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**Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)**

Expert Group Meeting on “Adopting the Sustainable Livelihoods Approach  
for Promoting Rural Development in the ESCWA Region”  
Beirut, 21-22 December 2009

**TENTATIVE AGENDA**


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**Day 1: Monday 21 December 2009**


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09:30 – 10:00	<b>Registration</b>
10:00 – 10:10	<b>Welcome and opening statements</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ms. Anhar Hegazi, <i>Officer in Charge of ESCWA and Chief, Sustainable Development and Productivity Division (SDPD)</i>.</li> </ul>
10:10 – 10:15	Break
10:15 – 11:15	<b>Session 1: Sustainable Livelihood Approach: A General Overview (Part 1)</b>
	Chair: Mr. Adel Cortas, Ms. Anhar Hegazi
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introduction and Insights into Sustainable Livelihood Approaches, <i>Mr. Adel Cortas, Former Minister of Agriculture, Lebanon</i>.</li> <li>Sustainable Livelihood Approaches: the framework, lessons learnt from practice and policy recommendations. <i>Ms. Mona Haidar, Regional Advisor Livelihoods</i>.</li> <li>Experiences of Sustainable Livelihoods Approach in the ESCWA Region <i>Ms. Alia Sabra, Productive Sectors Section (PSS), SDPD, ESCWA</i>.</li> </ul>
	<b>Discussion</b>
11:15 – 11:30	Coffee break
11:30 – 12:20	<b>Session 1: Sustainable Livelihood Approach: A General Overview (Part 2)</b>
	Chair: Mr. Adel Cortas, Ms. Anhar Hegazi
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Indicators on Rural Development and Agriculture Household Income <i>Ms. Wafa Aboul-Hosn; Mr. Wassim Hammoud, Economic Statistics Section (ESS), ESCWA</i></li> <li>The Adoption and Implementation of SLA: Challenges, Constraints, and Best Practices – <i>Mr. George J. Nasr, Productive Sectors Section (PSS), SDPD, ESCWA</i></li> </ul>
	<b>Discussion</b>
12:20 – 12:35	Coffee break

12:35 – 14:05	<p><b>Session 2: Policies and Programs in Sustainable Livelihood Implementation</b></p> <p>Chair: Mr. Ibrahim El Sayed Rihan, Mr. Adel Cortas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Sustainable Livelihoods Approach in MENA: A Bitter Sweet Experience <i>Mr. Shadi Hamadeh, ESDU/FAFS, AUB</i></li> <li>ICARDA's experiences in improving the livelihoods of the resource-poor in dry areas and promoting policies for alternative livelihood programmes <i>Mr. Aden Aw-Hassan, ICARDA.</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Discussion</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improving Rural Livelihoods through Photovoltaic Electrification: the ESCWA pilot in Kaawa, Yemen <i>Mr. Walid Deghaili, Energy Section (ES), SDPD, ESCWA.</i></li> <li>Biofuels: Challenges and Opportunities for Promoting Sustainable Livelihoods in the Arab Region <i>Mr. Ahmad Hourri, LAU.</i></li> </ul>
14:05 – 15:05	<p><b>Discussion</b></p> <p>Lunch break</p>
15:05 – 17:30	<p><b>Session 3: Sustainable Livelihood Approach: Private Sector Approaches</b></p> <p>Chair: Mr. Adel Ismail Mohammad Basbous, Mr. Adel Cortas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cooperative des Coteaux d'Heliopolis: a real example of sustainable development <i>Mr. Said R. Gedeon, Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture of Zahle and Bekaa</i></li> <li>Wataneh Program <i>Mr. Dany El-Obeid, Arc-en-Ciel.</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Discussion</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cooperative Deir Kanoun <i>Ms. Daad Ismail, Deir Kanoun</i></li> <li>The Ardee Program <i>Mr. Mohammad N. El-Hajj, Ardee.</i></li> <li>The Experience of the Jordan Enterprise Development Corporation <i>Ms. Maha Salameh Mohammad Arabyat, JEDCO.</i></li> </ul>

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***Day 2: Tuesday 22 December 2008***

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09:00 – 10:30	<p><b>Session 4: Sustainable Livelihood in ESCWA Countries</b></p> <p>Chair: Mr. Salim Bin Ali Al-Amrani, Mr. Adel Cortas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promoting rural Development through Sustainable Agricultural Projects in Northern Iraq <i>Mr. Jihad Noun, Water Resources Section (WRS), SDPD, ESCWA.</i></li> </ul>
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- Lessons Learned from Pilot Projects for Implementing Sustainable Livelihood Approaches in South Lebanon  
*Ms. Carol Chouchani-Cherfane, Water Resources Section (WRS), SDPD, ESCWA*

#### **Discussion**

- Local and Rural Development in Yemen  
*Mr. Abdullah Ahmed Ali Al-Ghaithi, Ministry of Planning & International Cooperation, Yemen*
- Sustainable Livelihood Approach in Rural Development  
*Ms. Salam Saab, FAO.*
- Knowledge Networks through ICT Access Points in Disadvantaged Areas  
*Mr Mansour Farah, ICT Policies Section, Information and Communication Technology Division, ESCWA.*

#### **Discussion**

10:30 – 10:45

Coffee break

10:45 – 12:30

### **Session 5: Sustainable Livelihood: ESCWA Countries Perspective (Part 1)**

Chair: Mr. Adel Cortas, Ms. Carol Chouchani-Cherfane

- The Egyptian experience in adopting sustainable livelihood to promote rural development  
*Mr. Ibrahim El Sayed Rihan, Ministry of Local Development, Egypt.*
- Jordan's Enhanced Productivity Program (EPP)  
*Mr. Adel Ismail Mohammad Basbous, Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, Jordan.*
- Adopting the Sustainable Livelihoods Approach for Promoting Rural Development in Lebanon  
*Ms. Mona Assaf, Ministry of Agriculture, Lebanon.*

#### **Discussion**

- Approaches to sustainable livelihood in promoting rural development in the Sultanate of Oman–  
*Mr. Salim Bin Ali Al-Amrani,, Ministry of Agriculture, Oman.*
- Experience of Palestine's Department of Rural Development in the economic improvement of rural households  
*Ms. Safaa Bsais, Ministry of Agriculture, Palestine.*

#### **Discussion**

12:30 – 12:45

Coffee break

12:45 – 13:45

### **Session 5: Sustainable Livelihood: ESCWA Countries Perspective (Part 2)**

Chair: Mr. Adel Cortas, Ms. Carol Chouchani-Cherfane

- Sustainable Livelihood in Qatar  
*Mr. Yousif Mubarak Al-Dosari, Qatar.*
- Sudan's Experience in Sustainable Rural Development  
*Ms. Siham Mukhtar Al-Mardi, Sudan.*

- Sustainable Rural Development Strategies in Syria.  
*Ms. Mayssaa M. Al-Midani, State Planning Commission, Syrian Arab Republic*
- Adoption of Sustainable Livelihood Approach for Promoting Rural Development in Yemen  
*Mr. Ali Gunaid Ali Abdullah, Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation., Yemen.*

### **Discussion**

14:00 – 15:00

Lunch Break

15:00 – 16:00

### **Session 6: Conclusions and recommendations**

Chair: Mr. Adel Cortas, Ms. Anhar Hegazi.

- Capacity Building on SLA for the ESCWA Region  
*Mrs. J. El-Baba, Productive Sectors Section (PSS), SDPD, ESCWA*
- Review and Discussion of Recommendations
- Close of meeting