

PROJECT DOCUMENT
9TH TRANCHE OF THE DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNT

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Project Title:	Strengthened national capacities for integrated, sustainable and inclusive population and development policies in the Arab region
Start date:	October 2014
End date:	December 2017
Budget:	USD 714,000
Beneficiary Countries:	Directly: 5 target ESCWA member countries Indirectly: All 22 Arab countries including 17 ESCWA member countries
Executing Entity:	UN-ESCWA
Co-operating Agencies within the UN system:	UN-ECA, UNFPA, and the League of Arab States
Project code and Development Account fascicle:	1415AR

<p>Brief description:</p> <p>This project represents a timely opportunity to seize the momentum for increased civil society engagement in policy-centered national dialogue processes, unleashed by uprisings in some Arab countries. The proposed interventions will build on the findings and conclusions of the ICPD Beyond 2014 review process in the Arab States and its own bottom-up, gender-sensitive and participatory approach to forge sustainable partnerships between national governmental authorities and civil society organizations involved in the formulation and implementation of population policies. The project will launch and support national policy dialogues in five member countries of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. The selection of these countries will be based on a clear methodology including a specific set of criteria. These countries will include least-developed and middle-income countries with a view towards ensuring experience-sharing, peer learning and intra-regional cooperation. The project will foster policy dialogues to identify national population and development priorities, and engage the participating governments and civil society organizations in a constructive, collaborative exercise to strengthen their respective capacities to formulate and implement integrated, inclusive and sustainable population and development policies.</p> <p>ESCWA will take the lead on this three-year project, but will ensure that the partnerships developed through the ICPD Beyond 2014 review process with UNFPA, ECA and the League of Arab States (LAS) are strengthened through continuous consultation, collaboration and joint actions.</p> <p>The project will be executed in relation to the outcomes of Rio+20, the ICPD Beyond 2014 recommendations and will be linked to the Post 2015 development framework currently being debated. It will follow a participatory and inclusive approach with the aim of appropriately involving all relevant stakeholders including government and civil society organizations, in addition to the partners, to ensure their engagement and maximize their inputs and contributions to the project. It is designed to ensure that the processes developed in the target countries are sustainable, and spillover to all 22 Arab countries.</p>
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2. BACKGROUND

Human beings at the centre of concerns for sustainable development – Principle 1 – Rio Declaration

The Rio Declaration agreed at the United Nations Conference on the Environment and Development (UNCED), held in Rio de Janeiro in 1992, highlighted the link between sustainable development and population dynamics. Principle 8 of the Declaration states that “to achieve sustainable development and a higher quality of life for all people, States should reduce and eliminate unsustainable patterns of production and consumption and promote appropriate demographic policies”. The Programme of Action (PoA) adopted at the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), held in Cairo in 1994, further elaborated on this link and shed light on the importance of promoting human wellbeing while ensuring a sustainable use of limited natural resources. One of the multiple objectives put forward by the ICPD-PoA is to develop sustainable consumption and production patterns that would allow reducing the negative impacts of demographic factors on the environment and meeting the needs of current generations while preserving the ability of future generations to meet their needs. Furthermore, the ICPD-PoA clearly proposes specific actions towards its achievements that include the integration of population issues into the formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of all policies and programmes relating to sustainable development.

Inter-linkages between population and sustainable development critical to improving the quality of life for all in Arab region

The Cairo Declaration of the June 2013 Regional Conference on Population and Development in the Arab States, organized as part of the ICPD Beyond 2014 review process, recognizes “the critical inter-linkages between population and sustained economic growth and sustainable development and their important central role in addressing the challenges and priorities of the region, and improving the quality of life of all people, especially children, adolescent girls, youth, women, older persons, people with disabilities, refugees and displaced persons”, and also recognizes that “the full implementation of the Programme of Action of the ICPD and the Key Actions for its Further Implementation are integrally linked to global efforts to eradicate poverty and ensure sustainable development”¹.

Thus, sustainable development requires the adoption of strong, integrated population and development policies that place human development at the centre of balanced economic growth. Effective population and development policies reflect demographic realities to ensure an appropriate and efficient allocation of resources to improve the quality of life of specific socio-demographic groups, such as youth, older persons and migrants. They also encourage development-friendly population trends by reducing rapid population growth and the consequent pressures on resources, social services, and the environment.

Assessing progress related to population issues necessary to measure progress towards sustainable development

¹ http://arabstates.unfpa.org/webdav/site/as/shared/docs/2013_Cairo_Declaration_English.pdf

Considering the strong impacts of population dynamics on the social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainable development, it is therefore necessary to examine progress related to population issues in order to measure the progress in the implementation of sustainable development agendas.²

Uneven progress in the implementation of the ICPD-PoA occurring in a challenging context

In the 2013 Cairo Declaration, the representatives of member states of the League of Arab States (LAS) recognize that “in spite of the progress made towards achieving the goals and objectives of the Programme of Action in the region, implementation has been uneven within countries and across the region in general, with the continuous challenges related to poverty and wealth disparities, social inclusion, youth, ageing, the status of women and girls, universal access to sexual and reproductive health services, migration, urbanization as well as complicated emergencies and armed conflict, the environment and climate change”.

Arab countries are undergoing a series of tumultuous and complex events and challenges which affect their ability to implement the provisions of the ICPD-PoA. At the political level, many Arab countries have witnessed unprecedented popular uprisings leading to significant changes in national political and governance structures. In parallel, “although Arab countries have made progress towards sustainable development in a number of areas, challenges remain, especially in poverty eradication, job creation, the right to development, social cohesion, women’s rights, the right of access to information, the needs of youth, trade liberalization, the transfer and localization of appropriate technology, finance mechanisms, and capacity-building in the areas of sustainable development”³. Moreover, Arab countries are facing a challenging demographic scenario characterized by a historically-high youth population making up almost 20% of the Arab population in 2010, a rapidly-growing active working age population group and a growing urbanized population with a significant percentage of almost half the population of the region living in urban areas.⁴

Noticeable progress but significant gaps and several emerging issues

In the context of the preparation for the regional conference on ICPD Beyond 2014 in the Arab countries, a review exercise of the Programme of Action was carried out in order to assess the situation in relation to the implementation of the commitments that had been made in Cairo in 1994. Coordinated by ESCWA, this exercise was based on a survey questionnaire addressed to governments and completed by 19 Arab countries, and sought to demonstrate the gap between the commitments and achievements, highlighting the public policy priorities for the next coming fifteen to twenty years. The outcomes shed light on major and pressing issues.⁵

² Population Matters for Sustainable Development, UNFPA, June 2012

³ ESCWA (2011). Report of the Arab regional preparatory meeting for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio +20). Cairo, 16-17. E/ESCWA/SDPD/2011/WG.5/8/Report

⁴ ESCWA (2013). *Demographic profiles of the Arab countries*. E/ESCWA/SDD/2013/Technical paper.14

⁵ Hala Naufal. Arab States Report on the Global Survey on ICPD Beyond 2014 presented at the Arab Regional Conference on Population and Development. Cairo 2013.

During the past two decades, most of the Arab countries have achieved noticeable progress in policymaking as well as in the formulation and development of strategies and programmes that address a large set of population issues while ensuring the linkages between population and sustainable development. They have also succeeded in putting institutions and mechanisms in place to integrate population concerns into development strategies. For example, 58% of Arab countries have made achievements in poverty eradication through income and employment generation strategies, and 63% have developed concrete procedures and mechanisms for adolescents and young people's participation in the planning and implementation of development activities that directly affect their lives. 63% of Arab countries succeeded in increasing the representation of women in political process and public life. However, this survey also highlighted several weaknesses and gaps:

First, fragmented population and development policies not inclusive of all socio-demographic groups

The policies and strategies developed in the area of population and development in the Arab countries can be described as fragmented, and are not inclusive of all the targeted socio-demographic groups. For example, the policies, programmes and strategies addressing youth focus mainly on the needs of adolescents and poor young men and women and do not target youth with specific vulnerabilities, such as youth in rural areas, youth living with HIV/Aids, and internal youth migrants. Also, most of the policies addressing older persons do not cover the specific needs of widows and widowers, older migrants and refugees, and older persons from minorities. In fact, there is not any policy or strategy that tackles the needs of indigenous persons or older adults living with HIV/Aids in the region.

