

The SEKEM Farm

A few weeks ago, our school was visited by a man named Helmy Abouleish, who is the son of the founder of SEKEM. But what is SEKEM actually?

SEKEM is an Egyptian ecological development community, that aims to transform the desert into many acres of fertile land. Mr Abouleish has a different point of view on certain things and prioritized creating a holistic and sustainable community. He also cares about the education and well-being of his farmers and workers.

Around fifty years ago, it all started with a small area of desert and a few peanut trees. So, everybody thought Ibrahim Abouleish, Helmy's father was slightly crazy. Even his decision to invest first in a tractor and a piano raised eyebrows. The latter investment was aimed at promoting creativity and bringing people together. The farm continued to grow and now the organization has more than 2000 members, as well as approximately 800 farms which work with SEKEM.

They created a sustainable water management system and produced vegetables and compost of the finest quality. SEKEM also breeds biological predators for natural pest control and thus reduces the usage of 45 tons of pesticides per year. Due to the fact, that they are part of the Demeter group, the association also cares about its sustainability, a holistic individual education and a fulfilled life for its members.

Mr Abouleish's presentation was very impressive and showed us that you can realize your dreams by taking action and not just talking about them.

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