 38 million women benefited from bread and flour subsidiary
- 34 million women benefited from food ration cards
- 10 million women benefited from health care support
- 8 million women benefited from family and reproductive health services



# Empowering Women in Social sphere

## Conditional Cash transfer program “Takaful and Karama”

2,000,000 women (80% women beneficiaries of the program) to improve:

- household consumption,
- Boosting human capital through conditionality,
- Increasing women’s control over decision making,
- Improve economic productive inclusion,
- increase financial inclusion of women
- Reduce violence against women.



Conditional cash transfer program  
“Takaful and karama”

5,630 village

345 districts

27 governorates

100% coverage



# Empowering Women in Social sphere

## Takaful and Karama Achievements

Cash transfer to 2.25 million households comprising 10 million individuals

Increasing the cash transfer budget by 235%

Database for the most vulnerable households including 25 million citizens

Receiving and responding to 282,000 grievances

Completion of all official documents for all registered households

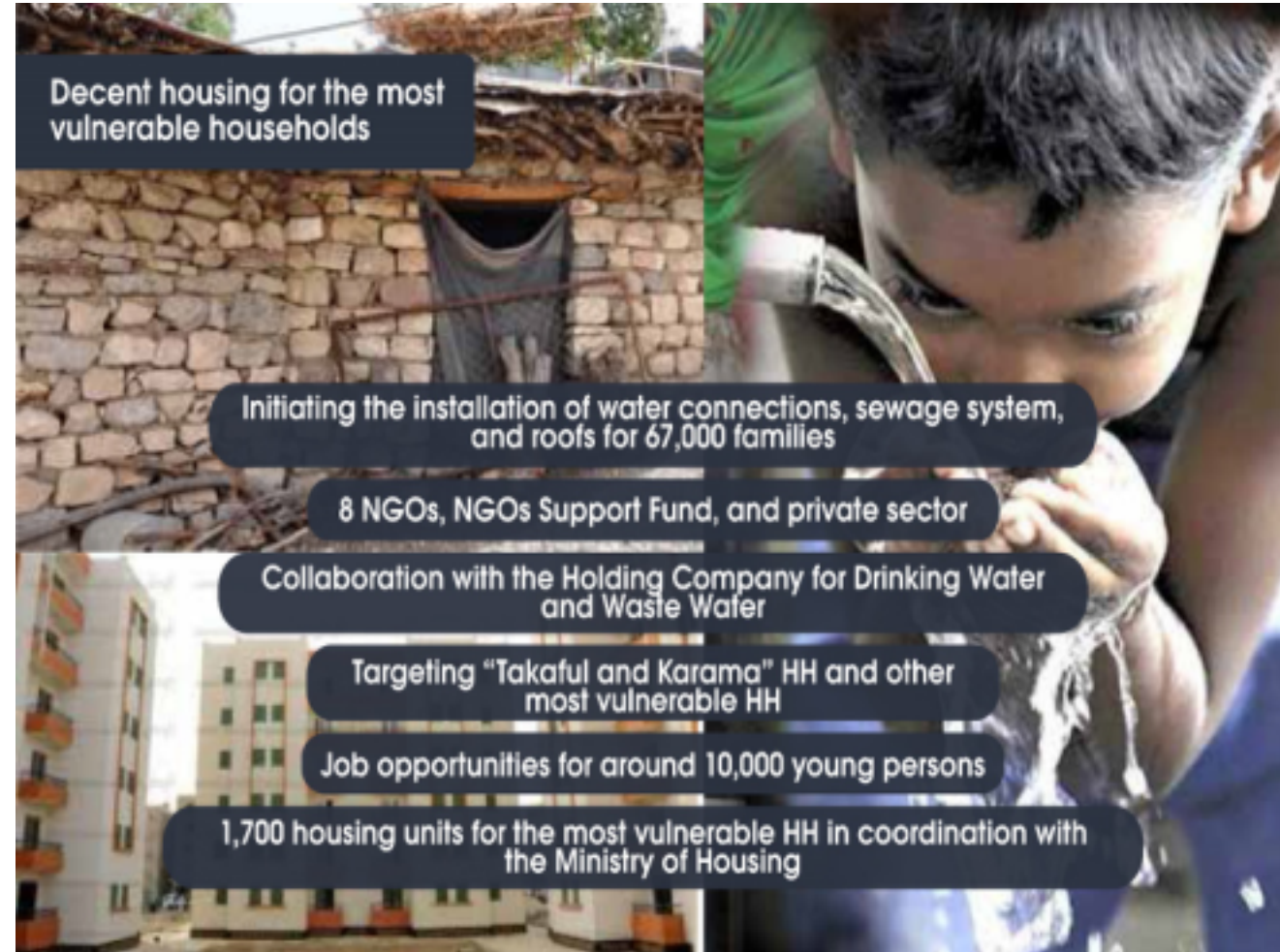
Training 22,000 researchers, social workers, and data entry employees

