



EGYPT - SOUTH AFRICA NEWS

MARCH 2020



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PLEASE NOTE THAT THE PROCESSING PERIOD FOR VISAS TO EGYPT IS 5 WORKING DAYS.

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PURPOSE OF NEWSLETTER

We, at the Embassy of Egypt Commercial Office, would like welcome you to our newsletter.

The purpose of this newsletter is to keep the business community in South Africa up to date with developments in mainly trade and investment between our two countries.

TRADE AND INVESTMENT

- The first day of the 2020 Egypt Petroleum show saw the signing of a US\$6.7 billion agreement between the Egyptian Petrochemicals Holding Company (ECHEM) and the Bechtel Group to construct a refining and petrochemical complex within the Suez Canal Economic Zone.
- Electricity Minister Mohamed Shaker was among officials at an event celebrating the start of construction on a new 250-megawatt wind power plant project in the Jabal al-Zeit area. The wind farm is being built in cooperation with Lekela Egypt.
- Egypt has overtaken Spain as the top orange exporter of the world according to Agriculture Export Council head Abdel Hamid El Demerdash. Last year Spain saw its market dominance slip, and this year they have come up second to Egypt for the first time in history according to a 2018 report from the USDA. Oranges make Egypt about a \$1 billion dollars in export revenue a year, a figure that has been growing at a pace of 17% annually since 2017, says El Demerdash.
- China is set to order 200 million face masks from Egyptian factories, according to a statement from a member of the Board of Directors of the Medical Supplies Industry Division in the Federation of Egyptian Industries (FEI), Zaki Shalaby.

Egypt—South Africa trade picture

2019

Value	2018 dollar	2019 dollar
Egypt exports	108,4 million	82,5 million
Egypt imports	182,4 million	81,5 million
Total trade	290,8 million	164 million
Trade balance (Egypt)	74 million	1 million

- Main South African imports from Egypt:

Potassium fertilizers, adhesives, fresh grapes, calcium carbonate, nonwovens, paraffin wax, chocolates, ceramic sinks/ wash basins, pasta, sugar confectionery.

- Main South African exports to Egypt:

Bituminous coal, iron ore & concentrates, shorn wool, copper tubes, flat rolled products of iron/ steel, tanks & armored vehicles, bovine meat cuts, ferro alloys.

Egypt economic news

- **Egypt has topped the list of economic growth rates for the most important economies of the Middle East region in 2018 and 2019, the Egyptian Cabinet's Media Center announced Tuesday. Egypt ranked 12th place in 2011 and 2012, rising to eighth place in 2013, according to the video. It then ranked ninth in 2014, fourth in 2015 and 2016, second place for 2017, and hit first place in 2018 and 2019.**
- **Egyptian President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi opened on Monday "military factory 300," which is affiliated with the Ministry of Military Production's Abu Zabaal Company for Specialized Industries. Sisi also opened a factory affiliated with the Benha Electronics Company for manufacturing solar panels, as well as a factory under the Qaha Company for Chemical Industries set to produce batteries.**
- **Egypt jumped up six positions in Agility Emerging Markets Index 2020, reaching the 20th place. According to the index, despite a brief social unrest in 2019, Egypt's economy showed surprising gains in key areas and moved up six spots to #20 in the overall index. "Egypt actually gained six spots in the 2020 Index and showed improvement in the domestic and international logistics opportunities and business fundamentals indices," CEO and President of Agility Global Integrated Logistics Essa al-Saleh stated in the report.**
- **Egypt's annual inflation rate fell to 6.8 percent in January 2020, compared to 12.2 percent in January 2019, according to a statement by the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics (CAPMAS) released in February.**
- **Unemployment rate in Egypt declined during the fourth quarter (Q4) of 2019 to 8% compared with 8.9% during Q4-18, according to the Egyptian Minister of Planning and Economic Development, Hala El Said.**
- **Osama Rabie, the head of Egypt's Suez Canal Authority, has announced that the revenues from the Suez Canal rose to \$5.8 billion in 2018/19. Rabie said the rise is largely due to the opening of the new Suez Canal in August 2015. He also said revenues from the Suez Canal increased by 5.4 percent in 2018/19, or from \$5.6 billion in 2017/18 to \$5.8 billion in 2018/19. Rabie indicated that the number of ships crossing the Suez Canal increased from 17,900 carrying 1,174 tonnes in 2017/18 to 18,800 carrying 1,093 tonnes in 2018/19.**

Egypt investment opportunities

Opportunity	Sectors
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plot No. 1009 For Industrial Activities <p>https://www.investinegypt.gov.eg/English/Pages/profile.aspx?OpportunityId=12526</p>	Pharmaceutical
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plot No. 146 Board No. 2 For Engineering Industries <p>https://www.investinegypt.gov.eg/English/Pages/profile.aspx?OpportunityId=13275</p>	Engineering and electronics
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agricultural Crops Industries <p>https://www.investinegypt.gov.eg/English/Pages/profile.aspx?OpportunityId=14152</p>	Food processing

GAFI (General Authority for Investment & Free Zones)

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www.gafi.gov.eg

www.investinegypt.gov.eg

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Egypt export offers

Company & products	Contact details
<u>ACMA for Chemicals and Mining</u> - Calcium carbonate	Website: www.acma-co.eg E-mail: sally.amin@acma-co.eg mibrahim@acma-co.eg Mobile: +2012 2225 2814 Contact: Sally Amin – Export Specialist
<u>Grand Egypt</u> - Fertilizers, plastics, chemicals	Website: www.grandegyptco.com E-mail: info@grandegyptco.com Mobile: +2012 0074 4870 Contact: Basel Elsayed – Sales manager
<u>Pack Tec</u> - Paper bags, carton boxes, tissue paper	Website: www.akefpacktec.com E-mail: areasalesm@packtec-eg.com Tel: +202 3829 0321 Mobile: +2010 2333 6729 Contact: Ahmed Naguib – Export Manager
<u>Egco Coatings</u> • Coatings: Car refishes, wood finishes and decorative paints.	Website: www.egco-coatings.com E-mail: purchasing@egco-coatings.com Mobile: +2010 6614 6177 Contact: Sayed Deyab – Purchasing and Sales manager

Please contact us if you are looking to source specific products.

Egypt exhibitions & conferences

Name, dates, location	Info
<p><u>Hotelier</u></p> <p>02–04 April 2020</p> <p>Co-locating Cafex</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hospitality (Textiles, amenities, furniture, cleaning supplies, management systems, food & beverage) 	<p>Www.efec.org.eg</p> <p>hotelier@efec.org.eg</p> <p>+202 2528 5036/7</p> <p>Please contact us for participation application forms as well as information about sponsored attendance</p>
<p><u>Food Ingredients Africa</u></p> <p>15–17 March 2020</p> <p>Co-located with ProPak MENA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food and beverage ingredients • Packaging 	<p>Www.figlobal.com/Africa/</p> <p>https://www.figlobal.com/africa/visit?cid=infocus-organic-social</p>
<p><u>Paper-ME & Tissue-ME</u></p> <p><u>Print 2 Pack 2020</u></p> <p>05–07 September 2020</p> <p>Egypt International Exhibition Centre</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Printing and packaging products and services 	<p>Www.papermideast.com</p> <p>Www.print2packexpo.com</p> <p>Www.tissueme.com</p> <p>rahma@nilefairs.com</p> <p>Tel: +202 2670 5239</p> <p>Mobile: +2010 0271 6376</p>