

ESCWA **PUBLICATIONS** **CATALOGUE**

2004
2005



UNESCWA

UNITED NATIONS Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

INTRODUCTION

Dear Reader,

It is my pleasure to present the ESCWA Publications Catalogue for 2004 and 2005 publications. The Catalogue gives you an overview and an orientation to find the publications that will assist you in your research and work.

As the regional arm of the United Nations in Western Asia, ESCWA is committed to promoting economic and social development in the region by addressing the challenges and opportunities arising from globalization and by supporting regional integration. In this connection, an important part of our work is to raise awareness on development topics and emerging issues, and to provide recommendations on how to overcome obstacles for development and tackle emerging and conflict-related issues in this volatile region.

Since its establishment in 1974, ESCWA has been publishing a wealth of information and knowledge on economic, social and related development issues in the region of Western Asia to share it with readers from across the world. ESCWA strongly believes in the importance of disseminating and sharing knowledge and information, and one of the best means to achieve this is through publications. Many of the listed publications are also available on the ESCWA website and in CD ROMs. I am pleased that our publications are made available both in Arabic and English to meet the expressed needs of member countries and readers.

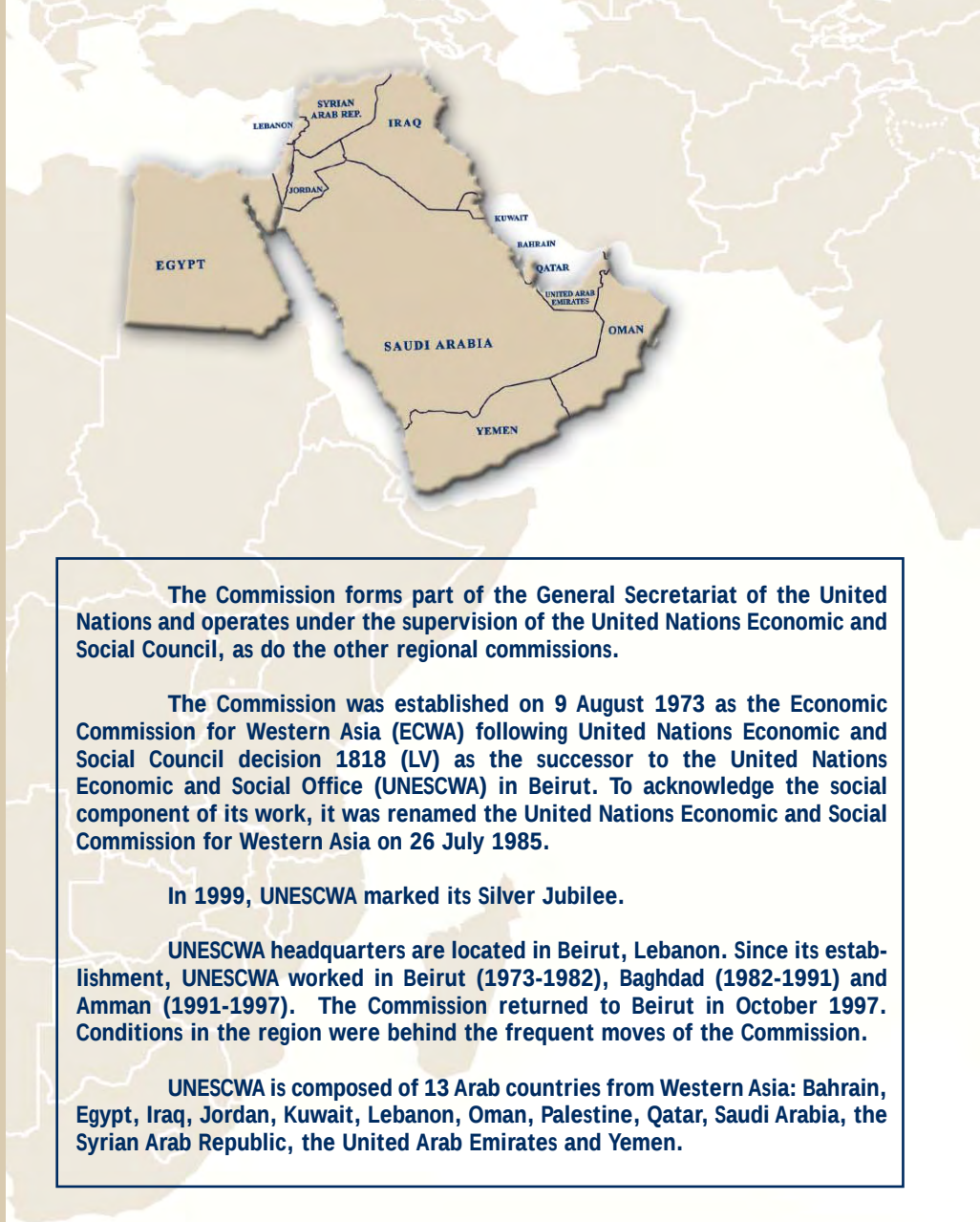
As highlight of the past two years, I recommend in particular the publication entitled *The Millennium Development Goals in the Arab Region 2005*, which was compiled in close collaboration with all the other United Nations entities working in the Arab region.

Allow me also to recommend our website to you, which is available at www.escwa.org.lb, for further information on our activities.

I wish you a pleasant and inspiring reading of our publications.

Mervat Tallawy
Under-Secretary-General
Executive Secretary of ESCWA





The Commission forms part of the General Secretariat of the United Nations and operates under the supervision of the United Nations Economic and Social Council, as do the other regional commissions.

The Commission was established on 9 August 1973 as the Economic Commission for Western Asia (ECWA) following United Nations Economic and Social Council decision 1818 (LV) as the successor to the United Nations Economic and Social Office (UNESCWA) in Beirut. To acknowledge the social component of its work, it was renamed the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia on 26 July 1985.

In 1999, UNESCWA marked its Silver Jubilee.

UNESCWA headquarters are located in Beirut, Lebanon. Since its establishment, UNESCWA worked in Beirut (1973-1982), Baghdad (1982-1991) and Amman (1991-1997). The Commission returned to Beirut in October 1997. Conditions in the region were behind the frequent moves of the Commission.

UNESCWA is composed of 13 Arab countries from Western Asia: Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the Syrian Arab Republic, the United Arab Emirates and Yemen.

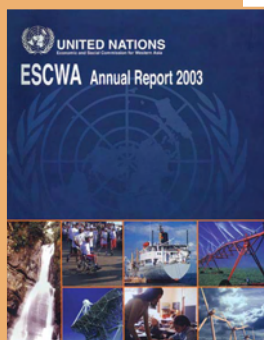
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ESCWA Annual Report 2003

The ESCWA Annual Report provides readers with a better understanding of the activities, role and mission of ESCWA in promoting economic and social development in the region. It presents activities undertaken by ESCWA in 2003, in addition to initiatives adopted during that year. The Report covers efforts made related to gender issues; operational and technical assistance projects; reconstruction of countries and territories suffering from wars and occupation, particularly Iraq and Palestine; and efforts related to regional integration. Moreover, the Report sheds light on studies issued by ESCWA that are designed as a reference for policy-makers and development experts.

KEY SUBJECTS:

Periodic reports; Activities; Economic development; Social development; Sustainable development; Sustainable agriculture; Private sector; Social policy; Women; Statistical data; Economic analysis; Globalization; Economic integration; Communication technology; Information technology; Regional cooperation; Technical cooperation; Armed conflicts; Conferences; Publications; ESCWA region; ESCWA; International cooperation

E/ESCWA/OES/2004/3



ESCWA Annual Report 2004

Economic integration and sustainable development in the politically unstable region are the primary concern of ESCWA. Conflict prevention and resolution in the area of shared water resources were a major part of the work programme of ESCWA in 2004. For that reason, this Report focuses on efforts made by ESCWA in the field of conflict prevention and presents the main activities undertaken by the Commission. A series of activities were conducted, including conferences, forums and publications, aimed at increasing awareness among decision-makers and experts concerning the impacts of conflict on the economies of the region. ESCWA also assisted countries in conflict or emerging from conflict in reconstruction and recovery.

KEY SUBJECTS:

Periodic reports; Activities; Economic development; Social development; Sustainable development; Sustainable agriculture; Private sector; Social policy; Statistical data; Economic analysis; Globalization; Economic integration; Communication technology; Information technology; Regional cooperation; Technical cooperation; Armed conflicts; Conferences; Publications; ESCWA region; ESCWA; Intergovernmental bodies; Iraq-Kuwait situation; Iraq; International cooperation; Work programme; Organizational structure; Women in development; Regional commissions; Reconstruction

E/ESCWA/OES/2005/1

SUBPROGRAMME 1:
Integrated Policies for the Management
of Regional Resources for Sustainable
Development





(Arabic only)

Improved Energy Efficiency and the Uses of Cleaner Fossil Fuels in Selected Sectors in Certain ESCWA Member Countries

Part I: Improved energy efficiency in energy-intensive industries

The industrial sector plays a vital role in the national economies of the ESCWA region and consumes some 25 per cent of total energy. This study is the first volume of a two-part study assessing the role of the industrial sector in the national economies of the region; current energy consumption trends in selected energy-intensive industries; and economically feasible options for improving energy efficiency in these industries. The study assesses energy consumption in several sectors, including the cement industry, steel industry, fertilizer manufacturing and glass manufacturing. In order to improve energy efficiency, the industrial sector in the region can benefit from a number of international donor agencies related to upgrading production technologies.

KEY SUBJECTS:

Industrial sector; Fertilizer industry; Cement industry; Iron and steel industry; Glass industry; Energy consumption; Energy efficiency; ESCWA region; ESCWA

E/ESCWA/SDPD/2005/1(Part I)

Improved Energy Efficiency and the Uses of Cleaner Fossil Fuels in Selected Sectors in Certain ESCWA Member Countries

Part II: The uses of cleaner fossil fuels

While the energy sector plays an important role in achieving economic and social development, the environmental impacts of energy uses call for the adoption of cleaner fuels. The transport sector has the most adverse impact on the public health of the region. This study focuses on current specifications, with comparisons to international norms, of gasoline, diesel and fuel oil; on measures adopted for improving the quality of such fuels and for reducing emissions, particularly the elimination of lead from gasoline, and the reduction of sulphur in gasoline and diesel; on expected economic and environmental benefits of using cleaner fossil fuels; and on barriers facing the production and use of cleaner fuels. It advises that there is a strong need to revise and modify the fuel specifications in the region to match international norms.

