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The  
G8 Research Group  
at the Munk School of Global Affairs at Trinity College in the University of Toronto  
presents the

**2013 Lough Erne G8 Summit  
Interim Compliance Report**

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## 14. Development [157]

### Commitment:

“We will continue to support country-led reforms, including projects to support institutional reform, enhanced trade, investment and job creation, including through the MENA Transition Fund, alongside other support from Partners.”

*2013 G8 Lough Erne Communiqué*

### Assessment:

Country	Lack of Compliance	Work in Progress	Full Compliance
Canada	-1		
France			+1
Germany		0	
Italy		0	
Japan		0	
Russia		0	
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union		0	
Average Score		+0.22	

### Background:

At the 2011 Deauville G8 Summit, G8 members first addressed the rising concern of Arab countries in transition towards free democratic societies under the Arab Spring. The Declaration of the G8 on the Arab Springs recognized the rapid changes in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) as a historic transformation towards freedom, human rights, democracy, job opportunities, empowerment, and dignity.<sup>846</sup> In the Declaration, G8 members affirmed their support for the aspirations of the Arab Spring, and acknowledged their determination to support the citizens’ legitimate call for democracy, open societies and inclusive economic modernisation.<sup>847</sup> The Declaration initiated the creation of the “Deauville Partnership,” which extended to all countries in the region engaging in this transition, “based on our common goals for the future.”<sup>848</sup> The Partnership was based on two pillars: (1) A political process to strengthen political institutions against corruption and ensure transparency for accountable, democratic government and; (2) an economic framework for sustainable and inclusive growth.<sup>849</sup> The Partnership also developed an economic agenda for comprehensive growth based on four objectives: (1) “Improving governance, transparency, accountability and citizens’ participation in economic life”; (2) “Increasing social and economic inclusion, by expanding opportunities to all and improving the effectiveness of support for the vulnerable”; (3) “Modernising their economies, supporting the private sector, particularly SMEs, to aid job creation, and developing

<sup>846</sup> Declaration of the G8 on the Arab Springs, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2011. Date of Access: 03 December 2013. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2011deauville/2011-arabsprings-en.html>.

<sup>847</sup> Declaration of the G8 on the Arab Springs, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2011. Date of Access: 03 December 2013. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2011deauville/2011-arabsprings-en.html>.

<sup>848</sup> Declaration of the G8 on the Arab Springs, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2011. Date of Access: 03 December 2013. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2011deauville/2011-arabsprings-en.html>.

<sup>849</sup> Declaration of the G8 on the Arab Springs, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2011. Date of Access: 03 December 2013. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2011deauville/2011-arabsprings-en.html>.

human capital and skills”; and (4) “Fostering regional and global integration to reap the benefits of globalisation.”<sup>850</sup>

The Partnership committed to integrating Partnership Countries in the regional and global economy through increased trade, and agreed to support the efforts of MENA countries to increase trade through bilateral and multilateral channels, including trade facilitation, tariff reductions, and access to the service sector.<sup>851</sup>

At the 2012 Camp David Summit, G8 members reaffirmed their commitment to this issue by supporting the establishment of a new transition fund, in conjunction with regional partners and financial institutions, to support country-owned policy reforms.<sup>852</sup> This led to the creation of the MENA Transition Fund which provides grants for: “technical cooperation to help transition countries strengthen their governance, social and economic institutions by developing and implementing home-grown and country-owned reforms.”<sup>853</sup> The Transition Fund also provides rapid, flexible and responsive advice for Partnership Countries, in support of their targeted policy initiatives.<sup>854</sup> Moreover, the “Transition Fund emphasizes funding for technical cooperation proposals that leverage and complement support from other partners where relevant, in particular, bilateral donors, academic institutions and policy research institutions, regional and international organizations, industry and labor associations, and other civil society organizations.”<sup>855</sup>

#### **Commitment Features:**

The commitment aims to help countries in transition achieve sustainable and inclusive growth, and to create jobs, through bilateral and multilateral support.<sup>856</sup> This includes achieving economic stability, structural reform, and good governance and anti-corruption reforms.<sup>857</sup> It further supports greater trade, investment and economic integration into the region, through bilateral trade and investment agreements, and improved access to capital for governments and businesses.

The commitment supports country-led reforms through the MENA Transition Fund and alongside Partnership Countries. It aims to create projects to support institution reform, enhance trade, investment and job creation.<sup>858</sup> The commitment approves of USD1 million towards MENA Transition Fund projects and, “encourage[s] partners to deliver on pledges made to date and to

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<sup>850</sup>Declaration of the G8 on the Arab Springs, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2011. Date of Access: 03 December 2013. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2011deauville/2011-arabsprings-en.html>.

<sup>851</sup>Declaration of the G8 on the Arab Springs, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2011. Date of Access: 03 December 2013. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2011deauville/2011-arabsprings-en.html>.

<sup>852</sup>Camp David Declaration, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 19 May 2012. Date of Access: 23 December 2013. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2012campdavid/g8-declaration.html>.

<sup>853</sup>Overview, MENA Transition Fund. Date of Access: 23 December 2013. <http://www.menatransitionfund.org/content/overview>.

<sup>854</sup>Declaration of the G8 on the Arab Springs, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2011. Date of Access: 03 December 2013. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2011deauville/2011-arabsprings-en.html>.

<sup>855</sup>Declaration of the G8 on the Arab Springs, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2011. Date of Access: 03 December 2013. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2011deauville/2011-arabsprings-en.html>.

<sup>856</sup>G8 Lough Erne Leaders Communiqué, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 18 June 2013. Date of Access: 03 December 2013. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2013lougherne/lough-erne-communique.html>.

<sup>857</sup>G8 Lough Erne Leaders Communiqué, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 18 June 2013. Date of Access: 03 December 2013. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2013lougherne/lough-erne-communique.html>.

<sup>858</sup>G8 Lough Erne Leaders Communiqué, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 18 June 2013. Date of Access: 03 December 2013. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2013lougherne/lough-erne-communique.html>.

increase contributions to ensure the initial capitalization of [USD ]250 million is met.”<sup>859</sup> The commitment also encourages new donors to the Fund, beyond Partnership Countries.

