

Egypt's STI Climate Change Action Plan: Road to COP27 and Beyond



وزارة التعليم العالي والبحث العلمي MINISTRY OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH



Where there's a will, there's a way

Now or Never

Integrated National and International Action Plans for Climate Change Confrontation:





Adaptation

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President, Academy of Scientific Research and Technology (ASRT), Egypt

RSS, London, 26 October 2022

Strategic Objectives of Egypt's Vision for Sustainable Development 2030, Outlines of Egypt STI strategy 2030, and National Climate Change Strategy-2050

Examples of Egyptian mega projects to confront climate change

Egypt's STI Action Plan to Climate Change

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Vision for the future of climate change work



Climate Change

Although climate change is a global challenge, adaptation to its negative impacts varies from place to place, from developed to developing countries, and from North to South, depending on the geographical position, type, and severity of negative environmental impacts and economic status of the country.

Moreover, reports from the World Bank indicated very clearly that climate change is a challenge for sustainable development and increases the costs of sustainable development in developing countries.

Accordingly, developing countries need huge efforts and funds to develop infrastructures that are resilient to climate change, to achieve more efficient use of available water resources, cope with sea-level rise and salinization of groundwater and soil, to develop precision and smart agriculture systems for maximum crops per drop and to support social and institutional adaptation through education, awareness, new policies, and legislations.









Voice of the Global South

Reports of international organizations confirm that the unmatched impact of climate change already being felt across the world is burdening developing countries of the Global South, including Egypt. Due to their high levels of vulnerability, low adaptive capacity, and widespread poverty, these countries are particularly susceptible to extreme climate events. In such a catastrophic scenario, Egypt will have to respond and adapt immediately to the following challenges:

- Facing the consequences of losing more than 15% of its fertile land and 25 % of agricultural productivity
- Facing the consequences of the increased salinity of groundwater due to the interference of seawater with groundwater, beach erosion on the Mediterranean coast, seal level rise, drought, chronic water scarcity, ...etc.
- Addressing the rise in heat-related deaths, infectious diseases, ... etc.
- Facing the challenges of stopping hydroelectric power plants, threatening weak electricity networks due to rising temperatures, reducing the capacity of solar cells because of increased dirt and dust, ...etc.
- Facing the challenges of the increasing risks of climate change on the World Heritage sites (sinking, deterioration, and erosion of archaeological buildings due to air pollution, torrential water, and seas).





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Strategic Objectives of Egypt's Vision for Sustainable Development 2030

- Creating an environment that encourages knowledge localization and production
- Preparing and improving an integrated national innovation system
- Linking Knowledge applications and innovation outcomes to national priorities







National Climate Change Strategy-2050

Objectives

- 1. Achieving sustainable economic growth by reducing CO2 emissions;
- 2. Enhancing adaptive capacity and resilience to climate change;
- 3. Enhancing climate change governance framework;
- 4. Enhancing infrastructure through bank financing of climate change projects;
- 5. Enhancing scientific research, technology transfer, knowledge, and public awareness for combating climate change

Sub-objectives

Provide new and renewable energy projects, work on reducing emissions, maximizing energy efficiency, and adopting sustainable consumption and production mechanism.

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Egypt has officially been selected to host the UN Climate Change Conference (COP 27) after years of significant work on countering climate change, including political commitments, implantation of mega projects, and heading the UN Biodiversity Conference from 2018 to 2021.





Examples of Egyptian mega projects to confront climate change



- 1. The government began to activate its plans to deal with climate change through several national projects, legislations, and laws, which emerged through the expansion of metro networks, electrical trains, Monaural, and electric cars, and the preparation of the necessary infrastructure for this, as well as the establishment of smart and resilient cities, renovation of National roads network.
- 2. Egypt is also implementing projects to rationalize water use, line canals, integrated coastal zone management, and a huge project to reclaim 1.5 million acres in the Western Desert and other governorates, which will have a significant impact on combating climate change and reducing CO2 emissions.
- 3. Established Benban Solar Park, a photovoltaic power station with a total capacity of 1650 MW. Benban is currently the 4th largest solar power plant in the world.
- 4. Established the biggest projects in the world for water treatment and recycling
- 5. Replacement of old outdated Cars with new cars that run on natural gas.....etc

