

Panel I:



**Alessandro Fracassetti,
UNDP Resident Representative in Egypt**

Mr. Fracassetti has over 27 years of experience in leadership and management positions in international organizations. He currently serves as UNDP Resident Representative in Egypt. His prior assignments in UNDP include UNDP Resident Representative in Azerbaijan (2018-2021), Deputy Resident Representative in Azerbaijan (2016-2018), Deputy Resident Representative in North Macedonia (2011-2016), Deputy Resident Representative in Croatia (2006-2011) and Assistant Resident Representative in Belarus (2004-2006). Before UNDP, he served with the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) in multiple senior positions including as Senior Political Advisor in Bosnia and Herzegovina and OSCE Spokesperson in Croatia. Mr. Fracassetti holds a master's degree in politics and administration of the European Union from the College of Europe, Bruges and a Bachelor's degree from the University of Sussex, UK.



**Shahira Wahbi
Director, Housing, Water Resources and Disaster Risk Reduction, Coordinator of Food
Security, LAS**

Ambassador Shahira Wahbi is a Sudanese career diplomat. As such, she served in many countries and positions (Embassy of Sudan in Morocco, Permanent Mission of Sudan in New York and responsible for multilateral relations at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Sudan).

Currently she is in charge of sustainable development issues at the League of Arab States. She coordinates all the work pertaining to cooperation with regional and international organizations.

Ms. Wahbi also serves in the technical Secretariat of three Arab ministerial councils, namely the Arab ministerial council for environment, for water resources and for housing.

Ms. Wahbi obtained a bachelor's degree in economics and political science from Khartoum University in 1985, and a high diploma in international relations from the Institut International d'Administration Public in France, in 1989.



Awni Kloub
Agricultural Engineer

Awni Kloub is the founder and executive director of the Arab Agro Forum, with around 38 years of experience in Agriculture, Water and Food Security in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, I worked for the private and public sector and many International agencies and Organizations. Having served as an adviser to the Minister of Agriculture as well as assistant- Secretary General and adviser in Water Authority of Jordan – Ministry of Water and Irrigation.

I also served as a director of food security project at European Commission in Jordan, over the past years I worked as a coordinator for several projects that implemented by the Ministries in which I worked, and I have participated in numerous Conferences, Meetings, committees, Workshops, training courses related to Agriculture, Water, Food security. I also worked for 2 years as a representative of Ministry of Water and Irrigation to the National Center for Security and Crisis Management, certified as an Expert in strategic planning for irrigation water management.



Ms. ZIADI_Latifa (possible online intervention)

Ms. Latifa ZIADI holds a Ph.D. in Economics from the University Lumière Lyon II (France). In addition to her role as a university lecturer, she has been an affiliated researcher at CAWTAR since 2018. Her research focuses on gender dynamics within various economic spheres. Her recent studies with CAWTAR (Center of Arab Women for Training and Research) address women's roles in food security, women's financial inclusion, female labor participation, and social norms. Furthermore, she has undertaken expert studies to meet the needs of both national organizations like the Ministry of Employment and international entities such as CIHAM, GIZ, AFD, and ILO. Her academic contributions go beyond research, as she also served as the Director of the Department of Economics and Quantitative Methods at the university from 2014 to 2020.

Panel 2:



**Mr. Patrick Jean Gilabert
Representative, Regional Office Hub in Egypt, UNIDO**

Mr. Patrick Jean GILABERT, Ph.D., is the UNIDO Representative of the Regional Office Hub in Egypt, responsible for its host country and oversees the coordination of UNIDO's programme and projects in Algeria, Morocco, Sudan and Tunisia. Mr Gilabert is also accredited to countries without UNIDO country representatives, namely Djibouti, Libya and Yemen.

He is a development economist with 30 years of experience managing industrial and private sector development portfolios in Asia, the Indian Ocean, the Middle East, North Africa and sub-Saharan countries, including 15 years as UNIDO Representative in Madagascar, Vietnam and Brussels.

Mr. Gilabert began his career at the smart card company Gemplus Electronics in France and at the French Embassy Trade Commission in Tokyo, Japan and Colombo, Sri Lanka. He then joined the UNIDO country office in Hanoi, Vietnam, before being appointed as an investment promotion expert at UNIDO headquarters in Vienna, where for 10 years he developed technical cooperation projects in the Maghreb countries, sub-Saharan Africa and China.



**Mr. Fadi Jabr, Secretary-General
Arab Federation for Food Industries (AFFI) Amman, Jordan**

Fadi Falah Jabr is a graduate of the University of Baghdad in Iraq and is currently the Secretary General of the Arab Federation for Food Industries. His work aims to develop the food industry sectors in the Arab world and help members to exchange experiences and knowledge in the world of the food industry in order to facilitate the input chain of raw materials and reduce waste in production with high quality and nutritional value.

He has been the winner of several certificates and awards of appreciation in the Arab and international world.

He also chairs several specialized committees to achieve the goals of sustainable development and work to enhance the role of Arab food manufacturers to promote Arab food industries, which are crucial for Arab food security and safety.



