

EGM on Innovation and Technology for achieving the 2030 Development Agenda

5-7 December 2017, UN-ESCWA, Beirut

Agenda

Day one - 5 December 2017	
08:15 – 09:00	Registration
09:00–10:30	Opening Session
	Welcome and Opening Statement H.E. Mr. Mohamad Ali Alhakim, Executive Secretary, ESCWA The statement will be delivered by Dr. Khawla Mattar, Deputy Executive Secretary, ESCWA
	Keynote Speech: Promotion of Innovation and technology in Higher Education in the MENA region: Past, Present, and Future H.E. Mr. Hassan Diab, Former Minister of Education & Higher Education, Vice President for Regional External Programs, American University of Beirut, Lebanon
10:30 – 11:00	<i>Coffee break & Networking</i>
11:00 –13:00	Session 1– Horizon 2030: Innovation and Technology perspectives (I) <i>Moderator: Mr. Nawar Al Awa, Regional Advisor in Technology for Development, ESCWA</i>
11:00-11:20	Innovation and Technology for Achieving the 2030 Development Agenda: ESCWA's activities Ms. Nibal Idlebi, Chief of Innovation Section, ESCWA
11:20-11:40	Role of National Systems of Innovation in framing STI policy for SDGs Mr. Dimo Calovski, Economic Affairs Officer, UNCTAD
11:40-12:10	Horizon 2030: Innovation Perspectives for the Arab Region Mr. Najib Abdel Wahed, ESCWA consultant & Expert in Science, Technology and Innovation Discussion
13:00 – 14:00	<i>Lunch break & Networking</i>
14:00 – 14:30	Launch of the report "Enabling Digital Opportunities in the Middle East", ISOC in collaboration with ESCWA and Wamda Ms. Salam Yamout, Head, Internet Society's Regional Bureau for the Middle East Ms. Maya Rahal, Wamda & Ms. Nibal Idlebi, ESCWA
14:30: - 15:30	Session 2 – Policy perspectives of the SDGs <i>Moderator: Mr. Muhammad Saidam, Chief Scientist, Royal Scientific Society, Jordan</i>
14:30-14:50	The need for new planning to achieve sustainable development goals in the Arab region Mr. Mohamad Mrayati, Senior Advisor on S&T for Sustainable Development, UNDP-KSA
14:50-15:10	A Turbulent Middle East's Take on the SDGs: A Snapshot of the STI Perspective Mr. Mounneef Zub'aj, Director General, Islamic World Academy of Sciences
15:30 – 16:00	<i>Coffee break</i>
16:00 - 17:30	Session 3 – Horizon 2030: Innovation and Technology perspectives (II) <i>Moderator: Ms. Nibal Idlebi, Chief of Innovation Section, ESCWA</i>
16:00-16:20	Setting the scene for integrated technological solutions for the SDGs Mr. Robby Berloznik, Director programme G-STIC, Flemish Institute for Technological Research, Belgium
16:20-16:50	Horizon 2030: Technology Perspectives for the Arab Region Mr. Najib Abdel Wahed, ESCWA consultant & Expert in Science, Technology and Innovation Discussion and Recommendation

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Day Two – 6 December 2017

09:00–10:30 Session 4– Regional and International Experiences in Government Transformation

Moderator: Mr. Ebrahim Al Haddad, Director, ITU-Arab Regional Office

Digital Identification for inclusive access to services

09:00-09:20 Ms. Samia Melhem, Lead Policy Officer, Global ICT Group, Transport & ICT, The World Bank Group

2018 UN e-Government Survey: insight and anticipations

09:20-09:40 Mr. Vincenzo Aquaro, Chief of E-Gov. Branch, UN-DESA-DPADM

Open Government framework for the Arab Region

09:40-10:00 Ms. Lize Denner, Innovation Section, ESCWA

Discussion

10:30 -11:00 *Coffee break*

11:00–13:00 Session 5 – Innovation and Technology for Enhancing SME and achieving SDGs in the Arab Region

Chairperson: H.E. Mr. Nicolas Nahas, Former Minister of Economy and Trade, Lebanon

Introduction of the chairperson

Objectives of ESCWA Study on Innovation and Technology in SMEs

11:00-11:10 Mr. Rami Zaatari, Head of the Unit for Dissemination and Communication of Statistics, ESCWA

Innovation and Technology in Small and medium Enterprises for Achieving the 2030 Development Agenda

11:20-11:45 Mr. Samir Aita, ESCWA Consultant, President, Le Cercle des Economistes Arabes, France

SMEs in Lebanon

11:45-12:05 Mr. Johnny Mikhael Matta, UNDP Project/Ministry of economy and Trade, Lebanon

Case Study from the Arab Region

12:05-12:15 Ms. Roula Moussa, Netways, Lebanon

Discussion and Recommendations

13:00 – 14:00 *Lunch break & Networking*

14:00–16:00 Session 6 –Fostering Entrepreneurship for achieving SDGs in the Arab Region

Moderator: Ms. Najiba El Amrani, Head of Electrical Engineering Department, University of Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah, Morocco

Innovation and Technology for fostering Entrepreneurship in the Arab Region

14:00 - 14:30 Hassan Ghaziri, ESCWA Consultant & Founding Director, Beirut Research and Innovation Center, Lebanon

Entrepreneurship Eco-system in Egypt

14:30 - 14:50 Ms. Racha Tantawy, Head of Entrepreneurship & Business Support, TIEC/ ITIDA, Egypt

Case Study: Improving welfare and saving the environment should make money

14:50 – 15:10 Mr. Antoine Skeyem, Entrepreneur, Lebanon

Discussion and Recommendations

16:00 – 16:30 *Coffee break & Networking*



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16:30–17:30	Session 7 –Fostering Innovation in Industry <i>Moderator: Mr. Fouad Murad, Technology for Development Division, ESCWA</i>
16:30 - 16:45	The 4th Industrial Revolution and the 2030 Development Agenda Mr. Augusto Luis Alcorta, Research Fellow, UNU-MERIT
16:45 – 17:00	Economic and Social Impact Through Supporting Industrial Innovation Ms. Syham Bentouati, Managing Director, NAFAS International
17:00 – 17:20	The need for regional collaboration and partnerships to progress emerging industries and support the SDGs: Caribbean Digital Financial Services (Remote intervention) Mr. Peter Nicholls, Chief, Caribbean Knowledge Management Centre, UN-ECLAC Discussion

Day Three – 7 December 2017

09:00–11:00	Session 8 – Innovation and Technology for community development in the Arab region <i>Moderator: Mr. Khalil Ajami, President, Syrian Virtual University, Syria</i>
09:00 -09:10	Objectives of the ESCWA Study on Community-based Innovation Ms. Lize Denner, Innovation Section, Technology for Development Division, ESCWA
09:10-09:40	Community-based Innovation for improved social well-being in the Arab region Mr. Alain Daou, ESCWA Consultant& Assistant Professor of Entrepreneurship, Olayan School of Business (OSB), American University of Beirut (AUB), Lebanon
09:40-10:00	Innovative approaches and models that will foster social & economic development in the Arab Region Mr. Nady Kamel Dous, Executive Director, New Horizon Association for Social Development, Egypt
10:00-10:15	Case Study from Lebanon Ms. Asmahan Zein, General Manager, Lebanon at InfoFort LLC, Lebanon Discussion
11:00 – 11:30	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:30–12:30	Recommendations and Conclusion <i>Moderator: Ms. Nibal Idlebi, chief of Innovation Section, ESCWA</i>
11:30-11:45	Proposed Recommendations Mr. Nawar Al Awa, Regional Advisor of Technology for Development, ESCWA Ms. Lize Denner, Innovation Section, Technology for Development Division, ESCWA Discussion