Climate and Environmental Challenges in the MENA Region

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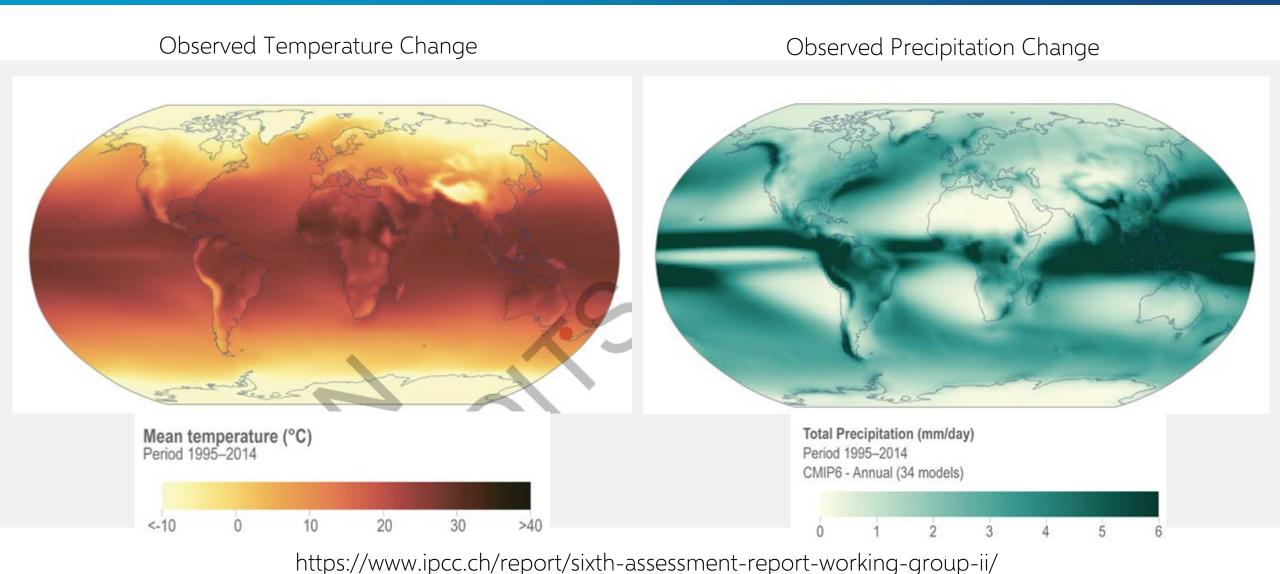


Euro-Mediterranean Guarantee Network Spring Academy 2022 Greening CGIs in the MENA Region

21 March 2022

IPCC WGII Sixth Assessment Report: Climate Change 2022

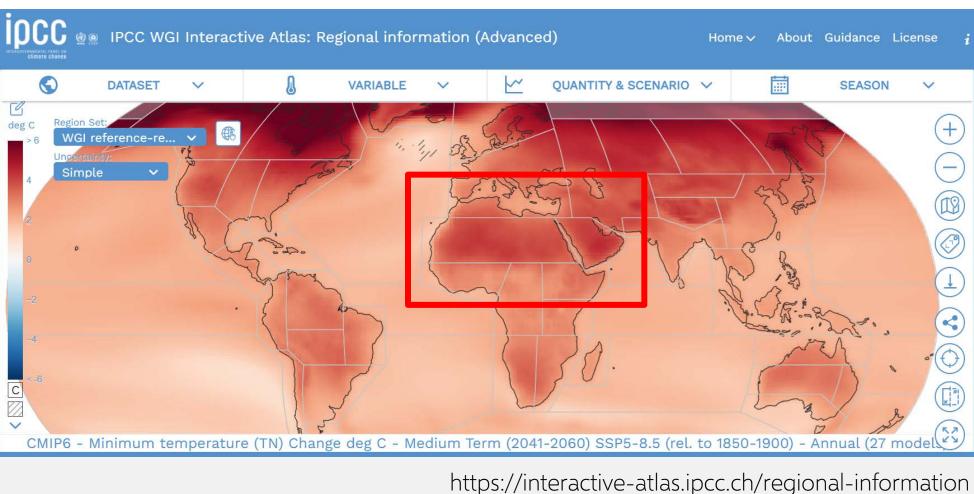
Part II on Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability approved 27 February 2022



Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)



O South East Asia (SEA)



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RICCAR Objective



To assess the impact of climate change on freshwater resources in the Arab Region through a consultative and integrated regional initiative that seeks to identify the socio-economic and environmental vulnerability caused by climate change impacts on water resources based on regional specificities.

Since 2010, RICCAR has provided a common platform for assessing, addressing and informing response to climate change impacts on freshwater resources in the Arab region by serving as the basis for dialogue, priority setting and policy formulation on climate change at the regional level

Regional Initiative for the Assessment of Climate Change Impacts on Water Resources & Socio-Economic Vulnerability in the Arab Region

Assessment

Adaptation & Disaster Risks

Mitigation

Negotiations

Finance



RICCAR Founding Partners

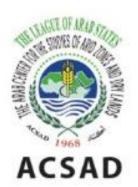
RICCAR implemented under Arab Centre for Climate Change Policies

















Cairo Office









SWEDISH INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AGENCY

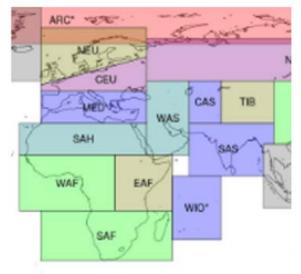






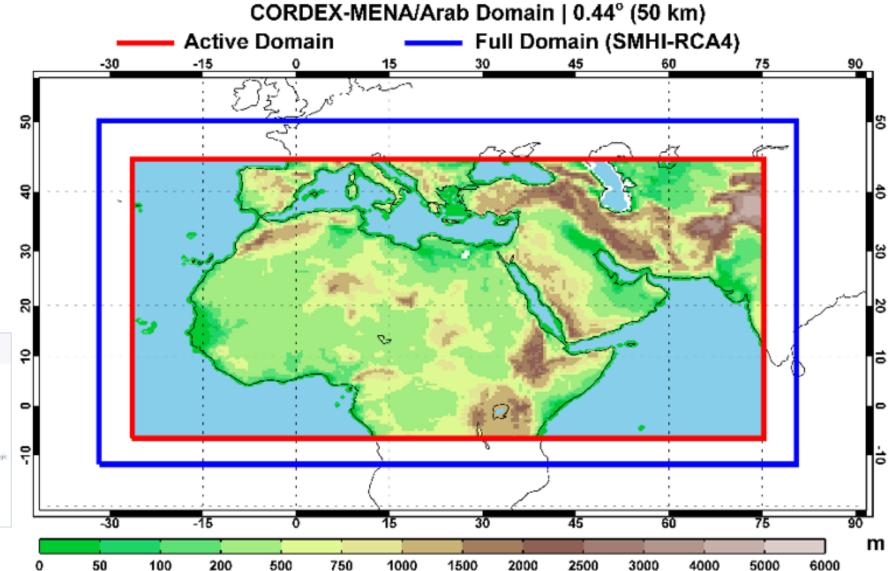
MENA/Arab Domain & RICCAR Regional Knowledge Hub

IPCC Spatial Boundaries



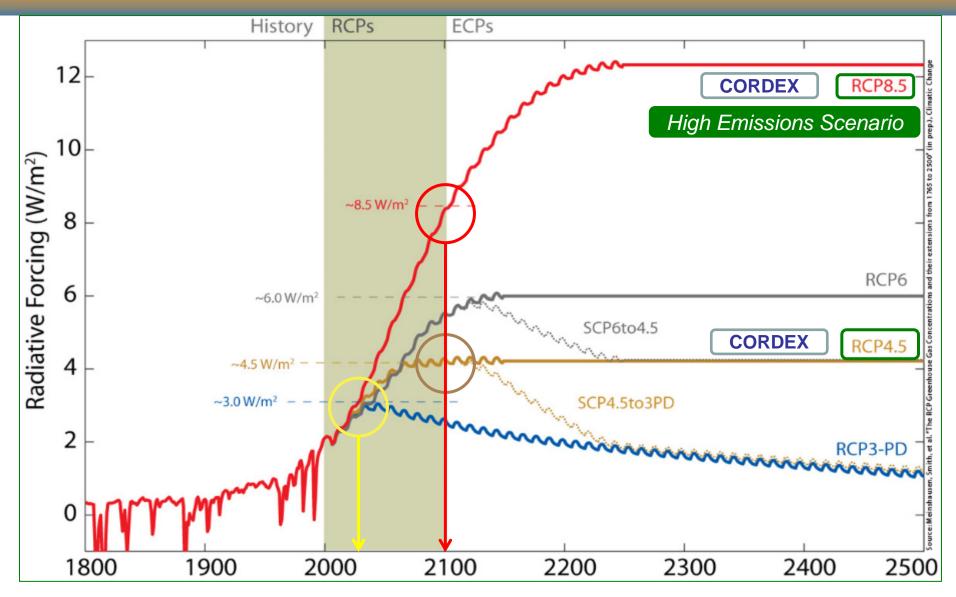


www.riccar.org





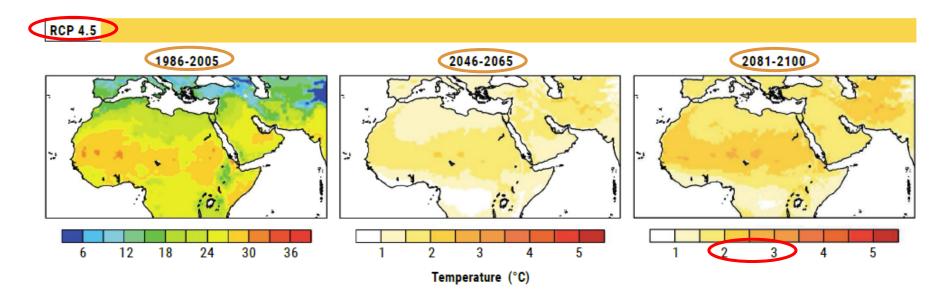
Representative Concentration Pathways (RCPs) Scenarios used in IPCC AR5



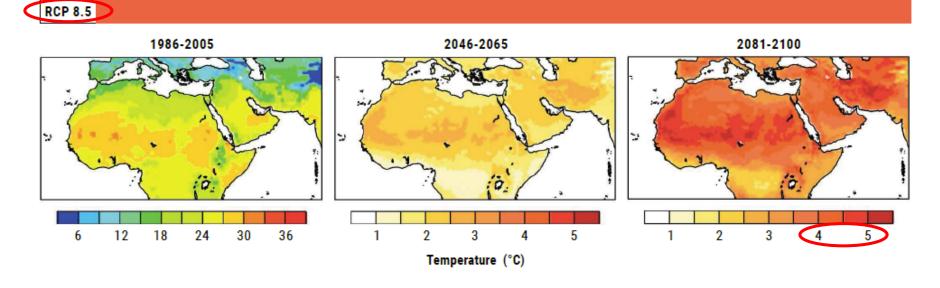


Projected Temperature Increase in Arab Region of up to 5°C by End-Century

Moderate Emissions Scenario



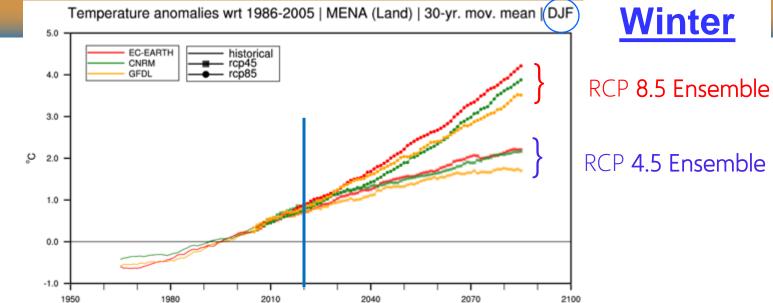
Businessas-Usual Emissions Scenario





Temperature Ensembles through a Seasonal Lens





Year

Temperature anomalies wrt 1986-2005 | MENA (Land) | 30-yr. mov. mean JJA

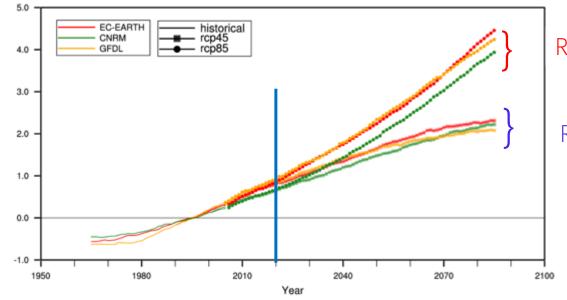
Projection depends on which future (which climate scenario) one plans against, and which time period of interest

temperature

Summer

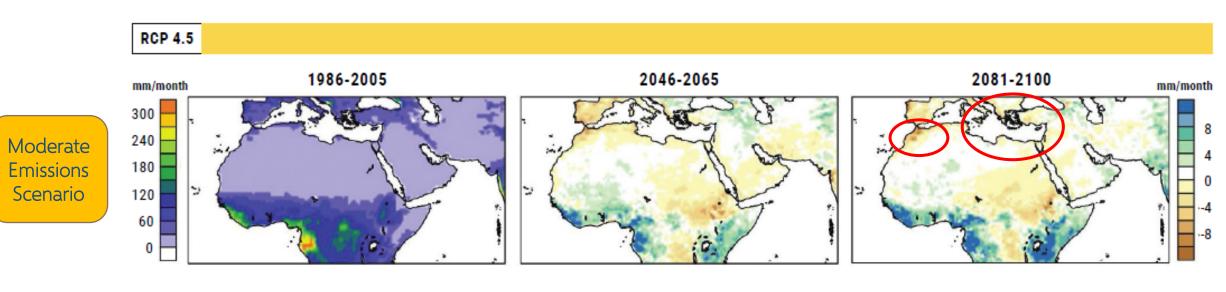
RCP 8.5 Ensemble

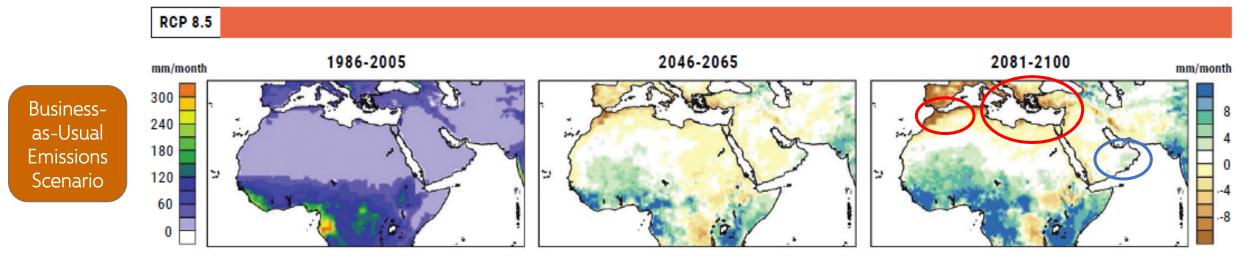
RCP 4.5 Ensemble





Precipitation trends are largely decreasing across the region until the end of the century, though limited areas expected to exhibit an increase in the intensity & volume of precipitation.

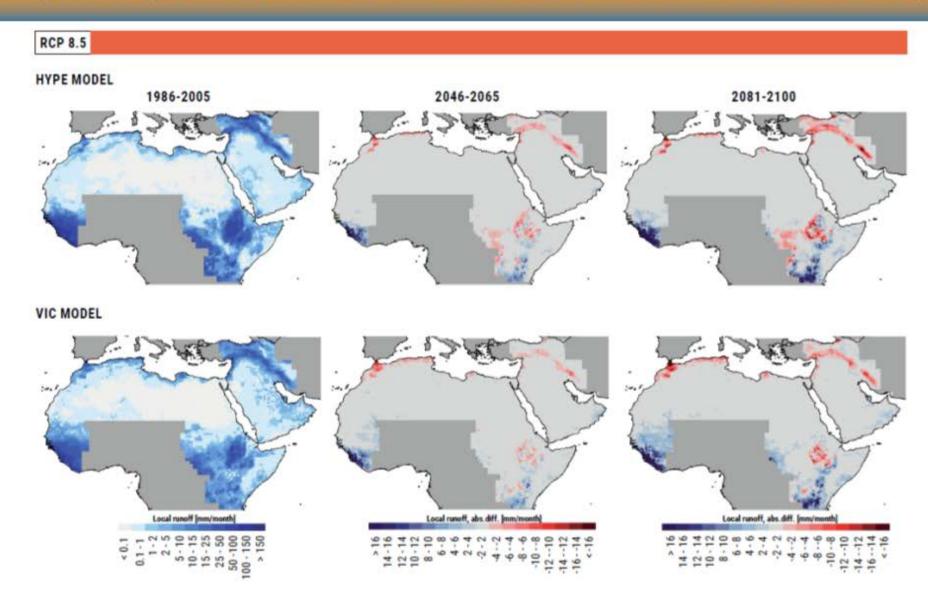




From RICCAR RCM ensemble outputs



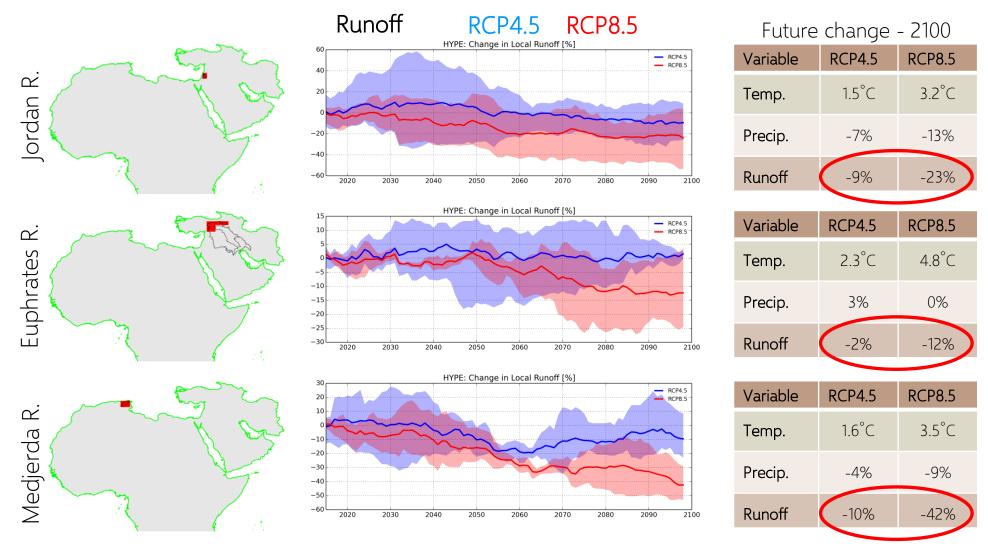
Arab Region is no stranger to Water Scarcity, but Mean Chagne in Annual Runoff projected to significantly decrease in Mediterranean Coast and several Transboundary Basins







Jordan, Euphrates & Medjerda Rivers



Annual change: 3-member ensemble



Extreme Climate Indices

Index	Description
SU35	Number of days when Tmax ≥ 35 °C
SU40	Number of days when Tmax ≥ 40 °C
R10	Number of days when daily precipitation ≥ 10 mm
R20	Number of days when daily precipitation ≥ 20 mm
CDD	Maximum consecutive number of dry days
CWD	Maximum consecutive number of wet days
SDII	Simple precipitation intensity index

Available

Index	Description
WDSI	Warm spell duration index
R5	Number of days when daily precipitation ≥ 5 mm

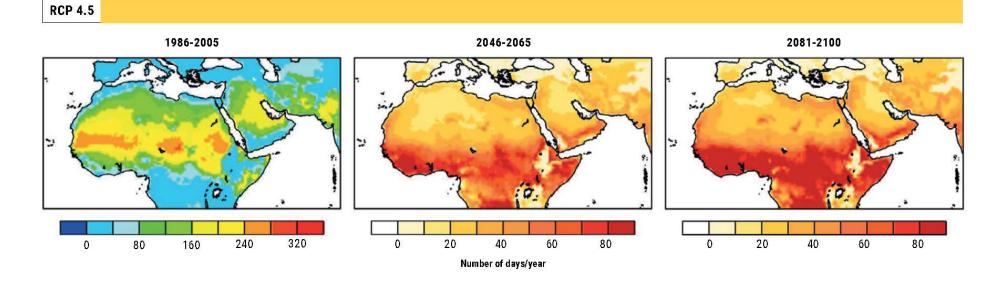
Other possible indices

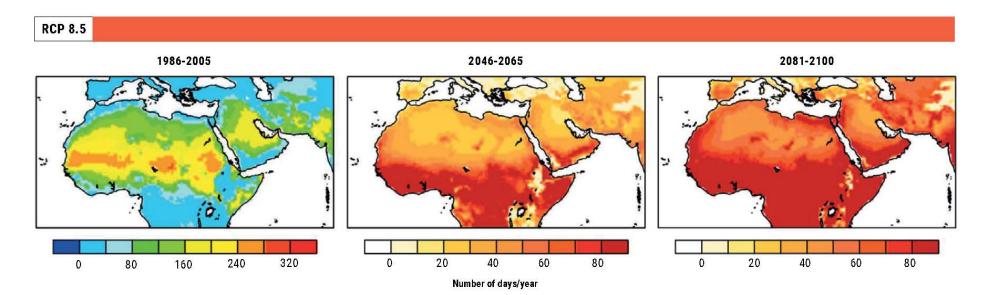
Can be evaluated annually, seasonally, and/or monthly



