# GEO-CRADLE

Coordinating and integRating state-of-the-art Earth Observation Activities in the regions of North Africa, Middle East and Balkans and Developing Links with GEO related initiatives toward GEOSS

# Stakeholder Meeting

## Cairo – Egypt

## April 28, 2016

## Introduction

On April 28, 2016 a stakeholder workshop was conducted. Three promising projects are sharing this workshop. The first project is mainly concerned with knowledge sharing and knowledge dissemination, Knowledge network for Nexus water, energy and food coherence. The second project is concerned with increasing awareness and capacity building through "The Integration of Goals and Standards Objectives of Sustainable Development at the National & Local Levels" project. The third project is concerned with data and earth observation through Coordination and Integration of the modern Earth observation activities in North Africa and the Middle East and Balkans and linked them to the global system for Earth observation" project.

## Objective

The main objective of GEO-Cradle stakeholder meeting was to

- introduce the Geo-Cradle project to stakeholders in Egypt.
- complete the knowledge acquired on the existing capacities, skills, needs, and related stakeholders and decision making bodies in Egypt.
- raise awareness and build the capacity of stakeholders to participate in the implementation of Egypt's vision in 2030

## Participants

The workshop was well attended. There were about 80 participants. They were combination of scientists, researchers and intellectuals interested in environmental issues, who are working very hard to promote environmental work and to face surrounding environment challenges whether related to climate change and its impact on the water resources and other agriculture and energy resources and the consequent direct impact on food security and thus the lives of citizens.

The workshop was formally inaugurated by:

- Ambassador Shahera Wahbi, representative of League of Arab States representing the head of sustainable development unit at League of Arab States.
- Dr. Nehal Magraby, Deputy Minister of Planning for Monitoring and Follow-up of the administrative reform, responsible for monitoring of the implementation of Egypt's vision 2030 to achieve sustainable development.
- Mr. Janis Aizsalniek, European Union EU representative in Egypt.
- Dr. Emad Adly, national coordinator of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) Small Grants Programme of the United Nations Development Programme
- Dr. Omar El-Badawy, Land Resources Program Manager, CEDARE

Participants were representatives from

- Ministry of Environment,
- Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation,
- Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation,
- Ministry of Electricity and Renewable Energy,
- Ministry of Education
- Ministry of Planning,
- Cairo University,
- Ain Shams University
- Banha University
- Helwan University
- Suez Canal University,
- Desert research center (DRC)
- Agriculture Research Center
- National Water Research Center
- the research institute for groundwater (rigw)
- Regional Center for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (RCREEE)

- Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs)
- Media

**Content:**

The main topics in the workshop were:

- Introduction to Geo-Cradle project (concept, objectives, partners, activities), Omar Elbadawy, CEDARE
- Global Climate Change Impact: Learned Lessons and Egypt's Future, Hesham M. El-Askary, GEO-CRADLE Regional Coordinator (Also introducing the survey and asking attendees to fill it in)
- Role of Earth Observations in GEO & AfriGEOSS, Prof. Islam Abou El-Magd, Head of the Environmental Studies Department, NARSS
- Regional Knowledge Network on "Water, Energy & Food Nexus", Dr. Amr A. Meguid, R-KNOW Project, CEDARE
- Outline on Egypt Vision 2030, Prof. Dr. Emad Adly, Envionmental International Expert

**Conclusion:**

- the availability of earth observations data whether from remote sensing or from ground monitoring stations is very important. Data analysis and modeling represent a corner stone to address the environmental challenges and to monitor and track earth climate changes. This will also helps in predicting and avoiding future consequences of climate changes. This will also allow the scientists and researchers in turn, to work in preventing or minimizing the potential adverse effects of climate change.
- cooperation, participatory approach and global integration in earth observation data operation is becoming a must, essential urgent need and fundamental requirement in order to address environmental threats and to avoid the devastating impact on the health, environmental, economic and social aspects.