



Nexus Water Energy and Food in the Arab Region: LAS Nexus initiative

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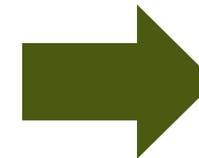
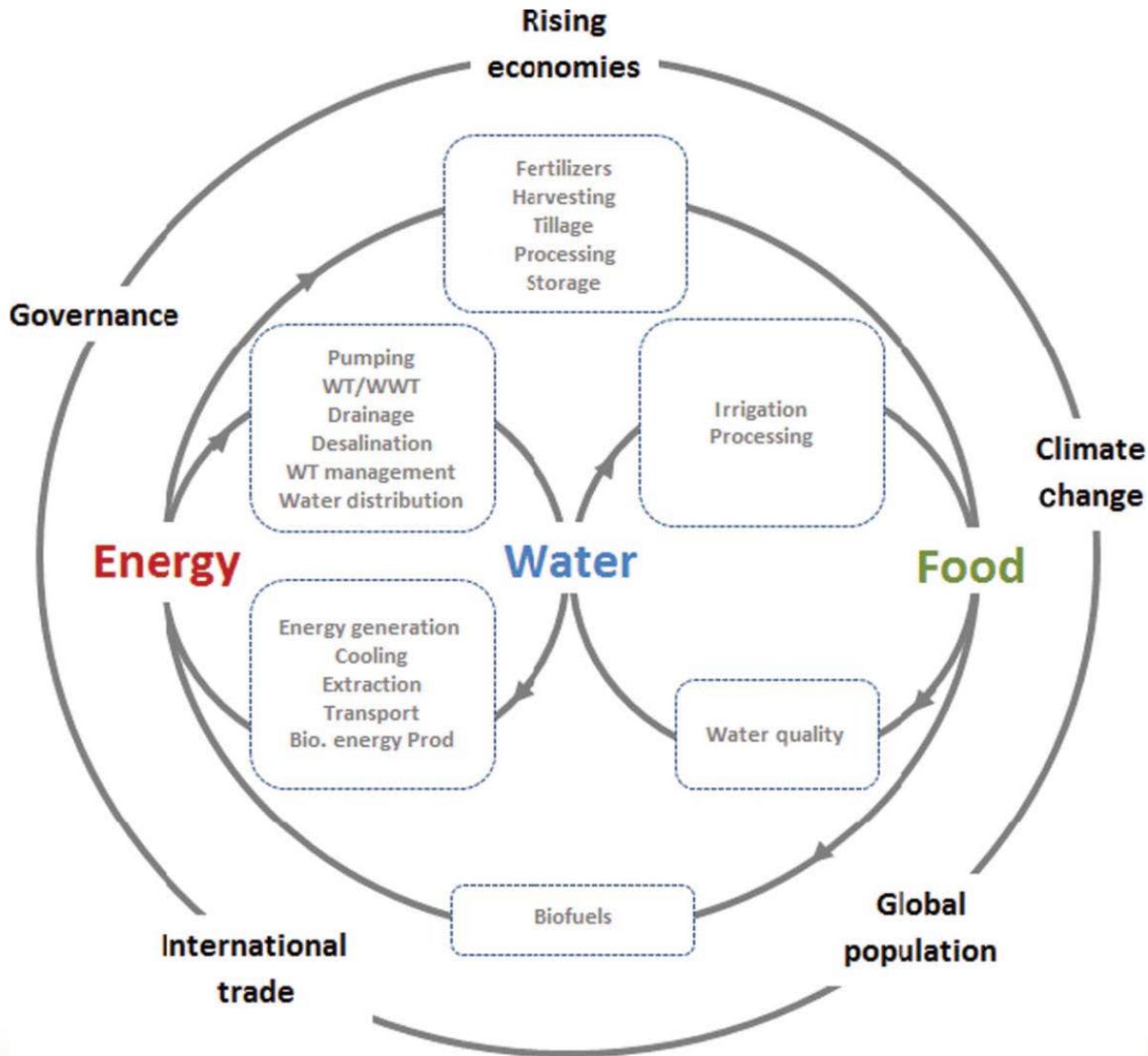


