

Report

Event on “High-Level Policy Dialogue” for Municipalities – Nexus Thinking and Decentralization of Subnational Governments”

IBIS Hotel, Amman - Jordan 28 – 29 September, 2022

Summary

The Royal Scientific Society – NERC organized an event at IBIS Hotel in Amman on 28 and 29 September 2022 titled a “High-Level Policy Dialogue” at municipal level. The event focused on empowering and catalyzing the municipalities’ role to run environmental projects within the nexus framework through a decentralized scheme; allowing municipalities to generate funds in compliance with the local legislations so that to enhance livelihood in the community.

The event enabled the participants representing various entities from Jordan to acquire information and knowledge on access to finance and the nexus approach from a variety of regional experts and to engage in enriching discussions that facilitate the sharing of experiences and initiatives both from a national and a regional perspective. These covered the challenges currently being faced by municipalities, the lessons learned from previous experiences and projects, and recommended solutions and suggestions.

The event concluded with a series of recommendations that aim to improve access to finance and mainstream the nexus approach through innovative financing mechanisms and facilities, capacity building, awareness raising, gender empowerment, and community engagement.

This event was conducted within the framework of MINARET II activities. The project that is funded by EU and in partnership with GIZ, Nexus Regional Dialogue Programme in MENA Region.

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. The RoyalScientific Society (RSS) – National Energy Research Center (NERC) in Jordan organized a meeting at IBIS Hotel – Jordan, on 28 September 2022 titled “High-Level Policy Dialogue” at municipal level, targeting the project municipalities in Jordan: Greater Ajloun Municipality and Greater Ma’an Municipality.
2. The main objective of the workshop was to stimulate debate on the role of municipalities in climate action as an opportunity for municipal transformative economic growth but also as a means to increase overall climate resilience at different governance levels, and to catalyze the municipalities’ role to run investment projects within the nexus framework through a decentralized scheme; allowing municipalities to generate funds in compliance with the local legislations so that to enhance livelihoodin the community.
3. The meeting was attended by 26 participants representing EU Delegation in Amman, various local, regional, energy, and nexus experts, municipalities, NGOs, government ministries and entities, UN organizations, private sector, financial institutions, and research institutions from Tunisia.
4. The meeting spanned over two days and consisted of five sessions. Section II of this report summarizes the meeting’s recommendations while Section III provides a summary of the presentations and the main topics of discussions held during each session. Section IV reviews the organization of work, including information regarding the workshop agenda, and participants The full documentation of the workshop is available at the following address: www.minaretproject.com

II. RECOMMENDATIONS

5. The meeting concluded with the following findings and recommendations:
 - a) Promote the application of WEF Nexus approach to find sustainable solutions to the unique water, energy and food security challenges that face Jordan from a local municipal level. Stakeholders across Jordan discuss and plan together how to overcome the increasing constraints their countries and the region faces through fundamentally rethinking how we produce and consume.
 - b) Establish a National Committee to formulate the development of Jordan Nexus National Strategy. The committee to be commissioned to set out the Nexus guidelines as well as strategize the action plan in harmony with Jordan national clime-plans and commitments.
 - c) Enhance the municipal capacities to coordinate and cooperate with other relevant sub-national authorities/directorates for better management, distribution and usage of water and energy demand.
 - d) Empower local municipalities to take the front seat in utilizing a NEXUS approach to drive sustainable development, improve livelihoods, and better manage (preserve and improve productivity of) water, energy and food / agriculture.

- e) Pilot projects are required for municipalities which demonstrate benefits and added value of the nexus approach.
- f) Build the capacity of municipalities on the identification of projects and sources of funding; development of project proposals and feasibility studies; specific thematic areas such as RE technologies, waste management, and the water-energy-food nexus; and on planning, implementing, and monitoring nexus projects.
- g) Leverage the private sector's interest in investing in the energy sector to help finance nexus RE projects with low-interest loans, especially in the agricultural sector.
- h) Increase financial support for nexus RE projects by removing electricity tariff subsidies, which negatively affect projects' feasibility, and using the funds instead to directly subsidize the financing of such projects.

