Enhancing Environmental Protection in the Arab Region through Implementing the Environmental Dimension of SDGs

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ACRONYMS

AFAPCC	Arab Framework Action Plan on Climate Change
ARSSCP	Arab Strategy for Sustainable Consumption and Production
AFED	Arab Forum for Environment and Development
ASDRE	Arab Strategy for the Development of Renewable Energies
ASDRR	Arab Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction
ASFSD	Arab Strategic Framework for Sustainable Development
ASHSUD	Arab Strategy for Housing and Sustainable Urban Development
ASSA	Arab Strategy for Sustainable Agriculture
ASSCP	Arab Strategy for Sustainable Consumption and Production
ASWS	Arab Strategy for Water Security
ASWS-AP	Arab Strategy for Water Security Action Plan
CAMRE	Council for Arab Ministers Responsible for the Environment
FEPS	Food and Environment Policies Section
GCC	Gulf Cooperation Council
JCEDAR	Joint Committee on Environment and Development in the Arab Region
KPIs	Key Performance Indicators
LAS	League of Arab States
LDCs	Least Developed Countries
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
SDPD	Sustainable Development and Policies Division
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
ToRs	Terms of Reference
UAE	United Arab Emirates
UN	United Nations
UNE	United Nations Environment
UNESCWA	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
VNR	Voluntary National Review

I. METHODOLOGY AND ASSESSMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL DIMENSION OF THE SDGS IN THE ARAB REGION

A.   INTRODUCTION

In December 2016, the Council of Arab Ministers Responsible for the Environment (CAMRE) requested that the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UNESCWA), United Nations Environment (UNE) and the League of Arab States (LAS) develop a guiding framework for the environmental dimension of the SDGs for the Arab region. The request builds upon the work of LAS and regional partners to support implementation of sustainable development in the Arab region which has been ongoing since the first United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in 1992, including through the Arab Strategic Framework for Sustainable Development.

In response to the request from CAMRE for a guiding framework, UNESCWA, UNEP and LAS prepared Terms of Reference (ToRs) for developing a guiding framework, which were based on three deliverables: 1. A methodology report; 2. An assessment report; and 3. The guiding framework.

The methodology for the assessment was completed in April 2017 and was reviewed and finalized through consultations with regional environmental experts and representatives at the Preparatory Meeting on the Regional Environmental Issues and Priorities for the Arab Forum on Sustainable Development held in Cairo on 23-24 April 2017. The methodology for the assessment was adapted from recent international guidelines and standards developed by international experts and practitioners to support the initial stages of implementation of the SDGs, which recommend several key steps, namely: an assessment of SDG alignment with existing strategies and plans; a stock take or baseline assessment of SDG indicators; prioritisation of SDG targets in line with national circumstances; and mainstreaming of priority targets into existing strategies (or developing a new SDG-aligned strategy) (Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, 2016; Sustainable Development Solutions Network, 2015; United Nations Development Group, 2017; United Nations Institute for Training and Research, 2016). The guidelines focus on national implementation, but can be equally applied at the regional level.

Given the comprehensive scope of the SDGs across 169 global targets and 230 indicators, a critical step involves the prioritisation and adaptation of targets to national circumstances. To support prioritisation, the international guidelines recommend the application of a criteria-based approach, combining evidence from baseline assessments of available data, benchmarking of progress against numerical benchmarks, and an assessment of interlinkages between targets to reveal their 'systemic impact' and 'high leverage' targets (i.e. where actions taken to achieve one target have positive impacts on other targets, also known as synergies).

In line with the ToRs and applying the agreed methodology, an Assessment Report was prepared and submitted to UNESCWA in July 2017. The report reviewed the degree to which the environmental dimension of the SDGs has been integrated into the regional and national development frameworks in the Arab region. Using a scientifically robust multi-criteria assessment, the report also identified a set of priority environmental SDG targets and indicators for the Arab region along with baseline values, target mapping and gap analysis, and a systems analysis of interlinkages. The assessment report provided the basis for the draft *Guiding Framework for the Environmental Dimension of the SDGs in the Arab Region,* which was submitted to UNESCWA in August 2017.

This section provides a brief synthesis of the methodology and outcomes from the assessment process[1].

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[1] Two previous reports were prepared by Mr. Cameron Allen (consultant) for the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UNESCWA), August 2017: a methodology report, and a more detailed assessment report of the environmental dimension of the SDGs for the Arab region. Opinions and any errors or omissions are those of the author.

For the Arab region to begin implementation of the environmental dimension of the SDGs and the 2030 Agenda, it is critical to build the evidence base for action, using the SDGs, targets and indicators as a framework for guiding implementation. In terms of meeting country needs, Arab governments have requested support from UNESCWA in a range of key areas, namely: adapting the SDGs and targets to focus on regional and national priorities; identifying sets of interlinked goals and targets; assisting countries to analyse interlinkages between goals and targets; and identifying a narrow set of indicators to periodically monitor progress. All of these priorities were addressed through the assessment report.

In this context, and in line with the ToRs and the request from CAMRE, the aim of the assessment was to provide evidence and analysis to assist countries and stakeholders in the Arab region with implementation of the environmental dimension of the SDGs. In line with this broad aim, the assessment had several key objectives:

- To assess and define the environmental dimension of the SDGs and identify a broad set of environmental SDG targets and indicators for the Arab region.

- To assess regional and national progress on the environmental SDG targets and indicators, and the level of integration of the environmental dimension in the region.

- To assess interlinkages between environmental SDG targets and identify high leverage targets, based on systems analysis techniques.

- To identify a smaller set of higher priority environmental SDG targets and indicators for the region, based on a robust multi-criteria analysis.

- To develop recommendations and guidance for developing the guiding framework.

Based on lessons learned from a review of international experience and leading practice, the approach and method for the assessment and the development of the implementation plan were formulated as a staged process comprising several sequential steps. The key steps are summarised in **Figure 1** below. The assessment report focused on the first five stages: scoping, baseline assessment, mapping and alignment, assessing interlinkages, and prioritisation. The outcomes from each of these stages are briefly summarised below. The key output from the final stage was the draft Guiding Framework, which draws heavily upon the outcomes from the assessment.

Figure 1. General approach and method for the assessment and development of the guiding framework
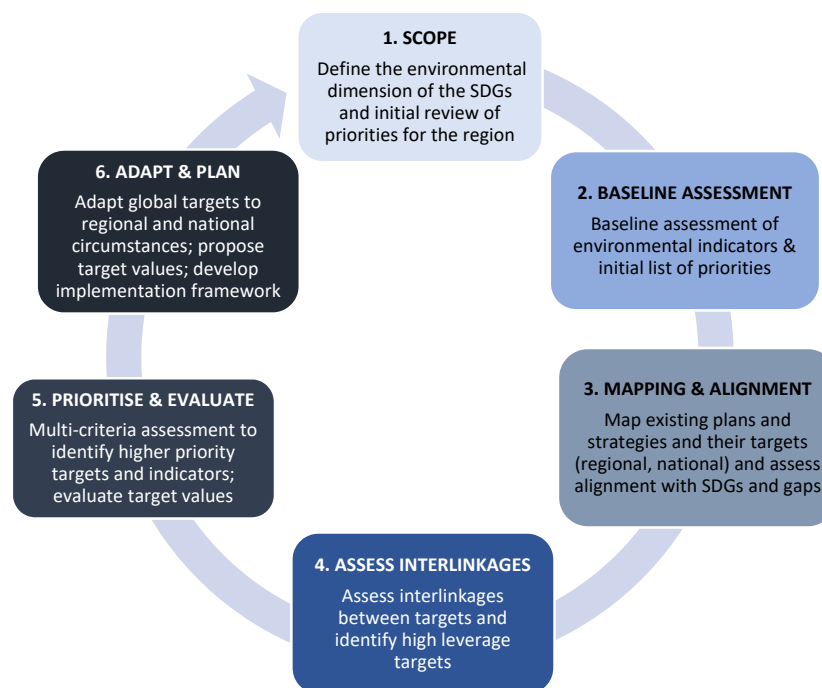
C.   RESULTS OF ASSESSMENT AND DISCUSSION

1.   Scope: Defining the environmental dimension of the SDGs in the Arab region

An important initial step in the assessment was determining the scope of the 'environmental dimension of the SDGs' and environmental priority goals, targets and indicators across the broad set of 17 goals. Definition of the environmental dimension also needed to consider the Arab regional context and regional and national environmental priorities.

To define the environmental dimension of the SDGs in the form of a set of goals, targets and indicators, an initial 'screening process' was undertaken in several steps. Firstly, a broad list of environmental goals, targets and indicators were identified based on the global literature and analysis by UN Environment, which defines a broad set of 86 environmental SDG targets and 110 corresponding indicators. Secondly, this broad list was refined based on Arab regional priorities, as identified in recent regional scientific assessments and reports[2], regional agreements and strategies[3], processes underway to determine a set of environmental

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[2] For example, United Nations Environment Programme, 2016a. GEO-6 Regional Assessment for Africa, Nairobi, Kenya, United Nations Environment Programme, 2016b. GEO-6 REgional Assessment for West Asia, Nairobi, Kenya., United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, United Nations Environment Programme, 2015. Arab Sustainable Development Report, Beirut.; and regional environmental reports published by the Arab Forum for Environment and Development (AFED): http://www.afedonline.org/en/inner.aspx?contentID=1238.

[3] This included the Arab Strategic Framework for Sustainable Development (ASFSD), the Arab Sustainable Development Indicators framework, and a range of other regional environmental strategies adopted by LAS relating to water, energy, sustainable production and consumption, agriculture, disasters, climate change, amongst others.

indicators for the Arab region[4], as well as consultations with regional experts[5]. Finally, consideration was also given to the availability of official, accessible, high quality data for environmental targets and indicators. Additional information on this process can be found in the methodology and assessment reports[6].

The screening process refined the list of environmental SDG targets and indicators for the Arab region to a framework of 43 priority targets and 56 corresponding indicators[7]. It was considered important to align this set with the work being undertaken by the Arab Working Group on Sustainable Development Indicators; as such, all 30 priority indicators identified by this group were included in the framework. However, it was assessed that 18 of the 30 indicators currently lack available data, most of which fall into the 'Tier 3' category of the UN Statistics Division, meaning that a methodology is yet to be agreed upon. To address this gap, several alternative or supplementary indicators were included in the framework to undertake the assessment and measure progress on priority targets. These environmental indicators are well-developed in the region, have been widely used in previous assessments, and have relatively good data availability from official databases. They can be used to complement the SDG indicators, or on an interim basis while further methodological development of SDG indicators is undertaken at the global level. The full list of 43 environmental SDG targets and 56 indicators is included in the Guiding Framework.

2. *Baseline assessment and benchmarking of priority environmental SDG targets and indicators*

A baseline assessment was an important next step for the assessment, not only to provide baseline values to assist with target setting and development of the guiding framework, but also to help discern areas where the region is lagging behind compared with global benchmarks (where available) and to articulate higher priority areas at the regional, sub-regional and national levels. The baseline assessment focused on the framework of 43 priority environmental SDGs and 56 corresponding indicators, and included an analysis of trends as well as a comparison of current baseline values against global benchmarks.

The baseline assessment collected available data for 22 Arab countries and compiled it into a master worksheet. Due to time restrictions and resource constraints, data for indicators was collected from publicly available and official databases of the UN and international organisations, primarily the UN Statistics Division SDG Database[8]. However, it is recommended that this data could be updated through a survey of National Statistical Offices in countries in the Arab region to prepare an accurate regional database of SDG baseline values. Metadata for these indicators including the sources of data, availability, timeseries, date of collection etc. are available in the assessment report and its statistical annex[9].

To provide an indication of regional and sub-regional priorities and progress, country-level data was aggregated for the Arab region as a whole as well as for each of the four Arab sub-regions[10]. In general, weighted averages were used. Drawing from the framework of priority environmental targets and indicators,

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[4] The Arab Working Group on Sustainable Development Indicators has defined a set of 30 priority environmental SDG indicators.

[5] Including the consultative meeting on *Regional Environmental Issues and Priorities for the Arab Forum on Sustainable Development* held in Cairo on 23-24 April 2017; and the Arab Forum on Sustainable Development 2017.

[6] See Allen, C (2017) The Environmental Dimension of the SDGs: Outline and methodology for an assessment and implementation framework for the Arab Region; and Allen, C (2017) Assessment Report on Implementing the Environmental Dimension of the SDGs in the Arab region.

[7] However, 7 of these indicators are duplicates relating to more than one target. As such, there were 49 distinct indicators.

[8] https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/indicators/database/

[9] See Allen, C (2017) Assessment Report on Implementing the Environmental Dimension of the SDGs in the Arab region.

[10] Gulf Cooperation Council (**GCC**): Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates; Least Developed Countries (**LDCs**): the Comoros, Djibouti, Mauritania, Somalia, the Sudan and Yemen; **Maghreb**: Algeria, Libya, Morocco and Tunisia; and **Mashreq**: Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine and the Syrian Arab Republic.

the assessment focused on the 38 indicators[11] for which data was available, which corresponded to 30 different environmental targets. A summary of the assessment is provided in **Table 1** below. The baseline assessment included the following steps:

   1- Determining current baseline values: the most recent values for each indicator were collected to set a recent baseline level which can be used to benchmark current status and formulate target values (most recent year for which data is available in official databases).

   2- Benchmarking the status of current baseline values: the status for each of these baseline values was then benchmarked against a numerical global average to identify areas 'lagging behind'. Different benchmarks were used as follows: Arab region (benchmarked against global average); Mashreq, Maghreb and GCC (benchmarked against developing country average, or middle income or world average where not available); LDCs (benchmarked against LDC average, or developing country average where not available). The value for each indicator was categorised into one of two categories: equal to or better than the benchmark (●) or worse than the benchmark (●).

   3- Evaluating historical trends: the direction of past trends was evaluated for each indicator as well as the favourability of the trend. Trends were analysed based on available time series data for each indicator. The trend for each indicator was firstly categorised as upwards (↗), downwards (↘), or no clear trend (↔). The favourability of these trends was then assessed by allocating a colour to each of the arrows – **green** (↗, ↘) for a favourable trend, and **red** (↗, ↘) for an unfavourable trend.

   4- Priority setting - combining status and trends: the outcomes of the benchmarking and trend assessment were combined to provide an overall assessment of priority for each indicator, based on the following five categories:

Higher priority	Worse than benchmark *and* unfavourable trend	❷
	Worse than benchmark *or* unfavourable trend	❶
	Mixed assessment - favourable + unfavourable	❶/❶
	Better than benchmark *or* favourable trend	❶
Lower priority	Better than benchmark *and* favourable trend	❷

   Table 1 provides a summary of the assessment for each of the indicators, and is a useful tool for highlighting SDG targets which could be considered higher or lower priority at the Arab regional and sub-regional level, based on their current status compared against a global benchmark as well as their trend. The colour allocated to cells in **Table 1** is also based on the five categories above – i.e. higher priority having a darker red colour, and lower priority having a darker green colour, with yellow representing a middle value or mixed assessment.

   The assessment highlights that environmental SDG targets that could be considered of high priority at the *Arab regional level* include[12]: 6.4 (water use and withdrawals), 11.6 (air quality), 12.3 (food waste), 13.2 (climate change plans) and 16.1 (peace and stability). Similarly, those environmental targets of least concern at the *regional level* at present could be considered[13]: 6.a (water and sanitation assistance), 7.1 (access to electricity) and 14.5 (marine protected areas).

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[11] However, seven of these indicators were duplicates, as such the analysis considered 31 distinct indicators.

[12] For ease of reference, these *regional* priorities are highlighted in dark red in the first column of **Table 1**.

[13] Highlighted in dark green in the first column of **Table 1**.

Table 1. Baseline assessment and benchmarking of environmental SDG targets and indicators for the Arab region and four sub-regions

Legend for symbols used below: Status ● = 🔴 red / 🟢 green; Trend = ↗ / ↘ / ↔ / - ; Assessment shown as numbers (1 / 2).

