



Basel Convention Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for Arab States in Egypt

Progress Report 2006

Project: Capacity Building for the Implementation of the Basel Convention

Sub-programme: “A Better Environment for Human Health and Well-Being”.
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Table of Contents

1- Background.....	3
2. Approved workplan, budget and Progress for 2006.....	5
2.1– Governance Activities	6
2.1.1 The First Steering Committee (SCC-1) Meeting of the Centre	6
2.1.2 The first Project Steering Committee (PSC-1) Meeting	8
2.1.3 Participating in workshops and meetings,	9
2.2 Inventory of hazardous wastes and waste producing activities.	11
2.2.1 Compilation of existing inventories	12
2.2.2 Inventories of e-waste and assessment of recycling facilities.....	12
2.3 Legal Assistance on the implementation of the Basel Convention.....	14
2.3.1 Workshop on the Protocol of Liability	14
2.3.2 Review of the national legislation	15
2.4 Environmentally Sound Management on Used Oils	16
2.4.1 Review and update the technical guidelines	17
2.4.2. Workshop on the recycling of used oils.....	18
2.5 Public Awareness	19
3. Financial statement.....	20
4. References.....	26
Annex (1).....	27
Detailed Workplan for the BCRC-Egypt (2006)	27
Annex (2).....	32
Summary progress in 2006	32

List of Acronyms

BCRC-Egypt	Basel Convention Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for Arab States in Egypt
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
GEF	Global Environmental Facility
MEAs	Multinational Environmental Agreements
NGOs	Non Governmental Organizations
NORMS	Naturally Occurring Radioactive Materials
OEWG	Open Ended Working Group
PSC-1	First Project Steering Committee Meeting
SAICM	Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management
SBC	Basel Convention Secretariat
SCC_1	Centre Steering Committee Meeting
UNEP	The United Nations Environment Program
UNEP/ROWA	The United Nations Environment Program (the Regional Office for West Asia)
UNIDO	The United Nations Industrial Development Organization
WB	World Bank

1- Background

Article 14 of the Basel Convention provides for the establishment of Regional Centres for training and technology transfer regarding the management of hazardous wastes and other wastes and the minimisation of their generation. The main goal of the Regional Centres is to strengthen the capacity of governments of the regions for the implementation of the Basel Convention, technically, legally and institutionally.

The fifth Conference of the Parties of the Basel Convention placed the Regional Centres high on the agenda for the Convention's next decade, seeing them as a logical and efficient means for raising awareness about the Convention's obligations and assisting in their implementation. Towards those ends, a central task over the coming years will be to design a more permanent structure for Regional Centres, based on a comprehensive strategy able to ensure their long-term sustainability and to promote and facilitate the implementation of the Basel Convention and associated decisions of the Parties to the Convention at regional and national levels.

A comprehensive strategy for the establishment and operation of the Regional Centres was prepared by the Secretariat of the Convention and was endorsed by the Second Workshop on Regional Centres (El Salvador, 10-11 August 2000). The strategy included, *inter alia*:

- Institutional arrangements for the Centres;
- Harmonisation of Centres' activities;
- Promoting collaboration with Basel Convention Centres in other regions and sub-regions, as well as relevant programmes and offices of UNEP, such as UNEP/UNIDO national cleaner production centres, and other organisations (e.g., industry federations, research institutes, NGOs); and
- Fundraising for the activities of the Regional Centres.

The Consultative Meeting of the Basel Convention Regional Centres (Cairo, 4-5 April 2002). recommended the following five functions as the core functions of the Centres:

- Training;
- Technology transfer;
- Information;
- Consulting; and
- Awareness.

The BCRC-Egypt collaborated since the year 2000 with the Secretariat of the Basel Convention in organizing and delivering regional activities using memoranda of understanding.

The framework agreement governing the establishment and operation of the BCRC Egypt was signed at the Seventh Conference of the Parties in October 2004. It was entered into force on 22/6/2005.

A project document was developed by the BCRC-Egypt and the SBC describing the region's priority needs towards efficient implementation of the Basel Convention; and

proposed a set of objectives to meet through the implementation of specific activities and pilot projects over a three year period.

The activities of the Centre relevant to its regional role as the Basel Convention Regional Centre, and to the present project in particular, are carried out under the overall guidance and supervision of the Secretariat of the Basel Convention. In addition, the Secretariat of the Basel Convention is coordinating the activities of the Centre with the work of other regional centres of the Basel Convention, as well as with the activities of other global and regional conventions and programmes relevant to the work of the Centre. These functions of the Secretariat are exercised through direct contacts with the Director of the Centre and through the consultant contracted with the Secretariat, as defined in his/her terms of reference.

A Project Steering Committee is established to assist in guiding, monitoring, coordinating and evaluating the work of the Centre pertaining to the activities envisaged under the present project

The Government of Finland generously approved to finance the proposed project and provided the cash contribution (one million euro) towards the costs of the project's activities.

Although the first cash advance to BCRC-Egypt from the Finland contribution was transferred to the center's account only at the beginning of March 2005, the BCRC-Egypt staff started working on elaborating the workplan for 2006 at the beginning of the year.

The project activities started officially in mid March 2006 with convening the project steering committee. During the project steering committee, the director of the BCRC-Egypt and a teamwork of collaborative coordinators presented to the first project steering committee, the first year detailed workplan. The present report amply introduces the approved workplan and budget for 2006, and the progress achieved as of 31 Dec. 2006.

2. Approved workplan, budget and Progress for 2006

The project document identified as common and priority needs for the countries in the region the following issues:

1. Joint assessment by the countries of the region of how the Centre could be best organised to meet regional and sub-regional needs;
2. Guidance in setting up hazardous waste criteria;
3. Pointers on efficient means for drawing up hazardous waste generation inventories and inventories of existing hazardous wastes disposal options and entering these into database systems;
4. Guidance in drafting legislation that transposes Basel Convention provisions into national law, in terms of both waste management and shipment requirements;
5. Assistance in developing documentation systems for hazardous wastes generation, transport and disposal;

6. Information exchange concerning best practice in managing various types of hazardous wastes;
7. Information exchange regarding waste minimization and cleaner production techniques.

