REGIONAL DIALOGUE

Advancing Access to Information in MNA: Supporting Coalitions & Networks
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This newsletter is a publication of the “Regional Dialogue on Supporting Coalitions and Networking to Advance Access to Information in MENA,” which supports the exchange of knowledge and information on Access to Information (ATI) among stakeholders from Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco and Tunisia. Knowledge Exchange (KE) is an important element for advancing ATI legislation and its implementation through the transfer of best practices and lessons learned. KE facilitates connections among practitioners and builds mutual understanding, shared values and behaviors. KE thus encourages cooperative action that in turn contributes to advancing legal and policy reforms.

KE on ATI in the MENA region can help diverse stakeholders understand each other’s perspectives, as well as come together around common challenges, experiences, and practices. To be successful, reforms must be implemented collaboratively; this requires changes in both government and citizen mindsets. Thus, multi-stakeholder dialogue and learning supports the reform process. In this vein, this newsletter is meant to provide a space for the exchange of information. Here, coalitions working toward effective ATI in the MENA region can broadly disseminate their work, keep abreast of recent developments related to ATI in their countries, and learn about putting ATI into policy and practice.

In this edition of the ATI Newsletter, we have focused on two key approaches to strengthening capacities through knowledge exchanges: coalition building and networking. We present experiences from the Latin America region to help inform current processes in the MENA region. The Third Video Conference, “Early Implementation of an ATI Regime: Challenges and Lessons Learned” is also summarized.

The Dialogue offers other online resources in Arabic and English. You can find other materials and news on the initiative’s Facebook page. Please like the page, add it to your subscription list and share your content with us.

During the past month, we have received valuable feedback from readers which we have incorporated into the newsletter. We welcome any further comments, questions and information you wish to share. Finally, we would like to thank practitioners and organizations that are sharing the ATI-MNA Newsletter on your websites and e-mail lists. Please continue to share the Newsletter; we invite all others to share it as well.

To share your articles, information about future events or suggestions, please e-mail:
saadfi21@hotmail.com

Or share your content on our Facebook page:
http://on.fb.me/ITq76A

See earlier issues of the newsletter in English or in Arabic
Summary of Videoconference #3 - May 29, 2012
“Early Implementation of an ATI Regime: Challenges and Lessons Learned”

The third video conference of the Regional Dialogue, held on May 29, 2012, focused on the early steps for implementation of Access to Information (ATI) legislation. Carole Excell, Senior Associate at the World Resources Institute, provided a brief overview of challenges and lessons learned from different international experiences.

Excell argued that “the execution of the law is equally or more important than its adoption.” Lacking an effective implementation process that has been planned in advance, ATI laws run the risk of remaining on the books without being put into practice. This failure to live up to expectations may result from a lack of resources, capacity, or leadership, among other reasons.

What is the best way to effectively implement a new Access to Information law? Successful implementation needs a carefully formulated strategy. A clear vision - outlining both the current state of affairs and the road ahead - is crucial. Excell recommended five key implementation activities:

1. Setting up an ATI implementation unit
2. Setting up a ATI coordination committee across public administration
3. Launching the implementation process
4. Conducting a baseline assessment on records management and ATI
5. Developing a written implementation plan

The main responsibilities of the ATI implementation unit, she explained, are as monitoring and identifying shortcomings in implementation, promoting good practices, preparing guidelines, and outlining standard procedures for processing requests (including developing templates for request forms). Additionally, the ATI unit can serve as Secretariat of the implementation coordination committee, and can coordinate an information officers’ network.

Either a phased or wholesale approach can work for bringing public agencies on board. In Jamaica, the ATI law came into effect for different ministries at different times, whereas in the Cayman Islands, all ministries launched implementation of the law at the same time.

Comprehensive and sustained training of all public officials should be accompanied by peer learning and the creation of a network of information officers. Training can also be subsequently incorporated into the curricula of institutes for public administration. Capacity building programs for the effective implementation of the law need to target demand side actors as well.

