**Minya Governorate**: Why Choosing Minya Governorate?

- **Challenges**
  - Around 30% of the poorest villages in Upper Egypt are located in Minya alone.
  - High unemployment rate especially in rural areas and among youth and women.
  - Increased migration to urban areas resulting in a proliferation of slums (30 slums in Minya alone).
  - Highest illiteracy rate (36.7%) and lowest rate in primary education (63.5%) nationwide.
  - 10% of all children in Minya are malnourished.

- **Opportunities**
  - Richness in natural resources: limestone, sand, natural gas.
  - Potential of local tourism and its related services.
  - Formal and informal employment opportunities in local industries (e.g. in the furniture, textiles and construction sectors).
  - Value addition through agribusiness and the local food industry.

**Minya Governorate**: Snapshot Information

- **Total area**: 32,279 km²
- **4.8 million inhabitants (148 people/km²)**
- **80% of the population lives in rural areas**
- **1.8 million agricultural lands (4.1% of total arable lands in Egypt)**
- **National holiday**: 18 March
- **Administrative structure**: 9 districts, 57 main villages, 346 sub-villages

**Main local industries in Minya**: cement and furniture production, sugar processing, extraction of limestone, brick and granite production, textiles as well as natural gas and oil processing.

**Key agricultural products from Minya**: sugarcane, wheat, maize, beans, garlic, onions, tomatoes, potatoes and grapes.

**Overall Project Goal**

Improving the livelihood of vulnerable households, youth, women and children in target communities in Minya Governorate (Edwa and Maghagha districts) through inclusive and pro-poor socio-economic development.

**Specific Project Objectives**

- A Local Development Forum (Human Security Forum) is established as an interface between local communities and public decision-makers.
- A Community Fund (Human Security Fund) is created for implementing community projects of top priority.
- Sustainable jobs are created through an Information Counseling and Referral System (ICRS) that brings together young job-seekers and potential employers.
- Tailored training packages are delivered for better income-generating activities in the agribusiness, SMEs, infrastructure and neighborhood upgrading sectors.
- Village Savings and Loan Associations are formed to boost the financial inclusion of marginalized women and a Youth Volunteer Service (YVC) is instituted addressing young people’s needs.
- Awareness raising and capacity development programs are implemented as a tool to reduce their vulnerability towards development threats.

**Expected Project Results**

- Improving the livelihood of vulnerable households, youth, women and children in target communities.
- Enabling youth and communities to consolidate their resilience and coping mechanisms in the face of development threats.
- Strengthening the participation of local communities in the design and implementation of development projects.
- Improving the accessibility and quality of basic services in the target communities.
- Strengthening the role of local government in improving the quality of services provided to the target groups.
- Promoting people-centred development and promoting the involvement of local communities in decision-making processes.

**Notes**

* Human Development Report Egypt 2010
  Source: www.capmas.gov.eg
  www.minia.gov.eg

**HAYAT’s Integrated Local Community Development Approach**

- **Multi-sectoral**
- **Prevention-oriented**
- **Needs-oriented**
- **Context-specific**
- **Gender-sensitive**

**Involving local communities in the design and implementation of development projects is essential for ensuring the success of program interventions**.

- **Around 66% of young graduates of secondary schools in Minya are unemployed**.
- **Although it is not very appealing to Minya’s youth, agriculture is still the largest employment sector in the Governorate**.

**Minya’s location on the map of Egypt**

**Minya Governorate: Why Choosing Minya Governorate?**

A Local Development Forum (Human Security Forum) is established as an interface between local communities and public decision-makers and a Community Fund (Human Security Fund) is created to implement community projects at top priority.

Sustainable jobs are created through an Information Counseling and Referral System (ICRS) that brings together young job-seekers and potential employers.

Tailored training packages are delivered for better income-generating activities in the agribusiness, SMEs, infrastructure and neighborhood upgrading sectors.

Village Savings and Loan Associations are formed to boost the financial inclusion of marginalized women and a Youth Volunteer Service (YVC) is instituted addressing young people’s needs.

Awareness raising and capacity development programs are implemented as a tool to reduce their vulnerability towards development threats.

Around 66% of young graduates of secondary schools in Minya are unemployed. Agriculture is still the largest employment sector in the Governorate.
The United Nations in Egypt is committed to ensure a high quality of life for all women, men, boys and girls living in Egypt (regardless of race, color, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status) by developing national capacity and building strong partnerships with the Government, civil society, the private sector, academia, think tanks, media and other national/international stakeholders.

The United Nations in Egypt advocates for change and provides evidence-based policy and direct support that promotes human rights, justice, equity and prosperity within a sustainable environment.

**Start of HAYAT**

**June 2013**

**Donors**

- United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security
- Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
- Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations

**National Counterparts**

- Ministry of Local Development
- Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Governorate of Minya
- Local administrative units in filling Governorates on district and village levels
- Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)

**Beneficiaries**

- Farmers
- Unemployed youth
- Marginalized women
- Local communities and local public authorities
- NGOs and Community Development Associations (C2DAs)
- Agricultural cooperatives
- Micro and Small Enterprises
- Public and private employment services

**UN Agencies Implementing HAYAT**

- IOM   OIM
- International Labour Organization

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**HAYAT** is supporting rural women in Minya to start their own small businesses and explore their entrepreneurial skills.

Securing decent and sustainable jobs for youth is one of HAYAT’s key priorities.

Practical agricultural extension training on best practices and applications will help farmers and SMEs to increase their production and profits.

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EGYPT

Human Security Through Inclusive Socio-Economic Development in Upper Egypt

June 2013

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