Temperature – "Hot" days (>35°C)

Change in number of 'hot' days per year



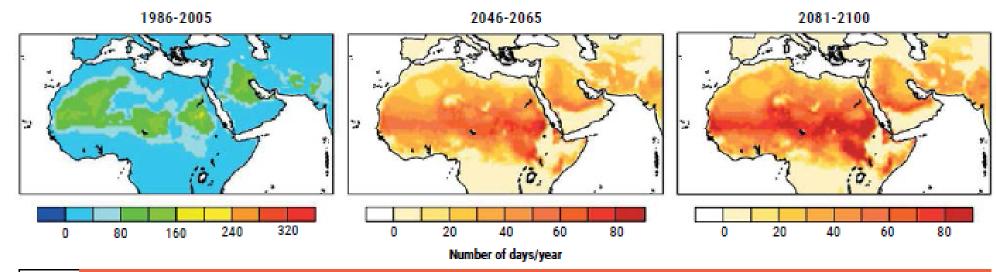




Temperature – "Very Hot" days (>40°C)

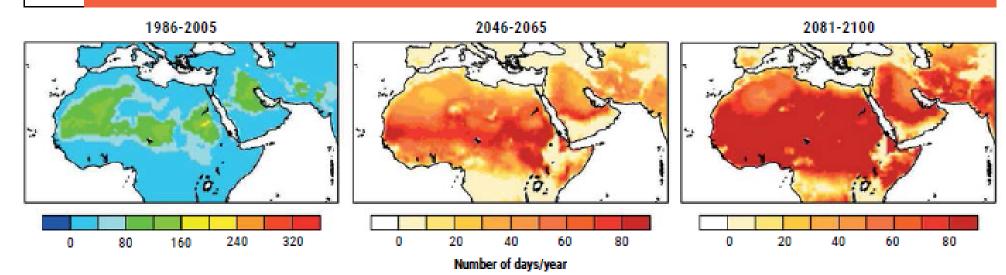


Moderate Emissions Scenario



RCP 8.5

Businessas-Usual Emissions Scenario

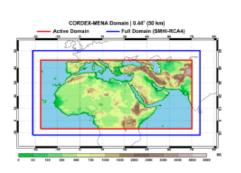


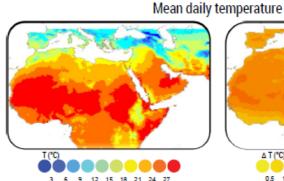


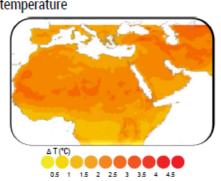
Bridging the Science-Policy Interface : Making Science Useful for Policymakers in the Arab Region

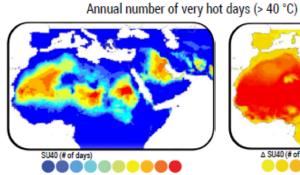


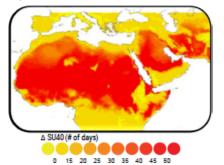
From CMIP5 across the CORDEX-MENA/Arab Domain to support regional cooperation . . .

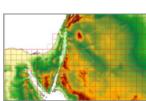






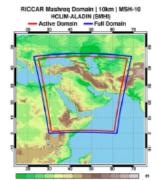


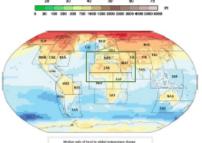


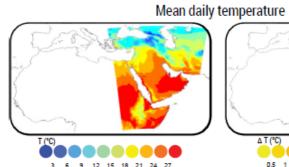


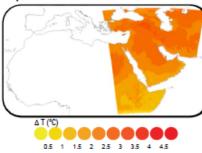
50 km² scale

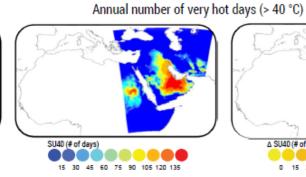
. . . To CMIP6 within the Mashreq Domain to facilitate more detailed analyses to inform regional action

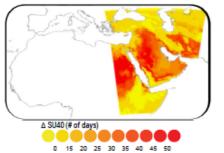


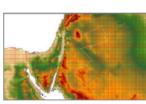












10 km² scale

Mean changes in annual temperature and number of very hot days (> 40 °C) are for 2041-2060 (RCP8.5/SSP5-8.5) compared to 1981-2000.

Increasing temperature will give rise to extreme events, including heat waves, and impact water availability, agricultural productivity, biodiversity and vulnerable populations.

The RICCAR Regional Knowledge Hub provides climate analysis that informs regional cooperation & policymaking in Arab States.





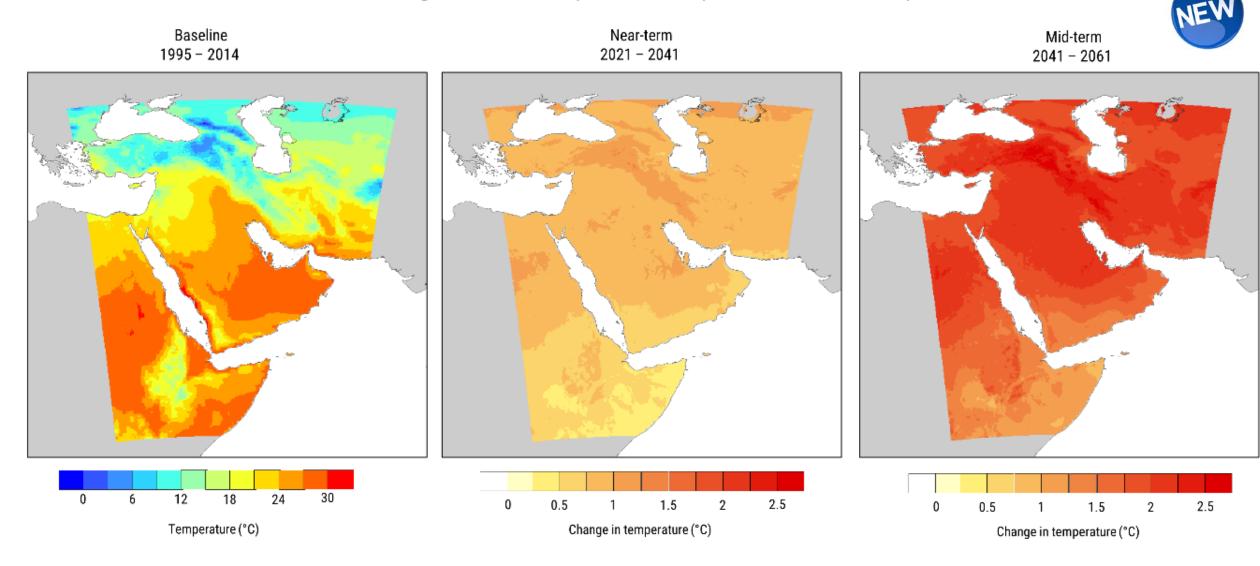






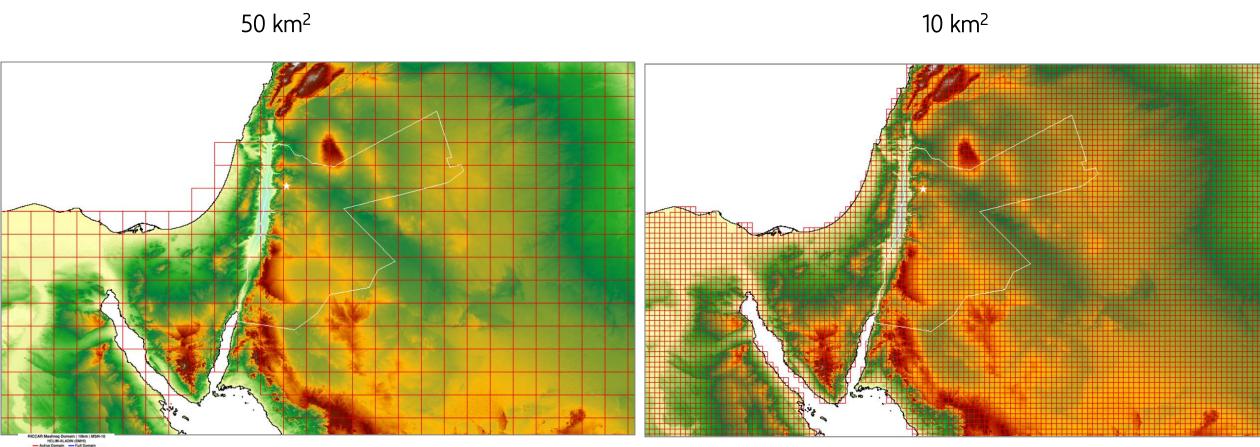
Mashreq Domain: Temperature Change

Mean change in annual temperature compared to the baseline period

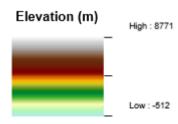




High-Resolution Outputs through Mid-century

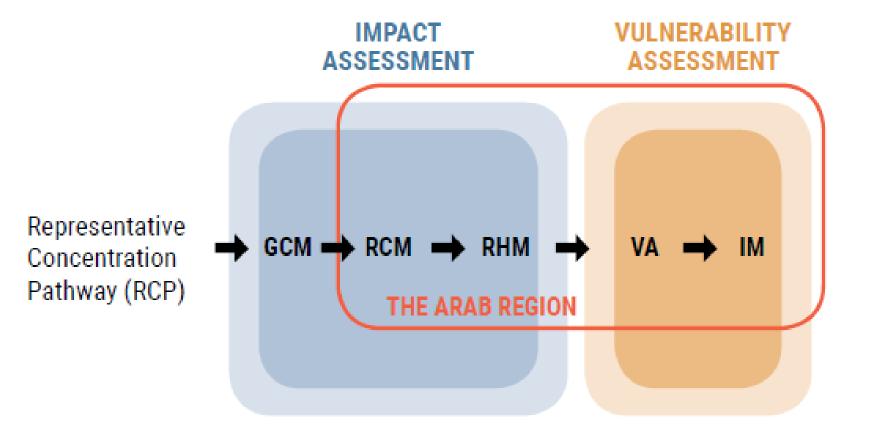


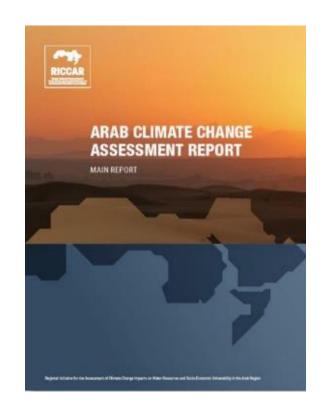
Six-member ensemble for SS-RCP 8.5 through 2070 at 10 km²





Integrated Vulnerability Assessment for Hotspots Identification and Informing Projects





