



ERF – UNDP WEBINAR ON

THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON INEQUALITY IN JORDAN

SEPTEMBER 18TH, 2022

In 2019, the Human Development Report 'Beyond Income, beyond Averages, beyond today' addressed inequalities in human development from a different perspective. While inequalities were previously framed solely around economics, under the shadow of the climate crisis, sweeping technological change, and the impact of COVID-19, inequalities in human development are taking on new forms.

Like many countries in the region, Jordan has greatly improved several non-monetary aspects of inequality, as seen in healthcare and education. However, despite improvements in healthcare and education, unequal access and quality of services, as well as opportunities for employment remain a challenge. In addition, Jordan also has high income inequality with big disparities between governorates and administrative areas. These inequalities may hinder growth and poverty reduction efforts. Therefore, shedding light on recent evidence on inequality of outcomes and opportunities in Jordan and addressing inequality drivers are important necessary conditions for inclusive growth and for achieving the 2030 Agenda.

Against this backdrop, a research partnership between ERF and UNDP Jordan was created to deepen our understanding of "Inequality in Jordan", through which four papers were produced. Despite data limitations and inaccessibility, these papers tackled different types of inequalities including the determinants of income inequality, inequality of outcomes in education, inequality of opportunity in education, and an impact assessment of COVID-19 on income, employment, and education in Jordan. The findings of this set of research papers was summarized in a policy report titled 'Is COVID-19 Increasing Inequalities in Jordan'.

The objective of this webinar is to provide a platform to present the findings of the research, and discuss policy implications among stakeholders.



AGENDA
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4 PM AMMAN LOCAL TIME
3 PM CAIRO LOCAL TIME

16:00-16:10 **Welcoming Remarks (10min)**

Ibrahim Elbadawi; *Economic Research Forum*

Randa Aboul-Hosn; *UNDP Resident Representative*

16:10-17:20 **The Impact of COVID-19 on Inequality in Jordan (70 min)**

Moderator: Michaela Prokop; *UNDP Jordan*

Speakers: Racha Ramadan; *Cairo University and ERF*

Reham Rizk; *Universities of Canada and ERF*

Rana Hendy; *American University in Cairo and ERF*

Lead Commentators:

Nesreen Barakat; *Jordan Strategy Forum*

Khalid Abu Ismail; *United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UNESCWA)*

Zina Nimeh; *United Nations University MERIT and Maastricht University*

17:20-17:45 **Moving Forward and Steps Ahead (25 min)**

Moderator: Randa Aboul-Hosn; *UNDP Resident Representative*

Speakers: Manuel Rodriguez; *United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF)*

17:45-18:00 **Q&A (15 min)**