



## PRE-CONCEPT FOR A REGIONAL PROJECT/PROGRAMME

## PART I: PROJECT/PROGRAMME INFORMATION

**Title of Project/Programme:** Transboundary Adaptation for Watershed Sustainability and Livelihoods"– A Regional Nature-Based Solutions Initiative in Lebanon and Jordan (Project acronym: TAWASUL)

**Countries:** Jordan, Lebanon

**Thematic Focal Area<sup>1</sup>:** Transboundary water management

**Type of Implementing Entity:** Multilateral Implementing Entity

**Implementing Entity:** UN-Habitat

**Executing Entities:** UN-Habitat, National Council for Scientific Research (NCRS-L), Society for the Protection of Nature in Lebanon (SPNL), the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature Jordan, Wadi NGO

**Amount of Financing Requested:** 16,438,888 (in U.S Dollars Equivalent)

**Project Formulation Grant Request:** Yes  No

**Amount of Requested financing for PFG:** 30,000 (in U.S Dollars Equivalent)

**Letters of Endorsement (LOE) signed for all countries:** Yes  No

**Stage of Submission:**

This pre-concept has been submitted before

This is the first submission ever of the pre-concept

In case of a resubmission, please indicate the last submission date: 2/27/2026

**Project/Programme Background and Context:**

The proposed regional project targets climate resilience in two ecologically significant but highly vulnerable hydrological systems: The Awali River Watershed in Lebanon and Wadi Al-Karak Basin in Jordan. Both sites are emblematic of the climate-water nexus in arid and semi-arid regions, where pressures from extreme weather events, rapid urbanization, and environmental degradation intersect with social vulnerability and post-disaster fragility.

In Lebanon, the Awali River, also known in its upper section as the Bisri River, originates in the Barouk and Niha mountains and flows approximately 48 km to the Mediterranean Sea. It traverses 44 cadastres across the districts of Saida, Jezzine and Chouf. The river is a major source of irrigation and freshwater in southern Lebanon,<sup>2</sup> and serves as an important ecological corridor supporting riparian biodiversity, including the endangered green turtle (*Chelonia mydas*). The Awali watershed covers about 301 km<sup>2</sup>, home to roughly 162,800 individuals, and includes some of Lebanon's most vulnerable cadastres in terms of pressure on resources.<sup>3</sup> It encompasses the Bisri Valley, designated in the National Physical Master Plan of the Lebanese Territory<sup>4</sup> (NPMPLT) for its exceptional natural and landscape value, and intersects with both urban areas and rural villages, including Saida, Lebanon's third largest city. The valley features oak forests, pine groves, archaeological remains, and traditional agricultural terraces. Land cover in the basin is dominated by wooden land (around 46%), followed by grassland (27%), agricultural area (18%), artificial/urban area (7%) and unproductive area (1%).<sup>5</sup> Despite its importance, the watershed is increasingly threatened by pollution, deforestation, sand mining, and unregulated territorial development. Recent flood risk assessment conducted by NCRS-L indicated that flood hazards are significantly underestimated, with extreme events potentially reaching peak discharges of up to 506 m<sup>3</sup>/s, posing serious threats to downstream agricultural land, settlements, and infrastructure, particularly the Bisri Valley.<sup>6</sup> Another NCRS-L study<sup>7</sup> finds that flooding in the most critical river sections (around 16% of total length), could impact up to 1,000 people with estimated damages to structures increasing from USD 4.0 million in a 10-year event to USD 5.6 million in a 100-year scenario. The study highlights significant impacts on livelihoods and infrastructure, including seasonal agricultural losses of up to USD 1.5 million, affecting approximately 125 ha of fruit trees, 30 ha of cropland, and high-value greenhouse areas, alongside extensive road flooding and high exposure of residential and commercial assets, underscoring substantial vulnerability to flood and climate-related risks. Beyond flooding, the basin is also vulnerable to droughts, heatwaves, landslides, and erosion. The Awali watershed is characterized by a Mediterranean climate with strong rainfall seasonality and erosion-sensitive soils, receiving a mean annual precipitation around 1,067 mm, increasing from 600–700 mm along the coast to 1300-1400 mm in the mountains. In the past 70 years, 12 intense storm events occurred (notably in January 2013 which delivered 277 mm in six days), have caused severe flooding, infrastructure

<sup>1</sup> Thematic areas are: Food security; Disaster risk reduction and early warning systems; Transboundary water management; Innovation in adaptation finance.

