



2012

Strategic Concerns Programme Annual Report



Centre for Environment and Development for
the Arab Region and Europe

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CEDARE's Strategic Concerns Programme (SCP) addresses new and emerging concepts related to environment and development for human well-being, with a focus on issues related to Sustainable Consumption and Production, Green Economy, and Green ICT. The Programme collaborates on global, regional and national efforts, addressing: poverty alleviation, health, waste reduction (e-waste), green jobs, green ICT, pollution reduction, greenhouse gas emissions, sustainable consumption and production, and energy security.

Together with its wide partner base from the international, regional and national community, the SCP implements projects, conducts research and studies, and provides training and knowledge dissemination.

Executive Summary

In 2012, The Strategic Concerns Programme (SCP) has been involved in implementing **5 regional and national projects** supported by the **European Commission and German government**. The SCP has started a national study on Green economy in cooperation with the United Nations Environment Programme. SCP staff participated and/or co-organized 22 international, regional and national events.

These activities have been implemented in the Mediterranean region, Middle East, North Africa, and West Africa, in collaboration with a wide number of regional and European partners, some of which involve consortia of over 20 international partners. The activities addressed: waste management, cleaner production and best available techniques, green ICT, environmental tourism and green economy.

What we do

Explore & Innovate (research, identifying opportunities for development and new concepts, design interventions)

Build bridges (partner in international projects, facilitate transfer of knowledge & know-how & tailor to local conditions)

Spread the knowledge & skills (training & dissemination)

Catalyze & sustain (networking, stimulating stakeholder collaboration & partnerships).

Themes

- Sustainable Consumption & Production
- Green Economy
- Green ICT

Key strengths

- Regional & International Experience
- Strong Partnerships
- Proactive team

Projects

Boosting Best Available Techniques in the Mediterranean Partner Countries (BAT4MED) (December 2010 – June 2013)

BAT4MED is part of the EU 7th Framework Programme. The main objective of the project is to ensure a higher level of environmental protection of the Mediterranean region, minimizing the negative impacts associated to the activity key industrial sectors. Towards this aim, the possibilities for and impact of diffusion of the EU Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control approach to the Mediterranean Partner Countries (MPC) will be assessed and the implementation of Best Available Techniques in the national environmental programmes will be promoted and supported. BAT4MED aims to help implement the EU Technologies Action Plan by supporting the transfer and uptake of environmental technologies in developing countries. Industrial pollution processes account for a considerable share of the overall pollution in the Mediterranean region. Though awareness of environmental issues related to industrial pollution has notably grown in the last decades, pollution monitoring shows that the positive results have hardly been achieved. The goal of the project justifies its transnational dimension, since pollution in the Mediterranean has a global dimension and cannot be tackled separately by each single country.



The project brings together 8 organizations from 6 different countries, 4 organizations from 3 EU Member States (Spain, Belgium, Italy), 3 from 3 MPCs (Egypt, Tunisia, Morocco) and 1 international organization based in Egypt to build mutual understanding through established networking in industrial pollution prevention and control. Firstly, BAT4MED will analyze the industrial context in the MPC to select the most promising sectors with the highest environmental benefit potential. Secondly, a methodology for BAT assessment will be designed and applied and BAT will be selected for each identified sector taking into account local conditions. Lastly, an analysis of potential convergence of MPC policies with the EU-approach will be carried out. The project has an ambitious set of awareness creation & dissemination activities.

Integrated Waste Management in West Africa (IWWA) (June 2010 – June 2012)

Within the EU 7th Framework Programme, IWWA project proposes an alternative for the empowerment of authorities, policy makers and key stakeholders that have a role in the Waste Management chain. The project will contribute to the improvement of solid waste management systems in West Africa, by promoting appropriate management policies at national and regional levels and gathering authorities, policy makers and other stakeholders (private sector, NGOs, general public, etc.) in the design of waste management practices, with the support of African and European experts.



This initiative focuses on 4 target countries in West Africa: Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Nigeria and Senegal. The situation in these countries is representative of the overall situation in West Africa, and project results will provide synergies for the establishment of sustainable solid waste management systems across the region.

AL-Fayhaa Solid Waste Complaints Management Center (GODEM) (August 2011 – August 2012)

This project is a component of a regional project for optimized management of Waste in the Mediterranean (GODEM) that is implemented in the framework of the EU-funded programme CIUDAD. The objective is to develop Al-Fayhaa Solid Waste Complaints Management Information System (CMIS) for the Urban Community of Al-Fayhaa, Lebanon. CEDARE developed Al-Fayhaa CMIS, which provided different types and formats of outputs supporting decision-makers and technical staff to gather reliable and accurate information about citizens' complaints and their status.



ShMILE2 (January 2012 – December 2014)

ShMILE-2 is a 36 months EC-funded project; a continuation of the 2004 LIFE-Environment programme (ShMILE) on Ecolabeling in European Mediterranean resorts. ShMILE-2 aims to promote European Ecolabels for hotels and ensure its international recognition to ensure better performance/compliance, covering more countries, and promoting north-south cooperation. It will adapt and promote the Ecolabel and train stakeholders in the partner countries; France, Italy, Greece, Tunisia, Jordan, and Egypt (11 partners & 5 associate partners). CEDARE is responsible for conducting the local studies and surveys in cooperation with



the governorates of Matrouh and Alexandria and managing the capacity building and information dissemination activities including provision of two training workshops for hotels and young professionals in the sector, as well as conducting analysis for 30 hotels, of which 5 hotels will be further assisted to prepare for the European ecolabel certification including conducting mock audits.

Best of Two Worlds (Bo2W) Project (June 2012 – May 2015)

The project falls under the theme of “Global recirculation of strategic metals: Best of Two-Worlds approach” seeking opportunities for recycling of strategic materials found in e-waste. In light of the rising shortage in primary raw material on one hand, and the environmental burden of unexploited waste in the developing world on the other hand, the best of two-worlds approach aims to close global raw material life cycles while optimizing the environmental and social return in the developing world. It covers precious metals and critical resources (e.g. platinum group metals and rare earth) as well as base metals (e.g. aluminum, lead and copper) that can be found in (vehicles, electronic equipment, etc.) assessing secondary resources in Egypt and Ghana as well as implementing pilot projects for collection and pre-treatment.



CEDARE represents Egypt as the pilot country, for North Africa Region, to support the European partners in identifying the priority End-of-Life resources to assess, and conduct the status analysis and identify the requirements to establish the supply chain (collecting, sorting, pre-treatment), in designing and implementing the pilot units, and in establishing permanent recycling structures in Egypt. This also includes facilitating consultation with and outreach to stakeholders, conducting workshops, and exchanging experience.

Studies

Green Economy Scoping Study for Egypt (December 2012 – July 2013)

CEDARE in cooperation with United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) are cooperating with the Egyptian Ministry of state for environmental affairs represented by the Egyptian environmental affairs agency (EEAA) to implement Green economy scoping study for Egypt. The *overall objective* of this study is to support and complement national initiatives on green economy, through macroeconomic assessment and policy analysis with a view to better understand how government policies and public and private investment can help achieve the fundamental macroeconomic objectives of income growth, economic development/diversification, and job creation, following a path that also contributes to social equity and environmental improvement. The study focuses on 4 sectors: Agriculture, Water, Energy, and Waste Management.



The study also illustrates successful initiatives by public authorities, the private sector or civil society organizations. Success stories are meant to showcase innovative approaches to sustainable development resulting in economic benefits (e.g. growth in output), social gains (e.g. employment creation, health benefits); and environmental improvement (e.g. reduction of carbon emissions, enhancing energy/resource efficiency, ecosystem restoration).

Events

Meeting of the Core Secretariat of the Arab Region DATA Working Group (26-27 January 2012), Beirut - Lebanon

CEDARE participated in the Meeting of the Core Secretariat of the Arab Region DATA Working Group that was held during the period from 26-27 January 2012, in Beirut – Lebanon. The meeting was hosted by ESCWA. The objective of the meeting was to discuss the work of the Regional Data Working Group and the activities of the indicators group and the networking group, agree on a work plan for the next two years for each group and the implementation of activities including annual meetings.



BAT4MED 3rd Project Management Board Meeting (1-2Feb. 2012), Antwerp - Brussels

On the 1st and 2nd of February 2012, the 3rd technical and management board meetings of the BAT4MED project were held in Antwerp, Belgium. The project identified dairy and textile as its target sectors. The plans for conducting technical audit in these sectors in Egypt, Morocco, and Tunis were discussed, targeting 30 facilities in total. Project partners will then work together to select and tailor the Best Available Techniques (BATs) advisable for the three Mediterranean countries.