Public education is also important, both raising the awareness about ATI among the general public, as well as targeting specific groups, such as the media. Specific tactics to help shift a country from a culture of secrecy to a culture of openness include public events such as Sunshine Week, and offering awards for activities that embody the principles of transparency.

Excell emphasized the central role that civil society must play in to foster a culture that supports ATI. Civil society can engage with government through both formal and...
informal mechanisms, such as awareness raising, using the law, and monitoring its implementation. Finally, she stressed the importance of formal monitoring and reporting as critical factors for the success of ATI law implementation. Government and civil society need to collaborate to effectively implement ATI.

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After the presentation, Excell engaged in a discussion with the other participants.

In response to a query about enforcement, Excell cautioned, “it is important to think through public service disciplinary sanction processes,” in cases where governments do not comply with ATI law. Sanction regimes vary from administrative sanctions (including dismissal) to financial and even criminal sanctions. In India, for example, agencies are mandated to pay associated costs to the requester. Any sanctions system, she emphasized, should be balanced by incentives to encourage people to properly implement the law. For example, granting awards to top performing agencies has helped to build a culture of openness in agencies in Mexico, Bulgaria and South Africa.

Another participant asked: “What advocacy strategies does civil society use?” Excell explained that different countries use different strategies. For example, in some countries CSOs have used elections as an opportune moment to try to get buy-in from political candidates running for office; a public commitment by the candidate helps to strengthen the advocacy campaign. Another common strategy is to persuade an MP to submit an ATI bill drafted by civil society. This action compels government to react by submitting its own ATI bill while sparking discussion about the content of the different bills. In the instances where the constitutional right to information already exists, civil society has used litigation to demand effective ATI.

The international arena also presents opportunities for civil advocacy efforts. Civil society can introduce the issue of ATI to international forums to encourage productive discussion among regional bodies. Another advocacy tactic is to promote healthy competition among countries in the same region; thus progress in one country can prompt others to move forward. Global multistakeholder initiatives focused on transparency and accountability issues, such as the Open Government Partnership, can be another point of entry.

Participants also raised the issue of monitoring ATI implementation. As with all public policy, Excell said, it is crucial to monitor and measure implementation in order to identify the areas where improvement is needed. Practitioners around the world are currently developing
Critical factors in the success of an ATI law:

- An effective implementation process
- Setting up an ATI Steering Committee comprised of various government agencies
- Establishing an ATI implementation unit to serve as the SC secretariat and jumpstart the process
- Collaboration between government and civil society on ATI implementation

Finally, a question about whether or not Parliament is covered under ATI laws was discussed. While initial efforts usually focus on opening up the Executive branch, Excell emphasized that broadening the reach of ATI to the other branches, particularly Parliament, is also important. ATI legislation should be complemented with participatory lawmaking to make the Legislative branch more open and transparent.

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**Interview: Karina Banfi & Moises Sánchez**

**Advancing a Regional Agenda on ATI:**

**Alianza Regional para la Libertad de Expresión y Acceso a la Información**

Latin America’s Alianza Regional para la Libertad de Expresión y Acceso a la Información (Regional Alliance for Freedom of Expression and Access to Information) is a regional network of 24 NGOs from Latin America that promotes Access to Information (ATI) in the region. We spoke with Karina Banfi and Moises Sánchez, members of the Alianza Regional, to better understand the benefits and challenges of fostering effective ATI through regional networks.

**Q: Why was the Alianza Regional created?**

**A:** The Alianza Regional was created in 2005 as a program within the Trust for the Americas, an NGO affiliated with the Organization of American States. Our mission initially was to draw on the experience of Mexico to facilitate knowledge exchange and capacity building for journalists from Central America on...
information-related issues. In a landmark decision in 2007, the Inter-American Human Rights Court recognized ATI as a human right in the case of Claude Reyes vs. Chile, and our agenda shifted to focus on promoting the adoption of ATI legislation across the entire region.

