



**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL
COUNCIL**

Distr.
LIMITED
E/ESCWA/C.7/2024/4
28 October 2024
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

Committee on Women
Twelfth session
Muscat, 8 December 2024



Item 5 of the provisional agenda

Technical cooperation activities

Summary

The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) supports member States in developing national policies, strategies and action plans to promote gender equality and women's empowerment. The Committee on Women provides a regional platform for the exchange of best practices and lessons learned among member States, and acts as a convenor to build consensus among them on the challenges they face and ways to address them.

The present document provides an overview of the technical cooperation activities related to women's issues, undertaken by the ESCWA secretariat since the eleventh session of the Committee on Women, held in Beirut on 10 and 11 October 2023. It presents a set of activities that reflect the interlinkages between the functions of ESCWA as a regional entity, which supports Arab countries in carrying out legal reforms and developing strategies and action plans to promote and mainstream gender equality in national institutions.

The Committee on Women is invited to take note of the implemented technical cooperation activities and provide comments and suggestions on the way forward.

Contents

	<i>Paragraphs</i>	<i>Page</i>
Introduction	1–9	3
<i>Chapter</i>		
I. Combating violence against women	10–12	4
II. Women, peace and security	13–14	4
III. Regional review of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action +30	15–31	4
A. Addressing gaps in progress on the five regional priorities	16–28	5
B. Supporting national preparations for Beijing+30 reviews	29–30	6
C. Leading a regional review process	31	7
IV. Other international commitments	32	7
V. Women’s economic participation	33	7
VI. Gender statistics	34–35	7
VII. Support to United Nations country teams	36	8
VIII. Conclusion	37–38	8
<i>Annex.</i> Technical cooperation activities in the area of gender equality and women’s empowerment, 2023–2024		9

Introduction

1. The present document provides an overview of the technical cooperation activities on women's issues undertaken by the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) secretariat since the eleventh session of the Committee on Women, held in Beirut on 10 and 11 October 2023.
2. In response to requests from member States, the ESCWA secretariat has implemented a range of technical support activities. This assistance can be grouped into the following three main types of interventions: advisory services designed to guide member States on policy matters; national capacity-building workshops aimed at enhancing the skills of staff members within national institutions, particularly national women's machineries; and pilot field projects. These technical cooperation efforts are strategically aligned with the goal of empowering member States to achieve Goal 5 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which emphasizes gender equality and women's empowerment, while also promoting the integration of gender equality principles across all other SDGs. By developing frameworks to coordinate national-level collaboration on these issues, the ESCWA secretariat is promoting a holistic approach to technical support planning, thereby enhancing effectiveness, maximizing impact, and fostering transparency and accountability.
3. The ESCWA secretariat remains committed to the transfer of knowledge and expertise to Arab countries, drawing from both regional and global resources. It seeks to translate its established practices and findings into capacity-building programmes and policy tools that enhance skills within member States, and to advocate for essential legal and programmatic reforms.
4. The technical support extended by the ESCWA secretariat includes the efforts of the Subcommittee on Gender Equality and the Sustainable Development Goals, which was established by the ESCWA secretariat following a recommendation from the Committee on Women at its seventh session (Muscat, 20–21 January 2016). The Subcommittee is dedicated to assisting member States in the implementation of SDG 5, and in embedding a gender equality perspective within the framework of other SDGs. Document E/ESCWA/C.7/2024/5 submitted to the current session provides a progress update on ESCWA activities related to SDG 5 and SDG 8, which address gender equality, and decent work and economic growth, respectively.
5. In 2024, countries globally engaged in the Review of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action after 30 years (Beijing+30). In the Arab region, ESCWA supported its member States in conducting their national reviews to inform the regional review, including providing technical advisory services to 10 member States in that regard. Such support included holding national workshops to introduce guidance notes, and supporting national consultations. Document E/ESCWA/C.7/2024/8 submitted to the current session sets out the activities organised by ESCWA and partners in support of the regional review.
6. To meet incoming requests, the ESCWA secretariat has expanded its partnerships with specialized United Nations organizations, including the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). ESCWA has also partnered with regional organizations, such as the League of Arab States; and academia, such as the Lebanese American University and the American University of Beirut.
7. Technical cooperation provided to member States in response to their requests since the eleventh session of the Committee on Women focused on the following topics:
 - (a) Combating violence against women;
 - (b) Women, peace and security;
 - (c) International commitments related to women, in particular the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women;

- (d) Women's economic participation;
- (e) Gender statistics.

