

Wood Competence Centre Egypt Inception Phase – ADA

Title: Vocational Training WOOD COMPETENCE CENTRE to increase the local added value and revitalize the Egyptian wood craft sector

Goal: Development of a training centre for wood processing in Egypt to meet the rapidly growing demand of the local market with a sustainable local training strategy and to create an exemplary and imitation model for the whole of Egypt.

Program: ADA – Economic Partnership
Project Start: 10. October 2019
Project Duration: 18 Months
Project End: 31. March 2021

Total Budget: € 500,000.00
Financial Support: € 250,000.00 (50 %)

Lead Partner: Sekem Energy GmbH, Hitzendorf

Project Partner Austria:

- Sekem Energy GmbH, Hitzendorf
- Felder KG, Hall in Tyrol

Parties Involved in Austria:

- Höhere Technische Bundeslehranstalt Imst, Imst
- Tiroler Fachberufsschule für Holztechnik, Absam
- ibw - Institute for educational research in the economy, Vienna

Parties Involved in Egypt:

- GOPA Infra Egypt LLC, Cairo
- Sekem Holding for Investment Company, Cairo
- Heliopolis University for Sustainable Development, Cairo

Project Summary:

Preparation for the implementation of a wood competence centre, which is to play a pioneering role in Egypt. In addition to well-trained personnel, the planned wood competence centre will be equipped with modern woodworking machines and "state-of-the-art" technologies. These (including computer-aided technologies) are very cost-intensive, which means that the machinery equipment for a wood competence centre can cost several million euros. The environment that has to be created for this is not included in this calculation. For infrastructure, buildings, school equipment and trainer training, an investment in the seven-digit range can also be assumed.

The very high costs for an implementation phase require an extensive inception phase in which such an investment (estimated at 5 million euros in total) is carefully examined, planned and prepared.

In order that the large-scale wood competence centre does not run the risk of becoming another construct without real integration into an existing system, it requires extensive testing and preparation. If one of the implementation scenarios to be developed proves to be very promising, the extensive preparation for a second phase can save a lot of time in addition to the certainty gained. In the planned project it is planned to achieve a broad, solid embedding in terms of vocational training in the long term with the authorities behind it. The centre of excellence is intended to serve as a model for the whole of Egypt and in the long term it should be possible to roll it out across several regions.

Project Specific Goals:

- Survey of the market potential for wood processing in Egypt (local and international market)
- Stakeholder evaluation - wood processing companies and identification of their training needs
- Identification of the different wood applications, processing and product lines
- Identification of possible new wood products for the Egyptian market with increased current and future potential
- Survey of possible partner enterprises (Cairo surroundings / Damietta / Nile / tourism centres on the coasts)
- Illumination of the various training paths in the field of wood processing
- Statistical surveys on teaching and wood processing in Egypt
- Identification of authority responsibilities for a roll-out of a wood competence centre in Egypt
- Survey of activities and strategies of other international institutions (GIZ/EBRD/Unido)
- Elaboration and evaluation of 3 possible variants of the implementation of a wood competence centre

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