



# United Nations ESCWA

## Integrating Climate Change into the Sustainable Management Of Natural Resources

### Experiences from the ESCWA Region

*By*  
*Bader Al-Dafa*  
*Under Secretary-General*  
*Executive Secretary*

*Regional Commissions Joint Side Event on*  
*Climate Change*  
*Copenhagen, 16 December 2009*



**Why is Copenhagen important?**  
**What do we expect from it?**

**Who is responsible**  
**What is the role of UN ESCWA?**  
**in the Region**

**NO**

**Sustainable  
development**

**Without**

**Sustainable  
management of  
natural resources**



# ESCWA Member Countries



**Despite**



**Climate change  
repercussions**

**Low  
contribution**



Sustainable management  
Of natural resources

Energy

Water

Land

Climate Change

# Sustainable Development Challenges

**Rapid  
population  
growth**

**Lack of  
institutional  
capacity**

**Political  
instability**

**Inadequate  
financial  
resources**



**Acute water  
scarcity**

**Unsustainable  
production and  
consumption  
patterns**



# Climate Change Impact on the Region

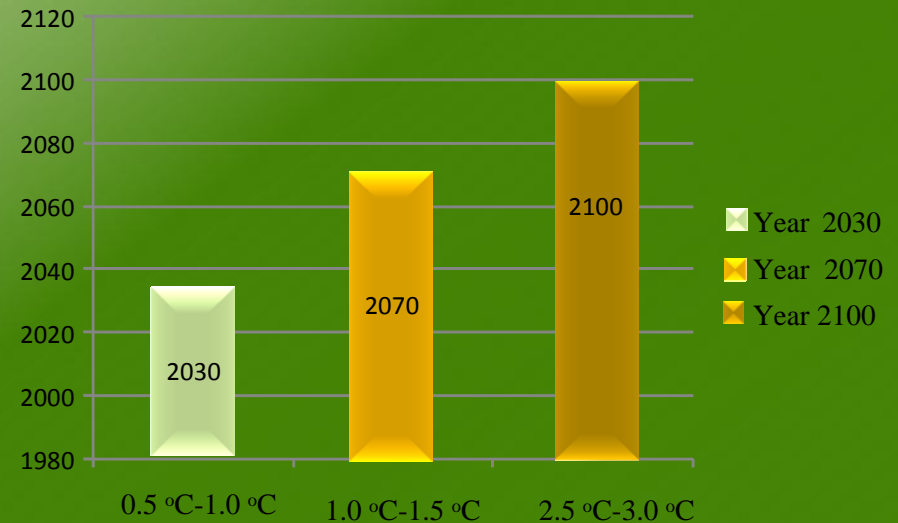
## *On Natural Resources*

↑ Increase

+ In temperature

+ In drought

*Annual average of temperature increase*



*Syrian Arab Republic*

*Jordan*





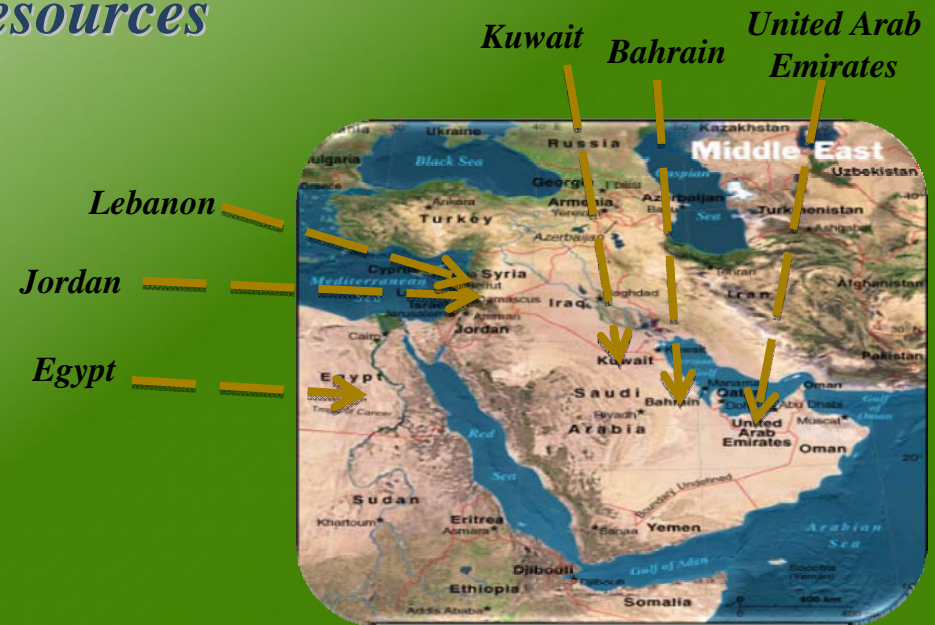
