

SDG 13 Observatory in
the Arab Region



ماعت للسلام والتنمية وحقوق الإنسان
Maat For Peace, Development, and Human Rights

Arab Youth Outstanding Efforts Toward Combating Climate Change



May. 2022



oman

Background:

In recent years, there has been a noticeable surge in the interest in climate change-related issues, especially among young people in the Arab world, which is a commendable move towards confronting this crisis that continues to aggravate at an alarming rate. With the rise in public awareness and young people's realization of the gravity of the global situation and the urgent need to find solutions to the growing environmental problems, young people could find opportunities and join the initiatives launched by civil society and international organizations in order to achieve sustainable development that ensures the protection of the planet for themselves and for future generations.

In the context of its deep interest in protecting human rights and promoting sustainable societies that preserve human life in a safe and good manner, Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights released the **fifth** issue of the SDG 13 Observatory in the Arab Region... "**Arab Youth: Outstanding Efforts to Combat Climate Change**" in order to track good practices as well as the challenges faced by Arab countries in achieving Goal 13 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The **Observatory** focuses on the actions and measures taken by Arab countries to address climate change and its effects, knowing that the observatory focuses on the targets specific to SDG 13, including; i) Strengthening resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries; ii) Integrating climate change measures into national policies, strategies, and planning; iii) Improving education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning.

The Observatory is divided into two axes; the first discusses the country focus of this issue, which has achieved remarkable success in implementing the targets of SDG13, whereas the second axis monitors the most prominent practices and challenges faced by the rest of the Arab countries in this regard.

Monitoring Methodology:

The **SDG 13 Observatory in the Arab Region** adopts a methodology of direct monitoring of previous publications in the Arab, Western and African media about government efforts to promote climate action. The observatory focused on a number of secondary research sources, open sources such as the Internet, and reliable news sites deeply interested in Arab countries and development paths in general.

The observatory also relies on information and data published by the Arab environment ministries on their official websites, and what was reported by electronic newspapers and written media about the efforts of the governments of Arab countries in achieving the SDG 13 as well as the challenges they faced in order to highlight them.

Targets of the SDG 13 Observatory in the Arab Region

The targets and indicators of the SDG 13 observatory varied according to the scientific agenda, but given the monthly nature of the observatory, it selectively addresses these targets. Therefore, **the observatory highlights the key targets of the SDG 13, which included;** First: Integrating measures related to climate change into policies, strategies and planning at the national level, second: enhancing resilience and resilience in the face of climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries, and enhancing resilience to those hazards, third: education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacities to mitigate Climate change, adaptation, mitigation and early warning.

It is noteworthy that the observatory included monitoring the extent of the success of the Arab countries in achieving these goals in particular, in order to focus on the indicators that can be measured in the short term, and then measure the extent of the success of the countries in achieving them. Given the observatory's one-month time scope, the measure of some indicators of achieving the objectives of SDG 13 requires a relatively long time span, one year or more.

Legal frameworks for SDG 13: Climate Action

The SDG 13 observatory depends on an international legal reference, which is the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change of 1993 (UNFCCC), and the extent of the commitment of Arab countries to this agreement in addition to the Arab strategies developed by the governments that come in light of this agreement, and finally, the national initiatives and programs carried out by the national organizations concerned with climate change issues.

First Axis: “Sultanate of Oman”

First: Overview of Oman's efforts to limit climate change

The Sultanate of Oman is working to achieve SDG 13, as its ninth five-year development plan (2016-2020) maintains a focus on promoting environmental sustainability and reducing environmental risks. The Sultanate has been able to reduce consumption rates of ozone-depleting substances to zero or to levels lower than those targeted by the Montreal Protocol. The Sultanate also seeks to avoid many potential effects of climate change on natural, economic and social systems by preparing to manage the risks of climate change through adopting measures and developing national strategies to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to those effects to confront potential risks in this regard.

Stressing the role of Oman in handling environmental issues and mitigating climate risks as well as its ongoing support for these efforts, it managed to achieve the following:

- The Sultanate's signature on international agreements related to climate change. The Sultanate signed the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in 1992

and ratified it by Royal Decree No. 94/119. It also ratified the Kyoto Protocol attached to the Convention by Royal Decree No. 107/2004.

- Issuance of Ministerial Resolution No. 41/2008 on the formation of the Project Steering Committee (PSC) for Coordination and Supervision of the Implementation of the Capacity Building Project in the Field of Climate Change implemented by the Ministry in cooperation with the United Nations Development Program, with the aim of preparing and publishing the Sultanate's first national communication report on climate change based on approved national studies and in accordance with guidelines Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.¹
- In 2018, the Ministry of Environment and Climate Affairs discussed the outcomes of the national strategy for adaptation and mitigation of climate change, and the repercussions that have impacted all aspects of life, and threaten the future of development, and discussed preparing models for climate impacts in accordance with international standards and methodologies adopted in this regard while building and strengthening national capacities. However, this strategy has not yet been adopted.

The government of Oman has made many efforts related to climate action and achieving the SDG 13, through a series of initiatives, competitions and activities as follows:

1. A Better Climate for A Green Future initiative:

This initiative aims to educate citizens and raise their awareness of the challenges of climate change and its grave repercussions on development sectors. It also aims to document efforts, initiatives and projects undertaken in the field of adaptation to climate change or mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions.²

2. The EcoHouse Design Competition (EHDC)

This competition, organized by the Scientific Research Council, aims to spread awareness of environmental issues related to resource rationalization, energy conservation, optimal use of environmental and natural resources, and the establishment of environmentally-friendly buildings. It also urges partnership and cooperation between academic, industrial and governmental institutions, in order to develop national policies to keep pace with international trends in combating climate change.³

3. Recycling and Transformation:

¹ البيئة العمانية، <https://bit.ly/3Q3rvCT>

² رؤية، "البيئة" تدشن مبادراتها الوطنية "مناخ أفضل.. لمستقبل أخضر"، ٢٣ يناير ٢٠١٨، <https://bit.ly/3GX8XEg>

³ مجلس البحث العلمي، مسابقة عمان لتصميم البيوت الصديقة للبيئة، <https://bit.ly/3zmRZ0A>

The Oman Environmental Services Holding Company (Bee'ah) carries out many recycling projects such as the “waste-to-energy-to-water” project, which treats approximately 2,200 tons per day of municipal solid waste, where the energy generated by recycling waste is used to operate the desalination plant that generates approximately 75 million cubic meters of potable water annually.

The company is also undertaking a biomechanical treatment project, which treats residual waste in order to reduce the environmental impact of landfilling residual waste. There is also a biogas project, which aims to produce biogas as a source of renewable energy from raw materials such as agricultural waste or municipal waste and others. It is used in cooking or in a gas engine to convert the energy in the gas into electricity and heat.⁴

4. Earthquake Monitoring Center (EMC)

This center was established in 2001 to record earthquakes locally, regionally and internationally. The center has employed information and communication technology to receive real-time data from remote seismic stations to analyze data, locate earthquakes and store the information in the seismological network database in the Sultanate.⁵

Second: Omani efforts to achieve the targets of the SDG 13 and promote climate action:

The Sultanate of Oman has made relentless efforts to effectively participate in the protection of the environment and its resources. Climate is an essential part of the environment; therefore, the Sultanate has taken several steps aimed at reducing climate change, which will in turn positively impact air pollution, water pollution and soil pollution. This section highlights the government's efforts to achieve the targets of SDG 13 in May, as follows:

Target (1) Integrating climate change measures into national policies, strategies, and planning

The Sultanate of Oman, represented by the Environment Agency, participated in the regional consultations of stakeholders in West Asian countries, as part of a series of regional consultations that precede the convening of the (Stockholm+50), an international meeting convened by the United Nations General Assembly to be held in Stockholm, under the theme “A healthy planet for the prosperity of all – our responsibility, our opportunity.” The Omani delegation confirmed During the consultations, the Sultanate of Oman has signed most of the relevant multilateral environmental agreements such as biodiversity and the Paris Agreement. Accession to international agreements is like covenants to be achieved through concerted

⁴ البوابة الرسمية للخدمات الحكومية، الهدف الثالث عشر: العمل المناخي، <https://bit.ly/3GTRYCO>
⁵ مرجع سابق

societal efforts, whether by civil society institutions, voluntary and civil teams, or individuals and companies, each according to its competence and capabilities.

