

GENDER ASSESSEMENT FOR DANIDA FINANCED PROJECT



ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT IN THE GOVERNORATES (EMG) OF BENI SUEF AND ASWAN

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List of Abbreviations

CDA	Community Development Association
CDS	Center for Development Services
DAG	Donor Assistance Group
EEAA	Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency
EMG	Environmental Management in Governorates
EMU	Egyptian Management Unit
ESP	Environmental Sector Programme
GAP	Gender and Development
GEAP	Governorate Environmental Action Plan
M & E	Monitoring and Evaluation
NSCE	North South Consultants Exchange
O & M	Operation and Maintenance
WSA	Water and Sanitation Company
WSS	Water Supply and Sanitation

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1. Executive summary

The gender assessment for the Danida financed project "Environmental Management in the Governorates" has been carried out by North South Consultants Exchange (NSCE).

The main objective of the assessment is to address how gender issues have been mainstreamed in the programme.

The GEAP produced for the two Governorates is the main reference tool at the Governorate level for the High Environmental Committee and the Governor in relation to the Environmental Planning of the Governorate. The GEAP came out of a comprehensive consultation with all key stakeholders in the Governorate. It is a comprehensive consultative exercise which gives a real value added to the Governorates.

The GEAP makes a detailed analysis by priority sectors identified that are the similar for the two Governorates. A list of high, medium and low priority projects and related initiatives to be carried out until 2017 have been identified. For each sector a special section is dedicated to the need of awareness activities. Aswan GEAP elaborates more on the kind of awareness needed.

The gender issue is not specifically mentioned in the GEAP even if it represents one of the selection criteria for the projects. This explains why even if gender related initiatives have been carried out, they do not fall in a systemized approach at the implementation level.

The EMU of Beni Suef has a gender unbalance, the fact of having a gender balanced team has not been considered while recruiting the staff.

The EMU in Aswan is more gender balanced; since it has become a General Directorate as in Beni Suef there is a plan to recruit additional staff. A gender balanced policy could be taken into consideration.

While the General Manager in Beni Suef received many training courses in gender, it seems that the staff did not. In Aswan a list of training courses carried out within the framework of the project was showed to the evaluator, there was no course on gender issues and how to concretely apply those concepts during the implementation. The theoretical knowledge of the gender concept by the EMU was reflected also during the field visits where there was a limited response on the kind of practical actions to be carried out and how the gender mainstreaming should be reported.

Based upon the field findings (annex 1 of the report) practical checklists have been developed for sanitation projects, solid waste projects, small-scale water projects and health solid waste projects. A separate checklist for the policy level has been developed as well.

The checklists have been structured along five main headings (except for the policy level checklist) divided as follows:

- Analysis and forecast.
- Participation, awareness and cultural sensitivities.
- Roles and responsibilities
- Economic and sustainability aspects
- Monitoring and training

Suggested tools and practical recommendations are provided after the checklist description.

The evaluator hopes that the report produced could be used by the Danida supported Environmental Sector Programme (ESP) as a practical tool for promoting gender mainstreaming in the implementation of its activities.

2. The Consultancy

2.1 The objective of the consultancy

The objective of the Gender Assessment is to address how gender issues are being mainstreamed in the “Environmental Management in Governorates” (EMG), a component of Danida supported “Environmental Sector Programme “(ESP).

In particular gender mainstreaming in EMG capacity building, demonstration projects (for a value from 1 million up to 4.6 million), and community projects (<300,000 in some cases carried out by NGOs) will be assessed.

Practical recommendations on how gender mainstreaming could be improved in 4 specific areas of intervention (solid waste management, health care waste projects, sanitation projects and small scale water projects) will follow.

The consultant selected for the assignment is North South Consultants Exchange (NSCE) who has proposed two of its staff for carrying out the assignment. The two consultants representing NSCE are Ms. Graziella Rizza acting as team leader and Dr. Ihab Ghabriel as Field Manager.

2.2 Methodology Approach and Processes

The consultant proposed a methodology relying mainly on a qualitative approach. Where quantitative data is assessed, this is done through the information provided by the project's team.

The first stage of the assignment consisted on a kick off meeting during which an overview of the project was given, the timetable of the evaluation mission was agreed upon and the main documents were provided.

The documents given to the evaluation mission can be divided in two categories:

Strategic reports which consisted in:

- Gender Mainstreaming Toolkit produced by the Center for Development Services (CDS)
- Gender Mainstreaming Kit produced by CDS
- The Governorate Environmental Action Plan (GEAP) for Beni Suef
- The Governorate Environmental Action Plan (GEAP) for Aswan
- The Socio Economic Profile for Aswan
- The Environmental Action Plan for Aswan.

The main project documents of the projects that the mission had to visit which consisted in the following:

For Beni Suef:

- The Integrated Sanitation Water Management Project (demonstration project),
- The Health Component Waste Management Project (demonstration project),
- The Sanitation Project in El Konayeash village (demonstration project),
- The Water supply project implemented by El Hakamna CDA (community based project),

Since El Konayeash project did not yet start and the field survey was not done, the mission visited El Karma CDA which carried out the survey of El Fashin Waste Management Project and Beni Suef Water Sanitation Company.

For Aswan:

- Naga El Mahata Sanitation Project (demonstration project),
- Naseriya Solid Waste Project (demonstration project),
- Nasr El Nuba Sanitation Project (Community based project),
- The Health Waste Management Project.

The evaluation team has carefully reviewed all the documentation provided before starting the field work. The literature review was completed by an extensive internet review of literature produced on gender mainstreaming, gender and environment and gender and water and sanitation.

The second phase of the assignment focused on data collection through contacts with key informants and focus group discussion.

The team leader and the field manager visited Beni Suef on the 22nd, 23rd and 24th of January 2007. The Head of the Egyptian Management Unit (EMU), Eng. Medhat Ibrahim Awad, provided an overview of the EMU activities and efficiently organized the field visits.

The mission met with:

- The Board Members and the members of El Karma CDA
- Had an in depth interview with Mr. Osama El Shafay in charge of the Integrated Sanitation Water Management Project
- The Board Members and the two women in charge of the Women Committee of the Hakmana CDA and paid a field visit to three houses of the beneficiaries which got a water connection in their houses.
- Met with Dr. Seham Adeeb Moawad in charge of the capacity building component of the Health Community Waste Management Project on behalf of Friends of the University Hospital CDA.
- Had an in depth interview with Ms Mervat Waheeb Kamel Peter, EMU Awareness and Community Specialist.
- Met with Eng. Adel Hetry, General Manager of the National Authority for Potable Water and Sanitation in charge of performing the works for the sanitation project in El Konayeeasah village.

From the 28th up to the 31st of January 2007 the team leader was in Aswan. The field visit in the second Governorate occurred as follows:

- Meeting with Eng. Soad Karmy Head of Aswan EMU,
- In depth interview with Ms. Nabila Fathi El Gabalany, EMG consultant
- Focus group discussion with female surveyors and CDA Board Members of Nasserya CDA
- Focus group discussion with Naga El Mahata female beneficiaries and Board Members.
- Focus group discussion with the Board Members, field surveyors and fees collectors of Nasr El Nuba CDA.
- Meeting with Dr. Barakat, General Manager of Aswan Health Department for the Solid Waste Management project.

The third phase of the assignment focused on the analysis of the information gathered and the preparation of the report.

3. The context of the Gender Assessment

Before going into the details of the analysis and the findings the evaluators considered useful providing an overview of the strategic context within which the assessment falls.

A brief overview of Danida's strategic guidelines; the main highlights of the gender toolkit produced by the UN donor group in Egypt and a brief description of the overall project goal, demonstrate a strategic congruency and a common vision on gender as a cross cutting issue both from the donor, the Egyptian Government and the project.

3.1 Danida's strategic guidelines on gender as a cross cutting issue

Danida's overall strategy aims to promote environmentally sustainable development. There is a need to strengthen the developing countries in their consideration for environment. The primary objective of Denmark's development policy is sustainable development through the reduction of poverty. In order to reduce poverty, it is essential to give special attention to three cross cutting issues such as:

- the gender aspect, i.e. the roles of women and men in the development process;
- the environmental aspect, i.e. the need to ensure concern for the environment;
- the democracy aspect, i.e. popular participation, democratization and respect for human rights and good governance.

A strengthening of women's position and status in society is considered a crucial element in poverty reduction. Unequal access for men and women to resources (productive, human and social) and unequal control of such resources inhibit economic growth and thereby also effective poverty reduction.

Access to financial resources, credit, education, health care and water and not least the right to own and administer land are important elements in the equal participation of women in the economic development process.

3.2 Main highlights on Egypt Gender Took kit and the Environment

The Gender toolkit developed in the year 2000 within the framework of the Gender and Development (GAD) Sub-Group (conceived in 1991 as an off-shoot of the Donor Assistance Group (DAG). DAG purpose is to co-ordinate the development initiatives of UN agencies and bilateral donors operating in Egypt), is in line with Danida's strategic vision on gender as a cross cutting issue. Out of a list of points, which summarized the report on the Egyptian's Government implementation of the Beijing Platform of Action, some of the most relevant ones for the scope of this assignment have been summarized as follows:

i) Women in power and decision making

- Raise the political awareness of women through civic institutions.
- Invite NGOs to participate in discussions on women's issues.

ii) Women and the Environment

- Improve environmental awareness among women and children.
- Promote women as natural resource managers.
- Encourage NGOs working in the field of the environment.
- Increase access to potable water.
- Increase access to sanitation in villages and slum areas.
- Include environment in school curricula and non-traditional education

3.3 The overall project goal

The Environmental Management in Governorates (EMG) is a component of the Danida supported Environmental Sector Programme (ESP) implemented in coordination with the Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA). The programme's goal is to ensure a better supply of water to poor rural districts and small towns. The strategy aims at promoting sector reform in order to facilitate decentralized and independent management at governorate level.

The programme supports gender specific campaigns to promote hygiene and environmental awareness channeling this support particularly through local NGOs.

The EMG provides technical assistance to local authorities to strengthen their capacity to operate and maintain the water supply facilities in the governorates, supports the rehabilitation of existing water stations, aims at improving water supply and sanitation in 1-2 cities in Upper Egypt in particularly addressing the poor, remote and scarcely serviced villages in the Egyptian Governorates and supports the establishment of independent water and sanitary drainage authorities with consumer participation in Aswan and an additional governorate in Upper Egypt

1. Checklists and Recommendations

4.1. Why is gender important in environmental projects?

The strategic outlines of all donors and UN agencies working in environment state that gender as a cross cutting issue is important since there is a strong positive link between a focus on gender balance and the degree of the intervention success.

Some publications viewed by the evaluator tended to speak about gender balance in the strategic outlines but then switched to support initiatives targeted to women without specifying that those initiatives were required due to the gender unbalance.

While in some countries, governments and/or the private sector cannot assure all services at the community level and therefore there is the need of involving more heavily the civil society to fill the gap, in Egypt the situation is different.

The needs in environmental issues do not find a complete void in the institutions. There may be lacks for which a specific support is required, but the infrastructure at the EEAA, the Ministry of Health and the private sector is available. In some cases in areas for which due to financial and human resources limitation the state cannot intervene, then the civil society can play a role of supporting the community in solid waste management, water and sanitation. This explains the different strategies applied by

EMG in the implementation of the environmental projects assessed. In some cases the activities are carried out in collaboration with governmental institutions, in other cases the implementing partner is the civil society.

