

Nahed Youssry
Head of Social Empowerment Sector
Sawiris Foundation for Social Development



Nahed joined Sawiris Foundation for Social Development in 2009. Started as a senior officer in the Training and Employment department and after three years she headed the department up until 2018. In the same year, she was promoted to the position of “Head of the Social Empowerment Sector” as the sector was founded by her.

In her current position, she is responsible for developing; planning, and managing the social empowerment strategy also she participates in setting the foundation goals and strategy, mission, and vision. Nahed manages the most complex and significant programs in the foundation and provides needed guidance and support to the team members to ensure all programs are being implemented efficiently and effectively. She is leading the sector to be a growing, strong and effective body of social protection and poverty alleviation programs that rest on a multi-dimension poverty and evidence-based approach. She is responsible for developing strategies that focused on some important development aspects, such as; poverty alleviation, women empowerment, protecting marginalized children, and providing basic services to the most impoverished and disadvantaged households.

Prior to joining SFSD, Nahed worked in the ‘Canadian International Development Agency’ CIDA-funded Participatory Development Program, as a Capacity Development consultant, ensuring successful project management, auditing, and service delivery. She has also participated in the developing of institutional assessment tools and designing capacity-building programs targeting more than 350 NGOs.

In 2020, Nahed designed and led the Covid-19 Emergency response Initiative “Be Sure We support You – أطمئن أحنا معاك” to support the most harmful, marginalized, and poorest people this making Sawiris Foundation one of the first organizations to play an integral role in alleviating the economic and social burdens faced by vulnerable communities. Also, it was published as a case on “Decision Making in Times of Crisis” by Wits Business School.

Nahed had been working with a wide number of development partners; Government Institutions, policymakers, research centers, academics, NGOs, INGOs, bilateral, and multi-lateral donors.

- Nahed holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Commerce from Tanta University, in 1994. She holds a Diploma in Non-Governmental Organization Management, from the Faculty of Economics and Political Science, Cairo University, 2011 –very good score, with her research titled ‘The role of NGOs in women empowerment- Reality and Truth’. In 2021, she has obtained a Master’s Degree in Business Administration-Crisis Management with an excellent credit score, from Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport “AASTMT” , also Nahed has successfully completed Chicago Booth Executive Program – The University of Chicago Booth School of Business currently, she is pursuing a Master's degree in Public Policy (MPP) from American University-Cairo “AUC”.

Awards:

- Nahed was honored in 2006 by PFRA’s “The Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration - Canada” for her outstanding contribution to the progress of the National Water Quality and Availability Management Project.
- Nahed was honored by “the Arab Woman Festival for Creativity” in 2016; with the title of a “Social Work Pioneer”.
- She was honored by “Cambridge International College” in 2017 with a Certificate of Achievement for outstanding vocational contributions and career eminence.
- In 2019, Nahed was selected (among 300 women) as an Egyptian to take part in the “Global Women in Management Program”-GWIM in the USA, which aims to improve women’s management, leadership, and technical skills to foster programs that advance women’s economic opportunities and build the next generation of women business leaders and entrepreneurs