

Construction Week

EVENTS

Egypt is setting high standards for smart and sustainable cities

The New Administrative Capital City, which is being developed 35km east of Cairo, aims to tick many boxes that is expected of a smart city

by [Disha Dadlani](#) July 18, 2021



Construction Week Leaders in Construction Egypt

What does it take to build a smart and sustainable city for the future? We asked. Egypt's leading contractors, engineers and architects answered.

The New Administrative Capital City, which is being developed 35km east of Cairo, aims to tick many boxes that is expected of a smart city. With 725km² of gross land area, 490km² of land available for development, the city – once completed – will boast smart infrastructure at its very core, accommodate 6.5 million persons, offer 1.75 million permanent jobs, comprise 21 residential areas and roads of 650km.

Panel 1 of Construction Week's Leaders in Construction Egypt conference summarised the North African nation's technology adoption; retention of 'human' elements of a city with the development of the New Administrative Capital city; and balanced architecture.

Speaking at the event, Arch. Waleed Raafat, Managing Director, MT Architects, said: "The New Administrative Capital represents a new era and vision, and is expected to align with the latest technologies."

Some panellists also deliberated on Egypt's architectural landscape to potentially reflect that of the emirate of Dubai.

"Dubai is now a successful model for any country on the path to develop further. The New Administrative Capital will soon be like Dubai, especially owing to its strategic location,"

– Arch. Raafat.

Commenting on the need to consciously retain humanisation within Egypt's landscape despite the tech acceleration, Darryl Custer, Executive Director – KEO International Consultants said: "It is important to be creating environments where you are leveraging technologies as appropriate, but also balancing it with traditional culture and

environments. The environment we're aiming for must not strip away the culture of the place.”

Leaders in Construction Egypt Summit



Echoing his thoughts, Eng. Perihan Elwy, VP of Operations, Africa for Hill International said that the “human” aspect of any country or city, anywhere in the world, cannot entirely fade. “It is merely the upgrading of human skills that is required, to keep pace with the emerging technologies.”