



REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP on CULTURE & DEVELOPMENT

Did you know 72% of young people across the Middle East believe that their government has become more trustworthy and transparent since the Arab Spring? This and other interesting statistics on Arab youth can be found in the recently published [2012 Arab Youth Survey](#).

Also in this month's newsletter, learn about an upcoming book on environmental politics, see how to incorporate gender considerations into your research, and join a webinar on fighting corruption in the Middle East. Don't forget to send us your latest news and research updates for inclusion in the next newsletter!



RPCD PARTNER PROFILE

Lama El Hatow is the co-founder of the Water Institute for the Nile (WIN), a think-tank focused on ideas and solutions that can foster cooperation and better water resource management among Nile Basin countries. Ms. El Hatow attended the Rio+20 Earth Summit in June 2012, and presented the results of the summit to RPCD Partnership Forum members via a webinar in July. A leading environmental activist in Egypt working with youth and civil society groups on climate change and sustainable development advocacy, Ms. El Hatow is also an Environment and Social Specialist at the International Finance Corporation (IFC)/ World Bank Group. Her statement on the value of the Partnership Forum is below.

Research Highlights



[Environmental Politics in Egypt: Activists, Experts and the State](#)

This Routledge book draws on extensive fieldwork conducted over the last two decades, up to and after the 2011 uprisings, to show how decisions on environmental issues are formed. The book explores three main

environmental policy areas: industrial pollution from large-scale industry, ecosystem conservation, and irrigation water management. It examines the possibility of a more participatory and dynamic future for environmental policy making in Egypt. The author Jeannie Sowers is a professor of Political Science at the University of New Hampshire. The book will be released in December 2012. [Click here for more publications on Natural Resource Management](#)



[Reconciliation, Reform and Resilience: Positive Peace for Lebanon](#)

This publication looks at the complex interactions that feed into the conflict in Lebanon and the points of political change and reconciliation. The report includes more than 30 articles and interviews covering different perspectives. It shows that “the Lebanese are not merely passive

victims of a violent fate determined beyond their country's borders: many are hungry for change and have been actively exploring opportunities and pushing boundaries to achieve it.” The report was released in July 2012, and a Policy Brief is also available. [Click here for more publications on Democracy and Governance](#)



[Women and Knowledge in the Mediterranean](#)

This book explores four main domains in which women's knowledge is attested: women and written knowledge; women and

oral knowledge; women and legal, religious, and economic knowledge; and women and media knowledge. It also presents women's perceptions of knowledge in these domains, which opens new avenues for social studies. This book, expected January 2013, will be an invaluable resource for students and scholars of the Middle East, Women and Gender studies and Mediterranean Studies. The author Fatima Sadiqi is Senior Professor of Gender Studies and recipient of a Harvard Fellowship. [Click here for more publications on Youth Engagement and Development](#)

Recent RPCD and Research News

RPCD Partnership Forum reaches 110 members

The RPCD Partnership Forum now includes 110 members from around the MENA region. We are honored to have these respected research institutions sharing information and expertise in the Forum network.



Building a better world, partnering with youth in partnerships with and for youth towards building a better world. To contribute to the United Nations System-Wide Action Plan for Youth, fill out this [questionnaire](#). For more information, please click [here](#).

2012 International Youth Day

August 12 commemorates International Youth Day (IYD). This year's theme “Building a Better World: Partnering with Youth” is a global call to action for young men and women, as well as other stakeholders, to develop and engage

Think Tank LINKS Fellowship

CIPE and Atlas Corps have jointly launched the new Think Tank LINKS (Leaders, Innovators, and Knowledge Sharing) Fellowship. This innovative, all-expenses paid program is an opportunity for talented young professionals from developing countries with strong research backgrounds to shadow leading U.S. think tanks for six months. To apply submit an online application click [here](#). The deadline is August 15, 2012.

“RPCD is a useful platform to involve members of the community and webinars are an effective, zero-carbon tool to bring people from different parts of the world together to discuss and become more aware of global issues and debates.”

Lama El Hatow, Co-Founder, WIN
July 2012

Watch Completed RPCD Webinars

RPCD conducted four successful e-sessions for Partnership Forum Members in July. Select any webinar to watch the recording:

- [Youth Unemployment in the Arab World: The Gap between Education and Employment](#) July 12, 2012 by Dr. Hind Arroub.
- [From Theory to Action: Gender Mainstreaming](#) July 24, 2012 by Ms. Nermeen Mourad and Dr. Wafa Khadra.
- [Effective Focus Groups](#) July 26, 2012 by Dr. Amer Jabarin for PF members in Jordan.
- [Outcomes of Rio +20 and Implications for the Arab Region](#) July 30, 2012 by Eng. Lama El Hatow

[Visit our website](#)

Upcoming Events

Webinar by RPCD – Fighting corruption in strengthening democratic transition in post-Arab Spring

- September 15, 11am-12pm Cairo Time

[25th PhD Workshop on International Climate Policy: Call for Papers, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology \(ETH\)](#)

- October 25-26, 2012, Zurich. Deadline for abstracts is August 15, 2012.

[Workshop on Water Accounts and Statistics for North African French Speaking Countries by UNSD and the UNECA Office for North Africa](#)

- 11-13 September 2012, Rabat, Morocco.

[2012 Global Youth Economic Opportunities Conference by Making Cents International](#)

- September 11-13, Washington, DC.



Research Tips

Gender impact is often overlooked in program evaluation or assessment exercises, particularly in the MENA region. For useful and detailed guidance on gender inclusion in program evaluation, see the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) publication, “[A Toolkit on Collecting Gender & Assets Data in Qualitative & Quantitative Program Evaluations.](#)”