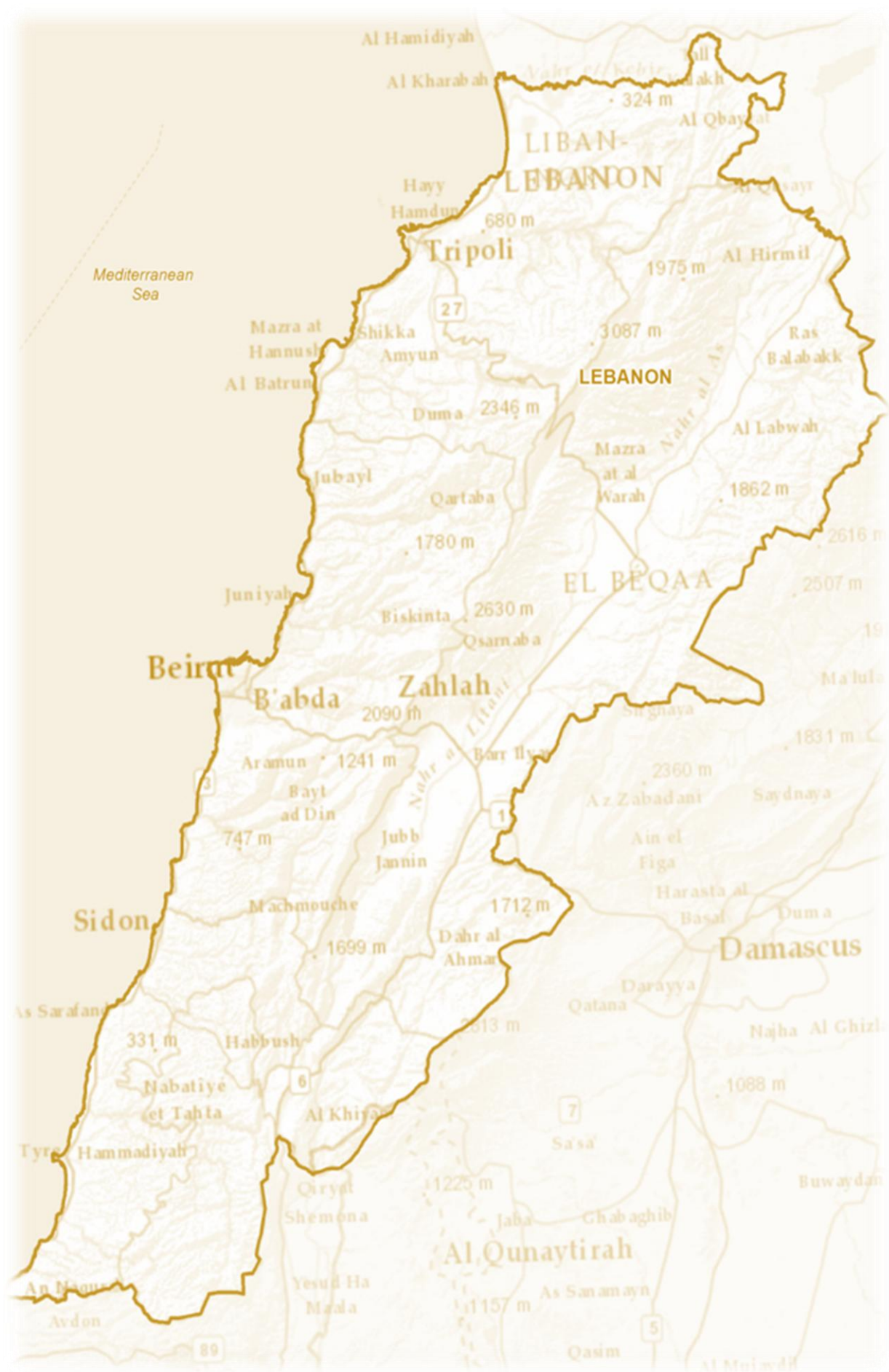


SEA for Petroleum Activities In Lebanese Waters 2011/2012

Vol. 3 Stakeholder Management

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2. OVERVIEW

Stakeholder engagement is the process used by an organisation to engage relevant stakeholders for a clear purpose to achieve accepted outcomes. A quality stakeholder engagement should promote a better outcome for all concerned; the project owner and the various stakeholders. Transparency, information dissemination and regular contact are of paramount importance in ensuring success.

Stakeholders come in a variety of different forms and levels of importance; they are not simply members of communities, ministers or NGOs. As a Plan or Programme develops, so may the number and range of stakeholders, depending on its progression through various phases and inevitable changes. Stakeholder engagement will take place across the full range of communities, interests and individuals affected by the oil and gas industry, both onshore and offshore.

This Volume contains two sections, a Stakeholder Engagement Strategy and a Stakeholder Engagement Plan.

The purpose of a Stakeholder Engagement Strategy is to provide clear guidelines for compiling and implementing a Stakeholder Engagement Plan. A Stakeholder Engagement Strategy is issued prior to the Plan as a statement of intent and a guidance document.

The purpose of a Stakeholder Engagement Plan is to demonstrate a transparent and comprehensive stakeholder engagement process at every phase, from the conceptual phase of a programme through to project development. The process must be built on a firm foundation in order to withstand public and media induced scrutiny.

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STRATEGY

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1. PURPOSE

The purpose of a Stakeholder Engagement Strategy is to provide clear guidelines for compiling and implementing a Stakeholder Engagement Plan. A Stakeholder Engagement Strategy is issued prior to the Plan as a statement of intent and a guidance document.

2. RPS COMMITMENT & INTEGRITY

2.1 AA1000 Stakeholder Engagement Standard 2011

In order to provide a quality stakeholder engagement process RPS Energy adhere to the AA1000 Stakeholder Engagement Standard (A1000SES). The AA1000SES (2011) has been adopted by the International Finance Corporation (IFC) and is universally viewed as an open-source framework for designing, implementing, assessing and communicating the quality of stakeholder engagement. In conjunction with the AA1000SES the AA100 Accountability Principle Standard is also used to ensure a credible and transparent stakeholder engagement process. Stakeholder engagement is a journey, one that lasts as long as the Programme or Project, therefore it is imperative to plan ahead and identify potential problems before they become actual problems.

2.2 RPS Stakeholder Engagement Policy

RPS endeavour to set and maintain high standards regarding Stakeholder Engagement and will ensure that all stakeholder engagements must:

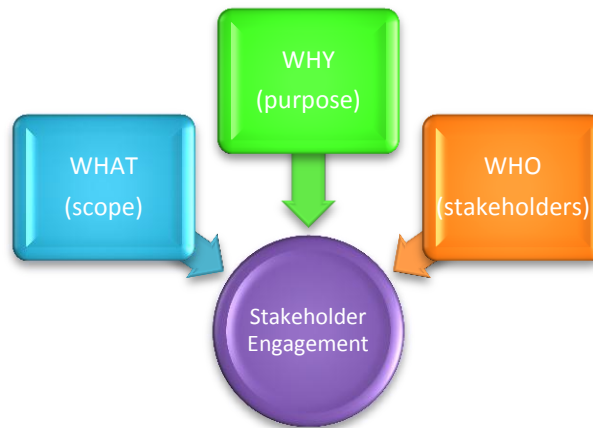
- ✓ Be based on a commitment to the AA1000APS principles
- ✓ Clearly define the scope
- ✓ Have an agreed decision making process
- ✓ Focus on issues materials to the organization and/or its stakeholders
- ✓ Create opportunities for dialogue
- ✓ Be integral to organizational governance
- ✓ Be transparent
- ✓ Have a process appropriate to the stakeholders engaged
- ✓ Be timely
- ✓ Be flexible & responsive.

3. PURPOSE, SCOPE & STAKEHOLDERS

In accordance with RPS and IFC standards and ultimately the AA1000APS (2008) principles it is extremely important to rationalize why a stakeholder engagement is required, what issue will be the focus of engagement and who will be involved in the engagements. Establishing this criterion is essential if one desires a quality and durable stakeholder engagement process.

3.1 Establish the purpose of the engagement

RPS is committed to conducting high quality stakeholder engagements. The activity is not a mere tick box exercise for facile compliance with legal and contractual documents, but holds



much greater significance in relation to desired outcomes.

The desired outcomes for undertaking a stakeholder engagement process may include:

- Changed perceptions (in a positive light)
- Improved communication channels
- Promotion of a wider circle of responsibility for decisions and actions – active citizenship
- Agreement on purpose and direction, eg buy-in to the project
- Early identification of potential issues, conflicts and benefits
- Generation of new ideas
- Formation of new formal relationships
- Diffusion of conflict situations before these impede progress
- Enhancement of social capital or services for people
- Policy change or implementation
- Cost savings in the medium to long-term
- Promotion of local capacity – business, trade etc
- Local support and goodwill
- Increased community cohesion and a shared community identity
- Improved personal and/or working relationships

RPS is confident in claiming that the stakeholder engagement process is transparent and bears scrutiny as the desired outcomes are planned and detailed. The Stakeholder Engagement Plan will identify any culturally difficult areas, for whatever reason, and will aid selection of onshore sites and routes as these become a requirement. This approach will enable both the client and the consultant to maintain their high standing international reputations.

Stakeholder engagement will take place across the full range of communities, interests and individuals affected by the oil and gas industry, both onshore and offshore.

3.2 Establish the scope of engagement associated with the purpose

The scope of work regarding stakeholder management essentially implies that all those affected directly or indirectly will be kept informed, have a voice and to a larger or lesser extent be able to have an input in the development of the oil and gas industry. Every Development is unique, however ensuring that stakeholder engagement is transparent, thorough, two-way and iterative is essential.

The scope of work for stakeholder engagement includes the following essential components:

- Time, budgeting and structure schedule. In order to be most effective on all fronts a detailed schedule is essential.
- How influential will stakeholder engagement be on the Development? Every Development is different, so until all the factors are collected full assessment is premature. Culture, political freedom, project location, technical attributes of a project, will all affect stakeholder engagement.
- How appropriate is participation? It is important to assess the depth of consultation/participation. For example, if the Development is confined to an isolated location, there may not be many concerned stakeholders. It is also important to determine how influential participation could be in areas where there are significant technical constraints.
- Stage of Development? During the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) phase participation is limited to high-end consultations. Due to the developmental nature of an SEA, means it is premature to develop detailed community engagement. However, it is important to stress the need for information disclosure and transparency at all times.
- What level is sought? It is necessary to list all stakeholders (see Stakeholder Register-2197-REG-ALL-0002). It is also necessary to distinguish the level of importance certain groups of stakeholder may have in relation to the industry developmental stages. During the SEA stage Ministers, Advisors and academics (to a lesser extent) have more weight than the man on the street. As the industry develops the assigned level of importance regarding set stakeholders will change/shift. Again this should not compromise transparency and information disclosure at any stage.
- What are the risks? It is important to consider both the client's and consultant's reputations, nationally and internationally. If a quality stakeholder engagement process is in place, involving transparency, information disclosure and two-way communication, then the risk is much reduced.
- Under resourcing. The stakeholder engagement process is short-sighted. Public participation and community engagement require adequate funding; good planning and realistic timescales and schedule ensure this process can be cost effective.
- False Promises. Making false promises and raising expectations is a very short sighted policy, and invariably puts the Project at risk. Negotiating difficult

situations always has a better outcome than making a false promise in order to make the immediate engagement easier.

- Political interference/agenda. All industry Developments of any size are invariably closely linked with a country's politics and spheres of influence. This has to be accepted, but as a balance IFC standards should be used to keep this in check and aligned with international codes of conduct.

3.3 Establish the mandate, ownership & stakeholders of the engagement

The mandate for stakeholder engagement sits with the Ministry of Energy and Water; however as RPS have been appointed by MoEW to carry out the SEA, and stakeholder engagement is an integral part of this process, RPS includes stakeholder engagement in their scope of work.

In the initial stage of an SEA stakeholders are still being identified and assessed. Stakeholder engagement is an iterative and ongoing process, therefore the list of stakeholders will continue to expand. In order to accommodate this, RPS maintains a Stakeholder Register (2197-REG-ALL-0002), an internal document that stipulates the level of involvement/importance of various stakeholders at this stage of the process. As stated previously the level of importance of the various stakeholders will decrease or increase as the oil and gas industry develops.

Establishing who the various stakeholders are, their language preference, interest level, influence level and reliability governs the methods used to engage with them. Prior to stakeholder engagement it is imperative that RPS gather the facts and design a plan of action. Quelling rumours, misinformation spreading and scare mongering by negative NGOs and other groups can be kept to a minimum by a detailed schedule of stakeholder targeting, monitoring and relevant information dissemination.

RPS ensures that sound stakeholder identification is maintained by assessing:

- Industry dependency - groups or individuals who are directly or indirectly dependent on the Industry's activities, products or services. Or conversely, those on whom the Development may be dependant in order to function effectively.
- Industry responsibility - groups or individuals to whom the Development has, or may have legal, commercial, operational or ethical/moral responsibility.
- Industry tensions - groups or individuals who need immediate attention regarding financial, wider economical, social or environmental concerns.
- Level of influence – groups and individuals who can have an effect (positive or negative) on stakeholder engagement or operational decision making.
- Alternative/diverse perspectives – groups and individuals whose different views can lead to awareness and new understandings of a situation and an enhanced perspective that may not have happened without the identification of these individuals/groups. Cultural Heritage issues for example may stem from this area of identification.

- Undoing past wrongs – This may not always be an issue, however, if a previous Development has caused social or environmental wrongs, it is wise to address these and ensure that the relevant individuals or groups are given a higher level of consideration and assurance that past mistakes will not be repeated.

Identification of stakeholders is only a part of stakeholder engagement, it is necessary to follow cultural protocol. For example, what is the in-country decision-making process? What are the legal and policy parameters? To ensure a smooth process RPS have taken on in-country facilitators to act as guides through the cultural and political environment.

4. **STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN**

4.1 **Plan**

The stakeholder engagement process includes 4 stages:

- Plan
- Prepare
- Implement and Act
- Review & Improve

The stakeholder engagement process is iterative and will evolve as the Industry develops. RPS will ensure that a quality stakeholder engagement plan is implemented by addressing:

- The Budget and Timeline: it is essential that a realistic budget is put in place and a realistic timeline adhered to.
- Key dates and actions: these will be monitored and managed using RPS Registers (specifically the Stakeholder Register, Consultation Register and Concerns Register). Key dates and actions will also be documented in the Stakeholder Engagement Plan Matrix.
- Methods and techniques used: as there are a variety of stakeholders it is necessary to adjust engagement methods and techniques to stakeholder needs. The methodology of the Stakeholder engagement plan will therefore consist of multiple methodologies depending on the number and variety of stakeholder groups.
- Organisational Logistics: community engagement and public participation requires significant attention to practical arrangements, such as presentation material, venues etc.
- Communication strategies: it is important to maintain community interest and understanding. Therefore language and level of education, reading ability etc must be taken in to account. In more traditional areas communication through internet or television may not be appropriate.



- Follow up: it is important to recognize that stakeholder engagement is a two-way process, and therefore adequate means should be put in place to accommodate information coming in as well as information going out from the client.
- Defining Outputs: this relates to intended reports, meetings, workshops, leaflets and brochures. Again different stakeholders with different levels of interest or influence will require different outputs and different mediums.
- Additional Considerations: every Development varies so it is important to consider specific cultural, technical and political characteristics. These are noted in the Concerns Register (2197-REG-ALL-0005) that RPS has in place.

4.2 Profile & Map Stakeholders

RPS will compile a profile and map of all stakeholders, this profiling and mapping will then be taken into account when planning and implementing stakeholder engagement. It is necessary to establish not only the stakeholder group but also the stakeholder as an individual.

RPS will systematically seek to ascertain each stakeholder's:

- Knowledge of the issues, including scope and purpose of the Development
- Expectations of the engagement and Development
- Existing or past relationship with similar Developments (both positive or negative)
- Dependence on the Industry
- Willingness to engage
- Level of influence
- Group type (NGO, Civil, Public etc)
- Cultural context
- Geographical scale of operation
- Constraints in communication (language, literacy, IT)
- Legitimacy
- Relationship with other stakeholders.

The initial profiling of stakeholders facilitates a map to determine the level of importance of the respective stakeholder groups at each stage of the Development. At the SEA stage the most important stakeholders are high level ministers and authorities.

4.3 Establish Engagement Levels and Methods

Having established the stakeholders' profile and mapped their interests, influence and capabilities it is then possible to consider how they may be best targeted and approached. The table below describes the broad overview.

<u>Level of Engagement</u>	<u>Methods of Engagement</u>
Consult Limited two-way engagement: organization asks questions and stakeholders answer.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surveys • Focus Groups • Meetings with selected stakeholders • Public Meetings • Workshops • Online Feedback mechanisms • Advisory committees
Negotiate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collective bargaining with workers through their trade unions
Involve Two-way or multi-way engagement: learning on all sides but stakeholders and organization act independently.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multi-stakeholder forums • Advisory panels • Consensus building processes • Participatory decision making process • Focus groups • On-line feedback schemes
Collaborate Two-way or multi-way engagement: joint learning, decision making and actions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint projects • Joint ventures • Partnerships • Multi-stakeholder initiatives
Empower New forms of accountability: decisions delegated to stakeholders; stakeholders play a role in governance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integration of stakeholders into governance, strategy and operations management.