In order to address these needs, the BCRC-Egypt, together with the Secretariat of the Basel Convention, prepared a three-year (2006-2009) workplan to cover the region's needs; proposing the following activities:

- a. Regional and sub-regional workshops/seminars organised for higher level participants who are involved in development of national policies and priorities related to the implementation of the Basel Convention;
- b. Regional and sub-regional workshops/seminars organized for legal experts, and experts in the control and enforcement sector;
- c. Regional or sub-regional workshops/seminars organised for technical experts;
- d. Regional inventories of hazardous wastes and waste producing activities;
- e. Compilation of information on legal and administrative instruments in the region;
- f. Analysis and study of main hazardous waste streams in the region;
- g. Compilation of best practices;
- h. Assistance and advisory services;
- i. Promotion and public awareness.

In this sense, the first year workplan focused on three priority issues:

- Inventories of hazardous wastes and waste producing activities
- Legal Assistance on the implementation of the Basel Convention
- Sound Management of used oils.

The detailed workplan is attached as [annex \(1\)](#), while the summary progress is presented in the table in [annex \(2\)](#)

Before going into the details of the 2006 workplan and the progress achieved, it is worth mentioning that the very first activity planned was connected with governance of the project, manifested in the convening of the first "Project Steering Committee (PSC-1)" meeting which was held on 15th. March 2006.

2.1– Governance Activities

Governance activities included the steering committee meetings and Participation in meetings, conferences and workshops.

Under the sponsorship of the Finland funded project; the BCRC-Egypt Steering Committee Meeting (SCC_1) and the Finland funded Project Steering Committee Meeting (PSC-1) were held on the 14th and the 15th of March 2006.

2.1.1 The First Steering Committee (SCC-1) Meeting of the Centre

The meeting was held on the 14th of March 2006 with the scope as stipulated in the Framework agreement signed between the Government of Egypt and the Secretariat of the Basel Convention that;

1. A Steering Committee shall be established to advise the Centre on the development and implementation of the activities of the Centre relevant to its regional

role and to enhance national support to its activities from the Parties served by the Centre.

2. The Steering Committee shall develop and endorse the Business Plan for the Centre and oversee its implementation.

However detailed issues regarding the operation and financial autonomy of the centre were presented for discussion and the following recommendations were released at the end of the SCC-1 meeting:

Regarding the staggered terms of office for members of the Steering Committee; The members of the Steering Committee agreed upon the following statements and recommendations:

1- Naming Mr. Mohammed Elawa, Ministry of Foreign Affairs-Egypt and Dr. Mohammed El Khashashna, Jordanian representative to formulate a mechanism for the Staggered terms of office for members of the Steering Committee to be presented to the Egyptian Government.

Regarding mechanisms to secure financial autonomy for the Centre The members of the Steering Committee agreed upon the following statements and recommendations:

The Steering Committee:

1- Requests the member countries serviced by the BCRC-Egypt to verbalizing their financial commitments to the Centre.

2- Requests the BCRC-Egypt to negotiate with the industrial sector and the environmentally friendly technology suppliers in Egypt and the different Arab countries to advertise for their logos and products during meetings, workshops or in publications of the Centre as a source of funds.

3- Encourages the involvement of community groups and local NGOs in the work plan of the Centre by submitting proposal for them and co organizing their funded projects.

4- Requests the director of the BCRC-Egypt and the Egyptian focal point to the Basel Convention to raise the issue of the financial support of the Centre during the next meeting of the National Team of the Arab Countries for the follow up of the MEAs that belongs to the Arab League.

5- Urges the members of the Steering committee to consult with their respective governments whom are parties or have representatives in the governance of the international funding agencies e.g. WB, GEF, NEPAD, FAO, SAICM, and others to seek fund raising mechanisms for the Centre.

6- Requests the BCRC-Egypt to contact other Arab funding agents such as the Arab Fund for Socio- economic Development (Kuwait), the National Bank of Abu Dahbi for Development, and the Islamic Bank to support the Centre activities.

7- Encourages BCRC-Egypt to implement paid training programmes and short course for interested stockholders using the guidelines of the landfill project and set an overhead to the Centre for those activities.

8- Highlighting the contribution of funding agents in all the products of the Centre as well as in news letters and multimedia to encourage others to contribute.

General recommendations

The members of the Steering Committee agreed upon the following statements and recommendations:

The Steering Committee:

1- Recognizes the priority issues and the needs of the countries serviced by BCRC-Egypt in any future activities of the Centre.

2- Posting on the Web Site of BCRC-Egypt the success stories on the environmentally sound management of hazardous wastes in the Arab Region.

3- Requests the BCRC-Egypt to prepare a half annual progress reports to follow up the implementation of the different activities of the Centre and funds allocations and expenditure.

4- Recognizes the role of community groups and local NGOs in the implementations of the Basel Convention.

2.1.2 The first Project Steering Committee (PSC-1) Meeting

The meeting was held in 15th. March, 2006 with the scope (as stated in the project document signed between the BCRC-Egypt and the SBC) to:

- ☒ Determine the final content of the work plan, i.e. the activities envisaged in Sections 4.1-4.4 of the project document, and the allocation of financial resources to the agreed individual activities within the major budget lines;
- ☒ Agree on the next steering committee meeting which was foreseen in the project document to be nine months after the first meeting of the Committee to review the progress in the implementation of the agreed activities and adjust the budgetary allocations, if necessary;

However, the first Project Steering Committee meeting (PSC-1) was held with a wider role that included in addition to the above-mentioned;

Looking at the analyses of the responses of national focal points related to the finalisation of the project's work programme

- Approve the adjusted work programme of the project
- Looking at the terms of reference developed for the short-term consultants appointed under the project;

Countries participated in the first steering committee meeting included Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Finland and the Secretariat of the Basel Convention.

