



# THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER  
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## Editorial

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Many of the world's people are undernourished. The UN reports indicated that nearly 800 million people are chronically undernourished as a direct result of agricultural land degradation, low soil fertility, unsustainable water use, drought and loss of biodiversity. Solutions must be found to help the communities build their capacity to cope with that degradation.

In this framework and for its importance, the sustainable development goals endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly in September 2016, had a special goal which was the 15th goal which stated:

"Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems,

sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss".

The Arab Organization for Agricultural Development (AOAD) gave that aspect great attention. The Arab Strategy for Sustainable Agricultural Development (2005-2025) has devoted special programs to; desertification and environmental resource management. That included a main program for the development of environmental, agricultural and fisheries resource management systems. Which includes a sub-division programs of combating desertification and threats and natural disasters. The AOAD Plan includes national and regional projects to address such phenomena.

## Editor-in-Chief

**Dr. Ahmed Abd Alwali Al Samawi**

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## Event of the Month

### **The phenomenon of desertification: the International Efforts to Combat Desertification**

Soil is an essential natural resource in our lives because of its environmental, social and economic functions. It provides us with agriculture, provides the right environment for housing and various human activities, hosts many biological samples and stores natural resources such as minerals and fossil energy sources.

It is therefore clear that any land degradation will adversely affect these activities and lead to imbalances that negatively affects the human life. In dry, semi-arid and sub-humid lands that represents 40% of our planet is threatened by desertification. It is a particular type of land degradation that is reflected in gradual loss of production due to human activities (inappropriate agricultural and grazing practices, forest disappearance, overgrazing, use of firewood as an energy resource, etc.) as well as climate change. The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification has defined this phenomenon as “land degradation in arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid areas due to various factors including climate change and human activities”.

The poorest people are often the most affected by desertification because of the gradual decline of natural resources. According to the United Nations Convention on Desertification, 1.5 billion people are suffering from desertification in 100 countries in the world, especially in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

The negative socio-economic impacts of the desertification phenomenon are numerous and must be met with the necessary efficiency. It leads to the increase of poverty among the population, food insecurity and lack of soil storage capacity to store carbon, which is an effective tool to address climate change, as well as a decline in biodiversity and the increase of conflicts, rural migration, etc.

However, there are concrete solutions to combating desertification such as; restoring degraded lands and thus optimizing the environmental, social and economic capacities of the affected areas. Such agriculture enables the conservation of soil and ecosystems according to the approach that combines the management of natural resources (water, soil, plant sources) and taking into account the institutional and social dimensions. This approach was the focus of the international community through negotiations during 1992 The International Convention to Combat Desertification, approved in Paris on 17 June 1994 and implemented in December 1996. Today it is 196 States. This Convention is considered to be globally the most important. Meanwhile, and in accordance with the Ten-Year Strategy 2008-2018 which was approved at the Eighth Conference of the Parties held in Madrid in 2007, which was based on four strategic objectives:

1. Improving the living conditions of people affected by drought.
2. Improving the state of degraded ecosystems.
- 3 - Access to comprehensive features (fighting poverty, reducing forced migration, inter-conflicts, conservation of biodiversity, and carbon storage).
4. Mobilizing financial resources for the implementation of the Treaty.

## The General Administration Activities

### H. E Prof. El Dukhiri visited the Regional Center for Remote Sensing of North Africa States - HQ



The DG of AOAD, H.E Prof. Ibrahim Adam Ahmed El-Dukhiri, visited the headquarters of the Regional Center for Remote Sensing of North Africa States (C.R.T.E.A.N). He was received by H.E Dr. Hadi Gashut, General Director of the center.

