

# CLIMATE CHANGE

## Resource Guide



**EcoPeace**  
Middle East



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# Acknowledgements

It is rewarding and meaningful to be able to develop materials about one of the most challenging and important issues of our time - climate change. The goal of the resource guide is to provide opportunities to explore the consequences of climate change and to further understanding about its implications in the region. The leaders of tomorrow are studying today.

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1st UN Simulation- adapted from climate change mini-simulation UNA of the capital area (2015)

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## Introduction and Overview

The topic of this resource guide is one of the most pressing global issues of our time, Climate Change. By using Model United Nations Simulations as a learning tool, this guide can be used in the classroom or at Model UN club meetings to learn about climate change and practice research, speaking and negotiation skills.

By simulating actual global committee meetings, you will gain the skills and knowledge to advocate or even initiate innovative ways to make progress on climate change and other urgent issues. You will learn about current events to a depth and gain perspectives on the issues of global concern. Through these simulations, you will experience the challenges and complexities of international relations and gain a deeper understanding of the political nature of international predicaments and hence the difficulties in making progress to solve these problems. The negotiation tools will help you recognize different perspectives on issues and deal with the emotional aspects that need to be taken into consideration when working with others.

This guide comprises two Model UN Simulations on climate change as well as a set of negotiation tools to help you become an active participant as you work in groups to resolve conflicts and make progress on issues.

The first simulation has been adapted for the region to include local countries from the original materials provided by the United Nations Association of the National Capital Area in 2015. The mini-simulation introduces key concepts about climate change, includes country placards with bullet points embedded (teacher's edition). The second simulation is more advanced and is focused on the MENA Region (Middle East and North Africa). It was originally created for the Regional Cooperation Committee at SHAREMUN 2019.

# Climate Change Mini-Simulation: Background Guide

## United Nations

The United Nations (UN) is an international organization founded in 1945 after the Second World War by 51 countries committed to creating a better and safer world for all people. Today, the UN has 193 member countries. The UN has 4 main purposes:

- To keep peace throughout the world;
- To develop friendly relations among nations;
- To help nations work together to improve the lives of poor people, to conquer hunger, disease and illiteracy, and to encourage respect for each other's rights and freedoms;
- To be a center for harmonizing the actions of nations to achieve these goals.

## Committee: United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP)

The UNEP was established in 1972 to serve as the UN's main body for environmental education and awareness. The UNEP focuses on climate change, disasters, ecosystem management, environmental governance, harmful substances, and resource efficiency. The UNEP reviews national and international environmental policies, assesses the global environmental situation, and provides guidance in setting environmental policies. It is based in Nairobi, Kenya.

The UNEP Governing Council has 59 members who serve four-year terms. Member states are elected by the General Assembly and are selected to represent each region of the world. The Governing Council meets each year at the Global Ministerial Environmental Forum to address important environmental concerns. It may also convene in special sessions.

## Background

Although Earth's **climate**<sup>1</sup> naturally changes over time, most scientists agree that it is currently changing in ways that are not natural. Instead, human activity is the cause. The evidence for today's rapid climate change includes sea level rise, global temperature rise, warming oceans, shrinking ice sheets, declining Arctic sea ice, glacial retreat, extreme weather events, and **ocean acidification**<sup>2</sup>.

Earth's air, water and land are all linked together to create the climate. When one aspect of climate is affected, the others are eventually affected as well through a chain reaction.

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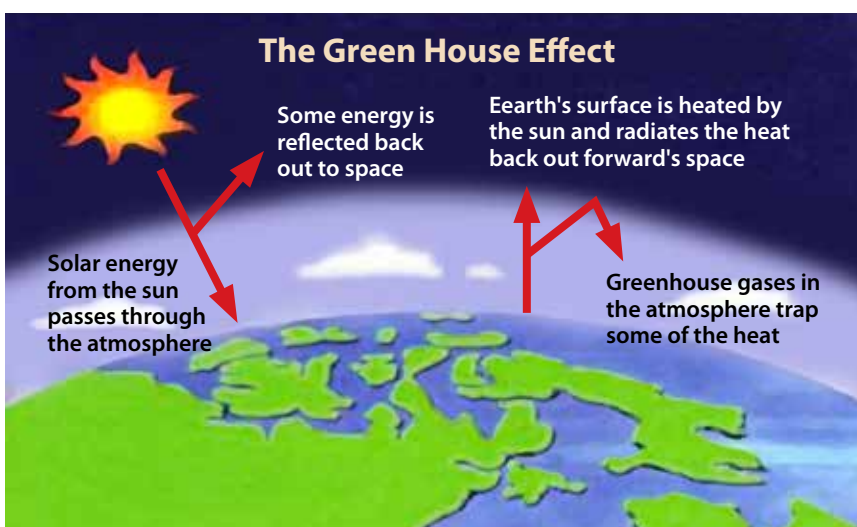
1 **Climate** – Climate refers to average weather conditions in a place over many years. People refer to regional climates, the climate in one area of the world, and global climate, which is the average climate around the world.

2 **Ocean acidification** – Decrease in the pH of the earth's oceans which is caused when the ocean absorbs carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. Coral reefs, fish, and many marine creatures cannot survive in a more acidic environment.

A change to the temperature of the air can cause a change in the temperature of the water, which can affect the land. Earth's climate has certainly changed throughout history with cycles of glacial advance and retreat. The last ice age ended about 7,000 years ago, marking the beginning of the modern climate era and of human civilization. However, the current warming trend and climate changes are different due to their unprecedented rate of progress. This is a result of increasing industrialization and emissions of CO<sub>2</sub> and other greenhouse gasses. The epoch of significant human impact on Earth's geology and ecosystems, including climate change, is known as the Anthropocene.



Fluctuations in the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> in Earth's atmosphere throughout the last 800,000 are cyclic, compared to the unidirectional and strong trend of increasing CO<sub>2</sub> amounts in the past century. As seen in the graph, the current level of CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere exceeds the natural changes and is significantly higher than historic data.



Gases in the Earth's atmosphere help trap the sun's heat. This keeps the Earth from getting too cool. However, with all of the extra gases released by humans, the Earth is getting too hot.

## Statement of the problem

Based on extensive knowledge and a massive amount of data, scientists now agree that human activity is causing climate change, which is often called **global warming**<sup>3</sup>. Many scientists and academics prefer to use the term *climate change* instead of *global warming* because there are more effects than just a rising temperature. Shrinking glaciers, melting Arctic ice, longer and more intense heat waves, and accelerated sea level rise can already be seen around the world.

Climate change is defined as the increase in Earth's temperature due to human activity by way of greenhouse gas emissions. Additionally, the UN International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) reports that scientists expect to see a number of other possible changes that could potentially be disastrous to the planet; these changes vary from region to region. In Africa, for example, increased **water stress**<sup>4</sup> will decrease agricultural productivity. Floods, heat waves, and an increase of malaria will cause a higher death rate. North America can expect to see decreased snowpack in the mountains and an increase in the duration and intensity of heat waves. These heat waves will be even more intense in cities that already experience them.

Human activity is causing the global climate change. More than 100 years ago, people started burning large amounts of **fossil fuels**<sup>5</sup> (coal, oil and natural gas) to power their homes, factories, and vehicles. Around the world, people continue to burn more and more fossil fuels to meet modern energy needs. Burning fossil fuels releases carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. Carbon dioxide, along with other greenhouse gasses, stays in the Earth's **atmosphere**<sup>6</sup> and warms the planet. Earth needs these to help keep it warm enough for plants and animals to live. However, humans are releasing more gases than ever before, which is causing climate change.

The gases in the atmosphere are called **greenhouse gases**<sup>7</sup>, and they trap heat to make the Earth warmer. This process is known as the **greenhouse effect**<sup>8</sup>. The Earth's atmosphere naturally contains certain chemicals that trap heat from the sun. This trapped heat is what helps warm the planet. Human activity is also contributing to the greenhouse effect by adding more chemicals to the atmosphere. These chemicals are causing the planet to warm more than it would on its own.

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3 **Global warming** – An increase in the average temperature of Earth's atmosphere.

4 **Water stress** – when the demand for water is greater than the amount that is available.

5 **Fossil fuels** – Fuels that result from the compression of ancient plant and animal life forms over millions of years.

6 **Atmosphere**: the layer of gasses that protects the Earth and makes it possible to sustain life

7 **Greenhouse gases** – gases that trap the heat of the sun in Earth's atmosphere, producing the greenhouse effect. Major greenhouse gases are carbon dioxide, water vapor, methane, ozone, chlorofluorocarbons, and nitrogen oxides.

