



PRIORITY  
ACTIONS  
PROGRAMME



## NATIONAL ICZM STRATEGY FOR EGYPT

### REPORT OF THE FIRST WORKSHOP ON THE PREPARATION OF A "NATIONAL ICZM STRATEGY FOR EGYPT": A VISION WORKSHOP

(Cairo, 29 January 2009)



ICZM Strategy for Egypt/W. 1/3  
PAP/RAC - EEAA  
Split, March 2009

**Report  
of the First Workshop  
on the Preparation  
of a "National ICZM Strategy for Egypt":  
A Vision Workshop  
(Cairo, 29 January 2009)**

Background information

1. The project was initiated at the request of the Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA) addressed to PAP/RAC to provide assistance in the preparation of a National ICZM Strategy for Egypt. The initiative falls within the objectives of SMAP III project "Promoting awareness and enabling a policy framework for environment and development integration in the Mediterranean with focus on Integrated Coastal Zone Management", and is a step forward in the implementation of the ICZM Protocol for the Mediterranean. This project is supported also by the decision of the Egyptian ICZM Committee to prepare such a document. The structure of the ICZM Strategy and the process of its preparation were discussed and agreed upon at the meeting of PAP/RAC and EEAA representatives, held in Cairo, in November 2008.

2. The main idea is to come to this important document in a participatory process by involving the major stakeholders that are responsible for the implementation of ICZM in the country. The Second Workshop will concentrate on the objectives and priorities, and the Third one on the road map for the Strategy implementation.

3. The First Workshop of the ICZM stakeholders in Egypt on the process for the preparation of a "National ICZM Strategy for Egypt": A Vision Workshop was held in Cairo, on 29 January 2009.

Participation

4. The Workshop was attended by 43 participants. In addition to representatives of the Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA) and Priority Actions Programme Regional Activity Centre (PAP/RAC) of UNEP-MAP, the representatives of coastal Governorates, the National Committee for ICZM (NCICZM), relevant ministries and organisations, and national experts participated at the Workshop. Complete List of Participants is attached as Annex I to this report.

Objectives of the Workshop

5. The Workshop had the following objectives:
- to bring participants to a shared understanding of current ICZM realities in Egypt;
  - to complete and update information on status of progress in ICZM in the country;
  - to help participants understand the ICZM strategy-building process; and
  - to stimulate participants to produce a shared vision for ICZM in Egypt.

Agenda item 1: Opening of the Workshop (welcome and introduction)

6. Ms. Mawaheb Abu El Azm (EEAA, CEO) opened the Workshop and welcomed the participants, expressing her appreciation to the PAP/RAC for providing support and assistance to the development of a National ICZM Strategy for Egypt. She pointed out the leading role of Egypt in ICZM in the Mediterranean, and further stressed the importance of the development of

the Strategy for Egypt. Finally, she noted that, as the SMAP III project was nearing completion, the purpose of the Workshop was to review the finalisation of the project and its immediate follow-up.

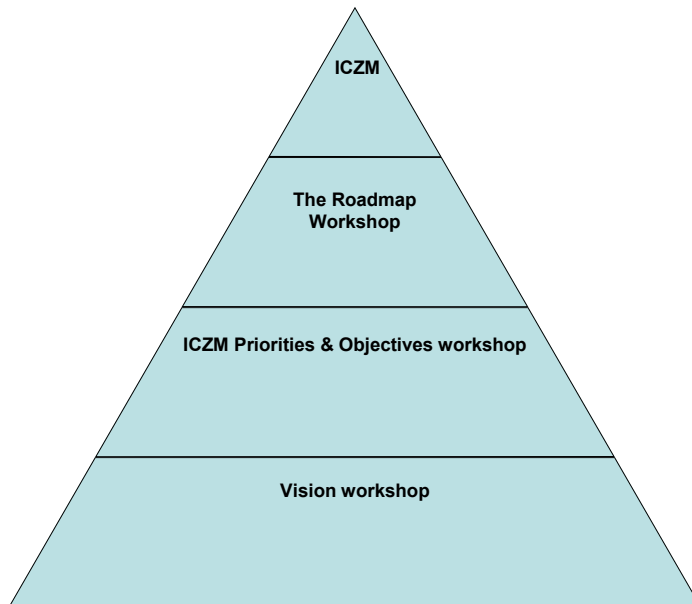
7. Mr. Ivica Trumbic (PAP/RAC Director) appraised the leading role of Egypt in ICZM in developing the ICZM Framework Plan in 1996, and indicated that Egypt's ICZM Strategy would be among the first developed strategies in the Mediterranean in compliance with the ICZM Protocol.

