

**ARAB SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT WEEK**  
**PLENARY SESSION ON THE SDG-CLIMATE NEXUS**  
 NOVEMBER 20, 2018 CAIRO



Climate change is the single largest threat to achieving the SDGs. Unless urgent action is taken, climate change will lead to a rise in poverty, growing food and water insecurity, exacerbation of conflict and expanded levels of displacement. The Arab region is a case in point. The Arab region is already the world’s most water insecure and food import dependent region, and with temperatures in the region rising faster than the global average, social vulnerability is expected to grow across the region. This holds special implications for the half of the region facing situations of fragility and conflict. For these communities, the convergence of climate change and conflict is reshaping the prospects for recovery and resuming development pathways. To explore these issues, a plenary session is being convened by the League of Arab States, Arab Water Council, UNDP, UNEP-FI, UNISDR and WFP as part of Arab Sustainable Development Week. The plenary will take the form of a Davos style discussion between the moderator and panelists on ways in which climate change is reshaping prospects for achieving SDGs on poverty eradication, food security, water access, and peace. It will also serve as a ‘pre-launch’ event for a new joint programme to support climate action at regional and country levels through a regional SDG Climate Facility project being initiated by LAS, AWC and partner UN agencies to build resilience of climate vulnerable communities across the region.

60m	Agenda
3m	Welcome to the Plenary Session (LAS)
5m	Overview: Climate Change and SDG Achievement (UNDP)
5m	SDG 2: Climate risks to food security in the Arab region (WFP)
5m	SDG 6: Climate risks to water security in the Arab region (AWC)
5m	SDG 13: Loss and damage from climatic disasters (UNISDR)
5m	SDG 16: Climate change as a threat to peace and security (UNDP)
5m	SDG 17: Scaling-up climate finance (UNEP-FI)
5m	Taking action on the SDG Climate nexus (donor) (tbc)
20m	Moderated discussions and questions from the floor (LAS)
2m	Closing of the Plenary Session (LAS)