

Monitoring, Verification and Evaluation (MVE) Unit Egyptian Environmental Policy Program

Annual Report 2001
(January 1 - December 31 2001)

The Monitoring, Verification, & Evaluation (MVE) Unit, Task Order No. 811 under Contract No. LAG-I-00-99-00014-00, was signed 10 August 2001 by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Egypt Mission. The current contract completion date is 31 March 2003.

In approximately the first half of 2001 the MVE Unit operated under Task Order No. 803 under Contract No. PCE-I-00-97-00015-00, which was initiated on December 22, 1999, by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Egypt Mission. With extensions the eventual contract completion date was 9 August 2001.

This report covers tasks conducted during entire second project year (January 1 through December 31, 2001). As required in Section 3.7 of Task Order 811, this report is a summary and assessment of the MVE Unit activities and accomplishments. It is arranged in the following format:

I. Narrative Section

I.A Project Activities and Tasks,

I.A.1 Verification

I.A.2 Monitoring

I.A.3 Evaluation

I.A.4 Management Systems and Reporting

I.A.5 Information Systems

I.A.6 Cross-cutting Issues

I.B. Short-term Technical Assistance (TA), and

I.C. Programmatic Issues and Future Activities.

Narrative Section

I.A. Project Activities and Tasks

I.A.1 Verification

First quarter 2001

Tranche 1

- Prepared and distributed Year 2000 Implementation Progress Report (through December 2000) to all GOE participating agencies, USAID, and Technical Assistance Contractors. An

earlier version, covering the project period through November 2000, was submitted to USAID and GOE Executive Committee members for their review before the December Executive Committee meeting and comments were requested regarding this report. When none were received by the January deadline, the report was updated through the end of December through more consultations and interviews and the final report was prepared and distributed. This report updated Policy Measure Means of Verification information from the June Interim Disbursement Report and added new analysis of the status of non-Policy Measures along with analysis of barriers and constraints noted during Tranche 1.

- Continued meeting with ATFs of GOE Participating agencies to consult on documentation for their Means of Verification so that their presentations would accurately reflect their accomplishments of the Tranche 1 Means.
- Obtained preliminary or draft versions of documentation for the Means of Verification.
- Began writing analysis based on these draft versions of documentation for various Means of Verification (MV) and other information even before receiving official documents.
- Began receiving and cataloging actual submitted documentation on MVs with their official letters of submission.
- Continued development of Verification Module of the information system database concentrating on reporting abilities. Loaded preliminary Tranche 2 design information into the database system for testing. Loaded all Tranche 1 data into the system in order to create and check all report formats and capabilities. The system now has several preset reports as well as a dynamic format for customized reports. Explored the possibility of using Verification Module capabilities for monthly reporting in EEPP.
- Provided many extensive briefings on progress regarding likely T1 accomplishments to USAID and TA contractors as well as to TDA and EEAA officials.

Tranche 2

- Participated in multiple, lengthy discussions with USAID, GOE, and contractors on Tranche 2 structure and reforms. Provided re-wordings of MVs so as to make PMs achievable and verifiable. Most of these modifications were incorporated and many were adopted directly.
- Continued developing a Common Tranche 2 Workplan format at the request of USAID and EC and in cooperation with the PSU, National Coordinator, and USAID.

Second quarter 2001

Tranche 1

- As the first tranche of EEPP ended on 26 March, 2001 a final Verification for Disbursement (VfD) was being carried out. Based on preliminary conclusions additional documentation was solicited from GOE agencies, received, and analyzed. Final versions of documents were received and analyzed by MVE in April.
- Preliminary conclusions were discussed with different parties and a draft of the report was submitted to USAID and to the TA contractors in April. Following discussion of this, a draft of the report was submitted to the GOE on 24 May in advance of the Executive Committee meeting. As of the end of this quarter comments on this report were still awaited.

