

The EBRD Vice President of Banking, Alain Pilloux, is visiting Egypt from 9 to 13 February for meetings with government officials and the private sector. He will also launch the Bank's activities in Ismailia.

Mr Pilloux will meet the Prime Minister of Egypt, Mostafa Madbouly; Minister of International Cooperation and EBRD Governor, Rania Al-Mashat; Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources, Tarek El Molla; Minister of Finance, Mohamed Maait; Minister of Trade and Industry, Nevine Gamaa; Minister of Local Development, Mahmoud Sharawi; Minister of Housing, Utilities and Urban Communities, Assem El Gazzar; Deputy Governor of the Central Bank of Egypt, Rami Aboul Naga; and Chairman of the Financial Regulatory Authority, Mohammed Omran.

Mr Pilloux's visit also marks the launch of the EBRD's activities in Ismailia to serve small businesses in the Suez Canal region (Ismailia, Suez and the Port Said governorate) as well as in the neighbouring governorates of Sharkeya and Damietta, contributing to the economic growth of these strategic areas.

During his visit, Mr Pilloux will also present the Bank's award to women who attended the "EBRD Women Corporate Directors Certification Programme". This Programme provided training to strengthen the active participation and representation of women in the boardrooms of small and medium-sized enterprises.

Vice President Pilloux said: "The EBRD is committed to supporting Egypt in its development priorities and reform effort. The year 2019 saw very strong EBRD activity in Egypt, with annual investment of €1.2 billion in 26 projects across all sectors of the economy."

The EBRD delegation includes Annemarie Straathof, EBRD Vice President, Risk and Compliance; Heike Harmgart, Managing Director for the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean Region; Khalid Hamza, Deputy Head for Egypt; and Natasha Khanjenkova, Managing Director for Portfolio and Russia; and Anna Draskovic, Director for Business Development.

[Egypt](#) is a founding member of the EBRD. Since the start of its operations there in 2012 the Bank has invested over €6 billion in 115 projects in the country. In 2018, in terms of new commitments, Egypt was the largest economy in the EBRD regions.