Decisions related to the project implementation and to the execution of the workplan were taken during that meeting. Quoted (from the minutes of the meeting) below are the most important decisions;

- a. An amount of 34,000 US\$ in the line 6110 from Appendix VII of the Project Document was saved from the budget of Project Facilitator and will be used to support other activities in the 2006 or the years to come.
- b. Approximately one third (46,000 US\$) of the consultants budget (129,000 US\$) will be reallocated to project activities (2.1, 2.2, 3.1, 3.2, 4.1, and 4.2) coordinators.
- c. As the consultancy will depend on the actual needs and progress of each activity and due to the fact that in certain activities the coordinators with the help of the focal points and the facilitator can do the job. The Project Steering Committee (PSC-1) approve the budget of technical consultancy only "if needed".
- d. The decision of whether a technical consultant is needed or not will be taken by the director of the centre in consultation with the project facilitator with the approval of the Project Steering Committee. Any saved budget from the consultancy services will be used to support other activities in year 2006 or in the years to come as recommended by PSC-1.
- e. The legal consultant of activity 3.1 (Workshop on the Protocol of Liability) will be moved to activity 3.2 (Review of National Legislation).
- f. The Project Steering Committee (PSC-1) encourages the director of the Centre and the coordinator of activity 4.2 (Workshop on the recycling of used oils) to continue negotiation with the Bahrain and Tunisia focal points for co funding to ensure extra 22,000 US\$ for this activity. If this negotiation is failed the necessary money to implement this workshop will be used from the saved budget of the consultancy.
- g. The PSC-1 has approved changes to the target countries of the activities 2.2 to be Saudi Arabia, Jordan and Algeria.

2.1.3 Participating in workshops and meetings,

In addition to numerous local meetings with local environmental institutions and local NGOs, BCRC-Egypt has participated in the following meetings:

1. The director of the Center Prof. El Aref participated in the fifth Open Ended Working Group (OEWG 5) of the Basel convention which was held in Geneva 3-7 April 2006 where he presented the achievements of the completed activities during the year 2005.

2. The director of the Center Prof. El Aref participated regularly in the 2006 meetings of the Arab Follow up Team of International Environmental Agreements connected with hazardous materials and wastes. This team is affiliated with the Secretariat of the Arab League and is also reporting to the Arab Environment Ministers. The team met twice during 2006 and the BCRC-Egypt director presented the 2006 workplan and updated with progress and challenges of the centre.
3. The director of the Center Prof. El Aref participated in two CEHM (the host centre in Cairo University) Board of Directors Meeting in 9/5/2006 and in 29/11/2006, where he presented the situation status regarding the implementation of the regional activities of the center.
4. Both the director of the BCRC-Egypt and the International Facilitator Dr. Saied Dahroug participated in a one day workshop organized by the Rotterdam convention Focal point in Egypt to follow up on the decision of the "Technical Consultative Meeting of the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent (PIC) for some chemicals and pesticides common in the international trade which was held in Cairo from 29/5-1/6/2005". The workshop was held in the Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA) in the 26th of July 2006.
5. Workshop on Leadership for Sound Waste Management 27-30/8/2006, organized by United Nations University-International Leadership Institute/ Amman-Jordan. The director of the BCRC-Egypt Prof. El Aref and the International Facilitator; Dr. Saied Dahroug participated by presenting articles related to the BCRC-Egypt role in the region and the activities implemented within the 2006 workplan, namely; "The Environmental Regulatory Regime and Waste Management: Overview of the Basel Convention" by Prof. El Aref, and "Promoting Sound Waste management Laws and Practices in The Arab Region: Perspectives from the Basel Convention Regional Center for the Arab States (BCRC_EGYPT)" by Dr. Saied Dahroug. The workshop was a good venue to meet with regional and international organization representatives and discuss future collaboration for the promotion of the best waste management practices.
6. The director of the BCRC-Egypt Prof. El Aref and the International Facilitator; Dr. Saied Dahroug participated in the African Regional Meeting on SAICM which was held in Cairo 11-14 September 2006. During that meeting several side meetings with the BCRCs of South Africa, Nigeria and Senegal were convened for exchange of information and coordination among the African BCRCs network.
7. Participating in the Eighth Conference Of Parties (COP 8) to the Basel Convention in Nairobi (27/11-1/12/2006). Dr. Dahroug, the international facilitator; had the chance to participate as observer and representative for the BCRC-Egypt in the activities of the COP 8 and presented the activities of the centre in the side event on BCRCs . The meeting was very important as the representative of the centre was exposed to the current deliberations and discussions regarding the priority issues the Basel Convention and the conference of parties are concerned with and had the chance to meet with international organization representatives, consultants and official representatives from the Arab region , and to exchange information and share ideas with them.

8. Participating in the "Arab Regional Workshop on the Sound Management of Used Oils and the Management of Wastes from the Oil/Gas Sectors" which was held in Aden Yemen from 11-13/12/2006. The workshop was the first to be organized outside Egypt by BCRC-Egypt. The director of the BCRC-Egypt Prof. El Aref and the International Facilitator; Dr. Saied Dahroug participated as organizers and to control the implementation of the activities of the workshop towards its objectives, and as facilitators to the workshop. More details about this workshop will be provided under the section reporting the Environmentally Sound Management on Used Oils activities.
9. Participation of Dr. Said Dahroug, the international Facilitator in the a workshop on medical waste management organized by the UNEP/ROWA, the Arab League Organization, the Arab Labour Organization and The Syrian Ministry of Local Administration to be held in Damascus from 7-9/1/2007. Dr. Dahroug is planning to give two presentations; one on Landfills in hyper-dry regions and the other on medical waste management experience in Egypt.

2.2 Inventory of hazardous wastes and waste producing activities.

The availability of data on hazardous waste and waste producing activities in the Arab region; although very important to develop proper policies and hazardous waste management plans, is very scarce. The need to carry out hazardous waste inventories have been stated by most of the Arab countries in many occasions as a priority need. It was therefore necessary to include in the project's first year workplan activities connected with assessing and compiling the current hazardous waste inventories in the region. Another objective was to assist selected countries (based on the results of the assessment) to carry out their national hazardous wastes inventories.

Planned also under these activities was a focus on the e-waste problem in the region. Three countries, namely; Saudi Arabia, Jordan and Algeria were identified during PSC-1 as target countries to receive technical assistance from the BCRC-Egypt's project to carry out their e-waste inventories and to assess their e-waste recycling facilities.

