

DIES-Conference: Strengthening Universities, Enhancing Capacities –

Higher Education Management for Development

28/29 November 2011, Bonn, Germany

**Capacity Development in the field of
Research Management
“The Case of Egypt”**

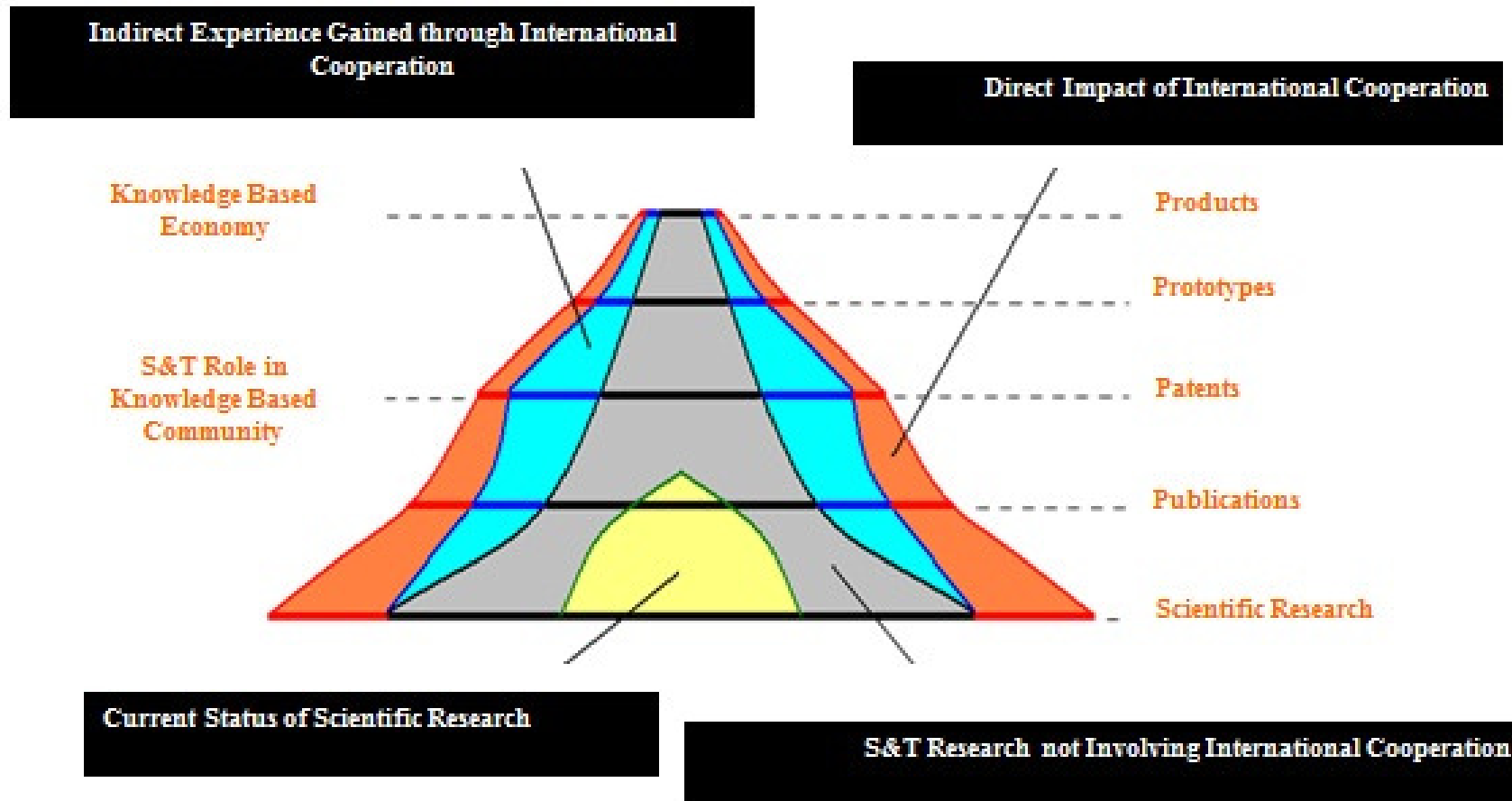
Presentation Outline

- ⌘ Brief background of the national research system in Egypt.
- ⌘ How did the Egyptian 25th of February revolution affected research policies
- ⌘ What is the role of the Science and Technology Fund (STDF) in stimulating and increasing research?
- ⌘ What are the strategies in order to increase the universities output of quality research activities?
- ⌘ How could the universities prepare in a strategic long-term perspective in order to improve in the field of research?

