



## ***Implementation of the Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS) principles and practices in the ENP South region – SEIS Support Mechanism.***

### ***ENI SEIS South Support Mechanism (2016-2020)***

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Summary report of the ENI SEIS II Support Mechanism National Workshop which took place in Holiday Inn Hotel - Cairo – Egypt, 30/11 -1/12/2016  
SEIS National Focal Points

*This national workshop aimed to prepare a national work plan for the implementation of SEIS phase II project in Egypt based on national needs, clear goals and objectives, it allowed to shape an initial roadmap of activities and to look at challenges and recommendations for the future.*

*The workshop was organized jointly by EEAA & CAPMAS from Egypt and the European Environment Agency, the United Nation Environment- Mediterranean Action Plan- MED POL.*

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***Implementation of the Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS)  
principles and practices in the ENP South region – SEIS Support  
Mechanism (ENI SEIS II South).***

30 November - 1 December /2016 - Venue: Holiday Inn Hotel - Maadi - Cairo - Egypt.

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First National Workshop ENI SEIS South Support Mechanism (2016-2020)

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***Participants from European Environment Agency (EEA) and Framework contractor:***

1. Mr. Ronan Uhel, Head of Programme of Natural Systems and Sustainability.
2. Mrs. Cécile Roddier-Quefelec - Project Manager - ENI SEIS Support Mechanism South European neighbourhood policy activities – Mediterranean area cooperation
3. Mr. Michael Assouline, Project Officer – ICT and data management European neighbourhood policy activities – Mediterranean area cooperation
4. Mrs. Sabah Nait- cooperation for Mediterranean and Arab region - Environmental Agency Austria.

***From CEDARE:***

1. Mr. Ahmed Abdelrehim - Regional Programme Manager - Head, Environmental Assessment Centre for Environment & Development for the Arab Region and Europe - CEDARE.
2. Mrs. Catherine Ghaly - Regional Programme Assistant - Knowledge Management Programme Centre for Environment & Development for the Arab Region and Europe - CEDARE.

***From EEAA and CAPMAS:***

1. Mr. Mohamed Eissawi – Head of Environmental Indicators and Reports - SEIS NFP- EEAA.
2. Mr. Mostafa Mohamed Salah – Statistician - General Department of Environmental Statistics - Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics - SEIS NFP - CAPMAS.

In addition to **85** participants from EEAA, CAPMAS and Waste Management Regulatory Authority (WMRA).

This report provides a brief overview of the two-days National Workshop for the *Implementation of the Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS) principles and practices in the ENP South region – SEIS Support Mechanism (ENI SEIS II South)* with participation of EEA, EEAA, CAPMAS, NFPs of SEIS, UNEP/MAP/MED POL, H2020, CEDARE and National Organizations and Stakeholders (ANNEX I - List of Participants).

## Workshop Agenda:

### Opening of the workshop:

The meeting opened by the opening speeches as follows:

- Representative of H.E. Gen. Abu Bakr El Gendy, Head of CAPMAS.
- Representative of H.E. Eng Ahmed Abou El seoud, Chief Executive Officer, Ministry of Environment.
- Mr. Ronan Uhel, Head of Programme Natural Systems and Sustainability - European Environment Agency.

During the workshop, several presentations were proposed by different national and international organizations (see ANNEX II – Agenda & ANNEX III - presentations):

