



SwitchMed II project in Egypt



Report on the Launch of the Blue Economy Roadmap for Advancing Marine and Coastal Eco-Practices in Egypt

SwitchMed II Project in Egypt, Policy Component

Report by: CEDARE Egypt

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SwitchMed II project in Egypt

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Executive Summary

On February 15th, 2024, Egypt's Ministry of Environment, in partnership with the Centre for Environment and Development for the Arab Region and Europe (CEDARE) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), held the launching event of the [Blue Economy Roadmap for Advancing Marine and Coastal Eco-Practices in Egypt](#) at Dusit Thani Hotel in Cairo.



The event's **main objectives** encompassed unveiling the Blue Economy Roadmap, delving into its key components, strategic vision, and transformative potential for Egypt's marine and coastal future; engaging in insightful discussions through a series of panel discussions with renowned experts and stakeholders to explore the roadmap's significance, address potential challenges, and propose concrete interventions for successful implementation; and building collaborative partnerships, fostering connections and forging alliances among government agencies, private sector players, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and academia to drive the blue economy agenda forward.

Similar to the design of the process of developing the roadmap, the event was designed to augment a participatory approach to provide the audience with a first-hand account of all relevant stakeholders that were involved in the development of the roadmap. The event also highlighted key success considerations and possible initiatives that should ensure a successful implementation of the roadmap.

The event was attended by **52 participants**, ranging from representatives of line ministries, relevant national authorities, experts, NGOs, the private sector, and cooperation agencies. The high participation rate reflected the growing interest in the transition to a circular economy and the development of sustainable consumption and production strategies in Egypt.

➡ Watch the full event on YouTube: [Launch of the Blue Economy Roadmap](#)

➡ Pictures of the event: [Launch of the Blue Economy Roadmap](#)



Opening Session

The opening session was jointly delivered by Dr. Hossam Allam, Regional Director for Sustainable Growth at CEDARE; Mr. Luc Reuter, Programme Officer, Industry & Economy Division at UNEP; Ms. Sylvie Fontaine, Project Officer for Environment and Climate Change at the European Commission; and a representative on behalf of her Excellency Dr. Yasmin Fouad, Egypt’s Minister of Environment, Dr. Noha Samy, Director of the Animal Diversity Department in the Nature Protection Sector. Moderated by Ms. Ghada Moghny, Senior Programme Coordinator at CEDARE, the session provided some powerful reflections and insights that set the scene for interactive panel discussions. Key highlights of the opening session are presented below.



Ms. Ghada Moghny inaugurated the event by highlighting the importance of the SwitchMed Project Phase II, Policy Component, stressing on the collaborative effort led by CEDARE, UNEP and Egypt’s Ministry of Environment to maximize the impact of the project’s policy component within the country’s blue and circular economy efforts.



Dr. Hossam Allam, Regional Director for Sustainable Growth at CEDARE, initiated his welcoming remarks by emphasizing the project's historical context. Since 2015, CEDARE has partnered with UNEP and the Ministry of Environment within the framework of SwitchMed. Consequently, SwitchMed's presence in Egypt transcends a mere project, as it embodies a continuous journey. In its initial phase, SwitchMed facilitated the development of a Sustainable Consumption and Production National Action Plan, aligning with the objectives of SDG 12. Additionally,



Phase I involved the execution of two pilot projects focusing on sustainable public procurement and reducing the consumption of single-use plastic bags, addressing specific requests from the Ministry of Environment.

Similar to phase I, SwitchMed II in Egypt is entirely based on the requests and priorities of the Ministry of Environment. It was important to support the country’s commendable efforts with regards to the blue economy and build on the Ministry’s commitment towards sustainable consumption and production that began in 2015.

Dr. Allam stressed on the importance of the current blue economy framework that has been developed by the government and highlighted the significance of ecotourism as an economic revenue stream to the country pending serious actions and activities to expand and grow the sector. He emphasized the potential opportunities in diversifying ecotourism practices as recommended by the roadmap and stressed on the need to conserve and protect marine natural ecosystems to ensure the safe continuation of ecotourism practices.