The Alianza Regional was positioned as the mechanism to scale up the ATI agenda to the regional level, and this is precisely the main benefit for our members. Although the Alianza Regional has developed various products, such as reports on the status of ATI in the region, its principal value lies in its contribution to an emerging common agenda. The Alianza Regional serves as a platform for bringing local issues to regional venues and exploring solutions collaboratively at the regional level.

Q: What role has the Alianza Regional played in promoting ATI in the region?

A: The Alianza Regional has been instrumental in fostering consensus among NGOs from different countries and disseminating our collective agenda at international events. For example, we have participated in the OAS General Assembly, regional meetings such as the Carter Center ATI Conference in 2009, and the OAS process to develop a regional ATI model law. At these events, members of the Alianza Regional present a unified position regarding ATI issues.

Further, the Alianza Regional has facilitated knowledge exchange activities not only to build skills and abilities, but also to generate trust among our members.

The Alianza Regional closely monitors the local situation throughout the region so we can provide timely support to our members. For example, we brought expert members of the Alianza Regional for consultations on the drafting of the ATI Law in El Salvador, to strengthen the advocacy work of the local member organization.

Q: What is the governance process of the Alianza Regional and how has it evolved?

A: Initially the Alianza Regional was coordinated by one NGO, the Trust for the Americas. Members interacted with each other, which generated trust at the beginning. However, as the topic of ATI gained prominence after the Claude Reyes case, and membership increased, coordination by one NGO became a challenge, particularly in separating the NGO’s own agenda from that of the Alianza Regional. Instead, a Concejo Consultivo (Advisory Council), made up of international experts who were leading NGO members of the Alianza Regional took over as the governance structure. This new model helped transition the organization from a NGO-led program, to a network of NGOs. Challenges remained, as the Council’s agenda and the agenda of the members were not always aligned. Currently, the governance of the Alianza Regional is comprised of a General Secretariat and various subcommittees.

Q: How is decision-making undertaken within the Alianza Regional?

A: Decision-making is based upon dialogue and consensus. There are no decisions made by voting. In networks, it is critically important to operate on the principal of win-win, where all members benefit and no one feels left out. When objections are raised, the Secretariat engages in extensive dialogue to illustrate the benefits of a decision to its members and understand their concerns. Good communication with members is a critical priority for the Secretariat.

Q: So what are the main communication tools?

A: We say communication is the blood of the Alianza Regional. Since our members are geographically dispersed, email has become the main tool for communication. We send general emails to all members, as well as more targeted ones, depending on
the issues we are addressing. However, the Secretariat is aware that members are quite busy with their everyday work, so response to emails can be limited. If needed, the Secretariat follows up by phone. This is particularly important when there are issues that require timely response; for instance, recently the Alianza Regional coordinated its stance concerning the Open Government Partnership under a tight deadline.

Face-to-face interaction is also important, and we meet during different relevant regional and international events.

Q: What have been the main challenges the Alianza Regional has faced? What strategies did you adopt to overcome them?

A: So far, the main challenge has been managing the tension between local and regional agendas. The role of the Alianza Regional has been to foster the emergence of a regional agenda, but each member has its own local agenda, which for the member has priority over the regional agenda. The Secretariat must be constantly aware of this and try to mitigate potential tensions between local and regional work, because the moment members perceive that tensions may become irreconcilable, they become disengaged. The Secretariat must find ways for the regional agenda to strengthen the local agendas of its members. In general, when working at the regional level, it is sometimes challenging to accommodate to the needs of all members.

Another important challenge has been how to convey the achievements and results of the network, particularly since we are process-oriented. Conveying our successes to other NGOs, donors, and other stakeholders is somewhat difficult.

For the Alianza Regional, finding the right governance model was also an important challenge. However, this was part of a learning process that ultimately helped strengthen the Alianza Regional.