III. MAIN TOPICS OF DISCUSSIONS

Key opening speech – among others - was delivered by the Director of Energy, Environment and Climate Change Programs, EU Delegation in Amman, which underlined the important role EU has done and continues to support the government of the Hashemite of Jordan, through public and private sector, government associations, the local community, universities and academic bodies, and most importantly partnership for sustainable development.

EU representative assured that the local development support began 20 years ago, where EU had a pioneering experience with 18 municipalities to establish local development units and improve local development plans.

Together with the GIZ, EU completed 3 municipalities that were the nucleus of the local development process, and a turning point for the shift to decentralization, whether at the municipal level or at the governmental level.

Further, EU representative confirmed that EU policy was clear on the issue of climate change, especially with global reviews in European Union or the region, regarding the need to reduce carbon dioxide emissions, which contributes to most of the climate change areas from which we suffer greatly today.

“Today, the European Union is adopting a new policy known by “EU Building”, which complements what was started in the previous stages, where EU had a long history in Jordan in different sectors (i.e. field of municipalities, waste management, renewable energy, energy and water efficiency, transportation et al). This policy is stemmed from the climate change file, coupled with an aim to support the developmental, economic, political and social fields in Jordan” EU Director stated.

The EU representative concluded the speech by underlining *EU-Jordan* relations and cooperation in managing and leading the unity for the Mediterranean. These relations reinforce the European Union's policy regarding green change and green transformation, which is against the backdrop of today's discussing.

Presentations and discussions are summarized in the following sections which are organized according to the substantive sessions of the workshop.

Introductory Session:

Visual presentation: Ministry of Environment – Jordan’s Efforts in Combating Climate Change

The session was opened by the Head of Adaptation Section – Ministry of Environment, Jordan presenting the National Green Growth and Climate Plan (NGGP) in Jordan. The plan is firmly based on existing national plans and documents, such as Jordan’s Vision 2025 and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), and is aimed to serve as a reference to guide green growth projects and align green policies and investments to work for national development goals. It additionally presents the results of a Cost-Benefit Analysis that has been conducted for 24 green growth projects in Jordan aiming at identifying evidence based recommendations on project financing options.

The National Green Growth Action Plan 2021 – 2025 was also reviewed from each sector’s lens, annexed with the aimed outcomes exemplified in: the enhancement of natural capital; sustainable economic growth, social development and poverty reduction, resource efficiency and climate change adaptation and mitigation.

From other side, the Ministry representative shed the light on the national efforts to mainstream green growth into Jordan’s national planning system, through the identification of green growth challenges and opportunities; operationalization the concept into sectoral objectives and actions, and the establishment of green growth advocates’ network across government.

The presenter also tabbed onto the role of the Ministry of Environment through the “*Green Economy High-Level Steering Committee*” in strengthening cross-sectoral collaboration with the entire local and regional stakeholders, including: Ministry of Planning and Int’l Cooperation, Ministry of Finance, JREEF, JVF, CVDB, Commercial Banks, NGOs, Civil Society, and Int’l Development Partners. This role is framed out in supporting line ministries with technical analysis as needs; linking to climate/environment finance; enhancing capacities; and communication. Public and private sector partners will be working together in mobilizing the political will and necessary investments that are needed for the NGGP to succeed.

Visual presentation: GIZ, Egypt – Nexus Regional Dialogue Programme

Another key introduction was presented virtually by the Technical Advisor of the Nexus Regional Dialogue in MENA, from Egypt, who introduced the Nexus Regional Dialogue Programme, (the objectives, approach, geographical scope, tools and achievements), and comprehensively elaborated how to shed the light on the challenges of meeting water-energy-food security in a dynamic world while reviewing the current and future rising demands, and identifying the benefits of Nexus approach.

