

# DEeP-GOV

## Digital Education Partnership for Effective and Sustainable Governance

Project duration in months : 36 months

Starting date : January 2022

Project leader : Dr. G. Mugellini / Dr. M. Barreca

Lead Institution : Università della Svizzera italiana



## Swiss and MENA Partners :

**1) Università della Svizzera Italiana (USI)**

*Dr. Giulia Mugellini & Dr. Manuela Barreca (PL)*  
*Prof. Jean-Patrick Villeneuve & Prof. Marco Meneguzzo*

**2) African Local Governments Academy (ALGA) of United Cities and Local Government of Africa (UCLG) / Morocco**

*Dr. Najat Zarrouk*

**3) Université Mohammed V de Rabat / Morocco (UM5)**

*Professor Hassan El Arafi*

**4) Cooperation with American University in Cairo – Egypt (AUC)**

*Professor Ghada Barsoum*



## Goal:

Enhance digital tertiary education partnership between Switzerland and the MENA region by developing workshops and cross-cultural e-teaching courses on effective governance for sustainable development.  
*Multi-level partnerships, diversity of stakeholders, international best practices and local debates.*

## Objectives :

- 1) Develop a cross-cultural, integrated e-teaching and e-learning approach on effective governance across Switzerland and the MENA Region;
- 2) Create agile, inclusive, sustainable platforms for e-teaching on effective governance across Switzerland and the MENA Region.

In line with **UN SDGs** Quality of education; Gender equality; Creation of decent work, Reduced inequality; Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable, Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions) and **UN Principles of Effective Governance**.



## **Main activities / Work Packages :**

- 1) Kick-off of the project (1<sup>st</sup> year at USI)
- 2) Organization of the workshops (1<sup>st</sup> year in Switzerland and the MENA Region)
- 3) Development of the academic e-teaching courses and platform (2<sup>nd</sup> year)
- 4) Dissemination of the results of the project (3<sup>rd</sup> year in Switzerland and the MENA Region)
  - 4.1. Organize specific tracks on effective governance for sustainable development within the network IIAS – International Institute of Administrative Science and its institutions and strategic partners.
  - 4.2. Organize a final conference for the project in order to disseminate its findings to the general public.



## Expected Outcomes :

Objectives	Short-term outcomes	Long-term outcomes
<b>Objective 1</b>	Increased expertise in the designing of public policies in the fields of good governance, and sustainability.	Improved skills and cross-national employability of students and creation of decent work
	Internationalization of tertiary education.	Reduced policy failure and enhance Trust in Public Institutions
	Improved digital teaching skills and tools.	Increased research and projects, innovation capacity among the network of universities and organizations.
<b>Objective 2</b>	Increase of international exchange programs (USI-MENA).	Reduced digital gap and learning divide.
	Increased collaborations between academia, public sector organizations, the private sector and civil society.	Increased job opportunities both in the public and private sector for MA students in the target Regions.
		Creation of a Community of Practice and trainers in the Target Regions.



## Risk Management :

MACRO LEVEL SOCIO-POLITICAL RISKS	
<b>1 Infectious diseases (COVID-19)</b>	Workshops designed in order to function both in presence and online. E-teaching courses not affected.
<b>2 Universities lock-down</b>	Universities both in CH and MENA Region have the infrastructures and know-how to successfully manage these risks, and turn it into opportunities.
<b>3 Government stability</b>	Workshops designed in order to function both in presence and online. E-teaching courses not affected.
OPERATIONAL AND RESEARCH PROJECT RISKS	
<b>1 Missed deadline of the project</b>	Committed institutions and persons engaged to deliver and meet the objectives. Clear timelines of the project. Continuous information and knowledge sharing on the progress made. Exchange and coordination by regular online meetings and alignment meeting.
<b>2 Communication problems between partners</b>	Kick-off meeting to establish personal contacts and responsibilities. Project guidelines for the step-to-step management of the project.
<b>3 Issues linked to/technology/connections/Internet</b>	E-teaching platform of the project as a new iteration of the existing e-teaching model (iCorsi) in place at USI. Same infrastructure successfully used for an ad-hoc platform for the MEM Summer Summit at USI. USI e-lab has a list of successful mitigation strategies for specific technological risks.
<b>4 Security issues</b>	iCorsi secured platform, accessible only through personal credentials, ensuring users' privacy. It is open source in terms of material but protected in terms of discussion and forum. Students free to discuss sensitive topics.
<b>5 Governments block server and website</b>	Make recorded classes video available using specific dedicated tools.
<b>6 Unavailability of recorded classes</b>	E-teaching courses would then mainly be based on the classes recorded during the workshops. Others recorded classes prepared by junior academics trained during the workshops. Classes recorded during existing BA and MA programs in the partner universities might be available. At USI, classes in both BA and MA programs still recorded for A.Y. 2021/2022.

