

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

**(LIFE 02 TCY/RL/032)**



**Second Progress Report  
From 1 September 2004 to 28 February 2005  
Submitted on 15 March 2005**

**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, Lebanon**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

List of Annexes: .....	3
Introduction: .....	4
Section 1: Technical Report .....	4
1. Summary of Activities and Results since the Start: .....	4
1.1 Diagnosis of the Current Environmental Legislative Setting (Task 2): .....	4
1.2 Drafting and Amendment of Environment Related Legislation (Task 3.3): .....	5
1.2.1 Draft New Legislation (Core of Task 3.3): .....	5
1.2.2 Review Environment Related Legislation Under Preparation (By Other Departments/ Projects at the Ministry): .....	6
1.3.3 Defend Legislation Under Review: .....	6
1.3 Organization of Training Sessions and Awareness Seminars (Portions of Tasks 3-5): .....	6
1.4 Promotion of Graduate Studies in Environmental Law in Europe for Lebanese Students (Task 5.1.1): .....	7
2. Project Management: .....	8
2.1 Roles and Responsibilities of the Various Players: .....	8
2.2 Liaise with Related Projects/ Initiatives: .....	9
2.3 Overall Project Management and Dissemination of Information: .....	10
3. Progress of the Project during the Reporting Period: .....	10
4. Assessment of Progress: .....	13
5. Future Planning for the Next Period of Time: .....	14
Section 2: Financial Report .....	15
Section 3: Request for Project Modification .....	16
Annexes .....	18

**List of Annexes:**

- Annex 1.1A: SELDAS Book Printing Specs  
Annex 1.1B: Letters of Request for SELDAS Book Review (February 2005)  
Annex 1.1C: Draft SELDAS Book Translation Contract  
Annex 1.1D: Contract Related to Environmental Jurisprudence( #25 Dated 16/7/2004)  
Annex 1.1E: Study Related to SELDAS Contribution to the Sustained Increase in Eco-Job Opportunities
- Annex 1.2.1A: Draft Clean Air Law in Arabic  
Annex 1.2.2A: Database of Draft Environmental Legislation Prepared by the Ministry
- Annex 1.3A: Brief Seminar Report (October 25, 2004)  
Annex 1.3B: IUCN-ELC's Letter of 11 November 2004  
Annex 1.3C: Minutes of SELDAS Training Sessions and Awareness Seminars Preparatory Meetings  
Annex 1.3D: SELDAS Training Sessions and Awareness Seminars Schedule  
Annex 1.3E: Draft Module 3 Addendum  
Annex 1.3F: Letter to the Bar Association of Beirut Dated October 28, 2004
- Annex 1.4A: Sample Letters to the Local Schools of Law and Environment Disciplines (November 2004)
- Annex 5A: SELDAS Revised Workplan (February 2005)

## **Introduction:**

This report summarizes the progress of work under the “Strengthening the Environmental Legislation Development and Application System in Lebanon (SELDAS)” since September 1, 2004 (end of the period covered by the Interim Report dated September 15, 2004) till February 28, 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 summary of activities and results since the start and subsection 2 gives an overview of project management. A detailed description of progress during reporting period is outlined in subsection 3 and an assessment of this progress in subsection 4. Finally, future planning for the next period of time is provided in subsection 5. Section 2 is the financial report; it includes the consolidated statement of expenditure. Section 3 is the request for project modification and supporting documents are enclosed in annexes.

## **Section 1: Technical Report**

### **1. Summary of Activities and Results since the Start:**

#### ***1.1 Diagnosis of the Current Environmental Legislative Setting (Task 2):***

After completion of a draft version of the “State of the Environmental Legislation Development and Application System in Lebanon (SELDAS)” book in August/ September 2004, as detailed in the Interim Report dated September 15, 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 Department 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 (as enclosed in Annex 1.1A). The book is expected to be published within the coming weeks; copies will be sent to the Commission directly after.

In an effort to promote SELDAS book, a request for book review was sent to H.E. Dr. Nasser Al Saidi, former Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry, as well as to H.E. Dr. Bahij Tabbarah, former Minister of Justice. Letters are enclosed in Annex 1.1B.

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. A draft translation contract is enclosed in Annex 1.1C.

Finally, it is to be noted that when the decision to produce the SELDAS book was made (as detailed in the Interim Report of September 15, 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 the Interim Report dated September 15, 2004, the Ministry subcontracted a small study to a local 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). Annex 1.1D is a copy of this contract. Preliminary results were submitted in January 2005; they are currently under review at the Ministry.