In general, some major issues remain barely tackled in the Arab countries such as social protection and health support for adolescents and youth, the consequences of unsafe abortion, or the integration of prevention services of HIV/Aids within sexual and reproductive health services. Furthermore, most population policies and strategies across the region fail to comprehensively address the nexus between population dynamics and development such as the impact of poverty on adolescents, young men and women and older persons or the environmental footprint of an increasingly growing population, or the vulnerability of different population groups to climate change and water scarcity.

Second, major gaps between the commitments and the achievements upon 20 years of implementation

The ICPD PoA was adopted in 1994 by 179 countries, including all Arab countries, through a global consensus which stressed the inter-relatedness of population dynamics, sexual and reproductive health and rights, economic growth and sustainable development. Reaching the objectives set by the ICPD PoA by 2014 essentially depended on governments' commitment to formulating and implementing effective policies and mobilizing the resources and partnerships necessary to achieving the expected outcomes.

However, significant gaps still exist between the commitments made in Cairo in 1994 and the achievements over the past twenty years. Following is an indicative, non-exhaustive, list of

the main gaps as identified in the responses to the survey.⁶ The proportion of countries that witnessed accomplishments related to the empowerment of older persons to live an independent life for as long as possible through the provision of social services, including long-term care, does not exceed 26%. In addition, only one-fourth of the responding countries have made achievements in the field of promoting access for adolescents and young people to sexual health services and reproductive health, and one fifth only have achieved some progress with regard to the protection of migrants from human rights abuse, racism, ethnocentrism and xenophobia.

In relation to sustainable development, only 16% of Arab countries have made achievements in reducing the disparities between regions, improving solid waste management, and addressing the effects and implications of population trends in large urban communities. A mere 5% of countries recorded achievements in meeting the needs of populations living in fragile ecosystems and accomplishments supporting the health, education, training and employment of internally displaced people. Finally, no country reported progress regarding addressing the root causes of international migration to ensure that it is voluntary, or the factors that contribute to internal displacement.

Third, the sensitivity of the population issues targeted exacerbating the delays in achievements

Finally, delays are encountered in the implementation of the policies, programmes and strategies. For instance, the number of Arab countries facing delays in the implementation of policies, programmes and strategies that address the impact of the population dynamics on urban areas, the root causes of the forced internal migration or policies related to the prevention of unsafe abortion is relatively high. Obviously, the more the issues tackled by the policies and strategies are sensitive and complex, the more their achievement is delayed.

Numerous obstacles impeding the achievement of the ICPD-PoA in Arab countries

Several obstacles have impeded the smooth and timely achievement of the ICPD-PoA in Arab countries. The limited involvement of civil society organizations (CSOs)⁷ in population and development policy-making processes in most Arab countries is an important challenge facing the development of appropriate policies and implementable recommendations. Although CSOs in Arab countries possess strong knowledge and practical experience built over longstanding close relations with communities, and although national authorities express

⁶ The selection of these gaps among many others highlighted in the review report is made in view of providing examples and is not meant to reflect any prioritization or order of importance, but to illustrate successes and limitations in the implementation of the ICPD in the region.

⁷ "Civil society is a complex social arena, with individuals and groups organized in various forms of associations and networks in order to express their views and fulfill their interests. They could constitute anything from a global advocacy movement down to a village self-help group" United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD). 2003. UN World Summits and Civil Society Engagement: A Project Proposal. Working paper for Civil Society and Social Movements, UNRISD, Geneva.

"Civil Society Organizations are groupings of individuals and associations, formal and informal, which belong neither to the public sector nor to the profit-making private sector" Saadeddine Ibrahim, Civil society and transition to democracy in the Arab world, Introduction to a series of studies on the Project of civil society and transition to democracy in the Arab world, published jointly by Ibn Khaldoun Centre for Development Studies and Al-Ameen publishing, 1997, Cairo.

willingness and interest in partnering with CSOs and relying on their experience and knowledge, the latter are still not appropriately involved in policymaking dialogues and processes.

Resource limitations and budgetary shortages are also important obstacles to a proper implementation of population policies and strategies. Furthermore, the political and economic environments, social norms, the high level of bureaucracy in public administrations and the low political commitments towards key specific population issues are further challenges facing the achievements of the ICPD-PoA in Arab countries.

As a result of these accrued obstacles, population policies are fragmented, non inclusive of specific socio-demographic groups, and with a weak design that usually complicates and delays implementation processes.

Need to involve civil society organizations in the policymaking processes...

Against this backdrop, the project will focus on the constraints related to the involvement of CSOs in population and development policymaking processes and try to address it through tailored capacity building and technical assistance processes which target relevant stakeholders and build on the outcomes of internationally- and regionally-agreed agendas.

...based on regional and international legitimacy

The ICPD-PoA states that the "implementation of effective population policies in the context of sustainable development ... requires new forms of participation by various actors at all levels in the policy-making process. " (III, C, "3. 27). Furthermore, in the Cairo Declaration 2013, representatives of the Arab countries call for strengthened partnerships with the civil society at national and regional levels and for the promotion of values related to the major topics in the declaration such as dignity and equality, health, place and environment sustainability and governance.

This call acknowledges the timeliness and relevance of the population issues addressed in the ICPD-PoA beyond the 20-year timeframe for achieving its goals and reflects the political commitment of Arab governments to continue addressing the ICPD-PoA priorities. The ICPD-PoA is still a suitable framework for achieving the wellbeing of the population, and the renewed engagement of Arab countries through the 2013 Cairo Declaration confirms the need to carry the PoA beyond its initial life span and strengthen its linkages with the Post 2015 development agenda.

Need for strong commitments and effective implementation

In this context, and as new population and development priorities emerge in the Arab region, strong political commitment is thus needed to ensure policies and appropriately designed and implemented. The emerging priorities include the need to: (i) address environmental degradation and desertification, which includes paying attention to climate change, sustaining biodiversity and water resources, energy efficiency and promotion of renewable energies, (ii) address the impact of public policies on the dynamics of the territorial distribution of population particularly in the light of conflict and displacement, and strengthening the capacity of the institutions responsible for the issues of urbanization and internal migration, (iii) support the contribution of international migrants to development efforts and take advantage

of their expertise, promote cooperation between countries to address the issues of immigrants within a human rights approach, (iv) protect children and adolescents from violence and enhance drug abuse prevention.

2.1. Mandates, comparative advantage and link to the Programme Budget

Mandate of ESCWA on population and development

Similarly to previous review cycles, the General Assembly has assigned ESCWA the role of coordinating the follow-up on ICPD beyond 2014 in the Arab region, in close cooperation with UNFPA and other regional players (ref. GA 65/234). Accordingly, ESCWA in partnership with ECA, UNFPA and LAS conducted the regional review of the ICPD-PoA for the Arab countries which culminated in the adoption of the 2013 Cairo Declaration, which clearly calls for strengthening partnership with CSOs in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of population programmes.

In the Ninth Session of the ESCWA Committee on Social Development, organized in 2013, member countries reiterated their request for ESCWA's support of national and regional policy dialogues to build and institutionalize partnerships with social actors and civil forces with the aim of developing integrated social policies based on the principles of participation, transparency and accountability.

