



9-15 JANUARY

## Digital Government Workshops: Jordan and Syria

At the request of the Ministry of Information and Communication Technology (MoICT) in Jordan, ESCWA conducted a capacity building workshop on e-Government indicators, providing policy recommendations to enhance the development of e-Government services in Jordan by strengthening access to technology infrastructure, building national skills in technology, and improving the delivery of public services electronically.

In Syria, ESCWA responded to a request from the Ministry of Communication and Technology (MoCT) to deliver a national workshop on best practices in digital government and digital transformation, which is expected to result in the development of a national digital transformation strategy. Meeting with the Ministry of Higher Education (MoHE), the Higher Commission of Scientific Research (HCSR) and the Commission of Planning and International Cooperation (CPIC), ESCWA discussed national technology transfer initiatives as per the technical cooperation framework between CPIC and ESCWA.

13-14 JANUARY

## Rights of Persons with Disabilities: Regional Seminar

Working with the League of Arab States (LAS) and the Egyptian Ministry of Social Solidarity, ESCWA organized the Arab Regional Seminar on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities within the framework of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the 2030 Agenda. The Seminar was held at LAS headquarters in Cairo and was attended by policy makers and regional organizations for persons with disabilities.

ESCWA presented on evidence-based policy formulation, measuring progress and effectiveness, and the importance of linking the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) with the SDGs through the ESCWA Arab SDG-CRPD Framework.

Greater harmonization in the production of comparable data for monitoring and reporting can improve the quality of social protection provided by policies for persons with disabilities.



DISABILITY IN THE ARAB REGION



**15-16 JANUARY 2019**

## Gender Equality: Beijing Declaration National Reviews

The ESCWA Centre for Women, in partnership with the League of Arab States and UN-Women, held a training workshop in Beirut to support States in the timely preparation of their national reviews on progress made and challenges encountered in implementing the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action.

The workshop brought together representatives of national women machineries and introduced them to the guidelines and general principles to prepare national reviews. Discussions revolved around the structure and content of the national reports as well as obstacles faced, especially in terms of the methodology, national consultations, and the overall analytical framework.



**17 JANUARY 2019**

## World Future Energy Summit

ESCWA participated in the 1st Expert Group Meeting on Water and Sanitation Utilities in Water Scarce Cities in the MENA region, organized by UN-Habitat with the support of the Abu Dhabi Department of Energy. This EGM was held on 17 January 2019 as part of the WFES in Abu Dhabi and addressed the role of urban utilities in water scarce cities.

ESCWA participated in a panel discussion where it stressed the role of water utilities in improving water security through ensuring no one is left behind in the face of regional challenges including water scarcity, climate change, increased urbanization and conflict.



**9-10 JANUARY 2019**

## UN Environment Assembly: Council of Arab Ministers

ESCWA participated in the Council of Arab Ministers Responsible for Environment (CAMRE)'s special session to support Arab preparations for the 4th UN Environment Assembly. The session addressed the importance of the Arab Group's contribution to the Global Pact for the Environment.

Ms. Reem Nejdawi, Executive Director of the ESCWA Technology Center, highlighted ESCWA's partnership with the League of Arab States and UN Environment as members of the Technical Secretariat of CAMRE in helping Arab countries move towards sustainable consumption and production patterns and achieving the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda.