



Youth participation in public life: Local Youth Councils

10-13 June 2019

7th edition of the Mediterranean University on Youth and Global
Citizenship (MedUni)

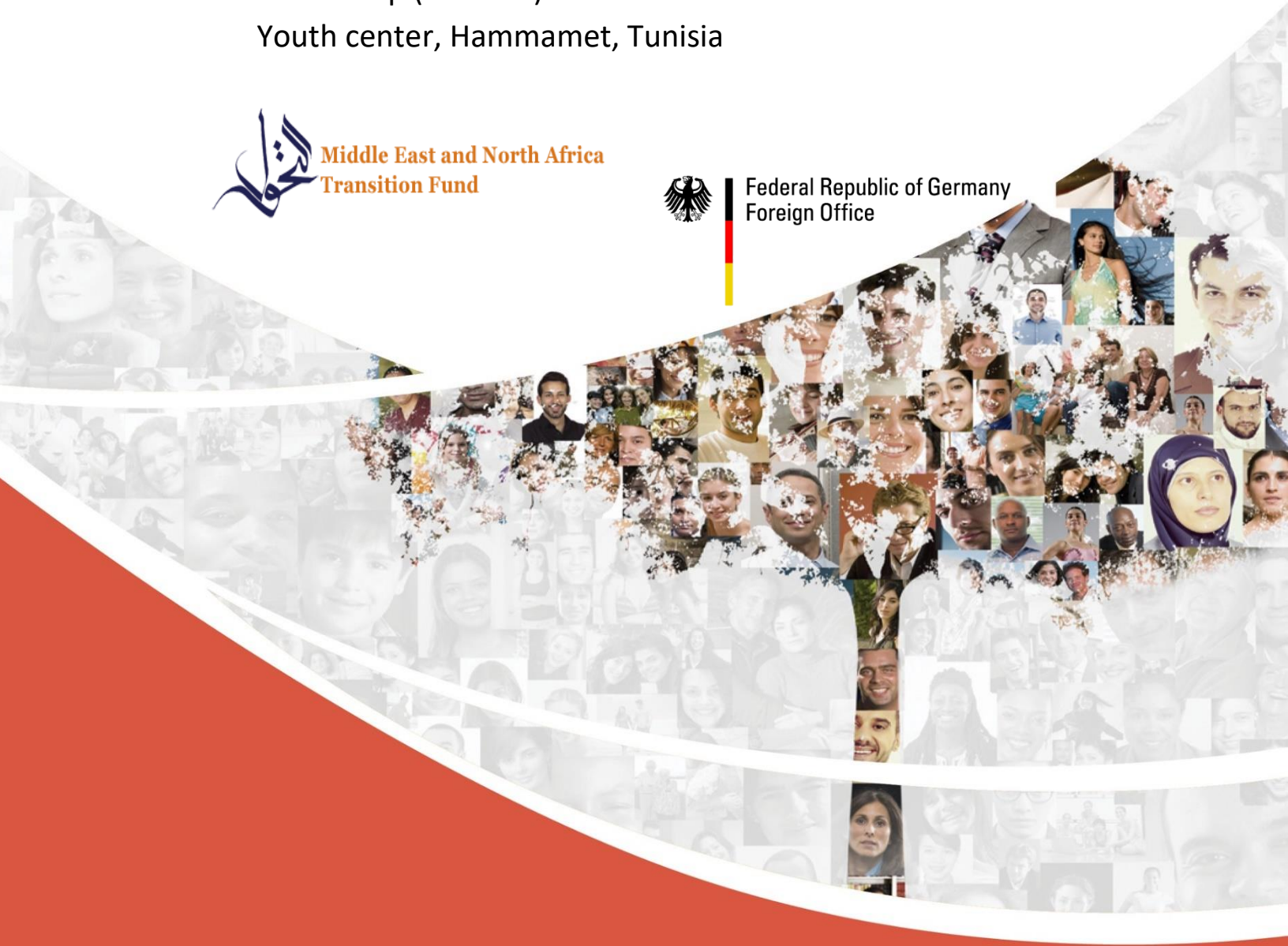
Youth center, Hammamet, Tunisia



Middle East and North Africa
Transition Fund



Federal Republic of Germany
Foreign Office



The OECD

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 35 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 and principles of good governance that support the ongoing process of reform in the MENA region. The Programme strengthens collaboration with the most relevant multilateral initiatives currently underway in the region. In particular, the Programme supports the implementation of the G7 Deauville Partnership and assists governments in meeting the eligibility criteria to become a member of the Open Government Partnership. Through these initiatives, the Programme acts as a leading advocate of managing ongoing public governance reforms in the MENA region. The Programme provides a sustainable structure for regional policy dialogue as well as for country specific projects. These projects correspond to the commitment of MENA governments to implement public sector reforms in view of unlocking social and economic development and of meeting citizens' growing expectations in terms of quality services, inclusive policy making and transparency.

