





Towards COP27: Arab Regional Forum on Climate Initiatives to Finance Climate Action and the SDGs Project Fact Sheet

Plan and Implementation Tools for the Sustainable Management of Natural Ecosystems in the KEF-EDDIR Watershed in the Context of Climate Change

ALGERIA

Climate finance purpose

Co-Benefits

Sector

Agriculture

Geographic coverage

Local

The project targets an area of 50,000 hectares and it is located in the watershed of Kef-Eddir, which is part of the Dahra Massif. The area covers 3 governorates (wilayas) and four municipalities:

- Ain Defla governorate: Tacheta municipality
- Chlef governorate: Breira and Zeboudja municipalities
- Tipaza governorate: Béni Mileuk municipality

Description

The project aims at the sustainable and integrated management of the natural ecosystems of the Kef-Eddir watershed to achieve rational use of natural resources (land, water and biodiversity) and establish sustainable consumption and production patterns. It is in line with the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (2021-2030), and it meets national objectives in terms of land degradation neutrality, in particular the preservation of 1.5 million hectares of land located in the watersheds upstream of dams by 2030. Watershed protection allows for avoiding heavy carbon losses due to erosion, maintaining agricultural soils fertility, and reducing dams' siltation, hence the urgency of an adaptation approach to climate change, based on natural ecosystems, and the extension of nearly 60% of existing forest cover. These efforts will allow for an increase in carbon sequestration capacity by nearly 60,000 tCO2/ha, and for the protection of vulnerable local populations against the risks of extreme phenomena as recommended in the adaptation component of the planned Naturally Determined Contributions (NDCs). Furthermore, a public awareness campaign will also be advocated.

The project is part of the implementation of the national forestry strategy (2016-2035) which also integrates national issues on the sustainable management of water resources, biodiversity, land, and Algeria's commitments at the international level, through ratified multilateral agreements on the environment, especially the INDC.

Beneficiaries

The target groups of this project are farmers and breeders as well as various stakeholders in the value chains of agricultural, livestock and forestry products, including civil society and agricultural cooperatives.

In activity proposals, a distinction should be made between activities aimed at directly combating erosion or restoring ecosystems and those aimed at building resilience of vulnerable local populations which is estimated at 86,781 while taking into account the gender aspect. In this sense, it will be a question of developing alternative resources from a gender perspective: ecotourism, crafts, (enhancement of cultural heritage), and job creation through encouraging the production of Lentisk, Carob, Thuya, Oak, and Cork. The beneficiaries are not yet directly targeted, but discussions have been held with the local population who have expressed an interest in the project.

Climate rationale

Algeria has affirmed its desire to act against climate change, by ratifying the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Paris Agreement. International commitments aligned with specific

national objectives have been made as well, in particular the National Climate Plan and the national adaptation plan being developed in accordance with the INDC. Vulnerability studies indicate that changes in climate are observed in Algeria along with temperatures rise, endemic droughts causing desertification, forest degradation and soil erosion. Climate change impacts have also negative consequences on the socioeconomic development of the country, hence the importance of this project. The global context of the project meets Algeria's commitments in terms of environmental protection and the promotion of environmental goods and services, it is aligned with the UNFCCC and the Paris Climate Agreement.

Expected outcomes

- Water and soil resources are preserved, degraded lands in the catchment area are restored, and the resilience of natural environments to the effects of climate change is reinforced.
- Capacity for sustainable management and planning of natural resources is strengthened.
- Nature-based activities developed for the benefit of vulnerable local population are developed with a gender perspective.
- A communication, environmental education, awareness-raising program on the vagaries of climate change and participation (CESP) is set up.

Outcomes contribute to SDGs 2, 6, 8, 13 and 15

GHG reduction target

125,000 tCO2/ha per year (existing) + 60,000,000 tCO2/ha per year (projected) = 185,000 tCO2/ha per year

Project implementation period

2023-2026

Total Project Cost

The amount of the project is: 1,500,000,000 Algerian Dinars (DNZ)

The amount of the project is: 10 million USD, but will have to be refined during a feasibility study

Financing requirement

1,500,000,000 Algerian Dinars (DNZ)

10 million USD

Expected Tenor / Duration of financing: Four years

Project Status: Under construction

Contractual Structure: Government ownership

Project proponents

Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development/ Forestry Department

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