KEY SUBJECTS:

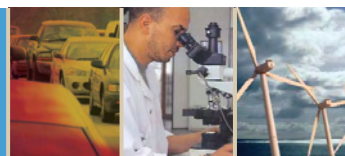
Fossil fuels; Standards; Pollutants; Cleaner production; Natural gas; Industrial sector; Transport; Environmental protection; Egypt; Financing; Gasoline; Recommendations; Diesel fuels

E/ESCWA/SDPD/2005/1(Part II)



(Arabic only)

SUBPROGRAMME 1: Integrated Policies for the Management of Regional Resources for Sustainable Development



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Networking Research, Development and Innovation in Arab Countries

Innovation is central to the development of successful economies. This study is intended to encourage research, development and innovation (RDI) networking in Arab countries. RDI networks that are designed to promote innovation inputs can secure competencies in areas of expertise that are unattainable by individual countries and institutions. Furthermore, these networks play a significant role in securing a critical mass of both human and financial resources. In this context, the study attempts to identify research areas seen as offering great potential for growth in the region, and to propose general guidelines for establishing viable regional RDI networking projects.

KEY SUBJECTS:

Technological innovations; Competitiveness; Globalization; Knowledge-based economy; Research and development; Case studies; European Union; Finland; Republic of Korea; Scientific cooperation; Arab countries; ESCWA; ESCWA region; Information networks

E/ESCWA/SDPD/2005/2

Review of Productivity and Sustainable Development Activities, Issue No. 3

The Review presents two selected key papers, namely: the specifications and indicators of wastewater treatment for use in irrigation; and the environmental impact assessment arising from the liberalization of trade on small and medium enterprises. The latter paper deals with the case of the textile and garment industries in Morocco and in the countries of the southern Mediterranean. The Review also provides a briefing on the main ESCWA activities during 2004, including studies, reports, meetings, projects and advisory services related to the sustainable management of water and energy resources, environment and related sectoral developments. Additionally, it includes a statistical profile of selected sectors in the water and energy fields.

KEY SUBJECTS:

Energy resources; Sustainable development; Productivity; Rehabilitation; Iraq; Palestine; Conferences; Technical cooperation; Environment; Technology; Water; Activities; Arab countries; ESCWA; Organic farming; Sustainable agriculture; Case studies; Economic development; Social development

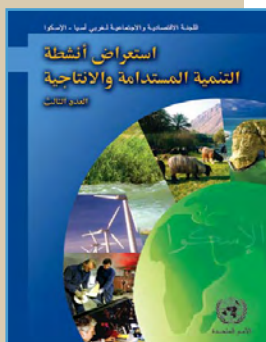
E/ESCWA/SDPD/2005/3

ISBN. 92-1-628046-8

ISSN. 1810-5262

Sales No. A.05.II.L.12

Price: US\$ 15.00



(Arabic only)



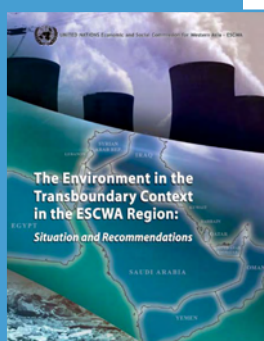
Environmental Standards and Competitiveness of Key Economic Sectors

While some analysts consider environmental standards as a valuable mechanism for improving production efficiency, others argue that compliance with those standards is an additional and costly burden that affects competitiveness. This study examines the relationship between the two factors by assessing the scope of the impact of environmental standards on competitiveness, and provides examples from both sides of the debate. Additionally, the report stresses on the importance of evaluating the scope and scale of impact of the two factors in order to provide policymakers with a clearer image in formulating sustainable development policies.

KEY SUBJECTS:

Competitiveness; Environmental standards; Food industry; Textile industry; International trade; Recommendations; Standardization; Clothing industry

E/ESCWA/SDPD/2005/4



The Environment in the Transboundary Context in the ESCWA Region: Situation and Recommendations

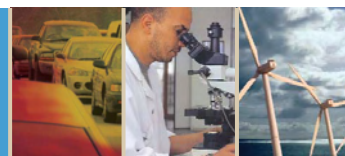
Most ESCWA member countries have ratified international environmental agreements and have committed themselves to enhancing relevant governance structures, developing action plans and submitting reports on the state of the environment. The resulting sectoral approaches and fragmented policies have failed to define or address adequately the challenges that are specifically transboundary in nature. This study attempts to identify and tackle the major transboundary environmental threats in the ESCWA region. It addresses the current regional management mechanisms and policy structures, and compares them to those in place at a global level. The study draws from the experiences of other regions to generate recommendations for improving environmental management in the transboundary context.

KEY SUBJECTS:

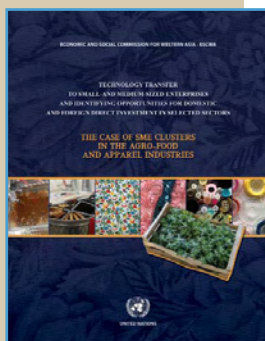
Environment; Transboundary environmental impact; ESCWA region; Recommendations; Water resources; Transboundary air pollution; Governance; Capacity building; Environmental information; Environmental standards; Shared water resources; Marine pollution; Urbanization; Environmental agreements

E/ESCWA/SDPD/2005/5

SUBPROGRAMME 1: Integrated Policies for the Management of Regional Resources for Sustainable Development



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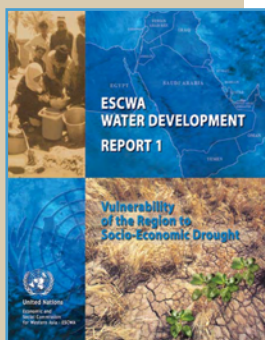
Technology Transfer to Small- and Medium-Sized Enterprises and Identifying Opportunities for Domestic and Foreign Direct Investment in Selected Sectors: **The Case of SME Clusters in the Agro-Food and Apparel Industries**

Given the changing business environment of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in developing countries, the need for mechanisms aimed at enhancing technology transfer and at channelling investment has become vital for the improvement of the productivity and competitiveness of SMEs. The Johannesburg Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development identified technology transfer as one of the major instruments for assisting developing countries to move towards sustainable development. Targeting decision-makers, academics, the financial community, and business associations and networks, this study endorses commitments adopted at the Summit and synthesizes a series of activities undertaken by ESCWA aimed at assessing and strengthening the development of SMEs cluster in Jordan, Lebanon and Morocco.

KEY SUBJECTS:

Technology transfer; Medium enterprises; Small enterprises; Food industry; Agricultural industries; Foreign direct investment; Investments; Financing; Lebanon; Olive oil; Manufacturing; Jordan; Morocco; Arab countries; Textile industry; ESCWA region;

E/ESCWA/SDPD/2005/6



ESCWA Water Development Report 1: **Vulnerability of the Region to Socio-Economic Drought**

Drought affects the greatest number of people globally. In recent years, drought research and planning have become crucial in terms of averting and mitigating disasters caused by droughts. In addition to representing a meteorological dimension, droughts can be exacerbated by the interactions of social, political and economic systems. This study addresses the gap in understanding socio-economic drought in the ESCWA region, and raises awareness of the importance of developing drought detection, prevention, preparedness and improvement measures regionally, with case studies of such measures applied in Jordan, the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen.

KEY SUBJECTS:

ESCWA region; Water; Development; Drought; Climate; Agriculture; Environment; Jordan; Syrian Arab Republic; Yemen; Early warning systems; Water resources development; Unemployment; Middle East; Labour; Population trends; Poverty; Farm management; Socio-economic indicators; Employment

E/ESCWA/SDPD/2005/9

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Sales No. A.05.II.L.17

Price: US\$ 15.00



(Arabic only)

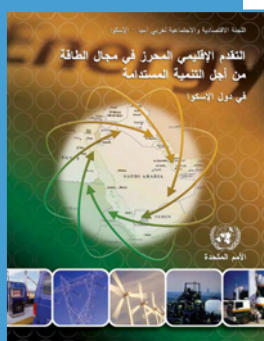
Developing Frameworks for the Implementation of National Strategies Towards an Integrated Water Resources Management in ESCWA Member States

All ESCWA member States have agreed to formulate and implement national strategies for the application of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) guidelines by 2005. However, variations in the economic and social characteristics of individual ESCWA member countries influence the means and ways these strategies are formulated and subsequently applied. This study builds on data collected by two surveys initiated in 2001 and 2004 that grouped member countries in three different clusters according to their level of IWRM implementation. This level of implementation is determined by the ability to ensure an enabling environment, implement institutional reforms and adopt relevant management tools.

KEY SUBJECTS:

Water resources; Development strategies; Water management; Water consumption; Population growth; Programme implementation; ESCWA region; Urbanization; ESCWA

E/ESCWA/SDPD/2005/10



(Arabic only)

Improved Energy Efficiency and the Uses of Cleaner Fossil Fuels in Selected Sectors in Certain ESCWA Member Countries

Part II: The uses of cleaner fossil fuels

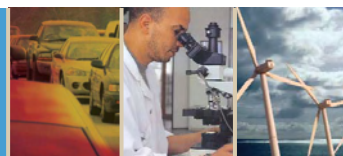
ESCWA member countries benefit from a variety of renewable energy sources, namely, solar, wind and biomass. However, the contribution of these resources to the energy balance remains very limited. Using data collected from questionnaires filled by ESCWA member countries, this study describes the energy sector in the region, encompassing both traditional and renewable energy resources. The study also offers a briefing on the current status of clean fossil fuel technologies and transport, and on energy access to rural and remote areas in the region. This study is aimed at providing decision-makers in ESCWA member countries with up-to-date facts and figures with regards to the programmes, policies and activities related to the five energy issues of sustainable development.

KEY SUBJECTS:

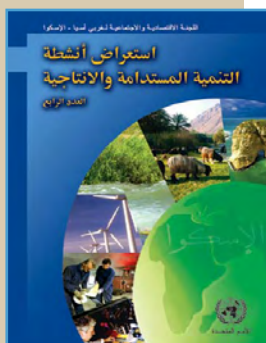
Sustainable development; Energy resources; Energy consumption; Energy policy; ESCWA; Statistical data; Electricity; Demographic indicators; Electric power; Energy efficiency; Energy conservation; Renewable energy sources; Solar energy; Wind power; Fossil fuels; Recommendations; International cooperation; Regional cooperation; Jordan; Syrian Arab Republic; Lebanon; Egypt; ESCWA region; ESCWA

E/ESCWA/SDPD/2005/11

SUBPROGRAMME 1: Integrated Policies for the Management of Regional Resources for Sustainable Development



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(Arabic only)

Review of Sustainable Development and Productivity, **Issue No. 4**

ESCWA has particular expertise in terms of implementing and following up on activities targeting sustainable development in the region. Within that context, the Review presents work achieved by ESCWA in the biennium 2004-2005 on the "Integrated Policies and Management of Regional Resources for Sustainable Development". It also presents to policymakers, researchers and other readers the studies, reports, workshops, conferences and field projects, in addition to regional and international technical cooperation activities that have been undertaken by ESCWA. The Review also includes a section for statistical overviews on selected sectors in the ESCWA region.

KEY SUBJECTS:

Sustainable development; Productivity; Case studies; Conferences; Technical cooperation; ESCWA; Regional cooperation; Advisory services; Water management; Activities; Arab countries

E/ESCWA/SDPD/2005/14

Regional Cooperation in the Management of Water Resources: **Case Studies of Selected ESCWA Member States**

Global demand for water is expected to increase by 50 per cent by the year 2025, while ESCWA's share of renewable water resources remains the lowest in the world. Despite the necessity for sound planning for the protection of shared water resources in ESCWA member countries, it is still difficult for neighbouring countries to negotiate a joint and integrated strategy for action. This study sheds light on the management of water resources in the ESCWA region, including the impact of bilateral or multilateral regional agreements on socio-economic development, and presents the case study of the agreement signed by Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic on shared water resources of the Nahar al-Kabir River.

KEY SUBJECTS:

Shared water resources; Water management; Rivers; Water resources; Jordan; Water policy; Syrian Arab Republic; Lebanon; Dams; Project implementation; Aquifers; Groundwater; Recommendations; ESCWA region; Regional plans; Regional cooperation

E/ESCWA/SDPD/2005/15



SUBPROGRAMME 2:
Integrated Social Policies





Central Issues Related to Social Policies: Comparative Study and Guidelines for the Formulation of Social Policies in the ESCWA Region, Social Policy Series, No. 9

While the historical developments in building the institutions necessary for social policies implementation are specific to every country, a number of overriding principles contribute to the effective development of social policies. This paper draws attention to successful cases in which social policies have been implemented within a sustainable development framework and draws guidelines from those experiences aimed at developing social policies in the ESCWA region. Within that context, this study presents the experiences relating to the social policies of Canada, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Norway and Tunisia.

KEY SUBJECTS:

Social policy; Case studies; Canada; Malaysia; Norway; Republic of Korea; Tunisia; Guidelines; Comparative analysis; ESCWA region

E/ESCWA/SDD/2004/2



"Shuruq": The National Programme for Integrated Rural Development in Egypt

This study presents the National Programme for Integrated Rural Development in Egypt, referred to as "Shuruq", and highlights the scientific bases, goals, methodology and mechanisms of operation of the Programme. Moreover, the study covers achievements made with regard to the implementation of the Programme in the period 1993-2003, in addition to problems faced, programme evaluation outcomes and possibilities for future progress.

KEY SUBJECTS:

Rural development; Community development; Rural areas; Technical cooperation; National execution of projects; Financing; Egypt; ESCWA; Shuruq; Country programmes; Programme implementation

E/ESCWA/SDD/2004/6

(Arabic only)

SUBPROGRAMME 2: Integrated Social Policies



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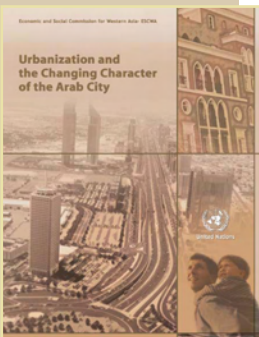
Population Policy Portfolio: Reproductive Health and Reproductive Rights

The International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), held in Cairo in 1994, constituted a turning point in methods used in dealing with population and development issues. This report is part of activities undertaken by ESCWA. In addition to disseminating information related to population policies, the report presents progress made by Arab States in the implementation of the outcome of the International Conference, especially in reproductive health and reproductive rights. Moreover, it highlights programmes and population policies adopted by these countries, and opportunities available to them aimed at meeting national and global goals.

KEY SUBJECTS:

Reproductive health; Population policy; Millennium Development Goals; Demographic indicators; Health indicators; Fertility; Family planning; Maternal mortality; International Conference on Population and Development (1994: Cairo, Egypt)

E/ESCWA/SDD/2005/Booklet.1



Urbanization and the Changing Character of the Arab City

Development generates such major forces as rural-urban migration, population growth and socio-economic developments. This study sheds light on the role of these major forces in shaping the character of the Arab city and presents the results of a comparative analysis of three case studies, namely, Amman, with its challenge of continuous growth; Beirut and its reconstruction predicament; and Dubai in the United Arab Emirates, as the city of many cities. This study includes revealing pictures of these three cities and aims to contribute to the discourse on urban development in the Arab region.

KEY SUBJECTS:

Urbanization; Arab cities; Amman; Beirut; Dubai; Reconstruction; Urban planning; Architecture; ESCWA region

E/ESCWA/SDD/2005/1



(Arabic only)

Capacity-building for Workers in Development Services Centres in Lebanon

Increasing the efficiency of development centres in Lebanon has become crucial, particularly given the current deteriorating living conditions in that country. This study presents the status of development services centres in Lebanon, their geographic locations, as well as the various services they provide on the professional, health and educational levels. The study also sheds light on preparatory procedures for the implementation of the Project on Improving Living Conditions, which is being undertaken jointly by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Ministry of Social Affairs in Lebanon; and provides an overview of the relevant training workshops organized in 2003, together with their outcomes and methods for evaluating such workshops.

KEY SUBJECTS:

Exercise; Vocational training; Training programmes; Capacity building; Poverty mitigation; Social services; Geographical distribution; Lebanon; Lebanon Ministry of Social Affairs; Establishment; Centres

E/ESCWA/SDD/2005/3



Towards Integrated Social Policies in Arab Countries, Framework and Comparative Analysis

In the context of modernization and speeding up economic and social changes, the transition from stable traditional societies to a dynamic modern environment requires adaptation, which translates into sound social policies. This study promotes a coordinated and effective social vision that encompasses social and economic priorities of countries in the ESCWA region through a comparison between developed countries, namely, Canada and Norway, and countries at different stages of development, namely, Malaysia, Republic of Korea and Tunisia. Arab countries are in need of integrated policies that improve efficiency by avoiding duplication and contradictions, thereby ensuring synergy and enhancing the well-being and the quality of life of the general public.

KEY SUBJECTS:

Social policy; Arab countries; Social problems; Social development; Civil society; Economic development; Poverty; Education; Health care delivery; Social integration; Women's status; Environment; ESCWA; Globalization; Social values; Political aspects; Economic integration

E/ESCWA/SDD/2005/4

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Sales No. E.06.II.L.2

Price: US\$ 15.00

SUBPROGRAMME 2: Integrated Social Policies



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Population and Development Report, Second Issue **The Demographic Window: An Opportunity for Development in the Arab Countries**

Based on modern theories analysing the impact of demography on development, the Population and Development Report is aimed at enhancing the understanding of the relation between those two factors, and at increasing awareness of challenges posed by population dynamics and demographic changes. This Report also stresses on the importance of strategic stands that consider population as a qualitative and quantitative variable affecting the economic, social, political and environmental forces. Analysis and recommendations are drawn from experiences of developing countries, especially those in the ESCWA region.

KEY SUBJECTS:

Population growth; Demographic indicators; Economic growth; Demographic statistics; Population composition; Fertility; Arab countries; Developing countries; Europe; ESCWA region

E/ESCWA/SDD/2005/5

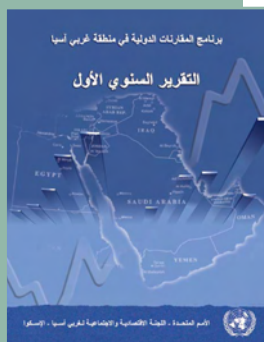
ISBN. 92-1-128298-5

ISSN. 1810-0600

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(Arabic only)

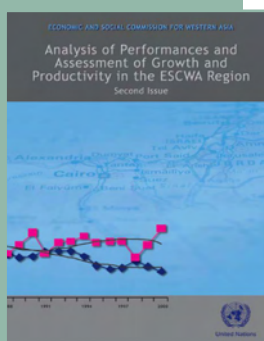
First Annual Report of the International Comparison Programme in the Region of Western Asia

This brief Report provides the background, objectives, framework and organizational structure of the International Comparison Programme (ICP). In addition, it highlights the implementation of ICP and related activities in Western Asia.

KEY SUBJECTS:

International Comparison Project; Organizational structure; Work programme; Participants; Conferences; ESCWA region; Agenda; ESCWA; Recommendations; Statistical methodology

E/ESCWA/EAD/2004/1



Analysis of Performances and Assessment of Growth and Productivity in the ESCWA Region, **Second Issue**

Labour productivity in the ESCWA region has been on the decline over the past two decades. The principal cause can be attributed to the decline in investment ratio, particularly physical investment in plants and equipment. This report highlights the determinants of output per worker in empirical terms through an analysis of total factor productivity growth. It reveals the significance of capital stock rather than the significance of human capital and technology. The message is that in conflict and risk conditions the impetus for investment, extra-territorial privileges and guarantees need to be provided to regional capital and labour to reverse the decline.

KEY SUBJECTS:

Globalization; Economic growth; Foreign investments; Gross domestic product; ESCWA region;

E/ESCWA/EAD/2004/2

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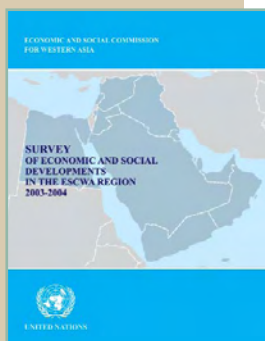
Sales No. E.04.II.L.6

Price: US\$ 10.00

SUBPROGRAMME 3: Economic Analysis and Forecasting for Regional Development



25



Survey of Economic and Social Developments in the ESCWA Region, 2003-2004

Since they peaked in 1978, investment rates in the ESCWA region have been steadily declining at an average of 2 per cent per annum. According to this issue of the Survey, risks related to political tensions have consistently lowered investment rates and, consequently, have adversely affected economic growth rates and employment opportunities. When risks are high, policy should be directed towards insurance provision, and public and private interests should not be regarded as mutually exclusive. The rationing of public investment was not offset by an equivalent increase in private investment. Action needs to revolve around increasing investment through an intraregional investment treaty that provides extraterritorial rights and protection for regional capital. The Survey reviews developments in economic growth, trade, monetary and fiscal developments, and education.

KEY SUBJECTS:

Economic development; Petroleum exports; Petroleum prices; Economic growth; Standard of living; Unemployment; Foreign direct investment; Economic integration; Monetary analysis; Banking; Capital markets; Public finance; Public debt; Social development; Poverty; Education; Illiteracy; ESCWA region; ESCWA

E/ESCWA/EAD/2004/4
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Sales No. E.04.II.L.7
Price: US\$ 40.00



Development and Institutional Reform of Financial Markets: **Issues and Policy Options for the ESCWA Region**

There is a vital link between the strength of financial markets and economic growth. In the new integrated global financial environment, sustained economic growth is no longer possible without a sound financial and banking system. This study analyses the conceptual and practical issues related to developing sound and efficient financial markets and institutions in the ESCWA region, and articulates policy options for developing and strengthening the financial sector in the region. It argues that realizing the benefits of financial liberalization in developing countries requires the existence of a whole range of well-functioning and relatively sophisticated financial markets and institutions as well as adequate legal and regulatory systems. Opening domestic financial markets without meeting these prerequisites could result in a financial crisis similar to the Asian crisis of 1997.

KEY SUBJECTS:

Economic growth; Financial systems; Financial resources; Capital controls; Economic stabilization; ESCWA region; Financial institutions; Economic reform; Capital markets; Financial policy

E/ESCWA/EAD/2004/5



Global Forecasts and Predictions for the ESCWA Region: The Roles of Investment and Public Expenditure in Economic Growth, **Issue No. 2**

In endeavouring to reverse the ESCWA region's unsatisfactory growth performance trend over the past two decades, it is essential to identify the factors that contribute to higher growth, which could assist decision-makers in formulating appropriate economic policies to stimulate growth. The study presents a quantitative examination of the sources of economic growth in the region, particularly the impact of capital accumulation and investment on economic growth. The empirical section uses a time series panel vector autoregression econometric model to identify and forecast the contributions of investment, public expenditures, oil revenues and exports to gross domestic product (GDP) growth. It also outlines recommended economic policies for member countries.

KEY SUBJECTS:

ESCWA region; Economic forecasts; Public expenditures; Economic growth; Gross domestic product; Macroeconomics; Petroleum revenues; ESCWA; Exports; Investments; Statistical data

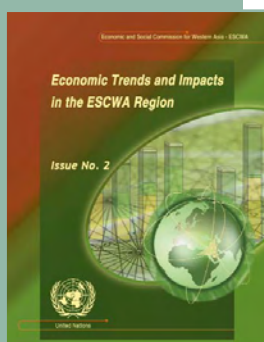
E/ESCWA/EAD/2005/1

ISBN. 92-1-128280-2

ISSN. 1729-8563

Sales No. E.05.II.L.5

Price: US\$ 13.00



Economic Trends and Impacts in the ESCWA Region, **Issue No. 2**

Taking into consideration the financial crisis that erupted in East Asia in 1997 and its aftermath, this study analyses the latest financial developments in the region, particularly in the context of the recent introduction of the financial capital framework. In order to better understand the financial systems in ESCWA member countries, this study presents those systems and the role they play in terms of economic growth in the region. Additionally, it sheds lights on trends and weaknesses of the financial sector in the ESCWA region with the aim of assisting policy-makers in preventing a financial crisis.

KEY SUBJECTS:

ESCWA region; ESCWA; Financial systems; Economic growth; Banking; Financial statistics; Stock markets; Risk assessment; Islamic banks; BASEL II; Financial crises; Financial policy

E/ESCWA/EAD/2005/2

ISBN. 92-1-128281-0

ISSN. 1727-5822

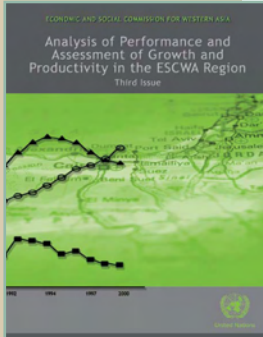
Sales No. E.05.II.L.6

Price: US\$ 13.00

SUBPROGRAMME 3: Economic Analysis and Forecasting for Regional Development



27



Analysis of Performance and Assessment of Growth and Productivity in the ESCWA Region, **Third issue**

Resource mobilization dynamics in the diversified ESCWA region are not uniform. In that sense, this study presents an empirical and analytical survey of the savings and investment climates in the ESCWA region by means of analysing conditions in the region and comparing them to those in other developing countries. Furthermore, the study explores economic policy options available to policymakers with regard to enhancing economic growth and income in order to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

KEY SUBJECTS:

Economic growth; Foreign investments; Gross domestic product; ESCWA region; ESCWA; Capital formation; Productivity; Periodicals; Globalization; MDGs

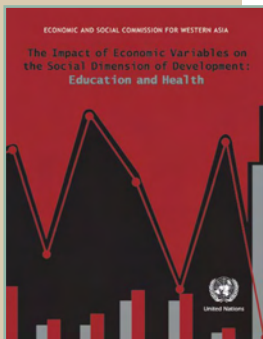
E/ESCWA/EAD/2005/3

ISBN. 92-1-128282-9

ISSN. 1727-5857

Sales No. E.05.II.L.7

Price: US\$15.00



The Impact of Economic Variables on the Social Dimension of Development: **Education and Health**

Investment in human capital is crucial for poverty reduction and has a positive impact on economic growth and human development. This study analyses the impact of public policy on human development as measured in terms of public spending on education and health in 11 ESCWA countries during the period 1975-2002. It compares achievements in human development across these countries by testing the statistical relationship between the indicators of human development in these countries and their per capita GDP, and through cross-section time-series panel data model. The study shows that economic growth is not enough to improve human development and achieve the MDGs, and that increases in spending should be targeted at those that need them most, namely, the poor.

KEY SUBJECTS:

Multivariate analysis; Factor analysis; Social development; Socio-economic indicators; Economic trends; Education; Human development; Social conditions; Health; ESCWA region; Public expenditures; Economic growth; MDGs

E/ESCWA/EAD/2005/4



Survey of Economic and Social Developments in the ESCWA Region 2004-2005

Development under risk represents a collective challenge to the ESCWA region. The theme for this year's Survey is "strategies for development out of crisis conditions", which falls into three broad analytical categories, namely: economic trends and developments, social conditions and policies, and sustainable development. The objective of the Survey is to choose a battery of policy measures that aim to cushion the impact of economic and social downturns and to surmount the stress of the prevailing conditions. In a more concrete sense, macroeconomic policy needs to be centred on regional coordination, investment facilitation and job creation.

KEY SUBJECTS:

Economic development; Petroleum exports; Petroleum prices; Economic growth; Standard of living; Unemployment; Trade; Foreign direct investment; Economic integration; Monetary analysis; Banking; Capital markets; Public finance; Public debt; Social development; Poverty; Education; Illiteracy; ESCWA region; ESCWA; Sustainable development; Development strategies; Foreign trade; International trade; Macroeconomics

E/ESCWA/EAD/2005/6

ISBN. 92-1-12826-1

ISSN. 0255-5123

Sales No. E.05.II.L.11

Price: US\$ 40.00

Economic Trends and Impacts, Banking Sector Lending Behaviour and Efficiency in Selected ESCWA Member Countries, Issue No. 3

This series analyses macroeconomic and institutional developments in ESCWA member countries. It aims to identify key obstacles to a sustainable and equitable development process in the region in order to formulate a set of policy recommendations. The study provides a comprehensive analysis of developments in the banking sector, including key problem areas, in selected ESCWA member countries over the past two decades. The study employs a stochastic frontier model and examines potential determinants of banking sector inefficiency. In addition, the study investigates the relationship between financial sector development and economic growth by estimating a fixed-effects panel data model.

KEY SUBJECTS:

ESCWA region; ESCWA; Financial systems; Economic growth; Banking; Financial statistics; Stock markets; Risk assessment; Islamic banks; Poverty mitigation; Financial liberalization; Financial policy; Financial analysis; Credit; Recommendations

E/ESCWA/EAD/2005/7

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ISSN. 1727-5822

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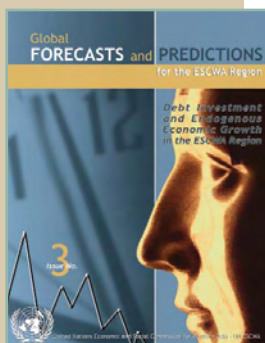
Price: US\$ 13.00



SUBPROGRAMME 3: Economic Analysis and Forecasting for Regional Development



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Global Forecasts and Predictions for the ESCWA Region: **Debt Investment and Endogenous Economic Growth in the ESCWA Region, Issue No. 3**

The gradual deterioration of national economies in the ESCWA region since the 1970s can be largely attributed to weak growth in development and prospects. This study defines the factors that have hindered growth, and identifies ways to enhance economic development in each of the ESCWA member countries. The study also analyses the impact of capital accumulation, and public and private investment on those economies; and presents fiscal policy sustainability forecasts.

KEY SUBJECTS:

ESCWA region; Economic forecasts; Economic growth; Gross domestic product; Macroeconomics; ESCWA; Investments; Statistical data; External debt

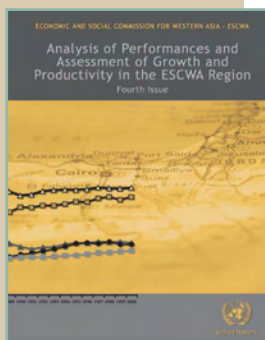
E/ESCWA/EAD/2005/8

ISBN. 92-1-128296-9

ISSN. 1729-8563

Sales No. E.06.II.L.1

Price: US\$13.00



Analysis of Performances and Assessment of Growth and Productivity in the ESCWA Region, **Fourth Issue**

The weak performance of the ESCWA region is particularly noticeable when compared to the rapidly growing economies of countries in East Asia. The objective of this series is to develop policy prescriptions for ESCWA member countries in order to ensure better economic growth performance and an improvement in productivity. This fourth issue aims to assess the productivity performance of selected ESCWA member countries by applying innovative theoretical frameworks. Specifically, the production frontier approach, which is based on data envelopment analysis, is used to analyse trends in total factor productivity. This method is also extended to a decomposition analysis of labour productivity. By introducing these methodologies, this study also seeks to promote technical discussion among the region's experts in the field.

KEY SUBJECTS:

ESCWA region; Productivity; Performance; Data analysis; Labour productivity; Periodicals; Employment; Science and technology

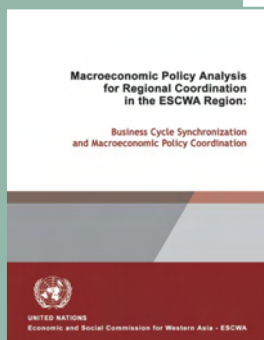
E/ESCWA/EAD/2005/9

ISBN. 92-1-128300-0

ISSN. 1727-5857

Sales No. E.06.II.L.5

Price: US\$15.00



Macroeconomic Policy Analysis for Regional Coordination in the ESCWA Region: **Business Cycle Synchronization and Macroeconomic Policy Coordination**

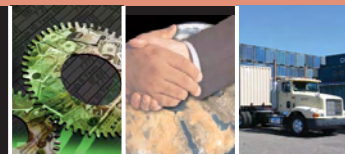
The increasing trend towards regional and international globalization is presenting the ESCWA region with several monetary and fiscal challenges. Given the low level of economic integration within the ESCWA region, this study examines the case for increased policy coordination and, ultimately, the adoption of a common single currency. To achieve this objective, this report assesses the relationship between trade intensity, economic structure and the degree of business cycle synchronization in the ESCWA region. The study concludes that the time for adopting a common currency for the ESCWA region has not yet arrived.

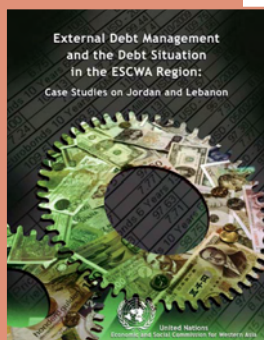
Key subjects:

KEY SUBJECTS:

Macroeconomics; ESCWA region; Business cycles; Foreign trade; Policy-making; Inflation; Imports; Exports; Interest rates; Currency

E/ESCWA/EAD/2005/10





External Debt Management and the Debt Situation in the ESCWA Region: Case Studies on Jordan and Lebanon

External debt is one of the six actions identified by the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development as key for mobilizing financial resources for development and facilitating poverty reduction. This report presents an overview of the total external debt of the heavily indebted countries in the ESCWA region, including the size of the external debt, main external debt indicators, the structure of debt and debt management for selected countries. Jordan and Lebanon were selected as good examples of the complexity of the external debt situation, and owing to the significant differences in their external debt situations and their respective solutions for sustainable debt management.

KEY SUBJECTS:

Debt management; External debt; Financial statistics; Statistical data; Case studies; Lebanon; Jordan; ESCWA; ESCWA region

E/ESCWA/GRID/2004/5



Annual Review of Developments in Globalization and Regional Integration in the Countries of the ESCWA Region, 2004

Given the size and population of the ESCWA region, the participation of member countries in global economic activity remains relatively modest. This third issue of the Review offers an assessment of the manifestations of globalization in Arab countries and monitors developments in the field of Arab regional integration. The Review aims to measure the level of development, or lack thereof, with respect to the integration of the region into the global economy and the steps taken to achieve regional integration. This Review is intended to provide readers with a greater understanding of the opportunities and challenges of globalization, the need to expedite Arab regional integration and the means proposed for achieving that integration.

KEY SUBJECTS:

Economic integration; Arab free trade area; Foreign direct investment; Intraregional trade; Energy resources; Information technology; Communication technology; Arab countries; ESCWA; Agadir agreement; Trade in services; Road transport; Environment; Water resources; Ministerial Conference (Doha: 2001); Globalization; Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf; World Trade Organization; Agreement on International Railways in the Arab Mashreq (2002); Agreement on International Roads in the Arab Mashreq (2001); Multilateral trade negotiations; Bilateral trade agreements; Foreign trade; Natural gas; Tourism; Recommendations; ESCWA region

E/ESCWA/GRID/2004/6

ISBN. 92-1-128279-9

ISSN. 1729-0279

Sales No. E.05.II.L.4

Price: US\$ 20.00

SUBPROGRAMME 4: Regional Integration and Responding to Globalization



33



(Arabic only)

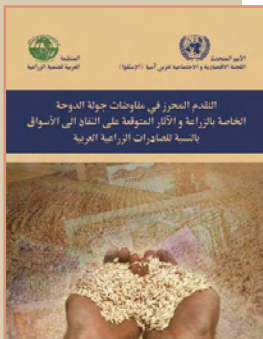
Impact of Free Trade Area between Egypt and the Syrian Arab Republic on the Textile and Garment Sector

This study attempts to assess the impact of the proposed free trade area between Egypt and the Syrian Arab Republic on the textile and garment sector, particularly in the light of the importance of that sector to the two countries in terms of providing employment opportunities and of the contribution to exports. The study aims to assist the two countries to benefit from the opportunities offered by trade liberalization and to maintain both their share of exports and their share in the local market subsequent to the planned termination of the quota system. Additionally, this study presents the lessons learned from the experience of a common market of four Latin American countries.

KEY SUBJECTS:

Clothing industry; Textile industry; Free trade areas; Economic integration; Competition; Protectionism; Industrial production; Foreign trade; Syrian Arab Republic; Egypt; Industrial statistics; Trade statistics; Euro-Mediterranean partnership; Statistical classifications; ESCWA region

E/ESCWA/GRID/2005/1



(Arabic only)

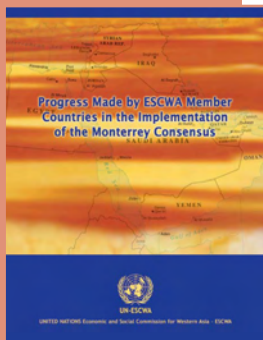
Progress Made in the Doha Round Negotiations in Agriculture and the Impact on Market Access for the Agricultural Exports of Arab Countries

With the exception of the countries of the Gulf subregion, the agricultural sector and agricultural exports are vital to Arab countries. This study reviews and analyses recent developments in the negotiations on agriculture within the framework of the Doha Round and of the World Trade Organization (WTO) agreement on agriculture and its implementation, including the elimination of trade barriers, market access and reduction of subsidies and tariffs. It tackles Arab agricultural exports and their need to adapt to market requirements, in addition to the adverse impact of high technical specifications and environmental requirements set by the European markets. The study was prepared by a team composed of ESCWA, the Arab Organization for Agricultural Development and an external expert.

KEY SUBJECTS:

Uruguay Round; Doha; Agriculture; Work programme; Agricultural trade; World Trade Organization; Market access; Multilateral trade negotiations; Exports; Europe;

E/ESCWA/GRID/2005/3



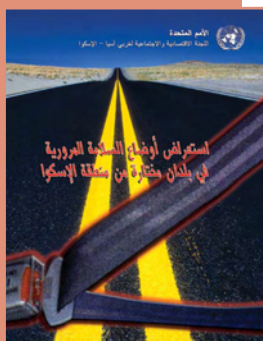
Progress Made by ESCWA Member Countries in the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus

A minimum of \$50 billion a year of additional aid for developing countries is needed to reach the MDGs by the year 2015. The 2002 Monterrey Consensus on Financing for Development identified six leading actions aimed at mobilizing financial resources for developing countries, thereby facilitating the achievement of MDGs on poverty reduction. This study monitors the progress of ESCWA member States in the implementation of their obligations under the Monterrey Consensus and assesses the challenges hindering this progress. Given the interrelated nature of the six actions, ESCWA member countries must consider pursuing a coordinated policy approach in terms of implementing the Monterrey Consensus and of enforcing regulatory and legislative reforms aimed at attracting international and intraregional investment.

KEY SUBJECTS:

Financing; Monterrey Consensus; Finance for development; Financial resources; Development finance; Financial flows; Economic growth; External debt; Foreign direct investment; Resources mobilization; Investment policy; Regional cooperation; Euro-Mediterranean partnership; Arab Free Trade Area; International trade; Economic integration; Technical cooperation; Programme implementation; ESCWA region

E/ESCWA/GRID/2005/5



(Arabic only)

Road Traffic Safety in Selected ESCWA Member Countries

Road traffic accidents constitute a major burden to all countries due to the high toll they exert on human lives and property. Efforts to redress this problem have been made by a number of countries in the ESCWA region on an individual basis, but no concerted structured work was put forth to deal with the issue from a regional perspective. This study presents an overview of various aspects on road traffic safety in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries, Lebanon and Jordan. The aspects reviewed include mainly laws governing road traffic safety matters, methods used in gathering and analysing statistics on road accidents, and educational and awareness-raising programmes on road traffic safety. The study provides an analysis of the positive and negative elements involved in connection to the reviewed aspects, and suggestions on how to tackle the latter. It also provides recommendations on how to improve the level of road traffic safety in ESCWA countries, especially the dissemination of good practices and the examination of the role that ESCWA could play in this respect.

KEY SUBJECTS:

Traffic safety; Laws and regulations; Traffic accidents; Statistical data; Driving permits; ESCWA region

E/ESCWA/GRID/2005/6

SUBPROGRAMME 4: Regional Integration and Responding to Globalization



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(Arabic only)

The Implications of the Commitments of ESCWA Member Countries to Agreements of the World Trade Organization, European Partnership Agreements and the Great Arab Free Trade Area: Case Studies of Egypt and Jordan

The decision of countries to enter into bilateral or regional trade arrangements is strategic in nature. Building on this fact and taking this perspective, the study aims at reviewing regional trade arrangements, discussing various forms of regional integration, tackling the legal framework of WTO that determines regional trade arrangements, undertaking a comparative analysis of the commitments under such arrangements, and drawing conclusions as to the trade arrangements that should be maintained. The study also aims at examining existing inter-Arab trade agreements as well as agreements ratified with countries outside the Arab region. The cases of Egypt and Jordan were highlighted owing to the fact that both countries have had extensive experience with respect to trade agreements.

KEY SUBJECTS:

Bilateral trade agreements; World Trade Organization; International trade; Jordan; Case studies; Egypt; Exports; Euro-Mediterranean partnership; Imports; ESCWA region

E/ESCWA/GRID/2005/7



(Arabic only)

Developments in the Regulation of Intellectual Property Rights in Arab Countries

Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) became the main component of the new International Trade System, especially after the establishment of WTO. The Trade-related Aspects of the Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) highlights the basic obligations for the respect of IPRs in drafting national laws. For a better understanding of those regulations, this study covers international references and treaties, together with the amendments applied, protecting intellectual rights or copyrights. Furthermore, this study tackles measures recommended and required from Arab countries in terms of modernizing their laws, and lists outdated laws adopted in a number of Arab countries.

KEY SUBJECTS:

Intellectual property; Treaties; Arab countries; United Arab Emirates; Egypt; Bahrain; Saudi Arabia; ESCWA region; Laws and regulations; Conferences

E/ESCWA/GRID/2005/8



(Arabic only)

Transnational Corporations in ESCWA Member Countries with the United Arab Emirates and Egypt as Case Studies

In addition to enhancing the flow of foreign direct investment (FDI) into a country, transnational corporations (TNCs) play a significant role in the transfer of technology from developed to developing countries. This study analyses the activities of TNCs in ESCWA member countries with reference to the United Arab Emirates and Egypt as case studies. A study of these two countries, which are host to the highest number of TNCs among ESCWA member States, can assist other ESCWA member countries in adopting sound measures aimed at attracting TNCs and, consequently, FDI.

KEY SUBJECTS:

Transnational corporations; Foreign direct investment; Employment creation; International trade; ESCWA; United Arab Emirates; Egypt; Case studies

E/ESCWA/GRID/2005/9



(Arabic only)

Trade Facilitation with Reference to Selected Arab Countries

This study aims at shedding light on the concept of trade facilitation, its importance, the challenges to be addressed, and the experiences of different countries in this regard to be used as lessons learned to benefit from and emulate. The study also reflects on the current negotiations of WTO in connection to the issue of trade facilitation, and provides an account of the suggested amendments put forth by ESCWA member countries to improve three articles of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) 1994, namely articles 5, 8 and 10.

KEY SUBJECTS:

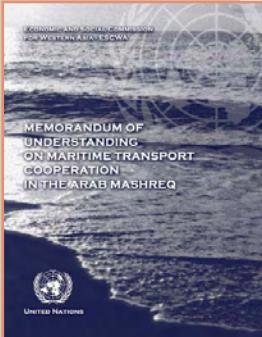
Trade facilitation; Administrative reform; ESCWA; Recommendations; Customs formalities; Export procedures; Trade promotion; International trade; ESCWA region

E/ESCWA/GRID/2005/10

SUBPROGRAMME 4: Regional Integration and Responding to Globalization



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Memorandum of Understanding on Maritime Transport Cooperation in the Arab Mashreq

The Memorandum of Understanding on Maritime Transport Cooperation in the Arab Mashreq is an endeavour to establish cooperation and integration between members of ESCWA in the Arab Mashreq region. This Memorandum recognizes that maritime transport plays an important role in strengthening intraregional and foreign trade and promotes the economic and social integration of the ESCWA region and the Arab region in general. In this context, the parties to this Memorandum of Understanding have agreed on 22 articles, which are believed to ensure the systematic development of the national merchant fleets of the region and the balanced development of maritime transport and seaports.

KEY SUBJECTS:

Maritime transport; Transport agreements; ESCWA; ESCWA region

E/ESCWA/GRID/2005/11



Review and Appraisal of Progress Made by Yemen in the Implementation of the New Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries During the Period 2001-2005

Yemen is the only least developed country (LDC) in the ESCWA region. This study is an exposé of measures adopted by Yemen towards the implementation of the Plan of Action that was adopted in 2001 by the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries. Using an analysis of major social and economic indicators, this study assesses the policies and steps undertaken by Yemen during the period 2001-2005, and contributes towards assisting Yemen in terms of procuring the necessary funding for its development strategy.

KEY SUBJECTS:

Economic policy; Economic development; Social development; Social policy; Economic growth; Privatization; Economic analysis; Least Developed Countries; Recommendations; Petroleum; Yemen; ESCWA; Legal aspects; Women in development; Capacity building; Environmental protection; Work programme

E/ESCWA/GRID/2005/12



Annual Review of Globalization and Regional Integration in ESCWA Member States, 2005

While there was a slight improvement in globalization indicators and regional integration in the ESCWA region in 2004, their contribution to the global economy remains modest. This study presents and analyses the level of integration of Arab economies into the world economy, as well as the status of economic cooperation between Arab countries. Furthermore, the study presents recommendations aimed at strengthening efforts made by those countries to meet the global economy and enhance regional integration in different economical sectors. This study targets mainly decision-makers in ESCWA member countries and other Arab countries, in addition to researchers and academics with interests in globalization and regional integration.

KEY SUBJECTS:

Energy resources; Globalization; Economic integration; Foreign direct investment; Communication technology; Information technology; Intraregional trade; Tourism; Foreign trade; ESCWA; Arab countries; Recommendations; Natural gas; Energy resources; Agreement on International Railways in the Arab Mashreq (2002); Agreement on International Roads in the Arab Mashreq (2001); Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf; Multilateral trade negotiations; Bilateral trade agreements; Ministerial Conference (Doha: 2001); Arab Free Trade Area

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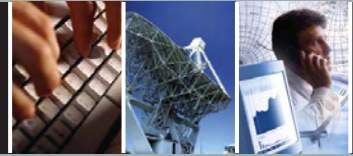
ISBN. 92-1-628055-7

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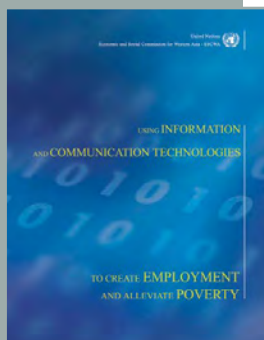
Price: US\$ 20.00

SUBPROGRAMME 5: Information and Communication Technology for Regional Integration



39





(English only)

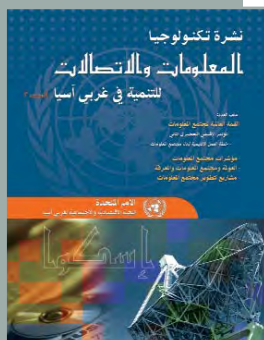
Using Information and Communication Technologies to Create Employment and Alleviate Poverty

While information and communication technologies (ICTs) pose enormous opportunities for developing countries, these opportunities have largely been confined to urban areas. Many rural areas and some impoverished urban regions are still isolated from the global advances in science and technology. Within that context, this study concentrates on broadening the scope for ICTs and other technology inputs in order to create employment and reduce poverty in underserved communities. Given the prominence of agriculture in some ESCWA countries, this report presents a comprehensive analysis of ICT applications in rural communities. It is hoped that the report can stimulate renewed thinking with regard to technological frameworks that enhance sustainable development in the Arab region.

KEY SUBJECTS:

Information technology; Communication technology; Employment creation; Poverty mitigation; Rural areas; Rural development; Small enterprises; Internet; Health services; Electronic government; Case studies; ESCWA region

E/ESCWA/ICTD/2004/1



(Arabic only)

Review of Information and Communication Technologies and Development in Western Asia, Issue No. 3

Due to the great importance attributed to the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), the bulk of the third issue of the review of information and communication technologies and development in Western Asia is dedicated to topics related to and discussed in the summit. It contains a summary of the Declaration of Principles emanating from the first phase of WSIS, together with an overview of the various activities undertaken by ESCWA in preparation for the second phase of WSIS. It also includes articles on the information and knowledge societies and their different dimensions.