**Scoring Guidelines:**

-1	G8 member does not support country-led reforms through the MENA Transition Fund and Partnership Countries to create projects to support institutional reform, enhanced trade, investment and job creation, nor does it support greater trade, investment and economic integration in the region through including bilateral and multilateral trade and investment agreements
0	G8 member supports country-led reforms through the MENA Transition Fund and Partnership Countries to create projects to support institutional reform, enhanced trade, investment and job creation OR supports greater trade, investment and economic integration in the region through including bilateral and multilateral trade and investment agreements
+1	G8 member supports country-led reforms through the MENA Transition Fund and Partnership Countries to create projects to support institutional reform, enhanced trade, investment and job creation AND supports greater trade, investment and economic integration in the region through including bilateral and multilateral investment agreements

*Lead Analyst: Sarah Burton*

**Canada: -1**

Canada receives a score of -1 for its lack of contribution to country-led reforms through the MENA transition fund, since the 2013 Lough Erne G8 Summit.

In October 2012, Canada committed itself to “help[ing] countries in the Middle East and North Africa strengthen their governance, social, and economic institutions, and plan and implement locally-led reforms.”<sup>860</sup> However, since the 2013 Lough Erne G8 Summit, Canada has not recommitted itself to any of these projects.

According to Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development Canada, Canada initiated a MENA Transition Fund project on 15 October 2012. This MENA project will remain operational until 31 March 2018.<sup>861</sup> Over this periods of time, the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) will contribute a maximum of CAD 15 million.<sup>862</sup>

The executing agency and partner of the Canadian MENA Transition Fund contribution is the World Bank. On 21 November 2012, CIDA provided a grant to the World Bank for the transition

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<sup>859</sup>G8 Lough Erne Leaders Communiqué, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 18 June 2013. Date of Access: 03 December 2013. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2013lougherne/lough-erne-communiqué.html>.

<sup>860</sup> Project profile: Middle East and North Africa Transition Fund, Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development Canada (Ottawa) 30 December 2013. Date of Access: 30 December 2013. <http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/cidaweb/cpo.nsf/vWebCSAZEn/61B6B17A0E35A95085257AB9003B1D2E>.

<sup>861</sup> Project profile: Middle East and North Africa Transition Fund, Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development Canada (Ottawa) 30 December 2013. Date of Access: 30 December 2013. <http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/cidaweb/cpo.nsf/vWebCSAZEn/61B6B17A0E35A95085257AB9003B1D2E>.

<sup>862</sup> Project profile: Middle East and North Africa Transition Fund, Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development Canada (Ottawa) 30 December 2013. Date of Access: 30 December 2013. <http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/cidaweb/cpo.nsf/vWebCSAZEn/61B6B17A0E35A95085257AB9003B1D2E>.

fund, however, the amount was not specified.<sup>863</sup> CIDA made no further contribution to the MENA Transition Fund through the World Bank.

On 31 March 2013, Canada created a project to, “support sustainable economic growth and employment opportunities for citizens of the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region. Its purpose is to improve access to finance for micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs).”<sup>864</sup> This project is currently “operational” and is expected to run until 29 March 2013.<sup>865</sup> The maximum CIDA contribution to this project is projected at CAD 10 million. Although CIDA provided a grant to the International Finance Corporation (IFC) in order to achieve the MSMEs project, no further support has been provided.

Thus, given Canada’s lack of support for neither the MENA Transition Fund, nor the MSMEs project, since March 2013, Canada is awarded a score of -1 for its commitment to development in the MENA region.

*Analyst: Sarah Burton*

### **France: +1**

France has fully complied with its commitments to the MENA Transition Fund and Partnership Countries. It has supported economic, educational, and development projects in the MENA region and fulfilled all monetary obligations.

France gave EUR 2.3 billion to Tunisia, Egypt, Jordan, and Morocco, and will reach its original pledge of EUR 2.7 billion by the end of 2013.<sup>866</sup> France gave EUR 335 million of this money to small and medium enterprises and very small enterprises, including the Tunisian “Plan to support recovery.”<sup>867</sup> France also designated EUR 0.5 million aimed at supporting economic inclusion for and preventing violence against women in the Mediterranean, EUR 0.5 million for corruption prevention and constitution drafting support in Yemen, and EUR 9 million to promote development in economics and education for Transition countries including Morocco and Tunisia.<sup>868</sup>

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<sup>863</sup> Project profile: Middle East and North Africa Transition Fund, Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development Canada (Ottawa) 30 December 2013. Date of Access: 30 December 2013. <http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/cidaweb/cpo.nsf/vWebCSAZEn/61B6B17A0E35A95085257AB9003B1D2E>.

<sup>864</sup> Project profile: Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise Technical Assistance Facility, Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development Canada (Ottawa) 30 December 2013. Date of Access: 30 December 2013. <http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/cidaweb/cpo.nsf/vWebCSAZEn/9DC57F01D58BF72685257B3D0035A885>.

<sup>865</sup> Project profile: Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise Technical Assistance Facility, Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development Canada (Ottawa) 30 December 2013. Date of Access: 30 December 2013. <http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/cidaweb/cpo.nsf/vWebCSAZEn/9DC57F01D58BF72685257B3D0035A885>.

<sup>866</sup> The Deauville Partnership with Arab Countries in Transition, Chairman of the Deauville Partnership 3 December 2013. Date of Access: 18 December 2013. [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/248907/130925\\_DP\\_progress\\_rpt.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/248907/130925_DP_progress_rpt.pdf).

<sup>867</sup> The Deauville Partnership with Arab Countries in Transition, Chairman of the Deauville Partnership 3 December 2013. Date of Access: 18 December 2013. [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/248907/130925\\_DP\\_progress\\_rpt.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/248907/130925_DP_progress_rpt.pdf).

<sup>868</sup> The Deauville Partnership with Arab Countries in Transition, Chairman of the Deauville Partnership 3 December 2013. Date of Access: 18 December 2013. [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/248907/130925\\_DP\\_progress\\_rpt.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/248907/130925_DP_progress_rpt.pdf).