SESSION I: Opportunities and challenges of natural resources management at Ma'an Municipalities Level

The session started with a visual presentation by Assistant Mayor, Greater Ma'an Municipality on the sustainable development challenges faced by the municipality due to its location within the solar belt, where the average daily global irradiance is around 6kwh/m2day; these challenges include: deterioration of natural resources, increasing water scarcity and loss of biodiversity, lack of capacities, population increase due to natural growth and rising influx of refugees.

The Assistant Mayor assured that the existing challenges at the municipality level in managing the natural resources, result from the exclusion of water, energy and food management from the core mandate of municipality, the financial burdens, capacity challenges and other difficulties which make generating interest within municipalities for NEXUS adoption and scaling very difficult.

Ma'an Municipality therefore, is in need to apply WEF Nexus thinking to benefit municipality as consumer of energy, water and agriculture, and to design and implement Nexus initiatives that allow the municipality to perform on their role in energy, water, food & agriculture management and governance and coordinate with other players in the cycle, the Assistant Mayor added.

GROUP DISCUSSION: Promoting Integrated Approaches to Water, Energy and Food Nexus At Municipal Level.

Ensuing discussions confirmed that climate change, water security, and food security are among the most critical concerns for Jordan. They are also interrelated, with water as the “face” of climate change. As incidences of drought have increased, this has had important implications for Jordan's freshwater resources, which in turn affects the country's largest water user. Jordan is facing complex challenges as a result of the geo-political environment of the region. The Water Strategy “Water for Life: in Jordan” for (2016-2025) has captured national efforts to manage the water sector and ensure optimal service levels. From another side, food insecurity is also considered as a cause and consequence of conflict and there have been emerging reports of tensions between Jordanian and Syrian refugee populations, particularly in Mafraq Governorate, where poverty rates are high.

Recommendations resulted from the first group discussions focus on: building the country's adaptive capacity in the face of climate change and population growth to move towards land uses can enhance prospects food security; recognizing the need to improve technical capacities for planning and cross sectoral management of natural resources throughout Jordan's cities. This is because WEF exploration at various spatial levels points toward elements of integrated climate policy framework for municipalities in Jordan, such as enhancing the legal framework, enhancing communication and policy coordination, enhancing awareness and maintaining urban climate change dialogue, empowering the community, securing financial resources, and enhancing the policy-making process.

The hope is that in time, either the municipal boundary will expand to “cover” these developments, or that municipalities can be persuaded to extend services to them.

SESSION II: Operationalizing The WEF Nexus: Nexus Governance Setting

Session started with a presentation given by Local Governance/Decentralization Expert, who highlighted how Jordanian Government has been striving to improve development through several political, economic, social, and legislative measures. A key focus has been to decentralize decision making and attract investments to smaller cities and localities around the country. The expert assured that the Jordanian Government, and as part of the ongoing decentralization of governance, has suggested legal amendments to include citizens in decision making related to their well-being.

This push aims at highlighting needs and priorities and trying to create a real partnership between citizens, municipal leaders, and the private sector. Yet, the Jordanian Municipal Law lacks any clarity pertaining to allowing municipalities to participate in or establish investment funds, however, the Jordanian Municipal Law gives municipalities the right to enter investments and for investments to be revenue generators.

A thorough review of the Jordanian Municipal Law revealed a lack of clarity that leads to inability to make a clear opinion using Jordanian Municipal Law alone, however, when looking at other laws such as the Public Private Partnership Law, we can see more flexibility in allowing public entities to invest directly or indirectly as we will reveal next, the expert added.

GROUP DISCUSSION: Municipal Governance Through Nexus Lens

The discussions underlined the importance of having shared administrative responsibilities of government and municipalities, mostly regarding the governance and provision of collective services, such as water, energy, and waste collection. As the rapid urban expansion of Jordan's cities is placing unprecedented demands on the energy, water, food, that each offer multiple life-supporting services. Coordination that considers inter-sectoral connections among these urban systems and services remains nascent in practice, yet are critical to the future well-being, resource/operational efficiency, and resilience of urban areas.

