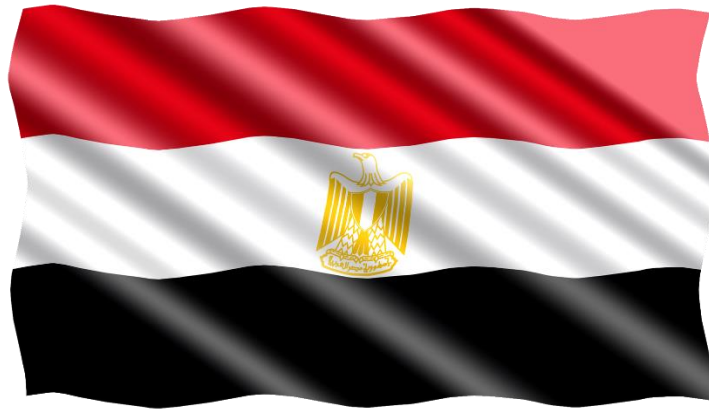


Egypt

ICT Development Study



Preface

In the wake of the upheaval of recent years, Egypt's political transition would appear to be complete, with the current parliament largely supportive of the president's policies. However, security challenges are undermining economic recovery, and the country is underperforming in several key economic sectors, despite overall bright prospects.

Egypt is the 29th largest country in the world and the 4th largest country in the Middle East and North Africa. It is the most populous country in the region, with a young population of 88 million, and a relatively high birth rate. The Egyptian system of government reflects a combination of the prime ministerial and presidential systems. The former commander of the armed forces, El-Sisi, currently serves as chief of state.

ICT is a prioritised, strategic industrial sector in Egypt. Being an enabler of development across all domains of modern society, Egypt, as the long-standing cultural and informational center of the Arab world, with Cairo, the region's largest publishing and broadcasting center, is leading the way in many respects. The government has created fertile conditions for ICT-led growth by investing heavily in developing world-class IT-infrastructure facilities. Its dedicated ICT and business parks have propelled the country to become a multicentre offshore location.

The business environment in Egypt is restrictive, with the World Bank ranking it 131 out of the 189 countries surveyed in its 2016 Doing Business. While its political and security environment remains uncertain, the relative stability under President El-Sisi is encouraging FDI across key sectors, as economic momentum gradually gathers pace.

The full Development Study deeply analyses those as mentioned above as well as several other relevant developments both from a local and a global perspective to present the prospects of the Egyptian economy and deliver a set of forward-looking views for businesses and investors.

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