



# **MENA-OECD Governance Programme**

## **Implementation Strategy and Regional**

### **Activities in 2017-2018**



**MENA - OECD**  
Governance Programme

 **OECD**  
BETTER POLICIES FOR BETTER LIVES



# MENA-OECD Governance Programme

## Inclusion, Participation, Trust

The MENA-OECD Governance Programme is a strategic partnership which aims to disseminate standards and principles and provide implementation assistance.

The Initiative has generated impact through its key working methods;

- **Regional policy dialogue**
- **Co-operation at the national level**
- **Impact through policy advice and capacity building**

## Key Figures (2011–2017)

**5-6 publications per year**

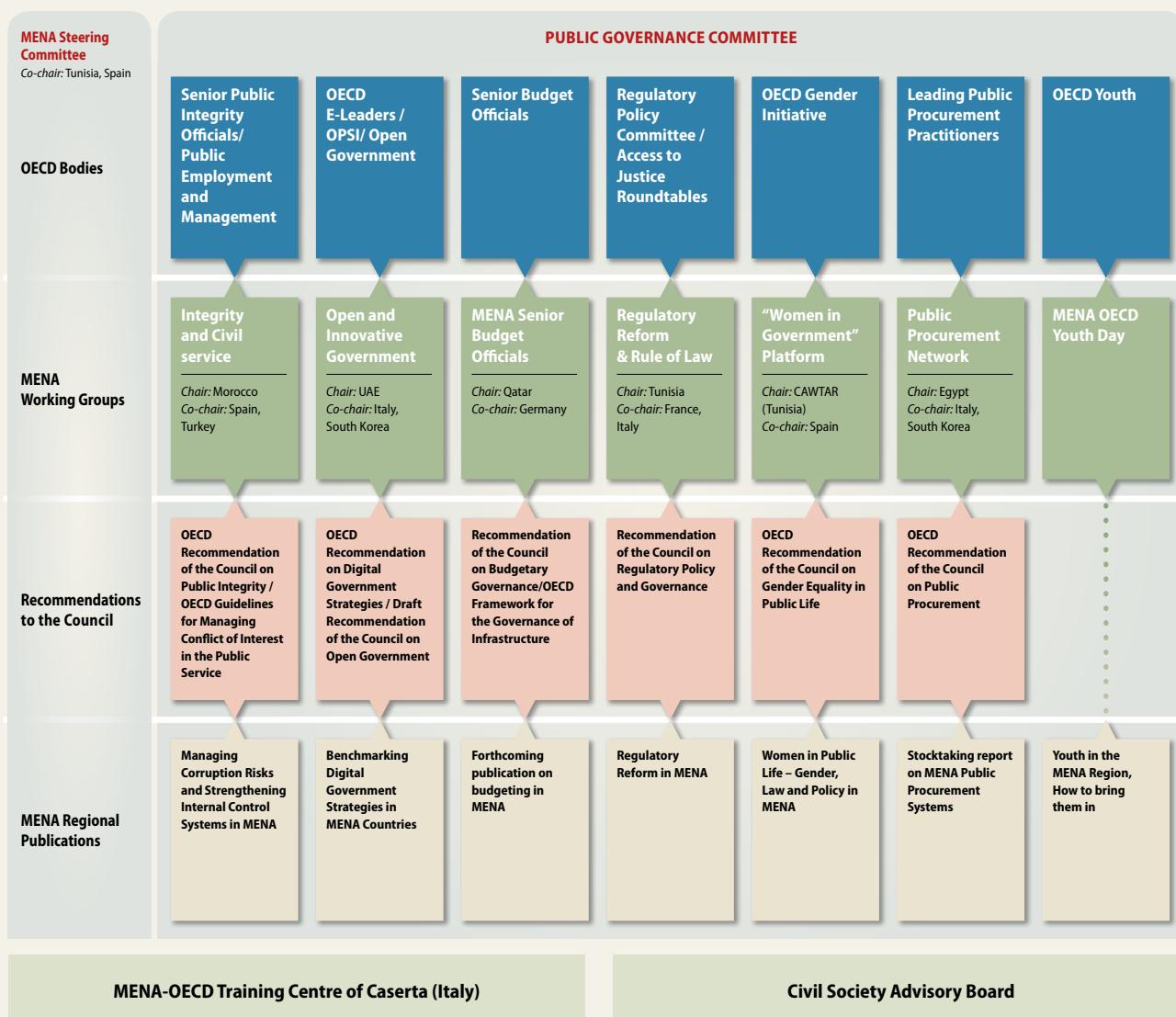
**1 activity per week**

**+150 OECD peers from PGC and RPC bodies involved/ year**

**PGC: Egypt, Morocco (participants), Tunisia, UAE, Jordan (invitees)**

**RPC: Morocco, Egypt, Tunisia (invitees)**

## The Programme's Structure



## Regional Partners

Arab Administrative Development Organization (ARADO)  
Centre of Arab Women for Training and Research (CAWTAR)

