

## Climate Resilient Societies & Low Carbon Economies



### CLIMATE CHANGE IN THE SOUTH MEDITERRANEAN REGION

The Mediterranean region has been identified as a climate change hotspot by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). Most countries are already experiencing a rise in temperatures and in the frequency of droughts and forest fires. Growing rates of desertification and diminishing fresh water resources are also being recorded.

The IPCC projects the following key impacts for the Mediterranean region by 2100 :

- average warming of 0.3°C to 0.5°C per decade;
- reduction in rainfall of 4% to 30%;
- sea level rise of 18cm to 59cm;
- increasing frequency and strength of extreme weather events, particularly heat waves and floods.

In response to these threats, a common understanding has emerged in the Mediterranean region that fighting climate change is essential. By employing both mitigation and adaptation measures, countering climate change may also provide opportunities for economic growth, particularly in terms of low carbon development options.



# CLIMASOUTH WORK AREAS

Strengthening general negotiation and implementation capacity

## The Paris Agreement

The landmark Paris Agreement achieved in 2015, is charting a fundamentally new course in climate policy. It is the first-ever, universal and legally binding climate deal, to limit global temperature increase well below 2 degrees Celsius.

The Paris Agreement provides a bridge between today's policies and the global climate-neutrality to be achieved before the end of the century. The agreement commits all parties to make a sustained effort to cut emissions, report regularly on the results obtained and undergo international review.

## THE CLIMASOUTH PROJECT

The EU-funded ClimaSouth project, supports climate change mitigation and adaptation in 9 South Mediterranean countries: Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia.

The overall objective is to assist partner countries' transition towards low carbon economies, while building climate resilience and exploiting opportunities for economic development and employment in the region.

This is pursued by strengthening the capacity of policy makers in the region to effectively engage in the global climate change framework, and by enhancing the institutional capacity for strategic planning in the areas of climate change mitigation, adaptation and financing.

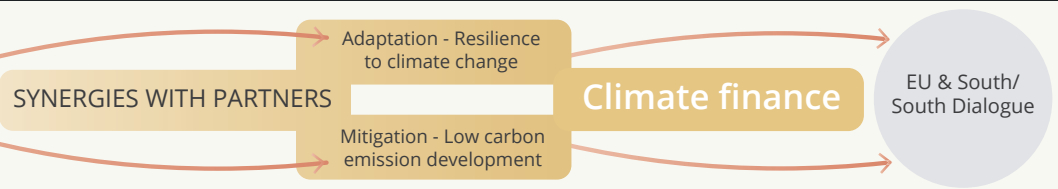
The project also promotes south-south cooperation and information sharing on climate change issues within the region, as well as closer dialogue and partnership with the European Union (EU).

The ClimaSouth project was initiated in February 2013 and will be implemented over a period of 63 months (until March 2018), with a total budget of € 5,7 million provided by the EU.

Key stakeholders include relevant government departments at operational and policy levels,

such as the United Nations Framework Climate Change Convention (UNFCCC) national focal points, climate change units and committees, decision makers, meteorological services, and other stakeholders such as local government and civil society representatives.





## BUILDING CAPACITY AND MAINSTREAMING CLIMATE CHANGE POLICY

The ClimaSouth project is implemented through a combination of national and regional interventions targeting four main thematic areas. Interventions are flexibly adapted in response to emerging needs and new opportunities.

### Negotiation and implementation capacity

International climate change negotiations continue to evolve and require substantial input from South Mediterranean countries. The ClimaSouth project offers extensive training for policy makers and decision makers. The modules cover the negotiation and implementation of climate agreements and policies supporting the path towards climate resilient societies and low carbon economies.

### Low carbon development

The ClimaSouth project supports improvement of Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) national systems and of Greenhouse gas emission (GHG) inventories. This is achieved through the development and sharing of best practices in GHG emission reporting, mitigation modelling and analysis. The project contributes to the identification and development of environmentally sound Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Action (NAMA) portfolios, and provides technical assistance and training for the formulation of Low Emission Development Strategies (LEDS).

### Resilience and adaptation

The ClimaSouth project places a special focus on improving climate data use and modelling to support the development of adaptation and climate resilience in partner countries. The project assists in the development of a methodology for vulnerability assessments and the formulation of National Climate Action Plans (NAPs).

## Climate Change finance

The ClimaSouth project facilitates access to climate change finance mechanisms supporting low carbon development and resilience to climate change. This effort builds on existing national capacities to raise funds, in compliance with the requirements of entities such as the Adaptation Fund, the Climate Investment Funds and others.



## EUROPEAN UNION 2050 CLIMATE ROADMAP

The EUs **'Roadmap for moving to a competitive low carbon economy in 2050'** suggests that, by 2050, the EU should cut its emissions to 80% below 1990 levels through domestic reductions alone. It sets out milestones, which form a cost-effective pathway to this goal - reductions of 40% by 2030 and 60% by 2040. It also shows how the main sectors responsible for the EU's emissions - power generation, industry, transport, buildings and construction, as well as agriculture - can make the transition to a low-carbon economy most cost-effectively.

For the short term, the EU has put in place legislation to reduce its emissions to 20% below 1990 levels by 2020.



## PROMOTING DIALOGUE AND ENHANCING REGIONAL COOPERATION

The ClimaSouth project aims to improve the quality of regional dialogue, both between partner countries and with the EU. This is achieved across all thematic areas, by facilitating networking as well as online and regular face-to-face contacts. Joint actions involving various partner countries are supported, such as scientific assessments of risks and opportunities, contributing to the establishment of baselines on climate change. National initiatives with a strong cross-sectoral and/or regional scope are sustained, such as centers of excellence on climate change involving partner countries.

The project also facilitates access to information and increased understanding of best practices and legislation on climate change in the EU and partner countries through training, technical assistance, and the production of information materials and online tools.

### Technical and financial partners coordination

The ClimaSouth project coordinates closely with technical and financial partners operating in the region, through collaborative capacity needs assessments at national and regional levels. The systematic exchange and dissemination of information also helps to improve coordination among potential donors.

### Main Partner Institutions at the national level

**Algeria:** Ministry of Foreign Affairs - **Egypt:** Ministry of Environment - **Israel:** Ministry of Environment - **Jordan:** Ministry of Environment - **Lebanon:** Ministry of Environment - **Libya:** Prime Minister Office - Environmental General Authority - **Morocco:** Ministry of Energy, Mines, Water and Environment - **Palestine:** Ministry of Environment - **Tunisia:** Ministry of Infrastructures and Environment

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