



EDITORIAL

A few days before the 26th session of the conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, which will take place in Glasgow, Scotland, from 31 October to 12 November 2021, Tunisia is once again demonstrating its commitment to more ambitious climate action and a reconfirmed commitment to global environmental issues.

With an updated Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) and with a participation marked by diversity and a youthful spirit, we hope that this Conference will reflect a stronger commitment of the entire international community for enhanced action to address the current threats and challenges of climate change.

Agreeing on a global target for adaptation, initiating the process for a more ambitious global target for climate finance, as well as operationalising the cooperative approaches arising from Article 6 of the Paris Agreement are all major issues that make COP26 a crucial meeting for the future of our planet.

National Climate Change Coordination Unit of Tunisia.

COP26 President praises Tunisia's efforts

Mr. Alok Sharma, President of the 26th session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), welcomed, in a statement, the continuous efforts of Tunisia and its contribution to the global action to fight against the impacts of climate change. According to him, Tunisia's commitment in this respect has recently been concretised by the update of its Nationally Determined Contribution with more ambitious objectives of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and adapting to the increasing impacts of global warming.



FOCUS

Climate activity did not slow down nor at national level nor within civil society during the third quarter of the current year, although the barometer recorded record temperatures on certain days, a clear sign of global warming.

Particular interest has been given to the update of the National Determined Contribution (NDC) over the last 3 months through which Tunisia marks, like all the signatory countries of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, its commitment to contribute to the global response against climate change. A national workshop organised on 23 and 24 September 2021 presented the NDC with its dual component of adaptation and mitigation and initiated a wide-ranging debate on the technical adjustments to its content and on the policies to be implemented to improve climate governance and the framework for enhanced transparency. The final document was submitted to the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in time for COP26 in Glasgow (1-12 November 2021).

Tunisia had actively prepared for this important Conference, seizing the opportunity to emphasize its interests and its climate policy. Tunisian youth will be represented at a precursor event to COP26, the 16th United Nations Youth Conference on Climate Change (COY 16) to be held from 28 to 31 October.

In addition, the past quarter has seen the expansion of Tunisia's partnership with international organisations in the field of climate change. New avenues of cooperation have been explored between the Tunisian Ministry of Environment (ME) and the National Agency for Energy Management (ANME) on the one hand, and the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) on the other.



Tunisia has also secured the support of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to meet its commitments to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

A very important agreement deserves special mention, namely the one signed between the ME, the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) and the National School of Administration in Tunis (ENA). Thanks to this agreement, ENA will be able to introduce climate governance into its Academy training programmes.

Internationally, the news was marked by the publication of the alarming report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), and the joint G20 ministerial meeting on the environment, climate and energy held in Naples on 22 and 23 July, which dealt with global warming and its devastating consequences for the planet, and the preparation of the COP26.

Despite the urgent need for a clear and unambiguous commitment from all G20 nations to make the Paris Agreement a reality, the Ministers left without reaching agreement on this. We should perhaps wait for the Glasgow Conference to gain greater clarity.

CLIMATE ISSUES IN TUNISIA

THE UPDATED NATIONALLY DETERMINED CONTRIBUTION: ISSUES AND PERSPECTIVES

As a central element of the Paris Climate Agreement, Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) highlight each country's efforts to reduce national emissions and adapt to the effects of climate change, thereby helping to put the world on a sustainable development path and achieve the goal of containing global warming to between 1.5°C and 2°C above pre-industrial levels.

In its article 4, the Paris Agreement requires each Party to establish, communicate and update the successive NDCs and how to achieve it.. To increase ambition over time, the Paris Agreement stipulates that successive NDCs must be more ambitious than previous NDCs.

Aware of the climate challenges and its high environmental and socio-economic vulnerability, Tunisia has always been committed to international policies related to climate change and presented its first Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC) to the international community in 2015. After the ratification of the Paris Agreement in 2016, the INDC became the first Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC).

Its first NDC aimed at reducing carbon intensity by 41% in 2030, compared to 2010 and for major adaptation programmes covering the most vulnerable sectors and ecosystems, including water resources, the coastline, ecosystems, tourism, and health.

NDCs must be submitted by all countries every five years to the UNFCCC Secretariat. To meet this commitment, the Ministry of Environment, with the support of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), has, since 2020, initiated the process of updating its NDC.