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, enclosed in Annex 1.1E. 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. Optimum ways to disseminate the findings of this small study are currently under examination.

### ***1.2 Drafting and Amendment of Environment Related Legislation (Task 3.3):***

As mentioned in SELDAS Interim Report dated September 15, 2004, task 3.3 of the project proposal (drafting pilot legislation) was expanded to include:

- Draft new environment related legislation
- 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)

#### ***1.2.1 Draft New Legislation (Core of Task 3.3):***

Major progress was achieved in the drafting of the law on clean air, a preliminary version of which, in English, was included in SELDAS Interim Report dated September 15, 2004. A solid version in Arabic has been completed; it is enclosed in Annex 1.2.1A. The draft law tackles the objectives and principles of clean air management, standards and emission limits (for stationary and mobile sources as well as fuel), overall institutional framework including planning, information management, etc., control of air pollution sources, financial provisions and finally responsibilities and penalties. It is expected that the remaining period of the

project will be used to carry a final internal review of the draft law, before consultation with key stakeholders from public agencies, key associations and syndicates, etc.

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

SELDAS feedback was sought on a key piece of legislation prepared by the Ministry and related to the establishment of the Order of Environmental Specialists.

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. Annex 1.2A is a copy of this database. 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.

#### *1.3.3 Defend Legislation Under Review:*

SELDAS has continued its leading role in defending the draft Environmental Impact Assessment decree under review by the pertinent bodies since summer 2001. In this respect, a lobbying document was prepared and shared with key public agencies stakeholders between January and February 2005.

### ***1.3 Organization of Training Sessions and Awareness Seminars (Portions of Tasks 3-5):***

Efforts to increase awareness about the importance of promoting environmental legislation activities were continued. In this respect, a seminar was organized at the Faculty of Health Sciences at the University of Balamand on October 25, 2004; a brief report is enclosed in Annex 1.3A.

On the other hand, major progress was achieved in the organization of SELDAS training sessions and awareness seminars on environmental legislation development, application and education. To this purpose, several meetings were held between SELDAS team, the Ministry, the Chair, and Earth Link and Advanced Resources Development (ELARD). In parallel, correspondence was exchanged with the Environmental Law Center of the World Conservation Union (IUCN-ELC), which proposed to offer professional services in contribution to SELDAS Training Sessions and Awareness Seminars, as mentioned in the Interim Report dated September 15, 2004. IUCN ELC confirmatory proposal letter of 11 November 2004 is enclosed in Annex 1.3B. The contract with ELARD, enclosed with the Interim Report dated September 15, 2004, had to be revised to take into account the IUCN-ELC's involvement; a draft copy of the addendum is enclosed in Annex 1.3E.

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 1.3C. 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 1.3C.

The detailed schedule of the proposed training sessions (3) and awareness seminars (41-47), extending from March 3, 2005 to June 25, 2005, is enclosed in Annex 1.3D and posted on the project webpage (<http://www.balamand.edu.lb/seldas>). A brief summary is presented below:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>
March 2-5, 7-9 2005	Seminars to law/environment schools and bar association on introduction to environmental law (~14)
March 30-31, 2005; April 1-2, 4-5, 2005	Seminars to public institutions on dissemination of SELDAS book (10)
April 20/21-22-23, 2005	Training to public and private sector on environmental legislation development
May 23-24, 30-31, 2005	Seminars to law/environment schools and bar associations on environmental liability (~ 10)
May 26-28, 2005	Training to public and private sector on environmental legislation application
Week of June 6 or June 13, 2005	Training to public and private sector on environmental litigation
June 20-24, 2005	Seminars to municipalities on their role in the application of environmental legislation (9)

Preparatory work (invitation letters and flyers, coordination of schedule, preparation of presentations, press release, etc.) for the first set of activities (seminars on “Introduction to Environmental Law” to Students, Lawyers and Judges) planned for March 3-5, 7-9 2005 has been completed. It is planned to give a ~ 1.5 hr seminar at 14 academic institutions, with the following program:

- SELDAS Project in Brief (10 min)
- Introduction to International Environmental Law (45 min)
- Introduction to National Environmental Law (20 min)
- Discussion (15 min)

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 1.3F, to request the use of the Bar facilities for the execution of selected activities.

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

Following previous efforts to successfully execute SELDAS sub-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”, initiatives were undertaken at the international and local level.

