

Nexus Water Energy Food Security Regional Initiative: The LAS roadmap

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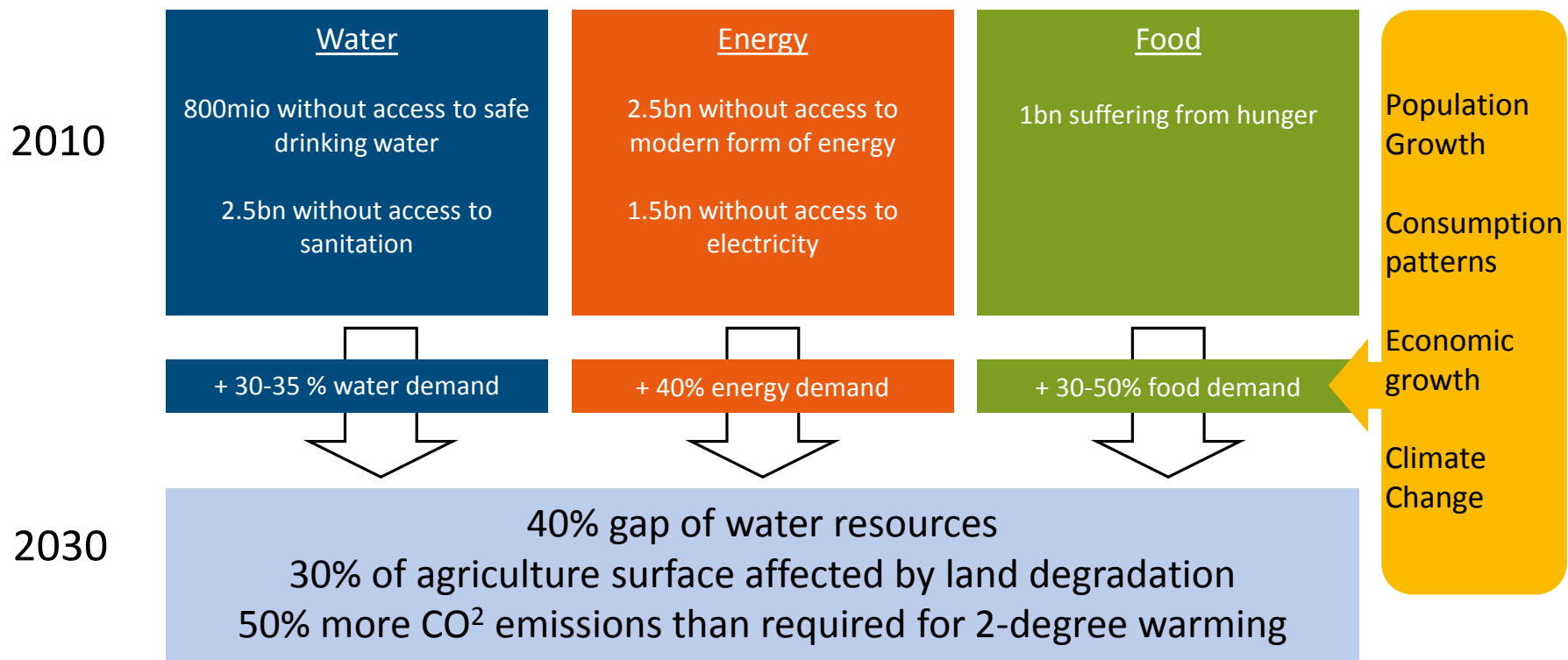


Outline

- **Arab Region Nexus initiative:**
 - Background
 - Key components
 - Key prioritized activities
- **Concluding remarks**



The challenge: Growing stresses on resources



“A radical transformation is needed ”

(European Report on Development 2012)

Background

- **When: February 2014**
- **Where: Doha, UN South-South Dialogue, Arab Region**
- **Who: 50 participants from 42 national, regional and International organizations, parliamentarians and former Ministers.**
- **What: The TS of the AWMC was tasked to follow up on the recommendations. The outcome was the basis for the Arab Regional WEF Nexus Initiative.**
- **Intention was: to set the stage for a broad and inclusive dialogue (.gov; .org; .com national, regional and International):**
 - **Raise awareness,**
 - **Develop policy relevant research and knowledge,**
 - **Create the capacities and engage institutions in the adoption of the WEF Nexus.**
- **Strategy : work on multiple levels,**
 - **Research for development: Evidence based nexus in the context of the region**
 - **Policies Institutions and capacity development**
 - **Implementation of the WEF nexus through programmes/development projects.**
 - **Start with champion countries**



Vision

- LAS vision to promote the adoption of the Nexus Energy Water and Food security from a regional standpoint and at countries level stems from **the recognition of the approach potential as an entry point to the Arab region transition to green economy while progressing to achieve sustainable development while adapting to climate change.**
- The approach involves three parallel tracks:
 - bridging the capacity gaps,
 - providing solid knowledge for informed policy and
 - support to institutions adaptiveness to ensure proper and efficient mainstreaming of the Nexus approach across the three sectors in Arab countries and in the region.



