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**THE AFRICAN
GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT
INDEX**

EGYPT

FINAL REPORT

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Gender Status Index

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ADEW	Association for the Development and Enhancement of Women
BEIJING PFA	Beijing Plat form of Action
CAIP	The Cairo Air Project
CAPMAS	Central Agency for Public Mobilization and for
Population and Statistics	
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women
DANIDA	Danish Agency for Development
EDHS	Egyptian Demographic and Health Survey
EEP	Education Enhancement Program
EFU	Egyptian Feminist Union
ERSAP	Economic Reform Structural Adjustment Program
FGM	Female Gentile Mutilation
FGC	Female Gentile Cutting
GALAE	General Authority for Literacy and Adult Education
GOE	Government of Egypt
GSi	Gender Status Index
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
ICPD	The International Conference on Population and
Development	
IDSC	Information and Decision Support Center
ILO	International Labour Organization
IPU	International Parliamentarian Union
LFSS	Labour Force Sample Survey
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MOALR	Ministry of Agriculture and Land Resources
MOFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
MOHP	Ministry of Health and Population
MOIC	Ministry of Information and Communication
MOSA	Ministry of Social Affairs
MPs	Members of Parliament
NAP	The National AIDS Control Program
NARP	National Agriculture Research Project

NCCM
NCW
NEPAD
NGOs
NPRS
OAU
PBDAC
PCUWA
PHC
RTIs
SMEs
SFD
SMWIPM
Movement
STIs
TACC
UNDP
UNFPA
UNGASS
UNICEF
UNV
USAID
WHO
WID

National Council for Childhood and Motherhood
National Council for Women
New Partnership for Africa's Development
Non-Governmental Organizations
National Poverty Reduction Strategy
Organization of African Unity
Principle Bank for Development and Agriculture Credit
Policy Coordination Unit for Women in Agriculture
Private Health Centers
Reproductive Tract Infections
Small and Medium Enterprises
Social Fund for Development
Susan Mubarak Women's International Peace

Sexual Tract Infections
Technology Access Community Centers
United Nations Development Program
United Nations Population Fund
United Nations General Assembly Special Session
United Nations Children's Education Fund
United Nations Volunteers Programme
United States Agency for International Development
World Health Organization
Women in Development

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1 THE CONTEXT FOR GENDER ISSUES IN EGYPT

- 1.1. Introduction
- 1.2. Women and Gender Equality in Egypt
- 1.3. Government's Efforts at Addressing Gender Inequalities
- 1.4. Problems Encountered with Data Collection

A. SOCIAL POWER (CAPABILITIES)

Introduction

1.0 EDUCATION IN EGYPT

- 1.1 Basic education
 - 1.1.1 Primary Phase.*
 - 1.1.2 Preparatory Phase*
 - 1.1.3 Secondary Education*
 - 1.1.4 Technical Education*
- 1.2 Dropout Rates
 - 1.2.1 Calculating dropout rates by following up a given cohort*
- 1.3 University Education.
- 1.4 Population Literacy.
- 1.5 Illiteracy Rate.
- 1.6 Population who attained primary certificate.
- 1.7 Barriers to girls' education.
 - Physical constraints.
 - Administrative constraints.
 - Economic constraints.
 - Social constraints.
- 1.7.1 Egypt's government efforts to increase women access to education
- 1.7.2 Policy considerations

2.0 HEALTH

- 2.1 Introduction
 - 2.1.1 Health and gender
- 2.2 Life expectancy At Birth
 - 2.2.1 Infant and Child Mortality
 - Infant mortality rate from vital statistics
 - Infant under five mortality rates from demographic and health surveys
 - 2.2.2 *Nutrition Status*
 - 2.2.3 *Percentage of Women/ Men Infected With HIV AIDS*
- 2.3 *Factors Affecting Gender Disparities in Health*
- 2.4 *Governmental and non – governmental efforts to overcome gender disparities in health*

B. ECONOMIC POWER

3.0 Introduction

3.1 Income and wages

4.0 Time Use or employment

4.1 Time Use

4.1.1 Trends in working hours

4.1.2 Child Average number of working hours

4.2 Employment and Unemployment in Egypt

4.2.1 Population and labor force size and growth

4.2.2 The employment status structure of the Egyptian labor force

4.2.3 The occupational structure of the Egyptian labor force

4.2.4 The industrial structure of the Egyptian labor force

4.2.5 Unemployment Rates

4.2.6 Women's participation in paid and unpaid workers

4.2.7 Women's participation in formal and informal Sectors

5.0 ACCESS TO RESOURCES

5.1 Possessors of agricultural inputs.

5.2 Access to Credit.

5.3 Freedom of dispose of own income.

5.4 Management

5.4.1 The number of employers and their parentage to total employment

5.4.2 The number of scientific & technical occupation and managers Persons and their percentage to total employment

5.4.3 The number of trainees. Administrative Training Vocational Training

5.4.4 Reasons behind low participation of women in labour market

5.4.4 Number of concrete steps can be taken to facilitate women's Employment

C. POLITICAL POWER (Agency)

6.0 Introduction

6.1 Women's Participation in the Top Management Positions

6.1.1 Women's Participation in Government, Business and Public Sector

6.1.2 Women in Ministries' Cabinet

6.1.3 Women in Diplomatic Corps

6.2 Women's Participation in Parliament

6.2.1 Women's in People's Assembly

6.2.2 Women's in Shura Council

6.3 Women's in Civil Society Organizations

6.3.1 Women's Participation in Non Governmental Organizations:

6.3.2 Women's in Political Parties and Trade Unions

6.3.2.1 Women in Trade Unions

6.3.2.2 Women in Political Parties

6.4 Women's Participation in Professional Syndicates

- 6.5 Women in Local Councils
- 6.6 Women in Higher Court Judges
- 6.7 Women and decision-making within households
- 6.8 Factors affecting gender gaps in political participation
- 6.9 Governmental and non-governmental efforts to improve women's participation in political life and decision making process
- 6.10 Further steps in supporting women's participation

AFRICAN WOMEN'S PROGRESS SCOREBOARD

Appendix One: The African Women's Progress Scoreboard

D. WOMEN'S RIGHTS

8. CEDAW

- 8.1 Ratification without Reservation
- 8.2 Optional Protocol
- 8.3 Article 2
- 8.4 Article 16
- 9.0 The African Charter Of Human And People's Rights – Women's Rights Protocol
Harmful Practices

E. SOCIAL

- 10. The Beijing Platform of Action
- 11. Violence against Women
 - 11.1 Domestic Violence
 - 11.2 Rape
 - 11.3 Sexual Harassment
 - 11.4 Traffic in Women
- 12 African Charter on the Rights of the Child Art XXVII
- 13.0 Health ICPD POA Plus Five
 - 13.1 HIV/AIDS
 - 13.2 STIs
 - 13.3 Maternal Mortality
 - 13.4 Contraception
- 14 2001 Abuja Declaration On HIV/AIDS
- 15 EDUCATION
 - 15.1 Policy on Girl School Drop-Outs
 - 15.2 Education on Human/Women's Rights

F. ECONOMIC

16.0 ILO CONVENTIONS

- 16.1 ILO Conventions 100, 111, 183
- 16.2 ILO Policy On HIV /AIDS
- 17.1 Engendering National Poverty Reduction Strategy (NPRS)
- 17.2 Access To Technology
- 17.3 Agricultural Extension Services
- 17.4 Equal Access To Land

G POLITICAL POWER

- 18 UN Resolution 1325 on Conflict Resolution
- 19. Beijing Platform for Action: Effective and Accessible Machinery
- 20. Policies
 - 20.1 Support for Women's Quota and Affirmative Action
 - 20.2 Decision Making Positions within Parliament / Ministries
 - 20.3 Gender Mainstreaming in all Departments

List of Tables:

Social Power:

1.0.1 Education:

- Table1: Governmental public expenditure on education during 1997-2003
- Table 2: Pre-school enrolment rates by sex during 1994/95 till 2002/03
- Table 3: Primary net enrolment rates for both males and females during 1993/94-2003/04
- Table 4: Gross primary enrolment rates by sex and urban / rural residence during 1990/91 and 2003/ 04
- Table 5: Gross preparatory enrolment rates by sex and place of residence during 1990-2002
- Table 6: Number of one-classroom schools and their female students during 1993-2003
- Table 7: Secondary gross enrolment rates by sex and place of residence during 1990-2002
- Table 8: Percentage of total students in technical education at the period 1990/ 2001
- Table 9: Dropout rates in primary education by sex during 1992-2002

Table 10:	Dropout rates in preparatory education in urban and rural by sex during 1992-2002
Table 11a:	Number of enrolled pupils (males/females) in the first year of primary education in 1991/1992, and number and percentage of dropouts by 1998/1999
Table 11b:	Number of enrolled pupils (males/females) in the first year of primary phase in 1992/1993, and number and percentage of dropouts by 1999/2000
Table 12:	Percentage of female students to total in humanities and scientific colleges during 1990/1991, 2002/2003
Table 12:	Percentage of female students to total in humanities and scientific colleges during 1990/1991, 2002/2003
Table 13:	Percentage of population 15+ who can read and write during 1990-2003
Table 14:	Illiteracy rates by urban/rural residence and age 1986-1996
Table 15:	Percent of population aged 15 + who have primary certificate during 1990-2003

2.0 Health:

Table 1:	Governmental public expenditure on health 1991- 2001
Table 2:	Life expectancy at birth by sex during 1990-2003
Table 3:	Life expectancy at birth by place of residence and sex during 1990-2003
Table 4:	Unadjusted infant mortality rates by sex for years 1990-2002 depending on vital statistics
Table 5:	Adjusted infant mortality rates by sex for years 1990-2002 depending on vital statistics
Table 6:	Unadjusted under-five mortality rates by sex for years 1990-2002 depending on vital statistics
Table 7:	Adjusted under-five mortality rates by sex for years 1990-2002 depending on vital statistics
Table 8:	Infant mortality rates by sex and place of residence for years 1992-2003 (EDHS)
Table 9:	Under five mortality rates by sex and place of residence for years 1992-2003

(EDHS)

Table 10: Nutritional status for girls/boys under five years old for the period 1992-2003

Table 11: Nutritional status for girls/boys under three years old during the period 1997-2002

Table 12: Percentage of women/men infected with HIV/AIDS

3.0 Economic Power:

Table 1: Average wage per month in the formal sector by sex 1990-2002 (L.E.)

Table 2: Average wage per month in the formal sector by economic activities and sex, 1990

Table 3: Average wage per month in the formal sector by economic activities and sex, 1995

Table 4: Average wage per month in the formal sector by economic activities and sex, 2002

Table 5: Average wage per month in civil services (government sector) during 1990-2001

Table 6: Average number of working hours per day and per week for ever-married women (15-49), Oct-Dec. 1993- Egypt

Table 7: Average number of working hours according to main economic activity and area of residence for ever-married women 15-49, 1993

Table 8: Average number of working hours according to employment status and area of residence for ever-married women 15-49, 1993

Table 9: Average working hours per week in the formal sector (public and private Sector) by sex during 1990-2002

Table 10: Average working hours per week for employed person (15-64 years) in all sectors during 1990-2002

Table 11: Percentage distribution of employed person (12-64) by age groups of hours worked per week, economic activities and sex, 1990

Table 12: Percentage distribution of employed persons (15-64) by age groups of hours worked per week, economic activities and sex, 1995

Table 13: Percentage distribution of employed person (15-64) by age groups

of hours worked per week, economic activities and sex, 2002

Table 14:	Average number of working hours for children (6-14 years), 2001
Table 15:	Distribution of population and labor force by sex and place of residence 1990-2002
Table 16:	Number of labor force (15 -64) by employment status, sex and place of residence, 1990
Table 17:	Percentage distribution of labor force (15 -64) by employment status, sex and place of residence, 1990
Table 18:	Number of labor force (15 -64) by employment status, sex and place of Residence, 2002
Table 19:	Percentage distribution of labor force (15 -64) by employment status, sex and place of residence, 2002
Table 20:	Number of labor force (15 -64) by occupation, sex and place of residence, 1990
Table 21:	Percentage distribution of labor force (15-64) by occupation, sex and place of residence, 1990
Table 22:	Number of labor force (15 -64) by occupation, sex and place of residence, 2002
Table 23:	Percentage distribution of labor force (15 -64) by occupation, sex and place of residence, 2002
Table 24:	Numbers of labor force (15 -64) by industry, sex and place of residence, 1990
Table 25:	Percentage distribution of labor force (15 -64) by industry, sex and place of residence, 1990
Table 26:	Number of labor force (15 -64) by industry, sex and place of residence, 2002
Table 27:	Percentage distribution of labor force (15 -64) by industry, sex and place of residence, 2002
Table 28:	Distribution of unemployed persons and unemployment rates by sex and place of residence 1990-2002
Table 29:	Percent of paid employment to total employment (15-64) for women & men during 1990-2002
Table 30:	Employment in the informal sector as percent of total non-agricultural employment (15-64 years) by sex during 1999-2002
Table 31:	Employment in the informal sector as percent of total employment

(including agriculture) (15-64 years) by sex during 1997-2002

Table 32:	Agricultural inputs 1999/2000
Table 33:	Agricultural inputs 1989/90
Table 34:	Number of borrowers by governorate, type of loan and sex during the Second half of 2001
Table 35:	Distribution of short-term loans by activity and sex during the second half of 2001
Table 36:	Distribution of medium-term loans by sex during second half of 2001
Table 37:	Distribution of long-term loans by sex during second half of 2001
Table 38a:	The beneficiaries from small projects financed by Social Fund for Development and amount of loans by sex during 1992-2004
Table 38b:	The beneficiaries from micro enterprises financed by Social Fund for Development and amount of loans by sex during 1992-2004
Table 39:	Percent distribution of women receiving cash earnings by the person (s) deciding about how earnings will be used, Egypt 1995
Table 40:	Percent distribution of women receiving cash earnings by the person (s) deciding about how earnings will be used, Egypt 2000
Table 41:	Number of employers by sex during 1990-2002
Table 42:	Percentage of employers to total employment by sex during 1990-2002
Table 43:	Number of scientific & technical occupation persons and managers (15-64 years) to total employment by sex during 1990-2002
Table 44:	Percent of scientific & technical occupation persons and managers to total employment by sex and residence during 1990-2002
Table 45:	Number of state administrative body female trainees, according to ministry of manpower and emigration statistics, 1997/1998 to 2002/2003
Table 46:	Number of female trainees of the state administrative body who received specialized training, during 1997/1998 to 2002/2003
Table 47:	Number of female trainees of the state administrative body who received leadership training, during 1997/1998 to 2002/2003
Table 48:	Number of female trainees of the ministry of administrative development who received computer training, during 1997/1998 to 2002/2003

Table 49: Relative and numerical distribution of vocational training by sex during the period 1996/1997 - 1998/1999

4.0 Political Power:

- Table 1: The number of personnel (male/female) in top management positions in the government, business sector and public sector during the period 1990 – 2003
- Table 2: Percentage of female in top management positions in the government, business sector and public sector during the period 1990 – 2003
- Table 3: Number and percentage of women in diplomatic corps during the period 1991 – 2004
- Table 4: Number of elected and appointed positions for men and women in People's Assembly and Shura Council during the period 1990-2004
- Table 5: Number of care societies working in one field and more than one field & development societies during the period 1994-2002
- Table 6: Number and percentage of women in public syndicates during the period 2001-2006
- Table 7.1: Nomination of women by different parties during the period 1995-2000
- Table 7.2: Nomination of different parties for women in local elections 2002
- Table 8.1: Male members of professional syndicates during the period 1990-2000
- Table 8.2: Female members of professional syndicates during the period 1990-2000
- Table 8.3: Percentage of females in professional syndicates
- Table 9: Number and percentage of women members in the local administration councils during the period 1992-2002
- Table 10: Members of administrative prosecution during the period 1990-2003
- Table 11: Percentage distribution of women by person who makes specific household decisions, according to decision, Egypt 1995
- Table 12: Percentage of women who say that they alone or jointly with their husband have the final say in specific household decisions, by background characteristic, Egypt 1995
- Table 13: Percentage of distribution of women by person who makes specific household decisions, according to type of decision, Egypt 200

Table 14: Percentage of women who say that they alone or jointly have the final say in specific household decisions, according to background characteristics, Egypt 2000

List of figures

Social Power:

1.0 Education:

- Figure 1: Primary net enrolment rates for both males and females during 2001 –2003
- Figure 2: Gross preparatory enrollment rates during 1994-2001
- Figure 3: Secondary gross enrollment rates by sex during 1993/94-2001/02
- Figure 4: Percentage of dropouts for two cohorts ending their basic education in 1998/99 and 1999 /2000
- Figure 5: Percentage of female students to total students in humanities and scientific colleges during 1990/91-2002/03
- Figure 6: Illiteracy rates bBy urban/rural residence 1986-1996

2.0 Health

- Figure 1: Life expectancy at birth by sex during 1990-2003
- Figure 2: Adjusted infant mortality rates by sex
- Figure 3: Adjusted under – five mortality rates by sex
- Figure 4: Nutritional status for girls/boys under age five height for age
- Figure 5: Nutritional status for girls/boys under age three
- Figure 6: Percentage of women/men infected with HIV/AIDS

3.0 Economic power:

- Figure 1: Average wage per month in formal sector by sex 1990-2002
- Figure 2: Average wage per month in agriculture activity by sex 1990-2002
- Figure 3: Trend in average hours worked per week in the formal sector by sex 1990-2002
- Figure 4: Average hours worked per week for employed persons (15-64) in all sectors by sex 1990-2002 in total Egypt
- Figure 5: Average hours worked per week for employed persons (15-64) in all sectors by sex 1990-2002 in urban areas

- Figure 6: Average hours worked per week for employed persons (15-64) in all sectors by sex 1990-2002 in rural areas
- Figure 7: Percentage of male and female participation in labor force in total Egypt 1990-2002
- Figure 8: Percentage of male and female participation in labor force in urban areas 1990-2002
- Figure 9: Percentage of male and female participation in labor force in rural areas 1990-2002
- Figure 10: Male and female unemployment rates total Egypt 1990-2002
- Figure 11: Percent of paid employment to total employment (15-64) during 1990-2002 of total Egypt, urban and rural areas.
- Figure 12: Employment in the informal sector as percent of total non-agriculture employment (15-64) by sex during 1999-2002 in total Egypt, urban and rural areas.
- Figure 13: Employment in the informal sector as percent of total employment (15-64) by sex during 1999-2002 in Total Egypt, urban and rural areas
- Figure 14: Agriculture input possessors by sex 1999/2000
- Figure 15: Percentage distribution of borrowers (PBDAC) by type of loan and Sex, 2001
- Figure 16a: Number of beneficiaries from small enterprises financed by social fund for development by sex during 1992-2004
- Figure 16b: Number of beneficiaries from micro enterprises financed by social fund for development by sex during 1992-2004
- Figure 17: Percentage distribution of women receiving cash earning by person(s) deciding how earning will be used 1995 & 2002
- Figure 18: Percentage of employers to total Employment (15-64) by sex during 1990-2003 in total Egypt, urban and rural areas
- Figure 19: Percentage of scientific and technical occupation persons and managers to total employment (15-64) by sex during 1990-2002 in total Egypt, urban and rural areas.
- Figure 20: Percentage distribution of state administrative body trainees by sex during 1997/1998-2002/2003

- Figure 21: Distribution of state administrative body that received specialized training by sex during 1997/1998-2002/2003
- Figure 22: Distribution of state administrative body that received leadership training by sex during 1997/1998-2002/2003
- Figure 23: Percentage distribution of trainees of administrative development whom received computer training by sex during 1997/1998-2002/2003
- Figure 24: Number of enrolled students in vocational training by sex during 1996/1997-1998/1999

References
List of Data Sources
Additional Appendix for Education section

1. The Context for Gender Issues in Egypt

1.1 Introduction:

Egypt is located in the northeastern corner of Africa and has a total area of approximately 1 million square kilometers. It is bordered by Libya in the west, Sudan in the south, Gaza strip and Israel in the northeast. Its total coastline is about 2,950 kms with a Mediterranean coastline of about 1,000 kms, and 1,950 kms on the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aqaba.

As of July 2003, Egypt's population reached 67.313 million, making Egypt the 16th most populous country in the world. The population growth rate is 2% and in 2003, life expectancy at birth was 70.41 years. About 43% of the population lives in urban areas. The Gross National Product GNP per capita (in US Dollars) was 639 in 1990 and increased to 1390 in 2000. Administratively, Egypt is divided into 26 governorates, each headed by a Governor who is appointed by the President

Egypt has outlined several development priorities for solving its main challenges namely; reducing the annual population growth rate, creating job opportunities through modernizing and expanding the small business sector, supporting young graduates' self-employment through the establishment of small and micro enterprises, and focusing on poverty reduction strategies.

1.2 The status of women and gender equality in Egypt:

As awareness of gender inequalities and the unique problems facing Egyptian women and girls has increased, policy makers have focused more of their efforts on improving the situation facing females and narrowing the gender gap which exists in many countries. Of particular interest to policy makers are questions about women's access to education, health care and employment. Also of concern are questions about the link between women's economic opportunities and their participation in the political sphere.

Egypt, as a large country with special culture and intellectual thought among African countries, has in many ways been a leader in addressing women's issues historically. During the 1800s, at a time when literacy rates were increasing, intensified development efforts in Egypt facilitated early discussions concerning the position of women. Questions about women's access to education, their rights within marriage, and their economic independence, or lack thereof, were raised. Women such as Bahithat al-Badiya and Aisha Ismat al-Taimuriya, as well as men such as al-Tahtawi and Mohamed Abdu, were among those who, during the late 1800s, began advocating for women's education and changes in marriage laws. The first women's journals in Arabic were published in Alexandria in the 1890s. With the establishment of these female edited magazines, Egyptian women gained a forum for voicing their concerns about their role in society, the importance of education, and other issues that were also of concern to their male contemporaries.

In the early 20th century, women's organizations became more explicitly feminist, as well as increasingly nationalist (in the face of foreign occupation). By 1923, the Egyptian Feminist Union (EFU) was founded, with the objective of improving Egyptian women's status through achieving political, social and legal equality. More specifically it called for equal access to education at all levels, and reforming marriage laws, particularly those pertaining to polygamy and divorce. These issues, as well as concerns about women's access to employment and more generally to income, still remain central to the present Egyptian women's movement.

The government of Egypt has committed great resources and efforts to bring about more gender equality in society. However, despite these efforts there are still some challenges brought about by unequal implementation of laws and social customs that still discriminate against women. The Egyptian culture is very patriarchal. Males are the decision makers in the majority of instances and assert control over both public and private spheres. This phenomenon is multiplied in rural areas where cultural traditions, norms and customs place great restrictions on women's physical and psychological freedoms.

- Some practices, such as FGM, banned by law are still practiced, and the rural gender gap seems to be growing in all sectors, amidst tight economic constraints. Violence against women is rarely documented because of social taboos related to the stigma of rape, and social customs that allow males to exert control over females in the private sphere.
- Illiteracy rates are high in Egypt, especially for females, and rural females in particular. The education gender gap remains wide, particularly in rural areas. The primary causes of the gap is economic pressures, which may force families to withdraw students, usually daughters, from school to provide additional income; and social customs that view the place of the female as a housewife not in need of education.
- Egyptian females still have a relatively low share of the employment market. Since employment is closely linked to education status, women are at a disadvantage. Furthermore, the majority of female laborers are in the agricultural sector.
- Women's participation in political life is still not equal to their weight in society.
- Many laws provide for equal opportunities and equality before the law. However the implementation of these laws requires more scrutiny and monitoring. Furthermore, some laws still exist that have discriminatory provisions.
- Males still have the upper hand in decision making in the private sphere. A women's place is still considered the home in rural areas especially, there is strong resistance to women joining the work force.

1.3 Government Efforts at Addressing gender Inequality in Egypt

Egypt's commitment to gender and the empowerment of women is not new. It was the first Arab state to ratify CEDAW in 1981, and wasted no time in implementing its provisions. Even before Egypt ratified the Convention, gender equality was enshrined in the country's constitution.

Egypt also participated in the three other major international conferences on women's issues; Copenhagen (1980), Nairobi (1985) and Beijing (1995). The emphasis at these conferences was on health, education and economic empowerment, and Egypt wasted no time in incorporating these issues in the national agenda and significant progress has been made.

Government commitment to women's issues and gender equality has been strong. Various institutional mechanisms have been established to aid in empowering and advancing the status of women in the social, economic and political spheres:

- The National Committee for Women was established in 1978. It was the first government body responsible for implementing national programs and plans for the advancement of women at the local, national and international levels. In 1994, the Committee was reorganized as the national agency responsible for women's issues at the international and local levels.
- The General Department of Women's Affairs was established in 1977 under the Ministry of Social Affairs. Its main objectives are to formulate policies, plans and projects; to act as an implementing and follow-up machinery for these policies and plans; to co-operate with government and non-governmental organizations in all issues relating to women affairs.
- The National Council for Childhood and Motherhood was established in 1989 as the official agency responsible for child-related issues, including issues related to women as mothers. Among the tasks and responsibilities of the Council are to compile information, statistics and studies pertaining to mothers and children and to propose training programs aimed at improving their living standards.
- A Presidential Decree established the National Council for Women in February 2000 with the mission of promoting the advancement of the Egyptian woman and enhancing her social, economic and political status. The Council, presided over by the First Lady, strives to bring women's concerns into the mainstream and thus overcome the problem of marginalization.

With the advent of the new millennium, government focus began to shift to politics, equality before the law and technology. This is not to say that previous areas of concern were neglected. On the contrary, with the adoption of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) as part of the national strategy for development, it was impossible to overlook the importance of gender social, economic or political aspect. Not only was gender empowerment one of the MDGs (Goal 3), but it was also a cross cutting theme necessary for overall national development.

Egypt has long adopted the provisions of the MDGs in its national planning strategies, such as universal education, in particular girl-child education, and family planning in national strategies in order to exert all efforts possible to advance the status of women. The mass education and illiteracy eradication campaigns launched under "Mubarak's National Project for Developing Education" in 1990's was a very positive effort to improve access to and quality of schools, especially in rural areas. In addition, efforts have been exerted in to enhance women's economic status by offering training, technical support and micro-credit schemes. In the political arena, the government in collaboration with international donors and its women's organizations has embarked on a series of training programs, public awareness campaigns and political participation workshops aimed at involving more women in public life.

Efforts to amend discriminatory laws have been in the forefront of government efforts. A new personal status law was passed by the Egyptian parliament in 2000 that allows women more rights. The law now allows a woman to obtain a divorce, in return for exempting her husband from any future financial obligations. Previously, women did not have the legal right to demand a divorce. As well, a law requiring that women obtain the permission of their husbands before traveling abroad was deemed unconstitutional. One of the greatest accomplishments has been the nationality law, which is in the legislative process. The law now allows Egyptian women married to foreign men to pass their nationality onto their children.

The Government of Egypt has made significant advances in identifying and trying to address gender inequalities. The challenges remaining are in building awareness and breaking down cultural barriers and attitudes that prevent the full and equal participation of women in the public and private spheres. Policy measures need to be implemented to improve women's participation in decision-making, to enhance gender equality within the legal framework and most importantly to address existing stereotypes and traditions that limit women's freedoms.

1.4 Problems Encountered with Data collection:

Although the selected team members of the statistical profile, responsible for calculating the Egyptian Gender Status Index (GSI) were among the pioneer researchers of Population Studies & Research Center of CAPMAS (the official organization for collecting and publishing all types of data), they faced several data collection problems:

For Social Power referring to educational data: in order to calculate the net and gross enrollment rates by educational stage, sex, and residence (U/R), population projections by single year of age and sex in urban and rural areas for the reference period 1990-2003 are needed. Current data exists only for five age groups, and reflects the nation as a whole, without regional divisions.

To meet the needs of the present study, a new population projection was prepared by single year of age, by sex and for each of urban and rural areas for the period 1990-2003. This took considerable effort and time.

Referring to the number of students, CAPMAS collected the raw data on the number of students distributed by different levels of education from the statistical department of Ministry of

Education. These data were not disaggregated by single age of pupils, which is needed to calculate the net enrollment rate for primary & preparatory stages. At the request of the research team, MOE the necessary data was tabulated and handed over after several visits. In addition, the MOE has never published statistics by urban /rural divisions. in addition to existence of another problem. Moreover, the MOE considers students to be connected to urban areas if they are enrolled in an urban school rather than due to the place of pupil's residence. Accordingly, the enrollment rates in urban areas are much higher than those of rural areas, mainly due to more access to schools located in urban areas than those of the rural ones. Although the MOE was able to solve the first problem of single year of age of pupils and give CAPMAS the needed data disaggregated by single age and sex, they could not provide a solution for the second problem (urban/rural statistics) since it requires great modification in their database.

Data needed for dropouts are mostly calculated yearly in the MOE and rarely by cohort analysis. The data of dropouts by single years are not accurate because they are highly affected by shifting of pupils from one school to another and from one area to another (rural to urban areas), in addition to repetition of students (fall in some scholastic years). Accordingly, the results of yearly drop-outs seemed to be illogical since drop-outs in urban areas are (positive) i.e. there is a bigger number of students at the end of the scholastic year as compared with pupils registered in the beginning of the same year. The reverse was shown in the rural areas. Hence, high dropout rates are shown in the rural areas and no dropouts are shown in urban ones. MOE officials advised the CAPMAS team to depend on the cohort analysis and national figures for drop out rates, not on urban/rural figures.

Regarding university education, there is no specific age group to be enrolled in the university as for primary, preparatory and secondary stages. Moreover, the students in university are not registered by current age. Therefore, the number of students by age needed to calculate the net enrollment in university could not be collected from the Ministry of Higher Education. The team depended on proportional analysis by sex in university stage.

For Health:

Referring to the data needed for malnutrition, the GSI needs data for children aged less than 3 years, while the Egyptian Demographic and Health surveys offer data for all malnutrition measures (height-for-age, weight-for-age and height-for-weight) for children less than 5 years. Accordingly, the team tried to get the data from the National Institute of Nutrition in which the reference age (<3 Years) is available. Unfortunately, contradictions in results for the trend in nutrition status of children were shown. While all demographic & Health Surveys of Egypt since 1984 till 2003 showed improvements and decreases in malnutrition measures of children during 1990- 2003, the results of National Nutrition Institute showed the reverse (an increasing trend). The team preferred to introduce both measures in the study.

Referring to the number of new HIV/AIDS infections, the Ministry of Health has very limited data. The Ministry indicated that minimal efforts are given to these areas since AIDS is not a critical problem in Egypt. Nevertheless after many visits, the team had the number of new HIV/AIDS cases.

Economic Power:

In order to define the economic power by gender data on income, time use, employment and access to resources are needed. Data on income are not disaggregated by sex in any of the published reports on field surveys by CAPMAS. For example, the Income & Expenditure Household Survey lists the income of all members of the household with no segregation by sex. While data for formal sector on number of hours worked and wages distributed by sex is available, most of corresponding data on the informal sector, as expected, are not available. Accordingly, the research team depended on the wage distribution by sex from Bulletins of Employment Wages and Hours of Work in Egypt (which also reflects wage discrimination in the formal sector). In addition, data on wages or hours of work are not disaggregated by employment status neither in the Labour Force Sample Surveys nor in the Bulletins of Employment Wages and Hours of Work (published by CAPMAS).

Time-use surveys are very rare in Egypt. The only study of time-use in Egypt was done in 1993 by the Arab League on a sample of ever-married women aged 15-49 years. Some results of this survey were presented concerning the working hours of employed ever-married women according to some criteria.

Measures on access to resources required data on the ownership of urban plots/houses and land. Although Egypt undertakes a Population and Housing Census every 10 years, data on the ownership of plots/houses is not disaggregated by sex. So, the team depended on some data from the Agricultural Censuses in Egypt to represent the possession of agricultural inputs by sex. Credit disaggregated by sex at the national level is virtually non-existent in Egypt. Data was, therefore, sourced from the Principal Bank for Development and Agricultural Credit (PBDAC) and Social Fund for Development (SFD).

Political power:

Most of data on women's participation in politics and decision-making are not available at CAPMAS. Hence, numerous visits to all Ministries were conducted to collect data on women in decision-making posts.

Data needed from some professional syndicates is not disaggregated by sex, only the total number of members is. Where possible, sex disaggregated data is provided for syndicates, however for some syndicates, such as the trade syndicate, figures include both sexes.

Members & heads of NGOs in Egypt are not known. The Ministry of Social Affairs did provide some the most recent data available. However, data for trend analysis from previous years are not available. Moreover, it was mentioned that only about 3% of total number of NGOs are working on gender and women's empowerment. The proportion of females in the steering committees of NGOs are taken from the web-site of Arab Women since it has more data than those available in the Ministry of Social Affairs.

With regards to the African (Egyptian) Women's Scoreboard:

Budget information:

Due to the manner in which the Egyptian budget is prepared and presented, it is not possible to identify specific figures allocated for each scoreboard component. Budgets are allocated to ministries and within ministries programs allocate amounts. As a result, it is possible to have money allocated to gender activities or efforts that fall under a program that seemingly is not gender specific. In order to complete the sections on budgets in the scoreboard, the research team opted instead to comment on whether there is a budget for a program or activity that includes a particular scoreboard component. Where possible and available, specific figures are indicated, however this is not readily the case.

Targets:

The manner in which the Egyptian national development plans are written is general. The plans include overall targets and objectives such as increasing girl-child enrollment in schools, and providing training for women in the agricultural sector. However, specific numbers targets and goals for programs and projects are developed at the ministerial and institutional levels. Where these are available they have been indicated.

Time:

The most over-riding limitation in this research has been time. The training session was held in early April 2004. However, funds for the project were not transferred until late May. As a result, the research team only had about two months to complete the document. Given that the three months originally stated for the research were viewed by the team as insufficient for research, coordination and compilation of the report, lesser time proved very taxing on all those involved. Especially since the months of research were summer months when most ministry and official personnel take time off.

A. SOCIAL POWER (CAPABILITIES)

Introduction

The main objective of any educational system is to provide the community with the necessary skills and expertise to achieve successful implementation of its national development programs. Therefore, the government seeks to reduce illiteracy rates and increase student enrollment rates in all educational levels, particularly basic education, especially for females.

The Egyptian Constitution (1971) emphasizes the right of all Egyptians to free education at all levels, including university, regardless of gender, geographic location, or socio-economic status. In Egypt, immense progress has been achieved in education since the early 1990s. Egypt has embarked on an ambitious and comprehensive educational reform program. The Egyptian government has demonstrated a strong commitment to prioritizing education as a primary goal for the development of human resources and has defined Education as the "National project of the Nineties." Thus, increasing amounts of resources have been allocated to education. In fact, government expenditure on education has been impressive throughout the past decade. As a result literacy rates have risen, and the gap between boys' and girls' education is closing. During the 1990s, the education sector began focusing on three important pillars: improving equity in access to education, with a particular focus on increasing girls' enrollment; improving the quality of education; and increasing the efficiency of the education sector.

1.0 EDUCATION IN EGYPT

Egypt's Educational system:

Egypt's educational system comprises of four successive phases namely, primary, preparatory (together represent the basic educational phase), secondary and university. Primary education lasts for 5 years, followed by three years of preparatory schooling. After completing these stages of basic education, students have the choice of entering a general secondary school (academic option) or a technical school, such as commercial, industrial or agricultural schools, then comes the higher phase (university education, higher institutes, and two years institutes).

Educational Governmental Budget (1990-2004)

As a result of the governmental efforts exerted in field of education, special attention was given to allocate more resources to education. It has been recognized that the expenditure on education, in general, increased from 640 million in 1990/91 to 1247.5 million L.E in 1997/1998 to 16524.6 million L.E in 2000/2001 and to 22199.9 million L.E in 2003/2004. It doubled 35 folds during fourteen years (1990-2004).

With regard to the expenditure on primary, preparatory and secondary education, government expenditure increased from 9060.1 million L.E in 97/98 to 16053 million L.E in 2003/04. Regarding expenditure on higher education, it is noticed that it also increased, from 3367 million L.E in 97/98 to 6147 million LE in 2003/04. The data of the same table also shows that the percent of change in the expenditure on education increased during the period of study (see table 1).

Table 1: Governmental public expenditure on education during 1997-2003 (in million L.E)*

Statement	97/98	98/99	99/2000	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04
Expenditure on education	1247.5	13527.7	14747.3	16524.6	18125.4	20190.6	22199.9
% of change	-	9.8	10.8	12.3	13.5	15.2	16.8
Expenditure on primary preparatory secondary education	9060.1	9541.3	10489.7	11925.9	13177.4	14597	16053
Expenditure on higher education (University)	3367.4	3986.1	4257.6	4598.7	4948.0	5594	6147

Source: The general budget

Note: American Dollar \$ equal 6.2 LE

Pre-schooling Educational level

The education process starts from kindergarten or pre-schooling educational level in Egypt. Pre-school enrollment rate is defined as number of children aged 4-5 years who were enrolled in pre-school in a specific year per 100 of the total children aged 4-5 in the same reference year. The data used to calculate pre-school enrollment rates are from Ministry of Education (enrolled pupils) and the Population Studies and Research Center of CAPMAS (population estimation).

Although this educational level is essential for children's life, statistics indicate that there are limited enrollment rates for children aged 4-5 years. However, these rates witnessed an increase from 9% for both females and males in 1994/95 to 14% and 13% for the two sexes respectively in 2002/03.

Table 2: Pre-school enrollment rates by sex during 1994/95 till 2002/03

Year	Females %	Males%
1994/95	9	9
2000/01	13	13
2002/03	14	13

Source: Ministry of Education and CAPMAS.

Moreover, there is almost no gender gap between the two sexes at this level, since the enrolled pupils, generally come from well off families.

1.1 Basic education

As mentioned before, basic education in Egypt consists of two phases primary and preparatory phase.

1.1.1 Primary Phase

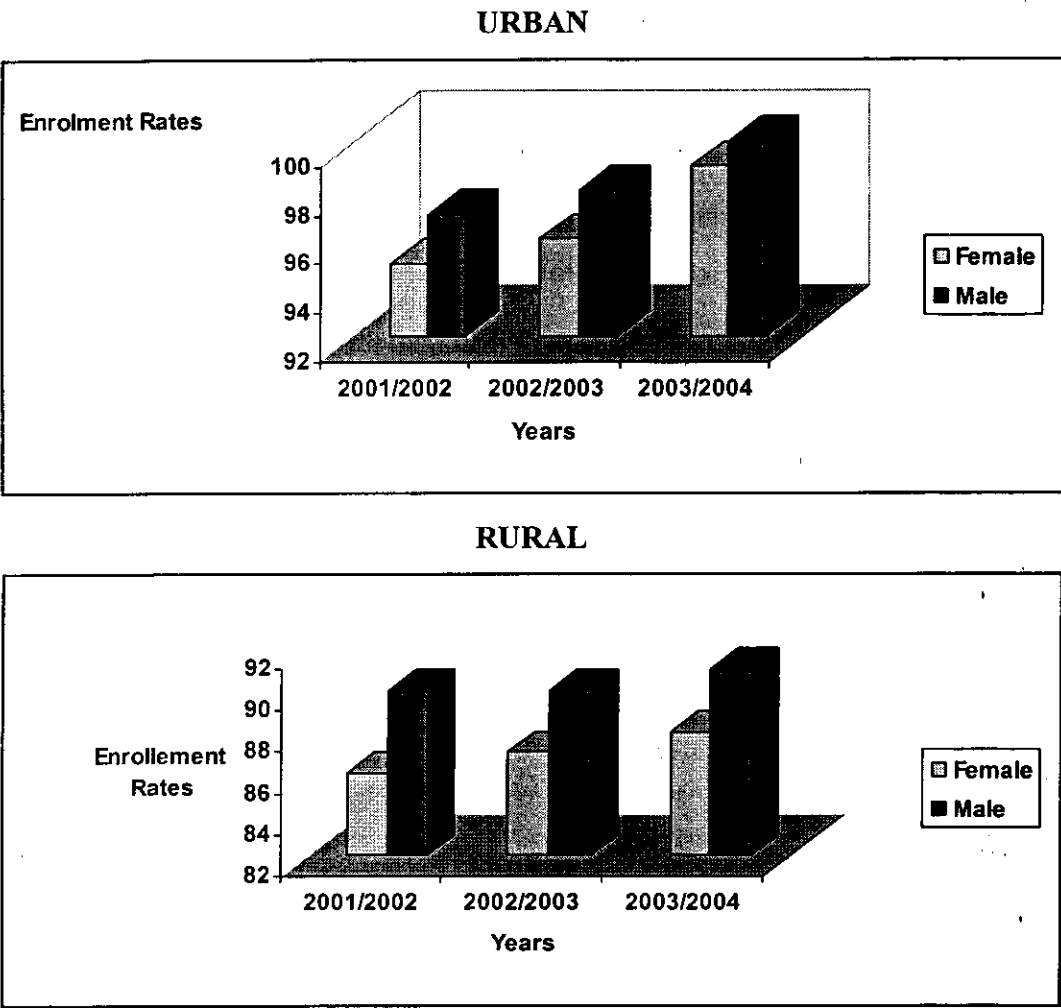
Both net and gross enrollment rates for both females and males can be used to examine the gender gap in primary education. The net enrollment rate can be defined as the number of males and females aged 6-10 in a specific year enrolled in primary education per 100 of eligible population (those whose aged 6-10 and supposed to be enrolled in primary schools in the same year).

Table 3: Primary net enrollment rates for both males and females during 1993/94-2003/04.

Years	Net enrollment rates			
	Urban		Rural	
	Female	Male	Female	Male
1993/1994	98	96	71	83
1994/1995	94	95	72	84
1995/1996	95	91	74	88
1996/1997	94	96	75	86
1997/1998	94	94	79	87
1998/1999	94	96	81	88
1999/2000	93	98	83	82
2000/2001	94	96	84	89
2001/2002	95	97	86	90
2002/2003	96	98	87	90
2003/2004	99	100	88	91

Source: Population Studies and Research Center, CAPMAS and Ministry of Education

Figure 1: Primary net enrollment rates for both males and females during 2001 -2003.



The data used to calculate net enrollment rates during the period 1993-2003 are derived from the Ministry of Education (enrolled pupils) and population estimations prepared by CAPMAS for the reference years. We should note here that only enrolled pupils aged 6-10 were considered because Egypt's educational system implies that primary education lasts for only 5 years and the official age of entry at primary schools is 6 years old. Table 3 shows net primary enrollment rates during 1993-2003. Unfortunately, the data of primary education in the years 1990- 1992 are available as total number of enrolled pupils in primary education with no classification by age. Hence, net enrollment rates cannot be calculated for the years 1990-1992. Nevertheless, it can be noticed that net primary enrollment rates showed an increasing trend during the reference period. The increasing pattern is more pronounced in urban than in rural areas. Data also revealed that primary net enrollment rates are higher among males than females however, this gender gap tends to narrow over time.

Referring to gross enrollment rates, Table 4 shows primary gross enrollment rates for males and females during 1990 – 2003. The gross enrollment rate can be defined as the total

number of enrolled pupils in primary education regardless of their age per 100 of population aged 6–10. The required data were derived from the same two sources mentioned before used to calculate the net primary enrollment rates. The data reflect the same features shown before, i.e. higher gross primary enrollment rates for boys than for girls and in urban areas as compared with rural ones. However, the gap is being bridged, especially evident in recent years.

Table 4: Gross primary enrollment rates by sex and urban / rural residence during 1990/91 and 2003/ 04

Years	Gross Rates			
	Urban		Rural	
	Female	Male	Female	Male
1990/1991	99	100	80	94
1991/1992	100	102	80	95
1992/1993	105	107	82	97
1993/1994	115	114	84	99
1994/1995	110	113	84	100
1995/1996	110	107	86	104
1996/1997	110	116	87	102
1997/1998	111	112	92	104
1998/1999	112	116	96	107
1999/2000	110	118	98	111
2000/2001	110	115	98	106
2001/2002	111	116	101	108
2002/2003	111	115	101	107
2003/2004	114	116	101	107

Source: Ministry of Education and CAPMAS

1.1.2 Preparatory Phase:

Preparatory enrollment rate can be defined as the number of population enrolled in preparatory schools per 100 of population aged 11-13 years who are eligible to be engaged in preparatory education. Data used to estimate this indicator are derived from the Ministry of Education (number of students enrolled in preparatory schools) and the population projection prepared by Population Studies and Research Center of CAPMAS.

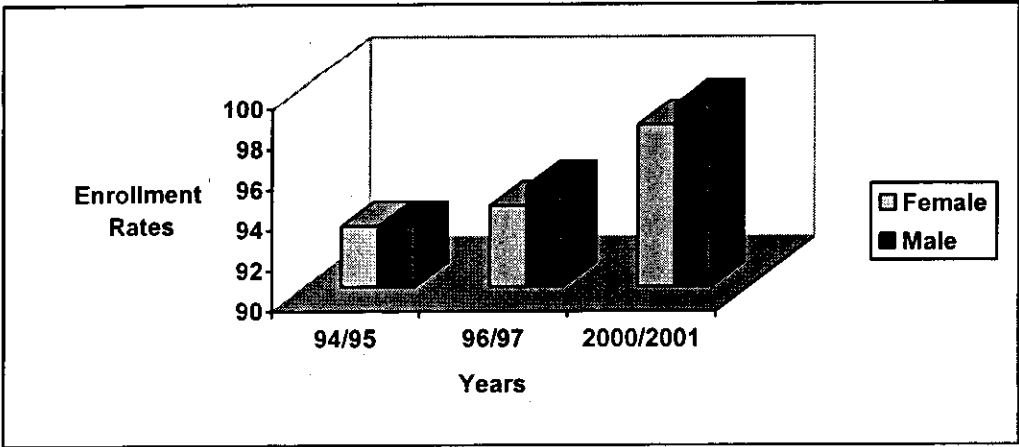
Data of table 5 portrays preparatory gross enrollment rates for both females and males during 1990-2002. The data shows that preparatory enrollment rates are high during 1990/91 and 1991/92 and then they decrease slightly. The increase during 1990-1992 might be due to the change in the educational system in primary education that occurred in the school year 1989/1990 where the sixth year of primary education was eliminated. As a result, students who were in the 5th and 6th grade and succeeded in the final exam of primary education were eligible to be engaged in preparatory education, causing a dramatic increase in the number of enrolled pupils in preparatory education in the following three years (1990- 1993) .

Table 5: Gross preparatory enrollment rates by sex and place of residence during 1990-2002

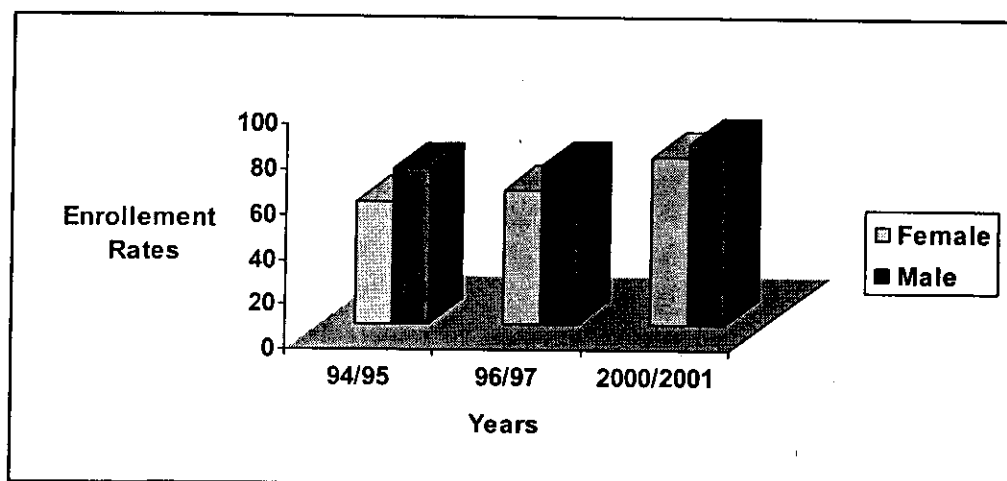
Years	Gross Rates			
	Urban		Rural	
	Female	Male	Female	Male
1990/91	108	108	59	79
91/92	109	107	58	77
92/93	96	97	54	72
93/94	94	96	54	70
94/95	93	93	55	70
95/96	94	94	58	70
96/97	94	95	60	71
97/98	98	98	65	75
98/99	100	100	69	87
99/20	100	101	73	80
2000/01	98	99	75	81
2001/02	94	95	75	97

Source: Ministry of Education and CAPMAS

Figure 2: Gross preparatory enrollment rates during 1994-2001
Urban



Rural



The preparatory enrollment rates witnessed a steadily increase from 1994/95 up to 2000/01. With regards to the gender gap in preparatory education, data revealed higher male enrollment rates relative to that of females, which might be due to female drop out for early marriage, especially in rural areas, as well as families being reluctant to send their daughters to distant schools due to financial constraints or firm tradition.

Concerning urban / rural differences, data showed a wide gap between urban and rural preparatory enrollment rates in favor of urban areas and for both sexes, however, females are still underrepresented. In this respect it should be noted that there are few villages which have preparatory schools. Most students in rural areas who finish primary education are obliged to go to the nearest *markaz* (district) or city for preparatory school. And since, student data are gathered at the school level, it reflects the place of school location not the place of residence of students. As a result, very high enrollment rates in urban areas as compared to rural ones exist since they encompass both rural and urban students.

One-classroom schools

The "one classroom" project was initiated in 1993, by the MOE. The objective of this program is to encourage girls who have previously dropped out of school to reenroll in this special program. In particular, girls in disadvantaged and remote areas are targeted, with the aim of reducing the gender disparities, which are particularly large in these areas (INP, EHDR, 1998/99). Girls entitled to admission in these schools are 8-15 years of age. The project provides free education and employs only female teachers. In addition to providing girls with a primary education, the curriculum also incorporates courses that provide marketable skills likely to increase girls' ability to earn incomes (INP, EHDR, 1998/99; MOE, 1994/95 and MOE, 1996). Flexibility is also a major characteristic of these schools, with girls being able to adjust the times and days when they attend school. In addition, the period of study can be cut down by two years for high performing girls.

It is worthy to note here that one – classroom schools include 5 years of education. This may be reduced to three years in the case of high success in the exam held at the beginning of each year. These schools also offer the primary certificate for students who pass the same examination of their colleges of primary academic schools. Graduates of one-classroom schools also have the right to complete their education in the following educational stages. Data of one-class schools are derived from Ministry of Education. Table 6 shows the number of one-class schools and students during 1993- 2003. the number of schools has increased from only 418 schools in 1993/1994 to 2717 in 2002/2003 and the number of female students in these schools in 2002/2003 was about 19 times that of 1993/1994 (the initial year).

Table 6: Number of one- class schools and their female students during 1993-2003.

Year	No. of schools	No. of female students
1993/1994	418	2926
1994/1995	917	7833
1995/1996	1454	15792
1997/1998	2039	35565
1998/1999	2201	37199
1999/2000	2420	50581
2000/2001	2539	53179
2002/2003	2717	54487

Source: Ministry of Education – General department of one- classroom schools.

1.1.3 Secondary Education:

Secondary gross enrollment rate is defined as the total number of students enrolled in all secondary schools in a specific school year per 100 of population aged 14-16 who should be engaged in these schools in that same school year. This indicator depends on the data of enrolled pupils in secondary schools from Ministry of Education and the population projection estimated by the Population Studies and Research Center of CAPMAS.

Table 7 displays secondary gross enrollment rates for females and males during 1990-2002. In general, secondary gross enrollment rates showed an increasing trend during the studied period. This observation is valid for females and males, as well as for urban and rural areas. But there is a very wide gap between urban and rural areas for both sexes. The urban gross secondary rate in 1990/91 was about ten times that of rural rates for both sexes. However, in 2001/2002 the gross secondary enrollment rates in urban areas was about 6 times that of rural areas for both sexes. This is mainly due to the variations in behavior and attitudes regarding the importance of education among urban and rural population, in addition to early marriage among females and early introduction into labor force among males in the rural areas. In addition to

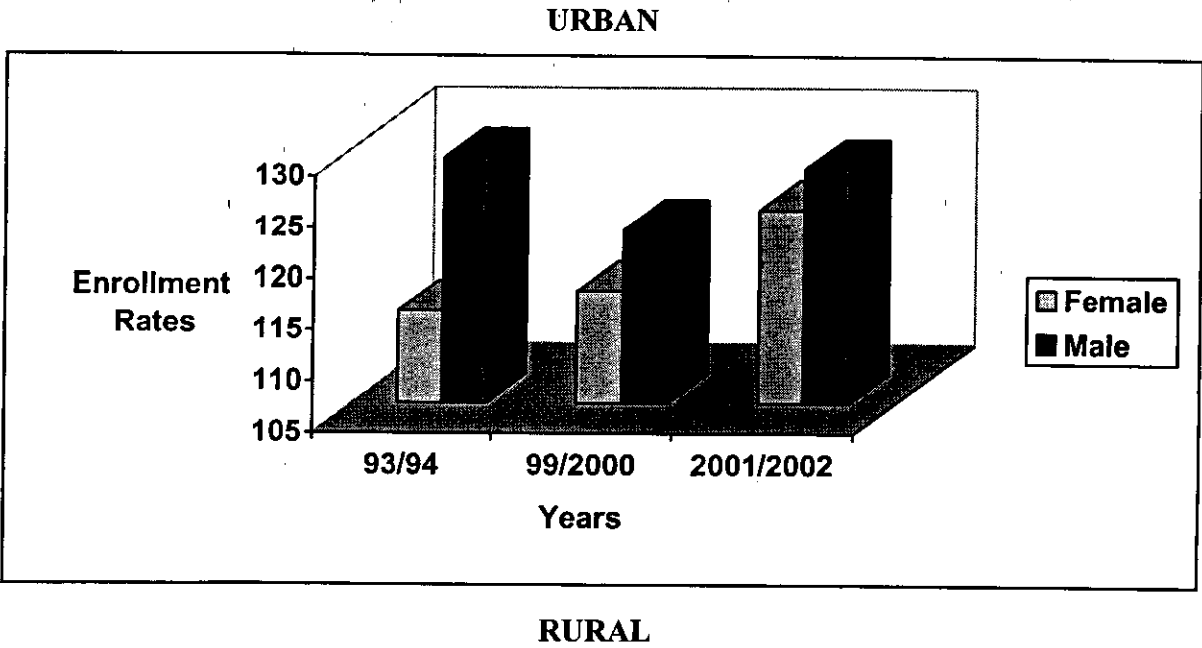
these social norms, the afore-mentioned factor of registering rural students as urban students due to the location of the schools also contributes to higher urban enrollment figures.

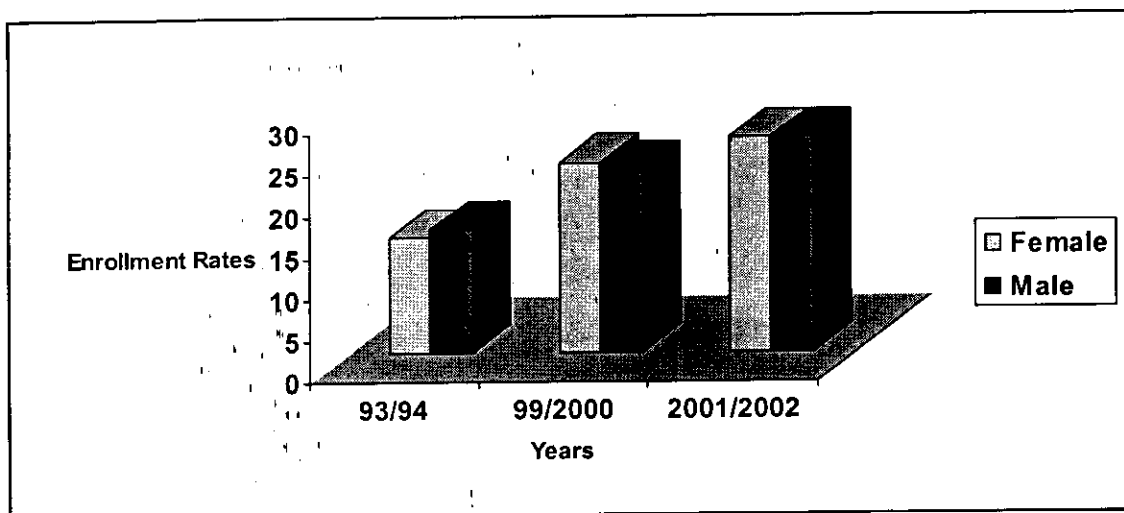
Table 7: Secondary gross enrollment rates by sex and urban/rural division 1990-2002

Years	Rates			
	Urban		Rural	
	Females	Males	Females	Males
1990/91	77	97	7	8
91/92	80	99	7	8
92/93	103	120	12	12
93/94	114	129	14	15
94/95	124	138	16	17
95/96	112	128	16	17
96/97	110	122	17	19
97/98	111	121	19	20
98/99	113	121	21	21
99/20	116	122	23	22
2000/01	120	125	24	24
2001/02	124	128	26	26

Source: Ministry of Education and CAPMAS

Figure 3: Secondary gross enrollment rates by sex during 1993/94-2001/02





1.1.4 Technical Education

Table 8 showed percent of female students to total students in technical education. Data shows that female engagement in technical education increased slightly during the period in question, from 43% of the total enrolled pupils in 1990/91 to just less than half of the total students in such schools (46%) in 2001/2002.

