



Nature-Based Development Pathways: From Global Dialogue to Local Action

UN
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UNDPs Nature Pledge

The UNDP Nature Pledge redoubles our commitment to successfully deliver the Global Biodiversity Framework and ensure synergies with the broader 2030 Agenda. UNDP is committed to deliver the systemic changes that can shift the needle on our nature crisis, leveraging our \$ 3.2 billion nature-related portfolio across 142 countries.

UNDP's Vision places nature at the heart of our global understanding of development, to leverage the potential for large-scale transformative change and a future where the world's **biodiversity and ecosystems are protected, restored and valued as a planetary safety net for all of humanity**, safeguarding our water, our livelihoods and jobs, our climate, our health security, enabling people to rise out of poverty and inequity.



Transformational Change

Through enhanced country support, **UNDP will advance three transformative shifts** to protect biodiversity, enhance the resilience of ecosystems and harness the power of nature:

- a **narrative and behavioural shift**: to accelerate narrative shifts around nature itself, nature and economies, and nature and societies to transform understanding of the value of nature to humanity and interventions such as legal and human rights tools and civic actions, towards mass behavioral change
- an **economic and finance shift**: to redirect flows of public and private finance from nature-negative to nature-positive outcomes towards filling the biodiversity finance gap of \$700b per year.
- a **policy and practice shift**: to cause bold shifts to tackle the drivers of biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation, and countries to harness the power of nature for solving multiple development challenges



