



MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION



AGENDA

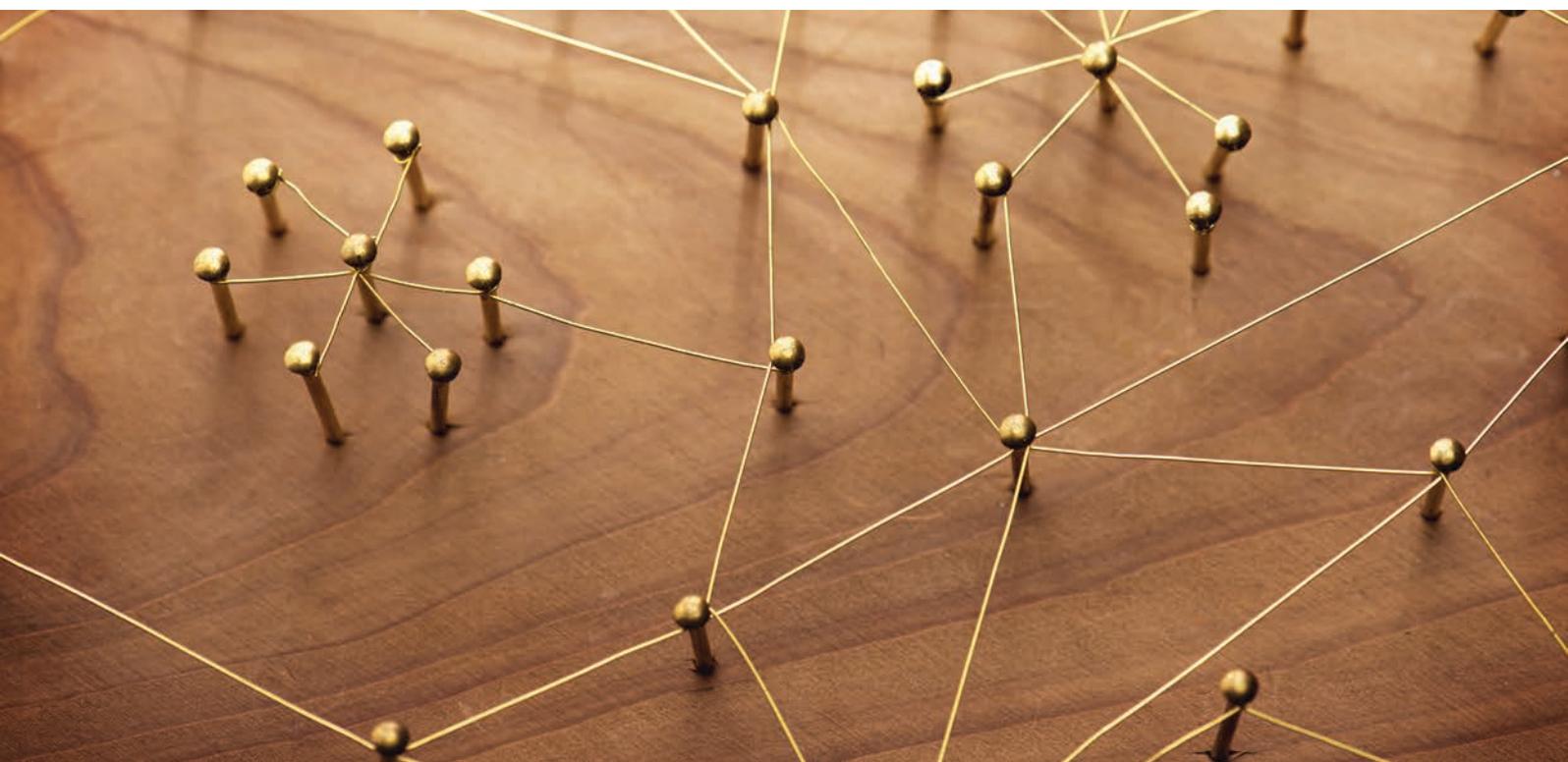
Promoting Inclusive Socio-Economic Development through Good Governance and Citizen Participation at the Local Level in Jordan

16 May 2016, InterContinental, Amman



Middle East and North Africa
Transition Fund

**MENA-OECD
GOVERNANCE
PROGRAMME**



Context

Jordan is undertaking significant efforts to guarantee an efficient and effective public sector and promote good governance, despite the numerous national challenges the whole country is facing due to the international context. Following the approval of the new Municipality and Decentralisation Laws by Parliament, and their subsequent ratification by Royal Decree, Jordan is currently revamping the role of its sub-national levels by re-allocating competencies to existing as well as new institutions in the municipalities and governorates. As stressed by King Abdullah II in the Speech from the Throne in 2014, the current process holds the promise of greater development and community involvement in the decision-making process with opportunities for citizens to participate in decision-making, and contribute and benefit from more sustainable local development and a more equal distribution of economic benefits.

