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

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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