Moreover, French officials also regularly share expertise with Tunisian and Egyptian judicial officers.<sup>869</sup> France supports sustainable government, governance, and trade in Egypt, Jordan, Morocco, and Tunisia through the new Centre for Mediterranean Integration,<sup>870</sup> and specific trade projects in Morocco with loans and grants.<sup>871</sup>

In addition, on 9 November 2012, France signed a donation agreement with the MENA Transition Fund.<sup>872</sup> France paid EUR 5 million immediately, and pledged to pay a further EUR 5 million, due 31 December 2013.<sup>873</sup> All EUR 10 million (USD13 million) has been paid.<sup>874</sup> In addition, in January 2013, France joined the United Kingdom and Canada in giving USD37.7 million to the MENA Transition Fund to support economic growth.<sup>875</sup>

Thus, France has been awarded a +1 for full compliance.

*Analyst: Annie Rose Webb*

### **Germany: 0**

Germany has partially complied with its commitment to support country-led reforms through the MENA transition fund and support greater trade, investment and economic integration in the region through bilateral trade and investment agreements.

The German Investment and Development Corporation (DEG), a unit of the German State development bank KfW, has plans of investing up to EUR 140 million in Middle Eastern and North African (MENA) private firms in 2014, despite the short-term political instability concerns. The DEG has a current portfolio of EUR 160 million in the MENA region, excluding Turkey.<sup>876</sup>

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<sup>869</sup> The Deauville Partnership with Arab Countries in Transition, Chairman of the Deauville Partnership 3 December 2013. Date of Access: 18 December 2013. [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/248907/130925\\_DP\\_progress\\_rpt.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/248907/130925_DP_progress_rpt.pdf).

<sup>870</sup> The Deauville Partnership with Arab Countries in Transition, Chairman of the Deauville Partnership 3 December 2013. Date of Access: 18 December 2013. [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/248907/130925\\_DP\\_progress\\_rpt.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/248907/130925_DP_progress_rpt.pdf).

<sup>871</sup> The Deauville Partnership with Arab Countries in Transition, Chairman of the Deauville Partnership 3 December 2013. Date of Access: 18 December 2013. [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/248907/130925\\_DP\\_progress\\_rpt.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/248907/130925_DP_progress_rpt.pdf).

<sup>872</sup> France Contribution Agreement, Middle USD and North Africa Transition Fund 2013. Date of Access: 18 December 2013. [http://www.menatransitionfund.org/sites/mena\\_trans\\_fund/files/documents/French%20Republic%20-%20Contribution%20Agreement%20-%20Fully%20executed\\_11192012\\_4.pdf](http://www.menatransitionfund.org/sites/mena_trans_fund/files/documents/French%20Republic%20-%20Contribution%20Agreement%20-%20Fully%20executed_11192012_4.pdf).

<sup>873</sup> France Contribution Agreement, Middle USD and North Africa Transition Fund 2013. Date of Access: 18 December 2013. [http://www.menatransitionfund.org/sites/mena\\_trans\\_fund/files/documents/French%20Republic%20-%20Contribution%20Agreement%20-%20Fully%20executed\\_11192012\\_4.pdf](http://www.menatransitionfund.org/sites/mena_trans_fund/files/documents/French%20Republic%20-%20Contribution%20Agreement%20-%20Fully%20executed_11192012_4.pdf).

<sup>874</sup> Donors and Partners, Middle USD and North Africa Transition Fund 2013. Date of Access: 18 December 2013. <http://www.menatransitionfund.org/content/donors-and-partners>.

<sup>875</sup> \$37.7 Million in Contributions to Strengthen Governance and Economic Growth, The World Bank Group (Washington) 2 January 2013. Date of Access: 18 December 2013. <http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2013/01/02/37point7-million-contributions-strengthen-governance-economic-growth>

<sup>876</sup> Germany's DEG to invest up to \$188 mln in MENA firms next year, Reuters U.S Edition (Dubai) 20 June 2013. Date of Access: 31 December 2013. <http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/06/20/deg-mena-idUSL5N0EW00420130620>.

On 22 June 2013, German Foreign Minister Westerwelle met with Turkey's Foreign Minister Ahmet Davutoğlu to exchange views on partnerships, EU-Turkish relations, as well as bilateral relations.<sup>877</sup>

Moreover, Germany has positioned itself in favour of dialogue and cooperation across political divides in Egypt, as a means to resolve the violence resulted from the political clashes.<sup>878</sup> Foreign Minister Westerwelle spoke on the phone with Egypt's Interim Foreign Minister Nabil Fahmy on 20 July 2013, where he emphasized the need for an inclusive political process in order to secure a democratic reform to take place.<sup>879</sup> Further, on 25 July 2013, he re-emphasized Germany's position by urging "de-escalation, restraint and prudence on all parties" during his statement regarding Egypt.<sup>880</sup>

On 5 October 2013, with a reoccurrence of violent clashes in Cairo and other towns in Egypt, Foreign Minister Westerwelle emphasized that: "the process of restoring democratic and constitutional order must not be called into question, all sections of society must have the chance to participate in the political process."<sup>881</sup> In a further attempt to bring stability to the region, on 17 August 2013, Westerwelle spoke to Egypt's Foreign Minister Nabil Fahmy and, "urged the Egyptian Government not to do anything that would create an obstacle to a political solution and to re-establish dialogue with all political forces."<sup>882</sup>

Furthermore, Westerwelle opened a two-day event held in Berlin (30 October 2013) and Munich (31 October 2013) aimed at deepening the economic relations between Germany and Pakistan. The event, called "Pakistan Days," was organized by the Association of German Chambers of Commerce and Industry and the Pakistan German Business Forum. The event brought panels made up of high-ranking figures from German and Pakistan governments, as well as diplomacy, economic, and financial experts to discuss opportunities and expectations in economic and trade relations.<sup>883</sup>

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<sup>877</sup> Foreign Minister Westerwelle meets Turkish Foreign Minister Davutoğlu, German Foreign Office (Berlin) 22 June 2013. Date of Access: 31 December 2013. [www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/Infoservice/Presse/Meldungen/2013/130622\\_BM\\_Davotoglu\\_Doha.html](http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/Infoservice/Presse/Meldungen/2013/130622_BM_Davotoglu_Doha.html).

