

Arab States Climate Finance Access and Mobilization Strategy 2022–2030



United Nations
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Climate Change



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I. Introduction

A. Background

1. The Arab States Climate Finance Access and Mobilization Strategy was developed under the Needs-based Climate Finance (NBF) project, which is in response to the request of the Conference of the Parties at its twenty-third and twenty-sixth sessions for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) secretariat to explore ways and means to assist developing country Parties in assessing their climate finance needs and priorities and in translating them into action.¹
 2. The Council of Arab Ministers Responsible for the Environment (CAMRE), at its 32nd session, on 4 October 2021, requested the technical secretariat of the League of Arab States (LAS), the UNFCCC secretariat and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) to finalize the Arab States Climate Finance Access and Mobilization Strategy. Specifically, CAMRE requested that the Strategy provide guidance for the Arab States² on how to assess their needs, access climate finance and mobilize resources from global funds, including through bilateral and multilateral funds, with a focus on adaptation finance as a regional priority.³ The Minister of Environment of Egypt, serving as Chair of the 32nd session of CAMRE, emphasized the urgent need to scale up climate finance in the region and prioritize adaptation through grant-based financing, highlighting the importance of the Strategy as a regional contribution to the twenty-seventh session of the Conference of the Parties, to be hosted by Egypt in November 2022.
 3. The Strategy is informed by the technical assessment of climate finance in the Arab States,⁴ which was prepared within the framework of the NBF project in the Arab region that was launched by the UNFCCC secretariat, the LAS secretariat and ESCWA in November 2019. The assessment outlines the flow of climate finance into the region and the needs expressed by countries based on their national reports. The process of preparing the assessment included a series of regional consultations with national experts and a gap analysis in relation to climate finance needs.
- by the adverse climate change impacts that are already evident in several sectors such as water, agriculture, infrastructure, health and tourism. These impacts contribute to the region's climate change vulnerability and exposure to disaster risk.
5. The Arab States' have a population of over 436 million, of which 60 per cent are under the age of 30, and constitute one of the most arid regions in the world, with over 90 per cent of the land classified as arid or hyperarid. Of the 22 Arab States, 19 are considered water scarce and 13 fall below the absolute freshwater scarcity threshold of 500 m³ per capita per year. The regional climate projections generated under the United Nations-LAS Regional Initiative for the Assessment of Climate Change Impacts on Water Resources and Socio-Economic Vulnerability in the Arab Region show that the average annual temperature in the region is expected to increase by up to 4.5 °C by the end of the twenty-first century under the high-emission scenario. Precipitation is expected to show a largely decreasing trend across the Arab region up to the end of the century, with some areas expected to experience an increase in intensity and volume of precipitation in certain seasons. Increasing frequency and intensity of extreme weather events in the region are also projected, including flash floods, drought and sandstorms.⁵
 6. Agriculture is the main source of employment and livelihoods for about 38 per cent of the region's population but contributes only 7 per cent of its gross domestic product. It is projected that up to 84 per cent of agricultural land in the region is highly vulnerable to changes in water availability and increasing temperature.⁶
 7. Regional agricultural productive output is expected to decrease by 21 per cent by 2080, with yields of some crops declining by up to 60 per cent by 2080 as a result of climate change. Extreme climate events, including flash floods, drought, heat waves and storm surges, are affecting water and food security, human health and biodiversity, as well as coastal communities and cities. Urgent action is needed to adapt to climate change.⁷
 8. At the same time, the capacity to pursue climate commitments has been limited recently by the need to redirect financial resources towards dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic. Gross public debt in the Arab region reached a historic high of \$1.4 trillion in 2020, with many of the Arab States, particularly the Arab least developed countries, suffering from high debt burdens already prior to

B. Regional context

4. The Arab region is facing social, economic and environmental challenges that are compounded

the pandemic and the subsequent food and energy crisis.⁸ As a region dependent upon food imports to meet its food security needs, the Arab States are highly vulnerable to global price fluctuations. Over 40 million migrants and refugees, with one in three being women or girls, were hosted in the Arab region in 2019.⁹ This increases the need for social protection, which places further strain on limited government resources.

