



Pathfinder International MENA

Climate Change & Green Programming



Climate



Health



Gender



Agenda

- ❑ An introduction to Pathfinder
- ❑ The climate threat in the Middle East & North Africa:
 - The current situation
 - Climate change and health
- ❑ Climate change & humanitarian aid
- ❑ Pathfinder's project history & interventions:
 - Sustainable Equitable Eco-Health Nexus Program in MENA
 - Women-led Climate Resilience
 - I am Resilient, I am Change
 - Advancing the Leadership of Women and Girls Towards Better Health and Climate Change Resilience
- ❑ Q&A



PATHFINDER

We are a locally led organization that runs our operations from the countries we serve.

This allows us to make decisions that are close to the people we work with, which ensures optimal impact, agility and accountability.



OUR VISION

A world where everyone has what they need to be healthy, thrive, and live the life they choose.



OUR MISSION

We build lasting and trusted local partnerships to strengthen health systems, forging resilient pathways to sexual and reproductive health and rights for all.

Since 1957, we are mobilizing communities most in need to break through barriers and forge their own path to a healthier future.

*Sharon Ayebale, youth champion with the Uganda FPA program.
Photo: Lovington Kambugu*

Our Global Network

We are a locally led global network working in communities across Africa, South Asia, and the Middle East (SA/MENA)