Indicators	UNITS	World	Developed	Developing	LDCs	Arab Region Baseline	Status	Trend	Assess	Mashreq Baseline	Status	Trend	Assess	Maghreb Baseline	Status	Trend	Assess	GCC Baseline	Status	Trend	Assess	Arab LDCs Baseline	Status	Trend	Assess
1.5.1.ALT	p.100,000	N/A				5698.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1.5.2	USD	N/A				1.9m	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1.5.3**	%	70.0	89.2	63.7	N/A	50	🔴	-	1	50	🔴	-	1	66.7	🟢	-	1	66.7	🟢	-	1	0	🔴	-	1
2.1.2	%	18.6	5.7	28.1	47.3	28.4	🔴	-	1	31.1	🔴	-	1	16.8	🟢	-	1	17.3	🟢	-	1	43.0	🟢	-	1
2.4.1	%	Drylands average = <1%				0.59	-	-	-	0.5	-	-	-	0.48	-	-	-	0.62	-	-	-	0.7	-	-	-
3.9.2	p.100,000	12.4	0.4	15.0	69.4	9.1	🟢	-	1	2.0	🟢	-	1	2.5	🟢	-	1	0.2	🟢	-	1	36.0	🟢	-	1
6.1.1	%	91.1	99.2	89.3	69.4	84.0	🔴	↗	1/1	94.0	🟢	↗	2	86.2	🔴	↗	1/1	97.6	🟢	↗	2	53.2	🔴	↘	2
6.4.2#	%	9.3	10.1	9.7	4.3	312.3	🔴	↗	2	129.3	🔴	↗	2	142.7	🔴	↗	2	1311.9	🔴	↗	2	227.7	🔴	↗	2
6.a.1**	USD mil	47.8	N/A	76.3	46.7	80.6	🟢	↗	2	105.3	🟢	↗	2	120.5	🟢	↔	1	-	-	-	-	27.0	🔴	-	1/1
7.1.1#	%	85.3	99.9	88.7	38.2	88.2	🟢	↗	2	99.0	🟢	↗	2	96.8	🟢	↗	2	100	🟢	↗	2	49.9	🟢	↗	1/1
7.2.1#	%	18.9	11.8	22.3	73.8	4.0	🔴	↗	1/1	4.2	🔴	↗	1/1	4.2	🔴	↗	1/1	0.0	🔴	↔	2	50.6	🟢	↗	1/1
7.3.1#	MJ/USD	5.4	4.7	5.8	5.8	5.1	🔴	↗	1/1	3.8	🟢	↗	1/1	4.2	🟢	↔	1	5.8	🟢	↘	2	5.3	🟢	-	1
7.3.1.ADD	Kgoe	1920.7	4145.4	1396.4	364.7	1813.2		↗	1/1	930.2		↗	1/1	1099.9		↗	1/1	7785.8		↗	1	353.1		↗	1/1
8.4.1	Tonne pc	10.1	20.4	7.8	1.8	6.6	🟢	↗	1/1	5.4	🟢	↗	1/1	3.7	🟢	↗	1/1	19.4	🔴	↗	2	2.2	🟢	↔	1
9.4.1^	Kg	0.77	0.39	0.96	0.61	1.4	🔴	↘	1/1	1.1	🔴	↘	1/1	0.91	🟢	↗	1/1	1.6	🔴	↘	1/1	2.7	🔴	↘	1/1
11.1.1.ALT#	%	N/A	N/A	27.1	62.7	34.8	🔴	-	1	21.4	🟢	-	1	11.8	🟢	-	1	18	🟢	-	1	78.5	🔴	-	1
11.5.1 (1.5.1)	p.100,000	N/A				5698.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
11.6.2.ALT	ug/m³	44.0	15.2	52	49.0	62.3	🔴	↗	2	76.6	🔴	↗	2	35.1	🟢	↗	1/1	90.0	🔴	↗	2	48.3	🟢	↗	2
11.b.2 (1.5.3)	%	70.0	89.2	63.7	N/A	50	🟢	-	1	50	🟢	-	1	66.7	🟢	-	1	66.7	🟢	-	1	0	🔴	-	1
12.2.1 (8.4.1)	Tonne pc	10.1	20.4	7.8	1.8	6.6	🟢	↗	1/1	5.4	🟢	↗	1/1	3.7	🟢	↗	1/1	19.4	🔴	↗	2	2.2	🔴	↔	1
12.3.1	score	85.1	92.9	81	70.5	86.2	🔴	↗	2	83.0	🔴	↗	2	82.8	🔴	↗	2	88.2	🔴	↗	2	90.3	🔴	↗	2
12.c.1.ALT^	%	6.6	1.9	N/A	4.0	8.3	🔴	-	1	6.7	🔴	-	1	6.8	🔴	-	1	10.0	🔴	-	1	1.7	🟢	-	1
13.1.1 (1.5.3)	%	70.0	89.2	63.7	N/A	50	🔴	-	1	50	🔴	-	1	66.7	🟢	-	1	66.7	🔴	-	1	0	🔴	-	1
13.1.2 (1.5.1)	p.100,000	N/A				5698.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
13.2.1.ADD-1#	Kg/USD	0.34	0.25	0.39	0.13	0.31	🟢	↗	1/1	0.27	🟢	↗	1/1	0.29	🟢	↘	2	0.34	🟢	↔	1	0.24	🔴	-	2
13.2.1.ADD-2#	Kg pc	5.0	9.7	3.9	0.3	5.1	🔴	↗	2	2.9	🟢	↗	1/1	3.1	🔴	↗	1/1	19.8	🔴	↗	2	0.7	🟢	-	2
14.4.1.ALT#	Ton	93.7m	24.7m	6.5m	8.7m	243.9k	-	↗	-	190.3k	-	↘	-	564.7k	-	↗	-	75.6k	-	↗	-	90.1k	-	↗	-
14.5.1	%	8.4	12.4	4.2	0.5	9.3	🟢	↗	2	8.3	🟢	↗	2	6.7	🟢	↗	2	9.3	🟢	↗	2	12.1	🟢	↗	2
15.1.1#	%	30.8	31.3	32.1	26.8	2.8	-	↘	1	0.95	-	↗	1	1.9	-	↗	1	0.5	-	↗	1	5.8	🔴	↘	1
15.1.2	%	18.0	23.8	14.8	19.2	8.6	🔴	↗	1/1	5.0	🔴	↗	1/1	20.0	🟢	↗	2	9.3	🔴	↗	1/1	4.9	🔴	↗	1/1
15.5.1	Score	0.82	0.82	0.73	0.77	0.89	🟢	↘	1/1	0.89	🟢	↘	1/1	0.93	🟢	↗	1	0.87	🟢	↘	1/1	0.89	🟢	-	1/1
15.a.1.ALT*	USD mil	N/A	N/A	45	32	9.6	🔴	↗	1/1	11.9	🔴	↗	1/1	7.4	🔴	-	1/1	-	-	-	-	8.5	🔴	-	1/1
15.b.1 (15.a.1)	USD mil	N/A	N/A	45	32	9.6	🔴	↗	1/1	11.9	🔴	↗	1/1	7.4	🔴	-	1/1	-	-	-	-	8.5	🔴	-	1/1
16.1.2.ALT	Score	Middle = 0				-1.1	🔴	↘	2	-1.8	🔴	↘	2	-1.1	🔴	↘	2	0.12	🟢	↘	1/1	-1.4	🔴	↘	2
17.14.1.ADD-1	Score	Middle = 5				3.8	🔴	↗	1/1	3.4	🔴	↗	1/1	4.5	🔴	↘	2	4.7	🔴	↔	1	2.5	🔴	↗	1/1
17.14.1.ADD-2	%	Middle = 5				4.4	🔴	↗	1/1	4.4	🔴	↗	1/1	4.3	🔴	↗	1/1	6.2	🟢	↗	2	1.8	🔴	↘	2
17.18.3	%	N/A	N/A	34.6%	63.3%	22.7	🔴	↗	1/1	20	🔴	↗	1/1	20	🔴	↗	1/1	0	🔴	-	1	50	🔴	↔	1
17.18.3.ADD#	Score	N/A	N/A	71.6	60.0	56.0	🔴	↗	1/1	63.3	🔴	↗	1/1	59.7	🔴	↗	1/1	-	-	-	-	46.3	🔴	↗	1/1

Values for developing countries are based on middle income countries only
^ Values for LDCs are SSA only
* Averages calculated based on estimate for each category
** Percentages calculated based on the number of countries for which data was available.

However, it is important to note that these priorities vary somewhat between the different subregions. Based on the baseline assessment and benchmarking, **Table 2** provides a summary of higher priority targets for the Arab region and each sub-region. The final row provides a combined list which includes all targets that were assessed as priorities for the Arab region or at least one of the four sub-regions. The highest priority targets are those for which a corresponding indicator was assessed as both falling below the benchmark baseline value and having an unfavourable trend (i.e. category 🔴2 in **Table 2**). Other priority targets were also included where their corresponding indicator fell below the benchmark or showed an unfavourable trend (i.e. categories 🔴1 and 🔴1/🟢1 from **Table 2**).

Overall, based on this initial rapid assessment, a total of **11** environmental targets were considered of higher priority, and a further **13** environmental targets as additional priorities (24 targets in total). A further 16 targets may also be priorities, however there was insufficient or inadequate data for an initial assessment. Care should be taken not to exclude these targets simply due to a lack of available data. The outputs from this baseline assessment were therefore combined with other forms of assessment (as outlined below) to arrive at a list of higher priority environmental targets for the region.

Table 2. Higher priority environmental SDG targets as identified through the baseline assessment

Regional Grouping	Higher priority Category: 🔴	Other priorities Categories: 🔴 ; 🔴/🟢	No Data or Unable to Assess
Arab Region	6.4, 11.6, 12.3, 13.2, 16.1	1.5, 2.1, 6.1, 7.2, 7.3, 8.4, 9.4, 11.1, 11.b, 12.2, 12c, 13.1, 15.1, 15.5, 15.a, 15.b, 17.14, 17.18	2.4, 2.5, 6.3, 6.6, 11.3, 12.4, 12.5, 14.4
Mashreq	6.4, 11.6, 12.3, 16.1	1.5, 2.1, 7.2, 7.3, 8.4, 9.4, 11.b, 12.c, 13.1, 13.2, 15.1, 15.5, 15.a, 15.b 17.14, 17.18	As above
Maghreb	6.4, 12.3, 16.1	6.1, 7.2, 7.3, 8.4, 9.4, 11.6, 12.2, 12.c, 13.2, 15.a, 15.b, 17.14, 17.18	As above
GCC	6.4, 7.2, 7.3, 8.4, 11.6, 12.2, 12.3, 13.2	7.2, 9.4, 12.2, 12.c, 15.1, 15.5, 16.1, 17.14, 17.18	As above
LDCs	6.1, 6.4, 7.3, 12.3, 13.2, 16.1, 17.14	1.5, 6.a, 7.2, 8.4, 9.4, 11.1, 11.b, 12.2, 13.1, 15.1, 15.5, 15.a, 15.b, 17.18	As above
COMBINED LISTS	6.1, 6.4, 7.2, 7.3, 8.4, 11.6, 12.2, 12.3, 13.2, 16.1, 17.14	1.5, 2.1, 6a, 9.4, 11.1, 11.b, 12.c, 13.1, 15.1, 15.5, 15.a, 15.b, 17.18	2.4, 2.5, 6.3, 6.6, 11.3, 12.4, 12.5, 13.2, 13.3, 14.2, 14.4, 15.2, 15.3, 15.7, 15.c, 17.7

3.   Mapping of regional strategies and national development plans and assessment of alignment with environmental SDG targets and indicators

The framework of 43 environmental SDG targets and 56 corresponding indicators was then mapped against the main environmental strategies or plans adopted in the Arab region (and which were available in English), as well as national development strategies and visions of selected Arab countries at the national level.

(a)   Regional mapping and assessment of alignment

At the regional level, the framework of environmental SDG targets was mapped against nine regional environmental strategies and plans[14]. The Assessment Report reviewed the coverage of the environmental SDG targets and indicators in existing regional strategies. The degree of coverage of

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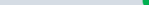
[14] Arab Strategic Framework for Sustainable Development (ASFSD); Arab Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction (ASDRR); Arab Strategy for Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (ASHSUD), Arab Strategy for Sustainable Consumption and Production (ASSCP), Arab Strategy for Sustainable Agriculture (ASSA), Arab Strategy for Water Security (ASWS) and Action Plan (ASWS-AP), Arab Strategy for the Development of Renewable Energies (ASDRE), and the Arab Framework Action Plan on Climate Change.

each SDG target and indicator was assessed and categorised into one of three categories (good, partial, or no/limited coverage) based on an assessment of:

- Coverage of the intent and scope of the SDG target; and

- Coverage of the SDG indicator, including a baseline and clear target value (preferably aligning with the ambition and timeframe of the SDGs).

The box below shows the symbols used to assess coverage for each target. In addition, an overall assessment was given based on the coverage of both the targets and indicators, combining the two factors listed above.

Box 1. Symbols used to assess coverage for targets and indicators

Category	Symbol	Overall assessment
Good coverage	🟢	🟢🟢
Partial coverage	🟠	🟢🟠/🟠🟠/🟠🔴
Very limited coverage or not addressed	🔴	🔴🔴

A brief summary of the target mapping and gap analysis is provided in **Table 3** below. Based on this analysis it can be seen that 12 out of 43 of the environmental SDG targets (or 28%) are currently addressed in regional environmental strategies and plans, in terms of the scope and intent of the target and language used. This included targets relating to resilience and disasters (1.5), water-use efficiency and cooperation (6.4, 6.a), renewable energy (7.2), sustainable consumption and production (8.4, 12.2), sustainable cities and urbanization (11.1, 11.3, 11.5, 11.6), and climate change adaptation (13.1, 13.2).

However, when the assessment also includes coverage of the corresponding SDG indicators and the inclusion of clear target values, this number drops significantly to 2 out of 43 targets (or less than 5%). The SDG targets that were assessed as having good coverage of both the SDG target and indicator and target values were target 7.2 relating to renewable energy and target 11.1 relating to housing. This is possibly due to the presence of a similar previous global target for renewable energy from the SE4ALL initiative, as well as the fact that the regional housing strategy was adopted very recently and therefore was able to consider and address relevant aspects of the SDGs. In terms of the key gaps in coverage overall, 7 out of 43 of the SDG targets (16.3%) lacked any coverage in regional strategies, in terms of either a relevant target or any corresponding indicators and target values.

It is worth noting that many of these regional environmental strategies were developed long before the adoption of the SDGs to address Arab regional priorities and put in place an agreed framework. In several cases, the regional strategies make reference to relevant MDG targets, and they often correspond to different timeframes ranging from 2020 to 2030. Given the recent adoption of the SDGs, it is therefore not surprising from the analysis that most SDG targets and indicators are not yet specifically addressed in the regional framework. There is an opportunity now for the region to update its strategies and align them with the global SDG targets and indicators. This gap analysis provides a useful tool in terms of identifying existing gaps in the coverage of SDG environmental targets, and options for updating these strategies, as needed.

While many gaps are evident, the regional strategies and plans were assessed to have partial coverage across the majority of environmental SDG targets and indicators, with a total of 34 out of 43 (79.1%) targets or their corresponding indicators partially addressed in regional environmental strategies. This is promising, as there has clearly been an effort in the region to address environmental priorities through regional planning and strategies. However, these strategies could be reviewed further

in terms of updating the language to better align with the SDGs, or in terms of adopting a relevant indicator and specifying a clear target value to guide the level of ambition for the region.

The lack of specific and clear numerical target values for the majority of targets is a potential gap in regional environmental strategies at present, which may reduce their value in terms of implementation, monitoring and overall accountability. As mentioned, out of the 43 environmental SDG targets reviewed, only 2 targets included specific, clear and measurable target values for their indicators. Without a clear target value for an indicator, it is difficult to determine the level of ambition and adequately benchmark progress and performance over time. This is one key area that could be addressed through the Guiding Framework.

Table 3. Assessment of coverage of environmental SDG targets and indicators in Arab regional strategies

SDG Targets	SDG Indicators	Regional Strategies	Coverage of Target	Coverage of Indicators and Target Values	Overall Assessment
1.5	1.5.1, 1.5.2, 1.5.3	ASDRR, AFAPCC, ASFSD, ASHSUD, ASWS	🟢	🟠	🟠
2.1	2.1.2	ASFSD, ARSSCP	🟠	🟠	🟠
2.4	2.4.1 [2.4.1.ALT]	ASSA, ASFSD	🟠	🟠	🟠
2.5	2.5.2	ASSA, ASFSD	🔴	🔴	🔴
3.9	3.9.2	ASFSD, ASWS	🟠	🟠	🟠
6.1	6.1.1 [6.1.1.ALT]	ASWS, ASFSD	🟠	🟠	🟠
6.3	6.3.1, 6.3.2	ASWS, ASWS-AP, ARSSCP, ASFSD	🟠	🟠	🟠
6.4	6.4.2	ASWS, ASWS-AP, ASFSD, ARSSCP	🟢	🟠	🟠
6.6	6.6.1	ASWS-AP	🟠	🔴	🟠
6.a	6.a.1	ASWS, ASWS-AP, ASFSD	🟢	🟠	🟠
7.1	7.1.1	ASFSD, ARSSCP	🟠	🟠	🟠
7.2	7.2.1	ASFSD, ASDRE, ARSSCP	🟢	🟢	🟢
7.3	7.3.1 [7.3.1.ADD]	ASFSD, ARSSCP	🟠	🟠	🟠
8.4	8.4.1	ARSSCP	🟢	🔴	🟠
9.4	9.4.1	ASFSD	🔴	🔴	🔴
11.1	11.1.1 [11.1.1.ALT]	ASFSD, ASHSUD	🟢	🟢	🟢
11.3	11.3.1	ASFSD, ASHSUD	🟢	🔴	🟠
11.5	11.5.1	ASFSD, ASDRR	🟢	🟠	🟠
11.6	11.6.1, 11.6.2, [16.6.2.ALT]	ARSSCP, ASFSD, ASHSUD, ARSSCP	🟢	🟠	🟠
11.b	11.b.2	ASFSD, ASHSUD	🟢	🔴	🟠
12.2	12.2.1	ARSSCP	🟠	🔴	🟠
12.3	12.3.1	ASFSD, ARSSCP	🟠	🔴	🟠
12.4	12.4.1, 12.4.2	ASFSD	🟠	🟠	🟠
12.5	12.5.1	ARSSCP, ASFSD	🟠	🟠	🟠
12.c	12.c.1 [12.c.1.ALT]	-	🔴	🔴	🔴
13.1	13.1.1, 13.1.2	AFAPCC, ASDRR, ASFSD, ASHSUD, ASWS	🟢	🟠	🟠
13.2	13.2.1, [13.2.1.ADD-1, 13.2.1.ADD-2]	ASFSD, AFAPCC, ARSSCP, ASWS-AP	🟢	🟠	🟠
13.3	13.3.1	ARSSCP	🟠	🟠	🟠
14.2	14.2.1	ASFSD, ASWS-AP	🟠	🔴	🟠
14.4	14.4.1 [14.4.1.ALT]	ASFSD	🟠	🔴	🟠
14.5	14.5.1	ASFSD	🔴	🟠	🟠
15.1	15.1.1, 15.1.2	ASFSD	🟠	🟠	🟠
15.2	15.2.1	ASFSD	🟠	🟠	🟠
15.3	15.3.1	ASFSD	🟠	🟠	🟠
15.5	15.5.1	ASFSD	🟢	🟠	🟠
15.7	15.7.1	-	🔴	🔴	🔴
15.a	15.a.1 [15.a.1.ALT]	ASFSD	🟠	🟠	🟠
15.b	15.b.1 [15.a.1.ALT]	ASFSD	🟠	🟠	🟠
15.c	15.c.1	-	🔴	🔴	🔴
16.1	16.1.2 [16.1.2.ALT]	-	🔴	🔴	🔴
17.7	17.7.1	ASFSD, ASWS-AP	🟠	🔴	🟠
17.14	17.14.1, [17.14.1.ADD-1, 7.14.1.ADD-2]	ASFSD	🔴	🔴	🔴
17.18	17.18.3, [17.18.3.ADD]	ASFSD	🟠	🟠	🟠
		🟢	12 (27.9%)	2 (4.7%)	2 (4.7%)
TOTALS & PERCENTAGES		🟠	23 (53.5%)	25 (58.1%)	34 (79.1%)
		🔴	9 (20.9%)	16 (37.2%)	7 (16.3%)

(b)   National mapping and assessment of alignment

Similar to the process followed for the regional mapping, the broad set of 43 environmental SDG targets and 56 corresponding indicators were mapped against the main national development plans and strategies of selected Arab countries. A total of four countries were reviewed: Jordan, United Arab Emirates (UAE), Egypt and Somalia. These countries were selected to cover different Arab sub-regions and also due to the fact that they had recently undertaken a Voluntary National Review, or had recently adopted a national vision or development strategy that considered the SDGs or sustainable development, and which were available in English. Ideally, a similar mapping process could be undertaken for all Arab countries.

For environmental SDG targets to be implemented, it was considered critical that priority targets be included in the main national development vision or strategy. As such, the review focused primarily on mapping the SDG targets against the targets and indicators contained in the main national vision or development strategy documents. However, additional strategies were reviewed in some cases where they were cross-referenced or where they had a longer-term planning horizon that aligned with the SDGs. The review discovered a high level of consistency between the targets in the main national development visions and other sectoral strategies, so it is considered that the scope of the review was adequate to assess the degree to which SDG targets have been integrated into national development planning frameworks in the selected countries. The strategies reviewed for each of the four countries were:

Jordan	•	Jordan 2025: A National Vision and Strategy
	•	Voluntary National Review 2017
	•	National Plan for Green Growth (2017-25)
	•	National Strategy and Action Plan for SCP
	•	Intended Nationally Determined Contribution
UAE	•	UAE Vision 2021
	•	Green Agenda and Green Economy Report
	•	Intended Nationally Determined Contribution
Egypt	•	Egypt Vision 2030
	•	Egypt VNR 2016
Somalia	•	National Development Plan 2017-19

The assessment used the same coloured symbols (good ●; partial ●; limited ●) to assess coverage for each target based on the same two factors listed above (i.e. coverage of the intent of the target; and coverage of the indicator and a clear target value). In addition, a simple scoring method was used to assess coverage of targets across multiple countries through cumulative scores. A brief summary of the outcomes of the assessment is in **Table 4** below, which provides a general indication of the coverage of each of the targets for each country individually and across all of the four countries reviewed. For each target, a score of 2 was given for a green dot (●), 1 for an orange dot (●) and 0 for a red dot (●). The scores in the final column are out of a maximum of 16 points, where higher scores represent better coverage of a target/indicator across all of the countries combined.