Table 8: Percentage of total student in technical education at the period 1990/ 2001

Year	Total students	%
1990/91	1026159	43
1991/92	1110184	43
1992/93	1464836	45
1993/94	1627288	46
1994/95	1797308	46
1995/96	1672580	45
1996/97	1788394	45
1997/98	1793128	45
1998/99	1852332	45
1999/2000	1913022	46
2000/2001	2051460	46
2001/2002	2149408	46

Source: Ministry of Education and CAPMAS

1.2 Dropout Rates

Dropout rate in primary stage can be defined as the number of students who were enrolled in a primary school and left, regardless at which grade, per 100 of enrolled students in primary education. Dropout rates could be used as an indicator of the success of educational system in the society as well as the level of community perspective to the importance of education. The dropout rates will be discussed in this section by sex but not by urban/ rural residence.

Unfortunately, officials at the MOE indicated that the dropout rates for primary education could not be calculated by residence (urban/ rural) mainly due to a high shift and transfers from rural to urban schools during the school year. Consequently, in many cases the successfully passing students at the end of year in the urban areas are more than those who are recorded at the beginning of the same year, resulting in a falsely absent drop-out rate.

Table 9 shows the national dropout rates in primary education for both females and males during 1990-2002. It is also noticed that dropout rates decreased overtime. With regards to the gender gap in dropout rates in primary education, data shows higher dropout rates among males than females especially in the recent years.

Considering dropout rates in preparatory education table 9 reflects that dropout rates in preparatory education tend to decrease over time. Data also shows that, as expected, dropout rates in preparatory education in rural areas are higher than in urban areas during the whole period.

Concerning female/male differences in dropout rates in preparatory education, data shows that female dropouts are less than those of males during the whole period which reflects an important phenomenon that when a girl child is given an educational opportunity, she becomes more committed compared to her male counterpart.

1.2.1 Calculating dropout rates by following up a given cohort:

It should be noted that examining the phenomena of dropout year by year is not accurate enough; it must to be calculated by following up on a given cohort of students until they complete a specific educational level. Ministry of Education conducted a recent study on dropouts by following two cohorts, the first starting primary education in 1991/92, and ending basic education in 1998/99 and the second starting in 1992/93 and ending in 1999/2000. The study findings show that dropout rates in primary and preparatory levels (basic education) were higher among male students than female students. This observation was valid for the two cohorts of study, which might be due to the willingness of female students to complete their education, and better utilize educational opportunity whenever it is available. (See table 11A, 11B)

Table 9: Dropout rates in primary education by sex during 1992-2002.

Years	Females	Males
1992	3.60	3.53
1993	3.60	2.86
1994	2.47	3.08
1995	3.16	3.61
1996	1.12	1.77
1997	1.70	2.43
1998	1.49	2.31
1999	1.68	2.46
2000	1.52	2.44
2001	1.26	2.32
2002	1.12	2.60

Source: Ministry of Education

Table 10: Dropout rates in preparatory education in urban and rural by sex during 1992-2002.

Years	Region	Females	Males
1992	Urban	6.33	9.65
	Rural	7.45	10.38
1993	Urban	2.95	3.99
	Rural	3.75	4.36
1994	Urban	4.55	5.10
	Rural	4.44	6.17
1995	Urban	3.26	4.62
	Rural	3.27	4.83
1996	Urban	3.41	3.25
	Rural	2.37	4.13
1997	Urban	2.61	3.15
	Rural	2.69	4.23

1998	Urban	2.82	2.97
	Rural	3.02	4.51
1999	Urban	2.66	3.14
	Rural	2.61	3.93
2000	Urban	2.14	2.95
	Rural	2.51	4.15
2001	Urban	3.51	3.71
	Rural	2.57	4.28
2002	Urban	2.11	2.97
	Rural	3.15	4.61

Source: Ministry of Education.

Table 11A: Number of enrolled pupils (males/females) in the first year of primary education in 1991/1992, and number and percentage of dropouts by 1998/1999

	Male	Female	Total
Number of enrolled pupils in first year Of primary education 1991/1992	716341	607014	1323355
Number of enrolled pupils in third year of preparatory education In 1998/1999	681356	587036	1268392
Total Dropouts	131712	81536	213248
Percentage of dropouts to the dumber of enrolled pupils in the first year of primary education 1991/1992	18.39	13.43	16.11

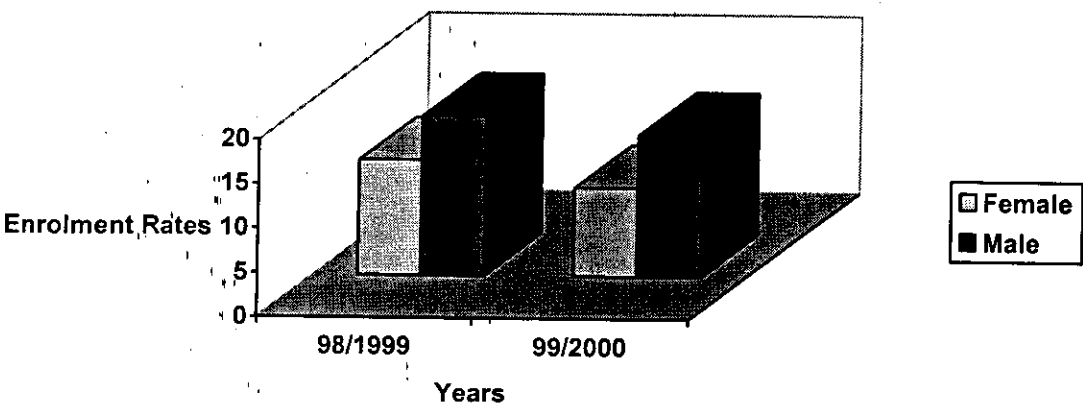
Source: Ministry of Education.

Table 11 B: Number of enrolled pupils (males/females) in the first year of primary phase in 1992/1993, and number and percentage of dropouts by 1999/2000

	Male	Female	Total
Number of enrolled pupils in first year Of primary education 1992/1993	759423	650947	1410370
Number of enrolled pupils in third tear of preparatory education In 1999/2000	730443	638960	1869403
Total Dropouts	118791	67795	186586
Percentage of dropouts to the number of enrolled pupils in the first year of primary education 1992/1993	15.64	10.41	13.23

Source: Ministry of Education.

Figure 4: Percent of dropouts for two cohorts ending their basic education in 1998/99 and 1999/2000



1.3 University Education:

According to the university educational system in Egypt, there is no minimum or maximum age for enrollment and completion of university education. In this case it is difficult to calculate enrollment rates in university education as in the case of pre-university education due to the difficulty of determining the eligible population (target group) for university education. It is more convenient to calculate the percentage of female students in university education relative to the total students. It is also important to portray the change in the percentage of female students in both humanities and scientific colleges. It is well known in Egypt, that due to same attitudes, traditions and stereotyping of the role of females, females prefer humanities faculties than scientific ones.

However, the impact of these norms and traditions has tended to decrease and more females are directed towards scientific colleges. Table 12 shows the percentage of female students to total students in humanities and scientific colleges during 1990-2002. Data reveals that, in general, there is an increase in the percent of females in humanities as well as scientific colleges during reference period. But the proportion of females in scientific colleges increased from 32% in 90/91 to 42% in 2002/0003. This means that although females still prefer the humanities there is a change in favor of scientific education with time.

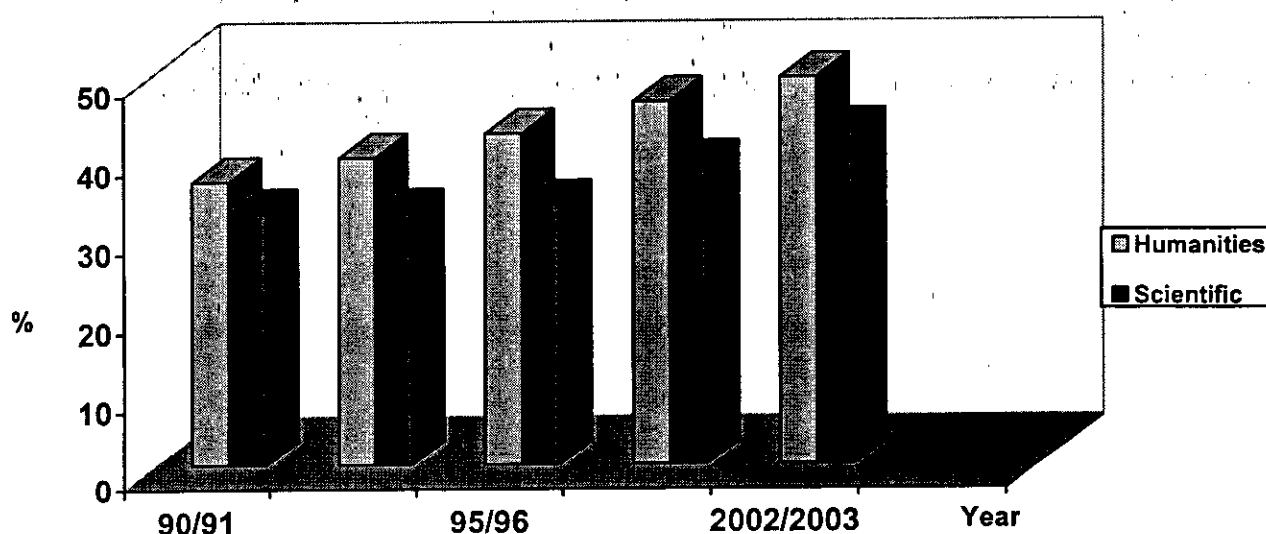
Table 12: Percent of female students to total in humanities and scientific colleges during 1990/1991, 2002/2003 .

Years	Humanities Colleges			Scientific		
	Girl	Total	%	Girl	Total	%
1990/91	150895	415967	36	41480	130637	32
1991/92	148574	405600	37	39793	126544	32

1992/93	155165	415212	37	39560	127390	31
1993/94	188482	480569	39	42583	132275	32
1994/95	224579	572053	39	45754	140474	33
1995/96	292676	701376	42	58260	174235	33
1996/97	343682	825136	42	72901	209403	35
1997/98	416693	954158	44	89088	252439	35
1998/99	487364	1064967	46	105771	286206	37
99/2000	484939	1046076	46	115904	308128	38
2000/2001	502464	1055779	48	130500	335424	39
2001/2002	520473	1086778	48	142847	351276	41
2002/2003	559757	1146247	49	148993	355601	42

Source: Higher Council for Universities, University Education Development Research Center, Statistic Department.

Figure 5: Percent of female students to total students in humanities and scientific colleges during 1990/91-2002/03



1.4 Population Literacy:

Table 13 shows the percentage of population aged 15+ who can at least read and write (literate) relative to the total population aged 15+. The data shows that the percentage tends to increase during the reference period (1990-2003) for both females and males and in urban and rural areas as well. It is also noticed that the percentage of the population aged 15+ who can at

least read and write is higher among males than females and this gender gap is more evident in rural areas than urban ones.

Table 13: Percent of population (15+) who could read and write during 1990-2003

Years	%			
	Urban		Rural	
	Female	Male	Female	Male
1990/91	50	71	11	44
1991/92	51	71	12	46
1992/93	53	72	13	47
1993/94	54	73	15	49
1994/95	55	73	17	50
1995/96	57	74	19	52
1996/97	58	75	21	53
1997/98	58	74	21	53
1998/99	59	75	23	55
1999/2000	61	76	26	56
2000/2001	63	77	29	58
2001/2002	62	74	31	58
2002/2003	63	75	35	59
2003/2004	64	75	39	61

Source: Population Studies and Research Center, CAPMAS and Ministry of Education.

1.5 Illiteracy Rate

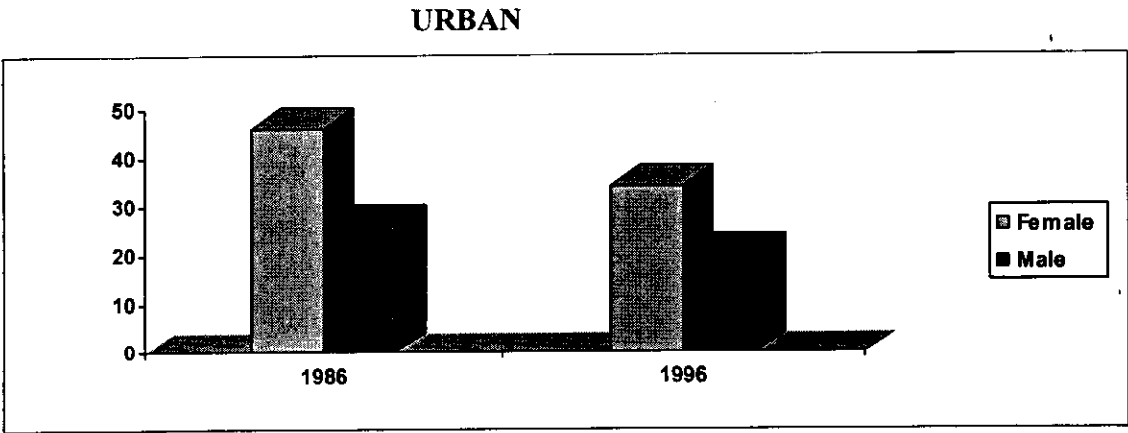
In Egypt, illiteracy rate can be defined as percent of population aged 10 years and over who can't read or write. Data of table (14) showed illiteracy rates by urban / rural residence, age and sex for the census year 1986, 1996. It could be noticed that female illiteracy rates are higher than those of males. However this gap continue to be narrowed among younger generations compared to older ones. . These statistics also showed that - as expected-rural areas have higher illiteracy rates for both men and women versus urban areas.

Table 14: Illiteracy rates by urban/rural residence and age 1986-1996

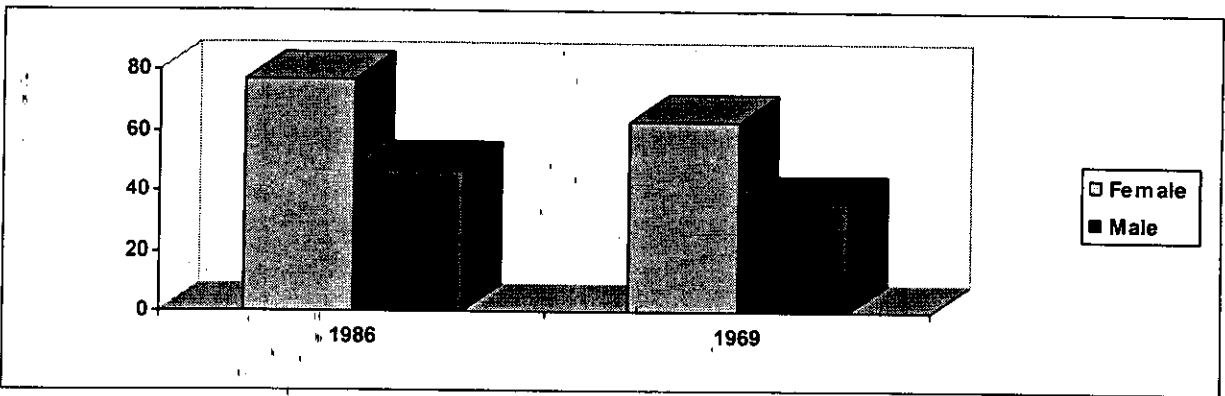
Age	1986		1996	
	Female	Male	Female	Male
10 – 24	41	23	28	17
25 -44	73	43	59	32
45 – 60	86	56	79	46
65 +	93	69	91	64
Total	63	38	51	29
Urban	46	26	34	20
Rural	77	47	63	36

Source: CAPMAS, Population and Housing Censuses 1986, 1996

Figure 6: Illiteracy rates by urban/rural residence 1986-1996



RURAL



1.6 Population who attained primary certificate

Table 15 portrays the percentage of population aged 15 years and over that completed their primary education only (without continuing to higher levels) during 1990 – 2003. Table 15 shows that the percent of the population aged 15+ who have primary certificates is almost fixed during the reference period. The percentages decreased in recent years, meaning that there is an improvement in the educational status of the population in that recent years, and it is higher in urban areas relative to rural ones and among males relative to females.

Table 15: Percent of population aged 15 + who attained primary certificate during 1990-2003

Years	%			
	Urban		Rural	
	Female	Male	Female	Male
90/91	3.45	4.27	1.62	3.27
91/92	3.39	4.21	1.66	3.21
92/93	3.33	4.15	1.71	3.23
93/94	3.28	4.09	1.76	3.25
94/95	3.08	4.04	1.81	3.27
95/96	3.18	3.99	1.87	3.30
96/97	3.14	3.94	1.92	3.33
97/98	3.10	3.90	2.02	3.40
98/99	3.06	3.85	2.08	3.43
99/2000	3.02	3.81	2.15	3.46
2000/2001	2.98	3.77	2.21	3.50
2001/2002	2.81	3.56	2.18	3.38

2002/2003	2.75	3.49	2.23	3.38
2003/2004	2.69	3.43	2.28	3.39

Source: Ministry of Education and CAPMAS

1.6 Barriers to girls' education

Despite some impressive gains in education, the full realization of all the objectives of public policy has not been achieved due to various constraints. These constraints include:

Physical Constraints

- **Distance to school:** Girls' access may be limited if the distance to the nearest school is long. In Egypt an incremental increase from 1.5 to 2 kilometers was associated with a four percentage point drop in boys' attendance, but with an eight percentage point drop in girls' attendance (Robinson, Makary and Rugh, 1987). Hence, building more schools is necessary although not always possible.
- **Inadequate basic services in schools:** Inadequate basic services, particularly in the areas of sanitation, are among the reasons given for girls' non-attendance or drop out of school. On average, schools have less than one toilet per 100 students. Moreover, 42 percent of toilets were observed to be unclean and 39 percent of girls and 51 percent of boys felt that they had no privacy. Health services are also unavailable in many schools. Thirty-four percent of schools have neither a nurse nor a doctor, and this problem is particularly acute in Upper Egypt (El- Tawila, 2000).

Administrative Constraints

- **Lack of enforcement of Compulsory Education Policies:** compulsory education laws do not ensure equal access to schooling. As well there is no strong effort to enforce parents to send their children to school.
- **Inefficient Use of Resources:** Egypt has devoted a considerably higher share of public expenditure to education in recent years. It is worthwhile to explore whether gains are in line with expenditures, or whether the data indicate that resources could be utilized more efficiently. Despite the substantial redirection of resources during the 1990s, the Egyptian education system suffers from a misallocation of resources.
- **Bureaucratic Procedures:** Parents attending awareness campaigns organized by the MOE report that procedure to enroll their children in school is cumbersome. Thus, efforts need to be made to ease regulations and procedures that may inhibit enrollment.

Economic Constraints

- **Poverty:** Poverty in Egypt is a major barrier to education. Data document that the poor suffer from lower access to all levels and types of education as compared to non-poor. The illiteracy rate among poor children aged 12 – 15 years is almost triple that of non-

poor children. Evidence also indicates that children who do not attend schools come primarily from poor households (El Baradei, 2001). Illiterate girls identified the direct cost of schooling and the burden of household chores as the two most important reasons why they were unable to attend school (El Baradei, 2000).

- **Opportunity Costs:** Direct costs are not the only expenses parents must consider in their decision to send their daughters to school. Indirect or opportunity costs (such as the lost productivity) are an important factor keeping girls and boys out of school.
- **Benefits:** The personal benefits of education in Egypt may be insufficient (Rizk, 1999, Fergany, 2000). Some studies indicate that there has been a decline in the returns to basic education. Thus, high costs combined with low return result in the exclusion of poor girls from education.

Social Constraints

- **Cultural Attitudes:** Social factors may also play a role in determining girls' education. These factors are not restricted to parental attitudes, but extend to include community beliefs and practices as well. (Third World Forum, 1994). A survey, conducted by CAPMAS and SFD (1993), indicates that the reasons for non-enrollment or dropping out differed for boys and girls. For girls, the main reason of non-enrollment or dropping out was the refusal of parents to enroll girls while for boys, the main reason was the unavailability of schools.
- **Parental Awareness:** Parental awareness of the importance of girls' education is one decisive factor in determining educational outcomes. A recent study (Ibrahim, et al, 1999) reports that 99 percent of parents find that education is necessary and important for boys, while 93 percent find it necessary and important for girls.
- **Early Marriage:** While economic reasons may drive much of illiteracy rates, traditions such as early marriage may be important in determining drop-out rates. Evidence of the 2000 Egypt Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) shows that illegal underage marriage is still practiced.

1.6.1 Existing Efforts to Improve Girls' Education

- One of the key factors in stimulating better opportunities for girls in Egypt has been the serious political commitment of the Egyptian government. The GOE has declared that developing the country's human resources is a top national priority, and an integral part of the national effort to improve Egyptian competitiveness, and achieve greater integration with the global economy.
- Improving girls' enrollment became a central aim of the Ministry of Education's "Education Enhancement Program" (EEP) in 1996. This program focuses attention on the need to increase opportunities for girls and to further improve enrollment of girls in primary education.

- A number of governmental and non-governmental agencies have been involved in educational reform and monitoring educational achievements. These include the General Authority for Literacy and Adult Education (GALAE) and the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood (NCCM) and the National Council for Women (NCW). At the level of civil society, the most important indigenous NGOs working in this field are the Association of Upper Egypt for Education, Development, and the Coptic Evangelical Organization for Social Services (CEOSS),
- The three most important interventions targeting girls are the “one classroom” project initiated by the MOE, the “community school” project initiated by UNICEF in collaboration with MOE, and the “home classes project” initiated by GALAE. The one-classroom project has been discussed above. UNICEF initiated the Community School project in 1992 in a agreement with the MOE, to develop and co-ordinate a community based school model to target poorer areas in rural Upper Egypt. As part of the “Educational for All” initiative, this program concentrated on the least serviced and most remote areas of Egypt (Zaalouk, 1995). “Home classes” is sponsored by GALAE to eradicate female illiteracy. Female university graduates are encouraged to establish classes in their homes and GALAE provides the necessary tools and means of education. This type of education is likely one of the most suitable methods for eradicating rural female illiteracy (INP, EHDR, 1998/99).
- Recruiting More female Teachers: It is difficult to establish causality between female teachers and female enrollment, but international cross-section suggest a positive correlation between enrollment parity and the proportion of female teachers (Herz, 1993).
- Reforming the Curriculum: Many studies have stressed the low quality of curricula and textbooks in the Egyptian education system. Changes to the curriculum are needed to equip students with generic core competencies required by the workforce.
- Increasing Gender-Sensitivity in the Curriculum and in the classroom: Egyptian educational curricula and instructional materials also tend to reinforce gender stereotypes, linking men to public life and women to traditional roles in the household (El-Tawila, 2000).
- Creating a More Supportive Environment: A threatening and non-supportive learning environment can have an important influence on girls’ decision to stay in school and reduce their parents’ negative attitudes towards education. Punishment, denigration of students by teachers, teacher favoritism, harassment, and teasing are all problems that need to be addressed.

1.6.2 Policy Considerations

- In the past two decades, Egypt has made tremendous strides in providing increased access to education for all children. Nevertheless, the constraints mentioned before

have limited the full realization of all the objectives of public policy, A number of more concrete policy suggestions follow:

- Increase the resources available within the education budget for equity-enhancing interventions. Community awareness and subsidy programs have proven to be a cost effective way of raising girls' enrollments, especially for girls from poor families.
- Introduce policies that address the complex ways that gender and poverty issues often interact by:
 - 1- Providing nutrition in basic education classes.
 - 2- Developing cash or in-kind transfer programs targeted towards poor households with children (and especially for girls) based on observable criteria.
 - 3- Adjusting the school calendar and schedule to avoid peak periods of labor demand (during the day and/or year) thus lowering the opportunity cost of education.
- Develop programs to address negative gender images and stereotyping.
- Improve the quality and relevance of education. Addressing the issue of quality in the Egyptian education system is a top priority. This "quality education" for girls could contain elements including:
 - 1- Staffing schools with well-trained, motivated female teachers.
 - 2- Changing the vocational education curriculum to equip students with more generic competencies sought by employers.
 - 3- Making existing schools more sensitive to community attitudes.
 - 4- Developing and adopting curricula and teacher training that are more gender sensitive.
- Improve poor students' preparedness for schooling. By the time, poor children reach kindergarten age they are already handicapped because they have not had an unequal chance to be ready for school. This is especially the case for poor girls. Early interventions not only have the greatest benefit for children who are from disadvantaged families. But also yield higher returns as a preventive measure early in life, compared with remedial services later in life.

2.0 Health

2.1 Introduction

There were four major international conferences preceded the fourth International conference held in Beijing (1995). Each of the four conferences took women's concerns into its agenda under the specific theme around which it was organized.

The International Conference on Environment and Development (1992) made a breakthrough in recognizing a gender perspective on environment. It also acknowledged the important role NGOs working for women in achieving national and international goals. The 1993 World Conference on Human Rights made a major advance in the recognition of women's rights as human rights. In the Vienna Declaration the international community reaffirmed that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and that the human rights of women and the girl child are an- inalienable and integral part of universal human rights. The International Conference on Population and Development in Cairo (1994) underlined the empowerment of women as crucial for the success of population policies.

All the international conferences on women recommended increase women's access to appropriate, affordable and good health care, information and services to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women. This section seeks to address gender gaps in health and the factors affecting this gap, in addition, to the governmental efforts to overcome gender disparities in health.

2.1.1 Health and Gender:

Health for all is the main objective of the Egyptian government. The Ministry of Health and Population (MOHP) has given a high priority to achieve this objective through a national system of health facilities providing services at all levels. The MOHP is committed to increasing the quality and coverage of the health care system in Egypt, especially in rural areas, emphasizing preventive care and children's immunization.

Ministry of Health and Population statistics showed that there is an increase in governmental expenditure on health from about 1.2 thousand million L.E in 1991/92 to about four thousand million L.E in 2000/01. Data of the same table also showed that the percentage of increase in the governmental expenditure on health is remarkable especially during the period from 1998 to 2001 (see table 1).

Table 1: Governmental public expenditure on health 1991- 2001

Years	Expenditure on health in thousand million L.E	Governmental public expenditure	Percentage of change
1991/92	1.2	65.3	1.8
1994/95	1.4	70.8	2.0

1995/96	1.6	71.7	2.2
1996/97	2.0	77.5	2.6
1997/98	2.1	83.5	2.5
1998/99	2.6	91.5	2.8
1999/2000	2.9	100.3	2.9
2000/01	3.7	112.6	3.3

Source: Ministry of Health and Population 1991-2001

Note: American Dollar (\$) equals 6.2 L.E

2.2 Life expectancy at birth

Health indicators such as life expectancy, infant and under five mortality, provide information about the social, physical and economic well being of a nation. Such indicators can also provide clues concerning areas where policies have been successful and where they can be improved; both in general and in particular cases where policy makers might be concerned about gender differences in outcomes.

Life expectancy is the most comprehensive measure of health, which is an important component of well being. Women generally live longer than men, but in some others the difference is small. Trends in the life expectancy of women and men, the gap between their life expectancies and its changes provide basic indicators of health and living conditions and the relative status of women and men.

Life expectancy figures are one of the main outputs of a life table. They are based of age specific mortality rates, usually disaggregated by sex. Statistics show that Egypt has witnessed an increase in life expectancy rate at birth due to improvement in health and nutrition conditions during the period 1990-2003. Life expectancy for both girls and boys alike has increased during this period. For girls, life expectancy at birth increased from 64 years in 1990 to 70 years in 2003. For boys, it increased from 62 years in 1990 to about 68 years in 2003. As expected, life expectancy is relatively higher for females than males.

With regard to differences according to urban / rural residence, table (3) shows that both girls and boys in urban areas enjoyed higher life expectancy at birth than those who reside in rural areas.

Figure 1: Life expectancy at birth by sex during 1990-2003

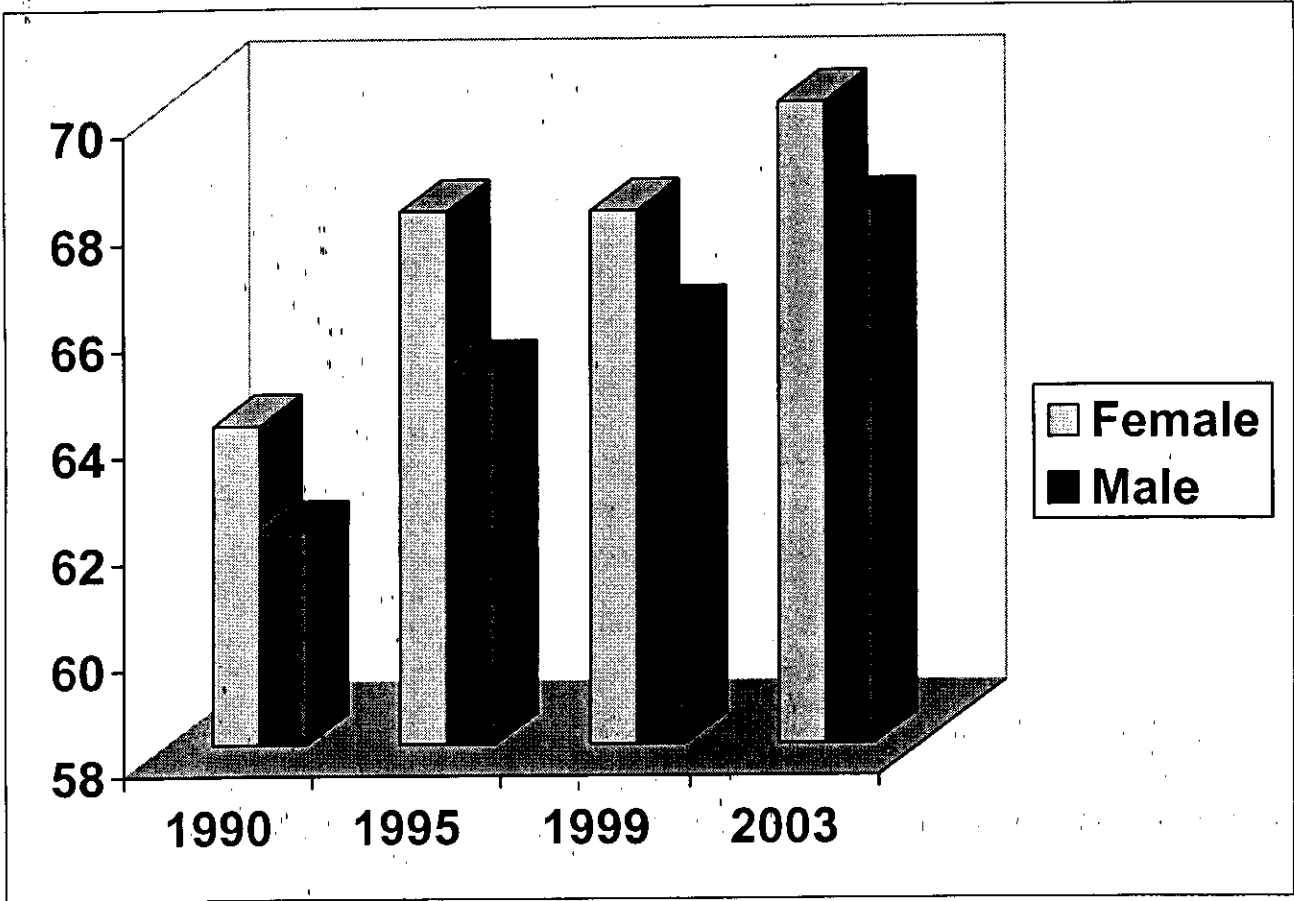


Table 2: Life Expectancy At Birth by Sex During 1990-2003

Indicators	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Life expectancy at birth for females (population projections)	64.1	66.39	66.91	67.43	67.96	68.48	69.-	69.50	69.99	68.41	68.9	69.3	69.7	70.1
Life expectancy at birth for males (population projections)	62.38	62.86	63.32	63.78	64.23	64.69	65.15	65.54	65.93	66.33	66.72	67.11	67.52	67.93

Source: Population Studies & Research Center, CAPMAS.

Table 3: Life expectancy at birth by place of residence and sex during 1990-2003

Years	Urban		Rural	
	Life expectancy at birth		Life expectancy at birth	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
1990	63.8	65.7	62.6	64.5
1991	64.1	66.1	62.8	64.8
1992	64.4	66.5	63.1	65.2
1993	64.7	66.9	63.3	65.5
1994	65.0	67.3	63.6	65.9
1995	65.3	67.7	63.8	66.2
1996	65.6	68.1	64.0	66.5
1997	65.9	68.4	64.3	66.9
1998	66.2	68.9	64.5	67.2
1999	66.5	69.3	64.8	67.6
2000	66.9	69.8	65.0	67.9
2001	67.1	70.2	65.3	68.3

Source: Population Studies & Research Center, CAPMAS

2.2.1 Infant and Child Mortality:

The infant and child mortality rates are considered two of the most sensitive indicators to development. They reflect the efficiency of the health system as well as the influence of some socio- economic and cultural factors on child survival. In order to reduce morbidity and mortality from childhood common illnesses, the Egyptian Ministry of Health and Population focused over the past 20 years on strengthening some vertical programs that had a direct impact on improving infant and child mortality indicators such as control of diarrhea diseases and acute respiratory infections (ART), the expanded program of immunization and growth monitoring. There was a shift towards an integrated approach for comprehensive child healthcare system as of the mid nineties.

Deaths among girls and boys are largely preventable, so high mortality of young children is an indication of significant health problems. Furthermore, mortality rates for girls and boys at these early ages should not differ substantially but in some countries where son preference is strong, mortality of girls is expected to be higher than that of boys; pointing to the need for policy intervention.

Infant Mortality Rate From Vital Statistics:

National measures of infant and child mortality are generally derived from birth and death registration, which may suffer from under registration especially in rural areas. Infant mortality rates were defined as number of infant deaths (less than one year) in specific year per one thousand of live births in the same year. Under-Five mortality rates were defined as number of deaths (girls/ boys) less than five years in specific year per one thousand of live births in the same year.

Child health conditions appear to be responding to better health care and remarkable developmental efforts. Accordingly, infant mortality rates showed a decreasing pattern during the period 1990 to 2002 for both sexes. At the national level, infant mortality rates for girls decreased from about 39 per thousand in 1990 to about 21 per thousand in 2002 and from 37 per thousand in 1990 to about 22 per thousand in 2002 among boys.

The data shows substantial urban/rural disparities in infant mortality, where the infant mortality rate in rural area is much higher than that in urban area. The data also pointed to a gender gap against girls. The infant mortality rate among girls particularly in rural area is higher than that among boys see table 4. This may be due to traditional norms prevailing in rural area, which upgrading the value of boys than girls. Better nutrition, good health care even longer breastfeeding periods were given to boys.

It is important to mention that vital registration in Egypt is suffering from under-registration. A study related to completeness of infant mortality registration (El-Deeb, Bothaina, 1991) indicated that on the national level, the percent of completeness in death registration is 86% and 74% for males and females respectively. The completeness rates increased in urban areas to reach 93% and 86% for both sexes respectively while it decreased in rural area to reach 75% among male deaths and 72% among female deaths. It is worth mentioning that girl infant mortality registration inefficiency is always higher especially in rural area. This is may be because fathers rush to register their newborn baby boys, and therefore, if the baby dies, the father should register his death. On the other hand, parents usually take longer time to register girl births, particularly if these baby girls are suffering from any post-partum health problems or complications. So if they die, they just bury them without any permission from government authorities, since they are not registered at birth.

Table 5 represents the adjusted infant mortality rates for both sexes in urban and rural areas, as well as the national level. The adjusted data show high level of infant mortality for both sexes but it tends to improve over time due to the health reform policy. However girls in rural areas are still suffering from higher mortality rates than their male counterparts. This fact points treatment of girls in rural area, and sex-preference in general.

Under five mortality rates decreased for both girls and boys during the reference period 1990-2002. At the national level, under five mortality rates for girls decreased from about 58 per thousand in 1990 to 27 per thousand in 2002 and from 54 per thousand in 1990 to 28 per thousand in 2002 among boys. The data also shows substantial urban / rural disparities in under five mortality, where under five mortality rate in rural areas is much higher than that in urban areas. The data also points to a gender gap against girls, where less than five mortality rates for girls in rural area is much higher than that for boys in the same rural areas (see table 7).

Infant and Under Five Mortality Rates From Demographic and Health Surveys:

Although, the team depended on the vital registration system to calculate infant and child mortality by sex and place of residence (urban/rural) for having a complete series of data by single years for these two important measures, the household surveys such as the Egyptian

Demographic & Health surveys offer more accurate data on both infant and child mortality by sex and residence. However they are available only for certain years (1992, 1995, 2000,2003). Hence, it is also important to portray the EDHS results on both infant and child mortality by gender and place of residence.

Tables 8 and 9 confirm that infant and under five mortality from the EDHS have fallen significantly in Egypt during the past decade for both sexes. As expected, infant mortality rate is higher among boys than girls except in 2003. Fewer than five mortality rates are somewhat higher for girls than for boys. This may reflect the way of girls' treatment within the family. Differentials in childhood mortality according to urban-rural residence showed that urban children have lower infant and less than five mortality rates than rural children during the reference study period.

Figure 2: Adjusted Infant Mortality Rates by sex

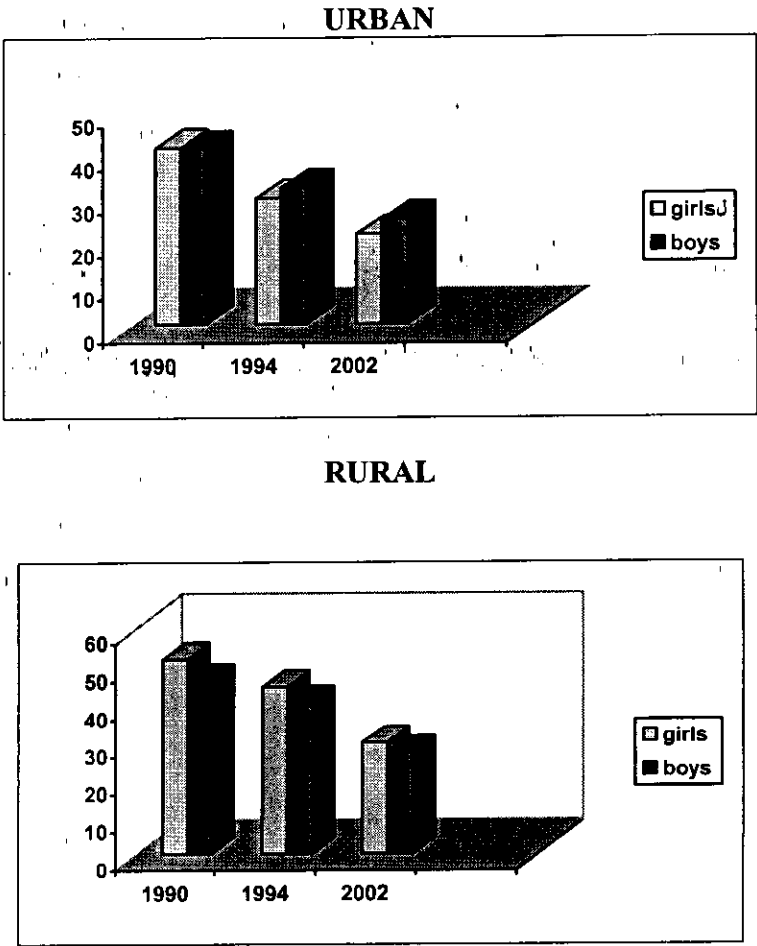


Table 4: Unadjusted infant mortality rates by sex for years 1990-2002 depending on vital statistics

Indicators	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Infant mortality rate for girls (urban)	35.86	33.68	32.42	28.58	25.61	16.85	22.97	23.17	23.11	26.37	24.29	24.50	18.35
Infant mortality rate for boys (urban)	37.78	35.88	34.49	28.92	29.54	20.73	29.78	30.34	29.88	32.03	33.12	32.68	22.64
Infant mortality rate for girls (rural)	40.30	39.45	40.75	36.77	34.58	40.13	30.67	33.11	31.22	29.95	33.17	27.26	22.93
Infant mortality rate for boys (rural)	36.69	34.85	35.74	31.42	32.04	35.85	30.35	32.94	30.81	29.0	33.94	27.47	21.37
Infant mortality rate for girls (total)	38.61	37.27	37.52	33.43	30.80	30.17	28.96	42.95	29.73	28.56	29.32	26.65	20.96
Infant mortality rate for boys (total)	37.10	35.23	35.26	30.38	42.90	29.35	40.22	30.0	28.58	30.18	33.58	29.71	21.93

Source: Population Studies & Research Center, CAPMAS

Table 5: Adjusted infant mortality rates by sex for years 1990-2002 depending on vital statistics

Indicators	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Infant mortality rate for girls (urban)	40.89	38.40	36.96	32.59	29.20	19.21	26.19	26.41	26.35	30.06	27.69	27.93	20.91
Infant mortality rate for boys (urban)	40.42	38.40	36.90	30.95	31.60	22.18	31.87	32.46	31.98	34.27	35.43	34.97	24.23
Infant mortality rate for girls (rural)	51.58	50.49	52.16	47.07	44.26	51.73	39.25	42.38	39.96	38.34	42.46	36.17	29.35
Infant mortality rate for boys (rural)	45.86	43.56	44.68	39.28	40.05	44.81	37.94	41.18	38.52	36.25	42.42	34.34	26.71
Infant mortality rate for girls (total)	45.56	43.98	44.27	39.45	36.34	35.60	34.17	35.99	35.09	33.70	34.59	31.45	24.73
Infant mortality rate for boys (total)	41.55	39.47	39.49	34.03	48.05	32.87	45.05	33.60	32.01	33.80	37.61	33.28	24.56

Source: Vital Statistics, Central Agency for Public Mobilization statistics (CAPMAS)

Table 6: Unadjusted under-five mortality rates by sex for years 1990-2002 depending on vital statistics

Indicators	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Under 5 mortality rate for girls (urban)	47.85	45.53	44.49	37.61	33.21	21.37	29.43	29.59	29.66	31.99	28.71	29.86	23.11
Under 5 mortality rate for boys (urban)	49.87	48.07	46.22	37.74	37.97	25.92	37.74	37.95	37.71	38.71	38.45	39.29	27.89
Under 5 mortality rate for girls (rural)	64.07	62.43	66.36	56.21	51.01	58.39	43.51	45.10	43.25	40.01	42.34	36.47	30.39
Under 5 mortality rate for boys (rural)	56.71	53.61	55.62	46.93	46.33	51.45	42.81	44.64	42.31	37.99	42.19	35.32	28.96
Under 5 mortality rate for girls (total)	57.89	56.05	57.86	48.61	43.52	42.55	39.64	40.64	40.17	36.90	36.42	32.76	27.26
Under 5 mortality rate for boys (total)	54.14	51.55	52.-	43.11	42.79	40.47	38.33	39.35	37.98	38.27	40.66	35.93	28.49

Source: Vital Statistics, Central Agency for Public Mobilization statistics (CAPMAS)

Table 7: Adjusted under-five mortality rates by sex for years 1990-2002 depending on vital statistics

Indicators	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Under 5 mortality rate for girls (urban)	54.55	51.91	50.72	42.87	37.87	24.36	33.55	33.74	33.81	36.47	32.73	34.04	26.34
Under 5 mortality rate for boys (urban)	53.37	51.44	49.46	40.38	40.63	27.74	40.39	34.90	40.35	41.42	41.14	42.64	29.84
Under 5 mortality rate for girls (rural)	82.-	79.91	84.94	71.94	65.30	74.74	55.69	57.73	55.36	51.22	54.19	46.68	38.90
Under 5 mortality rate for boys (rural)	72.59	68.62	71.20	60.08	59.30	65.85	54.80	57.14	54.16	48.63	54.23	45.21	37.07
Under 5 mortality rate for girls (total)	68.31	66.15	68.27	57.36	51.35	50.21	46.78	47.96	47.40	43.54	42.98	39.70	32.17
Under 5 mortality rate for boys (total)	60.64	57.73	58.24	48.28	47.93	45.33	42.93	44.08	42.54	42.87	45.54	41.47	31.90

Source: Population Studies & Research Center, CAPMAS

Figure (3) Adjusted under-five mortality rates by sex

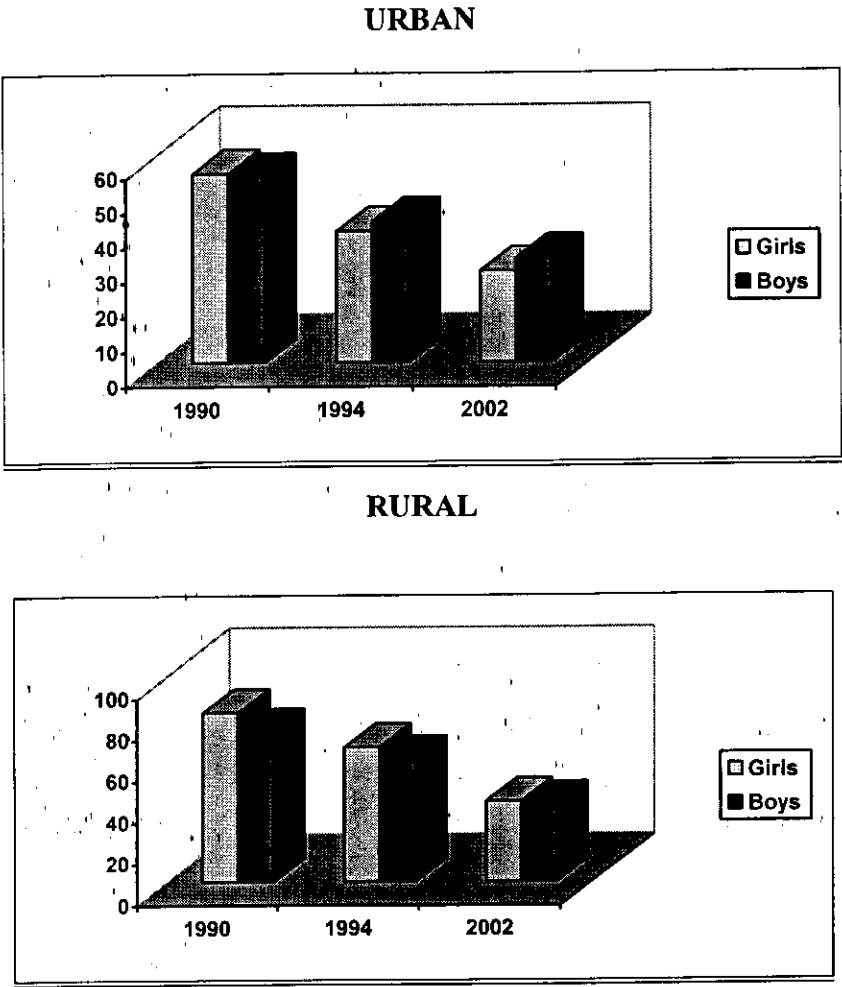


Table 8: Infant mortality rates by sex and place of residence for years 1992-2003 (EDHS)

Years	1992	1995	2000	2003
Female	75.3	73.3	54.5	46.5
Male	84.4	72.5	55.0	43.0
Urban	54.4	51.1	43.1	34.0
Rural	96.2	86.8	61.8	51.4

Source: Demographic and Health Survey 1992, 1995,2000,2003

Table 9: Under-five mortality rates by sex and place of residence for years 1992-2003 (EDHS)

Years	1992	1995	2000	2003
Female	108.6	99.3	69.7	57.4
Male	107.0	92.6	68.8	53.1
Urban	71.1	64.5	52.8	42.5
Rural	131.6	116.0	79.2	63.1

Source: Demographic and Health Survey 1992, 1995, 2000, 2003

2.2.2 Nutrition Status:

Nutritional status is a primary determinant of a child's health and well being. Both inadequate or unbalanced diets and chronic illness are associated with poor nutritional status. To assess nutritional status, measurements of height and weight were obtained for children under age five, but for comparative purposes, nutritional status for both children under age three and children under age five by using two standard indices of physical growth, which are height-for-age and weight-for-age will be illustrated. As recommended by the World Health Organization (WHO), evaluation of nutritional status is based on the comparison of the two indices for the Egyptian children with those reported for a reference population of well-nourished children. The use of a reference population to identify malnourished children is based on the finding that well-nourished children in all population groups follow similar growth patterns and thus exhibit similar distributions of height and weight at given ages (Mortorell and Habicht, 1986).

The 2003 Demographic Health Survey with other previous Demographic and Health surveys give us the chance to predict child nutritional status at the national level but only for under-five children. As mentioned in the introduction, the measures needed to examine the nutrition status for African GDI are the height-for-age and weight-for-age for children less than 3 years. Unfortunately, the available malnutrition measures from Egyptian Demographic and Health Surveys offer these measures only for children under 5 years. Although the National Institute of Nutrition has these measures for children under 3 years, the trend in malnutrition reflected by the data of EDHS contradicts those of the National Institute of Nutrition. While the first source shows an improving trend in nutritional status of children during 1992-2003, the National Institute of Nutrition measures shows the reverse. This may be due in part to different focus age of children to sampling or coverage variations between the two sources. However, it was decided to show the two measures from the two sources of data.

Table 10 displays nutritional status for children under age five. The data indicate that the nutritional status of children of both sexes under age five improved during the study period measured by the two indices, height -for- age and weight-for- age. Levels of stunting and under weight are slightly higher for boys than for girls. The Nutrition National Institute is one of the most important data sources. Table 11 represents nutritional status among girls and boys less than three years during the period 1997 to 2002. Unfortunately, no data are available by place of residence.

Concerning children under age three, it indicated that boys suffer from higher malnutrition than girls. As unexpected the percentage of stunting (height-for-age) among girls increase during the study period from 8.5% in 1997 to reach to 15.3 in 2001, then it decreases to reach 13.1 in 2002.

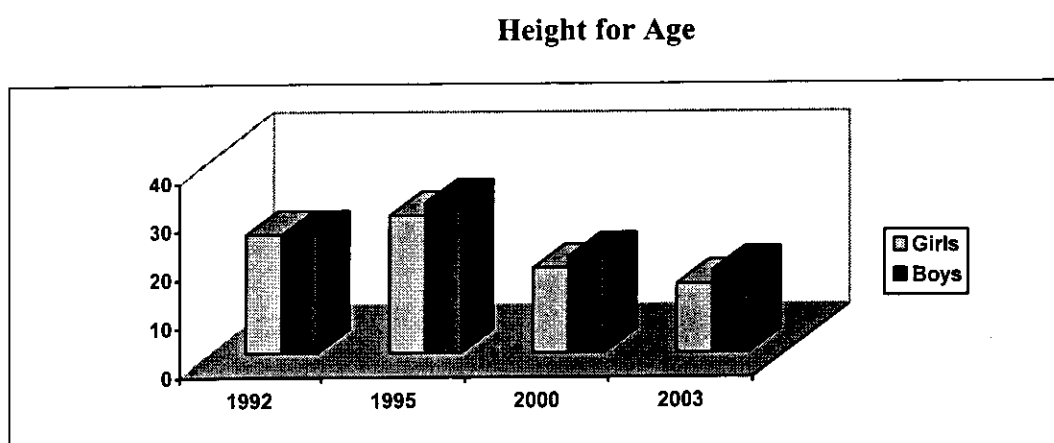
Also the percentage among their counterparts increased during the same period from 11.9% in 1997 to reach 18.5% in 2002. With respect to the second measure (weight-for- age), the data shows the same increasing pattern among both girls and boys. This is may be because of the price increases after the Gulf War and its impact on the standard of living. However, it is important to note that girls at this age are enjoying better nutritional status than boys.

Table 10: Nutritional status for girls/boys under age five the period 1992-2003 (EDHS)

Indicator	1992	1995	2000	2003
Proportion of girls aged less than 5 whose height for age is below minus 2 standard deviations from the median	24.4	28.4	17.4	14.2
Proportion of boys aged less than 5 whose height for age is below minus 2 standard deviations from the median	24.4	31.0	19.8	16.9
Proportion of girls aged less than 5 whose weight for age is below minus 2 standard deviations from the median	9.3	12.2	3.6	7.6
Proportion of boys aged less than 5 whose weight for age is below minus 2 standard deviations from the median	9.1	12.7	4.4	9.4

Source: Egypt Demographic and Health Survey 1992-2003

Figure 4: Nutritional status for girls/boys under age five



Weight for Age.

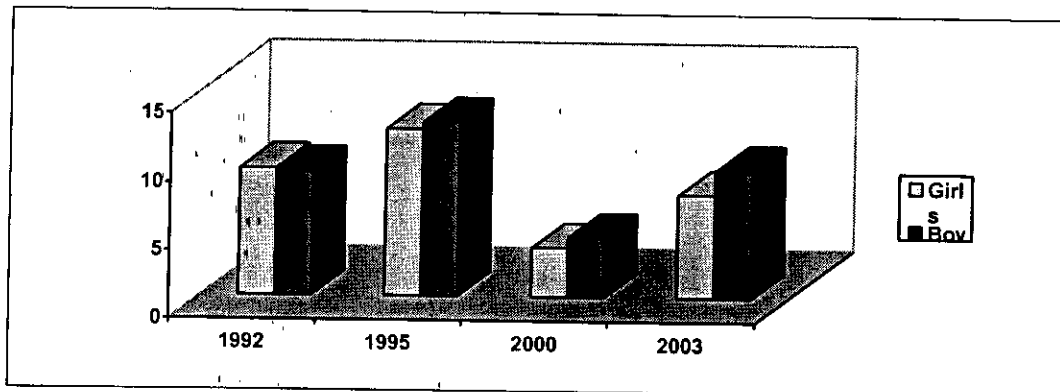
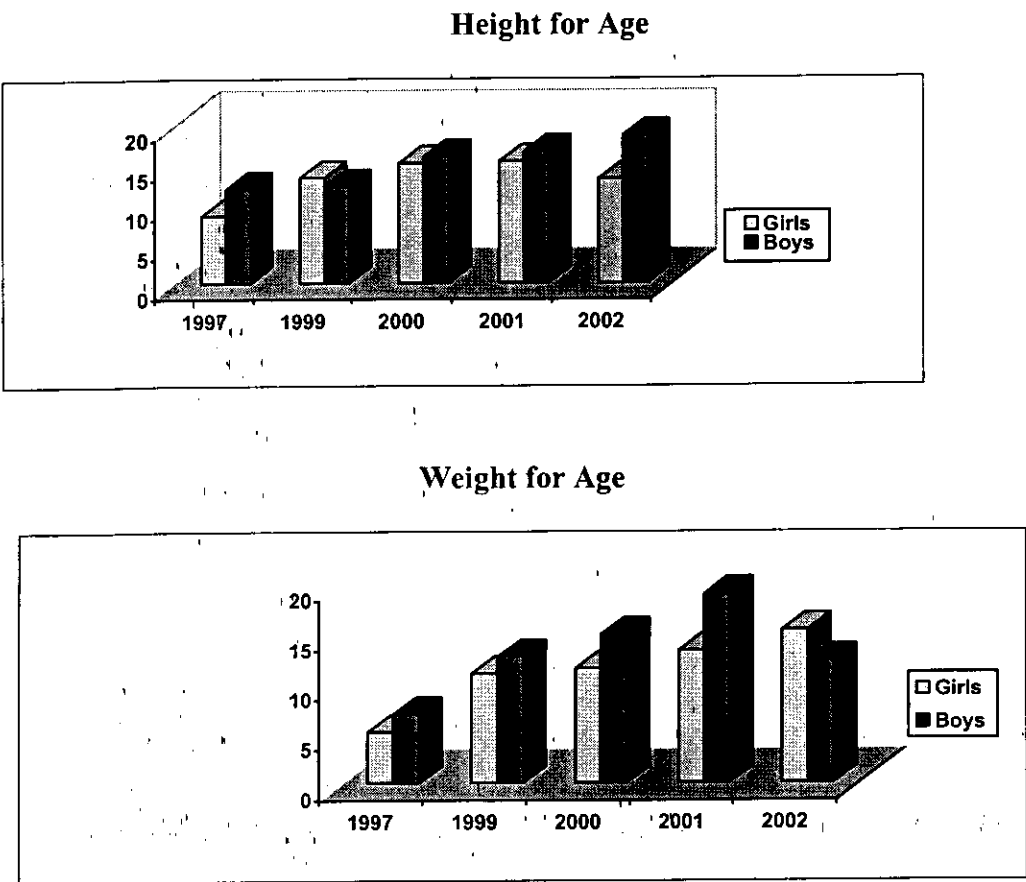


Table 11: Nutritional status for girls/boys under age three during the Period 1997-2002

Indicators	1997	1999	2000	2001	2002
Proportion of girls aged less than 3 whose height for age is below minus 2 standard deviations from the median	8.5	13.3	15.1	15.3	13.1
Proportion of boys aged less than 3 whose height for age is below minus 2 standard deviations from the median	11.9	12.2	15.9	16.5	18.5
Proportion of girls aged less than 3 whose weight for age is below minus 2 standard deviations from the median	5.1	11.0	11.5	13.3	15.3
Proportion of boys aged less than 3 whose weight for age is below minus 2 standard deviations from the median	6.9	12.7	14.9	18.9	20.2

Source: Nutrition National Institute, 1997-2002

Figure 5: Nutritional status for girls/boys under age three



2.2.3 Percentage of Women/Men Infected With HIV/AIDS:

Within the area of health, most population conferences call for implementing proper policies and measures to address HIV/AIDS, however national data on prevalence and effect are scarce. This section depends on Ministry of Health and Population's data. Table 12 indicates the percentage of women/men infected with HIV/AIDS during the period 1990 to 2003. These percentages were predicted by dividing number of infected women/men over total number of infected persons. It is noticed that there is no specific trend concerning the percentage of women/men infected with HIV/AIDS relative to the total number of infected persons during the reference period. With regard to the gender gap, it is noticed that the percentage of men infected with AIDS is significantly higher than that of infected women during the whole studied period.