The participants stressed on the factors that must be taken into consideration when assessing nexus projects and their effect on the whole value chain they target: economic feasibility, safety standards, and integration. National municipal systems guidance programs are recommended to include programs aimed at managing infrastructure systems for transportation, energy, water, food, hazard mitigation, and urban land use patterns.

Representatives of municipalities, called for effective engagement and integrated decision process that can generate understanding and agreement on policies for achieving goals; developing a diverse coalition of stakeholders committed and willing to act on WEF issues; and providing resources to strengthen public and non-profit organizational staff capacity to support stakeholder engagement efforts.

SESSION III: Creating Economic Value Through a Circular Economy Approach

A presentation on the "Reality of Waste Management at Municipal Level" was facilitated by the Manager of Environmental Studies at Greater Amman Municipality (GAM), stating that around 2 million tons of municipal waste is generated in Jordan each year with most of it diverted to unsanitary landfills and dumpsites, where improper solid waste disposal is leading to public health risks, adverse environmental impacts as well as socio-economic problems.

GAM representative added, that municipal waste in the country has steadily increased from 1.5 million tons in 2000 to about 2 million tons in 2012 which is posing a serious challenge to municipalities in big cities like Amman and Aqaba.

Municipal solid wastes represent the best feedstock for waste to energy plants in Jordan. In terms of quantity per capita and constituents, the waste generated in Jordan is comparable to most semi-industrialized nations. The per capita waste generation in the country is about 0.95 kg/day. The total generation of municipal waste in Jordan is estimated at 2 million tons per year.

The presenter also reviewed the most recommended scenarios for the integrated municipal waste management in Jordan:

Scenario 1: Basic Scenario

- Mixed waste collection,
- Failure to separate waste at source,
- Waste disposal at Ghabawi landfill

Scenario 2: Long-term plan

- Collecting 70% of the separated waste (recyclable materials and other waste),
- Applying home waste collection system,
- Establishment of a facility to recover materials from dry waste,
- Disposal of the remaining waste in the Ghabawi landfill

Scenario 3: Long-term plan

- Collect 70% of the separated (recyclable materials, biodegradable materials, other waste),
- Direct collection of waste from homes (3 categories),
- Establishment of a facility to recover materials from dry waste and a facility for the production of compost,
- Collect 30% of mixed waste,
- Mechanical-biological treatment facility and waste-fuel production
- Disposal of the remaining waste in the Ghabawi landfill

Scenario 4: Recommended Scenario

- Collect 30% of the separated waste (recyclable materials, biodegradable materials, other waste),
- Direct collection of waste from homes (3 categories),
- Establishment of a facility to recover materials from dry waste and a facility for the production of compost;
- Collect 70% of mixed waste,
- Mechano-biological treatment facility and production of alternative fuels from waste,
- Waste disposal at Ghabawi landfill,
- Biogas production and electric power generation

SESSION V: Local Efforts Through Climate Policy and Sustainable Development

A full overview on the challenges, opportunities, and achievements of Greater Ajloun Municipality was presented, clarifying how climate-related hazards affected Ajloun community, such as the extreme temperature droughts, water scarcity, forest fires, and landslides, and how these effects certainly affecting various sectors including agricultural, biodiversity, urban, society, water, and health sectors.

Through the presentation, it was cleared how Ajloun municipality among other municipalities in Jordan is ideally placed to be the key drivers in the implementation of adaptation measures, improving the overall resilience of local territories in climate fields, as the municipality planning represents a key avenue for local adaptation, yet is subject to recognized constraints. These constraints are focused on simplistic factors:

- Energy accessibility
- Food insecurity from droughts
- Crop failure
- Limited land spaces
- Lack of knowledge
- Political will
- Financial resources
- Changing growing conditions
- Rising demands
- Higher energy bills for heating and cooling
- Generally, increased health impacts
- Such as from air pollution, extreme heat
- Water scarcity and management
- Irregularity in various industries but especially Farming
- Low-income and vulnerable communities
- Hazard waste management
- Employment impacts such as farming and forestry
- Forest fire and other natural disaster/extreme weather risks

The impacts of these constraints on the urban environment in Ajloun city and its citizens have consequences for public health, water availability and quality, energy consumption and essential infrastructure. Therefore, adaptation planning with defined options and measures are required to mitigate its effects, and build resilient communities and ecosystems, the presenter stated.

