

**Strengthening the Environmental Legislation Development and Application
System in Lebanon (SELDAS)**

(LIFE 02 TCY/RL/032)



**Final Report
From 1 March 2003 to 30 September 2005
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Main Report

**Prepared By
Manal Moussallem (Project Manager)
Carla Hanna (Project Officer-Legal Matters)
& Maya Abi Zeid Daou (Project Focal Point)**



**UNESCO-Cousteau Ecotechnie Chair
University of Balamand
Saint George Health Complex,
P.O. Box: 166378
Ashrafieh-Beirut 1100 2807, Lebanon**

**Ministry of Environment
Lazarieh Center
Downtown Beirut
P.O. Box: 11-2727
Beirut, Lebanon**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

List of Annexes:.....	3
Introduction:.....	5
Section 1: Technical Report	5
1. Description of Activities and Results:.....	5
1.1 Project Initiation (Task 1):	5
1.1.1 Office Set Up:.....	5
1.1.2 Project Management Tools:	6
1.1.3 Project Exposure:.....	6
1.2 Diagnosis of the Current Environmental Legislative Setting (Task 2):	6
1.2.1 Review of Background Literature on Environmental Law:	6
1.2.2 Assembling of Existing Lebanese Environmental Legislation:	7
1.2.3 Construction of a Legislation and Functional Matrix for the Environment Sector:	7
1.2.4 Diagnosis of the Environmental Problems:	8
1.2.5 Methodology for Diagnosing the Current Environment Legislative Setting: Description and Results – The SELDAS Book	8
1.3 Drafting and Amendment of Environment Related Legislation (Task 3.3):.....	13
1.3.1 Draft New Legislation (Core of Task 3.3):.....	13
1.3.2 Review Environment Related Legislation Under Preparation (By Other Departments/ Projects at the Ministry):	16
1.3.3 Defend Legislation Under Review:.....	17
1.3.4 Comment on Legislation Under Review (Prepared by Other Institutions):.....	18
1.4 Organization of Training Sessions and Awareness Seminars (Portions of Tasks 3-5):	18
1.4.1 Awareness Seminars on the Importance of Promoting Environmental Legislation Activities:.....	19
1.4.2 Training Sessions and Awareness Seminars on Environmental Legislation Development, Application and Education:.....	19
1.4.2.1 Training on Environmental Legislation Drafting	21
1.4.2.2 Training on Environmental Legislation Application.....	22
1.4.2.3 Training on Dealing with Environmental Litigation	23
1.4.2.4 Seminars on Introduction to Environmental Law.....	24
1.4.2.5 Seminars on Dissemination of SELDAS Book	24
1.4.2.6 Seminars on Integration of the Environmental Chart in the French Constitution and Environmental Liability	25
1.4.2.7 Seminars on Role of Municipalities in the Application of Environmental Legislation...26	
1.5 Organization of an Environmental Legislation Study Tour to Germany (Task 3.2.3):	27
1.6 Promotion of Graduate Studies in Environmental Law in Europe for Lebanese Students (Task 5.1.1):	29
2. Project Management:	31
2.1 Personnel Recruitment, Committees Establishment and Subcontractor Hiring:	31
2.2 Roles and Responsibilities of the Various Players:	32
2.3 Liaise with Related Projects/ Initiatives:	34
2.4 Overall Project Management and Dissemination of Information:	36
3. Progress of the Project during the Reporting Period:	37
4. Overall Assessment of Project:	43
4.1 Challenges:.....	43
4.2 Impacts and Long-Term Effects:.....	44
4.3 Sustainability:	45
5. Outlook:	46
Section 2: Summary of the Main Achievements and Results of the Project.....	49
Section 3: Financial Report	53

List of Annexes:

- Annex 1.1A: SELDAS Endorsement Decree (in Arabic)
Annex 1.1B: Project Launching Ceremony
- Annex 1.2A: Methodology for Diagnosing the Current Environmental Legislative Setting (in English)
Annex 1.2B: SELDAS Book (in Arabic)
Annex 1.2C: SELDAS Book Launching Ceremony
Annex 1.2D: SELDAS Book Dissemination Scheme + List of Recipients to Date
Annex 1.2E: Offers to Produce SELDAS Book on Searchable CD (in Arabic)
Annex 1.2F: Correspondence Related to SELDAS Book Translation to English
Annex 1.2G: Brief Environmental Legislation Manual Prepared by the Rural Council for the Development of Tannourine + Related Documentation (in Arabic)
- Annex 1.3.1A: Summary of Consultation Meetings Related to the Draft Law on the Protection of Air Quality
Annex 1.3.1B: Draft Law on the Protection of Air Quality (Arabic and English)
Annex 1.3.1C: Ministry's Letter # 2972/B Dated 18/8/2005 Related to the Draft Law on the Protection of Air Quality
Annex 1.3.1D: List of Application Decrees and Decisions to the Draft Law on the Protection of Air Quality
Annex 1.3.1E: Preliminary Cost Benefit Analysis of the Draft Law on the Protection of Air Quality
- Annex 1.3.2A: Decree #14865 Dated 1/7/2005 (Small Grants Program of the Ministry) (in Arabic)
Annex 1.3.2B: Draft Decree Related to the Formation and Organization of the National Council for Environment
Annex 1.3.2C: Database of Draft Environmental Legislation
- Annex 1.3.3A: Law #690 Dated 26/8/2005 (Organization of the Ministry) (in Arabic)
Annex 1.3.3B: Decree # 11112 Dated 7-10-2003 (Amendments to the Ministry Organizational Decree) (in Arabic)
Annex 1.3.3C: Minister of Environment Decision #34/1 Dated 09-09-2003 (National Coordination Units) Amended by Decision # 28/1 Dated 18-08-2004 + Decision #35/1 Dated 09-09-2003 (Focal Points Terms of Reference) (in Arabic)
- Annex 1.4.1A: "Importance of Promoting Environmental Legislation Activities" Seminars' Reports (February 2004 – May 2005)
Annex 1.4.2A: Training Sessions and Awareness Seminars Final Program – As Executed
Annex 1.4.2B: Training Sessions and Awareness Seminars Preparatory Meetings Minutes
Annex 1.4.2C: Correspondence with the Beirut Bar Association
Annex 1.4.2D: Training Sessions Manuals and Reports
Annex 1.4.2E: Awareness Seminars Reports
Annex 1.4.2F: Training Sessions and Awareness Seminars Press Echo
- Annex 1.5A: Commission's Letter Dated 18 March 2004
Annex 1.5B: Methodology of Selection of Environmental Legislation Study Tour Participants
Annex 1.5C: Roundtable Discussion (June 30, 2004) Report
Annex 1.5D: Environmental Legislation Study Tour Mission Report
Annex 1.5E: Commendation Letter from the Director General of the Ministry of Justice
Annex 1.5F: Environmental Legislation Study Tour Press Echo

- Annex 1.6A: Supporting Documents Related to the Integration of Environmental Law Courses in the Curriculum of Several Local Schools of Law
- Annex 1.6B: Minutes of Meeting of Law Schools Representatives with Prof. Prieur (May 16, 2005)
- Annex 1.6C: List of Selected French and British Universities That Offer Graduate Studies in Environmental Law
- Annex 1.6D: Sample Letter Exchanged with European Schools of Law
- Annex 1.6E: Sample Letter Exchanged with Local Schools of Law
- Annex 1.6F: Letters to Potential Funding Agencies of Environmental Law Graduate Studies
-
- Annex 2.1A: Curriculum Vitas of Selected Project Members
- Annex 2.1B: Minister of Environment Decision #19/1 Dated 31-07-2003 (Establishment of Internal Committee for SELDAS Project) (in Arabic)
- Annex 2.1C: Minutes of Internal Committee Meetings (in Arabic)
- Annex 2.1D: Minutes of Steering Committee Meeting of February 19, 2004 (in Arabic)
- Annex 2.1E: Memorandum of Understanding between Chair & ELARD + Modules 1,2 &3
- Annex 2.1F: Names and Coordinates of Selected Project Members
-
- Annex 2.3A: Salzburg Seminar on Environmental Policy and Public Dialogue (November 16-23, 2003) Mission Report + Commission's Letter of 6 November 2003
- Annex 2.3B: Tanzania Biosafety Workshop (March 9-12, 2004) Mission Report
- Annex 2.3C: West Asia Regional Workshop on Compliance with and Enforcement of Multilateral Environmental Agreements and Green Customs Training (Syria, May 2-5, 2005) Mission Report
- Annex 2.3D: Correspondence with the Ministry of Justice about Environmental Court Experts (in Arabic)
-
- Annex 4.2A: Recommendation to Replicate SELDAS Book in All Arab Countries (in Arabic)

Introduction:

This report summarizes the activities, results and impacts of the “Strengthening the Environmental Legislation Development and Application System in Lebanon (SELDAS)” since its actual starting date (1 March 2003)¹ till its end date, including the 3-month extension (i.e. 30 September 2005).

SELDAS is a project by the UNESCO-Cousteau Ecotechnie Chair at the University of Balamand, Lebanon (the Chair), funded primarily by the European Commission Life Third Countries programme (EC) and hosted by the Lebanese Ministry of Environment (Ministry). SELDAS aims at strengthening the capacities of the institutions dealing with environmental legislation development and enactment, as well as those dealing with environmental legislation application. Embedded in this lies the objective of triggering environmental law education.

Section 1 is the technical report, which is divided into 5 subsections: subsection 1 presents a description of activities and results and subsection 2 gives an overview of project management. A summary of activities and results is outlined in subsection 3 and an overall assessment of the project in subsection 4. Finally, an outlook is provided in subsection 5. Section 2 is a summary of the main achievements and results of the project. Section 3 is the financial report; it includes the final statement of expenditure and income. Supporting documents are enclosed in annexes and the Layman’s report (Brief Report), in English and Arabic, and the financial audit report are enclosed separately.

Section 1: Technical Report

1. Description of Activities and Results:

1.1 Project Initiation (Task 1):

After official approval of SELDAS project by the EC in September 2002 and contract signature by the Chair in December 2002, the Chair and the Ministry initiated the procedures related to project endorsement by the Council of Ministers. Approval of the Council of Ministers to enact the relevant decree was granted on 3 April 2003. The change in government which took place shortly after delayed the decree signature and publication in the official gazette to June 2003. Annex 1.1A is SELDAS endorsement decree in Arabic (decree # 10254 dated 6 June 2003).

1.1.1 Office Set Up:

Activities at the Ministry started officially on 1 March 2003, after significant progress was made in decree preparation and review stages, as outlined in the Chair’s letter of 24-04-2003 to the EC. An office was set up at the Ministry, and the necessary equipment (computers, printers, scanner and software) as well as hard and soft collections of Lebanese legislation and consumables (stationery, stamp, etc.) purchased, and where applicable, updated on a regular basis.

¹The Commission, in its letter dated 12-08-2003, took note of the project actual starting date reported in the Beneficiary’s letter of 24-04-2003 but “did not formally accept this change”, thus considering 01-01-2003 to be the start date of activities.

1.1.2 Project Management Tools:

Instruments for ensuring a smooth and timely execution of the project were designed including: (1) a detailed project workplan –revised in October/ November 2003, August 2004 and February 2005, (2) budgeting sheets, (3) progress sheets as well as a filing and archiving system.

1.1.3 Project Exposure:

Tools for disseminating project related information were also designed, and, where applicable, updated on a regular basis, and they include: (1) project logo, (2) business cards, (3) letter heads, (4) brochures and (5) webpage² (<http://www.balamand.edu.lb/seldas>).

Introductory letters about the project were prepared and sent to the various stakeholders and where possible introductory meetings held (Delegation of the European Commission in Lebanon, Parliamentary Committee for the Environment, Order of Lawyers in Beirut, UNESCO office in Lebanon, etc.). An official launching ceremony was held on 6 June 2003 at Phoenicia Intercontinental, in the context of the World Environment Day. The ceremony was chaired by the main actors (Minister of Environment, Head of the Delegation of the European Commission in Lebanon, Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee for Environment, President of Cousteau Society and President of the University of Balamand) and attended by key stakeholders. Additional details on the ceremony including press echo are provided in Annex 1.1B.

1.2 Diagnosis of the Current Environmental Legislative Setting (Task 2):

Task 2 of SELDAS aims at diagnosing the current environmental legislative setting by:

- outlining the various areas and sub-areas that should be tackled by environmental legislation³ (based on literature review and professional experience); and
- studying whether these various areas and sub-areas have been covered by the existing Lebanese legislation and, if so, evaluating the quality of coverage (in both format and content) and analyzing applicability and enforcement related issues.

For this purpose, SELDAS proposal had foreseen the four subtasks addressed below. It is to be noted that assistance in the execution of this task was subcontracted to Arab Resources Development s.a.r.l. (ARD) (presently Earth Link and Advanced Resources Development ELARD – supporting documentation enclosed in the financial report), a private consulting firm, as per the project proposal. Detailed terms of reference were prepared and signed by both the Chair and ARD. Further details are provided in Subsection 2.1.

1.2.1 Review of Background Literature on Environmental Law:

An extensive literature review of environmental law was carried on two levels:

- international environmental law: review of environmental conventions, protocols and treaties – ratified, and to be ratified, by the Lebanese Government;
- national environmental law: in parallel to the review of Lebanese literature related to environmental legislation (detailed in Subsection 1.2.2), a review of environmental legislation of five organizations/ countries (European Union, France, United Kingdom, United States of America and Tunisia) was also carried, as a benchmark against which

² In the context of a current Ministry activity aiming at modifying/ upgrading the website of the Ministry, SELDAS has assisted in the design of the webpages of two pertinent divisions of the national coordination department; these are the Legal Affairs division and the Public Relations and External Affairs division.

³ For the purpose of this report, legislation refers to laws – including conventions, protocols and treaties –, decrees and/or ministerial decisions.

Lebanese environmental legislation was compared. In selecting the five organizations/countries, criteria included, but were not limited to,:

- similarity in judiciary systems (i.e. between Lebanon and the reference organization/country); and
- coverage of a balanced spectrum of reference organizations/ countries (i.e. level of advancement in environmental law in the reference organization/ country, state of the environment in the reference organization/ country, etc.).

This review assisted in identifying areas regulated by environmental legislation, as well as major challenges facing environmental law. Additional details on this review are presented in Annex 1.2A.

Parallel to the literature review described above, a review of the webpages of pertinent international agencies, governments, and universities was carried. Results, in the form of weblinks, have been summarized on SELDAS webpage/ Environmental Law Centers (<http://www.balamand.edu.lb/seldas/elc.html>).

1.2.2 Assembling of Existing Lebanese Environmental Legislation:

As mentioned in subsection 1.2.1, a thorough review of literature on Lebanese environmental law was carried; it included the following references:

- collection of Lebanese legislation (1913 – 2003);
- two books by Lebanese authors on environmental law in Lebanon; and
- a survey carried by the Lebanese Ministry of Environment on the prerogatives of the various public agencies in environmental matters.

Exact books and reports' titles are presented in Annex 1.2A.

Researching and grouping of Lebanese environmental legislation was undertaken based on a rigorous methodology detailed in Subsection 1.2.5 and Annex 1.2A. Lebanese environmental legislation was grouped in three major categories:

- Activity legislation; i.e. legislation that regulates human activities which generate a pressure on the environment (seven subjects: construction, land use, transport, energy, industry, agriculture, and tourism);
- Basic legislation; i.e. legislation that deals with environmental media or sinks of pollution and related issues (six subjects: water and wastewater, air, noise, soil, biodiversity and natural heritage, and solid waste); and
- Horizontal legislation; i.e. legislation that tackles sources and/or sinks of pollution.

Details on the results and analysis of the results are elaborated in Subsection 1.2.5 and Annex 1.2A.

1.2.3 Construction of a Legislation and Functional Matrix for the Environment Sector:

To perform an analytical diagnosis of the current environmental legislative setting, a pilot matrix relating the “regulator” – i.e. legislation type, number and date – to the “regulated” – i.e. areas and issues such as planning, standards, permitting, monitoring, etc. - was designed. This matrix was filled for each of the 14 subjects mentioned above (construction, land use, transport, energy, industry, agriculture, tourism, water and wastewater, air, noise, soil, biodiversity and natural heritage, solid waste, and horizontal legislation).

Results pertaining to the existence of adequate regulations – including conventions, protocols and treaties ratified by the Lebanese government – and proper distribution of responsibilities (gap/ overlap analysis) and legislation application and enforcement have been compiled in the form of matrices and chapters of a book titled “State of the Environmental Legislation Development and Application System in Lebanon (SELDAS)”(Annex 1.2B). Further details are presented in Subsection 1.2.5, which also tackles dissemination of information and update related issues.

