





## Bibliotheca Alexandrina and the European Union Partner to Support Cultural Diversity and Creativity in Egypt

14 April, 2014 - the Bibliotheca Alexandrina (BA) has started the implementation of the activities of the Support to Cultural Diversity and Creativity in Egypt; a program cofinanced by the European Union (EU) with funds going up to one Million euro. The program aims to support and enhance cultural activities and creativity in Egypt. The grant agreement was signed between the BA and the EU in December at Bayt al-Sinnari (the Sinnari House) in Cairo in late 2013.

Following the signing, the BA formed an action team of specialists to execute the program which is designed to be completed in two years. The program will foster six many activities. They are: the Cultural Debates, Arts in the Classroom initiative for students, Mapping and Supporting Cultural Industries in Egypt, Kom El Dikka Development Project, and North and South initiative for youth. The program will also use of Bayt al-Sinnari as a cultural outlet to host a variety of workshops and competitions implemented under the program. The activities of the program will be concluded with a closing conference, which will also introduce a framework for a cultural policy in Egypt. The conference will also exhibit the works of the participants which were completed throughout the activities. The BA will also produce a documentary film that will capture the whole program, its results and outcomes.

Aligning with the BA vision to effectively contribute to the support of cultural development and diversification in Egypt, Support to Cultural Diversity and Creativity in Egypt aims to provide an increasing access to culture all over Egypt, support cultural and artistic education, protect and promote the diversity of cultural expressions at local, national and international level, foster dialogue between cultures and reaffirm the importance of the link between culture and development in Egypt.