

CLIMATE-PROOFING FOR ACCELERATED NDC IMPLEMENTATION



Climate-proofing is the practice of reducing Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions released from the implementation of a certain investment, as well as increase its resilience to climate change impacts. This renders the investment more attractive to investors as the associated climate risks are reduced and assets are protected.

CLIMATE-PROOFING LEBANON'S DEVELOPMENT PLANS

Climate-proofing is essential to avoid disruptions as Lebanon faces a multitude of economic, development and environmental challenges, all of which highlight the need for a low-carbon and resilient economic recovery. Moreover, climate-proofing investments is needed to be able to meet Lebanon's 2030 climate targets, as presented in its updated [Nationally Determined Contribution \(NDC\)](#).

Climate-proofing was thus proposed for priority projects included in the Capital Investment Programme (CIP), Lebanon Economic Vision (LEV) and the 3-year development priorities of the Financial Recovery Plan. A Cost Benefit Analysis (CBA) of approximately 100 selected projects across 14 categories was conducted to assess the socio-economic benefits of climate-proofing investments.

MAIN FINDINGS



While the projects presented in the development plans will likely go a long way to meet Lebanon's NDC commitments, additional climate proofing will be necessary to meet the targets. An additional reduction of 6,671 Gg CO₂eq. by 2030 would be possible through climate-proofing priority investments.



The benefits as a result of mitigation interventions include improvements in air quality, health benefits, avoided climate change, and reduced loss of biodiversity. The benefits as a result of adaptation interventions include avoided future losses, avoided foregone economic activity, and avoided deaths or injuries. Moreover, all climate-proofing activities will result in job creation.



Climate proofing of all selected projects delivers USD 3.2 for every USD 1 invested in mitigation and adaptation enhancement. In total, climate proofing brings an additional USD 5.4 billion in benefits for a cost of USD 1.7 billion, indicating that it is a sound investment.



Even if policymakers focus entirely on economic benefit and do not include the social value of climate proofing interventions, at least 90% of total project costs are recovered over the next 20 years.



Planned projects are not sufficiently resilient to climate change, necessitating adaptation improvements particularly in the irrigation and water sectors.

WAY FORWARD

Climate-proofing provides an opportunity for Lebanon to unlock climate finance needed for its economic recovery and NDC achievement, as donors are more likely to invest in projects that support long-term climate change mitigation or adaptation efforts. Therefore, international support for investments should be conditional to climate-proofing, and the practice should be mainstreamed into national decision-making processes for all future investment, economic and development plans.

Link to report: <https://bit.ly/32jpuYT>