While developing the basic approach to meet the objectives of such activities, the project utilized the following reference documents:

- "Methodological guide for the undertaking of national inventories of hazardous wastes within the framework of the Basel Convention", SBC, Geneva, 2000
- "Hazardous wastes Situation Questionnaire", BCRC-Egypt, Cairo, 2005
- "Guidelines for hazardous waste landfill design in hyper arid areas", BRCR-Egypt, Cairo, 2005
- "Guidelines for hazardous waste landfill site selection and EIA in hyper arid areas", BCRC-Egypt, Cairo, 2005
- "Guidelines for Hazardous Waste landfill Operation and Monitoring", BRCR-Egypt, Cairo, 2005

2.2.1 Compilation of existing inventories

In order to gather and start to compile the existing inventories of hazardous wastes in the region the BCRC-Egypt teamwork led by the component coordinator followed the following approach:

1. Review and adopt the document “Methodological guide for the undertaking of national inventories of hazardous wastes within the framework of the Basel Convention”, SBC, Geneva, 2000, also, it was translated into Arabic language to facilitate and ensure full understanding for those who utilize it.
2. Communicate in the form of questionnaire the adopted document to the countries of the region in order to assess existing inventories of hazardous wastes
3. Desk study on the existing inventories according to the “Methodological guide”

The activity started with sending the adopted questionnaire to the 22 Arab countries covered by the BCRC-Egypt , and is completed with the following results:

- Only five countries out of 22 Arab countries responded to the questionnaire
- Two countries (Bahrain and Morocco), out of the five countries responded to the BCRC-Egypt communication, are considered to hold and maintain a hazardous waste inventory.

The following are BCRC-Egypt interpretation for the weak responses from member countries:

- ❖ Most of the Arab countries do not hold or maintain a well developed hazardous waste inventory.
- ❖ The weak response to the questionnaire reflects either the lack of relevant information or difficulty accessing the information by the focal points (when talking informally to the focal point representatives they all confirmed the work load they suffer from at their offices and the difficulty having time to respond to correspondences of the BCRC-Egypt).
- ❖ The questionnaire was too lengthy and occasionally complicated (in some parts) that frustrate who tries to fill it in.
- ❖ Local institutional and governance problems.

Recommendations:

From the experience gained in gathering proper data for this activity, the BCRC-Egypt would recommend to include in its future plans a training module on inventories followed by pilot hazardous waste inventory project in one country (and probably in a city or a limited zone), followed with the dissemination of the experience gained to all member countries (probably present the results in one of the workshops the centre organizes).

2.2.2 Inventories of e-waste and assessment of recycling facilities

E-wastes and their management are considered one of the priority waste streams under the Basel Convention 10 Years Strategic Plan (2000-2010). Due to this priority and to the alarming increase in the use of electronics and electrical equipment all over

the world, and as a result, an alarming increase in e-wastes; BCRC-Egypt included in its 2006 workplan an activity dedicated to e-wastes and the assessment of recycling facilities in the region with a hope to assist in the development of e-waste policies and proper management schemes in selected Arab countries.

The sub-activities under this activity included gathering basic and general information on the e-waste problem in the member Arab countries. The plan was to contact the local authorities in view of developing a local assessment on:

1. Amount of the hazardous waste produced
2. Main hazardous waste streams
3. Current hazardous waste management
4. Assessment of the conditions and capacity of recycling facilities.

It was also planned to assist three member countries, namely; Jordan, Algeria and Saudi Arabia to plan and execute their e-waste inventories accompanied with assessment of existing e-waste recycling facilities. However, the activity was to start three months later than the start of the main activity on compilation of hazardous waste inventories. Due to the weak response of the Arab countries and probably the lack of relevant information in most of the countries of the region the following approach have been used to implement the activity:

- Contact the selected Arab countries Jordan, Algeria and Saudi Arabia to confirm their priority need to deal with e-waste management problem.
- Coordinate with the countries regarding the proper way of providing BCRC-Egypt support towards sound management of e-wastes in these countries.
- Develop the terms of reference of the consultant to work with the selected Arab countries and fix the timeframe for the field missions.
- Recruit the proper international consultant for the assignment.
- Coordinate and arrange with the beneficiary countries the field missions and set up the follow up activities to accomplish the assignment

When it came into implementation, the first three sub-activities were completed smoothly and successfully. The terms of reference for the consultancy service was posted on the BCRC-Egypt and the SBC web pages so that interested applicants can see and apply. The terms of reference also distributed to all focal points in the region to seek nomination of qualified experts for the assignment. After posting the announcement and the ToRs on the web pages for 6 weeks, we had like 11 applicants to the assignment. Unfortunately, none of the 11 applicants had the relevant needed experience to perform the assignment that they were disqualified. International experts know to work with the SBC have been contacted but only one expert indicated interest in the assignment but unfortunately the consultancy fees requested were beyond the allocated budget.

The SBC assisted the BCRC-Egypt getting in touch with another international e-waste expert who showed interest in the work after modifying the terms of reference to include national consultants to follow up with the inventories.

Currently the BCRC-Egypt is negotiating a contract with the international consultant who will be responsible for training national experts from beneficiary countries in a

two-day workshop to be held at the end of February-beginning of March 2007. Also, the centre is communicating with the beneficiary countries to fix up dates for the consultant mission. More countries will be given opportunities to participate in the planned workshop at their expenses.

Recommendations:

As far as a training workshop on sound management of e-wastes will be organized it is recommended to extend invitation to more countries than the three countries identified as beneficiaries. We recommend extending the invitation to Egypt, Tunisia, Morocco and Lebanon.

2.3 Legal Assistance on the implementation of the Basel Convention

This activity included two planned sub-activities;

1. Workshop for promoting the Basel Convention Protocol on Liability and compensation
2. Review of the national legislations for provisions of sound management of hazardous wastes and compliance with the Basel convention provisions.

The followings were identified as reference materials:

- Workshop on enforcement agents, BCRC-Egypt (2002)
- First training course on Sound Hazardous waste management , BCRC-Egypt (2000)
- Regional Workshop on the implementation of the Basel Convention, BCRC-Egypt, (2005)
- The Basel Convention on the control of transboundary movements of hazardous wastes and their disposal (1989).
- Model National legislation for sound Hazardous waste management SBC, 2005.
- National legislation checklist, SBC, 2005.
- Similar workshops convened by the Secretariat in other sub-regions.

2.3.1 Workshop on the Protocol of Liability

The workshop was planned in September 2006 with the objectives to:

1. Raise the awareness on the importance of the ratification on the protocol
2. Present the problems associated with the ratification of the protocol in the region.
3. Exchange information as to the current ratification status of the protocol.

