

CLIMATE ACTION IN EGYPT

Country context

The Government of Egypt is committed to lowering its greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. In 2000, a GHG assessment identified an annual average increase of 5.1 percent from 1990, with the energy sector (including transport) established as being the primary contributor, followed by the agriculture, industry and waste sectors.

Egypt framed the vision for its energy future in the **National Energy Policy**, which promotes the enhanced use of natural gas as well as energy conservation and greater energy efficiency. Strategic targets are to increase the use of renewable energy (mainly solar, wind and biomass) to supply 20 percent of national electricity demand by 2020, and reduce future energy consumption by 10 percent through energy conservation and energy efficiency.

To reach these goals, the **National Low Carbon Economy Strategy** was launched in 2016 to re-focus the country's economy towards investment in clean technologies.

Prior to the Low Emission Capacity Building (LECB) project, various stakeholders were working on a number of projects often independently of each other. There was a need for increased collaboration and cooperation between these actors. There was also a real need to build technical capacity to identify and quantify opportunities for reducing GHG emissions across the sectors.



LECB EGYPT at a glance



Total financing

US \$1,780,000



Timeframe

6 years (2012-2018)



Sectors

Energy, Water, Tourism



Counterparts

Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA);
Ministry of State for Environmental Affairs (MSEA)



Thematic areas

- Institutional frameworks
- GHG inventory systems
- NAMAs
- LEDS
- INDC support
- MRV systems
- Private sector involvement
- Climate finance

LECB AFRICA

Development of a strategic menu of mitigation options

LECB developed a strategic menu of mitigation options to choose from. The process identified and prioritized the mitigation potential in ten sectors including: electricity power generation, renewable energy (including large scale renewable energy), industry, transport, housing, tourism, oil and gas, efficient water and sanitation pumps, agriculture and waste management. In total, **260 mitigation measures were identified across the ten sectors**. This comprehensive prioritization process included broad stakeholder engagement and helped to raise awareness, ensure buy-in and establish an on-going conversation around mitigation measures.

350 People trained

in four national capacity building workshops

Developed Egypt's Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC)

In partnership with national consultants and the support of Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH (GIZ), LECB supported the development of Egypt's INDC which was submitted to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 2015. During this process, a number of detailed background studies were completed, including the "Economy of Climate Change", study that identified the cost of mitigating 1 tonne of CO₂ in different sectors, and sought to estimate the cost of climate change impacts on vulnerable sectors. The development of the INDC involved coordinating the work of 16 government ministries. Building on the INDC, the Ministry of Environment (MSEA) is planning to establish a dedicated unit responsible for further NDC development. The scope of work of this unit will be based on the institutional arrangements developed through LECB.

RESULTS

Integrated a LEDS into national planning for the tourism sector

Following the completion of a NAMA mapping study in the tourism sector, LECB developed national guidelines for a LEDS for tourism. This was in response to legislation that requires 25 percent of electricity demand in new tourism developments to be met by renewable energy sources. The strategy included a Low Carbon Development Guide for hotel and resort investors in partnership with the Green Tourism Unit and the Tourism Development Authority. This process mainstreamed climate change and LEDS into national planning in the tourism sector.

Development of Mitigation Action Plans with associated MRV systems

Four Mitigation Action Plans (MAPs) were developed for the fertilizer industry, and two for iron and steel factories. Monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV) systems were created to support implementation and evaluation of the MAPs. Capacity was also built in MRV-related activities in order for industry personnel to report on mitigation actions.

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Mitigation Action Plans (MAPs) developed

Formulated five NAMAs in the energy and transport sectors

From the mitigation measures identified in the menu of mitigation options, LECB compiled 11 measures into NAMA information notes (NINOs), a summary document specifically developed by this project to explore various mitigation options and their outcomes. Each NINO included an outline of the identified mitigation option, a preliminary MRV plan, preliminary financial analysis, and technical information including GHG inventory, baseline emissions, and emission projections. NINOs offer an opportunity to match mitigation actions with potential funders or investors prior to investing too much time or money into developing a full NAMA proposal. From these NINOs, five NAMAs were formulated in the energy and transport sectors within the context of national development priorities.