A matrix format to help tabulate and classify stakeholder profile and position is an extremely useful tool, as shown below:

ASSESSMENT					ACTION PLAN		
Stakeholder	Key issues, concerns, perspectives	How Supportive?	How affected?	How influential?	How will we engage them?	When will we engage them?	Who is responsible?

4.4 Establish Boundaries of Disclosure

Boundaries of disclosure specify what information will be disseminated to stakeholders and also what information the stakeholders can disclose to those outside of the engagement process. There are a range of possible options:

- Full disclosure including attribution of who said what
- Full disclosure without attribution of who said what
- Limited disclosure agreed by the participants
- Limited disclosure controlled by the owners of the engagement.

It is very important that these boundaries, which ever are selected are set and understood by all parties from the outset of engagement.

4.5 Draft Management Plan

Using this document (Stakeholder Engagement Strategy) RPS will develop and implement the Stakeholder Engagement Plan.

The Stakeholder Engagement Plan will include the following:

- The mandate for the engagement (MoEW)
- The purpose and scope of the engagement
- The owners of the engagement, including their roles and responsibilities
- The methodology for and results from identification of stakeholders
- The methodology for and results from profiling and mapping stakeholders
- The pre-engagement activities (posters, brochures, media advertising, press releases)
- The engagement levels and methods
- The boundaries of disclosure.

Furthermore the Stakeholder Engagement Plan will document various aspects related to managing the engagement process, and will include:

- Tasks and timelines
- Contact persons
- Technologies used
- Ground rules
- Comfort requirements
- Engagement Risks
- Resource requirements (budget)
- Channels of communication
- Monitoring and evaluation
- Reporting the Stakeholder engagement outputs and outcomes.

During the development of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan RPS will address other mitigating factors that may hinder/effect stakeholder engagement:

- The accessibility of the location
- Capacity to travel

- Availability of technology
- Timing
- The need for anonymity
- Social hierarchies (gender, wealth, age)
- Local conflicts
- Lack of shared expectations, customs and conventions
- Religion(s)
- Culture-specific communication methods
- Family, work, seasonal responsibilities.

4.6 Establish Indicators

Indicators allow an organization to measure and evaluate the progress towards achieving quality stakeholder engagement, to identify areas for improvement and to demonstrate the value added through engaging with stakeholders. Indicators can be quantitative and qualitative.

5. PREPARATION

5.1 Mobilize Resources

RPS will identify and gain approval for the resources required for successful Stakeholder Engagement. Not only are resources required for the engagement process but also to make necessary changes in response to any output from the engagement. It is commonplace for engagement outputs to alter or change the Developments' strategy and operational management.

RPS will ensure that resource requirements will be developed and documented in the Stakeholder Engagement Plan. This will include the financial, human and technological resources required for those carrying out the Stakeholder Engagement, as well as the stakeholders invited to participate.

5.2 Build Capacity

RPS will ensure that stakeholder engagement is inclusive. RPS shall identify where capacity needs to be built, and overcome any constraints or hindrances that may get in the way of effective engagement. This may include: disabilities, illiteracy, language, cultural barriers, and problems relating to time or location, lack of knowledge over Industry concepts etc.

In order to engage and communicate to optimum efficiency RPS will use in-country facilitators to avoid any cultural misunderstandings or unnecessary offence. RPS will also be working closely with in-county specialists regarding Environmental and Social concerns.

5.3 Identify & Prepare for Engagement Risks

RPS endeavour to identify and address all stakeholder engagement risks (actual or potential). This may include:

- Conflict between participating stakeholders
- Unwillingness to engage
- Participation fatigue
- Creating expectations of change the Project is unable or unwilling to fulfil
- Lack of balance between weak and strong stakeholders
- Disruptive stakeholders
- Uninformed stakeholders
- Disempowered stakeholders

6. IMPLEMENTATION OF STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN

6.1 Invitation for Stakeholders to Engage

RPS will ensure that all stakeholders are invited to participate and are told in advance of any engagements. RPS will also ensure that the appropriate type of engagement is applied to the appropriate stakeholder group, in regards to level of interest, knowledge capacity and level of influence.

The information included in the invitation will include:

- The purpose and scope of the engagement
- The engagement process and timelines
- What stakeholders are expected to contribute
- The benefits to the stakeholder invited to participate
- Logistical and practical information about the engagement
- How to respond
- Additional information that will be provided
- Future intentions

RPS will use a range of means in which to invite participation, including: social networks, relevant media, mailing lists, telephone calls and personal visits. Pre-engagement will be issued in the form of a company brochure – accessible in 3 languages (Arabic, French and English) this will provide information in layman's terms.

6.2 Briefing Stakeholders

RPS will develop and provide the participants with the briefing materials needed to ensure quality engagement. This will take into account participant awareness, language barriers, disability and literacy issues.

Briefing materials provide a solid and robust base in which to conduct a responsive stakeholder engagement. RPS will strive to ensure that these materials address:

- The purpose and scope of the engagement
- The nature of the issues (including risks and opportunities)
- How the issues are currently managed
- What systems and policies are already in place

- What the company can realistically achieve in regards to an issue
- Ensure that briefing materials are issued in good time, in order for people to formulate their own opinions about the Project before meetings are set-up
- Briefing materials will be user friendly (format, use of language, bullet points etc)
- RPS will also take note from stakeholders and apply changes to the briefing materials if need be.

6.3 Engagement

Prior to engagement it is imperative to set ground rules. The ground rules shall be agreed by all participants. RPS will implement these rules in order to limit distrust, intimidations and unnecessary tension.

These rules will typically include:

- Avoid assigning intentions, beliefs or motives on to others, (don't assume – ask)
- Respect each party's right to 'pass' if they are unwilling to speak
- Allow freedom of speech
- Ensure that all stakeholder groups are given an equal input into discussions
- Respect anonymity
- Adopt a solutions-oriented approach, "where there is a will there is a way"
- Maintain decorum and focus on the issue at hand, do not let other issues work their way into discussions.

6.4 Documentation of the Engagement and Outputs

RPS will ensure that all engagements and their outputs will be documented, transparent and monitored. The documentation will contain:

- The purpose and aims of the engagement
- The methods used
- Who participated and who did not
- The timeframe
- A summary of stakeholder concerns, expectations, aspirations and perceptions
- Outputs (including – queries, proposals, recommendations and agreed decisions/actions).

6.5 Development of an Action Plan

RPS will endeavour to respond to every output, giving justification for all chosen decisions and actions, even if they are unable to fulfil all demands.

The action plan will ensure:

- Decisions and actions take into account stakeholder concerns, expectations and perceptions
- Roles and responsibilities are well defined and offer realistic and measurable timescales for completion

- Actions are documented that may change governance, policy amendments, strategies, objectives, operational practices and performance indicators;
- Clear assignment of roles and responsibilities
- Review, learning and improvement process.

6.6 Communicate Engagement Outputs & Action Plan

RPS regard reporting back to stakeholders has of high importance, and stress that it should be done in an inclusive and consistent manner. Reporting back may include a written report and may also be supplemented by:

- Stakeholder events
- Follow-up telephone briefings
- Provide access to information on web portals
- Records of outputs and actions will be kept, maintained and monitored
- These records will be transparent and may be digested internally and externally

6.7 Report on Engagement

RPS will ensure that all stakeholder engagement will be transparent and available for public consumption.



PLAN

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1 **PURPOSE**

This document, Stakeholder Engagement Plan, is aimed solely at the SEA process, which is a high level phase and will not involve extensive stakeholder engagement. Nevertheless, even during the SEA, stakeholder engagement is an essential component and will be viewed in retrospect by a greater number of stakeholders during the ESIA phase. A transparent and comprehensive stakeholder engagement process at every phase can affect both the client's and consultant's international reputation and the process must be able to build on a firm foundation in order to withstand public and media induced scrutiny.

The SEA process for this Development is based on the EU SEA Directive. In this context the Freedom of Information Act, which is active within 53 countries, specifies that any phase of Stakeholder engagement process must be able to defend the following aspects:

1. Who was involved in the pre-consultation discussions? Who formulated the questions?
2. Why did you ask xx questions but not yy?
3. How did you select your focus groups?
4. Where did you advertise your public meetings? Did people hear about it in time?
5. Can you provide the raw data collected?
6. Can you provide MoM from all meetings?
7. How did you summarise the views and submission of all respondents?
8. Did the decision makers have access to all these views and submission?
9. What recommendations did you make based on the consultation process?

A quality Stakeholder Engagement Plan will demonstrate conformance to these aspects and is evident in this document.

2 **RPS COMMITMENT & INTEGRITY**

2.1 **AA1000 Stakeholder Engagement Standard 2011**

In order to provide a quality stakeholder engagement process RPS Energy adheres to the AA1000 Stakeholder Engagement Standard (A1000SES). The AA1000SES (2011) has been adopted by IFC and is universally viewed as an open-source framework for designing, implementing, assessing and communicating the quality of stakeholder engagement. In conjunction with the AA1000SES the AA100 Accountability Principle Standard is also used to ensure a credible and transparent stakeholder engagement process. Stakeholder engagement is a journey, one that lasts as long as the Development, therefore it is imperative to plan ahead and identify potential problems before they become actual problems.

2.2 RPS Stakeholder Engagement Policy

RPS endeavor to set and maintain high standards regarding Stakeholder Engagement and will ensure that all stakeholder engagements must:

- ✓ Be based on a commitment to the AA1000APS principles
- ✓ Clearly define the scope
- ✓ Have an agreed decision making process
- ✓ Focus on issues materials to the organization and/or its stakeholders
- ✓ Create opportunities for dialogue
- ✓ Be integral to organizational governance
- ✓ Be transparent
- ✓ Have a process appropriate to the stakeholders engaged
- ✓ Be timely
- ✓ Be flexible & responsive.

3 SCOPE

The scope of work described in this document relates solely to the Stakeholder Engagement Plan of the initial SEA phase of the Development. The findings from the implementation of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan will be recorded as a section in the SEA Report, as stated in the Stakeholder Engagement Strategy. The SEA Report will be available for public disclosure.

The SEA phase of stakeholder engagement is not as vigorous or as in-depth as at the ESIA phase; the main focus being data collection and validation; identification of stakeholders that could affect the overall scheme of the project and developing a general awareness of public opinion.

Preparation for public disclosure and community engagement, which will entail a grievance mechanism, will also take place, as will disseminating information on the broad overview of the Development.

The SEA is in its very nature exploratory and ‘non-invasive’ so there is limited opportunity for participation; it is more a scoping exercise for future Social Impact Assessments. An appropriate level of participation will be gauged for each stakeholder group. For example, at present the public influence and interest is at a low-level so broad based, non-technical information will be distributed to ‘test the waters’; whereas high-level consultations with Ministers and Governmental Advisors are crucial for future planning, and subject relevant academics hold critical information.

All engagements pose uncertainties and potential risks. In order to avoid any unnecessary aggravation all stakeholder groups will be updated with a culturally specific perspective and with appropriate levels of information. RPS maintain a Concerns Register (2197-REG-ALL-0005) from the outset in order to flag up possible future difficulties or potential risks so these can be managed as early as possible, or stay on record to be managed in later phases of the Development. Risks can also include damaged reputations, a lack of resources, failure to deliver on promised outcomes or a breakdown in professional relationships. RPS strive to engage regularly, disseminate appropriate information, show a strong in-country presence and budget and plan efficiently in order to minimize all work related risks.

3.1 RPS Registers

A series of Registers shall be established and maintained by RPS during the SEA phase. These Registers are a valuable management tool for data and information organization and also provide a concise deliverable at the end of the initial SEA. All the Registers would have ongoing application for the duration of petroleum activities in Lebanese Waters if so wished by the Ministry of Energy and Water. Standard Registers facilitate Management System implementation and review, for Health, Safety, Environment, Social, Security and Quality.

The Register initiated includes the following:

- Legal Register
- Stakeholder Register
- Consultation Register
- Data Acquisition Register
- Concerns Register

The Stakeholder Register, Consultation Register, Concerns Register and Data Acquisition Register are of particular relevance to stakeholder engagement. All registers are incorporated in Vol. 6. (2197-RPT-ALL-0006).

4 ENGAGEMENT METHODS

4.1 Roles & Responsibilities

The Ministry of Energy and Water (MoEW) is the owner of the Development, and ultimately responsible for successful stakeholder engagement. RPS have been contracted to plan, lead and facilitate stakeholder engagement, and to advise the Ministry at all stages.

At this SEA phase stakeholder engagement is more concerned with identifying the interests of other high level groups, such as other government Ministries and Directorates (eg Water, Tourism) and the fisheries industry.

Engagement with the public, NGOs and other specific interests will be the focus of the ESIAs, although initiated during SEA phase. RPS has produced an initial brochure for the public, describing in broad terms the nature of the intended offshore activities. This will be approved by MoEW before general release.

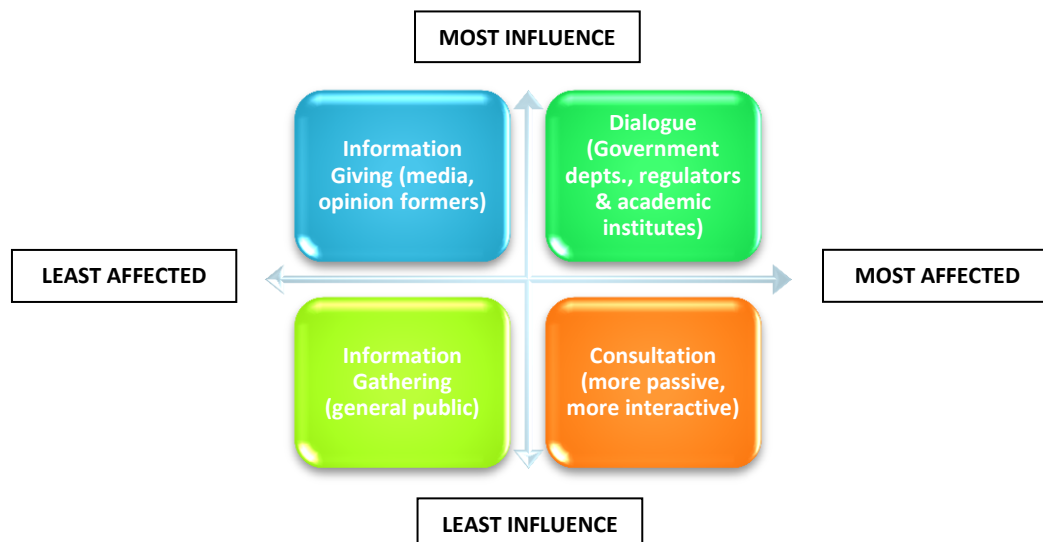
RPS will also advise MoEW on the implementation of a Grievance Procedure and information dissemination via the official web site. The term 'Grievance Procedure' can sound unduly negative; it is more an Enquiry, Comments and Complaints mechanism, however, the term is now part of industry jargon, so has been used for clarity.

The whole process of stakeholder engagement requires a very close and aligned working relationship between MoEW and RPS.

4.2 Scoping Process

During the SEA and Scoping phase it has been established that stakeholder engagement is predominately high-level and is more focused on overall planning at a national and strategic level. The public are involved as they are 'the nation', but they have little to contribute directly in terms of specialist knowledge and influence.

Using the Stakeholder Identifying tool (shown below), three categories of stakeholder have emerged at this stage.



The three categories that the various stakeholder groups have been allocated to are:

Strategic-Level - highly influential; strategic decision makers at the national/international level. This group consists mainly of Ministers and Governmental advisors.

Academic and Specialist Institutes - data holders of a national and specialist nature. This group consists of data holding organizations and individual specialists who are able to assist with data collection and assessment.

Local-Level – individuals and interest groups who are not particularly influential at the national decision making level. This group consists of the general public, local businesses and NGOs. This group of stakeholder provides limited information at the SEA stage, but will be kept informed at an appropriate level and will be given a channel in which to raise concerns.

The three groups of stakeholder will be engaged in forms that are appropriate to their assigned category. All stakeholders are listed in the Stakeholder Register.

It should also be appreciated that an individual can be involved in more than one category, for example a Government Minister may own a property in a project affected coastal community.

5 **ENGAGEMENT PLAN SEA PHASE**

5.1 **Objectives & Level of Participation**

The objectives and desired outcomes from engagement vary with each category. Engagement with the Strategic Level group will focus on acquiring information on strategic and high level planning proposals and ensuring that any conflict of interest is identified in the early stages. The SEA phase is where high level risks (financial, reputational, and technical) are identified. At this stage this group is the most significant and influential in light of the oil and gas industry planning.

