



**E**gypt was among the first countries to join this program. Vice President Al Gore witnessed the GLOBE agreement signing between Egypt and the United States on March 20, 1995, in Cairo. To date, the Egyptian Ministry of Education has designated pilot schools throughout Egypt to participate in the GLOBE project: five in Cairo and one each in Alexandria, Damietta, Port Said, Assiut, Sohag, Luxor, and Aswan.

Egypt's experience is an excellent example of private and public sector cooperation for international environmental education. Private sector sponsors donated funds to purchase measurement equipment, computers, Internet connections, and to support teacher training at local and international workshops. These donors are Amoco, ORASCOM, IBM, CATECO, Microsoft, InTouch, El Pharma, AMERICANA Foods, Alexandria Business Association, and the Port Said Chamber of Commerce.

The first international event to include students from all over the world was the Helsinki Global Learning Expedition Workshop, June 29–July 5, 1998. From Egypt, four teachers and ten students (three girls and seven boys) representing schools in Cairo, Port Said, and Luxor attended this one-week workshop. Each GLOBE team prepared a special presentation: a scientific presentation on rainfall patterns (a GLOBE measurement activity) by the Port Said Experimental School; a special GLOBE home page designed by the Abbas El Aqqad School; and a dramatization of the importance of environmental conservation since the Pharaohs' times by students from four different GLOBE schools.

Noting the importance of these environmental studies for the younger generations, the U.S. Ambassador to Egypt hosted a preconference demonstration of the presentations. Attending the demonstration were several high-ranking Egyptian officials who also believe in the importance of environmental education (the Minister of Environmental Affairs; the Chairman of the Cabinet Decision Information Support Center—Egypt's most important information technology organization; and the First Undersecretary of Education), as well as the GLOBE country coordinator and GLOBE corporate sponsors.

*Teachers who have used GLOBE extol the benefits it brings to them and their students:*

The GLOBE program is a great benefit to students and teachers. Not only does it help us to learn more about our environment, but it also teaches us how to do something to protect our environment. The students feel good because they are helping the scientists to study and protect our environment. The GLOBE expeditions put us in contact with other GLOBE students from around the world to exchange experiences and to make new friends.

*Waseem Samy Gress*  
PORT SAID EXPERIMENTAL SCHOOL

For students, the GLOBE program helps them become familiar with using computers in general and the Internet in particular. It also helps them acquire the skills of taking scientific measurements accurately, recording them, and drawing conclusions from them. For teachers, it broadens the teachers' interests about science and the Internet. It also gives them the opportunity to exchange ideas with other teachers and scientists about environmental and global issues.

*Mohammed El Awadly*  
PORT SAID EXPERIMENTAL SCHOOL



Vice President Al Gore with Egyptian students.