8 **Greenhouse effect** – the process in which greenhouse gases keep the Earth warm. Too many gases in the atmosphere cause the earth to warm up at a faster rate.



People are adding and increasing several types of greenhouse gases: **carbon dioxide**<sup>9</sup>, **methane**<sup>10</sup>, and **nitrous oxide**<sup>11</sup>, among others. These gases are primarily released by burning fossil fuels for energy but gases are also released from farms (raising livestock and fertilizing soil), landfills (as trash breaks down over time, methane is released), leaking coolants (from air conditioners and refrigerators), cutting down and burning trees, and some factory methods. People produce more carbon dioxide than any other gas, and it is responsible for most of the warming.

Once in the air, these gases move around the world. This means that the concentration of gases is about the same throughout the world. Some countries produce more greenhouse gases than others, but all are equally affected. Climate change is an international problem because the climate is a resource that all nations share and the effects of climate change reach everyone. Immediate attention is required to stop our high levels of greenhouse gas emissions.

## Discussion of the Problem

### Signs of Climate Change



Source: <http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/kids/impacts/signs/index.html>

- *Rising temperatures*: The average temperature of the Earth is rising. Temperatures have risen over the past 30 years. The warmest decade on record was 2000-2009.
- *Heat waves*: **Heat waves**<sup>12</sup> are becoming more common and lasting for longer periods of time.
- *Changing **precipitation**<sup>13</sup> patterns*: As temperatures rise, more moisture evaporates into the atmosphere, which means more rain and snow falls. Climate change also causes

9 **Carbon dioxide** – one of the most common greenhouse gases. It comes from burning fossil fuels and trees.

10 **Methane** – another common greenhouse gas that comes from livestock, landfills, natural gas and coal.

11 **Nitrous oxide** – another common greenhouse gas that comes from farming and transportation.

12 **Heat wave** – a prolonged period of hot weather

13 **Precipitation** – rain, sleet, hail, snow and other forms of water falling from the sky

changes in air and ocean currents which means that this extra precipitation is not spread evenly around the world. Some regions are getting more precipitation while others such as the MENA<sup>14</sup> region are getting less.

- *Droughts*: Since 1970, **droughts**<sup>15</sup> have become longer and more extreme around the world. Droughts mean less water is available for drinking, irrigating crops, and making electricity. They can also lead to more wildfires since land that has been dry for an extended period of time is more likely to burn.
- *Flooding*: Too much rain can cause **flooding**<sup>16</sup>.
- *Wilder storms*: Warmer air and oceans means that tropical storms are becoming stronger. These tropical storms, along with increased rainstorms and snowstorms, can cause flooding, harm crops, and put people in danger.
- *Warmer oceans*: The oceans, especially the top layer, absorb some of the heat from rising air temperatures. This top layer is getting warmer at a rate of 0.2°F per decade. Warmer oceans affect weather patterns, cause more powerful tropical storms, and can impact marine life.
- *Rising sea level*: Over the past 100 years, the average worldwide sea level rose 7 inches. Rising sea levels threaten people that live in low-lying areas, like Bangladesh and New York City.
- *Melting sea ice and glaciers*: Melting sea ice and glaciers also contribute to rising ocean levels. Decreasing sea ice also means that less light is reflected back into space (snow and ice reflect a lot of light which keeps the planet from getting too warm). With less ice, the Earth absorbs more heat from the sun and gets warmer.
- *Ocean acidification*: Oceans also absorb carbon dioxide and this added carbon dioxide makes the oceans more acidic. Increased ocean acidity harms fish and coral reefs when species cannot survive in a more acidic environment.

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<sup>14</sup> **MENA** – Middle East and North Africa.

<sup>15</sup> **Drought** – a prolonged period of abnormally low precipitation and the resulting shortage of water

<sup>16</sup> **Flood** – and overflow of a large amount of water beyond its normal space

## Effects on People and the Environment



Source: <http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/kids/impacts/effects/index.html>

- **Agriculture**<sup>17</sup> Rising temperatures and water shortages are affecting when and where crops can grow. More frequent weather extremes such as droughts and floods can damage crops. This can lead to lower food security, meaning reduced availability of food and lower access to food, especially in vulnerable areas such as developing countries.
- **Water supply:** Water supplies worldwide are in danger – both in quantity and quality – resulting in lower water security. Rising temperatures, shifting patterns of rain and snow, and longer droughts will affect the amount of water in lakes, streams, rivers and ground water sources. Salination (salt getting into fresh water) and pollution increased by population growth will affect the quality of freshwater sources and the ability to consume freshwater.
- **Energy:** Climate change is affecting the amount of energy people use. Air conditioning requires a lot of energy, typically from fossil fuels, which release more greenhouse gases. Higher demands for energy supplies can cause power outages. Moreover, the danger to water supply leads to the use of non-conventional water sources, e.g. desalination and wastewater treatment. These methods require high amounts of energy.
- **Human health:** Extreme weather, like heat waves and storms, can cause people harm or even death. In hot, humid regions, there is an ever-increasing risk of infectious diseases (mosquito populations are growing, and they transmit **malaria**<sup>18</sup> and **West Nile virus**<sup>19</sup>).
- **Ecosystem changes:** **Ecosystems**<sup>20</sup> around the globe are changing. Arctic ice, glaciers, and tundra are melting. Forests and grasslands are more prone to wildfires. Coral reefs are disappearing.

<sup>17</sup> **Agriculture** – farming; growing crops and raising livestock for food

<sup>18</sup> **Malaria** – an infectious disease most commonly found in tropical climates, spread by mosquitos.

<sup>19</sup> **West Nile virus** – an infectious disease most commonly found in temperate and tropical climates also spread by mosquitos.

<sup>20</sup> **Ecosystem** – a community of living organisms and the nonliving components of their environments.

- *Conflict:* Water security, food security and energy security are all linked and affected by each other. The decline of water, food and energy security may result in new conflicts or expansion of existing conflicts that are related to competition over water, food and energy resources. These conflicts may exist on a local scale or a regional scale and harm relations between groups and nations.

## Regional Effects

Environmental issues and climate change impacts are not limited to political borders, and neighboring countries often share similar challenges and threats. On a similar note, countries that share the same environment must cooperate in order to confront climate change. This is why it is important to understand the regional context when approaching climate changes.

### Middle East

- The Middle East region is highly affected by climate change as it causes the spreading of extreme heat across more and more land and for longer time periods. This gradually makes some areas unlivable and reduces suitable areas for agriculture.
- Cities will feel an increasing heat island effect<sup>21</sup>.
- Rising temperatures and declining rainfall will put intense pressure on crops and water resources, in an arid (dry) area that is already suffering from water insecurity. Together with North Africa, the Middle East is the most water stressed region in the world.
- With continuous climate changes, droughts are expected to become longer, deeper, and more frequent.
- The expanding food and water insecurity may potentially increase migration and the risk of conflict in a region that is characterized by existing conflict conditions.
- However, the Middle East region also has some of the highest wind and solar energy potential in the world. Regional, cooperative efforts in water security, food security and renewable energy are crucial in coping with and adapting to climate change and may also create a path to regional conflict resolution.

### Africa

- Africa is one of the most vulnerable continents to climate change because of multiple stresses and low adaptive capacity.
- By 2020, 75 - 250 million people are projected to be exposed to increased water stress due to climate change.

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<sup>21</sup> **Heat island** – Urban, built up areas that are hotter than nearby rural surroundings.



- In many African countries and regions, climate change is expected to greatly harm food security. The area suitable for agriculture, the length of growing seasons and yield potential (how much the farms can produce) are expected to decrease. In some countries, yields from rain-fed agriculture could be reduced by up to 50% by 2020. Food security might also be negatively affected by decreasing fisheries resources in large lakes due to rising water temperatures.
- Towards the end of the 21st century, projected sea-level rise will affect low-lying coastal areas with large populations.

## Asia

- Glacier melt in the Himalayas is projected to increase flooding and rock slides, and to affect water resources within the next two to three decades.
- Freshwater availability in Central, South, East and South-East Asia is projected to decrease due to climate change, affecting more than a billion people by the 2050s.
- Coastal areas, especially heavily-populated regions in South, East and South-East Asia, will be at greatest risk due to increased flooding from the sea and rivers.
- Crop yields could increase up to 20% in East and South-East Asia while they could decrease up to 30% in Central and South Asia by the mid-21st century. Taken together, the risk of hunger is projected to remain very high in several developing countries.
- Diseases associated with floods and droughts are expected to rise in East, South and South-East Asia. Increased sea water temperatures would increase the abundance and/or toxicity of cholera in South Asia.