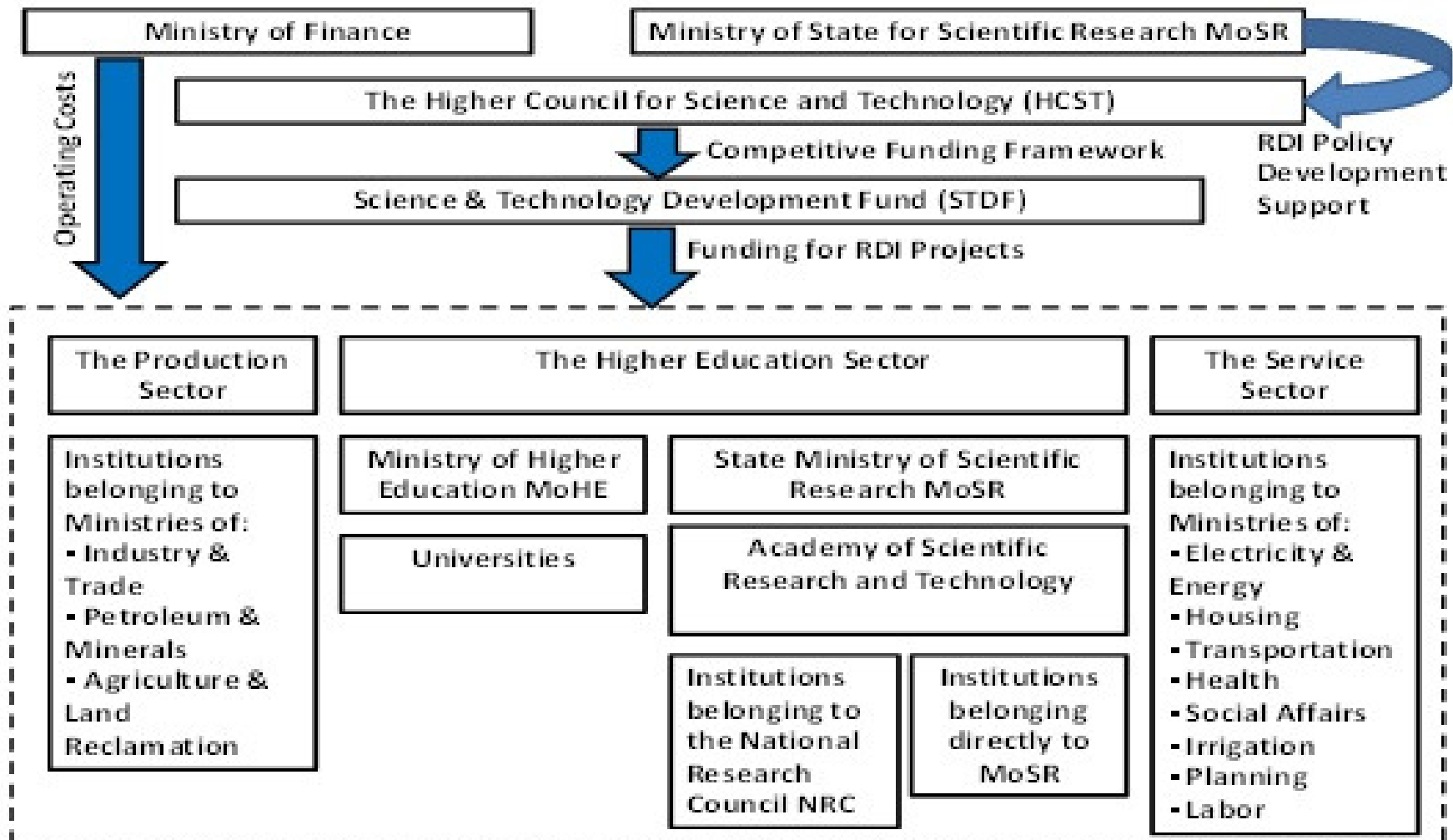
The National Research System

- ∞ In the year 2007, the MoHESSR carried out a complete restructuring for governance and management model in Egypt, in addition to that, the Higher Council of Science and Technology (HCST) was established as well as the Science and Technology Development Fund (STDF).

“4P’s” Concept



The structure and organisation of the RDI system in Egypt



The Egyptian Revolution and Research Policies

- ∞ Revolution led by young people (majority of oppressed unemployed masters and PhD holders!)



The Egyptian Revolution and Research Policies

- ∞ Trust in science as the way out! (It was called Internet revolution) value for technology

E-mail Alerts

Blogs



The Egyptian Revolution and Research Policies


- ∞ Freedom (Academic – students' voice – liberation of research...)



The Egyptian Revolution and Research Policies

∞ Post Mubarak appreciation for science and technology:

- The Zoeil City for Science and Technology (An Egyptian society's financial support)
- Integrating research in development initiative (Silicon Valley in resolving Sinai's development request, as well as social and educational research institutes in an attempt to attract researchers to this area of Egypt)
- Tripling grants for research and faculty mobility.
- Re-considering the researchers' salaries, incentives and benefits.



What are the strategies in order to increase the universities output of quality research activities?