<sup>2</sup> Assessment of treated wastewater for agriculture in Lebanon, FAO (2016)

<sup>3</sup> [List of 332 most vulnerable localities \(cadastres\)](#), Inter-Agency Coordination Lebanon (2022)

<sup>4</sup> National Physical Master Plan of the Lebanese Territory; designation of Bisri Valley as a cultural and ecological landscape.

<sup>5</sup> Land use/land cover analysis, NCRS-L (2013)

<sup>6</sup> Flood Hazard Mapping Assessment for El-Awali River Catchment-Lebanon, Conference: EGU General Assembly 2016At: Vienna, Austria Volume: Vol. 18, EGU2016-17305-1, 2016, <https://www.researchgate.net/publication/301747463>

<sup>7</sup> CNRS-SuNaR 2015; Flood Risk Assessment for Lebanon

failure, and severe agricultural damage, placing the Awali River among the most flood-affected rivers in Lebanon.<sup>8</sup> The watershed exhibits a coast-mountain climatic gradient, with annual mean temperatures of around 15°C along the coast and 11°C in the mountainous headwaters, and humidity decreasing from 70-80% compared to 50-60% at higher elevations. Climate change is intensifying temperature extremes, with more frequent summer heatwaves pushing coastal temperatures above 35°C. The recent controversy surrounding the now-suspended Bisri Dam project highlighted both the ecological sensitivity and civic mobilization capacity in the area.<sup>9</sup> In Lebanon, overlapping crises including conflict, economic collapse, the refugee influx, the COVID-19 pandemic, and the Beirut Port explosion, have weakened institutions and livelihoods, heightening conflict-related vulnerability to climate impacts, while NbS and climate adaptation offer low-cost, rapidly deployable solutions to restore ecosystems, reduce environmental risks, and support livelihoods and social stability.

Wadi Al-Karak Basin is an essential multi-climate ecological system in southern Jordan, linking the highland city of Karak an urban area characterized by a warm semi-arid climate, with the Jordan Valley Dead Sea Bioclimate Zone. The basin covers approximately 249km<sup>2</sup> within Karak Governorate, 40.5km<sup>2</sup> administered by Greater Karak Municipality. Around 32% of the basin is classified as agricultural and rural, while nearly 42% of the land is under the Jordan Valley Authority. This topographic gradient from highlands to low-lying valley areas drives pronounced climatic contrasts, shaping hydrological processes, ecosystem functions, and land-use patterns across the basin. Historical climate records for Karak Governorate, including Wadi Al-Karak, indicate a clear warming trend over recent decades, particularly in extreme maximum temperatures. Peak temperatures increased from approximately 39.4°C in 1990 to 42.2°C in 2000, 43.3°C in 2010, and reached nearly 43.9°C by 2025, despite minor interannual variability. Between 1990 and 2020, the governorate experienced approximately 60–160 heatwave events, indicating significant exposure to recurrent extreme heat. Climate projections under the RCP 4.5 scenario suggest that heatwave occurrence could increase by more than 200% by 2070–2100, with longer duration and higher intensity events. This escalation substantially heightens risks to water availability, agricultural productivity, infrastructure performance, and public health, particularly in rural and peri-urban communities with limited adaptive capacity. Rainfall patterns in Wadi Al-Karak exhibit strong spatial variability. Average annual precipitation for the period 1990–2020 generally decreases from the highlands toward the lower elevations of the basin. In the upper catchment areas, average annual rainfall reaches approximately 350 mm, while downstream areas receive significantly lower amounts 150mm. Despite overall aridity, the basin is increasingly exposed to short-duration, high-intensity rainfall events. In January 2026, Wadi Al-Karak experienced three extreme rainfall events the most intense since 1971 causing rapid runoff, soil saturation, and overflow of the Wadi Al-Karak Dam after reaching its ~2 million m<sup>3</sup> capacity. The resulting flash floods caused severe downstream impacts, damaging nearly 60% of critical infrastructure, including transport networks, services, agricultural lands, and residential areas. These events illustrate the basin's growing exposure to compound climate risks. Over the past 70 years, Karak Governorate has experienced 14 drought years, averaging two severe droughts per decade. Climate projections indicate a shift from episodic droughts to prolonged multi-year drought conditions, lasting more than three consecutive years under moderate scenarios and over five years under high-emissions scenarios, with up to 180–240 dry days per year. These trends underscore increasing pressure on surface and groundwater resources, exacerbating water scarcity in a basin already characterized by high demand and limited supply, where per-capita water availability is estimated at approximately 79 liters per person per day, significantly below national adequacy levels and indicative of severe water stress. The socio-economic system is highly water-dependent, supporting around 143,460 people. Water scarcity, rising temperatures, and flooding reduce productivity, increase household costs, and disproportionately affect vulnerable, underserved communities. These impacts are compounded by environmental degradation and planning gaps such as pollution, unsafe wastewater discharge, land degradation, and urban encroachment into floodplains which heighten climate, urban, and biodiversity risks by weakening the basin's natural buffering capacity. Wadi Al-Karak is a key hydrological and ecological corridor that supports biodiversity, ecosystem services, and local livelihoods. Climate stress, land degradation, water scarcity, and flooding are degrading habitats and reducing ecosystem resilience and contribute to environmentally driven displacement and agriculture-related livelihood migration, as repeated climate shocks, flood damage, and declining water availability make certain areas increasingly unsafe or economically unviable, particularly for vulnerable households. These multi-layered risks highlight the need for Nature-Based Solutions and green infrastructure, to strengthen climate resilience, protect biodiversity, and sustain livelihoods. Taken together, the Awali River Watershed and the Wadi Al-Karak Basin face shared climate risks that undermine water security, ecosystems, livelihoods, and infrastructure. Through ecosystem-based and nature-based solutions supported by integrated assessments, planning, and pilot interventions, the project offers a scalable pathway to enhance climate resilience, protect biodiversity, and strengthen socio-economic stability in line with national priorities and NDCs in Lebanon and Jordan. Building on the current AF regional project, the project scales up climate-informed planning, smart water management, and nature-based solutions to reduce flood risks and promote non-conventional water sources, including rainwater harvesting, treated wastewater reuse, and permaculture. This approach addresses water scarcity, particularly in Jordan where agriculture accounts for 51% of water use and nearly 98% of treated wastewater is reused for irrigation.

