



GOETHE-INSTITUT IN EGYPT

**GOETHE
INSTITUT**

Sprache. Kultur. Deutschland.

ACTIVE WORLDWIDE: THE GOETHE-INSTITUT

The Goethe-Institut is the Federal Republic of Germany's globally active cultural institute. With centers in over 90 countries around the world, we promote the study of the German language, encourage international cultural exchange and we strive to offer a comprehensive view of society, industry, culture and science in Germany.

HERE FOR OVER 60 YEARS: THE GOETHE-INSTITUT IN EGYPT

The Goethe-Institut has been active in Egypt for over 60 years. We offer German language courses and conduct exams, organize special events and initiate cultural and educational projects.

Our mission is to promote lasting intercultural dialogue and make this meaningful – both artistically and socially. Our activities create spaces where people can learn from each other, think creatively and innovatively and work together to make a tangible impact. This is why close collaboration with our Egyptian partners in culture and education is especially important to us.



LANGUAGE COURSES AND EDUCATIONAL WORK

Teaching the German language is one of the Goethe-Institut's core tasks. At our centres in Alexandria, Cairo, New Cairo, 6th of October City and Hurghada, we offer German language courses for all learning levels and conduct corresponding exams. We also host workshops and seminars for teachers of German as a foreign language.

Through our educational cooperation programmes, we aim to establish German as a formal subject in Egypt's school system. We advise ministries, authorities and schools, support teacher training and offer ideas and strategies for German classes. For example, we train teachers in the use of digital teaching and learning tools.

As part of the Schools: Partners for the Future (PASCH) initiative launched by the German Foreign Office, the Goethe-Institut in Egypt supports 20 partner schools where the German language plays a particularly prominent role.





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OUR CULTURAL WORK

At each of its two locations in Egypt, the Goethe-Institut is a vibrant space for cultural dialogue and artistic collaboration. Its programmes strengthen the local cultural scene, foster exchange between Egypt, the Southwest Asia and North Africa (SWANA), Germany and Europe and embrace creative development processes in all their diversity.

Residency programme White Villa

Since May 2023, the White Villa residency has offered artists from Germany, Europe and the Southwest Asia and North Africa (SWANA) the opportunity to immerse themselves in Cairo's dynamic cultural scene for a period of between one to three months. The program not only enables artistic work but also fosters intensive networking with the local scene.

Takhshīna in Cairo & Kulturgarage in Alexandria

The Goethe-Institut in Cairo operates several dedicated areas for creative work. Through the Takhshīna programme, studios and workshops are available for short-term use for rehearsals, workshops and artistic processes. The Takhshīna Gallery regularly exhibits contemporary artworks and projects from Egypt, the Southwest Asia and North Africa (SWANA) and Germany.

In Alexandria, Kulturgarage offers artists and the independent scene a much-needed space for short-term projects, cultural exchange and public visibility.

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KULTUR.



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Collaborations and Artistic Initiatives

The Goethe-Institut promotes partnerships between Egyptian and German cultural organisations and co-curates programme series with curators and experts from both countries. We invite artists from Germany to festivals in Egypt and support the participation of Egyptian artists in festivals throughout Germany.

Strengthening Egypt's Cultural Scene

3la Maddad project provides training in cultural management, programme development and curation, as well as in technical professions such as lighting and sound design and stage management. This project is complemented by networking events and funding programmes (grants) that provide lasting support for cultural activities throughout Egypt.

3la Maddad is an initiative by the Drosos Foundation, the Ford Foundation, and the Goethe-Institut aimed at strengthening the cultural ecosystem in Egypt.



Cultural Exchange in Transregional Projects

The Goethe-Institut works to connect artistic perspectives, experiences and practices across national borders. We connect our partners from Egypt, Germany, Europe, and the SWANA region, promote transregional cultural exchange, and thereby establish stable networks within the scenes.

The EU-funded **Halaqat** project takes an interdisciplinary approach to the theme of “care”, exploring it through the lenses of gender, justice and power relations. As part of Halaqat, residencies, workshops and artistic productions take place in Egypt, Jordan, Morocco, Belgium and Lebanon.

Through the project **Un|Controlled Gestures**, we support choreographers from the Southwest Asia and North Africa (SWANA) in developing new dance projects and performances. In its fourth edition, the project is carried out in collaboration with Hebbel am Ufer (HAU) in Berlin and the European Centre for the Arts Hellerau in Dresden.

**SPRACHE.
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PLACES OF LEARNING AND ENCOUNTER: OUR LIBRARIES

The Goethe-Institut's libraries in Cairo and Alexandria are open spaces for learning, exchange and inspiration. With modern facilities, numerous workstations and a welcoming atmosphere, they invite visitors of all ages to explore, study and linger.

