



Fayoum University

# **Potentials and Determinants of Economic Integration between Egypt and Nile Basin Countries**

By

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B.Sc. in Agricultural Sciences  
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A Thesis Submitted in partial Fulfillment  
of the Requirements for the degree of  
**DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY**  
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## **Abstract**

Nile Basin countries represent a national and strategic importance for Egypt, where the Nile River is streamed, which is the main source of surface water in Egypt. Thus, an interest has recently been renewed for the growth of bilateral trade relations between Egypt and the African continent in general and Nile Basin countries in particular. Despite the strategic importance of Nile Basin countries, as well as being a promising market for Egyptian exports, in addition the availability of economic resources that is capable of achieving development and bilateral cooperation, however, the economic, trade and investment relations of Egypt with these countries are still weak and below the expected situation. This study targets identifying the potentials of economic integration between Egypt and Nile Basin countries, as well as highlighting the challenges that hinder the potentials of this integration.

The study included five chapters, the first chapter consists of the theoretical framework and literature review, while the second chapter addressing the Economic resources of Nile Basin countries. The third chapter deals with the Egyptian foreign trade with Nile Basin countries and the most important factors affecting it, the fourth chapter deals with the potentials of promoting the agricultural foreign trade between Egypt and Nile Basin countries. Where chapter five deals with the potentials and determinants of economic integration between Egypt and the Nile Basin countries.

The most important axes of enhancing economic integration between Egypt and Nile Basin countries are investments opportunities, particularly in the agricultural production, integration in energy sector, water cooperation projects, foreign trade development, infrastructure development, training, education and cultural communication. The obstacles to economic integration between Egypt and Nile Basin countries vary between natural, political and economic obstacles, and the obstacles of bilateral trade include transport and shipping difficulties, and those obstacles related to the nature of African markets and Egyptian products.

Key words:

Economic Integration- Nile Basin countries- Comparative Advantage- Transportation Model- Gravity Model- Trade Compatibility.