**Project/Programme Objectives:** This regional project seeks to strengthen climate resilience in the Awali Watershed (Lebanon) and Wadi Al-Karak Basin (Jordan) by advancing ecosystem restoration, post-disaster recovery,

<sup>8</sup> Rouya Hdeib. A Framework for Flood Modelling in Data-Sparse Regions Based on a New Cost- Performance Grid, Application on the Awali Basin in Lebanon. Hydrology. Montpellier SupAgro, 2019. English. NNT : 2019NSAM0005. tel-04106725

<sup>9</sup> "The Bisri Dam Controversy" – see Middle East Eye, World Bank documents (2020).

gender-responsive governance, and sustainable financing. It directly addresses national priorities and regional gaps by integrating scientific data, traditional knowledge, and participatory planning.

**Specific Objectives:**

1. Undertake multilayered vulnerability and gender assessments through the use of remote sensing, participatory methods, and geospatial databases to identify risk hotspots.
2. Develop **climate-resilient restoration** and planning frameworks, supported by technical guidelines aligned with the **Lebanon and Jordan NDCs/NAPs**, reflecting national climate and water security goals.
3. Propose inclusive **blended financing mechanisms** to attract climate funds, green recovery financing, and municipal investment.
4. Capacitate local authorities and civil society in climate adaptation and landscape urbanism, leveraging GIS tools for effective landscape planning and monitoring.
5. Promote NbS and post-disaster ecological recovery, including restoring disaster-impacted zones.
6. Foster **regional “Peace through Water”** dialogue and climate adaptation cooperation between Jordanian and Lebanese institutions.

**Project/Programme Components and Financing:**

Project/Programme Components	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Countries	Amount (US\$)
1. Multi-Layered Vulnerability Assessments, Restoration Frameworks and Financing Models	Enhanced governance, data-driven planning, and evidence based financing	Multi-layered vulnerability assessments, GIS databases, restoration planning frameworks, financing models, and capacity building	Lebanon, Jordan	2,300,000
2. Implementation of Adaption and Restoration Interventions with a focus on Nature-Based Solutions and Post-Disaster Risk Reduction and Recovery	Community-led ecological restoration and risk reduction	Pilot priority interventions identified under Component 1 and capacity building	Lebanon, Jordan	9,650,000
3. Regional Cooperation & Knowledge Exchange	Local, National, and Regional water and climate diplomacy	Bilateral platforms, regional observatory, municipal partnerships, “Peace through Water” Knowledge series	Lebanon, Jordan	1,500,000
4. Project/Programme Execution Cost				1,494,444
5. Total Project/Programme Activity Cost				14,944,444
6. Project/Programme Implementing Entity Fee (if applicable)				1,494,444
<b>Amount of Financing Requested</b>				<b>16,438,888</b>

