

SEKEMsophia Symposium

Fact Sheet



SEKEMsophia Symposium - The Miracle in The Desert

SEKEM Farm

"I carry a vision deep within myself: in the midst of sand and desert, I see myself standing at a well drawing water. Carefully I plant trees, herbs and flowers and wet their roots with the precious drops. The cool well water attracts humans and animals to refresh and quicken themselves. Trees give shade, the land turns green, fragrant flowers bloom, insects, birds and butterflies show their devotion to Allah, the creator, as if they were reciting the first Sura of the Koran. The humans, perceiving the hidden praise of Allah, care for and see all that is created as a reflection of paradise on earth," Ibrahim Abouleish (1937 – 2017).

How did the vision of the SEKEM founder Dr. Ibrahim Abouleish become reality? How is this social innovation working and how does it affect people's lives? How can an efficient economy, a healthy social life and a living culture develop together? How can partnership between east and west build peace and prosperity?

To give you the opportunity to explore a sustainable community in the Egyptian desert, SEKEM offers a five-day hands-on experience, taking place at the SEKEM farm in Egypt. During this symposium, you will meet experts working in different fields in SEKEM to give you deep insights into the vision and how SEKEM's holistic approach is implemented in its daily working and community life. The program combines both theory and practice and will give you the opportunity to get familiar with all the dimensions of SEKEM's approach for sustainable development.



Dates of the next Symposium: 12. - 16. April (arrival/departure on the previous/following day)

Registration at: <https://goo.gl/forms/hVT6tf7QynLu85UM2>
For group reservations (more than 3) please contact us via email

If you have any questions, please get in touch with us!
narimeh.paepflow@sekem.com

Prices and Fees

Event Fee:

- 550 USD for OECD Countries (Europe, US, Canada etc.)
- 220 USD for non OECD Countries

Accommodation prices:

Guests	Price per room/night	Bathroom	Accommodation Type
1	75 USD	Private	Full board
2	122 USD	Private	Full board

Airport Transfer

46 USD one way

Special agreements:

If you are a student or in need of financial support, please contact us directly.

Board and Logging

If nothing else has been agreed on, you will be accommodated in the beautiful SEKEM guesthouse. Breakfast and dinner will be cared for in the hotel. For lunch you will join us in our cafeteria, where you will be served delicious egyptian food. All the tap water has drinking quality on the farm, outside we recommend only bottled water.

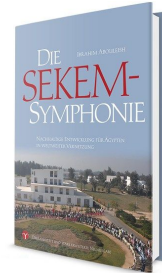
[Download Flyer in English](#) | [Download Flyer in German](#)



Information Material

If you want to attune to the SEKEMSophia Symposium we recommend you to look into the following reading material:

- "The SEKEM Symphony": An Encounter of the Orient and the Occident changes Egypt - book by Ibrahim Abouleish, the founder of SEKEM.
- Check out our homepage - <http://www.sekem.com> - and for latest events or developments check in particular the [SEKEM Newsletter](#).
- We recommend you to read our current [Sustainable Development Report](#).
- [Sekem initiative](#) on Youtube



The [SEKEM Shop](#) offers a broad variety of products from SEKEM in Europe.

What to bring

Clothing

To be able to choose the right set of clothes you should consider both the climate and the cultural peculiarities. Egypt can get colder in winter than you might expect. During daytime temperatures will be around 25°C and below 10°C in the night. So make sure to pack something warm. Furthermore, in accordance to egyptian culture you should always cover your shoulders, back and stomach and avoid very figure-accentuating clothes in general. These rules apply more to women than to men. Nonetheless men shouldn't be wearing shorts or other clothes that show much skin either. As we intend to do some physical work on the farm, please bring some working clothes and sturdy shoes.

One of our program points includes drawing and writing. So if you have your own material that you would like to use, bring it with you. All the rest is taken care of.

Entry Requirements and Airport Transfer

As entry requirements can vary for different countries please check if the following information are applying to you.

For the entry into Egypt your passport should be valid at least six months longer than you are planning to stay.

You can get your tourist visa upon arrival at the Cairo airport. It is available for the amount of 25 dollars or the equivalent in euros and must be paid in either one of these currencies. You will find the bank counter that sells the visas on the right side in front of the passport control. The visa is valid for 30 days and can be extended once you are here.



For further information and to avoid inconveniences due to sudden changes in entry regulations please take a look at the website of your Foreign Office.

Please make sure that we get your flight details so that we can arrange a driver for you. After finishing the immigration process you just have to walk out of the airport and you won't be able to miss the wooden sign saying SEKEM in welcoming orange letters. One hour later you will finally arrive at the farm.

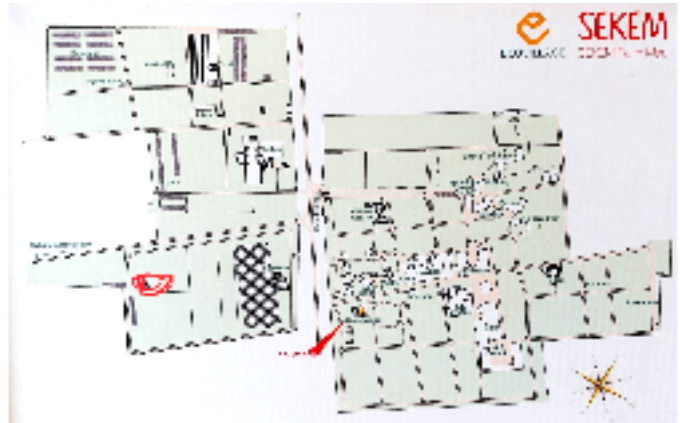
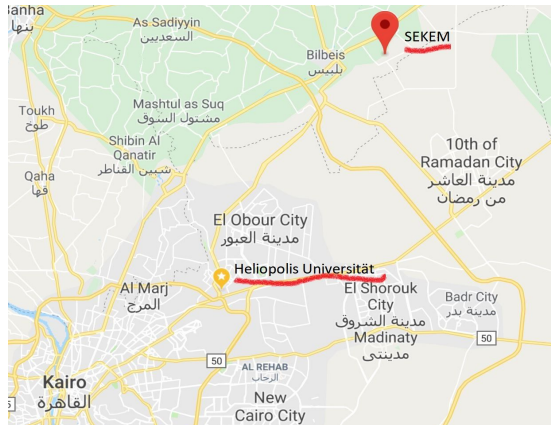
Payment

You can either pay in advance per bank transfer or pay in cash in the guest-house after your arrival. The guest house accepts Euros, Dollars and EGP. Please note that the guest house is not taking credit cards.

Bank Details					
Beneficiary	Bank	Bank Address	BIC	IBAN	
ATOS - SEKEM	GLS Gemeinschaftsbank	Bochum, Germany	GENODEM1 GLS	DE15 4306 0967 0063 0424 00	

Location

The Symposium takes place at the [SEKEM main Farm](#) and in the [Head Office/Heliopolis University](#) in Cairo.



The **red** arrow shows the Guesthouse and in the **red** circle is the location of the Palm House.

With joy we are looking forward to welcome you in SEKEM!