Finally, perhaps surprisingly, resources have not been a major issue for the Alianza Regional. Member organizations contribute sufficient resources for our operations, mostly in-kind.

BUILDING A COALITION TO BOLSTER THE RIGHT TO KNOW IN MEXICO: THE COLLECTIVE FOR TRANSPARENCY

Tania Sánchez Andrade

What is the Collective for Transparency?

The Collective for Transparency (El Colectivo por la Transparencia) is a coalition of civil society organizations that champions transparency, accountability and the right to access information. It serves as a platform for reflection and action to advance the improvement of the access to information regulatory framework and its effective implementation. The Collective promotes a “right to know” culture, building the conditions that deepen democracy, strengthen civic engagement and increase the quality of life.

1 Tania Sánchez Andrade led the Transparency Program at Fundar (from 2004 to 2006). In that capacity, she served as coordinator of the Collective for Transparency for the same period.

2 See Colectivo por la Transparencia at http://www.mexicotransparente.org.mx/quees.html
 Started at the end of 2004 by a group of six organizations, the **Collective** was born after the enactment and initial implementation of the Federal Transparency and Access to Government Public Information Law (hereafter, the Transparency Law). The 2002 enactment of the Transparency Law resulted from an intense deliberative process, in which civil society, academics and the media — newspapers in particular — played an important role. The organizations that would later form the **Collective** saw the need to coordinate and closely monitor the implementation of the new Law. They also sought to disseminate the benefits of exercising the right to know throughout society, to strengthen civil society's demand for access to information.

Currently, the **Collective** is made up of eleven organizations. Their agendas are diverse (including political rights, freedom of information, budget monitoring, environmental rights, social accountability, community development, and others). What brings them together is the commitment to advancing transparency and access to information as a core component of their own struggles. Throughout the development of their projects, each organization relies upon the right to access information; their experience informs the **Collective**'s mission.

Thus, each organization brings in firsthand knowledge of the state of ATI in their respective fields, along with connections to distinct sets of networks. As a coalition, they map a broader picture of the state of ATI, identify and address the main challenges, and speak with a stronger voice. Being part of the **Collective** lets members learn and share experiences, and even more important, increases their political capital. Each individual member's assessments and demands to authorities are backed and endorsed by a larger group of reputable organizations.

The **Collective** publishes a bi-monthly bulletin and maintains a website; conducts ATI trainings; produces materials to promote the use of the ATI mechanisms; collaborates in organizing a transparency fair in Mexico City, and organizes conferences. Also, the **Collective** actively engaged in the deliberative process that led to a constitutional reform establishing a set of standards for citizens in every Mexican state to exercise their right to access information.

Moreover, the **Collective** is a permanent watchdog for the right to ATI and the system that was set up to guarantee this right. When particular threats to this right have arisen — such as attempts to introduce damaging legal reforms — the **Collective** has responded through public statements and other advocacy activities. The **Collective** also closely scrutinizes the appointment of information commissioners, demanding that the candidates both meet the highest standards of expertise and are proven to be autonomous from government. Indeed, given the key role that the Information Commission plays in safeguarding the ATI regime and in promoting transparency policies and practices, the **Collective** focuses on protecting its autonomy, and to generating the conditions for its optimal operation.

**Governance mechanisms**

To facilitate joint work, the **Collective** has established a one-year rotating coordination under the responsibility of one of the member organizations, elected by all members. The Coordination is responsible for convening monthly meetings and following up on agreements; monitoring the implementation of the general annual operational plan; organizing urgent response actions; editing the bi-monthly bulletin; managing the fund for advocacy activities; and, of particular importance, publicly representing the **Collective** (unless an event calls for the specific expertise of a member organization).

