



Financial Inclusion MENA Newsletter

Published by GIZ on behalf of the BMZ and the European Union

[Click here](#), if email is not shown correctly.

Issue No. 9
Q3 2017



Dear Reader,

The previous months took place in the spirit of exploring and promoting. At the 2017 AFI Global Policy Forum in Egypt we have been exploring our host's journey in financial inclusion and the rapidly evolving landscape of the Arab region.

The event brought to life new global and regional financial inclusion initiatives. The 'Sharm El Sheikh Climate Change Accord' will move forward the international dialogue on financial inclusion and green finance.

The Arab World's very own highlight at the biggest GPF ever was the launch of the Financial Inclusion for the Arab Region Initiative (FIARI) in the presence of President of Egypt. Under FIARI, AMF, AFI and GIZ take their partnership to the next level to enhance regional knowledge exchange and peer-learning among policymakers and regulators, capacity building, and support of national financial inclusion policies. We strive to empower our joint Arab partners in promoting their societies' access to finance and sustainable development.

In Egypt, we have also been on the quest about the role of data in supporting policymaking. Jordan, for example, in preparation of the strategy to promote financial inclusion just announced key findings from a new study about the state of financial inclusion.

Find out more about these and other updates in this edition of our newsletter.

Sincerely yours,
Hayder Al-Bagdadi

Feature: the Global Policy Forum and the Financial Inclusion for the Arab Region Initiative (FIARI)



EXPLORING
DIVERSITY,
PROMOTING

Subscription

[Subscribe to this Newsletter](#)

Upcoming Conferences and Training

Nov 1-3, 2017

Global SME Finance Forum
Berlin, Germany

[More...](#)

Nov 7-8, 2017

Sanabel 2017 Conference
Beirut, Lebanon

[More...](#)

Nov 19-21, 2017

Venture Finance in the Arab World – Accelerating Arab Startups
Skhirat, Morocco

Nov 29-Dec 1, 2017

European Microfinance Week
Luxembourg City, Luxembourg

[More...](#)

Dec 4-5, 2017

Financial Inclusion Policy Forum

The Launch of the Financial Inclusion Strategy for Jordan: Moving Forward Towards Inclusive Growth
Amman, Jordan

More Arabic news

Visit [CGAP's Arabic Microfinance Gateway](#) and [read their monthly bulletin](#) or follow @ArabicMFG

Publications



INCLUSION
THE 2017 AFI GLOBAL POLICY FORUM
 13-15 SEPTEMBER
 SHARM EL SHEIKH, EGYPT

For the first time, the Global Policy Forum for financial inclusion took place in the Arab region; co-hosted by the Central Bank of Egypt. At this event, FIARI was launched in the presence of President of Egypt.

AMF, GIZ, and AFI Launch Financial Inclusion in the Arab Region Initiative (FIARI)



The regional platform aims to help accelerate conducive policies and actions for enhancing Arab societies' access to finance as a driver of sustainable development. [Read more...](#)

FIARI: A Promising Institutional Innovation for the Benefit of the Financially Excluded



FIARI opens a new window of opportunity for Arab countries. Its contribution to improving the lives of vulnerable groups would be the acid test of the success of FIARI. [Read more...](#)

Introducing the Sharm El Sheikh Climate Change Accord

The accord aims to foster peer-learning on policy solutions to address financial inclusion, climate change and green finance. [Read more...](#)

Egypt's Financial Inclusion Journey: at Cross-Roads



The 9th GPF provided numerous insights into the journeys in financial inclusion and the rapidly evolving landscapes of Egypt and the entire region. [Read more...](#)