From the bright side, Ajloun municipality has successfully implemented different projects for its community through strategic networking with the organizations that are concerned in sustainable development for cities, such as:

- Development of Water Security Plan: The municipality accomplished a Water Sun project, in partnership with the Regional Environmental Center (REC), based in Hungary, as well as the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) based in Jordan. The work methodology was based on the:
 - Involvement of the local community in planning for water security, which strengthened the sense of responsibility towards the water situation.
 - Evaluation of public opinion which strengthened trust between citizens and municipalities.
 - Raising the ability of workers to plan for water security and transfer expertise at the level of the countries participating in the project, which strengthened the spirit of cooperation in this field.

As a result of that, Ajloun municipality obtained a grant for water harvesting in the urban village.

- Infrastructure projects financed by the World Bank which encompass:
 - Social adaptation projects and emergency services for municipalities affected by Syrian asylum
 - Street rehabilitation project - asphalt mixtures distributed over areas of the municipality
 - Procurement of waste collection machinery and containers
 - Purchasing construction mechanisms to ensure the sustainability of infrastructure
- Development of Women's Empowerment Unit: which was created in cooperation with the Arab Women Projects Fund for Development, to alleviate unemployment and poverty, ensure equality, and women's involvement of women in various economic, social and cultural programs.
- Establishment of Nature Park: which was financed by World Bank to create a green, entertaining and educational park to for local inhabitants.

CLOSING SESSION

The closing discussion underlined that climate change presents a major environmental, economic and development challenge, and the sooner it is possible to address its negative impact, the better the opportunity is to mitigate its effects at lower costs.

The respected attendees entirely assured that Jordan is affected more intensely by this phenomenon rather than contributing to it, as Jordan is one of the most water-scarce countries, and is facing severe climate change risks. Increasing temperatures and reduced rainfall patterns, coupled with an unprecedented population growth due to an influx of refugees, have significantly strained the population's water demands in Jordan.

More needs to be done in terms of building resilience to cope with climate change effects, mitigating vulnerabilities through coordinated WEF infrastructure development, improved management of transboundary natural resources, improving water use efficiency and energy technologies, enhancing local capabilities and knowledge; so that more people and decisions makers are aware of the embedded benefits.

Lastly, Ms. Al-Shaweesh thanked all the participants for their active engagement and emphasized the event's engaging wealth of information and discussions, the importance and effectiveness of practical working groups that incorporate real-life scenarios, and the intention to continue coordinating and collaborating with the represented stakeholders.

AGENDA

Wednesday, 28 September 2022

10:00– 11:00

Registration

OPENING SESSION

11:00 – 11:45

Opening Speeches

Eng. Walid Shahin, *Director of National Energy Research Center, Royal Scientific Society, Jordan*

Ms. Rula Al-Shaweesh, *MINARET Project Manager, Royal Scientific Society, Jordan*

Dr. Yasin Salah, *Mayor of Ma'an Municipality, Jordan*

Mr. Hamzeh Al Zghoul, *Mayor of Ajloun Municipality, Jordan*

Mr. Omar Abu Eid, *Director of Energy, Environment and Climate Change Programs, EU Delegation in Amman, Jordan*

Ms. Ghada Amin, *Technical Advisor of the Nexus Regional Dialogue in MENA Nexus Regional Dialogue Programme, GIZ - Egypt*

11:45 – 12:15

Visual Presentation - **MINARET in a Nutshell: (Aims/Challenges)**

(BEI Inputs Ma'an Municipality and Ajloun Municipality) by:
Eng. Omar Saffouri, *Energy Specialist, Royal Scientific Society, Jordan*
Eng. Ayam Al Rabee, *Energy Specialist, Royal Scientific Society, Jordan*

12:15 – 12:30

Visual Presentation - **MINARET I Achievements at Al Karak Municipality**

12:30 - 12:50

COFFEE BREAK

12:50 - 13:10

INTRODUCTION on the importance of the of Nexus approach in managing natural resources to confront climate change and fragility.

