

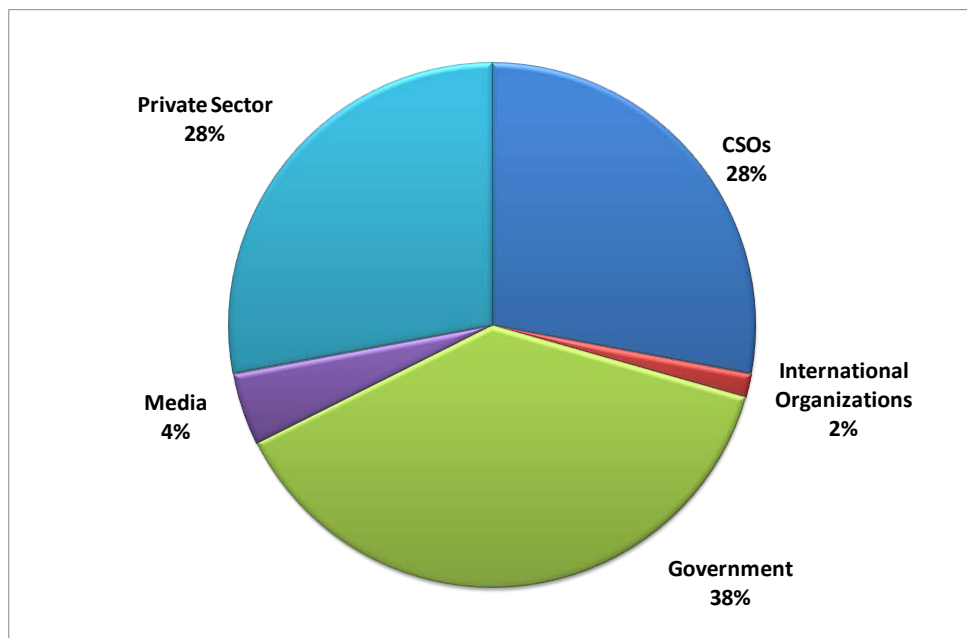
STAKEHOLDER GROUP (S): MULTISTAKEHOLDER

Location of consultation: Cairo, Egypt.

Date: January 27-28, 2010.

Participants (please attach list of participants and their affiliations):

The workshop was attended by 68 participants, representing a broad range of stakeholders groups, which ensured the inclusiveness of the process and the engagement of key stakeholders with varying interests and affiliations. The following figure shows the breakdown of the participating stakeholders per affiliation¹. The attendees also represented a good gender representation (40% female participants). The workshop also included four participants from Libya, and five participants from Yemen. For the names and titles of attendees, please see the list in Annex 1.



World Bank Participants and Role:

Maged Hamed, Sr. Environmental Specialist, MNSSEN, (presenter/moderator)
 Sherif Arif, Sr. Consultant, MNSSEN, (presenter/moderator)
 Yasser Ibrahim, Environmental Specialist, CESI2, IFC, (presenter/moderator)
 Eman Wahby, Communications Officer, MNAEX, (coordination with the civil societies and media representatives).

¹ Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) include Non-Government Organizations (NGOs), Academia, and Research Institutions. Private Sector also included environmental consulting firms.

How did the process fit into ongoing country dialogue?

The World Bank Group has had a successful dialogue and activities with Egypt since 1990. The World Bank has taken the lead in preparing the National Environmental Action Plan (NEAP) in 1992, and established policy dialogue in the field of clean environment through the preparation of the report on Cost Assessment of Environmental Degradation (COED), Energy Environment Review (EER), and Country Environmental Analysis (CEA). The World Bank has also succeeded in bringing together international financial institutions to join in the Second Egypt Pollution Abatement Project (EPAP II), for which the Bank has contributed \$20 million, and raised \$160 million equivalent from JICA, AfD, and EIB. The World Bank Group also has a number of activities in the field of wastewater management, and climate change. In Yemen, the lending activities have principally been in the water sector, although trust funds were used to strengthen the capacity of the Ministry of Water and Environment in the field of Environmental Assessment. The Bank also manages a large portfolio of GEF projects. Since Libya has a high GDP per capita, it does not borrow from the Bank. However, the World Bank Group has maintained its relationship with the Libya through the Mediterranean Environmental Technical Assistance Program (METAP). The country dialogue will be resumed, given that Libya will take advantage of the GEF fund through the Sustainable Mediterranean Program.

