



# REPORT

## ***Train the Trainers Workshop Based on UNEP EIA Training Resource Manual***

Tunis, September 20- 24, 2004

*Organized by*  
**METAP – EIA REGIONAL CENTRE**  
*In collaboration with*  
**UNEP/ETB**  
**UNEP/PCAU**



UNEP



# **Train the Trainers Workshop on EIA**

## **Tunis, September 20-24, 2004**

### **1. Introduction**

In the framework of the regional activities of the Regional Environmental Assessment Center (METAP-EA Center) in support of environmental impact assessment (EIA) capacity development, a regional EIA Train the Trainers Workshop was organized in Tunis, Tunisia on 20-24 September 2004.

The training workshop was organized by the Tunis International Centre for Environmental Technologies -CITET- with support and in cooperation with UNEP's Economic and Trade Branch (ETB) and UNEP's Post-Conflict Assessment Unit (PCAU).

The training workshop was officially opened by Mr. Hanchi Belgacem, General Director of CITET and keynote speeches and welcome remarks were given by Ms. Vera Weick, Mrs. Mijke Hertoghs and Mr. Aniket Ghai on behalf of UNEP, and Mr. Abdelhamid Bouhaouala on behalf of the Tunisian Agency of Technical Cooperation.

### **2. Objective**

The objective of the workshop was to develop the participants' skills in preparing and presenting courses based on the UNEP EIA Training Resource Manual (new edition), appropriate and specifically adapted to the needs of participating countries. The training targeted participants that are established trainers, or people with defined plans for presenting training on EIA aimed at strengthening local EIA capacity in their respective countries.

### **3. Participants**

Twenty participants from Albania, Egypt, Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, Iraq and Palestinian Authority attended the training workshop. Albania, Egypt, Jordan, Syria and Lebanon had nominated two participants and - with the support of UNEP-PCAU - Iraq and Palestinian Authority nominated 5 participants each. Most participants are actors in the development and implementation of EIA in their countries, either as government professionals in charge of managing the country EIA system and reviewers of EIA reports submitted for approval, or as practitioners involved in conducting and preparing EIA reports and providing training locally. The participants showed profound knowledge and extensive experience and contributed significantly to inter-country exchange of experience. The discussions reflected the level of implementation and efficiency of EIA in the participating countries, which is different from one country to another (For instance Egypt's EIA system is fully functional, Syria has just put in place a legal framework for establishing an EIA system and the Jordanian system, though in place, is not yet very efficient).

### **4. Facilitators**

The workshop was delivered and facilitated by international and regional EIA experts, namely Mr. Clive George from EIA Center of the University of Manchester, Mrs. Balsam Ahmad

from Syria and Mr. Rachid Nafti from the Regional EIA Center at CITET. The team of experts combined experience and extensive knowledge about EIA development in the region. Both Clive George and Rachid Nafti have conducted assessments of the EIA systems in all participating countries in the region. The knowledge of the status of EIA allowed the facilitators to address systematically the gaps identified and also to facilitate the exchange of experiences among countries. Mrs. Balsam El Ahmed contributed to the workshop by introducing the increasingly important theme of Health Impact Assessment and the tools to implement it as an extension of Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). Besides, the experts had the necessary language skills (English, Arabic, and French) to facilitate communication at all times.

## **5. Workshop format and materials**

Trainees were trained to deliver training courses based on the UNEP EIA training resources manual. The manual in its revised edition (which includes overheads and handouts about 15 topics related to the EIA process) was provided to each participant, together with additional supporting material. Participants were also provided with a complete EIA report, to be used as group work exercise and other reference material provided by UNEP (EIA/SEA: Towards an Integrated Approach and Studies of EIA Practice in Developing Countries).

Each session focused on one EIA topic and was presented by a group of one or two participants, using the EIA training resource manual as a basis. The presentations and following discussion were led by the designated participants with assistance of the facilitators, and were followed by observations made by the workshop facilitators. These observations covered both the subject matter of the topic and the method of presentation.