Overall Egypt had the greatest coverage across the environmental SDG targets and indicators, with around 60% of the targets having good or partial coverage in Egypt's national strategy. At least eight of the environmental SDG targets along with their specific indicators and target values were fully addressed in Egypt's Vision 2030, which related to targets on water, energy, cities, climate change and oceans. It is noted that Egypt's Vision 2030 was adopted very recently and uses 2015 baselines for many of its indicators and targets. The timing of the strategy also enabled consideration of the SDGs, which may explain the increased coverage of environmental SDG targets.

Jordan also had relatively good coverage of environmental SDG targets and indicators, with around 42% having good or partial coverage. At least six environmental SDG targets along with their

indicators were fully addressed in Jordan's Vision 2025, which related to SDGs on water, energy, cities, SCP (waste), climate change, and terrestrial biodiversity. It is noted that Jordan's Vision was formally adopted in 2014 while the negotiations on the SDGs were ongoing and as such they were not fully considered or integrated into their Vision.

The UAE had lesser coverage of environmental SDG targets and indicators, with around 30% having good or partial coverage. At least three environmental SDG targets along with their indicators were fully addressed in UAE's Vision 2021, which related to SDGs on water, energy, and SCP (waste). However, it should be noted that UAE's Vision document was adopted several years ago and therefore was developed before the discussions on the SDGs. In many cases, relevant indicators had been included in its more recent Green Growth Agenda as key performance indicators (KPIs) along with a recent 2015 assessment of baselines and trends. However, target values had not yet been set for the majority of these indicators.

Somalia did not have complete coverage of any of the environmental SDG targets and indicators in its National Development Plan 2019. However, there was partial coverage of around 35% of the environmental SDG targets. In many of these cases, a specific indicator or target value was lacking, which was an important gap in the strategy. It is noted that the strategy was adopted in 2016 and specifically addresses several of the SDGs in terms of the general intent of different targets. However, as it is a mid-term strategy with a 2019 timeframe, it was likely unfeasible to include long-term SDG targets and values.

It is also important to note that the gaps in coverage of environmental SDG targets at the national level can also be explained by a lack of relevance of a particular target to national circumstances. For example, Jordan indicated in their VNR that the goal and targets on oceans are not relevant for their country. Similarly, targets such as access to drinking water, sanitation and electricity are less relevant for the UAE given existing high levels of access. National circumstances therefore need to be taken into account when assessing and identifying gaps, and this should be done at the national level.

Table 4. Assessment of coverage of environmental SDG targets and indicators in four Arab countries

SDG Targets	SDG Indicators	Jordan	UAE	Egypt	Somalia	Score (out of 16)
1.5	1.5.1, 1.5.2, 1.5.3	●●	●●	●●	●●	4
2.1	2.1.2	●●	●●	●●	●●	8
2.4	2.4.1 [2.4.1.ALT]	●●	●●	●●	●●	4
2.5	2.5.2	●●	●●	●●	●●	0
3.9	3.9.2	●●	●●	●●	●●	5
6.1	6.1.1 [6.1.1.ALT]	●●	●●	●●	●●	10
6.3	6.3.1, 6.3.2	●●	●●	●●	●●	6
6.4	6.4.2	●●	●●	●●	●●	10
6.6	6.6.1	●●	●●	●●	●●	3
6.a	6.a.1	●●	●●	●●	●●	1
7.1	7.1.1	●●	●●	●●	●●	4
7.2	7.2.1	●●	●●	●●	●●	14
7.3	7.3.1 [7.3.1.ADD]	●●	●●	●●	●●	9
8.4	8.4.1	●●	●●	●●	●●	9
9.4	9.4.1	●●	●●	●●	●●	8
11.1	11.1.1 [11.1.1.ALT]	●●	●●	●●	●●	8
11.3	11.3.1	●●	●●	●●	●●	5
11.5	11.5.1	●●	●●	●●	●●	4
11.6	11.6.1, 11.6.2, [16.6.2.ALT]	●●	●●	●●	●●	11
11.b	11.b.2	●●	●●	●●	●●	2
12.2	12.2.1	●●	●●	●●	●●	8
12.3	12.3.1	●●	●●	●●	●●	2
12.4	12.4.1, 12.4.2	●●	●●	●●	●●	6
12.5	12.5.1	●●	●●	●●	●●	12
12.c	12.c.1 [12.c.1.ALT]	●●	●●	●●	●●	4
13.1	13.1.1, 13.1.2	●●	●●	●●	●●	3
13.2	13.2.1, [13.2.1.ADD-1, 13.2.1.ADD-2]	●●	●●	●●	●●	10

Table 5 (Cont'd). Assessment of coverage of environmental SDG targets and indicators in four Arab countries

SDG Targets	SDG Indicators	Jordan	UAE	Egypt	Somalia	Score (out of 16)
13.3	13.3.1					3
14.2	14.2.1					1
14.4	14.4.1 [14.4.1.ALT]					2
14.5	14.5.1					5
15.1	15.1.1, 15.1.2					9
15.2	15.2.1					0
15.3	15.3.1					0
15.5	15.5.1					0
15.7	15.7.1					0
15.a	15.a.1 [15.a.1.ALT]					1
15.b	15.b.1 [15.a.1.ALT]					1
15.c	15.c.1					0
16.1	16.1.2 [16.1.2.ALT]					5
17.7	17.7.1					1
17.14	17.14.1, [17.14.1.ADD-1, 7.14.1.ADD-2]					7
17.18	17.18.3 [17.18.3.ADD]					2
		20 (23.3%)	9 (10.4%)	27 (31.4%)	9 (10.4%)	
	TOTALS & PERCENTAGES	16 (18.6%)	16 (18.6%)	24 (27.9%)	22 (25.6%)	
		50 (58.1%)	61 (70.1%)	35 (40.7%)	55 (64.0%)	

Across all four countries, targets with good or comparatively better (i.e. scores of 10 or more) are highlighted in green in final column in **Table 4**. These include target 6.1 (drinking water), target 6.4 (water consumption), target 7.2 (renewable energy), target 11.6 (environmental impact of cities), target 12.5 (waste and recycling), and target 13.2 (climate change mitigation). These targets could be considered areas of relatively good coverage in terms of integrating the environmental dimension of the SDGs at the national level in the Arab region. It is interesting to note good coverage of water and energy targets, as well as targets relating to climate change and waste. All of these targets were identified as priorities for the region through the initial stages of this assessment and align well with national priorities.

Targets with comparatively very poor coverage across all four countries (scores of 2 or less) are highlighted in red in the last column of **Table 4**, and include target 2.5 (agriculture genetic diversity), target 14.2 (marine and coastal ecosystems), target 14.4 (overfishing), targets 15.2, 15.3 and 15.5 (terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity and land degradation), targets 15.7 and 15.c (wildlife poaching and trafficking), target 17.7 (technology) and 17.18 (statistical capacity). These targets could be seen as gaps in terms of the integration of the environmental dimension of the SDGs at the national level in the Arab region, however would need to be reviewed further in terms of their relevance.

There were many instances where a national indicator and target value had been adopted as an alternative to the SDG indicators, yet remained relevant in terms of achieving a broader environmental SDG target. This highlights situations where a nationally-adapted indicator and target value may better support national implementation and monitoring. These national target values are considered important for the guiding framework, as they represent actual national target values adopted by Arab countries, and could therefore be used as a guide for proposing target values at the regional or national level in the Arab region.

4.   *Systems analysis of interlinkages*

Implicit in the SDG design is that each of the goals and targets depend upon and influence one another, but at this point in time it remains unclear exactly how these interlinkages work. The integrated nature of the goals and targets means that progress on one goal or target is linked through feedback loops to other goals and targets. An integrated and systems approach to the SDGs is therefore recommended to ensure that these feedbacks are understood and managed. More analysis and evidence is needed regarding these interactions to demonstrate how particular policy interventions can help or

hinder progress across a broader set of policy objectives. This gap has been identified by Arab countries as a priority area for support from the UN and technical partners.

Several new studies have emerged on the use of systems analysis tools to assess interlinkages and to identify 'high leverage' targets or indicators. These studies use a range of tools, including systems mapping and causal loop diagrams, cross impact analysis, network analysis, and system dynamics modelling and scenario analysis (Collste et al., 2017; Le Blanc, 2015; Nilsson et al., 2016a; Nilsson et al., 2016b; United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, 2016). Such systems approaches can be applied at different stages in the planning process, from initial prioritisation using more qualitative and semi-quantitative scoring methods, through to more detailed investigations of policy scenarios, options and leverage points using dynamic models. For the purposes of this analysis, a semi-quantitative approach was adopted to assess interlinkages between the environmental SDG targets by applying a combination of cross-matrix analysis and network analysis.

(c)   *Cross-matrix analysis of Interlinkages between environmental SDG targets*

Based on the approach outlined by the International Council for Science (2017) and Nilsson et al. (2016a), the systems analysis initially used a semi-quantitative matrix analysis tool to explore the interactions between the environmental targets and indicators of the SDGs. The method uses a seven-point scale of SDG interactions to evaluate key target-level interactions based on expert judgement and as justified in the scientific literature. The methodology rates seven possible types of interactions, from the most positive (scoring +3) to the most negative (–3). The framework identifies causal and functional relations underlying progress or achievement of the SDGs and targets: positive interactions are assigned scores of +1 ('enabling'), +2 ('reinforcing') or +3 ('indivisible'), while interactions characterised by trade-offs are scored with -1 ('constraining'), -2 ('counteracting'), or -3 ('cancelling'); neutral interactions are assigned 0. In this context, positive scores depict synergies, while negative scores depict trade-offs.

To assign these values, the analysis drew upon several expert sources[15]. It was considered necessary to draw from a range of sources as there has not yet been a single, comprehensive mapping of interactions across all the goals and targets of the SDGs, and gaps still remain in such analyses. Scores from these different sources were compiled in a cross-impact matrix including all 43 priority environmental targets. Two separate matrices were used – one for positive or synergistic impacts, and another for negative impacts or trade-offs. A total of 199 interactions were identified between the different targets and included in the matrices. Of these, 176 were positive interactions and 23 were negative interactions.

A key objective of the analysis was to identify targets that could be considered as 'high leverage' targets, or those with a strong 'systemic impact' or 'multiplier effect'. For the purposes of this assessment, such targets could be considered those with the largest positive influence across the other environmental targets. Because of these positive linkages to other goals and targets, it could be deduced that effective actions taken to achieve high leverage targets are also likely to result in progress towards other linked targets. Following the same logic, actions taken to achieve targets that have negative interactions with other targets will likely result in constraining or counteracting progress on these interlinked targets.

Table 6 below provides a summary of the cross-impact analysis of the systemic impact of each of the environmental targets. In the table, conditional formatting highlights cumulative positive scores

[15] Coopman, A., Osborn, D., Ullah, F., Auckland, E., Long, G., 2016. Seeing the Whole: Implementing the sdgs in an Integrated and Coherent Way, Research Pilot Report. Stakeholder Forum for a Sustainable Future, Cutter, A., Osborn, D., Romano, J., Ullah, F., 2015. Sustainable Development Goals and Integration: Achieving a better balance between the economic, social and environmental dimensions. Stakeholder Forum. German Council for Sustainable Development, International Council for Science, 2017. A Guide to SDG Interactions: From Science to Implementation, Le Blanc, D., 2015. Towards Integration at Last? The Sustainable Development Goals as a Network of Targets. Sustainable Development 23, 176-187.

in green and cumulative negative scores in red for each target. The strength of the colours reflects the comparative strength of the scores – i.e. the darker the green colour, the higher the score and the greater positive systemic impact of a target (i.e. synergy). Similarly, the darker the red, the stronger the negative systemic impact of the target (i.e. trade-off).

Table 6. Cross-impact assessment of systemic contribution of each environmental target

Targets		Synergies		Tradeoffs		Net Sum
1.5		8.5		0		8.5
▼2.1		0		-4		-4
2.4		19		0		19
2.5		2		0		2
3.9		4		0		4
▼6.1		4		-3		1
6.3		4		0		4
6.4		4		-1		3
6.6		2		0		2
6.a		8		0		8
7.1		5		0		5
7.2		24		-1		23
7.3		28		0		28
8.4		2		0		2
9.4		13		0		13
▼11.1		4		-3		1
▼11.3		2		-3		-1
11.5		6		0		6
11.6		8		0		8
11.b		5		0		5
12.2		19		0		19
12.3		5		0		5
12.4		7		0		7
12.5		5		0		5
12.c		1		0		1
▼13.1		11		-7.5		3.5
▼13.2		13		-7.5		5.5
13.3		2		0		2
▼14.2		14.5		-3		11.5
14.4		13		0		13
▼14.5		5.5		-4		1.5
15.1		8		0		8
15.2		6		0		6
15.3		4		0		4
15.5		7		0		7
15.7		4		0		4
15.a		7		0		7
15.b		7		0		7
15.c		2		0		2
16.1		0		0		0
17.7		7		0		7
17.14		2		0		2
17.18		0		0		0

Based on this analysis, the environmental targets that could be considered to have the highest leverage potential or greatest systemic contribution are listed in green text in the first column of **Table 6**. These are (in descending order): 7.3 and 7.2 (energy), 2.4 (food), 12.2 (SCP), 14.2 (oceans), 9.4 (infrastructure), 13.2 (climate change), 14.4 (oceans), 13.1 (climate change), 1.5 (poverty), 6.a (water), 11.6 (cities), 15.1 (biodiversity), 12.4 (SCP), 15.5, 15.a and 15.b (biodiversity), and 17.7 (technology). In particular, the targets relating to energy efficiency (7.3) and renewable energy (7.2), sustainable agriculture (2.4), and sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources (12.2) were all assessed as having a very high positive systemic contribution to other targets. As such, these could be considered high priority environmental targets for action.

Similarly, those targets with the highest negative systemic contribution (or trade-offs) were targets 13.1 and 13.2 relating to climate change resilience and planning, 14.5 relating to marine protected areas, 2.1 relating to ending hunger, 6.1 relating to access to drinking water, 11.1 and 11.3 relating to urbanization and housing, and 14.2 relating to managing marine and coastal resources. These

targets have the greatest potential for trade-offs with other environmental targets and therefore would need to be managed carefully.

(d)   Network analysis of Interlinkages between environmental SDG targets

In addition to the above cross-matrix analysis, a network analysis of the interactions between the environmental SDG targets was also undertaken to further analyse and explore these interlinkages in a visual way. Network mapping provides a tool for visualising and analysing interlinkages between elements in a dataset. Different network analysis metrics can be used to explore the network, and identify highly connected elements with a strong degree of influence within a given network. A range of different metrics are available, including 'closeness centrality', 'betweenness', 'degree', 'outdegree' etc. Each of these metrics are commonly applied in the expert literature and use a slightly different method to provide 'clues' in terms of which elements have greater influence within a network. For the purposes of this analysis, three analytical metrics were applied: closeness centrality[16]; outdegree[17]; and closeness centrality (weighted)[18].

Figure 2 and **Figure 3** below show the outcomes from the network analysis. For **Figure 2**, the analysis applied both the closeness centrality metric (larger size of icon represents higher score) with the outdegree metric (darker green colour represents higher score). In both cases, higher scores would represent greater influence within the network. Based on this analysis, the highest five ranking targets in terms of the closeness centrality metric were: 7.3 (energy), 13.1 (climate change), 12.2 (SCP), 7.2 (energy), and 2.4 (agriculture). These were the same as the top five targets as assessed by the outdegree metric, however in a different order: 12.2 (SCP), 7.3 (energy), 13.1 (climate change), 7.2 (energy) and 2.4 (agriculture). When combining these metrics, the highest ten ranked targets in terms of both closeness centrality and outdegree were (in descending order, highest first): 7.3, 13.1, 12.2, 7.2, 2.4, 9.4, 14.2, 13.2, 1.5, 15.1.

The assessment in **Figure 2** is based solely on an analysis of the 'interconnectedness' of the different targets, with higher rankings given to those targets that have a greater number of connections and influence in the network. However, this analysis does not consider the strength of these interconnections. The second network analysis therefore used weights to include the strength of these interactions in the analysis which were drawn from the previous cross-matrix analysis. It is therefore likely to be a more accurate reflection of the degree of influence of different targets within the network. **Figure 3** provides a summary of the analysis, with larger icons and a redder colour representing higher scores. This analysis resulted in the same top five ranking targets, namely 12.2, 7.3, 7.2, 13.1, and 2.4. However, different targets scored within the top ten, including 3.9 (health) and 14.4 (oceans). Further information on the outcomes of the analysis and how they were incorporated into the assessment is available in the Assessment Report.

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[16] Measures the distance between each target and all other targets.

[17] Measures the number of outgoing connections for each target.

[18] An adjusted version of the closeness centrality metric including connection 'weights', as determined through the cross-impact analysis.

Figure 2. Network analysis of interlinked environmental targets
(closeness centrality and outdegree)

Figure 3. Network analysis of interlinked environmental targets
(weighted closeness centrality)

5. Multi-criteria analysis of high priorities

The results of the above three analyses (baseline assessment, mapping of target coverage, and systems analysis) were then combined to identify a shortlist of higher priority environmental targets based on a set of three criteria **(Table 7)**:

- **Level of urgency**: as assessed through the baseline assessment of progress and trends, identifying targets currently 'lagging behind'. In **Table 7** below, a green circle (●) denotes higher priority targets, an orange circle (●) denotes other priorities, and a black circle (●) denotes no data available for assessment.

- **Policy gap**: as assessed through the regional mapping of environmental strategies. In **Table 7** below, a green circle (●) denotes targets with no coverage in existing environmental strategies, and an orange circle (●) denotes partial coverage.

- **Systemic contribution and multiplier effect**: as assessed through the matrix analysis and network analysis metrics. In **Table 6**, a green circle (●) denotes targets that scored consistently high across the systems analysis metrics, and an orange circle (●) denotes other targets that also scored relatively high across at least two metrics.

Based on this final assessment, the top priority environmental targets were those that were assessed as high priorities across multiple criteria. In order to combine the scores from the different criteria, a score of 5 was allocated for green dots (●), while a value of 2.5 was allocated for orange dots (●). Where there was no data available (●), a score of 2.5 was theoretically added to ensure that these targets were not overly disadvantaged simply due to a lack of data. Targets with total scores of 10 or above were short-listed as higher priority environmental SDG targets for the region.