**Project Duration: 4 years (48 months)**

**PART II: PROJECT/PROGRAMME JUSTIFICATION**

The regional project is structured around three components designed to address site-specific climate vulnerabilities while maximizing cross-country synergies through a regional approach. **Comp. 1** establishes a comprehensive GIS dataset and ecosystem multi-layered vulnerability assessments tested in UN-Habitat’s RISE UP portfolio which is a spatial, integrated approach to assess urban, climate, and biodiversity vulnerabilities, using remote sensing, field participatory, socio-gender inputs, and translates findings into climate-resilient restoration frameworks and financing models, that prioritize NbS, post-disaster interventions, costed adaptation interventions, and evidence-based financing. **Comp. 2** implements and pilots the priority interventions identified in component 1 focusing on scalable NbS and post-disaster ecological recovery interventions to restore degraded ecosystems, reduce climate and disaster risks, enhance ecosystem services, and strengthen local adaptive capacity and climate-resilient livelihoods, with strong attention to gender equality, social inclusion, and conflict sensitivity. **Comp. 3** operationalizes the regional approach by strengthening Lebanon-Jordan cooperation through joint knowledge platforms, municipal partnerships, the Arab mayors academy, urban vulnerability atlas, and a regional observatory to exchange data and lessons, harmonize tools, and scale climate-resilient watershed management and NbS, contributing to water and climate diplomacy by strengthening dialogue, trust, and coordinated action on shared climate and water challenges. The “Peace through Water” series strengthens regional climate resilience by documenting how cooperative approaches can reduce climate vulnerability and support disaster-sensitive adaptation. Capacity building, awareness raising, and knowledge management are cross-cutting components, guided by baseline capacity assessments and monitored through pre- and post-training evaluations, feedback surveys, and performance reviews, with activities including on-the-job training, technical support, and peer exchanges on adaptation planning, NbS, GIS, and data management. The project is innovative in integrating advanced geospatial analysis, participatory planning, and ecosystem-based adaptation within a regional framework. It links multi-layered vulnerability assessments to investment-ready restoration, planning, and financing frameworks, and pioneers the use of NbS combined with post-disaster ecological recovery as climate-risk reduction infrastructure. The regional approach strengthens cost-effectiveness by reducing duplication through shared assessment tools, joint trainings, and harmonized reporting frameworks. Peer learning between Lebanese and Jordanian municipalities and relevant institutions accelerates capacity

