Launched in 2015, the U.S.-Egypt Higher Education Initiative (HEI) provides scholarships to hundreds of talented women and men from underserved communities throughout Egypt to study at premier Egyptian and American universities in fields critical to Egypt’s sustained economic growth and development. This has resulted in a cadre of young professionals committed to Egypt’s long-term development goals, including self-reliance. Since the inception of this program, 686 men and women have received scholarships for undergraduate and graduate degrees. This program is conducted at a national level in partnership with the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research.

LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS FOR PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES

Under the U.S.-Egypt Higher Education Initiative, 584 Egyptians selected from across Egypt have received full scholarships through the Local Scholarships for Public Universities activity to attend top universities in Egypt, including Ain Shams University, Assiut University, Alexandria University, Cairo University, and Mansoura University. Scholarship recipients receive career counseling to ensure success in their fields of study, as well as English language training, access to internship opportunities, opportunities to participate in community service projects, and the option to participate in study abroad programs in the United States. To date, 80 scholarship recipients have elected to study abroad. Students have developed and implemented 469 community service projects. Approximately 100 scholarship recipients have completed internships through this project.

Included in the total are 35 scholarships awarded to Egyptians with disabilities to pursue studies in various fields, some of which have previously been inaccessible to persons with disabilities. Separately, this project is establishing disability centers at the five partner universities. These centers will serve and empower students with disabilities in all faculties in their respective universities. They will help establish and advocate for university-wide policies, procedures, and activities to ensure equal access to higher education that align with Egyptian legislation mandating that educational institutions provide equal opportunities for students with disabilities.
LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS FOR PRIVATE UNIVERSITIES

Under the U.S.-Egypt Higher Education Initiative, 210 scholarships will be awarded to Egyptian public school graduates to pursue undergraduate studies programs in three private universities in Egypt: the American University in Cairo; the Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport; and the British University of Egypt. Scholarship recipients receive career counseling to ensure success in their fields of study as well as English language training, access to internship opportunities, opportunities to participate in community service projects, and the option to participate in study abroad programs in the United States. To date, 130 students have completed their first academic year at the American University in Cairo; the Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport; and the British University of Egypt.

Another component of the Local Scholarships for Private Universities program is the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics undergraduate scholarships, funding the study of 62 women pursuing science, technology, engineering, and mathematics degrees in the United States. These talented, high achieving Egyptian women selected from underserved populations across Egypt will contribute to Egypt’s long-term economic growth and development.

LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES TRANSFORMING UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

Under the U.S.-Egypt Higher Education Initiative, the Leadership Opportunities Transforming University Students (LOTUS) scholarship offers full scholarships for outstanding Egyptian students with high financial need to study at five private universities in Egypt: Ahram Canadian University; the Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport; the British University in Egypt; Future University; and Pharos University in Alexandria. Scholarship recipients are pursuing studies in fields important to Egypt’s development, such as nursing, engineering, computer science, dentistry, and mass communication. Scholarship recipients receive career counseling to ensure success in their fields of study as well as English language training, access to internships, opportunities to participate in community service projects, and the option to participate in study abroad programs in the U.S. Through this activity, 250 students were awarded scholarships and to date, 191 have graduated. Among those who have graduated, 72 percent are employed, 12 percent are serving in the military, and 14 percent are pursuing graduate degrees abroad.

GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS FOR PROFESSIONALS

Under the U.S.-Egypt Higher Education Initiative, this government-to-government program provides up to 675 scholarship opportunities for Egyptian professionals to pursue career-related, post-graduate degree programs or professional training courses in the United States or at the American University in Cairo. Scholarship recipients subsequently integrate their newly acquired leadership skills and lessons from their academic study into standard business practices upon their return to the Egyptian workforce. The program also supports the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research by introducing scholarships for women and people with disabilities, and by targeting cross-cultural learning to promote
socio-economic progress. To date, 139 professionals from the Government of Egypt have been awarded scholarships to attend graduate level courses in the United States or at the American University in Cairo.

Implementing Partner: Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research Central Department of Missions; Life of Project: January 2017 – September 2022; Total Estimated Cost: $30 million; Governorates: Nationwide

FULBRIGHT SCHOLARSHIPS
Under the auspices of U.S.-Egypt Higher Education Initiative, 335 high-achieving, economically disadvantaged students from across Egypt will receive a Fulbright scholarship to pursue a master’s degree in the United States in fields of study critical to the economic development of Egypt. These scholarships will help recipients acquire leadership and employment skills and gain a firsthand understanding of American society. Scholars will return to Egypt to join the public and private sectors, and will be equipped to assume leadership roles and engage in civic participation in their communities. To date, the U.S.-Egypt Higher Education Initiative has provided 107 Egyptian students an opportunity to study in the United States under the Fulbright scholarships activity.

Implementing Partner: U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs; Life of Project: 2014 – 2021 (managed by the U.S. Embassy in Cairo); Total Estimated Cost: $32 million; Governorates: Nationwide