Comparative advantage of ESCWA

ESCWA plays a key role in assisting countries of the Western Asia region in addressing population and development issues and their consequent challenges and opportunities. This is achieved through: (a) using its convening power to facilitate debate on pertinent population and development issues and the exchange of knowledge and good practices on policy design and implementation among countries of the region; (b) enhancing the existing knowledge base in the region and undertaking awareness-raising and advocacy work, building on previous and ongoing work on population and development issues in the region; (c) building capacities and providing technical assistance and advice to member countries on developing population and development policies and action plans; and (d) building partnerships with other regional and international organizations including the League of Arab States, UN Agencies and other Regional Commissions to streamline work on population and development in the region and enhance its impact, and promote greater interaction with other regions.

Link to the Programme Budget

The project will be executed in relation to:

- ESCWA Strategic framework 2014-2015 - Subprogramme 2:
 - EA(a): Strengthened national capacity to develop a rights-based social policy that promotes social integration, social protection, the provision of adequate social services and employment generation;
 - IoA (ii): Increased number of policies and programmes that are formulated or enhanced to ensure the integration of key socio-demographic groups, including youth, older persons, persons with disabilities and migrants in national development processes;

EA(b): Enhanced capacity of member countries to adopt social development policies and programmes based on the participation of the civil society and other stakeholders, in public policy formulation, implementation and monitoring;
IoA (i): Increased number of instances in which Governments, civil society organizations and other stakeholders participate in developing, implementing and monitoring social development policies and programmes;

- ESCWA Strategic framework 2016-2017 - Subprogramme 2:

EA(a): Member countries develop rights-based social policies and programmes that promote social cohesion, social inclusion, social protection and the provision of adequate social services for all;

IoA (ii): Number of policies, programmes and measures formulated or enhanced to ensure the social integration of vulnerable groups;

EA(c): Member countries adopt a participatory approach to social policy formulation and implementation through consensus building, the empowerment of civil society and the engagement of civic groups and other stakeholders in advocating the values and tools necessary to achieving a just society;

IoA (i): Number of instances in which representatives of governments, civil society organizations and other stakeholders engage in substantive policy dialogue with the support of ESCWA.

2.2. Country demand and beneficiary countries

As mentioned in the background, in the 2013 Cairo Declaration the representatives of the member States of the League of Arab States reiterate their commitment towards earlier recommendations to reinforce partnership with civil society at national and regional levels on key population and development issues.⁸

While this project is designed to ensure that its outputs and results benefit all 22 Arab countries, achieving tangible measurable impact through concrete action requires country-level implementation. The project will therefore focus on 5 ESCWA member countries and below is the methodology that will be followed in to select the target countries. The selection process will be finalized before launching the implementation phase of the project.

The selection process is composed of three main steps:

Step 1: based on a specific set of criteria, 8 potential targeted countries are short-listed;

Step 2: consultations are carried out with all 8 countries in collaboration with partner organizations;

Step 3: 5 target countries are selected and the relevant national authorities in the selected countries are engaged in the project implementation process.

The selection criteria are the following:

⁸ See the 2009 Doha Declaration of Heads of National Population Councils/Commissions in the Arab States.

- Existence and capacities of national authorities responsible for the formulation of population and development policies, generally National Population Councils/Committees: most Arab countries have already put in place National Population Councils to coordinate all efforts relating to the population and development policies. Being able to engage and coordinate with one specific relevant authority will definitely facilitate the project implementation and more importantly will enable it to strengthen its impact;
- Existence of CSOs in the targeted countries, bearing in mind that CSOs are becoming increasingly active and involved in different public spheres as a result of the still on-going changes initiated by the Arab uprisings;
- Existence of a real need at the country level to answer pressing, emerging and significant issues and challenges;
- Development and geographical considerations: target countries will include least-development countries and middle income countries as well as countries in conflict and/or in transition. A Maghreb/Mashreq balance will be taken into consideration.

Based on the above listed criteria and following a discussion initiated with LAS, the 8 potential target countries have been identified. They include Bahrain, Egypt, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Sudan, Tunisia and Yemen.

Population councils/committees are already in place and functioning in these 8 countries. These agencies, reporting to line ministries, serve a dual role of coordination of implementation and advising government agencies on specific issues of population and social policy. However, their level of performance varies across countries. The "Commission Supérieure de la Population" in Morocco reporting to the "Haut Commissariat au Plan" is well engaged in population policymaking. The situation is similar in Tunisia as the "Office National de la Famille et de la Population," working under the umbrella of the Ministry of Health, is active on national population issues. However, the National Population Council in Sudan shows lower capacity in formulating and implementing population policies.

These national population council/committees address different areas, collect data on different timescales and with carrying levels of accuracy, while the studies they undertake to influence policymaking present significant differences. Nonetheless, contacts and relationships with all of them have been already established either directly or through LAS in the framework of previous collaboration.

The Arab region presents significant diversity with regard to the role played by CSOs and their influence on the society and the population. The role of civil society can be described as very limited in some countries thereby significantly limiting the interest in implementing the proposed project. For instance, in most Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries,⁹ the number of civil society associations and foundations and their percentage compared to the overall population are low, and could be considered as indicators of their limited participation in public life. 17 organizations are working in Qatar (90,654 individuals per organization), 66 in Kuwait (51,509 individuals per organization) and 440 in Saudi Arabia (62,729 individuals

⁹ Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates

per organization). The situation is different in Bahrain where the population per organization is about 2326 with 450 established organizations. This figure decreases to 1219 in Lebanon and 815 in Morocco.¹⁰ They also vary in their effectiveness in advocating for reform: while civil society organizations in Lebanon have recently been able to draft, propose and advance laws for domestic violence and for banning smoking in public places, in most other countries they remain on the margin of the policy-making sphere.

The review of the ICPD-PoA beyond 2014 highlighted the need for steady and continuous interventions on population issues in most Arab countries, including the 8 pre-selected to be targeted by the project. Moreover, the objective of the project is consistent with the outcomes/outputs of the UNDAF documents in most of the selected countries which clearly underline the salient role to be played by the civil society in addressing population issues.

Geographical and development considerations were also taken into consideration in the selection of the potential targeted countries with a view towards ensuring experience-sharing, peer learning and intra-regional cooperation. The least-development countries include Sudan and Yemen while middle income countries include Egypt and Lebanon. Bahrain and Libya are considered as countries in transition and Morocco and Tunisia both have interesting experiences and would also ensure some Mashreq/Maghreb balance. However, this short-list still requires additional consultations with LAS and UNFPA-ASRO before final validation.

The third step will be to assess, in collaboration with the partners, the responsiveness of government in the short-listed countries and proceed to the selection of the five countries that will be targeted by the project.

2.3. Link to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

The project is proposing to enhance the capacities of national authorities as well as civil society in Arab countries to formulate and implement inclusive population policies. Considering the various inter-linkages between the ICPD-PoA and the MDGs goals and targets, the project will thus contribute to the achievements of all 8 MDGs, more specifically MGD1 (Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger). This all depends on priorities identified by countries.

2.4. Link to Rio+20 and the Internationally Agreed Development Goals (IADGs)

“The future we want” (A/Conf. 216/L. 1), the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), which took place in Rio de Janeiro in June 2012, acknowledges “the need to further mainstream sustainable development at all levels, integrating economic, social and environmental aspects and recognizing their inter-linkages, so as to achieve sustainable development in all its dimensions” and places people “at the centre of sustainable development”.¹¹

It recognizes that “opportunities for people to influence their lives and future, participate in decision-making and voice their concerns are fundamental for sustainable development,” and

¹⁰ Official data available for 2007 and 2008, which was analyzed at the information centre of the Arab network for NGOs.

¹¹ <http://www.uncsd2012.org/thefuturewewant.html>

underscores that “sustainable development requires concrete and urgent action. It can only be achieved with a broad alliance of people, governments, civil society and the private sector, all working together to secure the future we want for present and future generations.” It also acknowledges “the role of civil society and the importance of enabling all members of civil society to be actively engaged in sustainable development.”