1.2.4 Diagnosis of the Environmental Problems:

The SELDAS book mentioned above, in its various chapters, attempts to address the relation between the negative environmental impacts (based on the State of the Environment Report 2001/2002 and other references such as media articles and reports, official and unofficial complaints, etc.) and the existing legislation and application status. It distinguishes, where possible, issues where legislation or update of the existing legislation is needed and issues where a better application of the existing legislation is needed. SELDAS book is detailed in Subsection 1.2.5.

The execution of the four subtasks mentioned above, planned to be completed in a 9-month period as per the project proposal, required a total of, approximately, 24 months. Reasons, as outlined in previous reports, include:

- a number of environment related legislation texts much higher than anticipated;
- a methodology for analysis and validation even more challenging than anticipated (Subsection 1.2.5); and
- a circle of editors/reviewers much larger than originally planned to optimize the validation process.

And as planned in the various reports (SELDAS Progress Report 1 – 15 December 2003, SELDAS Interim Report – 15 September 2004, SELDAS Progress Report 2 – 15 March 2005), the delay was absorbed by squeezing the training and seminar related activities over a period of 6 months instead of 15. Further details are provided in Subsection 1.4.

1.2.5 Methodology for Diagnosing the Current Environment Legislative Setting: Description and Results – The SELDAS Book

A rigorous methodology for diagnosing the current environmental legislative setting - and that encompasses the four subtasks mentioned above - has been developed, initially in English and subsequently translated to French and Arabic, for consultation purposes.

Since the date of its initial drafting (September 2003), the methodology has been continuously refined and updated based on:

- feedback from the application of the first step (s) of the methodology;
- consultation among SELDAS team members and the Subcontractor (ELARD);
- discussion of methodology with key stakeholders during the first Steering Committee meeting (February 19, 2004) and subsequent bilateral meetings. Experts consulted included, but were not limited to, the President of the Legislation and Consultation Panel at the Ministry of Justice, the President of the Litigation Panel at the Ministry of Justice and an assistant advisor at the Council of State, representative of the Council in SELDAS steering committee.

The latest version of the methodology (translated to English) is enclosed in Annex 1.2A. It is composed of 5 steps divided as shown in the box below. In its last section, the methodology addresses some challenges and limitations.

Methodology for Diagnosing the Current Environmental Legislative Setting - in Brief

Step 1: Reading of the Lebanese collection of legislation (1913 – 2003) and selection of environment related texts

Step 2: Categorization of selected texts into:

- *Activity legislation/ legislation that regulates human activities/ sources of pressure on the environment (seven subjects: construction, land use, transport, energy, industry, agriculture and tourism);*
- *Basic legislation/ legislation that deals with environmental media or sinks of pollution and related issues (six subjects: water and wastewater, air, noise, soil, biodiversity and natural heritage, and solid waste); and*
- *Horizontal legislation; i.e. legislation that tackles sources and/or sinks of pollution.*

Step 3: Analysis of selected legislation per subject and reports' writing

The aim of the analysis is to study whether environmental issues that should be regulated have been actually covered by the existing Lebanese legislation and if so, evaluate the quality of coverage (in both format and content). For this purpose a regulator-regulated matrix was designed (Subsection 1.2.3) based on the environmental legislation literature review described in Subsection 1.2.1, and completed based on the findings of the first two steps.

Step 4: Review and editing of reports

Step 5: Publishing of the "State of the Environmental Legislation Development and Application System in Lebanon" book

An attempt to correlate between the methodology briefly described above and SELAS task 2 as detailed in the corresponding Task Form of the proposal shows that:

- Steps 1-3 of the methodology encompass subtasks 2.1 – 2.3 of the proposal.
- Steps 4-5 of the methodology constitute an in-depth analysis of sub-tasks 2.1 –2.3 of the proposal, with subtask 2.4 only a portion of this breadth analysis.

Why Steps 4-5?

After reviewing steps 1-3 results, there was a general consensus among the team members (Chair, Ministry and ELARD) that:

- A tremendous amount of information was collected. To convey the message accurately and reflect the true value of the findings, best ways for optimizing the findings should be explored.
- Taking the analysis a step further and publishing results in a book is recommended.
- Such a book would be critical, crucial and instrumental, bearing in mind the virtual absence of such material in the legislative literature in Lebanon, and the importance of such a quality product for the training and seminar sessions that will be held in the context of SELDAS project.

These findings were briefly exposed to the LIFE mission that visited Lebanon in December 2003; details were further discussed between project participants after and pertinent correspondence exchanged.

Based on the above, a scenario for optimizing resources allocation between the production of the proposed SELDAS book and the organization of SELDAS training sessions and awareness seminars as per the project proposal was prepared by SELDAS project manager and exposed to the various players (Chair, Ministry and Subcontractor) for their review. As a result, it was agreed to produce and publish the "State of the Environmental Legislation Development and Application System in Lebanon" book. SELDAS is a 14-report book divided as follows:

- Part 1: Methodology
- Part 2: Activity Legislation: 7 reports (Construction & Environment, Land Use 7 Environment, Transport & Environment, Energy & Environment, Industry & Environment, Agriculture & Environment, and Tourism & Environment)
- Part 3: Basic Legislation: 6 reports (Water & Wastewater, Air, Noise, Soil, Biodiversity & Natural Heritage, and Solid Waste)
- Part 4: Horizontal Legislation: 1 report
- Bibliography
- Index

SELDAS book is intended for a wide range of professionals: judges and lawyers, environmental law instructors, environmental specialists, engineers, businessmen, bankers, industrialists, environment and law students, etc. SELDAS book should be the reference for environmental legislation in Lebanon and a core foundation for any future work related to environmental legislation.

A first draft of the “State of the Environmental Legislation Development and Application System in Lebanon (SELDAS)” book was issued in August/ September 2004, and enclosed in the Interim Report dated 15 September 2004. The following 6-month period (September 1, 2004 – February 28, 2005) was dedicated to the review, final editing and layout, as well as printing preparation of the SELDAS book.

A thorough technical, legal, and linguistic review of the various chapters of the SELDAS book was carried by SELDAS team at the Ministry, in coordination with the Legal Affairs Division of the Ministry. The review encompassed two facets, one horizontal aiming at checking whether major environmental legislation issues have been tackled by the SELDAS book, and another vertical aiming at quality controlling/ quality assuring that these issues have been properly addressed. This resulted in some amendments to the various chapters of the book.

After the detailed review, a final editing was carried, including the development and/or completion of key complementary sections of the book such as the opening notes of the Ministry and the Chair, the disclaimer and acknowledgments as well as the bibliography and index. In parallel, final touches were made to the layout of the book, and design of the book cover and chapters’ separators developed.

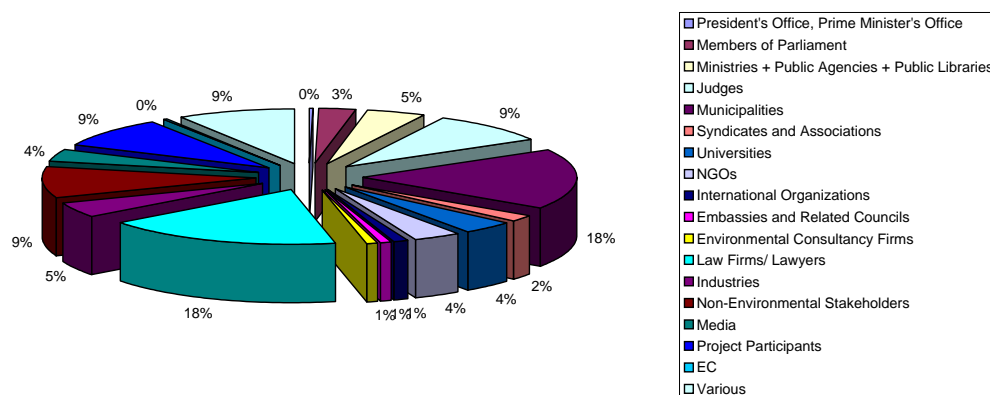
A mock book, in two copies, was prepared and detailed printing specs drafted and offers requested in February 2005. Following printing press selection, the following weeks were used to issue and review books’ demos, then blue print. The book was released on June 13, 2005; a copy is enclosed in Annex 1.2B. A launching ceremony was held at the new premises of the Ministry in downtown Beirut on June 23, 2005, under the patronage of the Minister of Justice and the Minister of Environment. The EC Delegation in Lebanon and the University of Balamand co-chaired the event, which was attended by various stakeholders from line ministries, consultancy firms, academia, non-governmental organizations, etc. Additional details, pictures and press echo are enclosed in Annex 1.2C.

It is to be noted that (1) an ISBN was procured for the SELDAS book, as it appears on the back cover; (2) a copy of the book was provided to the National Archives Institute, as required by the Lebanese rules and regulations; and (3) the legal rights of the Ministry protected at the Ministry of Economy and Trade.

Update of the book every 2 or 5 years, based on new legislation at the international and national levels, is essential. The methodology presented in part 1 of the book should aid future administrators, writers and editors in undertaking the necessary update.

The book, initially printed in 2,000 copies, was distributed free of charge to the various stakeholders from public and private sectors, as per the chart below. A preliminary assessment showed the need for around 5,000 copies to cover the wide spectrum of stakeholders who participated directly or indirectly to the SELDAS project and to optimize the outreach strategy of the Ministry; a dissemination scheme and a list of recipients to date are enclosed in Annex 1.2D. Therefore, additional 5,000 copies were printed later in August 2005. The book can be downloaded from the Ministry's website <http://www.moe.gov.lb> and accessed via SELDAS webpage <http://www.balamand.edu.lb/seldas>

Dissemination of SELDAS Book



To make the book easy to search electronically, offers were collected from two local firms which produce the collection of Lebanese legislation on searchable CDs. The time frame required to produce SELDAS book on a searchable CD (search by legislation, topic, keyword, etc. + access to legislation text) is about 3 to 4 months; making the completion of such an activity within the lifetime of SELDAS project rather difficult. The Legal Affairs division of the Ministry should, in the future, investigate this matter further, with options of update and upgrade. Offers submitted are enclosed in Annex 1.2E.

Another key activity to promote the SELDAS book at the international arena (international agencies, foreign experts and investors, etc.) for the purpose of information dissemination, and also improvement of the current status based on the feedback of public and private experts, was the initiation of procedures for the translation of SELDAS book to English. Offers were collected between January and February 2005. In parallel, assistance of key institutions, such as the United Nations Environment Programme – Regional Office for West Asia (UNEP – ROWA), was sought – pertinent letter enclosed in Annex 1.2F. UNEP-ROWA demonstrated interest in such an initiative, but with no final commitment yet. The Division of Legal Affairs and the Division of Public Relations and External Affairs at the Ministry are following up this matter closely.

Ensuring a smooth and successful application of the methodology outlined above required a series of arrangements or provisions, including:

- weekly meetings with the Subcontractor for follow up and schedule tracking purposes;
- progressive and continuous validation of findings and results based on team members' readings, participation to workshops and seminars as well as legal consultation on specific topics;
- consultations for a typical chapter outline;
- lengthy meetings with the various researchers and writers at key milestones - e.g. after drafting a trial chapter - to exchange thoughts and comments and synthesize lessons learned for future chapters;
- memos and notes to the team members on research, analysis and write up modalities (such as level of details, ways for optimizing available information, formatting, layout, cross reference between chapters, etc.);
- meetings with experts who have worked on similar initiatives (such as one of the authors of the State of the Environment Report 2001-2002, a joint production between the Ministry of Environment, the European Commission Life Third Countries Programme, the United Nations Development Program and Ecodit – Lebanon) to review lessons learned; and
- as mentioned in section 2.3, following up related initiatives such as the grant awarded by the Ministry to the Rural Council for the Development of Tannourine, a local Non Governmental Organization, to carry out visits to line ministries and assemble selected environmental legislation, especially the non-published ones; a report and related documentation are enclosed in Annex 1.2G.

Application of the methodology outlined above generated the following outputs:

- A database of the Lebanese environmental legislation, which can be searched by date or subject (construction, land use, transport, energy, industry, agriculture, tourism, water and wastewater, air, noise, soil, biodiversity and natural heritage, solid waste, and horizontal legislation). The database was completed in January 2004. The chronological list of legislation is enclosed in SELDAS book; the texts themselves (about 20 folders) are not enclosed, neither the literature review results (3 folders) (Subsection 1.2.1). These documents constituted base references for designing and completing the various matrices; their essence is at the heart of the “State of the Environmental Legislation Development and Application System in Lebanon” book.
- A 5-volume report titled “Matrix Construction and Reports Summary” (Subsection 1.2.3) that includes for every subject of the 14 subjects mentioned above:
 - o A 2-page summary of the status of legislation covering this subject;
 - o Details of the matrix related to this subject as mentioned in Subsection 1.2.3; and
 - o The list of legislation related to this subject based on the database mentioned above.

This 5-volume report was completed in June 2004 and was enclosed in SELDAS Interim Report dated 15 September 2004.

- “State of the State of the Environmental Legislation Development and Application System in Lebanon (SELDAS)” book (Subsections 1.2.3 and 1.2.4), enclosed in Annex 1.2B.

Finally, it is to be noted that when the decision to produce the SELDAS book was made (as detailed in SELDAS Interim Report dated 15 September 2004), suggestions were made to include, in the book, three annexes related to (1) the cost of gaps in the existing environmental legislative setting; (2) SELDAS contribution to the sustained increase in eco-job opportunities; and (3) the forecasted evolution of environmental jurisprudence. While lack of techniques made it difficult to produce solid results for the first annex (cost of gaps in the existing environmental legislative setting), lack of data and techniques made it also difficult to develop the third annex (forecasted evolution of environmental jurisprudence). In an effort to remedy to the lack of data related to the third annex, and as mentioned in SELDAS Interim Report dated 15 September 2004, the Ministry subcontracted a small study to a Lebanese lawyer to collect environment related jurisprudence from the various courts, and categorize them along the same headings of SELDAS book (construction and environment, land use and environment, transport and environment, energy and environment, industry and environment, agriculture and environment, tourism and environment, water and wastewater, air, noise, soil, biodiversity and natural heritage, and solid waste). Preliminary results, which were submitted in January 2005, were rejected by the Ministry after a thorough review, which led to a cancellation of the contract.

As for the second annex (SELDAS contribution to the sustained increase in eco-job opportunities), interesting international and local data were collected and analyzed in a 20-page document. However, due to the nature of the document which is different from that of the 14 chapters of the book, it was judged more appropriate not to include it in the SELDAS book. Relevant findings and pertinent information have been incorporated in Subsection 5.

1.3 Drafting and Amendment of Environment Related Legislation (Task 3.3):

Task 3.3 of the project proposal (drafting pilot legislation) was expanded, following the Ministry's request formulated at the first internal committee meeting, without however jeopardizing the quality of execution of project core tasks. The revised task consists of:

- Draft new environment related legislation (topic to be selected by the internal committee)
- Review environment related legislation under preparation (by other departments/ projects at the Ministry)
- Defend selected environment legislation under review (prepared by the Ministry)
- Comment on environment related legislation under review (prepared by other institutions)

1.3.1 Draft New Legislation (Core of Task 3.3):

SELDAS task 3.3 aims at drafting a pilot legislation, the topic of which to be selected based on identified priorities.

The internal committee, established by the Minister of Environment (See Subsection 2), was assigned the duty of selecting the topic of the pilot legislation based on a well-justified selection process (See Subsection 2).

The internal committee, which has met twice so far, has selected "clean air" to be the topic of the pilot legislation, a decision approved by the Minister on 23 September 2003. Details of the rationale for this choice and minutes of meetings are enclosed in Annex 2.1C.

A preliminary outline was submitted by the Subcontractor (ELARD) in January 2004. Meetings, consultations and participation to selected workshops and seminars assisted the team in revising the preliminary outline. These meetings/ consultations/ seminars included:

- Seminar on "Air Quality Management and Estimated Health Impact of Pollutants in Urban and Industrial Areas", organized by the Faculty of Engineering and Architecture of the Lebanese American University, with a funding from the United States Agency for International Development, on January 29, 2004;

- Workshop on “Air Quality in Lebanon” organized by the Lebanese Association for the Control of Energy and Environment on February 13, 2004;
- Meeting with an Air Quality Expert, short term consultant for the Management Support Consultant – Investment Planning Programme (MSC-IPP) Environment project⁴ on March 24, 2004; and
- Meeting with two experts in Air Quality Monitoring and Information System, short term consultants for the MSC-IPP project on April 16, 2004.