The Academic/Specialist group is of high importance as they have access to the most accurate data, both existing and unpublished, which is essential for successful SEA planning. This group will have a relatively high importance for the duration of the whole project, so the relationship will be one of ongoing liaison and co-working.

The Local Level group has a relatively low profile during this SEA phase as their input is secondary compared to the higher level strategic level planning. However, when the Development framework is more firmly in place the local level interests become increasingly important to the fine tuning of industry activities. It is important to reiterate that as the oil and gas activities develop the level of stakeholder participation will also vary, and new categories will be assigned.

Having established the categories of stakeholder, it is then important to assess the needs and level of participation of these stakeholders at the SEA stage to enable a realistic allocation of time, budget and resources.

Stakeholder Category	Level of Participation	Objective	Forms of Communication	Additional Comments
STRATEGIC-LEVEL	Inform Consult Involve	To identify all aspects relevant to the development of the Petroleum activities in Lebanese waters.	Develop close working relationship between RPS and Ministry of Energy and Water and Ministry of Environment.	Lebanese culture favours face-to-face meetings, which is also the most effective form of engagement.
		To acquire relevant data and information for assessment. This is essential for a Gap Analysis to identify information that needs to be compiled for full ESIA.	Face to Face meetings and consultations with other government bodies. Detailed Monthly Progress Reports.	This group is fundamental in attaining relevant in-country contacts.
ACADEMIC/SPECIALIST LEVEL	Inform Consult	To acquire relevant data and information for assessment. This is essential for a Gap Analysis to identify information that needs to be compiled for full ESIA.	MoEW website. Meetings and correspondence between RPS and subject specialists. Information sharing.	This group is important as they hold vital data and information. Collaboration is beneficial to the Development in the long term and should be developed. This group has an

				intellectual stake in the SEA.
LOCAL-LEVEL	Inform	To keep the general public and interest groups informed at an appropriate level, and to prevent rumours and mis-information. Ensure adverse publicity is managed in a timely manner.	Information Brochure, updated for different phases. MoEW website. Contact number/address for access to the Development.	Ensure all written forms of communication are in the 3 main languages (Arabic, French & English).

5.2 Time & Budget Allocation

In order to follow a plan both timelines and budget allocations are critical. This not only highlights any potential weaknesses within the stakeholder engagement process, but it allows for the process to be repeatable. Following a well devised plan enables deadlines to be met within budget.

The budget for stakeholder engagement during SEA is included in the contract costs. The timeline is included in the SEA schedule; which is focused for the first two months on data acquisition and assessment. Stakeholder identification and categorization will take place during these first two months, with a focus on the Strategic Level and Academic/Specialist Level stakeholders.

The broader stakeholder engagement programme will be a subject in the Gap Analysis although it must be recognized that it is an ongoing process not a discrete package of work.

5.3 Act, Review & Improve

The process of continually reviewing and improving stakeholder engagement is integral to the programme. The SEA phase is focused on identification and initiation; a full review report with recommendations based on these initial findings will form part of the SEA Report.

During the SEA phase comprehensive records will be kept in the Stakeholder Register, Consultation Register, Concerns Register, through formal Minutes of Meetings and Meeting Notes (see Appendix A).

6 FINDINGS & OUTCOMES FOR SEA PART 1

6.1 Methodology

It is important to be aware that SEA and stakeholder engagement process' vary greatly according to cultural and industry differences. It is essential that a stakeholder management plan is put in place prior to any engagement, yet it is to be expected that the stakeholder engagement process may develop or alter from the original plan. Humans and the society to which they belong can be unpredictable; therefore it is more appropriate to ensure a flexible approach is applied when seeking information and gathering opinions. Any stakeholder management process must be culture specific, therefore a 'one size fits all' approach will not suffice. The key to a successful stakeholder engagement process is transparency and providing opportunities for open and informed dialogue.

However, as for any scientifically robust methodology, the basic elements are always a description of What and Who is under investigation, Where and When this is taking place, and Why.

What

Due to the complex political and social setting in Lebanon, RPS focused on frequent and intensive consultation sessions, ensuring that information gathered was reviewed and screened in a comprehensive manner. There is always a danger of over-gathering which can hinder the identification of key issues. The planning of who to target and when, prior to in-country visits, was integral to RPS' approach, especially in the 5 month time restraint. It was also necessary to allow room for unexpected, cancelled or unarranged consultations. Over the set time period 6 intensive rounds of consultations were instigated, this is not inclusive of the consultations performed by the in-country facilitators which were often of a follow-up nature. The table below describes the purpose for each consultation trip.

No.	Date of Trip	Target & Purpose
1	17/10/11 – 28/10/11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initial round of consultations, identifying and assessing key stakeholders. Gathering as much information from the client and committee regarding the state of Lebanon and how this would influence their proposals. Observation of Lebanese coast and infrastructure (incl. photos).
2	29/10/11 – 08/11/11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gathering data from all key stakeholders for the gap analysis component of the SEA. Gathering GIS data available from in-country experts and key stakeholders. Observation and review of in-country infrastructure (incl. photos). Review of in-country academic surveys and studies of both an environmental and social nature.
3	30/11/11 – 13/12/11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Direct follow-up from round 2 of consultations. Compilation of the gap analysis component of the SEA, this was conducted in-country with input from facilitators and stakeholders with valuable advice and information to offer. Further GIS data collected. Detailed discussions on Lebanese Law and Regulatory Framework.
4	14/12/11 – 21/12/11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Final review of gap analysis, before presenting to the client and

		committee. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation with key stakeholders for future intentions and development of the SEA phase 1.
5	28/01/12 – 11/02/12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gathering all current and future intentions of the various key stakeholders' programmes, policies & plans (PPP). • Identifying and making contact with new key stakeholders.
6	11/02/12 - 13/02/12 18/02/12 – 26/02/12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liaison meeting with Petrad who are advising the Lebanese Government. • Last round of consultations and rounding-up before the completion of SEA Phase 1.

Who

With a specialist consultation team each trip was timed in order to maximize effectiveness. With the range of cultures, religions and sects present in Lebanon there are many public holidays that can disrupt the consultation programme. The consultation process comprised of face-to-face sessions, email correspondence and telephone conference. RPS also had an in-country facilitation team (of Lebanese nationals) ensuring continuous RPS presence, this team was in daily contact with the RPS London office allowing for a flexible and culturally appropriate stakeholder engagement process. After each consultation trip (usually lasting for 2 weeks) the RPS Consultation team alongside the GIS, Environment, Security and oil spill experts would share information and propose possible ways forward. This multi-disciplinary technique is the standard RPS approach and ensures a thorough and well-balanced outcome to all Project deliverables. During the SEA phase stakeholder engagement is predominately high-level and is focused on overall planning at a national and strategic level. The public are involved as they are 'the nation', but they have little to contribute directly in terms of specialist knowledge and influence. Therefore the key stakeholders were quickly identified as those in the ministries, ministry advisors and to a lesser extent head figures within certain academic institutions. All identified stakeholders are recorded in the Stakeholder Register.

The table below lists the stakeholders identified during the consultation phase. It is important to note that some ministries were consulted more than others depending on the directorates within the ministry that were identified. The details of all consultations including the directorates consulted are listed in the Consultation Register, which is included in Volume 6. The table below only summarises the key stakeholders identified, it does not break down into directorates or individuals. This table also highlights the stakeholders not consulted, due to non-response, schedule constraints or deemed irrelevant to plans and programmes related to the oil and gas industry.

Acronym	Longhand	Consulted	Reason for lack of contact
MoA	Ministry of Agriculture	Y	
MoD	Ministry of Displaced	N	Unable to contact.
MoE	Ministry of Environment	Y	
MoEdu	Ministry of Education	N	Unable to contact.
MoET	Ministry of Economy & Trade	N	Unable to contact.
MoEW	Ministry of Energy & Water	Y	
MoF	Ministry of Finance	Y	
MoFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Y	
MoIM	Ministry of Interior & Municipalities	Y	However the 4 Mohafezs have been identified but unable to attain consultation

			date.
MoInd	Ministry of Industry	Y	
MoInfo	Ministry of Information	N	Ministry is virtually non-existent, private sector is recommended.
MoJ	Ministry of Justice	Y	
MoL	Ministry of Labour	N	Unable to contact
MoND	Ministry of National Defense	Y	
MoPH	Ministry of Public Health	N	Unable to contact.
MoPT	Ministry of Post & Telecommunications	N	Unable to contact.
MoPWT	Ministry of Public Works & Transport	Y	
MoSA	Ministry of Social Affairs	N	Unable to find suitable time, but National Strategy for 2012 has been obtained.
MoT	Ministry of Tourism	N	Unable to contact.
MoYS	Ministry of Youth & Sports	N	Unable to contact.
CNRS/NCSR	National Centre of Science Research	Y	
CAS	Central Administration for Statistics	Y	
CDR	Council for Development & Reconstruction	Y	
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme	Y	
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund	Y	
NGO Coordinator	Non-Governmental Organisations	Y	
AUB	American University of Beirut	Y	
UoB	University of Balamand	Y	

Where

Actual consultations took place in-country whilst information analysis and much of the planning was conducted either in-country or at RPS's London office. All in-country consultations were conducted in the stakeholder's office or place of work.

When

The stakeholder engagement process for the SEA phase 1 was conducted over a 5 month period, commencing on October 2011 until March 2012. This timeframe was a constraint and demanded the highly planned consultation execution employed by RPS, to allow for maximum quality consultation and minimum time wastage.

Why

A transparent and comprehensive stakeholder engagement process at every phase can affect both the client's and consultant's international reputation. The process must be built on a firm foundation in order to withstand public and media scrutiny.

The main objectives of the consultation phase were:

- Inform key stakeholders of what an SEA involves in relation to oil and gas activities.
- Ascertain roles, responsibilities and accountabilities of key stakeholders.
- Record and answer any concerns or queries raised by stakeholders.
- Gain a better understanding of how Lebanon functions, politically, culturally and religiously.
- Establish Lebanese's industry related capabilities.
- Acquire social, environmental and industry related data in order to provide a comprehensive gap analysis.
- Gather all key stakeholders past, current and future PPPs (Projects, Policies & Programmes).

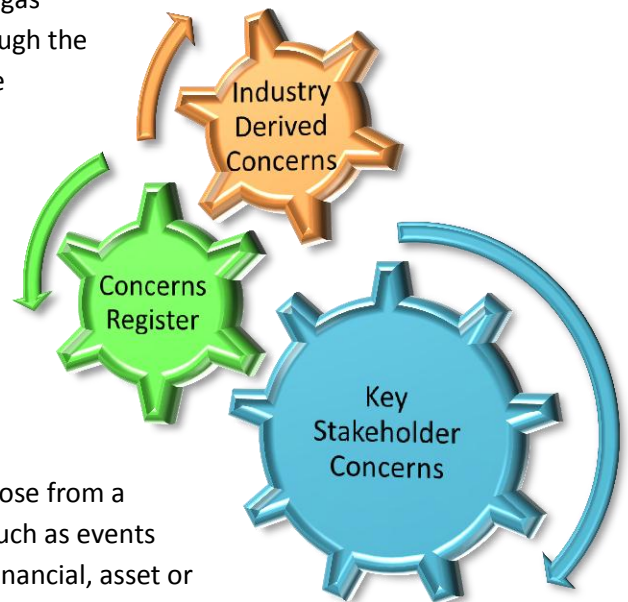
6.2 Concerns Raised

The outcome of the dialogue during the SEA phase is diverse and multi-viewpoint owing to several factors, such as:

- The purpose of the consultation
- The team (field of expertise) in charge of the consultation
- The stakeholder (interest and knowledge)
- Level of information being provided and sought
- Unforeseen circumstances

In order to establish, validate and address key concerns, it is necessary to group like with like. Three distinct but interconnected perspectives have emerged during this period of initial consultations.

- Firstly there is Industry Derived Concerns: These concerns were identified by RPS and Petrad industry experts during an exercise describing a range of possible scenarios for oil and gas development in Lebanese waters. Although the concerns were ranked using a subjective evaluation, it was firmly based on past experience and an in-depth knowledge of oil and gas projects. Out of the three groups it is probably the most objective assessment in that it derives from practical experience rather than opinions. Concerns derived from the Industry perspective are obviously more focussed and are also articulating concerns from the industry as well as those from a social and environmental perspective, such as events that can be detrimental to a project in financial, asset or reputational terms.



- Secondly there are concerns raised by RPS Consultation team, based on extended consultations, in-country observations and secondary source research. These concerns are recorded in the Concerns Register and are largely based on the RPS Consultation team's interpretation and subjective assessment. To some extent they are a hybrid compilation using the strengths and experience of the consultation team and involving initial identification of an issue by stakeholders, a psycho-social evaluation, a knowledge of the oil and gas industry and experience of this industry in a variety of different locations and cultures. This perspective has several advantages; it ensures all issues are captured as the boundaries are broader and less defined than the Industry and Stakeholder foci, it has greater flexibility and it links all the elements.

- The third viewpoint reflects the concerns of the interviewed stakeholders, and they are recorded directly from consultations. The stakeholders consulted for the SEA phase could be described as professional middle class, educated but not knowledgeable about the oil and gas industry. The *Key Stakeholder Concerns* were voiced by various stakeholders; they may not be based on knowledge or experience of the industry, and they may not even be warranted, but they are heart-felt and equally valid. Many of the concerns in this section are based on unsubstantiated fears of the oil and gas industry in conjunction with past experience of national level corruption. It does not matter whether the concerns are founded or unfounded; there is an obligation from the MoEW or the industry to respond. This is in the interests of the industry as the power of ill informed 'gossip' can be damaging and have financial and reputational consequences. These findings provide invaluable insight and will facilitate the next phase of stakeholder engagement which will include a wider social participation.

The main concerns and issues of the three perspectives are tabulated below. There is of course a large degree of overlap, but by considering all three together a more multi-dimensional picture emerges. This approach also facilitates inclusion of concerns into the decision making process in a more meaningful manner, which is a fundamental reason for stakeholder engagement in the first place.

The table below highlights the main areas of concern derived from the scenario exercise carried out by RPS and Petrad experts. In total 7 different scenarios were analysed.

Summary of Industry Derived Concerns

CATEGORY	ACTIVITY/ASPECT	ISSUES/CONCERNS
Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobilisation and exploration drilling • Onshore supply base • Gas receiving and processing facilities • Pipelines • LNG processing, storage and export 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waste Management (inc. oil based muds) • Noise Emissions • Air Emissions (inc. Flaring) • Environmental awareness • Land-take • Blow Out • Construction activities
Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operations of a new industry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generated revenues • Investments based on expectations • Purchasing power • Employment
Socio-Cultural	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operations of a new industry • Pipeline Onshore 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raised expectations • Community relations • Safety and nuisance to community • Resettlement • Security • Land-take
Institutional	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presence & Operations of new industry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relevant HSE legislation in place • Capacity deficiency within authorities • Land use planning and control • Building trust among decision makers • Capacity building on environmental

Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data Deficiency • Training • Infrastructure • Technology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • awareness • Plans for CSR programmes • Environmental, socio-economic & health baseline data deficiency • Lack of training facilities • Strain on a failing domestic and national resources/infrastructure • Capacity deficiency (inc. Waste disposal) • National Contingency Plan • Deep water activities
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A Concerns Register (see Volume 6) has been created and used to monitor and keep a record of concerns. The Concerns Register highlights areas that require further community consultation and are categorised in a similar way to the concerns derived from an industry perspective, ie *environmental, *infrastructure, *regulatory framework, *security and *social/health.

Summary of Concerns Register

Environmental	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lebanon does not afford habitats and species adequate protection from the pressures of urbanization and development. • The social and environmental studies that have been collected appear to be disconnected, with much of the data pre-2006. Information is not being built up coherently. • The coastal zone is unmanaged with no check on urbanisation and no planning. Individuals complain that what pockets of beach left for recreation are private and there is an ever decreasing public beach access. • At present the commercial fishing takes place within the 6 mile limit. Apparently the expectation is for this to change in the future and for commercial fishing to extend into deeper waters. There is a data deficiency and lack of knowledge about this offshore habitat; there is a real danger that unregulated fishing could cause significant ecological damage.
Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The lack of waste management in Lebanon is a real concern. Hazardous Waste is not a recognised category. By 2015 all landfill sites will have reached full capacity. • Land planning and land use is a concern. It is estimated that 95% of marinas are illegal, as are pre 2006 built coastal hotels. This situation will add complexity to oil and gas land take activities. • The existing infrastructure in Lebanon (roads, waste disposal, electricity, water etc) is already under extreme strain. The Country is still suffering from the 2006 war. Therefore it is completely ill-equipped to deal with any further demands created by the oil and gas activities. • The intended use of the obsolete train track for pipeline construction raises several concerns: 1) Urban planning has an plan to reinstate the railway to ease traffic congestion 2) The track has been built on, including homes, roads and hotels 3) The track is at times on the edge of coastal erosion. • The search and rescue unit (under the civil defence MoIM) was responsible for the 2006 oil spill clean-up. However, they are massively under-resourced and would not cope with another spill scenario.
Regulatory Framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At present Lebanon does not have a coherent and integrated regulatory framework. There are many obsolete regulations (the Lebanese legal system is based on the French 1920-1950s legal system) contradicting International Conventions that Lebanon is signatory to and there are several pieces of legislation that have been drafted but not yet approved for implementation. Some of the International Conventions have been signed but not ratified. • Standards are present but are not enforced, this is especially true for environmental issues. • Lebanon's complex political set-up and confessional form of government results in extremely lengthy processes for the drafting of new laws and decrees. By the time a law has finally been accepted by the Council of Ministers much of the content may already be dated.