development and shortens the learning curve. A continuous two-way knowledge exchange ensures that local data informs regional and national decision-making, while tested methodologies and guidance flow back to the local level, supporting scalable, investment-ready ecological adaptation. In contrast, alternative implementation options would involve separate national projects, requiring parallel development of assessment tools, duplicated technical assistance and capacity-building, and fragmented reporting systems, resulting in higher administrative costs and less efficient use of limited adaptation resources. Alternative implementation approaches were considered during project design. These included implementing separate national projects in each target area. However, these approaches would entail higher costs due to parallel project development, duplicated assessments, and separate capacity-building and coordination structures in each country. The proposed regional approach enables the sharing of technical expertise, assessment tools, training programmes, and knowledge platforms across Lebanon and Jordan, reducing duplication and generating economies of scale. Furthermore, alternative approaches relying primarily on grey infrastructure for flood and watershed management would entail significantly higher capital and maintenance costs while providing fewer ecosystem and livelihood co-benefits. Pilot interventions are designed as scalable models that municipalities can replicate beyond the project sites. The project also leverages existing tools and methodologies, including UN-Habitat's RISE UP framework and available national datasets. Disaster-related risks, including dynamic displacement, security constraints, and governance disruptions, will be addressed through a conflict-sensitive and adaptive implementation approach. This includes flexible site selection, inclusive targeting of host and displaced communities, conflict-sensitive assessments, reliance on local partners, and institutional measures such as redundancy, system-based tools, and remote coordination to ensure continuity. The project is fully aligned with national and sub-national policies in both countries. In Lebanon, it supports the 2025 Updated NDC, the 2025 National Adaptation Plan (NAP), the NPMPLT, and recovery priorities related to environment and heritage. In Jordan, it aligns with the 2021 NDC, the NAP, the National Urban Policy, the Jordan Green Growth National Action Plan, and the Karak Spatial Development Plan (2024–2027). Regionally, it complements climate resilience and water security strategies led by UNESCWA and the League of Arab States. **Consultations** and community engagement are central to proposal development and will continue through culturally appropriate, gender-sensitive community consultations. Outreach will ensure the inclusion of vulnerable groups (women-headed households, youth, and disaster-affected populations). Inputs will validate project activities and inform safeguard design in full compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy (ESP) of the AF. The project will engage a wide range of stakeholders identified through stakeholder mapping and analysis. To ensure gender responsiveness, national gender equality bodies will be consulted, including the Higher Council for Women's Affairs in Jordan and the National Commission for Lebanese Women in Lebanon. In addition, relevant ministries and organizations with demonstrated experience in working with women such as FAO, the Ministry of Agriculture as well as farmers' associations will be actively engaged through their ongoing initiatives. In delivering adaptation outcomes, the project will generate broad **economic, social, and environmental benefits**. Economically, it will create green jobs through reforestation, NbS infrastructure, and sustainable community-based tourism. Socially, it will strengthen local ownership and rebuild community cohesion. Environmentally, it will reduce erosion, enhance water regulation, and restore critical biodiversity corridors. These benefits will be distributed equitably by embedding gender-responsive targeting and conflict-sensitive design throughout the project cycle. All activities will comply with national technical and environmental standards in Lebanon and Jordan and with applicable international environmental and social safeguards. Risk screening and mitigation measures will be applied in line with the AF's Environmental and Social Policy. The project builds on existing initiatives, and ongoing AF regional efforts aimed at increasing the resilience of both displaced persons and host communities to climate change-related water challenges in both countries by managing urban risks and vulnerabilities through mainstreaming climate change adaptation strategies and gender considerations into urban planning; supporting the operation, maintenance and replication of resilient water solutions; and strengthening knowledge across the region. In Lebanon, the focus has been on Zahleh District, and in Jordan the focus has been on the municipalities of Irbid and Mafraq municipalities UNDP supports climate adaptation, responsible natural resource management, and NBS in Jordan and Lebanon, while IUCN's Water and Climate Change Programme in promotes improved water governance and participatory approaches to climate-resilient water management. The proposed project complements these efforts by focusing on watershed-scale climate adaptation, multi-layered vulnerability assessments, and the implementation of NBS linked to municipal planning and post-disaster ecological recovery. Initiative mapping and coordination will ensure complementarity and avoid duplication. It also strengthens regional collaboration, including the establishment of a cross-country Community of Practice (CoP), Municipal Climate Finance Forums, and study tours and knowledge exchange meetings. The funding requested is justified on a full-cost-of-adaptation basis. In both Lebanon and Jordan, the baseline scenario is one of growing climate risk, degraded ecosystems, weak institutional capacities, and limited access to inclusive finance. Without the project, vulnerabilities will worsen, deepening poverty and increasing future recovery costs. The project instead delivers an integrated package that addresses immediate risks while building long-term resilience, sustainability, and peacebuilding. Sustainability is embedded across institutional, financial, environmental, and social dimensions, with clear long-term arrangements for operation and maintenance of project-supported infrastructure that will be reflected in the ESMP to ensure continued compliance with the AF's Environmental and Social Policy beyond project closure, with clear institutional responsibilities and monitoring mechanisms. NbS and green infrastructure will be embedded in municipal and sectoral systems, with responsibilities assigned to municipalities, relevant ministries, and community actors. Institutional ownership is ensured by integrating assessments, restoration frameworks, and monitoring tools into existing planning and adaptation processes, supported by capacity building, on-the-job training, and tailored operation and maintenance guidelines. Financial sustainability will be strengthened through gender-responsive financing mechanisms,

municipal climate budget allocations, and green recovery pathways, while risks will be managed in line with the AF's Environmental and Social Policy to ensure long-term functionality and resilience.

