



Sustainable Development Dialogues in the Arab region حوارات التنمية المستدامة في المنطقة العربية

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Changing course?

The Arab Region's SDG progress and COVID-19

As the Arab region works to contain the negative impacts of COVID-19 and safeguard the health and wellbeing of its people, the 2030 Agenda and achieving the SDGs take on an added urgency. COVID-19 has laid bare a series of vulnerabilities and fault-lines across the region. Their analysis points clearly to a set of structural barriers that hamper progress on the SDGs. It is only by dismantling those that the region can hope to navigate its way through the COVID-19 pandemic and steer the course towards a more inclusive, resilient, sustainable and just Arab region.

On the occasion of the 2020 High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, **ESCWA** and **UNDP** are pleased to invite you to a high-level side event to discuss:

- Progress on the SDGs in the Arab region and entry points for action identified in the newly launched Arab Sustainable Development Report 2020 (ASDR 2020);
- How is COVID-19 shifting the trajectory of the Arab region's progress on sustainable development?
- What opportunities can be seized now to galvanize political will and mobilize resources to lead the transformation necessary for the region?

Date & time 9 July 2020, 08:00 – 09:00 NY time / 15:00 – 16:00 Beirut time

Welcoming remarks Dr. Rola Dashti, Executive Secretary, ESCWA
Dr. Mourad Wahba, Associate Administrator (a.i.), UNDP

Presentation COVID-19 & structural barriers to achieving the 2030 Agenda,
Dr. Maisaa Youssef, ASDR 2020 Lead Author, ESCWA

Speakers H.E. Dr. Hala El Said, Minister of Planning and Economic Development, Egypt
H.E. Dr. Ibrahim Al Badawi, Minister of Finance and Economic Planning, Sudan

Lead discussant Dr. Mourad Wahba, Associate Administrator (a.i.), UNDP

Q&A

Moderation Dr. Rola Dashti, Executive Secretary, ESCWA

Join us!

The webinar will be in English and broadcast live on [ESCWA's Facebook](#).

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