At the international level, and 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.

Nevertheless, letters were sent to the various schools that offer degrees in law or environment related disciplines to promote graduate studies in environmental law, with a sample list of potential schools in France and the UK attached. A sample of this correspondence is enclosed in Annex 1.4A. 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.

Based on the above which proves the interest in graduate studies in environmental law, yet absence of funding sources, SELDAS management proposes 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. A memorandum of understanding can be drafted between the various parties to outline duties and responsibilities. Details of this request for modification are included in Section 3.

Finally, it is to be noted that advantage will be taken of the seminars planned at the various law and environment related schools early March 2005 to better disseminate information related to graduate studies in environmental law in Europe.

## 2. Project Management:

### 2.1 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 during the period covered by this report:

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)
Project Manager	Main beneficiary delegate to the Ministry, responsible for daily project management (administratively, financially and technically)	Final editing of SELDAS book + management of production and printing preparation (task 2); delivery of an awareness seminar + management of the organization of the training sessions and awareness seminars including exchange of correspondence, agendas of meetings, etc, (tasks 3-5); as well as daily management (monitor progress, review budget, liaise with related projects/ initiatives, coordinate with focal points, supervise subcontractor work, prepare interim report and related clarifications, etc.)
Project Officer – Legal Matters	Secondary beneficiary delegate to the Ministry, responsible for legal issues, backstopping to project manager	Participation to the final editing, production and printing preparation of SELDAS book (task 2); review of legislation from a <u>legal point of view</u> (task 3.3); organization of the first set of environmental law education seminars (tasks 3-5); drafting of pertinent correspondence related to promoting graduate studies in environmental law (task 5.1.1); response to legislation related queries; assistance in daily management including preparation of interim report

<b>Player</b>	<b>Role and Responsibility</b>	<b>Contribution to Date</b>
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 interim report
Subcontractor	Assistance in the execution of selected tasks	Participation to the final layout, editing and printing preparation of SELDAS book (task 2); preparation of the draft clean air law in Arabic (task 3.3); preparatory work for the delivery of SELDAS training sessions and awareness seminars (portions of tasks 3-5)

## ***2.2 Liaise with Related Projects/ Initiatives:***

Close coordination with related projects/ initiatives has been secured at the various levels.

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. SELDAS has also been involved in the following activities of the Ministry:

- reviewing and updating the environmental compliance action plan of the Lebanese industries, as part of the “Compliance Strategy/ Legislation” subcommittee of the joint Ministry of Environment/ Association of Lebanese Industrialists committee (October – November 2004)
- 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, form both the public and the private sectors, including students, on environmental legislation issues.

At the national level, SELDAS has continued its collaboration 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 2002/2003 to assemble selected environmental legislation. SELDAS, through the Registry department at MoE, 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.

Finally, 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.

### **2.3 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 or weekly meetings;
- Weekly communication and organization of monthly meetings with the Project Coordinator;
- Organization of periodical meetings with the team of the Ministry at large (i.e. the Director General, the National Coordination Department 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;
- 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; and
- Reporting to the EC (interim report – September 15, 2004 + related clarifications – December 17, 2004)

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;
- Update of SELDAS webpage on a regular basis;
- Dissemination of SELDAS brochures to key institutions from both the public and the private sectors at the national, regional and international levels; and
- Acknowledging 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, during the time period covered by this report.

<b>Ref.</b>	<b>Activities</b>	<b>Status of Implementation</b>
2.5	<i>Produce, design, edit and publish the “State of Environmental Legislation Development and Application System in Lebanon” book/ report</i>	<i>Completed</i>
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	In progress partially (as part of the Training Sessions and Awareness Seminars Program – Subsection 1.3)
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)	