Beyond the Rio+20 Declaration, the project is also closely linked to the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1994 (A/RES/49/128), and the Cairo Declaration of June 2013, outcome of the ICPD Beyond 2014 Regional Conference on Population and Development in the Arab States.

The project will also be linked to the post-2015 development framework being currently debated since there are clear indications that the forthcoming global development framework should be inclusive of the ICPD beyond 2014 recommendations.

3. ANALYSIS

3.1. Problem analysis

As detailed in the background, population policies in most Arab countries can be described as fragmented, insufficient and non inclusive of specific socio-demographic groups. This outcome could be a result of the way these policies are formulated, which has generally followed a unilateral top-down government-driven policy-making approach. Furthermore, their implementation is often delayed as result of weak design and failure to build on practical experience and knowledge. Three main problems stand behind this challenging situation.

First, while most Arab countries Governments have put Population Councils in place to act as the national machinery for designing and influencing population and in some cases social development policies, Arab population councils face important shortfalls in terms of their capacities to fulfill their mandates, and in most cases work in isolation from key stakeholders which can inform, support and improve both the policy-making process and the quality of its outputs. Moreover, National Population Councils face important capacity and communication challenges, which hinder their ability to enact integrated, inclusive and sustainable policies which truly address the needs of the people.

Second, in most countries of the Arab region, CSOs play an important role in providing necessary social and economic support where the state is often unable to. CSOs are mostly service-oriented, and contribute significantly to filling the gap generated by the reduced role played by the governments in the delivery of social services particularly in marginalized areas and/or in urban pauperized areas. Their day to day interaction with these communities offers them important insights into the challenges faced by different population groups and practical local knowledge necessary to find relevant solutions. However, their success also relies on specific knowledge and skills and a strong engagement to tackle population issues, which are usually complex and beyond their control. In many instances, they may lack a comprehensive longer-term vision, necessary to develop a structured approach to social development issues,

and need capacity development and analytical skills in order to play a more effective role and trigger change.¹²

Third, there are limited interaction opportunities between the national authorities responsible for population policymaking processes and CSOs. Certainly, "civil society organizations in Arab countries have various specializations which pave the way for a professional, in-depth and scientific follow-up of public issues."¹³ However, CSOs have no voice in policy development processes in the region, and are only included in the planning for and monitoring and evaluation of population and development policies on ad hoc basis. The contribution of CSOs "to public and social policies remains minimal,"¹⁴ on the one hand because of the political context and on the other hand because of some organizations' affiliation with the public authorities. In fact, in several cases these organizations are directed by local elite namely retirees from the public sector, civil servants or elected representatives most often close to the party in power. In most Arab countries, State hostility towards freedom of association has increased with insecurity, instability and conflicts, leading to a disabling environment for the development of the CSOs and their involvement in policymaking processes. Furthermore, the historical linkages of many CSOs with the state have marginalized any potential independent role in the planning and monitoring of public policies. For a long time, CSOs served as an "interface between the local population and the state administration"¹⁵ and represented "additional tools for public interventions, or privileged forums for mediation between the social and state orders."¹⁶

Thus, this disabling environment provides limited opportunities for CSOs and national authorities to interact and undertake mutual learning relating to the formulation and implementation of population policies. Raising the awareness of the governments and the CSOs about the benefit of joining their efforts to formulate and implement population policies that are integrated, inclusive and sustainable would help creating enabling environment and opportunities for such collaborative efforts. Also, the changes driven by the popular uprisings in most of Arab countries have created a momentum and thus present a unique opportunity to be grasped to further strengthen the capacities of CSOs to be properly involved in policymaking dialogues and processes.

On a separate but related note, it is important to highlight the lack of accurate and continuous information and data on specific population issues poses a great challenge to the formulation of population and development policies and undermines effective work of both governmental and civil society counterparts.

¹² Official data available for 2007 and 2008, which was analyzed at the information centre of the Arab network for NGOs.

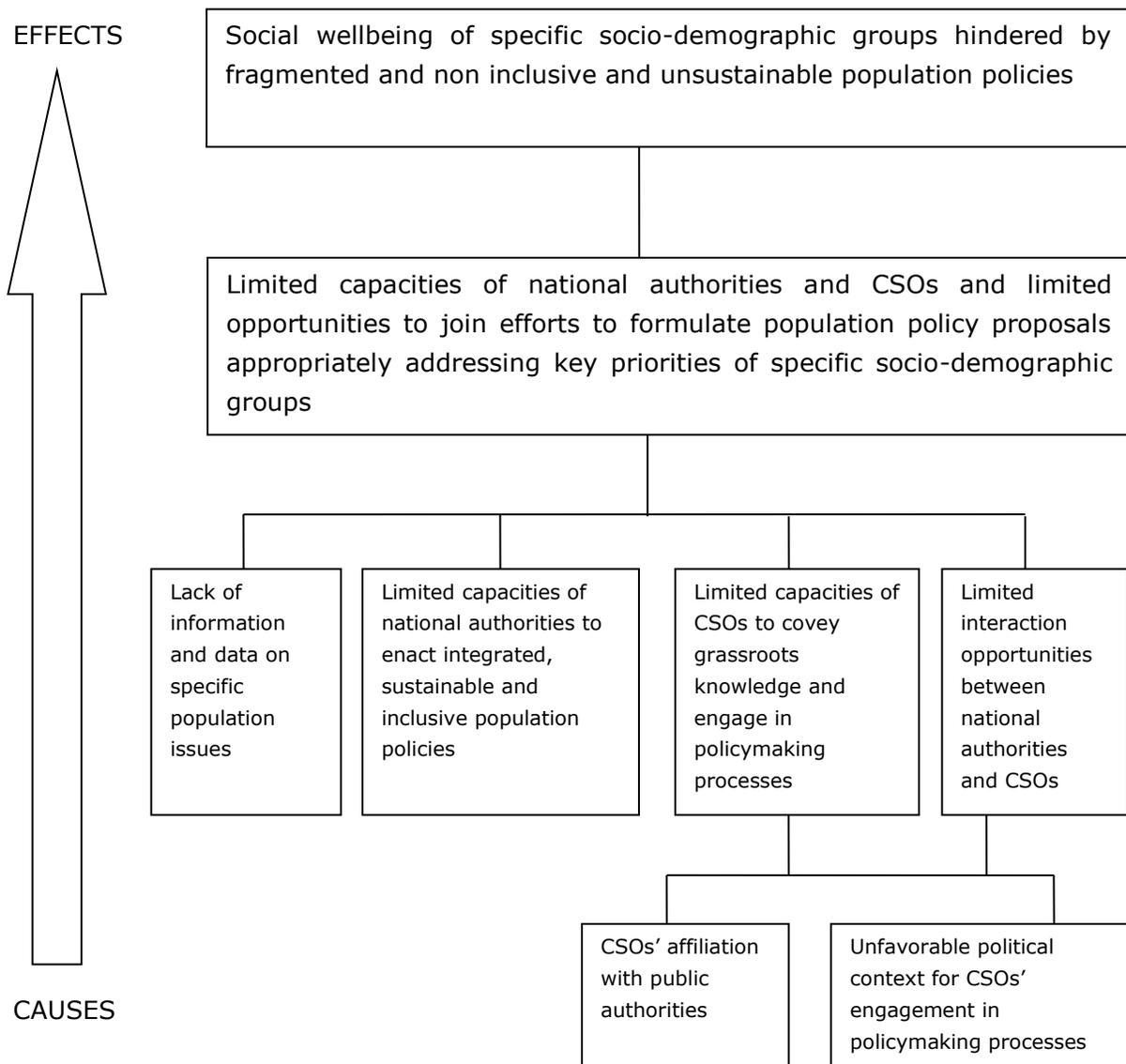
¹³ ESCWA (2010). *Comparative analysis of civil society participation in public policy formulation in selected Arab countries*. E/ESCWA/SDD/2010/1

¹⁴ Ben Nefissa S., Abd al-Fattah N., Hanafi S. and Milani C. (2005). *NGOs and governance in the Arab World*. Cairo: The American University in Cairo Press.

