



United Nations Trust Fund
for Human Security



High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development
Side events – 2021 HLPF under the auspices of ECOSOC
July 2021

Strengthening a Regional Framework for Pathways to Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies in the Arab Region

13 July 2021 - 07:30 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada) – (13:30 Cairo Time)

Zoom Registration [LINK](#)

***An in-depth discussion based on key findings of the League of Arab States led Regional Report on
“Attainment of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Conflict-affected Countries in the Arab
Region” focusing on SDG 16 and the importance of localization***

Consistent with ongoing efforts by the League of Arab States (LAS) to achieve peace and sustainable development for the people of the Arab region, and concerned by the worsening trajectory of countries affected by conflict, the Arab Committee for Sustainable Development requested the LAS to prepare a regional Report on the importance of SDGs and their implementation in conflict affected countries. The Report was conducted in a highly participatory manner to identify good practices related to initiatives, partnerships and tools for SDGs attainment in conflict-affected settings. It aims to serve as a reference guide to support Member States in progressing towards SDG targets and in using the SDGs to catalyze and achieve sustainable peace and development in challenging contexts.

After two years of inclusive and multi-stakeholder partnership and coordination, the Report on the *Attainment of SDGs in Conflict Affected Countries in the Arab Region* highlights, among other findings, the importance of SDG 16 as a pathway to sustainable development. Using the transformative Human Security approach, the Report recommends several entry points to enable regional actions that advance peace. These include increasing efforts to develop inclusive and responsive governance models that empower local governance structures to ensure national development responses are grounded in local realities and serve those who are at the highest risk of being left behind, such as displaced populations, women and persons with disabilities.

Recognizing this, the interactive panel discussion at the HLPF side-event will deep-dive into some of the key messages of the Report regarding the importance of localization and SDG 16 and what needs to be done by looking at some of the following key questions:

- What would an ‘inclusive society’ look like, how do we achieve this (how can we better include those who are currently left behind e.g. displaced populations, women, disabled, youth, among others) and how can the Human Security lens catalyze efforts to be more inclusive?
- How can international, specifically regional, institutions better support national and local governments in or emerging from conflict or in transition, and what are some good practices and lessons learnt?
- What are the challenges and opportunities for achieving sustainable and inclusive peace and what are the expectations of countries from regional bodies such as the LAS?

Agenda

7:30 – 7:35	<p>Introduction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ms. Nada El Agizy, Director, Sustainable Development and International Cooperation, LAS
7:35 – 7:45	<p>Opening Statement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ambassador Hossam Zaki, Assistant Secretary-General, LAS
7:45 – 8:45	<p>Plenary Session moderated by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ms. Ola Saidani, Economist and SDG Adviser, Office of the Prime Minister, The Lebanese Republic <p>Panel Members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dr. Mohammed Al-Houri, Under-Secretary, Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, The Republic of Yemen - Dr. Taher Abu al-Hassan, Chairman, Sustainable Development Committee, Ministry of Planning, The State of Libya - Ms. Hagar Monsif, African affairs and SDGs Unit Manager, MAAT for Peace, Development and Human Rights - Ms. Buthainah Mahmood Abbas, Chief, National Sustainable Development Network, Hawa'a Organization - Ms. Mehrnaz Mostafavi, Chief, UN Trust Fund for Human Security, UN Human Security Unit
8:45 – 09:00	<p>Q&A session with audience</p>
09:00 – 09:15	<p>Closing Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ms. Nada El Agizy, Director, Sustainable Development and International Cooperation, LAS

