



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.

PROJECT DOCUMENT

Regional Project

Title: “SDG Climate Facility: Climate Action for Human Security”

UNDP Project Number: 00111749 / **SIDA Project Number:** 12054

Executing Agency: UNDP

Other Partners: LAS, AWC, UNEP-FI, UN-Habitat, UNISDR, WFP

Start Date: January 2019 **End Date:** December 2022 **PAC Meeting date:** 21 May 2019

Brief Description

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and the Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction highlight that for development to be sustainable it must become resilient to growing risks from climate change and climatic disasters. This is a critical agenda in the Arab region, which already stands as the world’s most water scarce and food import dependent region, and with temperatures rising faster than the global average. Climate change has emerged as one of the most complex and important phenomena exacerbating poverty and human insecurity in the Arab region. In catalyzing greater levels of water insecurity, reduced agricultural productivity, and fragility of land and ecosystem services, climate change is now generating social vulnerability, exacerbating conflict and triggering displacement in the region. Most of the conflict affected contexts in the region are also some of the world’s top climate risk hotspots, with climate-resilient approaches to development increasingly important from both crisis prevention and recovery perspectives.

Focused on the nexus between climate action and human security, the programme seeks to enhance the capacity of regional and national institutions to effectively take climate action in a way that brings benefits across SDGs and for crisis prevention/recovery efforts, at both national and sub-national levels including support to scale-up climate finance for innovative local solutions. In doing so, the programme brings together multi-lateral institutions in the region such as the League of Arab States (LAS) and the Arab Water Council (AWC), and leading UN system partners active on climate actions in the region, including the UN Development Programme (UNDP), the UN Environment Finance Initiative (UNEP-FI), the UN Human Settlement Programme (UN-Habitat), the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR), and the World Food Programme (WFP).

Through joint actions, the programme would address two main priorities in the region that have been identified during the formulation process - to promote more integrated solutions for climate action that brings benefits across SDGs and for crisis prevention/recovery goals, taking consideration the local contexts and to scale up local partnerships and finance to this end. Through a combination of regional dialogues and technical assistance at the regional level, and innovation grants at the country level, the programme would generate three key outcomes:

Outcome 1: Increased awareness and understanding at the regional level of the benefits of a nexus approach to climate action for achieving benefits across the SDGs and for crisis prevention/recovery goals

Outcome 2: Enhanced access to analysis, tools and strategies at regional level to support nexus approach to advancing climate action across the SDGs and for crisis prevention/recovery goals

Outcome 3: Strengthened national and local capacities to effectively integrate climate change considerations into development and crisis prevention/recovery policies and to scale-up climate finance

The programme will focus on the following countries to develop local capacity, deploy integrated solutions and support scale-up of climate financing:

- Yemen, Syria, Palestinian Territories, Lebanon, Jordan and Iraq (solar solutions)
- Iraq, Egypt and Tunisia (climate fragility)

Contributing Outcome (UNDP Regional Programme Document): Outcome 1 Growth and development are inclusive and sustainable, incorporating productive capacities that create employment and livelihoods for the poor and excluded

Indicative Output(s) with gender marker: 1.3.1 and 1.4.1 on regional capacities for climate-resilient use of natural resources, enabling climate change adaptation and mitigation, and integrating of climate risks into crisis prevention and recovery (GEN2)

Total resources required:		\$7,194,856
Total resource allocated	SIDA	\$6,594,856
	UNDP	\$600,000

Agreed by (signatures):


UNDP
 Khaled Abdelshafi Director, Regional Hub for Arab States, RBAS
Date: 29 May 2019

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Table of Contents.....	2
I. Development Challenge.....	3
Theory of change	
Climate change as a driver of poverty and human insecurity	
Reduced agricultural productivity and food security	
Increasing levels of water insecurity	
Growing fragility of land and ecosystems	
Closing the solar gap to empower communities	
II. Strategy.....	7
Regional priorities for 2030: Managing complexity, building resilience	
Country level action: Bottom-up innovation and scaling up finance	
Project objectives and activities	
Climate action in fragile and crisis contexts	
Climate justice: Inequality and a human-rights based approach	
Gender mainstreaming and women’s empowerment	
III. Results and Partnerships.....	14
IV. Project Management.....	34
V. Results Framework.....	35
VI. Monitoring and Evaluation.....	41
VII. Multi-Year Workplan.....	44
VIII. Governance and Management Arrangements.....	44
IX. Legal Context.....	48
X. Annexes.....	51
Annex I. Social and Environmental Screening	
Annex II. Risk Analysis	
Annex III. Nationally Determined Contributions to the Paris Agreement	
Annex IV. Multi-Year Workplan/Budget	

I. DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGE

Theory of Change

The design of the programme benefited from a theory of change exercise undertaken by UNDP in 2017, by which key development challenges and programmatic solutions were jointly identified. This was driven by analysis and reflection on the causes of development challenges, based on available evidence and learning on what works and what does not in the diverse and crisis-affected contexts which characterize the Arab region, drawn from experiences of the regional bodies, UN and development agencies, country partners and civil society organizations. The process helped identify solutions to effectively address the causes of problems that hinder progress, and guide decisions on which approaches should be taken in the programme, considering the comparative advantages of the partners to the initiative, effectiveness and feasibility of proposed activities, and various risks that are part of any change process. Based on an analysis of challenges and root causes, a set of solutions have been developed which serve as the core set of outputs and activities under this programme. A summary of the theory of change for the programme is seen below.

Climate change as a driver of poverty and human insecurity

Through the programme development process, poverty and human insecurity were identified as an overarching development challenge in the Arab region, with climate change identified as a top contributing challenge. The nexus between climate action and human security is thus the overarching theme of the programme. As elaborated through data and trend analyses in the theory of change process, climate change has emerged one of the most complex and important phenomena exacerbating poverty and human insecurity in the Arab region. In catalyzing greater levels of water insecurity, reduced agricultural productivity, and fragility of land and ecosystem services, climate change is now generating social vulnerability, exacerbating conflict and triggering displacement in the region. Growing risks to food, water and ecosystem services in the natural sphere (drought, ground water scarcity, land degradation) and in the social sphere (poverty, social instability, displacement) are being exacerbated by rising temperatures and increased climate variability.

The nexus of climate action to poverty and human security has gained prominence in recent years, as countries seek to ensure that scaled up climate action under the Paris Agreement on climate change can help achieve results across the SDGs and build resilience to crisis. This was reflected in the most recent 5th Assessment Report (AR5) of the Inter-Governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) issued on road to the Paris Agreement. AR5 included for the first time a dedicated chapter on climate change and human security, elaborating risks to social vulnerability, conflict and displacement. It noted how climate change has emerged as a threat multiplier and exacerbating factor in the onset of conflict and displacement, as extreme events, rising sea levels, and fragility of ecosystems are expected to trigger a new wave of forced migrants, internal and cross-border, in coming years.

This reflects a growing consensus that climate change is no longer just a global environmental phenomenon, but is also a major development challenge and a growing threat to peace and security.¹ “Reduced access to water and extreme weather events negatively affect food security and undermine the livelihoods of vulnerable households and communities. Growing natural resource scarcity may then lead to local competition which becomes unmanageable in the absence of institutions for conflict resolution. Fragile states and communities with a history of conflict are the most vulnerable. Migration that is influenced by climate-related events is predominantly domestic”...”But climate-related effects will grow in magnitude with consequences in space and time that are difficult to predict.”²

Forging this nexus of climate action to poverty reduction and human security is particularly important for the Arab region – the only region to have witnessed a significant rise in poverty levels in recent years, alongside one of the most dramatic escalations of conflict and displacement in modern history. Climate change is playing an exacerbating force in these trends, and unless actions are taken to build resilience to climate change, it will emerge as an important barrier to recover from crisis, resume development pathways, and achieve the SDGs by 2030. For example, studies now

¹ See SIDA (2018) “The Relationship between Climate Change and Conflict”, SIDA, Stockholm.

² Ibid, at 4.

show that the recent waves of droughts affecting the region from 2007-2017 have been exacerbated by climate change and have been among the most severe in the past one thousand years, emerging as one exacerbating factor in the rise of resource insecurity and internal displacement trends in recent times.

Regards climate impact on resource security and livelihoods, the Arab region is already world's most water-scarce, food-import dependent region, and with temperatures in the region rising faster than the global average, climate change could well push people back into poverty, disrupt development pathways and threaten the achievement of various SDGs. The region could see temperatures rise of 2°C by 2030 and 4°C by 2100. AR5 models indicate that food and water productivity may decline a further 20% in the Arab region as climate impacts amplify by 2050 and beyond. Meanwhile, while hosting the world's largest levels of solar radiation, only 7% of power in the region today is from renewable energy, a lost opportunity for building resilience of communities, through greater energy independence and reducing the fiscal strain from imported fossil fuel.

Reduced agricultural productivity and food security

Regards food security, the region is already the world's largest net importer of cereal, more prone than other regions to climate change. From 1990-2015 cereal yields increased only 15% in the region, while it rose 25% worldwide. The region has a net cereal import of approximately 58.2 million metric tons, with more than 50% of caloric intake already dependent on imports. The Arab region is the first where grain production has peaked, while import dependence may increase 64% by 2030 if trends continue, moving to 84 million metric tons by 2030.

Agricultural yields, especially in rain-fed areas, are expected to fluctuate more widely over time and lead to lower long-term averages. Some estimate that for the Arab region as a whole, agricultural output could decrease 21% in value terms by 2080, with up to 40% decrease in parts of North Africa. In countries dependent on subsistence agriculture, climate change could lead to crop failures and could contribute to future events of malnutrition and famine. Recent years have seen record temperatures and serious impacts of droughts on production of various crops. Food security emerged as a key driver of Arab instability in the lead up to the revolutions in 2011, with the combination of unemployment, surging food prices and inflation exacerbating calls for reform. Statistics showed well in advance of the 2011 events that an excessive proportion of household incomes in many Arab countries, more than 35% in countries like Tunisia and Egypt, were allocated to purchase of food items. These types of events are expected to multiply as climate change takes on greater force during the course of the 21st century, with more frequent droughts expected to trigger even greater levels of internal and cross-border displacement.

While increasing incomes and purchasing power of the poor remains the best way of combating food insecurity, more specific pro-poor strategies tailored to the local context are needed to enhance food security, including enhanced social safety nets and increased agricultural productivity which adapts to climate change. Cash transfer programmes have also been a critical response, with Governments in some countries providing direct cash support to the poor to buffer rising costs of food and thereby minimize social instability. Social safety nets are also needed to buffer the poor from price shocks, with the poor in the region spending 35-65% of income on food. Another major means of enhancing food security is the expansion of public and private investments into agricultural productivity and adaptation to climate change.

Growing levels of water insecurity

Water security is also being critically affected by climate change. The Arab region receives rainfall well below the world average with the average person accessing just one-eighth the renewable water that the average global citizen enjoys and with 14 of the world's 20 most water-stressed countries in the Arab region. With more than 5 per cent of the world's population and about 10% of its area, the region receives only 2.1% of average annual precipitation and contains 1.2% of annual renewable water resources. Renewable groundwater supplies are limited, and non-renewable supplies are threatened by unsustainable use patterns. Meanwhile, water demand in the Arab region is expected to increase by 85 billion cubic meters (Bcm) by 2030, representing a 47% increase from 2005.

The region has only 1,110 m³ of renewable water per person per year far below world average of 6,617 m³, while water problems cost the region between 0.5-2.5% of GDP per year. Furthermore, the Arab region has a 37-53% rate of efficiency in use of water across various sectors in the region. Available surface water resources in the region are estimated at 277 Bcm per year, with only 43%

of that originating within the region itself, making the Arab region the most dependent on external sources of water. By 2030 the effects of climate change will have reduced renewable water resources by another 20 per cent as declining precipitation reduce water supplies, climbing temperatures boost water demand, and rising sea levels and continuing groundwater overexploitation increase seawater intrusion into coastal aquifers. Based on projections, the region's water deficit could increase from 28.3 Bcm in 2000 to 75.4 Bcm in 2030.

Poor and marginalized communities are especially at risk, with nomadic communities forced into increased competition with neighbouring communities, and rural communities increasingly pushed into urban areas. While climate induced water poverty is a growing source of displacement, water security is also critical for communities already displaced by conflict or other factors. For communities facing protracted displacement, water is a critical factor in stabilization, needed for basic cooking needs, for health and rural livelihood regeneration, and has a particular impact on the ability to recover from crisis for women and girls.

Growing fragility of land and ecosystems

Fragility of land and ecosystem services is also seeing major impacts from climate change, likewise with serious implications for poverty reduction and human security goals. While ecosystems have contributed to gains in poverty reduction and human well-being in the Arab region, and have adapted for millennia to changes in the climate, the rate of climate change being seen is stretching the ability of socio-ecological systems to cope. Already the region has 1000 threatened species of which 24% are fish, 22% birds and 20% mammals. Beyond the value of species in their own right, ecosystems such as marshlands, oases, wetlands and drylands provide a broader role of services to communities through sustaining livelihoods, food and water provision and other values. While Arab countries have made efforts to preserve their biodiversity and ecosystems, the newly released report of the International Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) notes how climate change is emerging as a top driver of ecosystem disruption, placing new levels of pressure on communities and human security.

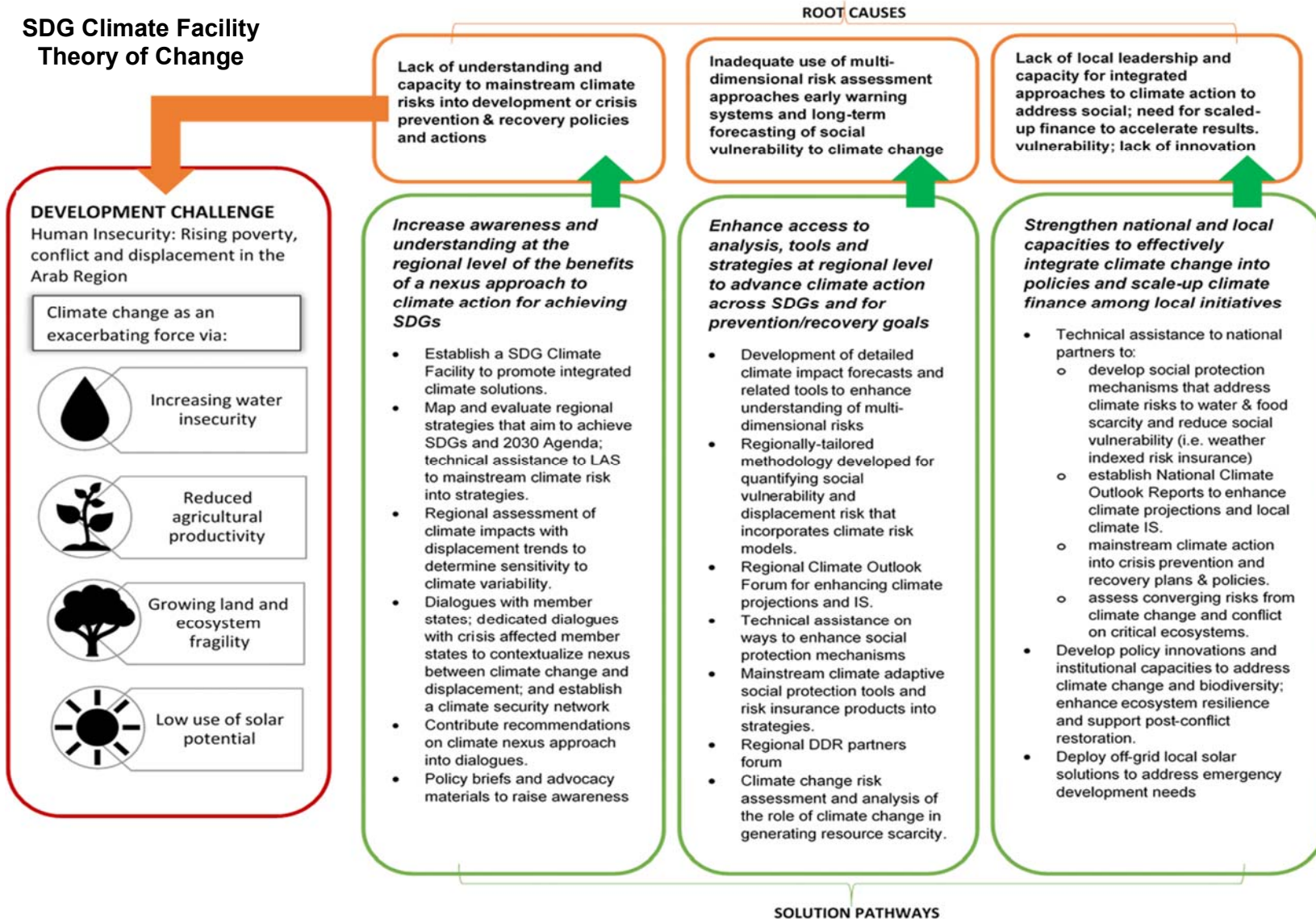
Dryland ecosystems for example make up about 80% of the region, where climate risks are high, where populations are growing rapidly, where biological productivity is least, and where poverty and conflict is highest. Climate accelerated land degradation; a major barrier to achieving resilience-based approaches to development and recovering from conflict, and destabilizing communities across the Arab region. The 14th Conference of the Parties to the UN Biodiversity Convention (COP14) is being hosted in 2018 for the first time in the Arab region, with the role of climate-induced ecosystem disruption on poverty and human insecurity a top issue in focus.

Closing the solar gap to empower communities

Energy security is also a vital element to address poverty and human security in the region, with low carbon solutions emerging as among the most cost-effective solutions for the poor. The region leads the world with the planet's highest levels of solar radiation, however most Arab countries have yet to develop these potentials. Renewable capacity remains low, at only about 7% of the overall energy mix, despite ambitious national policy targets that have emerged in most countries. While new energy investments arise, new capacity does not necessarily translate into gains for poverty reduction and human security, with renewable energy expansion often bypassing the poor.

An important segment of the poor needing attention is the unprecedented numbers of communities displaced by conflict across the Arab region, among the most vulnerable communities in the region. In crisis contexts, destruction or disruption of energy capacities is a critical issue, with dire situations for both the displaced communities themselves, and host communities where the influx of displaced populations places extra pressures on already vulnerable states of energy insecurity. Factoring solar solutions into crisis recovery policies has become an important priority, with off-grid, decentralized solar solutions an option with benefits across the SDGs - support basic needs for cooking, water, heating and lighting, generating new livelihoods and small business, and social services such as health and education.

SDG Climate Facility Theory of Change



II. STRATEGY

Regional Priorities for 2030: Managing Complexity, Building Resilience

The League of Arab States is the leading multi-lateral entity in the region, bringing together Member States across the region to address common challenges and pursue joint responses. As countries move forward with efforts to achieve the SDGs, the Paris Agreement on climate change and the Sendai DRR Framework, two main priorities have arisen which serve as the focus of this programme - to promote more integrated solutions for climate action that brings benefits across SDGs and for crisis prevention/recovery goals, and to scale up partnerships and finance to this end. In this regard, a new LAS Department for Sustainable Development and International Partnerships was established in 2017, to lead efforts on these and related priorities. This is coupled with annual convening of an Arab Sustainable Development Week to convene national, regional and international stakeholders to prioritize challenges and solutions, and establishment of the LAS Arab Sustainable Development High Level Committee made up of Member State representatives engaged on the 2030 Agenda. The design of the programme takes root in the regional priorities identified out of these dialogues and processes.

A top priority is to develop capacities to manage multi-dimensional risk, particularly the complex drivers of change from climate change to food, water and ecosystem fragility, and to broader challenges of poverty, conflict and displacement as noted earlier above. The region is increasingly defined by the multi-dimensional nature of risk, and the need for integrated responses that build resilience of communities and ecosystems. Countries in the region face a wide range of risks, shocks and crises, ranging from localized, short-term events like rapid onset climatic hazards, to protracted crises from multi-year droughts. Failing to address multi-dimensional risk and take integrated approaches to these converging stressors is having adverse impacts on poverty and social cohesion, reversing development pathways in some cases, and calling into question the ability of the region to recover from crisis and resuming development pathways towards the SDGs 2030 targets.

A key finding of regional prioritization process has been the growing recognition among Member States that, in line with the vision of the 2030 Agenda, development can no longer be thought of as a linear process. A deeper understanding is needed of the root causes of vulnerability, including the growing role of climate change in generating new levels of human insecurity. Development pathways in the region require risk-informed approaches in order to adequately meet the needs of the most climate vulnerable communities, preventing people from falling back into poverty due to slow-onset climate impacts on resource security as well as crisis and shocks. The nexus of climate change and displacement is particularly important, with growing resource insecurity converging with and exacerbating challenges of conflict and displacement.

This programme helps address this regional priority by developing capacities of regional and national partners for new risk-informed approaches to mainstream climate risk into development and crisis prevention/recovery strategies, helping to generate integrated approaches for implementation of the SDGs, the Paris Agreement on climate change and the Sendai DRR Framework including at local levels. This includes ways to take integrated approaches to achieving existing regional strategies across various thematic issues, which are often implemented in silo or sectoral approaches. This includes regional strategies for poverty, water, food, land, environment, urban development and other issues for which greater cross-thematic synergies and integrated solutions are required to achieve the 2030 Agenda.