KEY SUBJECTS:

Electronic Government; Economic integration; Information society; World Summit on Information Society; Information technology; Communication technology; Science and technology indicators; ESCWA; ESCWA region; Work programme; Informatics; Internet; Iraq; Universities and colleges; Cultural identity; Satellite broadcast

E/ESCWA/ICTD/2004/3

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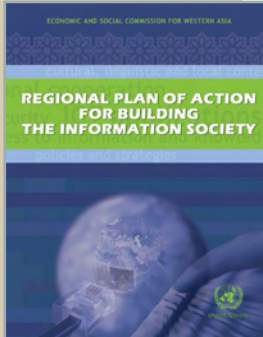
Sales No. A.05.II.L.2

Price: US\$ 17.00

SUBPROGRAMME 5: Information and Communication Technology for Regional Integration



41



Regional Plan of Action for Building the Information Society

Taking into consideration the challenges associated with maintaining an integrated and sustainable effort for building the information society in the ESCWA region, the Regional Plan of Action (RPoA) translates these challenges into specific programmes and projects. The RPoA outlines a comprehensive strategic framework that aims to create adequate local capabilities for harnessing information and knowledge, thereby contributing to building information and communications technology (ICT) production capabilities and promoting the development of the information society in the region. The premise of the proposed strategic framework is that improved ICT is primarily a question of commitment towards deep process changes that require sustained efforts and that could bring clear rewards.

KEY SUBJECTS:

Programmes of action; Information society; Information management; Guidelines; ESCWA; ESCWA region; Telecommunications; Development strategies; Regional cooperation; Communication technology; Information technology

E/ESCWA/ICTD/2004/4



Information Society Indicators

Statistical data and indicators regarding the use and impact of ICT help policymakers to formulate strategies related to ICT-driven economic growth and social development. In recognition of the need for improvement of data and indicators, and to close the data gap at the international level, the global Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development was launched in 2004. ESCWA and other United Nations regional commissions have undertaken several steps to fulfil the objectives of the Partnership. This study defines indicators, provides examples for ICT indicators development exercises, and reviews the set of indicators suggested by ESCWA.

KEY SUBJECTS:

ESCWA; Information society; Information technology; ICT indicators; Communication statistics; Capacity building; Data collection; Socio-economic indicators; Questionnaire; Digital divide; Government information; Europe; ESCWA region

E/ESCWA/ICTD/2005/1



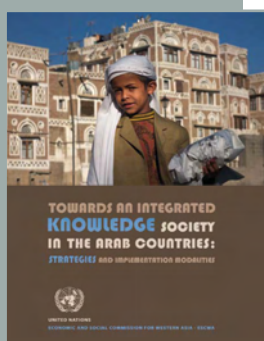
Information and Communication Technologies for Employment Creation and Poverty Alleviation in Selected ESCWA Member Countries

Given the continuous political and social instability in the ESCWA region and the inadequate socio-economic development policies that have been implemented, Western Asia is in danger of becoming more vulnerable to poverty than ever before. Alleviating poverty can be achieved by encouraging entrepreneurial activities and establishing small and macro enterprises. This study focuses on the alleviation of poverty in the region through ICTs that can empower the poor and develop entrepreneurial activities. The study targets policymakers, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and Governments. It reviews case studies on alleviating poverty, presents frameworks and recommends policies.

KEY SUBJECTS:

Communication technology; Information technology; Poverty mitigation; Employment; Unemployment; Employment creation; Science and technology policy; Development projects; Financing; Statistical data; Digital content; ESCWA region

E/ESCWA/ICTD/2005/2



Towards an Integrated Knowledge Society in the Arab Countries: Strategies and Implementation Modalities

Knowledge and innovation are becoming important values and, moreover, are factors in wealth creation by offering enterprises and Governments new challenges and opportunities. In this context, this study aims at contributing to streamlining the process of building an integrated knowledge society in accordance with the goals of the WSIS. It provides a framework and a guide for the design and development of national strategies aimed at realizing and advancing the knowledge society and knowledge-based economies, and at implementing such strategies in Arab countries. The study recommends the key role ESCWA can play in assisting Governments in the region in these endeavours.

KEY SUBJECTS:

Knowledge-based economy; Economic analysis; Development planning; Development strategies; Information society; Information technology; Communication technology; Internet; Guidelines; Case studies; Lebanon; Yemen; ESCWA region

E/ESCWA/ICTD/2005/3

SUBPROGRAMME 5: Information and Communication Technology for Regional Integration



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(Arabic only)

The Arab Digital Content

Digital content has come to play a major role given the vital contribution by information and knowledge in meeting economic and social development goals, and the role of information and communication technologies in producing, categorizing, sharing and disseminating such information. This study, which paves the way for drafting an Arab strategy on content building, represents a follow-up to efforts made by ESCWA in the area of digital content. Moreover, the study is aimed at introducing good practices in digital content production worldwide, and at determining measures to remove obstacles that hinder the development of this industry in the region.

KEY SUBJECTS:

Economic aspects; Digital content; Recommendations; Case studies; France; Korea; Industrial promotion; Digital libraries; Electronic commerce; Public services

E/ESCWA/ICTD/2005/4



(Arabic only)

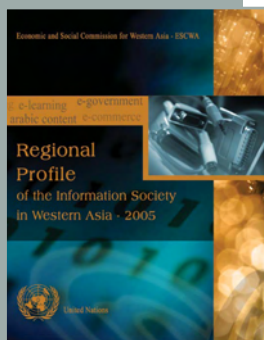
Improving the Communications Infrastructure, Services and Policies in ESCWA Member States

The development of communications and service infrastructures has become a strategic priority given the increasing awareness of the vital role played by the communications sectors in terms of promoting economic and social activities. This study presents good practices and optimal approaches aimed at meeting economic and social development in the region and its integration in the international communications community. Moreover, it reviews improvements that have occurred in that field in ESCWA member countries, and draws up conclusions and recommendations to meet the development goals.

KEY SUBJECTS:

Economic infrastructure; Telecommunications; Telecommunication services; Internet; Satellite communication; Telephone services; Information exchange; Cellular telephones; ESCWA region; Communication policy

E/ESCWA/ICTD/2005/5



Regional Profile of the Information Society in Western Asia - 2005

The accelerating development in knowledge during the past few decades has modified the principles of economic growth with the move towards knowledge-based economy affecting all sectors of the economy. This report aims to depict the status of information societies in the ESCWA region, measure the progress made in building these societies and evaluate the current status of member countries. With those objectives, the report provides comprehensive analysis and essential information on the situation of the ESCWA region in comparison with the rest of the world. The end result is the promotion of cooperation and regional integration opportunities in an increasingly knowledge-based global economy.

KEY SUBJECTS:

Information society; Western Asia; Information policy; Legal aspects; Capacity building; Recommendations; Communication technology; Digital content; ESCWA region; Information technology; Development strategies; Digital divide; Statistical data; Classification; Communication policy

E/ESCWA/ICTD/2005/6



(Arabic only)

Review of Information and Communication Technologies for Development in the ESCWA Region, Issue No. 4

Noting the impact of ICTs on social and economic development, this issue presents the four different dimensions for the use of technology in employment creation. It also focuses on initiatives undertaken by ESCWA in that regard, and on projects being implemented in the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen. Moreover, this Review highlights the major studies and activities carried out by ESCWA in that field, and emphasizes the importance of developing the digital content industry in the Arab region. This issue addresses the preparations for and challenges of the second phase of the WSIS.

KEY SUBJECTS:

Communication technology; Information technology; World Summit on Information Technology; Information society; Electronic government; Internet; Informatics; ESCWA region; ESCWA; Economic infrastructure; Activities; Science and technology indicators

E/ESCWA/ICTD/2005/7

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Statistical Abstract of the ESCWA Region, **Twenty-fourth Issue**

The Statistical Abstract of the ESCWA Region for 2004 covers economic and social developments in ESCWA member countries at the macro-level. The Abstract consists of 10 chapters, each focusing on one of the following: population, education and illiteracy, health, national accounts, energy, water resources, transport, foreign trade, financial statistics and prices, and ICT. Facts and figures were drawn from national statistical sources in the ESCWA region, feedback from questionnaires and data issued by international organizations with priority given to United Nations sources.

KEY SUBJECTS:

Economic statistics; Social statistics; Arab countries; ESCWA; Communication technology; Community information; Internet

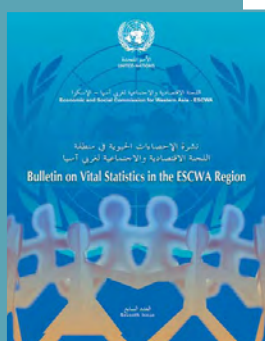
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ISSN. 0252-4333

Sales No. A/E.05.II.L.3

Price: US\$ 45.00



Bulletin on Vital Statistics in the ESCWA Region, **Seventh Issue**

The purpose of this seventh issue of the *Bulletin on Vital Statistics* in the ESCWA region is to present available statistics for ESCWA member countries on registered vital events, including births, deaths, marriages and divorces; present the main indicators for each of these events; and compare them with the estimates prepared by the United Nations Population Division. Data was compiled from national statistical sources and by using questionnaires prepared by ESCWA. This publication is mainly intended for people working in the field of population and development.

KEY SUBJECTS:

Vital statistics; ESCWA region; ESCWA; Statistical data

E/ESCWA/SCU/2004/2

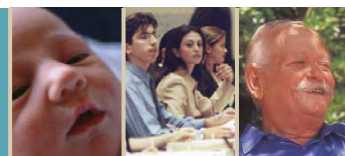
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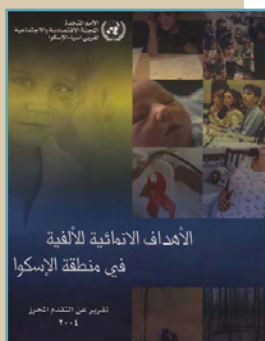
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Price: US\$ 30.00

SUBPROGRAMME 6: Comparable Statistics for Improved Planning



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(Arabic only)

The Millennium Development Goals in the ESCWA Region: Report on Progress Made, 2004

This report tracks the progress made in the ESCWA region towards the stated aim of achieving the MDGs by 2015, and identifies the key challenges facing the realization of those Goals. The report also emphasizes the prevailing difference in levels of development among ESCWA member countries and the major effect that security and peace have on reaching those Goals. The report is intended for policymakers, development experts, academicians, researchers, the media and the public.

KEY SUBJECTS:

Social development; Millennium Development Goals; Hunger; Poverty; Population; Gender discrimination; Decision making; Maternal mortality; AIDS; Malaria; Women in development; ESCWA; Contraceptive agents; Child mortality

E/ESCWA/SCU/2004/3



External Trade Bulletin of the ESCWA Region, Thirteenth Issue

The thirteenth issue of the *External Trade Bulletin of the ESCWA Region* includes statistical data and indicators on the international trade in goods of ESCWA member countries. The facts and figures presented are based primarily on national sources, with additional material provided by secondary sources. This issue is divided into three parts, namely: Part one, which provides summary tables on overall trade trends and the share of the region in total world trade; Part two, which presents the data on intraregional trade in the ESCWA region; and Part three, which provides data on the direction of trade of ESCWA member countries with other countries and regions during the period 1999-2003.

KEY SUBJECTS:

Foreign trade; Trade statistics; ESCWA; Exports; Imports; Intraregional trade

E/ESCWA/SCU/2004/4

ISBN. 92-1-128275-6

ISSN. 0258-4948

Sales No. A/E.04.II.L.9

Price: US\$ 30.00



National Accounts Studies of the ESCWA Region, **Bulletin No. 24**

Issue No. 24 of the National Accounts Studies of the ESCWA Region includes available data and ESCWA estimates of GDP at both current and constant prices, in addition to the consolidated national accounts for each ESCWA member country during the period 1999-2003, and the estimated real GDP growth for 2004. Data was compiled from national statistical sources and by using questionnaires prepared by ESCWA. This publication is intended for economists, social researchers and planners.

KEY SUBJECTS:

National accounts; Gross domestic product; National income; Income distribution; Capital formation; Prices; Economic growth; ESCWA region; ESCWA; Savings; Foreign exchange rates; Periodicals; Consumption

E/ESCWA/SCU/2004/5

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Price: US\$ 15.00



Compendium of Social Statistics and Indicators, a Special Issue on Youth, Seventh Issue

Youth make up nearly 21 per cent of the Arab population, of which 60 per cent, or 39 million young people, are located in ESCWA member countries. This issue of the Compendium of Social Statistics and Indicators addresses three priority areas of the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond, namely: education, employment and health. Information has been obtained from national statistical offices, official national statistical yearbooks and electronic databases of various international organizations. Time series are presented where possible to illustrate patterns and change.

KEY SUBJECTS:

Social statistics; ESCWA; ESCWA region; Human settlements; Demographic statistics; Households; Educational statistics; Health services; Manpower; Criminal statistics; Cultural statistics; Statistical data; Household expenditures; Public expenditures; Gender statistics

E/ESCWA/SCU/2005/2/Rev.1

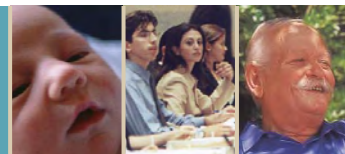
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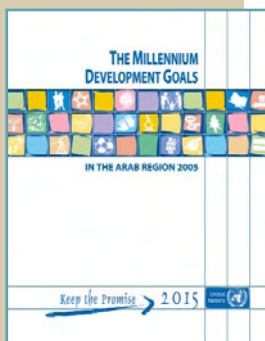
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SUBPROGRAMME 6: Comparable Statistics for Improved Planning



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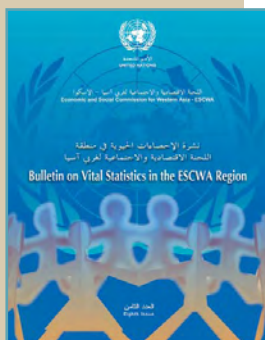
The Millennium Development Goals in the Arab Region 2005

The Millennium Development Goals were set within the framework of the Millennium Declaration, which was adopted in 2000. These MDGs constitute a set of eight time-bound and measurable goals aimed at eradicating extreme poverty and at improving living conditions for both women and men. This report aims to raise awareness of MDGs and to improve capacities for reporting on and monitoring progress made towards the achievement of those Goals. Data and analyses are presented for the following subregions and groups: Mashreq, Maghreb, Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) and Least Developed Countries (LDCs). The report is intended for policymakers, development experts, academicians, researchers, the media and the public.

KEY SUBJECTS:

Social development; Millennium Development Goals; Poverty; Hunger; Population; Youth; Gender discrimination; Wages; Decision making; Child mortality; Maternal and child health; AIDS; Malaria; Tuberculosis; Energy efficiency; Water management; Sanitation; Ozone layer; Unemployment; Financing; Arab countries; Food storage; Maternal mortality

E/ESCWA/SCU/2005/3/Rev.1



Bulletin on Vital Statistics in the ESCWA Region, Eighth Issue

The purpose of this eighth issue of the *Bulletin on Vital Statistics* in the ESCWA region is to present available statistics for ESCWA member countries on registered vital events, including births, deaths, marriages and divorces; present the main indicators for each of these events; and compare them with the estimates prepared by the United Nations Population Division. This issue includes the vital statistics and indicators available to ESCWA for the years 1990, 1995 and for the period from 2000 to the date of preparation of this publication. Data was compiled from national statistical sources and by using questionnaires prepared by ESCWA. This publication is mainly intended for people working in the field of population and development.

KEY SUBJECTS:

Vital statistics; ESCWA region; ESCWA; Statistical data

E/ESCWA/SCU/2005/4

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Price: US\$ 30.00



External Trade Bulletin of the ESCWA Region, **Fourteenth Issue**

The fourteenth issue of the *External Trade Bulletin of the ESCWA Region* includes statistical data and indicators on the international trade in goods of ESCWA member countries. The facts and figures presented are based primarily on national sources, with additional material provided by secondary sources. This issue is divided into three parts, namely: Part one, which provides summary tables on overall trade trends and the share of the region in total world trade; Part two, which presents the data on intraregional trade in the ESCWA region; and Part three, which provides data on the direction of trade of ESCWA member countries with other countries and regions during the period 2000-2004.

KEY SUBJECTS:

Foreign trade; Trade statistics; ESCWA; Exports; Imports; Intraregional trade

E/ESCWA/SCU/2005/5

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Price: US\$ 30.00



National Accounts Studies of the ESCWA Region, **Bulletin No. 25**

Issue No. 25 of the *National Accounts Studies of the ESCWA Region* includes available data and ESCWA estimates of GDP at both current and constant prices, in addition to the consolidated national accounts for each ESCWA member country during the period 2000-2004, and the estimated real GDP growth for 2005. Data was compiled from national statistical sources and by using questionnaires prepared by ESCWA. This publication is intended for economists, social researchers and planners.

KEY SUBJECTS:

National accounts; Gross domestic product; National income; Income distribution; Capital formation; Prices; Economic growth; ESCWA region; ESCWA; Savings; Foreign exchange rates; Periodicals; Consumption

E/ESCWA/SCU/2005/6

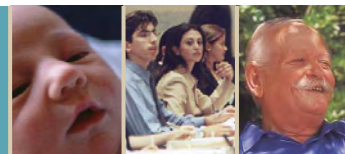
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Price: US\$ 15.00

SUBPROGRAMME 6: Comparable Statistics for Improved Planning



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Statistical Abstract of the ESCWA Region, **Twenty-fifth Issue**

The *Statistical Abstract of the ESCWA Region* for 2005 covers economic and social developments in ESCWA member countries at the macro-level. The Abstract consists of 10 chapters, each focusing on one of the following: population, education and illiteracy, health, national accounts, energy, water resources, transport, foreign trade, financial statistics and prices, and information and communications technology. Facts and figures were drawn from national statistical sources in the ESCWA region, feedback from questionnaires and data issued by international organizations with priority given to United Nations sources.

KEY SUBJECTS:

Economic statistics; Social statistics; Arab countries; ESCWA; Communication technology; Community information; Internet

E/ESCWA/SCU/2005/7

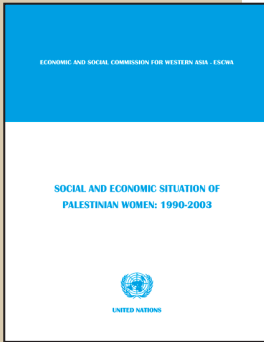
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Sales No. A/E.06.II.L.4

Price: US\$ 45.00





Social and Economic Situation of Palestinian Women: 1990-2003
La Situation Economique et Sociale des Femmes Palestiniennes: 1990-2003

With the lack of natural resources and the political and economical constraints resulting from the continued conflict, human capital plays a crucial role in Palestine. However, human development remained a failure with the deteriorating political situation. This study analyses the impact of the conflict on the social conditions in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. It also presents the gender gap and emphasizes demographic figures and indicators related to social characteristics. Finally, the study stresses on development issues and reform of human rights laws in Palestine.

KEY SUBJECTS:

Palestinian women; Living conditions; History; Palestinian uprising; Population dynamics; Population distribution; Fertility; Mortality; Socio-economic indicators; Political participation; Labour; Poverty; Education; Legal aspects; Human rights; Health conditions; Palestine; ESCWA; Employment

E/ESCWA/WOM/2004/1



Women and the Information Society: Using Information and Communications Technology to Empower Women in ESCWA Member Countries

Awareness of ICT allows women to expose their views and communicate their concerns and, moreover, broadens their employment opportunities and contributes to their decision-making capabilities. Despite these benefits, decision-makers in ESCWA member States fall short of formulating sound and gender-sensitive ICT strategies. This study uses the results of a survey undertaken by the ESCWA Centre for Women and data available in human development reports by UNDP to shed light on the role of ICTs in bridging the gender gap. This study presents two cases studies, namely, Bahrain and Saudi Arabia, to expose the status of women and ICT in the ESCWA region, and to compare this status to international standards.

KEY SUBJECTS:

ESCWA; Internet; Digital divide; Information technology; Women's advancement; Communication technology

E/ESCWA/ECW/2005/2

(Arabic only)



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