It was pointed out that the Sultanate is one of the first countries to support trends aimed at finding the required balance in the relationship between nature and man and framing economic activity to ensure the sustainability and preservation of resources. Sustainable development goals have been ratified and adopted as a reference for development policies in the country in order to direct development policies and enhance the partnership between various sectors, which confirms the prominent role and the relevant efforts of public and private state institutions.⁶

Target (2) Strengthening resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries

In May 2022, the Sultanate of Oman was ranked among the **top five** Arab countries in the resilience index to face climate change, and ranked fifty-fourth (54) repetition globally, and ranked with the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Qatar and Kuwait as the best Arab countries in this indicator, which monitors the readiness of countries to adapt and withstand climate change phenomenon. People and assets in countries with low resilience are likely to be negatively impacted by climate change.⁷

Target (3) Improving education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning

The Omani government has launched a national competition aimed at promoting the improvement of education to mitigate climate change, given that innovation in higher education is one of the basic elements of the learning process, as the "**EcoHouse Design Competition (EHDC)**", which encourages the conversion of high –quality, costly buildings into sustainable social and economic products, depends on creativity.

Taking advantage of the Omani heritage in urban planning and architecture, the competition is based on promoting a culture of research and innovation that builds on the capabilities of individuals and national institutions in areas of sustainable development - from the use of alternative energy to the production of environmentally friendly materials. The Competition looks for partnership and cooperation between academic, industrial and government institutions, in order to develop national policies to keep pace with international trends and

⁶ البوابة الإعلامية سلطنة عمان، سلطنة عُمان تشارك في المشاورات الإقليمية لأصحاب المصلحة في دول غرب آسيا،

<http://omaninfo.om/topics/85/show/414594>

⁷ أثير، سلطنة عمان بين أفضل الدول مرونة في مواجهة تغير المناخ، ٢٢ مايو ٢٠٢٢، <https://bit.ly/3GWIZCf>

reduce climate change, which greatly **encourages supporting youth capabilities and implementing their environmentally friendly creative plans and ideas.**⁸

Axis Two: the achievement achieving SDG 13 in the Arab region

This axis reviews the status of the SDG 13 in the Arab countries, by identifying the most prominent governmental efforts that have been made to promote climate action during the past month, by classifying those efforts according to the objectives pursued by the observatory as follows.

Target (1) Integrating climate change measures into national policies, strategies, and planning

First: North Africa:

1. Egypt:

The Minister of Environment, Yasmine Fouad, discussed with Michele Quaroni, the Italian ambassador in Cairo, the bilateral cooperation between the two countries in the field of environment and preparations for hosting the upcoming COP27 climate change conference. The Minister of Environment emphasized the extended and constructive cooperation between the two countries in the fields of the environment, and the upcoming opportunities for cooperation, especially in light of a number of global events that will take place in the coming period in the field of environment and climate, including the COP27 climate conference, as the Italian ambassador stressed the importance of this event, which witnesses wide participation from the countries of the world, especially with Egypt's tireless efforts to advance environmental and climate action, and his country's willingness to share its experiences as a co-chair of the UN Climate Change Conference in Glasgow (COP26), and **the successful meetings carried out by Italy in the period prior to the conference and youth meetings that meet Egypt's interests in supporting youth capacities in climate action.**⁹

The Minister of Environment, Yasmine Fouad, also participated in the celebration organized by the Ministry of International Cooperation and the European Union, to sign a number of development funding grants within the framework of the Egyptian-European partnership, to support the state's development efforts in various sectors, namely rural and community development, administrative reform, local development, environment and health. The Minister of Environment emphasized that the Egyptian government was keen during the past years to reformulate the file of the environment and climate changes by providing an encouraging

⁸ مجلس البحث العلمي، مسابقة عمان لتصميم البيوت الصديقة للبيئة، <https://bit.ly/3zmRZ0A>
⁹ وزارة البيئة، وزيرة البيئة تبحث مع سفير إيطاليا بالقاهرة التعاون الثنائي في مجال البيئة واستضافة مصر لمؤتمر المناخ COP27، 9 مايو 2022، <https://bit.ly/3GWHPF1>

environment with a number of specific axes to make this climate available for use by all, as the institutional structures were reconfigured to integrate the environmental dimension into development sectors such as the National Council for National Changes. The laws and legislations related to the project being signed today were also reformulated, as the new waste management regulation law was approved, which was built on the philosophy of the circular economy to encourage sustainable consumption and production, which is one of the goals of sustainable development, and the executive regulations for this law were issued.¹⁰

Dr. Yasmine Fouad, Minister of Environment, Ministerial Coordinator and Envoy of the COP27 Climate Conference, met with the Ambassador of the Environment in France, Stéphane Crozat, in charge of negotiating climate change, to discuss Egypt's preparations to host the upcoming COP27 climate conference in Sharm El-Sheikh, and the joint cooperation between the two sides. Dr. Yasmine Fouad, Minister of Environment, praised the permanent cooperation between the Egyptian and French sides in a number of development fields, as the Minister of Environment expressed her aspiration for more joint cooperation during Egypt's presidency of the COP27 Climate Change Conference in Sharm El-Sheikh.

Fouad also stressed the importance of continuing cooperation to advance the climate action agenda and to build on the successes achieved from the outcomes of the Paris Agreement, as well as linking the topics of climate change and biodiversity, especially in light of the France Summit on biodiversity and oceans, which was held early this year and in the framework of the recommendations of the United Nations General Assembly 5 UNEA last February and the Ocean Conference to be held in Portugal next June.

The Minister of Environment, Yasmine Fouad, headed to the Danish capital, Copenhagen, as part of the official delegation to Egypt, headed by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, to attend the ministerial meeting held in Denmark from 12:13 May, in the presence of a delegation from the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Environment. "Yasmine Fouad" confirmed that the meeting is within the framework of informal consultations between the British Presidency of the Climate Conference Cop 26 and the Egyptian Presidency of the Climate Conference COP 27 on issues related to the issue of climate change, which includes topics of mitigation, adaptation, financing, losses, and damages related to the issue of climate.

The Minister of Environment added that the conference will be held in Denmark in the presence of nearly 50 ministers concerned with environmental affairs in the world, where meetings for ministerial consultations are held in the presence of the Egyptian delegation headed by the Minister of Foreign Affairs in his capacity as the designated president of the conference, the Minister of Environment in her capacity as the ministerial coordinator and

¹⁰وزارة البيئة، وزيرة البيئة تشارك في إحتفالية توقيع عدد من منح التمويل التمسوي في إطار الشراكة المصرية الأوروبية التي نظمتها وزارة التعاون الدولي، ٩ مايو ٢٠٢٢، <https://bit.ly/3xuT1q1>

envoy of the Climate Conference cop27, and a delegation from the Ministries of Environment and Foreign Affairs.¹¹

Yasmine Fouad, Minister of Environment, met Mariam Almheiri, Minister of Climate Change and Environment of the United Arab Emirates, on the sidelines of the ministerial meetings held in Denmark on climate change, which are being held under the co-chairmanship of Egypt as the next president of the Conference of Parties to Climate Change COP27 and Britain as the current chair of the Conference of Parties COP26. The meeting dealt with bilateral relations between Egypt and the UAE in the field of environment and climate action, and the current preparations to host the COP27 Conference of Parties in Egypt. The meeting also dealt with the role of youth in climate action and spreading awareness of climate change and its reduction.¹²