The vision for integrated solutions promoted by the 2030 Agenda calls on regional entities and international partners to go beyond conventional siloed approaches and take a nexus approach to development interventions, thinking through connections and looking for synergies and/or dividends across areas of work. Development in the Arab region is inherently complex, non-linear, and affected by natural and man-made shocks and stresses. Achieving the SDGs in an era of climate disruption will be impossible unless countries and communities are able to address risks from a range of factors and with systems that are able to anticipate and adapt to challenges facing the region.³ Yet, much

³ **Adaptive capacity:** The ability of social systems (for example households, communities or States) to adapt to multiple, long term and future risks, and also learn and adjust after a disaster. It describes the capability to take deliberate and

of development policy making in the region remains focused on sectoral and linear approaches that fail to engage the complexity of converging risks and challenges. This calls for more integrated approaches that address converging drivers of change and policy responses across disciplines. Building on regional dialogues on priorities for SDG achievement and consultations among partners to the programme, a set of priority SDG-climate nexus points have been identified for focus of activities in the programme.

SDG-Climate Nexus Priorities in Focus in the Programme		
1	SDG 1: No poverty	Poor and vulnerable communities across the region are on the frontlines of climate risk. Climate change threatens to derail poverty reduction gains and potentially push people back into poverty unless adaptive measures are accelerated. Protecting the rights of the most vulnerable is a key element of taking climate action in a way that leaves no one behind. In the Arab region, those displaced by drought and conflict are among the poorest and most vulnerable in the region, and a major focus of the programme.
2	SDG 2: Zero hunger	The Arab region is the most food important region on the planet, and with temperatures rising faster than the global average, agricultural productivity could decline even further in coming years. Some estimate that agricultural output across the region could decrease 21% in value terms by 2080, with up to 40% decrease in some parts of the region. Food insecurity is a key determinant of poverty and human insecurity in the region, generating fragility and instability at community and regional levels. Climate adaptive social protection, climate risk insurance and other solutions are increasing in focus.
5	SDG 5: Gender equality and women's empowerment	Climate change brings risks to goals of gender equality, with women often more impacted by reduced levels of natural resource security and lack of access to clean energy. Gender-sensitive approaches to climate action are thus key to reducing poverty and enhancing human security. This includes women's voice in decision-making and ensuring climate actions achieve goals of women's empowerment. This is particularly important for the poorest and most vulnerable communities in the Arab region, including those displaced by drought and conflict, of whom a majority are female.
6	SDG 6: Clean water and sanitation	The Arab region is the most water-insecure region on the planet, and by 2030 climate change may reduce renewable water resources by a further 20% as declining precipitation reduces water supplies, climbing temperatures boost demand, and rising sea levels and groundwater overexploitation increase seawater intrusion into aquifers. Poor and marginalized communities are especially at risk, with nomadic communities forced into increased competition, and rural communities pushed into urban areas. While climate induced water poverty is a growing source of displacement, water security is also critical for communities seeking to recovery from crisis.
7	SDG 7: Affordable and clean energy	Energy security is key to address poverty and human security in the region, with solar solutions now among the most cost-effective solutions. The region hosts the planet's highest levels of solar radiation, but only 7% of the region's energy mix is from solar. While new energy investments arise, new capacity does not necessarily translate into gains for poverty reduction and human security. An important segment needing attention is the unprecedented numbers of communities displaced by conflict across the Arab region, for whom increased access to solar supports basic needs, livelihood regeneration and access to health and education services.
10	SDG 10: Reduced inequalities	Climate change has emerged as a threat multiplier and exacerbating factor in the onset of displacement and forced migration, as extreme events, rising sea levels, and fragility of ecosystems trigger a new wave of internal and cross-border mobility. Without effective preventive solutions or responses, displaced communities face challenges in re-establishing livelihoods and other aspects of human security. This is particularly important in the Arab

planned decisions even when conditions have changed or are about to change to achieve a desired state. **Anticipatory capacity:** The ability of social systems to anticipate and reduce the impact of shocks through preparedness and planning. This is seen in the proactive actions taken before an event to avoid upheaval, either by avoiding or reducing exposure, or minimizing vulnerability to specific disturbances and **Absorptive capacity:** The ability of social systems to absorb and cope with the impacts of shocks and stresses. This is similar to coping capacity and refers to the ability of social systems manage and recover from adverse conditions using available skills and resources.

		region, where more frequent and severe droughts have triggered protracted situations of displacement in recent years, often converging with conflict and other drivers of vulnerability.
14	SDG Ecosystems	15: Fragility of land and ecosystems has serious implications for poverty and human security. While ecosystems and communities have adapted historically to changes in the climate, the rate of change being seen is stretching the ability of socio-ecological systems to cope. Dryland ecosystems for example make up about 80% of the region, where climate risks are high, where populations are growing rapidly, where biological productivity is least, and where poverty and conflict is highest.
15	SDG Partnerships	17: Achieving climate resilient approaches to SDGs and crisis prevention/recovery required scale-up of international partnerships and innovative finance, building on the role of public actors and funds, but expanding collaborations with the private sector and the role of civil society

The nexus approach in focus in this programme engages the reality that climate change is inextricably linked to various SDGs and to goals of crisis prevention/recovery. It focuses on developing capacities of regional and country partners for integrated approaches to climate action across sectors and scales, moving beyond conventional decision-making ‘silos’ towards an approach that manages trade-offs, capitalises on innovation and opportunities, and builds resilience through synergies across thematic areas. Through a nexus approach, new investments into climate action can bring multiplier effects across SDGs as well as dividends for peace and security.

A key focus will be on developing the ‘Arab region profile’ for taking action on climate change and the SDGs, bringing out the unique nature of converging risks in the region, with implications of climate action for issues of poverty, conflict and displacement, and its role in the humanitarian-development nexus. The programme will help improve the use of science and complex adaptive systems theory in decision-making, develop capacities of forecasting, foresight and early warning systems, and build connectivity between existing networks of practitioners between social and environmental fields in the region. For example, gaps exist in use of climate forecasts for decision-making in social and humanitarian spheres, with development and humanitarian actions often not aligned to the shifting context of food, water and land insecurity owing to climate change.

Through its support to address complexity and generate integration, a more accurate profile of the multi-dimensional nature of risk in the region can emerge, as basis for integrated responses by partners. While still nascent, the integrated nexus approach is increasingly appreciated in the Arab region, particularly its ability to bring about co-benefits from climate action across the SDGs. The approach also demonstrates that resilience needs to be at the centre of all development efforts. This will enable decision makers to take into account shocks and embed ways in which risks can be better managed to avoid development losses and setbacks. Capacities to effectively undertake such an integrated approach has been lacking, with particular challenges in analysis, identification of opportunities, national level capacity for providing climate information for decision making, access and use of climate finance, and more broadly a lack of governance to plan, design and monitor climate resilient development.

Harnessing collaborative expertise across international, regional and national partners will be critical to generating integrated solutions, building on good practices and models across countries and from other regions. UN partners engaged in this initiative recognize that addressing complex and integrated development challenges requires bringing knowledge and expertise together from across the development community and from regional and local institutions. In helping to convene the programme alongside sister UN agencies, UNDP engages the strengths from its multi-dimensional approach and its strong country presence. As per the UN Secretary General’s Report on Strengthening the UN Development System, “UNDP’s comprehensive mandate and track-record on multidimensional poverty, capacity development and institutional strengthening, positions it as a vehicle to support an integrated, multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder approach”.

In doing so, the programme also supports greater coherence among UN partners, bringing together regional offices from five UN agencies (UNDP, UNEP-FI, UN-Habitat, UNISDR, WFP) prioritizing ways to achieve the SDGs, the Paris Agreement and Sendai Framework in an integrated manner. The programme formulation process also engaged a broad group of UN system partners with further expansion of membership into the programme expected after inception. The programme thus serves

as a platform to mobilize the UN system to achieve the new global UN Resilience Framework led by the Office of the Secretary General, aligning it with the aspirations of communities for risk informed, climate-resilient and inclusive forms of development.

Country Level Action: Bottom-Up Innovation and Scaling-Up Finance

As noted above, a second top priority identified out of regional dialogues and consultations is to develop local capacity and scale up innovation and finance for country level results. Building on the regional level priorities and issues in focus above, the programme will also prioritize support to developing local innovations that address the nexus of climate action with SDG achievement and crisis prevention/recovery goals.

As they pursue new actions to achieve the SDGs, Paris Agreement on climate change and Sendai DRR Framework, country partners face increasing levels of volatility, uncertainty and complexity. This in turn has generated a need for innovation, to generate solutions that go beyond business as usual and address emerging risks on the horizon. The programme will support innovation grants to country partners, both government and civil society partners, to generate innovative policy, technology and finance solutions that build climate resilience while bringing co-benefits across SDGs and for crisis prevention/recovery goals.

Innovations will be supported using lessons learned from UNDP and UN cooperation globally and across the region on behavioural insights, data innovation, public innovation labs and innovating for scale. In doing so, innovation is seen not as an end in itself, but as a process of ideation – learning new ways of understanding challenges and solutions and catalysing new scaled up results. It also entails thinking outside the box in terms of the ecosystem of partners needed to address development challenges. Well beyond the conventional approach of engaging government agencies, the programme will support innovative partnerships with civil society, private sector and bring forth the diversity of expertise in local UN Country Teams. This will also include brokering of knowledge and models for local results through south-south collaborations, across countries in the region and links to other regions in Asia and Africa.

A related need expressed by country partners is for scaled up finance. As elaborated further below, the programme will have a dedicated focus on supporting countries to mobilize new partnerships with the private sector, such as banking, insurance and investments sectors, and establishing new policy frameworks and multi-stakeholder climate finance platforms that can generate the large-scale climate finance and blended finance opportunities envisaged in countries' Nationally Determined Contributions to climate change under the Paris Agreement. In doing so, the programme will develop capacities of partners to utilize new forms of finance, and support development of bankable projects that help achieve NDC goals while also generating co-benefits across SDGs and for crisis prevention/recovery goals.

As seen in Annex 3, countries' NDCs seeks to accelerate climate action in line with SDG 13 on climate change. Climate adaptation is a top priority for most countries in the region, with hundreds of billions of dollars of initiatives identified under NDCs to reduce risks to poverty and human insecurity. Measures are needed to support integration of climate resilience into national development planning and crisis prevention/recovery policies at the upstream level, as well as advancing low carbon, climate resilient solutions at the community level. Climate resilient food and water systems and ecosystem-based adaptation are a key to reduce climate risks to natural resources, livelihoods and displacement, while solar solutions to expand energy access for the poor and vulnerable is also a major local priority across the region.

The Paris Agreement on climate change entered in force during the COP22 climate summit in Marrakesh, which provided impetus to leaders in the region to take action in follow-up under their NDCs. A particular focus during COP22 dialogues with country partners was on ways that climate action can be take in a way that achieves co-benefits across SDGs and generates dividends for the unique crisis prevention/recovery goals in the region. Apart from siloed, sectoral responses to implementing NDCs, national development and crisis prevention/recovery policies and actions also need to be rethought to factor in the new reality of climate change shaping local realities.

Box 1. SDG 13 - Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

13.1 Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climatic and natural disasters in countries

13.2 Integrate climate measures into national policies, strategies, and planning

13.3 Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning

Project Objectives

The objective of the programme is to enhance the capacity of regional and national and local institutions to effectively integrate climate change considerations into development and crisis prevention/recovery interventions and policies, including support to scale-up climate finance for innovative local solutions. Based on the development challenges elaborated earlier, as part of the theory of change process the partners to the project have identified root causes which serve as barriers to overcoming these development challenges, and to achieving the regional and country level priorities described above. These include:

- a lack of understanding and capacity to mainstream climate risks into regional policies and actions on SDG achievement or crisis prevention/recovery
- lack of multi-dimensional risk assessment approaches or long-term forecasting of social vulnerability and human insecurity from climate risks early
- need for greater local leadership for integrated approaches to gear climate action for results across the SDGs and for crisis prevention and recovery goals, including local innovation and bottom-up solutions and scaled-up finance to accelerate results

To address these issues, a set of solutions have been developed among partners, as reflected in the programme's outcomes, outputs and activities as elaborated further below. The three outcomes are:

Outcome 1: Increased awareness and understanding at the regional level of the benefits of a nexus approach to climate action for achieving benefits across the SDGs as well as crisis prevention/recovery efforts.

- Mapping regional and national strategies in the Arab region with goals related to water and food security, land management, social empowerment and peace and security, and ways climate actions under SDG 13 and NDCs can help achieve co-benefits across the SDGs.
- Building bridges among development and humanitarian goals, actors and initiatives, by bringing forth added-value of climate action for crisis prevention and recovery efforts.

Outcome 2: Enhanced access to analysis, tools and strategies at the regional level to support a climate nexus approach to achieving SDGs and prevention/recovery

- Strengthening regional cooperation and inter-disciplinary knowledge networks, and responding to gaps in climate science and data needed to better understand and manage trends and risks of resource insecurity, conflict and displacement, and their gendered impact

Outcome 3: Strengthened national and local capacities to effectively integrate climate change considerations into development and crisis prevention/recovery policies, SDGs localization process and to scale-up climate finance in a way that achieves local innovative solutions with benefits across the SDGs

- Building local leadership and capacities including of governors, mayors, local councils for innovative, transformational change by integrating climate measures in development and crisis prevention/recovery policies and actions to make efforts more risk-informed and resilient, integrating a gender sensitive approach
- Supporting local grants to catalyse and accelerate of innovative solutions, for taking climate action in a way that engages an integrated approach to mainstream climate action benefits across SDGs and crisis prevention/recovery goals,

- Helping scale-up climate finance to achieve the vision of countries' NDCs in a way that develops capacity to de-risk scaled up investments, expand use of new innovative sources of finance, catalyse new partnerships with the private sector, and accelerates results across SDGs and for crisis prevention/recovery goals.

Climate Action in Fragile and Crisis Contexts

With its attention to addressing overall challenges of poverty and human insecurity, the programme will have particular focus on generating results in crisis affected areas. There is limited knowledge and proven successful approaches to taking climate action in such contexts, resulting in a need for greater attention by international and regional partners. Through both regional activities and its local country level grants, the programme will help identify solutions that bring together climate actions with crisis prevention/recovery goals, with particular benefits for all members of communities in areas affected by protracted crisis, which are often hotspots of both climate risk and conflict. These activities will generate important tangible benefits for local communities, as well as models for possible replication across the region through the regional platforms and activities supporting by the programme.

About half of the countries in the region are crisis contexts experiencing conflict, a resurgence of poverty and unprecedented levels of displacement, while also standing as hotspots for climate impacts. With large-scale investments expected in coming years to help countries recovery from conflict in the region, an opportunity exists to mobilize climate finance as a means to help conflict-affected communities 'build-back better' so communities can withstand future climate impacts which may contribute to further instability unless managed. The programme will aim at integrating climate factors into local crisis prevention policies and plans, as well as ensuring that recovery and reconstruction approaches are climate resilient.

Climate Justice: Inequality and a Human-Rights Based Approach

Beyond being an issue of global environmental sustainability, climate change has emerged in recent years as a key driver of inequality in the world, jeopardizing the ability of the poor and vulnerable in society to attain development goals, to achieve the right to food, right to water and indeed for many the right to life as climate change brings existential risks to the very survival of communities. As expressed above, this programme has a core focus on addressing climate risks from the perspective of poverty reduction and human security, helping to safeguard the rights of the most vulnerable people in the Arab region while helping mobilize international partnerships to address the disproportionate burdens of climate change felt by the poor and displaced. In doing so, it helps address concerns for climate justice, linking rights-based and human-centred approaches to climate action.

Gender Mainstreaming and Women's Empowerment

Benefits for achieving SDG 5 on gender equality and women's empowerment is a top priority within all programme activities. UNDP conducted a global review in 2016 to assess the degree to which countries national NDC plans under the Paris Agreement recognized and/or integrated gender equality. The analysis found that of the 161 INDCs submitted globally at that time, 40% (65 countries) made at least one reference to gender equality and women's empowerment. Those references were primarily related to the role of women in adaptation, but without specific mention of key sectors or women's roles. Only a few countries recognized the role of women in mitigation. UNDP and SIDA have made the nexus between climate action and SDG 5 a top priority as part of their cooperation globally and within this regional project. To that end, and with a view to results in Arab region, this programme will focus on seven entry points:

- analyse region-wide context for gender trends and sex-disaggregated data on climate risks and opportunities, and differing situations of women and men and the resulting identification of key sectors, strategies and mechanisms to enhance the nexus of climate action and SDG 5;
- assess gender equality frameworks and coordination mechanisms in the region, including the integration of women's leadership and inputs into climate policy and programming, as well as approaches to inter-ministerial coordination and cooperation;
- integrate into climate policy and planning instruments forms of action that support and accelerate women's empowerment and support capacity development of women's organizations, and female representatives of government at national and subnational levels;

- engage multi-stakeholder participation in the programme with women and women's organizations;
- ensure that local community participation processes include equal representation of women and men;
- monitoring and evaluation programme results using sex-disaggregated data and indicators;
- make new climate finance mechanisms and innovative financing tools gender-responsive including priority focus on benefits for women's enterprises.

The programme recognizes and supports the role of women as active agents in climate change mitigation and adaptation, and that insufficient women's involvement presents a barrier to successful climate action and full achievement of the SDGs. The Programme has earmarked funding to integrate gender needs into all regional outputs and country activities as highlighted in the work plan and results framework below. This will build on methodologies and approaches utilized in past initiatives by UNDP and SIDA around the world, and the expertise and past success stories generated by UNDP to integrating gender equality, women's empowerment and leadership into climate action.

Poverty reduction

Contributing to reducing poverty and reduce social vulnerability is a core element of the programme, which can be found under all three outcomes.

Under outcome 1, activities under output 1.2/1.3 will support mainstreaming of climate risks and solutions into the broader SDG and poverty reduction strategies. The poverty-climate nexus is also a key focus under output 1.4 where awareness will be raised on the role of climate change as a barrier to SDG achievement, potentially reversing development gains and pushing people back into poverty unless action is taken. Likewise, under outcome 2 activities on multi-dimensional risk analysis and early warning systems will have a core focus on helping regional bodies and countries anticipate risks from climate change to SDG achievement with a core focus on poverty, displacement and social vulnerability.

Similarly, under outcome 3, activities have a very strong focus on poverty reduction and social vulnerability, with countries in focus facing high risk of climate induced growth in poverty in coming years. Under output 3.1 activities focus on climate adapted social protection measures for the most vulnerable such as weather-indexed insurance for poor farmers. Under output 3.2, the main beneficiaries would be poor communities displaced by conflict who will benefit from solar solutions for basic needs and recovery goals, as well as poor and vulnerable communities most at risk of climate induced displacement who would benefit from adaptation capacity development. Likewise, under output 3.3, activities on scaling up climate finance would focus on solutions that bring benefits not just for climate results but for co-benefits across SDGs including poverty reduction.

Ongoing and Past Initiatives

The programme design has benefited from a mapping undertake by LAS, the Arab Water Council (AWC), UNDP and UN agency partners of past and ongoing regional climate change and related programming and ways this programme helps take things forward while addressing gaps and developing capacities for taking climate action in a way that synergizes with emerging regional and country priorities around implementing the SDGs and the Paris Agreement. The exploratory and consultative process of programme formulation was enabled by \$160,000 of preparatory grants by UNDP and WFP to support dialogues, prioritization and analyses on climate risks and nexus to social vulnerability in the region, including a mapping of past and ongoing initiatives on which this programme is meant to build.

The mapping of past and ongoing initiatives included flagship UN regional initiatives including numerous climate change initiatives implemented over the twenty-five years since enactment of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. One important initiative has been the ESCWA led RICCAR project and the in-depth analytic base it has produced regards climate trends and implications for social vulnerability, alongside other important regional reports on environmental trends by CEDARE, UNEP, FAO, World Bank and other agencies. The conceptualisation of the programme was informed by results of a number of regional analyses highlighting connection and

relationship between climate risks, social vulnerability, and overall fragility and instability of communities and nations, particularly in fragile and crisis contexts. These analyses indicate that these interactions will become more intense as climate impacts become more pronounced in frequency and severity.

The programme design also benefited from the UNDP regional reports and policy briefs in recent years on topics such as climate change, water security, gender, human development, crisis prevention and recovery, governance and other topics. Equally important it benefited from an in-depth review of over \$100 million of UNDP climate change projects at the country level across the region in recent years, with identification of continuing capacity gaps and needs at regional and local levels, particularly in terms of making climate action achieve SDG benefits and align with crisis prevention/recovery goals.

It also involved lessons derived from LAS and AWC from implementation of regional strategies on climate change, water, energy, environment and other thematic topics, and country initiatives on climate action by national partners. A key basis for the programme design was alignment with the Climate Risk Nexus policy framework endorsed by LAS and UN partners in recent years, as a framework of action between LAS and participating UN agencies, and as basis for developing programmatic actions, of which the current programme is one. Other important ongoing efforts in the region to which the programme might align during its implementation includes the Planetary Security Initiative in the Arab region led by the Netherlands and the American University in Beirut, as well as the Programme of Action on Clean Energy led by LAS, IRENA and RCREEE.

III. RESULTS AND PARTNERSHIPS

Outcome 1: Increased awareness and understanding achieved among key policy makers and stakeholders at the regional level on a nexus approach for achieving climate action with co-benefits across SDGs and crisis prevention/recovery goals

Advancing an integrated, nexus approach requires a proper understanding and sensitization of what such an approach implies in the unique contexts of the Arab region. This outcome seeks to set an enabling environment for other outputs and activities, by strengthening the understanding of the nexus approach among policy makers and other stakeholders. It will help foster regional dialogue to prioritize key policy development processes where the opportunities and value-added of the nexus approach are greatest. This will be achieved through a set of integrated outputs.