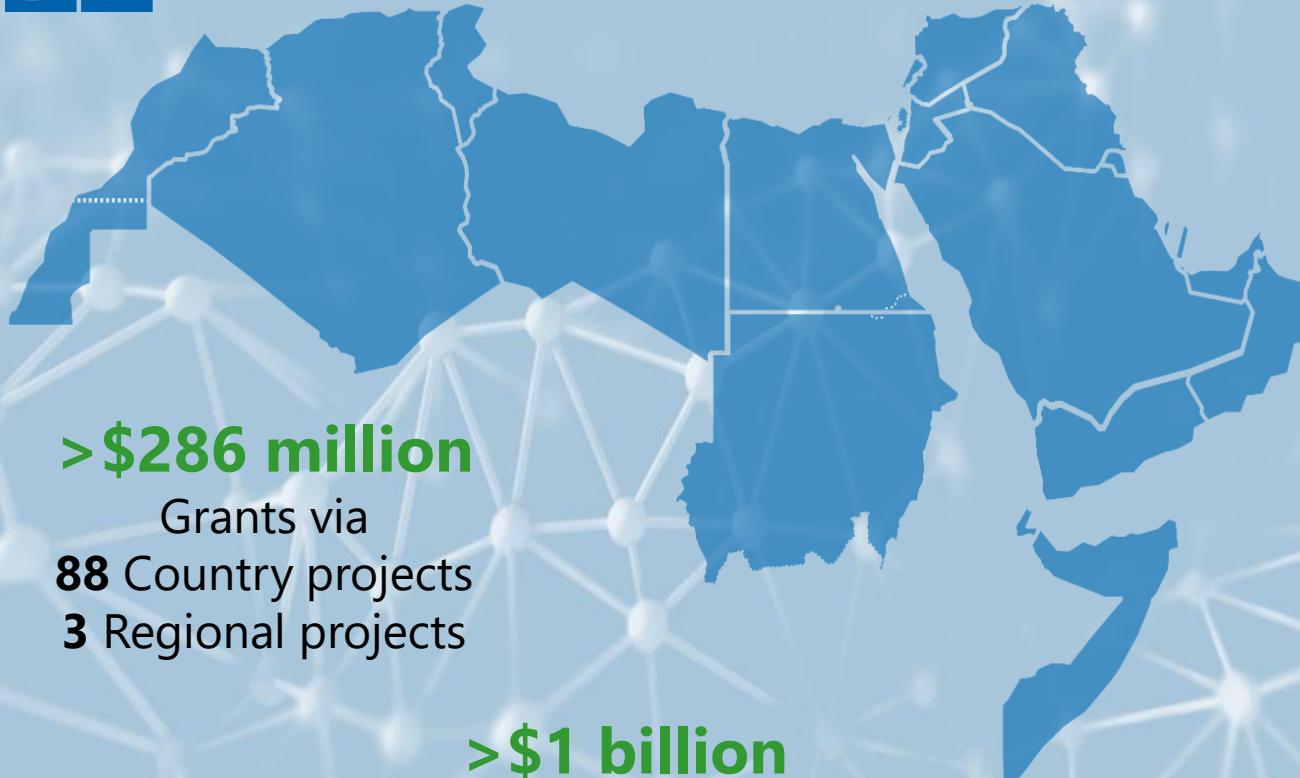


Examples of Strategic Initiatives in the Arab Region





Nature, Climate and Energy Cooperation in the Arab Region



>\$286 million

Grants via
88 Country projects
3 Regional projects

>\$1 billion

Co-Financing from
Public and Private Partners

20

Countries

West Asia & N Africa

Iraq	Egypt
Syria	Tunisia
Lebanon	Libya
Palestine	Morocco
Jordan	Algeria
Yemen	Djibouti
UAE, Qatar,	Somalia





Global Biodiversity Framework Early Action Support Programme



Countries in the Arab region: Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Somalia, Tunisia, Yemen

- (i) Rapid review of NBSAP** for alignment with the post-2020 GBF to identify gaps required to align the national targets, goals, objectives and action plans within existing NBSAP to the new GBF
- (ii) Assessment of monitoring systems** will focus on identifying gaps and promoting alignment between the NBSAP-related monitoring system and the GBF;
- (iii) Policy and institutional alignment** and review of policies for coherence with the GBF to identify policy gaps and inconsistencies in existing NBSAP and the GBF
- (iv) Biodiversity finance activities** will focus on preparing developing and/or implementing a finance plan for a GBF-aligned NBSAP



Building on 10 years of successful BIOFIN activities

globally, a new set of local activities are emerging in the Arab region: Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Libya, Tunisia and Yemen

(i) Biodiversity Finance Policy and Institutional Review to identify

the most relevant stakeholders, map subsidies harmful to biodiversity, identify barriers in the national budgeting process and produce an inventory of existing finance solutions;

(ii) Biodiversity Expenditure Reviews assess biodiversity relevance of major programmes and organisations, provide guidance to determine attribution levels, and challenges for financial delivery;

(iii) Financial Needs Assessments establish which policies define the national biodiversity needs, prioritise and cost their actions;

(iv) Biodiversity Finance Plans carry forward recommendations from the assessments, identify an optimal mix of prioritised solutions and elaborate a business case for adopting them.



Regional Coral Resilience Project

New multi-country initiative (2023-2028) to help **restore, manage, and conserve coral reef ecosystems in the Gulf of Aqaba and Red Sea** with planned contribution of \$10m from the Global Coral Reef Fund for activities in Jordan and co-financing from USAID for activities in Egypt.

The new initiative will help **bridge finance gaps** for ecosystem conservation to achieve the goals of the new Global Biodiversity Framework, and **catalyse private sector and blended finance solutions in concert with banks and investment facilities** for nature positive business and livelihoods



Green Sharm El Sheikh Programme

Sharm El Sheikh is a tourism hub on the coast of the Sinai peninsula in Egypt, surrounded by ecological important **natural landscapes** and **coral reef ecosystems** in the Red Sea.

The project (2023-2028) with \$6.8m from GEF and \$57m public/private co-financing, will help transform Sharm into a **green tourism destination**, through more sustainable use of **biodiversity, water systems, effective management of waste and emissions**.

Results contribute to Global Biodiversity Framework implementation, SDGs and **nature-positive investment** in the tourism sector.

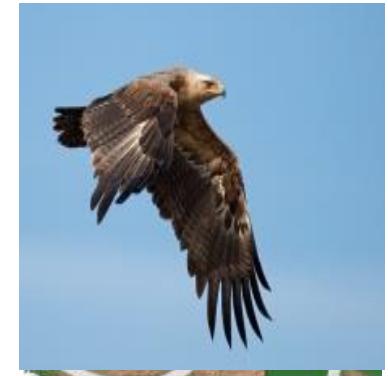


Nature Positive Investments to Protect Migratory Species



The Rift Valley/Red Sea flyway is the **second most important flyway in the world for migratory soaring birds** like raptors, storks, and pelicans, with 1.5 million birds across 37 species using the corridor between breeding grounds in Europe and Middle East and wintering grounds in East Africa

The Migratory Soaring Bird regional project (2018-2024; \$14m with \$3.5m GEF and \$10.5m Birdlife International and the private sector) is helping **mainstream nature positive investments** into the agriculture, energy, hunting, tourism and waste sectors in Lebanon, Jordan, Egypt, Djibouti, Sudan, Eritrea and Ethiopia.





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