

# South Sinai Integrated Regional Development Programme, Egypt

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<b>Assignment</b>	Assistance in the development of the local economy and in the preservation and support of the social, cultural and natural resources of South Sinai.
<b>Client</b>	European Commission
<b>Financing Agency</b>	European Union (EU)
<b>Partners</b>	BMB, EQI (Egypt), ISM (UK), Sviluppo Globale (Italy)
<b>Composition of Team</b>	<p><i>BMB Mott MacDonald:</i> Long-term experts: Team Leader/Regional Development Expert, Procurement Expert for Infrastructure Works, Services and Supplies, Finance Expert</p> <p><i>Partner(s):</i> Procurement Expert for NGO Grant Management</p>
<b>Period of Assignment</b>	From January 2006 to January 2009 Staff months: BMB Mott MacDonald: 123; Partner(s): 137
<b>Contract value</b>	BMB Mott MacDonald: € 1,785,000 Partner(s): € 637,500
<b>Background</b>	Although the South Sinai Governorate has experienced significant economic progress, especially in the tourism sector many challenges still lie ahead. Tourism, the main employment provider and economic engine, will continue to increase rapidly, infrastructure development will need to keep pace with demand and pressures on the environment will have to be continuously managed to maintain the ecological integrity of the area. Natural protection and conservation of South Sinai's unique environment is therefore the paramount concern.
<b>Description of project</b>	<p>The EU-funded South Sinai Regional Development Programme (SSRP), with a total budget of Euro 65 million, aims at development of the local economy and the preservation and support of the social, cultural and natural resources of South Sinai. The Programme is the result of a participatory approach conducted over a period of more than two years and involving all levels of stakeholders.</p> <p>SSRP's activities focus on: 1) promotion of local communities and their social and economic development (Bedouins), 2) sustainable tourism, 3) delivery of social and public services with increased employment opportunities for local communities, and 4) strengthening of the decentralization process in decision-making and financing.</p> <p>The Programme encompasses two major components: 1) infrastructure and supply projects, and 2) demand-driven projects through the allocation of grants for local development initiatives emanating from the stakeholders in South Sinai.</p>
<b>Services provided</b>	The Programme is managed by a Programme Support Unit (PSU) at the level of the Governorate. The Technical Assistance to the PSU concerns the supervision, procurement, management of contracts and payments,

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reporting and preparation of work plans and the establishment of internal quality control and monitoring systems following EU Guidelines and Regulations.

The TA and the Programme Support Unit jointly manage the procurement and contracts for large infrastructural works in water supply, waste water and solid waste management, as well as supply of equipment for environmental management and inspection.

The TA includes guidance on strategies to increase employment opportunities and diversification of sources of income in general. The TA also supports 55 projects which, through a competitive process, have received grants from the programme to implement projects in agriculture, fishing, social development, handicrafts, car mechanics, tourism, heritage conservation, and water supply and management.

In addition, there are 'direct grants' provided to Bedouin leaders to support smaller actions.

The SSRDP TA supports capacity building to improve good governance and effectiveness of the NGO sector. For private companies, improvements are supported in the areas of product quality improvement, access to external markets, and proper financial management and human resource management.