

Egypt's New Administrative Capital — A \$58 Billion Smart-City Gamble

City Innovation Library · Good practice · Egypt

Quality score: 29/100

Evidence strength: Cautionary / limited

Summary

Egypt's new capital, 45 km east of Cairo, has cost over \$45 billion of a projected \$58 billion, relocated 14+ ministries by 2023, and is billed as a smart-city model for Africa — but analysts document debt-driven financing and housing most Egyptians cannot afford.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Evidence of impact / measured results	1/3
Transferability / demonstrated replication	1/3
Scalability	1/3
Sustainability / continuity	1/3
Innovation	1/3
Inclusiveness / equity	0/3
Multi-stakeholder collaboration	1/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

C-NAPSE web research — accessed 2026-07-14

Administrative Capital for Urban Development (ACUD) / Egyptian Ministry of Housing, with China State Construction Engineering Corporation — accessed 2026-07-14

POMED / MEDC — Al-Sisi's \$58 Billion New Capital City: A Bubble About to Burst? — accessed 2026-07-14

Foreign Policy — What's the Deal With Egypt's Debt-Funded Megaprojects? — accessed 2026-07-14

African Business — Can Egypt's New Administrative Capital defy the sceptics? — accessed 2026-07-14

Wikipedia — The New Capital — accessed 2026-07-14

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