8. Mr. Mohamed Farouk (EEAA General Director) presented the ICZM activities in Egypt regarding the institutional arrangements, the role of the NCICZM in Egypt, and the on-going activities. He also presented the objectives of the Workshop and proposed the Agenda. The meeting adopted the Agenda contained in Annex II of this report. Finally, Mr. Farouk asked the participants for their active contribution to enrich the discussion and to come out with a shared vision for ICZM in Egypt.

## **AGREEING ON CURRENT ICZM REALITIES**

### Agenda item 2: ICZM Strategy process

9. Mr. Phillip MacClenahan (PAP/RAC Consultant) introduced the whole process by which the Strategy is going to be developed. He explained that the Vision Workshop was the first in a series of three workshops that will end up by developing the Strategy, as presented graphically by a following pyramid.



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### Agenda item 3: ICZM in Egypt: History record 1996-2009

10. Mr. Mahmoud Khamis El-Sayed (National Consultant) presented the main findings of the Strategy Phase I, including: focusing on the analysis of current ICZM context; the current state of coastal management issues and ICZM initiatives in Egypt; and stakeholder involvement and

governance mechanisms in relation to vertical and horizontal institutional and governmental decision-making. He, further, identified the main issues, pressures and gaps in implementing ICZM. Besides, he presented the Progress made, namely, Past-achieved or On-going Activities within the context of ICZM. A draft document comprising Phase I of the Strategy was distributed to the participants.

#### Agenda item 4: History record update - Discussion

11. A vivid discussion followed Mr. El-Sayed's presentation. Representatives of the South Sinai, Red Sea and Marsa Matruh coastal Governorates, as well as representatives of participating organisations and agencies made valuable presentations, highlighting the weak points in both horizontal and vertical co-ordination in the ICZM process, and dealing with several technical and management issues.

12. Discussions and opinions presented were supported by the use of graphic templates. Two working group sessions were organised to gather the collective opinion of participants. The first session focused on gathering opinions on the current context in Egypt, while the second requested participants to come up to their desired vision of the situation in 50 years. A final general discussion that closed the first part of the Workshop aimed at focusing participants' attention on a limited set of key vision areas that would lead to a common shared vision statement.

#### Agenda item 5: ICZM context: trends, stakeholders; opportunities (mini SWOT); and conclusions on current realities (agreed diagnosis)

13. The main **objective** of this session was to let participants share their analysis of the current ICZM context. They were split in several discussion groups. The **methodology** used was based on a graphic template, which was given to the participants on which to record the consensus ideas they reached to after 45 minutes open discussions. The context template addressed the following issues: management practices, legal leverage, economic climate, institutional forces, governance mechanisms, and stakeholders' needs and uncertainties. Each group presented its results.

14. All results were gathered on a single graphic template according to the topic discussed, as follows:

#### **Results:**

##### Institutional forces

- Need for more staff (2);
- Need for more training in ICZM (2) - at Governorate level especially;
- No adequate co-ordination in sharing data and information;
- Member of Institute of Land Use to be a member of NCICZM;
- All relevant stakeholders to be involved in NCICZM.

##### Management practices

- Conflict of interest between agencies;
- Need for representation of a lower management level;
- Establishment of operational committees (tourism development);
- Need for more participation;
- Need sector-specific indicators;
- Need for a lead agency to oversee (sector) agencies working on the same topic.

##### Legal leverage

- Inadequate laws: (3) need revision, (2) not deterrent, (3) not enforced;
- National view on laws.

### Environmental trends

Time did not allow for a deep discussion of all relevant environmental issues at stake. The list provided here is, therefore, a sample of current concerns, namely:

- Seawater intrusion impacting agriculture land;
- Degraded fishing resources;
- Tourism impact on coral reefs;
- Increased pressure by growing population;
- Deterioration of water quality;
- Inadequate planning in agriculture priorities.

### Economic climate

- Sustainable shift from agriculture to fish farming;
- No mechanisms for self-financing;
- Impact of global financial crisis;
- ICZM Strategy is not linked to priorities for investors.

### Governance mechanisms

- Need for local fora/committees;
- Need for re-evaluation;
- Need for vertical and horizontal co-ordination.

### Stakeholders' needs

Participants adopted 2 perspectives, namely:

First, what they as stakeholders expected from the government:

- One ICZM Agency;
- Make ICZM Strategy a law;
- Technical secretariat for ICZM to operate at lower level.

Second, what they expected from stakeholders:

- Should be represented in all programmes;
- Would need to be supported;
- Should become more aware of ICZM.

### Uncertainties:

- Impact of climate change;
- Law enforcement;
- Contradictions between centralisation of planning versus decentralisation of implementation.

