

# The Arab fall/winter/spring

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Update on expansion of cognitive and field testing of the extended set of questions on functioning in the Middle East Region

Mitchell Loeb

U.S.A.

# Muscat, Oman

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4-6 October, 2010

K Miller, J Madans & M Loeb

## **Training Workshop for question evaluation and cognitive interview methodologies**

- to inform researchers of, and train them in, current cognitive interview methodology and question evaluation techniques with respect to the WG extended set of disability questions.
- hosted by the Ministry of National Economy and was attended by 15 representatives from NSOs of 9 Arab countries (Syria, Jordan, Tunis, Sudan, Oman, Palestine, Egypt, Yemen & Morocco).

# Damascus, Syria

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1-2 December, 2010

**Disability Seminar** sponsored by the Arab Institute for Training and Research in Statistics (AITRS).

- Intended knowledge transfer with representatives from NSOs from Arab countries on disability definition and measurement.
- hosted by Dr Safeek Arbash, General Director, Central Bureau of Statistics, Syria
- attended by 22 representatives from NSOs from 12 Arab countries (Syria, Jordan, Bahrain, Tunis, Sudan, Iraq, Oman, Palestine, Libya, Egypt, Morocco and Yemen).

# Sharjah, United Arab Emirates

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16-18 May, 2011

M Loeb and J Madans participated in a **Training Workshop** in Sharjah, UAE sponsored by AITRS.

- to train representatives from NSOs from Arab countries in understanding & operationalizing disability measures developed by the WG.
  - hosted by Mubarak Balawad Mubarak, Director General, Department of Information and E-Government, Government of Sharjah, UAE
  - attended by 35 representatives from NSOs of 15 Arab countries (Jordan, UAE, Bahrain, Tunis, Djibouti, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syria, Somalia, Iraq, Oman, Kuwait, Lebanon, Egypt, and Morocco), & the UN Relief & Works Agency (UNRWA).
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# The Future:

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The possibility for cognitive and field testing of the extended set(s) of questions – including questions on the environment and child disability.

In light of the increased awareness and interest among NSOs in the region, perhaps the possibility to host a future WG meeting in the Middle East?