Yasmine Fouad, Minister of Environment, participated in the meeting of the delegation of US institutions working in the field of green energy investment (Green Tech) during her visit to Egypt, which was organized by the American Chamber of Commerce in Cairo, as part of Egypt's hosting of the COP 27 Climate Summit in Sharm El-Sheikh in November 2022. The mission includes representatives from the US Export Bank, the US Agency for International Development USAID, and a number of funding institutions and institutions working in the American green sector.¹³

Yasmine Fouad, Minister of Environment, Ministerial Coordinator, and Envoy of the COP27 Climate Conference, headed to the Maldives to participate in the launch of the informal consultations on the Glasgow-Sharm El-Sheikh Program of Action and the Global Goal on Adaptation to Climate Change, held from 16-17 May 2022 in the presence of Ibrahim Mohamed Saleh, the President of the Republic of Maldives and Ms. Patricia Espinosa, Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), and the world's environmental ministers. Yasmine Fouad confirmed the start of the workshop on the global goal of adaptation, which is inaugurated by the President of the Republic of Maldives and held at the level of ministers concerned with environmental affairs in the world to discuss the features of the global goal of adaptation, which is one of the outcomes of the Glasgow Conference and one of the reports that will be discussed at the Cop27 Climate Conference in Sharm El-Sheikh.¹⁴

¹¹ وزارة البيئة، وزيرة البيئة تلتقى وزيرة التغير المناخي والبيئة الإماراتية لبحث سبل التعاون في عدد من المجالات البيئية المختلفة، ١٣ مايو ٢٠٢٢،

<https://bit.ly/3tfgog6>

¹² وزارة البيئة، وزيرة البيئة تلتقى وزيرة التغير المناخي والبيئة الإماراتية لبحث سبل التعاون في عدد من المجالات البيئية المختلفة، ١٣ مايو ٢٠٢٢،

<https://bit.ly/3mgci87>

¹³ وزارة البيئة، وزيرة البيئة تشارك في لقاء غرفة التجارة الأمريكية بالقاهرة لوفد المؤسسات الأمريكية العاملة في مجال الاستثمار بالطاقة الخضراء «Green Tech»،

١٦ مايو ٢٠٢٢، <https://bit.ly/3NZZTRz>

¹⁴ وزارة البيئة، وزيرة البيئة تتوجه إلى المالديف للمشاركة في اطلاق المشاورات غير الرسمية حول برنامج عمل جلاسكو - شرم الشيخ، ١٦ مايو ٢٠٢٢،

<https://bit.ly/3O0MwXL>

The speech of "Yasmine Fouad", Minister of Environment, was during the event of launching the National Strategy for Climate Change in Egypt 2050 by "Mostafa Madbouly", Prime Minister and Chairman of the National Council for Climate Change, in the celebration organized by the Ministry of Environment, which serves as a road map to achieve the "third sub-goal of the Egypt's updated Vision 2030, which is "Facing the Challenges of Climate Change", as the strategy enables Egypt to plan and manage climate change at different levels in a way that supports the achievement of the country's desired economic and development goals, by following a flexible, low-emissions approach

The Minister of Environment, Yasmine Fouad, affirmed that the vision of the National Climate Change Strategy 2050 stems from the sustainable development strategy, as the view aims to improve the quality of life for citizens, improve sustainable economic growth and preserve natural resources, in addition to enhancing Egypt's leading role in dealing with all global developments, noting that climate change poses a threat to all aspects of life.¹⁵

The Minister of Environment, Yasmine Fouad, met with Ambroise Fayolle, Deputy Director of the European Investment Bank on Climate, and his accompanying delegation, to discuss ways of joint cooperation in the context of Egypt's preparations to host the upcoming COP27 climate conference. Yasmine Fouad reviewed the latest developments in Egypt's efforts in the climate file, including the completion of the National Climate Change Strategy 2050, as a comprehensive long-term strategy that reflects Egypt's vision in the climate file and national goals in the areas of mitigation, adaptation, financing, climate governance, technology, and scientific research, and takes into account the dimensions of sustainable development and the social aspects of the impacts of climate change, in addition to the completion of the update of the National Specific Contributions Strategy, in preparation for its announcement soon.¹⁶

The Minister of Environment, Yasmine Fouad, held a joint meeting with "Mohamed Maait" Minister of Finance, and "Rania Al-Mashat" Minister of International Cooperation, in the presence of Ambassador "Mohamed Nasr," Director of the Environment and Sustainable Development Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as part of the ongoing preparations to host the Climate Summit "COP 27" » in Sharm El-Sheikh next November, and discussing the activities expected to be held with multilateral and bilateral development partners and African Ministers of Finance and Environment next September, in preparation for the Climate Summit and the "Finance Day", which will be held on the sidelines of the Summit.

Dr. Yasmine Fouad, Minister of Environment, confirmed that Egypt, through its presidency of the upcoming COP 27 climate conference and the events leading up to the conference, aim to reach consensus on the needs of African countries in the climate change file, as well as

¹⁵وزارة البيئة، الدكتورة ياسمين فؤاد : استراتيجية مصر للمناخ ... نموذج للجمهورية الجديدة، ١٩ مايو ٢٠٢٢، <https://bit.ly/3tiEwTo>
¹⁶وزارة البيئة، وزيرة البيئة تؤكد على دور شركاء التنمية في دعم تنفيذ مشروعات الاستراتيجية الوطنية لتغير المناخ ٢٠٥٠، ١٩ مايو ٢٠٢٢، <https://bit.ly/3thbHGY>

accelerate the pace of work on providing climate finance, emphasizing the availability of existing finance within international organizations, and identifying innovative financing tools (debt swaps, green finance, and loans).¹⁷

Yasmine Fouad, Minister of Environment, participated in the session "Harnessing the Potential of Innovation and Reducing Environmental Impact - The Way Forward to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change COP27", which was held on the sidelines of the Accelerating Action for the Future Sustainable Clothing and Footwear Industry Conference, organized by the United Nations Economic Committee for Europe in cooperation with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization "UNIDO" to support its efforts to adopt sustainable business models. The conference discusses the challenges, opportunities, and ways to address the impact of climate on industry, in preparation for the Cop 27 conference to be held next November, with the participation of policy makers, key industry players, financial institutions, and international cooperation agencies.¹⁸

The Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities launched the "Towards Green Development of the Tourism Sector" project. This project is the first of its kind in Egypt, which aims to improve the performance and sustainability of tourism in line with Egypt's 2030 strategy. It is also a part of Egypt's preparations to host the COP 27 climate conference, reviewing five main outputs of the project to achieve green and environmentally friendly development in the tourism sector, which includes preparing a guide to the best environmentally friendly practices in the hotel sector to help increase the application of environmental measures that are easy to implement and ensure savings for those in charge of management. The Egyptian Portal for Sustainable Tourism was developed for the first time as an online tool for hospitality professionals, tourism experts, and the private sector, as well as the Egyptian Tourism Federation as key partners in integrating environmental protection with tourism activities.¹⁹

The Minister of Environment, Yasmine Fouad, participated in the session on the green industry, which will be held on the sidelines of the sixth edition of the "Egypt Can Industry" conference, organized by the Ministry of Immigration and Egyptians Expatriates Affairs, to review the Egyptian government's efforts towards shifting to green industries and addressing the effects of climate change, in addition to supporting new and renewed energy industries, stressing that the conference represents a window for Egypt's readiness to organize the "COP 27" conference on climate change.

