

**(9 NEW GOVERNORATES 2016)**



**Figure 8-1: Public announcement for the consultation session for phase II of the project on 24/09/2016**

The first public consultation meeting of Phase II was announced in Al Ahram Newspaper on September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2016

The meeting was held in October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016 , with the participation of around 170 representatives of different stakeholders, the meeting reflected the interactive engagement of the participants

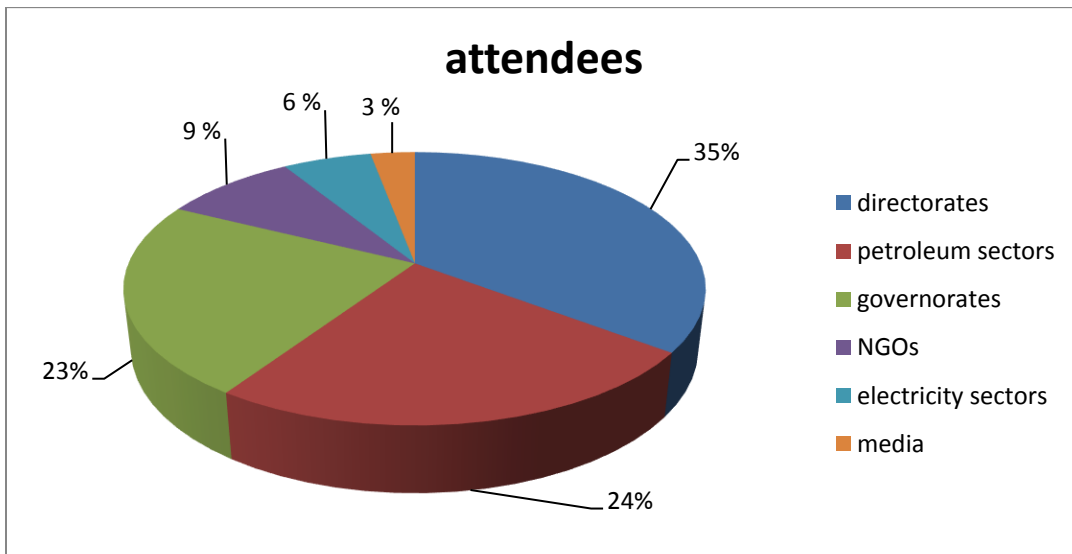
**Participants Profile**

In addition to the public announcement, invitation letters were sent to the key stakeholders to the project in the nine governorates. The stakeholder groups which were invited included:

- Environmental and social NGOs in the nine governorates;
- Different Departments in the project governorates
- Environmental Affairs offices of the Governrates
- Social Affairs
- Public Relations
- Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA)
- Regional branch offices of EEAA

- Directorates of the relevant Ministries
- General Authority for Roads and Land Transport
- Ministry of Irrigation
- Ministry of Social Solidarity
- Ministry of Petroleum and the project implementing Local Distribution Companies;
- Electricity Production Companies in the project Governorates
- Media

The following is a breakdown of the public consultation participants by affiliation to an organization or a sector. List of Participants is shown in Annex 7



**Figure 8-2: Public consultation of phase II participants represented by affiliation**

The consultation session started with a detailed presentation by EGAS team to describe the origin of the project and its objectives. The following topics were presented:

- Introduction about natural gas in Egypt
- The proposed new project (objectives , project financing, executing companies)
- Project implementation phases
- Criteria for connecting natural gas
- Criteria of selection of Pressure Reduction stations locations and pipeline routes
- Environmental Impact assessment for the project
- Social Impact assessment for the project

- Anticipated environmental and social impacts, mitigation measures and monitoring plans
- Project's positive impacts
- Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) for the project
- Compensation Framework

After presentation of the above topics, the discussions were opened for the participants to express their views and their concerns at this early stage.

**Table 8-1 Areas of concerns and issues raised by the public consultation participants in phase II consultation**

Question	Answer	Reference in the study
<b>project level (PRS, High pressure and network)</b>		
1. What is the possibility of reducing the duration of the project in touristic cities such as Luxor and what are the safety precaution measures during construction?	it is not only the decision of the Ministry of Petroleum to reduce the duration of the implementation but it is a shared responsibility with other ministries, where the priority is to finalise the connection works in a very short time so the the LDCs can move to other areas. LDCs follow a methodology, connecting more than 100 new areas. LDCs follow safety concept “Safety First” and when there are any violations to safety measures construction activities are stopped immediately.	Safety and environmental mitigation measures are more elaborated in chapter 7
2. What is the possibility of expanding project range in order to cover other cities that have high population densities like ESNA and ARMANT and the possibility of decreasing the fees of connecting factories?	concerning the reduction of connection fees it is the decision of the Cabinet of Ministries, bearing in mind that those fees are held the same for more than 10 years besides there is a facility of paying in installments	
3. Is there coordination between governmental organization during	according to the nature of sewerage systems installation where the pipes are inclined	

Question	Answer	Reference in the study
connecting different facilities like clean water, sewage and natural gas and about the reason why natural gas is the last facility to be connected?	that requires excavation on deeper depths than the Natural gas pipelines, thus Natural gas is the last utility to be installed for safety reasons. Construction works begin after obtaining necessary permits from different governmental entities	
4. Can roads and bridges withstand the heavy utilities used in the project?	To avoid roads disruption horizontal Directional drilling technique is used at a depth of not less than 30 meters	Different drilling techniques can be used according to the nature of the roads, this is referred to in chapter 2 and chapter 6.
<p>Why the expansion did not include (El Zohor neighborhood) which has high population density? And the possibility of connections in new urban communities:</p> <p>In special cases, EGAS decide to extend the gas network to the new urban communities and areas all over the governorates where the social housing units are existing. This decision taken according to bear the ministry of housing to the cost of the gas network to feed this areas.</p>	<p>The occupancy percentage should exceed 50% to connect any area to natural gas and whenever the 50% is contracted connection works tak</p> <p><b>Household occupancy in new urban communities:</b></p> <p>In special cases, EGAS decide to extend the gas network to the new urban communities and areas all over the governorates where the social housing units are existing. This decision taken where the Ministry of Housing bears the cost of the gas network.</p>	
5. What is the schedule of connecting districts of Asyut governorate? And there is a complaint from Wadi El Nile company's clients that there was a delay in the service for 6	Gas was connected to Markazes of Fath and Abanoub and Assuit city and connection works are in progress for the rest of Markazes according to the	

Question	Answer	Reference in the study
month to a year.	connection plan	
6. Is the project financed by the state or by the people	It is the state that finances the network and supports citizen of medium income	
7. Is there a plan for constructing natural gas refilling stations	There is a plan for construction of Compressed Natural Gas fueling companies affiliated from the Ministry of Petroleum which are either public or private companies	
<b>HP Route and PRS</b>		
1. What are the compensation strategies and the role of NGOs during project implementation?	there is temporary compensation for the temporary use of land for the High pressure route with appropriate compensation in view of the allocated budget for that purpose while for the case of securing land for the construction of Pressure reducing stations it is either allocated by the Governorate as State Owned Land or private land that is purchased through Willing Buyer Willing Seller approach, land purchasing procedures are implemented by Land Purchase Committee formulated specifically for that purpose. The role of NGOs is very important, with coordination with the LDCs can help in providing awareness to the safe use of Natural Gas to the natural gas users	Compensation procedures are detailed in the updated RPF document found on EGAS website while the procedure for securing lands is found in annex 2 of this document
2. What are procedures of	disposal takes place by	Waste management is

Question	Answer	Reference in the study
handling and disposal of empty Mercaptan containers (which is a hazardous waste resulting from project activities)?	incineration in the steel factories	detailed in chapter 7 of this document
3. Does reduction station have security guards to secure it?	there are security guards at the pressure reducing stations and there are no records of explosions at the station	
<b>HP pipeline and network</b>		
1. What are the followed procedures in emergency cases and maintenance after operation?	Emergency procedures are taken for the high pressure pipelines following a very fast actions of mximum of 10 minutes	More details can be found in chapter 7 (management and monitoring during operation phase)
2. What is the possibility of employing workers from the governments in which construction is occurring, and the policy of protection of workers by personal protective equipment?	gas connection require highly skilled labors, whereas, excavation and restoration works utilize local labors from the Project governorate	Please see chapter 5 (socioeconomic impacts during construction phase)
3. What is the mechanism of disposal of excavation wastes to insure no traffic obstruction occurs?	Excavation takes place at the edges of the road in the trench and is restored and in case excavation is require to cross the road inside the city there is standard for restoration for that purpose that differs from the other applied standard	More details are found in chapter 7(management and monitoring during construction phase)
<b>LP Network</b>		
1. What are measures taken to restore affected structures/Streets to pre-	Restoration takes place in coordination with the local governmental units where the	More details are found in chapter 7 (management and

Question	Answer	Reference in the study
project conditions?	LDCs pay the restoration cost in advance during the phase of obtaining permits of construction works	monitoring during construction phase)
2. In case of fracturing sewage lines, are they fixed temporarily or permanently during construction?	The damaged sewage pipelines are fixed temporary and then permanently fixed upon coordination with the Sewage company where the gas distribution company pays the cost of fixing the damage	More details are found in chapter 7 (management and monitoring during construction phase)

EGAS responded to all the above concerns and questions during the presentation and informed the participants that most of the answers fully taken into consideration in more details during the preparation of the site/route specific ESIA/RAPs

### Proposed Stakeholders for Site Specific ESIA/ESMPs Consultations

**Table Error! No text of specified style in document.-2: Proposed stakeholders for site-specific consultations**

#	ACTIVITY	IMPACT	STAKEHOLDER/S
1.	Construction of Pressure Reduction Stations (PRSs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Affecting the livelihoods of farmers as a result of using cultivated lands</li> <li>Temporary or permanent Land Appropriation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agricultural Associations and land owners</li> <li>Workers employed in agriculture</li> <li>Private land owners</li> <li>Relocation candidates</li> </ul>
2	Installation of Gas Transmission Connection (High Pressure Pipelines)		
3	Installation of Gas Distribution Network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Impact on businesses</li> <li>Impacts on traffic</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Business &amp; shop owners</li> <li>Residents</li> <li>Drivers (Microbus, Taxi, TucTuc...)</li> </ul>

#	ACTIVITY	IMPACT	STAKEHOLDER/S
4	Installation of Household Connections and modalities of payment particularly for poor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Threat to Safety of users and houses (due to limited level of awareness and misconceptions)</li> <li>• Visual intrusion</li> <li>• Financial burden on consumers (of installments due to accumulation of fees /installments collection resulting in financial burden on consumers)</li> <li>• Impact on the informal LPG distributors</li> <li>• Possibility of gas leakage</li> <li>• Concerned community members who do not meet the criteria for installing NG connections ('no gas areas')</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Civil society organizations and NGOs</li> <li>• Community leaders</li> <li>• Residents</li> <li>• LPG salespeople</li> <li>• Companies housing employees</li> <li>• Representatives from Community Health workers at the Ministry of Health (برنامج الرائدات الريفيات)</li> <li>• Ministry of Social Solidarity-community social workers</li> <li>• Local media</li> <li>• Community Service Centers</li> </ul>
5	Stakeholders relevant for all stages of implementation/ Project activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Miscellaneous</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EGAS</li> <li>• Supreme Council of Antiquities</li> <li>• Municipalities</li> <li>• Relevant utilities authorities (water/sanitation, electricity)</li> <li>• Governorate representatives</li> <li>• Potential local construction employees and young people</li> </ul>
6	Resettlement Action plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Potential impacts on the livelihood of farmers due to damaging their crops</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The project affected persons</li> <li>• EGAS and the subsidiary companies LDCs</li> <li>• Governmental entities (agriculture associations and directorate)</li> <li>• NGOs</li> </ul>

Hearing/consultations were held in adequately situated and equipped venue. Arrangements for transportation and accommodation have been settled up for participants from different Governorates.



Documentation of the public consultation session for phase II using photographs.



**Photo 1: Announcement of the Public Consultation session**



**Photo 2: Registration of participants**



**Photo 3: EGAS & MoP representatives welcoming the participants**



**Photo 4: participants during the consultation**



**Photo 5: participants filling Questionnaires**