

Egypt

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION AND POLICY FORUM ON THE MEDITERRANEAN CITY AT THE LIBRARY OF ALEXANDRIA **Education/Cultural Heritage**

Stand alone initiative

Task Manager: Sahar Ahmed Nasr

Year of ITFCSD grant approval: 2002

Status: active

grant amount: USD 250,000

Disbursements: USD 93,684

Commitments: ---

The grant supports the organization of a major event on the theme of the Mediterranean city including:

- a) An exhibition that covers several parts: (i) the history of interaction in the Mediterranean; (ii) the cities of the Mediterranean (10 cities); (iii) themes for the new millennium; and (iv) a special section to cover an expanded coverage of the exhibition for the city of Alexandria.
- b) A number of scholarly symposia and colloquiums to accompany the event with learned papers and in depth discussion.
- c) A public policy forum where key decision makers from Egypt and from these other Mediterranean cities would meet with experts to discuss the issues of the cities.
- d) A special forum on Alexandria, Egypt and the problems of the future.

The grant is beneficiary-executed and managed by a Project Management Unit (PMU) established by the Library of Alexandria. The project has been moving smoothly and according to the implementation plan. The implementation started by selecting the main consultant who is supposed to provide for supervision and technical assistance throughout the project period. The contract, awarded by an Italian Firm with wide international experience, as well as, previous work experience in Egypt, has been approved on March 24, 2004. Meanwhile various partners, the PMU and the consulting firm have started the preparation phase and are working on schedule.

The PMU submitted the Project Implementation Plans (PIP), which has been reviewed, corrected and cleared.

The Exhibition is currently scheduled to start on November 28, and end on December 4, 2004. Invitations were sent to the Mayors of the ten selected Mediterranean Cities, in order to support and participate in the activities foreseen within this event. Responses to these invitations are expected maximum at mid-May 2004.