Figure 6: Percentage of women / men infected with HIV/AIDS

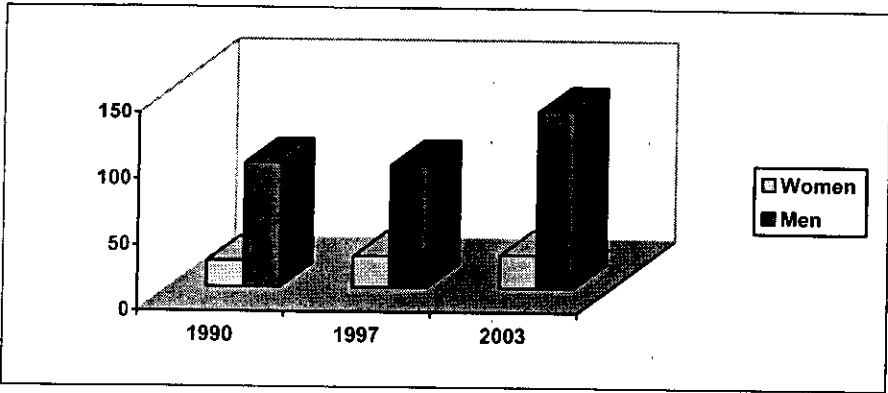


Table 12: Percentage of women / men infected with HIV/AIDS

Indicators		1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Percentage of women infected with HIV/AIDS relative to the total no of infected persons	%	17.5	24.3	17.4	20.0	30.4	11.3	15.0	20.5	16.7	14.1	9.6	12.1	18.3	15.7
	No.	20	9	4	20	17	8	9	24	14	12	13	14	20	25
Percentage of men infected with HIV/AIDS relative to the total no of infected persons	%	82.5	75.7	82.6	80.0	69.6	88.7	85.0	79.5	83.3	85.9	90.4	87.9	81.7	84.3
	No.	94	28	19	80	39	63	51	93	70	73	122	102	89	134

Source: Ministry of Health and population

2.3 Factors Affecting Gender Disparities in Health

Women and men's concerns about health differ substantially for biological and socio-economic reasons. Factors such as dietary habits, working environment, and stress all influence the state of health of individuals. Women and men have different occupations and roles in society and therefore different life styles and health related needs. Other factors influence women's and men's exposure to diseases, the way they seek care and treatment and their access to health services. These might be social and cultural norms that affect nutrition and life style as well as economic factors that affect the quality of life and access to health care.

Moreover, in poorer families, women's state of health is more closely linked to social and cultural practices, and to childbearing. In these families where son preference is strong, girls are treated with less care, more likely to be fed less nutritional foods and rarely taken to the hospital when sick. Although in some rural areas girls are valued less than boys and are regarded as a burden to the family, at the national level there is no wide observed gender gap in health.

2.4 Governmental and non – governmental efforts to overcome gender disparities in health:

- Egypt has launched a number of child survival initiatives, including immunization programs, oral dehydration and acute respiratory infection detection and treatment programs, in addition to child spacing and breast-feeding campaigns.
- The Diarrheal Disease control program and its components: The 'Child Survival Project' started as donor funded programs but became fully institutionalized in the Ministry and were integrated with other activities such as those mentioned above.
- Other programs such as family planning, antenatal care and immunization of pregnant mothers against neonatal tetanus play a major role in lowering neonatal mortality.
- The 'Healthy Mother, Healthy Child' project is focusing on Upper Egypt and through neonatal and maternal care positively affected neonatal and maternal rates and consequence lead to a decline in total IMR.
- Nutritional programs such as iron supplements for pregnant mothers, fortifying subsidized bread with iron, iodination of salt and breastfeeding programs help to improve the nutritional status and reduce nutritional deficiencies but do not fully address the problems of under weight and wasting which contribute to ill health and repeated infections. Such problems could be captured with better implementation of growth monitoring activities.
- The introduction of the child insurance scheme and the inclusion of childhood illness in the basic benefits package of the health sector reform pilot project allow a more comprehensive approach for health care provision and access to care for children in the different stages of development. The family physician concept is expected to play a role in improving access to quality care for the family.
- Improving access to quality health care services and support initiatives to build capacities for health planning and financing at the decentralized district level.

- Strengthening the identified weak points in the health system to combat childhood illness and consolidate the gains achieved.
- Developing public/private partnerships and strengthening NGOs to provide basic child health services and contribute to raising health awareness at the community level.
- Identifying methods to increase community involvement in funding and regulating service provision at the local level.
- MOHP is now supporting programs for emergency obstetric care and neonatal units and linking those programs to PHC and maternal and child health services. Such programs contribute to the reduction of neonatal mortality.
- Ministry of Health and women's NGOs in coordination with the mass media provide educational programs and awareness raising campaigns aiming to realize equity between girls and boys. Overall, child health conditions in Egypt appear to be responding to health and development efforts. There is also evidence that any past existing gender gap is declining over time.
- The government is building on an extensive existing health infrastructure of clinics and hospitals, which is currently strengthening its primary health care services, as part of its long-term health sector reform strategy.

B. ECONOMIC POWER

3.0 Introduction

While many gender-related indicators in Egypt have witnessed marked improvements over the past two decades and the Government of Egypt has taken important steps to enhance the status of women, gender gaps in certain areas persist. Women and girls have improved their educational, health and employment status; but differences between men and women, as well as among women, by location, age, and socio-economic status, still exist.

The components of the economic power: income, time-use or employment and access to resources will be discussed in this section. At the end of this section the Egyptian government efforts to improve outcomes for females and steps that can be taken to facilitate women's employment will be highlighted.

3.1 Income and wages

This section will deal only with the gender differences in the formal sector because the wages of employed person in the informal sector are not available.

Differences in women and men's payment persist despite the fact that most countries have had equal pay laws since the 1960s or 1970. Where the labor market is highly segregated equal pay legislation tends to have little effect on wage differences. Broader legislation concerning equal opportunities in all spheres of work, such as equal access to occupational training and advancement, are potentially more effective in reducing the gap (United Nations 1995a). The laws in Egypt and the Egyptian constitution as well do not differentiate between men and women in the labor market but in reality, there are many discrepancies. Censuses and labor force sample survey are usually the main source of data on labor force, its components and characteristics. However, these sources do not include any information about wages or earnings in Egypt.

In this section statistics are derived from the Bulletin of Employment, Wages and Hours of Work published by CAPMAS. The statistics in the Bulletin were collected from private projects (10 employees and more) in addition to public sector projects (irrespective of their number of employees). This Bulletin is published annually and refers to October because this month is characterized by the stability of labor force in different economic activities. A specific questionnaire was used to collect the statistics. The total wages are wages paid for basic time of work, comprising basic wages and salaries (before taxes) cost-of-living allowances and other guaranteed and regularly paid allowance.

The Bulletin of Employment, Wages and Hours of Work included the average wage in the first week of October in the public and private sector. To calculate the monthly wage, the weekly wage was multiplied by four.

Table 1 presents the average wage per month in public and private sector for women and men. Women's average wage per month increased gradually from L.E 184 in 1990 to L.E. 556 in 2002. For men, the average wage is relatively higher compared to women during 1990-2002 and it increased gradually from L.E. 228 in 1990 to L.E. 668 in 2000

It is obvious that females, on average, earn less than males and the wage gap is larger in the private sector. Hence, although Egyptian law emphasizes that women and men should be treated equally in the work place, gender related differences exist, particularly in the private sector. Differences in wages are exacerbated by other differences in de-facto compensation. The most important of these is the tax allowance for male household heads. No equivalent tax allowance exists for woman income earners, even those with children and/or no husband to support (divorced or widowed).

The average wage for agriculture activity is presented in table 1. Women and men in agriculture receive less payment compared to the other economic activities (see tables 2,3,4). However, in general women still receive less payment than men in all activities in all reference years 1990,1995 and 2002.

Data on wages may also underestimate the wage gap, since most of those who are working in informal sector are excluded. The data on wages and hours of work primarily include data from the formal sector of the economy. They may not account for work in small and micro enterprises, or in activities of the informal sector where females are believed to receive very low levels of payment and have no access to benefits. In addition, it is worth noting that as in other parts of the world, Egyptian women are not compensated for the many hours of unpaid labor they perform in agriculture and in the household as unpaid family workers.

Table 1: Average wage per month in the formal sector by sex 1990-2002 (L.E.)

Years	Average wage for all economic activities					
	Women			Men		
	Private	Public	Total average Sectors	Private	Public	Total average Sectors
1990	168	196	184	244	220	228
1991	180	212	200	272	232	244
1992	208	236	200	280	256	204
1993	228	292	264	324	304	308
1994	240	308	276	360	324	332
1995	272	340	308	372	356	360
1996	268	384	332	392	416	408
1997	332	420	376	440	432	436
1998	328	468	392	460	460	460
1999	384	556	464	504	644	592
2000	408	652	500	528	796	676
2001	444	684	532	576	684	628

2002	444	720	556	592	728	668
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Years	Average wage for agriculture activity (L.E)*	
	Women	Men
1990	128	136
1991	156	160
1992	164	164
1993	180	208
1994	204	220
1995	228	236
1996	228	272
1997	260	268
1998	292	332
1999	360	352
2000	280	372
2001	252	296
2002	316	444

Source: CAPMAS, Bulletin of Employment, Wages and Hours of Work during 1990- 2002.
 (*) Public & Private sectors.

Figure 1: Average wage per month in formal sector
by sex 1990-2002

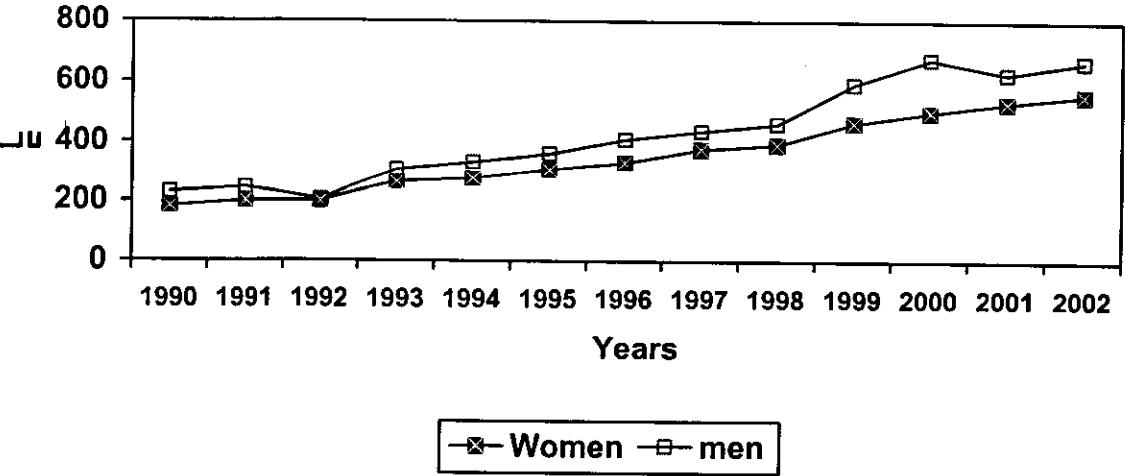


Figure 2: Average wage per month in agriculture activity
by sex 1990-2002

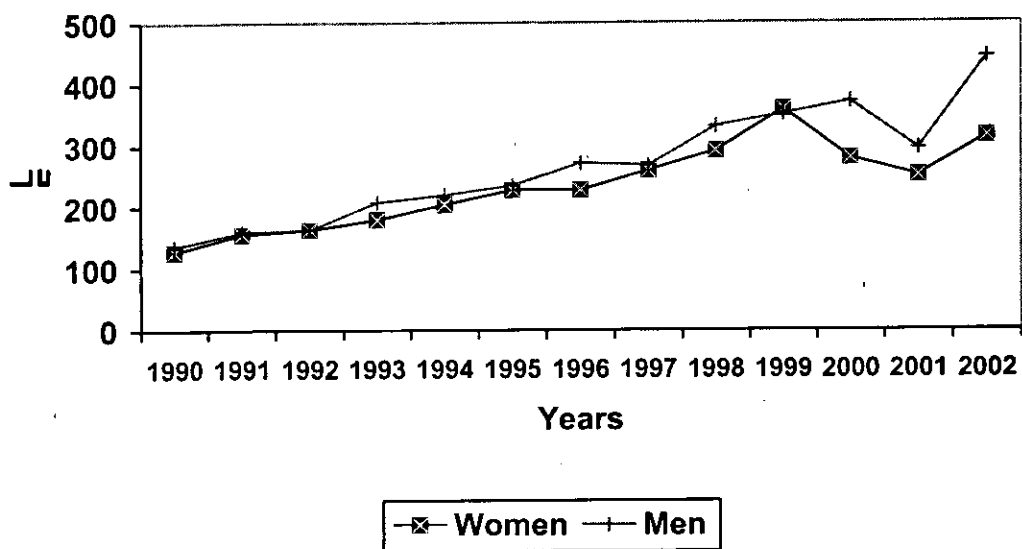


Table 2: Average wage per month in the formal sector by economic activities and sex, 1990

Economic Activities	Women			Men		
	Private	Public	Total	Private	Public	Total
Agriculture, Hunting and Fishing	80	144	128	128	140	<u>136</u>
Mining and Quarrying	584	348	420	696	368	456
Manufacturing	120	176	152	212	228	224
Electricity, Gas and Water Supply	0	184	184	0	156	156
Construction	196	200	200	308	212	220
Wholesale and Retail Trade Repair of Motor Vehicles Hotels and Restaurants	152	180	168	212	196	204
Transportation, Storage and Communication	284	188	220	288	196	212
Financing, Intermediation, Real Estate and Business activities	508	288	340	464	260	300
Services	132	152	136	212	252	220
Total	168	196	184	244	220	228

Source: CAPMAS, A Bulletin of Employment, Wages and Hours of Work 1990.

Table 3: Average wage per month in the formal sector by economic activities and sex, 1995.

Economic Activities	Women			Men		
	Private	Public	Total	Private	Public	Total
Agriculture, Hunting and Fishing	184	248	228	236	236	236
Mining and Quarrying	1092	456	744	808	516	636
Manufacturing	192	312	256	312	364	348
Electricity, Gas and Water Supply	160	292	288	188	280	276
Construction	316	388	384	520	352	364
Wholesale and Retail Trade Repair of Motor Vehicles Hotels and Restaurants	268	332	312	316	364	348
Transportation, Storage and Communication	512	476	484	468	340	356
Financing, Intermediation, Real Estate and Business activities	1020	404	560	904	400	516
Services	236	240	236	416	244	384
Total	272	340	308	372	356	360

Source: CAPMAS, A Bulletin of Employment, Wages and Hours of Work during 1995.

Table 4: Average wage per month in the formal sector by economic activities and sex, 2002 (L.E.)

Economic Activities	Women			Men		
	Private	Public	Total	Private	Public	Total
Agriculture, Hunting,	296	448	316	444	448	444
Fishing	416	400	412	320	412	352
Mining and Quarrying	2824	1204	2008	1152	1064	1084
Manufacturing	328	584	416	528	704	616
Electricity, Gas and Water Supply	784	708	716	596	708	692
Construction	684	816	788	536	676	652
Wholesale and Retail Trade Repair of Motor Vehicles	428	704	600	552	792	700
Hotels and Restaurants	456	972	500	456	836	468
Transportation, Storage and Communication	840	1216	1124	596	796	748
Financing, Intermediation	1768	768	1032	1636	816	1004
Real Estate	1020	644	892	1288	540	1136
Education	344	224	344	472	424	472
Health & social work	272	316	272	372	312	372
Social & personal services	324	880	368	420	496	428
Total	444	720	556	592	728	668

Source: CAPMAS, A Bulletin of Employment, Wages and Hours of Work 2002.

* Note: The classification of the labor force by economic activities was modified in 1996 in Egypt.

Table 5 presents the average wage per month in civil services. Unfortunately total wages of the employees in the governmental sector are only available for the both sexes. This may be due to the fact that there is no discrimination in wages between men and women in the government sector according to law. The average wage per month in the governmental sector is calculated by dividing the total wages of employees (from the general budget of government) by the number of employees in the governmental sector.

The average wage per month in the civil service is L.E. 184 in 1990. It increased gradually during the period 1990- 2001 and tripled from LE. 184 in 1990 to L.E. 508 in 2001.

Table 5: Average wage per month in civil services (government sector) during 1990-2001

Years	Average wage for both sexes
1990	184
1991	204
1992	232
1993	260
1994	290
1995	321
1996	354
1997	371
1998	414
1999	478
2000	473
2001	508

Source: Calculated from:

1-Ministry of Finance, general budget of Egypt during 1990-2001.

2- CAPMAS, the Bulletin of Employees in Governmental and public sector during 1990- 2001.

4.1 Time Use or Employment:

4.1 Time Use

The work of women contributes substantially to the well-being of families, communities and the nation and needs to be recognized in policies for credit, income and family security. However, much of the work of women is done within the household and is inadequately measured, even when it is economic. Time-use statistics provide a way to assess the different activities of women and men without being forced into the economic/non-economic dichotomy of national accounting.

In spite of the importance of statistics on time-use, time-use-surveys are very rare in Egypt. The only study of time use in Egypt was done by Population Research and Studies Unit of the Arab

League states in late 1993 to measure the participation of women in economic activities in some Arab countries including Egypt. The sample size reached 1956 households and the ever-married women aged 15-49 years who are members in these households were interviewed to identify all economic activities of the surveyed women in Egypt.

The average number of working hours per day during the last week before the interview accounted for 6 hours per day. Table 6 indicates that this average was 6.2 hours in urban areas compared to 5.9 hours in rural ones. Regarding the average working hours per week, table 6 shows that the overall level of working hours was 31.8 hours during the last week before the interview. It reached 30.2 hours in rural areas compared to 33.8 hours in urban areas indicating 3.6 extra hours of working per week in these urban ones.

Table 6: the average number of working hours per day and per week for every married women (15-49), oct-Dec.1993- Egypt

Item	Urban	Rural	Total
Average number of working hours per day	6.2	5.9	6.0
Average number of working hours per week	33.8	30.2	31.8

Source: Arab League, Report on women's Economic Activity- The case of Egypt Principal Report, 1995.

The distribution of the average number of working hours per week according to the main economic activity and area of residence as presented in table 7, indicates that the highest average of working hours is observed in rural areas among women working in trade, while the lowest was among women working in agriculture. The difference in the average number of working hours per week between these two occupations in urban areas reaches about 5 hours. It can also be noticed that this average among women working in manufacturing is higher in rural areas compared to in urban (29.2 hours in rural compared to 26.3 in urban) with about 3 hours difference.

Table 7: Average number of working hours according to main economic activity and area of residence for every married women 15-49,1993.

Main activity	Total	Urban	Rural
Agriculture & fishing	27.8	42.2	27.0
Manufacturing	27.0	26.3	29.2
Trade	41.4	37.4	43.6
Transportation	34.6	34.6	0.0
Services	23.6	34.2	27.3

Source: Arab League, Report on women's Economic Activity-The case of Egypt Principal Report, 1995.

Variations in average working hours by the employment status of working women as presented in table 8 indicate that the average number of working hours per week is considerably higher among those who are self-employed (about 38 hours) and paid employees (33.6 hours)

compared to the average among employers which reached only 17 hours. There are small variations in the number of working hours between rural and urban areas and in all categories of work status with the exception of family workers (18 hours in urban areas compared to 29 hours in rural areas), which is close to that among paid employees in the rural areas (about 32 hours). This may reflect that cash payment does not represent an incentive for work in rural areas and that much of the heavy household tasks are done by female family workers in rural Egypt.

Table 8: Average number of working hours according to employment status and area of residence for every married women 15-49,1993.

Employment status	Total	Urban	Rural
Employer	17.02	20.6	16.1
Self employed	37.92	39.1	37.4
Paid employees	33.6	34.4	31.7
Family worker	27.6	17.7	28.6

Source: Arab League, Report on women's Economic Activity- The case of Egypt Principal Report, 1995.

4.1.1 Trends in Working Hours

In order to get the trend in working hours during 1990-2002 and gender discriminations, t data was collected used from CAPMAS (Bulletin of Employment, Wages and Hours of work for years 1990-2002). Trends in working hours will be discussed with respect to private/public sectors by sex.

Table 9 presents the average working hours per week in the formal sector (public and private sector). The average time spent in market economic for women in public and private sector ranged between 49 hours and 58 hours per week during 1990-2002. For men, the average time ranged between 51-58 hours during the same period. There is little difference in the average time spent in market economic (public & private sector) between men and women, however, the average time is slightly higher for men (2 hours) compared to women during 1991-1996, while the average time is slightly higher for women (1-2 hours) compared to men during 1997-2001. The table indicates that both women and men are working longer time in the private sector compared to public sector during the period 1990-2002.

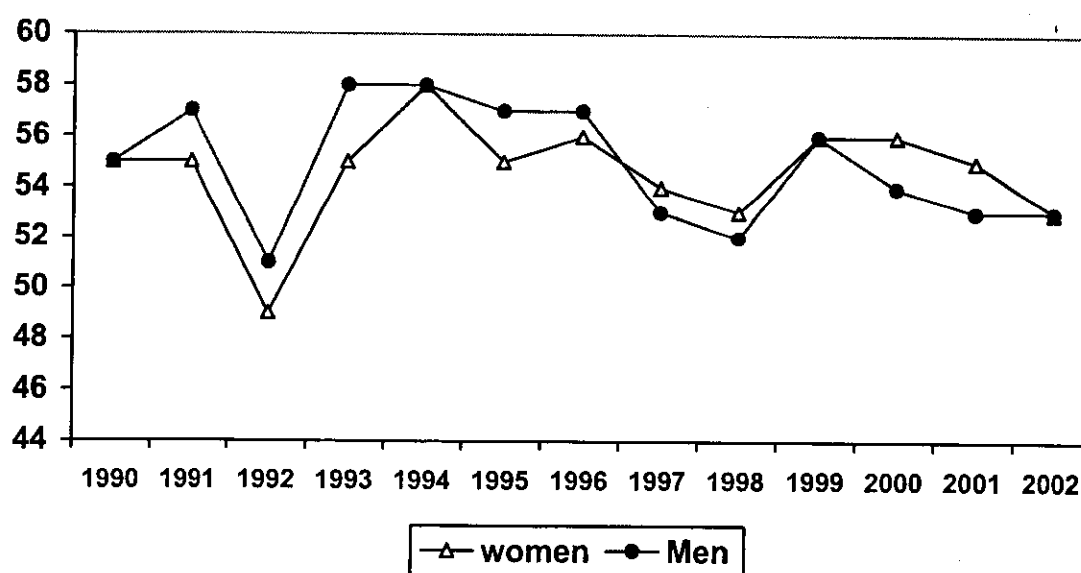
Table 9: Average working hours per week in the formal sector (public and private Sector)* by sex during 1990-2002

Years	Women			Men		
	Public	Private	Public & Private	Public	Private	Public & Private
1990	54	56	55	53	59	55
1991	55	55	55	56	59	57
1992	47	52	49	51	53	51
1993	55	56	55	58	58	58
1994	58	59	58	58	58	58
1995	56	55	55	58	57	57
1996	55	57	56	57	57	57
1997	52	55	54	52	54	53
1998	54	53	53	51	53	52
1999	54	57	56	55	57	56
2000	53	57	56	53	55	54
2001	51	56	55	51	55	53
2002	52	55	53	52	55	53

Source: CAPMAS, A Bulletin of Employment, Wages and Hours of Work during 1990- 2002.

* Establishment 10 employees or more.

Figure 3: Trend in Average hours worked per week in the formal sector by sex 1990-2002



The annual labor force sample survey includes distribution of all employed persons (as a paid employee, a self-employed worker, an employer or unpaid family workers) aged 15-64 years according to weekly working hours groups. The average time spent in the market economy was calculated by using the from the labor force survey data for women and men as presented in table 10.

For women, average hours spent in the labor market increased from 30.8 hours per week in 1990 to 41.5 hours in 2002, while the average for men was about 45 hours during 1990-2002. Women's average time of work in rural areas increased by about 11 hours (from 26.6 to 38.2 hours during 1990-2002), while in urban areas it increased by 5 hours (from 40 to 45 hours).

Tables 11,12,13 present categories of hours of work and economic activities. The tables indicate that women are working fewer hours compared to men in all activities and in all reference years (1990,1995,2002).

Table (10): Average working hours per week for employed person (15-64 years) in all sectors during 1990-2002

Years	Women			Men		
	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural
1990*	31.2	40.1	27.2	44.8	45.8	43.9
1991*	32.3	40.8	28.0	44.9	45.9	44.1
1992*	33.2	41.6	28.8	45.3	46.3	44.6
1993*	36.8	40.3	34.5	42.5	43.2	41.9
1994	34.7	42.5	29.8	45.0	46.0	44.1
1995	35.9	43.4	30.8	45.1	46.3	44.2
1997	37.3	44.2	32.5	45.4	46.6	44.5
1998	38.9	44.8	34.6	45.8	47.2	44.8
1999	39.6	44.9	35.2	45.9	46.6	45.5
2000	38.0	43.8	33.8	45.7	46.1	45.4
2001	39.7	44.3	35.7	45.0	46.0	44.3
2002	41.6	45.0	38.5	45.5	46.3	44.9

Source: CAPMAS, Labor Force Sample Survey during 1990-2002.

(*) For ages 12-64 years.

Figure 4: Average hours worked per week for employed persons (15-64) in all sectors by sex 1990-2002
total Egypt

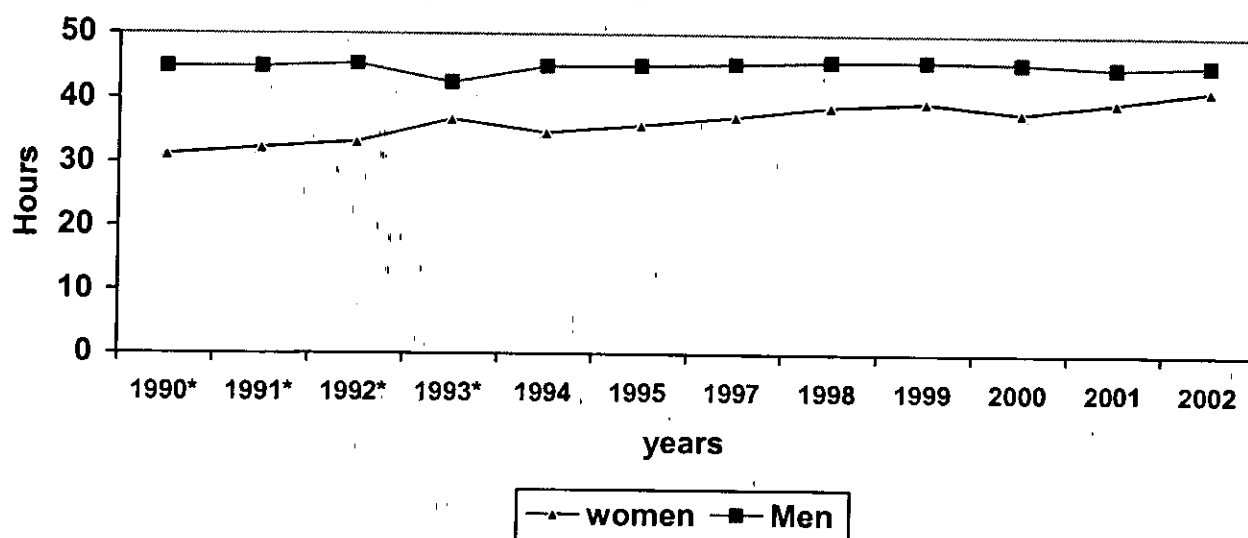


Figure 5: Average hours worked per week for employed persons (15-64) in all sectors by sex 1990-2002
in Urban areas

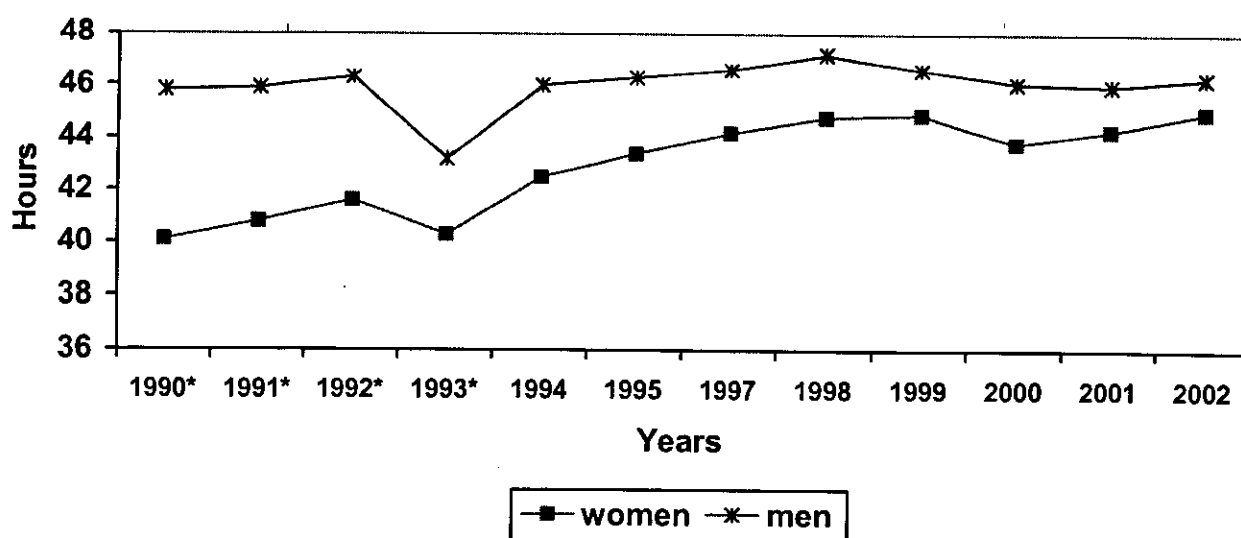


Figure 6: Average hours worked per week for employed persons (15-64) in all sectors by sex 1990-2002 in Rural areas

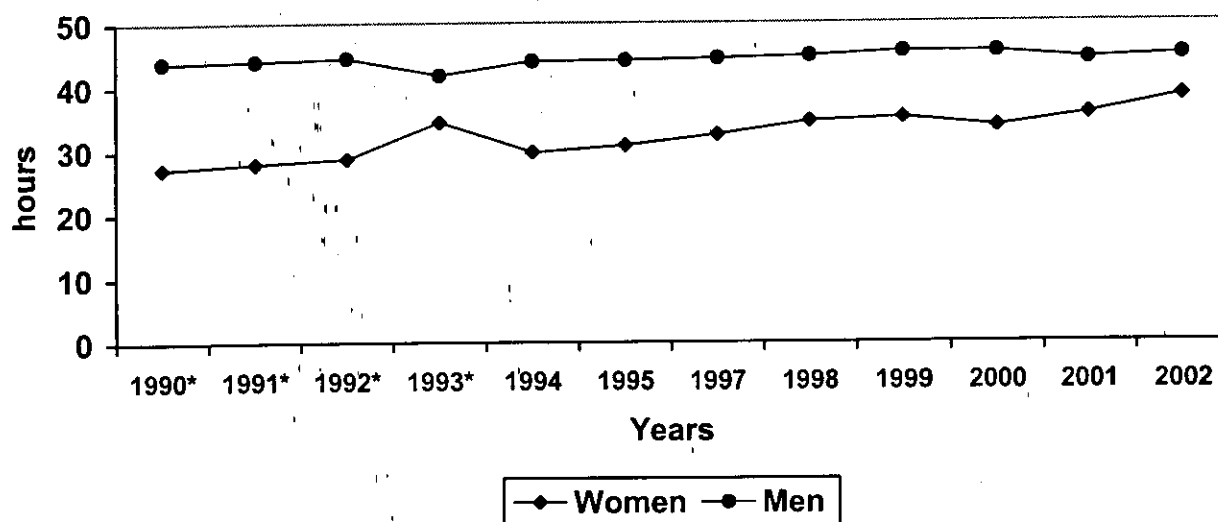


Table 11: Percentage distribution of employed person, (12-64) by age groups of hours worked per week, economic activities and sex, 1990

Economic activities	Sex	Hours of work per week								Average hours
		0-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45+	Total	
Agriculture	M	0.1	0.6	1.0	5.8	13.8	25.0	53.7	100	43.7
	F	0.2	6.3	26.3	25.3	23.7	8.1	10.0	100	24.5
Manufacturing	M	0.0	0.5	0.3	2.0	2.5	25.2	69.6	100	47.8
	F	0.5	2.3	9.1	24.2	15.0	16.4	32.6	100	34.3
Electricity	M	0.1	0.7	0.4	0.4	0.8	53.1	44.5	100	45.0
	F	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.9	68.6	29.5	100	43.5
Construction	M	0.1	0.6	1.0	10.1	15.0	25.3	47.8	100	41.9
	F	0.5	1.1	1.9	7.9	5.4	18.5	64.7	100	44.9
Trade	M	0.1	0.4	0.7	3.8	5.1	18.8	71.1	100	47.2
	F	0.0	1.3	2.7	7.3	15.1	22.1	51.5	100	42.3
Transportation	M	0.1	0.7	0.3	2.4	3.3	26.3	67.0	100	47.2
	F	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.4	0.5	42.2	55.9	100	46.7
Financing	M	0.5	1.3	0.9	2.2	10.6	48.5	36.0	100	42.1
	F	0.0	0.8	0.6	1.4	10.5	64.7	21.9	100	41.0
Services	M	0.1	0.6	0.5	1.5	3.1	58.3	35.8	100	43.5
	F	0.1	0.3	0.2	1.5	5.7	70.7	21.6	100	41.6
All	M	0.1	0.6	0.7	4.1	8.0	32.3	54.3	100	44.8
	F	0.2	4.0	16.2	17.7	17.4	26.0	18.6	100	31.2

Source: CAPMAS, Labor Force Sample Survey, 1990.

Table 12: Percentage distribution of employed person (15-64) by age groups of hours worked per week, economic activities and sex, 1995

Economic activities	Sex	Hours of work per week								Average hours
		0-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45+	Total	
Agriculture	M	0.1	0.3	0.6	5.8	12.6	26.9	53.8	100	44.0
	F	0.1	3.2	16.6	30.0	25.1	13.4	11.6	100	27.3
Manufacturing	M	0.1	0.2	0.4	1.4	2.6	22.9	72.3	100	48.3
	F	0.0	1.0	9.3	10.5	13.6	16.7	49.0	100	39.8
Electricity	M	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.7	0.9	45.7	52.4	100	46.2
	F	0.0	5.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	36.4	58.6	100	45.7
Construction	M	0.3	0.4	0.7	9.6	15.2	24.4	49.4	100	42.3
	F	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.5	16.8	26.7	49.1	100	43.0
Trade	M	0.1	0.2	0.5	3.1	4.6	24.5	67.0	100	47.1
	F	0.0	0.8	1.3	8.4	15.6	23.3	50.5	100	42.5
Transportation	M	0.1	0.2	0.2	1.5	3.3	28.2	66.6	100	47.6
	F	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.4	2.5	52.3	43.9	100	45.0
Financing	M	0.1	0.5	0.3	1.9	9.6	35.6	51.9	100	44.8
	F	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.5	11.3	44.8	42.5	100	43.8
Services	M	0.1	0.4	0.2	1.1	4.4	56.5	37.3	100	43.8
	F	0.0	0.3	0.2	1.5	4.9	65.9	27.1	100	42.4
All	M	0.1	0.3	0.4	3.6	7.6	33.1	54.9	100	45.1
	F	0.1	1.6	8.0	14.9	15.0	35.7	24.8	100	35.9

Source: CAPMAS, Labor Force Sample Survey, 1995.

Table (13): Percentage distribution of employed person (15-64) by age groups of hours worked per week, economic activities and sex, 2002

Economic activities		Hours of work per week								Average hours
		0-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45+	Total	
Agriculture	M	0.1	0.6	0.4	5.8	14.0	23.7	55.4	100	44.0
	F	0.0	1.9	17.7	20.6	17.8	11.9	30.1	100	32.4
Manufacturing	M	0.0	0.5	0.2	0.9	2.5	21.4	74.5	100	48.7
	F	0.0	0.8	0.5	2.9	4.4	7.0	84.4	100	49.1
Electricity	M	0.0	0.3	0.1	0.6	2.2	31.1	65.7	100	47.7
	F	0.0	1.8	0.0	0.0	3.2	41.7	53.2	100	45.7
Construction	M	0.0	0.2	0.3	9.8	15.9	23.6	50.0	100	42.5
	F	0.0	0.0	1.4	2.3	13.0	27.2	56.1	100	44.9
Trade	M	0.1	0.5	0.3	1.7	2.9	32.0	62.4	100	46.9
	F	0.2	1.0	0.7	4.5	6.7	21.9	65.1	100	46.0
Hotels and Restaurants	M	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.6	1.2	34.0	63.8	100	47.6
	F	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.8	5.0	93.4	100	51.4
Transportation	M	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.9	1.8	25.4	71.5	100	48.4
	F	0.7	1.0	0.0	1.5	3.0	20.5	73.3	100	48.0
Financing	M	0.7	0.3	0.0	0.4	10.9	58.2	29.5	100	42.1
	F	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0	12.7	48.3	37.6	100	43.0
Real Estates	M	0.0	0.3	0.4	1.2	4.9	31.1	62.1	100	46.8
	F	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.0	4.8	31.7	59.4	100	46.1
Public Administration	M	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.6	11.5	46.2	41.2	100	43.7
	F	0.3	0.5	0.0	0.7	15.1	55.5	27.8	100	41.5
Education	M	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.5	1.4	55.4	42.0	100	44.8
	F	0.0	0.4	0.2	0.9	2.0	58.1	38.3	100	44.2
Health & social Work	M	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.9	3.9	39.1	55.7	100	46.3
	F	0.1	0.5	0.1	0.8	2.8	32.5	63.2	100	47.2
Social & Personal services	M	0.0	0.8	1.0	1.6	6.1	29.8	60.7	100	46.1
	F	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.9	5.9	40.8	52.4	100	45.8
All	M	0.1	0.4	0.3	3.1	7.9	31.0	57.2	100	45.5
	F	0.1	1.0	5.1	6.9	9.1	32.4	45.4	100	41.6

Source: CAPMAS, Labor Force Sample Survey, 2002.

4.1.2 Child Average number of working hours

Depending on a national Child Labor Survey that was conducted in 2001, Table 14 presents the average number of working hours for children (6-14 years) in urban & rural areas.

The average number of working hours reached 6 hours per day for females, while this average was 7 hours per day for males. Regarding the average working hours per week, table 14 shows that the overall level of working hours was 36.4 hours per week for females and 42.3 hours per week for males indicating about 6 hours extra of work for males. Although, the average of working hours does not show considerable differences by urban/rural residence for females, the average is higher for males by 13.5 hours in urban areas than in rural areas.

Table 14: Average number of working hours for Children (6-14 years), 2001

Residence	Males		Females	
	Per day	Per week	Per day	Per week
Urban	8.7	51.6	6.3	38.0
Rural	6.5	39.1	6.0	36.5
Total	7.0	42.3	6.0	36.4

Source: CAPMAS, National Child Labor Survey, 2001.

4.2 Employment and Unemployment in Egypt:

The main source of data in this section is the Labor Force Sample Surveys (LFSS) during 1990-2002. LFSS was conducted annually by CAPMAS for a sample of households representing the whole nation. In 1996, the population census of Egypt was conducted; therefore there was no LFSS for that year. This section will depend only on the results of LFSS because census data are not suitable for comparison with LFSS data due to differences in methodology and coverage.

The employed persons in LFSS include all person (15-64 years) who participated in economic activities (at least one hour) during the week prior to the interview, either inside or outside establishments.

4.2.1 Population and labor force size and growth:

The size of labour force depends, to a large extent, on the size of the total population. Table 15 presents distribution of population and labour force by sex and urban/rural residence in 1990, 1995 and 2002. The total population of Egypt (15-64) has increased from 30.1 millions in 1990 to 43.9 millions in 2002, the average annual rate of growth is 3.14%.

As can be seen from table (15), the reported labor force in 2002 was 19.9 millions persons, consisting of 78.2% males and 21.8% females. About 56.1% of the labor force is found in rural areas, while the remaining proportion 43.9% is in urban areas. The low participation of females in the labor force is also noticed in both urban and rural areas, with 24.6% and 19.7% of the total labor force in these areas respectively.

It is important to note that Egyptian women's participation in economic activities is, as in many other developing countries, is likely to be underestimated due to problems of measurement and underreporting, particularly in agriculture and in other parts of the informal sector where females are highly represented. If these activities are included, estimates of women's participation in the labor force are substantially higher especially in rural areas.

Attempts have been made to assess the effective participation rates of females in Egypt. They have all indicated much higher ratios if economic activity is redefined to include the informal

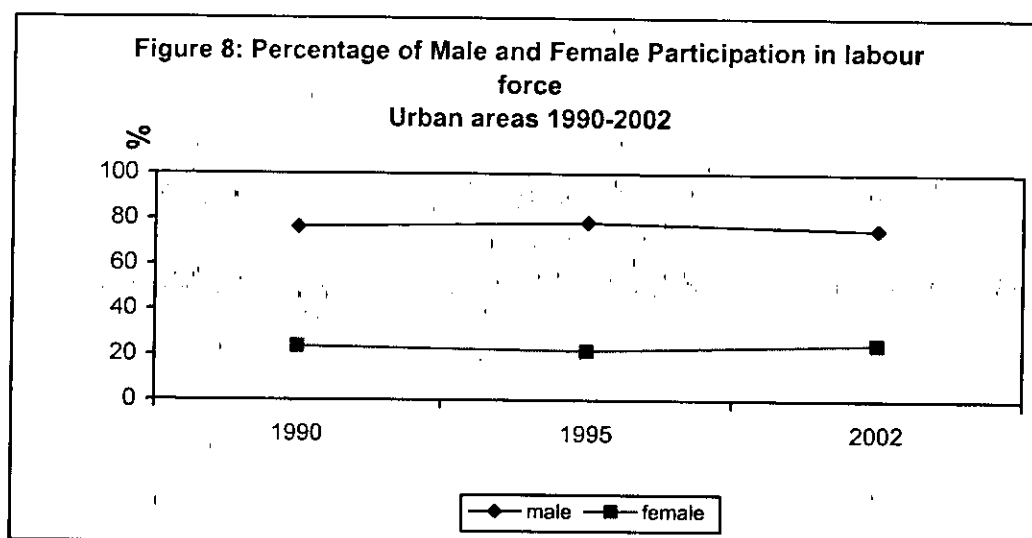
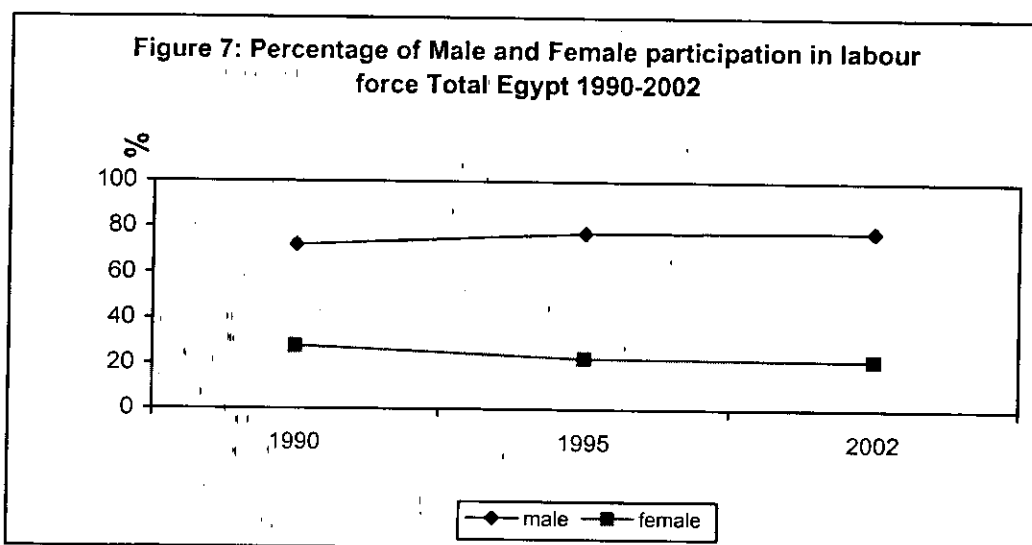
sector, unpaid work, rural activities for one's own consumption, and if the approach of "allocation of time" is adopted.

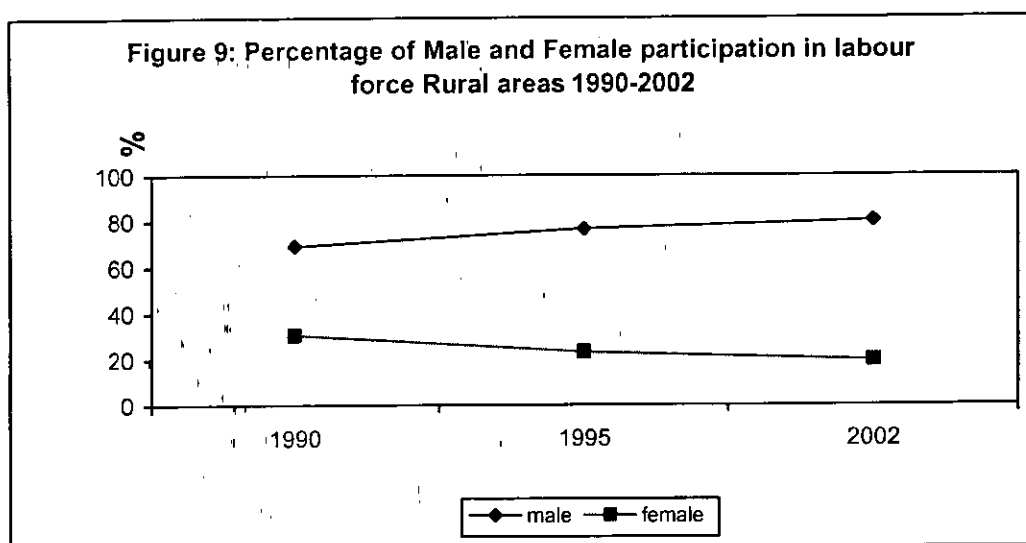
The Egypt Labor Market Survey 1998 used extended labor force and employment definitions, rather than conventional definitions of market labor force. When using the extended definitions, all persons engaged in primary activities for the purpose of personal or household consumption are considered economically active. As a result, the rate of female participation in 1998 was estimated to be considerably higher (46 percent) than the rate usually calculated by the LFSS (21.2 percent). This was especially true in rural areas, where subsistence activities are common (56.6 percent according to the extended definition and 17.7 percent using the market definition). Women's participation rates also rose in urban areas, but by a lesser amount (33 percent as compared to 25.5 percent).

Table 15: Distribution of Population and Labour Force by Sex and Place of Residence 1990-2002

Sex	1990			1995			2002		
	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total
Population (15-64) (00,s)									
Male	70997	79599	150596	84643	94639	179282	93965	118934	212899
Female	70250	80015	150265	84982	95628	180610	109181	117419	226600
Total	141247	159614	300861	169625	190267	359892	203146	236353	439499
Labor Force (15-64) (00,s)									
Male	51109	62178	113287	59194	72274	131468	65836	89510	155346
Female	15788	27604	43392	16377	21843	38220	21436	21993	43429
Total	66897	89782	156679	75571	94117	169688	87272	111503	198775
% labor force pop									
Male	72.0	78.1	75.2	69.9	76.4	73.3	70.1	75.3	73.0
Female	22.5	34.5	28.9	19.3	22.8	21.2	19.6	18.7	19.2
Total	47.4	56.2	52.1	44.6	49.5	47.1	43.0	47.2	45.2
% Female in labor force									
	23.6	30.7	27.7	21.7	23.2	22.5	24.6	19.7	21.8

Source: CAPMAS, Labor Force Sample Survey, 1990-2002





4.2.2 The Employment Status structure of the Egyptian labor force:

The analysis of labor force data as classified by employment status sheds light on how the economy is organized. The larger the number of employees and the fewer the number of self-employed, employers and unpaid family workers, the more modern the production base is.

Tables 17 and 19 present the percentage distribution of the labor force by employment status, sex and place of residence in 1990 and 2002. At the national level, the unpaid family workers decreased from about 18.4 % in 1990 to 9.4 % in 2002 especially among females (from 38.2% to 14.9% during the same period). The own account workers decreased slightly from 11.6% in 1990 to 10.7% in 2002. The relative share of employers increased from 12.9% in 1990 to 15.7% in 2002 as a result of the open door policy and encouragement of private sector. The employees' relative share reflected an increase from 49% to 54% during 1990-2002.

The proportion of the unemployed increased among the new entrants to labor force marked from 7.2% to 9.4% during 1990-2002 with a large increase among females (from 13.9% to 22.3% during the same period). This is due to the expansion of privatization and private companies that prefer to hire males than females due to maternity leave. Table 19 also shows that employees constitute the highest percentage with 54.1% (54.7% for males and 51.7% for females) in 2002. The lowest percentage of the unemployed is for unpaid family workers with 9.4% (7.8% for males and 14.9% for females). The table shows that the structure of labor force varied significantly between males and females. While the group of employees is predominated for males as well as females, the number of independent workers (own account workers and employers) is much greater for males (31.1% for males and 9.5% for females). This is mainly due to serious economic constraints against women and barriers to getting credit that will be discussed at the end of this chapter.

Table 16: Number of labor force (15 -64) by employment status, sex and place of residence, 1990 (00's)

Employment Status	Urban			Rural			Total		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
Employees	35014	9793	44807	28918	4946	33864	63932	14739	78671
Employers	4693	172	4865	14599	1281	15880	19292	1453	20745
Own Account Workers	6660	903	7563	7127	3966	11093	13787	4869	18656
Unpaid Family Workers	1825	1118	2943	10640	15896	26536	12465	17014	29479
Ever Worked Unemployed	719	181	900	276	147	423	995	328	1323
Newly Unemployed	2831	3728	6559	2670	2357	5027	5501	6085	11586
Total	51742	15895	67637	64230	28593	92823	115972	44488	160460

Sources: CAPMAS, Labor Force Sample Survey, 1990

Table 17: Percentage distribution of labor force (15 -64) by employment status, sex and place of residence, 1990

Employment Status	Urban			Rural			Total		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
Employees	67.7	61.6	66.2	45.0	17.3	36.5	55.1	33.1	49.0
Employers	9.1	1.1	7.2	22.7	4.5	17.1	16.6	3.3	12.9
Own Account Workers	12.9	5.7	11.2	11.1	13.9	12.0	11.9	10.9	11.6
Unpaid Family Workers	3.5	7.0	4.4	16.6	55.6	28.6	10.7	38.2	18.4
Ever Worked Unemployed	1.4	1.1	1.3	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.9	0.7	0.8
Newly Unemployed	5.5	23.5	9.7	4.2	8.2	5.4	4.7	13.7	7.2
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Sources: CAPMAS, Labor Force Sample Survey, 1990

Table 18: Number of labor force (15 -64) by employment status, sex and place of residence, 2002 (00's)

Employment Status	Urban			Rural			Total		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
Employees	41404	14770	56174	43616	7683	51299	85020	22453	107473
Employers	9467	531	9998	19801	1356	21157	29268	1887	31155
Own Account Workers	8584	344	8928	10449	1920	12369	19033	2264	21297
Unpaid Family Workers	2133	413	2546	10054	6038	16092	12187	6451	18638
Ever Worked Unemployed	535	354	889	343	319	662	878	673	1551
Newly Unemployed	3709	5025	8734	5245	4676	9921	8954	9701	18655
Total	65832	21437	87269	89508	21992	111500	155340	43429	198769

Sources: CAPMAS, Labor Force Sample Survey, 2002

Table 19: Percentage distribution of labor force (15 -64) by employment status, sex and place of residence, 2002

Employment Status	Urban			Rural			Total		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
Employees	62.9	68.9	64.4	48.7	34.9	46.0	54.7	51.7	54.1
Employers	14.4	2.5	11.5	22.1	6.2	19.0	18.8	4.3	15.7
Own Account Workers	13.0	1.6	10.2	11.7	8.7	11.1	12.3	5.2	10.7
Unpaid Family Workers	3.2	1.9	2.9	11.2	27.5	14.4	7.8	14.9	9.4
Ever Worked Unemployed	0.8	1.7	1.0	0.4	1.5	0.6	0.6	1.5	0.8
Newly Unemployed	5.6	23.4	10.0	5.9	21.3	8.9	5.8	22.3	9.4
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Sources: CAPMAS, Labor Force Sample Survey, 2002

4.2.3 The occupational structural of the Egyptian labor force

The percentage distribution of labor force by occupational structure of the Egyptian labor force by sex and place of residence is shown in tables 21 and 23. Farmers have the highest proportion in 1990 and 2002, although their share decreased from 39.9% to 26.5% in the two years respectively. White collar occupations comprising professional, technicians, legislators, managerial and clerks together increased from 22.7% in 1990 to 41.5% in 2002 as a result of educational expansion on one hand and economic transformation on the other hand. Blue-collar occupations, which included production worker, craftsmen and related workers decreased from

24.2% in 1990 to 19.8% in 2002. Service and sale workers accounted for 13.1% in 1990, which decreased, to 10.0% in 2002.

Table 23 also shows that there are marked differentials in the occupation distribution of males and females. The proportion of females engaged in white-collar occupation is much higher than males (37.7% for males and 57.8% for females) as a direct result of improving the educational level of female workers compared to males. Conversely, the proportion of those engaged in blue-collar occupation is much higher among males than females (22.9% for males and 6.6% for females).

