

Green Economy Challenges and Ways to Succeed: an Arab Countries Case Study

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Several concurrent crises have either sprung up or accelerated during the last decade: crises in climate, biodiversity, fuel, food, water, and of late in the financial system and the economy as a whole. Accelerating climate-change emissions indicate a mounting threat of runaway climate change, with potentially disastrous human consequences. The fuel price shock of 2008, and a related flare up in food and commodity prices, both indicate structural weaknesses and risks which remain unresolved. Rising demand, forecast by the International Energy Agency (IEA) and others, suggests an ongoing dependence on oil and other fossil fuels and much higher energy prices as the world economy struggles to recover and grow. Mounting evidence also suggests that transitioning to a green economy has sound economic and social justification. There is a strong case emerging for a redoubling of efforts by both governments as well as the private sector to engage in such an economic transformation. For governments, this would include levelling the playing field for greener products by phasing out antiquated subsidies, reforming policies and providing new incentives, strengthening market infrastructure and market-based mechanisms, redirecting public investment, and greening public procurement. For the private sector, this would involve understanding and sizing the true opportunity represented by green economy transitions across a number of key sectors, and responding to policy reforms and price signals through higher levels of financing and investment.

Key words: *Green Economy, Climate Crisis, Arabia*

Introduction

Most international organisations, including the World Bank, UNCTAD, UNIDO, WTO and FAO all share the view that there is a need for a global shift towards a greener economy, as a new phase in the development of the environmental sector and growing in a new step in raising public awareness of the impacts. It represents a new vision based on the new strength in production, the development of human culture, the acceleration of economic progress, the reduction of poverty and the creation of employment opportunities through the use of natural resources in a more sustainable manner, increasing energy efficiency and evaluating ecological system services.

On this basis, this study will discuss the green economy through three topics. The first topic is the theoretical framework of the green economy in terms of concept, origin and transformation. The second section explains the challenges and opportunities inherent in the green economy in the Arab countries. The third section explains the challenges and opportunities inherent in the green economy in the Arab countries.

Research problem: Arab countries face severe economic, social, environmental and environmental threats from insecurity, energy, food and water to climate change and extreme climate risks.

Research hypothesis: The research stems from the hypothesis that the Arab countries must develop changes in patterns of investment and green technology, production and sustainable consumption, taking into account the necessities of the green economy to reduce poverty and provide jobs and achieve efficiency in natural resources.

Research objective: The aim of the research is the need to move towards a green economy to enable economic growth and investment and increase the quality of the environment and social welfare of the community while reducing dependence on carbon, and encouraging the efficient use of resources and energy that work to reduce environmental degradation.

Structure of the research: In order to reach the objective of the study has been divided into three main topics in addition to conclusions and recommendations: the first section includes the theoretical framework of the green economy, the second section addresses the strategies of the green economy, and finally the third section explains the opportunities and challenges of the green economy in the Arab countries.

The first topic: green economy theoretical framework

What is the Green Economy?

Exploring this topic presents the first challenge in understanding what a green economy is. Green economy can simply be seen as synonymous with a sustainable economy. Industrial,

materials economics and the environment are three disciplines closely related to the concept of 'green economy' so the primary purpose of the green economy is to human well-being and reduce long-term environmental risks.

Green economy can be defined as biodiversity (of goods and services), climate change and nitrogen, the provision of materials for long-term production, economic stability and growth, which depends primarily on the availability of natural materials and ecosystems and the absorption and treatment of unwanted wastes in the form of pollution and waste. In simpler terms, the green economy is defined as a low-carbon economy and a socially inclusive active ingredients: growth in income and employment driven by public and private sector investments to reduce carbon emissions and pollution, enhancing energy and resource efficiency, and prevention of losses from biodiversity and ecosystem services.

