



WES INFO BULLETIN

NATIONAL ACTIVITY LEBANON

“ENVIRONMENTAL GUIDELINES AND EMISSION LIMIT VALUES FOR SPECIFIC INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITIES OF THE FOOD AND CONSTRUCTION SECTORS”

April 2023

Overview

From March 2021 to September 2022, the ‘Water and Environment Support (WES) in the ENI Southern Neighborhood region’ Project provided technical assistance to the Ministry of Environment (MoE) of Lebanon on the prevention/abatement of industrial pollution.

More specifically, taking into account the Best Available Techniques (BATs) and BAT Reference Documents (BREFs), WES proposed revisions and comments to the MoE’s environmental guidelines for the establishment and operation of specific industries within the food sector (dairy, slaughterhouses, cow farms, meat processing, beverages) and the construction sector (concrete masonry, cutting stone, asphalt, concrete, paints).

Moreover, the MoE, having developed new wastewater standards under the Lebanon Environmental Pollution Abatement Project (LEPAP), based on European Union (EU), other national and regional regulations and standards, requested WES to comment and propose revisions as needed.

This national WES activity was implemented with the support and services of LDK Consultants Global EEIG, Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development (MIO-ECSDE), and GOPA Infra GmbH.

Methodology and Implementation

The activity was designed and delivered in a phased approach and covered the following tasks:

- Initial Study and Inception Report of selected industrial sectors and sub-sectors based on available local information with the support of the MoE.
- Defining the main structures and stakeholders from both the public and private sectors, civil society and research institutes.
- Collection of all relevant information from the key stakeholders in the selected sectors/sub-sectors. Technical issues related to the industries were discussed, as well as obstacles and challenges (existing shortcomings), optimisation and improvement measures and good practises, taking into account the financial crisis in Lebanon and the impact of the pandemic.
- Analyses of the existing Lebanese ELVs and methodology, for ten different industrial sectors/sub-sectors, presented in a form of a final Inception Report.
- Comparative study of national legislation versus EU BATs and “Applied Processes and Techniques” as indicated in EU BREFs.
- Evaluation of the environmental performance of selected sectors and sub-sectors and their ability and capacity to comply with any new proposed ELVs and Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP).
- Revision and comments on the MoE drafted environmental guidelines in collaboration and with assistance from the MoE, based on the MoE preferred content outline, clearly defining the Legal framework (relevant Lebanese regulations and standards, Permitting Procedure, Operating

process, Inputs, Outputs, Process descriptions, Environmental Monitoring and Contingency planning).

- Comments on the draft industrial wastewater standards developed by the MoE, based on EU, other national and regional regulations and standards (emerging request).
- **Organisation of an online Consultation Meeting, to present the progress and preliminary findings of the abovementioned joint MoE and WES actions and to launch a consultation process on the results of the revision of the 10 environmental guidelines for the establishment and operation of industries, as well as on the new wastewater standards being developed by the MoE at the time.**

More specifically, ten revised guidelines for the selected sub-sectors and the evaluation note on the emission standards for industrial wastewater were shared and discussed with all stakeholders. Twenty-five Lebanese stakeholders participated in the consultation: Representatives of the Ministry of Environment, International Organisations and Programmes, Academia and Research Institutes, the Delegation of the European Union to Lebanon and the private sector along with various consultants.

- Finalisation of the activity outputs based on the discussions of the consultation meeting.

Main Outcomes

- ✓ Despite the fact that this activity has been performed under challenging conditions for the country and the world, the “Revision of sectoral guidelines and ELVs for industrial activities in Lebanon” will help to increase awareness of the stakeholders for the need of taking measures to protect the environment and achieve the objective of tackling problems related to pollution prevention in Lebanon and the Mediterranean.
- ✓ While in the short term the prevailing economic crisis in Lebanon is a major obstacle, from a different perspective and in the longer term, there are many opportunities for full implementation and improvement of the environmental performance of the ten industries and subsequently, the whole industrial sector. The format and content of the 10 revised guidelines should provide the example for refining the guidelines for other industry branches, sectors and subsectors.
- ✓ Due to differences in financial capacities, enforcement will start with the big industries and new developed installations and continue on with the medium and smaller scale ones. In fact, these guidelines and standards will make it easier also for small industries to better manage the environmental aspects related to their respective sectors and more specifically the issues related to wastewater.
- ✓ Lebanese stakeholders expressed great interest in the results of the joint WES and MoE work and confirmed their commitment to contribute to the finalisation and approval of the ten sectoral guidelines and remain active in the follow-up process.
- ✓ The role and support of WES ends here. The next steps for the formalisation of the guidelines and the new standard on wastewater and their publication by Ministerial Decree will be implemented by the MoE in close coordination with the Ministry of Industry additional executive ministries, the regional water establishments, and other key actors.



Useful Link

https://www.wes-med.eu/activities_type/n-e-lb-1-revision-of-guidelines-and-comparative-study-on-elvs-for-ten-industrial-activities-in-lebanon/

WES Project

The EU funded Water and Environment Support (WES) is a regional project designed to contribute to the implementation of an integrated approach to pollution reduction and prevention, in line with the Union for the Mediterranean agendas and the Barcelona Convention. WES is also meant to contribute to a more efficient management of scarce water resources in the ENI Southern Neighbourhood region.

The project aims to do so by increasing the capacity of stakeholders that are involved in pollution reduction and water management and support them in formulating and implementing the environmental and water policies.

WES supports the shift to a more sustainable consumption and production model, promotes an integrated and efficient management of water, combats plastic pollution and marine litter and fosters dialogue on key environmental and sustainable development issues. In this way, WES also supports mutual understanding, cooperation, and peace in the region.

The WES Partner Countries are Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine, and Tunisia. However, to ensure the coherence and effectiveness of EU funding or to promote regional cooperation, the eligibility of specific actions can be extended to neighbouring countries in the Southern Neighbourhood region.

For any further information on WES project, please visit:

www.wes-med.eu

And follow us for all the latest updates via:



DISCLAIMER:

This publication was produced with the financial support of the European Union. Its contents are the sole responsibility of the WES Project and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union.