

World Bank Group Announces New Plan to Support Climate Action in the Middle East and North Africa

MARRAKECH, November 14, 2016 – The World Bank Group will launch the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Climate Action Plan on Tuesday, November 15 at the COP 22 in Marrakech. With the focus on action following the ratification of the Paris Agreement, the World Bank Group will commit its resources and global experience to supporting MENA countries meet their climate commitments. MENA Countries have begun taking action, but the challenges ahead are enormous. Climate change will hit hard in a region already suffering its impacts. As global temperatures rise, they will rise even faster in MENA. Hotter temperatures coupled with more frequent and severe droughts will have a potentially devastating consequences for the people of the region, especially the poorer, more vulnerable segments of the population. A de-carbonizing world will also have profound consequences in a region which relies heavily on oil and gas exports. There are solutions, but they will require pro-active and comprehensive management by governments, along with drawing on effective examples of combating climate change from around the world. The World Bank Group will outline its plan of support, which is based on an analysis of the key challenges facing the region, countries' priorities as expressed in their climate commitments, and the Bank Group's comparative advantages in climate financing, global experience and building partnerships.

DATE: Tuesday, November 15, 2016

TIME: 2:00pm – 2:30pm

PLACE: Press conference room: Rabat
COP 22 village, Blue Zone

PARTICIPANTS: Hafez Ghanem, Vice President, Middle East and North Africa Region, World Bank

Interested media must register for this event by Monday, November 14. Please **RSVP** to Ibtissam Alaoui ialaoui@worldbank.org

The press conference will be [livestreamed](#).

Contacts:

Ibtissam Alaoui +212 661 387 199, ialaoui@worldbank.org

Donia Jemail +212 662 760 372 djemail@worldbank.org