



# Arab Forum for Alternatives

Strategic plan 2023

# WHO WE ARE?

An independent Arab research center that acts as a platform for the interaction of experts and researchers for the purpose of knowledge production and the creation of an alternative discourse in the region.


AFA was established in 2008 in Egypt; then moved to Beirut in 2018.





# WHAT WE DO?

Contribute in the creation of alternative spaces and discourses and proposing alternative policies for different players in the public sphere across the Arab region with the aim of bridging the gap between civil society organizations and academics on one hand and political elites on the other hand.



# WHAT DO WE LIKE TO ACHIEVE FROM THAT?

To take part of Creating a community that adopts scientific methodologies in the social sciences as a means of achieving social justice, democracy, freedom (both political and socioeconomic), respects cultural diversity, and is founded on the principles of citizenship and equality.

# WHY WE DO THAT?



## THE SCARCITY

of independent research centers that have the ability to operate on the regional level.

## POOR COMMUNICATION



between the three relevant parties: decision makers, civil society, and academia.



## LACK OF KNOWLEDGE

of potential social alternatives.

## THE DOMINANCE OF THE POPULIST



political and religious discourse both regionally and globally.

# WHAT ARE OUR PRINCIPLES FOR DOING THAT?

- Linking the scientific and the pragmatic, theoretical framework, and field work.
- Belief in universal human rights.
- Respecting the diverse political and social contexts in the region.
- Abiding by scientific rules while conducting research in the social sciences .



# HOW WE DO IT?

1. PRODUCTION OF SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE THAT TAKES PART IN DEVELOPING AWARENESS OF THE SITUATION IN THE ARAB REGION AND THE KEY ISSUES RELATED TO IT.
2. PROPOSING POLITICAL, SOCIAL, AND ECONOMIC ALTERNATIVES TO DEAL WITH THE PROBLEMS OF THE REGION IN A WAY THAT EMPHASIZES JUSTICE, FREEDOM, AND LIBERATION.
3. BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN DIFFERENT PARTIES INVOLVED IN THE PUBLIC SPHERE: CIVIL SOCIETY, ACADEMIA, AND DECISION-MAKING CIRCLES.

# AND THAT TAKE PLACE INSTITUTIONALLY THROUGH?

- IMPROVING THE FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE SITUATION OF THE INSTITUTION IN A WAY THAT SUITS THE GENERAL GOALS.
- ENHANCING THE SKILLS OF THE FORUM'S WORKING TEAM.
- PROMOTING THE WORK OF THE FORUM AND MAKING USE OF ADVANCED COMMUNICATION TOOLS SUCH AS SOCIAL MEDIA.
- DEVELOPING AND ACTIVATING THE FORUM'S CONSULTATIVE BOARD.
- DEVELOPING PARTNERSHIPS WITH OTHER INDEPENDENT RESEARCH CENTERS .



# WHAT IS THE REGULATORY FRAMEWORK TO DO THAT?

## AFA OPERATES TO:

Produce the knowledge that is relevant to the forum's programs and enabling different players in the region to benefit from it

Develop communication mechanisms with local, regional, and international institutions that work on transformation through two programs, under which the different issues tackled by the forum are categorized:

## **FIRST PROGRAM:**

### **POLITICAL TRANSFORMATIONS AND SOCIAL MOVEMENTS: DEVELOPMENTS AND VISIONS:**

The program focuses on political transformations in the region through understanding the internal mechanisms of those transformations and the impact of external developments on them. The program, therefore, is interested in civil society on the theoretical, conceptual, and practical levels as well as the role of social movements. It also highlights several problematic factors that play a key role in charting the course of democratic transition such as populism, development, violence, and others. The program does not only analyze the impact of political transformation but also works on offering alternatives on scientific and methodological bases. These include constitutions, elections, and the role of civil society and state institutions.

## **SECOND PROGRAM:**

### **SOCIAL JUSTICE AND INEQUALITY: MULTIPLE DIMENSIONS:**

In light of economic and social transformations on the regional and international levels, this program focuses on promoting the principles of social justice both theoretically and practically, through analyzing several aspects of inequality in the Arab region and formulating a vision based on an alternative economy that is founded on the principle of justice, participation, and sovereignty. This program is interested in promoting social, economic, and environmental rights and consolidating them through enhancing communication between different relevant parties as a means of emphasizing and struggling for those rights.

