SUPPORT FOR STEM SECONDARY EDUCATION

In 2011, USAID partnered with the Ministry of Education and Technical Education to establish Egypt’s first magnet high schools for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM). The schools were a huge success, and the Ministry took STEM education to scale. USAID supported the Ministry to open 18 additional STEM schools across the country that have served 5,000 students. USAID’s current programming for STEM education enhances the quality and sustainability of STEM schools.

STEM TEACHER EDUCATION AND SCHOOL STRENGTHENING
USAID’s STEM Teacher Education and School Strengthening Activity develops the specialized cadre of instructors and administrators to teach and lead STEM high schools nationwide. In partnership with U.S. universities, the activity is launching a four-year STEM undergraduate teaching degree program at five Egyptian public universities so that future teachers gain the skills and experience to be effective STEM teachers. The activity also introduced a one-year graduate diploma for teachers and school leaders to specialize in STEM education. USAID’s STEM Teacher Education and School Strengthening Activity also supports the Ministry of Education and Technical Education to administer and sustain the STEM schools. The activity supports in-service training for teachers and administrators, strengthens STEM administrative units, and prepares the Ministry to implement its STEM education expansion plan. Implementing Partner: 21PSTEM; Life of Project: April 2018 – April 2023; Total Estimated Cost: $24.27 million; Governorates: Nationwide
FABRICATION LABORATORIES FOR STEM SCHOOLS
This program, known locally as FabLabs, supports the quality of STEM education by establishing science and technology laboratories in eight STEM schools. It provides equipment to the schools and offers training in supply maintenance and equipment use. Implementing Partner: Transcentury Services; Life of Project: December 2017 – September 2021; Total Estimated Cost: $4.47 million; Governorates: Beni Suef, Fayoum, Menoufia, Minya, Qena, Qaloubiya, Sharqia, Sohag.

INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING FAIR (ISEF)
In 2016, USAID began funding Egyptian high school students to participate in the International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF). Thousands of high school students from all over Egypt compete with innovative projects in various science and engineering categories to qualify and represent their country in the global ISEF, organized annually in the United States. Taking a step further, USAID moved from supporting the local affiliated fairs to funding the travel of the Egyptian students to the international competition. In 2021, three Egyptian teams won top prizes for their innovative projects. These future scientists are winning prestigious international awards and returning to Egypt to transform their projects into solutions for Egypt’s grand challenges.