What were the key issues/themes raised by participants?

The participants asked that the World Bank Group should:

- Emphasize in all of its projects that “People should come first”
- Provide a minimum assurance that the World Bank Group financed projects should be environmentally sustainable
- Develop of low cost technology for community based infrastructure
- Ensure that all World Bank Group documents for the projects in the Middle East and North Africa are available in Arabic, and accessible to all interested parties.
- Ensure a better internal Bank consistency, coordination between the Bank’s different departments, and a better coordination amongst development partners/donors
- Increase its cooperation with Civil Society Organizations.

Workshop Format:

The meeting agenda is included in Annex 2. Mr. David Craig, Director, Egypt, Yemen, and Djibouti Department, gave the welcome speech (which is included in Annex 3). The opening remarks were presented by Dr. Mawaheb Abu El-Azem, Chief Executive Officer, Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency, on behalf of the Minister of State for Environmental Affairs. Presentations on the Environmental Challenges in Egypt, Libya, and Yemen were given by representatives of each of the three countries.

The meeting included presentations by the World Bank Group, and working groups discussions over two days, to identify issues relevant to the consultation, and to answer questions identified

by the ENV department. Two groups were formed, each moderated by World Bank Group staff, as follows:

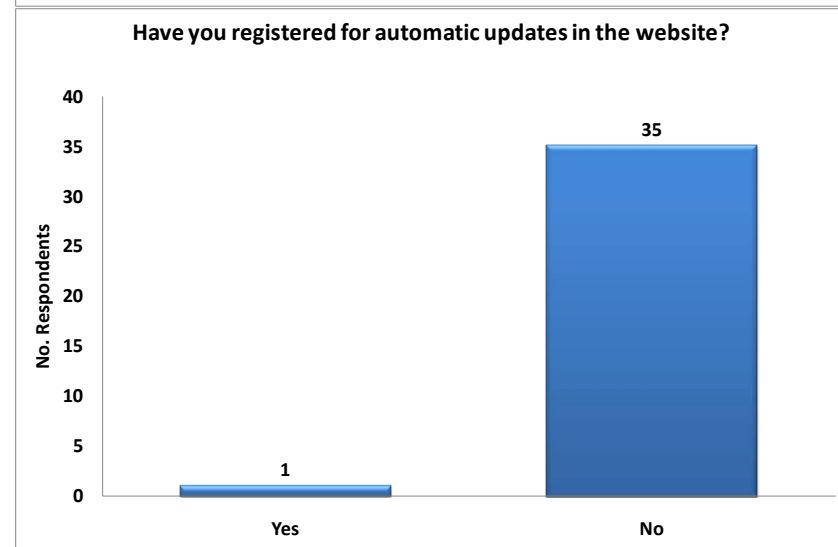
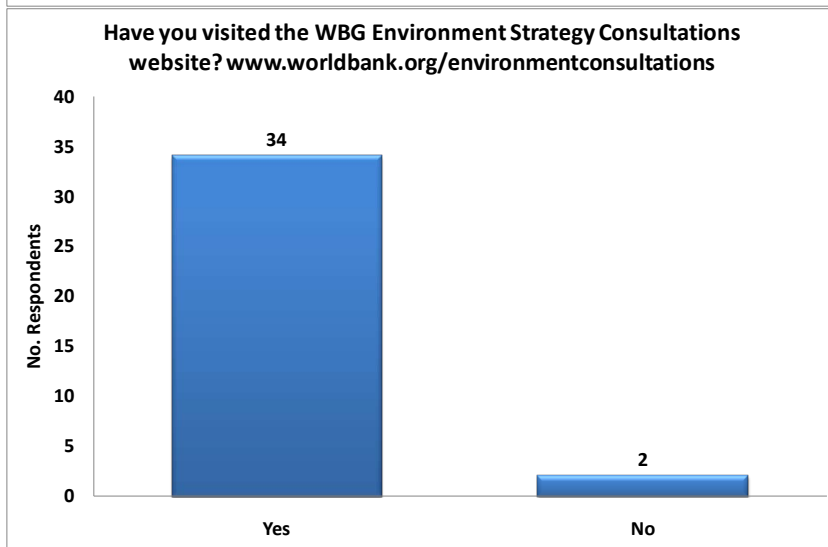
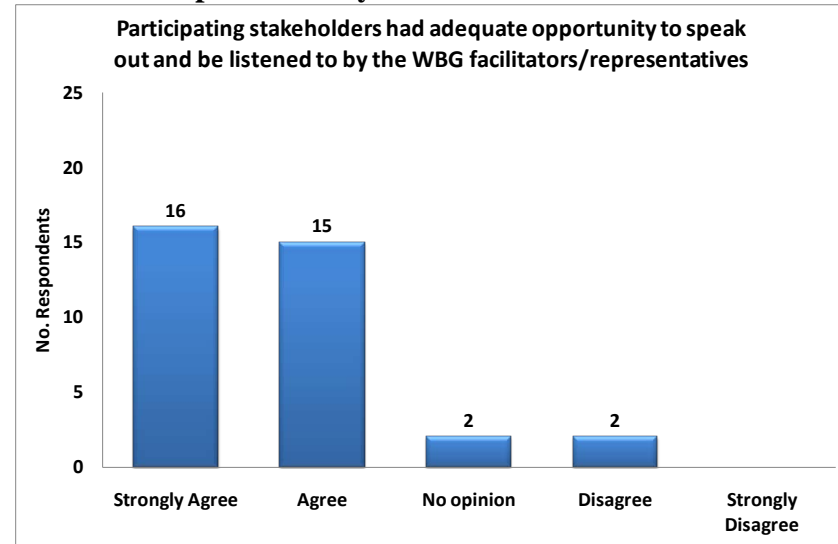
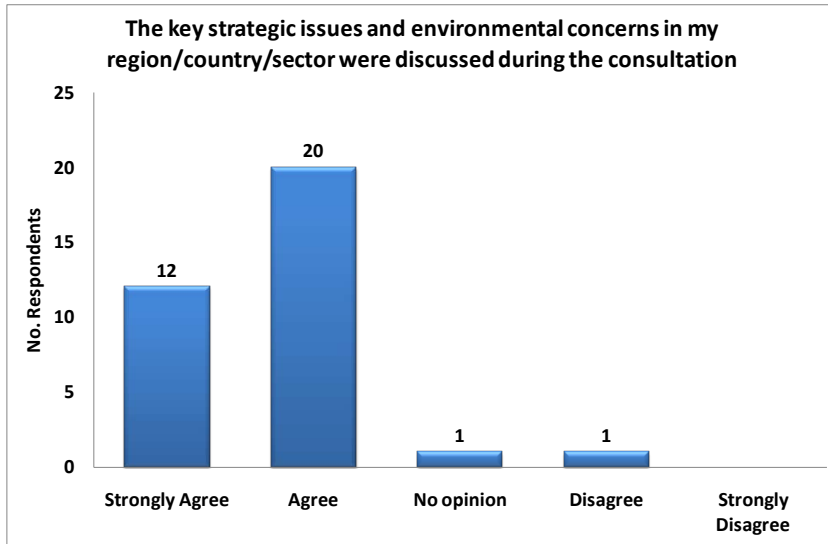
Group	Issues Discussed	Moderator
First Day Working Groups		
A	Identification of the three major challenges and opportunities in MNA : Criteria, justification and anticipated outcomes	Maged Hamed
B	Trade off between Development and Environment Sustainability in MNA: Definitions, policies, barriers and challenges of the government, private sector and civil society	Sherif Arif and Yasser Ibrahim
Second Day Working Groups		
A	Role of the World Bank Group in: a) addressing challenges and opportunities in the MNA region and in b) balancing between addressing country specific priorities and global public goods agendas	Maged Hamed
B	Role of the World Bank Group in: a) in helping government, private and public sector to pursue higher levels of performance on the environmental sustainability, and b) putting in place a systematic approach to assess and measure environmental sustainability in sector portfolios	Sherif Arif and Yasser Ibrahim

Each working group worked for 1.5- 2 hours to answer –collectively– the identified questions. These are listed in the following pages.

Consultation Session Participants Survey:

A post-workshop survey was conducted for all participants. The questions and number of respondents in each category are shown in the following charts. Furthermore, the participants provided a number of suggestions as part of the post-workshop survey, which are included in Annex 4.

