



Climate Change and Cultural Rights

Submitted to: OHCHR

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1. What negative impacts of climate change on culture, heritage and the enjoyment of cultural rights by all have been documented in your context? Are particular groups, such as women, persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples, rural persons or peasants, and youth or future generations, as well as cultural practitioners being impacted in specific and disproportionate ways? What efforts are being undertaken to inventory and monitor such impacts?

There are a lot of negative impacts of climate change affecting culture and the enjoyment of cultural rights in Egypt. Droughts, Floods, Storms, Ocean Acidification, Coral Bleaching, Extreme weather conditions and Malnutrition are among the most common impacts in several places in Egypt. While women, children, people with disabilities, and indigenous peoples (tribes) are considered the most vulnerable to such changes. Efforts to adverse the negative effects in some places are believed to be great while others are mild or not effective.

2. Are cultural sites or resources which are critical to participation in cultural life identified as being threatened due to climate change and if so, how? What processes are used to analyse the risk of harm or inaccessibility to these areas and resources? Are records being kept about these risks and impacts?

Of course a lot of cultural sites and resources are affected, one of solutions widely discussed to offset the impacts of climate change is the replacement of different communities in new areas in which they usually suffer a form of "oppression of community" from the hosting communities.

3. Please provide examples of specific natural resources, local sites used for cultural practices or seasonal patterns that influence the ability to participate in diverse aspects of cultural life that may be subject to volatility due to climate change. Consider also diffusing geographical features or resources that may be at risk and are definitive or influential in the practice and development of culture on either a collective or individual basis.

Location	Cultural impacts due to Climate Change
Hay El Zabaleen	Higher temperature due to climate change would increase the health risks on people living in Hay El Zabaleen or similar areas as the nature of the place is attractive to disease vectors which may result in a displacement of people in the future which will

	<p>affect the culture of those people as it's not widely accepted in different parts of the country.</p> <p>Another issue is that the more problems affecting the district the more women are affected because they are the most vulnerable to changes in such areas.</p>
Tarabin	<p>Tribes residing in Sinai such as Tarabin are experiencing plenty of problems including cultural ones. As Bedouin societies are always threatened of displacement due to land issues moreover those tribes are not so welcomed in different communities which affect the employment rates and the accessibility of education and health care where temperatures are normally high would affect its population during the heat waves which will be reflected on human health.. As a result they are vulnerable to climate change specially that they depend on their living on fisheries and tourism, a problem such as coral bleaching, pushing the government and legal authorities to enforce and initiate laws that are actually affecting the indigenous population and tribes in such locations affecting their economic well being by eliminating an income generating businesses.</p>
Ein Alseera/ El Asmarat	<p>People in a lot of rural or slums will suffer because the mitigation policies do not take the cultural aspect into consideration so they usually displace or move areas in a completely different location or new districts that are far from their originals in which affects some industries such as traditional handcrafts. Moreover, this exposes minorities to threats of being not accepted in their new place.</p>
AlQusseir	<p>Climate Change is affecting the culture of people living in the south and the change in the temperature for example pushes people to change their lifestyle. Nowadays, people tend to start their day just before sunset because they suffer physically from heat waves. On the other hand, tribes and people living in the desert for example can't fit in the city yet they suffer from the implications of CC.</p>
Minya	<p>The contribution of the agriculture sector to climate change by the excessive usage of fertilizers and the burning of agri waste are affecting people's health in the form of respiratory and allergies as well as the water and food supply which is changing and reshaping the cultural context in forms of how people wear and what they usually eat and how they are moving from one place to another.</p>
Sharm El Sheikh	<p>The decline of tourism as an impact of C.C affecting special groups such as the diving community from engaging in their usual activities, not to mention the mitigation and adaptation policy taken by the government all of a sudden without considering the cultural rights of those groups.</p>
Luxor	<p>Heritage and tourist attractions i.e temples and museums are vulnerable to CC which will have a negative effect on people's standard of living in those areas as well as those who work there.</p>

Aswan	Air pollution due to industries or disposal of waste and water quality are of the major elements affected by the CC which is reflected in people's health and mortality rates.
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4. What are ways in which culture and cultural resources, such as traditional knowledge, are being used to mitigate and/or adapt in the face of climate change? Where available, please share examples of best practices for applying traditional knowledge and cultural practices, such as those of indigenous peoples, peasants and fisher people, including traditional fire management and agricultural techniques that should be considered in developing mitigation and adaptation responses. What is being done to inventory and preserve such cultural resources that could be useful to addressing climate change?

There are a lot of ways in which traditional knowledge could be applied in climate change mitigation and adaptation. For example, the construction of Nubian houses ensures that their homes provide adequate shelters for them and their animals to adapt to the increasing rate of temperature. Another way is the usage of sustainable local alternatives to petrochemical products such as plastics and use of traditional materials.

5. Are affected persons and groups being consulted and enabled to participate in discussions related to climate policy and climate action?

Not all the time, that's why some mitigation and adaptation policies are not welcomed by the affected groups because they feel forced to follow these rules without prior discussions and consideration to their own points of view.