GCM: Global Climate Modelling

RCM: Regional Climate Modelling

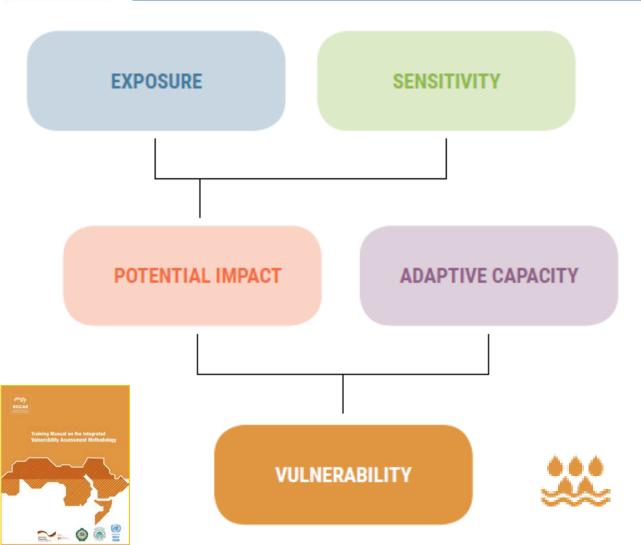
RHM: Regional Hydrological Modelling (optional)

VA: Vulnerability Assessment

IM: Integrated Mapping



Integrated Vulnerability Assessment Methodology



POPULATION (0.50)

- Population density (0.14)
- Total renewable water available per capita (0.50)
- Water consumption per capita (0.13)
- Share of water consumption in agriculture (0.13)
- Refugee population (0.10)

NATURAL (0.26)

- Land use/land cover (0.27)
- . Soil storage capacity (0.25)
- . Degradation of vegetation cover (0.26)
- Wetlands (0.22)

MANMADE (0.24)

- Urban extent (0.47)
- Areas served by dams (0.53)

KNOWLEDGE & AWARENESS (0.10)

- . E-Governement development (0.33)
- Tertiary enrollment (0.32)
- Adult literacy rate (0.35)

TECHNOLOGY (0.10)

- Number of scientific and technical journal articles (0.46)
- Information and communication technologies index (0.54)

INSTITUTIONS (0.10)

- Governance index (0.54)
- Disaster risk reduction committees (0.46)

INFRASTRUCTURE (0.50)

WATER & SANITATION (0.50)

- Areas served by dams (0.17)
- Installed desalination capacity per capita (0.17)
- Fossil groundwater (0.17)
- Access to improved water (0.17)
- Access to improved sanitation (0.16)
- Area equipped for irrigation (0.16)

ENVIRONMENT (0.50)

 Environment performance index (1.0)

ECONOMIC RESOURCES (0.11)

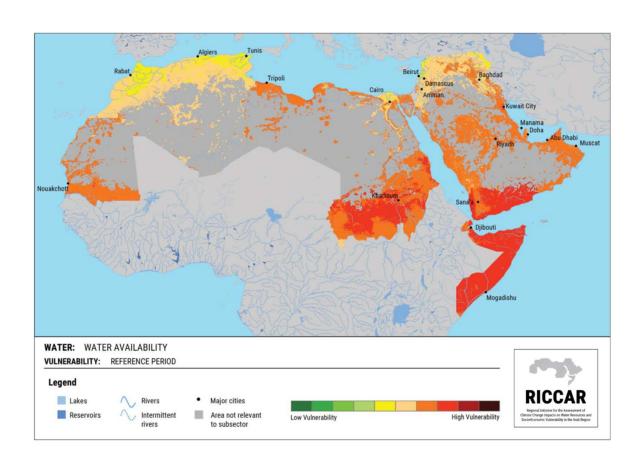
- GDP per capita (0.36)
- ODA (0.30)
- Food imports as % of merchandise exports (0.34)

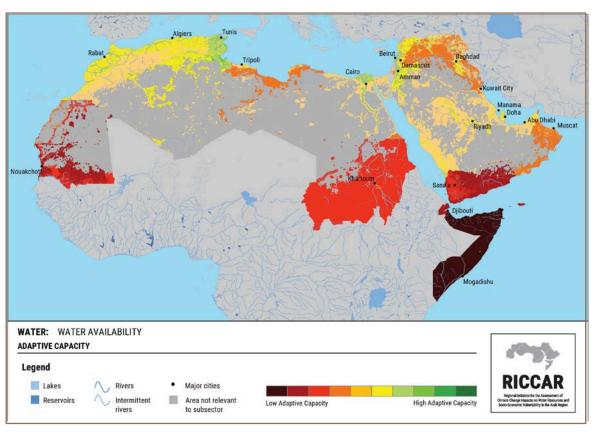
EQUITY (0.09)

- Female-to-male literacy ratio (0.51)
- Migrants/refugees index (0.49)

Source: Based on IPCC, 2007

Climate Vulnerability is not only about Impacts, but also about Adaptive Capacity



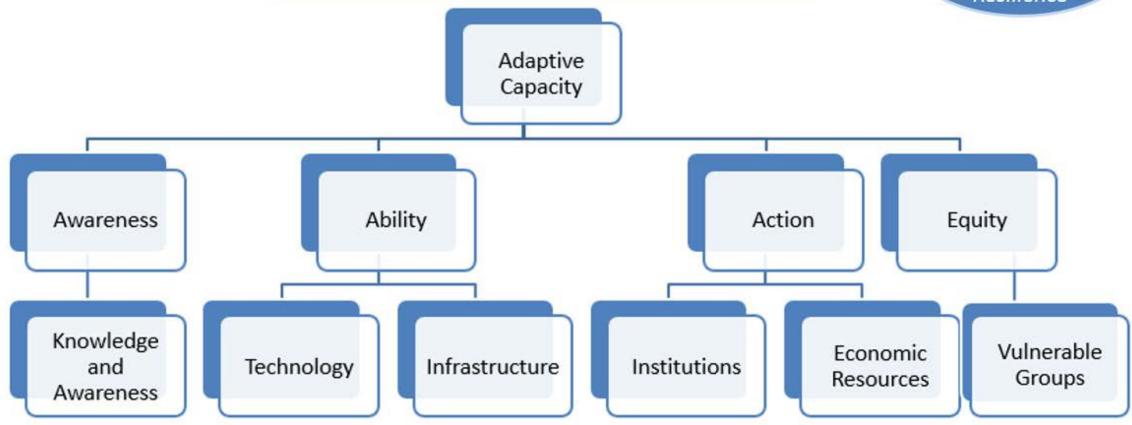






Adaptive Capacity: Dimensions and Determinants

Strengthen Adaptive Capacity for Climate Change Resilience

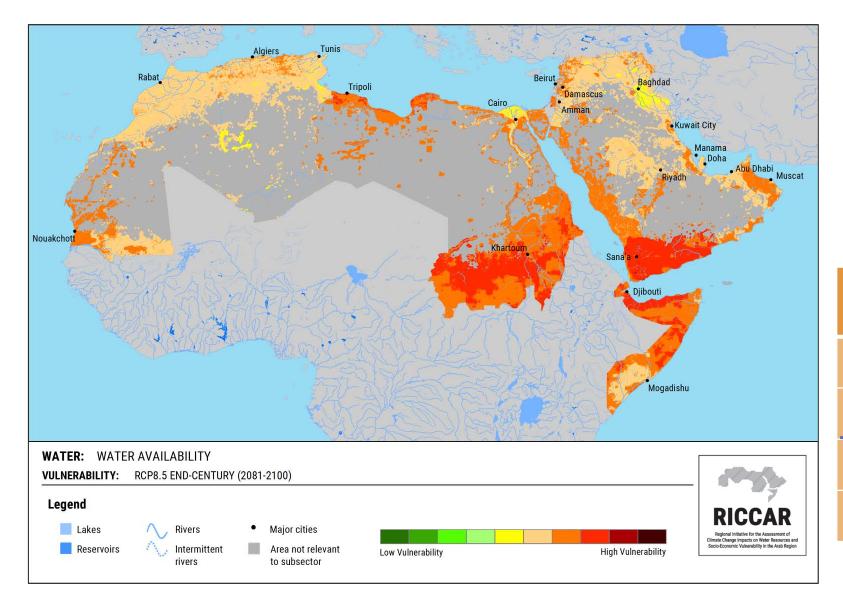




Adaptive capacity is "the ability or potential of a system to respond successfully to climate variability and change, and includes adjustments in both behavior and in resources and technologies" - IPCC (2007)



Water Availability Vulnerability to Climate Change



Areas with highest vulnerability:

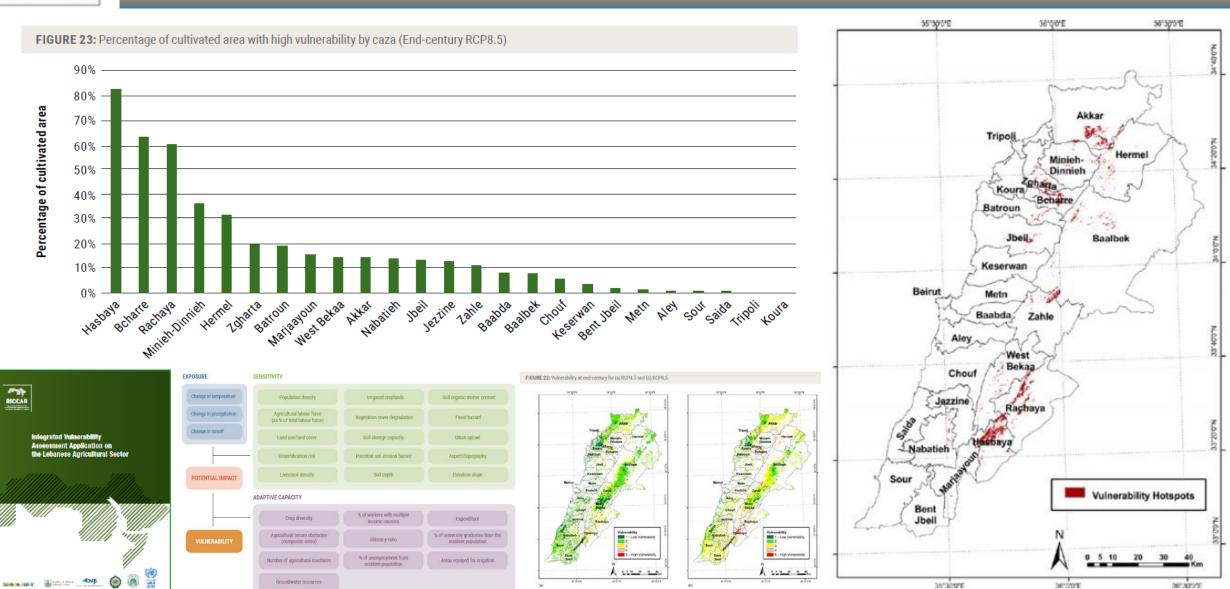
- Upper Nile Valley
- Southwestern Arabian Peninsula
- Northern Horn of Africa

