



MENA-OECD
Governance Programme

The MENA-OECD Governance Programme

An Overview

THE ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) is an international body that promotes policies to improve the economic and social well-being of people around the world. It is made up of 37 member countries, a secretariat in Paris, and a committee, drawn from experts from government and other fields, for each work area covered by the organisation. The OECD provides a forum in which governments can work together to share experiences and seek solutions to common problems. We collaborate with governments to understand what drives economic, social and environmental change. We measure productivity and global flows of trade and investment.





THE MENA-OECD GOVERNANCE PROGRAMME

The MENA-OECD Governance Programme is a strategic partnership between MENA and OECD countries to share knowledge and expertise with a view of disseminating standards, principles and best practices of good governance that support the ongoing process of reform in the MENA region. The Programme provides a sustainable structure for regional and country-specific projects. These initiatives support the implementation of MENA governments' commitment to public sector reforms in view of unlocking social and economic development and meeting citizens' growing expectations in terms of quality services, inclusive policy-making and transparency. Drawing on a broad network of high-level and technical experts and policy-makers, the MENA-OECD Governance Programme facilitates regional policy dialogue, the exchange of best practices, the shaping policy agendas through analytical work, and the development of capacities, including

through the MENA-OECD Governance Programme Training Centre of Caserta.

The Programme also strengthens collaboration with the most relevant multilateral initiatives currently underway in the region, such as the G7 Deauville Partnership. It also assists governments in meeting the eligibility criteria to become a member of the Open Government Partnership.

The MENA-OECD Governance Programme cooperates closely with SIGMA. The SIGMA Programme, launched in 1992, is a joint initiative of the OECD and the European Union (EU), principally financed by the EU, that since 2008 has helped strengthen public governance systems and the capacities of public administration in Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestinian Authority and Tunisia.

STRATEGIC ORIENTATIONS FOR THE PROGRAMME: THE 2021 MENA-OECD MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE

The 2021 **Ministerial Conference** of the MENA-OECD Initiative for Competitiveness and Governance “*Designing a Roadmap for Recovery in MENA*”, was organised online 1 April 2021. The event was opened by OECD Secretary General Angel Gurría, and gathered over 200 high level participants from 38 economies (24 OECD Member states and 14 MENA economies), including 15 Ministers. The Conference featured unprecedented participation, with keynote speeches from the Italian Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation and the EU Commissioner for Neighbourhood and Enlargement, and Ministerial participation from most MENA economies, together with ministers and high officials from OECD countries. Participants to the discussions expressed their views for a shared vision towards an inclusive recovery, addressing structural challenges and strengthening the resilience of economies and societies in MENA. A strong consensus emerged on making people-centred policies and a renewed growth model to attract investments core pillars of the recovery vision. As part of these discussions, participants launched the 2021-2025 mandate for the Initiative, which aims at enhancing coordination to work together towards a fairer, greener and more inclusive future. The Conference successfully concluded with the endorsement of the MENA-OECD **Ministerial Declaration**, and shared key messages for the future of the Initiative.

