

# MCESD: Mediterranean Committee on Education for Sustainable Development



Union pour la Méditerranée  
Union for the Mediterranean  
الإتحاد من أجل المتوسط



Venice Office  
Regional Bureau for Science  
and Culture in Europe



## 2nd Meeting of the Mediterranean Committee on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)

Executive Meeting & Regional Workshop on ESD

Heraklion, Crete Greece, 24 – 26 June 2019

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**Arab Network for Environment and  
Development (RAED)**

**EGYPT**

Secretariat support &  
scientific coordination

With the support of



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MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
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الشبكة العربية للبيئة والتنمية "الناد"  
Arab Network for Environment and Development "RAED"

## Case study on [Education on Biodiversity]

- In November, 13-27, 2018, Egypt hosted the 14<sup>th</sup> Conference of Parties for the United Nations Convention of Biodiversity (CBD COP14)
- In July 2018, The Arab Network for Environment and Development (RAED) was assigned by the Ministry of Environment to be the Focal Point of Youth and Civil Society Organizations participation in the event.
- RAED has put an immediate action plan with a main goal of mainstreaming and raising public awareness on biodiversity and mobilizing a large number of interested and concerned youth, CSOs and partner organizations to be engaged.



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RAED organized 4 preparatory meetings in September and October 2018 attended by more than **800 participants** aiming to:

- ❑ **Educate** participants on Biodiversity, international conventions, the link between the UN Convention on Biodiversity and the SDGs, etc...
- ❑ Discuss the **role** of youth and CSOs during the CBD COP 14
- ❑ Encourage participants to undertake different activities all over Egypt **before, during and after** the event to mainstream biodiversity and engage concerned stakeholders.



- ❑ **Train** youth to fulfill their role in the logistic arrangements.
- ❑ **Facilitate the organization** of side events to enable university students and CSOs to present their activities, initiatives and projects in the field of biodiversity.
- ❑ Preparations of the **market place** in the Peace Park to sell traditional and environmental products.



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## STAKEHOLDERS:

***RAED with full collaboration with the Egyptian Sustainable Development Forum (ESDF) coordinated with:***

- ❖ *Ministry of Environment* \* *20 Egyptian Universities*
- ❖ *Ministry of Youth* \* *Civil Society Organizations*
- ❖ *Ministry of Social Solidarity* \* *Youth & children*
- ❖ *GEF / Small Grants Programme* \* *Women Groups*
- ❖ *National Council for Women*
- ❖ *Media*





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## MAIN RESULTS:

- **320 youth** participated in the event, either engaged in the logistic team, or participated in the sessions or even organize their own side events.
- **23** concerned national **CSOs** participated in the event and organized **11 side events**.
- A **network of CSOs** active in the **field of BD** was formed to exchange knowledge and experience.

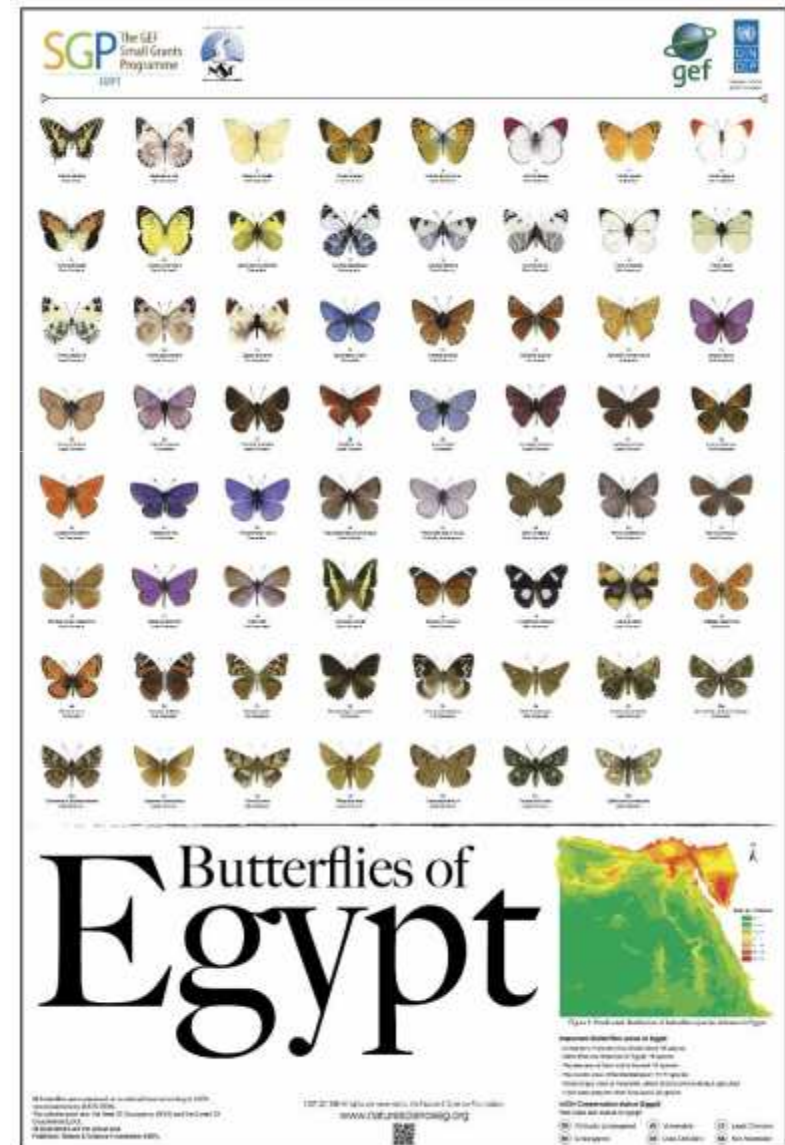
During the holy month of Ramadan, a radio program was prepared by the Nature and Science Foundation with the support of the GEF Small Grants Programme aiming to raise public awareness about the fauna and flora of Egypt, and communicating key conservation issues to the public. 30 species were chosen to highlight specific conservation issues that relate to those species and similar ones.

**Main Results:**

- *An average of 20 calls were received per episode. All governorates were represented by listeners and callers, also represented in the 30 winners who were selected from 26 different governorates.*
- *Public awareness on biodiversity and protected areas in Egypt*



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## Engaging Youth in Egypt in Advocating for Ethics- Grounded Climate Action

RAED signed an agreement with UNESCO aiming to develop a high level of awareness and understanding of climate change challenges on the global, regional and national levels. Focusing on the ***UNESCO Declaration of Ethical Principles in relation to Climate Change***, through which youth developed advocacy tools to facilitate applying the Declaration on the local and national levels through practical initiatives.



- **55 Students representing 5 Egyptian universities** participated in the youth camp.
- One of the topics discussed was the **impacts of climate change on biodiversity**.
- A one-day field visit was organized to **Wadi Degla Protected area**, where students were better informed on the negative impacts on animals, birds, plants, etc...

# Field Visit to WADI DEGLA Protected Area



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## CONCLUSIONS

Key principles of success:

- **Effective partnerships**
- **Multi-Stakeholder** approach
- **Community** Participation
- **Public awareness** and **capacity** building
- **Synergy** between Education for Sustainable Development, the biodiversity sector and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is essential.



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# ***THANK YOU !***

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