¹⁵ Ibid.

¹⁶ Ibid.

Below is the problem tree summarizing the problem analysis and illustrating the cause-effect relationships between all above presented issues.



3.2. Stakeholder analysis and capacity assessment

The various stakeholders of the project are listed below:

- *Policymakers leading the national authorities responsible for the policy formulation, specifically population and development policies; ministries and government institutions involved will depend on the priorities selected by each country. Accordingly*

the project may target National Population Councils, Ministries of Social Affairs and/or Ministries of Labor and/or Ministries focusing on Youth and/or Ministries of Planning;

- *Technical staff working in the national authorities responsible for the population and development policy formulation;*
- *CSOs working on various population issues;*
- *Regional organizations such as League of Arab States;*

The project will proactively endeavor to engage all the stakeholders to achieve its expected accomplishments in the planned timeframe and to ensure its sustainability.

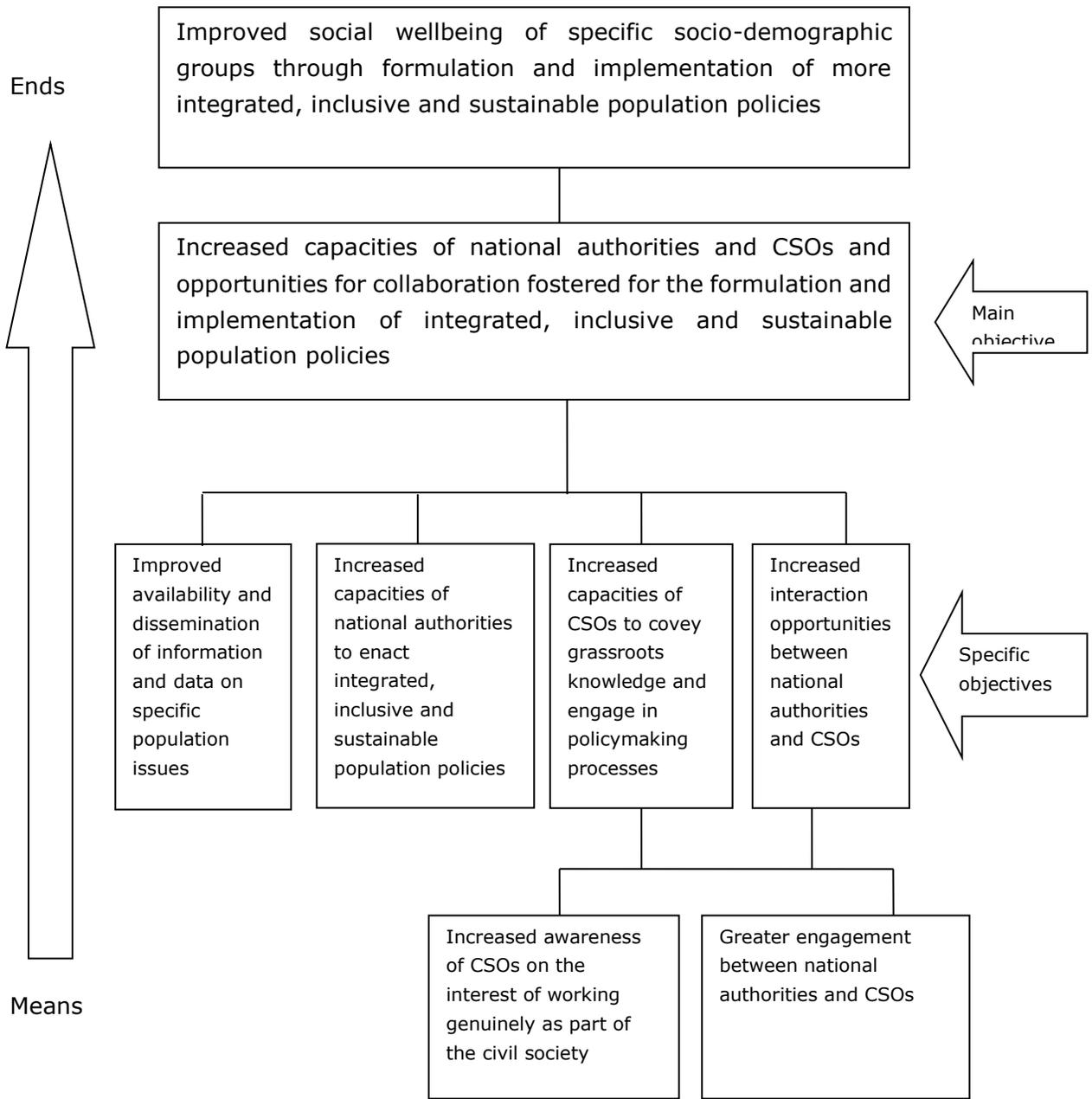
Stakeholder	Type and level of involvement in the project	Capacity assets and gaps	Desired future outcomes	Stakeholder influence /impact
<i>Polymakers leading the national authorities responsible for the policy formulation</i>	<i>Responsible for the formulation of population policies</i>	<i>Need for capacity building and technical assistance to address key population issues and to facilitate the involvement of the CSOs in policymaking processes Capitalize on the authority of the policymakers to use newly acquired skills to instigate change</i>	<i>Increased awareness on specific population issues and on international and regional best practices on the involvement of CSOs in policymaking processes</i>	<i>High</i>
<i>Technical staff working in the national authorities responsible for the policy formulation</i>	<i>Responsible for the preparation of the technical research and the collection of necessary data and information, and for drafting the policies</i>	<i>Need for capacity building and technical assistance on how to tackle key population issues and to collaborate with CSOs and benefit from their knowledge and information Capitalize on experiences of and lessons learned by national authorities in dealing CSOs</i>	<i>Increased awareness on specific population issues and enhanced capacities to create and maintain sustainable mechanisms of cooperation with CSOs</i>	<i>High</i>
<i>Civil society organizations working on various population issues</i>	<i>Play important role in service delivery, provide necessary social and economic support as well insights into pressing population and development trends</i>	<i>Need for enhanced technical capacities on stronger involvement in the planning and implementation of population policies and for increased access to policy making discussions and processes Capitalize on the field knowledge and experiences of CSOs</i>	<i>Increased awareness on specific population issues and enhanced capacities to create and maintain sustainable mechanisms of cooperation with the national authorities responsible for policy formulation</i>	<i>High</i>
<i>Regional organizations</i>	<i>Provide fora for knowledge and experience sharing</i>	<i>Need for enhanced cooperation among member states to share experiences,</i>	<i>Increased awareness and enhanced cooperation for knowledge and experience sharing</i>	<i>Medium</i>

		<i>lessons learnt and best practices Capitalize on the network of stakeholders created and maintained by the regional organizations and to use the for they provide for the implementation of the policy dialogues</i>		

It is worth noting that the project will collaborate with UN agencies’ country offices, namely but not exclusively, UNFPA and UNDP which will be able to facilitate the access to relevant stakeholders at country level and to provide fora for follow-up on the project activities and outputs after the taking over. It will endeavor to benefit from existing networks created and maintained by UN agencies at national level to answer the need for enhanced cooperation with relevant national stakeholders on specific key population issues.

3.3. Analysis of the objectives

The proposed intervention seeks to raise the awareness of policymakers, national authorities responsible for the policy formulation and CSOs on specific population issues and strengthen their capacities to formulate and implement integrated, sustainable and inclusive population and development policies. Accordingly, the objective tree is presented below.



