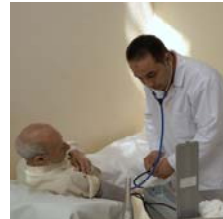




**Welcome!**  
**Bienvenue!**  
**Willkommen!**  
**أهلا وسهلا!**





## 2005-2014 UN Decade on Education for Sustainable Development DESD!

In December 2002, the  
United Nations General  
Assembly adopted

Resolution 57/254 to put in place a UN  
Decade on Education for Sustainable  
Development.

Its values:

- Respect for others
- Respect on the present and for future generations
- Respect in the planet and for what it provides to us

Its aim:

- Secure our future through new behaviours and practises

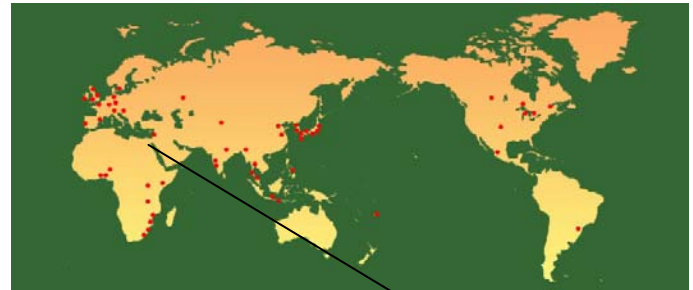
Its objectives:

- Facilitating networking and collaboration among stakeholders in education for Sustainable Development
- Fostering greater quality of teaching and learning of environmental topics
- Supporting countries in achieving their millennium goals through ESD efforts
- Providing countries through new opportunities and tools to reform education

## What is a RCE?

The Regional Centre of Expertise (RCE) on Education for Sustainable Development is a network of existing formal, non-formal and informal education organisations mobilised to deliver education for sustainable development to local and regional communities.

So far The United Nations University (UNU) has acknowledged 55 RCEs worldwide.



The global RCE network

RCE Cairo

This global network of RCEs will constitute the Global Learning Space for Sustainable Development. RCEs aspire to achieve the goals of the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development by translating its global objectives into the context of the local communities in which they operate.

In brief, the RCEs can be seen as a *global network of local networks*

... towards a sustainable society

RCE Cairo – SEKEM Development Foundation

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## The RCE Cairo

SEKEM focuses on Education for Sustainable Development since 1977

Encouraged by its relation with the RCE Graz, Sekem sent its first expression of interest in April 2008 and its final application in September 2008 to the United Nations University UNU.

The Ubuntu Committee of Peers for the Regional Centres of Expertise held its third meeting in October 2008 in Paris, France and considered the 21 RCE applications from all over the world for formal acknowledgement. The committee recommended UNU to acknowledge 6 RCEs, inclusive RCE Cairo, some with specific comments. The RCE Cairo got recommended without any specific comment.

The RCE Cairo brings together institutions, e.g. universities, schools, research institutes, enterprises, NGOs, and individuals at the local and regional level, to jointly promote Education for Sustainable Development (ESD). On this way the RCE Cairo is an extension of SEKEMs activities in the field of Sustainable Development.

The SEKEM Initiative is hosting the RCE Cairo as they both have synergetic activities in the field of Sustainable Development.

Four working groups act as the operational arms of the RCE Cairo to realise the vision and aims of the network.

Social Development:

- Raising public awareness on ESD
- Addressing social inequalities through education
- Emphasizing the importance of regional knowledge, traditions and culture for SD
- Improving the situation of the underprivileged groups like street children or disabled through ESD

Formal & Non-Formal Education:

- Integrating elements of SD in the traditional and existing forms of formal education
- Emphasizing the role of adult education/ training in promoting ESD
- Organizing training courses and seminars on ESD

Research and Innovation:

- Emphasizing the importance of innovation and entrepreneurship
- Fostering innovation through the integration of existing skills, know-how and research efforts

Environment, Health & Agriculture:

- Promoting biodynamic agriculture
- Raising awareness and fostering action against environmental abuse
- Promoting sustainable ways of health improvement and disease prevention

... towards a sustainable society

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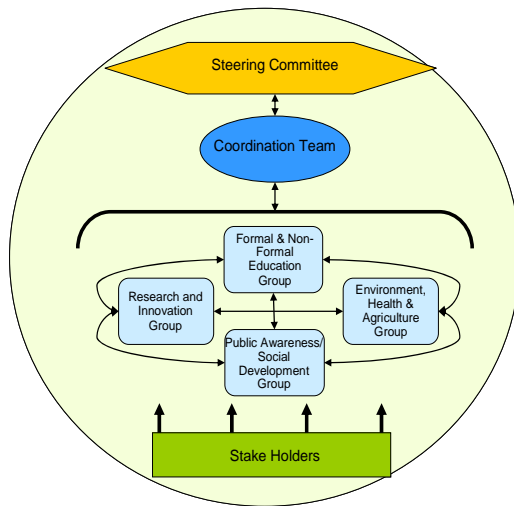
### The scope area of the RCE Cairo:



The Scope area of the RCE Cairo comprises 6 governorates: Cairo (1), Giza (2), Qalyubia (3), Sharqia (4), Helwan (5), 6<sup>th</sup> of October (6).

With 24 Million inhabitants, the population of the RCE scope area represents 30% of the Egyptian population. This scope area has been chosen in order to introduce and enhance Education for Sustainable Development to different layers of society in most differing environments.

### Governance and Management Structure



In the period 2008-2011, the *Steering Committee* of the RCE Cairo includes such prominent members as Prof. Dr. Rafaat Radwan, President of the Egyptian Adult Education Authority, Prof. Ibrahim Abouleish, President of Sekem Development Foundation as well as a number of representatives of private Universities and Companies throughout Cairo.

The *stakeholders* of the RCE Cairo consist of Universities, Schools,

Governmental Institutions, Business Companies, NGOs...

**Interested? Contact us!**  
**Together towards a sustainable society**

... towards a sustainable society

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