8. The ESCWA secretariat also provided technical support to United Nations country teams in Iraq and the Syrian Arab Republic, so as to complement the expertise of national United Nations entities working in these countries and support progress towards SDG 5.

9. The following sections summarise these technical cooperation activities by theme, ending with a section on support provided to United Nations country teams. The annex to the present document lists the same activities in a table format.

I. Combating violence against women

10. ESCWA provided support to countries in developing national policies and strategies to combat violence against women and girls. Technical support included preparing situational analysis, and developing national strategies and action plans.

11. In Somalia, ESCWA supported the Ministry of Women and Human Rights Development, in partnership with the United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSOM), UNDP, UNFPA and UN-Women, to formulate a national violence against women strategy. The strategy was discussed with national stakeholders during a [validation workshop](#), held in Mogadishu on 22 and 23 April 2024, and was later endorsed by the Government of Somalia.

12. On 28 November 2023, ESCWA and the UNFPA Country Office in Jordan supported the Jordanian National Commission for Women in [launching](#) a study titled "[estimating the economic cost of domestic violence against women in Jordan](#)". The event marked a significant milestone in a partnership that began in 2021, aimed at examining both household-level and service-level costs associated with domestic violence. The study involved close collaboration with the Department of Statistics in Jordan and other key stakeholders to achieve two primary objectives: organizing and analysing data from a survey on the prevalence of violence in Balqa Governorate to calculate out-of-pocket costs of domestic violence for families and its broader economic impact; and assessing the financial burden of services provided to survivors of violence.

II. Women, peace and security

13. ESCWA provided technical support to several countries within the framework of strengthening efforts to implement Security Council resolution [1325 \(2000\)](#) on women, peace and security, and subsequent related resolutions. Such support included implementing capacity-building programmes, familiarize national machineries with the resolution and its contents, and supporting countries in developing and evaluating national plans for its implementation.

14. At the national level, ESCWA supported the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kuwait in the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000). This entailed working closely with the National Committee on Women, Peace and Security, chaired by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, to develop a situation analysis highlighting areas of intervention, identifying national relevant priorities, and developing a national action plan. ESCWA also conducted a [national workshop](#) on the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000), held in Kuwait City on 22 and 23 April 2024, as a first step towards the adoption of the national action plan.

III. Regional review of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action +30

15. In preparation for Beijing+30, ESCWA documented the progress of Arab countries across five critical areas identified in the 2019 [Arab Declaration on Progress in the Implementation of the Beijing Declaration](#)

and Platform for Action after 25 years. Furthermore, ESCWA organized a [regional interactive dialogue](#) on policies and policy tools for addressing the five regional priorities of the Beijing Declaration, held in Beirut on 1 and 2 March 2023.¹ As a result of the interactive dialogue, ESCWA designed a comprehensive project to support member States in addressing gaps in progress on the five regional priorities, drafting national reviews of Beijing+30, and preparing for the regional review process.

A. Addressing gaps in progress on the five regional priorities

16. In 2023 and 2024, ESCWA provided technical support to Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Morocco, Oman, the Syrian Arab Republic and Tunisia on addressing gaps hindering national progress on the five regional priorities. This support included enhancing Arab countries' ranking in international indices, and ensuring the inclusion of gender concerns in national strategies.

1. *Enhancing Arab countries' ranking in international indices*

17. Following a [regional workshop](#) organized by ESCWA on the [Index Simulator for Policymakers in the Arab Region \(ISPAR\)](#), held in Beirut on 17 and 18 May 2023, several countries submitted requests for technical support to enhance their ranking in international indices. The regional workshop introduced ISPAR, which is an ESCWA tool that supports national women's machineries in simulating the potential impact of policies and actions on national scores and rankings across various gender-related and other international indices.

18. In response to these requests, ESCWA provided support in several phases. The first phase involved close collaboration with national women's machineries and stakeholders to provide a comprehensive understanding of international indices, and the criteria used for scoring and ranking countries on global development. This phase also included familiarizing stakeholders with ISPAR. In the second phase, ESCWA assisted national partners in utilizing ISPAR and examining best practices from other countries and regions. In the last phase, ESCWA collaborated with national partners to establish short-, medium- and long-term targets and goals tailored to their national context and aspirations.

