



Embassy of the
Federal Republic of Germany



The Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in Cairo and the Ministry of Environment of the Arab Republic of Egypt

have the pleasure to invite you to the 66th Cairo Climate Talks (CCT) Panel Discussion

The Water-Energy-Food Nexus: A Promising Challenge

on Monday, March 2, 2020 at 6:30 pm
at the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD),
11 Al Saleh Ayoub Street, Zamalek



Copyright: Watter AlBahry

The fields of water, food, and energy are bound by a dynamic connection. Each one is affected by changes to the others. Water scarcity, in particular, has had various implications on food and energy supplies. With agriculture being the most water-intensive industry and energy being a crucial component of water purification and desalination, a holistic approach that takes into account all three resources is essential to address the challenges of sustainable development moving forward.

Focusing on the intersection between those areas is the key to sustainable development. To reach the ambitious Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and secure the livelihood of the world's 8 billion inhabitants, integrative and multisector approaches are required. Policymakers, scientists, civil society representatives, and farmers have therefore begun to address all three jointly within the framework of the so-called "Water-Energy-Food Nexus".

Agriculture is a major component of the Egyptian economy, contributing 14.5 % of the country's gross domestic product. It is facing the challenge of feeding an ever-increasing population of over 100 Million and generating goods for export with a limited supply of water. Indeed, the effects of climate change in reducing

the amount of available water will only increase in the coming years. Egypt is also one of the largest consumers of wheat globally, and demand expected to increase even more as population levels rise.

To put this into the Nexus perspective: wheat cultivation requires an estimated 650 liters of water per 500 grams and substantial amounts of energy for irrigation, dispensing fertilizers, harvesting, and processing. Consequently, in order to match the demand for wheat – and foodstuffs in general – with sufficient production volumes, it becomes imperative to also focus on the availability of sufficient amounts of water and energy.

While recent statistics remind us that direct action is needed to ensure a steady supply of food, water, and energy, the co-dependence of these resources also leaves space for promising solutions that address climate preservation and sustainable development in a holistic way. By bringing together experts from different fields, the 66th Cairo Climate Talks will offer a platform to discuss the Nexus approach's potential to help achieving the Sustainable Development Goals in Egypt.

The discussion will be opened by

Mr. Philippe Maupai

Head of the Science Department at the Embassy
of the Federal Republic of Germany

Ms. Isabell Mering

Director of the DAAD Cairo Office

Panelists

Representative of the Ministry of Environment

Mr. Clemens Breisinger

Country Program Leader
at International
Food Policy Research Institute
(IFPRI)

Prof. Dr. Boris Heinz

Head of Programme at Hudara
Head of the Chair for Energy
Systems at TU Berlin

Prof. Dr. Rasha Elkholy

Vice President of Heliopolis
University for Sustainable
Development

Moderator: Dr. Hammou Laamrani, Senior Integrated Expert at the GIZ



Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst
German Academic Exchange Service



Implemented by

