



Shared Prosperity Dignified Life



COP27
SHARM EL-SHEIKH
EGYPT 2022


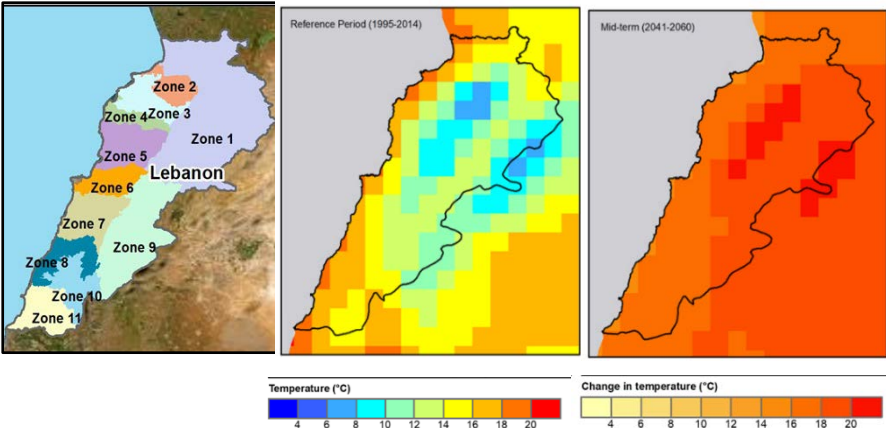
UN Climate Change High-Level Champions

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

National Emergency Plan for Forest Fire Prevention, Awareness and Readiness

LEBANON

Climate finance purpose
Adaptation
Sector
Agriculture
Geographic coverage
Sub-national
Zone 1: Akkar-Hermel-Baalback, Zone 2: Minyeh-Dinniye, Zone 3: Koura, Zgharta-Bsharreh-Tripoli, Zone 4: Batroun, Zone 5: Jbeil-Kesrouan, Zone 6: Metn-Baabda, Zone 7: Aley-Shouf, Zone 8: Saida-Jezzine, Zone 9: West Bekaa-Zahleh-Rachaya-Hasbaya, Zone 10: Nabatiyeh-Marjeoun, Zone 11: Sour-Bint Jbeil
Description
<p>In June and July 2022, heatwaves struck Europe and North Africa as temperatures climbed above 40 degrees Celsius and broke many long-standing records in some places. Heatwaves have become more frequent around the Mediterranean and Lebanon experienced catastrophic fires in 2019. In July 2021, un-precedent fires occurred in the Akkar region burning more than 1,500 Ha only in few hours. Also, heatwaves fuelled fires in high mountain lands affecting cedar, juniper and fire forests.</p> <p>The Lebanese Government through the Ministry of Environment has started since 2021 an extensive campaign to increase preparedness against fires. In 2022, the Ministry of Environment launched the National Emergency Plan for fire prevention, awareness and readiness to improve forest fire management in Lebanon and therefore minimize the negative ecological, social, and economic impacts of wild/forest fires. The purpose of this plan is to coordinate national and local efforts in readiness to address wildfires, reduce fire risk and create awareness about fire risks. The aim of this project is to implement the National Emergency Plan in the 11 priority zones that were identified as most vulnerable to forest fires and climate change.</p> <p>The implementation of the national emergency plan for fire prevention, awareness and readiness is in line with the NDC adaptation guiding principles (<i>Substantially reduce the risk of climate and non-climate related disasters to protect lives, the economy and physical and natural assets</i>) and falls under the following adaptation priorities presented by Lebanon’s NDC 2021:</p> <p>Adaptation priority 2. Promote the sustainable use of natural resources, restore degraded landscapes, and increase Lebanon’s forest cover while meeting the ecological, social and economic needs of sustainable forest management</p> <p>Adaptation priority 7. Reduce disaster risk and minimize damages by mitigating and adapting to climate-related natural hazards and extreme weather</p>
Beneficiaries
Municipalities in areas of high risk, Unions of municipalities in high-risk areas and local NGOs
Climate rationale
<p>The Lebanese forestry sector is vulnerable and threatened by many problems: forest fragmentation, quarries, grazing practices, overexploitation of forests, poorly enforced legislation, and pests and disease. Yet, the biggest threat to the forestry sector in the past few years has been climate change, especially since the main causes of forest degradation according to the National Council of Scientific Research are forest fires, land erosions, storms, and heavy wind, with forest fires causing the highest cost of damages on Lebanese forests. Terrestrial biodiversity is also highly threatened by climate change. Drier climate and increased human pressure are expected to cause significant impacts on terrestrial biodiversity, forest productivity, burnt area, freshwater ecosystems, and agro-systems.</p>

Expected outcomes	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve interventions and safety in monitoring the probability of fire and detecting the event of fire • Increase ecological and social resilience to fire, and preventing the occurrence of harmful fires and unsustainable fire-fighting regimes are undertaken • Raise awareness and know-how of land users to help in rapidly detecting and communicating fires at a very early stage <p>Outcomes contribute to SDG 1, 8, 12, 13 and 15.</p> <p>The proposed activities are in line with Lebanon's updated NDC (2021), and in line with the activities presented under adaptation priority 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adapt forest systems to climate change by halting land degradation, controlling erosion of topsoil, improving water quality and soil productivity; • Establish sites with improved production capacity linking with the development of wood and non-wood forest product processing industry and with the people's needs in terms of goods and services and improved employment opportunities; • Promote sustainable rangeland management; • Reduce the risk of intense and frequent forest fires through the development of fire prevention measures and early warning systems; • Manage pest and disease outbreaks to protect forests and forest resources. 	
GHG reduction target	
N/A	
Project implementation period	
24 months	
Total Project Cost	
Amount in National Currency:	
Amount in US\$ equivalent (per 1 August 2022 exchange rate): 1,500,000 USD	
Financing requirement	
Amount in National Currency:	
Amount in US\$ equivalent (per 1 August 2022 exchange rate): 1,500,000 USD	
Expected Tenor / Duration of financing: 48 months	
Project Status: Pre-feasibility	
Contractual Structure: Government ownership	
Project proponents	
Ministry of Environment	
Contact persons	
Ms. Samar Malek, UNFCCC Focal Point, Ministry of Environment, Email: samar@moe.gov.lb	
Ms. Léa Kai, Climate Change Project Manager, Ministry of Environment, Email: l.kai@moe.gov.lb	
Emblem	Photo, chart or another visual asset
 <p>الجمهورية اللبنانية وزارة البيئة</p>	 <p>Reference Period (1995-2014)</p> <p>Mid-term (2041-2060)</p> <p>Temperature (°C)</p> <p>Change in temperature (°C)</p>