Output 1.1) Establishment of a SDG Climate Facility as a multi-partner regional platform for accelerating climate action in a way that generates benefits across SDGs and for crisis prevention/recovery goals

The programme would help design and establish a SDG Climate Facility, as a multi-stakeholder platform to convene regional institutions, governments, UN agencies, the private sector, civil society and academia to better understand the multi-dimensional risk profile of the region, enhance the capacity of regional and national institutions to effectively integrate climate change considerations into implementation of development and crisis prevention/recovery policies, and scale-up climate finance in a way that achieves local innovative solutions with benefits across the SDGs.

The SDG Climate Facility would be a key output of the programme, and would have as its founding members representatives from LAS, AWC, UNDP, UNEP-FI, UN-Habitat, UNISDR, WFP along with other partners to be engaged during the life of the programme. The technical advisors and experts mobilized through this programme as part of the Project Office would constitute the embryonic staff of the Facility and would support activities to design the structure and set up of the Facility and mobilize partners for its membership, as elaborated in the project Multi-Year Work Plan provided further below. By the end of the programme, it is expected the Facility would emerge as an entity independent from the project, with continued support by a broader group of partners to take forward further outcomes beyond the life of this project. The Facility thus serves an important function for future sustainability of results.

Once established, the Facility would serve as a long-term platform to catalyze regional and country actions on the road to 2030, helping partners align global instruments, regional strategies and local initiatives, and to do so in a way that response to the rapidly evolving situations of fragility and crisis

across the Arab region, capturing emerging good practices and innovative solutions out of the programme to replicate successes across the region. It will focus on identifying how climate action can help achieve results across the SDGs for poverty reduction, gender mainstreaming, food and security, land and ecosystem resilience, inequality, and peace and security, and will help engage opportunities from public-private partnerships to scale-up finance and local innovative solutions. A specific focus will be ensuring that country experiences and best practices can influence regional strategic initiatives, that local models can be replicated across the region and that support helps address underlying vulnerabilities reduce social instability and reduce the risk of conflict, thereby contributing to peace and stability in the region.

Activities under this output are:

Activity 1.1.1. Comparative analysis of multi-partner platforms in existence in terms of roles in generating innovation, business models for engaging broad ecosystem of actors, and financing models to engage various strands of public and private finance

Activity 1.1.2. Development of options for design and structure of the Facility for review by Project Board members

Activity 1.1.3. Roundtables and consultative meetings facilitated between existing partners under the programme and potential expanded members of the Facility

Activity 1.1.4. Endorsement by the Project Board of the selected model for the Facility and launch event with participating members

Output 1.2) Enhanced understanding among decision-makers and improved regional policies and actions that generate co-benefits from climate action for SDG achievement and crisis prevention/recovery goals

Advancing climate action and related targets in the Arab region requires better understanding of how climate action can serve as a barrier to SDG and crisis prevention/recovery goals, and if well targeted can also serve as an accelerator of positive change. This is critical for achieving SDGs on poverty eradication, hunger, water access, gender equality, inequality, ecosystem resilience and peace and security. While there have been analyses in the region on specific SDGs, a need exists to further strengthen cross-thematic linkages including the nexus of climate action and key SDGs such as 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 15 and 16. Applying a climate change lens is particularly relevant as it can reinforce and link strategies together, and by doing so support better outcomes across all SDGs.

Activities will be undertaken by all partners, facilitated by LAS and AWC, to map regional strategies aligned to the various SDGs, building on efforts that have already been undertaken, and support the development and revision of key strategies to factor in climate change risks and opportunities. This will include regional strategies on water, climate, energy, urbanization, etc, building on forthcoming LAS dialogues on SDG achievement. This would bring forth analyses on climate risks across the SDGs into formulation of new regional strategies and ways member states can take nexus approaches to achieve regional goals. This output will include region-wide analysis on ways to achieve climate action for crisis prevention/recovery goals, including future risks for displacement, convergence of climate and conflict trends, and recommendations to prevent the role of climate change as an exacerbating force.

Activities under this output are:

Activity 1.2.1. Support to map regional strategies under development to achieve the SDGs and 2030 Agenda, evaluation of results by ongoing regional strategies on water, climate, urbanization, energy, etc, and technical assistance to LAS on ways to mainstream climate risks into new strategies on road to 2030 targets. Special focus on climate security, ways to address needs of fragile and crisis contexts in the region, and on ways climate mainstreaming can promote women's empowerment

Activity 1.2.2. Regional climate security assessment of the nexus of climate impacts with current displacement trends to determine sensitivity to climate variability; forecasts of future climate displacement risks; and recommendations for regional strategies to prevent the role of climate change as an exacerbating force

Output 1.3) Regional nexus dialogues undertaken with regional and national stakeholders to highlight how policies and actions on climate change can contribute to SDG achievement and crisis prevention/recovery goals

The programme will support events, roundtables and facilitate discussions to be convened by LAS and AWC to bring stakeholders from international, regional and national partners together on the generation of climate action to achieve the SDGs and promote crisis prevention/recovery. These efforts will focus on sharing experiences and building a community of practices across the region on approaches to managing multi-dimensional risk, taking climate action in fragile and crisis settings, and good practices of how climate action can support the humanitarian-development nexus. It will support capacity needs assessment for achieving a nexus approach to climate action, by identifying capacity gaps at various levels and providing models to strengthen cross-sector and inter-disciplinary modes of action.

Technical assistance will also contribute to existing networks and coordination mechanisms across the region including the new LAS High-level Committee on Sustainable Development and related sub-committees recently established for SDG implementation support, as well as new series of annual Arab Sustainable Development Week gatherings. These and other dialogues hosted by the League of Arab States, including Arab Coordination Mechanisms for issues of poverty, gender, crisis, water, environment and various topics, as well as the Science and Technology Advisory Group in the Arab region.

Activities under this output are:

Activity 1.3.1 Dialogues with member states to assess gaps and capacity needs for generating climate action in a way that brings benefits across the SDGs in line with national 2030 strategies, makes synergies between SDGs and NDCs, and brings particular benefits for women's empowerment

Activity 1.3.2. Dedicated climate security dialogues with crisis-affected member states to contextualize nexus between climate and displacement; raise awareness on climate risks to crisis prevention/recovery; and establish a climate security network among practitioners and think tanks to initiate a regional policy research and capacity development agenda on managing multi-dimensional risk and building resilience

Activity 1.3.3. Support to convening special sessions on climate security and the nexus of climate action with social vulnerability and crisis prevention/recovery at annual Arab Sustainable Development Week gatherings convened by LAS with member states and partners

Activity 1.3.4. Contribute recommendations on climate nexus approach into dialogues convened by the new Arab Sustainable Development Committee, Science and Technology Advisory Group, other regional fora

Output 1.4) Advocacy and communication materials on the climate nexus to SDG achievement and crisis/recovery

The programme will produce high-level policy briefs and reports on the state of multi-dimensional climate risk trends in the region, capturing findings of social vulnerability and nexus to crisis prevention/recovery agendas that are unique to the profile of the Arab region. This will promote ways to better mitigate multi-hazard risks and support inter-disciplinary actions between natural and social sciences that can help improve the role of the climate science in decision-making. This will include policy briefs on specific aspects of the nexus between climate action and the SDGs including SDG 1 on poverty, SDG 5 on gender equality, SDG 6 on water, SDG 15 on ecosystems, and SDG 16 on peace and security, providing timely assessment of the emerging risks from climate change, identifying recurrent high impact, extreme climate events, water insecurity outlook, implications of climate risk for land and ecosystem resilience in crisis-affected contexts; policies for de-risking scaled-up finance for action on climate change, and other topics.

It will also provide trend monitoring and assessment reports on emerging risks to SDGs and crisis prevention/recovery goals. Data and indicator selection will be supported through the recently established Arab Geographical Information Room (AGIR) hosted by the Arab Water Council, a regional non-profit entity affiliated to LAS, with a specific focus on assessing trends in climate-

induced water insecurity and nexus to growing social vulnerability, conflict and displacement. This will also support efforts to track trends and progress by member states under the LAS affiliated Arab Climate Change Action Plan (2010-2020) and Arab DRR Strategy (2010-2020).

This will include capacity development for decision-makers across the region so as to be better able to innovate, communicate and deliver on climate action agendas in ways that manage risks across disciplines, and deliver results for community resilience and security in varied contexts. This output will also support development of short films of 2030 climate scenarios and risks to SDG achievement and crisis prevention/recovery goals, as easily accessible means to understand how risks interact with poverty and human insecurity.

Activities under this output are:

Activity 1.4.1. Policy briefs and communication materials for deployment in social media and regional dialogues to raise awareness on 2030 climate risk scenarios in the region, risks for generating social vulnerability and poverty with a particular focus on emergence of climate change as a root cause of resource insecurity, conflict and displacement, and special risks for gender inequality

Activity 1.4.2. Infographics on 2030 climate scenarios in the region for deployment in social media and regional dialogues to raise awareness, with emphasis on climate risks for social vulnerability, crisis and displacement, and special risks for gender inequality

Outcome 2: Enhanced access to analysis, tools and strategies at regional level to support a nexus approach to advancing climate action across the SDGs and for crisis prevention/recovery goals

The programme will undertake analyses on where gaps in knowledge exist for understanding the risks from climate change to SDGs and crisis prevention/recovery goals. This includes use of adaptive complex systems theory and systems approaches to help decision-makers determine specific needs, and support for new tools and services that can support improved decision-making across the region. Technical assistance will also be provided to and through partnership with LAS and AWC to develop enhanced regional strategies founded on a better understood of complexity and nexus approaches. The programme will strengthen leadership skills of decision-makers and mid-level staff for use of complexity theory approaches, analysis and strategy formation across disciplines so as to emerge as future climate policy shapers delivering results for resilience and human development.

Output 2.1) Better characterization of multi-dimensional risk, and baselines established on state of climate security, social vulnerability and adaptive capacity needs across the region

At the base of a risk-informed approach to decision-making is the need for better evidence and information on the nexus of climate impacts with development and crisis prevention/recovery priorities. Enhancing use of climate science and community experiences can provide a powerful foundation for better decision-making and policy setting in a region defined by increasing complexity and greater need for systems-based thinking and decision-making. Efforts have been made to use scientific climate data to describe these complexities, however critical gaps still exist to more reliably predict temporal and spatial distribution of risk, particularly in fragile environments and in areas affected by conflict and unrest. Remote sensing, additional in situ measuring systems, Geographical Information Systems (GIS), Management Information Systems (MIS) will be utilized to forecast severity and frequency of climatic events, evapotranspiration, droughts, floods, etc. The Arab Geographical Information Room (AGIR) hosted by the Arab Water Council is one partner that will be engaged to expand such capacities in the region.

The programme will also focus on better characterizing hazards, vulnerabilities and exposure for policy, programme and monitoring purposes. Increased synergies between data sets will be sought as well as enhanced quality and uptake of climate impact and disaster loss databases for better prevention and as a foundation for decision-making. Analysis will seek to provide better evidence of how emerging climate risks interact with development and crisis prevention/recovery challenges, while promoting better mitigation of multi-dimensional risks and support inter-disciplinary actions to improve the use of climate science in decision-making.

One specific area of work will be to enhance the understanding of the nexus between climate change and displacement in areas of the region that are both climate risk and displacement hotspots. The programme will provide forecasts regarding future climate induced displacement and forced migration patterns and help identify push and pull factors and role of climate change as a root cause forcing people to move both internally within countries and across borders, while characterizing these movements and their interdependencies with resource insecurity, conflicts, and gender inequality.

Activities under this output are:

Activity 2.1.1 Development of detailed climate impact forecasts using GIS, MIS and related tools to enhance understanding of multi-dimensional risks in countries that are hotspots of converging climate, social vulnerability and displacement risks.

Activity 2.1.2. Regionally-tailored methodology developed for quantifying social vulnerability and displacement risk that can be incorporated into climate risk models for use by decision-makers; and technical assistance to improve use of climate science and data for decision-making on SDGs and crisis prevention/recovery

Output 2.2) Early warning services, tools and risk assessments strengthened for better decision making

Building on an improved base of scientific data and information, the programme will enhance use of technology for early warning and decision-making. Decisions meant to build resilience should focus on measures that ensure all investments consider risks posed to development from climate and disaster trends. This includes improved monitoring and assessment capacities to track emerging risks from climate change across the SDGs, and converging risks from climate change, resource insecurity, conflict and displacement.

One important focus will be integrated risk assessment tools and methodologies to better understand converging risks from climate and disaster trends, dryland expansion and food/water insecurity to social vulnerability, conflict and displacement in the Arab region. In a region facing momentous change, risk assessments help keep the pulse of events and account for spatial and temporal changes in climatic hazards, as well as the evolving social vulnerabilities in the region. The programme will promote more reliable dissemination of observations, monitoring and predictions at the regional level to support early action. This will include better communication of risk information and reliable warnings to potentially affected communities and the poor in particular. This includes hazard monitoring, early warning, forecast capabilities and use of risk assessment methodologies in agricultural advisories, drought and flood risk monitoring, social assistance programmes etc. Activities will be implemented by UNISDR and WFP and UN-Habitat, drawing on their expertise and parallel initiatives underway across the region on related issues.

Activities under this output are:

Activity 2.2.1. Enhancing regional strategies and implementation mechanisms for managing climate risks to cities and building resilience to manage multi-dimensional risks for sustainable urban development

Activity 2.2.2. Development of information systems for multi-hazard early warning and climate services to inform decision making and early action, particularly focusing on scale up of social protection and safety net mechanisms in the face of shocks and stressors in fragile and crisis contexts

Activity 2.2.3 Establishing regional baselines for risk transfer mechanisms including crop insurance, forecast based finance systems, sovereign risk insurance, as well as integrated risk management approaches at community level, based on existing lessons learned, with a focus on fragile/crisis contexts

Activity 2.2.4. Establish a regional DRR partners forum as a platform for identifying and scaling up innovative solutions on risk governance, early warning for climatic disasters and enhanced generation and use of data and indicators in line with the SDGs and Sendai Framework

Output 2.3) Strategic risk assessments produced on nexus of climate change to SDG achievement and crisis prevention/recovery goals to promote integrated SDG solutions at the regional level

Technical assistance will be provided to assess climate risks to long-term resource scarcity in areas of high social vulnerability in the region, and ways future trends of conflict and displacement will be implicated. This will support formulation of new regional strategies and the role of regional partners in integrating climate nexus approaches into regional 2030 policies and the work programme of the LAS High Level Committee on the SDGs. This will support efforts to reach a consolidated, long-term regional vision for climate resilient forms of development and crisis prevention/recovery in the Arab region. These efforts would also seek to support identification of regionally relevant indicators, and propose examples on means of implementation, identifying lessons learned, highlighting common challenges and solutions, and promoting learning. This will also support efforts in countries affected by crisis, for which SDG achievement and climate action is particularly challenging. The strategic assessments will elaborate how longer term opportunities exist for unlocking investments to combat climate risks and social vulnerability in protracted crises. This will focus on prioritization of key SDGs in crisis contexts to promote most benefit and return on investment to address current vulnerability and prevent future crises.

It is well recognized that most of the SDGs are interlinked to climate action, and climate targets might contribute to several goals. Similarly, there are important contextual factors for achieving SDGs in fragile and crisis contexts for which climate action is important to enhance synergies and address multi-dimensional nature of risks. By assessment goals and targets in an integrated way, the nexus approach will support a multiplier affect with results across a range of targets. For example, progress on ending poverty under SDG 1 cannot be achieved without specific progress on target 1.5 thereunder on climate action for the poor and vulnerable, while progress on SDG 16 on peace cannot be achieved without better synergies with climate action as an exacerbating factor in onset of conflicts. Gender equality SDG 5 cannot be achieved without ensuring that women are at the heart of decision making on climate change, while food security under SDG 2 cannot be achieved without progress on its targets for climate-resilient agriculture as well as macro-economic policies under SDG 8 and reduction of inequality under SDG 10.

There are also important trade-offs between targets which would be elaborated in strategic risk assessments. For example, an increase in agricultural land-use to help end hunger can result in biodiversity loss and loss of carbon capture potential, as well as in overuse and/or pollution of water resources and downstream (and likely negative) effects on marine resources, which in turn could exacerbate food security concerns over the longer term. Land degradation neutrality under SDG 15 and sustainable consumption and production patterns under SDG 12 could bring increases in efficiency of resource use with benefits for climate change. By carefully analysing and recognizing the ways in which policies and actions can create synergies and add further impetus to achieving the SDGs, action in the Arab region has the potential to achieve progress on climate action. By tapping into the common ground across the SDGs and their targets, the programme will seek to identify 'win-win' solutions where there are particularly strong nexus potentials around the climate action agenda and that can be the focus of local capacity development and innovative solutions under the programme.

Activities under this output are:

Activity 2.3.1 Climate security risk assessment analyzing the role of climate change in generating long-term resource scarcity in areas of protracted crisis, exacerbating situations of conflict and displacement in the region, with particular focus on risks to women

Activity 2.3.2 Dialogues to develop capacities of national partners to assess multi-dimensional risks, role of climate as a root cause of resource scarcity in areas of protracted crisis, and trigger exacerbating situations of conflict and displacement

Outcome 3: National and local capacities to effectively integrate climate change considerations into development and crisis prevention/recovery policies and to scale-up climate finance for local innovative solutions with co-benefits across the SDGs

The programme will develop local capacities to generate innovation, private partnerships and scaled up finance for climate action in away that achieves results across SDGs and crisis prevention/recovery goals. This will include support for mainstreaming climate change into local

development and crisis prevention/recover policies and measures, enhancing and expanding early warning systems for risk-informed development approaches, supporting innovative community based solutions, creating platforms for de-risking scaled-up climate investments, and capturing emerging practices and models for ways to take climate action in crisis contexts as part of the humanitarian-development nexus. These efforts will draw from regional dialogues, analyses, tools and assessments generated under Outcomes 1 and 2 towards accelerating local results, and vice versa local innovative solutions will feed into broader regional dialogues to generate opportunities for replication and scaling up good practices. A core group of countries in focus for the below outputs have been identified based on initial discussions with local UN offices and local partners with more detailed elaboration of activities for grants to be confirmed upon programme inception.

Output 3.1) Local leadership enhanced to integrate climate change into development and crisis prevention/recovery policies and plans

The programme will build capacity of emerging climate policy leaders at the country level from government and civil society, on ways that climate action can help achieve SDGs and crisis prevention/recovery goals. This will include a majority of female representatives from public agencies, future climate negotiators, and legislators, providing trainings and provision of tools and services to support decision making, and ways that legislation, budgeting and oversight roles can help accelerate climate action. This will include capacities of national and sub-national partners on ways to use complexity theory and complex adaptive systems, ways to mainstream climate and disaster risks into development and crisis prevention/recovery policies and plans.

This will be led by all partners with lead facilitating roles by UNDP, WFP and UN-Habitat, and connect to policy processes underway at the country level, such as national development planning and SDG reviews, generation of new crisis and resilience frameworks, and will build off results of the UN supported MAPS process in some countries where appropriate. It will have a special focus on crisis contexts where recovery and stabilization policies and processes are complex and where a balance is needed between immediate needs and longer-term resilience pathways for which climate risks come into play. The programme will help share knowledge on climate and drought impacts on water resources, land degradation and poverty in crisis contexts, and policies for de-risking and scaling-up climate finance in a way that benefits broader development and crisis prevention/recovery goals. Special emphasis will be placed on elaboration of gender-sensitive, climate-resilient approaches and solutions.

A particular focus of capacity development activities will be on sub-national actors, developing capacity of local agency leaders, local legislators and civil society representatives to develop a greater ability to formulate and implement policy frameworks that support climate resilient development, particularly nexus of climate action and women's empowerment, and maximize humanitarian-development linkages. Activities will support leaders who can innovate, communicate and deliver on climate change and related agendas, manage risks across gender, land, food, water and ecosystems, and deliver results for peace and security.

Activities under this output are:

Activity 3.1.1 Technical assistance to national partners to pilot climate services and early warning mechanisms to inform interventions, including to scale up national social protection and safety net programmes mechanisms that address climate risks to food/water security and reduce social vulnerability, with special focus on co-benefits for gender equality and women's empowerment

Activity 3.1.2. Technical assistance to national partners to mainstream climate resilient solutions into new urban development processes as well as recovery and reconstruction processes in cities affected by crisis

Activity 3.1.3. Technical assistance to national partners to mainstream climate action into crisis prevention and recovery plans and policies, including use of foresight methodology, complex adaptive systems theory and approaches to understand and managing multi-dimensional risks

Output 3.2) Innovation grants to advance local, bottom-up solutions

The programme will provide grants to participating countries to support local solutions that demonstrate innovation and scalability in achieving a nexus between climate action, SDGs and crisis prevention/recovery. This will prioritise vulnerable environments and communities with activities meant to show clear local impact of climate action on local development and crisis prevention/recovery challenges. Identification of partners and local priorities is based on initial mapping and assessment of local challenges and opportunities during programme design, and extensive experience of UNDP and sister UN agencies at the local level across the region. In providing local innovation grants, an emphasis will be put on community-driven solutions, and a strong focus on establishing baselines, monitoring systems, and documenting lessons learned and successes.

