

EcOrient Waste Management Conference

Executive Summary

On its second day, Project Lebanon hosted a specialized edition of its 5th International Conference for Environmental Technologies, Sustainability, and Clean Energy, EcOrient 2016, dedicated this year to exploring solutions for Lebanon's current waste crisis. Welcoming OMSAR (Office of Minister of State for Administrative Reform) and UNIDO representatives, as well as numerous public and private stakeholders, the conference focused on solid waste management and different types of recycling from e-waste to healthcare waste.

The conference was inaugurated by H.E Mr. Nabil De Freij, the Minister of Administrative Reform, who stated that we are currently in a transitional phase that will expand for 4 more years. After this phase, De Freij will start using the Waste to Energy technology to generate energy from Beirut's and Mount Lebanon's waste. Alongside His Excellency, the Head of the Sustainability Section of the EU delegation in Lebanon, Mr. Marcello Mori, highlighted EU's commitment to helping 450 municipalities in managing their daily 2,400-ton waste. Moreover, he mentioned that the EU initiatives aim at supporting and strengthening Lebanon in the waste management field, and will assist in creating more than 600 job opportunities.

The OMSAR team in charge of the Solid Waste Management program revealed that in 4 years, after the construction and rehabilitation of most treatment facilities and landfills, they will be able to treat around 70% of the solid waste in Lebanon. Furthermore, they presented facts and figures about current operating treatment facilities, and proposed plans for the municipal solid waste management. They presented the latest technologies and different methods of managing and treating solid waste. Alongside the OMSAR Team, Mr. Rabih Osta, the General Manager of Phoenix Energy, claimed that converting waste to energy is the ultimate solution to Lebanon's waste and energy crisis. He presented a map demonstrating the process in which "waste to energy technology" convert waste into fuels or energy.

Ms. Sara El-Yafi, a public policy expert with an emphasis on waste management, excellently moderated the "Recycling in Lebanon Panel", ensuring a constructive and dynamic exchange among the panelists and the audience. Mr. Ibrahim Mallah, the President of the Sustainable Development Committee at the Association of Lebanese Industrialists, provided the audience with a general overview of the recycling industry in Lebanon and the paper recycling industry in specific. He highlighted the Association's solid waste management strategy, and pointed out to what the government should do in order to help support and strengthen the Lebanese recycling industry. On the same topic, Mr. Sami Raphael, Operations Manager at SOLICAR S.A.L. – one of Lebanon's leading paper recycling companies, presented the green virtuous cycle in the recycling of paper and highlighted that our local need for scrap paper exceeds 120,000 ton/year. Moreover, he stated the challenges facing the paper recycling industry in Lebanon.

From paper recycling to electronic waste recycling, Dr. Nada Sabra, the National Consultant at UNIDO, talked about the organization's E-waste management program and how it seeks to establish national, regional, and international partnerships with different stakeholders in the field.

Dr. Sabra communicated UNIDO's current projects in Latin America, Asia, and Africa in partnership with Dell and Samsung. From Arcenciel, Ms. Ramza Kamel, Quality Manager of the Medical Waste Management Program, talked about the autoclaving process. This process is considered an optimal solution due to it is efficient sterilization, low emissions produced, and low operating costs. Arcenciel treats more than 11 tons of healthcare waste received on a daily basis from almost 145 hospitals and 75 laboratories. Ms. Kamel also presented a map showing the 5 locations of Arcenciel's Treatment centers covering the whole Lebanese territory.

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Wednesday, 1 June 2016 / BIEL

16:00 Registration

17:00 Opening Ceremony

Welcome Note: **IFP Group**

H.E.M Nabil de Freij, Minister of State for Administrative Reform

Mr. Marcello Mori, Head of the Sustainable development section at the EU Delegation in Lebanon

17:30 OMSAR Presentation

Mr. Mohammad Baraki, Project Manager, Solid Waste Management Program, OMSAR

Ms. Patil Mardigian, Coordination and Monitoring Officer, Solid Waste Management Program, OMSAR

Mr. Youssef Saad, Head of Procurement Team, OMSAR

Mr. Rabih Osta, General Manager, Phoenix Energy

18:30 Networking Coffee Break

19:00 Panel: Recycling in Lebanon

Panel Moderated By: Ms. Sara El-Yafi, Public Policy Expert on Waste Management

Mr. Ibrahim Mallah, President of Sustainable Development, Energy & Environment Committee, Association of Lebanese Industrialists

Mr. Sami Raphael, Operations Manager, Solicar sal

Dr. Nada Sabra, National Consultant, UNIDO

Ms. Ramza Kamel, Quality Manager of Medical Waste Management, Arcenciel

Mr. Sami Haidamous, Soliver Recycle