The ESCWA initiatives on Green Economy in the Arab Region: lessons learnt

2012 – 2014

Riccardo Mesiano (PhD)
ESCWA
The UN Economic and Social Commissions and the regional dimension in the UN

ECE: Europe

ESCAP: Asia Pacific

ECLAC: Latin America and Caribbean

ECA: Africa

ESCWA: Western Asia
The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

Membership
ESCWA comprises 17 Arab countries, including Libya, Morocco and Tunisia since 2012

Focus Areas
1- Sustainable Development Policies
2- Social Development
3- Economic Development and Globalization
4- Information and Communication Technology
5- Statistics
6- ESCWA Centre for Women
7- Emerging and Conflict Related Issues
Role

Two of ESCWA’s priority areas are:

- “Equity, inclusion & employment”
- “Sustainable natural resource management”

Implementation Approach

- Regional Convening Power for Intergovernmental Mechanisms
- Informing Regional Processes for Global Negotiations and National Action
- Partnerships

Support to Intergovernmental Mechanisms

ESCWA Committees (Water/Energy); LAS Councils: CAMRE (JCEDAR), AMWC, AMCE

Member of the Technical Secretariat of JCEDAR

Joint Committee for Environment and Development of the Arab Region / CAMRE
### Sustainable Development & Productivity Division

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**Support to Intergovernmental Mechanisms**

ESCWA Committees (Water/Energy); LAS Councils: CAMRE (JCEDAR), AMWC, AMCE
Food and Environment Policies Section

Implementation Approach

- Regional Convening Power for Intergovernmental Mechanisms
- Informing Regional Processes for Global Negotiations and National Action
- Partnerships

Green Economy

- Regional Mapping & Policy Guidelines
- Monitoring Tools Macro & Micro OECD
- DA Project Green Help Desks UNIDO, ESCAP
- Financing & Technology ITCD/ETC, EDGD, LAS, UNEP

Food Security

- Sustainable Agriculture Production & Consumption XB Project 2013/2014
- Green Value Chain GIZ, AFSN
- Water-Energy-Food Nexus RCM/TWG-FS

SDGs

- Regional Implementation Process on Rio+20 Outcome: Implications, SDAI, IFSD, MGs LAS, UNEP
- Regional Consultative Dialogue LAS, UNEP

Member of the Technical Secretariat of JCEDAR
Joint Committee for Environment and Development of the Arab Region / CAMRE
Publications

Monitoring the Transition to a Green Economy in the Arab Region
Publications

Green Economy Initiatives

Green Economy Initiatives
Success Stories and Lessons Learned in the Arab Region

Green Economy Initiatives
Success Stories and Lessons Learned in the Arab Region

United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

ESCWA
Projects

Strengthening national capacities in the ESCWA region on developing green production sectors
DA project Background

• Responds to global interest in developing a green economy
• Addresses inter-linked global challenges: Climate change, financial crisis, energy crisis, increased resource scarcities and environmental stress
• Complements normative work being undertaken by SDPD on green economy and SME development
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<th><strong>Title</strong></th>
<th>Strengthening national capacities in the ESCWA region on developing green production sectors</th>
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<td><strong>Duration</strong></td>
<td>3 years</td>
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<td><strong>Partners</strong></td>
<td>ESCAP, UNEP and UNIDO</td>
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<td><strong>Objective</strong></td>
<td>To strengthen capacity of national and local governments in the ESCWA region to formulate policies and programmes for stimulating and developing green production sectors</td>
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<td><strong>National partners</strong></td>
<td>The Association of Lebanese Industrialists, The Public Authority for SMEs in Oman, The Royal Scientific Society in Jordan, CEDARE in Egypt, Ministry of Environment and Equipment in Tunisia</td>
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Strategy

1. Increase understanding of policies and programmes aimed at the development of green production sectors and awareness of global, regional and local experiences in this area.

2. Increased access by decision-makers to information on national/local green production opportunities and options.

3. Improved technical skills to formulate national/local policies and programmes for stimulating and developing green production sectors.
Main activities

- Mapping of Green Economy Activities
- Policy Guidelines to support Green Productive Sectors
- Establishment of the Green Help Desks
- Study Tours for Policy Makers
- Workshops and Seminars
- Online Training on Low Carbon Green Growth
Workshop on Regional Mapping and GE policies
Green production sectors need help
...good ideas
...and support
Ok, but what does a green SME need?
Business Services provided:
Legal Support
Business Services provided:

Business Registration
Business Services provided: Financial Assistance
Business Services provided: Marketing
Business Services provided:

Connectivity
Business Services provided: Technical Support
Business Services provided:
Innovation
Need Help?
Business Services provided:

General Information
Business Services provided:
First Aid
ESCWA established a network of Green Help Desks

Lebanon: The Association of Lebanese Industrialists
Oman: Ministry of Commerce and Industry
Jordan: The Royal Scientific Society

Replicated projects:

Tunisia: Ministry of Environment and Equipment
Egypt: Centre for Environment and Development in the Arab Region
Green Help Desk Program
ESCWA is supporting the regional Green Help Desk Program to promote the greening of production sectors: less polluting, more resource efficient, reduced emissions and able to compete in local and export markets.

The GHGs purpose is to:
✓ Inform the production sectors about green practices
✓ Increase access to information and resources on green production;
✓ Improve access to capacity-building and training opportunities on Green Growth.

Where are the GHGs?
• Lebanon
• Oman
• Jordan
• Egypt
• Tunisia

Role of Hosting Institutions
✓ Expression of interest
✓ Commitment
✓ Logistics
✓ Staff
✓ Reporting

For more information visit the dedicated website
https://www.escwa.un.org/en/content/green-helpdesk
The Green Help Desk aims to support production sectors – particularly small and medium enterprises (SMEs) – to engage in the emerging green economy by developing their products and/or their production processes to become in line with the principles and objectives of sustainable development.
Green Help Desk launch in Lebanon
Green Help Desk: Immediate Objectives

1. Increase understanding among production sectors/SMEs of green national, regional and international policies and programmes.

2. Increase access by production sectors/SMEs to information and resources on national/local green production opportunities and options.

3. Improve access by production sectors/SMEs to capacity-building opportunities supporting green production.
# Green Help Desk: Basic Services

| Collection and dissemination of information | • Green business and funding opportunities  
  • National policies, programmes, institutions and laws related to green economy  
  • Regional and international support programmes and best practices in green production |
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<td>Training</td>
<td>• Organize national workshops and training courses for trainers on topics related to green production sectors</td>
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<td>Networking</td>
<td>• Act as a network of experts and national authorities specialized in the development of green production sectors</td>
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Projects

Online training of trainers on Green Growth, in Partnership with ESCAP

✓ ToT on site in Lebanon, Tunisia, Jordan, Oman and Egypt
✓ Over 120 policy makers trained so far

Green Jobs Training in partnership with ILO
✓ Residential and online courses for the Arab Region
Online training
Green Economy Trainings

Tunisia November 2013
Green Economy Trainings

Lebanon October 2013
Green Economy Trainings

Oman March 2014
Workshop on Regional Mapping and GE policies
Main activities (continued)

Scale-up national experiences to the regional level

- Online training of trainers on Green Growth
- Regional workshop
- Cross-regional workshop between West Asia and Asia-Pacific regions
Study Tours

Thailand April 2013

Lebanon September 2014
Workshops

- Sustainable packaging Workshop in Oman
- Green Service Providers in Egypt
- Energy Efficiency in Jordan
THANK YOU
UN ESCWA
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