The workshop was convened from 30 October 2006 to 1st. November 2006 with participants representing governments of 17 Arab countries.

Recommendations (of the workshop)

1. A full review for all of the domestic laws and regulations to comply with the protocol so that there would not occur any discrepancies.

2. Due to the importance of having insurance coverage for the liability resulting from the movements of Hazardous Wastes and their disposal it is recommended to the establish a pool from giant insurance and reinsurance companies to diversify the risk upon them.
3. Organising a regional workshop among insurance and reinsurance companies in the region in addition to other financial guarantees i.e. Banks informing them with that kind of risk, and asking them to avail insurance and reinsurance for it.
4. Trying to benefit from the experience of developed and developing countries with similar situations tailored to the situation of each country.
5. Requiring the help of the BCRC –Egypt and BSC in raising the awareness of insurance companies of that kind of risk.

2.3.2 Review of the national legislation

Legislation is the essential and most important tool to control and govern hazardous wastes and their management. The project foresaw and dedicated an activity to compile and review National legislations from the member Arab countries, and to provide technical assistance towards the update of national legislations of four selected countries.

In details, the proposed activity included the following sub-activities:

1. Compilation of national legislation addressing hazardous wastes
2. Contact and compile national legislation on hazardous waste for the countries of the region.
3. Compile list of countries do not have provisions for hazardous waste control and management in their national legislation.
4. Compile list of countries that are revising their National legislation to improve their effectiveness towards waste and hazardous waste management.
5. Compile model national legislations from developed countries and those published by the Basel Convention.
6. Review and evaluation of the existing legislation
7. Consulting the compiled legislation for the four mechanisms mentioned above.
8. Compare the legislations compiled with the model legislation in view of the relevant institutional structures.
9. Evaluate effectiveness of the current national legislation in view of relevant existing structures
10. Propose ways and procedures to improve evaluated legislations

As for the sub component technical assistance on the implementation of the Basel Convention, the following sub-activities were planned:

- a) Identify and prioritize countries for legal assistance
- b) Identify areas for legal assistance needs
- c) Assign and deploy technical assistance
- d) Replicability of the project on “Legal Assistance for the elaboration and adaptation of national legislation for the effective implementation of the Basel Convention in Bulgaria, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the Republic of Serbia and Montenegro (BCRC-Bratislava, 2005)”

The above mentioned sub-activities were partially completed where:

- 1) A questionnaire to gather information as to the status of hazardous waste national legislations was prepared and sent out to the 22 Arab countries of the region.
- 2) Responses to the questionnaire received from 9 Arab countries out of the 22 contacted.
- 3) Web survey to gather national hazardous wastes and environmental legislations of the 22 member Arab countries.
- 4) Environmental legislations of 18 Arab countries is compiled
- 5) Checklist for the preparation of national legislation for the implementation of the Basel Convention was translated into Arabic and made available to all Arab countries
- 6) The Model National Legislation on the Management of Hazardous Wastes and Other Wastes as well as on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Other Wastes and their Disposal that was prepared by the Legal Working Group of the Basel convention was translated into Arabic language and made available to all Arab countries.
- 7) A review of 18 compiled national environmental and hazardous waste legislations completed.
- 8) A report (in Arabic Language) summarizing the study of reviewing the 18 compiled national environmental and hazardous waste legislations is being finalized. The report will identify the countries that are in a priority need to technical assistance to develop or update their National Hazardous waste Legislations.

Recommendations:

Preliminary review of the legislation, investigation and communication with member countries during the workshop on liability and compensation indicated that Sudan and Mauritania are among the countries strongly recommended to receive technical assistance to develop their hazardous waste National legislations (The technical assistance to selected Arab countries to prepare/revise their national legislations is foreseen as a complementary activity under this sub-activity. The time taken in gathering and compiling national legislations, and the delay in recruiting and contracting the proper consultant delayed the implementation of this activity to the first quarter of 2007).

2.4 Environmentally Sound Management on Used Oils

Used oil is considered one of the priority waste streams under the Basel Convention 10 Years Strategic Plan (2000-2010). The need to promote sound management of used oils in the region is also manifested by the fact that the region produces more than 20% of the world's oil and oil is considered the main source of national income for many countries of the region in addition to the widespread ill management practices experienced when it comes to used oils.

The BCRC-Egypt project recognized the importance to promote sound management of used oils in the region and devoted in its 2006 workplan an activity that deals

directly with the promotion of sound management of used oils. The activity contained two linked sub-activities:

- Review and update the technical guidelines, namely; “Basel Convention Technical Guidelines on Used Oil Re-Refining or Other Re-Uses of Previously Used Oil (R9)”, SBC, 1995, and "Basel Convention Technical Guidelines on Waste Oils from Petroleum Origins and Sources (Y8)", SBC, 2002.
- Organize a regional workshop where the best management practices as reflected in the updated guidelines are presented and promoted among the participating countries.

The following were identified as reference materials:

- ☒ “Basel Convention Technical Guidelines on Used Oil Re-Refining or Other Re-Uses of Previously Used Oil (R9)”, SBC, 2002
- ☒ "Basel Convention Technical Guidelines on Waste Oils from Petroleum Origins and Sources (Y8)", SBC, 2002
- ☒ “ Assessment and recycling of used oils in Africa”, BCCC-Nigeria, 2005
- ☒ "Preparation of Guidelines for Establishing Hazardous Liquid Waste Treatment Unit", Qatar, 2005
- ☒ Other relevant materials gathered during the work progress.

2.4.1 Review and update the technical guidelines

In order to review and update the technical guidelines the project had to recruit an expert with an outstanding academic and practical background to work on the guidelines. The BCRC-Egypt project developed the terms of reference of the consultancy service needed which was reviewed by the SBC before posted on the web sites of the centre and the Secretariat. The process for identifying and recruiting the proper consultants took more time than expected.

The project team led by the director and the international facilitator with support from the SBC compiled the reference materials that were identified. In addition, more recent resource documents dealing with standards for sound management of used oils that were published by international organizations, by the European commission and by the United States Environmental Protection Agency were collected and added to the list of reference materials.