Table 20: Number of labor force (15 -64) by occupation, sex and place of residence, 1990 (00's)

Occupation	Urban			Rural			Total		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
Technical / Professional	9245	4561	13806	4829	1607	6436	14074	6168	20242
Administrative / Managerial	1231	187	1418	257	114	371	1488	301	1789
Clerks and related workers	4649	3376	8025	2657	878	3535	7306	4254	11560
Market Sale Workers	5484	777	6261	2448	911	3359	7932	1688	9620
Service Workers	4469	462	4931	4655	157	4812	9124	619	9743
Farmers, Fishers and Hunters	3012	1474	4486	34493	19967	54460	37505	21441	58946
Production workers and related workers	20100	1149	21249	11946	2455	14401	32046	3604	35650
Total	48190	11986	60176	61285	26089	87374	109475	38075	147550

Sources: CAPMAS, Labor Force Sample Survey, 1990

Table 21: Percentage distribution of labor force (15-64) by occupation, sex and place of residence, 1990

Occupation	Urban			Rural			Total		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
Technical / Professional	19.2	38.1	22.9	7.9	6.2	7.4	12.9	16.2	13.7
Administrative / Managerial	2.6	1.6	2.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	1.4	0.8	1.2
Clerks and related workers	9.6	28.2	13.3	4.3	3.4	4.0	6.7	11.2	7.8
Market Sale Workers	11.4	6.5	10.4	4.0	3.5	3.8	7.2	4.4	6.5
Service Workers	9.3	3.9	8.2	7.6	0.6	5.5	8.3	1.6	6.6
Farmers, Fishers and Hunters	6.3	12.3	7.5	56.3	76.5	62.3	34.3	56.3	39.9
Production workers	41.7	9.6	35.3	19.5	9.4	16.5	29.3	9.5	24.2

and related workers									
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Sources: CAPMAS, Labor Force Sample Survey, 1990

**Table 22: Number of labor force (15 -64) by occupation, sex and place of residence, 2002
(00's)**

Occupation	Urban			Rural			Total		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
Legislature, Administrative and Managerial workers	11697	1083	12780	6489	716	7205	18186	1799	19958
Professional workers	12053	6016	18069	6562	2244	8806	18615	8260	26875
Technician and Assistants	6540	3728	10268	4583	1633	6216	11123	5361	16484
Clerks and related workers	3894	2397	6291	3089	1304	4393	6983	3701	10684
Sale and Service Workers	6787	1287	8074	8533	1178	9711	15320	2465	17785
Agriculture and Fishery Workers	2566	434	3000	35699	8539	44238	38265	8973	47238
Crafts and Related Workers	11281	683	11964	11071	960	12031	22352	1643	23995
Production workers and related workers	5002	301	5303	5971	237	6208	10973	538	11511
Un-skilled workers	1768	129	1897	1922	186	2108	3690	315	4005
Total	61588	16058	77646	83919	16997	100916	145507	33055	178562

Sources: CAPMAS, Labor Force Sample Survey, 2002

Table 23: Percentage distribution of labor force (15-64) by occupation, sex and place of residence, 2002

Occupation	Urban			Rural			Total		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
Legislature, Administrative and Managerial workers	19.0	6.7	16.5	7.7	4.2	7.1	12.5	5.4	11.2
Professional workers	19.6	37.5	23.3	7.8	13.2	8.7	12.8	25.0	15.1
Technician and Assistants	10.6	23.2	13.2	5.5	9.6	6.2	7.6	16.2	9.2
Clerks and related workers	6.3	14.9	8.1	3.7	7.7	4.4	4.8	11.2	6.0
Sale and Service Workers	11.0	8.0	10.4	10.2	6.9	9.6	10.5	7.5	10.0
Agriculture and Fishery Workers	4.2	2.7	3.9	42.5	50.2	43.8	26.3	27.1	26.5

Workers									
Crafts and Related Workers	18.3	4.3	15.4	13.2	5.6	11.9	15.4	5.0	13.4
Production workers and related workers	8.1	1.9	6.8	7.1	1.4	6.2	7.5	1.6	6.4
Un-skilled workers	2.9	0.8	2.4	2.3	1.1	2.1	2.5	1.0	2.2
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Sources: CAPMAS, Labor Force Sample Survey, 2002

4.2.4 The industrial structure of the Egyptian labor force

Industry refers to the activity of the establishment or enterprise in which the individual works. More than half of the labor force was absorbed in agriculture and the services sector in 1990 and 2002. The relative share of the agriculture sector decreased by about 13.2% (from 40.7% in 1990 to 27.5%) in 2002, while the services sector increased by about 5.7% (from 21.9% in 1990 to 27.6%) in 2002. Manufacturing registered a decrease in its share, from 14.1% in 1990 to 11.6% in 2002. Trade, hotels, and restaurants absorbed 8.9% in 1990 and increased to 14.8% in 2002. Also, the relative share of the construction sector increased slightly from 6.1% in 1990 to 7.4% in 2002 (see tables 25 and 27).

With respect to place of residence, table 27 also shows that in rural areas, the majority of workers in 2002 were still engaged in agriculture activities (45.4%). The second largest sector was the services (21.9%) followed by manufacturing and trade sectors (about 8%). With respect to urban areas, the highest percentage of workers belonged to the services sector (35.1%). The second largest sector was the trade sector (19%). The manufacturing sector ranked the third, with a share of 15.3%.

For males, the agricultural sector was the largest attractive sector (27.5%). Following was the services sector (23.2%), then trade sector (14.1%). Manufacturing absorbed 12.3% of the total male labor force. For females the dominant sector of employment was the services sector (47.2%). The other major sectors were agricultural (27.6%), manufacturing (8.6%) and trade (7.6%).

Table 24: Numbers of labor force (15-64) by industry, sex and place of residence, 1990 (00's)

Industry	Urban			Rural			Total		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
Agriculture, Hunting, Fishing and forestry	3213	1549	4762	34927	20138	55065	38140	21687	59827
Mining and Quarrying	275	19	294	196	5	201	471	24	495
Manufacturing	11199	1415	12614	5953	2194	8147	17152	3609	20761
Electricity, Gas and Water Supply	698	98	796	426	7	433	1124	105	1229

Construction	5361	183	5544	3200	186	3386	8561	369	8930
Trade, Hotels and Restaurants	7772	1095	8867	3183	978	4161	10955	2073	13028
Transportation, Storage and Communication	4856	406	5262	2732	174	2906	7588	580	8168
Financing	1382	377	1759	449	121	570	1831	498	2329
Services*	13225	6806	20031	9980	2164	12144	23205	8970	32175
Total	47981	11948	59929	61046	25967	87013	109027	37915	146942

Sources: CAPMAS, Labor Force Sample Survey, 1990

Note: Services included: 1- Public Administration defense and compulsory social security

2-Education, health & social work 3-Social & personal activities 4-Private H.H.'s with employed persons and extra territorial organization & bodies.

Table 25: Percentage distribution of labor force (15 –64) by industry, sex and place of residence, 1990

Industry	Urban			Rural			Total		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
Agriculture, Hunting, Fishing and forestry	6.7	13.0	7.9	57.2	77.6	63.3	35.0	57.2	40.7
Mining and Quarrying	0.6	0.2	0.5	0.3	0.0	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.3
Manufacturing	23.3	11.8	21.0	9.8	8.4	9.4	15.7	9.5	14.1
Electricity, Gas and Water supply	1.5	0.8	1.3	0.7	0.0	0.5	1.0	0.3	0.8
Construction	11.2	1.5	9.3	5.2	0.7	3.9	7.9	1.0	6.1
Trade , Hotels and Restaurants	16.2	9.2	14.8	5.2	3.8	4.8	10.0	5.5	8.9
Transportation, Storage and Communication	10.1	3.4	8.8	4.5	0.7	3.3	7.0	1.5	5.6
Financing	2.9	3.2	2.9	0.7	0.5	0.7	1.7	1.3	1.6
Services	27.6	57.0	33.4	16.3	8.3	14.0	21.3	23.7	21.9
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Sources: CAPMAS, Labor Force Sample Survey, 1990

Table 26: Number of Labor Force (15 -64) by industry, sex and place of residence, 2002 (00's)

Industry	Urban			Rural			Total		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
Agriculture, Hunting,	2845	472	3317	37158	8662	45820	40003	9134	49137

Fishing and forestry									
Mining and Quarrying	250	28	278	163	4	167	413	32	445
Manufacturing	10459	1447	11906	7406	1395	8801	17865	2842	20707
Electricity, Gas and Water supply	1240	159	1399	962	58	1020	2202	217	2419
Construction	5962	209	6171	6835	145	6980	12797	354	13151
Whole sale and Retail Trade	13455	1271	14726	7049	1252	8301	20504	2523	23027
Hotels and Restaurants	1947	291	2238	925	209	1134	2872	500	3372
Transportation, Storage and Communication	5594	526	6120	5007	201	5208	10601	727	11328
Financing Intermediation, Real Estates and Business activities	3286	947	4233	1198	189	1387	4484	1136	5620
Services	16549	10707	27256	17216	4883	22099	33765	15590	49355
Total	61587	16057	77644	83919	16998	100917	145506	33055	178561

Sources: CAPMAS, Labor Force Sample Survey, 2002

Table 27: Percentage distribution of labor force (15 –64) by industry, sex and place of residence, 2002

Industry	Urban			Rural			Total		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
Agriculture, Hunting, Fishing and forestry	4.6	2.9	4.3	44.3	51.0	45.4	27.5	27.6	27.5
Mining and Quarrying	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.2
Manufacturing	17.0	9.0	15.3	8.8	8.2	8.7	12.3	8.6	11.6
Electricity, Gas and Water supply	2.0	1.0	1.8	1.1	0.3	1.0	1.5	0.7	1.4
Construction	9.7	1.3	7.9	8.1	0.9	6.9	8.8	1.1	7.4
Wholesale and Retail Trade	21.8	7.9	19.0	8.4	7.4	8.2	14.1	7.6	12.9
Hotels and Restaurants	3.2	1.8	2.9	1.1	1.2	1.1	2.0	1.5	1.9
Transportation, Storage and Communication	9.1	3.3	7.9	6.0	1.2	5.2	7.3	2.2	6.3

Financing Intermediation, Real Estates and Business activities	5.3	5.9	5.4	1.4	1.1	1.4	3.1	3.4	3.1
Services	26.9	66.7	35.1	20.5	28.7	21.9	23.2	47.2	27.6
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Sources: CAPMAS, Labour Force Sample Survey, 2002

4.2.5 Unemployment Rates

Unemployed persons are those currently not working, but are able, willing and seeking work. Unemployed persons consist of those who have previously had a job and those were never previously employed (i.e. seeking work for the first time). The unemployment rate is defined as the number of unemployed persons per hundred of labor force.

Table 28 presents the distribution of unemployed persons and unemployment rates by sex and place of residence during 1990-2002. The total number of unemployed persons increased from about 1.3 millions in 1990 to 2.0 millions in 2002. The table also shows that the proportion of females constitutes more than half of total unemployed persons (51.3% for females and 48.7% for males) in 2002. About 52.4% of them are found in rural areas, while the remaining proportion 47.6% are in urban areas.

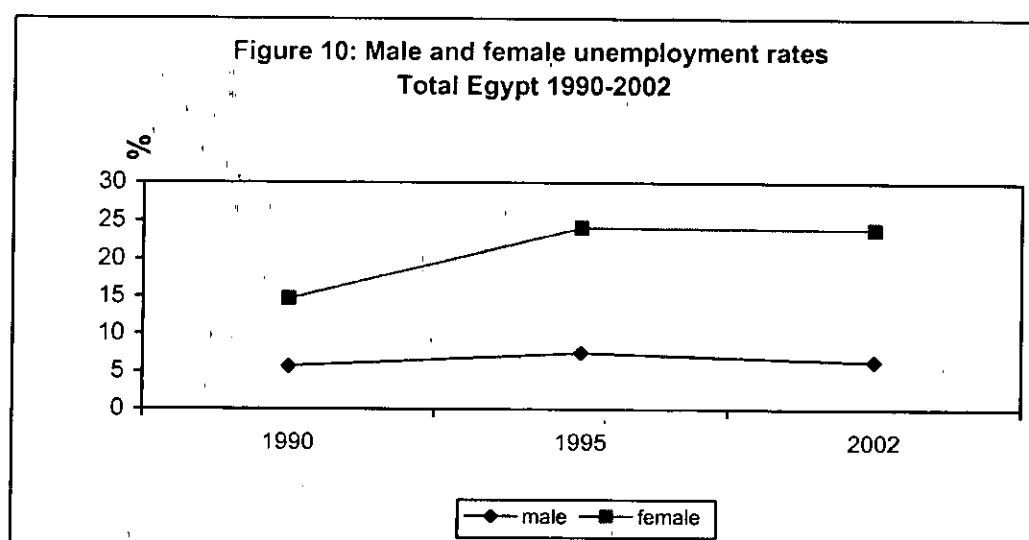
The unemployment rate for both sexes increased from 8.2% in 1990 to 10.2% in 2002. For males, the rate increased slightly from 5.7% in 1990 to 6.3% in 2002 while for females, the rate increased much faster from 14.4% to 23.9% during the same period. Hence, the unemployment rate among females was about four times unemployment rate among males, (23.9% for females versus 6.3% among males). This is due to gender discrimination against women. Because employers, particularly in private sector, have preference to recruit men rather than women as the labor laws grant more maternal leaves for women to look after their families and children.

Table 28: Distribution of unemployed persons and unemployment rates by sex and place of residence 1990-2002

Sex	1990			1995			2002		
	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total
Number of unemployed persons (00,s)									
Males	3493	2919	6412	4490	5421	9911	4243	5589	9832
Females	3883	2486	6369	4522	4670	9192	5379	4995	10374
Total	7376	5405	12781	9012	10091	19103	9622	10584	20206

Unemployment rates %									
Males	6.8	4.7	5.7	7.6	7.5	7.5	6.4	6.2	6.3
Females	24.6	9.0	14.7	27.6	21.4	24.1	25.1	22.7	23.9
Total	11.0	6.0	8.2	11.9	10.7	11.3	11.0	9.5	10.2

Sources: CAPMAS, Labor Force Sample Survey, 1990-2002



Although the past analysis focuses on the general descriptive of Labor Force, the analysis needed for "Gender Survey Index "GSI" needs more connection on only two main measures, which are:

- 1-Number of women who are paid employees, own-account workers and employers as a share of female total employment compared to men
- 2-Employment in the informal sector (as a share of total employment), as compared to employment in the formal sector.

4.2.6 Women Participation in Paid & Unpaid Workers:

The first measure for employment is the number of women who are paid employees, own-account workers and employers as a share of female total employment compared to the same indicators for men. This measure is an indicator for autonomy in receiving income from work, contrary to employment as unpaid family workers. In addition, financially rewarded jobs enhance women's ability to gain control over their lives and to have a say in their families' decision-making process.

Table 29 shows that 55.5% of total employed women are working for cash in 1990. This percentage increased to about 70% during 1995-1997 and reached more than 80% since 2001.

Most of total employed men are paid employees and the percentage ranged between 89-92% during 1990-2000.

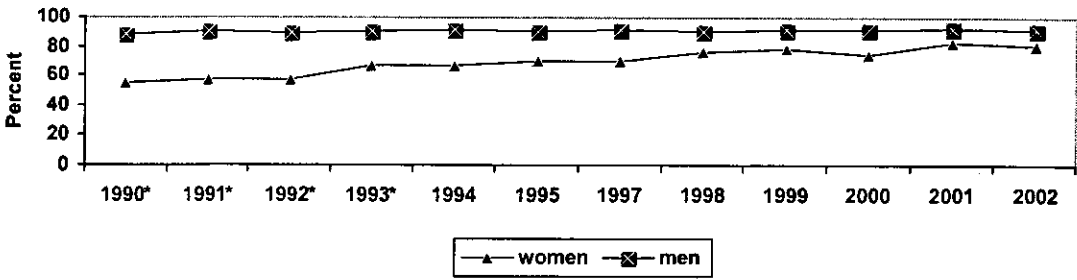
Rural/urban differentials are observed. The majority of working women in urban areas work for cash. This percentage reached 90.7% in 1990 and increased to 96-97% during 1994-2002. On the contrary, only 39.1% of woman in rural areas were a paid employee in 1990, increasing gradually to 52.1% in 1996 and 64.5% in 2002. For men, almost 96-97% in urban areas are paid employees. In rural areas, 82.6% of men were paid employees, increasing to about 87% during 1994-1997, and continuing to increase to between 88-89% during 2000-2002.

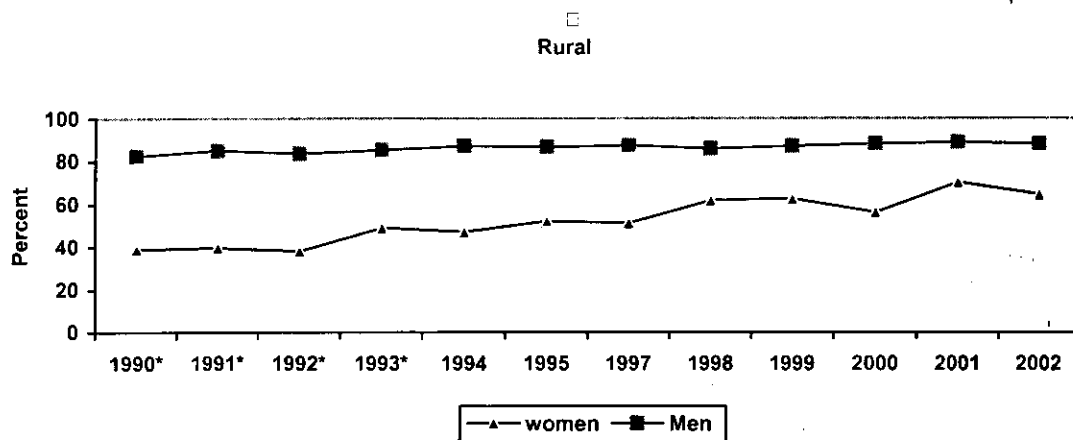
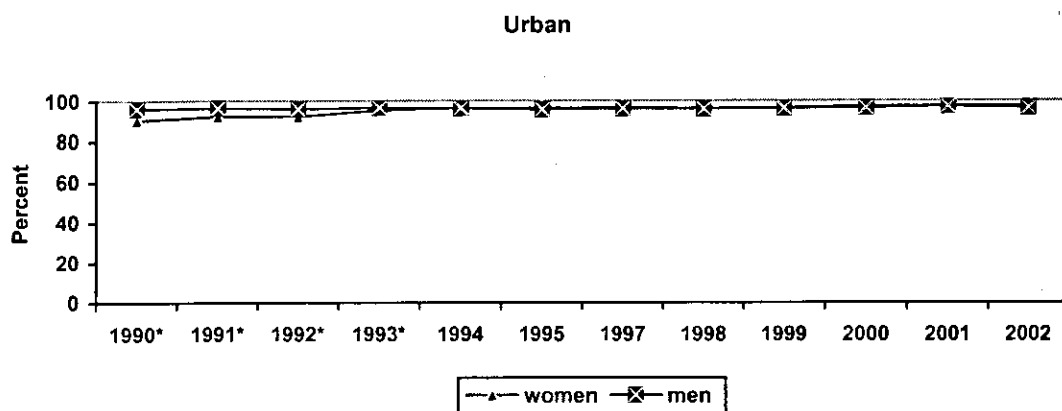
Table 29: Percent of paid employment to total employment (15-64) for women & men during 1990-2002

Years	Women			Men		
	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural
1990*	55.3	90.7	39.1	88.6	96.2	82.6
1991*	57.3	92.3	39.8	90.0	96.6	84.8
1992*	56.9	92.4	38.1	89.1	96.1	83.5
1993*	67.2	95.4	49.1	90.4	96.8	85.3
1994	66.5	96.5	47.2	91.2	96.4	87.0
1995	70.2	96.4	52.1	90.7	95.8	86.6
1997	70.0	96.7	51.2	91.2	96.2	87.4
1998	76.7	96.3	61.9	90.4	96.1	85.9
1999	78.0	96.6	62.6	91.1	96.4	87.0
2000	74.0	97.3	56.3	91.8	96.8	88.1
2001	83.0	97.4	70.2	92.4	97.3	88.8
2002	80.5	97.4	64.5	91.6	96.5	88.0

Source: CAPMAS, Labor Force Sample Survey during 1990-2002 for ages 12-64 years.

**Figure 11: Percentage of paid employment to total employment(15-64) during 1990-2002
Total Egypt**





4.2.7 Women Participation in Formal & Informal sectors:

Another important measure for employment is employment in the informal sector to total non-agricultural employment as compared to employment in the formal sector. The informal sector still plays an important role in the Egyptian economy. Informal sector work is defined as work which remains unofficial and therefore is not regulated by state. This, in turn, means that work safety rules are not enforced and worker benefits are generally not provided. Estimating the size of the informal sector is very difficult, since it comprises of unregistered businesses, which

are not accounted for in many statistics. The definition of the informal sector, as well as the distinction between the formal and informal parts of the economy, is perhaps most problematic for women, as the three different forms of their work (formal/informal/household) often overlap. It is thus important to keep in mind that the official data sources may underestimate the extent of the informal sector in Egypt. Labor Force Sample Surveys (LFSS) presents the data of employment according to place of work (inside or outside establishment). So, the research team considered the employment outside establishments as informal sector.

The percentage of employment in the informal sector to total employment (table 30) was calculated after excluding employment in the agricultural sector. For comparison table 31 presents the same percentage for total employment (including agricultural sector).

Table 30 shows that for females the informal sector provides employment for 6% of total non-agriculture female employment in 1999 (compared to 94% working in formal sector). This percentage increased to 7.2% in 2000, but decreased to 5.7% in 2002. This percentage is relatively higher for men. Almost 23% during 1999-2002 are working in the informal sector (compared to 77% in formal sector). Also, the percentage is relatively higher in rural areas compared to urban areas for both women and men.

The data in table 30 indicate a higher percentage of employment in the informal sector especially in rural areas as compared to the same percentages in table 31. This is because many employed people in agriculture activities (especially women) are involved in a broad range of activities in the informal sector.

Table 30: Employment in the informal sector as percent of total non-agricultural employment (15-64 years) by sex during 1999-2002

Years	Women			Men		
	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural
1999	6.0	2.7	12.0	23.4	20.2	27.5
2000	7.2	3.5	15.5	23.4	18.8	29.4
2001	6.6	4.2	11.4	23.2	19.1	28.8
2002	5.7	3.8	9.4	23.1	19.2	28.0

Source: CAPMAS, Labor Force Sample Survey during 1999-2002.

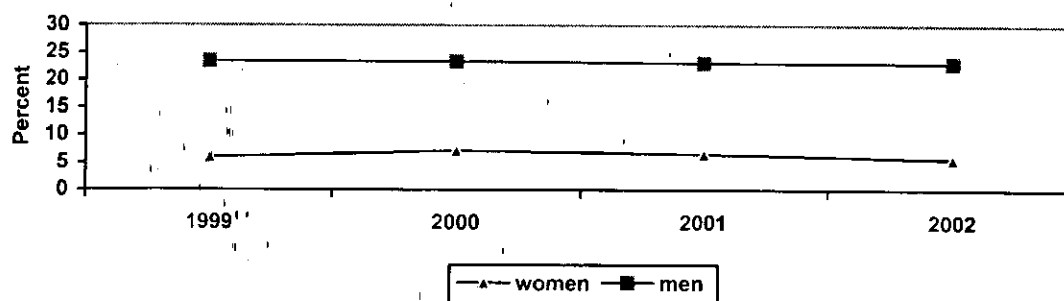
Table 31 Employment in the informal sector as percent of total employment (including agriculture) (15-64 years) by sex during 1997-2002

Years	Women			Men		
	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural

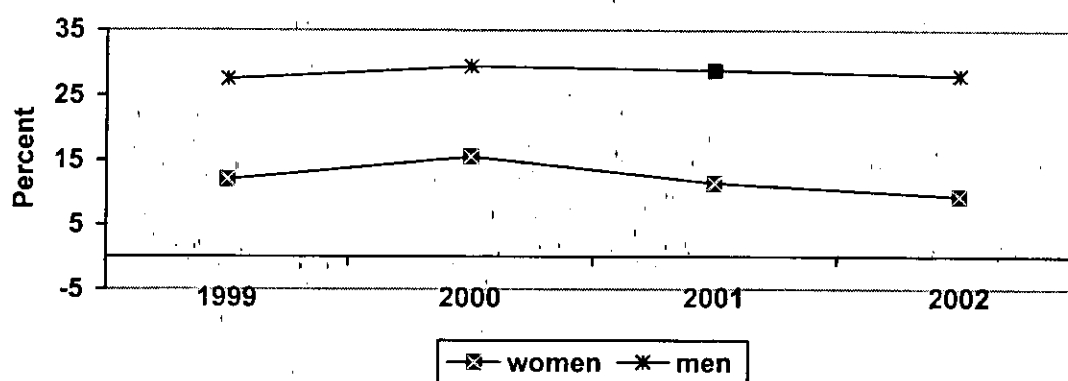
1997	44.2	5.4	71.6	42.9	22.9	58.1
1998	38.8	7.3	62.5	43.0	23.1	58.5
1999	35.3	5.5	60.0	43.3	23.9	58.1
2000	42.8	6.2	70.5	42.9	21.6	59.0
2001	34.5	6.8	59.1	42.9	21.9	58.8
2002	30.7	6.1	54.0	42.8	22.3	57.8

Source: CAPMAS, Labor Force Sample Survey during 1997-2002.

Figure 12: Employment in the informal sector as percent of total non-agriculture employment (15-64) by sex during 1999-2002
Total Egypt



Rural



Urban

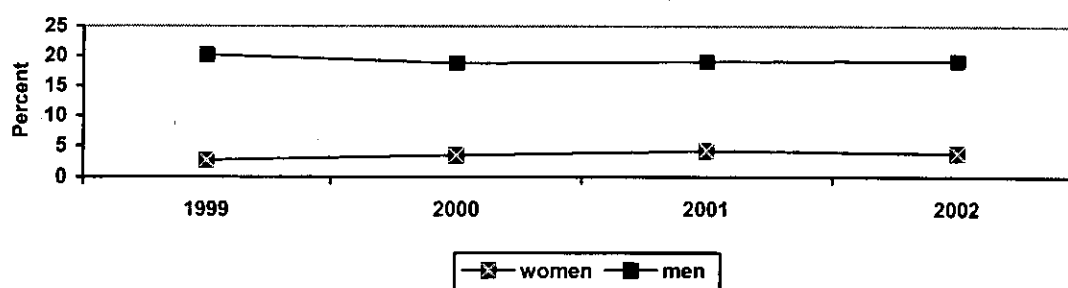
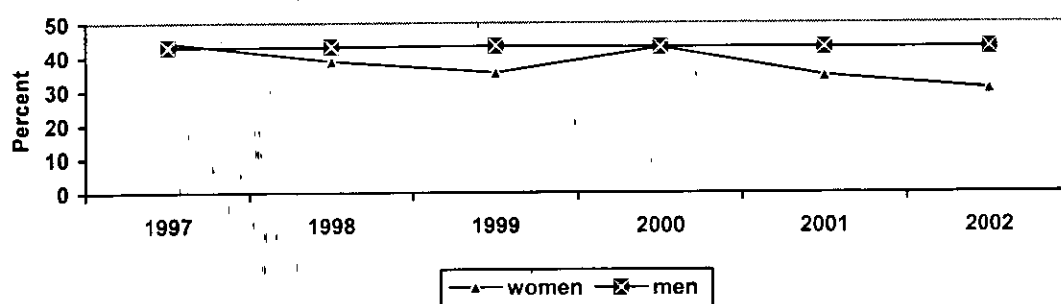
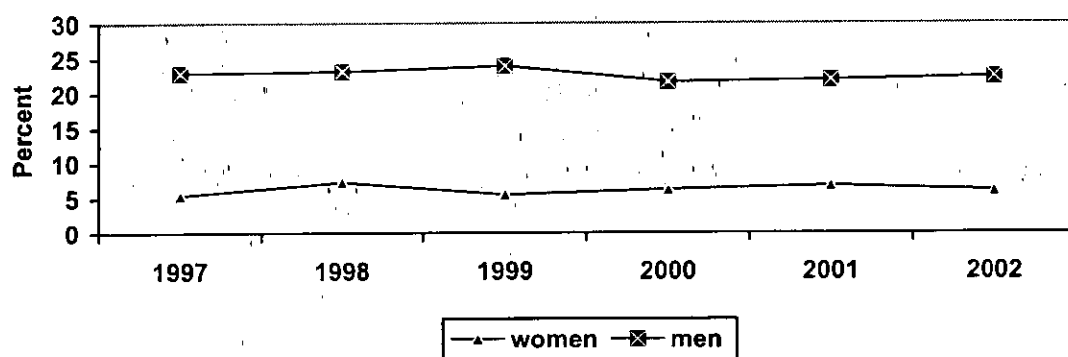


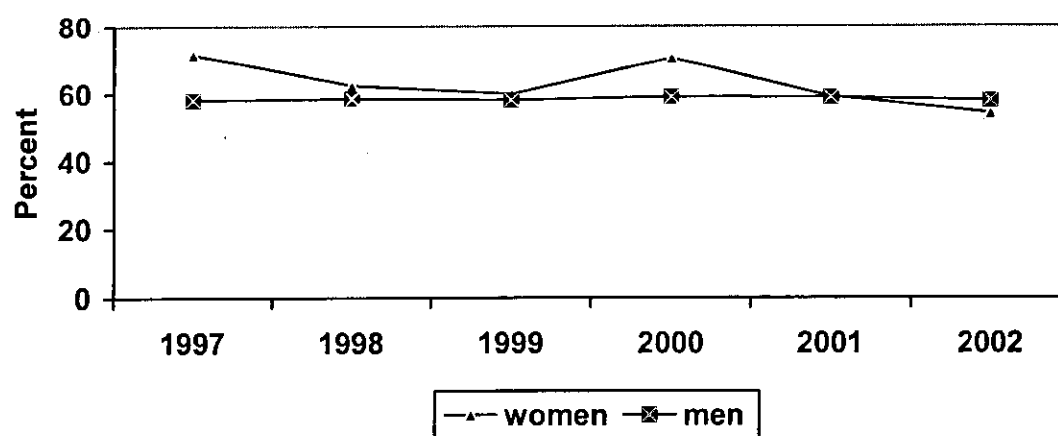
figure 13: Employment in the informal sector as percent of total employment (15-64) by sex during 1997-2002
Total Egypt



Urban areas



Rural areas



5.0 Access to resources:

The following indicators are to be measured within access to resources according to the availability of data:

- 1-Possessors of agricultural inputs: Data on the ownership of urban plots/ houses and land by sex are not available in Egypt, so other possible indicators were selected for access to resources.
2. Access to credit.
- 3-The freedom to dispose of own income.
- 4-Management.

5.1 Possessors of agricultural inputs:

The main source of data in this section is the Agriculture Census of 1999/2000.

Table 32 presents the numbers and percentage of some agriculture inputs such as land, animals, beehives, tractors and irrigation machines. The table shows that the percent of females possessing agricultural land reached 5.7% in 1999/2000, which is very low, compared to male possessors (94.3%). The corresponding percentages in 1989/90 are 8.2% for females and 91.8% for males (see table 33). Data in 32 indicates that males possess the majority of the other agriculture inputs. For example, females possess less than 5 % of agricultural animals such as cow, buffaloes, goats and poultry, less than 3% of beehives, and tractors/bulldozers, 3.6% of irrigation machines and 2.9% of other machines. These statistics indicate that males dominate agricultural production tools.

Table 32: Agricultural inputs 1999/2000

Items	Number	Percent
Agricultural land- female possessors	267830	5.7
Agricultural land -male possessors	4416554	94.3
Total area of agricultural land in the possession of females	431905	5.1
Total area of agricultural land in the possession of males	7986057	94.9
Cows in the possession of females	123769	3.5
Cows in the possession of males	3408975	96.5
Buffaloes in the possession of females	134959	3.9
Buffaloes in the possession of males	3286237	96.1
Goats in the possession of females	512970	4.4
Goats in the possession of males	11133090	95.6

Poultry in the possession of females	182286656	95.1
Poultry in possession of males	9450155	4.9
Beehives in the possession of females	21704	2.7
Beehives in the possession of males	745948	97.3
Tractors/bulldozers in the possession of females	2403	2.2
Tractors/bulldozers in the possession of males	108925	97.8
Irrigation machines in the possession of females	39742	3.6
Irrigation machines in the possession of males	105474	96.4
Other machines in the possession of females	2433	2.9
Other machines in the possession of males	81859	97.1

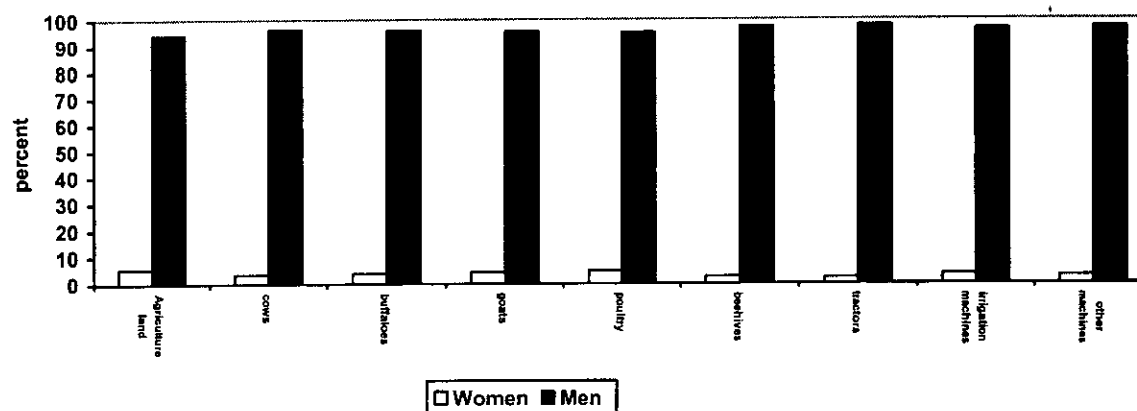
Source: Agricultural census 1999/2000.

Table 33: Agricultural inputs 1989/90

Items	Number	Percent
Agricultural land- female possessors	285753	8.2
Agricultural land -male possessors	3185060	91.8

Source: Agricultural census 1989/1990

**Figure 14: Agriculture input possessors
by sex, 1999/2000**



5.2 Access to credit:

With limited access to land for collateral, and with limited holdings of other assets, credit markets are also generally less accessible to women; informal sector workers, whether working in agriculture or in some other area, are among those most in need of credit. Data on access to formal agricultural credit markets are available. The Principal Bank for Development and Agricultural Credit (PBDAC) is the main provider of agricultural credits in

Egypt and publishes financial information on four types of loans (short, medium and long term and investment). Table 34 provides information on loans provided during the last six months of 2001, disaggregated by sex. These data are incomplete for two reasons. First, they only cover six governorates, but perhaps more importantly, they include no information on informal credit markets, which are likely to be very important both in rural and urban areas, and which may work in a very different way from formal credit institutions.

The limited available data suggest that women receive fewer loans than men and that the loans they receive are generally smaller. In addition, women's access to credit seems to vary considerably by region. Figures available from PBDAC suggest that women receive only about 20 percent of loans, although this pattern masks considerable regional disparity, within Lower Egypt. While in two governorates (Menufia and Qaliubia) women received more than 20 percent of loans, in other governorates the number was generally zero or very low.

Women's access to credit is more limited in governorates where agriculture is important and where there are more female landowners. Female farmers in governorates surrounding Cairo have much higher access to credit, although these governorates account for less of the agricultural land and have a lower relative share of female land owners. Thus, female farmers in Qaliubia represent more than 1/3 of the total number of borrowers of short-term loans, followed by female farmers of Menufia (23.4 percent). In Gharbia, Behera and Damietta, which together account for 35 percent of all land and 32 percent of all female held land area, there is not a single woman among borrowers.

Women also have less access to medium and longer-term loans, which are generally larger than the small loans for which most women qualify. Less credit is also given to those working in agricultural products, which are traditionally considered to be female. In a few areas though the share of female borrowers is quite high. For instance, women receive 28 and 14 percent of short and medium term loans given to protected (green houses) production project. Women's access to credit may also be improving, since data on youth loans indicate that young women are about half as likely as young men to receive short term loans, suggesting an improvement, but not parity. At the same time, the data on medium term loans to youth is far less encouraging.

Table 34: Number of borrowers by governorate, type of loan and sex during the second half of 2001

PBDAC Branches	Male	Female	% Female	Percent F/M
	Short term			
Behera	1789	0	0.0	0.00
Gharbia	5557	0	0.0	0.00
Dakahlia	7708	109	1.4	1.41
Damietta	1339	0	0.0	0.00
Menufia	9644	2974	23.6	30.84
Qaliubia	23140	11926	34.0	51.54
Total	49177	15009	23.4	30.52
Medium term				
Behera	790	0	0.0	0.00
Gharbia	2683	0	0.0	0.00
Dakahlia	941	28	2.9	2.98
Damietta	410	0	0.0	0.00
Menufia	8571	2698	23.9	31.48
Qaliubia	25705	6051	19.1	23.54
Total	39100	8777	18.3	22.45
Long term				
Behera	0	0	-	-
Gharbia	0	0	-	-
Dakahlia	0	0	-	-
Damietta	0	0	-	-
Menufia	23	0	0.0	0.0
Qaliubia	2	1	33.3	50
Total	25	1	3.8	4
Investment				
Behera	2579	0	0.0	0.00
Gharbia	8240	0	0.0	0.00
Dakahlia	8649	137	1.6	1.58
Damietta	1749	0	0.0	0.00
Menufia	18238	5672	23.7	31.10
Qaliubia	48847	17978	26.9	36.80
Total	88302	23787	21.2	26.94

Source: Adapted and calculated from PBDAC unpublished data, January 2002.

Figure 15 : Percentage distribution of borrowers (PBDAC) by type of loan and sex, 2001

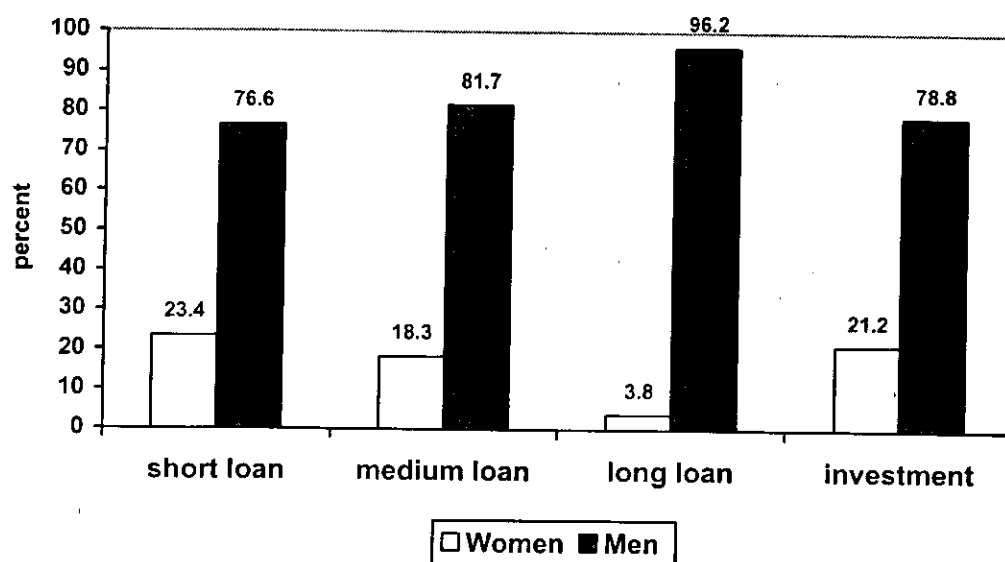


Table 35: Distribution of short-term loans by activity and sex during the second half of 2001

Loans by Activity	Amount of Loans L.E	Number of Borrowers		%F/M
		Male	Female	
Protected Farming	5,391,873	42	16	38.10
Animal Production	2,084,520,897	19725	1995	10.11
Poultry Production	78,666,505	1055	118	11.18
Fisheries	5,783,112	18	2	11.11
Farming Related Activities	1,839,424,078	26362	12133	46.02
Payment facilitation Loans	8,480,767	201	37	18.41
Other Activities	65,855,926	18	5	27.78
Youth Loans: Fisheries, poultry, animal	681,294	0	0	-
Youth Loans: Farming Activities	4,854,006	85	42	49.41
Youth Loans: Plant production, Machinery, etc.	1,771,663	0	0	-
Interests and delay payment fines	203,644,426	1671	661	39.56
Total	4,299,074,547	49177	15009	30.52

Source: Adapted and calculated from PBDAC unpublished data, January 2002.

Table 36: Distribution of Medium-term loans by sex during second half of 2001

Loans by Activity	Amount of Loans (L.E)	Number of Borrowers		% F/M
		Male	Female	
Plant production	34,081,112	43	0	0.00
Protected Agriculture	45,447,754	2228	368	16.52
Animal Production	2,159,348,138	6946	537	7.73
Poultry Production	134,231,111	735	109	14.83
Fisheries	8,359,139	0	0	-
Agriculture related Activities	1,208,013,658	22614	6958	30.77
Agricultural Machinery	435,408,820	3270	370	11.31
Payment Facilitation Loans	198,615,131	371	85	22.91
Other Activities	479,561,612	1003	127	12.66
Youth Loans: Fisheries, poultry, animal	7,433,440	17	0	0.00
Youth Loans: Fisheries, Activities	47,124,552	850	60	7.06
Youth Loans: Plant production, Machinery	10,253,841	0	0	-
Interests and fines	274,016,919	1023	163	15.93
Total	5,041,895,227	39100	8777	22.45

Source: Adapted and calculated from PBDAC unpublished data, January 2002.

** The original PBDAC set of data shows that farmers in all other governorates received loans of all types during other periods.

Table 37: Distribution of long-term loans by sex during second half of 2001

Loans by Activity	Amount of Loans (L.E)	Number of Borrowers		% F/M
		Male	Female	
Land Reclamation	66,340,842	0	0	-
Irrigation systems and improvements	18,094,691	0	0	-
Establish orchards	2,498,512	2	1	50.00
Installments and other Activities	10,761,831	23	0	0.00
Interests and delay payment fines and	13,604,409	0	0	-
Total	111,300,285	25	1	4.00
Grand Total	9,452,270,059	88302	23787	26.94

Source: Adapted and calculated from PBDAC unpublished data, January 2002.

Other available data, presented in table 38a for the beneficiaries of small enterprises and financed by the Social Fund for Development (SFD) during 1992-2004, suggest that women receive fewer loans than men. About 27% of total beneficiaries from small enterprises are females and the ratio of females to males beneficiaries reached 37.6% during 1992-2004. Females have about one fourth of total amount of small loans during the same period while males received the majority of total amount of small loans. However, women's access to small credits improved during 2000-2004.

SFD takes part in poverty alleviation schemes by applying micro- credit mechanisms to improve income and provides jobs for the unemployed and poor families especially female-headed households. SFS provides micro-credit; training and technical support services and considers NGO's, in addition to the Principal Bank for Development and Agricultural Credits (PBDAC), effective partners in channeling these services.

Table 38b presents the beneficiaries from micro enterprises financed by SFD during (1992-2004). The table shows that women had access to micro credits provided by SFD compared to small credits. Females have about 53% of total amount of micro credits and its value represent 45% of total amount of micro credit. Also, women's access to small credits is improved during 1992- 2004.

Table 38a: The beneficiaries from small projects financed by Social Fund for Development and amount of loans by sex during 1992-2004

Years	Numbers of Borrowers			% of females	Ratio of Females to Males %
	Males	Females	Total		
1992	2110	1122	3232	34.7	53.2
1993	4964	1765	6729	26.2	35.6
1994	15460	4358	19818	22.0	28.2
1995	8932	2895	11827	24.5	32.4
1996	11680	3521	15201	23.2	30.1
1997	12453	4705	17158	27.4	37.8
1998	9612	4231	13843	30.6	44.0
1999	10545	5186	15731	33.0	49.2
2000	28018	9241	37259	24.8	33.0
2001	19021	7354	26375	27.9	38.7
2002	9829	4583	14412	31.8	46.6
2003	6637	3221	9858	32.7	48.5
30 Jun 2004	3332	1698	5030	33.8	51.0
Total	140483	52758	193241	27.3	37.6

Years	Amount of loans (L.E.)			% of females	Ratio of Females to Males %
	Males	Females	Total		
1992	22428	11249	33677	33.4	50.2
1993	56672	16235	72907	22.3	28.6
1994	330623	69433	400056	17.4	21.0
1995	197814	46861	244675	19.2	23.7
1996	206350	53623	259973	20.6	26.0
1997	217234	72547	289781	25.0	33.4
1998	235363	88192	323555	27.3	37.5
1999	269119	105837	374956	28.2	39.3
2000	542206	181002	723208	25.0	33.4
2001	453086	151250	604336	25.0	33.4
2002	249567	101025	350592	28.8	40.5
2003	176325	71959	248284	29.0	40.8
30 Jun 2004	99733	42020	141753	29.6	42.1
Total	3034092	999984	4034076	24.8	33.0

Source: Social Fund for development (SFD).

Table 38b: The beneficiaries from micro enterprises financed by Social Fund for Development and amount of loans by sex during 1992-2004

Years	Numbers of Borrowers			% of females	Ratio of Females to Males %
	Males	Females	Total		
1992	8480	4853	13333	36.4	57.2
1993	8339	4448	12787	34.8	53.3
1994	2816	1835	4651	39.5	65.2
1995	2050	1561	3611	43.2	76.1
1996	4128	2463	6591	37.4	59.7
1997	1419	1654	3073	53.8	116.6
1998	1750	1848	3598	51.4	105.6
1999	2600	2471	5071	48.7	95.0
2000	5761	5890	11651	50.6	102.2
2001	8296	11007	19303	57.0	132.7
2002	4393	8836	13229	66.8	201.1
2003	6754	10014	16768	59.7	148.3
30 Jun 2004	1673	3725	5398	69.0	222.7
Total	49979	55752	105731	52.7	111.6

Years	Amount of loans (L.E.)			% of females	Ratio of Females to Males %
	Males	Females	Total		
1992	12059	3900	15959	24.4	32.3
1993	11320	3369	14689	22.9	29.8
1994	4047	1929	5976	32.3	47.7
1995	2747	1733	4480	38.7	63.1
1996	7474	2872	10346	27.8	38.4
1997	2627	2184	4811	45.4	83.1
1998	4289	2752	7041	39.1	64.2
1999	3892	2672	6564	40.7	68.7
2000	9523	8215	17738	46.3	86.3
2001	14201	16059	30260	53.1	113.1
2002	6838	10017	16855	59.4	146.5
2003	14855	13556	28411	47.7	91.3
30 Jun 2004	2805	3592	6397	56.2	128.1
Total	84618	68950	153568	44.9	81.5

Source: Social Fund for development (SFD).

Figure 16a: Number of beneficiaries from small enterprises financed by Social Fund for Development by sex during 1992-2004

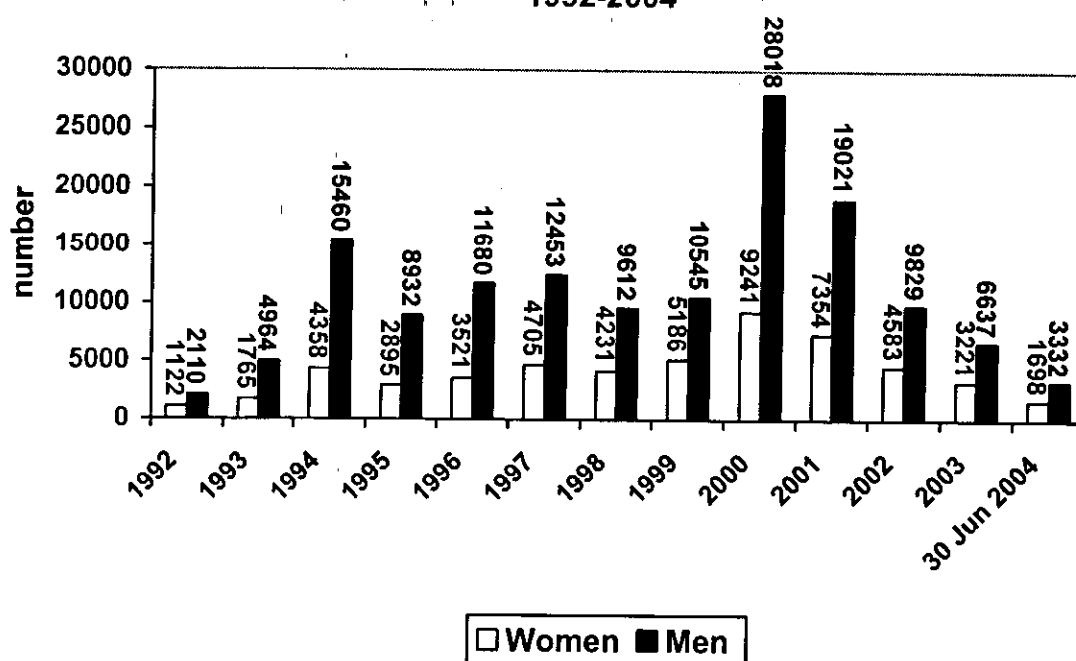
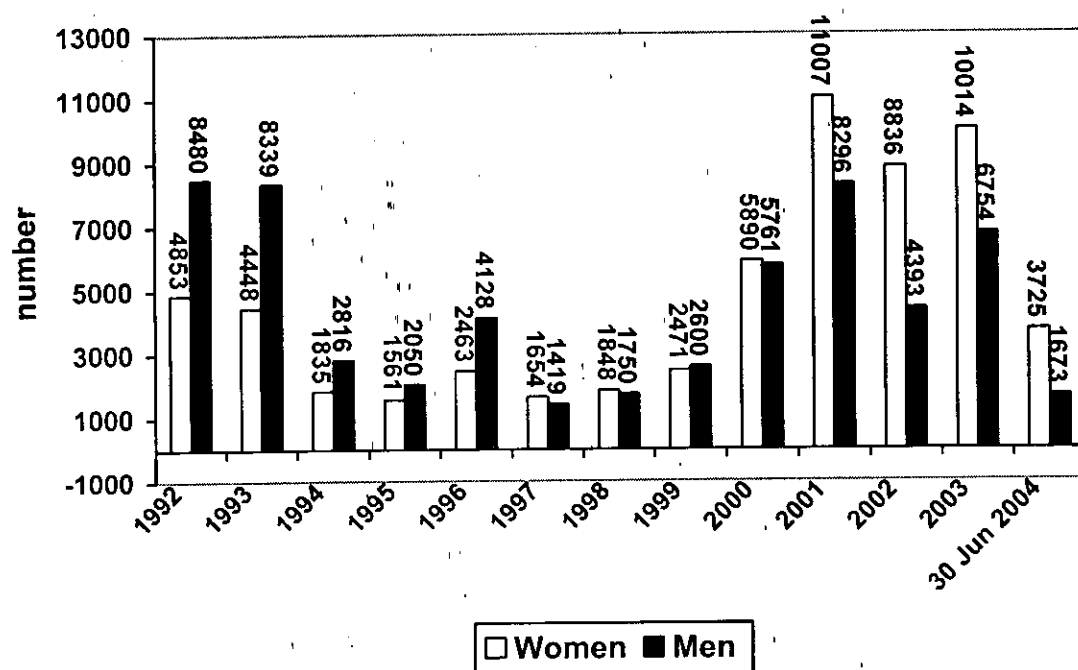


Figure 16b: Number of beneficiaries from micro enterprises financed by Social Fund for Development by sex during 1992-2004



5.3 The freedom to dispose of own income

Egypt Demographic and Health Survey respondents who earned cash were asked about the person(s) who mainly made the decisions about how their earning would be spend. Tables 39 and 40 show that almost all of the women who work for cash are involved in deciding how their earning would be spent. 40.3% and 41.7% of women in 1995 and 2000 respectively say they alone are mainly responsible for making decisions on how they're earning are spent. Among the remaining women, the majority makes these decisions jointly (primarily with the husband). Only 2.3% in 1995 and 3.4% in 2000 say that husband alone is mainly responsible for decisions about how the respondent's earnings are to be spent. Older women are most likely to decide for themselves on the use of their earnings.

As expected, tables 39 and 40 show that almost all women who are widows, divorced or separated say they alone are responsible for deciding how to use their earning. Among currently married women, only one-third report that they make the decisions about how their earnings are to be spent, while 60% or more say the decision are made jointly with their husbands.

In general, the residential differential in the share of household expenses paid for by women's earnings are not large, nor is there great variations by educational level. With respect to control over how their earnings are spent, urban women are somewhat more likely than rural women to report that they themselves mainly make decisions about how the money they earn will be spent. By place of residence, the proportion reporting that they themselves make

spending decisions varies among regions, the highest percentage (47%) is in urban governorates and Rural Upper Egypt governorates in 1995 and it is among women in Urban Upper Egypt (56%) in 2000. The lowest percentage is in the Frontier Governorates. With respect to educational differentials, women with less than a secondary education are more likely than those who have completed secondary school or higher to report that they decide for themselves how to spend the money they earn. In all subgroups, the majority of the women who do not make decisions about how to spend earnings themselves report that they make these decisions jointly with their husband.

Table 39: Percentage distribution of women receiving cash earnings by the person(s) deciding about how earnings will be used, Egypt 1995

Background characteristic	Person (s) deciding about how earnings will be spent						Number of women
	Self only	Jointly with husband	Jointly with someone else	Husband	Someone else	Total	
Marital status							
Currently married	33.4	63.3	0.2	2.6	0.5	100.0	2,054
Widowed/divorced/separated	94.9	0.0	4.2	0.0	0.9	100.0	257
Age							
15-19	0.0	64.1	20.0	2.4	13.4	100.0	10
20-24	41.5	54.5	0.1	3.6	0.3	100.0	124
25-29	32.4	62.7	1.5	2.9	0.5	100.0	366
30-34	34.6	61.5	0.0	3.1	0.9	100.0	580
35-39	45.6	51.6	1.0	1.7	0.2	100.0	538
40-44	40.0	58.3	0.5	1.1	0.1	100.0	408
45-49	53.3	43.3	0.4	2.2	0.9	100.0	285
Residence							
Urban	41.7	56.5	0.1	1.4	0.3	100.0	1,440
Rural	38.0	55.7	1.6	3.8	0.9	100.0	871
Place of residence							
Urban Governorates	47.5	50.3	0.0	1.9	0.4	100.0	644
Lower Egypt	35.6	60.4	1.1	2.2	0.6	100.0	1,105
Urban	36.3	62.3	0.4	0.5	0.5	100.0	448
Rural	35.2	59.1	1.6	3.4	0.8	100.0	657
Upper Egypt	42.3	53.6	0.6	2.9	0.6	100.0	534
Urban	39.2	59.4	0.0	1.4	0.0	100.0	323
Rural	47.2	44.7	1.5	5.1	1.4	100.0	211
Frontier Governorates	17.9	78.2	0.7	3.2	0.0	100.0	28

Education							
No education	53.1	39.0	2.2	4.6	1.0	100.0	494
Some primary	48.9	44.9	2.4	2.2	1.6	100.0	190
Primary through secondary	55.5	42.0	0.4	0.0	2.2	100.0	96
Completed secondary/higher	34.1	64.0	0.0	1.7	0.1	100.0	1,531
Total	40.3	56.2	0.7	2.3	0.5	100.0	2,312

Sources: National Population Council, Egypt Demographic and Health Survey in 1995.

