

“Fostering Knowledge for human development in the Arab region”

**Project Advisory Committee (PAC) meeting
30 May 2012**

Background

The “*Fostering Knowledge for Human Development in the Arab Region*” project seeks to promote knowledge generation and dissemination, to foster policy dialogue through examination of key regional development issues, and to develop capacities for the identification and application of development solutions that are human-centred, inclusive and sustainable. The project is firmly linked to the Regional Programme Document (RPD) as the main driver behind Outcome 4 (Promotion of Knowledge for Human Development). Further, it is aligned to the timeframe of the RPD as well as the UNDP Strategic Plan, both of which are in force through 2013.

A guiding principle of the RPD is that progress in human development requires developing stakeholder capacity to generate, acquire and apply knowledge in policy design and implementation. The present project will contribute to that process through the realization of two main outputs, namely 1) *AHDRs produced for human development advocacy and as a tool to foster development dialogue and debate on emerging issues, including gender issues*, and 2) *Analysis on key challenges in the region produced and spaces created for regional debate and knowledge sharing/dissemination*. The project is the successor project to the current Arab Human Development Report (AHDR) project.

The project is to be UNDP executed, but UNOPS implemented.

The total budget of the project is USD 15,694,170 of which USD 6,600,000 are have already been allocated by RPD through TRAC, to be immediately available upon project approval. The Arab Knowledge Report (AKR) is fully funded by the Mohammed Bin-Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation (MBRF) with a total amount of USD 6,127,504. Funding for the regional dialogue event in 2012 has been secured through the Government of Germany in the amount of USD 266,666. Other funding will need to be secured from other sources.

Project Advisory Committee (PAC)

The project document went through a first round of comments via a virtual PAC review in April 2012 and the comments received were consolidated in Table 2 below. The bureau units were invited to participate at the formal PAC meeting on 30 May 2012 where the project was endorsed by all participants. The PAC meeting was chaired by Mr. Sunil Saigal, Deputy Assistant Administrator and Deputy Regional Director for the UNDP Regional Bureau for Arab States

Prior to the PAC, the Document was shared by with the following Units:

- Bureau For Crisis Prevention and Recovery (BCPR)
- Bureau for Development Policies (BDP)
- Bureau of External Relations and Advocacy (BERA)
- Bureau Of Management (BoM)
- Evaluation Office (EO)
- Human Development Report Office (HDRO)
- Operations Support Group (OSG)
- Regional Bureau for Africa (RBA)
- Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific (RBAP)
- Regional Bureau for Europe and the CIS (RBEC)
- Regional Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean (RBLAC)
- Regional Center in Cairo (RCC)

Responses were received from the:

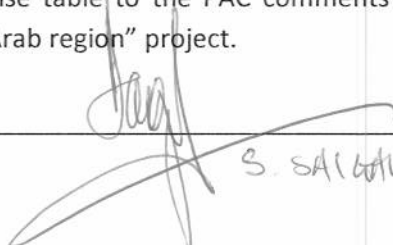
- Bureau for Development Policies (BDP)
- Bureau of External Relations and Advocacy (BERA)
- Evaluation Office (EO)
- Human Development Report Office (HDRO)
- Operations Support Group (OSG)
- Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific (RBAP)
- Regional Bureau for Europe and the CIS (RBEC)

The participants at the formal PAC were as follows:

- Bureau for Development Policies (BDP): Timothy Scott
- Bureau of External Relations and Advocacy (BERA): Douglas Passanisi
- Bureau Of Management (BoM): Abdul Hannan
- Evaluation Office (EO): Olivier Cossée
- Human Development Report Office (HDRO): Jon Hall
- Regional Bureau for Arab States (RBAS): Sunil Saigal, Adel Abdellatif, Susanne Kim Siao, Dania Marzouki, Theodore Murphy, Alexandra Regner

Please find below the consolidated response table to the PAC comments on the regional "Fostering knowledge for human development in the Arab region" project.

PAC minutes approved by: _____



S. SAIGAL, RBAS