



PRESS RELEASE-GRECO INITIATIVE

GRECO INITIATIVE presents the first GRECO AWARD to SILA EDIBLE OIL

- **GRECO INITIATIVE** and a scientific committee of experts have selected SILA EDIBLE OIL among 100 companies implementing cleaner production techniques
- **Sila Edible Oil** has achieved around 445.000€ savings/per year with only an investment of 21.450 € with a pay back period around a month in a 75% of the cases.
- With the implementation of cleaner production techniques **Sila Edible Oil** reduced maintenance costs by 10%, water consumption by 46%, wastewater treatment requirements by 66% and boiler fuel by 48%.

Cairo, 28th May 2009. **GRECO INITIATIVE** has delivered the first GRECO AWARD to **Sila Edible Oil**, an Egyptian oil company, during the Global Forum on Green Industry. Prof. Anton Pizzuto, chairman of the scientific committee & Mrs. Luisa García Valdecasas, GRECO Manager, have been the responsible to present SILA EDIBLE OIL with the award. The winner has been selected among 100 companies after a screening process, and having obtained the best results on reducing the environmental impact of its industrial process at a minimum cost and maximum savings. Other finalists companies are First Textile (Turkey), Masa Décor (Spain), Herbos (Croatia), Zica Sarajevo (Bosnia Hercegovina), Batteries Nour (Tunisia), Hotel Caravan Serail (Tunisia), Baxter (Malta), Water & Sewage Utility (Bosnia & Hercegovina) and Croatian Electric Utility Company (Croatia).

Every successful case of cleaner production is part of the “Med Cleans” published by the CP/RAC, Regional Activity Centre for Cleaner Production.

SILA EDIBLE OIL

Sila Edible Oil is a soap and oil sector company which has used cleaner production processes obtaining from them not only environmental benefits but economic profitability. **Sila Edible Oil** has put into practice different measures of “green competitiveness” achieving high benefits and reducing maintenance costs that have supposed around 445.000€ savings/per year with only an investment of 21.450€. The pay back period has been in a 75% of the cases around a month. Maintenance costs were reduced by 10%, water consumption was reduced by 46%, wastewater treatment requirements were reduced by 66%, and boiler fuel consumption was reduced by 48%. With these measures the company achieved discharge compliance.

Sila Edible Oil has put into practice different measures and practices to optimize the process; the increasing of the use of recycled oil or the recovering of broken seeds gave the opportunity to produce extra oil as well as an extra production of meal.



GRECO INITIATIVE

GRECO INITIATIVE (Green Competitiveness Initiative) is an Initiative under the United Nations that aims to promote green competitiveness in the Mediterranean Region. Making green competitiveness involves a simultaneous improvement in profitability for business and the maximization of environmental benefits. The GRECO INITIATIVE was introduced at the Barcelona Convention by the former Spanish Minister of Environment, Cristina Narbona, in January of 2008, during the Fifteenth Conference of the Parties.

The objective is to encourage and commit the maximum possible number of companies to integrate the environment as a strategic element of profitability in a medium and long term, simultaneously pursuing the enhancement of economic and environmental benefits.

GRECO INITIATIVE is integrated in the Regional Activity Centre for Cleaner Production (CP / RAC), which has been part of the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) since 1996. The plan, under the auspices of the United Nations Program for Environment (UNEP), has the mission to promote models of sustainable consumption and production in the Mediterranean Region, focusing on Cleaner Production and the prevention of pollution (Barcelona Convention).

In these responsibilities and since 2008, the CP/ RAC added its appointment as Centre Nominated for the Stockholm Convention, which is responsible for the elimination of Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) to the environment.

The CP/RAC has developed various projects and programs in all Mediterranean countries, and has worked extensively in the prevention of pollution with a criteria of maximum profitability.

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