

Call for Applications

Regional Program Energy Security and Climate Change
Middle East and North Africa (KAS – REMENA) and
Middle East Desalination Research Centre (MEDRC)

MENA Academy on Climate Diplomacy

October 28 to November 03, 2019
Berlin, Germany

Program Overview

Organizer:	Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung Regional Programs Energy Security and Climate Change Middle East and North Africa (KAS - REMENA), based in Rabat, Morocco Middle East Desalination Research Centre (MEDRC), based in Seeb, Muscat, Oman
Content:	Training on Climate Diplomacy with focus on multiple stakeholders' roles in climate negotiations
Application Deadline:	July 11, 2019, 12:00 pm, time zone: WEST
Application Form:	Online Application MENA Academy on Climate Diplomacy
Eligibility:	This academy is open to young researchers, policy makers, and civil society activists from the Middle East and North Africa region, as well as Turkey.
Venue:	October 28 to November 03, 2019, Berlin - Germany
Cost:	All the participation costs (round trip economic flight ticket, hotel and food, visa fees) for the academy will be covered for the selected candidates by the organizers.

In its efforts to foster dialogue and collaborations among the various stakeholders involved in climate change adaptation and mitigation, the Regional Program Energy Security and Climate Change Middle East and North Africa of Konrad-Adenauer Stiftung (KAS – REMENA) and MEDRC Water Research organize jointly the Middle East and North Africa Academy on Climate Diplomacy, from October 28 to November 03, 2019, Berlin – Germany.

Context:

Climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our era. Increasing water scarcity on the one hand, more flooding and extreme weather events on the other hand threaten millions of livelihoods across the world. This development can lead to more migration or trigger violent conflicts as witnessed in the Middle East in the past years. Therefore, there is an urgent need for action on multiple levels, especially cross-governmental collaboration which has the potential of mitigating climate change through countries' commitment to their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and to international climate policy.

Climate diplomacy builds not only on the power of policy makers, but also that of the private sector, civil society activist, and the scientific community. Climate diplomacy utilizes the combined efforts of the different stakeholders as a tool to achieve foreign policy objectives to promote peace and sustainable development.

In recent years, the dire need to include climate in the agenda of foreign policy has been called for – namely through climate diplomacy. But how does climate diplomacy actually happen? And how will it continue to shape the international efforts to confront the issue far beyond the Paris Agreement of 2015? Technology would be key to achieve the objectives, but politics are important as well in the form of traditional inter-state diplomacy in order to avoid negative social effects of the decarbonizing transition measures, especially in sensitive sectors such as industry and agriculture. Stronger climate ambition relies on the creation of positive feedback between the real economy, political interests, and diplomacy.

The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung – REMENA together with MEDRC Water Research aspire for this academy to demonstrate the importance of climate diplomacy in dealing with the most challenging regional and international environmental, economic and social issues. To demonstrate this, the academy will bring to the table concrete examples and simulations. This training aims at providing a platform for young policy makers, researchers and civil society activists from the MENA region, to acquire the necessary tools of climate diplomacy. This platform will also be a chance to exchange and combine synergies for finding solutions to the global climate challenge with experts both from the MENA region and Europe.

Themes:

Training young policy makers, researchers and civil society activists on climate negotiations through the usage of interdisciplinary knowledge and skills to develop diplomatic capacities via the following four main themes:

1. Evolution of Climate Diplomacy;
2. Transboundary cooperation under political strain;
3. Political economy of Climate negotiations; and
4. Climate & water Diplomacy.

Objectives:

The academy invites young researchers, policy makers, and civil society activists from the MENA region and Turkey to better understand the current state of climate negotiations and governmental commitment in the MENA region. The academy will also highlight the need for suitable diplomatic solutions to motivate cooperation around the way natural resources are managed and the countries commitment vis-à-vis climate. This will be achieved through providing participants with a practical, creative, problem-solving approach to address conflicts related to climate challenges in the region.

Structure:

The academy welcomes young researchers, policy makers, and civil society activists to take part in the three main arrangements:

1. Capacity Building trainings;
2. Simulations; and
3. Working Group sessions.

The academy course will be delivered through a combination of training lectures, working group discussions, and simulations. Case studies will also be used to reflect on actual and potential climate related conflicts as well as cooperation processes. It will also be a chance to learn from approaches and tools applied in practice, such as joint fact finding, negotiation and mediation. Exercises such as mapping of stakeholder networks, applied games and role plays will be conducted to understand how to approach conflict as well as cooperation processes.

Outputs: On the last day of the academy, each of the five working groups will have to submit a policy paper on climate diplomacy in the MENA region.

Schedule and Venue: The academy will be held in Germany's capital city of Berlin. It will start on the evening of October 27 with a welcome dinner and finish on the evening of November 03 with a farewell dinner. Participants should arrive on October 27 and leave on evening of November 03 or during the day of November 04, 2019.

Working Language: The working language of the academy will be English. Fluency in English is required. There will be no simultaneous translation to other languages.

Costs: The organizers will cover all expenses related to the participation of the event. This includes:

Transportation:

Round trip economy flight tickets will be provided by the organizers.

Accommodation & Meals:

Both, hotel and meals will be provided to participants during the period of the meeting.

How to participate: Interested participants should submit their application using the following online application form no later than July 11, 2019, 12:00 pm, time zone: WEST:

[Online Application MENA Academy on Climate Diplomacy](#)

Please make sure to have the following information/documents at hand:

1. Short biography (150 words maximum);
2. Updated short CV (3 pages maximum);
3. Short abstract of your contribution to the academy (200 words maximum); and
4. Passport data page.

Further Information: For further inquiry do not hesitate to contact the organizers at the email address: info.remena@kas.de

The event will be accompanied by photographs. By registering, participants declare their consent that the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung Regional Programs Energy Security and Climate Change Middle East and North Africa (KAS – REMENA) will use the photos taken before, during or after the event for press and public relations purposes.