A team of two consultants with proper experience and academic background were identified and contracted to carry out the assignment of the guidelines for sound management of used oils and also to facilitate the workshop foreseen to promote the best management practices of used oils in the region.

The compiled reference materials were made available to the team of consultants and the updated guidelines are being prepared and the first draft is expected by mid January 2007.

2.4.2. Workshop on the recycling of used oils

The workshop was planned with anticipated in-kind contribution from either Bahrain or Tunisia (as initial investigations referred to the more or less well developed used oils management systems in those countries). When contacted for their in kind contribution, both Bahrain and Tunisia regret to provide the anticipated contribution due to the unavailability of resources.

The BCRC-Egypt project had to seek other sponsors/partners as the budget allocated from the project for the workshop was estimated to be not sufficient. The United Nations Environment Program (the Regional Office for West Asia; UNEP/ROWA) was identified (and strongly recommended by the Arab League special committee for follow up with hazardous materials and wastes international agreements) as a regional qualified partners who approved to contribute in cash the resources needed to convene the workshop. The workshop scope was expanded to include in addition to the sound management of used oils another relevant theme at the request of UNEP/ROWA; the management of waste from oil and gas sector. A decision was taken to convene the workshop in Aden/Yemen upon the official request from the Yemen authorities.

With the assistance of the legal department of the SBC a memorandum of understanding between the BCRC-Egypt, UNEP/ROWA and the Yemen Environmental protection agency was formulated for the workshop specific activities.

The workshop was held from 11-13 December 2006 with the participation of representatives from 9 Arab countries in addition to more than 40 participants from Yemen participated in the workshop.

The workshop reflected the bad need of the Arab countries to carry out relevant inventories and to maintain reliable information as to the used oils quantities generated and current practices in addition to the exposition to the best recycling and management practices.

Recommendations (of the workshop)

1. BCRC-Egypt is encouraged to develop a circular to raise the awareness among the officials and the public regarding the impact of mismanagement of used oils and the opportunities/potential for recycling and that this circular should be made available to all countries of the region.
2. BCRC-Egypt is encouraged to develop a model national legislation/regulation to deal with management of used oils to be a reference for the countries of the region when developing legislations.
3. BCRC-Egypt is encouraged to work within the results of this workshop on preparing guidelines for the sound management of used oils and wastes from oil and gas sectors that contains hazardous chemicals and radioactive elements.
4. The workshop recommends that currently non recyclable wastes from oil and gas sector should be stored or disposed off in phosphate geologic formations as an immediate measure until sound management facilities exist.
5. BCRC-Egypt is encouraged to develop and disseminate an innovative and reliable scheme for relevant data collection and for surveys for assessing the

- problem of the used oils and wastes from the oil and gas sectors and that this system should be presented in a regional workshop.
6. BCRC-Egypt is encouraged to develop a management system for dealing with used vegetable oils in an environmentally sound manner and for raising the awareness among the public as to the economic value of the used vegetable oils and the added value for its environmental sound management.
 7. management system for dealing with used vegetable oils in an environmentally sound manner and for raising the awareness among the public as to the economic value of the used vegetable oils and the added value for their its environmental sound management.
 8. The participants recommended that saved money from the workshop, if any, be utilized in implementing a pilot project aimed at assessing used oils generation, wastes from oil and gas sector, and current management practices in Yemen pending the development of a project proposal by the Yemen authorities, and that this project should be included in the BCRC-Egypt workplan for 2007.
 9. The participants recommended that the BCRC-Egypt follow up with the used oils project concept paper presented by the Republic of Sudan and to include the project in the BCRC-Egypt workplan for 2007.
 10. BCRC-Egypt is encouraged to publicize the national regulations of used oils (that of Bahrain and Egypt) among the Arab countries to utilize it as a reference material while preparing similar regulations.
 11. Participants pointed out the need for information about systems for managing used oils in ports and harbours.

2.5 Public Awareness

The component on public awareness foresaw an ongoing activity for the 2006 workplan; this was the maintenance of the BCRC-Egypt website. However, the project succeeded in publishing its first issue of the BCRC-Egypt Newsletter which was made available to all member countries and was posted on the centre's website.

The second issue of the BCRC-Egypt Newsletter is under preparation and is expected to be released by the end of January 2007.

The website was continuously updated with information on the project activities and reports produced.

In addition, the project director and the team of co-ordinators have been active in publicizing the establishment of the BCRC-Egypt in many interviews with local media including ;

- 1- Local TV programs
- 2- Local news papers
- 3- Programs in Satellite TV stations
- 4- In nationally organized related conferences.
- 5- In seminars and workshops organized on the local and regional levels either by governmental organizations or by non governmental organizations (NGOs).

3. Financial statement

The following tables depict the budget for the 2006 workplan and the expenditures as of 31st.december 2006 along with an inventory list of non expendable equipment contributed from the host Government/Institute '];;. There is still an outstanding amount committed to complete the activities in the workplan which had a delayed start following the convening of the first project steering committee.

	COMPONENT	Counterpart	BD Trust	Total	Planned	Expenditures (BD)	Counterpart contribution (estimated)
		Contribution	Fund		Year 06		
10	Project Personal Component						
1100	Project Staff						
1101	Director of the Center (36 months)	54,000	0	54,000			18000
1102	Locally Recruited Technical Officer (36 months)	42,000	0	42,000			14000
1103	Technical Advisor (36 months)	54,000	0	54,000			18000
1104	Secretary (36 months)	18,000	0	18,000			6000
1105	Official travel	0	15,000	15,000	6,000		
1199	Total	168,000	15,000	183,000	6,000		56000
1200	Consultancy						
1201	consultancies for technical assistance / advisory services for the countries in the region	0	340,000	340,000	129,000	33,575	
1299	Total	0	340,000	340,000	129,000		
1999	Component Total	168,000	355,000	523,000	135,000	33,575	56000
30	Training Component						