According to a publication of the African Development Bank “Gender checklist on Water and Sanitation Projects”:

“Focusing on gender leads to benefits that go beyond good Water Supply and Sanitation (WSS) project performance as manifested in such aspects as better procurement, operation and maintenance (O & M), cost recovery, and hygiene awareness. Those other benefits include the following:

- *Economic benefit:* Better access to water gives women more time for income-generating activities, the needs of family members, or their own welfare and leisure. The economy, as a whole, therefore also benefits.
- *Benefit to children:* Freed from the drudgery of water collection and management, children, especially girls, can go to school. Hence, the impact can be expected to be intergenerational.
- *Empowerment of women:* Involvement in WSS projects empowers women, especially when project activities are linked to income-generating activities and productive resources such as credit.

The participation of beneficiaries and focus on poverty reduction are two other key determinants of the effectiveness and sustainability of WSS management. A WSS project must address the constraints on women’s participation in project design, construction, O & M, training, and monitoring and evaluation (M & E). The project must also focus on the linkage between gender and poverty, by identifying, for example, households headed by females and those households’ special needs.”

4.2. The purpose and organization of the gender checklists

The gender checklists, based on the field findings and literature review, aim primarily at providing an operational tool to the project on what are the needed steps for effectively implementing gender related activities as cross cutting issues in a project which is focused on providing technical input and support to the Government.

The EMUs already implement some of the checklist's elements, which however are not structured in a uniform guideline.

Before going into the details of the checklists, it has been considered appropriate to define what is meant for checklist:

- A gender checklist is a simple tool enabling planners to make development projects gender balanced.
- It assists planners to design projects in a way where men and women both become beneficiaries of development projects.
- It ensures that resources provided to men and women can have a sustainable and balanced impact.

A concrete application of the gender checklist of the project is presented at two levels:

- The policy level to ensure the gender balance in the overall policies and development planning in the Governorate so to bridge the gender gap.
- The project level where specific checklists will be developed for the 4 sectors with the aim of ensure that each project benefits both men and women and provides access to women.

Inserting the policy level which was not included in the original assignment has been considered essential from the evaluator since all bibliographical support and the execution modalities require that strategic decisions which have an impact on the number of projects and kind of activities financed are firstly determined by the EMUs in coordination with the project office in Cairo.

4.3. The checklist at the policy level

Based on the comparative analysis in the two Governorate the following checklist at the policy level is suggested:

All sectoral policies and annual plans are initiated with GEAP, therefore it is essential to make Gender Interventions right from this policy stage. The process may start with the following steps:

- ☒ Develop a gender baseline for the Governorate.
- ☒ Identify the gender gap in environment and other key social sectors that may be inter-related (e.g. health, education).
- ☒ Make policies to bridge the gender gap (district council may formulate such policies).
- ☒ Allocate specific resources and identify a number of projects targeted to women. (Aswan socio economic profile includes a specific paragraph on women's participation stating that female memberships on civil society organizations are exceptional and that it is important to support women NGOs and facilitate women participation in the GEAP process and in projects.)
- ☒ Identify policies that offer incentives to encourage women's participation in critical sectors
- ☒ Formulate plans that create gender balanced employment opportunities.
- ☒ Ensure a gender balanced policy in the decision-making system.
- ☒ In case of GEAPs update, a special section on gender could be included.
- ☒ Hire more female project staff. Identify financial resources and stakeholders, which can carry out gender related initiatives.

4.3.1. Practical Recommendations

While the checklist mentioned proposed in the previous paragraph is a medium long-term suggestion for EMG, the consultant has identified four main practical recommendations at the policy level.

a. Provide specific gender related training to the EMUs.

Two solutions are proposed:

- i) Contract a consultant who will provide the training at the EMU premises of Beni Suef and Aswan
- ii) Train Ms. Nabila Fathi El Ghalabani, EMG consultant for the EMU who has already an advanced understanding on gender and appoint her as the gender focal point for EMG. The training provided should be based on how to effectively implement gender balanced projects and not focus on theoretical aspects, which are well known to both the EMUs and the beneficiaries.

b. Pre and post questionnaires with key gender sensitive indicators

Standardized questionnaires for the different areas of intervention should be fine-tuned. The output of the questionnaire should be consolidated in more comprehensive reports with a pre defined outline. Particular attention to the identification of key gender related questions should be provided and gender data disaggregated, extrapolated and analyzed. The utilization of questionnaires after the completion of the intervention can provide the elements of measuring the social and economic impact on the community and in particular on the change of behaviors of males and females within the community.

c. Awareness campaigns and capacity building

The evaluator has noticed that for most of the projects assessed and visited specific awareness campaigns were included in the planning. The awareness campaigns have been modulated using two main strategies:

- 1 Awareness campaigns through the EMU in coordination with schools and/or specific training providers
2. Awareness campaigns for small community based projects managed by the civil society through the direct involvement of women facilitators.

The suggestion at the strategic level is that specific integrated modules covering awareness sessions on health, water, sanitation and waste management should be developed. The integrated modules

should be part of an awareness gender and environment tool kit. The tool kit should be provided to the identified women facilitators at the community level.

The awareness sessions were more focused on solving the community's technical needs but did not take into consideration the modalities of using awareness campaigns as a tool to supporting a change in behavior. It seems that awareness is a recurrent need raised from the civil society, the governmental bodies involved such as the Water and Sanitation Company and the beneficiaries.

Since EMG is financing different projects in each Governorate, it is suggested that a comprehensive and integrated awareness campaign (carried out within a set and organized framework and supported by a gender and environment tool kit) should be developed. A well-planned gender focused awareness plan will help in cutting the costs, better identifying the target and produce a more consistent impact at the beneficiary level. The civil society should play an active role and involve NGOs/CDAs that have a close linkage with the grass root level, key governmental stakeholders such as the Health Departments in the Governorates should also play an active role in assuring sustainability measures.

The collaboration with CDAs/NGOs requires that EMG focus on enhancing the capacity of those entities that need support or eventually identify those who have already acquired the capacities. The support to the CDAs/NGOs should involve also management and planning. Some of the CDAs visited and as per comments raised in the findings did not previously manage consistent funding and no training was provided to the Board Members.

This applies to El Hakamna in Beni Suef and Nagaa El Mahata in Aswan. Other CDAs like Nasr El Nuba and El Nasserya are more active, the existing capacities of the CDAs could be enhanced by identifying ways to link up with income-generation, literacy, and other activities to support an integrated approach to poverty reduction, environment and women empowerment.

Identification and selection criteria should be elaborated, a specific action plan on the kind of support activities to be implemented developed.

d. Monitoring and evaluation

A more specific M&E system should be developed to include the monitoring of the social and gender dimension. In particular the following aspects should be looked at:

- Internal M & E by project staff;
- External M & E by NGOs or consultants, as necessary;
- Participatory monitoring by beneficiary men and women.

All relevant indicators should be disaggregated by gender. Some of the suggested indicators are the following:

- level of awareness among males and females,
- level of awareness of technical package chosen,
- patterns of use, access rates,
- extent of service coverage,
- awareness of hygienic practices,
- time saved in collecting/carrying water.
- *Project sustainability indicators* , e.g., cost recovery, breakdown rates, cleanliness of facilities, number of user groups/members (by gender), number of meetings held.

4.4. Checklist tools and practical recommendations for sanitation projects

4.4.1 The Checklist

Sanitation is among the basic needs of the people in both rural and urban areas. Women are the promoters of home and community-based sanitation activities. However, women are not represented in decision-making bodies of the sector.

Based on a bibliographical research, on the findings of the field research in addition to a practical structuring of the main points to be looked at, the following checklist could be used as a guideline to assess the elements to be taken into consideration before starting a sanitation project. This checklist like the checklists developed for the other titles (solid waste projects, small scale water projects and health solid waste projects) has been structured along five main headings (analysis and forecast, participation, awareness and cultural sensitivities, roles and responsibilities, economic and sustainability aspects, monitoring and training).

ANALYSIS AND FORECAST

- ☒ Has the gender baseline of the sector been considered before the implementation of the project?
- ☒ What are the activities of women and men, and their respective access or limitation and control to sanitation activities? In other terms has there been any consideration for sanitation baseline information by gender?
- ☒ Does the intervention consider the needs of men, women, elderly, and children in the design and location of latrines, sanitation facilities and services?
- ☒ Have the women community groups been consulted before designing the project? Do women have access to decision making position in the intervention?
- ☒ What are the expected environmental impacts of the intervention?
- ☒ Are there any side positive or negative effects forecasted?
- ☒ Does the intervention identify ways in which men and women beneficiaries and other stakeholders, especially poor women, can participate in the project? Have gender based hygiene needs been addressed?
- ☒ Does the project design care for women specific cultural constraints in the community?
- ☒ Have different technical solutions been proposed?
- ☒ Are sanitation facilities affordable and easily accessible to men and women?

PARTICIPATION, AWARENESS AND CULTURAL SENSITIVITIES

- ☒ Do the female staff participate in field activities? Is there a Community woman facilitator who follows up on the project? Were the women councilors and community women involved in the planning process?
- ☒ What kind of awareness is required? Who should carry out the awareness session? Has the gender balance been considered in the selection of the facilitators?
- ☒ Have cultural sensitivities /limitations for providing sanitation facilities been addressed?
- ☒ Are the field team members gender sensitized and have local knowledge, and cultural understanding?
- ☒ Can a women's committee be established to present the technical problems linked to the sanitation network to the Water Sanitation Authority?

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- ☒ In case more than one stakeholder is involved, have the roles and responsibilities been clearly identified?
- ☒ If a CDA is identified does it have the technical capacities of managing the funding provided?

ECONOMIC AND SUSTAINABILITY ASPECTS

- ☒ Have sustainability measures been taken into consideration?
- ☒ Can income generating activities be promoted or are they being requested?
- ☒ Can women be involved as fees collectors?
- ☒ Is the project going to pay for the household connection to the sanitation system or is it going to install only the main sanitation network? If no connection is provided how can the project support mechanisms for poor households to connect to the main line?
- ☒ Once sanitation projects are technically over, have measures been forecasted for the maintenance of the equipment? Who will be in charge of it?

MONITORING AND TRAINING

- ☒ Are there training guidelines or references?
- ☒ Have indicators been developed to measure the project benefit for both men and women?
- ☒ Have the monitoring tools been identified? If so is there a list available?
- ☒ Have roles and responsibilities in the monitoring process been clearly defined?
- ☒ Is the overall gender impact included in the monitoring system?
- ☒ Are women involved in monitoring and evaluation?
- ☒ Has there been any positive and/or negative impact? Is this impact perceived differently from men and women?
- ☒ Was there a change in the beneficiary's quality of life? Can this be attributed to the project?
- ☒ Was there a change in the gender relationships and gender balance?