Please click on the following link to read more:  
<http://www.aoad.org/eng/eneews6-NOV-2017-3.htm>

### AOAD - DG visits ESCWA in Beirut

H.E Prof. Ibrahim Adam El Dukhiri DG of the AOAD, visited the premises of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA). H.E Mrs. Roula Majdalani, the Director of the Sustainable Development Policies Division (SDPD). The two sides agreed on the importance of forming a regional consultative group. This formation gives the opportunity to exchange experiences. It will also give an added value to the joint Arab action , focusing on the need for capacity building through joint projects.



Please click on the following link to read more:  
<http://www.aoad.org/eng/eneews20-dec-2017-1.htm>

### AOAD DG met the Lebanese Minister of Agriculture

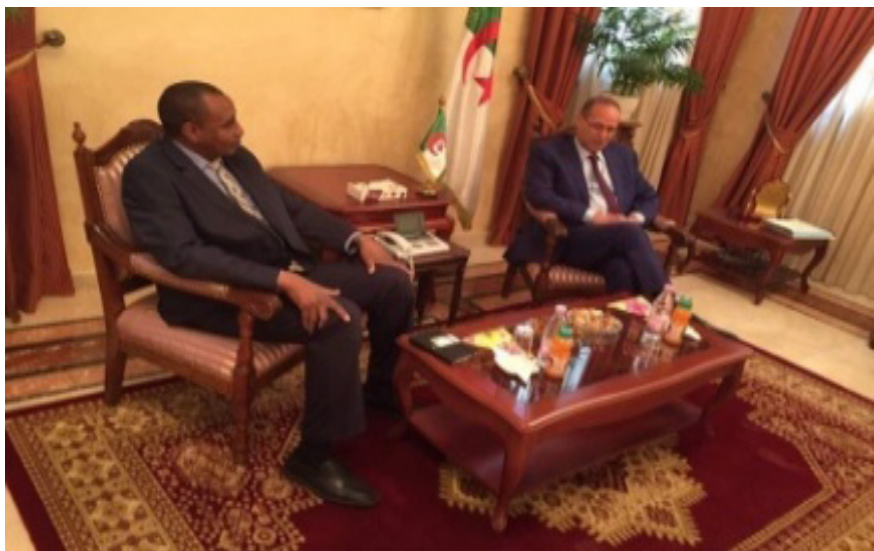
H.E Prof. Ibrahim Adam El Dukhiri, Director General of AOAD met the Minister of Agriculture of Lebanon, Mr. Ghazi Zuaiter, on the 3rd of November 2017, at the headquarters of the Ministry of Agriculture in Beirut.



Please click on the following link to read more:  
<http://www.aoad.org/eng/eneews20-dec-2017.htm>

## **The Algerian Minister of Agriculture, Rural Development and Fisheries received the Director General of the Arab Organization for Agricultural Development**

H.E Prof. Ibrahim Adam El Dukhiri, the Director General of the AOAD, visited Algeria. During his visit he met H.E Mr Abd Al Gadir Bo Azgi the Algerian Minister of Agriculture, Rural Development and Fisheries. The meeting was attended by Algerian officials from the ministry.



Please click on the following link to read more:  
<http://www.aoad.org/eng/enews27-NOV-2017-1.htm>

## **H.E The Director General of AOAD visited the National Institute of Land, Irrigation and Drainage in Algeria**

H.E Prof. Ibrahim Adam El Dukhiri, the Director General of the AOAD, visited the National Institute of Land, Irrigation and Drainage in Algeria. He was briefed on the activities of the institution.



Please click on the following link to read more:  
<http://www.aoad.org/eng/enews29-NOV-2017.htm>

## **H.E Prof El Dukhiri, Director General of AOAD visited Mauritania**

His Excellency Prof Ibrahim Adam El Dukhiri the Director General of the Arab Organization for Agricultural Development (AOAD), had a four-day official visit to Mauritania to discuss the ways of enhancing the cooperation between the AOAD and Mauritania. He attended the forum which was organized jointly by the Mauritanian Ministry of Veterinary and the Arab Authority for Agricultural Investment and Development.