19. ESCWA organized a four-day [workshop on ISPAR](#), held in Kuwait City from 23 to 26 October 2023, to build the capacity of the Supreme Council for Family Affairs in utilizing the gender components of ISPAR and understanding international gender equality frameworks. At this workshop, ESCWA developed a template policy brief outlining a road map for necessary policy and legal reforms, contingent upon the Council's identification of targets and policy options. The Council proposed the establishment of a national committee to advance this work, which ESCWA can technically support in developing and validating a comprehensive policy document.

20. In Lebanon, ESCWA assisted the National Commission for Lebanese Women in using the gender components of ISPAR for exploring policy reforms. A [workshop](#) on the theme "Index Simulator for Policymakers in Lebanon (phase 1)", held in Beirut on 1 and 2 February 2024, focused on introducing ISPAR to Lebanese stakeholders.

21. ESCWA also organized a [workshop](#) on the theme "Index Simulator for Policymakers in Morocco (phase 1)", held in Rabat, on 19 and 20 February 2024. This workshop, held in collaboration with the Ministry of Solidarity, Social Integration and Family, brought together representatives from various governmental organizations involved in policy development.

¹ During the regional review of Beijing+25 in 2020, Arab countries identified five priority areas to improve the status of women in the region, namely the elimination of violence against women and girls; women's political participation and representation; equality and non-discrimination in legal and justice systems; women's right to employment and their rights in the workplace, and entrepreneurial businesses for women; and support for women's organizations.

22. In collaboration with the Ministry of Social Development of Oman, ESCWA organized a [workshop](#) on the theme “Index Simulator for Policymakers in Oman”, held in Muscat from 20 to 22 August 2024. The workshop familiarised governmental stakeholders with the ISPAR tool, identified priority areas to work on, and highlighted the national changes required to improve the country’s performance on global gender equality indicators.

2. Ensuring inclusion of gender concerns in national strategies

23. ESCWA, in partnership with UNFPA, commissioned a report on abuse of older persons in the Arab region. During the course of 2024, field work to collect data was finalized, including a survey of legal frameworks in Arab countries to explore gaps in protection of older persons from abuse, perceptions of abuse of older persons through four country case studies, and a set of actionable policy recommendations to better protect older persons from abuse. Further analysis, focusing on older women, is scheduled in 2025 and will be published in a comprehensive report.

24. At the national level, ESCWA supported the National Council for Family Affairs of Jordan to develop the National Strategy for Older Persons 2024–2028 with a gender perspective. A workshop to validate the draft strategy was held in Amman on 27 and 28 February 2024, with the participation of members of the National Committee for Older Persons representing various ministries, relevant government agencies and civil society.

25. In Tunisia, ESCWA, in collaboration with the Ministry of Social Affairs, provided technical support to three centres that serve persons with disabilities across three governorates. This initiative focused on developing action plans for inclusive social development, through a gender-sensitive approach.

26. In Jordan, ESCWA supported the National Aid Fund to formulate and implement an action plan to mainstream gender at the institutional level. The first of two workshops was conducted in Amman, from 16 to 18 January 2024, to advance the implementation of the action plan on mainstreaming gender in the institution; accelerate the preparation of the first annual report on the subject; and shape the future agenda on gender mainstreaming with senior management of the National Aid Fund.

27. In Jordan, ESCWA supported the Jordanian National Commission for Women in organizing a mid-term assessment of the National Women's Strategy 2020–2025. The work allowed Jordanian stakeholders to account for progress made in the implementation of the strategy, and to identify the way forward in revising the strategy and developing annual action plans for its implementation.

28. In Morocco, ESCWA, in partnership with the UN-Women Morocco Country Office, collaborated with the Ministry of Justice to organize a gender audit of key institutions within the justice sector, namely the Ministry of Justice, the Presidency of the Public Prosecutor's Office, and the High Council of the Judiciary. Preliminary results of the audit were validated at a national workshop, held in September 2024, which led to a road map that will enable a gender inclusive environment, processes and structures in the justice sector. The road map was endorsed in November 2024.