<b>Ref.</b>	<b>Activities</b>	<b>Status of Implementation</b>
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	Planning in progress (Subsection 1.3 & Annex 1.3C)
3.2.2	Organize a training on how to conduct strategic environmental assessment for proposed legislation	Planning in progress (Subsection 1.3 & Annex 1.3C)
3.2.4	Organize a training on how to study proposed conventions, protocols and treaties	Planning in progress (Subsection 1.3 & Annex 1.3C)
<b>3.3</b>		
3.3	Develop a pilot environmental law	
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 1.2.1 and Annex 1.2.1A)
3.3.3	Review, promote and pass the law	In progress
3.3*	<i>Review environmental law under preparation (by other departments/ projects)</i>	<i>Selected texts reviewed (Subsection 1.2.2)</i>
3.3*	<i>Defend legislation under review (prepared by the Ministry)</i>	<i>Selected texts defended (Subsection 1.2.3)</i>
<b>4.1</b>		
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	Planning in progress (Subsection 1.3 & Annex 1.3C)
4.1.2	Strengthen the collaboration between MoE and line public agencies for better enforcement of environmental legislation	Planning in progress (Subsection 1.3 & Annex 1.3C)
<b>4.2</b>		
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	Planning in progress (Subsection 1.3 & Annex 1.3C)
4.2.1.2	Introduce to MoE staff ways of following up on ratified conventions, protocols and treaties	Planning in progress (Subsection 1.3 & Annex 1.3C)
4.2.1.3	Train MoE staff on how to follow up on environmental management plans	Planning in progress (Subsection 1.3 & Annex 1.3C)
4.2.1.4	Train MoE staff on how to follow up on environmental compliance action plans	Planning in progress (Subsection 1.3 & Annex 1.3C)
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	Planning in progress (Subsection 1.3 & Annex 1.3C)
4.2.2.2	Introduce to municipalities approaches for local environmental management	Planning in progress (Subsection 1.3 & Annex 1.3C)

<b>Ref.</b>	<b>Activities</b>	<b>Status of Implementation</b>
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	Planning in progress (Subsection 1.3 & Annex 1.3C)
4.2.3.2	Share ways of mainstreaming environment in public agencies' respective plans and projects	Planning in progress (Subsection 1.3 & Annex 1.3C)
<b>4.3</b>		
Train stakeholders in environmental litigation		
4.3.1	Identify the stakeholders	Planning in progress (Subsection 1.3 & Annex 1.3C)
4.3.2	Prepare the training modules, logistics, speakers, etc.	Planning in progress (Subsection 1.3 & Annex 1.3C)
4.3.3	Conduct the training	
<b>5.1</b>		
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	
5.1.1.5	Promote the initiative	In progress (Subsection 1.4)
5.1.1.6	Launch the first year of execution	In progress (Subsection 1.4)
5.1.2	Introduce environmental law lectures at local schools of law	
5.1.2.1	Investigate potential European lecturers	Planning in progress (Subsection 1.3 & Annex 1.3C)
5.1.2.2	Select the recipient school (s)	Planning in progress (Subsection 1.3 & Annex 1.3C)
5.1.2.3	Set the lecture (s) logistics (time, place, etc.)	Planning in progress (Subsection 1.3 & Annex 1.3C)
5.1.3	Expose local schools of law to international environmental law programs, schools, publications, etc.	Planning in progress (Subsection 1.3 & Annex 1.3C)
5.1.4	Include topics related to environmental law in the seminars' program offered to trainees in law at the Syndicate of Lawyers	Planning in progress (Subsection 1.3 & Annex 1.3C)
<b>5.2</b>		
Encourage training and work in environmental law		
5.2.1	Expose law firms to existing environmental legislation	Planning in progress (Subsection 1.3 & Annex 1.3C)
5.2.2	Expose law firms to networks of environmental law centers and experts	Planning in progress (Subsection 1.3 & Annex 1.3C)
5.2.3	Organize seminars for law firms on environmental law, its practices, challenges and related case studies	Planning in progress (Subsection 1.3 & Annex 1.3C)

Ref.	Activities	Status of Implementation
6.1	Strengthen MoE's capacities in disseminating information	
6.1.1	Strengthen MoE website	
6.1.1.5	Post on the above referenced webpages the pilot project law	Content developed but not posted yet
6.1.2	Build the capacities of MoE staff for continuously updating the above referenced information	In progress (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	To be undertaken in due time
6.1.4	Identify the best mechanism to directly inform various stakeholders of new legislation related to environmental issues	In progress partially (Subsection 2.3)
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	To be undertaken in due time
6.2.2	Provide links to environmental law centers and experts form the websites of the local schools of law, if available	In progress partially (Subsection 1.3)
6.2.3	Identify the best mechanism for collaborating with the NGOs and the media on raising awareness on environmental legislation issues	In progress partially (Subsection 2.2)
7.1	Ensure proper management of the project	
7.1.2	Organize weekly meetings for the project team members	In progress (Subsection 2.3)
7.1.3	Organize periodical meetings for the project advisory committee	In progress (Subsection 2.3)
7.1.4	Monitor project's finances and schedule	In progress (Subsection 2.3)
7.1.5	Maintain good liaison with Lebanese officials directly or indirectly affected by the project	In progress (Subsection 2.3)
7.2	Ensure close monitoring of the project	
7.2.2	Develop and submit interim report	Completed (September 15, 2004)
7.2.3	Develop and submit second progress report	

