The objective of the Middle East, North Africa PIEN is to facilitate the introduction of effective, policy-oriented training and teaching programmes on public integrity at leading universities and training institutions around the world.

People throughout MENA recognise the vital importance of good governance. Over the past decade numerous governments have made commitments to greater public integrity through corruption control, improved accountability and transparency of public policies and office holders. The political will among newly elected leaders for such reforms is frequently present. What is often lacking are the capacities to implement them.

A critical ingredient to the success and sustainability of these reform efforts will be the integration of evidence-based public integrity and corruption control courses into the mainstream curriculum of major universities and civil service training institutions around the world. Such courses are not currently on offer to the overwhelming majority of students and mid- to senior career professionals in developing and transition countries. At present valuable lessons from reform efforts in one part of the world are often lost to reformers elsewhere, because no network shares and critically evaluates these lessons.

The Public Integrity Education Network (PIEN) was launched in 2004 as a partnership between Tiri and the Central European University. PIEN brings together academics and experts from more than thirty countries.

The MENA Public Integrity Education Network, a sub-network of PIEN, will be better suited to reflect the needs and expectations of the region and to facilitate the sharing of experiences within the region.
Global PIEN Members
Australian National University
Australia: Griffith University
Brazil: University of Rio de Janeiro
Chile: University of Chile
China: Tsinghua University
Colombia: University of the Andes
Georgia: Caucasus School of Business
Hong Kong: Hong Kong University
Hungary: Central European University
India: Jawaharlal Nehru University
India: Indian Institute of Management
Indonesia: Gadjah Mada University
Lebanon: American University of Beirut
Lithuania: Kaunas University of Technology
Nigeria: Lagos Business School
Pakistan: Lahore Univ. of Manag’t Sciences
Palestine: Bir Zeit University
Portugal: Fernando Pessoa University
Romania: Babes-Bolyai University
South Africa: Rhodes University
Thailand: National Inst. of Develop’t Admin.
USA: Harvard University

The Network
PIEN members have demonstrated a commitment to offering courses on public integrity and corruption control at their institutions. Members benefit by sharing effective learning tools for the implementation of reforms, critical case studies, syllabi and best practices.

Approach
(a) Access by MENA PIEN members to the wider resources of the international PIEN effort, e.g. its intranet and its annual meeting.
(b) Communication through the Global Development Learning Network (GDLN) for information sharing and curriculum development combined with at least one annual meeting of the Network.
(c) A regional mapping exercise to identify educational and reform leaders from a social cross-section within the MENA. These are to be followed up by more detailed scoping studies to identify and analyze the major innovations and reform cases on a country basis.
(d) A joint curriculum development, sharing and peer review process, with an emphasis on developing relevant and applicable materials in Arabic as well as a sharing of experiences, particularly between MENA countries and recent EU accession countries.
(e) Participation in the 2-week training of trainers course to be offered by Tiri at the Central European University in July 2005.
(f) 2-3 day senior government training workshops developed per request, in addition to two week-long regional training courses, with support from Tiri and MENA PIEN members.

Membership and Geographical Coverage
The members of the Network within the MENA region will include leading public universities and selected private universities, as well as specialised civil service training institutions.

Membership will be demand-driven. The initial membership of the Network will focus on approximately 20 universities or training institutions from the MENA region. The membership will in the first instance be on an individual basis, but a commitment by the academics and where relevant the faculty or department heads towards the development of a teaching/training programme including strategic corruption control and institutional integrity is be required.

The geographical coverage in the MENA region includes: Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates and Yemen.