

## Project Update: December 2009

The period from August 2009 until now is marked by the following activities:

- Training for medicinal plants collectors (Bedouin women) in how to reduce the negative impact on Sinai Baton Blue butterfly habitat during collection.
- Training on sustainable usage for nature resource (medicinal plants and water resources) for local community and tour guides
- Two presentations had been done for tourists in main desert camp.
- Public awareness campaign had been done for students and teachers in three schools within St Catherine city.

### Activities:

The project ran two training course during the last period.

1. Training for Bedouin women that collect the Sinai thyme and other medicinal plants on how to use the scientific way to collect the wild plants with minimum negative impact, the training had been run for 3 days to teach the Bedouin:-
  - ✓ The best way to collect the plants without uprooting them.
  - ✓ The appropriate time and season to collect the plant without degrading the habitat of the Sinai Baton Blue butterfly.
2. Training on sustainable usage for nature resources (medicinal plants and water resources) for local community and tour guides to reduce the negative impact of tourism and other related human activities on wild and threatened habitat.
3. Two presentations in the English language have been done for tourists in the main camp of St. Catherine city to increase the awareness about our target (Sinai Baton Blue Butterfly conservation) and to reduce the negative impact of tourism.
4. One workshop for prep school students for sharing in mitigation of the threats facing the butterfly.
5. In parallel with the activities mentioned above, the project Depend on SKP Visitor Center to distribute the public awareness materials (brochures, stickers and presentations) in two Languages (Arabic and English).
6. Scientific paper about the current status of the Sinai Baton Blue butterfly habitat has been prepared.
7. Regular visits to Sinai Baton Blue butterfly habitat to collect the meteorological data from the weather station that had been established there.