The libraries' media collections include books, journals, films, music, apps and games – both in German and in Arabic translation. All resources can be used on-site or borrowed free of charge. The physical collection is complemented by Onleihe, our digital library of German-language e-media.

The libraries serve as hubs for intercultural dialogue. Their special events showcase developments in the German and Arabic book markets and promote exchange between authors, translators and literature enthusiasts.

A key priority is promoting information and media literacy, especially among young people. Through targeted programmes, we encourage critical thinking and the mindful use of digital media. We place special emphasis on supporting girls and young women in STEM subjects, offering mentoring programmes and workshops designed to inspire curiosity and build confidence.

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One of Cairo's highlights is the Library of Things, where everyday items can be borrowed and shared, rather than owned individually. In the Kreativraum (Creative Space), visitors can try out new technologies, develop digital skills and realise their own ideas.

The library in Alexandria offers a diverse programme of activities for all age groups, including creative, cookery and DJ workshops, as well as sustainability and photography labs. The library also features a seed library and the mobile makerspace project Little Makers on the Go, which brings ideas for the creative use of technology directly into schools and community centres.

For the past three years, the library has actively promoted comic culture in the city, hosting events such as the 24-Hour Comic Day and the international festival Comixandria.





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BUILDING BRIDGES FOR SKILLED PROFESSIONALS AND STUDENTS

The Goethe-Institut Cairo has established itself as a central point of contact for skilled professionals and students who see their future in Germany or in Egypt with a German connection. Through language training, information, guidance, and networking opportunities, we support individuals along their educational and career pathways and help them unlock international prospects.

The four pillars of our support for skilled professionals

Language training

Our German courses from A1 to C2, as well as the internationally recognized Goethe Certificates, provide the language skills required for study, vocational training and employment.

Information and Orientation

Through informational events and advisory services, we provide insights into educational and career opportunities, qualification pathways, and the practical aspects of living and working in Germany.



Professional and intercultural preparation

In collaboration with partner organizations, we develop programs that prepare participants linguistically, professionally, and interculturally for international educational and working environments. These initiatives foster key competencies that contribute to successful integration into academic and professional life.

Networking and Cooperation

Acting as a bridge between institutions, educational organizations, and businesses, we facilitate exchange between German and Egyptian stakeholders. Conferences, professional events, and networking formats create spaces for dialogue, collaboration, and knowledge transfer.



ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND SUSTAINABILITY: COMMITTED TO A GREENER FUTURE

The Goethe-Institut in Egypt is committed to promoting environmental protection and sustainable development. Our projects raise awareness of ecological challenges and pave the way for pragmatic solutions. We are especially committed to education and knowledge transfer.

Our educational programme includes workshops, presentations and film screenings that address topics such as climate change, waste management and sustainable lifestyles. In collaboration with local partners, we strengthen sustainability initiatives in neighbourhoods and institutions, for example through projects like Umweltschulen (Environmental Schools) (2023–2025) and Be2aty (2023–2026).

Through dialogue formats, we also facilitate and foster the transfer of knowledge between German and Egyptian environmental professionals. We believe that global challenges can only be addressed collaboratively, through ongoing cooperation and the sharing of innovative approaches and best practices.





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PALMENHOF, WHITE VILLA & BUSTAN VILLA: GOETHE-INSTITUT CAIRO

Goethe-Institut has been active in Cairo since 1958. Today, it operates from several locations across the city. Our modern building, which opened in 2016 and is known as the Palmenhof in the Doqqi district, houses language classrooms, an auditorium and cafeteria, and has a garden. It also includes the library and Kreativraum, where visitors can experiment with media and technology and work on ideas for the world of tomorrow.

Our offices are located nearby in the recently renovated White Villa.

Language courses and cultural events continue to take place in our old Bustan Villa in Downtown Cairo. The former event hall has been transformed into Studio Takhshina, a laboratory and project space now open to the independent cultural scene.





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ARCHITECTURAL GEM: GOETHE-INSTITUT ALEXANDRIA

The Goethe-Institut has been an integral part of Alexandria's cultural life since 1959. In 1973, the institute moved to its current location, a 1926 villa built according to plans by the architect Max Edrei, situated in the Greek Quarter.

Today, this neo-Gothic building with its Art Deco elements houses the library, language classrooms, event spaces and offices.





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GOETHE-INSTITUT CAIRO

Palmenhof

17, Sharia Hussein Wassef
Maydan El-Missaha, Doqqi
Tel: +20 2 33347800

White Villa

13, Sharia Hussein Wassef
Maydan El-Missaha, Doqqi

Al Bustan Villa

5, Sh. Al-Bustan, Downtown

GOETHE-INSTITUT ALEXANDRIA

10, Sharia El-Batalsa, Azarita
Tel.: +20 3 4879870

Website:

www.goethe.de/aegypten

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Design & Layout: Melina Daber

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