The Minister of Environment explained during the session that the green industry means returning to nature and rationalizing the use of natural resources in a way that does not harm

¹⁷وزارة البيئة، اجتماع مشترك لوزراء البيئة والمالية والتعاون الدولي في إطار الاستعدادات الجارية لقمة المناخ، ٢٣ مايو ٢٠٢٢، <https://bit.ly/3QdX2GC>
¹⁸وزارة البيئة، وزيرة البيئة تشارك في مؤتمر منظمة اليونيدو حول تسريع العمل من أجل صناعة الملابس والأحذية المستدامة في المستقبل، ٢٥ مايو ٢٠٢٢، ٢٥

مايو ٢٠٢٢، <https://bit.ly/395vamm>
¹⁹وزارة البيئة، وزيرة البيئة والسياحة والآثار يطلقان مشروع "نحو التنمية الخضراء لقطاع السياحة"، ٢٨ مايو ٢٠٢٢، <https://bit.ly/3GRoUvP>

the environment, adding that the most influential sectors for climate change are industry, waste, petroleum, transport, and electricity, noting that the sectors most affecting emissions are the transport and electricity sectors. The Minister stressed the need to use resources efficiently and exploit renewable energy in all its forms, noting that the industry sector comes among the priorities in climate change issues, along with the transport and waste sectors, as Egypt's emissions are less than 1% of global emissions.²⁰

2. Libya:

Mohamed Al-Menfi, President of the Libyan Presidential Council, participated in the extraordinary summit of African heads of state and government in Equatorial Guinea. His speech was about the issue of migration and called on the exile to expedite the activation of the African Humanitarian Agency, which he deems sufficient and blocks any involvement in other programs to solve the migration problem in Africa, while supporting any initiatives that take place bilaterally between the countries of origin and between partners to address the root causes of migration, based on spatial development. Al-Menfi stressed the importance of finding a common vision that supports a new approach, based on the green economy, low-pollution development, and taking further steps to limit climate change.²¹

3. Morocco:

The Moroccan government inaugurated the Green Belt, a project that contributed to the elimination of a range of phenomena harmful to the environment and climate. The Green Belt in Guelmim is of paramount importance in the ecological balance of the city, as it constitutes a wall against a group of phenomena harmful to the environment such as sand encroachment, erosion, and impact on the water table. This project, updated since 2005, has contributed to eliminating a number of problems that the city has suffered from over the past years, including a random dumping area extending over an area of 200 hectares, which until recently constituted an environmental problem that disturbed the residents due to the emission of unpleasant odors and smoke resulting from rubbish burning.²²

With the aim of developing sustainable and more resilient agriculture, the Ministry of Agriculture seeks to continue and strengthen its efforts within the framework of the new strategy "Green Generation 2020-2030", through a set of measures aimed in particular at improving water efficiency through continuing irrigation and agricultural development programs as well as mobilizing non-traditional water resources ; encouraging the use of renewable energies in the agricultural sector (bio energy, solar energy) and encouraging farmers' transformation to the use of these energies; continuing tree planting programs,

²⁰وزارة البيئة، وزيرة البيئة: الصناعة الخضراء تعطي العوده للطبيعة و ترشيد استخدام الموارد الطبيعية بما لا يضر بالبيئة، ٣١ مايو ٢٠٢٢، <https://bit.ly/38Sf0xv>

²¹العين الإخبارية، ليبيا تدعو أفريقيا لتبني "حلول جزرية" للهجرة غير الشرعية، ٢٧ مايو ٢٠٢٢، <https://bit.ly/3NuXMFC>

²²الحزام الأخضر بكلميم .. مشروع ساهم في القضاء على مجموعة من الظواهر المضرة بالبيئة والمناخ، ٢٨ أبريل ٢٠٢٢، <https://bit.ly/3xnGHHG>

including varieties most suitable for arid areas; development of biological agriculture; promotion and dissemination of soil conservation technologies; continuation of the agricultural insurance program; adopt and disseminate green technology, develop agricultural digitization, and continue to mobilize climate finance for donors specialized in climate finance, especially through the Agricultural Development Agency's access to the financial resources of the Green Climate Fund and the Adaptation Fund.²³

The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Bank Al-Maghrib and the Professional Group of Moroccan Banks have strengthened their partnership to support the management of green climate, environmental and financial risks in Morocco. A statement by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development stated that, in this context, a memorandum of understanding was signed between the three institutions, aimed at providing support to banks for the implementation of the provisions of the directive issued by Bank Al-Maghrib in March 2021, which is related to the mechanism of managing financial risks related to climate and environmental change.²⁴

To support the joint efforts of African countries and to maintain the credibility and sustainability of climate action, the issue of building an African alliance in the fight against climate change has become an urgent necessity, especially since Morocco has made important strides in this direction with activating the role of the three climate committees in promoting resilience and adaptation within the continent. There are many factors that exacerbate the physical effects of climate change on Africa, foremost of which are the great demographic development, the fragile economic situation, and the absence of appropriate technological capabilities, which makes us assert that climate performance indicators do not enhance resilience and appropriate adaptation that allows Africa to face climate changes in a sustainable manner.

King Mohammed VI had launched several continental initiatives, especially the three climate committees for the Sahel, the Congo Basin and the island states, in order to embody measures that allow for strengthening adaptation and resilience on the continent in the face of this phenomenon. Here, building an African alliance to meet the challenges of climate change will come as a culmination of all these royal initiatives in order to ensure the unification of efforts to mobilize greater financial and logistical resources available on the continent to enhance its adaptation and resilience, whether at the level of the early warning system or at the level of commitment and interaction with various African partners.²⁵

4. Sudan:

²³ بيان اليوم، الفلاحة المغربية بين رهان الاستدامة وتحديات التغيرات المناخية، ٩ مايو ٢٠٢٢، <https://bit.ly/3x8IZdB>،
²⁴ البوابة الوطنية المغربية، توقيع مذكرة تفاهم لدعم البنوك في مجال المالية الخضراء وتبديد المخاطر المالية المرتبطة بالتغير المناخي والبيئي، ١٠ مايو ٢٠٢٢،

<https://bit.ly/3zgs0Yw>
²⁵ بيان اليوم، جهود مغربية متواصلة من أجل بناء تحالف إفريقي في مواجهة التغيرات المناخية، ٢٩ مايو ٢٠٢٢، <https://bit.ly/3NZxzyO>

The Supreme Council for Environment and Natural Resources concluded a contract with the Agricultural Research Authority, according to which the authority will implement twenty women's farms in the working states of the project to build resilience with climate changes in the agricultural and pastoral sector, with the aim of the farmer's contribution to providing alternatives to earning a living, increasing income and contributing to food security. Emphasis was placed on the importance of the awareness and guidance aspect of the improved varieties, the adoption of agricultural technical packages, and the training of beneficiaries on them to maximize the benefit.²⁶

5. Tunisia:

Tunisia needs funds worth 19.3 billion dollars until 2030 to implement its commitments to protect the climate, according to the official in charge of Tunisia's file in the United Nations Convention on Climate Change, Mohamed Zrelli. Local observers point out that the environment in Tunisia is paying the price of government neglect recorded during the past years, and the absence of an actual national strategy to confront the threat of climate change, and they are victims of financial and administrative corruption in sectors related to the environment, and the failure of ministries, specialized government departments, and the local government system to deal with the situation environment with a lot of firmness and seriousness.

The National Institute of Meteorology in Tunisia recorded an increase in the frequency of intense heat waves and precipitation during the same period, which makes the country highly vulnerable to climate change, and its future climate will be hotter and drier, with changes in the main seasonal rainfall.²⁷

The United Nations Development Program also announced that it had obtained \$2 million in funding from the Green Climate Fund, to implement an initiative with the Tunisian government aimed at promoting the inclusion of climate change risks in development plans and territorial preparation. The program, which extends over 3 years and includes various authorities, as well as local initiatives related to the cities of Tataouine and the Andalus Castle, will be implemented in the framework of close cooperation with the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Equipment and Housing.