### PART III: IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

The project will be implemented through a coordinated regional structure led by UN-Habitat's Country Offices in Lebanon and Jordan (COs), responsible for fiduciary oversight, coordination, reporting, and compliance with AF policies. National implementation will be carried out by designated **executing entities (EEs)** under the COs strategic and technical guidance. These EEs are expected to include **In Lebanon the National Council for Scientific Research (NCRS)** for knowledge management and data-driven-related components, National academic institutions and NGOs with relevant expertise in watershed management and cultural heritage (e.g., the Society for the Protection of Nature in Lebanon [SPNL], the American University of Beirut – Nature Conservation Center [AUB-NCC], **Nohye Alard**, etc.) may also serve as sub-executing partners. Partners will include the **Ministry of Environment (MoE)** which will serve as the national lead institution and local governments within the districts of Saida, Jezzine and Chouf. **In Jordan:** the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature Jordan, Wadi NGO will be the EEs and the **MoE**, in collaboration with other specialized ministries, will oversee execution in partnership with the **Greater Karak Municipality along with Jordan Valley Authority**. Jordanian universities and research may also be engaged for technical support and capacity building. In both countries, **civil society, local cooperatives, and women/youth associations** will lead community-based assessments, ecosystem restoration, and awareness activities, selected through a competitive process to ensure inclusiveness, sustainability, and community ownership. The project will establish a **Regional Project Steering Committee (RPSC)** supported by a **National Technical Advisory Groups (NTAGs)** led by Ministries of environment an UN-Habitat, ensuring policy alignment, adaptive management, and compliance with national climate policies and NDCs. Local implementation will be led by municipalities and unions of municipalities through Municipal **Project Coordination Units (MPCUs)** will lead local implementation, supported by **Community Climate Action Committees (CCACs)** to ensure inclusive co-design, participatory monitoring, and accountability. A shared **CO-led knowledge and reporting system** will enable monitoring and learning, complemented by quarterly rotating regional meetings to support coordination, transparency, cross-country learning, and replication.

### PART IV: ENDORSEMENT BY GOVERNMENTS AND CERTIFICATION BY THE IMPLEMENTING ENTITY

#### A. Record of endorsement on behalf of the government<sup>10</sup>

<i>Dr. Tamara el Zein, Minister, Ministry of Environment, Lebanon</i>	Date: (July, 02, 2025)
<i>Dr. Aiman A. Soleiman, Minister, Ministry of Environment of Jordan</i>	Date: (August, 31, 2025)

#### B. Implementing Entity certification

I certify that this proposal has been prepared in accordance with guidelines provided by the Adaptation Fund Board, and prevailing National Development and Adaptation Plans (*Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) emphasize ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA) in both countries, integrated water resource management, and gender-responsive climate resilience. Lebanon's Updated NDC 3.0 (2025) commits to reducing GHG emissions by up to 31% and highlights adaptation across water, agriculture, and ecosystems. It identifies the restoration of degraded land and watershed management as key national priorities. Similarly, Jordan's NDC 3.0 (2025) advances an economy-wide climate framework that integrates mitigation, adaptation, and resilience across sectors, with strong emphasis on water security, climate-resilient agriculture, urban systems, public health, and nature-based solutions, while progressing toward a net-zero pathway by 2050.<sup>11</sup> Both NDCs and associated strategies stress the importance of stakeholder engagement, public awareness, institutional coordination, and science-policy integration—all principles embedded in this project's approach*) and subject to the approval by the Adaptation Fund Board, commit to implementing the project/programme in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund and on the understanding that the Implementing Entity will be fully (legally and financially) responsible for the implementation of this project/programme.



**Rafael Tuts**  
 Director, Global Solutions Division, UN-Habitat  
 Implementing Entity Coordinator

Date: March 06, 2026	Tel. and email: +254-20-7623726   raf.tuts@un.org
Project Contact Person: Yasmine Mostafa	

Each Party shall designate and communicate to the secretariat the authority that will endorse on behalf of the national government the projects and programmes proposed by the implementing entities.

<sup>11</sup> Jordan and Lebanon NDCs – climatepromise.undp.org; UNFCCC submissions, 2025 (Lebanon), 2025 (Jordan).





Ministry of Environment

Ref.No 7-2-5200  
Date 31-8-2025

**The Adaptation Fund Board**  
**c/o Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat**  
**Email: Secretariat@Adaptation-Fund.org**  
**Fax : 202 522 3240/5**

Subject: Endorsement for "Transboundary Adaptation for Watershed Sustainability and Livelihoods" TAWASUL Project – A regional initiative that promotes gender-responsive governance, sustainable financing schemes for local authorities, and Nature-Based solutions in Lebanon and Jordan

In my capacity as designated authority for the Adaptation Fund in Jordan, I confirm that the above national grant proposal is in accordance with the government's national priorities in implementing adaptation activities to reduce adverse impacts of, and risks, posed by climate change in the Jordan.

Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the above grant proposal with support from the Adaptation Fund. If approved, the project will be implemented by UN-Habitat and executed by the Royal Scientific Society (RSS), the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature Jordan, Wadi NGO and Karak Municipality.

