



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



Project progress 01/07-31/12/ 2009

Project: Capacity Building for the Implementation of the Basel Convention
Sub-programme: "A Better Environment for Human Health and Well-Being".
(Funded by the Government of Finland).
Project Title: The Basel Convention Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for Arab States in Cairo - Capacity Building for the Implementation of the Basel Convention
Project Number: BD/6010-05- IMIS No: BDL-1514-XXXX-2661

January , 2010

1- Executive Summary

The second half of the year 2009 was devoted to concluding activities delayed but still seriously ongoing. Also, newly proposed activities started and some of them are successfully completed. The first semester report listed causes for the delay and actions taken by BCRC-Egypt to accelerate the completion of the projects. Delays are observed in activities implemented in Egypt, Yemen, Morocco and Syria with input from their focal points.

Due to the no response from the Yemen authorities as to report the progress of the project on assessing waste oil in Hadr Moot, started in late 2007; BCRC-Egypt administration will request from the PSC-5 meeting to terminate the project and to urge the Yemen Authorities to refund the money advanced to the project or to report expenditures thereof.

Also, the pilot activity in Syria which focused on assisting the Hazardous Waste Management Department in instituting an inventory unit was among the delayed activities. The representatives of the focal point in Syria verbally informed BCRC-Egypt that the project has been successfully concluded. BCRC-Egypt urged the submission of the final report and the statement but until typing this progress report what has been submitted did not fulfill the agreed reporting requirement. A final request to send the proper and completed report is filed during this month.

The pilot activities in Egypt as mentioned in earlier reports included four different pilot projects one of them (e-waste assessment) is delayed from 2007 and was expected to conclude the assessment and report by the end of august 2009, but due to unforeseen reasons the contracted consultant asked verbally to wait until December 2009 so that he includes updated information into his report (justified with the rapid increase in ICT and economic growth in Egypt).

Pilot activities ongoing with Egyptian institutes included also an activity aimed at assessing Hazardous Wastes Generation and Practices and Preparing a Waste Management Plan for Cairo University Research Labs Inside its Campus, and another pilot activity aims at Monitoring Disposal by Incineration of Obsolete Pesticides in Cement Rotary Kilns in Egypt. The pilot activity for the assessment of Hazardous Wastes Generation and Management Practices, and Preparing a Waste Management Plan for Cairo University Research Labs has been completed successfully (without assessment of quantities generated or types) and a full report is prepared for publication. The fourth pilot activity on Monitoring Disposal by Incineration of Obsolete Pesticides in Cement Rotary Kilns in Egypt is still ongoing but facing some institutional problems.

In addition to the pilot activities, the project hold successfully the 4th Project Steering committee meeting, the Business Plan consultation meeting (26/2/2009) and the workshop on Monitoring and auditing hazardous wastes generation from the industrial sector which was held in Amman, Jordan from 24-26/6/2009. The reports for the consultation meeting and the workshop can be accessed via the BCRC-Egypt web site www.bcrc-egypt.org.

Also, the pilot project for establishing a system for Monitoring and auditing hazardous wastes generation from the industrial sector in Jordan with the Jordanian Ministry for Environmental affairs was completed successfully and the final report is posted on the BCRC-Egypt website.

As for the project in Morocco, a final consultation meeting with the stakeholders to present and endorse the plan was rescheduled to the month of October 2009 instead of September 2009 due to local administration elections. No relevant reports received by the BCRC-Egypt regarding the consultation meeting. The project submitted some reports in French language regarding the conceptualization of the activities and the results including a draft management plan for hazardous wastes from traditional SMEs in Marrakesh.

Summary of progress

The following table summarizes the progress in implementing the activities appeared in the workplan for extension presented to the PSC-4 in its meeting of 2nd December 2008, and the ones proposed in the plan for further extension circulated to the PSC members in July 2009.

