

# INNOVATING ADAPTATION THROUGH AGROECOLOGY

## SEKEM

### Egypt

SEKEM was founded in Egypt in 1977 as a comprehensive development initiative. The first entity to develop biodynamic farming in the country, SEKEM uses biodynamic approaches to revitalise desert land. It also supports the strengthening of diverse agricultural value chains by marketing organic products in Egypt and around the world. In 2018, SEKEM formulated its 40-year strategy, which is aligned to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the ten principles of agroecology adopted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).



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## AGROECOLOGICAL PRACTICES

- Restoring degraded land using biodynamic agricultural methods.
- Planting trees to promote carbon capture and storage.
- Managing water more sustainably, for example through 100% recycling of waste water, some of which is reused to irrigate tree plantations.
- Using renewable energy, and alternative fuels.

## IMPACTS

- SEKEM produces its own biodynamic compost, with a current capacity of approximately 11 tons per hectare.
- In 2018, SEKEM sequestered 4,333 tons of carbon through its afforestation activities, and a further 1,153 tons in soil carbon.
- SEKEM has helped reclaim 684 hectares of desert land – all of which is dedicated to biodynamic agriculture methods – and trained 477 small-scale farmers in biodynamic agriculture methods.
- SEKEM became climate positive in 2018.

## PERSPECTIVES

As part of its long-term vision (2018 to 2057), SEKEM aims to plant one million trees in the SEKEM-Wahat project in Bahariya region. This is expected to sequester a further 1920 tons of carbon in the soil, as well as 33,333 tons from trees.