

Lebanon is immensely affected due to climate change and labour mobility in the Middle East region. The Syrian conflict resulted in mass influx of around 2 million Syrian refugees into Lebanon, causing huge pressure on the economic and social assets of Lebanon, and provoking severe disruptions in the electricity, agriculture and water systems since March 2011. The conflict inflicted also a heavy blow to the country's agriculture sector.

Also studies and analysis show that climate change is impacting negatively the economy of Lebanon in the near and distant future.

Conflict and immigration may increase in the mid and long term as a result of global warming, extreme weather conditions and water scarcity.

Additional restraints caused by climate change, as well as overpopulation, growth of cities, water pollution and ineffective use of energy sources, have contributed to water shortages across the world.

The Lebanese economy loses about \$800 million per year only in agricultural and food costs that can be traced to direct or indirect climate change-related causes. Total economic costs today are an estimated \$2 billion per year. Also, an estimated 30,000 people die every year due to climate change-linked factors such as heat stress, disease, malnutrition and others, based on studies for Lebanon and the wider Eastern Mediterranean region.

Population displacements as some areas become nearly uninhabitable or unable to support traditional agricultural life, violence, health problems, worker productivity, and others. Income and livelihood disparities are expected to worsen and exacerbate social and economic polarization among wealthy and poor families.

Official projections show that countries like Lebanon will suffer immensely if speedy and sensible actions are not taken in the areas of mitigation and adaptation, to minimize the damage and to save millions of citizens from certain grief and hardships that will strike harder in the years ahead.

The climate change impact realities that are already well documented; start reducing vulnerabilities in areas where that can be done; and enact policies that increase resilience in the economy, which would allow Lebanese state and private institutions to respond effectively and in time to anticipated dangers ahead.

Climate change has both direct as well as indirect costs for Lebanon. Direct costs result when higher temperatures, changes in precipitation, and extreme weather events, such as storms, reduce agricultural productivity, adversely affect human health, cause flooding, and hence damage different segments of the economy. Indirect costs result when the direct costs slow the country's economic growth. The slower growth means a decline in Lebanon's Gross Domestic Product (GDP), lower incomes for workers and households, lower government revenues, and higher government costs.

Regional insecurities, in particular with regard to the distribution of natural resources, might be aggravated by climate change. This could exacerbate political conflicts and lead to an increase in migration, which would make it more difficult for different countries to deal with the negative effects of climate change. Thus it is important to develop a climate response system that would make communities more resilient to the adverse impacts of climate change.