



**MINISTRY OF STATE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS**

**EGYPTIAN ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AGENCY**

***SUPPORT TO THE EGYPTIAN PROTECTED AREAS (SEPA)***

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## Acronyms

**DGCD:** Directorate General of Cooperation for Development  
**EEAA:** Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency  
**EEPA:** Enhancement of the Egyptian Protected Areas  
**EIDS:** Egyptian-Italian Debt for Development Swap Programme  
**EIECP:** Egyptian-Italian Environmental Cooperation Programme  
**GEF:** Global Environmental Facility  
**GIS:** Geographical Information System  
**GKNP:** Gilf Kebir National Park  
**GMS:** General Management Support  
**GOE:** Government of Egypt  
**HQ:** Headquarters  
**ICM:** International Co-manager  
**IEDS:** Italian Egyptian Debt Swap  
**ISS:** Implementation Support Services  
**IUCN:** International Union for Conservation of Nature  
**LIFP:** Legal and Institutional Framework Project  
**MSEA:** Ministry of State for Environmental Affairs  
**NCM:** National Co-Manager  
**NCS:** Nature Conservation Sector  
**NCSCB:** Nature Conservation Sector Capacity Building project  
**NEAP:** National Environmental Action Plan  
**PA:** Protected Area  
**PAMU:** Protected Area Management Unit  
**PANV:** Protected Area New Valley  
**PMU:** Project Management Unit  
**POPP:** Program and Operations Policies and Procedures  
**RBM:** Results Based Management  
**SEPA:** Support to the Egyptian Protected Areas  
**TSU:** Technical Support Unit  
**UNDP:** United Nations Development Programme  
**WGNP:** Wadi Gamal National Park  
**WRPA:** Wadi el Rayan Protected Area

**ITALIAN EGYPTIAN DEBT FOR DEVELOPMENT SWAP PROGRAM**

(AGREEMENT SIGNED IN CAIRO ON 03.06.2007)

**PROJECT DOCUMENT**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

<b>Project title</b>	<b>Support to the Egyptian Protected Areas (SEPA)</b>
Brief Project Description	<p>SEPA project is to be considered as a natural evolution of the Egyptian-Italian Environmental Cooperation Programme (EIECP). In this framework, it will contribute to guarantee the sustainability of the activities undertaken to enhance the system of the Protected Areas of Egypt, in preparation of the third forthcoming phase of the EIECP and through complementary and synergic actions to the UNDP-GEF project “Strengthening Protected Areas’ financing and management systems”.</p> <p>The intervention will carry out its activities in Siwa Protected Area, Wadi el Rayan Protected Area, Gilf Kebir National Park, Wadi Gamal National Park and the recently declared Salloum Protected Area.</p> <p>Building on the experience gained through the interventions already implemented in the framework of EIECP, the project will further strengthen the Management Units of the targeted Protected Areas (PAMUs), develop sustainable tourism, as well as contribute to the promotion of world-class parks, which can enhance the conservation of both the natural and cultural heritage, from one side, and act as a propulsive instrument for the socio-economic sustainable development of the local communities, from the other.</p>
Total Budget LE	LE 11,000,000 (eleven million Egyptian pounds)
Sector of intervention	Environmental protection and conservation
Applicant	Ministry of State for Environmental Affairs (MSEA)/Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA)
Implementing Agency	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
Location	<p>Governorate of Marsa Matrouh: Siwa and Salloum Protected Areas</p> <p>Governorate of Fayoum: Wadi el Rayan Protected Area</p> <p>Governorate of New Valley: Gilf Kebir National Park</p> <p>Governorate of Red Sea: Wadi Gamal National Park</p>
Duration	24 months (twenty-four months)
Overall Objective	Support and enhance the system of the Egyptian Protected Areas, contributing towards sustainable development processes and eco-tourism promotion.
Beneficiaries	Ministry of State for Environmental Affairs (MSEA)/Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA); Governorates of Marsa Matrouh, Fayoum, New Valley and Red Sea, related districts and local communities, population living in and

	around the PAs, tourism sector.
Expected Results	<p><b>R 1:</b> EEAA capacities and resources for management and conservation are enhanced in Siwa Protected Area (Siwa PA), Salloum Protected Area (Salloum PA), Gilf Kebir National Park (GKNP), Wadi el Rayan Protected Area (WRPA) and Wadi Gamal National Park (WGNP).</p> <p><b>R 2:</b> The Visitor Centers established in the frame of EIECP (Siwa Visitor Center, Wadi el Rayan Visitor Center, Gilf Kebir Information Center in Dakhla) are fully operational.</p> <p><b>R 3:</b> Visitor facilities in the target areas are developed and enhanced as World class tourism destinations.</p> <p><b>R 4:</b> Information and Communication tools are produced, and environmental awareness is promoted in the selected PAs.</p>

**A. PRESENTATION OF THE APPLICANT :** experience in the sector and in the geographical areas of the proposal

<b>Full legal name:</b>	Ministry of State for Environmental Affairs/Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency
Acronym:	MSEA/EEAA
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Website:	<a href="http://www.eeaa.gov.eg">www.eeaa.gov.eg</a>
Legal Representative:	Dr. Mawaheb Abou al Azm, EEAA Chief Executive Officer
Contact person:	Gen. Ahmed Ali, Head Director of Central Protected Areas
Contact person's address, e-mail, tel./fax number:	<a href="mailto:Ahmedali_NCS@hotmail.com">Ahmedali_NCS@hotmail.com</a> Tel. + 2 01515094881 <a href="mailto:Heba_adel88@hotmail.com">Heba_adel88@hotmail.com</a>

The Ministry of State for Environmental Affairs (MSEA) is the Government Authority responsible for environmental policy in Egypt. The Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA) is the main MSEA executive and administrative body responsible for promoting and protecting the environment. EEAA was first established under decree No. 631 of 1982 within the Prime Minister's Office; its role was further clarified and strengthened by Law 4/1994 on the Environment, which was amended by Law No.9/2009 thanks to the efforts exerted by the *Legal and Institutional Framework Project* (LIFP) implemented in the frame of the EIECP II.

The EEAA has five technical sectors: 1) Environmental Quality; 2) Environmental Management; 3) Nature Conservation Sector-NCS; 4) Branches Affairs Sector; 5) Financial and Administrative Affairs Sector. In addition, it includes five central departments: i) Environmental information, public awareness and training; ii) Information Computer Center; iii) Technical support, International relation and Cooperation; vi) Industrial Environment improvement and Protection and Climate Change; v) CEO technical office.

The NCS, which was established in 1995, is the institution responsible for the management of PAs, the implementation of conservation measures therein, and the enforcement of environmental law within the PAs. It is the organization entrusted with undertaking the necessary policies, programs, studies and other actions to ensure compliance with the habitat and species protection legislation and commitments to international conventions for the conservation of nature. According to EEAA Organization Structure, approved by the Central Agency for Organization and Administration in September 2006, the NCS is comprised of two departments: Central administration of Protected Areas and Central administration of Biodiversity. The former

oversees the National Protected Area Network, while the latter provides studies and researches, information and other services.

Being the institution responsible for the management of PAs, the experience of EEAA/NCS in the geographical areas of the proposed project is undoubted. The PAs, which are currently under the supervision of EEAA/NCS are the following 29: *El Omayed, Lake Burullus, Ashtum El Gamil, Zaranik, Alahrash, Siwa Oasis, The White Desert, Wadi El Rayan, Lake Qarun, El Hassana Dome, Maadi Petrified Forest, Wadi Digla, Wadi Sannur Cave, Taba, Abu Galum, St Katherine, Nabq, Ras Mohamed, Wadi El Asyuti, The Nile River Islands, Saluga-Ghazal, Wadi Gemal, Gebel Elba, Wadi El Alaqi, Gilf Kebir National Park, The Northern Red Sea Islands, Umm El-Dababyia, Salloum, Bahariya.*

**B. PRESENTATION OF THE IMPLEMENTING AGENCY:** experience in the sector and in the geographical areas of the proposal

<b>Full legal name:</b>	<b>United Nations Development Programme</b>
Acronym:	UNDP
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UNDP's overall mission is to help the Egyptian Government in its efforts to reduce poverty and to promote sustainable development policies. UNDP Egypt supports activities in four practice areas: Poverty reduction, Energy and Environment, Democratic Governance, and Crisis Prevention and Recovery. Like many other UNDP offices, UNDP Egypt has adopted the so-called "Results Based Management" (RBM) approach, creating a results-orientated project management system.

UNDP's Environment Programme tenders a wide range of specialized areas that support the promotion of sustainable development. Egypt faces many environmental challenges, protecting the country's natural resources, and regenerating those resources which have suffered degradation stand as important features of sustainable development and the campaign to help the poor. UNDP is helping the MSEA to build its capacity to manage environmental resources and to develop strategies so that Egypt can meet its obligations to international conventions and treaties.

In partnership with the EIECP since 2005, UNDP has supported the Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA) in establishing several of these protectorates, preparing and partially implementing management plans for Wadi el-Rayan/Wadi el-Hitan (first natural heritage site in Egypt), Gabel Elba, White Desert and Gilf Kebir. Other Protected Areas targeted by UNDP are Zaranik, Burulus, Omayed and St. Katherine, as well as those included in the UNDP-GEF project on PAs' financial sustainability, among which Wadi Gamal National Park is one of the most important.