Scenario	Vulnerability (% of study area)			
Occitatio	Low	Moderate	High	
RCP 4.5 Mid-century	0%	57%	43%	
RCP 8.5 Mid-century	0%	48%	52%	
RCP 4.5 End-century	0%	52%	48%	
RCP 8.5 End-century	0%	43%	57%	

23

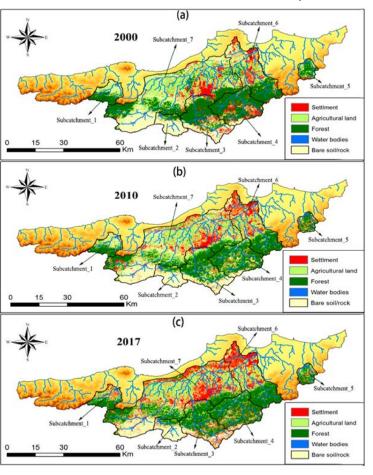


Lebanese Agricultural Sector Vulnerability Assessment



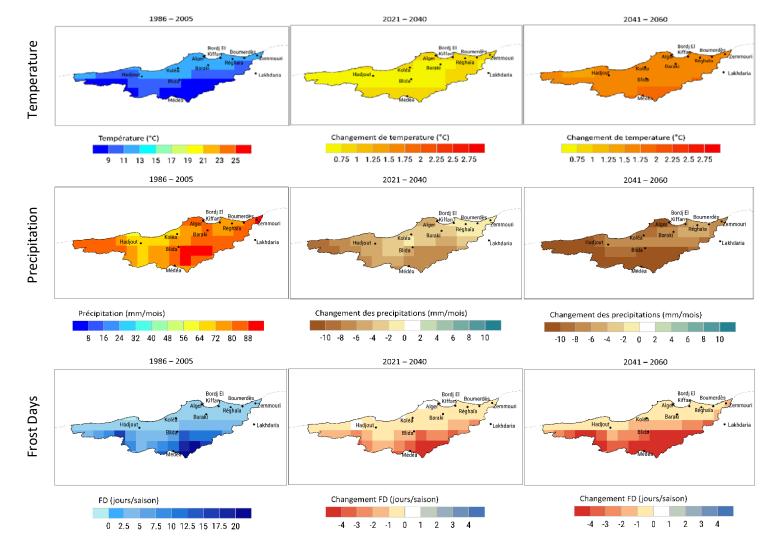
Algérois Watershed

Landuse and Land Cover Map

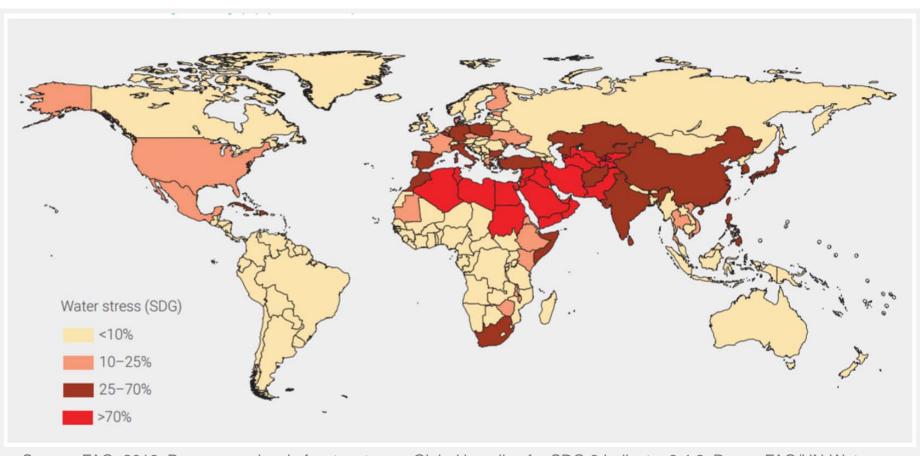


Winter Season

Climate Projections (Winter, Spring, Summer and Autumn)

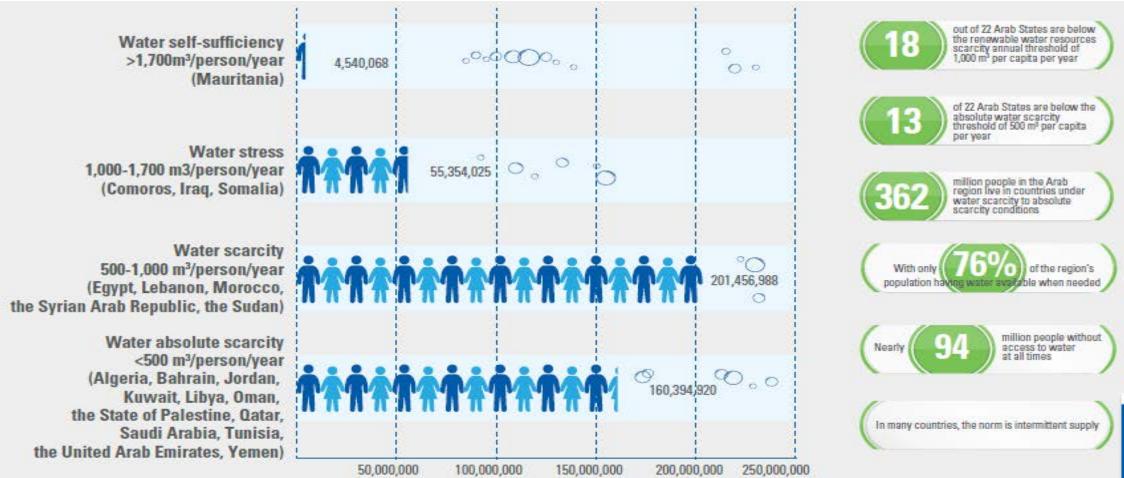


Level of water stress by country (%), 2000-2015



Source: FAO, 2018. Progress on level of water stress - Global baseline for SDG 6 Indicator 6.4.2. Rome. FAO/UN-Water.

Freshwater Scarcity in the Arab Region



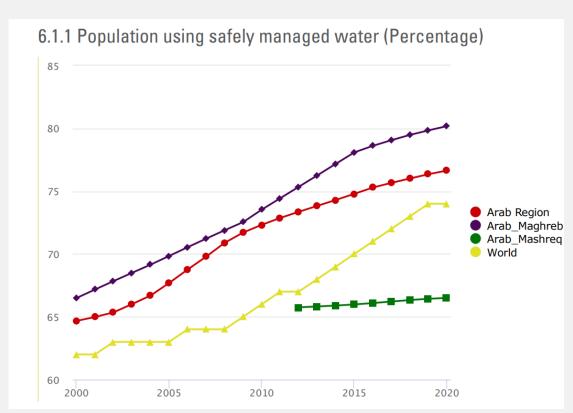
Population



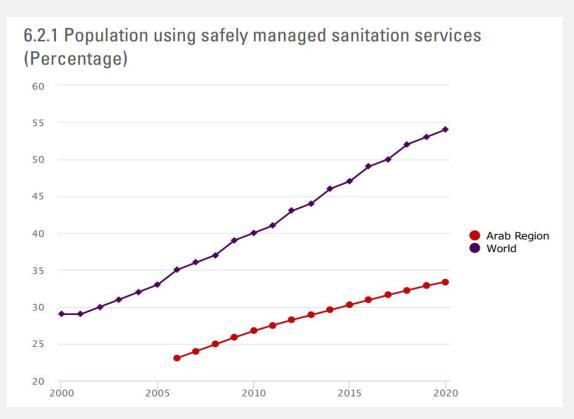


Safely Managed Water and Sanitation Services: Insufficient sanitation affects surface & groundwater water

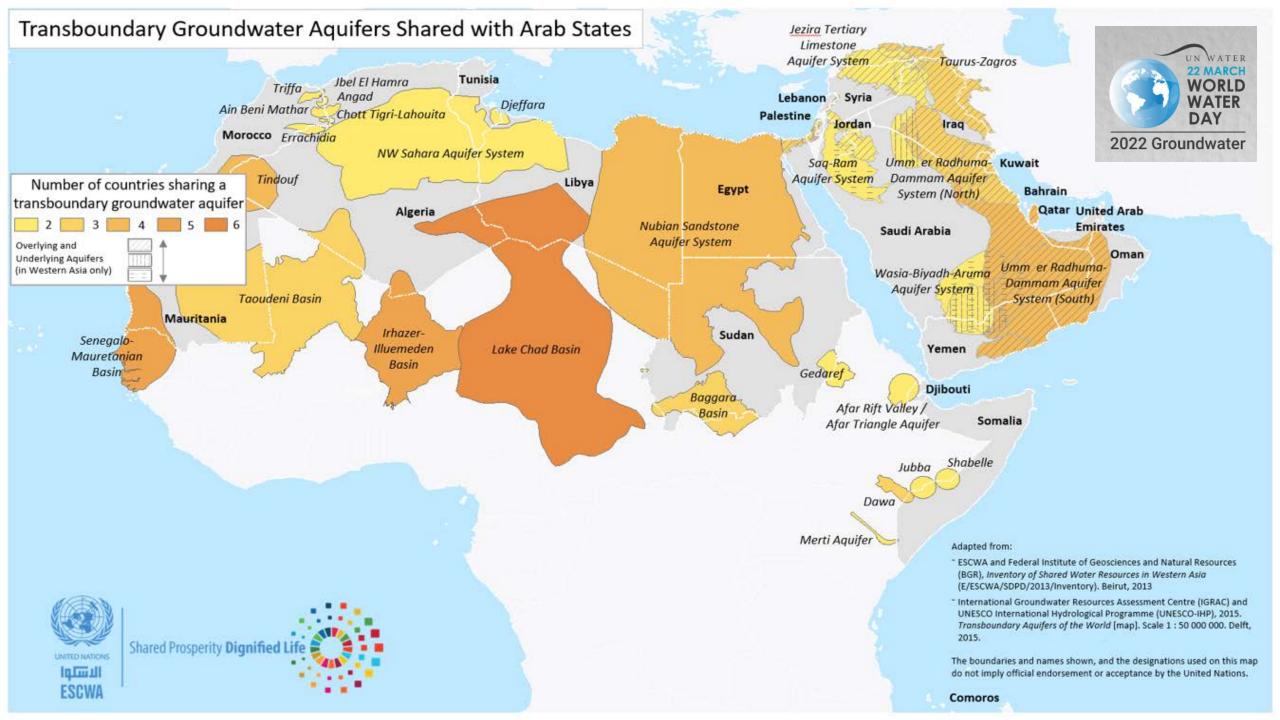
Good



Not so good

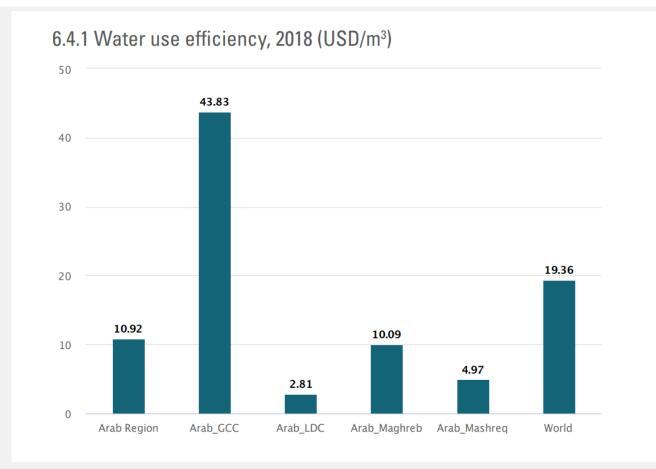


Source: ESCWA, Annual SDG Report, 2022; https://www.unescwa.org/sites/default/files/inline-files/annual-sdg-review-2022-data-english.pdf





