

Dakhla Survey, May 2026

Between May 5–10, 2026, Japanese researchers collaborating with Egyptian researchers conducted a field survey and focus group meetings with village farmers in Dakhla.

Participants

- Sophia University: Dr. Erina Iwasaki, Dr. Bayan Alsaadeh, Dr. Naoko Fukami
- University of Tokyo: Dr. Masaru Mizoguchi
- JIRCAS: Dr. Donghe Xu
- New Valley University: Dr. Samir Ibrahim ElGwely, Mr. Mafhuz Zwam, Mr. Mohamed Wafy Arafat, Mr. Mahmoud Zakariya
- NARSS: Dr. Adel Shalaby



Understanding Local Challenges and Opportunities



Listening to farmers: Voices from the oasis communities

2026-May-5 – May 11

Six focus group meetings were held in target villages, along with a general meeting in Hendaw village addressing salinization issues.



Five interviews in Dakhla

2026-May-5 – May 6

Five interviews were conducted, covering water management, water user association, aquaculture, dairy production, and facilities built with villagers' donation.



Collaborating with local authorities for water management in Mut

2026-May-5 – May 6

Irrigation Office: Discussion with director on canal repair and community-funded underground canal projects.

Drainage Office: Meeting with director regarding drainage management.



Hands-on efforts to improve experimental farmlands

2026-May-7 – May 11

Japanese researchers assisted with maintenance at experimental farmland contracted in Mushia and Rashda.

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What's NEW @ NVU Farm

At the New Valley University farm, PhD student Mr. Omar Fathy and farm worker Mr. Ashraf planted maize and sorghum in May; they tend to the crops daily and share their progress with an agricultural group via WhatsApp. They are conducting trials in both ordinary soil and soil with high salinity, and the crops in the ordinary soil have shown significant growth.

Strengthening capacity for sustainable agriculture

2026-May-10 – May 11, Kharga



For the purpose of establishing the farmland management system at NVU farm project experimental field, Dr. Donghe Xu (JIRCAS) and Dr. Bayan Alsaadeh (Sophia University) visited NVU. Discussed future farmland maintenance with Dr. Khaled Abdelhafeez and visited the farmlands on May 10. On May 11, Dr. Donghe Xu and Dr. Ahmed Azizeldain Abubaker delivered a hybrid lecture on salt-tolerant crops.