4.4.2. Suggested tools

i) Household surveys addressed to the beneficiaries

The surveys should draw up gender-disaggregated socioeconomic profiles and identify the sanitation practices, constraints, and needs of the target population in addition to collect quantitative information. All household surveys should include a socioeconomic profile. The information captured could be extrapolated as follows:

a) *The socio economic profile*

- Demographic (% of households headed by females, household size, age at marriage by gender)
- Economic (Income level and sources, by gender, Expenditure patterns and decision making, by gender)
- Health (Service availability, Fertility level and decision making, Food allocation and nutrition level within households, by gender, No of sick people in the family, kind of sickness).
- Education (Literacy by gender, No of people in the family and literacy level)
- Gender roles and responsibilities (Broad gender division of labor in productive (e.g., agriculture, income-generating activities) and reproductive (e.g., household chores, child care) responsibilities, and time allocation for each responsibility).

b) *Sanitation knowledge, attitudes, and practices*

- Family hygiene education: Is hygiene taught in the family? By whom?
- Sanitary arrangements (what are the sanitary/latrine arrangements for men and women?, How is privacy ensured? Are there any taboos in latrine sharing between men and women, and family members?)
- Bathing: How and where do men and women bathe?
- Treatment of human waste (How is it collected and disposed of? By whom?, Is human waste used as fertilizer? If so, who are the collectors?)
- Community hygiene responsibilities (Who is responsible for community hygiene?, Who could be key informants? Are there significant differences in responsibilities based on gender and income level?)

c) *Access, control, constraints*

- Who is requesting the access to the sanitation service within the family?
- How do men and women differ in their access, control and maintenance of the sanitary services?
- Is external assistance provided to improve access/control? By whom?

d) *Needs, demands, perceptions, and priorities*

- Sectoral priority
 - Does domestic water have priority over other infrastructure services (e.g., irrigation water, roads, and schools) for men and women?
 - Are men or women interested in the project? Why? Or why not?
- Needs: Given current practices and constraints, what are the needs of men, women, the elderly, and children in the design and location of water supply facilities, latrines, and other WSS facilities and services? Why?
- Willingness to pay
 - Are men and women in the community willing to pay for improved WSS services, and up to how much?
 - Are they willing to contribute labor instead, and to what extent?
- *Credit*: Is there any need for credit for WSS services?

ii) Participation addressed to the beneficiaries

The methodologies applied could include participatory rapid appraisal, focus group discussions, random interviews, walking tours)

- Collect qualitative information which cannot be collected through surveys.
- Define ways in which men and women beneficiaries and other stakeholders, especially poor women, can participate in the project.
- Map out the target areas. Which are the most disadvantaged areas in terms of access to services and poverty level?

- Identify major stakeholder groups and their stake.
- Identify factors affecting participation
 - What factors affect the level of men's and women's participation?
 - What are the incentives and constraints?
- Modes: Which modes of participation do men and women favor (e.g., decision making in planning, cash contribution, labor contribution for construction, training, monitoring, financial management, organizational management)? Why?

iii) Staffing addressed mainly to the project

- Ensure adequate gender balance in field teams.
- Select field team members with gender awareness, local knowledge, cultural understanding, and willingness to listen.
- Appoint a gender coordinator in each Governorate in addition to gender key facilitators at the community level according to the geographical distribution.

4.4.3 Practical recommendations

The implementation of sanitation projects should involve the local communities more in the awareness and monitoring than in the management. Women's leaders of the community should play a more active role.

Clear division of roles and responsibilities is required for the proper implementation and follow up. A monitoring system has to be set in place to measure the impact and gender balance taken into consideration.

4.5 Checklist, tools and practical recommendations for solid waste projects

4.5.1 The Checklist

One of the main concerns linked to the solid waste project seems to be the delivery of an effective service from one side and the commitment from the community to keep a clean environment. The following checklist provides a guideline on the different elements to be looked at before the implementation of the project.

ANALYSIS AND FORECAST

- ☒ Has the gender baseline of the sector been considered before the implementation of the project?
- ☒ What are the needs raised by the community and by women in particular?
- ☒ What are the activities of women and men, and their respective access or limitation and control to solid waste activities?
- ☒ What are the needs in terms of equipment according to the population, the area and the solid waste produced?
- ☒ In case trucks cannot reach certain areas due to narrow streets or lack of access what kind of alternative solutions could be found?
- ☒ What are the expected environmental impacts of the intervention?
- ☒ Are there any side positive or negative effects forecasted?
- ☒ What kind of service is requested, how many times per day/week is the waste collection needed?
- ☒ How many waste collection points are being requested and in which location should they be placed for an easy access to men and women?
- ☒ What kind of information, communication strategies could be developed?
- ☒ What are the perception of local women and men, girls and boys in having a clean area?
- ☒ Have the women community groups been consulted before designing the project? Do women have access to decision making position in the intervention?
- ☒ Have the needs of the poor households especially if headed by single women been taken into consideration? Are there any specific actions forecasted for those vulnerable groups?
- ☒ Have different technical solutions been proposed?

PARTICIPATION, AWARENESS AND CULTURAL SENSITIVITIES

- ☒ Do female staff participate in field activities? Is there a Community woman facilitator who follows up on the project? Were the women councilors and community women involved in the planning process?
- ☒ Have disadvantaged target groups been taken into consideration in the implementation of the activities?
- ☒ What kind of awareness is required? Who should carry out the awareness session? Has the gender balance been considered in the selection of the facilitators?
- ☒ Have cultural sensitivities /limitations for providing solid waste services been addressed?
- ☒ Has some specific actions taken to involve more women in the decision making process at the CDA level?

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- ☒ Who should be in charge of the solid waste management of the area (Private company, Local Units or NGOs)?
- ☒ In case different stakeholders are identified who is doing what and when?
- ☒ Who is in charge of the waste disposal within the household?
- ☒ What would be the role of women in the fees collection?
- ☒ If a CDA is identified does it have the technical capacities of managing the funding provided?

ECONOMIC AND SUSTAINABILITY ASPECTS

- ☒ Have sustainability measures been taken into consideration? Who will be in charge of the follow up?
- ☒ How many persons could pay for the solid waste service?
- ☒ What contingency plan could be applied in case the people of the community do not pay?
- ☒ Can the solid waste be recycled and productive activities set in place? If so can women play an active role? Can those activities be promoted or are they being requested?
- ☒ Can women be involved as fees collectors?
- ☒ Once the equipment has been provided have measures been forecasted for maintenance and replacement?

MONITORING AND TRAINING

- ☒ Are there training guidelines or references?
- ☒ Have indicators been developed to measure the project benefit for both men and women?
- ☒ Is there any provision for training of men and women on proper management and sustainability of the waste collection system especially when managed by the CDAs?
- ☒ Is there any monitoring mechanism to assess the overall gender impact of the sector plan?
- ☒ Have the monitoring tools been identified? If so is there a list available?
- ☒ Were those in charge of the monitoring clearly identified?
- ☒ Is the overall gender impact included in the monitoring system?
- ☒ Are women involved in monitoring and evaluation?

4.5.2. Suggested tools

The tools suggested are the same ones presented in the previous checklist. The household survey should include the socio economic data, disaggregated by gender. This part should complete the existing social survey on solid waste collection, which takes already into consideration, access control, constraints, behaviors, needs and demands.

While staffing issues as described in the checklist on sanitation projects have been already considered by the project, participation should be enhanced. In particular the role of women collectors to increase the percentage of service payment and the inter relation between the CDAs and other stakeholders as ICC in case of Aswan should be clarified and monitored by the project on a constant basis.

4.5.3 Practical recommendations

The solid waste projects assessed are integrated projects with different components:

- in some cases there are community related activities with NGOs carrying out the responsibility of waste management and collection,
- in other cases the private sector is fully in charge on behalf of the Governorate
- in a third scenario NGOs should provide a support to the private sector in awareness and fees collection.

As far as gender issues are concerned, the evaluator based also on the inputs of the field visits provides the following recommendations:

- When different stakeholders are involved a clear definition of roles and responsibilities must be clearly agreed upon before the start of the project and the activities need to be monitored.
- Selection criteria for the CDAs with a perspective of gender balance should be set. The CDAs involved must be cost-recovery oriented especially when they manage directly the waste collection and should strive for the sustainability of the activities. This requires coaching and monitoring from the EMG.
- A specific assessment should be made on the opportunity of setting up productive activity out the waste sorting. This activity could be taken over by women of the community who could constitute an NGO, alternatively association with competencies in fund management could be selected to manage the project by involving women of the community. The idea proposed by the Capacity building coordinator in Beni Suef of training the communities in a profitable usage of fertilizers should be assessed as well.
- Surveys and field visits should be used as monitoring tools on the effective impact on a cleaner environment to measure the impact of the project.
- Reports on surveys should include gender-disaggregated data.

- When surveys are carried out at the community level, enumerators should be gender balanced. Enumerators should be selected from the community in collaboration with a local NGO/CDA, which has a good connection at the grass root level. This will help to take into consideration the gender balance, enhance the capacity of the local communities and cuts down the costs.
- Awareness seems to be an essential element both for linking the technicalities to a clean environment. NGOs and women volunteer could play a more active role.
- Awareness activities should take into consideration the idea of the gender and environment toolkit presented in the part of practical recommendation under section 5.5.3.
- Support to NGOs/CDAs (especially the ones that have experience in solid waste collection for better sorting). This could help them to have an agreement with organic fertilizers factories to be paid for the organic waste.
- Organize a TOT on making compost to some community leaders who could transfer this training to their community member (men and women). Through this activity, the beneficiaries can save the money used to buy chemical fertilizers.

4.6 Checklist, tools and practical recommendations for small scale water projects

The evaluator assessed only one small scale water project. Generally the bibliography reviewed includes water and sanitation in the same sector since water policies should focus on the management of water as a whole and not just on the provision of water. In this sector, women play a pivotal role in the provision, management and safeguard of water both in rural and urban areas.

4.6.1 The Checklist

Women are the primary collectors, transporters, users, and managers of domestic water, and promoters of home and community-based sanitation activities. The following fundamental aspects need to be explored:

ANALYSIS AND FORECAST

- ☒ Has the gender baseline of the sector been considered before the implementation of the project?
- ☒ What are the needs raised by the community and by women in particular?
- ☒ Are the water supply and sanitation facilities affordable and easily accessible to men and women?
- ☒ What are the existing behaviors on water consumption and what kind of environmental impact do they have? How those behaviors can be changed?
- ☒ Have seasonal differences in availability, quantity and quality of water supply and sanitation which involves associated gender dimensions been taken into consideration (e.g. women to fetch more water in summer)?
- ☒ What kind of environmental impacts can be derived from an increased consumption of water if a sanitation system is not available?
- ☒ Are there any side positive or negative effects forecasted?
- ☒ Have community women group been consulted before designing the project?
- ☒ The choice of projects should take into consideration the provision of drinking water in remote areas, where women have to walk long distances.
- ☒ What are the activities of women and men, and their respective access and control to water supply?
- ☒ What are the limitation of local women and men, girls and boys in access to appropriate water and sanitation facilities?
- ☒ Does the project consider the needs of men, women, elderly, and children in the design and location of water supply facilities, latrines, and other water supply and sanitation facilities and services?
- ☒ Is the project designed in a manner which should not overburden women in terms of physical labor e.g. location of drinking water facility?
- ☒ What kind of alternatives can be proposed and what would be the best alternative?

PARTICIPATION, AWARENESS AND CULTURAL SENSITIVITIES

- ☒ Do female staff participate in field activities? Is there a Community woman facilitator who follows up on the project? Were the women councilors and community women involved in the planning process?
- ☒ Have disadvantaged target groups been taken into consideration in the implementation of the activities?
- ☒ What kind of awareness is required? Who should carry out the awareness session? Has the gender balance been considered in the selection of the facilitators?
- ☒ Does the sector plan addresses cultural sensitivities / limitations for providing water supply and sanitation facilities?
- ☒ Has some specific actions taken to involve more women in the decision making process at the CDA level?

