

Arab Sustainable Development Report Taskforce (ASDR TF)

Background: ESCWA is mandated to produce a Regional Report on the 2030 Agenda—The Arab Sustainable Development Report—at regular intervals in support of follow-up and review at the regional level. Specifically, ESCWA’s Executive Committee Resolution 322 (December 2015) requested the Commission to implement a set of activities including: *“monitoring progress made in the Arab region towards achievement of the SDGs; and the preparation of regional follow-up reports using official data.”*

The Arab Sustainable Development Report (ASDR) will be produced every four years, in time for submission to the High-Level Political Forum at the level of Heads of State and Government (in 2018, 2022, 2026, and possibly 2030). All ASDRs are expected to be presented first to the multi-stakeholder Arab Forum for Sustainable Development (AFSD) as a stepping stone to their presentation at the High Level Political Forum.

ESCWA is committed to the production of the ASDR with the concerned members of the United Nations in the region and under the umbrella of the RCM Joint Working Group on the 2030 Agenda.

Objective: The TF ensures the contribution of the members of the 2030 WG in the planning and production of the ASDR. The TF further ensures that the ASDR:

- Provides an analytical lens on the achievements in the adaptation, implementation, follow-up and review and monitoring of the SDGs in the region;
- Raises awareness on regional challenges at different levels and among various stakeholders and development partners;
- Provides Member States with recommendations that support them in achieving progress on the SDGs;
- Ensures that the voice of the Arab region is consolidated and projected to the global arena.

Scope and Function: The TF supports the production of the ASDR through in-kind and/or financial contributions as follows:

- i. **Planning:** Contribution to the conceptualization of the ASDR by providing input on its objectives, structure and focus areas;
- ii. **Production:** Contribution to the identification, tracking and collection of national and regional data for the ASDR as well as the analysis as relevant. The TF may also support the drafting of chapters or sections of the report, as well as the provision of case studies, testimonials, examples, and pictures. In addition, members may fund experts or consultants as contributors to the analysis and/or review of the report;
- iii. **Launch and Dissemination:** Support the launch of the report and promote its dissemination at various national, regional and global fora as appropriate.

Membership and Organization: The ASDR TF is chaired and coordinated by ESCWA and open to members of the RCM WG on the 2030 Agenda. Membership in the TF is on a voluntary basis and may change with each 4-year cycle of the production of the ASDR. The Chair of the TF is responsible for coordinating an action plan with clear timelines and deliverables for the report’s production; TF members are responsible for the due implementation of the action plan. The TF will meet physically at least once a year and will conduct virtual meetings as necessary.

