17.2.1 Relationships with Regional NGOs and Government for SDG Policy

2024/2025

Throughout the academic year 2024–2025, the Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport (AASTMT) advanced Sustainable Development Goal 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) by operationalizing several collaborations. These strategic alliances bridge higher education with national and regional governmental entities, public authorities, and non-governmental organizations to directly influence SDG-related policy, research, and implementation. Examples of these collaborations are as follows:

AASTMT - Egyptian Competition Authority "Agreement"

23 June 2025

The Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport (AASTMT) signed a protocol of cooperation with the Egyptian Competition Authority (ECA)—formerly known as the Protection of Competition and the Prohibition of Monopolistic Practices Authority. The signing ceremony took place at the AASTMT Smart Village campus in the presence of AASTMT officials, presided over by His Excellency Prof. Dr. Ismail Abdel Ghaffar, President of AASTMT, and His Excellency Mahmoud A. Momtaz, Chairman of the ECA. The agreement aims to foster discussion, facilitate the exchange of expertise in areas of mutual interest, raise awareness of market law, and promote student training, research, and scientific endeavors. Under the terms of the protocol, both entities commit to:

- Organizing joint discussion panels, seminars, workshops, and scientific conferences on significant economic and legal issues.
- Exchanging academic cadres, experts, specialists, scientific books, and references to support joint research and publications.
- Establishing specialized training programs that complement the educational efforts and expertise of both organizations.
- Providing AASTMT students with direct participation access in the annual Competition Protection Authority simulation model.



AASTMT - Egyptian Competition Authority "Agreement" on AASTMT webpage

AASTMT Conducts Feasibility Study for Establishing Logistics Zones Along the Sudanese Borders

19 June 2025

The College of International Transport and Logistics at the Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport (AASTMT) presented a feasibility study on establishing logistics zones along the borders of the Republic of Sudan. The initiative reflects cooperation between AASTMT and the Sudanese government to improve transport connectivity, regional trade, and economic development. The study was commissioned following a resolution adopted during the 37th session of the Council of Arab Transport Ministers in November 2024. Its findings were presented to senior officials and representatives from Sudan, AASTMT, the Sudanese Embassy in Cairo, and the League of Arab States. An academic team from AASTMT's College of International Transport and Logistics prepared the study under the leadership of Prof. Dr. Sara Hassan Kamal El Gazzar, Dean of the College. The team included specialists in transport logistics, institutional development, training, and community service. The proposed logistics zones aim to enhance border-crossing efficiency, facilitate trade, strengthen supply chains, and promote economic integration between Sudan and neighboring countries.



Strengthening Arab Cooperation AASTMT Presents Logistics Zone Study for Sudanese Borders

AASTMT presents feasibility study for logistics zones along the Sudanese borders on AASTMT webpage

AASTMT Unveils Arab Framework Strategy for Solid Waste Management

17-19 March 2025

The Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport (AASTMT) participated in the 40th meeting of the Committee on Monitoring Conventions Related to Chemicals and Hazardous Wastes. Hosted at the Arab League headquarters in Cairo from March 17 to 19, 2025, the three-day event was organized by the Department of Environment and Meteorological Affairs within the Secretariat of the Council of Arab Ministers Responsible for Environment. Chaired by Egypt's representative, Eng. Abu Bakr Hassanein, the meeting convened regional environment officials, Arab League representatives—led by Plenipotentiary Minister Dr. Mahmoud Fathi Allah—and delegates from key regional and international organizations, including the AASTMT, ACSAD, and the Basel Convention Regional Centre. Discussions centered on hazardous wastes, chemical management, and the implementation of international treaties such as the Basel, Stockholm, and Rotterdam conventions.

A major highlight of the conference was the presentation of the draft Arab Framework Strategy for Solid Waste Management, prepared by the Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport (AASTMT) in coordination with the Arab League. Dr. Alaa Abdel Bary, Vice President of AASTMT, detailed the technical and legislative advancements incorporated into the strategy after reviewing feedback from Arab nations. Furthermore, Dr. Mustafa Rashid, Assistant AASTMT President, noted that this strategy stems from a mandate by the 4th Arab Economic and Social Development Summit, with a comprehensive follow-up report slated for the Economic and Social Council's preparatory meetings ahead of the 5th Arab Development Summit.



The League of Arab States Presents the First Framework Strategy for Solid Waste Management on RAED Network webpage

AASTMT - National Center for Middle East Studies "Protocol of Cooperation"

5 March 2025

The Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport (AASTMT) signed a strategic cooperation protocol with the National Center for Middle East Studies (NCMES), led by AASTMT President Prof. Dr. Ismail Abdel Ghaffar and center officials. This partnership merges advanced higher education with specialized regional research, policy analysis, and strategic forecasting. The collaboration aims to bridge the gap between academic theory and practical requirements. By merging institutional resources, both entities seek to foster high-level analytical capabilities, empower students, and prepare specialized human capital to navigate modern geopolitical, economic, and social developments. The two parties have agreed to form a joint committee to operationalize the cooperation protocol and achieve its purpose in:

- Strategic Knowledge Integration
- Specialized Human Cadre Development
- Labor Market and Policy Alignment
- Joint Capacity Building.



