

The Slogan of the Ministry of Environment at the Government of «All to Nation... All to Work» : The Political Environment at the Service of Environmental Policy

The Political Environment:

A strong, transparent, fair, multi-partner and educating Ministry of Environment

Through the activation / consolidation of its role:

- 1- Strengthening the human, financial and logistic capacities of the Ministry of Environment and its potentials to communicate with citizens and other necessary reforms
- 2- Clarifying the prerogatives of the Ministry of Environment and delineating the common themes with other public administrations following a methodology that incorporates the environmental concepts therein
- 3- Activating environmental compliance through monitoring, incentivization and deterrence, based on clear and transparent scientific and practical criteria
- 4- Consolidating the institutional partnership between the Ministry of Environment, non-governmental organizations, regional institutions and international organizations of environment and development
- 5- Adopting environmental education in communication and encouraging research and development in the environmental sector

at the Service of Environmental Policy:

Strictness in conserving the natural wealth of Lebanon:

- 6- Strict application of the quarrying masterplan, including rehabilitation
- 7- Activation of the national strategy for the management of forest fires
- 8- Follow up the implementation of the national plan for reforestation and combating desertification
- 9- Promotion of natural sites and reserves and biodiversity
- 10- Activation of the environmental management of water basins

Management of environmental risks through prevention and remediation:

- 11- Implementation of policies and plans established for municipal solid waste management
- 12- Support of sanitation projects to ensure the safety of the environment
- 13- Development of an integrated program for abatement of point source pollution
- 14- Planning for urbanization and reducing its environmental implications
- 15- Reconciliation between energy projects and environmental considerations

The Work Program of the Ministry of Environment at the Government of “All to Nation...All to Work” (2011-2013)

Goal		Short-Term Initiatives/Projects (2011)	Medium/Long-Term Initiatives/Projects
Activation / Consolidation of the Role of the Ministry of Environment:			
1	Strengthening the human, financial and logistic capacities of the Ministry of Environment and its potentials to communicate with citizens and other necessary reforms		
2	Clarifying the prerogatives of the Ministry of Environment and delineating the common themes with other public administrations following a methodology that incorporates the environmental concepts therein	Endorse the EU grant (8 million Euros) - Environmental Governance	Launch the project of environmental governance at the Ministry Sanction the decree of the national council for environment
		Hold a coordination meeting for environmental focal points at line ministries	Endorse the working documents between the Ministry of Environment and line ministries
3	Activating environmental compliance through monitoring, incentivization and deterrence, based on clear and transparent scientific and practical criteria	Approval of the Ministry of Justice on the draft law establishing an environmental prosecutor	Sanction the law of the environmental prosecutor
		Approval of the Ministry of Interior and Municipalities on the draft decree on environmental police	Sanction the law of the environmental police
		Approval of the Ministry of Finance and the State Council on the draft decree on the national environment fund	Sanction the decree of the national environment fund + examine the necessary incentivizing and fining procedures
		Sanctioning of the draft decree on Environmental Impact Assessment and the draft decree on Strategic Environmental Assessment	Stimulate the sanctioning of the emergency plan coordinated by the Presidency of the Council of Ministers
		Approval of the Ministry of Industry and the State Council on the draft decree on environmental compliance of establishments	Sanction the decree of environmental compliance of establishments; and operate the environmental compliance software
		Launching the project on enhancing environmental resources monitoring in Lebanon	Complete the project by other initiatives to strengthen indicators
4	Consolidating the institutional partnership between the Ministry of Environment, non-governmental organizations, regional institutions and international organizations of environment and development	Hold a coordination meeting for donors / environmental partners	Hold two coordination meetings per year for donors
		Hold a meeting for non-governmental organizations and the media to discuss the work program	Offer contributions to non-profitable organizations to carry out environmental activities pursuant to decree No. 14865/2005, upon issuance of the budget
		Organize an environmental exhibition/ fair	Issue the first version of “ Green pages”
5	Adopting environmental education in communication and encouraging research and development in the environmental sector	Publishing the report about the state of the environment in Lebanon in the three languages	Publish the European Union’s study on the social and economic benefits of enhanced environmental protection
			Follow-up the environmental awareness at schools through school curricula and extra-curricular activities and conduct the necessary training
			Prepare an environmental Research and Development program in coordination with line parties

