Ismail Serageldin

Ismail Serageldin is the Emeritus Librarian of Alexandria, and was the Founding Director of the Bibliotheca Alexandrina, the New Library of Alexandria (2001-2017) in Egypt. Before that he was the Vice-President of the World Bank (1993-2000), and Chairman of the Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), Founding Chairman of The Consultative Group to Assist the Poorest: A micro-finance program (CGAP), and the Global Water Partnership (GWP).

He currently serves on many advisory boards and committees for academic, research, scientific and international institutions and civil society efforts, including as Co-Chair of the Nizami Ganjavi International Center (NGIC). He is also a Patron of the International Science Council (ISC).

He has received many awards including the Order of the Rising Sun of Japan, The Pablo Neruda Medal of Chile and is a knight of the French Legion d’Honneur and a Commander of Arts and Letters of the French Republic.

He graduated from Cairo University and holds a PhD from Harvard University. He was a distinguished professor at Wageninen University and the College de France in Paris. He has lectured widely, published more than 100 books and 500 articles, and has received 40 honorary doctorates from all over the world.