



7-10 JANUARY 2019

Gender Statistics in Tunisia and Morocco

Tunisia's Institute of Statistics and Ministry of Women, in collaboration with ESCWA, launched the Integrated Gender Statistics Toolkit. Government officials and NGOs expressed their appreciation to ESCWA for developing this product, which is accessible to different sectors and groups of people at no cost through a user-friendly interface. Tunisia will initiate a national programme of training to users and producers of statistics to mainstream gender in statistical processes and build capacities in crafting cost-effective and well-designed strategies.



Morocco's High Commissioner for Planning (HCP), hosted a national workshop facilitated by ESCWA on household surveys and capacity building in gender statistics using ESCWA's toolkit on gender statistics. The workshop sensitized statisticians on the selection of gender sensitive indicators and production of sex-disaggregated data. The High Commissioner, Minister Ahmed Lahlimi, emphasized the significant contribution of ESCWA in strengthening the gender dimension in official statistics as he met with Ms. Neda Jafar, Head of the Statistical Policies and Coordination Unit at ESCWA.



9-10 JANUARY

Preventing Violent Extremism in the Arab Region

ESCWA held an Expert Group Meeting in partnership with the Hedayah Center's International Initiative for Confronting Cyber-Terrorism in Abu Dhabi. Participants discussed the current state and future of Preventing Violent Extremism in the Arab region. Questions included the ability of governments to devise national strategies which actively include all actors of society; how to combat hate speech on social media; the role of the private sector in these efforts; and the prioritization of push vs. pull factors between civil society and development actors.

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10-11 JANUARY 2019

Civil Society Forum

Ahead of the Arab Economic and Social Development Summit (19-20 January, Beirut, Lebanon), ESCWA and the Arab NGO Network for Development (ANND) organized a series of interactive dialogues between regional Civil Society Organizations. Participants reviewed current challenges to development in the Arab region and agreed on a set of positions and priorities to influence the outcome of the Summit. Discussions revolved around five themes: a new rights development model (growth, development and sustainability); an inclusive development model that ensures social justice; culture in the framework of the development model; developmental States; and the role of civil society in development.



Jordan's Za'atari refugee camp is the largest solar power plant ever built in a refugee setting.

10 -14 JANUARY 2019

ESCWA at the IRENA Assembly in Abu Dhabi

ESCWA delivered a statement to the 9th session of the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) Assembly, highlighting that adequate and affordable energy supply is a precondition to improving lives. ESCWA also contributed to the session on "Renewable Energy Solutions in Refugee Settings and Situations of Displacement", with the German and Belgian Permanent Representatives to IRENA, UNHCR and UNITAR. The session addressed energy in humanitarian operations, providing field examples of how renewable energy can supply affordable, reliable and clean energy in situations of displacement.

ESCWA further delivered an intervention on perspectives from the Arab region, highlighting challenges faced and the need to consolidate regional and international efforts for sustainable solutions. These must be integrated in long term planning, where renewable energy offers great potential.



16- 20 DECEMBER 2018

Technology Transfer and Innovation in Yemen

From 16 to 20 December in Amman, Jordan, ESCWA organized a workshop for Yemeni researchers, academics, technological incubator managers and government officials. Participants developed their capacities in managing creativity and innovation and exchanged views on how to benefit from regional and international ecosystems supporting technology.

ESCWA delivered training materials and organized study visits to government and private institutions in Jordan. The workshop will enable participants to support the transformation of innovations into commercial projects that are can compete in regional and international markets.

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