It is also known as the process of change in business and infrastructure which refers to the preservation of nature, the permanent environment, investment and economic development in order to reduce the production of greenhouse gases and reduce waste. Thus, the scientific definition of UNEP can be seen as an important outcome of improving human well-being and social justice while reducing environmental risks and scarcity of ecological resources. This definition has been used to develop and select alternative investment scenarios using economic models and applied policy analysis. Green is more than just greening the economic sectors. It is:

- *Improving human well-being*: though better access to health care, education and job security, increased social equity, an end to persistent poverty and economic, social and financial integration;
- *Reducing environmental risks*: addressing climate change, ocean acidification, disposal of hazardous chemicals and pollutants, excessive or poor waste management;
- *Reducing environmental scarcity*: ensuring access to natural resources and fresh water and improving soil fertility.

In general, the green economy is a complete economic theory that is conducive to economic growth based on sustainability with the environment, energy, health and public welfare and in a manner that promotes good governance, regulation, technology and education. Thus, it is understood from the foregoing that the green economy is a kind of economy that can provide the highest quality of life for all within the environmental limit of the earth. This is not an end in itself as much as it is a means of maintaining the integrity of the environment and man together, that has proved to be the guiding principle of the environment. It is a vital player in the strategic development process at the national and international levels, as well as an economy that is geared towards environmental sustainability, profitability and social inclusion. It also works to address the negative effects of over-exploitation of natural resources and poverty .

The Historical Establishment of the Green Economy

The term Green Economy was first awarded to a group of leading environmental economists in a pioneering report by the UK government in 1989 to develop a blueprint for a green economy. From 1982 to 1992, two university research papers were issued for the first time, outlining the concept of the green economy. The first research was a blueprint for the green economy, which highlighted the interdependence between the economy and the environment as a way forward in understanding and achieving sustainable development. The Green economy, which is considered the relationship between the environment and economy in the broader context, stresses the importance of the relationship between humans and the natural world. However, the green economy did not attract international attention until about 20 years ago. In October 2008, the United States launched the Green Economy Initiative, one of the goals that seeks to address the multiple and interconnected global crises that have an impact on the international community. Some of the global crises include:

1. *Financial crisis*: The financial crisis that hit the world in 2007, which is considered the worst financial crisis since the Great Depression, which led to the loss of many jobs and income in many economic sectors, as the financial crisis had a detrimental effect on the economic conditions and living in many parts of the world. In addition, it has generated pressure on sovereign wealth funds and reduced liquidity available for investment, resulting in increased government debt.
2. *Food crisis*: The food crisis was numerous during 2008 - 2009 due to increased prices of basic foodstuffs, partly due to increased production costs, large-scale expansion in the fossil fuel sector and increased unemployment as a result of which the number of people threatened by hunger and malnutrition increased to about 1 billion.
3. *Climate crisis*: The climate crisis has emerged as a global priority that requires joining efforts to respond and adapt and mitigate the effects of extreme climate change, which has become more tense over the past few years.

Thus, it can be said that the green economy is the basis for providing a response to the multiple crises that have been facing the world in recent years of climate, food and financial crises. This is an alternative model to providing growth, through protecting the ecology of the earth and contributing to its role in poverty alleviation as its focus. The main reconsideration is the planning and implementation of trade and infrastructure activities to ensure better returns on capital investment in human, natural and economic resources while seeking to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and waste in the use of natural resources and power generation.

Enabling the Transition to a Green Economy

The transformation towards a green economy cannot happen from one moment to the next. It usually takes place gradually and this requires a period of time to get out of the familiar and

embrace the new thinking. Such implementation needs to bring about changes in attitudes and behaviours from the traditional patterns in the prevailing economic systems and customs. It can also be said that this task should not be the responsibility of decision-makers and economic policy makers, but also of civil society organisations. Such as those involved in education, media and the environment from all over the world.

There are three important pillars that the green economy needs in order to enable it in the transformation to sustainable development: economic, social and environmental. These pillars need to be included in a way that reinforces each other and to be compatible between the need for short and medium-term profits. With a long-term systematic explanation, economic growth provides the resources and social justice necessary to build capacity. Financial measures are in the process of transition, and the private sector has already taken concrete measures towards building a green economy, including reducing environmental impacts across value chains, energy and resource efficiency, and low-energy investment.

When looking at how to enable the transition to a green economy, global environmental expressions focus on four pillars of change in improving management and influencing financial flows, valuing natural capital, and greening key economic sectors. In many countries, economic growth begins slowly. This is the task of identifying the issues involved in achieving a green economy. Table (1) shows the paths of transition towards a green economy

Table 1: The paths of transition towards a green economy

Green Projects Launch	Reorient current patterns of production and consumption
<p>1. Create new economic and social opportunities based on new green activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy production and distribution; • Improving trade flows with a focus on environmental goods and services; • Promoting green approaches, innovative and R&D activities and technology transfer; • Promote entrepreneurship, education and retraining. 	<p>1. Create new economic and social opportunities through greening economic and financial activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote sustainable transport; • Greening of construction and design projects; • Greening of electricity production projects; • Improving the efficiency of water management systems, analysis and distribution processes; • Promoting sustainable agriculture.
<p>Expected benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote near-carbon activities; • Provide new areas for economic growth; 	<p>Expected benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing carbon emissions; • Improving public transport;

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finding new jobs; • Create new sources of income; • Youth employment in new sectors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing water scarcity; • Rural development and income generation; • Reduce land degradation and desertification.
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From the above, there are a number of prerequisites that enable the green economy to shift in countries and can be explained as follows

1. Awareness: This requires a deep awareness of the global economic, environmental and social challenges as well as new opportunities for awareness and understanding..
2. Education and Skills: Education is of the utmost importance in activating the economy. Therefore, education must be promoted by policy makers, academia and the business sector; human capital, natural capital, sustainable livelihoods and capacity building.
3. Work: Work is a critical element of the economy, environment and social development, the green economy provides decent and meaningful employment opportunities, and promotes employment opportunities around the world, especially in overcoming poverty.
4. Separation and Resource Efficiency: The green economy recognises that resources in the world are limited and therefore must be managed from scarcity of mind because it enhances the efficiency of resources to flow through the principle of (more than less). the economic value of capital service and natural ecosystems.
5. Life cycle approach: Green economy adopts life cycle approach to reduce the environmental footprint of all economic activities through the application of science and recognition of emerging knowledge. Reuse or recycling, as well as identifying written opportunities, unintended consequences and consequences, and side effects and competition for resources.
6. Open and competitive markets: The green economy stresses the importance of achieving sustainable growth, and reliance on markets is indispensable for the development of societies in a greener economic activity, and in order to become a more prosperous economic system needs to become a green economy rooted in global and international markets.
7. In order for the green economy to be ready for action, there must be indicators, measures and accounting procedures, as well as a flexible approach that balances costs and benefits, thus the necessary flexibility to integrate new knowledge and scientific understanding with future minds.
8. Financing and investment: This is the innovative engine in financing public and private sectors and investment in the direction of sustainable development. In order to achieve success requires the support of policies and regulatory frameworks that promote investment decisions for both sectors, and stimulates the new demand for innovative companies, officials and government services through transparency.
9. The integration of environmental, economic and social policies into green economy decision-making, which requires a holistic approach to decision-making, and as a result it

is necessary to improve inputs Consider the scientific horizon in a variety of stakeholders to assess policy paths and improve processes that move forward.

10. **Governance and Partnerships:** The green economy is based on a governance structure that allows all actors to fulfil their common responsibilities. The governance structure at the local, regional, national and global levels needs to be aligned and reinforce each other with innovation.

The second topic: Green Economy Strategies

Many countries have a range of public policies that can be used to influence the direction of economies. These fall into two categories: command and control measures (“collective action clauses”) and market-based economic instruments. In the case of collective action clauses involving strict regulation While EIS includes several tools such as taxes and trading licensing schemes, each of these tools can be a valuable tool for economic and social policy in the green economy, and these can be designed in a number of ways that affect the behaviour of companies and individuals alike, And on insults For example, tax policy initiatives can focus on a number of monetary and credit incentives and market pricing mechanisms that reward socially and environmentally beneficial behaviour, or disincentives such as higher tax burdens for those polluting activities and other direct taxes.

