



Egypt

EGYPT IN ACTION

A Spotlight on Events from UNDP Egypt

THIS ISSUE:

Sustainable Environment Week at Cairo University

The 28th of March 2010 saw the launch of the Sixth Annual Sustainable Environment Week at Cairo University entitled 'Sustainable Community Development Under the Millennium Development Goals'.

Cairo University organized this year's event in cooperation with UNDP and the Ministry of State for Environmental Affairs. The launch was held under the auspices of Minister of Higher Education and State for Scientific Research Hany Helal, Minister of State for Environmental Affairs Maged George, Governor of Giza Sayed Abdulaziz, Cairo University President Hossam Kamel and Vice President of Cairo University Heba Nassar.

This year's Environment Week presented an opportunity for Cairo University Students to participate in a number of engaging environmental activities on campus including beautification, landscaping and recycling.

Numerous awareness raising activities included screening of documentaries on sustainable community development, and holding lectures and seminars covering a range of hot environmental topics .

Furthermore, during the Week's events, leading experts from the media were invited to a symposium on: "Information and Awareness-raising Concepts for Sustainable Community Development".

The unprecedented levels of student participation in the competitions this year was key to the success of the Environment Week. Cairo University presented students with awards for volunteer environmental initiatives and awareness-raising artwork.





Sustainable Environment Week at Cairo University



UNDP Country Director Mounir Tabet delivered a statement to the students of Cairo University at the opening of the 2010 Sustainable Environment Week during which he highlighted the importance of keeping environmental issues on the agenda in a time where equally urgent topics compete for public attention.

Tabet commended the participation of Government, academia, youth, the private sector, and development agencies in the event, which he described as "in keeping with UNDP's human development approach that emphasizes the importance of inclusiveness and the adoption of participatory approaches."

He warned that neglect of the environment over the past few decades is now haunting humanity with the imminent menace of Climate Change and the immediate threat of severe weather storms, floods, droughts that we are experiencing nowadays. And that the world's poorest bear little responsibility for the build-up of global warming gases in the earth's atmosphere yet stand to bear the brunt of the social and economic consequences.

Tabet pointed out that UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon and UNDP Administrator Helen Clarke have announced, on separate occasions, that the Climate Change challenge is a top priority and vowed to make the fight against global warming a key issue during their tenures at the UN.

Tabet also encourages the students to keep abreast of new knowledge and technology, saying that if the twentieth century was defined by unprecedented economic growth and new technology, the twenty first century will be defined by innovative technology that helps restore Climatic Balance to our planet and create value added to its citizens. He urged the students to take advantage of the democratic access to knowledge enabled through the internet, pointing out that the young generation that is at the centre of the revolution that is now brewing.

[COMPLETE SPEECH](#)

“The world’s poorest bear little responsibility for the build-up of global warming gases in the earth’s atmosphere yet stand to bear the brunt of the social and economic consequences.”

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The Sustainable Environment Event was picked up by local press outlets including the state-owned Al Gomhuria and Al Akhbar newspapers as well as Al Shorouq independent newspaper.

The coverage highlighted this year's theme as being "Sustainable Community Development and the Millennium Development Goals" and mentioned the high-level Government participation, particularly Minister of Environmental Affairs Maged George.

The press highlighted Minister George's speech during which he stated that sustainable development, whether economic, social or environmental, will help achieve an economic growth of 7.6% by the year 2017. George added that his Ministry has cooperated with UNDP on an initiative that aimed to localizing the 7th MDG to Egypt in collaboration with Ministries of Agriculture, Housing Utilities and Urban Development, Health, Irrigation and Water Resources, Local Development and Economic Development. Minister of State for Environmental Affairs Maged George also highlighted the importance of the role of citizens in protecting the environment.



جورج: التنمية المستدامة تحقق نمواً اقتصادياً ٧,٦% عام ٢٠١٧

أكد المهندس ماجد جورج وزير البيئة ان تطبيق التنمية المستدامة يتعاضدا الثلاثة الاقتصادية والاجتماعية والبيئية تساهم للنمو الاقتصادي على الوصول إلى ٧,٦% مع حلول عام ٢٠١٧.

في لاسبوع التوعية البيئية بجامعة القاهرة بحضور د. ماجد جورج وزير الدولة لشؤون البيئة والتنمية المجتمعية المستدامة في مستوي لا يقل عن المستوى الذي يعيش فيه. ويضم مجلس الشورى الإداري وحماية البيئة ومصادر الثروة الطبيعية بها وتلقى ظل التنمية المجتمعية المستدامة والاقتصادية وهي عن الأهداف الإنمائية في رئيس جهاز شؤون البيئة. ويقام المحفل بقاعة الاحتفالات الكبرى بجامعة القاهرة وبحرف عليه دعوة نصار نائب رئيس الجامعة لشؤون تنمية المجتمع وتنمية البيئة ويختتم فعاليات الاحتفال يوم الخميس القادم.

سوزان زكي



Sustainable Environment Week at Cairo University