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3 The member organizations are Alianza Cívica, Artículo 19, Centro Mexicano de Derecho Ambiental, Ciudadanos en Medios Democracia e Información, Cultura Ecológica, DECA- Equipo Pueblo, Fundar-Centro de Análisis e Investigación, Gestión Social y Cooperación GESOC, ONG Contraloría Ciudadana para la Rendir de Cuentas, Presencia Ciudadana Mexicana, and Sonora Ciudadana.
Generally, decisions are made by consensus. But the scope of decisions that need to be made throughout the year is limited, since the Collective engages in regular strategic planning — facilitated by professionals — to agree on priorities and objectives. A yearly operational plan is put in place, determining the Collective’s main activities. To promote rapid response, the Collective has agreed on clear and simple rules for issuing public statements. For example, for an urgent request for the endorsement of a statement, there is a 24 hour time frame for members to respond, and an agreement that a 50% + 1 positive response is all that is needed for the Collective’s endorsement.

Additionally, internal committees have been set up to carry out substantive work. Currently, three committees address regulatory framework and litigation, implementation, and communications strategy.

The Collective is not a legally constituted entity; thus, finances are managed by the organization that is coordinating in any given year. The amount of funds the Collective has raised has varied widely throughout the years. In the early years, the initiative was supported by a grant from the Hewlett Foundation. The grant funded research and training activities in each organization, as well as a series of joint activities. In later years, even though the Collective did not receive additional grants, it continued its regular meetings and strategic campaigns. Recently, the Collective was the recipient of a grant supporting advocacy activities from the Open Society Foundation.

**Challenges and organizational learning**

The Collective’s current mode of governance is the result of a process of organizational learning throughout the years. During the early stages, the Collective’s priorities and strategies were clear. The main challenges had to do with governance: establishing ground rules for decision-making, the political representation of the Collective, and internal and external communications.

Moreover, the Collective has had to address other challenges that require political sensitivity and savvy on the part of both the Coordinator and the member organizations. For example, member organizations vary widely in terms of size, capacity, and what they are able to contribute to the coalition. Thus some organizations within the Collective have been more visible than others, and some less visible organizations have felt they are not getting the recognition they deserve.

To meet this challenge, the stronger organizations and the Coordinator openly discuss and carefully consider when to credit individual organizations vs. when to credit the Collective. Ultimately, the objective is to strengthen the Collective’s position and capacity and advance its own agenda to the point that it does not need to rely on the political capital of individual member organizations.

In this vein, another major challenge has been for member organizations to prioritize a shared transparency agenda over any individual benefit they might receive from participating in the Collective.

After its first five years, the Collective embarked on an evaluation exercise, in which it identified several indicators of success:

- The mere fact that the Collective continues operating;
- The orderly shifting of coordination duties from one organization to the other from year to year;
- An efficient membership process (some organizations may leave and others can join without disrupting Collective activities);
- The Collective is increasingly being recognized as an important contributor to the debate of the transparency and ATI agenda.

The Collective’s contribution is clearly visible in its participation in Mexico City’s Round Tables for...
Transparency. The Collective has helped shape this institutionalized mechanism, which has clear guidelines, includes high level actors, and has a clear role in defining the type and format of information that the government of Mexico City makes available.

Video: Fostering Collective Impact in Mexico

**A Community of Practice of Access to Information and Transparency Oversight Bodies: Latin America’s RTA Network**

The role of access to information (ATI) and transparency oversight bodies has gained increasing significance as the public attention moves increasingly away from enacting ATI and transparency legislation on to its implementation. There is a broad need for know-how about effective implementation, and the community of oversight bodies represents a critical source of knowledge. Networks can promote exchange of knowledge and experiences on ATI implementation amongst oversight bodies from different regions and countries that face similar challenges and opportunities. Networks can also serve as platforms for cooperation and for strengthening members’ capacities.

