



Shared Prosperity Dignified Life



Launch of the Regional Report
Social Expenditure Monitor for Arab States:
Toward making budgets more equitable, efficient and effective to achieve the SDGs
 UN House, Beirut, 24 November 2022

AGENDA

Thursday, November 24, 2022

9:00–09:30am	Registration
9:30–10:00am	<p>Opening Session</p> <p>Facilitator: Ibrahim El Badawi, Managing Director, Economic Research Forum</p> <p>Opening remarks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rola Dashti, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations, Executive Secretary of ESCWA • Khalida Bouzar, Assistant Secretary-General, UNDP Assistant Administrator, Director of the UNDP Regional Bureau for Arab States • Adele Khodr, UNICEF Regional Director for the Middle East and North Africa
10:00–10:30am	Group photo and coffee break
10:30–12:00pm	<p>Session I: Social Expenditure Monitor for Arab States: Concept, methodology, trends and equity in social spending</p> <p>Moderator: Ghassan Dibeh, Associate Dean for the Adnan Kassar School of Business, Lebanese American University</p> <p>Speakers: (40 mins)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nirranjan Sarangi, Senior Economic Affairs Officer, ESCWA • Nathaniel Martin, Associate Economic Affairs Officer, ESCWA • Samman Thapa, Regional Adviser for Social Policy, UNICEF MENA Regional Office • Ulugbek Olimov, Social Policy Specialist, UNICEF MENA Regional Office • Introducing SEM Video by Dana Hamdan, Research Assistant, ESCWA <p>Open Discussion</p>
12:00-12:15pm	Coffee break

12:15-01:45pm	<p>Session II: Social Expenditure Monitor for Arab States: Efficiency, enhancing social expenditure and fiscal sustainability, and better public finance management</p> <p>Moderator: Ibrahim El Badawi, Managing Director, Economic Research Forum</p> <p>Speakers: (40 mins)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jan Gaska, Economic Affairs Officer, ESCWA • Niranjan Sarangi, Senior Economic Affairs Officer, ESCWA • Vito Intini, Regional lead Economist, Inclusive Growth and Sustainable Finance Team Leader, UNDP Regional Bureau for Arab States • Rania Uwaydah, Public Financial Management Expert, UNDP Regional Bureau for Arab States <p>Open Discussion</p>
01:45-02:30pm	<p>Session III: Way forward to engage with Member States</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mai Farid, Assistant Minister of Finance for Economic Justice, Egypt • Mohamed El Moustapha Abdi, Secretary General of Ministry of Finance, Mauritania • Habib Houij, Director General, State of Budget, Ministry of Finance, Tunisia <p>Facilitators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Niranjan Sarangi, ESCWA • Vito Intini, UNDP • Samman Thapa, UNICEF
02:30-02:40pm	<p>Closing Session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mohamed El Moctar Mohamed El Hacene, Leader of the Shared Economic Prosperity Cluster, ESCWA
02:40-03:30pm	<p>Lunch</p>