UNDP applies the National Execution Modality in project implementation which includes: quality assurances, general oversight, technical support and financial monitoring. In addition, UNDP applies international standards for resource mobilization, monitoring and evaluation and auditing to ensure the proper usage of donor funds.



UNDP provides advice to the government on environmental management policies, strategies and best practices and helps to foster partnerships among donors, civil society organizations, the private sector and research institutes on environmental protection at the international, regional and local levels.

## **C. THE PROPOSAL**

### **1- CONTEXT / BACKGROUND**

The establishment of Protected Areas is one of the main instruments of Egypt's strategy for conserving biodiversity and other natural and cultural resources. The creation, development and management of national protectorates is part of the overall environmental and development strategy of Egypt. Since the 1980's the Egyptian Government has undertaken initiatives to preserve significant portions of natural habitats from resource depletion and human disturbance.

In the frame of the EIECP I and II, ongoing efforts have been exerted to promote the socio-economic development of the local communities living within the PAs, as well as to ensure their involvement in the activities of the PAs and in the tourism sector. The intervention proposed in the present document is to be considered as a natural evolution of the Egyptian-Italian Environmental Cooperation Programme (EIECP). In this framework, it will contribute to guarantee the sustainability of the numerous activities undertaken to develop the system of the PAs of Egypt, in preparation of the third forthcoming phase of the EIECP and through complementary and synergic actions to the UNDP-GEF project "Strengthening Protected Areas' financing and management systems".

The main aim of the UNDP-GEF project is to ensure the biodiversity and nature conservation by establishing a sustainable protected area financing and management system in Egypt. The foundation of the long-term solution is a sustainable financing system based on the following three pillars: (i) Legal, regulatory and institutional frameworks that support sustainable PA financing; (ii) Tools and practices for revenue generation and mobilization, and; (iii) Business planning and other tools for cost-effective management.

The I phase of the EIECP was agreed through the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed on June 18th, 1998 between the Egyptian MSEA/ EEAA and the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs/Directorate General of Cooperation for Development (DGCD).

The II phase of the EIECP was agreed through the MOU signed on November 5th, 2003 between the MSEA and the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs/ DGCD. It was designed by DGCD and EEAA to be implemented through the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), with the aim of contributing towards the implementation of the National Environmental Action Plan (NEAP) 2002-2017. Moreover, the Management Committee of the Italian-Egyptian Debt-for-Development Swap Program phase I approved to co-finance the Program and a specific Project Implementing Agreement, was signed on January 21, 2004, between the abovementioned Management Committee and the MSEA/ EEAA.

In the frame of the EIECP, the UNDP-Egyptian-Italian partnership adopted a cross-cutting and comprehensive methodology to the overall environmental sector, strengthening national capacities to ensure the achievement of sustainable development goals, through an integrated and policy-driven approach.

The Program aimed at promoting a sound management of the Protected Areas of Egypt, through interventions both at local and central levels, thanks to the human, technical and

physical resources, which have been provided. The interventions in the field of Protected Areas focused on Gabal Elba, Wadi el Rayan/Wadi el Hitan, White Desert, Gilf Kebir and, partially, Siwa. Other fields of interventions have targeted environmental legislation, water resources and solid waste management, as well as sustainable agriculture, archaeological and cultural heritage.

Protected Areas are considered of pivotal and strategic importance for the future of the country, also due to their strong economic potential, in particular when related to sustainable development principles. In this context, SEPA project will contribute towards facilitating sustainable development processes within the system of the Protected Areas of Egypt, which were initiated through the UNDP-Egyptian-Italian partnership within the EIECP. Moreover, SEPA project will contribute towards the empowerment of the local communities, living in and around the Protected Areas, through direct participation in local economic, touristic and cultural activities.

### **1.1 –Situation in the sector /geographic areas and issues to be addressed**

The selected Protected Areas (PAs) targeted by SEPA project are Siwa, Salloum, Wadi el Rayan, Gilf Kebir National Park and Wadi Gamal National Park. The abovementioned PAs are considered by the Ministry of State for Environmental Affairs of strategic importance for the development of the whole system of the Egyptian PAs, they have relevant untapped potentials for the local and national economy, as they support an increasingly active formal and informal tourism sector. The development and implementation of a correct and effective management of the PAs, as well as the promotion of sustainable tourism, is vital if their values are to be secured.

Although many results were achieved by the UNDP-Egyptian-Italian partnership within the EIECP, the proposed intervention will tackle the still remaining constraints in terms of effective management and conservation of the selected PAs, also in relation to the management of the tourist facilities, such as the Visitor Centers. Moreover, SEPA will positively affect the conservation and valorisation of the natural and cultural resources of the Protected Areas and minimize the threats posed by the increasing number of tourists.

Among the 5 targeted PAs, Wadi Rayan and in particular the exemplary development of the site of **Wadi Hitan**, as well as the proposed establishment of the fossil museum in Wadi Hitan, will be considered as a model for the successful development and management of other PAs, representing a world class terrestrial Protected Area in terms of management, human and technical resources available.

Indeed, the selected PAs represent a major attraction for visitors, who often camp for one or more nights in the desert. Signs of degradation of the habitats and features are increasingly visible, and include, for example in the **Gilf Kebir National Park**, damage to geological features or to archaeological remains, due to random driving and uncontrolled waste disposal, as well as inadequate management of touristic flows. The degradation of the natural resources and the reduction of biodiversity may therefore spoil prime assets for nature-based tourism and associated activities, which represent crucial ingredients for pursuing a more sustainable development approach in the region.

Moreover, **Siwa Protected Area** needs to be supported in terms of effective management and conservation. The newly introduced but rapidly growing economic activities are threatening the unique rich and diverse natural environment, since most private sector

investments, which are penetrating Siwa, are targeting sectors, which have a negative impact on conservation of biodiversity and cultural heritage. In this context, SEPA project will address some of the requirements of the PA, following the guidelines of the “Sustainable Tourism in Siwa: an integrated strategy for the Siwa Protected Area”, which was produced in the frame of the EIECP.

**Salloum** was only recently (2010) declared as a marine protected area, lacking any terrestrial component. The Protected Area Management Unit (PAMU), as well as the administrative building need to be established.

Support is needed to build the capacities of the PA, to carry out pilot schemes of environmental monitoring (flora and fauna), to assist local communities, as well as to produce a set of information, communication and outreach tools, also targeting local fishermen’s community and their cooperative societies. In particular, in Salloum few inhabitants are engaged in traditional fishing activities. The current management of traditional and recreational fisheries should be further enforced in order to prevent stock depletion of target fishes and crustaceans.

Furthermore, in consideration of its proximity to the Libyan borders, it is pivotal to patrol and protect the marine habitat, which could be damaged if the presence of rangers and community guards is not guaranteed. In this context, SEPA project will address the basic requirements of the newly established PA and will purchase a small boat for the patrolling and monitoring activities to be implemented within its borders.

Finally, **Wadi Gamal National Park**, declared in January 2003, has different potential revenue generating scenarios, which will be developed by the GEF-UNDP project. In this context, through parallel and complementary actions, SEPA project will contribute towards the enhancement of the Park, by supporting the management unit, developing basic infrastructure, promoting monitoring activities and involving a dialogue with the local tribes, about their future role within the Park and the importance to shift their livelihoods away from a dependence on a livestock sector that is in economic decline, and towards a greater role in tourism, environmental monitoring and management, as well as natural resources protection.

## **1.2 –Institutional framework, policies and programmes**

As described in the above paragraph, the Ministry of State for Environmental Affairs (MSEA) is the government body responsible for environmental policy in Egypt. Its principle challenge is to manage the scarce common resources of water and cultivable land more effectively in order to meet the needs of a growing population, which is placing enormous pressure on agricultural production and on the use of non-renewable and limited natural resources.

The Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA) is the main MSEA executive or administrative body responsible for environmental protection. It was established under decree No. 631 of 1982 within the Prime Minister’s Office and later restructured to include the Nature Conservation Sector. The main rules governing EEAA’s mandate, operation, and functions are derived from Law No. 4 of 1994, complemented by the Executive Regulations issued in Prime Minister’s decree No. 338 of 1995 and amended by Law No.9/2009.

EEAA acts as the coordinating body for all government activities pertaining to the environment and conservation, including prevention and abatement of pollution and management of protected areas. Its comprehensive powers and tasks include: formulating general policies, drafting legislation and issuing rules, regulations and standards; coordinating with other concerned authorities to prepare and implement plans and programs for environmental protection; encouraging economic activities in the field of pollution prevention; and, enforcing laws and other environmental rules, including monitoring to ensure that existing establishments comply with the environmental laws.

The mandate of the Nature Conservation Sector is to “*protect, manage and develop Egypt’s wild resources on behalf of its people, by conserving the nation’s biological diversity, preserving representative samples of the country’s natural landscape, and ensuring that the management and use of all wild resources are sustainable and economically productive.*”

Specific objectives are:

- To conserve representative examples of all the nation’s main natural habitats and physiographic regions;
- To help maintain the nation’s biological diversity;
- To help maintain the nation’s ecological viability;
- To protect the nation’s most outstanding landscape features;
- To optimise economic and social return from the nation’s natural systems in a fashion that insures their long-term sustainable maintenance;
- To promote public understanding and appreciation of Egypt’s natural heritage;
- To maintain options for future generations: the intergenerational equity.