B. Supporting national preparations for Beijing+30 reviews

29. At the national level, ESCWA organized the following workshops to support national preparations for Beijing+30 reviews:

(a) The [Lebanon consultation process on the comprehensive national review of Beijing+30](#), in collaboration with the National Commission for Lebanese Women and UN-Women (Beirut, 21 February 2024);

(b) The [Jordan consultation process on the comprehensive national review of Beijing+30](#), in partnership with the Jordanian National Commission for Women and the UN-Women Jordan country office (Amman, 13–14 February 2024);

(c) A national workshop, in partnership with the Family Affairs Council of Saudi Arabia, to launch the national review process for Beijing+30 (Riyadh, 4–5 March 2024);

(d) [Supporting the State of Palestine national review of Beijing+30](#), in collaboration with the Ministry of Palestinian Women Affairs (Amman, 16–17 April 2024);

(e) [Supporting the implementation of Beijing+30 in Kuwait](#), in collaboration with the Human Rights Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Kuwait City, 24–25 April 2024);

(f) [Supporting the Oman national review of Beijing+30](#), in collaboration with the Ministry of Social Development (Muscat, 23–24 April 2024);

(g) An online national workshop, held on 21 April 2024, in collaboration with the Ministry of Social Development in the Sudan to support the Beijing+30 national review process.

30. In addition, ESCWA provided remote technical support to the State Ministry of Women's Affairs of Libya, the Ministry of Social Development and Family of Qatar, and the Syrian Commission for Family Affairs and Population in preparing their national reviews.

C. Leading a regional review process

31. Starting in November 2024, ESCWA and partners assisted member States in organizing the regional review. The process entailed a workshop to introduce the guidance note to countries; and a series of consultations with various stakeholders, namely children, parliamentarians, national human rights institutions, and civil society organisations, including those working with persons with disabilities and older persons. Document E/ESCWA/C.7/2024/8 sets out the preparations for the Beijing+30 review regional process.

IV. Other international commitments

32. In collaboration with the Women's Affairs Department at the Ministry of Social Development of Oman, ESCWA held a [workshop](#) (Muscat, 27–28 November 2023) to support the national committee on the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women in preparing the fourth national periodic report of Oman on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). This included holding a national workshop to prepare the Omani team for the upcoming constructive dialogue on the report, held in Geneva in February 2024. The workshop presented the full cycle of reporting to the Committee on Eliminating Discrimination against Women, and highlighted the guidelines, structure and content of the constructive dialogue. It also focused on the preparations for the Omani constructive dialogue session.

V. Women's economic participation

33. In Lebanon, in support of national efforts to develop the care sector and to conduct a legal review of related frameworks, ESCWA partnered with the Women and Children Parliamentary Committee to undertake a legal review to determine amendments required to laws on children's care provision, and support the enactment of changes to labour law on flexible working arrangements. An action plan to support the adoption processes of the law proposals on flexible work arrangements and family-friendly labour policies was developed and presented to donors in January 2024. As part of this action plan, ESCWA and the Committee implemented an advocacy and awareness [campaign](#) targeting Members of Parliament and private sector representatives. The programme was implemented in collaboration with the International Labour Organization, UN-Women and the World Bank.

VI. Gender statistics

34. ESCWA has been active in supporting national statistical offices to identify tools that can guarantee active production of sex-disaggregated data and surveys. From 7 to 9 May 2024, ESCWA held a [virtual](#)

[workshop on gender statistics](#), in coordination with the Arab Institute for Training and Research in Statistics. The workshop familiarized participants with gender indicators within global and national frameworks, and reviewed methodologies, calculation methods and results analysis.

35. On 14 December 2023, ESCWA, in collaboration with Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and UN-Habitat, organized [a webinar on SDGs indicators](#) 1.4.2 (on the proportion of the total adult population with secure tenure rights to land) and 5.a.2 (on women and girls rights to land in national laws, policies and programmes). The webinar targeted members of statistical offices in the Arab region and other national institutions, and discussed the need to improve data collection on SDG indicators 5.a.2, 5.1.1, 5.a.1, and 1.4.2 as a baseline for reporting on progress. The webinar strengthened the capacity of national institutions to collect data on SDG indicator 5.a.2, including by discussing challenges and good practices in the Arab region and beyond. It also triggered an informed discussion on the challenges of rural women in the region, and on ways to advance women's land rights and gender equality to promote inclusive rural transformation and sustainable development.

VII. Support to United Nations country teams

36. ESCWA coordinates its interventions with the United Nations country team and the United Nations Resident Coordinator in each country, so as to avoid duplication of efforts, maximize the utilization of available resources, and ensure complementarity and added value. ESCWA and the United Nations country team in the Syrian Arab Republic, in coordination with the United Nations Gender Working Group in Syria, prepared a report on the situation of women and girls in the Syrian Arab Republic (forthcoming). The report is expected to guide the work of the United Nations country team on matters related to the advancement of women in the country. Furthermore, ESCWA supported the United Nations country team in Iraq in their advocacy efforts to support national discussions on amending the personal status law. In this regard, ESCWA provided an analysis and shared existing legislation from other Arab countries related to the personal status law, such as marriage age, divorce, marriage registration, custody and inheritance.

VIII. Conclusion

37. ESCWA is dedicated to addressing the needs of member States and fulfilling their technical support requests, which are central to its interventions in the region, including the implementation of global policy frameworks. The Commission is committed to maintaining constructive engagement with member States and providing essential advisory services in collaboration with regional partners, particularly national women's machineries.

38. The Committee on Women is invited to review the present document and share its perspectives on the way forward to enhance technical cooperation between ESCWA and member States in the upcoming period.

Annex

**Technical cooperation activities in the area of gender equality
and women's empowerment, 2023–2024**

List of activities				
Output	Country	Partner	Beneficiary	Activity
Combating violence against women				
Advisory support for implementing the recommendations of the study on the economic cost of violence in Jordan	Jordan	Jordanian National Commission for Women	Government agencies	Agreement to focus on the evaluation of programmes implemented by organizations in Jordan (governmental and non-governmental) for the economic empowerment of women survivors of violence.
Advisory services for the formulation of a national strategy on violence against women for Somalia	Somalia	Ministry of Women and Human Rights Development, UNSOM, UNDP, UNFPA and UN-Women	Government agencies	Strategy on combating violence against women drafted, awaiting national consultations for government stakeholders to endorse the document.
Women, peace and security				
Support the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security: situation analysis and action plan	Kuwait	Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Government agencies	Support a baseline study on the situation of women and the formulation of a national action plan to implement the resolution. A national workshop on the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) was held on 22 and 23 April 2024 as an initial implementation of the request.
Regional review of Beijing+30				
Addressing gaps to progress on the five regional priorities				
Enhancing Arab countries' ranking in international indices				
Support in using the ISPAR in Kuwait	Kuwait	Supreme Council for Family Affairs	Government agencies	Training workshop conducted to build capacity on the use of the gender components of ISPAR and on the international gender equality frameworks (Kuwait City, 23–26 October 2023). ESCWA developed a draft policy document that provides a road map for policy and legal reforms, which is pending the Council's identification of targets and policy options to achieve them.
Support in enacting policy reforms using the gender components of ISPAR	Lebanon	National Commission for Lebanese Women	Government agencies	Workshop on the use of ISPAR (Beirut, 1–2 February 2024).

List of activities				
Output	Country	Partner	Beneficiary	Activity
Support in using the ISPAR in Morocco	Morocco	Ministry of Solidarity, Social Integration and Family	Government agencies	Workshop on the use of ISPAR (phase 1) (Rabat, 19–20 February 2024). The workshop brought together representatives from various governmental organizations involved in policy development.
Support in using the ISPAR in Oman	Oman	Ministry of Social Development	Government agencies	Workshop on using ISPAR in Oman (Muscat, 20–22 August 2022). The workshop familiarized government stakeholders with ISPAR, identified priority areas to work on, and highlighted the national changes required to improve the country's performance on global gender equality indicators.
Ensure the inclusion of gender concerns in national strategies				
Report on abuse of older persons in the Arab region	Regional			Organized research on abuse of older persons in the region.
Advisory service to the National Council for Family Affairs to adopt a national strategy on older persons	Jordan	National Council for Family Affairs	State institution	Facilitated a validation workshop for members of the National Committee for Older Persons.
Advisory services for the formulation and implementation of an action plan to mainstream gender in the National Aid Fund of Jordan	Jordan	National Aid Fund	Government agencies	A first of two workshops was conducted (Amman, 16–18 January 2024) to advance the implementation of an action plan on mainstreaming gender in the institution, to advance the preparation of its first annual report, and shape the future agenda on gender mainstreaming with senior management of the National Aid Fund.
Advisory services for the mid-term assessment of the National Women's Strategy 2020–2025 in Jordan	Jordan	Jordanian National Commission for Women	Government agencies	The Jordanian National Commission for Women submitted an advisory services request for conducting a mid-term assessment of the National Women's Strategy 2020–2025 in Jordan.
Gender audit of the justice sector	Morocco	Ministry of Justice	Government agencies, UN-Women Country Office	Preliminary results of the audit were validated at a national workshop, held in September 2024, which led to a road map that will enable a gender inclusive environment, processes and structures in the justice sector. The road map was endorsed in November 2024.
Advisory services to design action plans for model centres working with persons with disabilities	Tunisia	Ministry of Social Affairs	Government agency	Work closely with three centres in three regions in Tunisia to become model centres for the inclusion of persons with disabilities in community development.

