Dear reader,

It is my pleasure to present the Publications Catalogue of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) for 2012-2013, which provides an overview of each of our publications.

We publish a Catalogue at the end of each biennium to facilitate the use of our publications by government officials, non-governmental organizations, researchers and other parties interested in the work of ESCWA. These publications cover a broad spectrum of issues, including sustainable development and natural resources management; social policies; economic and financial issues; information and communications technology; gender equality; statistical data; and conflict-related issues and their implications for the countries of the region.

With emerging new realities in the aftermath of the political changes in the Arab region and with more Arab States, namely Libya, Morocco and Tunisia, joining the Commission since the last issue of the Catalogue, ESCWA realigned its programmes and priorities to provide the most relevant support to member States in their efforts to achieve development. It also redirected its analytical and normative publications to reflect its extended membership and the regional and global developments.

Our hope is that these publications will further enhance public dialogue, information exchange and knowledge-sharing among officials and stakeholders in the region and assist member States in their preparations for participation in global forums and conferences on priority issues.

All the publications listed in the Catalogue are available on the ESCWA website (www.escwa.un.org), and most are published in both Arabic and English in order to meet the needs expressed by member States and readers. The ESCWA website also provides further information on our activities.

I trust that you will find our publications both useful and enjoyable.

Rima Khalaf
Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations
Executive Secretary of ESCWA
القراء الأعزاء،

يسعدني أن أقدم لكم دليل منشورات الإسكوا لفترة السنتين 2012-2013 وفيه لمحة موجزة عن كل من تلك المنشورات.

تصدر الإسكوا هذا الدليل في نهاية فترة برنامج عملها التي تستمر سنتين، لكي تسهل على المسؤولين الحكوميين، والمنظمات غير الحكومية، والباحثين والجهات المهتمة بعمل الإسكوا استخدام منشوراتها التي تغطي مجموعة متنوعة من المواضيع في مجالات التنمية المستدامة وإدارة الموارد الطبيعية، والسياسات الاجتماعية، والقضايا الاقتصادية والمالية، وتقنية المعلومات والاتصالات، والمساواة بين الجنسين، والبيانات الإحصائية، والقضايا المتعلقة بالنزاعات وآثارها في بلدان المنطقة.

ومع ظهور وقائع جديدة بعد التحولات السياسية في المنطقة العربية، وكذلك بعد انضمام دول عربية إضافية هي تونس ولبنان والمغرب إلى عضوية الإسكوا منذ إصدار الدليل السابق، أعادت الإسكوا ترتيب الأولويات في برنامج عملها لتقدم الدعم الملائم للدول الأعضاء في مختلف مجالات العمل الإنساني ووجهت الدراسات التحليلية والمعرفية التي تجريها لكي تواكب توسع عضويتها والتطورات الإقليمية والعالمية.

وأضاف على أمل في أن تساهم هذه المجموعة من المنشورات في إثراء الحوار، وتثري المعارف والمعلومات بين المسؤولين وأصحاب الاختصاص في المنطقة، وأن تساعدها الدول الأعضاء في التحضير للمشاركة في المنتديات والمؤتمرات الدولية التي تعقد للبحث في القضايا ذات الأولوية.

جميع المنشورات المدرجة في هذا الدليل متاحة على موقع الإسكوا عبر شبكة الإنترنت (www.escwa.un.org)، الذي يعرض أيضاً معلومات حول الأنشطة التي تنشط بها. وغالبية هذه المنشورات تصدر باللغتين العربية والإنكليزية لكي تصل إلى أكبر شريحة ممكنة من القراء.

وأتمنى أن يلقى القراء في هذه المجموعة كل متعة وفائدة.

ريما خلف
وكيلة الأمين العام للأمم المتحدة والأمينة التنفيذية للإسكوا
ESCWA forms part of the United Nations Secretariat and, like the four other regional commissions, operates under the supervision of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

ESCWA, which was initially named ECWA (Economic Commission for Western Asia), was established on 9 August 1973 pursuant to ECOSOC resolution 1818 (LV) for the purpose of raising the level of economic activity of the countries in Western Asia and strengthening cooperation among them. It was also intended to meet the need of those countries for the services of a regional economic commission in order to promote the development efforts in the region.

In recognition of the social component of its work, ECWA was entrusted with new responsibilities in the social field pursuant to ECOSOC resolution 1985/69 of 26 July 1985. Its name therefore became the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA).

ESCWA has been located in a number of Arab capitals. It started in Beirut, its permanent headquarters (1974-1982), moved to Baghdad (1982-1991), then to Amman (1991-1997), and returned to Beirut in 1997.

As of 2012, ESCWA counts 17 members. They are, in alphabetical order: Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates and Yemen.
Office of the Executive Secretary
مكتب الأمينة التنفيذية
Arab Integration: A 21st Century Development Imperative

Around the world, even the greatest powers have opted to be part of larger regional entities in order to manage globalization and the competition it brings. Meanwhile, Arab countries which share a common historical, cultural and spiritual heritage and are bound by one language remain fragmented and divided and try to face individually external pressures, domestic challenges and emerging risks, in a world growing more interconnected and complex each day.

This report calls for a comprehensive integration, which rests on three pillars: stronger political cooperation for good governance and effective external diplomacy; deeper economic integration to reap benefits for all Arab countries; and more extensive educational and cultural reform to root out lodged constraints and enable Arab knowledge societies to thrive. The report argues that nothing less will answer the awakened call of the Arab people for justice, opportunities and freedom as heard during the recent wave of popular protests across the region. It demonstrates that comprehensive integration, properly managed, can benefit all the Arab countries without creating winners and losers. It emphasizes, moreover, that an integrated Arab region will not close itself to the world but seek to consolidate relations with other regional groups and bring together the best achievements of its own history with those of other civilizations.

Key subjects:
Arab customs union; Arab development funds; Arab Economic Unity Agreement; Arab identity; Arab popular solidarity; Comprehensive integration; External interference; Free movement of people; Greater Arab Free Trade Area; Intraregional investments; Joint Arab action; Knowledge acquisition; League of Arab States; Occupation; Pan-Arab institutions; Pan-Arab projects; Popular revolts; Stages of economic integration; Scenarios for Arab economic integration

E/ESCWA/OES/2013/3
Arab Integration: A 21st Century Development Imperative

Summary

This is the summary of the report presented in the previous page of this Catalogue.

It is a 32-page publication that gives an overview of Arab integration as advocated in the report and includes the following titles: Why integration; Shortcomings in joint Arab action; Peoples precede Governments; A compound crisis of fragmentation; The Arab popular revolts: bridge to integration or additional barrier; Economic integration paves the way for comprehensive integration; Obstacles to Arab integration; Consequences of the status quo; and The three freedom goals.

Key subjects:
Arab customs union; Arab development funds; Arab Economic Unity Agreement; Arab identity; Arab popular solidarity; Comprehensive integration; External interference; Free movement of people; Greater Arab Free Trade Area; Intraregional investments; Joint Arab action; Knowledge acquisition; League of Arab States; Occupation; Pan-Arab institutions; Pan-Arab projects; Popular revolts; Stages of economic integration; Scenarios for Arab economic integration

E/ESCWA/OES/2013/3/Summary
تقرير الإسكوا السنوي 2013

As ESCWA marked its fortieth anniversary in 2013, it reiterated its commitment to work with member States towards prosperity and social justice in the Arab region. It reiterated the need for greater Arab integration, as an effective approach to tackle the challenges of transition. It incorporated regional integration as a key concern in every priority area of its work, whether access to knowledge and technology, just and equitable economic development, empowerment of Arab women, sustainable management of natural resources, development in the face of crises and instability, poverty alleviation or youth engagement.

ESCWA held a series of discussions throughout 2013 with Governments and civil society actors in the region, to build consensus on political and economic courses of action by capitalizing on the outcomes of political transitions. It continued to lead the intergovernmental process to identify sustainable development goals at the regional level, coordinating closely with the League of Arab States, and to ensure that the approach to development beyond 2015 is not only equitable, inclusive and sustainable, but also regionally sensitive. In addition, its work on gender equality and the empowerment of women produced the unanimous adoption of the Kuwait Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women. The 2013 Annual Report provides an overview of those activities and major achievements in various areas.

Key subjects:
Equitable growth and sustainability; Food, water and energy security; Gender-sensitive policies; Good governance and resilience; Institutional development; Knowledge and technology; Participation and citizenship; Partnerships; Regional integration; Sustainable infrastructure

E/ESCWA/OES/2014/1
A Regional Perspective on the Post-2015 United Nations Development Agenda

As the world approaches the deadline for the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), the five regional commissions have come together to propose a joint regional perspective on the post-2015 United Nations development agenda. This report, which has been coordinated by ESCWA in close cooperation with the other four regional commissions, identifies key priority areas that address regional specificities to be incorporated within the global development agenda.

The report analyses the political and socioeconomic context in which the current MDG agenda was formulated and the challenges and opportunities it presented. Assessing the progress achieved in the implementation of MDGs, the report concludes that greater regional cooperation is needed to effectively address economic, social and environmental challenges. It stresses that, in this endeavour, the United Nations regional commissions play an important intermediary role as institutional conduits between the national and global levels. Generating employment, tackling inequality, adopting a more comprehensive approach to environmental sustainability and promoting democratic governance are among the main recommendations of the report.

Key subjects:
Acceleration method for assessing MDG progress; Democratic governance; Employment generation; Environmental sustainability; Inequality gap; Quantifying development; Regional priority development issues

E/ESCWA/OES/2013/2
The year 2012 was a year of contrast in the Arab region. Transition to democracy in many Arab countries contrasted with socioeconomic challenges, and occupation and conflict and their ramifications. Despite significant progress in meeting the Millennium Development Goals, the region continued to suffer from persistent poverty and inequality, high levels of unemployment, governance deficits and the erosion of human welfare. With emerging new realities in the region, ESCWA realigned its programmes and priorities, strengthened existing partnerships and forged new ones to provide the most relevant support to member States in their efforts to achieve development.

