

## MG Project (MG 79236)

### **‘Connection of a settlement near Cairo (Qalyoub Extension Village) to the drinking water supply‘**

After the chairman of the German section of the Intercountry Committee Egypt had suggested to support a drinking water project in Egypt, four Munich clubs spontaneously decided to comply and finance the project with 1.800 € each (leading club is the RC Englischer Garten; supporting clubs: RC München 100, München-Friedensengel and München-Königsplatz)

When I visited Cairo in February, 2013, I had the opportunity to discuss the planned project in detail with both the president of the RC Horus Heliopolis (Cairo), Ms Magda Girgis, and another friend of the club and to visit a similar project near Cairo that had already been realized by the RC Oldenburg (<http://www.rotary.de/la-aegypten> - Projects - completed projects). Here are some photos:



The settlement Habashi Village Qaliouba (55 houses and about 850 inhabitants) was built some 20 years ago amidst fields without any drinking water connection.



Wells for drinking and impotable water in the past

Water connections in the houses nowadays

In March, 2013, the RC Horus Heliopolis as host club applied for the project. The details of the application had been coordinated between the two leading clubs. I have first met the president, Ms Magda Girgis, and other friends in the clubs at the Peace Forum in Berlin 2012, and I very much appreciate their activities and their reliability.

The project concerns the connection of Qalyoub Extension Village, situated 20 km north of Cairo in the Nile delta, with approx. 300 adobe houses and approx. 2.500 tenants, to the public drinking water supply. Presently the women of the settlement have to fetch the drinking water from a connection place 2 km far away from the settlement. The water at this time is of very bad quality, pumped from a contaminated underground.



#### Impotable water

In the meantime things have changed. Nothing but fresh water flows to the houses in plastic pipelines with a number of junctions. Upon application each individual house will be connected by the local water authorities. The water consumption is controlled by a water meter. The digging and earth works to lay the pipelines are done by small local enterprises; sometimes they are even done by the people

concerned. By working on the project with their own hands the inhabitants tend to identify themselves with the project and enjoy supporting it. By carrying the project the Rotary Clubs in Egypt prove to the public that for activities to improve the social conditions of the poor people they don't have to rely upon the Muslim Brotherhood.

The project described here follows the above mentioned MG project instigated by the RC Heliopolis (Cairo). On the occasion of my visit to Egypt I became convinced that it is more than necessary. The new project comes up to 28.100 US \$. By adding the contributions made by the two Districts, the Rotary Foundation and the RC Horus Heliopolis, i.e. 18.900 US\$, to the amount of 9.200 US \$ donated by the Munich clubs, the project can be realized!

The government authorities agreed to plan and supervise the project. They also agreed to procure all necessary permits. The project was in all its facets prepared by the RC Horus Heliopolis and will be started as soon as the Rotary Foundation approves it. As host club the RC Horus Heliopolis will look after it on site, handle all payments, prepare the final account for TRF and also draft the final report. To complete the project will take 4 to 7 months (until fall 2013).

For more information concerning the projects of German Rotary Clubs in Egypt please refer to:

[www.rotary.de/la-aegpten/en/](http://www.rotary.de/la-aegpten/en/)