

“Ireland’s Minister for Business Mr Pat Breen, will lead a Trade Mission of 12 Irish companies to Egypt on December 4 and 5.

This will be the first Irish Trade Mission to Egypt since 2010, and is a further sign of Ireland’s extensive reengagement with Egypt in trade and investment matters. A key goal of the visit will be to bring more Irish companies into the Egyptian market to work with Egyptian partners both to service the Egyptian market, but also as a hub to service Middle East and East African markets. Ireland is currently the fastest growing economy in the Eurozone and is one of the world’s largest exporters of ICT, Pharma and Medical Devices.

Many of the world’s largest ICT, Internet and Pharma companies such as Google, Linked In, Ebay and Apple run their Europe and Middle East operations from Ireland, so there is already a high degree of engagement between Ireland and Egypt in sectors such as ICT and Pharma. Ireland is also the world’s leading centre for aircraft leasing, and a large part of Egyptair’s new fleet will be leased from Ireland.

The trade mission participants represent sectors such as ICT, Fintech, Lifesciences and Engineering Solutions.

However this will only be the first initiative in what is likely to be a more expansive programme of trade activities planned for 2019. The Trade Mission will also highlight Ireland’s key role in the EU for Egyptian companies, when, following Brexit, Ireland will be the only English speaking country in the EU, having common law and being a key member of the Eurozone. Ireland also has expansive and key trade relations with the US and the UK, making it attractive base for Egyptian companies looking to develop a trade and business platform in Europe

Irish companies operate a partnership model, so in addition to seeking customers in Egypt, they will be seeking Egyptian partners to develop their business.”