9. The Arab region is subject to the largest gap in access to credit in the world, which limits opportunities for investment in more sustainable

production and consumption patterns by the private sector, including small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), which account for about 96 per cent of registered companies in the region and 50 per cent of employment. The region has one of the lowest shares of women-owned SMEs at 14 per cent, compared with the global average of 34 per cent.¹⁰ Better access to finance can improve the ability of SMEs to access green technologies, become climate-resilient and contribute to a just and inclusive sustainable energy transition.

II. Climate finance needs and state of finance flows

A. Climate finance needs

10. Being committed to enhanced climate action, 21 of the 22 Arab States have submitted nationally determined contributions (NDCs), which outline their commitment to reduce emissions and adapt to climate change and articulate their needs. The total quantified climate finance needs articulated by 13 Arab States up to mid-2020 amounted to \$436-478 billion for up to 2030.¹¹ As of April 2022, 16 Arab States had submitted new or updated NDCs, which include more cost estimates for adaptation measures and projects by sector.
11. All of their new or updated NDCs include an adaptation component, where information is provided to varying extents on adaptation challenges and needs, including sectoral vulnerabilities and priority adaptation measures. All but two of the States reference opportunities for adaptation and mitigation co-benefits in their new or updated NDCs.
12. Adaptation measures continue to be a priority for the region, where the water and agriculture sectors are the priority areas for adaptation, with coastal zone management, biodiversity, health, urban areas and infrastructure, and tourism also referenced. The water sector is identified as the most vulnerable sector to climate change, with adaptation needs covering water resource conservation, wastewater reuse, desalination, rainwater harvesting, early warning systems, and water sector policy and governance.
13. The Arab States demonstrate enhanced ambition in their mitigation targets. Almost all of their new

or updated NDCs specify overall greenhouse gas emission reduction goals for a target year based on conditional and/or non-conditional international support, with some referencing net zero goals. Priority mitigation measures are in the areas of renewable energy, energy efficiency, transport, buildings, industry, agriculture, land use, land-use change and forestry, desalination, waste and wastewater management.

14. While a country-level bottom-up approach to assessing and addressing needs reflects the diversity of the region, multi-country and regional approaches can help to improve access to finance, particularly for smaller States, as well as help to attract new sources of finance. The identified priority sectors for accessing and mobilizing climate finance identified include:

- a. Agriculture for food security;
- b. Water resources and desalination;
- c. Coastal zone management;
- d. Sustainable use of cooling systems;
- e. Scaling up renewable energy;
- f. Energy efficiency programmes;
- g. Sustainable and green buildings;
- h. Enhancing health services;
- i. The tourism sector.

B. Climate finance flows

15. Climate finance flows into the region are estimated at \$3.6-4.9 billion per year, with an additional \$1.5-2.5 billion of international private sector investment

in renewable energy, resulting in a total of \$5.1-7.4 billion per year. This indicates that there is a large gap between available and needed finance for addressing climate change in the region.¹²

16. The climate finance flows are concentrated in five States, although needs are identified across the region. The least developed countries in the Arab region receive just 5 per cent of climate finance flows into the region. Furthermore, the region received 8.5 times more loans than grants and 3.5 times more support for mitigation than adaptation between 2013 and 2019.¹³ Grants received for adaptation actions slightly increased in 2019 compared to the period between 2013 and 2018, but non-concessional loans remain the most common form of support provided, whereas more concessional instruments and grants, such as those provided by climate funds, are typically

required to assist in meeting adaptation needs.¹⁴ Adaptation remains underfunded in the region.

- 17.** The Arab States continue to face challenges in accessing climate finance, including accreditation of suitable local direct access entities and the lengthy and complex nature of project development and approval. With only 4 per cent of climate finance sourced from climate funds, there remains the opportunity to increase access by addressing the barriers experienced in the region.
- 18.** Financing needs and priorities of the Arab States in relation to adaptation and mitigation co-benefits requires the provision of scaled-up international climate finance. A larger pool of potential investment sources would supplement the scaling up and deployment of climate finance in tandem with international concessional finance.¹⁵

III. Commitment to climate action

19. The Arab States contribute actively as the Arab Group of climate change negotiators in shaping key decisions and outcomes under the UNFCCC towards meeting the objectives of the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol and the goals of the Paris Agreement. They and CAMRE are committed to taking collective climate action as outlined in regional and national plans and strategies, including by developing in 2009 and implementing the Arab Framework Action Plan on Climate Change for 2010-2020, and in national development plans and sectoral strategies that incorporate climate considerations.