Dr. Allam indicated that the initial plan was to develop a full-fledged action plan but due to lack of provided projects for implementation and time constraints, the team decided to develop a roadmap instead that includes key considerations to make it more actionable and easier to implement. At the end of his intervention, Dr. Allam tackled the importance of high-level and close coordination among the Ministry of Environment, the Ministry of Tourism, and other related stakeholders to facilitate the implementation of the roadmap.



Mr. Luc Reuter, Programme Officer, Industry & Economy Division at UNEP, began his intervention by introducing the SwitchMed II project in Egypt and stressing on the importance of sustainable consumption and production and SDG 12. He emphasized the integral role of the Ministry of Environment and CEDARE as dynamic partners in the project. Mr. Reuter highlighted the economic importance of the blue economy and the role that this roadmap can proactively play in supporting blue economy efforts in Egypt. He stressed the importance of the coastal and marine ecotourism sector and the expansive potential that it can play in promoting general sustainable tourism practices as pivotal parts of what sustainable consumption and production stand for.

Mr. Reuter introduced the different activities taking place within the project on a regional level and reverted to the importance of understanding that there is no one definition of a blue economy, and that each country has its own unique take on the concept despite the existence of available definitions by UNEP and the EU. He mentioned that the variation is important to ensure



that enacted related project activities reflect the local economic and market context of each country. He welcomed the Egyptian definition, which includes the Nile River and other water lakes within the blue economy. He also stressed that the roadmap was developed based on the input of all relevant stakeholders rather than just the team of experts that have been involved to create a wider net of ownership.



Ms. Sylvie Fontaine, Project Officer for Environment and Climate Change at the European Commission, emphasized the significance of adopting sustainable consumption and production practices and highlighted the government's role in fostering a blue economy, which supports a circular economy and promotes green economic transitions. Ms. Fontaine highlighted the important role of the SwitchMed project, acting as a knowledge transfer bridge between Egyptian and European partners to support ongoing efforts to promote the blue economy.

Ms. Fontaine underscored the significance of the roadmap, emphasizing the importance of showcasing the economic gains and values of engaging in blue economy specific initiatives and projects. She emphasized the significance of the blue economy for EU efforts and its relations with Mediterranean partners and highlighted the need to continue working together towards a common vision of blue economy progress, despite the various definitions of blue economy in different countries. At the end of her intervention, Ms. Fontaine stressed on the significance of the sustainability efforts led by the Ministry of Environment, aiming to maintain the sustainability of the project's activities.



Dr. Noha Samy, on behalf of the Egyptian Minister of Environment, highlighted the importance of the coastal and marine ecotourism to the working agenda of the Ministry. She discussed the economic and environmental significance of coastal areas and marine life, emphasizing that these aspects are well acknowledged by the Ministry. Dr. Samy highlighted the significance of linking local communities to biodiversity protection, livelihoods, and income generation. The roadmap is another milestone that affirms once again the Ministry's commitment to put forth biodiversity at the forefront of

the government's economic agenda. The Ministry welcomes the participatory approach adopted in developing the action plan in order to ensure the involvement of all players that can influence the sector. This approach is also important to facilitate the implementation of the roadmap.



Introducing the Blue Economy Roadmap



The opening session was followed by a detailed presentation on the process of developing the Blue Economy Roadmap and its key deliverables, by the main author and CEDARE consultant Ms. Sina Hbous. The presentation focused on the main components, pillars, and the process of developing the roadmap in detail. As explained in the presentation, the roadmap specifically addresses the vital sub-sector of "Coastal and Marine Ecotourism," showcasing Egypt's commitment to sustainable economic growth and environmental stewardship. This aligns with Egypt's dedication to

implementing the SDGs, particularly emphasizing SDG 12 and 14 on responsible consumption and production and ocean conservation and sustainable use, respectively.

The purpose of the roadmap is to complement and become a part of the National Blue Economy Framework and it lays out the Ministry of Environment's key priorities for the forthcoming period concerning coastal and marine ecotourism. It builds on consumption and production efforts undertaken by the Ministry with the help of UNEP and SwitchMed Project and it is meant as a channel to synergize with line Ministries, particularly collaborating with the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities.

The presentation discussed the methodology of developing the roadmap, including the stage of stakeholder mapping to identify and prioritize the most important and relevant stakeholders in partnership with Dr. Heba Sharawy, Head of Loans & Grants Follow-up Unit & SCP/RAC at the Ministry of Environment and SwitchMed Focal Point. The second phase encompassed three group consultations and twelve interviews, in addition to onboarding specific experts to provide detailed and focused information.