<sup>878</sup> Foreign Minister Westerwelle on the interim Government in Egypt, German Foreign Office (Berlin) 17 July 2013. Date of Access: 31 December 2013. [http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/Infoservice/Presse/Meldungen/2013/130717-BM\\_EGY.html](http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/Infoservice/Presse/Meldungen/2013/130717-BM_EGY.html).

<sup>879</sup> Foreign Minister Westerwelle talks on the phone to Egypt's interim Foreign Minister, German Foreign Office (Berlin) 20 July 2013. Date of Access: 31 December 2013. [http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/Infoservice/Presse/Meldungen/2013/130720\\_BM\\_Westerwelle\\_%C3%84GY\\_AM\\_Fahmy.html](http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/Infoservice/Presse/Meldungen/2013/130720_BM_Westerwelle_%C3%84GY_AM_Fahmy.html)

<sup>880</sup> Foreign Minister Westerwelle on Egypt: an inclusive process under civilian leadership is the right way forward, not street clashes, German Foreign Office (Berlin) 25 July 2013. Date of Access: 31 December 2013. [www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/Infoservice/Presse/Meldungen/2013/130725-BM\\_EGY.html](http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/Infoservice/Presse/Meldungen/2013/130725-BM_EGY.html).

<sup>881</sup> Foreign Minister Westerwelle on Egypt — preventing further bloodshed, German Foreign Office (Berlin) 5 October 2013. Date of Access: 31 December 2013. [http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/Infoservice/Presse/Meldungen/2013/131005-BM\\_Aegypten.html](http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/Infoservice/Presse/Meldungen/2013/131005-BM_Aegypten.html).

<sup>882</sup> Telephone call between Foreign Minister Westerwelle and Foreign Minister of Egypt, German Foreign Office (Berlin) 17 August 2013. Date of Access: 31 December 2013. [http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/Infoservice/Presse/Meldungen/2013/130817\\_AM\\_Westerwelle\\_telefoniert\\_mit\\_%C3%A4gyptischem\\_AM.html](http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/Infoservice/Presse/Meldungen/2013/130817_AM_Westerwelle_telefoniert_mit_%C3%A4gyptischem_AM.html).

<sup>883</sup> Foreign Minister Westerwelle to open the Pakistan Days of the Association of German Chambers of Commerce and Industry (DIHK), German Foreign Office (Berlin) 29 October 2013. Date of Access: 31 December 2013. [http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/Infoservice/Presse/Meldungen/2013/131029-Pakistan\\_Days.html](http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/Infoservice/Presse/Meldungen/2013/131029-Pakistan_Days.html).

Following UN Secretary General Ban Ki Moon's settlement for a concrete date for the Geneva peace conference on Syria, the German foreign minister stated on 26 November 2013 that Germany would make EUR 2 million available to support the Geneva peace process and the work of the UN Special Representative for Syria, Lakhdar Brahimi. He emphasized that, "this is our only real opportunity to finally embark upon a political process."<sup>884</sup>

Thus, Germany has been awarded a score of 0 for engaging in bilateral and multilateral dialogue in the MENA region to allow for political and economic stability, as well as providing direct investments.

*Analyst: Artur Pereira*

### **Italy: 0**

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to support country-led reforms through the MENA Transition Fund, alongside other support from Partners. It has demonstrated support for trade and investments in the region through agreements and partnerships

On July 2013 Italy, together with 25 other European regulators, signed the Memoranda of Understanding together with the Dubai Financial Services Association with the intent of attracting European fund managers to Dubai's financial free zone. All regulators agreed to "help each other supervise fund managers operating across borders, between Dubai International Centre and Europe."<sup>885</sup> The efforts aim to facilitate investment flows and grant the Dubai International Financial Centre-based fund managers a greater pool of investors.<sup>886</sup>

Moreover, Maurizio Massari, Italian Ambassador to Egypt, met on 12 November 2013 with Egypt's Trade and Industry Minister Mounir Fakhri Abdel-Nour to discuss economic and commercial cooperation between the countries. A green trade project, devised within the debt-swap program established between both countries, was announced with an implementation value of EGP54.9 million.<sup>887</sup> The project aims at improving the quality of Egyptian agricultural crops, while also developing the transport logistics system.<sup>888</sup>

On 3 October 2013, Secretary General Michele Valensise met with Libyan Prime Minister Ali' Zidan, Foreign Minister Mohammed Abdel Aziz, among other political exponents to discuss

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<sup>884</sup> Germany to make available 2 million euros for the Geneva peace process on Syria, German Foreign Office (Berlin) 26 November 2013. Date of Access: 31 December 2013. <http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/Infoservice/Presse/Meldungen/2013/131126-Genf-SYR.html>.

<sup>885</sup> DIFC takes steps to attract European fund managers, MENA Fund Manager 28 August 2013. Date of Access: 16 December 2013. <http://www.menafm.com/tag/italy/>.

<sup>886</sup> DIFC takes steps to attract European fund managers, MENA Fund Manager 28 August 2013. Date of Access: 16 December 2013. <http://www.menafm.com/tag/italy/>.

<sup>887</sup> Industry Minister: Egyptian-Italian green project to be launched, Egyptian State Information Service (Cairo) 13 November 2013. Date of Access: 16 December 2013. <http://www.sis.gov.eg/En/Templates/Articles/tmpArticleNews.aspx?ArtID=71102>.

<sup>888</sup> Industry Minister: Egyptian-Italian green project to be launched, Egyptian State Information Service (Cairo) 13 November 2013. Date of Access: 16 December 2013. <http://www.sis.gov.eg/En/Templates/Articles/tmpArticleNews.aspx?ArtID=71102>.



political stabilization and security in Libya. Italy reinforced its position of collaboration and committed to facilitate the Libyan authorities' endeavour to build stable institutions.<sup>889</sup>

Furthermore, on 31 October and 1 November 2013, the fifth Euro-Arab Banking Dialogue on Investment and Islamic Banking was held in Rome, Italy.<sup>890</sup> Talks aimed at attracting cross-border investments and banking opportunities.

