



Access to Finance for Biodiversity Conservation Projects (UNDP)



Nature, Climate and Energy Cooperation in the Arab Region

20

Countries

West Asia & N Africa

Iraq Egypt

Syria Tunisia

Lebanon Libya

Palestine Morocco

Jordan Algeria

Yemen Djibouti

UAE, Qatar, Somalia

Bahrain, Sudan

Oman

Kuwait

Saudi

> \$300 million

Grants via

88 Country projects

4 Regional projects

> \$1 billion

Co-Financing from

Public and Private Partners

Biodiversity, Land and Ecosystems

NBSAPs/LDN: Scale Up Finance, Accelerate Results

SDG Nexus: Co-Benefits for Poverty, Gender and Peace

Enabling Policy Environment: setting the foundation for implementation of the new *Global Biodiversity Framework* via UNDP/GEF Early Action, NBSAP Update and Biodiversity Finance Initiatives in Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Somalia, Tunisia, Yemen

Scaling NBSAP and LDN Implementation: an expanding series of regional and country initiatives to expand finance and local action

Few examples =>



Regional Coral Resilience Project (2024-30)



New multi-country initiative (2023-2028) to **help restore, manage, and conserve coral reef ecosystems in the Gulf of Aqaba and Red Sea** in partnership with Jordan and Egypt and the support of the Global Coral Reef Fund and other donors.



The new initiative will help **bridge finance gaps** for ecosystem conservation to achieve the goals of the new **Global Biodiversity Framework**, and catalyze **private sector and blended finance solutions in concert with banks and investment facilities** for nature positive business and livelihoods.



Land Degradation in Lebanon's Mountains (2021-24)

(\$21m: \$4.6m GEF, \$16.5m public/private co-financing)

Ecosystem restoration is a top priority in Lebanon where mountain ecosystems in particular facing severe land degradation and loss of habitats due to unsustainable land use practices including overgrazing, deforestation, land use conversion, agricultural chemicals, quarrying and settlement. The project achieves **land degradation neutrality** in mountain ecosystems by **rehabilitating degraded lands and sustaining livelihoods**. It enhances integration of sustainability into land use planning and enhances **capacities for compliance and enforcement**.



Ecosystem Restoration in Algeria (2024-2028)

(\$28m: \$4m GEF, \$24m public/private co-finance)



The forested areas in northern Algeria face numerous **converging challenges**, including pressures from development, **unprecedented forest fires** in recent years and more frequent and **severe climate impacts**.

The project will promote conservation, restoration, and sustainable management of the **Aleppo pine forests** by enhancing **forest regulations**, developing capacities for restoration and sustainable forest management and new **nature positive financing solutions**.



Min Htut Yin

Regional Technical Specialist (Ecosystems and Biodiversity)

Nature, Climate and Energy

United Nations Development Programme

Regional Hub for Arab States

min.htut.yin@undp.org

