Towards an Updated (SDIAR)

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Aims to develop a regional program for SD.

Based on the Ministerial Declaration on SD in 2001

A regional framework for Action
**Why an Updated SDIAR?**

The Arab Ministerial Declaration on Rio+20 reaffirmed political commitment to SD, reiterated commitment to continue the implementation of SDIAR to face current challenges, fill the gaps and update it when needed.
Criteria used in updating SDIAR

- Rely on adopted regional strategies and declarations
- Rely on Arab’s commitments within MEAs
- Lessons learned from SDIAR progress reports
- Language that is already negotiated and adopted.

Adopted Regional Strategies

- The strategic plan to develop education in the Arab world
- Arab regional strategies on (SCP)
- The Arab guideline to improve electricity efficiency and its rationalization at the end user
- The Arab Renewable Energy Strategy (2010-2030)
- The Arab Action plan to deal with climate change
- The Arab Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction (ASDRR)
- The Arab strategy for water security
- The Arab strategy for sustainable agriculture development
## MEAs /Global Strategies

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<tr>
<th>UNFCCC/The Kyoto protocol</th>
<th>UNCCD</th>
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<tr>
<td>UNCBD/Cartagena Protocol</td>
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<td>The United Nations Decade on Biodiversity (2011–2020)</td>
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<td>The Strategic Plan for Biodiversity (2011–2020)</td>
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<td>Nagoya Protocol</td>
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<td>GPA for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land- Based Activities</td>
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<td>Regional conventions for protection of marine environment</td>
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<td>SAICM/Chemical conventions</td>
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<td>Basel Convention</td>
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<td>The Minamata Convention on Mercury</td>
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## Priority Issues for an Updated SDIAR

- **Peace and Security**
- **The Water-Energy-Food Nexus**
- **Water Security**
- **Energy Security**
- **Agriculture, Rural Livelihoods and Food Security**
- **Climate Change**
- **Green Economy**
Peace and Security

- Efforts aimed at achieving peace and security in the Arab region
- Protecting the environment and natural resources of people under occupation.
- Implementation of the recommendations arisen from UNEP’s post-conflicts assessments.
- Turning the Middle East into a zone free of weapons of mass destruction.
- Efforts to enhance access to basic human rights and foster social integration and stability.

The Water-Energy-Food nexus

- Promoting the nexus approach to water-energy-food sustainability in the Arab region
- Transition to green economy to address the interdependencies between water, energy and food to make the nexus work for the poor.
Water Security

- Implementation of the Arab strategy for water security
- Implementation of water policies within the Arab regional Strategy (SCP).
- Implementation of integrated water resources management policies and practices.
- Protecting water resources from pollution
- Develop alternative water resources and develop new technology for water desalination, rainwater harvesting and the recycling and reuse of water.

Energy Security

- Adopt energy policies included in the Arab regional strategies (SCP)
- Supporting the implementation of the Arab guideline to improve electricity efficiency and its rationalization at the end user
- Supporting the implementation of the Arab Renewable Energy Strategy (2010-2030)
- Encouraging Arab Countries to make use of the services provided by (RCREEE)
- Diversify energy sources including cleaner fossil fuels’ technologies, new and renewable energy and nuclear energy
- Facilitate energy access in a reliable, affordable, economically viable and socially and environmentally acceptable manner.
Agriculture, Rural Livelihoods and Food Security

- Implementation of Arab strategy for sustainable agriculture development to achieve food security.
- Implementation of Agriculture and rural development policies within the Arab regional Strategy (SCP)
- Development and implementation of national policies of agricultural research (e.g. heat and drought tolerant crops).
- Collaborative regional approach and improved information exchange to support food security.
- Provision of green microfinance services to rural population

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Climate Change

- Implement Arab Action plan to deal with climate change
- Developed countries to meet their commitments of finance, technology transfer, capacity building, and impacts of response measures
- Mainstream adaptation to climate change in development policies, strategies, and programs.
- Pursue low-carbon climate resilient green development path.
- Develop (NAMAs) in preparation for post-2020 global climate regime.
- Strengthen the capacities to effectively manage disasters.
**Green Economy**

- Supporting the efforts of Arab countries to undertake a gradual transition towards green economy in line with national sustainable development objectives and priorities.

- Encouraging Arab countries to implement green economy policies in the context of SD and poverty eradication.

- Promoting sustained and inclusive economic growth in the Arab region, foster innovation and provide opportunities, and empowerment for all and respect human rights.

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**OTHER ISSUES FOR AN UPDATED SDIAR**

1. **Poverty Alleviation and Employment**
2. **Population and Health**
3. **Education, Illiteracy Eradication, and Public Awareness**
4. **Scientific Research & Technology Development and Transfer**
5. **Information and Communication Technologies**
6. **Coastal Zones and the Marine Environment**
7. **Drought and Desertification**
### OTHER ISSUES FOR AN UPDATED SDIAR (2)

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<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tr>
<td>Biodiversity and Biosafety</td>
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<td>Sustainable Tourism and Sustainable Management of Mountains and Forests</td>
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<td>Urban Planning and Sustainable Cities</td>
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<td>Management of Chemicals</td>
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<td>Sustainable Consumption and Production</td>
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<td>Disasters Management</td>
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### Means of Implementation

#### Finance
- Arab Environment Facility (AEF)
- Role of the Arab Development Funds
- Build capacity to benefit from the existing financial mechanisms (GEF, CDI, GCF, etc.)
- Participation of the private sector
- Achieve the target of ODA of 0.7% of GDP by 2015

#### Trade and Investment
- Strengthen the Pan-Arab Free Trade Area
- Foster PPP to create green jobs
- Improve access to international markets
- Attract FDI
Pending Issues

Institutional Framework

- Compatibility with the evolved global structure
- Addressing the current gaps

Monitoring

- Need for monitoring and reporting process
- Agreed upon set of SD indicators
- Compatibility with the post-2015 SDGs

The Current SDIAR: GAPS

- Has no additional funding for implementation
- Meant to use the available resources in:
  - the Arab countries
  - the relevant Arab regional and international organizations, and
  - the Arab regional and international financial institutions
- Has no clear time frame
- Has no clear measurable goals
- No harmonized reporting format
- No indicators to monitor progress (nationally, regionally)
Action Plan ???

- Any Action Plan should identify:
  - Who? (Nationally ???, regionally ???)
  - Doing What? (specific programs/projects)
  - When? (time frame)
  - At what cost? (resources)
  - How to monitor progress?

- We need to answer these questions in order to develop an Action Plan.

A Proposal for Implementation

National level
- Countries develop their own Plans
- Countries reflect regional priorities in their National Plans

Regional Level
- Develop sub-regional plans
- Arab-Arab Cooperation
- Arab Development Funds commit percentage of their ODA to those plans

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Thank you

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