Results of the Consultation Session Participants Survey



Answers to the Main Questions

1. What are the major environmental challenges in MNA region, and particularly in Egypt, Yemen, and Libya?

According to the participants, the following were identified as the main challenges facing Egypt, Yemen, and Libya:

1. Climate Change Impacts on Natural Resources and Livelihood
2. Natural Resources Management
3. Waste Management
4. Environmental Awareness, Training, Education and Capacity Building
5. Food Security

2. On what basis were these challenges selected?

These major challenges were selected according to the following criteria:

- The challenges should address comprehensive environmental issues
- The challenges should be of high enough priority to all three countries represented (Egypt, Yemen and Libya)
- The challenge should affect a large segment of the population and the solution of which would have apposite impact especially on vulnerable groups
- The challenges should be aligned with the environmental directions of international relevance
- The challenge should address socio-economic aspects
- The challenge should address the degradation issues of natural resources and cultural heritage

3. What can the World Bank Group do to address these challenges?

(a) In terms of **Knowledge/Technical Assistance**, the participants asked that the World Bank Group:

- Increase vocational training to allow project teams to carry out the relevant project implementation tasks efficiently.
- Ensure a stronger monitoring and evaluation for projects, and implement stronger fiduciary controls to ensure achieving the development objectives
- Raise the awareness on sustainable practices, at least within the World Bank Group counterparts, during and after project implementation
- Clarify the role of the World Bank Group and the details of its various instruments, to improve the stakeholders understanding of what the World Bank Group can and cannot do.
- Evaluate the benefits of, and losses of not, including the Civil Society Organizations in the World Bank Group projects.



- Identify systematic mechanisms for including civil society organizations in World Bank Group projects.
 - Identify/increase free training and capacity raising activities through grants.
 - Support the research in relevant technologies for alternative fuels or energy savings, such as those related to low-cost energy, solar salt water desalination, and biogas
 - Support the research centers to push the research agenda in these evolving green issues
 - Provide more clarity on the scope and applicability of the Use of Country System for World Bank Group financed projects
- (b) In terms of **Investment Lending**, the participants asked that the World Bank Group:
- Target some of the lending activities to environmental and social projects.
 - Implement some pilot projects in the region, especially related to climate change and education.
 - Revisit the IDA eligibility for projects that address environmental and/or social aspects, and for projects that are of high national significance.
 - Use realistic assumptions about the institutional limitations of implementing counterpart agencies and Governments.
 - Maintain cooperation relationship with the implementing agency even after the project is completed, to ensure sustainability of the skills developed.
- (c) In terms of **Partnership with Other Development Partners**, the participants asked that the World Bank Group:
- Coordinate with other agencies to ensure that work in the region is not contradictory but rather complimentary.
 - Endeavor to leverage resources from different donors/development partners, to maximize benefit of the recipient countries.
- (d) In terms of **Global Environment Facility/Carbon Finance**, the participants asked that the World Bank Group:
- Ensure that the green premiums paid as a percentage of the emission reductions is used to support sustainable development projects.

4. How can the World Bank Group reconcile country specific priorities with global commons?

The participants believed that the World Bank Group should:

- Work with the international community to revisit the issue of bio-diversity on a geographic basis. Their point is that the Desert ecosystem and its biodiversity is perceived with much less importance than that of the Amazon rain forest, although the former supports the livelihood of millions of people.
- Lobby the international community to ensure that proper accountability of the industrialized countries (the “North”) is clear and is accounted for, so as not to shift the burden of adaptation to the developing countries (the “South”).

- Assist Governments to develop exclusionary criteria, so as not to invest in projects that will be highly vulnerable to climate change.
- Expand and increase the coverage of the very useful tools such as the Climate Investment Fund
- Increase investment in renewable energy sources, so as to contribute to the mitigation of the carbon emission
- Advocate and raise awareness on safeguards issues, so as to encourage countries to implement similar policies even for non World Bank Group financed projects.

5. What are the main barriers and challenges facing the private sector stakeholders?

The participants identified the following as the main challenges to the private sector in terms of sustainability:

- Lack of government responsibility to implement sustainable development strategy, lack of commitment and accountability and lack of ownership
- Lack of political will and inability of the government to recognize environmental and social needs and take holistic approach to sustainable development
- Lack of financial investment and human resources
- Conflict in the development of priorities
- Lack of executive tools and regulations for environmental agencies
- Focusing on short terms policies and lack of creative thinking
- Lack of specific indicators to measure impact and performance evaluation
- Lack of awareness and environmental education and outreach
- Lack of knowledge management and transfer of knowledge experience
- Lack of justification of economic and financial returns of environmental al projects
- Lack of collaboration between governments and the Civil Society Organizations in advocacy and monitoring implementation

6. What is the proposed role of the World Bank Group in the private sector achieve higher levels of performance on the environmental sustainability side?

