







HUMAN RIGHTS AND ACCOUNTABILITY CONSORTIUM

## TRUST >>

Transition Redevable pour la Société Tunisienne

# Accountable Transition for Tunisian Society PROJECT

Phase 1 - 2020/2023

## General framework of the TRUST project

The TRUST project supports Independent Public Authorities (IPIs) as new and important actors in the national accountability system.

The independent public bodies established or strengthened since the 2011 revolution are conceived as guardians of the accountability of the State. Their independence guaranteed by the constitution or law protects them from interference by other actors of the Tunisian state.

IPI contribute to strengthening the accountability of the Tunisian State, both transversally (through all the public actors concerned and in their areas of competence) and vertically (vis-à-vis citizens).

The TRUST project is anchored on a vision according to which the accountability of the Tunisian State will be strengthened by strengthening the capacities of IPIs, supporting the synergies they can establish to face the common challenges they face, as well as strengthening the relationships maintained by IPI with other public actors (government, Parliament and Justice) and civil society organizations.

Envisaged over nine (9) years, implemented in three-year phases, the TRUST project aims at structural change through its support to IPI so that they undertake the expected reforms in their various areas of competence, implement their respective mandates, interact with the constituted powers and meet the expectations of citizens. During the first phase of the project (2020-2023), TRUST supports IPIs separately and collectively.

## The TRUST project has supported the following public independent instances during the first phase:

- The High Authority for Audiovisual Communication HAICA (est.2011)
- The National Authority for the Prevention of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Punishment INPT (est.2013)
- The National Authority for Access to Information INAI (est.2016)
- The National Authority for the Protection of Personal Data INPDCP (est.2004)
- The National Authority to Combat Trafficking in Persons INLCTP (2016)

Tunisia does not currently have a functioning NHRI.



## Objectives of the TRUST project

Four objectives are implemented: (2020)



Improve the relations of IPI with other state institutions (constituted powers) by developing dialogue, cooperation and complementarity between IPI and other public actors (government, parliament and justice).



**Develop citizens' access to a culture of democratic control and accountability** through the strengthening of the accessibility of IPI to all citizens including vulnerable groups and institutional communication to the general public on the role of IPI in the protection of rights, monitoring, and in some cases, control of state action and democratic reforms.



**Strengthen the performance and optimise the functioning of independent bodies** because, whether they are in transition or relatively new, IPIs must have a precise understanding of their mandates and the delimitation of competences between them, as well as vis-à-vis other public actors. This stream will also address organizational management and internal governance issues.



Support synergies and pool efforts between independent public bodies for the pooling of IPI efforts in order to create synergy between their complementary mandates that agree around the protection of human rights and the facilitation of citizens' access to their rights.



## Implementation structure of the TRUST project

Funded by the Swiss Cooperation in Tunisia, the TRUST project is implemented by the four-members of the Accountability and Human Rights Consortium (CRDH).

## **Swiss Cooperation Office in Tunisia**

As part of its support for strengthening the accountability of the Tunisian State, the Directorate for Cooperation at the Swiss Embassy in Tunisia is financing the TRUST project with an envelope of CHF (2,999,499) for the first phase (2020-2023).

## Consortium for Accountability and Human Rights (CRDH)

The TRUST project is implemented by the Accountability and Human Rights Consortium composed of the Danish Institute for Human Rights (DIHR) (team lead), the Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Network (EuroMed Rights), the Danish Institute for Against Torture (DIGNITY) and the Kawakibi Centre for Democratic Transitions (KADEM) (implementing partner).

## ■ Project Lead

The Danish Human Rights Institute (DIHR) has been present in Tunisia since 2012 where it works with various Tunisian public actors as part of its systemic approach to the protection and promotion of human rights, in particular the ministries or departments successively responsible for human rights and relations with independent bodies as well as the Higher Committee for Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms.

62, Rue Ibn Bassem, El Menzah 4, 1004 Tunis, Tunisie www.humanrights.dk



#### Consortium Partners

The Euro-Mediterranean Rights Network (EuroMed Rights) has developed since 2017 its action towards IPIs trough the coordination of the joint activities of the League of Independent Public Authorities (LIPI) within the framework of the Arab-Danish Partnership Programme (DAPP).

80 Rue Palestine, Lafayette, 1001, Tunis, Tunisie www.euromedrights.org

Since 2016, the Danish Institute against Torture (DIGNITY) has been providing technical (capacity building) and financial support to the National Authority for the Prevention of Torture (INPT), as well as to the initiative of the League of Public Authorities (LIPI).

12 rue de Sénégal, 1002, Tunis, Tunisie www.dignity.dk

The KAWAKIBI Centre for Democratic Transitions (KADEM) has been working with independent public bodies since 2015 through training sessions on the development of the skills of IPI members and staff (separately or jointly) in terms of reporting, communication and visibility of bodies and the protection of personal data.

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