السفير الدكتور جمال جاب الله

Mr. Djamel Eddine Djaballah

Former Director, Housing, Water Resources and Disaster Risk Reduction, League of Arab States

Dr. Jamal Eddin Jaballah earned his PhD in International Economics in 1990. He worked at the Planning Delegation of the Prime Minister's Department from 1990 to 1994 and served as a Senior Official at the Algerian Prime Ministry from 1994 to 2000. Additionally, he held the position of Head of the Department of Environment, Housing, and Human Settlements in the economic sector of the League of Arab States from 2000 to 2008. From 2008 to 2015, he served as Minister Plenipotentiary and Director of the Department of Environment, Housing, Water, and Sustainable Development. Furthermore, he held the position of Director of the Housing, Water, and Disaster Reduction Department from 2015 to 2022. Dr. Jaballah has actively participated in numerous Arab, regional, and international conferences and forums associated with the tasks and responsibilities of the Department.



Paula Pinto Zambrano
International Policy Analyst

Paula Pinto Zambrano works as an International Policy Analyst at Climate & Company, a sustainable finance think tank based in Berlin, Germany. Paula leads research initiatives on

sustainable finance, with a focus on combating deforestation and promoting sustainable land use through sustainable financial instruments. She has worked on related projects at a European level but also at an international level, analysing the implications of EU regulations on supply chain for producer countries such as Indonesia, Brazil and Peru. Paula has also led research efforts related to biodiversity disclosure in the corporate and financial sectors. Paula is an economist by training and holds an MSc. in Environmental Governance from the University of Freiburg, in Germany.

Panel 3:

Keynote Speaker:



Yasmine Fouad
Minister of Environment, Arabic Republic of Egypt

Dr. Yasmine Fouad was appointed Minister of Environment of the Arab Republic of Egypt on 18 June 2018. She was previously Assistant Minister of Environment since 2014. Dr. Fouad holds MSc in Environmental Science and PhD in Political Science - Euro Mediterranean Studies. She has more than 20 years' experience in Environment and International cooperation, working in Government, UN organizations, NGOs and Universities



Prof. Mohamed El-Shinawi
Co-Chair PRIMA Program

President of Galala University, one of the most prominent universities in Egypt.

He's the Co-Chair of the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean PRIMA. Shinawi is a distinguished Professor in the Department of General Surgery-Faculty of Medicine-Ain Shams University and the former advisor to the Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research. He's also an adjunct Professor in the Department of Emergency Medicine, Maryland University, Baltimore, USA.

Prof . Shinawi is a Board Member of the National Training Academy (NTA). Furthermore, Shinawi is appointed as a Member of the UFM Bureau for Research and Innovation, a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons, and Consultant in General Surgery.

He has more than 120 peer-reviewed publications and more than 95 oral and poster presentations worldwide.



Mr. Biagio Di Terlizzi

Deputy Director at the Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Bari – CIHEAM Bari

Agronomist, he is the Deputy Director and Head of the Planning and Cooperation office at CIHEAM Bari, where he has served since 1987 in various positions:

He has performed training and research activities as plant virologist (Scientific Administrator 1987-2000) and provided technical assistance within cooperation.

programmers through institutional capacity building for ministries of agriculture in the Mediterranean, Middle East, Chile, Argentina, Indonesia, Ethiopia, and Mauritius.

- He has carried out activities for the identification, formulation and implementation of projects for several donors (Italian Cooperation, European Commission, National Governments, Local Authorities and UN agencies), in the areas of plant pathology, harmonization of rules for free trade, rural development, enhancement of local products, biodiversity, quality improvement of agricultural production, improvement of olive and olive oil chain, rationalization of irrigation systems; improvement of fruit and vegetable value chains and traceability; fishery and development of coastal communities, circular migration of non-EU citizens.

- He was coordinator of several project units with international and local staff, within Country projects (Albania, Algeria, Egypt, Ethiopia, Jordan, Iraq, Iran, Kosovo, Kurdistan, Lebanon, Pakistan, Romania, Syria, and Tunisia), Regional projects (Balkan Countries) and Early Recovery Initiatives (Lebanon, Libya, and Syria).



Dr. Nisreen Lahham
Expert, Arab Organization for Agricultural Development,
League of Arab States

Dr. Nisreen is an expert on Water-Energy-Food (WEF) Nexus, climate change, and agri-food systems. She enjoys the experience of working with national think tanks, international agencies and regional development agencies, with significant work experience on managing projects and mobilizing financial resources. Currently, Dr. Lahham works for the Arab Organization for Agricultural Development (AOAD), as an Expert on Rural Development and Agri-Food systems Transformation. Prior to that she worked for the International Water Management Institute (IWMI) as a Regional Project Manager for a wastewater project. Before joining IWMI she worked for GIZ, as the Coordinator of the MENA region for the Nexus Dialogues Programme, and a Regional Advisor to the programme Adaptation to Climate Change in the Water Sector in the MENA Region (ACCWaM). Dr. Lahham authored several peer-reviewed publications and journals on water, energy and agri-food systems, socio-economic development, environment and foresight.



Ms. Guadaluna Chaer
Cofounder and CEO of LUXEED Robotics

Guadaluna Chaer is a young tech entrepreneur who is revolutionizing weed removal in farming through lasers and AI. She is the Cofounder and CEO of LUXEED Robotics, an early stage agtech

startup aiming to disrupt the herbicides industry. With her mechanical engineering background and project management expertise, Guadaluna drives the company's vision and strategy, securing funding for R&D and market development. She is also a mentor to other startups and an active advocate for women in tech and speaker on Climate and Agriculture. Her accomplishments have been recognized by the She Wins Arabia Initiative, which named her as the youngest female entrepreneur among 100 others participating in the 2023 program.

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