### Day 1: 30th of November, 2016

- **The support mechanism SEIS II project. - EEA.** In this presentation Mrs. Cécile Roddier-Quefelec - Project Manager - ENI SEIS Support Mechanism South, presented the main commitments related to the second phase of Horizon 2020 Initiative (2015-2020), the ENI SEIS South Support Mechanism (2016-2020), building-up on the achievements of the first phase with the production of the 1<sup>st</sup> Horizon 2020 Mediterranean report - Toward shared environmental information systems (2014) providing an initial knowledge base using the SEIS principles.
- Presentation of ENI-South Support Mechanism: objective and expected results (2016-2020), Project governance and steering, Conceptual framework of the project organised around four clusters (water, waste, industrial emissions (industry and PRTR) and cross cutting issues), 6 work packages (with in particular Work package 1 – In country support (Design and implementation), Work package 2 – Indicators and assessment, Work package 3 – Data and Statistics, Work package 4 – Data management and Infrastructure, Work package 5 – Communication and Visibility, Work package 6 – Management and Coordination. Linking to the EEA experience in dealing with environmental assessment, she gave an example of ‘State of the Environment ONLINE (SoE online)’ highlighting traceability of data, and presented the Indicator Management System (IMS). Then concluded with the project timeframe, pointing out the key milestones and planned assessments in the 2015-2020 period.
- Presentation of **key challenges and lessons learned from SEIS Project phase I.** Presentation by Mr. Mohamed Eissawi SEIS NFP – EEAA. He presented the SEIS objectives, principles, priorities areas, Phase I workshops and regional meetings. He described the National Committee which includes EEAA, CAPMAS, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Local Development, Holding Company for Drinking Water & Sanitation) which aimed to: Promote national principles around data sharing and reporting; Set up a national environmental information system which allows the availability of the data flow between

various sources and set up the future visions & planning for the data exchange mechanism. He also presented **challenges faced during phase I which includes:** relatively limited coordination and networking among different ministries and authorities; lack for modern data exchange mechanisms through various governmental ministries and agencies. **Recommendations for phase II** include: specify, identify and bridging data gaps & overcoming data inconsistencies, setting-up a mechanism for coordination between organizations, authorities and stakeholders, developing national environmental database network, considering Data quality control & efficiency needs, and training on using the collected data in producing national environmental reports in accordance with the methodologies used in the regional & international reports.

- Presentation on the **MED POL Program Activities in Egypt** by Dr. Gehan M. El Sakka – UNEP/MAP-MED POL NFP - EEAA. She gave a brief overview of UNEP/MAP activities as a regional cooperation effort involving 21 countries bordering the Mediterranean Sea, as well as the European Union. Through the MAP, these Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols are determined to meet the challenges of protecting the marine and coastal environment while boosting regional and national plans to achieve sustainable development. She also mentioned, the Mediterranean Pollution Assessment and Control Programme (MED POL) main objectives and its main fields of action, its activities in Egypt under the Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Sea Large Marine Ecosystem (MedPartnership) project (2009 -2015). She presented the contribution agreement between EEA and UNEP/MAP to support the implementation of the ENI SEIS II project over the period 2016-2019 which include activities covering coordination, technical and scientific support. In addition other UNEP/MAP projects such as ECAP MED II supports the implementation of the Ecosystem Approach roadmap in the Mediterranean in synergy with the EU MSFD. The project supports the assessment of the state of the marine and coastal environment including socio-economic aspects in the Mediterranean, and assist the establishment of the Mediterranean sea and coast ecological and operational objectives based on the ecosystem approach, and an Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme (IMAP). In addition, UNEP/MAP is also supporting the 2015 Marine Litter assessment in the Mediterranean, the development of the Offshore Action Plan and building a framework to facilitate the joint establishment of SPAMIs in open seas.
- Presentation on **Alexandria Coastal Zone Management project (ACZMP)** - EEAA. This presentation introduced the GEF funded project managed by World Bank and implemented by EEAA during the period of 2012-2017. The main objectives of the project is to reduce water pollution reaches the Mediterranean sea from Lake Mariout. The project has three components as follows: Component (1): Planning, Institutional Capacity and Monitoring, Component (2): Pollution Reduction Measures, and Component (3): Project Management and Monitoring & Evaluation. The presentation mentioned the current environmental problems and the project framework which includes: preparation of an ICZM plan for Alexandria including Lake Mariout, development of an integrated water

quality monitoring network for Lake Mariout and Mediterranean Sea including a water quality and hydraulic model, supporting stakeholders with required equipments, capacity building and technical support. The presentation briefed on the project activities on Water Scarcity and Pollution Issues in Egypt, Cost of Environmental Degradation in Egypt, and the achievement of ACZMP.