Throughout 2012, countries in transition benefited from ESCWA activities designed to strengthen state institutions, support national dialogue processes and increase transparency in the management of public services. The activities have also focused on financing for development, reducing poverty, promoting trade and regional integration and empowering women and youth. The 2012 Annual Report provides an overview of those activities and major achievements in various areas.

Key subjects:
- Advancement of women;
- Conflict mitigation and development;
- Economic development and integration;
- Information and communication technology for regional integration;
- Integrated management of natural resources for sustainable development;
- Integrated social development;
- Planning, partnership and technical cooperation;
- Statistics for evidence-based policymaking.

E/ESCWA/OES/2013/1
Sustainable Development and Productivity Division
شعبة التنمية المستدامة والإنتاجية
The Role of Renewable Energy in Mitigating Climate Change in the ESCWA Region

The phenomenon of climate change is a matter of grave concern for the whole world, adversely affecting sustainable development and imperilling the future of humankind. Despite the fact that the Arab region has never been responsible for climate change, it is expected to be one of the most affected regions, with its water and food security endangered by desertification and water scarcity, along with the rise in sea levels and the threat to the quality of groundwater.

This study explores the possibilities of mitigating climate change through the reduction of carbon dioxide emissions resulting from electricity generation in Arab countries, over a period extending until 2020. It provides information on the production of electricity from renewable energy sources, including solar and wind energy, which are abundant in the Arab region, as well as on geothermal and mechanical applications that do not require electrical power. It also considers the possible local manufacturing of equipment for renewable energy applications used to produce electricity and the importance of regional and international cooperation in this regard.

Key subjects:
Biomass energy; Carbon dioxide emissions in electricity production; Kyoto Protocol; Solar heating and cooling systems; Solar photoelectric (photovoltaic) energy; Thermal solar energy; Wind energy

E/ESCWA/SDPD/2012/1

E/ESCWA/SDPD/2012/1
Inventory of Shared Water Resources in Western Asia

This Inventory is the first effort led by the United Nations to comprehensively assess the state of transboundary surface and groundwater resources in the Middle East. ESCWA and the German Federal Institute for Geosciences and Natural Resources (BGR) developed the Inventory as a desk study, in close consultation with ESCWA member States, as well as regional and international experts.

The Inventory follows a standardized structure, with 9 surface water chapters and 17 groundwater chapters that address hydrology, water resources development and use, international water agreements and transboundary water management efforts. The Inventory covers all rivers and groundwater resources shared between countries in the Middle East, boasting 60 new maps and over 200 figures, tables and boxes with recent, comprehensive data series, demonstrating the state and evolution of shared water resources in Western Asia.

Key subjects:
Acquifer; Groundwater; Management of shared water resources; Non-renewable water resources; Riparian countries; River basins; Surface water; Transboundary watercourse; Water quality; Water scarcity

E/ESCWA/SDPD/2013/Inventory

مسح الموارد المائية المشتركة في غربي آسيا (مسح المياه المشتركة)

هذا هو أول مسح شامل نجده الأمم المتحدة لموارد المياه السطحية والجوفية العابرة للحدود في الشرق الأوسط. وقد تعاونت الإسكوا مع المعهد الاتحادي لعلوم الأرض والموارد الطبيعية في إعداد هذا المسح كدراسة مكتبة بالتشاور الوثيق مع الدول الأعضاء في الإسكوا وخبراء إقليميين ودوليين.

ويتبع المسح بنية موحدة ويتكون من 9 فصول عن المياه السطحية و17 فصل عن المياه الجوفية تتناول الجوانب المتعلقة بالهيدرولوجيا، وتنمية الموارد المائية، وطرق استخدامها، والاتفاقيات الدولية المتعلقة بالمياه، والجهود المبذولة في إطار إدارة المياه العابرة للحدود. ويغطي المسح جميع الأنهار وموارد المياه الجوفية المشتركة بين بلدان الشرق الأوسط ويعرض 60 خريطة جديدة و200 شكل وجدول وإطار تضمن سلسلة بيانات شاملة عن حالة الموارد المائية المشتركة في غربي آسيا والتطورات التي شهدتها.

المواضيع الرئيسية:
الخزان الجوفي؛ المياه الجوفية؛ إدارة الموارد المائية المشتركة؛ الموارد المائية غير المتجددة؛ البلدان المنشطة؛ أحوال الآثار؛ المياه السطحية؛ المجرى المائي العابر للحدود؛ نوعية المياه؛ شع المياه.

بالإنكليزية فقط.
Monitoring the Transition to a Green Economy in the Arab Region
The SME Perspective

During the 2012 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), the international community has refined the definition of the green economy to make it more balanced, flexible and effective. In this new approach, green economy is defined by local, national and regional needs and priorities rather than being a top-down economic model. Thus, there is no single interpretation of the green economy, but rather various green economies.

This study reviews the progress achieved in the Arab region in adopting and implementing green economy policies in different sectors. It identifies various challenges and highlights potential opportunities for countries in the region to green their economies. While underlining the specificities of the region, the study proposes indicators to monitor the transition towards a green economy with a focus on small and medium enterprises (SMEs), given their central role in national economies.

Key subjects:
Eco-friendly policies; Environmental accounts; Environmental indices; Environmental legislation; Environmental statistics; Green buildings; Green economy; Green growth; Green industries; Renewable energy; Sustainable development; Water use

E/ESCWA/SDPD/2013/1
Green Agricultural Value Chains for Improved Livelihood in the Arab Region

There is an urgent need in the Arab region to develop effective agriculture and food sectors, particularly in the aftermath of the food price crisis of 2007-2008 and the food supply disruption which ensued. Value chains in the region are generally made up of small and scattered operators, in a process that is still unable to build sufficient economies of scale for the Arab countries to become active participants in the market.

This report presents a review and analysis of agricultural and food value chains in the Arab region with a view to informing and supporting the development of competitive agriculture and food sectors. It also explores available options for their development and greening. It argues that with appropriate support, national and regional food value chains and green processes could be developed, which will have a tremendous impact on rural livelihoods.

Key subjects:
Agricultural productivity; Agricultural trade; Agricultural value chains; Food packaging industry; Food waste; Green management practices; ISO (International Organization for Standardization) standards; Resource-use efficiency

E/ESCWA/SDPD/2013/2
Issues in Sustainable Water Resources Management and Water Services in the Arab Countries
ESCWA Water Development Report 5

The international community announced in 2012 that the global drinking water target set out in the Millennium Development Goals had been met five years ahead of schedule. However, the countries of the water-scarce Arab region still face the challenge of providing safe and sufficient water, and improved sanitation to their growing populations. Some countries nearly fully rely on desalination, while others are not able to secure sufficient investments to meet basic needs.

This Report examines developments in the area of monitoring water and sanitation services in the Arab region, in the light of global and regional debates on the preparation of the post-2015 development agenda. It emphasizes the need to adopt an approach that considers access to water and sanitation services a universal human right.

Key subjects:
Joint Monitoring Programme; MDG+ Initiative; Post-2015 development agenda; Rights-based approach to access to water supply and sanitation; Water resources management

E/ESCWA/SDPD/2013/4
Social Development Division
Active Labour Market Policies in Arab Countries

The recent popular uprisings in the Arab region have revealed the social and political costs of high unemployment, underemployment and informal labour, particularly among youth, and the need to develop and implement policies that can successfully enhance employment opportunities and inclusive socioeconomic development.

With the aim of informing and supporting public intervention in the labour markets, this study reviews the active labour market policies (ALMPs) in Arab countries and analyses the experience of the region in developing and implementing such policies. It examines the options, opportunities and constraints for the development of inclusive and efficient ALMPs.

**Key subjects:**
Active labour market policies; Employment subsidies; Gender gap; Labour intensity; On-the-job training; Public employment services; Public works programmes; Vocational training

E/ESCWA/SDD/2012/1
Economic Policy in the ESCWA Region and its Impact on Employment

In recent years, there has been considerable economic growth in most ESCWA member States; however, employment has not improved at the same pace. A better understanding of the interrelation between the structure of economic growth and employment dynamics will facilitate a broad-based economic growth conducive to job creation.

This report analyses the macroeconomic environment and economic policy framework of member States to identify key constraints under which labour-market policy operates. The report argues that insufficient job creation in the region is associated with distortionary state spending, high levels of public employment and weak institutional environments. It proposes that Governments consider policy options to promote private sector employment and activities.

Key subjects:
Bureaucracy; Diversification; Foreign direct investment; Market segmentation; Public finance; State spending; Worker remittances; Work ethics

E/ESCWA/SDD/2012/2
Towards a New Welfare Mix? 
Rethinking the Role of the State, the Market and Civil Society in the Provision of Social Protection and Social Services 
Integrating Social Policy Report V

When the long-simmering social crises in Arab countries erupted to the surface in 2011, the popular uprisings immediately shifted attention from the economic to the social field. Suddenly it became clear that years of substantial economic growth had not improved social outcomes and Governments rushed to increase public employment and wages, improve services, increase social transfers and invest in social infrastructure.

This report demonstrates that more sustainable ways to solve structural socioeconomic and political problems are needed, among them a different approach to social development that is inclusive of people of all ages, regions and income groups and that grants more equitable access to social protection and social services. The report explores the prevailing welfare mix in Arab countries, the contribution of private sector enterprises and civil society actors to social protection and social services and the related advantages and difficulties.