## Europe

- Europe is experiencing retreating glaciers, longer growing seasons, shifts of animal species natural habitats, and health impacts due to an unprecedented heat waves.
- The continent also faces increased risk of inland floods, and more frequent coastal flooding. Most organisms and ecosystems will have difficulty adapting to climate change.
- In Southern Europe, climate change is expected to bring higher temperatures and drought, and to reduce water availability, hydropower potential, and crop productivity. It is also projected to increase health risks due to heat-waves and the frequency of wildfires.
- In Central and Eastern Europe, summer precipitation is projected to decrease, causing higher water stress. Health risks due to heat waves are projected to increase.
- In Northern Europe, climate change is projected to bring some benefits such as reduced demand for heating, increased crop yields and increased forest growth. However, as climate change continues, more frequent winter floods, endangered ecosystems and increasing ground instability are likely to outweigh its benefits.

## **North America**

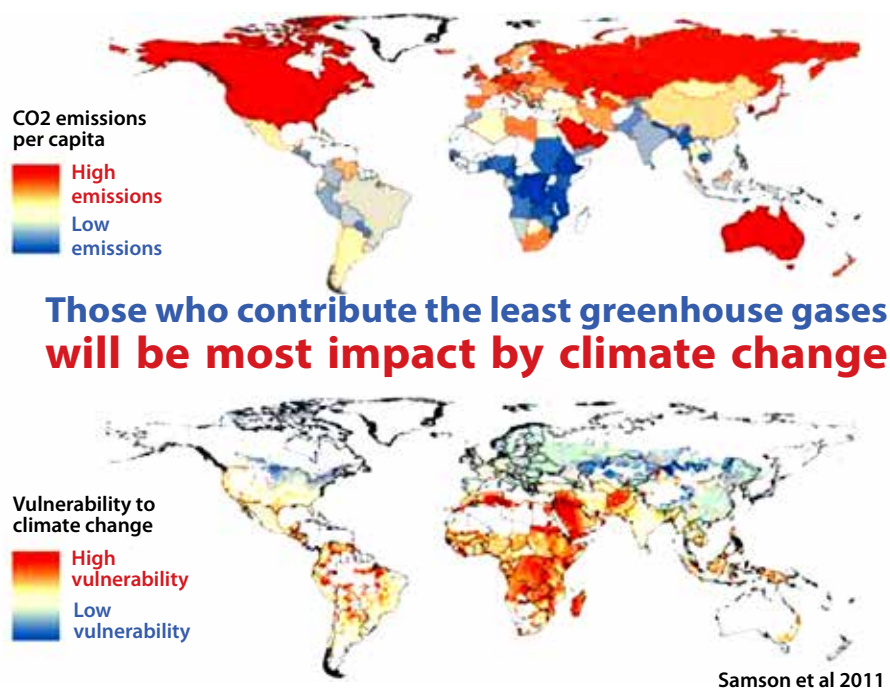
- Warming in western mountains is projected to cause decreased snowpack, more winter flooding, and reduced summer river flows, increasing competition on water resources.
- Disturbances from pests, diseases and fires are projected to have increasing impacts on forests.
- Moderate climate change in the early decades of the century is projected to increase yields of rain-fed agriculture. Meanwhile, major challenges are projected for crops that are vulnerable to higher temperatures and which depend on highly utilized water resources.
- Heat waves are expected to happen more often and with an increased intensity and duration, resulting in negative health impacts.
- Coastal communities and habitats will be increasingly stressed by climate change impacts, especially if the intensity of tropical storms increases.

## **Latin America**

- Latin America is exposed by climate change to increasing heat extremes, higher risk of drought, rising sea levels and higher frequency and intensity of tropical cyclones.
- Tropical glacier volume is decreasing substantially. The much larger glaciers in the southern Andes are less sensitive to warming and they shrink at a slower pace.
- Water runoff is projected to be reduced in some regions while river discharge may increase in others.
- Climate change is also expected to reduce agricultural yields, livestock and fisheries, although it may create opportunities such as increasing rice yield in several countries or higher fishing potential in certain areas.
- The continuous warming also threatens terrestrial biodiversity and exposes the Amazon Rainforest to degradation.
- Coral reefs are also at an increasing risk.

## What is being done?

Climate change is a global issue because the climate is shared by all the world's nations. Natural resources are not confined by political borders, and environmental policies and actions of different countries have international effects on the environment and climate. It is for this reason that regional and global cooperation are needed in order to deal with climate change and adapt to it. UNEP works to develop environmental education and awareness as well as promote **sustainable development**<sup>22</sup>.



On December 11, 1997 the international community produced the **Kyoto Protocol**, which introduced legally binding targets for countries to reduce greenhouse gas emissions between 2008-2012. The Kyoto Protocol entered into force on February 16, 2005 after being ratified by 163 countries. Neither the United States nor Australia—two of the world's biggest emitters of greenhouse gases—ratified the Protocol.

The **Earth Summit 2012** took place in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in June of 2012. This was a conference on sustainable development of the environment. Rio+20 highlighted seven issues; jobs, energy, cities, food, water, oceans, and disasters. The former United Nations Secretary General, Ban Ki-moon, encouraged all countries to increase the use of renewable energy sources like hydropower, wind power, and solar power. Cities' main concern is pollution, over-population, and poverty.

<sup>22</sup> **Sustainable development** – when we continue to use resources to meet our needs but preserve the environment while doing so.

In September 2015, the United Nations passed the **UN Global Goals** for Sustainable Development (referred to as the SDGs). All of the 17 Global Goals SDGs are linked to solving the climate crisis. Global Goal SDG 13, climate action, calls for the international community to combat the impacts of climate change.

At the December **2015 Paris Climate Conference**, also known as COP21, there was a landmark decision by the United Nations to cut greenhouse gas emissions. For the first time, 195 parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) agreed to limit emissions and to take common climate action. With this agreement nations signed a goal to keep warming below 2 degrees Celsius and reach net zero greenhouse gas emissions in the second half of the century. This will hopefully lead to an increase in clean energy development and usage.

### Priorities to be discussed

- Signs and effects of climate change;
- Ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions;
- Ways to adapt to a changing climate;
- Efforts already underway (what is being done) to curb global warming;
- Responsibility of different nations (developing vs. developed nations; wealthy vs. poor nations, huge greenhouse gas emitters vs. lower greenhouse gas emitters, etc.);
- The relationship between economic development and carbon emissions; and
- The responsibilities of individuals, governments, and the international community to fight climate change.

### Resolutions

Climate change affects every country and has potentially disastrous consequences for the world. Delegates should consider that different countries emit different amounts of greenhouse gases, but people everywhere feel the effects of climate change. For example, Island states are responsible for contributing negligible amounts (almost none) of Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GHG) emissions but are most vulnerable to climate change consequences such as rising sea level. Delegates should also realize that countries rely on fossil fuels (oil, coal etc.) for day-to-day life. So, delegates cannot simply pass a resolution banning the use of fossil fuels. Furthermore, delegates should take under consideration that investment in the reduction of GHG emissions requires financing, making changes in national agenda and strategic plans, most likely at the expense of other national matters.



Delegates should carefully consider the effects of climate change that are happening in their country, their country's share in the release of GHG into the atmosphere, and the features of their country. Then, delegates should select one of the following resolutions that serves their interests the most:

1. **Pay as you Pollute:** Each country will be required to invest in the reduction of GHG emissions in relation to their share in global emissions.
2. Countries will **invest in cutting GHG emissions** according to their own interests and their vulnerability to climate change consequences. In other words, each country will deal with climate change internally without the need for a global commitment.
3. **Countries will contribute to global efforts in reducing GHG relative to their ability** to do so. Countries in a better financial state and with higher technological knowledge and abilities will take on more responsibility (e.g. developed as opposed to developing countries).

## Tasks

- Review the list of priorities and possible resolutions;
- Read the country information on the back of your placard;
- Prepare a DEPP analysis;
- Prepare a CIA position paper about your country's stance and the resolution you recommend;
- Listen to other countries' points of view (*keep Positions and Interests in mind*)
- Meet to caucus (negotiate) and form a resolution
- Debate resolutions; and
- Vote on the resolutions.

## Countries represented in this simulation:

Israel, Palestinian Authority, Jordan, Egypt, United States, Japan, China, India, Indonesia, Colombia, Norway, Russian Federation, Germany, Switzerland, Brazil.



# Climate Change, Water Security and National Security Concerns in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA\*)

## Background guide

### Conflict or Cooperation?

*"Yesterday, nations went to war for land. Today, conflicts involve energy. And tomorrow, the battles will be about water."*

**-Brahma Chellaney, Indian Analyst of International Geostrategic Trends**

### Introduction

The Middle East and North Africa (MENA) is one of the driest, most water scarce regions on earth with extreme water stress in many areas. While water scarcity may not be the direct cause of conflict, it often exacerbates existing hardship and can contribute to disease, famine and subsequent conflict, war and terrorism. In a region as volatile as MENA where instability and violence can often seem the norm, water security directly impacts national security. MENA countries with extreme water scarcity are vulnerable to conflict, war and terrorism. At the same time, most of the MENA nations share water sources. While shared water sources can lead to conflict and war, they also provide opportunities for cooperation.

The challenge of this meeting is to find ways within this volatile region to create greater regional water cooperation and water security that would lead to a more sustainable future in the face of one of the most water scarce and challenging regions on Earth.

### Background

The MENA region comprises mostly desert; an estimated 90% of the land lies within arid and dry areas. According to the World Bank, it is the most water scarce region on Earth. Over 70 percent of the region's population lives in areas with high or very high surface water stress, compared with a global average of about 35 percent. Over 70 percent of the region's gross domestic product (GDP) is generated in areas with high to very high surface water stress, compared with a global average of 22 percent.

\* The 'Middle East and North Africa' (MENA) is the mainstream term for the region but it is worth noting that recently, researchers have shifted towards the term 'Western Asia' to encompass the expanse between the Mediterranean sea, the Indo-China border and the Arabian Sea.

The MENA region is a volatile region, prone to conflict, war and terrorism. Within that reality, it is estimated that currently over 60 million people lack access to drinking water and over 70 million people lack access to adequate sanitation in the region.

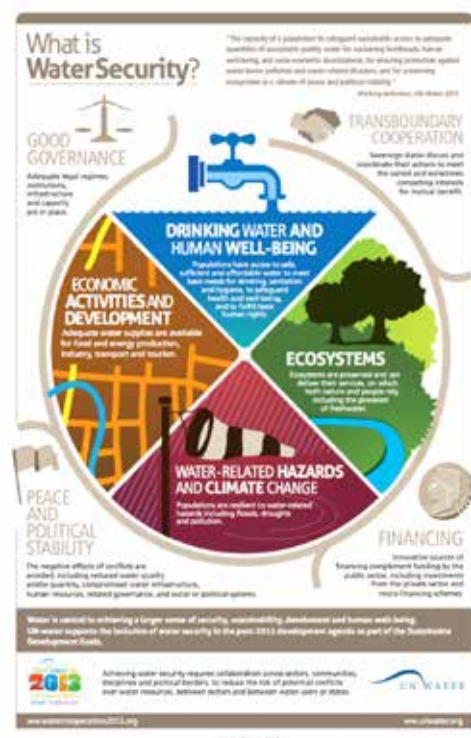
In recent years, water has been more and more acknowledged as a worldwide concern. According to UNESCO, it is projected that by 2025, 1.8 billion people will be living in countries or regions with absolute water scarcity and two-thirds of the world's population will experience serious stress conditions at least one month a year. In two consecutive decades, the United Nations has singled out water as a foremost cause for action: in 2005-2015 as the International Decade for Action-Water for Life; and currently, in 2018-2028 as the International Decade for Action - Water for Sustainable Development. Water is a vital, indispensable resource for human life.



<https://www.futurewater.eu/projects/mena/>

**Water Security** is the capacity of a population to safeguard sustainable access to adequate quantities of acceptable quality water for sustaining livelihoods, human well-being, and socio-economic development, for ensuring protection against water-borne pollution and water-related disasters, and for preserving ecosystems in a climate of peace and political stability.

The extreme water scarcity in the MENA region impacts on the region's water security, making the region more vulnerable to conflict and war. Whereas water security may not be the direct cause of conflict in the short term, the hardship it causes can intensify existing problems and contribute to increases in disease and famine. These in turn become factors in outbreaks of war and terrorism. Given the often unstable and conflict-ridden reality of the MENA







countries, achieving and maintaining water security in the MENA countries is of critical importance.

Water security takes into account not only a country's water resources, but also the productive and protective actions a country takes to secure water. This highlights the concept of '*adaptive capacity*'. This means that water security is not just about how much natural water supply a country has, but how well it plans for its future water needs. For example, a country with a high level of adaptive capacity would take resource scarcity into account to ensure long term stability for its population. Some of the most water scarce areas in the world are also some of the most water secure. For example, Singapore has overcome its water scarcity by investing heavily in waste-water treatment and other water technologies.

In contrast, some of the most water rich countries struggle to protect their populations from water-related disasters and to improve drinking water access. The latter is often due to poor management. The United Kingdom is one such example; it is a water rich nation that is facing water shortages due to waste and poor management.

Hence, it is very possible were the MENA region to improve its current unsustainable practices, even with the severe impact of climate change, it could attain and manage its water security. The UN, World Bank and many non-governmental organizations have long been calling for increased focus on water management as the stakes of not attaining water

security in the region are among the highest in the world: extreme poverty which already exists would increase, as well as economic losses and outbreaks of violence and war. In 2016, the World Bank estimated that MENA would have the greatest expected economic losses from climate-related water security – a loss of 6-14% of its GDP by 2050.

Climate change is changing weather patterns and events and is contributing to the growing global water crisis. The consequences of climate change are enormous. Climate change is thus a risk multiplier for an already unstable and unsuitable situation. Climate change is projected to intensify drought, desertification and flooding, all of which are prevalent in the MENA region.

Water is the number one way through which the world will feel the effects of climate change. Projections for the MENA region are that it will become hotter and drier, placing increased pressure on water sources. Surface water sources, including rivers, lakes and dams, will be unable to satisfy demands. Groundwater sources (underground aquifers) are already overdrawn and could be mostly depleted by 2030. Much of the Middle East is already arid, and as the amount of rainfall declines due to climate change, soil moisture is also likely to decrease, negatively affecting agriculture. Nearly two-thirds of the region's agriculture is rain dependent, making it vulnerable to any further decrease in precipitation (rain).

In addition, climate change will cause rising sea levels, increasing the risk of flooding in coastal areas. Low-lying deltas, such as the Nile and the Shatt-al Arab, have been identified as at risk from the impacts of climate change as have low-lying coastal areas, including Morocco's Mediterranean coast. Floods are already the most frequent natural disaster in the MENA region. Between 1981 and 2011, about 300 floods hit the Middle East and North Africa, killing 19,000 people and causing hardship for more than 8.6 million people. The 2008 floods in Yemen caused \$1.6 billion in total damages—equivalent to 6 percent of the country's GDP. The 2009 floods in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, resulted in \$1.36 billion in losses.

Climate change also means means greater drought and desertification in a region that is characterized as suffering from those phenomena even without climate change. Some of the greatest effects of climate change on surface water stress will occur in countries already facing politically and environmentally fragile situations: Iraq, Lebanon, Jordan, Israel, Syria, and Morocco.

**Water security impacts national security:** Threats to water security in MENA countries are and can become even greater threats to national security. National security is not solely a measure of military preparedness but one that takes into account the well-being of people. A lack of water security means that a nation does not have adequate and sustainable water supplies and water treatment infrastructure for the needs of its people, industry, and natural environment.

Water has a clear impact on food security. Inadequate water and food security put enormous

strain on the daily life of the nation and such scenarios affect national security. While it may not be a direct cause of conflict, war or terrorism, it can be a significant factor. A case in point is the Syrian civil war. Prior to the outbreak of the civil war, Syria had experienced extreme water scarcity during a long drought. Farmers abandoned their dried up land and migrated to large cities, where they did not find adequate relief and sustainable work. Protests against the government, while political in nature, also included expressions of widespread frustration with the government for not ensuring the well-being of those who had lost their livelihoods during the drought. These protests in turn led to the outbreak of the civil war.

A lack of water security is also a strong driver of internal displacement and migration. Displaced persons and refugees who flee to other countries have a great impact on water security in host communities and nations. The arrival of Syrian refugees in Jordan (740,160), Lebanon (950,000) , and Turkey (4 million) has increased water demand and generated more sewage and waste, placing great stress on the host nations. Under such circumstances, a lack of water security for refugees as well as the regular citizens, could destabilize the countries and become a national security threat.

Currently, there is no international accepted definition for a 'climate refugee'. The term 'refugee' established by the UN in 1951 and accepted on the global political scale is defined by an identity-based persecution, thus excluding the millions of displaced people who face expulsion from their homes due to uninhabitable environmental shifts and the further political fallout.





Another example that illustrates the importance of water security-national security relationship is the 1994 Peace Treaty between Israel and Jordan; the treaty includes a provision in which Israel is to provide Jordan with a specific amount of water per year. For Israel, who shares its longest border with Jordan, Jordan's water security is a matter of national security for both countries. It is in Israel's national security interests to prevent even more water scarcity in Jordan – Jordan is already one of the driest, most water scarce nations in the world -- a scenario that could destabilize Jordan and threaten Israel's border.

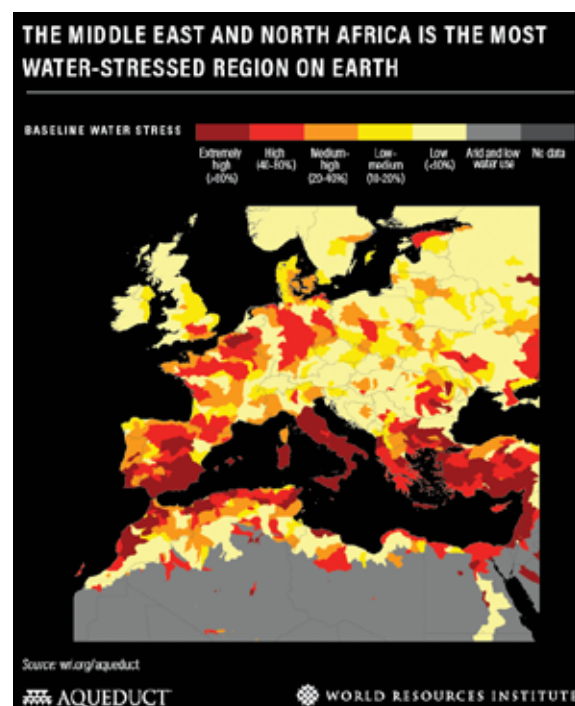
Further, one sees the relationship between water security and national security in the safeguarding of water infrastructure during wartime. In many ongoing armed conflicts, water is used as a weapon: water infrastructure is attacked, leading to extreme strain on civilian populations and creating humanitarian disasters that present further threats to a nation or region's security and stability. Water supply and sanitation facilities are often targeted during conflicts. Terrorist groups in the Middle East and North Africa have intentionally withheld or disrupted access to water, using water as a weapon or as a bargaining chip during negotiations. An example of this was the takeover in August 2014 by the Islamic State of the Mosul Dam, which stores around 11 million cubic meters (mcm) of water and produces a significant amount of energy. This led to fears that the Islamic State would intentionally destroy the dam in order to flood Mosul as well as Baghdad.

Conflict and war can also exacerbate water scarcity; in Iraq, Yemen, and Syria, access to safe drinking water supply and sanitation declined by as much as 70 percent in wartime. In conflict-ridden Gaza, only 10 percent of the population has access to piped, potable (drinkable) water because of groundwater depletion and contamination.

## Current Situation

The MENA region is a global leader of unsustainable water use. The region is using far more water than can be renewed. Renewable water is calculated on the basis of the water cycle, for example rain recharging a river. Nonrenewable sources include

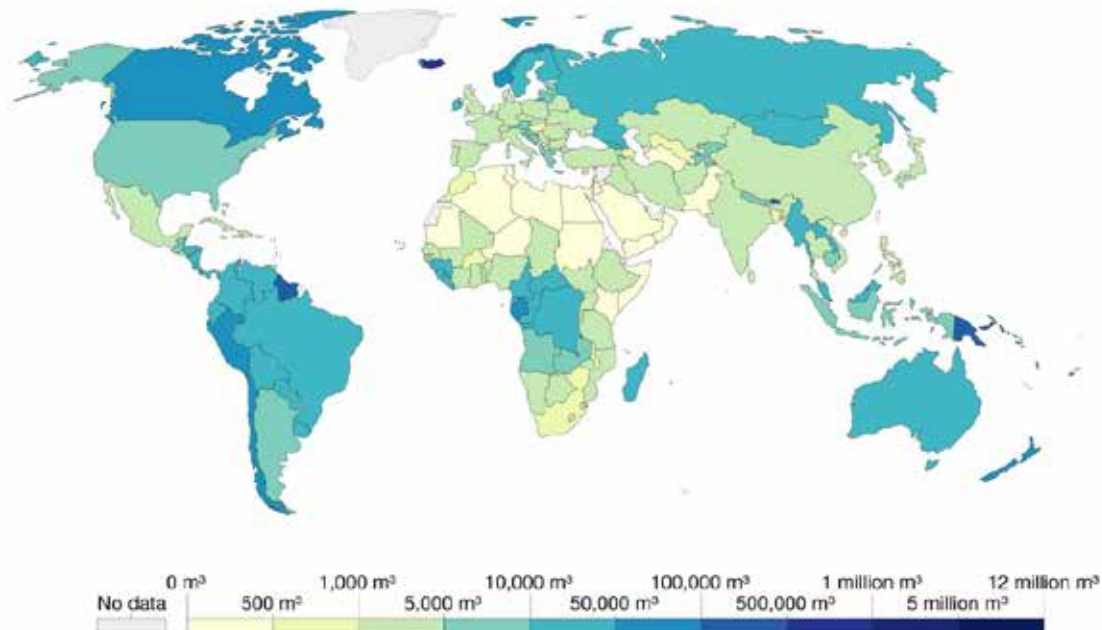
deep aquifers – groundwater – that cannot be recharged in a human life span, if ever. In some MENA countries, more than half of current water withdrawals are greater than sustainable limits. Beyond that, excessive water use can lead to the depletion and contamination of both surface water (rivers, streams and lakes) and aquifers (groundwater).





## Renewable internal freshwater resources per capita (cubic meters), 2014

Renewable internal freshwater resources flows refer to internal renewable resources (internal river flows and groundwater from rainfall) in the country. Renewable internal freshwater resources per capita are calculated using the World Bank's population estimates.



Source: World Bank

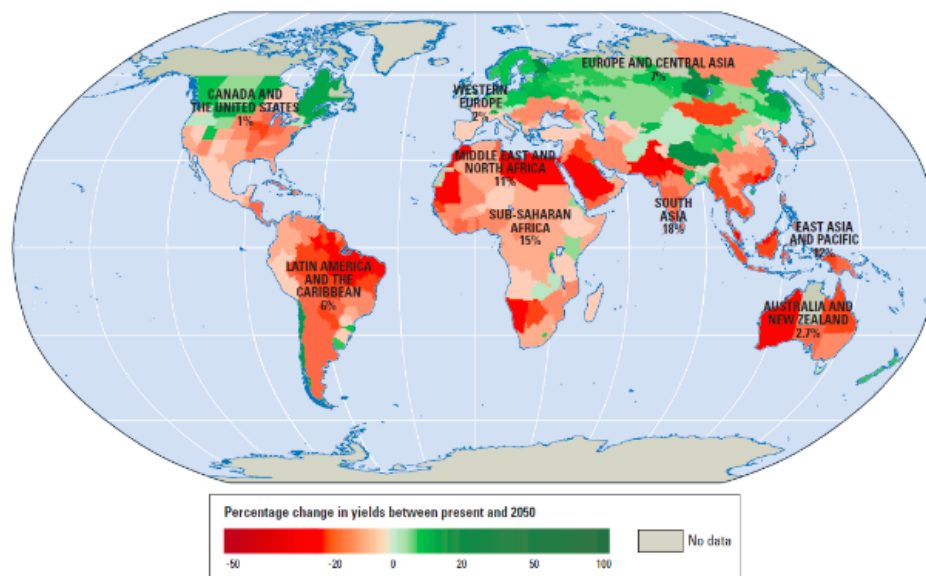
[OurWorldInData.org/water-access-resources-sanitation/](http://OurWorldInData.org/water-access-resources-sanitation/) • CC BY

The surface water resources (rivers, streams and lakes) of the Middle East and North Africa are not only the scarcest; they are also the most unpredictable in the world.

Groundwater (underground aquifers) is often used when there are no alternatives, but this risks depleting or contaminating the aquifers. When aquifers are over-pumped and nearly depleted, water quality deteriorates to the point of rendering the water unsuitable for human consumption. This is the case in the Gaza Strip, where the main source of water, the Coastal Aquifer has been so over-pumped that seawater is flowing in, making it too salty to drink. In addition, the aquifer has been contaminated by wastewater from nearby population centers and refugee camps as well as agricultural runoff (agrochemicals). According to the World Health Organization's (WHO) water quality standards, 97 percent of the aquifer's water is unfit for human consumption.

Agriculture accounts for nearly 80 percent of the region's water use, compared with the world average of 70 percent. The region has some of the world's highest losses of freshwater resources; there is a need for more efficient management, including the use of more efficient technology, such as drip irrigation and wastewater recycling. Irrigated agriculture is responsible for around 90 percent of all annual water withdrawals in Syria, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Iran, and Yemen.

There are differences among the countries. Some countries rely on groundwater, while others rely more on large transboundary rivers (crosses national borders). For example, Egypt relies almost exclusively on the Nile River, a transboundary river that flows through 11 countries.



Sources: Müller and others 2009; world bank 2008c.

**Climate change will depress agricultural yields in most countries in 2050, given current agricultural practices and crop varieties**

In a very different scenario, in the Gulf States, water scarcity is so great that these nations rely almost totally on nonconventional water resources, such as desalination for drinking water, washing and food preparation and wastewater recycling for non-drinking uses (industry, etc.).

The impacts of unsustainable use of water sources often contaminate the water and harm the surrounding ecosystems. The harm ranges from severe health damage caused by outbreaks of waterborne diseases to the destruction of ecosystems and fisheries due to the pollution of fresh and marine water. In the Arabian Peninsula, 17 percent of freshwater species are threatened with extinction.

The water scarcity problem is above all a water governance problem. Across all MENA countries, there has been a failure to create an understanding of extreme water scarcity and promote water conservation. Instead, what has continued is excessive consumption, undervalued water with a lot of waste resulting in resource depletion and pollution. What is urgently needed is a concerted effort to use less water. This can be accomplished through efficient water use in agriculture, adjusting fiscal policy around water<sup>23</sup>, creation of new water through desalination and increased treatment and reuse of wastewater and more. All the various methods for increasing water security in the MENA region can relate back to proper management and accountability.

To lessen the impact of water scarcity, the countries of the MENA region have substantially increased their investment in and use of desalinated water. There is no single model for desalination, nor does one model fit all the countries. As the desert areas become larger and

<sup>23</sup> The MENA governments heavily subsidize the scarce resource, raising water prices to meet the real value would lead to economic upheaval in the daily life of citizens

the population keeps expanding, it can be expected that desalination will remain the main choice for increasing freshwater supplies.

There are currently more than 2,800 desalination plants operating in the MENA region and they produce around 27 million cubic meters (mcm) of freshwater from seawater per day. Both Saudi Arabia and Israel have been able to address water scarcity through desalination. Potable (drinking) water is created to reach beyond water consumption demands. Currently, Saudi Arabia has one of the highest water consumption rates in the world, a majority of which stems from their urban population.

As desalination is costly and can harm the environment by emitting greenhouse gasses and hurting the coastal ecosystems, MENA might look to replace desalination with a new and more sustainable approach, the Concentrated Solar Power Plant (CSP). Other methods of desalination using renewable energy include solar thermal energy and wind-based energy. The biggest consumers of the CSP plants in the MENA region are Algeria, Libya, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and UAE. Several other countries in the region such as Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia have started large projects relating to CSP plants. One of the projects is a series of solar farms that expands through the region.

The MENA region treats about 40 percent of its collected wastewater but there is little recycling of this potential resource. More than half of the wastewater collected in the MENA region is returned to the environment untreated as raw sewage, resulting in both health hazards and wasted water resources. Egypt, Jordan, and Tunisia treat a significant part of their collected wastewater, but they still have not been able to implement proper reuse of this water.



## Transboundary Water Sources

A large part of both the surface (rivers, streams and lakes) and groundwater sources in the MENA region are transboundary (crosses national borders). The combination of growing water scarcity and climate-related risks is likely to increase competition for development of these waters. A large number of aquifers are shared between countries in the MENA region and with countries outside the region. Every MENA country shares at least one aquifer with a neighbor.

Cooperation around shared water resources in MENA has the potential to promote trust between countries and lead to broader cooperation. This is important for the countries where water scarcity and conflicts are a threat to well-being. However, in the MENA region, after many years of political tension and disputes between and within countries, regional cooperation needs to be developed and improved.

Throughout history, water cooperation has proven to be a good tool for confidence-building and peace. In fact, parties are frequently willing to solve water conflicts before solving the more intractable political issues. Furthermore, water cooperation can help prevent violent conflicts. An example of successful water cooperation is the water cooperation system on the Senegal River that flows through Guinea, Senegal, Mali and Mauritania; it has helped to overcome regional tensions among the riparian countries (riparian refers to those who possess land along the course of the river and have the legal rights to share in its benefits.)

The following conventions support cooperation and regulation of Transboundary Water Courses:

- 1) 1992 Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes**
- 2) 1997 UN Convention on the Law of the Non-Navigational Uses of International Watercourses**

Commonly known as the UN Watercourses Convention, it came into force in 2014 and governs all international shared freshwater resources. It provides a set of principles and rules that can be adapted to the needs of different international watercourses. Of the MENA countries, only Jordan, Tunisia and Yemen have signed while Chad, Niger, Iraq, Morocco, Lebanon and Qatar are parties to the treaty. Worldwide, at least 15 transboundary river and lake basins do not have an agreement or arrangement in place covering the entire basin, and at least 29 do not have agreements.

Water dependency on neighboring countries of most MENA countries is extremely high. Egypt, Syria and Jordan are obliged to rely almost exclusively on transboundary water resources emanating from outside their own borders. The Palestinian Territories are almost entirely dependent on transboundary water sources that they share with Israel but which are essentially controlled by Israel.

The rapidly increasing population of the MENA region together with urbanization and economic development have led to a huge increase in demand for water. The population has grown from around 100 million in 1960, to a current 311 million to a projected figure of more than 430 million by 2025. The average amount of water per capita in the region will continue to decrease due both to fast growing populations and the effects of climate change.

The following water dependency ratio refers to surface water. Many of the MENA countries that have low percentages or don't even make the list, do in fact share transboundary groundwater aquifers with other countries. According to the World Water Development Report 2003, the water dependency ratio (in percentage) of some MENA countries are: Kuwait 100, Egypt 97, Bahrain 97, Syria 80, Palestine 75, Israel 55, Iraq 53, Jordan 23, Tunisia 9, Iran 7, Lebanon 7, Algeria 4, Qatar 4. Examples of MENA countries transboundary water sources:

**Turkey** - 40% of water resources in Turkey are transboundary. Though the most important are the Euphrates and Tigris Rivers, there are other rivers that are also important, the Orontes River, which is shared with upstream Syria and Lebanon.

**Iraq** - More than half of the water sources that Iraq depends upon are transboundary and originate outside of its borders. The most important water resource in the country is the Shatt Al-Arab River, formed at the confluence of the Euphrates and Tigris Rivers, which flow through Syria, Iran and Turkey before entering Iraq.

**Syria** - Approximately 80 percent of Syria's most important water sources are transboundary. There are 6 main transboundary rivers in the country; the Tigris, the Euphrates, the Afrin, the Orontes, the Yarmouk and the Al Khabeer.

**Lebanon** - Lebanon includes 17 year-round and several seasonal rivers. Almost all of the year-round rivers are coastal, and contained within the country's borders. Lebanon is the upstream riparian of three transboundary rivers: the Hasbani flows southwards to Israel, while the Al Khabir and Orontes flow northwards to Syria.

**Palestinian Territories** - All of the important surface waters of the Palestinian Territories are transboundary and shared with Syria, Lebanon, Jordan and Israel. All Palestinian groundwater sources (in four aquifers) are shared with Israel.

**Jordan** - All of Jordan's important water sources are transboundary. The primary transboundary water resources of Jordan include the Yarmouk River and the Jordan River shared with Syria, the Palestinian Territories and Israel; the Disi Aquifer, shared with Saudi Arabia; and the Basalt Aquifer, shared with Syria.

**Egypt** - Egypt's primary source of water is the Nile River, a transboundary river flowing through 11 African countries. Egypt is the most downstream riparian. Egypt's reliance on the Nile illustrates a perfect case of the need for regional transboundary water



cooperation. Ethiopia, upstream from Egypt, is in the process of constructing Africa's largest hydroelectric dam which will generate 6,000 megawatts of electricity. Egypt stands to lose a significant amount of its vital water. Over the years, the conflict has become acrimonious and brought the two nations to the brink of war. The two sides are negotiating, but have failed to reach any solid solution.

The MENA region is a conflict-ridden region with water insecurity a growing threat to the arid region. Most of the MENA countries have failed to reach effective cooperative water cooperation with one another. MENA countries can learn a lot from each other's experience and from the efforts of governments elsewhere around the world. Now is the time for the MENA countries to work together to find ways to reduce potential conflicts generated by the effects of climate change and growing water scarcity.

### Questions to consider

- What is your country's water situation? With which country/ies do you share water sources?
- Is it possible to create a MENA-wide water cooperation agreement that would seek to achieve regional water security?
- How would it unite the region's nations? How might this expedite cooperation in other areas?
- What are the problems with such an agreement? What are the obstacles and drawbacks?
- Can the idea that water cannot wait overcome some of the region's more intractable political conflicts?
- What else can be done to prevent future conflict in the MENA region as the effects of climate change intensify and water scarcity increases?
- What are possible innovative water treatment techniques for the MENA countries?
- Has your country signed the UN Watercourses Convention? If not, why?

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## Glossary of Climate Terms:

Item			Definition
Aquifer	חوض الجوفية	אקוויפר	An underground layer of rock, sediment or soil that can fill or become saturated with water
Basin	חوض	אגן ניקוז	The area of land where water collects and drains into a common outlet
Brackish	מלח قليلا	מים מליחים	Water containing too much salt to be useful to people but less salt than ocean water
Climate change	تغير المناخ	שינוי אקלים	Refers to any change in climate over time, whether due to natural variability or as a result of human activity.
Contaminated	ملوث	מזוהם	To make unfit for use; due to natural impact or components
Dam	سد	סכר	A structure built to hold back a flow of water
Demand for water	الطلب على المياه	דרישה למים	The quantity of water that consumers are willing and able to buy at a given price.
Desalination	تحلية المياه	התפלה	The process of removing salt from seawater or brackish water
Drought	جفاف	בצורת	A prolonged period of below-average rainfall
Ecosystem	النظام البيئي	מערכת אקולוגית	An interacting network of groups of organisms together with their non-living or physical environment
Environment	بيئة	סביבה	The surroundings that affect the growth and development of an organism
Evaporation	تبخر	אידוי	Water changing into vapor and rising into the air
Erosion	التعرية	שחיקה	The gradual process of moving soil or rocks from one location to another by rain, floods, streams, glaciers, wind and gravity
Environmental impacts	التأثيرات البيئية	השפעה סביבתית	The negative effects to the environment caused by development and industry
Fresh Water	مياه عذبة	מים נקיים	Water with no impurities according to local or international guidelines.
Gray water	المياه الرمادية	מים אפורים	The relatively clean waste water from baths, sinks, washing machines, and other kitchen appliances. OR all house except the toilets
Groundwater	المياه الجوف	מי תהום	Water underground, such as in wells, springs and aquifers
Intrusion of saltwater	تسرب المياه المالحة	חדירה של מי מלח	When salt water (from the sea) flows into coastal freshwater aquifers. This process becomes more likely when resources are over-used, as is the case in the coastal aquifer in Gaza today
Indicator	مؤش	אינדיקטור מחוון	A device or substance used to show the presence of another substance

Item			Definition
Irrigation	الري	השקיה	Supplying water to agriculture by artificial means, such as pumping water onto crops in an area where rainfall is insufficient
Municipal Water District	مياه تزودها البلدي	תאגיד מים אזורי	A public water provider, owned and operated by more than one city government, which supplies water to its member cities
Regional	اقليمي	אזורי	Areas that are broadly divided by physical characteristics
Pollutant	ملوث	מזהם	Any inorganic or organic substance that contaminates air, water or soil
Runoff	جريان	נגר	Liquid water that travels over the surface of the Earth, moving downward due to the law of gravity; runoff is one way in which water that falls as precipitation returns to the ocean
Septic tank	خزان للصرف الصحي	בור ספיגה	A sewage disposal tank in which bacteria decompose waste
Spring	ينبوع	מעין	Groundwater seeping or flowing out of the Earth's surface; springs occur where the water table reaches the surface
Stream	جدول	נחל	The type of runoff where water flows in a channel downhill because of the pull of gravity
Subsurface water	مياه سطحية	מים תת קרקעיים	All water - solid, liquid or gaseous - that occurs beneath the Earth's surface; located below the water table in the zone of saturation.
Surface runoff	جريان سطحي	נגר עילי	Water flowing along the ground into rivers, lakes, and oceans
Wastewater	مياه عادمة	מי ביוב	Water that has waste material in it
Wastewater treatment	معالجة المياه العادمة	טיהור שפכים	The process of cleaning wastewater
Water cycle	دورة المياه	מחזור המים	The movement of water from the air to and below the Earth's surface and back into the air
Water-energy-food Nexus	الرابط بين المياه والغذاء والطاقة	הקשר בין מים אנרגיה ומזון	A connection or series of connections linking water food and energy
Water quality	جودة المياه	איכות המים	The condition of water as it relates to impurities
Transboundary water	مياه عابرة للحدود	מים חוציי גבולות	Sources of water that are shared among multiple user groups, with diverse values and different needs associated with water use. In this way, water crosses boundaries – whether those of economic sectors, legal jurisdictions, or political interests.
Well	بئر	באר	A hole or shaft drilled into the earth to get water or other underground substances

# Negotiation Skills – Preparation Handbook

## DEPP Problem Analysis and Stakeholders

After you read your MUN study guide, complete the DEPP Problem Analysis and Stakeholder sections. It is a very helpful and critically important tool for helping you identify the main problem(s) of your topic and who - the stakeholders -- is most involved in these problems.

### DEPP Problem Analysis

**Define** the problem:

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**Explain** what caused the problem:

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**Predict** what will happen if things continue as they are (use facts about the situation in the article/briefing to support your prediction):

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**Prescribe** what needs to be done:

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## Identifying Stakeholders

**Definition-** A stakeholder is a person, party or entity who is affected by or can contribute to the problem. In identifying stakeholders, one should consider the following questions:

- Who benefits?
- Who suffers?
- Who causes the problem?
- Who may pay for the solution to the problem?
- Who are the experts on the issue?
- Who has the power to solve the problem?

Using the format below you can organize information about stakeholders. Note there may be many more than there is room for in this chart. You can add them on the sides..

The diagram is a four-quadrant chart used for identifying stakeholders. In the center is an orange circle labeled "TOPIC". Surrounding this central circle are four rectangular boxes, each representing a quadrant. The top-left box is yellow, the top-right is light green, the bottom-left is light orange, and the bottom-right is light blue. Each box contains two sections: "Stakeholder:" followed by three horizontal lines, and "Why:" followed by three horizontal lines. This layout allows for organized recording of stakeholder information relative to a central topic.

Stakeholder:	Stakeholder:
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
Why:	Why:
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

**TOPIC**

Stakeholder:	Stakeholder:
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
Why:	Why:
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

## CIA Opening Speech

Guidelines for writing a strong opening speech

### Part 1: **Clash**

A strong opening in which the Clash is clearly stated

### Part 2: **Information**

Here the relevant information will be presented. It should include facts, statistics, quotations by high-ranking politicians and diplomats, etc.

### Part 3: **Call to Action**

Here a clear call to action will be stated. This should be specific rather than general. A specific call allows parties to act on the idea in practical effective manner. Too general of a call would be of little to no practical use.



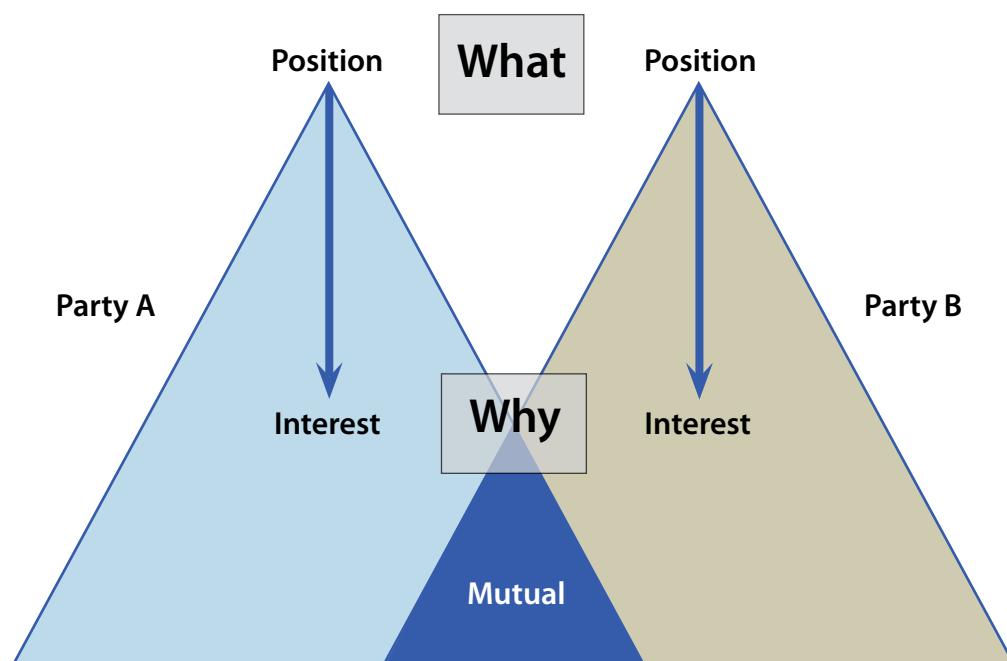
EcoPeace Middle East directors Yana Abu Taleb, Gidon Bromberg and Nada Majdalani at the UN Security Council (2019), speaking about the challenges of water security and the opportunity for cooperation by addressing the needs of the region.



## Interest-Based Negotiation

**Defintion-** Understanding the differences between **interests** and **positions** is the key to collaborative negotiation success. When preparing for negotiation, it is essential to ask “What do they want?” and “**Why** do they want it?” Look for overlap in the interests shared, despite different positions taken.

<b>Position:</b> What you want. The stand you take in the argument	<b>Interest:</b> Why you want it What are the core values your position represents? What are your concern?
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**Example** - What may have been some of the mutual interests between Jordan and Israel's political leadership that led to the signing of the 1994 Jordan-Israel peace agreement?



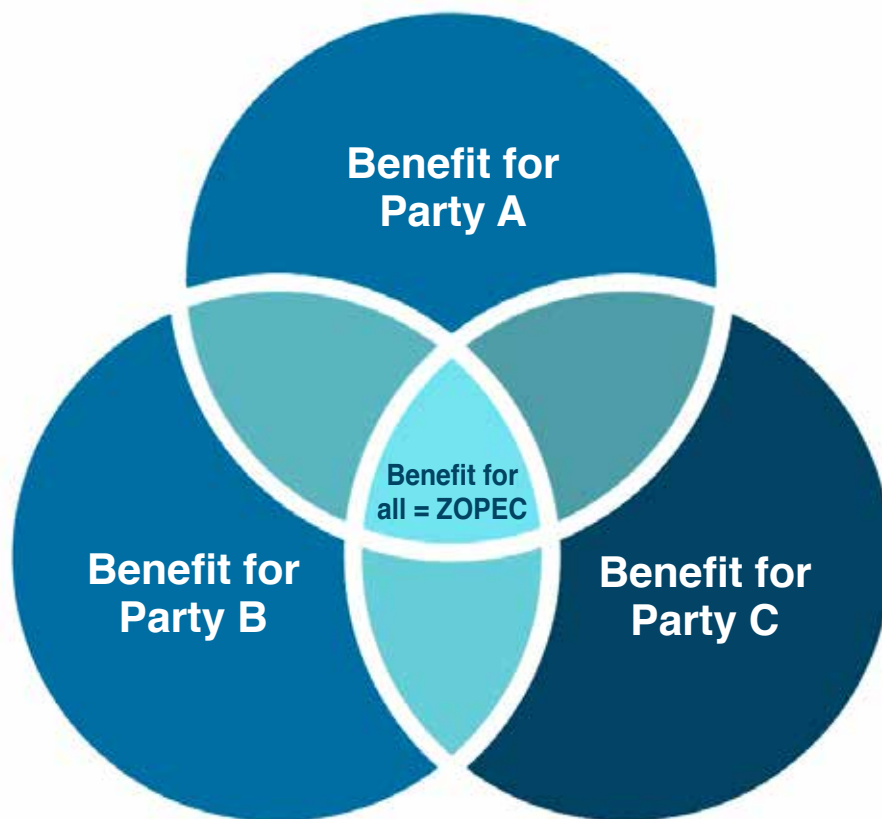
Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and King Hussein of Jordan confer at Lake Tiberias after signing the Israel-Jordan peace treaty in 1994. (Photo: Saar Yaacov.)

## TIPS:

- Interests help you to see the real problem
- Ask Why?
- Take the time to ask what your **own interests** are and figure out the **other side's interests**. Asking "Why?" will help you identify the interests
- The real problem to be solved in a negotiation has to do with interests, not positions. Usually behind positions are several interests. Some of the most important interests are basic human needs, such as wanting to be liked and respected.
- Always try to keep in mind the about the other side, what they might be thinking.

## **ZOPEC/ZOPA- Zone of Possible Effective Cooperation, Zone of Possible Agreement**

**Definition-** Zones of Possible Effective Cooperation are the potential Areas of Consensus in which parties can take joint action to benefit all involved parties and/or stakeholders.



Using the stakeholder's interests and goals, think of the zone of possible agreement between parties on the specific issues of your negotiation - that is your area of consensus.

In that consensus zone, what could the parties do together to make progress on the issue?

You do not need to be a stakeholder to have an active role in a negotiation. You may be a mediator or an external peacemaker by taking on one of the following roles in a negotiation.



## Roles of a Mediator/External PeaceMaker

<b>Roles</b>	<b>Definition</b>	<b>Description of Role</b>
Enskiller (Empower)	Develops necessary skills needed to help conflicting groups reach mutual acceptance and a sustainable solution.	Helps the initiation of sustainable solutions that will benefit all groups by providing education, intercultural competences and encounters, negotiation skills, etc.
Envisioner (Fact Finder)	Provides new data, research, ideas and options for groups to select from. Facilitates further brainstorming aimed at mutual conflict resolution.	Distribution of important knowledge and facts about the situation, such as economic or environmental studies.
Enhancer (Developer)	Provides additional resources and help to all parties involved.	Provides the communities with financial resources and guidance. Additionally, the NGO educates the communities not only about their own issues but also on those of the other groups. This facilitates further prospects and possibilities.
Reconcilier	Focuses on long-term initiatives that are aimed at changing the negative perceptions held by the opposing groups. Facilitates new relationships based on shared future and unified vision.	Challenges negative stereotypes and assists the creation of long-lasting relationships and cooperation

\*Adapted from the Middle East Water Security and Environmental Peacebuilding Workshop, EcoPeace Middle East, December 10-15, 2018.

## Model United Nations- useful terms explained

Term	Explanation
Committee	Official body in which the debate takes place.
Chair//Co-Chair	responsible for the affairs of the entire committee; makes rulings on motions.
Delegate	Diplomat representing a country on a committee.
Main and Co-submitters	Delegates that build a resolution or a clause in a resolution together and submit it to the Chair of the Committee to be debated and voted on.
Caucusing Bloc	Groups of countries that share interests and work together to build consensus, negotiate and draft resolutions together.
Preliminary research needed to prepare strategies and learn country policy	Focused reading of the background guide in which one writes questions the reading should answer, use the DEPP template for analysis and identification of stakeholders; understand terms within relevant treaties; identify key non-/signatories; international actions; reasons for non-signing etc.
Policy	Set out questions for research after completing preliminary research on the issue. Complete a country profile about the country represented. Country's past, present, and future position on the issue. Possible solutions.
Position Paper	Use the guidelines for a CIA Position paper-  Introduce the country's policy and suggest the plan of action to solve the problem. Prepare an effective opening and closing. Identify the clash. Give examples and illustrations. Predict the benefits of the plan of action and the dangers of not acting. Explain the steps-undertaking and promising with hedging (the State of... hopes to..., plans to...).
Resolutions contain:	
Pre-ambulatory clauses	These describe the current situation and are often written by Committee Chairs.
Operative Clauses	Call for an action to be taken; describe how it should be taken. These are written and submitted by delegates.
Lobbying	talking with other delegates to develop clauses and amendments, attempt to reach consensus on ideas and support for one's clauses and/or amendments.

## Model United Nations- useful terms explained

Term	Explanation
Moderated Caucus	A debate format which includes short comments on a specific sub-issue; raise placards; Chairs call on delegates to speak one at a time; the motion includes the overall speaking time, the time per speaker, and the sub-issue to be discussed.
Unmoderated Caucus	delegates leave their seats to go and talk to others freely and informally find allies and work on draft resolutions; to move into an unmoderated caucus, the motion includes the overall caucus time and preferably the purpose of the unmoderated caucus.
To Have the Floor	To have the right to speak in debate.
To Yield the Floor	To give up the right to speak in debate. You may yield the floor to the chair when asked (the Chair will ask the delegate "delegate please yield the floor back to the Chairs") or to another delegate.
Decorum	A call for quiet and order issued by chairs.
Point of Information	A delegate raises the placards and once recognized by the Chair, asks a question of a speaker.
Point of Personal Privilege	A delegate raises the placards and once recognized by the Chair, makes a request regarding volume, improve the room temperature etc.
Relevant motions:	<p>Motion to Change Speaking Time;</p> <p>Motion to Move Directly to Voting Procedures;</p> <p>Motion to Extend Debate Time;</p> <p>Motion for a Roll Call Vote;</p> <p>Motion to Divide the House;</p> <p>Motion to Approach the Chair;</p> <p>Motion to Table a Clause.</p>







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