Tranche 2

- MVE continued its participation in the process of development of policy measures (PM) and means of verification (MV) for Tranche 2. Its advice was on both conceptual issues as well as on language and wording issues. MVE also reviewed and submitted comments on Annex B, the text explanations for the PMs.
- MVE continued the design of a system for the Valuation of Tranche 2 policy measures and has provided a series of versions accompanied by briefings to USAID. MVE has been developing the possible factors and their definitions as well as the system for rating measures. MVE will not actually be assigning values to PMs, a responsibility of USAID and the Executive Committee.
- MVE continued to develop the Tranche 2 Verification Plan. The plan specifies agreed upon policy measures, and means of verification, methodology, (e.g. how means of verification will be analyzed, documented, communicated to MVE, etc.) and timing, i.e. when each means of verification will be achieved, and organizational responsibilities in the MVE process.
- MVE participated in Participating Agency/Contractor Working Group Workplan development meetings. In part, this was to help in the actual work planning as MVE could provide input into the actual workplans. In part, this was also so that MVE could more completely understand the intent of the policy reform and how it is to be implemented. This would improve monitoring, verification, and evaluation of the accomplishments.

Verification Management Systems

- MVE continued to develop the Verification Module software inputting the evolving versions of the policy matrix and testing report formats. This Verification Management software will be used for Tranche 2.
- MVE continued to improve and distribute the common Tranche 2 workplan format in cooperation with the National Coordinator and TA contractors. The format is being implemented by all contractors and MVE expects to be asked to provide advice and assistance on how to manage the information so that regular reporting is possible.

Third quarter 2001

Tranche 1

- Final comments from the GOE on the End of Tranche Verification Report were received in July and, as these were very few, a final version of the report was immediately prepared and submitted. This report verified the achievement of a high percentage of means of verification and, by extension, the majority of the policy measure reforms. The evaluation of the impact and of the fulfillment of the “intent” of the reforms is being conducted. The Executive Committee formally endorsed the report to USAID.
- There was an Executive Committee meeting in June to which MVE was not invited.

Tranche 2

- MVE continued providing advice on both conceptual issues as well as on language and wording issues for the Tranche 2 Policy Matrix. Whenever it was informed of them, MVE participated in Participating Agency/Contractor Working Group Workplan development meetings to help the process where possible and also to help improve MVE’s own work.

- MVE continued to develop the Tranche 2 Verification Plan. The plan specifies agreed upon policy measures, and means of verification, methodology, (e.g. how means of verification will be analyzed, documented, communicated to MVE, etc.), definitions of terms and of levels of success, and timing, i.e. when each means of verification will be achieved, and organizational responsibilities in the MVE process.
- MVE advised USAID once more on the design of a system for the Valuation of Tranche 2 policy measures. MVE has been developing the possible factors and their definitions as well as the system for rating measures. MVE will not actually be assigning values to PMs, a responsibility of USAID and the Executive Committee.
- MVE participated in the Tranche 2 Launch meeting held 26-27 September. Along with making a presentation on its work MVE staff also facilitated a number of working sessions. The results of the meeting will be improved workplans that will affect the verification of Tranche 2.

Verification Management Systems

- MVE continued to develop the Verification Module software inputting the evolving versions of the policy matrix and testing report formats. This Verification Management software will be used for Tranche 2.
- The common Tranche 2 workplan format whose design MVE began in November 2000 has been distributed to all EEPP participants and is being employed for all Tranche 2 activities in all parts of the EEPP program.

Fourth quarter 2001

Tranche 1

- In November 2001, MVE was invited to meet with the USAID Legal, Financial, and Program Depts. along with the Environment Division to review its End of Tranche 1 Verification Report. The review found that all of the MVE verification conclusions were justified by the documentation and that the report was clear and comprehensive. USAID will continue the process of actually transferring the rest of the cash disbursement covered.