Prioritized Activities	Expected outcome	Target group (s) and beneficiaries	Lead organization(s)
1. First Arab Expert meeting on priorities in adoption of the Nexus	* Setting priorities: policy, research, awareness, private sector engagement, Role of CSOs and NGOs. *	Experts and policy makers	LAS – Regional Think tank- Regional and Int’l organizations



2. Establish a moderated virtual community of practice

Active CoP*

All stakeholders influent and interested in nexus learning and experimenting

LAS in partnership with an NGO and focal points in countries



<p>3. Capacity development for national focal points and champions on the nexus</p>	<p>Network of capacitated focal points acquainted with technical and implementation tools and knowledge*</p>	<p>Focal points from ministries, NGOs</p>	<p>LAS with champion countries and regional organizations to be expanded as the networks matures</p>
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<p>4. Strategic studies on:</p> <p>a. Institutional landscape and governance systems for intersectoral collaboration for the Nexus implementation</p> <p>b. Integrated planning and Nexus implementation mechanisms in the Arab region</p> <p>c. Nexus, green Economy and Sustainable Development in the Arab region</p> <p>d. Nexus political Economy in the Arab region</p>	<p>Decision support tools and policy papers for selected countries in the region*</p>	<p>Governments, Policy and executive decision makers</p> <p>Experts</p>	<p>LAS with specialized institutions- UN organizations and Arab Strategic Studies Centres, Arab Think tanks, International and regional donor organizations</p>
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5. Series of regional training on Nexus National Projects and programs development

Create a pool of middle management competences in the three sectors to develop and implement national projects and programmes within Nexus framework*

Development practitioners, Private sector, NGOs

LAS with regional and national organizations in cooperation with regional and international donor agencies



6. Regional Capacity development on M&E for the nexus programmes and projects

M&E Training package tested and validated

National and Regional Qualified capacities in M&E equipped with knowledge and skills needed for the nexus M&E

LAS with Specialized Development Evaluation organizations and Donor agencies



7. Development of bankable programmes in line with development policies and strategies of Arab countries and across the region

Bankable projects by governments, Arab funds and International donor agencies

National and regional development agencies, development and policy research organizations with potential international partnerships

LAS with governments and regional and international donor agencies and development funds and banks



8. Establish an Annual International Arab Conference on the nexus to exchange on state of the art knowledge and innovation within the Arab region and worldwide

Conference recommendations and outcomes disseminated widely

Research and academia, development practitioners and policy makers

LAS with Regional and selected national research organizations and agencies interested in the nexus



9. Build regional partnerships with interested regional organizations for joint venture development to promote the adoption of the nexus in the Arab and neighboring regions and sub-regions

Cooperation mechanisms set and joint initiatives developed*

Key regional and sub-regional organizations

LAS- multilateral organizations (UN-EU-UfM) and funding agencies



10. Organize the First annual Arab Conference on the WEF Nexus	First edition end of 2016, Recommendations and key outcomes disseminated through LAS	Policy makers, research organizations, Development practitioners, regional and International organizations	LAS in partnership with regional research organizations
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Demand driven or supply driven

- **3 Ministerial councils endorsed the WEF initiative: Water, Energy and Environment**
- **Growing demand from Water and Energy**
- **Small activities with high multiplier effect,**
- **SDGs, Paris Agreement, and Sendai Declaration on DRR open wider horizons**



Concluding remarks

- 1. LAS initiative cannot be more than a regional framework that needs to coordinate the implementation
- 2. LAS needs to connect more to key donors to inform their investments and streamline the efforts in the region (Need for a marketing document, within the region and with International partners)
- 3. Nexus comes at a cost (institutional reforms, coherence of policies, creating a critical mass of competences) that requires a high political commitment (A summit resolution).
- 4. More and more organizations are working on the WEF Nexus:
 - Need for more coordination and synergy
 - Need for a better knowledge management and learning/experience sharing
 - Nexus is taking shape in research steadily



Concluding remarks (2)

- 5. Bankers are already financing some forms of WEF projects including nexus infrastructure
- 6. Countries committed to more integration within SDGs and CC and DRR anyway
- 7. Nexus is pathway to regional economic integration with a high dividend for economic development (with social and environmental returns)
- 8. Nexus is an “accordion” can be extended (the five fingers alliance: Water Energy Food Education and Health) Environment, Climate change and Human rights or shrink to water and energy:
- 9. The central issue with the nexus seems to be institutional and policy effectiveness for resource efficiency to achieve and sustain human securities
- 10. The future of the nexus in the Arab region will be decided over the next 2-3 years.



**“ The issue is not if we need to adopt WEF
nexus in the Arab region or not...the genuine
issue is how to do it”**

**Dr. K. Fahmy, Minister of Environment Egypt,
CAMRE meeting 2014, KSA**



شكرا على حسن استماعكم