Water Use Efficiency, 2018

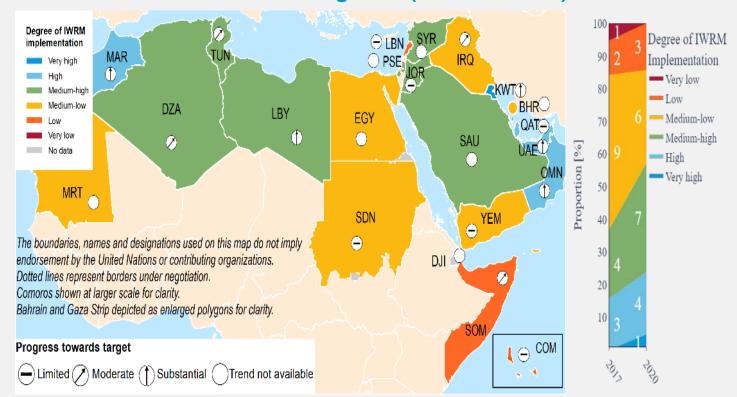


Water use
efficiency in
agricultural sector
particularly low in
Maghreb,
Mashreq and
Arab Least
Developed
Countries

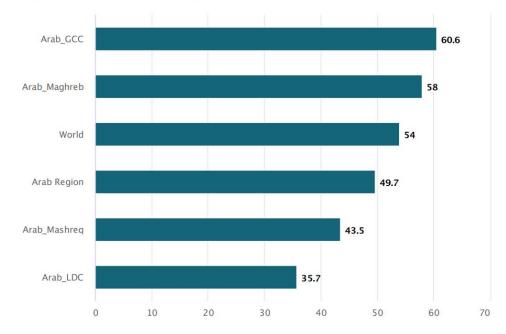


Integrated Water Resources Management

Degree of IWRM implementation (2020) and level of progress towards SDG target 6.5 (2017 and 2020)



6.5.1 Degree of integrated water resources management implementation (Percentage)



Source: https://www.unescwa.org/sites/default/files/inline-files/annual-sdg-review-2022-data-english.pdf



Oceans, Seas & Fisheries: Threats to Biodiversity & Livelihoods

- o The Arab region is surrounded by five oceans and seas
- o Marine areas surrounding the region are under threat from ocean warming, acidification, illegal fishing, and marine pollution from offshore and onshore development activities
- o Single-use plastics during pandemic increased marine plastic waste globally, including in Arab region
- o Pandemic affected supply chains & seafood demand, and associated impact on livelihoods.
- o In the Maghreb, aquaculture production plummeted from 21,169 to 14,049 tons between 2019 and 2020, a decrease of 34%





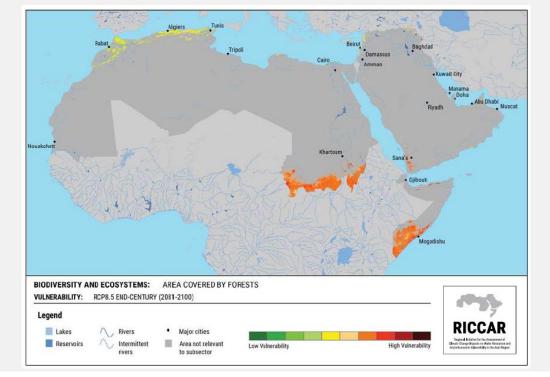


Small-scale fisheries are vital to the food security, health, nutrition, income and livelihoods of coastal communities throughout the region, particularly in Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Somalia, the State of Palestine and Yemen. However, unsustainable fishing practices, illegal fishing, dwindling fish stocks, pollution and climate change threaten the viability of small-scale fisheries.

	Arab region	World
Beach litter (d	count per km²)	
	4,412 (2018)	1,347 (2018)
Fish species,	threatened	
Fish species	672 (2018)	8,233 (2017)
Marine protec	cted areas (percentage of ter	ritorial waters)
	2 (2018)	11 (2018)
Marine areas	+3 per cent since 2016	+1 per cent since 2000

Forests, Wetlands & Green Cover

- o Just 7% of Arab region covered by forests or wetlands
- o Of these, 99% are moderately vulnerable to climate change at mid and end century





Arab region

World

Forest area as a proportion of land area



2.8 per cent (2020)

-0.54 per cent since 2000

31.2 per cent (2020)

-0.11 per cent since 2000

Progress towards sustainable forest management



-0.6 per cent was the net change rate in forest area (2020)

-2 per cent since 2010

33 per cent of forest area had a long-term management plan (2020)

+3 per cent since 2000

18.1 per cent of legally established protected areas were forests (2020)

+2 per cent since 2000

-0.1 per cent was the net change rate in forest area (2020)

+0.73 per cent since 2010

58.3 per cent of forest area had a long-term management plan (2020)

+0.57 per cent since 2000

17.8 per cent of legally established protected areas were forests (2020)

+1 per cent since 2000

Mountain Green Cover Index



29.6 per cent (2018)

+0.08 per cent since 2000

73 per cent (2018)

+0.01 per cent since 2000

Countries that have adopted legislative, administrative and policy frameworks to ensure fair and equitable sharing of benefits



81.8 per cent of countries were contracting parties to the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (PGRFA) (2021)

+0.57 per cent since 2012



27.3 per cent of countries reported through the PGRFA Online Reporting System (2021)

+35 per cent since 2016



23.8 per cent of countries reported to the Access and Benefit-Sharing Clearing-House (2012)

61.2 per cent of countries were contracting parties to PGRFA (2021)

+2 per cent since 2012

23.6 per cent of countries reported through the PGRFA Online Reporting System (2021)

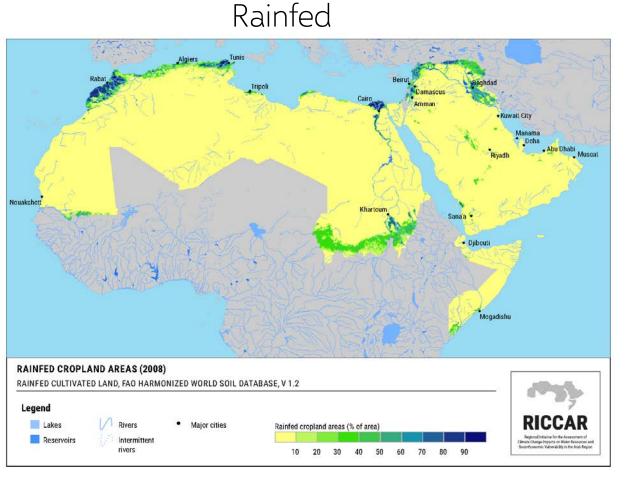
+30 per cent since 2016

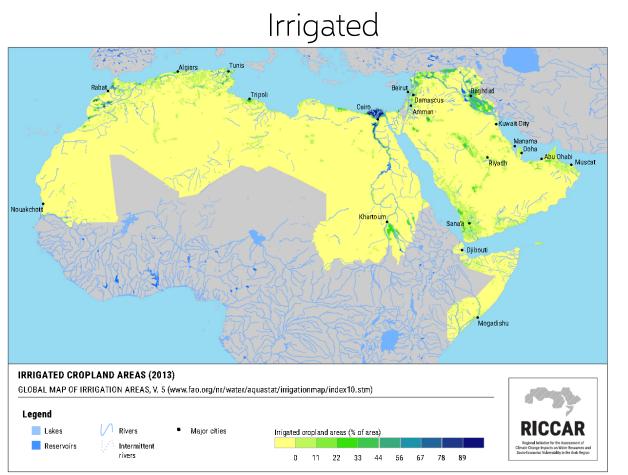
26.6 per cent of countries reported to the Access and Benefit-Sharing Clearing-House (2020)

+53 per cent since 2015

Source: ESCWA, Arab SDG Monitor.

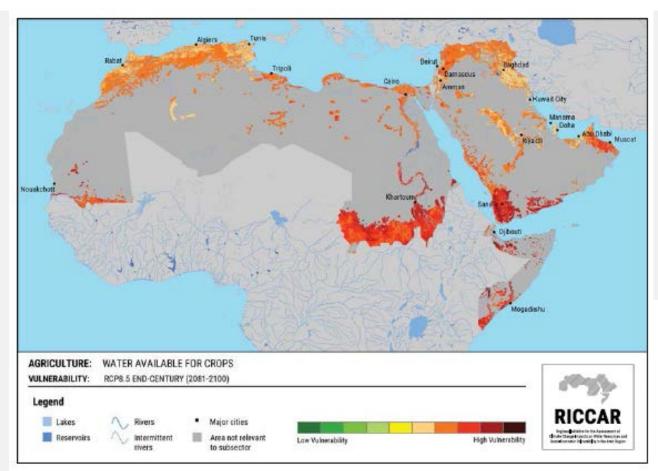
Rainfed and Irrigated Cropland Areas in Arab Region





- Most Arab countries dependent on <u>rainfed agriculture</u>: Mashreq 57%, Maghreb > 80%
- Agriculture consumes up to 80% of fresh water
- Low water productivity & inefficiency in irrigation causing 60% of water losses

Climate Change Vulnerability of Crops due to changes in Water Availability



- By 2030, climate change will reduce renewable water resources by 20%
- By 2080, climate change will decrease agriculture output by over 20%
- Land degradation affects 92% of hyper arid land & 73% of arable land, costing \$9 billion/year (2-7% of countries' GDP)
- Region also affected by sand & dust storms, which impact agricultural productivity and health

Scenario	% of study area experiencing vulnerability			Study area % of Arab region	Defined study area
	Low	Moderate	High		
Mid-Century RCP 4.5	0%	50%	50%	_	Rainfed areas Irrigated areas
Mid-Century RCP 8.5	0%	33%	67%	22%	
End-Century RCP 4.5	0%	43%	57%		
End-Century RCP 8.5	0%	16%	84%		