The Central administration for Protected Areas of the NCS oversees the National Protected Area Network. The legislative basis creating the legal framework of PAs is Law 102 of 1983. Since its passage, 29 Protected Areas have been declared, to date, throughout Egypt. The 29 PAs make up a network that covers approximately 15% of the surface of the country. Several other sites have been already identified to be declared in future, as deserving protection. The number of PAs will expect to reach 40 by 2017, covering up to 20% of the country. The PAs are grouped into five management units according to geographic locations: i)Cairo, ii)Red Sea, iii)Sinai, iv)Western Desert and v)Upper Egypt.

At the level of each PA a manager is generally appointed as head of a Management Unit (PAMU), which can also include senior rangers, rangers, technicians, administrators, ticket collectors, drivers and community guards. The management of the PAs varies in degree over a wide range. Some have well-developed infrastructure systems, staffing and programs, while others still have very limited management activities occurring on the ground. Consultants are hired to provide technical and scientific advice on an *ad hoc* basis. The better-developed PAs often are the results of individual donor-funded, site-specific PAs projects. Many efforts have recently been exerted to promote ecotourism in

the PAs (matching local environmental, cultural, archaeological and social aspects), which may indicate a nascent trend for the future. The main economic activities for populations living in and around most PAs are handicraft and other traditional activities, such as livestock herding, fishing, and medicinal plant collection, in addition to agriculture, and to varying degrees, activities within the tourism industry.

### **1.3 –Existing initiatives**

The major initiatives which have been carried out by donors and international agencies in the geographical areas of intervention of the proposed project are:

#### **Wadi el Rayan Protected Area**

The Italian Cooperation is present in Wadi el Rayan since 1998, through the EIECP. To date, a substantive contribution has been already provided to strengthen the administrative and technical capacities of the PAMU in terms of capacity building, equipment, vehicles, and infrastructures. The eco-tourism perspective linked to the Protected Area has been developed and diversified by establishing and arranging new Camping Areas, Bird Hides, Trails and Lookouts. A Visitor Centre for the PA has been already established, while for Wadi El-Hitan (Valley of Fossil Wales), declared "World Heritage (natural) Site" by UNESCO in 2005, a specific Conservation Plan has been prepared and executed, the needed infrastructure in the service area has been established and an Open Air Museum has been established and made operational.

In addition, the area of Wadi Hitan contains valuable Eocene marine fossil deposits, including mammals that have been described and inventoried as part of a paleontological/paleo-environmental study commissioned by the PAMU. The exemplary development of the site of Wadi Hitan, universally praised, has attracted the attention of the specialized international scientific community over the Protected Area. The establishment of a fossil museum in Wadi el Hitan proposed in SEPA project will contribute at further strengthening the role of Wadi el Hitan as a world class terrestrial Protected Area.

#### **Gilf Kebir National Park**

In the frame of the EIECP II (NCSCB/PANV/EEPA), the intervention in such area has mainly focused on the establishment of the PAMU and capacity building activities, through on the job training for rangers and community guards. In addition, an Information Centre has been set-up in Dakhla, the main routes have been identified in cooperation with tour guides and the main sites have been marked and fenced with stones. Moreover, the intervention has focused on the enhancement of the archaeological and cultural heritage of Wadi Sura caves. Yet given the remoteness and the wide extension of its area, GKNP still needs support in order to assess its extraordinary national and archaeological heritage, and establish an effective monitoring system.

#### **Wadi Gamal National Park**

Wadi Gamal is one of the main areas of interest of the abovementioned GEF project "Strengthening protected areas' financing and management systems", due to its economic potentials and the variety of its resources, including the beauty and diversity of the marine environment, its history, geology, natural, cultural and archaeological resources. Moreover, in the framework of the "LIFE Red Sea" project, implemented by USAID, an interpretive Master Plan was drafted to increase visitors 'appreciation for, and sensitivity to, the

natural and cultural resources of the area, to promote environmental stewardship and, ultimately, to contribute to the protection goals of the NCS.

### **Salloum Protected Area**

No specific intervention has been so far carried out in Salloum marine Protected Area, due to its relatively recent establishment, for which IUCN prepared the necessary studies. Nevertheless, as already described above, the strategic importance of the area in this particular historical moment should be highly considered. In consideration of its proximity to the Libyan borders, it is pivotal to patrol and protect the marine habitat, which could be damaged if the presence of adequate staff is not guaranteed.

### **Siwa Protected Area**

In 1998, the Italian cooperation, through EIECP I and subsequently through EIECP II, launched a project, implemented by the Marsa Matrouh Governorate, to promote new agricultural practices in Siwa, based on the diversification of crops and the introduction of improved soil and water conservation techniques. By working closely with the local communities and its traditional leaders, the project has contributed to strengthening local forms of governance and collaborative management of natural resources. The foundations have been laid for a wider initiative with the aim of conserving the natural and cultural heritage of the Siwa region, while ensuring the sustainable and equitable use of its resources. The Protected Area also acts as a focus for the development of innovative and environmentally friendly economic activities, such as ecotourism, which is an important new sector of the Siwan economy. A Visitor Center has been established in Siwa to inform the visitors on the resources and rules of the PA.

Furthermore, Italian NGOs carried out a wide range of interventions, aiming at protecting and preserving the tangible and intangible archaeological and cultural heritage of Siwa.

## **2 -THE PROJECT**

### **2.1 – Project strategy**

In line with the NEAP 2002- 2017 and the National Strategy and Action Plan for Biodiversity Conservation of Egypt (1997-2017), the project will provide resources to further develop the capacities of EEAA, in order to effectively manage a set of National Protected Areas, established according to the Law 102/1983, in the Western and Eastern Desert of Egypt. The activities which will be carried out by SEPA project will be based on a model of in-situ conservation and sustainable use of natural resources, and on established best practices of PAs management. The intervention strategy is mainly based on the support to the appropriate management of the five protected areas, as they are regarded as fundamental tools to ensure the sustainable preservation of the rich natural and cultural heritage of the Western and Eastern Desert.

The intervention will enhance the resources and capacities for the conservation of the natural and cultural resources of the target areas. This is to ensure their preservation not only as important assets of the country, but also in view of their potential nomination as World Heritage Sites and World Class tourism destinations. As the resources in the PAs cannot be considered in isolation from those in the surrounding regions, especially in terms of tourism attractiveness, the intervention will also seek to support a win-win relationship between tourists and local communities, as well as to encourage the conservation and sustainable use of associated resources in nearby areas, thus enhancing the socio-economic development of the local communities.

To address the technical challenges connected to the conservation and sustainable use of natural and cultural resources in the target areas, first of all the intervention proposes to enhance the capacities to manage the targeted Protected Areas. This will be carried out by providing technical assistance, staff, training, equipment and physical facilities to the PAMUs, which are in charge of the management of the PAs at the local level. All the works, which will be carried out for the construction of the Headquarters for the PAMUs, as well as for the construction of the visitors' facilities, will be executed through eco-architecture and environmentally sensitive designs, with very low impact on the environment. The works will be carried out by utilizing local manpower and materials.

Moreover, the project will seek to enhance the capacity of the local government authorities, stakeholder groups, local communities and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), formally recognized according to the Egyptian law, to assist in and support the management of the Protected Areas as essential elements of the sustainable development of the region, and to foster the development of environmental friendly economic activities, in particular focused on sustainable tourism, linked to the five protectorates. Partnership agreements will be promoted between the MSEA/EEAA and local NGOs and/or the private sector in order to assign the concessions for the management of the touristic facilities (Visitor Centers and related cafeterias, handicraft shops, etc). Within the activities which will be promoted to enhance the use of these structures, as well as to spread environmental awareness within the PAs, local communities will be actively engaged, through their participation in the cleaning campaigns. Local products and handicraft will be exhibited and sold within these facilities and materials will be purchased and provided to the local communities, who will produce and sell their products.



In line with the GEF project, the intervention will also seek to contribute in a significant and effective manner to improve sustainable tourism-related employment and income generation opportunities, encourage wider use of sustainable technologies (i.e. solar panels) and create green jobs opportunities. By developing viable business in the PAs, the financial sustainability of the whole system will be promoted, under the condition that funds are reinvested into biodiversity monitoring and conservation, community development and poverty reduction.

The intervention will also aim, to a limited extent, to the conservation of the cultural heritage and landscape of the nearby areas, as they should be seen as important components of the sustainable tourism potential of the region. This will be pursued in the GKNP, in WGNP and in the Eastern desert. Concerning the Eastern desert the activities will mainly focus on the mapping of the roman archaeological sites present in the area.

Involvement of and coordination with other partners- national or international academic institutes, which have the experience and technical resources to assist with some of the activities, and with national institutions like the Supreme Council of Antiquities, the Ministry of Tourism, the Ministry of Interior, etc.- will be fostered to ensure the success of the project. Strong and effective partnerships between the PAs, local authorities and interests groups such as tourism agencies, including commercial and tour operators, will be actively pursued.

## **2.2 – Overall Objective**

As specified in the attached Logical Framework, the overall objective of SEPA project is to support and enhance the system of the Egyptian Protected Areas, contributing towards sustainable development processes and eco-tourism promotion.

The overall objective is based on the following guiding principles:

- Consolidate the results achieved by the UNDP-Egyptian-Italian partnership in the frame of EIECP II and ensure the sustainability of the activities undertaken by the Program with reference to Protected Areas;
- Build upon the experience and lessons learned;
- Promote synergy and complementarity with other similar initiatives carried out in the sector.

