



With People. By Tech. For Impact.



COP28UAE
مؤتمر الأطراف 28 الإمارات العربية المتحدة



Empowering Youth to Develop Innovative Solutions for Climate Action

Hello!



COP28 UAE
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Jalila Hedhli

Lead Social Impact Advisor

Expertise

Social investment strategies, innovative social impact, dynamic partnerships.

Commitment

Advancing SDGs across State and Non-State Actors



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About Sustainable Square

150+
Clients Served

92.3%
Customer Satisfaction Score

90%
Customer Retention

9x
Profit Increase
(Financial Sustainability 2022)



15+ Markets of Operation



350+ Projects Delivered



11

Nationalities in Team



1:1.3

Male to Female Ratio



10+

Government Policies Created in GCC



2K+

Board capacity Building Sessions Delivered



10K

LinkedIn Followers



2

No. of ESG tech solutions

Our Portfolio

We have serviced clients across sectors, verticals and beyond geographical boundaries.



CONGLOMERATES



INFRASTRUCTURE



F&B/AGRICULTURE



FINANCIAL



TELECOM



ENERGY



SOCIAL



GOVERNMENT



PRODUCTION/MANUFACTURING



TRANSPORT+LOGISTICS



HEALTHCARE



OTHERS





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Tunisian Youth For Climate Action

- Tunisia Environmental Risks
- Youth Vulnerability
- Reinventing Education
- Rehabilitate Strategy, structure and means for youth empowerment
- Shifting the paradigm : Challenges are potential for sustainable growth



Re-invented Education is Key For Reaching SDGs



Health



Cultural
Heritage



Employment



Economic
Growth



Environment



Education



Environnement Vulnerability to Climate Change

Water resources

- Climate projections highlight risks to water resources:
- Increased demand and conflicts of use
- Overexploitation of groundwater
- Declining water stocks
- Degradation of water quality, including coastal aquifer salinization
- Estimated loss of 220 million m³ per year from coastal aquifers by 2050 (75% of total coastal water resources)
- Water sector's adaptive capacity rated as moderate to low

This will mostly affect

- Women farmers and children
- Small-scale farmers
- Vulnerable groups in urban and peri-urban areas: The poor, The unemployed, The elderly





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Environnement Vulnerability to Climate Change

- **Climate projections for agricultural production:**
 - Anticipated increase in frequency and intensity of droughts
 - Cereal production expected to decline by nearly 40% by 2050
 - Potential 32% reduction in olive production yields
- **Expected impact on national GDP and agricultural sector:**
- **Impacts on crops and land:**
 - Decrease in yields
 - Reduction in the area of tree and cereal crops
 - Loss of soil fertility
 - Decrease in arable land area
- **Regional vulnerability:**
 - Highest vulnerability in central and southern Tunisia
 - Particularly critical vulnerability in the south (east and west)





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Environnement Vulnerability to Climate Change

- **Challenges to Natural Ecosystems:**
 - Threats to the balance and regeneration capacity of natural ecosystems
 - Impacts on the maintenance of ecosystem goods and services
- **Biodiversity Threats:**
 - Direct or indirect accentuation by climate change
 - Destruction, especially through forest fires, and fragmentation of habitats
 - Pollution of air, soil, and freshwater along coasts and agrosystems
 - Overexploitation of terrestrial and marine animal and plant resources





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Environnement Vulnerability to Climate Change

- **Climate Change Effects on Tunisian Coastal Zones:**
 - Rise in sea level
 - Increased temperature, salinity, and acidity of water
- **Impacts on Coastal Areas:**
 - Loss of built-up areas
 - Risk to coastal and agricultural infrastructure
 - Coastline erosion and degradation of coastal ecosystems
- **Vulnerabilities in the Coastal Zone:**
 - Over 3100 hectares of urban areas vulnerable to submersion
 - Eastern coastal water tables, a crucial water resource, highly susceptible to ENM-induced salinization
- **Vulnerability Classification:**
 - **44% of Tunisian coastline considered vulnerable to very highly vulnerable**
 - 24% moderately vulnerable
 - Approximately 32% weakly to very weakly vulnerable





Environnement Vulnerability to Climate Change

- **Health Impacts of Climate Change:**
 - Recrudescence and emergence of vector-borne diseases
 - Increase in water-borne and food-borne diseases
 - Aggravation of air pollution-related diseases
 - Elevated frequency and intensity of health effects from floods
- **Potential Risks and Concerns:**
 - Possible emergence of new diseases such as Chikungunya and Zika viruses
 - Destruction of drinking water distribution and sanitation infrastructure due to floods
 - Contamination of surface and ground water
- **Respiratory Health Concerns:**
 - Exacerbation of respiratory diseases due to pollution, fine particles, ozone, and pollen allergens
- **Intersection with COVID-19:**
 - Reports highlight cumulative effects of COVID-19 pandemic and climate change
 - Simultaneous development could increase vulnerability, particularly for populations with limited resources
 - Risk of exacerbating existing inequalities during global health crises



Cultural Heritage

Environnement Vulnerability to Climate Change

Threats to tourism from Climate Change

Acceleration of sea level rise poses a major threat to seaside tourism in Tunisia

Coastline retreat at rates of 0.5 to 1.5 m/year. Approximately 440 km (26.6% of the Tunisian coastline) highly vulnerable to marine submersion and erosion.

