

Developing a strategic menu on mitigation options

Activity	Supporting the Government of Egypt in preparing 10 NAMA Information Notes (NINOs)
Area	Policy
Country	Egypt
Project title	Low Emission Capacity Building (LECB) Programme
Duration	12/2011 – 12/2016
Partner institution	Egyptian Ministry of State for Environmental Affairs
Implementing organisation	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), financed by the International Climate Initiative (IKI).
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Initial situation

Egypt is among the 189 countries that submitted a national climate change plan in contribution to the Paris Agreement. As one of the world's fastest growing countries in terms of population and economy, there is a need to plan a transition towards a resilient low carbon economy. High vulnerability to climate change, on the other hand, threatens its energy, food and water security and undermines its economic competitiveness.

Similar to other countries, Egypt has benefited from the vivid engagement of a wide array of entities on climate change mitigation, including government and non-government agencies, national and international organisations. These actors have been working on a variety of projects often independently from each other. In particular, there was a need to build capacity within government entities to identify and quantify opportunities for GHG emission savings.

Summary

The Paris Agreement has catalysed critical momentum for climate action on the side of country governments, non-state actors and donors alike. This has resulted in an increased set of activities, making a coherent approach more important than ever. This case study illustrates the development of a “strategic menu for mitigation options” by the Government of Egypt which facilitates the matching of identified priority actions with funding opportunities.

Ten key topics were identified, for which Information Notes for Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NINOs) have been developed, including renewable energy, energy efficiency, transport, lighting, buildings, industry, waste, oil, gas and fertilizers. These actions have a high mitigation potential and are expected to significantly contribute to an implementation plan for Egypt's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC).



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Contribution to GHG mitigation

Egypt needed to bring its diverse activities within the climate change mitigation area into a coherent framework. To facilitate a comprehensive approach, the Egyptian Government, with support from UNDP's Low Emission Capacity Building (LECB) Programme, developed a "strategic menu on mitigation" with high-potential for emission reductions and associated NAMA Information Notes (NINOs).

The process was based on developing the capacities and prioritizing mitigation activities in ten sectors (see table below) across key line ministries. The inter-agency collaboration was launched through an inception workshop followed by in-ministry capacity building events which were carried out for all ten sectors. Workshops for broad stakeholder engagement reached more than 300 participants.

The NINOs offer a standardized information platform to match mitigation actions with potential funders or investors. They contain a mapping of relevant trends in the sector, the outline of a proposed mitigation activity along with financial analyses and the approach to monitoring, reporting and verification. Interested government and non-government entities can select from these NINOs as a basis for the development of future projects, which will enable higher coherence and thus effectiveness among mitigation projects.

With the expected completion of ten NINOs in 2017, the next step under the Low Emission Capacity Building Project will be to develop up to six NINOs into full NAMAs. This is expected to significantly contribute to an action plan for NDC implementation, and may allow Egypt to accelerate its actions on climate change mitigations.

Success factors

An important aspect of the development of the "strategic menu on mitigation options" in Egypt has been the broad involvement of all relevant governmental actors, which is coordinated by a dedicated steering committee that was established under the process. The committee is headed by the CEO of Egypt's Environmental Affairs Agency and comprises representatives of various ministries as well as UNDP. A National Team of experts was established at the beginning of the process including experts from the Ministries of Petroleum, Transport, Agriculture, Housing and Planning. This team is responsible for following the UNFCCC negotiations, assessing and surveying mitigation potentials in relevant sectors, and formulating NAMAs.

In addition, other Egyptian stakeholders of diverse societal groups and the private sector have been included in events and capacity building activities to take into account their priorities.

Lessons learned

Engaging a large range of stakeholders took a considerable amount of time and work as linking up diverse actors with different agendas and establishing mechanisms for exchange required trust and a long-term perspective of common goals. Those who were involved considered this engagement process crucial for the success of this work.

Another key aspect was to align the process with relevant national processes such as the development of Egypt's Third National Communication, the NDCs and the Sustainable Development Strategy (Egypt's Vision 2030). Regular global exchange takes place with other countries participating in the Low Emission Capacity Building Programme.

Overview of the 10 NINOs

NINO No.	Title	Sector(s)
1	Emission Reduction through Waste-to-Energy	Waste
2	Shale Oil-based Power Generation	Oil
3	Energy Efficiency in Residential Buildings	Housing / Energy Efficiency
4	Smart Street Lighting	Urban Planning
5	Gas Flaring	Gas
6	Renewable Energy in Industry	Renewable Energy / Industry
7	Energy Efficiency in Industry	Energy Efficiency / Industry
8	Sustainable Transport	Transport
9	Efficient Lighting in Governmental Buildings	Energy Efficiency / Industry
10	Industrial Processes in Fertilizer / Nitric Acid Industry	Fertilizer / Industry

This project has been selected as a good practice by the GIZ project "Policy dialogue and knowledge management on LEDS in the MENA region". Within this framework, ten projects of the International Climate Initiative have been selected in total.



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