20. The decisions of CAMRE at its 32nd session reflect regional efforts to mobilize the finance needed to accelerate climate action. Climate change is also addressed as a priority issue by other Arab ministerial councils and intergovernmental committees related to water, agriculture, electricity and disaster risk reduction.

21. The potential for scaling up climate action in the Arab States is high. Most of the countries benefit from solar insolation levels that are among the highest in the world. The region recognizes the socioeconomic benefits of renewable energy deployment for adaptation and mitigation, which is perceived as an opportunity for economic diversification, new value-chain activities and technology transfer. This is exemplified in pioneering projects and initiatives such as the world's largest concentrated solar power plant in Ouarzazate, Morocco, and the initiative of Masdar City, Abu Dhabi – the world's first zero-carbon, zero-

waste and car-free city. In addition, providing reliable small-scale renewable energy access to empower women's entrepreneurship in rural communities has been successful in Jordan, Lebanon and Tunisia.¹⁶

- 22.** The Arab States are increasingly drawing on science to inform climate-resilient policies and provide climate rationale for the preparation of adaptation projects and plans, including regional projections and analysis generated under the Regional Initiative for the Assessment of Climate Change Impacts on Water Resources and Socio-Economic Vulnerability in the Arab Region and reported on to the Arab Ministerial Water Council. Adaptation projects have helped the region's farmers and general population to address challenges related to water scarcity, drought, saltwater intrusion and rising temperature, such as through solar farming and reusing drainage water. Further, closing knowledge gaps through the Lima Adaptation Knowledge Initiative for the Middle



East and North Africa is facilitating identifying needs and establishing regional project pipelines.

- 23.** Innovative finance is being advanced at the country level with an initial green bonds offering launched by Egypt and climate finance facilities being proposed by Lebanon and regional organizations. Climate debt swaps are gaining

traction as an opportunity to redirect debt obligations towards meeting climate commitments. These success stories have brought positive results, but further enhanced support is needed to build on and scale up wider deployment of such projects and initiatives, particularly by mobilizing finance from international climate funds.

IV. Strategic framework

A. Goal

- 24.** The goal of the Arab States Climate Finance Access and Mobilization Strategy for 2022-2030 is to enhance access to and increase mobilization of climate finance for addressing the climate needs and meeting the climate goals of the region.

B. Objectives

- 25.** The objectives of the Strategy are to:
- Scale up climate finance and attract climate-related investment in the region;
 - Enhance individual, institutional and systemic capacity to mobilize and access climate finance;
 - Reduce challenges and barriers faced by the Arab States in accessing climate finance from various sources, including through enhanced regional cooperation;
 - Scale up solutions for multi-country collaboration, taking into account local contexts.

C. Key principles

- 26.** The Strategy:
- Recognizes that international public finance shall be the key source of climate finance, with domestic and regional sources being supplementary;
 - Is policy relevant as opposed to policy prescriptive;
 - Recognizes and is built upon the diversity of the region;
 - Recognizes the predominance of adaptation and resilience needs in the region;
 - Recognizes that, while grants are typically required to assist in meeting adaptation needs, non-concessional loans dominate the finance flows in the region;
 - Encourages regional knowledge-sharing and learning and participation in regional and global networks to help mainstream climate considerations in domestic policies.

