



## Nile Eco-VWU

### Nile Ecosystems Valuation for Wise-Use Research Project



### Case Study Brief

## Lake Burullus, Egypt

### BACKGROUND

.....

- Burullus Lake is Egypt second largest lake. The surface area 350 km<sup>2</sup>, the length of the lake is about 65 Km and the width ranges between 6 to 16 km, It is a relatively shallow lake as its maximum depth is 2.07 m, almost everywhere the depth of water is less than one meter. This depth slightly increases westward. Because of such shallow depth the fishermen can easily work out of their boats walking in the water.
- Known by its unique ecosystem and its valuable biodiversity. It has been identified under the Ramsar convention as being of international importance as it is a habitat for migratory birds in May 1998 under law 102/1983 for protected areas.

### CURRENT ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

.....

High human population inhabits the lake shores. People earn their livings through exploiting the fishery resources which is the leading activity in the lake and agriculture which comes in the second most important economic activity. The main services are:

- Agriculture as Kafr el Sheikh is mainly agricultural governorate
- Fishery in the lake
- Livestock are considered as apart of agriculture activities in lake shore and some islets
- The economic plants are classified into 6 major categories: grazing, fuel, medicinal use, human food, timber and other uses
- The bird hunting is largely concentrated in the autumn (quail) and winter (water birds)
- Industry and salt marshes



## CHALLENGES

.....

Burullus Lake is a nature reserve. However the lake ecosystems continue to be severely threatened by impact of various human activities as:

- Land reclamation and change in land use and urban development which affect the habitat.
- Sand mining.
- Unsustainable fishing practices.
- Deterioration of water quality due to the pollution due to the discharge of agricultural.
- Increase of discharge drain water after damming of Nile River.
- Invasive species due to change in water quality due to the increase of drainage discharge.
- Increase in numbers of reeds and plants.
- The lake is highly vulnerable to climate change impacts, mainly due to temperature increases and sea level rise
- Hunting of local and migratory bird



## GENDER AND EQUITY

.....

The women and children access of the resources are very limited, mainly used as a secondary activities for assisting their husbands or fathers in increasing income, they work in reed products, selling fish or fruits and vegetables, salt extraction although in some villages they don't work beside, women don't paid any different wages than men for their work

**Research Team Leader: Prof. Dr. Aly El Bahrawy**

**Organisation: Ain Shams University, faculty of Engineering. Hydraulics and Irrigation Dept., Egypt**

**E-mail:** [alyelbahrawy@yahoo.com](mailto:alyelbahrawy@yahoo.com)

---

**NBCBN Project: "Nile Ecosystems Valuation for Wise-Use, Nile-Eco-VWU"**

---

**Project Coordinator: Nile Basin Capacity Building Network**

NBCBN-SEC Office

Hydraulics Research Institute

13621, Delta Barrages, Cairo, Egypt

Email: [nbcbn-sec@nbcbn.net](mailto:nbcbn-sec@nbcbn.net)

Website: [www.nile-eco-vwu.net](http://www.nile-eco-vwu.net)