The initiative is based on integrating climate risks into two tracks represented in economic and social plans and land development plans at the national and local levels. Tunisia ratified the Paris Climate Agreement in 2016, and submitted its initial contribution during the month of October 2021, which included goals related to mitigation and adaptation, with the aim of contributing to accelerating the global response to the dangers of climate change. The new

²⁶ المجلس الأعلى للبيئة والموارد الطبيعية، شراكة بين مجلس البيئة والبحوث الزراعية لإتشاء مزارع نموية في مواجهة التغيرات المناخية، ١٤ مايو ٢٠٢٢،

<https://www.facebook.com/hcencr>

²⁷العرب، تونس تواجه خطر التغير المناخي بالإهمال واللامبالاة، ٥ مايو ٢٠٢٢، <https://bit.ly/3Ns2cwT>

program aims to facilitate the setting of goals related to determining the contribution by the approved national body, in addition to giving a more practical dimension to the priorities in the field of adaptation.²⁸

The African Development Bank announced that Tunisia ranks 130th in the Global Climate Risk Index for the year 2021, and the impact of climate change is depleting water resources and causing loss of biodiversity, coastal degradation, and desertification.²⁹

Second: The Arab Gulf States:

1. Saudi Arabia:

Ahmed Al Khateeb - Minister of Tourism for Saudi Arabia, delivered at the 76th session of the United Nations General Assembly, stressing the need to accelerate climate action to ensure a sustainable future for the tourism sector. World leaders gathered for a high-level United Nations debate to discuss strategies and best practices that would place sustainable tourism at the centre of the sector's overall recovery in order to help achieve the United Nations' sustainable development goals.

In his address to the UN Member States and participants, Ahmed Al Khateeb focused on the poor capacity of the tourism sector to cope with the effects of severe weather events and health events in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic. Carbon dioxide emissions from the tourism sector are expected to increase by 25% by 2030 from 2016 levels. So, climate action activities need to be strengthened, and Saudi Arabia is intensifying efforts to achieve this.

2. Emirates:

The Ministry of Climate Change and Environment launched the "National Dialogue on Climate Ambition" initiative as part of its strategy to promote action efforts to pursue climate neutrality in the UAE. The initiative aims to raise ambition across all sectors and enhance its participation in achieving the goals of the UAE Strategic Initiative to pursue climate neutrality by 2050. The initiative will be active from May to September in a monthly meeting to discuss each sector's needs, requirements, priorities, and future directions. And enhance its participation in efforts to pursue climate neutrality with the decision-makers and stakeholders and the leadership of government stakeholders participation, ensuring the application of participatory design.

The UAE and India have signed a memorandum of understanding aimed at examining combat climate change through enhanced cooperation between the two countries and mutual support to meet the country's commitments in the 2015 Paris Climate Agreement. With the signing of the memorandum of understanding between the UAE and India to promote the fight against

²⁸تشمس أف أم، مخاطر تغير المناخ: برنامج الأمم المتحدة يعلن حصوله على مليوني دولار لمساعدة تونس، ٢٥ مايو ٢٠٢٢، <https://bit.ly/3mlrdxD>
²⁹ماب، تونس تحتل المرتبة ١٣٠ في مؤشر مخاطر المناخ العالمي لسنة ٢٠٢١، ٣١ مايو ٢٠٢٢، <https://bit.ly/3O1btvL>



climate change, government leaders and a group of business leaders in the two countries discussed opportunities for energy transmission, industrial growth, and carbon abandonment supported by climate solutions. Al Jaber and Yadav also discussed the UAE's hosting of the UN Climate Change Summit Cob28 and achieving the climate targets of both countries. The UAE plans to expand low-carbon energy capacity, while India seeks 450 GW through renewable energy sources by 2030.

HE Mariam bint Mohammed Saeed Hareb Almheiri, Minister of Climate Change and Environment stressed that all sectors and components of society should participate in the design and implementation of climate action efforts. And the transition towards sustainable economic development at both the national and global levels to ensure the achievement of the Paris Climate Agreement commitments, the objectives of the United Nations Framework Convention, and protect the future of humanity and the planet from the challenges posed by climate change; as Participating in the first day of the "May Climate Ministerial Meeting", held in the Danish capital of Copenhagen.

Third: The Levant Countries:

1. Iraq:

Severe drought and low rainfall during the winter season because pessimistic climatic forecasts for many of Iraq's vital sectors; especially on its affected agricultural side, the production of strategic agricultural crops, such as wheat and barley, has almost halved, and the prices per ton of these crops have doubled in recent months according to some official statistics.

Dust waves and dust storms that have been going on for weeks in most of the country's governorates have increased pessimistic climate forecasts. Sand storm surges demonstrate climatic conditions and their negative impacts on the country, besides the stalled political trajectory after the Government's formation, which was delayed for more than half a year. On Sunday, Iraq was affected by a sixth dust storm in a month, which led to the closure of Baghdad and Najaf international airports and the disruption of flights, an increasingly frequent phenomenon. According to the Iraqi Meteorological Service, dust clouds covered most of Iraq's southern areas, including the capital Baghdad, and are expected to last for a few days. The Baghdad Airport Administration announced that "air traffic was halted yesterday due to poor weather conditions and low visibility to less than 500 meters."

Target (2)

Strengthening resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries



First: North Africa:

1. Egypt:

Egypt participated through the Ministry of Environment as the host of the twenty-seventh Climate Change Summit COP27, the fifteenth World Forestry Conference, held from 2 to 6 May in the capital of South Korea, Seoul. It discussed the implications of deforestation and its impact on the issue of climate change and its effects on the world's indigenous communities. The Conference also discussed the role of Governments and people in the forests issue with the need for nature-based solutions, such as maintaining functional ecosystems in good environmental condition and enhancing the ecosystem's long-term management of human use and restoring or developing ecosystems.

On the margins of the ministerial meeting on climate change held in Denmark co-chaired by Egypt, the incoming President of the Conference of the Parties to Climate Change COP27, and the United Kingdom, the current President of COP26, Jasmine Fouad, Minister of Environment, met with Jennifer Morgan, German Minister of State for Environment and Special Envoy for International Climate Measures, to discuss cooperation between the two countries in many environmental areas.

The meeting addressed the possibility of cooperation between the parties in the area of early warning in the agriculture sector to help farmers predict the potential impacts of climate change. The meeting also included discussions on Egypt's willingness to organize COP27 and its preparations for updating nationally determined contributions.

Yasmine Fouad, the Environment Minister, met with Mami Mizutori of Japan, **Assistant Secretary-General and Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction, United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR)**, and discussed topics related to climate change. As part of Egypt's preparations to host COP 27 in Sharm el-Sheikh in the presence of Ms. Elena Panova, the UN Resident Coordinator in Egypt. During the meeting, the Minister of Environment stressed that they benefit from the outputs of COP 26 for climate change. It had many successful outcomes, such as the Paris Agreement implementation, and it opened many work programs such as adaptation to climate change and climate finance, which are among the most important topics for developing countries.

Yasmine Fouad, Minister of Environment and Ministerial Envoy of the forthcoming Climate Conference COP27 via Video Conference participated in the Road to COP27 session on the sidelines of the Future Investment Initiative Institute Conference in London, with the participation of former Italian Prime Minister Matteo Renzi and Ambassador Lord Jamie Grimstone, UK Minister.

Dr. Fouad emphasized the on-going communication between the Egyptian presidency of the forthcoming Climate Conference COP27 and the British Presidency of the Glasgow Climate

Conference COP26. She referred to the recent meeting between Ambassador Sameh Shoukry, President of the COP27 Climate Conference, and Alok Sharma, President of the Glasgow COP26 Conference and Environment Ministers, to examine mechanisms to advance climate action and build on the achievement of the Glasgow Conference. She also referred to aspirations to emerge from the Sharm el-Sheikh Climate Conference and the importance of completing work on two significant outputs for the Glasgow Climate Conference, COP26, and the preparation of the Global Adaptation Goal and the initial discussions of the new aggregate climate finance goal.