An emerging regional mechanism for knowledge exchange in this area is the Network of Access to Information and Transparency Oversight Bodies (RTA Network, by its Spanish name), which has support from a World Bank IDF grant. The network was established in April 2011, building upon a World Bank Institute-supported knowledge exchange between Mexico and Chile’s oversight bodies. The Network seeks to generate a regular space for dialogue, cooperation, and sharing knowledge and experiences. After a cooperative agreement was signed, initial meetings were held (September 2011 in Mexico City, and April 2012 in Santiago de Chile), and the RTA Network has become an independent network fully governed by its members. At the last meeting, the network approved membership rules and processes, and appointed the presidency and executive secretariat for the next three years.

The RTA Network’s founding members include Chile’s Council for Transparency; Mexico’s Federal Institute of Access to Information and Data Protection; Peru’s Ombudsman Office; Uruguay’s Unit of Access to Information; and Bolivia’s Ministry of Transparency and Anticorruption. Recently, Brazil’s General Comptroller’s Office (Ombudsman) became a full member and Santa Fe Provincial Directorate for Transparency and Anticorruption (Argentina) became an associate member.

The network uses an online platform (www.redrta.org) to share information, hold online discussions, and conduct collaborative work. Four thematic working groups focus on
jurisprudence; indicators; training and dissemination; and records. The working groups are developing a database of jurisprudence and administrative criteria, and conducting an assessment on the gaps between laws and regulations and actual practice in member countries. The network produces a weekly newsletter (including two special issues on open government), has presented at the International Conference of Information Commissioners (Canada, October 2011), and has conducted an assessment of member capacity and needs. Furthermore, the RTA Network has developed knowledge exchanges between member countries, including a workshop held in Uruguay (2011), a Chile study tour for a Brazilian Delegation (2012), and an exchange workshop between Chile and Peru (2012). Also, the Network is exploring potential opportunities with the Alianza Regional to collaborate with other civil society networks in Latin America.

Members are currently developing a multi-year action plan for consolidating the network and strengthening knowledge exchange. Activities envisioned for the near future include:

- Improving the network’s virtual platform
- Conducting VC and face-to-face workshops and seminars to share experiences and enhance the operation of the working groups,
- Setting up new working groups on relevant themes such as ICTs,
- Undertaking work related to the OAS’ model law on ATI
- Contributing to the OGP by producing a document on the role of ATI oversight bodies in the initiative.

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**EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES IN THE REGION**

**Past Events**

**2012 Social Accountability Grant Competition Sponsored by the World Bank Sustainable Development Network, May 22, 2012**

The 2012 Civil Society Fund focused on the theme of Social Accountability, meaning the engagement of citizens and CSOs with policy makers and service providers to ensure that public officials take responsibility for their actions, and that public institutions are responsive to citizens’ needs. It was open to CSOs working on issues related to Social Accountability in select countries in Africa and Middle East/North Africa. The 21 grant winners include 2 from Egypt, 5 from Morocco and 1 from Tunisia.

**Open Data, Open Government course at the World Bank in Washington, DC. May 10, 2012**

Adel Beznine, country coordinator for Tunisia in this Regional Dialogue presented on how Tunisia is approaching the open government agenda. He explained incipient initiatives and reform measures, and elaborated on the challenges and opportunities.
Upcoming Events


The MENA Health Policy Forum in collaboration with the World Bank is organizing a symposium that aims to improve governance of health systems in the MENA region through: aligning research and policy agendas; empowering key decision-makers across sectors to foster innovative ways of collaborating for transformational change; and supporting regional and national cross-sectoral alliances to increase transparency and accountability. The symposium will include multistakeholder dialogues, talks that illuminate diverse national perspectives, information exchange and knowledge sharing, and networking. Policy makers, civil society organizations, academics and researchers, private sector and the media from around the MENA region will attend the event.

Northern Africa Sub-Regional Consultation on the Draft Model Law for African Union Member States on Access to Information, June 16-17, 2012, Tunis, Tunisia

This regional event is organized by Commissioner Pansy Tlakula, the Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Expression and Access to Information in Africa, in partnership with the Center for Human Rights, University of Pretoria, South Africa and UNESCO.