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- ☒ In case different stakeholders are identified who is doing what and when?
- ☒ Who is in charge of the water disposal within the household?

- ☒ If a CDA is identified does it have the technical capacities of managing the funding provided and in following up on the maintenance of the equipment?

ECONOMIC AND SUSTAINABILITY ASPECTS

- ☒ Have sustainability measures been taken into consideration? Who will be in charge of the follow up?
- ☒ Have specific income generating activities been thought of or proposed by the women of the community?

MONITORING AND TRAINING

- ☒ Are there training guidelines or references?
- ☒ Have indicators been developed to measure the project benefit for both men and women?
- ☒ Is there any monitoring mechanism to assess the overall gender impact of the sector plan?
- ☒ Have the monitoring tools been identified? If so is there a list available?
- ☒ Have roles and responsibilities in the monitoring process been identified?
- ☒ Is the overall gender impact included in the monitoring system?
- ☒ Are women involved in monitoring and evaluation?
- ☒ Is there any provision for training of men and women on water supply and sanitation services at community level?
- ☒ Is there any community education program for men and women on importance and proper management of water supply and sanitation facilities?
- ☒ Did the project think of developing a tailored awareness campaign which takes into consideration health problems linked to improper water usage?

4.6.2. Suggested tools

The tools suggested are the same ones presented in the previous checklists. The household survey should include the socio economic data, disaggregated by gender. The survey on small-scale water projects should include also questions linked to the sanitation system and health related aspects.

In addition to the elements of the survey presented under the sanitation part, small scale water projects should include a specific section on water use and knowledge, attitudes and practices.

Water use and knowledge, attitudes and practices

- Availability, quantity, and quality of WSS services
 - Who provides the services (e.g., local government, NGO, private company)?
 - Are the services available 24 hours a day?
 - Are there seasonal differences in availability, quantity, or quality?
 - Are service agents friendly?
- Costs
 - Is there a fee for water or sanitation services?
 - Who pays to whom (e.g., user committee, local government, private company)?
 - How much is the fee?
- Water sources
 - What sources (e.g., public streams, rivers, tanks, communal wells or tanks, ponds, privately owned wells or tanks, water pipes) are used?
 - How far away are the water sources?
- Water collection and storage
 - Who collects and stores water? How?
 - How much time is spent in water collection and storage?
- Water transport
 - Who carries water and how?
 - How much time is spent transporting water?
 - Are there any health hazards resulting from the transport of water?
- Use of domestic water

- How is the collected water used differently by men and women (e.g., for cooking, sanitation, home gardens, livestock)?
- Who decides the allocation?
- Dry-season management
 - Is water available in the dry season?
 - How is water use managed during the water-scarce season? By whom?
- Community (domestic) water management responsibilities
 - Who is responsible for the upkeep of the community water infrastructure?
 - Who could be key informants?
 - Are there significant differences in responsibilities based on gender, income level etc, how can these be solved?

4.6.3 Practical recommendations

- The implementation of small-scale water projects should take into consideration an integrated approach.
- The participatory role of community's women should be enhanced by using more actively women's volunteers and/or women's committees.
- Negative side environmental effects have to be taken into consideration.
- The behavioral patterns from the member of the community should change. A perspective where expectations from the government in providing a service to more proactive dynamics should be supported.
- An example of a project implemented by the Better Life Association for Comprehensive Development (BLACD) is being provided. BLACD used a gender-integrated approach as an integral part of the water and sanitation project implemented in the village of Nazlet Fargallah in Upper Egypt from January 2003 to December 2004. Traditional gender roles, allotted few rights to women. Women rarely took part in activities outside the home, and were fully occupied collecting water, looking after their children, and performing other household tasks. They were unable to participate in external social roles and most were illiterate. BLACD worked actively to integrate gender considerations in the project, this led to the development of the health visitor model in which women could still be actively involved at all levels despite male objections to their formal presence in project management. BLACD helped the village health visitors plan awareness raising campaigns about water and sanitation, and provided training on water and sanitation, basic health, nutrition, child and reproductive health and first aid as well as communications skills. The health visitors participated by choosing the project beneficiaries based on agreed-upon criteria. Both women and men were involved in the project's planning as well as household-level decisions to participate in the project.
- One project idea that could be explored is the possibility of setting up (either through an existing NGO/CDA or by creating a women's association) a collective bath targeting the women of the community. This activity is gender focused, income generating and provides a service to the community.

4.7 Checklist, tools and recommendations for Health Solid Waste projects

4.7.1. Checklists

The health solid waste project requires a special analysis. From the field visits it seemed that the needs can be classified according to two dimensions. One dimension is related to the Hospital and non hospital staff dealing with solid waste which is the principal target of the project. Another dimension is related to the need of awareness for the communities who are producers of health solid waste. A checklist has been therefore conceived for each group.

Checklist for the main target group

ANALYSIS AND FORECAST

- ☒ What is the total population and its gender distribution directly and indirectly dealing with Health Solid Waste?
- ☒ Is there any baseline survey or data to indicate gender based health status of the Governorate?
- ☒ Is there any resource allocation to reduce gender gaps in the health sector?
- ☒ Is the project design appropriate to health needs of both men and women?
- ☒ How can the project contribute to long-term strategies for overall health status of women?
- ☒ Have the inter relation between men and women working in the health solid waste project been taken into consideration?
- ☒ What kind of environmental impacts can be derived?
- ☒ Are there any side positive or negative effects forecast?

PARTICIPATION, AWARENESS AND CULTURAL SENSITIVITIES

- ☒ Does the project provide culturally acceptable form/approach of health services for women?
- ☒ Do female staff participate in the process of health solid waste disposal?
- ☒ What kind of awareness is required? Who should carry out the awareness session?

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- ☒ What kinds of institutions at the Governorate level are involved and how are the responsibilities being distributed? Who is doing what and when?
- ☒ Who is going to be in charge of the training? Has an assessment on the roles and responsibilities of the different governmental institutions be taken into consideration?

ECONOMIC AND SUSTAINABILITY ASPECTS

- ☒ Are there any incentives for women health service providers such as lady doctors, nurses etc.?
- ☒ Have sustainability measures been taken into consideration? Who will be in charge of the follow up?
- ☒ What can be the different alternatives on cost effectiveness and training programs?

MONITORING AND TRAINING

- ☒ Are there training guidelines or references?
- ☒ What kind of indicators will be used for measuring the impact of the training? (e.g. pre and post surveys).
- ☒ What is the percentage of the identified target who should receive the training?
- ☒ Is there any monitoring mechanism to assess the overall gender impact of the sector plan?
- ☒ Have the monitoring tools been identified? If so is there a list available?
- ☒ Have roles and responsibilities in the monitoring process been identified?
- ☒ Is the overall gender impact included in the monitoring system?
- ☒ Are women involved in monitoring and evaluation?
- ☒ What kind of training plan should be developed?
- ☒ Are there any specific training tailored for the different target groups dealing with the health waste?

Checklist for the health solid waste at the community level

ANALYSIS AND FORECAST

- ☒ Are there any provisions in the Health Department at the Governorate level to reduce health hazards at the community level?
- ☒ Do the local men and women have access to health facilities, especially in the rural areas?
- ☒ Has a needs assessment on health solid waste production in the area been carried out? What are the main needs identified?
- ☒ Are there any reproductive health services available in the district where adolescent men and women can access such services?
- ☒ Are women health workers engaged to provide reproductive health services at the village level?
- ☒ Is there any program for social mobilization on women health in rural areas?
- ☒ Are there any plans to build the capacity of Traditional Birth Attendants at the village level?
- ☒ Is there a strategy for training women in the health profession to encourage the growth of participatory, community-based women-to-women health services?

PARTICIPATION, AWARENESS AND CULTURAL SENSITIVITIES

- ☒ Are the health facilities properly managed to provide culturally acceptable environment for women so that their health benefit can be maximized?
- ☒ Is there any women health education program designed appropriate to cultural norms of rural areas?
- ☒ What kind of awareness is required? Who should carry out the awareness session?

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- ☒ What kinds of institutions at the Governorate level are involved and how are the responsibilities being distributed? Who is doing what and when?

ECONOMIC AND SUSTAINABILITY ASPECTS

- ☒ Have sustainability measures been taken into consideration? Who will be in charge of the follow up?
- ☒ What can be the different alternatives on cost effectiveness and training programs?
- ☒ Are there any incentives for women health service providers such as lady doctors, nurses etc.? (who is going to pay for them?)
- ☒ What will happen after the project phase over? Who is going to continue the awareness at the community level? Where will the funding come from?

MONITORING AND TRAINING

- ☒ Are there training guidelines or references?
- ☒ What kind of indicators will be used for measuring the impact of the training? (e.g. pre and post surveys).
- ☒ What is the percentage of the identified target who should receive the training?
- ☒ Have the monitoring tools been identified? If so is there a list available?
- ☒ Have roles and responsibilities in the monitoring process been identified?
- ☒ Is the overall gender impact included in the monitoring system?
- ☒ Are women involved in monitoring and evaluation?
- ☒ What kind of training plan should be developed?
- ☒ Are there any specific training tailored for the different target groups dealing with the health waste?
- ☒ Do the women health workers acquire comprehensive training regarding new medical techniques?
- ☒ In case of non appropriate behaviors on health solid waste usage what could be done to change it?
- ☒ Does the project have trained staff to provide specific health facilities to men and women?

4.7.2. Suggested tools

The suggested tools focus mainly on the training and awareness needs and on gender balance.

The first element to be taken into consideration is based on the Health Solid Waste Management which covers the whole Governorate. A complete mapping of the population working in the hospitals and directly with the Health Solid Waste processing should be elaborated and disaggregated by gender.

On the basis of the identified target groups specific training programs should be developed. The indicators for measuring the impact have to be defined as well. Some of those indicators may include pre and post training tests, the increase of health solid wastes processing, feedback from patients. The indicators should be used in the monitoring and reporting tools.

For the awareness at the community level, the project has already gathered the needs through participatory rapid appraisal, focus group discussions, random interviews, walking tours. The development of the gender and environment toolkit should include a special module on Health Solid Waste focusing on hygiene education, possible health hazards caused by inappropriate management of Health Solid Waste.

Identification criteria for reaching the beneficiaries should be developed and the role of intermediary organization such as CDAs should be defined as well.

4.7.3. Practical recommendations

For the main target group

- Since the target group working in the hospitals and in the management of the Health Solid Waste is the same in the two Governorates (e.g. doctors, nurses, workers etc) a standardized training module should be developed. Efficiency, consistency and cost reduction will be the positive aspects of this decision.
- An external consultant specialized in Health Solid Waste Management should provide the TOT training targeting appointed staff of the Health Department and hospitals.
- Each trained trainer should have a defined number of courses to be programmed over a defined time span.
- The total number of courses and the output of the training should be included in a consolidated report with gender disaggregated data and identified inputs coming from the inter relation with the interviewees.