Activity code in the workplan	Activity	Description of activities	Current progress and comments
2008 workplan activities			
3.1.2	Third and Fourth Project Steering Committee meetings	Organize and hold the Fourth Project Steering Committee Meeting (PSC-4)	- Completed and minutes circulated
3.1.4	Participation in meetings and	- Participate in the workshop of the Morocco project on managing hazardous wastes from traditional	- Completed in 13/4/2009, BCRC-Egypt Director participated

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	workshops	<p>(SMEs) industries.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participation in Kuwait 2nd International Conference and Exhibition for Wastes, Kuwait 14-16 April, 2009 - Regional Workshop on Positive Experiences implementing the Stockholm Convention and its synergies with the Basel and Rotterdam, Barcelona, Spain, 7-8/4/2009 - Second session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM2), Geneva, 11-15 May 2009 - E-waste Africa Stakeholders Meeting, Geneva 17/5/2009, - First Physical meeting for working group of the partnership for action on computing equipment, Geneva 18-19/5/2009. - participate in the League of Arab States relevant subcommittees' regional meetings. - Participation in the Second Workshop of The Stockholm Convention Regional Centers, 28/9-2/10/2009, Geneva, Switzerland. - Participation in the Clamping down on illegal waste shipments to Africa workshop organized by MPEL TFS project with the Basel Convention and EPA. The workshop was held in Accra Ghana on 24-26/11/2009 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Facilitator participated and a report on the conference and the conference CD are sent to the BCRC-Egypt files. - BCRC-Egypt Director participated - BCRC-Egypt Director participated - BCRC-Egypt Director participated - BCRC-Egypt Director participated - The director and the project facilitator participated in three meetings including the SAICM coordination unit 4th meeting of 23-25/2/2009, and the 25th. Meeting of the Arab team following up with the implementation of the International conventions related to Chemicals and hazardous wastes. - The events witnessed the participation of the BCRC-Egypt exposed the participants to a lot of coordination efforts and exchange of information venues that transmitted to the rest of the BCRC-Egypt staff.

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participate in the Regional workshop for ports officers on management of hazardous wastes and chemicals sponsored by the Green Customs initiatives 26-29/11/2009. - Participation in the League of Arab statutes meetings of the SAICM focal Point and the Team following up with the implementation of the environment and chemicals conventions Syria, Damascus 26-29/11/2009 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Damascus meetings witnessed side talk with the Director of the Stockholm regional centre in Kuwait for future collaboration and cooperation.
3.1.5	Compiling an indicator system for follow-up of performance in HW management and in implementation of the Basel Convention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Completing Base line information sheets - Develop and circulate indicators to member countries and members of the project steering committee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Not completed , could not recruit assistant staff to work on the issue with the facilitator , the issue was found too broad to be covered by the current staff available, and that a lot of cooperation and coordination efforts from the member Arab countries could not be secured. <p>The activity is suspended.</p>
3.1.6	Development of a Five Year Business Plan for BCRC-Egypt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agree on the TORs with the SBC - Announce the need for consultancy services - Identify potential experts - Contract - Complete the study and the plan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Completed and submitted to the SBC, The BCRC-Egypt facilitator prepared the plan guided with the decisions of the project steering committee and with the concept proposal for phase II of the project.
3.1.7	Resource Mobilization activities	Maintain the opportunity open to receive junior and newly graduated personnel from Arab countries to	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No response received from Arab countries, the proposal is welcomed by some of the member

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		get on the Job training while working with the BCRC-Egypt.	<p>Arab countries but was difficult to implement due to limited staff and load of work in Hazardous waste management Departments that they could not second any of their staff for long periods (more than a week).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Junior and senior staff from Egypt were brought on board to fill in the gap of the international facilitator during the period July-December 2009.
3.2.1	Regional Workshop for Monitoring and Auditing Hazardous Wastes Generation and Management Facilities in the Industry Sector; with Special Session on Pharmaceutical Waste Stream.	<p>Follow up with the Jordanian partner regarding completed activities and coordinate proper date for the workshop to accommodate the results of the Jordanian Pilot activities.</p> <p>Gather and compile reference materials and relevant case studies</p> <p>Consult with member Arab countries on specific issues to be addressed in the workshop</p> <p>Identify the proper facilitator</p> <p>Organize and hold the workshop.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Workshop is successfully convened in 23-25 June, 2009 with the participation of 13 Arab countries. - Experiences and success story of the Jordanian pilot activity was presented. - Publications of the pilot project in terms of manuals and brushes were presented. - The workshop report is posted on the BCRC-Egypt web site.
3.3.1	Pilot project: BCRC-Egypt Capacity Building through "Assessing Hazardous Wastes Generation and Practices and Preparing a Waste Management Plan for Cairo University	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - prepare the draft management plan - hold consultation workshop to present findings and draft management plan - refine the management plan based on the results of the consultation workshop - present the plan to the Cairo University 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The project is completed and the assessment report is presented in a local workshop, and is submitted to the Cairo University administration for feed back. The management plan is also proposed in a general sense, and within the context of the assessment report.