Based on the above, a first version of the outline was circulated among the project team for their review, in June 2004. This first version included:

- the outline;
- an extended version of the outline; and
- a summary of the gaps and overlaps in air quality related legislation, based on the output of SELDAS task 2 (Subsection 1.2)

This version was discussed during an internal meeting at the Ministry, in the presence of the Director General of the Ministry, on June 21, 2004. The months of July and August were dedicated to draft the first version of the legislation in English, as enclosed in SELDAS Interim Report dated 15 September 2004, and in parallel carry out the necessary consultations, as part of the Strategic Environmental Assessment process. The consultations included:

- A meeting with the Tripoli Environment and Development Observatory (to discuss monitoring and calculation of indicators), on July 2, 2004;
- A meeting with the Director General of the Traffic and Fleet Management Assembly at the Ministry of Interior and Municipalities (to discuss pollution from mobile sources) on July 20, 2004; and
- Consultations with key stakeholders during a workshop/ debate on the proposed amendment of Air Pollution Law (law # 341/ 2001), organized by the Lebanese Assembly for Environment and Development on July 29, 2004.

Minutes of selected meetings are enclosed in Annex 1.3A.

The months of October 2004 – February 2004 were used to produce a solid version of the draft law in Arabic. This version was reviewed and discussed among the team members and the Legal Affairs Division of the Ministry between March and June 2005 and submitted to the Director General of the Ministry in July 2005 and then subsequent versions issued based on his comments. The last version (version 3 dated August 18, 2005) was translated based on the EC LIFE unit’s request dated 13/05/2005; both the English and Arabic version are enclosed in Annex 1.3B. As per the Ministry’s letter # 2972/B dated 18/8/2005 (enclosed in Annex 1.3C), the Legal Affairs Division of the Ministry will take in charge the initiation and completion of the public consultation process (consultation with line ministries, academia, associations and syndicates, non governmental organizations, etc.), prior to official submittal for enactment by Parliament. A skeleton of the law is presented in the box below:

⁴ A project managed by the Consortium MVV Energy – GTZ – Carl BRO - Envirotech , funded by the European Commission – MEDA programme, and executed by the Lebanese Ministry of Environment

<i>Section 1: General Provisions</i>
<i>Article 1: Definitions</i>
<i>Article 2: Aim and Scope of the Law</i>
<i>Section 2: Recognition, Monitoring and Evaluation</i>
<i>Chapter 1: Recognition and Monitoring</i>
<i>Article 3: Needs Assessment Study for Recognition of Ambient Air Pollution</i>
<i>Article 4: National Program for Ambient Air Pollution Monitoring</i>
<i>Article 5: National Network for Ambient Air Quality Monitoring</i>
<i>Article 6: National Emissions Inventory</i>
<i>Article 7: National Ambient Air Quality Report</i>
<i>Chapter 2: Evaluation</i>
<i>Article 8: Ambient Air Quality Limit and Threshold Values</i>
<i>Article 9: Stationary Sources Emissions Limit Values</i>
<i>Article 10: Mobile Sources Emissions Limit Values</i>
<i>Article 11: Specifications of Hazardous Material in Fuel</i>
<i>Section 3: Prevention</i>
<i>Article 12: National Strategy for Ambient Air Quality Management</i>
<i>Article 13: Local Plans for Ambient Air Quality Management</i>
<i>Section 4: Control and Surveillance</i>
<i>Chapter 1: Pollution from Stationary Sources</i>
<i>Article 14: Keeping Emissions Below Limit Values</i>
<i>Article 15: Identification of Stationary Sources of Ambient Air Pollution and Emitted Pollutants</i>
<i>Article 16: Environmental Permit for Emissions</i>
<i>Article 17: Requirements for Self-Surveillance and Information Management</i>
<i>Article 18: Surveillance of Environmental Compliance</i>
<i>Article 19: Emergency Situations Procedures</i>
<i>Chapter 2: Pollution from Mobile Sources</i>
<i>Article 20: Engines and Vehicles Specifications</i>
<i>Article 21: Vehicles Road Test</i>
<i>Article 22: Retrieval of Vehicles from Usage</i>
<i>Chapter 3: Fuel Quality</i>
<i>Article 23: Limiting the Use or Trade of Fuel that Does Not Comply with the Specifications</i>
<i>Article 24: Limiting Emissions from Use or Trade of Fuel</i>
<i>Chapter 4: Bad or Annoying Odors</i>
<i>Article 25: Control of Bad or Annoying Odors</i>
<i>Section 5: Information Management, Encouragement of Research and Capacity Building</i>
<i>Article 26: Ambient Air Information Management</i>
<i>Article 27: Exchange and Dissemination of Ambient Air Information</i>
<i>Article 28: Encouragement of Research and Capacity Building in Ambient Air Quality Management</i>
<i>Section 6: Financial Provisions</i>
<i>Article 29: Financing the Application of the Law</i>
<i>Article 30: Application of the “Polluters-Pay” Principle</i>
<i>Article 31: Incentives Measures</i>
<i>Section 7: Exceptional Procedures, Responsibilities and Penalties</i>
<i>Article 32: Exceptional Procedures</i>
<i>Article 33: Responsibilities and Penalties</i>
<i>Section 8: Closing Provisions</i>
<i>Article 34: Date of Entry in Force of Law</i>
<i>Annex 1: Law Schematic</i>

A list of decrees and ministerial decisions that need to be issued once the law is enacted is enclosed in Annex 1.3D. Annex 1.3D also presents a preliminary Cost Benefit Analysis (CBA) for the proposed law. The CBA shows that 1\$ in cost produces 4.5\$ in benefits.

1.3.2 Review Environment Related Legislation Under Preparation (By Other Departments/ Projects at the Ministry):

SELDAS feedback was sought on several draft pieces of legislation prepared by other internationally funded projects at the Ministry:

- a draft law about integrated coastal area management (prepared under UNEP/ MAP Coastal Area Management Plan);
- a draft law about the ratification by the Lebanese government of Beijing protocol related to the protection of the Ozone layer (prepared under MLF/UNDP Ozone Office);
- a draft law to amend legislative decree #144/1959 (Income Tax) for the purpose of giving a financial assistance to the classified industries that carry out the necessary rehabilitation for complying with national environmental quality standards (prepared under EC-LIFE/UNDP/ Strengthening the Permitting and Auditing System for Industries Project);
- a draft law to amend article 30 of law #382/1994 (media law) for the purpose of increasing time allocated to environmental spots at peak times (prepared under EC-MEDA MSC-IPP Environment);
- a draft law about the establishment of the Order of Environmental Specialists (prepared under the Service of Environmental Guidance and Awareness at the Ministry);
- a draft law for the ratification of Kyoto protocol (prepared under the Service of Prevention from Technological Impacts and Natural Disasters and the Public Relations and External Affairs Division at the Ministry);
- a draft law for the ratification of Cartagena protocol on biosafety (prepared under the Service of Conservation of Nature and the Public Relations and External Affairs Division at the Ministry);

- a draft decree about environmental compliance action plan (prepared under EC-MEDA MSC-IPP Environment);
- a draft decree about the classification of environmental technology industries (prepared under EC-MEDA MSC-IPP Environment);
- a draft decree about the prequalification of environmental consultants (prepared under EC-MEDA MSC-IPP Environment);
- draft endorsement decrees for two internationally funded projects at the Ministry (GEF/UNEP – about combating insect infestation in Tannourine; EC-LIFE – Stable Institutional Structure for Protected Areas Management), both enacted in 2004 by the Council of Ministers;
- a draft decree about strategic environmental assessment (prepared under EC-LIFE/UNDP/ Strategic Environmental Assessment and Land Use Planning project);
- a draft decree about integrated management of used oil (prepared under EC-MEDA MSC-IPP Environment);
- a draft decree about organizing environmental activities of public interest (prepared under EC-MEDA MSC-IPP Environment) and a related initiative concerning the organization of environmental non governmental organizations (prepared under the Service of Environmental Guidance and Awareness at the Ministry);
- a draft decree on the small grants program (prepared under the Service of Environmental Guidance and Awareness at the Ministry), enacted by the Council of Ministers in July 2005 (decree 14865 dated 1/7/2005): SELDAS involvement included major assistance in the drafting, review and defense of the decree – enclosed in Annex 1.3.2A;
- a draft decree on banning the import of ozone depleting substances (prepared under MLF/UNDP Ozone Office and MLF/UNDP Methyl Bromide Alternatives Project);
- a draft decree on the formation and organization of the National Council for Environment (prepared by a consultant lawyer); SELDAS involvement consisted of a major revision to the proposed decree; a copy is enclosed in Annex 1.3.2.B.

- five draft ministerial decisions about environmental guidelines for various phases of domestic solid waste management (prepared under EC-MEDA MSC-IPP Environment);
- a draft ministerial decision about environmental guidelines for the establishment and/or operation of small wastewater treatment plants (prepared under EC-MEDA MSC-IPP Environment) – enacted in August 2005;
- a draft ministerial decision about environmental guidelines for the establishment and/or operation of asphalt mixing plants (prepared under EC-MEDA MSC-IPP Environment) – enacted in August 2005;
- a draft ministerial decision about environmental guidelines for the establishment and/or operation of olive oil pressing facilities (prepared under EC-MEDA MSC-IPP Environment); and
- a draft ministerial decision amending Minister of Environment decision # 15/1 – 2000 about forbidding import and use of cars’ and vehicles’ extinguishers that use halons (prepared under the Service of Prevention of Technological Impacts and Natural Disasters at the Ministry).

To better delineate responsibilities in environmental management and as such better draft environmental legislation, SELDAS assistance was requested for carrying out a study about prerogatives at different levels of decision-making in the public sector (Minister, Director General, Chief of Service, etc.) (February 2004). SELDAS advice was also sought on assessing the eligibility of protected areas to sign contracts with farmers to exploit agricultural lands in these protected areas; this would assist in achieving a financial sustainable management of the protected areas (June 2004).

Moreover, and in an effort to consolidate the draft legislation (laws, decrees or decisions) prepared by the Ministry, a modest database was established; it outlines the titles of the various texts (~ 60), the main topic they address, their current status, etc. The first version of this database was enclosed in SELDAS Second Progress Report Dated 15 March 2005; an updated version is enclosed in Annex 1.3.2C. The purpose of this initiative is to disseminate information about current activities of the Ministry in relation to environmental legislation, and also study next steps to enact this legislation. A quick comparison between the revised version -dated August 2005- and the first version -dated February 2005- reveals the enactment of some texts such as:

- the draft law on the organization of the Ministry of Environment; more details are covered in Subsection 1.3.3 (law # 690 dated 26/8/2005);
- the ministerial decision about environmental guidelines for the establishment and/or operation of small wastewater treatment plants (prepared under EC-MEDA MSC-IPP Environment) (decision # 3/1 dated 6/8/2005);
- the ministerial decision about environmental guidelines for the establishment and/or operation of asphalt mixing plants (prepared under EC-MEDA MSC-IPP Environment) (decision # 4/1 dated 6/8/2005).

1.3.3 Defend Legislation Under Review:

In line with legislation drafting and amendment, SELDAS was asked to defend and follow up on two major draft legislation⁵ of utmost importance to the Ministry:

- Ministry of Environment draft new organizational law, decree and related ministerial decisions (staff terms of reference and national coordinator/ focal points mandates decision⁶); and
- Draft Environmental Impact Assessment decree.

⁵ prepared under the Mediterranean Environmental Technical Assistance Program Unit of Planning and Programming project at the Ministry of Environment (1999-2002)

⁶ prepared under the EC-MEDA MSC-IPP Environment

SELDAS has assisted the Ministry in defending its draft new organizational law, under debate at the Parliament since March 2002. The law was enacted by the General Assembly on August 16, 2005; a copy is enclosed in Annex 1.3.3A. Urgent staffing needs in terms of specific expertise absent in the current legislation, but reflected in the proposed organizational law and decree, suggested the need to introduce selected amendments to the existing organizational decree awaiting the enactment of the proposed law and decree. In this respect, a project decree was prepared and defended by SELDAS. The decree was enacted in October 2003 (decree #11112 dated 7-10-2003); a copy is enclosed in Annex 1.3.3B.

The draft ministerial decisions related to national coordinator/ focal points mandate were amended by SELDAS based on comments by chiefs of services at the Ministry. The decisions were enacted by the Minister in September 2003 (decisions # 34/1 and 35/1 dated 09-09-2003) and updated in August 2004 (decision #28/1 dated 18/8/2004); a copy is enclosed in Annex 1.3.3C.

SELDAS has also taken a leading role in defending the draft Environmental Impact Assessment decree under review by the pertinent bodies since summer 2001. In this respect, counter arguments to the arguments raised by the Council of State and the Council of Ministers Legal Adviser were provided and a lobbying document was prepared and shared with key public agencies stakeholders between January and May 2005.

1.3.4 Comment on Legislation Under Review (Prepared by Other Institutions):

The aim of this task is to attempt to green sector legislation prepared by various institutions. In this respect, SELDAS feedback was sought on the following legislation:

- a draft law amending the law pertaining to the establishment of the National Council for Scientific Research, while under review at the Parliament. Feedback aimed mainly at ensuring the inclusion of environmental studies in the mandate of the Council;
- a draft law amending the construction law, while under review at the Parliament. SELDAS suggested the addition of a section on environmental conditions and drafted the corresponding two-page text;
- a draft law on standards, technical regulations and conformity assessment. SELDAS highlighted potential conflict of prerogatives between the Institution in charge and the Ministry and drafted suggested modifications;
- a draft law amending the air pollution law (law # 341/ 2001), which is currently under review at the Parliament. SELDAS reviewed the proposed modifications and attended a couple of debate sessions at the pertinent parliamentary committees (June 2004); and
- a draft law about trade marks and geographical indicators; while under review at the Council of Ministers. SELDAS drafted general remarks.

1.4 Organization of Training Sessions and Awareness Seminars (Portions of Tasks 3-5):

For the purpose of strengthening institutional capacities in environmental legislation development, application and education, SELDAS proposal had foreseen a number of training sessions and awareness seminars (exact sub-tasks number and details are provided in Subsection 3). While Subsection 1.4.1 summarizes the seminars carried by the project team to increase awareness on the importance of promoting environmental legislation activities, Subsection 1.4.2 describes the planned program for carrying training sessions and seminars about environmental legislation drafting, application and education.

1.4.1 Awareness Seminars on the Importance of Promoting Environmental Legislation Activities:

In an effort to enhance awareness about the importance of promoting environmental legislation activities, SELDAS team has organized a series of seminars that presented and discussed:

- the definition of environmental legislation;
- the importance of environmental legislation for sustainable development;
- the contribution of environmental legislation in the creation of eco-job opportunities; and
- an introduction to the objectives of SELDAS project, with emphasis on the methodology adopted for diagnosing the current environmental legislative setting.

The table below gives a brief overview (date, venue, audience and number of attendees) of the five seminars organized so far. Brief reports about each seminar are enclosed in Annex 1.4A

	Date	Venue	Audience	# of Attendees
1	Feb.5, 2004	Ministry of Environment	Staff of the Ministry	~ 35
2	Apr.15, 2004	University of Balamand	Selected members and students from the Faculty of Health Sciences	~ 40
3	Apr. 26, 2004	Saint Joseph University	Selected students from the Faculty of Sciences	~ 25
4	May 12, 2004	Lebanese American University	Selected students from the Faculty of Arts and Sciences	~ 25
5	June 1, 2004	Ministry of Environment	Selected graduate students from the Faculty of Architecture, Arts and Design – Notre Dame University	~ 10
6	Oct. 25, 2004	University of Balamand	Students and selected members from the Faculty of Health Sciences	~ 25
7	Mar. 2, 2005	University of Balamand	Arab Regional Ecotechnie Network meeting	~ 20
8	April 4, 2005	Lebanese University – Faculty of Law – French Branch	Preparatory School for Judge Studies	~30
9	May 31, 2005	University of Balamand	Students and selected members from the Faculty of Sciences	~30

1.4.2 Training Sessions and Awareness Seminars on Environmental Legislation Development, Application and Education:

To increase knowledge related to the drafting, application and education of environmental legislation, a series of training sessions and awareness seminars was carried between March 2005 and July 2005, with the assistance of Earth Link and Advanced Resources Development (ELARD), selected subcontractor for this activity, as per the project proposal, and in coordination with the Environmental Law Centre and Commission of the World Conservation Union (IUCN).

