

The Green Initiatives

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Introduction:

The world is facing severe climatic changes that have come to be called the “challenge of the century” due to the resulting disturbances in various weather patterns and high temperatures due to the increase in greenhouse gas emissions that have caused encasing parts of the planet with a glass envelope that allows solar rays to enter the earth, and prevents the return of parts of the heat back. From it to space, and scientists have known that the phenomenon is called the greenhouse phenomenon, or global warming, which is now affecting our planet with the devastating disasters it causes, which, according to UN statistics, have affected nearly 4 billion people worldwide; Which threatens to increase its humanitarian repercussions, especially in light of the fears of worse climate catastrophic scenarios if the countries of the world do not commit to implementing measures to limit the effects of these climate changes and reduce global emissions by 45% by 2030.

Main Human Activities Which Increase Global Warming:

- Burning fossil fuels
- Elimination of forests agricultural activities

Coal and reserving forest:

- Many Countries still use coal for energy. Three of them are: responsible for harming the environment by about 45% of pollution.
- As for the Amazon forest and its importance for the ecological balance, some see that the Amazon rainforest is the green lung of the earth, that these vast green forests are responsible for producing 6% of the total production of oxygen on the surface of the Earth

The Amazon rainforest produces huge amounts of water called “flying rivers,” the Amazon must be preserved. The removal of rainforest trees and vegetation is damaging evaporation. The impact range of "flying rivers", and precipitation in many South American countries. In addition, the Amazon provides nearly a fifth of the fresh water that flows into the oceans and stores between 90 and 140 billion tons of carbon.

And thus help stabilize the global climate. In contrast, deforestation and forests are the largest source of greenhouse gas emissions. Deforestation for agricultural land releases greenhouse gases into the atmosphere and destabilizes the climate.

Suggested Solutions to Reduce Causes of Climate Change:

Means to reduce the causes of climate change:

- Carbon reduction.
- Reducing fossil fuel subsidies
- Building Resilient Low Carbon Cities
- Increasing energy efficiency and using renewable energy
- Apply climate-smart farming practices and forest expansion

Solutions to address climate change:

- **Plant more trees**

Planting trees has a huge potential to address the climate crisis. According to recent research, 900 million hectares of additional tree cover worldwide is enough to store 25% of the current carbon pool in the atmosphere.

- **Recycling waste properly and converting it into useful products and electrical energy.**

The role of international organizations and associations to contribute to finding solutions to reduce these climate and environmental crises

- The Arab Organization of the Red Crescent and the Red Cross, in coordination with the National Societies, the League of Arab States, and the Ministries of Environment and Agriculture, has undertaken the afforestation initiative and IFRC MENA ZONE 2021-2030.
- Which aims to plant about 500 million trees in the Arab countries over the next ten years. The proposed trees were distributed to the countries based on several parameters such as the state's area, land area, water and land.
- Changing behaviors in a supportive way towards solving crises by adopting environmentally sustainable practices and contributing to mitigating their effects.
- Preparing awareness programs to contribute to solving the crisis and limiting its aggravation.
- Providing the necessary assistance to mitigate the damages of disasters.
- Empowering civil society
- Highlight the experiences and stories of the people most affected by the climate crisis
- Coordination and integration with government efforts
- The pursuit of clean energy
- Contribute and monitor international environmental negotiations
- Going to use alternative energy
- Seeking to raise awareness and participate in the work of adaptation to the current climate changes

Afforestation Initiative:

Main idea:

- The idea of the initiative was launched in March 2021
- The Arab Red Crescent and Red Cross Organization, in cooperation with The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent, MENA Zone, is coordinating this initiative.
- The goal of this project is to plant 500 million trees divided over 21 Arab countries during the period from 2021 to 2030
- Tree planting is one of the most common and easiest perennial environmental projects in terms of cost, and it has an active role in contributing to solutions to confront climate changes, as well as a role in encouraging civil society to practice a lifestyle in line with the goals of sustainable development for 2030
- This initiative targets national associations and bodies to participate in promoting community awareness and awareness campaigns to increase understanding climate change risks and strive to preserve the environment

Afforestation Initiative:

Objectives:

Main objectives of the project:

- To get National Societies involved in environment protection as part of global and regional efforts to reserve the environment contributing on the Arab scale to unify efforts to adapt to climate and mitigate its severity
 - Increasing the percentage of green spaces in the Arab region to improve air quality and reduce temperatures and take part of the Saudi Crown Prince initiative to plant 40 billion trees 10 million of which is Saudi Arabia and 30 million in the Arab states in the Middle East.
- Qualifying youth capabilities
 - Develop the personal skills of volunteers and enhance their positive communication with Arab National Societies and other organizations working in the humanitarian field

Tools to achieve the goals of the initiative:

- Holding intensive and varied training courses
- Workshops
- Practical training in agricultural skills
- Discussions and communication sessions with National Societies and other supporting organizations
- Benefit from Arab experiences and expertise
- Create a website to follow up on the initiative

The proposed implementation plan for the afforestation initiative for the regions for the year 2021-2030:

#	Country	No. of Trees	#	Country	No. of Trees
1	Saudi Arabia	30,000,000	11	Jordan	5,000,000
2	United Arab Emirates	5,000,000	12	Somalia	10,000,000
3	Kuwait	3,000,000	13	Union of the Comoros	2,275,000
4	Qatar	2,500,000	14	Djibouti	2,250,000
5	Bahrain	1,100,000	15	Egypt	80,000,000
6	Yemen	35,000,000	16	Morocco	10,000,000
7	Syria	10,000,000	17	Tunisia	10,000,000
8	Iraq	30,000,000	18	Algeria	15,000,000
9	Palestine	2,250,000	19	Libya	115,000,000
10	Lebanon	1,625,000	20	Sudan	85,000,000
			21	Mauritania	45,000,000
	Total Sum. of the Suggested Trees	500,000,000			

ARCO is monetarily the progress achieved by National Societies

- ▶ As of last week, 5 Societies reported back to have planted:
- ▶ Bahrain 5200
- ▶ Libya 6200
- ▶ Sudan 14000
- ▶ Palestine 410
- ▶ Iraq 12580

Main Partnerships:

1 .International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent MENA Zone

A major partner in turning the idea into reality.

2 .The Council of Ministers of Environment, Water and Agriculture

Valued the idea and blessed the project. They committed to contributing and assisting in its implementation.

3 .The Higher Committee for Joint Arab Action in the League of Arab States

Blessed the idea and committed its members to contribute to its implementation.

4 .Arab Union of Pioneering Scouts and Guides

A memorandum of understanding was signed with them, through which they committed themselves to contribute to the implementation of the project.

5 .ACSAD (The Arab Center for the Studies of Arid Zones and Dry Lands)

Blessed the project and have the desire to contribute to its implementation. A memorandum of understanding will be signed with them in this regard.

6 .Arab Tourism Organization

A memorandum of understanding was signed with them to participate in the implementation of the project.

The Outcomes of Glasgow Conference (COP26):

- **Recognize the state of emergency**

Countries reaffirmed the Paris Agreement's goal of limiting the increase in average global temperature to well below 2°C.

- **Accelerate the work**

Countries stressed the need to cut CO2 emissions by 45% to reach net zero around mid-century.

- **Stay away from fossil fuels**

Countries agreed on a clause calling for the phase-out of coal energy and the phasing out of “inefficient” fossil fuel subsidies.

- **Achieve climate finance**

Developed countries came to Glasgow unable to deliver on their promise to provide \$100 billion annually to developing countries.

- **Intensification of support for adaptation**

The Glasgow Charter calls for a doubling of funding to support developing countries in adapting to the effects of climate change and building resilience. This will dramatically increase funding to protect lives and livelihoods. Glasgow has also established a work program to set a global goal on adaptation, which will identify collective needs and solutions to the climate crisis already affecting many nations.

- **Completing the Paris Rules List**

Among the operational details is the practical implementation of the agreement on rules on carbon markets, which will allow countries struggling to meet their emissions targets to purchase emissions reductions from other countries that have already exceeded their targets.

- **Focus on losses and damages**

Countries agreed to strengthen a network, known as the Santiago Network, that connects countries at risk with providers of technical assistance, knowledge and resources to address climate risks. They also launched a new "Glasgow Dialogue" to discuss arrangements for financing activities to avoid, reduce and address losses and damages associated with the adverse effects of climate change.

Role of the movement and national Societies

- ▶ Raise the awareness of climate change and it's impact on the planet
- ▶ Help local authorities and plant more trees
- ▶ Help to preserve forests.
- ▶ Get more involved in international conferences.

Other Significant Positive Deals & Announcements Took Place Outside Glasgow:

- **Forests**

137 countries have taken a significant step forward by committing to halt and reverse forest loss by 2030. The pledge is backed by \$12 billion from the public sector and \$7.2 billion in private financing.

- **Methane**

103 countries, including 15 major emitters, have signed the Global Methane Pledge, which aims to reduce methane emissions by 30 percent by 2030.

- **Cars**

More than 30 countries, six major auto manufacturers and other players, such as cities, have determined that all new car and truck sales will be zero-emissions vehicles by 2040 globally.

- **Coal**

Announced a groundbreaking partnership to support South Africa as the world's largest electricity producer worth \$8.5 billion over the next 3-5 years for a just transition from coal to a low-carbon economy.

- **Private Financing**

Private financial institutions and central banks have announced steps to redirect trillions of dollars toward achieving global net zero emissions.