



Egypt at Strategic Crossroads

Egypt occupies one of the world's strategic crossroads. Today, Egypt is again emerging as a key nexus in the global economy, providing easy access to the largest markets in the world.

Egypt is in the midst of a major economic expansion. Reforms that began in the 1990s have had a positive impact on the country's private sector. The current Egyptian government is strongly committed to streamlining investment procedures. It has reviewed its traditional involvement in infrastructure in order to allow an increasing role of the private sector (including through PPP and BOT). New legislations, containing different schemes for the private participation in infrastructure investment, were introduced and legalized by the People's Assembly.

Recent state initiatives include upgrading its logistical capabilities and multi-modal integration which are essential to the success of Egypt's bid to become regional hub (both Med and Red Sea) and a leader in transshipment and value adding services.

This seminar would provide your firm with an excellent opportunity to meet with the Assem Ragab, Chairman of the General Authority for Investment and Free Zones and network with Egyptian infrastructure firms that are active in North Africa and the Middle East.

Prospects

Egypt is home to a vibrant **construction** industry. The sector has witnessed strong growth in the recent past on account of growing investments from the Gulf countries and state-led programmes of economic reform. With major privatisation and investment activity expected in the Egyptian infrastructure sector this uptrend is likely to continue. Egypt's domestic construction industry is forecast to post an average 5.71% growth rate over the next five years. Major infrastructure projects span across tourism, transport, development of airports and ports, and industrial construction.

Land transport infrastructure (i.e., rail and road) needs to be overhauled and is cited by private investors and public officials as one of the impediments to trade. Security is an issue on all modes as witnessed by recent railway accidents, one of the most lethal road systems in the world, the Al-Salam ferry sinking and the Suez Canal oil spill.

There is a great potential for private investors to improve the quality and coverage of the roads & bridges throughout the country since the government is welcoming private sector investment in the transportation sector

New highway projects are geared towards new investment zones, e.g. Sinai and South of the Valley. International links to neighbouring countries, particularly to Sudan, North Africa, and Arab countries in Asia, are underway

Due to the considerable growth of commercial transactions, number of passengers and tourists, Egypt is **upgrading and expanding existing seaports** and constructing new ones. New airports are also being established through B.O.T investments such as Marsa Alam International Airport. New investments have been allocated to improve and modernize existing international airports.

The demand for electrical power generation in Egypt is increasing by 10% annually and is expected to remain in the 6%-7% range over the next 10 years. The Ministry of Electricity announced that they have secured 90% of the financing for the current five-year power expansion plan (2007-2012) with a total investment of \$6.5 billion. This aggressive plan targets an increase in domestic electricity production by another 8.38 gig watts (GW).



Registration Form

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June 11 – 8:30 to 12:00, Export Development Canada
151 O'Connor, Ottawa, 14th Floor

Attendance is free, but registration is required.

Please complete and send by fax to : (613) 565-3013

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