

**EXECUTIVE PROGRAMME FOR SCIENTIFIC AND  
TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION  
BETWEEN THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC AND THE ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT  
FOR THE YEARS 2024-2026**

Within the framework of the Agreement on Scientific and Technological Cooperation between the Government of the Republic of Italy and the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt, signed in Cairo on April 29, 1975 and entered into force on April 27, 1978, the Italian-Egyptian Joint Commission met in Embassy of Italy in Cairo on 03/07/2024 to examine the present state and further development of the scientific and technological cooperation between the two Countries and to define the Executive Programme for the years 2024 – 2026.

The Italian delegation was headed by H.E., Michele Quaroni, Ambassador of Italy, and the Egyptian delegation was headed by Prof. Walaa Sheta, Executive President of the Egyptian Science, Technology and Innovation Funding Authority -STDF-. The members of the two delegations are listed in Annex I.

The institutions in charge of the co-ordination of the present Executive Programme, hereinafter referred as to the “Parties”, are:

For the Italian Party: Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Directorate General for Country Promotion

For the Egyptian Party: Science, Technology and Innovation Funding Authority

The following agenda of the Joint Commission was adopted by the Parties:

1. Review of Scientific and Technological Cooperation between the two Countries
2. New Executive Programme
  - 2.1 Joint Research Projects of Particular Relevance
3. Final provisions.

**1. Review of the Scientific and Technological Cooperation between the two Countries**

The Parties have agreed to recognize the growing importance of science and technology with respect to the economic, social and cultural relations of the two Countries.



The Parties, considering the good relationships between the two Countries, stressed the need to further develop and promote bilateral cooperation in the field of science and technology.

**2. New Executive Programme**

In the period September 27<sup>th</sup> - October 27<sup>th</sup> 2022, a joint call for proposals was published to collect projects in the following priority areas:

- Water Management Agriculture and food technologies
- Smart cities and big data (Health data and Covid-19 modelling, service industry and technology management)
- Renewable and sustainable energy
- New technologies applied to natural and cultural heritage
- Material science and engineering

Both parties expressed satisfaction with the good number of joint proposals received. Were deemed eligible in both countries and subsequently evaluated 35 proposals





The criteria adopted in evaluating of the joint research projects were:

- Scientific relevance of the proposed research
- Methodology and documentation
- Qualification and expertise of the research teams
- Involvement of early career scientists
- Added value of the bilateral cooperation
- Exploitation and dissemination of the results
- Budget adequacy

### 2.1 Joint Research Projects of Particular Relevance

On the basis of the above criteria, the Parties jointly selected 4 research projects, which were considered eligible for financial support and are listed in Annex II. Funding for these projects may be granted on a national basis upon evaluation of the financial requests to be submitted by the corresponding Principal Investigators, according to the guidelines defined by the relevant authorities in the two Countries.

### 3. Final provisions

The Parties agreed to hold the next session of the Joint Commission in Italy in the year 2026. Further details such as date and agenda, will be agreed upon through diplomatic channels.

The present Executive Programme 2024-2026 will remain valid until the coming into force of the next Executive Programme, but no longer than one year after its expiration.

Any amendment to the text of this Executive Programme has to be discussed through diplomatic channels and authorised by the competent Ministries in both Countries.

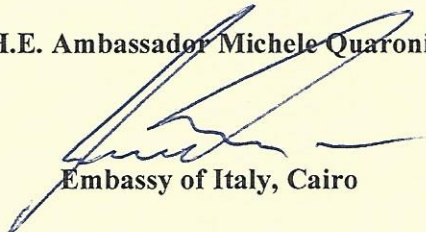
All initiatives foreseen in this Executive Programme will be carried out within budget limits and according to the rules prevailing in each Country.

Annex II, containing the list of selected bilateral projects, is attached hereto and represents an integral part of the present document.

Signed in Cairo on the 03/07/2024, in two originals written in English language, each text being equally authoritative.

**For the Italian Party**

**H.E. Ambassador Michele Quaroni**

  
Embassy of Italy, Cairo

**For the Egyptian Party**

**Prof. Walaa Sheta**

  
Executive President, STDF



## Annex I

### Members of the two delegations

ITALIAN DELEGATION	EGYPTIAN DELEGATION
H.E. Ambassador Michele Quaroni  Dr. Domenico De Martinis Scientific Attache <sup>2</sup> - Embassy of Italy	President, Prof. Walaa Sheta  Prof. Shaimaa Lazem, Program Officer - STDF





## Annex II

**Significant Research Projects selected within the frame of the Executive Programme of Scientific and Technological Cooperation between the Italian Republic and the Arab Republic of Egypt for the Years 2024 - 2026**

Research Area	Project Title	Italian Coordinator	Egyptian Coordinator
Water Management, Agriculture and Food Technology	Water Desalination by inverse-osmosis: new membranes fabricated by electrospinning and photoinduced crosslinking	<b>Bongiovanni Roberta</b> Politecnico di Torino	<b>Hassan Hefni</b> Egyptian Petroleum Research Institute
Material Science and Engineering	Novel Photo-activated Carbon Monoxide Releasing Materials for Biomedical Applications	<b>Sicilia Emilia</b> Università della Calabria	<b>Tamer Shoeib</b> American University of Cairo -AUC-
Renewable and Sustainable Energy	Solar hybrid adsorption-ejector desalination system for low-cost clean water	<b>Brancato Vincenza</b> Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche -CNR-	<b>Ahmed Abdelkader Shehata Askalani</b> Suhag University
New Technologies Applied to Cult. and Nat. Heritage	Conservation of the Religions Complex in Old Cairo through the integration of geosciences and earthquake engineering	<b>Bedon Chiara</b> Università di Trieste	<b>Hesham Eid Mossa</b> National Research Institute Of Astronomy & Geophysics -NRIAG-