## **2.3 – Specific Objectives**

As specified in the attached Logical Framework, the related specific objectives are the following:

- Improve the management capacities of the target areas (Siwa PA, Salloum PA, GKNP, WRPA, WGNP);
- Contribute to the conservation of the natural and cultural heritage and to the sustainable economic development of local communities;
- Enhance the visitors' facilities in the selected Protected Areas as World class tourism destinations.

## **2.4 – Expected Results and Indicators**

As specified in the attached Logical Framework, the expected results are:

**Result 1:** EEAA capacities and resources for management and conservation are enhanced in Siwa PA, GKNP, WGNP, WRPA and Salloum PA.

**Result 2:** The Visitor Centers established in the target areas, in the frame of EIECP, (Siwa Visitor Center, Wadi el Rayan Visitor Center, Gilf Kebir Information Center in Dakhla) are fully operational.

**Result 3:** Visitor facilities in the target areas are developed and enhanced as World class tourism destinations.

**Result 4:** Information and Communication tools are produced, and environmental awareness is promoted in the selected PAs.

For the relevant indicators, see the Logical Framework.

## **2.5 – Activities**

As specified in the Logical Framework, to reach the abovementioned results the proposed project will carry out the following main activities:

*Result 1: EEAA capacities and resources for management and conservation are enhanced in Siwa PA, GKNP, WGNP, WRPA and Salloum PA,.*

### **A 1.1 Siwa PA**

- 1.1.1 Supporting the establishment of an administrative building office, to serve as base for management operations in the PA and basic accommodation for its staff, as well as for promoting coordination mechanisms with relevant private and public stakeholders, institutions and NGOs;
- 1.1.2 Marking boundaries, through permanent landmarks and signposts in selected priority locations and improving management at key sites;
- 1.1.3 Developing a preliminary study for underground water in Siwa PA, specifically in Bir Wahed area.

### **A 1.2 GKNP**

- 1.2.1 Supporting PAMU in Dakhla by recruiting PA staff and purchasing equipment;
- 1.2.2 Upgrading the PAMU Headquarters in Dakhla also to serve as basic accommodation for its staff.
- 1.2.3 Marking boundaries, through permanent landmarks and signposts in selected priority locations and improving management at key sites.
- 1.2.4 Enhancing the cultural and archaeological heritage for the promotion of sustainable tourism. This activity will aim at contributing to the protection of the precious rock paintings present in Wadi Sura-following the results

of this component within EEPA project- and it will be carried out in coordination with the Supreme Council of Antiquities.

### **A 1.3 WGNP**

- 1.3.1 Upgrading the PAMUs Headquarters of WGNP in Marsa Alam and Hamata;
- 1.3.2 Establishing, demarcating and signing around 100 km of tracks;
- 1.3.3 Enhancing the archaeological and cultural heritage in WGNP and Eastern Desert for the promotion of sustainable tourism. This activity will aim at mapping the roman sites present in the area and it will be carried out in coordination with the Supreme Council of Antiquities.

### **A 1.4 WRPA**

- 1.4.1 Fostering effective partnership with the Supreme Council of Antiquities, in order to promote the inclusion of Medinet Madi archaeological site within the boundaries of the PA, establishing a unique natural, cultural and archaeological district;
- 1.4.2 Safeguarding the natural resources by protecting the area around the site of Midawwara.

### **A 1.5 Salloum PA**

- 1.5.1 Establishing PAMU Headquarters in Salloum to serve as base for management operations in the PA and basic accommodation for the staff of the PA.
- 1.5.2 Supporting the PAMU by recruiting the PA basic staff and purchasing equipment.

### **A 1.6 Siwa PA, GKNP, WGNP, WRPA, Salloum**

1.6.1 Training the staff of the 5 PAMUs. The training will focus on the following subjects: basic PA Management and related disciplines (namely Wildlife Management, Arid Land Management, Coastal and Marine Management, Environmental Impact Assessment and Education and Public Awareness), as well as basic skills, such as English, IT, GIS, Communication and Public Relations.

1.6.2 Developing monitoring programs on natural and cultural resources in the 5 PAs.

***Result 2: The Visitor Centers established in the target areas, in the frame of EIECP, (Siwa Visitor Center, Wadi el Rayan Visitor Center, Gilf Kebir Information Center in Dakhla) are fully operational.***

- 2.1 Opening the Visitor Centers established in the frame of EIECP, assure basic services to the public, developing interpretive programs for national and international visitors;
- 2.2 Fostering partnership agreements for the management of the additional services related to the VC activities (cafeterias, handicraft shops, entertainment for schools, etc.) and assigning the related concessions to

private companies or to local associations/NGOs. This activity will be carried out by the PMU in consultation with the MSEA/EEAA.

**Result 3:** *Visitor facilities in the target areas are developed and enhanced as World class tourism destinations.*

### **A 3.1 WRPA**

Establishment of Wadi el Hitan fossil museum in Wadi el Rayan Protected Area to protect and exhibit the fossils for scientific, educational and recreational purposes, following the environmentally sensitive designs applied in the site and utilizing sustainable building techniques. The main objective is to provide a secure and permanent home for the scientifically valuable vertebrates Fossil Collections.

### **A 3.2 WGNP**

- 3.2.1 Establishment of a basic camping site in Sharm el Loli;
- 3.2.2 Set up of Visitor Center exhibition by interpretative panels;
- 3.2.3 Providing main attractive points in the coast with services and shadow areas and developing basic interpretation facilities and signage system (i.e. directional signage, and behavioural or information signposts at key points);
- 3.2.4 Preparing sites for bird watching;
- 3.2.5 Supporting local communities' hand-crafts production linked to the PA. The handicraft produced will be exhibited and sold within the structures of the Visitor Center. As specified bellow (2.10.1 i. Human resources), through the recruitment of a national expert who will further design the activity, the PMU -in coordination with the relevant Governorate- will identify the local association/NGO which will carry out the activity.

### **A 3.3 Siwa PA**

- 3.3.1 Enhancing and rehabilitating the main attractive points (namely Bir Waheed and Sheyhata) and providing them with basic services (small cafeteria, toilets, etc);
- 3.3.2 Establishing outposts along el Gara road.
- 3.3.3 Supporting local communities, by promoting the production of local products, such as olives and dates, linked to Siwa PA. The products will also be exhibited and sold within the structures of the Visitor Center. As specified bellow (2.10.1 i. Human resources), through the recruitment of a national expert who will design the activity, the PMU -in coordination with the relevant Governorate- will identify the local association/NGO which will carry out the activity.

### **A 3.4 GKNP**

- 3.4.1 Promoting training programs and codes of behaviour among tourists, local guides and tour operators to disseminate the awareness of the deep cultural meaning of rock art and other prehistoric remains.
- 3.4.2 Supporting the local communities by involving them in waste collection and recycling activities, linked to the GKNP. This activity will be linked to the UNDP Bio energy project currently implemented in the New Valley. As specified bellow (2.10.1 i. Human resources), through the recruitment of a national expert who will

design the activity, the PMU -in coordination with the relevant Governorate- will identify the local association/NGO which will carry out the activity.

### **A 3.5 WRPA**

Supporting local communities handicraft (i.e. pottery) production linked to WRPA. The handicraft produced will be exhibited and sold within the structures of the Visitor Center. As specified bellow (2.10.1 i. Human resources), through the recruitment of a national expert who will design the activity, the PMU -in coordination with the relevant Governorate- will identify the local association/NGO which will carry out the activity.

### **A 3.6 Salloum PA**

Supporting fishermen's community and their cooperative societies in order to promote the current management of traditional and recreational fisheries and prevent stock depletion of target fishes and crustaceans. As specified bellow (2.10.1 i. Human resources), through the recruitment of a national expert who will design the activity, the PMU -in coordination with the relevant Governorate- will identify the local association/NGO which will carry out the activity.

***Result 4: Information and Communication tools are produced, and environmental awareness is promoted in the selected PAs.***

- 4.1 Producing a set of information, communication and outreach tools (i.e. brochures, maps or leaflets in several languages, DVDs, guides or information pages accessible via the internet, workshops, etc.) and identifying specific techniques to educate tourists about recreation opportunities and resource management issues;
- 4.2 Promoting cleaning campaigns and environmental awareness. Local communities will actively participate in this activity.

## **2.6 – Assumptions and Risks**

The project is complex and ambitious. Environment is a field that cuts across the activities of all ministries and institutions, both public and private, which often hold unbalanced powers and authority, with conflicting interests. Lack of cooperation between all the involved stakeholders could hamper the implementation of the project.

Possible delays in allocating the land for the buildings and obtaining the permission from the different authorities (especially the military authorities as in the case of Siwa PA) could also hinder the execution of some activities.

One of the main assumptions of the Project is that addressing priorities in close relation and keeping roles and responsibilities of stakeholders well defined will contribute at achieving the expected results by means of reinforced synergies. Getting stakeholders working towards a common vision is a win-win situation which should be continuously pursued. However, lack of an effective integrated approach could result in a failure of the Project. The continued commitment of the GoE towards implementation of sound environmental policies will remain a key assumption for the success of the Project.

The smooth implementation of the project relies on timely releases of funds, responsiveness and uncomplicated administrative and financial procedures. The attached

logical framework is including the assumptions deemed important for the execution of the specific project activities.