ShMILE-2, 1st Steering Committee Meeting (6-7 February 2012), Tunisia

CEDARE participated in the 1st Steering Committee Meeting for ShMILE2 Project that was hosted by CITET during the period from 6-7 February 2012 in Tunisia. The project aims to promote eco-labels in the tourism industry and exchange experiences between partners in Egypt, Jordan, Tunis, France, Italy, and Greece. All project partners gathered to define partner involvement and implementation strategies of the project.



17th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean and its Protocols (8-10 February 2012), Paris – France

CEDARE participated in the 17th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean and its Protocols (Barcelona Convention) that was held in Paris during the period from 8-10 February 2012. The meeting was organized by UNEP/MAP. Leading policy makers from 21 Mediterranean countries and the European Union met to discuss the state of the environment of the Mediterranean Sea and the progress that has been made in their efforts to protect the Mediterranean marine and coastal environment.



Bahrain International Green Tech-Expo & Forum 2012 (12-15 March 2012), Manama - Bahrain

CEDARE participated in the First International Green Tech-Expo and Forum-2012 that was held during the period from 12-15 March 2012 in Manama, Bahrain. The Public Commission for the Protection of Marine Resources, Environment and Wildlife organized the event (PMEW) in collaboration with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO). The Forum offered a platform for discussions and experience sharing related to Green Industry, Water Management, Green Lifestyle and Sustainable Consumption, and Solid Wastes.



Final Meeting of Integrated Waste Management in West Africa (IWWA) (13-14 May 2012), Accra – Ghana

CEDARE participated in the Final Meeting and Conference of IWWA that was held in Accra, Ghana during the period from 13-14 May 2012. The meeting was attended by 22 partner organizations from Africa and Europe, and members of parliament and representatives of relevant Ministries in Ghana, the media, and other stakeholders. The project results were presented and discussed to disseminate findings and ensure its sustainability and the use of its findings in policies plans and programmes.



Solving the E-waste Problem “StEP” Initiative 2012 General Assembly (23-25 May 2012), Amsterdam – Netherlands

As StEP Regional Focal Point for the Middle East and Northern Africa, CEDARE participated in StEP Initiative General Assembly that was held in Amsterdam during the period from 23-25 May 2012. The main objective of the meeting was to initiate and facilitate approaches towards the sustainable handling of E-waste. Through the main five task forces, feasible and environmentally safe solutions for the e-waste problem are developed through analysis, planning and pilot-projects.



7th ITU Symposium on ICTs/ the Environment and Climate Change (29-31 May 2012), Montreal – Canada

ITU organized the Seventh ITU Symposium on ICTs, the Environment and Climate Change on 29-31 May 2012 in Montreal, Canada. The event was co-organized with the government of Canada and hosted by Prompt Inc. This was the seventh symposium on climate change following successful events held between 2008 and 2011 in Kyoto, London, Quito, Seoul, Cairo and Accra. The main purpose of the event was to move the agenda forward on using ICTs to monitor climate change, mitigate and adapt to its effects and, in this light, identify future requirements for ITU’s related work – including standardization of ICT equipment and networks as well as development activities.



The symposium in Montreal focused on the issue of ICTs, the environment and climate change in the world and the needs for the use of ICTs to promote environmental sustainability. Topics discussed included mitigation and adaptation to climate change, e-waste management, disaster preparedness and emergency communications, cost-effective ICT technologies, methodologies for the environmental impact assessment of ICTs, challenges and opportunities in the transition to a green and resource efficient economy, among others. CEDARE attended the panel discussions as a speaker in the E-waste session presenting CEDARE’s achievements in the E-waste activities.

Kick-Off Meeting – Best of Two Worlds Project “Bo2W” (June 12th 2012), Darmstadt – Germany

CEDARE participated in the Best of Two Worlds (Bo2W) Kick-off Meeting, held on 12 June 2012, in Darmstadt, Germany. Oko-institut organized the meeting and CEDARE presented its role in implementing the project activities in Egypt, as the Project’s pilot country.