DECLARATION

Scan & Read
the Ministerial
Declaration

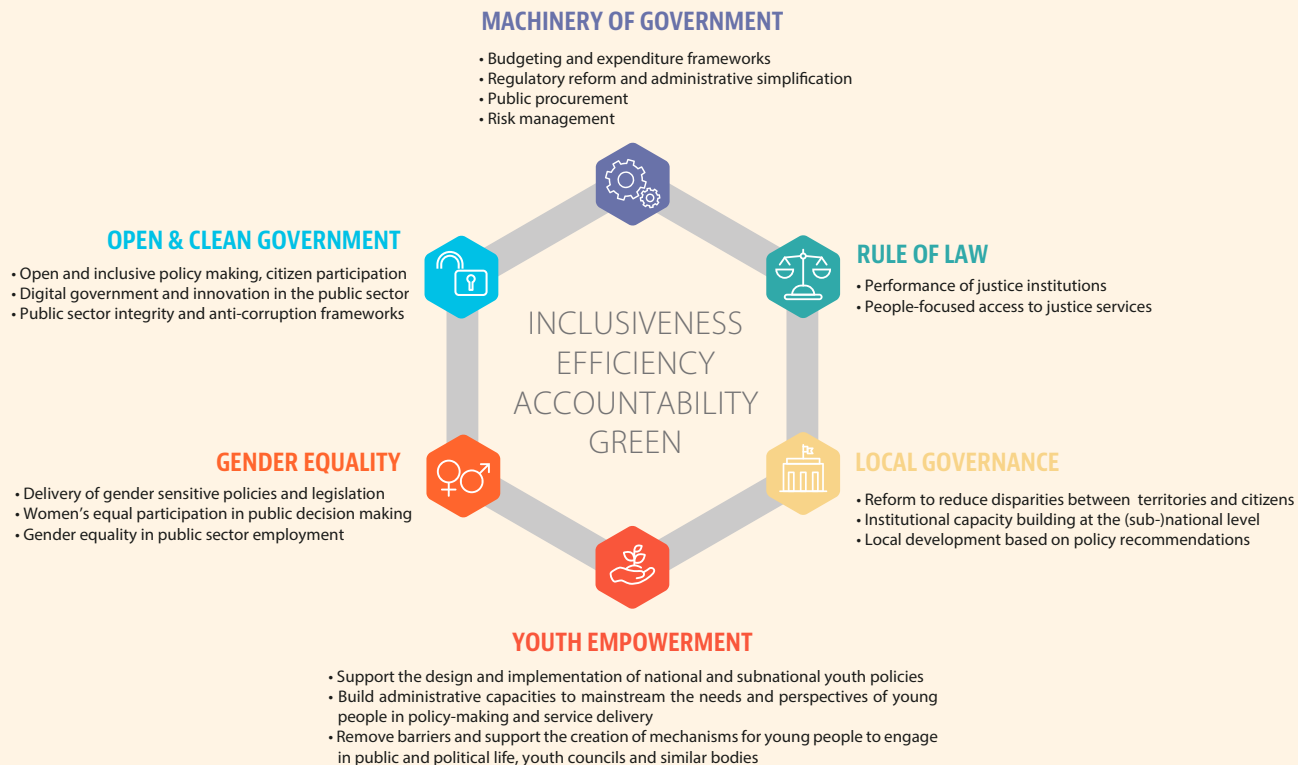


.....

The Annex of the declaration lays out the strategic orientations and working methods for the MENA-OECD Governance Programme's fifth mandate, in line with the structure and agendas of the OECD's Public Governance Committee and Regulatory Policy Committee and their sub-bodies as well as the SIGMA Initiative. Key objectives are:

- Implementing effective risk governance and management
- Building more open and transparent institutions with solid integrity and anti-corruption frameworks as well as public sector digitalization and innovation
- Advancing gender equality as well as youth empowerment
- Developing infrastructure and public procurement systems
- Creating more accountable and responsive service delivery for the most vulnerable
- Enhancing rule of law systems and people-centered justice with an equal access to justice for all
- Supporting institution-building in post-conflict countries as well as at the local level
- Facilitating the effectiveness of public institutions through regulatory reform and strong budgetary and public finance frameworks
- Combatting illicit trade and reducing informal economies

FOCUS ON SIX KEY AREAS



THE MENA-OECD GOVERNANCE PROGRAMME'S STRUCTURE

MENA Co-chair (Tunisia)

MR. AMMAR MLAOUH

Secretary General
of the Government, Tunisia

OECD Co-chair (Italy)

MR. LUCA SABBATUCCI

Ambassador, Permanent
Representative of Italy
to the OECD

INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS

European Commission
UN agencies (UNDP, UNESCO, UNICEF,
ESCWA etc.)

