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The First National Trainer to Train 2nd cycle of National Experts on Industrial Energy Management Systems in Egypt through the IEE Project

In contributing to the efforts made to address the energy crisis in Egypt, the Egyptian Industrial Energy Efficiency (IEE) Project, in collaboration with the Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA) and the Ministry of Industry and Foreign Trade (MIFT), is currently working to develop the capacity of national experts in energy management systems. In order to build local capacity for energy efficiency services on energy management systems and to create supply of sufficient and equality services, the IEE Project trained 25 selected national experts (including 13 participants from industrial enterprises that participate for the first time in the project activities) representing government professionals, energy engineers, private sector consultants, as well as academic staff. The IEE Project provides regular, hands-on training to the national experts to enable them to develop energy management systems in potential factories that are interested to receive this service. In this context, UNIDO pursues a holistic approach involving policy, economic, technical, environmental and social aspects, to promote and support continuous energy efficiency improvement and the increased use of low carbon technologies in the industries of developing countries and emerging economies. The IEE Project follows the UNIDO holistic approach and continues to facilitate the transfer of training experiences from the international consultants to the national experts. Ms. Dalia Nakhla, a national engineer, co-delivered the second training module to the 2nd training cycle of national experts, in collaboration with the assigned international expert. Training of the subsequent training cohort will be delivered by Egyptian trainers.



Launching IEE Website and Social Media Platform

Egypt's Industrial Efficiency Energy Project launched its English website, which can be reached at the following site www.ieeegypt.org, as well as the Arabic website on the following www.ieeegypt.org/ar. In addition, the IEE Project created a Facebook Page that can be accessed at the following link: www.facebook.com/ieeegypt.

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Development of National Policies Towards Promoting Industrial Energy Efficiency (IEE)

The industrial sector is responsible for approximately 43% of national energy consumption and 33% of national electricity consumption (Integrated Environmental Assessment (IEA), 2013).

In order to bring a solution to Egypt's current energy crisis, Egypt's Industrial Energy Efficiency (IEE) Project works in partnership with the Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA) to develop policies and frameworks to improve industrial energy efficiency, particularly in energy-intensive sectors, such as Iron & Steel, Fertilizers and Cement Production; thus enhancing Egypt's ability to achieve development in light of the available reserves, while safeguarding the rights of future generations. This process will build on a review of the previous studies undertaken in this field, as well as an assessment to address the issue of energy consumption in industry and the associated problems, including inefficient use of energy, energy conservation, energy subsidies, and issues of environmental preservation.

Towards promoting EE policies, the IEE Project organized consultation meetings with Egyptian leaders and representatives from relevant ministries, private sector and non-governmental organizations, who act as a 'Think Tank', to engage in a process of brainstorming and discussing ideas and insights recommending policies that can be adopted to address some of the current information inefficiencies and economic drawbacks. This effort is intended to improve industrial energy efficiency, based on a comprehensive review of the practical research studies carried out in this area. This "Think Tank" group meets on a regular basis to discuss and consult on the formulation of the required policy. The first meeting took place on May 4, 2014 and was followed by a second meeting on June 9, 2014.



In addition, the IEE Project, in collaboration with a consortium consisting of 2 national companies; i.e. Environics and Logic Energy disseminated a baseline assessment report, which summarizes the findings of the reports on EE in Egypt, specifically reports focusing on IEE. The report identifies gaps existing in IEE; defines stakeholders; and, provides a SWOT analysis of the Egyptian industrial energy efficiency.

The purpose of the report is to lay down the foundation for the forthcoming stages, during which a vision statement on Egypt's Industrial Energy Efficiency will be formulated and translated into strategies and policies to be carried out through implementation tools supplemented with monitoring mechanisms that allow for ongoing reviews and policy revisions towards the fulfilment of the envisaged goals.



Continuous Coaching and Mentoring for the IEE National Experts through Webinar Events

Two webinar events were held on June 10 and July 10 consecutively, during which international consultants supported and coached the national experts to enable them to overcome the obstacles they face in the various steps of implementing the energy management systems at the companies assigned to them. The international consultants provide ongoing technical support and guidance and help overcome the identified barriers.



Training of Energy Management System Users

Egypt's Industrial Energy Efficiency Project organized a 2 day training event under the theme 'Training of Energy Management System Users' on May 13 and 14, 2014. This is the first training module delivered to the 2nd training cycle for users training. The objective of the training was to introduce representatives of industries, especially energy-intensive industries, as well as cadres of national experts, to the range of economic and environmental benefits of energy system optimization, consistent with ISO 50001 for energy management standard for industry, as well as to provide orientation about the technical assistance made available by the IEE Project in energy management systems and system optimization. The issue of energy efficiency and energy management optimization represents a priority in Egypt due to the urgent need to secure future demands of energy.