Objectives of the project

On 8 December 2015, the Steering Committee of the [G7 - Deauville Partnership](#) approved the project proposal entitled “*Support Jordan’s ongoing decentralisation efforts by promoting good governance and open government policies and practices with a focus on municipalities*”, jointly presented by the Government of Jordan and the OECD. The project is financed by the G7 - Deauville Partnership’s MENA Transition Fund that was launched in May 2011 to provide Arab countries in transition with long-term technical support to: 1) strengthen governance for transparent, accountable governments; and 2) provide an economic framework for sustainable and inclusive growth.

This three-year project (2016-2019) will focus on assessing the current governance arrangements in the country, the impact that the new laws will have on them, and on building the necessary capacities to promote inclusive and effective policy-making and public service delivery in Jordan’s governorates and municipalities. The project will draw on the expertise of the OECD members and Secretariat and will facilitate Jordan’s access to OECD thematic networks of policymakers and practitioners in the field of [public governance](#) and [open government](#) policies, especially in the context of the collaboration between the OECD and the MENA region through the [MENA-OECD Governance Programme](#). The mobilisation of experts from public administrations of OECD countries with experience in the promotion of good public governance and open government in the context of decentralisation, a key feature of OECD modus operandi, will foster peer-to-peer policy dialogue, promote knowledge exchanges, and provide implementation support. Finally, the project will be based on the methodology of the OECD [Public Governance](#) and [Open Government Reviews](#) and will make use of the OECD recommendations and other official instruments, such as the OECD [Guiding Principles for Open and Inclusive Policy-Making](#).

The launching conference

The conference will be the occasion to officially launch the collaboration between the Government of Jordan and the OECD at the presence of all relevant stakeholders in the country, including public officials, representatives of civil society organisations, of the private sector, of the international community and of the media. During the various sessions, participants will have the occasion to discuss the objectives of the ongoing public sector reform process in Jordan and how the project can effectively support it.

Agenda

Master of Ceremony: **Mr. Hatem Habahbeh**, Head of Governorates Development Section, at Enhancing Productivity Programmes & Local Development Directorate, Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation.

<p>09:00-10:00</p>	<p>Opening Session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Imad N. Fakhoury, Minister of Planning and International Cooperation, Jordan • H.E. David Bertolotti, Ambassador of France to Jordan • H.E. Birgitta Siefker-Eberle, Ambassador of Germany to Jordan • Ms. Mari Kiviniemi, Deputy Secretary General, OECD
<p>10:00-10:30</p>	<p>Coffee break</p>
<p>10:30-12:00</p>	<p>High-level roundtable: Fostering good governance and open government in the context of decentralisation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governor Dr. Khaled Al Armouti, Director of Local Development Directorate, Ministry of Interior • Mr. Jean-Louis Rocheron, Deputy Director for Budget and Finances, Poitiers, Region of Aquitaine, Limousin and Poitou-Charentes, France • Mr. Khaled Hunaifat, Mayor of Tafilah • Mr. Amer Beni Amer, General Director, Al-Hayat Center for Civil Society Development <p>Open Discussion</p> <p><u>Moderator:</u> Mr. Alessandro Bellantoni, Senior Policy Analyst and Coordinator of the Open Government Project, OECD</p> <p>With a view to the ongoing decentralisation reform undertaken by the Jordanian government, the participants of the high-level roundtable will discuss the opportunities to promote good governance and open government at the governorate and municipal level. The discussion will feature the participation of public officials from the sub-national level in Jordan, a policy practitioner from France to share good practices and lessons learned and civil society.</p>
<p>12:00-12:30</p>	<p>Concluding remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eng. Mohammad Al Adaileh, Director of Local Development & Enhancing Productivity Programs, Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation • Mr. Alessandro Bellantoni, Senior Policy Analyst and Coordinator of the Open Government Project, OECD
<p>12:30-14:00</p>	<p>Official Lunch (upon invitation only)</p>

Practical Information

Venue: InterContinental Amman, Islamic College Street, Amman 11180, Jordan

Website: For more information on the work of the MENA-OECD Governance Programme and the collaboration with Jordan, please consult: <http://www.oecd.org/mena/governance/> and <http://www.oecd.org/mena/governance/promoting-good-governance-in-jordan.htm> .

Social media: Regular updates on the activities of the OECD and the MENA-OECD Governance Programme can be found via our social media presence on Twitter **@OECDgov**. We invite you to use **#OECDgov** to twitter about today's event.

For further information please contact:

- **Mr. Alessandro Bellantoni**, Coordinator/Senior Policy Analyst, Open Government Project, Alessandro.BELLANTONI@oecd.org; Tel: 0033 / 145249880
- **Ms. Paqui Santonja**, Policy Analyst/Project Co-ordinator, Paqui.SANTONJA@oecd.org; Tel: 0033 / 185556482