

Towards COP28: Second Arab Regional Forum on Climate Finance

Dubai, 6 November 2023

AGENDA

8:45 - 9:30 am **Breakfast & Arrival Registration**

9:30 - 9:45 am **Opening Ceremony**

Welcome Remarks ▪ Ms. Alya Al Zarouni, Chief Operating Officer, DIFC

Keynote Speeches ▪ Dr. Mahmoud Mohieldin, UN Climate Change High-Level Champion for COP27 Presidency, Egypt and UN Special Envoy on Financing the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda

▪ H.E. Ms. Razan Al Mubarak, UN Climate Change High-Level Champion for the COP28 Presidency, UAE and President of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)

9:45 - 10:45 am **First Panel**

Bridging the Gap: Navigating complexities and future-proofing climate finance in the Arab region

Objective *This panel aims to explore the multifaceted landscape of climate finance in the Arab region, focusing on financing mechanisms, partnerships, and innovations that can drive investment in a diverse set of projects*

Moderator Mr. Mazen Soueidan, Emerging Markets and Developing Economies Lead, Finance, Climate Champions Team

Context Framing Climate Challenges and Climate Finance Flows to Arab States

▪ Ms. Carol Chouchani Cherfane, Director, Arab Centre for Climate Change Policies, ESCWA

Panelists ▪ Mr. Sufyan Al Issa, Global Head of Business Development and Client Coverage, International Finance Corporation

▪ Ms. Zoe Knight, Managing Director and Group Head, HSBC Centre of Sustainable Finance, HSBC

▪ Mr. Sanjeev Gupta, Executive Director, Financial Services, Africa Finance Corporation

▪ Ms. Priyanthini McNair, Group Co Head of Corporate Coverage, Corporate and Institutional Banking, Emirates NDB

▪ Mr. Gerard Foguet, Executive Director of Sustainability Asset and Project Finance - Global Corporate Finance, First Abu Dhabi Bank

Discussion

10:45 - 11:15 am**Project Showcases – Part 1****Moderator**

Ms. Sara Lemniei, CEO, SLK Capital

Lebanon

- H.E. Dr. Nasser Yassine, Minister of Environment
 - Sustainable Forest Management and Forest Fire Prevention

Egypt

- H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat, Minister of International Cooperation
 - Egypt's Country Platform for the Nexus of Water, Food and Energy (NWFE) – *recorded video statement*
- Mr. Prasad Veettil, Head, Power, AMEA Power
 - Green Hydrogen Production in the Suez Canal Economic Zone

Commentators

- Adaptation Fund, Mr. Mahamat Assouyouiti - *online*
- NDC Partnership, Mr. Mohamed Boussaid - *online*
- Green Climate Fund, Dr. Amgad Elmahdi - *online*

11:15 - 11:45 am**Tea Break & Interactive Networking****11:45 - 12:30 pm****Project Showcases – Part 2****Moderator**

Ms. Sara Lemniei, CEO, SLK Capital

Jordan

Aqaba-Amman Water Desalination & Conveyance Project (AAWDCP)

- Mr. Issa Alwer, Project Manager, AAWDCP
Presentation & Video

Tunisia

Energy Efficiency in the Sustainable Urban Mobility

- Ms. Fathia Neji, Director of Strategy and Projects, Ministry of Transport
Presentation & Video

Algeria

Sustainable Management of Watersheds and Land Restoration

- *Video*

Oman

Al Batina Treated Effluent Line

- Mr. Sultan Al Salami, Investment and Partnership Manager, Oman Water & Wastewater Services Company

Commentators

- European Investment Bank, Ms. Souad Farsi
- Blended Finance Taskforce, Ms. Katherine Stodulka - *online*
- Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA), Ms. Layali Abdeen - *online*
- Union for the Mediterranean, Mr. Frederic de Dinechin - *online*

Discussion**12:30 - 1:15 pm****Networking Luncheon****1:15 - 2:15 pm****Second Panel****Turning ideas into action: Pragmatic solutions for climate financing in the Arab region****Objective**

The panel will delve into the practical aspects of mobilizing capital for climate projects in the Arab region, from risk assessment to the role of blended finance, aiming to provide a roadmap for turning theoretical concepts into actionable solutions

Moderator

Ms. Sagarika Chatterjee, Department Director, Climate Finance, Climate Champions Team

Context Framing

Lessons Learned from Mobilizing Climate Finance in the Arab Region

- Mr. Vamsi Duraibabu, Regional Investment Lead, Middle East & Africa, Global Green Growth Institute

Panellists

- Mr. Martin Nagell, Director, Mergers and Acquisitions, Masdar
- Ms. Lina Osman, Managing Director & Head Sustainable Finance, Standard Chartered Bank
- Mr. Sud Chantralingam, Lead Structured Credit and Political Risk, Marsh
- Mr. Robert Ansari, Head of Investments and Retirement IMEA, Mercer

Discussion**2:15 - 2:45 pm****Closing Remarks**

- Ms. Carol Chouchani Cherfane, Director, Arab Centre for Climate Change Policies, ESCWA
- United Arab Emirates Representative
- Dr. Mahmoud Mohieldin, UN Climate Change High-Level Champion for COP27 Presidency, Egypt and UN Special Envoy on Financing the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda