

DAY TWO: WEDNESDAY, 16 MARCH 2022

Beirut time (GMT +2)

10:00-11:30

Thematic discussion on multi-stakeholder efforts for green recovery

Green recovery is considered one of the three key elements for a solid post-pandemic recovery. This session will explore opportunities for green recovery in the Arab region, examine the extent to which adopted recovery measures take into account the environmental dimension, and consider donor directions on green recovery funding.

Moderator: Mr. Jamal Saghir, Professor of Practice, Institute for the Study of International Development, McGill University

Panelists:

Ms. Shada El-Sharif, Investment Priority Leader, Prime Minister's Delivery Unit, Jordan

Mr. Khaled Mahdi, Secretary-General, General Secretariat of the Supreme Council for Planning and Development, Kuwait

Mr. Salim Rouhana, Sustainable Development Programme Leader for Mashreq, World Bank

Ms. Noura Mansouri, Research Fellow, Energy Transition and Electric Power, King Abdullah Petroleum Studies and Research Centre (KAPSARC), Saudi Arabia

Ms. Hajar Khamlchi, Mediterranean Coordinator, Carboun

Mr. Rami Ahmad, Special Envoy on SDGs, Islamic Development Bank (IsDB)

Mr. Ahmed Ali Attiga, CEO, Arab Petroleum Investment Corporation (APICORP)

Discussion

Thematic discussion on recovery in the Arab least developed countries

This session will take stock of the COVID-19 recovery efforts in the Arab least developed countries (LDCs), and consider promising alternatives for change in the long term. It will discuss and identify actions needed by various stakeholders to advance a resilient recovery for the Arab LDCs.

Moderator: Mr. Nasser Yassine, Minister of Environment, Lebanon

Panelists:

Ms. Amal Saleh Said, Acting Minister of Trade and Supply, Sudan

Mr. Waed Badhib, Minister of Planning and International Cooperation, Yemen

Mr. Abderrahaman Deddi, Assistant Director-General for Development Policies, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Promotion of Productive Sectors, Mauritania

Mr. Muse Mohamed Osman, Director of Planning, Ministry of Planning, Somalia

Mr. Khadar Sheikh Mohamed, Disaster Risk Reduction Focal Point, Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management, Somalia

Ms. Nada Al Dossary, Director of the General Department for Media and Strategic Communication, Saudi Development and Reconstruction Programme for Yemen, Saudi Arabia

Mr. Abdallah Cheikh Sidia, Economic Advisor, Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development

Mr. Abdulla Al Musaibeeh, Regional Manager for Arab Countries, Kuwait Fund, Kuwait

Ms. Rwodah Al-Naimi, Director of Strategic Partnerships, Qatar Fund for Development

Discussants:

Mr. Ralf Südhoff, Director, Centre for Humanitarian Action, Germany

Ms. Nina Stuurman, Regional Emergency and Post Crisis Specialist for Middle East and North Africa, Regional Office for the Middle East and North Africa - IOM

Thematic discussion on recovery in the Arab least developed countries – *continued*

Discussants:

Mr. Samer Abdeljaber, Representative & Country Director, WFP, State of Palestine

Ms. Leah Zamore, Program Lead, Centre on International Cooperation, New York University

Mr. Dale Thompson, Consultant in Humanitarian-Development-Peacebuilding Nexus

Discussion

11:30-11:45 Break

11:45-13:45 Plenary session

SDG 14 review: Life below water

This session will present progress on SDG 14 in the Arab region and policy options for moving forward to build resilience and achieve an inclusive recovery.

Moderator: Ms. Laila Iskandar, Former Minister of the Environment (Egypt), and Founder of CID Consulting

Panelists:

Ms. Majida Maarouf, Director General, National Agency for the Development of Aquaculture, Morocco

Ms. Nedwa Nech, Executive Director, Mauritanie 2000

Mr. Imad Saoud, Professor of Aquatic Science, American University of Beirut

Discussion

SDG 15 review: Life on land

This session will present progress on SDG 15 in the Arab region and policy options for moving forward to build resilience and achieve an inclusive recovery.

Moderator: Mr. Mostafa Fouda, Advisor to the Minister, Ministry of Environmental Affairs, Egypt

Panelists:

Ms. Saliha Fortas, Director, Fight Against Desertification and the Green Dam Project, Algeria

Mr. Hassan Aldashti, Climatology Superintendent, Department of Meteorology, Directorate General of Civil Aviation, Kuwait

Mr. Nizar Hani, Manager, Shouf Biosphere Reserve, Lebanon

Panelists:

Ms. Maria Selin, Head of Regional Development Cooperation (MENA), Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida)

Discussion

13:45-14:45 Lunch			
14:45-16:15	Special session 4: Challenges and opportunities for young people in the transition from learning to decent work in the Arab region	Special session 5: How can supreme audit institutions support recovery and implementation of the SDGs in the Arab region?	Special session 6: Transboundary climate risks in the Arab region: approaches and solutions
16:15-16:30 Break			
16:30-18:00	Thematic discussion on multi-stakeholder efforts driving digital transformation for sustainable recovery Digitalization efforts across Government and business have accelerated in the Arab region out of a necessity imposed by social distancing measures. This session will provide a venue for sharing the experiences of various stakeholder groups in transforming the digital space; and will identify policy options to capitalize on this transformation for a sustainable recovery. Moderator: Ms. Nermine El Saadany , Regional Vice President for the Middle East, Internet Society (ISOC), Egypt Panelists: Mr. Ishaq Sider , Minister of Communications and Information Technology, State of Palestine Mr. Jawad Abbassi , Head of MENA, Global Association of Mobile Operators Panelists: Mr. Fadi Makki , Founder, Nudge Lebanon, Lebanon Ms. Rasha Tantawy , Head of Entrepreneurship, TIEC/ITIDA, Egypt Mr. Mohamed Ben Amor , Chairman, Arab ICT Organization, Tunisia Discussion	Round table on voluntary national reviews: Subnational follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda and tackling inequality This session will showcase recent experiences in conducting voluntary local reviews and other subnational reviews of the 2030 Agenda in the Arab region. It will discuss how comprehensive and systematic subnational follow-up and reporting can support effective national planning, and be geared to leaving no one behind and tackling inequality. Moderator: Mr. Kassem El Saddik , Co-Chair, EvalSDGs Network Panelists: Mr. Akram Khraisat , Director of the Urban Observatory, Greater Amman Municipality, Jordan Ms. Mona Fayed , Head of the Sustainable Development Unit, Ministry of Planning and Economic Development, Egypt Mr. Muhammed Al Sayed , Director General of Regional and Local Development, Ministry of Planning, Iraq Ms. Yaqeen Karim Jomaa , Director of Planning, Dhi Qar Governorate, Iraq Mr. Yehia Ibrahim , Responsible for the Committee on Social Inclusion, United Cities and Local Governments Middle East and West Asia Section Mr. Mustafa Khawaja , Statistics Expert, State of Palestine Discussants:	

Ms. Najat Maalla M'jid, Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General on Violence Against Children

Mr. Taher Belhassan, Head of the Sustainable Development Committee, Ministry of Planning, Libya

Discussion

18:00-18:15 Break

18:15-19:15 **Digital Arabic Content Award**

The ESCWA Digital Arabic Content (DAC) Award for Sustainable Development is a joint award between ESCWA and the World Summit Awards (WSA). It aims to promote and showcase best practices in digital Arabic content from the Arab region. It also aims to demonstrate the benefits of digital technologies for advancing sustainable development and promote the development of quality Arabic content related to the SDGs. The session will feature interventions by jury members and announcing the winners of the 2021 DAC Award.