Tranche 2

- MVE continued providing advice on conceptual issues and language and wording issues for the Tranche 2 Policy Matrix Policy Measures and Means of Verification.
- MVE participated in Participating Agency/Contractor Working Group Workplan development meetings whenever informed of them, to help the process where possible and also to help improve MVE's ability to plan for verification. MVE's participation in the meetings included those with TDA and EEAA groups, particularly the Inspection and the Best Practices groups.
- MVE developed and submitted a draft of the Tranche 2 Verification Plan to USAID and, after incorporating USAID's comments, to the Technical Assistance contractors. The Plan takes the agreed upon policy measures, means of verification, and timing, (i.e. when each means of verification will be achieved) from the Policy Matrix or the workplans. It adds MVE's understanding of methodology (e.g. how means of verification will be analyzed, documented, communicated to MVE, etc.), definitions of terms and of levels of success, organizational responsibilities, and issues of concern in the verification process.

- The Quarterly Implementation Progress Report for the third quarter of 2001 was submitted in draft to USAID. Because there was no official Tranche 2 Policy Matrix at the time there was no official progress. However, substantial work toward the ultimate Policy Measures is being carried out in the preparation phase between the tranches.

Verification Management Systems

- MVE continued to develop the Verification Module software, inputting the evolving versions of the policy matrix and testing report formats. This Verification Management software will be used for Tranche 2. MVE developed and designed the needed changes and upgrades and sent these to the Chemonics Home Office. While in Washington, Doug Baker discussed these directly with the information system developers.

I.A.2 Monitoring

First quarter 2001

- Worked on refining PMP indicators, explanations, and data.
- Worked on collecting Year 200 actual values for the USAID R4 process and contributed tables of indicators in common format for submission to Washington.
- Discussed how to set up database for tracking PMP/R4 with information specialists at Chemonics HO.
- Received results of initial solid waste management (SWM) study for baseline assessment. When this initial study was reviewed, it did not adequately address PMP needs for USAID. Therefore, the MVE subcontractor re-focused the study specifically on private sector participation in governorates. Got initial results of this report and provided it to USAID and the privatization contractor.
- Worked with the EEAA Information Systems Department in initial steps toward building an ENR indicator management capability in the GOE. To this end, MVE consultants studied Mediterranean Blue Plan, Arab League, and other indicators; designed a workshop to achieve common understanding of indicators and the development process among GOE entities; held the workshop for more than 60 participants from more than 20 GOE entities; and wrote a report regarding experience and recommending next steps.

Second quarter 2001

- Michelle Adams-Matson, who had come to Cairo in 2000 to provide assistance on the PMP, worked on the PMP indicator for Public Awareness while she was in Cairo principally to work on the Tranche 1 Evaluation Plan. She and Doug Baker, COP, met with Dr. Lynn Mortensen of AED on the design and continued to collaborate electronically.
- MVE continued to discuss the information system module for managing indicators, for PMP and others. Draft designs were received from another Chemonics International project to be considered for adaptation.
- MVE submitted to USAID the preliminary materials from the report on the Status of Private Sector Participation in Solid Waste Management. As these were from two separate investigations, one more broad and the other more detailed but covering only selected areas, the information was being edited to form a single coherent report.
- MVE prepared draft progress report on the status of MVE cooperation with the GOE, specifically with EEAA, on environmental indicators. The report covered the March

workshop, subsequent developments, and the continued cooperation to fully investigate the underlying data and indicators presently used by the GOE. This work is also in cooperation with the IDSC and CAPMAS.

Third quarter 2001

- MVE submitted the report on the “Status of Private Sector Participation in Solid Waste Management.” It was the result of two separate investigations conducted for MVE by EcoConServ and by Environics, one focused on broad parameters while the other focused on details for selected areas. A coherent report covering many aspects of the private sector situation was created.
- MVE prepared and submitted a “progress update” on the status of MVE work on environmental indicators, specifically that in cooperation with EEAA, IDSC, and CAPMAS. The report covered the March workshop, subsequent developments, the continued cooperation to fully investigate the underlying data and indicators presently used by the GOE, and recommendations for next steps. With the completion of the Data Assessment segment a “Final Report” is being prepared even as the next stages of work are undertaken.
- Based on the indicator study MVE began work on the EEPP Monitoring System which will be capable of using environmental, socio-economic, and other indicators to monitor the effects and impacts of the implementation of EEPP policy reforms.

