ENHANCING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN NORTH SINAI

Through this program, USAID supports the Government of Egypt’s efforts to enhance the economic and social inclusion of Bedouin communities, following years of struggle fighting terrorism. Building on over a decade of U.S. investments in North Sinai, this program raises the standards of living of Bedouin communities in North Sinai by promoting traditional Bedouin livelihoods, increasing access to higher education opportunities, and improving health services in the region including psycho-social services for families experiencing trauma from years of ongoing conflict. This program increases the number of women and youth entrepreneurs in North Sinai, improves the sustainability of regional fisheries and agriculture, builds leadership skills among youth, and strengthens the administrative and fiduciary capacities of civil society organizations, so that they can lead complex development efforts in the region.

Implementing Partner: El Gora Community Development Association; Life of Project: August 2020 – July 2025; Total Estimated Cost: $5.3 million; Governorates: North Sinai
MAIN ACTIVITIES

- Provide scholarship opportunities to Bedouin youth to attend public universities across Egypt, including in North Sinai
- Build the skills of women and youth to launch small businesses and bring local products to domestic and international markets
- Create an organization capable of providing community psycho-social services across North Sinai and train community leaders to provide these services
- Offer mentorship support to youth leaders and oversight to organizations to implement community development initiatives
- Provide first aid training, hygiene awareness, and traditional water tanks for storing potable water in remote communities

INITIAL RESULTS

- 125 youth from North Sinai participated in six Cairo-based youth camps to discuss Egypt's Vision 2030 and plan initiatives to advance social and economic development in North Sinai
- 46 students received scholarships to continue their higher education
- 50 fishermen were trained in marine safety and aquaculture conservation to foster marine resource conservation and enhance sustainable fishing practices
- 60 female artisans were trained on entrepreneurship and small business development
- Trained al’ Amal Center for Psycho-Social Services in Sinai (ACPSIS) team to provide mental health and psychosocial support to the survivors of terrorist attacks and displaced families in North Sinai and designed a new psychosocial program