

## **The Cologne-Cairo-Project**

In 2008, the Cologne-Cairo-Project started as a joint project of the Rotaract Club of Köln, the RC Köln Hahnentor, the RAC Kasr el Nile and the RC Kasr el Nile in Cairo.

Following the successful Alexandria-Project, also this project aims at sustainably improving the living conditions of women in Gezirat Mohamed, an undeveloped community in Greater Cairo. First the women are educated in medical care, literacy and child spacing. Afterwards they get simple, professional training (e.g. sewing, trading, poultry etc.). By interest-free micro loans amounting to about 100 € a piece the women are given the opportunity to build up their own lives and improve their social status.

The project is financed by funds from the RFPD (Rotarian Action Group for Population and Development) and by funds from a Matching Grant. As of now, the project volume has reached 32.500 US Dollar.

The project is locally completed by Egyptian Rotaracters who are supported by Rotary. The German partners supervise the project – in particular the financing, the completion and the draft of the project reports.

The project has helped to start a regular cultural exchange between the two Rotaract Clubs. Since January, 2008, the German Rotaracters have visited Egypt four times and vice versa the Egyptian Rotaracters have been to Germany three times.