4. PROJECT STRATEGY: OBJECTIVE, EXPECTED ACCOMPLISHMENTS, INDICATORS, MAIN ACTIVITIES

4.1. Project Strategy

The project will follow a participatory and inclusive approach with a view to appropriately involve all relevant stakeholders, including government and CSOs, in addition to ESCWA's partners, to ensure their engagement and maximize their inputs and contributions to the project. The project will build on the existing knowledge and experience, even if limited, at both regional and national levels.

The sequence of the activities including regional meetings, studies and national workshops, is designed in such a way as to build on existent knowledge and then move forward to the creation and dissemination of new knowledge products to ensure strong spill-over effects and expand the results to all 22 Arab countries. All knowledge products to be developed will be compiled in a toolbox. The toolbox will summarize the proposed process that consists of a back-and-forth approach between the regional and national levels, a two-way approach meant to highlight national lessons learned for regional peer experience-sharing and then to develop best practices at the regional level with a trickle-down effect to the national level.

The project will focus on 5 ESCWA member countries in order to address the need for concrete action and tangible measurable impact at the country level. The project will foster experience-sharing, peer learning and intra-regional cooperation since it will include countries with different development and geographical profiles, different socio-demographic needs and challenges, different levels of performance of the national authorities responsible for the population policymaking and different levels of engagement of CSOs in public life.

4.2. Objective

The project objective is to build the capacities of select Arab National Population Councils and CSOs to jointly integrate inclusive population priorities in development policies, and their monitoring and evaluation.

4.3. Expected Accomplishments

- (EA1) Strengthened capacity of National Population Councils and civil society actors to identify key population and development priorities at the regional and national levels;
- (EA2) Policy reform proposals in the area of population and development formulated and reflect close partnership and commitment of governmental and civil society actors to implement national action plans in the five target countries;

4.4. Indicators of achievement

- (IA1. 1) Increased number of knowledge products¹⁷ that inform national dialogues and support policy reform exercises related to population and development in Arab countries;
- (IA1. 2) Increased number of policymakers and CSOs whose capacities to jointly carry on policy dialogue and policy making processes on population and development have been enhanced;
- (IA2. 1) Increased number of CSOs engaged with governmental counterparts for policy dialogue and exchange of experience and expertise;
- (IA2. 2) Increased number of policy reform proposals formulated and/or adopted in the selected target countries;

4.5. Activities

- (A1. 1) Organize a regional Expert Group Meeting (EGM) bringing together regional and national experts, including from governmental bodies and civil society, in the area of population and development to identify knowledge and capacity gaps in addition to national priority areas, and develop a common methodology for the implementation of national studies in five Arab countries including national data collection, review and analysis. The assessment of knowledge and capacity gaps at regional level is considered as preparatory work and stocktaking for the EGM. Basically it will support the preparation of the inputs and guide discussions during the EGM;
- (A1. 2) Prepare national sectoral studies related to the national priority areas as identified in the EGM in five Arab countries. The preparation will take place involving work by Secretariat and consultant;
- (A1. 3) Hold one national-level workshop per target country to (i) raise the awareness of governmental and civil society counterparts and deepen their knowledge of the findings and recommendations of the sectoral studies, (ii) complete and validate by national stakeholders the national assessment exercise related to the national priority areas and (iii) build their capacities on organizing and participating in policy dialogue and policymaking processes related to population and development.
- (A1. 4) Convene a target countries joint seminar bringing together representatives of government and CSOs working on population and development issues to review country studies in light of international good practices and lessons learned, and discuss and agree on one high-priority area for policy reform in each of the five target countries;
- (A2. 1) Organize national policy dialogue seminars in each of the 5 target countries and provide technical guidance to government and CSOs representatives to: (i) formulate a draft policy paper on how to address the identified population and

¹⁷ A knowledge product refers to the output of a process, team or organization in the form of document that enables effective action. In the context of this project, knowledge products include sectoral studies, national needs assessments, meetings reports, review of good practices and draft policy papers.

development challenges related to the high-priority area; and (ii) agree on a related national action plan;

- (A2. 2) Prepare and disseminate a toolkit comprising of the key knowledge products (synthesis report and national studies) and highlighting the achieved results, the challenges faced and policy options for Arab governments on how to further engage with CSOs in addressing population and development issues through well-coordinated efforts to achieve development objectives;
- (A2. 3) Organize a regional workshop on population and development to be attended by all 22 Arab countries to outline the methodology used in the 5 national processes and reflect on the lessons learned, assess their relevance to other Arab countries and provide the other Arab countries with the tools and concepts, including the toolkit and an access to a community of practice in the area, to support similar processes across the region.

4.6. Risks and mitigation actions

Timely, efficient and smooth completion of the project is based on the assumption that partners and stakeholders are appropriately engaged in the development and implementation of its activities. Therefore, the activities sequence is designed in a way that ensures their proper involvement. Furthermore, some mitigation actions are considered in order to significantly reduce the potential risks.

Level of engagement of key partners at the national level

The limited interest and engagement of key partners at the national level, for example the UNFPA country offices, could make it more difficult to have access to national counterparts.

To mitigate this risk, the project will ensure initial engagement and frequent contact with all national partners and UN field presence, in an effort to develop a sense of ownership and benefit from their experience and networks.

Changes in project's interlocutors

Changes within national counterpart institutions resulting in changes in direct interlocutors might slow down the project implementation.

To mitigate this risk, the project will ensure that contacts are made within a broader base of national partners and beneficiaries including government and CSOs representatives.

In addition, throughout the project, coordination will be properly undertaken with partners and stakeholders to ensure relevant participants are selected and assigned to take part and contribute to the project. Clear and effective communication regarding the objective of the project, its approach, the plan of action and timeline will be provided and will serve as a basis for the selection of participants in meetings and workshops.

Security situation

The security situation in some Arab countries remains unpredictable and might deteriorate, which could potentially disrupt the progress of the project in some countries.

The situation will therefore be regularly and suitably assessed in all target countries and contingency planning will be undertaken so as to ensure the completion of the activities within the proposed timeframe.

4.7. Sustainability

Population and development are among the priority areas addressed by ESCWA, ECA, UNFPA and LAS in their work and through their strategic frameworks. Thus, the output of this project is definitely in line with and should be linked to all partners' programmes and outputs.

Furthermore, ESCWA in collaboration with UNFPA, ECA and LAS will ensure the dissemination of the lessons learned emanating from this project. The dissemination efforts will be technically supported by the production of the toolbox comprising reports that allow sharing of information and knowledge regarding the implementation of the project, the challenges faced and results achieved, the findings of the national studies, the lessons learned, and the draft policy proposals in addition to the recommendations and policy options for all Arab countries. Once the toolbox produced, there is potential for replication through the Regular Programme of Technical Cooperation (RPTC) should any demand form member Countries arise.

The final regional workshop will contribute to presenting the key results and outputs and to launching the dissemination process, allowing outreach to all Arab countries and paving the way for duplication, adaptation and sustainability.

However, pivotal to the sustainability of the project are the capacities that will be acquired by the governmental institutions and CSOs and strengthened throughout the project and that would allow governmental institutions and CSOs to build on the competences and experience gained and address key population and development issues more effectively in their respective countries.

5. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Four indicators of achievement (IoAs) with respective means of verification are defined and will be used to monitor and assess the progress of the implementation of the project and the achievement of its expected accomplishments.

The project team in collaboration with the ESCWA section responsible for project monitoring and evaluation will work together on monitoring and assessing progress, adjusting activities, and making sure that implementation is in line with the overall strategy and objectives of the project.

An external independent evaluation is also planned and budgeted for and will be carried out as per the DA Projects Project Evaluation Guidelines. The evaluation will rely on several

information sources namely meetings and interviews with representatives of stakeholders, including both women and men, policymakers, technical staff, representatives of CSOs in addition to all internal reports produced.