Additionally, on 9 December 2013, the Italian Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs met with the head of foreign affairs of the autonomous region of Iraqi Kurdistan, Falah Mustafa Bakir, to discuss humanitarian support for Syrian refugees in the region. The deputy minister emphasized the common interest of promoting "the encounter of Kurdistan's investment capability and the first hand know-how of Italian enterprise."<sup>891</sup>

Thus, Italy was awarded a score of 0 for its strengthening of bilateral ties and increased investment in the MENA region.

*Analyst: Artur Pereira*

### **Japan: 0**

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to support country-led reforms through creating projects that enhance trade, investment and job creation and through bilateral trade and investment agreements. It has funded several projects that are expected to increase employment opportunities and support economic integration in countries of transition.

On 21 June 2013, the Japanese government approved a loan of JPY 11,000 to support the Local Cities Water Environment Improvement Project in Tunisia. The loan has an interest of 1.2 per cent and requires repayment in 25 years.<sup>892</sup> The project seeks to improve the sewage facility in Tunisia and will help to create job opportunities for local workers.<sup>893</sup>

Further, on 6 November 2013, the Japanese government signed a contract that granted Egypt USD 82,000 to purchase school desks and chairs. The contract would provide Egyptian students a better learning environment and contribute to the development of human resources in Egypt.<sup>894</sup>

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<sup>889</sup> Meeting between SG Valensise and Minister Ali' Zidan — Press Release, Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Rome) 3 October 2013. Date of Access: 16 December 2013. [http://www.esteri.it/MAE/EN/Sala\\_stampa/ArchivioNotizie/Comunicati/2013/10/20131003\\_Libia\\_Valensise.htm](http://www.esteri.it/MAE/EN/Sala_stampa/ArchivioNotizie/Comunicati/2013/10/20131003_Libia_Valensise.htm).

<sup>890</sup> The 5th EURO — ARAB BANKING DIALOGUE, Union of Arab Banks 31 October 2013. Date of Access: 16 December 2013. <http://www.uabonline.org/en/events/forums/the5theuroarabbankingdialogue>.

<sup>891</sup> Italy-Iraq: Pistelli- Bakir meeting, Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Rome) 9 December 2013. Date of Access: 16 December 2013. [http://www.esteri.it/MAE/EN/Sala\\_stampa/ArchivioNotizie/Comunicati/2013/12/20131209\\_PistelliBakir.htm](http://www.esteri.it/MAE/EN/Sala_stampa/ArchivioNotizie/Comunicati/2013/12/20131209_PistelliBakir.htm).

<sup>892</sup> ODA Loan Project, Japan International Cooperation Agency 12 December 2013. Date of Access: 15 December 2013. [http://www2.jica.go.jp/en/yen\\_loan/index.php/module/search?anken\\_name=&area1=0&area2=0&area3=0&country1=55&country2=0&country3=0&section1=0&section2=0&section3=0&industry1=0&industry2=0&industry3=0&anken\\_kubun=0&shotatsu\\_kubun=0&from\\_year=&to\\_year=&submit=Search](http://www2.jica.go.jp/en/yen_loan/index.php/module/search?anken_name=&area1=0&area2=0&area3=0&country1=55&country2=0&country3=0&section1=0&section2=0&section3=0&industry1=0&industry2=0&industry3=0&anken_kubun=0&shotatsu_kubun=0&from_year=&to_year=&submit=Search).

<sup>893</sup> Ex-Ante Evaluation, Japan International Cooperation Agency 21 June 2013. Date of Access: 15 December 2013. [http://www.jica.go.jp/english/our\\_work/evaluation/oda\\_loan/economic\\_cooperation/c8h0vm000001rdjt-att/tunisia\\_130621\\_01.pdf](http://www.jica.go.jp/english/our_work/evaluation/oda_loan/economic_cooperation/c8h0vm000001rdjt-att/tunisia_130621_01.pdf).

<sup>894</sup> Japan Assists Primary Education in Sedfa, Assiut, Embassy of Japan in Egypt 6 November 2013. Date of Access: 15 December 2013. [http://www.eg.emb-japan.go.jp/e/bilateral/japan\\_egypt/recent\\_progress/2013/20131106.htm](http://www.eg.emb-japan.go.jp/e/bilateral/japan_egypt/recent_progress/2013/20131106.htm).

In addition, on 20 November 2013, the Japanese government approved to lend out a loan of JPY 9 billion to the Kingdom of Morocco for the Basic Education Sector Support Project.<sup>895</sup> The project seeks to “improve the access to and quality of basic education in Morocco.”<sup>896</sup> The loan has contributed to the improvement of Morocco’s labour quality.

Moreover, on 2 June 2013, the Japan International Cooperation Agency, along with the African Development Bank and the World Bank, launched the “Joint Recommendation on Youth and Employment: The Way Forward- Empowering Young Africans to Live Their Dreams.”<sup>897</sup> The project sought to “strengthen pro-growth strategies; to raise productivity in agriculture; to embrace the informal sector ... [and] to build strong human capital for the African youth.”<sup>898</sup>

Thus, Japan has been awarded a score of 0 for its support for the economic integration of countries in transition.

*Analyst: Kai-Yuan Chen*

### **Russia: 0**

According to the Russian Government decision of 8 December 2012, Russia committed to allocate USD 10 million to the MENA Transition Fund in 2013-2015, including USD 4 million in 2013 and USD 3 million in 2014.<sup>899</sup> According to the Transition Fund information USD 4 million were already disbursed.<sup>900</sup>

On 6 November 2013, the first session of the Russian-Jordanian IGC was held in Amman. The parties discussed joint measures to intensify bilateral cooperation in the fields of trade, industry, agriculture, banking sphere, education, health, and energy, including nuclear. The Russian side expressed its interest in development of Russian tourism in Jordan and offered assistance in education and training of Jordanian specialists in engineering, agriculture, energy and other spheres. It was decided to create a working group on trade and investment and a working group on tourism within the Commission as well as to organize Russian-Jordanian business forum in first half of 2014 in Moscow.<sup>901</sup>

Russia has taken actions to support country-led reforms through the MENA Transition Fund but no facts of supporting greater trade, investment and economic integration in the region through

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<sup>895</sup> Signing of Japanese ODA Loan Agreement with the Kingdom of Morocco, Japan International Cooperation Agency 9 December 2013.