Fourth quarter 2001

MVE team members met with Sylvia Attala and Nadine El-Hakim of USAID on monitoring issues pertaining to the project, including the EEPP Monitoring System and the USAID PMP, as well as to discuss reports and activities conducted this quarter.

- **Support for Development of an Environmental Indicator System in the GOE.** MVE prepared and submitted a “Final Report” on the status of MVE work on environmental indicators, specifically that in cooperation with EEAA, IDSC, and CAPMAS. This final report included information from the completed assessment on the availability and quality of data used by the GOE. The earlier “Progress Update” report on this same subject, submitted on July 2001, covered the March workshop, subsequent developments, the continued cooperation to fully investigate the underlying data and indicators presently used by the GOE, and recommendations for next steps for MVE’s work and for EEAA’s work. The new Task Order refined the scope of MVE activities in this area to more narrowly focus on a Monitoring System for EEPP.
- **EEPP Monitoring System Design.** Building upon the Environmental Indicator System report and in accordance with a refined scope for the Monitoring System (MS), MVE began work on the EEPP MS which will be capable of using environmental, socio-economic, and other indicators to monitor the effects and impacts of the implementation of EEPP policy reforms. In December, MVE submitted a draft for the design of the System. It listed and reviewed the various design choices made and the reasons for these.
- **EEPP Monitoring System Baseline.** MVE submitted a baseline report with all of the indicators presently available from the GOE along with available data on the respective values. MVE plans to develop further documentation and indicator tracking during the next

quarter in preparation for the first full monitoring report. Dr. Joy Hecht was a major contributor to this effort.

- **Information Systems.** While in Washington, Doug Baker was able to view and discuss an information system for PMP and other monitoring indicators that Chemonics has been developing for another project. Its applicability for MVE and what would be involved in adapting it are being explored.

I.A.3 Evaluation

First quarter 2001

- Began the study “Performance Appraisal of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Review System in Egypt and Development of an Internal Performance Monitoring System”. MVE consultants assigned to this task were Yasser Sherif (Environics), Chris Perine (Chemonics), Tarek Wafik (MVE), Khaled Fahmy (MVE), and others. They conducted interviews, obtained and studied documents. Wrote initial and subsequent versions for discussion with Dr. Ahmed Abul Azm, head of EIA at EEAA. Initial reactions were very favorable and the study will be completed during the second quarter.
- Began the study “Supporting a Common Information Base for Red Sea Management”. Task participants include: Richard Warner (Chemonics), Ali Nasr (Chemonics Egypt), Tarek Wafik (MVE), Heba Gaber (Chemonics Egypt), and Doug Baker (MVE). Some 30 structured interviews were conducted in Cairo, Hurghada, Alexandria, and Sinai and data holdings were evaluated. First versions of the report and data catalog have been prepared. The study will be completed in the second quarter.
- The proposed study on “Economic Valuation of the Red Sea Coral Reef ecosystem” continued to be defined. It was discussed with Mike Colby (PSU), Robert Anderson (PSU consultant), Joy Hecht (Chemonics), Khaled Fahmy (MVE), Yasser Sherif (Environics), and Doug Baker (MVE). A new draft statement of work was prepared for discussion and the work is expected to begin during the second quarter.
- The MVE team began working on Tranche 2 barrier and constraint and baseline study concepts for the Tranche 2 workplan.