# Climate Change Impact on the Region

## *On Natural Resources*

↑ Increase

+ In desertification and land degradation

+ In floods and other extreme natural phenomena



# Climate Change Impact on the Region

## *On Natural Resources*

↓ Decrease



In river run-off



In agricultural productivity

*Nile River  
Egypt*

*Euphrates and Tigris*

*Iraq*



*Egypt*

*Lebanon*

*Syrian Arab  
Republic*

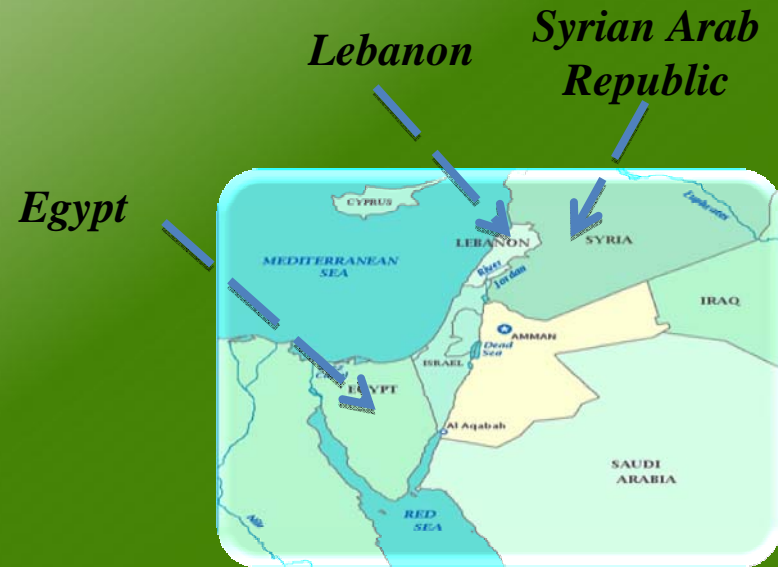


# Climate Change Impact on the Region

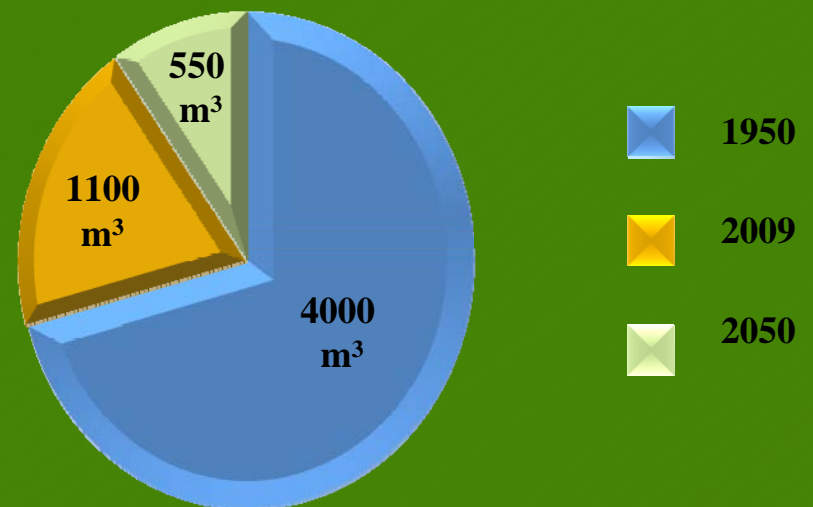
↓ Decrease

Seawater intrusion to coastal groundwater resources

In water resources





Annual per capita water resources





# Climate Change Impact on the Region


## *Socio-Economic Impact*


 In political conflicts

 In unemployment

 In poverty and health problems

 In Population displacement and mass immigration

 Reduced productivity

 Great economic and financial losses



# Regional Initiatives and Experiences

## **ESCWA Member Countries**

- ◆ The Arab Initiative on Sustainable Development (AISD), 2002
- ◆ The Abu Dhabi Declaration on Environment and Energy (ADDEE), 2003
- ◆ The Arab Declaration on Climate Change (ADCC), 2007

# Regional Initiatives and Experiences

## *Policies and Programmes*

### **Energy**

- ◆ Energy production and use efficiencies;
- ◆ Renewable energy applications;
- ◆ Use of cleaner fuels (CNG).