GCC  
GIFT-MENA  
MEPI

## International Partners

Anna Lindh Foundation  
European Commission  
IMF  
Open government Partnership

Union of the Mediterranean  
UNDP  
World Bank

Outputs	Strategic objectives for 2017	Activities in 2017-2018	Co-Chairs
<b>Working Group on Civil Service and Integrity (WGI)</b>	<p>The WGI brings together policy practitioners from MENA and OECD countries to engage in promoting integrating and preventing corruption.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In 2017, the Working Group met on 29 March to discuss practices and tools for managing the risk of fraud and corruption, with a focus on public infrastructure projects in a joint session with the business integrity network.</li> <li>Based on contributions and input from participating countries as well as responses collected through survey, meetings and desk-research the OECD Secretariat will pursue the stock-taking exercise through a regional study on internal control and audit.</li> <li>A special session of the WGI will take place on the 27 March 2018 on Youth and Anti-Corruption at the occasion of the Integrity Forum. This session will allow discussions about the role of youth to fight corruption and what do governments need to do to empower youth in doing so.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chair: Morocco</li> <li>Co-Chairs: Spain &amp; Turkey</li> </ul>
<b>Working Group on Open and Innovative Government (WGII)</b>	<p>WGII supports MENA countries in exploiting the potential of open government, digital government and innovation policies for more accountable and participatory governance and responsive public sectors.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote the implementation of the recommendations of the regional study “Benchmarking Digital Government Strategies in the MENA Countries”.</li> <li>Review MENA governments’ engagement with citizens and youth at the national and local levels.</li> <li>Continue promoting a culture of public sector innovation.</li> <li>The 13th meeting of the Working Group II will take place on 10 February 2018 in Dubai, UAE.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chair: UAE</li> <li>Co-Chairs: Italy &amp; South Korea</li> </ul>
<b>Senior Budget Officials Network (MENA-SBO/WG III)</b>	<p>The MENA SBO is a unique forum for exchanging best practice to modernise governance structures and operations for more efficient, transparent and participatory budgeting and public financial management processes.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The MENA SBO met on 6-7 December 2017 in Doha and discussed recent developments in individual countries, the size and mix of public spending and its effect on economic growth and inequality, the proposed <i>OECD Best Practices for Performance Budgeting</i>, the long-term sustainability of public finances and gender</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chair: Qatar</li> <li>Co-Chair: Germany</li> </ul>

budgeting. The meeting also allowed presenting an update on the implementation of the MENA-OECD Tunis Declaration. There was near perfect attendance from all other countries. The IMF and World Bank also participated in the meeting

- The 11<sup>th</sup> meeting of the MENA SBO will take place in Fall/Winter 2018.

<b>Working Group on Regulatory Reform and Rule of Law (WGIV)</b>	The Working Group IV promotes a forum for MENA countries and international experts to exchange on good practices in regulatory reform and the rule of law.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WGIV will continue advancing the reflection on the rule of law in the region and will meet in May 2018 back-to-back with the roundtable on access to justice.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chair: Tunisia</li> <li>Co-Chairs: France &amp; Italy</li> </ul>
<b>Network on Public Procurement</b>	The network was launched in 2012 with the objective to share good public procurement practices, identify needs for support in this area but also to enhance the regional dialogue based on the 12 integrated principles of the OECD Recommendation on Public Procurement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In 2017, the network met in Kuwait (2-5 October) with the support of the IMF-CEF centre. The meeting allowed discussing priority topics in the region as e-procurement, SMEs access to public procurement and competition.</li> <li>In 2018, the procurement network will meet in Caserta</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chair: Egypt</li> <li>Co-Chairs: Italy and South Korea</li> </ul>
<b>Women in Government Platform</b>	As women play a critical role in demanding openness, social justice and equal access to opportunities, the MENA-OECD Gender Focus Group promotes legal equality as well as equality of opportunity and political voice.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The 2017 Regional Conference took place on 19-20 November in Cairo and featured the findings of the National Council for Women Egypt/OECD's new country study on equal political participation between women and men in Egypt, Jordan, morocco, Tunisia and other MENA and OECD countries on how to remove existing and emerging barriers facing women's participation in politics.</li> <li>The upcoming 2018 regional conference will take place in Rabat in July and present assessment reports on Morocco and Tunisia (date tbc)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chair: CAWTAR (Tunisia)</li> <li>Co-chair: Spain</li> </ul>
<b>Youth Engagement</b>	Young men and women in the MENA region face the highest youth unemployment levels in the world and express lower levels of trust in government than their parents. MENA countries need to urgently	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Since September 2017, the regional report "Youth in the MENA region: How to bring them in?" launched in 2016 is now available in French.</li> <li>In cooperation with the Moroccan Ministry of Youth</li> </ul>	

	<p>develop and implement strategies focused on fully engaging youth in the economy, society and public life.</p>	<p>and Sports (MJS), the OECD organised a regional conference in Rabat on 3-4 October 2017 on the theme "Bringing Youth Closer to Public Life". The aim of this conference was to share good practices and lessons learned as well as key mechanisms that help ensure public policies and services address the needs and aspirations of the young men and women of the region.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● In 2018, a regional youth day will take place in Tunis in November (date tbc)</li> </ul>
<b>MENA-OECD Governance Programme's Training Centre of Caserta</b>	<p>The Training Centre of Caserta is a joint effort of the MENAOECD Governance Programme and the Italian National School of Public Administration. The Training Centre provides capacity building activities to enhance good governance reforms</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● In 2017 three Regional Workshops took place in Caserta on transparent and participatory institutional communication and on access to information in the MENA region.</li> <li>● In 2018, the Caserta Centre will organise every other months a regional training course, including a Study visit on Women's participation in parliaments and policy-making in Morocco, Jordan and Egypt.</li> </ul>