The presenter moved on to discuss the reviewed components of the roadmap, which included the following:

- Status of Coastal and Marine Ecotourism in Egypt.
- Significance of the Tourism Sector in Egypt.
- Challenges and Pressures Faced by Coastal and Marine Ecotourism.
- Policies and Regulations Governing Coastal and Marine Ecotourism.
- Initiatives and Projects.

Some of the mentioned challenges include limited enforcement and regulatory cohesion, overcapacity and over usage of diving sites and marine protected area hotspots, outdated



unsustainable infrastructure, limited social and economic empowerment of local populations, and negative impact of climate change on marine resources.

Ms. Hbous discussed the reasons behind redirecting the study to become a roadmap unlike initial planning of creating an action plan, which encompass lack of submitted projects during the timeline of the project, and encouraged the Ministry of Environment to consider key considerations that will activate the roadmap. These considerations include the following:

1. Align with Egypt's blue economy framework, ensuring a cohesive approach to economic growth. Integration of the roadmap into the broader national strategy is essential for coherent policy implementation.
2. Synergy and alignment with ongoing sustainable consumption and production initiatives.
3. There should be clear timelines and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for the execution of actions within each of the four proposed interventions. This will provide measurable objectives and facilitate tracking of progress.
4. A finance task force should be formed to explore and secure funding opportunities for the projects.
5. Initiatives and actions suggested in the roadmap should be detailed further to create a comprehensive project catalogue.
6. A dedicated body, possibly a permanent committee led by the Ministry of Environment, should be established.

Finally, Ms. Hbous presented the main pillars of the roadmap:

1. Aligning ecotourism practices with marine conservation and biodiversity protection.
2. Diversifying ecotourism practices and enhancing existing infrastructure.
3. Activating ecotourism for climate resilience.
4. Utilizing ecotourism for community empowerment and heritage preservation.

Under each pillar, there are specific and detailed mapped institutional challenges, suggested policy interventions, and specific initiative suggestions.



Panel Discussions

Following the presentation on the process of developing the Blue Economy Roadmap and its key deliverables, three panel discussions took place throughout the remainder of the event to ensure that the main focus areas of the action plan have been expansively addressed via different contributions by study experts and other stakeholders.

Panel Discussion 1: The Blue Economy Roadmap - Importance, Challenges, and Interventions



Moderated by Mr. Luc Reuter, the first panel included Dr. Mahmoud Hanafy, Professor of Marine Ecology, Suez Canal University, the Red Sea Governor's Scientific Advisor & HEPCA's Scientific Advisor; Mr. Ayman Taher, Eco Tourism Expert; Ms. Sina Hbous, Blue Economy Consultant, CEDARE; and Dr. Alaa Sarhan, Professor of Environmental Economics, Ain Shams University.

The panel discussion centered on the comprehensive Blue Economy Roadmap, focusing on its key pillars and the pivotal role it plays in Egypt's sustainable development agenda. Participants delved into how the roadmap aligns with Egypt's sustainable development goals, particularly in fostering economic growth while preserving marine resources and ecosystems.

Addressing potential challenges in implementation, the panel explored strategies to overcome barriers such as regulatory hurdles and capacity building needs. Concrete interventions, including investment, and sustainable finance mechanisms were highlighted as crucial for the roadmap's success. The discussions emphasized the importance of market dynamics and overall economic



factors as enablers for effective implementation. The role of the private sector was examined, particularly in financing initiatives and driving innovation.

Moreover, the panel emphasized the critical importance of fostering collaboration with international organizations and NGOs to create an enabling environment for the successful implementation of the roadmap. This collaboration would involve knowledge sharing, capacity building, and advocacy efforts aimed at ensuring the realization of the roadmap's objectives. Additionally, the panel explored the various interpretations of a blue economy and identified potential initiatives suitable for the Egyptian context.

Furthermore, the panel highlighted the necessity of recognizing the economic value inherent in marine and coastal resources. Panelists discussed the imperative of capacity building and raising public awareness regarding the economic significance of these resources, as well as the importance of forging partnerships with international organizations and exploring available funding opportunities to support relevant initiatives. Funding mechanisms such as blue bonds, accessing existing global funds, carbon credits, and debt swaps were deliberated upon. The panel also addressed several challenges, including overcapacity and the unsustainable utilization of natural resources, the lack of managerial plans in marine protected areas, and the unsustainable behaviors of tourists. These discussions aimed to shed light on key issues that need to be addressed to ensure the sustainable development of Egypt's blue economy.