### **Water**

- ◆ National strategies for promoting IWRM;
- ◆ Water quality;
- ◆ Shared water resources.

### **Land**

- ◆ Fighting desertification and land degradation;
- ◆ Enhancing agricultural productions.

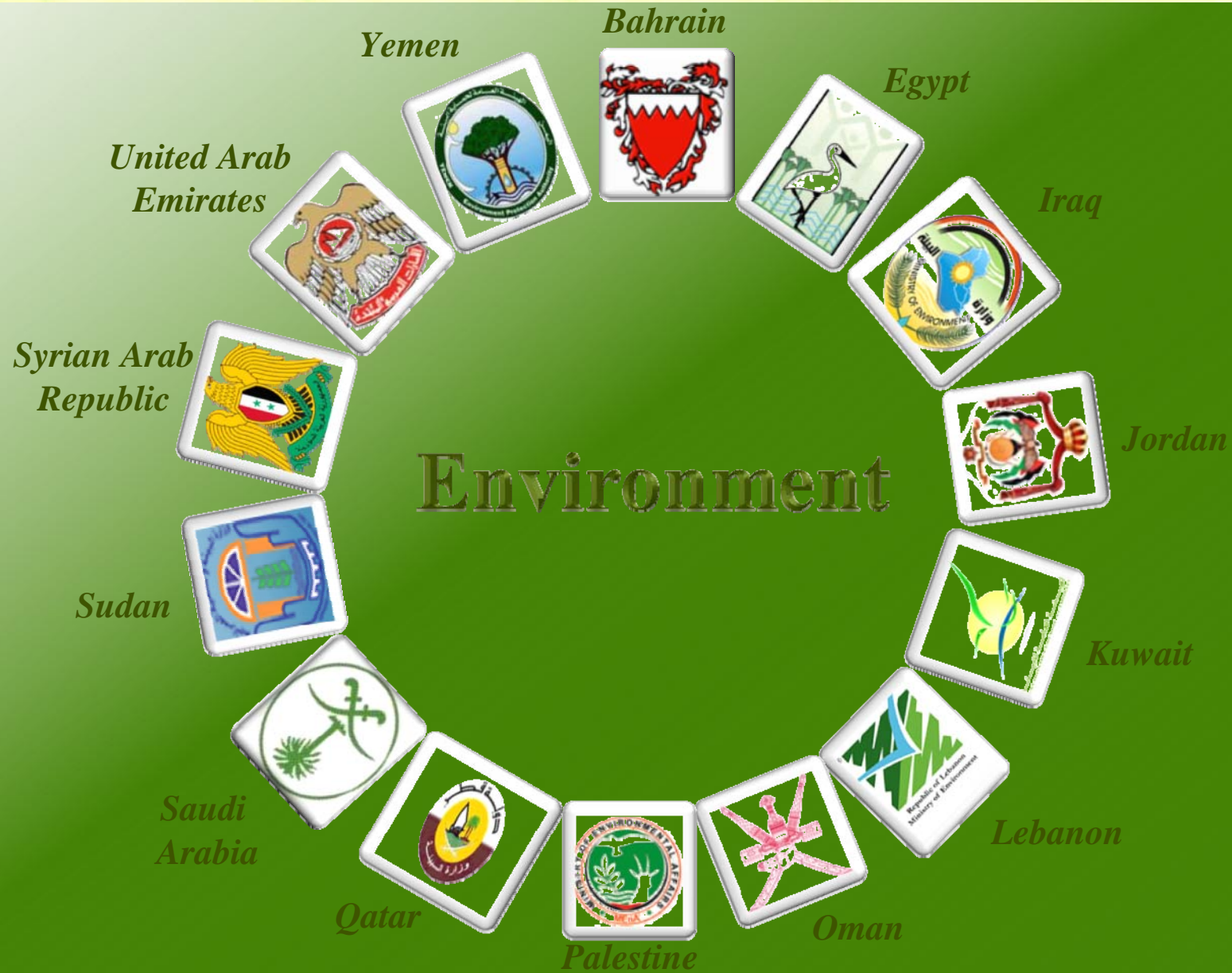
# Partnerships



ESCWA