To this purpose, several meetings were held between SELDAS team and ELARD, a draft program put, subsequently revised, with the final version -as executed -, enclosed in Annex 1.4.2A and posted on SELDAS webpage (<http://www.balamand.edu.lb/seldas>). In summary, the program consisted of the following three 2 or 3-day training sessions⁷:

- drafting environmental legislation (sub-tasks 3.2.1 and 3.2.2);
- applying environmental legislation (sub-tasks 3.2.4 and 4.2.1); and
- dealing with environmental litigation (sub-task 4.3).

As mentioned in SELDAS proposal, the training sessions were delivered by local and foreign experts; and participants included experts from both the public and the private sectors.

In parallel to these training sessions, and as per the project proposal, a series of 2-hr seminars was organized, as per the table below – also available in the final program enclosed in Annex 1.4.2A

Purpose of the Seminar(s)	Audience	# of Seminars	Sub-task #
Give a general introduction to environmental law	Law students, trainee lawyers, lawyers, trainee judges and judges	14	5.1.2; 5.1.3; 5.1.4; 5.2
Disseminate the findings and results of SELDAS task 2 “Diagnosing the Current Environmental Legislative Setting”; i.e. the various chapters of SELDAS book	Line ministries, parliamentary committees, academia, syndicates and associations, and NGOs	10	4.1.2 4.2.1 4.2.3
Give a general overview on the integration of the environmental chart in the French constitution and a general introduction to environmental liability	Law students, trainee lawyers, lawyers, trainee judges and judges	3	5.1.2; 5.1.3; 5.1.4; 5.2
Expose municipalities to key issues related to environmental legislation	Municipalities	10 (~ 2 per governorate)	4.1.1 4.2.2

Preparatory meetings between parties included a major kick-off meeting on December 30, 2004 attended also by the Director General of the Ministry and the Holder of the UNESCO-Cousteau Ecotechnie Chair at the University of Balamand. The meeting included a presentation of the proposed program and discussion of methodological, technical and administrative details. Minutes are enclosed in Annex 1.4.2B. As of February 3, 2005, weekly tripartite meetings (Ministry, Chair, ELARD) to discuss technical, administrative and logistics details were carried. Minutes are enclosed in Annex 1.4.2B.

It is to be noted that in the scope of the coordination activities carried for the organization of SELDAS training sessions and awareness seminars, key meetings had to be carried such as a meeting with the Head of the Bar Association of Beirut, on October 19, 2004 at the Association, followed by a letter dated October 28, 2005, enclosed in Annex 1.4.2C, to request the use of the Bar facilities for the execution of selected activities.

⁷ SELDAS proposal had originally foreseen a total of six training sessions: two of them (drafting of environmental legislation -sub-task 3.2.1- and preparation of strategic environmental assessment for the proposed legislation -sub-task 3.2.2-) have been combined in one for integration purposes; three others (follow up on environmental conventions, protocols and treaties – sub-task 3.2.4-, follow up on environmental management plans –sub-task 4.2.1.3- and follow up on compliance action plans –sub-task 4.2.1.4- grouped under “application of environmental legislation”; and the last one (training on environmental litigation –sub-task 4.3) unchanged.

1.4.2.1 Training on Environmental Legislation Drafting

The training on Drafting Environmental Legislation was delivered to fulfill tasks 3.2.1 and 3.2.2 of the SELDAS proposal. It was organized in collaboration with the Environmental Law Center and the Environmental Law Commission of the World Conservation Union, represented respectively by Dr. Alejandro Iza, Center Director, and Dr. Robyn Stein, Commission Chair for South Africa. The training was held on May 23 and 24, 2005 at the Beirut Bar Association. The venue was strategically selected to encourage lawyers and judges to participate in the workshop.

The first day included theoretical and discussion sessions to provide the basis for drafting of environmental legislation to the attendees. The second day included the presentation of two case studies to illustrate the application of the principles discussed during the first day as well as the organization of working groups. Working group participants exposed the results during a plenary session before the workshop closing session.

The total number of participants amounted to 30, including representatives from public agencies, and non-governmental organizations. Participants were provided with a comprehensive workshop materials package, including a copy of all presentations, case studies, in addition to numerous references. A total of 12 evaluation forms were filled in, and the data were analyzed using the statistical analysis software (Statistical Package for Social Sciences – SPSS 12.0). The evaluation methodology consisted of distributing a questionnaire to the audience. The innovation in the evaluation methodology was the use, perhaps for the first time in Lebanon, of the retrospective pretest instead of the traditional pretest. This method provides a convenient way of assessing the teaching effectiveness of the workshop without the need to administrate the same questionnaire twice to the participants. On the other hand, some participants found it complicated, and this could have affected the relatively low level of questionnaires actually filled in. More than 80% of the respondents benefited from the workshop and found it up to their expectations. More than 80% of the respondents also found the materials useful, the theoretical presentations informative and the case studies and working groups useful. As regards to the quality of the speakers, it was rated good by more than 90% of the respondents.

In general, the audience showed a high level of interest and valued the information provided in the training workshop. The added value of the workshop can be summarized as follows:

- Key principles in drafting environmental legislation were highlighted;
- International experience of IUCN experts was very enriching to the attendees;
- Case studies and working groups were helpful in complementing theoretical materials;
- Active participation of attendees, especially in the working groups;
- Workshop materials can be used to further enhance drafting of environmental legislation in Lebanon.

As to the major constraints, they include:

- Relatively low level of attendance in the workshop with high turn-over of participants;
- Limited number of attendees filled in an evaluation form.

Details on workshop speakers, attendance, agenda and presentations, pictures, evaluation etc. can be found in the training report and training manual enclosed in Annex 1.4.2D.

1.4.2.2 Training on Environmental Legislation Application

The training on Application of Environmental Legislation was delivered to fulfill tasks 3.2.4 and 4.2.1 of the SELDAS proposal. It was organized in collaboration with the Environmental Law Center and the Environmental Law Commission of the World Conservation Union, represented respectively by Dr. Alejandro Iza, Center Director, and Dr. Robyn Stein, Commission Chair for South Africa. The training was held on May 26 and 27, 2005 at the Beirut Bar Association. The venue was strategically selected to encourage lawyers and judges to participate in the workshop.

The first day included theoretical and discussion sessions to provide the basis for application of environmental legislation to the attendees. The second day included the resolution of a case study with the participants. The results of the case study resolution were presented during a plenary session before the workshop closing session.

The total number of participants amounted to 25, including representatives from public agencies, and non-governmental organizations. Participants were provided with a comprehensive workshop materials package, including a copy of all presentations, case study, in addition to numerous references. A total of 10 evaluation forms were filled in, and the data were analyzed using the statistical analysis software (Statistical Package for Social Sciences – SPSS 12.0). The evaluation methodology consisted of distributing a questionnaire to the audience. As mentioned in Subsection 1.4.2.1, the innovation in the evaluation methodology was the use, perhaps for the first time in Lebanon, of the retrospective pretest instead of the traditional pretest. This method provides a convenient way of assessing the teaching effectiveness of the workshop without the need to administrate the same questionnaire twice to the participants. On the other hand, some participants found it complicated, and this could have affected the relatively low level of questionnaires actually filled in. 90% of the respondents benefited from the workshop and 80% found it up to their expectations. More than 90% of the respondents found the materials useful, the lectures informative and the case studies useful. As regards to the quality of the speakers, it was rated good by all respondents.

In general, the audience showed a high level of interest and valued the information provided in the training workshop. The added value of the workshop can be summarized as follows:

- Key principles for the application of environmental legislation were highlighted;
- Key principles for the application of international law at the national level were highlighted;
- International experience of IUCN experts was very enriching to the attendees;
- Case study resolution was helpful in complementing theoretical materials;
- Active participation of attendees, especially in the working groups;
- Workshop materials can be used to further enhance application of environmental legislation in Lebanon.

As to the major constraints, they include:

- Relatively low level of attendance in the workshop with high turn-over of participants;
- Limited number of attendees filled in an evaluation form.

Details on workshop speakers, attendance, agenda and presentations, pictures, evaluation etc. can be found in the training report and training manual enclosed in Annex 1.4.2D.

1.4.2.3 Training on Dealing with Environmental Litigation

The training on Dealing with Environmental Litigation was delivered to fulfill task 4.3 of the SELDAS proposal. It was organized in collaboration with French experts in the environmental legislation field. The training was held on June 8-10, 2005 at the Beirut Bar Association. The venue was strategically selected to encourage lawyers and judges to participate in the workshop. The opening note was delivered by the Head of the Litigation Panel at the Ministry of Justice, President Bechara Matta.

Eleven modules were prepared for the workshops. These modules are: introduction (environmental police and different litigation types), civil and criminal responsibilities, horizontal procedures, land management, classified establishments, quarries, site rehabilitation, air pollution generated by incinerators, solid waste, water and hunting. This modular design was believed to satisfy a wide range of audience and to cover several topics during the 3-day training workshop.

The total number of attendees was 68, including members of public agencies, lawyers, judges and non-governmental organizations. Participants were provided with a manual containing a copy of the presentations, a report on each section, a copy of the case studies, the reference material, as well as an evaluation form. A total of 5 evaluation forms were filled in, and the data were analyzed using the statistical analysis software (Statistical Package for Social Sciences – SPSS 12.0). The evaluation methodology consisted of distributing a questionnaire to the audience. The main weakness of methodology was determined by the length of the questionnaire on one side, and the modular design of the workshop on the other side. In fact, many participants attended only one or few topics of interest and left the workshop without filling an evaluation form.

The audience generally found the presentations relevant to their work, up to their expectations, informative and well organized. In addition, most of them agreed on the facts that the workshop: 1) assured them a better understanding of litigation cases, 2) was a useful exercise and 3) had an adequate duration. Most of the respondents were satisfied with the material provided and the speakers' level of knowledge.

The added value of the workshop can be summarized as follows:

- Key principles in dealing with environmental litigation were highlighted;
- International experience of the French experts was very enriching to the attendees;
- The high number of case studies was helpful in complementing theoretical materials;
- The modular design of the workshop allowed a large number of topics to be covered meeting the interest of a wide audience.

As to the major constraints, they include:

- Limited number of registered Lebanese litigation cases, in comparison to the French Litigation;
- Relatively low level of participation during the case studies associated with the lack of experience in the field of environmental litigation in Lebanon;
- The non-dissemination of some case studies due to the limited time.

Details on workshop speakers, attendance, agenda and presentations, pictures, evaluation etc. can be found in the training report and training manual enclosed in Annex 1.4.2D.

1.4.2.4 Seminars on Introduction to Environmental Law

Fourteen 1.5-hr seminars on Introduction to Environmental Law were held to fulfill tasks 5.1.2 and 5.2 of the SELDAS proposal. These seminars were organized in partnership with the Environmental Law Center of the World Conservation Union, represented by the Center Director, Dr. Alejandro Iza, and a junior consultant at the Center, Ms. Claudiane Chevalier. The seminars were presented from March 2 to March 9, 2005 at the Beirut Bar Association as well as various universities: American University of Beirut, Lebanese American University, Notre Dame University, Beirut Arab University, University of Balamand, Lebanese University, Saint Joseph University, Sagesse University Holy Spirit University – Kaslik, etc.

The main objective of the seminars was to introduce students, trainee lawyers, lawyers and judges to the SELDAS project and to the concept of Environmental Law. The seminars program was divided in three parts: 1) introduction to the SELDAS project, 2) introduction to international environmental law, and 3) introduction to environmental law in Lebanon.

The total number of attendees amounted to 865, including law, political science students, science, engineering and business students. Participants were provided with copies of the presentations and an evaluation form. A total of 225 evaluation forms were filled in, and the data were analyzed using statistical analysis software, Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS 12.0). The main strength of the methodology lied in the simplicity of the questionnaire, requiring a very limited time for filling. The simplicity of the questionnaire did not however compromise the quality and quantity of information about the students' evaluation of the seminars. 72% of the respondents deemed the presentations to be interesting, 87% considered them informative and 70% found them relevant to their needs. Close to 90% of the audience rated the quality of speakers as having good knowledge of the subject. In particular, the students:

- appreciated the initiative and recognized the need for more awareness campaigns in the environmental legislation field;
- recognized the need for cooperation among institutions so that sound environmental policies be designed and implemented;
- requested more elaboration on the issue of pollution and environmental degradation in Lebanon; and
- would have preferred more interactive lectures with more discussions initiated by the speakers.

Details on the seminars' speakers, attendance, agenda and presentations, pictures, evaluation etc. can be found in the seminars report enclosed in Annex 1.4.2E.

1.4.2.5 Seminars on Dissemination of SELDAS Book

Ten 2-hr seminars were conducted to fulfill tasks 4.1.2, 4.2.1 and 4.2.3 of the SELDAS proposal, and more particularly to disseminate the "State of the Environmental Legislation Development and Application System in Lebanon" book, from March 30 to April 5, 2005 at the Green Conference Room of the Ministry.

Fourteen topics presenting the various sectors and media were presented in 10 sessions; these topics are: air, noise, biodiversity, tourism, agriculture, soil, water and wastewater, solid waste, construction, land use, industry and energy. Participants (total of 262) included members of public agencies, syndicates, non-governmental organizations, universities, law firms and environmental consultancy firms.

The seminars program was divided in three parts: 1) introduction to the SELDAS project, 2) sector/media presentation on diagnostic of environmental legislation in Lebanon with a comparative perspective with international legislation, and 3) a discussion session. Each attendee was provided with a copy of the presentation as well as an evaluation form. A total

of 138 attendees handed in a filled evaluation form before leaving. The data were analyzed using a statistical analysis software (Statistical Package for Social Sciences – SPSS 12.0).

About 60% of the respondents found that the presentations were specific enough. Also over 83% of the respondents found the presentations to be interesting, 89% found the presentations informative, and 77% relevant to their needs. As for the quality of speakers, close to 79% of the respondents rated them as having good presentation skills.

In general, the audience showed a high level of interest and valued the information presented, manifested by rigorous interaction and communication in several of the seminars. The added value of the seminars can be summarized as follows:

- Disseminated the role of SELDAS book;
- Raised environmental awareness;
- Stirred discussions among different institutions;
- Highlighted gaps and need to improve environmental legislation in Lebanon;
- Provided a good environmental mainstreaming tool;
- Promoted the need to incorporate environmental issues in other legislation (e.g.: water law);
- Provided an important tool for capacity building and awareness activities of the Ministry.

Major constraints that were raised included:

- A squeezed schedule: all presentations in less than one week;
- Some of the presentations were too detailed;
- Some institutions sent the same representatives to all presentations leading to a limited sectoral presentation.

Details on the seminars' speakers, attendance, agenda and presentations, pictures, evaluation etc. can be found in the seminars report enclosed in Annex 1.4.2E.

1.4.2.6 Seminars on Integration of the Environmental Chart in the French Constitution and Environmental Liability

Three 1.5-hr seminars on the Integration of the Environmental Chart in the French Constitution and Environmental Liability (in Europe and in Lebanon) were organized to fulfill tasks 5.1.2 and 5.2 of the SELDAS proposal. These seminars were organized in partnership with the Environmental Law Commission of the World Conservation Union, represented by its Vice President, Professor Michel Prieur, and were presented from the 16th till the 18th of May 2005, in three different locations (Saint Joseph University, North Bar Association and the Ministry of Environment). In addition to the seminars, high-level meetings were organized for Professor Prieur, including:

- a meeting with the Secretary General of the Council of Ministers;
- a meeting with representatives from the Steering Committee of SELDAS project; and
- a meeting with representatives from the various law schools.

The seminars' program was divided in four parts: 1) presentation on the integration of the environmental chart in the French constitution, 2) presentation on environmental liability in the European Commission Directive, 3) presentation on environmental liability in Lebanon, and 4) a discussion session.

The total number of attendees amounted to 159, including judges, lawyers, law students, academics, NGO representatives, environmental specialists, public sector representatives and others. Attendees were provided with relevant references, a copy of the presentations, as well as evaluation forms. A total of 70 evaluation forms were filled and data were analyzed using a

statistical analysis software (Statistical Package for Social Sciences – SPSS 12.0). About 65% of the audience found that the presentations were sufficiently specific. The presentations were regarded as interesting by about 79%, while around 88% of the audience found the presentations informative and 67% found them relevant to their needs. As regards to the quality of speakers, 84% of the audience rated them as having good presentation skills.

The added value of the seminars can be summarized as follows:

- Constitution reform process in France to introduce environmental principles was highlighted, particularly its participatory nature;
- Principles of environmental liability in Europe and Lebanon compared and gaps highlighted;
- High potential for environmental mainstreaming.

