



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

**The Embassy of France**

**The Ministry of State for Environmental Affairs**

**Have the pleasure to invite you to a panel discussion in the framework of the 21st Cairo Climate Talks and the Forum France-Egypte**

**March 12, 2014 at 6:30pm**

Youth Leaders/Civic Education Center, National Council for Youth, Al Borg Street, Zamalek

# “Ecosystems at Risk: Safeguarding Egypt’s Biodiversity”

The 21st Cairo Climate Talks / Forum France-Egypte, “Ecosystems at Risk: Safeguarding Egypt’s Biodiversity”, will focus on the environmental and economic importance of conserving flora and fauna. Preserving rich ecosystems is not a luxury, but an essential part of tourism, medical advances, food supply and other basic needs. Egypt’s varied habitats encompass the Nile Valley, deserts, oases, mountains, brackish and saline wetlands, and two distinct marine environments. Its strategic location as a land bridge between Africa and Eurasia make it a major host to migratory birds, with an estimated 1.5 million birds moving twice a year through this flyway.

The reefs of Egypt, home to more than 250 species of coral, are also one of the most diverse ecosystems in the world. Like other populations, both birds and corals are at grave risk from activities such as hunting, rampant development, habitat destruction, poorly managed water treatment and greenhouse gas emissions. Our experts will address local and international initiatives to protect wildlife, foster ecotourism and raise awareness of biodiversity issues. We will begin the event with a screening of «Soaring Legends», a short documentary about migratory soaring birds filmed in Egypt by Gabriel Mikhail.

### **Dr. Pierre Defos du Rau**

Researcher, French Governmental Agency for Wildlife and Hunting Management (Office National de la Chasse et de la Faune Sauvage)

### **Eng. Jan Paul Lindner**

Environmental Engineer and Life Cycle Assessment Expert, University of Stuttgart Department of Life Cycle Engineering

### **Nour Nour**

Executive Coordinator, Nature Conservation Egypt (NCE)

### **Dr. Mahmoud Hanafy**

Professor of Marine Biology at Suez Canal University

**The discussion will be opened by**

**H.E. Nicolas Galej**, Ambassador of France to the Arab Republic of Egypt

**H.E. Michael Bock**, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to the Arab Republic of Egypt

**H.E. Hisham Zaazou**, Egyptian Minister of Tourism

[www.cairoclimatetalks.net](http://www.cairoclimatetalks.net) ■ [www.institutfrancais-egypte.com](http://www.institutfrancais-egypte.com)

A buffet reception will close the evening ■ Please present a printed version of this invitation at the entrance ■ RSVP to [coordinator@cairoclimatetalks.net](mailto:coordinator@cairoclimatetalks.net)