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	Research Labs Inside its Campus	Administration to adopt and publicize.	- Awaiting the endorsement of the report by the Cairo University administration.
3.3.2	Pilot Project: "for Developing Regional Strategy and Action Plan for Combating Illegal Traffic of Hazardous Wastes in the Arab Region"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Finalize the Framework strategy in both Arabic and English languages by completing the annexes and the TORs for consultants needed for designing and developing enforcement officers ' training programs. - Identify and compile list of stakeholders in the region and on international level and establish partnership relations. - Circulate the strategy to the stakeholders to get their comments - Update the strategy and the plan - Present the plan to the League of the Arab States Regional Organization to present to competent ministers meetings in 2009 for adoption. 	<p>Completed and presented to the consultation meeting and comments are being considered in coordination with active regional organizations. Further coordination with international and regional bodies of interest are being channeled for further consolidation and strengthening of the Strategy framework. Modules of the strategy are underdevelopment – more resources are needed before a well developed strategy and action plan can be presented.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - BCRC-Egypt is coordinating with the League of Arab States for further coordination and for agreeing on the process for endorsement by the respective regional and national bodies. - UNEP ROWA as a major stakeholder in the region Recommends that other active organizations from the region take part in the preparation and endorsement of the strategy-names proposed RILO, PERSIGA and ROPME.
3.3.4	Pilot Project: "Monitoring and Auditing HW Generation in a Selected Industrial Sector in Jordan"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - examining efficiency links with other projects - examine mechanisms and procedures followed for compliance monitoring in general - identify gaps and propose measures to improve 	- Completed and the final report is published on the web site.

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		efficiency - Prepare project final report.	
3.3.5	Pilot Project: "BCRC-Egypt Capacity Building; Monitoring Disposal by Incineration of Obsolete Pesticides in Cement Rotary Kilns in Egypt; an Assessment."	- preparatory meetings with stakeholders and partners <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - site visits - sampling - analysis - reporting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stockpile of obsolete pesticide are in a store belongs to the Ministry of agriculture. The project for collecting these obsolete pesticides started in 2003. - One preparatory meeting convened, the participants included the cement company, Environment, Agriculture and BCRC-Egypt. The cement company representative informed possibility to carry out the experiment and willing to cooperate on the condition that EEAA issue the permission to carry out the experiment and BCRC-Egypt and agriculture to arrange for sampling and analysis - Site visit by BCRC-Egypt confirmed the deterioration of the storage conditions and that store house keeping is needed prior to the start of the experiment. - Coordination with agriculture for store housekeeping is ongoing. - Another site visit to the store witnessed the participation of officials from the cement company, EEAA, Ministry of Agriculture and the BCRC-Egypt.

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The visit confirmed the difficult situation and the size of work that needs to be done. - The project facing problems getting the official approval to proceed. Meanwhile proposes to carry out the experiment in another country with less bureaucracy like Sudan. The issue is sensitive and dealt with very carefully from BCRC-Egypt side.
3.3.6	Pilot projects for hazardous waste inventories in Egypt, Syria and Sudan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training staff of the Inventory units - Support equipping and operating the unit. - Pilot activities for collecting information and data on hazardous wastes either from a specific sector or covering a geographic area. - Reporting. - Release the remaining contribution 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The pilot activities in Egypt and Sudan are completed and successfully closed, while the one in Syria is still suffering from delay in reporting in spite of completing the pilot activities as indicated in their communications.
3.3.7	Pilot project: "Compilation of comprehensive guidelines for sound management of liquid hazardous wastes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Revise the guidelines prepared by the consultant - Prepare the Arabic version - Circulate for comments from Bahrain and UAE. - Finalize the document and post in the BCRC-Egypt Website 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Completed and published on the BCRC Egypt website.
3.3.8	Pilot Project: development of best practices for the management of	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hold the inception workshop with the stakeholders - Follow up field activities - Developing the management plan - Presenting the plan to the competent authorities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Activities reports submitted to the BCRC-Egypt in French language, Results workshop held in 13/4/2009, final report is delayed and was expected by mid October 2009 but is delayed until