THE BIG PICTURE OF CLIMATE CHANGE RESEARCH IN THE ARAB WORLD: INSIGHTS FROM BIBLIOMETRIC ANALYSIS

CLIMATE CHANGE, RESEARCH PRODUCTIVITY, BIBLIOMETRIC ANALYSIS, ARAB COUNTRIES



AUTHORS

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ABSTRACT

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Global impacts of climate change are wide-ranging and unprecedented in scope, ranging from shifting weather patterns that threaten a permanent change of the eco system on earth (which may severely affect human life, including water and food security), to major events affecting directly human lives, such as natural / climate related disasters, rising sea levels, etc. With the organization of two successive Conference of the parties (COP) in the Arab region, it became evident that there is an extensive attention from governments and regional bodies in the Arab region towards issues related to climate change. In this study, we aim to analyze research performance of scientific publication in climate change, based on bibliometric analysis of published research articles in 22 Arab countries. We have used various tools data analysis and bibliometric indicators characterization. Many indicators are used to examine scientific performance, as well as the trends of growing number of publications, number of citations, number of authors, etc.

Using a predefined set of keywords related to climate change and UN climate change themes, we were able to assemble a dataset of 68,193 documents (published papers) that were further analyzed to set the scene and show the status of scholarly publications from authors of the Arab world. Soudi Arabia comes on top of the Arab world. Soudi Arabia comes publications, followed by Egypt. Moracco, and United Arabia pound of geosciences are the top three choices for publications related to climate change among the Arab resonchers.

Egypt RDI Climate Change

Egypt set strategic objectives and policies aiming at directing RDI projects toward supporting Egypt's efforts to confront climate change

The plan dates back to early 2017 and pays too much attention:

- **1-Green Innovation**
- 2-Renewable Energy & Water desalination
- 3-Recycling, Ecofriendly Textile and Biodegradable Plastics
- 4-Saline & Dryland Agriculture
- 5- Biodiversity and Nature Conservation

6-More Crops Per Drop

7- Blue Economy,

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Egypt Action Plan: Road to COP27 and Beyond











1- Policy Papers and Reports

- 1- Achieving food security under climate changes
- 2- Addressing climate change impacts on health
- 3- Voluntary lowering of carbon dioxide emission using innovative solutions and mindset transformation
- 4- Insight bibliometric analysis of climate change research in the Arab States
- 5- WIPO Green Technologies Book







Addressing Climate Change Impacts on Health

Policy Working Paper

September 2022

Key messages

- Climate change is a global health emergency that presents diverse risks to human lives including but not limited to heat exposure and heat stress; water scarcity, flooding and droughts; changing distribution of vector-borne and other infectious diseases; and food insecurity and malnutrition. Impacts are felt most intensely by vulnerable populations and communities, including those with preexisting health conditions.
- Effective adaptation and resilience-building to the health risks posed by climate change will need to be tailored to local circumstances and capacities; integrated into wider plans for sustainable development, disaster risk reduction and health sector reform, and should involve collaboration between national and local governmental bodies, public health professionals, health-care providers and local households and communities
- Aligning climate change adaptation and mitigation actions is more likely to be effective than
 addressing these actions separately in reducing the health impacts of climate change. Emphasising
 the co-benefits to health from climate change mitigation can incentivise decision-makers to undertake
 climate action that directly benefits a country's own population in the near term whilst also contributing
 to global efforts to combat climate change.
- Addressing the complex interactions between health and climate change requires multi-sectoral and whole systems approaches and policies to assess health challenges, support the development and implementation of effective policy solutions, minimise trade-offs and identify actions that achieve objectives for health and climate change at the same time.
- Coordinated and multidisciplinary monitoring, surveillance and reporting of disease in crops, livestock, and human populations are important to reduce health risks, and require long-term investment and cross-border collaborations and partnerships. Effective surveillance can support early warning systems, recognising that people and animals will move across borders in new ways due to climate change.
- Sustainable management of agriculture and water is essential to reduce health risks from spread
 of disease in animals and crops, as well as risks to food security, water scarcity and nutrition that can
 cause harm to population health and economic sustainability. Promoting healthy dietary choices,
 including increased consumption of plant-based foods, can also reduce emissions from food systems
 alongside non-communicable disease risks.
- Mobilisation of public and private finance is vital to closing climate and health financing gaps, through delivery of the committed US\$100 billion in international climate finance to low and middleincome countries, combined with a doubling of adaptation finance by 2025.