The participants requested that the World Bank Group:

- (a) Assist in policy development and in providing guidelines for:
 - Providing the private sector with incentives to internalize the cost of environmental externalities and environmental compliance
 - Designing and developing Strategic Environmental Assessment in specific sectors
 - Providing free and prior informed consultation with stakeholders and broad communication support with the civil society
 - Ensuring wide dissemination and disclosure of World Bank Group projects and their evaluation in a form and format comprehensible to the general public



- (b) Assist in the strengthening of the legal framework by:
- Assessing the existing legal environmental framework and guidelines so that they are conducive to improving the performance of the private sector
 - Introducing business simplification and in particular extend licensing and the “one stop” office support to the informal services sector (recycling)
 - Introducing the environmental dimension to trade
 - Providing guidelines for avoiding conflict of interest in public sector executed projects
 - Ensuring that the Environmental Impact Assessment process and review of private sector projects are conducted in an equitable and transparent manner as public sector executed projects
- (c) Provide technical Support:
- To the services and informal sector to access to new and clean technology
 - Developing criteria for selecting environmental programs and projects with long term sustainability
 - Providing tools and guidelines for assessing cost of compliance and non compliance with environmental regulations
 - To the non government organizations for bringing to the private sectors ideas and projects that could be financed by them
- (d) Provide financial resources from World Bank Group projects for:
- Strengthening the human resources and technical capacity of local government and local implementing agencies in working with the private sector and
 - Implementing regional projects of common interest and objectives

7. What is the role of the World Bank Group in putting together a systematic approach to assess and measure environmental sustainability in sector portfolios?

The participants asked that the World Bank Group should develop environmental sustainability indicators:

- That takes into consideration sustainable development indicators (SDI) developed in other countries, and for MNA to consider the SDI approved by the Council of Arab Ministers Responsible for the Environment (CAMRE)
- That are developed from the onset with the participation of the civil society and affected communities
- On prosperity and on poverty alleviation to be included in World Bank Group projects
- On Environmental awareness

Furthermore, they indicated that the World Bank Group should adopt a systematic approach in:

- Associating the Civil Society Organizations in the measurement and monitoring of the environment sustainability in specific sectors
- Assisting government to develop performance and sustainability indicators at the country level for specific sectors (e.g. trade, export), and at the policy, programs and



projects levels at the time of their development and with prior consultation with the private sector stakeholders and civil society

- Developing and disseminating simple and comprehensible indicators and explaining their potential impacts that the general public can understand and follow
- Ensuring the measurement and monitoring of the environment sustainability be made in a transparent manner, by an independent third party
- Financing programs and projects that would include environment sustainability indicators that can be achieved, measured and monitored during their life time
- Introducing environmental education as a component of World Bank Group projects

8. How should short term and long term trade-offs between development and environmental sustainability be balanced?

The participants asked that:

- A tradeoff balance should be made between the financial cost related to development and the cost related the environment sustainability
- There should be a time bound transition to environmental sustainability; however during that time development should not be made at the expense of natural resources degradation
- Incentive system should be designed for mainstreaming environmental sustainability in the development process
- Strengthening the role of the private and public sectors and the civil society in:
 - Development and in-house capacity and knowledge sharing platform between the civil society and the private sector to share best practice, success stories, and knowhow
 - Social evaluation of projects
 - Clarifying the role of private sector and the civil society in environmental policy
 - Strengthening the civil society to support government and environmental policies
 - And for the Private sector to consider that environmental projects is good business