Initial priorities for local grants have been identified during programme design as elaborated below. Building on this initial elaboration, during the first six months of programme inception, UNDP Country Offices, sister UN agencies and local partners will develop more detailed Terms of Reference for country grants for review of the Project Board, and once approved implementing agreements will be reached with local partners for transfer of funds and implementation of local activities. UNDP Country Offices will help channel resources under the programme to local partners and provide operational and monitoring and evaluation support for implementation of grants. This will follow standard mechanisms for local grants used today by UNDP and sister UN agencies for delivery of over \$1 billion of grants annually under parallel projects across the Arab region today.

Local partnerships will build on the One-UN platforms existing at the country level for implementing priorities in UN Development Assistance Frameworks agreed with Governments. This will also build on the strong country presence of UNDP and sister UN agencies across the region, and the role of local UNDP Country Offices and UN Country Teams as trusted partners with over fifty years track record in many countries in the region in local capacity development. UNDP has been leading UN support to countries in the region on climate action for the past 25 years since launch of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, with extensive lessons learned and local partnerships on which the design of this programme has benefited. As noted below an initial set of countries and local partners have been identified based on national partnerships as expressed in local UN and UNDP cooperation frameworks.

A key focus of grants will be to generate innovation. Achieving the SDGs, Paris Agreement and Sendai Framework in an integrated manner will need catalytic innovation, bringing together traditional and non-traditional actors to identify and implement solutions to multidimensional risks, and to extent innovative forms of finance to scale up results. In providing local innovation grants, the programme will seek to play a new and unique role in the region by leveraging cumulative local experiences from UN and UNDP partnerships and networks in each country as well as the global capabilities of the UN agencies engaged in the programme on ways to implement climate action in a way that generates innovative results for development and crisis prevention/recovery goals.

The programme will strengthen partners capacity for catalytic climate innovation, towards accelerated, integrated action to realize the SDGs and advance local results. The innovation grants will be managed by local partners in concert with and support of UNDP Country Offices and partner UN agencies present locally, and will serve as a catalyst for emergence of broader partnerships and finance beyond the support provided during the life of the programme, supporting compelling 'next generation' ideas for ways that climate action can support broader development and crisis prevention/recovery priorities in the region. Innovation grants will help countries test new approaches, validate bottom-up technology, and galvanize new public-private finance for scaling results and sustaining partnerships beyond the life of the programme.

Innovation will focus on identifying more effective solutions that add value for communities affected by development challenges. For example, new approaches could include setting up climate innovation labs with governments to re-design adaptation measures in a way that generates co-benefits across SDGs; embracing data innovation for more effective early warning systems; exploring emerging and alternative sources of financing to deepen, diversify and scale up climate finance; and using complexity theory and complex adaptive systems to enhance resilience based approaches to development and crisis prevention/recovery.

Fundamental and rapid changes in the region's climate calls for a rethink of policy priorities, financing decisions and delivery approaches. Changes are evident in the increasing multi-

dimensional nature of development and crisis prevention/recovery challenges and the growing number existential challenges and interdependencies that risk progress on the SDGs, the Paris Agreement and the Sendai Framework. The increasing pace of change presents opportunities and challenges, including emerging megatrends of climate risk, social vulnerability and displacement; and growing expectations of society regards the role of the state in ensuring resilient forms of development.

Changes are also evident in a growing lag between conventional development thinking, and the emerging solutions and innovations coming from new development actors who are often more adept at uncovering locally relevant solutions or creating entirely new business models for development. In response to this, there are early signs of new innovative ways of doing development and crisis prevention/recovery. This includes: investment in strategic foresight and system capabilities, shift in development funding toward investment for results, and a pivot from delivery to design of multi-stakeholder platforms to mobilize broader partnerships for action.

- *Solar solutions for crisis-affected communities*

One nexus point to be prioritized in local solutions will be the nexus between SDG 5 on gender equality, SDG 7 on energy access, SDG 13 on climate action and SDG 16 on peace and security. Lack of access to energy is a barrier to stability and recovery for those displaced by conflict, and for the resilience of communities hosting them. This has been identified as a common UN agenda of critical importance in the region, in line with the new UN Global Plan of Action on Energy for Displaced Communities. For communities suffering from conflict, lack of energy leads to a lack of water, food, livelihoods, health and education facilities. The energy gap in crisis contexts brings consequences across a range of development indicators, hinders ability of communities to earn a living, meet basic needs of food and water, access education and health services, and creates an obstacle to broader stabilization and recovery. Expanding access to energy is thus an enabler of resilient recovery in communities affected by crisis. This is particularly vital for women, who often constitute the majority of displaced communities and those suffering the most during and after crises hit.

The project will provide grants for crisis-affected communities with a special focus on women's empowerment, through deployment of innovative solar solutions for recovery needs of crisis-affected communities. A main focus will be on bringing benefits of clean technology to women and girls, with co-benefits between SDGs 5, 7, 13 and 16 and ensuring that women are part of the decision-making processes on grants allocation and management. During programme design, initial assessment of local needs was commenced in Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine, Syria and Yemen in concert with local partners and support of UN and UNDP Country Offices. Support under the programme would deploy solar solutions for expanding energy access in a way that improved social services such as clinics, schools, orphanages, irrigation as well as household needs, to address the specific needs identified by UNDP and partners during programme design phase. Led by UNDP, partner UN agencies and local government and civil society partners, and builds on operational support of UNDPs country presence, grants would be provided to address the following priorities, with the goal of building energy access and community in crisis contexts.

In *Yemen*, the ongoing conflict has resulted in more than 3 million internally-displaced persons (IDPs), an unprecedented situation and now the world's worst humanitarian crisis. Yemen already had one of the Arab region's lowest energy access rates at 40%, and this has been heavily exacerbated by the conflict. A lack of energy access is hindering the ability of communities to access clear drinking water, exacerbating the world worst cholera outbreak, the ability of schools and clinics to function and provide vital services, and is a serious impediment to irrigation pumping needs for agricultural livelihoods given the loss of access to standard diesel supplies. Lack of energy affects ability of IDPs to achieve basic levels of water access, health, education and livelihoods. Solar solutions can help expand access to emergency development needs and set the foundation for recovery once the conflict ends. Based on the presence of the UN Country Team members and extensive support of UNDP and sister UN agencies to the Government for crisis response and resilience of affected communities, energy has been identified as a major need and opportunity for supporting communities. Based on technical assessments and pilot initiatives undertaken in 2016-17 with local partners, the programme will provide grants to install decentralized solar technology for the most needy in IDP host communities Hajjah, Hodeida, Abyan and Lahj regions of Yemen in a way that reduced burden of traditional diesel energy costs while also targeting critical development

services. A particular emphasis will be on using energy access for empowerment of crisis-affected women and girls.

In the *Occupied Palestinian Territory* communities face some of the worst challenges of energy access as a result of the state of occupation. The Gaza strip in particular faces a dire situation following series of military campaigns over the past decade and a comprehensive blockade of Gaza since 2007. Communities suffer high levels of social exclusion, poverty, one of the world's highest unemployment rates, and insufficient infrastructure. The lack of access to energy hinders these and other developmental needs and has emerged as a crisis in its own right. This started in 2006 when fighting in Gaza damaged major infrastructure including the areas power facilities, leaving the community with a chronic energy shortage. With little success in recovery over the past decade, the lack of energy access in Gaza has become a protracted crisis. By 2016, the electricity deficit in Gaza reached 61%, with between 8-12 hours each day of power cuts affecting the entire 1.7 million population in the Gaza Strip. Meanwhile, Gaza receives an abundance of solar radiation, with 320 days of sunshine per year. To this end, UN Country Team and UNDP Country Office have identified critical needs for expanding access to solar energy in schools, health centres and water facilities, improving the reach of key social services to women, children and vulnerable populations impacted by the crisis. This includes in areas of in Gaza city, Rafah, and Jabalia. Through grants under the programme, communities will be empowered with a particular focus on improved livelihoods, water access, health and education services for women and girls.

In *Iraq*, over 3 million Iraqis became internally displaced from the conflict with the Islamic State in recent years. Among the critical issues identified by the UN Country Team and UNDP Country Office has been the lack of energy security, now a major obstacle for communities seeking to recover following the fall of the Islamic State (IS) and the ongoing return of internally displaced persons (IDPs) to their communities. Initial assessments conducted by the Government with UN Country Team and UNDP Country Office support elaborate the large energy access gap in Iraq, and the scope for expanding solar solution as a means of national stabilization and resilience. In areas newly liberated from IS, lack of energy access brings risks exist for access to health and education facilities, well-being of returnees, and sustainability of new infrastructure and livelihood investments. This includes regions of Anbar and Nenevah, from where 33% and 40% of all IDPs across Iraq originated respectively, as well as Salah al-Din and Diyala. Over 1 million IDPs are now returning to their areas of origin with support of UNDP and sister UN agencies. The programme will provide grants to support urgent efforts to comprehensively assess the energy gaps and deploy solar solutions for irrigation pumping and related livelihood needs, for regular power needs of schools and clinics, and for basic needs of reconstructed buildings and homes.

In *Syria*, the UN Country Team and UNDP Country Office have initiated assessments at the community level to address the energy gap faced by affected communities as a result of the crisis that has arisen owing to years of the war in each country. Based on UNDP's country presence and its extensive support for crisis response and resilience, specific needs have been identified for community based solar solutions to address critical needs in both countries. The project will help move from assessment to initial actions for deployment of decentralized solutions for communities benefits across various SDGs. In neighbouring countries hosting Syrian refugees, the programme will help establish means of scaling up finance and innovation building on initial solar energy deployments in recent years.

In *Lebanon* over 1.5 million Syrian refugees are being hosted, over 36% of all refugees that have left Syria since 2011, a major global contribution by a relatively small country. The share of refugees has reached over 30% of the overall population in Lebanon, the highest relative share of any country hosting refugees in the current crisis. This brings various risks to Lebanon's development pathway, including energy insecurity. Owing to the systemic risks arising from rising energy demands, the National Response Plan to the Syrian refugee crisis includes a chapter on energy, developed with support of the UN Country Team and UNDP Country Office, with a focus on expanding sustainable energy solutions in ways that help expand energy access while reducing the energy and fiscal burden on the country of growing energy demands. The programme will provide grants to help local partners achieve these goals and integrate sustainable energy solutions in selected host communities. With the vast majority of refugees living in cities and towns, rather than camps, pre-existing challenges of national and local energy insecurity are being exacerbated by the surge of extra energy demand from the large population influx. This includes rising prices for basic fuel supply and impact of regular power cuts. Based on technical assessments undertaken by UNDP and sister

UN agencies with local partners, the project grants will provide solar solutions in Lebanese communities for development needs like cooking, heating and community lighting including in North and Bekaa regions of Lebanon. These are among the poorest areas of the country with serious energy insecurity, while also the area where a majority of refugee host communities exist. A particular emphasis will be on using energy access for empowerment of crisis-affect women and girls.

Jordan is a major contributor to hosting about 1.3 million Syrian refugees, while at the same time one of the world's most energy insecure countries, with an expensive import bill covering 97% of its local energy needs alongside a decrease of energy subsidies in recent years for basic household needs. With approximately 80% of refugees residing in regular cities and towns across the Kingdom, additional energy demands have resulted in an increased pressure on public expenditures and this brings risks to fiscal stability and national resilience. Owing to the systemic risks arising from rising energy demands, the National Response Plan to the Syrian refugee crisis includes a chapter on energy, developed with support of the UN Country Team including lead role of UNDP, with a focus on expanding sustainable energy solutions in ways that help expand energy access while reducing the energy and fiscal burden on the country of growing energy demands. This programme will provide grants to help local partners achieve these goals and integrate sustainable energy solutions in selected host communities. The grants will support solar technology deployment, the project will also support local awareness raising of solar solutions for local communities and officials, along with vocational training for local technicians on the installation/maintenance of solar PV systems. By expanding use of solar solutions in refugee host communities, the increased energy demand from refugee influx can be offset, reducing levels of energy insecurity, providing climate-resilient solutions for basic needs, and manage overall risks to fiscal stability and resilience based approaches to development. Based on technical assessments of needs undertaken by UNDP and sister UN agencies with local partners, activities will focus on the most affected governorates where converging pressure from refugee influx and baseline levels of energy insecurity are highest. Expanded sustainable energy solutions will help increase access while reducing the energy and fiscal burden on the country.

- *Preventing climate displacement through ecosystem resilience*

Biodiversity and ecosystems have been a foundation of stable water access as well as agriculture and fisheries livelihoods for communities in the Arab region for millennia, but climate change is now stretching the ability of communities and ecosystems to cope. While the Arab region was the home of agricultural civilization and has coped with climatic changes for millennium, the pace of today's change is unprecedented. From 2007-2017 the region saw its worst drought cycles in the last one thousand years, leading to dryland expansion, water scarcity and the rise of social vulnerability and displacement. Meanwhile in situations of protracted displacement, recovery of ecosystem services is vital, including restoration of ecosystem services for regeneration of livelihoods. The cumulative impact of climate change on biodiversity and ecosystems is a grave threat to the ability to achieve the SDGs.

The programme will provide country grants that develop community resilience in climate vulnerable ecosystems such as marshlands, oases and watersheds in places like Egypt, Iraq and Tunisia, enhance early warning systems and ability to manage multi-dimensional risk. This with a view to preventing future loss of livelihoods and displacement resulting from climate induced disruption of ecosystem functions. The programme will also support critical assessments and restoration measures for critical ecosystems impacted by conflict. Such interventions will bring co-benefits across SDGs 5, 6, 13, 15 and 16.

In *Iraq*, ecosystems have played a foundational role in the emergence of human civilization over millennia. In particular, the Marshlands in southern Iraq, known as the original site of Eden, is a unique ecosystem once the largest wetland ecosystem in the Middle East. It has provided local inhabitants with an essential source of habitat and livelihoods for millennia, but climate change is now triggering rapid change. The UN recognized the global importance of the marshlands, providing it world heritage designation in 2016. Not only are the Marshlands an important heritage and ecological area, but they will continue to play a vital role in the long-term resilience of the people of Iraq. Based on dialogues with Government on climate risks to the Marshlands and community resilience at Paris COP21 and Marrakesh COP22, the project will provide grants to local partners to undertake a comprehensive climate risk assessment of the Marshlands and their communities, capacity development for integrated policies across climate change, biodiversity and community

development priorities, ecosystem based climate change adaptation measures, and enhance early warning systems to manage multi-dimensional risk.

Ecosystems in Iraq are also critical for the 3 million Iraqis that became internally displaced from the conflict with the Islamic State (IS) in recent years. Among the critical issues identified by local UN Country Team and UNDP Country Office cooperation has been the toxic impact of the conflict on key ecosystems and related risks to long-term recovery of communities through continued impacts on health, livelihoods from toxic land, water, etc. Iraq already had high levels of ecological vulnerability before the onset of the crisis, including toxicity from prior conflicts, more frequent and severe impacts from climate change and drought, growing land degradation and water insecurity, and numerous other factors.

As evidenced from initial assessments conducted by UNDP and sister UN agencies with the Government in the Tigris floodplain, the convergence of these trends with the impacts of the IS conflict, has created an acute situation of ecosystem fragility in many parts of the country - including areas newly liberated from IS. Serious risks exist for the health and well-being of IDPs and returnees, and for sustainability of new infrastructure and livelihood investments. This includes regions of Anbar and Nenehah, from where 33% and 40% of all IDPs across Iraq originated respectively, as well as Salah al-Din and Diyala. Over 1 million IDPs are returning to their areas of origin with support of UNDP and sister UN agencies. The programme grants will help local partners assess ecosystem impacts from the war with IS, design ecological restoration interventions, and ensure that recovered communities and ecosystems can withstand a future of more frequent climatic disasters and droughts.

In *Egypt*, delta, oasis and aquifer ecosystems have been major foundations for human development over millennia, and continues today to act as a source of productivity for agricultural and fisheries sectors at the base of the country's poverty reduction and SDG efforts. However, these critical ecosystems that have sustained social and economic well-being and livelihoods for generations are increasingly under threat. Owing to their low-lying nature, Delta systems face particular risks from climate change, including rising sea-levels, rising temperatures, and more frequent and severe climatic disasters. Among the most ecologically productive systems in the Middle East, the Delta, oasis and aquifer systems of Egypt continue to support complex social and ecological systems, but the resilience of such systems is in doubt owing to heightened pressures. Ecosystem resilience as a key pillar of the country's SDG vision, as growing fragility of the ecosystems now create negative effects on many aspects of human well-being: rising food and water insecurity, more insecure livelihoods, and growing risks of displacement for over 7 million people in Egypt. The programme grants will support comprehensive climate and ecological risk assessments of the Delta, oasis and aquifer systems of Egypt, capacity development for integrated policies and ecosystem-based climate adaptation measures, support for new centres of excellence that build resilience of local communities, enhance early warning systems and ability to manage multi-dimensional risk.

In *Tunisia*, ecosystems play an important role in plans for achieving the SDGs. The country's development strategy has included a strong focus on achieving social and ecological resilience especially for areas of the countries facing convergence of high risks from poverty and climate change. To achieve the 2030 vision for a new balance between people and ecosystems, a new systemic, integrated approach is required to replace traditional natural resource use models, with a particular need to factor in emerging climate trends, risks of rural displacement and ensure more climate-resilient forms of resource management. About two-thirds of Tunisia's poor live in rural areas largely in the north-west and center-west of the country. These regions harbour more than 70% of the country's forests and rangeland resources, with the rural poor deriving most of their incomes from agricultural activities as well as other land and livestock-based livelihoods. While 40% of rural livelihoods depend for their survival on forest and rangeland resources, climate resilient management of ecosystems has taken on great priority.

The programme will provide grants to generate new innovative means of addressing climate risks to fragile ecosystems and communities in poorer regions of Tunisia. This will be based on outcomes of the joint UN assessment of challenges for SDG achievement in the country, and discussion during programme design on priorities for local activities in the country. Activities will support development of institutional and regulatory frameworks to mainstream climate resilience into integrated land use at landscape level, decision making tools to inform climate resilient landscape management, community-based solutions for ecosystem-based adaptation for pastoral and forest ecosystems, restoration of climate affected degraded lands and mainstreaming climate resilience into biodiversity

protected area management. This will include activities in Kasserine, Sidi Bouzid, Kairouan and Gafsa and other regions of the country.

Activities under this output are:

Activity 3.2.1 Deploy off-grid local solar solutions to address emergency development needs and expanded access to health and education services for IDPs in war-affected areas of Yemen, with emphasis on innovation to achieve co-benefits across SDGs including women's empowerment, and support to establish an energy investment forum to scale-up financing and results

Activity 3.2.2 Deploy decentralized solar solutions for emergency needs and expanded access to health and education services for crisis-affected communities in the Occupied Palestine Territories, with emphasis on innovation to achieve co-benefits across SDGs women empowerment

Activity 3.2.3 Deploy solar solutions to address sustainable energy needs for returnees of conflict in areas of Iraq liberated from IS, with emphasis on women empowerment, and technical assistance to mainstream solar solutions into broader crisis recovery policies and investments planning

Activity 3.2.4 Technical assistance to identify options for solar solutions to achieve resilience of communities affected by crisis around the Syria and neighbouring countries

Activity 3.2.5 Technical assistance to assess converging risks from climate change and conflict on critical ecosystems in Iraq, such as the marshland, oases and aquifer systems, and develop policy innovations and institutional capacities to address the nexus of climate change and biodiversity, enhance ecosystem resilience and support post-conflict restoration

Activity 3.2.6 Technical assistance to assess climate risks to critical ecosystems in Egypt such as delta, oases and aquifer systems, and develop policy innovations and institutional capacities including a centre of excellence on climate resilience in Delta systems, in follow-up to CBD COP14

Activity 3.2.7 Technical assistance to develop institutional capacities, policy response and community action for mainstreaming climate risks into sustainable use of biodiversity, land and natural resource in areas of Tunisia, including climate resilient approaches to: integrated landscape planning, protected area management, community based management of ecosystems, restoration of degraded land, and climate resilient livelihoods

Output 3.3) Climate investment platforms to scale-up access to innovative finance and private partnerships

The programme will work with and stimulate financial sector actors for protecting the stability of the financial system from risks related to climate change and the environment and aligning banking, insurance and investment with climate-resilient, sustainable economic development in countries like Egypt, Lebanon, Tunisia and the Gulf. A key focus will be on mobilizing banks, insurers and investors, as partnerships with institutional investors and the private sector, including the growing role of Arab partners, will be necessary to meet the implementation challenge under SDGs, Paris Agreement and Sendai Framework. The insurance sector, for example, can help communities manage climate and disaster risk, stimulate investments in resilient infrastructure as well as support broader risk reduction and transfer mechanisms.

While international technical assistance and capacity building support to Arab countries have traditionally focused on the public sector, the programme will complement this strategy by mobilizing private finance, IFIs, impact investors, Islamic finance, philanthropists, crowd funding, and other forms of innovative finance. With activities implemented by the UNEP Finance Initiative, the programme will engage key financial sector actors for transforming the financial system to become sustainable, with a focus on market transformation towards sustainable finance among private finance institutions which are critical players for the transition to a low carbon, sustainable economy. Technical assistance, awareness raising and capacity building will be directed to support these

sectors and institutions to ensure the impacts and benefits of a transition to a sustainable financial system are realized. Specific activities will include:

Awareness raising and technical assistance will be provided by the programme (i) for banks, insurers and investors to apply international best-in-class methodologies to assess climate-related risks and opportunities using a forward-looking, scenario-based approach for the period 2020 to 2040. This will include consideration of financial institutions' strategic positioning for the transition to a low-carbon economy and positioning for risks and opportunities related to the physical impacts of climate change, such as a decrease in precipitation in the region; (ii) for banks to apply international best-in-class methodologies to evaluate exposure to climate and environmental risks, and (iii) for banks to benchmark and build internal capacity to ensure progress in integrating sustainability across core business activities.