Second quarter 2001

- Michelle Adams-Matson, M&E specialist, came to Cairo to begin design of the Tranche 1 Evaluation Plan. She and COP Doug Baker conducted interviews with Alan Davis of USAID, all USAID CTOs and the COPs from the TA contractors, as well as with the National Coordinator and others. The interviews focused on the information that these parties thought essential to know for the planning and management of the EEPP program. Adams-Matson’s report was submitted in the beginning of the following quarter and will serve as the basis for design of the MVE Evaluation Agenda. While here her other assignments were to work on the PMP and on preliminary issues for the evaluation of Tranche 2.
- MVE has continued to prepare the report “A Summary Assessment of Tranche 1 Implementation”. It covers all of the Tranche 1 PMs not just those with linked cash disbursements and is an initial evaluation of what was achieved and its effects. The design and the questions covered were discussed with USAID.

- MVE continued to prepare for publication the report on “Performance Appraisal of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Review System in Egypt and Development of an Internal Performance Monitoring System” with subcontractors Environics and Chemonics Egypt and with GOE input.
- MVE continued to prepare the report on “Supporting a Common Information Base for Red Sea Management”. The RSCIB will be complete and submitted in the third quarter.
- The study on the “Economic Valuation of the Red Sea Coral Reef ecosystem” continued to be delayed. Plans were made to have the visit of the consultant selected, David Dornbusch, at a time when it would mesh with the work he was doing for the PSU. This was never possible as the PSU work was postponed at the last minute and work has been planned for this in the third quarter.
- MVE continued to develop concepts for needed analytical work in Tranche 2.

Third quarter 2001

- MVE has continued to prepare the report “A Summary Assessment of Tranche 1 Implementation”. It covers all of the Tranche 1 Policy Measures not just those with linked cash disbursements and is an initial evaluation of what was achieved and its effects. The design and the questions covered were discussed with USAID. Further work was done on the Tranche 2 Evaluation Plan.
- MVE submitted and distributed the final draft of the report on “Performance Appraisal of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Review System in Egypt and Development of an Internal Performance Monitoring System” with subcontractors Environics and Chemonics Egypt and with GOE input. Follow-up work on this in Tranche 2 is being discussed.
- MVE submitted and distributed the final draft of the report on “Supporting a Common Information Base for Red Sea Protection and Development”. It identified the problem of data availability and suggested a possible solution to the problem. MVE continues to work with the EEAA Nature Conservation Sector and other entities in trying to promote an effort within the GOE to actually agree on and implement a solution.
- The study on the “Economic Valuation of the Red Sea Coral Reef Ecosystem”, while approved by USAID, continued to be delayed. The visit of the consultant selected, David Dornbusch, was planned for a time when it would mesh with the work he was doing for the PSU. But the PSU work was postponed at the last minute and their work has been unable to recommence. The work is still planned in the new contract.

Fourth quarter 2001

- **Tranche 1 Assessment.** MVE submitted a draft of the report “A Summary Assessment of Tranche 1 Implementation” in December 2001. This report covers all of the Tranche 1 Policy Measures, whether or not linked to cash disbursements. It is an initial evaluation of what was achieved, including the effects of and problems in Tranche 1. The report design was discussed with USAID early on and, in November, preliminary results were presented and discussed with USAID and the MVE team. At the end of the fourth quarter, MVE was awaiting comments from USAID.
- **Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Review System Appraisal.** MVE met with Dr. Ahmed Abul Azm, the director of EIA for EEAA, several times in order to discuss the final draft of the report on “Performance Appraisal of the Environmental Impact Assessment

(EIA) Review System in Egypt and Development of an Internal Performance Monitoring System”.

- **Environmental Data and Information Base.** MVE continued to work with the EEAA Nature Conservation Sector and other entities to promote an effort within the GOE to agree on and implement a solution to the problem of data availability for the Red Sea area. This problem was identified in the MVE report on “Supporting a Common Information Base for Red Sea Protection and Development”.
- **Tranche 1 Lessons Learned Assessment.** MVE began work on a “Lessons Learned” paper as a result of Tranche 1 experience. The focus of this would not be at the operational level but rather at the level of higher project design, including relations between participants, length of tranches, cash disbursement mechanisms, types of reforms to be undertaken, etc.