The Science and Technology Development Fund (STDF)

Objectives:

- ☞ Improving the research and development environment.
- ☞ Providing funding for scientific research and technology development.
- ☞ Developing the innovative capabilities of the science and technology community.
- ☞ Supporting the complete cycle of scientific research and product development.
- ☞ Disseminating of information on science and technology in Egypt.
- ☞ Observing science and technology indicators, and monitoring their effect on the national economy.
- ☞ Exploring fund-raising mechanisms to support STDF activities.
- ☞ Empowering the role of STDF as a major research-funding organization, and continuously improving its performance.

The Science and Technology Development Fund (STDF)

STDF Programs:

1. National Grants:

- **Basic & Applied Research Grants**
- **Young Research Grants**
- **Reintegration Grants**
- **Targeted Calls**
- **Innovation Grants**
- **Faculty for Factory**

The Science and Technology Development Fund (STDF)

STDF Programs:

2. International Grants:

- Egy/US
- Egy/German
- Egy/French
- Egy/Japanese
- Egy/Italian

Science & Technology Decade (2007-2017)

- ✎ **German** Egyptian Year of Science and Technology 2007
- ✎ **Japanese** Egyptian Year of Science and Technology 2008
- ✎ **French** Egyptian Year of Science and Technology 2009
- ✎ **Italian** Egyptian Year of Science and Technology 2010
- ✎ **US** Egyptian Year of Science and Technology 2011