The government can also use the way its money can be spent through public procurement or subsidies to influence the direction of the economy. In most countries around the world, governments are responsible for planning large-scale infrastructure projects, which typically include long-term planning. The transition to a greener and more sustainable economy is driving the generation of fossil-fuel energy into renewable energy when developing national energy plans, and the effects and alternative options for investment in natural capital and human well-being should be considered.

The foundations and dimensions of macroeconomic green economic growth

One of the basic concepts that form the foundations of the green economy are three main axes:

1. *Prosperity*: which seeks to achieve human well-being, which lies at the heart of the economy, where it stimulates economic activity, and justifies the economic results,
2. *Vital Physical Limits*: it requires economic activity, which delegates ecological assets to prosperity.
3. *Social Justice*: prosperity, which provides only for the few and fails to alleviate the plight of the poorest. This means a clear mismatch between effort and reward, or where the opportunities for this advancement ultimately shadows social instability.

The goal of a green economy can be to achieve socially sustainable and environmentally sustainable flowering. Therefore, the green economy is not merely the provision of goods and services, but it ensures the task of maintaining the promotion of social and environmental

well-being, market stability, job safety, ecological safety, sustainability in supply chains and equity.

In line with that, the green economy takes into account several important macroeconomic issues. This is one of the broader issues and impacts where the social discount rate chosen should be used to analyse (cost-benefit) at the micro and sectorial levels. Environmental hypocrisy and protectionist policies on both sides of aggregate supply and demand. The third issue refers to the reality of economic growth. It is a process of structural change. The new issue is related to global initiatives.

Investing in the Green Economy

First, the green economy refers to a holistic view that it is a vital global economy that is required to address the negative effects of overexploitation of natural resources, poverty, inequality, crises, climate change and other global changes that threaten the existence of mankind on the planet. A new global greening deal encompasses several key strategies in reviving the economy and achieving the Millennium Development Goals:

1. The green economy is aware of the natural capital and invests in it

Biodiversity, which represents the living tissue of the planet, includes life at all levels: genes, species and ecosystems. Green economy recognises the value of natural capital as a factor of human well-being and the livelihoods of the poor and as a source of new jobs, all of which natural capital shows progress for a sustainable economy.

2. The green economy is the centre of poverty eradication

Sustainable poverty is the most common form of social inequality because of its unequal access to education, health care, credit, income and property rights. It also seeks to provide diverse opportunities for economic development and poverty eradication without depletion of natural assets. Low income, where ecosystem goods and services are one of the largest livelihood components of poor rural communities, which provide ecosystems and services that provide and protect against natural disasters and economic shocks. Increased investment in the natural assets used by the poor to earn a living makes the move towards a green economy an improvement in living in low-income areas.

Green economy faces environmental degradation

The emergence of the green economy was mainly in the context of putting an end to the environmental degradation imposed by the pace of unsustainable production and consumption over the past decades, thus reducing the ecological footprint is an integral part of the design of the Green Economy Initiative. Some of the reasons to proceed towards a green economy is explored below.

1. A green economy creates jobs and supports social equality

While the global economy headed into the Great Depression in 2008, affected by the crisis of banks and loans and the preceding price shocks, anxiety over the loss of jobs, and there was research and evidence pointing to the employment opportunities provided by the green economy. The United Nations / International Labour Organisation, the International Organisation of Employers, the International Organisation of Employers on Green Jobs / Blue-Green Union of the Workers' Union and Environmental Organisations, but the recession has made it urgent to explore as countries moving towards a green economy are already behind. Remarkable employment opportunities through more investment in green sectors, and is the policies that focus on small and medium enterprises, the largest share in employment, so the transition to a green economy is also means a shift towards employment, which will create a similar number at least of jobs left by the usual method of work.

2. Green economy replaces fossil fuels with sustainable energy and low-carbon technologies

Renewable energy is known to reduce the risk of high and unstable fossil fuel prices as well as to provide planning benefits. Renewable energy represents major economic opportunities and energy preparation requires replacing investments in renewable energy sources heavily on carbon with investments in oil energy and improving efficiency.