4 Management Systems and Reporting

First quarter 2001

- Discussed coordination issues with Dr. Khaled Abdel Aziz, the new EEPP National Coordinator. Discussions concentrated on areas of overlap, such as reporting.
- Produced the Annual Report on activities for Year 2000; discussed drafts of various dates; and submitted the final version to USAID on 4 February 2001.
- Produced and discussed with USAID draft versions of the workplan for Year 2-2001. The drafts were not submitted in a final format during the first quarter because MVE activities are greatly dependent on the on-going design plans for EEPP Tranche 2 and the MVE potential contract extension.
- David Fratt was in Cairo to discuss project management, planning, and EIA evaluation study plans at the end of January 2001.
- Marilyn Tedeschi visited the MVE field office during a trip to Cairo in February 2001 for a brief mid-project review of the MVE financial and administrative systems and procedures. She reported that she was satisfied that MVE was following all correct procedures.

Second quarter 2001

- Continued to work with Dr. Khaled Abdel Aziz, the EEPP National Coordinator
- Prepared and submitted First Quarter 2001 Management Report in April 2001.
- Continued development of 2001 workplan and submitted another version of this to USAID 4 April. Further refinement and approval of this is being held up for the final design of Tranche 2 and pending resolution of the contract extension.
- David Fratt and Kristina Cartwright came to Cairo to prepare the final budget reallocation and contract close-out procedures. (Fratt worked principally on the Cairo Air Improvement Project)
- MVE Continued working closely with Yasser Sherif, Environics, and Ahmad Gaber, Chemonics Egypt on project management issues including short-term consultants.

Third quarter 2001

- MVE was awarded a new contract for another 20 months of work beginning 10 August 2001. Previous to this agreement, the contract for MVE had been extended for 30 days from 22

June to 22 July and then subsequently to 10 August with no increase in the amount of the contract.

- MVE created workplans for the entire new contract period, essentially the projected Tranche 2 plus another quarter. These were discussed at various times with USAID and were submitted in abbreviated form at the Tranche 2 Launch meeting.
- MVE continued to work with Dr. Khaled Abdel Aziz, the EEPP National Coordinator
- MVE prepared and submitted Second Quarter 2001 Management Report in August 2001.
- MVE continued working closely with Yasser Sherif, Environics, and Ahmad Gaber, Chemonics Egypt on project management issues including short-term consultants.

Fourth quarter 2001

- The workplans for the entire new contract period, essentially the then-projected Tranche 2 plus another quarter were further clarified with USAID in October. However, given the recent decision to extend Tranche 2 and eliminate Tranche 3, workplans for all contractors will need to be updated and adjusted for the entire new Tranche 2 timeframe.
- MVE continued to work with Dr. Khaled Abdel Aziz, the EEPP National Coordinator on reporting and other issues for the project as a whole.
- MVE continued working closely with Yasser Sherif, Environics, and Ahmad Gaber, Chemonics Egypt on project management issues including short-term consultants.
- Doug Baker also worked on emergency management plans related to the security situation in the region and heightened tensions for travelers.
- MVE prepared and submitted to USAID the Third Quarter 2001 Management Report.

I.A.5 Information System

- MVE obtained web address “egyptmve.com” for future use and to obtain individual e-mail addresses. Presently, the website contains basic contact information for the MVE project.

I.A.6 Cross-Cutting Issues

In the new MVE Task Order of August 2001 the responsibility for reporting on certain cross-cutting issues was added. In general, this reporting occurs on two levels. In the first, MVE is to report on how it integrated such issues into its own activities. In the second, it is to report, in a limited way to be defined, on how these issues are integrated into EEPP activities.

