

COUNTRY INFORMATION SHEET: EGYPT



Summary

The Arab Republic of Egypt is bounded on the north by the Mediterranean, on the east by Israel and the Red Sea, on the south by the Sudan, and on the west by Libya.

Cities

Capital: Cairo

Principal Ports

Alexandria, Port Said, Suez, Damietta

Population

94.6 million

International Country Code

EG

Language(s)

Arabic and English (French widely understood)

Why Select Egypt as a Market?

- British exports to Egypt have been growing steadily since the instability of the “Arab Spring” protests, but have declined slightly since 2016. Egypt bought £1147 million worth of goods from the UK. This compares with £1210 in 2017 and £1220 million in 2016.
- Gross domestic product (GDP) grew by 4.2% in 2018.
- Largest consumer population in the Middle East, the total population is thought to have exceeded 100 million for the first time in early 2019 and a key regional power, controlling the Suez Canal trade route worth \$5.3 billion in annual toll revenue to Egypt, forming 2% of GDP.

Main Industries

Textiles, food processing, tourism, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, hydrocarbons, construction, cement, light manufactures and metals

Main Products Exported

Crude oil and petroleum products, cotton, textiles, metal products, chemicals, processed food

For more in-country support and advice

Egyptian-British Chamber of Commerce

Tel: 020 7499 3100

Email: info@theebcc.com

Web: www.theebcc.com



DOCUMENTATION GUIDE

CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN

Shipments into Egypt must be accompanied by a Certificate of Origin (CO) and legalisation of the CO document is said not to be mandatory if the goods originate within one of the Member States of the EU. In practice, unless you are absolutely sure this will not be questioned by customs on arrival into Egypt, exporters are recommended to obtain legalised CO documents regardless of the origin.

COMMERCIAL INVOICE

The invoice should be completed in English or Arabic. The invoice is usually submitted to customs in duplicate.

The duplicate commercial invoice needs to be certified with your local Chamber of Commerce. Invoices must include: *a full and accurate description of goods (if textiles or chemicals this should include the exact composition of the goods); transport details; weights and dimensions; value and currency of the supply, including separate indication of additional costs such as freight and insurance; the shipping term (the Incoterms® 2010 rule); country of origin; name and address of the manufacturer, including phone and fax numbers and email address; and the full addresses of all parties concerned.* Besides the mandatory signature, invoices for these goods must also be stamped with the company seal of the exporter. It is a legal requirement to show the full transaction price of the sale on the commercial invoice at export. Egypt has been subject to the undervaluing of goods at import and the customs authorities are taking a strong line in combating this fraud.

OTHER CERTIFICATES

Egypt has a preferential trade agreement with the EU. If your goods are of EU origin and meet the preference qualification rules specific to the commodity code of the goods (outlined in *Notice 828*) then you can issue a EUR1 form with the shipment. This will allow the goods to be imported into Egypt at a preferential import duty rate. Exporters must confirm shipments meet the appropriate qualification rules (see *Customs Notices 827 and 828*) and hold evidence to support this claim. For low value consignments (up to £5700 agreed between the EU and Egypt, based on €6000), an invoice declaration may be used to replace the EUR1 form.