



Food and Agriculture
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Convention to Combat
Desertification

Success Stories of LDN & VGGT in Egypt

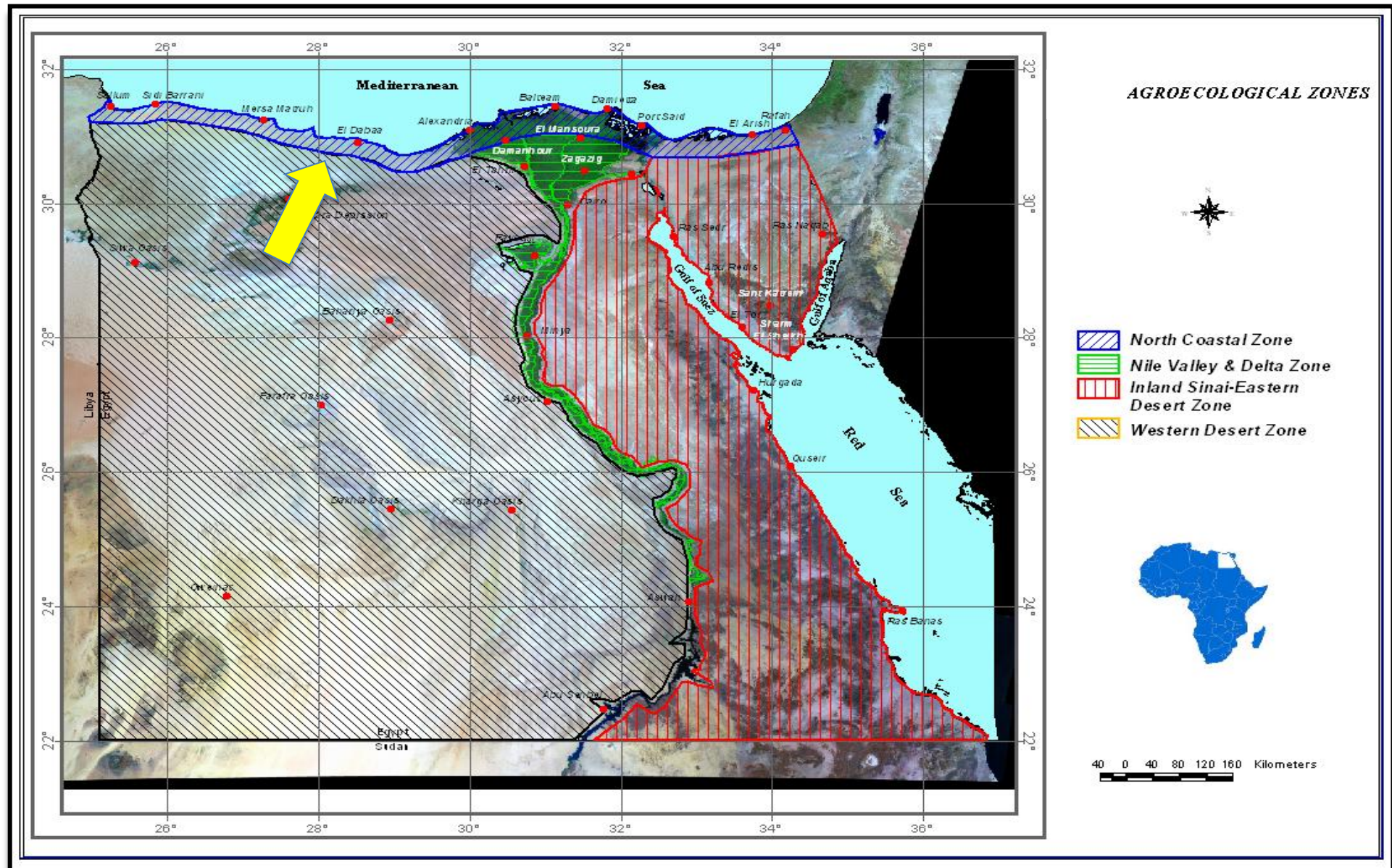
**The Case of North Western Coastal
Zone of Egypt. (The 1st Agro-ecological Zone)**

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– DRC - Egypt**

**UNCCD Operational Focal Point & STC of Egypt,
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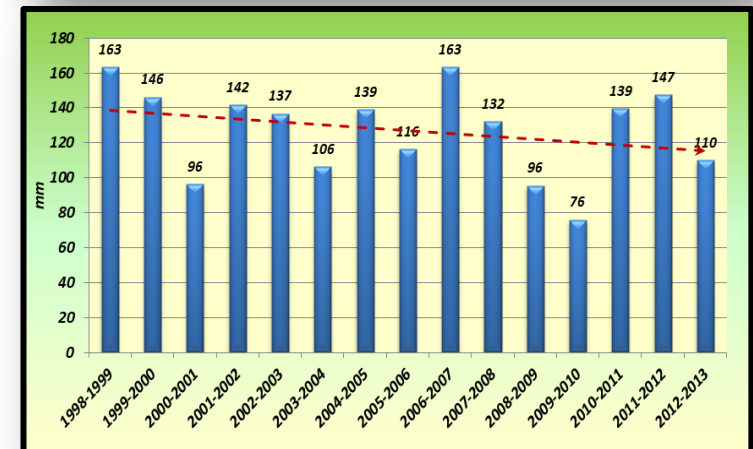
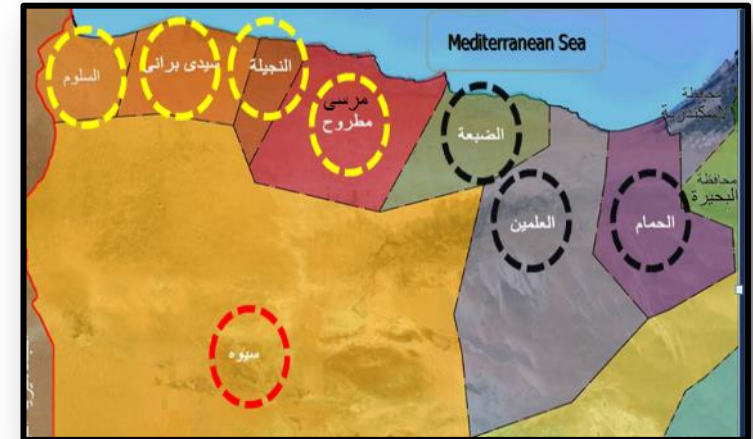
The four Agro-ecological Zones of Egypt



“Status & Challenges”

1- Water Resources :

- **The main water source for all uses is precipitation, which is low and erratic – the annual long-term average is around 140 mm on the coast and up to 20 km inland but declined drastically thereafter.**
- **infrequent and drought is dominant besides Low water use efficiency.**
- **Poor water harvesting Technologies.**



Cont., The NWC of Egypt

"Status & Challenges"

2- Plant Resources :

- Deterioration of plant cover.
- Over grazing.
- Fire wooding.
- Improper agricultural practices.
- Poor rangeland management.



Cont., The NWC of Egypt

“Status & Challenges”

3- Soil Resources :

- **Erosion.**
- **Low fertility.**
- **Low productivity.**
- **Salinity.**
- **Drought.**