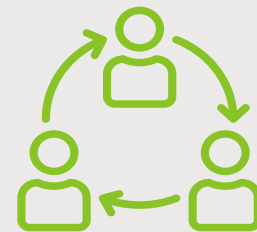
5 NAMA

formulated in the energy and transport sector

11 NAMA

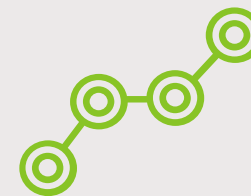
information notes developed

IMPACTS



Coordinated climate change-related activities across projects

The Ministry of Environment implemented four climate change-related projects (LECB; Biennial Update Reports-BUR; MRV systems; and National Communications). Representatives from each of these projects established a coordination committee, which meets regularly to discuss the scope of work and outcomes of each project. This ongoing collaboration prevented duplication of work and assisted the project teams to design a joint capacity building matrix. Further collaboration occurred between LECB Egypt and UNDP's Global Environment Facility (GEF) Energy Efficiency Project, resulting in energy efficiency through smart street lighting and energy efficiency in public, private and commercial buildings.



Strengthened capacity to address climate change in various sectors

including academia and the public and private sectors, and among stakeholders such as researchers, young experts, and media representatives, to implement low emission development roles. This was accomplished through targeted training. LECB was also successful in involving new players to the climate change space: collaboration with Egypt's National Statistics Agency resulted in the formation of a unit dedicated to collecting and analyzing climate change data.



Mainstreamed climate change into the national development

processes of many entities in both the public and private sectors.



General overview of the UNDP Low Emission Capacity Building Programme

Since its inception, the UNDP LECB programme has paved the way for effective and lasting climate action by building capacities of government staff to develop policies, strategies and tools that help implement their climate change goals. Focusing specifically on essential building blocks such as strengthening GHG inventory data and systems; formalization of institutional arrangement for climate actions; development and alignment of low emission development strategies (LEDS); and the creation of Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs), LECB provided much of the enabling environment necessary for countries to respond quickly to emerging needs, such as the submission of Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) and socialization of the Paris Agreement. Given its flexible nature and strong country ownership, often the originally-envisaged and measurable LECB outputs have been exceeded, leading to some unplanned but highly welcomed additional impacts.

CASE STUDY

STRENGTHENING CAPACITY ACROSS A RANGE OF STAKEHOLDERS IN EGYPT

In Egypt, the LECB project laid the foundations for the formation of five NAMAs, a MRV system, new national policies (LEDS) and the identification of mitigation options (MAPs). The project was country-owned and country-specific, and was successful in obtaining buy-in from a number of government ministries, despite a period of significant political change.

LECB successfully demonstrated mainstreaming of climate change into planning and decision-making processes. The mitigation options identified through LECB Egypt's intervention will be used as a tool to ensure that climate change activities by different agencies and institutions follow a coherent and collaborative framework. The various studies delivered as part of the NAMA Information Notes (NINOs) have received positive feedback from the Ministries of Petroleum, Electricity and Energy, and Transport. These studies will be used as a baseline for future mitigation actions.

The project focused on strengthening capacity across a range of stakeholders. In particular the training and mentoring of young professionals aimed to ensure sustainability of the results achieved so far and to serve as a foundation for climate mitigation work going forward.

LECB Egypt made possible by:

The UNDP Low Emission Capacity Building (LECB) Programme was launched in January 2011 as part of a joint collaboration between the European Union, the Governments of Germany and Australia and UNDP. It is a global programme that helps countries build the public and private sector capacities needed to scale up country-driven mitigation actions.



Supported by:



based on a decision of the German Bundestag