A total of 14 targets fall into this category, as highlighted in green in the first column of **Table 7**. This shortlist of 14 environmental targets represent a set of higher priority targets for integration in the Arab region. Given their high potential for level of impact, filling policy gaps, and leveraging systemic contributions, they could be prioritised for inclusion in the Guiding Framework for the environmental dimension of the SDGs in the Arab region. The Assessment Report also included a more detailed country-level baseline assessment and benchmarking of these 14 targets for all 22 Arab countries. This additional analysis was used to support development of the Guiding Framework, in particular the formulation of potential target values.

Table 7. Final multicriteria assessment of priority environmental SDG targets

SDG Targets	Level of urgency	Policy Gap	Systemic Contribution	Overall Assessment Scores
1.5	🟠	🟠	🟢	10
2.1	🟠	🟠		5
2.4	⚫	🟠	🟢	7.5 + ND (10)
2.5	⚫	🟢		5
3.9		🟠	🟠	5
6.1	🟢	🟠		7.5
6.3	⚫	🟠	🟠	5
6.4	🟢	🟠	🟠	10
6.6	⚫	🟠		5
6.a	🟠	🟠	🟠	7.5
7.1		🟠		2.5
7.2	🟢		🟢	10
7.3	🟢	🟠	🟢	12.5
8.4	🟢	🟠		7.5
9.4	🟠	🟢	🟢	12.5
11.1	🟠			2.5
11.3	⚫	🟠		2.5
11.5		🟠		2.5

Table 8 (Cont'd). Final multicriteria assessment of priority environmental SDG targets

SDG Targets	Level of urgency	Policy Gap	Systemic Contribution	Overall Assessment Scores
11.6	🟢	🟠		7.5
11.b	🟠	🟠		5
12.2	🟢	🟠	🟢	12.5
12.3	🟢	🟠		7.5
12.4	⚫	🟠		2.5
12.5	⚫	🟠		2.5
12.c	🟠	🟢		7.5
13.1	🟠	🟠	🟢	10
13.2	🟢	🟠	🟢	12.5
13.3	⚫	🟠		2.5
14.2	⚫	🟠	🟢	7.5 + ND (10)
14.4	⚫	🟠	🟠	5
14.5		🟠		2.5
15.1	🟠	🟠	🟢	10
15.2	⚫	🟠	🟠	5
15.3	⚫	🟠	🟠	5
15.5	🟠	🟠	🟢	10
15.7	⚫	🟢		5
15.a	🟠	🟠		5
15.b	🟠	🟠		5
15.c	⚫	🟢		5
16.1	🟢	🟢	-⚫	10 (12.5)
17.7	⚫	🟠		2.5
17.14	🟢	🟢		10
17.18	🟠	🟠	⚫	5

D.   CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The analysis undertaken in the Assessment Report and briefly summarised here provides a scientifically-sound evidence base to support implementation and integration of the environmental dimension of the SDGs in the Arab region. This includes the identification of a broad set of 43 environmental SDG targets and 56 corresponding indicators for the Arab region, a shortlist of 14 'higher priority' environmental targets and indicators, a categorisation of the different types of targets (including global/regional versus national), identification of potential target values at the regional and/or national levels, and recommendations on an approach for integrating or mainstreaming relevant targets in the Arab region. It was not possible to include all of this analysis and information in this brief summary report, and further details can be found in the more detailed Assessment Report as well as the accompanying draft Guiding Framework.

As outlined in the Assessment Report, the SDG targets are focused at different scales of implementation – i.e. at the global level, the national level, or both. For the global SDG targets, it may make more sense to set target values at a regional scale, and as such these targets could be considered further for inclusion in relevant regional strategies[19]. The Assessment Report also identified indicative or guideline target values drawn from a range of sources (e.g. SDG targets, international agreements, global benchmarks etc.) that could be used to help guide regional target setting processes. These are further developed in the Guiding Framework

For national-scale targets, it would make more sense for these to be specified at the national level in line with national priorities and circumstances. The Assessment Report also identified indicative or guideline target values that could be used to help guide national target setting. These are developed further in the Guiding Framework, including a range of values to represent different levels of ambition

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[19] Targets that refer specifically to a global achievement include 6.3, 7.2, 7.3, 8.4, 11.5, 11.b, 12.3, 15.2 and 15.3. In addition, several indicators are formulated in a way that implies global-scale target setting and monitoring: 1.5.3, 11.b.2, 12.4.1, 13.1.1, 13.2.1, 13.3.1, 14.4.1, 17.14.1, and 17.18.3.

(e.g. high, medium or low). In terms of priorities, the Assessment Report also highlighted several targets for which performance was lagging behind for the majority of Arab countries, including 6.4.2 (water consumption), 16.1 (peace and stability), 7.2 (renewable energy), 1.5.3 (disaster risk reduction), 9.4.1 (sustainable infrastructure and industry), and 17.14 (policy coherence and coordination).

Given the only recent adoption of the SDGs, it is perhaps not surprising from the analysis that most SDG targets and indicators are not yet specifically addressed in regional and national strategies and plans. There is an opportunity now for the region to update its strategies and align them with the global SDG targets and indicators, where relevant. The gap analyses undertaken in the Assessment Report provides a useful tool in terms of identifying existing gaps in the coverage of SDG environmental targets. This is important because without clear target values for environmental indicators, it is difficult to determine the level of ambition and adequately benchmark progress and performance over time.

Based on the assessment and in line with the ToRs and agreed methodology, the Assessment Report proposed that the Guiding Framework comprises the following key components:

- A broad set of priority environmental SDG targets and indicators for the Arab region, including a shortlist of 'higher priority' targets.

- Baseline values for environmental SDG targets/indicators for the most recent year available.

- Potential guideline target values for each priority environmental target and indicator (where possible), for further consideration by the region.

- Recommendations regarding the integration or mainstreaming of these targets, indicators and target values at the regional and/or national level in the Arab region.

- Additional recommendations for follow-up actions to support implementation of the environmental SDGs in the Arab region.

To succinctly and adequately address and represent these main components, it was also recommended that the guiding framework be largely based on a tabular format along with a brief introduction and background section and other recommendations.

II. GUIDING FRAMEWORK FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL DIMENSION OF THE SDGS FOR THE ARAB REGION

A.   BACKGROUND

The Guiding Framework has been developed in response to the request from CAMRE as the final output from the assessment process briefly summarized in the introductory part of the previous section of this paper. It provides a reference guide for organisations, stakeholders and countries in the Arab region to assist with initial stages of implementation of the environmental dimension of the SDGs.[20] The framework comprises several key components that are designed to assist stakeholders with integrating (or mainstreaming) the environmental dimension of the SDGs into regional and national strategies as well as longer-term monitoring, review and follow-up.

The framework is based upon a multi-stage and evidence-based assessment of the environmental dimension of the SDGs, including an assessment of progress, gaps and priorities for the Arab region and a systems analysis of interlinkages between environmental SDG targets. Based on the assessment and in line with the ToRs and agreed methodology, it was recommended that the guiding framework comprise several key components:

1- A broad set of 43 priority environmental SDG targets and 56 indicators for the Arab region, including a shortlist of 14 'higher priority' targets. Includes categorisation of targets in terms of their type and scale (e.g. at regional or national levels).

2- Baseline values at the regional level for all environmental targets/indicators for the most recent year available. Baseline values at the sub-regional and national levels are also available in the Assessment Report and statistical annex.

3- Potential guideline target values at regional and national scales (as applicable and where available) for each priority environmental target and indicator, for further consideration by the region.

4- Recommendations regarding the integration or mainstreaming of these targets, indicators and target values at the Arab regional level.

5- Additional recommendations for follow-up actions to support implementation of the environmental SDGs in the Arab region.

Each of these components is set out below and together comprise the Guiding Framework for the environmental dimension of the SDGs in the Arab region. Much of this information (items 1 to 4 above) is condensed into a tabular framework, as set out in **Annex 3**. This Table is also preceded by some introductory and explanatory information regarding the interpretation of the framework, including instructions to support interpretation of the framework in **Annex 1**. The document also includes some complementary recommendations regarding follow-up actions.

B.   FRAMEWORK OF PRIORITY ENVIRONMENTAL SDG TARGETS AND INDICATORS
FOR THE ARAB REGION

Analysis undertaken at the global level by UN Environment and other environmental organisations broadly defined the environmental dimension of the SDGs to include 86 environment-related targets and 110 indicators. Through an initial screening process undertaken as part of the assessment and described in the Assessment Report, this very comprehensive list was further refined to

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a broad framework of 43 environmental SDG targets and 56 corresponding indicators that were considered of greater relevance for the Arab region. From this list, 14 SDG targets were identified as 'higher priority' targets for the Arab region, based on a multi-criteria assessment of their level of urgency (as determined by an indicator-based assessment), existing policy gaps (as assessed through an analysis of SDG target coverage in regional and national strategies and plans), and their systemic impact (as assessed through systems and network analysis which analysed their synergies and trade-offs with other targets). For further background information regarding the assessment, refer to the accompanying Summary of the Methodology and Assessment Report. As a result of the Consultative Meeting in Cairo from 18-21 September 2017, five additional targets were identified by participants as 'higher priority' for the Arab region, and these are also reflected in the revised framework.

Annex 3 below sets out the framework of 43 environmental SDG targets and 56 corresponding indicators, as well as additional information to support their implementation and mainstreaming at the regional and national levels. The framework includes environmental targets and indicators across 14 out of the 17 SDGs (excluding SDGs 4, 5 and 10), and sequentially lists each of the environmental SDG targets and corresponding indicators starting with SDG1 through to SDG 17. It is designed to provide a tool for countries and stakeholders in the Arab region to assist with implementation of the environmental SDG targets and indicators, particularly in terms of identifying priorities, setting and adapting targets, and mainstreaming of targets into regional and national strategies and plans.

The broad scope of the framework across 14 goals aims to reflect the environmental dimension of the SDGs, which is integrated across most of the SDGs through targets and indicators that were interpreted to have an environmental or natural resource component. Following feedback from participants at the Consultative Meeting, the main environmentally related goals of interest for the work program of CAMRE relate to goal 12 (sustainable consumption and production), goal 13 (climate change), goal 14 (marine environment and biodiversity), and goal 15 (terrestrial environment and biodiversity), with 11 targets associated with those. The other 7 environmentally related goals on water, energy, agriculture, and other priority issues are linked to the four main goals mentioned above, and correspond to responsibilities of other Ministerial Councils and Committees of LAS, and are of high priority to the Arab region as well. **Annex 2** below highlights the four main environmentally related goals to the Arab region and their associated 11 targets and 14 indicators; it also highlights the other 7 environmentally related goals and their associated targets and indicators which were identified as high priority goals during the Consultative Meeting.

The framework includes a broad range of different types of environmental targets which focus on different scales of implementation, from global, to regional, to national scales. The majority of targets focus on national-scale implementation and are to be considered by countries as relevant for inclusion in their national development strategies and visions. At this point in time, many of the targets and indicators do not have specified target values and it will be necessary for each country to determine their priorities and formulate nationally-relevant target values in accordance with their capacities and level of ambition. It is also important to note that several of the SDG targets and corresponding indicators relate to global objectives and are to be set and monitored at the global level. For these targets, it would make more sense to set target values at a regional scale and they could be considered for inclusion in regional environmental strategies and frameworks.

The guiding framework at **Annex 3** therefore differentiates between national and global or regional scale targets and provides general guidance to assist stakeholders with target formulation and identification of suitable target values. This includes defining the type and scale of each target, as well as providing indicative guideline target values that reflect different levels of ambition (low, medium, high). These potential target values are drawn from a range of sources which are also identified in **Annex 2**, including from the SDG targets (where specified), global environmental agreements

(e.g. Aichi targets), global benchmarks (e.g. global regional averages, or benchmarks used in the new SDG Index[21]), actual target values adopted by Arab countries, and other sources.

In addition, **Annex 3** also includes a range of information drawn from the Assessment Report which can assist countries and regional stakeholders with identifying gaps, and prioritising and adapting targets to regional and national circumstances. This includes: the identification of higher priority targets as well as targets that have a strong systemic impact; regional baseline values and an assessment of progress for each indicator (where available); and an assessment of the coverage of each target in regional environmental strategies and agreements as well as national development visions and strategies in selected Arab countries.

Each of the columns in the framework is numbered for ease of reference, with five separate broad columns or sections divided into multiple sub-columns. Detailed instructions and guidance for interpreting the framework are provided in **Annex 1** below, and briefly listed here:

- **Column 1** (shaded in red) in the framework identifies those targets considered of 'higher priority' for the region (sub-column 1.1) as well as those with a greater 'systemic impact' (sub-column 1.2), which could be the focus for initial efforts in implementing the environmental SDGs in the region.

- **Column 2** (shaded in blue) in the framework lists each of the 43 SDG environmental targets (sub-column 2.1) and the 56 SDG environmental indicators (sub-column 2.2) as well as their units (sub-column 2.3).

- **Column 3** (shaded in yellow) in the framework provides baseline values for each of the indicators at the Arab regional level (sub-column 3.1) as well as an assessment of their trend and progress drawn from the Assessment Report (sub-column 3.2). Due to space limitations, additional detail including sub-regional and national-level values had to be excluded, however they are available in the statistical annex to the Assessment Report (in Excel).

- **Column 4** (shaded in green) in the framework provides a categorisation of the target 'type' (sub-column 4.1), the scale of the target at regional or national levels (sub-column 4.2), potential regional target values (sub-column 4.3), potential national target values (sub-column 4.4), and the source of the target values (sub-column 4.5).

- **Column 5** (shaded in orange) in the framework provides the relevant regional strategies that relate to each target (sub-column 5.1), an assessment of the coverage of targets in existing regional strategies (sub-column 5.2) and national strategies (sub-column 5.3) based on the Assessment Report, and recommendations and actions that could be considered at the regional level to support implementation and mainstreaming of priority targets (sub-column 5.4).

C.   ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS TO SUPPORT IMPLEMENTATION

1.   Regional priorities for implementation

The Assessment Report summarized the outcomes of a regional mapping exercise which reviewed environmental SDG targets against the range of existing regional environmental strategies in the Arab region. The review highlighted that while there was good coverage of the priority thematic issues across existing strategies, most did not yet consider the SDGs and therefore they tended to lack

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[21] The SDG Index and dashboard provides analysis of a broad range of SDG indicators for 149 countries, and includes benchmark values and ranges for assessing high, medium and low levels of performance on an indicator by comparing performance across all countries (i.e. placing countries on a scale from the worst performer to best performer). See: http://www.sdgindex.org/

specific target values and corresponding indicators[22]. This was considered a potential gap in regional environmental strategies at present, which could be addressed to better align with the SDGs and support monitoring and follow-up.

However, it is important to note that many of these regional strategies were developed long before the adoption of the SDGs to address Arab regional priorities and to put in place an agreed framework. Given the only recent adoption of the SDGs, it is therefore not surprising from the analysis that most SDG targets and indicators are not yet specifically addressed in the regional guiding framework. There is an opportunity now for the region to review its strategies and align them with the global SDG targets and indicators, where relevant.

As noted above, several SDG targets relate to global objectives and these targets could be considered further in terms of incorporating them into regional strategies. Targets that refer specifically to a global achievement are identified in **Annex 3** and include 6.3, 7.2, 7.3, 8.4, 11.5, 11.b, 12.3, 15.2 and 15.3. In addition, several indicators are formulated in a way that implies global-scale target setting and monitoring: 1.5.3, 11.b.2, 12.4.1, 13.1.1, 13.2.1, 13.3.1, 14.4.1, 17.14.1, and 17.18.3. These targets could be prioritised for further review at the regional level in terms of their relevance for inclusion in regional strategies. For example, such targets could be referred for further consideration to the relevant Arab regional committees responsible for implementing and updating each of the regional environmental strategies.

Each of these targets is clearly identified in the Guiding Framework at **Annex 3**, along with regional baseline indicator values and potential target values for 2030 for further consideration. Of these, five targets and indicators were also assessed as 'higher priority' for the region in the Assessment Report, and could therefore be prioritised in terms of implementation or mainstreaming at the regional level, namely: 1.5.3 (disasters and resilience); 7.2.2 (renewable energy), 7.3.1 (energy efficiency), 13.2.1 (climate change), and 17.14.1 (policy coherence). In some cases (notably for renewable energy), regional targets are already included in an existing regional strategy.

2.   *National priorities for implementation*

The Assessment Report also included the outcomes of a national mapping exercise which reviewed the environmental SDG targets against national development strategies in selected Arab countries. This highlighted that while there has been progress made in these countries in terms of mainstreaming the environmental SDG targets into national development frameworks, gaps still remain. **Annex 3** highlights targets which were assessed to have good, partial or poor coverage at the national level in the countries that were reviewed.

The assessment also identified actual target values that had been adopted by Arab countries for different environmental targets and indicators, which can provide some potential guidance for other countries in the region. Where relevant, these values are included as potential guideline target values in **Annex 3.** In many cases, national indicators and target values have been adopted by countries which are different to the SDG indicators but which are still considered highly relevant and appropriate for achieving a broader SDG target and assessing progress towards sustainable development. In such cases, a national target may provide an adequate or better substitute based on national circumstances and may better support national implementation and monitoring. It would therefore not make sense to replace these national indicators with global SDG indicators that are less relevant. To assist countries with adapting the SDG targets and setting national target values, **Annex 3** provides some indicative guideline values that can be considered by countries.

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[22] Out of the 43 environmental SDG targets and 56 corresponding indicators reviewed, two strategies included specific, clear and measurable target values and indicators (for target 7.2 relating to renewable energy, and target 11.1 relating to housing).

In terms of moving forward at the national level with implementation of the environmental dimension of the SDGs, it is recommended that high priority national environmental targets and indicators be considered for inclusion in national visions and development strategies. To assist with prioritisation, the Assessment Report identified 14 'higher priority' targets which may be relevant for consideration by Arab countries during their national planning processes. These higher priority targets are clearly identified in the guiding framework at **Annex 3**. In addition, the Assessment Report included a national-level baseline assessment of 22 Arab countries which highlighted several targets for which performance tended to 'lag behind' global benchmarks for the majority of Arab countries, including: 1.5.3 (disaster risk reduction), 6.4.2 (water consumption), 7.2 (renewable energy), 9.4.1 (sustainable infrastructure and industry), and 17.14 (policy coherence and coordination).

Where environmental targets and indicators are adopted by Arab countries, it is important that clear numerical target values are set based on national circumstances. As mentioned, in many cases the SDG targets do not set clear target values and new target values will need to be formulated by countries in the majority of cases. In order to set such target values, a critical first step will be for countries to collate data on baseline values for each target and indicator for 2015 or a recent year. Such baseline values are critical for formulating appropriate 2030 target values and for monitoring progress over time. As part of the Assessment Report, baseline data for all 22 Arab countries was rapidly collated from official databases of the UN and international organisations. However, it is acknowledged that national-scale data from official government sources is preferable, and a recommended follow-up activity could be to compile a regional database of national data for the environmental SDGs, building on the existing template developed for the Assessment Report.