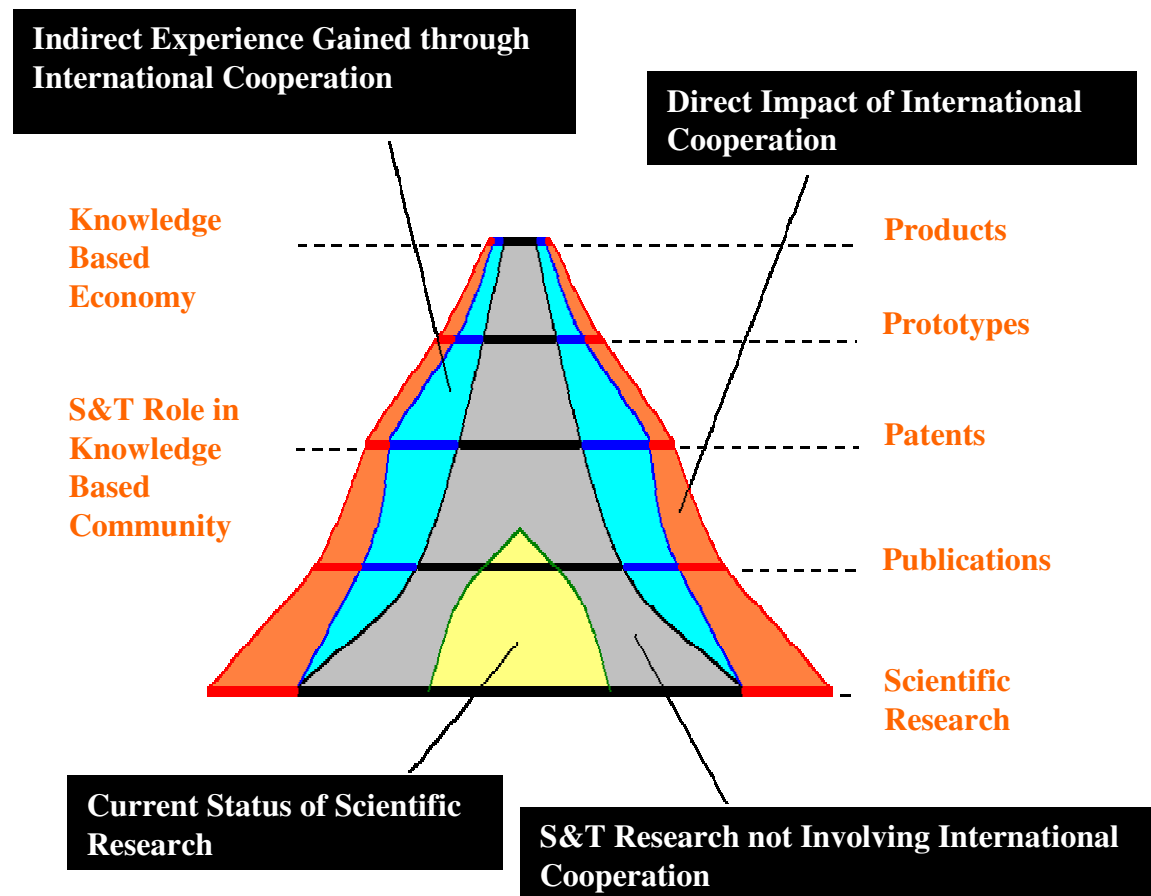
Science & Technology Decade (2007-2017)

∞ Impact:

- Extensive mobility.
- Joint research
- Increased scientific publications
- Joint training and capacity development workshops
- Joint funds for supporting research
- Accessibility to research opportunities

Increasing Universities Output of Quality Research Activities

- Not all of research is applied in nature but still is desperately needed and is essential for human life (*Education – History – Geography...*)
- Meeting patents and prototypes requirements is not always feasible in that case.



Increasing Universities Output of Quality Research Activities

∞ More profound **capacity development activities:**

- Research proposal writing workshops
- Academic networks (by field of specialization – Geographic location – types of grants)
- Training of Trainers' workshops
- Assigning quotas for young researcher's contribution to research projects (minimum 40%) for transfer of knowledge and expertise to young generations.

Increasing Universities Output of Quality Research Activities

- ∞ Universities oblige faculty to publish research work at internationally reviewed academic journals
 - Consequences: better research quality / weakening of Egyptian academic journals
- ∞ Joint research with overseas renowned universities
 - Consequences: world class research / lack of sustainability
- ∞ Certifying labs according to international standards
 - Consequences: better quality of research facilities with sustainable impact of the periodic certifications.
- ∞ Increasing researchers incentives (benefits for mobility and awards of excellence)
 - Consequences: higher engagement of researchers