World Bank
International Monetary Fund (IMF)
Open Government Partnership (OGP)
Union for the Mediterranean (UfM)

International Institute of
Administrative Sciences (IIAS)

Anna Lindh Foundation
North-South Centre of the Council
of Europe
Italian Institute for International
Political Studies (ISPI)

REGIONAL PARTNERS

Islamic Development Bank (IDB)
African Development Bank (AfDB)

Arab Fund for Economic and
Social Development (AFESD)

Centre Africain de Formation et
de Recherche Administrative pour
le Développement (CAFRAD)

ARADOO (League of Arab States)

Arab Planning Institute

THE MENA-OECD GOVERNANCE PROGRAMME'S STRUCTURE



A FRAMEWORK FOR MENA-OECD DIALOGUE AND COOPERATION



OPEN & CLEAN GOVERNMENT

MENA-OECD WORKING GROUP ON CIVIL SERVICE AND INTEGRITY (WGI)

The Working Group on Civil Service and Integrity (WGI) brings together policy practitioners from MENA and OECD countries to promote regional dialogue and exchange best practices in the area of civil service reform for integrity and for innovative anti-corruption policies and institutions. The WGI meeting is organised back to back to the OECD Integrity Week since 2013.

MENA-OECD WORKING GROUP ON OPEN AND INNOVATIVE GOVERNMENT (WG II)

Technological innovations bear the potential of redefining the relationship between governments and citizens. WG II 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.



MACHINERY OF GOVERNMENT

MENA-OECD SENIOR BUDGET OFFICIALS NETWORK (MENA-SBO / WG III)

Public budgets are key policy documents to reconcile policy objectives and are thus subject to special requirements with regard to transparency and accountability. 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.

MENA-OECD WORKING GROUP ON REGULATORY REFORM AND RULE OF LAW (WG IV)

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.

MENA-OECD NETWORK ON PUBLIC PROCUREMENT

The MENA-OECD network on public procurement 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.

A FRAMEWORK FOR MENA-OECD DIALOGUE AND COOPERATION



YOUTH EMPOWERMENT

MENA-OECD YOUTH EMPOWERMENT NETWORK

The Network regularly brings together high-level government officials, youth policymakers, young people and other youth stakeholders from MENA governments and OECD countries to promote regional dialogue, discuss cutting-edge research and share good practices.



LOCAL GOVERNANCE

OECD TRAINING CENTRE ON PUBLIC GOVERNANCE IN CASERTA

The OECD Training Centre on Public Governance in Caserta, Italy is hosted and supported by the Government of Italy, notably through the Italian School of National Administration, Italy's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation and Italy's Department for Public Administration. Since 2013, the Centre has promoted the development of the public sector in Partner economies, notably in the MENA region and Africa, allowing public officials to share knowledge and expertise, and disseminating standards of good governance.



GENDER EQUALITY

MENA-OECD PLATFORM ON GENDER MAINSTREAMING, GOVERNANCE AND LEADERSHIP

Reinforcing gender policies in the MENA is critical for the political, social and economic empowerment of women and the promotion of good governance. Since 2009, the MENA-OECD Women in Government Platform, renamed MENA-OECD Platform on Gender Mainstreaming, Governance and Leadership, provides a regional forum to exchange good practices and lessons learned.



RULE OF LAW

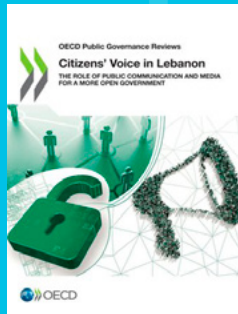
MENA-OECD WORKING GROUP ON REGULATORY REFORM AND RULE OF LAW (WG IV) WGIV

Provides a forum to exchange good practices in regulatory policy and to discuss how to best ensure effective access to justice services and strengthen the rule of law. The Working Group also contributes to the implementation of the MENA-OECD Regional Charter for Regulatory Quality and of country commitments under the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, notably to the Goal 16 on peace, justice and strong institutions.