There are also many instances where SDG indicators do not yet have an agreed methodology (i.e. Tier 3 indicators) or where data for Arab countries is not available or very limited. These data gaps are highlighted in the Guiding Framework in **Annex 3**. These indicators could be considered further by regional and national statistical organisations including the Arab Working Group on Sustainable Development Indicators to identify priorities and fill existing data gaps.

Due to time and resource limitations, the national-scale assessment of national targets and strategies in the Arab region was limited to four Arab countries. While this enabled a rapid review of the alignment of existing national strategies with the environmental SDGs in these countries, further analysis at the national level may be warranted to support implementation. For example, national assessments of the integration of the environmental dimension of the SDGs could be undertaken for all Arab countries or incorporated into existing regional processes such as the Environmental Performance Reviews undertaken by UN Environment. Such reviews could focus on the framework of 43 environmental SDG targets and 56 indicators identified in **Annex 3**, or on a smaller selection of these (such as the 14 'higher priority' targets). In addition, there would also be scope to combine these environmental indicators into an index in order to compare performance across the region, for example, an SDG environmental performance index.

3.   *Recommendations for regional follow-up actions*

The following additional recommendations for follow-up actions to support implementation of the SDGs were proposed and agreed to by participants at the Consultative Meeting on the Implementation Framework for the Environmental Dimension of the 2030 Agenda in the Arab Region held in Cairo from 18-21 September 2017.

(a)   Statistical coordination and follow-up

- Improving national and regional coordination on environmental data exchange

- Capacity building in statistics, follow-up and evaluation

- A joint committee from all Arab countries to develop the metadata for each indicator

- Data coordination on transboundary issues (bilateral or regional)

- Unified statistical methodologies and harmonized environmental terminologies at the level of Arab countries

- Greater use of administrative records and data

- Better use of GIS for monitoring indicators

(b)   *Policy, awareness raising and information exchange*

- Harmonizing environmental and institutional policies and legislations with SDG goals

- Raise awareness about the environmental dimension of the SDGs

- Simplified report for each country about sustainable development goals and obstacles and lessons learned

- Establishing a platform for information exchange in the region

- Assessment and lessons learned from MDGs experience in the Arab region

- Assessment of SDG indicators in a larger number of Arab countries (case studies)

(c)   *Partnerships and means of implementation*

- Financing environmental and sustainable development projects and making financial resources and implementation means available

- Enhancing partnerships and exchange of experience

- Involvement of the private sector in sustainable development

- Awareness raising of the investment sector

Instructions and guidance for interpreting each column in the Guiding Framework

Column in Annex 2	Sub-Column	Instructions and guidance
1. Priority	1.1 High priority	This column highlights a total of 21 higher priority environmental SDG targets for the Arab region. These comprise 14 higher priority targets identified in the column with a red flag (⚑) that were assessed as high priority through the Assessment Report and multi-criteria analysis based on three criteria: 1. Level of urgency (as determined through the baseline assessment and benchmarking; 2. Policy gap (as assessed through the target mapping); and 3. Systemic contribution (as assessed through the systems analysis). In addition, seven additional targets were identified as higher priority by participants at the *Consultative Meeting on the Guiding Framework for the Environmental Dimension of the 2030 Agenda in the Arab Region* and are identified in the column with a red asterisk (*). Overall, targets that ranked the highest across the three criteria were targets 7.2 (renewable energy), 7.3 (energy efficiency), 9.4 (sustainable infrastructure and industry), 12.2 (sustainable and efficient use of natural resources), 13.2 (climate change planning), 16.1 (peace and the environment), and 17.14 (policy coherence for sustainable development). Other targets that ranked comparatively high included targets 1.5 (resilience to disasters), 2.4 (sustainable agriculture), 6.4 (water consumption and efficiency), 13.1 (adaptive capacity), 14.2 (coastal and marine ecosystems), 15.1 (terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems), and 15.5 (threatened species). Additional targets identified by Arab experts at the Consultative Meeting were: 12.4 and 12.5 (chemicals and waste), 14.4 and 14.5 (fishing and marine resources), 15.3 (desertification), 17.7 (environmental technology), and 17.18 (statistical capacity).
	1.2 Strong systemic impact	This column highlights targets that were assessed as having a strong potential systemic impact on other targets (or synergies) as assessed through the systems and network analysis in the Assessment Report. In the column, a large symbol ✳ represents a strong systemic impact, while a smaller symbol ✳ represents a moderate systemic impact.
2. SDG targets and indicators	2.1 SDG environmental targets	This column lists all 43 priority SDG environmental targets as identified through the Assessment Report.
	2.2 SDG environmental indicators	This column lists all 56 priority environmental indicators, including: • SDG indicators (listed and numbered with the exact formulation adopted in the agreed set of SDG indicators) • Alternative indicators (listed in RED with ALT extension). These indicators were used as alternative indicators where an SDG indicator had no data availability (i.e. Tier III or Tier II indicators) or where indicators had slightly different wording. These indicators could be considered as filling a gap while methodologies and for SDG indicators are further developed and baseline data collected. • Additional indicators (listed in RED with ADD extension). These indicators were included as additional indicators where there were gaps in data and where they had been widely used in previous assessments and had good data availability. They can be considered supplementary indicators of relevance for the Arab region, but are not included in the set of agreed SDG indicators.
	2.3 Units	This column lists the units for each indicator.
	2.4 Tier	This column lists the tier classification for each SDG indicator as agreed by the Inter-Agency Expert Group on SDG Indicators under the United Nations Statistical Commission: • **Tier 1:** Indicator is conceptually clear, has an internationally established methodology and standards are available, and data are regularly produced by countries for at least 50 per cent of countries and of the population in every region where the indicator is relevant. • **Tier 2:** Indicator is conceptually clear, has an internationally established methodology and standards are available, but data are not regularly produced by countries. • **Tier 3:** No internationally established methodology or standards are yet available for the indicator, but methodology/standards are being (or will be) developed or tested.
3. Region baselines	3.1 Baseline value (Arab Region)	This column lists the baseline values for each indicator at the *Arab regional level* (i.e. aggregated for all Arab countries) and where data is available. Values are generally weighted averages using an appropriate weighting factor (e.g. population). Sub-regional averages are also available in the Assessment Report.

Column in Annex 2	Sub-Column	Instructions and guidance
	3.2 Progress/Trend	This column provides an assessment of the baseline value of each indicator in terms of progress (against a global benchmark) and trend over time, as assessed in the Assessment Report. Coloured dots are used to provide an indication of progress/trend as follows: 🔴 - Worse than global benchmark *and* unfavourable trend. 🟠 - Worse than global benchmark *or* unfavourable trend. 🟢 - Better than global benchmark *and* favourable trend.
4. Target type & potential target values – regional and national	**4.1 Type of target**	This column categorises each target into one of four categories based on its formulation: • **Relative to starting point**: the target and corresponding indicator are worded in a way that requires an increase or decrease in relation to a baseline value – presumably for 2015 or a recent year. No specific target value is specified, which means that each country will need to set its own values, most likely as a % improvement on the baseline. • **Absolute in future:** the target and corresponding indicator set an absolute value to be achieved by 2030. In some cases, this absolute value can be quantified (e.g. a target to end hunger would have a 2030 target value of zero for the prevalence of hunger; or a target of universal access to electricity would have a 2030 target value of 100%). Alternatively, a recommended numerical target value may also come from another source, such as an international environmental agreement. However, in several cases, no specific target value is set and this would have to be determined by each country. This could be set by identifying a strong performing country and adopting a similar value as a target benchmark (i.e. 'best performer') • **Absolute in future (global):** the target and corresponding indicator set a global target value (e.g. the number of countries with a national plan or strategy). For these target values, it would make more sense to set the target at an Arab regional scale. • **Relative or absolute**: the target and corresponding indicator could be classified as either 'relative to starting point' or 'absolute in future'.
	4.2 Scale of target	This column proposes the relevant scale for each target and indicator; either 'regional' or 'national', or both.
	4.3 Potential regional target values	This column proposes potential regional-scale target values or formulations for relevant targets that have a regional scale, where possible. This adopts the target value set in the SDG target itself (where available), or proposes other alternative values where these are not specified. These target values could be considered at the regional level for inclusion in relevant regional strategies and plans. In cases where no target value is readily available, a generic formulation for the target is given (e.g. 'decrease by x%') and further discussion in the region would be required to determine a value.
	4.4 Potential national target values	This column proposes potential national-scale target values or formulations for relevant targets that have a national scale, where possible. This adopts the target value set in the SDG target itself (where available), or proposes other alternative values where these are not specified. In cases where no target value is readily available, a generic formulation for the target is given (e.g. 'decrease by x%') and further analysis at the national level would be required to determine an appropriate value. Where relevant, target values are specified as 'high' (representing a higher level of ambition), 'medium' (representing a moderate level of ambition), or 'low' (representing a lower level of ambition). Countries could consider these target values when mainstreaming SDG targets into their national strategies in line with their national circumstances and capacities.
	4.5 Sources of target values	This column identifies the source of specific target values. In some cases, they refer to the relevant SDG target where values are specified. In other cases, indicative values are drawn from international environmental agreements, the expert literature, existing Arab country target values, or global benchmarks and averages.
5. Gaps and recommendations for mainstreaming	**5.1 Regional strategy or plan**	This column lists the existing regional strategies that relate to the target, as reviewed in the Assessment Report. Abbreviations are as follows: • ASDRR - Arab Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction (2020) • ASFSD - Arab Strategic Framework for Sustainable Development (2025) • ASHSUD - Arab Strategy for Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (2030) • ARSSCP - Arab Strategy for Sustainable Consumption and Production (2020) • ASSA - Arab Strategy for Sustainable Agriculture (2025) • ASWS - Arab Strategy for Water Security (2030) • ASWS-AP Action Plan for the Arab Strategy for Water Security (2020) • ASDRE - Arab Strategy for the Development of Renewable Energies (2030) • AFAPCC - Arab Framework Action Plan on Climate Change (2020)

Column in Annex 2	Sub-Column	Instructions and guidance
	5.2 Coverage in regional plans	This column provides an assessment of the coverage of each target in *Arab regional* strategies and plans, as reviewed through the Assessment Report. Coloured dots are used to provide a brief overview of coverage as follows: 🟢 - good coverage of target and indicator in regional strategies, with a clear target value 🟠 - partial coverage of target and indicator in regional strategies, and no target value 🔴 - very limited or no coverage of target and indicator in regional strategies Where there are priority regional-scale targets that have only partial or no coverage in existing regional strategies, these could be considered initially by regional stakeholders for mainstreaming into regional strategies.
	5.3 Coverage in national plans	This column provides an assessment of the coverage of each target in *national* strategies and plans for selected Arab countries, as reviewed through the Assessment Report. Coloured dots are used to provide a brief overview of coverage as follows: 🟢 - good coverage of target and indicator in regional strategies, with a clear target value 🟠 - partial coverage of target and indicator in regional strategies, and no target value 🔴 - very limited or no coverage of target and indicator in regional strategies Where there are priority national-scale targets that have only partial or no coverage in existing regional strategies, these could be considered initially by countries for mainstreaming in national strategies, as relevant.
	5.4 Recommended actions: regional level	This column provides some general recommendations relating to specific regional-scale targets, for example for mainstreaming of priority regional-scale targets in existing strategies and plans, or for data collection where gaps are evident. Actions are also scaled in terms of their priority as follows: • **H** – high priority for action (i.e. relates to a 'higher priority' target) • **M** – medium priority for action

Guiding Framework of High Priority Environmental SDG Targets and Indicators for the Arab Region[23]

1.1 HIGH PRIORITY	1.2 STRONG SYSTEMIC IMPACT	2.1 SDG ENVIRONMENTAL TARGETS	2.2 SDG ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS PLUS: alternative [ALT] additional [ADD] Indicators	2.3 UNITS	2.4 TIER	3.1 BASELINE VALUE (ARAB REGION)	3.2 PROGRESS/TREND	4.1 TYPE OF TARGET	4.2 SCALE OF TARGET	4.3 POTENTIAL REGIONAL TARGET VALUES	4.4 POTENTIAL NATIONAL TARGET VALUES	4.5 SOURCE FOR TARGET VALUES	5.1 REGIONAL STRATEGY OR PLAN	5.2 COVERAGE IN REGIONAL PLANS	5.3 COVERAGE IN NATIONAL PLANS	5.4 RECOMMENDED ACTIONS: REGIONAL LEVEL
1. PRIORITY		**2. SDG TARGETS & INDICATORS**				**3. REGION BASELINE**		**4. TARGET TYPE & POTENTIAL VALUES – REGIONAL & NATIONAL**					**5. GAPS & RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MAINSTREAMING**			
Goal 12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns																
🚩	✳	12.2 By 2030, achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources	12.2.1 Material footprint, material footprint per capita, and material footprint per GDP (8.4.1)	Metric tons pc	3	6.6	🟠	Relative to starting point (or absolute)	National		Reduce by x% or to below 10	World average	ARSSCP	🔴	🟠	**H** Refer to 8.4.1 (same indicator) *World average MF is 10 metric tons/capita*
✳		12.4 By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment	12.4.1 Number of parties to international multilateral environmental agreements on hazardous waste, and other chemicals that meet their commitments and obligations in transmitting information as required by each relevant agreement*	number	1	N/A	-	Absolute in future (global)	Regional	100% (need baseline)		N/A	ASFSD	🟠	🟠	**H** Data gap: collect baseline data. Consider setting regional target of 100% of parties meeting commitments.
			12.4.2 Hazardous waste generated per capita and proportion of hazardous waste treated, by type of treatment*	Percent	3	N/A	-	Absolute in future	National		100% treated (need baseline)	Target 12.4	ASFSD	🟠	🟠	**M** Data gap: collect baseline data.
✳		12.5 By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse	12.5.1 National recycling rate, tons of material recycled*	tons	3	N/A	-	Relative to starting point (or absolute)			Substantial increase of x% (need baseline) Absolute: 40% of solid waste recycled	Target 12.5 Jordan Vision	ARSSCP, ASFSD	🟠	🟢	**H** Data gap: collect baseline data. *Note: guideline target value based on Jordan Vision*

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[23] Indicators marked with an asterisk (15 indicators) are also high priority indicators identified by the Arab working group on environmental indicators

1. PRIORITY		2. SDG TARGETS & INDICATORS				3. REGION BASELINE		4. TARGET TYPE & POTENTIAL VALUES – REGIONAL & NATIONAL					5. GAPS & RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MAINSTREAMING			
1.1 HIGH PRIORITY	1.2 STRONG SYSTEMIC IMPACT	2.1 SDG ENVIRONMENTAL TARGETS	2.2 SDG ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS PLUS: alternative [ALT] additional [ADD] Indicators	2.3 UNITS	2.4 TIER	3.1 BASELINE VALUE (ARAB REGION)	3.2 PROGRESS/TREND	4.1 TYPE OF TARGET	4.2 SCALE OF TARGET	4.3 POTENTIAL REGIONAL TARGET VALUES	4.4 POTENTIAL NATIONAL TARGET VALUES	4.5 SOURCE FOR TARGET VALUES	5.1 REGIONAL STRATEGY OR PLAN	5.2 COVERAGE IN REGIONAL PLANS	5.3 COVERAGE IN NATIONAL PLANS	5.4 RECOMMENDED ACTIONS: REGIONAL LEVEL
Goal 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts																
🚩	✳	13.1 Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries	13.1.1 Number of countries with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies*(1.5.3, 11.b.2)	Number or percent	2	50%	🟠	Absolute in future (global)	Regional and National	100% of countries	1 (strategy adopted)	N/A	AFAPCC, ASDRR, ASFSD, ASHSUD, ASWS	🟠	🟠	**H** Refer to 1.5.3 (same indicator)
			13.1.2 Number of deaths, missing persons and persons affected by disaster per 100,000 people (1.5.1; 11.5.1) [1.5.1 ALT Number of persons affected by disaster per 100,000 people]	Number p.100,000	2	-	-	Relative to starting point	National		Significantly reduce by x%	Target 11.5.1		🟠	🟠	**M** Refer to 1.5.1 (same indicator)
🚩	✳	13.2 Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning	13.2.1 Number of countries that have communicated the establishment or operationalization of an integrated policy/strategy/plan which increases their ability to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change, and foster climate resilience and low greenhouse gas emissions development in a manner that does not threaten food production (including a national adaptation plan, nationally determined contribution, national communication, biennial update report or other)*	Number	3	N/A	-	Absolute in future (global)	Regional and national	100% (existing 2020 target in ASWS-AP) (need baseline data)	1 (strategy adopted)	Target 13.2; ASWS-AP	ASFSD, AFAPCC, ARSSCP, ASWS-AP	🟠	🟢	**H** Data gap: develop indicator and collect baseline data. Existing target in ASWS-AP for 100% Arab states to submit national communications by 2020. Consider aligning with SDG target.
			13.2.1.ADD-1 Carbon dioxide emissions (CO2), kg CO2 per $1 GDP (PPP) (CDIAC)	kg CO2 per $1 GDP PPP		0.31	🟠	Relative to starting point	National		Reduce by x% Moderate: 10% High: 14%	Egypt Vision Jordan Vision	ASFSD, AFAPCC, ARSSCP	🟠	🟢	**M** *Note: Jordan has target of 14% and Egypt 10% reduction by 2030.*
			13.2.1.ADD-2 Carbon dioxide emissions (CO2), metric tons of CO2 per capita (CDIAC)	metric tons CO2 per capita		5.1	🔴	Relative to	National		Reduce by x% Moderate: 2-4	SDG Index	ASFSD, AFAPCC, ARSSCP	🟠	🟢	**M** *Note: guideline target values based on SDG Index*

1. PRIORITY		2. SDG TARGETS & INDICATORS				3. REGION BASELINE		4. TARGET TYPE & POTENTIAL VALUES – REGIONAL & NATIONAL					5. GAPS & RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MAINSTREAMING			
1.1 HIGH PRIORITY	1.2 STRONG SYSTEMIC IMPACT	2.1 SDG ENVIRONMENTAL TARGETS	2.2 SDG ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS PLUS: alternative [ALT] additional [ADD] Indicators	2.3 UNITS	2.4 TIER	3.1 BASELINE VALUE (ARAB REGION)	3.2 PROGRESS/TREND	4.1 TYPE OF TARGET	4.2 SCALE OF TARGET	4.3 POTENTIAL REGIONAL TARGET VALUES	4.4 POTENTIAL NATIONAL TARGET VALUES	4.5 SOURCE FOR TARGET VALUES	5.1 REGIONAL STRATEGY OR PLAN	5.2 COVERAGE IN REGIONAL PLANS	5.3 COVERAGE IN NATIONAL PLANS	5.4 RECOMMENDED ACTIONS: REGIONAL LEVEL
								starting point			High: <2	SDG Index				
Goal 14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development																
🚩	✳	14.2 By 2020, sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems to avoid significant adverse impacts, including by strengthening their resilience, and take action for their restoration in order to achieve healthy and productive oceans	14.2.1 Proportion of national exclusive economic zones managed using ecosystem-based approaches*	Percent	3	N/A	-	Absolute in future	National		Target of x% (need baseline)	N/A	ASFSD, ASWS-AP	🟠	🔴	**M** Data gap: develop indicator collect baseline data.
*	✳	14.4 By 2020, effectively regulate harvesting and end overfishing, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and destructive fishing practices and implement science-based management plans, in order to restore fish stocks in the shortest time feasible, at least to levels that can produce maximum sustainable yield as determined by their biological characteristics	14.4.1 Proportion of fish stocks within biologically sustainable levels* [14.4.1.ALT Total fish catch]	% tons	1	N/A 244k	-	Relative to starting point (global)	Global	Reduce to sustainable yield level (need baseline) Low: >75% High: 100%		Target 14.4 SDG Index SDG Index	ASFSD	🟠	🔴	**H** *Note: this is a global indicator and is not disaggregated to the national level.* *Guideline target values based on SDG Index*
*		14.5 By 2020, conserve at least 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, consistent with national and international law and based on the best available scientific information	14.5.1 Coverage of protected areas in relation to marine areas (%)	percent	1	9.3	🟢	Absolute in future	National and Regional	10%	10%	Aichi Target 11	ASFSD	🟠	🟠	**H** *Note: the value of 10% is a global Aichi Target.*
Goal 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss																

