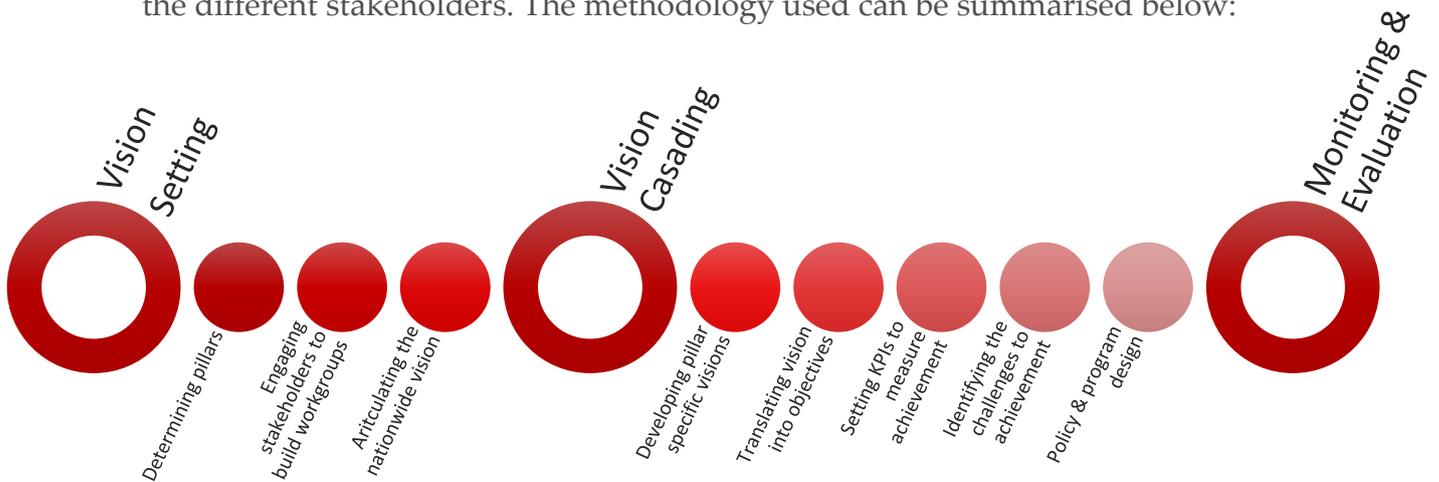


# Egypt Vision 2030 - Sustainable Development Strategy

The Ministry of Planning in Egypt has recently published the Egypt Vision 2030 Sustainable Development Strategy. We at Acumen Consulting have taken it upon ourselves to provide you with an in-depth read of the issued documents, summarizing the findings and highlighting noteworthy aspects in both the methodology and the results.

On a positive note, this is the first time in Egypt’s history that we have had a singular announced vision that was developed domestically and through the engagement of the different stakeholders. The methodology used can be summarised below:



The strategy is modelled after the sustainable development principles and hence allocates the 12 pillars being studied under each of the economic, environmental, or social perspectives/dimensions.

If for the purposes of this article we consider “Foreign Policy” & “National Security & National Policy” sovereign files; accordingly, they will not be addressed in our analysis.



When analysing the remaining pillars and their strategies you will notice that there are a number of cross-cutting pillars, these pose an enabling environment and do not reflect trade-offs or directional decisions. These are pillars in which improvement is required for the strategy to become sustainable and effective; furthermore, the recommended improvements within each of these pillars is harmonious and universal, and there are no explicit focus areas. These pillars are **innovation, environment, transparency & governmental effectiveness** and **social justice**.

The remaining pillars within the strategy could be said to reflect a specific strategy or direction (even if very implicitly stated); these pillar specific strategies are summarised below:

- 📄 The **energy** pillar focuses on energy stability, growth and environmental compliance. This involves changing the fuel mix to move away from oil and gas and rely more on renewables and coal. Furthermore, it drives the fiscal policy tone through opting to eliminate fuel subsidies. Enhancements in this sector are to take place through driving for an integrated strategy, undergoing the necessary restructuring and addressing the legislative framework to achieve the desired efficiency and growth objectives. The posed programs also leverage innovation to address the environmental concerns.
- 👂 In the **healthcare** pillar the strategic theme seems to be “access”. So most of the KPIs (Key Performance Indicators) and initiatives centre around ensuring that healthcare is affordable, that insurance coverage is improved, that reach is enhanced and that preventive healthcare becomes ingrained in the culture. Through improving the smaller health care delivery units and making them more widely available and operational, the underlying assumption is that this will off-load the larger & central healthcare service units and accordingly result in an improved service with greater responsiveness, agility and quality.
- 🎓 **Education** on the other hand favours quality over access. The strategy invests heavily in the notion of better education and better educational results. This is

reflective in the choice of KPIs as well as programs with special attention given to curricula, teachers, teaching conditions, equipped schools and bolstering government & private sector spending on education. This is a pillar focused on doing things better; delivering an improved education experience at basic education, higher education and even technical & vocational education.

🏛️ The **culture** pillar is quite briefly addressed and seems to link to the economic development and social justice pillars through a focus on enhancing Egypt's tourism competitiveness; and the availability of cultural venues.

🏙️ The **urban development** pillar once again does not pose any clear trade-offs. Yet the focus areas of the strategy are addressing the housing gap and accordingly working on the various enablers that would assist in bridging that gap. This includes availing new communities and ensuring they have access to roads & utilities.

📊 Finally, the **economic development** pillar seeks to improve all the usual suspects. The announced strategy's KPIs seek to triple real GDP growth & per capita GDP, reducing inflation by around 65% and reducing employment to almost 5% while growing FDI fivefold. These objective pose no surprises, yet the challenge remains the absence of clear trade-offs regarding the GDP mix or the focus industries that would enable the achievement of these objectives.

📊 The fiscal policy aspect showcases greater directional clarity as the strategy clearly focuses on reducing spending on subsidies rather than increasing revenue from taxation.

📊 The programs suggested which should enable the achievement of these ambitious economic goals can be summarised in a few key themes:

- © Mega projects as a growth tool (Suez Canal Zone, New Administrative Capital, 4 Million Acres Project, Northwest Coast Development Golden Triangle, New Development Axis, etc.)
- © Government investment in infrastructure (metro lines, social housing, silos, logistics hubs, new urban communities, railways & river transport)
- © Legislative reform to improve the investment climate & provide greater visibility to potential investors
- © A cluster mind-set/approach in growing and supporting domestic industries. These clusters would then engage SMEs, encompass the informal sector & promote entrepreneurship & innovation.
- © Utilize technology with greater effectiveness to improve the value added on our production & exports.
- © Foster a more environmentally conscious outlook, integrate it into the economy through promoting eco-tourism (for example) and better environmental practices by companies.

For a more detailed read, kindly refer to the full strategy document on the Ministry of Planning website: [http://mop.gov.eg/MopRep/SDS\\_Document.pdf](http://mop.gov.eg/MopRep/SDS_Document.pdf)

*Disclaimer: The Acumen Consulting team acknowledges the great effort undertaken by the various parties involved in the development of this strategy. This summary addresses only what has been formally communicated to date (February 2016).*