Date of Access: 15 December 2013. [http://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2013/131209\\_01.html](http://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2013/131209_01.html).

<sup>896</sup> Signing of Japanese ODA Loan Agreement with the Kingdom of Morocco, Japan International Cooperation Agency 9 December 2013.

Date of Access: 15 December 2013. [http://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2013/131209\\_01.html](http://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2013/131209_01.html).

<sup>897</sup> JICA, African Development Bank and World Bank Launched Joint Recommendations for Empowering Young Africans, Japan International Cooperation Agency 6 June 2013.

Date of Access: 15 December 2013. [http://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2013/130606\\_01.html](http://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2013/130606_01.html).

<sup>898</sup> JICA, African Development Bank and World Bank Launched Joint Recommendations for Empowering Young Africans, Japan International Cooperation Agency 6 June 2013.

Date of Access: 15 December 2013. [http://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2013/130606\\_01.html](http://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2013/130606_01.html).

<sup>899</sup> Government Resolution № 2297-p of 8 December 2012, Government of Russia 8 December 2012. <http://government.ru/docs/6564>.

<sup>900</sup> Donors and Partners, MENA Transition Fund. <http://www.menatransitionfund.org/content/donors-and-partners>.

<sup>901</sup> First Meeting of the Russian-Jordanian Inter-Governmental Commission, Ministry of Agriculture of Russia 6 November 2013. [http://mcx.ru/news/news/v7\\_show/17311.285.htm](http://mcx.ru/news/news/v7_show/17311.285.htm).

trade and investment agreements has been registered during the compliance period. Thus, it has been awarded a score of 0.

*Analyst: Mark Rakhmangulov*

### **United Kingdom: +1**

The United Kingdom has fully complied with the commitment regarding development in the Middle East North Africa (MENA) region.

On 2013, the United Kingdom chaired the Deauville Partnership with Arab countries in Transition. In September 2013 it held the Deauville Partnership Investment Conference to promote further investment opportunities in transition countries. In June 2013, the United Kingdom launched Forsa, a new mentoring initiative that aims to support small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in Jordan, Tunisia, Morocco, Egypt, Yemen and Libya.<sup>902</sup> The initiative connects with 250 entrepreneurs from these countries to grow their business through guidance and expertise from mentors for three to four months.<sup>903</sup>

Additionally, on 30 September 2013, British Ambassador to Tunis Hamish Cowell opened a conference on Freedom of Access to information: Issues and Challenges of Implementation in Tunis.<sup>904</sup> He reiterated the importance for Tunisia to “end corruption and opaque practices of the government,” with the United Kingdom currently engaging with Tunisian organisations to “share its own experiences on this important issue.”<sup>905</sup> Furthermore, the United Kingdom supported a high-level conference to promote transparency and integrity in Tunisia’s public governance that was held from 19-21 June 2013 in Tunisia. The conference was held by the Organisation for Co-operation and Economic Development (OECD), and focused on fiscal transparency and anti-corruption as its main agenda. It worked on legal framework alongside the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to provide technical advisory support to the newly established Independent Commission for anti-corruption.<sup>906</sup>

Moreover, on 17 October 2013, the United Kingdom implemented 7 policies to assist governmental and structural reform in Libya.<sup>907</sup> These policies are conducted by the Department of International Development and are currently in the implementation phase. The total project budget for active policies for the fiscal year of 2013/2014 is GBP 12 million.<sup>908</sup> The policies

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<sup>902</sup> Countries, Forsa SME Mentoring Scheme (London). Date of access: 13 December 2013.

<http://www.forsa-mena.org/countries.html>.

<sup>903</sup> Programme, Forsa SME Mentoring Scheme (London). Date of access: 13 December 2013.

<http://www.forsa-mena.org/programme.html>.

<sup>904</sup> The UK supports a free access to information in Tunisia, British Embassy Tunis (Tunis) 12 October 2013. Date of access: 12 December 2013. <https://www.gov.uk/government/world-location-news/the-uk-supports-a-free-access-to-information-in-tunisia>.

<sup>905</sup> The UK supports a free access to information in Tunisia, British Embassy Tunis (Tunis) 12 October 2013. Date of access: 12 December 2013. <https://www.gov.uk/government/world-location-news/the-uk-supports-a-free-access-to-information-in-tunisia>.

<sup>906</sup> The UK supports a free access to information in Tunisia, British Embassy Tunis (Tunis) 12 October 2013. Date of access: 12 December 2013. <https://www.gov.uk/government/world-location-news/the-uk-supports-a-free-access-to-information-in-tunisia>.

<sup>907</sup> Libyan Arab Republic summary, Department for International Development (London). Date of access: 15 December 2013. <http://devtracker.dfid.gov.uk/countries/LY/>.

<sup>908</sup> Libyan Arab Republic summary, Department for International Development (London). Date of access: 15 December 2013. <http://devtracker.dfid.gov.uk/countries/LY/>.

range from providing technical and training expertise to Libyan government institutions to developing a national dialogue to create security strategies.<sup>909</sup>

On 4 September 2013, the United Kingdom implemented the Yemen Humanitarian Resilience Programme to “improve food security and increase community resilience to shocks.”<sup>910</sup> 52.88 per cent of the budget will be allocated for Emergency food aid. Material relief assistance and service will receive 44.50 per cent, and relief coordination will receive 2.62 per cent.<sup>911</sup> The project budget for this programme is GBP 38 million. Thus far, 14.12 per cent of this budget has been spent.<sup>912</sup> Non-governmental organizations such as Oxfam, Care International and Save the Children foundation had received a total fund of GBP 4 million from the Department for International Development (DFID) to aid implementation.<sup>913</sup>

In addition, on 12 July 2013, the Arab Partnership Economic Facility (APEF) initiated the “Natural Resource Management in the MENA region” policy. It aims to support the governments of Libya and Tunisia through technical assistance, training and funding to “improve the management and transparency of natural resources.”<sup>914</sup> These functions are aimed at energy policy, government administration, media and free flow of information and democratic participation.