Annex 1. List of Participants

No.	Name	Title and Organization
1	Abbdul Fattah Abou Argoub	Environment Expert Libya
2	Mahmoud Hassanien	Professor at National Research Centre (Air Pollution Department)
3	Yasser Askar	Head of the Technical and Institutional I Department EEAA
4	Vicken Cheterian	CIMERA/ Consultant
5	Lynn Fraiji	Wadi Holdings
6	Margirit Saroufim	Projects Manger CEOSS
7	Sarah Youseef	Project Manager at Wadi Environmental Science Center
8	Nuri Al Marghani	Head of committee Affairs Of Environment General Authority
9	Mostafa Saleh	Chairman EDG
10	Ailaa Hamad	Journalist at Sherouk Newspaper
11	Dr. Amal Alkibisi	Founder and CEO of Save Yemen Flora Fauna Organization
12	Maha Al Salehi	Vice President at Save Yemen Flora Fauna
13	Mahmoud Shidewa	Chairman, EPA
14	Ahmed Shawky	GM Ahli United
15	Mona Atta	Technical Engineer
16	Alaa El Sayed Ghadban	Advisor to Minster at Ministry of Transport
17	Wael Amin	HSESR Manager Kuwait Energy
18	Ehab Medhat	Prof. of sanitary Eng./Cairo Uni.
19	Luca Pacifico	Head of Credit - Alexandria bank
20	Mai Moh. Kamal	Head Of Chemical Eng. Department
21	Eng. Ahmed El Gohary	Advisor to Minster for sustainable Development and Environmental Affairs at Ministry of Investment
22	Eng. Mohamed Mahmoud	Technical Coordinator-Ministry of investment
23	Maysoum Nabil	EPAP /Project Manger
24	Hesham Yassin	Journalist at al-Masry Al-Youm
25	Maha Mustafa Ahmed	G.D MOEE
26	salama El Bably	Deputy Director at Egyptian Association for Comprehensive Development
27	Reham Galal	Economic Researcher MOIC
28	Samer El Mofty	Environmental Expert and former Vice president of Desert Research Centre
29	Ayman Abdel Wahab	National Coordination Sector Director SFD
30	Sameh Seif Ghaly	Executive Director - Together Association for Development and Environment NGO

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No.	Name	Title and Organization
31	Randa Fahmy	MD of Environment and Development Group Consultancy
32	Dr. Hussien El Guened	Deputy Minister for environment Affairs . Republic of Yemen Ministry of Water and Environment
33	Afaf Mekhail Tawfik	General Manager / Ministry of Electricity and Energy (economics and environmental studies)
34	Mohamed dow Khalifa	Director of experts and national committees at office of environmental General Authority Libya
35	Ehab Rashed	Prof. of Sanitary Eng./Cairo Uni.
36	Ahmed Hassan Fahmi	Director of Environment and Climate Change at Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation
37	Tarek Genena	President of EcoConServ
38	Aida Attia	Analyst Beltone /Private Equity
39	Samah Salem	Head of The monitoring Department Environmental Affairs Agency
40	Dr. Mohamed El Sayed	Arab Office for Youth and Environment
41	Dr. Mohamed Ismail Ibrahim	Prof. /vice dean for community development and environment affairs. Alexandria University Faculty of Science
42	Mohammed Shamsan	NGO Yemen
43	Ahmed Abd rabo	Env. Manager Ministry of Petroleum
44	Nuri Almezughi	Director Technical Cooperation Office - Libya
45	Salah El Haggar	Prof. Energy of Environment at AUC
46	Nefisa Aboul Seoud	Prof. Environment and Engineering Managing at Institute of National Planning
47	Ahmed Shaban	Professor
48	Stephen Murphy	Manager Director at Citadel Capital
49	Maher Aziz	Consultant for Environmental Studies at Ministry of Electricity
50	Ahmed Kamal Abdel Moniem	ECO Manager at Federation of Egyptian Industries
51	Rana Al Sayed Hassan	International Relations Officer at Ministry of State for Environment Affaires EEAA
52	Dr. Cherine Khallaf	Economic Expert at the Ministry of trade and Trade
53	Yara Ahmed	Senior Economic Research Ministry of Int. Cooperation
54	Shahira Wahbi	Chief of the Division of Sustainable Development and Multilateral Environmental Coop. at Arab League Of States
55	Salma Mansour	Financial Analyst at Citadel Capital
56	Ahmed Medhat	EEAA
57	Amani Nadim	Environmental Consultant at Environics
58	Yasser Sherif	General Manager at Environics



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No.	Name	Title and Organization
59	Salah Arafa	Prof, Chairman At Forum of Dialogue and Partnership for Development
60	Mona Abd El Khalak	Environmental Engineer at Water Quality Unit / Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation
61	Dr. Olivia El Shafey	Envi. Health Dept MOH
62	Mohamed El Sawy	Founder Of El Sawy Cultural Wheel
63	Laila Iskandar	Chairperson at CID Consulting
64	Noha Mohamed	Junior Sector Coordinator at Federation of Egyptian Industries
65	Adel mohamed Taha	Junior Sector Coordinator at Federation of Egyptian Industries
66	Samir Hammad	Chemist, Env.
67	Ghada Waheed	Senior Economic Invst. Ministry of Investment
68	Salah Abdallah	Journalist at Al-wafd newspaper