Panel Discussion 2: The Blue Economy Framework in Egypt

The second panel was moderated by Ms. Ghada Moghny and consisted of Dr. Hossam Abdel Karim, Head of Egyptian National Blue Economy Workgroup & Deputy Director of Planning, Research and Studies Department, Suez Canal Authority; Dr. Anas Rakha, Principal Economic Researcher, Suez Canal Authority; Dr. Mona Kotb, Vice Chairman of Transport Planning Authority; and Dr. Khaled El Sakty, Dean of College of International Transport and Logistics, AASTM.



The panel underscored the invaluable contributions of development partners to Egypt's blue economy initiatives, highlighting their pivotal role in facilitating capacity building, technology transfer, and financial support. Dr. Hossam Abdel Karim delivered an insightful presentation outlining the committee's mandate under the Prime Minister's office, elaborating on the framework's key pillars, the process of its creation, and the initial steps taken towards implementation. He stressed the necessity of an actionable strategy for effective implementation, shedding light on the progress made in yacht cruising and manufacturing, which are significant outcomes of government efforts within the blue economy framework. Additionally, He presented the endeavors of the Suez Canal Authority in supporting blue economy efforts.



The discussions also delved into the pivotal role of coastal and marine ecotourism in enhancing Egypt's blue economy, emphasizing the potential benefits of implementing a dedicated roadmap for this sector. Lastly, the panel highlighted the critical importance of infrastructure development, including port facilities and coastal infrastructure, in driving the growth of Egypt's blue economy. Panelists emphasized the imperative of strategic investments aimed at optimizing resource utilization and enhancing connectivity to foster sustainable economic development.

Dr. Mona Kotb, representing the Ministry of Transportation, discussed efforts that are taking place through the Ministry to support the blue economy, especially relevant to the Ministry's role in the blue economy committee.

Finally, Dr. Khaled El Sakty delivered a presentation on blue economy related policies and efforts in the Arab region, and discussed the current status and main challenges that face countries in promoting a blue economy.





Panel Discussion 3: Ecotourism Practices and their Importance for the Blue Economy

The third and final panel was moderated by Dr. Heba Shaarawy, and consisted of Dr. Hoda Elshawadfy, Assistant Minister of Environment on Ecotourism; Dr. Mahmoud Hanafy, Professor of Marine Ecology, Suez Canal University, the Red Sea Governor's Scientific Advisor & HEPCA's Scientific Advisor; Mr. Mohamed Elewa, Sharm El Sheikh Green City Project Manager, Ministry of Environment – UNDP; Mr. Ahmed Yehia Ismail, Founder & CEO of Eco Group and Founding Member of Sustainable Tourism Organization - Egypt (STO-Egypt); and Ms. Lina Shalita, Sustainable Tourism Expert.



The panel discussion focused on the critical role of ecotourism within the Blue Economy Roadmap, highlighting the necessity of activating specific policies and regulations to bolster its support. Deliberations centered on identifying regulatory frameworks conducive to sustainable ecotourism practices, emphasizing the importance of balancing economic development with environmental conservation. Participants stressed the need for policies that promote responsible tourism, regulate visitor activities in sensitive areas, and ensure the preservation of natural habitats and wildlife.

Furthermore, the panel examined the government's ongoing efforts to advance coastal and marine ecotourism, including initiatives aimed at infrastructure development, marketing campaigns, and stakeholder engagement. Discussions also explored strategies for incentivizing businesses and communities to embrace ecotourism practices, such as providing financial incentives, offering training programs, and fostering partnerships between local enterprises and conservation organizations.

Moreover, panelists discussed the effective management of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) to support sustainable ecotourism activities and protect marine biodiversity. They explored mechanisms for involving local communities in ecotourism initiatives to ensure equitable



benefits and cultural preservation, emphasizing the importance of community empowerment and participatory decision-making processes.