This process of updating the NDC was carried out in the following steps :

- ▶ Taking stock of mitigation and adaptation achievements, through global and sectoral approaches,
- ▶ Revision of mitigation objectives and adaptation priorities in the light of achievements and stakeholders' expectations and assessment of the means of implementation,
- ▶ Consolidation of the updated NDC, around the two components - mitigation and adaptation.

The update of the NDC was carried out in accordance with the provisions of decision 1/CP21 and other provisions of the Paris Agreement, while being in alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals and with the orientations of the National Low Carbon and Climate Change Resilient Strategy, currently being finalised.

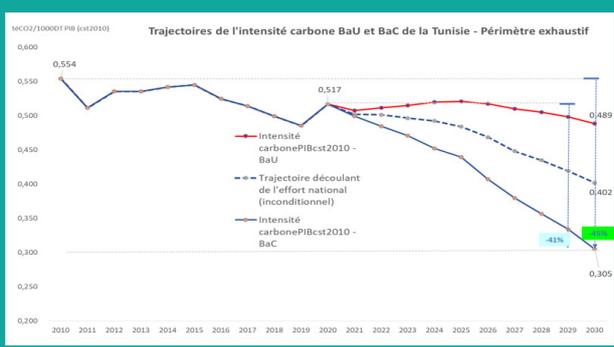


Tunisia's updated mitigation contribution

“The ambition of the mitigation objective was raised aiming at reducing carbon intensity by 45% (NDC 2015: -41%) by 2030, compared to its 2010 level”.

Tunisia's unconditional contribution corresponds to a reduction in carbon intensity of 28% in 2030 compared to its 2010 level, while the conditional contribution allows an additional reduction of 17%.

The overall objective includes all sectors (energy, industrial processes, agriculture-forestry-other land uses, waste) and corresponding mitigation scenarios (including specific mitigation measures).



The expected national emissions by 2030, including conditional and unconditional efforts, are 31 MtCO₂ - 37% below the emissions level of the baseline (49.5 MtCO₂), being 33% below the emissions of the low carbon scenario of the first NDC.

As a result of its total contribution, per capita emissions would reach 2.4 TCO₂ / capita in 2030, compared to an estimated global value of 7 TCO₂ / capita.

Cumulative emissions reductions over the period 2021-2030, in relation to the baseline, are estimated at 85.8 MtCO₂, with the energy sector contributing 73.3%, thanks to the energy efficiency policy and the development of ambitious renewable energy programmes carried out by Tunisia.

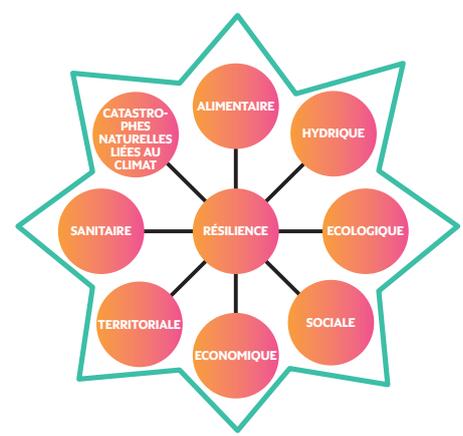
Achieving the mitigation objective according to the low-carbon scenario requires the mobilisation of financial resources estimated at US\$ 14.3 billion over the period 2021-2030, divided into 23% for the achievement of unconditional objectives and 77% for conditional objectives. To this must be added US\$ 744 million to cover capacity building needs.

Tunisia's updated contribution to adaptation

The adaptation part of the updated NDC is based on a review of national and sectoral vulnerabilities, based on more accurate climate projections. The vulnerability part concerned the analysis of the sectors of water resources, agricultural production, natural ecosystems, the coastline, health, and tourism, but it also integrated three new cross-cutting dimensions, namely gender, spatial planning, and natural disaster risk reduction.

The objective of the updated NDC by 2030 is to «promote a Tunisia that is resilient to climate change, that has significantly reduced the vulnerabilities and strengthened the adaptive capacities of its eco-systems, its population, its economy and its territories, and that has resolutely carried out the necessary transformations, capable of ensuring an inclusive and sustainable socio-economic development model that can participate in building a more resilient world».