Climate Resilient Agriculture: Translating Data to Policy Actions



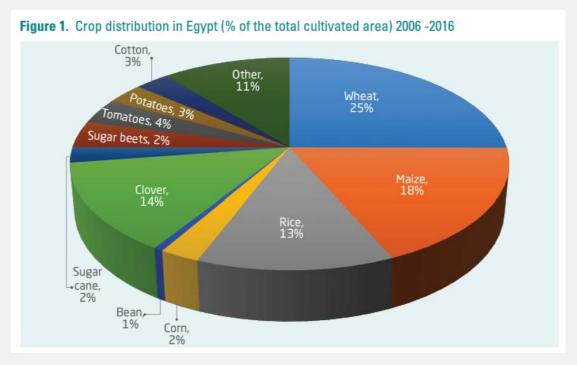
<u>Assessing the impacts of a climate change & changing water availability on agricultural production in selected Arab countries</u>

- <u>Climate Resilient Agriculture: Translating Data on Policy Actions in Jordan</u>
- Climate Resilient Agriculture: Translating Data on Policy Actions in Egypt
- Climate Resilient Agriculture: Translating Data on Policy Actions in Morocco
- Climate Resilient Agriculture: Translating Data on Policy Actions in Tunisia
- Climate Resilient Agriculture: Translating Data on Policy Actions in Lebanon
- Climate Resilient Agriculture: Translating Data on Policy Actions in Sudan
- Climate Resilient Agriculture: Translating Data on Policy Actions in Palestine
- Climate Resilient Agriculture: Translating Data on Policy Actions in Iraq
- Climate Resilient Agriculture: Translating Data on Policy Actions in Yemen

https://www.unescwa.org/publications/climate-resilient-agriculture-translating-data-policy-actions



Egypt: Projected climate impacts on Wheat & Maize



- RCP 4.5: The productivity of **wheat** decreases by 1.7 and 3.9% for 2025 and 2045 periods, respectively.
- RCP 8.5: The productivity of wheat decreases by 2.9 and 5.7 % for the 2025 and 2045, respectively
- RCP 4.5 & 8.5: The productivity of maize decreases by just under 3%

Source: ESCWA/ACSAD based on RICCAR & AquaCROP in cases of fixed CO2



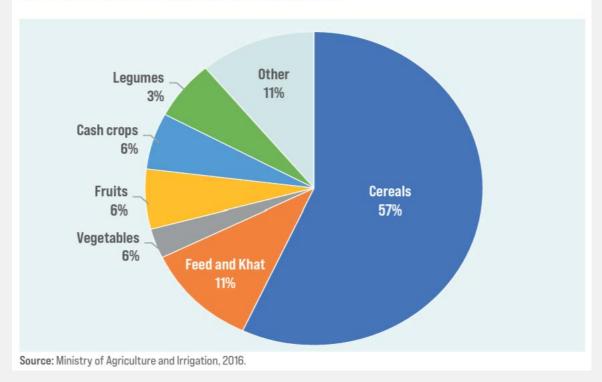
https://www.unescwa.org/publications/climate-resilient-agriculture-translating-data-policy-actions





Yemen: Projected climate impacts on Wheat & Sesame

Figure 1. Distribution of crop types in Yemen (by area)



Water losses from inefficient irrigation systems, as a significant volume of water (estimated at 50-65%)

RCP 4.5 scenario:

- For **Wheat**: length of growing season decrease by 3 days in the 2025 & 2045 periods.
- Wheat productivity around Sana'a decreases by 4.24 and 6.11% in the two periods; Crop water productivity decreases to 0.70 and 0.68 kg/m3 in the two periods
- For Sesame around Al Khoud, productivity increases by 3.7 and 3.2

RCP 8.5 scenario:

- Length of growing season decrease by 2.4 and 4.5 days the 2025 & 2045 periods.
- Wheat productivity decreases by 3.81 and 7.62% in the two periods; Crop water productivity decreases to 0.69 and 0.67 kg/m3 in the two periods
- For **Sesame**, productivity decreases by 1.71 and 8.39

Source: ESCWA/ACSAD based on RICCAR & AquaCROP in cases of fixed CO2

The changing climate is suited to some crops, such as sesame, which is expected to see increasing yields in moderate scenario



Addressing climate change in agriculture: Adaptation & Mitigation



Adaptation Framework



Gender Dimension

REGEND: Regional Initiative for Promoting Small-Scale Renewable Energy Applications in Rural Areas of the Arab Region

Access to

credits

RE for agricultural development in Jordan, Lebanon and Tunisia







Regional Initiative for Promoting Small-scale Renewahl Energy Applications in Rural Areas of the Arab Region





Access to Information

and

technology

Youth and Women empowerment

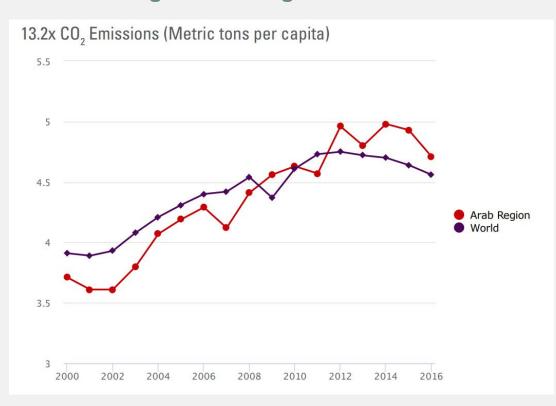
ILO, 2017; Empowering young women through Business and Vocational Training: Evidence from a field intervention in rural Egypt

Access to

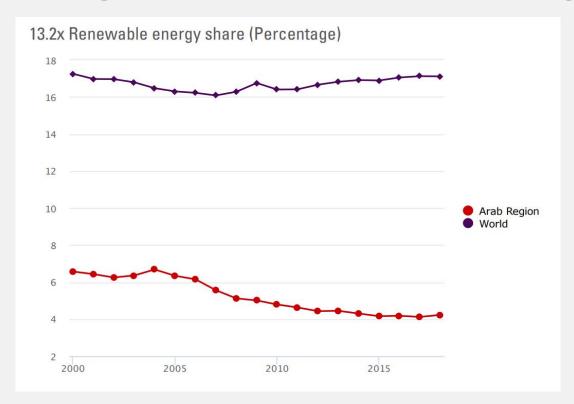
Land

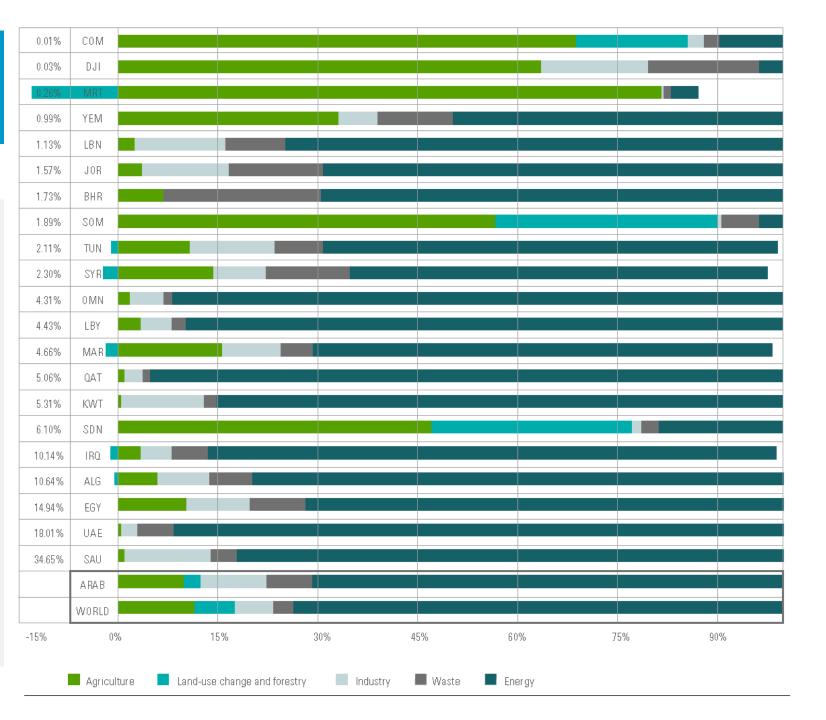
Energy - Climate Change, Environment & Development Challenge

Per capita CO2 emissions in the region continues to hover around global averages.



The share of renewable energy in total consumption is decreasing and remains well below the world's average.





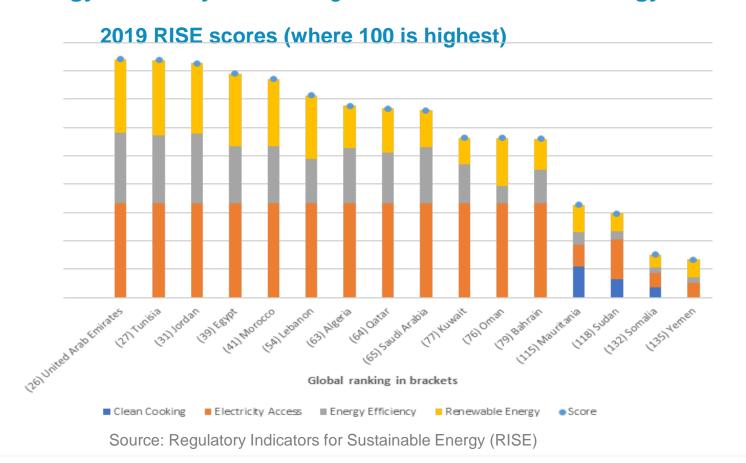
Greenhouse Gas Emissions by Sector in Arab Countries

Oil and gas exports account for 65 – 90% of government revenues in the GCC economies, and for over 80% of export revenue in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Qatar

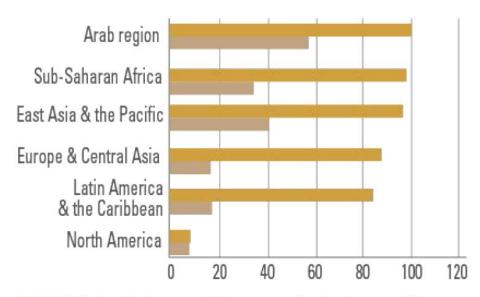
Source: World Bank, 2015

The Positive & The Negative

Near-universal access to modern energy but very slow progress in **energy efficiency** and a marginal role of **renewable energy**