Additionally, the role of NGOs in supporting ecotourism was highlighted, with discussions focusing on their potential contributions in community engagement, capacity building, and advocacy efforts to promote sustainable tourism practices and conservation initiatives. The importance of formalizing small and medium companies that are working in ecotourism services was stressed due to their role in specializing in certain touristic practices and they can be a channel for diversification and due to their potential in supporting the supply chain of larger ecotouristic infrastructure related projects.

During the panel discussion, there was a collective emphasis on recognizing the economic value inherent in marine ecosystems and the imperative of integrating local communities into conservation efforts through social and economic empowerment. Participants highlighted the significance of viewing these communities as custodians of marine resources, stressing the importance of their involvement in decision-making processes and sustainable practices.

Moreover, the role of excursion leisure boats was scrutinized, with concerns raised about their contribution to unsustainable behaviors, alongside the pressing issue of overfishing. In this context, the role of the Ministry of Environment in supporting local communities and Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) was underscored as crucial, with discussions revolving around initiatives aimed at fostering community engagement, promoting sustainable livelihoods, and mitigating harmful environmental impacts.

The panel concluded by emphasizing that fostering collaboration between stakeholders, empowering local communities, and addressing unsustainable practices are essential steps towards achieving a harmonious balance between economic development and environmental conservation within marine ecosystems.



Closing Remarks

In their closing remarks, Dr. Hossam Allam and Mr. Luc Reuter emphasized the paramount importance of ongoing efforts to champion sustainable consumption and production within the framework of the blue economy. They underscored the necessity of not only initiating but also sustaining supportive endeavors aimed at fostering practices that ensure the longevity and health of marine ecosystems while simultaneously catering to human needs.

Furthermore, both speakers highlighted the imperative to activate and meticulously implement the established roadmap, stressing the significance of creating an enabling environment conducive to its execution. This entails not only the formulation of robust policies and regulations but also the compilation of actionable projects aligned with the four pillars outlined in the action plan. They emphasized the need for a comprehensive approach that integrates various stakeholders, leverages available resources effectively, and prioritizes initiatives that resonate with the overarching goals of sustainability and economic development. By embracing these principles and a collaborative spirit, they concluded that Egypt could chart a course towards a prosperous and environmentally resilient future within the blue economy domain.



Annexes

Annex 1: Official Invitation of Event



The Ministry of Environment of Egypt, CEDARE & UNEP
have the pleasure to invite you to

The Launch of

Egypt's Blue Economy Roadmap for Advancing Marine & Coastal Eco-Practices

under Egypt SwitchMed II Project (Policy Component)

 **Dusit Thani LakeView Cairo Hotel,
Dalilah Meeting Room**

 **15 February, 2024**





SwitchMed II project in Egypt

Date: 15/02/2024

Annex 2: Concept Note



SwitchMed II project in Egypt

Date: 15/02/2024



Roundtable on

Implications of governing production and consumption of plastics through a legally binding international instrument
تداعيات حوكمة إنتاج واستهلاك المواد البلاستيكية من خلال اتفاقية دولية ملزمة قانوناً

Concept Note

BACKGROUND

In March 2022, at the resumed fifth session of the UN Environment Assembly (UNEA-5.2), a historic resolution was adopted (5/14) to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment¹.

The resolution (5/14) requested the Executive Director of the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) to convene an Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) to develop "the instrument", which is to be based on a comprehensive approach that addresses the full life cycle of plastic, including its production, design, and disposal.

The INC began its work during the second half of 2022, aiming to complete the negotiations by the end of 2024. The first session of the INC (INC-1) took place in Punta del Este, Uruguay, from 28th of November to 2nd of December 2022, followed by a second session (INC-2) in Paris, France, from 29th of May to 2nd of June 2023. The third session (INC-3) took place in Nairobi, Kenya from 13th to 19th of November 2023. At INC-3, the Committee decided that the next session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee would be held in April 2024².

INC meetings tackle a vast array of subjects, aiming for an effective legally binding international instrument. From defining key terms and setting ambitious goals to outlining specific actions like **plastic reduction, waste management improvements, and microplastic control, discussions cover the entire plastic lifecycle. Reaching agreements on financing, technology transfer, and governance structures to support implementation are also crucial points.** Key areas such as objectives, scope, and financing still require consensus. With ambitious deadlines set, these negotiations are shaping a global response to the plastic pollution issue.