Rio+20 provides an opportunity for a re-invigorated commitment to a new institutional framework for sustainable development. The Access Initiative, the United Nations Environment Programme, Fundacion Getulio Vargas in Brazil, Article 19, United Nations Institute for Training and Research, International Network for Environmental Compliance and Enforcement, European Environment Agency, and others are organizing a one day Sustainable Development Governance Conference to explore ways of strengthening governance mechanisms, at national and regional levels, to improve the institutional framework for sustainable development. The meeting will convene approximately 250 people from around the world, representing governments, ATI partners, regional and international institutions, civil society, media, academia, and the private sector. For more information, go to: http://www.accessinitiative.org/.

Other Resources


Freedominfo: Tunisian Government’s new directives to regulate public access to government information: http://www.freedominfo.org/2012/05/directive-in-tunisia-to-facilitate-publishing-of-government-data/
Regional Dialogue on Supporting Coalitions and Networking to Advance ATI in MNA

One of the key pillars of the World Bank’s (WB) support in the Middle East and North Africa region consists of strengthening the governance framework, working with both State and non-State actors. Efforts with non-State actors focus principally on opening government to the people, while strengthening the capacities of these actors to enhance transparency, public participation, and accountability.

In this context, the WB is supporting The Affiliated Network for Social Accountability – Arab World (ANSA-AW). ANSA-AW is a platform for constructive dialogue and knowledge exchanges on transparency and social accountability issues across multiple stakeholders. As part of its activities, ANSA-AW has held various regional workshops and consultations where access to information (ATI) emerged as a priority among participating countries.

To strengthen the capacities of stakeholders in the region to advance ATI reforms, the World Bank Institute and the Social Development Department at the World Bank’s Middle East and North Africa Vice-presidency, in partnership with ANSA-AW are supporting the emergence of a regional community of practice focused on ATI issues through facilitating the Regional Dialogue on Supporting Coalitions and Networking to Advance ATI in MNA. In this first stage, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco and Tunisia are participating; the second stage will bring opportunities to expand the Dialogue to other countries. Additionally, WB will support multistakeholder coalitions in participating countries. International experience demonstrates that multistakeholder coalitions have been key in sparking the demand for ATI while engaging with government in the drafting and passing of ATI laws. These coalitions can also play a crucial role in supporting effective implementation of ATI legislation. Furthermore, knowledge exchanges through the Regional Dialogue will contribute to strengthen the capacity of country coalitions.

The Regional Dialogue consists of a series of knowledge exchanges through videoconferences, as well as in-country sessions aimed at practitioners from both the supply and demand sides of ATI: civil society practitioners, journalists, academia, government officials, MPs, etc.

CONTACTS

World Bank MNA Vice-presidency, Social Development Department:
Mariana Felicio – mfelicio@worldbank.org
Najat Yamouri – nyamouri@worldbank.org

World Bank Institute
Marcos Mendiburu - mmendiburu@worldbank.org
Luis Esquivel - lesquivel@worldbank.org

Affiliated Network for Social Accountability – Arab World
Noura Wahby - nwahby@egypt.care.org

JORDAN - Amman Center for Human Rights Studies
Yahia Shukkeir & Nizam Assaf – achrs@achrs.org

LEBANON - The Lebanese Transparency Association
Imad Mhanna - imhanna@transparency-lebanon.org
Dany Haddad - dhaddad@transparency-lebanon.org

MOROCCO - Transparency Maroc
Amine Chafai Alaoui - tmaction@transparencymaroc.ma

TUNISIA - Association Tunisienne des Libertés Numériques
Adel Beznine – abeznine@gmail.com

Regional coordination - Transparency Maroc
Saad Filali Meknassi – saadfi21@hotmail.com