

Rabat 17 December 2010



Draft Agenda

First meeting of the Focus Group Green Growth and Territorial Development

Organised by:

**The MENA-OECD Governance Programme, Ministry of Housing, Urban and
Territorial Development, and the Ministry of Public Sectors'
Modernisation, Morocco**

Launched in 2004 at the request of countries from the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region, the **MENA–OECD Initiative on Governance and Investment for Development** works to help accelerate policy and economic reform in the Middle East and North Africa. The Initiative supports reform efforts in 18 participating MENA countries through peer dialogue and the sharing of good practices between policy makers, private sector and civil society representatives in MENA and OECD countries, as well as through assistance in the implementation of policy reform. The Initiative pursues the goal of establishing a stronger, fairer and cleaner economy in the MENA region. The Initiative supports countries in improving the efficiency, accountability and transparency of the public sector, as well as the investment climate through targeted reform policies.

The **Declaration of Marrakech** (November 2009) mandated the **MENA-OECD Governance Programme** to launch a new **Focus Group on Green Growth and Territorial Development**. The Focus Group aims to support strengthened governance institutions and increased regional policy dialogue and co-operation for the adoption of strategies for green growth and the sustainable management of natural resources at all levels of government. It facilitates regional dialogue and the sharing of good practices, including reinforcement of capacities at the local level for implementing territorial development policies and green growth strategies. The Focus Group builds on the expertise and know-how of the **OECD Territorial Policy Development Committee** and will promote regular policy dialogue and the implementation of Territorial Reviews in the MENA region. The Focus Group will collaborate with the **MENA-OECD Investment Programme** regarding the mobilization of private investment for green growth strategies.

The **Focus Group** could pay particular attention to policies aiming to reduce **regional disparities** by supporting (employment- and wealth-generating) economic activities in regions with a view to address under-used economic potential and weakened **social cohesion**. Some key features of this approach to regional development include: a strategic concept or development strategy that covers a wide range of direct and indirect factors that affect the performance of local firms; a focus on endogenous assets, and less on exogenous investments and transfers; an emphasis on opportunity rather than on disadvantage; a **collective/negotiated governance approach** involving national, regional and local government plus other stakeholders, with the central government taking a less dominant role.

The first special meeting of the focus group will be jointly organised by the Moroccan Ministry of Housing, Planning and Space Development, the Ministry of Public Sector Modernisation, and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). The objectives of this meeting are to:

- 1- Share experiences between MENA and OECD countries in terms of linking territorial development strategies to green growth.
- 2- Draw concrete proposals of the effective contribution of the focus group to address green growth and territorial development challenges.
- 3- Discuss the Programme of Work of the Focus Group for the coming years, including the organization of a Regional Conference to be held in 2011.

This first meeting of the Focus group aims at exploring three main dimensions of green growth on the territorial level:

- 1 – Rural development opportunities through the renewable energy sector
- 2 – Urban development policies that can stimulate green jobs and economic growth (particularly in the transport and building sectors)
- 3 – Regional, multi-level governance and capacity building instruments for efficient water management and delivery

Friday 17 December 2010

08h30 – 09h00	Registration: Ministry of Housing, Urbanism and Territorial Planning, Rue Al Joumaize Hay Ryad, Secteur 16, Rabat
9h00 - 10h00	Opening statement
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Mr. Mohammed Saâd El Alami, Minister Delegate to the Prime Minister in charge of Public Sector Modernisation, Morocco, and Chair of the MENA-OECD Governance Programme • H.E. Mr. Ahmed Taoufiq Hejira, Minister of Housing, Urbanism and Territorial Planning, Morocco • H.E. Mr. Abdeslam El Misbahi, Secretary of State, Ministry of Housing, Urbanism and Territorial Planning, in charge of Territorial Development, Morocco • H.E. Mr. Zahoud Abdelkbir, Secretary of State, Ministry of Energy, Mines, Water and Environment, in charge of Water and Environment, Maroc • Mr. Joaquim Oliveira Martins, Head, Regional Development Policy Division, OECD
10h00 – 10h15	<i>Coffee break</i>
10h15 – 12h30	Session 1: Sharing experiences on territorial development strategies to promote green growth <i>Facilitator: Ms. Lamia Kamal-Chaoui</i> , Head Urban Development Programme, OECD
	<p><i>Purpose of the session:</i></p> <p>Green growth depends in no small part on innovation and the responsible management of natural resources, pointing to a key role for territorial and local policies. First, regional policies can accelerate the shift to clean technologies by enlarging the market for them and by directly promoting their development. Second, interactions at the local level generate agglomeration and spillover effects that are essential for the emergence of new development paths. Local and regional governments – as planning and regulatory authorities, purchasers, developers and managers of infrastructure, enablers of private investments, and role models – are crucial to the transition to low-resource, resilient economic development.</p> <p>In this session, participants will discuss a strategic vision for designing and implementing territorial development strategies that stimulate green growth. Strategies will be considered from the perspective of endogenous growth, such as enhancing local and regional assets, and exogenous growth, such as providing the regional conditions to attract foreign direct investment (FDI) in the green sector. Key questions to be discussed include:</p> <p>Key questions to be addressed include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can regional policy promote green technology clusters that can catalyse job growth and local productivity? • What role do renewable energies have to play in territorial development strategies for rural regions? • How can urban policies make use of green technologies and sustainable development initiatives to respond to development priorities and stimulate job