Electronic connectivity with the national database in cooperation with the Administrative Control Authority



# Empowering Women in Social sphere

- **Decent housing** for the most vulnerable households.
- New projects were launched to build around **250,000 housing units** for indecent housing inhabitants, with the objective of developing and impoverished villages into proper districts in to guarantee a safe and decent life for citizens. This has **direct impact on the safety and wellbeing of many women and girls.**
- Social programs and camps conducted to the decent housing programs reaching out to **4330 beneficiary.**





# Empowering Women in Social sphere

## INSURANCE POLICY SCHEME



Dedicating life insurance certificates **for 50,000 women** as first-time batch gift for **Egyptian women (female headed households)** on the Egyptian Women's Day

In cooperation Between the National Council for Women – The Administrative Control Authority – Ministry of Religious Endowments

# Empowering Women in Social sphere

## Initiative for People with Disabilities

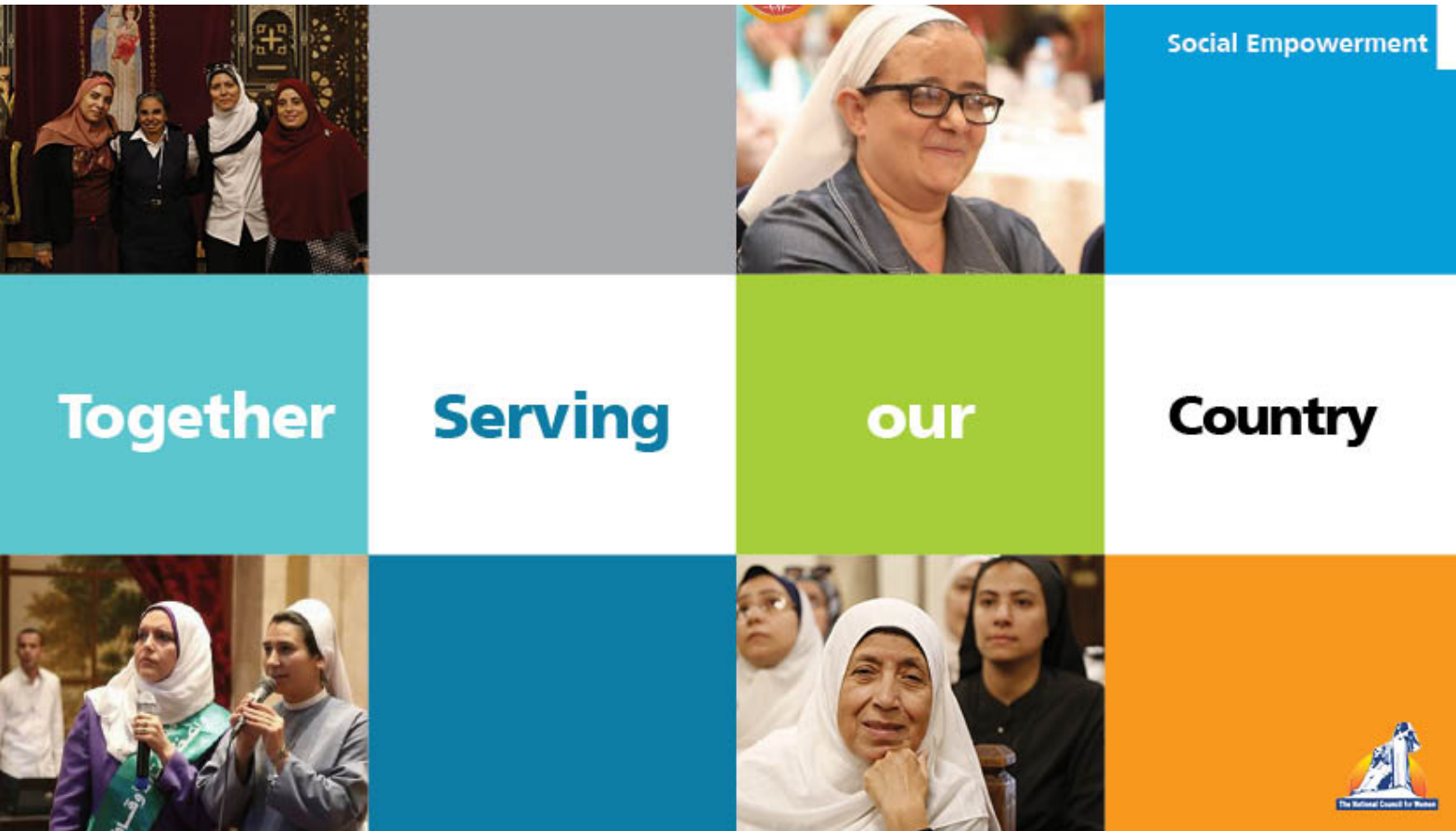
- Implementation of the accessibility initiative in cooperation with the governorates of Dakahlia, Sohag and Beni Suef.
- The objective is to make the government premises and public services accessible for people with disabilities, through applying the accessibility code.





