



Shared Prosperity Dignified Life



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**Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA),
the League of Arab States and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)**

Consultative Meeting on the Environmental Dimension of the Sustainable Development Agenda:
“Solutions and Action for SDGs implementation amid the triple planetary crisis”

Beirut, 2 March 2023

Agenda

Registration

9:00 – 9:30 *The meeting will be held at United Nations House in the Mezzanine Conference Room (MZ).*

Sponsored participants are kindly asked to bring their passport, visa receipt and airline ticket stub to the meeting.

To participate virtually:

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJctc-6oqjIoG9FOkFGgfUzQjXsDxbZnAHtU>

Opening Session

Moderator: Ms. Sara Daniel, Research Assistant, Climate Change and Natural Resource Sustainability cluster (CCNRSC), Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

9:30 – 9:45 **Opening Remarks**

- Mr. Mahmoud Fathallah, Director, Environmental Meteorological Affairs Department, League of Arab States (LAS)
- Mr. Abdelmenam Mohamed, Regional Coordinator for Science, United Nations Environment Program Regional Office for West Asia (UNEP-ROWA)
- Ms. Reem Nejdawi, Chief, Food and Environment Policies Section, CCNRSC (ESCWA)

9:45 - 9:55 **Objective of the meeting and Review of Agenda**

Mr. Hammou Laamrani, Economic affairs Officer, CCNRSC, ESCWA

9:55 – 10:15 **Setting the scene: Impact of triple planetary crisis on SDG implementation in the region (goals 6, 7, 9, 11 and 17)**

- Linking Regional Environmental Challenges to SDGs Implementation
 - Ms. Reem Nejdawi, ESCWA
- Impact of the Triple Planetary Crisis in the Arab Region
 - Mr. Abdelmenam Mohamed, UNEP-ROWA

Session I **Managing The Triple Crisis Through Sustainable Solutions (Water and Energy)**

Moderator: Ms. Roula Majdalani, Senior Climate Change Advisor for the CGIAR CWANA Regional Director, International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)

- 10:15 – 11:45
- Water-Energy-Food Nexus Approach Contribution to Water Quality Improvement, Pollution Reduction and Biodiversity Loss - GCC Perspective.
 - *Mr. Waleed Al-Zubari, Vice President and Chairman of Scientific Committee, Water Science and Technology Association (WSTA); Professor, Water Resources Management, the Arabian Gulf University (AGU), Bahrain (Online)*
 - Solutions Through Renewable Energy to Address the Triple Planetary Crisis: A Regional Perspective.
 - *Mr. Ibrahim Abdel Gelil, Consultant, Energy and Environment*
 - Co-Benefits of Efficient Use of Water and Energy to Address Climate Change, Biodiversity Loss and Pollution: Q-Nexus Model a Tool for Decision-Making.
 - *Mr. Ali Karnib, Expert in Water and Sustainable Development, Professor of Engineering at the Lebanese University*
 - Assessment of Wind Farms Impact on Biodiversity and Migratory Birds' Trajectory: A Case from Egypt
 - *Jauad El Kharraz, Executive Director, Regional Center for Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency (RCREEE) (Online)*
 - Sharing of National Experiences:
 - Environmental Dimension and SDG Implementation in Water and Energy Strategies and Plans
 - *Mr. Moulay Sliman Maliki, Chief of Planification Service, Directorate of Monitoring, Studies and Planning, Ministry of Energy Transition and Sustainable Development, Morocco*
 - Multiple Benefits of Restoring a Fragile Ecosystem: Example of Marshlands in Iraq
 - *Mr. Mounir Abbas Hussein Tuageree, Senior Chemist, Acting Director of Sustainable Development Department, Ministry of Environment, Iraq*

Discussion

11:45 - 12:00 Coffee Break

Session II **Actions For Sustainable Resilient Cities**

Moderator: Ms. Nisreen Lahham, Expert, Middle Regional Office, Arab Organization for Agricultural Development (AOAD), Cairo

- 12:00 – 13:30
- GEO for Cities: A Case of Saida an Environmentally Sustainable City
 - *Mr. Miraq Al-Jubouri, Regional Coordinator for Science-Policy, UNEP-ROWA*
 - Voluntary Local Report for Resilient Cities: The Case of Greater Amman Municipality
 - *Mr. Akram Khraisat, Director of Amman Urban Observatory, Greater Amman Municipality, Jordan (Online)*
 - The Use of Satellite Imageries for the Assessment of Climate Associated Risks.
 - *Mr. Chadi Abdallah, Researcher, National Council for Scientific Research, Remote Sensing Center*

- The Role of Financing Mechanisms in Accelerating SDGs Implementation from an Environmental Perspective
 - *Ms. Imèn Meliane, Senior Climate Change Specialist, The Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat (Online)*
- Sharing of National Experience
 - Example from Egypt on Mainstreaming Biodiversity and Pollution Prevention in Building New Resilient Cities
 - *Ms. Samah Saleh, Director General of Urban Development, Head of Sustainable Development Unit, Ministry of Environment, Egypt*
 - Examples from the Region for More Sustainable and Resilient Cities
 - *Mr. Haitham Abdelazim Elyamany, Projects Manager, Arab Network for Environment and Development (RAED)*
- How Does Effective Governance Framework Accelerate SDGs Implementation for more Sustainable and Resilient Cities?
 - *Mr. Bassel Daher, Researcher at Texas A&M University (Online)*

Discussion

13:30 – 14:30 Lunch and Networking at United Nations House Cafeteria (Ground Floor)

Session III Sustainability In Fragile Context

Moderator: Mr. Nadim Farajalla, Program Director, Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs, American University of Beirut

- 14:30 – 15:30
- Accelerating Environment-Related SDGs in Conflict and Fragile Contexts
 - *Mr. Youness Abouyoub, Chief, Governance and State-Building Section; Governance and Conflict Prevention Cluster, ESCWA*
 - Panel discussion: Solutions to Achieve Sustainability in a Fragile Context.
 - *Mr. Mwaffak Chikhali, General director, ELARD- Syrian Arab Republic (Online)*
 - *Ms. Lobna Khojaly, Responsible for the United Nations Decade for Ecosystem Restoration, General Directorate of Natural Resources Management, Biodiversity Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Sudan*
 - *Mr. Mounir Abbas Hussein Tuageree, Senior Chemist, Acting Director of Sustainable Development Department, Ministry of Environment, Iraq*
 - *Mr. Zaghloul Samhan, Director General of Policies and Planning, Environment Quality Authority, State of Palestine*

Discussion

15:30 – 15:45 Coffee Break

Session IV Greening The Industries, Transformative Actions Towards Circularity

Moderator: Mr. Hammou Laamrani, ESCWA

- 15:45 - 16:45
- Efforts in Reducing Environmental Impact of Industries and Shifting to Circular Economy: Cases from the Arab Region.
 - *Nada Sabra, National Coordinator, SwitchMed MED TEST Programme, UNIDO*

- Panel Discussion with Representatives from the Public and Private Sector:
 - *Ms. Luma Abbas Al Mahroos, Acting Director of the Department of Control and Environmental Protection, Supreme Council for Environment, Bahrain (Online)*
 - *Ms. Chantal Akl, Head of Industrial Parks and Zones Bureau, Ministry of Industry, Lebanon*
 - *Ms. Haifa Alolayan, Advisor, General Directorate for International Conventions, Ministry of Environment, Water and Agriculture (MEWA), Saudi Arabia (Online)*

Discussion

Session V	Key Messages on the Way Forward to Achieve goals 6, 7, 9, 11 and 17
16:45 - 17:00	Mr. Mahmoud Fathallah, LAS