REGIONAL AND COUNTRY PROJECTS - REGIONAL PROJECTS

Open government and citizens' voice

Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco
and Tunisia



Strategic support to the open government agenda and implementation of access to information laws

Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco
and Tunisia



Open government at the local level

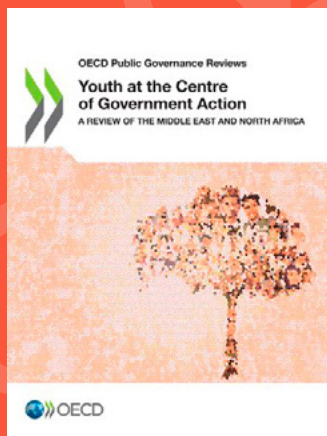
Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco
and Tunisia



REGIONAL AND COUNTRY PROJECTS - REGIONAL PROJECTS

Strengthening youth engagement in public life

Jordan, Morocco and Tunisia



Strengthening public governance for COVID-19 response and recovery in the MENA region



Ambassador Antonio Bernardini, Permanent Representative of Italy to the OECD, Ambassador Mohamed Karim Jamoussi, Ambassador of Tunisia to France, and OECD Deputy Secretary-General Jeffrey Schlagenhauf opened the project presentation event on 11 April 2022

REGIONAL AND COUNTRY PROJECTS - COUNTRY PROJECTS

EGYPT

- Strengthening the rule of law: enhancing effective and transparent delivery of justice and rule-making
- Towards child-friendly justice system in Egypt
- Support to enhanced administrative and public economic governance in Egypt



JORDAN

- MA'AN: Together for accountable and transparent public administration in Jordan



Participants at the launch in Amman of the "MA'AN: Together for an Accountable and Transparent Public Administration in Jordan Project", 20 March 2023, Amman.

KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA

- Strengthening performance measurement and management



REGIONAL AND COUNTRY PROJECTS – COUNTRY PROJECTS

LEBANON

- Bringing government closer to citizens



MOROCCO

- Better involve young people in the modernisation of local administration



⬇ Participants of the workshop on young people's civic participation and their contribution to the modernisation of local public services, 8-9 June 2022, Al Hoceima.

PALESTINIAN AUTHORITY

- Support the Palestinian Authority to enhance governance and the rule of law
- Support the Palestinian authority to Enhance public administration reform



REGIONAL AND COUNTRY PROJECTS – COUNTRY PROJECTS

TUNISIA

- Supporting vulnerable groups and the continuity of local and critical services during the COVID-19 pandemic
- Technical assistance to BFPME and other authorities to mitigate the impact of COVID-19
- Supporting an open society in Tunisia



UAE

- Evidence-based decision making in regulatory policy



Deputy Secretary-General Jeffrey Schlagenhauf delivering a speech during a session of the WGS in March 2022, alongside H.E. Huda Al Hashimi, UAE Deputy Minister of Cabinet Affairs for Strategic Affairs

YEMEN

- Reinforcing the rule of law: developing the capacities of the judiciary in Yemen
- Building institutional capacities to prepare for recovery and reconstruction



Judge Hamoud Al-Hitar, President of the Supreme Court of Yemen, Judge Ekram El-Aidarousi, judge of the Supreme Court, Judge Hala Alqershi, member of the High Committee of Supervision of Elections, OECD Secretariat., Dead Sea, Jordan, 23 September 2019.

DONORS 2021-2022

REGIONAL PROGRAMME



Abu Dhabi and Federal
Government of UAE



Germany



Italy



MENA Transition Fund
G7 Deauville Partnership



MEPI/US

COUNTRY PROGRAMME



Abu Dhabi and Federal
Government of UAE



Egypt



European Union



Germany



Italy



MENA Transition Fund
G7 Deauville Partnership



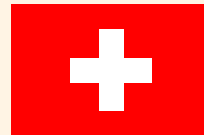
MEPI/US



Morocco



Spain



Switzerland



Saudi Arabia



United Kingdom

Follow our work

@OECDgov



[linkedin.com/company/oecd-public-governance/](https://www.linkedin.com/company/oecd-public-governance/)



Contacts

Ms Miriam Allam

Head of Programme

MENA-OECD Governance Programme

Miriam.Allam@oecd.org

Find out more

oecd.org/mena/governance/



BETTER POLICIES FOR BETTER LIVES