Details on the seminars' speakers, attendance, agenda and presentations, pictures, evaluation etc. can be found in the seminars report enclosed in Annex 1.4.2E.

1.4.2.7 Seminars on Role of Municipalities in the Application of Environmental Legislation

Ten 1.5-hr seminars on the Role of Municipalities in the Application of Environmental Legislation were organized to fulfill tasks 4.1.1, 4.2.1 and 4.2.2 of the SELDAS proposal. These seminars were presented between the 2nd and 12th of July 2005 in 9 different locations (the Governorate Center of North Lebanon – Tripoli, Rafik Al Hariri Hall – Saida, the Global Services Center of the Ministry of Social Affairs – Baalbeck, the Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture – Zahle, the Ministry of Environment – Beirut, the Kamal Youssef Jaber Cultural Center – Nabatieh, Safir Hotel – Bhamdoun, Bassel Al Assad Center – Tyre, and Madisson Hotel – Jounieh).

The presentation prepared for these seminars addressed the role of municipalities across twelve sectors and media, namely: construction, transport, industry, energy, tourism, air, noise, biodiversity, soil, water and wastewater, solid waste, as well as horizontal legislation. The participants included members of the Municipalities' committees grouped by governorate. The seminar's program was divided in three parts: 1) introduction to the SELDAS project, 2) presentation on the role of municipalities in the application of environmental legislation, and 3) a discussion session.

The total number of attendees amounted to 589. Attendees were provided with a copy of the SELDAS book on the State of Environmental Legislation Development and Application System in Lebanon as well as an evaluation form. A total of 243 attendees handed in a filled evaluation form and data were analyzed using a statistical analysis software (Statistical Package for Social Sciences – SPSS 12.0). Although for most of the indicators the responses were commonly encouraging, about 50% of the attendees regarded the seminars too general and not specific enough. However, 86% of the attendees found the presentations to be interesting while only about 2.5% found them boring. Around 89% of the attendees found the presentations informative and 82% found them relevant to their needs. As for the quality of the speakers, 88.5% of the attendees rated them as having good knowledge of the subject.

The added value of the seminars can be summarized as follows:

- Disseminated the role of SELDAS book;
- Raised environmental awareness;
- Stirred discussions between the municipalities' members and the Ministry's representatives;
- Highlighted the weakness in enforcement mechanisms;
- Promoted the need for coordination between municipalities and the Ministry; and
- Provided an important tool for capacity building.

Details on the seminars' speakers, attendance, agenda and presentations, pictures, evaluation etc. can be found in the seminars report enclosed in Annex 1.4.2E.

The total number of participants to SELDAS training and awareness raising activities is summarized in the table below which demonstrates that the Ministry's environmental legislation activities, in the context of SELDAS project, have been outreached to at least 2000 professionals. Several activities were reported by the press and on the project website, but also the website of the World Conservation Union (IUCN) (Annex 1.4.2F).

	Activity	Date	~ # of Participants
1	Seminars (9) on the Importance of Promoting Environmental Legislation Activities	Feb 2004 – May 2005	240
2	Training Sessions (3) on Environmental Legislation Drafting, Application and Litigation	May – June 2005	123
3	Seminars (14) on Introduction to Environmental Law	March 2005	865
4	Seminars (10) on Dissemination of SELDAS Book	March – April 2005	262
5	Seminars (3) on Integration of the Environmental Chart in the French Constitution and Environmental Liability	May 2005	159
6	Seminars (10) on the Role of Municipalities in the Application of Environmental Legislation	July 2005	589
7	<i>SELDAS Project Launching Ceremony</i>	<i>June 2003</i>	<i>20</i>
8	<i>SELDAS Book Launching Ceremony</i>	<i>June 2005</i>	<i>106</i>
Total			2364
Adjusted Total^(*)			~ 2000

(*) to account for duplication, particularly intra and inter activities 2, 4 & 7 which involve line ministries that are usually represented by the same people at the various training sessions, seminars & ceremonies: it is assumed that all who have participated to activity 2 or 4 have attended SELDAS Book Launching Ceremony (activity 8), i.e. need to deduct $123+262 = 385$ from the total

1.5 Organization of an Environmental Legislation Study Tour to Germany (Task 3.2.3):

SELDAS task 3.2.3 calls for “exposing Parliament members, Council of State members and other relevant stakeholders to procedures used for developing and assessing environmental legislation in Europe”. A task of similar nature, to be organized in Germany, is part of the scope of work of the MSC-IPP project⁸. To optimize results, SELDAS teamed up with MSC-IPP for the execution of this activity, an initiative pre-approved by the EC in its letter dated 31 March 2004 (enclosed in Annex 1.5A).

Initiated in February/ March 2004, planning for this activity included, but was not limited to:

- drafting of a methodology for the selection of tour participants (enclosed in Annex 1.5B) -a total of 15 participants from the legislative, executive and judicial authorities as well as academia; and
- extensive internal meetings to address technical (tour program), administrative (invitation letters, etc.), financial and logistics issues (visas, tickets, hotels booking, etc.).

⁸ A project managed by the Consortium MVV Energy – GTZ – Carl BRO - Envirotech , funded by the European Commission – MEDA programme, and executed by the Lebanese Ministry of Environment

Planning by both projects was accompanied by a high level of lobbying by the Director General of the Ministry and the President of the University of Balamand to ensure adequate participation to this tour. This included:

- visits by the Director General of the Ministry and the managers of SELDAS and MSC-IPP projects to two deputies from the Parliamentary Committee for Environment and the Parliamentary Committee for Administration and Justice (June 2004);
- a round-table discussion with the Minister of Environment, in the presence of the tour participants, followed by a lunch hosted by the President of the University of Balamand on June 30, 2004. Details are enclosed in Annex 1.5C. This gathering was an occasion to distribute to the various participants a folder containing key information related to the tour, enclosed in SELDAS Interim Report dated 15 September 2004.

To monitor execution of the planned activities, a quasi-daily follow up (before and during the trip) was ensured. A debriefing session by some of the tour participants was held at the Ministry on July 12, 2004.

The tour in Germany included visits and meetings with professionals from both the public and the private sectors in Berlin, Heidelberg area (Heidelberg, Mannheim, Stuttgart and Karlsruhe) and Bonn:

- Berlin: Foreign Affairs Office, Federal Ministry of Environment, Federal Agency of Environmental Protection;
- Heidelberg: Max-Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law, Heidelberg Municipality;
- Mannheim: MVV consulting company headquarters;
- Stuttgart: State of Baden – Wuerttemberg Ministry of Environment and Transport;
- Karlsruhe: Administrative Court, Federal Constitutional Court); and
- Bonn (Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Environmental Law Center of the World Conservation Union).

Participants highly appreciated the study tour. Evaluation results, along with other tour details (participants, program, lessons learned, etc.) are included in the enclosed mission report (Annex 1.5D). A special commendation letter was issued by the Director General of the Ministry of Justice (Annex 1.5E). It is to be noted that this activity was reported by the press; echos are enclosed in Annex 1.5F.

It is believed that this tour has succeeded in achieving the following:

- exposing legislative, executive and judiciary authorities as well as academia to environmental legislation development, application and education procedures in an advanced European country, that is the objective of the tour as per the project proposal;
- enhancing the various institutions' knowledge of the policy of the Ministry of Environment and challenges facing it, and discussing ways for optimizing resources to address these challenges; and
- networking with local public and private institutions, involved in environmental legislation, and expanding cooperation for the benefit of the environment field at large.

In the future, efforts will need to be spent to maintain this collaboration spirit and further enhance it.

1.6 Promotion of Graduate Studies in Environmental Law in Europe for Lebanese Students (Task 5.1.1):

For the purpose of promoting environmental law education, several complementary initiatives were undertaken by the SELDAS project:

First, to increase awareness about the importance of promoting environmental law education, two series of seminars targeting mostly university students were held in March 2005 and May 2005. Further details can be checked in Subsection 1.4.2.4 and Subsection 1.4.2.6.

Second, law schools were invited to participate to the Environmental Legislation Study Tour to Germany that was organized in July 2004, as detailed in Subsection 1.5. It is believed that this tour, along with the various activities of the SELDAS project, have encouraged several schools to offer a course on environmental law. Some of these schools include:

- Saint Joseph University/ Law School (October 2003);
- La Sagesse University/ Law School (October 2004);
- Holy Spirit University – Kaslik/ Law School (October 2004);
- Islamic University/ Law School (expected in October 2005);
- Beirut Arab University/ Law School (expected in October 2005);
- American University of Beirut/ Master of Environmental Policy Program (expected in October 2005).

Selected supporting documents, in the form of letters or sections of the various universities' catalogues are enclosed in Annex 1.6A. It is to be noted that SELDAS book (detailed in Subsection 1.2) was distributed to the various law schools and environment related disciplines schools, which makes course material richer and the teaching easier.

Moreover, to foster cooperation between the various schools which have introduced or are about to introduce a course on environmental law, and expose them to the European, and more particularly, the French experience in environmental law, a meeting, grouping Prof. Michel Prieur – in the context of his visit to Lebanon for the delivery of SELDAS seminars on the Integration of the Environmental Chart in the French Constitution and Environmental Liability, Subsection 1.4.2.6 - and some law schools representatives, took place at the Ministry on Monday May 16, 2005; minutes are enclosed in Annex 1.6B.

Finally, to encourage graduate studies in environmental law in Europe, i.e. to address SELDAS task 5.1.1 which calls for “establishing a mechanism at MoE Legislation Department for mobilizing resources, on yearly basis, to provide financial assistance to two lawyers for pursuing graduate studies in environmental law in Europe”, a series of activities was carried:

- major European schools that offer graduate studies in environmental law in French and/or English were identified; a list is enclosed in Annex 1.6C and posted on SELDAS webpage <http://www.balamand.edu.lb/seldas>;
- preliminary letters of interest were exchanged with some these universities in February 2004; a sample is enclosed in Annex 1.6D.
- the list of schools mentioned above was communicated to the various local schools of law and schools of environment related disciplines, in a correspondence issued from the Ministry of Environment about the importance of promoting environmental law education and dated 19 November 2004; a sample is enclosed in Annex 1.6E. Several students from law and environment related schools at the American University of Beirut, Lebanese University, Notre Dame University, Beirut Arab University, etc. demonstrated interest for such studies and initiated contact with SELDAS team to learn more about the initiative, possibility for funding, etc.;

- potential funding agencies were identified, and pertinent letters exchanged, such as letters to the British Council and the French Cultural Center with a list of selected French and British schools enclosed. Details are available in Annex 1.6F.

Following the letters sent to the British Council and the French Cultural Center, a meeting was held at the French Cultural Center on October 21, 2004. The option of a twinning program, between a French Law School and a local School of Law, for graduate studies in environmental law seemed to be more preferred than awarding scholarships for graduate studies in Europe, which did not seem to be feasible for the British Council either, based on oral correspondence with them in October 2004.

Based on the above which proves the interest in graduate studies in environmental law, yet absence of funding sources, SELDAS management proposed, in SELDAS Progress Report dated 15 March 2005, a project modification to use some of LIFE contribution to sponsorship the graduate studies in environmental law of two Lebanese students for the academic year 2005/2006. The Commission, however, in its letter dated 13/05/2005 did not accept to modify the project budget in order to sponsor two graduate students to study in Europe for a number of reasons; one technical and the other administrative/financial “The project was supposed to identify a mechanism for mobilizing resources for graduate students. The financing of these two students does not directly contribute to the objectives of the project as it is of only limited benefit to the two graduate students concerned. Furthermore, the proposed sponsorship falls outside the period of eligibility for this project, which is now set at 30.09.2005 and according to Article 21.1 of the Standard Administrative Provisions (SAPs), the Commission cannot accept any expenditure linked to activities taking place after 30.09.2005 as eligible.” The Commission added in the same letter that “it encourages the project participants to make further efforts to implement activity 5.1.1 to ensure a sustainable solution for student funding”.

Accordingly, and in an attempt to find/establish a sustainable mechanism for sponsoring graduate studies in environmental law on a yearly basis, SELDAS project coordinated with the newly “Outreach” program of the Service of Environmental Guidance and Awareness at the Ministry. In the context of this program, contacts were made with both public and private institutions for establishing environmental scholarships; these institutions include:

- Ministry of Education and Higher Education/ Directorate General of Higher Education: during a meeting that grouped both the Director General of Education and Higher Education and the Director General of Environment in July 2005, a preliminary agreement of coordination was made for establishing a mechanism to award scholarships for environmental studies - including environmental law. The Directorate General of Environment is to develop a preliminary mechanism to be shared with the Directorate General of Higher Education for review, discussion and completion.
- Philippe Jabra Foundation: a non-governmental organization which awards scholarships for students. A meeting grouped representatives of both the Ministry and this Foundation in May 2005, for potential cooperation in sponsoring studies in various environmental disciplines – including environmental law-; an initiative to be further developed.

It is believed that such a collaboration between the Ministry of Environment, the Ministry of Education and Higher Education and the private sector (such as Philippe Jabra Foundation) can build a sustainable mechanism for “mobilizing resources, on yearly basis, to provide financial assistance to two lawyers for pursuing graduate studies in environmental law in Europe”.

In brief, activities undertaken by the SELDAS project for the purpose of promoting environmental law education have succeeded in:

- increasing awareness about the importance of promoting environmental law education;
- integrating environmental law courses at selected schools and providing course material (SELDAS book);
- enhancing cooperation between the various schools; and
- laying the foundations for establishing an environmental law student funding mechanism.

2. Project Management:

2.1 Personnel Recruitment, Committees Establishment and Subcontractor Hiring:

The Chair, represented by its holder and project coordinator, and the Ministry, represented by the national coordination department, appointed a project manager who started her duties at the Ministry on 1 March 2003. Administrative delays were incurred in the hiring of the project officer for legal matters who started work on 1 September 2003. Curriculum vitas of the project members are enclosed in Annex 2.1A.

At the suggestion of the Minister of Environment, an internal committee, headed by the Director General of the Ministry and composed of key staff from the national coordination department and advisors to the Minister for legal issues along with the project manager, was established. Annex 2.1B is the corresponding Minister's decision # 19/1 dated 31 July 2003. The main role of the internal committee is to select the topic of the pilot legislation to be prepared by the project team as per task 3.3 of the project proposal as well as review and approve the legislation once completed. The internal committee met twice, as previously stated. Minutes of both meetings are enclosed in Annex 2.1C. The internal committee was also invited to the first Steering Committee meeting in February 2004, as mentioned below.

A steering committee, composed of the Ministry of Justice (Council of State, Legislation and Consultation Panel and Litigation Panel), the Order of Lawyers in Beirut (Bar Association) and the Directorate General of Higher Education, along with the Chair and the Ministry, was established, after exchange of pertinent letters between the various institutions throughout August-September 2003 period. A delay was incurred in organizing a first meeting, awaiting substantial material for discussion. As such a first meeting was held on February 19, 2004, where the various objectives of SELDAS project were briefly exposed and the methodology for diagnosing the current environmental legislative setting outlined. Invitation letters, agenda and minutes are enclosed in Annex 2.1D. Given time availability constraints of steering committee members, additional communication/ networking means have been explored and adopted such as:

- bilateral meetings to further discuss the methodology adopted for diagnosing the current environmental legislative setting – e.g. meeting with the President of the Legislation and Consultation Panel in March 2004 as mentioned in Subsection 1.2.5 -;
- bilateral exchange of correspondence for feedback on the methodology adopted for diagnosing the current environmental legislative setting – e.g. letter to the President of the Litigation Panel – March 2004– as mentioned in Subsection 1.2.5;
- discussion about SELDAS progress and the field of environmental legislation at large during the Environmental Legislation Study Tour to Germany in July 2004 which most of the Steering Committee members participated to, as mentioned in Subsection 1.5;
- discussion about general issues related to environmental law, during a meeting with Prof. Michel Prieur, on May 16, 2005 – in the scope of his visit to Lebanon, SELDAS seminars on the Integration of the Environmental Chart in the French Constitution and Environmental Liability;

- collaboration in the organization and delivery of SELDAS training on dealing with environmental liability (June 2005), where the opening keynote was delivered by one member of the Steering Committee; and
- participation to SELDAS Book Launching Ceremony (June 23, 2005), as detailed in Subsection 1.2.5.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was drafted and signed (June 24, 2003) between the Chair and Arab Resources Development (ARD) (presently Earth Link and Advanced Resources Development ELARD - supporting documentation enclosed in the financial report), the subcontractor selected to assist in the execution of a series of activities in tasks 2-5, as per the project proposal. A first module under this MoU, covering detailed terms of reference (TOR) related to the diagnosis of the current legislative setting (task 2) and drafting of pilot legislation (task 3.3), was drafted, discussed and agreed upon between both parties as mentioned in subsection 1.2. A second module under this MoU related to the production, design and editing of the “State of the Environmental Legislation Development and Application System in Lebanon” book (continuation of task 2) and a third module related to the preparation of training sessions and awareness seminars (selected portions of tasks 3-5) were also drafted and signed. A copy of the MoU and Modules 1,2 and 3 is enclosed in Annex 2.1E. Bi-monthly meetings have been held with the Subcontractor to ensure a coordinated approach and a smooth execution.