## **SHARED AND AGREED VISION**

### Agenda item 6: ICZM Protocol: principles and objectives

15. As introduction to the second part of ICZM vision session, Mr. Trumbic presented the ICZM Protocol. After explaining the general principles of integrated coastal zone management, he elaborated the ICZM objectives, namely: (a) to facilitate the sustainable development of coastal zones; (b) to preserve coastal zones; (c) to ensure the sustainable use of natural resources; (d) to ensure preservation of the integrity of coastal ecosystems, landscapes and morphology; (e) to prevent and/or reduce the effects of natural hazards; and (f) to achieve coherence between public and private initiatives and between all decisions by the public authorities, at the national, regional and local levels, which affect the use of the coastal zone.

### Agenda item 7: Framing the vision: groups' visions

16. Once the current agreed ICZM context was presented, the participants were asked to develop their own vision of what ICZM should become in 50 years. They were once more split in working groups to discuss their vision in a structured way. The **objective** of the session was to reach a shared vision on what ICZM realities should be in 50 years. The **methodology** used was based on two graphic templates given to the participants to help them build a coherent vision. A first template called "Cover story: successful ICZM in Egypt" guided the participants in envisioning all components of the desired vision (i.e. main topics, key stakeholders, main achievements, quotes, etc.). A second template called "ICZM Egypt vision" served as a collector of all visions to create the shared vision. The participants were asked to think of the cover story and the contents of a special issue of a national magazine that would tell of the successful implementation of ICZM in Egypt by 2050.

17. They came to the following results:

#### **Results:**

##### Cover title

The following three titles were proposed:

- Coming back to the balanced ecosystems of Egypt;
- A dream, an idea, then a miracle achieved;
- The continuity of the Middle East region.

##### Big headlines

- Marine resources refresh national economy;
- Clean coastal waters, Rehabilitation of coral reefs;
- Egypt successes in mitigating climate change impact;
- Environmental eco-balance for Lakes is finally achieved.

##### Main themes

- Sustainable development in tourism;
- Water resources;
- Well qualified ICZM staff;
- Availability of data;
- Flooding and erosion;
- Tourism no more the main economic activity.

##### Quotes

- "Stability of investment climate" (Chairman of EEAA);
- "We have a plan to protect the coastal zone" (Prime Minister);
- "After 20 years of implementation of ICZM there is better public awareness and implementation".

##### Small success stories

- ICZM experts are rewarded nationally and internationally;
- Projects provide benchmarks to learn from.

### Agenda item 8: Proposing a shared vision

18. With the cover story elements presented and fresh in their minds participants gathered once more in a general session where they were asked to identify and select which the critical areas of ICZM that should be successful by 2050 were. They listed the following:

#### Participation

National NGOs are involved during key ICZM policy-making steps.

#### Evaluation

- Few but clear indicators ensure pragmatic monitoring;
- Allow to assess what is going on to improve our work.

#### Governance

ICZM-related policies are fully integrated.

#### Co-ordination

- The EEAA fully oversees and arbitrates inter-ministerial decisions;
- Line ministries and coastal Governorates have an ICZM unit headed by a middle-ranked manager;
- Co-ordination should especially be applied to the planning of new tourism cities;
- A Management Dashboard should be used for consolidated co-ordination.

#### Capacity building

Each entity with a stake in ICZM has a skilled staff to deal with these issues.

Unfortunately, time did not allow for spelling out a common shared vision statement.

### Agenda item 9: Next steps

19. The participants agreed that the next workshop would be held at the end of February 2009.

20. The workshop was declared closed on 29 January 2009, at 5 p.m.

## ANNEX I List of Participants

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## **ANNEX II Agenda**

9.00 - 9.15            Opening of the Workshop.  
Welcome addresses.  
Introduction.  
(Mr. M. Farouk, EEAA and Mr. I. Trumbic, PAP/RAC)

### ***AGREEING ON CURRENT ICZM REALITIES***

9.15 – 9.30            ICZM Strategy process.  
(Mr. P. MacClenahan, PAP/RAC Consultant)

9.30 – 10.00        ICZM in Egypt: history record 1996-2009.  
(Prof. M. El-Sayed, National Consultant)

10.00 -11.00        History record update - Discussion.  
(Representatives of coastal Governorates)

11.30 – 13.00        Current ICZM context: trends, stakeholders; opportunities (mini SWOT);  
and conclusions on current realities (agreed diagnosis).  
(Mr. P. MacClenahan and Mr. M. El-Sayed)

### ***SHARED AND AGREED VISION***

14.30 – 14.45        ICZM Protocol: principles and objectives.  
(Mr. I. Trumbic)

14.45 – 15.30        Framing the vision: groups' visions.  
(Mr. P. MacClenahan - Facilitator)

15.30 – 16.15        Proposing a shared vision.  
(Mr. P. MacClenahan - Facilitator)

16.45 – 17.15        Next steps.  
(Mr. P. MacClenahan, Mr. I. Trumbic and Mr. M. Farouk)

17.15                    Closure of the workshop.