



Shared Prosperity Dignified Life



Distr.
LIMITED
E/ESCWA/CL1.CCS/2023/WG.11/L.1
21 November 2023
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

Regional Dialogue on Accelerating the Transition to Circular Economy for Climate Resilience in the Arab Region
Amman, 22-23 November 2023

AGENDA

Wednesday, 22 November 2023

9:00 – 9:20

Registration

The meeting will be held at the Kempinski Hotel Amman, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

To participate virtually, kindly register and connect through the following link:

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMldeyvgz0sGNMLui32-gcJhPOYa53p4D2e>

Opening Session

Moderator:

Mr. Hammou Laamrani, Economic Affairs Officer, Climate Change and Natural Resource Sustainability Cluster, ESCWA

9:20 – 9:40

Opening Remarks

- *Mr. Jihad Al Sawair, Advisor to the Minister on Technical Affairs, Director of the Green Economy Unit, Ministry of Environment, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan*
- *Ms. Veronika Ertl, Head, Regional Program Energy Security and Climate Change Middle East and North Africa, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS-REMENA)*
- *Ms. Reem Nejdawi, Chief, Food and Environment Policies Team, Climate Change and Natural Resource Sustainability Cluster, ESCWA*

9:40 – 9:50

Meeting Objectives and Agenda

- *Ms. Sarah Daniel, Research Assistant, Climate Change and Natural Resource Sustainability Cluster, ESCWA*

9:50 – 10:00

Tour de table

10:00 – 10:25

Keynote Presentation

- Key Drivers for Circular Economy Acceleration
 - *Mr. Grzegorz Peszko, Lead Economist, Global Platforms, Environment, Natural Resources & Blue Economy, World Bank (Online)*

Discussion

Session 1 Enabling Policies for Transition Acceleration

Moderator: Ms. Reem Nejdawi, Chief, Food and Environment Policies Team, Climate Change and Natural Resource Sustainability Cluster, ESCWA

10:25 – 10:45 **Circular Economy for Accelerating Climate Action: Scaling with Policies**
• Ms. Valérie Boiten, Senior Policy Officer, Ellen MacArthur Foundation (Online)

10:45 – 11:45 **Panel Discussion**
• Ms. Sarah Elsaid, Regional Coordinator, African Circular Economy Network Foundation (ACENF) (Online)
• Mr. Tarik Chfadi, Researcher, International Water Research Institute (IWRI), Mohammed VI Polytechnic University (UM6P), Kingdom of Morocco (Online)
• Mr. Luc Reuter, SwitchMed Policy Coordinator, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
• Mr. Mohammed Al Ghafri, Public Policies Analyst, Economic Policies Department, Ministry of Economy, Sultanate of Oman

Discussion

11:45 – 12:15 Coffee Break

Session 2 Financing the Transition to Circular Economy

Moderator: Ms. Veronika Ertl, Head, Regional Program Energy Security and Climate Change Middle East and North Africa, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS-REMENA)

12:15 – 12:30 **Connecting ESG to Circular Economy**
• Mr. Yasser Akkaoui, Founder, Capital Concept

12:30 – 13:15 **Panel Discussion**
• Ms. Krystle Cooper, Deputy Country Representative, Global Green Growth Institute, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
• Ms. Bouthaina Aburoza, Founder and Managing Director, Qutoof Professional Development, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
• Mr. Fadi Khalil, Head, Green Committee, Association of Banks in Jordan, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

Discussion

13:15 – 14:15 Lunch

Session 3 Ensuring Effective Governance for Accelerated Transition to Circular Economy

Moderator: Mr. Kareem Hassan, Executive Director, ESCWA Technology Centre

14:15 – 15:15 **Panel Discussion**
• Mr. Eyad Yaqob, CEO, Climate Change Center, Arab American University, State of Palestine
• Mr. Yaser Suleiman, Project Leader, Jordanian Module of the Global Project Environmental Protection Worldwide, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)