The program also included presentation on the state of EIA in the region and lessons learned from experiences with upgrading countries EIA systems as well as their harmonization with international best practices. This included procedures of international funding organization such as the World Bank. Sufficient time was also reserved for exchange of experiences among countries and networking.

At the request of participants, a visit to CITET was organized which included the laboratories (for water, air and solid waste), the training division, the information center and the technical assistance division. The visit allowed the participants to know more about the services provided by CITET for capacity building in waste water treatment and solid waste management and stimulated some ideas for future cooperation with countries such as Iraq and Syria.

## **6. Language**

Presentations by facilitators and general discussions were done in English, with translation in Arabic when needed. The translation from English into another language was not planned initially as the invited participants were requested to understand and speak English. However, some of them expressed preference for speaking Arabic and ad hoc translation was provided by the facilitators (Balsam and Rachid) to convene everybody.

## **7. Workshop evaluation:**

The participants were asked to evaluate the workshop with regard to its content in terms of relevance and consistency, the training methods, the quality of the training materials and the organization of the workshop. The overall rating of the workshop showed a rate of satisfaction above 86% (see attached evaluation summary). Other useful comments were provided by participants in order to improve the workshop, such as planning of a field trip as part of the training and allowing more time for group exercises.

## **8. Conclusion and follow up**

The implementation of the workshop went according to what was planned and the follow up with participants will be initiated in two stages:

- potential trainers will be listed on METAP data base in the category of professionals and this will provide them with the opportunity to be known regionally and to contribute to national and regional training activities.
- technical support will be provided to trainers that are encouraged to organize training locally and contribute to EIA capacity development in their countries.

## **ANNEXES**

- 1. Program**
- 2. List of participants**
- 3. Evaluation summary**

## **Training workshop program**

<b>Day 1 – Sep 20</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Facilitator/ speaker</b>
Session 1	Registration Opening Introduction to course Introduction of participants	RN Official speakers/ UNEP/CITET/IC RN RN
	Break	
Session 2	Presentation on capacity building and the use of UNEP EIA training resource manual  Presentation on the status of EIA in Mediterranean countries  Topic 1. Introduction and overview of EIA Topic 2. Law, policy and institutional arrangements	UNEP-ETB  RN  CG CG
	Lunch	
Session 3	Topic 3. Public involvement	Participants from Lebanon
	Coffee/tea	
Session 4	Exercise  Discussion	BA  CG, RN, BA
<b>Day 2– Sep 21</b>		
Session 1	Topics 4 and 5. Screening and Scoping	Participants from Palestinian Authority
Session 2	Exercise  Discussion	BA  CG, RN, BA
	Coffee/tea	
Session 3	Topic 6. Impact analysis	Participant from Egypt
Session 4	Exercise  Discussion	BA  CG, RN, BA
15 :00	Lunch	
<b>Day 3 –Sep 22</b>		
Session 1	Topic 7. Mitigation and impact management	Participants from Syria
Session 2	Exercise  Discussion	BA  CG, RN, BA
	Coffee/tea	
Session 3	Topic 8. Reporting	Participant from Iraq
Session 4	Exercise	BA

	Discussion	CG, RN, BA
<b>Day 4 –Sep 22</b>		
Session 1	Topic 9 and 10. Reviewing and Decision making t	Participants from Albania
Session 2	Exercise	BA
	Discussion	CG, RN, BA
	Coffee/tea	
Session 3	Topic 11. Implementation and follow-up	Participant from Jordan
Session 4	Exercise	BA
	Discussion	CG, RN, BA
<b>Day 5 –Sep 22</b>		
Session 1	Topic 13. Social Impact Assessment, Health Impact Assessment	BA
Session 2	Exercise	RN
	Discussion	CG, RN, BA
	Coffee/tea	
Session 3	Topic 14. Strategic Environmental Assessment	Participant from Jordan
Session 4	Topic 15. Future directions	CG
	Discussion	CG, RN, BA
15.00-15.30	Close of course	RN / DG of CITET