The updated NDC changes the paradigm by adapting a systemic and cross-sectoral approach, capable of addressing resilience in its different dimensions: food, water, ecological, social, economic, territorial, health and in relation to natural disasters linked to climate change. This approach, called «Star of Resilience», is designed as a structuring framework to support Tunisian actors and their public and private technical and financial partners.



The implementation of the updated NDC is based on an action plan established based on specific sectoral objectives and in accordance with the stated priorities, in line with the Sustainable Development Goals.

The financing needs for the implementation of adaptation measures for the period 2021-2030, estimated based on macro-economic indicators, could amount to US\$ 4.361 billion, i.e., more than US\$ 400 million/year; international support will have to play an important role (around 60%).



Cross-cutting issues in relation to mitigation and adaptation

The cross-cutting issues considered in the updated NDC are equally relevant to mitigation and adaptation and include :

- ▶ Improved governance,
- ▶ the transparency framework,
- ▶ capacity building needs and technology transfer,
- ▶ gender in mitigation and adaptation policies.

These issues strengthen the institutional framework and climate governance and intervene in the implementation of the NDC based on technological innovation in relation to the low-carbon transition and scientific research, using all available skills and human assets, considering the gender dimension.

You can also view a summary of the NDC at :

<https://www.facebook.com/MinAEnv/videos/397017462036467> CONCLUSIONS

CONCLUSIONS

- ▶ The updated NDC represents a commitment by Tunisia to clean, sustainable, fair, and inclusive development according to the priorities and specificities of the country
- ▶ It has been elaborated according to a transformational vision, aiming at a better exploitation and sustainable use of natural resources, a better valorisation of human capital and potential and a wide opening to technological innovation and creativity.
- ▶ The implementation of the NDC requires ownership and effective engagement of all national partners involved in climate change and requires integration into national development planning
- ▶ Its implementation will improve the quality of life of citizens, sustained economic development, the reduction of social disparities and promote employment and active integration of all social categories.

National workshop for the presentation of the updated Nationally Determined Contribution

The Ministry of Environment, organized on 23 and 24 September 2021, in Tunis, in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Tunisia, a national workshop for the presentation of the updated Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), in its pre-final version.

The opening of the workshop was chaired by Mr. Kamal Dokh, Acting Minister of Local Affairs and Environment, in the presence of Ms. Eugena Song, Deputy Resident Representative of the United Nations Development Programme in Tunisia, Mr. Matthew



Forman, Chargé d'Affaires of the UK Embassy in Tunisia, and Mr. Georges Felsheim, Vice Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany in Tunisia. Their presence testifies to the importance of the event, as the submission of the updated NDC constitutes a commitment by Tunisia under the Paris Climate Agreement to contribute to the global response to the threat of climate change.

Organised in 6 sessions over two days, the workshop aimed at presenting the updated NDC to representatives of different stakeholders from ministerial departments, local structures, the private sector, scientific research institutions, civil society organisations, as well as to national experts to consider the remarks and opinions of the participants in view of finalising the document. The workshop was part of the ongoing consultation process that marked the development of this document, which began in October 2020.



The Minister and the representatives of the cooperation structures present highlighted the importance of the results obtained and stressed the need to implement adaptation and mitigation actions using the financial resources available in the State budget and those that can be mobilised at international level.

CLIMATE NEWS IN TUNISIA

NEW ACTIVITIES

New avenues of cooperation between Tunisia and the International Renewable Energy Agency



A virtual meeting, held on 28 June 2021, identified new avenues of cooperation between Tunisia and the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA). It brought together representatives from the Ministry of Environment, the National Agency for Energy Management (ANME) and IRENA.

The objective of the meeting was to identify the possibilities of cooperation between the Tunisian partners and IRENA.

For this purpose, Mr. Zouhair Hamadi, representative of IRENA, reviewed the actions carried out by IRENA, or in progress, which could be of interest to the Tunisian side in the framework of its activities. On the Tunisian side, Mr. Mohamed Zmerli, the representative of the UNFCCC Focal Point in Tunisia, presented the work of updating the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), with its two components of adaptation and mitigation.

After discussion, the following avenues of cooperation were identified :

- ▶ IRENA's participation in the Investment Forum planned in Tunisia in December 2021,
- ▶ IRENA's support to the implementation of the updated NDC roadmap.

The participation of Tunisian private companies in the actions undertaken by IRENA, such as the online training actions («Open Solar Contracts» / October 2021) and the participation in the «Private Investment Forum» in 2022, as well as other actions will be examined at bilateral level, in the framework of a cooperation request to be formulated by the Tunisian side.