	COMPONENT	Counterpart	BD Trust	Total	Planned	Expenditures (BD)	Counterpart contribution (estimated)
4299	Total	22,000	0	22,000	0		16500
4300	Premises						
4301	Office Rental	10,800	0	10,800			3780
4399	Total	10,800	0	10,800	0		3780
4999	Component Total	50,800	0	50,800	0	0	30180
50	Miscellaneous Component						
5200	Reporting Coast						
5201	Publication of outreach materials, designing and maintenance of the Website	6,100	10,000	16,100	9,000	760	2220
5299	Total	6,100	10,000	16,100	9,000		2220
5300	Sundry						
5301	Communication	0	5,000	5,000	2,000	987	
5302	Other	24,000	10,000	34,000	4,500	1,184	10100
5399	Total	24,000	15,000	39,000	6,500		10100
5999	Component Total	30,100	25,000	55,100	15,500	2,931	12320
	Total				249,500	113,927	
	COMPONENT	Counterpart	BD Trust	Total	Planned	Expenditures (BD)	counterpart contribution (estimated)
		Contribution	Fund		Year 06		

	COMPONENT	Counterpart	BD Trust	Total	Planned	Expenditures (BD)	Counterpart contribution (estimated)
60	UNEP Participation Component						
6100	Project Personal						
6110	Internationally Recruited Project Facilitator (24 months)	0	260,000	260,000	96,000		
6111	Travel Cost	0	17,000	17,000	0		
6119	Total	0	277,000	277,000	96,000		
6199	Component Total	0	277,000	277,000	96,000		
6400	Equipment and Premises						
6420	Non-Expandable Equipment						
6421	Computer Hardware and Softwares	0	4,000	4,000	0		
6429	Total	0	4,000	4,000	0		
6499	Component Total	0	4,000	4,000	0		
6500	Miscellaneous						
6550	Evaluation Cost						
6551	Evaluation Consultants	0	30,000	30,000	0		
6552	Administrative support	0	0	0			
6553	Travel and DSA	0	0	0			
6559	Total	0	30,000	30,000	0		
6599	Component Total	0	30,000	30,000	0		
6999	Total UNEP participation cost	0	311,000	311,000	96,000		
99	Grand Total	248,900	1,121,000	1,369,900	345,500		98500

	COMPONENT	Counterpart	BD Trust	Total	Planned	Expenditures (BD)	Counterpart contribution (estimated)
	Total Fund Available			1,350,000			
	13% Programme Support Cost			175,500			
	Fund Available for use			1,174,500			
	Difference			53,500			

Inventory of non-expendable equipment purchased

Item	Description	Number of Units	Unit cost L.E.	Total Cost	Date Purchased	\$US to L.E Exchange rate	Condition
1	Computers P3	2	6000	12000	1998	3.80	Fair
2	Printer Laser jet 1000	1	3000	3000	1998	3.80	Fair
3	fax	1	1200	1200	1998	3.8	Broken
4	USB Memory Sticks	4	350	1400	1998-2004	4.6 (average)	Good
5	Computers P4	4	7755.28	15410.56	7/1/2006	5.70	Good
6	Scanner (Benq 5000 S.N 1331-3579)	2	225	450	17/1/2006	5.70	Good
7	Telephone Operating System	1	4485.55	4485.55	4/8/2005	5.70	Good
8	Printer hp 1018	1	650	650	9/10/2006	5.70	Excellent
9	NoteBook P4 (Fujitsu siemens Amilopro)	1	6399	6399	14/10/2006	5.70	Excellent
10	Projector (TDP-T9/50001427)	1	9800	9800	18/10/2006	5.70	Excellent
11	Fax (Sharp 84×4)	1	1290	1290	17/11/2003	5.70	Good
	total			56085.11			

4. References

- 1- SBC, 2005, Project document " The Basel convention Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for Arab States in Cairo – Capacity Building for the Implementation of the Basel Convention.
- 2- BCRC-Egypt, 2006 Meeting Minutes of the First Steering committee of the BCRC-Egypt (SCC-1).
- 3- BCRC-Egypt, 2006 Meeting Minutes of the First Project Steering committee (PSC-1).
- 4- BCRC-Egypt, 2006 Report on the workshop for promoting the Basel Convention Protocol of Liability and Compensation, Cairo, Egypt 30 October 2006 to 1st November 2006.
- 5- BCRC-Egypt, 2006, Report on the workshop on management of used oils and wastes from oil and gas sector, Aden, Yemen 11-13/12/2006.

Annex (1)

Detailed Workplan for the BCRC-Egypt (2006)

The Workplan for the Basel Convention Regional Centre in Egypt was developed as part of the project “Capacity Building for the Implementation of the Basel Convention” held in cooperation with the Secretariat of the Basel Convention and supported by the Government of Finland.

The project document identified as common needs for the countries in the region the following issues:

- Joint assessment by the countries of the region of how the Centre could be best organised to meet regional and sub-regional needs;
- Guidance in setting up hazardous waste criteria;
- Pointers on efficient means for drawing up hazardous waste generation inventories and inventories of existing hazardous wastes disposal options and entering these into database systems;
- Guidance in drafting legislation that transposes Basel Convention provisions into national law, in terms of both waste management and shipment requirements;
- Assistance in developing documentation systems for hazardous wastes generation, transport and disposal;
- Information exchange concerning best practice in managing various types of hazardous wastes;
- Information exchange regarding waste minimization and cleaner production techniques.

In order to address these needs, the BCRC-Egypt, together with the Secretariat of the Basel Convention, prepared a three-year (2006-2009) Workplan to the region proposing the following activities:

- Regional and sub-regional workshops/seminars organised for higher level participants who are involved in development of national policies and priorities related to the implementation of the Basel Convention;
- Regional and sub-regional workshops/seminars organized for legal experts, and experts in the control and enforcement sector;
- Regional or sub-regional workshops/seminars organised for technical experts;
- Regional inventories of hazardous wastes and waste producing activities;
- Compilation of information on legal and administrative instruments in the region;
- Analysis and study of main hazardous waste streams in the region;
- Compilation of best practices;
- Assistance and advisory services;
- Promotion and public awareness.

In this sense, the first year of the Workplan will focus on three issues (Inventories, legal implementation and used-oils) in order to set the path for the second and third year activities.