Table 40: Percentage distribution of women receiving cash earnings by the person (s) deciding about how earnings will be used, Egypt 2000

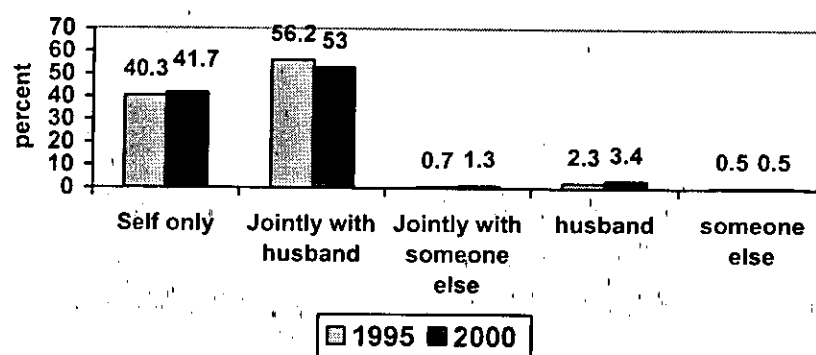
Background characteristic	Person (s) deciding about how earnings will be spent						Number of women
	Self only	Jointly with husband	Jointly with someone else	Husband	Someone else	Total	
Marital status							
Currently married	35.0	60.4	0.3	3.9	0.5	100.0	1,990
Widowed/divorced/separated	90.3	0.0	8.7	0.0	0.5	100.0	276
Age							
15-19	*	*	*	*	*	100.0	6
20-24	26.8	59.5	0.9	9.7	3.1	100.0	96
25-29	36.1	55.5	1.1	6.3	1.0	100.0	369
30-34	34.5	60.9	1.7	2.5	0.3	100.0	461
35-39	43.8	53.0	0.2	2.5	0.2	100.0	591
40-44	46.4	49.7	1.8	1.9	0.2	100.0	411
45-49	53.0	41.6	2.4	2.9	0.1	100.0	331
Residence							
Urban	45.7	50.3	1.3	2.5	0.2	100.0	1,462
Rural	34.4	58.0	1.4	5.1	1.0	100.0	805
Place of residence							
Urban	49.5	44.8	2.3	3.3	0.0	100.0	631
Governorates							
Lower Egypt	33.4	61.5	1.1	3.3	0.5	100.0	1,047
Urban	33.7	63.3	0.6	2.1	0.0	100.0	446
Rural	33.2	60.2	1.4	4.2	0.8	100.0	601
Upper Egypt	49.5	45.0	0.7	3.9	0.9	100.0	549
Urban	55.7	41.5	0.3	1.8	0.6	100.0	351
Rural	38.4	51.1	1.3	7.7	1.5	100.0	197
Frontier	28.3	69.2	0.7	1.8	0.0	100.0	39
Governorates							

<i>Education</i>							
No education	46.8	41.7	3.1	6.9	1.2	100.0	384
Some primary	52.2	43.3	0.0	4.5	0.0	100.0	91
Primary through secondary	55.8	35.3	0.9	6.8	0.7	100.0	111
Completed secondary/higher	39.1	57.3	1.0	2.4	0.3	100.0	1,681
Total	41.7	53.0	1.3	3.4	0.5	100.0	2,266

Note: An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 cases and has been suppressed.

Sources: National Population Council; Egypt Demographic and Health Survey in 2000

Figure 17: Percentage distribution of women receiving cash earning by person(s) deciding how earnings will be used in 1995&2000



5.4 Management:

Managerial positions are an important indicator for high incomes. Five indicators disaggregated by sex will be discussed in this section:

1. The number of employers and their percentage to total employment
2. The number of women as high civil servants.
3. The number of scientific & technical occupation and managers persons and their percentage to total employment
4. The number of members of professional syndicates.
5. The number of trainees.

It is important to note that number of women as high civil servants and the number of members in professional syndicates will be discussed in political power

5.4.1 Number of employers and their percentage to total employment:

The category of employers is considered “free” men and women who are independent workers and manage other workers. Table 41 presents the number of employers during 1990-2002, and their percentage to total employment is presented in table 42.

The number of women who are employers increased from 145.3 thousand in 1990 to 188.8 thousand in 2002. For men, the number increased from 1459.9 thousand to 1980.1 thousand during 1990-2002. However, table 42 indicates that the percentage of females who are employers is very small, increasing from 3.8% in 1990 to 4.7% in 2002. Male employers represented 17.6% from total employment in 1990, increasing to about 20% during 2000-2002. The percent of female employers to total employment is higher in rural areas compared to urban areas. The same feature is also shown for males.

Table 41: Number of employers by sex during 1990-2002 (in thousands)

Years	Women			Men		
	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural
1990*	145.3	17.2	128.1	1929.2	469.3	1459.9
1991*	154.6	20.8	133.8	1836.6	478.0	1358.6
1992*	140.1	17.5	122.6	2093.9	529.0	1564.9
1993*	122.7	15.0	107.7	2224.5	619.5	1605.0
1994	134.1	17.0	117.1	2369.9	695.2	1674.7
1995	162.9	20.7	142.2	2384.0	665.1	1718.9
1997	136.7	19.5	117.2	2207.8	670.2	1537.6
1998	171.1	28.4	142.7	2420.9	787.5	1633.4
1999	185.4	29.5	155.9	2492.1	785.8	1706.3
2000	146.1	23.2	122.9	2799.6	837.0	1962.6
2001	205.8	47.8	158.0	2933.5	973.9	1959.6
2002	188.8	53.1	135.7	2926.8	946.7	1980.1

Source: CAPMAS, Labor Force Sample Survey during 1990-2002.

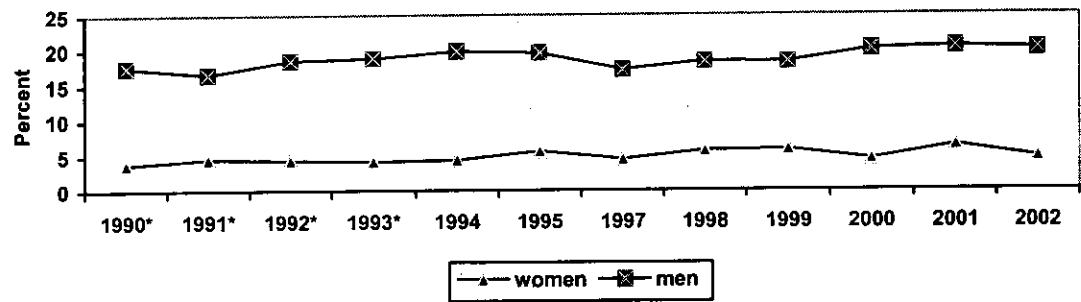
- For ages 12-64 years.

Table 42: Percentage of employers to total employment by sex during 1990-2002

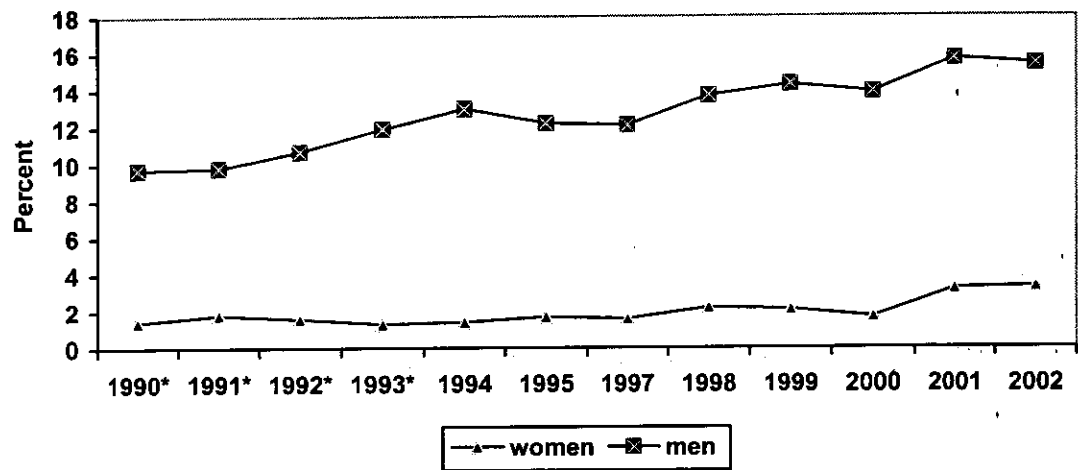
Years	Women			Men		
	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural
1990*	3.8	1.4	4.9	17.6	9.7	23.8
1991*	4.6	1.8	5.8	16.6	9.8	21.8
1992*	4.4	1.6	5.9	18.6	10.7	24.9
1993*	4.2	1.3	6.0	18.9	11.9	24.5
1994	4.4	1.4	6.3	19.9	13.0	25.5
1995	5.6	1.7	8.5	19.6	12.2	25.7
1997	4.5	1.6	6.6	17.2	12.1	21.1
1998	5.7	2.2	8.4	18.4	13.7	22.0
1999	5.9	2.1	9.1	18.3	14.3	22.0
2000	4.5	1.7	6.6	20.1	13.9	24.7
2001	6.4	3.2	9.3	20.4	15.7	24.0
2002	4.7	3.3	8.0	20.1	15.4	23.6

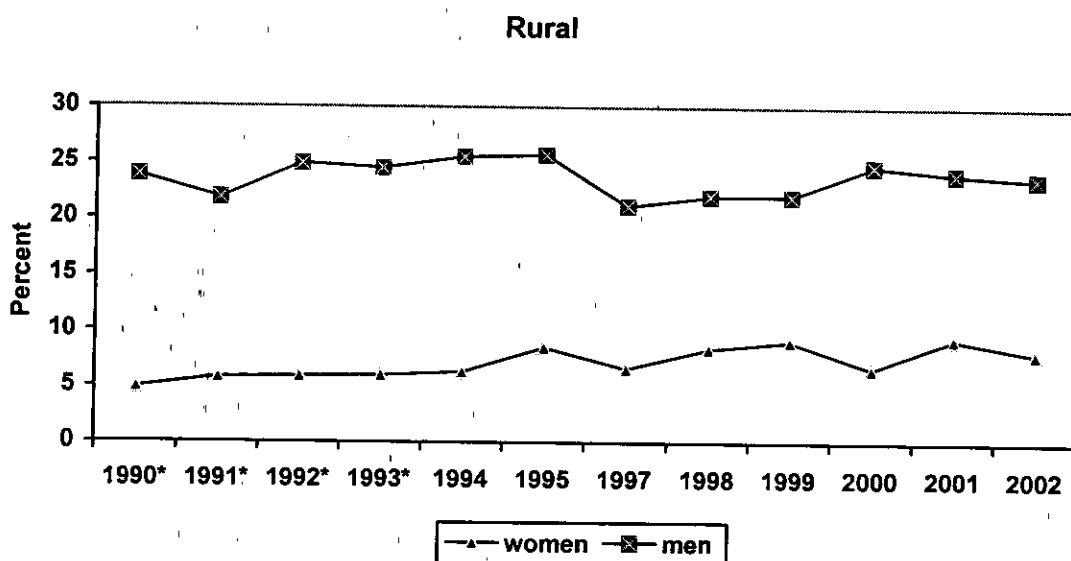
Source: CAPMAS, Labor Force Sample Survey during 1990-2002.
For ages 12-64 years.

Figure 18: Percentage of employers to total employment (15-64) by sex during 1990-2002
total Egypt



Urban





5.4.2 Number of scientific & technical occupation persons and managers persons and their percentage to total employment

Women and men's occupations greatly varied among regions and over time. There is a strong relationship between job segregation and lower pay level for women. As the level, prestige and pay rise in the occupational hierarchy, so do the numbers of men.

Tables 43 and 44 present the number of scientific & technical occupation and managers (15-64 years) to total employment for women and men during 1990-2002. The number of women in the category of scientific & technical occupations and managers increased from 646.9 thousand women in 1990 to 1542.0 thousand women in 2002. For men, this category increased from 1556.2 thousand to 4792.4 thousand during the same period. Scientific & technical occupation and managers witnessed an improvement for men and women alike from 1990 to 2002, as this category increased from 17.0% to 46.7% for women and from 14.2% to 32.9% for men. Women hold a higher percentage in the category of scientific & technical occupation and managers compared to men. Also women and men in urban areas witnessed higher percentages compared to rural areas.

Table 43: Number of scientific & technical occupation persons and managers (15-64 years) to total employment by sex during 1990-2002 (in thousands)

Years	Women*			Men*		
	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural
1990*	646.9	474.8	172.1	1556.2	1047.6	508.6

1991*	626.9	473.1	153.8	1574.7	1042.5	532.2
1992*	633.1	484.1	149.0	1648.4	1096.8	551.6
1993*	750.3	576.2	174.1	1839.6	1204.7	634.9
1994	781.9	591.4	190.5	1960.0	1291.8	668.2
1995	757.3	568.8	188.5	1979.4	1299.0	680.4
1997	1071.3	766.2	305.1	3343.4	2148.5	1194.9
1998	1177.6	785.0	392.6	3913.1	2413.4	1499.7
1999	1270.0	881.9	388.1	3962.2	2447.3	1514.9
2000	1325.7	960.2	365.5	4267.3	2796.5	1470.8
2001	1439.3	1001.2	438.1	4547.2	2928.3	1618.9
2002	1542.0	1082.7	459.3	4792.4	3029.0	1763.4

Source: CAPMAS, Labor Force Sample Survey during 1990-2002.

* For ages 12-64.

Note:- during 1990-1995 classified as:

-Scientific & technical occupation.

-Mangers.

-During 1997-2002 classified as:

-Legislators, Senior Officials and Mangers.

-Science Professionals.

-Technicians and Associate Professionals.

Table 44: Percentage of scientific & technical occupation persons and mangers to total employment by sex and residence during 1990-2002

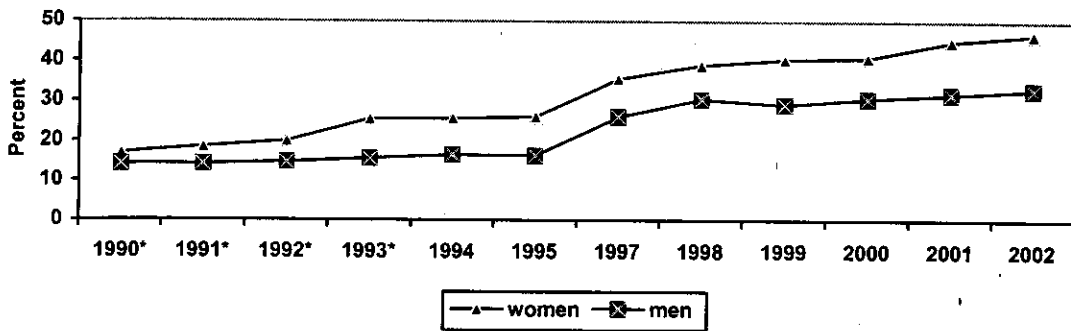
Years	Women			Men		
	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural
1990*	17.0	39.6	6.6	14.2	21.7	8.3
1991*	18.5	41.9	6.8	14.2	21.4	8.5
1992*	20.0	44.2	7.2	14.7	22.2	8.8
1993*	25.5	50.0	9.7	15.6	23.1	9.7
1994	25.7	49.6	10.3	16.5	24.2	10.2
1995	26.1	48.0	11.0	16.3	23.7	10.2
1997	35.5	61.3	17.3	26.1	38.9	16.4
1998	39.0	62.8	22.2	30.5	43.7	20.6
1999	40.5	62.0	22.6	29.1	41.8	19.5
2000	40.9	68.8	19.8	30.6	46.5	18.5

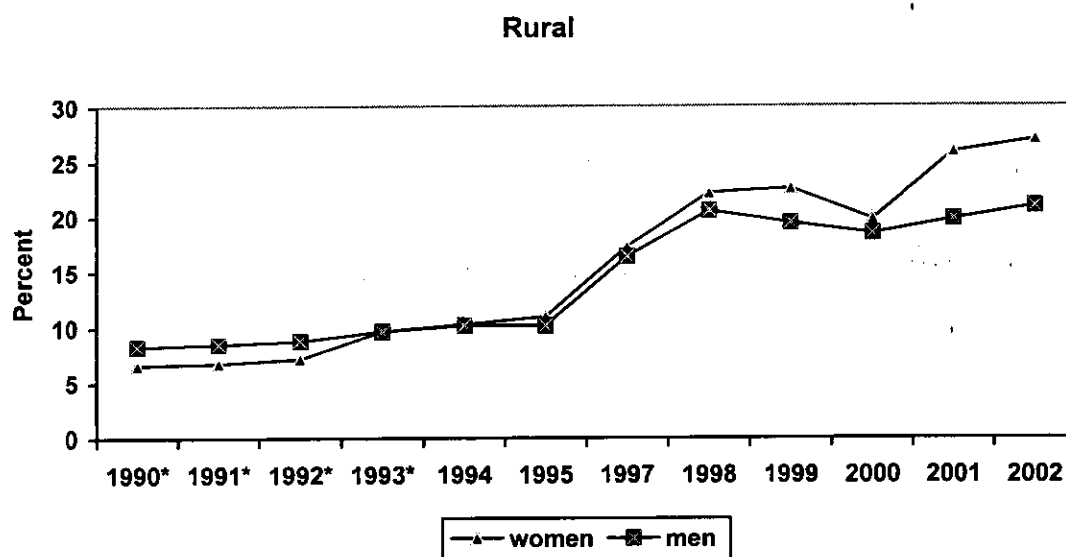
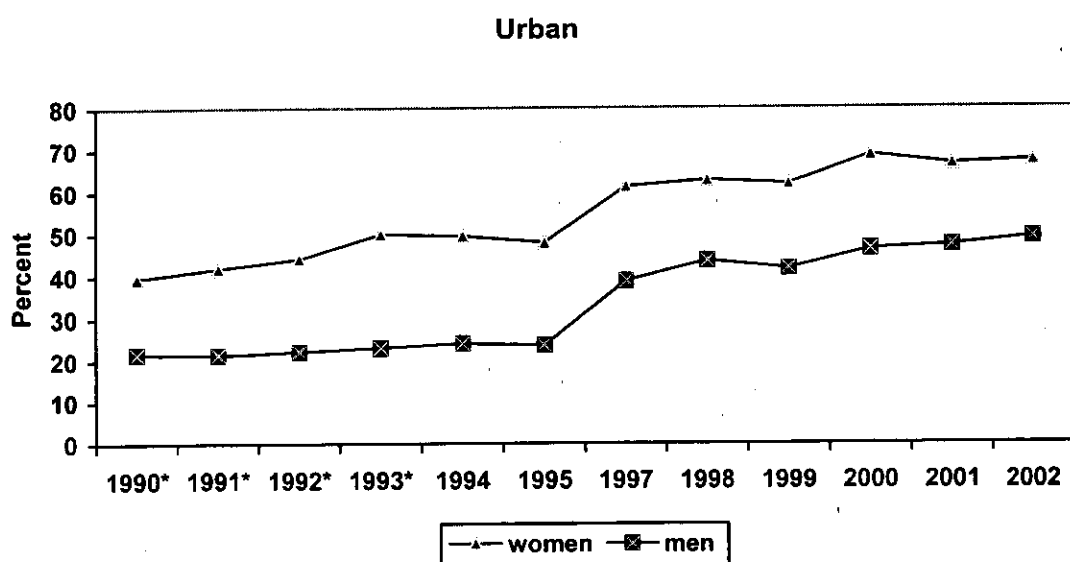
2001	45.0	66.7	25.9	31.7	47.3	19.8
2002	46.7	67.4	27.0	32.9	49.2	21.0

Source: CAPMAS, Labor Force Sample Survey during 1990-2002.

* For ages 12-64.

Figure 19: Percentage of scientific & technical occupation persons and managers to total employment (15-64) by sex during 1990-2002 total Egypt





5.4.4 Number of trainees

Administrative Training:

Table 45 shows the number of female personnel working for the State administrative body, who have received training from the Ministry of Manpower and Emigration during the period 1997/1998 to 2003/2002. As statistics depict, 127 thousand female personnel received training in 1997/1998, or almost 30% of the total number of trainees (compared to 70% for males), and the number increased to 211.4 thousands in 1999/2000, representing 45%. However, in 2002/2003 the percent decreased to 40% for females (compared to 60% for males)

In terms of training type, tables 46 and 47 show that 54.9 thousands of the female trainees received specialized training, amounting to 30% of the total number of trainees (compared to 70% for males), then increased to 133.2 thousand trainees in 1999/2000, amounting to 45% of trainees. In 2002/2003 the percent decreased to 42% for females (compared to 58% for males)

As for leadership training for women, statistics show that it only amounted for 9% in 1997/1998 (compared to 91% for males), but this percentage increased in 2002/2003 to 27% of the total number of trainees. More importantly, 342 females at the Ministry of Administrative Development received computer training in 1997/1998, representing 46.6% of the total trainees, and increased in 2002/2003 to 456 trainees, that's 53.1% (compared to 46.9% for males) (see table 51).

As statistics show, a gender gap still exists in training for female personnel compared to males; however, female share of training is gradually increasing, particularly for leadership training.

Table 45: Number of state administrative body female trainees 1997/1998 to 2002/2003

Year	Number Of Female Trainees	% to Total Number of Trainees
1997/1998	127893	30%
1998/1999	164455	40%
1999/2000	211428	45%
2000/2001	217179	45%
2002/2003	175089	40%

Source: Ministry of Manpower and Emigration 1997/1998 to 2002/2003

Figure 20 :Percentage distribution of State administrative body trainees by sex during 1997/1998-2002/2003

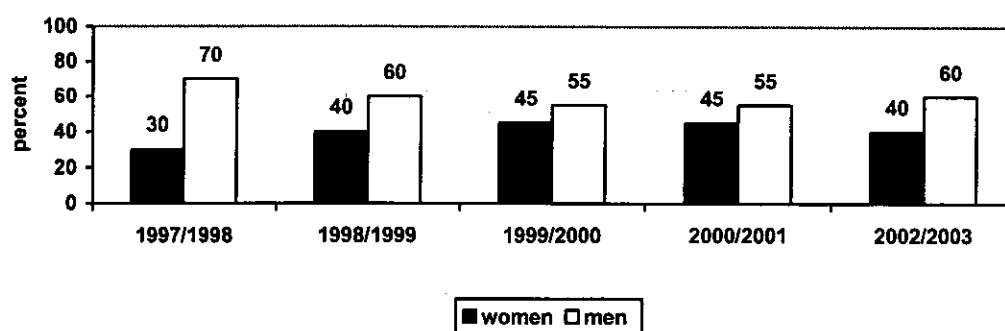


Table 46: Number of female trainees of the state administrative body who received specialized training, during 1997/1998 to 2002/2003

Year	Number Of Female Trainees	% to Total Number of Trainees
1997/1998	54855	30%
1998/1999	70382	40%
1999/2000	133262	45%
2000/2001	127813	45%
2002/2003	102415	42%

Source: Ministry of Manpower and Emigration 1997/1998 to 2002/2003.

Figure 21 :Percentage distribution of State administrative employees who received specialized training by sex during 1997/1998-2002/2003

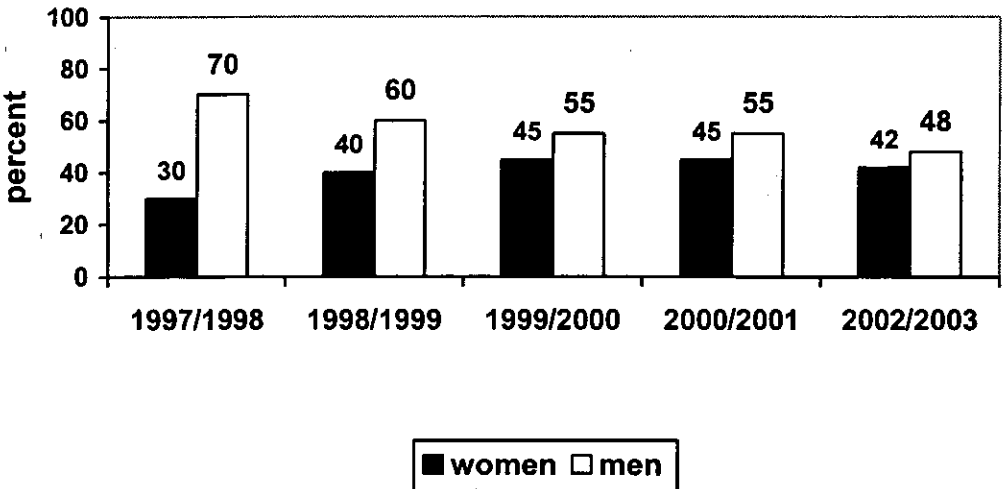


Table (47): Number of female trainees of the State administrative body who received leadership training during 1997/1998 to 2002/2003

Year	Number Of Female Trainees	% to Total Number of Trainees
1997/1998	109	9%
1998/1999	302	26%
1999/2000	361	25%
2000/2001	275	21%
2002/2003	370	24.2%
2002/2003	380	27.0%

* Source: Ministry of Manpower and Emigration 1997/1998 to 2002/2003

Figure 22 :Percentage distribution of State administrative body who received leadership training by sex during 1997/1998-2002/2003

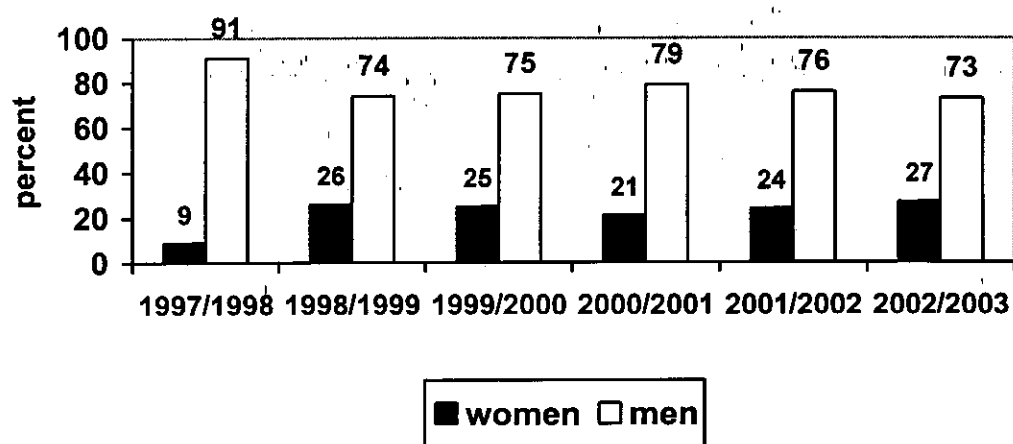
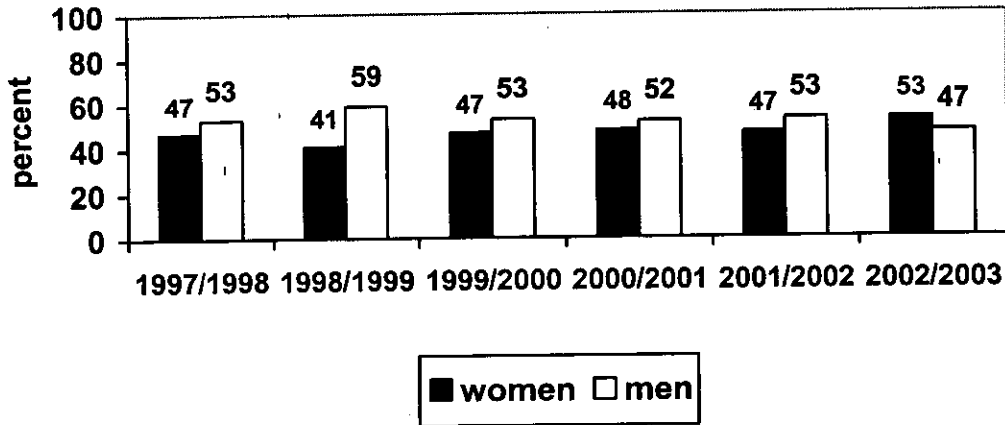


Table 48: Number of female Trainees of the Ministry of Administrative Development who received computer training during 1997/1998 to 2002/2003

Year	Number Of Female Trainees	% to Total Number Of Trainees
1997/1998	342	46.6%
1998/1999	300	41.0%
1999/2000	348	46.8%
2000/2001	411	48%
2002/2003	393	46.7%
2002/2003	456	53.1%

Source: Ministry of Manpower and Emigration 1997/1998 to 2002/2003.

Figure 23: Percentage distribution of trainees of Ministry of Administrative Development who received computer training by sex during 1997/1998-2002/2003



Vocational Training

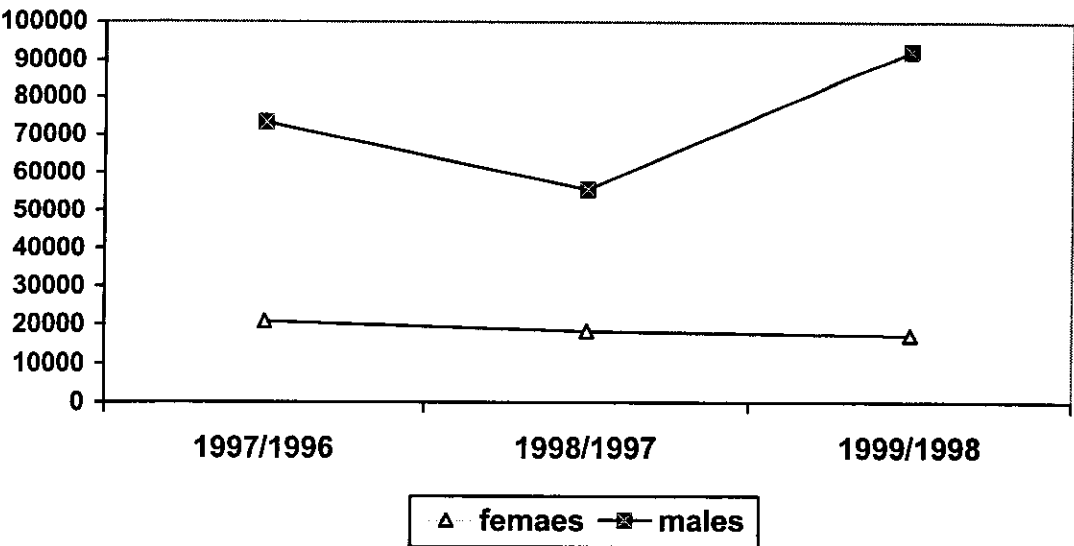
Table 49 shows the relative and numerical distribution of vocational training enrolled and graduated personnel by sex during the period 1996/1997-1998/1999. The exhibited statistics indicate that 20.7 thousand females had been trained at vocational training centers in 1996/1997, representing 22.7% of the total trainees. The number of enrolled female trainees, however, decreased to 17.2 thousand representing 15.7% in 1998/1999. Meanwhile, newly graduated females also decreased from 26.2 % in 1996/1997 to 22.7%, or from 14.8 to 15.3 thousand of the total graduates. These statistics reflect the importance of encouraging females to enroll in the vocational training centers to receive proper training on different occupations, which helps create job opportunities for them.

Table 49: Relative and numerical distribution of vocational training by sex during the period 1996/1997 - 1998/1999

		Number Of Enrolled Students			Number Of Graduates		
		96/97	97/98	98/99	96/97	97/98	98/99
Males	NO.	73257	55502	92384	41826	50281	52247
	%	77.9	75.2	84.3	73.8	76.6	77.3
Females	NO.	20738	18274	17248	14849	15360	15360
	%	22.1	24.8	15.7	26.2	23.4	22.7
Total	NO.	93995	73776	109632	56675	65641	67607
	%	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: A Study on Training Capabilities, Ministry of Manpower, 1996-1999

Figure 24: Number of enrolled students in vocational training by sex during 1996/1997- 1998/1999



5.4.4 Reasons behind low participation of women in the labor market

A number of factors may help in explaining low participation of women in the labor force. Generally, education, social norms, the extent of women's non-market burden and the structure of laws are all factors that may affect women's ability to engage in market work. One of the factors that may contribute to the raising rates of participation is enhancing women's education. At the same time, decline in fertility signals a reduction in women's non-market burden. Remaining factors that deserve some discussion are the role that social norms and laws may play in limiting or expanding women's economic choices.

Education:

In general, women have lower levels of education and fewer opportunities to upgrade their skills. Women's lower levels of education can in part explain the low levels of labor force participation among women. In addition, for women who do enter the labor market lower education generally leads to women being hired at lower wages. Increasing formal education for women thus will help facilitate their access to labor markets and higher paying jobs.

Social norms:

Although norms are evolving in Egypt, women are still generally defined as dependents, and expected to be subordinate to men. Reproduction and childcare are generally seen as their primary responsibilities. Particularly during times of high unemployment, there is an implicit understanding that women should stay at home, ceding their places in the labor force to men, especially in the private sector. These tendencies have been increasing, during the last decade, not only because of rising unemployment, but also because of the increasing influence of religious conservatism in Egypt (World Bank & National Council for Women 2003).

The assumption of a gender division of labor also contributes to society's and employer's notions of what kind of work is considered socially acceptable for women. Public and government sector work is generally seen as more socially acceptable, while the private sector is defined as a male domain (Nassar, 1996). Private sector employers may assume that female workers will have higher levels of absenteeism, for instance, and may thus be less willing to hire women.

Laws:

Women are by law barred from certain types of work. The fact that women are not allowed to partake in certain jobs- e.g. in bakeries, bars and restaurants. Women are also barred from working at night, except under certain circumstances and in certain sectors. Other types of labor regulations may also affect women's employment opportunities. Egyptian women are currently entitled to up to three months of paid maternity leave and two years of unpaid maternity leave. Firms employing more than 100 women are also required to provide a nursery. Finally, employers may be expected to provide transportation for female workers who work at night. Although these laws were instituted to improve women's situation in the work place and protect them from certain hazardous jobs, and are likely to increase women's willingness to enter the labor market, when enforced, these laws impose costs and limited flexibility on employers.

Because private sector employees are particularly sensitive to such costs, they may prefer to hire male workers.

At the same time, a lack of regulation on the part of the state with regard to private sector may contribute to women's hesitancy to enter this sector. Many firms do not grant women the maternity leave to which they are entitled (Nassar, 1996). Firms may simply ignore regulations, or limit the size of their establishment, to avoid providing nurseries, or other benefits. More generally speaking, if labor laws are not being strongly enforced in the private sector, women may experience more discrimination and other barriers, and thus prefer to obtain public sector jobs.

5.4.5 A number of concrete steps can be taken to facilitate women's employment:

First: Devise programs to increase women's income earning capabilities. Since a substantial portion of Egyptian women continue to work in the agricultural sector, attention needs to focus on improving their productivity. This can be achieved by:

- a. Improving women's access to land: In rural Egypt, women's contribution to the agricultural sector is high but they face several obstacles to income and productivity growth. Among other things, they could benefit from information on their legal rights to land ownership and control. Media campaigns can target both women and men, and they can be designed in a way to increase women's awareness of their legal rights concerning land ownership and control. Village leaders could also be targeted since they are influential in mediating land conflicts at the village level. Finally, training programs can be designed to inform women farmers of their legal rights to land. Increasing women's access to legal counseling would also help facilitate women's claims to family land, and provides assistance to women interested in buying and selling land.
- b. Improving women's access to credit and information: Women's poor access to collateral and their smaller operations often limits their access to credit which in turn limits their access to land in the first place. This limits women's participation in farming and non-farming activities in both the formal and informal sectors. Special credit programs using non-traditional forms of collateral could thus be helpful. It could be useful to look at the experience of other countries where micro credit schemes for women have proven successful. Similarly women's access to information – particularly in the area of agriculture – would be greatly enhanced by an increase of the number of extension workers, especially female ones, in rural areas. Enhancing their access to credit and training is highly desirable also because it will help women establish income-generating projects in the non-agricultural sector.

Second: Re-examine laws and regulations that may limit women's employment options.

- a. Labor laws: While many provisions were designed to protect women, the way they are currently designed may actually limit women's access to certain types of employment. These include laws limiting the types of employment in which women can engage and existing maternity laws. Concerning the latter, international experience shows that there are advantages to transferring the cost of social protection away from the firm in order to

reduce the perverse incentives that may result. In many countries the central government, instead of individual enterprises, provides various forms of social protection. Thus, safety nets can be preserved without discouraging private sector formal employers from hiring women. Separating social protection from formal sector employment not only reduces disincentives to private employers, it also provides better protection to women in the informal sector, who remain among the most vulnerable.

- b. Tax Laws: Certain tax laws also discriminate against women. Of particular concern are laws that treat working female heads of households differently than males.

Third: Design macroeconomic policies that are likely to stimulate employment in sectors that are more likely to hire women. Given women's high unemployment rates, attempts to draw women into the paid labor market are more likely to succeed, if unemployment rates for women can be reduced. In the past, policies focused on public sector employment to address this problem, but future macroeconomic policies should focus more on developing policies that provide private sector opportunities for women.

C. Political Power

6.0 Introduction:

In the international arena, there is a growing recognition that women's participation in decision-making process is a fundamental condition of women's equality and hallmark of an inclusive society that values and capitalizes on the contribution of all its members. The 1979 UN Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women specifically requires states to promote women's equal representation in the formulation and implementation of government policy, women equal access to employment and promotion opportunities and women equal participation in non-governmental organizations and associations.

The Platform of Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women, held in Beijing in 1995 puts the problem within human rights context and views women's equal participation in the decision-making process at all levels as a crucial area of concern and as a means to strengthen democracy. It is also seen as a must for achieving the goals of equality, development and peace and all other objectives. By definition, political participation is the involvement of the people directly or indirectly in decision-making. It is the core of democracy and the road leading to an overall sustainable development. All Egyptian laws provide for equality between men and women in all rights and duties but in reality, women are still lagging behind as for as access and control over resources, as well as in taking advantage of their political rights.

6.1 Women's participation in the top management positions:

It is assumed that, once women had the same education, experience, abilities and career ambitious as men and had entered the same fields, they could rise up the workplace leader in the same way as men. The Beijing Platform for Action recommends the adoption of new employment policies to achieve gender equality in high-ranking posts, the development of career advancement programmes for women and the establishment of gender balance in governmental bodies and committees. In fact, the ascent of women to the top jobs has not been easy. Research shows that, when all else is equal, women are still heavily under-represented in the leadership of international organizations, the top level of the diplomatic corps and the higher ranks in senior positions.

Table 1: The number of personnel (male/ female) in top management positions in the government, Business Sector- And public sector during the period 1990 – 2003

Senior Position	Sex	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Minister Degree	M	66	71	72	70	72	74	74	71	66	72	66	73	74	75
	F	-	-	-	-	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3
Deputy Minister	M	89	87	49	52	49	59	61	57	55	47	31	12	15	16
	F	1	2	2	3	1	2	2	1	1	3	-	-	-	1
First Under-Secretary	M	279	230	252	253	265	249	275	253	259	253	552	546	502	536
	F	5	6	5	8	10	14	17	17	18	18	33	40	42	53
Under-Secretary	M	1047	944	989	979	1019	1018	1075	1095	1133	1038	3141	2800	2711	2834
	F	85	99	116	106	121	139	152	174	194	219	463	496	485	535
General Director	M	4271	5647	4598	4527	5044	5763	6016	6663	6578	6247	12729	17121	17694	17729
	F	595	1727	770	819	1268	1500	1728	2032	2470	2245	3311	6446	5355	5384
Total	M	5752	6979	5960	5881	6449	7163	7501	8139	8091	7657	16519	20552	20996	21190
	F	686	1834	893	936	1401	1657	1901	2226	2685	2487	3809	6984	5884	5976

Source: CAPMAS, Statistics of government and public sector employees, 1990-2003

Table 2: Percentage of Female In Top-Management Positions in The Government, Business Sector And Public Sector During The Period 1990 – 2003

Senior Position	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Minister Degree	-	-	-	-	1.4	2.6	2.6	2.7	2.9	2.7	3.0	2.7	2.6	3.8
Deputy Minister	1.1	2.3	4.9	5.5	2.0	3.3	3.2	1.8	1.8	6.0	-	-	-	-
First Under-Secretary	1.8	2.5	2.0	3.1	3.6	5.3	5.8	6.3	6.5	6.6	5.9	6.8	7.7	9.0
Under- Secretary	7.5	9.5	10.5	9.8	10.6	12.0	12.4	13.7	14.6	17.4	12.8	15.0	15.2	15.9
General Director	12.2	23.4	14.3	15.3	20.1	20.7	22.3	23.4	27.3	26.4	20.6	27.4	23.2	23.3
Total	10.7	20.8	13.0	13.7	17.9	18.8	20.2	21.5	24.9	24.5	18.7	25.4	21.9	23.5

Source: CAPMAS, Statistics of government and public sector employees, 1990-2003

6.1.1 Women's participation in government, business and public sector:

Table 1 shows the number of personnel (male-female) in top management positions in the government, business and the public sector during the period 1990-2003.

The data of this table reveals that, Egyptian women's participation in top management positions is minimal as compared to men. Available evidence suggests that men have preserved their dominance in the key economic decision-making positions, though they are participating largely in all senior positions. Most ministers, general directors are males, while all deputy ministers' positions are totally dominated by males (see table 1).

Table 2 shows that in spite of women's small in top management positions, this share continues to increase by time, from 10.7% in 1990 and fluctuating to reach 22.5% in 2003. The percentage of women in general manager and high degree positions has increased from 12.2% '7.5% to 17% and 18% respectively during this period.

6.1.2 Women in Ministers' Cabinet:

Women ministers can shape decision-making, but can also act as important role models in society. In Egypt, when women do achieve ministerial position in government, they are usually put in charge of such ministers as social affairs or any minister related to women's affairs. Very few serve in such key sectors as financial, internal and foreign affairs. The last change in Ministerial Council included two women ministers out of 34 ministers (namely, Ministry of Insurance and Social Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs). Hence, the percentage of women in minister degree represents only about 6% of all ministerial degrees, which is very small compared to men's share. Also, there is one women appointed as deputy minister in the Ministry of Health since late 2003.

6.1.3 Women in Diplomatic Corps:

Egyptian women have joined the diplomatic corps and risen through its hierarchy to reach the rank of ambassador, attach and deputy Assistant to the Minister. This means that Egyptian women participated in decision-making regarding Egypt's foreign policy.

Data of table 3 shows that there was a wide increase in the number of women's in all diplomatic corps, especially in women occupying the First Ambassador post. In 1991, there wasn't any woman occupying this job while in 2001 there were two women, constituting 11% of total number of persons in the diplomatic corps. Moreover, the percentage of women as Ambassadors has increased from 1.9% in 1991 to 22.7% in 2004. On the other hand, the female consultants decreased from 21.6% to only 13% during this period.

Table 3: Number and percentage of women in diplomatic corps during the period 1991 – 2004

Post	1991			2001			2004		
	Male	Female	%	Male	Female	%	Male	Female	%
First Ambassador	22	0	0	16	2	11.1	23	5	17.9
Ambassador	157	3	1.9	127	33	20.1	126	37	22.7
Deputy Minister	149	36	19.5	80	16	16.7	87	19	17.9
Consultant	76	21	21.6	128	19	12.9	120	18	13.0
1 st Secretary	101	10	9.0	99	12	10.8	95	15	13.6
2 nd Secretary	151	9	5.6	102	12	10.5	90	22	19.6
3 rd Secretary	79	16	16.8	82	17	17.2	75	22	22.7
Attaché	91	21	18.8	64	19	22.9	95	14	30.1
Total	826	116	12.3	698	130	18.6	711	179	20.1

Source: Ministry of Foreign Affairs 1991, 2000, 2004.

6.2 Women's participation in parliament:

Islamic Shari' "Jurisdiction" was the first of all heavenly religious (Judaism, Christianity and Islam) to recognize women's rights in all spheres of life. Islam and Christianity offer both men and women equal rights and obligations, with no distinction between the two in terms of preservation of their life, properties and blood. Laws also give women legal competence and eligibility exactly like men; therefore, women in Egypt have the right to run their business. However, in reality, Egyptian women's participation in political and parliamentary life is extremely limited.

6.2.1 Women in the People's Assembly:

The People's Assembly is the legislative branch of the state. It approves the general policy, new laws, the budget and the developmental plans. According to the constitution, the people's Assembly is made of 444 popularly elected persons and 10 appointed by the president for five-year term.

In 1986 the 30 seats female quota in the People's Assembly, which had been operative since the 1970s, was cancelled. This resulted in a decrease in the number of female members in the Parliament. In the 1987 election, the number of women in Parliament dropped from over 36 during 1970s to only 18, out of which 14 who were elected and 4 were appointed. By 1995 the number of female members had dropped further, with the election of only 5 and appointment of 4. In the 2000 election, the number of female members slightly increased to 11, with the election of 7 women and the appointment of 4. The percentage reaches 2.6%; this percentage is one of lowest in the world (see table 4). The Assembly exercises its legislative and monitoring power through 18 committees.

6.2.2 Women in Shura Council:

The Shura Council is Egypt's consultative council. It offers advice and consultation and proposes new laws and regulation to the People's Assembly. In the Shura Council, 264 members in which 88 members are appointed and 174 elected. The term of membership of the Shura Council is six years whereas election and appointment of 50% of the total number of members, whether elected and appointed, takes place every three years as defied by law. It is always possible to re-elect or re-appointed those whose membership has expired. Female membership increased to 5.7% in 1996 and 2002, and reached 6.8% in the last election in 2004. All of the female members are politically affiliated with the National Democratic Party (see table 4).

In general, women's participation in People's Assembly and Shura Council is very limited and requires support in order to effectively contribute in formulating laws enacting related to improving women's status.

Table 4: Number of elected and appointed positions for men and women in the People's Assembly and Shura Council during the period 1990-2004

Position	Number of Men	Men %	Number of Women	Women %
*People's Assembly				
1990-1995	444	97.8	10	2.2
1995-2000	445	97.4	9	2.6
2000-2005	452	97.3	12	2.7
**Shura Council				
1996	249	94.3	15	5.7
2002	249	94.3	15	5.7
2004	246	93.2	18	6.8

Source: *People's Assembly 1990-1995-2000.

**Shura Council 1997-2002-2004.

6.3 Women in civil society organizations:

Civil society organizations are represented in local private bodies and organizations. They include Non Governmental Organizations, Trade Union and Professional Syndicates.

6.3.1 Women's participation in non- governmental organizations:

A main source of power is people's self-organizational capacity. Organizations provide a forum where people can, as a group, analyze, inquire into and understand their social and economic conditions. Organizations can also serve as instruments to pool resources achieve common goals and undertake collective action, and they represent the solidarity and vested interests of the members of the group. In most of the world, women are becoming increasingly effective leaders of community – based organizations. The success of many of these movements depends on women's activism level in the community.

In Egypt, a new generation of women and women's organizations is playing an important role as a force for social, political and economic change. These women have demonstrated success in mobilizing women, especially at the community level in both rural and urban areas.

NGOs are controlled by law No. 23 of 1964 which gives the Ministry of Social Affairs wide ranging authority in terms of establishment, field of activity, and even dissolution and amalgamation. But unfortunately, men members are more than women in Egyptian NGOs.

Recently NGOs have been playing a more active role than before. The growing understanding of the importance of voluntary work by the government and the support of the international community helped NGOs to participate actively in all community activities.

Participation in non-governmental organizations is necessary but insufficient to ensure women's participation in public life in Egypt. The number of women's NGOs has certainly increased and their membership has grown over time. The total number of NGOs exceeds 16,000 (see table 5) but only 3% are working in the field of women and gender. The percentage of women in decision-making position in NGOs of Egypt represent 18% of total board members. However, most NGOs in Egypt suffer from inadequate managerial and professional capacity and sometimes also dependency on external resources (UNICEF 2000).

Table 5 represents number of care societies working in one field and more than one field and development societies. The table shows that the number of NGOs has grown gradually in recent years, increasing from 14,144 organizations in 1993-1995 to 16,806 in 2001-2002, establishing a civil society.

Table 5: Number of care societies working in one field and more than one field & development societies during the Period 1994-2002

Field of service	94-95	95-96	96-97	97-98	98-99	99-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002
Working in one field	9455	9528	11581	9224	10214	9056	9417	10246
Working in more than field	4689	4977	6113	5830	4561	5601	6253	6560
Total	14144	14505	17694	15054	14775	14657	15670	16806

Source: Ministry of Social-Affairs.

The range of issues served by NGOs activities is often quite similar to four prominent areas of interests which are: social aids, cultural scientific services, child care and care for special groups. There is, however, substantial variation in the strength and autonomy of the NGOs.

Membership of NGOs is relatively high compared to other organizations because NGOs are closer to the accepted role of women although they are dominated by upper middle class memberships. It is the poor women who greatly need to be organized but are not members of any organizations because, beside the cultural and economic factors, most of the existing organizations have a built in mechanism to bar them from membership.

4.2.2 Women in trade unions and political parties:

In Egypt, women have not been and still are not candidates for leadership positions. Often they have limited access to the channels for achieving power at the top, especially in the

executive bodies of political parties and trade unions. Political parties are a crucial post of the new civil society in Egypt.

Table 6: Number and percentage of women in public syndicates during the period 2001-2006

Public Syndicate	Total Members	No. of Female	% of Female	Members of Board Directors	
				M	F
Weaving / Textile	172774	34082	19.7	23	-
Agriculture / Irrigation	481601	39762	8.3	23	-
Chemicals	73930	12291	16.6	22	1
Commercial	66475	17218	25.9	23	-
Building / Wood	386723	23936	6.2	23	-
Petroleum	71901	12332	17.2	23	-
Public Services	208799	3739	1.8	23	-
Education / Scientific Research	477291	160298	33.6	23	-
Military Production	45993	3194	6.9	21	2
Posts	40693	13059	32.1	23	-
Food Production	154787	12734	8.2	23	-
Railways	75664	3383	4.5	23	-
Health Services	207147	91995	44.4	22	1
Communication	54209	12223	22.5	22	1
Tourism / Hotels	56119	12703	22.6	22	1
Administrative Services	367547	61969	16.9	22	1
Banking / Insurance	137321	39156	28.5	22	1
Marine Transportation	54718	5688	10.4	23	-
Journalism & Publication	83397	24144	29.0	23	-
Engineering Production	162838	8444	5.2	23	-
Land Transportation	700551	2177	0.3	23	-
Air Transportation	26448	7163	27.1	21	2
Mining	10597	699	6.6	23	-

Source: Statistics of Trade Union Federation 2001-2006.

Table 7.1: Nomination of women by different parties during the period 1995-2000

Party	1995	2000
National Democratic Party	7	11
El Wafd Party	4	8
Al Tagamo Party	1	3
El Nasseriste Party	-	-
Al Ahrar Party	1	7
El Khadr Party	-	2
Al Takafol Party	-	1
Labour Party	3	-
The Nation Party	3	-
Independent	66	89

Source: Abou El Komsan – Nehad 2002.

Table 7.2: Nomination of different parties for women in local elections 2002

Party	Males	Female	% of Female
National Democratic Party	39000	18000	4.6%
El Wafd Party	1400	42	3%
El Ahrar Party	42	4	9.5%
El Nasserist Party	72	-	-

Source: Abou El Komsan – Nehad 2002.

6.3.2.1 Women in trade unions:

Egyptian women are also members of organizations working in the economic sector including trade and labor unions and cooperatives. In the labor unions committee membership the Board of Directors consists of 23 members, all of them are males except one woman who is the secretary of women & child affairs and deputy of the president of the union.

Table 6 summarizes the number and percentage of women membership in different public syndicates. The table reveals that membership of the different public syndicates shows low female representation except in Public Syndicate of Health Services & Scientific Research which shows relatively high female representation (44.4% and 33.6% respectively). The lowest female representation is observed in the Land Transportation Syndicate which has only 0.3% of its members. The data also shows a low representation of women in the board of directors in these syndicates.

6.3.2.2 Women in Political Parties:

Since the Political Parties Law regulating the formation of political parties in Egypt was promulgated in 1977, political parties have increased to 17 parties in 2002 compared to only 5 in 1981. They exercise their political activities in full freedom and under complete political and legal guarantees (Abou El-komsan, N 2002).

In spite of the efforts done to urge women to run as candidates in the elections, the results were disappointing. Generally, the representation of women in all parties is minimal; the number of women is very low as compared to men. Table 7.1 shows the share of women in different parties in 2002. In the Ahrar Party, only 9.5% of the High Committee are women. Women constitute 4.6% of the executive committee of the National Democratic Party, and only 3% women in El - Wafd Party.

Table 8.1: Male members of professional syndicates during the period 1990-2000

Syndicates	1990	1991	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Physicians	70698	73403	75631	65253	78348	88340	89350	90360	95360	95360
Dentists	13023*	7855	14457*	5358	15355*	10545	9120	10785	12028	12028
Veterinaries	10894	14540	13492	13834	13492	14494	14954	15192	15819	16211
Pharmacists	18196	17855	19508	17031	17593	18067	26230	21284	32000	30988
Agricultural Professions	267253*	22564	20963	20558	16601	19770	21504	22427	533365	561760
Educational Professions	396958	392745	305181	305081	306181	305645	302828	1077171*	1100943*	1100943*
Engineering Professions	185843*	192550*	186020	142913	195363	206558	195127	217667	234642	220704
Business / Trade	307544*	28133*	423849*	448048*	458114*	515332*	543382*	587410*	653310*	810336*
Lawyers	92530*	92530*	87316	93064	97834	104645	122945	113087	121842	129902
Scientific Professions	25100	25126	13274	25121	31733	22037	30809	38341	39382	39382
Journalist Professions	2282	2476	3091	3300	2063	8981	9007	3360	3328	3356
Artistic Professions	1291	1263	1263	1292	1263	1263	1302	1361	1371	1698
Cinematographic Professions	2652	2925	2580	2509	2549	3200	3400	3629*	3000	2778
Musical Professions	3346	3469	3979	2460	3219	1152	10900	4904	5004	4590
Nursing Professions	432	3953	5389	810	4690	7800	7900	10305*	3613	3613
Partitions	310437	327143	357624	355787	357624	413996	418777	444177	505166	537500
Tourist Guide	1167	1551	1719	1835	10250	13492	72847	72847	76597	79397
Plastic Artists	1849	2100	2301	2692	4125	7292	7136	3338	4820	7753
Social Professions	16258	25059*	N.A*	22013*	35881	39225	39225	39838	41639	41639
Total	861533	876404	1099331	1058898	1178809	1286502	1383361	1098968	1748976	1788359

Source: CAPMAS, 1990-2000.

*: The available numbers reflect total m/f membership

Table 8.2 Female members of professional syndicates during the period 1990-2000

Syndicates	1990	1991	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Physicians	25839	27122	27086	30587	32142	32590	33500	34410	38640	38640
Dentists	---	5016	---	7971	---	5273	7069	5799	5108	5108
Veterinaries	4215	3720	5676	6011	5676	6527	6745	6932	7239	7841
Pharmacists	11152	11788	13169	13252	13959	9556	12425	27704	20064	21163
Agricultural Professions	---	---	1601	3105	5963	2794	2226	2127	132022	133358
Educational Professions	183464	190353	234669	234669	233744	231931	234729	---	---	---
Engineering Professions	---	---	20305	46876	21759	24596	22085	27786	30407	59849
Business / Trade	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Lawyers	---	---	14839	16035	17350	19328	46910	23057	25937	29763
Scientific Professions	9700	9784	9472	9784	13208	8963	17371	21284	22284	22284
Journalist Professions	825	892	947	700	714	2227	2226	1177	1267	1259
Artistic Professions	615	581	579	581	581	579	606	615	630	720
Cinematographic Professions	400	420	636	591	606	785	900	---	637	886
Musical Professions	851	889	972	1743	1355	737	3908	662	762	1210
Nursing Professions	464	95000	54270	119750	70785	85300	95915	10305	12013	12013
Partitions	17303	18129	19730	18780	19730	23449	24059	24643	28024	29426
Tourist Guide	1164	1643	1587	1625	4300	5676	6115	6115	7965	10169
Plastic Artists	856	1900	1485	836	648	5667	5860	3387	3360	984
Social Professions	14893	---	---	---	27435	31819	31819	31232	32026	32026
Total	271741	367237	407023	512896	469955	497797	554468	227235	368385	406699

Source: CAPMAS, 1990-2000.

Table 8.3: Percentage of females in professional syndicates

Syndicates	1990	1991	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Physicians	26.8	27.0	26.4	31.9	29.1	26.9	27.3	27.6	28.8	28.8
Dentists	-	39.0	-	59.8	-	33.3	43.7	35.1	29.8	29.8
Veterinaries	27.9	20.4	29.6	30.3	29.6	31.1	31.1	31.3	31.4	23.6
Pharmacists	38.1	39.8	40.3	43.8	44.2	25.7	32.1	56.6	19.3	19.2
Agricultural Professions	-	-	7.1	13.1	26.4	12.4	9.4	8.7	19.3	19.2
Educational Professions	31.6	32.7	43.5	43.5	43.2	43.1	43.7	-	-	-
Engineering Professions	-	-	9.8	24.7	10.0	10.6	10.2	10.2	11.3	11.5
Business / Trade	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lawyers	-	-	14.5	14.7	15.1	15.6	27.6	20.0	17.6	18.6
Scientific Professions	27.9	28.0	41.6	28.0	29.4	28.9	36.1	35.7	36.1	36.1
Journalist Professions	26.6	28.4	23.5	17.5	25.7	19.9	19.8	25.9	27.6	27.3
Artistic Professions	32.3	31.5	31.4	31.0	31.5	31.4	31.8	31.1	31.5	29.8
Cinematographic Professions	13.1	12.6	19.8	19.0	19.2	19.7	20.9	-	17.5	24.2
Musical Professions	20.3	20.4	19.6	41.5	29.6	39.0	26.4	11.9	13.2	20.9
Nursing Professions	51.8	96.0	91.1	99.3	93.8	91.6	92.4	100	76.9	76.9
Partitions	5.3	5.3	5.2	5.0	5.2	5.4	5.4	5.3	5.3	5.2
Tourist Guide	49.9	51.4	48.0	47.1	29.6	29.6	7.7	7.7	9.4	11.4
Plastic Artists	31.7	47.5	39.2	23.7	13.6	43.7	45.1	50.4	41.1	11.3
Social Professions	47.8	-	-	-	43.3	44.8	44.8	43.9	43.5	43.5
Total	24.1	29.5	27.0	32.6	28.5	27.9	28.6	17.1	20.6	18.5

Table 9: Number and percentage of women members in the Local Administration Councils during the period 1992-2002

Local Councils	1992			1997			2002		
	Total Number of Members	Number of Women	% of Female Members In The Local Councils	Total Number of Members	Number of Women	% of Female Members In The Local Councils	Total Number of Members	Number of Women	% of Female Members In The Local Councils
Governorates	2508	110	4.4	3172	102	3.2	3227	114	3.5
Provinces	9834	130	4.4	12707	129	1.0	12969	200	4.5
Cities	4112	52	1.3	5000	85	1.7	5146	149	2.9
Districts	1018	38	3.7	1254	56	4.5	1372	71	5.2
Villages	20160	115	0.6	25248	186	0.7	24922	315	1.3
Total	37632	445	1.2	47381	558	1.2	47636	849	1.8

Source: Ministry of Local Administration Councils and Legal Affairs Sector, 1992, 1997, and 2002.

