



وزارة التعاون الدولي
Ministry of International
Cooperation

EGYPT'S COUNTRY PLATFORM FOR NWFE نُوْفِي PROGRAM



EGYPT'S NEXUS OF WATER, FOOD & ENERGY
FROM PLEDGES TO IMPLEMENTATION

COMMUNIQUE

NOVEMBER 19, 2023



COMMUNIQUÉ

The Government of Egypt, representatives from multilateral development banks, financial institutions, UN agencies, bilateral partners, and the private sector convened in Cairo, Egypt, in the New Administrative Capital on November 19th to discuss the progress made within **Egypt's Country Platform for the Nexus of Water, Food and Energy (NWFE (نُوقِي) program**, which was launched in July 2022. We collectively:

- I. **Reiterate** our commitment to accelerating the achievement of the climate goals outlined in the Paris Agreement and Egypt's National Climate Change Strategy 2050 as well as the Sustainable Development agenda 2030, acknowledging the inextricable link between climate action and sustainable development.
- II. **Recognize** rising international calls to improve the international financial architecture. This is grounded in the integration of innovative financing solutions, with a view to enabling developing and emerging economies to address climate challenges while pursuing their development trajectories.
- III. **Underscore** the importance of country-led multi-stakeholder platforms, with Egypt's Country Platform for the Nexus of Water, Food and Energy (NWFE (نُوقِي) being a leading example, to fulfill national climate objectives in accelerating the transition towards a low carbon, resilient and inclusive economy, while leveraging the comparative advantage of the various stakeholders. This inevitably fosters mutual accountability and achieves the required sustainable impact of leaving no one behind.
- IV. **Stress on** the importance of mainstreaming the principles of Just Financing across all capital providers at the national and international levels, anchored around country ownership, equitable pathways and good governance.

In that regard, we applaud Egypt's efforts in advancing the Country Platform for the NWFE نُؤفِّي Program, and together:

- V. Recognize** the significance of sound sector policies, a key feature of NWFE نُؤفِّي, while leveraging on the foresight strategies and plans for a green transition already established by the Government of Egypt. This approach ensures the creation of a conducive environment for additional initiatives on the green agenda.
- VI. Underscore** the vital role of collective efforts to unlock scale financing and foster new partnership modalities within the NWFE نُؤفِّي program, capitalizing on the technical and financial expertise of different stakeholders across the 3 pillars of the program: water, food and energy.
- VII. Acknowledge**, in particular, the role of the leading partners in the 3 pillars of NWFE نُؤفِّي, EBRD in the energy pillar, AfDB and IFAD in the food and water pillars and EIB in NWFE+. These efforts are further complemented by other multilateral and bilateral partners.
- VIII. Highlight** the importance of strategic investments in technology-based solutions within the climate change framework. These investments, focused on mitigation, adaptation, and resilient development, effectively reduce greenhouse gas emissions and enhance community resilience. The concentration of these efforts in specific geographic areas maximizes developmental impact, underscoring the importance of the Nexus, as demonstrated by NWFE نُؤفِّي, in achieving positive environmental outcomes.
- IX. With respect to the Energy pillar, we:**
- **Commend** the Government of Egypt for updating its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), and working towards fulfilling its commitment to accelerate the transition towards a low-carbon development pathway through NWFE نُؤفِّي, in line with the Political Declaration from the Governments of Egypt (GoE), the Federal Republic of Germany, and the United States of America that was announced on November 11th, 2022.



- **Acknowledge** the achievement in securing a debt swap deal with Germany to finance the energy pillar within the NWFE نُوقِي program - an instrumental financial tool in advancing Egypt's climate-related initiatives.
- **Emphasize** the vital role of innovative financing solutions, such as blended finance, within the NWFE نُوقِي Platform to mitigate risks associated with climate investments and foster private sector participation. This approach has yielded tangible results, catalyzing \$2 billion in private investments.
- **Recognize** the significance of innovative technologies, including "green hydrogen," in the de-carbonization of our energy systems throughout the entire energy value chain, which is integral to the NWFE نُوقِي energy pillar.

X. With respect to the Food pillar, we:

- **Reiterate** the importance of robust and sustainable food management systems in attaining both national and global development objectives. Under the NWFE (نُوقِي) framework, the food pillar strategically leveraged stakeholder strengths to allocate funds not only for technical assistance and feasibility studies but also for the design of a diverse range of bankable projects. These initiatives span early warning systems and investments in sustainable and resilient agriculture. The objective is to equip projects with the necessary groundwork, ensuring their viability and preparedness for private sector engagement - an essential stakeholder in guaranteeing the sustainability and efficiency of food systems.
- **Acknowledge** the interlinkage between the water and food pillars within the NWFE نُوقِي framework, as these sectors collaborate to enhance resilience and sustainability. The strategic alignment of efforts ensures complementarity and offers comprehensive solutions, contributing to the attainment of broader development goals.

XI. With respect to the Water pillar, we:

- Recognize the importance of implementing effective water management strategies to address the adverse impacts of climate change, such as water scarcity. The NWFE نُوقِي projects within the

water pillar strategically engaged both existing and new partners to secure funding for technical assistance and project preparations. These initiatives encompass critical areas such as water desalination using renewable energy and scaling up solar irrigation.

XII. With respect to NWFE+, we:

- **Recognize** the importance of promoting sustainable transport for an inclusive, resilient ecosystem that fosters connectivity. This is underscored within the NWFE+ pillar, which aims to curb CO2 emissions, thereby contributing directly to the realization of Egypt's NDCs.

XIII. Encourage all stakeholders to facilitate access to quality and quantity finance and foster investment in all NWFE نُؤَفِّي pillars, including through de-risking mechanisms, cooperation with the private sector and development of pipelines of investable projects.

XIV. Commend the role of the NWFE نُؤَفِّي Platform National Steering Committee, led by the Ministry of International Cooperation, in fostering coordination among diverse stakeholders, both national and international. This governance framework ensures the effective allocation of resources and mobilization of necessary investments. The commitment to transparency is exemplified by the preparation and publication of the first progress report, providing a comprehensive overview of achievements and future plans in advancing the NWFE نُؤَفِّي Platform's implementation.

XV. Affirm that NWFE نُؤَفِّي Platform offers a practical and replicable model for mobilizing climate investments at scale in developing and emerging economies. The model facilitates moving from pledges to implementation while accounting for country priorities.

We, Egypt and partners, will continue to join efforts for the successful implementation of Egypt's Country Platform, for the Nexus of Water, Food and Energy (NWFE نُؤَفِّي). This collaborative endeavor serves as a crucial milestone, aligning our national aspirations with the broader objectives of the global development and climate agenda.

Let's نُؤَفِّي Together!

¹ <https://moic.gov.eg/page/nwfe>

List of Development Partners & Stakeholders