#### 4. Assessment of Progress:

The project has been progressing rather smoothly during the 6-month period covered by the report, despite delays incurred in the execution of selected activities

A major challenge was in taking the production of the "State of the Environmental Legislation Development and Application System in Lebanon" (SELDAS) book to a successful ending. Reasons include 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 second challenge was faced in the promotion of graduate studies in environmental law in Europe (task 5.1.1), mainly with respect of successfully engaging funding agencies as outlined in subsection 1.4.

A third challenge was directly related to schedule implications of the Environmental Law Center of the World Conservation Union (IUCN – ELC)'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 1.3.

Last but not least, the socio-political conditions of the country post February 14,2005 (date of the 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, make it necessary to request a project modification; this is further discussed in subsection 5.

## **5. Future Planning for the Next Period of Time:**

It is planned to use the remaining four months of the lifetime of the project (March 2005 – June 2005), with the corresponding revised workplan attached, to:

- publish and disseminate the SELDAS book;
- progress in the translation of the SELDAS book;
- review the draft clean air law and seek the feedback of key stakeholders;
- execute the planned three training sessions and 41 awareness seminars; and
- discuss best ways to promote graduate studies in environmental law.

The completion of the last training/seminar activity just few days before the official end of the project on one hand, coupled with the quasi-impossibility of successfully executing task 5.1.1 about promoting graduate studies in environmental law call for the need to request a project modification (3 months extension and selected budget reallocation), detailed in section 3.

## Section 2: 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 01/09/2004 to 28/02/2005

Categories of expenditure	Total amount without VAT (Euros)		Total amount with non-recoverable VAT (Euros)	
1. Personnel	42,223		42,223	
2. Travel	0		0	
3. External Assistance	0		0	
4. Durable Goods	Real Cost	Eligible Cost	Real Cost	Eligible Cost
Infrastructure	-	-	-	-
Equipment	75.58	37.79	75.58	37.79
Prototype	-		-	
Sub-total				
5. Consumables	1,770		1,938.11	
6. Other Costs	5,454.54		6,000	
7. Overheads	9,204		9,204	
TOTAL	Real Cost	Eligible Cost	Real Cost	Eligible Cost
	<b>58,727.12</b>	<b>58,689.33</b>	<b>59,440.69</b>	<b>59,402.9</b>

Exchange rate: 1 EURO= 1,984.62 LL  
1 EURO= 1.3165 \$

**Name of project manager:** Manal Moussallem

**Function:** Project Manager

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

**Date:** March 10, 2005

**Signature:**

### **Section 3: Request for Project Modification**

Whereas the actual start date of the SELDAS project was March 1, 2003 instead of January 1, 2003 due to delays in promulgating the endorsement decree by the competent bodies, as outlined in the Beneficiary's letter of 24-04-2003; and notwithstanding the letter of the European Commission dated 12-08-2003 in which the EC took note of the project actual starting date reported in the Beneficiary's letter of 24-04-2003 but "did not formally accept the change", thus considering 01-01-2003 to be the start date of activities;

Whereas catching up this 2-month delay proved to be difficult due to the various challenges faced in the SELDAS project, and detailed in SELDAS Preliminary Progress Report 1 (November 15, 2003), SELDAS Meeting with LIFE Mission in Lebanon (December 4, 2003), SELDAS Progress Report 1 (December 15, 2003), SELDAS Interim Report (September 15, 2004) and this report (SELDAS Progress Report 2, March 15, 2005), namely:

1. challenges related to task 2 "Diagnosis of the Current Environmental Legislative Setting" which resulted in an execution period of 18 months rather than the planned nine months, due to:
  - \* a number of pertinent legislation much higher than anticipated; and
  - \* a methodology for analysis much more challenging than forecasted.Which shed the light on the importance of synthesizing the results in a book, that would be crucial, critical and instrumental given the virtual absence of such material in the legislative literature and the importance of such a book for the training sessions and awareness seminars activities.
2. challenges related to successfully executing task 5.1.1 "Establishing 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" mainly:
  - \* challenges related to identifying the best approach to such an initiative (market free or regulated); and
  - \* challenges related to successfully engaging funding agencies.