The « Youth in Public Life » Project

The project “[Youth in Public Life: Towards Open and Inclusive Youth Engagement](#)”, funded by the MENA Transition Fund of the G7 Deauville Partnership, supports the efforts made by Jordan, Morocco and Tunisia to foster active and inclusive youth engagement in public life and to establish public services that fully meet the needs of young people by:

- Supporting the design and implementation of national youth policies and strategies that are both cross-cutting and applicable to all levels of government;
- Strengthening the legislative and institutional framework at both the central and local levels for engaging youth in public life;
- Promoting innovative ways to strengthen dialogue between youth and public authorities.

The Project includes country-specific activities as well as opportunities for discussion of regional policies and for knowledge exchange between MENA and OECD countries.

Citizen's voice project

This project is financed by Germany's Ministry of Foreign Affairs. It supports the role played by institutional communication and the media in the implementation of open government in Tunisia, Morocco, Lebanon and Jordan, with a view to strengthening citizen's voices in public life. The project involves an analysis of institutional communication and media governance in these four countries, as well as of the interactions between the three actors (government, media, and citizens) to improve the implementation of the principles of transparency, responsiveness, participation, and accountability. It will also entail a series of capacity building activities focusing on the voice of young people and women, as well as the creation of a platform for dialogue between government, civil society, and the media. In Tunisia, the project will also support several municipalities in enhancing their communication structures and practises in support of open government in line with the Law on Local Authorities.

Objectives of the workshop

This capacity-building workshop aims to enhance knowledge and develop skills of participants, with regards to participative tools and good local governance, with a particular focus on local youth councils. The workshop will:

- Enhance youth skills to influence policy processes at the local level, in particular through local youth councils
- Support youth to share good practices and lessons learned on local participatory governance
- Introduce practical solutions to policy implementation and monitoring municipality governance
- Promote networking, building coalitions/networks around participative local governance.

In interactive and dynamic sessions lead by experienced youth trainers, the workshop will mobilise participants from Tunisia, Jordan, Morocco, and Portugal to engage more effectively in local participative governance. Participants will take part in practical simulations based on real-life challenges encountered by young people when trying to engage in participative democracy at the local level (how to communicate with local authorities, manage a project, achieve results, manage conflicts etc.)

Day 1: Monday 10 June

9:30 –11.00 SESSION 1: OPENING OF THE WORKSHOP & ICEBREAKING

- Mr. Kamel Larbi, Director General for Youth, Ministry in charge of Youth affairs and Sport, Tunisia
- Mr. Foued El Ouni, Director General of the National Observatory for youth, Tunisia
- Ms. Stéphanie Attil, Policy analyst, OECD
- Mr. Elyes Ezzine, Tunisian Institute for Democracy and Development (ITDD)

11:00 - 11:30 COFFEE BREAK

11.30 – 13.00 MEDUNI OPENING CEREMONY @ HOTEL NAWANESS

13:00 - 15:00 LUNCH

15:00 - 16:30 SESSION 2 : LOCAL YOUTH COUNCILS - GOOD PRACTICES

This session will allow to present the concept and good practices of Local Youth Councils and youth participation at the local level in the MENA region and in some OECD countries. It will also provide an opportunity to present the recent Local Youth councils of Tunisia. Participants will be invited to share the good practices of their countries in terms of youth participation to local decision-making, with a specific focus on Local Youth Councils, their creation, development and functioning.

- Ms. Stéphanie Attil, OCDE
- Mr. Elyes Ezzine, ITDD
- Mr. Rui Teixeira, Président du conseil de jeunesse de Gaia, Portugal
- Mr. Nidal Benali, Président du conseil local d'Asilah, Maroc
- Mr. Hamza Rouija, Président du conseil local d'El-Jedida, Maroc
- Ms. Laila Alazab, *Motivators for training*, Jordan
- Mr. Moath Al-Akaylah, Ruwwad for Development, Jordan

16:30 - 17:00 COFFEE BREAK AND GROUP PHOTO

17:00 – 18:30 SESSION 3: COMMON CHALLENGES

This session will invite members of each local councils to share challenges they face in taking part in local decision making as members of local youth council. The aim of the session is to establish a roadmap of the common challenges to address, and identify ways to transform challenges into opportunities.

- Mr. Elyes Ezzine, ITDD
- Mrs. Fedia Gasmî, ITDD

18:30 - 20:00 FREE TIME

20:00 - 21:30 DINNER

21:30 – 23:00 MEDUNI WELCOME EVENING

Day 2: Tuesday 11 June

9:30 - 11:00

SESSION 4: INTRODUCTION TO COMMS AND PUBLIC SPEAKING TIPS

These 2 sessions (3 & 4) on communication aim to reinforce the capacities of participants in terms of internal and external communication. This first session will provide participants with concrete tools to improve their public speaking skills, as well as communication skills internally.

- Ms. Nardine Zouaoui, Expert in intercultural communication and public speaking, Tunisia

11:00 - 11:30

COFFEE BREAK

11:30 - 13:00

SESSION 5: COMMUNICATION WITH LOCAL DECISION MAKERS

This session will address the common challenge faced by members of local youth councils in communicating efficiently with local decision makers. At the end of the session, each group will have developed a key message, ready to communicate about local youth councils (a tweet, elements for a flyer, a Facebook / Instagram post).

- Mr. Elyes Ezzine, ITDD
- Mrs. Fedia Gasmi, ITDD

13:00 - 15:00

LUNCH

15:00 - 16:30

SESSION 6: PROJECT MANAGEMENT AT THE LOCAL LEVEL 1 : THEORY OF CHANGE

These 3 sessions (6-8) will address the main project management challenges that local youth councils can face: from strategic planning, to understanding the policy-cycle, establishing a territorial cartography of stakeholders, and adopting a result-oriented approach. At the end of the sessions, participants will be equipped with technical tools to support them in managing projects at the local level, as well as practical solutions to be involved in youth-friendly policy implementation and monitoring municipality governance. Participants will be familiarized with the theory of change.

- Mr. Elyes Ezzine, ITDD
- Mrs. Fedia Gasmi, ITDD

16:30 - 17:00

COFFEE BREAK

17:00 - 20:00

NETWORKING AND GOOD PRACTICES FAIR

20:00 - 21:30

DINNER

21:30 - 23:00

"UBANDA" EVENING

Day 3: Wednesday 12 June

9:30 - 13:00 MEDUNI JOINT SESSION

13:00 - 15:00 LUNCH

15:00 - 16:30 SESSION 7 : PROJECT MANAGEMENT AT THE LOCAL LEVEL 2 : YOUTH LOCAL LAB INNOVATION PROJECT

With this practical exercise, participant will brainstorm innovative ideas and write a proposal that could be submitted to local authorities and discussed with the municipality.

- Mr. Elyes Ezzine, ITDD
- Mrs. Fedia Gasmi, ITDD

16:30 - 17:00 COFFEE BREAK

17:00 - 18:30 SESSION 8 : PROJECT MANAGEMENT AT HE LOCAL LEVEL 3 : EVALUATING PROJECTS

This session aims to focus on internal and external project evaluation. It will present tools to measure and improve the performance of projects. Participants will work step by step on the design of an evaluation. After reviewing key management issues in designing an evaluation plan (i.e., Results-Based Management and Project Cycle), participants will focus on key aspects of project evaluation (i.e., founding principles, types and criteria).

- Mr. Elyes Ezzine, ITDD
- Mrs. Fedia Gasmi, ITDD

18:30 - 19:30 FREE TIME

19:30 - 21:30 DINNER

21:30 - 23:00 MEDUNI ACTIVITY

Day 4: Thursday 13 June

9:30 - 11:00

SESSION 9: MANAGING AND SOLVING CONFLICTS

Local Youth Council members often face conflicts. The goal of this session is to define what constitutes a “conflict”, and offer solutions to resolve conflicts.

- Mr. Elyes Ezzine, ITDD
- Mrs. Fedia Gasmi, ITDD

11:00 - 11:30

COFFEE BREAK

11:30 – 13:00

SESSION 10: CONCLUSIONS

The goal of this session is to present summary of lessons learned and key takeaways of the workshop. Participants will be invited to share key takeaways from the workshop that they wish to implement in their organisations.

- Mr. Elyes Ezzine, ITDD
- Mrs. Fedia Gasmi, ITDD
- Ms. Stéphanie Attil, OECD

13:00 - 15:00

LUNCH & DEPARTURES

Trainers

Mr Elyes Ezzine & Ms Fedia Gasmi, from the Tunisian Institute for Democracy & Development:

The Tunisian Institute for Democracy & Development is a think-do tank, whose aim is to institutionalize, at both national and sub-national levels, creative ideas to create an open society managed by informed fact-driven citizens.- citizens informed about their role, empowered and equipped with the right tools, appropriate technology and relevant policy and legislation. Their work is based on a conviction that to play an active role in the development of our communities and country, people need the opportunities, the tools and the knowledge to participate in civic and economic life and need to have a voice in the public decisions that affect their well-being, along with means of making a meaningful living.

The ITDD promotes a culture of Human Rights, principles of good governance, local democracy and sustainable development. Their main objectives are to:

- Contribute to the elaboration and development of policies and participatory approaches based on the integration of vulnerable groups, youth and gender;
- Enhance civic participation through electoral and constitutional awareness as well as dissemination of standards and principles of integrity, transparency and social accountability;
- Build the capacity of individuals and civil society organizations to facilitate social change transformation through peaceful and creative ways;
- Promote freedom of opinion and expression, assembly and association;
- Promote a culture of peace and tolerance, non-violence and community dialogue, peaceful conflict resolution and building consensus (CVE);
- Promote the use of social networks, digital arts, and new technologies for development and democracy.

Ms. Nardine Zouaoui, Expert in intercultural communication and public speaking, Tunisia

Nardine started her adventure in the world in the United States of America. JET (Japanese Events in Tunisia), at the age of 16. She studied journalism and communications in the University of Manouba, Tunisia. After finishing her BA in 2015, she started working as a Communications Officer in the African Union, in her Liaison Office in Libya relocated to Tunisia. After which, she became an international consultant and trainer in Communications for NGOs and multinational companies in India and Tunisia in January 2017.

She strongly believes that creating a synergy between cultures will be an integral part of the world.

Notes

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