Regional Dialogue with MENA - League of Arab States

GIZ-RP/GNS

Political level

- Arab Ministerial Council for Environmental Affairs
- Arab Ministerial Water Council
- Arab Ministerial Council for Electricity
- Department of Energy
- Socio-economic Councils with Ministers
- Executive bureaus with ministers
- Several technical and Scientific Committee with technical experts

Every 2 years

Administrative Level

General Coordination Unit (administr.)

- Arab Center for the Studies of Arid Zones Dry Land
- The Arab Organization for Agricultural Development
- The Arab Authority for Agricultural Investment and Development

6 Nexus Policy Briefs

Country Assessments

Team of experts

Potential Pilots are being discussed

National mainstreaming, e.g. through Min. of Env/Jordan
League of Arab States Leading a Regional Initiative on Nexus

“Initiative on the Nexus Between the Energy, water and Food Sectors in the Arab Countries and its Activities”:

- The Arab Ministerial Water Council (AMWC): in its resolution K 103-6, May 2014, declared: Adopting the activities and inviting its technical secretariat, GIZ and ESCWA to attract funding to implement the initiative. In its meeting in Sep. 2016 it endorsed the Nexus program of BMZ- EU/ Nexus regional Dialogue.

- The Arab Ministerial Council for Electricity (AMCE): at its 30th ministerial session, Cairo, Sep. 2014, recommended in resolution 232: Coordinating with the AMWC to organize the 1st meeting for Arab experts on priorities of WEF Nexus in the Arab region- coordinate with GIZ and ESCWA to support adoption of WEF Nexus.
1- Strategic Nexus Policy Briefs

• Compilation of Nexus Strategic Policy Briefs for Policy Makers in the Arab region- by a pan-Arab team of experts, with GIZ/ ACCWaM program, and LAS as main counterpart.

• 6 Policy briefs to provide a thorough analysis on WEF Nexus challenges and trade-offs, as well as opportunities which can be derived from it by supporting informed decision making in the Arab countries.
Strategic WEF Nexus Policy Briefs

- High level validation meeting, Cairo, 16-17 March, 2016 (with 45 high level experts).
- Share the findings of the regional expert team work on the WEF Nexus in the Arab region with the member states of the LAS and regional relevant organizations
- Discuss and validate six policy briefs’ key messages and recommendations
- Many webinars and other communication
- Revision by LAS, GIZ, and
- Arabic Translation and
- Printing
Policy Briefs

The Water-Energy-Food Nexus in the Arab Region

POLICY BRIEFS SERIES

1. Understanding the WEF Nexus
2. Challenges and Opportunities
3. Nexus Governance and the Role of Institutions
4. WEF Nexus, Resource Efficiency and Sustainable Development
5. Capacity Development Needs
6. Nexus Technology & Innovation Case Studies

Terabat al-nilwah wa al-tyafa wa al-ghazy
fi al-munatika al-arabiyah

سلسلة موجز السياسات

1. فهم ترابط المياه والطاقة والغذاء
2. التحديات والفرص
3. حوكمة الترابط بين القطاعات ودور المؤسسات
4. احتياجات تطوير القدرات
5. دراسات حالة في التقنية والابتكار
2- Human Capacity Development in the MENA Region

• Developing a specific NEXUS Training Module for the MENA region context:
  - Transfer lessons learnt from German and European Nexus case studies.
  - Discussion of Nexus Policies for the MENA region (Policy briefs).
  - Design of Nexus oriented investments into infrastructure, institutions and individuals.

• Target group: Ministerial Level, Focal Points- Training of Trainers for regional or national experts (40 trainees)- Support compilation of a list of (potential) NEXUS experts in the MENA Region.

• Cooperating with regional organizations such as ESCWA, and national governments.
3 - Arabic version on the Nexus Resource Platform

Arabic content

Arabic Nexus glossary

energy, water and environment are common in one ministry.

Hence there is a great need for reinforcing the institutional governance for adapting the nexus approach, which will require not so much major institutional restructuring, but an improvement of interactions among the relevant ruling institutions.

One of the main challenges in adopting the nexus approach in the Arab region is the limited role of the private sector. There are tremendous opportunities for entrepreneurship and public private partnership, which need governmental support and incentives. There are some promising initiatives for nexus projects in the Arab region such as Sahara Wind Power Project in Morocco, renewable energy for wastewater treatment and reuse in agriculture in Jordan, solar water desalination in Saudi Arabia and the generation of energy from agricultural residues in Sudan.

Finally, the Nexus approach could play a major role in mitigating climate change effects through enforcing the efficiency of natural resources usage, and consequently mitigating gases emissions, in addition to the role of shifting to renewable energies in saving primary energy and limiting carbon dioxide emissions. These trends would contribute to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and the decisions of the World Climate Summit 2015.
4- Country Studies and Pilot Projects in MENA Region

• Carry out two NEXUS country assessments to identify suitable NEXUS opportunities- JOR, MOR, TUN considered

• Carry out up to two small NEXUS applications: Identified starting points for Nexus-Pilot projects -Solar Energy Farming Jordan (Building on GIZ/ ACCWaM studies).

• Carry out a regional NEXUS Action plan (involvement of 4 countries at least). In cooperation with ACCWaM- To be realized after national case studies (Nexus action plans for phase II).
Cooperation with other organization working on Nexus in MENA

ESCWA

2015
• Preparation of 7 water-energy Nexus regional policy toolkits on the regional priorities identified by member states

2016
• 1st regional policy training workshop
• Implementing up to 3 pilot projects for technical support and advisory assistance
• Preparation of 3 water-energy nexus operational toolkits
• 1st regional technical workshop

2017
• 2nd regional policy training workshop
• 2 regional technical training workshops

ACCWaM Program/ GIZ

1. Evidence base: contextualization of the nexus approach
2. Identification of cross-sectoral institutional and governance structures
3. Identification of a steering body at regional level
4. A regional policy guiding document on mainstreaming WEF nexus
5. Guidelines for policy integration in selected countries

ESCWA Nexus activities in the MENA region
ACCWaM/GIZ Nexus approach in the MENA region
Nexus related projects in the MENA Region

**On implementation level**

- Solar pumping and irrigation
- Energy from wastewater treatment, sludge recovery / water reuse in agriculture
- Conversion of agricultural waste in energy
- Solar farming
- Solar-powered desalination
- Reuse of drainage water
- Energy efficiency in water consumption in public buildings, impact of electrification on water consumption
- Water availability and power plant planning

**On institutional level**

- Integration of NEXUS in regional policies, mainstreaming NEXUS, NEXUS Road Map
- Institutional integration across energy, water, environment
- Joint modeling of water resources and energy scenarios
- NEXUS reflected in environmental policies
- Integrated water resource management on a regional/national scale: energy and food security perspective taken into account, conflict prevention through catchment plans
## Nexus Approach in Regional Org. Vs. Transboundary River Basin Org.

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<tr>
<th>Pros</th>
<th>Cons</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Geopolitical divisions makes it easier to define entry points.</td>
<td>• Weak communication between the regional and national levels.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Building on the NEXUS activities that GIZ has been carrying out in the past years in the region, continue these activities and expand them.</td>
<td>• Different institutional landscape in LAS countries.</td>
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<td>• LAS looking at Nexus as an instrument to implement the SDGs.</td>
<td>• Different nexus issues and interests in LAS countries.</td>
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<td>• Low commitment form transboundary river basin countries to apply nexus approach.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Weak coordination between transboundary river basin org. and countries.</td>
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Thank you!
Please contact us at nexus@giz.de