6. IMPLEMENTATION PARTNERS AND ARRANGEMENTS

The Population and Social Development Section of the Social Development Division will be fully responsible for the project implementation. A dedicated team within the Section will ensure a smooth and timely implementation of all project activities and will contribute to monitoring progress and evaluating impact with the relevant ESCWA division.

The project will be led by ESCWA in collaboration with its long-term partners in the ICPD PoA implementation and review process, namely ECA, UNFPA and League of Arab States (LAS). Inputs and guidance of all stakeholders and partners at different stages of the implementation process will ensure that the project builds on a solid basis of knowledge and experiences:

- Consultations will indeed be organized at the regional level with ECA, LAS and UNFPA Arab States Regional Office to ensure coordination and cross-fertilization and benefit from the partners' experience and networks. ESCWA will also seek to integrate the inputs of all partner organizations in the toolbox and other key knowledge and capacity development outputs to ensure ownership and broad dissemination and use;
- The implementation of project activities at the country-level will rely on close collaboration with LAS and local partners such as UNFPA Cos, ECA North Africa Office, and other agencies present in the selected countries. In addition to taking part in project activities and facilitating contacts with the relevant national authorities, the partners will also be invited to provide advice and guidance in key stakeholder consultations.

At all stages throughout the project duration, ESCWA will work towards the full engagement of its partners and resources persons and explore opportunities for linking the project to ongoing regional policy debates, particularly on ICPD Beyond 2014, the Post 2015 Development Agenda, and to key conventions and fora, more specifically the Arab Economic, Developmental, and Social Summit.

7. ANNEXES

ANNEX 1: SIMPLIFIED LOGICAL FRAMEWORK

Intervention logic	Indicators	Means of verification	Risks/Assumptions
Objective: To build the capacities of select Arab National Population Councils and civil society actors to jointly integrate inclusive population priorities in development policies, and their monitoring and evaluation			
EA1: Strengthened capacity of National Population Councils and civil society actors to identify key population and development priorities at the regional and national levels	IA1.1: Increased number of knowledge products that inform national dialogues and support policy reform exercises related to population and development in Arab countries	Availability of sectoral studies, needs assessments and review of good practices	
	IA1.2: Increased number of policymakers and civil society actors whose capacities to jointly carry on policy dialogue and policy making processes on population and development have been enhanced	Evaluation throughout the process based on evaluation surveys before and after capacity building/ dialogue workshops	Interest among governments/CSOs to participate in capacity building processes; participants will be in a position to effect change
1.1 Main activity: Organize a regional Expert Group Meeting (EGM) bringing together regional and national experts, including from governmental bodies and civil society, in the area of population and development to identify knowledge and capacity gaps in addition to national priority areas, and develop a common methodology for the implementation of national studies in five Arab countries including national data collection, review and analysis			
1.2 Main activity: Prepare national sectoral studies related to the national priority areas as identified in the EGM in five Arab countries			
1.3 Main activity:			

<p>Hold one national-level workshop per target country to (i) raise the awareness of governmental and civil society counterparts and deepen their knowledge of the findings and recommendations of the sectoral studies, (ii) complete the national assessment exercise related to the national priority areas and (iii) build their capacities on organizing and participating in policy dialogue and policymaking processes related to population and development</p>			
<p>1.4 Main activity: Convene a target countries joint seminar bringing together representatives of government and civil society actors working on population and development issues to review country studies in light of international good practices and lessons learned, and discuss and agree on one high-priority area for policy reform in each of the five target countries</p>			
<p>EA2: Policy reform proposals in the area of population and development formulated and reflect close partnership and commitment of governmental and civil society actors to implement national action plans in the five target countries</p>	<p>IA2.1: Increased number of civil society actors engaged with governmental counterparts for policy dialogue and exchange of experience and expertise</p>	<p>Official records of governments and civil society organizations; communication with training participants/experts assigned by stakeholders; and number of requests for technical assistance implemented by ESCWA</p>	<p>Willingness of government/CSOs to participate in dialogue processes and sufficient goodwill/common vision to be able to reach some kind of agreement</p>
	<p>IA2.2: Increased number of policy reform proposals formulated and/or adopted in the target countries</p>	<p>Availability of the draft proposals</p>	<p>Willingness of governments to commit to policy proposals</p>
<p>2.1 Main activity: Organize national policy dialogue seminars in each of the 5 target countries and provide technical guidance to government and civil society actors representatives to: (i) formulate a draft policy paper on how to address the identified population and development challenges related to the high-priority area; and (ii) agree on a related national action plan</p>			
<p>2.2 Main activity: Prepare and disseminate a toolkit comprising of the key knowledge products (synthesis report and national studies) and highlighting the achieved results, the challenges faced and policy options for Arab governments on how to further engage with civil society actors in addressing population and development issues through well-coordinated efforts to achieve development objectives</p>			
<p>2.3 Main activity: Organize a regional workshop on population and development to be attended by all 22 Arab countries to outline the methodology used in the 5 national processes and reflect on the lessons learned, assess their relevance to other Arab countries and provide the other Arab countries with the tools and concepts, including the toolkit and an access to a community of practice in the area, to support similar processes across the region</p>			
<p>External evaluation</p>			

ANNEX 2: RESULT-BASED WORK PLAN

Expected accomplishment	Main activity	Timeframe				by
		output/activity				
		2014	2015	2016	2017	
EA1: Strengthened capacity of National Population Councils and civil society actors to identify key population and development priorities at the regional and national levels	A1.1: Organize a regional Expert Group Meeting (EGM) bringing together regional and national experts, including from governmental bodies and civil society, in the area of population and development to identify knowledge and capacity gaps in addition to national priority areas, and develop a common methodology for the implementation of national studies in five Arab countries including national data collection, review and analysis		Mar			
	A1.2: Prepare national sectoral studies related to the national priority areas as identified in the EGM in five Arab countries		June-Aug			
	A1.3: Hold one national-level workshop per target country to (i) raise the awareness of governmental and civil society counterparts and deepen their knowledge of the findings and recommendations of the sectoral studies, (ii) complete the national assessment exercise related to the national priority areas and (iii) build their capacities on organizing and participating in policy dialogue and policymaking processes related to population and development		Oct	April		
	A1.4: Convene a target countries joint seminar bringing together representatives of government and civil society actors working on population and development issues to review country studies in light of international good practices and lessons learned, and discuss and agree on one high-priority area for			July		

	policy reform in each of the five target countries				
EA2: Policy reform proposals in the area of population and development formulated and reflect close partnership and commitment of governmental and civil society actors to implement national action plans in the five target countries	A2.1: Organize national policy dialogue seminars in each of the 5 target countries and provide technical guidance to government and civil society actors representatives to: (i) formulate a draft policy paper on how to address the identified population and development challenges related to the high-priority area; and (ii) agree on a related national action plan			Oct	April
	A2.2: Prepare and disseminate a toolkit comprising of the key knowledge products (synthesis report and national studies) and highlighting the achieved results, the challenges faced and policy options for Arab governments on how to further engage with civil society actors in addressing population and development issues through well-coordinated efforts to achieve development objectives		July		
	A2.3:				Oct
External Evaluation					Dec

