

Press release

Infrastructure Investment Security in the MENA region: the OECD launched a task force on Islamic finance to attract Islamic finance into infrastructure projects – the task force is led by representatives from the [Université Paris-Dauphine](#).

Paris, April 16, 2014 - Under the MENA-OECD Program, the OECD has set up a task force dedicated to attracting Islamic finance investors into infrastructure projects in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA). This OECD task force on Islamic finance is led by representatives from the University of Paris Dauphine which has a well established expertise in this area. The representatives include Mr. Arnaud Raynouard and Mr. Kader Merbouh, as well as Mr. Patrick Gerry and Mr. Nasser Zammit¹.

The creation of this task force is one of the recommendations of the inaugural conference organized by the MENA-OECD investment security in the Mediterranean region Working Group (ISMED Working Group²) on December 9, 2013 in Paris. This event brought together representatives of several countries of the MENA region as well as senior representatives from various regional development organizations.

According to Marcos Bonturi, Director of International Relations at OECD: "Mitigating the risks for private investments is a critical step for the financing and development of infrastructure in the MENA region. Today, there are several billion euros of projects that are awaiting funding. "

This task force will contribute to the ISMED working group's agenda to share and clarify best practices in private financing of public projects, and to assist countries in the MENA region to improve the

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² The Investment Security in the Mediterranean region (ISMED) program aims at promoting private investments in infrastructure in southern Mediterranean countries, by providing advisory services to governments on how to reduce legal risks related to specific infrastructure projects, by facilitating public-private dialogue to improve the overall legal and regulatory framework, and by providing potential investors with detailed information on financial risks mitigation instruments available in the regions.

conditions and enabling environment to facilitate the implementation of public policies for infrastructure, socio-economic and cultural development.

More specifically, the task force will share its recommendations on how to attract Islamic finance investors into infrastructure projects in the MENA region during the next meeting of the ISMED working group by the end of 2014.

About the University of Paris -Dauphine

The University of Paris Dauphine is a leading institution of higher education engaged in teaching and research in the field of organizational sciences (management, economics, mathematics, computer science , law, sociology and political science). With 386 permanent professors, 9500 students including 5341 in Master programs, and offers 104 courses at the Licence, Master and Doctorate level. Re-accredited Equis in 2012, the University of Paris Dauphine is one of the leading universities in Europe in its field and is a founding member of PSL (Paris Sciences et Lettres), which is part of the initiatives of excellence selected by an international jury under the Grand Emprunt . The University of Paris Dauphine is also a member of the Conférence des Grandes Ecoles . **www.dauphine.fr**

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