Egypt's Industrial Energy Efficiency Project training continues..

Egypt's Industrial Energy Efficiency Project organized a two-day training event on energy management systems on May 11 – 12, 2014. This is the third training module delivered to the first training cycle with the objective of developing local capacity among national experts for industrial energy management systems. This training module is part of a series of training events delivered by the IEE Project with an aim to prepare national experts in energy management systems. These experts are supported with content knowledge as they participate in regular training sessions, and are provided with technical assistance in various steps of implementing the energy management systems at the factories assigned to them.



Industrial Energy Efficient (IEE) Project Partners Hold Meetings to Discuss Key Project Achievements and Challenges

The 'IEE' Working Group held a meeting on Monday, June 2, 2014. The meeting was attended by the IEE Project Manager, Mr. Sherif Hosny as well as representatives from partner organizations. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss project progress, including the release of a baseline assessment report on Egypt's industrial energy, as well as the development of the second issue of the IEE newsletter. The meeting shed light on the IEE training session that was attended by 50 participants, representing more than 16 industrial enterprises, in addition to 22 consultants. The meeting also discussed the challenges that face the IEE Project, including the fact that some factories do not show prompt response to the project's call for collaboration.



Commemorating the World Environment Day in Egypt

The World Environment Day is celebrated every year on June 5th. Since the date designated for celebrating the World Environment Day coincided with the announcement of results of Egypt's presidential elections, a decision was made to celebrate the World Environment Day between 15 - 18 June, under the theme 'Raise Your Voice ... Not the Sea Level'.

It is worth noting that Egypt is among the most affected and vulnerable countries to the potential implications of climate change, including the climate-related rise in the sea level and coastal flooding impacts on agricultural land and Delta region.

The event was attended by Dr. Laila Iskandar, Egyptian State Minister of Environmental Affairs, as well as a number of Arab Environmental Ministers and Ambassadors and Diplomats from around the world, accompanied with the Egyptian counterpart ministers and diplomats. The event focused on some of the most significant environmental concerns, especially issues of climate change, sustainable development, renewable energy, and global warming in order to curb the adverse environmental impacts of greenhouse gases.



The Industrial Energy Efficiency Project participated in the World Environment Day celebrations in order to raise awareness about the importance of efficient and optimal use of energy resources, which will constitute a part of key policies that can be possibly adopted to respond to the challenges associated with energy security and climate change. The project is geared at the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by means of creating a policy environment that is conducive to the sustainable application of energy efficient technologies and that enables the management of such technologies and solutions as an integral part of industries' business practices; an environment in which a cadre of well-trained experts in energy management systems assists in developing and implementing energy efficiency improvement projects.

The Arab Energy Efficiency Day

The League of Arab States (LAS), teamed with the Energy Service Company (ESCO), the Egyptian Ministry of Electricity and Renewable Energy (MoERE), and the Regional Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (RCREEE), in collaboration with the Energy Efficiency in the Construction Sector in the Mediterranean (MED-ENEC) Initiative, to celebrate the Arab Energy Efficiency Day between June 18 and 19, 2014, under the auspices of H.E. Dr. Nabil Al-Arabi, the Secretary-General of the League of Arab States.

This year's event addresses the 'Need for Strengthening the Role of Small and Medium Sized Enterprises in Promoting Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency'. The focus of the event is to discuss the role that can be possibly undertaken by small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) in sustainable energy development, combined with the range of technical, institutional, financial and regulatory tools that can be introduced to encourage investments by these enterprises in this focus area.

More than 60% of the Arab countries suffer from a deficit due to the growing demand for electricity, whilst one third of the Arab states imports more than 90% of its energy needs. It is worth noting that energy conservation can achieve significant energy savings up to twenty 25%.

Data released by the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics (CAPMAS) in Egypt shows that businesses with fewer than 50 employees (i.e. SMEs) provide 99% of overall employment opportunities in the industrial sector. This explains the important role that can be possibly played by SMEs in this area.

The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), as well as the Industrial Energy Efficiency (IEE) Project participated in the Arab Energy Efficiency Day celebration, which was held to raise awareness about the importance of energy efficiency, while placing an emphasis on energy efficiency and optimization of energy resources as being among the key policies that can be adopted to address the challenges of energy security and climate change.