BAT4MED 4th Technical Board Meeting (12 June, 2012), Barcelona – Spain

The Project Technical Board (PTB) Meeting was held in the UN-CPRAC premises in Barcelona, Spain. Project progress was discussed among partners of the PTB, CEDARE, IAT (Spain), ARC/CPRAC (Spain), VITO (Belgium) and SSUP (Italy). The meeting focused on enabling the Mediterranean Partner Country representatives of Egypt, Tunis and Jordan to complete the tasks on time, comprising the Best Available Techniques reports of the Textiles and Dairy Industry that were found to have the highest environmental improvement impact potential across the region.



CEDARE presented the details on WP6, which includes consolidating the dissemination strategy, managing Intellectual Property Rights and knowledge ownership and securing the sustainability of project outputs.

BAT4MED 4th Project Management Board Meeting (13-14 June, 2012), Barcelona – Spain

On the 13th and 14th of June 2012, the 4th project management board meetings of the BAT4MED project were held in Barcelona at the Catalan Waste Agency. The meeting included all project partners, namely IAT, VITO, SSSUP, CP/RAC, EEAA, CMPP, and CITET, and CEDARE. Project partners presented interim results and discussed the plans of the project’s final year of activities. CEDARE presented the work plan for the policy briefs formulation, as the final outcome of the BAT4MED project, and the plan to develop a sustainability strategy to ensure a sustained impact of the project beyond its completion.



ShMILE-2 Second Steering Committee Meeting (26-28 June 2012), Cagliari – Italy

On the 26th and 27th of June 2012, the second steering committee meeting of the ShMILE-2 project was held in Cagliari, Italy. The meeting aimed at reviewing activity progress and discuss plans for subsequent activities, including workshops, training programs, and seminars to be conducted. CEDARE presented the activities' progress to date leading up to the signing of three protocols of cooperation with the key stakeholders; the Ministry of Tourism, Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency, Egyptian Hotels Association, and the Egyptian Travel Agency Association.



Electronics Goes Green 2012 Conference (9-12 September 2012), Berlin - Germany

CEDARE participated in the Electronics Goes Green 2012 Conference, which was held in Berlin, Germany from 9 to 12 September 2012. The Conference marked a new milestone in the electronics industry's commitment to sustainability and environmental responsibility. CEDARE participated in the Conference activities, which included a StEP Workshop on "E-Waste Situation and Solutions in Developing Countries and Countries with Market Economies in Transition" organized by EMPA, GIZ and UNU. CEDARE also participated in the E-waste Study Tour to Germany and Belgium organized by GIZ as part of the Conference activities.



ITU Green Standards Week (17-21 September 2012), Paris - France

The Green Standards Week brought together leading specialists in the field, from top policy-makers to engineers, designers, planners, government officials, regulators, standards experts and others. The main purpose was to raise awareness of the importance and opportunities of using ICT standards to build a green economy.



CEDARE, ITU, and the United Nations University (UNU) organized two forums as part of the event's activities. The sessions were entitled: "Mapping E-waste to Address Future Challenges" and "Greening ICT Supply Chain", that aimed to highlight initiatives and success stories about how sustainable ICT supply chains helped in enhancing sustainability performance of different stakeholders such as governmental organizations and private sector enterprises while maintaining positive economical dimension.

Joint Committee for Environment and Development in the Arab Region (JCEDAR),
14th Session, (30 September 2012) League of Arab States (LAS) premises, Cairo,
Egypt

CEDARE participated in the meetings of the 14th Session of the JCEDAR that was held in the League of Arab States (LAS) premises, Cairo, Egypt, to discuss the issues of climate change, health and the environment and sustainable development and environmental indicators. The meeting also discussed the preparation of the Second Arab Environment Outlook Report (AEOR).



ShMILE-2 Technical Meeting and Kick-off Meeting (4-5 October 2012), Nice - France

CEDARE – Shmile project team attended the ShMILE-2 Technical Meeting, held on the 4th-5th October 2012, in Nice, France. The Technical Meeting was held to review the project’s advancement and progress of activities to date in preparation for the official ShMILE-2 Kick-off Meeting held on 5th October 2012.

Project partners attended the Kick-off meeting to review the project’s implementation under the “ENPI CBC-Med Programme’s” updated operational procedures. The Kick-off meeting also included roundtable discussions on greening the tourism sector.