2. Libya:

An economic report on agricultural projects in countries in the North African region, including Libya, noted the climate change factors of record high scores and concerns about food security that made agricultural projects in the region's States more attentive than ever. According to the report, many previously fertile agricultural areas suffer from productive weaknesses due to high temperatures or water scarcity which photovoltaic projects can help restore their fertile conditions and produce electricity for water pumping and desalination. The report added that this would open the way for agriculture in difficult and desert areas, quoting the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) as emphasizing the three agricultural projects in this context, including one in Libya, to address food shortages.

According to statistics from the Ministry of Agriculture and beekeepers' associations in Libya, Libya's honey production exceeds 700 thousand tons per year, with various types of honey, such as "Siddur, affection, bitter, fennel and oak". Among those threats to the country's future honey production are the security and economic conditions that have adversely affected the profession of beekeepers in Libya and climate change in the world in general and Libya in particular.

3. Morocco:

Morocco looks forward to being on the list of leading countries in the green hydrogen sector, with the global trend towards clean energy to reduce climate change. This ambition is reinforced by the Kingdom's promising potential in renewable energy, amid expectations that it will not be limited to self-sufficiency but export to European markets.

Morocco is one of the countries working hard to eliminate fossil fuels and move towards clean energy, with its ambition to raise its dependence on renewable energies to 52% by 2030. Morocco is ranked fourth in the list of candidates to become a producer of green hydrogen by 2050, according to the International Renewable Energy Agency's "Irina" classification. The agency's report, entitled "Geopolitics of energy transformation, hydrogen factor" predicted that hydrogen expected to be produced from Morocco would cover about 12% of global energy use.

According to statistics from the Ministry of Agriculture and beekeepers' associations in Libya, Libya's honey production exceeds 700 thousand tons per year, with various types of honey, such as "Siddur, affection, bitter, fennel and oak". Among those threats to the country's future honey production are the security and economic conditions that have adversely affected the profession of beekeepers in Libya and climate change in the world in general and Libya in particular.

Second: The Arab Gulf States:

1. Saudi Arabia:

Dust blocked famous buildings in Saudi Arabia's capital, Riyadh, due to the sandstorm ravaging several countries in the Gulf for the second time in less than a week. Meteorologists warn of this phenomenon and the spread in several other countries due to climate change, which endangers human health

2. Kuwait:

The Kuwait Meteorological Department announced that May became one of the highest months of the year for the country's dust storms. But June was the month of dust storms over the past 50 years, signifying changing pattern and behaviour of climate events. May recorded dust storms of 30 days in 25 years and ranked third in the number of stuck dust cases, reaching 167 days during the same period.

The behaviour of climate phenomena has changed, and Dashti explained that June was the month of dust in the past 50 years, meaning there was a change in the pattern and behaviour of climate phenomena in recent years, leading to May with dust cases instead of June the hottest.

There is no national strategic plan to deal with climate change. There are separate plans among government actors, such as the Ministry of Works' contingency plan for the rainy season and the Ministry of Electricity and Water's summer season, and preparations that do not consider the sudden effects of climate change.

3. Yemen:

Yemen suffers from "absolute scarcity" of groundwater. The average per capita water share in Yemen is about 82 cubic meters per year, which is much lower than the average per capita water share in the Middle East and North Africa region. Yemen also suffers from scarce water sources, receiving a limited amount of rainwater ranging from 19 to 600 mm/year and having no rivers. Thus, overexploitation of groundwater resources to meet different water needs.

There are several reasons for Yemen's deteriorating groundwater situation, including the scarcity of water resources, increasing population growth, climate change, weak water

management, water infrastructure, overexploitation of groundwater, particularly as illegal drilling increases, the introduction of artesian wells drilling pumps, and qualitative deterioration.

4. Qatar

Qatar reaffirmed its commitment to disaster risk reduction based on clear plans, policies, coordinated efforts involving various state bodies, and support for relevant Arab and international projects and programs. The first ministerial meeting of ministers on disaster risk reduction in the Arab States, held at the headquarters of the League of Arab States in Cairo today, took the floor.

The Government intends to establish a special Ministry for Environment and Climate Change, focusing on addressing issues of environmental importance, ensuring the adoption of sustainable and climate-sensitive practices in all sectors, and overseeing the optimal implementation of the National Environment and Climate Change Strategy. It set ambitious targets to promote sustainability, including reducing GHG emissions by 25% versus normal by 2030.

Third: The Levant Countries

1. Jordan:

The Minister of Environment, Muawiya Al-Radaideh, attributed the increase in dust in Jordanian atmosphere in this time of year to the accelerated phenomenon of climate change in the world. The main cause for the dust is Khamsin wind, which comes in the spring and comes from northern Africa, south of the Mediterranean. Muawiya Al-Radaideh pointed out that the government warned the citizens to wear a mask and abide by it during this period, the government called for closing the windows and doors and reduce outdoors activities, especially for the elderly, respiratory patients and pregnant women.

Regarding the Ministry's efforts to maintain a clean atmosphere, Muawiya Al-Radaideh confirmed that the ministry confirmed that the ministry monitors air quality through 23 monitoring stations distributed all over the country. These stations contain devices help in measure the pollutants in the surrounding air. In addition to, two mobile lab to measure air quality in the Kingdom in emergence situations or through the approved program to operate these labs in all regions.³⁰

Jordan faces sever climate changes that negatively affect agricultural produce and therefore will put the water resources under pressure which is expected to increase in the upcoming

³⁰ الغد، وزير البيئة: زيادة الغبار في الأردن بسبب التغير المناخي، ١ مايو ٢٠٢٢ - <https://bit.ly/38TP2cZ>

years. According to World Bank report, climate change will increase the strain on food security and livelihoods for the poor and unvaccinated in Jordan³¹.

2. Syria

Syria is preparing for this year's fire season amid early fire warnings, due to the changes in the main weather factors affecting the fires including, heat, humidity and wind, their effect on plant and the impact of drought on forest brushes, according to the Forest and Fire Monitoring Platform.

The warnings were met with a wave of preparations by the Syrian regime's government in several governorates, including Dara'a, Latakia, Hama and others, where action was taken to prevent and manage fires if they occurred. A meeting was held at the Ministry of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform, at which it was discussed to strengthen early warning procedures and rely on the fire platform to identify the most fire-sensitive locations and take proactive action to avoid their reoccurrence.

The reasons Syria is affected by the fire season and high seriousness, The Syrian journalist Zahir Hashim, in his meeting with Enab Baladi explained that natural causes is the main reason behind climate change, considering that the Middle East is currently going through unusual phenomena called "climate extremism," such as irregular winter and very hot summer, which is the opposite of the temperate Mediterranean climate in the region, attributing the causes of this phenomenon to global climate change.³²

Fourth: East Africa

1. Somalia:

After four consecutive droughts, up to 17 million people suffer from food insecurity in three countries in the Horn of Africa. The most severe and worst suffering was manifested in Somalia. This was evident in the United Nations report issued at the end of May 2022, in which it stated that the worst was on the way, due to the "La Niña" phenomenon, which caused four consecutive unprecedented droughts throughout the region, which affected many areas, especially the pastoral areas in the north. Eastern and Central. In addition, it is noted that the region's most vulnerable to climate change often also suffer from poverty, poor governance and terrorist activity, among the 15 countries most exposed to climate risks, eight of them work for the UN peacekeeping mission, including in Somalia. As a result of this drought, more than 40% of the Somali population was at risk of starvation. In addition to the poor situation in the informal displacement camps around the capital Mogadishu, the towns of Baidoa in the southwest, and Dusamareb in the center. After presidential elections and a new government.