Different national priorities and capacities may be one of the most important challenges developing countries can face as a result of the instrument's implementation. Ensuring compliance with the instrument across national contexts may require multiple changes in the existing operationalization, monitoring, and verification mechanisms.

ABOUT THE ROUNDTABLE

This roundtable discusses the potential implications of operationalizing a legally binding international instrument and the actions that could be taken to achieve **sustainable production and consumption of plastic products as an optimal means of eliminating plastic pollution.**

Discussions will also include the different views of the negotiators who participated in the INC meetings, in particular the points that may require radical changes in the national strategy of the petrochemical and plastic industries as well as plastic waste collection and management systems³.

¹ https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/39812/OEWG_PP_1_INF_1_UNEA%20resolution.pdf

² <https://www.unep.org/inc-plastic-pollution>

³ <https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/44526/RevisedZeroDraftText.pdf>

 **Dusit Thani LakeView Cairo Hotel,**
Dalilah Meeting Room

 **15 February, 2024**



Annex 3: Agenda



SwitchMed II Project in Egypt (Policy Component)

Launch of the Blue Economy Roadmap for Advancing Marine and Coastal Eco-Practices in Egypt

Agenda

Time	Session
9:30 – 10:00	Registration & Networking
10:00 – 10:30	<p>Welcoming Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Hossam Allam, Regional Director for Sustainable Growth, CEDARE • Mr. Luc Reuter, Programme Officer, Industry & Economy Division, UNEP • Ms. Sylvie Fontaine, Project Officer for Environment and Climate Change, European Commission • H.E. Dr. Yasmine Fouad, Egyptian Minister of Environment (TBC)
10:30 – 11:00	<p>Presentation on the Process of Developing the Blue Economy Roadmap and its Key Deliverables</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Sina Hbous, Blue Economy Consultant, CEDARE
11:00 – 11:30	Coffee Break
11:30 – 12:45	<p>Panel Discussion 1: The Blue Economy Roadmap - Importance, Challenges, and Interventions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderator: Mr. Luc Reuter, Programme Officer, Industry & Economy Division, UNEP • Panelists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dr. Mahmoud Hanafy, Professor of Marine Ecology, Suez Canal University, the Red Sea Governor's Scientific Advisor & HEPCA's Scientific Advisor - Mr. Ayman Taher, Eco Tourism Expert - Ms. Sina Hbous, Blue Economy Consultant, CEDARE - Dr. Alaa Sarhan, Professor of Environmental Economics, Ain Shams University
12:45 – 14:00	<p>Panel Discussion 2: The Blue Economy Framework in Egypt</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderator: Dr. Hossam Allam, Regional Director for Sustainable Growth, CEDARE • Panelists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dr. Hossam Abdel Karim, Head of Egyptian National Blue Economy Workgroup & Deputy Director of Planning, Research and Studies Department, Suez Canal Authority - Dr. Anas Rakha, Principal Economic Researcher, Suez Canal Authority - Dr. Mona Kotb, Vice Chairman of Transport Planning Authority - Dr. Khaled El Sakti, Dean of College of International Transport and Logistics, AASTMT
14:00 – 14:30	Coffee Break
14:30 – 15:45	<p>Panel Discussion 3: Eco-Tourism Practices and their Importance for the Blue Economy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderator: Dr. Heba Sharawy, Head of Loans & Grants Follow-up Unit & SCP/RAC, Ministry of Environment • Panelists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dr. Nashwa Talaat, Advisor to the Minister for Sustainable Tourism, Ministry of Tourism - Dr. Mahmoud Hanafy, Professor of Marine Ecology, Suez Canal University, the Red Sea Governor's Scientific Advisor & HEPCA's Scientific Advisor - Mr. Mohamed Elewa, Sharm El Sheikh Green City Project Manager, Ministry of Environment - UNDP - Mr. Ahmed Yehia Ismail, Founder & CEO of Eco Group and Founding Member of Sustainable Tourism Organization - Egypt (STO-Egypt) - Ms. Lina Shalita, Sustainable Tourism Expert
15:45 – 16:00	<p>Closing Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Hossam Allam, Regional Director for Sustainable Growth, CEDARE • Mr. Luc Reuter, Programme Officer, Industry & Economy Division, UNEP • Ms. Sylvie Fontaine, Project Officer for Environment and Climate Change, European Commission • The Egyptian Ministry of Environment
16:00 – 17:00	Lunch & Networking