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	hazardous wastes from traditional industries – Case history in Morocco	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Preparing project report and financial statement. - Release the remaining funds. 	end of December 2009. A recent communication from the project manager indicated the second week of January 2010 for the Arabic version.
3.3.9	Pilot Project: “Development of Hazardous Wastes Legislation for Mauritania”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Re-contact to renew interest from Mauritanian colleagues - Transfer the budget - Follow up with the project progress 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fund transferred - Legislation completed and stakeholder workshop approved - BCRC-Egypt is reviewing the output.
4	Public Awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Publication of the prepared guidelines - Publication of the newsletter , January and July issues - Three media interviews to be arranged by the media consultant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Translation of the RAC/CP Guidelines on BEP and BAT for hazardous waste management in the Mediterranean countries is ongoing. - Other awareness activities ongoing
Progress of Newly Proposed Activities During Extension			
G1/09	Organize and Holding PSC-5	Organize and Holding PSC-5 for closing the project and advice on how to proceed with remaining funds (if any) and requirements for lurching phase II of the project.	Was Proposed for Early November 2009 but postponed to mid-January 2010,
G2/09	Organize and hold consultation meeting	Prepare and distribute logic for the meeting Prepare and share list of stakeholders including	- Convened on the 26 th . Feb 2009 and report posted on the website and the Arabic summary can be

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		<p>donors to be invited to the meeting Prepare tentative agenda of the meeting Prepare outline for the BCRC-Egypt business plan and financial strategy to be presented and discussed Prepare forms for region's needs assessment Organize and hold the consultation meeting Circulate the draft BCRC-Egypt business plan to the member countries and analyze comments and feedback Refine and present business plan of the BCRC-Egypt to the Secretariat of the Basel Convention.</p>	<p>accessed through the link: http://www.bcrc-egypt.org/downloads/workshop_26-2-2009/Arabic_Summary_of_the_meeting_Report.pdf , while the full English report can be accessed through the link: http://www.bcrc-egypt.org/downloads/workshop_26-2-2009/Report_on_the_BCRC-Egypt_consultation_meeting.pdf</p>
G3/09	Acquiring training manuals for hazardous wastes	<p>Identify priority areas utilizing the needs assessment Web survey to locate training programs and training manuals Acquire identified training manuals</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training on GHS, Environmental monitoring, and enforcement and control measures were identified as priority needs during consultation meeting. - Some of the relevant training materials downloaded from the internet. - List of helpful links edited.
CB/09	Design training programs and Develop training manuals to satisfy the needs of the region.	<p>Utilize the output of G3/09 to design with experts relevant training programs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop the material for the designed training programs - Identify regional experts to be used as resource experts for training and sign agreements with them - Market the designed and developed training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Was difficult to identify experts for this activity - Still ongoing

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		programs to the countries of the region.	
Proposed Activities During further Extension			
CB/010	Workshop on sound management of WEEE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - review and present available tools and practices for sound WEEE management - review current status of WEEE management in the participated countries 	<p>Completed from 15-17 December with the participation of 40 participants representing 12 Arab countries.</p> <p>The workshop report is posted on the BCRC-Egypt web site.</p>
Additional capacity building activity			
CB2/010	Workshop on illegal traffic for customs officers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Present the Basel Convention provisions and other sister conventions on illegal trade. - Present the Basel convention procedures for waste shipments and ways to combat illegal trade - Update countries measures for combating illegal trade in wastes and compliance with the Basel convention - Present the green customs and other integrated initiatives. 	<p>The workshop was held on 11 – 13 January 2010. Participation of 53 participants representing 13 Arab countries.</p> <p>Experts from the Egyptian custom authorities delivered valuable lectures from their practical point of view.</p>

Expenditures:

Noura to provide updated financial statement,