The programme will support national institutions to design new climate risk finance approaches on issues such as loan guarantees for climate resilient infrastructure, climate indexed insurance and adaptive social protection measures. It will help explore use of risk pooling and other sovereign risk solutions. Supporting activities include scoping of the potential role of banks, insurance companies and investors in understanding, prevention, reduction and transfer of risks related to climate change impacts, and scoping of the potential role of Fintech in catalysing innovation and scaling up inclusive, sustainable green finance, and the role of finance in green infrastructure for ecosystem-based adaptation.

Commercial financial institutions will receive technical assistance to develop financial products or services that support financing for climate mitigation and adaptation and for the SDGs through an impact-based approach to both the demand (companies, projects, public authorities) and supply side (banks and investors) of finance. This will include jointly identifying approaches to removing internal barriers to developing related products and services and help banks' clients transition to low carbon, climate resilient business models.

The programme will focus on mobilizing green finance (lending, insurance, and investment), accelerating instruments such as green sukuk, green bonds and green insurance, engaging the financial sector in opportunities such as green Islamic finance, identifying and mapping emerging financing needs and opportunities, and supporting innovations in these sectors. This work will also help countries understand how to enhance readiness for scaled up climate finance under the Paris Agreement.

The programme will also support efforts to build a sustainable finance agenda in the Gulf. In 2020, Saudi Arabia will take on the G20 Presidency, and as such has the potential to support the further development of the G20 Sustainable Finance Study Group, for which UNEP has served as the Secretariat. The G20 Group's progress report in 2017 outlined how green finance has been incorporated into the G20 agenda; bringing together the world's leading economies to promote strong, sustainable and balanced growth. The Group is tasked to develop options on how to enhance the ability of the financial system to mobilize private capital for green investment. Under Argentina's G20 Presidency in 2018, the group has been given a broader mandate of sustainable finance, focused on areas including policy frameworks, cross-border investment in sustainable bonds, knowledge sharing on environmental and financial risk and measuring sustainable finance. Through the role of Saudi Arabia as G20 President in 2020, potential exists to shape the global sustainable finance agenda, and to take forward the green finance agenda in the Gulf.

The programme through lead role of UNDP will also partner with and provide technical assistance to existing regional initiatives focused on de-risking sustainable energy finance, renewable energy policy reform and market transformation including the new Arab Sustainable Energy Strategy led by LAS, the new Sustainable Energy for All (SE4All) Middle East Hub hosted by Islamic Development Bank, and the PACE platform led by the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA). It will likewise synergize with existing initiatives to scale up climate finance taking place at the country level through support of development agencies and public lending and finance institutions.

Another important focus will be on maximizing the effectiveness of climate finance through steps to reduce the potential for corruption. Tackling climate change and fighting corruption go hand-in-hand, both major challenges that weaken progress towards the SDGs. In undertaking the above activities to strengthen capacities for climate finance, the programme will help build more transparent and accountable financial processes and mechanisms where needed, building on the expertise of UN partners to the programme on the nexus of climate finance and corruption. This will

include use of UNDPs dedicated global tools and frameworks to assess and prevent corruption in climate finance.

Activities under this output include:

Activity 3.3.1. Technical assistance to design and launch a climate investment platform in the region, as a means of scaling up climate finance for benefits across the SDGs in Egypt, Lebanon, Tunisia and other country partners, with support to mobilize partners from banking, insurance and investor sectors, as well as IFIs, impact investors, Islamic finance, philanthropists, crowd-funding and other sources

Activity 3.3.2. Technical assistance to commercial financial institutions to develop financial products and services that support financing for climate mitigation and adaptation and for SDGs through an impact-based approach.

Activity 3.3.3. Technical assistance to countries to design a pipeline of bankable investments projects for review of partners in the investment platform, focused on climate adaptation and climate mitigation goals with co-benefits across SDGs

Activity 3.3.4. Technical assistance to help countries in the region effectively participate in global green finance processes including the G20 green finance working group, as well as UNFCCC processes on scaled up climate finance

Activity 3.3.5. Technical assistance to help countries de-risk low-carbon sustainable energy investments under the new Arab Sustainable Energy Strategy

Output 3.4) Good practices, lessons learned and models captured for replication and scale-up

The programme will support national and local partners in capturing and sharing experience and models generated under this Outcome in applying a nexus approach through local innovative solutions, with a view to replicating results and future scalability through broader partnerships and finance beyond the life of the programme. This will include an evaluation report, as well as communicating results through a video series of local results and innovation, and submission of success stories to regional media, global channels of communication in social media, and UN global platforms for capturing success stories on climate action.

Activities under this output include:

Activity 3.4.1. Report capturing results under country innovation grants and climate finance platform to extract lessons learned and good practices

Activity 3.4.2. Short films capturing success stories of local results in achieving climate action in a way that brings benefits across the SDGs and for crisis prevention and recovery

Activity 3.4.3. Development of communication activities including blogs, op-eds and social media contributions in leading media platforms to share success stories

Inception Phase

The first six months of programme will serve as an inception period to make the necessary preparations and arrangements for the full implementation of the above activities under the programme. During such phase, main activities will include:

- Convene inaugural Project Board meeting to discuss and approve year 1 annual workplan and budget, regional project launch event, the inclusion of other potential partners in the programme, establishment of project office, and other project start-up activities
- Commence recruitment to form a dedicated project office to implement the project workplan and coordinate activities of Implementing Partners;
- Organize consultations at country level to confirm priorities and identify potential partners. A core group of countries in focus have been identified based on initial discussions with local UN offices and local partners. This is indicative, while during the programme inception more detailed elaboration of needs and activities will be done, and Terms of Reference for country grants will be prepared

- Organize consultations at regional level among regional partners and UN agencies to confirm roles and responsibilities and establish partnership agreements where needed with League of Arab States, Arab Water Council and UN agencies. Such agreements will specify the nature of the collaboration and the resources that implementing partners will be responsible for;
- Undertake initial assessment of green finance status and gaps in the region as basis for climate finance related activities under the programme;
- Carry out a detailed analysis of conflict sensitivity of programme results as basis for country actions, as further elaborate the Risk Matrix in the project document accordingly
- Confirm baselines and targets for programme indicators;
- Confirm steps for design of the Facility and future implementation actions
- Prepare an inception report after the initial six-month period of the project to track status of project office recruitment, agreements between UNDP and Implementing Partners, and other elements of the work plan.

Resources Required to Achieve the Expected Results

The project will achieve the above stated outputs through a grant of \$6,594,856 from SIDA, which will be synergised with UNDP co-financing and where possible, additional external resources will be mobilized. Beyond the grant assistance via the programme framework itself, a core objective of the partners is to generate larger amounts of new finance for achieving long-term outcomes and climate resilient pathways for SDGs and Paris Agreement pathways. To that end, the programme will help partners scale-up finance and galvanize partners from the private sector and IFIs to scale up climate finance beyond the life of the project. It will help mobilize green finance (lending, insurance, and investment), accelerating instruments such as green sukuk, green bonds and green insurance, engaging the financial sector in opportunities such as green Islamic finance, identifying and mapping emerging financing needs and opportunities, and supporting innovations in these sectors. This will include innovative climate finance approaches such as loan guarantees for climate resilient infrastructure, climate indexed insurance, adaptive social protection measures. It will explore the role of banks, insurance companies and investors in understanding, prevention, reduction and transfer of risks related to climate change impacts and exploring the potential role of fintech in catalysing innovation and scaling up green finance.

Partnerships

At the base of the programme is a core focus on building multi-stakeholder partnerships at regional and country levels for climate action. At the regional level, the programme has been designed through extensive and close consultation with the League of Arab States (LAS) which serves as the main inter-governmental body in the Arab region, and which has officially endorsed the programme as one of its strategic partnerships for implementing the 2030 Agenda. In particular the programme partners with the LAS Department for Sustainable Development and International Cooperation, newly established with the mandate of expanding strategic partnerships in the region for the 2030 Agenda. The department coordinates the processes among Arab leaders on a range of SDG matters including the nexus of climate action and SDG achievement in focus in the programme. Through the LAS partnership, the programme will contribute to the effectiveness and dialogues of the new Arab Sustainable Development Committee in terms of developing capacities of Member States on ways to take climate action in a way that brings benefits across all SDGs. This includes strategic partnerships with expert entities affiliated to LAS, including the Arab Water Council (AWC) which is a non-governmental entity engaged in technical activities in the region on various aspects of climate change including the nexus to food, water and land insecurity. LAS and AWC have been a partner to UNDP for several years on regional programming.

The programme has also been designed as a platform for achieving greater levels of synergy and partnerships among UN agencies active on the climate adaptation/DRR and climate mitigation/energy agenda in the Arab region. This builds on the new UN Common Strategy to Climate Change and the new UN Resilience Framework led by the Office of the UN Secretary General. Through UNDPs convening role, the programme brings together UNDP, UNEP-FI, UN-Habitat, UNISDR and WFP towards achieving the envisaged outcomes, with initial agreement by

other partners such as IRENA to become members in the programme. During the first six months of inception activities under the programme, means to integrate new potential partners will be reviewed by the Project Board. This process brings to regional and country partners the expertise of the UN system on achieving SDGs, Paris Agreement and Sendai Framework in an integrated manner, and brings together lead UN entities leading both development and humanitarian cooperation in the region, to help partners mainstream climate action into SDG achievement as well as crisis prevention and recovery efforts.

The programme will also have a core focus on local partnerships in participating countries. UNDP has been present in the Arab region at the country level for over 50 years, and through its extensive Country Office presence has established strong long-term partnerships and levels of trust on which the programme builds. The programme will build on this strong base of UN and UNDP partnerships already existing at the local level – with ministries of planning, environment, energy, with sub-national authorities and governments, and with local CSOs, communities and academia.

Private sector partnerships are also a key focus of the programme. With its focus on scaling-up finance and galvanize partners from the private sector, partnerships will be established with leading private sector entities active in green finance (lending, insurance, and investment). It will engage the role of banks, insurance companies and investors in accelerating results through instruments such as green sukuk, green bonds, green insurance, loan guarantees for climate resilient infrastructure, climate indexed insurance, etc.

In terms of donor partnerships, SIDA will be the founding partner to programme. Climate change is an issue of high priority for the Swedish Government and UNDP, particularly in terms of cooperation to support implementation of the SDGs and the Paris Agreement on climate change. A particular focus of both Sweden and UNDP is on generating climate action in a way that can achieve benefits across SDGs. As noted in its global policy framework for development cooperation and humanitarian assistance, a particularly priority of Sweden is also on addressing the nexus of climate change and security in crisis contexts, as “climate change increases the risk of conflicts, poverty and hunger, undermines human rights and is a growing cause of forced migration.”⁴ The issue of climate change as a security risk has lately been given increasing attention by Sweden as part of global processes, and this aspect of SIDA’s climate cooperation is a particularly relevant factor for this current cooperation project, helping implement climate cooperation in a way that addresses the unique challenges and converging drivers of change in the fragile and crisis contexts of the Arab region.

The project is fully aligned with the Regional Strategy for Sweden’s Development Cooperation with the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) 2016–2020⁵. It contributes to the priority area on “environmental improvement, reduced climate impact and increased resilience to environmental impacts, climate change and natural disasters” by developing resilience to climate change and related risks to ecosystem resilience, and it supports the goal of “encouraging investment and innovative solutions in the field of renewable energy and capacity building” through expanding access to renewable energy in poor and vulnerable communities.

In line with the SIDA MENA Strategy, activities will contribute to the development of regional networks, to the sharing of knowledge and experiences, to shaping opinion and to increased accountability, as well as to the development of more effective regional cooperation and collaboration and more effective organisations. It will bring together under one framework a climate perspective, a poverty perspective, a conflict prevention/recovery perspective and a gender equality perspective, as elaborated earlier above.

UNDP has submitted this proposal for SIDA’s consideration to expand the already solid and longstanding partnerships in other thematic areas. The ongoing partnership between UNDP and SIDA in the Arab region has mainly been based on two important collaborations in the field of regional economic integration and elections. First, since 2014 UNDP and SIDA have been partnering to strengthen Arab connectivity and linkages through the promotion of crossing borders operations and to promote regional trade policy reform and enhance capacity of Economic Sector of the League of Arab States. This project achieving significant results in its first phase 2014-2017 and considering the successful completion of the first phase, the partnership was renewed and expanded until end of 2019. Since 2013, SIDA has also been supporting UNDP’s Regional Electoral Assistance project

⁴ SIDA (2018) *The Relationship between Climate Change and Conflict*, SIDA, Stockholm, at 4.

⁵ Regional Strategy for Sweden’s Development Cooperation with the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) 2016–2020

with an overall objective to enhance the credibility, transparency, effectiveness and sustainability of electoral institutions and processes in the region.

Given the positive partnership to date, UNDP seeks through this project to expand collaboration in the area of climate resilience, supporting an integrated approach to achieve SDG 13, the Paris Agreement and Sendai Framework. Similar to past cooperation, UNDP will prioritize project coordination with SIDA and the provision of the appropriate donor visibility. The project will invite SIDA to attend Project Board meetings and welcomes any regional and country-specific discussions between SIDA, UNDP, partner UN agencies and regional/national partners at any stage of the process. The project will report to SIDA as defined in the SIDA-UNDP agreement. Regular meetings will be undertaken to discuss any emerging issues from project implementation in addition to official project board meetings. The project will invite SIDA to important events and ceremonies related to the project. It will also be invited to join activities and field missions to observe the results being achieved and interact with project beneficiaries reflecting with them on related cooperation.

Communications

Dedicated communication staff from UNDP and partners will support this programme, to ensure awareness and visibility on actions, especially vis-à-vis beneficiaries and local and national authorities. In order to accord proper acknowledgement to the donor(s) for providing funding, donor logo(s) will appear on all relevant donor-funded project publications and the website, including among others, project hardware and vehicles purchased with donor(s) funds. Any citation on publications regarding projects funded by the donor(s) will also accord proper acknowledgment to the donor(s). The logos of all UNDP and all partners to this project will also appear, upon request, on related publications of this project, if these partners contribute to these publications. Information will be disclosed in accordance with relevant policies notably the UNDP Disclosure Policy.

The project will provide donor visibility in all important and strategic project activities of the projects, invite SIDA representatives to important regional and national activities of the project as Guest Speakers; promote project on social media, project and UN/UNDP websites, UNDPs Regional Programme Knowledge Platform, and other relevant partners websites; develop communication material, including videos, on project activities and achievements, recognizing contributions from SIDA; and ensure activities of the project are captured in publications of UNDP and other partner UN agencies.

Risks and Assumptions

As noted in Annex 2 Risk Analysis table, there are a number of risks to be mitigated. This spans from commitment of partners to achieving programme results, to adequate levels of funding, and finding effective expertise to recruit into the project office. Another important risk relates to the crisis profile of the Arab region. Building resilience to such risks is a core objective of the programme, while the challenging situation faced in the region can also pose risks for programme delivery. To that end, mitigation measures have been taken to address all these and other risks, as elaborated in the Risk Analysis matrix. A particular set of mitigation actions were taken during programme design, building strong ownership, partnership, trust and commitment among regional and UN system partners to jointly achieve outcomes. Mitigating risk of inadequate human resources to constitute the project office will be mitigated through the expert rosters already in place within UNDP and partner entities. In terms of local activities, risks are mitigated by the strong local presence and partnerships of UNDP Country Offices in all countries. The legacy of UNDP partnerships and systems used for programming over past fifty years across the region will serve as an important basis for achieving results under this project and minimizing risks to output delivery.

Stakeholder Engagement

In addition to the strong partnerships developed during programme formulation with regional entities and UN system partners, as elaborated in the above Partnership section, the formulation of the programme is also based on outreach to a broader group of stakeholders in the region. A series of consultative roundtables were held in 2016-2017 during programme design, with inputs from stakeholders from government, CSOs, academic institutions and other stakeholders a valuable part of conceptualization of programme objectives and activities. To maintain this participatory process, a broad group of stakeholders will continue to be invited to all regional events convened, while local CSOs and partners will likewise be an important part of the country level activities. Stakeholder

engagement at the country level will build on UNDPs long standing Country Office presence and partnerships with a wide range of stakeholders from community level representatives, environmental NGOs, women's empowerment organizations, local government and parliamentary representatives, etc. As elaborated in the above Partners section, this also includes strong engagement with local private sector partners which will be critical for achieving stated programme outputs and catalysing broader finance for long-term resilience.

Knowledge

As elaborated in the stated outputs of the programme, ensuring effective knowledge generation on the nexus of climate action with SDGs and crisis prevention/recovery goals project will serve as a core function of the programme. As such a dedicated capacity is envisaged in the project office for knowledge management, as expressed in the Programme Governance and Management section below. A key focus will be on bringing forth good practices globally for the benefit of partners during capacity development activities, and equally importantly to capture and document emerging policies and practices from within the region itself including results achieved via the support of the programme. Results and lessons learned will be reviewed and documented in the form of reports as well as videos to communicate and reach a broader audience across the region. This includes a dedicated budget in the below workplan for communication and visibility activities to promote the important contribution of partners and donors to the programme in elaborating climate solutions across the SDG and for the unique regional-specific challenges of crisis prevention and recovery.

Ownership, Sustainability and Scaling Up Results

Regarding the ownership of the programme, its design was undertaken through extensive consultations with regional partners and agencies and a series of stakeholder dialogues to jointly identify regional priorities, outputs and activities in the programme. Through such process, strong ownership has been built within the League of Arab States, the Arab Water Council and UN system partners UNEP-FI, UN-Habitat, UNISDR, and WFP. The high levels of partnership, trust and commitment evidenced during programme design process is now an important base for joint achievement of the project outcomes. The priorities identified, outputs and activities selected, and management arrangements established for the programme were all designed jointly by these partners, with all partners feeling strong co-ownership of the programme. The Steering Committee as described further below will be the formal basis for continuing this strong level of cooperation and joint ownership of programme results during the life of the project.

Regarding the sustainability and scaling up of results after the life of the programme, a key output of the programme will be to establish a SDG Climate Facility as a basis for continuing to take forward and scale up results achieved during the life of the project. Coupled with this, the programme will develop institutional capacities and policy instruments under Output 3.3 to scale-up finance and galvanize partners from the private sector and IFIs to scale up climate finance to partners beyond the life of the project. It will help mobilize green finance (lending, insurance, and investment), accelerating instruments such as green sukuk, green bonds and green insurance, engaging the financial sector in opportunities such as green Islamic finance, identifying and mapping emerging financing needs and opportunities, and supporting innovations in these sectors. This will also help countries understand how to enhance readiness for scaled up climate finance under the Paris Agreement. This will include innovative climate finance approaches such as loan guarantees for climate resilient infrastructure, climate indexed insurance, adaptive social protection measures. It will explore the role of banks, insurance companies and investors in understanding, prevention, reduction and transfer of risks related to climate change impacts, and exploring the role of fintech in catalysing innovation and scaling up green finance.

The programme will also ensure sustainability of results through broader measures including i) capturing of lessons learned to enhance knowledge management related to nexus approaches and good practices; ii) drawing on evidence based results from project implementation iii) extensive stakeholder ownership and participation in all activities iv) building on the existing network of climate service providers in the region and global centres; and v) participation of leaders from private sector including financing institutions with tailored capacity building and networking support will be fostered to ensure continuity of finance beyond this initial phase of support.

Anti-corruption and transparency

Anti-corruption measures are integrated throughout the programme from two different perspectives:

a) *Ensuring that the programme does not fuel corruption and is based on accountable and transparent processes.* Throughout the inception phase, the programme will carry out a conflict analysis of conflict sensitivity which will also consider any potential risks related to corruption. This particularly applies to the provision of local grants for devising innovative solutions. From a procurement and resource management perspective, the existence of a dedicated Programme Support Unit (PSU), UNDP sound and transparent procurement regulations, and the ATLAS financial management system will ensure the highest standards of transparency and accountability. In addition, multi-level monitoring systems will be applied to minimize potential for corruption. The programme will be implemented following UNDP's Policy against Fraud and other Corrupt Practices.

b) *Promoting the inclusion of mechanisms of transparency and accountability throughout programme implementation.* In undertaking the activities to strengthen capacities for climate finance, the programme will help build more transparent and accountable financial processes and mechanisms where possible. This will include for instance the provision of dedicated training sessions to local leaders on anti-corruption practices and tools (under output 3.1), applying UNDP global tools and frameworks to assess and prevent corruption in climate finance when supporting the establishment of climate investment platforms (under output 3.3.). Such work will benefit from the advice and expertise of the UNDP Anti-Corruption Initiative in Arab Countries, a project that works to promote transparency and integrity in various sectors. Such collaboration, which will be further discussed during the inception phase, can help better identify areas for the integration of anti-corruption measures throughout project implementation.

IV. PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Cost Efficiency and Effectiveness

The programme will be managed by the UNDP Regional Programme Team, which is housed as an integral part of UNDPs Regional Hub for Arab States in Amman. All project management arrangements will be in accordance with standard UNDP policies and procedures utilized in all of UNDPs programmes around the world. UNDP standard procedures will be applied for project assurance and tracking the implementation of the project in accordance with the work plan below, as per the agreed activities, indicators and targets.