Annex 2. Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, January 27, 2010

- 9:00 Registration of Participants
- 9:30 Opening Ceremony
- Welcoming address
Mr. David Craig, Director, Egypt, Yemen and Djibouti Country Department, Middle East and North Africa, the World Bank
- Introductory Remarks
Dr. Mawaheb Abou El Azm, Chief Executive Officer, Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency
- 09:45-10:25 Presentation on the Concept of the Environment Strategy of 2010
Dr. Maged Hamed, Senior Environmental Specialist, Middle East and North Africa Region, the World Bank
- 10:25-10:55 Coffee Break
- 10:45-11:15 Presentation on Overview of the International Finance Corporation
Mr. Yasser Ibrahim, Environmental Specialist, International Finance Corporation, the World Bank Group
- 11:15-12:45 Defining Priorities for Environmental Sustainability in Egypt, Libya and Yemen
- 11:15-11:45 Egypt Environmental Challenges
Dr. Salah El Haggar, Professor of Environment, AUC
- 11:45-12:15 Libya Environmental Challenges
Mr. Nuri Almezughi, Director of Technical Cooperation Office
Environment General Authority
- 12:15-13:45 Yemen Environmental Challenges
Dr. Hussein Al-Guneid, Deputy Minister,
Ministry of Water & Environment
- Yemen Climate Change
Dr. Amal Al Kibsi
Save Yemen's Flora & Fauna
- 13:45-14:15 Coffee Break
- 14:15-14:45 Thematic Working Groups: Breakout Sessions



**Group A: Identification of the three major challenges and opportunities in MNA :
Criteria, justification and anticipated outcomes**

**Moderator: Dr. Maged Hamed, Senior Environmental Specialist, the World Bank
Rapporteur: TBD**

**Group B: Trade off between Development and Environment Sustainability in MNA :
Definitions, policies, barriers and challenges of the government, private sector and
civil society**

**Moderator: Dr. Sherif Arif, Senior Environment Consultant, the World Bank
Rapporteur: TBD**

14:45-15:45 Reports of the two groups

15:45-17:15 Lunch

17:15 Adjourn

Thursday, January 28, 2010

**9:30-10:00 Presentation: Towards Environmental Sustainability in the MNA region: The Role of
the World Bank
Dr. Maged Hamed, Senior Environmental Specialist, Middle East and North
Africa Region, the World Bank**

10:00-10:30 Q&A

10:30-11:00 Coffee Break

11:00-12:30 Break Out Sessions

**Group A: Role of the World Bank in a) addressing challenges and opportunities in
the MNA region and in b) balancing between addressing country specific priorities
and global public goods agendas**

**Moderator: Dr. Maged Hamed, Senior Environmental Specialist, , the World Bank
Rapporteur: TBD**

**Group B : Role of the Bank Group a) in helping government, private and public
sector to pursue higher levels of performance on the environmental sustainability
and b) putting in place a systematic approach to assess and measure environmental
sustainability in sector portfolios**

Moderator: Dr. Sherif Arif, Senior Environment Consultant, the World Bank



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Rapporteur: TBD

12:30-13:30 **Reports from the two groups**

13:30-14:30 **Consolidated results and outlook for the future**

14:30 **Lunch**

16:00 **Adjourn**



**Annex 3. Welcoming Address by Mr. David Craig, Director,
Egypt, Yemen, and Djibouti Country Department; World Bank**

Your Excellency, Dr Mahaweb Abou El-Azm, Chief Executive Officer of the Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency [on behalf of Minister Maged George, Minister of State for Environmental Affairs]; Esteemed guests from Egypt, Yemen, and Libya; Ladies and Gentlemen.

It is my great pleasure to welcome you to this two-day event. This is an important public consultation about the new Environment Strategy of the World Bank Group. We expect to finalize this new Strategy by the end of 2010 and the Strategy itself will then be implemented over the coming ten years. This new strategy is being developed for the World Bank Group as a whole, that is the World Bank, International Finance Corporation (IFC), and Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA). It is an update of the Bank Group's strategy of 2001.