For the Communities

- The CDAs which have been involved in previous initiatives and who have build up specific competencies could be used to carry out awareness on Health Care Waste Management in the framework of a complete awareness campaign which covers other modules such as water, sanitation and waste. With reduced costs, appropriate usage of existing networks and built competencies can have a big impact and result in a good image of both the donor and the Governorate.
- The gender issues should be particularly tackled in the field and addressed to women since they are the primary managers of domestic prevention health measures thorough cooking, and teaching to the children the appropriate health behaviors. In Aswan in particular as reported as well in the action plan for awareness raising the same group of CDAs used by CARE in HIV/AIDS could be used as a network for promoting awareness both to women and youth.
- The awareness plan should be carried out in coordination with the Health Department in each Governorate.
- Selection criteria for identifying CDAs/NGOs should be defined.

- The intermediary associations should not receive any financial compensation but just the covering of the costs for the appointed gender/environment focal points.
- The gender/environment focal points should be trained on the gender and environment tool kit.
- Monitoring reports and indicators should be included for assessing the impact of the intervention.
- A realistic estimation of the intervention (prepared by the evaluator based upon known market prices) at the community level is the following (costs for the development of the gender and environment tool kit is not included):
 - Estimated maximum monthly cost per CDA/NGOs facilitators (indicatively 2) 500 L.e.
 - No. of NGOs/CDAs. There may be two options. One option is to start with a pilot case of a certain number of NGOs/CDAs in one Governorate. According to the budget it may vary from 10 to 30.
 - Monthly costs for the intervention can vary from 5,000 to 15,000 l.e. according to number of associations involved.
 - Time span for the intervention. (This may vary from 6 to 8 month).
 - Total cost will vary from 30,000 to 120,000.
 - The Egyptian institutions at the Governorate level should contribute with the trainers (the same ones that have received the TOT).

ANNEX I

Main findings of the field work

I. Main findings of the field work

The findings of the field work are structured in five specific points (EMUs, sanitation, solid waste, small scale water projects and health solid waste projects) . For each point, the assessed projects and related activities in the two Governorates are elaborated.

I.1 The EMU

Both in Beni Suef and Aswan the two EMUs General Managers, Eng. Medhat Ibrahim Awad in Beni Suef and Eng. Sohad in Aswan provided the consultant the Governorate Environmental Action Plan (GEAP), a publication done in the framework of Danida EMG project. The plan was developed in 2004 and covers the period up to 2017, is considered the main reference tool for the decision makers at the Governorate level.

Within the GEAP the environmental problems have been identified and classified according to specific areas which are similar for both governorates (solid waste, hazardous waste, sanitation and waste water, water supply, pesticides and fertilizers, air pollution and noise). The GEAP of Aswan has an additional dimension related to the sustainable management of lake Nasser and River Nile.

The project ideas for each area have been identified and classified according to a project priority model where among different criteria gender has been included. Some of the projects identified as high priority have been already financed by EMG (such as the integrated solid waste management projects in both Governorates.) Even if in both reports awareness is considered a key action element, limited initiatives have been carried out in this respect. The role of gender balance and gender mainstreaming is absent from the reports.

Eng. Awad reported that the EMU had become in 2005 a General Department of the Governorate. The Central office has 17 employees out of which 4 women. Under the EMU there are 7 offices (one for each markaz) and 38 offices in the mother villages for a total of around 76 employees. Eng. Awad estimated that the gender balance was 80% male and 20% female.

When the evaluator asked Eng. Awad how he perceived gender as a cross cutting issue within the ESP, Eng. Awad knew exactly the definition and the concepts on gender and stated that he had received several training courses, however the problem that he faced was how to implement practically the theoretical framework.

In Aswan most of the information on the EMU were provided by the ESP consultant Ms. Nabila Fathi El Gabalany. The EMU in Aswan became a Directorate recently and they are in the process of hiring additional staff. The EMU is staffed with 10 employees out of whom 50% are females, 6 employees are working for the EMG out of which 2 are females. The EMU started recently a gender balanced policy on recruitment. According to Ms. Nabila gender mainstreaming is a well known concept in the Governorate due to previous interventions of donors and international agencies.

A list of the training provided by the project was reviewed by the consultant; the list did not include a single training on gender issues and did not provide disaggregated data on the trainees.

Observations/Findings

- The GEAPs did not include any gender related elements except than giving a 10% weight in the project selection.
- EMU in Aswan is more gender balanced than Beni Suef, but the knowledge on gender issues is greater in Beni Suef among the EMU staff.
- ESP has special staff allocated to work in Aswan. The ESP consultant is very active and willing to enhance awareness raising.
- No courses on gender have been provided in Aswan while in Beni Suef the EMU General Manager benefited from several training courses but found it difficult to transform the theoretical concepts in practical activities.

I.2 Sanitation projects

I.2.1 El Konayesah sanitation project in Beni Suef

The mission did not visit the field but held an interview with Eng. Adel Hetry, General Manager of the National Authority for Potable Water and Sanitation (WSA), at present a governmental institution that should be partially privatized. Eng. Hetry stated that his institution still did not receive the transfer of the funds to start the works (which should have commenced in January 2007). The WSA will be in charge of selecting the company who will carry out the works, supervise the progress of the project and be formally in charge of the technical aspects.

When the evaluator asked Eng. Hetry about gender issues, he seemed to be aware about the importance of gender mainstreaming. This could be explained by the fact that Eng. Hetry provided a contribution to the GEAP of which however he never received a copy. While speaking about gender, Eng. Hetry stated that the main need according to him is to provide awareness to the population taking into consideration the different roles of the two sexes, since one of the main problems faced after the installation of the equipment is the poor knowledge on the proper usage and maintenance.

From his point of view this applied to sanitation as well as solid waste management since he stated that once he tried to observe the behavior of the community by driving himself a truck to collect the waste. After half a day from the passage of the trucks, he noticed in a poor community that the area was already full of garbage. Eng. Hetry considered the surveys done in the areas of intervention very important since they provide valuable inputs for having an in depth knowledge of the community needs and eventually identify the subjects that need to be tackled in terms of awareness. Those surveys could be used as base line data to measure the impact later.

Eng. Hetry stated that in the identification of the areas of intervention for Danida project, the WSA criteria (population <5,000 and proximity to a water treatment plant) were used. Eng. Hetry suggested that specific alternatives should be taken into consideration for favoring the connection of the households to the sanitation network. Eng. Hetry explained examples of financial facilities provided in cooperation with the Social Fund for development or by the WSA authority directly to the community. Beneficiaries were given the opportunity of paying a fixed amount as down payment and then pay in monthly installments the cost of the connection. The installments were added to the water bill.

Before the start of the works a field survey should be conducted by El Karma CDA which is not located in the village. The same CDA carried out the survey for El Fashin project (training to the enumerators was provided by the ESP consultant from Aswan). Since all of the surveyors were from the CDA and unknown by the community, some difficulties were faced with the interviewees who perceived the surveyors as representatives from the local units and therefore did not want to provide the requested information (input provided by ESP consultant).

Observations/Findings

- The comments of Eng. Hetry on taking into consideration different financial alternatives for facilitating the connections of the households to the sanitation network should be kept in mind before the start of the works in case the project is not going to pay for those connections.
- Awareness campaigns which are gender balanced (taking into consideration the different needs of men and women and equal participation to workshops) should also be planned.
- El Karma CDA should use field surveyors from the community. The field surveyors should be identified through a local CDA well known in the village.
- Gender mainstreaming should appear clearly from the narrative report of the field survey which has yet to be produced.

I.2.2. Nagaa El Mahata Sanitation Project in Aswan

Nagaa El Mahata is an Area of Aswan inhabited by the Nubian community. The municipal area was deprived from municipal wastewater collection system resulting in increased pollution affecting a strip of the Nile River. Prior to project implementation, the number of houses furnished with toilet facilities amounted to 100 out of 250 and the existing tanks were built in a random way not serving any future planning for sanitation works in the project area. The construction method of such tanks was not according to the standards leading to problem leakages through the soil. Grey water was discharged in the streets through an uncontrolled behavior. Prior to implementation the 150 houses lacking sanitation facilities used facilities in the CDA and the mosque with women preferring to travel to hilly areas at night for excreta disposal, considered the social problem by the project. The lack of provision of a sanitation system in the village, led some households to build at their own expenses holding tanks, gray water were discharged in the streets to reduce the number of discharging trips by tankers.

The project was designed for providing a collection sewerage network to convey the sewage generated from Naga El Mahata village to the nearest constructed manhole and sewage network within the City of Aswan and included the house connections. The project holder, Naga El Mahata CDA was requested to open a bank account and set up a committee to monitor the progress of the works carried out by El Mamoudia General Contracting and Consulting Company contracted by the WSA.

The proposal was developed in 2002 implemented in 2004 and finalized in August 2005. Before the start up of the works the project conducted 4 meetings (2 with women, 2 with the men). Among the visited projects, this project was the only one which had a pre and post project survey. The questionnaire focused on sanitation, health problems and ability/willingness to pay. The questionnaire was however not complete in the socio economic analysis and gender sensitive questions were not included. It seemed that the gender issues were raised during the focus group discussions. Some of the consultative tables of the field survey show no indicators on gender disaggregated data and on the effective measurable impact on the community.

Ms. Nabila stated that the post project survey was part of an assessment requested both by the CDA and the Funding Agency due to accumulation of several constriction problems. It seems that the initial decision of giving the supervision of the construction phase to local representatives from Naga El Mahata CDA through a project steering committee was not effective due to lack of experience in the supervision of those types of projects.

The assessment report produced in March 2006 was commissioned to AAW Consulting Engineers by the project to assess the problem. The main items of the report focused on:

- Positive impact of the project especially for the social aspects since women did not go any more to the mountains for the excreta disposal.
- Confirmation that the selected option to construct a waste water collection system was the best one among the proposed option.
- Incomplete soil investigation campaign lead to an increase of the projects costs which originally were estimated to around 1,973,000 L.E. to 4,336,900 L.E. This was due to narrow streets which did not allow access for mechanical excavation in rocks and increase rate for the supply of electro-mechanical equipment.
- Suggestion to incorporate engineering consultants for construction supervision of works from the initial stage of the project.

The evaluator had a focus group discussion with the CDA Board Members and some of the women of the community. The CDA created in 1969 has recently organized new elections which resulted in a change of all Board Members. The Board Members is now composed of 11 members out of whom 5 are women. Some of the female Board Members attended the focus group discussion and actively participated to present the problems faced and the needs of the community.

The CDA located near the mosque has a wide area. As reported by the Board Members the CDA is carrying out different activities like literacy classes, kindergarten, sewing courses. The evaluator however did not notice any kind of tools needed for carrying out the mentioned activities. The CDA is financed only through member's contributions and donations. No funding was received from other donors.

Positive feedbacks provided by the women participants on the project's impact were the following:

- The streets are not any more flooded.
- They do not have any more to go to the mountains for excreta disposal.