1. PRIORITY		2. SDG TARGETS & INDICATORS				3. REGION BASELINE		4. TARGET TYPE & POTENTIAL VALUES – REGIONAL & NATIONAL					5. GAPS & RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MAINSTREAMING			
1.1 HIGH PRIORITY	1.2 STRONG SYSTEMIC IMPACT	2.1 SDG ENVIRONMENTAL TARGETS	2.2 SDG ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS PLUS: alternative [ALT] additional [ADD] Indicators	2.3 UNITS	2.4 TIER	3.1 BASELINE VALUE (ARAB REGION)	3.2 PROGRESS/TREND	4.1 TYPE OF TARGET	4.2 SCALE OF TARGET	4.3 POTENTIAL REGIONAL TARGET VALUES	4.4 POTENTIAL NATIONAL TARGET VALUES	4.5 SOURCE FOR TARGET VALUES	5.1 REGIONAL STRATEGY OR PLAN	5.2 COVERAGE IN REGIONAL PLANS	5.3 COVERAGE IN NATIONAL PLANS	5.4 RECOMMENDED ACTIONS: REGIONAL LEVEL
🚩	✳	15.1 By 2020, ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services, in particular forests, wetlands, mountains and drylands, in line with obligations under international agreements	15.1.1 Forest area as a proportion of total land area*	percent	1	2.8	🟠	Relative to starting point or absolute	National		Annual change in forest area: <0%	SDG Index	ASFSD	🟠	🟠	M Note: proposed value is from the SDG Index.
			15.1.2 Proportion of important sites for terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity that are covered by protected areas, by ecosystem type	percent	1	8.6	🟠	Absolute in future	National		Low: >50% High: 100%	SDG Index	ASFSD	🟠	🟠	M Note: proposed values are from the SDG Index. Also, there is a protected areas Aichi 11 target of 17% land area.
✱	✳	15.3 By 2030, combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation-neutral world	15.3.1 Proportion of land that is degraded over total land area*	Percent	3	N/A	-	Relative to starting point (global)	National and Regional	Maintain or decrease (i.e. land degradation neutral)	Maintain or decrease (i.e. land degradation neutral)	Target 15.3	ASFSD	🟠	🔴	H Data gap: develop indicator and collect baseline data. Consider setting regional target of land degradation neutrality (i.e. maintain or decrease indicator value).
🚩	✳	15.5 Take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and, by 2020, protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species	15.5.1 Red List Index	RLI of 1.0 equates to all species as least concern; 0 indicates all species extinct).	2	0.89	🟠	Absolute in future	National		Low: >0.8 High: >0.9	SDG Index	ASFSD	🟠	🔴	M Note: proposed values are from the SDG Index.
Other High Priority Environmental Targets and Indicators for the Arab Region																
Goal 1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere																

1. PRIORITY		2. SDG TARGETS & INDICATORS				3. REGION BASELINE		4. TARGET TYPE & POTENTIAL VALUES – REGIONAL & NATIONAL					5. GAPS & RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MAINSTREAMING			
1.1 HIGH PRIORITY	1.2 STRONG SYSTEMIC IMPACT	2.1 SDG ENVIRONMENTAL TARGETS	2.2 SDG ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS PLUS: alternative [ALT] additional [ADD] Indicators	2.3 UNITS	2.4 TIER	3.1 BASELINE VALUE (ARAB REGION)	3.2 PROGRESS/TREND	4.1 TYPE OF TARGET	4.2 SCALE OF TARGET	4.3 POTENTIAL REGIONAL TARGET VALUES	4.4 POTENTIAL NATIONAL TARGET VALUES	4.5 SOURCE FOR TARGET VALUES	5.1 REGIONAL STRATEGY OR PLAN	5.2 COVERAGE IN REGIONAL PLANS	5.3 COVERAGE IN NATIONAL PLANS	5.4 RECOMMENDED ACTIONS: REGIONAL LEVEL
🚩	✳	1.5 By 2030, build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters	1.5.1 Number of deaths, missing persons and persons affected by disaster per 100,000 people (11.5.1; 13.1.2)* [1.5.1 ALT Number of persons affected by disaster per 100,000 people]	Number p.100,000	2	-	-	Relative to starting point	National		Significantly reduce by x% (need baseline data)	Target 11.5.1	ASDRR, AFAPCC, ASFSD, ASHSUD, ASWS	●	●	**H** Data gap - collect baseline data; further develop indicator. *Note: Target 11.5.1 uses the same indicator, and specifies a 'significant reduction'*
			1.5.2 Direct disaster economic loss in relation to global gross domestic product (GDP)* [1.5.2.ALT Direct economic loss attributed to disasters]	USD	2	1.9m	-	Relative to starting point	National		Substantially decrease by X% (need baseline data)	Target 11.5.1	ASDRR, AFAPCC, ASFSD, ASHSUD, ASWS	●	●	**H** Data gap: collect baseline data; further develop indicator *Note: Target 11.5.1 specifies a 'significant reduction' in disaster losses*
			1.5.3 Number of countries with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies (11.b.2; 13.1.1)	Number or Percent	2	50%	●	Absolute in future (global)	Regional and National	100% of countries (need baseline data)	1 (strategy adopted)	N/A	ASDRR, AFAPCC, ASFSD, ASHSUD, ASWS	●	●	**H** Data gap: collect baseline data. Consider setting regional target of 100% of countries adopting strategies (e.g. in ASDRR)
Goal 2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture																
🚩	✳	2.4 By 2030, ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, that help maintain ecosystems, that strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters and that	2.4.1 Proportion of agricultural area under productive and sustainable agriculture [2.4.1.ALT Average carbon content in the topsoil as a % in weight]	Percent Percent	3	N/A 0.59	- -	Relative to starting point	National		Increase by x% (need baseline) Maintain or increase by X%	N/A Target 15.3	ASSA, ASFSD	●	●	**H** Data gap: develop indicator and collect baseline data. *Note: Target 15.3 relates to 'land degradation neutrality'. This would imply maintaining or increasing carbon content in soils.*

1. PRIORITY		2. SDG TARGETS & INDICATORS				3. REGION BASELINE		4. TARGET TYPE & POTENTIAL VALUES – REGIONAL & NATIONAL					5. GAPS & RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MAINSTREAMING			
1.1 HIGH PRIORITY	1.2 STRONG SYSTEMIC IMPACT	2.1 SDG ENVIRONMENTAL TARGETS	2.2 SDG ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS PLUS: alternative [ALT] additional [ADD] Indicators	2.3 UNITS	2.4 TIER	3.1 BASELINE VALUE (ARAB REGION)	3.2 PROGRESS/TREND	4.1 TYPE OF TARGET	4.2 SCALE OF TARGET	4.3 POTENTIAL REGIONAL TARGET VALUES	4.4 POTENTIAL NATIONAL TARGET VALUES	4.5 SOURCE FOR TARGET VALUES	5.1 REGIONAL STRATEGY OR PLAN	5.2 COVERAGE IN REGIONAL PLANS	5.3 COVERAGE IN NATIONAL PLANS	5.4 RECOMMENDED ACTIONS: REGIONAL LEVEL
		progressively improve land and soil quality														
Goal 6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all																
🚩	✳	6.4 By 2030, substantially increase water-use efficiency across all sectors and ensure sustainable withdrawals and supply of freshwater to address water scarcity and substantially reduce the number of people suffering from water scarcity	6.4.2 Level of water stress: freshwater withdrawal as a proportion of available freshwater resources*	Percent	2	312.3	🔴	Absolute in future	National		Low: reduce to below 100% of available water Medium: 80% High: 30-40%	N/A Egypt Vision SDG Index; expert literature	ASWS, ASWS-AP, ASFSD, ARSSCP	🟠	🟢	**H** Note: Requires definition of 'sustainable withdrawals'. The academic literature suggests this is 30%, while the SDG Index uses <40% for moderate achievement. Egypt has a 2030 target of 80%.
Goal 7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all																
🚩	✳	7.2 By 2030, increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix	7.2.1 Renewable energy share in the total final energy consumption*	percent	1	4.0	🟠	Relative to starting point; or Absolute	National, Regional	Doubling the growth rate (existing high scenario target of 9.4%)	Low: 5-10% share Moderate: 10-20% share High: >20%	ASDRE SDG Index SDG Index	ASFSD, ASDRE, ARSSCP	🟢	🟢	**H** Target addressed in ASDRE. High scenario is doubling the growth rate of renewable energy [5.1% by 2020 and 9.4% by 2030] Note: guideline national values are from SDG Index
🚩	✳	7.3 By 2030, double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency	7.3.1 Energy intensity measured in terms of primary energy and GDP*	Megajoule per USD constant 2011 PPP GDP	1	5.1	🟠	Relative to starting point	Regional and National	2.6% reduction in energy intensity	Low: Reduce by 2.6% or to below 4.6 MJ/GDP High: reduce by 14%	SE4ALL; OECD average Egypt Vision	ASFSD, ARSSCP	🟠	🟠	**H** Consider setting regional target of 2.6% reduction in energy intensity by 2030. Note: guideline target values are from SE4ALL, OECD average and Egypt Vision

1. PRIORITY		2. SDG TARGETS & INDICATORS				3. REGION BASELINE		4. TARGET TYPE & POTENTIAL VALUES – REGIONAL & NATIONAL					5. GAPS & RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MAINSTREAMING			
1.1 HIGH PRIORITY	1.2 STRONG SYSTEMIC IMPACT	2.1 SDG ENVIRONMENTAL TARGETS	2.2 SDG ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS PLUS: alternative [ALT] additional [ADD] Indicators	2.3 UNITS	2.4 TIER	3.1 BASELINE VALUE (ARAB REGION)	3.2 PROGRESS/TREND	4.1 TYPE OF TARGET	4.2 SCALE OF TARGET	4.3 POTENTIAL REGIONAL TARGET VALUES	4.4 POTENTIAL NATIONAL TARGET VALUES	4.5 SOURCE FOR TARGET VALUES	5.1 REGIONAL STRATEGY OR PLAN	5.2 COVERAGE IN REGIONAL PLANS	5.3 COVERAGE IN NATIONAL PLANS	5.4 RECOMMENDED ACTIONS: REGIONAL LEVEL
			7.3.1.ADD Energy consumption per capita, 2012 (kilogram of oil equivalent)	Kgoe		1813	🟠	Relative to starting point	National		Reduce by x%	N/A	ASFSD, ARSSCP	🟠	🟠	M
Goal 9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation																
🚩	✳	9.4 By 2030, upgrade infrastructure and retrofit industries to make them sustainable, with increased resource-use efficiency and greater adoption of clean and environmentally sound technologies and industrial processes, with all countries taking action in accordance with their respective capabilities	9.4.1 CO$_2$ emission per unit of value added*	Kg	1	1.4	🟠	Relative to starting point (or best performer)	National		Low: reduce by X% Medium: reduce to below 0.77 High: reduce to below 0.4	N/A World average OECD average	ASFSD, ARSSCP	🔴	🟠	H *Note: guideline target values based on World average and OECD average*
Goal 16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels																
🚩		16.1 Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere	16.1.2 Conflict-related deaths per 100,000 population, by sex, age and cause [16.1.2.ALT Index of political stability and the absence of violence]	Scores range from -2.5 to 2.5; higher values better	3	N/A -1.1	🔴	Relative to starting point or absolute	National		Deaths <3 Index Score: X (e.g. >1)	SDG Index N/A	ASFSD	🔴	🟠	H Collect baseline data for SDG indicator. It is difficult to set targets for these indicators. An index score of >1 would be roughly top 30% of countries.
Goal 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development																

1. PRIORITY		2. SDG TARGETS & INDICATORS				3. REGION BASELINE		4. TARGET TYPE & POTENTIAL VALUES – REGIONAL & NATIONAL					5. GAPS & RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MAINSTREAMING			
1.1 HIGH PRIORITY	1.2 STRONG SYSTEMIC IMPACT	2.1 SDG ENVIRONMENTAL TARGETS	2.2 SDG ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS PLUS: alternative [ALT] additional [ADD] Indicators	2.3 UNITS	2.4 TIER	3.1 BASELINE VALUE (ARAB REGION)	3.2 PROGRESS/TREND	4.1 TYPE OF TARGET	4.2 SCALE OF TARGET	4.3 POTENTIAL REGIONAL TARGET VALUES	4.4 POTENTIAL NATIONAL TARGET VALUES	4.5 SOURCE FOR TARGET VALUES	5.1 REGIONAL STRATEGY OR PLAN	5.2 COVERAGE IN REGIONAL PLANS	5.3 COVERAGE IN NATIONAL PLANS	5.4 RECOMMENDED ACTIONS: REGIONAL LEVEL
*		17.7 Promote the development, transfer, dissemination and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed	17.7.1 Total amount of approved funding for developing countries to promote the development, transfer, dissemination and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies	USD (millions)	3	N/A	-	Relative to starting point (global)	Regional	Increase by x% (need baseline)			ASFSD	● (orange)	● (red)	**H** Data gap: develop indicator collect baseline data. This is a global indicator but a target could be set at regional level if considered important.
(flag)		17.14 Enhance policy coherence for sustainable development	17.14.1 Number of countries with mechanisms in place to enhance policy coherence of sustainable development		3	N/A	-	Absolute in future (global)	Regional and National	100% of countries	1 (Mechanism in place)	N/A	ASFSD, ASWS=AP	● (red)	● (orange)	**H** Collect baseline data for SDG indicator. Consider setting regional target of 100% of countries with mechanism in place.
			17.14.1.ADD Bertelsmann Stiftung Transformation Index (BTI): Q12.1 Environmental policy - Extent to which environmental concerns are taken into account in macro- and microeconomic terms	Scores 10 (best) to 1 (worst)		3.8	● (orange)	Relative to starting point or absolute	National		Low: score >5 High: score >7	BTI (middle and above average scores)	ASFSD	● (red)	● (orange)	**M** *Note: guideline target value based on BTI scores*
			17.14.1.ADD BTI: Q15.2 Policy coordination - Extent to which the Government can harmonize conflicting objectives in a coherent policy	Scores 10 (best) to 1 (worst)		4.4	● (orange)	Relative to starting point or absolute	National		Low: Score >5 High: score >7	BTI (middle and above average scores)	ASFSD	● (red)	● (orange)	**M** *Note: guideline target values based on BTI scores*
*		17.18 By 2020, enhance capacity-building support to developing countries, including for least developed countries and small island developing States, to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location	17.18.3 Number of countries with a national statistical plan that is fully funded and under implementation, by source of funding	Number (or %)	1	N/A	-	Absolute in future (global)	Regional	100% of countries	1 (adopt plan)	N/A	ASFSD	● (orange)	● (red)	**H** Collect baseline data for SDG indicator. Consider setting regional target of 100% of countries with national statistical plan

1. PRIORITY		2. SDG TARGETS & INDICATORS				3. REGION BASELINE		4. TARGET TYPE & POTENTIAL VALUES – REGIONAL & NATIONAL					5. GAPS & RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MAINSTREAMING			
1.1 HIGH PRIORITY	1.2 STRONG SYSTEMIC IMPACT	2.1 SDG ENVIRONMENTAL TARGETS	2.2 SDG ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS PLUS: alternative [ALT] additional [ADD] Indicators	2.3 UNITS	2.4 TIER	3.1 BASELINE VALUE (ARAB REGION)	3.2 PROGRESS/TREND	4.1 TYPE OF TARGET	4.2 SCALE OF TARGET	4.3 POTENTIAL REGIONAL TARGET VALUES	4.4 POTENTIAL NATIONAL TARGET VALUES	4.5 SOURCE FOR TARGET VALUES	5.1 REGIONAL STRATEGY OR PLAN	5.2 COVERAGE IN REGIONAL PLANS	5.3 COVERAGE IN NATIONAL PLANS	5.4 RECOMMENDED ACTIONS: REGIONAL LEVEL
		and other characteristics relevant in national contexts														
			17.18.3.ADD Level of statistical capacity	Scores 0 (lowest) to 100 (highest)		56	🟠	Relative to starting point or absolute	National		Score >72	Developing country average	ASFSD	🟠	🔴	M _Note: guideline target value based on developing country average_

Guiding Framework of Environmental SDG Targets and Indicators for the Arab Region[24]

1. PRIORITY		2. SDG TARGETS & INDICATORS				3. REGION BASELINE		4. TARGET TYPE & POTENTIAL VALUES – REGIONAL & NATIONAL					5. GAPS & RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MAINSTREAMING			
1.1 HIGH PRIORITY	1.2 STRONG SYSTEMIC IMPACT	2.1 SDG ENVIRONMENTAL TARGETS	2.2 SDG ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS PLUS: alternative [ALT] additional [ADD] Indicators	2.3 UNITS	2.4 TIER	3.1 BASELINE VALUE (ARAB REGION)	3.2 PROGRESS/TREND	4.1 TYPE OF TARGET	4.2 SCALE OF TARGET	4.3 POTENTIAL REGIONAL TARGET VALUES	4.4 POTENTIAL NATIONAL TARGET VALUES	4.5 SOURCE FOR TARGET VALUES	5.1 REGIONAL STRATEGY OR PLAN	5.2 COVERAGE IN REGIONAL PLANS	5.3 COVERAGE IN NATIONAL PLANS	5.4 RECOMMENDED ACTIONS: REGIONAL LEVEL
Goal 1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere																
🚩	✳	1.5 By 2030, build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters	1.5.1 Number of deaths, missing persons and persons affected by disaster per 100,000 people *(11.5.1; 13.1.2) [1.5.1 ALT Number of persons affected by disaster per 100,000 people]	Number p.100,000	2	-	-	Relative to starting point	National		Significantly reduce by x% (need baseline data)	Target 11.5.1	ASDRR, AFAPCC, ASFSD, ASHSUD, ASWS	●	●	**H** Data gap - collect baseline data; further develop indicator. *Note: Target 11.5.1 uses the same indicator, and specifies a 'significant reduction'*
			1.5.2 Direct disaster economic loss in relation to global gross domestic product (GDP)* [1.5.2.ALT Direct economic loss attributed to disasters]	USD	2	1.9m	-	Relative to starting point	National		Substantially decrease by X% (need baseline data)	Target 11.5.1	ASDRR, AFAPCC, ASFSD, ASHSUD, ASWS	●	●	**H** Data gap: collect baseline data; further develop indicator *Note: Target 11.5.1 specifies a 'significant reduction' in disaster losses*
			1.5.3 Number of countries with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies (11.b.2; 13.1.1)	Number or Percent	2	50%	●	Absolute in future (global)	Regional and National	100% of countries (need baseline data)	1 (strategy adopted)	N/A	ASDRR, AFAPCC, ASFSD, ASHSUD, ASWS	●	●	**H** Data gap: collect baseline data. Consider setting regional target of 100% of countries adopting strategies (e.g. in ASDRR)