Ladies and Gentlemen, the World Bank has a longstanding and successful history of cooperating with Ministries of Environment and related ministries and agencies worldwide. In 2001, we launched, and then implemented over the last ten years (2001 to 2010), our first Environment Strategy entitled "Making a Sustainable Commitment - An Environment Strategy for the World Bank Group". This strategy recognized the importance of mainstreaming environmental issues across many sectors of the economy. And it highlighted three key objectives: (1) improving the quality of life, (2) enhancing the quality of growth, and (3) protecting the Regional and Global "commons".

The World Bank Group's 2001 strategy had a solid conceptual framework – and it made significant progress in including environmental concerns into the Bank's lending and non-lending operations. We believe that the Strategy also helped countries to set their own environmental priorities – and private sector clients to address potential environmental impacts. Nonetheless, our own assessment is that we now need to put even more emphasis on institutional aspects – and to have stronger links to climate change. We also believe we should do better on "mainstreaming" of environmental concerns – and on monitoring and evaluation. Last but not least, we would like our new Strategy to be more responsive to Client Country priorities – and to have a better integration with private sector. This has what has prompted us in the World Bank Group to update our Environment Strategy in 2010.

Ladies and Gentlemen. The external landscape has changed a lot since 2001. Environment Protection is no longer an end to itself – but more a means to reach the Millennium Development Goals. Climate Change is front-page news – and long-standing national and regional environmental problems are causing increasingly severe impacts in developing countries. Solutions to these problems – and the tradeoffs between them – are among the most significant challenges facing the World Bank Group, our member countries, and the development community as a whole. In our view, we all need to become much more effective in dealing with these issues.



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In this meeting the World Bank Group is seeking your views on our updated strategy concept. This will be the next phase of our journey together towards the goal of environmental sustainability. Our purpose here is to exchange ideas about: (i) the challenges and opportunities related to environmental sustainability in the Middle East & North Africa region, and in particular in the three countries represented here today (Egypt, Yemen, and Libya) and, (ii) how the World Bank group can be better positioned to embark on this new pathway, assisting Governments and Private Sectors alike.

We propose that the process of the new Environment Strategy Development adopt the following 2-track approach:

1. first, to assess external and internal client demands in defining priorities for environment sustainability.
2. second, to assess cross-cutting priorities to position the World Bank Group to deliver better environmental results.

We all believe that environmental sustainability is everyone's responsibility. We need to hear your views – as national policy-makers -- on how environment sustainability can be addressed and mainstreamed in everything that we do together. At the grassroots level, we need to engage proactively academia, the private sector, civil society, and media -- to support decision-making processes -- so that, together, we can make choices that will best protect the environment for future generations. Once again, let me underline the World Bank Group's commitment to support your countries in reaching your own goals for sustainable development.

As I conclude, I would like to ask Dr Mahaweb Abou El-Azm, Chief Executive Officer of the Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency –on behalf of His Excellency Engineer Maged George– to inaugurate this event, and to present the opening remarks on behalf of our host country, Egypt.

Thank you all for your participation – and I wish you all a very successful event.



Annex 4. Summary of the Comments Provided in the Consultation Session Participants Survey

Following are the additional comments provided by the participants as part of the post-workshop survey:

Suggestions/Opinions

- Current consultations included too many open-ended issues.
- Issues were too broad. This does not allow the development of a focused and concise consultation in such short time
- Group work facilitation can be improved
- Thank you for presentations and discussions
- Very productive

Format of the consultation

- For more effective consultations, the process should be first held with each group of stakeholders separately.
- Ahead of the consultation, provide more information about the WBG (what it can and cannot do; how to cooperate with the WBG)

Time

- more time should have been assigned for country-specific issues
- more time for group work
- When presentations are requested from participations, more time is needed for a well prepared presentation.

Invitees

- For environmental issues about Egypt, governmental parties should make a presentation since they would have more views about challenges more than the academic
- Representatives from Ministries of planning and finance should be invited
- To have less people and only knowledge individuals

Inclusiveness of the process

- Consultation of the WBG was very successful and inviting people (environmentalists) from different places (government and NGOs) made it perfect.
- Having all involved stakeholders in this session was crucial (from ministries, different age) as the choice of participants based on their level of relevance.

Facilitation

- Should have a facilitator who listens actively
- Neutral facilitator who is aware of impacts of WBG environmental projects at a local level
- Accurate interpretation and presentation of participants' views and comments.



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Future action

- Many participants who have not registered for automatic updates on the website stated that they will later register for the updates.
- Follow-up from the WB side: (1) Participants should review the pre-final draft of the strategy; (2) update the participants on the final recommendations/strategy

