

**The Embassy of the Federal
Republic of Germany in Cairo**

**Ministry of Environment of
the Arab Republic of Egypt**

Have the pleasure to invite you to the 39th Cairo Climate Talks (CCT) Panel Discussion

May 17th, 2016 at 6:30pm

The German Science Center (DWZ), 11 Al Saleh Ayoub Street, Zamalek

“Conserving & Developing Egypt’s Protected Areas”



From whale fossils to exotic birds, medicinal plants to mangroves, desert wadis to Nile islands, Egypt’s protectorates are home to a wealth of land and aquatic treasures. The country’s 30 protected areas cover more than 15 percent of its land mass and also extend into the Red Sea. They are under threat from pollution, urbanization, industry, and agriculture, among other factors. Often what makes these ecosystems special also makes them difficult to protect — many of them are vast and remote by nature, with limited resources and few rangers to patrol them.

Local communities play a vital role in preserving the biodiversity and cultural heritage of these areas. Ancestors of the Jabaleyya tribe in Sinai were brought from Macedonia in the 6th Century to build and

protect Saint Katherine’s monastery. Now, seven different Bedouin tribes act as community guards and guides in the surrounding protectorate. The Ababda in Wadi el Gemal have a tribal prohibition on cutting live trees, which has allowed Acacias to flourish in the southern Red Sea area.

The 39th Cairo Climate Talks will explore ways we can conserve and sustainably develop these habitats to provide opportunities for education, tourism and local communities. Public and private sector experts will tackle conservation challenges including pollution, security issues, ranger resources and what is being done to make the protectorates financially sustainable and attract Egyptian tourists in light of declining international tourism.

The discussion will be opened by

H.E. Julius Georg Luy
Ambassador of the Federal Republic
of Germany in Cairo

H.E. Dr. Khaled Fahmy
Minister of Environment (TBC)

H.E. Mohamed Yehia Rashed
Minister of Tourism (TBC)

Panelists:

Dr. Mostafa Fouda
Advisor to the Minister of Environment

Sherif El Ghamrawy
Owner of Basata Ecolodge and Founder
of Hemaya NGO

Mohamed Sameh
Deputy Manager & Geologist, Wadi El Hitan, EEAA

Dr. Kohar Garu
Director of Environment Communication Center at Cairo
University & Nature Conservation Egypt member

Moderator: Lindsey Parietti, Cairo Climate Talks Coordinator

A buffet reception will close the evening