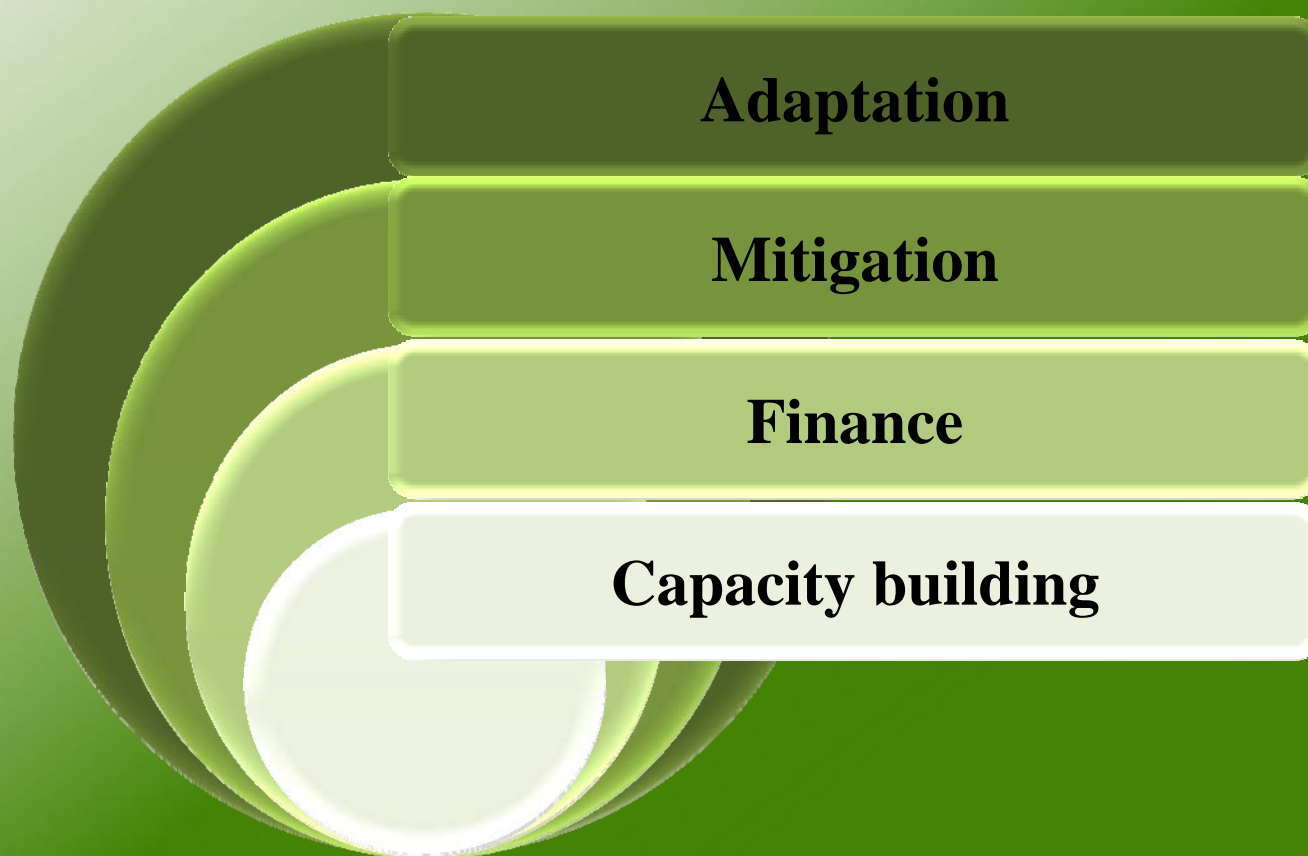


# Ministries of Environment of Arab Countries





# ESCWA Activities



# The Way Forward

**Save  
livelihoods**

**Save  
environment**

**Foster  
greater  
prosperity**

**Wellbeing  
for all**

THANK YOU

TAK



MERCI

شكراً