



REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP *on* CULTURE & DEVELOPMENT

2010 was globally the warmest year since the 1800s, with 5 Arab countries setting new national temperature highs, as described in the recently released World Bank report, "Adaptation to a Changing Climate in the Arab Countries: A Case for Adaptation Governance and Leadership in Building Climate Resilience." You can read the report [here](#).



Dr. Laila Iskander is an Egyptian social entrepreneur who has been working with Egyptian grassroots organizations for over 20 years. She is a chairperson and founding board member of CID Consulting, which strives to create holistic growth solutions by bridging corporate and developmental objectives. CID Consulting is a member of the RPCD Partnership Forum.

Last month RPCD was delighted to have Dr. Iskander lead a webinar entitled "Why Do We Have a Garbage Problem?" Click [here](#) to view the recording. "This webinar was an added value on the topic of waste. I gained many additional information about the situation of garbage... which I wasn't aware of before" – said Majed Abu Azzam, Researcher from the King Hussein Foundation.

Research Highlights: Upcoming Studies



[Governance in the Middle East and North Africa](#)

This World Bank publication will serve as an all-inclusive handbook for governance issues in the Middle East and North Africa. The book will combine both theoretical frameworks and real-world case studies from the region. It will portray case studies from almost all countries of the region and will target scholars, activists and policy makers. The book will be edited by Abbas Kadhim, an Assistant Professor at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California and a Visiting Scholar at Stanford University. It is expected to be published by the end of December 2012. [Click here for more publications on Democracy and Governance](#)



[Challenges to treated wastewater reuse in arid and semi-arid areas](#)

This article in the Environmental Science & Policy Journal evaluates technical, legal, social and economic challenges facing treated wastewater in arid and semi-arid areas, using the West Bank as a case study. The study uses field surveys and interviews to show that farmers are willing to irrigate many crops utilizing treated wastewater; however, there are discrepancies between what farmers are willing to implement and what planners and policy makers would recommend. This paper will be published in the upcoming issue in January 2013, of the peer reviewed journal. [Click here for more publications on Natural Resource Management](#)



[Taking to the Streets: Activism, Arab Uprisings, and Democratization](#)

This collection of articles details the rise of activism in the Arab world using cases of uprisings and democratization. The book is edited by Lina Khatib, manager of the Program on Arab Reform and Democracy at Stanford University, and Ellen Lust, Associate Professor in the Department of Political Science at Yale University, and illustrates youth perspectives in igniting change and mobilizing nations. The book will be launched next year. [Click here for more publications on Youth Engagement and Development](#)

Recent RPCD and Research News

RPCD Partnership Forum Meeting in Lebanon

In November RPCD held its first Partnership Forum meeting in Beirut, Lebanon. The meeting gathered PF members in Lebanon and who discussed the development research needs in their country. In light of these discussions, RPCD will plan for a National Workshop to tackle one of these issues. The Partnership Forum is now active in 6 MENA countries with a total of 136 active institutions.

Sustainable Waste Management Middle East Summit

The Sustainable Waste Management Middle East Summit took place in Dubai from November 26-28, 2012. The summit focused on commercially viable, environmentally sustainable waste management industry in the Middle East – with a particular focus on energy from waste. Visit the conference website [here](#).

RPCD Webinars

RPCD conducted two webinars in November. A **follow up webinar** for Partnership Forum members in Morocco on Qualitative Research Methods was conducted by Khadija Ramram. You can listen to the discussions [here](#).

RPCD also conducted an e-session on "Why Do We Have a Garbage Problem?" presented by Dr. Laila Iskander, Chairperson, CID Consulting. You can watch the recording [here](#).

Rural Tourism and Sustainable Development

The [Center for Cross Cultural Learning](#) (CCCL), one of the Partnership Forum's newest members, organized a roundtable titled "Rural Tourism and Sustainable Development" on November 10th, 2012 in Morocco. Key actors in the field of tourism and sustainable development were invited to present and discuss recent achievements and develop a sustainable strategy for tourism.

Upcoming Events

"Climate Change and Water in the MENA Region" at the upcoming AWC General Assembly

The 3rd General Assembly of the Arab Water Council, a body of the Arab League, will be held in Cairo from December 18 – 20, 2012 at the Conrad Hotel. USAID/RPCD is collaborating with the AWC to host a session entitled "Translating Climate Change Science into Adaptation Strategies: New Developments to Support Arab Water Decision-Makers" on December 18 from 14:30-17:30. Partnership Forum members are invited to attend this workshop upon registration.

Qualitative Research Methods Workshop

The first RPCD National Workshop in Egypt will take place from 12-13 December 2012 at the Dusit Thani Lakeview Hotel. Dr. Pandeli Glavanis, Associate Director of the Centre for Learning and Teaching at the American University in Cairo, will be leading the training, which will focus on Participatory Research Methods. The deadline for registration is December 9th.

The 2nd Arab Water Week

RPCD will participate in the proceedings of Arab Water Week from January 27-29, 2013 in Amman, Jordan. The conference will be preceded on the 26th of January by a special workshop on "Improving the Adaptive Capacity of Water Managers in the MENA Region," organized by RPCD, that will gather Partnership Forum members and other water and climate change experts in the region.

"Globalization, Human Rights and the Public Spheres in the Arab World."

The [Issam Fares Institute](#) (IFI) of the American University of Beirut is conducting a research project on "Globalization, Human Rights and the Public Spheres in the Arab World." IFI seeks a one page abstract as an initial proposal to participate in a project, deadline for abstract submissions is December 20, 2012 click here for more information.

"Human Rights of Women in the Arab Region"

The [Arab Academic Human Rights Network](#) (AAHRN) is hosting a seminar on "Human Rights of Women in the Arab Region" in Amman, Jordan from 12-13 December 2012. It will be held at Faculty of Law at The University of Jordan.

The Third Annual Conference on Arab Philanthropy and Civic Engagement

The John D. Gerhart Center for Philanthropy and Civic Engagement at the American University in Cairo will hold its Third Annual Conference in June 2013 in Tunis, Tunisia. Click [here](#) to submit a paper – the deadline is December 10, 2012.



Research Tips

Mixed method evaluations combine qualitative and quantitative approaches to the social sciences. Deepen your understanding of the processes through which program outcomes and impact can be measured in the report "[Introduction to Mixed Methods in Impact Evaluation](#)" by InterAction. You can also find webinar recordings on the topic at: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mN_AmhPZGTU&feature=youtu.be

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