PROJECT FACTS – EGYPT

Joint Programme - Climate Change Risk Management in Egypt

Background

With carbon dioxide emissions far above the African average, Egypt can move towards a less greenhouse gases (GHG) intensive path, mainly by becoming a more energy efficient economy and by making greater use of its large renewable energy potential. In recent years, the Government has adopted several measures to improve rational use of energy and increase the renewable energy contribution to its energy supply. The Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) has proved to be highly relevant to support such sector wide efforts and to promote increased ‘decarbonisation’ of Egypt’s economy. Egypt is among the leading countries in the Arab States region in terms of the number of registered CDM projects. However, the size and scope of the portfolio is far below the country’s overall potential for CDM projects in the energy and industry sectors.

While mitigation measures are necessary, adaptation to current and future climate change is also indispensable. Egypt is highly vulnerable to climate change impact. Climate change in Egypt would inflict serious damage to human settlements. Furthermore, it would also increase the risk of water and food scarcity and with this, the associated deterioration of health conditions.

Programme Summary

The aim of the Joint Programme is to help Egypt align its climate risk management and human development efforts to pursue the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in the face of climate change risks. In this context, the project aims to reduce poverty and mitigate climate-related risks by combining mitigation and adaptation under one integrated Climate Risk Management programme. Special attention is given to the most vulnerable populations in the country through two complementary approaches: a) mainstreaming GHG mitigation into national policy and investment frameworks, including increased CDM financing opportunities; and b) enhancing the country’s capacity to adapt to climate change. Further, the programme seeks to build awareness and capacity of key decision makers and development actors in support of the systematic integration of climate change considerations into relevant policy, regulatory, institutional and operational frameworks.

Activities

- Define capacity needs for the technical secretariat;
- Compile existing relevant studies and information;
- Prepare energy policy papers;
- Ensure coordination among ministries on the implementation of Supreme Energy Council (SEC) decisions;

Key Objective

- To assist Egypt to align its climate risk management (CRM) and human development efforts to pursue the achievement of MDGs, in the face of climate change and the predicted serious threats to the country.

Expected Results

- Greenhouse gases (GHG) mitigation and clean development mechanisms (CDM) mainstreamed into national policies and access to finance frameworks expanded.
- Capacity enhanced to adapt to climate change.
Synergize implementation of SEC decisions with ongoing national initiatives;
Assess existing policies (climate screening and proofing);
Assess adaptation capacity needs and gaps using a gender-sensitive methodology;
Carry out a macro-economic analysis (mini-Stern review) on the cost of climate change on coastal zones using a gender-sensitive methodology;
Advocate the adoption of developed adaptation policies and strategies;
Make a survey available on hydrological and statistical models in the Nile Forecast Centre;
Make a survey available on the Regional Circulation Model e.g. Regional Climatic-Hydrologic Model in cooperation of the Royal Dutch Meteorological Institute and PERCIS in communication with UK Met Office;
Identify and assess the expected outputs from the Regional Circulation Model tender for its adaptation;
Assess and identify climate risk management measures for UN development programmes and operations;
Develop guidelines to reduce the climate change impact on UN projects;
Identify appropriate media channels of communication;
Develop a national communication strategy on climate change;
Increase awareness of policy makers and the general public; and
Incorporate climate change impacts and scenarios within Nile Basin Initiative water resources management projects, as well as the decision-support system.

Achievements to date

**CDM efforts**

- The CDM Awareness and Promotional Unit has been established within the Environmental Agency. Necessary equipment was provided and the newly recruited staff received two trainings on CDM methodologies and on the preparation of Project Identification Notes (PINs). The trainings were conducted with the staff from the Environmental Agency working for the World Bank’s Environmental Pollution Abatement Project, as well as representatives from other relevant ministries.
- A unit has been established in the Cabinet of Ministers linked to the SEC, and an inter-ministerial committee has been established by Prime Ministerial decree to be headed by the Cabinet of Ministers Secretary General. Committee members include representatives from the Ministries of Electricity, Petroleum, Environment, Transport, Industry and Finance to support the SEC in monitoring and following-up on energy efficiency initiatives.

Contact information:

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For further information:

Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) Progress Monitor
Website: [http://www.preventionweb.net/english/hyogo/progress/reports/?pid:222&pid:1](http://www.preventionweb.net/english/hyogo/progress/reports/?pid:222&pid:1)

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