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Goal	Short-Term Initiatives/Projects (2011)	Medium/Long-Term Initiatives/Projects	
Strictness in Conserving the Natural Wealth of Lebanon:			
6	Strict application of the quarrying masterplan, including rehabilitation	Complete the draft law regulating the quarries and crushers	Sanction the law of quarries and crushers
		Cancel illegal designations	
		Sanction the cooperation mechanism with the Ministry of Justice for the quarries and crushers incompliant with laws and regulations	Complete cooperation with the Ministry of Justice for the quarries and crushers incompliant with laws and regulations
		Sanction a mechanism for the disposal of bank guarantees for the rehabilitation of quarry sites on private properties	Rehabilitate two quarries sites on private properties
		Prepare tender documents for the rehabilitation of quarry sites on public properties	Rehabilitate two quarries sites on public properties, in addition to Msailheh fortress
7	Activation of the national strategy for the management of forest fires	Define the responsibilities of the Ministry according to strategy and identify the resources necessary for their fulfillment	Follow-up the implementation of the strategy according to responsibilities
8	Follow up the implementation of the national plan for reforestation and combating desertification	Complete the implementation of the national reforestation plan (receive sites and study new reforestation requests)	Complete the implementation of the national reforestation plan (receive sites and study new reforestation requests)
		Follow-up the experiments on the new techniques of reforestation	Adopt new technologies in light of the local experiments
		Coordinate with the concerned authorities to issue a unified map of sites under reforestation and those requiring support	Mobilize the resources needed for the reforestation of additional sites as needed
		Support the national campaign to increase the green cover	Support the national campaign to increase the green spot
9	Promotion of natural sites and reserves and biodiversity	Approval of the Council of Ministers of the draft law on nature reserves	Sanction the law of nature reserves
			Sanction the law program for the implementation of the national plan for protected areas
			Sanction the two laws for Al Rihan mountain reserve and Al Kamouha reserve
		Prepare a national strategy for marine nature reserves in Lebanon	Prepare a plan for the effective management of marine nature reserves
		Sanction the classification of two nature sites (Mount Moses and the coast of the city of Batroun)	Sanction the decree for the classification of protected areas in Lebanon
		Set a list of all sites requiring to be declared as a reserve or a nature site (including the marine and coastal sites), or requiring studies in this regard - including the Ras Al Shakaa, Byblos coast and Al Madfoun	Sanction the decree for defining the functions of nature reserves committees
		Prepare general environmental guidelines for construction on the coastline	
		Hold the first meeting of the new supreme council of hunting	Sanction the regulatory texts on hunting
		Prepare a report on the fishing ports in Lebanon	Mobilize resources to implement the recommendations of the report
10	Activation of the environmental management of water basins	Launch the business plan to combat pollution of the Qaraoun lake and the upper basin of the Litani River	Mobilize the necessary resources to implement the business plan for combating the pollution of the Qaraoun lake and the upper basin of the Litani River in coordination with the concerned authorities
			Set a list of basins that require a business plan to combat pollution therein, according to priority
		Start the coordination with the Ministry of Energy and Water to develop an integrated plan for the adoption of integrated management of water basins	Prepare the necessary draft texts for codifying the integrated management of water basins

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Goal	Short-Term Initiatives/Projects (2011)	Medium/Long-Term Initiatives/Projects
Management of environmental risks through prevention and remediation:		
11	Implementation of policies and plans established for municipal solid waste management	Launch the project on integrated management of solid wastes in Baalbek
		Follow-up the coordination with the CDR to set a detailed plan for waste to energy - including the attempt to integrate industrial waste therein
		Approval of the Council of Ministers on the draft law of Solid Waste Management
12	Support of sanitation projects to ensure the safety of the environment	Follow-up the preparation of the document on industrial wastewater monitoring
		Follow up the research on the most appropriate basis for the disposal of industrial sludge
		Cooperate with the concerned authorities to complete the two draft legal texts on the re-use of sludge and treated wastewater
13	Development of an integrated program for abatement of point source pollution	Complete the structure of the project on point source pollution abatement – The World Bank
		Identify a clear mechanism to decide on license applications for classified establishments
		Complete the preparation of a draft decree for the classification of hazardous wastes and licensing for institutions that deal with their treatment
		Complete the process of enforcing health care institutions’ compliance with laws and regulations
		Amend the decision that regulates the import of waste and prepare/sanction a decision on the requirements of exporting hazardous wastes within the framework of Basel Convention
		Regulate / legalize the subject of warehouses investment
		Complete the processing of expired medicines and study the need for codifying the subject
		Complete the implementation of the national program to dispose of HCFCs (Hydrochlorofluorocarbons)
14	Planning for urbanization & reducing its environmental implications	Form a work team from the relevant ministries, the private and civil sector to set scientific and practical, planning and corrective recommendations, at all levels (including traffic in the surrounding environment)
15	Reconciliation between energy projects and environmental considerations	Follow-up coordination with the Ministry of Energy and Water in the preparation of strategic environmental assessment of the petroleum sector, and the related environmental decrees
		Complete the identification of necessary techniques to improve adaptation to and mitigation of, climate change
		Prepare the draft decision of the UN General Assembly (sixth) on the oil slick, and the relevant procedures
		Sanction the grant of the GEF (global environmental facility) on POPs (persistent organic pollutants) in the energy sector / power transformers
		Approval of the Council of Ministers on the draft law to protect air quality