Outline

- What's new in the nexus for the Arab region
- Progress so far
- The way forward
- Concluding remarks



Nexus is just a tool to deal with interconnectedness



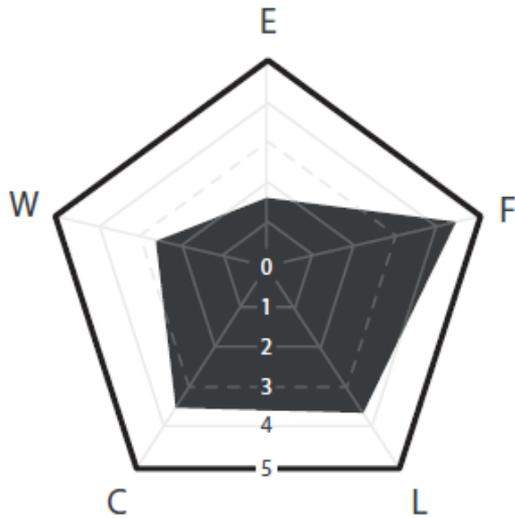
Decision Making

(Mohtar and Daher, 2012)

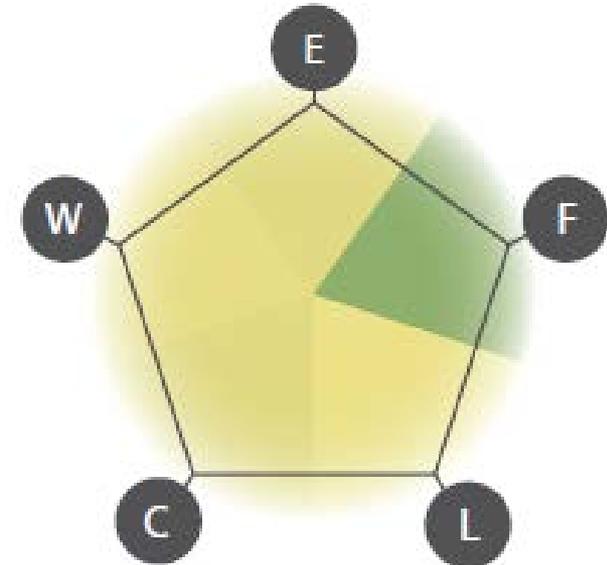


“Raison d’etre” of the nexus WEF

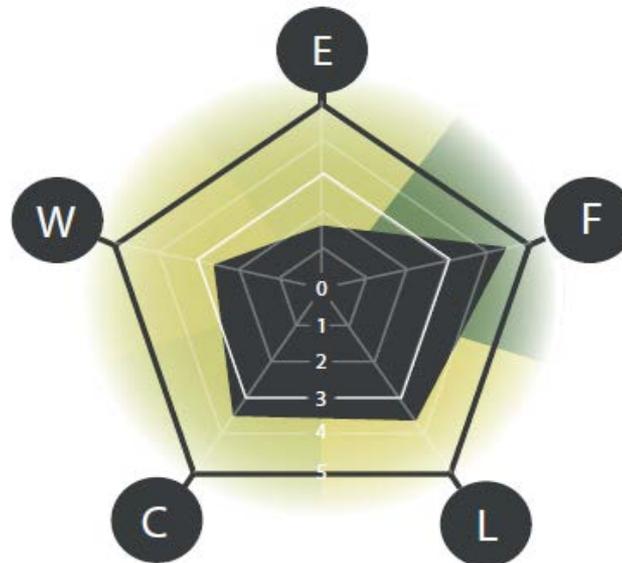
- Finite sources and risks of supply
- **Cost of subsidies** unsustainable and comes at a steadily increasing cost
- Water – Energy and Food **Triple inefficiencies**
- A way to move towards:
 - low carbon development /Mitigation and to Adapt to climate change
 - Green Economy and sustainable development



AND



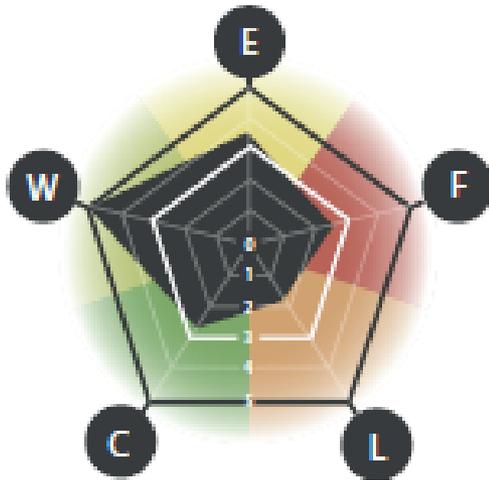
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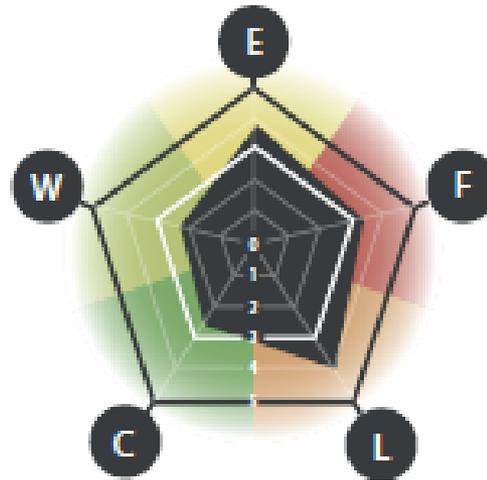
Nexus approach: measuring progress towards sustainability



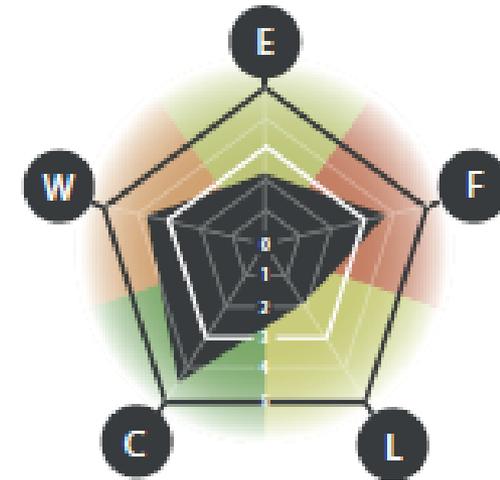
Comparing interventions: Benchmarking countries' progress to sustainability



A. SOLAR IRRIGATION IN REGION a

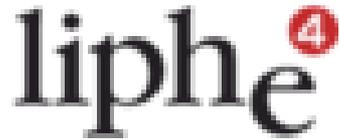


B. HYBRID DIESEL-SOLAR IRRIGATION IN REGION a



C. MINI-HYDRO IN REGION a

Available Tools



The Resource Management Strategy Guiding Tool



Water Evaluation And Planning



KTH - dESA develops a novel approach to tackle Climate, Land, Energy and Water interlinkages (Page 7)



Nexus rapid appraisal of some Arab Countries

<http://nexus.araundu.it/>

WEF NEXUS TOOL 2.0

wefnexustool.org



The Resource Management Strategy Guiding Tool

 Username <input type="text"/>	 Password <input type="password"/>	Login
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[Forgot your password](#)
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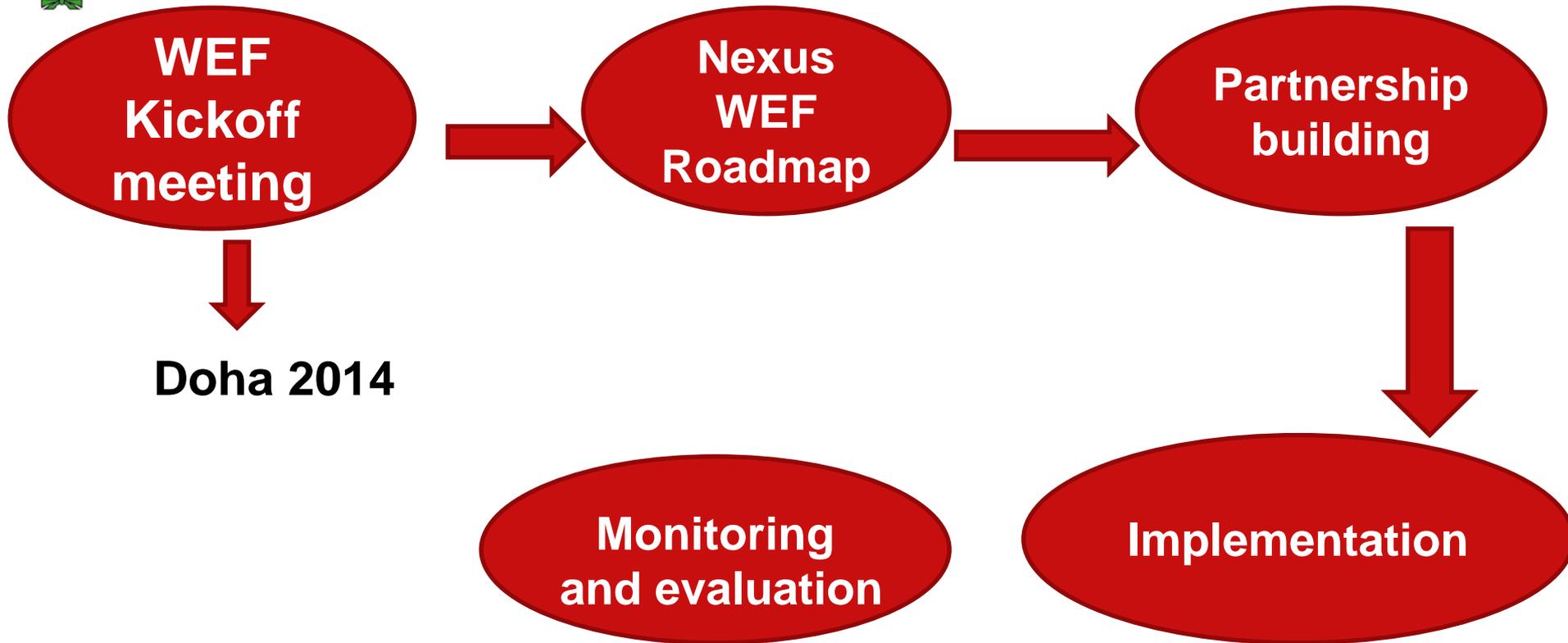


For more information
wefnexus.tamu.edu

Where do we stand in the region?



Regional Roadmap Process and framework





Launching NEXUS WEF Regional Dialogue

- The session initiated by the TS of the AWMC (The League of Arab States) in partnership with GIZ (ACCWaM programme)
- Scoping the opportunities and tradeoffs for the nexus in the Arab region (integration and coordination between the three sectors, transaction costs, resource use efficiency and potential for the transition to green economy and sustainable development).



Kickoff session Audience and speakers

- **LAS (Department of Env. Housing,WR and SD and Department of Energy), AOAD, ACSAD,AFSED,UNESCWA,GIZ,AWC,RAED.**
- **50 participants from 42 organizations**
- **Diverse stakeholders (Technicians, parliamentarians, NGOs, Private sector, CSO, government representatives)**



Kickoff of the Regional Debate Key outcomes (1)

- A nexus approach has a potential for the region : Needs a customized approach both at regional and national levels
- Some intersectoral collaboration (Mini-Nexi) is taking place
- Nexus requires governance, capacities, institutions, policies, solid RfD
- Nexus needs to be promoted at two parallel tracks, regional and national policy and and at two levels: governance and implementation
- Need for a regional platform for knowledge exchange
- Need to pilot and scale up
- Need for a regional roadmap to guide and streamline the scattered efforts: Convergence and synergy creation



Kickoff of the Regional Debate Key outcomes (2)

- **NEXUS is an opportunity to foster the Arab joint action and further the Arab Regional integration building on countries comparative advantages and serving the Arab Market on strategic commodities**
- **Nexus is a buffer for regional supply security shocks**
- **Nexus is an approach to ensure equity between generations and between segments of society, it is not an end in itself**



Ministerial Councils endorsement of Nexus

- **May 2014: AMWC endorsed a decision to carry out expert studies on the current situation and the institutional and policy environment requirement to adopt and benefit from a nexus approach. GIZ and UNESCWA invited to mobilize resources, support the LAS efforts.**
- **September 2014, AMCE (executive bureau) supported the initiation of exploratory work on the added value of the nexus and its implementation**
- **November 2014, CAMRE endorsed a decision tasking the TS to organize an expert meeting and welcomed the decision of GIZ to financially support the production of policy briefs and the first Arab Nexus Experts.**



Partnership Building

- LAS-GIZ (ACCWaM program and Water Sector Policy in Germany)
- LAS-AGU-GIZ
- LAS UNESCWA-SIDA potential for collaboration expressed by GIZ
- Efforts to engage AOAD and AAIA
- Arab fund for Socio-Economic Development
- Interest expressed by SIDA-Sweden, FAO



Regional roadmap Pillars and Components

- **Based on the regional dialogue LAS/TS-AWMC has developed a guiding document “ Regional road map” setting four priorities and needs for the adoption of the nexus and a outline of the strategic activities.**
- **Policy (regional versus National)**
- **Institutions**
- **Capacities**
- **Knowledge and expertise sharing**



I. The region adopting pro-nexus policies

- **Awareness raising among the Councils' members (policy brief activity)**
- **Regional endorsement by four Council –Socio-economic council and further the Summit of heads of States, process initiated to be sustained**
- **Creating passways between existing regional sectoral strategies and Action plans**
- **Linking Nexus policies to existing national development strategies**
- **No need for a standalone WEF Nexus strategy and Action Plan?**
- **Benchmarking mechanism**
- **Facilitating alignment of national and regional policies on WEF: work with champion countries**
- **Experience sharing: Scaling up best WEF practices**
- **Reporting and follow up**



Activities under this pillar

- Initiated 2015, LAS GIZ AGU in partnership with ESCWA-FAO- UNESCO- ACSAD and other regional organizations: **Thematic Policy briefs (Governance- Capacities-Institutions)**
- GIZ considers to support the harmonization of the existing sector and cross sector strategies. To be coordinated by the TS of the councils hosted in LAS.



II-III. Institutional and Individual Capacities strengthened

- **Regional level**
 - Innovative CD initiatives for the Technical committees of the Ministerial
- **National level**
- World class technicians
- **Mapping the champions units within key organizations** to drive the WEF: Whose capacity matters for the adoption of the nexus approach (regional, national): Work with champions and change agents.
- Need for long term CD initiatives: One shot is not enough
- Fragmentation within sectors is a common feature requires **Building capacities on cross-sectoral collaboration for planning, implementation and policy coherence** (Regional-National and Sub National)



II-III. Institutional and Individual Capacities strengthened (2)

- Contribute to developing institutional capacities (to avoid expertise turn over) by creating a **critical mass of competences and optimize institutions' adaptiveness**. (Example of ONEE in Morocco merging water and energy authorities/ boards)
- **Invest in private sector capacities** to serve the Nexus WEF and make Nexus a business case through customized CD programs
- Invest in CD activities **of all key stakeholders** (informed partners – informed actions)
- Invest in CD of **soft structures** (inter-ministerial committees, and task force committees...)



Activities under this pillar

- **EGM 1**
- **EGM 2**

- **Training of champions in the tree sectors (exposure to the concepts and tools, exercising at regional and national levels)**
- **Training on planning and implementing bankable projects**



IV. Knowledge and experience sharing across the region

- **Provide a virtual platform for KM-KS between experts to ensure proper sharing of experience (national and regional)**
- **Activity implemented: Arab Region Nexus Corner (established)**



Governance

- **At regional level:**

A preliminary study on the structure to host the nexus coordination: 20 partner organizations interviewed came to the need to have a soft structures to coordinate rather than a dedicated structure.



Monitoring and evaluation

- **Initiate CD to capacitate expert evaluators from a nexus standpoints.**



Activity	Expected outcome	Target group and beneficiaries	Lead organization(s)
1. First Arab Expert meeting on priorities in adoption of the Nexus	Setting priorities: policy, research, awareness, private sector engagement, Role of CSOs and NGOs.	Experts and policy makers	LAS – Regional Think tank- Regional and Int'l organizations
2. Establish a moderated virtual community of practice	Active CoP	All stakeholders influent and interested in nexus learning and experimenting	LAS in partnership with an NGO and focal points in countries
3. Capacity development for national focal points and champions on the nexus	Network of capacitated focal points acquainted with technical and implementation tools and	Focal points from ministries, NGOs and PS	LAS with champion countries and regional organizations to be expanded as



<p>4. Strategic studies</p> <p>a. Institutional landscape and governance systems for intersectoral collaboration for the Nexus implementation</p> <p>b. Integrated planning and Nexus implementation mechanisms in the Arab region</p> <p>c. Nexus, green Economy and Sustainable Development in the Arab region</p> <p>d. Nexus political Economy in the Arab region</p>	<p>Decision support tools and policy papers for selected countries in the region</p>	<p>Governments, Policy and executive decision makers</p> <p>Experts</p>	<p>LAS with specialized institutions- UN organizations and Arab Strategic Studies Centres, Arab Think tanks, International and regional donor organizations</p>
<p>5. Series of regional training on Nexus National Projects and programs development</p>	<p>Create a pool of middle management competences in the three sector to develop and implement national projects and programs within Nexus framework</p>	<p>Development practitioners, Private sector, NGOs</p>	<p>LAS with regional and national organizations in cooperation with regional and international donor agencies</p>



<p>6. Regional Capacity development on M & E for the nexus programmes and projects</p>	<p>M&E package and validate</p>	<p>Training tested</p> <p>National and Regional Qualified capacities in M&E equipped with knowledge and skills needed for the nexus M&E</p>	<p>LAS with Specialized Development Evaluation organizations and Donor agencies</p>
<p>7. Development of bankable programmes in line with development policies and strategies of Arab countries and across the region</p>	<p>Fundable projects by governments, Arab funds and International donor agencies</p>	<p>National and regional development agencies, development and policy research organizations with potential international partnerships</p>	<p>LAS with governments and regional and international donor agencies and development funds and banks</p>
<p>8. Establish an Annual International Arab Conference on the nexus to exchange on state of the art knowledge and innovation within the Arab region and worldwide</p>	<p>Conference recommendations and outcomes disseminated widely</p>	<p>Research and academia, development practitioners and policy makers</p>	<p>LAS with Regional and selected national research organizations and agencies interested in the nexus</p>
<p>9. Build regional partnerships with interested regional organizations for joint venture development to promote the adoption of the nexus in the Arab and neighboring regions</p>	<p>Cooperation mechanisms set and joint initiatives developed</p>	<p>Key regional and sub-regional organizations</p>	<p>LAS- multilateral organizations (UN-EU-UfM) and funding agencies</p>



Next steps

- **Produce a marketing document for an Elaborated Roadmap : Cooperation welcome**
- **Invite other partners (Donors, regional and International organizations) to join and be part of the WEF nexus adoption and implementation initiative.**
- **Develop executive outlines of projects in consultation which countries, experts, partner organization to be shared with interested partner organizations for specific CD activities**
- **LAS-TS is in a keen to serve as a hub to coordinate all nexus activities taking place or in pipeline in the region, create synergies and joint action at regional level.**



DON'T TALK ABOUT NEXUS, JUST DO IT

Rainer Soldansky (former GIZ Expert)