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[24] Indicators marked with an asterisk (28 indicators) are also high priority indicators identified by the Arab working group on environmental indicators

1. PRIORITY		2. SDG TARGETS & INDICATORS				3. REGION BASELINE		4. TARGET TYPE & POTENTIAL VALUES – REGIONAL & NATIONAL					5. GAPS & RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MAINSTREAMING			
1.1 HIGH PRIORITY	1.2 STRONG SYSTEMIC IMPACT	2.1 SDG ENVIRONMENTAL TARGETS	2.2 SDG ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS PLUS: alternative [ALT] additional [ADD] Indicators	2.3 UNITS	2.4 TIER	3.1 BASELINE VALUE (ARAB REGION)	3.2 PROGRESS/TREND	4.1 TYPE OF TARGET	4.2 SCALE OF TARGET	4.3 POTENTIAL REGIONAL TARGET VALUES	4.4 POTENTIAL NATIONAL TARGET VALUES	4.5 SOURCE FOR TARGET VALUES	5.1 REGIONAL STRATEGY OR PLAN	5.2 COVERAGE IN REGIONAL PLANS	5.3 COVERAGE IN NATIONAL PLANS	5.4 RECOMMENDED ACTIONS: REGIONAL LEVEL
Goal 2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture																
		2.1 By 2030, end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round	2.1.2 Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the population, based on the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES)	Percent	1	28.4	●	Absolute in future	Regional & National	0% (end moderate or severe food insecurity)	High: 0% Low: <7.5%	Target 2.1 SDG Index	ASFSD, ARSSCP	●	●	M Consider setting regional target of ending moderate and severe food insecurity (or FIES of 0%) *Note: alternative target value is from SDG Index*
🚩	✳	2.4 By 2030, ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, that help maintain ecosystems, that strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters and that progressively improve land and soil quality	2.4.1 Proportion of agricultural area under productive and sustainable agriculture [2.4.1.ALT Average carbon content in the topsoil as a % in weight]	Percent Percent	3	N/A 0.59	- -	Relative to starting point	National		Increase by x% (need baseline) Maintain or increase by X%	N/A Target 15.3	ASSA, ASFSD	●	●	H Data gap: develop indicator and collect baseline data. *Note: Target 15.3 relates to 'land degradation neutrality'. This would imply maintaining or increasing carbon content in soils.*
		2.5 By 2020, maintain the genetic diversity of seeds, cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and their related wild species, including through soundly managed and diversified seed and plant banks at the national, regional and international levels, and promote access to and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge, as internationally agreed	2.5.2 Proportion of local breeds classified as being at risk, not-at-risk or at unknown level of risk of extinction*	Percent	3	N/A	-	Relative to starting point	National		Maintain or reduce by x% (need baseline)	N/A		●	●	M Data gap: develop indicator and collect baseline data.

1. PRIORITY		2. SDG TARGETS & INDICATORS				3. REGION BASELINE		4. TARGET TYPE & POTENTIAL VALUES – REGIONAL & NATIONAL					5. GAPS & RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MAINSTREAMING			
1.1 HIGH PRIORITY	1.2 STRONG SYSTEMIC IMPACT	2.1 SDG ENVIRONMENTAL TARGETS	2.2 SDG ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS PLUS: alternative [ALT] additional [ADD] Indicators	2.3 UNITS	2.4 TIER	3.1 BASELINE VALUE (ARAB REGION)	3.2 PROGRESS/TREND	4.1 TYPE OF TARGET	4.2 SCALE OF TARGET	4.3 POTENTIAL REGIONAL TARGET VALUES	4.4 POTENTIAL NATIONAL TARGET VALUES	4.5 SOURCE FOR TARGET VALUES	5.1 REGIONAL STRATEGY OR PLAN	5.2 COVERAGE IN REGIONAL PLANS	5.3 COVERAGE IN NATIONAL PLANS	5.4 RECOMMENDED ACTIONS: REGIONAL LEVEL
Goal 3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages																
	✳	3.9 By 2030, substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination	3.9.2 Mortality rate attributed to unsafe water, unsafe sanitation and lack of hygiene (exposure to unsafe Water, Sanitation and Hygiene for All (WASH) services)	per 100,000 population	1	9.1	🟢	Relative to starting point	National		Substantially reduce by x%	N/A	ASFSD, ASWS	🟠	🟠	M
Goal 6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all																
		6.1 By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all	6.1.1 Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services* [6.1.1.ALT % of population with access to improved water sources]	Percent	1	N/A 84.0	🟠	Absolute in future	National & Regional	100% of population	High: 98-100% Moderate: 90% Low: 80%	Target 6.1 SDG index SDG index	ASFSD, ASWS	🟠	🟢	M Consider setting a 100% regional target (e.g. in ASWS) *Note: alternative target values are from the SDG Index*
	✳	6.3 By 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally	6.3.1 Proportion of wastewater safely treated*	Percent	3	N/A	-	Relative to starting point or absolute	National and Regional		Reduce by half the proportion of untreated wastewater Absolute: >50%	Target 6.3 SDG index	ASWS, ASWS-AP, ARSSCP, ASFSD	🟠	🟠	M Data gap: develop indicator and collect baseline data. *Note: absolute target value is from the SDG Index*
			6.3.2 Proportion of bodies of water with good ambient water quality	Percent	3	N/A	-	Relative to starting point	National		Increase by x% (Need baseline)	N/A	ASWS, ASWS-AP, ARSSCP, ASFSD	🟠	🟠	M Data gap: develop indicator and collect baseline data
🚩	✳	6.4 By 2030, substantially increase water-use efficiency across all sectors and ensure sustainable withdrawals and supply of freshwater to address water scarcity and substantially reduce the number of people suffering from water scarcity	6.4.2 Level of water stress: freshwater withdrawal as a proportion of available freshwater resources *	Percent	2	312.3	🔴	Absolute in future	National		Low: reduce to below 100% of available water Medium: 80% High: 30-40%	N/A Egypt Vision	ASWS, ASWS-AP, ASFSD, ARSSCP	🟠	🟢	H *Note: Requires definition of 'sustainable withdrawals'. The academic literature suggests this is 30%, while the SDG Index uses <40% for moderate achievement. Egypt has a 2030 target of 80%.*

1. PRIORITY		2. SDG TARGETS & INDICATORS				3. REGION BASELINE		4. TARGET TYPE & POTENTIAL VALUES – REGIONAL & NATIONAL					5. GAPS & RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MAINSTREAMING			
1.1 HIGH PRIORITY	1.2 STRONG SYSTEMIC IMPACT	2.1 SDG ENVIRONMENTAL TARGETS	2.2 SDG ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS PLUS: alternative [ALT] additional [ADD] Indicators	2.3 UNITS	2.4 TIER	3.1 BASELINE VALUE (ARAB REGION)	3.2 PROGRESS/TREND	4.1 TYPE OF TARGET	4.2 SCALE OF TARGET	4.3 POTENTIAL REGIONAL TARGET VALUES	4.4 POTENTIAL NATIONAL TARGET VALUES	4.5 SOURCE FOR TARGET VALUES	5.1 REGIONAL STRATEGY OR PLAN	5.2 COVERAGE IN REGIONAL PLANS	5.3 COVERAGE IN NATIONAL PLANS	5.4 RECOMMENDED ACTIONS: REGIONAL LEVEL
												SDG Index; expert literature				
		6.6 By 2020, protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes	6.6.1 Change in the extent of water-related ecosystems over time*		3	N/A	-	Relative to starting point	National		Maintain or increase by x% (Need baseline)	N/A	ASWS-AP	🟠	🟠	**M** Data gap: develop indicator and collect baseline data
	✳	6.a By 2030, expand international cooperation and capacity-building support to developing countries in water- and sanitation-related activities and programmes, including water harvesting, desalination, water efficiency, wastewater treatment, recycling and reuse technologies	6.a.1 Amount of water- and sanitation-related official development assistance that is part of a government-coordinated spending plan*	USD (millions)	1	80.6	🟢	Relative to starting point	National		Maintain or increase by x%	N/A	ASWS, ASWS-AP, ASFSD	🟠	🔴	**M**
Goal 7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all																
		7.1 By 2030, ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services	7.1.1 Proportion of population with access to electricity*	percent	1	88.2	🟢	Absolute in future	National		High: 100% Low: >80%	Target 7.1; Egypt Vision SDG index	ASFSD, ARSSCP	🟠	🟠	**M** *Note: guideline national values are from target 7.1 and Egypt Vision, and the SDG Index*
🚩	✳	7.2 By 2030, increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix	7.2.1 Renewable energy share in the total final energy consumption*	percent	1	4.0	🟠	Relative to starting point; or Absolute	National, Regional	Doubling the growth rate (existing high scenario target of 9.4%)	Low: 5-10% share Moderate: 10-20% share High: >20%	ASDRE SDG Index SDG Index	ASFSD, ASDRE, ARSSCP	🟢	🟢	**H** Target addressed in ASDRE. High scenario is doubling the growth rate of renewable energy [5.1% by 2020 and 9.4% by 2030] *Note: guideline national values are from SDG Index*

1. PRIORITY		2. SDG TARGETS & INDICATORS				3. REGION BASELINE		4. TARGET TYPE & POTENTIAL VALUES – REGIONAL & NATIONAL					5. GAPS & RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MAINSTREAMING			
1.1 HIGH PRIORITY	1.2 STRONG SYSTEMIC IMPACT	2.1 ENVIRONMENTAL TARGETS	2.2 SDG ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS PLUS: alternative [ALT] additional [ADD] Indicators	2.3 UNITS	2.4 TIER	3.1 BASELINE VALUE (ARAB REGION)	3.2 PROGRESS/TREND	4.1 TYPE OF TARGET	4.2 SCALE OF TARGET	4.3 POTENTIAL REGIONAL TARGET VALUES	4.4 POTENTIAL NATIONAL TARGET VALUES	4.5 SOURCE FOR TARGET VALUES	5.1 REGIONAL STRATEGY OR PLAN	5.2 COVERAGE IN REGIONAL PLANS	5.3 COVERAGE IN NATIONAL PLANS	5.4 RECOMMENDED ACTIONS: REGIONAL LEVEL
🚩	✳	7.3 By 2030, double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency	7.3.1 Energy intensity measured in terms of primary energy and GDP*	Megajoule per USD constant 2011 PPP GDP	1	5.1	🟠	Relative to starting point	Regional and National	2.6% reduction in energy intensity	Low: Reduce by 2.6% or to below 4.6 MJ/GDP High: reduce by 14%	SE4ALL; OECD average Egypt Vision	ASFSD, ARSSCP	🟠	🟠	**H** Consider setting regional target of 2.6% reduction in energy intensity by 2030. *Note: guideline target values are from SE4ALL, OECD average and Egypt Vision*
			7.3.1.ADD Energy consumption per capita, 2012 (kilogram of oil equivalent)	Kgoe		1813	🟠	Relative to starting point	National		Reduce by x%	N/A	ASFSD, ARSSCP	🟠	🟠	**M**
Goal 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all																
		8.4 Improve progressively, through 2030, global resource efficiency in consumption and production and endeavour to decouple economic growth from environmental degradation, in accordance with the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production, with developed countries taking the lead	8.4.1 Material footprint, material footprint per capita, and material footprint per GDP	Metric tons pc	3	6.6	🟠	Relative to starting point (or best performer)	National		Reduce by x% or to below 10	World average	ARSSCP	🟠	🟠	**M** *Note: World average MF is 10 metric tons/capita*
Goal 9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation																
🚩	✳	9.4 By 2030, upgrade infrastructure and retrofit industries to make them sustainable, with increased resource-use efficiency and greater adoption of clean and environmentally sound technologies and industrial processes, with all countries taking action in accordance with their respective capabilities	9.4.1 CO_2 emission per unit of value added*	Kg	1	1.4	🟠	Relative to starting point (or best performer)	National		Low: reduce by X% Medium: reduce to below 0.77 High: reduce to below 0.4	N/A World average OECD average	ASFSD, ARSSCP	🔴	🟠	**H** *Note: guideline target values based on World average and OECD average*

1. PRIORITY		2. SDG TARGETS & INDICATORS				3. REGION BASELINE		4. TARGET TYPE & POTENTIAL VALUES – REGIONAL & NATIONAL					5. GAPS & RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MAINSTREAMING			
1.1 HIGH PRIORITY	1.2 STRONG SYSTEMIC IMPACT	2.1 SDG ENVIRONMENTAL TARGETS	2.2 SDG ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS PLUS: alternative [ALT] additional [ADD] Indicators	2.3 UNITS	2.4 TIER	3.1 BASELINE VALUE (ARAB REGION)	3.2 PROGRESS/TREND	4.1 TYPE OF TARGET	4.2 SCALE OF TARGET	4.3 POTENTIAL REGIONAL TARGET VALUES	4.4 POTENTIAL NATIONAL TARGET VALUES	4.5 SOURCE FOR TARGET VALUES	5.1 REGIONAL STRATEGY OR PLAN	5.2 COVERAGE IN REGIONAL PLANS	5.3 COVERAGE IN NATIONAL PLANS	5.4 RECOMMENDED ACTIONS: REGIONAL LEVEL
Goal 11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable																
		11.1 By 2030, ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums	11.1.1 Proportion of urban population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing * [11.1.1.ALT % of urban population living in slums]	percent	2	N/A 34.8	🟠	Relative to starting point (best performer)	National & Regional	Access for all (existing target in ASHSUD)	Reduce to <5% High: reduce to 0%	Egypt Vision Target 11.1	ASFSD, ASHSUD	🟢	🟠	M Ensuring access for all by 2030 is an existing regional target in the ASHSUD
		11.3 By 2030, enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanization and capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning and management in all countries	11.3.1 Ratio of land consumption rate to population growth rate*	Ratio	2	N/A	-	Relative to starting point	National		Reduce ratio by x% (need baseline)		ASFSD, ASHSUD	🟠	🟠	M Data gap: develop indicator and collect baseline data
		11.5 By 2030, significantly reduce the number of deaths and the number of people affected and substantially decrease the direct economic losses relative to global gross domestic product caused by disasters, including water-related disasters, with a focus on protecting the poor and people in vulnerable situations	11.5.1 Number of deaths, missing persons and persons affected by disaster per 100,000 people (1.5.1; 13.1.2) [1.5.1 ALT Number of persons affected by disaster per 100,000 people]	Number p.100,000	2	-	-	Relative to starting point	National		Significantly reduce by x%	Target 11.5	ASFSD, ASDRR	🟠	🟠	M Refer to 1.5.1 (same indicator)
		11.6 By 2030, reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management	11.6.1 Proportion of urban solid waste regularly collected and with adequate final discharge out of total urban solid waste generated, by cities*	Percent	2	N/A	-	Relative to starting point or absolute	National		Low: 80-90% (need baseline) High: 100%	Egypt Vision SDG Index	ARSSCP, ASFSD, ASHSUD, ARSSCP	🟠	🟢	M Data gap: collect baseline data Note: guideline target values based on Egypt Vision and SDG Index
			11.6.2 Annual mean levels of fine particulate matter (e.g. PM2.5 and PM10) in cities (population weighted)* [16.6.2.ALT PM2.5 air pollution, mean annual exposure]	Micro grams per cubic meter	1	62.3	🔴	Absolute in future	National		Low: Reduce by x% Medium: reduce to <44	World average	ARSSCP, ASFSD, ASHSUD, ARSSCP	🟠	🟢	M Note: 10 micro grams per cubic metre is the WHO guideline value. Egypt has target of 50% reduction. OECD average is 15.2.