With respect to gender issues, MVE did not explicitly integrate these into its own studies done in 2001 under the previous task order but, in general, studies on EIA Review Procedures, Solid Waste Management Privatization, Availability of Information on The Red Sea, and the like, are less susceptible to analysis from a gender perspective or, at least from a first glance, would yield little of obvious relevance to gender issues. As MVE defines its studies to be undertaken in 2002 under the new task order, gender aspects will be explicitly included in each. Additionally, among the new studies it is expected that there will be one or more actually focusing on gender issues.

With respect to the integration of gender into EEPP Policy Reforms, this explicit analysis has not been made. In January 2002 the PSU is beginning the process of contracting for an analysis of issues similar to this and MVE expects to cooperate with the analysis. Additionally, a section will be added

to the Tranche 1 Assessment that was begun before the new task order to perform this analysis preliminarily. It will be more fully integrated into the evaluations in Tranche 2.

With respect to institution-building issues, it should be noted that MVE does not work directly with GOE counterparts in providing them technical assistance. However, the issue of whether or not the capability to perform MVE-like functions is being built in the GOE has been one of concern to MVE staff. These issues may form a small part of the Strategic Planning work between the PSU and EEAA but are absent from other programs. MVE has been discussing the feasibility of offering to conduct short, focused small workshops to GOE staff of EEPP institutions in the areas of relevance to MVE such as monitoring and evaluation.

In the Tranche 1 Assessment that was begun before the new task order this was pointed out as an overall issue of concern and a recommendation was made to: “C2. Develop a sustainable mechanism for strengthening the capacity of the environmental agencies.” A short exploration of this followed in the document. This section of the Assessment will be re-examined to more completely analyze this issue and similar analyses will be more fully integrated into future evaluations.

With respect to public-private partnership issues, MVE does not directly interact with the GOE or the non-governmental sector on these issues but will look for opportunities about how they could possibly be integrated into future work. However, the issue of PPP in the Tranche 1 reforms is one that has been of concern to MVE. Specifically, although one of the original purposes of EEPP was to promote public-private interaction and appropriate roles, there has, in fact, been little attention paid to this in practice and environmental management remains very much a central GOE responsibility. Some examples of EEPP working with the private sector in Tranche 1 would include the Egyptian Environmental Service Business Association (EESBA) which is bringing together a number of private sector firms, the Environmental Protection Fund which has made loans to some private sector firms, and Solid Waste Management which is contracting with (large) private (foreign) firms. MVE has plans to examine this issue explicitly in 2002.

With respect to other cross-cutting issues of communication and cooperation, MVE remains a fully engaged partner with the other parts of the EEPP program.

I.B. Short-term Technical Assistance

First quarter 2001

- Chris Perine traveled to Cairo on TDY from 3 February to 1 March 2001 to work on the 2001 Work Plan, Quarterly Reporting for MVE, and the environmental impact assessment (EIA) review system study.
- Joy Hecht was on TDY in Cairo from 9 February to 24 February 2001 and from 14 March to 24 March 2001. During the first trip, she worked on designing the Environmental Indicators study and the preliminary workshop design. The second trip included finalization of the indicators workshop and facilitation of seminars and discussion groups during the workshop. She also completed the study report upon completion of the TDY.

- Richard Warner was on TDY in Cairo from 9 February to 2 March and from 18 March to 4 April 2001. The first trip included time to design the Red Sea Common Information Base study and complete initial interviews with counterparts. The second trip was designed to complete the study with final interviews and time to collaborate with all task participants on the final written report.
- MVE's local subcontractors provided technical assistance on the three evaluation studies completed during the first quarter: Environmental Indicators study, the Red Sea Common Information Base study, and the EIA studies.

