

UNESCO Regional Office for Egypt and Suda Liaison Office with the League of Arab States

Ministry of Communications and Information Technology

Harnessing Al for Good: Egypt's Ethical Imperative

Shaping Egypt's Future: Advancing Responsible and Ethical Al

10 July 2025





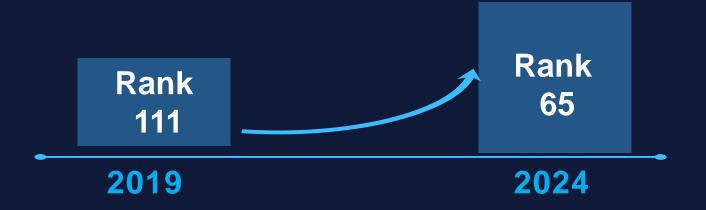




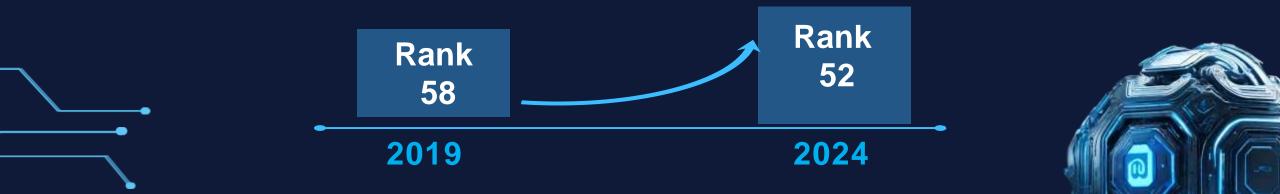




# And Information Technology Egypt rises 49 places in Government AI Readiness Index issued by Oxford Insights



### Egypt improved ranking in Tortoise Global Al Index







## National AI Strategy 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition January 2025





Strengthening the quantity and quality of local AI talents and experts

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Ministry of Communications and Information Technology

## Strategic Objective 1: Ensure ethical and responsible AI use by establishing a comprehensive AI regulatory system



**Global and Regional AI Dialogues** 





## Center for Responsible AI Role and Responsibilities towards the public sector & Society

- Develop a framework that includes guidelines, toolkits, methods, and best practices to enable the adoption of responsible AI by the Egyptian industry.
- Develop guidelines and standards for classifying AI system risks, identifying, and assessing AI capabilities of AI actors, and understanding and managing the interconnections between these actors.
- Develop training programs on responsible AI for government officials, industry professionals, and the public, and support initiatives in education and scientific research in the field of AI.
- Build partnerships with stakeholders from industry, academia, and civil society, and facilitate dialogue and cooperation on issues related to responsible AI.



#### Readiness Assessment Methodology

A Tool of the Recommendation on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence unesco

(RAM) Recommendation on the Ethics of AI adopted by acclamation by 193 Member States of UNESCO, 23 November 2021

## METHODOLOGY



Mixed methods (quantitative & qualitative) were used:

- Desk review
- Focus Group Discussion (FGD):
  - Two multistakeholder consultation meetings
  - ✓ 250 participants
- Individual Interviews
- ✓ 30 interviews from government entities, the private sector, civil society, academia and research institutions, contributing to diverse insights across RAM dimensions.



### Governance

## Egypt has taken meaningful steps toward establishing a foundation for AI governance:

- Personal Data Protection Law
- Cybercrime Law
- Constitutional guarantees (privacy & info access)
- Partial AI coverage via existing legal framework

#### Key Challenges

- No dedicated AI legislation, especially enforceable executive regulations
- Gaps in: Al procurement, Algorithmic accountability, Intergovernmental data sharing
- Not yet in force a law on data sharing or access to information

#### **Recommendations:**

#### Adopt a Legislative Roadmap

- Access to Information Law
- Executive Regulation of the Personal Data Protection
- Data Sharing Law Facilitate secure, ethical, and interoperable data exchange between stakeholders.
- Data Classification Law
- Introduce specific provisions for the procurement of AI systems by public entities to ensure transparency, accountability, and ethical use (No. 182 of 2018).

## Scientific/educational

- Scientific and educational dimensions of Al are crucial for transforming knowledge creation and application across various fields. UNESCO Open Science Recommendation.
- Egypt is rapidly emerging as a center for research and innovation in Africa and the Middle East.
- The country's education system is evolving to address challenges and align with global standards, particularly in STEM areas, to better prepare students to join the future workforce.
- By focusing on research, curriculum development, ethics, and collaboration, educational institutions can empower students to become leaders in AI, equipping them to tackle complex challenges and contribute to societal progress.

## Scientific/educational (Con.)



- Egypt has the largest pre-university education system in the Middle East and North Africa region, with over 25 million students.
- More than half the students are in primary education, and another 23 percent are in preparatory, reflecting a nearly universal net enrollment rate (Egypt Economic Monitor, December 2022).
- The Egyptian government places high priority on education through the constitutional provision for compulsory and free basic education and government spending for preuniversity education – no less than 4% of the gross domestic product (GDP).
- In terms of research output, Egypt's research output has been improving in recent years.

#### **Recommendations**:

- Build a robust Scalable AI Infrastructure
- Enhance Research Infrastructure: Invest in
  - cutting-edge laboratories and research facilities
  - Enhance Collaboration among Egyptian ministries
  - and stakeholders to implement the NAIS
- Promote STEM Education
- Promote Interdisciplinary Collaboration with a
  - wide range of AI ecosystem actors

### Economic



- 11 Science and Technology Hubs the highest in Africa, Egypt has achieved a notable advancement in scientific contributions.
- 480+ companies in AI
- Egypt makes Electronics and CreATIVA centers are crucial in enhancing digital skills and promoting innovation in the private sector.
- Egypt is making notable advancement in adoption of AI backed by investments in infrastructure, talents development and innovation ecosystem.
- Brain drain: Egypt is 5th globally in Alskill imigration; many trained specialists seek higher pay abroad.

#### **Recommendations**:

- Support startups by expanding access to global investment opportunities. Enhancing global market entry and customer access will accelerate Al adoption among local startups.
- Promote dynamic skill development and lifelong learning by investing in skill sets rather than specific roles, which may become obsolete due to technological advancements.
- Increase capacity-building efforts in rural areas to reduce the digital divide and invest in human capital to amplify workers' capabilities in the AI era.
- Foster cross-sector collaboration among government, the private sector, and academic institutions. Establish frameworks for joint Al projects targeting national development goals in sectors like healthcare, agriculture, and environmental sustainability.



More on the UNESCO Recommendation on the Ethics of AI: <u>https://en.unesco.org/artificial-</u> <u>intelligence/ethics</u> CREATIVA THANKS!



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## Thank You

<u>Maraka@mcit.gov.eg</u>

mcai.gov.eg