

Office operation procedures Cooperation with the NBE

With the emergence of new environmental fields of investment, there was a need for an untraditional form of financial management that seeks to boost environmental investments and provide facilities to the project.

Hence, an agreement was signed between the FEI and the EEAA and the National Bank of Egypt on February 20th, 2005 whereby the bank was assigned to manage the program's loan disbursements.

By virtue of the agreement, the loan instalments shall be paid annually over the term of one to five years including a grace period of no more than 12 months at an annual invest rate of 2.5%.



From left: Mr. Galal Elzorba Chairman of the FEI board of Directors, Dr. Said Khalil-EEAA Executive Director, Mr. Mohamed Mourad-General Manager and member of the policy committee within the NBE. Mr. Bjarne Sorensen, Danish Ambassador to Egypt, Eng. Maged Goerge-Minister of State for Environmental Affairs.

Expanding the Office's activities

- The energy efficiency sector was incorporated as part of the office's activities in order to serve the industrial sectors covered by ECO at present in preparation for expanding into all industrial sectors by 2008. A coordinator for the energy sector has already been assigned.
- The chemical industries sector was selected as part of the office's activities from October 2005 in accordance with the criteria previously set for the selection of sectors such as the significance of environmental problems of the sector, the importance of the sector to the Egyptian economy and the potentials for exporting. Since then the following has been achieved:
 - Conducting visits to 11 industrial facilities by the chemical industries and energy coordinators.
 - Conducting an initial evaluation of three industrial facilities.
- Cooperation with the FEI industrial chambers was strengthened since such chambers play an active role in promoting the concept of cleaner production among their members by spreading the ideas of the office in the chambers quarterly magazine and distributing the office's publications to the industrial and environmental community.
- The ECO is currently implementing three new projects in the tanning and chemical industries field in cooperation with the Canadian International Development Agency(CIDA).
- Five industrial plants in the metallurgical and engineering sectors are under implementation in cooperation with the Private Sector Support Project under the Danish Embassy. The degree to which Egyptian industrial facilities enter into partnerships with their Danish counterparts is also part of the study.



- Being considered important to support and encourage industry owners to sustain their cleaner production initiatives and in appreciation of the efforts they exerted over 2005, ECO has distributed certificates and tokens of appreciation to the best industrial facility within every industrial sector at a festivity gathering. The event was attended by representatives of the industrial community, FEI top management and the Danish Ambassador to Egypt.



Environmental Compliance Office

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ECO's activities during 2005

The ACI component is part of the DANIDA-funded ESP under EEAA and is managed by a steering committee chaired by Dr. Sherif El Gabaly , member of the FEI board of directors. The committee comprises members from the industrial chambers, the EEAA, the ESP, the Danish Embassy, the FEI, the EPF, Non-Governmental organizations and the management of the Environmental Compliance Office (ECO).

Based at FEI ,ECO was established to manage the ACI component in accordance with article 3 of the presidential decree no. 64 of 2001 . The office acts as a link between donor agencies, the EEAA, research and development institutions, consultancy firms, and the FEI, provided that it will achieve sustainability and self-funding.

The Office comprises five coordinators serving five industrial sectors: Textile , food, engineering, metallurgy and chemicals as well as the energy efficiency sector.

Future vision

The office seeks to work as a consultancy body specialized in the field of cleaner production and related activities with a view to supporting industrial facilities within the A.R.E. helping them to achieve compliance with environmental laws and standards and increasing the economic return through the efficient use of resources.

Role and mission

The ECO is a non-profit organization aimed at disseminating cleaner production rules and concepts within the industrial community with a view to improving the efficiency of the national industry, and reducing its risks and negative impacts on man and the environment. The office focuses on introducing cleaner production methods and technologies, rendering services to the private sector, supporting local capacities and potentials, and contributing to the development of the frame of work necessary for the facilitation of cleaner production technology adoption.

Work policies

The ECO adopts work policies based on providing technical and financial assistance to industrial facilities to enable them to comply with environmental laws and regulations through the application of cleaner production methods including the use of cleaner technologies, end of pipe treatment, and proper environmental management.

