

**Welcome Address:**  
**Food Security and Climate Change**

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President, AFED Board of Trustees

AFED welcomes you in Amman for holding your conference and launching AFED annual report of 2014 on “Food Security: Challenges and Prospects”.

We’re grateful for His Majesty King Abdullah II to patronize the conference and to His Excellency, Minister of Environment, to represent his Majesty in addressing the conference.

Excellencies, Dear colleagues:

- Science has spoken, IPCC-Report Nov. 2014 was released in Copenhagen, says clearly that warming is unequivocal by human, influence and interference in the balanced Earth ecosystem.
- Glaciers at the polars ice caps are melting at speedy rates, raising sea levels in the future to unprecedented levels, flooding agricultural coastal zones, Delta of the Nile, the food basket of Egypt housing 46 million

people may disappear, coastal fresh water aquifers may be flooded by seeping sea water, threatening food security across regions of the world.

- Erratic floods, storms, cyclones and hurricanes will wipe out food crops, and in Middle East, where we live in a semi-arid zone, shortage of 25% rain in our climate will shift the region into a severely arid zone not capable of producing crops for the food security of its people.
- The nexus of climate change, energy, water and food security is clear. It starts with correcting our energy and put our house in order. Renewables will not only limit our carbon release changing our climate, but it provides sustainable energy sources providing a sustainable clean environment and providing sustainable energy source for sustainable desalination of abundance of water. Science is able to provide the solution to bring a sustainable nexus of energy – water – food security to our region.
- Food production accounts for 70% of water used in the world. Through efficiency of better use of water. Renewables for desalination, recycling water for agriculture, new cultivars growing under stress of low level of waters and brackish waters, genomes resistant to pests and droughts etc...

have to intrigue scientists in our part of the world to find a lasting solution to the problem.

- Finally I wish to thank all our sponsors who supported this conferences. Special thanks to AFED secretariat and the University of Petra for their efforts and collaboration in bringing this conference to be.
- For our guests, wish you a nice stay in Amman, and wish the conference all the success.