## **2.7 – Location**

Following the PAs geographical concentration of the interventions carried out in the first two phases of the EIECP, as well as in the abovementioned GEF-UNDP project, and in line with the results so far achieved, the proposed intervention will focus on five PAs within the Western and the Eastern Desert of Egypt, namely Siwa PA, Salloum PA, GKNP, WRPA and WGNP. Administratively, Siwa PA and Salloum PA fall completely within the boundaries of Marsa Matrouh Governorate, WRPA is inside Fayoum Governorate, the GKNP is within the administrative limits of the New Valley Governorate, while WGNP is included in the Red Sea Governorate.

## **2.8 – Final Target Groups/ Beneficiaries**

Institutional beneficiaries of the intervention will be the MSEA, and its main executive arm, namely the EEAA, as well as the Governorates of Marsa Matrouh, Fayoum, New Valley and Red Sea and the town councils. At the local level, the main targets of the project will be the PAMUs of the 5 PAs.

Intended beneficiaries include the local communities and related NGOs, the tourism private sector and citizens involved in economic activities focusing on the PAs or residing in and around PAs, as well as the general public, that will benefit from the presence of national PAs for their natural resources, recreational benefits and future returns on natural and cultural resources conservation.

## **2.9 – Duration and Working Plan**

The project will last 24 months. The Time Chart of the activities is included in the attached Overall Working Plan.

## **2.10 – Budget: Human Resources, Contracts and other expenses**

The human resources<sup>1</sup>, equipment, contracts and other expenses required for the implementation of the project's activities, are specified in the attached annex.

Following is a brief description of the main components of the project.

### **2.10.1 Human Resources**

The human resources of the project include the Project Management Unit (PMU), as well as the national and international consultants. A brief description of the qualifications of the abovementioned human resources is here presented.

#### **Project Management Unit (PMU)**

The PMU is made of, but not limited to, a national and an international co-manager, an accountant, a secretary, a driver for the office, a driver for Salloum PA, 2 rangers and one community guard for GKNP, 2 rangers and two community guards for Salloum PA.

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<sup>1</sup> The figures included in the attached budget are to be considered as indicative and are subject to change, according to the specific qualifications of the candidates.

a. National Co-Manager (NCM)

The National Co-Manager (NCM) is appointed on a full time basis by the Implementing Agency, in accordance with the TSU of the IEDS, the Italian Cooperation and the EEAA. He/she will be recruited for 24 months, at a monthly pay of 12,500 LE for a total amount of 300,000 LE. The national co-manager should have at least 6 years experience in management of environmental projects and related fields.

Duties: The NCM will manage the project activities and funds in coordination with the International Co-manager (ICM). They will both have signature authority for activities and for expenditure of project funds. Activities whose expenditures are above a certain pre-determined amount will require the signature of both co-managers. Moreover, the national co-manager will be responsible for the management of the GOE inputs in-kind and their integration with the project with particular attention paid to the staffing and facilities.

b. International Co-Manager (ICM)

The International Co-manager (ICM) is a full time international expert, selected and appointed by the Implementing Agency, in accordance with the TSU of the IEDS, the Italian Cooperation and the EEAA. He/she will be recruited for 24 months, at a monthly pay of 27,500 LE for a total amount of 660,000 LE. The international co-manager should have at least 6 years experience in management of environmental projects and related fields.

Duties: The ICM will jointly co-manage project activities and funds in coordination with the NCM. Both co-managers have signature authority for activities and for expenditure of project funds. Activities whose expenditures are above a certain pre-determined amount will require the signature of both co-managers. The ICM will assist the NCM in fulfilling his responsibilities and provide the required technical advice and will be responsible for coordinating the training activities and transferring technology to Egyptian staff.

Joint Responsibilities of NCM and ICM

- Establish and manage the project office at the project's main premises and at any satellite office.
- Prepare ToRs and job descriptions for project staff, international, national and local consultants and subcontracts and coordinate the hiring of staff and the execution of contracts.
- Prepare the necessary reports required, including the Overall Work Plan and Budget, the Yearly Work Plans and Budgets; Quarterly Progress and Financial Reports; Annual Progress and Financial Reports; and the Final Progress and Financial Report, to be submitted for approval to the Project Board (see below) and other reports as needed.
- Develop and propose the work plans according to the context of the outputs and activities given in the project document with clear targets and a meaningful sequence.
- Ensure timely and cost effective implementation of the project activities and work plans and monitor the project results against set targets.

- Monitor the use of project resources, request UNDP for purchase of equipment, office supplies, site materials and necessities, and arrange for its distribution.
- Ensure that all facilities and equipment are maintained in good serviceable condition.
- Supervise staff activities, evaluate their performance and conduct staff performance appraisals on a regular basis.
- Supervise Drivers, Secretary and Office Support Staff, International and National Technical Staff, Scientific, Advisory or Technical Committees.
- Supervise and follow up on contracts for all project activities to ensure that inputs of consultants are coordinated and to ensure the high quality of their deliverables.
- Brief the Implementing Agency on a regular basis about routine activities and problems; and submit periodic financial and technical reports or as requested.
- Attend the Project Board meetings and act as Technical Secretariat of these meetings.
- Circulate information concerning the project, its activities and the wider activities of other institutions with activities specifically concerning the project.
- Assist and advise local stakeholder agencies in the implementation of their activities under the project.
- Provide necessary information and needed assistance to the evaluation mission to be conducted.
- Represent the project in relevant seminars and meetings and disseminate project information.
- Ensure that local experience, success stories, lessons learned and other useful information are collected systematically and distributed.
- Mobilize additional resources for the project and develop linkages with similar initiatives and concerned parties.

c. Accountant

In the frame of SEPA project, an accountant will be recruited for 24 months at a monthly pay of 4,500 LE, for a total amount of 108,000 LE.

The accountant should have a degree in accounting or business administration, with at least 5 years of experience in similar jobs. He/she should have the computer skills that enable him/her to provide the financial reports to the project manager and the project applicant and implementer. The accountant should be able to manage all the financial issues relevant to the project implementation and following the budget lines in accordance with the time frame of the overall work plan. He/she should have good communication skills and he/she should be able to work in a team and under pressure.

d. Secretary



In the frame of SEPA project, a secretary will be recruited for 24 months at a monthly pay of 2,200 LE, for a total amount of 52,800 LE.

The Secretary should have a degree relevant to his/her position (e.g. B.A. in Accounting, Languages, Arts, etc.), and should have excellent communication and computer skills. He/She should be fluent in both written and oral English and Arabic. The candidate should have 3-5 years of experience in similar positions; he/she should be able to work in a team and under pressure. The candidate will be responsible for executing all the secretarial duties such as typing, filing, daily office works, simple translation duties, and organizing/ coordinating the meetings of the PMU with all the stakeholders.

e. Rangers

In the frame of SEPA project, 2 rangers for GKNP and 2 rangers for Salloum PA will be recruited for 24 months at a monthly pay of 1,200 LE each, for a total amount of 115,200 LE. The rangers, who should have at least 3 years experience in similar positions, will carry out the instructions given by the PAMU manager.

Responsibilities of rangers:

- Implementing the activities in accordance with Egypt's PAs rules and regulations and initiate actions against transgressions of these rules;
- Patrolling by car or on foot (day and night), informing the PAMU managers on patrolling activities and keep a record of all incidents;
- Monitoring of natural resources and carrying out data collection reporting, public awareness search and rescue, tourist management, waste collection, equipment and infrastructure maintenance or cleaning, inspection, organizing or holding meetings, stakeholder relations, etc.
- Maintaining specific and general reporting schedules;
- Encouraging and assisting the local community to undertake conservation initiatives and community development activities;
- Participating in training courses either in Egypt or abroad;
- Promoting and contributing to team work, including discussing work with colleagues, and assisting the PAMU staff in completing their work if necessary;
- Wearing uniform at all times while on duty and communicate and interact with the public in a mature and controlled manner, including the respect of road safety measures;
- Respecting the work/vacation schedule.

f. Community Guards

In the frame of SEPA project, 2 community guards for Salloum PA and 1 community guard for GKNP will be recruited for 24 months at a monthly pay of 750 LE each, for a total amount of 54,000 LE. The community guards will carry out the instructions given by the PAMU rangers and manager.

Responsibilities of Community guards:

- Participating in patrolling and monitoring activities with the ranger in charge;
- Informing the rangers about any kind of hunting, fishing, killing, disturbance, collecting or damaging wildlife or fossils;
- Assisting in welcoming public to the area, and providing helpful information on Salloum PA/GKNP;

- Promoting local community conservation and development initiatives (e.g., waste management, social programmes, conservation activities);
- Cleaning and guarding the outposts (maintaining and organizing the spaces of the outposts: store, garage, rooms, etc.);
- Assisting in demarcating and/or maintaining the tracks (alignment, grading, etc.);
- Assisting the ranger in charge with welcoming visitors to the area;
- Avoid receiving any person (out of the staff) for personal purposes;
- Cleaning and guarding the HQ building during the construction phase and once it is built;
- Taking full responsibility of the store (keeping it organized and clean, receiving materials into the store and giving out materials, regular check and ordering of needed materials, cleaning and safety);
- Wearing full uniform and being presentable to the public;
- Respecting the work/vacation schedule.

g. Office driver

In the frame of SEPA project, an office driver will be recruited for 24 months, at a monthly pay of 1,200 LE, for a total amount of 28,800 LE.