- *Mr. Frédéric de Dinechin, Senior Adviser, Water, Environment and Blue Economy, Union for the Mediterranean (Online)*
- *Mr. Maisam Otoum, Jordan Country Director, cewas Middle East*

Discussion

Session 4 Countries Experience and Lessons Learnt in the Transition

Moderator: Mr. Hammou Laamrani, Economic Affairs Officer, Climate Change and Natural Resource Sustainability Cluster, ESCWA

15:30 – 16:30 **Panel Discussion**

- *Ms. Samah Saleh, Director General of Urban Development, Head of Sustainable Development Unit, Arab Republic of Egypt*
- *Ms. Loubna Al Abed, Chief, Service of Non-Hazardous Waste Recovery, Ministry of Energy Transition and Sustainable Development, Kingdom of Morocco*
- *Ms. Meriem Sahtout, Training Quality Chief, Tunis International Center for Environmental Technologies, Republic of Tunisia*
- *Mr. Gaby Kassab, President and Founder, Ecoserv, Republic of Lebanon (Online)*

Discussion

End of Day 1 and Evaluation

Thursday, 23 November 2023

9:00 – 9:15 **Recap of Day 1**

- *Ms. Miranda Andersson, Research Assistant, Climate Change and Natural Resource Sustainability Cluster, ESCWA (Online)*

Session 5 Prioritizing Key Sectors for the Transition to a Circular Economy

Moderator: Ms. Sarah Daniel, Research Assistant, Climate Change and Natural Resource Sustainability Cluster, ESCWA

9:15 – 10:15 **Panel Discussion**

- *Mr. Fahad Al Jahwari, Economic Analyst, Economic Policies Department, Ministry of Economy, Sultanate of Oman*
- *Mr. Nabil Hamdi, General Engineer, Director at the Sustainable Development Department, Ministry of Environment, National Focal Point for SwitchMed Programme (SDG12), Republic of Tunisia (Online)*
- *Ms. Chantal Akl, Head of Industrial Parks and Zones Bureau, Ministry of Industry, Republic of Lebanon*
- *Ms. Shada Sherif, Founder, SustainMENA, Senior Advisor, Green Economy, Climate Change & Sustainability, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan*

Discussion

Session 6 Mainstreaming Circular Economy in Public Policies

Moderator: Ms. Maha Al Zu'bi, Regional Researcher, Sustainable & Resilient Water Systems, Co-Lead, From Fragility to Resilience in CWANA Regional Integrated Initiative, International Water Management Institute (IWMI)

10:15 – 11:15 **Panel Discussion**

- Ms. Loubna Zaitouni, Senior Legal Affairs Specialist, New Economy Department, Ministry of Economy, United Arab Emirates
- Mr. Mohammad Asfour, Consultant, The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
- Mr. Hammou Laamrani, Economic Affairs Officer, Climate Change and Natural Resource Sustainability Cluster, ESCWA
- iPARK Representative (tbc)

11:15 – 11:45 Discussion on ways for mainstreaming circular economy in the Arab Countries. *The outcomes of the discussion will feed into the policy guidelines for States on mainstreaming circular economy for guiding them in initiating, accelerating or scaling up their transition towards circular practices.*

11:45 – 12:15 Coffee Break

Session 7 Ensuring Sustainability of the Dialogue on Circular Economy

Moderator: Mr. Hamza Saidi, Project Coordinator, KAS-REMENA

Key Conclusions

12:15 – 12:25 • Ms. Sarah Daniel, Research Assistant, Climate Change and Natural Resource Sustainability Cluster, ESCWA

12:25 – 13:15 Discussion on the Way Forward

Closing Session

Closing Remarks

13:15 – 13:30 • Ms. Veronika Ertl, KAS-REMENA
• Ms. Reem Nejdawi, ESCWA

End of meeting

13:30 – 14:30 Lunch