World Food Programme support to the Tunisian climate change adaptation programme

An online meeting held on 29 June 2021 between representatives of the Ministry of Environment (ME - UGPO-CC) and the World Food Programme (WFP) focused on opportunities for cooperation between the two parties in the field of climate change adaptation.



The WFP representative, Mr. Taher Hichri, presented the activities and achievements of the WFP during the period 2013-2021 and its strategic orientations for 2025, while his colleague, Mr. Oscar Ekdahl, discussed the approach developed by the WFP in terms of climate change aspects, the strategy, and achievements of this UN agency in the fields of climate finance, technology transfer and capacity building.

For his part, Mr Mohamed Zmerli (MALEn - UGPO-CC) presented the state of play of Tunisia's climate policy and the national priorities in the field of adaptation to climate change, and in particular the state of play of the National Low Carbon Strategy.

Both parties agreed to resume the discussion, once the National Adaptation Plan is finalised, in the framework of a visit to Tunisia by WFP representatives, to identify concrete activities and projects that could be part of a climate cooperation programme.



The National School of Administration of Tunis introduces climate governance in its Academy training programmes

The National School of Administration of Tunis (ENA) signed on 2 July 2021 a tripartite cooperation agreement on a training programme for senior administration officials on climate governance. The three signatories are: ENA, the Ministry of Environment represented by the National Coordination Unit on Climate Change (UGPO) and the GIZ climate projects («Setting up institutional capacities for NDC implementation in Tunisia» and «Capacity building and support to the implementation of the national policy for adaptation to climate change in Tunisia»).



The objective of the convention is to strengthen and develop the capacity of senior government officials at national, regional, and local levels, as well as representatives of the private sector and civil society, to address the challenges and opportunities of climate change in a cross-cutting manner in the daily work of national institutions.

According to the Director General of ENA, Ms Khaoula Laabidi, action against climate change is no longer just a «technical or political commitment but has become a social and governance commitment».

GEF and UNDP support Tunisia in meeting its reporting commitments to the UNFCCC

The Ministry of Environment and UNDP-Tunisia organised, on 12 July 2021, the start of the new project «Enabling activity for the preparation of the fourth National Communication (4th NC) and the third Biennial Report (3rd BR) of Tunisia under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Managed by UNDP, the 4-year project (2021-2025) is financially supported by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the Tunisian government. At the opening of the workshop, Mr. Yousri Hellal – UNDP Tunisia’s environment and climate change team leader – underlined the importance of the project in the national climate policy process.



For his part, Mr. Mohamed Zmerli, head of the UGPO- CC, highlighted the framework of the project and the expected support to national capacity building and to the preparation of the Tunisian participation at COP26.

The issues and national priorities for climate change adaptation and mitigation were presented during the workshop. The importance of GHG inventories as a tool for monitoring a country’s commitments and the effectiveness and efficiency of mitigation policies was emphasised.

The meeting of 12 July was followed by the meeting of the Steering Committee (COFIL), held the next day, to validate the conclusions of the workshop of 12 July and the work plan for the year 2021.

NATIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING

The municipality of Sfax commits itself to sustainable transport by elaborating a local action plan for sustainable urban mobility for 2021-2025

The municipality of Sfax, the National Agency for Energy Management (ANME) and GIZ organised on 29 and 30 June 2021, a workshop on the elaboration of a local action plan for sustainable urban mobility in the city of Sfax.

The workshop was organised within the framework of the project «Setting up Institutional capacities for NDC implementation in Tunisia», implemented by GIZ, in partnership with the Ministry of Environment and ANME. This project is funded by the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU).





The objective of the workshop was to carry out strategic and operational reflections leading to the development of a local action plan for sustainable urban mobility for the period 2021-2025 which will be part of the next local development plan of the city of Sfax. This plan constitutes a concretization of the strategic orientations of the Urban Development Plan, elaborated by the municipality of Sfax in 2016 and demonstrates instead of testifies to the commitment of the city on the road to sustainable mobility by 2030.



The workshop gathered about forty participants, representing the Council of the Municipality of Sfax, the urban public transport sector, ANME, GIZ, national and international transport experts and the civil society.