Whereas all reasonable efforts were taken by the various parties to limit delays as much as possible, with a forecasted completion of most tasks, except task 5.1.1, by June 25, 2005 (i.e. few days before the official end date of the project), despite the general climate of political instability in the country;

Whereas taking task 5.1.1 to a successful ending by sponsoring the graduate studies in environmental law in Europe of two Lebanese students is important for fulfilling the objectives of the SELDAS project, namely the environmental law education facet, an important element of the chain related to "SELDAS contribution to the sustained increase in eco-job opportunities" presented in SELDAS brochure; and whereas this initiative does not seem to be feasible without the use of some of LIFE contribution to the SELDAS project;

The Beneficiary hereby requests the extension of the SELDAS project for a three month period ending on September 30, 2005 and the reallocation of some resources from the Consumables Category of Expenditure to the Travel Category of Expenditure, as detailed in the table below, to sponsorship the graduate studies of two students in Europe. Such a modification will have the following added value to the SELDAS project:

- a) Succeed in promoting environmental law education by funding the environmental law graduate studies in Europe of two Lebanese students. To this end, solid selection criteria

will be put, in partnership with the Ministry of Environment. The selection criteria can include, without being limited to, curriculum vitas, expression of interest, commitment to a later period of voluntary work at the Ministry, etc.

A selection committee composed of a representative of the UNESCO-Cousteau Ecotechnie Chair at the University of Balamand and a representative from the Ministry of Environment will study the applications and choose two candidates. This will assist in increasing the number of human resources mobilized for developing and/or applying and/or teaching environmental law; which will have a direct impact on the quality of the legislation drafted and the implementation status.

Whereas the financial resources for such an initiative (tuition fees, travel and accommodation) might not all be spent before the project modified end date (September 30, 2005), a memorandum of understanding outlining the various roles and responsibilities can be prepared and signed between the various parties.

- b) Allow a 3-month period to evaluate the SELDAS project, assess its outputs, write down lessons learned and study sustainability issues and future actions; which will enhance the quality of the Layman's report, and also the final report.

The table below presents the requested and original project budget:

Budget item	Original total costs (Euro)			Requested revised total costs (Euro)			Comments
	Total costs	Eligible costs	% of total eligible costs	Total costs	Eligible costs	% of total eligible costs	
<b>Personnel</b>	228,000	228,000	34.43	218,000	218,000	32.92	Budget fluctuation <sup>(1)</sup>
<b>Travel</b>	30,000	30,000	4.53	69,000	69,000	10.42	Remark <sup>(2)</sup>
<b>External assistance</b>	230,740	230,740	34.84	240,000	240,000	36.24	Budget fluctuation <sup>(1)</sup>
<b>Durable goods</b>	8,400	4,200	0.64	6,400	3,200	0.48	
<b>-Infrastructure</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	
<b>-Equipment</b>	8,400	4,200	0.64	6,400	3,200	0.48	Remark <sup>(2)</sup>
<b>-Prototypes</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	
<b>Consumables</b>	90,260	90,260	13.63	56,000	56,000	8.46	Remark <sup>(2)</sup>
<b>Other costs</b>	33,000	33,000	4.98	30,000	30,000	4.53	Budget fluctuation <sup>(1)</sup>
<b>Overheads</b>	46,000	46,000	6.95	46,000	46,000	6.95	No change
<b>TOTAL</b>	666,400	662,200	100	666,000	662,200	100	

<sup>(1)</sup> Budget fluctuation within the EC SAP allowable range (10,000 EURO or 10%)

<sup>(2)</sup> Estimated cost of graduate studies (master level) in environmental law in France is: ~11,000 EURO (travel and accommodation for 10 months) + ~ 1,000 EURO (tuition fees)

Estimated cost of graduate studies (master level) in environmental law in the UK is: ~11,000 EURO (travel and accommodation for 10 months) + ~ 13,000 EURO (tuition fees)

It is proposed to send one student to France and another to the UK; i.e. a total of 36,000 EURO, under the Travel Category of Expenditure:

~ 36,000 EURO transferred from Consumables Category of Expenditure (variation in exchange rate + overestimation of hospitality expenses related to steering committee meetings, training sessions and awareness seminars) and the Durable Goods Category of Expenditure to the Travel Category of Expenditure to serve Task 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".

## Annexes