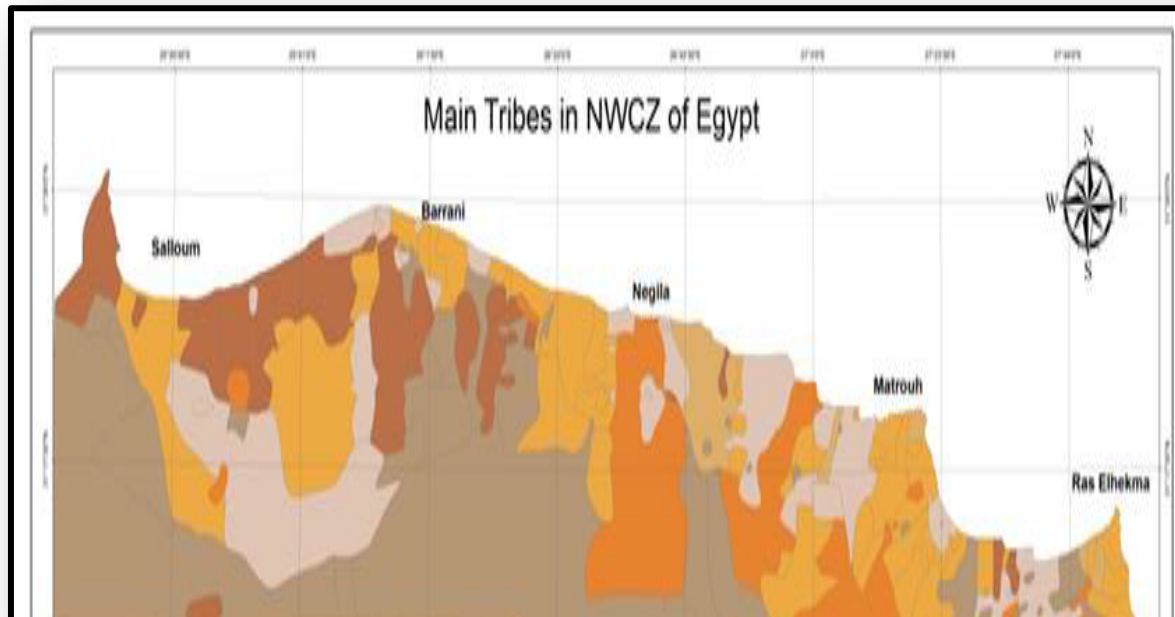


Cont., The NWC of Egypt

"Status & Challenges"

4- Human Resources & Gender :

- Poverty is dominant.
- Illiteracy or improper educational programs.
- Agriculture is the main source of livelihood for 70% of its Bedouin population.
- Absence of gender contribution.
- Land Tenure belongs to different Bedouin Tribes.



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1- Background:

- SDCMR was established in 1994 until the end of 2002 as a project with total budget of 29.4 million USD financed by the Government of Egypt, a World Bank (IDA) credit, and contributions from its beneficiaries .
- Still running up till now with complete budget from DRC - MLAR .

2- Objectives:

- Conserve the natural resource base (water, land and vegetation), implement sustainable natural resource management programs.
- Alleviate poverty and improve the livelihood of the local Bedouin population support , i.e. Conserve & develop natural resources, improve agriculture production and socioeconomic aspects.



Sustainable Development Center for Matrouh Resources . “SDCMR”

It is a development project with a strong adaptive research and technology base, serves the area extends 320 km along the NWC from Ras El-Hekma in the East to El-Salloum on the Libyan border in the West and 60 km on average inland.



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3- Opportunities :

- MLAR & DRC has a long history working with the local community.
- Civil society desires to improve reality and cooperate with the government sector.
- Local Community (LC) has the endogenous knowledge that only needs to be improved to change the current situation.



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4-Approaches & Achievements:

- The local communities (LCs) was given full access to a participatory approach and was encouraged to reject tribalism.
- LCs were given the responsibility for planning, managing, implementing and evaluation of their activities under the supervision of DRC Experts.
- Gender was given the full access to share and to get financial benefits to improve their life.
- Literacy of 6000 Bedouin girls.
- Capacity building for women skills in Hand Crafts activity inside their houses to raise their income.



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I- Water Harvesting systems:

1. Floodwater harvesting within streambed.
2. Macro-catchment (Ex-situ) water harvesting system.
3. Micro-catchment (In situ) water harvesting system



Water harvesting construction achieved by the project

WH Activity	Amount	Capacity m3
Cisterns	8590	1245550
R C conservation	351	89522
Reservoirs	313	44045
Stone dikes	4928	121884
Cemented dikes	181	18106
Earthen dikes	81	22908



II – Improving Range lands and introduce high value fodder plants:

- 240 grazing units were cultivated by indigenous and introduced fodder shrubs , 12000 fed



Fodder shrubs planted with project support

Approach/Activity	Shrubs planted		Area		Beneficiaries	
	Million	%	Fed	%	No.	%
1. Small areas and windbreaks	4.38	60	9570	52	3190	85
2. Fenced large areas.	2.50	35	6250	34	250	8
3. Intercropping on barley plots	0.39	5	2500	14	330	9
Total	7.27	100	18320	100	3770	100

Rangeland improvement activities by SDCMR

Activity	Hekma		Matrouh		Negila		Barrani East		Barrani West		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Shrubs (million)	1.55	21	1.37	19	1.28	18	1.69	23	1.38	19	7.27	100
Reseeding (fed)	430	24	330	18	300	17	410	23	330	18	1800	100

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III – Other activities

- Improvement of Horticulture Farming
- Integrated Pest Management
- Composting.
- Improvement of Small Ruminant Production



Thank you

**UNCCD Operational Focal Point
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