Please click on the following link to read more:  
<http://www.aoad.org/eng/enews29-NOV-2017-2.htm>

## H.E the Mauritanian President received the Director General of the Arab Organization for Agricultural Development

The President of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, H.E Mr. Mohammed Ould Abdel Aziz, received at his office, H.E Prof. Ibrahim Adam El Dukhiri, Director General of the Arab Organization for Agricultural Development.



Please click on the following link to read more:  
<http://www.aoad.org/eng/enews20-dec-2017-6.htm>

## The Prime Minister of Mauritania received H.E the Director General of AOAD

H.E Prof El Dukhiri was received by the Mauritanian Prime Minister in the presence of the Minister of Agriculture and Director of the Prime Minister's Office. During this meeting, H.E Prof El Dukhiri gave a briefing on the current trends at the Organization and its activities in Mauritania and its desire to expand.



Please click on the following link to read more:  
<http://www.aoad.org/eng/enews20-dec-2017-7.htm>

## The Director General of the Arab Organization for Agricultural Development concluded his visit to Mauritania by visiting the state of Atrarza

H.E Prof El Dukhiri the Director General of the Arab Organization for Agricultural Development had a field trip to Mauritania agricultural fields in the Senegal River region. His Excellency accompanied the Mauritanian Minister of Agriculture.



Please click on the following link to read more:  
<http://www.aoad.org/eng/enews20-dec-2017-8.htm>

## The Director General of the Arab Organization for Agricultural Development Visited a Number of Institutions and Bodies in Morocco

H.E Prof. Ibrahim Adam El Dukhiri, the Director General of the Arab Organization for Agricultural Development (AOAD), had a working visit to Morocco. During his visit he developed contacts with some research organizations and the Moroccan Federation of Fish Exporters and some regional organizations in Morocco.

Please click on the following link to read more:  
<http://www.aoad.org/eng/enews20-dec-2017-9.htm>



## AOAD Participations

### H.E Prof. El-Dukhiri participates in the 10th Annual Conference of the Arab Forum for Environment and Development (AFED)

H.E Prof. Ibrahim Adam El Dukhiri, DG of the AOAD participated in the 10th annual conference of the Arab Forum for Environment and Development, which was held in the Lebanese capital Beirut. H.E Prof El Dukhiri, highlighted the AOADs' efforts and experience in the field of food security, sustainable development and the environment in the Arab region.

Please click on the following link to read more:  
<http://www.aoad.org/eng/enews20-dec-2017-2.htm>



### H.E Prof. Al-Dukhiri Participates in the Inauguration of the new Headquarters of ICARDA

H.E Prof. Ibrahim Adam El Dukhiri, Director-General of the Arab Organization for Agricultural Development (AOAD), participated in the opening ceremony of the new office of the International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) in Egypt. In his speech, H.E Prof. El Dukhiri explained that the organization is preparing a new strategy for the coming years.



Please click on the following link to read more:  
<http://www.aoad.org/eng/enews5-NOV-2017-5.htm>

## The Arab Organization for Agricultural Development participates in the Second Meeting of Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) Stakeholders

The AOAD delegation participated in the Second Meeting of Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) Stakeholders held in Lebanon in Beirut and presented two papers.



Please click on the following link to read more:  
<http://www.aoad.org/eng/enews2-oct-2017.htm>

## The Arab Organization for Agricultural Development participated in the 7th International Exhibition of Fishing & Aquaculture

H.E Prof. Ibrahim Adam El Dukhiri, the Director General of the AOAD, attended in Oran in Algeria, the 7th International Exhibition of Fishing & Aquaculture (SIPA 2017), under the theme “For sustainable & diversified growth of the fisheries & aquaculture economy”. The exhibition was organized by the Algerian Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Fisheries.



