



# THE 2021 ARAB-DAC DIALOGUE ON DEVELOPMENT

## CO-CHAIRS:

- H.E. Mr Bader M. Alsaad, Director General and Chairman of the Board of Directors, Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development
- Ms Susanna Moorehead, Chair, OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC)

## ORGANISED BY:

- Arab Coordination Group (ACG)
- OECD Development Cooperation Directorate (DCD)

## BACKGROUND

Since 2009, the Arab-DAC Dialogue on Development has become an important event that brings together Arab institutions, and the members and participants of the DAC to exchange knowledge and experiences and promote greater collaboration towards achieving sustainable development. In addition, as the largest sources of development finance, Arab institutions, the members and participants of the DAC have been using this platform to learn from each other on development co-operation.

The 2021 Arab-DAC Dialogue will take place amidst the COVID-19 crisis. Participants will have an opportunity to discuss how the two communities are planning their COVID-19 response and recovery packages, which will mobilise substantial resources for development and will coincide with the Decade of Action to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. Participants will also discuss how to ensure that the COVID-19 vaccine reaches all partner countries and that no one is left behind in this endeavour. Finally, the Dialogue will take stock of the on-going collaboration, including on the ACG-DAC Task Force on Water and Sanitation, as well as plans to set up a joint Task Force on employability and vocational training.

## FORMAT AND MEETING DYNAMIC

The Dialogue will take a virtual format, gathering high-level representatives from both the ACG and DAC members and participants. Discussions will kick off with inputs from the Secretariat after which, participants drawing on their own experience and expertise, will be able to contribute to the discussions. To promote a dynamic discussion, participants are requested to keep their remarks brief and interactive.

The co-Chairs will issue a short written statement summarising the main points of discussion and setting out the proposed next steps after the meeting.

Zoom meeting dynamics:

- Mute your microphone when not speaking. Participants who wish to intervene during the discussion can raise their Zoom virtual-hand, and the co-Chairs will call on those hands raised. You can also contribute in the chat (which is visible to all).
- Please rename yourselves with “organisation\_name” to help the co-Chairs identify the speakers and give you the floor when requested.

# AGENDA

3 FEBRUARY 2021, 09:00-12:00 (CET)

From 08:30	<b>Virtual registration open</b>
09:00 – 09:10	<b>1. Welcome and Introduction</b> <b>Welcoming remarks by the co-Chairs</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>H.E. Mr. Bader M. Alsaad, Director General and Chairman of the Board of Directors, Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development</li><li>Ms Susanna Moorehead, Chair, OECD Development Assistance Committee</li></ul>
09:10 – 10:45	<b>2. Supporting the response and recovery from the COVID-19 crisis and ensuring that the COVID-19 vaccine reaches all partner countries</b>  <p>Progress towards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in partner countries was already off-track before the COVID-19 outbreak. The distance to the goals is increasing as the crisis unfolds and progress towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is regressing, as hundreds of millions lose their jobs and fall back into poverty. At the same time, partner countries' capacity to respond and rebuild is severely constrained. The COVID-19 pandemic and crisis are defining the launch of the Decade of Action to achieve the SDGs. Against this context, Arab and DAC donors are reflecting on how to contribute to partner country sustainability and a more equitable recovery, which will only be possible once the vaccine is rolled out across partner countries. Beyond increased development finance, effective responses to the pandemic require policymakers in advanced economies to adopt more holistic, coherent and co-ordinated approaches on vaccines, including by ensuring more effective access and rollout in partner countries. Inclusive, resilient and sustainable growth, job creation, social protection and reducing inequality are more critical now than ever, including through strengthened partnerships, enhanced co-ordination and dialogue between the two communities of providers.</p> <p><b>Key issues for discussion:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Which policies and approaches could Arab and DAC donors pursue to enhance a more sustainable, inclusive and resilient recovery from the COVID-19 crisis in partner countries? How could Arab and DAC providers support country systems in the long-term?</li><li>How are Arab and DAC providers ensuring vaccine availability and delivery in partner countries?</li><li>What could Arab and DAC providers do to avoid a development finance crisis? What can we learn from this crisis to better prepare to manage future pandemics and looming systemic risks (e.g. climate change)?</li></ul>
10:45 – 11:00	<b>Coffee break</b>
11:00 – 11:55	<b>3. Update on the collaboration under the Arab-DAC Dialogue on Development</b> <b>Chaired and moderated</b> by Mr Jorge Moreira da Silva, Director, OECD Development Co-operation Directorate  <p>This session will provide an update on the Arab-DAC Collaboration since the previous Dialogue in January 2019, Kuwait City. The session will take stock, inter alia, on the collaboration from the co-Chairs of the ACG-DAC Task Force on Water and Sanitation, with interventions from Ms Franziska Freiburghaus, Regional Head of Sustainable Development and International Co-operation at the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, and Mr Khaled F. Alkhaled, Regional Manager for International Organisations at the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development; as well as on the proposal to launch a joint Task Force on Employability and Vocational Training, that will be presented by H.E. Nasser Alkahtani, Executive Director at the Arab Gulf Program for Development, and Mr Ralf Hermann, Head of the German Office for International Co-operation in Vocational Training at the Federal Institute for Vocational Education. This session will also be an opportunity to discuss the next steps of the collaboration.</p>
11:55 – 12:00	<b>4. Closing Remarks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>H.E. Mr Bader M. Alsaad, Director General and Chairman of the Board of Directors, Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development</li><li>Ms Susanna Moorehead, Chair, OECD Development Assistance Committee</li></ul>