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The ECO seeks to implement cleaner production technologies and support environmental management within more than 120 industrial facilities through the following:

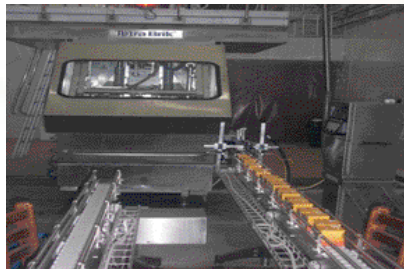
- Local and Danish expert assistance to the selected industrial facilities.
- Building the capacities of human resources by implementing training courses for the workers within facilities and organizing workshops aimed at raising environmental awareness of the top management staff.
- Boosting investments in the field of cleaner production adoption by providing soft loans.

The Egyptian parties, FEI, National Bank of Egypt, and EEAA as well as their advisors are commended for this immense achievement made in a very short time.
AIDE MEMOIRE
from a
Joint Review of the proposed Reshaped ESP
25th April – 5th May, 2005

ECO's activities during 2005



Funding a shift made by one of the textile companies to the use of natural gas.



Funding the purchase of an automatic packaging machine for one of the food manufacture companies.



Replacing a traditional furnace with a power-operated one for a foundry in Shubra ElKheima.

Capacity building Training Courses

- In June ECO staff and some directors of industrial chambers have participated in a training course implemented by "COWI" Danish consultant : "Managing a Professional Consultancy Body".
- In July, 25 local consultants in the field of Engineering Industries were trained by Danish experts.
- A number of specialized training courses were implemented to train workers within industrial facilities. The training was conducted by both local and international experts in the various industrial sectors.
- During July our Food Industries coordinator has acquired a "HACCP Auditor" certificate.
- In December, ECO coordinators participated in a training program aimed at developing the skills and capacities of energy officers in industrial and commercial facilities. Whoever attends such training courses acquires a certificate accredited by "American Energy Engineers (AEE)", which is known worldwide as the "CEM".



A training program was organized within the production lines of an industrial facility. The training was conducted by Egyptian and Danish experts.



Egyptian experts were trained in the field of cleaner production.

Workshops

- In January a conference was held to shed light on the importance of "whey" and means of benefiting from whey as well as the investments that could be made available to investors by utilizing it. The conference was held at the FEI and was attended by representatives of 130 industrial facilities, the

"We hope to repeat this trip of essence that in enabled to us to recognize the best technological practices in the field of food of industries"

an evalvation quote of a food industries member
December 2005



- A study tour to Denmark for the Metallurgical industries sector. The tour comprised of a representative of ECO. 11 owners of industrial facilities and a representative of the chamber of metallurgical industries.
- A study tour to Denmark was conducted by the food industries sector. The tour comprised a representative of ECO. 10 owners of relevant industrial facilities and a representative of the chamber of food industries.

Contribution to the FEI Environmental Affairs Committee's activities:

- Contributing to the activities of the committee formed by the Ministry of State for Environmental Affairs with a view to setting the legislations governing establishment of industrial plants and slaughterhouses' wastes recycling facilities.
- The participation of the chamber for metallurgical industries by conducting a study on the problems for foundries in Egypt.
- Developing a FEI environmental action plan for 2005.
- Contributing to the technical amendments made to the executive regulations of law no. 4 of 1994, the final version of which was ratified by the Cabinet of Ministers' in October 29th, 2005.



Engineering industries workshop was held in Meet Ghamr City

EEAA, investment authorities, businessmen associations, banks, and donor agencies. It focussed on a technical study conducted by key experts in this field.

- In March a Textile industries workshop was held at Mahalla City in which 300 Textile companies, representatives of the EEAA, FEI chamber for textile industries, and the National Bank of Egypt participated.
- In June an Engineering industries workshop was held in Meet Ghamr city. Representatives of 300 industrial facilities, the Ministry of Environment, FEI chamber for Textile industries and National Bank of Egypt took part in the workshop.



Study tours

- Boosting cooperation and experience exchange between the FEI and its Danish counterpart by organizing a study tour to Denmark in January in

which members of the BOD of FEI have participated.

- Organizing a study tour to Romania in the field of textile industries. A representative of ECO and 10 members from the sector as well as a representative of the chamber of textile industries have participated.

- A study tour was organized to South Africa in the field of engineering industries and comprised a representative of ECO. 10 owners of industrial facilities and a representative for the chamber of engineering industries.



The Discussion of amendments rerated to the environmental law, headed by Dr. Sherif El Gabaly