# Empowering Women in Social sphere

## Launching of the first ever



Targeting around 700 religious women leaders to work on delivering messages on ground on topics such as:

- Reproductive health
- family planning
- Combating violence against women,
- combating FGM
- combating early marriage.

# Empowering Women in Social sphere

## Premarital Program

### Together Program



- Mental health and character understanding
- The differences between women and men
- Maintaining positive Egyptian customs and traditions
- Acceptance of the other
- Building a healthy balanced family
- Building and raising balanced children
- Reproductive health and family planning





## Efforts to combat breast cancer

- Early detection of breast cancer for **13,750** women in all governorates of Egypt through the branches of the National Council of Women.
- Early detection of breast cancer for **10,350** women in collaboration with the Center for Women's Health in the Ministry of Health and Population, the Institute of Oncology and Nasser Institute.

## Bahia

- Early detection of **28,511** women.  
**35** rooms with a total value of 5 million and 860 thousand Egyptian pounds.
- On Mother's Day, Admission of **138** cases on waiting list with a total value of 4 million and 666 thousand Egyptian Pounds.

**Early detection of breast cancer**  
**52,611**



# Empowering Women in Social sphere

## Efforts Towards Social and behavioral Change

### THE SECRET OF YOUR POWER CAMPAIGN (TAA MARBOOTA)

121 Million

Followers (Women and men)

Winner of a Golden Award in the International festival for the best media campaigns and the most influential

Being productive is the  
#SecretOfYourPower

Don't let anything confines, break the surrounding barriers because being a woman is the secret of your power

In Support of Every woman against violence - in all its forms Taa 'Marbouta is the secret of your power

### Empowers Egyptian Women

Sends Positive messages

Sheds the light on the role of ..... Women in society

Addresses Social, economic, and political empowerment of women

Addresses protection from all forms of violence against women

#سر\_قوتك





# Empowering Women in Social sphere

## Efforts Towards Social and behavioral Change



The first on ground campaign that engage men in women's issues. The social media campaign has reached **10 million** followers



# Empowering Women in Social sphere

## Efforts Towards Social and behavioral Change

### knocking doors Nationwide Campaign

The campaign reached out to around **6 million women** on the ground over 3 years. The campaign relies on face to face communication with women in villages.