BRITISH COUNCIL



Achieving Food Security under Climate Change

Policy Working Paper

September 2022

Key messages

- A holistic approach that recognises the need for climate finance, adaptation, loss and damage alongside climate mitigation is necessary to achieve sustainable food security under climate change.
- The agricultural sector is one of those most vulnerable to climate change while also being a major driver of greenhouse gas emissions (GHG). Food security in a world of climate change necessitates developing resilience to the effects of climate change as a risk multiplier, and a reduction in agriculturally related GHG emissions.
- Data-driven approaches, from precision agriculture and the use of artificial intelligence in agricultural
 production, to remote-sensing data to create integrated smart food and water management,
 can enhance the resilience of food systems under climate change.
- Rapidly advancing biotechnological approaches provide a mechanism to introduce or identify traits
 that introduce resilience to both biotic and abiotic stresses on crops from climate change. This will be
 possible only through fair access to genetic resources, sharing of benefits, mobilisation of resources
 and capacity-building in low- and middle-income countries.
- Food security is underpinned by access to fresh water, and climate change is increasing water scarcity
 in regions across the world. Developing smart water management practices that incorporate local,
 indigenous knowledge and are shaped to local conditions can help in addressing risks.
- Agricultural extension services, citizen's science, social innovations, awareness-raising and engagement with civil society institutions, women's groups, NGOs, and policymakers and local communities can support addressing climate change impacts on food production. Gender imbalances, economic inequality, and inequitable food distribution all shape access and attitudes to food and nutrition and must be considered in policies to facilitate behaviour change towards greater food security.
- International collaboration to improve global food security in a changing climate will need to minimise food loss and involve co-created, place-based initiatives that account for vulnerabilities and lack of access to nutritious food at sub-national and local scales, and which support investment in both new technological approaches and in-country capacity-building.
- Integrating a focus on sustainable food systems into countries (NDCs) as part of the Paris Agreement and in National Adaptation Plans can enable more joined-up actions to build resilience to climate change in food systems alongside reducing emissions from the sector.
- Climate change impacts on food production present risks to agricultural trade, which can amplify food insecurity. Multilateral coordinated responses through international bodies like the World Trade Organization (WTO) can help facilitate global food security under climate change through use of the international standards and guidelines.





2- ASRT Green Fund:

Climate Change Adaptation and Nature Conservation

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Thematic Areas:

- 1. Ecofriendly sustainable development of rural areas and coastal regions.
- 2. Support of National Breeding Programs (NBP) aiming at developing strategic crops tolerant to salinity, drought, high temperature and diseases.
- 3. Saline agriculture and future Crops.
- 4. Conservation of natural heritage and archeological areas.
- 5. Green innovation to mitigate the impact of climate change.
- 6. Conservation of natural genetic resources (Gene Banks, Botanical Gardens, Encyclopedia, National Biodiversity Records, etc.).
- 7. Economic, strategic and fore sighting studies addressing climate change challenges.
- 8. Using earth observation and modeling for real time monitoring, predict and better understand the impacts of climate change.
- 9. Red Sea Coral Reef bleaching problem and rehabilitation.
- 10. Solid and E- waste recycling.
- 11. Ecofriendly textiles.
- 12. Green infrastructure to promote urban resilience to climate changes.
- 13. Smart agriculture and emerging technologies aiming at more crops per drop.
- 14. Towards feasible, applicable and sustainable urban landscaping industry based on wild plants.



كاديمية البحث العلمي والتكنولوجيا Academy of Scientific Research and Technology

Number of funded Projects: 42 Total fund: 66 Million Egyptian Pound About 3.3 Million Sterling Pound

3-5: Networking, Institutional Adaptation, Raising awareness and **Education**



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ECOSYS+





التغير المناخب؛ المواجهة والتعايش **Climate Change: Confrontation and Coexistence**









IN THIS ISSUE





The efforts of the ASRT, as the national acader and the main governmental supporter of RDI, drafting policy papers and promoting green resear

News From COP27 Champion

MOVING TOWARDS COMING SOON, STAY TUNED!



"This publication was produced with the financial support of the European Union. Its contents are the sole responsibility of ECOSYS+ Project consortium and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union."









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Midway Tangible Outcomes to bridge the gap between Academia and Policy Makers

As a result of the aforementioned efforts, Egypt now owns the biggest research, development, and innovation (RDI) and pilot plants facilities in renewable energy in the region belonging to ASRT; such as the MATS station for concentrated solar power and water desalination in Alexandria and China-Egypt Joint Lab for PV in Sohag (South of Egypt).