Towards the finalisation of the National Low Carbon and Climate Change Resilient Strategy

1) Mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions

The Ministry of Environment, supported by the German Development Cooperation - GIZ, has launched since November 2020, a process of preparation of the National Low Carbon and Climate Resilient Strategy for 2050.

In this context, a virtual workshop was organised on 29 and 30 July 2021 with the participation of some fifty representatives of the sectors concerned by the mitigation of GHG emissions (energy, industrial processes, AFOLU, waste), as well as numerous international and national experts.



The workshop was dedicated to the presentation and discussion of the strategic vision that could be adopted to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050 and to the sectoral mitigation programmes and to guidelines defined in this strategy.

The workshop was opened by Mr. Mohamed Zmerli, Head of UGPO-CC at the Ministry of Environment and Ms. Inga Zachow, Project Manager of GIZ who presented the low carbon strategy in the international context and the national climate governance.

The event was structured in 6 sessions dealing with the following topics :

- ▶ National Low Carbon Strategy (LTS) development process
- ▶ Results of prospective work on the waste sector, the agriculture, forestry, and other land use sector (AFOLU), the energy sector and industrial processes
- ▶ The main lines of Tunisia's LTS and, in particular, the strategic vision for 2050
- ▶ The means to be used to implement the strategy.

For his part, Mr Mohamed Zmerli insisted on the need for a strategic vision of a «disrupture» with the pathways of the past and on the ambitious objective of national carbon neutrality.

2) Adaptation to Climate Change

The Ministry of Environment in collaboration with GIZ, organised on 24-25 June 2021 a national semi-virtual workshop with the objective of presenting and discussing the progress of the preparation of the National Strategy for Climate Resilient Development to 2050.

The workshop was organised within the framework of the project «Capacity building and support to the implementation of the national policy for adaptation to climate change in Tunisia» (Adapt-CC), implemented by GIZ, in partnership with ME and financed by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).



Atelier de finalisation des visions Stratégiques sectorielles et des mesures d'adaptation de la SNRCC

Du 24 au 25 juin 2021 à L'hôtel Regency Gammarth





The workshop was based on a broad consultation with participants, representing all vulnerable sectors concerned by adaptation to the impacts of climate change.

The Head of the National Focal Point for the UNFCCC, Mr Mohamed Zmerli, representing ME, emphasised the strategic vision that must reflect long-term national aspirations. At the same time, this strategy should ensure coherence with the mitigation component to facilitate the consolidation of the overall strategy, which will be finalised and presented in December 2021 in a national workshop that will bring together all relevant actors.



Vision for 2050

“A Tunisia resilient to climate change, having significantly reduced the vulnerabilities and strengthened the adaptive capacities of its ecosystems, its population, its economy, and operated the necessary transformations capable of ensuring an inclusive and sustainable socio-economic development model in the face of climate crises”

Workshop on the analysis of the 6th Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report on the climatic situation

In partnership with the Ministry of Environment and 2C2D, the Heinrich Böll Foundation organised on 10 September 2021 a workshop on the analysis of the first volume of the 6th Assessment Report, published on 9 August 2021, by the IPCC.

Opened by Ms. Heike Löschmann, Director of the Foundation, and Mr. Mohamed Zmerli, representative of the IPCC Focal Point in Tunisia and representative of ME, the workshop took place in Tunis as a face-to-face event and was broadcasted live on Facebook.



The IPCC report, the result of an international collaboration of nearly 250 scientists from more than 60 countries, presents the current state of knowledge on climate change and its latest trends, as well as new global and regional climate projections - under different socio-economic scenarios - including temperature, precipitation, and mean sea level rise.

Following the alarming conclusions of the report on the consequences of global warming, considered as «a red alert for humanity», the foundation proposed to present and analyse the scientific conclusions and to transpose them to the Tunisian climate context, while submitting them to the debate of experts in the field, to the representatives of civil society (activists and associations) and to the youth, present at the workshop.

2nd Workshop of the National Technical Advisory Committee on Adaptation to Climate Change

Established under Article 6 of Decree No. 2018-263 on the creation of the UGPO-CC, the National Technical Advisory Committee on Adaptation to Climate Change met for the second time, during a workshop held on 14 September 2021 in Tunis.

The opening of the workshop was chaired by Mr. Kamal Doukh, Acting Minister of Environment, who spoke about Tunisia's climate vulnerability, stressing the need to act quickly and to deploy all efforts to strengthen the implementation of the policy for adaptation to climate change.

