



Side event: Climate Change in the Arab Region Technological tools and methods to inform climate change policy

Wednesday 27 June 2018; 16:00 - 17:00, Committee Room 1 (CRI) at the B1 level, UN-House, Beirut



Programme	Objective
<p><i>Moderator:</i> Ms. Roula Majdalani, Director, Sustainable Development Policies Division, ESCWA</p>	
<p>4:00 – 4:10 <i>Overview of RICCAR</i> - Ms. Carol Chouchani Cherfane, Chief, Water Resources Section, Sustainable Development Policies Division, ESCWA</p>	<p>The side event will highlight the findings of the Arab Climate Change Assessment Report, which was launched in September 2017 within the framework of the Regional Initiative for the Assessment of Climate Change Impacts on Water Resources and Socio-Economic Vulnerability in the Arab Region (RICCAR). The regional initiative is coordinated by ESCWA and implemented through a collaborative partnership involving 11 United Nations, League of Arab States and specialized organizations. The publication consists of a Main Report and Technical Annex.</p>
<p>4:10 – 4:20 <i>Geographic Information System for Integrated Vulnerability Mapping: Method and Findings</i> - Mr. Ihab Jnad, Director, Water Resources Department, Arab Center for the Study of Arid and Dry Lands (ACSAD)</p>	<p>The Main Report presents a comprehensive picture of the impact that climate change is expected to have on freshwater resources in the Arab region until the end of the century and how this will affect the vulnerability of water resources, agriculture, natural ecosystems, human settlements and people. Case studies findings examining extreme climate events, flood frequency, droughts, crop productivity and human health are summarized in the report. These case studies are elaborated in technical reports that contribute to the RICCAR publication series, which also contains technical notes, manuals and booklets.</p>
<p>4:20 – 5:00 <i>Interventions from participants and discussion</i></p>	<p>The event will showcase how regional climate modeling, hydrological modeling and an integrated vulnerability assessment for the Arab region were made possible through the use of high performance computing capacities and geographic information systems during the first phase of RICCAR implementation. It will also demonstrate how the initiative’s scientific findings and methodologies are informing climate change negotiations, policies and adaptation planning, and how it will continue to do so during the second phase of RICCAR through the Regional Knowledge Hub.</p> <p>A roundtable discussion will then be convened to explore how scientific and technological tools and methods can be drawn upon to inform climate change policy, planning and action in the Arab region.</p>

For further information, please refer to the Main Report, available in [English](#) and [Arabic](#) on the following link:
<https://www.unescwa.org/publications/riccar-arab-climate-change-assessment-report>