Key subjects:
Civil society provision of social services; Faith-based organizations; Out-of-pocket health expenditure; Private sector provision of social services; Rights-based approach; Social protection floor; Waqf; Welfare policies; Zakat

E/ESCWA/SDD/2013/1
Arab countries are currently undergoing profound age-structural transitions which will have significant implications for their development, both in the short and long terms. These changes bring with them the potential for large development gains if the right policies are in place.

This Report reviews the development policy implications of age-structural transitions in Arab countries and considers the economic and social policy reforms that Arab countries can undertake to benefit from the time-limited demographic window of opportunity.

Key subjects:
Age-structural transition; Child social protection benefits; Distribution of the labour force; Financial policies; Gender equality; Labour market policies; National development plan; Post-2015 development agenda; Social expenditure; Social protection systems; Social solidarity; Unemployment benefits; Youth unemployment

E/ESCWA/SDD/2013/2
The Promises of Spring
Citizenship and Civic Engagement in Democratic Transitions

The Arab region today stands at the most critical juncture of its modern history. Waves of uprisings have reasserted the right of Arab citizens to participatory governance and to hold governing bodies accountable. Rooted in pervasive structural problems, these events present tremendous challenges in the short, medium and long terms.

Focusing on specific case studies, this publication reviews the overall context of the uprisings and analyses the demand for a social justice founded on the values of citizenship and the right to self-determination. It highlights the new social movements that have emerged and their potential for influencing future agendas. The publication also assesses the mechanisms available to civil society organizations, including syndicates and labour unions, for addressing such key challenges as transitional justice and participating in policymaking. It concludes with a set of recommendations for establishing an inclusive infrastructure for civic engagement and consensus-building.

Key subjects:
Accountability; Civil state; Consensus-building; Crisis management; Institutional reform; Pluralism; Political transition; Reintegration; Social cohesion; Social contract; Social justice; Social protection; Transitional justice; Welfare state

E/ESCWA/SDD/2013/3
Economic Development and Globalization Division
شعبة التنمية الاقتصادية والعولمة
The Arab region has made impressive progress towards many Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), particularly in education. Achievements, however, were uneven among and within Arab countries. Major deficits are still recorded in targets related to hunger, infant and maternal mortality, and access to water.

This report stresses that MDG lessons from the Arab region could serve as a reference for the global debate on the post-2015 development agenda. The fact that some of the countries that witnessed popular uprisings were among the leading MDG achievers in the region raises important questions about critical issues that have been overlooked by the MDG framework. To better capture the aspirations of the people of the region, the report argues that the post-2015 development agenda should have good governance as one of its core pillars. It should also emphasize the quality, not just the quantity of development, empower women and reduce inequalities to foster development for all.

Key subjects:
Child mortality; Environmental sustainability; Extreme poverty eradication; Gender equality; Global partnership for development; HIV/AIDS; Malaria; Maternal health; Universal primary education; Women’s empowerment
E/ESCWA/EDGD/2013/1
Facing Challenges and Looking Beyond 2015
The Arab Millennium Development Goals Report
Summary

This is the summary of the report presented in the previous page of this Catalogue.

It is a 46-page publication which summarizes and provides an assessment of the achievements related to each of the eight Millennium Development Goals in the Arab region. It also gives policy directions for a post-2015 regional development agenda.

Key subjects:
Child mortality; Environmental sustainability; Extreme poverty eradication; Gender equality; Global partnership for development; HIV/AIDS; Malaria; Maternal health; Universal primary education; Women’s empowerment

E/ESCWA/EDGD/2013/1/Summary
Survey of Economic and Social Developments in the Arab Region 2012-2013

Arab countries exhibited increasing polarization in their development paths in 2012 and 2013. Major energy exporters, namely Gulf Cooperation Council countries, are recovering from the global economic crisis, owing to an expansionary fiscal and monetary policy mix; while net energy-importing countries are struggling to stabilize their economies amid worsening foreign exchange constraints. Political instability and social unrest were among the main causes of this polarization, as they further obstructed the flow of intraregional funds from the energy-exporting to the energy-importing countries of the region.

The Survey indicates that the immediate policy challenge for the Arab region is to create employment without relying on an expansionary fiscal and monetary policy mix. It highlights several policy options to tackle this policy challenge, even in the highly uncertain situation surrounding socioeconomic development in the region. In parallel to specific policy proposals, the Survey emphasizes the importance of regional integration to halt the polarization and stabilize the socioeconomic development paths of all Arab countries.

Key subjects:
Elasticity of employment to growth; Female employment; Gross domestic product; Growth; Inequality; Inflation; Informal employment; MIRAGE model; Oil export revenues; Poverty; Public expenditure; Socioeconomic trends; Tax revenues; Unemployment; Wages; Women in parliament; Women's wages

E/ESCWA/EDGD/2013/3

مسح التطورات الاقتصادية والاجتماعية في المنطقة العربية 2012-2013

شملت الفترة 2012-2013 فوائد متزايدة بين اقتصادات البلدان العربية ومساراتها الإقتصادية. معظم البلدان المصدرة للطاقة، ولا سيما بلدان مجلس التعاون الخليجي، سارت بخطى ثابتة نحو الانتعاش الاقتصادي عقب الأزمة الاقتصادية العالمية، باعتماد حزمة من السياسات المالية والنقديّة التوسعية. أما البلدان المستوردة للطاقة في المنطقة، فتجاوزت من أجل تحقيق الاستقرار الاقتصادي في ظل تناقص مخزونها من العملات الأجنبية. وكان عدم الاستقرار السياسي والاضطرابات الاجتماعية من الأسباب الرئيسية التي أدّت إلى هذا التفاوت الكبير في التنمية بين بلدان المنطقة. وذلك بفعل وقوع بعض الفوارق بين البلدان المصدرة للطاقة إلى البلدان المستورة للطاقة في المنطقة.

وهذا المسح يشير إلى أن التحدي المباشر الذي يطرده هذا الوضع أمام معظم البلدان العربية يتمثل في خلق فرص عمل من دون الاعتماد على حزمة من السياسات المالية والنقديّة التوسعية. ويعتبر عددًا من الحلول للتحدي لدى هذا التحدي من أبرز الظروف متلازمة وتحديداً للتنمية الاقتصادية والاجتماعية. ويؤكد المسح أهمية التكامل الإقليمي في الحد من التفاوت وفي تحقيق الاستقرار في مسارات التنمية الاقتصادية والاجتماعية في جميع البلدان العربية.

المواضيع الرئيسية:
تأثر النمو في البلدان المصدرة للطاقة بالنمو في البلدان المستوردة للطاقة؛ التحديات الاقتصادية والاجتماعية في البلدان المصدرة للطاقة.

E/ESCWA/EDGD/2013/3
Survey of Economic and Social Developments in the Arab Region 2012-2013

Summary

This is the summary of the Survey presented in the previous page of this Catalogue.

It is a 14-page publication that presents the global economic and social context of the Arab region, developments in the oil sector, regional economic trends and policy developments, in addition to the conclusion.

Key subjects:
Elasticity of employment to growth; Gross domestic product; Growth; Inequality; Inflation; Informal employment; Oil export revenues; Poverty; Public expenditure; Socioeconomic trends; Tax revenues; Unemployment; Wages

E/ESCWA/EDGD/2013/2
Survey of Aid Effectiveness in the Arab Region

This Survey reviews the policies and mechanisms of aid flow in recipient Arab countries to assess their effectiveness on the basis of the principles and indicators of the Paris Declaration. It also reviews the activities, policies and trends of donor countries in allocating official development assistance (ODA).

The Survey examines good practice in managing ODA in selected recipient Arab countries, as well as the legislative, institutional and policy frameworks governing it. It offers recommendations to improve the management and coordination of aid flow in order to maximise the ODA impact on the economic and human development of recipient Arab countries.

Key subjects: Accra Agenda for Action; Aid Management Programme; Donor country; Grant; International Aid Transparency Initiative; Loan; Official development assistance; Paris Declaration; Platform for Aid Effectiveness; Recipient country

E/ESCWA/EDGD/2012/3
Progress Achieved by ESCWA Member Countries towards the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus

While 2010 was, for ESCWA member countries, a year of recovery from the effects of the global financial crisis, 2011 witnessed continued global economic recession and popular movements in some Arab countries, which led to a downturn in economic growth rates in most member countries. These challenges and changes have added pressure on Governments to implement the commitments set out in the 2002 Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development and reaffirmed in 2008.

This study examines the progress achieved by member countries between 2006 and 2012 towards implementing the Monterrey Consensus amidst the ongoing repercussions of the global financial crisis, global inflation, economic recession and popular movements. It also offers a set of recommendations with regard to each of the six priority areas of financing for development contained in the Monterrey Consensus.

Key subjects:
Debt management; Domestic resources; External debt; Foreign direct investment; International resources; Liberalization of international trade; Official development assistance; Taxation system; Worker remittances

E/ESCWA/EDGD/2012/5
Public-Private Partnerships for Infrastructure Development in the Arab Region

The Arab region has been relatively weak in mobilizing private capital to finance larger infrastructure projects, compared to other parts of the world. The ongoing political transition is constraining the decision-making process and preventing many Governments from committing to such long-term projects as infrastructure development and public-private partnerships (PPPs). In addition, security concerns and political uncertainty have discouraged investors.

This study proposes the establishment of an Arab PPP platform and a proactive involvement of ESCWA to advise Governments on good practice and assist them in identifying domestic projects to be carried out through PPPs; creating regulatory and institutional frameworks for the development of PPPs; building the capacity of the public sector to implement PPP projects; and providing support to cross-border PPP projects. The study argues that, working together, countries can spread the load of infrastructure development among regional stakeholders.

