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The Economic and Social Problems Facing Rural Development in Arab Society and the Ways to face them

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Abstract : The combined area of the Arab countries reaches about 13.3 million square meters, representing about 9.6% of the world's area. The number of the Arab world population reaches about 370 million people, representing about 5.2% of the total world population. In addition, the workforce reaches about 130 million workers (in 2012) and the rate of unemployment reaches about 17.4%. Rural development processes face many economic, social and environmental problems, which may constitute an obstacle before them. These problems include the problem of population and illiteracy, as illiteracy rate in the Arab world was estimated at about 25.5% as an average at the period (2005 – 2010), and education dropout. In addition, the problem of unemployment, as the volume of unemployment in the Arab countries as a whole reached about 18.1 million unemployed persons in 2013, poverty, and slowdown of the agricultural development rates and the multiplicity of the problems facing the Arab agricultural investment. The study aims to identify the problems that face the rural development in the Arab community and the ways to face them.

Keywords: the rural development in the Arab world – the problems of economic development – the problems of social development – the ways of facing development problems.

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