Vulnerable Areas

- Gulfs of Hammamet (40% of total beaches)
- Tunis (30% of total beaches)
- Islands of Djerba (24% of total beaches) and Kerkennah (14% of total beaches)

Water Stress Impact

- Tourism sector's water consumption is less than 1% of the country's water potential
- Reinforced water stress affecting tourism facilities in terms of operating costs and health safety

Heat Waves and Energy Management

- Intensification of heat waves affecting the sector's energy management, especially in air conditioning buildings

Job Fragility

- Disruption of tourism activity leading to job losses
- Average estimated loss of 1000 jobs per year by 2030 due to climate change



Cultural
Heritage

Environnement Vulnerability to Climate Change

▪ Consequences of Inadequate Land Use Planning:

Dramatic consequences of past and recent floods

Previous land-use planning approaches inadequately considered climate change effects

Urbanization Challenges:

Pronounced effects of climate change in cities with accelerated urbanization

Urban extension driven by peri-urbanization and proliferation of non-regulatory neighborhoods

Informal occupations on floodable land and drainage lines contribute to challenges

Infrastructure Inadequacy:

Insufficient infrastructure to cope with urbanization and climate change impacts

Climate Change Effects on Urban Spaces:

Increased intensity and frequency of extreme events

Necessity of Climate Risk Consideration:

Urgent need to consider climate risk in urban extensions, building design, and urban development plans

Territorial Disparities and Adaptation:

Not all Tunisian territories have the same capacity to adapt to climate disruption

Territorial disparities likely to be accentuated in the next decades, demanding robust responses.



Environnement Vulnerability to Climate Change

Vulnerability Studies: Climate change effects will significantly increase the country's exposure to various risks.

- **Specific risks and impacts:**
 - Risks of flooding, particularly in urban areas
 - Rising sea levels and coastal flooding
 - More frequent and severe droughts in the south
 - Occurrence of forest fires, especially in the north and centre-west
- **Human Lives at Risk:**
 - Extreme events endanger human lives, necessitating protection measures
- **Amplified Risks:**
 - Impacts of extreme events are amplified, creating risks of social conflicts
- **Threats to Political Stability:**
 - Risks of social conflicts pose a threat to the political stability of the country
- **Economic Consequences:**
 - Heavy impacts on the national budget due to the high costs of response and rehabilitation/reconstruction measures



Mitigation, Adaptation, and Means of Implementation Though reinvented Education



A Reinvented Educational Strategy, means of Implementation for a sustainable Impact

What

- Unwise Growth
- Institutional infrastructure
- Unclear vision and strategy
- Globalisation: unconsciousness in production and overconsumption
- Crisis of Trust, efficiency and transparency
- Exclusion

Result :

- Bare lands and waves of illegal Immigration and Brain Drain

How

- Install an adapted Education IQ & EI
- Seed Leadership, Self and social Skills, Empathy,
- Enhance responsible and inclusive Culture
- Promote role of technology and AI
- Encourage entrepreneurship, and creative thinking for sustainable growth and transition
- Youth energy is limitless and should be oriented with vision and purpose to serve the people and the planet.



The Climate and Education Opportunity

- Achieving a prosperous and sustainable future
- Acknowledging and addressing the reality of climate change is crucial
- Climate change is a multifaceted global threat linked to economic, social, health, empowerment, inclusion, and displacement issues
- Tackling this interconnected challenge necessitates a transformative shift in our approach
- Education plays a pivotal role in shaping mindset and actions
- The intersection of climate and education presents a golden opportunity for responsible investment a better future





Investing In Impactful Education = Investing In Sustainable Climate Action

- Education enhances adaptive capacity, lowering the risk of climate-related disasters.
- Providing environmental education to children creates a ripple effect, transferring knowledge to families, inspiring action, and reducing vulnerability.
- Education is a catalyst for behavioral change and the adoption of sustainable practices.
- A well-educated labor force is crucial for the technological transformation needed to combat climate change.
- Girls' education contributes to increased disaster resilience.



Reinventing Social Impact in the Private sector .

- The Private sector involvement is crucial for advancing education and climate goals, yet current engagement often focuses on funding or job creation without tapping into its potential as a transformative force in shaping education.
- There Should be a paradigm shift in the role of the private sector. This involves fostering deep partnerships and collaboration to accelerate solutions at the intersection of education and climate action.
- The goal is not only to bridge the gap between schooling and real-world needs, but also to ensure that sustainability, prosperity, and education are aligned.
- The adaptation of the baking sector roles aims to generate future opportunities in harmony with both local needs and global goals.
- Education is positioned as the vehicle for realizing a prosperous and sustainable future for all, emphasizing the need for the private sector actors to play a powerful role in shaping thinking, planning, and action in education transformation.

