

## **Egypt: Solar Power Project Launched in Aswan**



Aswan (Assouan) governor, Magdy Hegazy inaugurated this week the solar power plants that are part of the Benaban project, in the presence of Song Aiguo, the Chinese ambassador to Cairo.

The new solar power plants, built in southeast Egypt, will produce a total of 186 megawatts, which will then be fed into Egypt's distribution grid. These plants were built by a consortium of four countries: Egypt, China, Spain, and Saudi Arabia.

They are part of a vast project called Benaban, named after a small village in the Nile near the Aswan hydroelectric plant. This project is a major challenge for the Egyptian government, which wants to make it one of the largest solar power plants in the world. All of the Benaban project's opened will produce 1800 megawatts per day. This production capacity corresponds to 90% of that of the Aswan dam on the Nile. With 180 million dollars, this new project is much less expensive than the Aswan dam, which had absorbed just over 3 billion dollars, largely financed by the Soviet Union.

## **Egypt: Community Garden Initiative Flourishes in Cairo**



In the bustling heart of Cairo, a green revolution is quietly taking root. The "Green Cairo" initiative is transforming barren lots into vibrant community gardens, offering residents an oasis amidst the urban concrete jungle. These oases are more than just patches of green; they are havens where residents can cultivate their own food, forge connections with their neighbors, and escape the city's frenetic pace.

The impact goes beyond the individual: Community gardens promote healthy eating habits by providing access to fresh, locally grown produce. They also foster a sense of community and belonging, bringing neighbors together to share knowledge, skills, and the fruits of their labor. The success of "Green Cairo" has spurred similar initiatives throughout the city, inspiring a wave of urban greening and creating a more sustainable and resilient Cairo.

## **Nile Festival: A Journey Through the Timeless Beauty of Egyptian Culture**



Every year, the majestic Nile River witnesses a vibrant celebration of Egyptian culture: the Nile Festival. This captivating event, held in the ancient city of Luxor, transports visitors back in time through a kaleidoscope of traditional music and dance performances, exquisite art exhibitions, and insightful workshops. The festival provides a platform for both established and emerging artists to showcase their talents, ensuring the continuation of these rich cultural traditions.

More than just entertainment: The Nile Festival serves as a bridge between cultures, promoting understanding and appreciation for Egyptian heritage. It also attracts tourists, boosting the local economy and contributing to cultural exchange. The festival's commitment to preserving and celebrating tradition ensures that Egypt's rich cultural tapestry continues to captivate future generations.

## **Youth Take Action: Clean Up Morocco Tackles Plastic Pollution**





Inspired by a global concern for plastic pollution, a group of passionate young activists in Rabat, Morocco, decided to take action. Their "Clean Up Morocco" campaign has ignited a nationwide movement, inspiring individuals and communities across the country to reduce their plastic use and participate in clean-up efforts.

Beyond beach clean-ups: The campaign goes beyond simply removing plastic from the environment. Through educational workshops and awareness campaigns, "Clean Up Morocco" empowers individuals to make informed choices about their plastic consumption and advocates for policy changes to address plastic pollution at its source. This proactive approach promotes a shift towards a more sustainable future for Morocco.

## Dar al Amal: A Beacon of Hope for Underprivileged Communities in Casablanca

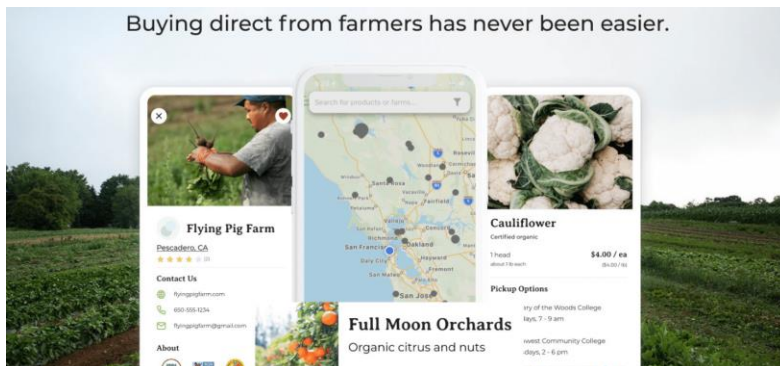


Following the successful opening of its first hackerspace in December 2020, GOMYCODE Morocco is changing their location to an even bigger space.

Located at the corner of Place Belair and Rue Abou Hadil Al Hallaf in the Quartier Gauthier, the new hackerspace sits in the heart of Casablanca and will allow GOMYCODE to strengthen its position as one of the major players in the training of tech professions in the Kingdom.

The new Hackerspace has a capacity of 1000 students, demonstrating GOMYCODE's wish to continue establishing itself as the leading EdTech reference in Morocco.

## Jordan: Free Mobile App Connects Farmers to Markets



A new mobile app called "Baraka" developed in Jordan connects farmers directly with consumers, bypassing middlemen and ensuring fair prices for their produce. The app provides farmers with a platform to sell their products online, and consumers can order fresh, locally grown food directly from the farmers. This initiative is improving the livelihoods of farmers, promoting access to fresh food, and reducing food waste.

## Jordan: Volunteer Initiative Provides Educational Support to Children



In Amman, Jordan, the "Hope for Education" initiative is quietly transforming the lives of children from underprivileged families. This volunteer-driven program provides free tutoring and educational support, bridging the gap for those struggling to access quality education.

Beyond mere academic assistance, "Hope for Education" fosters a nurturing environment where children can learn, develop their skills, and build confidence. Dedicated volunteers provide individualized support, tailoring their approach to each child's unique needs and learning style. This personalized attention empowers children to overcome challenges, excel in school, and reach their full potential.

The impact of "Hope for Education" extends far beyond academic achievement. The initiative fosters a sense of community and belonging, providing a safe space for children to interact with peers, develop social skills, and build positive relationships with mentors and role models. This holistic approach nurtures not just the mind, but also the emotional and social well-being of each child.

"Hope for Education" serves as a beacon of hope for underprivileged families in Amman. By unlocking the potential of children, the initiative empowers them to break free from the cycle of poverty and contribute positively to their communities. Moreover, the dedication and passion of the volunteers inspire others to become more actively involved in supporting children's education, creating a ripple effect of positive change throughout the city. As "Hope for Education" continues to grow and expand its reach, it paves the way for a brighter future for Amman's children. This transformative initiative provides a compelling example of how community-driven efforts can create lasting positive impact on the lives of future generations.

## Tunisia: Public Library Expands to Serve Rural Communities



The Bibliobus mobile library service, launched by the public library in Tunis, addresses the challenge of limited access to books and educational resources in rural Tunisia. It delivers a treasure trove of age-appropriate books, interactive tools, and technological resources directly to children in underserved communities.

Beyond books, the Bibliobus ignites curiosity and fosters critical thinking through engaging workshops, storytime sessions, and author visits. These activities empower children to become lifelong learners and develop essential skills like problem-solving, collaboration, and communication.

More than just a library, the Bibliobus serves as a vital community hub. Its arrival becomes a joyous event, fostering connection and social interaction among families and individuals. This strengthens community bonds and creates a supportive environment where children can thrive.

Recognizing the importance of collaboration, the Bibliobus provides resources and guidance to parents and educators. This empowers them to become active partners in children's learning journeys and support children's academic development.

By providing tools and resources, the Bibliobus transforms lives and communities, leaving a legacy of empowerment and opportunity across rural Tunisia. It serves as a beacon of hope, propelling children towards a brighter future.