

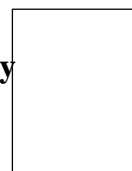
SEAM *Project*

Guidance Manual Eco-labelling for Textiles

**Ministry of State for Environmental
Affairs**

**Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency
Technical Cooperation Office for the Environment**

Entec UK Ltd



Guidance Manual Eco-labelling for Textiles

SEAM Project

Implemented by:

**Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency
Technical Cooperation Office for the Environment
and
Entec UK Limited**

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The SEAM Project - An Introduction

Support for Environmental Assessment and Management (SEAM), is a multi-disciplinary environmental project being funded by Britain's Department for International Development (DFID). This Project is being implemented by the Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA) through the Technical Cooperation Office for the Environment (TCOE) and Entec, a UK based engineering and environmental consultancy.

The SEAM Project is made up of 5 components, focusing on environmental management issues. These include Industrial Pollution Prevention/Cleaner Production, Environmental Impact Assessment, Solid Waste Management, Environmental Action Plans and development of an Environmental Database.

The main goal of the Industrial Pollution Prevention/Cleaner Production component is to show that significant financial savings and environmental improvements can be made by relatively low-cost and straightforward interventions. These consist of pollution prevention through good housekeeping, waste minimisation, process modification and technology changes. This approach has two benefits - valuable materials are recovered rather than wasted and factories are moved towards legislative compliance. This work is being undertaken in support of the National Industrial Pollution Prevention Programme (NIPPP) and has focused on three sectors: textiles, food and oil & soap.

Industrial auditing was used as a systematic approach to identify pollution prevention measures. Industrial auditing of 32 factories led to identification of more than 200 low cost/no cost pollution prevention measures. Measures that had relevance across the sector, innovative contents and a high multiplier potential were then developed as demonstration projects. The idea of these demonstration projects was to show how the pollution prevention approach can lead to financial benefits while gaining improved environmental performance.

Thirteen demonstration projects have been implemented in 21 sites as follows:

Textile Sector

- Eco-friendly Processing for Securing International Eco-label.
- Water and Energy Conservation.
- Combined Processing: Desize, Scour and Bleach.
- Bleach Clean-Up using Enzymes.
- Sulphide Reduction in Sulphur Dyeing.

Food Sector

- Installation of Milk Tank Level Controls and Valves.
- Water Conservation in Food Factories.
- Energy Conservation in Food Factories.
- Reducing Waste by Improved Quality Control.
- Recovery and Use of Whey as Animal Feed.

Oil and Soap Sector

- Waste Minimisation in an Edible Oil Factory.
- Oil and Fat Recovery.
- Improving Raw Water Quality to Reduce In-Plant Losses.

Outputs from these projects include industry workshops and seminars, demonstration projects with supporting Guidance Notes and Manuals (to enable other factories to implement similar projects themselves), case studies incorporating cost-benefit analyses to demonstrate project feasibility, detailed Sector Reports and Guidelines describing how to carry out industrial audits.

Factories Participating in the SEAM Eco-Label Demonstration Project

The ecolabelling demonstration project was implemented in two different textile factories, as follows:

Misr Spinning and Weaving Co., Mahalla El-Kobra (Misr Mahalla):

Misr Mahalla is a large public sector company located at Mahalla El Kobra in Gharbeya Governorate. The factory, established in 1927, covers 600 feddans and employs 30,000 staff.

The factory carries out dry and wet processing of cotton, wool, and blends with synthetic fabrics and processes over 4,000 tonnes of fabric per month. Products include yarn, grey fabric, ready-made garments, surgical cotton and bandages. Over 55% of fabrics and ready-made garments are exported. Currently the main markets are Germany, France and USA. In the future, further expansion in the European Community market is anticipated.

Giza Spinning, Weaving, Dyeing and Garments Company, Giza (Giza Spinning and Weaving):

Giza Spinning and Weaving is a private company located at Kafr El Hakeim in Giza Governorate. The factory, established in 1984, covers 25 feddans and employs 2,400 staff.

The factory processes (wet and dry) and manufactures cotton and polyester/cotton garments. A total of 5 tons of fabric are processed per day, 90% of which are knitted, the remainder being woven. More than 90% of its products are exported as white and dyed-knitted T-shirts, the main export market being Europe (particularly Germany) and USA.

-Tex 100 Eco-labels were successfully obtained by both factories

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