Negative feedbacks have been summarized as follows:

- The company who performed the works did not clean properly the area leaving the wastes of construction works, the men and women of the community had to do the work themselves.
- One woman complained that she did not have yet access to the sanitation system; another one stated that she had to pay herself for the connection. Since from the project document and the assessment report it seemed that the funding was available to provide the connections to the 250 houses, the evaluator asked if this was a problem faced by the other beneficiaries of the project. The reply from a CDA Board Member was that the connections to the households to the sewage system were not paid by the project. The beneficiaries paid to the WSA a down payment of 55 L.E. plus fixed installments of 10 L.e. for 22 months. The beneficiaries complained that the CDA took a list of names but no action was taken. When the CDA Board Members were asked if they used all the money of the project they stated that they had a balance of around 10,000 L.e. in the bank plus a bank guarantee still pending with the Company of 200,000 L.e.
- Following the discussion on the payment it seemed that half of the village, (around 150 households), is not yet connected to the sanitation system.
- All participants complained that there are technical problems in the manholes within the sewerage system. Despite the fact that this problem was raised also in the assessment report, it was not yet solved at the time of the visit. When the project was finalized, it was handled in to the WSA. The Company states that it has no responsibility and that it is the WSA that has to take care about the matter. The WSA states that the problems are related to the construction works and it is therefore the company that has to find a solution. The participants complained as well that they feel that they do not receive an appropriate service form the WSA and that most of the times when they try to call nobody replies and when they go to the company they cannot find the person in charge since it seems that nobody has been appointed as a focal point for the community.

When the evaluator asked the women about gender and what would be additional needs of the community the following proposals were raised:

- The need to fill a pond located behind the CDA where waste is thrown. The stagnant water of the pond releases a bad smell and is the source of insects.
- The need of having a better solid waste disposal. The ICC Company is passing by only once a week and only one waste container is available. One woman stated that the ICC should pass at least three times per week.
- One woman stated that it would be a good idea to have a loan fund to support Nubian women handicraft works.

Findings/Observations

- It was the first time for the CDA to manage a consistent fund, the project or the EMU should have been more actively involved in the inception phase.
- The technical problems raised in the assessment report of March 2006 are still pending; the women of the community are actively participating with the males of the community in trying to solve the problem.
- Since the cause of the problem seems to be linked to the construction phase, the project should study the details of the contract signed with the company and eventually advise the CDA to send an official notification to the company to solve the problem. In case no action is taken, then the guarantee should be used to select another company which will take the appropriate action. Due the previous problems, the company should be selected directly by the project.
- It seemed that the project should have paid for the household connections to the sanitation network, according to the feedbacks this does not seem to have occurred. The points raised by the WSA representative in Beni Suef for El Konayeash sanitation project on payment facilities need to be taken into consideration for all similar projects.
- Despite the technical difficulties faced, the project intervention took successfully into consideration the gender balance.

I.3. Solid waste projects

I.3.1. The Integrated Solid Waste Management Project in Beni Suef

The Integrated Solid Waste Management Project had been identified as the first project of high priority in the GEAP report considered as the reference for any kind of environmental activities in Beni Suef. Eng. Medhat Ibrahim Awad, presented an overview of the project which encompasses 9 components. The components are being presented in this report in a different order, they are prioritized according to:

- i) their contribution to the policy making,
- ii) the interventions which focus mainly on the technical aspect of procurement,
- iii) the different kind of awareness campaigns that are inter related to the technical ones.

The 9th Component of the project not yet finalized, consists in the development of Solid Waste Management Master Plans for the Governorate and is being implemented under the direct supervision of Mr. Osama El Shafei.

Mr. Osama El Shafei stated that the forecasted baseline data report and sector studies had been carried out. The base line data report was produced after the outputs of a field survey that covered a sample from the 7 districts of the Governorate. The field survey included 360 interviews (230 from Beni Suef, 70 from the mother villages and 60 workshops). The sample was designed to include all social segments of in the Governorate (Poor and rich households - Urban and rural areas, etc.). Consultative data on the output of the survey was not yet available at the time of the visit.

One of the important observation which resulted from the survey is that the amount of the solid waste is highly affected by the standard level of living of the area (the average solid waste produced by one person is 600 gm/daily in the main cities, 500 gm/daily in the other cities and 300 gm/daily in the village). The sample size was defined by a previous consultant who carried out a general survey covering 1,800 households.

According to Mr. El Shafei, some CDAs deal with solid waste collection and in some cases with sorting. The sorting is particularly useful for separating the organic contents of the wastes which is then given for free to factories to produce fertilizers. In Beni Suef it is considered that from 50 to 60 % of the wastes are composed of organic fertilizers. When the evaluator asked if it could be envisaged to use NGOs for the sorting of the solid waste so that they could make a profitable activity which would bring income and work to poor households, Mr. El Shafei stated that factories are used to get the organic material for free and normally the organic waste that they receive needs additional work since it is not properly sorted.

Ms. Mervat, the community officer, proposed a constructive idea which falls within the gender mainstreaming. She stated that she could see the possibility of training the communities in a profitable usage of the organic fertilizers. Women could make the sorting of the waste and the men of the communities could use them as fertilizers for the field. To promote this idea Ms. Mervat suggest to compose an Evaluation Committee to prize those who would have put into practice in the best way the proposed initiative.

Components 8,7,6,4 and 5 are managed by Mr. Mohamed Abdel Nazim Project component no. 8 – Management assistance to Beni Suef Solid Waste Project consists in supporting the SWM in Beni Suef which faces problems in covering its expenditures against the solid waste fees. According to Mr. Osama El Shafei the main problem in collecting the fees consists in the fact that local authorities benefiting from the service are not paying the due fees, in addition to the fact that many of the served households have migrated in other parts of Egypt or abroad. The problem stated in the document has not therefore yet been solved. According to Mr. El Shafei it is much easier to collect the fees from the rural areas where the population is more concentrated and it is easier to solicit the payments.

Component no. 7 – Improvement of the daily operation of the New Ghayada El Sharkia sanitary landfill, Component no. 6- Improvement of the operation of the composting and sorting facility and Component no. 4 – Improvement of the solid waste collection system in Beni Suef City have been considered by Eng. Medhat Ibrahim Awad positively. All equipment related to those components has been purchased and is now operational. The new equipment has contributed to improve dramatically the cleanness of the city. Pictures of the city streets before and after the intervention of the projects were shown to the evaluators.

As far as component no. 5 – An innovative approach consisting of demonstration project on source separation of household waste. Eng. Awad stated that despite the efforts of the project in implementing a composting of waste in the targeted households did not succeed. The reason has been attributed partially to cultural behaviors and to the difficulty from the selected households in sorting appropriately the wastes and partially due to the fact that the waste collectors were not passing by on a daily basis, especially in summer, this created a problem in the household to keep the garbage.

The awareness activities of the integrated project, managed by Ms. Mervat include: Component 3: Awareness raising, training of and procurement of safety equipment to the solid waste management workers trained approximately 430 workers. The evaluator asked Eng. Awad what was the gender balance. The reply was that all the workers were men. When the evaluator tried to understand if there were any reasons related to the social environment or to what factors, Eng. Medhat stated that this was not meant and it had just happened that all workers were men.

Component 1: General Solid Waste Information Campaign was implemented; leaflets were produced and distributed. Ms. Mervat stated that focus groups interviews were carried out under her supervision. Out of the focus groups interviews, 4 interviews occurred with women in different villages. The outcomes of those meetings were reported by Ms. Mervat in a consolidated report which the evaluator has found adequate to insert in this section of the report

The needs identified are all related to the need of awareness and can be structured in three categories: communication skills for the facilitators of the community, awareness on sanitation and awareness on health. The following list provides the main sub components for each category.

Communication skills

- How to deal with different segments of the community.
- How to manage to change wrong behaviors in environmental issues.

Sanitation

- How to modify the community habits of not throwing the sewage water in the street.
- How to modify the community habits of not throwing solid waste in the street and to train the households of sorting the wastes.
- How to modify the community habits of not throwing empty bottles of pesticides in street or canal or re use them for other purpose in the house.

Health and security

- Awareness on first aid.
- Awareness on general health aspects and personal cleaning.
- Awareness on how to use water from the pumps.
- Awareness on how to store water in jars and clay tanks and avoid illness deriving from wrong storage.
- How to improve the care of the children (properness, teaching them appropriate health habits, avoiding that they bath in the canals, teaching them not to heat vegetables and fruit from the field without washing).
- Awareness on the health dangers deriving from washing blankets and carpets in the canals.
- Awareness to the women in household on why it is necessary to keep clean bathrooms.
- Awareness of fining appropriate areas in the community where to leave the animals so to avoid illness deriving from the direct contacts next to the households and avoiding having excrements in the streets in front of the house.
- Raising awareness with women of not buying unhealthy cheap salt, dangerous for the health or uncovered food sold in the street without any health control.
- Awareness on how to preserve food after cooking.
- Awareness on proper usage of medicines, avoid of using medical bottles for other purposes, avoiding multiple usage of syringes.
- Teaching women of not throwing the placenta after birth in the canal.
- Teaching women on the safe use of parasol.
- Teaching women to close gas bottles and avoid emission of gas in the air of the household.

Component no. 2 the Solid Waste Environment Education at the time of the visit had not yet been implemented. Eng. Awad stated that this was due to excessive workload.

Findings/Observations

- As far as component no. 9 is concerned, the survey used for producing the base line report did not include the gender aspects since it did not take into consideration the expected different requirements and point of views of men and women. The specific sets of questions which should have been reflected in indicators related to gender did not appear in the questionnaire as well as in the narrative and tables of the report.
- The multitude of the activities carried out within the framework of this project seems of not being regularly reported in consistent and consolidated reports.
- The role of the civil society does not appear in this project.
- The project document has been conceived more with a technical perspective, indicators on gender, socio economic dimensions and sustainability measures are not available.
- The inputs gathered by the project on gender are due more to the personal commitment of Ms. Mervat than a strategic approach. The fact that awareness activities have not been yet designed, gender disagreed data are not available is supported by the fact that the gender balance is pending more towards the involvement of males in all components of the project.
- The problem related to fees collection is still a pending issue and a concern for the EMU.

I.3.2. El Sail Drain and Area integrated project in Aswan

This project was identified among the high priority projects of the GEAP and encompasses 5 components.

The 1st component consists in the development of an Integrated Strategic Urban Plan for El Sail Drainage Area and is being carried out in cooperation with the Physical Planning Department. The plan for the areas should be integrated with Aswan Strategic Plan. El Nasseriya is a wide area next to El Sail canal and was included in this component for conducting a base line survey.

A household survey was conducted in 700 households in addition to focus group discussions. The household survey contained information on solid waste, water, sanitation and environmental improvement. The survey is among the most structured of the surveys produced by the project, but did not take into consideration the different needs, demands, perceptions and priorities of the interviewees. Even if the analytical tables provided disaggregated data on gender, the final draft of the report did not take adequately into consideration the available information.

17 focus groups were held with specific groups (men, women, teenagers and shop owners). The focus group discussions were just completed during the time of the evaluation, therefore a consultative report was not yet produced. However during the field visit held at the CDA, Ms. Nabila, the EMG consultant, showed the minutes of the meetings held. The outline of the format used for identifying problems in the framework of GEAP was used. For each meeting the environmental priorities related to the problems were ranked. In collaboration with the Nasseriya CDA, Ms. Nabila chose 20 women. For each focus group discussion one woman was acting as a facilitator while another as the reporter.

The 2nd component consists in improving the cleanness of El Sail Drain by covering a section of the drain. The works at the time of the visit had not yet started. The evaluator observed that two obsolete containers were disposed near the drain but they were empty while the drain was full of wastes. It seemed that the problem was linked to lack of awareness from one side and the need of agreeing on specific dates for the collection with the waste collecting company ICC, identified by the Governorate.