Moreover, ASRT has supported the implementation of national projects in the conservation of plant genetic resources (Encyclopedia of Wild Plants), reintegration of Mangrove Forest in the red sea, ...etc.

The Egyptian STI community published in the last five years more than 6722 international publications with more than 51,759 citations and FWCI 1.1, which makes Egypt, together with Saudi Arabia, the leading Arab country directing RDI to support state's efforts in climate change adaptation and mitigation.

Mangrove Story: An excellent example of a Nature-based solution, Citizen-based science, Community Engagement, Awareness, Sustainable development, and science communications <u>Mangarof.pdf</u>

Agriculture

Improving Strategic Crops Productivity and water use efficiency



Improvement of Wheat Productivity and Storage

Hybrid Rice Production and Commercialization

Biotechnology

National Seeds Production Program: Potato seeds and Date palm offshoots





Date Pam













Potato

Energy

Energy, Water and Food Nexus















MATS Pilot Plant for Concentrated Solar Power and Water Desalination













Nature Conservation

National Biodiversity Record and Cultural Heritage



- 1- Encyclopedia of Wild Plants
- 2- Gene Banks
- 3- National Network of Herbaria4-Encyopedia of Egyptian TraditionalFoods
- 5- Nature Conservation Conf.
- 6- Botanical Garden
- 7- National Network f Microbial Cultural Collections

Encyclopedia

of Egyptian Traditional Foods

Bread & Bakeries

Editors: Prof. Dr. Magdy M. El Sayed Prof. Dr. Mahmoud M. Sakr Dr. Nehal S. Ramadan





Declared by the president of Egypt as National Project on 1st March 2021



Health and Cultural Heritage

Establishing the Egyptian Genome Center

- Early diagnosis and prediction of the most common diseases among Egyptians and early medical intervention, which leads to lowering the cost of medical care and improving the quality of life for Egyptians
- Establishing personalized medicine and opening the door to the application of gene therapy, the application of pharmacogenetics in treatment, and the rooting of drug design in line with the genetic determinants of the Egyptians
- Building a critical mass of Egyptian scientists in the field
- Exploring the genetic map of the ancient Egyptians

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The role of Research, Development, and Innovation in addressing climate change: Technology transfer and knowledge sharing

Innovation in technologies of climate change adaptation is much less in focus, though more pronounced than mitigation technologies. However, solutions to ease adaptation are extremely important for vital sectors of the economy, as well as for people's ability to cope with the rapid changes brought about by climate change.

REDIRECT is an initiative that brings together science academies, universities, research institutions, international organizations, industry, science funding organizations, and NGOs to integrate their efforts and redirect their RDI capabilities towards addressing and achieving SDGs under climate change in developing and least developing countries based on green technological and social innovations.

The main goal of REDIRECT is to support the efforts of vulnerable countries in climate change confrontation, adaptation, and coexistence via capacity building, providing innovative solutions, technology transfer and localization, knowledge sharing, public-private partnerships, and community engagement.

REDIRECT partners align themselves, through the high-level climate champions, to set regional priorities, and guide the local RDI community to secure green innovation funds.

The strategic objective of the initiative is to harmonize global and integrate regional and continental RDI efforts to help in realizing countries' commitments and pledges on tackling climate change and realizing a sustainable future for all through innovation for the climate.

WIPO GREEN TECHNOLOGY BOOK:

Better analysis of global green technologies and climate change research for better climate change adaptation, mitigation, and coexistence national plans.

The Green Technology Book is a perfect guide for individuals, organizations and policymakers. It highlights the technological solutions available to meet today's climate challenges, as well as analyzing important current and future innovation trends. This will have a direct impact, in particular on the implementation of adaptation solutions to climate change.

ASRT is proud of its partnership with WIPO and the United Nations in launching the first edition of this new annual Flagship publication promoting green technologies. Our hope is that this can be a vehicle for boosting Egypt's innovation system, at the same time creating a global awareness of Egypt's role in innovation.....**Climate Change Research Indicator**

Redesigning strategies in a changing world:

Possible voluntary lowering of carbon dioxide emissions and adaptation via green and social innovations, incentivizing local communities, and community mindset transformation.....**Farms for Climate**

5- Green Innovation Pavilion: Innovation 4 Climate





Wealth of Egypt: Mangrove Forest, South East of Egypt, Red Sea Governorate March, 2015 Copyright © Mahmoud Sakr

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