BAT4MED 5th Technical Board Meeting (11 December, 2012), Cairo – Egypt

The Project Technical Board (PTB) Meeting was held in cooperation with EEAA in Cairo, Egypt. Project progress was discussed among partners of the PTB, CEDARE, IAT (Spain), ARC/CPRAC (Spain), VITO (Belgium) and SSUP (Italy). The meeting focused on monitoring the activities’ progress and the production of final Best Available Techniques (BAT) reports, towards the finalization of the project.



BAT4MED 5th Project Management Board Meeting (12-13 December, 2012), Cairo – Egypt

On the 12th and 13th of December 2012, the 5th project management board meeting of the BAT4MED project was held in Cairo, Egypt. The meeting included all project partners, namely IAT, VITO, SSSUP, CP/RAC, EEAA, CITET, and CEDARE.

Project partners presented interim results and discussed the plans of the project's final year of activities. CEDARE presented the work plan for the policy briefs formulation, as the final outcome of the BAT4MED project. CEDARE also discussed planning the project's sustainability strategy to ensure a sustained impact of the project beyond its completion. To this end, CEDARE aims to organize six national workshops during 2013 to promote the project results in non-partner Arab Mediterranean countries.



Partnership and Outreach Events

ShMILE 2 – Protocols of Cooperation: MoT, MoEA, EHA, ETAA (10 June, 2012) Cairo – Egypt

CEDARE initiated a strategic partnership with key national stakeholders to launch ShMILE-2 Project activities in Egypt. Stakeholders include the Egyptian Ministry of Tourism (MoT); the Ministry of Environmental Affairs (MoEA); the Egyptian Hotels Association (EHA) and the Egyptian Travel Agents Association (ETAA). CEDARE signed three protocols of cooperation with each of the stakeholders respectively, aiming to enhance the commitment of the tourism sector to adopting environmentally sound practices and principles of ecotourism, through the following:



- Conducting sector mapping and needs assessment studies to identify opportunities in adopting environmentally sound practices and ecotourism principles
- Transferring know-how and best practices to local establishments
- Training personnel in the tourism sector (as well as cross-cutting sectors)
- Promoting and disseminating the results of the project on the regional and international levels

Transport Hackathon (June 3rd 2012), Cairo – Egypt

On June 3rd 2012, a wide range of stakeholders and experts gathered in a large brainstorming workshop at Safir Hotel in Dokki, Cairo to attend the “Tech Camp” marking the start of the Transport Hackathon. The event was carried out in partnership with the World Bank and other civil society initiatives, while attendants included mobile phone operators, NGOs, software developers, young entrepreneurs, specialized research institutions and representatives of relevant governmental bodies, international organizations, and other stakeholders including multinational IT companies. CEDARE was present in the panel discussions presenting achievements in the Green ICT sector and previous activities in the Partnership for Cleaner Fuels and Vehicles, of which it is a member.



“Cycling in Egypt: Cycling as a Means of Transport” Experience Exchange Seminar on Sustainable Transportation (18 October 2012), Cairo - Egypt

CEDARE participated in “Cycling in Egypt: Cycling as a Means of Transport” experience exchange seminar held at the Netherlands-Flemish Institute on 18th October 2012, in Cairo Egypt. The seminar brought together transportation experts and urban planners from the Netherlands and Egypt, as well as sixty stakeholders from public authorities, academia, and the civil society to exchange experience in sustainable transportation, with a focus on biking and other forms of sustainable urban transport. The Embassy of Netherlands, the Flemish-Dutch Institute and the Green Arm of Nahdet El-Mahrousa NGO organized the event and CEDARE presented the history of civic engagement in promoting sustainable transportation in Egypt and recent developments in the field.



Cairo University Student Orientation on Green Economy (21 October 2012), Cairo - Egypt

On 21st October 2012, CEDARE’s SCP department hosted a promising group of 10 Cairo University Students of Political Economy to introduce them to the concepts of Green Economy. Dr. Hossam Allam introduced the relevance of the new field to their studies, while Green Economy international Expert Mr. Hussein Abaza presented the development of this line of study, and Eng. Ahmed El-Dorghamy explained the key principles behind the concept, followed by an interactive presentation on the case study of the transportation sector to put the theory learnt into practical perspectives. A film and a list of references to assist the students in their future independent study were distributed.