It addresses topics such as:

- Violence against women
- personal status law
- legal rights, risks of FGM
- political participation of women
- other women issues



# Ensuring The Egyptian women's protection

- Egypt launched **three national strategies**; the National Strategy to Combat Violence against Women, the National Strategy to Combat Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), and the National Strategy to Combat Early Marriage
- Around 60,000 women beneficiaries of the Complaints office services of NCW -up to 2018 through the main branch and the 27 branches in the governorates by providing legal and social services ([Victim advocate System](#), [Legal Support](#), [Family Courts](#) and [VAW cases](#))
- Establishment of 18 anti-harassment units in universities.
- Upgrading shelters for women victims of violence under the supervision of the Ministry of Social Solidarity
- 440 general hospitals integrated Gender Based Violence (GBV) comprehensive package of health services and capacitated service providers to provide services for victims



# Ensuring The Egyptian women's protection

- Equal Opportunity units in all ministries
- Family court established to safeguard women & children
- Sector established in the Ministry of Justice “Women & Child Rights”
- Manual for the public prosecution official on VAW cases
- Training of law enforcements (700 representatives from the prosecution and the judiciary bodies on Violence against Women.)
- The Government of Egypt has been working on a comprehensive law for Violence against women that is intended to be passed by the Egyptian Parliament
- Manual on Violence against Women (VAW) in Islam was launched by Al Azhar to train religious leaders
- Launch of the Egypt Economic Cost of Gender Based Violence Survey to support evidence based policy-making (2015). Egypt is the First Arab country to conduct this survey.

# Ensuring The Egyptian women's protection

## The National Committee for the eradication of FGM



- The National committee for the eradication of FGM falls under the leadership of NCW and NCCM
- The first inaugural task force meeting took place in May 2019
- It was officially launched to commemorate the national FGM day on 13<sup>th</sup> of June 2019
- The committee's role is to coordinate all the efforts of FGM between the national stakeholders, ministries, international organizations as well as civil society
- A National Action Plan with its strategic framework will be developed by end 2019 and launched early 2020 to set the agenda for FGM In Egypt and reach the 2030 target.



# Knocking door campaign #protect her from FGM



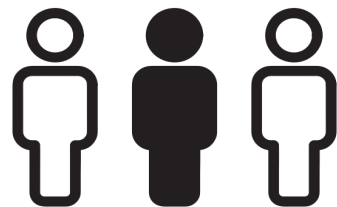
Reached  
**835 villages**



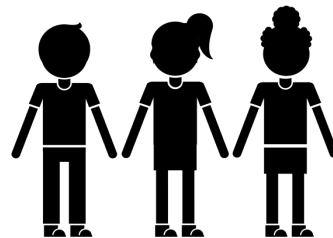
Reached a total of  
**2,245,522 People**



Reached  
**1,033,934 women**



Reached  
**422,046 men**



Reached  
**789,542 children**





# The National Committee for the eradication of FGM

## Total Activities



### Activities by the National Committee



Reached a total of  
**4,102,871 People**

### Activities by Partners from Ministries and NGOs



Reached a total of  
**95,681 People**



# Ensuring The Egyptian women's protection



An Awareness and interactive campaign  
in the Metro stations.





