



International Telecommunication Union

*Telecommunication Development Bureau*

**“Assistance and Capacity Building on Regulatory Aspects, Legislative Reforms and Control of Telecom Equipment for Regulators in the Arab LDCs and LICs”**

<b>Location(s)</b>	Countries in the Arab Region
<b>Expected duration</b>	2 years
<b>Estimated Budget</b>	Total: <b>USD 160,000</b>
<b>Implementing Agency</b>	International Telecommunication Union (ITU)
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**Brief Description:**

The aim of this project is to provide assistance and strengthen the Human and Institutional Capacity of selected Regulatory Authorities in some LDCs and LICs in the Arab Region in areas of Regulation, Legislative Reforms and Control of Telecom Equipment. The main objective of this HCB is to boost the development of the ICT markets in these countries. The HCB activities of the project will target existing Regulators and in some countries LDCs the Administrations in charge of regulation.

**1. BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT**

Full and inclusive access to ICT services has the potential to generate economic growth and wider social benefits such as more competitive economies, social inclusive growth and more equitable development. Improving ICT accessibility is especially critical for remote and rural societies. Competitive markets, increased penetration of telecommunications, greater usage of Internet and

generally lowering the telecommunications services tariffs. These developments have coincided with greater investment in regulatory and legislative frameworks and institution building.

A skilled and trained workforce will enable the region to develop this vibrant knowledge society and use the ICTs as main driver for sustainable development.

While most Arab countries have set up their regulation authorities and provided them with the necessary means to be able to follow the rapid development and play their role properly, other countries expressed the need for assistance to establish or upgrade their regulators.

## **2. Overall Objective**

The objective of this project is to provide assistance and strengthen the Human and Institutional capacity of the selected regulation authorities and Administrations in charge of Regulation in the Arab Region in various relevant areas of Regulation, Legislative Reforms and Control of Telecom Equipment. Specifically, the project aims at providing assistance and developing and delivering the human and institutional capacity activities in areas of:

- Legislative Reforms necessary for the introduction of 3G and 4G networks;
- Control of telecom equipment and terminals including the establishment of procedures and test reports documents for type approval and conformity.
- migration to Future networks (specifications, Policy and regulation);
- Numbering Plan administration, and transforming from the PSTN to the IP mapping and addressing;
- Regulation of the Interconnection

## **3. Project Strategy**

Based on the above objectives, the project will aim to utilize the regional and ITU resources to provide assistance and develop specific training resources for each beneficiary country. These resources may be countries experiences training facilities, human expertise and content.

The focus for the Human and Institutional Capacity Building activities that will be implemented under this project will be guided by the global objective of creating an enabling environment conducive to ICT development and foster the deployment of telecommunication/ICT networks

## **4. Expected Results**

- Activities on the review of the current legislative situation in the selected countries and suggestions on the Reforms necessary for the introduction of 3G and 4G networks;

- Training successfully completed on the establishment of procedures and test reports documents for type approval and conformity
- Training successfully completed and Assistance provided in the elaboration of the migration plan to the Future networks
- Technical support provided on the Numbering Plan administration
- Assistance provided in Regulation of the Interconnection

## 5. Indicators

- Report on the review of the current legislative situation and recommendations on the necessary Reforms provided for each selected country.
- At least one training program developed and delivered for each selected country

## 6. Activities

The following key activities will be undertaken:

- Identification of the resource requirements to be mobilized under the project;
- Hiring of experts and consultants for content development and training delivery;
- Provide assistance and Conduct trainings in the respective areas in response to the identified needs;
- Monitoring and evaluation of project implementation;

## 7. Inputs

The project implementation will depend on the successful mobilization of resources (human, material and financial). It is envisaged that the project will require funding to the tune of **USD 160,000**.

### ITU:

Cash contribution from ICT-DF and OP

IN-KIND CONTRIBUTION: ITU will provide skills, Identifying experts and consultants in the region to work with and care and diligence to ensure the success of the project.

### Beneficiary Countries:

IN-KIND CONTRIBUTION: Assist in identifying regional needs, Hosting-training programs conducted under the project; and Promoting the program in the region.

### Partners:

Cash CONTRIBUTION: The Partners will provide funding support for the implementation of the project.

## 8. Risks

The risks include failure to raise the funding resources required to finance this project. This risk could be mitigated by using the ITU wide network of partners through which this project could be sold. ITU also has in-house capabilities for fundraising activities and it is the intention to activate these capabilities for this project.

Furthermore, political instability in the Region may militate against resource mobilization efforts or even implementation. Also, lack of support for the project at national and regional level may hamper the implementation.

## 9. Sustainability

A train-the-trainers component could be incorporated in the project implementation to ensure that an Adequate regional capability will be developed within the region.

## 10. Management

The project will be managed by the ITU Project Manager in close collaboration with country counterparts and partners yet to be identified, as well as representatives from regional organizations and some beneficiary countries.

The ITU shall be the implementing agency, and shall be responsible for the recruitment of experts.

## 11. Budget

The proposed budget of the project is \$ USD **160,000** and this includes expert recruitment's, training materials developments and travel.

## 12. Work Plan

ACTIVITIES	2016	2017	2018
Identification of the resource requirements to be mobilized under the project	S2		
Hiring of experts and consultants for content development and training delivery;		S1 + S2	
Conduct trainings in the respective areas in response to the identified needs		S2	S1