3. The green economy gives a more sustainable and low-carbon urban livelihood

Urban areas are home to about 50% of the world's population but account for 60-80% of energy consumption and 75% of carbon emissions. The tendency to increase urban pressure on freshwater resources, sanitation and public health systems, usually results in poor infrastructure delivery and low environmental performance, so there are a number of opportunities for cities to increase energy efficiency and productivity, and reduce emissions in buildings.

4. The green economy grows faster than the brown economy over time and preserves and restores natural resources.

This is one of the main topics in the economy in the apparent trade-off between qualitative and environmental development, so the greening of some economic sectors leads to a significant reduction in greenhouse gas emissions and more than half of the green investment scenario is dedicated to increasing energy efficiency in various sectors \$ 1.3 trillion a year, and the expansion of renewable energy including the second generation of biofuels, the global energy density is expected to decline.

5. Green economy stimulates economic growth

The green economy seeks to build a new model of economic development, which focuses mainly on large green investments in various sectors such as renewable energy efficiency,

green infrastructure, waste management, etc. The report appears to indicate that economic growth is slow in the short term, especially if measured using traditional methods that exclude environmental externalities from their calculations. Overall, economic growth is expected to accelerate in the long run.

The third topic: Green Economy Challenges and Ways of Success in the Arab Countries *The challenges of the green economy in the Arab countries*

1. The transition to a green economy at the global level and in some countries is increasing momentum and speed, but it is confronted with the challenges of providing a sustainable framework as well as the economic, social and environmental realities in the Arab region in order to develop a regional vision in line with regional specificities, where renewed commitment and principles of sustainable development in accordance with Agenda 21 In order to promote commitment and support in accordance with Rio + 20 and beyond to achieve sustainable development in the Arab region, it faces many challenges, the most important of which are:
2. Political changes: Since the beginning of 2011, the Arab countries have witnessed critical and important political transformations that reflect the Arab population's dignified life and unified institutional work based on transparency and autonomy. Green in particular.
3. Water scarcity is exacerbated: The Arab region faces many pressures and challenges that sustain its already scarce water resources. Agriculture depletes water resources to about 30% -50% of drinking water.
4. The challenges of the energy sector: The challenges facing the energy sector vary from one country to another in the Arab region, especially oil-producing countries and non-oil-producing countries, and its dependence on the levels of economy and income, and this transition involves many challenges worthy of note
5. Ensure access to energy services in poor and remote areas in some Arab countries where local communities meet their energy needs by burning waste, causing damage to health and the environment.
 - a. Some Arab countries have huge gas reserves that have not been optimally consumed due to the high costs of exporting liquefied gas and the absence of distribution networks within the region.
 - b. In the context of rationalising energy consumption and improving its efficiency in the whole Arab region, it faces challenges in increasing the contribution of renewable energy to the energy supply due to technical, economic, financial, social and institutional obstacles in impeding the dissemination and use of new technologies and practices.
 - c. Moreover, the increase in oil prices will boost the revenues of some Arab countries and despite the fact that this will create huge crises in some industrialized countries, the products that are re-exported to all the countries of the

region will thus have a negative impact on the development of poor and least developed countries.

6. Food and Security Threats: Arab countries have been adversely affected by the global food crisis and depend on imported food products to cover 50-100% of their food needs. Food products represent 5010% of total imports in the ESCWA region.
7. Climate change and extreme weather events: Although the contribution of the Arab region to global greenhouse gas emissions has decreased until 2004, this contribution represents approximately 5.3% in the Arab region, it is expected that the change will be more vulnerable to the potential impacts of climate, which is likely to be It has an equal impact on the environmental, social and economic aspects of the region, so the effects of climate change will hinder the implementation of national development policies and pose a threat to human security and livelihoods, especially environmental migration. They are considered to have the most impact on vulnerable and marginalised groups of the elderly, women and children and the poor.
8. Unsustainable production and consumption: Rapid population growth and rural migration, and some subsidy policies lead to an increase in demand for natural resources in the Arab region, and encourage economies based on unsustainable consumption and production patterns, which affects economic growth, and thus affects environmental degradation.