During this workshop, emphasis was placed on Tunisia's commitment to adapt to climate change through several actions including those aimed at establishing a strengthened transparency framework in the field of adaptation to climate change as required by Article 13 of the Paris Agreement.

Local initiatives in the field of climate change adaptation were also highlighted through the success story of GDA Sidi Amor. Indeed, this GDA presented the initiatives taken for the fight against forest fires.

The workshop allowed for an exchange of views on the most important developments in the field of climate change adaptation and response to natural disasters.



CIVIL SOCIETY AND YOUTH

Preparation of young Tunisian negotiators for COP26

Tunisia is preparing for an active participation in the next COP26, which will take place from 1 to 12 November 2021 in Glasgow, Scotland and in the 16th United Nations Youth Conference on Climate Change (COY16).

This precursor event to the COY16 will take place from 28 to 31 October. Which brings together representatives from over 140 countries, is being organised by YOUNGOs (the name given to the youth delegations at the summit), as part of the preparation of new generations for the climate negotiations and the strengthening of their policy-making skills. In this way, the voices of young people around the world will be brought together to form an official position for the COP.

In this regard, the Ministry of Environment with the support of the GIZ-project Setting up Institutional capacities for NDC implementation in Tunisia « and the GIZ-project «Capacity building and support to the implementation of the national policy of adaptation to climate change in Tunisia», launched, on 7 July 2021, a call for applications for the constitution of a group of young Tunisian negotiators who can support the official delegation of Tunisia, during the various international negotiation events, including the Conferences of the Parties (COP) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). As a result, 36 applications were received and 16 selected, the list of which has been published on the Ministry's website.



The 16 selected candidates participated in training sessions, allowing the organisers to better know and select participants who will accompany the Tunisian delegation to COP26. The training covered topics such as the history of climate diplomacy, the official framework of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, as well as the main negotiation topics of this year's COP, such as climate finance, the transparency framework, and the carbon market.

Tunisia medal winner at the International Geography Olympiad

The Ministry of Environment organized on September 14, 2021, a ceremony in honor of the Association of Tunisian Geographers having won the first prize during the 17th session of the International Geography Olympiads, a scientific competition organized under the aegis of the International Geographic Union.

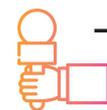
This competition was organised remotely from 11 to 15 August 2021 in Istanbul with the participation of 47 countries, 180 individual candidates and 80 coaches.



Tunisia won two medals :

- ▶ a bronze medal in the individual event won by student Driss Kriziz,
- ▶ a gold medal, tied with Singapore, in the collective competition obtained by the Association of Tunisian Geographers, for the presentation of the best posters in the world on the theme of climate change, including the most important negative repercussions of climate change in Tunisia and the solutions adopted to deal with them.

YOUNG CLIMATE CHAMPION



Malek Romdhane and the dream of climate justice

Activist in the field of climate change, Malek Romdhane has gained notoriety outside our borders.

The young Tunisian's interest in the climate issue was particularly heightened when she took an active part in a youth-led programme in the city council of Modbury, the first city in Europe to ban plastic bags from its shops. This project had shaped her views on how leadership and the acquisition of good knowledge can influence policy and have an impact on promoting the climate within companies.

Since then, Malek Romdhane's field of action has continued to expand. This November, she will be in Glasgow as the regional coordinator (North and Central Africa) of the 16th United Nations Youth Conference on Climate Change (COY16), which will be held on the side-lines of COP26.

1 - You have an academic background in «digital marketing» (ESSEC) and your CV shows an active and high-level international commitment to climate change. Where does your interest in this subject come from and is it a professional «reconversion»?

The climate crisis is a reality we live in. We all need to act and mobilise everyone in this mission for the sake of our rights and the rights of future generations for a fair and sustainable future. As a marketing student, I have always believed that business should be done differently and that strategies should focus on people and the planet rather than on profits. Unfortunately, our study programme did not give me the space to realise my vision and find ways to learn more. However, my activism has always given me the freedom to express myself through climate justice advocacy in different sectors and organisations and to work on projects that aim to achieve the outcomes of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In short, it is about adapting these goals to my career rather than converting it.

