

Creating New Generations of Expertly Skilled IT Professionals in Africa

Institution



Story at a glance

Region

Africa

Content focus



Data center virtualization



Network virtualization



Cybersecurity

Impact

Established a new pipeline of expert IT professionals

Who We Are

VMware® IT Academy is a public-private partnership with institutions providing learning resources to educators and learners worldwide. Part of Palo Alto, California-based VMware, IT Academy helps prepare learners around the globe with on-demand digital and technical skills as well as firsthand knowledge of VMware's trusted multi-cloud platforms. This fosters career development, creates a pipeline of diverse talent and enables innovation that helps lead positive change around the world.

The **Digital Egypt Builders Initiative (DEBI)** is a presidential initiative of the government of Egypt. Assigned to the Ministry of Communication, its aim is to help top graduates of Egyptian universities—such as those having a 3.8 to 4.0 GPA—earn a master's degree in computer science informatics engineering.

Standout Students

In the first year of the program, DEBI participants, a pool of approximately 1,000 students, were assigned to different specializations consistent with the graduate products at their universities. The selected students then participated in a kind of academy with a master's degree curriculum. The first graduating class saw 109 students receiving their master's degree from the University of Ottawa.

This year, the program's second cohort was composed of 257 DEBI participants who successfully completed the study of their fields. Each member of the DEBI graduating class obtained a professional master's degree in their field of specialization from the international universities they joined.

The professional master's degrees from which the students could choose were in the following disciplines: artificial Intelligence (AI) and data science, digital arts, FinTech, robotics and automation, and cybersecurity.

A range of educational institutions granted the master's degrees, including The University of Ottawa and Queen's University in Canada, University College Cork (UCC) in Ireland, and Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) in Malaysia.



Graduates of the Cybersecurity Track from the most recent DEBI cohort.



Nevine El-Kadi, senior manager Middle East and Africa at VMware IT Academy, and Amr Salah, regional director at VMware, receive on behalf of VMware a Certificate of Appreciation signed by Dr. Hoda Baraka, Advisor to the Minister for Technology Talents Development, MCIT.

VMware Egypt's Support for DEBI

VMware is pleased to be an ongoing contributor to this initiative in two primary ways. First, students in the program have access to the full range of courses offered by the VMware IT Academy. In the first graduating class, for example, 60 students completed the core technical skills courses for data center virtualization, network virtualization and intrinsic security. In the most current cohort, 20 students successfully passed the VMware Endpoint Security: Core Technical Skills course. Second, the technical support professionals in VMware Egypt work with the students by sponsoring their graduation projects.

Valuable Professional Technologists

The master's degree program is designed to provide graduates with industrial skills that are in growing demand in the international and local labor market for specialists in technical sciences. Successfully completing the program makes the graduates highly desirable employees to multinational employers, business partners and government entities. With their well-rounded educational experience, program graduates are fully capable of contributing as valued team members within the various organizations that hire them.

VMware IT Academy Provides Vital Technology Skills

The VMware IT Academy offers current and high-demand courses in areas as broad as cybersecurity, robotics, automation, digital art, data science and AI. VMware was again recognized with a Certificate of Appreciation for its continuing contribution to DEBI "Digital Egypt's Builders Initiative" by Egypt's Minister of Communications and IT, Dr. Amr Talaat.

Learn More

For more information about the courses offered by VMware IT Academy, please visit vmware.com/company/it-academy.html.