



Call for Consultants
*Expert Facilitators for the Digital Democracy
Learning Communities of Practice Webinars*

Location: Remote (Preference for MENA-based consultants).

Type: Short-Term Consultancy.

Duration: June 30 - July 8, 2026.

Application Deadline: June 22, 2026.

Context

About Innovation for Change MENA

Innovation for Change (I4C) is a global decentralised network of CSOs, Activists, Technologists, and Journalists, running through seven Innovation Hubs around the world, inspired by ideas, methods, and technologies from across sectors, to create solutions that drive positive social change.

As part of the Innovation for Change (I4C) global network, The Stichting Innovation for Change Middle East and North Africa Incorporation (I4C MENA Hub) was established in 2017 as a network of people and organizations who connect, collaborate, interchange ideas, innovations, and resources, and learn together for a conjoint purpose of opening the Civic Space and overcome restrictions to civil freedoms of assembly, association, and speech in the MENA region. ([Read more](#) about I4C MENA).

About the Digital Democracy Initiative (DDI) in MENA (DDI MENA)

The Digital Democracy Initiative (DDI) in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region emerged from a recognition of the urgent need to strengthen digital civic space and support civil society actors in navigating the challenges and opportunities of rapid digital transformation.

During its pilot phase (DDI MENA Year 1), the initiative undertook a comprehensive mapping of the regional digital democracy ecosystem, engaging more than 140 civil society actors across the MENA region. This process identified critical structural and emerging challenges affecting civic actors' ability to safely, effectively, and sustainably engage in digital civic participation actions.

Through a participatory and co-design methodology, DDI MENA Year 1 collaboratively developed two innovative prototypes aimed at strengthening digital democracy ecosystems through improved financial and non-financial resourcing mechanisms. These prototypes were intentionally designed to be community-led, context-sensitive, and responsive to the unique socio-political realities of the MENA region, ensuring relevance, ownership, and adaptability.

About the DDI MENA Year 2 strategic focus

Building on the learning, evidence, and partnerships established during DDI MENA Year 1, Innovation for Change Middle East and North Africa (I4C MENA) is launching the second year of its flagship Digital Democracy Initiative (DDI MENA Year 2). ([Read more](#) about I4C DDI MENA).

The DDI MENA Year 2 initiative seeks to move beyond diagnosis and experimentation (Year 1) toward implementation, learning, and scaling of community-driven solutions that enhance civic resilience and democratic participation in digital spaces in the MENA region.

About the position:

As part of DDI MENA Year 2's non-financial resourcing mechanism, I4C MENA is convening Digital Democracy Learning Communities of Practice (CoPs) to foster sustained peer learning, collaboration, and collective problem-solving around priority digital democracy challenges in the region. These Communities of Practice are designed to connect practitioners, activists, and experts working on shared thematic areas and to support continuous learning through facilitated working groups and periodic thematic exchanges. (For more information, please check the [CoPs Terms of Reference](#)).

I4C MENA is seeking **Expert Facilitators** to **facilitate and deliver a workshop or open learning circle discussion for one of the DDI MENA Y2's Learning Communities of Practice** (CoPs are listed below).

Note 1:

Each expert facilitator will be recruited to **facilitate 1 to 2 thematic online workshops or open learning circles discussions for one of the DDI MENA Y's CoPs**, proposing a methodology that creates a structured peer exchange, discussion, and collective learning experience and space for the DDI MENA Y2's consortium members and local collaborators.

Note 2:

For the format, the online workshop or open learning circle discussion is expected to be delivered via Zoom with the use of interactive methodologies and exercises (including the use of tools like [Miro Boards](#), etc). I4C MENA Hub expects each online session to be no longer than **1h 30m**.

Note 3:

The available and allocated remuneration for each session is **150 USD** (VAT included). (This includes the session's slides and facilitation plan, and the delivery of the session).

The DDI MENA Y2's CoPs

- Civic Technology and Accountability
- Cybersecurity, Data Protection, and Digital Safety
- Digital Rights, Online Freedoms, and Legislative Advocacy
- Inclusive Civic Participation and Countering Technology-Facilitated Gender-Based Violence

(For more information, please check the [CoPs Terms of Reference](#)).

Objectives of the CoPs**The Civic Technology and Accountability CoP aims to:**

- Create a safe and collaborative space for peer exchange on civic technology and accountability practices in the MENA region.
- Explore how digital tools can support transparency, citizen engagement, public oversight, participatory decision-making, and social accountability.
- Identify context-specific challenges faced by civil society actors using civic technology in restrictive environments.
- Share practical tools, case studies, methodologies, and lessons learned from local and regional initiatives.

