



المركز العربي للأبحاث ودراسة السياسات  
Arab Center for Research & Policy Studies



المعهد العربي للتخطيط  
ARAB PLANNING INSTITUTE

Call for Papers

# Institutions and Development in the Arab Countries: Challenges and Prospects

28-30 April 2024

Doha, Qatar



Since the 1990s, there has been a significant increase in global attention towards the issues of good governance and institutional management, particularly regarding public participation and the effective implementation of concepts such as transparency, accountability, and the rule of law. This trend occurred concurrently with the increased focus on matters of institutional reform and the improvement of developmental programs. Numerous Arab initiatives were undertaken with the aim of guiding institutions towards the enhancement of Sustainable Development Indicators and institutional performance, particularly in healthcare, education, housing, employment, and public safety. This growing interest in issues of governance and institutions has inspired a significant increase in Arab scholarly research primarily focusing on human capital development, establishing institutions that can respond to crises, building capacities for effective planning, and the formulation and implementation of policies aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Nevertheless, there are significant developmental challenges, notably the reduction of unemployment and poverty, the pursuit of social justice, and the promotion of economic diversification and sustainable development policies.

In light of the foregoing, **the Arab Center for Research and Policy Studies (ACRPS)** and **the Arab Planning Institute (API)**, will hold a conference entitled "**Institutions and Development in the Arab Countries: Challenges and Prospects**" in Doha, Qatar from 28-30 April 2024. The main aim of the conference is to foster scholarly engagement on topics related to the development and reform of public institutions, with a specific emphasis on employing governance and sustainability as fundamental criteria. Furthermore, the conference seeks to build on the methodologies utilized in the enhancement and modernization of Arab development institutions, reinstating impetus and efficacy to development trajectories.

## Themes

The Conference has two main themes. The first one focuses on exploring and analysing the various theoretical and practical aspects of institutionalization and governance at the national, regional, and international levels. The second theme is dedicated to concerns regarding the institutions in Arab countries that are tasked with managing different aspects of the development process while bringing to mind innovative global experiences.

### I- Institutionalization Issues

- Institutions and governance: theoretical approaches and debates, and how they impact Arab research efforts
- The role of institutional reform in pursuit of development: issues of social justice and economic efficiency
- The institutional gap: the evolution of, and impediments to, institutional performance in Arab countries
- The efficiency of public service delivery systems from a citizen-based perspective
- Participation and good governance: municipalities, civil society organizations, and Public-Private partnership.
- Arab development organizations and regional governance issues.
- Governance of international development institutions.

- Ground-breaking international practices and experiences of institution-building and development: lessons learned

## II- Institutions and Development

- Governance of planning systems: issues of sustainability, economic diversification, and public policy development.
- Governance of financial/monetary institutions; issues of public finance, debt management, capital markets, etc.
- Governance of social services (e.g. in the education, healthcare, labour sectors).
- Governance of the ecosystem and combatting the effects of climate change.
- The private sector's role in crafting a sustainable, participatory development model: governance and competitiveness
- Leading Arab and international experiences of governance: prospects for implementation in Arab states.

The conference will not be limited to these issues, as its purpose is to encourage discussion of its central issues. Researchers are encouraged to propose additional pertinent topics.

## Guidelines

- Deadline to submit a research proposal together with an updated CV: **September 15, 2023**.
- Proposals must include the title, primary research question, methodology, and outline of the proposed project. It should be between 2050 and 500 words in length in either Arabic or English.
- Deadline to submit draft manuscript (7000-10000 words encompassing footnotes and bibliography): **January 31, 2024**
- The completed drafts must follow the general [Writing and Referencing Guidelines](#). All submission must be original research, prepared specifically for the conference. It must not be an excerpt from a graduate thesis that has been presented or published, in part or in full, in any electronic or print format.
- Conference submissions will undergo a standard peer review process. Successful applicants will be invited to participate upon completion of the review and revision process.
- The organizers, Arab Planning Institute and Arab Center for Research and Policy Studies, will cover all travel and accommodation expenses. Accepted participants will be apprised of conference procedures, visa details, and other logistical information in due course. No more than one participant per research may be invited.
- Participants will have the opportunity to publish final drafts of their research papers in [Hikama](#) and the [Journal of Development and Economic Policies](#); or in another API- and ACRPS-affiliated publication, pursuant to the respective peer review and publishing guidelines.

Please send your abstract and CV to: [hikama@dohainstitute.org](mailto:hikama@dohainstitute.org)