Between 8 and 10 December 2013, the UK co-chaired the Broader Middle East and North Africa (BMENA) initiative with the Egyptian government. It aims to improve the quality of engagement between civil society and government through hosting debates, discussions and workshops on economic development; women’s empowerment and freedom of expression.<sup>915</sup>

In response to the Arab spring, the United Kingdom created the GBP 110 million four-year Arab Partnership Fund to support political and economic reform in the region. It is separated into the Arab Partnership Economic Facility and the Arab Partnership Participation Fund.<sup>916</sup> For the financial year 2013-2014, the Arab Partnership Participation Fund is funding 62 projects in 15 countries, profiled at over GBP 13 million.<sup>917</sup> These projects focus on the themes anti-corruption,

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<sup>909</sup> Libyan Arab Republic all projects, Department for International Development (London). Date of access: 15 December 2013. <http://devtracker.dfid.gov.uk/countries/LY/projects/>.

<sup>910</sup> Yemen Humanitarian Resilience Programme, Department for International Development (London) 14 November 2013. Date of access: 14 December 2013. <http://devtracker.dfid.gov.uk/projects/GB-1-203847/>.

<sup>911</sup> Yemen Humanitarian Resilience Programme, Department for International Development (London) 14 November 2013. Date of access: 14 December 2013. <http://devtracker.dfid.gov.uk/projects/GB-1-203847/>.

<sup>912</sup> Yemen Humanitarian Resilience Programme, Department for International Development (London) 14 November 2013. Date of access: 14 December 2013. <http://devtracker.dfid.gov.uk/projects/GB-1-203847/>.

<sup>913</sup> Yemen Humanitarian Resilience Programme, Department for International Development (London) 14 November 2013. Date of access: 14 December 2013. <http://devtracker.dfid.gov.uk/projects/GB-1-203847/>.

<sup>914</sup> Arab Partnership Economic Facility (APEF)- Natural Resource Management in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Region, Department for International Development (London) 22 November 2013. Date of access: 14 December 2013. <http://devtracker.dfid.gov.uk/projects/GB-1-203966/>.

<sup>915</sup> Broader Middle East and North Africa Initiative (BMENA)- Civil Society/ Government Workshops, Foreign and Commonwealth Office (London) 3 December 2013. Date of access: 11 December 2013. <https://www.gov.uk/government/policies/working-for-peace-and-long-term-stability-in-the-middle-east-and-north-africa/supporting-pages/broader-middle-east-and-north-africa-initiative-bmena>.

<sup>916</sup> Arab Partnership Participation Fund, Foreign and Commonwealth Office (London). Date of access: 11 December 2013. <https://www.gov.uk/arab-partnership-participation-fund>.

<sup>917</sup> Arab Partnership Programme Fund: Project list FY 13/14, Foreign and Commonwealth Office (London). Date of access: 15 December 2013. [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/230941/Project\\_list\\_2013-14.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/230941/Project_list_2013-14.pdf).

public voice, political participation, inclusive and sustainable economic growth and the BMENA initiative.<sup>918</sup>

Moreover, on 13 December 2013, the DFID published a fact sheet on “The United Kingdom’s humanitarian aid response to the Syrian crisis.” The factsheet claims that the UK provided a total of GBP 198.7 million to help people affected by the Syrian conflict.<sup>919</sup> It allocated GBP 224.4 million to help Syrian refugees and host communities in Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, Iraq and Egypt. This included providing food, drinking water and sanitation services, medical care, livelihoods, shelter, cash assistance and financial support.<sup>920</sup>

The UK also coordinates with the United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund (UNICEF), World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the Danish Refugee Council, the Save the Children Foundation, the Norwegian Refugee Council and various other humanitarian groups to support these provisions.<sup>921</sup>

Thus, the United Kingdom is awarded a score of +1 for its commitment to support development through implementing funds, establishing organisations and supported various initiatives in the MENA region.

*Analyst: Arnold Yung*

### **United States: +1**

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to support country-led reforms through creating projects that enhance trade, investment and job creation through bilateral trade and investment agreements. It has launched several programs that will increase employment opportunities and support economic development in countries of transition and will form healthy investment and trade relationships with these countries.

On 17 November 2013, the U.S. government launched the Jordan Competitiveness Program that will commit USD45 million over five years to, “strengthen Jordan’s competitiveness in select sectors, promote sustainable economic growth, and increase employment for Jordanians.”<sup>922</sup> The

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<sup>918</sup> Syria Humanitarian Programme Summary, Department of Foreign International Development (London) 17 December 2013. Date of access: 19 December 2013.

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/268578/DFID\\_Syria\\_Humanitarian\\_Programme\\_Summary\\_17.12.13.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/268578/DFID_Syria_Humanitarian_Programme_Summary_17.12.13.pdf).

<sup>919</sup> Syria Humanitarian Programme Summary, Department of Foreign International Development (London) 17 December 2013. Date of access: 19 December 2013.

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/268578/DFID\\_Syria\\_Humanitarian\\_Programme\\_Summary\\_17.12.13.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/268578/DFID_Syria_Humanitarian_Programme_Summary_17.12.13.pdf).

<sup>920</sup> Syria Humanitarian Programme Summary, Department of Foreign International Development (London) 17 December 2013. Date of access: 19 December 2013.

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/268578/DFID\\_Syria\\_Humanitarian\\_Programme\\_Summary\\_17.12.13.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/268578/DFID_Syria_Humanitarian_Programme_Summary_17.12.13.pdf).

<sup>921</sup> Syria Humanitarian Programme Summary, Department of Foreign International Development (London) 17 December 2013. Date of access: 19 December 2013

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/268578/DFID\\_Syria\\_Humanitarian\\_Programme\\_Summary\\_17.12.13.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/268578/DFID_Syria_Humanitarian_Programme_Summary_17.12.13.pdf).