Key subjects:
Financing infrastructure; Fiscal capacity indicator; Foreign direct investment; Gross domestic product; Public gross fixed capital formation; Public-private partnership

E/ESCWA/EDGD/2013/4

المشترك بين القطاعين العام والخاص لتنمية البنية التحتية

في المنطقة العربية

كان أداء المنطقة العربية ضعيفاً نسبياً في استقطاب رؤوس الأموال من القطاع الخاص لتمويل المشاريع الكبرى في البنية التحتية، مقارنةً مع مناطق أخرى في العالم، والمراحل الانتقالية التي تمر بها بعض بلدان المنطقة تضع مزيداً من الضغوط على صانعي القرار الذين لا يستطيعون الالتزام بمشاريع طويلة الأمد كتطوير البنية التحتية وإقامة الشراكات بين القطاعين العام والخاص. كما أن عدم استقرار الوضع الأمني والسياسي يزيد من تخوف المستثمرين.

هذة الدراسة تقتني إنشاء برنامج للشراكات العربية بين القطاعين العام والخاص ودوراً نشطاً للإسكوا في إطار هذا البرنامج، حيث تقوم بإعداد المشورة للحكومات بشأن الممارسات الجيدة ومساعدتها على تحديد المشاريع المحلية التي يمكن تنفيذها بالشراكة مع القطاع الخاص; وضع الأطر التنظيمية والمستندية اللازمة لعقد الشراكات بين القطاعين العام والخاص; وبناء قدرات القطاع العام على تنفيذ المشاريع تقوم على هذه الشراكات; ودعم المشاريع العامة للحدود التي تقوم على هذه الشراكات. وتؤكد الدراسة أن البلدان العربية، إذا مرت جهودها، تستطيع تخفيف الضيف على كل منها بتفنانيم تطوير البنية التحتية فيما بين جميع الجهات المعنية في المنطقة.

المواضيع الرئيسية:
البنية الأساسية للتمويل؛ مؤشر القدرة على التمويل؛ الاستثمار الأجنبي المباشر؛ الناتج المحلي الإجمالي؛ تكوين رأس المال الثابت الإجمالي؛ الشراكة بين القطاعين العام والخاص.

(*) بالإنكليزية فقط.
Assessing the Financing Gap in the Arab Region

Financing is one of the core issues in international development. Many wealthy countries have agreed on the need to allocate 0.7 per cent of their national income to financing development in less developed countries. However, the pledges made by donors did not always materialize. At this critical time, when several Arab countries are experiencing significant instability, and as the deadline for the Millennium Development Goals is approaching, it is important to assess the financing gap in the Arab region.

This study evaluates the gap between what is needed and the resources that selected Arab countries have at their disposal. It also describes the types of financial flows contributing to development. It highlights key methodological considerations involved in calculating financing gaps and uses the balance-of-payments-constrained growth model to estimate the 2009 financing gap for selected Arab countries. The study proposes policy options to bridge financing gaps. It concludes that political stability, a sound macroeconomic environment and a solid investment climate are the three pillars of effective financing for development.

Key subjects:
Budget allocations; Financing gap; Foreign direct investment; Official development assistance; Portfolio investment; Worker remittance

E/ESCWA/EDGD/2013/5
Methodological Analysis and Implementation Assessment of the Agreement on International Roads in the Arab Mashreq

In recognition of the need to facilitate international road transport in the Arab region and to enhance cooperation, trade and tourism between Arab countries, the Agreement on International Roads in the Arab Mashreq was adopted in 2001 and signed by most ESCWA member States. These States sought to set up a work plan in order to establish and develop a green international road network that meets the future needs of transport and traffic.

This study reviews the overall implementation of the Agreement in signatory States, and proposes a systematic plan of action to monitor progress made in this regard, evaluate implementation and analyse obstacles and challenges.

Key subjects:
Economic and commercial integration; Integrated Transport System in the Arab Mashreq; Plan of implementation of the Agreement; Regional roads network; Routes; Technical specifications

E/ESCWA/EDGD/2013/6
Survey of Economic and Social Developments in the ESCWA Region 2011-2012

This Survey assesses the economic and social developments in the ESCWA region using data that became available by the second quarter of 2012. It finds that growth in gross domestic product (GDP) seems to diverge between major oil-producing countries and the rest of the countries of the region. Oil export revenues in the Gulf Cooperation Council countries marked an all-time high. However, subdued intraregional tourism, foreign direct investment and foreign portfolio investment impeded the spread of the positive spillover of oil revenues throughout the region.

The Survey emphasizes that this growth polarization deepens already uncertain prospects of economic and social development in a region that has the highest unemployment rate in the world. The Survey concludes that Arab integration is crucial to achieve a constructive economic and social transition.

Key subjects:
Cost-of-living subsidy; Crude oil production; Discretionary social spending; Economic slowdown; Expatriate labour; Fiscal expansion; Fiscal space; Foreign direct investment; Foreign exchange reserves; Geopolitical risks; Global demand; Household income; Housing allowances; More diversified economies; Private consumption; Public sector jobs; Public spending; Supply and demand; Youth unemployment

E/ESCWA/EDGD/2012/2
Survey of Economic and Social Developments in the ESCWA Region 2011-2012

Summary

This is the summary of the Survey presented in the previous page of this Catalogue.

It is a 13-page publication which examines recent economic and social development trends, and macroeconomic conditions and the situation of the labour market, and features the Survey conclusion.

Key subjects:
Cost-of-living subsidy; Crude oil production; Discretionary social spending; Economic slowdown; Expatriate labour; Fiscal expansion; Fiscal space; Foreign direct investment; Foreign exchange reserves; Geopolitical risks; Global demand; Household income; Housing allowances; More diversified economies; Private consumption; Public sector jobs; Public spending; Supply and demand; Youth unemployment

E/ESCWA/EDGD/2012/1

مسح التطورات الاقتصادية والاجتماعية في غربي آسيا

2011-2012

ملخص

هذا الملخص يوجز مضمون المسح المعروض في الصفحة السابقة من هذا الدليل.

يتكون الملخص من 13 صفحة ويتضمن عرضاً للتوجهات الحديثة في مجال التنمية الاقتصادية والاجتماعية، والعملة بين سياسات الاقتصاد الكلي وسوق العمل، بالإضافة إلى الختام.

المواضيع الرئيسية:
مساعدة لسد تكاليف المعيشة؛ إنتاج النفط الخام؛ الإنفاق الاجتماعي الاستنسابي؛ التباطؤ الاقتصادي؛ العمال الأجانب؛ التوسع المالي؛ الحيز المالي؛ الاستثمار الأجنبي المباشر؛ الاحتياطيات النقدية؛ الاستثمارات الأجنبية؛ الطلب العالمي؛ دخل الأسرة المعيشية؛ مساعدات الإسكان؛ البلدان ذات الاقتصاد الأكثر تنوعاً؛ الاستهلاك الخاص؛ فرص العمل في القطاع العام؛ الإنفاق العام؛ الإمدادات والطلب؛ بطالة الشباب

E/ESCWA/EDGD/2012/1
Technology for Development Division
شعبة التكنولوجيا من أجل التنمية
Impact of Selected E-Services on Socioeconomic Development in the Arab Region

Assessing the impact of information and communications technology (ICT) and e-services remains a relatively uncharted domain due to the absence of internationally agreed indicators. This hinders the ability of policymakers to properly evaluate the impact of ICT initiatives and adapt them to local conditions.

This study assesses the status of selected e-services in the Arab region. It uses existing indicators and frameworks to measure the availability and maturity of e-services and their impact on socioeconomic development. The study also proposes a framework by which e-services could impact socioeconomic outcomes and suggests policy initiatives to exploit the transformation potential of ICT, as well as innovation in e-services.

Key subjects:
Information society; E-government; Postal e-services; E-commerce; Mobile applications; Online shopping habits; ICT penetration rate

E/ESCWA/ICTD/2013/2
Competitiveness of the ICT Sector in the Arab Region
Innovation and Investment Imperatives

Developing countries have often focused on venture capital to boost investment in the information and communications technology (ICT) sector. Similarly, Arab countries seem to be very attentive to venture capital, launching many funds for the promotion of investment in the ICT sector. While those initiatives are a step in the right direction, they cannot succeed without investing in and improving broadband infrastructure, as well as upgrading the skills of the labour force.

This study sheds light on innovation and investment in the ICT sector and proposes policy measures to improve competitiveness in the Arab region. It identifies five major determinants of a competitive ICT sector at the national level, namely infrastructure, education, institutional quality, innovation, and investment. The study also explores the main drivers of investment, from institutional to market conditions, and investigates whether the business environment in the Arab region is favorable to the creation of a competitive ICT sector. It concludes with recommendations on ways to boost competitiveness, innovation, and investment in the ICT sector in the region.

Key subjects:
Cloud computing; Cyber legislation; Cyber security; Digital literacy; E-skills; Innovation; Innovation-friendly policies; ICT investment; Institutional quality; Open source software; Venture capital

E/ESCWA/ICTD/2013/4

Innovation and Investment Imperatives

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Key subjects:
Cloud computing; Cyber legislation; Cyber security; Digital literacy; E-skills; Innovation; Innovation-friendly policies; ICT investment; Institutional quality; Open source software; Venture capital

E/ESCWA/ICTD/2013/4

Launched 2012 by the ESCWA ICT Development Branch and the Arab ICT Forum.
Regional Profile of the Information Society in the Arab Region 2013

The information society, in which information is processed efficiently, including the production, exchange, adaptation and use of information, is the appropriate environment for achieving sustainable development and enhancing the quality of life for all citizens. However, the move towards the information society constitutes a real challenge to developing countries, particularly in view of the expanding digital divide with developed countries, thus rendering them increasingly vulnerable to a reduction of their productive and economic capacities.

Given that the information society is a path to sustainable development, ESCWA prepares the Regional Profile of the Information Society in the Arab Region biannually. The 2013 Regional Profile is the sixth in a series. It provides essential information on the status of the information society in Arab countries to assist decision-makers and researchers in analysis, policymaking and planning processes. National authorities can also use it as a reference to compare the current status of their information society with that of other countries in the region and the world, thereby facilitating regional integration in an increasingly knowledge-based global economy.

Key subjects:
Accessibility; Cybercrime; Cybersecurity; Digital content; E-signature; E-strategy; E-transaction; ICT applications; ICT infrastructure; Information society; Intellectual property rights; Internet infrastructure; Penetration rates; Software piracy

E/ESCWA/ICTD/2013/6
Review of Information and Communications Technology for Development in the Arab Region
Issue No. 20[*]

The main theme of this issue is best practices and trends in e-Government. It includes an article about new perspectives in e-Government initiatives for sustainable and participatory development; and a paper about indicators to measure e-Government services. In addition, the issue describes the potential opportunities of regional integration in e-Government services, and presents selected electronic payment systems and m-Government applications.

Finally, the issue features the joint statement of the United Nations Group on the Information Society for the post-2015 development agenda, and some of the 2012 digital Arabic content applications on mobile platforms. It also provides an overview of the World International Conference on Telecommunications.

Key subjects:
Digital Arabic content; E-government; E-Government Development Index; E-payment; Global Innovation Index; Information management; M-government; Participatory development; Social media

(*The publication is issued in Arabic, and also contains some articles in English.)
Review of Information and Communications Technology for Development in the Arab Region

Issue No. 19(*)

With the relative advancement of the digital Arabic content, most Arab countries are heading towards the knowledge economy, which offers great opportunities for solving the socioeconomic impasse in many Arab countries. This Review tackles issues related to research, development and innovation research, which play a central role in such economy. It presents business support models for building knowledge-based economies and highlights issues of privacy and intellectual property.

The Review also analyses the potential for regional integration through complementarity between similar industrial clusters in the information and communications technology (ICT) field. It presents the experience of the ESCWA Technology Centre in linking start-up companies to investors and outlines the ESCWA initiative to strengthen the Arab digital content industry. The Review highlights the achievements of the Arab Internet Governance Forum and the concepts, challenges and benefits of cloud computing. It also summarizes the ICT activities undertaken by ESCWA in the first half of 2013.

Key subjects:
Business incubators; Cloud computing; Digital Arabic content industry; ICT infrastructure; Internet governance; Knowledge economy; Research, development and innovation

(*)The publication is issued in Arabic, and also contains some articles in English.
Review of Information and Communications Technology for Development in the Arab Region
Issue No. 18[^1]

Cybercrime is an emerging global threat which affects developed and developing countries alike. This Review examines selected aspects of cybercrime and their effect on socioeconomic development in the Arab region. The Review presents the project on the regional harmonization of cyberlegislation undertaken by ESCWA, and stresses its importance in the fight against cybercrime.

The Review also addresses e-governance and its contribution to the economic development of the Arab region, in the light of international experiences in the field. It also presents the first global web index launched by the Web Foundation and discusses its results for the Arab region. This publication finally reviews the activities undertaken by ESCWA in the ICT field during the second half of 2012.

Key subjects:
Cybercrime; Cyberlegislation; E-business; E-governance; Hacktivism; Knowledge society; Netethic; Web index

[^1]: The publication is issued in Arabic, and also contains some articles in English.
The involvement of citizens and civil society in setting national priorities and informing Governments of their needs is fundamental for good governance. With the spread of information and communications technology (ICT) applications in the Arab region, which provide a platform for debate and participation, the use of electronic services has increased and citizens have become engaged electronically in the policymaking process, a concept known as electronic governance or e-governance, which complements e-government.

This Review tackles the transition to e-governance by empowering citizens to participate in the process through the use of ICT applications, in particular social media. It highlights means to invest the e-participation of citizens in the development of communities. It also reviews e-government services via mobile phone, and the status of e-government in the region. The publication finally reviews the activities undertaken by ESCWA in the ICT field during the first half of 2012.

**Key subjects:**
Citizen engagement; E-governance; E-government; E-Government Development Index; E-participation; Information exchange; Institutional environment; M-government; Open government; Transparency

(*)Arabic only.
Statistics Division
شعبة الإحصاء
Bulletin of Industrial Statistics for Arab Countries 2004-2010
Seventh Issue

This Bulletin provides detailed industrial statistics for Arab countries, including time series, for the period 2004-2010. It is divided into two parts. Part one contains summary tables on overall industrial trends, including the levels of output measured as the per capita value added at constant prices, the labour productivity measured as the share of value added at constant prices per employee, the size of the contribution made by industry to gross domestic product at producer price and the average wage of employees in Arab countries. Part two sets out tables of industrial statistics for each Arab country, namely data on the number of establishments and employees, wages and salaries, output, value added and industrial production index values.

Statistics in this publication were collected from national sources and were complemented from other sources when needed. The Bulletin of Industrial Statistics is jointly prepared by ESCWA and the Arab Organization for Industrial Development and Mining. It is issued biennially and shall serve as a reference for evidence-based analysis and policymaking by the public and private sectors, experts and researchers and regional and international organizations.

Key subjects:
Industrial production; Labour productivity; Manufacturing industries; Metadata; Mining and quarrying industries; Output; Value added

E/ESCWA/SD/2012/1

نشرة الإحصاءات الصناعية للبلدان العربية 2004–2010

توفر هذه النشرة بيانات إحصائية مفصلة وواقية عن الصناعة في البلدان العربية وفق سلسلة زمنية على مدى الفترة 2004–2010. وهي تتألف من جزأين: يتضمن الجزء الأول جداول عن الاتجاهات العامة في الصناعة، أي مستويات الإنتاج محسوبة بنصيب الفرد من القيمة المضافة للتصنيع بالأسعار الثابتة، وإنتاجية اليد العاملة محسوبة بمساهمة كل عامل في القيمة المضافة بالأسعار الثابتة، وحجم مساهمة الصناعة في الناتج المحلي الإجمالي بالأسعار الثابتة، ومتوسط أجور العمال. ويتضمن الجزء الثاني جداول عن الإحصاءات الصناعية، حيثما توفرت، لكل بلد من البلدان العربية، منها بيانات عن عدد المنشآت والعاملين والأجور والأجور والرواتب، والبيوت، والقيمة المضافة، وقيمة دليل الإنتاج الصناعي.

ويُجمع البيانات الواردة في النشرة من مصادر وطنية، واستُكملت من مصادر أخرى عند الاقتضاء. وتشترك الإسكوا مع المنظمة العربية للتنمية الصناعية والتعدين في إعداد نشرة الإحصاءات الصناعية ونشرها مرة كل سنتين. وفهي نشرة أن تكون مرجعاً للبيانات والمؤشرات الصناعية الدقيقة، يستخدمها القطاع الدولي والمحلي والباحثون، ومنظمات التنمية والدولية، في التحليل وصنع السياسات المرتبطة بالصناعة.

الموضوعات الرئيسية:
الإنتاج الصناعي؛ إنتاجية اليد العاملة؛ الصناعات التحويلية؛ البيانات الوصفية؛ الصناعات الاستخراجية، الإنتاج؛ القيمة المضافة

E/ESCWA/SD/2012/1
Arab Society: A Compendium of Social Statistics
Issue No. 11

This is the latest in a series of biennial compendia of social statistics prepared by ESCWA to provide a view of Arab societies and the changes they encounter over time. It presents data on population, employment, housing conditions, education, health and culture for the period 2012-2013, provided mainly from national statistical offices. Each issue of the Compendium focuses on a single theme; this issue pays special attention to education and presents education profiles for 14 of the 17 ESCWA member States, namely those for which data were available.

This Compendium is intended not only as a reference for policymakers and other officials, but also as a snapshot of trends in the region for readers with an interest in the social climate of the Arab region, including academics, students, journalists and the general public. In addition to the indicators presented in the publication, a more exhaustive set of tables can be found on the ESCWA website.

Key subjects:
Cultural statistics; Demographic statistics; Educational statistics; Employment statistics; Health statistics; Housing conditions; Labour statistics; Vital statistics

E/ESCWA/SD/2013/13

المجتمع العربي: مجموعة الإحصاءات الاجتماعية
العدد 11

هذه المجموعة من الإحصاءات الاجتماعية هي الإصدار الأحدث في سلسلة تصدرها الإسكوا كل سنتين للاستفادة لمدة من المجتمعات العربية وما تمثله من تغيّرات. وتتضمن المجموعة بيانات عن السكان، وفرص العمل، وظروف السكن، والتعليم، والصحة، والثقافة للفترة 2012-2013. تمّ جمعها بشكل رئيسي من المكاتب الإحصائية الوطنية. كل عدد من هذه السلسلة يركز على واحد من ذلك المواضيع. وهذا العدد يركز على التعليم، ويقدم عرضاً لملاحم قطاع التعليم في أربع عشرة دولة من الدول الأعضاء في الإسكوا، هي التي توفرت عنها البيانات.

والهدف من إعداد هذه المجموعة هو توفير مرجع إحصائي عن الملاحم والتوجهات المجتمعية في المنطقة العربية بسترشد به صانع القرار وغيرهم من المسؤولين، وكذلك الأكاديميون والطلاب والصحفيون وجمهور القراء عموماً. بالإضافة إلى الإحصاءات المنشورة في المجموعة، تتوفر جداول إحصائية شاملة على موقع الإسكوا على الإنترنت.

المواضيع الرئيسية:
الإحصاءات الثقافية؛ الإحصاءات الديمغرافية؛ الإحصاءات التربوية؛ إحصاءات العمالة؛ الإحصاءات الصحية؛ الوضعية السكنية؛ إحصاءات العمل؛ الإحصاءات الحيوية

E/ESCWA/SD/2013/13
This Bulletin provides data and statistics on population size and composition in the Arab region, and on vital events, including fertility, mortality, marriages and divorces, for the period 2000-2012. Data were compiled from national sources including registration systems, censuses and surveys, and complemented from replies to a questionnaire prepared by ESCWA. The accuracy and reliability of these data have been verified.

The objective of this Bulletin is to encourage countries to produce and disseminate high quality data on population and vital events, which are needed for better planning. It also aims to meet the needs of data users, especially researchers, academics and others working in the fields of population, reproductive health and development, for comprehensive information on population growth and dynamics.

Key subjects:
Births statistics; Civil registration; Demographic statistics; Divorce statistics; Fertility statistics; Marriage statistics; Mortality statistics; Vital statistics

E/ESCWA/SD/2013/8
Bulletin on Population and Vital Statistics in the Arab Region
Fifteenth Issue

This Bulletin presents data on population size and composition in the Arab region, and on vital events, including fertility, mortality, marriages and divorces, for the period 2000-2011. Data were compiled from national sources, including surveys, censuses and vital registration systems, and were complemented from replies to a questionnaire prepared by ESCWA. The accuracy and reliability of these data have been verified.

The objective of this Bulletin is to encourage countries to produce and disseminate high quality data on population and vital events, which are needed for better planning. It also aims to meet the needs of data users, especially researchers, academics and others working in the fields of population, reproductive health and development, for comprehensive information on population growth and dynamics.

Key subjects:
Births statistics; Civil registration; Demographic statistics; Divorce statistics; Fertility statistics; Marriage statistics; Mortality statistics; Vital statistics

E/ESCWA/SD/2012/2
External Trade Bulletin of the Arab Region
Twenty-Second Issue

This Bulletin presents data and statistical indicators on external and intraregional trade in goods in ESCWA member States. Data are presented in time series until 2012 and were drawn primarily from national sources, and from secondary sources when needed. The Bulletin aims to assist policymakers, analysts, researchers and other users at the national, regional and international levels.

The Bulletin comprises three parts. Part I is on external trade and contains tables on annual trade growth rates in the region, the total values of imports and exports and the percentage of those values according to the Harmonized Commodity Description and coding System (HS). Part II is on intraregional trade and contains tables on intraregional imports and exports as a share of total imports and exports by country and by HS section. Part III is on the trends of trade and contains tables on the imports and exports of each country with major countries and economic groupings in the world.

Key subjects:
Exports; Foreign trade; Imports; Intraregional trade; Trade statistics; Time-series analysis

E/ESCWA/SD/2013/9
نشرة التجارة الخارجية للمنطقة العربية
العدد الحادي والعشرون

تتضمّن هذه النشرة بيانات ومؤشرات إحصائية عن التجارة الـourcing والتجارة الخارجية الدولية بالإضافة إلى الدول الأعضاء في الإسكوا. وتترد البيانات في سلاسل زمنية تمتد لغاية عام 2011، جمعت من مصادر وطنية بشكل رئيسي وأخرى ثانوية حسب الاقتضاء. وهذه النشرة موجهة إلى واضعي السياسات والمحللين والباحثين على الصعد المحلية والإقليمية والدولية.

وتتألف النشرة من ثلاثة أجزاء: يتناول الجزء الأول إحصائيات التجارة الخارجية الدولية، ويتضمن جداول عن معدل النمو السنوي للتجارة في المنطقة وصة إجمالي قيمة الـourcing والتصادقات ونسبتها المئوية. ويتضمن جداول عن النظام الإسقاطي وتصنيف السلع الأساسية وترقيمها.

وينقسم الجزء الثاني للتجارة الإقليمية العربية، ويتضمن جداول عن النظام الإسقاطي وتصنيف السلع الأساسية وتصنيف السلع، وذلك في كل بلد وفقاً لأقسام النظام الإسقاطي. أما الجزء الثالث فيتناول الاتجاهات التجارية الدولية، ويتضمن جداول عن اتجاهات التجارة في المنطقة وصدور كل بلد مع أهم البلدان والكتلات الاقتصادية في العالم.

المواضيع الرئيسية:
- الصادرات: التجارة الخارجية؛ الـ sourcing؛ التصادقات، البيانات الإحصائية، تحليل السلاسل الزمنية

E/ESCWA/SD/2012/3
National Accounts Studies of the Arab Region
Bulletin No. 33

This publication presents available data on and ESCWA estimates of gross domestic product (GDP) at both current and constant prices, and the consolidated national accounts of each ESCWA member State during the period 2007-2012, in addition to estimated real GDP growth for 2013. It comprises three chapters. Chapter I contains tables on annual growth rates of real GDP, GDP at constant and current prices, GDP per capita, national disposable income per capita, gross capital formation and percentage of net exports to GDP. Chapter II presents consolidated national accounts for each member State in national currency at current prices. Chapter III reviews economic growth in real terms after eliminating the effect of price inflation and contains tables of GDP by expenditure and economic activity.

Data for this publication were primarily collected from national statistical offices and other official sources, as well as from country responses to questionnaires prepared by ESCWA. This publication was prepared to serve as a reference for economists, social researchers and planners.

Key subjects:
Capital formation; Consumption; Economic growth; Foreign exchange rates; Gross domestic product; Income distribution; National accounts; National income

E/ESCWA/SD/2013/11

E/ESCWA/SD/2013/11

Dr. يشترط هذه النشرة تقديرات الإسكوا والبيانات المتاحة حول الناتج المحلي الإجمالي بالأسعار الجارية والثابتة للبلدان العربية; والحسابات القومية الموحدة لكل من هذه البلدان خلال الفترة 2007-2012، بالإضافة إلى تقديرات نمو الناتج المحلي الإجمالي الحقيقي لعام 2013. وهي تتألف من ثلاثة فصول. فصل أول يحتوي على جداول عن معدلات النمو السنوي للناتج المحلي الحقيقي، والناتج المحلي الإجمالي بالأسعار الثابتة والثابتة، ونسبة الصادرات الناتج المحلي الإجمالي. وفصل ثاني يحتوي على الحسابات القومية الموحدة لكل من الدول الأعضاء بالعملات الوطنية. وفصل ثالث يعرض النمو الاقتصادي في القيمة الحقيقية بعد إزالة تأثير التضخم، ويحتوي على جداول عن الناتج المحلي الإجمالي في كل من الدول الأعضاء بالعملات الوطنية وأسعار جبارة، ونسبة الصادرات الناتج المحلي الإجمالي بعد إزالة تأثير التضخم، ويحتوي على جداول عن الناتج المحلي الإجمالي بعد إزالة تأثير التضخم، ونسبة الصادرات الناتج المحلي الإجمالي بعد إزالة تأثير التضخم. وقد جمعت معظم البيانات من أجهزة الإحصاء الوطنية وغيرها من المصادر الرسمية، بالإضافة إلى ردود البلدان على استبيانات أعداها الإسكوا. وأعدت هذه النشرة لتكون مرجعًا لعلماء الاقتصاد وواضعين الخطط الاجتماعية والباحثين.

المواضيع الرئيسية:
تكوين نمو الناتج المحلي الإجمالي; النمو الاقتصادي; الناتج المحلي الإجمالي; الناتج المحلي الإجمالي.; توزيع الدخل; الحسابات القومية.; الدخل القومي.

E/ESCWA/SD/2013/11
This publication presents data on and ESCWA estimates of gross domestic product (GDP) at both current and constant prices, and the consolidated national accounts of each ESCWA member State during the period 2007-2011; in addition to estimated real GDP growth for 2012. It comprises three chapters. Chapter I contains tables on annual growth rates of real GDP, GDP at constant and current prices, GDP per capita, national disposable income per capita, gross capital formation and percentage of net exports to GDP. Chapter II presents consolidated national accounts for each member State in national currency at current prices. Chapter III reviews economic growth in real terms after eliminating the effect of price inflation and contains tables of GDP by expenditure and economic activity.

Data for this publication were primarily collected from national statistical offices and other official sources, as well as from country responses to ESCWA questionnaires. This publication was prepared to serve as a reference for economists, social researchers and planners.

Key subjects:
Capital formation; Consumption; Economic growth; Foreign exchange rates; Gross domestic product; Income distribution; National accounts; National income

E/ESCWA/SD/2013/1
Economic development in the Arab region is accompanied by an over exploitation of natural resources. This has adverse effects on the environment, particularly in terms of diminishing water resources, deteriorating air and water quality, land degradation and loss of biodiversity, all of which affect the sustainability and quality of life of the Arab people. Compiling and disseminating environmental statistics and indicators is essential for evidence-based policymaking. This issue of the Compendium provides an overview of the efforts made by the region to collect such data in the period 2012-2013, and addresses the most important environmental issues and concerns of relevance to the region.

The Compendium presents statistics on freshwater resources and management, fisheries production and availability, biodiversity and its contribution to national economies, waste management, air pollution, as well as energy consumption, including figures on oil, natural gas and electricity consumption in each country, and averages for the Arab region and the Gulf Cooperation Council subregion. The Compendium also presents statistical data on access to improved water and sanitation as regards goal 7 (ensuring environmental sustainability) of the Millennium Development Goals.