Names and coordinates of the main actors of SELDAS project (excluding committees’ members) are enclosed in Annex 2.1F.

It is to be noted that, for the purpose of exposing interested students to current practices in environmental law on one hand, and getting some daily research and administrative assistance, SELDAS project hosted two volunteers between February and August 2005, one with an environmental health background, interested in pursuing graduate studies in environmental law and policy, and the other one with a law background, currently doing her PhD in environmental law in France. Both trainees signed internship contracts with the Ministry and submitted reports at the end of their internship period at the Ministry.

2.2 Roles and Responsibilities of the Various Players:

The table below outlines the role and responsibilities of the various players along with their respective contribution to project progress so far:

Player	Role and Responsibility	Contribution to Date
Project Coordinator	Beneficiary representative, responsible for project execution towards the EC and overall project supervision (administratively, financially & technically)	Overall supervision (administratively, financially and technically)

Player	Role and Responsibility	Contribution to Date
Project Manager	Main beneficiary delegate to the Ministry, responsible for daily project management (administratively, financially & technically)	Project initiation (task 1); development of methodology of work and supervision of its execution including the production, final editing and printing of SELDAS book (task 2); participation to the review and amendments of the outline and various drafts of the pilot legislation, and related consultation meetings (task 3.3); drafting/ review of legislation from a <u>technical (engineering/ science) point of view</u> ; management of the training and awareness program, including exchange of correspondence, agendas and minutes of meetings, supervision of training and seminars delivery and review of reports (tasks 3-5); delivery of some awareness seminars (tasks 3-5); organization of study tour to Germany (task 3.2.3); follow up on options related to promoting graduate studies in environmental law; as well as daily management (monitor progress, review budget, liaise with related projects/ initiatives, coordinate with focal points, organize committees' meetings, supervise subcontractor work, prepare reports and related correspondence, and ensure a smooth phase out of the SELDAS project with sustainability of its impacts)
Project Officer – Legal Matters	Secondary beneficiary delegate to the Ministry, responsible for legal issues, backstopping to project manager	Identification of international environmental law centers and validation of subcontractor work +participation to the production of SELDAS book, as well as final editing and printing (task 2); review of legislation from a <u>legal point of view</u> ; participation to the organization of the training and awareness program including technical, administrative and logistics details + delivery of some awareness seminars (tasks 3-5); organization of study tour to Germany (task 3.2.3); identification of environmental law programs in Europe and drafting of pertinent correspondence (task 5.1.1); response to legislation related queries; assistance in daily management – including participation to the preparation of the various reports and project phase out with sustainability of its impacts
National Coordination Department/ Focal Point	Partner representative, responsible for project integration in Ministry structure, synergy with various departments and complementarity of activities	Daily coordination, follow up and advice (administratively, technically and financially) including participation to the preparation of the various reports and project phase out with sustainability of its impacts

Player	Role and Responsibility	Contribution to Date
Internal Committee	Selection of pilot legislation topic and review of pilot legislation once drafted	Two meetings to select pilot legislation topic; participation to the first steering committee meeting
Steering Committee	Inter-agency coordination, exchange of thoughts, opinions and expertise as well as optimization of efforts	General meeting and bilateral meetings to discuss SELDAS objectives and adopted methodology (task 2) and explore ways for expanding cooperation including participation to SELDAS Environmental Legislation Study Tour
Subcontractor	Assistance in the execution of selected tasks	Execution of the adopted methodology for diagnosing the current environmental legislative setting: completion of matrix construction and production of SELDAS book (task 2); preparation of the outline and the various drafts of the pilot legislation as well as organization of consultation meetings (task 3.3); preparation and execution of a detailed proposal for conducting training sessions and awareness seminars (portions of tasks 3-5)

2.3 Liaise with Related Projects/ Initiatives:

Close coordination with related projects/ initiatives has been secured at three levels: local (inside the Ministry), national and international.

At the Ministry level, SELDAS has closely collaborated with the various departments and projects either through review of selected draft legislation prepared by them or through responding to various legislation related queries. More particularly, SELDAS has coordinated with the EC-MEDA MSC-IPP Environment on their legislation related tasks, by exchanging areas of intervention, reviewing draft legislation once drafted and benefiting from the knowledge and experience of international short terms legal consultants to the MSC-IPP project (especially in the field of air quality) as well as organizing the environmental legislation study tour to Germany (Subsection 1.5). SELDAS has also been involved in the following activities of the Ministry:

- drafting the legal section of the annual report of the Directorate General of the Ministry (December 2003 - January 2004);
- representing the Ministry at the UNEP-GEF Biosafety Sub-Regional Workshop for Anglophone Africa on the Development of a Regulatory Regime and Administrative Systems for National Biosafety Frameworks, Dar Es-Salam, 9-12 March 2004 (mission report enclosed in Annex 2.3B);
- drafting, reviewing and updating an environmental compliance action plan for the Lebanese industries, as part of the “Compliance Strategy/ Legislation” subcommittee of the joint Ministry of Environment/ Association of Lebanese Industrialists committee (February – November 2004);
- representing the Ministry at the West Asia Regional Workshop on Compliance with and Enforcement of Multilateral Environmental Agreements and Green Customs Training, Syria, 2-5 May 2005 (mission report enclosed in Annex 2.3C);

- participating to the Project Managers (PM) Club of the Ministry that groups the managers of the various international projects working at the Ministry to discuss ways to strengthen the Ministry's work in strategizing, mobilizing resources, marketing and ensuring international projects' sustainability; and
- responding to the queries of various stakeholders, from both the public and the private sectors, including students, on environmental legislation issues.

As for the initiatives at the national level, they include:

- SELDAS has initiated contact with a United Nations Development Programme project at the Parliament aiming at initiating and/ or strengthening policy dialogue on hot spot issues.
- SELDAS has also followed up on some stakeholders' initiatives in selected environmental legislation topics (American University of Beirut's work on biodiversity related legislation and the Mediterranean Environmental Technical Assistance Program work on solid waste legislation in Lebanon) either through individual meetings or seminars. In particular, SELDAS has coordinated with a team from Saint Joseph University/School of Law working on a EU funded study titled "*Rapport sur l'Etat Législatif des Pays MED*" (Report on the State of Legislation in MED Countries) – environment section (2003).
- SELDAS has also collaborated with the Rural Council for the Development of Tannourine, a local Non Governmental Organization, for the execution of a small grant the Council received from the Ministry in 2003 to assemble selected environmental legislation; a report is enclosed in Annex 1.2G;
- SELDAS, through the Ministry's Registrar, has also initiated contact with an internationally funded project at the Ministry of Interior and Municipalities titled "Lebanon Relief and Redevelopment Project", in collaboration with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the State University of New York – Albany/ Center for Legislative Development (SUNY/CLD). It is a program of municipal administrative financial reform, to provide technical assistance to regional and local grants in Lebanon;
- SELDAS input was sought on a study conducted by the United Nations Development Program to assess the cost implications of implementing the Millennium Development Goals, specifically goal #7 related to environmental sustainability, and more particularly, target 9 related to the integration of the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programs and reversing the loss of environmental resources;
- Pertinent correspondence was exchanged with the Ministry of Justice to properly include and identify environmental experts at Courts, letter enclosed in Annex 2.3D;
- Correspondence was also exchanged with the Tripoli Environment and Development Observatory for better integration of environmental disciplines in rules and regulations pertaining to staff qualifications;
- Visit to the Legal Informatics Center of the Lebanese University for exchange of information and potential collaboration (April 2005);
- Coordination with the EC Delegation in Lebanon about EC environmental portfolio in Lebanon – including SELDAS project (May 2005); and
- Collaboration between the Legal Affairs Division of the Ministry and the EC MEDA Management Support Consultants -Investment Planning Programme project at the Council for Development and Reconstruction (MSC-IPP CDR project) on the project's planned task to prepare a draft law on the protection of the mountains, the coastal zone and protected areas (July – August 2005).

At the international level, SELDAS objectives and activities were exposed to the World Conservation Union IUCN Environmental Law Center and Commission, the former Regional Vice Chair for West Asia of which is a member of the National Coordination Unit at the Ministry. Ideas for collaboration were exchanged between March 2004 and November 2004, and concretized in the context of SELDAS training sessions and awareness seminars program (March – July 2005), as detailed in Subsection 1.4.2. On another note, SELDAS project manager had the chance to participate to Salzburg seminar on “Environmental Policy and Public Dialogue” between November 16 and 23, 2003. This seminar was an occasion to learn and discuss with other participants the role of civil society in environmental policy and more particularly in environmental legislation drafting and enforcement. A brief mission report is enclosed in Annex 2.3A.

2.4 Overall Project Management and Dissemination of Information:

In line with tasks 6 and 7, actions have been taken to ensure a proper management and execution of the SELDAS project, as well as an appropriate dissemination of objectives, findings and results. In this respect, the following activities were carried:

- daily communication with the team members (from the Chair, the Ministry and the Subcontractor ELARD) and organization of bi-monthly meetings;
- weekly communication and organization of monthly meetings with the Project Coordinator;
- Organization of periodical meetings (6-monthly) with the team of the Ministry at large (i.e. the Director General, the National Coordination Unit Head and the staff of the Legal Affairs Division);
- Monitoring of project’s schedule on a weekly basis;
- Updating of budget on a monthly basis and communication with the University of Balamand Comptroller Office and the Division of Accounting, Personnel and Purchasing of the Ministry to track invoices and follow up on VAT rules and regulations, as well as coordination with the project independent auditor;
- Maintaining good liaison with Lebanese officials directly or indirectly involved in the project, including but not limited to the steering Committee members, as mentioned in Subsection 2.1;
- Maintaining good liaison with non-Lebanese stakeholders, such as Cousteau society, through progress mails, etc.; and
- Reporting to the EC (First Progress Report – 15 December 2003; Interim Report -15 September 2004; Second Progress Report – 15 March 2005; Final Report – 30 September 2005) and exposing work progress to the EC during the EC Life mission to Lebanon in December 2003.

Other activities, important for the smooth execution of the SELDAS project, included:

- Update of the hard and soft collection of Lebanese legislation (and French environmental legislation) on a regular basis (Subsection 1.1.1);
- Update of SELDAS webpage (and pertinent sections of the webpage of the Ministry) on a regular basis;
- Completion, with the assistance of the Network Unit at the University of Balamand, of the necessary steps to easily access SELDAS webpage when carrying Lebanese environmental legislation related search on the Web;
- Dissemination of SELDAS brochures to key institutions from both the public and the private sectors at the national, regional and international levels. Some institutions included selected ministries, selected parliamentary committees, selected municipalities, Bar Association, selected faculties/ schools, selected regional and international

- institutions represented at workshops and seminars attended by SELDAS or the Legal Affairs Division of the Ministry inside or outside Lebanon;
- Informing the media of key SELDAS activities, such as the launching ceremony in June 2003 (Subsection 1.1.3), the environmental legislation study tour to Germany in July 2004 (Subsection 1.5), the training sessions and awareness seminars program (Subsection 1.4.2), SELDAS book launching ceremony (Subsection 1.2);
 - Addition to the Public Library for Environmental Archives of SELDAS book, training manuals and other environmental law publications; and
 - Acknowledgment of the EC support in all events, outputs, press releases, etc.

3. Progress of the Project during the Reporting Period:

The table below describes the progress of work in the various tasks of SELDAS project.

Ref.	Activities	Status of Implementation
1.1	Set up the project office	
1.1.1	Purchase the necessary equipment	Completed (Subsection 1.1)
1.1.2	Purchase the necessary consumables	Completed (Subsection 1.1)
1.1.3	Design the filing and archiving system	Completed (Subsection 1.1)
1.2	Prepare the project inception report (<i>not prepared since it is not required as per LIFE Standard Administrative Provisions-2002</i>)	
1.2.1	Check for change in the baseline situation	Completed
1.2.2	Develop a detailed project workplan	Completed (Subsection 1.1 & Subsection 5)
1.2.3	Prepare the project workplan schedule	Completed (Subsection 1.1 & Subsection 5)
1.2.4	Assign the exact mandates	Completed (Subsection 2)
1.2.5	Develop a progress sheet for monitoring progress schedule	Completed (Subsection 1.1)
1.2.6	Design a budgeting system	Completed (Subsection 1.1)
1.3	Expose the project	
1.3.1	Prepare project briefs and website	Completed (Subsection 1.1)
1.3.2	Introduce the project in a national event	Completed (Subsection 1.1)
1.4	Establish the project advisory committee	
1.4.1	Identify the stakeholders	Completed (Annex 2.1D)
1.4.2	Develop the terms of reference of the advisory committee	<i>No specific TOR (Subsections 2.1 – 2.4)</i>
1.4.3	Request from the stakeholders to nominate representatives	Completed (Annex 2.1D)
1.4.4	Conduct an introductory meeting	Completed (Subsection 2.1 & Annex 2.1D)

Ref.	Activities	Status of Implementation
2.1	Review background literature on environmental law ⁹	
2.1.1	Review international agencies' publications on environmental law	Completed (Subsection 1.2.1)
2.1.2	Identify networks of environmental law centers, schools and experts	Completed (Subsection 1.2.1 & Subsection 2.2)
2.1.3	Review international and regional environmental conventions, protocols and treaties	Completed (Subsection 1.2.1)
2.1.4	Identify major areas of intervention of environmental law	Completed (Subsection 1.2.1)
2.1.5	Identify major challenges facing environmental law	Completed (Subsection 1.2.1)
2.2	Assemble existing Lebanese environmental legislation ¹⁰	
2.2.1	Review existing literature on Lebanese environmental law	Completed (Subsection 1.2.2)
2.2.2	Prepare an environmental legislation research plan	Completed (Subsection 1.2.2 & Annex 1.2A)
2.2.3	Undertake the research	Completed (Subsection 1.2.2)
2.2.4	Gather the environmental legislation texts	Completed (Subsection 1.2.2)
2.3	Construct a legislation and functional responsibility matrix for the environment sector	
2.3.1	Design the matrix	Completed (Subsection 1.2.3)
2.3.2	Fill the matrix with respect to existence of adequate regulations, proper distribution of responsibilities, existence of conventions, protocols and treaties and absence of proper application	Completed (Subsection 1.2.3)
2.3.3	Identify the best mechanism for updating the matrix and disseminate the information related to it	Completed (Subsection 1.2.5)
2.4	Diagnose the environmental problems	
2.4.1	Review areas of environmental stress	Completed (Subsection 1.2.4)
2.4.2	Relate areas of environmental stress to the legislation and functional responsibility matrix in terms of identifying areas where legislation or update of legislation is needed and areas where a better application of existing legislation is needed	Completed (Subsection 1.2.4)
2.5	<i>Produce, design, edit and publish the "State of Environmental Legislation Development and Application System in Lebanon" book</i>	<i>Completed (Subsection 1.2.5 & Annex 1.2B)</i>

⁹ Reports on the findings of this activity are available, however they have not been enclosed since they are not considered as project's outputs but rather background material necessary to construct the matrix mentioned in task 2.3

¹⁰ Reports on the findings of this activity are available, however they have not been enclosed since they consist of about 20 folders (between 50 and 250 pages each) of legislation texts (in Arabic), as explained in Subsection 1.2