<sup>922</sup> Doing Business with the U.S. Government, Embassy of the United States (Jordan) 28 August 2013. Date of Access: 16 December 2013.

[http://jordan.usembassy.gov/pr\\_jordan\\_competitiveness\\_program\\_111813.html](http://jordan.usembassy.gov/pr_jordan_competitiveness_program_111813.html).

program supports Jordanian businesses in areas of: “information and communication technology, clean technology, and medical services and life sciences.”<sup>923</sup> It supports economic development and job creation in Jordan.

Moreover, on October 2013, a Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI) project was launched to mentor prospective entrepreneurs in Sfax, Tunisia. The project aims to not only coach and inspire potential entrepreneurs in Sfax but also connect them with investors and clients. The volunteer experts involved in the project guide Sfax Business Center staff on how to assist entrepreneurs to from business ideas.<sup>924</sup>

On 28 August 2013, the United States government hosted the event “U.S. Government Vendors’ Day in Amman” whereby, “officials explained the steps involved in contracting with the U.S. government.”<sup>925</sup> The purpose of the event was to encourage Jordanian businesses to take advantage of the contracting opportunities provided by the U.S. government. The cooperation between the U.S. government and Jordanian companies would generate social and economic benefits including improved health indicators, water networks and increased job opportunities in local communities in Jordan. This event illustrates the U.S. government’s effort to foster a healthy investment relationship with Jordan.

Thus, U.S. has been awarded a score of +1 for its support for the economic integration of and maintenance of healthy investment relationship with countries in transition to democracy.

*Analyst: Kai-Yuan Chen*

### **European Union: 0**

The European Union has partially complied with its commitment to support country-led reforms through the Transition Fund for the Middle USD and North Africa (MENA). Though individual member states within the EU have contributed to the Transition Fund, the European Union has neither donated, nor pledged towards the objective.<sup>926</sup>

The EU remains committed to greater trade, investment, and economic integration in the region through bilateral trade and investment agreements.<sup>927</sup> Negotiating directives between the EU and various countries in the Middle Eastern and North African region started on 14 December 2011.<sup>928</sup> Two rounds of negotiations on a Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Agreement

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<sup>923</sup> Doing Business with the U.S. Government, Embassy of the United States (Jordan) 28 August 2013. Date of Access: 16 December 2013.

[http://jordan.usembassy.gov/pr\\_jordan\\_competitiveness\\_program\\_111813.html](http://jordan.usembassy.gov/pr_jordan_competitiveness_program_111813.html).

<sup>924</sup> MEPI Project Supports Tunisian Entrepreneurs, The U.S.-Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI) Date of Access: 28 December 2013. <http://mepi.state.gov/mh111913a.html>.

<sup>925</sup> U.S. Launches \$45 Million Program to Increase Jordan’s Competitiveness and Create Jobs, Embassy of the United States (Jordan) 17 November 2013.

Date of Access: 16 December 2013 [http://jordan.usembassy.gov/pr\\_vendors\\_day\\_082813.html](http://jordan.usembassy.gov/pr_vendors_day_082813.html).

<sup>926</sup> Donors and Partners, Middle East and North Africa Transition Fund (Washington D.C) 2013. Date of Access: 17 December 2013. <http://www.menatransitionfund.org/content/donors-and-partners>.

<sup>927</sup> European Neighbourhood Policy, working towards a stronger partnership: EP’s position on the 2012 progress reports, European Parliament (Brussels) 23 October 2013. Date of Access: 17 December 2013. <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-//EP//TEXT+TA+P7-TA-2013-0446+0+DOC+XML+V0//EN>.

<sup>928</sup> EU Agrees to Start Trade Negotiations with Egypt, Jordan, Morocco and Tunisia, European Commission (Brussels) 14 December 2011. Date of Access 17 December 2013 [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-11-1545\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-11-1545_en.htm).

(DCFTA) between the EU and Morocco, a dialogue with Egypt on a similar DCFTA, and preparatory scoping processes with Jordan and Tunisia occurred as of 29 November 2013.<sup>929</sup>

Investment in the region also increased after the 2013 Lough Erne G8 Summit. On 24 May 2013, the European Investment Bank (EIB) announced a USD50 million investment to fund small and medium private enterprises in MENA, which Philippe de Fontaine Vive, Vice President of the EIB said remains, “the cornerstone of any equitable strategy and job creation in the region.”<sup>930</sup> On 21 November 2013, the European Commission announced an assistance package of EUR 476 million for development in the Southern Neighbourhood, and highlights the EU’s “commitment to support partner countries’ efforts to stimulate sustainable economic development.”<sup>931</sup>

Moreover, the European Bank of Reconstruction and Development continued its efforts to bolster economic growth by opening up offices in Tunisia and Jordan in October 2013, committed EUR 20 million to a Moroccan-based Capital North Africa Venture Fund, and “aims to invest up to EUR 800 million next year in key Arab countries.”<sup>932</sup>

The EU is awarded a score of 0 for supporting greater trade, investment, and investment integration in MENA through bilateral trade and investment agreements, but has not done so through the MENA Transition Fund.

*Analyst: Anthony Marchese*

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<sup>929</sup> Overview of FTA and Other Trade Negotiations, European Commission (Brussels) 29 November 2013.

Date of Access: 17 December 2013

[http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2006/december/tradoc\\_118238.pdf](http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2006/december/tradoc_118238.pdf).

<sup>930</sup> IFC, EIB, and AFD Support Small Businesses and Mobilize Investment in MENA, European Investment Bank (Amman) 24 May 2013. Date of Access: 17 December 2013. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_BEI-13-71\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_BEI-13-71_en.htm).

<sup>931</sup> EU Boosts Support to Democratic Reforms and Development in the Southern Neighbourhood, European Commission (Brussels) 21 November 2013. Date of Access: 17 December 2013

[http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-13-1136\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-13-1136_en.htm).

<sup>932</sup> ERBD Steps Up Lending to Arab States Hit by Unrest, Reuters (Amman) 21 November 2013. Date of Access: 17 December 2013. <http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/11/21/ebrd-arab-lending-idUSL4N0J62CY20131121>.