Table 10: Members of administrative prosecution during the period 1990-2003

Year	Male	Female	Total	% of female
1990	519	106	625	17.0
1992	591	112	703	16.0
1993	635	121	756	16.0
1994	738	124	862	14.4
1995	798	151	949	15.9
1996	826	177	1003	17.6
1997	868	197	1065	18.5
1998	819	216	1035	20.9
2000	1108	244	1352	18.0
2001	1209	323	1532	21.1
2002	1284	396	1680	23.6
2003	1289	436	1725	25.3

Source: Statistics of Administrative Prosecution 1990-2003.

6.4 Women's participation in professional syndicates:

Women's participation in professional syndicates decreased gradually during the period 1990 - 2000. It becomes clear that there are many factors contributing to women's minimal representation in different organizations particularly at leadership levels. Cultural factors play a major role in minimizing women's participation in professional syndicates. The majority of women believe that membership in organizations is a voluntary activity and sometimes it further adds to their work burden.

Data of table 8.3 reveals that the percentage of women in professional syndicates decreased gradually during the period 1990 to 2001 (from 24.1% to 18.5% respectively), which indicates limited women's political and social role in the Egypt society.

A scrutiny of each of these syndicates separately shows that the nursing professions syndicate had the highest of women representation (77%) in 2000 because this profession attracts a significant number of women. It is followed by the social professions syndicate (43.5%), veterinarians' syndicates (32.6%) and physicians, dentists and actors syndicates (about 30% for each) reflecting the increasing number of women working in these professions. The lowest women representation of women is in the syndicates of applied trades (5.2%), tourist's guides (11.4%) and scientific profession (18.6%) respectively.

6.5 Women in Local Councils:

Women are under-represented in the local councils compared to People's Assembly and Shura Council, as they only reached 1.2% during the period 1992-1997 and 1.8% in 2002 of the total members. This representation ranges from 1% in village level to 5.2% at the district level. (see table 9)

Data on the number of female mayors are also minimal, underlining the continuing exclusion of women from top political jobs even at the local level. Only one woman has been appointed as a mayor out of 26 governorates of Egypt. Women also have never occupied a governor's post.

6.6 Women as higher court judges:

In spite of the fact that there are no specific articles any law that prevent women from occupying judiciary posts, women were completely excluded from the post of judge, although they proved their efficiency and superiority in the administrative prosecution. In Egypt, only one woman has been appointed as a judge (in 2003). However, this appointment is a positive step for women.

Table 10 represents the number of women in Administrative Prosecution, showing that the number of women doubled by about 4 times during the period 1990- 2003. There were some fluctuations till 1996, but numbers increased to reach 25% in 2003. Moreover, two women were appointed as a President of Administrative Prosecution during the period 1998-2001.

In the area of women in political power there have been some improvements, but generally there is a serious shortage of women participation in political profile.

6.7 Women and decision-making within Households:

Women's exclusion from power in the public life is in sharp contrast to their ability to make crucial decisions relating to the life of their family. But, this is only with the agreement of both husbands and wives.

It is evident from the data in table 11 that women only rarely have the final say in any decision except those that concern the food cooked in the household. One quarter of women report that they alone have the final say in decision regarding medical attention for children. But the proportion of all critical decisions such as having another child, use of contraception, child education and marriage reached its highest level of female participation only in cases where both wives and husbands took the decision together.

Women participation in household decision-making varies by their background characteristics. Women in urban areas are most likely to participate with their husbands in all decisions, also women with at least complete secondary education are more than twice as women with no education. Likewise women working for cash are about twice as likely as women not working for cash to participate in all decisions.

Table 12 also represents women's role in household decision-making. Data shows that women are more likely to make the final decision in the case of recurring household decisions i.e. what to cook or everyday purchases. Joint decision-making is most common in the case of visits to family or relatives, while women most often say that the husband makes final decisions about

large household purchases. With regard to decisions about the women's own health care, about one third of women say that final decision in these areas is their own.

Table 13 presents differentials in women who report that they alone or jointly have the final say with husbands in various decisions. The table shows that 31% of women are involved either alone or jointly in all five decisions areas. Only 4% have no involvement in making any decisions, which reflect a lower status of women within the household. The table also shows that participation in household decision-making appears to be more limited for women living in rural areas. A women's education level is directly related to her degree of involvement in making various household decisions. About 40% of women who completed at least the secondary level have the final say compared with slightly more than a quarter of the women with no education. Also, women working for cash are more likely to report having a say in the various decisions.

Table 11: Percentage distribution of women by person who makes specific household Decisions, According to decision, Egypt 1995

Decision	Person who makes decision					Total
	Wife	Husband	Both husband and wife	Other	Not available/ missing	
Visits to friends/family	7.8	57.7	32.0	1.9	0.6	100.0
Budget	14.1	40.1	37.2	8.5	0.1	100.0
Having another child	3.6	17.1	73.7	0.3	5.3	100.0
Use of contraception	13.3	7.6	65.3	0.3	13.5	100.0
Children's education	3.4	19.7	61.7	0.5	14.6	100.0
Children's marriage	1.9	19.6	49.0	0.8	28.7	100.0
Children's medicine	26.0	16.5	50.1	1.3	6.1	100.0
Food cooked	68.5	5.2	17.7	8.2	0.4	100.0

Source: EDHS, 1995.

Table 12: Percentage of women who say they alone or jointly with their husband have the final say in specific household decisions by background characteristics, Egypt 1995

Background characteristic	Women who alone or jointly have the final say in decisions about									
	Visits to friends and relatives	Budget	Having another child	Contraception	Children's education	Children's marriage	Children's medicine	Food cooked	All decisions	Number of women
Urban-rural residence										
Urban	47.0	61.6	83.0	83.3	71.6	52.7	82.7	91.9	21.6	3,088
Rural	33.3	42.3	72.3	74.5	59.4	49.3	70.3	81.3	12.8	3,510
Education of women										
No education	31.8	42.4	72.0	73.4	59.2	49.3	72.1	82.9	12.1	2,863
Some Primary	32.5	48.7	73.0	77.2	62.5	50.9	74.9	86.4	13.4	1,278
Primary through secondary	43.8	57.4	84.9	86.2	69.6	52.5	78.8	87.8	20.8	885
Compl. Secondary/higher	57.9	66.2	86.3	84.9	75.5	53.0	83.0	91.3	26.6	1,571
Current employment										
Working for cash	53.9	72.8	85.5	85.6	81.2	59.8	87.9	94.0	27.4	957
Not Working for cash	37.3	47.7	75.9	77.4	62.4	49.4	74.1	84.9	15.2	5,640
Total	39.7	51.3	77.3	78.6	65.1	50.9	76.1	86.3	16.9	6,597

Source : EDHS, 1995.

Table 13: Percent distribution of women by person who makes specific household decisions, according to type of decision, Egypt 2000

Person(s) who make(s) household decision							
Household decision	Self only	Jointly with husband	Jointly with someone else	Husband only	Someone else only	Total	Number of women
Own health care	36.4	22.9	1.0	38.0	1.8	100.0	15.573
Large household purchases	10.0	31.0	1.3	53.5	4.2	100.0	15.573
Every day household purchases	47.6	18.4	4.2	22.4	7.3	100.0	15.573
Visits to family or relatives	16.8	53.6	3.5	23.8	2.3	100.0	15.573
What food to cook each day	66.3	13.7	9.8	4.3	5.9	100.0	15.573

Source: EDHS, 2000.

Factors affecting gender gaps in political participation:

Despite the fact that equality has been mandated by the Egyptian Constitution, and that all government since 1952 have been supportive for women's rights, women's participation in political decision making bodies has remained limited and has even in some cases declined in recent years. During the period 1975–1985, there was a quota for women in the political bodies (30 seats for women in people's assembly and 2 seats in each local council) but unfortunately since 1985 these privileges considered were considered as against legal equality and hence were eliminated. Egyptians still regard politics as a male domain and as a result, women lack equal access to the power structure that shapes Egyptian society. Participation in political elections requires huge funds. It is well known that access of women to economic power is greatly lower than men's. So, encouraging political parties to integrate women in elective and non- elective public positions, and to review the electoral systems to increase women's representation in elected bodies is necessary.

In the area of education and labor market, women are still deprived from equal access to education, barred from certain types of work, not allowed to partake in certain jobs. Therefore affirmative action by the government of Egypt, community groups and NGOs is necessary to enhance women's participation in decision-making positions at all levels since women are more likely to be actively involved in fields where they are highly represented.

Table 14: Percentage of women who say that they alone or jointly have the final say in specific household decisions, according to background characteristics, Egypt 2000

Background characteristic	Alone or jointly has final say in:							Number of women
	Own health care	Making large purchases	Making daily purchases	Visits to family, relatives, friends	What food to cook daily	All specified decisions	None of specified decisions	
Urban-rural residence								
Urban	68.0	47.6	76.2	78.8	93.2	36.2	2.3	6.871
Rural	54.2	38.2	65.6	69.9	87.1	27.2	5.8	8.702
Education								
No education	52.5	35.5	66.0	68.0	87.7	25.8	6.0	6.734
Primary incomplete	58.3	40.6	72.0	70.5	90.5	28.5	3.6	2.060
Primary complete/ some secondary	60.5	43.0	67.5	73.3	88.4	30.4	4.4	2.026
Secondary complete /higher	72.0	52.5	76.7	83.7	93.1	40.3	2.0	4.753
Work status								
Working for cash	80.2	63.5	82.6	88.1	95.5	52.0	1.1	2.266
Not Working for cash	56.9	38.7	68.2	71.4	88.8	27.7	4.8	13.307
Total	60.3	42.3	70.3	73.8	89.8	31.2	4.3	15.573

Source: EDHS, 2000.

Governmental and non- governmental efforts to improve women's participation in political life and decision- making processes:

There are great governmental and non-governmental efforts to enhance women political participation and to ensure fair representation that reflects their weight in the society. The National Council for Women (NCW) is in the process of creating a Center for Political Training to upgrade women's political skills and to create a pool of potential candidates that can run for the coming parliamentary election 2005. The NCW coordinates with political parties to ensure that they are committed to bring women to the decision making post within the party machinery. The political leadership stated that enhancing women participation in the political life is part and parcel of the political reform that is currently taking part in the country.

NCW has exerted much effort to enhance women's role in the political life and decision-making process. It established a database and a monitoring system of women and their position on the boards of NGOs, political parties, and labor unions and professional syndicates. It constantly upgrades this information and passes it onto concerned departments of the government and NGOs at large as a means of gender sensitization. NCW has also helped thousands of women to obtain identification cards, in order to allow them greater access to the electoral process. It is currently providing training courses for women in all governorates on political awareness and participation. These training courses are directed to community leaders and members of NGOs as Training for Trainers (TOT) to ensure that community members will be able to train others, and to ensure sustainability of the training efforts.

Further steps in supporting women's political participation:

- The following are suggestions on how to better enhance women's participation in the political sphere:
- Parties should elect more female members and be supportive of them in elections for People's Assembly, Shura Counsel and Local Councils as well.
- Quota for female seats in all parliaments should be reinstated.
- Use media, especially T.V to raise women awareness to participate in political life. This needs developing programs to address the negative gender images and stereotypes. Public awareness campaigns developed in collaboration with the community and its leaders could also raise women awareness towards the importance of participation in political life.
- Increase women's capacity to influence decision-making through training. They can get benefits of sitting on boards of NGOs, and increasing solidarity through information and education.

- Adoption new employment policies to achieve gender equality in high ranking posts, the development of career advancement programs for women and the establishment of gender balance in governmental bodies and communities are needed.
- Establishment of mechanisms for women's equal participation at all levels of political process and public life, the expansion of grassroots organization and community active groups for women and the achievement of equality and equity, based on partnerships between men and women are urgently needed to enable women to achieves the in full participation.

Women’s Progress Scoreboard

Table: The African Women's Progress Scoreboard

WOMEN'S RIGHTS	CEDAW	Ratification	Reporting	Law	Policy commitment	Development of Plan	Targets	Institutional mechanism	Budget	Human Resources	Research	Involvement of civil	Information &	Monitoring & Evaluation	Total	%
SOCIAL	CEDAW	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	21	80.8
	African Charter of human and People's Rights – Women's Rights Protocol – harmful practices	N/a	X	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	14	58.3
	Violence against Women	X	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	13	54.2
	African Charter on the Rights of the Child Article XXVII	2	1	2	2	2	1	2	1	1	2	2	2	1	21	80.8
ECONOMIC	Health-ICPD POA Plus Five	X	X	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	12	54.5
	2001 Abuja Declaration on HIV/AIDS and women	X	X	N/a	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	11	50
	Education	X	X	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	22	100
POLITICAL	ILO	2	1	2	2	2	1	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	23	88.5
	Equal access to land	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
	UN 1325 conflict resolution	X	X	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	09.1
Total score	Policies	X	X	X	1	0	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	0	14	63.6

AFRICAN WOMEN'S PROGRESS BOARD

D. WOMEN'S RIGHTS

8 CEDAW

8.1 Ratification with reservation

a. Ratification

The convention was ratified by Egypt 18 September 1981, with reservations. Although the convention adopted the impermissibility principle adopted by the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties, stating that any reservation incompatible with the object and purpose of the present Convention shall not be permitted, and despite the fact that the Committee viewed Articles 2, and 16 as core provisions to the Convention, a large number of countries entered reservations to these article.

Reservations made by the Republic of Egypt:

Article 2:

General reservation. The Republic of Egypt is willing to comply with this article, provided this does not contradict with Islamic Shari' Law.

Article 9 (2):

Although the Republic of Egypt made this reservation upon signature, its stance on this article, granting women equal rights with men with respect to the nationality of their children, has since changed. The People's Assembly passed a new nationality law giving Egyptian woman the right to pass her nationality to her children.

Article 16:

A reservation was made to the text of this Article relating to equality of men and women in all issues relating to marriage and family relations during marriage and upon its dissolution.

Islamic Shari' law states that a man will pay a dowry to the wife and will financially maintain her during marriage. At the dissolution of the marriage, he will pay her alimony. The wife is not obliged to spend anything on her keep, and retains full rights over any property that is hers. In order to get a divorce the wife has to get a judge's ruling, but no such requirement is asked of the man. The reservation was made because the text was in contradiction to the principles of Shari' Law.

Article 29 (2):

A reservation was maintained on paragraph 2 of this article, stating that it considers itself not bound by paragraph 1, relating to submission to arbitration that may arise due to interpretation or application of the Convention. This is to avoid arbitration.

Efforts have been made by the Egyptian government to remove these reservations. These efforts are discussed in more detail below, particularly efforts to remove reservations to Articles 2 and 16.

Score: 1

b. Reporting

Reports have been submitted, albeit past the due date. The latest reports to be submitted were the fourth and fifth periodic reports, which were submitted as one combined report in March 2000. The sixth periodic report is due in 2005.

Score: 2

c. Law

The current Egyptian Constitution has directly stated the national commitment to the equality of men and women. Several articles of the constitution support this commitment, many of which existed before the ratification of CEDAW. Many of the laws therefore relating to equality of men and women and supporting women's rights are constitutional rights that must be upheld, and have not necessarily been introduced as a direct impact of CEDAW. However, under Article 151 of the constitution

"The President of Republic shall conclude treaties and communicate them to the People's Assembly, accompanied with a suitable clarification.

They shall have the force of law after their conclusion, ratification and publication according to the established procedure"

Therefore upon ratification of CEDAW, following constitutional procedures, and the publication of the Convention in the Official Gazette issue No.51 (in Arabic) December 17th, 1981, the convention became law when it came into effect October 18th, 1981.

Articles in the Constitution and Egyptian laws supporting the principles stated in the Convention include:

Constitution:

- **Article 8:** The State shall guarantee equality of opportunity to all citizens.
- **Article 11:** The State shall guarantee the proper coordination between the duties of woman towards the family and her work in society, considering her equal with man in the fields of political, social, cultural and economic life without violation of the rules of Islamic jurisprudence.
- **Article 40:** All citizens are equal before the law. They have equal public rights and duties without discrimination between them due to race, ethnic origin, language, religion or creed.
- **Article 68:** The right to litigation is alienable for all, and every citizen has the right to refer to a competent judge.

Laws:

- **Article 130 of Law No.73 (1956)** stating any male or female over 18 years of age may exercise his/her political rights.
- **Article 4, as amended by Law No.4 (1979)** requiring men and women over 18 to register to vote.
- **Article 15 of Law No.139 (1981)** grants the right to all children, male and female, to free elementary education.
- The legal age of majority is 21 years of age for both males and females.

While there are many laws protecting and promoting equality between men and women, some laws still limit or contradict this constitutional right, especially those relating to family relations and

personal status law. It is important to note that any limitations placed on females in the private sphere will undoubtedly affect their ability to participate fully in the public sphere. Although, the government exerts great efforts towards achieving gender equality and promote women status, more efforts are needed to alleviate some areas of contradiction between laws and reality.

Score: 1

d. Policy Commitments

The National Council for Women (NCW) is the main institution responsible for the advancement of women in Egypt. The government commitment to bridging the gender gap in all fields of development is very clear with regards to NCW agenda and its plan for advancement for women. In this regard, NCW works to put the principles of CEDAW into effect and contribute to the implementation of Egypt's international commitment to one of the Millennium Development Goals namely gender equality. The NCW succeeded in mainstreaming gender into the National Plan for Economic and Social Development (2002-2007).

In its plan for the gender mainstreaming in the fabric of the national comprehensive development plan, NCW works on several components:

- The political component: asserts the constitutional clauses guarantee the full and unconditional equality between man and woman.
- The legislative components: NCW monitors law passed to ensure the principle of constitutional equality. In addition, NCW is subjecting a few discriminatory laws to expert examination. Efforts by NCW in subjecting some discriminatory laws are headed by its efforts in amending the personal status laws and passing the Kull law, which gives women equal ability to dismiss marriage relation.
- The organizational and administrative component: the efforts made to mainstream gender into the national plan require a complete change in work methods and the adoption of participatory planning. This indicates that women's needs should be first identified and then be used as the starting point in the planning departments of 22 relevant ministries.
- Research and training component: NCW developed a plan and then submitted it to the government. This plan was based on a scientific approach to planning, involving the incorporation of research, studies and translated literature on gender-sensitive development planning.
- Collective action component: as gender issues are multi-dimensional issues, NCW guarantees a great opportunity of cooperation to the civil society institutions, such as universities, research centers and NGOs, to identify the impact of discrimination on women in real life. This partnership relation is ensured in one of the NCW mandates according to the Presidential Decree "to coordinate among constitutional institutions and follow up the efforts made to improve women's conditions".

The government commitment to gender issues is embodied in the establishment of NCW which developed concrete steps and strategies for the advancement of women:

- The NCW proposed to 33 ministries the creation of Equal Opportunity Units. These units affiliated directly to the minister's office and are to underline issues of concern to working woman, integrate the issues in the ministry plans, stress the participation of women in all stages of decision making, and ensure that women obtain their constitutional rights in the workplace.
- NCW in coordination with the media channels work to raise the public awareness of the importance of women's participation in public life and the need to improve women's conditions as a part of the whole development process in Egypt.

- The development of a **National Plan for the Advancement of Women**, which was submitted in the NCW National Conference (March 2001). The main pillars of this plan will be discussed in the section on Development of a Plan.

Score: 2

e. Development of Plan

The NCW Plan for the Advancement of Women asserts the implementation of CEDAWs main principles. The process of developing this plan lasted for 18 months, starting with discussions and proposals discussed by members of the NCW annual national conference (March 2001) in consultation with planning officials in 22 ministries, the private sector and legislative bodies (in the People Assembly and the Shura Council). The conference was presided over by the First Lady and attended by main government main figures along with over 700 public figures, experts, and NGOs representatives.

Throughout the development of this plan, NCW engaged in certain activities:

- NCW held 58 panel discussions on mainstreaming the gender issues into the National Five-Year Plan.
- Extensive workshops were held to discuss the type, elements, methodology, and stages of strategic planning as well as stages involved in gender mainstreaming. These workshops included "Strategic Planning" and "Towards a Gender-Sensitive Budget and Auditing Process".
- Training programs were developed for the training of trainers in 22 ministries focusing on gender-sensitive monitoring and evaluation and performance based budget. With respect to training, 5 manuals were prepared on related issues such as budgets sensitive to women's needs, gender sensitive auditing and gender sensitive budgets and gender sensitive monitoring and evaluation.
- The capacity building and skills development were the main objectives of a comprehensive program for planning officials in various ministries and the ministry of planning. The focus was to inform the officials of gender related concepts and issues, creating strong bonds between planning officials in various ministries and the Ministry of Planning.

NCW prepared a comprehensive draft plan for gender mainstreaming into the National Economic and Social Plan (2002-2007). It was submitted to the Prime Minister and referred to the Minister of Planning.

Score: 2

f. Targets

The National Council for Women (NCW) is the institution responsible for planning for the advancement of women; it stated several targets:

- Incorporating gender in the state comprehensive plan for economic and social development.
- Rendering the state budget gender sensitive.
- Ensuring gender-sensitive monitoring and evaluation.

Score: 2

g. Institutional Mechanism

- **The National Council for Women (NCW)**, established by Presidential Decree No. 90, as an overall national coordinating and monitoring body, with the mandate to make policy recommendations, draft the national plan for the advancement of women, monitor and

evaluate national policies related to women's issues, express views and draft laws concerning women, and providing (2000). There are a number of Egyptian institutions and agencies established pursuant to constitutional principals, national policies and in accordance to committee recommendations, concerning the promotion and advancement of women's issues.

- **Women's Department, Ministry of Social Affairs**, established to develop policy and programs, monitor activities and provide recommendations.
- **Department for Mother and Child Care, Ministry of Health**, established to promote and monitor women's health and related issues.
- **Policy and Coordination Unit for Women's Agricultural Activities, Ministry of Agriculture**, established to coordinate women's activities in the field, disseminate information and provide overall support.
- **Division of Research on Women and Children, Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics**, established to conduct related research (1987).
- **National Council for Childhood and Motherhood (NCCM)**, established to coordinate between the concerned ministries, review related legislature, propose plans for the advancement of children and women, particularly rural women (1988).
- **Department of Human Rights and International social and Humanitarian Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs**, activities include and treaties, conventions, international activities relating to promoting women and children's issues (1992).
- **Ministry of Population and Family**, established to plan coordinate and monitor women's issues in population activities, such as family planning, mother and child health, public awareness campaigns, health education (1993).
- **Department for Women's Sports, Ministry of Youth**, established to promote and monitor women's sport and related issues (2002).
- **Department for Women, Childhood and Motherhood Affairs, Ministry of Youth**, established to coordinate with other ministries for the advancement of children and women (2002).

Score: 2

h. Budget

The main institution responsible for the implementation of CEDAW is NCW. In 2000, upon its inception, NCW had a nationally allocated budget of 15.9 million Egyptian Pounds (L.E). This is, in addition to, all other funds provided by bi-lateral and multi-national donors to the activities of NCW.

In its National Plan for the Advancement of Women, NCW directed investments to the inclusion of women into the national plans of all related ministries. In the Fourth National Five-Years plan (1997/98-2001/2002), the investment directed to the gender component exceeds 1,5 billion L.E. This budget included several ministries: Ministry of Agriculture (21.5 million L.E.), the Ministry of Education (596.6 million L.E.), Ministry of Health and Population (718 million L.E.), Ministry of Social Affairs (41.7 million L.E.), Ministry of Local Administration (46 million L.E.), and El Azhar El Sharif (Religious Institution) (74.3 million L.E.).

The total gender sensitive budget for the Fifth National Five-Year Plan 2002-2007 is 3256.6 million L.E. For further details about the distribution of this budget according to the ministries' general programs and the governorates, see tables below.

Due to the Egyptian system of budget presentation, it is not possible to define specific allocation to activities or projects. However, much work has been done to make the budgets gender sensitive at the ministerial level, and training has been provided (through the National Council for Women in

cooperation with UN agencies) on performance based budgeting and gender auditing, and gender sensitive budgets. In addition, since the principals of CEDAW are incorporated in the national plans, sufficient budget has to be allocated for the implementation of related activities.

Work on women and development, planning, training, education, awareness campaigns etc. in any Ministry or NGO is augmented by projects funded by a variety of international donors. These projects have to be implemented through an Egyptian executing agency that also has to contribute to the project through in-kind or monetary funds. These contributions are allocated from the agency's overall budget, determined by the government. So in effect, every activity in the field has some budgetary contribution from the government.

The National Plan for the Advancement of Women investment in the Fifth National Five-Year Plan 2002-2007 (Million L.E.)

Ministries	First year 2002/2003	Fifth National Five-Year plan 2002-2007
Education	91.52	498.33
High Education	39.85	297
El Azhar El-Sharif	5.7	64.8
Health and Population	200.85	984.25
Social Affairs	15.4	51.4
Agriculture and Reclamation	11.47	42.95
Local Development	33.5	176
Administrative Development	3	17
Culture	0.44	1.4
Al Awqaf	0.4	2
Environment	1.4	6.8
Youth and Sports	42.4	290.4
Manpower and Emigration	0.5	3
Local Trade	5.3	20
Information and Communications	103.9	708.4
Foreign Trade	4.9	12.6
Tourism	0.1	0.2
Housing, Public Utilities and New Communities	5.5	32.2
Industry and Technological Development	1.2	4
Civil Aviation	2.2	12.9
National Council for Women	8	40
Total	577.5	3256.6

Source: The National Plan for the Advancement of Women in the Fifth National Plan (2002-2007)

The investment of the National Plan for the Advancement of Women directed to the gender component in governorates (Thousands L.E)

Governorate	2002/2003	2006/2007
Cairo	45409	270544
Giza	2284	24137
El Qalubia	5416	20243
Alexandria	16393	97402
El Behera	10882	42765
Matrouh	577	2272
El Menophia	4952	34829
El Gharbia	228	19599
Kafr El-Sheik	3354	29842
Damyita	866	8270
El Dakahlia	9858	89337
North Saina	2018	9698
South Sinai	129	688
Port Said	5441	18567

Ismalia	3236	14314
El Swiz	81	498
El Sharkia	665	41133
Beni Sweif	2508	26850
El Faoum	6135	29320
El Menia	9451	41885
Assuit	8018	40930
New Valley	568	2415
Sohag	3865	32610
Quena	3246	28496
Luxor City	239	1300
Aswan	1986	14032
The Red Sea	586	1968
Un-distributed	258640	1245798
Total	415523	2189742

Source: The National Plan for the Advancement of Women in the Fifth National Plan (2002-2007)

The investment of the National Plan for the Advancement of Women directed to the gender component by ministries and projects (Thousands L.E.)

Projects	The Fifth Plan	1st year
The Ministry of Education		
One-class schools	36673	7360
Industrial (female)	157550	23410
Illiteracy eradication	498333	60000
The Ministry of High Education		
Cairo University	5000	1000
Faculty of Nursing	3000	1000
Faculty of childhood Caring	7000	1000
Nursing School	12000	3000
En Shams University		
Faculty of Girls	3500	550
Women and Delivery Diseases Hospital	6000	1000
Helwan University		
Faculty of Physical Education	60000	5000
Faculty of childhood Caring	15000	3700
Alexandria University		
Faculty of Physical Education (female)	2000	1000
Faculty of Nursing	5000	1500
Faculty of childhood Caring	2500	600
Women and Delivery Diseases Hospital	11000	2500

Al Mansoura University		
Education (Damyitta)	5000	-
Faculty of Nursing	8000	-
Women and Delivery Diseases Hospital	40000	2000
El Zakaziq University		
Faculty of Physical Education (female)	1000	500
Faculty of Nursing	2000	800
Faculty of Nursing (Banha)	5000	200
University of Tanta		
Faculty of Nursing	5000	700
El Menofia University		
Faculty of Nursing	5000	1000
Faculty of Economic House holding	10000	1250
Suez Canal University		
Faculty of Nursing (Port Said)	10000	2000
Assuit University		
Women's Health Center	7500	500
El Menia		
Faculty of Nursing	8000	1000
Al Azhar El Sherief		
Girl Students Hosting (Assuit)	5000	1000
Girl Students Hosting (Alexandria)	6000	1000
Islamic and Arabic Studies Faculty (Girls-Alexandria)	6500	1200
Girl Students Hosting (Al- Dakahlia)	4000	-
Islamic and Arabic Studies Faculty (Girls-Al- Sharkia)	4000	250
Girl Students Hosting (Cairo)	2200	340
Islamic and Arabic Studies Faculty (Girls-Cairo)	700	130
Main labs and Classrooms (Girls)	10000	-
Faculty of Economic House holdings (Cairo)	2500	-
Faculty of Pharmacy (Girls)	2500	-
Faculty of Islamic Studies (Beni Suief)	4000	-
Islamic and Arabic Studies Faculty (Girls-Kafr El Sheik)	10000	500
Ministry of Health and Population		
Develop Health services	71900	13650
Family Planning program	80000	20000
Motherhood and childhood caring services	40000	8000

Family caring services	100000	20000
Mother and child health	400000	80000
Mother health and family caring	200000	40000
Epidemics Unit	40000	8000
Dar El-Welada Hospital (Alexandria)	1350	200
Al Galai Hospital	47000	9000
Women and Delivery Diseases Hospital (Ismalia)	4000	2000
Ministry of Social Affairs		
Comprehensive family services	19400	3900
Rural woman development	14300	3595
Social Protection Initiative	14298	7300
Women research program	3400	600
Ministry of Local Development		
Holland's Fund for family planning project	12000	3500
Woman development-national program for rural comprehensive development	164000	30000
Ministry of Housing, Public Utilities and New Communities		
Covering women's needs	19500	4800
Developing Egyptian Women	1500	300
Developing Female workers	2200	400
Ministry of Agriculture and Reclamation		
Productive activities for female owners of the new land	22947	6272
Developing motherhood and childhood in rural areas	20000	4290
Ministry of Manpower and Emigration		
Women Building Capacity	3000	500
Ministry of Al Awqaf		
National Project for Women	2000	200
Ministry of Culture		
Women's clubs in Cultural centers	1400	400
Ministry of Industry and Technological Development		
Technical training for women	2500	800
Enhancing women's role	1500	400
Ministry of State for Administrative Development		
Performance development in central agency for administration (female workers in the public sector)	17000	3000
Ministry of Foreign Trade		
Performance development "Researches"	12533	4870

Ministry of Information and communication		
Enhance information industry exports	84280	14000
Training centers for information and communication	343850	45245
Developing the communication network	19530	2100
Developing information structure	147600	22080
Developing e-government	85500	9250
Modernize data bases	25125	11000
Performance development	2500	250
Ministry of State for Environmental Affairs		
Training programs on environment awareness	1300	260
Institutional capacity for women unit	5500	1100
Ministry of Youth and Sports		
Projects:	290400	42400
- 206 sport clubs		
- 3 youth centers		
- 900 youth centers in governorates		
- 21 youth camps in governorates		
Ministry of Local Trade		
Consumer protection units	10000	2800
Small markets	10000	2500
Ministry of Tourism		
Enhancing women' role in tourism activities	250	100
Ministry of Civil Aviation		
Developing information system center	600	347
Modernize means of transportation	3952	1120
Constructive activities	2950	675
Research and studies	5405	94

Source: The National Plan for the Advancement of Women in the Fifth National Plan (2002-2007)

Score: 2

i. Human resources

The National Council for Women is committed to the capacity building of its staff all over its 102 posts for its headquarters in Cairo and its branches in urban and rural governorates. The NCW is concerned with the capacity building of its human resources; therefore, the council with the help of ESCWA organizes training workshops on reporting on CEDAW. Moreover, there are regular training workshops on performance management and other needed skills that the NCW offers to its employees.

All personnel in the above named institutional mechanisms, as well as all persons working in any national institution with the mandate to deal with specific women related activities or issues are in effect working to implement the Convention. Having said that, there are examples of areas lacking

sufficient human resources such as in gender units in some ministries and lack of female health and social workers in rural areas.

Score: 1

j. Research

Several units are involved in specific research relating to equality of women:

- The Research Department at the National Council for Women
- The General Directorate of women's Affairs at the Ministry of Social Affairs
- The General Directorate for Mother and Child Care at the Ministry of Health
- The Gender and Policy Unit at the Ministry of Agriculture.
- The Gender Planning Unit at the National Institution of Planning.

This is in addition to research compiled by other Ministries and institutions to aid in policy making and the compilation of national statistics. Currently, NCW has a project on gender responsive policy that aims at training the members of the council on preparing policy papers. This project is funded by UNIFEM. As well, many international donors and NGOs publish research in cooperation with NCW and/or other government institutions. Still, efforts need to be directed towards compelling the gender-disaggregated data and to produce policy oriented research. A step in this direction is being taken as part of a joint NCW-UNFPA project.

Score: 1

k. Involvement of Civil Society

State policy has encouraged the establishment of NGOs; there were around 17,000 NGOs in Egypt. A coalition of NGOs was formed in 1997, and received extensive training (organised by UNICEF) on how to coordinate efforts and monitor the implementation of the Convention at the national and governorate level. One of the main objectives of this coalition was to raise awareness and capacity of other Egyptian NGOs in the field of women and development. Currently there are 34 NGOs in the coalition, representing 18 governorates, and working in the areas of advocacy, empowerment, gender mainstreaming, research, and partnership and alliance building.

Recently, NCW organized a consultative meeting with the NGOs for the first time to share their opinions on the government's upcoming report on CEDAW while it was still under preparation. It was clear that it is an attempt by NCW to involve the civil society in the reporting process. Civil society also has produces its own shadow reports.

Score: 1

l. Information and Dissemination

NCW has held several round table discussions and conferences open to Ministries, NGOs and media personnel to disseminate information on CEDAW and its articles, and open discussion on the status of women in Egypt.

The Ministry of Education has been very active in erasing stereotypes from its curricula, and including information on women's rights. Media campaigns strongly advocate women's rights and actively discuss information and issues of importance such as media broadcasting of successful women figures in all fields and reduce physical and verbal violence against women in media programs.. As well as institutional mechanisms that provide information and dissemination efforts on CEDAW, NGOs are also active in this field.

Score: 2

m. Monitoring and Evaluation

NCW is the main agency responsible for monitoring and evaluation of CEDAW. It is responsible to collect, monitor and evaluate the work of all ministries and NGOs, write reports, make recommendations based on these reports, as well as policy proposals.

Score: 2

8.2 Optional Protocol

a. Ratification

The Republic of Egypt did not ratify the Optional Protocol regarding complaint mechanisms.

Score: 0

The remainder of the horizontal axis is not applicable.

8.3 Article 2

a. Ratification

As noted above, a reservation was made on Article 2 upon ratification of the convention. This was a general reservation and did not signify non-compliance, as long as compliance does not contradict with Shari'a Law. Since the ratification of the convention, Egypt has made progressive efforts that would lead to the withdrawal of almost all its initial reservations, particularly reservations to Article 2, 9 (2), and 16 of CEDAW. The government of Egypt has initiated an internal process to demonstrate that the reservation to article 2 was just precautionary in nature, and was not in any way meant to protect discriminatory laws.

The inclusion of particular attention to Article 2 in the Progress Board relates specifically to paragraph 2 (a), which calls on countries to "embody the principle of equality of men and women in their national constitutions or other appropriate legislation." This was included in the index because not all African countries have anti-discrimination clause in their constitution. Egypt however does have many such clauses, as described above in the section on CEDAW. Therefore, despite the reservation, with specific regard to Article 2 (a), Egypt does indeed have anti-discriminatory laws as provided for in the constitution (listed above).

Score:2

b. Reporting

Article 2 is reported upon in the periodic reports submitted.

Scoring for this Article is the same on all other indicators in the horizontal axis for CEDAW as it is incorporated in CEDAW and implemented in the same manner as other Articles in the Convention.

Score: 2

8.4 Article 16

a. Ratification

As previously noted a reservation was made on Article 16 upon signature and confirmed upon ratification concerning male and female equality during marriage and upon its dissolution, stating contradiction with Shari'a Law.

Since ratification, considerable effort has been exerted to withdraw this reservation. For all other paragraphs under this article, there were no reservations.

Score: 2

b. Reporting

Article 16 was reported upon in the periodic reports submitted.

Score: 2

c. Laws

Law No.1 of 2000 (khu'l law) is a giant step forward in bringing equality to marriage relations. The Law allows women to initiate divorce proceedings considering they surrender their financial rights. The Law also allows women to provide stipulations to the marriage contract, including restricting polygamy (allowed under 'Shari'a').

In an attempt to encourage the dissolution of unregistered marriages, and encourage registration of marriage contracts, Article 18 of law No.1 of 2000 also allowed a legal remedy to those wishing to dissolve unregistered marriages. Previously a woman had no such legal recourse, and if she chose to re-marry and register the new contract she could find herself criminally charged with being married to two men.

The law states that the legal age of consent for females is 16, and for males is 18. The marriage contract must be registered officially, and marriage status must appear on all official identification papers. There are no legal barriers for males or females to consensually enter into marriage, as long as it is with full and free consent.

Other laws relating to regulation of litigation procedures of the personal status law are under review.

Score:2

Scoring for this Article is the same on all other indicators in the horizontal axis for CEDAW as it is incorporated in CEDAW and implemented in the same manner as other Articles in the Convention.

9.0 The African Charter of Human and People's Rights – Women's Rights Protocol Harmful Practices

The protocol in Article 5 tackles the issue of eliminating all harmful practices against women. The protocol obliges its all-state parties to condemn and prohibits all forms of harmful practices, which negatively affect women's human rights and which contradict with all international standards. It aims at implementing all measures to prohibit exploitation or degradation of women, protect women from all forms of violence, including sexual and verbal whether violence takes place in private or in public spheres. It also obliged its state parties to prohibit the trafficking of women.

Although Egypt ratified the African Charter on Human and People's Rights in 1984, it did not ratify the protocol.

Several traditional practices that are particularly harmful to females still exist in Egyptian society. Female genital mutilation or cutting (FGM/C) is the most common of those practices as data show that 97% of ever married women were subjected to FGM and that more than 80% of them have the

intention to subject their daughters to the same practice (Egypt Demographic and Health Survey, 2000)

a. Ratification

In 1981, Egyptian experts were elected to the commission, which from its inception accorded special rights to women. An Egyptian expatriate was one of the experts involved in the formulation of the women's right's protocol. Although Egypt ratified the African Charter on Human and People's Rights in 1983, it did not ratify the Protocol on Women's Rights. The adopted protocol requires 15 signatures to be ratified. Currently there are three state parties who have ratified the Charter and more than 30 signatories.

Among the reservations made by Egypt to the Charter are:

Article 7:

Sets the legal age for marriage at 18 for males and females, prohibits polygamy, requires official records of marriage, grants men and women the same rights concerning their children, allows married women to keep their maiden name and allows children to use either the mother's name, father's name or both.

The reservation to this article was to rising the legal marriage age to 18 for both females and males. In some rural areas in Egypt, 16 is already considered an advanced age to marry. In line with the Egyptian context and to aid people to abide by the law and actively register marriages, it was not in the best interest of the people to rise the age of marriage for females.

Article 8:

Stipulates that dissolution or annulment of marriage be affected only by judicial order, grants men and women the same rights and responsibilities upon entering, during and at the dissolution of, marriage regarding their children and property.

Law No.1 of 2000 already addresses equality in marriage relations, and the legal requirement to register marriage contracts. In Egypt, women keep their maiden name, and their estates are not fused with their spouse's. She also has its financial estate.

Article 14:

Grants protection of women's reproductive rights, including the right for women to seek abortion in cases of rape and incest.

This reservation has not been lifted because it is against Shari'a Law that protects the sanctity of all life, including that of a foetus. Law in cases grants abortion where the life of a mother or child is in danger.

Article 20:

Grants women full guardianship of her children in the event of her husband's death.

Mothers are granted the guardianship of all minor children, females up to the age of 12, and males up to the age of 10. Normally, in the event of a husband's death, a mother is granted guardian ship of her children, unless family male members otherwise contest this. Rulings in these cases depend on individual circumstances.

Article 21:

Grants the surviving spouse inheritance of any property, grants boys and girls equal inheritance rights

In Egypt inheritance laws are regulated by Shari'a. Male and female shares of the inheritance differ from one case to another depending on relationship to the deceased. In certain cases, female members may have more than male.

It is important to note that many of the articles in this protocol have been in one way or another proposed or stated in many other conventions on women and children's rights. Egypt's reservations to these articles echo the same reservations made to similar articles in other conventions and treaties based on their contradictions to Shari'a law. Where no such contradictions arise, the State has made every effort to withdraw its reservations.

Score: 0

b. Reporting

No reporting is necessary since the Protocol was not ratified. However, the subject of the protocol is reported upon in CEAW, Beijing PFA.

Although there is no official system for reporting FGM cases, Egypt rep[orts to the CEDAW concerned with eliminating all forms of discrimination against women and left all violence and all harmful practices against them. It is expected that any person can report a case if he/she is informed about it. Physicians who perform this procedure are reported to the MOHP that is responsible to take the necessary measures against the performer. However, as many Egyptians believe that the practice is a respected tradition and some believe that it is also encouraged by the religion cases are rarely reported. Cases are only reported if the girl's life is at jeopardy as a result of the procedure or if she dies in the process.

Score: 0

c. Laws

Since the Protocol was not ratified, no specific laws were developed to legislate the articles. However, since its articles are incorporated in CEDAW, reference should be made to the corresponding section above.

Egypt does not have a specific law against FGM yet. However, several decrees were issued prohibiting the practice. Decrees are strong regulatory mechanisms and may have an effect as powerful as a law. In 1996, the Minister of Health issued the most recent decree and Population banning the practice in public health care facilities and punishing any provider who performs FGM in a public health facility.

As the National Council for Women is the institution responsible for the advancement of women, it also deals with the eliminations of harmful practices conducted against women. The NCW establishes the Ombudsman offices, which receives all women's complaints whether they are private or public complaints. The office tries to help women to solve their problems and alleviate all public or private unjust against women. The National Task Force was created to coordinate efforts and mobilize forces to eliminate FGM.

Several government laws tackle the issue of protecting women suffering from violence whether in the private or the public sphere.

- **Articles 260-263** on penalties provide short-tem hard-labour imprisonment for a person responsible for causing an abortion in a female victim due to beating, abuse or induced drugs. The penalties maybe applied to the woman if she is a willing participant.
- **Law No. 6** specifically addresses domestic violence, intimidation and the threat to use force. The penalty is a minimum of two years in prison, five if the threat was made against a female or minor.

Score: 1

d. Policy Commitment

Although the Protocol has not been ratified and should not be scored, the strong policy commitment by the State to remove the reservations and move towards ratification of the Protocol has to be mentioned. As clearly indicated in the section on CEDAW, there is strong commitment to gender equality and to reducing discrimination against women in all areas.

Egypt is highly committed to eliminate the practice of FGM/C at all levels. The first Lady supports several efforts to eliminate the practice by raising awareness of parents towards the drawbacks of the practice. Egypt hosted several international conferences calling for the elimination of FGM/C and the First Lady inaugurated the international STOP FGM conference in Cairo that called for the necessity to have laws banning the practice in African countries where it is still widely spread. Two days seminar held in Cairo on 16-17 January 2000. Forty participants representing NGOs and governmental organizations working in the field of FGM, donor agencies and research institutions attended it.

Religious leaders, both Muslims and Christians, are involved in campaigns against FGM and participate in national and international conferences. The MOHP banned the practice in public health care facilities and providers who are found to perform such a procedure may be suspended or subjected to temporary withdrawal of their license or other forms of punishment. Medical faculties are raising awareness of medical and nursing students to eliminate FGM.

Both the National Council for Women (NCW) and the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood (NCCM) have activities at the national policy level and at the local governorate levels to reduce and eliminate the practice of FGM. NCCM is working at the grass-root level as well to involve the community in the elimination efforts. The Ministry of Education introduced some information about the hazards of FGM.

Government strategy to combat the practice followed more than one approach traditional awareness-raising activities disseminate information about this practice and create a sense of public debate about FGM in the popular media and local public discourse.

Score: 2

e. Development of a Plan

Issues relating to women's/human's rights and gender equality are integrated in the overall national strategic development plan. The specific articles of the Protocol are accounted for under the various chapters on violence against women, and social and economic empowerment of women.

There are several plans to eliminate FGM/C particularly by the NCCM, the plan includes phased approach to the elimination of FGM and has several levels of interventions at the national policy level informing policy makers and involving the media and another level for community participation and involvement of civil society at the governorate and village levels. Other governmental bodies have ad/hoc activities, short term plans to address the issue and FGM are part of other plans addressing all forms of gender-based violence.

In 1999, the Ministry of Social Affairs signed a project agreement with the UNICEF, UNFPA and WHO to combat all practices harmful to women, including eradicating this practice by 2010.

June 2003, Egypt hosted the conference of the Afro-Arab Expert Consultation on "Legal Tools for the Prevention of Female Genital Mutilation". The conference stressed the need to apply a comprehensive strategy for combating this practice. It promotes the legal tools to combat it and then the role of education and raising social public awareness through dissemination knowledge to the informal

leaders in the rural areas. In addition, media plays important role through its successful programs to inform the public with the children's and women's rights.

Although there is a ministerial decree that bans this practice, the conference calls for more tide legal system for this battle.

Score: 1

f. Targets

Although the government did not ratify the Protocol, it is obvious that there are efforts exerted to lift its reservations as Egypt is committed to achieve the goals of the Protocol as evident in its commitment to other regional and international conventions.

The target for Egypt is to eliminate FGM/C. Girls between the ages of ten and fourteen are the ones at highest risk of exposure to FGM. However, girls at this age are not the decision-makers about FGM, which is encouraged and enforced by the mothers, grandmothers and other family members. The practice is done as a result of a mix of both traditional and religious beliefs and hence it is not easy to eliminate it as it has been deeply rooted in Egyptian tradition. Most efforts are done targeting mothers, grandmothers and religious leaders. Health care providers are also being targeted now as a shift was noticed in the pattern of performing the practice towards favouring physicians rather than the usual traditional providers such as the traditional birth attendant. The shift was a result of emphasizing the physical hazards of the FGM procedure, which led to people preferring the safety of the environment and the skills available at health care facilities.

Score: 1

g. Institutional Mechanism

The MOHP has, under the auspices of the population sector, a division working with NGOs and through this division the work on FGM is coordinated. The young age of the affected group reduces their chances to be in contact with the health care system. The result is that there is no mechanism that is institutionalized and that can be easily used to work towards the elimination of FGM. Most of the FGM elimination work is done through NGOs. Currently, the NCCM is providing an institutional framework through which major NGOs are supporting the efforts for elimination in the community.

With the establishment of National Human Rights Council in 2004, it has become the national mechanism for coordination and monitoring of human rights activities. In addition, the Ministries of Interior, Justice and Foreign Affairs all have human rights departments.

Score: 1

h. Budget

The budget allocated to human/women's rights activities is both national and foreign, and is distributed among all organisations working in the field, including NGOs.

Although money is being allocated, and NGOs do receive national subsidies for their work, more money needs to be allocated for awareness campaigns.

There are several sources of funding for FGM elimination efforts mainly from the donor community. FGM is still a priority for many bilateral and multi-lateral donors. Some do not directly fund those efforts but they are covered through other reproductive health and reproductive rights activities. The UNDP is leading a large number of donors in supporting the NCCM program, UNICEF and UNFPA have programs supporting national councils and NGOs, the European Union, Canadian CIDA, the Ford Foundation, USAID, the World Bank, CEDPA, the International Population Council and others

are supporting research, positive models, development of curricula and training materials, training activities and efforts for networking with other African countries. NGOs based outside Egypt are also providing financial and technical support particularly Italian AIDOS and Rainbo. As mentioned earlier some of the support is direct and some is indirect. The government is not providing direct funds for the elimination of FGM making the sustainability of such efforts largely dependent on availability of funding.

The budget directed to the eradication of such a practice is divided among the related ministries such as the Ministry of Health and Population, NCCM, and others.

In addition to the official funding, civil society and international organizations fund some activities and projects related to this issue.

The UNDP funds the three-year US\$ 2.6 million initiative seeks to end FGM in 60 villages in six governorates in Upper Egypt.

Score: 1

i. Human Resources

Most people who work on the elimination of FGM come from the non-governmental sector. The MOHP is doing several efforts coordinating NGOs in the field but the human resources available in MOHP or in any other governmental institution is still inadequate and needs to be strengthened in both quantity and quality.

Training programs are conducted for the health staff and the community leaders through some NGOs.

Training programs should focus not only on the health hazards of this practice but also on the social, religious and legal practice of this.

Training programs directed to all human rights' activists on the issue of harmful practices against women should base on the participatory techniques and problem-solving exercises.

These training programs and seminars are directed equally to men and women.

There needs to be more emphasis on training and specialisation. As well, there need to be more human rights focal points in ministries and government institutions. NCW with some concerned ministries such as the Ministry of Interior launched several training courses for employees on how to deal with human rights related issues, particularly women's rights.

Score: 1

j. Research

Much research has been completed, especially by NGOs. However, the majority of this research is academic in nature and is usually completed as a graduate thesis requirement.

The research on the social, cultural, medical, religious and educational aspects of FGM are abundant. At the national level the Egypt Demographic and Health Survey (EDHS) provides prevalence data as well as expected trends in attitudes towards FGM, who performs it, and socio-cultural aspects of the practice. Research is also available on physicians' attitudes, opinion leaders, girls in schools and approaches to tackle the problem of medicalization of FGM. Many NGOs conduct research to inform policy makers and to improve the understanding of the socio-cultural dimensions of FGM. In addition to the research, there are NGOs that are involved in the documentation and dissemination of case studies highlighting the success of some villages and/ or families in stopping the practice in their communities.

Despite the fact that data collected about the harmful practices against women are usually inaccurate, research, surveys and case studies should be conducted in order to be able to combat these practices.

The inaccuracy of data usually results from the inability of harmed women to report, they may be shy of doing this, and afraid of not being believed, facing more violent practices or ignorance of her rights. The harmful practices within the family premises are also another challenge that faces the government efforts to collect data and have a trustful database.

Score: 1

k. Involvement of Civil Society

The civil society is leading the battle against FGM. It is due to the long-term and continuous efforts of the civil society that MOHP, NCCM and other governmental bodies are now paying attention to and donors are supporting these efforts. The civil society was involved in FGM elimination long before the ICPD in 1994 drew attention to the problem in Egypt. The Coptic Evangelical Organization for Social Services (CEOSS), one of the largest NGOs in the field of community development succeeded to eliminate FGM in some villages of the very conservative and traditional communities in Upper Egypt by using an integrated approach to development, which focused on several aspects of women empowerment particularly female education.

Others worked to raise community awareness of the negative effects of FGM, the Association for the Protection of the Environment is another organization that included FGM in both its literacy programs and in developmental activities in the community it serves, the very poor garbage collectors' community. The New Women Research Center was one of the first NGOs to introduce the rights-based approach to eliminate FGM.

The Egyptian Task Force, which was established after the ICPD 1994, involved several NGOs and was committed to inform policy-makers and to help to disseminate evidence for the development of laws and policies. Caritas Egypt, the Association for the Development and Empowerment of Women (ADEW), the NGOs network, which was formed by leading members of the Task Force, the Egyptian fertility Care Society, the Association for the Elimination of Harmful Practices, the Egyptian Family Planning Association are some of the major NGOs contributing to the issue of FGM. NGOs provide support to the issue not only as advocates to eliminate this practice but also as researchers, trainers, community leaders and informants about the issue.

Egyptian Society for Prevention of Harmful Traditional Practices against Women and Children (ESPHTP) is a leading NGO in this field. It targets students of social faculties, doctors, nurses and teachers.

Some NGOs including the Coptic Evangelical Organization for Social Services (CEOSS), the Coptic Organization for Services and Training (COST) and the Jesuit and Frere Association integrate in anti-FGM messages into community development activities.

Several NGOs have included the topic of FGM in their two-year literacy programs. These classes are conducted in cooperation with the national Authority for literacy and adult learning.

Furthermore, the USAID in Cairo is currently carrying out the some efforts to combat this practice. The population project supports training on the hazards of this practice as part of reproductive health training programs for the Ministry of Health and Population workers who provide family planning services through a network of 3,800 clinics in all 27 provinces. The USAID grants research, action and information network for the Bodily Integrity of Women (RAINBO), which works with Egypt's FGM/FGC Taskforce to Develop training materials.

Score: 2

l. Information and Dissemination

Since media programs target the majority of the population, it was seen as the most effective avenue of dissemination on human/women's rights. As well, training programs have been specifically designed to raise the awareness of law enforcement personnel on human rights issues. Radio and T.V. Unions established a special women's committee responsible for setting national strategies, plans and programs to enhance women's status.

Several channels are used to disseminate information on FGM and its hazards. Those, depending on the target, include the use of mass media to discuss openly the issue and the socio-cultural and medical aspects related to it. Seminars were used to disseminate results of studies to policy-makers, workshops and training for health care providers and most importantly community out-reach and education to inform the people about the issue.

Official and non-official activities focus on information and communication seminars and workshops that are designed to reach policy makers, community leaders, future mothers, nursing, various male groups, health workers and Dayas (TBAs).

On the other hand, the senior Islamic authority in Egypt, Sheikh of Al A zhar and the Mufti, have stated publicly on a number of occasions that this practice is not required by Islam and the practice is only a question of health. Furthermore, the leader of the Egyptian Coptic community, Pope Shenouda, has also stated publicly that this practice is not required for religious reasons.

Score: 2

m. Monitoring and evaluation

Reports are submitted by the state to committees formed to monitor UN conventions on Human Rights. As well, Egypt responds actively to questions by human rights observatory organisations such as Amnesty International. Egyptian NGOs also submit shadow reports where required and often form part of the national delegation to major conventions.

The only available reliable source for monitoring is the Egypt DHS results. So far, the prevalence of FGM was reported in the 1995 and 2000 surveys. Because the practice is prohibited by the Ministerial decree and as it is culturally valued, people do not report those who perform the cutting nor those who seek the service. There are also, no official records of FGM cases. It is, therefore, difficult to monitor progress in the efforts towards elimination for the time being. The EDHS also provides insight on changes in attitudes towards FGM, which is very important in measuring trends and changes over time. Several smaller scale studies take place for example the Egyptian Fertility Care Society and CEOSS conducted studies, UNICEF studied attitudes of people who influence public opinion, others studied the role of religious leaders to just mention a few studies that help to reflect changes in attitudes and/ or practices though they cannot really be considered as tools for monitoring and evaluation.

The Ministry of Health and Population is the agency responsible for monitoring and evaluating the efforts directed to the eradication of FGM.

The National Council for Women is the agency responsible for the advancement of women in Egypt. NCW is monitoring and evaluation the status of women with regard to the harmful practices conducted against them, as the NCW is responsible for reporting to the President and to the regional and international agencies concerned the advancement of women. NCW reports to the CEDAW.

Score: 1

E: SOCIAL

10. The Beijing Platform for Action

a. Ratification

The platform for action needs no ratification.

b. Reporting

Egypt submitted a country Report at Beijing+5, the Beijing +10 has been prepared and is ready for presentation.