Please click on the following link to read more:  
<http://www.aoad.org/eng/enews29-NOV-2017-1.htm>

## Training Programs

### AOAD Organized a Training Course on Crises Management

The AOAD inaugurated, a training course on how to manage crises for 20 Agricultural Engineers from the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation , Egypt. The training course aimed to develop the participants’ knowledge and skills related to Crises Management

Please click on the following link to read more:  
<http://www.aoad.org/eng/enews18-oct-2017-1.htm>



### AOAD Organized a Training Course in the Field of “Laboratory Diagnosis of Diseases Using (PCR) Technique”

The (AOAD) is greatly concerned with the livestock sector in the Arab world. As part of its efforts to build capacities and train veterinary personnel in

the field of laboratory diagnosis of diseases, the AOAD organized a training course in the field of “Laboratory Diagnosis of Diseases Using (PCR) Technique”.



Please click on the following link to read more:  
<http://www.aoad.org/eng/enews13-NOV-2017-1.htm>

## Training Course in Challenges to Sustainable Agricultural Development in Dry Areas

The AOAD inaugurated the national training course on “Challenges to Sustainable Agricultural Development in Dry Areas and the Technologies and Initiatives Available for Confronting Challenges”. The training course aimed to introduce the participants with the importance of sustainable development and its components,



Please click on the following link to read more:  
<http://www.aoad.org/eng/eneews5-NOV-2017-6.htm>

## Training Course on The Traceability, Characterization and Conservation of Animal Genetic Resources

The Arab Organization for Agricultural Development (AOAD) launched a training course at its headquarters in Sudan. The training course was in the field of the “Traceability, Characterization and Conservation of Animal Genetic Resources”. The course aimed to build the capacity and develop skills in areas related to animal genetic resources management.



Please click on the following link to read more:  
<http://www.aoad.org/eng/eneews27-NOV-2017-2.htm>

## Two Training Courses in Egypt

The AOAD organized two training courses in its Regional Office for the Middle Region in Egypt. The topics of the two courses were under the titles “Modern Techniques for Agriculture without Soil” and “The Role of Useful Insects in the Development of Egyptian Agriculture”.

Please click on the following link to read more:  
<http://www.aoad.org/eng/eneews29-NOV-2017-4.htm>

## Training course in the field of “Designing epidemiological surveys and data analysis for Rift Valley Fever disease”

The Arab Organization for Agricultural Development (AOAD), a training course on “Designing epidemiological surveys and data analysis for Rift Valley Fever disease”. The training program included theoretical and practical lectures.





## **Training Course in the field of “Biosecurity in Fish Farms”**

The AOAD launched a training course in the field of “Biosecurity in Fish Farms” in Qatar. Awareness is important in order to protect workers, researchers and the environment from biological and chemical hazards, as well as controlling many diseases prevalent in fish farms.

Please click on the following link to read more:  
<http://www.aoad.org/eng/enews20-dec-2017-5.htm>

## **Training Course in the Field of Laboratory Data Statistical Analysis**

The Arab Organization for Agricultural Development (AOAD) held a training course on “Laboratory Data Statistical Analysis “. The course aimed to provide the participants with the skills of how to enter and analyze laboratory data and the results of their experiments and research.

Please click on the following link to read more:  
<http://www.aoad.org/eng/enews20-dec-2017-10.htm>

## **Training Course in the Field of “Estimating the Technological Value of Egyptian Cotton”**

The Arab Organization for Agricultural Development (AOAD) organized a training course on “Estimating the Technological Value of Egyptian Cotton”. The training program tackled modern spinning systems.

Please click on the following link to read more:  
<http://www.aoad.org/eng/enews20-dec-2017-11.htm>

## **Training Course in the Field of Epidemiological Survey and Risk Analysis**

The Arab Organization for Agricultural Development (AOAD) organized a training course on “Epidemiological Survey and Risk Analysis “. The training course aimed to provide veterinarians with the basic concepts and information about the epidemiological survey.