Key subjects:
Air pollution; Biodiversity; Emissions; Energy consumption; Fishery; Forests; Freshwater; Ozone-depleting substances; Sanitation; Waste management; Water treatment
E/ESCWA/SD/2013/4
A Study of Age Reporting in Selected Arab Censuses of Population

Age misreporting continues to be a problem in censuses of population in Arab countries, and it is more severe for women than it is for men. This study provides an overview of census-taking in the Arab region, and assesses the accuracy of age-sex reporting and patterns of digit preference in recent population censuses in some Arab countries, at both the national and subnational levels.

Using micro data files from recent population censuses in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Morocco, Palestine and the Sudan, the study provides a district-level analysis of age misstatement (heaping) in population censuses in the region and examines the association between age heaping and such characteristics as literacy, sex, area of residence and household wealth. District-level analysis of census data shows that literacy is the best predictor of age heaping, followed by household wealth.

Key subjects:
Age heaping; Age-sex accuracy index; Bachi index; Census-taking methods; Population age structure; Population pyramid; Myers index; Whipple index (index of concentration)

E/ESCWA/SD/2013/5
Globalization and rapidly expanding financial sectors in the Arab region have increased the importance of short-term economic indicators that enable policymakers to analyze economic performance and provide a basis for the preparation of future performance forecasts. These indicators comprise a range of statistical series that are generally compiled and disseminated on a daily, weekly, monthly or quarterly basis.

This publication proposes a core set of short-term economic indicators of appropriate quality and timeliness that reflect the priorities of Arab countries, in accordance with international statistical standards and established practices. The study outlines the scope of indicators for future national capacity development initiatives in the region and sets a benchmark for the short-term economic indicators to be produced by Arab countries, with key quality components for each indicator.

Key subjects:
Accessibility; Accuracy; Business cycle; Comparability; Data quality; International statistical guidelines; Methodological issues; Periodicity; Short-term economic indicators; Timeliness

E/ESCWA/SD/2013/10
Statistical Abstract of the Arab Region
Issue No. 33

This issue of the Statistical Abstract of the Arab Region presents time series statistics and indicators on core areas of economic and social development in the Arab countries for 2013. It comprises twelve chapters on the following topics: population, labour force, education and illiteracy, health, gender equality, air pollution, energy, national accounts, industry, foreign trade, financial statistics and prices, and information and communications technology.

Facts and figures in the Statistical Abstract were drawn primarily from national statistical sources in Arab countries, country responses to questionnaires prepared by ESCWA and data issued by international organizations, mainly by specialized United Nations entities.

Key subjects:
Air pollution; Birth statistics; Information and communications technology; Demographic statistics; Divorce statistics; Education statistics; Employment statistics; Energy statistics; Financial statistics; Gender statistics; Health statistics; Illiteracy statistics; Industrial statistics; Labour statistics; Marriage statistics; Mortality statistics; National accounts; Trade statistics; Unemployment statistics

E/ESCWA/SD/2013/12
This issue of the Statistical Abstract presents time series statistics and indicators on core areas of economic and social development in the Arab Region for 2012. It consists of twelve chapters on the following topics: population, labour force, education and illiteracy, health, gender equality, air pollution, energy, national accounts, industry, foreign trade, financial statistics and prices, and information and communications technology.

Facts and figures of the Statistical Abstract were drawn primarily from national statistical sources in Arab countries, responses to questionnaires prepared by ESCWA and data issued by international organizations, mainly by specialized United Nations entities.

Key subjects:
- Air pollution
- Birth statistics
- Information and communications technology
- Demographic statistics
- Divorce statistics
- Education statistics
- Employment statistics
- Energy statistics
- Financial statistics
- Gender statistics
- Health statistics
- Illiteracy statistics
- Industrial statistics
- Labour statistics
- Marriage statistics
- Mortality statistics
- National accounts
- Trade statistics
- Unemployment statistics

E/ESCWA/SD/2013/2
Addressing Barriers to Women’s Economic Participation in the Arab Region

The rate of the economic participation of women in the Arab region is lower than in any other region of the world. Ongoing debates on the issue have emphasized the failure to turn the educational gains of the past decade into increased participation in the labour force.

This study offers a new reading of current data and key indicators on women’s employment and education attainments, so as to identify structural barriers and economic policies that have failed to take women’s needs and concerns into account and lacked a strategic vision to empower women economically. The study challenges the prevailing argument that the mismatch between women’s skills and labour-market demand accounts for their low economic participation. It argues that the socialization process and weak official commitment to international labour standards regarding gender equality have placed barriers to women’s economic participation. The study warns that, in the absence of protective regulatory and organizational measures, opportunities for Arab women in the labour market will remain limited.

Key subjects:
Discriminatory legislation; Engendering the learning environment; Equal pay; Gender equality; Gender needs; Gender roles; Maternity protection laws; Women empowerment; Women participation in the labour force; Women’s political representation

E/ESCWA/ECW/2012/1
Participation of Arab Women in Political Life
Challenges and Proposals

Most Arab States have ratified international human rights instruments that support women’s participation in various fields. Despite these positive developments, however, women remain underrepresented in governmental and local legislative and executive bodies and in decision-making processes. The active participation of women in popular movements that led to radical political changes in a number of Arab countries was seen as a first step towards changing the perception of women as inferior. Nevertheless, the elections that followed those movements did not reflect the role played by women in making the political changes.

This study examines the connections between the development of political systems and entities on the one hand, and social systems, customs and traditions on the other hand. It highlights the challenges and obstacles facing the active political participation of women, and proposes innovative practical mechanisms to empower them.

Key subjects:
Cultural barriers; Economic barriers; Ideological barriers; Institutional barriers; Psychological barriers; Women in elected councils; Women in executive authorities; Women in on-line activities; Women in popular uprisings

E/ESCWA/ECW/2013/1
Human trafficking is a flagrant violation of human rights. Statistics issued by international organizations on the extent and forms of human trafficking crimes are alarming and make evident not just the urgent need to combat trafficking in persons, but the necessity of understanding the factors that put women and children, especially young girls, at particular risk.

This publication examines the trafficking in persons within and among the countries of the Arab region, focusing on the primary victims of this crime, namely women and children. It examines the congruence of national laws in the region with applicable international instruments. It also reviews efforts undertaken by Governments and civil society institutions to protect victims of trafficking and prevent human trafficking through capacity-building, advocacy and awareness campaigns and data dissemination. It concludes with policy recommendations to combat this phenomenon at national and regional levels.

Key subjects:
Anti-trafficking laws; Child labour; Convention against Transnational Organized Crime; Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW); Convention on the Rights of the Child; Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children (TIP Protocol); Violence against women

E/ESCWA/ECW/2013/2

 Trafficking of Women and Children in the Arab Region
A Regional Perspective

الاتجار بالنساء والأطفال في المنطقة العربية
منظور إقليمي

الاتجار بالبشر انتهاك صارخ لحقوق الإنسان. والمنظمات الدولية والمنظمات الأهلية متفقون على أن هناك حاجة لمكافحة الاتجار بالبشر بشكل فعال. وتؤكد الحالة المثلية أن هناك حاجة لمكافحة الاتجار بالبشر بشكل فعال.

هذه الدراسة تتناول قضية الاتجار بالبشر في عدد من البلدان العربية وفيما بين هذه البلدان، وتركز على الضرورة الرئيسيين لهذا الاتجار، وهما النساء والأطفال. وتغطي في مدى تأثر القوانين الوطنية ذات الصلة في المنطقة العربية مع الصكوك الدولية، وتعرض الجهود التي تبذلها الحكومات لحماية ضحايا الاتجار بالبشر ومكافحة الاتجار بالبشر من خلال أنشطة بناء القدرات والمناصرة وعمليات التوعية وتعميم البيانات. وتخلص الدراسة إلى مجموعة من التوصيات في مجال السياسات العامة لمكافحة هذا الظاهرة على المستويين الوطني والإقليمي.

المواضيع الرئيسية:
قانوني مكافحة الاتجار بالبشر؛ عملة الأطفال؛ اتفاقية مكافحة الجريمة المنظمة عبر الحدود الوطنية؛ اتفاقية القضاء على جميع أشكال التمييز ضد المرأة؛ اتفاقية حقوق الطفل؛ بروتوكول منع وقمع ومعاقبة الاتجار بالأشخاص وحماية النساء والأطفال؛ العنف ضد المرأة

E/ESCWA/ECW/2013/2
Combating Violence against Women in the Arab Region
Multisectoral Efforts

Violence against women is no more a private matter; it is indeed a global issue to be tackled through appropriate laws, especially in the domestic sphere and in the areas of legal protection for the survivors, the judicial system and follow-up mechanisms.

This study analyses successful experiences and good practices in implementing the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. It outlines and evaluates the services available to women victims of violence in ESCWA member States with the aim of identifying the appropriate interventions and assist stakeholders in developing services in conformity with international standards. The study examines three types of services: protection, rehabilitation and prevention, offered by governmental and non-governmental organizations.

Key subjects:
- Counselling
- Government services for women victims of violence
- Hotline services
- Legal assistance
- Non-governmental services for women victims of violence
- Prevention programmes
- Protection services
- Referral system
- Rehabilitation services
- Shelter

E/ESCWA/ECW/2013/3
Combating Domestic Violence against Women and Girls
Policies to Empower Women in the Arab Region

Violence against women and girls remains a global phenomenon that is not confined to any particular geographical region, race, ethnicity, society, culture, age group or socioeconomic stratum. In the Arab region, laws pertaining to violence against women are not only dispersed among various sources, but more often than not contradictory. Even when legislation on combating violence against women is clearly established, the effectiveness of law-enforcement institutions in implementing such legislation remains in question.