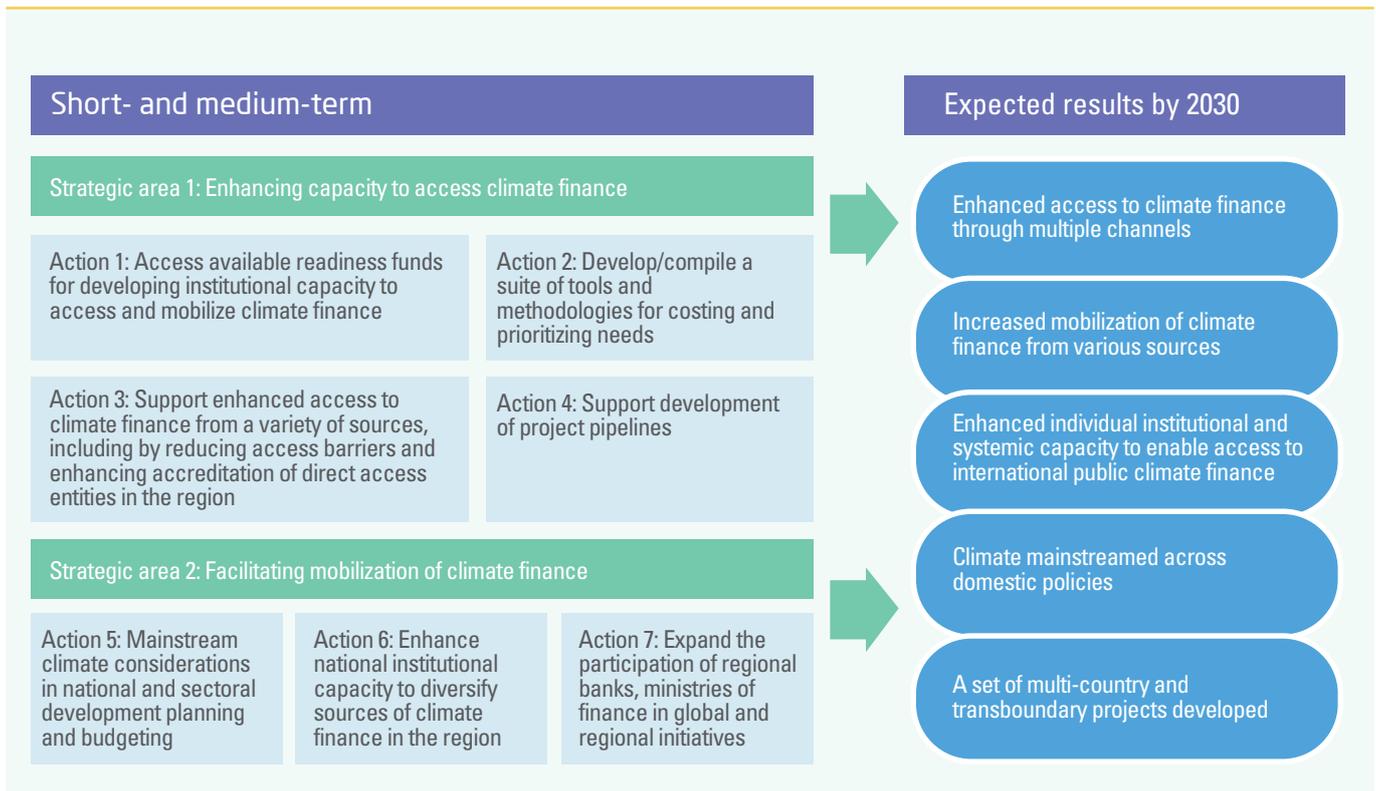
D. Expected results

- 27.** The goal of the Strategy is to be achieved by:
- Enhancing access to climate finance through multiple channels;
 - Increasing mobilization of climate finance from various sources;
 - Strengthening individual, institutional and systemic capacity to enable access to international public climate finance at country level across all 22 Arab States;
 - Encouraging climate mainstreaming across sectors and domestic policies;
 - Developing a set of multi-country and transboundary projects according to the needs of the region.

E. Pillars of work

28. The Strategy comprises two strategic areas:
 - a. Enhancing capacity to access climate finance;
 - b. Facilitating mobilization of climate finance.
29. The strategy covers the period 2022 to 2030. Actions in each strategic area are categorized as either short or medium term to facilitate achievement of the intended results by 2030 (see the figure below).

Framework of the Arab States Climate Finance Access and Mobilization Strategy



F. Institutional arrangements

30. Operationalization of the Strategy would be guided by CAMRE and coordinated by the project partners implementing the NBF project for the Arab States, consisting of the LAS secretariat, the UNFCCC secretariat and ESCWA.
31. The project partners would be responsible for:
 - a. Forging partnerships with global and regional organizations as well as institutions operating at the multilateral and bilateral level to support implementation of the Strategy;
 - b. Consulting with the Arab States, other ministerial councils and organizations serving the region to coordinate and ensure complementarity with other work being undertaken in relation to accessing and mobilizing climate finance in the region in order to support efficient and effective delivery of services;
 - c. Establishing and mobilizing human and financial resources for implementing the activities outlined in the strategic areas;
 - d. Coordinating and overseeing the operationalization of the Strategy, including contributing to its implementation;
 - e. Monitoring and reporting on the implementation of the Strategy, including reporting regularly to CAMRE on progress.
32. The project partners would support the Arab States in implementing the Strategy through the CAMRE technical secretariat at LAS in Cairo; the UNFCCC Regional Collaboration Centre for the Middle East, North Africa and South Asia in Dubai; and the Arab Centre for Climate Change Policies at ESCWA in Beirut.

V. Strategic areas of collaborative action

A. Strategic area I: Enhancing capacity to access climate finance

33. There is an opportunity to increase access to multilateral climate funds and other sources of climate finance by addressing some of the relevant knowledge, data and skills gaps and barriers experienced in the region while enhancing country-driven capacity. Pooling resources to address knowledge and data gaps and common barriers may be explored at the national, regional and subregional level among neighbouring countries.

Action 1: Access available readiness funds for developing institutional capacity to access and mobilize climate finance

Rationale

34. Most Arab States have established inter-agency committees to coordinate on climate change matters. However, not all States have availed of readiness funds offered by multilateral and bilateral entities to strengthen the capacity of national institutions to access and mobilize climate finance. Therefore, the States' access to readiness funding needs to be enabled, which could lead to strengthening existing or developing new institutional arrangements.

Activities

- a. Map access to readiness funds over the past five years and resources available from various sources for each Arab State.
- b. Develop, in a coordinated manner, country-driven multi-year plans for using readiness funds. The aim of the plans, which should be about one to two pages in length, is to facilitate countries' planning of their use of readiness funds over multiple years across bilateral and multilateral agencies in coordination with country-level counterparts.
- c. Use available readiness funds to strengthen the capacity of national and regional institutions involved in climate finance and climate action, and to develop project pipelines.
- d. Nominate delivery partners from the Arab region, where applicable, to collaborate,



foster regional partnerships and support peer-to-peer learning among States on accessing readiness grants.

- e. Exchange good practices and lessons learned in accessing readiness support and strengthening institutional capacity at regional and global forums.
- f. Milestones
- g. All Arab States to develop multi-year plans for using readiness funds from one or more sources by the end of 2025;
- h. All Arab States to have submitted readiness applications or have them in the pipeline by the end of 2028;
- i. All Arab States requesting support to have received readiness funding or been approved for it by 2030.

Action 2: Develop/compile a suite of tools and methodologies for costing and prioritizing needs

Rationale

35. Costing and prioritizing needs informs the development of project pipelines. Many Arab States have not estimated their climate finance needs and very few have published granular estimates with sector-, programme- or project-specific costs. This is especially evident for costing adaptation needs, which are particularly difficult to cost. Owing to the different methodologies and approaches used to assess and cost climate finance needs,

there is a need for building capacity based on regionally relevant guidelines, methodologies and approaches. This could be initiated through the United Nations system, regional research organizations and think tanks.

Activities

- a. Compile toolkits from relevant sources for assessing and costing climate finance needs, including for identifying needs for financial, technological and capacity-building support from sources of climate finance;
- b. Organize and conduct training workshops for the Arab States on assessing, costing and prioritizing needs. The training shall draw on existing initiatives and platforms, including through regional and subregional collaboration, such as through the NDC Partnership, the Africa Hub or the National Adaptation Plan Global Support Programme;
- c. Engage regional organizations, academia and think tanks in developing a climate finance data and information platform.

Milestones

- d. Toolkits from relevant sources for assessing, costing and prioritizing needs compiled by the project partners in cooperation with existing networks and made available to the Arab States by the end of 2025, and two training workshops held by the end of 2028;
- e. Regional climate finance data and information platform established by the project partners by the end of 2028.

Action 3: Support enhanced access to climate finance from a variety of sources, including by reducing access barriers and enhancing accreditation of direct access entities in the region

Rationale

36. To receive finance from a variety of sources, countries must use entities that are accredited by meeting legal and fiduciary standards adopted by the boards of the funds. Entities that have the potential to be accredited that could therefore expand and diversify the choice of accredited entities in the region face additional challenges in meeting accreditation requirements. The process of submitting the documentation and complying with required standards discourages national and regional entities from submitting accreditation proposals as it would require dedicated staff, which many entities do not have.

