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Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

Session 7, Working Group 1 Report Back: **Integrating Policy Planning and Design Processes for Climate Mainstreaming**

Expert Group Meeting on Mainstreaming Climate Action into
National Development Planning in the Arab Region

Amman, 26 November 2019

Outcomes of Working Group 1: Policies, Institutions and Processes

- Level of involvement and awareness of different ministries related to climate action mainstreaming varies across Arab countries
- Many Arab countries have existing policies which incentivize climate action (e.g. subsidy removal programs) while others are experiencing difficulties in implementing such policies
- Need policies that are based on science, modeling and GIS to assess needs and act
- There are institutional gaps in many Arab countries and the role of institutions related to climate action is not clear in many countries

Outcomes of Working Group 1:

Country Experiences: Policy Integration

- **Egypt:** National Water Sector Plan was approved by cabinet with input from ministries including Agriculture, Housing, Environment, Industry, Electricity/Energy, Planning, and Defense.
- **Morocco:** Law 9912 is a Charter for Sustainable Development, has become a strategy that is related to sectoral CC strategies, and includes 33 pillars of work
- **Tunisia:** National strategy for logistical development has socio-economic and environmental goals
- **State of Palestine:** Strategic Plan for Water 2013-2032 prepared through a participatory approach; other sectoral plans are also being developed through institutional coordination
- **Sudan:** Higher Council of Strategic Planning in Sudan responsible for National Development Plan; new strategic plan under preparation now – bottom up approach being pursued with Sector Plans to be given to National Plan, which will consolidate them.

Outcomes of Working Group 1: Country Experiences: Institutional Setup

- Egypt:
 - Joint committee (e.g. water and agriculture for irrigation) can help improve institutional coordination.
 - Climate Units in ministries and localities can help increase awareness among citizens and expand the base of knowledge to respond / address climate risks.
- State of Palestine:
 - Institutional roles and responsibilities defined in TORs with Capacity Building by EQA; additional support needed
- Morocco:
 - Ministry of Finance is responsible with IFIs to mobilize financing for specific projects and plans

Thank you

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