AASTMT - National Center for Middle East Studies "Protocol Of Cooperation"

AASTMT - National Center for Middle East Studies "Protocol of Cooperation" on AASTMT webpage

AASTMT develops a Visual Identity Guide for Matrouh Governorate

24 November 2024

The Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport (AASTMT) has partnered with Matrouh Governorate to develop a comprehensive visual identity for the region. Executed through AASTMT's design faculties, this joint initiative aims to highlight the governorate's rich cultural heritage, historical landmarks, and Mediterranean tourism potential.

The developed designs of Matrouh's visual identity were produced as an output of a cooperation protocol between AASTMT and Matrouh that was signed in March 2024.



Cooperation Between Matrouh Governorate and the Arab Academy to to develop a comprehensive Visual Identity

AASTMT develops a Visual Identity Guide for Matrouh Government on AASTMT's Center for Innovative Media and Marketing webpage

Environment Minister probes environmental cooperation with AASTMT

26 October 2024

Her Excellency Yasmin Fouad, the Minister of Environment, and His Excellency Prof. Dr. Ismail Abdel Ghaffar, President of AASTMT. During the meeting, Dr. Yasmine Fouad emphasized the critical role of scientific research and academic institutions in driving national environmental goals. She highlighted the Ministry of Environment's commitment to leveraging AAST's faculty expertise and student innovations for practical environmental solutions. As an outcome of the meeting, the Ministry of Environment and the AASTMT outlined a roadmap for cooperation on climate change. As part of the newly established climate action roadmap, both entities will focus

on capacity building and strengthening climate units across various ministries. To support these efforts, AAST is launching a "Climate Change Information Center" for data sharing, alongside the "Together to Reduce Carbon" initiative. The carbon reduction initiative also features a mobile app that enables users to monitor their daily carbon emissions. This mobile application will be developed in partnership with the Egyptian Ministry of Communications.



AASTMT and Ministry of Environment strengthen cooperation on AASTMT webpage

Environment Minister probes environmental cooperation with AAST on State Information Service webpage

AASTMT Participation in Waste Management, Sanitation, and Water Sustainability

27 August 2024

The Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport (AASTMT), in collaboration with German partners, organized a high-level workshop on waste management, sanitation, and water sustainability. Held at AASTMT's AbuKir Campus, the event featured key ministerial participation, including Dr. Manal Awad, Minister of Local Development, and Dr. Yasmine Fouad, Minister of Environment (via remote communication technology). In her address, Minister of Environment Dr. Yasmine Fouad expressed her gratitude to Dr. Ismail Abdel Ghaffar, President of the Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport, for his kind invitation to participate in a workshop dedicated to exploring the latest developments in the waste management sector. She commended the Academy's contributions to environmental efforts, noting that it has leveraged its full range of capabilities to provide technical consultancy and review designs for infrastructure projects—including intermediate waste transfer stations, processing plants, and landfills—and highlighted the Academy as one of the most vital partners in environmental work.

The workshop brought together prominent regional leadership, including Major General Alaa Abdel Maati (Governor of Kafr El-Sheikh), Major General Tarek Marzouk (Governor of Dakahlia), Lieutenant General Ahmed Khaled Tawfik (Governor of Alexandria), and Dr. Ismail Abdel Ghaffar,

President of AASTMT. Also in attendance were Dr. Alaa Abdel Bary (Vice President of AASTMT and Director of the TOMALEE Local Project), Dr. Abdullah Nassour (Director of the TOMASi Project at the University of Rostock and Chairman of the German RICH Consortium), along with officials from Egyptian ministries and German development agencies. The event showcased major collaborative infrastructure successes, such as the Alam 'Nile' sanitary landfill, engineered to global solid waste management standards, and the Sludge Project at the municipal wastewater treatment facility, which utilizes anaerobic digestion to reduce volatile substances and polymer consumption. These initiatives emphasize AASTMT's ongoing commitment to sustainable environmental management, supporting Egypt's national development agenda through international technical partnerships.



AASTMT and German Partners Hold Workshop on Waste Management, Sanitation, and Water Sustainability

AASTMT and German Partners Hold Workshop on Waste Management, Sanitation, and Water Sustainability on AASTMT webpage

Workshop on "Waste Management in Alexandria" at AASTMT on AASTMT webpage

Published on Egyptian Cabinet Facebook (in Arabic):

Statement issued by the Ministry of Environment - Egyptian Cabinet | Facebook