To ensure effectiveness of programme delivery, a dedicated project office will be formed during the inception of the project (initial 3-6 months) to implement the project workplan and coordinate activities of Implementing Partners, including a team of professionals in areas of project management and administration, climate change and the nexus to SDG achievement and human security, and other needs as elaborated in the Governance and Management section below. The establishment of such a team will be carried out in a cost-effective manner, establishing mid-level positions to match the stated outputs in the programme while maintaining UNDP's quality assurance standards.

Project management support will be provided from UNDPs Regional Hub, which has offices in Amman and Lebanon, to ensure cost-efficiency and effectiveness in work plan implementation. This will include UNDPs Regional Programme Team for effective management and oversight of the programme, supported by its Management Support Unit (MSU) based in Beirut for results and resource management through its consolidated delivery mechanism. UNDPs Climate Change, DRR, Energy and Environment Team will support programme coordination and policy support to partners in achieving outputs. At the country level, UNDPs Country Offices will play a key operational role as a platform for implementing local activities under the project.

V. RESULTS FRAMEWORK

Intended Outcome as stated in the Regional Programme Results and Resource Framework: enhanced capacity of regional and national institutions to effectively integrate climate change considerations into development and crisis prevention/recovery interventions and policies, including support to scale-up climate finance for innovative local solutions											
Outcome indicators as stated in the Regional Programme Results and Resources Framework, including baseline and targets:											
Applicable Output(s) from the UNDP Strategic Plan: Outputs 1.3, 1.5, 2.3, 2.5, 3.3, 3.5											
Project title and Atlas Project Number: SDG Climate Facility – Climate Action for Human Security											
EXPECTED OUTCOMES	OUTPUT INDICATORS	DATA SOURCE	BASELINE		TARGETS (by frequency of data collection)					DATA COLLECTION METHODS & RISKS	
			Value	Year	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	FINAL		
			<i>These will be determined during the inception phase</i>								
Outcome 1											
Increased awareness and understanding at the regional level of the benefits of a nexus approach to climate action for achieving benefits across the SDGs as well as crisis prevention/recovery efforts.											
<i>Output 1.1. Establishment of a SDG Climate Facility as a multi-partner regional platform for accelerating climate action in a way that generates benefits across SDGs and for crisis prevention/recovery goals</i>	1.1 Existence of the SDG Climate Facility ⁶	Project Office	0	2018	1	2	3	4			
Related activities:											
Activity 1.1.1. Comparative analysis of multi-partner platforms in existence in terms of roles in generating innovation, business models for engaging broad ecosystem of actors, and financing models to engage various strands of public and private finance											
Activity 1.1.2. Development of options for design and structure of the Facility for review by Project Board members											

⁶ Where 0 – no existence, 1 - comparative analysis of existing multi-partner platforms is done, 2 - concept note for the Facility is designed, 3 – the Facility is developed, 4 – the Facility is operational

Activity 1.1.3. Roundtables and consultative meetings facilitated between existing partners under the programme and potential expanded members of the Facility											
Activity 1.1.4. Endorsement by the Project Board of the selected model for the Facility and launch event with participating members											
<i>Output 1.2 Enhanced understanding among decision-maker and improved regional policies and actions that generate co-benefits from climate action for SDG achievement and crisis prevention</i>	1.2.1 Number of regional strategies and SDG goals against which gaps and opportunities for climate action identified	Project Office	0	2018	1	2	2	1			
	1.2.2. Level of enhanced understanding of nexus approach to climate action and SDGs ⁷	Project Office	0	2018	1	2	3	3			
	1.2.3 Number of reports and analysis on the linkage between SDG5 and climate action	Project Office	0	2018	1	2	2	1			
<u>Related activities:</u>											
Activity 1.2.1. Support to map regional strategies under development to achieve the SDGs and 2030 Agenda, evaluation of results by ongoing regional strategies on water, climate, urbanization, energy, etc, and technical assistance to LAS on ways to mainstream climate risks into new strategies on road to 2030 targets. Special focus on climate security, ways to address needs of fragile and crisis contexts in the region, and on ways climate mainstreaming can promote women's empowerment											
Activity 1.2.2. Regional climate security assessment of the nexus of climate impacts with current displacement trends to determine sensitivity to climate variability; forecasts of future climate displacement risks; and recommendations for regional strategies to prevent the role of climate change as an exacerbating force											
<i>Output 1.3. Regional nexus dialogues with regional and national stakeholders to highlight how policies and actions on climate change can contribute to SDG achievement and crisis prevention</i>	1.3.1 Number of nexus dialogues held with member states and level of involvement of women, civil society organizations	Beneficiary Surveys	1	2018	1	2	2	2			
	1.3.2 Number of women engaged in regional dialogues on climate action ⁸	Project Office	1	2018	1	2	3	4			
<u>Related activities:</u>											
Activity 1.3.1 Dialogues with member states to assess gaps and capacity needs for generating climate action in a way that brings benefits across the SDGs in line with national 2030 strategies, makes synergies between SDGs and NDCs, and brings particular benefits for women's empowerment											

⁷ Where 0 - low understanding, 1 – moderate understanding, 2 – high understanding, 3 – very high understanding

⁸ Where 1 - 1 less than 15 women, 2 - 15 to 100 women, 3 - more than 100 women, 4 - more than 500 women

<p>Activity 1.3.2. Dedicated dialogues with crisis-affected member states to contextualize nexus between climate and displacement; raise awareness on climate risks to crisis prevention/recovery; and establish a climate security network among practitioners and think tanks to initiate a regional policy research and capacity development agenda on managing multi-dimensional risk and building resilience</p> <p>Activity 1.3.3. Support to convening special sessions on the nexus of climate action with social vulnerability and crisis prevention/recovery at annual Arab Sustainable Development Week gatherings convened by LAS with member states and partners</p> <p>Activity 1.3.4. Contribute recommendations on climate nexus approach into dialogues convened by the new Arab Sustainable Development Committee, Science and Technology Advisory Group, other regional fora</p>											
<i>Output 1.4. Advocacy and communication materials on the climate nexus to SDG achievement and crisis prevention/recovery</i>	1.4.1 Number of advocacy and communications material developed	Project Office	0	2018	2	4	5	5			
<p><u>Related activities:</u></p> <p>Activity 1.4.1. Policy briefs and communication materials for deployment in social media and regional dialogues to raise awareness on 2030 climate risk scenarios in the region, risks for generating social vulnerability and poverty with a particular focus on emergence of climate change as a root cause of resource insecurity, conflict and displacement, and special risks for gender inequality</p> <p>Activity 1.4.2. Infographics on 2030 climate scenarios in the region for deployment in social media and regional dialogues to raise awareness, with emphasis on climate risks for social vulnerability, crisis and displacement, and special risks for gender inequality</p>											
<p>Outcome 2</p> <p>Enhanced access to analysis, tools and strategies at the regional level to support a climate nexus approach to achieving SDGs and prevention/ recovery</p>											
<i>Output 2.1. Better characterization of multi-dimensional risk, and baselines established on state of climate security, social vulnerability and adaptive capacity needs across the region</i>	2.1 Degree of availability of data and information on the nexus between climate impact, development and crisis prevention/recovery priorities ⁹	Project Office	0	2018	1	2	3	4			
<p><u>Related activities:</u></p> <p>Activity 2.1.1 Development of detailed climate impact forecasts using GIS, MIS and related tools to enhance understanding of multi-dimensional risks in countries that are hotspots of converging climate, social vulnerability and displacement risks.</p> <p>Activity 2.1.2. Regionally-tailored methodology developed for quantifying social vulnerability and displacement risk that can be incorporated into climate risk models for use by decision-makers; and technical assistance to improve use of climate science and data for decision-making on SDGs and crisis prevention/recovery</p>											

⁹ Where 0 -no data available, 1- low availability, 2-moderate availability ,3 - above moderate availability ,4 high availability

<i>Output 2.2. Early warning services, tools and risk assessments strengthened for better decision-making</i>	2.2 Quality of early warning services being used for decision-making ¹⁰	Project Office	1	2018	2	2	3	4			
Related activities:											
Activity 2.2.1. Enhancing regional strategies and implementation mechanisms for managing climate risks to cities and building resilience to manage multi-dimensional risks toolkits											
Activity 2.2.2. Development of information systems for multi-hazard early warning and climate services to inform decision making and early action, particularly focusing on scale up of social protection and safety net mechanisms in the face of shocks and stressors in fragile and crisis contexts											
Activity 2.2.3 Establishing regional baselines for risk transfer mechanisms including crop insurance, forecast based finance systems, sovereign risk insurance, as well as integrated risk management approaches at community level, based on existing lessons learned, with a focus on fragile/crisis contexts											
Activity 2.2.4. Establish a regional DRR partners forum as a platform for identifying and scaling up innovative solutions on risk governance, early warning for climatic disasters and enhanced generation and use of data and indicators in line with the SDGs and Sendai Framework											
<i>Output 2.3 Strategic risk assessments produced on nexus of climate change to issues of SDGs and crisis prevention/recovery goals to promote integrated SDG solutions</i>	2.3.1 Number of regional strategies and assessment reports produced with nexus approach	Project Office	0	2018	0	2	2	1			
	2.3.2 Number of climate related regional strategies incorporating targets, indicators and actions related to gender equality and women's empowerment	Project Office	0	2018	0	2	2	1			
Related activities:											
Activity 2.3.1 Climate security risk assessment analyzing the role of climate change in generating long-term resource scarcity in areas of protracted crisis, exacerbating situations of conflict and displacement in the region, with particular focus on risks to women											
Activity 2.3.2 Dialogues to develop capacities of national partners to assess multi-dimensional risks, role of climate as a root cause of resource scarcity in areas of protracted crisis, and a trigger exacerbating situations of conflict and displacement											
Outcome 3											
Strengthened national and local capacities to effectively integrate climate change considerations into development and crisis prevention/ recovery policies and to scale-up climate finance in a way that achieves local innovative solutions with benefits across the SDGs											
<i>Output 3.1. Local leadership to integrate climate change into development and crisis</i>	3.1 Level of understand of local leaders on ways to mainstream climate action into development and crisis prevention/recovery actions ¹¹	Beneficiary Surveys	0	2018	1	2	3	3			

¹⁰ Where 1 – not sufficient, 2 – average sufficiency, 3 – above average sufficiency, 4 - high sufficiency

¹¹Where 0 - low understanding, 1 – moderate understanding, 2 – high understanding, 3 – very high understanding

<i>prevention/recovery policies and plans</i>	3.2 Number of women with increased capacity to integrate climate action into development and crisis prevention/recovery policies ¹²	Project Office	1	2018	1	2	3	3			
---	--	----------------	---	------	---	---	---	---	--	--	--

Related activities:

Activity 3.1.1 Technical assistance to national partners to pilot climate services and early warning mechanisms to inform interventions, including to scale up national social protection and safety net programmes mechanisms that address climate risks to food/water security and reduce social vulnerability, with special focus on co-benefits for gender equality and women's empowerment

Activity 3.1.2. Technical assistance to national partners to mainstream climate resilient solutions into new urban development processes as well as recovery and reconstruction processes in cities affected by crisis

Activity 3.1.3. Technical assistance to national partners to mainstream climate action into crisis prevention and recovery plans and policies, including use of foresight methodology, complex adaptive systems theory and approaches to understand and managing multi-dimensional risks

<i>Output 3.2. Innovation grants to advance local, bottom-up solutions</i>	3.2.1 Number of local solar solutions developed (disaggregated by country) ¹³	Project Office	tbc	2018	tbc	tbc	tbc	tbc			
	3.2.2 Number of people benefiting from increased access to energy through local solar solutions (disaggregated by country and sex) ¹⁴	Project Office	0	2018	0	1500	1500	2000			
	3.2.3 Number of assessments and restoration measures for critical ecosystems implemented		0	2018	2	1	2	1			

Related activities:

Activity 3.2.1 Deploy off-grid local solar solutions to address emergency development needs and expanded access to health and education services for IDPs in war-affected areas of Yemen, with emphasis on innovation to achieve co-benefits across SDGs including women's empowerment, and support to establish an energy investment forum to scale-up financing and results

Activity 3.2.2 Deploy decentralized solar solutions for emergency needs and expanded access to health and education services for crisis-affected communities in the Occupied Palestine Territories, with emphasis on innovation to achieve co-benefits across SDGs women empowerment

Activity 3.2.3 Deploy solar solutions to address sustainable energy needs for returnees of conflict in areas of Iraq liberated from IS, with emphasis on women empowerment, and technical assistance to mainstream solar solutions into broader crisis recovery policies and investments planning

Activity 3.2.4 Technical assistance to identify options for scaling up solar solutions to achieve resilience of communities affected by crisis around the Syria crisis and neighbouring countries, building on initial pilot solar deployments in recent years

Activity 3.2.5 Technical assistance to assess converging risks from climate change and conflict on critical ecosystems in Iraq, such as the marshland, oases and aquifer systems, and develop policy innovations and institutional capacities to address the nexus of climate change and biodiversity, enhance ecosystem resilience and support post-conflict restoration

¹² Where 1 - 1 less than 15 women, 2 - 15 to 100 women, 3 - more than 100 women, 4 - more than 500 women

¹³ To be confirmed during the design of each country grant assessment

¹⁴ Preliminary, to be confirmed during the design of each country grant assessment

Activity 3.2.6 Technical assistance to assess climate risks to critical ecosystems in Egypt such as delta, oases and aquifer systems, and develop policy innovations and institutional capacities including a centre of excellence on climate resilience in Delta systems, in follow-up to CBD COP14

Activity 3.2.7 Technical assistance to develop institutional capacities, policy response and community action for mainstreaming climate risks into sustainable use of biodiversity, land and natural resource in west and central areas of Tunisia, including climate resilient approaches to: integrated landscape planning, protected area management, community based management of ecosystems, restoration of degraded land, and climate resilient livelihoods

<i>Output 3.3. Climate investment platform to scale-up access to innovative finance and private partnerships</i>	3.3.1 Extent to which new climate finance is generated	Project Office									
	3.3.2 Extent to which climate finance mechanisms and financing tools utilized by the project are gender-sensitive	Project Office									

Related activities:

Activity 3.3.1. Technical assistance to design and launch a climate investment platform in the region, as a means of scaling up climate finance for benefits across the SDGs in Egypt, Lebanon and Tunisia, with support to mobilize partners from banking, insurance and investor sectors, as well as IFIs, impact investors, Islamic finance, philanthropists, crowd-funding and other sources

Activity 3.3.2. Technical assistance to commercial financial institutions to develop financial products and services that support financing for climate mitigation and adaptation and for SDGs through an impact-based approach.

Activity 3.3.3. Technical assistance to countries to design a pipeline of bankable investments projects for review of partners in the investment platform, focused on climate adaptation and climate mitigation goals with co-benefits across SDGs

Activity 3.3.4. Technical assistance to help countries in the region effectively participate in global green finance processes including the G20 green finance working group, as well as UNFCCC processes on scaled up climate finance

Activity 3.3.5. Technical assistance to help countries de-risk low-carbon sustainable energy investments under the new Arab Sustainable Energy Strategy

<i>Output 3.4. Good practices, lessons learned and models captured for replication and scale-up</i>	3.4 Number of reports and materials capturing lessons learned and best practice	Project Office									
---	---	----------------	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Related activities:

Activity 3.4.1. Report capturing results under country innovation grants and climate finance platform to extract lessons learned and good practice

Activity 3.4.2. Short films capturing success stories of local results in achieving climate action in a way that brings benefits across the SDGs and for crisis prevention and recovery

Activity 3.4.3. Development of communication activities including blogs, op-eds and social media contributions in leading media platforms to share success stories

VI. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

In accordance with UNDP's programming policies and procedures, the project will be monitored through the following monitoring and evaluation plans:

Monitoring Plan

Monitoring Activity	Purpose	Frequency	Expected Action	Cost (if any)
Inception report	Review initiation steps to launch the project during the first six months, including	Six months after start of project	Project Manager	N/A
Track results progress	Progress data against the results indicators in the Work Plan will be collected and analysed to assess the progress of the project in achieving the agreed outputs. At the start of the project, this will include an inception report at the six months mark, tracking status of project office recruitment, agreements between UNDP and Implementing Partners, and other elements of the work plan. The gender impact of the project activities will be evaluated.	Quarterly	Slower than expected progress will be addressed by Project Manager /CTA with support of UNDP Regional Hub as needed.	N/A
Monitor and Manage Risk	Identify specific risks that may threaten achievement of results. Identify, monitor risk management actions using a risk log. This includes monitoring measures and plans that may have been required as per UNDP's Social and Environmental Standards. Audits will be conducted in accordance with UNDP's audit policy to manage financial risk.	Quarterly	Risks are identified by Project Manager/CTA and actions are taken to manage risk, with support of UNDP Regional Hub. The risk log is actively maintained to keep track of identified risks and actions taken.	N/A
Assess and Manage Procurement Risks	Identify specific risks that may threaten achievement of results under country grants, as related to procurement processes. This	Quarterly	Risks are identified by Project Manager/CTA and actions are taken to manage risk, with support of UNDP Regional Hub.	N/A

	includes assessment of capacities for undertaking effective procurement processes.		The risk log is actively maintained to keep track of identified risks and actions taken. Where necessary to mitigate risks, UNDP Regional Hub may provide direct procurement services to country partners to achieve results.	
Learn	Knowledge, good practices and lessons will be captured regularly, as well as actively sourced from other projects and partners and integrated back into the project.	Annually	Relevant lessons are captured by the Project Manager/CTA and used to inform management decisions by the Project Board.	N/A
Annual Project Quality Assurance	The quality of the project will be assessed against UNDP's quality standards to identify project strengths and weaknesses and to inform management decision making to improve the project.	Annually	Areas of strength and weakness will be reviewed by Programme Manager/CTA and used to inform decisions to improve project performance by the Project Board.	N/A
Review and Make Course Corrections	Internal review of data and evidence from all monitoring actions to inform decision making.	Annually	Performance data, risks, lessons and quality captured by the Programme Manager/CTA and discussed with the Project Board to make course corrections.	N/A
Project Report	An annual progress report will be developed at start of each year by the Project Manager/CTA presented to the Project Board, consisting of progress data showing results achieved in the previous year against pre-defined annual targets, the annual project quality rating summary, an updated risk log with mitigation measures, and any evaluation or review reports prepared over the period.	Annually, and at the end of the project (final report)	The Project Board to make course corrections as needed.	N/A

Project Review (Project Board)	The Project Board will hold regular meetings every 6 months to assess the performance of the project and review the Multi-Year Work Plan to ensure realistic budgeting over life of the project. In the project's final year, the Project Board shall hold an end-of project review to capture lessons and discuss opportunities for scaling up and to socialize results and lessons learned with relevant audiences.	Annually	Any quality concerns or slower than expected progress should be discussed by the Project Board and management actions agreed to address the issues identified.	\$15,000 (Project Board annual meetings)
---------------------------------------	---	----------	--	--

Evaluation Plan

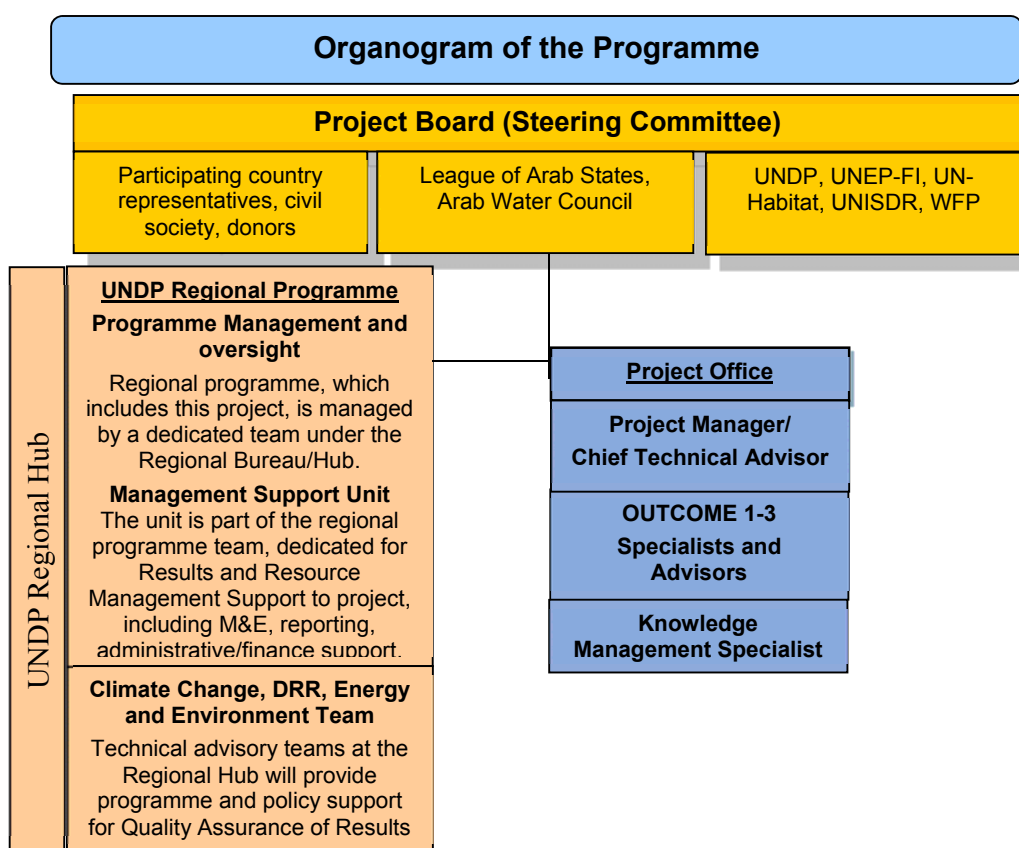
Evaluation Title	Partners (if joint)	Related Strategic Plan Output	RPD Outcome	Planned Completion Date	Key Evaluation Stakeholders	Cost and Source of Funding
Final Project Evaluation	LAS, AWC, UNDP, UNEP-FI, UN-Habitat, UNISDR, WFP	1.5, 2.3, 2.5, 3.3, 3.5	1.3, 1.4	Sept 2021	LAS, country partners	\$50,000 (SIDA)

VII. MULTI-YEAR WORK PLAN (2019-2022)

The details of the multi-year work plan/budget with cost elements of the project over three years is presented in Annex 4. The project will have an initial set of activities during its first six months of inception activities, including recruitment of project office staff, development of agreements with Implementing Partners, and other key activities under the project workplan.

