

Foreword

The Academic Network for Development Dialogue (ANDD) has placed the empowerment of youth in research and innovation as a top priority. In this context, a call for research papers was launched as a series on the topic of building on the similarities between Arab countries to promote sustainable development.

This initiative aims to create a research platform that supports talented young researchers and helps them develop research and innovation skills. It also encourages cooperation and exchange of experiences between the academic community and the United Nations.

We were so much pleased with the remarkable interest and participation of young researchers and students in the series and the knowledge they exhibited in various subjects and topics, as well as their command over scientific research methods. They also showed deep awareness of the nature of common challenges and intractable problems facing sustainable development projects, and what could be the requirements to effectively overcome these challenges, which require the involvement of public and private entities necessarily for the implementation of sustainable development projects in the Arab world.

The submitted research papers were given special attention and care. They went through a comprehensive scholarly peer-review, while ensuring the balance between allowing the opportunity for participants' presentation and training, as well as fairness of selection by experts recognized for their competence and scholarly specialization.

Today, we present to you the fruit of the first research paper series and initiative as the first scholarly outcome addressing national and developmental priorities in the fields of energy, water, food, technology, society, and other innovative research subjects and ideas of valuable significance that encourage further endeavors for the promising generation of scientists and researchers.

We congratulate the participating researchers and welcome everyone. We also thank Qatar University Press team, the Research and Graduate Studies Sector, the ESCWA Committee and everyone who contributed in bringing those research papers into light to foster the pioneering role of youths in the development of their countries and societies.

I congratulate your achievements and wish you continued success with God's blessing.

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