Programme for Innovation in Governance and Public Administration in the Euro-Mediterranean Region and the UN Millennium Development Goals

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The UN Millennium Declaration

At the Millennium Summit, Heads of State and Government have reaffirmed their commitment to uphold **fundamental values**, including:

- Freedom
- Equality
- Solidarity
- Tolerance
- Respect for nature
- Shared responsibility
The UN Millennium Declaration and its Goals

In order to translate these shared values into action, key objectives of special significance have been identified:

1. Peace, security and disarmament
2. Development and poverty eradication
3. Environment protection
4. Human rights, democracy, and good governance
5. Protecting the vulnerable
6. Meeting the special needs of Africa
7. Strengthening the United Nations
Critical issues in achieving the Millennium Development Goals:

The UN Millennium Declaration and its goals, including sustainable development, cannot be implemented unless countries focus on:

- **Strengthening democratic governance**
- **Building an innovative and effective public administration**
- **Promoting partnerships**
1. Strengthening democratic governance

Greater public participation in government’s affairs is fundamental to ensure that sustainable development goals are met. It is necessary to:

- Foster democracy and respect for human rights
- Promote the rule of law
- Fight corruption
- Ensure transparency and accountability
- Establish innovative participatory mechanisms
2. Building an innovative and effective public administration

a) Institutions

Improving the functioning of State institutions by modernizing their operations is essential for making democracy work. This refers to:

- Legislative bodies
- Judiciary
- Executive branch
2. Building an innovative and effective public administration (Contd.)

b) Human Resources Development

Because leaders and civil servants are responsible for innovation, reforms and provision of services, the performance of States depends on their talent and capabilities, such as:

• Commitment and motivation
• Knowledge, know-how and skills
• Attitudes and behaviour
• Outward orientation
2. Building an innovative and effective public administration (Contd.)

c) Knowledge, innovation and technology (KIT)

KIT are instrumental to improve the operations of the public sector and enhance efficiency, service delivery, participation and partnerships. This requires the creation of an enabling environment through:

- Creating the necessary regulatory framework
- Changing the organizational culture
- Ensuring technological conditions
- Identifying key stakeholders
2. Building an innovative and effective public administration (Contd.)

d) Financial capacity

Without adequate resources, even the most courageous reform cannot be implemented. Strategies to mobilize and use resources efficiently requires:

- Strong political commitment
- Planning and innovative financing mechanisms
- Efficient management
- Effective tax administration system (simplification, transparency, technical competence)
3. Promoting partnerships

• The State cannot confront on its own all of the challenges that are posed by modern societies, nor is it desirable.

• Partnerships between the State, the private sector and civil society in seeking solutions to development challenges are considered an essential ingredient for a public administration that is concerned with sustainable development.

• Public administration should have the capacity and pre-disposition to design and adopt strategies to promote innovative solutions to create partnerships.
What are the objectives of the InnovMed Programme?

Within the framework of the United Nations’ efforts to promote economic and social development, the Programme has been established:

- To contribute to the improvement of governance systems in Northern Africa, in selected countries of the Middle East and the Balkan region through sharing of best practices and exchange of knowledge and information, pilot projects and a Network of Innovators;

- To provide policy makers, experts and citizens in general with relevant regional knowledge and information on governance.

- To foster greater cooperation between the Mediterranean region and European administrative systems in order to foster a common area of prosperity and development.
Who implements the InnovMed Programme?

• The Programme is implemented by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, through its Division for Public Administration and Development Management (DPADM), with the support of Formez – Training and Study Centre, Italy and in line with the activities of CAIMED, a common service provided by UNDESA and Formez.

• The Programme is made possible by the generous support of the Italian Government through Funds in Trust to the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs.
Framework of Action for the Implementation of the Programme

Phase 1. Assessment of the state of the art of public administration and governance in the Euro-Mediterranean region. This aims at assisting interested governments in identifying challenges and needs concerning in the reform process of governance and public administration.

Phase 2. Identification of national, regional and sub-regional priorities and establishment of a framework of action for the promotion of exchange of innovative experiences.
Phase 3. Sharing of best practices in public administration at the national, sub-regional and regional levels through meetings, the programme’s portal, and establishment of a network of innovators.

Phase 4. Identification of strategies and criteria to implement best practices. This will include preparation of guidelines for the transfer of innovation processes through conceptualisation and elaboration of tools and methods for the assessment and implementation of best practices.
Phase 5. Identification of best practices in the region with potential of transferability. This will include the identification of a limited number of pilot projects to be implemented in selected countries to test transferability of best practices concerning innovation processes; and

Phase 6. Evaluation and dissemination of the results of the project and rewarding innovation in public administration through the conferment of the Innovation in Public Administration Awards.
Services

• Research and analytical tools on governance in the region, including national and regional reports on governance and other publications;

• Online information services, including information on needs assessment, best practices, lessons learned in public administration in the region;

• Advocacy and conference services;

• Regional directory services, including databases on relevant documentation, experts in public administration and governance in the region and an inventory of governance programmes;

• Online studies and training materials on methodologies for the selection and transfer of best practices;

• Pilot projects in selected countries,

• Establishment of a Network of Innovators in the MED region,

• Establishment of the Awards for Innovation in Public Administration in the Mediterranean Region.
Beneficiary Countries

Direct beneficiaries of this programme, in terms of needs assessment, training, pilot projects and tools, include the following countries:

- Albania
- Algeria
- Bosnia Herzegovina
- Croatia
- Egypt
- Federation of Serbia and Montenegro
- Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
- Jordan
- Lebanon
- Libya
- Morocco
- Palestinian National Authority
- Syria
- Tunisia
- Turkey