## **Day 2: 1<sup>st</sup> December 2016**

### **Session 1: presentations**

- **National Statistics Strategy, Environmental statistics** by Dr. Mostafa Salah from CAPMAS. He focused on the most important justifications for the preparation of the strategy and focused on the annual report tackling various environmental statistics of the Arab Republic of Egypt composed of 5 main sections which are: air quality statistics, water quality statistics, biodiversity statistics, land use, weather and climate change. In his presentation, he focused on the aims and objectives of CAPMAS for providing environmental data and statistics to planners, researchers and decision makers and those interested in the environmental field and spreading environmental awareness to all social and cultural levels. Tasks and activities includes providing various statistical data within the environmental context such as : environmental indicators and sustainable development package, publishing an annual report on environmental statistics, preparation of studies and surveys in the environmental field (under-construction), providing data on environmental pollutants according to types and sources (such as CO<sub>2</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub>, no<sub>2</sub>, lead...etc.), the data required to international and national organizations, participating in environmental workshops and global conferences, preparing the environmental indicators for publication on the website (<http://www.capmas.gov.eg/> ), archiving, database management in the website of CAPMAS. He also described the data collection methodology and sources of data collection. In addition to the projects of environment statistics such as SEIS and COMESA. The presentation ended by the needs for capacity building for environmental-economic accounting, establishment of an environmental database system. He ended his presentation by visions for the future.
- **Solid waste Management** presentation by Waste Management Regulatory Authority (WMRA). This presentation discussed the structure of the WMRA and its mandate, current environmental problems and the SWMP framework and activities. It classified the SWM problems into: general, contractors, technical and financial. It also presented the current status of the SWM in Egypt and its indicators. The presenter gave a brief overview of the institutional framework, objectives (planning, follow up, development and improvement) roles and responsibilities for stakeholders (MoE, MoF, MoE&E, and MoLD). He presented the current work plan for SWM and the available experience in Alexandria governorate and Imbaba area in Cairo.
- **Guidelines for the preparation of the SEIS II Work Plan - EEA.** In this presentation Mrs. Cécile Roddier-Quefelec - Project Manager - ENI SEIS Support Mechanism South, presented steps toward the elaboration of a national work plan for developing SEIS : from needs to actions, National team – building relevant networking structure, Content,

Governance/cooperation, Infrastructure, Identification of needs and areas of work. ENI SEIS Support Mechanism South – expected results includes: **result 1**- The H2020 indicator set is stabilized, refined and complemented in order to be able to serve multiple purposes, as well as to ensure that the progress of achieving H2020 objectives is properly measured, while also contributing to assessing compliance with commitments under the Barcelona Convention, **result 2**- The in-country processes for organizing sharing of data sets underlying the H2020 indicators are stabilized, **result 3** The infrastructure for reporting offered by the EEA ('Reportnet') and UNEP (UNEP/MAP Reporting Network) is more widely used, and **result 4** Indicator-based H2020 report(s) and assessments are produced in line with good practices from the EU region. Project timeframe on the national and regional level.

### **Session 2: Parallel sessions for discussion about the vision for the next phase and country needs**

During this session, participants were divided into 2 working groups to discuss needs and establish first elements of a programme of work on the following issues:

- Group (A): Solid Waste and Hazardous Waste.
- Group (B): Coastal Water and marine litter
- Group (C): Waste Water
- Group (D): industrial emissions

Outcomes of the discussions were brought back to plenary.

## **Recommendations**

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- The established committee should be updated and add new stakeholder as a partner such as EIF/EC&SD office, MoP, EPAP III project, MoT (Maritime transport sector), MoLD.
- It has been agreed with the NFPs that the initial elements for the work plan coming from the group work need to be further elaborated into detailed work plan including activities, time frame, needs for capacity building, experts support (national or international) should be submitted within one month and the final version due 2 weeks later.
- The outcome of the national workshop will be presented in Athens, Greece during the 1st Steering committee Meeting ENI SEIS South Support Mechanism Project from 12-14 December 2016.