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**List of participants**

N°	Country	Name & Surname	Organism & Position	Tel	Fax	E-mail
1	ALBANIA	MRS ARBINA HAXHIREXHA	MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT	003554270630 003554224572	003554270627	<a href="mailto:arbrexha@hotmail.com">arbrexha@hotmail.com</a>
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7	LEBANON	MISS ROLA EL SHEIKH	MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST	009614522222 ext 434	009614525052	<a href="mailto:rola.sh@moe.gov.lb">rola.sh@moe.gov.lb</a>
8		MRS LINA ABI ALI	COUNCIL FOR DEVELOPMENT RECONSTRUCTION, HEATH OFFICER	009613836768	009611981521	<a href="mailto:linaj@cdr.gov.lb">linaj@cdr.gov.lb</a>
9	SYRIA	MR BASSAM KHEIR BEK	MINISTRY OF LOCAL ADMINISTRATION AND ENVIRONMENT DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT AFFAIRS ENG.	00963114421241 Mobil: 00963 932222223	00963114461079 00963114461072	<a href="mailto:deadam@mail.sy">deadam@mail.sy</a>
10		MR SOUHA MARAEI	MINISTRY OF LOCAL ADMINISTRATION AND ENVIRONMENT EIA UNITE (GCEA)	00963114421241 00963114461072	00963114461079 00963114461072	<a href="mailto:sasu@Myway.com">sasuu@Myway.com</a>

11	PALESTINE	MR AYMAN ABU THAHER	ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY AUTHORITY (PALESTINE)	0097092901275	0097022403494	<a href="mailto:aymanth@hotmail.com">aymanth@hotmail.com</a>
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13		MR AMJED ABDEL RAHMAN MOHAMMED ALKHARAZ	ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY AUTHORITY (PALESTINE)	0097059674809	0097092674558	<a href="mailto:environment@gov.ps">environment@gov.ps</a>
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18		MR DHAFFAR IBRAHIM MUHAMMED	MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT IN IRAQ	792688		
19		MR MAJEED ABDULRIDHA SABAA	MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT IN IRAQ	040314523		
20		MR ALI HUSSEIN HASSAN	MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT IN IRAQ			
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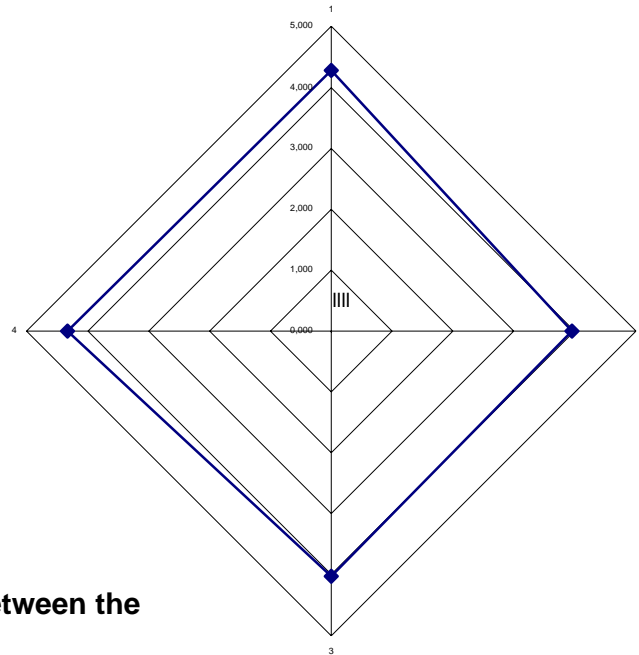
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Evaluation score:  
1= Unacceptable  
2= Not satisfied  
3= Quite satisfied  
4= Very satisfied  
5= Excellent

**Objectives and program: 4.270**

**Organization: 4,325**

**Approach and methods: 3,950**



**Facilitation of exchange of experience between the  
participants : 4,025**

**Global appreciation of the session : 86.850  
Number of evaluation sheet :19**