Activities

- a. The Arab States to identify and nominate potential national and/or regional direct access entities to bilateral and multilateral entities;
- b. The Arab States, with the support of the project partners and representatives of bilateral and multilateral entities, to avail of readiness support in order to strengthen the capacity of potential direct access entities in the region through institutional gap analysis of applicants against the fiduciary standards, safeguards and compliance policies of bilateral and multilateral entities and provision of structured training to address the gaps;
- c. Project partners to provide structured and hands-on training on fiduciary standards, safeguards, compliance policies and areas of gaps identified in the institutional gap analysis, including through peer-to-peer learning.

Milestones

- d. Number of national or regional entities identified to be accredited to the Green Climate Fund and/or the Adaptation Fund doubled by the end of 2028;
- e. At least 11 entities from at least half of the Arab States to have undertaken an institutional gap analysis and initiated application procedures for accreditation by the end of 2028.

Action 4: Support development of project pipelines

Rationale

37. To meet many of the needs identified by countries, particularly for adaptation, grants or concessional sources of funding are required. Improving access to concessional sources of climate finance could help in meeting needs and scaling up the mobilization of private finance from domestic, regional and international sources. The preparation of clear project pipelines can facilitate access to funds.

Activities

- a. Support countries in identifying priority needs through socioeconomic and environmental vulnerability assessment, impact assessment and other science and evidence-based tools that provide the climate rationale for justifying national and regional projects for climate finance;
- b. Identify and encourage the project partners to liaise with climate funds to organize regional programming dialogues targeting the Arab

States to support them in building capacity to mobilize financial resources through provision of tools and resources at the country level to support context-specific implementation of regional or multi-country projects;

- c. Submit to CAMRE for consideration a pipeline of possible regional or multi-country projects that respond to common climate challenges faced by Arab States at the transboundary, regional or subregional level;
- d. Participate in and contribute to hands-on training programmes to support the development of capacity to prepare project and programme proposals in priority sectors, including identifying opportunities for leveraging private finance, with the support of the project partners.

Milestones

- a. Information on the climate funds and funding windows applicable to the Arab States, and their procedures for access and criteria for eligibility, consolidated by the end of 2025;
- b. Project pipelines developed by at least five countries by the end of 2028, including at least one project submitted to CAMRE for consideration.

B. Strategic area II: Facilitating mobilization of climate finance

38. Finance flows into the Arab region remain far below what is needed. Comparing the levels of international public and private finance flows to Arab States with the needs costed in their national reports submitted to the UNFCCC indicates a significant finance gap. Facilitating mobilization of climate finance across the region is therefore essential to meeting its needs.

Action 5: Mainstream climate considerations in national and sectoral development planning and budgeting

Rationale

39. To systematically mobilize resources at scale, climate considerations need to be mainstreamed in national and sectoral development planning and budgeting. This can facilitate prioritization of projects, encourage cross-cutting initiatives and reduce strain on scarce public resources. It can also help in clarifying when grant or highly concessional finance is needed, and when other

instruments, most notably non-concessional loans or policy instruments, may be the most suitable for achieving national ambitions.

Activities

- a. Project partners to prepare toolkits and guides on whole-of-government approaches that integrate climate policies into development plans and the budget process;
- b. Strengthen capacity for integrated whole-of-government planning and climate-aligned budgeting programmes that can support the development of project pipelines;
- c. Establish national climate expenditure tracking systems;
- d. Enhance collaboration across ministries responsible for climate change and national development planning to facilitate data exchange for needs assessment and for aligning positions in international forums;
- e. Facilitate bottom-up approaches and stakeholder engagement in raising public awareness and identifying and addressing the diverse needs of different communities, particularly with respect to women and vulnerable groups.

Milestones

- a. Guidelines on whole-of-government approaches developed and in use by the end of 2028;
- b. At least five States having initiated the launch of national climate expenditure tracking systems by the end of 2028.

Action 6: Enhance national institutional capacity to diversify sources of climate finance in the region

Rationale

40. Addressing the mitigation and adaptation needs and priorities of the Arab States requires international climate finance and supplementary finance from domestic public and/or private sources to be scaled up. Therefore, project pipelines developed should ideally include projects to be funded from public and private, and international and domestic sources. Green banks and Islamic banking can play an important role in raising finance, including in local currency.

41. Targeted support can help to expand the range of financial and banking products that are aligned with national climate action objectives. Standardized climate and sustainable finance definitions or taxonomies may facilitate the growth of domestic capital markets for green

bonds and other emerging financial instruments. When combined with increased disclosure, these instruments can facilitate foreign direct investment flows that are subject to climate-related screening by parent companies based in external markets.