This study examines the phenomenon of domestic violence against women and girls in the Arab region. It analyses its sociocultural and legal aspects and its economic impact and cost. It also reviews measures taken by Arab Governments to combat violence and the role of civil society organizations in addressing this problem at both the national and regional levels. The publication makes evidence-based policy recommendations to scale up government commitment to combat violence against women, particularly in the domestic sphere. The end goal is to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women in Arab societies.

Key subjects:
Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW); Convention on the Rights of the Child; Family “honour”; Female genital mutilation; Forms of domestic violence; Gender-responsive budgeting; Gender roles; Second Arab Childhood Plan; Violence against women and girls

E/ESCWA/ECW/2013/4

Combating Domestic Violence Against Women and Girls
Policies to Empower Women in the Arab region

مكافحة العنف المنزلي ضد المرأة والفتاة
سياسات تمكين المرأة في المنطقة العربية

العنف ضد المرأة والفتاة ظاهرة عالمية منتشرة على نطاق واسع، لا يمكن حصرها بعوامل محددة كالمنطقة الجغرافية أو العرق، أو المجتمع، أو الثقافة، أو الفئة العمرية، أو الطبقات الاجتماعية والاقتصادية. القوانين المتعلقة بالعنف ضد المرأة في المنطقة العربية ليست فقط مغيرة بين مصادر مختلفة، بل هي متضاربة في معظم الحالات. وحتى عندما تكون القوانين واضحة بشأن مكافحة العنف ضد المرأة، تكون المؤسسات المسؤولة عن التنفيذ غير فعالة.

هذا الدراسة تبحث في ظاهرة العنف ضد المرأة والفتاة في المنطقة العربية. يحلل جوانبها الاجتماعية والاقتصادية والقانونية، مع التركيز على آثارها وتكلفتها الاقتصادية. كما تحلل الإجراءات التي اتخذتها الحكومات العربية لمكافحة العنف، وتعرض دور المنظمات المجتمعية في هذا الإطار، على المستوى الوطني والإقليمي. وتتناول بعض النهج الفعالين، سعياً إلى تحقيق الهدف الكبير أي المساواة بين الجنسين وتمكين المرأة.

المواضيع الرئيسية:
اتفاقية القضاء على جميع أشكال التمييز ضد المرأة: اتفاقية حقوق الطفل; "شرف" العائلة; تشويه الأعضاء التناسلية الأنثوية (ختان الإناث); أشكال العنف العائلي: المزنة المزركية للقوانين بين الجنسين; أدوار الجنسين: النخبة العربية الثانية للطفلة; العنف ضد المرأة والفتاة

E/ESCWA/ECW/2013/4
Experiences of Arab Countries in Mainstreaming a Gender Perspective in Government Organizations

National mechanisms for the advancement of women in Arab countries strive to mainstream a gender perspective at all levels. To achieve this, they develop plans, strategies, initiatives and plans, as well as institutional and technical capacity-building programmes. In doing so, they take into account the concerns and needs of men and women and engage them in the preparation and implementation processes, with a view to maximizing their benefit from them.

This study highlights efforts undertaken by the national mechanisms for the advancement of women to mainstream a gender perspective in government organizations, national policies and legislation, in order to determine whether they have achieved their goals and overcome challenges. It highlights lessons learned and good practices and offers recommendations for policies to end discrimination against women and achieve gender equality.

Key subjects:
Accountability mechanisms; Equal opportunities; Gender mainstreaming; Gender-sensitive budgeting; Sex-disaggregated statistics

E/ESCWA/ECW/2013/5

تجارب البلدان العربية في إدمام مفهوم النوع الاجتماعي في المؤسسات الحكومية

تسعى الالتيات الوطنية للتهوض بالمرأة في البلدان العربية إلى إدمام مفهوم النوع الاجتماعي على جميع المستويات. لتحقيق ذلك، تجهد هذه الالتيات لوضع الاستراتيجيات والخطط وبناء المبادرات العملية، على نحو يأخذ في الاعتبار قضايا كل من الرجل والمرأة وبشكل معالجة في التخطيط لهذه الجهود لتفريق بين الجنسين. وتتفقها بقية تعزيز استنفادهم منها.

هذه الدراسة تسلط الضوء على جهود الالتيات الوطنية للتهوض بالمرأة لإدمام قضايا النوع الاجتماعي في المؤسسات الحكومية والسياسات والتشريعات الوطنية لتفريق مدى تحقيقها للأهداف التي سعت إليها، وإعداد التحديات التي واجهتها، واستخلاص الدروس منها وتنقيح القواعد البديلة من تجارب تلك الالتيات. وتقدم الدراسة مجموعة من التوصيات بشأن السياسات التي يمكن اعتمادها لضمان عدم التمييز ضد المرأة وتحقيق المساواة بين الجنسين.

المواضيع الرئيسية:
اليات المساءلة: تكافؤ الفرص بين الجنسين؛ إدمام مفهوم النوع الاجتماعي؛ الميزنة المراهية للجنسيين؛ الإحصاءات المصنفة حسب الجنس

E/ESCWA/ECW/2013/5
Emerging and Conflict-Related Issues Division
شعبة القضايا الناشئة والنزاعات
Short and Medium-Term Economic Challenges of the Arab Countries in Transition

People in the Arab countries in transition believe that a strong economy is as important as a well-functioning democracy. A successful transition process leading to sustainable, pro-growth, equitable and inclusive nations requires the implementation of both economic and political reforms. However, there is still a research gap on the economic challenges facing the Arab countries in transition, which makes it difficult to design sound and effective policies to improve growth rates and investment, create employment opportunities, combat corruption and reduce dependence on government subsidies.

This study analyses the short- and medium-term economic challenges and opportunities of the nascent transition process and explores methods for designing and adopting economic reforms that could ensure stability, inclusiveness and accountability. For that purpose, it gives an overview of the socioeconomic background of the Arab region. The study concludes with a set of recommendations tailored to the particularities of the region.

Key subjects:
Challenges of political transition; Education; Fiscal policy; Food security and subsidy systems; Health; Housing; Informal economy; Labour markets and policies; Labour migration; Military expenditure; Poverty and inequality; Social expenditure; Tax revenues; Trade development indicators

E/ESCWA/ECRI/2013/1
An Overview of the Arab Security Sector amidst Political Transition
A Reflection on Legacies, Functions and Perceptions

Many security services in the Arab countries do not utilize modern or computer-based administrative and management systems, and lack human resources and career development departments, let alone inspection offices to ensure discipline, or internal affairs sections to address public complaints. Security sector reform, especially in the Arab countries in transition, is therefore of crucial importance.

This study presents an overview of the status of the security sector in Arab countries in transition, highlighting its functions and working methods, as well as its underlying legacies and surrounding perceptions. It argues that ensuring the sustainability of governance reform in Arab countries in transition is inextricably linked to a new concept of the security sector, based on good governance principles. The study stresses that security services must change to serve the public rather than political interests and that a civilian oversight of the security sector is essential to ensure accountability, efficiency and professionalism.

Key subjects:
Civil Liberties; Confidence in the police force; Corruption Perceptions Index; Democracy Index; Democratization; Failed States Index; Freedom in the World Index; Oversight and accountability; Political Rights; Security sector support

E/ESCWA/ECRI/2013/2
Institutional Development and Transition
Decentralization in the Course of Political Transformation

The popular uprisings in several Arab countries have created a stronger momentum for revisiting the question of decentralization. However, demands for decentralization have unfolded along contrasting trajectories of the reform agendas in the Arab countries in transition. While youth demand deeper reforms including administrative, fiscal and political decentralization, many political leaders seem to be concerned about undermining state capacity. In addition, there is no consensus over prioritizing decentralization reforms during early phases of political transformation.

This study presents an analysis of local government systems and the prospects for decentralization reforms in post-popular-uprising Arab countries. It explores the possibilities and constraints facing decentralization in Arab countries in transition. Building on focus group discussions among working-class residents in Greater Cairo and interviews with Egyptian political elites, the study highlights a growing gap between youth expectations and the plans of the political elite. The study draws lessons from the successful record of decentralization in France and presents policy recommendations for countries that have emerged from the Arab uprisings with relatively strong centralized state structures and cohesive national identities.

Key subjects:
Accountability; Decentralization; Decentralization patterns in Arab countries; Democratization; Governance reform; Local government; Local government budgets in Egypt; Local government structure in Egypt; Local popular committees in Egypt; Participation; Post-government uprisings; State restructuring

E/ESCWA/ECRI/2013/3

المواضيع الرئيسية:
المستقبل: اللامركزية في البلدان العربية: إرساء الديمقراطية:
إصلاح الحكم: الحكومة المحلية: ميزانيات الحكومات المحلية في مصر: هيكلية الحكومات المحلية في مصر: اللجان الشعبية المحلية في مصر: المشاركة: المرحلة ما بعد اللامركزية العربية: إعادة هيكلة الدولة

E/ESCWA/ECRI/2013/3
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<th>Symbol and/or title</th>
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**Total US$**

**Return address:**

ESCWA  
Documents Distribution and Sales Unit  
P.O. Box 11-8575  
Beirut, Lebanon  
Tel.: 961-1-981301  
Fax: 961-1-981510  

Sales Office  
Room C-115  
Palais des Nations  
CH-1211 Geneva,  
Switzerland  
Fax: 4122-9178400  

Sales Office  
Room DC2-853  
Dept. 007C  
United Nations  
New York, NY 10017  
United States of America  
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**To be filled by:** Documents Distribution and Sales Unit

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<th>Air mail</th>
<th>Deliver by hand</th>
<th>Enclosed letter</th>
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**Request completed by:**

On:
استمارة طلب المنشورات

الاسم/الهيئة:  
اللقب الوطني:  
العنوان البريدي:  
البريد الإلكتروني:  
التوقيع:  

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المجموع بالدولار الأمريكي

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