



UNITED NATIONS

 المتحدة
 ESCWA

ESCWA WEEKLY



15 APRIL | BEIRUT, LEBANON

Consultation Meeting on Sustainable Urban Transport and Road Safety

A consultation meeting was held at ESCWA with **YASA**, **Lebanese Motorcycle Club**, **LASSA**, TRACS, **Train-Train** Associations, and Motorbike Academy, at the UN House, on 15 April 2019. Participants discussed cooperation opportunities with ESCWA on issues related to road safety and sustainable urban transport.

ESCWA presented its work and activities on road safety, transport and sustainable development. It also, stressed on cooperation to achieve the desired goals.

Each of the participants provided their contribution in both areas and emphasized the importance and the magnitude of the problem in the transport sector and road safety. They also expressed their aspirations for cooperation with ESCWA to improve the transport sector and road safety in Lebanon.

15 APRIL | BEIRUT, LEBANON



The **Eat-Lancet Commission on Food, Planet, and Health** launched its first report on Sustainable Diets at the **American University of Beirut**, where ESCWA, represented by SDPD Director Roula Majdalani, participated in a high-level panel. ESCWA's "Arab Horizon 2030 on Food Security" was quoted by speakers and panelists as a reference point on analyzing trends in food consumption, production and utilization and their socio-economic and environmental implications. The panel included professionals from nutrition, health, agriculture and policy making organs, which reiterated that healthy diets and sustainable environment should go hand-in-hand to address food security and climate change challenges. In walking the talk, healthy snacks were offered consisting of organic locally produced fruits and vegetables.

15 APRIL | AMMAN, JORDAN



In the framework of the implementation of the project on “Fostering Institutional Development for Participatory Approaches towards the Achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in Western Asia”, a National Committee of Practice (NCP) composed of members of civil society organizations and youth activists - end-users and beneficiaries of ESCWA several projects- was established in Amman, Jordan on Monday 15 April 2019, with the support of the **Jordanian Ministry of Youth and Culture** and UN-ESCWA. The NCP aims at sustaining efforts undertaken to empower youth and civil society in the target country. It shall also widen the scope of beneficiaries of ESCWA capacity building programmes ensuring thereby a multiplier effect through the organization of TOTs across the country. Furthermore, the NCP shall ensure that the voices of civil society and youth are heard by decision makers through its participation in high- level meetings and conferences with the support of UN-ESCWA and the Ministry of Youth and Culture in Jordan. During 2019, two similar NCPs shall be established in Lebanon and Tunisia.

15-16 APRIL | DOHA, QATAR

Workshop on International Standards to Address Violence Against Women



The ESCWA Centre for Women, in collaboration with the Center for Social Protection and Rehabilitation in Qatar (**AMAN**), organised a workshop on “International Standards to Address Violence Against Women” on 15-16 April 2019 in Doha, Qatar. The workshop brought together 23 participants from five governmental and non-governmental stakeholders and service providers dealing with survivors of VAW. It helped increase their awareness of pertinent best practices emanating from international standards and norms, and therefore methods and mechanisms to address VAW on the national level. This workshop comes as part of Qatar's efforts to promote the advancement and protection of women from all forms of violence and the State's commitment to **CEDAW**, the **BPFA** and the SDGs, with the aim of introducing international frameworks on combating VAW and relevant national machineries.

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Consultative Workshop for Civil Society Organizations on Progress Made in the Implementation of Beijing +25

16-17 April | BEIRUT, LEBANON

ESCWA, [UN Women](#), [LAS](#) and [Arab Women Organisation](#) organised a two-day regional consultation for representatives of CSOs and National Human Rights Institutions to discuss progress made at the regional level to implement the Beijing Declaration and Platform of Action after 25 years of its adoption in 1995. The meeting allowed for an in-depth discussion on achievement made, the role of CSOs and future priorities for the region. Participants in the meeting recognised the efforts made over the past five years; however, they also highlighted challenges facing the region in achieving equality between the sexes and non-discrimination as an integral component of economic and social development in the region.

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15-16 APRIL | BAGHDAD, IRAQ

Workshop on Digital Transformation: Strategies and Applications

Based on an advisory request received from the General Secretariat of Prime Ministry (GSPM) - Iraq, ESCWA conducted a national workshop on 15 and 16 April 2019 in partnership with the [University of ICT \(Iraq\)](#) to provide information on best regional and international practices of digital transformation strategies and to suggest a roadmap to develop such a strategy in Iraq.

Workshop key messages stressed on the importance of delivering public services through electronic channels to accelerate socio-economic recovery and then transit to economic growth phase, and to develop digital government and open data policies to foster innovation in the country. It is also important to up-skill public sector officials to contribute efficiently in digital transformation strategies.

17-18 APRIL | BEIRUT, LEBANON

Monitoring the Implementation of Energy Related SDG Indicators in the Arab Region

ESCWA and the [Islamic Bank of Development \(IsDB\)](#) held a seminar on Monitoring the Implementation of Energy Related SDG Indicators in the Arab Region with participation of energy and statistics experts from the Member Countries and from regional and international agencies. Thus, the seminar fostered a regional dialogue assessing the progress on SDG7 indicators and the interlinkages with other SDGs like SDG 13, filling relevant data gaps and determining the challenges that the countries are facing while pushing towards sustainable energy actions.

The collected inputs will contribute in developing the Report on Tracking SDG7 for the Arab region as part of the global process and to deliver its outcomes to the 2019 [High – Level Political Forum \(HLPF\)](#).

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17-18 APRIL | BEIRUT, LEBANON

EGM on Intellectual Property Systems in the Arab Region

The Technology for Development Division at ESCWA implemented an Expert Group Meeting (EGM) on “Intellectual Property (IP) Systems in the Arab Region” in Beirut on 17-18 April 2019. The discussions centred around an upcoming publication on intellectual property systems, explored IP and its relationship to entrepreneurship, small enterprises, technology transfer and gender. The EGM also showcased initiatives and case studies from ESCWA member countries and from regional and international organizations. The meeting drew more than 40 experts from the Arab region and from regional and international institutions such as **WIPO**, the **League of Arab States** and **Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (ALECSO)**. Most participants were from government agencies tasked with IP, but also included academia and the private sector. *The participation of women was 42%.*

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16-19 APRIL | AMMAN, JORDAN

Regional Workshop on Multidimensional Poverty

ESCWA in collaboration with the **League of Arab States** organized the Annual Training Workshop on Multidimensional Poverty. The workshop was hosted by the **Jordanian Ministry of Social Development** in Amman, Jordan. The workshop which benefited representatives from Arab Ministries of Social Affairs from 12 Arab Countries consisted of two parts: a technical training on analysis and policy tools to address multidimensional poverty including; targeting interventions, planning and budgeting, and impact assessment. And the second part consisted of a facilitated discussion on ways to implement the Arab Strategic Framework for the Eradication of Multidimensional Poverty.



19 APRIL | BEIRUT, LEBANON

Expert Group Meeting on Sustainable Transport

On 19 April 2019, under the invitation of the **IsDB** and **GIZ**, ESCWA participated to an Expert Group Meeting (EGM) held in Monroe Hotel to increase the capacity to better coordinate the development of NDCs and VNRs, and hence to ensure that sustainable, low carbon transport is properly reflected in the implementation, follow-up and review of the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda.

The meeting, implemented by the IsDB and GIZ in cooperation **TUMI** and **SLoCat**, was attended by representatives of Ministries of Transport in Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia, and was the occasion to present ESCWA related activities, including its policy paper on **Transport and Sustainable Development Goals** that was presented in **ESCWA 17th Inter Governmental Meeting on Transport and Logistics** (IGM), held in Cairo on 23-24 January 2017.