

ARAB

MILLENNIUM ECOSYSTEM ASSESSMENT

SUMMARY FOR POLICY MAKERS





Humanity has always relied on the services provided by the biosphere and its ecosystems. The demands for ecosystem services are now so great that trade-offs among services have become the rule. Human well-being is affected by gaps between ecosystem service supply and demand, and also by the increased vulnerability of individuals, communities, and nations.

The **Arab Millennium Ecosystem Assessment** focuses on ecosystem services, the consequences of changes in the ecosystem on human well-being, and the consequences of changes in the ecosystem on other forms of life on earth. This report is based on a synthesis of three selected site assessments: Sinai Peninsula, Egypt; Tafilalet Oasis, Morocco; and Asir National Park, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. One of the central issues of the Arab MA is the interrelationship between the environment and human well-being, represented by its goods and services and people's quality of life. The assessment intends to generate problem-solving knowledge that facilitates action on critical issues of sustainable development and protection of the environment through the design of institutional arrangements that foster the generation, collection, analysis, diffusion, and use of scientific knowledge for the sustainable use of ecosystems.

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