Ref.	Activities	Status of Implementation
3.1	Strengthen the collaboration between the various institutions dealing with environmental law development	
3.1.1	Identify all institutions involved in environmental law development	Completed partially (as part of the Steering Committee initiative – Subsection 2.1)
3.1.2	Identify a mechanism for grouping these institutions	
3.1.3	Define the role of the group (setting priorities in terms of needed environmental legislation based on international obligations, local needs as well as human and economic capacities; and tasks assignment to the various groups' members)	
3.2	Build the capacities of the institutions dealing with environmental law development	
3.2.1	Organize a training on how to properly draft environmental legislation and mainstream environment in proposed legislation	Completed (Subsection 1.4.2.1 & Annex 1.4.2D)
3.2.2	Organize a training on how to conduct strategic environmental assessment for proposed legislation	Completed (Subsection 1.4.2.1 & Annex 1.4.2D)
3.2.3	Expose Parliament members, Council of State members and other relevant stakeholders to procedures used for developing and assessing environmental legislation in Europe	Completed (Subsection 1.5 & Annex 1.5D)
3.2.4	Organize a training on how to study proposed conventions, protocols and treaties	Completed (Subsection 1.4.2.2 & Annex 1.4.2D)
3.3	Develop a pilot environmental law	
3.3.1	Identify the topic	Completed (Subsection 1.3.1)
3.3.2	Draft the law (including the liabilities, penalties, mechanism of handling the penalties money, etc.) and in parallel conduct the corresponding SEA	Completed (Subsection 1.3.1 & Annexes 1.3.1B, 1.3.1C, 1.3.1D, 1.3.1E)
3.3.3	Review, promote and pass the law	Completed partially (Subsection 1.3.1 & Annexes 1.3.1B, 1.3.1C, 1.3.1D, 1.3.1E)
3.3*	<i>Review environmental law under preparation (by other departments/ projects)</i>	<i>Selected texts reviewed (Subsection 1.3.2)</i>
3.3*	<i>Defend legislation under review (prepared by the Ministry)</i>	<i>Selected texts defended (Subsection 1.3.3)</i>
3.3*	<i>Comment on draft legislation under review (prepared by other institutions)</i>	<i>Selected texts commented on (Subsection 1.3.4)</i>

Ref.	Activities	Status of Implementation
4.1	Strengthen the collaboration between the institutions directly involved in environmental law application	
4.1.1	Identify the best mechanism for collaboration between MoE and the municipalities for local environmental monitoring and management	Completed (Subsection 1.4.2.7 & Annex 1.4.2E)
4.1.2	Strengthen the collaboration between MoE and line public agencies for better enforcement of environmental legislation	Completed (Subsection 1.4.2.5 & Annex 1.4.2E)
4.2	Build the capacities of the various institutions in environmental law application	
4.2.1	Strengthen MoE's technical and institutional capacities for environmental law application	
4.2.1.1	Expose MoE staff to their responsibilities in terms of environmental law application	Completed (Subsection 1.4.2.5 & Annex 1.4.2E)
4.2.1.2	Introduce to MoE staff ways of following up on ratified conventions, protocols and treaties	Completed (Subsection 1.4.2.2 & Annex 1.4.2D)
4.2.1.3	Train MoE staff on how to follow up on environmental management plans	Completed (Subsection 1.4.2.2 & Annex 1.4.2D)
4.2.1.4	Train MoE staff on how to follow up on environmental compliance action plans	Completed (Subsection 1.4.2.2 & Annex 1.4.2D)
4.2.2	Strengthen municipalities' institutional and technical capacities in environmental law application	
4.2.2.1	Expose municipalities to existing environmental legislation and to their responsibilities in preserving a safe environment	Completed (Subsection 1.4.2.7 & Annex 1.4.2E)
4.2.2.2	Introduce to municipalities approaches for local environmental management	Completed (Subsection 1.4.2.7 & Annex 1.4.2E)
4.2.3	Strengthen public agencies' capacities in environmental law application	
4.2.3.1	Expose line public agencies to environmental legislation related to their specific sectors of interest and to their respective responsibilities	Completed (Subsection 1.4.2.5 & Annex 1.4.2E)
4.2.3.2	Share ways of mainstreaming environment in public agencies' respective plans and projects	Completed (Subsection 1.4.2.5 & Annex 1.4.2E)
4.3	Train stakeholders in environmental litigation	
4.3.1	Identify the stakeholders	Completed (Subsection 1.4.2.3 & Annex 1.4.2D)
4.3.2	Prepare the training modules, logistics, speakers, etc.	Completed (Subsection 1.4.2.3 & Annex 1.4.2D)
4.3.3	Conduct the training	Completed (Subsection 1.4.2.3 & Annex 1.4.2D)

Ref.	Activities	Status of Implementation
5.1	Encourage graduate studies in environmental law	
5.1.1	Establish a mechanism at MoE Legislation Department for mobilizing resources on a yearly basis to provide financial assistance to two lawyers for pursuing graduate studies in environmental law in Europe	
5.1.1.1	Identify environmental law graduate studies programs	Completed (Subsection 1.6 & Annex 1.6C)
5.1.1.2	Identify potential funding agencies	Completed (Subsection 1.6 & Annex 1.6F)
5.1.1.3	Establish a database of law firms and schools	Completed (Subsection 1.6 & Annex 1.6C)
5.1.1.4	Set the selection criteria	Modified (Subsection 1.6)
5.1.1.5	Promote the initiative	In progress (Subsection 1.6)
5.1.1.6	Launch the first year of execution	In progress (Subsection 1.6)
5.1.2	Introduce environmental law lectures at local schools of law	
5.1.2.1	Investigate potential European lecturers	Completed (Subsections 1.4.2.4 & 1.4.2.6 & Annex 1.4.2E)
5.1.2.2	Select the recipient school (s)	Completed (Subsections 1.4.2.4 & 1.4.2.6 & Annex 1.4.2E)
5.1.2.3	Set the lecture (s) logistics (time, place, etc.)	Completed (Subsections 1.4.2.4 & 1.4.2.6 & Annex 1.4.2E)
5.1.3	Expose local schools of law to international environmental law programs, schools, publications, etc.	Completed (Subsections 1.4.2.4 & 1.4.2.6 & Annex 1.4.2E)
5.1.4	Include topics related to environmental law in the seminars' program offered to trainees in law at the Syndicate of Lawyers	Completed (Subsections 1.4.2.4 & 1.4.2.6 & Annex 1.4.2E)
5.2	Encourage training and work in environmental law	
5.2.1	Expose law firms to existing environmental legislation	Completed (Subsections 1.4.2.4 & 1.4.2.6 & Annex 1.4.2E)
5.2.2	Expose law firms to networks of environmental law centers and experts	Completed (Subsections 1.4.2.4 & 1.4.2.6 & Annex 1.4.2E)
5.2.3	Organize seminars for law firms on environmental law, its practices, challenges and related case studies	Completed (Subsections 1.4.2.4 & 1.4.2.6 & Annex 1.4.2E)

Ref.	Activities	Status of Implementation
6.1	Strengthen MoE's capacities in disseminating information	
6.1.1	Strengthen MoE website	
6.1.1.1	Construct a webpage for SELDAS	Completed (Subsection 1.1)
6.1.1.2	Construct a webpage for MoE Legislation Department	Content developed but not posted (Subsection 1.1)
6.1.1.3	Construct a webpage for MoE Public Relations and External Affairs Department	Content developed but not posted (Subsection 1.1)
6.1.1.4	Post on the above referenced webpages the legislation and functional responsibility matrix, references to the existing environmental legislation including conventions, protocols and treaties that Lebanon has ratified and needs to ratify	Completed (Subsection 2.1)
6.1.1.5	Post on the above referenced webpages the pilot project law	Not posted (Subsection 1.3.1)
6.1.2	Build the capacities of MoE staff for continuously updating the above referenced information	Completed (Subsection 2.4)
6.1.3	Reserve dedicated sections at the MoE library for environmental legislation related documentation and provide copies of the project training materials	Completed (Subsection 2.4)
6.1.4	Identify the best mechanism to directly inform various stakeholders of new legislation related to environmental issues	Completed (Subsection 2.1.5)
6.2	Disseminate environmental law related information through other institutions	
6.2.1	Provide copies of the project training materials at the libraries of the Parliament, Syndicate of Lawyers and the various schools of law	Completed partially (Subsection 1.4.2)
6.2.2	Provide links to environmental law centers and experts form the websites of the local schools of law, if available	Completed partially (Subsections 1.4.2.4 & 1.4.2.6)
6.2.3	Identify the best mechanism for collaborating with the NGOs and the media on raising awareness on environmental legislation issues	Completed partially (Subsection 2.3)
7.1	Ensure proper management of the project	
7.1.1	Assign general tasks and responsibilities to the project team members at the inception phases	Completed (Subsection 2.4)
7.1.2	Organize weekly meetings for the project team members	Completed (Subsection 2.4)
7.1.3	Organize periodical meetings for the project advisory committee	Completed (Subsection 2.1)
7.1.4	Monitor project's finances and schedule	Completed (Subsection 2.4)
7.1.5	Maintain good liaison with Lebanese officials directly or indirectly affected by the project	Completed (Subsection 2.4)
7.2	Ensure close monitoring of the project	
7.2.1	Develop and submit first progress report	Completed (15 - 12 - 2003)
7.2.2	Develop and submit interim report	Completed (15 - 09 - 2004)
7.2.3	Develop and submit second progress report	Completed (15 - 03 - 2005)
7.2.4	Develop and submit final report	Completed (30 - 09 - 2005)

4. Overall Assessment of Project:

4.1 Challenges:

The project has been progressing rather smoothly despite delays incurred in the execution of selected activities. A noticeable delay was incurred in hiring the project officer for legal matters mainly because:

- i- The identification of the appropriate profile for this position is not easy since environmental law specialists are quasi absent in Lebanon; and
- ii- The change in government that took place in April 2003 was also among the challenges faced in selecting the project officer for legal matters.

Another major challenge faced was the establishment of a steering committee for the project. Reasons include:

- i- Difficulties in defining a specific role for this committee, other than the usual coordination, dissemination of information, synergy etc. purposes. Need for a specific role stems from the necessity of mobilizing the various institutions/ stakeholders; and
- ii- Transitional period which the country in general and the Ministry in particular went through due to the change in government mentioned above.

A third major challenge was the identification of the best way to synthesize the results of the diagnosis of the current environmental legislative setting activity (task 2) and publish the findings; that is the production of the “State of the Environmental Legislation Development and Application System in Lebanon” (SELDAS) book mentioned in Subsection 1.2.5.

Reasons include:

- i- Difficulties in grouping the information and developing a typical chapter outline;
- ii- Necessity of achieving a trade off between completeness of issues and level of details on one side and reasonable chapter length on the other side;
- iii- Limited availability of professionals in the environmental legislation field that could assist in drafting and editing the various chapters;
- iv- A level of time and effort needed to search for the information, analyze it and synthesize it in the form of a book much higher than expected, i.e. an initial phase of the learning curve much longer than anticipated; and
- v- Necessity to achieve a trade-off between quality control/ quality assurance and related chapters’ amendments on one hand, and publishing the SELDAS book before the execution of the project’s training sessions on the other hand.

A fourth challenge was directly related to schedule implications of the Environmental Law Center and Commission of the World Conservation Union (IUCN)’s decision to contribute to the training sessions and awareness seminars program of the SELDAS project, via the Ministry. More specifically the various promotions which took place at the Center between November 2004 and January 2005 made it obligatory to postpone the launching of the training and seminars activities to March 2005, as detailed in Subsection 1.4.2

A fifth challenge was faced in the promotion of graduate studies in environmental law in Europe (task 5.1.1). The main reasons are related to difficulties in identifying and engaging potential funding agencies, funding being normally granted on a case-by-case basis, as discussed in Subsection 1.6.

Last but not least, the socio-political conditions of the country post February 14, 2005 (date of assassination of the former Lebanese Prime Minister) have led to a major slow down of all activities, on the country scale.

The challenges mentioned above, along with the 2-month delay incurred in the start of the project in January – March 2003, made it necessary to request a project modification; which resulted in a 3-month extension to the SELDAS project (i.e. revised end date: 30 September 2005).

4.2 Impacts and Long-Term Effects:

The various activities undertaken and associated results, as described in Subsections 1,2 & 3, despite the various challenges faced and outlined in Subsection 4.1, point out an achievement of the objectives of the SELDAS project, as foreseen in the project proposal, that is:

- Project initiated, promoted and sustained – see Subsection 4.3;
- The current environmental legislative setting diagnosed and overlaps, gaps and improper application of the existing legislation identified – see Subsection 1.2;
- Capacities of the institutions dealing with environmental legislation development strengthened – see Subsection 1.4;
- Capacities of the institutions dealing with environmental legislation application strengthened – see Subsection 1.4;
- Environmental law education strengthened – see Subsection 1.6;
- Environmental law documentation disseminated – see Subsection 2.4; and
- Project properly managed and closely monitored – see Subsection 2.4.

Moreover, the various activities undertaken and associated results demonstrate some impacts that extend beyond the project lifetime and objectives, namely:

- Long-term capacity building results for the Legal Affairs Division of the Ministry, the members of whom had the opportunity, thanks to the SELDAS project, to (1) get familiarized with the various legislation and regulations related to the environment (around 700) and associated gaps and overlaps; (2) be equipped with tools for future legal interventions in environment related workshops and seminars (in the form of book, powerpoint presentations, training manuals and reports, etc.), and (3) build or strengthen their stakeholders network at the local and international level; all of which key elements for the future of the environmental legislation field.
- A remarkable added value to the environment field, concretized by (1) the “State of the Environmental Legislation Development and Application System in Lebanon” book, a key reference in the environmental legislation field, and (2) the three training manuals on “Environmental Legislation Drafting”, “Environmental Legislation Application”, and “Environmental Litigation”, all disseminated to stakeholders and archived at the Public Library for Environmental Archives (Ministry of Environment). The book, as a success story, was noted by several stakeholders, based on written and oral notes provided by key stakeholders during or after the SELDAS Book Launching Ceremony and in the training sessions and awareness seminars evaluation forms. The trainings’ reports and the Layman’s report can be checked out for further details.
- Overall environmental benefits manifested by the various activities that contributed to mainstreaming environmental policy, such as (1) the environmental legislation study tour with stakeholders from the legislative, executive and judiciary branches as well as academia, and (2) the various discussions with stakeholders during SELDAS training sessions and awareness seminars. All of which proved to be key factors for enacting some legislation and enhancing the implementation status of existing ones, which have a direct impact on the state of the environment in Lebanon.

Some of the lessons learned during the project execution, at the administrative, technical, financial and planning levels, have been summarized in the “Limitations” section of the methodology for diagnosing the current environmental legislative setting, outlined in Subsection 1.2.5 and enclosed in SELDAS book (Annexes 1.2A & 1.2B). This methodology is a key tool for (1) updating the SELDAS book, and thus improving its sustainability, as well as (2) replicating this initiative in other countries, and thus contributing to global sustainable environmental development. It is to be noted that SELDAS book replication in all Arab countries was a key recommendation of the Workshop on the Level of Harmonization Between National Environmental Legislation and International Conventions Related to Hazardous Waste and Material (Secretariat General of the Arab League, 13-15 September 2005); supporting document enclosed in Annex 4.2A.

4.3 Sustainability:

Sustainability of the SELDAS project should be facilitated by the institutional measures taken at the level of the Ministry of Environment and the UNESCO-Cousteau Ecotechnie Chair at the University of Balamand, and the measures taken at the level of the project team as well as the nature of the project deliverables.

The Ministry, primary beneficiary of the SELDAS project - since the Ministry is the authority responsible for drafting the necessary legislation and regulations for the protection of the environment and monitoring their application- has taken the following measures to sustain the projects it hosts:

- Ministerial decisions appointing a “National Coordination Unit” (= a service or department at the Ministry) for each project (such as the registrar for the SELDAS project), and a “focal point” (= a staff from the national coordination unit) to each project. This structure allows the integration of the project in the mission of the service or department and thus the ministry, hence facilitating its sustainability. It is to be noted that the project focal point is assigned specific terms of reference, in relation to the project, which mandate his or her involvement in all project activities (Minister of Environment decision #35/1 – 2003 enclosed in Annex 1.3.3C).
- Weekly meetings between the Director General of the Ministry and the Head of the National Coordination Unit to discuss the unit’s work, progress, etc., including projects affiliated to this unit.
- Periodical meetings grouping the Director General, the Head of the National Coordination Unit, the Focal Point and the project core team to discuss project’s progress, challenges, etc.
- Patronage of key project events by the Minister or the Director General such as project launching ceremony, steering committee meeting, kick-off meetings for major activities, etc.

As for the measures taken by the UNESCO-Cousteau Ecotechnie Chair at the University of Balamand to sustain the knowledge it developed in the environmental legislation field, they include:

- bi-weekly or monthly meetings between the Chair Holder and the project team to discuss progress, results, challenges, etc.
- designation of a core staff of the University Institute for Environmental Studies to follow up on the project activities.