Field of work I – Governance Activities
Estimated Budget (US\$ 17,000)

Reference documents:

Business Plan for the Basel Convention Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for the Arab States (Cairo BCRC) for the years 2005-2006;
Framework Agreement between the Secretariat of the Basel Convention on the Control of transboundary movements of hazardous wastes and their disposal and the Arab Republic of Egypt on the Establishment of a Basel Convention Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for the Arab States;
Decision VI/3 on the Core Function of the Regional Centres, 6th Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention

Meeting of the Steering Committee (US\$ 10,000)

Review and approve the activities for the year 2006 according to the Business plan 2005-2006;
Enhance national support to the activities of the Centre from the Contracting Parties served by the Centre;
Participants: Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Finland and the Secretariat of the Basel Convention.

Participation in meetings and workshops (US\$ 7,000)

Registration fees for meetings, congress and workshops;
Travel expenses;

Field of work II - Inventory of hazardous wastes and waste producing activities
Estimated Budget (US\$ 57,500)

Reference documents:

“Methodological guide for the undertaking of national inventories of hazardous wastes within the framework of the Basel Convention”, SBC, Geneva, 2000
“Hazardous wastes Situation Questionnaire”, BCRC-Egypt, Cairo, 2005
“Methodological guide for the undertaking of national inventories of hazardous wastes within the framework of the Basel Convention”, SBC, Geneva, 2000
“Guidelines for hazardous waste landfill design in hyper arid areas”, BRCCR-Egypt, Cairo, 2005
“Guidelines for hazardous waste landfill site selection and EIA in hyper arid areas”, BCRC-Egypt, Cairo, 2005
“Guidelines for Hazardous Waste landfill Operation and Monitoring”, BRCCR-Egypt, Cairo, 2005

Compilation of existing inventories (US\$ 17,000)

Review and update of the document “Methodological guide for the undertaking of national inventories of hazardous wastes within the framework of the Basel Convention”, SBC, Geneva, 2000
Contact with the countries of the region in order to assess the existing inventories of hazardous wastes
Desk study on the existing inventories according to the “Methodological guide”

Inventories of e-waste and assessment of recycling facilities (US\$ 40,500)
Contact the local authorities in view of developing a local assessment on:
Amount of the hazardous waste produced
Main hazardous waste streams
Current hazardous waste management
Assessment of the conditions and capacity of recycling facilities
Phase I (3 countries): Suggested participants: Jordan, Algeria and Saudi Arabia

Field of work III - Legal Assistance on the implementation of the Basel Convention ,
Estimated Budget (US\$ 118,500)

Reference projects:

Workshop on enforcement agents, BCRC-Egypt (2002)

First training course, BCRC-Egypt (2000)

Regional Workshop on the implementation of the Basel Convention, BCRC-Egypt,
(2005)

Workshop on the Protocol of Liability (US\$ 77,500)

Public awareness on the importance of the ratification on the protocol

Replicability of the Regional Workshop Aimed at Promoting Ratification of the Basel
Protocol on Liability and Compensation (Addis Ababa, 2004; Buenos Aires, 2004; El
Salvador, 2004)

Expected participants governments: Algeria, Bahrain, Comoros, Egypt, Jordan,
Kuwait, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi
Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen.

Review of the national legislation (US\$ 41,000)

Compilation of national legislation addressing hazardous wastes

Review and evaluation of the existing legislation

Technical assistance on the implementation of the Basel Convention

Replicability of the project on “Legal Assistance for the elaboration and adaptation of
national legislation for the effective implementation of the Basel Convention in
Bulgaria, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the Republic of Serbia
and Montenegro (BCRC-Bratislava, 2005)”

Phase I (4 countries): Suggested: Qatar, Lebanon, Sudan and Djibouti.

Field of work IV - Environmentally Sound Management on Used Oils

Estimated Budget (US\$ 51,500 + contributions)

Reference documents:

“Basel Convention Technical Guidelines on Used Oil Re-Refining or Other Re-Uses
of Previously Used Oil (R9)”, SBC, 2002

"Basel Convention Technical Guidelines on Waste Oils from Petroleum Origins and
Sources (Y8)", SBC, 2002

“ Assessment and recycling of used oils in Africa”, BCCC-Nigeria, 2005

"Preparation of Guidelines for Establishing Hazardous Liquid Waste Treatment Unit",
Qatar, 2005

Review of technical guidelines on used oils (US\$ 16,500)
Compilation of the reference materials and technical guidelines
Review and update the technical guidelines
Adapt the existing guidelines to the regional level.

Workshop on the recycling of used oils (US\$ 22,000 + contribution from Bahrain or Tunisia)
Provide public awareness to the guidelines
Provide technical support to the countries
Compile a list of regional experts on the subject.
Expected participant's governments: Algeria, Bahrain, Comoros, Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen.

Field of work V – Public Awareness Estimated Budget (US\$ 5,000)

Maintenance of the website;
Hardware maintenance;
Technical support

WORKPLAN FOR THE BCRC-EGYPT (2006)

Activities	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
1.1 Meeting of the Steering Committee												
1.2 Participation in meetings and workshops												
2.1 Compilation of existing inventories												
2.2 Inventories of e-waste and assessment of recycling facilities												
3.1 Workshop on the protocol of liability												
3.2 Review of national legislation												
4.1 Review of technical guidelines on used oils												
4.2 Workshop on the recycling of used oils												
5.1 Maintenance of the BCRC-Egypt Website												

Annex (2)

Summary progress in 2006

Activities	Progress	Comments
1.1 Meeting of the Steering Committee	completed	15 th March 2006
1.2 Participation in meetings and workshops	Ongoing	Several meetings and workshops (see 2.1.3)
2.1 Compilation of existing inventories	Ongoing (30%)	Difficulty in obtaining information, most of the countries do not hold inventories.
2.2 Inventories of e-waste and assessment of recycling facilities	Ongoing (25%)	Change in approach of conducting the activity due to logistic problems
3.1 Workshop on the protocol of liability	completed	The workshop convened in Cairo from 30 October 2006 to 1 st November 2006.
3.2 Review of national legislation	Ongoing (50%)	Technical assistance to be provided to 4 selected countries during the first quarter of 2007.
4.1 Review of technical guidelines on used oils	Ongoing (60%)	To be completed by the consultant before the end of Feb. 2007.
4.2 Workshop on the recycling of used oils	completed	The workshop convened in Aden, Yemen from 11-13/12/2006.
5.1 Maintenance of the BCRC-Egypt Website	Ongoing (90%)	Continuous update of the website is done by the BCRC-Egypt web master.