Financial Inclusion De-Risking and the Role of Global Policy-Makers

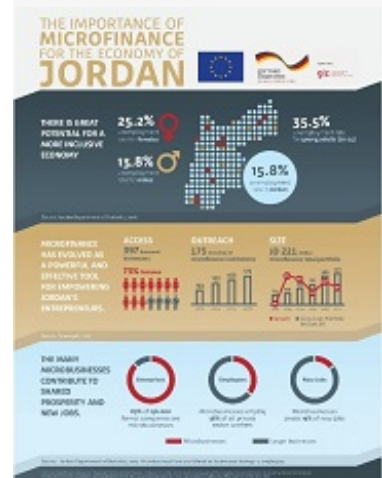


Financial inclusion efforts in the MENA region are confronted with the global



Microfinance in the MENA Region: Financial Inclusion Empowerment Programme

GIZ [More...](#) (English)



The Importance of Microfinance for the Economy of Jordan

GIZ [View...](#) (English)



Money, Decisions, and Control: Building Digital Financial Services That Help Poor Customers Cope and Strategize

Consultative Group to Assist the Poor (CGAP)



trend of financial institutions reducing risk exposure related to money laundering and terror financing. [Read more...](#)

On the Quest for Making the Invisible Visible



Data allows to explore the diversity of societies, financial means, and needs, make the invisible visible and bring smart policies to life. [Read more...](#)

What Really Matters: Sustainable Development



FIARI aims to empower Arab countries on the path to sustainable development. Policymakers deliberated on the nexus of financial inclusion and SDGs. [Read more...](#)

Transforming Lives of FDPs Through Financial Inclusion



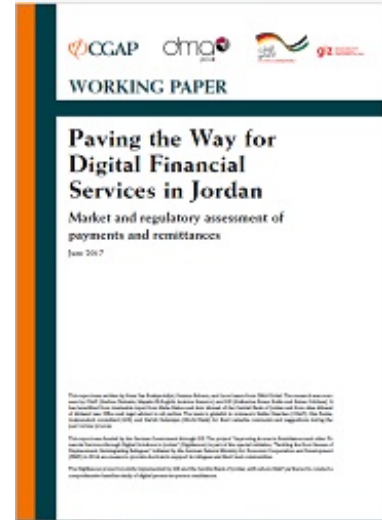
Adequate access to financial services enables FDPs to improve their resilience. Panelists elaborated on the core issue of regulations and identification. [Read more...](#)

The Best of the New Kids on the Block!



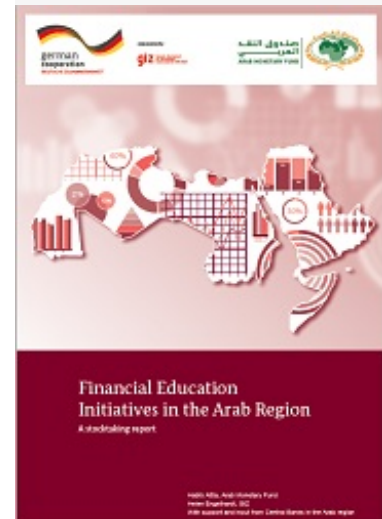
The Central Bank of Jordan received AFI's Award for the Best Newcomer in the global network of financial inclusion policymakers. [Read more...](#)

[Read more...](#) (English)



Paving the Way for Digital Financial Services in Jordan: Market and Regulatory Assessment of Payments and Remittances

Consultative Group to Assist the Poor (CGAP) and GIZ [More...](#) (English)



Financial Education Initiatives in the Arab Region: A Stocktaking Report
GIZ and Arab Monetary Fund (AMF) [More...](#) (English)



Further Programme News

Behind the Numbers

VIDEO: Financial Inclusion Empowerment in Jordan - The Stories of Nisreen and Hiba



[Watch Video ...](#)

“I Am Someone Who Always Finds Her Way”



Nisreen's Journey from a Refugee Camp to the Store Owner She Is Today

[Read more...](#)

“The Women Who Come Here Show Me That I Am Succeeding”



Hiba's Story of Pioneering Womens' Fitness in Ma'an [Read more...](#)

Financial Inclusion Strategy & Data

CBJ and GIZ Study Informs About Financial Inclusion in Jordan



Only 33% of people, 27% of women, has an account, while 38% is completely formally excluded. Disparities are remaining particularly for the youth, women, refugees, and low-income segments.