Sincerely,

**Minister of Environment**

**Dr. Aiman A. Soleiman**



Ministry of Environment

Ref.No 7-2-5200  
Date 31-8-2025

**The Adaptation Fund Board  
c/o Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat  
Email: Secretariat@Adaptation-Fund.org  
Fax : 202 522 3240/5**

Subject: Endorsement for "Transboundary Adaptation for Watershed Sustainability and Livelihoods" TAWASUL Project – A regional initiative that promotes gender-responsive governance, sustainable financing schemes for local authorities, and Nature-Based solutions in Lebanon and Jordan

In my capacity as designated authority for the Adaptation Fund in Jordan, I confirm that the above national grant proposal is in accordance with the government's national priorities in implementing adaptation activities to reduce adverse impacts of, and risks, posed by climate change in the Jordan.

Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the above grant proposal with support from the Adaptation Fund. If approved, the project will be implemented by UN-Habitat and executed by the Royal Scientific Society (RSS), the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature Jordan, Wadi NGO and Karak Municipality.

Sincerely,

**Minister of Environment**

**Dr. Aiman A. Soleiman**

Cc: Secretary General

Cc: Director of Climate change directorate





**REPUBLIC OF LEBANON**  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT

THE MINISTER

Beirut, July 2, 2025  
Ref.: 2450 B 2025

The Adaptation Fund Board  
c/o Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat  
Email: [Secretariat@Adaptation-Fund.org](mailto:Secretariat@Adaptation-Fund.org)  
Fax: 202 522 3240/5

**Subject: : Endorsement for “Transboundary Adaptation for Watershed Sustainability and Livelihoods” TAWASUL Project – A Regional Nature-Based Solutions Initiative in Lebanon and Jordan**

In my capacity as designated authority for the Adaptation Fund in Lebanon, I confirm that the above national grant proposal is in accordance with the government’s national priorities in implementing adaptation activities to reduce adverse impacts of, and risks, posed by climate change in Lebanon.

Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the above grant proposal with support from the Adaptation Fund. If approved, the project will be implemented by UN-Habitat and executed by National Council for Scientific Research (CNRS-L), Saida Zahrani Union of Municipalities, Society for the Protection of Nature in Lebanon (SPNL), Royal Scientific Society (RSS), the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature Jordan, and Wadi NGO.

Sincerely,

Minister of Environment  
Tamara El-Zein, PhD



Cc: -- United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN House, riad El Solh, +961 1 978398, Beirut, Lebanon)  
-- MoE - DGoE - Service of Environmental Technology – Department of Air Quality  
-- MoE - Climate Change Projects

وزارة البيئة  
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Ref: ADM/ROAS/25-20

القاهرة، 24 حزيران 2025

وزارة البيئة  
مكتب لوجيا البيئة  
٢٠٢٥  
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معالي وزيرة البيئة في لبنان  
الدكتورة تمارا الزين المحترمة،

الموضوع: خطاب دعم رسمي من وزارة البيئة في لبنان للتقدم بمقترح أولي لمشروع إقليمي إلى صندوق التكيف

تحية طيبة وبعد،

يسرنا إعلامكم بأن موئل الأمم المتحدة (UN-Habitat) في لبنان، بالتعاون مع مكتب الموئل في الأردن، بصدد التقدم إلى صندوق التكيف (Adaptation Fund) بمقترح مشروع إقليمي بعنوان: "التكيف العابر للحدود من أجل استدامة الأحواض المائية وسبل العيش" - مبادرة إقليمية قائمة على الحلول الطبيعية في لبنان والأردن.

"Transboundary Adaptation for Watershed Sustainability and Livelihoods" - A Regional Nature-Based Solutions Initiative in Lebanon and Jordan (Project acronym TAWASUL)

يهدف المشروع لتعزيز قدرة المجتمعات المحلية والأنظمة البيئية على التكيف مع التغير المناخي، من خلال تطبيق نهج قائم على الحلول القائمة على الطبيعة (Nature-Based Solutions)، في كل من حوض وادي الكرك في الأردن وحوض نهر الأولي في لبنان. كما يهدف المشروع إلى استعادة النظم البيئية المتدهورة، وتحقيق التعافي بعد الكوارث، وتعزيز الحوكمة البيئية، وإيجاد آليات تمويل مستدامة وشاملة، مع التركيز على الفئات الأكثر عرضة للخطر، بما في ذلك النساء والشباب.

ويأتي هذا المشروع استجابةً لأولويات لبنان والأردن الوطنية بالمساهمات المحددة وطنياً (Nationally Determined Contributions - NDC)، والخطة الوطنية للتكيف (National Adaptation Plan - NAP)، وغيرها من السياسات والاستراتيجيات القطاعية ذات الصلة، لا سيما في قطاعات المياه، والزراعة، والحفاظ على الطبيعة، والسياحة، والتخطيط الحضري، والتنمية المحلية.