³¹ طالبة نيوز الإعلام الحر، البنك الدولي: التغير المناخي "سيشكل ضغطا كبيرا" على الأمن الغذائي في الأردن، ١٥ مايو ٢٠٢٢، <https://bit.ly/3NVt3B9>

³² عنب بلدي، حرائق متوقعة في سوريا يُشعل فتيلها تغير المناخ والإهمال، ٣١ مايو ٢٠٢٢، <https://www.enabbaladi.net/archives/577408>

This situation is considered a great pressure that could lead to an explosion of the situation, especially in light of the presence of the terrorist group Shabab Al Mujahideen.³³

Target (3)	Improved education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacities to mitigate climate change
------------	---

First: North Africa

1. Egypt

The Arab Office for Youth and the Environment held a workshop for media professionals and journalists interested in climate change issues, within the framework of the initiative "Baladna hosts Climate Summit 27", launched by the Office in partnership with a number of civil society organizations. During the workshop, a network of "Climate Media Professionals" was launched in support of the Egyptian State's efforts to prepare for the Climate Summit (COP-27). During the launch, it was stressed that the efforts of civil society are influential and important in the success of the climate summit (COP-27), to be held in Sharm el-Sheikh next November. All parties must join forces to support Egypt's preparations for hosting the summit. The city of peace shows the appearance that befits the Egyptian state before the world.³⁴

As part of the Ministry of Environment's participation in the Presidential Initiative (Hayat Karima), and following Yasmin Fouad, the Minister of Environment, instructions, the Central Delta Branch of the Environmental Affairs Agency in Central Delta in Tanta, through the management of waste, materials and hazardous waste, handed over (276) garbage collection containers that were donated by the Ministry of Environment to the Directorate Education in Gharbia Governorate to distribute it to schools in Zifti Center in order to prevent any accumulation of garbage and to help restore the civilized and aesthetic face of schools in Motobas Center in order to preserve the health of students in schools and the safety of the environment.

Within the framework of cooperation between the Environmental Affairs Agency in Tanta and the Directorate of Education in Menoufia Governorate, and in implementation of the cooperation protocol between them to raise environmental awareness among workers and students in the various stages of education, the Department of Environmental Information and Awareness in the branch carried out under the slogan "COP27" awareness seminars entitled (Climate Changes and Global Warming and Their Impact on Humans And the environment) at the headquarters of (Quesna Culture House) in Menofia Governorate, and at (Shafiq Ainer School) in the village of Mit Al-Nour, Zefta Center in Gharbia Governorate, and (Umm Al-

³³ المرصد المصري، الجفاف وأثره على استقرار الصومل، ٤ يونيو ٢٠٢٢، <https://bit.ly/3zIXgFE>
³⁴ الوطن، «إعلاميون من أجل المناخ».. استعدادات الشباب والبيئة لقمة (COP-27)، ١٧ مايو ٢٠٢٢، <https://bit.ly/3zsfCEG>

Momineen Secondary School) in Tanta in Gharbia Governorate, and the Martyr Captain Magdy Mahmoud Al-Qashash School (Quesna Secondary School for Girls) affiliated to the Quesna Education Department.³⁵

2. Morocco

The topic "Integrating climate change into the spatial planning process" was the focus of a meeting organized in Tetouan in partnership between the SADC Council, UNDP and the Centre of Competencies for Climate Change. The training meeting seeks to strengthen the capabilities of soil actors to integrate climate change into the spatial planning process, inventory greenhouse gas emissions, achieve energy yields, and diagnose soil vulnerability to change.

The recent session organized with the participation of Community officials and elected officials, aims to strengthen the capacity of the Tetouan Community's elected and technical team in preparing the Community's Program of Action 2023-2028 to update information and build the capacity of the Community's facilitators and planning teams to integrate systemic considerations of climate change into local policies.³⁶

The sixth international symposium on climate change, "Learning from the past for a sustainable future", was opened in Beni Mellal, with the participation of a number of researchers and experts in the field of renewable energies. A communiqué by Sultan Mulai Suleiman University of Beni Mellal stated that this symposium, whose events continue through video technology, until May 20, 2022, with the participation of more than 600 scientists from the five continents, serves as a platform for sharing the latest developments in climate change globally, with a view to accelerating the achievement of SDGs in this area.³⁷

Parallel with the record of major indicators of climate change, the greenhouse gas concentration, sea level rise, ocean temperature and ocean acidification to new record in 2021. This shed light on the work of the fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the UNCCD, held in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire. A historic summit that gave birth to a common global commitment to strengthen drought control capacity and invest in land rehabilitation for future prosperity, over the course of a fortnight. This conference, whose work touched on the future of land management, saw Participation of approximately 7,000 participants, including Heads of State, Ministers and representatives of 196 Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification s rights ", including Morocco and the EU, as well as actors in the private sector, civil society and women, youth leaders, as well as the media.

In conclusion, the Prime Minister of Côte d'Ivoire, Patrick Achi, emphasized that: "Every generation faces this thorny issue of how to respond to the production needs of our

³⁵ الوطن، «إعلاميون من أجل المناخ».. استعدادات الشباب والبيئة لقمة (COP-27)، 17 مايو 2022، <https://bit.ly/3zsfCEG>
³⁶ MapTanger، إدماج التغير المناخي في عملية التخطيط المجالي محور لقاء بنظوان، 11 مايو 2022، <https://bit.ly/39556sz>
³⁷ Mapecology، بني ملال: افتتاح فعاليات ندوة دولية حول التغيرات المناخية، 16 مايو 2022، <https://bit.ly/3Q5Q5aM>

communities without destroying forests and our lands, and therefore the future of those we seek".³⁸

3. Algeria

The Algerian Ministry of Environment organized a training program for customs agents on the operation of refrigerated gas detectors consisting of Stabilized Aqueous Ozone (SAO). The training day falls within the framework of the implementation of the Vienna Convention and the Montreal Protocol, as it is necessary to strengthen the training of customs officials on illegal trade in Ozone-depleting substances, highlighting the efforts made by Algeria to fulfill its obligations towards this legal mechanism. They represent the front line in discovering and preventing this crime.³⁹

4. Sudan

The Supreme Council for Environment and Natural Resources launched the inaugural workshop for a capacity building project to implement the transparency clause of the Paris Agreement in cooperation with the UNDP at the Salam Rotana Hotel. Mona Ali Mohamed Ahmed, Secretary-General of the Supreme Council for Environment and Natural Resources, said during her address to the opening session of the workshop that the goal of the project is how to build capacities as well as to assist state institutions in developing human resource capabilities, noting that the project is important and large and covers all states of Sudan and is concerned with all institutions and ministries.

She added that the inaugural workshop for the capacity-building project in the field of transparency, which is Article (13) of the Paris Agreement, which is concerned with sending reports in the field of desertification, gases, adaptation to climate changes, making a living and providing transparent and clear information to mitigate climate impacts, which reflects the development of the country and its response to climate changes, which requires training of Sudanese capabilities in various fields.⁴⁰

Third: Arab Gulf Countries

1. Saudi

The Ministry of Environment, Water and Agriculture, in cooperation with the Sustainable Agricultural Rural Development Program (Reef), the Beekeepers Cooperative Society in Al-Baha, and the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), held a workshop in Riyadh on the occasion of the celebration of World Bee Day, under the slogan (We are committed to protecting bees). A number of experts and specialists in the field of bees, from inside and outside the Kingdom, participated in the workshop, by providing highlights about the occasion

³⁸ بيان اليوم، أرقام قياسية لمؤشرات تغير المناخ تعزز المطالب الملح للعمل من أجل مكافحة الجفاف وتدهور الأراضي، ٢٢ مايو ٢٠٢٢، <https://bit.ly/3xiUCir>

³⁹ وزارة البيئة، تنظيم برنامج تدريبي لصالح أعوان #الجمارك حول تشغيل أجهزة الكشف عن #الغازات المبردة المكونة من مواد مستفدة لطبقة #الأوزون (SAO)، ١١ مايو ٢٠٢٢، <https://bit.ly/3thhTyC>

⁴⁰ وكالة السودان للآباء، المجلس الأعلى للبيئة ي دشّن مشروع بناء القدرات، ٢٥ مايو ٢٠٢٢، <https://bit.ly/3tgQEEu>



and the importance of caring for bees. The focus was also on the impact of climate change on beekeeping.⁴¹

2. UAE

The Arab Youth Center announced the launch of its first-of-its-kind training program “The Training Forum of the Arab Youth Council on Climate Change” with the participation of members of its Arab Youth Council for Climate Change, in preparation for the Arab region to host the global climate summits “COP27” and “COP28” in the current and next year in Egypt and the UAE Successively. In conjunction with introducing the climate-neutral strategies developed by the countries of the region for the coming decades.