The office driver should be literate and should have a professional driving licence with at least 5 years experience in driving all types of cars and travelling inside and outside Cairo, possibly in the areas of intervention of the proposed project. He should be an organized person, working according to the orders of the project co-managers. The driver will be responsible for driving the project car and taking care of its cleanliness, and maintenance to be operable all the time. He will also be responsible to keep the licences of the office car validated all the time, and he should be able to work under pressure.

h. Salloum driver

In the frame of SEPA project, a driver for Salloum PA will be recruited for 24 months, with a monthly pay of 1,100 LE for a total amount of 26,400 LE.

The driver should be literate and should have a professional driving licence with at least 5 years experience in driving all types of cars and travelling inside Salloum PA and the Governorate of Marsa Matrouh. He should be an organized person, working according to the orders of the project co-managers. The driver will be responsible for driving the project car and taking care of its cleanliness, and maintenance to be operable all the time. He will also be responsible to keep the licences of the office car validated all the time, and should be able to work under pressure.

i. National and international consultants (technical assistance personnel)

The project will recruit on an “as needed basis” national and international senior consultants for the implementation of some project activities. According to the rates of UNDP, the per diem for a senior national consultant amounts to LE 1,000 (the consultant should have at least 11 years of experience in relevant fields and a Master degree), whereas the per diem for a senior international consultant amounts to LE 2,200 (the consultant should have at least 7 years of experience in relevant fields and a Master degree). The above rates are to be considered as indicative and are subject to change, according to the specific qualifications of each recruited consultant.

In particular, international experts, from well known research and academic institutions, will be recruited for the implementation of the activities related to the enhancement of the archaeological and cultural heritage of the GKNP (A 1.2.4 LE 200,200) and WGNP (A 1.3.3 LE 209,000). National and/or international consultants will be recruited for the

implementation of specific activities, including: i) fostering effective partnership with the Supreme Council of Antiquities, in order to promote the inclusion of Medinet Madi archaeological site within the boundaries of the PA (A 1.4.1: LE 10,000-national consultant/s); ii) Developing monitoring programs on natural and cultural resources in Siwa PA, GKNP, WGNP, Salloum PA and WRPA (A 1.6.2: LE 154,000-international consultant/s); iii) Opening the VCs established in the frame of the EIECP, assure basic services to the public, develop interpretative programs for visitors (A 2.1: LE- 40,000-national consultant/s); iv) Promoting cleaning campaigns and environmental awareness (A 4.2: LE 100,000-national consultant/s); v) Supporting local communities in WGNP (A 3.2.5: LE 20,000-national consultant/s, who will also define the materials to be purchased for the production of local handicrafts). vi) Supporting local communities in Siwa PA (A 3.3.3: LE 20,000- national consultant/s, who will also define the materials to be purchased for the promotion of local products). vii) Supporting local communities in GKNP (A 3.4.2: LE 20,000-national consultant/s, who will also define the materials to be purchased for the waste collection and recycling materials). viii) Supporting local communities in WRPA (A 3.5: LE 20,000-national consultant/s, who will also define the materials to be purchased for the production of local handicraft). ix) Supporting fishermen's community and their cooperative societies in Salloum PA (A 3.6: LE 20,000-national consultant/s, who will also define the materials to be purchased to support the community). x) designing and constructing of a website for WRPA (Among the activities of 4.1: LE 60,000-national consultant/s).

#### Fees for cleaning campaigns

Fees will be paid to the local communities, who will participate in the cleaning campaigns and environmental awareness activities in the 5 PAs. The unit cost of the institutional incentives/per diem will amount to 60 LE. Considering an average of 67 man/day for the campaigns of each of the 5 PAs (total man/day 335), the total amount will be around LE 20,100.

### **2.10.2 Project Management and running expenses**

Beside the abovementioned human resources (par. **2.10.1a** to **2.10.1h**) required for the management of the project, other expenses included in this budget line are:

- i) office furniture and equipment (such as 5 computers: LE 32,500; desks, meeting table and chairs: LE 15,000, 1 printer: LE 2,500.): total LE 50,000. The cost is based on a preliminary market survey;
- ii) vehicle: one 4X4 car for the office: LE 380,000. The cost is based on a preliminary quotation;
- iii) consumables: this voice includes the purchase of stationery for the office (lump sum LE 27,500). The cost is based on previous projects' experience;
- iv) running costs: this voice includes the payment of telephone, electricity bills, fuel and other expenses for the vehicle (lump sum LE 37,500). The cost is based on previous projects' experience;
- v) maintenance: this voice includes the cleaning of the office and similar activities. Considering an average monthly expense of LE 1,000, the total amount will be LE 24,000;
- vi) office rental: this voice includes the rental of the office for 24 months. Considering an average monthly rent of LE 5,000 (as a result of a preliminary market survey), the total amount will be LE 120,000.

vii) travel expenses and per diem for field visits: a number of field missions to the different PAs will have to be carried out by the staff of the PMU in order to monitor and assess the progress of the activities. Considering the location of the PAs, in many cases the field missions will need to last more than one day and food and accommodation is to be included in the incentives. For this reason, it is considered that the overall unit cost of the institutional incentives/per diem will amount to 400 LE, which falls within UNDP per diem rate. Considering an average of 120 man/day, the total amount will be 48,000 LE.

### **2.10.3 Contracts**

#### **2.10.3. a Services Contracts**

This voice includes the following contracts:

- i) Auditing: contract for the recruitment of an external consultant, who will conduct a final evaluation mission upon conclusion of the project (lump sum LE 55,000). The amount was calculated based on UNDP 2010 auditing exercise.
- ii) Training: this includes a contract with a consulting company for the provision of services related to the training activities for the staff of the PAMUs of the selected PAs (LE 477,500), as well as a contract with a consulting company for training activities on codes of behaviour among tourists, local guides and tour operators for GKNP (LE 40,000). The cost for the training contracts is based on EIECP projects' previous experience.
- iii) Studies and Surveys: this includes the contract (LE 100,000) for a preliminary study on underground water in Siwa PA. The cost is based on a preliminary market survey.
- iv) Visibility: this includes contract/s for the production and dissemination of a set of information, communication and outreach tools for the selected PAs (LE 50,000 X5= LE 250,000), a contract for the production and installation of basic illustrative panels (an average of 8 panels illustrating the history, as well as the natural and archaeological heritage of the Park) for the Visitor Center of WGNP (LE 80,000), as well as a lump sum of LE 35,000 for the production of communication tools (T shirts, caps, etc) for the cleaning campaigns (LE 7000X 5 PAs). The total amount for the visibility activities will be LE 365,000. All these costs are based on EIECP projects experience, particularly those of similar activities which have been recently carried out in the frame of EEPA project.

#### **2.10.3. b Supplies Contracts**

This voice includes the following contracts:

- i) Materials (lump sum LE 955,000):
  - Siwa PA: A 1.1.2 Materials (stones or iron, cement) for signposts (LE 50,000); A 3.3.2 Materials for outposts along el Gara road (LE 40,000); A 3.3.3 Materials for the promotion of local products ( i.e. olives and dates) to support local communities (LE 100,000).
  - GKNP: A 1.2.3 Materials (stones or iron, cement) for Signposts (LE 50,000); A 3.4.2 Waste collection and recycling materials for local communities (LE 100,000).
  - WGNP: A 1.3.2 Materials (stones) for 100 Km of tracks (LE 160,000); A 3.2.4 Wood for bird watching (LE 15,000), A 3.2.5 Handicraft materials for local communities (LE 100,000), A 3.2.3 Materials for basic interpretation facilities and signage system (LE 40,000).
  - WRPA: A 1.4.2 Protection net for the site of Midawwara (LE 100,000); A 3.5 Handicraft materials for local communities (LE 100,000).

- Salloum: A 3.6 Materials to support fishermen and their cooperative societies (LE 100,000).

The above costs are based on the costs of similar activities which have been carried out in the frame of the EIECP.

ii) Equipments (the costs included in the following paragraph are based on preliminary quotations and market surveys): this voice includes:

- 1 double-cabin vehicle (LE 170,000) for the site activities of Salloum;
- 1 small boat (LE 200,000) for the patrolling and monitoring activities of Salloum PA. The boat needs to have 2 engines and should be at least 8 metres long.
- Other Equipment (LE 175,500) as detailed in the following table:

PA	EQUIPMENT	QUANTITY	ESTIMATE PRICE / UNIT LE	SPECIFICATION	TOTAL PRICES LE
<b>SIWA PA</b>	Computer Desktop	2	6,500	CORE i3 4gram 500 gb HHD lcd 19"	13,000
	Printer laserjet	2	2,500		5,000
	Digital Camera	2	4,000	Not less than 12,1 optical zoom	8,000
	Camping tools (Sleeping bags, mats and tents)	Lump sum	10,000		10,000
	Furniture for HQs (desks, chairs, dressers, beds, etc.)	Lump sum	40,000		40,000
<b>TOT. SIWA</b>					<b>76,000</b>
<b>Salloum PA</b>	Computer Desktop	2	6,500	CORE i3 4gram 500 gb HHD lcd 19"	13,000
	Printer LaserJet	2	2,500		5,000
	Digital Camera	1	4,000	Not less than 12,1 optical zoom	4,000
	Camera under water with housing	1	6,000	Wide angle 4x zoom with optical is Housing, 2. 7 pure colour LCD	6,000
<b>TOT. Salloum PA</b>					<b>28,000</b>

<b>GKNP</b>	Computer Desktop	1	6,500	CORE i3 4gram 500 gb HHD LCD 19"	6,500
	Digital Camera	1	4,000	Not less than 12,1 optical zoom	4,000
<b>TOT. GKNP</b>					<b>10,500</b>
<b>WGNP</b>	Computer Desktop	2	6,500	CORE i3 4gram 500 gb HHD LCD 19"	13,000
	Printer laser jet	2	2,500		5,000
	GPS	2	8,000		16,000
	Digital Camera	2	4,000	Not less than 12,1 optical zoom,	8,000
	Redoxymeter	2	4,000		8,000
	Copy machine	1	5,000		5,000
	Camera under water with housing	1	6,000	Wide angle 4x zoom with optical is Housing, 2. 7 pure colour LCD	6,000
<b>TOT. WGNP</b>					<b>61,000</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>					<b>175,500</b>

### 2.10.3. c Work Contracts

This voice includes civil and electro mechanical works for Siwa PA, GKNP, WGNP, Salloum PA, WRPA. The costs are based on quotations for similar activities, which were carried out in the frame of EEPA project, as well as on preliminary consultations with architectural engineering companies with proven experience in the field of eco-architecture and landscape design and construction of public areas within the PAs of Egypt.