# Ensuring The Egyptian women's protection

Protection

الأسرة مشن بالكثره  
الأسرة رعاية و مستقبل لبكرة  
أسرتك سر قوتك

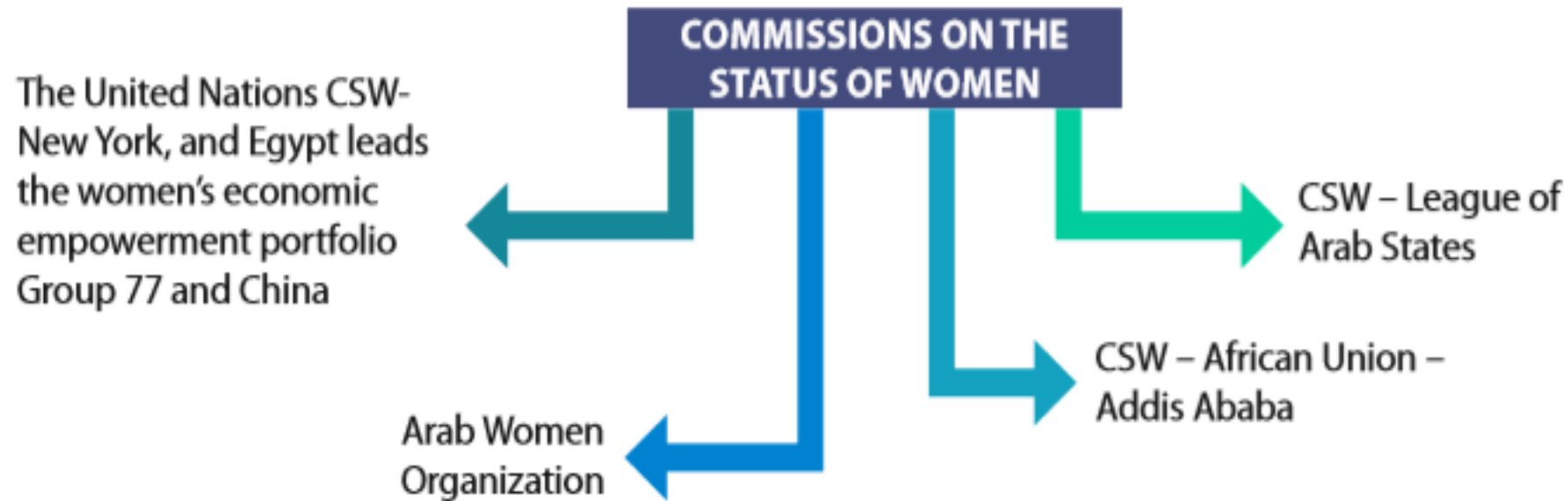
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لسه  
ببرى

مفيش طفلة تشيل طفلة

# Egyptian Women's Representation in International Inter- Governmental Organizations



**Agreement to establish women's organization for the Member states-Islamic Cooperation Organization.**

# **Egyptian Women's Representation in International Inter- Governmental Organizations**

## **International Representation**



### **Ministry of Local Development**

**Establishment of the first branch of the Network of elected local women in Egypt "REFLA Egypt" (Cities and United Local Governments of Africa UCLGA).**

**Egypt's membership in the REFLA is among the 45 regional members of African countries, represented by Manal Awad, Governor of Damietta**

# Egyptian Women's Representation in International Inter- Governmental Organizations

## International Representation

**For the first time Egypt hosted the Africa ministerial pre-consultative meeting for the 63<sup>rd</sup> Session of Commission on the Status of Women (CSW63) in Egypt**



**On the Arab  
level 12  
meetings**



**On the  
African level 4  
meetings**



**on the  
International level  
11 meetings**





# Egyptian Women's Representation in International Inter- Governmental Organizations

## International Tribute



WORLD BANK

### World Bank tribute

#### Reasons for optimism - The women economic empowerment Study

- Long term Reform Plan - Egypt's Vision 2030.
- The first National Women's Empowerment Strategy
- Declaration of year 2017 as Egyptian Women's Year.
- Women's Financial Inclusion
- Social Protection Programs (Takaful and Karama)
- Promoting Women's Rights in Public Legislation



### United Nation Tribute

The United Nations praised the presidential decision for declaring the year 2017 as the Egyptian women's year and the launch of the first National Women's Empowerment Strategy, based on the sustainable development goals.



### European Union tribute

The European Union praised the efforts of the presidential efforts in tackling the Egyptian women's challenges.





**Long Live Egypt**