

Project Profile: Composting/Emission Reduction in Egypt

Local partner: Libra Organic Ltd. - Member of the Sekem Group.

Location and operation: The 1st composting site began operating in January 2007 in cooperation with Sekem. It is located 60km northeast of Cairo, in the desert, at the border of the Nile Delta close to the city of Belbeis. Since then, a 2nd composting site was established close to Alexandria in March 2008. The following information applies to both sites.

Input material (nature and quantity): Organic waste such as wood, straw, coffee residues, green fresh material and manure. 150 tons of such "waste" is processed each day.

Production capacity: Currently, around 45 000 tons of compost are produced annually on each site. Production will soon increase to 100 000 tons a year in total.

Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Reduction: Currently, the composting sites of Soil & More Egypt reduce about 100 000 tons GHG emissions a year.

Emission Reduction and Verification: Soil & More generates carbon credits through methane avoidance. The company's compost is produced using locally available biomass which – if not used for composting – would have been land filled and left to rot, thus emitting methane. All Soil & More emission reduction projects are independently verified through TÜV-Nord Cert Germany, a UNFCCC accredited DOE (Designated Operational Entity) and the credits generated are registered at MarkIt registry.

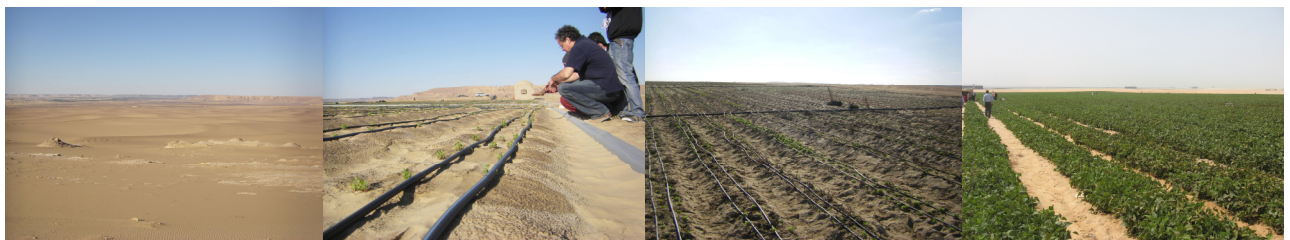
Social impacts: Since Soil & More Egypt's composting sites have started operating, 20 full-time jobs and about 60 indirect jobs were created on each site. In addition, due to its integration into the Sekem Group, the Egyptian composting sites support all social and cultural activities of the Sekem initiative (www.sekem.com).

Carbon Credits for land reclamation and sustainable farming in Egypt

Following its vision to contribute to soil fertility through the production of superior compost, Soil & More and its regional partners collect the locally available biomass waste from agriculture and transform it into high quality compost. Through a mechanically aerated composting process, Methane emissions which would occur under common practice biomass management are avoided. Subsidized through the revenues of the carbon credit sales, the compost is offered to the local agricultural producers, stimulating sustainable development in the agricultural sector.

In Egypt, Soil & More runs 2 composting facilities jointly with the Sekem Group which is one of Egypt's largest producers of organic products for both exports and the local market. Due to increased demand for organic commodities in Egypt and internationally, Sekem has to expand its agricultural areas to meet the market requirements. Altogether there are more than 8,000 acres of desert land adjacent to the Nile valley that needs to be developed in the next years. Applying a conversion factor of nearly 100 carbon credits per acre, the purchase of e.g. annually 50,000 credits would finance the reclamation and further development of about 450 acres of desert land for agricultural production.

Sekem is able to allocate a specific area to a buyer of carbon credits in order to visually track the progress of land reclamation, stimulated through the decision of the buyer to purchase carbon credits from Soil & More's composting project at the Sekem facilities.



50,000 credits = 40,000 tons of compost = 450 acres of productive land within 2 years