Eng. Bilal Shaqarin, *Manager of Climate Change Division, Ministry of Environment, Jordan*

Session I	Opportunities and challenges of municipalities in natural resources management
13:20 – 13:45	<p>Visual Presentation on Climate and Water Challenges at Ma'an Level By Eng. Mohammed Al Shammari, Greater Ma'an Municipality, Jordan</p> <p><u>Interactive Discussion</u> Key areas of discussion:</p> <p>What are the most key challenges/barriers related to energy, water and food sectors faced at the level of Ajloun and Ma'an municipalities that were touched through BEI data collection process?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What are the projects that the municipality aim to have in order to reduce CO2 emissions and solve wastewater problems? - What are the most important problems facing municipalities in the field of climate change and natural resources management (water, energy, food), whether at the environmental projects at municipal level or at the level of laws adopted by the Jordanian government? - How could the SECAP as climate change tool help the municipalities to develop WEF nexus solutions to combat the challenges that most affect these sectors, especially the energy sector? <p>Voices from the public -Q and A</p>
Session II	Nexus Governance Setting - Mainstreaming Nexus approach at municipal level
13:45 - 14:00	<p>Visual Presentation on Governance at Municipal Level through WEF Nexus By Mr Saddam Azzan, Governance/Decentralization Expert, Jordan</p> <p><u>Interactive Discussion</u> Key areas of discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To what extent the municipal laws in Jordan allow for municipalities' involvement and level of authority in the development process in terms of financial control, the management and governance over resources and the level of empowerment and facilitations measures they provide to the community? - In your opinion, what is the sector that has the most potential to reduce CO2 emissions at Ma'an and Ajloun municipal level? (Transportation, electricity, gas, solid waste, and wastewater)? - How do the governing scene do in dealing with the complexity among the water, energy and food sectors at the municipal level? and what can be done to enhance the role of municipalities to become the agent in the sustainable development?

	<p>- How can we model the “NEXUS” at municipal level?</p> <p>Voices from the public -Q and A</p>
14:00 - 14:15	BREAK
Session III	Creating economic value through a circular economy approach
14:15 - 14:30	<p>Visual Presentation on The role of Municipalities in waste Management By Eng Basem Al Hawamdeh, <i>Manager of Environmental Studies, Greater Amman Municipality (GAM), Jordan</i></p> <p>Key areas of discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What is the municipality doing to promote the conversion of waste into resources? - What are the enablers for knowledge-exchange among urban practitioners from city administrations, civil society, academia and the private sector? - How will the transition to a circular economy reduce costs and create jobs? - Will moving toward a circular economy require changes in community behavior? <p>Voices from the public -Q and A</p>
Session V	Local Efforts Through Climate Policy and Sustainable Development
14:30 - 15:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Visual Presentation on The achievements and role of Ajloun Municipalities in combating climate change effects - Challenges/Opportunities within Ajloun geographical scope By Eng Kamal Al Ba’oul, <i>Greater Ajloun Municipality, Jordan</i> <p>Interactive Discussion</p>
15:00	GROUP PHOTO / LUNCH

CONCEPT NOTE

“Policy Dialogue at Municipal Level”

28 September 2022, 10:30 - 15:00
IBIS Hotel - Amman, Jordan

Background:

MINARET “The MENA Region Initiative as a Model of NEXUS Approach and Renewable Energy Technologies” supports municipalities to improve their service delivery in relation to natural resources management (related to water, energy and food security).