The 3rd component aims at reducing solid waste pollution by improving the solid waste collections services in areas such as Nasserya. According to the project document, ICC was willing to improve the service level by increasing the number of collection points, the frequency of emptying containers and the collection of solid waste directly from the premises. Some of the outputs for this component included the selection of options for improving the solid waste collection and the support to improved fees collection. Through Danida funding the project purchased 4 trucks and containers to solve the specific problem of El Nasseriya.

Despite the fact that the equipment was purchased, it seemed that the waste collection problem of the community was not solved. One of the major problems that the CDA specified was the need to sit down with ICC and Governorate representatives to find an agreement on the number of times per week that the trucks had to pass by. According to the chairman of the CDA, to cover the need of the whole area there is the need of two shifts per day and the set up of fixed timing for collecting the wastes. The focus group discussions as reported by the facilitators raised the same problems which seemed to be of a particular concern for the women of the community.

An additional concern raised during the 17 focus group discussions was that the trucks supposed to pass by the households to pick up the garbage did not give enough time to the women to bring the garbage to the truck. From what reported it seemed that ICC has been using the trucks to serve other areas.

The problems related to the proper handling of the waste collection in the community were confirmed by the observations of the evaluator in the following two cases:

- Wastes thrown in the drainage.
- On the other side of the Nasseryia village, Ms. Nabila showed two big containers where the small trucks picking up the wastes from El Nasseriya area were disposing the garbage waiting for a big truck to pick them up. One container was full while the other was empty. When the evaluator asked how many times per week those containers were emptied, it seemed that nobody had a clear idea.

When the evaluator asked about the fees paid for the waste collection, the chairman of the CDA stated that the service had started since two months and the CDA did not want to make any pressure to the community due to the poor service. It was asked to the women facilitators of the meeting what they thought about assuming the function of fees collectors, they replied it was a good idea. The chairman of the CDA stated that women are more reliable than men, they have access to the households more easily and people are more willing to give money to a woman collector than a man. One of the facilitator stated:

"If we go around collecting the money we need to have receipts to give to the people"

The chairman of the CDA stated that this would be a good initiative since it will help finding a job to some women of the community, however he was wondering who would pay for them.

The evaluator stated that if the CDA thought about of a cost recovery mechanism and asked how many households were involved. The chairman replied that the area encompassed around 10,000 households and 75,000 inhabitants. When the evaluator told the chairman that if everybody pays this would cover the costs and that a specific understanding should be found with ICC, the chairman replied that effectively out of the 10,000 households they could count only on 1,200/2,000 since the other population was not provided the service since one of the village section is not reachable by the trucks.

When the evaluator asked if the CDA members or the facilitators would see a specific role for women in income related activities in waste sorting and recycling, it seemed that nobody had a clear idea on the matter and the chairman replied that this is a responsibility of the Governorate.

The 4th component focuses on improved waste water disposal by improving the drainage in the problematic areas and support the efforts of the Water Sanitation Company in improving the fees collection rate. This component has been revised during the implementation to provide a water sanitation connection to 110 poor families. A survey was carried out for the poor households. The survey focused on general questions on water and sanitation without a structured socio economic analysis of the households. The lack of questions linked to gender sensitive indicators is reflected in the draft note elaborating on the poor household survey results. The works will be carried out under the direct supervision of the WSA but have not started since the technical document has yet to be produced.

Since one of the output foreseen under this component is to seek a solution which would involve the WSA and the CDAs of the area in improving the fees collection rates (estimated to a 70%), it has been advised that this aspect is taken into consideration in the proposal. Women facilitators could be used as collectors for a test period so to monitor if there is an increase in the fees collected.

The 5th component consists in raising public awareness on solid waste disposal in El Sail drain is still in the development process.

Findings/Observations

- It seems that a clear division of tasks and responsibilities between the CDA and the ICC have not been clearly defined. A common document should be drafted between the two bodies where the time of the pick up of the waste and the number of days should be agreed upon. The Local Unit could assume the role of monitoring the process.
- The CDA seems not to have been properly trained on cost recovery and sustainability actions, the chairman stated that they did not want to ask for funding to the SFD due to high interest rates and that the revolving loan fund that is currently managed by the CDA has been provided by GTZ, the interest rate applied is 7%.
- The CDA Board Members and the facilitators had a good knowledge on gender issues at the theoretical level but they seemed lacking the analytical capacities and elaborating concrete proposals that would fill the gap between male and females.
- The household survey did not take adequately into consideration the gender component and when the data was available for some analysis it was not elaborated in the final report.
- For component no. 4 related to improved wastewater disposal, an agreement between the CDAs and the WSA should be reached for increasing the payments due. Using woman facilitators as collectors could be an option.

I.3.3. El Fashin solid waste management in Beni Suef

According to the original plan, the mission should have visited the El Konayesah village where a conventional gravity sewer lines and a lift pump station should be constructed. The project which will be executed by a company selected according to tendering procedures forecasts has also a budget line for community awareness activities and social surveys. The EMU General Manger and his staff suggested not to pay a field visit to the community since the works have not yet started at the time of the visit and therefore they did not want to raise expectations before the effective commencement of the works.

Alternatively two solutions were proposed to the mission. The first one was to have a meeting with El Karma CDA which carried out a survey for El Fashin district where a solid waste management project should be carried out; the second one was a meeting with the director of the company in charge of the works in El Konayesah.

The mission held a meeting with El Karma CDA. The CDA has been established two years ago and has 5 Board Members (4 men and 1 woman acting as a secretary).

Even if newly established the CDA has gathered several women from the community who have been working in development for the past 10 years. An active member of the CDA is the wife of the Chairman, currently working with the Swiss Fund and previously involved in CEDPA activities.

During the meeting most of the attendees were women. The majority had a good knowledge about gender and could provide a correct definition of the concept. The CDA is registered to work in the entire Governorate and as reported by the Chairman the intention is to change the statute to Foundation.

One of the CDA representative stated that they got some funding from an application that they have processed via internet from Save the Children Jordan. The CDA is involved in productive activities which involve women. One of the attendees is providing training courses on sewing and handicrafts. The association faced a problem in the marketing of the products. A computer center was available at the CDA. Some of the attendees stated that the CDA has good competencies in research and in the identification of the needs.

The mission asked some information on the field survey. It was reported that the survey was carried out by 10 CDA members (8 women and 2 men) trained by Ms. Nabila from Aswan. Around 700 households were interviewed and the proportion was equally distributed among men and women. An external consultant did the analysis of the questionnaire. A copy of the questionnaire was provided. The questionnaire was focusing on the ability and willingness to pay from the interviewees. When the interviewer asked about the socio economic profile of men and women and the level of poverty, mixed replies were given. One of the CDA member stated that those kind of information was not in the questionnaire.

When the evaluator asked, about the identified needs of the community and the identified activities on gender and environment, the following inputs were provided:

- The set up in 4 villages of Assistance Centers that could give advice to women on health, environment, sanitation. The Assistance centers were seen also as means of supporting women in getting ID cards.
- One proposal was related to the establishment of a credit system to support productive activities. When more details on the management of the funds were requested by the evaluator, one of the attendees stated that they wanted to charge by outmost a 5% interest rate. From the discussion it appeared that the attendees had no clear idea on sustainability and the practical management of a fund.

The Chairman of the Association came up with additional inputs such as:

- Awareness in the proper usage of gray water.
- Set up activities to separate garbage contents.
- Set up of activities that would allow revenue creation for the beneficiaries.

The evaluator suggested the CDA to approach the Social Fund who is supporting NGOs in micro credit activities.

Findings/Observations

- The CDA seems to be very active and willing to implement gender related activities.
- The CDA is a good focal point for carrying out surveys, the field surveyor however should be chosen through CDAs that are well known to the people of the targeted village.
- If funding is available for specific gender activities, then the association could be asked to develop a proposal which should take into consideration the sustainability aspects of the intervention.

I.3.4. Nasr El Nuba solid waste project in Aswan

Nasr El Nuba CDA was created in 1967. The CDA seems to be very active and serves efficiently the community. The Board Members are 7 out of which two women. One of the two women established the Women's Association CDA which received in 2004 funding from Danida for a total value of 40,000 L.e. The funding was used to train 180 women from the community on handicraft. The trainees who should have become micro entrepreneurs, as reported during the meeting in Nasr El Nuba, however faced a problem in marketing the products. The project had also a component of raising the awareness to keep the environment clean. The mission observed that the whole area surrounding the CDA was very tidy. This can be also attributed to a previous project financed by ESP where containers, carts and cleaning tools for a total value of 50,000 were purchased for the CDA.

The CDA has several activities such as: Kindergarten, baby care for working women, family planning sessions, and maternity health. Those activities were supported by an American NGO and are still running. The CDA provides also summer sewing courses and has previously managed a loan fund from 1999 up to 2002 provided by the Social Fund for Development. The projects financed were 30 and mostly in animal husbandry, agriculture and services. Out of the 100,000 L.e. around 55,000 were used for administrative and operational expenses. The fund, provided as a loan was paid back to the SFD. The CDA has recently requested a new fund to the SFD amounting to 1 million L.e. for which they are still waiting for a reply.

Nasr El Nuba CDA asked funding to ESP for purchasing a truck to collect the wastes of Nasr El Nuba city and 6 surrounding villages. The area comprehends around 8,700 inhabitants and 2,800 households. The CDA is contributing to the project through awareness activities and some operational costs. It seems that the CDA is active in waste management since the local unit, composed of 9 employees does not want to deal with the issue. The wastes will be disposed in a landfill located 7 km from the village.

The CDA has already four women collectors working in the village area and forecasts to recruit two young boys to collect the fees in the nearby villages which will be served with the new equipment bought through the project. The selection of the two male collectors has been justified based on the fact that it is easier for man to travel longer distances outside the boundaries of the village where they belong to.

When the evaluator asked the two women volunteers, who attended the focus group discussion, if they had problems in collecting the fees; one woman stated that the area that she was in charge of did not face any problems since everybody was paying while the other women volunteer stated that in her area some households were not paying. The CDA seemed to have approached the problem by collaborating with the local unit to which a list of names of those who were not paying was sent. The local unit took administrative actions by sending a letter and adding a fine of 150 L.e., through this action some of the people paid. One Board Member confirmed that the payment for the solid waste service seems to be a problem in some cases and some people refuse to pay because they do not have somebody who picks up to garbage directly from the door and they do not find appropriate to take their waste to the garbage bins in the street.

The expected income from the project has been estimated to almost 4,000 L.e. per month while the expenses around 3,000 L.e., the CDA is expecting to make some savings from the waste collection. The Chairman of the CDA stated that it is in the plan to start the awareness activities soon, most of the awareness sessions will occur in mosques on Fridays.

The mission asked the women facilitators who participated as enumerators in the filed survey which was carried out under the supervision of the EMG consultant about their experience and why the interviewees were in majority females. The interviewees stated that they liked doing the field work and that they did not face any problem, the fact that the majority of the interviewed people were women was due to two reasons: at the time that they made the interviews most of the males were at work, the area has a high male migration rate (internal and external). Ms. Nabila was thinking of using the same facilitators that she had trained for Nasr El Nuba CDA for another field survey in a near by area which is not covered by the services of a CDA.