وعليه، نرجو من معاليكم بتزويدنا بخطاب دعم رسمي صادر عن وزارة البيئة، بصفتها الجهة الوطنية المعنية، لتأييد التقدم بهذا المقترح إلى صندوق التكيف.

نرفق طياً مقترح المشروع الأولي (Pre-Concept Note) الذي يوضح خلفية المشروع، أهدافه، الجهات المنفذة، ومكوناته الرئيسية، ونبقى على استعداد لتقديم أي معلومات إضافية قد ترونها ضرورية.

كما وقد أرفقنا نموذج "خطاب الدعم" المطلوب من صندوق التكيف.

وتفضلوا معاليكم بقبول فائق الاحترام والتقدير،

رانيا هدية  
المدير الإقليمي للدول العربية (بالإنابة)  
موئل الأمم المتحدة



ملاكة كوروسيا البيئية

نائسي الخوري

رئيس مصلحة الديوان بالإنابة

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حزيران



**Revised PFG Submission Form<sup>1</sup> (additions in red)**

**Project Formulation Grant (PFG)**

**Submission Date:** 29 of January 2026

**Adaptation Fund Project ID:**

**Country/ies:** Lebanon and Jordan

**Title of Project/Programme:** Transboundary Adaptation for Watershed Sustainability and Livelihoods"– A Regional Nature-Based Solutions Initiative in Lebanon and Jordan (Project acronym: TAWASUL)

**Type of IE (NIE/RIE/MIE):** UN-Agency

**Implementing Entity:** UN-Habitat

**Executing Entity/ies:** UN-Habitat, National Council for Scientific Research (NCRS-L), Society for the Protection of Nature in Lebanon (SPNL), the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature Jordan, Wadi NGO

**A. Project Preparation Timeframe**

<b>Start date of PFG</b>	After approval of pre-concept note
<b>Completion date of PFG</b>	After 3 months of pre-concept note approval

**B. Proposed Project Preparation Activities (\$)**

<b>List of Proposed Project Preparation Activities</b>	<b>Output of the PFG Activities</b>	<b>US\$ Amount</b>	<b>Budget note<sup>2</sup></b>
Inception, Scoping, and Stakeholder/initiatives Mapping	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Agreed regional project scope and structure.</li> <li>▪ Defined roles of implementing and executing entities.</li> <li>▪ Stakeholder and initiative mapping to identify complementarities and avoid duplication</li> </ul>	5,400 USD	Covers coordination meetings, regional scoping discussions, and stakeholder/initiative mapping needed to frame the regional concept and ensure alignment with existing initiatives and will be executed through UN-Habitat in cooperation with local/ international consultants if necessary.

<sup>1</sup> As presented in AFB/PPRC.33/40 Annex 1.

<sup>2</sup> The proposal should include a detailed budget with budget notes indicating the break- down of costs at the activity level. It should also include a budget on the Implementing Entity management fee use.

Baseline Review and Problem Definition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Preliminary baseline</li> </ul>	16,200 USD	Supports preliminary technical review of existing data and studies, analytical inputs, and synthesis required to define the adaptation rationale and approach and will be executed through UN-Habitat in cooperation with local/ international consultants if necessary
Drafting, Validation, and Submission of Concept Note	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Draft AF-compliant regional concept note.</li> <li>▪ Stakeholder validation inputs incorporated</li> <li>▪ Final concept note submitted</li> </ul>	5,400 USD	Covers drafting, coordination with local, national and regional stakeholders and Designated Authorities, validation consultations, and finalization and submission of the concept note, and will be executed through UN-Habitat in cooperation with local/ international consultants if necessary.
IE Fees	Project formulation oversight, technical guidance	3,000	
<b>Total Project Formulation Grant</b>		<b>30, 000 USD</b>	

Please describe below each of the PFG activities and provide justifications for their need and for the amount of funding required:


**For LLA Projects only:**

If requesting additional funding for LLA projects to enable devolving decision making to the local level, please specify the activities that would directly serve to enable devolving decision making to the lowest appropriate level and enable local actors to make informed decisions on how adaptation actions are defined, prioritized, designed, and implemented:

Please provide justifications for their need and for the amount of additional funding required:

**C. Implementing Entity**

This request has been prepared in accordance with the Adaptation Fund Board’s procedures and meets the Adaptation Fund’s criteria for project identification and formulation

Implementing Entity Coordinator, IE Name	Signature	Date (Month, day, year)	Project Contact Person	Telephone	Email Address
Raf Tuts		06 March 2026	Yasmine Mostafa	00201092051217	Yasmine.mostafa@un.org