1

Adapting CSR education at the intersection of people and planet for people and planet.

Investing in Lifelong Learning for Green Jobs and Green Economy

- The imperative for education to drive a prosperous and sustainable future necessitates a strategic investment in the education system.
- Enhancing lifelong learning involves a comprehensive transformation of the education ecosystem, starting from early childhood and emphasizing holistic development.

Desired Outcomes:

- Young children gain access to Early Childhood Development services, ensuring strong foundations for learning and instilling values that prioritize both people and the planet.
- Flexible and resilient formal and nonformal education mechanisms provide children with meaningful learning opportunities and dynamic relationships with educators. This equips them with values, skills, knowledge, and experiences essential for a sustainable and prosperous future.
- Young people have the ability to choose diverse pathways for further learning and livelihoods, within environments conducive to innovation and collaboration, driving the advancement of a green economy

2

Transformative Policy and Innovative Financing

Transformative Policy and Innovative Financing at the Nexus of Education and Climate Action

- Despite the clear need for behavioral change and green skills in achieving an equitable green transition, education has not been a priority in climate adaptation and mitigation strategies.
- Financing is being redirected away from education toward other sectors in response to climate emergencies, with fewer than 40% of national climate strategies addressing skilling and less than 30% focusing on climate change education.
- Most global national education plans or curricula lack meaningful incorporation of climate change.

Desired Outcomes:

- Education becomes an integral component of National Adaptation Strategies and Nationally Determined Contributions Strategies.
- National development plans increasingly emphasize investment in the education ecosystem, recognizing its role as a key driver of economic, social, and environmental prosperity.
- Education and climate stakeholders actively participate and co-create policies in bodies focused on climate action and education transformation.

3

Leveraging Technology and Connectivity

Leveraging Technology and Connectivity to Rewire Education Systems for Climate Adaptation and Mitigation

- Digital infrastructure and connectivity play a crucial role in bolstering the resilience of education systems amid large-scale disruptions and offer innovative solutions for climate mitigation and adaptation.
- Nearly half of the world's students encounter significant barriers to connectivity and digital learning access, particularly pronounced in the poorest countries where internet access at the household level is extremely limited.
- The digital gap disproportionately affects women and girls, with a notable percentage unable to access digital learning between 2013 and 2019.

Desired Outcomes:

- National stakeholders integrate inclusive, equitable, and sustainable digital transformation strategies into their education systems.
- Education systems enhance resilience against future disruptions through adaptive digital content and resources.
- Learners, educators, and education stakeholders acquire digital skills and values, preparing them to leverage technology in combating climate change and advancing global sustainability.

4

People And Knowledge At The Heart Of Transformation For People And Planet

- True transformation in rewiring education requires a departure from the dominance of a powerful few, emphasizing the inclusion of those most impacted and often excluded.
- Targeted populations for inclusion encompass women and girls, indigenous communities, internally displaced and refugee populations, disabled individuals, and the elderly.
- Efforts should not just include these populations but should prioritize and center their needs, priorities, and knowledge in transformative actions.

Desired Outcomes:

- Climate and education policymaking processes integrate active, inclusive, and dynamic channels ensuring meaningful participation of marginalized populations.
- Young people engage in and co-create with older and younger generations through networks promoting knowledge sharing, mentorship, exchange, and collaboration across generations and contexts.
- Young people are equipped with resources, tools, and support to actively contribute to policy reform addressing issues that impact them.



Education for Mitigation Capacity Building

Essential lever in Tunisia's national policy for climate Action

Focus on actor training, institutional strengthening, and technical assistance to sectoral mitigation programs

Established for Tunisian actors in climate change

actions in adaptation covering themes such as basic concepts, strategic and legislative framework, governance, decision-making processes, economic analysis, financing modalities, climate services, research support, observation tools, and knowledge management

NOT ENOUGH !

Strengthened aspects include monitoring and reporting, climate change education, integration into development planning, genetic resource management, climate negotiations, financing requests drafting, rehabilitation of local know-how, sustainability of works, conflict management, and institution resource strengthening.

NOT EOUGH !



Education for Social Impact

Soft, inclusive and Sustainable Social Impact through a rewired educational system.



1. Rehabilitate the existing public infrastructure
2. Enhance Soft skills and leadership training strategy to teachers
3. Rewire/ reinvent a purpose oriented-climate responsive educational System
4. Scale up Technology and AI
5. Implement Lifelong and vocational training
6. Advocate through Public Awareness campaigns and consciousness for existing nature-based solution
7. Engage an inclusive public access to climate information
8. Include the Private Sector in leveraging quality Education
Enhance Youth International cooperation and diplomacy with UMA & EU for one planet





Thank you!

Any questions?



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