EGYPT

LEGAL & TAX FRAMEWORK FOR INVESTMENT — SEPTEMBER 2026 EDITION

The most populous economy in the Arab world and a crossroads between Africa, Asia and Europe, Egypt holds a strategic position thanks to the **Suez Canal**, its gas resources (Zohr field) and a large domestic market. **Egypt is not an OHADA member**: company law, accounting and arbitration fall under a **national** framework, with a leading regional arbitration institution, the **CRCICA**. After several devaluations, the Egyptian pound moved to a **floating exchange rate** in March 2024. This factsheet summarises the macroeconomic, tax and legal data relevant to an investment decision.

POPULATION **~118 M** mid-2025 est. (Worldometer)	CURRENCY **POUND · EGP** Floating since March 2024 (CBE)	GDP GROWTH **~4.5%** FY2025/26 (IMF) · July–June fiscal year
INFLATION **~11.8%** 2026p (IMF) — easing after devaluations	GDP PER CAPITA **≈ $3,400** 2025 (devaluation effect on USD value)	HEAD OF STATE **A. AL-SISI** Abdel Fattah al-Sisi — President since 2014
CAPITAL **CAIRO** + New Administrative Capital	BUSINESS LAW **NATIONAL** Non-OHADA — codified law, EAS, CRCICA	STRENGTHS **SUEZ & GAS** Suez Canal · gas (Zohr) · domestic market

SUEZ, GAS AND THE DOMESTIC MARKET: THREE LEVERS

The **Suez Canal** and its **economic zone (SCZONE)** place Egypt on the logistics flows between Asia and Europe, although canal revenues fell sharply in 2024 amid the Red Sea situation. The country also relies on its gas resources (**Zohr**), a diversified industrial base and a domestic market of over 118 million people. **Investment Law 72/2017** (GAFI, free zones, "golden licence") frames investor access, while the move to a **floating exchange rate** (March 2024, IMF agreement) has improved current-account convertibility — pound volatility remains a key modelling parameter.

A NATIONAL BUSINESS LAW FRAMEWORK

- **National law (non-OHADA).** Egypt does not apply the OHADA Uniform Acts: company law, security interests and insolvency are governed by codified Egyptian law.
- **Arbitration. Arbitration Law 27/1994** (based on the UNCITRAL Model Law) governs arbitration; the **CRCICA** (Cairo Regional Centre for International Commercial Arbitration) is one of the continent's leading institutions. Egypt is party to the 1958 New York Convention.
- **Accounting.** National standards — **Egyptian Accounting Standards (EAS)**, largely based on IFRS.
- Member of the **African Union**, **AfCFTA**, **WTO** and **COMESA**.

COMMON COMPANY FORMS

FORM	MIN. CAPITAL
Joint Stock Company (SAE)	EGP 250,000 (500,000 if public offering) · min. 3 shareholders
LLC	No fixed statutory threshold
One Person Company	Per articles
Branch	Attached to the foreign company

Investment one-stop shop: GAFI — General Authority for Investment and Free Zones (gafi.gov.eg).

TAX REGIME — KEY POINTS

TAX	RATE	NOTES
Corporate income tax (CIT)	22.5%	Standard rate. Oil and gas: 40.55%. Suez Canal and central bank: 40%.
VAT	14%	Standard 14%; 5% on production machinery and equipment; 0% on exports. Registration threshold: EGP 500,000 of turnover over 12 months (Art. 16, Law 67/2016). **23/06/2026 reform**: medical equipment at 5%, VAT suspension on imported industrial machinery extended to 4 years, refunds within 4 months, crude petroleum subject to a 10% tax.
Withholding taxes (non-residents)	20%	Interest, royalties and services: 20%. Dividends: 10% (5% for EGX-listed companies). Reduced rates under tax treaties.
Tax treaties	FRANCE	France–Egypt treaty signed 19/06/1980, in force since 1982 (protocol in force 2004). Source: Egyptian Tax Authority (eta.gov.eg).

Sources: PwC Worldwide Tax Summaries — Egypt (04/02/2026) · VAT Law 67/2016 (eta.gov.eg) · House of Representatives (23/06/2026), relayed by SIS (sis.gov.eg). ⚠ Fiscal year runs July to June.

ATTRACTIVE SECTORS

- **Logistics & Suez Canal** — SCZONE, export industry and logistics (canal revenues sharply down in 2024: a factor to monitor).
- **Energy & gas** — Zohr field, refining, petrochemicals, renewables.
- **Real estate & construction** — major programmes, including the New Administrative Capital.
- **Agriculture & agri-food** — irrigation, processing, domestic market.
- **Industry & tourism** — diversified manufacturing base; heritage and seaside tourism.

INVESTMENT INCENTIVES

- **Investment Law 72/2017** — guarantees, tax incentives, free zones and investment zones.
- **GAFI** — one-stop shop for incorporation and incentives.
- **"Golden Licence"** (Art. 20) — single fast-track approval for strategic projects.
- **SCZONE** — dedicated customs and tax regimes along the canal.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE REGULATION

- **Floating since 6 March 2024.** The Central Bank of Egypt (CBE) abandoned the administered rate for a managed float (IMF agreement); current-account convertibility has improved markedly.
- **Repatriation of dividends and capital.** Open in principle; invest through official banking channels and keep flows traceable, notably to benefit from Law 72/2017 guarantees.
- **Volatility.** A key modelling parameter for any import-heavy project.

SECURING THE INVESTMENT

Egypt offers a codified investment framework and a first-rank arbitration institution; managing currency risk and aligning with Law 72/2017 make the difference.

THE UGGC ANGLE — SECURING THE INVESTMENT

- § **CRCICA arbitration** — tailored arbitration clause and a recognised institution; New York Convention applies to enforcement.
- § **Law 72/2017 & guarantees** — secure transfer and non-expropriation guarantees; use the golden licence for eligible projects.
- § **FX & financing** — invest through official channels, document flows, model pound volatility.
- § **Structuring & tax** — choice of vehicle, sector regimes (oil-gas, SCZONE), tax treaties.

UGGC Africa supports you in Egypt through its pan-African platform — africa@uggc.com.

Disclaimer. This country factsheet is provided for general information purposes, as of September 2026; it does not constitute legal or tax advice and does not engage UGGC Africa. Figures come from public sources and may change (finance laws, exchange regime). Any investment decision should be subject to a tailored analysis.

Sources: IMF (World Economic Outlook 2025-2026) · World Bank · Worldometer (population) · PwC Worldwide Tax Summaries — Egypt (04/02/2026) · VAT Law 67/2016 (eta.gov.eg) · GAFI (gafi.gov.eg) · Central Bank of Egypt (cbe.org.eg) · SIS (sis.gov.eg). uggcafrica.com.