Jordan Activities Quarterly Report-XII Sustainable Development of Drylands Project IALC-BRDC

Activities Summary (October 1 – December 31, 2005):

BRDC Sub-contract

• The Year 3 scope of work (SOW) document for the Jordanian component of the project is finalized. A new sub-contract between the IALC/UofA and BRDC was initiated and is in the process of approval and signing from BRDC and the UofA.

Bio-solid Analysis:

- Phase II of the bio-solid project with Royal Scientific Society (RSS) was concluded and the final report was submitted.
- The work plan for phase III for this project is submitted and approved by UoA. As in Phase II, the work will be conducted by RSS in collaboration with the National Center for Agriculture Research and Technology Transfer (NCARTT) and will study the bio-solid residue effect on soil and plants.
- A contract between RSS and BRDC to implement Phase III of the bio-solid project is prepared and was sent to UofA for processing.

Bio-solid Risk Assessment Workshop and Seminar:

- During the period of December 13-15, 2005, a three-day workshop on bio-solid handling and application risk assessment was organized Experts from UofA and RSS presented research and demonstration project findings to an audience composed from various Jordanian institutes.
- Following the workshop, a two-day seminar on December 18 and 19, 2005 was organized for key institutes involved with the management and application of biosolids. During the seminar, a proposed modification of the Jordanian bio-solid standards was prepared.

Wadi Mousa Awareness Center

• Architectural design of the center was done and the tender documents for the building were prepared and sent to USAID for review and comments.

Activities Summary for the following period (January 1 – March 31, 2006):

BRDC Sub-contract

• The Year 3 sub-contract between IALC/UofA and BRDC will be finalized and signed from both sides.

Bio-solid Analysis:

• The contract between RSS and BRDC for implementing Phase III of the bio-solid project will be processed at UofA and the funds for the project transferred to BRDC.

• Land preparation, bio-solid application, and cultivation of the demonstration site will continue and soil measurements will be conducted.

Wadi Mousa Awareness Center

 Waiting for the USAID-Amman comments on the tender documents, the final tender documents and master plan for the project will be finalized and this activity will be concluded.

Anaerobic Wastewater Treatment Workshop

- A workshop in anaerobic treatment of wastewater is planned during the period of March 13-15, 2006 in cooperation with the National Research Center in Egypt.
- About 12 decision makers in the field of wastewater treatment options from key institutes will attend the workshop in Cairo.
- The workshop will include presentation on the anaerobic wastewater treatment technology and a field visit to a newly constructed wastewater treatment plant in Fayyom, Egypt that uses anaerobic treatment technique.

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