Second quarter 2001

- Local sub-contractors from Environics and Chemonics Egypt, principally Adham Ramadan and Ali Nasr but also Yasser Sherif, continued to provide assistance to MVE. Also, Tarek Genena of EcoConServ prepared a report on solid waste management.
- Chris Perine worked in Cairo on the finalization and technical writing involved in the final reports of the evaluation studies begun during Tranche 1, specifically the EIA report. He also worked with the MVE team on preparations for Tranche 2 and planning for Tranche 2 evaluation studies and in the construction of the Tranche 2 verification plan.
- Michelle Adams-Matson worked in Cairo on the Tranche 1 Evaluation Plan and the PMP.
- Kristina Cartwright worked with the local staff and COP to conduct an audit of field office files, including inventory list, deliverables and reports, and accounting in preparation for the close-out of the MVE Task Order. Ms. Cartwright helped the MVE team with the finalization, editing, and production of required task order deliverables and worked with the local staff to train them on new database developments for future verification tracking and reporting.
- David Fratt covered management issues with the MVE COP and also reviewed MVE technical reports and analyses.

Third quarter 2001

- Because the extensions to the MVE contract were made with no additional funds, MVE needed to use no short-term LOE for the months of July and part of August and to use its remaining LOE funds for LT staff. Also, because no one knew when the contract would be negotiated and signed, plans for ST LOE could not be made for August until the contract was actually signed. Plans were made to begin to have ST LOE when the events of September 11 occurred. As a result of these circumstances there were no ST people in the field for MVE in this quarter.
- A limited amount of ST LOE was used in the Washington office both because it was already programmed to complete tasks in the first contract and to supplement what would have been in the field.

Fourth quarter 2001

- Dr. Joy Hecht, Dr. Mohamed Khatouri, and Mr. Chris Perine worked in Cairo principally on Monitoring, Evaluation, and Verification, respectively.

- A limited amount of ST LOE was used in the Washington office to supplement what was provided in the field.
- While on R&R in the US in December, Doug Baker traveled to Washington to work in the Home Office. Along with consulting with senior management on the project, he talked with Information Systems people about the changes requested on the Verification Module software and about the Monitoring System software. He met with Khatouri and with Perine about the Lessons Learned paper, with Kristina Cartwright about completing the accounting for the old contract, and with Richard Warner to get his updated opinion on the status of biological and other information in Egypt and what might be appropriate indicators for the Monitoring System.

I.C. Programmatic Issues and Future Activities

First quarter 2001

- The participation of MVE in the design of the Tranche 2 Policy Measures and Means of Verification has been increasing in accordance with the EEPP design. However, MVE's role remains sub-optimal versus MVE contractual responsibilities.
- The MVE contract expires 21 June 2001. Although discussions have been held regarding a new contract and USAID has indicated their desire to continue to contract Chemonics International for this project, no formal negotiations have been held, no actual contract vehicle has been identified, and no contract or contract amendment has been signed.

Second quarter 2001

MVE expects to concentrate on:

- Verification in July as comments are received from the GOE and as Tranche 2 begins; on
- Monitoring as the indicator system is prepared; and on
- Evaluation activities throughout the quarter with the conclusion of Tranche 1.

Staff members will also be taking their vacations in this period.

MVE received a 30-day no-cost extension until 21 July. As of 30 June the negotiations for the follow-on contract had still not yet started however it was hoped that a Scope of Work would be forthcoming in the early part of July.

Third quarter 2001

MVE has a great deal of work planned for the fourth quarter of 2001 including

- the Verification Plan for Tranche 2,
- the Monitoring System Design and Baseline Report, and
- the Summary Assessment of Tranche 1 Implementation.

This is along with the usual management tasks of the project, the continued adjustment of the workplans, and other items related to the security situation.

Fourth quarter 2001

MVE has a great deal of work planned for the first quarter of 2002 including

- completing the Verification Plan for Tranche 2 based on discussions with the TA contractors and the GOE,
- submitting a Lessons Learned paper on program design,
- developing the first complete report of the Monitoring System,
- revising the Summary Assessment of Tranche 1 Implementation after comments are received, and
- carrying out specific analyses related to Evaluation or other policy aspects.

Routine management tasks of the project continue along with communications with EEPP contractors regarding the adjustment of the workplans.