

**The Wolfensohn Center/The Dubai School of Government Forum
Youth Exclusion in the Middle East: Towards New Knowledge and Solutions
February 23-24, 2007
Dubai**

February 23, 2007 (Day 1)

9.00 – 9.30 **Welcome and Forum Objectives**

Session 1: Youth Exclusion in Egypt and Iran: Issues, Policies and Knowledge Gaps

9.30 – 11.00

Chair: Talaat Abdel Malek, American University in Cairo

Presenters: Ragui Assaad, Population Council and Ghada Barsoum, Population Council
Youth Exclusion in Egypt: Trends and Policies

Djavad Salehi-Isfahani, Virginia Tech and Daniel Egel, UC Berkeley
Youth Exclusion in Iran: Trends and Policies

Discussants: Heba Handoussa, GERPA and Golnar Mehran, Alzahra University

11.00 – 11.20 Break

Session 2: Youth Exclusion in Syria and Morocco: Issues, Policies and Knowledge Gaps

11.20 – 1.00

Chair: Tarik Yousef, Dubai School of Government

Presenters: Nader Kabbani, American University of Beirut
Youth Exclusion in Syria: Trends and Policies

Brahim Boudarbat, University of Montreal and Aziz Ajbilou, National Institute of
Statistics and Applied Economics, Rabat, Morocco
Youth Exclusion in Morocco: Trends and Policies

Discussants: Ahmed Galal, Economic Research Forum and Jean Louis Sarbib, Wolfensohn &
Co.

1.00 – 2.00 Lunch

Session 3: Sociological Perspectives on Youth Exclusion

2.00 – 3.30

Chair: Ebtisam AlKitbi, United Arab Emirates University

Presenters: Diane Singerman, American University, Washington, D.C.
The Political Economy of Youth

Barbara Ibrahim, American University in Cairo
Transitioning to Adulthood

Discussants: Djavad Salehi-Isfahani and May Al Dabbagh, Dubai School of Government

3.30 – 3.45 Break

Session 4: Research Frameworks to Address Youth Exclusion

3.45 – 5.30

Chair: Navtej Dhillon, The Wolfensohn Center

Presenters: Hilary Silver, Brown University
An Exclusion Framework for Youth in the Middle East

Caroline Moser, The Brookings Institution
An Asset Based Framework: Applications for Youth in the Middle East

Discussants: Nader Kabbani and Ragui Assaad

February 24 2007 (Day 2)

Session 1: Reflections on Day One: Summary of Frameworks, Issues and Policies

Chair: Navtej Dhillon

9.00 – 9.45 Review and Recommendations for Youth Research Framework
Commentators: Ahmed Galal and Heba Handoussa

9.45 – 10.30 Review and Recommendations on Country/Thematic Issues
Commentators: Tarik Yousef and Diane Singerman

10.30 – 10.45 Break

10.45 – 12.15 Policy Analysis and Implications for Future Research
Commentators: Ali Eldean Hillal Dessouki
Imelda Dunlop, International Business Leaders Forum
Richard Street, Advisor, Employment Issues

12.15 – 12.30 Synthesis of Framework, Research and Policy Issues
Tarik Yousef and Ragui Assaad

12.30 – 1.30 Lunch

Session 2: Next Stages: Developing the Future Policy Research Agenda

1.30 – 3.00 Breakout Sessions on Identification of Framework, Policy Relevant Research
Questions and Methodologies

3.00 – 4.00 Breakout Sessions Report Back

Session 3: Wrap Up

4.00 – 4.20 Tarik Yousef and Navtej Dhillon