List of activities				
Output	Country	Partner	Beneficiary	Activity
National reviews of Beijing+30				
Support to Jordan in preparing the national review of Beijing+30	Jordan	Jordanian National Commission for Women	Government agencies, UN-Women Country Office	National workshop to support consultations on the review of Beijing+30 years (Amman, 13–14 February 2024). Advisory services were extended to finalize the drafting of the report.
Support to Kuwait in preparing the national review of Beijing+30	Kuwait	Human Rights Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Government agencies	National workshop on Beijing+30 (Kuwait City, 24–25 April 2024).
Support to Lebanon in preparing the national review of Beijing+30	Lebanon	National Commission for Lebanese Women	Government agencies	National workshop to support consultations on the review of Beijing+30 years (Beirut, 21 February 2024).
Support to Libya in preparing the national review of Beijing+30	Libya	State Ministry of Women's Affairs	Government agencies	During the period February–August 2024, ESCWA accompanied the task force assigned to develop the national report and supported the development of the report.
Support to Oman in preparing the national review of Beijing+30	Oman	General Directorate for Women of the Ministry of Social Development	Government agencies	National workshop on Beijing+30 (Muscat, 23–24 April 2024).
Support to the State of Palestine in preparing the national review of Beijing+30	State of Palestine	Ministry of Women's Affairs	Government agencies	Training workshop on Beijing+30 (Amman, 16–17 April 2024).
Capacity-building for Saudi Arabia on preparing the national review of Beijing+30	Saudi Arabia	Family Affairs Council	Government agencies	Training on preparing the national review report on Beijing+30 (Riyadh, 4–5 March 2024).
Support to the Sudan in preparing the national review of Beijing+30	Sudan	Ministry of Social Development	Government agencies	Online national workshop on Beijing+30 (21 April 2024).
Reporting on other international commitments: CEDAW				
Advisory services to support the preparation of the fourth Omani report to the CEDAW Committee	Oman	Women's Issues Department of the Ministry of Social Development	Government agencies	National workshop to discuss and improve the fourth national report to CEDAW (Muscat, 27–28 November 2023). The Omani national team was also prepared for the constructive dialogue of their report, held in Geneva in February 2024.

List of activities				
Output	Country	Partner	Beneficiary	Activity
Women's economic participation				
Advisory services on developing the care sector in Lebanon	Lebanon	Parliamentary Committee on Women and Children	Government agencies	<p>A legal review was undertaken to determine amendments required to laws on children's care provision, and support the enactment of changes to the labour law on flexible working arrangements.</p> <p>An action plan to support the adoption processes of the law proposals on flexible work arrangements and family-friendly labour policies was presented to donors in January 2024.</p>
Advisory services on improving the care economy and accounting for unpaid care work in the Sudan	Sudan	General Directorate of Women and Family Affairs of the Ministry of Welfare and Social Security	Government agencies	A case study was undertaken in 2022 to inform and support national discussions and capacity-building efforts, leading to care policy changes in 2023.
Gender statistics				
Regional workshop on gender statistics	Regional	National statistical offices in member States		From 7 to 9 May 2024, ESCWA, in collaboration with the Arab Institute for Training and research in Statistics, organized an online workshop to familiarize participants with gender indicators within global and national frameworks.
Regional webinar on SDGs indicators 1.4.2 and 5.a.2	Regional	National statistical offices in member States		On 14 December 2023, in partnership with FAO, ESCWA organized an online workshop to improve data collection on SDGs indicators.
Support to United Nations country teams				
Advisory services on personal status laws in Iraq	Iraq	United Nations country team in Iraq		ESCWA provided an analysis of existing legislation in other Arab countries on matters related to the Iraqi personal status law, such as marriage age, divorce, marriage registration, custody and inheritance.
Advisory services and technical support on the situation of women and girls in the Syrian Arab Republic	Syrian Arab Republic	United Nations country team in the Syrian Arab Republic	United Nations Gender Working Group in the Syrian Arab Republic	During the period August 2023–March 2024, ESCWA provided support in producing a report on the situation of women and girls in the country