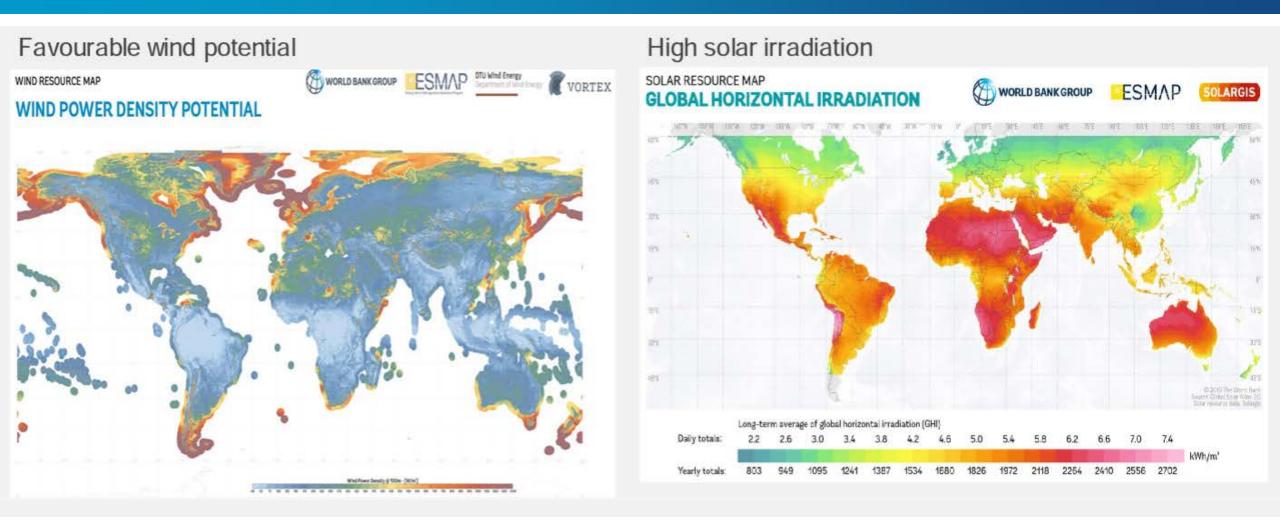


M2.5 air pollution (annual mean, μ g/m3) (WHO long-term guideline value = 10 μ g/m3)



- PM2.5 air pollution, population exposed to levels exceeding WHO guideline value (% of total)
- PM2.5 air pollution, mean annual exposure (micrograms per cubic meter)

Potential for Greater Investment in Renewable Energy

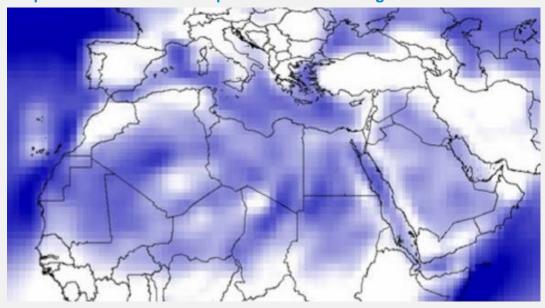


POTENTIAL BLUE AND GREEN HYDROGEN DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ARAB COUNTRIES AS WELL

Blue hydrogen produced from fossil fuels (mainly natural gas) with CCS or CCUS & Green hydrogen produced using renewable energy sources

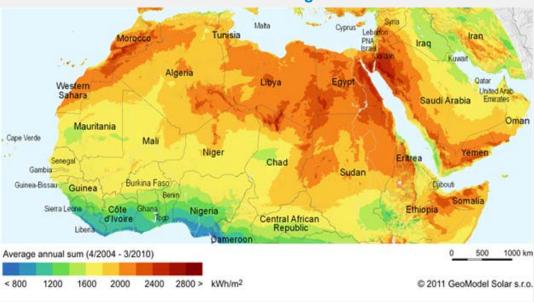
Modern Renewable Energy

Map of the Variable Wind Speeds in the Arab Region



Source: Pan-Arab Renewable Energy Strategy 2030, IRENA 2014

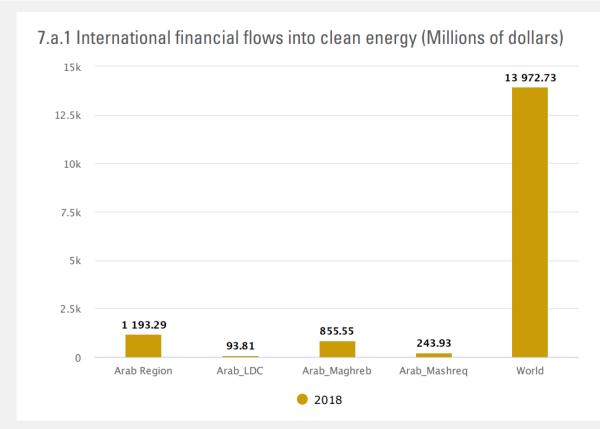
Direct Normal Radiation in the Arab Region



Source: solargis.info/doc/free-solar-radiation-maps-GHI

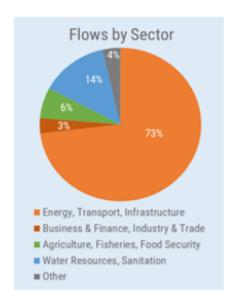
- Wind speed suitable for the production of electricity in various locations of many countries
- High Solar Irradiance
- Vast desert lands, semi-flat, and mostly uninhabited

Financial Flows into Clean Energy



Adaptation is the priority for Arab States. Yet the region receive 3.5 times more climate finance for mitigation than adaptation (2013-2019).





Support is not reaching the most vulnerable: 6 Arab LDCs received just 5% of total commitments and 18% of adaptation commitments.

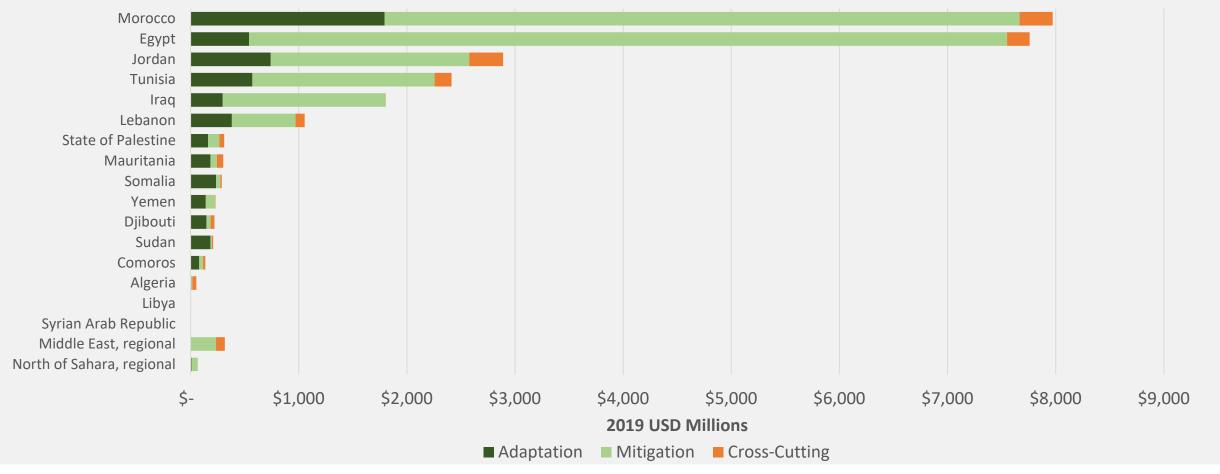
Source: ESCWA, Annual SDG Review, 2022

https://www.unescwa.org/sites/default/files/inline-files/annual-sdg-review-2022-data-english.pdf

Source: ESCWA, Climate Finance in Arab Region, presented at COP-26 (Glasgow)

Support is skewed towards Mitigation & is not reaching the most vulnerable. 6 Arab LDCs received just 5% of total commitments and 18% of adaptation commitments

Public International Climate Finance Commitments to the Arab Region by Purpose and Recipient (2013-2019)



Source: Figures developed by ESCWA based on OECD-DAC climate-related development finance databases. Figures labeled as "climate is primary objective" include commitments reported to the OECD with climate marked as a "principal" objective as well as "climate components" reported by multilateral development banks.

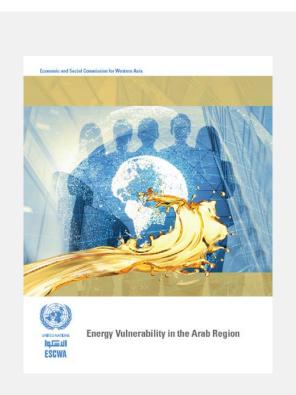
Table 6. Major renewable energy projects financed by MDBs and development institutions

Project	Location	Туре	MW	Date	Financiers
Gebel El Zeit	Egypt	Wind	220	2018	JICA
Gebel El Zeit	Egypt	Wind	160	2018	EU/EIB/KfW
Quweira	Jordan	PV	103	2018	ADFD
Al Rajef	Jordan	Wind	86	2018	EBRD
Noor PV1	Morocco	PV	170	2018	EIB/KfW
Noor II & III	Morocco	CSP	350	2018	JBIC/Int. banks
Gulf of Suez	Egypt	Wind	250	2019	EIB/KfW
Tiskrad	Morocco	Wind	300	2020	EIB/KfW
Midelt	Morocco	Wind	150	2020	EIB/KfW
Jbel Lahdid	Morocco	Wind	200	2020	EIB/KfW
Boujdour	Morocco	Wind	100	2020	EIB/KfW
Tangier II	Morocco	Wind	100	2020	EIB/KfW

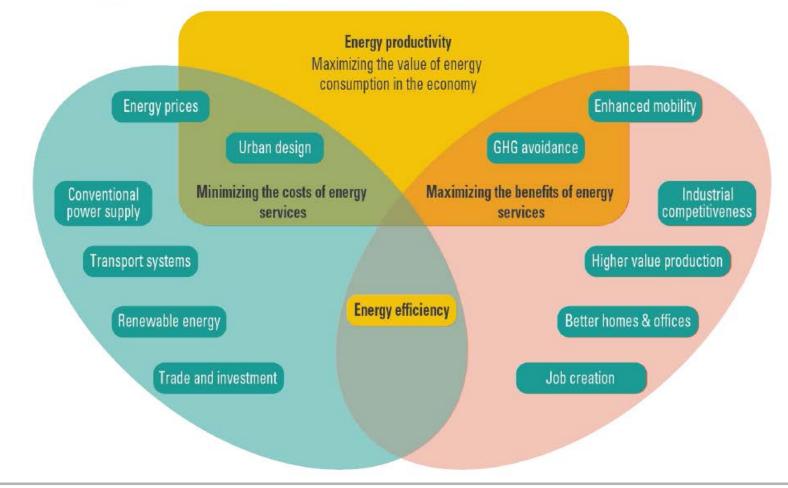
Source: APICORP 2018b

Enhancing Energy Productivity requires an Integrated Development Pathway & a Just and Inclusive Sustainable Energy Transition

Figure 26. Energy productivity is an integrated economic policy agenda



https://www.unescwa.org/publication s/energy-vulnerability-arab-region



Source: King Abdullah Petroleum Studies and Research Center and United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, 2017.

Climate mainstreaming is a multi-stage process

- Assessment for informed planning and decision-making
- Integrated planning for advancing climate commitments
- Inclusive budgetary and regulatory processes
- Financing climate action
- Accountability through improved monitoring and evaluation for increased accountability
- Accessing knowledge and building capacity















Thank you

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https://www.unescwa.org/events/mena-climate-week-2022

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