Score: 2

c. Law

New family courts have been established for the purpose of further protecting the human rights of women and their children.

Article 20 of Law No.1 of 2000 for the first time grants a woman the right to initiate divorce proceedings (Khul), provided she denounce her right to alimony. This law, although still needs better implementation, is a great step towards equality of women at the dissolution of marriage.

Some laws still need to be amended in order to provide true gender equality. While there are steps to being greater gender equality to marriage and family relations, some laws such as the adultery law, which do not compromise the Shari'a in any way, are still biased against women.

Score: 1

d. Policy commitment

The government is committed to exert great efforts with regard to all Beijing +5 main areas of concerns.

A bill was discussed by the *Shura* Council (State Consultative Council) supporting Women's Small and Medium Enterprises. This was in recognition that poverty has greater impact on women, and that women need greater support for economic empowerment.

The Egyptian government is currently amending the Nationality Law to guarantee total gender equality. Under this law the Egyptian women can transfer her nationality to her children. This is a great achievement for Egyptian women, and is a very positive sign that Egypt is willing to consider a change in stance on reservations it may have made to articles in CEDAW promoting greater gender equality.

Policy commitment is strong to being about changes in the Beijing Critical Areas of Concern, however, as with CEDAW and issues of violence against women (mentioned below) more needs to be done.

Score: 1

e. Development of plan

In April of 1996, the Second National Conference on Women was organised by the National Commission of Women, in cooperation with NCCM and chaired by the First Lady. The main goal of the conference was to formulate policies for the advancement of women, to be incorporated in the Fifth National Five-year Plan (1997-2002), in line with the Beijing PFA.

The Conference adopted several recommendations relating to specific Areas of Concern, including:

1. Legislation:

- A review of all legislation relating to women and amend any conflicting provisions, to be conducted in cooperation with the National Commission for Women.
- The formulation of adequate guarantees in respect of the implementation of existing laws.
- The development of appropriate means of making women aware of their legal rights.

2. Participation in Public Life:

- Action to ensure participation by women in all projects and programmes contained in the prospective Fourth National Five-Year Plan in order to translate into practice the principle of effective participation by women in all areas of public life.
- Development of methods and programmes aimed at conferring greater political effectiveness on women and enabling them to exercise their political rights to the fullest.
- The Ministry of Administrative Development adopted a program for the development of the Central Agency for Organization and Administration performance focusing on women's training.
- Cooperation with NCW to increase women's overall participation in the public life. As a result several women are now members of the sportive administrative panel and the Egyptian Olympic Committee. The Ministry of Youth had the authority to nominate female members to this panel if no one was elected.

3. Health:

- Development of practical policies for the effective participation of women in efforts to deal with the problems of the population explosion, environmental degradation, drug addiction, fanaticism and terrorism.
- The Ministry of Health adopted several programs for improving women health and medical services, such as the family planning program, woman and child health, family health services and motherhood and childhood caring services.

Specific targets included:

- Decrease women fertility rate from 4.7 birth/women in 1995 to 4.2% in 2000.
- Encourage search and studies to increase women awareness and media dissemination of women health issues.
- Increase number of women health care centres and develop women health departments in the existing hospitals

4. Economic Participation:

- The application of appropriate measures to enable women to participate in economic development and attain full employment, making them effective in raising the productivity of Egyptian society in full integration with men in all fields and activities, with a view to help society to overcome the problems arising from global economic competition in the twenty-first century.
- The Ministry of Local Trade worked for the inclusion of women in its plans, i.e. the consumer protection program which provides women with more job opportunities and maximizes benefits from the family spending.
- Ministry of Social Affairs adopted a plan for women development aiming at improving women's economic status through training and working women's services. 3.3% of the ministry investments are directed to this project.

- The Ministry of Local Development adopted “El-Shorok” program in cooperation with the National Council of Women and includes women in the program to encourage their participation in development plans.
5. Social Status of Women:
- Appropriate action to enhance the situation of women with respect to education, culture, health and social status in the context of the full, integrated development of their abilities, with a view to raising the level of their accomplishments and their contribution to the work of social advancement.
 - The Ministry of Social Affairs directed 6.1% (30.320 million L.E.) of its investment to the “complete services for women, children and family” project. The ministry established nursery schools, hostility houses for women victims, and psychological and social rehabilitation offices.
6. Education:
- Action to eradicate illiteracy, increase access to schools, increases girls' enrolment rates, revise stereotypical views in the curricula and provide kindergartens.
 - The Ministry of Social Affairs directed 2.3% of its investment to the “administrative training centers”, which aim at improving women's work quality and provide them with financial and technical assistance.
7. Women's Rights and Duties:
- Action to provide information on women's rights in schools, generate information and dissemination methods, enhance the image of women in society.
8. Women and the environment:
- Law:
- The establishment of the Ministry of Environment and a unit to enhance women's roles as environment champions and agents of change. The first minister was woman.
 - The project of Cairo Air (CAIP) headed by a woman.
 - The Ministry of Environmental Affairs established a special unit for women as part of the institutional capacity enhancement of the environmental affairs agency in cooperation with NCW to investigate the effects of the environmental problems on women and to increase the environmental awareness in the illiteracy elimination classes. 12.435 million L.E is the total budget for the project.
 - A Project with DANIDA about enhancing women awareness of the environmental problems.
 - The Egyptian Program for the Environmental Policies aims at the inclusion of women in the environmental awareness campaigns.
9. Policy commitment:
- Awareness campaigns among women as key players in the environmental preservation process. These campaigns aim at promoting women as natural resources managers, improving living conditions in urban slums and rural Egypt.
 - National campaigns for environmental awareness launched through main TV channels and Radio.
10. Involvement of the NGOs and civil society:
- The government entered number of initiatives with all stakeholders, NGOs and private sector to combat environmental pollutants and hazards.

Score: 1

f. Targets

The recommendations were presented to the Council of Ministers who developed them into programmes of action that were incorporated into the Fifth National Five Year plan to achieve the following:

- Greater educational opportunities for Egyptian girls, including higher enrolment rates for girls than for boys, as compensation for the past disadvantageous position of women in that respect, especially in the area of basic education. Under the five-year plan, funding was provided for the construction of new schools and one-classroom schools expressly designed for the education of girls who have not had an opportunity of attending primary school. The plan also made provision for kindergarten facilities and devoted particular attention to the issue of educational opportunities for children with special needs, including both gifted children and children with disabilities of various kinds.
- Continued implementation and expansion of programmes designed to eradicate illiteracy among women, to compensate them for their past disadvantage in the area of educational opportunity and to eliminate the gap between male and female illiteracy rates, and the concurrent development of various programmes designed to eliminate women's educational handicaps, whether school related or of economic, social or cultural origin.
- Action to ensure that all school programmes include information about women's rights and duties.
- Action to raise women's cultural awareness with a view to promoting their understanding of their rights and duties and enabling them to benefit as soon as possible from economic and social programmes designed to foster their growth and development, prepare them to play a meaningful role in the life of Egyptian society, and help them eliminate all barriers to their effective participation in the development of the culture in which they live.
- Action to upgrade women's health by giving priority to disease-prevention programmes targeting both women themselves and their families, boys and girls alike, and by providing the full range of health care required by women in successive stages of their lives as girls, wives and mothers.
- Action to enhance the social status of women through programmes aimed at promoting their participation in the advancement of all aspects of society. Priority was given to remote villages and hamlets where women are in greater need of benefits and services.
- Implementation of all these programmes and projects through constructive cooperation and effective action on the part of government departments and agencies and People's Assemblies, and through effective participation by women themselves.

The principals of Beijing PFA have since been incorporated in every national developed plan. Since its inception in 2000, The National Council for Women (NCW) has been in charge of developing new strategies for women's empowerment and ensuring that these strategies are taken into consideration in the national development plans. Particular focus has been given to a number of Critical Areas of Concern namely; education and training, healthcare and health related services, economic structures and policies, power and decision making, and mechanisms promoting the advancement of women human rights

In March 2004, NCW has its Fourth Annual National Conference, which focused on gender, and the Millennium Development Goals. Several research and policy papers were presented on how to better incorporate gender needs in the upcoming national plan.

Score: 2

g. Institutional Mechanism

Several institutional mechanisms are working in an effort to reduce socio-economic gender gaps and address women's strategic social, economic and political empowerment needs:

- **The National Council for women** was established by presidential decree No. 90 as a national mechanism for coordination of women's issues. Specifically, the NCW established an Ombudsman office in 2002 to receive complaints from women with regard to gender discrimination. In two years, it has received over 7000 complaints. The office has appointed lawyers and installed a toll-free hotline. The complaints deal with gender discrimination at the work place, personal status law, domestic violence and inheritance. One of the Council's important activities has been in cooperation with the Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Local Development and NGOs. A national campaign was launched that helped women obtain identification cards. Given that a very high number of women, particularly in rural areas, do not have ID's, and given that many of their rights to services, pensions, compensations cannot be accessed without them, this many women to gain access to health, social and credit services they have been previously denied.
- **National Council for Childhood & Motherhood** was established in 1998 to deal with childhood issues, including health and education and Motherhood issues including family planning and maternal care.
- **National Council for Human Rights** was established in 2004 to deal with all human rights complaints and issues, including women's rights.
- **The Social Fund for Development** provides women with credit to enable them to start their own businesses. This has been particularly successful in the case of rural women.
- **The Ministry of Housing Utilities and Settlements** has started a new mechanism which provides female employees with interest-free loans.

Score: 2

h. Budget

There is no specific budget for the implementation of the Beijing PFA. Nonetheless, within the overall budget allocated to various ministries and institutions there is a budget allocated for gender-specific activities. Some of the budget allocations resulting from the outcomes of Second National Conference on Women and included in the Fifth National Five Year Plan include:

The Ministry of Health:

- 71 million L.E. for developing the health services.
- 80 million L.E. for family planning programs.
- 40 million L.E. for motherhood and childhood services.
- 100 million for family care services.

Ministry of Local Trade:

The ministry adopted the "small markets" projects to improve the economic status of women in the rural areas. 20 million L.E is the budgeted for this and the consumer protection project mentioned above.

Ministry of Social Affairs:

The Ministry also directed 4.1% (20.534 million L.E.) of its investment to the productive family projects, which aims at improving the family's economic status and providing women with new small business. Sixty seven percent of the project beneficiaries are women.

Ministry of Local Development:

Shoruok program one of its target is to improve the household women economic status and directed 190.953 million L.E. for the Fifth National Plan 2002-2007.

The Ministry of Housing, Public Utilities and New Communities:

114,100 million for improving urban women's capabilities and capacities

While budget allocations are a great step forward towards more gender sensitive budgets, it is fair to say that more needs to be allocated to training programs, and capacity building.

Score: 1

i. Human Resources

Both NCW and NCCM are dedicated to working on the principals of Beijing platform for action, in addition to the various desks and departments noted above. NCW is constantly holding workshops and training programs aimed at enhancing the capacity of Ministries and NGOs to mainstream gender issues in all their activities.

Still, greater efforts need to be exerted to provide personnel with better training and capacity to implement their work. As well, their needs to be greater support staff within ministries to monitor plans and activities and ensure that they are in line with CEDAW and the Beijing PFA.

Score: 1

j. Research

The Ministry of Manpower and Emigration conducted a labour and market survey including a listing of professions in demand as well as those that are saturated

Under the Protocol of Cooperation between the National Council for Women and the Information and Decision Support Centre (IDSC), a survey will be conducted to collect data on social, educational, and economic and health needs of rural women.

Research is usually in the areas of economic, educational, or health data. However, much of the statistics are not sex-disaggregated. Data on controversial health or social issues, such as abortions, HIV/AIDS, violence against women is not readily available.

Score: 1

k. Involvement of Civil Society

The "General Federation of NGOs" is responsible for coordinating between the Ministry of Education and the various NGOs working in the field of female literacy and education, in order to better enhance and support efforts in education and training. The Federation has also entered into protocols of cooperation with several institutions, ministries, and NGOs aiming at enhancing women's chances to receive vocational and technical training.

Overall, there have been various very successful projects and programs directed at capacity building, vocational training, micro-credit, and skill enhancement that have been implemented by NCW in collaboration with a network of active NGOs.

Score: 2

l. Information and dissemination

All the institutions noted above have been very active in providing training and awareness campaigns that inform women of their rights. NGOs, particularly in rural areas, have the full support of central institutions for information provision and dissemination. Radio and Television are also widely used to inform the public and provide discussion forums on women's issues.

Score: 1

m. Monitoring and Evaluation

NCW is the institution responsible for monitoring, evaluating and reporting on the Beijing PFA Critical Areas of Concern as they relate to Egypt. The Council works in constant cooperation and coordination with the various ministries, institutions, NGOs and international donors working in the field.

Score: 2

11. VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

11.1 Domestic Violence

11.2 Rape

11.3 Sexual Harassment

11.4 Traffic in Women

Violence against women is included in both CEDAW and in the Beijing Declaration and Platform of Action. In this section it is more coherent and less repetitive to report on all four components together as many of policies, laws and mechanisms of implementation address violence against women with its various components together. In cases where there may be a different score for any of the components, it is indicated.

a. Ratification

These policies do not require ratification. However they are included in CEDAW which Egypt ratified, without reservation to any of these policies. They are also incorporated in the Critical Areas of Concern of the Beijing Platform for Action. Egypt also acceded to The Convention for the Suppression of Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of others. As such, articles of this convention become law as per Presidential Decree No. 884 of 1959.

Score: X

b. Reporting

Egypt reports on these issues in its reports to the above mentioned Conventions.

Score: 2

c. Law

The Penal Code categorizes all instances of violence against women as a crime. This includes social and economic violence. The following laws relate to violence against women, specifically domestic violence, rape, sexual harassment and traffic in women:

- **Article 267 of penal code No.58 (1937)** states a penalty of short-term hard labour for sexual assault on a woman. The penalty is increased to life imprisonment and hard labour in cases where the assailant is a guardian or person otherwise entrusted to care for the female. Several

other articles of the penal code outline harsh penalties that may include the death sentence for cases of assault, coercion or kidnapping of a female.

- **Article 290, as amended by Law No. 215 of 1980** introduces the death penalty for the abduction of a woman, if she is sexually assaulted during the abduction.
- **Article 269** penalises rape of any male or female with three years of hard labour. In the case where the victim is under the age of 16, or the attacker is a guardian or worker in the victim's home; the penalty is the legal maximum. In cases where both conditions occur, the penalty is life imprisonment with hard labour.
- **Articles 260-263** on penalties provide short-term hard-labour imprisonment for a person responsible for causing an abortion in a female victim due to beating, abuse or induced drugs. The penalties may be applied to the woman if she is a willing participant.
- **Articles 240-244** of the Penal Code deals with various other instances of accidental or intentional violence or abuse, and penalty is accorded in severity with the action. Penalties may apply to males and females, without regard for legal marital status or kinship/guardianship.
- **Law No. 6** specifically addresses domestic violence, intimidation and the threat to use force. The penalty is a minimum of two years in prison, five if the threat was made against a female or minor.
- **Law No. 10** deals specifically with trafficking. Any act for the purposes of incitement, enticement, procurement, or seduction is criminal. Articles 1 and 2 of the same law compound the severity of punishment if the victim is less than 21 years of age and is forced to act under duress.
- **Articles 279 and 306** of the Penal Code deal with sexual harassment, including any indecent act with a woman, or an utterance that may offend a woman's modesty. The penalty is prison or a fine, to be increased if the act is repeated within a year.
- **A decree was issued in 1996 by the Ministry of Health** prohibiting FGM.

The law provides harsh penalties for violence against women. However there are certain issues such as domestic violence, marital rape and female genital mutilation that are compounded by cultural attitudes and beliefs. This impacts the implementation of these laws, and often sentences are harsher for females facing the same charges as males, as in the case of prostitution where only the female is penalised.

Score: 1

d. Policy Commitments

There are policy commitments such as The Ministry of Education's decree prohibiting beating or infliction of physical harm in schools and the Ministry of Health and Population's decree against female genital mutilation in hospitals and private clinics that show commitment to eliminating violence against women in certain sectors. However, there needs to be stronger commitment to issues of domestic violence, rape, the stigma of which often leads to incidences not being reported, and FGM that are culturally sensitive. It is understood that progress has been made, and that further challenges to certain practices require a holistic shift in cultural attitudes and understanding that will undoubtedly require a long time.

Score: 1

e. Development of Plan

No specific plans are developed to deal with the separate components of violence against women as noted in this index. However, as part of CEDAW and the Beijing PFA, policies are directed to ensure

that these components are included in the overall plan to advance women's empowerment in Egypt, and in the National Five Year Plans.

A working group composed of members of NCW and relevant government and non- government parties is established to review any discrepancies between laws and their application.

Score: 1

f. Targets

The government is aiming at eliminating the FGM phenomenon as the Ministry of Health considered this practice as illegal.

Score: (-)

g. Institutional Mechanism

NCW and NCCM mentioned above are the national institutes responsible for issues of violence against women. Ministry of Health and Ministry of Social Affairs support them where applicable. The Ministry of Social Affairs has over 150 family counselling bureaus to assist victims of household abuse.

Violence against women is a very sensitive issue. Institutional mechanisms in areas of legislation and law enforcement still need to be implemented to facilitate women's access to and comfort with seeking help.

Score: 1

h. Budget

More budget allocation has to go towards public awareness campaigns on the rights of women. As well more money needs to be directed towards raising capacity of human resources working with women victims of rape, traffic, sexual harassment and assault.

Score: (-)

i. Human Resources

The NCW's Ombudsman office trains officers at police stations on how to deal and register complaints of women victims of domestic violence, in cooperation with Ministry of Interior. In addition to personnel at NCW, and the above-mentioned institutions, there have been gender focal points/gender desks incorporated in 30 Ministries (out of 33) to deal with gender equality issues in the work place.

While progress has been made, there still needs to be a stronger presence of female personnel in the fields of health, education, counselling, and law enforcement and legislation, as well as personnel to deal with the Critical Areas of Concern specifically. As well, persons trained in advocacy and counselling on issues of violence against women are also needed.

Score: 1

j. Research

While there is research being done in the field, it has been very primitive. Due to cultural barriers, controversy and contentiousness of issues no in-depth surveys have been completed on violence against women, as it is understood in this component. Research areas have been identified but research has yet to be completed.

Score: 1

k. Involvement of Civil Society

There are many NGOs, particularly in rural areas that provide public awareness and support for female victims of violence. There is strong government involvement and support of these organisations as they often can reach areas the government is unable to. NGOs have also been strongly advocating for the need to reform and amend policies and laws on violence against women, and to bring them all under one law, instead of the current system in which violence appears in various articles of different laws.

The Association for the Development and Enhancement of Women (ADEW) has been particularly active in the field. For the past 17 years, ADEW has been providing services for female heads of household and has become increasingly involved in activities related to violence against women. Its efforts are directed towards awareness raising and informing women of their rights and advocating for legislative change. One of ADEW's programmes is the House of Eve Shelter Program. The shelter is open to all women and their children, and offers a comprehensive package of housing, counselling, and life skills development.

Score: 2

l. Information and Dissemination

Both government institutions and NGOs are active in information dissemination. However this is limited due to lack of available data, lack of reported cases of violence, and lack of general acceptance of discussion of such topics. Attempts are made to make information as accessible as possible.

Score: 2

m. Monitoring and Evaluation

It is difficult to monitor violence against women due to the reasons noted above. Offices at the NCW and NCCM as well as at various ministries do monitor issues of violence and sexual harassment complaints, as much as is possible through their incorporation in project and program plans as well as the national plan.

In addition, NGOs in the field provide support and monitoring activities.

Score: 1

2.3 African Charter on the Rights of the Child Article XXVII

a. Ratification

The government of Egypt ratified the Charter on the Rights of the Child in 2001 with reservation. However the reservation was not aimed at Article XXVII concerning the sexual exploitation of children.

Score: 2

a. Reporting

No comprehensive report on the status of child sexual exploitation has been submitted by Egypt to OAU, however, it presents periodic reports to the UN organs.

Egypt (through NCCM) reports regularly to UN Committee on the Rights of the Child. The first report was submitted in 1992, the second in 1997 and the third report is already finalized and is in a process of national review by all stakeholders including the civil society. The international committee

on the rights of child noted that the use of children in indecent acts is, generally speaking rare in Egypt, thanks to the religious upbringing in a society whose members adhere closely to the rules and Islamic law.

Egypt also attaches great importance to the African Charter. A conference was held in Cairo on the Rights of the African Child presided over by the First Lady who accords activities for the promotion of the rights and welfare of the child great attention. Egypt will submit, soon, its first report to the Committee established by the African Charter (Overdue).

Score: 1

b. Laws

No specific laws in place concerning this point, but other laws prohibit sexual abuse of minors (male and female). The last two decades set the objectives guiding the concerted efforts of government and civil society to protect and promote the rights of the child. Law No. 12 of 1996 is known as the Law of the Child. This Law brought together for the first time all legal instruments concerning the child in one legal instrument.

Articles in the Penal Code:

- **Article 268/1-2 of the Penal Code** "rape, attempt or threat thereof is punished by 3-7 years of imprisonment. If the victim is under 16, and considered a child, or the offender is a relative or guardian, Article 267 of the Penal Code, mandates the maximum limit of the imprisonment. of time. Article 267, in dealing with the sexual intercourse with a minor under 18 years, it says that "any person who rapes a boy or a girl minor, not yet full eighteen years old, without using violence or threat, is to be punished by imprisonment" and in the second it intensifies the penal if the offender is one of the victim's relatives or have authority over the child.
- **Article 2 of the Suppression of Prostitution Act no. 10, 1961** on "combating of prostitution adopted after Egypt acceded to the Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the prostitution of others in 1953 renders anyone who engage in prostitution whatever their age, liable to 1-3 years imprisonment. The penalty increases to 5 years if the victim is under 21.

Score: 2

d. Policy Commitment

It is obvious that the government and the leadership in Egypt are committed to the protection and welfare of the child. More efforts are needed to filter such commitment down to lower levels of government and for the education of the family itself to accord more attention and resources to the child, and allow children more room for participation in the family activities. Attention is directed toward these efforts in all national policies, as signified by Egypt's involvement and ratification of all major treaties and conventions on the Rights of the Child.

In cooperation with the Organisation of African Unity, Egypt hosted the Pan African Forum for the Future of Children in 2001. Eighteen African First Ladies attended the conference, chaired by Egypt's First Lady. The outcome was a draft document on the "African Common Position" on the Rights of the Child, giving major attention to HIV/AIDS and children in armed conflict.

The government is committed to the protection of the child through the establishment of "Family Courts" where all matters concerning families (including children) will be presented to those new courts.

Measures are also being undertaken to improve facilities of youth welfare centers (materially and with more trained personnel) and at police stations (separating children from adults offenders, separate places for girls, increasing number of female police officers, expending legal procedures, etc.)

Score: 2

e. Development of a Plan

Within the framework of the national economic development plan, there is a plan for the development of the child. It incorporates specific measures and allocations in the areas of education, health, population, social affairs, labour and culture. The plan includes measures to protect all children and ensure their ability to participate in life and family activities.

Score: 2

f. Targets

The government targeted to protect children from being sexually abused. It works on improving child, social and cultural status as the preconditions of this protection. On the other hand, the government is fighting the cultural practices of FGM, working to eliminate early marriage, eliminate streets child phenomenon as they are the most vulnerable to be abused and open rehabilitation institutions for street children.

Score: 1

g. Institutional Mechanism

NCCM is mandated with policy making, planning, coordination and monitoring and of activities related to the protection and development of children.

Other organizations deal with child related issues:

- Ministry of Social Affairs (separate department for the welfare of the child together with the center for the welfare of the child)
- Ministry of Justice
- Ministry of Interior has a special department for the protection of the child with branches in all 27 governorates of Egypt.
- NGOs such as the Egyptian Center for the Rights of Child.

Score: 2

h. Budget

No specific funds are earmarked for this specific issues concerning sexual exploitation of children, although more budgetary funds are allocated to activities to child in general (education, welfare, NGOs...etc) as the NCCM is the agency responsible for the welfare of the child, it allocates its budget on improving the children living condition.

Score: 1

i. Human Resources

More training programs are necessary, as are personnel, especially in schools and police stations to deal with the needs of children.

Score: 1

j. Research

Both national and international organisations are active in research on child related topics. Special attention is given to topics on street children, child labour, juvenile delinquents and abuse.

Score: 2

k. Involvement of Civil Society

Numerous NGO's play an important role in the activities concerning the welfare of the child, especially those of poor families or street children. The police or courts target many activities towards the improvement in the treatment of street children.

Score: 2

l. Information and Dissemination

Special attention is being given to the media in disseminating information and understanding of the rights of the child, inside the family, in school and the child labour market among other concerns.

Media is encouraged to deal more with this issue since its coverage on the issue so far is not enough. Also religious authorities are asked to be involved. More efforts to deal drastically with the problem of street children (family problems, poverty, education...etc)

Score: 2

m. Monitoring and Evaluation

Although NCCM does monitor and evaluate all child related activities, still more needs to be done to enable more sound policies and plans.

Government and the public in general are becoming aware and more conscious of the problem. Media is giving more coverage to this issue, although not enough. NGOs are encouraged to concentrate on the welfare of the child and assist the government in this regard.

Score: 1

2.4 HEALTH ICPD POA PLUS FIVE

2.4.1 STIs

a. Ratification:

Egypt has signed the ICPD "International Conference for Population and Development" Plus five plan of action (POA), which incorporates the prevention, and treatment of STIs.

Score: X

b. Reporting:

The curative sector of the Ministry of Health and Population (MOHP) is directly responsible for reporting and responding to issues related to STIs. The department of dermatology and venereal diseases (skin diseases and STDs) is the responsible department. This department is responsible for keeping records on STIs, in addition to providing care and treatment and tracing contacts. However, since cases that are not treated in public hospitals or clinics are not reported data on STIs is generally poor. MOHP introduced a new surveillance system for some infectious diseases including STIs but

reporting is still inadequate. Links with the National AIDS Control Program (NAP) have been recently created to improve surveillance and to raise public awareness.

Score: X

c. Law:

There is no specific law that is directly related to STIs.

Score: n/a

d. Policy Commitment:

The Ministry of Health and Population is directly responsible for issues related to both the prevention and treatment of STIs. The MOHP has given special attention to disease surveillance policies including STIs, which are covered through various sectors such as the preventive and primary health care sector, the population sector within the reproductive health programs and particularly in the curative sector that has the primary responsibility for the management and reporting activities related to STIs. Reference to STIs is specifically made in MOHP documents related to policy and strategic plans for HIV/AIDS prevention and control. Although MOHP has some public hospitals specialized in skin and venereal diseases in major cities that can be considered as high commitment to address STIs, the low levels of utilization of those hospitals and the absence of adequate epidemiologic data do not allow for prioritization of STIs at the policy level. More data is available; however, on reproductive tract infections (RTI's) and therefore they have been included in the basic benefits package of the primary health care system.

Score: 0

e. Development of a Plan:

Guidelines for the prevention and control of STIs are provided in the national HIV/AIDS plan. Guidelines for the prevention and control of Reproductive Tract Infections (RTI's) have been added to the basic benefits package of services of the health sector reform to be delivered at the primary care level.

Score: 0

f. Targets:

There are no specific targets for STIs. Cases are treated when they self report to the clinics. Data on the incidence and prevalence of STIs is inadequate. Recently, some general targets such as youth and high risk groups have been identified as part of the targets outlined in the HIV/AIDS national strategic plans for the control and prevention of STIs. The focus is to target large groups for prevention rather than for treatment because of the insufficient data.

Score: 0

g. Institutional Mechanisms:

The curative sector of the Ministry of health and Population runs several public hospitals specialized in the prevention and control of STIs in major cities. Those hospitals are providing services free of charge for patients with STIs and are using the World Health Organization's guidelines for STIs diagnosis and treatment.

Several other mechanisms targeting the prevention and control of STIs include the National AIDS Control Program, the Population sector through the reproductive health and contraceptives policies and the Health Sector Reform by including RTI's in the basic benefits package.

Score: 1

h. Budget:

Funding for STIs comes from several sources mainly MOHP allocations for the curative sector of the Ministry. Other funds are available through NAP "National AIDS Control Program" and health sector reform; those usually come from a variety of sources including donors and MOHP. Other sources for the budget include out of pocket household expenditure as most those who have STIs or RTI's seek care in the private sector. Since STIs are not a priority for the curative sector and because data is still generally poor, allocations of resources both human and financial are inadequate. More allocations for epidemiologic research are highly recommended.

Score: ?

i. Human Resources:

Although Egypt has adequate numbers of health care providers for its population compared to many other countries those available for the prevention and control of STIs in the public sector are fewer than needed. However, because of the stigma associated with STIs, particularly in a conservative society like that of Egypt, studies have shown that most people suffering from a sexually transmitted disease prefer to seek care for STIs in private clinics. Men generally go to physicians specialized in STDs while women seek care at the gynaecologists. Some patients may also go directly to pharmacies and ask for the medication without seeking medical advice. Private physicians do not report cases of STIs and do not usually trace contacts making them more convenient to patients who do not want to inform their partners of their condition.

Score: 1

j. Research:

Although several research studies were conducted and provided a great deal of information on the cultural aspects that play role in the prevention and control of STIs, research still needs to be strengthened and expanded. Most studies at the community level that shed light on the gender aspects of STIs were of a small scale while universities mainly focus on biomedical research. The Giza study that was conducted in 1988 at the community level was one of the first studies that reported the high prevalence of RTI's at the community level. It also showed a much lower prevalence of STIs but emphasized the stigma associated with it and women's inability to discuss STIs or to question husbands bringing infections home. Although treatment was provided for women to cover both the woman and her partner, the study showed that women could not ask their husbands to take treatment or were subjected to violence if they took the risk. The study provided insight on many of the cultural aspects surrounding STIs and women's perception of such infections and their inability to negotiate safe relations. Recently, the NAP initiated some research through the MOHP to estimate the prevalence and incidence of STIs among both high risk populations and women attending ante-natal clinics (at lower risk). Results of those studies indicated that STIs are generally of low prevalence among both the high and low risk groups. Those estimates are used in planning for HIV/AIDS prevention strategies.

Score: 1

k. Involvement of Civil Society:

Civil society is more involved in activities directly related to HIV/AIDS and less attention is given to other forms of STIs. Caritas Egypt is working on both issues while most other NGOs working on AIDS focus on HIV/AIDS only and STIs are discussed only in relation to the risk of HIV infection. The Egyptian Family Planning Association also provides some services for RTI's in relation to contraceptive use particularly the use of intra-uterine device (IUD). Other NGOs, like the Egyptian

Medical Women Association, are involved in raising awareness on the prevention of STIs among adolescent girls.

Score: 1

l. Information and dissemination:

Information on STIs is disseminated through service delivery points, NGOs and research publications. Unlike HIV/AIDS and family planning, STIs are not well covered by the mass media. Most information dissemination to the public is formal and depends on face-to-face communication in seminars and personal counseling and information to service provider is done through training workshops and distribution of brochures and information material. Physicians are also contacted through medical representatives of pharmaceutical companies.

Score: 0

m. Monitoring and Evaluation:

The MOHP is responsible for the activities related to monitoring and evaluation of STIs through its curative sector. As mentioned earlier most accessible information is through public clinics and therefore does not provide an adequate estimate of the problem. Recently, MOHP introduced a surveillance system for infectious diseases and prioritized a number of diseases including STIs. Feedback on this system is not yet available. Monitoring RTI's is also inadequate as most cases are not reported due to cultural sensitivities making reporting of RTI's inadequate regardless of its nature (i.e. whether it is sexually transmitted or not). It is hoped that while strengthening HIV/AIDS activities more attention would be given to monitoring STIs.

Score: 0

2.4.2 HIV/AIDS

a. Ratification:

Egypt has ratified the International Conference of Population and Development Platform of Action "ICPD POA" Plus Five and other international conventions that include HIV/AIDS such as the "UNGASS" United Nations General Assembly Special Session, Abuja declaration, the Millennium Development Goals and WHO Three by Five Initiative.

Score: X

b. Reporting:

The Ministry of Health and Population (MOHP) through the National AIDS Control Program (NAP) is the official government entity responsible for reporting on activities and cases of HIV/AIDS to national and international bodies. HIV positive and AIDS cases are reported to the World Health Organization regional office for the East Mediterranean (EMRO) and to UNAIDS.

Score: X

c. Law:

There is no specific law in Egypt on HIV/AIDS

Score: 0

d. Policy Commitment:

There are several policies committed to the prevention and control of HIV/AIDS. Those include blood safety policies, which are enforced on all blood banks. In addition, policies and guidelines for the prevention of transmission of HIV/AIDS in health facilities are now in place and enforced. Although Egypt is a low prevalence country it is committed to keep the prevalence low and Egypt launched a campaign to assure its political commitment towards the prevention of HIV and to raise awareness of the harmful effects of HIV/AIDS among youth. The MOHP in its campaigns ensures the involvement of all key stakeholders and particularly involves a large number of community leaders including religious leaders. The MOHP also drafted a policy on HIV/AIDS that includes both aspects of prevention and awareness raising in addition to access of treatment and the rights of people living with HIV/AIDS. The policy includes access to treatment to all eligible patients by 2005. The National Council for Women, that is responsible for mainstreaming gender into government policies, committed in its fourth annual conference to include the prevention and awareness raising on the issue of HIV/AIDS in its activities.

Score: 1

e. Development of a Plan:

Egypt has an HIV/AIDS prevention and control strategic plan that is prepared by the NAP. The strategic plan is reviewed every two years and involves in addition to the MOHP other ministries such as the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Interior, media and other national bodies that play a role in the prevention and control of HIV/AIDS. The plan involves in addition to governmental organizations a large number of non-governmental organizations.

Score: 1

f. Targets:

Targets are outlined in the national plan. They specifically include youth, as they are the largest group and the ones at highest risk. Targets also include high risk groups. The target is to prevent HIV/AIDS transmission and to keep the country at the low prevalence level. Egypt is also conducting several activities to ensure the low prevalence. Those activities included surveillance of women attending pre-natal care clinics, blood donors and others.

Score: 1

g. Institutional Mechanisms:

The National AIDS Control Program (NAP) was established within the MOHP in 1986. Since then it has been taking the lead on all activities related to HIV/AIDS. The NAP established a hotline service to provide confidential counselling to people who want to ask any questions related to HIV/AIDS or any sexually transmitted disease. The NAP has representation in all governorates. The NAP also prepared a list of laboratories that provide testing services all over the country and established a number of voluntary counselling and testing centers. The NAP collaborates with other ministries and civil society organization to plan and conduct activities.

Score: 1

h. Budget:

Funding of HIV/AIDS related activities comes from MOHP resources in addition to funds from several donors including UNICEF, UNDP, WHO, the Ford Foundation and USAID.

Score: 1

i. Human Resources:

The personnel available at all levels to address the issue of HIV/AIDS are inadequate. The NAP prepared a plan to recruit and build the capacity of more people from different disciplines.

Score: 1

j. Research:

The NAP, civil society organizations and university based research centres are all involved in research related to HIV/AIDS including prevalence studies, knowledge and awareness and blood safety research. Several conferences provided a forum to discuss HIV/AIDS related research.

Score: 1

k. Involvement of Civil Society:

Since the early days of the epidemic several non-governmental organizations took the lead in addressing the HIV/AIDS issues particularly prevention, raising awareness and reducing stigma. The civil society in all forms provided services for HIV positive individuals and their families. AIDS activities were handled by several existing NGOs, however some NGOs were specifically established to address AIDS. All of them contribute specific services in the community and work very closely with the NAP to compliment its activities. Youth, in general, have been the target of NGOs campaigns. Civil society organizations also have good access to the mass media and were able to use it well to disseminate their programs. The Egyptian Network for AIDS is a coalition of all NGOs working on HIV/AIDS. The forum helps them to deepen their understanding of the issue and to maximize the benefits of the available resources.

Score: 2

l. Information and Dissemination:

Several channels are used to disseminate information on HIV/AIDS prevention and control. Those include the use of mass media at a very large scale and specific media covered events in the World's AIDS Day. Several documentaries were developed for both scientific and public purposes. Television spots addressing prevention and raising awareness of the modes of transmission were produced and aired. Newspapers and magazines are also used to reach a wide range of audience. Public conferences and seminars are continuously taking place and religious leaders are being trained to include HIV/AIDS in their programs. The hotline is advertised twice weekly in two major newspapers and in some underground stations. Posters on HIV/AIDS are sometimes seen in big cities.

Score: 2

m. Monitoring and Evaluation:

The NAP is responsible for monitoring the implementation of the strategic plan. It is currently developing guidelines for monitoring and is reviewing reports presented by the different stakeholders including representatives in all governorates. The National Council for Women will monitor the gender aspect of HIV/AIDS and will monitor the response of both governmental and non-governmental bodies to the efforts of prevention and their role in implementing the national strategic plan in collaboration with MOHP.

Score: 1

2.4.3 Maternal Mortality

a. Ratification:

Egypt is committed to reduce maternal mortality regardless of any international convention. Egypt has ratified the ICPD POA, which includes reproductive rights component of safe delivery. Egypt is also committed to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, which include as a target reduction of maternal mortality.

Score: X

b. Reporting:

The MOHP is the responsible body for reporting maternal deaths. Reporting of maternal deaths was difficult in the past when the cause of death was not properly recorded. However, Egypt undertook two major maternal mortality studies at the national level in the years 1992 and 2000 that revealed the main causes of maternal deaths and provided a good estimate of the magnitude of the problem. A policy for continuous monitoring and surveillance was developed and implemented since the year 2000. Since then cases of maternal mortality are reported and investigated.

Score: X

c. Law:

There is no law specifically addressing maternal mortality.

Score: n/a

d. Policy Commitment:

Egypt is highly committed to reduce maternal mortality. Through the safe motherhood program of the MOHP, two national studies were conducted in collaboration with research centres to study the magnitude of the problem. The 2000 survey study showed that maternal mortality reached almost half its levels in 1992. Since then the MOHP introduced a policy that allows for the reporting and investigation of all cases of maternal deaths and the system has since shown a further reduction in the ratio of maternal mortality. This surveillance system is highly enforced. Safe delivery services are provided by both the public and private services and through the widely accessible health care services a larger proportion of births are now attended by trained personnel.

Score: 2

e. Development of a Plan:

The MOHP in its plans for safe motherhood and through the components of primary health care always outlines measures to reduce maternal mortality. Those include plans to expand the network of maternity services to allow women in rural areas to access safe delivery services and ensure the availability of trained personnel. The plans include human resources capacity building and distribution.

Score: 2

f. Targets:

The MOHP has a target to reduce maternal mortality ratio at the national level as well as reduce gaps between geographical areas and socio-economic classes.

Score: 2

g. Institutional Mechanisms:

The MOHP has a wide network of outlets including maternal and child health centres and maternity hospitals through which it ensures service delivery. University hospitals and private practitioners also provide maternal health services.

Score: 2

h. Budget:

Maternal health is included in MOHP's budget at the central and governorate levels. Government's resources support most activities; however, some activities are still funded by donors. The surveys were covered by several sources but the surveillance system in place is fully covered from MOHP resources.

Score: 2

i. Human Resources:

Egypt has adequate numbers of personnel working in the area of safe motherhood both in the public and private sectors. The MOHP is continuously training its staff to upgrade the services.

Score: 1

j. Research:

In addition to the two national maternal mortality survey studies mentioned above, Egypt undertakes other research at the national level including the demographic and health surveys and the PAP Child surveys. Sub-national and smaller research is also continuously done such as studies on birth practices and attitudes of physician towards delivering mothers.

Score: 2

k. Involvement of Civil Society:

The private-for-profit sector is involved in safe motherhood activities. They provide services of ante-natal care and delivery through a large network of clinics and maternity hospitals. NGOs' involvement in safe motherhood is limited to few geographic areas mainly in Upper Egypt. NGOs are mainly involved through raising awareness of the community on the dangers of early marriage and early pregnancies and in providing family planning services to prevent both early and older age pregnancy and to encourage spacing of pregnancies. They are also involved in educating mothers about good nutritional practices.

Score: 1

l. Information and Dissemination:

Safe motherhood is a widely discussed topic at several levels whether in scientific gatherings or in mass media events. The results of research are widely disseminated to policy makers and health care providers through publications and seminars.

Score: 1

m. Monitoring and Evaluation:

Since the year 2000, the surveillance system is capturing most cases of maternal mortality and each case is investigated to identify the cause of death and the appropriate measures for training providers and improving services are taking place.

Score: 2

2.4.4 Contraception:

a. Ratification:

Egypt has ratified the ICPD 1994 and the ICPD POA Plus Five, which address the use of contraception.

Score: X

b. Reporting:

The MOHP and the national Population Council are responsible for reporting on the use of contraception. In addition, several NGOs report on their activities including the Egyptian Family Planning Association, which has branches in all governorates.

Score: X

c. Law:

Egypt has no specific law on contraception

Score: n/a

d. Policy Commitment:

Egypt is committed at the highest levels to supply contraceptives to all couples. Reduction of population growth is one of Egypt's main goals for development. Family planning has been integrated in maternal and child health services and a family planning clinic is available in all health centres. The private sector and NGOs are also involved in activities related to family planning and distribution of contraceptives.

Score: 2

e. Development of a Plan:

Egypt has developed several population five-year plans that included family planning and contraceptive supplies as a major component. Contraceptive supplies are included in plans for supplies of health care units and centres and all maternal and child health services.

Score: 2

f. Targets:

Egypt has a target to reach total fertility rate of 2.1 by the year 2017.

Score: 2

g. Institutional Mechanisms:

The National Population Council is responsible for population policies in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Population. The population mandate was added to MOHP towards the end of 1995. After that MOHP has taken a leading role in formulating and implementing population policies. The private sector and civil society are involved in distribution of contraceptives and other related services.

Score: 2

h. Budget:

Several sources are responsible for financing contraceptives including MOHP from its general resources, the private sector in addition to a number of donors particularly USAID and UNFPA.

Score: 2

i. Human Resources:

Egypt has an adequate number of health care providers who are well trained to provide services related to contraceptives and implement the programs. The problem sometimes arises however, in the distribution of those providers who tend to cluster in urban areas.

Score: 2

j. Research:

Egypt has a wealth of research on contraceptive use and socio-cultural studies. The Demographic and Health Surveys take place every five years with interim studies and in-depth analysis of low performing governorates which takes place in between. The surveys are used as a good tool to monitor progress towards the achievement of goals. Apart from the national studies the National Population Council and the Cairo Demographic Centre have research units that exclusively study the different aspects of contraception.

Score: 2

k. Involvement of Civil Society:

The civil society is deeply involved in raising demand, counselling and distribution of contraceptives. Some NGOs work independently while the majority collaborates with MOHP and the national population council. They are included in the national five-year plans and the MOHP ensures their competence by offering capacity building programs and improving their access to contraceptives. The Social Fund for Development is also involved in raising awareness of the community and in providing services and distribution of contraceptives through several programs which involve both MOHP and NGOs together. The Fund is building the capacity of NGOs to raise demand of contraceptives and to monitor contraceptive prevalence in the community and to plan specific activities and services in collaboration with MOHP.

Score: 2

l. Information and Dissemination:

Information on contraceptives and the value of family planning is well covered by the mass media. As reduction of population growth is a priority policy issue for Egypt all types of media are involved in raising awareness of the population. Those include television, radio, newspapers and posters in public areas. Other means include out-reach programs by MOHP and NGOs and counselling services provided in all family planning clinics of the MOHP. The MOHP also has a large number of volunteers who go to houses in rural areas to talk to families and inform women of the services available.

Score: 2

m. Monitoring and Evaluation:

The demographic and health surveys provide good monitoring tools. Continuous monitoring through MOHP facilities and records allow for a continuous follow-up of the programs at the different levels starting from the small health unit to the district, governorate and national levels. The continuous monitoring of distribution and inventories is also done to provide more evidence.

Score: 2

2.5 2001 Abuja Declaration on HIV/AIDS

a. Ratification:

African and United Nations leaders held a special summit to address some of the new challenges to the continent. The member states of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) met in Abuja, Nigeria in April 2001 to discuss the threat of HIV/AIDS, which was spreading in Africa faster than any other continent and was becoming a menace hindering economic growth in many countries, and other killer diseases particularly tuberculosis and malaria. Member states, including Egypt, signed the Abuja declaration in which they pledged their commitment to control the spread of those diseases in the continent.

Egypt was a signatory to the 2001 Abuja Declaration.

Score: X

b. Reporting:

Like other member states who signed the Declaration, Egypt reported on the issues raised to the United Nations general Assembly Special Session (UNGASS) on HIV/AIDS. Egypt was represented in this meeting by a number of non-governmental organizations as well as by MOHP. Both reported to the session and continue to participate in reporting activities to the United Nations since then.

Score: X

c. Law:

As mentioned in the section on HIV/AIDS there is no specific law in Egypt on HIV/AIDS. However, for tuberculosis and malaria there are strict guidelines and policies, which can be considered as rules.

Score: n/a

d. Policy Commitment:

There are several policies committed to the prevention and control of HIV/AIDS. Those include blood safety policies, which are enforced on all blood banks. In addition, policies and guidelines for the prevention of transmission of HIV/AIDS in health facilities are now in place and enforced. Although Egypt is a low prevalence country it is committed to keep the prevalence low and Egypt launched a campaign to assure its political commitment towards the prevention of HIV and to raise awareness of the harmful effects of HIV/AIDS among youth. The MOHP in its campaigns ensures the involvement of all key stakeholders and particularly involves a large number of community leaders including religious leaders. The MOHP also drafted a policy on HIV/AIDS that includes both aspects of prevention and awareness raising in addition to access of treatment and the rights of people living with HIV/AIDS. The policy includes access to treatment to all eligible patients by 2005. The National Council for Women, that is responsible for mainstreaming gender into government policies, committed in its fourth annual conference to include the prevention and awareness raising on the issue of HIV/AIDS in its activities.

Efforts towards the eradication of Malaria and Tuberculosis, two of the major health challenges included in the Abuja Declaration are showing good progress in Egypt. Malaria has been well controlled over the past ten years Egypt has several policies to ensure that malaria does not re-enter the country by signing agreements with neighbouring Sudan to protect the borders and ensuring that

the disease does not enter through other portals. Immunization against tuberculosis is compulsory for all children under the age of two and is part of the expanded program for child immunization. It is also compulsory for those at risk of exposure in the workplace. Egypt also follows World Health Organization (WHO) policies to implement strict protocols for treatment of tuberculosis and reported 87% treatment success using Directly Observed Treatment Short Course (DOTS).

Score: 1

e. Development of a Plan:

Egypt has an AIDS prevention and control strategic plan that is prepared by the NAP. The strategic plan is reviewed every two years and involves in addition to the MOHP other ministries such as the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Interior, media and other National bodies that play a role in the prevention and control of HIV/AIDS. The plan involves in addition to governmental organizations a large number of non-governmental organizations. Well-developed and implemented plans for eradication of tuberculosis and to continue the status for malaria exist.

Score: 1

f. Targets:

Targets for HIV/AIDS are outlined in the national plan of MOHP. They specifically include youth, as they are the largest group and the ones at highest risk. The target is to prevent HIV/AIDS transmission and to keep the country at the low prevalence level. Egypt is also conducting several activities to ensure the low prevalence. Those activities included surveillance of women attending pre-natal care clinics, blood donors and others. Targets for tuberculosis include to exceed the current 87% success in detection and treatment of cases using DOTS and to reduce the prevalence to 22 cases per 100,000 populations. As for malaria the target is to keep the zero incidence.

Score: 1

g. Institutional Mechanisms:

The National AIDS Control program (NAP) was established within the MOHP in 1986. Since then it has been taking the lead on all activities related to HIV/AIDS. The NAP established a hotline service to provide confidential counselling to people who want to ask any questions related to HIV/AIDS or any sexually transmitted disease. The NAP has representation in all governorates. The NAP also prepared a list of laboratories that provide testing services all over the country and established a number of voluntary counselling and testing centres. The NAP collaborates with other ministries and civil society organization to plan and conduct activities. NAP also collaborates with other sectors particularly to ensure that tuberculosis does not re-emerge as an opportunistic infection. Mechanisms for management and control of tuberculosis are well established.

Score: 1

h. Budget:

Funding of HIV/AIDS related activities comes from MOHP resources in addition to funds from several donors including UNICEF, UNDP, WHO, the Ford Foundation and USAID. Funding for tuberculosis related activities are mainly from MOHP resources with some additional donor funding for research. Egypt, however, did not receive resources from the Global Fund for HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis.

Score: 1

i. Human Resources:

The personnel available at all levels to address the issue of HIV/AIDS are inadequate. The NAP prepared a plan to recruit and build the capacity of more people for different disciplines. Human resources are available and well trained for tuberculosis.

Score: 1

j. Research:

Research on tuberculosis is abundant and is used to inform policies. Several research institutions are involved in research related to HIV/AIDS including prevalence studies, knowledge and awareness and blood safety research. Several conferences provided a forum to discuss AIDS related research.

Score: 1

k. Involvement of Civil Society:

Several NGOs work on TB and smoking and some contribute to service provision. Several non-governmental organizations took the lead in addressing the HIV/AIDS issues particularly prevention, raising awareness and reducing stigma. The civil society in all forms provided services for HIV positive individuals and their families. AIDS activities were handled by several existing NGOs; however some NGOs were specifically established to address AIDS. All of them contribute specific services in the community and work very closely with the NAP to compliment its activities. Youth, in general, have been the target of NGOs campaigns. Civil society organizations also have good access to the mass media and were able to use it well to disseminate their programs.

Score: 2

l. Information and Dissemination:

Several channels are used to disseminate information on tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS prevention and control. Those include the use of mass media at a very large scale, seminars and conferences, and publications.

Score: 1

m. Monitoring and Evaluation:

MOHP is responsible for monitoring all activities related to tuberculosis, malaria and HIV/AIDS. The NAP is responsible for monitoring the implementation of the AIDS strategic plan. It is currently developing guidelines for monitoring and is reviewing reports presented by the different stakeholders including representatives in all governorates. The National Council for Women will monitor the gender aspect of HIV/AIDS and will monitor the response of both governmental and non-governmental bodies to the efforts of prevention and their role in implementing the national strategic plan in collaboration with MOHP.

Score: 1

2.6 EDUCATION

2.6.1 Policy on Girl School Drop-Outs

a .Ratification

This policy requires no ratification. However, CEDAW and Beijing Platform of Action stress the importance of achieving gender equality with regard to education. The government is committed to achieve this goal.

Score: X

b. Reporting

Egypt reports on its progress in the area of girl school dropouts in CEDAW as it is embodied in the convention. It has also reported on this issue in its Beijing +5 and Beijing +10 reports, and in reports on its implementation of the Millennium Development Goals.

Score: X

c. Laws

Education is a constitutional right granted to males and females equally. Primary education is compulsory by law, and there is a fine for parents or guardians who do not extend this right to their children.

A Presidential Decree was issued in the 1990's declaring it the Decade for Eradication of Illiteracy. Much of the focus was on females, and targets to reduced dropout rates and adult female illiteracy and vocational training.

There has been a strong effort on behalf of the government to draft and implement laws relating to girls' education. In 1991 law No.8 was enacted requiring all authorities concerned to provide adequate inputs to combat illiteracy among adults in the 15-35 age bracket, and to ensure the enrollment for all children in the compulsory schooling age bracket (primary education).

Score: 2

d. Policy Commitments

As well as strong legislative commitment to reducing girl drop rates, there are also very strong policy commitments. The Ministry of Education has strong commitments to increasing girl-child enrollment and providing supportive educational and technical programs, especially in rural areas, for drop-outs. The National Council for Motherhood and Childhood, and the Central Agency for Adult Education and Eradication of Illiteracy are also responsible for drafting policy and proposing programs for this particular purpose. All policies are viewed as supporting the Constitutional right to education and any related laws.

Despite the strong policy commitments the gender gap in education still remains wide. This is mainly due to economic constraints and cultural attitudes on girls' education. Much still needs to be done in the field, however the strong government support to this policy breeds optimism.

The First lady of Egypt declared 2003 as the year of the Egyptian girl, and subsequently launched the Girls' Education Initiative 2002-2005 that targets bridging the education gender gap by 2005. This initiative will continue for 10 years aiming at enhancing or launching an awareness campaign to improve the quality of education with related to nutrition, physical and psychological health of the child girl.

Score: 2

e. Development of Plan

The policy on girl school dropout has received strong attention in the national plan 2002-2007, and is being incorporated in the next national plan. Since the policy appears in CEDAW, Beijing PFA and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), all of which are incorporated in national planning goals, it has received strong planning attention. The plan includes reducing barriers to girls' education and providing vocational training and illiteracy eradication programmes for females.

The Ministry of Education is committed to both targets of decreasing the girls' dropout rates and enhancing their economic status. The combination of both targets implies the government comprehensive thinking and its overall strategy that covers the problem and its main causes. The one-classroom schools increased from 418 schools in 1993/1994 to 2717 in 2002/2003. These schools provided both vocational and academic training in order to provide females with better opportunities to improve their standard of living.

Score: 2

f. Targets

Targets have been set in line with the MDGs. In addition the National Plan for Girls' Education has as its main goal the enrollment of 179,139 girls not enrolled in basic education, in the age group 6-11 years.

- The Ministry of Education plans to establish 600 one- classroom schools for the Fifth National Plan 2002-2007. These schools protect education equal opportunity and bridge the gender gap in education especially in rural and slum areas.
- To establish new technical schools directed to drop out girls.
- Ministry of Education target to include women's rights in the education curricula and improve women's image before the public, especially dealing with issues such as the early marriage and FGM.
- To establish 8421 classes in all governorates.
- To include technological and electronic education and to establish 2649 one-classroom schools to serve 55,602 girl students. The goal is to establish 201 community schools of which 149 to be established by the non-governmental organization.
- To formulate a government strategy and implement a mechanism that mobilizes governmental and non-governmental organizations on the national and local levels.
- To expand early childhood development programs, including parental education and pre-school education as an avenue to stress gender equality.
- To improve an incentive system to encourage families to enrol their girls' child in schools.
- To achieve security and safety in rural and remote areas, and provide a supportive environment for increasing girls' enrolment in schools.
- To provide good and safe transportation for girls through achieving equal and just distribution of schools and related capacities.

Score: 2

g. Institutional Mechanism

There is strong support and collaboration between government agencies, institutions and international agencies in providing programs aimed at the girl-child and illiteracy eradication. The majority of these programs also have health education, technical training and income generating projects as complementary components:

- The National Council for Childhood and Motherhood since its inception has been engaged in developing and coordinating educational activities. It has strong government and policy

support in implementing its activities. Its most recent initiative is the Girls' Education Initiative 2002-2005

- The department for Basic Education at the Ministry of Education deals with issues of basic and primary education, in particular rural planning and implementation.
- The Central Agency for Adult Education and Eradication of illiteracy is very active in targeting female school dropouts.
- The Ministry of Local Development through its de-central offices is becoming increasingly involved in integrating literacy programs as integral components of its local development plans.
- The Ministry of Education and the UNICEF jointly were the sponsors of establishing Girl Friendly Community Owned Schools that based on the child centred participatory learning. These schools do not conflict with the girls' household and societal roles.
- To successfully manage the initiative, the government established 2 main committees; one is an information committee that includes the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Local Development, Ministry of Health and the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics. The other committee is for the technical assistance and complete related information and data.

Score: 2

h. Budget

Due to the manner in which the budget is presented it is not possible to discern exact amounts committed to girl school dropouts and related activities. However in line with the national focus on closing the gender education gap and efforts exerted in that field it is possible to say that the maximum possible amounts have been committed whether solely by the State or in cooperation with international and civil society donors.

The Ministry of Education allocated its investment on programs for one-classroom schools as 196.200 million L.E. and for establishing technical schools as 253.990 million L.E.

Score: 2

i. Human resources

The majority of activities initiated in the field require that there be female teachers or trainers. This is complicated by the fact that there are not many educated females, especially in rural areas. However strong policy commitments have extensive training programs have provided many females who do not possess higher degrees to train to become facilitators in community schools and one classroom projects. The Department of Basic Education at the Ministry of Planning is also dedicated to dealing with issues that arise concerning girls' education and illiteracy eradication.

As in any developing country under economic strain and poverty, there is a lack of human resources in rural areas, in particular female teachers and female trainers. However, this is not in any way due to lack of government commitment.