In addition to these challenges, it can be noted that the number of vehicles in the transport sector, whether traffic management, inefficient public transport outdated, and inefficient energy and use in the production of petrochemicals, aluminium and fertilisers is a major source of carbon dioxide emissions and other air pollutants in the water sector. Consumption rates as a result of rapid population growth, in addition, there is an increase in the rates of hazardous waste in the industrial sector, especially oil, minerals and chemical industries in the Arab countries

In addition to these challenges, some indicators of aggregate evidence to measure the social and environmental dimensions of sustainable growth can be mentioned in Table (2), a model of the ranking of these indicators, where the Arab countries in the set of points scored by countries for the guide to environmental sustainability or environmental performance, and the achievement they achieve The lowest achievement achieved by the Arab countries in 2005 was 33.6 in Iraq, while the highest in Tunisia was 51.8 in environmental sustainability. In 2010, the ratio ranged between 25.32 and 55.18 in the level of environmental performance.

Table 2: The level of achievement of Arab countries in environmental sustainability and environmental performance

The Countries	Environmental Performance Index		Environmental Sustainability Index
	2010	2006	2005
Jordan	42,16	66,0	47,8
Arab Emirates	50,91	73,2	44,6
Tunisia	64,66	60,0	51,8
Algeria	48,56	66,2	64,0
Syrian	42,75	55,3	43,8
Sudan	46,00	44,0	35,9
Iraq	25,32	-	33,6
Sultanate of Oman	44,00	67,9	47,9
Kuwait	35,54	-	36,6
Lebanon	47,35	76,7	40,5
Egypt	55,18	57,9	44,0
The Maghreb	45,76	64,1	44,8
Saudi	49,97	68,3	37,8
Mauritania	-	32,0	42,6
Yemen	35,49	45,2	37,3

It is worth noting that most oil producing countries scored low in environmental performance, but Egypt scored the highest in environmental performance among the Arab countries and ranked sixth in the world.

The Means of Success of the Green Economy in the Arab Countries

It is clear that the Arab countries have committed themselves to the transition towards a green economy, but this transition has faced many challenges and obstacles that have hindered this transition, but there are many ways and options available to address these challenges, the most important of which are:

1. Overhead strategy and green stimulus packages: Many global countries (Japan, the United States, South Korea) have made huge investments in billions of dollars to create new jobs and increase income through low-carbon green growth, while China has allocated large amounts in several sectors Green sectors are expected to increase their investments in order to boost the economy and respond to environmental crises according to the UN agreement. However, green stimulus packages are an option and an opportunity for many Arab countries, but the option raises many questions about That feasibility is long-term.
2. Environmental Efficiency: In many Arab countries, environmental efficiency is sub-optimal (sustainable production and consumption of natural resources). Therefore, more

efforts can be made to improve performance and productivity by switching to producing models specifically designed for green economy concepts such as waste reduction. Mechanisms to assist the private sector to assess their environmental performance and provide incentives for investment in environmentally friendly production through tax and other policies such as environmental efficiency certification programs and recognition of environmental performance services. Support green investments in small and medium enterprises in order to create green jobs and improve income, so that the development of cleaner production centres in the Arab region to play an active role in the industry and boost production support.