1. PRIORITY		2. SDG TARGETS & INDICATORS				3. REGION BASELINE		4. TARGET TYPE & POTENTIAL VALUES – REGIONAL & NATIONAL					5. GAPS & RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MAINSTREAMING			
1.1 HIGH PRIORITY	1.2 STRONG SYSTEMIC IMPACT	2.1 SDG ENVIRONMENTAL TARGETS	2.2 SDG ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS PLUS: alternative [ALT] additional [ADD] Indicators	2.3 UNITS	2.4 TIER	3.1 BASELINE VALUE (ARAB REGION)	3.2 PROGRESS/TREND	4.1 TYPE OF TARGET	4.2 SCALE OF TARGET	4.3 POTENTIAL REGIONAL TARGET VALUES	4.4 POTENTIAL NATIONAL TARGET VALUES	4.5 SOURCE FOR TARGET VALUES	5.1 REGIONAL STRATEGY OR PLAN	5.2 COVERAGE IN REGIONAL PLANS	5.3 COVERAGE IN NATIONAL PLANS	5.4 RECOMMENDED ACTIONS: REGIONAL LEVEL
		11.b By 2020, substantially increase the number of cities and human settlements adopting and implementing integrated policies and plans towards inclusion, resource efficiency, mitigation and adaptation to climate change, resilience to disasters, and develop and implement, in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, holistic disaster risk management at all levels	11.b.2 Number of countries with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies (1.5.3, 13.1.1)	Number or Percent	2	50%	🟠	Absolute in future (global)	Regional and National	100% of countries	High: reduce to 10-15 1 (strategy adopted)	WHO, OECD N/A	ASFSD, ASHSUD, ASDRR	🟠	🔴	M Refer to 1.5.3 (same indicator).
Goal 12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns																
🚩	✳	12.2 By 2030, achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources	12.2.1 Material footprint, material footprint per capita, and material footprint per GDP (8.4.1)	Metric tons pc	3	6.6	🟠	Relative to starting point (or absolute)	National		Reduce by x% or to below 10	World average	ARSSCP	🔴	🟠	H Refer to 8.4.1 (same indicator) *World average MF is 10 metric tons/capita*
		12.3 By 2030, halve per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer levels and reduce food losses along production and supply chains, including post-harvest losses	12.3.1 Global food loss index	score between 0 (complete loss) and 100 (no loss)	3	86.2	🔴	Relative to starting point (or absolute)	National		Reduce by half the gap between current level and 100% Absolute: 93 score	Target 12.3 OECD average	ASFSD, ARSSCP	🟠	🔴	M *Note: target is to halve the baseline per-capita food waste, which would equate to an index score of about 93. OECD average score on the index is also 93.*

1.1 HIGH PRIORITY	1.2 STRONG SYSTEMIC IMPACT	2.1 SDG ENVIRONMENTAL TARGETS	2.2 SDG ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS PLUS: alternative [ALT] additional [ADD] Indicators	2.3 UNITS	2.4 TIER	3.1 BASELINE VALUE (ARAB REGION)	3.2 PROGRESS/TREND	4.1 TYPE OF TARGET	4.2 SCALE OF TARGET	4.3 POTENTIAL REGIONAL TARGET VALUES	4.4 POTENTIAL NATIONAL TARGET VALUES	4.5 SOURCE FOR TARGET VALUES	5.1 REGIONAL STRATEGY OR PLAN	5.2 COVERAGE IN REGIONAL PLANS	5.3 COVERAGE IN NATIONAL PLANS	5.4 RECOMMENDED ACTIONS: REGIONAL LEVEL
*		12.4 By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment	12.4.1 Number of parties to international multilateral environmental agreements on hazardous waste, and other chemicals that meet their commitments and obligations in transmitting information as required by each relevant agreement*	number	1	N/A	-	Absolute in future (global)	Regional	100% (need baseline)		N/A	ASFSD	●	●	H Data gap: collect baseline data. Consider setting regional target of 100% of parties meeting commitments.
			12.4.2 Hazardous waste generated per capita and proportion of hazardous waste treated, by type of treatment*	Percent	3	N/A	-	Absolute in future	National		100% treated (need baseline)	Target 12.4	ASFSD	●	●	M Data gap: collect baseline data.
*		12.5 By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse	12.5.1 National recycling rate, tons of material recycled*	tons	3	N/A	-	Relative to starting point (or absolute)			Substantial increase of x% (need baseline) Absolute: 40% of solid waste recycled	Target 12.5 Jordan Vision	ARSSCP, ASFSD	●	●	H Data gap: collect baseline data. Note: guideline target value based on Jordan Vision
		12.c Rationalize inefficient fossil-fuel subsidies that encourage wasteful consumption by removing market distortions, in accordance with national circumstances, including by restructuring taxation and phasing out those harmful subsidies, where they exist, to reflect their environmental impacts, taking fully into account the specific needs and conditions of developing countries and minimizing the possible adverse impacts on their development in a manner that	12.c.1 Amount of fossil-fuel subsidies per unit of GDP (production and consumption) and as a proportion of total national expenditure on fossil fuels [12.c.1.ALT Energy subsidies (percentage of GDP, 2011)]	percent	3	N/A 8.3	●	Absolute in future	National		Phase out (0 value)	Target 12.c; Jordan and Egypt Visions	ARSSCP	●	●	M Note: 'phase out' implies a reduction in subsidies to 0. Both Jordan and Egypt have targets to phase out energy subsidies.

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1.1 HIGH PRIORITY	1.2 STRONG SYSTEMIC IMPACT	2.1 ENVIRONMENTAL TARGETS	2.2 SDG ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS PLUS: alternative [ALT] additional [ADD] Indicators	2.3 UNITS	2.4 TIER	3.1 BASELINE VALUE (ARAB REGION)	3.2 PROGRESS/TREND	4.1 TYPE OF TARGET	4.2 SCALE OF TARGET	4.3 POTENTIAL REGIONAL TARGET VALUES	4.4 POTENTIAL NATIONAL TARGET VALUES	4.5 SOURCE FOR TARGET VALUES	5.1 REGIONAL STRATEGY OR PLAN	5.2 COVERAGE IN REGIONAL PLANS	5.3 COVERAGE IN NATIONAL PLANS	5.4 RECOMMENDED ACTIONS: REGIONAL LEVEL
		protects the poor and the affected communities														
Goal 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts																
🚩	✳	13.1 Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries	13.1.1 Number of countries with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies*(1.5.3, 11.b.2)	Number or percent	2	50%	🟠	Absolute in future (global)	Regional and National	100% of countries	1 (strategy adopted)	N/A	AFAPCC, ASDRR, ASFSD, ASHSUD, ASWS	🟠	🟠	**H** Refer to 1.5.3 (same indicator)
			13.1.2 Number of deaths, missing persons and persons affected by disaster per 100,000 people (1.5.1; 11.5.1) [1.5.1 ALT Number of persons affected by disaster per 100,000 people]	Number p.100,000	2	- / -	-	Relative to starting point	National		Significantly reduce by x%	Target 11.5.1		🟠	🟠	**M** Refer to 1.5.1 (same indicator)
🚩	✳	13.2 Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning	13.2.1 Number of countries that have communicated the establishment or operationalization of an integrated policy/strategy/plan which increases their ability to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change, and foster climate resilience and low greenhouse gas emissions development in a manner that does not threaten food production (including a national adaptation plan, nationally determined contribution, national communication, biennial update report or other*)	Number	3	N/A	-	Absolute in future (global)	Regional and national	100% (existing 2020 target in ASWS-AP) (need baseline data)	1 (strategy adopted)	Target 13.2; ASWS-AP	ASFSD, AFAPCC, ARSSCP, ASWS-AP	🟠	🟢	**H** Data gap: develop indicator and collect baseline data. Existing target in ASWS-AP for 100% Arab states to submit national communications by 2020. Consider aligning with SDG target.
			13.2.1.ADD-1 Carbon dioxide emissions (CO2), kg CO2 per $1 GDP (PPP) (CDIAC)	kg CO2 per $1 GDP PPP		0.31	🟠	Relative to starting point	National		Reduce by x% Moderate: 10% High: 14%	Egypt Vision Jordan Vision	ASFSD, AFAPCC, ARSSCP	🟠	🟢	**M** *Note: Jordan has target of 14% and Egypt 10% reduction by 2030.*

1. PRIORITY		2. SDG TARGETS & INDICATORS				3. REGION BASELINE		4. TARGET TYPE & POTENTIAL VALUES – REGIONAL & NATIONAL					5. GAPS & RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MAINSTREAMING			
1.1 HIGH PRIORITY	1.2 STRONG SYSTEMIC IMPACT	2.1 SDG ENVIRONMENTAL TARGETS	2.2 SDG ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS PLUS: alternative [ALT] additional [ADD] Indicators	2.3 UNITS	2.4 TIER	3.1 BASELINE VALUE (ARAB REGION)	3.2 PROGRESS/TREND	4.1 TYPE OF TARGET	4.2 SCALE OF TARGET	4.3 POTENTIAL REGIONAL TARGET VALUES	4.4 POTENTIAL NATIONAL TARGET VALUES	4.5 SOURCE FOR TARGET VALUES	5.1 REGIONAL STRATEGY OR PLAN	5.2 COVERAGE IN REGIONAL PLANS	5.3 COVERAGE IN NATIONAL PLANS	5.4 RECOMMENDED ACTIONS: REGIONAL LEVEL
			13.2.1.ADD-2 Carbon dioxide emissions (CO2), metric tons of CO2 per capita (CDIAC)	metric tons CO2 per capita		5.1	🔴	Relative to starting point	National		Reduce by x% Moderate: 2-4 High: <2	SDG Index SDG Index	ASFSD, AFAPCC, ARSSCP	🟠	🟢	M Note: guideline target values based on SDG Index
		13.3 Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning	13.3.1 Number of countries that have integrated mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning into primary, secondary and tertiary curricula*	number	3	N/A	-	Absolute in future (global)	Regional and national	100% of countries (need baseline)	Climate change included in national curricula	N/A	ARSSCP	🟠	🟠	M Data gap: develop indicator and collect baseline data. Consider setting regional target of 100% of countries including climate change in curricula.
Goal 14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development																
🚩	✳	14.2 By 2020, sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems to avoid significant adverse impacts, including by strengthening their resilience, and take action for their restoration in order to achieve healthy and productive oceans	14.2.1 Proportion of national exclusive economic zones managed using ecosystem-based approaches*	Percent	3	N/A	-	Absolute in future	National		Target of x% (need baseline)	N/A	ASFSD, ASWS-AP	🟠	🔴	M Data gap: develop indicator collect baseline data.
✳	✳	14.4 By 2020, effectively regulate harvesting and end overfishing, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and destructive fishing practices and implement science-based management plans, in order to restore fish stocks in the shortest time feasible, at least to levels that can produce maximum sustainable yield as determined by their biological characteristics	14.4.1 Proportion of fish stocks within biologically sustainable levels* [14.4.1.ALT Total fish catch]	% tons	1	N/A 244k	-	Relative to starting point (global)	Global	Reduce to sustainable yield level (need baseline) Low: >75% High: 100%		Target 14.4 SDG Index SDG Index	ASFSD	🟠	🔴	H Note: this is a global indicator and is not disaggregated to the national level. Guideline target values based on SDG Index

1.1 HIGH PRIORITY	1.2 STRONG SYSTEMIC IMPACT	2.1 SDG ENVIRONMENTAL TARGETS	2.2 SDG ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS PLUS: alternative [ALT] additional [ADD] Indicators	2.3 UNITS	2.4 TIER	3.1 BASELINE VALUE (ARAB REGION)	3.2 PROGRESS/TREND	4.1 TYPE OF TARGET	4.2 SCALE OF TARGET	4.3 POTENTIAL REGIONAL TARGET VALUES	4.4 POTENTIAL NATIONAL TARGET VALUES	4.5 SOURCE FOR TARGET VALUES	5.1 REGIONAL STRATEGY OR PLAN	5.2 COVERAGE IN REGIONAL PLANS	5.3 COVERAGE IN NATIONAL PLANS	5.4 RECOMMENDED ACTIONS: REGIONAL LEVEL
*		14.5 By 2020, conserve at least 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, consistent with national and international law and based on the best available scientific information	14.5.1 Coverage of protected areas in relation to marine areas (%)	percent	1	9.3	🟢	Absolute in future	National and Regional	10%	10%	Aichi Target 11	ASFSD	🟠	🟠	H *Note: the value of 10% is a global Aichi Target.*
Goal 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss																
🚩	✳	15.1 By 2020, ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services, in particular forests, wetlands, mountains and drylands, in line with obligations under international agreements	15.1.1 Forest area as a proportion of total land area*	percent	1	2.8	🟠	Relative to starting point or absolute	National		Annual change in forest area: <0%	SDG Index	ASFSD	🟠	🟠	M *Note: proposed value is from the SDG Index.*
			15.1.2 Proportion of important sites for terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity that are covered by protected areas, by ecosystem type	percent	1	8.6	🟠	Absolute in future	National		Low: >50% High: 100%	SDG Index	ASFSD	🟠	🟠	M *Note: proposed values are from the SDG Index. Also, there is a protected areas Aichi 11 target of 17% land area.*
	✳	15.2 By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally	15.2.1 Progress towards sustainable forest management*	?	3	N/A	-	Relative to starting point	National		Improve or make progress (need baseline)	Target 15.2		🟠	🔴	M Data gap: develop indicator collect baseline data.

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1.1 HIGH PRIORITY	1.2 STRONG SYSTEMIC IMPACT	2.1 SDG ENVIRONMENTAL TARGETS	2.2 SDG ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS PLUS: alternative [ALT] additional [ADD] Indicators	2.3 UNITS	2.4 TIER	3.1 BASELINE VALUE (ARAB REGION)	3.2 PROGRESS/TREND	4.1 TYPE OF TARGET	4.2 SCALE OF TARGET	4.3 POTENTIAL REGIONAL TARGET VALUES	4.4 POTENTIAL NATIONAL TARGET VALUES	4.5 SOURCE FOR TARGET VALUES	5.1 REGIONAL STRATEGY OR PLAN	5.2 COVERAGE IN REGIONAL PLANS	5.3 COVERAGE IN NATIONAL PLANS	5.4 RECOMMENDED ACTIONS: REGIONAL LEVEL
*	*	15.3 By 2030, combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation-neutral world	15.3.1 Proportion of land that is degraded over total land area*	Percent	3	N/A	-	Relative to starting point (global)	National and Regional	Maintain or decrease (i.e. land degradation neutral)	Maintain or decrease (i.e. land degradation neutral)	Target 15.3	ASFSD	🟠	🔴	H Data gap: develop indicator and collect baseline data. Consider setting regional target of land degradation neutrality (i.e. maintain or decrease indicator value).
🚩	*	15.5 Take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and, by 2020, protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species	15.5.1 Red List Index	RLI of 1.0 equates to all species as least concern; 0 indicates all species extinct).	2	0.89	🟠	Absolute in future	National		Low: >0.8 High: >0.9	SDG Index	ASFSD	🟠	🔴	M *Note: proposed values are from the SDG Index.*
		15.7 Take urgent action to end poaching and trafficking of protected species of flora and fauna and address both demand and supply of illegal wildlife products	15.7.1 Proportion of traded wildlife that was poached or illicitly trafficked (15.c.1)*	Percent	2	N/A	-	Absolute in future	National		0% or end poaching and trafficking (need baseline)	Target 15.7	ASFSD	🔴	🔴	M Data gap: develop indicator collect baseline data.
		15.a Mobilize and significantly increase financial resources from all sources to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity and ecosystems	15.a.1 Official development assistance and public expenditure on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems (15.b.1) [15.a.1.ALT Total official development assistance for biodiversity, by recipient]	USD (millions); groupings in billions	1, 3	N/A 9.6	🟠	Relative to starting point (or absolute)	National		Significantly increase by x% Absolute: USD45m	Target 15.a Developing country average	ASFSD	🟠	🔴	M *Note: guideline absolute target value based on developing country average*
		15.b Mobilize significant resources from all sources and at all levels to finance sustainable forest management and provide adequate incentives to developing countries to advance such management, including for conservation and reforestation	15.b.1 Official development assistance and public expenditure on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems (15.a.1) [15.b.1.ALT Total official development assistance for biodiversity, by recipient]; also 15.a.1.ALT	USD (millions)	1, 3	N/A 9.6	🟠	Relative to starting point	National		Significantly increase by x% Absolute: USD45m	Target 15.b Developing country average	ASFSD	🟠	🔴	M *Note: guideline absolute target value based on developing country average*

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1.1 HIGH PRIORITY	1.2 STRONG SYSTEMIC IMPACT	2.1 SDG ENVIRONMENTAL TARGETS	2.2 SDG ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS PLUS: alternative [ALT] additional [ADD] Indicators	2.3 UNITS	2.4 TIER	3.1 BASELINE VALUE (ARAB REGION)	3.2 PROGRESS/TREND	4.1 TYPE OF TARGET	4.2 SCALE OF TARGET	4.3 POTENTIAL REGIONAL TARGET VALUES	4.4 POTENTIAL NATIONAL TARGET VALUES	4.5 SOURCE FOR TARGET VALUES	5.1 REGIONAL STRATEGY OR PLAN	5.2 COVERAGE IN REGIONAL PLANS	5.3 COVERAGE IN NATIONAL PLANS	5.4 RECOMMENDED ACTIONS: REGIONAL LEVEL
		15.c Enhance global support for efforts to combat poaching and trafficking of protected species, including by increasing the capacity of local communities to pursue sustainable livelihood opportunities	15.c.1 Proportion of traded wildlife that was poached or illicitly trafficked (15.7.1)	Percent	2	N/A	-	Absolute in future	National		0% (need baseline)	Target 15.7	ASFSD	●	●	M Refer to 15.7.1 (same indicator)
Goal 16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels																
🚩		16.1 Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere	16.1.2 Conflict-related deaths per 100,000 population, by sex, age and cause [16.1.2.ALT Index of political stability and the absence of violence]	Scores range from -2.5 to 2.5; higher values better	3	N/A -1.1	●	Relative to starting point or absolute	National		Deaths <3 Index Score: X (e.g. >1)	SDG Index N/A	ASFSD	●	●	H Collect baseline data for SDG indicator. It is difficult to set targets for these indicators. An index score of >1 would be roughly top 30% of countries.
Goal 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development																
*		17.7 Promote the development, transfer, dissemination and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed	17.7.1 Total amount of approved funding for developing countries to promote the development, transfer, dissemination and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies	USD (millions)	3	N/A	-	Relative to starting point (global)	Regional	Increase by x% (need baseline)			ASFSD	●	●	H Data gap: develop indicator collect baseline data. This is a global indicator but a target could be set at regional level if considered important.
🚩		17.14 Enhance policy coherence for sustainable development	17.14.1 Number of countries with mechanisms in place to enhance policy coherence of sustainable development		3	N/A	-	Absolute in future (global)	Regional and National	100% of countries	1 (Mechanism in place)	N/A	ASFSD, ASWS=AP	●	●	H Collect baseline data for SDG indicator. Consider setting regional target of 100% of countries with mechanism in place.

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1.1 HIGH PRIORITY	1.2 STRONG SYSTEMIC IMPACT	2.1 SDG ENVIRONMENTAL TARGETS	2.2 SDG ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS PLUS: alternative [ALT] additional [ADD] Indicators	2.3 UNITS	2.4 TIER	3.1 BASELINE VALUE (ARAB REGION)	3.2 PROGRESS/TREND	4.1 TYPE OF TARGET	4.2 SCALE OF TARGET	4.3 POTENTIAL REGIONAL TARGET VALUES	4.4 POTENTIAL NATIONAL TARGET VALUES	4.5 SOURCE FOR TARGET VALUES	5.1 REGIONAL STRATEGY OR PLAN	5.2 COVERAGE IN REGIONAL PLANS	5.3 COVERAGE IN NATIONAL PLANS	5.4 RECOMMENDED ACTIONS: REGIONAL LEVEL
			17.14.1.ADD Bertelsmann Stiftung Transformation Index (BTI): Q12.1 Environmental policy - Extent to which environmental concerns are taken into account in macro- and microeconomic terms	Scores 10 (best) to 1 (worst)		3.8	●	Relative to starting point or absolute	National		Low: score >5 High: score >7	BTI (middle and above average scores)	ASFSD	●	●	M *Note: guideline target value based on BTI scores*
			17.14.1.ADD BTI: Q15.2 Policy coordination - Extent to which the Government can harmonize conflicting objectives in a coherent policy	Scores 10 (best) to 1 (worst)		4.4	●	Relative to starting point or absolute	National		Low: Score >5 High: score >7	BTI (middle and above average scores)	ASFSD	●	●	M *Note: guideline target values based on BTI scores*
*		17.18 By 2020, enhance capacity-building support to developing countries, including for least developed countries and small island developing States, to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts	17.18.3 Number of countries with a national statistical plan that is fully funded and under implementation, by source of funding	Number (or %)	1	N/A	-	Absolute in future (global)	Regional	100% of countries	1 (adopt plan)	N/A	ASFSD	●	●	H Collect baseline data for SDG indicator. Consider setting regional target of 100% of countries with national statistical plan
			17.18.3.ADD Level of statistical capacity	Scores 0 (lowest) to 100 (highest)		56	●	Relative to starting point or absolute	National		Score >72	Developing country average	ASFSD	●	●	M *Note: guideline target value based on developing country average*

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