



## (2) Land Use and Natural Resources

- Cultivated Land: 7.4 million feddans out of a total land area of 238 million feddans.
- Water Resources: The River Nile is the main source of water. Rain and underground water are also used, although to a lesser extent.
- Natural Resources: Petroleum, natural gas, phosphate, manganese, iron, limestone, gypsum, talc, asbestos, plumbum, zinc spelter

## 3.2 Climate

Egypt has mainly two seasons: a mild winter from November to April and a hot summer from May to October. In the coastal regions, temperatures range between an average minimum of 14 °C in winter and an average maximum of 30 °C in summer. Temperatures vary widely in the inland desert areas, especially in summer, when they may range from 7 °C at night to 43 °C during the day. During winter, temperatures in the desert fluctuate less dramatically, but they can be as low as 0 °C at night and as high as 18 °C during the day. The average temperature increases moving southward from the Delta to the Sudanese border, where temperatures are similar to those of the open deserts to the east and west. At Aswan, in the south, June temperatures can be as low as 10 °C at night and as high as 41 °C during the day when the sky is clear.

Table 3.1: Average Temperature and Rainfall in North Egypt, Cairo

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Highs (°C)	20	22	21	26	33	34	36	35	33	28	25	20
Lows (°C)	10	12	11	14	18	21	24	24	22	18	14	12
Average rainfall (mm)	5	4	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	8

Source: Salongo Inc, Egypt, <http://www.salongo.jp/egypt/egypt.htm>

Table 3.2: Average Temperature and Rainfall in South Egypt, Luxor

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Highs (°C)	25	28	30	33	40	41	42	41	39	34	11	24
Lows (°C)	5	9	11	15	21	23	24	24	21	18	2	9
Average rainfall (mm)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	5

Source: Salongo Inc, Egypt, <http://www.salongo.jp/egypt/egypt.htm>

Table 3.3: Average Temperature and Rainfall in Sinai Peninsula (Sharm El Sheikh)

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Highs (°C)	24	26	25	29	33	37	38	38	34	31	28	23
Lows (°C)	13	14	14	18	24	27	27	26	21	23	19	16
Average rainfall (mm)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Source: Salongo Inc, Egypt, <http://www.salongo.jp/egypt/egypt.htm>

Egypt receives fewer than 80 millimeters of precipitation annually in most areas. Most rain falls along the coast, but even the wettest area, around Alexandria, receives only about 200 millimeters of precipitation per year. Cairo receives a little more than 10 millimeters of precipitation each year. The city, however, reports humidity as high as 77 percent during the summer. But during the rest of the year, humidity is low. The areas south of Cairo receive only traces of rainfall.

A phenomenon of Egypt's climate is the hot spring wind carrying sand that blows across the country. The winds, known to Europeans as the sirocco and to Egyptians as the khamsin, usually arrive in April but occasionally occur in March and May.

### 3.3 Political Regime and Trend

#### (1) Political System

Type of Government	Republic
Head of the state	President Mohamad Hosny Mubarak (Since 1981, re-elected for a six-year term in September 1999. Born in May 4, 1928)
Parliamentary system	One-chamber system
Outline of the Parliament:	Fixed number 454, with 5years term
Cabinet (Key Cabinet Ministers)	
Prim Minister	Atef Muhammad Ebeid
Minister of Foreign Affairs	Ahmed Maher
Minister of Foreign Trade and Industry	Youssef Boutros Ghali
Minister of Finance	Muhammad Medhat Abd El-Atti Hassanein
Minister of Petroleum	Amin Sameh Samir Fahmi