



ESCWA United Nations Economic and
Social Commission for Western Asia

ESCWA Technology Centre *Newsletter*

First Half 2013 www.etc-un.org



Board of Governors

HRH Princess Sumaya Bint El Hassan

President of the Board of Governors
President of the Royal Scientific Society in Jordan.

Mohammed Ahmad Al Amer

Vice President of the Board of Governors
President of the Central Informatics Organization in Bahrain.

Nour Eldin Cheikh Obeid

Professor, Syrian Virtual University in Arab Syrian Republic.

Imad Naji

Director General, Information Technology Department
Central Statistical Organization in Iraq.

Mouin Hamze

Secretary General, National Council
for Scientific Research in Lebanon.

Salim Alruzaigi

Chief Executive Officer
Information Technology Authority in Oman.

Mustafa Jarrar

Professor, of Information Technology
Birzeit University in Palestine.

Faleh Mohammad Al Naemi

Assistant Secretary General
Shared Services of ICT Qatar

Abdulaziz Bin Mohamad Al Swailem

Vice President for Scientific Affairs King Abdulaziz City
for Science and Technology in Saudi Arabia .

Najmeddine Dawood Mohamad Dawood

Deputy Minister, Ministry of Trade and Foreign Affairs in Sudan.

Abdulkareem Ali al-Rowaishan

Vice president, National Information Center in Yemen.

ETC Technical Committee 2013-2014



ETC Technical Committee was conducted with 29 members from 17 ESCWA member countries

Applying the ETC statute, the 2nd ETC Technical Committee meeting was held. The meeting was attended by selected technical experts in various fields of technologies. The committee elected Dr. Najiba El Amrani El Idrissi as President for one year. ETC work plan 2013 and last year 2012 achievements were discussed interactively, leading to set of actionable recommendations for the 2013-2014. ETC adopted most recommendations within the WP 2013.

Majed Al-Sherbiny (Egypt)

President, Academy of Scientific Research & Technology

Nazar Hassan (Egypt)

Science & Technology Unit Chief, UNESCO

Ghassan Akram Abed Al-Dulaimi (Iraq)

Ministry of Science & Technology

Suha Abdullah Mahmood (Iraq)

Senior Engineer, Central Organization of Statistical & Information Technology Ministry of Planning

Khaled Elshuraydeh (Jordan)

Secretary General, Higher Council for Science and Technology- HCST

Rana Zyadin (Jordan)

Executive Director, Royal Scientific Society –RSS

AbdelKarim Tamimi (Jordan)

Professor, Yarmouk University

Issa Batarseh (Jordan)

President, Princess Sumaya University for Technology – PSUT

Khaled Al Asfar (Jordan)

Director, Center of Excellence on Innovation
Jordan University for Science and Technology –JUST

Yaseen AlHusban (Jordan)

Director, Renewable Energy Centre King Al Hussein Bin Talal University

Qais Al Safasfeh (Jordan)

Director of Energy and Oil & Shale Research Center, Tafila Technical University

Yousef Nuseir (Jordan)

ICT Consultant

Lina N. Nabulsi (Jordan)

Technical Director, Jordanian Pharmaceutical Manufacturing

Ahmed Mohammed A Alabdulkader (KSA)

Secretary General, Science, Technology & Innovation
King Abdulaziz City for Science & Technology KASCT

Samer Soheil Hamadeh (KSA)

AbdulLatif Jameel Group

Hassan Al Charif (Lebanon)

Advisor Policies in Science & Technology
National Council for Scientific Research

Mohammad Nawar Alawa (Lebanon)

Regional Advisor, ESCWA

Sari Hanafi (Lebanon)

Professor/ETC consultant, American University of Beirut

Taeib Abdalla El Bahloul (Libya)

Expert, Ministry of Planning

Najiba El Amrani El Idrissi (Morocco)

Professor, Sidi Mohammad Ben Abdallah University

Kamla Al-Rahbi (Oman)

Senior Project Specialist, Information Technology Authority

Amjad Harb (Palestine)

Director of Systems Development Dept, Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics

Ibrahim Abu Kteish (Palestine)

Director of NajjadZeenni IT Center Of Excellence, Birzeit University

Abdul Sattar Al-Taie (Qatar)

Executive Director, Qatar National Research Fund-QNRF

Osama Abdelwahhab Raies (Sudan)

Director General, Africa City of Technology

Maha Korttom (UAE)

Senior Research and Knowledge Management Specialist,
Ministry of Higher Education and Research

Label Shaif Esmail (Yemen)

Director General of Analysis and Studies, The National Information Centre

Thikre Abdulmalek Motahar (Yemen)

General Manager - Scientific Research Dept, Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research

Abdu Ahmad Shaban (Yemen)

Director General for International Cooperation, National Information Center

HRH Prince El Hassan Bin Talal Visiting ESCWA Technology Centre



His Royal Highness Prince El Hassan Bin Talal paid a visit to the ETC on 18 June 2013. Prince El Hassan was briefed on the objectives of the Centre and progress since its establishment in November 2011. HRH was accompanied during his visit by HRH Princess Sumaya who presides over ETCs Board of Governors.

I. Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Information

The activities and networking for implementation of 2013 work program was approved by the Board of Governors in November 2012, in addition to the recommendations of the ETC Technical Committee .

ESCWA input to the UN Secretary General report for the 2013 Annual Ministerial Review of UN ECOSOC: "STI, and the potential of culture, for promoting sustainable development and achieving the MDGs"

The above report is a compilation of the regional priorities and views on the theme of 2013 .

Through such reporting, ETC has become a regional focal point within the UN system in the STI subject and a reference for partnerships and information related to science, technology and innovation.

Published "Scientific Production in Arab Countries" in the Working Paper Series through the Office of the Executive Secretary of ESCWA

This executive paper is considered to be a core material of the ETC efforts in exploring opportunities in Arab countries in the scientific and technological based products, services and ventures. The article addresses decision makers in charge of national (STI) policies as well leaders of Arab universities by presenting and addressing fundamental issues the region suffers from in higher education and scientific research.

Regional ECOSOC Annual Ministerial Review meeting report on "STI for sustainable development" that took place in Amman Nov 2012

After the successful ETC organization and hosting of the regional preparatory meeting towards the ECOSOC AMR, ETC finalized the report that was presented in Geneva July 2013 by H.E . Minister of planning and international cooperation in Jordan on behalf of Western Asia

www.un.org/en/ecosoc/amr



Study: "National STI SWOT analysis report for Arab countries"

A short ETC survey was filled by 5 countries (Yemen, Qatar, Oman, Jordan, and Palestine) for their national STI SWOT . Study listed the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and challenges (SWOC) of STI for all member countries (17) using available data. This will help in building strategies for complementary activities and identify the right partnership opportunities within the area.

II. Innovation Development and Management

Participation in ICT Investment Forum in Tunis

ETC participated in the ESCWA Expert Group Meeting on Investment, Research, Development and Innovation in the ICT Sector (7-8 May 2013). Participants in the Forum included experts who are stakeholders from the public sector, private sector, civil society, and academia. The Forum included discussions and deliberations on the development of a competitive ICT sector in the Arab region and the strengthening of the financing and investment mechanisms for encouraging business initiatives in the sector.

ETC announced the second round of Commercialization Tour 2013

The commercialization tour will be rolled out in six Arab countries covering Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and United Arab Emirates. ETC is partnering with Licensing Executive Society – Arab countries, iPark incubator in Jordan and MENA APPs accelerator.

www.comm-tour.com

Forum on Innovation for Industrial Competitiveness in cooperation with LAS AIDMO

The League of Arab States organization (Arab Industrial Development and Mining Organization) is partnering with ETC for regional forum in support of Innovation for improving Industrial Competitiveness. ETC is taking this opportunity to build partnerships with the existing industry in the Arab countries in order to scale up ETC activities in the region with higher value added. The Forum will be hosted by the ministry of Industry in Kuwait in November 2013



Innovation & Capital CONNECT

The second round of the Commercialization Tour 2013 is announced

The Commercialization Tour aiming at encouraging innovation and widening the opportunities of matching between innovators with investors and it will be conducted in six countries;
Egypt, Kuwait, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia and UAE.

Innovators that have technological outcome ready for licensing, investment or any form of commercialization are targeted in this activity.

For registration on line, please visit the link: www.comm-tour.com

Receiving applications will last till 31 August 2013, while the matching sessions will take place in the second half of October 2013.



III. Regional Complementarity

Identified ETC National Liaison Officers for effective coordination

Selected ETC Board of Governors nominated national ETC liaison officers: Qatar, Oman, Jordan, Lebanon, Yemen, Iraq, Syria, and Palestine. The STI SWOT survey was the first accomplished task of these officers who participated with other experts in the ETC Technical Committee meeting in April 2013.

Rio +20 Conference Follow up

ETC participated in the Arab Regional Implementation Meeting for the Twentieth Session of the Commission for Sustainable Development (CSD-20), Meeting was held from 29 to 30 May 2013, in Dubai, UAE.

ETC hosted ESCWA Technical Committee Meeting in Amman.

It was an important event for ETC towards ESCWA member countries as first main ESCWA activity being hosted by this subsidiary unit after years of resolutions and discussions on the centre being outside headquarters.

This Committee consisting of representatives from governments of member countries of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia.

“Strengths and Weaknesses of Science and Technology landscape in Arab countries,” Workshop.

ESCWA Technology Centre (ETC) organized a workshop on regional STI SWOT partnerships, where ETC study of “National STI SWOT analysis report for Arab countries” was presented followed

by national interventions on the latest STI updates of the represented countries, the meeting was held on 29 April 2013, at El Hassan Science City, in Amman/Jordan.



UN Regional Coordination Meeting (RCM) plans and STI Thematic Group

The Regional Coordination Meeting is an established ESCWA yearly mechanism for harmonizing and aligning UN regional activities in serving the communities and governments of the region. Based on the ECOSOC 2013 theme of STI and role of Culture in sustainable development, a thematic group was formed by ESCWA to align the regional meeting recommendations with the UN regional activities .

IV. Advisory Services

Permanent Judge in Qatar Foundation: Stars of Science TV Program for youth Innovation

Director of ETC is the lead science advisor and judge to the TV contest program Stars of Science aiming at harnessing media tools (reality TV format) popular with Arab youth towards transferring innovation, inventiveness, and scientific based production values. The program 5th year airing on MBC4



ETC Supported establishment of Technology Transfer Office in Fez University

ETC organized preparation workshop for setting up a Technology Transfer Office at Sidi Mohammad Bin Abdullah University, the workshop was conducted in cooperation with El Hassan Business Park of Jordan .

KACST – Angel Investments for Innovation Activities Training Program

ESCWA Technology Centre provided technical advisory service to Sirb Best Investment Opportunity Competition managed by SIRB Angel Investors Network -KACST in KSA.

Phase I Innovation report for KA CARE – KSA

King Abdullah City for Atomic and Renewable Energy (KACARE), the innovation track was revised by ETC. This activity is important as ETC review injected proposed innovation relevant to KACARE energy plans from within the region: Jordan, Lebanon, and others.

ETC role in evaluating the technology transfer initiatives of various universities in Egypt.

ETC is member in the evaluating committee of the initiative of Academy of Scientific Research and Technology in Egypt for establishing Technology Transfer Offices in Egyptian universities or research institutions.

V. Coordination

ESCWA ICTD in cooperation with ETC, Jordan Innovation Centre, and the Jordanian Engineers Association:” launched the Digital Arabic Content competition in Jordan for 2013.”

The competition comes in the framework of the second phase of the ESCWA project on promoting Arab digital content industry through technology incubators.

The competition aims to raise awareness of the importance of Arabic digital content and to stimulate the industry in the region and encourage university graduates and entrepreneurs to work in this field.



ESCWA and Royal Scientific Society signed MoU for hosting Green Help Desk

Agreed MoU on the hosting of Green Help Desk by National Energy Research Centre (NERC) at the Royal Scientific Society of Jordan through “Strengthening National Capacities in the ESCWA Region on Developing Green Production Sectors Project” implemented by Sustainable Development and Productivity Division in ESCWA.

In Kind support provided by Jordanian Institutions

To materialize the “in kind” support of Higher Council of Science and Technology (HCST) and Royal Scientific Society (RSS) for ETC 2013 work program, the following list of activities have been developed

RSS list for in kind support of ETC 2013

Title of Activities

- . Regional Technology Transfer
- . Clearing house of ST regional inventions
- . Landscape Mapping for Regional Incubation System
- . Intellectual Property National System
- . Regional Technology Commercialization Tour
- . Technology Matching Online Exchange

HCST list for in kind support of ETC 2013

Title of Activities

- . Jordan- Science, Technology and Innovation SWOT analysis
- . Partnership in Production Opportunities within ESCWA Region
- . Jordanian Scientific Facilities Landscape

V. Looking Forward

ETC Upcoming Events in the 2013:

a. Industrial Competitiveness through Innovation Forum

This event is being mutually organized by ETC, Kuwait Ministry of Industry, Arabic Industrial Development and Mining Organization (AIDMO) and Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO), to be held on 18-19 November 2013, in Kuwait.



b. National Innovation System: Input, Output, and Impact

This workshop is organized by the ESCWA Technology Centre in collaboration with the Center for Mediterranean Integration (CMI), with the lead of the European Investment Bank, and will be held in November - Amman, Jordan.

c. Launching the 5th season of the popular TV program “Stars of Science” on 15 September 2013 on MBC4 (www.strarsofscience.com)

d. ETC Board of Governors meeting 2013

ETC will organize the 3rd Board of Governors meeting in November 2013 - Amman, Jordan.

Studies to be published

a. Strengths and Weaknesses of Science and Technology

Institutions in Arab countries Developing a consolidated landscape of (SWOC) of STI in each member country is considered foundation for building strategies for complementary activities. The approved report will be formally published on ETC website

b. International Partnership in Production Opportunities within the ESCWA Region. This report will supply possible production growth opportunities within the ESCWA region.

c. Producing a Database for regional inventions

This database is generated in order to identify and assist new entrepreneurs and encourage additional forming of startups and commercialization avenues.

d. Producing a Database for regional incubators

This database aims is to identify incubation systems in the region and compile a landscape map of incubation capacity available in the region.

ESCWA Technology Center

Royal Scientific Society/ Higher Council for Science and Technology In kind Staff Schedule 2013



Al-Halasa Nizar

Innovation and Commercialization Consultant
Royal Scientific Society time : 60%



Al Mulki Neal

Tech transfer consultant and EHBP Liaison
Royal Scientific Society time : 60%



Falougy Saif

Office Support
Royal Scientific Society time : 60%



Horani Mohammad

Financial and Accounting support
Royal Scientific Society time : 40%



Ras Reema

Local Industrial consultant
Higher Council for Science and Technology time : 40%



Shapsough Natasha

Administrative Assistant
Royal Scientific Society time : 60%

For more information, please visit: [http:// www.etc-un.org](http://www.etc-un.org)

