

AGENDA



G7 Deauville Partnership MENA Transition Fund project

**How to engage youth in Jordan's National
Youth Strategy 2017-25?**

High-level conference – 1 March 2017

Al Hussein Youth City, Amman

Context

The project “*Youth in Public Life: Towards open and inclusive youth engagement*” will support Jordan, Morocco and Tunisia in fostering a more active and inclusive engagement of young men and women in public life over three years (2016-19). The project builds on the analysis and findings of the OECD regional report “[Youth in the MENA region: How to bring them in](#)”.

In Jordan, the project will support the Ministry of Youth, line ministries and sub-national government as well as NGOs and foundations, and youth associations and civil society in the following areas:

1. Supporting the process of formulating and implementing the National Youth Strategy 2017-25 by conducting a review of the public governance arrangements for youth engagement and empowerment and deliver actionable policy recommendations based on OECD principles and good practices;
2. Scaling up the institutional and legal framework to foster youth engagement and representation in public life at the central and sub-national level;
3. Promoting innovative forms of engaging young men and women in decision-making to mainstream young people’s demands in the design and delivery of public policies and services.

Objective of the high-level conference session

The high-level conference will bring together the key stakeholders involved in drafting the National Youth Strategy 2017-25 including the Ministry of Youth, the UN agencies supporting the drafting process (e.g. UNDP, UNICEF, UN Women, UNFPA, WHO) as well as youth(-led) and civil society associations. With peers from OECD and MENA countries, who will share good practices and lessons learned in engaging youth in the formulation and implementation of multi-annual youth strategies, the participants will discuss engagement tools and mechanisms that work to ensure that young people’s priorities are indeed reflected in the final document and put into practice.

The high-level conference will emphasise the unique momentum provided by the decentralisation reform, the 2017 local elections and the country’s 3rd National Action Plan to the Open Government Partnership (OGP) to bring young people’s voices to the forefront of the attention of policy-makers. Thinking these parallel initiatives together can encourage new partnerships between local public officials and the young generation in the short-term and contribute to a more systematic consultation and representation of their demands in the long run. In light of the concurrence of gender-based and age-based barriers faced by many young women, the session will integrate a gender perspective to the use of interaction tools and channels to ensure that both young men and women are given an active stance in the process.

The session draws on the findings and recommendations developed in the framework of the collaboration between the Government of Jordan and OECD to support Jordan’s open government agenda, the decentralisation reform and women’s access to parliament and policy-making.

More information

- **For more information on the seminar**, please contact **Mr. Moritz Ader**, Policy Analyst and Project Co-ordinator (Moritz.ADER@oecd.org) or **Ms. Aichetou Tafa**, Consultant (Aichetou.TAFA@oecd.org).
- **Find more information** on our work to support [youth engagement in public life](#) and related working fields, such as in the area of [open government](#), [gender equality](#), and [local governance](#).
- **You can tweet** about today’s event using the hashtag **#shabab4MENA** and **@OECDGov**.

AGENDA

09:00-09:20	<p>Opening session</p> <p><i>Master of Ceremony: Mr. Hussein Al-Sarairah</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Eng. Hadeetha Khreshah, Minister, Ministry of Youth, Jordan • Ms. Mari Kiviniemi, Deputy Secretary General, OECD
09:20-09:30	<p>Family photo</p>
09:30-10:30	<p>Working session 1: The current status of the National Youth Strategy 2017-25 and engagement mechanisms</p> <p><i>This session will provide the opportunity for the Ministry of Youth to present the process to involve young men and women in the elaboration of the National Youth Strategy 2017-25. Representatives from different youth centres will discuss what tools, mechanisms and channels work best to raise awareness for the Strategy among their fellows and how to get them involved in the process of its formulation and implementation. OECD/MENA peers will share good practices from the experience of their country in rolling out a multi-year integrated strategy with the active involvement of youth throughout all stages.</i></p> <p><i>Moderator: Mr. Hussein Al-Sarairah</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Yassein Halyal, Ministry of Youth • Dr. Sami Al-Hourani, Advisor, National Youth Strategy 2017-25 • Ms. Tina Hočevár, Board Member, European Youth Forum • Mr. Emad Al-Zeadeen, Youth Centre, Tafeilah / Al-Bserah <p>Open discussion (30 min).</p>
10:30-11:00	<p>Coffee break</p>
11:00-12:30	<p>Working session 2: Jordan's Open Government agenda and the decentralisation reform – What is in for young men and women?</p> <p><i>The session will explore how Jordan's decentralisation process and the country's commitment to the open government agenda create new opportunities for youth engagement across the different levels of government. In particular, the session will discuss how the reform efforts can be leveraged such as to address the divide between youth in rural and urban regions and cater for the specific needs of young women. This session will be organised in two blocks à 45 minutes.</i></p> <p><u>Moderator: Mr. Moritz Ader</u>, Policy Analyst and Project Co-ordinator, OECD.</p> <p><u>Leveraging the open government agenda</u> (45 min)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Nasser Al-Zou'bi, Head of American Relations Division and OGP National Coordinator, Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, Jordan.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Maram Ali, Youth Centre, Amman <p><u>Leveraging the decentralisation reform</u> (45 min)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Muhammad Al-Awamreh, Ministry of Interior, Jordan • Mr. Rakez Al-Kalaelah, Ministry of Municipality Affairs, Jordan • Dr. Ali AL-Kawaldah, Political advisor to His Excellency the Minister of Political Development and Parliamentary Affairs, Ministry of Political and Parliamentary Affairs, Jordan. • Ms. Sanna Hansson, Student and Youth coordinator, Karlstads Municipality, Sweden. <p>Open discussion.</p>
12:30-12:45	<p>Youth in Jordan: A partner of government in the democratisation agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Sattam Awad, Secretary General, Ministry of Youth • Mr. Moritz Ader, Policy Analyst and Project Co-ordinator, OECD
12:45-14:00	Lunch