Dusit Thani LakeView Cairo Hotel, Dahlia Meeting Room

15 February, 2024



Annex 4: List of Participants

Sr.	Title	Name	Entity
1	Mr.	Salah Hassan Kabish	Maritime Transport Sector, Ministry of Transportation
2	Dr.	Mahmoud Hanafy	Suez Canal University
3	Dr.	Mahmoud Rashad	Tourism Development Authority
4	Dr.	Mohamed Abouel Seoud	Tourism Development Authority
5	Ms.	Alexandra Lamotte	French Embassy
6	Ms.	Sylvie Fontaine	European Commission
7	Mr.	Mahmoud Fouda	Mawael
8	Dr.	Ayman Afifi	Mawael
9	Dr.	Sameh Reyad	Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA)
10	Mr.	Nader Fawzi	Chamber of Diving & Water Sports
11	Mr.	Said Abdelhamid Morsy	Tourism Development Authority
12	Dr.	Anas Rakha	Suez Canal Authority
13	Mr.	Luc Reuter	United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
14	Eng.	Nouran Elmarsafy	Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES) – Egypt
15	Dr.	Shiamaa Abbas	Ministry of Environment
16	Dr.	Noha Samy	Ministry of Environment
17	Dr.	Mohamed Ahmed	Ministry of Irrigation
18	Dr.	Hossam AbdelKarim	Suez Canal Authority
19	Mr.	Ayman Taher	Eco Tourism Company
20	Dr.	Heba Sharawy	Ministry of Environment
21	Dr.	Hoda Elshawadfy	Ministry of Environment
22	Ms.	Lina Challita	Sustainable Tourism Expert
23	Dr.	Samir El Kareish	Consultant
24	Mr.	Ahmed Yehia	ECO Group



25	Eng.	Mona Kotb	Transport Planning Authority
26	Dr.	Walid Darwish	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Agency (MSMEDA)
27	Mr.	Ahmed Khaled	Egyptian Hotel Association
28	Dr.	Khaled Sakty	Arab Academy for Science, Technology & Maritime Transport (AASTMT)
29	Dr.	Alaa Sarhan	Ain Shams University
30	Dr.	Osama El Gebaly	Ministry of Environment
31	Eng.	Kareem Adel	EGAS
32	Mr.	Mohamed Elewa	Ministry of Environment – United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
33	Mr.	Tarek Temraz	Marine Biology Expert
34	Mr.	Mohamed Bayoumi	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
35	Ms.	Noha Maher	Ministry of Petroleum
36	Eng.	Ahmed Hazem	EGAS
37	Ms.	Nourhan Elbatal	EGAS
38	Mr.	Givara Elgafy	Culture, Tourism, Media and Antiquities Committee in the Senate
39	Mr.	Arabi Saad	Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA)
40	Mr.	Arafa Moustafa	Ministry of Housing
41	Mr.	Ashraf Abdelkader	Ministry of Housing
42	Ms.	Sina Hbous	Centre for Environment & Development for the Arab Region & Europe (CEDARE)
43	Dr.	Hossam Allam	Centre for Environment & Development for the Arab Region & Europe (CEDARE)
44	Ms.	Ghada Moghny	Centre for Environment & Development for the Arab Region & Europe (CEDARE)
45	Ms.	Terry Fahmy	Centre for Environment & Development for the Arab Region & Europe (CEDARE)
46	Ms.	Salma Nooh	Centre for Environment & Development for the Arab Region & Europe (CEDARE)
47	Ms.	Lamia Nabil	Centre for Environment & Development for the Arab Region & Europe (CEDARE)
48	Ms.	Amira Khattab	Centre for Environment & Development for the Arab Region & Europe (CEDARE)
49	Ms.	Sahar Ezz	Centre for Environment & Development for the Arab Region & Europe (CEDARE)
50	Mr.	Samir Sayed	Centre for Environment & Development for the Arab Region & Europe (CEDARE)
51	Mr.	Mohamed Soliman	Centre for Environment & Development for the Arab Region & Europe (CEDARE)
52	Mr.	Ihab Ismail	Centre for Environment & Development for the Arab Region & Europe (CEDARE)