-For Siwa PA, the works include the design and construction of an administrative office for the PAMU (A 1.1.1: LE 1,200,000), as well as the enhancement of two attractive points of the PA, namely Bir Waheed and Shyhata, and the provision of basic services such as toilets and a small cafeteria (A 3.3.1 LE 500,000).

In particular, the works include the following costs:

#### - Establishment of PAMU Headquarters

- i) Permits from Marsa Matrouh Governorate (LE 7,000)
- ii) Design (LE 60,000)
- iii) Excavation (LE 40,000)
- iv) Construction of 3 rooms for administrative office, lecture room, 2 toilets, kitchen, storage room, 2 rooms for accommodation and 2 toilets ( LE 1,083,000)
- v) Water and electricity connection (LE 10,000)

- Enhancement of Bir Waheed (lump sum 250,000)

- i) Permits from Marsa Matrouh Governorate (LE 3,000)
- ii) Design (LE 12,500)
- iii) Construction of 2 toilets and small cafeteria (LE 224,500)
- iv) Small pumping machines and generators (LE 10,000)

-Enhancement of Shyhata (lump sum 250,000)

- i) Permits from Marsa Matrouh Governorate (LE 3,000)
- ii) Design (LE 12,500)
- iii) Construction of 2 toilets and small cafeteria (LE 224,500)
- iv) Small pumping machines and generators (LE 10,000)

-For the GKNP, the works include the upgrading of the PAMU Headquarters based in Dakhla, such as shadow area and basic accommodation (A 1.2.2: LE 150,000).

In particular, the works include the following costs:

- i) Permits from New Valley Governorate (LE 3,000)
- ii) Design (LE 7,500)
- iii) Excavation (LE 5,000)
- iv) Construction of 2/3 rooms and 2 toilets (LE 107,500)
- v) Water and Electricity connection (LE 7,000)
- vi) Shadow area (LE 20,000)

-For WGPN, the works include the upgrading of the PAMU Headquarters based in Marsa Alam and Hamata (A 1.3.1: LE 140,000), the provision of services and shadow areas to the main attractive points (A 3.2.3: LE 70,000), as well as the establishment of a basic camping site in Sharm el Loli (A 3.2.1: LE 400,000).

In particular, the works include the following costs:

- Upgrading of PAMU Headquarters in Marsa Alam and Hamata (LE 140,000)

The upgrading will include the replacement of old water pipes, flooring, painting and other similar upgrading needs for both headquarters.

- Provision of Services and shadow area (LE 70,000)

- i) Permits from Red Sea Governorate (LE 3,000)
- ii) Design (LE 3,000)
- iii) Construction of 2+2 toilets (LE 34,000)
- iv) 2 Shadow areas (LE 30,000)

-Establishment of a camping site in Sharm el Loli (LE 400,000)

- i) Permits from Red Sea Governorate (LE 3,000)
- ii) Design (LE 20,000)
- iii) Construction of camping site (LE 367,000)
- iv) Water and electricity connection (LE 10,000)

-For Salloum PA, the works include the design and construction and establishment of an administrative office/Headquarters of the PAMU (A 1.5.1: LE 275,000).

In particular, the works include the following costs:

- i) Permits from Marsa Matrouh Governorate (LE 3,000)
- ii) Design (LE 13,750)
- iii) Excavation (LE 15,000)

- iv) Construction of 4 rooms, 2 toilets, a kitchen and a storage (LE 233,250)
- v) Water and electricity connection (LE 10,000)

-For WRPA, the works include the design and construction of Wadi el Hitan fossil museum (A 3.1: 2,200,000 LE).

In particular, the works include the following costs:

- i) Architectural design and engineering (LE 153,000)
- ii) Exhibit design, panel authoring and panel cases (LE 358,000)
- iii) Grading, excavation and foundations (LE 188,000)
- iv) Brick construction and stone flooring (LE 993,000)
- v) Mud plaster (LE 98,000)
- vi) Doors and windows (LE 78,000)
- vii) Electrical wiring and lighting (LE 199,000)
- viii) Curved glass (LE 133,000)

The budget for the design and construction of Wadi el Hitan fossil museum is based on preliminary consultations with architectural engineering companies with proven experience in the field of eco-architecture and landscape design and construction of public areas within the PAs of Egypt.

#### **2.10.4 Administrative costs**

Administrative costs for the project include the following:

- i) General Management Support (GMS)

UNDP will be charge 3% for the recovery of indirect support costs for government cost sharing as per the executive board decision 2007/18.

- ii) Implementation Support Services (ISS)

UNDP will charge 2% flat rate on project delivery instead of applying the Universal Price List. Charges will be made directly to budget lines.

The gain and loss due to the exchange rate will be charged to the contingency reserve budget line.

#### **2.10.5 Instalments**

The first instalment will be paid after 30 days from the signature of the project document.



### **3 -IMPLEMENTATION MODALITIES**

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), in coordination with the EEAA, will serve as the central coordinating and competent body for implementing the project, responsible also for coordinating the activities performed by the other concerned institutions and partners. The management arrangements of the project are in line with UNDP National Execution requirements.

A Project Board will be established for SEPA project and will oversee and coordinate the implementation of the specific activities. It will take executive management decisions, providing guidance to the Project co-Managers (*see above*), including approval of project revisions, overall Work Plan and Budget, quarterly Progress and Financial Reports, as well as the Final Progress and Financial Report. The Board includes three main roles: i) an Executive to chair the group; ii) a Senior expert to provide guidance regarding the technical feasibility of the project, and iii) a Senior Beneficiary to ensure realization of project benefits from the perspective of project beneficiaries. Members include representatives of the following institutions:

- Technical Support Unit (TSU) of the Egyptian-Italian Debt for Development Swap Programme (EIDS);
- Embassy of Italy in Cairo/ Development Cooperation Office;
- Ministry of State for Environmental Affairs/Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency;
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP);
- Governorates of Marsa Matrouh, Fayoum, New Valley and Red Sea;
- Ex officio: Project Manager;
- Any additional member as agreed by the Board (i.e. Supreme Council of Antiquities, Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Interior, representatives of local communities, etc.).

It will meet on a regular basis or as required and will be chaired by the Implementing Agency. To achieve an appropriate level of flexibility, the Board will have the authority to modify physical targets, project requirements, staffing and budget for the on-going quarters. The Board's modifying authority is limited to remain within the overall capital cost of the project and its qualitative objectives.

#### **3.1 – Management structure**

The management arrangements for the project are in line with UNDP National Execution regulations. As specified above, a PMU will be designated by the Implementing Agency to execute SEPA project on a daily basis, with a full range of autonomy and responsibility in all matters concerning day-to-day operations. The PMU will prepare all needed documents, which will include the detailed Work Plans, Progress Reports and Financial Reports, to be submitted to the Project Board for approval. The PMU will implement the approved Work Plan being fully responsible to the Implementing Agency.

The PMU will be headed by a National and an International Co-Manager, appointed on a full-time basis and supported by ad hoc national and international experts. The co-management formula (national and international experts deciding together) was adopted

in the First and Second Phase of the EIECP and it is also proposed for SEPA project. In fact the formula has proved to be effective and in line with the principles of cooperation for development, ensuring sharing of responsibilities between government officers and technical assistance, which implies full commitment from both sides to achieve the best and sustainable results.

The two co-managers will be responsible for the day-to-day implementation of the project activities and funds. This includes the quality and timeliness of all project activities and outputs and supervising the work of the consultants, requesting the advancement of project funds, preparing quarterly and annual progress reports, and requesting ad-hoc directions from the Board when required. The project co-Managers will act as Board secretary and will be responsible for convening the meeting, preparing the agenda and overseeing the processing of materials and tools required for the meeting, as well as preparing and distributing minutes of the meeting.

The Unit will also comprise an accountant, other technical and secretarial support staff, on a full or part-time basis as required, including the PAs managers supported by their staff, having the role of site coordinator for some of the activities.

The project will operate in accordance with UNDP regulations, including those for procurement, accounting, management, and project assurance. The project will follow the visibility guidelines of the EIDS Programme.

