

# Action Plan

on

CO-OPERATION IN THE FIELD OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT

Between

THE MINISTRY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, LAND AND SEA  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF ITALY (IMELS)

and

THE ENVIRONMENT QUALITY AUTHORITY OF PALESTINE (EQA)

Following the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between the Environment Quality Authority of Palestine and the Italian Ministry for the Environment on February 23rd 2016 in Bethlehem, Palestine, article 5 – paragraph 2, the Parties agree to implement an Action Plan, including projects and activities.

## Objectives

The objectives of the present Action Plan are to identify and select along with planned sectors of the MoU, to support the implementation of environmental protection and sustainable development in Palestine.

In accordance with the aforementioned MoU, in the implementation of the coming projects and activities, consideration will be given to the participation of the public, private and no-profit sectors and, where appropriate, Universities, scientific and technical research bodies and Non-governmental Organizations, as well as Institutions coming from Italy and Palestine.

This Action Plan, referring to domains mentioned in article 2, is also considering the latest adhesion of Palestine as full member to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity, and Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal; as well as the cooperation between the Parties in the field of environmental protection which is a mutual benefit and will further promote the friendly relations between the Parties.

In alignment with objectives of EQA Strategic Action Plan “SAP”, for the period 2016-2020, the Parties convene that Palestine-Italy Action Plan will focus on adaptation and mitigation measures within different environmental sectors, among which: waste management, air pollution, land degradation, biodiversity and protected areas.

The mutual cooperation will be implemented through:

- **Capacity Development:** in the field of training, exchange of experiences, participation in international forums, environmental information system including GIS and satellite images, evaluation of economic costs of the environmental degradation, environmental impact assessment (EIA) and strategic environmental impact assessment (SEIA)
- **Public Awareness and environmental education** in order to increase the public awareness on natural resources protection\management and promotion of environmental issues (Target: decision makers, schools, media and local communities)
- **Legal and institutional framework:** development of laws, bylaws, standards, specifications, development of regulatory frameworks, harmonization of the

national legislation in accordance with the multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs). Enhance cooperation between Universities and Research institutes in the field of environmental legislation.

- **Environmental monitoring and planning**

1. increase the EQA capacities, tools and equipments to assess the state of the environment
2. support the capacities to produce and develop reports, policies and strategies on the State of the Environment in order to enhance sustainable development and green growth
3. support the elaboration of a Monitoring and Evaluation system through the identification of appropriate environmental indicators

- **Pollution prevention:** the Parties will cooperate in increasing the EQA capacities in preventing and monitoring the level of environmental pollution, focusing in particular on Air Pollution monitoring system, olive oil wastes treatment and hazardous waste management.

In addition of what is already mentioned in article 4 of the MoU, EQA will internally advocate the participation of all the stakeholders who may relate to this Action Plan.

### Entry into force

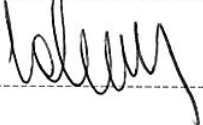
This Action Plan will come into force after the signature of the Parties and it will cover 24 months from the date of signature.

This Action Plan is agreed and signed in Ramallah on May, 26<sup>th</sup>2016 in English.

**For the Ministry for the Environment,  
Land and Sea of the Republic of Italy**

Director General

Dr. Francesco La Camera

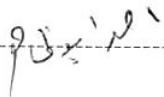


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**For the Environment Quality Authority  
of Palestine**

Director General

Eng. Ahmad Abu Thaher



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