VIII. GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

The programme will be executed by UNDP, with overall management of the programme by UNDPs Regional Programme Team. The policy and programme support by UNDPs Climate Change, DRR, Energy and Environment Team, and implementation support by UNDPs Management Support Unit, all integral parts of the UNDP Regional Hub for Arab States. Activities under the programme will be implemented by the partners to the programme as elaborated further below, with specific roles for UNDP, LAS, AWC, UNEP, UN-Habitat, UNISDR and WFP and selected institutions in partner countries for local activities.



Executing Agency

This project will be implemented under Direct Implementation (DIM) modality whereby UNDP will serve as Executing Agency for the programme, directly implementing its outputs and activities. UNDP Regional Programme for Arab States will have overall responsibility and oversight of project work plans and intended results. A consolidated management support unit will provide implementation support services, while technical advisory teams will provide advisory support services for quality assurance as noted in project work plans on cost recovery basis. The UN Country Teams and UNDP Country Offices will support local implementation of individual country

components of the project in concert with national partners. UNDP will ensure that all activities including procurement services are carried out in compliance with UNDPs rules and procedures. UNDP will be responsible for the following activities, required to achieve the project objectives and outputs:

- Project planning, coordination, management, monitoring and reporting
- Procurement of goods and services, including human resources
- Financial management, including overseeing financial expenditures against project budgets, as indicated in the Project Document and/or revised by the Project Office and approved by the Project Board

Responsible Parties for Implementation

UNDP is the executing agency and implementing partner for the project. It is therefore ultimately accountable for the results and resources managed through the project. To implement specific activities or outputs, UNDP is envisaged to enter into agreements with responsible parties such as LAS, AWC, UNEP-FI, UN-Habitat, UNISDR and WFP. These activities are specified in the Multi-Year Workplan (Annex 4). This will be managed through implementation agreements to be entered between UNDP and each partner during the programme inception or at the time when the activity will start. There are UN wide approved modalities of interagency agreements that define allocation of management fees (GMS) that also provide guidance to charge direct project costs. Initial estimations were provided in the Multi-Year Workplan, which will be refined during the inception phase when better estimates could be made. The definition of roles has been the result of consultation among partners to the project during the project design process, with elaboration of roles meant to bring out the comparative advantages of each agency to achieve overall outcomes. Partners have defined roles, aligned with the Workplan:

- **League of Arab States (LAS) and Arab Water Council (AWC):** partners for delivery of activities with a regional focus under Outcomes 1 and 2, including regional policy actions, roundtables and activities related to the Arab Sustainable Development High Level Committee under Outcome 1, and various assessment and analytic activities under Outcome 2, as noted in the Workplan. AWC role is based on its technical capacities, experiences and past cooperation as a technical partner to LAS, as well as its past cooperation with UNDP and other UN partners. The financial contribution from the programme for AWC implemented activities will be determined through relevant implementation agreement(s) to be signed between UNDP and AWC during programme inception.
- **UN agencies** will play key implementation support roles for activities under Outcomes 2 and 3. As discussed among partners during programme formulation and reflected in the Workplan, UNISDR, WFP and UN-Habitat will support implementation of activities related to risk management, early warning systems and urban resilience under Outcome 2. The financial contributions from the programme for the UN agency implemented activities will be determined through relevant interagency agreements during programme inception.
- **Country partners** will be designated during programme inception in selected countries to serve as local partners to implement country grants under Output 3.2, with support for fund transfer and monitoring/evaluation by UNDP Country Offices in respective countries. This process will include extensive risk management process assessing local partner implementation capacity for effective use of funds and procurement activities in line with UNDP standards. Where necessary and delivery risks are identified, procurement activities will be directly undertaken by UNDPs Regional Hub for Arab States, through its Management Support Unit, in concert with the procurement units within local UNDP Country Offices. Initial scope for country activities have been reviewed during programme formulation, to be further developed during inception into TORs for each country grant. National partners may consider further collaboration with local partner agencies, UN Country Team members, NGOs and universities for specialized capacities to help implement local activities.

Project Board

The Project Board (also called Project Steering Committee) is the main oversight mechanism for the programme, involving the key partners to the programme as elaborated in the above diagram. It meets at least once every six months to review status reports from Project Manager/CTA against the planned activities set in the work plan, and is responsible for providing guidance when required to the Project Manager/CTA. This includes recommendations for UNDP approval of project plans and revisions, and addressing any project level grievances. In order to ensure UNDP's ultimate accountability as Executing Partner of the project, Project Board decisions should be made in accordance with standards that shall ensure management for development results, best value money, fairness, integrity, transparency and effective international competition. In case a consensus cannot be reached within the Board, final decision shall rest with UNDP. Specific responsibilities of the Project Board include:

- Provide overall guidance and direction to the project, ensuring it remains within any specified constraints;
- Address project issues as raised by the Project Manager/CTA;
- Review proposals for addition of new Implementing Partners and donors to the project;
- Provide guidance on new project risks, and agree on possible countermeasures and management actions to address specific risks;
- Review the project progress, and provide direction and recommendations to ensure that the agreed deliverables are produced satisfactorily according to plans;
- Appraise the annual project implementation report, including the quality assessment rating report; make recommendations for the workplan;
- Assess and decide to proceed on project changes through appropriate revisions.

The composition of the Project Board includes the following roles:

Executive: The Executive (also called Project Director) is an individual who represents ownership of the project who will chair the Project Board, to be appointed by UNDP's Regional Programme for Arab States. The Project Board will also include the donor agency(-ies), LAS, AWC, UNEP-FI, UN-Habitat, UNISDR, and WFP, along with representatives from participating countries, CSOs and academia. The Executive is ultimately responsible for the project, supported by the Senior Beneficiary and Senior Supplier. The Executive's role is to ensure that the project is focused throughout its life cycle on achieving its objectives and delivering outputs that will contribute to higher level outcomes. The executive has to ensure that the project gives value for money, ensuring cost-conscious approach to the project, balancing the demands of beneficiary and supplier. Specific responsibilities include (as part of the above responsibilities for the Project Board):

- Ensure that there is a coherent project organization structure and logical set of plans;
- Set tolerances in the AWP and other plans as required for the Project Manager;
- Monitor and control the progress of the project at a strategic level;
- Ensure that risks are being tracked and mitigated as effectively as possible;
- Brief relevant stakeholders about project progress;
- Organise and chair Project Board meetings.

Senior Supplier: The Senior supplier (also called Development Partners) is an individual or group representing the interests of the parties concerned which provide funding and/or technical expertise to the project (designing, developing, facilitating, procuring, implementing). The senior supplier's primary function within the Project Board is to provide guidance regarding the technical feasibility of the project. The Senior Supplier role must have the authority to commit or acquire supplier resources required. UNDP will serve as the supplier, managing the project funds, along with other partners, providing financial as well as technical resources to the project. Specific responsibilities (as part of the above responsibilities for the Project Board) include.

- Make sure that progress towards the outputs remains consistent from the supplier perspective;
- Promote and maintain focus on the expected project output(s) from the point of view of supplier management;

- Ensure that the supplier resources required for the project are made available;
- Contribute supplier opinions on Project Board decisions on whether to implement recommendations on proposed changes;
- Arbitrate on, and ensure resolution of, any supplier priority or resource conflicts.

Senior Beneficiaries: The Senior beneficiaries are a group representing the interests of those who will ultimately benefit from the project such as Member States in the region, governments, civil society, etc. The senior beneficiary's primary functions within the Project Board is to ensure the realization of project results from the perspective of project beneficiaries. The senior beneficiaries are representatives of the League of Arab States to ensure that services are relevant to regional needs and country benefits. The senior beneficiary representative is responsible for validating the needs and for monitoring that the solution will meet those needs within the constraints of the project. The senior beneficiary role monitors progress against targets and quality criteria. Specific responsibilities include (as part of the above responsibilities for the Project Board):

- Prioritize and contribute beneficiaries' opinions on Project Board decisions on whether to implement recommendations on proposed changes;
- Specification of the Beneficiary's needs is accurate, complete and unambiguous;
- Implementation of activities at all stages is monitored to ensure that they will meet the beneficiary's needs and are progressing towards that target;
- Impact of potential changes is evaluated from the beneficiary point of view;
- Risks to the beneficiaries are frequently monitored.

Project Office

UNDP Regional Hub houses a Regional Programme Management Team and a Climate Change, DRR, Energy and Environment Team, which will jointly support overall programme coordination and oversight. Under their guidance and supervision, a dedicated Project Office will be established to be led by a Project Manager/CTA to coordinate day-to-day implementation of the project by the Implementing Partners. As elaborated in the above Organogram, the Project Office will be staffed with the following positions: Project Manager/CTA and SDG-Climate Advisors for leading activities under Outcomes 1-3, as elaborated under the Organogram above. A dedicated staff, funded by UNDP, will perform knowledge management functions and related communications tasks.

The Management Support Unit (MSU) under UNDP's Regional Programme Management Team will provide operational and programme management support, housing strong results-based management (RBM) support, system, and tools, which enable it to ensure delivery and capture of programme-wide results, their monitoring, including financial information, and ensure programme-based coherence and corporate compliance. The MSU is responsible for monitoring, tracking, and reporting of results under all UNDP regional projects, through a Regional Programme Dashboard and Annualized Monitoring Framework. The MSU consists of M&E, ICT and Administrative functions through dedicated staff.

Project Manager/Chief Technical Advisor (CTA)

The Project Manager/Chief Technical Advisor has the authority to run the project on a day-to-day basis on behalf of the Project Board. The Programme Manager/CTA is responsible for providing technical guidance and team management; developing and advocating for innovative policy mechanisms and approaches; identifying and developing cutting edge strategic programmes, projects and activities; producing development impacts and results for key partners; and ensuring learning, knowledge management and self-development. The Project Manager/CTA's prime responsibility is to ensure that the project produces the results specified in the project document and its work plans, to the required standard of quality and within the specified constraints of time and cost.

Project Assurance

Project Assurance is the responsibility of each Project Board member. This role will be supported by the regional programme management as well as through existing capacities available at the regional hub through the programme and policy support teams. The Project Assurance role supports the Project Board by carrying out objective and independent project oversight and monitoring functions. This role ensures appropriate project management milestones are managed and completed. The Project Office will be supported by the UNDP Climate Change, DRR, Energy and Environment Team at the Regional Hub through policy support, programme coordination and quality assurance functions on cost-recovery basis under the project. There are also numerous parallel UNDP regional projects on issues of trade, gender, anti-corruption, social cohesion and other topics, with which the programme will liaise through support of UNDPs Regional Programme, ensuring coordinated and harmonized approaches.

IX. LEGAL CONTEXT AND RISK MANAGEMENT

LEGAL CONTEXT STANDARD CLAUSES

This project forms part of an overall programmatic framework under which several separate associated country level activities will be implemented. When assistance and support services are provided from this Project to the associated country level activities, this document shall be the "Project Document" instrument referred to in: (i) the respective signed SBAs for the specific countries; or (ii) in the [Supplemental Provisions](#) attached to the Project Document in cases where the recipient country has not signed an SBAA with UNDP, attached hereto and forming an integral part hereof. All references in the SBAA to "Executing Agency" shall be deemed to refer to "Implementing Partner." This project will be implemented by the agency (UNDP) ("Implementing Partner") in accordance with its financial regulations, rules, practices and procedures only to the extent that they do not contravene the principles of the Financial Regulations and Rules of UNDP. Where the financial governance of an Implementing Partner does not provide the required guidance to ensure best value for money, fairness, integrity, transparency, and effective international competition, the financial governance of UNDP shall apply.

Risk Management Standard Clauses

1. The responsibility for the safety and security of the Implementing Partner and its personnel and property, and of UNDP's property in the Implementing Partner's custody, rests with the Implementing Partner. The Implementing Partner shall: (a) put in place an appropriate security plan and maintain the security plan, taking into account the security situation in the country where the project is being carried; (b) assume all risks and liabilities related to the Implementing Partner's security, and the full implementation of the security plan. UNDP reserves the right to verify whether such a plan is in place, and to suggest modifications to the plan when necessary. Failure to maintain and implement an appropriate security plan as required hereunder shall be deemed a breach of this agreement.
2. The Implementing Partner agrees to undertake all reasonable efforts to ensure that none of the UNDP funds received pursuant to the Project Document are used to provide support to individuals or entities associated with terrorism and that the recipients of any amounts provided by UNDP hereunder do not appear on the list maintained by the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999). The list can be accessed via http://www.un.org/sc/committees/1267/aq_sanctions_list.shtml. This provision must be included in all sub-contracts or sub-agreements entered into under this Project Document.
3. Consistent with UNDP's Programme and Operations Policies and Procedures, social and environmental sustainability will be enhanced through application of the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards (<http://www.undp.org/ses>) and related Accountability Mechanism (<http://www.undp.org/secu-srm>).

4. The Implementing Partner shall: (a) conduct project and programme-related activities in a manner consistent with the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards, (b) implement any management or mitigation plan prepared for the project or programme to comply with such standards, and (c) engage in a constructive and timely manner to address any concerns and complaints raised through the Accountability Mechanism. UNDP will seek to ensure that communities and other project stakeholders are informed of and have access to the Accountability Mechanism.
5. All signatories to the Project Document shall cooperate in good faith with any exercise to evaluate any programme or project-related commitments or compliance with the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards. This includes providing access to project sites, relevant personnel, information, and documentation.

Conflict Sensitivity

The programme is implemented in the Arab region, where many countries face dynamic social and political contexts, protracted situations of conflict and displacement, and disruption of development pathways. In implementing the programme in a conflict sensitive manner that adapts to these complex situations, during programme inception and during life of the programme, partners will:

(i) review the operational environments and circumstances in countries where the programme may operate during its lifetime, and operational modalities the programme can utilize for delivering activities. This is based on the extensive experience of UNDP and other implementing partners in implementing development cooperation in crisis contexts of the Arab region. UNDP has extensive experience in achieving results in crisis contexts, with over \$800 million of ongoing programming in contexts such as Iraq, Lebanon, Palestine, Syria and Yemen, with strong conflict sensitivity methodologies and operational frameworks from which this programme will benefit.

(ii) review of programme outputs and activities and possible adjustments resulting from shifting political situation in partner countries, aimed at optimizing interventions while at the same time avoiding any negative effects that may result from changing external environment.

In ensuring conflict sensitivity, the programme has been designed based on an understanding of the evolving nature of crises in the region, and in particular the converging drivers of crisis owing to both climate change and conflict. The programme also bases its design and planned activities on the institutional arrangements and experiences already in place through the role of UNDP Regional Bureau for Arab States in leading crisis prevention, response and recovery cooperation crisis contexts across the region, with over \$800 million of ongoing programming in contexts such as Iraq, Lebanon, Palestine, Syria and Yemen. This includes numerous in-depth conflict analyses undertaken by UNDP Country Offices in these and other countries in the region, regularly updated, shared and disseminated as a means of equipping programming with adequate information and preparations to face any challenge. The programme will also leverage standard practices of other partner UN agencies as well as the Sida Manual of Conflict Analysis.

A detailed analysis of conflict sensitivity of programme results would form part of the programme inception report. A conflict sensitive form of programme implementation implies that defined activities will be implemented in a way that does not unintentionally cause, or exacerbate tensions, and it will leverage on positive opportunities and constructive behaviour for policy dialogues on ways that conflict prevention and recovery can be aided by climate action. This will be undertaken by all partners to the programme, and benefit from UNDPs teams of experts at its Regional Hub for Arab States which conducts regular analyses of the crisis context in the region. One such analytical tool is a Regional Conflict Analysis which includes an overview of the background and history of conflicts in the region, identification of key stakeholders, and interacting mechanisms among them. The analysis provides a detailed understanding of root causes to ongoing conflicts, offering positive options for ways that programming can help prevent further crisis or support recovery from crisis.

UNDPs Regional Hub for Arab States also implements crisis related programming that continuously generates data, information, and knowledge on ongoing conflicts in the region and various types of risks,

political, economic, and social, affecting the development context at the local level. Some of this information is available at <http://rbas-knowledgeplatform.org>. One particular knowledge product that has been produced by UNDP is the Social Cohesion Index, a tool allowing the organization to generate a multi-dimensional analysis of all the risk factors affecting a particular context. UNDP is in the process of implementing this index that will collect data and produce analysis on risks. The programme will be guided by the findings of this tool on a continuous basis during programme's implementation.

The programme will also benefit from specific institutional mechanisms that UNDP uses to monitor conflict situations and to mitigate impacts risks to programme results. One such mechanism is the Project Board/Steering Committee of the programme, by which Members of the Board will monitoring regularly the progress of implementation, observe any factors in crisis contexts that may impact delivery of project activities, and scrutinize ways in which activities can support crisis prevention and recovery goals. Throughout programme implementation, UNDP engages as needed its network of UNDP regional security advisors as well as UNDP country level security specialists posted across the 18 UNDP country offices present in the Arab region, to alert UNDP management of any action that may be necessary. Through this process, UNDP ensures that programme implementation is informed of security risks to take the necessary mitigating actions.

X. ANNEXES

1. Social and Environmental Standards
2. Risk Analysis
3. Nationally Determined Contributions under the Paris Agreements

Annex I - Social and Environmental Risk Screening Checklist

Checklist Potential Social and Environmental Risks		
Principles 1: Human Rights		Answer (Yes/No)
1.	Could the Project lead to adverse impacts on enjoyment of the human rights (civil, political, economic, social or cultural) of the affected population and particularly of marginalized groups?	No
2.	Is there a likelihood that the Project would have inequitable or discriminatory adverse impacts on affected populations, particularly people living in poverty or marginalized or excluded individuals or groups? ¹⁵	No
3.	Could the Project potentially restrict availability, quality of and access to resources or basic services, in particular to marginalized individuals or groups?	No
4.	Is there a likelihood that the Project would exclude any potentially affected stakeholders, in particular marginalized groups, from fully participating in decisions that may affect them?	No
5.	Is there a risk that duty-bearers do not have the capacity to meet their obligations in the Project?	No
6.	Is there a risk that rights-holders do not have the capacity to claim their rights?	No
7.	Have local communities or individuals, given the opportunity, raised human rights concerns regarding the Project during the stakeholder engagement process?	Not Applicable
8.	Is there a risk that the Project would exacerbate conflicts among and/or the risk of violence to project-affected communities and individuals?	No
Principle 2: Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment		
1.	Is there a likelihood that the proposed Project would have adverse impacts on gender equality and/or the situation of women and girls?	No
2.	Would the Project potentially reproduce discriminations against women based on gender, especially regarding participation in design and implementation or access to opportunities and benefits?	No
3.	Have women's groups/leaders raised gender equality concerns regarding the Project during the stakeholder engagement process and has this been included in the overall Project proposal and in the risk assessment?	No
4.	Would the Project potentially limit women's ability to use, develop and protect natural resources, taking into account different roles and positions of women and men in accessing environmental goods and services? <i>For example, activities that could lead to natural resources degradation or depletion in communities who depend on these resources for their livelihoods and well being</i>	No
Principle 3: Environmental Sustainability: Screening questions regarding environmental risks are encompassed by the specific Standard-related questions below		
Standard 1: Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Natural Resource Management		
1.1	Would the Project potentially cause adverse impacts to habitats (e.g. modified, natural, and critical habitats) and/or ecosystems and ecosystem services? <i>For example, through habitat loss, conversion or degradation, fragmentation, hydrological changes</i>	No
1.2	Are any Project activities proposed within or adjacent to critical habitats and/or environmentally sensitive areas, including legally protected areas (e.g. nature reserve, national park), areas proposed for protection, or recognized as such by authoritative sources and/or indigenous peoples or local communities?	No

¹⁵ Prohibited grounds of discrimination include race, ethnicity, gender, age, language, disability, sexual orientation, religion, political or other opinion, national or social or geographical origin, property, birth or other status including as an indigenous person or as a member of a minority. References to "women and men" or similar is understood to include women and men, boys and girls, and other groups discriminated against based on their gender identities, such as transgender people and transsexuals.