- There is to be a new Petroleum Activities Law and Regulations; however there is a concern that in Lebanon a new law can be take precedence over earlier laws. It is not known how this may affect the existing environmental decrees.
- The EIA Decree is drafted but not yet approved for use. This is a critical piece of legislation that should go hand in hand with planning and permitting regulations in preparation for the increased pressure on infrastructure that the oil and gas industry will create.
- Accountability of the various Ministries lacks clarity. For example, it is not clear which Ministry would take charge of an oil spill, and the national Emergency Plan only makes provision for war and natural disasters.

Security

- Lack of clarity and variations over land ownership and governance is potentially chaotic. Land management and regulation varies between different religious groups, creating a potential for civil unrest. When an international oil and gas industry becomes a factor requiring land allocation these issues may become problematic.
- Palestinian refugee camps are a long term and festering issue; if their status is not addressed there is the potential for serious security issues.
- Due to fears of national security, certain GIS and mapping information is not shared between Ministries or those working in Lebanon for Lebanon. This has resulted in data deficiency and inaccuracies.
- It has been estimated that 95% of all unexploded mines are unmarked.

Social/Health

- The location of many Palestinian refugee camps are in close proximity to the disused railway, thus 'in the way' of the proposed onshore pipeline. Resettlement could result in unrest and international and NGO objections.
- An onshore gas pipeline in the coastal zone will result in large scale resettlement. Industry Best Practice will require a Resettlement Action Plan (RAP), something international contractors will want to avoid. RAPs are costly, time consuming and attract scrutiny from NGOs and international media.
- Although an extremely friendly country, Lebanon nevertheless exhibits racial inequalities, sexual discrimination and child labour. Human Rights can also be an issue.
- General health statistics do not exist or are not reliable, however, unofficial recordings of cancers, water borne diseases and respiratory conditions are high.
- There is a lack of detailed demographic information; the census does not record ethnicity and race figures. There are no reliable figures on illegal immigrants.
- An onshore pipeline would have significant implications for the coastal hotels and beach resorts. 20% of Lebanese national income is derived from tourism, and of that 70% comes from beach and marina holidays. A developing oil and gas industry typically puts extra pressure on all hotel accommodation.
- The Fisheries cooperatives are a key stakeholder, yet the draft law on fisheries has not been made available for the SEA.
- Air quality along Lebanon's coastal zone is noticeably toxic and poses a serious health concern.
- There is a noticeable public apathy and a fatalistic approach to corruption. There is a lack of belief that their voice would be taken into account over any future developments.
- Scientific institutions and Ministries have become accustomed to international funding (UN, WB etc), which is breeding a dependency culture as regards national data acquisition.

The table below highlights specific concerns raised by key stakeholders during the consultation process.

Concerns raised by Key Stakeholders

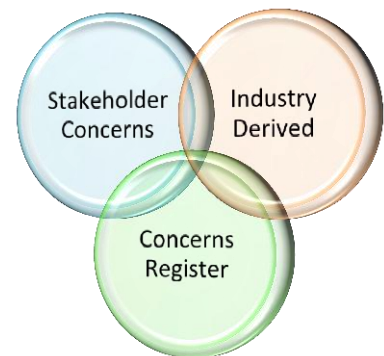
Stakeholder	Concerns
MoA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Country will be unable to cope with extra load on its already failing infrastructure. Concerns of negative impacts on the fishery cooperatives and community. New Fisheries legislation is still pending.
MoE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Due to the nature of the currents all offshore pollution is swept north, therefore the responsibility of waste and debris of current Israeli offshore activities is of real concern. The lack of environmental legal implementation and accountability. Contractor responsibilities, are they in writing and legally binding? Fears over environmental competency and awareness of contractor. The EIA Decree has not been passed by government. MoE is under-resourced.
MoI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permitting concerns – coastal zones of industry are currently being devised, will contractor follow permitting protocol? Who will be accountable for any oil spill pollutions and provide the necessary response.
MoIM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Search & Rescue is under resourced and could not cope with oil spills from the oil and gas industry.
UNDP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concerned that Lebanon could not provide the use of fresh water for rigs operations. Palestinian camps would not be adequately identified (boundaries of camps are blurred), concerns that individuals may fall victim to the bullish methods of the oil and gas industry. The general population's voice will not be heard.
NGO Coordinator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The accountability of contractor is of concern, will environmental issues be monitored, addressed and mitigation measures put in place? Will the oil and gas industry simply plunder the natural resources of Lebanon and not give anything in return.
UNFPA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fears that any money or profit will be taken by corrupt officials so preventing regeneration. Unaware of oil and gas industry, unsure what it involves.
CNRS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adverse impact on marine life from oil and gas activities.
AUB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deep water biology is hardly known; will oil and gas activities destroy much of it before information is acquired. There is completely inadequate protection of natural resources and no MPAs.
University of Balamand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The coastal zone is not protected against spreading urbanisation. There is decreasing public access to the shoreline. Regulatory framework is inadequate.
Multiple Source	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fear that there is no accountability or communication either between or within the ministries. Fearful of the negative impacts of the oil and gas industry. Lack of awareness of what an SEA/ESIA and offshore exploration entails.

For further details of concerns or consultation dialogue are referenced in the Consultation Register (see Volume 6) and are often supported by detailed Meeting Notes (Appendix A).

6.3 Concerns Evaluation

Having identified concerns from the three perspectives (Industry Derived, Concerns Register and Stakeholder Concerns) it is then necessary to compare and contrast them and assess the background to overlaps and variation. The Stakeholder perspective will change over time as more of society is included in the community engagement process; at present these are results from the high level SEA phase only.

The three perspectives are not hierarchical, there is no right or wrong and no requirement to take a view and 'believe it' or 'support it'. Concerns in the different groups are often facets of the same fundamental issue, often labelled differently, and it is more a case of 'putting oneself in another person's shoes'.



For example, 'Land' is cited as an issue in all three perspectives, but the reason behind this varies. The Industry approach is primarily concerned with enough land to support industry activities, such as process plants and pipeline; the broader perspective in the Concerns Register recognises that establishing ownership and compensation issues could result in civil unrest and security risks; whereas individual stakeholders are focussed on their particular land and livelihood.

All stakeholders will have a particular bias depending on their individual concerns, interests and cultural baggage. However, in order to compare and assess findings it is necessary to group and categorise the variables. The categories overlap, and sometimes concerns are inextricably entwined with related concerns.

The pyramid graph below lists in order of perceived significance the highest ranking concerns from each of the three perspectives. Note that the pyramids are not made-up with an equal number of concerns as this reflects the actual situation; to contrive a 'top ten' list would deviate away from the real findings.

Concerns in Order of Perceived Significance

Each pyramid represents one of the three perspectives, and each ranks their concerns in order of perceived significance. The further-up the pyramid a concern is located signifies a higher level of importance in the eyes of the group that it belongs to. This illustration enables all three perspectives to be compared and contrasted side by side.

As the 'Industry Derived Concerns' pyramid is located on the left, its list will be used to start off the comparisons of each perspective. This perspective category has not been chosen for any other reason, as stated before all perspectives are equally valid.

- ❖ **Lack of effective and implemented national HSE legislation** is ranked highest from the 'Industry Perspective'. This seems to be in keeping with the other two perspectives, as 'Concerns Register' rates Regulatory Framework as number one and 'Stakeholder Perspective' ranks Regulatory Framework as number three. It could be argued that the terms HSE Legislation and Regulatory Framework are essentially the same concern.

Conclusion - This would indicate that from many outlooks a lack of effective legislation and regulation in Lebanon is of real concern.

- ❖ **The lack of a National Oil Spill Contingency Plan** ranks second in the 'Industry' category and fifth on the 'Concerns Register' category but does not feature on the 'Stakeholder' group.

Conclusion – It may appear misleading that the 'Stakeholder' group did not include this concern, especially as the other two perspectives had it ranked as high importance. However, this issue was discussed in various 'Stakeholder' group consultations and the lack of a National Contingency Plan was discussed in the context of a lack of accountability of those in control (second most important) and impacts on environment and ecology (fifth). As one can see, the concerns from the three perspectives overlap and a concern in one perspective category may feature more than once in another, often with a different slant.

- ❖ **Capacity of Authorities** is ranked third in the 'Industry' group, whilst Accountability of Key Ministries is ranked number two in the 'Concerns Register' group and the 'Stakeholder' group rank Accountability of those in Control as number two. It could be argued that essentially these terms are addressing the same concern.

Conclusion - This is rather a straight-forward indicator that from all perspectives the lack of capacity and accountability (of Ministries, Contractors and those in influential positions) is cause for concern, as they appear to be ranked more-or-less equally high on the pyramid graph.

- ❖ **Land-Take** is number four on the 'Industry' groups pyramid whilst Land Use and Ownership is ranked number six on both of the other perspectives.

Conclusion – As mentioned previously the reason why land is of concern varies from each category. It is important that the issue of land is continued to be viewed through all three perspectives and not over simplified as it is industry experience that this is one of the most controversial issues that occur in virtually all phases of oil and gas activities with significant financial implications.

- ❖ **Data Deficiency** ranks fifth from the 'Industry' perspective; the 'Concerns Register' rates Environmental and Social Data Deficient at number four, whilst this issue was only addressed by a few individual (and academic) stakeholders, and is therefore not represented on the 'Stakeholder' list.

Conclusion - Again the first two categories share a similar concern, but the reason behind the concern differs slightly. The 'Concerns Register' standpoint views the paucity of data as having significant implications for the amount of environmental and social data needed to provide adequate baseline studies prior to oil and gas activities. The 'Industry' perspective includes this aspect but is also aware of the liability issues of operating without having adequate baseline information from which to plan. Individual stakeholders who voiced this concern were the more environmentally aware; a small group in this SEA sample, and one that will become disproportionately smaller as the 'public' sample size increases.

- ❖ **Waste Management** ranks sixth on the 'Industry' pyramid, whilst 'Concerns Register' ranks this concern as number seven. The 'Stakeholder' group did not highlight this as a lone concern.

Conclusion - Again it must be noted that the 'Stakeholder' group did indeed raise Waste Management as one of many issues within concerns that they ranked four and five: Impacts on People and Impacts on Environment and Ecology. It is safe to assume that Waste Management is viewed as a concern by all three categories for similar reasons, yet the articulation of this concern varies. Within government personnel it is known that a Waste to Energy Strategy is to be implemented in the foreseeable future, which means there is some resolution to the problem in sight.

- ❖ **Infrastructure Capacity** is ranked seventh on the 'Industry' perspective, whilst the other categories rate this area of concern much higher. The 'Concerns Register' group rank Strain on Infrastructure as number three and the 'Stakeholder' group rank this concern (articulated in the same form) as number one.

Conclusion –All three perspectives view the issue of infrastructure as a concern, but the reason why it is of concern varies. The 'Industry' group are concerned from a practical point of view, i.e. are facilities present to support internationally recognised Best Practice; the 'Stakeholder' group are concerned that industry activities may put an added strain on an

already failing infrastructure and query how this may impact society whilst the 'Concerns Register' perspective covers both viewpoints.

- ❖ **Environmental Awareness** is ranked eighth on the 'Industry' pyramid, but not mentioned on either of the other pyramids. However, in consultations with individuals from MoE, concerns were voiced that other Ministries may not be well informed of environmental issues, especially in relation to environmental accountabilities.

Conclusion – Whilst the first two pyramids highlight Environmental Awareness (though articulated in a different format) the 'Stakeholder' group (most of whom are environmentally aware) raise concern over lack of Industry Awareness and its environmental impacts – ranked at number nine. This is an interesting find, and raises the question over lack of communication and the need for ongoing training at a high level.

- ❖ **Building Trust** across high level decision making groups ranks ninth in the 'Industry' group rank, this does not feature on the 'Concerns Register', yet interestingly the 'Stakeholder' group ranks Corruption as seventh.

Conclusion – Whilst building trust and fear of corruption (in-country and by the contractor) are not the same thing, there is undoubtedly a link. It appears that there is a lack of fundamental trust from both perspectives. From the 'Industry' the perception is that it is difficult to function in the midst of groups who do not trust or share information. From the 'Stakeholder's' perspective there is a lack of trust of the government and how money generated from the oil and gas development will be distributed for the benefit of the whole country. There is also the belief that international operators will not be controlled and will take advantage where they can. There is a fatalistic attitude towards the industry amongst stakeholders; it is presumed that the people of Lebanon will have no say if the oil and gas industry is introduced to their country.

- ❖ **Security** is ranked at number ten from the 'Industry' perspective, and ranked eighth on both the 'Concerns Register' and the 'Stakeholder' perspectives.

Conclusion – This concern may seem straight forward, all three perspectives view security as a concern in relation the socio-cultural/ socio-economic context. However, the 'Concerns Register' perspective also highlights the fact that due to tight security and a culture of suspicion GIS and mapping information has limited distribution which limits knowledge transfer (this relates back to the 'industry' concern over building trust). The 'Industry' view on security issues also recognises that a developing oil and gas infrastructure has the potential to be a target for terrorist activities.

- ❖ **Air Emissions** ranks eleventh from the 'Industry' perspective, not mentioned by the 'Concerns Register' group, and alluded to on the 'Stakeholder' perspective by way of Impacts on People (ranked number four) and Impacts on Environment and Ecology (ranked number five).

Conclusion – The reason the 'Concerns Register' does not highlight this issue is that during immediate offshore exploration Air Emissions will not be of concern. The 'Industry' perspective also records a concern in relation to future flaring events; and also, critically in relation to the beneficial effects on air quality in the transition from oil to gas fired power

generation. The 'Stakeholder' group concerns are of the potential negative impacts on people, environment and ecology. This group is not knowledgeable of oil and gas activities and were unable to differentiate between the phases of industry activities, or able to focus their apprehensions.

- ❖ **Resettlement** ranks twelfth from an 'Industry' perspective, the 'Concerns Register' has included this concern regarding the overall concern of 'Land Use and Ownership' ranked at number six. The 'Stakeholder' group are unaware of the exact terminology but alluded to concerns of this nature under the categories; Accountability of those in Control (ranked second), Impacts on People (ranked fourth) and Land Use and Ownership (ranked sixth).

Conclusion - Again the pyramid design emphasizes that different concerns often overlap, and that a disparate perspective and awareness will ensure that a concern is often articulated or categorised alternatively. The 'Stakeholder' group are unaware of the Industry term 'Resettlement' however, from a different angle they have raised a similar concern – who is accountable and will the voice and needs of local people be heard? The reason Resettlement is of concern from an 'Industry' perspective is that Resettlement Action Plans, involving legal and financial negotiations, is something operators will not want to be involved with.

- ❖ **Expectations** is the final concern from the 'Industry' perspective and in this context usually implies the management of raised expectations, usually financial and employment opportunities. This concern is not addressed by the other two perspectives.

Conclusion – The 'Industry' perspective places this concern much later in the time frame of oil and gas activities which is why the two other perspectives, with a more immediate attention span, have not identified this as an issue. However, in light of recent consultations it has become apparent that many stakeholders are under the false impression that the arrival of oil and gas products will be imminent; this could easily be viewed as raising expectations. Many of the stakeholders from Academic Institutions are possibly over optimistic about the scale of positive impacts related to the oil and gas industry in the short term. Some have assumed that financial aid and collaboration with international organisations will be immediate and extensive, unaware that oil and gas may not be produced for a further ten years. This emphasizes the lack of industry awareness by the various key stakeholders, more reason for widespread industry information dissemination.

6.4 Concerns Conclusion

The pyramid format allows the key concerns from each perspective to be compared and contrasted; it also shows how a concern can be identified by all perspectives but for a different reason. The principle finding from the concerns analysis is that it appears that a majority of the concerns (from the three perspectives) overlap or interact in some way. The concerns may derive from a different viewpoint and arrive at a different conclusion but somewhere during the thought process they all appear to raise similar points of interest. This is an encouraging find, as it indicates that at this stage (high-level) all perspectives have been covered allowing a comprehensive analysis of the consultation phase. However this is not to say that all perspectives complement each other regarding every concern, by comparing each viewpoint 'erroneous' concerns have also been identified. This is not to say the initial concern

was not valid but perhaps the concern was based on a lack of knowledge or ill-founded assumption.

In total there were two 'erroneous' concerns identified:

1. From the 'Concerns Registers' perspective the negative impact predicated on tourism was unfounded. At this stage (offshore exploration) there is unlikely to be any impact on the coastal tourist industry. Furthermore, it is important to understand the type of tourist that frequents Lebanon, typically they are from another Arab nation and the concerns regarding vistas and unspoilt beaches (a desire typical of a European tourist) is not high on the list of requirements. The status of this concern is that there is a low risk that tourism will be affected but if it were it would be of high significance.
2. From the 'Stakeholders' perspective a concern was raised about the water usage for offshore rigs, with the added concern that Lebanon would have to provide this need. This concern was based on a wrong assumption, as the offshore rigs will be using sea water. By addressing misconceptions early on in the engagement process, we are better able to manage stakeholder's future expectations and concerns.

It must be remembered that as the SEA progresses more stakeholders will be identified resulting in additional perspectives and viewpoints. The stakeholder engagement process is of an iterative nature, and will need to be analysed, reviewed and updated regularly. From the results of the concerns analysis, it becomes apparent that in the SEA Phase 2 education on environmental awareness and industry awareness should be high on the list of priorities as should building in-country unity and methods of communication.

6.5 Findings and Observations

The outcome of the stakeholder engagement process is not limited to the identification of concerns, but also includes information gathering based on consultations and observations. Stakeholder engagement consists of an open two-way dialogue; where new information is received as well as given.

New Stakeholders Identified

Initially, as part of the pre-engagement phase, the key stakeholders were identified and categorised into two sections:

- 1) Strategic-Level - This group consists mainly of Ministers and Governmental advisors.
- 2) Academic and Specialist Institutes - This group consists of data holding organizations and individual specialists who are able to assist with data collection and assessment.

Early on in the consultation phase further stakeholders were identified. It had been predicated by RPS that the fishing co-operatives (including local fishermen) would warrant focus group status, and that this would be put in place at a latter phase of the SEA. However talks with the MoA, suggested that fishery groups were much more influential and important than first thought. This group proved notoriously difficult to establish contact with, RPS have highlighted this stakeholder as one of high importance that should be consulted during SEA Part 2.

The importance of the Mohafezs was also identified during a consultation session. Lebanon is divided into six governorates (also known as Muhafazah), which in turn are governed by a Mohafez. Currently there are only four Mohafezs governing the six regions, it was decided that all four should be put on the Stakeholder Register as to avoid causing any sense of injustice or exclusion.

1. [Beirut \(Beirut\)](#)
2. [Mount Lebanon \(Baabda\)](#)
3. [North \(Tripoli\)](#)
4. [Bqaa \(Zahleh\)](#)
5. [Nabatiye \(Nabatiye\)](#)
6. [South \(Sidon\)](#)



The Muhafazahs are divided into municipalities and districts which are headed by a Mukhtar. In Lebanon Mukhtars are non-government funded or appointed and only hold importance within their community, they are responsible for birth and death certificates etc. It is envisioned that during ESIA baseline studies these head-figures will become a key stakeholder.

However Mohafezs are viewed as influential and of importance as they are government appointed and hold weight regarding permitting and will likely play a role in terms of land use and ownership. Setting up consultations with the four Mohafezs has proved problematic; it is recommended that contact is made during SEA part 2.

The final group that has been identified during this period of consultations is coastal hotel owners. A hoteliers syndicate has been identified, but it was deemed premature to make contact at this stage in proceedings. It is unlikely that the coastal hotels will be impacted initially; potentially the hotel industry could face both positive and negative impacts as the result of oil and gas activities. If oil and gas is found offshore the demand for hotels and lodgings for international groups will increase. The negative impact would be dependent on the location of oil and gas onshore requirements in relation to the existing hotels and resorts. It has been voiced that many of the coastal hotels were built without permitting and that 95% of hotel marinas are also illegal. This further emphasizes the problems envisioned regarding land use and land ownership in Lebanon.

Constraints Encountered

A Strategy and a Plan are essential tools in order to manage, record and analyse stakeholder consultations and interactions, however, even the best laid plans often deviate from the original proposition or encounter problems that were not envisioned. Constraints or problems encountered during the stakeholder engagement phase should be recorded and discussed; they are not necessarily a reflection of poor planning but merely a result of a non-laboratory study.

A time constraint besets any study, and the contractually agreed 5 months proved particularly onerous. The time constraint directly affected the number of stakeholders consulted.

Two key groups of stakeholder who were not consulted during this initial SEA were the coastal hoteliers and fishery co-operatives. RPS recommends that these two groups be classified as 'focus group' status in ongoing consultation process.

The lack of communication between ministries has also proved time consuming as it took time to disentangle overlapping or incompatible plans, for example, urban planning intends to reinstate the disused railway to provide public transport and ease air pollution, whereas the Ministry of Energy and Water has earmarked the railway line for a pipeline route. Meanwhile the actual situation is one where there has been significant private building across the railway line.

Lack of communication between key stakeholders and a culture of secrecy and of withholding of information could make the consultation process laborious at times. With a longer timescale to carry out the SEA the following elements would not have been so critical:

- RPS is a foreign company and may not have been fully trusted initially; conversely, RPS' neutral and international position did facilitate some consultations.
- RPS client, MoEW, may not have been popular in the eyes of certain stakeholders, resulting in an unwillingness of the consultee to talk.
- Following Lebanese ministerial protocol with letters of introduction can prove extremely time consuming, and having several meetings before finding the appropriate consultee. This situation is normal in the early stages of stakeholder management.
- Security is extremely high, GIS data and maps are held by the army and are not easily acquired.

7. FUTURE DEVELOPMENT FOR STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Stakeholder Status

RPS recommends that certain stakeholder groups be clearly identified and targeted early on in the next stage of the stakeholder consultation:

- Gain access to hoteliers (including resorts and marinas) and fishery co-operatives, assigning them focus group status (as per International Finance Corporation standards).
- Consultations at ministry level must continue as not all programmes, projects and policies were acquired, despite being requested.
- Maintain and expand on the quality engagement experienced with the Lebanese NGOs during this round of consultations. Ensure that clear and cordial lines of communication are kept open.
- Open up lines of communication with LBC (Lebanese Broadcasting Corp), this corporation is the most influential of media groups and probably better placed to disseminate information on the oil and gas industry than the Ministry of Media.

- As the oil and gas activities develop the nature of stakeholder groups will shift, with members of the public becoming increasingly more 'important' in terms of stakeholder status.

Outputs & Actions

As part of the next phase of the SEA RPS would recommend that certain aspects are put in place:

- As the oil and gas development is classified as a 'Category A Project' by International Finance Corporation (IFC) RPS strongly recommend the implementation of a grievance mechanism to conform to international expectations. A grievance mechanism will be most useful if it is established early as a precautionary measure to pre-empt rather than react to possible escalation of tensions with surrounding communities. Information about the nature and recurrence of grievances should become part of monitoring industry impacts, on-going stakeholder consultation and public disclosure.
- As the oil and gas activities progress the nature of stakeholder groups will alter, with members of the public becoming a much more influential stakeholder group, therefore it will be necessary to arrange public meetings and community engagement strategies.
- Based on the concerns highlighted, RPS strongly advises the need for both an environmental and industry awareness initiative. Information dissemination will need to be pitched at varying and appropriate levels, dependent on the receiver. Brochures similar to that which RPS provided within the first month of the contract should be made accessible to all.

RPS strongly recommends a pro-active and early stakeholder engagement process, early intervention will aid future engagement, future planning and minimise risks. In the long run it is more cost effective to start stakeholder engagement early rather than deal with problems arising from mismanagement and misinformation.

APPENDIX A - MEETING NOTES

SEA LEBANON PROJECT – MEETING NOTES

2197-MTN-PRM-0001 Rev0	LOCATION: CAS (Central Administration for Statistics). Army Street, Finance & Trade Building, Beirut.	DATE: 28/10/2011
CONSULTATION REGISTER ID: 4		TIME: 16.00
PURPOSE OF MEETING: Data collection on a Social & Health front.		PEOPLE PRESENT: DR Ghalia Hamamy R.Crawford K.Hashhash

NOTES FROM MEETING:

Prior to the meeting, both myself and Karim had been in contact with Dr Hamamy via email. Explaining who we were, what we were after etc.

Dr Hamamy was well prepared for our meeting. However she was only able to help us with straight statistics, and unable to hold a useful discussion about any trends, or speculate on what lies behind certain statistics. We were not able to get any information /data on a qualitative front, or any contacts in that regard. Dr Hamamy (my perception only) seems only interested in hard numbers and not the reason behind those numbers.

Dr Hamamy was not able to provide any discussion on where the best place would be to attain social scientific surveys – stating that any University based ones (USA) are not official. People seem very biased about gathering information from Governmental Ministers – which is a flawed way in which to data collect.

We went through the list of interests that I had previously emailed:

Local Tourism & International Tourism – No data available, we do have data on air arrivals and exits. The discrepancy between these two can be interpreted as illegal immigrants – BUT – what about other forms of transport?

Local tourism statistics (classified as holiday data) may be found in the ‘Household Living Conditions’ manual.

Fishery Studies – No data to provide.

Demographic Studies – Small amount in ‘Household Living Conditions’ manual.

Ethnic Studies – No Studies.

Schools, hospitals, prisons – Data on where they are and how many etc, no data on efficiency or inequalities.

Studies on political stability – Touched a sore point, got a barrage of pro-Gaddafi talk. Denies the existence of Arab Spring.

Data on workforce – Illegal workers – mainly Syrians (worked out from arrivals and exit data), denied illegal or invisible Sri Lankan Maids etc. We can establish that Lebanon is mainly a Service Industry country (ie Banks) they have minimal Industry/or export work-field.

Public Health – Dr Hamamy could not provide data on public health, except for car accidents. No data on malnutrition, drug problems etc. Lebanon seems very much a country where you look after yourself – no welfare state.

INFORMATION/DATA etc HARDCOPY RECEIVED

ITEMS RECEIVED

1. Dr Hamamy went out of her way to provide items of interest:
>A CD with statistics on 1. Environment 2006, 2. Household living conditions 2004-2005, 2007, 3. Stats & trends of the Lebanese environment 2010(MoE), 4. Stat yearbook 2000 – 2008, 5. Household Expenditures 2004-2005.
2. 3 books (hard copy) of Household Living Conditions various years.
3. Stats on Road Accidents (2009)
4. Stats on Climatology (Environment 2009)
5. Workforce (2009 & 2010)

6. Arrivals & Departures (2009 & 2010)
7. Electricity & Energy (2009 & 2010)
8. Prisoners, Hospitals & Schools (2008-2009)
9. Gender Statistics (2009 & 2010).
10. Details on Banking Sector – www.abl.org and www.bdl.lb
11. Ministry of Environment contact – Engineer Sanaa Sairawan, chief of planning & programmes service MoE, Lazarieh Center, Block A4-Old, 8th floor, room 8-20, PO.BOX 11-2727. TEL- 00961 1976 514, 00961 1976 555 (EXT 450) Karim to follow up.
12. Publications about Environment: www.MOE.GOV.LB or more CAS data at www.CAS.GOV.LB.

PROPOSED FURTHER ACTION OR MEETINGS:

SEA LEBANON PROJECT – MEETING NOTES

2197-MTN-PRM-0004 Rev0	LOCATION: Ministry of Environment Beirut	DATE: 23/11/2011
CONSULTATION REGISTER ID: 15		TIME: 12.00
PURPOSE OF MEETING: Discuss marine biodiversity data and protected sites.		PEOPLE PRESENT: Mr. Hany El Shaer Ms. Lara Samaha Mr. Karim Hashash
<p>NOTES FROM MEETING:</p> <p>The meeting was initially organised with Ms. Samaha but she invited Mr. El Shaer who is the Project Manager for the IUCN project “Supporting the Management of Important Marine Habitats and Species in Lebanon” which is directly applicable to the SEA project.</p> <p>The meeting was initiated with a background discussion of the project and its objectives and that we were in the data collection and assessment phase and interested in collecting data on marine and coastal biology. I mentioned that the main request of the Ministry of Energy and Water was to inform them of which oil and gas field to go for first that will have the least environmental impact. I also mentioned that we were particularly interested in the biology of the nature reserves, vulnerable/endangered species, and other sensitive sites.</p> <p>Mr. El Shaer then briefed me on the project they are currently working on and that there are actually 10 addition coastal sites proposed for protection. These sites have unique habitats that exhibit vulnerable/endangered species or have socio-economic importance in terms of fish nursery areas. All sites have GPS coordinates and effort is being made to develop the GIS data for each site. In this regard only 1 site has extensive GIS input- the Ras Chekaa site, which is very close to the site proposed for an LNG plant.</p> <p>Ms. Samaha also suggested that there is information located on the Ministry of Agriculture website regarding marine coastal biodiversity.</p>		
<p>INFORMATION/DATA etc HARDCOPY RECEIVED</p> <p>CONTACTS GIVEN</p> <p>Mr. El Shaer agreed to provide me with some information on the locations of each of the proposed protected sites (with GPS coordinates), as well as come literature reviews on the habitats and species.</p> <p>Soft copies received 23/12/2011</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Map of future MPAs - Map of current MPAs - Characteristics of proposed sites - GPS coordinates of proposed sites - Influences of Overexploitation and Seawater Intrusion on Groundwater resources in Greater Beirut . - EIA report for waste water treatment plant in South - 4th CBD for Lebanon 		
<p>PROPOSED FURTHER ACTION OR MEETINGS:</p>		

SEA LEBANON PROJECT – MEETING NOTES		
2197-MTN-PRM-0002 Rev0	LOCATION: Ministry of Environment	DATE: 30/11/11
CONSULTATION REGISTER ID: 18		TIME: 10.30 to 11.30
PURPOSE OF MEETING: To discuss the management of solid waste in Lebanon.		PEOPLE PRESENT: Bassam Sabbagh Imogen Crawford Karim Hashash
<p>NOTES FROM MEETING:</p> <p>The present Government plan was initiated in 1998 and runs to 2014. The new plan, in force after 2014, is to replace all landfills with Incineration for Energy plants.</p> <p>There are two main Landfills, funded by World Bank and built to internationally accepted standards and classified as Sanitary Landfills under Lebanese Law. They are for Beirut, at Naameh and for Mount Lebanon at Zahle.</p> <p>Bsalim is a landfill for inert materials. <i>(All landfills are exceeding their capacity according to independent assessment)</i></p> <p>At present these landfills contain 7-8 million tonnes, their capacity is 10 million tonnes.</p> <p>These landfills can be visited and inspected <i>(but when asked how/when BS evaded question)</i></p> <p>There is no source separation carried out, any segregation is at landfill site</p> <p>Hazardous waste is not recognised in Lebanon, it is included with other domestic and inert waste.</p> <p>Medical waste has only recently been treated differently. Now it is autoclaved (irradiated) and added to domestic waste.</p> <p>Recycling – 6-7% of waste is regarded as recyclable (Plastic, glass, paper)</p> <p>Ministry pays 140\$ per ton of rubbish (eg collection, transportation, landfill management)</p> <p>Lebanon lacks a comprehensive Waste Legal Framework. There are many decrees that are specific, relating to Do Not Dump in Rivers, Cleanliness etc.</p> <p>There is no Regulatory Body enforcing what little legislation there is.</p> <p>Lebanese has no system for retrieving costs for expenditure on national waste management. No 'Polluter Pays' principal, no waste taxation.</p> <p>Tripoli has no Sanitary Landfills. Waste is deposited in an open tip that is controlled.</p> <p>BS does not think managing waste from the Petroleum Activities will be a problem as quantity will not be great.</p> <p>IC impressed on him that international oil and gas companies have company standards that prohibit them from depositing waste in unsuitable disposal areas. There will be hazardous waste from offshore activities.</p>		
<p>INFORMATION/DATA etc HARDCOPY RECEIVED</p> <p>CONTACTS GIVEN</p>		
<p>PROPOSED FURTHER ACTION OR MEETINGS:</p>		

SEA LEBANON PROJECT – MEETING NOTES

2197-MTN-PRM-0003 Rev0	LOCATION: Directorate of Oil Installations, Beirut	DATE: 03/12/11
CONSULTATION REGISTER ID: 22		TIME: 10.30 to 11.30
PURPOSE OF MEETING: To discuss the route, design and construction of the onshore Gas Transmission line, Tripoli to Tyre.		PEOPLE PRESENT: George Sanaa Imogen Crawford Karim Hashash

NOTES FROM MEETING:

George Sanaa kindly offered to show us all the drawings and documentation relating to the proposed onshore gas transmission pipeline between north of Tripoli and Tyre.

This pipeline will be recorded in the SEA Report as it relates to the oil and gas development, however, only the proposed landfall and LNG plant options will be included in the phase 2 ESIA Scope of Work.

There has been no EIA carried out for this development. It was thought superfluous as the route has taken the railway track (mitigation measures other than moving a route are unknown). Apparently the new Oil and Gas Law only refers to the offshore petroleum developments; so there is no legal requirement for an EIA. But the new Law has an article relating to an EIA for transportation works. The new Law is only a framework document at present.

The project will be funded by the government with no need of funding from the Lending Banks, so there is no requirement for any assessment. Past experience shows that timely Env and Social assessment can ameliorate risk and save costs, but Lebanon is still at the stage that sees environment as a hindrance to development.

There was discussion in the Ministry as to whether the route should be wholly offshore, but it was decided that this would be a much more expensive option. (Past experience with pipelines worldwide indicates that the cost differential can often be very slight, especially if there are issues onshore. Costing should be associated with a detailed risk assessment)

This is a 36" pipe which will use the disused railway, except for the Beirut area where the route will be offshore. The railway land (out of use) is government owned and runs close to, and parallel to, the coast with little variation in elevation. The detailed design is nearly complete, pre-qual has taken place and it is anticipated that tenders for construction will go out in January.

Detailed questioning elicited the following information:

- The pipe will join with the 24" gas line coming in from Syria, which has lain idle for the last 7 months.
- Pipe pressure will be 75 barg
- It is envisaged that the landfall from offshore will be near Tripoli at Bedaawi and the pipe will run to Zahrani power plant, then on to Tyre. Proposed LNG will be at Zahrani.
- In all probability the gas will be sour (the Syrian onshore oil is full of Hydrogen Sulphide and so is the Cypriot gas). An Onshore Processing Plant to deal with this will be required as well as an LNG. Lethal gas running close to residential buildings is a concern.
- There will be no Compressor Station, but many Block Valves
- Construction Contractors interested in tendering are from Turkey, China, Iran and Russia. (all well known for their complete disregard of environmental, health, safety and social issues, but who will tender a low cost)
- It is not known where the line pipe is coming from, or whether the long lead items have been ordered.
- It is not thought that there are any hot bends as the pipe will run level.
- All water course crossings will be open cut
- Hydrotest sections have not been defined, or any assessment of water source
- There are many steep, tight ravines perpendicular to the coast – the railway bridges them. The pipeline will use an aerial crossing (it was not known whether the design of the aerial crossing incorporates the extra weight of water during hydrotesting.)
- It is not known how far from buildings a high pressure gas line should be.
- Residential Buildings have come right up to and onto the disused railway, but they will be removed.
- It is envisaged that a 14m RoW will be adequate. (30m is normal for a 36", even the Turks use 28m)
- The offshore section, going around the Beirut headland has not been finalised – offshore shelves steeply to deep water.
- Near Salata the railway runs through a tunnel for 1.5km under a rock headland. It is not known yet how a pipeline will be taken

through the tunnel. The line bends at both ends , leaving no lay down areas for stringing out.

- There will probably be bats in the tunnel (all bats are protected species)
- Railway lines typically provide suitable habitat for reptiles
- There have been no ground investigation works to date.
- It is not known where construction camps and pipe dumps will be.
- Access has not been assessed. While there will be no need for extra access roads – rail and road run closely together – there has been no consideration that large trucks carrying 18m lengths of 36” pipe will be using the road.

INFORMATION/DATA etc HARDCOPY RECEIVED CONTACTS GIVEN

Hard copy of short version Bureau Veritas Design Appraisal Report
Soft copy of overall route

PROPOSED FURTHER ACTION OR MEETINGS:

IC to inspect route Beirut to Tyre and landfall sites on 4/12/11. Beirut to Tripoli on the coast road adjacent to railway has been driven.

Post Meeting Note:

After driving down the route there is even more concern that a full risk assessment has not been applied – not just for environment, health, safety, social issues, but for pipeline integrity, financial and contractual risk.

For the most part the railway land runs on the sea side of the coastal road. There are places where the railway has been undermined by coastal erosion (especially south of Rmaileh), so the twisted track is on the beach, the road is 2m away inland and the inland side of the road is residential.

Many places have been built on, and it appears that the new sports stadium on the north side of Sidon straddles the railway track. There are many low slung cables across the road that may inhibit the haulage lorries carrying pipe. In many places the public coast road will form the running track, creating many safety and liability issues.

It is obvious that routing studies have been desk top. Lack of familiarity with existing situations poses a risk for the client if the contract is let out with the expectation that there is a feasible Right of Way.

SEA LEBANON PROJECT – MEETING NOTES

2197-MTN-PRM-0005 Rev0	LOCATION: Ministry of Agriculture, Dept of Fisheries and Wildlife	DATE: 08/12/11
CONSULTATION REGISTER ID: 26		TIME: 10.10 to 11.30
PURPOSE OF MEETING: To discuss Project Activities in relation to fisheries, from both a Social and Environmental standpoint. This meeting also allowed RPS representatives to make and attain much needed in-country contacts.		PEOPLE PRESENT: Samir Majdalani Imogen Crawford Rebecca Crawford Karim Hashash

NOTES FROM MEETING:

IC introduced the RPS team, and informed Mr Majdalani about the Project and the purpose for today's meeting. It transpires that Mr Majdalani worked previously in the Oil industry (Aramco) in an Agricultural position so was familiar with all concepts and terminology.

From the off-set Mr Majdalani informed all present that it was not possible to discuss things in fine detail or give data without a letter of introduction from our client MoEW. It was agreed that KH would arrange for a formal letter to be presented before further consultations. However, Mr Majdalani then continued the discussion in a very free and easy manner and did not hold back on information.

Mr Majdalani was keen to offer advice and provide alternatives for potential problems that we may face in the near future. He provided quality background information on several areas, for example:

- The functioning of the Fishery co-operative, there are many and powerful politically.
- The forthcoming fishery discussion to be held in Marrakesh in April.
- Lebanese border clarifications between Cyprus and Israel. Lebanese government have sent a letter to UN defining their understanding of borders, however they have also sent a subsequent letter with different information which will be confusing.
- The Eratosthenes Seamount area in north Lebanon has been classified by GFCM (General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean) as deep sea fisheries restricted area. The FAO want this area to be classified as a protected biodiversity area. GFCM decisions are mandatory irrespective of country law
- The 6 mile restriction zone from the coast outwards applies only to commercial fishing boats, recreational fishermen are permitted to fish further afield with permission from the MoT (who supply travel permits). According to Mr Majdalani this Law is outdated and French in origin and was based on the limited technology of the time of implementation.(1930's)
- There is a new fisheries law, but it has yet to be implemented/passed by parliament. ('it will be in a drawer somewhere')

IC brought up Manal Nader's North Lebanese marine work, which Mr Majdalani was very familiar with. In fact the EastMed Project will be managed by Manal with heavy MoA involvement – taking it from regional to national. This led on to other surveys that might be of interest to RPS, such as the first ever national socio-economic survey to be conducted in Lebanon, which will be managed by the MoA. After further discussion it was universally felt that many Project surveys (social, enviro and eco) were very similar to the East Med projects ones and therefore collaboration would be beneficial to all concerned.

Mr Majdalani explained that currently there are no Lebanese funds to conduct the marine surveys, it will be part of the FAO East Med project. The Cane survey vessel was donated by the Italian government, however all trawling equipment was stripped out. It would cost 200,000 euros to reinstate the required equipment. IC informed him that it was not out of the question to acquire this type of help from Oil and Gas companies. Mr Majdalani advised that the Cane could also be used with appropriate funding. IC explained that the Marine Institute was on the list of consultations and that could include a boat inspection.

Mr Majdalani said that for the socio-economic survey he proposed to use the Rangers; these people would greatly benefit from training on how to gather the appropriate data. IC and Mr Majdalani envisaged a mixed team of ESIA and East Med project personnel.

Mr Majdalani recommended that RPS use pre-existing insider fishery contacts, as they would be unlikely (and distrustful) of 'strangers in suits'. He emphasised that the Fishing interest were powerful and high level on the Stakeholder engagement plan. RC confirmed that Fishermen would form a focus group during the next phase of work.

IC commented on all the benefits that big Oil and Gas companies can bring with regards to in-country training schemes and community investments.

Current Marine Life Situation

Mr Madjdalani explained that there has never been a Stock Assessment – so no one is entirely sure of what marine life there is and where it is. However due to fishery talk and diver contacts they are able to identify certain Blue Fin Tuna breeding spots and habitat areas. The breeding spots are right on the EEZ border in the North.

Opinions on Selected Pipeline Route

After being told of the intended route Mr Madjdalani could not imagine it was feasible. Giving his personal opinion, he claimed that the entire pipeline route should be offshore as this would cause the least impacts and eco and human disruption.

INFORMATION/DATA etc HARDCOPY RECEIVED CONTACTS GIVEN

2 page hard copy of locations of fisheries restricted areas in order to protect the deep sea sensitive habitats.- Eratosthenes Seamount

Contacts:

- Dr Osmat Boulos – Fish expert, tel : 501352452
- Mr Mohamad Sarji – Syndicate of Divers, owns a diving school, knowledge about marine tourism and fish locations, tel:
- Dr Konstantina Riga – EastMed Coordinator in Athens, konstantina.riga@fao.org.
- Stefano Lelli – Italian contact from CNRS, has done previous socio-economic surveys within Lebanon, tel:
- Ellie Gerba – Mediterranean expert on Sea Laws, tel:70953537
- Dr Toullio - Lebanese expert on Sea Laws, tel:
- Nabil El Jisr – President of CDR

PROPOSED FURTHER ACTION OR MEETINGS:

- First thing to do is contact Konstantina Riga. (done – email 9/12/11)
- Recommend a technical steering group for the ESIA/East Med projects. All Ministries should be represented.
- Make in-depth contact with CNRS – they can cause problems if not shown due respect. They are heavily involved with the Cona, so must be consulted before enquires about the vessel are made.
- Arrange for in-country legal advisor, RPS will need to be advised on Sea Laws during ESIA work.

SEA LEBANON PROJECT – MEETING NOTES

2197-MTN-PRM-0007 Rev0	LOCATION: Ministry of Energy and Water	DATE: 08/12/2011
CONSULTATION REGISTER ID: 27		TIME: 12:00 to 13.00
PURPOSE OF MEETING: Discuss water situation in Lebanon and how oil and gas development will impact water situation		PEOPLE PRESENT: Abdo Tayyar- Senior Advisor to the Minister on Water Imogen Crawford Karim Hashash
NOTES FROM MEETING: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Meeting initiated with IC providing background on project and indicating that there will be a need for potable water on oil rigs and any onshore installations that will be erected for oil and gas development.- AT gave an overview of the water situation in Lebanon and the National Water Sector Strategy (NWSS) that is yet to be approved by the Council of Ministers. Most work is focussed on improving the management of water- this can be through building treatment plants and recycling the water that can be used for industrial purposes; building dams – these will follow World Bank Directive (therefore EIA and IFC standards will be implemented) and will support both potable and non-potable water and can be used for hydroelectricity.- As a first impression AT didn't think that the impact on water resources will be particularly heavy although he needed some average estimates of water usage per person for such developments to fully be able to assess whether or not it will have a significant impact. AT gave an example taken from the NWSS of water used in the tourism industry which can be quite high, but is in fact surprisingly low. IC to forward concise estimates of usage from oil and gas industry.- AT mentioned that given that water demand varies depending on region, development activities concentrated in one particular area can have a significant impact, however since these will be spread across different regions in the country it can be assumed that the impacts will be reduced/ manageable.- AT informed of the UNDP projects funded by the Italian Cooperation: Lebanese Centre for Water Management and Conservation, and the Groundwater Assessment Project that will also monitor wells and degree of abstraction.- The NWSS strategy focuses on management of water and sector infrastructure improvement and includes 12 initiatives to be implemented at the strategic level. AT showed interest regarding opportunity for co-financing these initiatives as conditions for oil and gas companies.- AT asked for a letter from RPS requesting a copy of the NWSS.		
INFORMATION/DATA etc HARDCOPY RECEIVED CONTACTS GIVEN Ziad Khayat- UNDP Project Manager- LCWMC and Groundwater Assessment Project.		
PROPOSED FURTHER ACTION OR MEETINGS: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Letter to be sent requesting copy of the National Water Sector Strategy for Lebanon.		

SEA LEBANON PROJECT – MEETING NOTES

2197-MTN-PRM-0006 Rev0	LOCATION: Dept. Marine Biology, American University of Beirut.	DATE: 08/12/11
CONSULTATION REGISTER ID: 28		TIME: 14.00 to 16.30
PURPOSE OF MEETING: To discuss the development of the oil and gas industry in relation to offshore marine biology.		PEOPLE PRESENT: Imogen Crawford Michel Bariche
NOTES FROM MEETING: IC described the proposed petroleum activities that will take place next year and opened the discussion on the status of marine research in Lebanese waters. Michel carried out work for Greenpeace on a proposal for MPAs, but this report (link below) is lost in the Ministry Michel is a specialist in alien and invasive species, which of course is relevant in the context of offshore developments Despite a long conversation protection of the marine environment it was agreed that at this stage of the project there was nothing much that AUB could contribute Cana vessel will not be appropriate for deep sea survey, at 2000m we will probably need a submersible for sampling. Anecdotal – but it could be that the deep sea bed is covered in plastic, which organisms have adapted to as a new habitat. Blue Fin tuna present in the north It is not known what type of habitat or what type of organisms are present in deep water. Surveys will be very expensive. Modelling needs to be done. Cyprus EIA would be useful to see. Concerns: Lack of legally protected marine areas. Lack of regulatory framework for environmental protection Nursery for pelagic fish (?species) in coastal, north Lebanese waters. This nursery is the only one, so compromising it effects fishing in other countries. Soft corals and their unknown distribution. They are susceptible to impacts from offshore activity. Michel has produced an ID of Marine Life, beautifully illustrated. It is a laymans guide rather than academic and focus' on the diagnostic features that are easily visible. He has also designed Fish Posters (2,000 Of which are sitting uselessly in the Ministry).		
INFORMATION/DATA etc HARDCOPY RECEIVED CONTACTS GIVEN Michel will write with some survey methodology options to include in the Instruction Manual, Greenpeace MPA report http://db.tt/FWYwYepm IUCN report http://db.tt/6n9fEzb		
PROPOSED FURTHER ACTION OR MEETINGS: There is no further action until the ESIA Baseline Surveys take place, then there is a great deal of collaboration possible. AUB have the lab space and personnel to process and analyse marine samples. Michel would be keen to work with combined teams, RPS and AUB. There is also the possibility of work in the community engagement area regarding promotion of awareness of marine life.		

SEA LEBANON PROJECT – MEETING NOTES		
2197-MTN-PRM-0008 Rev0	LOCATION: National Centre for Marine Sciences- Jounieh	DATE: 12/12/2011
CONSULTATION REGISTER ID: 29		TIME: 10:00 to 11.00
PURPOSE OF MEETING: Discuss capabilities of the Cana research vessel and opportunities for cooperation		PEOPLE PRESENT: Milad Fakhri Stuart Sharp Karim Hashash
<p>NOTES FROM MEETING:</p> <p>Dr. Fakhri was briefed on the project and he told us about the vessel's capabilities. Standard hydrological and biological parameters will be monitored such as salinity, oxygen, pH, turbidity, chlorophyll. Sampling equipment used will consist of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rosette water sampling system (12 bottles) with remotely operated multi-parameter probe CTD- conductivity, temperature, and depth (up to 1,500 meters) - Sediment grabs will look at pH, organic content, heavy metals - Nets for zooplankton samples <p>Current projects include a small research project of cetaceans and a fish assessment project that started May 2009 and ends May 2012. In conjunction with these sampling activities other future projects that will use Cana will include a cetacean research project, the fish stock survey in partnership with EastMed project and MoA, and the coastal zone bathymetric survey that will begin before the end of the current project.</p> <p>The vessel's current programme will be completed in February/March 2012, but will be preparing the programme for the following year in January.</p> <p>Dr. Fakhri showed interest in cooperating with RPS/MEW for Phase II and requested an official agreement be made between the Ministry of Energy and Water and the CNRS, and each party's roles are clearly set out.</p> <p>It was agreed that close coordination will be necessary during the actual preparation of the boat's programme for next year to maximise the vessel's use and mobilise resources e.g. conduct sea bird research at the same time as cetacean study. RPS's involvement in this preparatory phase, however, is dependent on the committee's plan of action following their review of the gap analysis and scope of work for phase II.</p>		
<p>INFORMATION/DATA etc HARDCOPY RECEIVED</p> <p>CONTACTS GIVEN</p>		
<p>PROPOSED FURTHER ACTION OR MEETINGS:</p> <p>Future meetings required to coordinate the later project's tasks and prepare agreement with the Ministry of Energy and Water.</p>		

SEA LEBANON PROJECT – MEETING NOTES

2197-MTN-PRM-0010 Rev0	LOCATION: MoE, Beirut Office.	DATE: 28/01/12
CONSULTATION REGISTER ID: 34		TIME: 9.30am to 2.10pm
PURPOSE OF MEETING: <p>Due to the slow progression of fixed times and dates of consultations, Rola El Sheikh's assistance was sought.</p> <p>Furthermore, Rola was able to answer in-country questions regarding country set-up, who to see, how to approach certain people and generally opened up doors.</p> <p>IMPORTANT All members of the committee will be out of Country as of 6th February.</p>		PEOPLE PRESENT: <p>Rebecca Crawford Rola El Sheikh</p>
NOTES FROM MEETING: <p>Key Ministries: MoE, MoEW, MoPWT, MoA/Fisheries, MoF, MoJ, MoFT, MoPH, MoT. (Advised by Rola).</p> <p><u>Land Ownership/Disputes:</u> There have been 2 SEAs in Lebanon, which revealed that most hotels are legally built – but their adjoining marinas are not. (This does not include the modern hotels). It was found that Jounieh has 168 marinas, approx. 5 of them are legal. Beaches are public, but Hotels and resorts have monopolised and made public access very difficult – either highly priced or elitist.</p> <p>3 types of landowner: Government, Private ownership, Religious group owned. Land disputes are extremely problematic; currently policy is under re-screening/review. A meeting with International Legal Expert has been set-up for us on Wednesday 1st Feb. Rola provided me with Land Use and Land Cover Plan – official decree number 2366, dated 26/2009. This is missing maps, we need letter. Karim is to translate the Plan as it is in Arabic.</p> <p><u>Syndicates or Unions of Relevant Stakeholders:</u> Hotel syndicate – 01-202509 / fax 01-201 002. Rola also provided me with list of syndicates (various, including Fishing syndicate and union). These syndicates must be contacted. She suggests we also find owners/managers of resorts as well as the hotels.</p> <p><u>Difference Between Civil Defense (MoIM) & Army/Navy (MoND)</u> Civil defence – under Ministry of Interior & Municipalities. Civil defence would be accountable for oil spill response and putting out fires etc. Army/Navy – under MoND. In order to speak to either a letter from Sarkis has to be sent. (On Karim's list of tasks).</p> <p><u>Oil Instillations:</u> Rola previously gave Karim all the data that she has: location of 2 obsolete refineries (1 in the North & 1 in South) plus the quantity of Oil coming into Lebanon. Both refineries are managed by Sarkis. Suggests that we talk to Mr Chbat, to gain further insight. We need to contact Joumana from oil instillations to get more maps/data. Rola suggested that we may also be after private generators or gas stations? EDL is under MoEW governance.</p> <p><u>Mohafez & Mukhtars:</u> There are 6 Mohafez (Beirut, Mount Lebanon, North Lebanon, Beqaa, South Lebanon, Nabatiyeh). They are very influential and highly important, they issue permits and can make life tricky. The PMs brother is the Mohafez of Beirut. Then there are Mukhtars – these are plentiful (every township), they are not paid by the government, and responsible for id registration, death certificates etc. We do not need to contact these men. The 6 Mohafezs must be identified, contacted and put on Stakeholder Reg.</p> <p><u>Final Note:</u></p>		

Each Ministry does have control over its own plans on future construction projects (MoEdu – build new schools etc). Therefore ideally all Ministries need to be consulted. However establishing on-going communication with various Ministries is proving difficult.

INFORMATION/DATA etc HARDCOPY RECEIVED CONTACTS GIVEN

- Copy of Decree 2366 (2009) Land use and Land Governance (Arabic version).

Contacts:

7 further consultations set-up:

- *01/02/12 – 8.30am Manal Moussallem (MoE)
- *01/02/12 – 9.00am Samiar Malek (International Law)
- *01/02/12 – 10.00am Olfat Hamdan (Head of Chemical Safety)
- *01/02/12 – 11.30am Wassim Zahabi (MoEW)
- *01/02/12 – TBC Nour Massry (Project Manager)
- *02/02/12 – 9.00am Patti Farah (GIS expert)
- *02/02/12 – TBC Nancy Awad (CDR) – 03-780972

TBC and further contacts being made:

- Lara – Biodiversity & Coastal Management (MoE)
- Bassam – Solid & Liquid Waste (MoE)
- Vahakn – Climate Change (MoE)
- Mr Gaby Daboul – Advisor to Minister (MoF)
- Ministry of Industry – Rola awaiting text, hopefully by Tuesday 31st Jan.
- Ministry of Labour – Rola finding a contact
- Ministry of Tourism – Rola finding a contact

Furthermore, Rola suggested both Wassim Chbat & Wassim Zahabi be contacted regarding:

Chbat:

Oil Instillations

MoET

MoPWT

Zahabi:

Council of Ministries (CDR fits in here)

MoET

MoFA

MoIM

MoInfo

MoL (Labour)

MoPT

MoPWT

UN Agencies

PROPOSED FURTHER ACTION OR MEETINGS:

On-going communication.

SEA LEBANON PROJECT – MEETING NOTES

2197-MTN-PRM-0011 Rev0			LOCATION: UNDP Office, Arab & African Bank, Beirut.	DATE: 30/01/2012
CONSULTATION REGISTER ID: 35				TIME: 2.45pm – 3.45pm
PURPOSE OF MEETING: Gathering information on current and future Plans, Policies, Programmes etc.				PEOPLE PRESENT: R.Crawford (RPS) R.Hooker (RPS) M.Sabbagh (UNDP)

NOTES FROM MEETING:

A meeting with Mirna Sabbagh was set-up in order to gain insight and collect future intentions on work related to social concerns (displaced, women, children, and minority groups – including those afflicted by HiV/AIDs.)

The client (and oil and gas in general) may not have much of an interest in vulnerable groups, however it is important for international companies to be seen to have a moral and social conscience. This is more relevant in phase two, but it is beneficial for RPS to make as many contacts as possible.

As we were in the UNDP office it made sense to touch base with Edgard Chehab.

Introductory talks were given by both parties. RPS explained who we were, what we were doing and why (on behalf of MoEW). In turn Mirna explained her role within the UNDP, her advisory capacity to the Government and further afield her involvement in the set-up and functioning of various Lebanese NGOs.

Areas that she covers:

*Enhancing Government capacities when dealing with natural disasters.

*Recommend and advise on Policies regarding:

- 1) women's legal status (currently the law stipulates that if a Lebanese woman marries a non-national the child will not bear her nationality but the fathers – this in turn causes all sorts of inequalities within Lebanese culture, see Social component of GA for further information).
- 2) UN Habitat, which includes working closely with general status of Palestinian and displaced refugees – pushing for equality and recognition. Also working on the areas which UNWRA and the Government don't recognise as Palestinian camps (expansions of pre-existing camps). These projects aim to improve general living standards and infrastructure for this minority group.
- 3) Heavily involved in HiV/AIDS awareness and acceptance, currently sufferers may be ostracised by their communities. She works on bringing various religious sects together and addressing these issues. She informed us that most cases of HiV/AIDs are drug related, and not of failing hospital infrastructure as previously thought by RPS. Currently an Action Plan is underway to promote HiV/AIDs discussion in mainstream Lebanese politics.
- 4) Mine Project Programme (MA centre), which includes a 10yr strategy.

Meeting Outcome

It was felt a beneficial meeting by both parties, and it was agreed that if RPS worked on phase two then we could work well together. RPS could enjoy working with competent in-country specialists (on a social impact front) whilst Mirna and her various Projects and research could receive much needed funding.

Mirna was extremely interested in the positive impacts oil and gas projects can have within a community. We explained the process of community give-back/community initiatives. We agreed to email further information on this area, including some case studies.

RPS to email information regarding positive impacts on oil and gas projects, primarily community initiatives.

End Note

*Extremely useful contact.

INFORMATION/DATA etc HARDCOPY RECEIVED

ITEMS RECEIVED

Mirna has promised to provide (via email):

- *A draft on Woman's Legal status strategy
- *Pipeline Project Strategy
- *Progress report for natural disasters
- *CDRS
- *Facts and figures for HiV/AIDS 2011
- *Draft of HiV prevalence amongst migrant workers
- *Draft of Lebanese Human Rights Action Plan
- *Draft of 10 year strategy on Mines.

PROPOSED FURTHER ACTION OR MEETINGS:

SEA LEBANON PROJECT – MEETING NOTES

2197-MTN-PRM-0012 Rev0	LOCATION: MoA, Bir Hassan, Beirut.	DATE: 31/01/2012
CONSULTATION REGISTER ID: 38		TIME: 9.30am – 10.30am
PURPOSE OF MEETING: Gathering information on current and future Plans, Policies, Programmes etc.		PEOPLE PRESENT: R.Crawford (RPS) R.Hooke (RPS) S.Majdalani (MoA)
<p>NOTES FROM MEETING:</p> <p>The meeting with Samir was extremely useful. He informed us that in order to attain a copy of the draft of New Fishery Laws and Regulations, we would have to submit a letter from Mr Sarkis Hlais to the Minister of Agriculture. Currently FAO are screening this document, but a draft copy could be provided to RPS if we follow the correct protocol (ie Minister to Minister).</p> <p>Action: Karim to write letter requesting this document (signed by Sarkis Hlais). If we require an urgent response he suggests we send the request via fax.</p> <p>Additional Advice:</p> <p>1) Samir informed us that the new offshore Aquaculture legislation (not yet in progress) and the results of the nationwide Social-Economic studies will be available to the public in April/May.</p> <p>Karim to attain this data when it is made public (provided, RPS get phase 2).</p> <p>2) He gave a brief account of current project proposals regarding submerged cages, in which they would intend on using the same methods recently employed by the Maltese.</p> <p>3) He gave further insight into the Oceanographic Centre in Betroun, the history and current state. The Maritime School is run by the MoT and the Arab League, and this part of the school is linked with the Maritime University in Alexandria (Egypt). Whilst the MoA part of the building is in complete disrepair, we are free to arrange a visit and take photos.</p> <p>Samir provided us with a contact at the institute: Dr Gaby Kahalaf (Head of Marine Centre) NCSR, 03-303 969.</p> <p>Karim to phone-up and arrange meeting</p> <p>4) Samir helped set-up a meeting with Stefano Lelli 70 953 537 (Technical Director of NCRS and in charge of Cano boat) Scheduled for 01/02/12 2pm. NCRS Office.</p> <p>Final Note</p> <p>The main concern from MoA is over what company policy would be in regards to Oil Spill Response, we informed them that this area is not being neglected by RPS or MoEW.</p>		
INFORMATION/DATA etc HARDCOPY RECEIVED		
PROPOSED FURTHER ACTION OR MEETINGS:		

SEA LEBANON PROJECT – MEETING NOTES

2197-MTN-PRM-0013 Rev0	LOCATION: MoE Office, Beirut.	DATE: 01/02/2012
CONSULTATION REGISTER ID: 41		TIME: 9.00am – 10.40am
PURPOSE OF MEETING: Gathering information on current and future Plans, Policies, Programmes etc.		PEOPLE PRESENT: R.Crawford (RPS) R.Hooke (RPS) S.Malek (MoE Legal Expert).

NOTES FROM MEETING:

Introductory talks were given by both parties. RPS explained who we were, what we were doing and why (on behalf of MoEW). In turn Samar explained her role within the MoE, as an international legal expert. She has read the Gap Analysis and is extremely happy that we have highlighted both social and environmental concerns. She is also of the opinion that the route would create least impact if it were to be offshore.

Samar explained the current problems of Lebanese legal process, especially that of environmental law. The laws and decrees often exist but are never implemented. The route to ensuring a law is decreed is often convoluted and time consuming.

The main issues regarding environmental law are: Firstly the laws need modernising (they don't take into account GMOs for example), secondly old laws can be contradictory in nature, third there are often conflicts between the Ministries (more than one Ministry is accountable, but when a problem arises every Ministry shirks responsibility – resulting in no action.) Finally, environmental concerns are not always high on the agenda of political interest. (When people are suffering from the aftermath of war, environmental concerns are pushed aside.)

Samar explained the Lebanese protection of environment law 444. And provided a softcopy.

One of the biggest problems in Lebanon is the lack of accountability from the various Ministers and municipalities. Samar explained how environmental 'concerns' as opposed to 'responsibilities' (in Arabic this would mean liability) are very unclear. We explained the matrix we are creating to highlight the overlaps or gaps regarding key stakeholder accountability. Samar was excited at this prospect and offered her assistance. We have loosely arranged a date to go through the matrix and assign stakeholder accountability of lack of.

Aside from the SEA and EIA laws under review, there are 4 new bills pending:

1)Air quality law, 2) Protected areas law, 3)Waste management law, 4)Environmental Prosecutors law.

We discussed further the added complications of a pipeline along the coast:

*The Palestinian refugee camps; which could pose a real security threat, potentially the pipeline could be taken 'hostage'.

*The issue regarding using the obsolete train track.

This meeting was extremely useful, and Samar has promised to provide extra assistance.

INFORMATION/DATA etc HARDCOPY RECEIVED

- Soft copy of Lebanese protection of environment law 444.

PROPOSED FURTHER ACTION OR MEETINGS:

Samar has said she is willing to provide additional assistance.

SEA LEBANON PROJECT – MEETING NOTES		
2197-MTN-PRM-0014 Rev0	LOCATION: MoE office, Beirut.	DATE: 02/02/2012
CONSULTATION REGISTER ID: 46		TIME: 11.00am – 11.45am
PURPOSE OF MEETING: Gathering information on current and future Plans, Policies, Programmes etc.		PEOPLE PRESENT: R.Crawford (RPS) R.Hooker (RPS) V.Kabakian (MoE – Climate Change)
<p>NOTES FROM MEETING:</p> <p>The main objectives / programmes of the department are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">•National Communications of Greenhouse Gases statistics and Climatic Strategy. Mr Kabakian gave us a copy of the 2nd National Communication. The 3rd is being developed and will be available next year.•Technology needs assessment, in relation to mitigations and adaptation. Mitigation relates to Energy and Transport, whereas Adaptation relates to Agriculture and Water. <p>Of the mitigation section, the Climate Change department are roughly 40% through the project. 4 technologies have been chosen for focus: PV, wind, hydro and CCGT.</p> <p>The MoE are working to a target of 12% energy from renewable sources by 2020. This is being managed by a committee (Sustainable Energy Strategy Committee), consisting of members from MoE, MoEW and MoF. The wind atlas forms part of this project (we have a digital copy already), and they are currently working on a bio fuel potential assessment and a hydro potential assessment. There are no documents available for this at the moment.</p> <p>Plans to create a Co-Ordinated Committee for Climate Change by 2013. It is awaiting funding. The committee will be made up mainly of ministry representatives, to help co-ordinate efforts towards a greener Lebanon. There is unlikely to be much of a scientific presence on the committee.</p> <p>The department are looking for opportunities to develop a low carbon emissions strategy. The National Communication mentioned it – they are now just waiting for funding. Detailed studies relating to the data found in the most recent National Communication are available online.</p>		
INFORMATION/DATA etc HARDCOPY RECEIVED <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lebanon’s 2nd National Communication to the UNFCCC.		
PROPOSED FURTHER ACTION OR MEETINGS:		

SEA LEBANON PROJECT – MEETING NOTES		
2197-MTN-PRM-0015 Rev0	LOCATION: Civil Defence Office, Beirut.	DATE: 07/02/12
CONSULTATION REGISTER ID: 52		TIME: 9.00am – 10.00am
PURPOSE OF MEETING: Gathering information on current and future Plans, Policies, Programmes etc.		PEOPLE PRESENT: R.Crawford (RPS) R.Hooke (RPS) K.Hashash (RPS) G.A.Moussa R.Khattar (Director General)
<p>NOTES FROM MEETING:</p> <p>The DG explained that role of civil defence is dedicated to fire fighting (forestry fires etc) and search and rescue. In 2006 they (alongside the army/navy with funding from the Danish Government) were accountable for the oil spill response.</p> <p>Currently the civil defence is the only Ministry (MoIM) solely responsible for oil spill response, however they are massively under resourced. The DG explained that they have the capabilities in terms of human resources but not in equipment to deal with any industry related oil spills or disasters. As it stands they are definite that they could not cope with Project related accidents or spills.</p> <p>The DG explained the various responsibilities that the Civil Defence undertakes: that of fire fighting, search and rescue and oil spill response.</p> <p>Whilst the army/navy (MoND) are accountable only for search and rescue of personnel. They also have a strong relationship with the civil defence, as they pulled their resources together in 2006 in order to deal with the oil spill.</p> <p>Currently the search and rescue team is made up of a team of 200 which is spread across 5 maritime bases up and down the coast. Most of the search and rescue team are made up of volunteers. These volunteers are more than capable as they are made up of divers and professional fire-fighters etc. The DG was very keen to make it understood that they are under resourced in equipment and not capability. The main base is in Jounie, and we were invited to visit.</p> <p>The DG was keen to talk about potential positive impacts of the oil and gas industry. Karim Hashash gave a succinct account of how civil defence could benefit. Furthermore KH explained of RPS’s position in writing up the National Oil Spill Contingency. The DG asked if they may be allowed to see a copy of both the NCP and the chapter in the SEA concerning Civil Defence / Oil Spill Response. This we have to put to the client.</p>		
INFORMATION/DATA etc HARDCOPY RECEIVED Awaiting Summary from George Abou Moussa regarding search and rescue statistics.		
PROPOSED FURTHER ACTION OR MEETINGS:		

SEA LEBANON PROJECT – MEETING NOTES		
2197-MTN-PRM-0016 Rev0	LOCATION: Jounie Search and Rescue HQ. Maritime Port.	DATE: 07/02/2012
CONSULTATION REGISTER ID: 53		TIME: 10.00am – 11.45am
PURPOSE OF MEETING: Observing and taking note of the search and rescue centre’s capabilities and resources. Gathering information on current and future Plans, Policies, Programmes etc.		PEOPLE PRESENT: R.Crawford (RPS) K.Hashash (RPS) R.Hooke (RPS) G.A.Moussa S.Yezbek (chief of station)
NOTES FROM MEETING: We were invited to the main maritime base (search and rescue station) in Jounie. We were met by the chief of search and rescue and shown around the base. The main objective was for the civil defence to show how under resourced they currently are. They also wanted to highlight the fact that with the equipment they currently have that they would not be able to cope with Project related accidents. (photos of equipment on RPS GPS Camera) Currently they have: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 Oil Spill Clean-up boat (hydraulic powered) which is only capable of holding 4 tonnes of spilt / cleaned oil (it has also seen better days).• They used to have 3 helicopters, but they could not afford the maintenance so they sold them on to the army. (Due to a strong relationship, they are able to make use of these helicopters in emergency situations. The helicopters would be manned by volunteers but piloted by an Army Officer)• They do have 1 airplane – but it is extremely large and not capable of flying low to sea or ground level.• We viewed 2 rescue boats, one was a diver boat the other was a pitiful wooden one.• A shed full of equipment (including magnetic booms), motors etc• 2 large booms on harbour side. Apparently the rescue boats would take 30mins to travel 12 nautical miles (EEZ distance). Whilst the hydraulic oil spill response vessel would take 1 ½ - 2hrs to reach this distance. Furthermore George explained that they do not have any computer modelling programmes in order to manage and respond to an oil spill. George confirmed what Samar Malek (MoE Legal Specialist) had said previously, that accountability is never clear cut. During the 2006 oil spill various Ministries responded without clear communication (MoE, MoPH, MoPWT, MoND). It is his intention to start a committee with representatives from relevant Ministries in regards to the response of disasters (natural or man-made). This is similar to the idea discussed by chemical safety department (MoE). Currently there is no real accountability and it is open to mismanagement.		
INFORMATION/DATA etc HARDCOPY RECEIVED Photos on RPS GPS Camera.		

PROPOSED FURTHER ACTION OR MEETINGS:

IC & TE to make further contact.

SEA LEBANON PROJECT – MEETING NOTES

2197-MTN-PRM-0017 Rev0	LOCATION: Betroun, Blue Bay Bar	DATE: 07/02/2012
CONSULTATION REGISTER ID: 55		TIME: 12.00 – 1.00pm
PURPOSE OF MEETING: Gathering information on current and future Plans, Policies, Programmes etc.		PEOPLE PRESENT: R.Crawford (RPS) R.Hooke (RPS) K.Hashash (RPS) Rabih Salem (Coordinator of NGOs) 2 x Colleagues.
<p>NOTES FROM MEETING: RPS set-up a meeting with Rabih Salem (coordinator of Lebanese Environmentally concerned NGOs).</p> <p>Mr Salem explained how these NGOs often provided assistance to the MoE in the push for new environmental laws and policies. He explained the purpose of ‘Green Watch’, which is an NGO that works for and closely with the Lebanese Government, in ensuring that the land or seas are not violated.</p> <p>Mr Salem provided a website that could fully explain his NGOs intentions and future plans: info@lebanongreenagain.org.</p> <p>Currently there are various Projects and Strategies in place or pending:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘National Going Green’ campaign – this involves helicopter seeding and re-forestation at a national level. • ‘Green Spaces’ campaign – which focuses on land rehabilitation. • Air Pollution strategy (issued by MoE, not sure we have this one) Mr Salem said he would email us this, just in case. • Strategy UNDEFECO – To limit industrial pollution, including air, water, sewerage treatment and land contamination. • Project Sea Urchins – due to the overfishing witnessed in Lebanon, sea urchins are becoming extinct, their aim is to repopulate using artificial insemination methods. • Air quality monitoring – currently the surveys are localized around industrial zones, and there is not enough funding to do national surveys. Furthermore the figures on air quality are not necessarily credible, as industrial companies are responsible for measuring their own emissions <p>Mr Salem explained how Lebanese law in general is antiquated as it is based on the 1950’s French legal system, and thus almost all of Lebanese law needs reviewing and updating. (Samar Malek expressed similar sentiments).</p> <p>We enquired more into the situation of the Palestinian refugees camps, they confirmed what we already suspected – that politicians will ignore this area. This is of real concern, as Samar Malek, explained previously these camps are self-regulated and at times can be extremely hostile and unpredictable. Potentially they could pose a real security threat for both the pipeline itself and any workers along the pipe.</p> <p>If we are at all interested in visiting a Palestinian refugee camp, the safest one to venture into is ‘Sabra’ (southern suburbs of Beirut).</p> <p><u>Final Note</u></p> <p>Mr Salem informed us that he had good media and PR connections, which will undoubtedly be of use if phase 2 is awarded to RPS.</p>		
INFORMATION/DATA etc HARDCOPY RECEIVED		
PROPOSED FURTHER ACTION OR MEETINGS:		

SEA LEBANON PROJECT – MEETING NOTES

2197-MTN-PRM-0018 Rev0	LOCATION: MoE Office Beirut.	DATE: 08/02/2012
CONSULTATION REGISTER ID: 57		TIME: 10.15am – 11.15am
PURPOSE OF MEETING: 1) Gathering information on current and future Plans, Policies, Programmes etc. 2) Follow up from previous meeting.		PEOPLE PRESENT: R.Crawford (RPS) N.Masri (MoE)

NOTES FROM MEETING:

Nour Masri works within the ecosystems dept., previously she had requested a meeting with IC regarding the current socio-economic surveys being undertaken by Manal Nader (Balamand University).

Nour was under the impression that the SEA included baseline surveys and presumed (due to previous meetings) that RPS and the University may be able work together in attaining socio-economic data from the coastal areas of Lebanon. In order to avoid replicate surveys.

I informed Nour of the SEA status (including content, purpose and time line), furthermore I gave an account of an ESIA (including content, purpose and time line.)

We agreed that by the time the socio-economic baseline starts (presuming RPS are awarded the next stage) the University studies (which are focused on ecosystem management) would be near completion.

Nour presented me with the socio-economic questionnaire in which the University study intends to use, and asked for a critical review.

The questionnaire does not contain any questions related to the arrival or expectations of the oil and gas industry, Nour wondered if certain questions could be added so duplicate studies needn't happen. We agreed that it would be far too premature to include specific oil and gas questions, but that there were questions that would be useful to ask from our (RPS) perspective.

Initial thoughts:

- Nour was unable to give the specifics on target area/households. I explained what the ZOI was, therefore it would probably be necessary to conduct separate studies to that of the university. However I explained that the University findings would be a credible base for which to start Project related baseline studies.
- No questions relating to public opinion, public expectations or future visions.
- No questions regarding ethnicity, sect, religion, caste etc. Nour said that this sort of questioning could easily cause offence.
- No questions regarding health or dietary information.

Nour claimed that information regarding Lebanese sect, race and caste make-up etc could all be found within the Personal Status Directorate (under the Ministry of Interior Municipalities).

We have two contacts to follow up:

1)Nada Ramez El Costy (DG of Personal Status, MoIM)

Based in Hamra – 01 741 890 or 01 340 230.

Or

2) Suzanne Khoury Youhanna (Contact within the Directory of Personal Status, MoIM).

I agreed with Nour that certain questions can cause offence, but that there are always alternative ways of seeking these questions. She did not seem to understand that you cannot base surveys on word of mouth, as she felt that you could just ask a local to describe the type of settlement (ie sect and population). Furthermore the data from the Personal Status directorate only has data from those who are registered to vote in elections. This does not take into account a wide range of society.

I would be cautious to combine the University studies with the Project socio-economic baseline studies as:

1) I was unable to attain any form of methods used (which households? Why? Where? When? Who etc.)

2) During Project socio-economic baseline studies you follow a certain protocol – Mayors (or equivalent) questionnaire, Household questionnaire (samples within the Zol, plus a strategy on ensuring that the questions are not solely answered by head of household), during this process focus groups will also be identified and will often have further questionnaires related to their specific group.

I agreed with Nour that I would take a considered look at the Questionnaire intended and give feedback and suggestions on possible additions – in order to help with future Project baseline studies.

Again I think we should be very wary of surveys that are not specific to this Project. My feeling is that we use in-country experts but that we manage them closely in order to stop surveys from being purely academic.

INFORMATION/DATA etc HARDCOPY RECEIVED

PROPOSED FURTHER ACTION OR MEETINGS:

SEA LEBANON PROJECT – MEETING NOTES

2197-MTN-PRM-0019 Rev0	LOCATION: MoE Office, Beirut.	DATE: 08/02/2012
CONSULTATION REGISTER ID: 58		TIME: 10.00am – 11.00am
PURPOSE OF MEETING: Gathering information on current and future Plans, Policies, Programmes etc.		PEOPLE PRESENT: K.Hashash (RPS) L.Samaha (MoE)

NOTES FROM MEETING:

Lara explained the current Marine Protected Area (MPA) situation in Lebanon. 18 areas have been defined as potential MPAs.

The project has the capacity to do 3 full field surveys to allow proper MPA definition. This will be done at:

- Batroun Phoenician Wall
- Ros Chekaa Cliffs
- Byblos Old Port

Once an area is designated as an MPA by law (will take a few years to complete the bureaucracy) then there will be a management team and management plan which helps to sustain the environment within its favourable conditions. No activity will be allowed with the MPA or within a 500 metre buffer zone of the MPA area.

Until sites are legally defined and protected, they are referred to as “Protected Sites”. They do not get the same level of protection.

Activity proposed within the site / within the 500 metre buffer zone has to be approved by the MoE, and they may request an EIA to be done etc. There is no management committee for a Protected Site, and they rely on public complaints to spot violations of the protected status.

Lara suggests that even though the 18 sites are not designated by law, we should mention in our report that they are “Biodiversity hot-spots” and should be treated with the same consideration / care as MPAs.

Other bodies have also suggested MPAs: Greenpeace report and Oceana report. These were covered in the gap analysis. Lara observed that the Greenpeace sites are mostly the same as those proposed by the ministry (16 crossover), however the Oceana sites are offshore in deepwater canyon regions. At present it is not possible for Lebanon to define these areas as MPAs as they do not have the equipment capacity to do surveys at this depth, and can therefore not characterise the existing environment. Lara has written to Oceana to say that if they can help with resources then Lebanon will consider these sites.

Lara has a number of comments on the Gap Analysis. These included the following:

- Edits to the text regarding MPAs
- A copy of the letter Lara has sent to Oceana
- A list of GIS files available relating to coastal sensitivity studies and MPAs. We can then request the layers we would like from her / Paty Farah.
- Contacts at universities and research institutions which should be consulted on available data in onshore and offshore ecology, to confirm the status of current understanding. *All contact details are at the bottom of these meeting notes.*

New projects in Biodiversity are mainly associated with the MPA network. They have a new project beginning soon with UNEP, funded by GEF, which will be a legal assessment for the MPAs. Summary provided.

The Strategy for MPAs is currently in the final draft stages. In approximately 1 month it should be ready for issue. Lara could not give us a copy.

They have applied to GEF for funding to update the current Biodiversity Strategy (written in 1998).

Suggested data source to acquire: Environmental Actions on the Marine Ecosystem. Palm Island Nature Reserve. July 2009. Comprised of 3 reports: Guidelines for management, monitoring plans and protocols, and Physical, Chemical and Biological Characteristics of the Palm Island Nature Reserve.

INFORMATION/DATA etc HARDCOPY RECEIVED

Need to make contact with the following asap:

Birds- Ghassan Jaradi 03 689 840

Mammals- Mounir Abisaid 03 667 355

Freshwater- Kamal Slim 03 256 075 or Ghassan El Zein 03 801 714

Reptiles- Suad Hrawi- 03 141 793

Vegetation Onshore- Samir Safi 03 394 962

PROPOSED FURTHER ACTION OR MEETINGS:

SEA LEBANON PROJECT – MEETING NOTES

2197-MTN-PRM-0009 Rev0	LOCATION: Victoria Hotel, Oslo	DATE: 10/02/12
CONSULTATION REGISTER ID: 60		TIME: 23.30 to 01.00 9-02-12 08.00 to 12.30 10-02-12
PURPOSE OF MEETING: To discuss SEA development and initiate dialogue between RPS, Petrad and MoE		PEOPLE PRESENT: Imogen Crawford Claes Reksten (Petrad) Bjorn Kristoffersen (Petrad Consult) Rola Al Sheik (Lebanon MoE) (W.Zahabi, W. Chbat, A. Borru part time) Meta and Gunnar from Norwegian Government

NOTES FROM MEETING:

Introduction:

It was recognised that MoEW should have arranged liaison between RPS, Petrad and themselves before. Petrad have been advising the Lebanese government for the last 5 years. An SEA is a high level piece of work, the RPS document being the mouthpiece for MoEW. However, with MoEW having no experience in either the oil and gas industry or environmental assessment requirements, RPS and Petrad must hold ongoing dialogue to ensure a consistent approach and advice to the Lebanese government.

Comments on work to date:

Petrad were impressed at the coverage and presentation of documents produced to date.
Petrad agreed with RPS that work to date was background, and the full SEA would now concentrate on Key Issues and various Scenarios. Petrad would like to be more closely involved with the SEA development and the benefits of close collaboration was supported by all parties
Petroleum Law Assessment – RPS had been given an early draft so several amendments had already taken place. The Petroleum Law is now more or less in place, so it was not felt that another review would be of benefit. Petrad and RPS agree that a Law should be simple and overarching, with the details of implementation embodied in lower level regulations and standards.
It is useful to list the detailed requirements of OSPAR, MARPOL and Barcelona Convention.
This section in the SEA will re-assessed by RPS.

Discussion:

It was agreed that Phase 2 ESIA, promoted by MoE was not now a helpful concept and it was unlikely that the Lebanese government would fund a mega, comprehensive ESIA, preferring to have each individual contractor performing an ESIA on their patch. It is true that an ESIA is project based, however the present situation in Lebanon is one with no effective regulatory framework and no implementation of environmental law. It is difficult to see how Project ESIA's would be managed. The MoE is well aware of this, the MoEW are not.

Meta from the Norwegian government promoted a piecemeal approach, saying that in her experience in Norway/North Sea the oil and gas companies behaved responsibly and a background of environmental conditions had been built up over time. She thought the North Sea in the '60s was as Data Deficient as the East Mediterranean now.. She advised a slow approach with the Contractors building up the database. IC and BK thought that the North Sea countries possessed a sound regulatory framework, and scientific framework, that enabled North Sea development in an ordered way. Lebanon presented different scenarios. It was also dangerous to indicate to MoEW that they just had to sit back and ESIA's would be completed by Contractors. IC warned that this led to a tick box exercise, and that there had to be a competent body within Lebanon to assess ESIA's and evaluate the significance of the findings and appropriateness of proposed mitigation.

Meta strongly advised on ongoing advisory role from RPS and Petrad, working close to MoE,

All agreed that a 5 month SEA contract was far too short and further high level work is required. It would be more accurate to say Phase 2 SEA. IC and BK likened this next stage as a bridging period between the SEA and project ESIA's, and will develop an appropriate term.

It is envisaged that RPS, working closely with Petrad would be driving this.

Way Forward:

At present what is broadly envisaged is for RPS to complete the SEA deliverable for a mid March deadline as contractually agreed. The list

of Advisory Notes in the SEA contract will not be completed as they depend on completion of various pieces of work which are the responsibility of MoEW; RPS cannot initiate but only respond as requested. ESIA's will be part of the conditions of any contract let to oil and gas companies during the Licensing Rounds.

It was agreed that the fastest way forward was to create a 'lock in situation' whereby 4 or 5 people were locked in to a hotel and only emerged with agreed deliverables. In this case the deliverables would be a range of scenarios for oil and gas development in Lebanon, and a consensus on Key Issues. RPS would be responsible for inserting these deliverables into the SEA Report.

INFORMATION/DATA etc HARDCOPY RECEIVED
CONTACTS GIVEN

PROPOSED FURTHER ACTION OR MEETINGS:

Bjorn and Imogen to prepare Agenda for lock-in meeting 20-22 Feb.
Stravangar is a favoured location, but Beirut may be selected depending on logistical considerations.
Imogen to complete overall format of SEA, sections as far as possible, and distribute to group.

Meeting 20-22 February 2012 in Stravangar or Beirut