



The Arab Region Environmental Priorities ... to be Addressed Through Technology

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Amman 29TH JULY 2019



**THE ARAB REGION DEPENDS ON THE EXPLOITATION
OF ITS NATURAL CAPITAL WHICH IS STEADILY BEING
DEPLETED**



GREEN ECONOMY AS A PATH
&
GREEN TECHNOLOGY AS TOOL



Green Economy

- ▶ Considered as one of the mechanisms for the implementation of the Strategic Frame for Sustainable Development in the Arab Region
- ▶ CAMRE requested LAS & ESCWA to draft a Road Map for Investment in Green Economy in the Arab Region
- ▶ The road map was finalized and endorsed by CAMRE in November 2014



Green Technology:

- ▶ Should reduce & efficiently use natural resources and preserve the environment
- ▶ There is no specific policy framework within LAS system addressing Green Technology
- ▶ To have Green Technology.... a Green Economy approach is required.
- ▶ *The Arab Strategy for Sustainable Consumption & Production, adopted in 2009, covered issues of Green Economy & Green Technology*
- ▶ *The Guiding Framework for the Environmental Dimension of the SDGs for the Arab Region, adopted in 2017, addresses Green Economy & Green Technology*



Green Economy & Technology Versus the Environment in the Arab Region

What ?

Why?

How?



What are the priority environmental Challenges facing the Region?

- (A) Water: scarcity as well as floods and droughts.
- (B) Desertification: land degradation & soil erosion.
- (C) Biodiversity loss & deterioration of ecosystem services
- (D) Pollution: Air, land and marine.
- (E) Global warming & Climate change: sea level rise, natural disasters.



What More ?

The Region is characterized by

- ▶ Food shortages/insecurity
- ▶ Population growth, health & unemployment issues,
- ▶ Conflict, occupation & migration
- ▶ Fast urbanization & related infrastructure,
- ▶ Waste management
- ▶ Energy efficiency & Renewable energy



What More ?

The Arab Strategy for SCP identified the Regional sustainable consumption & production priorities as:

Energy, Water, Waste, Rural development & poverty eradication, Education and sustainable lifestyles, Sustainable Tourism



Why ? The Region should follow

A GREEN PATH & use Green Technology

The Arab Region has no option

BUT

- Address environmental degradation
- Stop depletion of natural resources
- Adapt & mitigate the realities of climate change
- Achieve energy efficiency
- Open new opportunities for employment
- Diversify economies away from resource-intensive growth
- Open new markets



How ?

At the National Level: Understanding green economy & how it is perceived

- ▶ Starting the process through Sector-specific initiatives: sustainable public procurement.
- ▶ Bettering policy integration & establishing a green economy comprehensive and integrated plan of action
- ▶ Research & Development
- ▶ Adjusting production and consumption models
- ▶ Modifying governance systems,
- ▶ Transforming investment models
- ▶ Using innovative financing mechanisms
- ▶ Mobilizing efforts by all stakeholders at all levels
- ▶ Addressing capacity building needs and **Green Technology Transfer**



How ?

At the Regional Level:

- ▶ Regional Cooperation
- ▶ Exchange of best practices and experiences
- ▶ Identify implementation gaps of policies
- ▶ Accelerate the entry into force of the Arab Environmental Facility
- ▶ Development of Regional Guidelines for Green Technology & Green Economy
- ▶ Development of a model legal framework for Green Technology & Green Economy
- ▶ Raise awareness at all levels & form partnerships with all stakeholders



Conclusion: In 2019, Key Strategic Sectors of Green economy & technology in the Arab Region are:

- ▶ Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency,
- ▶ Water Management and Sanitation,
- ▶ Green building,
- ▶ Sustainable Transport,
- ▶ Waste Management,
- ▶ Ecotourism,
- ▶ Sustainable Agriculture and Fishing,
- ▶ Green Industries



Conclusion (continued):

Arab Region should start to:

- ▶ The TRANSFER and LOCALIZATION of Green Technology.
- ▶ Develop its own green technologies that are adapted to their local needs and conditions, and pursuing their sustainability.
- ▶ Integrate their economic policies & transform them into green growth programs & concrete actions that take into account environmental and social challenges and opportunities.

“OWNERSHIP”, “AFFORDABILITY” & “SUSTAINABILITY” of Green Technology are challenges that need to be traversed



Let us work
together !!!!



Thank you