2 - As the regional coordinator (North and Central Africa) of the 16th United Nations Youth Conference on Climate Change (COY16) to be held on the margins of COP26 in Glasgow, what message do you bring to the conference from young people in the region and Tunisia in particular, and what do you expect from the COP?

As regional coordinator of COY16, one of my tasks is to collect the contributions of young people in my region to present them at COP26. My message to the politicians is mainly to recognise our contributions and to highlight them. African youth have always been at the forefront of the climate emergency and the fight against it. We expect government agencies to actively involve young people in decision making at local and national levels. And this time we come with a youth declaration that includes their demands and recommendations, as well as country-specific proposals.

3 - You say: «My dream is to live in a world where human rights and climate justice are not just slogans», could you explain the notion of climate justice and how it can be realised?

Climate justice means that we all have duties and commitments to the climate but with differentiated responsibilities. Historically, developed countries bear the greatest responsibility for carbon emissions. These countries must increase their commitment to the climate and keep their promises to developing countries. In return, developing countries must also act by developing national strategies that are more adapted to their realities, respecting the environment and using their natural resources in a more sustainable way.

INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE NEWS

HIGHLIGHTS

G20 Joint Ministerial Meeting on Environment, Climate and Energy

G20 environment ministers met on 22-23 July in Naples to address global warming and its devastating consequences. On the agenda: biodiversity and the protection of the oceans, sustainable water management, the promotion of circular economies, particularly in the fashion and textile sectors, and the reconciliation of financial flows with the objectives of the Paris Agreement.

The ministers also discussed the preparation of the COP26 to be held in early November in Glasgow, an event presented by its organisers as «the world's last chance to control climate change».

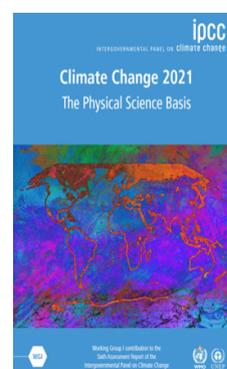
«The world urgently needs a clear and unambiguous commitment from all G20 nations to the Paris Agreement's 1.5-degree target,» said UN Secretary-General António Guterres after the meeting came to an end without agreement on key climate change commitments.

Publication of the 6th IPCC report - the «Code Red for humanity»

The IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) estimated in a report released at the beginning of August that the threshold of +1.5°C of warming compared to the pre-industrial era will be reached around 2030, ten years earlier than in previous projections, which threatens humanity with new «unprecedented» disasters».

It should be noted that, according to experts, global warming is accelerating at an unprecedented rate and is caused by human activity.

In a statement to the media, UN Secretary General António Guterres called the report a red alert for humanity, warning that greenhouse gas emissions and deforestation are choking the planet.



World Water Week

On World Water Week (23-27 August 2021) a new UNICEF report shows that 90% of children in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region live in areas of high or extremely high water stress, with serious consequences for their future health, nutrition, cognitive development, and livelihoods. The MENA region is said to be the most water-stressed region in the world.



UN Deputy Secretary-General: climate action is essential in a world affected by fires and floods

In a video message on 6 September 2021 at the Dialogue on Accelerating Adaptation Solutions ahead of COP26, UN Deputy Secretary-General Amina Mohammed highlighted the already visible impacts of climate change. She stressed that «the whole planet is going through a season of fires and floods» which mainly affects fragile and vulnerable populations in rich and poor countries alike.

«Countries and people around the world – especially those most vulnerable and least responsible for the climate crisis – will face even more devastating consequences.

«The effects will ripple through economies, communities and ecosystems, erasing development gains, deepening poverty, increasing migration and exacerbating tensions» - she said.



At the Security Council, Jerandi calls for urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

In his address to the Security Council's open debate on « the effects of climate change on international peace and security », held on Thursday 23 September 2021 on the 76th session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York, Mr Othman Jerandi, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Migration and Tunisians Abroad, warned that «climate change threatens international peace and security».



He stressed the need to include climate change in strategies for maintaining peace and security, because of its impact on the stability of peoples. The Minister considered it «essential to adopt international policies based on solidarity in order to implement the objectives of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development», referring in this respect to objective 13, which calls for urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.

Dear readers

We would be delighted to receive your comments on the content of our newsletter and your suggestions for climate-related issues that you think should be addressed.

To do so, we provide you with the following e-mail address :

« infoclimattunisie@gmail.com ».

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