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Issue no. 12

Financial Inclusion MENA Newsletter



By GIZ for the Promotion of Financial Inclusion in the MENA region on behalf of the BMZ and EU.

Dear reader,



The **Findex III** results released in April this year, as well as the critical debate revolving around them, have made clear that there is yet potential towards meaningful, universal financial inclusion of the people we serve.

In that sense, we are pleased to have intensified the collaboration with our international cooperation partners and regional partner governments under the FIARI Initiative with the aim to boost conducive financial inclusion policies for the benefit of Arab societies.

We would like to provide you in this newsletter edition with the recent news from the region and are excited to move on to the next milestones ahead of us.

Yours sincerely,
Hayder Al-Bagdadi

Supporting Finance for All in Jordan



Access to and usage of financial services is on the rise, but there is still a lot of potential for financial inclusion with only:

infographic

Infographic - Supporting Finance for All in Jordan.

[English infographic...](#)

Project News

Microfinance and Electronic Marketing

Approaching non-classical customers requires non-classical approach, therefore, the DEF has recently introduced new electronic tools such as website updates, social media and electronic payment that facilitates debt servicing and improves collection.



[Read more...](#)

Finance 101: The Rise of Financially Capable Generations

While financial institutions expand their services, increasingly digitally, research suggests that only one in four adults is capable of using them wisely. Jordan has a flagship program that holds promise for financial education to gain a strong foothold.



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More Arabic News

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

Upcoming events

Regional Microfinance Supervisors Roundtable by GIZ
Coming soon
Amman (Jordan)

AFI Global Policy Forum
5 – 7 September 2018
Sochi (Russia)
[More...](#)

Facilitating the Implementation of the IFSB Standards (FIS) Workshop – Banking Sector

[Read more...](#)

Co-founders Strategize for the “Financial Inclusion for the Arab Region Initiative”

The founders of the FIARI initiative coordinated their efforts for honing conducive financial inclusion policies in Arab countries.

[Read more...](#)



GIZ 2018

The National Committee for Financial Inclusion in Palestine Meets for the First Time



GIZ 2018

In their first meeting, the regulators discussed the latest progresses in the adoption of the Financial Inclusion national strategy, and the approval of the National Committee Terms of Reference.

[Read more...](#)

2 – 5 September 2018
Abu Dhabi (UAE)

[More...](#)

Banking And Finance Congress 2018 Accelerating Digital Thriving Amidst Digital Disruption

12 September 2018
Cairo (Egypt)

[More...](#)

Financial Inclusion Week

29 October – 2 November 2018

[More...](#)

From Sustainable to Responsible; Our Vision Forward - Sanabel

6-7 November 2018
Amman (Jordan)

[More...](#)



Regional News

Closing the Gap: Women Empowerment through DFS

Levering the power of DFS. New GIZ initiative aims to empower women to close the financial inclusion gap with their own hands.

[Read more...](#)



Banque Centrale de Tunisie joins AFI

Financial inclusion is an important objective of the Banque Centrale de Tunisie, with an overarching goal of providing affordable, responsible and sustainable access to regulated



Publications



Transforming Microfinance Institutions in the Arab World
Cooperation of Sanabel, IFC
Ministry of Economic Affairs



Transforming Microfinance Institutions in the Arab World
Sanabel and International Finance Corporation (IFC)

[More...](#)

financial services for the population.

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A Digital Finance Desert Or Oasis?

While much of the developing world has registered some gains in financial inclusion, countries in the region remain disappointingly consistent in the rate of financial services adoption, according to the latest 2017 Findex edition.



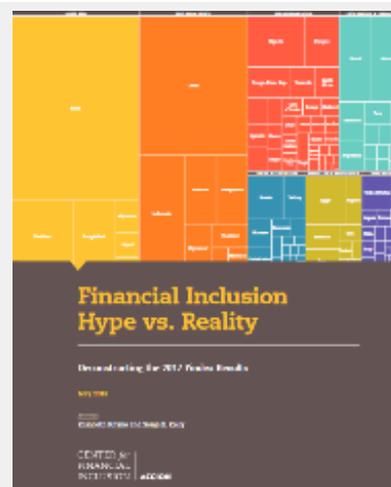
[Read more...](#)

A New Economy for the MENA

Economies of the region have vast untapped potential with their educated and tech-savvy youth population and with a shift from public- to private-sector-led development, they could become digital powerhouses.



[Read more...](#)



Financial Inclusion Hype vs. Reality – Deconstructing the 2017 Findex Results

Center for Financial Inclusion (CFI)

[More...](#)



Global News

Why Financial Regulators are Vital in the Global Forced Displacement Crisis

Challenges such as verifiable identification and proportionate risk assessments continue to impede the progress in increasing FDPs' access to financial services that meet their needs.



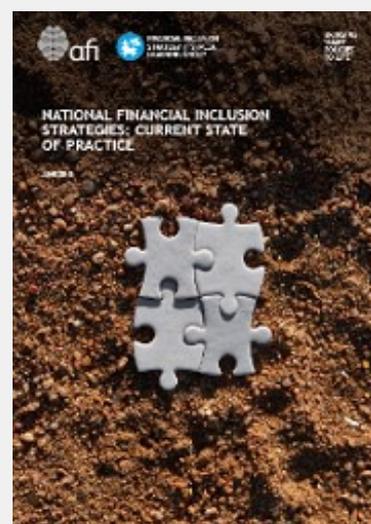
[Read more...](#)

Achieving Financial Inclusion: Fintech, account usage, and innovation

Creating a financial system that works for all and opens the doors to greater stability and equitable progress, writes Queen Maxima, requires to focus more on the usage dimension, close the most pressing gaps, and hone financial technologies.

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Publications



National Financial Inclusion Strategies: Current State of Practice

Alliance for Financial Inclusion (AFI)

[More...](#)

CGAP Launches New Five-Year Strategy

Under its new strategy 2018-2023, CGAP shifts emphasis from financial access toward wellbeing, a focus on excluded segments, exploration of market infrastructures, and understanding of the role of data in financial inclusion.

[Read more...](#)



**World Refugee Fund 2018
Impact Report - Lessons
learned on lending to refugees
and internally displaced
persons**

kiva
[More...](#)



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