### 3.2 – Partnership with International institutions/agencies

Partnership and cooperation with International institutions, including research and academic institutions will be sought, especially for the activities related to the enhancement of the archaeological and cultural heritage of the GKNP and WGNP.

### 3.3 – Stakeholders

While UNDP, in coordination with EEAA, will be the main Implementing Agency of the project, other entities and institutions will act as important stakeholders and will be closely involved as project partners in the implementation of the foreseen activities, as well as in the discussions which will take place in the Project Board if required. The Governorates of the New Valley, Marsa Matrouh, Fayoum and the Red Sea will represent the main institutional project partners at the local level, ensuring integration with the overall development strategies and assuming a facilitating role in all matters related to its domain of competence. At the site level, full partners of some of the activities of the project will be represented by local NGOs based in Siwa, Fayoum, Farafra, Dakhla, Kharga and Wadi Gamal, which, in selected cases, may be directly charged with the implementation of particular activities through specific contractual agreements, according to MSEA/EEAA specific rules and regulations. For example, the development of infrastructures and facilities for visitor management will be preferably pursued with the direct involvement, also through direct subcontracting for works, of locally based expertise or formally recognized non-governmental organizations representative of the resident community and interest groups.

In addition to that, close cooperation and interaction with other Government agencies responsible for specific sectors will be continuously sought, in particular with the

Ministry of Tourism for all matters related to the tourism management in the GKNP and with Ministry of Interior, as well as with the military authorities for matters related to the access to restricted areas.

### 3.4 – Monitoring and Evaluation

The PMU will present quarterly progress and financial reports, as well as consolidated yearly progress and financial reports to the Project Board.

Moreover, result-based follow-up by the project manager and UNDP will be conducted through the preparation and use of the annual work plan. The main monitoring tools are the following documents to be submitted to UNDP by the two co-managers within the appropriate time frame:

- Annual work plan
- Annual budget
- Annual progress report
- Annual financial report
- Detailed quarterly work plan and budget request.
- Quarterly progress, financial and activity reports and Issue Log.
- Minutes of Board Meeting
- ToR s for contracts that are to be funded by the project
- Reports on the work submitted by the project contractors

The UNDP retains the right to recruit an external consultant to conduct a final evaluation mission upon conclusion of the project. The Project Board must approve the scope of mandate for the evaluation. A final report for the project must be drafted upon conclusion of the project, including lessons learned for the development of the learning process.

## 4 –SUSTAINABILITY

SEPA project supports the implementation and development of different activities, which are designed to be sustainable in the medium-long run ranges. Nevertheless, there are factors ensuring the sustainability, which can be considered as common strong elements of key importance. They include: (i) continued commitment of the EEAA and Implementing Agency towards the activities undertaken and consolidation of results achieved; (ii) capacity building of local staff which- upon completion of the project- will be in condition to ensure the continuous and proper development of the actions undertaken, under the individual activities, (iii) physical and intellectual assets that will remain for the advantage of the EEAA, such as trained and skilled personnel, stronger institutions, tools and equipments, infrastructures, etc. iv) active participation and effective involvement of relevant stakeholders, including local communities.

### 4.1 – Economic and Financial sustainability

According to the present project proposal, the budget of SEPA project, amounting to 11 million LE, will be entirely financed by the Egyptian-Italian Debt Swap Programme. Nevertheless, the MSEA/EEAA will provide in-kind contribution to SEPA project, in order to guarantee its economic and financial sustainability. During the implementation of SEPA project, the MSEA/EEAA will guarantee the assistance and support of the local staff of the selected PAs, as well as the utilization of all the equipment, tools and materials, already available. Furthermore, the MSEA/EEAA will purchase additional equipment, such as GPS, Binoculars, telescopes, for the selected PAs, which will be utilized for the foreseen monitoring activities. In addition, the MSEA/EEAA will facilitate in the process of requesting permissions to the relevant authorities for land and construction.

Moreover, upon conclusion of the intervention, the functioning costs (personnel and current expenses) of the structures, which have been established and enhanced in the framework of SEPA project, will be covered by MSEA/EEAA.

The general success, and therefore, long-term economic and financial sustainability of the project is deeply connected to the institutional, legal and organizational mechanisms, which must be set in motion to enable the PAs to be managed in a sound and economically viable way, profiting of at least a percentage of the revenues. This is a process which will be strengthened also through the abovementioned UNDP-GEF project. The diversification of the resources (sea, history, geology, biodiversity, archeology and culture) of the selected PAs, promoted in the frame of SEPA project, will contribute towards the economic and financial sustainability of the project and of the PA system as a whole.

Therefore, in order to guarantee sustainability and further development of the results achieved through SEPA project, and in line with the *modus operandi* of the UNDP-GEF project, upon conclusion of SEPA project, MSEA/EEAA shall continue to strengthen the management systems of the selected PAs. This will be pursued by developing financial systems, which will ensure: the reinvestment in resources, poverty reduction and capacity, as well as the promotion of financial accountability and transparency.

In particular, the MSEA/EEAA will:

- Assure that the Visitor Centers are well managed and make provision in its annual budget for the implementation of maintenance plans of the Visitor Centers, which have been already produced in the frame of the EEPA project.
- Assure the assignment of concessions to private companies or to local associations/NGOs for the management of all the touristic infrastructures and related services established in the frame of SEPA project.
- Update and ensure the implementation of the Management Plans and Business Plan of the Protected Areas.
- Maintain adequate and sufficient human resources in the PAMU and adopt adequate policies to incentive the expertise built through the project.
- Ensure regular training programmes to PAMU staff.
- Promote exchange of experience among the staff of the different PAMUs.
- Make provisions in the annual budget for the maintenance of all equipment provided by the project, as well as of the signposts and interpretative panels installed.
- Elaborate and adopt guidelines for the optimal use and distribution (both in paper and digital form) of all the information, education and communication material, produced in the frame of SEPA project. In particular MSEA/EEAA shall devise and apply a mechanism for a virtuous income generating use of booklets and publications.

#### 4.2 – Institutional sustainability

The project is intended to support MSEA/EEAA in developing the systems, structures and processes that will enable long term management of PAs. It will promote institutional sustainability by strengthening the capacities of the MSEA/EEAA for planning and implementing nature conservation activities on a sustainable basis. Moreover, SEPA project will facilitate EEAA staff efforts to improve the national system of PAs by providing staff and technical assistance in the key areas of management and planning, environmental monitoring, as well as promoting and developing sustainable tourism potentialities.

In particular, by building institutional and human capacities, the duties of MSEA/EEAA at the local level will be carried out more effectively, contributing towards the economic, environmental and social sustainability of the PAs system. As a matter of fact, among the duties of the local staff of MSEA/EEAA, the main responsibilities are:

- Patrolling activities (resource protection, cleaning up litter, etc.)
- Monitoring (reefs, wadis, tourism and satisfaction)
- Improve quality of services also through interpretation activities.

#### 4.3 – Socio-cultural sustainability

Through a community-based and a participatory approach, the project will contribute towards socio-cultural sustainability. The empowerment of local communities will be promoted through their active participation, in the activities foreseen by the project in the selected PAs. Local communities will also be utilized as manpower for all the infrastructural works envisaged by the project.

Social and environmental assessments will be undertaken in cases where the interventions are deemed to have a potential social and environmental impact. The need for inclusive approaches in the implementation of the project has been identified, and the social sustainability of the intervention will be secured through the following measures:

- (i) Resource users and local community groups will be particularly engaged in decision-making processes at sites where they are affected;
- (ii) Depending on the situation of each individual PA, local communities and other stakeholders will be involved to ensure full consensus on the management approach and proposed measures to conserve and manage PAs;
- (iii) Benefit sharing modalities, with local resource users, local authorities and other stakeholders, will be explored and set up during project implementation. As resource access and economic benefit often constitute primary motivations against PAs, these two aspects will be duly assessed and mitigated during project implementation.
- (iv) Finally, building on the UNDP/GEF project and on the expertise developed within the NCS, through the EIECP, community-based natural resource management approaches will be promoted and applied at diverse sites and in particular at sites where local communities constitute resource user groups that may be deprived from access to resources.

## **5 – ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

The project directly addresses main environmental concerns. The actions envisaged by the project will contribute to the preservation and protection of the biotic communities of flora and fauna, as well as other natural resources constituting Egypt's biodiversity assets.

Issues such as environmental sustainability, biodiversity and climate change will be highly considered in the definition, design and implementation of the specific activities funded under this project.

There is always a potential for PAs' projects to shift focus from conservation and management to resource mobilization at the expense of natural assets. This is a key reason why one of the activities of the project relates to the establishment and adoption by the EEAA/NCS of social and environmental safeguard measures and monitoring activities. If necessary, environmental impact assessments will be undertaken in line with UNDP's Program and Operations Policies and Procedures (POPP) and Egyptian national legislation, in order to negative avert impacts of investments on ecosystems and species. Environmental sustainability of the PA system is also threatened by climate change. While this does not fully fall within the remit of the project, measures to reduce the vulnerability of individual sites and the system as a whole will be assessed and identified during implementation, with routine updating and monitoring to determine the most viable approaches.

## **D – ANNEXES**

1. Logical Framework
2. Overall Working Plan
3. Overall Budget
4. Financial Plan per year
5. Resources Allocation Sheet per semester