1.3	Does the Project involve changes to the use of lands and resources that may have adverse impacts on habitats, ecosystems, and/or livelihoods? (Note: if restrictions and/or limitations of access to lands would apply, refer to Standard 5)	No
1.4	Would Project activities pose risks to endangered species?	No
1.5	Would the Project pose a risk of introducing invasive alien species?	No
1.6	Does the Project involve harvesting of natural forests, plantation development, or reforestation?	No
1.7	Does the Project involve the production and/or harvesting of fish populations or other aquatic species?	No
1.8	Does the Project involve significant extraction, diversion or containment of surface or ground water? <i>For example, construction of dams, reservoirs, river basin developments, groundwater extraction</i>	No
1.9	Does the Project involve utilization of genetic resources? (e.g. collection and/or harvesting, commercial development)	No
1.10	Would the Project generate potential adverse transboundary or global environmental concerns?	No
1.11	Would the Project result in secondary or consequential development activities which could lead to adverse social and environmental effects, or would it generate cumulative impacts with other known existing or planned activities in the area? <i>For example, a new road through forested lands will generate direct environmental and social impacts (e.g. felling of trees, earthworks, potential relocation of inhabitants). The new road may also facilitate encroachment on lands by illegal settlers or generate unplanned commercial development along the route, potentially in sensitive areas. These are indirect, secondary, or induced impacts that need to be considered. Also, if similar developments in the same forested area are planned, then cumulative impacts of multiple activities (even if not part of the same Project) need to be considered.</i>	No
Standard 2: Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation		
2.1	Will the proposed Project result in significant ¹⁶ greenhouse gas emissions or may exacerbate climate change?	No
2.2	Would the potential outcomes of the Project be sensitive or vulnerable to potential impacts of climate change?	No
2.3	Is the proposed Project likely to directly or indirectly increase social and environmental vulnerability to climate change now or in the future (also known as maladaptive practices)? <i>For example, changes to land use planning may encourage further development of floodplains, potentially increasing the population's vulnerability to climate change, specifically flooding</i>	No
Standard 3: Community Health, Safety and Working Conditions		
3.1	Would elements of Project construction, operation, or decommissioning pose potential safety risks to local communities?	No
3.2	Would the Project pose potential risks to community health and safety due to the transport, storage, and use and/or disposal of hazardous or dangerous materials (e.g. explosives, fuel and other chemicals during construction and operation)?	No
3.3	Does the Project involve large-scale infrastructure development (e.g. dams, roads, buildings)?	No
3.4	Would failure of structural elements of the Project pose risks to communities? (e.g. collapse of buildings or infrastructure)	No
3.5	Would the proposed Project be susceptible to or lead to increased vulnerability to earthquakes, subsidence, landslides, erosion, flooding or extreme climatic conditions?	No
3.6	Would the Project result in potential increased health risks (e.g. from water-borne or other vector-borne diseases or communicable infections such as HIV/AIDS)?	No
3.7	Does the Project pose potential risks and vulnerabilities related to occupational health and safety due to physical, chemical, biological, and radiological hazards during Project construction, operation, or decommissioning?	No

¹⁶ In regards to CO₂, 'significant emissions' corresponds generally to more than 25,000 tons per year (from both direct and indirect sources). [The Guidance Note on Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation provides additional information on GHG emissions.]

3.8	Does the Project involve support for employment or livelihoods that may fail to comply with national and international labor standards (i.e. principles and standards of ILO fundamental conventions)?	No
3.9	Does the Project engage security personnel that may pose a potential risk to health and safety of communities and/or individuals (e.g. due to a lack of adequate training or accountability)?	No
Standard 4: Cultural Heritage		
4.1	Will the proposed Project result in interventions that would potentially adversely impact sites, structures, or objects with historical, cultural, artistic, traditional or religious values or intangible forms of culture (e.g. knowledge, innovations, practices)? (Note: Projects intended to protect and conserve Cultural Heritage may also have inadvertent adverse impacts)	No
4.2	Does the Project propose utilizing tangible and/or intangible forms of cultural heritage for commercial or other purposes?	No
Standard 5: Displacement and Resettlement		
5.1	Would the Project potentially involve temporary or permanent and full or partial physical displacement?	No
5.2	Would the Project possibly result in economic displacement (e.g. loss of assets or access to resources due to land acquisition or access restrictions – even in the absence of physical relocation)?	No
5.3	Is there a risk that the Project would lead to forced evictions? ¹⁷	No
5.4	Would the proposed Project possibly affect land tenure arrangements and/or community-based property rights/customary rights to land, territories and/or resources?	No
Standard 6: Indigenous Peoples		
6.1	Are indigenous peoples present in the Project area (including Project area of influence)?	No
6.2	Is it likely that the Project or portions of the Project will be located on lands and territories claimed by indigenous peoples?	No
6.3	Would the proposed Project potentially affect the human rights, lands, natural resources, territories, and traditional livelihoods of indigenous peoples (regardless of whether indigenous peoples possess the legal titles to such areas, whether the Project is located within or outside of the lands and territories inhabited by the affected peoples, or whether the indigenous peoples are recognized as indigenous peoples by the country in question)? <i>If the answer to the screening question 6.3 is “yes” the potential risk impacts are considered potentially severe and/or critical and the Project would be categorized as either Moderate or High Risk.</i>	No
6.4	Has there been an absence of culturally appropriate consultations carried out with the objective of achieving FPIC on matters that may affect the rights and interests, lands, resources, territories and traditional livelihoods of the indigenous peoples concerned?	N/A
6.5	Does the proposed Project involve the utilization and/or commercial development of natural resources on lands and territories claimed by indigenous peoples?	No
6.6	Is there a potential for forced eviction or the whole or partial physical or economic displacement of indigenous peoples, including through access restrictions to lands, territories, and resources?	No
6.7	Would the Project adversely affect the development priorities of indigenous peoples as defined by them?	No
6.8	Would the Project potentially affect the physical and cultural survival of indigenous peoples?	No
6.9	Would the Project potentially affect the Cultural Heritage of indigenous peoples, including through the commercialization or use of their traditional knowledge and practices?	No

¹⁷ Forced evictions include acts and/or omissions involving the coerced or involuntary displacement of individuals, groups, or communities from homes and/or lands and common property resources that were occupied or depended upon, thus eliminating the ability of an individual, group, or community to reside or work in a particular dwelling, residence, or location without the provision of, and access to, appropriate forms of legal or other protections.

Standard 7: Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency		
7.1	Would the Project potentially result in the release of pollutants to the environment due to routine or non-routine circumstances with the potential for adverse local, regional, and/or transboundary impacts?	No
7.2	Would the proposed Project potentially result in the generation of waste (both hazardous and non-hazardous)?	No
7.3	Will the proposed Project potentially involve the manufacture, trade, release, and/or use of hazardous chemicals and/or materials? Does the Project propose use of chemicals or materials subject to international bans or phase-outs? <i>For example, DDT, PCBs and other chemicals listed in international conventions such as the Stockholm Conventions on Persistent Organic Pollutants or the Montreal Protocol</i>	No
7.4	Will the proposed Project involve the application of pesticides that may have a negative effect on the environment or human health?	No
7.5	Does the Project include activities that require significant consumption of raw materials, energy, and/or water?	No

Annex II: Risk Analysis

#	Description	Date Identified	Type	Consequence (C) and Likelihood (L) 0 = none 4= very high	Countermeasures / Management response	Owner	Submitted, updated by	Last Update
1	Coordination with regional partners and across UN system	Formulation stage	Organizational	Internal leadership / operational disputes that delay implementation C = 3 ; L = 2	Extensive consultations and joint design of all project activities with LAS, AWC, UNEP-FI, UNISDR, UN-Habitat, WFP, all of whom serve as key partners in the programme. Programme is positioned as a flagship joint UN initiative and as a strategic platform of support to regional partners. Flexibility in deployment and selection of roles of partners is promoted within the project design	UNDP Regional Programme	UNDP Regional Programme	Start of project
2	Adequate level of funding for effective implementation	Formulation stage	Operational and Financial	Funding constraints may limit ability to achieve outcomes C = 3 ; L = 2	Extensive discussions held with lead donor to prioritize objectives of the project and adjust outputs and activities according to match funding prospects.	UNDP Regional Programme	UNDP Regional Programme	Start of project
3	Political instability/conflict and unfavourable operational circumstances for country based activities	Formulation stage	Organizational and strategic	Local complexities may limit ability to achieve country level results C = 3 ; L = 2	Extensive UNDP country office presence in all countries of the region, including crisis contexts and the specific countries in focus in the project. UNDP has large ongoing portfolio of over \$800 million of crisis prevention and response	UNDP Regional Programme	UNDP Regional Programme	Start of project

					projects in the countries of the region, with strong analytic and operational capacities for undertaking project activities, including through support of UNDP Country Offices.			
4	Insufficient commitment from regional entities and partner agencies to mainstream climate action with SDG and crisis prevention/recovery measures	Formulation stage	Strategic	Lack of buy in by regional bodies and partners may limit ability to achieve nexus approaches C = 3; L = 2	Extensive consultations and joint design of all project activities with LAS, AWC, UNEP-FI, UN-Habitat, UNISDR, WFP and others, with agreement on prioritization of regional challenges, feasibility of project goals, and strong commitment for joint achievement of results	UNDP Regional Programme	UNDP Regional Programme	Start of project
5	Duplication with other regional initiatives	Formulation stage	Strategic	Lack of clear niche of the project will reduce its added value to partners C = 3; L = 2	Mapping and review undertaken during project design of other regional initiatives to specify niche of the project and ways to meet regional needs/gaps	UNDP Regional Programme	UNDP Regional Programme	Start of project
6	Availability of competent national consultants or specialized experts	Formulation stage	Organizational	Lack of effective project staff may hamper implementation C = 3; L = 2	Tapping on UNDP regional roster of experts and expert networks of partner UN Agencies. Coaching and reinforcing technical capacity of recruited experts	UNDP Regional Programme	UNDP Regional Programme	Start of project
7	Potential corruption and financial irregularities	Formulation stage	Organizational	Lack of transparency in procurement processes and potential corruption/financial irregularities C = 3; L = 1	All procurement and financial procedures will be directly handled in accordance to the UNDP Policy against Fraud and other Corrupt Practices; and multi-level monitoring	UNDP Regional Programme	UNDP Regional Programme	Start of project

					systems will be applied to minimize potential for corruption.			
8	Potential risks to effectiveness of procurement processes	Formulation stage	Organizational	Lack of effectiveness in procurement processes affecting delivery of results C = 3; L = 1	All procurement procedures will be implemented in full accordance with UNDP Programme and Operations Policies and Procedures; and multi-level monitoring systems will be applied to minimize potential for delivery challenges. Where necessary, UNDP will provide implementation support to procurement.	UNDP Regional Programme	UNDP Regional Programme	Start of project

Annex III - Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement

Country	Climate change mitigation (CCM)	Climate change adaptation (CCA)	Investments envisaged	Other information
Algeria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GHG reduction target of 7-22% by 2030, compared to BAU- scenario, conditional on external support • Renewable Energy target to reach 27% of electricity production from renewable sources • Energy efficiency targets of reducing 9% of energy consumption by 2030 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ecosystems resilience to adapt to climate risks including flooding and drought • Land rehabilitation to combat soil erosion and desertification • Integrate climate risks into national strategies and plans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific investment figure provided 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More than 50 million hectares at risks of desertification • Great green dam initiative with 1200km x 20km forest cover as a significant carbon sink
Bahrain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific GHG emission reduction targets • No specific EE and RE targets • EE measures includes Motor Vehicles Standards; and efficient lightening initiatives • RE measures: PV for electricity generation • Carbon Capture and Storage • Actions with mitigation co-benefits through diversification of economy away from dependence on oil & gas, focusing on financial, manufacturing and tourism sectors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coastal Resilience to Sea-Level Rise • Climate-resilient and integrated water resources strategy • Recovery of local fish stocks for food security 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific investment figure provided 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bahrain is an archipelago of low-laying islands
Djibouti	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GHG emissions reduction target of 40% by 2030 compared to BAU- scenario • RE measures includes PV, geothermal • EE measures includes efficient lightening in buildings • Reforestation and motor vehicle standards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building resilience to drought risks • Coastal resilience from Sea Level Rise • Improved water management • Conservation of biodiversity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • US\$3.8 billion to implement 40% non-conditional GHG emission target by 2030. • US\$1.6 billion to implement additional 20% conditional GHG emission reductions by 2030. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The adaptation projects currently being implemented account for a budget of nearly €100 million which represents just 12% of total adaptation investment needs under the 2°C Scenario, and a mere 7.5% under 4°C Scenario.
Egypt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diffusion of locally-appropriate low-carbon energy production 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coastal resilience from Sea Level Rise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approximately US\$73.04 billion of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agricultural productivity of 2 major crops -

	<p>technologies, with substantial reductions in energy intensity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the use of RE as alternative to non-renewable energy sources • Reform energy subsidies • Energy efficiency measures to reduce energy demand growth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water sector resilience including through efficient irrigations • Agriculture sector resilience for food security • Health sector resilience • Tourism sector resilience • Energy sector resilience especially hydraulic power production 	<p>investments required for implementing INDCs for adaptation and mitigations by 2030.</p>	<p>wheat and maize –projected to decline by 15% and 19%, respectively, by 2050 due to increasing temperature, irrigation water deficit and disease outbreaks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate induced SLR of 50cm can inundate low-lying lands of Delta and highly populated cities of Alexandria and Port Said.
Iraq	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GHG emissions target of 15% below BAU for years 2020 through 2035 • GHG emissions reduction target of 2% by 2030 compared to BAU as non-conditional contribution, and 13% GHG emission reduction target as conditional target contingent on international support • Mitigation measures include Carbon Capture and Storage; and transition to compound electrical turbines • RE measures includes PV technology • EE measures includes efficient lightening in buildings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resilience of critical ecosystems to climate impacts • Water sector resilience • Agriculture sector resilience for food security • Health sector resilience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific investment figure provided 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water and agricultural sectors are the most vulnerable to climate risks • Climate and human security risks
Jordan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GHG emissions target of 14% below BAU by 2030 with 1.5 as maximum non-conditional contribution. • Increase renewable energy share in the total energy mix by 11% in 2025 • Expanding use of solar energy for water heating • Green building codes • Introduction of the Zero Emission Electric Vehicle (ZEV) • Low-emission public transport • Reduce solid waste disposal in landfills from 80% to 60% in 2025 and increase treated and re-used solid waste from 20% to 40% in 2025 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water sector's adaptation • Health sector adaptation • Biodiversity, eco-systems, and protected areas adaptation • Agriculture/food security adaptation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • US\$ 5,157,250,000 is the total investments required to achieve 14% GHG emission reduction target by 2030 • US\$ 542,750,000 is investment required to achieve non-conditional 1.5% GHG emission reduction target 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The influx of Syrian refugees into Jordan has increased the demand for energy and electricity

Kuwait	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific GHG emission reduction targets • Ambitious to move to a low-carbon economy on a voluntary basis through implementation of projects and enacting laws and regulations • Energy production from municipal solid waste • Energy production from renewable sources (photovoltaic energy - solar thermal energy - wind energy) • Mass transit systems project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen coastal resilience • Adapting to lack of water resources: using higher efficiency systems • Food security by development of the agriculture sector • Dust management to reduce dust storms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific investment figure provided 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Temperature increase is one of major climate risks in Kuwait. • The annual average temperature increases by 1.6 °C during 2010 to 2035 to reach highest average record of 28.7 °C. • Dust fallout rate is equivalent to 55 tons / km² per year in total around one million tons of dust falling annually.
Lebanon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unconditional GHG emission reduction of 15% compared to BAU scenario in 2030 • Unconditional 15% of the power and heat demand in 2030 is generated by renewable energy sources • Unconditional 3% reduction in power demand through energy-efficiency measures in 2030 compared to BAU scenario • Conditional GHG emission reduction of 30% compared to the BAU scenario in 2030. • Conditional 20% of power and heat demand in 2030 is generated by renewable energy sources. • Conditional 10% reduction in power demand through energy-efficiency in 2030 compared to the demand under the BAU scenario. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity resilience • Forestry and agriculture resilience • Water sector resilience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific investment figure provided 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Temperatures expected to increase by around 1°C on the coast and 2°C in the mainland by 2040, and by 2090 they will be 3.5°C and 5°C higher, respectively. • Rainfall is projected to decrease by 10-20% by 2040 and 25-45% by the year 2090.
Libya				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • INDC not submitted to UNFCCC
Morocco	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 32% GHG emission reduction target by 2030 compared to BAU scenario • Unconditional 13 % GHG emissions reduction by 2030 compared to BAU scenario • Additional conditional 19% GHG emission reduction target by 2030 compared to BAU scenario • Reaching over 50% of installed electricity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water sector resilience including through desalination and efficient irrigation technologies • Protection of climate-sensitive production systems such as agriculture, tourism and high-risk infrastructures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • US\$ 45 billion is the total investments required between 2015-2030 to achieve GHG emission reduction targets by 2030 of which US\$ 35 billion is conditional 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over the period 2005-2010, Morocco devoted 64 % of all climate-related spending in the country to adaptation, which represents 9 % of overall investment expenditures • Morocco expects to dedicate at Least

	<p>production capacity from renewable sources by 2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing energy consumption by 15 % by 2030 			<p>15% of its overall investment budgets to adaptation to climate change</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Morocco has set up Morocco Centre For Climate Change
Oman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2% GHG emissions reduction target by 2030 relative to BAU with mitigation potential of around 88,714 gigagram CO2e • Mitigation measure includes increasing of renewable energy contributions to the energy mix, energy efficiency of industrial projects • Reducing gas flaring from oil industries • Climate policies to support transition to low-carbon development paths • Low carbon transport initiatives • Methane recovery from solid waste 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coastal resilience from tropical storms • Water sector resilience • Health sector resilience • Agriculture and fishery sectors resilience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific investment figure provided 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tropical cyclone, coastal erosion and Sea Level rise are major climate risks in Oman
Saudi Arabia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contributions through measures with mitigation co-benefits ambitions of up to 130 MtCO2e reduction target annually by 2030 including through increasing renewable energy share in the energy mix, contingent on continuing growing economy with diversified portfolio of investments • Measure that generate mitigation co-benefits and contribute to economic diversification includes EE, RE, Carbon Capture and Utilization/Storage, Utilization of gas, methane recovery and flare minimization 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water and waste water management • Urban planning • Marine Protection • Reduced desertification • Integrated coastal zone management planning • Early Warning Systems (EWS) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific investment figure provided • No specific investment figure provided 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic diversification with mitigation co-benefits • The implementation of Saudi Arabia's NDC is not contingent on international financial support, but Kingdom of Saudi Arabia recognizes the role for technology cooperation and transfer as well as capacity building for NDC implementation
Somalia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific GHG emission reduction targets • RE potentials including solar energy, hydroelectric and wind energy to achieve sustainable development and to contribute in GHG emission reduction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate resilient water management strategies for sustainable livelihoods including through integrated water resource management • Sustainable forestation and 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recurrent climate induced drought triggers massive human security risks • Illegal charcoal trade ignites conflict and accelerate environmental change and deforestation

		rangeland management		
Sudan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific GHG emission reduction targets but objective set out to implement low-carbon development strategies targeting three sectors including energy, forestry and waste • Renewable energy target aiming to integrate 20% RE share in the power system by 2030 • Energy efficiency including through efficient lighting and labeling systems • Electricity thermal generation using Natural Gas • Afforestation and reforestation • Waste management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water sector resilience including through integrated management of the water resources • Agriculture sector resilience including rain-fed agro-pastoral adaptation • Coastal and health sectors resilience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total US\$ 12.88 billion, of which US\$ 1.2 billion for adaptation and US\$ 11.68 billion for mitigation • \$4.3 billion renewable energy • \$350 million for EE measures • \$ 2.9 billion thermal power • \$3.2 billion afforestation, reforestation • \$930 waste management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drought and floods are the most recurrent climate risks Sudan is facing
Syria				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • INDC not submitted to UNFCCC
Tunisia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overall objective is to reduce carbon intensity by 41% compared to 2010 targeting energy; industrial processes; agriculture, forestry and other land use (AFOLU); waste sectors • unconditional contribution corresponds to a 13% reduction in carbon intensity compared to 2010, or around 1/3 of the overall objective • Conditional contribution aims to achieve 28% reduction in carbon intensity relative to 2010 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water sector adaptation • Coastal resilience • Agriculture sector resilience • Ecosystem resilience • Tourism sector adaptation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approximately US\$17.5 billion of investment is required to achieve the mitigation objectives, and US\$ 1.9 billion for adaptation. • In terms for mitigation, around 85% of funding needs to be mobilized for energy sector: 40% for EE and 45% for RE 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sea Level Rise is major climate risk for coastal tourist infrastructure • The coastline vulnerability to SLR has various consequences including loss of approximately 16,000 hectares of agricultural land in low-lying coastal areas
UAE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific GHG emission reduction targets • Implement measures with mitigation co-benefits • Increasing clean energy contribution to total energy mix from 0.2% in 2014, to 24% by 2021 • Improvements in Energy Intensive Industries and the Oil and Gas Sector to improve efficiency and reduce emissions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sustainable management of water resources including water conservation and desalination • Wetlands, Coastal and Marine Environment Conservation • Improve food security through 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific investment figure provided 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic Diversification with Mitigation Co-benefits

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carbon capture, usage and storage • Reduce energy and water demand including through tariff reform, and building and efficiency standards • World-class traffic and transport systems • Improvement in waste management 	<p>agriculture projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Innovation and Research & Development 		
Yemen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 14% GHG emission reduction target by 2030 below BAU which includes 1% unconditional target and 13% conditional target • Energy Power Generation through RE sources including solar, and wind energy • Fuel switching to natural gas • Energy-efficiency programs through establishing energy efficiency standards, energy use regulations and labelling and public awareness • Improving energy use efficiency in transportation sector. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water sector resilience • Agriculture sector resilience • Integrated coastal zone and marine resource management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific investment figure provided but implementation of adaptation and mitigation would need international support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water and resources scarcity drive growing human security risk increasingly triggered by climate change

Annex IV: Multi-Year Workplan/Budget



SDG Climate
Facility_Annex 4_Mult