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PROJECT FACT SHEET

U.S.-EGYPT SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY JOINT FUND

Egypt is one of only four countries in the world that has a funded bilateral science and technology cooperation agreement with the United States. The U.S.-Egypt Science and Technology Joint Fund promotes collaboration between American and Egyptian scientists to address development challenges and promote economic growth, particularly in applied scientific research and technology commercialization. This program works in areas such as public health, food security, energy, and water security. Results of the Joint Fund include high-impact scientific research, training for the next generation of female scientists and youth, and expanded collaboration between American and Egyptian public and private sector institutions.

Since its inception in 1995, the Joint Fund has supported 537 two- to three-year basic and applied collaborative research projects from 168 U.S. institutions and 67 Egyptian institutions. In addition to sharing expertise, these scientists created life-saving new influenza vaccines and innovative textiles containing insect repellents. Scientists registered thirteen patents and published more than 564 research papers that laid the groundwork for further study. A U.S. and Egyptian Joint Board governs this fund and meets on an annual basis.

Implementing Partner: U.S. National Academy of Sciences; Life of Project: November 2014 – November 2020; Total Estimated Cost: \$12 million; Governorates: Nationwide

MAIN ACTIVITIES

- Link and engage a community of scientists whose work addresses Egypt’s development challenges and contributes to its economic prosperity.
- Identify research that can be brought to market as new processes and products, with a focus on modernizing Egypt’s economy and creating jobs for youth.
- Encourage broader participation and new partners from the American and Egyptian scientific communities.

RESULTS TO DATE

- In 2018, the Board approved grants for 15 collaborative research projects totaling \$5 million. These projects are in areas critical to both Egypt and the U.S. such as (1) developing novel tools for diagnosing tick transmitted diseases; (2) the development of vaccine strains from the avian influenza virus that led to the control of avian influenza viruses in Egypt; (3) the creation of textiles containing antimicrobial and insect repellent; (4) designing a new method for processing rice straw using steam explosion technology; and (5) building composite materials for the automotive and airline industries.
- During the 2019 application cycle, 14 joint projects were awarded funding totaling more than \$4.5 million. Projects will investigate topics in the fields of smart agriculture, wastewater management and reuse, energy storage, infectious disease, and desalination technology, among several others.