The Girls' Education Initiative entails the importance of having an accurate database on the real needs of girls, therefore the Ministry of Local Development launched 35 training programs for government nominees. To enhance their capacities to identify, prioritize and implement the main concerns.

Score: 2

j. Research

There has been a lot of research done on the status of the girl-child in the Egyptian education system, on obstacles to girls continuing their education, on the appropriateness of the curricula, and on possible alternatives to current systems of education, particularly in rural areas. Due to the interest in the topic over the last decade, much of the data is now sex-disaggregated where it was previously not so.

The Ministry of Education is working on amending the education curricula in order to enable the child to acquire essential life skills including languages, problem solving, mathematical skills and interpersonal skills. On the other hand, the curricula should be suitable for the basic needs of child especially girl child in rural areas. In this regard, the ministry is working on improving the technical and vocational schools for girls "industrial, agricultural and commercial".

Score: 2

k. Involvement of Civil Society

There is strong involvement by NGOs and international donors in this particular area, and the government supports it. UNICEF is working with several NGOs to operationalize its Community Schools Initiative, and the NGOs have began their own similar programs. In addition, there is much diligence by NGOs to provide training and illiteracy eradication programs for young girls and women who have dropped out of the formal education system.

Score: 2

l. Information and Dissemination

Awareness and media campaigns, training programs, and field visits are all designed to raise awareness and capacity of parents, children, employers and professionals in the field. There are numerous government, NGO and donor activities (supported by the government) to this end. Many of these activities aim to shift root causes such as cultural attitudes and stereotypes that prevent girls from getting an education.

There are many cultural barriers to information dissemination, but this is due to personal attitudes of the recipients and is not a reflection of the efforts exerted.

Score: 2

m. Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring and evaluation is done by the NCCM and the Ministry of Education. UNICEF is also very active in providing reports to and in cooperation with government institutions on the state of girl education and training. In addition, the Egyptian initiative for girl education stresses the importance of all concerned ministries, agencies and the civil society institutions in monitoring and evaluating the project.

Score: 2

2.6.2 Education on Human/women's Rights

a .Ratification

This policy requires no ratification.

Score: X

c. Reporting

Egypt reports on this policy in its CEDAW reports and reports on Beijing PFA. The main consideration for this component of the index is whether the Ministry of Education has taken the necessary steps to include human/women's rights information in school curricula. These achievements are duly reported on.

Score: X

c. Laws

There are no particular laws that dictate the incorporation of human/women's rights in school curricula. However, since this policy requires no ratification, it also requires no subsequent laws. As previously mentioned, women's rights are enshrined in the constitution and in state laws, which guarantee the same human rights to all citizens.

Ministry of Education published a book contains some norms and principles that strengthen women's rights in the Egyptian society; it tackles some issues regarding equality between men and women, female adolescence, FGM and early marriage.

Score: X

d. Policy Commitments

There is a strong move currently to incorporate issues of human, women's and children's rights in school curricula at different grade levels. Concepts of human rights, women's rights, the rights of the child, environmental conservation, work quality and production anti-discrimination, among others, are being developed to be incorporated into the curricula but they have not been completed.

Score: 1

e. Development of a Plan

The Ministry of Education has already developed a plan on how to fully incorporate these concepts in the current curricula. As well as modules in the curricula, the plan includes teacher manuals to guide the transfer of information to students, training for teachers and activity books with related activities of the students in the primary to secondary grade levels. To include wider support and allow greater participation in this endeavour, the Ministry opened the curriculum design up in a competition.

Score: 2

f. Targets

The overall objective is to increase public awareness of the human and women's rights through the inclusion of these rights in the education curricula in all levels university and under university levels.

Score: (-)

g. Institutional mechanism

The Director of the National Council for Human Rights opened the international conference on the human rights education. The Human Rights Network conference was held in April 2004 at the Faculty of Economics and Political Science, Cairo University and the American University in Cairo. Several recommendations were made:

1. Establish a Human Rights Network.
2. Integrate Human Rights Education within all levels of education.
3. Provide training for trainees in the field of human rights.

4. Encourage research on human rights issues.
5. Conduct collective research activities on human rights education.

The final Resolution was to formulate an Arab University Network on Human Rights Teaching and Research; a committee was established to coordinate the work of the network.

The Ministries of Education and Higher Education have also been active to include Human/Women's rights in the curricula. Efforts are already underway to complete the primary and preparatory curricula on Human/ Women's rights. Texts, activity books, and teacher guides have already been completed for the primary and preparatory grade levels.

The Ministry of Higher Education in cooperation with the Supreme Council for Universities developed a plan for the inclusion of human rights material in the curricula of Egyptian Universities, to be implemented in the coming academic year 2004-2005. Faculties that already included human rights materials in their academic curriculum; Commerce, Media, and the Faculty of Economics and Political Science, at both the undergraduate and graduate levels had to ensure that the following dimensions were included:

1. Main values and principles of human rights and the Nation's Rights.
2. History of Human Rights and its main resources.
3. Types of human rights, economic, political and social, and the main obstacles in their implementation.
4. The implementation dimensions of human rights in all fields including medical, agricultural, and the intellectual fields.

Score: 2

h. Budget

The National Council for Human Rights is the one responsible of raising awareness on human rights issues in Egypt and it allocates its entire budget to this purpose.

Score: (-)

i. Human Resources

Much research and effort was involved in the development of the human rights aspects of the curricula. Efforts now need to be directed towards training and capacity building for teachers to better integrate and communicate these subjects to their students. Training courses prepared by the Human rights concerned NGOs.

Score: (-)

j. Research

The Ministry of Higher Education and the Ministry of Education studying now their strategy to include human and women's rights in the education curricula.

Score: (-)

k. Involvement of Civil Society

The civil society is very active in regard to calling for the inclusion of human and women's rights in the curricula and encourages the training programs for human rights activists and human rights academic specialists. As mentioned above, several human rights centres are active in providing training programs and awareness campaigns.

Other efforts to enhance education on Human/Women's rights include:

- The American University in Cairo program on Forced Migration and Refugee Studies. This program is open to the general public, NGOs and university students. This program tackles international human rights and the issue of refugees.
- The American University in Cairo Masters Degree in International Human Rights Law open to university students. The programme provides expert training in international human rights law that will enable students to work as professionals in this field.
- The Arab Program for Human Rights Activists in cooperation with the Human Rights Institute of South Africa, the African Human Rights Camp 2002. This program was directed at NGOs activists. Its main objectives were to increase the knowledge of basic human rights concepts and to discuss the practical implementation of human rights.
- Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies training program for artists aimed at sensitising young artists to human rights values.
- Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies training program for local leaders aimed at raising the awareness of them.
- Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies training program for the university students aimed at raising awareness.
- The Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies Arab regional training course for human rights NGOs. This program aimed to enhance the ability of Arab NGO activists to sharpen the knowledge and skills of leaders of Arab human rights NGOs.
- The Alliance for Arab Women training program social workers in the schools aimed at raising awareness on the Rights of the Child and helping social workers deal with on the job situations.

Score: (-)

l. Information and Dissemination

The civil society organizations work hard to disseminate the human rights training and programs through their websites and publications.

Score: (-)

m. Monitoring and Evaluation

The National Council for Human Rights is the monitoring mechanism for all activities related to human rights in Egypt. As well, several international agencies act as observers.

Score: (-)

3.0 ECONOMIC

3.1 ILO

3.1.1 ILO Convention 100

3.1.2 ILO Convention 111

a. Ratification

The Convention on Equal Remuneration (C100) was ratified by Egypt July 26 1960. The Discrimination Convention (C111) was ratified by Egypt May 10 1960. Egypt did not ratify C 183.

Scoring C 100: 2

C 111: 2

C 183: 0

b. Reporting

Egypt responds regularly to the questions of the ILO expert committee that observe how Egypt implements these articles.

Maternity Convention 183 is Convention 103 revised. Two of the main revisions are concerned with the extension of maternity leave from 12 to 14 weeks and health protection for pregnant or breastfeeding mothers. The Convention was not ratified by Egypt (nor was Convention 103).

Scoring C 100: 1

C 111: 1

C 183: (-)

d. Laws

The Egyptian constitution guarantees equality between man and women in all sectors:

- **Article 11** of the constitution ensures the role of the state to help female workers to make balance between her work responsibilities and family duties.
- **Article 13** of the Constitution states that work is a right, a duty and an honour ensured by the State. Workers who excel in their field of work shall receive the appreciation of the State and society. No work shall be imposed on the citizens, except by virtue of the law, for the performance of a public service and in return for a fair remuneration.
- **Article 14** of the Constitution states that public offices are the right of all citizens.
- **Article 17** of the Constitution declares that the State shall guarantee social and health insurance services and all citizens have the right to pensions in cases of incapacity, old-age or unemployment.

These constitutional rights are accorded to all citizens regardless of sex, age, marital status, religion or creed.

Upon ratification and publication of the Conventions in the Official Gazette, the articles of the conventions entered into force of law.

- **Laws No. 47 and No. 48 of 1978** regulate public sector employment. Specified in their articles are the constitutional rights of women for equal work and pay opportunities, guarantees of equal promotion opportunities and access to insurance.
- **Article 150 of Law No. 139 of 1981** guarantees the applicability of all conditions regarding employment to female, as well as male workers. Inherent are conditions of equal pay and anti-discrimination.
- **The Labour Law no. 12/2003** deals with working relationships on the basis of total equality and anti-discrimination articles **Article 35** of the law states that there is no discrimination based on religion, sex or creed.
- **Article 88** of the same law stated that the law with its all articles applies to female workers.
- **Article 89** authorizes the Minister of Labour to determine night jobs that women are prohibited to work in. In this regard the NCW tries to limit the list of this kind of jobs as the females head 25% of the Egyptian families, and job restrictions may limit their job opportunities. Ministerial decree no. 183/2003 determines the main bases for female night work and suitable work environment.

- **Article 90** of the same law authorizes the minister to determine the harmful jobs for women physically and morally. Ministerial decree no. 155/2003 includes harmful jobs for women in accordance with the international convention no. 89 dealing with harmful jobs for women.

Although the government did not ratify Convention 183, the government adopted several policies covering the purpose of that convention:

- **Article 11** of the Constitution ensures the role of the state to help female workers to make balance between her work responsibilities and family duties.
- **Article 174 of Law No. 139 of 1981** states that any infraction of the conditions related to female employment, including their rights to maternity leave and breast-feeding breaks is a crime punished by a fine.
- **Article 91 of Labour Law no. 12/2003** the same law guarantees 90 days delivery leave twice only for females who have worked more than 10 months in an institution. The employer provides the female worker with compensation equal to her salary. The law also prohibits females from working within 45 days after delivery.
- **Article 92** of the same law prohibits firing a female worker during her delivery leave.
- **Article 93** guarantees the female worker's right to have breastfeeding leave for the 24 months after delivery. It also allows for two breastfeeding break periods during the work day.
- **Egyptian Child Law 1996 and Labour Law no. 12/2003** tackle the right of female workers to take care of their children. As the law protects the right of female workers to have child care leave, it recommends the employer pay the female workers' insurance in the public sector while she is on unpaid maternity leave. However, the employee may opt instead to receive an amount equal to one quarter of her salary for that period. This advantage is applied only for workers in the public sector, as applying this in the private sector may discourage employing women.

While a gender-gap does exist in wages and in access to promotions, this is mainly in the private sector. These conditions are aggravated by the fact that there are less skilled females to compete in the labour force, and not due to any laws or regulations that are anti-discriminatory.

Scoring: C 100: 2

C 111: 2

C 183: (-)

d. Policy Commitments:

- State policies that focus on gender training, education, micro-credit schemes are a testament to the commitment to increasing women's share of the labour market, and the attempts to reduce financial hardships on women, particularly in rural areas. None of the policies set forth in these areas are counter-indicative of equal work and pay opportunities.
- The Ministry of Manpower and Emigration monitors the implementation of Book no. 5 dealing with technical safety and security of work conditions and environment. These measures are applied to all private, public sectors and administrative, local units.
- The Ministry conducts regular inspections on governmental institutions to discover any divert of technical safety of workers especially female workers. The Ministry has inspected over 84220 institutions and penalized violators.
- The Ministry is committed to CEDAW as the international instrument for the alleviation of all forms of discrimination against women.
- The policy commitment exemplifies in the establishment of gender unit in the Ministry of Manpower and Emigration. It aims at:

1. Dealing with all the problems facing female workers and developing programs and projects to alleviate these problems.
2. Coordinating with all related and concerned institutions with regard to the status of female workers in the informal sector. Launching awareness campaigns to improve female workers acknowledgement of their rights and duties.
3. Developing public policies and plans that provide female workers with appropriate work opportunities and conditions.
4. Monitoring and evaluating all legislations and laws and ensuring that all go in accordance with the international and regional government commitments.

Scoring: C 100: 2

C 111: 2

C 183: (-)

e. Development of Plan

Since the articles of Conventions 100 and 111 are already enshrined in the constitution and in law, no specific plans need to be made to do so. Efforts may be directed at implementation of these laws, particularly in the private sector, but this may prove difficult. Overall plans to provide more employment opportunities and economic empowerment of women are however clearly stated in the national development plans.

The Ministry of Manpower and Emigration works on preparing regular balances on the demand and supply of the labour force. Accordingly, the ministry plans the technical and administrative training programs and work to provide female and male workers with the skills and qualifications that are suitable with the labour market.

Scoring: C 100: 2

C 111: 2

C 183: (-)

f. Targets

The Ministry of Manpower and Emigration established a gender unit as mentioned objectives. This unit is the link between the ministry and NCW. The unit aims at:

- Improving female workers status and work conditions in order to ensure safe and secure environment for women and improve their competitive advantage in the labour market.
- Disseminate awareness of female workers with their labour relations rights.
- Provide female workers with protection and care services and the elimination of child labour.

Scoring: C 100: 1

C 111: 1

C 183: (-)

g. Institutional Mechanisms

Offices at NCW monitor all laws and regulations regarding women, including those specific to labour. As well efforts are constantly exerted to ensure that mechanisms such as capacity building and training are also provided to enhance women's chances in the labour market. The Ministry of Manpower also provides opportunities for vocational guidance and training, as well as apprenticeship, as is spelled out in the Labour Code. It also regulates all labour laws, and has a complaints office to deal with labour related disputes.

The ministry is committed to provide equal job opportunities for male and female workers through establishing 100 bureaus to provide training assistance for job seekers.

Scoring: C 100: 2
C 111: 2
C 183: (-)

h. Budget

Activities relating to gender and employment and economic empowerment and their budgets are included in the national plan. In addition, there is strong civil society and international donor activity in this field. Due to the manner in which the public budget is presented, it is not possible to isolate specific figures.

The ministry has launched women advancement program for the current year includes several and various programs aim at improving work conditions and skills and capabilities of the female workers. The ministry directed 400,000 L.E. for the current year only:

- 66,000 L.E. for the department of the international cooperation and labour relations, targeting female workers in the textile sector.
- 120,000 L.E. for the administrative training centers for women, targeting the administrative skills of the ministry female employees.
- 65,000 L.E. for the public department for the technical health and safety, targeting safety and security of female workers in the textile sector.
- 100,000 L.E. for technical training for women.
- 40,000 L.E. for research and studies on the female workers' safety and security.
- The ministry aimed at developing bureaus for servicing female job seekers, allocating 27.5 thousand L.E for each bureau.

Scoring: C 100: 2
C 111: 2
C 183: (-)

i. Human resources

The combination of public and national institutions, and civil organisations involved in issues of women and employment are sufficient to deal with issues relating to ILO Conventions 100 and 111.

The Ministry of Manpower and Emigration developed training programs for female workers to provide them with information about the market needs through technical training centers all over the country. These programs contain technical programs, administrative, leadership training programs and technological training programs. The ministry aims at improving female worker skills and capacities. Annually, there are 50,000 female workers trained; they represent 45% of all the ministry trainees.

Scoring: C 100: 1
C 111: 1
C 183: (-)

j. Research

In addition to work done on women and economic empowerment by NCW, the Ministry of Manpower also does research on women and the labour market in Egypt. The majority of the data, due to the purpose and way of collection is sex-disaggregated. Recent studies by the Ministry of Manpower have been conducted on employment by sector, on professions in demand, and on the subcategories currently existing in the informal sector the majority of which employ women.

The gender unit in the Ministry of Manpower and Emigration launched several forums and research projects tackling the issue of female workers:

1. Forum on female workers in the public sector and the administrative development program. The ministry monitors the recommendations on female workers' position in the labor force market.
2. Workshops papers on female workers between legislation, employment and protection strategies.
3. Papers and studies on the impacts of the economic Reform and Structural Adjustment Programs "ERSAP" on the female worker in the governmental sectors.
4. In coordination with the Ministry of Administrative Development and the NCW a forum was launched on developing the female workers in the public sector.
5. A database on the status of female workers in the private sector.

Scoring: C 100: 2

C 111: 2

C 183: (-)

k. Involvement of Civil Society

NGOs are very active in providing training and education and skill enhancement for women, especially in rural areas. They have particularly strong government support in their activities, especially in the provision of professional-training centres.

The Ministry of Manpower and Emigration in cooperation with the Danish Agency for Development (DANIDA) establish bureaus serving job seekers. Moreover, the agency funded the establishment of 25 bureaus.

Scoring: C 100: 2

C 111: 2

C 183: (-)

l. Information and Dissemination

The labour code is readily accessible on the Ministry of Manpower's website as well as in print. The ministry also publishes job opportunities by sector in its monthly magazine to ensure that knowledge of employment opportunities is well spread. NCW also has the necessary information and aids in its dissemination. In addition, both government and NGO sector organisations disseminate information on training programs, capacity building workshops, vocational programs and similar activities that aid in the advancement of women in the labour force.

Scoring: C 100: 2

C 111: 2

C 183: (-)

m. Monitoring and Evaluation

The monitoring and evaluation of laws regarding equal remuneration and anti-discrimination are the responsibility of the Ministry of Manpower. Since they incorporate focal gender issues, NCW is also an agency of monitoring and evaluation. Through efforts of NCW, equal opportunity desks have been established in Ministries to aid in this endeavour. The work associated with the monitoring and evaluation of these policies includes innovative training techniques, capacity building and guidance to females in all fields in order to enhance their opportunities in the labour market, further their skills and ensure that they find suitable employment.

Scoring: C 100: 2
C 111: 2
C 183: (-)

3.1.4 ILO Policy on HIV/AIDS

There is no specific workplace policy for HIV/AIDS in Egypt, so far. However, the ILO collaborates with the National AIDS Control Program (NAP) in the Ministry of Health and Population (MOHP) to raise awareness of workers on the prevention and understanding of the modes of transmission of HIV. MOHP is focussing on workers who are at high risk for exposure particularly those working in hotels and the tourism industry. ILO conducted several workshops to raise the awareness of hotel staff and repeated the training in several governorates particularly those with high tourism activities. The training also provides guidelines and strategies to address HIV/AIDS in the workplace. MOHP is enforcing the policy of strict confidentiality of HIV positives in the workplace. Although the training and guidelines do not have a specific gender dimension it is mainly due to the male dominated pattern of the cases in Egypt to date and is not an intentional exclusion.

a. Ratification:

Score: X

b. Policy commitment:

Score: X

c. Development plan:

Score: (-)

d. Information and dissemination:

Score: 1

- e. Development of Plan
- f. Targets
- g. Institutional Mechanisms
- h. Budget
- i. Human resources
- j. Research
- k. Involvement of Civil Society
- l. Information and Dissemination
- m. Monitoring and Evaluation

Scoring:

- (-)
- (-)
- (-)
- (-)
- (-)
- (-)
- (-)
- (1)
- (-)

3.2 Engendering NPRS

a. Ratification

This policy requires no ratification. It should be noted that Egypt was one of the initiating countries of NEPAD, along with South Africa, Algeria, Nigeria and Senegal.

Score: X

b. Reporting

This policy requires no reporting. However, the government reports on the status of poverty in Egypt in the MDGs "Millennium Development Goals" to the UN system, the Egyptian Development report and the Arab Human Development report

Score: X

c. Laws

Poverty reduction was declared as one of the main objectives of the socio-economic development long-term plan 2002-2022, aiming at reducing poverty to 6% by 2022. The government works to achieve a safety net program, including bread subsidy, the most effective so far, lifting 730,000 people out of poverty in 1999/2000.

The government while working on alleviating poverty deals with three main focus groups: the poor, the unemployed and the elderly. The consumer food subsidy, the cash transfers from the Ministry of Social Affairs, the social insurance system for the elderly people and the Social Fund for Development are the main programs for social safety.

The Ministry of Planning draws the overall economic and social development plans for short, medium and long terms. These plans are translated to plans of actions through different ministries and agencies. Different ministries adopt different strategies to alleviate poverty ranging from direct assistance to the poor through the ministry of Social Affairs, free education and literacy programs through Ministry of Education, free health care in local health units and large hospitals through the Ministry of Education, to subsidize bread, flour, sugar and oil through Ministry of Trade and Supply.

Several ministries manage several programs that address poverty reduction including; Shourok Integrated Local Development, Participatory Local Development Project, the Advisory Unit of the Participatory Urban Management Program, and the Emergency Plan of the Ministry of Local Development.

The government, while adopting the Economic Reform Structural Adjustment Program (ERSAP), faces challenges with regard to the negative impacts of the program on the poor. Hence, several policies have been designed and implemented to help them.

The Ministry of Planning, supported by the UN agencies, and the Donor Assistance Group (DAG), is in the process of developing an Anti-Poverty Action Plan. The objective of this initiative is to ensure effective planning, implementation and monitoring of poverty reduction policies and programs.

Score: X

d. Policy commitment

With gender issues being the focus of major national and international conventions and treaties, Egypt has a very strong policy commitment to enhancing women's economic status. Policy directives are aimed at reducing the poverty gender gap, with the understanding that women are more adversely

affected by poverty than men, and that there must be advances in poverty in order to meet overall national development strategies. Among policies on reducing poverty in Egypt are efforts to:

- Develop gender sensitive policies and programs.
- Reduce female illiteracy.
- Provide greater access to basic social services.
- Improve health programs relating to women's health.

Score: 2

e. Development of a Plan

Egypt has stated that one of the critical objectives of the current National Five-Year Plan is to reduce poverty and to improve equity in the distribution of income. The planning department at NCW was responsible for drawing a plan that incorporated gender in national poverty reduction strategies. The policy commitments noted above have been integrated in a holistic and comprehensive manner in the national strategy to enhance the status of women and in the national development plan. Strong emphasis is placed on the feminization of poverty and the need for economic empowerment of women.

Score: 2

e. Targets

The government set Poverty Reduction as one of its priorities. It targets to reduce poverty by 6% by 2022. It works on certain targets while working on the poverty reduction:

- Setting the economic foundations for more sustainable growth in jobs, productivity and incomes to ease the life of the poorest groups.
- Enhancing the educational programs especially targeted to the poor to gradually ensure better incomes and job opportunities for them. Human development of the poor is one of the main targets to raise their capabilities through education, health and nutrition.
- Bridging the regional disparities with regard to income, job opportunities and services.
- Better protecting the poorest and most vulnerable groups who are unable to achieve their minimal standard of living with the existing economic and labour market conditions.
- Closing the gender gap in development and achieving women's advancement by dealing with specific issues of the feminisation of poverty.
- Enhancing non-material dimensions of well being including security, power and social inclusion by improving performance of the ministries dealing directly with poverty issues.

Score: (-)

g. Institutional Mechanism

Although there is no governmental entity responsible for planning, monitoring and coordinating the different programs and activities addressing the poor, Egypt has engaged in multi-dimensional strategies for raising Egyptian standards of living. As the government declared poverty alleviation as the main objective of its long-term plan, the government with its all institutions and their plans work on the same track. The Ministry of Planning streamlines the programs for all other ministries to meet the overall national objectives.

The Social Fund for Development is one of the main governmental institutions working on poverty alleviation through applying micro credit mechanisms to improve the standards of living and provide

job opportunities to the unemployed and poor families. In addition, it provides technical and training support services.

The National Council for Women is responsible for issues related to gender and poverty. It works in cooperation with all the relevant ministries to ensure that all planning strategies include gender sensitive activities that enhance women's capabilities to fully participate in the national economy. In particular, efforts are directed towards providing assistance, training and opportunities for female-headed households that often fall well below the poverty line. The Council has also established the Women's Business Centre, designed to provide information and help women who wish to initiate their own businesses, at any scale. NCW in cooperation with governmental and non-governmental partners established a permanent committee to improve society's ability to monitor the conditions of female headed households and consequently improving the conditions contributing to the vast the feminisation of poverty phenomenon.

These efforts are supported by efforts in all the afore-mentioned areas of education, training and health to ensure that an effective mechanism is in place to enhance the status of women and reduce the poverty gender gap.

Score: 2

h. Budget

The total funding of the cash transfer programs social security payments of the Sadat and Mubarak pensions of the Ministry of Social Affairs represented only 0.04% of the GDP in 1999. As all the ministries are involved one way or another with the NPRS and in the economic and social plan set by the Ministry of Planning, the whole budget directed to poverty reduction is distributed among the related ministries.

Score: (-)

i. Human Resources

The government presented by the Social Fund for Development and in cooperation with other NGOs provides technical and training assistance services for unemployed and poor families who are planning to start their own micro-business.

Score: (-)

j. Research

The various national plans and strategies formulated are grounded in constant research and data relating to the feminization of poverty and the status of women in Egypt. Much of the information indicates the need to improve education and health for females, and this is reflected in the plans.

The government through research is committed to improve the effect of programs targeting the poor, as they are not the only social group benefit from these programs. For example, the largest single transfer from the government is the pension, while the non-poor are the largest beneficiaries, since most of the poor work in the informal sector, and are therefore ineligible for pensions.

Research focuses on alleviating the regional disparity between the Upper and Lower Egypt, and between the rural and urban areas in both regions. The government aims at improving the quality and frequency of the data collected on the poor and their basic needs.

Score: 2

k. Involvement of civil society

NGOs play a large role in providing support and information to many women, especially in rural areas. One example is the 'productive families' project, which aids families market and sell their products. The government is very supportive of NGO efforts, understanding that they are able to reach many rural target groups. The government is also cooperating with the World Bank on various poverty reduction strategies.

Score: 2

l. Information and dissemination

Much of the focus on NPRS is on education/illiteracy eradication and on health care, including maternal health. There are extensive campaigns and information dissemination avenues that ensure this information reaches those most in need.

Score: 2

m. Monitoring and evaluation

NCW in collaboration with other ministries, institutions and organisations ensures that activities in the field are well monitored and reported on.

The government seeks to improve the quality and frequency of data collection and monitoring outcomes, especially at the regional level. The government is working on revising its main methods of surveys and data collection; e.g. revising questionnaires to add questions on under-represented analytical areas such as healthcare and time use of each member of the family. The transparency of data and its availability to researchers will increase the volume and quality of the analysis that will feed back into effective and dynamic policymaking.

Score: 2

3.3 Access to Agricultural Extension Services

a. Ratification

This policy requires no ratification.

Score: X

b. Reporting

No reporting is necessary; however this policy overlaps with articles of CEDAW, Beijing PFA and other Human Rights Conventions on which Egypt reports.

Score: X

c. Laws

There are no laws that specifically regulate women's access to agricultural services. However there are no laws that limit any such access.

Score: X

d. Policy commitment

- The Policy and Coordination Unit for Women in Agriculture (PCUWA), established in the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Resources (MOALR) in 1992, aims to increase

women's access to agricultural services and resources, improve their socio-economic status, and increase agricultural productivity and production. It works with the various departments and institutes of the Ministry to integrate issues of concern to women into the mainstream of MOALR's programmes and policies. Funding is still required to fully operationalize the Unit.

- In 1989, men comprised about 76% of landowners, while only 24% of landowners were women. Landholding size is overall larger for men than for women. Under the land reclamation scheme, men and women have equal access to land but women comprise only 7.4% of those who have obtained newly reclaimed land. Far fewer women than men have applied, due to the difficult living and farming conditions on newly reclaimed land.
- Under the Principal Bank for Development and Agricultural Credit (PBDAC), 88% of short-term production loans and 84% of investments loans were extended to men in 1993, while women received only 12% and 16%, respectively. Loan size for men and women was about the same. Women have greater access to credit through agricultural credit societies than through the Bank.
- Few village-level agricultural extension workers are women, which explains in part the extremely limited contact women farmers have with agricultural extension services.
- The inequality between men and women in access to agricultural training is shown by data from MOALR and the National Agricultural Research Project (NARP). Only 3 out of 6,497 participants in on-farm research between 1987 and 1993 were women; there was only one woman among 745 participants in field days; and no women among the 129 participants in residential training. More men than women have benefited from improved animal traction, irrigation tools, post harvest threshing devices, food storage facilities and transport.

Score: 1

e. Development of a Plan:

Recognizing the need to mainstream women's concerns and needs in agricultural policy and practice, the Ministry of Agriculture established the PCUWA in 1992, with Research and Strategy Development as one of its three main departments.

- A number of innovative projects have been designed to increase women's access to agricultural resources and services. The Project on Productive Activities for Women Settlers in New Lands involved women in identifying their needs and priorities and in planning, organizing and implementing women's development centers for income-earning activities. As a result, the first women's cooperative society, the Agricultural Cooperative Society for Food Security, was formed. An ILO supported project included training in income-generating skills, awareness meetings and provision of credit, and an FAO-supported project trained women in food industries, poultry and livestock raising, and provided loans for small productive projects.

Score: 1

f. Targets:

No specific targets are available, but general objectives exist. The strategies of the PCUWA for the 1990s included:

- Developing proposals to conduct critical research on women in agriculture;
- Assessing training needs in MOALR for gender analysis and women in development;
- Establishing gender focal points in other national and line ministries;
- Developing mechanisms to allow rural women, groups and associations to participate in the work of the unit

- Ensuring that Women in Development (WID) issues are considered and incorporated into agricultural policies and programs

PCUWA plans to collect, analyze and review policies and laws affecting women in agriculture and make recommendations for their improvement. The PCUWA plans to:

- Identify agro-industry projects and design demonstration projects for women;
- Establish a credit/revolving fund for rural women; and
- Develop programs for reducing pollution.

Score:1

g. Institutional Mechanisms:

The government presented in the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Resources cooperate with local and international organizations.

Score: 1

h. Budget:

No specific budget is directed to this purpose.

Score: 0

i. Human resources:

As mentioned above the government is committed to increase women access to agriculture services. In cooperation with the ILO and FAO, the Ministry of Agriculture issued a training program for women on food industry and other small productive projects.

Score: 1

j. Research:

Research has been conducted on various related topics including:

- Technologies developed for agricultural production, such as mechanized land preparation, sowing, fertilizing, herbicide use, harvesting and post-harvesting activities, men have taken control over these functions, leaving the non-mechanized and more labour-intensive tasks to be performed by women, such as hand-weeding, and vegetable and fruit picking. While mechanization has freed women from performing many tedious operations, it has also replaced an important source of paid labour for a large number of women who depended on these tasks to generate additional income for their families. In addition to mechanization, modern irrigation tools and transportation facilities also appear to be used predominantly by men.
- The role of women and land ownership. As women have less share of land ownership, they have little to do in the issue of decision making with regard to land. Research is needed on how to improve the women's ownership as data from a 1993 sample survey suggest that rural women participate little in decision-making at the household level in irrigated areas. Men have almost exclusive authority on matters related to seeds, buying and selling of livestock and land, use of herbicides and agricultural machinery, what to grow and where to sell produce. Women make decisions on poultry and contribute to decisions on agriculture projects and the vaccination of livestock.

Score: 1

k. Involvement of Civil Society:

No information available.

l. Information and Dissemination:

No information available.

Score: 0

m. Monitoring and Evaluation:

The Ministry of Agriculture and Land Resources is the institution responsible for monitoring equal accessibility of agricultural services.

Score: 0

3.4 Access to Technology

a. Ratification

This policy requires no ratification.

Score: X

b. Reporting

No reporting is necessary; however this policy overlaps with articles of CEDAW, Beijing PFA and other Human Rights Conventions on which Egypt reports.

Score: X

c. Laws

There are no laws that specifically regulate women's access to technology. However there are no laws that limit any such access. The government is committed to the improvement of communication and technology in Egypt through the development plan of the Ministry of Communication and Information Technology (MCIT).

Score: X

d. Policy commitment

With the advent of the new millennium, ICT has become an important issue in every nation's development, and Egypt is no exception. Strong government commitment is directed towards providing greater access to communication and information technology, especially to women, to better enable them to become active in society.

- MCIT has been keen on promptly responding to the request addressed from NCW to ministries and government authorities pertaining to the establishment of a centre - independent of the formal organizational structure- to address common gender concerns and mainstream gender sensitive issues in ministerial development plans.

Score: 2

e. Development of a Plan:

In its development plan, MICT remains firmly committed to its goal of bridging the digital divide to ensure that Egypt, its citizens, and its businesses derive the maximum benefit from information and communication technology. This commitment to fostering a transition to an information society is made not as an end in itself but rather as a means to the more fundamental goals of the Egyptian government: improved public services, a stronger economy, increased productivity and greater opportunities for all.

With Egypt's Information Society Initiative, the Egyptian government has developed a framework to move the country into the information era. The initiative promotes partnerships of public, private, non-profit, civil society and multilateral stakeholders and fosters the development of new models of leadership and collaboration. Private sector involvement is of strategic importance in this area not only to provide technological expertise and innovation but also to take the lead in devising market-based solutions that are socially responsible and invest the capital required to build the infrastructure to put ICT at the service of development.

- The use of laboursaving technology (agricultural machinery and tools, transportation facilities, running water, electricity, sewage facilities, kitchens, ovens and fridges, etc.) appears to be gender specific, and has been beneficial to women in some cases but detrimental in others.
- The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Egyptian Cabinet Information Decision Support (IDSC), the Governorate of Sharkeya, the Investors Association - 10th of Ramadan City and the Chamber of Commerce enter a joint partnership to establish three technology access community centers (TACC) in this governorate. These entities have agreed to pilot this project to provide rural and remote communities with public access to information technology, especially the Internet, and with the training to utilize it effectively.
- There are many opportunities to benefit from access to ICT and the Internet. It will be up to the communities to determine where and how these are best used. The primary opportunities and benefits are:
 - To access information especially for women and youth;
 - To advance training of women, the youth and local entrepreneurs, educators, interested in information management to impact new, employable skills and networking capacities;

Egypt has decided to expand a pilot digital access project in a governorate north of Cairo to all the country's 26 governorates.

Score: 2

f. Targets

- To Develop information technology to contribute in the national economic development plan and ensure equal job opportunities for men and women.
- To provide equal training opportunities.
- To Ensuring the inclusion of information technology studies in the education curricula.
- To spread technological awareness and its importance in a global-village
- To increase implementation in the field of programming and information technology.
- To improving women's contribution in the information technology and e-commerce fields.

Score:2

g. Institutional Mechanisms

The National Council for women provides access to technology through its Women's Business Development Centre (WBDC). The Centre provides assistance to women business owners and would be entrepreneurs. The WBDC also has various training programs aimed at enhancing the IT skills of young female high school and university graduates. Realising the limited access of rural women to technology, NCW also offers training programs for rural females, and provides training and assistance at its branch offices for female workers in rural areas to market their products.

The three Technology Access Community Centers (TACCs) launched two years ago in remote communities offer affordable access to information technology for professionals, women, youth, entrepreneurs, agricultural workers and students. They provide personal computers, Internet access, software libraries, printers, and other information technology tools on a walk-in basis.

A TACC is usually established in a central location in the community, and offers a variety of information and communication services including telephone fax machines, copiers, personal computers, software libraries, and (of course) Internet access. The TACC provides seminars, workshops, road shows, specialized training, technical and technological expertise for professional as well as for the general public. Its mission is community empowerment and local capacity building by optimising the utilization of ICT tools and techniques.

- The Information and Decision Support Centre (IDSC) which has a long track record of establishing more than 1200 information and decision support centers and units countrywide, sees in the TACC a viable delivery mechanism for providing global public access to ICT.
- The Investors Association of the 10th of Ramadan City, which serves more than 1200 manufacturing and production facilities and "Small and Medium Enterprises" SMEs, wants to empower the local community with modern ICT to increase productivity and leverage their competitive edge.
- The Chamber of Commerce of Sharkeya has more than 30000 members who can benefit from ICT in their business, especially in trading goods.
- The Ministry of Trade and supplies has a special interest in promoting Egyptian products, empowering exports, and supporting electronic commerce.

Score: 2

h. Budget

Technology comes at a high cost. Although there are provisions in the budget to increase women's participation in the economic sphere, and these include access to ICT, the budget still remains insufficient to provide access to the majority of training women.

UNDP provided \$326,000 of the TACC project's two-year budget of \$800,000. Other partners supporting the initiative include all Egypt governorates, the Chamber of Commerce and United Nations Volunteers (UNVs).

Score: 2

i. Human Resources

Limited access to technology is compounded by high female illiteracy rates, and limited English skills (the main language of ICT). More training and capacity building are necessary in order to enable those in the field to provide more access to women. The ministry is working on establishing

technology clubs directed at women and youth. Therefore, the ministry prepared research on the national demand of information technology studies.

Score: 2

j. Research

The ministry prepared public studies on the benefits from implementing the information technologies especially for women.

Score: 2

k. Involvement of Civil Society

The international organizations located in Cairo vested great interest to the improvement of the technological community in Egypt to go along with the universal technological revolution. The UNDP has a long vested interest in community technological development and empowerment.

- In 1998, a pilot project was initiated to establish three TACCs. The project budget is about USD \$500K, excluding in-kind support. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), under a special program called Information Technology for Development and the United Nations Volunteers Programme (UNV), funds the project. The Egyptian partners are the Egyptian Cabinet IDSC, and the Investors Association of the 10th of Ramadan City. Later in 1999, the Chamber of Commerce of and the Trade Point Division of the Ministry of Trade and Supplies joined the project. The diversity of project partnership reflects the interest of the Egyptian government, private sector and NGOs in the TACC concept.

Score: 2

l. Information and Dissemination

The need to empower women both in the urban and rural communities is meant to build up constituencies for gender equality in the ICT field. Therefore, the national media was recommended to play a more effective role in promoting gender equality and themes empowering women. E-learning, e-commerce and small e-businesses were also recommended as part of the various options introduced through the ICT world that grant women an active social role, as well as opening up new horizons for their economic independence. Women activists have also had a vital role in firmly supporting decision-makers' plans to empower women and stress the much-needed commitment to abide by the Geneva Declaration of Principles as far as empowering women in ICT.

Score: 2

m. Monitoring and Evaluation

MCIT is responsible for monitoring and evaluating the process of improving societal access to technology and advanced means of communication.

Score: 2

3.5 Equal Access to Land

a. Ratification

This policy requires no ratification.

Score: X

b. Reporting

No reporting is necessary; however this policy overlaps with articles of CEDAW, Beijing PFA and other Human Rights Conventions on which Egypt reports.

Score: X

c. Laws

No special laws exist with regard to the equal distribution of the land ownership between man and women. Land ownership is subject to purchase or inheritance. There are no laws that prohibit any female from owning land.

Score: (-)

d. Policy commitment

Egypt has strong commitment to bringing about gender equality in all sectors, including agriculture. The issue of women's access to land is affected by certain economic and social factors that hinder their access to land. Women rarely own land in Egypt, and when they do, the land is often controlled and/or managed by their male relatives until marriage, when the titles are transferred directly to their sons.

Score: 1

e. Development of a Plan:

The government aims at the empowerment of women in all economic sectors; land ownership is one of these sectors.

Score: 1

f. Targets:

No specific targets are available in this regard however, general objectives exist:

- Improving women's access to land through enhancing women awareness of their legal rights to land ownership and control.
- Ministry of Agriculture targets the inclusion of women in the ministry policies and enhancing productive activities of female benefited from new reclaimed land.

Score: 1

g. Institutional Mechanism

The Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation is very active in aiding rural women to gain access to land. It provides training and information.

The Principal Bank for Development and Agricultural Credit (PBDAC) has various assistance programs for women. The interest rates are levied according to the type of loan, its use, and whether

the beneficiary will have access to technical assistance. The average size of a loan is equal for both men and women.

The Ministry of Local Development and the Local Development Fund initiated the "Shourouk" project for Reconstruction and Development of the Egyptian village, in collaboration with USAID. Among the goals of the project is to allow rural women more access to land, and agricultural technology.

Score: 2

n. Budget

The Ministry of Agriculture directed 1.3% of investment in the Fourth National Five-Year Plan to its gender component 21,500,000 L.E. The Ministry directed 42.95 million L.E. to the goals of the National Plan for the Advanced of Women 2002-2007.

Score: 1

i. Human resources

The government aims to design training programs to inform women farmers of their legal rights to land. The state provides women with access to legal counseling to facilitate women legal claims of their rights to land and assisting women to buy and sell land.

The Ministry of Agriculture aims at enhancing women awareness of their important role in the agriculture sector through 6 main projects. These projects targets to enhance women participation in the agriculture development empower her living status.

Score: 1

j. Research

Surveys to collect information directly from farmers should be carefully interpreted, since many tend to under-report for fear of taxation and government control.

At the national level, female landholdings were smaller in size than male landholdings. According to official statistics, only about 4% of those economically active in agriculture in 1986 were women, and this rose to about 10% when unpaid family labor was included. However, statistics often do not reflect the true contribution of women to agriculture because they exclude women's subsistence production and domestic work. Surveys show that majority of rural women participate in agricultural activities, particularly those related to food security and animal production. More than 50% of rural women are actively involved in tasks such as fertilization, weeding, harvesting, sacking, marketing and storage. Some also undertake ploughing and irrigation. About 70% of their working time in agriculture is devoted to animal husbandry.

The issue of female ownership of land needs further study and research as the gender gap in land ownership still widens.. The Constitution gives women equal access to education; employment and work opportunities, equal pay for equal work, and social security. Egyptian civil law, in accordance with Islamic law, gives women the right to possess and control property, and to inherit, although women receive only half as much as men. While no laws restrict women's ownership of land and livestock or access to credit, discrimination may exist due to custom and tradition, lack of awareness among women of their rights, or lack of strict implementation of the laws.

Score: 2

k. Involvement of Civil society

Many NGOs, especially those in rural areas work to inform women of their legal rights and provide legal assistance as well as information and training regarding agriculture, land ownership and management.

Score: 1

l. Information ad Dissemination

- Media campaigns are very active in improving women and men awareness about female legal rights to land.
- The role of the local community leaders to disseminate their support to women's rights of land ownership and control is growing. As well, their role as mediators and conflict consultants makes it easier to inform and support women's legal claims of their rights.

Score: 1

m. Monitoring and Evaluation:

No Information is available.

Score: 0

4.0 POLITICAL

4.1 UN 1325 conflict resolution

a. Ratification:

UN Resolution 1325 requires no ratification.

Throughout the years, Egypt has been always surrounded by conflict, war and turmoil. The Arab-Israeli conflict fuelled the region with continuous violence and had devastating consequences on the lives of many people. The civil war in Lebanon, Sudan and Yemen destroyed the lives of women and children in the region. The Iraqi-Iranian war, the occupation of Kuwait and lately the invasion of Iraq had a negative impact on the stability of the region, slowdown social development plans and weakened the aspirations of women in the region for advancement and progress.

Despite this overall insecurity in the region, Egypt was not one of the countries considered the role of women in armed conflict as a country priority in Beijing Conference 1995.

With the increasing tension in the region and the passing of the UN Security Council Resolution on Women, Peace and Security 1325, Egypt welcomed the Resolution but without ratification.

Score: (-)

b. Reporting

Requires no reporting

Score: (-)

c. Laws/ Policy Commitment:

The establishment of Susan Mubarak Women's International Peace Movement (SMWIPM) was an Egyptian Initiative. It is considered a first stepping-stone on women for peace. The Sharm El Sheik Conference September 2002 focused on starting a dialogue on women's role in peace making process to create a secured environment.

Background of the movement:

- SMWIPM is the Middle East's first Women's Peace Initiative to empower women in the region to participate in efforts leading to peace and security.
- This movement was initiated in September 2002 meeting in Sharm El-Sheikh, which the National Council for Women in Egypt and the United Nations sponsored.
- This meeting was a gathering of first ladies and high-ranking female officials from different parts of the world as well as public figures, parliamentarians, intellectuals and leaders of other Peace movements.

The meeting was centered around the following themes:

- Women for Peace: Achievements and Aspirations.
- From Intention to Implementation: the Role of Women in Fostering Peace.
- The Impact of Armed Conflict on Development: A Women's Perspective.
- Women tell their stories: Lessons Learned from Success Stories in Mediation and Reconciliation.
- The Way Forward: Women for Peace Movement.

Score: 2

d. Development Plan:

SMWIPM aims at:

- Promoting and establishing culture of peace.
- Implementing the UN Security Council Resolution 1235 on the role and the rights of women in relation to peace and development.
- Ensuring that women and girls are not forced to put up with the horrors of war, and are not denied the right to full participation in efforts undertaken to bring about peace.

Score: 2

e. Targets:

SMWIPM organized a conference in May 2004 to formulate the movement strategies.

Score: 1

f. Institutional Mechanisms:

On the societal side SMWIPM, Red Crescent and Red Cross are involved in the implementation/ or issues related to the implementation of 1325.

On the governmental side, while there is no one institution that is formally designated the power to implement Resolution 1325, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is closest to that role because of its functions.

Score: 2

g. Budget:

As an NGO, SMWIPM obtains its entire fund from donors and contribution of its members. No information is available about the governmental funds allocated for the implementation of the Resolution 1325.

Score: 1

e. Human Resources:

- SWMIPM movement had hired 2 international consultants to help in setting up the movement's activities.
- The movement organized several training workshops with local and regional groups to share experiences and to build women's capacity in addressing the issue of peace and conflict resolution.
- Human resources are still needed to spread the culture of peace throughout the region.
- On the diplomatic side, the MOFA has a "Critical Mass" of well-experienced female diplomats who can take part in any negotiations. What is required is to ensure their inclusion in formal delegations.

Score: 1

g. Research:

Policy oriented research is needed about the implementation of Resolution 1325. No available information about any current research about this topic.

Score: 1

h. Involvement of Civil Society:

As mentioned above, SMWIPM is an NGO that is very active in the field. Its activities aim at building a reliable network of local and regional women's NGOs that are able to exchange their experiences and vision of peace.

Score: 2

i. Information and Dissemination:

SMWIPM attempts, through lectures given at universities and NGOs, to disseminate information about UN Resolution no. 1325. The Media coverage of the First Lady's activities in this issue helps in disseminating information about the subject. However, more dissemination of information is needed to reach all levels of the society.

Score: 2

j. Monitoring and Evaluation:

No Formal mechanisms to monitor and evaluate government commitment towards the implementation of 1325.

Some Egyptians Members of Parliament (MPs) are members in the International Parliamentary Union (IPU) and through this organization; they participated in the meeting of women Parliamentarians in Mexico City in April 2004 where they called for greater representation of women in peace building negotiations. Moreover, the IPU called for the establishment of a task force to monitor the implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution 1325 and to guarantee gender mainstreaming in all peace keeping missions and post conflict reconstruction and reconciliation.

Score: 1

4.2 Beijing Platform of Action: Effective and Accessible National Machinery

In 1975 the UN mandated national governments to establish national mechanisms for the advancement of women. Egypt has had a National Committee for Women since 1978. The First Lady chaired this committee. In 2000, the Presidential Decree created the National Council for Women. The decree appointed 30 members (currently 10 men and 20 women).

The mandate of the National Council for Women is the following:

- To propose public policy matters for society and its constitutional institutions on development and empowerment of women to enable them to play their economic role, and to integrate their efforts in comprehensive development programmes.
- To draft a National Plan for the advancement of women and to solve their problems.
- To monitor and evaluate the general policies related to women and formulate its recommendations and observations to the concerned parties.
 - To advise on the draft laws and decrees related to women before submission to the competent authorities. Recommend the adoption of proposed laws and decrees that contribute to reinforcing the enhancement of women status.
 - To advise on all agreements relating to women.
 - To represent women in international fora and organizations dealing with women's issues.
 - To establish a documentation center, collect information, data and research on women, and to conduct related research and studies.
 - To hold conferences, seminars, symposia and debates on women's issues.
 - To organize training sessions to raise awareness of the role, rights and duties of women.
 - To publish newsletters, magazines and other publications informing the public of the goals and functions of the Council.
 - All other issues referred to the Council by the President of the Republic.

a. *Ratification:*

Not applicable

Score: X

b. *Reporting:*

Not applicable. However, the NCW reports to various UN and sub-regional bodies on its activities.

Score: (-)

c. *Law/ Policy commitment:*

- The Presidential Decree 2000 created the NCW.
- With the influence and lobbying of NCW, a number of recommendations/policies found their way to adoption and implementation for example: the Nationality law and the Family law. Moreover, the council played an important role in increasing number of women in the decision-making posts and the appointment of the first female judge.
- Through its equal opportunity units, the Council manages to monitor affirmative action.

Score:

Law

X

Policy Commitment

2

e. Development of a Plan:

NCW is currently applying performance management principles in managing the activities of the Council. NCW committees were asked to use performance indicators in presenting their future plans.

In addition to mainstreaming gender in the National Plan, the Council prepared strategies to address the rural women, women in media and political participation. Some of these strategies have specific targets and measurable objectives and some are limited to general objectives.

Score: 2

f. Targets:

The NCW prepares plans and programs to cover the following targets:

- Social empowerment: through an aggressive literacy campaigns, improving women's health throughout the life cycle; improving self-image and girls education.
- Economic empowerment: removing barriers to women's employment in the private sector, encouraging female entrepreneurship, vocational training and micro-credit.
- Political empowerment: through advocacy and awareness raising, and encouraging women to participate effectively in the political life.

Score: 1

g. Institutional Mechanisms:

The NCW is the institution responsible for the advancement of women Egypt. The NCW works through a comprehensive strategy that tackles all fields for women advancement, guided by the work of its 11 executive committees that cover all areas of concern:

- Education, Training and Scientific Research Committee
- Health and Population Committee
- Non-Governmental Organizations Committee
- Culture Committee.
- Economic Affairs Committee.
- Political Participation Committee
- External Relations Committee
- Governorates Committee
- Legislative Committee
- Media and Information Committee
- Environment Committee

The Council established branches in all the governorates. Each is composed of 9 to 18 members comprising public figures with experience in women's issues and in the social activities of the governorate.

The Council includes several centers in various fields; all aiming at the advancement of women:

- The Management Information Systems Center, a documentation and information center aims at collecting, categorizing, analysing and record data, statistics, research, books and findings of national, regional and international conferences on women.
- Women Business Development Center (WBDC) aims to empower women economically and to allow them to fulfil their social and economic role and contribute to the comprehensive development of the country. This center provides women with counselling on how to conduct

small projects, training to enhance women skills and capabilities and provides them finally with information and statistics on projects, markets, studies and new technologies.

- Training Centres to raise awareness of the role, rights and duties of women. With assistance from the United Nations, the NCW has set modern training facilities in its premises where orientation sessions, discussion groups and awareness raising sessions are conducted.
- Computer Training Centres directed to the new general secretariat staff on the basic office programs.

The NCW is a coordinating body that does not have any executive power. Therefore, NCW is working through a network of research centers and NGOs, who implementing the Council's projects. It has number of working protocols with agencies, ministries including the Ministry of Insurance and Social Affairs and Ministry of Local Development. Protocols universities including Cairo University and American University in Cairo have also been signed. The NCW is about to sign working protocols with of cooperation with Ain Shams University and the Ministry of Culture.

Score: 2

h. Budget/ Human Resources:

With the increasing activities of the NCW, there is always a need for more qualified staff and a larger budget.

Score: 1

j. Research:

There is a research department with the organizational structure of the general secretariat. The Department tends to commission researchers at University, NGOs and research centers to cover the research needs of the committees. There is a wide range of topics that are being researched now.

Score: 1

k. Involvement of Civil Society:

The NCW is keen to evolve Civil Society and to coordinate with NGOs. For instance:

- NCW's committees include a committee on NGOs. Its main function is to coordinate with NGOs. The membership of this committee includes members of number of NGOs in Egypt.
- The Council involves civil society in consultative meetings especially when it comes to reporting on Egypt progress towards the advancement of women.
- March 2004, the NCW held a conference on Egypt's progress in the implementation of MDGs. Not only were NGOs active participants in the conference but also the role of NGOs in implementing and monitoring MDGs was one of the main topics of the conference.

However, some NGOs do not view the NCW involving them enough in its activities and others tend to see it as an elitist organization.

Score: 1

l. Information and Dissemination:

The NCW has a web site, publications and programs on television to disseminate information.

Score: 2

m. Monitoring and Evaluation

One of the NCW's mandates is to monitor and evaluate the impact of public policies on the advancement of women. NCW is currently establishing a monitoring and evaluation M&E inside the council. Moreover, it creates a media watch to monitor how women are presented in the media. There is also an Ombudsman to monitor and solve women's complaints.

Score: 1

4.3 Policies

4.3.1 Support for women's quota and affirmative action

GOE tends to emphasize the principle of equal opportunities.

- Though the Egyptian constitution adopted a quota system (50% of seats in parliament) for workers and farmers, no similar measures have been taken for women.
- The political leadership tends to use its power to appoint women in leadership positions.
- Though international conventions such as Beijing calls the state parties to achieve 30% of female participation by 2005, Egypt is still behind.
- The political participation committee in the NCW calls the government to achieve 3% of female participation as the target for the coming three years.

Scoring:

- a. Ratification: X***
- b. Reporting: X***
- c. Law: X***
- d. Policy Commitment: 1***
- e. Development of a Plan: 0***
- f. Targets: 0***
- g. Institutional Mechanisms: 0***
- h. Budget: 1***
- i. Human Resources: 1***
- j. Research: 2***
- k. Involvement of Civil Society: 2***
- l. Information and Dissemination: 2***
- m. Monitoring and Evaluation: 1***

4.3.2 Decision making positions within parliament/ministries

Despite Egypt's major advancement in empowering women in various areas, political empowerment is remaining weak. Similar to many other countries, women's representation in decision-making positions is incongruent with their demographic size and contributions in the development process.

Egyptian women still occupy an insignificant number of seats in Parliament (2.4% in the People Assembly and 6% in the Shura Council).

In 1979, the GOE issued Law No. 21 that allocated 30 seats for women in the People's Assembly in addition to their right to run for the remaining seats. This law increased women's representation significantly to 8.9%. This percentage exceeded the number of female seats in all past parliament since 1957 to date combined. Once the law was cancelled, the percentage dropped in 1987 to 3.9%.

NCW and NGOs are emphasizing the need for implementing Article 4 (CEDAW) as a mechanism to increase women's representation in the Parliament.

Women's representation in the executive branch is also low. As mentioned above, there are only two female ministers and two female Assistant to Minister (Ministry of Health, Ministry of Finance). Within the public administration, women are more privileged.

There are great governmental and non-governmental efforts to enhance women political participation and to ensure fair representation that reflects their weight in the society. NCW is in the process of creating a Center for Political Training to upgrade women's political skills and to create a pool of potential candidates that can run for the coming parliamentary election in 2005, through the establishment of specific training centre, and voter sensitization programs focusing on women. The NCW is coordinated with the political parties to ensure that parties are committed to bring women to the decision-making posts within the party machinery. The political leadership stated that enhancing women participation in the political life is an essential part and parcel of the political reform that is currently taking part in the country.

Scoring:

- a. Ratification: X**
- b. Reporting: X**
- c. Law: 1**
- d. Policy Commitment: 1**
- e. Development of a Plan: 0**
- f. Targets: 1**
- g. Institutional Mechanisms: 1**
- h. Budget: 2**
- i. Human Resources: 2**
- j. Research: 2**
- k. Involvement of Civil Society: 2**
- l. Information and Dissemination: 2**
- m. Monitoring and Evaluation: 0**

4.3.2 Gender mainstreaming in all departments

NCW is committed to gender mainstreaming in all ministries. Having instead equal opportunity units in almost all ministries, the Council initiates gender planning, gender budgeting and gender auditing trainings programs to create a gender culture and build capacity with the ministries. UNFPA, UNICEF and ESCWA are supporting the NCW's activities in this area.

- a. Ratification: X**
- b. Reporting: X**
- c. Law: X**
- d. Policy Commitment: 1**
- e. Development of a Plan: 1**
- f. Targets: 2**
- g. Institutional Mechanisms: 1**
- h. Budget: 1**
- i. Human Resources: 1**
- j. Research: 1**
- k. Involvement of Civil Society: 1**
- l. Information and Dissemination: 1**
- m. Monitoring and Evaluation: 1**

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