Please click on the following link to read more:  
<http://www.aoad.org/eng/enews20-dec-2017-12.htm>

## **Training Course in the Field of “Integrated Crop Management using Agrometeorological Data “**

The Arab Organization for Agricultural Development (AOAD) organized a training course on “Integrated Crop Management using Agrometeorological Data “. The training course aimed to raise the efficiency of the participants and increase their experience in order to improve the production of high quality agricultural crops products.

Please click on the following link to read more:  
<http://www.aoad.org/eng/enews20-dec-2017-13.htm>

## **Training Course in the Field of “ Use of Telecommunication Systems in Disseminating Information and Agricultural and Fishery Technologies”**

The Arab Organization for Agricultural Development (AOAD) organized a training course on “Use of Telecommunication Systems in Disseminating Information and Agricultural and Fishery Technologies”. The aim of the course was to raise the efficiency of the cadres working in the field of agricultural extension.

Please click on the following link to read more:  
<http://www.aoad.org/eng/enews20-dec-2017-14.htm>



## Training Course in the field of Use of Biotechnologies in Pest Control

The Arab Organization for Agricultural Development (AOAD) carried out a training course on the “use of biotechnologies in pest control” in Egypt. The training program aimed to introduce the trainees to methods of protecting the environment from the dangers of traditional pesticides use in the Egyptian agriculture.



Please click on the following link to read more:  
<http://www.aoad.org/eng/enews10-jan-2017.htm>

## Training Course in the field of 'Production and Modernization of Cotton Strains and Conservation Methods'

The Arab Organization for Agricultural Development (AOAD) launched a training course on “Production and Modernization of Cotton Strains and Conservation Methods”. The training program included methods of general planting for Egyptian cotton and preserving its varieties.



Please click on the following link to read more:  
<http://www.aoad.org/eng/enews10-jan-20171-.htm>

## Training Course in the field of 'Management of Natural Pastures and Range Reserves'

The Arab Organization for Agricultural Development (AOAD) launched a training Course on “Pasture and Range Reserves Management”. The course aimed to build the participants' capacities, develop their skills in areas related to the management of pastoral resources and provide them with the concepts related to the field of integrated rangeland management.



Please click on the following link to read more:  
<http://www.aoad.org/eng/enews20-dec-2017-15.htm>

## Training Course In the Field of Modern Technologies and Methods of Marine Fishing

H.E Prof Ibrahim Adam El Dukhiri the Director General of the Arab Organization for Agricultural Development, inaugurated a training course in the “Field of Modern Technologies and Methods of Marine Fishing.



Please click on the following link to read more:  
<http://www.aoad.org/eng/enews29-NOV-2017-3.htm>

## Partnerships

### Memorandum of Understanding between (AOAD) and (ICBA)

Please click on the following link to read more:  
<http://www.aoad.org/eng/enews6-NOV-2017-2.htm>



### Strengthening Cooperation between the AOAD and ACSAD

A memorandum of understanding was signed between the Arab Organization for Agricultural Development (AOAD) and the Arab Center for the Studies of Arid zones and Dry lands (ACSAD) in the framework of cooperation between Arab Organizations.

Please click on the following link to read more:  
<http://www.aoad.org/eng/enews5-NOV-2017.htm>



## Album

### The inauguration of the new ICARDA office – Egypt



## Algeria



## The National Institution



H.E the Algerian Minister of Agriculture, Rural Development and Fisheries receives the Director General of the Arab Organization for Agricultural Development





## Glances from the national training course in the field of 'Modern Technologies and Methods of Sea Fishing'



## ESCWA – Lebanon



## Morocco



## Mauritania



Opening of the Investment Forum on Livestock



H.E Professor Al-Dukhiri, Director-General of the Arab Organization for Agricultural Development and the Minister of Veterinary of Mauritania



H.E Professor Al-Dukhiri, Director-General of the Arab Organization for Agricultural Development and Prime Minister of Mauritania



H.E Professor Al-Dukhiri, Director-General of the Arab Organization for Agricultural Development, during his visit to the state of Atarraza