



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

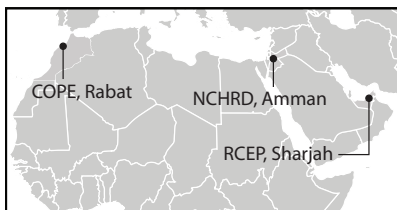
CapEFA News

Highlights of the Capacity Development for Education for All programme

An extrabudgetary programme created in 2003 with the objective of strengthening national capacities in key areas of education: sector-wide policies and plans, literacy, teachers and skills for the world of work.

HIGHLIGHT OF THE MONTH - Sector-wide policies and plans

Arab Region



The challenges currently faced by the different national educational systems in the Arab Region are enormous, both in quantitative and qualitative terms. The organization of educational provision is uneven across the region and varies according to the context of each country.

Educational planning provides the core foundation to address the main concerns of educational systems in terms of access, quality, equity and governance. The design of the CapEFA programme in the Arab Region takes into account the results of various studies and needs assessments conducted in the region. Among the findings there is a shortage of educational planners, a lack of professional training programmes, and a mismatch between the academic training provision and the reality on the ground.

To contribute to bridging these gaps, the CapEFA programme launched a regional initiative tailored for the Arab Region. Coordinated by the UNESCO Office in Beirut, the programme aims to strengthen the capacities of educational planners at the regional level through the enhancement and consolidation of existing training institutions in the region.



Participants at the workshop in Rabat, Morocco. (©Abdelouhab Ait Ghejdil).

The Skills Compendium for Educational Planners developed through the CapEFA programme is a tool unique in its kind in the Arab Region.

Three centres covering the entire region were selected according to a set of technical criteria in Jordan, Morocco and the United Arab Emirates to receive support from UNESCO through the CapEFA programme: the National Centre for Human Resources Development (NCHRD) in Amman, the Centre for Guidance and Educational Planning (COPE) in Rabat, and the Regional Centre for Educational Planning (RCEP) in Sharjah.

A regional seminar was held in Rabat, Morocco, from 7-8 October 2013. Organized by the UNESCO Office in Rabat in collaboration with ISESCO, the seminar aimed to present the tools and materials developed as part of the CapEFA programme to government officials and educational planners in the Arab Region. Particular attention was drawn to the Skills Compendium for Educational Planners, which provides a unique tool in the region to define the tasks and skills needed for the job, as well as to design initial and ongoing training programmes in the area.

The UNESCO Offices in Amman and Doha also presented training materials that were improved and translated in the framework of CapEFA, while the UNESCO International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP) introduced its range of face-to-face and distance learning training courses. Following fruitful discussions, technical and official representatives from participating countries agreed on the need for UNESCO and IIEP to continue supporting the regional centres, thus enabling them to carry out their mission.