	<p>growth?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can coordinated water policies across sectors and between levels of government foster efficient resources management and service delivery in line with territorial development and green growth strategies? • How can regional policies be framed to attract foreign investments in green activities, with the goal of embedding FDI in the regional economy and maximising the impact on economic development? <p>Keynote speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Sechang Ahn, Director of Green life and sustainable development team, Presidential Committee on Green Growth, Korea • Ms. Sabrina Lucatelli, Ministry of Economic Development, Department for Development and Cohesion Policies, Italy, seconded to European Commission, DG Regio C2 • Mr. Osama Megahed, General Director for Northern Upper Egypt Region at the General Organization for Physical Planning, Egypt • Mr. Abdelfattah Skir, Secretary General, Municipality of the city of Rabat, Morocco • Mr. Klaus U. Hachmeier, MENA Unit, Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology, Germany <p>Discussion</p>
12h30 – 14h00	Lunch
14h00 – 16h00	<p>Session 2: Enhancing better public governance to ensure green territorial development</p> <p>Facilitator : Ms. Aziza Akhmouch, Policy Analyst, Regional Development Policy Division, OECD</p>
	<p>Purpose of the session:</p> <p>Given the multiplicity of mutually dependent public and private actors involved in the transition towards green growth, there is a need to use governance instruments to address the possible coordination and capacity “gaps” that could undermine the coherence and impact of green growth policies. Territorial strategies for green growth need to be addressed both locally and nationally and rely on diverse institutional settings and governance arrangements. Given the crucial role of local and regional governments in the design and implementation of green growth strategies, a multilevel governance framework is needed to coordinate their policy interventions and guarantee policy coherence between national and local responses, as well as with the private sector and civil society. In this session, participants will discuss the governance modes needed to implement territorial green growth strategies, particularly related to infrastructure investment, aligning regulatory frameworks and incentives, and financing mechanisms.</p> <p>Key issues for discussion include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to mobilize local and regional authorities and ensure coherence between

	<p>national and sub-national green growth approaches?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What vertical coordination frameworks are needed to reduce potential policy gaps between national, regional and local green growth initiatives and create convergent targets? • How to adapt local and regional strategic planning instruments to respond to the need of policy coherence and coordination across levels of government? • How can local and regional governments improve multi-sectoral approaches to green growth strategies through horizontal coordination across policy areas? • What national policies or standards are needed to facilitate development through green growth on the territorial level? • How do different layers of government coordinate their investment attraction policies in the green sector at the regional level?
	<p>Keynote speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Lotfi Ben Said, Director of Sustainable Development, Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, Tunisia • Mr. Abdelouahed Fikrat, Director of Territorial Planning, Ministry of Housing, Urbanism and Territorial Planning, Morocco • Mr. Keith Thorpe, Head of Urban Policy Unit, Department for Communities and Local Government, Vice Chair of the OECD Working Party on Urban Areas, United Kingdom • Ms. Rudinah Batarseh, Jordanian Renewable Energy Society, Jordan • Mr. Hassan Janabi, Ambassador of Iraq to FAO and UN Agencies <p>Discussion</p>
16h00 – 16h30	Coffee break

<p>16h30 – 17h30</p>	<p>Drawing a road map for the Focus Group on green growth and territorial development</p> <p>Facilitator : Mr. Carlos Conde, Programme Co-ordinator, OECD-MENA Governance Programme, OECD</p>
	<p><i>Objectives and structure:</i></p> <p>During this session, participants will come together in a focus group that will identify, based on position papers, thematic priorities for the regional policy dialogue between MENA and OECD countries on addressing green growth and territorial development issues for the next 5 years. The discussion of the focus group is expected to result in concrete proposals on the formulation of regional activities to support MENA countries in their ongoing efforts to guarantee enhanced public governance at relevant territorial levels for a better transition to a greener investments and economy.</p> <p><i>Conclusions and next steps:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Azzeddine Diouri, Secretary-General, Ministry of Public Sector Modernisation, Morocco; • Mr. Monkid Mestassi, Secretary-General, Ministry of Economy and general Affairs, Morocco; • Mr. Essaid Zniber, Secretary-General, Ministry of Housing, Urbanism and Land Planning, Morocco. • Mr. Joaquim Oliveira Martins, Head, Regional Development Policy Division, OECD

Background documents

- MENA-OECD progress report on the public governance reform in North Africa and Middle East countries, OECD, 2010;
- OECD Declaration on Green Growth, adopted at the Meeting of the Council at Ministerial Level on 25 June 2009;
- City and Green Growth: key points
- Cities and Green Growth: Issues paper for the 3rd Annual meeting of the OECD Urban Roundtable of Mayors and Ministers
- The New Rural Paradigm: Policies and Governance
- OECD work on Urban Development
- OECD Territorial Reviews: Istanbul, Turkey
- Regions Matter: Economic Recovery, Innovation and Sustainable Growth
- OECD Environmental Outlook to 2030: Summary
- OECD Governance of water policy, 2010

MENA-OECD GOVERNANCE PROGRAMME

For more information: www.oecd.org/mena

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