



UNITED NATIONS

الأمم المتحدة  
ESCWA



## Sustainable development under conditions of conflicts and crisis

ESCWA participated remotely in the “International Conference on Sustainable Development under Conditions of Conflict and Crisis” held at the Faculty of Law and Public Administration at Birzeit University in West Bank on 23-24 April 2019. The Regional Commission provided an overview of the situation in the Arab region, highlighting progress and challenges in meeting the commitments of the 2030 Agenda.

The conference concluded with a set of recommendations highlighting the need to mobilize local and international efforts to support sustainable development in Palestine and other countries under occupation and conflict and strengthen the role of local authorities.

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## Institutional gaps assessment methodology in Iraq

Within the framework of its “Institutional Gaps Assessment Methodology”, which aims to strengthen the public sector’s capacity to support recovery, improve development outcomes and prevent conflict relapse, ESCWA organized at its headquarters in Beirut an “Advanced Workshop on Deploying Institutional Gaps Assessment Methodology in project implementation and coordination among governmental and non-governmental organizations in Iraq (at Al-Hamdania district and Nineveh Governorate)”, on 2-3 May 2019.

The Iraqi Ministry of Planning is set to adopt the Institutional Gaps Assessment Methodology (IGAM) in forthcoming workshops to be held in governorates that survived terrorism in Iraq.

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## Food security and specific SDGs discussed in Amman

In Amman, ESCWA organized on 28-29 April a two-day capacity building workshop for a team of 18 professionals from the Ministry of Agriculture in Jordan and other organizations on developing concept notes tailored to promote context based food security and specific SDGs that the ministry is contributing to under its 2016-2025 national strategy.

Participants were provided support to adopt a structured form and procedure for the development of concept notes. They carried out together two case studies focusing on food losses and low productivity of palm dates trees. They decided to form a group of professionals at the ministry to review submitted concept notes and ensure that they solve real priority problems with main stakeholders.



## 27th Arab Economic Forum pays tribute to ESCWA Chief

The 27th edition of the Arab Economic Forum, organized by Al Iktissad wal Aamal and held on 2 May in Beirut under the patronage of Lebanese Prime Minister Saad Hariri, paid tribute to ESCWA Executive Secretary Rola Dashti for her pioneering role in supporting women and socioeconomic development in the Arab region.

The Forum was attended by Egyptian Prime Minister Mostafa Madbouly and Secretary-General of League of Arab States Ahmed About Gheit, as well as heads of government, ministers, and top executives from various Arab and foreign countries and tackled various issues, including challenges of economic growth and reforms and how to join the digital economy locomotive and achieve digital transformation.

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## Did you Know...

... that poverty in the world has been reduced dramatically? However, the Arab region still trails the rest of the world in combatting poverty. Since 2010, poverty has been on the rise. This means that nearly 40% of the Arab region's population is living on less than \$2.75 a day.

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