

NEWS

FROM THE **OECD Directorate
for Financial and Enterprise Affairs**

APRIL 2012



MENA countries should reform the governance of their SOEs

Released in Kuwait on 10 April, *Towards New Arrangements for State Ownership in the Middle East and North Africa* argues that improved corporate governance is key to reducing corruption and restoring confidence in public institutions in the aftermath of the Arab Spring.



Evaluating Sweden's pension fund strategy

Sweden's National Pension Funds, responsible for 12% of Sweden's state pension liabilities, have a fund structure that is unique among global pension reserve funds. This report analyses the strengths and weaknesses of the system and recommends how both structure and management could be improved.



Attracting more FDI to Central Asia

Policy makers from 7 Central Asian economies are meeting in Vienna on 24-26 April to discuss how to improve investment policy frameworks and build investment promotion capacities to help capture a larger and more diversified share of FDI flows in the Central Asia region.



Protecting the rights of minority shareholders

Related Party Transactions and Minority Shareholder Rights reviews provisions for related party transactions and the protection of minority shareholder rights in 31 countries. It includes in-depth reviews of the regulatory and legal systems in Belgium, France, Italy, Israel and India.



Zambia pushes forward with investment policy reforms

Zambia, one of Southern Africa's dynamic growth poles, is looking to further strengthen its investment policy framework. This review charts progress to date and identifies areas for further improvement, such as the system of tax incentives and frameworks for public private partnerships in infrastructure development.



Governments look to improve financial literacy

Low levels of financial literacy worldwide are prompting an increasing number of countries to adopt national strategies for financial education. This paper provides a comparative analysis of countries where a national strategy is either in place or in development.



Survey results highlight a lack of financial knowledge

This pilot study of 14 countries focuses on variations in financial knowledge, behaviour and attitude across countries and within countries by socio-demographics. A sizeable proportion of the population in each country surveyed showed a lack of financial knowledge.

TOPICS

Bribery
Competition
Corporate governance
Financial education
Financial markets
Insurance
Investment
Pensions
Private sector development
Public debt management

STANDARDS - GUIDELINES

Anti-Bribery Convention
Corporate Governance
Principles
Financial consumer protection
Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises
Policy framework for investment

STATISTICS

African central government debt
Central government debt
Foreign direct investment
FDI regulatory restrictiveness index
Insurance markets
Pension markets

IN FOCUS

Capital flows
Financial market trends
Freedom of investment
Institutional investors and long-term investment
Sovereign debt

GLOBAL DIALOGUE

Co-operation with non-OECD economies



OECD Directorate for Financial and Enterprise Affairs
www.oecd.org/daf | daf.contact@oecd.org