- Encourage collaboration between civil society actors, civic technologists, researchers, and accountability practitioners.
- Generate knowledge products and recommendations that can inform DDI MENA programming and the wider regional digital democracy ecosystem.

The Cybersecurity, Data Protection, and Digital Safety CoP aims to:

- Strengthen peer exchange on digital safety challenges facing civil society actors in the MENA region.
- Promote practical, accessible, and context-sensitive cybersecurity and data protection practices.
- Support civil society actors in identifying risks related to surveillance, phishing, device security, platform safety, data handling, and online harassment.
- Share trusted tools, guides, methodologies, and referral pathways for digital safety support.
- Encourage collaboration between digital security practitioners, trainers, civil society organisations, and at-risk groups.
- Promote ethical, rights-based, and survivor-centred approaches to digital protection.

The Digital Rights, Online Freedoms, and Legislative Advocacy CoP aims to:

- Create a regional peer-learning space on digital rights and online freedoms.
- Support exchange on laws, policies, and regulatory trends affecting digital civic space in the MENA region.
- Strengthen civil society advocacy on rights-respecting digital governance.
- Share strategies for legislative monitoring, policy analysis, coalition-building, and advocacy campaigns.
- Identify opportunities for regional solidarity and coordinated advocacy.
- Generate practical recommendations for protecting online freedoms and enabling civic participation in digital spaces.

The Inclusive Civic Participation and Countering TFGVB CoP aims to:

- Create a safe and supportive peer-learning space for civil society actors working on inclusive civic participation and online safety.
- Explore barriers that prevent marginalised groups from safely and meaningfully participating in digital civic spaces.
- Share strategies to prevent, respond to, and document technology-facilitated gender-based violence and online harassment.
- Promote survivor-centred, trauma-informed, inclusive, and rights-based approaches.
- Strengthen collaboration among feminist groups, digital rights actors, human rights defenders, grassroots groups, and civic technologists.
- Identify practical recommendations for inclusive digital democracy programming in the MENA region.

Scope of work

Each consultant will work closely with the I4C MENA Hub team to deliver the following:

1. Propose, facilitate and deliver a thematic online workshop for one of the 4 CoPs.
2. Support learning documentation, capturing key discussion points and insights, and coordinating with the I4C MENA Hub to inform ongoing learning and engagement across the Communities of Practice.
3. Support outreach to underrepresented actors, including youth-led initiatives, women-led groups, informal collectives, and actors from underserved or restrictive contexts.

Deliverables

- Establishment and facilitation of four (4) thematic Digital Democracy Communities of Practice
- Facilitation of periodic thematic webinars and online discussions
- Session agendas and facilitation plans
- Brief summaries capturing key discussion points, insights, and learning outcomes from each CoP meeting

Qualifications and Experience

- Demonstrated experience in civic technology, social accountability, transparency, public participation, digital governance, open data, or related fields.
- Demonstrated experience facilitating Communities of Practice, working groups, or multi-stakeholder learning spaces;
- Strong understanding of digital democracy, digital rights, civic space, or civic technology, preferably in the MENA context;
- Experience working with civil society organisations, grassroots initiatives, or social movements;
- Strong facilitation, moderation, and group dynamics skills, particularly in online settings;
- Languages: Fluency in Arabic is required.

Application Process

Interested candidates should submit a full application to menajobs@innovationforchange.net by **June 22, 2026**, with the subject line **DDI MENA - Expert Facilitator, Digital Democracy Communities of Practice**.

The full application must include:

- **CV** (max 2 pages).
- **Methodology note** (max 1 page): your chosen CoP, proposed workshop or discussion circle topic(s). You may suggest up to two topics, both within the same CoP.
- **Examples of previous facilitation or community-of-practice work** (if available).

Note: The available and allocated remuneration for each session is **150 USD** (VAT included). (This includes the session's slides and facilitation plan, and the delivery of the session).

Innovation for Change – MENA Hub is an equal opportunity employer

We are committed to building a diverse, inclusive, and equitable work environment where all individuals are treated with dignity and respect. We actively encourage applications from qualified candidates regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, disability, age, nationality, or any other status or identity. We particularly welcome applications from individuals who have been historically marginalised or underrepresented in the fields of civil society, digital rights, and technology in the MENA region.



All qualified applicants will be considered fairly and equitably based on merit, experience, and alignment with the values of our mission.

Notes

- Only complete Applications received by June 22, 2026, will be considered.
- Due to the high volume of applications we typically receive, we will only be able to contact candidates who are selected to move forward in the selection process. We appreciate your understanding and thank all applicants for their interest in this opportunity.