Activities

- a. Support the preparation of national financial strategies or road maps for greening finance;
- b. Identify strategies for incorporating climate risk and opportunities into investment decisions;
- c. Standardize climate and sustainable finance definitions or taxonomies to facilitate the growth of domestic capital markets and green banking products;
- d. Provide targeted public support in order to expand the range of financial and banking products aligned with national climate action objectives to stakeholder groups;
- e. Share experience of using financial instruments;
- f. Convene partner dialogues as a forum for matching project developers with financiers to support potential project pipelines and programmes.

Milestones

- a. One regional climate investment forum convened under the auspices of CAMRE before 2030;
- b. At least five national financial strategies or road maps for pursuing climate finance at the national or sectoral level developed by the end of 2028.

Action 7: Expand the participation of regional banks, ministries of finance in global and regional initiatives

Rationale

42. Ministries of finance, central banks and credit agencies can play an important role in mobilizing and accessing public and private climate finance, including by mitigating climate-related financial risks, supporting international standard setting and establishing policy measures to ensure a just and equitable transition towards low-emission and climate-resilient growth. Initiatives such as the Coalition of Finance Ministers for Climate Action, the Network for Greening the Financial System, the African Financial Alliance on Climate Change and the Euro-Mediterranean Guarantee Network have multiple focuses, and institutions in the Arab States may choose to engage in workstreams of most interest to

their area of work. These initiatives provide technical guidance and facilitate valuable peer exchange and participation, some of which are led by Arab States, thus sending a positive signal that may help to attract additional support.

Activities

- a. Raise awareness of existing global and regional initiatives such as the Coalition of Finance Ministers for Climate Action, the Network for Greening the Financial System, the African Financial Alliance on Climate Change and the Euro-Mediterranean Guarantee Network among national and regional public and private actors;
- b. Encourage participation in such global and regional initiatives, particularly in their climate-related workstreams;
- c. Engage with central banks, financial regulators, credit guarantee agencies and other fiduciary stakeholders to increase their engagement in, and knowledge of, climate change and finance;
- d. Enable interventions and targeted support in order to strengthen the provision of private climate finance in domestic capital markets, particularly for SMEs through inclusive approaches that target women and vulnerable groups;
- e. Formulate policies and regulations to manage environment-related risks and disclosure for companies.

Milestones

- a. At least five Arab States to become members of the Coalition of Finance Ministers for Climate Action and the Network for Greening the Financial System by the end of 2030;
- b. Five public or private institutions in the Arab region engaged in one or more professional networks involved in creating an enabling environment for mobilizing climate finance by the end of 2030.

Endnotes

- 1 Decisions 6/CP.23, para. 10, and 4/CP.26, para. 22.
- 2 The 22 Arab States are Algeria, Bahrain, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, State of Palestine, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates and Yemen.
- 3 See CAMRE decision 602 of 14 October 2021, available at <http://www.lasportal.org/ar/councils/ministerialcouncil/Documents/%D9%82-%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%85%D8%AC%D9%84%D8%B3-32.pdf> (in Arabic).
- 4 Available at https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/UNFCCC_NBF_TA_AS_final.pdf.
- 5 Further information is contained in chap. II.A-B of the technical assessment.
- 6 As footnote 5 above.
- 7 As footnote 5 above.
- 8 As footnote 5 above.
- 9 ESCWA document E/ESCWA/CL2.GPID/2020/TP.16. Available at <https://archive.unescwa.org/publications/impact-covid-19-money-metric-poverty-arab-countries>.
- 10 Stepanya, A., Abaiyan, G, Ndoye, A. and Alnasaa, M. 2019. Enhancing the Role of SMEs in the Arab World – Some Key Considerations. November 2019. Available at <https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/Policy-Papers/Issues/2019/12/13/Enhancing-the-Role-of-SMEs-in-the-Arab-World-Some-Key-Considerations-48873>.
- 11 Further information is contained in chap. III of the technical assessment.
- 12 Based on data for 2013-2018.
- 13 Figures developed by ESCWA using the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's Development Assistance Committee OECD-DAC climate-related development finance databases based on data published in June 2021.
- 14 Further information is contained in chap. IV of the technical assessment.
- 15 Further information is contained in chap. V of the technical assessment.
- 16 See www.unescwa.org/regend.