When the evaluator asked to the focus group attendees what kind of gender related actions they considered to be addressed within the community, the general reply was that the area is facing a high percentage of unemployment and they would like to set up productive activities such as a bakery which would involve women from the community. The Chairman of the CDA stated that this was a good idea since there are many schools in the area and the production especially of biscuits can have a market. The women stated that they find it difficult to think about traditional activities like sewing and handicrafts since they have already faced a problem in marketing and are not financially rentable. When the issue of thinking about a project on solid waste management to reduce, reuse and recycle the garbage of the area, the Chariman of the CDA replied that they had already thought about the idea and got the feedback from a specialist of the sector which stated that the kind of wastes produced did not make rentable for the CDA to start such a project.

Findings/Observations

- The CDA seems to be very active and provides an effective service to the community.
- Many of the problems faced in the other areas visited such as health awareness on health and gray waters usage seem not to be present in the area served by the CDA.
- The facilitators of the CDA could be used for carrying out other field surveys as proposed by EMG consultant.
- The CDA could be used as an umbrella CDA for the area to carry out awareness sessions on environmental issues.
- If specific funding is available, the CDA could be asked to present a proposal on a productive project involving women of the community.

I.4. Small scale water project

I. 4.1 El Hakamna Project in Beni Suef

The Hakamna project in Beni Suef is being implemented by the CDA which takes the name of the village and encompasses around 9,070 inhabitants and 1,050 households according to the figures provided by the Chairman of the Association. According to the project document the association was created in 1970. However it seems that the association statute was revised in the 80s and again in 2002. The Association Board is composed by 7 male members. The CDA seems to be active since 2003 and provides the community with the following services:

- Solid waste collection,
- Health Unit and family planning,
- Quran Courses,
- Support to students by providing free after school courses,
- Women's committee involved in awareness for the environment, proper usage of water and children health,
- Kindergarten (around 75-80 children),
- Literacy classes for women,
- Purchase of bread from the governmental bakery to distribute to the community (the CDA charges a small fee which covers partially its operating costs),
- Provision of small loans up to 200 L.e. in kind without charging any interest fees.

The CDA asked for funding from the SFD but was not successful. From what reported it seems that from the date of the new establishment (2002), according to SFD rules there is the need of proofing 7 years of experience for getting the financing from the SFD. The chairman of the CDA stated that through the project most of the area's households will soon have a water tap. Through Danida water taps were installed in 150 houses, however 200 poor households remain without water connection. When the mission asked to the CDAs what were according to their point of views the needs of the community, two main problems were reported:

1. The need of organizing in a more systematic manner the solid waste collection since for the time being this is assured one time per week by the local unit. In this respect they saw an active role of women in the community through raising activities. A group of women could be trained for each area or street to keep the environment clean and to push the neighbors, especially men who are considered careless, not to throw waste in the streets. Women's role was conceived also as collectors of the waste for the community and their disposal to the collection point.
2. The need of implementing a sewage system since the water connections to the houses raised the needs of the households and their consumption of water. The CDA Chariman stated:

"With the project intervention now most of the houses do have water, however even for those houses that have toilets with holding tanks, they throw the gray waters in the canal thus polluting the environment. Another problem faced by the local environment was the throwing of dead animal bodies in the same canal."

It seems that a similar problem was faced in Aswan in Naga El Mahatta area where the project has financed an initiative in the sanitation field to overcome the problem of discharging raw sewage and gray waters in clean canals. The difference in the case of this intervention in Beni Suef is that the environmental impact of the financed initiative has to be considered limited by the fact that the activities have not taken into consideration the discharge of the gray waters. During the field visits to the houses of three beneficiaries the following points were observed by the mission

- Each of the three houses had a water tap. There was however no evacuation hole. Water was gathered in basins.
- The houses were kept clean
- In one of the houses the daughter of the owner (a widow) was preparing the lunch for the family using the water from the water tap.
- A toilet well kept and clean was observed in one of the houses.
- Children seemed to be in need of more care.

All of the three beneficiaries demonstrated appreciation and happiness about the project.

One woman stated:

"I do not have any more to go to the neighbors to beg for water or to go to the canal for washing. I feel that I now have more dignity."

Another woman said:

"I do not need to carry heavy weights with the water basins and I now have more time to take care of my children, this is important to me since my husband is in Cairo and I do not see him very often."

Findings/Observations

- The CDA seemed integrated in the community. The Board Members showed their good intention of helping the poor households in different ways through in kind contributions.
- The CDA seemed to survive financially more on donations and lacks the capacity of managing funds.
- The environment surrounding the CDA was clean; however the entrance of the village was not properly kept. An area full of garbage near the canal, women washing and throwing water in the canal were noticed.
- Gender disaggregated data was not produced, however from the beneficiary's comments it seemed that the project managed to tackle the gender unbalance being the services addressed to poor women headed households.
- Despite the positive social effects it seems that awareness is needed, women could play an active role to support a clean environment and provide better health for the household.
- The community lacks a sanitation system; the water connections did not solve the problem on how to handle gray waters.

I.5 Health Care Solid Waste Management projects

I.5.1. The Health Care Waste Management Project in Beni Suef (HCWMP)

The project which aims at improving HCW management in Beni Suef Governorate can be divided in two components: the first one is related to the purchase of the equipment and includes the construction of two incinerators, the second component focuses on the training of all personnel involved in the production and processing of the solid waste. While the first component is being implemented with the Health Department of the Governorate, the second one should be implemented by a newly established CDA called University Hospital Friends.

The CDA should in the future have the responsibility of following up on the medical waste disposal and processing since no other authority seemed to be willing to assume the responsibility of the task. The CDA was created in 2003 and Beni Suef Governor is the Chairman, other members of the Board include the Dean of the University and Professors in the Medical University College. There are no females in the Board. A meeting was organized with Dr. Samah Adeeb Moawad in charge of the training component of the project. Dr. Moawad showed the evaluator a proposal submitted to the EMU for training all personnel involved directly and indirectly with Health solid waste. The proposal which seemed comprehensive with set objectives, results and indicators forecasted a total of 56 days of training for the following categories and related target group.

Category		Target group
1	Infection Control Committees.	Managers, physicians and Head nurses
2	Teams of Public Health Care Facilities.	Physicians, Head Nurses, Technicians, Dentists and Veterinarians.
3	Syndicates for Medical proficiencies.	
4	Students of final years in medical and other schools.	Medicine, dentistry, veterinary, nursing, technical institute, pharmacy, science, agricultural engineering, house officers and residents at the University School.
5	Personnel/teams involved in HCWM.	Drivers, treatment station staff, landfill staff.
6	Personnel/teams involved in health care facilities, laundries, kitchens and other utilities.	Workers, technicians, other.

For each training course a pre test and a post test has been forecast as an evaluation/assessment of the course at its end. The tests have to be considered essential tools for the monitoring of the training and should contain gender related issues. The pre and post tests should be consolidated in standardized reports that provide disaggregated data by gender and eventual gender sensitive key issues that may come out of training sessions. A special focus should be provided to sustainability, if an external consultant is going to be in charge of the full training cycle, what is then the role of governmental bodies like the Health Department in carrying out future training courses? The best option is to use an external consultant for a TOT. The trained persons will then be in charge of training the other identified staff at the governorate level. This will cut down the costs and have a greater impact.

The mission asked for a copy of the full project document submitted which however was not available at the EMU premises.

The main problem identified was how to deal appropriately with infection control; Dr. Moawad stated that the University was not providing a specific course on the subject. The need of training a group which goes from doctors, to nurses down to the technicians and driver was considered essential especially due to the fact that doctors would not follow nurse's instructions on HCWM if they themselves are not aware on the how to process health solid wastes appropriately. Despite the fact that the proposal was submitted and some of the money transferred in the bank account, it seemed that the training courses did not start due to administrative unsolved issues with the identified consultant and a private consulting firm in Cairo.

As far as the gender distribution is concerned Dr. Moawad stated that it is expected that almost 60% of the identified target group will be women, especially for the nursing where the 200 out of the 226 nurses are female.

Dr. Moawad stated that the training for the target group working in the hospital should be enlarged to the communities through awareness sessions. The importance of awareness had been highlighted through an example of an event that occurred in Sohag where the population decided to destroy an incinerator due to lack of awareness within the communities.

Findings/Observations

- The University Hospital Friends CDA is more involved at the political level and does not have a contact with the grass root. The composition of the Board and the profile of the Dr. Moawad seem to show that the CDA could appropriately follow up on the training of the medical and non medical staff in the Governorate.
- Sustainability measures and greater impact should be taken into consideration in the training plan. It is not advisable to provide a full training by an external consultant. TOT should be forecasted, trained staff should be the ones providing the training to the target groups. This will lower the cost and enlarge the targeted population benefiting from the training.
- The need of awareness in the management of health solid waste and in health in general at the grass root was also a result of the focus group discussions findings in the field through the solid waste component. The example of Sohag where the population destroyed an incinerator due to lack of appropriate awareness demonstrates how important awareness in the community is.
- Since the University Hospital Friends is not a CDA with grass root connections, the impact of health awareness can be limited, the involvement of other CDAs which are well known to the community could lead to a more sustainable and enhanced impact. This component however should be carried out by the Health Department.
- Pre and post evaluation/assessment tests should be included in the training courses; standardized consolidated report should include gender-disaggregated data and report on gender sensitive topics that may be raised during the training.

I.5.2 The Health Care Waste Management Project in Aswan

Even if not in the scope of the assignment, the evaluator considered relevant to include a highlight of this project in Aswan which is similar to the one implemented in Beni Suef. The health care waste management project will be serving Aswan, Edfu and Kom Ombo cities. The Health Department of Aswan is in charge of the project. The waste collection and disposal have been assigned to ICC to whom the money has been transferred. ICC seems to have the monopoly of the waste collection in the three cities of the Governorate. The Health Directorate is in charge of implementing the training and awareness activities in accordance with a training plan which has still to be developed.

A meeting was organized with Mr. Barakat in charge at the Health Department for the ESP project. Mr. Barakat stated that for the technical aspects the forecasted equipment should be in place within the next six months. When the question on gender was asked, Mr. Barakat seemed to have a clear idea on the need of a gender balance. When the evaluator asked if they had an idea on how to organize the training, Mr. Barakat stated that they still did not develop a plan and he did not know yet how many people will be involved in the training. Mr. Barakat stated that it would be useful to know what the project in Beni Suef is doing so not to replicate the expenses and efforts in the development of a training outline.

Mr. Barakat stated that the training should be based on the TOT. An external consultant should be recruited not to do all the training but to train a specific number of staff within the Department who will then in turn train all the staff in the Governorate. This strategic approach will assure not only the sustainability of the intervention but will build up as well the capacities within the Governorate.

When the issue of awareness-raising at the community level was raised, Mr. Barakat thought that it was an excellent idea and a needed initiative, however he could not see how it could be set into place due to the limited financing (60,000 L.e) which is addressed only to the personnel working directly with health solid waste management. Through the discussion, the idea of a separate project on awareness with gender as a cross cutting issue was considered a good solution if financing is available. The idea will be presented in the general recommendations.

Findings/Observations

- Due to the similar nature of the two projects in the two Governorates, EMG should assure that the work for training and awareness is not being duplicated. This idea was supported by the Health Department in Aswan as well.
- For the training component since the profile of the trainees (doctors, nurses, Veterinaries ect) are the same, it is advisable that a comprehensive training plan is applied in the two Governorates taking into consideration eventually some specific training needs that may come out of the assessment.
- The gender issues are well understood and taken into consideration at the strategic level.