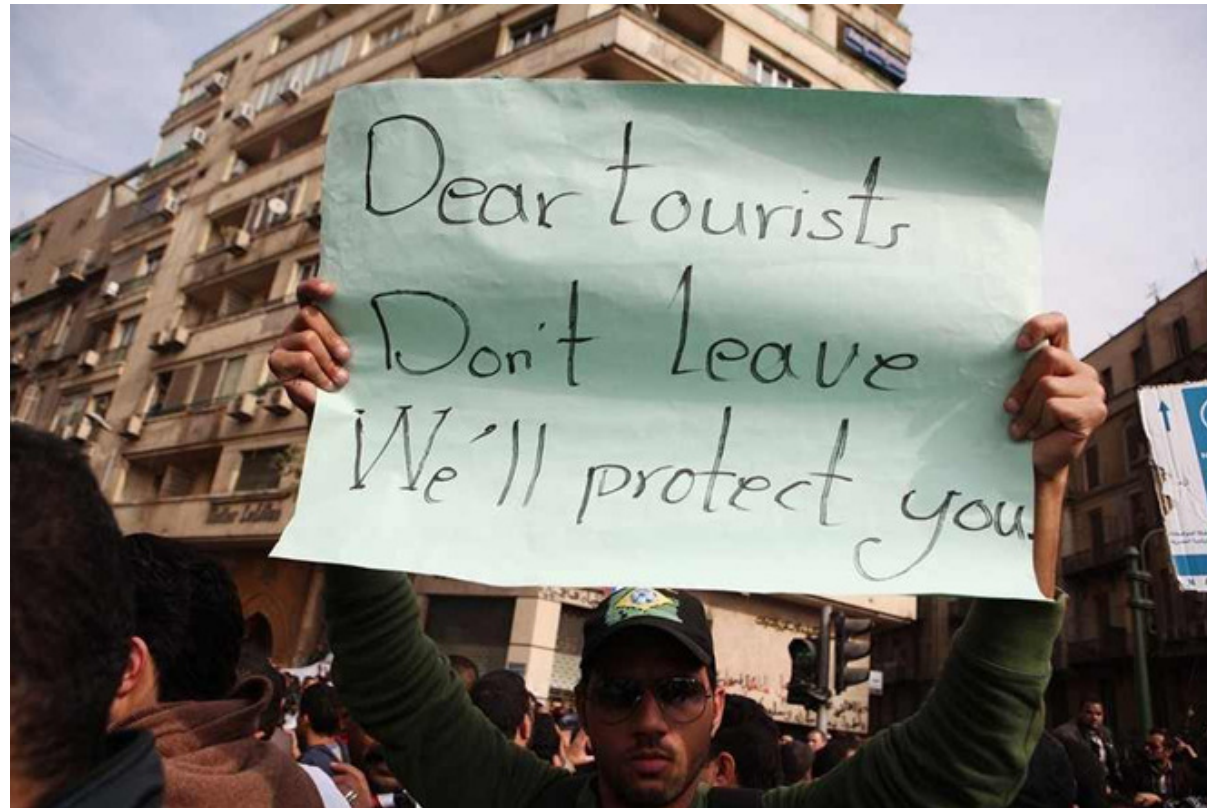
Universities' long-term Perspectives to Improve Research

- ✎ University level Research and innovation funds were initiated (Alexandria, Ain Shams & Assuit Universities)
- ✎ Bilateral and regional cooperation not only with developed countries but “South to South” model is considered specifically for the Nile basin countries.
- ✎ More collaboration with Industry (for fund generating as well as marketing for applied research outcomes)
- ✎ Considering endowment allocation for research initiatives in collaboration with Industry and civil society (problem is with management capacity for managing those endowments)

The Arab Spring Implications

- ∞ What the Arab World Need for better research system:
 - Better trained and educated research work force
 - Competition for scarcer public resources
 - More transparency and comparability – mobility
 - Competitive research results – knowledge society
 - Stronger position in the international context – internationalisation and income generation
 - Recognition of Research as a national priority that translated into action
 - Peaceful and stable democratic societies ...

Egypt Welcomes You... 😊



Both for Professional and recreational trips



Thank You

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