The first-of-its-kind program organized by the Center under the patronage of Sheikh Mansour bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Presidential Affairs, and President of the Arab Youth Center offers a special invitation to a number of Arab and international dignitaries in the field of climate action and sustainability to share their experiences and expertise in the first training week organized by « The Arab Youth Council for Climate Change” from 22 to 29 May 2022 at the headquarters of the Creative Center in Dubai in order to enhance the skills of specialists as Arab leaders in the field of climate change⁴².

One the most important outcomes of this training forum; The Arab Youth Center announced the launching of the Youth Climate Action Network aimed at engaging Arab youth from various disciplines in activities and programs to confront climate change and achieve sustainability, in conjunction with the Arab region’s preparations for the upcoming global climate summits “COP27” and “COP28” in Egypt and the UAE.⁴³

Anwar Gargash Diplomatic Academy, the leading UAE center specialized in diplomatic training, and in cooperation with the Office of the UAE Special Envoy for Climate Change, launched a capacity-building training program with the aim of enriching knowledge, information and skills needed in the field of climate action. Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change “COP28” in 2023 in Abu Dhabi. The training program will be available to senior government officials, corporate executives, diplomats, negotiators and advisors, and will focus on the fundamentals of climate change and regional climate priorities, climate diplomacy, energy transition, and the UAE's Climate Neutral Strategic Initiative 2050.

⁴¹ وزارة البيئة والمياه والزراعة، "البيئة" تحتفي بيوم النحل العالمي بورشة عمل ومعرض لإبراز جهودها في حمايته والحفاظ عليه، ١٨ مايو ٢٠٢٢،

<https://bit.ly/3av1LDs>

⁴² الروية، إطلاق الملتقى التدريبي لمجلس الشباب العربي للتغير المناخي، ٢٥ مايو ٢٠٢٢، <https://bit.ly/3GSQoKo>

⁴³ الخليج، مركز الشباب العربي يطلق شبكة العمل المناخي، ٣٠ مايو ٢٠٢٢، <https://bit.ly/3x96RN5>



Third: The Levant Countries

1. Jordan

The Ministers of Environment, Muawiya Al-Radaideh, and Energy and Mineral Resources, Saleh Al-Kharabsheh, inaugurated the activities of the third dialogue workshop with the private sector to promote the environment for investment in climate action, which is being held by the Ministry of Environment in cooperation with the Global Green Growth Institute GGGI, as part of the Readiness Project funded by the Green Climate Fund, with the aim of Enhancing the enabling environment for private sector investment in the field of climate action.

The Minister of Environment noted the importance of holding this dialogue workshop, which aims to discuss the challenges faced by the private sector in climate action in the field of renewable energy and energy efficiency and the sector's needs in this field, stressing the importance of the role played by the Ministry of Environment, specifically with regard to developing adaptation and mitigation measures. With climate change at the national level, and in line with the desired reduction goal mentioned in the Nationally Determined Contributions document, in its updated version that has been developed and modified to reach the goal of reducing the 31%, knowing that Jordan's commitment will be 5%, and the rest of the percentage can be achieved with international support Pointing out that this is a clear evidence of Jordan's commitment, at all global and national levels, to put a distinctive imprint on it in addressing this phenomenon.⁴⁴

2. Iraq

During June, UNICEF is holding a conference on "The Impact of Climate Change on Children and Youth" in Iraq, which seeks to understand what climate change means to society. What are its implications, large or small, and how climate change affects children, youth and society generally. this forum looks forward to opening a dialogue to discuss actions being taken by society, government, donors, civil society and other key stakeholders.

The conference to look to the future, and build on today's actions to plan the measures that must be taken in order to mitigate the effects of climate change and its impact on the future of children and youth in Iraq. UNICEF aims to maintain the momentum of holding such events, build on the results, challenges and lessons learned for future collaboration, and mitigate impacts by working with local and international partners.⁴⁵

⁴⁴وزارة البيئة المملكة الاردنية الهاشمية، ووزير البيئة و الطاقة و الثروة المعدنية يفتتحان الورشة الحوارية الثالثة مع القطاع الخاص لتعزيز البيئة للاستثمار في العمل المناخي، <https://bit.ly/3tkxvS9>

⁴⁵يونيسيف العراق، <https://uni.cf/3NWIVDz>

Fourth: East Africa:

1) Djibouti:

The Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development held a workshop dedicated to launching the project of preparing the First Biennial Update Report (FBUR) on Climate Change (CC). The workshop, chaired by the Ministry's Secretary-General, Deni Abdullah Omar, was attended by the Ministry's cadres and members of the National Committee on Combating Climate Change. The objective of this project is to help the country prepare its FBUR, to be submitted to the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.⁴⁶

Djibouti participated in the 15th session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (COP-15). The president pointed out in his speech that semi-arid and arid countries such as Djibouti are the most affected by the repercussions of climate change, given the lack of rain and the high temperatures and intense evaporation, which exposes the country to desertification and increasing drought, and thus prevents the recovery of nomadic population from desertification and drought.⁴⁷

Suggestions and recommendations:

Within the framework of what was included during this observatory of good practices carried out by the governments of Arab countries, especially with regard to encouraging young people and supporting their efforts in facing climate change challenges, Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights can formulate recommendations as follows in the hope of completing Arab development efforts in the field of climate action and facing all the challenges that hinder its course.

First: Maat for Peace emphasizes the need for the governments of the Arab state to direct their efforts towards launching national programs and initiatives aimed at **involving youth in implementing national strategies to limit climate change**, and to encourage youth projects and organizations that work to adapt to climate changes.

Second: Maat realizes the importance and role of youth in relation to climate change issues, and recommends Arab civil society organizations to **encourage and hold youth forums and a workshop aimed at giving young people an opportunity to propose solutions to the climate change crisis**, and to submit those recommendations to the decision-making authorities.

⁴⁶ جريدة القرن، البيئة تقيم ورشة عمل لإطلاق مشروع إعداد أول تقرير محدث كل سنتين عن تغير المناخ، ١٦ مايو ٢٠٢٢، <https://bit.ly/3Q3EUiv>

⁴⁷ جريدة القرن، رئيس الجمهورية يعود إلى البلاد عقب مشاركته في مؤتمر (كوب-١٥) في ساحل العاج، ١٦ مايو ٢٠٢٢،

<https://www.alqarn.dj/news/10158>

Third: In light of the effectiveness of media awareness campaigns aimed at limiting the phenomenon of climate change by modifying human behavior, Maat recommends that media institutions and civil society organizations concerned with the climate crisis need **to work jointly in order to intensify awareness campaigns**, and to conduct workshops and training. Maat also indicates the necessity of **activating the role of these awareness campaigns in the Arab conflict areas in particular**, where most of the peoples of those regions believe that awareness campaigns to limit climate change are a luxury in relation to other crises such as war.

Fourth: The governments of Arab countries should work on **organizing events that bring together youth and other stakeholders**, ranging from government agencies and civil society organizations to private sector companies concerned with climate issues, in order to give young people a sense of participation and responsibility in decision-making.

Fifth: International donor organizations should **direct financial and technical support to Arab youth to encourage innovation and technological solutions to reduce environmental problems**, as well as activate and promote them in society.