3. **Greening Markets and Public Procurement:** Markets and public procurement can work to increase the demand for environmental goods and services. Therefore, Arab countries face great opportunities and challenges alike. Therefore, Arab countries specialised in green markets should play a key role in international trade exchange. Future and compliance with environmental standards that require local industrial restructuring or practical changes in production methods that may adversely affect the competitiveness of firms.
4. **Restoration of natural capital enhancement:** There is widespread and broad consensus on the important services provided by ecosystems and biodiversity to local communities, especially the poor, and their important role in the national economy. In addition, green strategies can be directed towards the agricultural sector, such as improving water use efficiency and reducing soil degradation through more sustainable agricultural practices based on the use of fertilisers and organic farming represents a promising opportunity and is less harmful to the environment than traditional agricultural practices. This usually requires more work. Studies have shown that organic farming creates similar productivity for traditional agriculture and increases employment.
5. **Environmental accountability and correct pricing:** Environmental accountability is based on the integration of the environmental dimension in economic systems and contributes to the appropriate pricing of goods and services and the right pricing cycle to send appropriate signals to producers and consumers and encourage them to adopt patterns of production and sustainable consumption, also helps decision makers to make a real impact For projects, programs and making the right decisions.
6. **Research development and transfer of technology:** Research and development represent access to environmentally sound technology and this is a critical issue in the overall framework of the green economy. This is considered to help translate technological adaptation according to its local use. Public and private sector and academic institutions as well as research and development centres and provides new financial mechanisms in the deployment and use of green technology in the Arab countries, and in this regard small and medium enterprises play a leading role in innovation, especially in the sector renewable, thus Van, the private sector a leading role in the market by increasing sales and revenue and localising modern technology and are given these factors are a positive

impact on the GDP growth rates of national employment in green sectors, particularly the educated youth.

7. New financing mechanisms: the Arab countries urgently need to establish new financing mechanisms to promote green investment. National and regional financing companies should play a leading role in allocating funds to environmental projects through the League of Arab States. GEF and identify a head office needed to mitigate emissions from waste removal and forest degradation.

Thus, the best practices and success stories in the Arab countries are needed to focus on legislations and laws that encourage investment in the green economy and financing mechanisms with benchmarks for the green economy and the provision of employment opportunities in addition to training and development needs of support, innovation, research and transfer of green technology.

Conclusions and recommendations

Conclusions

1. The Green Economy has proved to be the guiding principle of the new environment, whether at the local or international level, while it plays a vital role in the process of strategic development, environmental sustainability, economic profitability and social integration.
2. The green economy is one of the most vital links between the economy, society and the environment, which takes into account the financing of production and consumption patterns.
3. The green economy contributes to the reduction of waste and pollution and the efficient use of materials, resources and energy, stimulating and diversifying the economy, creating decent jobs, promoting sustainable trade, reducing poverty, and improving the distribution of capital and income.
4. The green economy emphasises the importance of integrating environmental economic policies in a way that highlights opportunities for new sources of economic growth.
5. Although a green economy may create attractive opportunities, Arab countries remain concerned about the widespread transformation of a green economy. This transition may be costly and may not guarantee poverty alleviation or social integration per se.
6. The environmental efficiency of many sectors in the Arab countries (sustainable consumption of natural resources in production) is considered sub-optimal.
7. Arab countries still lack technology in their regulatory and institutional frameworks, as well as their natural environment, which is in dire need of technology transfer.
8. The level of environmental performance in the Arab countries was low and unable to achieve the objectives of environmental policy at the national level.

Recommendations

1. The need for a clear strategy for the green economy in order to conserve natural resources, protect the environment and human well-being, and human and social capital as the essence and the road leading to sustainable economic development.
2. The need to adopt a green national network that enables the transition to a greener economy that helps to, investments, skills training, education and the provision of decent jobs to achieve new economic growth
3. Necessary to use compensatory and complementary mechanisms in order to reconcile the proposed social objectives with the proposed economic and environmental objectives. On the other hand, considering that this transformation can become another tool for development and human well-being in Arab countries.
4. Greater efforts should be made to improve performance and productivity by switching to the production of models specifically designed for green economy concepts, such as waste reduction.
5. Mechanisms should be available to assist private sector companies to assess their environmental performance, and to provide incentives for investment in environmentally friendly production through tax and other policies such as environmental efficiency certification programs and recognition of environmental performance services.
6. Increase consumer and civil society awareness of the consequences of current consumption patterns that help increase demand for green economy services, thus encouraging production sectors and adopting sustainable production patterns.
7. It is important to transfer green technology to Arab countries through foreign investment initiatives and agreements, mergers of joint R&D companies, public-private partnerships, joint ventures as well as licensing development initiatives
8. The need to establish sustainable environmental standards that cover natural resource wealth pollution levels, environmental management efforts and contributions to the protection of global commons and the ability of society to improve its environmental performance over time.



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