

GREEN ECONOMY IN EGYPT, TUNISIA AND LEBANON: BUILDING AN ENABLING ENVIRONMENT FOR GREEN ENTREPRENEURS

Assessment

Serious Environmental Challenges in Egypt, Tunisia and Lebanon

Climate change, resource depletion and pollution
Countries in the South Mediterranean region are particularly vulnerable to climate change

Global Concern of Achieving Climate Goals

Large discrepancy between global fossil fuel production and the level needed to limit warming to 1.5°C and 2°C

A Vital Role for Green Businesses

Addressing climate challenges and promoting sustainable development.
Green businesses are characterised by their focus on environmental sustainability and social responsibility

Challenges



Common

Insufficient political will for sustainable solutions

Bureaucracy and red tape

Difficult access to funding and information

Insufficient enforcement of environmental regulations and lack of regulatory incentives for entrepreneurs and businesses who provide ecologically viable solutions



Egypt

Among most vulnerable regions to climate change but high reliance on fossil fuels in spite of high potential for renewable energy



Tunisia

Diversity of actors with numerous programs and organizations, however, low transparency of evaluation and registration of green businesses



Lebanon

Economic, political and social downturn associated with multiple crises leading to massive brain drain and high level of uncertainty



Recommendations



Establish a label for green businesses

The label should take into account different criteria, from carbon/greenhouse gas emissions to biodiversity protection, leading to increased incentives for green businesses



Strengthen diverse financial support mechanisms

via, encouraging public-private partnerships, and leveraging EU financial instruments such as loans, guarantees, grants and more



Facilitate knowledge and technology transfer

via supporting technology transfer programs and encouraging knowledge sharing platforms