ANNEX 3: RESULT-BASED BUDGET

Expected accomplishment	Main activities / group of activities	Object class and object code (split of activities/ outputs by budget categories)	Amount (USD)
EA1: Strengthened capacity of National Population Councils and civil society actors to identify key population and development priorities at the regional and national levels	A1.1: Organize a regional Expert Group Meeting (EGM) bringing together regional and national experts, including from governmental bodies and civil society, in the area of population and development to identify knowledge and capacity gaps in addition to national priority areas, and develop a common methodology for the implementation of national studies in five Arab countries including national data collection, review and analysis	602 GTA	20,996
		608 (2302) Travel of Staff	1,856
		604 (0140/2601) Consultants (Regional)	17,324
		604 (2602) Travel of expert groups	19,432
		616 (4707) Operating expenses	703
	A1.2: Prepare national sectoral studies related to the national priority areas as identified in the EGM in five Arab countries	604 (0140) Consultants (National)	90,000
	A1.3: Hold one national-level workshop per target country to (i) raise the awareness of governmental and civil society counterparts and deepen their knowledge of the findings and recommendations of the sectoral studies, (ii) complete the national assessment exercise related to the national priority areas and (iii) build their capacities on organizing and participating in policy dialogue and policymaking processes related to population and development	608 (2302) Travel of Staff	26,700
		604 (0140) Consultants (National)	26,000
		621 (7202) Seminars and workshops	76,640
		616 (4707) Operating expenses	540
	A1.4: Convene a regional seminar bringing together representatives of government and civil society actors working on population and development issues to review country studies in light of international good practices and lessons learned, and discuss and agree on one high-priority	602 GTA	7,400
		608 (2302) Travel of Staff	7,056
		604 (2601) Travel consultants	8,820
		621 (7202) Seminars and workshops	71,364
		616 (4707) Operating expenses	180

	area for policy reform in each of the five target countries		
EA2: Policy reform proposals in the area of population and development formulated and reflect close partnership and commitment of governmental and civil society actors to implement national action plans in the five target countries	A2.1: Organize national policy dialogue seminars in each of the 5 target countries and provide technical guidance to government and civil society actors representatives to: (i) formulate a draft policy paper on how to address the identified population and development challenges related to the high-priority area; and (ii) agree on a related national action plan	608 (2302) Travel of Staff	26,700
		604 (0140) Consultants (National)	26,000
		621 (7202) Seminars and workshops	76,640
		616 (4707) Operating expenses	540
	A2.2: Prepare and disseminate a toolkit comprising of the key knowledge products (synthesis report and national studies) and highlighting the achieved results, the challenges faced and policy options for Arab governments on how to further engage with civil society actors in addressing population and development issues through well-coordinated efforts to achieve development objectives	612 (3705) Contractual services	45,238
	A2.3: Organize a regional workshop on population and development to be attended by all 22 Arab countries to outline the methodology used in the 5 national processes and reflect on the lessons learned, assess their relevance to other Arab countries and provide the other Arab countries with the tools and concepts, including the toolkit and an access to a community of practice in the area, to support similar processes across the region	602 GTA	7,400
		608 (2302) Travel of Staff	1,856
		604 (0140) Consultants (National)	1,300
		604 (2601) Travel consultants	8,310
		621 (7202) Seminars and workshops	130,325
616 (4707) Operating expenses		680	
External Evaluation	Regional consultant	604 (0140) Consultants (Regional)	14,000

ANNEX 4: BUDGET DETAILS

4.1. SUMMARY TABLE

Object Class	Object Code	Object Description	Allotment	Explanation of changes in budget compared to the concept note
602		General Temporary Assistance	35,796	The budget presented in the concept note was revised in order to (1) account for the changes in the translation fees and (2) be able to implement a 2-day EGM instead of one day meeting (3) Reflect the cost of hiring the services of a rapporteur under the object line "Consultant" instead of "Contractual Services" as recommended by the UN DA Review Group.
604		Consultants and Expert Groups:	211,194	
	0111	International consultants (fee)		
	0140	National/regional consultants (fee)	171,300	
	2601	Consultant travel	20,454	
	2602	Expert Group (travel)	19,440	
608	2302	Travel of staff	64,180	
612	3705	Contractual services	45,238	
616	4707	Operating expenses	2,644	
621		Fellowships, grants and contributions		
	7202	Workshops	354,948	
		Total	714,000	

4.2. DETAILED JUSTIFICATION BY OBJECT CODE

General Temporary Assistance

A provision of \$35,796 is required in support to the following activities:

- In support of activities A1.1, A1.4 and A2.3 (9 work months x \$3,700 per month) = \$33,300
- Interpretation: in support of activity A1.1 (\$416 per interpreter x 3 interpreters x 2 day) = \$2,496

Consultants (provide separate breakdown by national/regional consultants and international consultants)

A provision of \$191,754 is required in support to the following activities:

- Regional consultants to prepare a desk review to identify knowledge and capacity gaps in the area of population and development, in support of activity A1.1 (1 work month x \$8,000 per month for a C level consultant) + (1 work month x \$6,000 per month for an B level consultant) + (\$3,324 for consultants' travel) = \$17,324
- To undertake evaluation of the project, in support of all activities (1 work month x \$14,000 per month for a E level consultant) = \$14,000

- National Consultants: to prepare three national sectoral studies for each of the five target countries in support of activity A1.2 (15 work months x \$6,000 per month = \$90,000); to hold national workshops and provide technical assistance to national counterparts in support of activities A1.3 (5 work months x \$5,200 per month = \$26,000) and A2.1 (5 work months x \$5,200 per month = \$26,000); to participate as facilitators in support of activities A1.4 and A2.3 (\$17,130 for consultants' travel); and to act as a rapporteur in support of activity A2.3 (0.25 work months x \$5,200 = \$1,300 = \$160,430

Expert groups

A provision of \$19,440 is required in support to the following activities:

- To facilitate the travel of 12 participants to the expert group meeting, in support of activity A1.1 (\$1,620 per persons x 12 persons) = \$19,440

Travel of Staff

A provision of \$64,180 is required in support to the following activities:

ESCWA staff members

- Organising, coordinating and servicing 11 training seminars / workshops, in support of activities A1.3, A1.4, and A2.1 The 23 missions include: A 1.3 [(2 staff * 5 national workshops) + A 2.1 (2 staff * 5 national workshops) + A 1.4 (3 staff * 1 regional seminar outside the duty station)] (\$2,552 per person x 23 persons) = \$58,696

ECA staff members

- Participating as resource persons in Seminars/workshops, in support of activities A1.1, A2.1, and A2.3 (\$1,828 per person x 3 persons) = \$5,484

Contractual services

A provision of \$45,238 is required in support to the following activities:

Translation, editing and production

- The editing of the toolkit, the translation of the executive summary and the policy recommendations into English, and the graphic design and printing of both English and Arabic versions in support of activity A2.2 = \$45,238

General operating expenses

A provision of \$2.644 is required in support to the following activities:

Supplies

- In support of activities A1.1, A1.3, A1.4, A2.1 and A2.3 = \$1,941

Meeting costs

- In support of activity A1.1 = \$703

Seminars and workshops

A provision of \$354,948 is required in support to the following activities:

Regional Working Groups / Seminars

- Travel of participants to two events at the regional level, in support of activity A1.4 (\$1,772 per participant x 37 participants = \$65,564) and activity A2.3 (\$1,772 per participant x 71 participants = \$125,812) = \$191,376

National Workshops

- Within country travel for 13 out of 20 participants expected to take part in national workshop, in support of activity A1.3 ($\$976$ per participant \times 13 participants \times 5 national workshops = $\$63,440$) and activity A2.1 ($\976 per participant \times 13 participants \times 5 national workshops = $\$63,440$) = $\$126,880$

Other cost in connection to the seminars and workshops

- Rental of premises and equipment, in support of activities A1.3, A.1.4 and A.2.1 (lump sum of $\$2,100 \times 11$ events = $\$23,100$) + (Interpretation for the regional seminar and regional workshop, in support of activities A1.4 and A2.3 ($\$416$ per interpreter \times 3 interpreters \times 4 days = $\$4,992$) + (meeting costs for the 10 national workshops, 1 regional seminar and 1 regional workshop, in support of activities A1.3, A1.4, A2.1 and A2.3 = $\$8,600$) Total = $\$36,692$