

Title of case study	Integrating adaptation into core business practices
Name of organization(s)	SEKEM Holdings Group
Business sector	Food and Beverages; Consumer Packaged Goods
Region(s) relevant to case study	<input type="checkbox"/> All regions <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Africa and the Arab States <input type="checkbox"/> Asia and the Pacific <input type="checkbox"/> Caribbean and Central America <input type="checkbox"/> Europe <input type="checkbox"/> Least Developed Countries <input type="checkbox"/> North America <input type="checkbox"/> Polar regions <input type="checkbox"/> Small Island Developing States <input type="checkbox"/> South America
Country(s) relevant to case study	Egypt
Adaptation sector(s) relevant to case study	<input type="checkbox"/> Business <input type="checkbox"/> Education and training <input type="checkbox"/> Food security, agriculture, forestry and fisheries <input type="checkbox"/> Human health <input type="checkbox"/> Oceans and coastal areas <input type="checkbox"/> Science, assessment, monitoring and early warning <input type="checkbox"/> Terrestrial ecosystems <input type="checkbox"/> Tourism <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transport, infrastructure and human settlements <input type="checkbox"/> Water resources <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):
Adaptation activity	<p>SEKEM Holdings Group – an Egyptian company offering products such as pharmaceuticals, organic foods and textiles – is incorporating adaptation priorities into a comprehensive sustainability strategy in order to reduce its vulnerability to climate change risks, while also working to provide products and services that increase resilience in local communities.</p> <p>SEKEM has identified climate change adaptation as a key long-term business strategy, and has developed adaptation-oriented quality standards for products, services and solutions that also meet consumers’ current</p>

	<p>and emerging needs. The company partners with farmers, producers, vendors and consumers to market and distribute products in the context of a changing climate. SEKEM has identified practical methods of incorporating adaptation into its enterprise management model, including employing organic methods of agricultural production and updating its water management practices with more efficient drip irrigation methods. Such methods help integrate climate change mitigation and adaptation priorities into core business practices, with important benefits for enhancing efficiency as well as increasing institutional climate change resilience.</p> <p>SEKEM is integrating climate change risks and opportunities into each of its business units and key decision-making processes, with particular emphasis on addressing energy, food and water security issues. Its Sustainability Unit makes recommendations to key decision-makers across all business units and levels of management. In order to track the progress of climate-related strategies, SEKEM devised a set of indicators related to adaptation priorities and communicates those indicators through its Sustainability Balanced Scorecard system, which tracks adaptation-focused markets.</p> <p>SEKEM has also recognized that engaging with local communities is a central adaptation priority, and in conjunction with the SEKEM Development Foundation (which maintains a variety of programmes in social development, research, health care and education) has developed various methods of communication and consultation with local stakeholders. For SEKEM, having consistent interactions with external partners is crucial to developing new ideas and innovations.</p>
Cost-benefit	<p>Companies that identify opportunities to enhance resilience in their operations can also develop new strategies for products and services that meet needs in markets adapting to a changing climate. Furthermore, companies that develop strong relationships with customers and the local communities in which they operate can better respond to changing consumer needs and become more effective partners in building resilient communities.</p>
Case study source(s)	<p>Adapting for a Green Economy: Companies, Communities and Climate Change (UN Global Compact)</p>

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