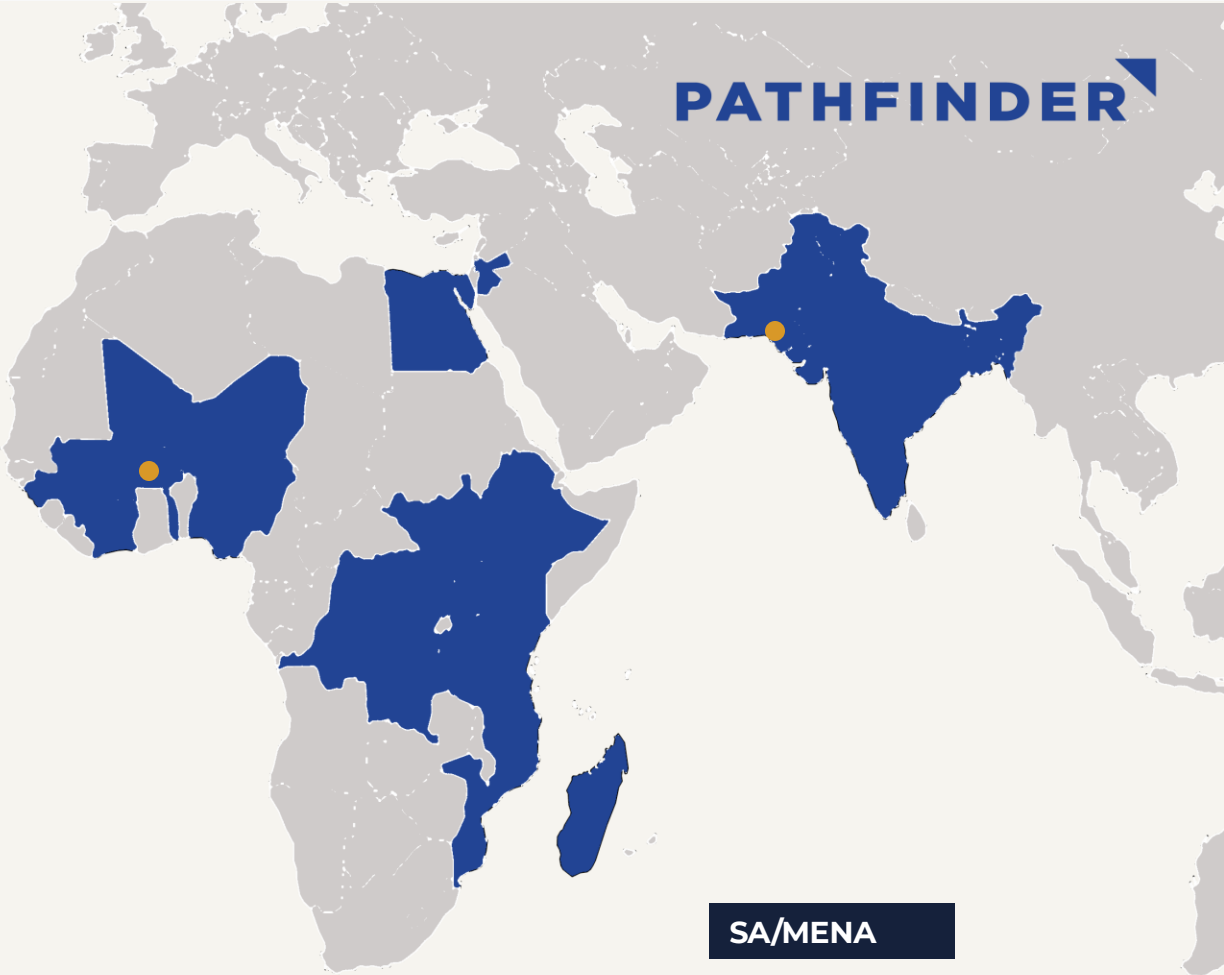
1,200+
team members



Located in 20+
countries

2

Presidents based in
Burkina Faso & Pakistan



AFRICA

Burkina Faso	Ethiopia	Niger
Burundi	Kenya	Nigeria
Côte d'Ivoire	Madagascar	Tanzania
Democratic Republic of Congo	Mali	Togo
Guinea	Mozambique	Uganda

SA/MENA

Bangladesh
Egypt
India
Jordan
Pakistan

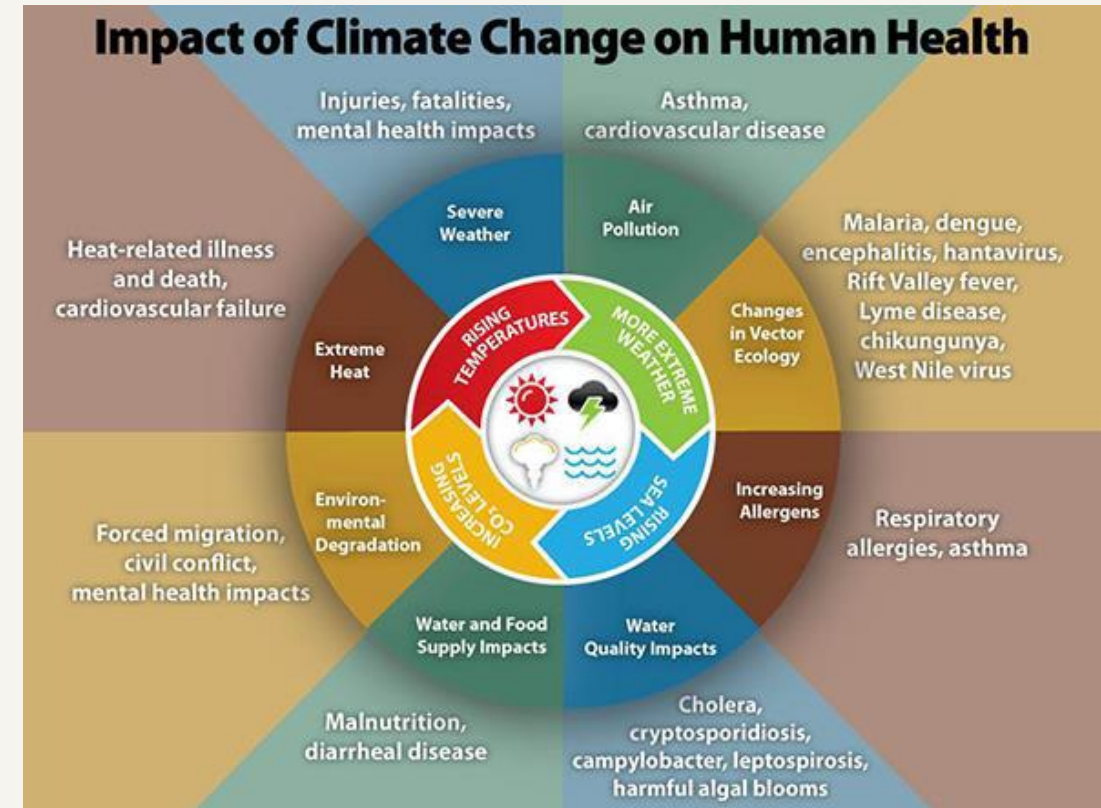
Climate Change in the Middle East & North Africa

Predominant Risks

- The Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region is **one of the most climate-vulnerable** areas globally.
- It is home to some of the world's hottest locations that experience **extreme water stress**.
- The region has experienced a **warming trend of 1-2°C** in the last century.
- Over the past half-century and especially during recent decades, the ME has **warmed significantly faster** than other inhabited regions.
- The region is projected to witness more frequent and severe extreme weather events as a result of anticipated shifts in climatic patterns, including:
 - ✓ Sea level rise
 - ✓ Changes in precipitation patterns
 - ✓ Droughts and floods
 - ✓ Intense water scarcity
 - ✓ Air pollution
- The MENA region is the smallest recipient of climate change finance worldwide and existing vulnerabilities and ongoing conflict have put additional strain on the resources of many countries.
- Virtually all socio-economic sectors will be affected by the projected changes, including:
 - ✓ The management of water resources and agriculture
 - ✓ Human health
 - ✓ Energy demand and production
 - ✓ Transportation
- Exasperated by additional factors e.g., rapid regional population growth and urbanization, increasing the demand and competition for natural resources.
- The region is also prone to pronounced social inequalities, and the poor are expected to suffer the most from climate change impacts.

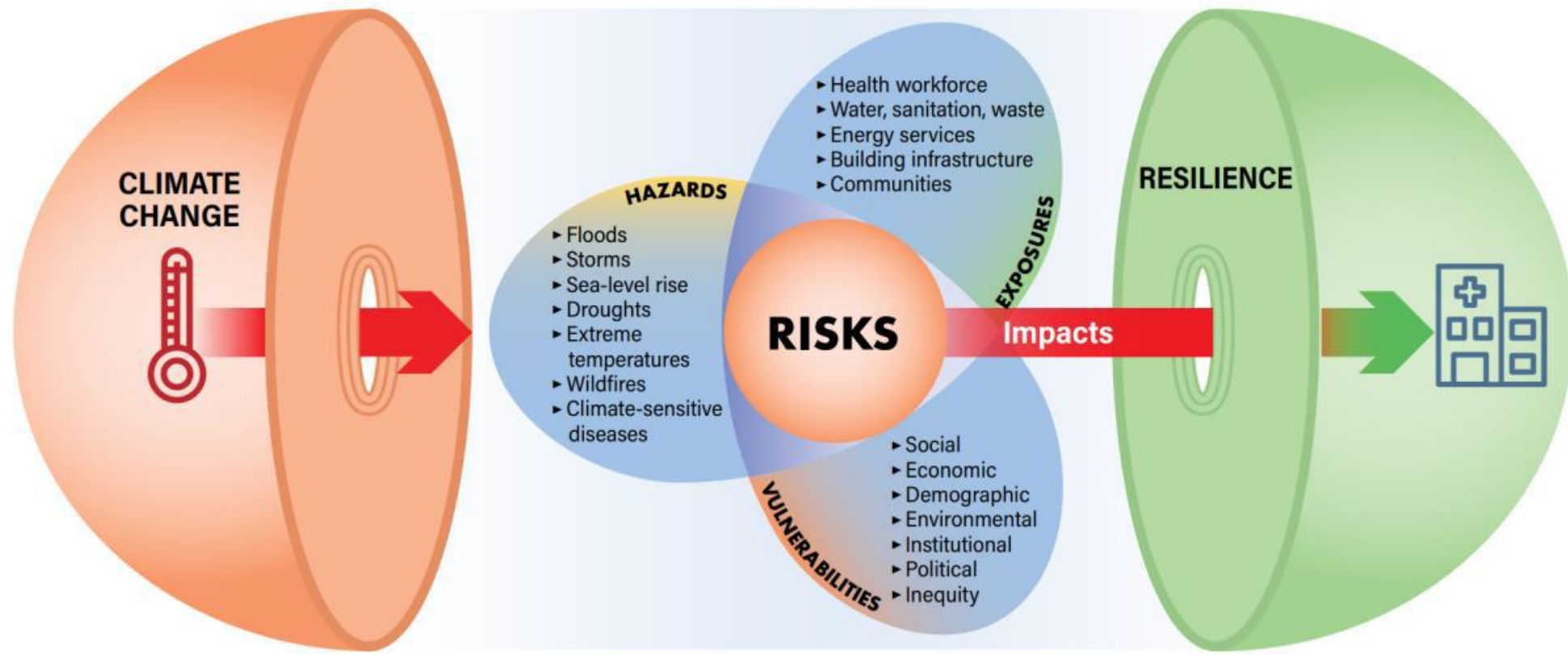
Climate Change and Health

- The health burden of climate change is significantly understudied across the MENA region.
- Without implementation of climate mitigation measures, research suggests that risk of death in this region due to heat stress alone will be **8-20 times higher** than in the past.
- The health consequences of population displacement (a prominent issue in the MENA region due to ongoing and previous conflicts) are also influenced by climate change in this region.
- The impacts of climate change on health can be either direct:
 - ✓ Exposure to extreme and unusual temperatures
 - ✓ Drought
 - ✓ Flooding
- Or indirect:
 - ✓ Changes in infectious disease epidemiology
 - ✓ Vector ecology
 - ✓ Variations in the availability and/or quality of food, water, and air.



Climate Change and Health

How climate change affects health systems' resilience:



Source: WHO 2021

Pathfinder's Projects & Initiatives

Pathfinder has implemented, piloted, overseen, and published countless programmes, projects, and papers on climate change, such as:

- ✓ Solutions Guide for Climate Change, Gender, and Health
- ✓ Bangladesh and Pakistan: Advancing the Leadership of Women and Girls Towards Better Health and Climate Change Resilience
- ✓ Policy brief: Advancing sexual and reproductive health and rights and family planning services during disasters
- ✓ Women-Led Climate Resilience in sub-Saharan Africa

“Pathfinder takes a locally led, gender-transformative approach to climate resilience.”



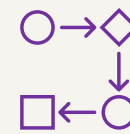
Capacity-building



Rights-based approach



Learning & education



Cross-sectoral work

Project: SEEN

 MENA

Sustainable Equitable Eco-Health Nexus Program

Reimagining Healthcare Systems

Energetic Evolution

Sustainable Agriculture and Water Management

Knowledge Dissemination and Best Practices

Integrative Policy Frameworks



Main Project Objectives

Advancing Gender Equality in the Climate Resilience Framework



Enhancing healthcare facilities



Community-based multisectoral initiatives that yield co-benefits for climate and health resilience



Learning and advocacy to accelerate implementation of effective, evidence-based approaches to enhance climate resilience

Community voices
Research & programs
High-level climate data

Informed insights into local climate threats

Regional level

National level

Local level

Project: WLCR

 Egypt

Women-led Climate Resilience (2022-2024)

Integrated Family Planning and Climate Preparedness

Women's Economic and Social Empowerment

Increasing Resilience to Climate Shocks

Establishing Green Clinics and Promoting Green Practices

Reducing Stress on Local Ecosystems and Resources



Main Project Objectives



Establishing "Green Clinics" to promote environmentally friendly practices and enhance crisis preparedness

- Applying eco-friendly solutions and green practices through:
 - ✓ Powering clinics with Solar panels.
 - ✓ Applying greener waste disposal methods and water conservation measures
 - ✓ Applying mercury-free technologies
- Training service providers on:
 - ✓ Climate change health risks
 - ✓ The effects of Climate Change on Reproductive Health.
 - ✓ Integrating the One Health Approach



Community mobilization through climate change mitigation and resilience efforts

- Creating a cadre of trainers to train core families "Ambassadors of Change" to peer-educate other families in their communities
 - ✓ Trainings includes modules on carbon footprint, waste management, water conservation, nutritional meals, agricultural guidance and greener irrigation methods.
- Promoting Initiatives such as Rooftops and Tree planting, cycling, waste collection and separation
- Hosting Family Interaction Days
- Edutainment



Empowering women to withstand climate shocks

- Providing women with financial autonomy, and introducing them to recyclable and environmentally friendly income generating crafts
- Granting them in-kind contributions
- Hosting bazaars to showcase and help sell their products
- Training women on life skills and micro-enterprise management skills.
- Hosting joint couples' communication session.



Project: I am Resilient, I am Change

 **Pakistan**

Dharti Ammar (2021-2022)

Leadership and Engagement of Women and Girls

Advanced Gender Equality and Sexual and Reproductive Rights

Sustainable Agricultural Practices

Collaboration Between Climate Change and Women's Rights Advocacy Groups

Engaging with Community-Based Organizations



Main Project Objectives



Capacity-Building

- Build the resilience and adaptive capacity of farming communities to disaster and climate-related shocks and stresses through the engagement and leadership of women and girls.
- Ensure community-based service providers and health workers provide quality SRHR services, including nutrition and water, sanitation, and hygiene.



Policy Change and Advocacy

- Sensitize policymakers to the linkages between climate change and SRHR to ensure climate plans are developed with a gender lens.
- Engage educational institutions and university students to advocate for and influence climate change and SRHR policies.



Women's Rights and Gender Equality

- Mobilize men and young boys to promote gender equity, be supportive partners in SRHR, and end gender-based violence.
- Empower women and girls with knowledge and skills to adopt healthy behaviors and advocate for their sexual reproductive health and rights (SRHR).

Project: Advancing the Leadership of Women and Girls Towards Better Health and Climate Resilience

(2021-2025)

 **Bangladesh & Pakistan**

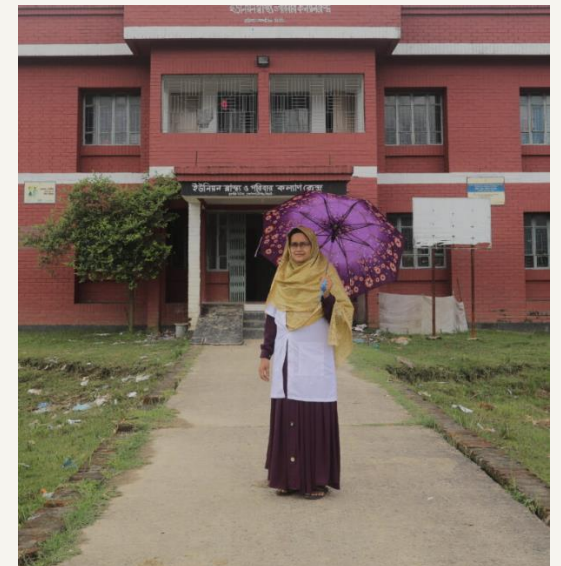
Strengthening Health Systems

Supporting Improved Nutrition and Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene

Increasing Access to Health Services

Encouraging Community Collaboration and Resilience

Positioning Women as Agents of Change



Main Project Objectives

- 
- 1) Building the Resilience of Communities to Withstand Climate Shocks and Emergencies
 - 2) Helping Women Forge Their Own Paths to a Healthier Future



Build quality health systems that meet the needs of low-resource communities and withstand emergency shocks.



Ensure women and girls have access to quality reproductive health and family planning services.



Support women and girls with the tools, knowledge, networks, and resources they need to advocate for equitable health services.



Support community champions, host gender-transformative trainings, and engage CBOs to combat harmful social norms, including GBV.



Contribute to the global body of knowledge on health and climate resilience to ensure greater sustainability and future social good.

Any Questions?

**If you have any further enquiries, please reach out to
Yosra Albakkar at Yosra.Albakkar@pathfinder.org**