Minaret II aims to improve people’s lives by helping municipal governments to secure the funds and develop the skills they need to deliver high-quality public services, in particular with regard to policies that affect the usage of water, energy and food resources. The focus hereby lies on sustainable energy policies, addressing climate mitigation by means of reduction in fossil fuel consumption. However, since energy policies impact on water and food security issues, both in a positive but also negative ways, an integrated look at natural resources management is warranted. Minaret II therefore addresses issues related to increased renewable energy usage, energy efficiency practices but in equal measures water management techniques, and food security strategies. While municipalities in the three target countries do not directly manage these three resources, municipalities must coordinate and cooperate with other relevant sub-national authorities/directorates for better management, distribution and usage of water and energy demand within the framework of their specific mandate. Finally, municipalities can play a crucial role in raising awareness, attracting investment, engaging communities and producing knowledge among their communities. In order to benefit of proven international practices in strengthening urban resilience, Minaret II follows the Covenant of Mayors (CoM) approach, enabling beneficiary municipalities from becoming members by developing Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan (SECAP), for which a set of guidelines exist. Membership at the CoM allows municipalities to join a network of local authorities for knowledge exchange as well as gaining credibility for financial resource mobilization.

Minaret II comprises three phases; phase I consisting of a thorough baseline data collection; phase II including the cross-sectoral development of the SECAP and phase III being dedicated to the topic of access to finance. Due to time constraints, some phases will start in parallel or prior to the full accomplishment of the previous phase.

Minaret II is in the progress of accomplishing the first phase of the project consisting of a thorough baseline assessment. The baseline assessment includes a vulnerability assessment of the effects of climate change, in order to highlight strengths and weaknesses of a territory- This is to determine the nature and extent of risk by analysing potential hazards and assessing vulnerability that could pose a potential threat the provision of energy, water and food security (as well as prevent harm to people, property, livelihoods and the environment more generally). This forms the foundation for selected adaptation actions, which will translate into the SECAP and contribute to improve the resilience of the territory.

Minaret II is implemented by the Royal Scientific Society in Jordan in the framework of the Nexus Regional Dialogues Programme - MENA, which in turn is implemented by GIZ and funded by the European Union and the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). Minaret II operates in Tunisia, Lebanon and Jordan from November 2021-March 2023.

Objectives of the event:

- MINARET II aims to stimulate debate on the role of municipalities in climate action as an opportunity for municipal transformative economic growth but also as a means to increase overall climate resilience at different governance levels
- Introduce Minaret II initiative implemented by the Royal Scientific Society and engage stakeholders in the overall process through knowledge exchange.

Modality of event:

The event will be organized in the form of a U-shape consisting of high-level representatives from local municipalities (Mayors), national governments, international organizations and bilateral donors, and a linear table of panelists that includes speakers from targeted municipalities and others specialized in the area of high-policy dialogue within the water, energy and agriculture/food sector at the municipal level. Each side will share knowledge and experience and how such an approach can be responsive to both the SDGs and the municipalities' mandate.

Time and Place:

Date : 28 September, 2022

Time : 10:30AM – 15:00PM

Venue : IBIS Hotel, Amman – Jordan

Participation:

The event is open to all stakeholders relevant to MINARET II agenda. Participants to the event will include representatives from regional, national and local governments, the private sector, international organizations and donors, representatives of non-governmental and community-based organizations.

Audience

OPERATIONAL	MINARET PROJECT TEAM, IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS (INCLUDING MUNICIPALITIES AND LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS)
PROGRAMMATIC	MINARET Project Team, GIZ/NRD Team, MINARET Finance Expert
STRATEGIC	Donor Agency [GIZ],

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Sessions:

The meeting will offer a set of activities allowing open dialogue, constructive critique and self-reflection. It will include the following key elements:

Welcome Remarks/ Visual Presentation/ Plenary Sessions/ Key Lessons and Way Forward.



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MINARET II

Empowering Municipal Governance for Climate Resilience Using WEF Nexus Approach



nexus



High-Level Policy Dialogue Meeting 28 September, 2022
Amman - Jordan

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