

SPECIAL SESSION 1

Inclusion, Empowerment and Equality as Pathways to Peace and Development

Tuesday 9 April 2019, 16:15-18:00, Main Hall, UN House, Beirut

Background

The session addresses the relationship between peacebuilding and development on the one hand and the three principles of inclusiveness, empowerment, and equality on the other. It will attempt to examine the following questions: How has the lack of inclusion, empowerment, and equality contributed to conflict? How does conflict and occupation damage inclusion, empowerment, and equality?

The session will examine the cases of Yemen, Palestine and others, looking at how conflicts/occupation have affected the three principles of inclusion, empowerment and equality. The session will also address conflict diffusion approaches through soft diplomacy including inclusive and cultural entry points. Experts will also discuss what mitigation and transformation strategies these three principles offer.

Session Objective

Enhance the policy debate within the Arab region to address the challenges of sustaining peace and resilience and build on more joined responses to mitigate the adversities of conflict/ occupation on sustainable development.

Themes of Discussion

Empowerment – How can conflict/occupation affected persons (especially youth and women) contribute to transitions and overcome wartime conditions;

Inclusiveness – Leave no one behind especially for conflict/occupation affected people;

Equality – Non-discrimination and provision of development for all conflict/occupation affected people.

Facilitator(s)

- **H.E. Mr. Tarek Mitri**, Director, Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs, American University of Beirut, Lebanon
- **Mr. Karam Karam**, Regional Advisor on Governance and Peacebuilding, Emerging and Conflict Related Issues Division, UN ESCWA

Panelists

- **Mr. Omar Abdulaziz Hallaj**, Senior Coordinator, Common Space Initiative
- **Ms. Eileen Kuttab**, Associate Professor of Sociology, Birzeit University, State of Palestine
- **Mr. Jonathan D. Moyer**, Director, Frederick S Pardee Center for International Futures, Josef Korbel School of International Studies, University of Denver, United States of America
- **Mr. Ghaith Fariz**, Director, UNESCO Regional Bureau for Sciences in the Arab States

This Special Session will be live-streamed