At the project level, the project team made sure to structure the project deliverables following a design that facilitates their sustainability, namely:

- Diagnosing the current environmental legislative setting (task 2): production of results in a structured, comprehensive book, disseminated to all stakeholders and posted on the webpage of the Ministry; a key reference in the environmental legislation field with future update facilitated by the inclusion of the methodology as a core part of the book;
- Strengthening capacities in environmental legislation development and application (tasks 3-4): (1) preparation of comprehensive training manuals that can be referred to for particular queries related to the drafting and application of environmental legislation, and preparation of PowerPoint presentations that can be easily reused in future trainings and seminars, and (2) preparation of a pilot law that can be used as model while drafting future legislation.
- Promoting environmental law education (task 5): introduction of environmental law courses at several schools, essential step for promoting environmental legislation activities.

Based on the above, it is believed that SELDAS has built a solid foundation for the environmental legislation field, that can be relatively easily developed in the future thanks to:

- the tools that have been produced (SELDAS book, training manuals, etc.);
 - the structural measures introduced (environmental law courses at several schools); and
 - the various human resources mobilized (past and future – as shown in Subsection 5).
- thus allowing a smooth phase out of the project, but sustainability and further promotion of its impacts.

5. Outlook:

Executed in a 2.5-year period (March 2003 -September 2005), SELDAS project succeeded in achieving the objectives it was originally designed for:

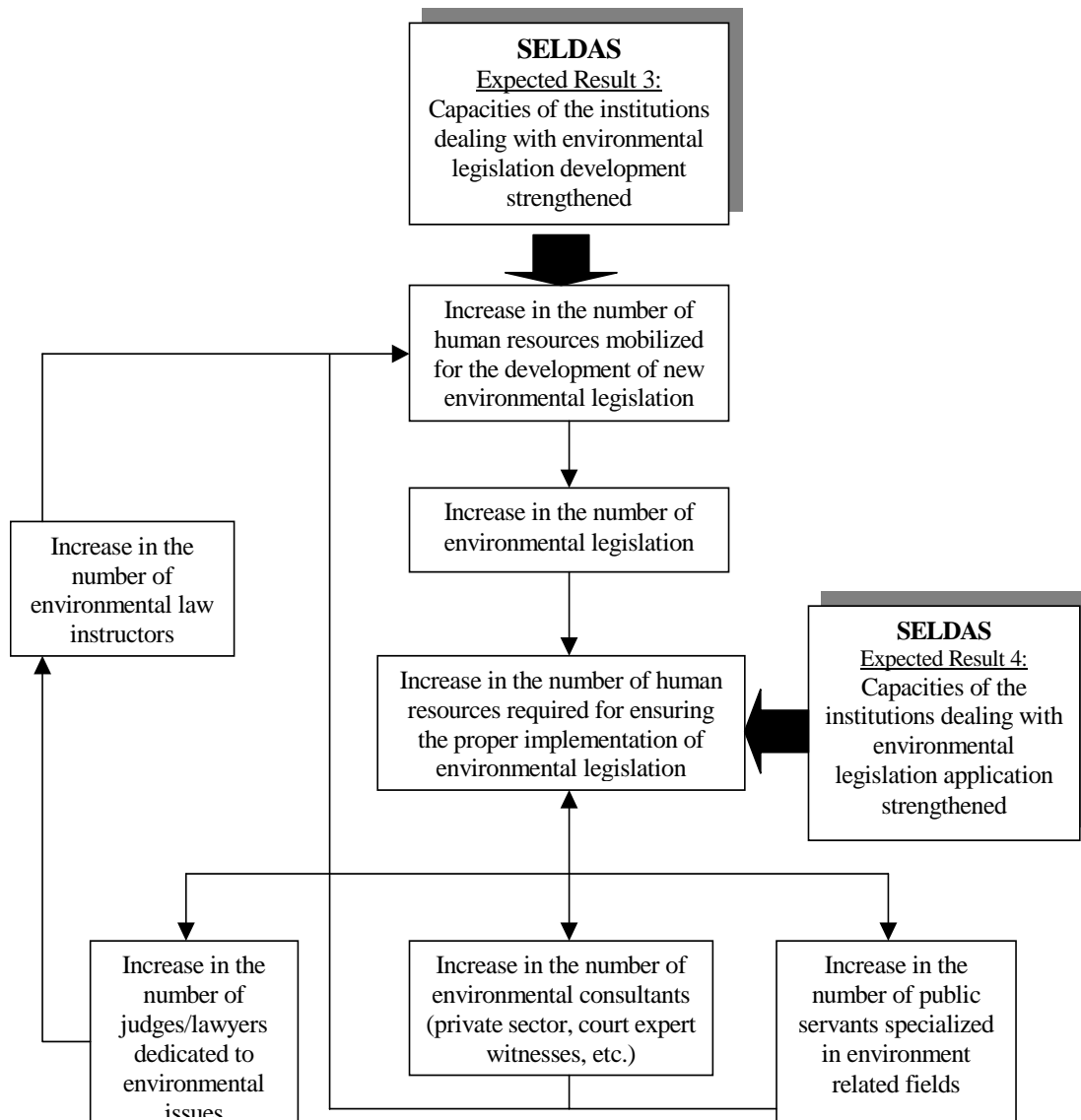
- diagnosing the current environmental legislative setting (task 2);
- strengthening institutional capacities in environmental legislation development and application (tasks 3-4);
- promoting environmental law education (task 5); and
- disseminating environmental law practices (task 6).

And by doing so, SELDAS has modestly triggered the following chain related to the sustained increase in eco-job opportunities, for as literature review points it out, passing of environmental legislation and regulations have a positive effect on employment:

- *The passing of environmental regulations has led to the creation of new types or clean, restructured types of industries that employ an estimated number of at least 11 million people worldwide (Renner, M. “Working for the Environment: A Growing Source of Jobs”. Worldwatch Institute. Washington DC. September 2000)*
- *Annualized tangible employment linked to the Air Sector Directives = 132,700, Annualized tangible employment linked to the Water Sector Directives = 178,700, Annualized tangible employment linked to the Waste Sector Directives = 117,400 (Andrews et al. 2000. “Study on Investment and Employment Related to EU Policy on Air, Water and Waste”. Report to the European Commission, Directorate General – Environment)*

- The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) published a report in 1998 entitled “Environmental Policies and Employment”, which explores the macroeconomic effects of environmental policies expressed by the creation of eco-industries, maintenance businesses, and water and waste management infrastructures, thereby generating employment. The report concludes that environmental policies have had so far net positive effects on employment.
- Statistical data collected and analyzed showed that “1-3% of the labor force in most OECD countries is employed in environment-related jobs (Euroabstracts. 1998. “Do Green Policies Create or Destroy Jobs?”. <http://www.cordis.lu/euroabstracts/en/april98/energy1.htm>)

SELDAS Contribution to the Sustained Increase in Eco-Job Opportunities



While SELDAS book has pointed out several gaps in the current environmental legislation development and application system, it is believed that human resources mobilization in the environmental legislation field can help undertaking the following key complementary activities to the SELDAS project:

- Thorough detailed reading of each of the 14 reports of the SELDAS book for a refinement of the information presented, undertaking of the necessary texts' cancellation or amendment, drafting of new legislation and regulations and later codification. An interdisciplinary team needs to be developed for each of the 14 subjects with optimum coordination intra and inter the teams.
- Promotion and enhancement of the environmental litigation business, with the ultimate objective of establishing an environmental court and implementing the environmental police established by law 690/2005.

Execution of these activities will complement efforts aiming at strengthening the environmental legislation development and application system in Lebanon, sustainably increasing eco-job opportunities and thus contributing to sustainable environmental development.

Section 2: Summary of the Main Achievements and Results of the Project

SELDAS (Strengthening the Environmental Legislation Development and Application System in Lebanon) is a project by the UNESCO-Cousteau Ecotechnie Chair at the University of Balamand (the Chair – Project Beneficiary), funded primarily by the European Commission LIFE Third Countries Programme, and hosted by the Lebanese Ministry of Environment (Ministry – Project Partner), and executed with the technical assistance of Earth Link and Advanced Resources Development (ELARD – Subcontractor) for selected activities. Activities undertaken throughout the project lifetime (January/ March 2003 – September 2005) resulted in a series of achievements outlined below.

R1: Current Environmental Legislative Setting Diagnosed

A 500-page book (in Arabic) titled “State of the Environmental Legislation Development and Application System in Lebanon – SELDAS 2004” (ISBN: 9953-0-0417-X) was produced and released in June 2005. The book presents and summarizes the texts of Lebanese laws and various regulations currently in force and related to the environment and outlines the various areas and sub-areas that should be tackled by environmental legislation. It also studies whether existing Lebanese legislation and regulation do address/cover these areas, and if so, assesses the quality of coverage and analyzes applicability and enforcement related issues. It is composed of 14 chapters covering the various subjects: construction and environment, land use and environment, transport and environment, energy and environment, industry and environment, agriculture and environment, tourism and environment, water and wastewater, air, noise, soil, biodiversity, solid waste, and horizontal legislation.

The book is intended for a wide range of professionals: parliamentarians, public administrators, judges and lawyers, environmental consultants, researchers and instructors, investors, businessmen, bankers, industrialists, civil society, international organizations, environment and/or law students. The 500-keyword index, 700-reference bibliography, 16-page table of contents and 6-page methodology combine together to make the book easier to use.

The book was officially launched in June 2005 during a ceremony chaired by the Minister of Environment and the Minister of Justice and extensively disseminated, with almost 1,700 copies distributed so far, and an expected 4,000 copies to be distributed before the end of 2005. It can be downloaded from the Ministry’s website <http://www.moe.gov.lb>. The book should be of added value in accelerating the development and enactment of future environmental legislation and regulations, enhancing work in the environment field, and facilitating the application of existing environmental legislation and regulations.

Replication of the book in all Arab countries has been included as one of the main recommendations of the Workshop on the Level of Harmonization Between National Environmental Legislation and International Conventions Related to Hazardous Waste and Material (Secretariat of the Arab League, 13-15 September 2005).

To promote the book at the international arena and thus optimize its use, resources are being mobilized to translate it to English.

R2: Institutional Capacities in Environmental Legislation Development and Application Strengthened

A total of around 900 participants attended a training session or seminar related to environmental legislation development, application and litigation, as per the table below. All training sessions and awareness seminars were evaluated quantitatively and qualitatively, with very encouraging results. Training Sessions and Seminars reports can be checked on the project website <http://www.balamand.edu.lb/seldas>

Organization of many of these training sessions and awareness seminars witnessed the participation of prominent figures from the Environmental Law Center and Commission of the World Conservation Union as well as well-known experts in the environmental legislation field in France.

Training Session (TS) or Awareness Seminar (AS)	Date	Participants
TS (2-day) on environmental legislation drafting	May 2005	~ 30 participants from the various line ministries & public authorities
TS (2-day) on environmental legislation application	May 2005	~ 25 participants from the various line ministries & public authorities
TS (3-day) on dealing with environmental litigation	June 2005	~ 68 participants including judges, law firms, environmental consultancy firms & NGOs
AS (10, 1.5-hr each) on the dissemination of SELDAS book	March 2005- April 2005	~ 262 participants from public administrations, parliamentary committees, private consultancy firms, academia, international organizations and NGOs
AS (10, 1.5-hr each) on the role of municipalities in the application of environmental legislation	July 2005	~ 589 participants including mayors, vice mayors, municipalities ' councils, etc.

To widen the circle of trainees and thus include decision-makers, an environmental legislation study tour to Germany was organized between July 4 and 11, 2004. The tour included visits and meetings with professionals from both the public and the private sectors in Berlin, Heidelberg area and Bonn:

- Berlin: Foreign Affairs Office, Federal Ministry of Environment, Federal Agency of Environmental Protection;
- Heidelberg: Max-Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law, Heidelberg Municipality;
- Mannheim: MVV consulting company headquarters;
- Stuttgart: State of Baden – Wuerttemberg Ministry of Environment and Transport;
- Karlsruhe: Administrative Court, Federal Constitutional Court); and
- Bonn (Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Environmental Law Center of the World Conservation Union).

It is believed that this tour has succeeded in achieving the following:

- exposing legislative, executive and judiciary authorities as well as academia to environmental legislation development, application and education procedures in an advanced European country;
- initiating the offering of environmental law courses at several schools of law represented in the tour;
- enhancing the various institutions' knowledge of the Ministry of Environment's mission and challenges facing it, and discussing ways for optimizing resources to address these challenges; and
- networking with local public and private institutions, involved in environmental legislation, and expanding cooperation for the benefit of the environment at large.

Moreover, a pilot law, of 34 articles- on the protection of air quality – was drafted, and the associated preliminary Cost Benefit Analysis prepared (1\$ in cost produces 4.5\$ in benefits). Parallel to drafting a pilot law on air quality, support was provided to the Division of Legal Affairs of the Ministry, particularly for reviewing selected draft environmental legislation and ensuring the necessary follow up to enactment (such as MoE Organizational Law – law # 690/2005 – Annex 1.3.3A and a decree related to the small grants program of the MoE – decree 14865/2005 – Annex 1.3.2A).

R3: Environmental Law Education Promoted

More than 1,200 students attended one of SELDAS seminars on environmental law development, as per the table below. Most seminars were evaluated quantitatively and qualitatively, with very encouraging results. Seminars reports can be checked on the project website <http://www.balamand.edu.lb/seldas>

Awareness Seminar (AS)	Date	Participants
AS (9, 1.5-hr each) on the importance of promoting environmental legislation activities	Feb 2004 – May 2005	~ 240 participants from various universities
AS (14, 1.5-hr each) on introduction to environmental law	March 2005	~ 865 students from various backgrounds
AS (3, 1.5-hr each) on the introduction of the environmental chart in the French Constitution and environmental liability	May 2005	~ 159 participants including judges, lawyers, law students, academia, NGO representatives, environmental specialists, public sector representatives, and others.

Integration of environmental law courses at selected schools was promoted and facilitated, as per the table below:

University/School	Date (or Expected Date) of Integration of Environmental Law Course
Saint Joseph University/ Faculty of Law	October 2003
Holy Spirit University Kaslik/ Faculty of Law	October 2004
Sagesse University/ Faculty of Law	October 2004
Beirut Arab University/ Faculty of Law	October 2005
Islamic University/ Faculty of Law	October 2005
American University of Beirut/ Master of Environmental Policy	October 2005

Graduate studies in environmental law in Europe, for interested candidates, were facilitated through the identification and dissemination of French and British universities that offer such degrees, as well as coordination with local agencies for potential sponsorship.

Despite the various challenges faced, SELDAS has succeeded in meeting the various objectives as outlined in the project proposal. Moreover, the various activities undertaken and associated results demonstrate some impacts that extend beyond the project lifetime and objectives, namely:

- long-term capacity building results for the Division of Legal Affairs at the Ministry brought by (1) SELDAS book, (2) training and seminars presentations, and (3) large stakeholders' network;
- a remarkable added value to the environment field concretized mainly by the SELDAS book and the various training manuals; and
- overall environmental benefits manifested by the various activities that contributed to mainstreaming environmental policy.

Finally, by meeting the objectives outlined above, SELDAS has modestly triggered a chain related to the sustained increase in eco-job opportunities.

Section 3: Financial Report

PROJECT CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE BENEFICIARY IN THE CASE OF PARTNERSHIP

Project n°: LIFE02 TCY/RL/032

Title: Strengthening the Environmental Legislation Development and Application System in Lebanon (SELDAS)

Full Name of Beneficiary: UNESCO-Cousteau Ecotechnie Chair at the University of Balamand

Reference period: from 01/03/2003 to 30/09/2005

Categories of expenditure	Total amount without VAT (Euros)		Total amount with non-recoverable VAT (Euros)	
1. Personnel	233,846.16		233,846.16	
2. Travel	31,331.12		31,331.12	
3. External Assistance	255,165.62		255,165.62	
4. Durable Goods	<i>Real Cost</i>	<i>Eligible Cost</i>	<i>Real Cost</i>	<i>Eligible Cost</i>
Infrastructure	-	-	-	-
Equipment	6,063.37	3,031.69	6,258.17	3,129.09
Prototype	-		-	
Sub-total	6,063.37	3,031.69	6,258.17	3,129.09
5. Consumables	62,749.25		63,580.27	
6. Other Costs	30,721.12		33,137.99	
7. Overheads	43,413		43,413	
TOTAL	<i>Real Cost</i>	<i>Eligible Cost</i>	<i>Real Cost</i>	<i>Eligible Cost</i>
	663,289.64	660,257.96	666,732.33	663,603.25

Exchange rate: 1EURO= 1,836.29 LL
1EURO= 1.2181 \$

Name of project manager: Manal Moussallem

Function: Project Manager

Address: Ministry of Environment
PO Box: 11-2727 Beirut, Lebanon

Date: September 23, 2005

Signature:

Annexes: