Project to strengthen institutional infrastructure on standards and regulations to support business and industry in Middle East and North Africa (MENA STAR) 
Funded by Sida

Summary of activities during the first quarter of 2016 (January – March)

1. First ISO Regional Training of Trainers (ToT) on Environmental Management during February 2016

The first ISO Regional Training of Trainers (ToT) on Environmental Management with a special focus on Life-Cycle-Assessment and Carbon Footprint was conducted from 21 to 25 February 2016 for the English speaking countries in Amman, Jordan, hosted by JSMO. The event was attended by 15 participants from the following countries: Egypt (4), Iraq (3), Jordan (4), and Palestine (4). The ToT was led by two international trainers: Graham Healy (Ireland) and Raul Carlsson (Sweden).

In addition, a similar ISO Regional Training of Trainers (ToT) on Environmental Management was conducted from 22 to 26 February 2016 for the French speaking countries in Casablanca, Morocco, hosted by IMANOR. The event was attended by 16 participants from the following countries: Algeria (4), Lebanon (4), Morocco (4), and Tunisia (4). This ToT was led by two international trainers: Jean-François Ménard (Canada), Pascal Thomas (France).

The main objectives of these regional ToTs are:

a) Understand environmental management standards of the ISO 14000 family and related sustainability concepts

b) Build local capacity in particular on:

- ISO 14040 and ISO 14044 standards on life cycle assessment,
- ISO/TS 14067 on greenhouse gases – carbon footprint of products, and
- application of standards to allow all types of organizations to apply the standards and principles in their operations, including the calculation and communication on environmental footprinting

c) Share regional experience and good practices among the partner countries on the application of these standards
As a result of the ToTs, the national trainees will conduct the following activities:

- Organize national follow-up events (a 1-day awareness seminar and a 2-day seminar), hosted by the ISO member in the country to improve the national awareness on ISO standards linked to Life-Cycle-Assessment and Carbon footprint.

- Work with selected pilot organizations as part of the implementation exercise to help them on the application of ISO standards linked to Life-Cycle-Assessment and Carbon footprint.

As part of these ToTs, the national trainees will be mentored by the international experts through distance mentoring and in-country visits.
2. First ISO Regional Training of Trainers (ToT) on Water management during March 2016

The first ISO Regional Training of Trainers (ToT) on Water management was conducted from 6 to 10 March 2016 for the French speaking countries in Algiers, Algeria, hosted by IANOR. The event was attended by 16 participants from the following countries: Algeria (4), Lebanon (4), Morocco (4), and Tunisia (4). The ToT was led by two international trainers: Anne-Marie Boulay (Canada) and Samuel Vionnet (Switzerland).

In addition, a similar ISO Regional Training of Trainers (ToT) Water management was conducted from 20 to 24 March 2016 for the English speaking countries in Cairo, Egypt, hosted by EOS. The event was attended by 12 participants from the following countries: Egypt (4), Jordan (4), and Palestine (4). This ToT was led by two international trainers: Nydia Suppen (Mexico) and Naji Tannous (Lebanon).

The main objectives of these regional ToTs are:

a) Understand water management, water footprinting and related sustainability concepts.

b) Build local capacity in particular on ISO 14046 and ISO/DTR 14073 standards on water footprint and their application to allow all types of organizations to apply the standards and principles in their operations, including calculation and communication of water footprinting.

c) Share regional experience and good practices among the partner countries on the application of these standards.

As a result of the ToTs, the national trainees will conduct the following activities:

- Organize national follow-up events (a 1-day awareness seminar and a 2-day seminar), hosted by the ISO member in the country to improve the national awareness on ISO standards linked to Water footprint.

- Work with selected pilot organizations as part of the implementation exercise to help them on the application of ISO standards linked to water footprint

As part of these ToTs, the national trainees will be mentored by the international experts through distance mentoring and in-country visits.
3. First Round of the National Follow-up Events on Energy Management and Energy Efficiency (3 beneficiary countries) during March 2016

The first round of the national follow-up events on Energy management and Energy Efficiency covering one-day for the national awareness-raising seminar and two-days for the national workshop per country have been conducted in the following three countries: Egypt, Jordan and Palestine. The dates of these national follow-up events are shown below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>National awareness seminar</th>
<th>National workshop</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Egypt</td>
<td>Cairo</td>
<td>13 March 2016</td>
<td>14-15 March 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jordan</td>
<td>Amman</td>
<td>6 March 2016</td>
<td>7-8 March 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palestine</td>
<td>Ramallah</td>
<td>28 March 2016</td>
<td>29-30 March 2016</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The main objectives of national follow-up events are:

- Raise awareness and understanding among authorities and industry in the country about energy management and energy efficiency standards, business opportunities, existing best practices, implications and potential impact of the ISO 50001 Energy Management standard
- Build local capacity on ISO 50001 and ISO 50006 and its application to allow all types of organizations to apply the energy efficiency and energy management system principles in their operations
- Provide a platform for specialists from industry, government and academia to share experiences and discuss issues related to the implementation of energy management and the ISO 50001 standard

The one-day national awareness-raising seminar had targeted a wide audience (up to 100 participants) in order to sensitize key stakeholders of the National Standards Body, private sector, public sector, large energy users and academia. Also, the two-days workshop had targeted a selected group (up to 25 participants) of the leading (export) sectors and participants from the seminar.

It is to be noted that the team of national trainees have prepared the programme and materials of the national follow-up events with a support from the international experts. In addition, a preparatory on-site meeting was organized between the national trainees and the international expert the day before the national follow-up events to ensure that the materials are updated and to discuss the key points that should be communicated to the participants.

Following on from the national workshop, a visit was made to the pilot organization that has been identified by the National Standards Body in cooperation with the team of national trainees to implement ISO 50001 and ISO 50006. A national case study has to be developed by the team of national trainees as a result of their support and follow-up with the selected pilot organization to apply the selected ISO standards. The international expert (through country visits - as part of the national follow up events - and distance mentoring) mentors the work that will be undertaken by the team of national trainees in each beneficiary country.