[Press Release...\(English\)](#)

[Press Release...\(Arabic\)](#)

Microfinance

Savings Needs: Prospects and Requirements for Deposit-Taking MFIs



What is needed to provide the poor with sufficient savings opportunities and what is the role of a central bank?

[Read more...](#)



National Coordination and Leadership Structure

Alliance for Financial Inclusion (AFI)

[More...](#) (English)



Financial Inclusion of Forcibly Displaced Persons: Perspectives of Financial Regulators

Alliance for Financial Inclusion (AFI)

[More...](#) (English)

2017 Financial Inclusion
Action Plan
July 2017



G20 Financial Inclusion Action Plan (FIAP) 2017

G20

[More...](#) (English)

Archive

[Issue no. 8](#)

[Issue no. 7](#)

[Issue no. 6](#)

[Issue no. 5](#)

[Issue no. 4](#)

[Issue no. 3](#)

[Issue no. 2](#)

[Issue no. 1](#)



Microfinance

Licensing Microfinance Institutions in Jordan



By licensing and regulating MFIs in Jordan, the Central Bank will contribute to financial system stability aligned with financial inclusion goals. [Read more...](#)

Potential for Growth of Micro-Enterprises - Evidence from MFIs in Jordan



Only 13.7% of micro-enterprises grew into small and medium-sized projects in Jordan, which leaves considerable potential for MFIs. [Read more...](#)

Protection of Financial Consumer

Consumer Counselling: the PMA Studies Bosnia & Herzegovina's Success Story



A Palestine Monetary Authority delegation studies Bosnia and Herzegovina's success story of consumer counseling to enhance PMA's consumer relations halls. [Read more...](#)

Regional News

Digital Financial Services

Paving the Way for Digital Financial Services in Jordan

A new GIZ-CGAP study informs about the Jordanian remittances market, development pilots and challenges. [Read more...](#)

'Keep Charging on and Move Forward'

Jordan is one of the first countries in the world to reach an advanced level in the field of electronic payment services.

[Read more...](#)

Financial Education

Stocktaking of Financial Education Initiatives in the Arab Region

Many financial education initiatives have sought to empower people at the national and regional levels. A stocktaking.

[Read more \(Arabic\)...](#)

Microfinance

Financing Egypt's Missing Middle

Egypt has reduced the number of unbanked people. Yet, many will not gain access to finance, if the "missing middle" continues to be overlooked.

[Read more...](#)

International News

Invest In a Process, Not a Transaction: Lessons Learned on Linking Business Savings Groups to Banks

[Read more...](#)

[top](#)

Big Data, Financial Inclusion and Privacy for the Poor

[Read more...](#)

Youth Building Peace: What's the Role of Financial Inclusion?

[Read more...](#)

Registration information

Deutsche Gesellschaft für
Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

Registered offices

Bonn and Eschborn, Germany

Friedrich-Ebert-Allee 36 + 40
53113 Bonn, Germany
Phone: +49 228 44 60-0
Fax: +49 228 44 60-17 66

Dag-Hammarskjöld-Weg 1-5
65760 Eschborn, Germany
Phone: +49 61 96 79-0
Fax: +49 61 96 79-11 15

Email: info@giz.de
Internet: www.giz.de

Registered at

Local court (Amtsgericht) Bonn, Germany: HRB 18384
Local court (Amtsgericht) Frankfurt am Main, Germany: HRB 12394

VAT no. DE 113891176
Tax no. 040 250 56973

Chairman of the Supervisory Board

Dr Friedrich Kitschelt, State Secretary

Management Board

Tanja Gönner (Chair)
Dr Christoph Beier (Vice-Chair)
Dr Hans-Joachim Preuß
Cornelia Richter

If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, please click [here](#).

In charge of this newsletter:

[Hayder Al-Bagdadi](#)

Editor(s):

[Ala'a Al-Hyari](#)

[Armin Satzger](#)

[Atilla Kaiser-Yuecel](#)

The programme is carried out with funding by the European Union and by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Disclaimer](#) | [Contact](#) | [Recommend this newsletter](#) | www.giz.de