# HOW DO WE DELIVER THAT TO OUR TARGET AUDIENCE?

**1. RESEARCH AND STUDIES ON DIFFERENT ISSUES RELATED TO THE PROGRAM.**



**2. POLICY PAPERS THAT PROPOSE REALISTIC ALTERNATIVES.**



**3. PROMOTING THE FORUM AND ITS ACTIVITIES THROUGH MODERN COMMUNICATION TOOLS.**



**4. RAISING AWARENESS AMONG YOUTHS, ENHANCING THEIR SKILLS, AND PRODUCING THE NECESSARY TOOLS INCLUDING TRAINING SESSIONS.**



5. TAKING PART IN THE CREATION OF NETWORKS THAT INCLUDE REGIONAL PLAYERS WHO ARE CAPABLE OF TAKING PART IN THE MISSION, WITH SPECIAL FOCUS ON YOUTHS.

6. EXPANDING THE NETWORK OF RESEARCHERS ACROSS COUNTRIES AND SPECIALIZATIONS.

7. COOPERATION WITH OTHER RESEARCH ENTITIES INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THE REGION TO DISSEMINATE STUDIES RELEASED BY THE FORUM.

8. EXPANDING THE PUBLICATION OF FOLLOW-UP AND SHORT PAPERS.



# TO BE ABLE TO ACCOMPLISH THAT WE SEEK INTERNALLY TO:

1- DEVELOP THE FORUM'S STRUCTURE AND REGULATIONS TO ENHANCE INSTITUTIONAL EFFICACY.

2- DIVERSIFY THE SOURCES OF FUNDING WITH SPECIAL FOCUS ON BIG PROJECTS THAT CAN COVER THE FORUM'S NEEDS AND ACHIEVE STABILITY AND SUSTAINABILITY.

# THIS WILL BE DONE THROUGH:

1- COOPERATION AND JOINT RESPONSIBILITY AMONG TEAM MEMBERS AT THE FORUM.

2- MERGING THE FORUM'S OLD BOARDS AND COMMITTEES INTO ONE IN A WAY THAT SUITS ITS AMBITIONS AND ABILITIES.

3- DEVELOPING RULES AND REGULATIONS IN A WAY THAT FACILITATES REMOTE WORKING.

4- FOCUSING ON ELECTRONIC MARKETING WITH SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON PLATFORMS THAT ARE INTERESTED IN THE TYPE OF WORK IN WHICH THE FORUM IS INVOLVED.

5- DEVELOPING A TRAINING PLAN FOR THE WORKING TEAM IN THE FIELDS OF RESEARCH AND ADMINISTRATION.

6- RESORTING TO THE COUNCIL AND EXPERTS SPECIALIZED IN THE PROCESS OF RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT.

7- CONSOLIDATING THE FORUM'S RESEARCH AND ADMINISTRATION TEAMS.

8- INCREASED VISIBILITY ON THE REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS THROUGH MAKING ENGLISH TRANSLATIONS AND/OR SUMMARIES OF THE FORUM'S PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE.

# PUBLICATIONS



الدواء في مصر  
بين الحق والسياسات الدوائية

عائشة إبراهيم  
محمد سالم

المجتمع المدني  
في المنطقة العربية

تطورات وتحديات ما بعد الحراك

الدكتور  
محمد العجالي

عائشة إبراهيم، هبة وهيب، محمد راد، شيماء القرقول، محمد العجالي

السياسات العامة  
والعدالة الاجتماعية  
في مصر

الدكتور  
محمد العجالي

عائشة إبراهيم، هبة وهيب، محمد راد، شيماء القرقول، محمد العجالي

اتفاقيات التجارة  
الحررة الأوروبية

الاستثمار في التنمية  
أم تنمية الاستثمارات؟

هبة خليل  
ريم عبد الحليم  
منى عزت، شيماء القرقول

سياسات تطوير التعليم في مصر  
نحو التحدى نظاهرة الخصخصة  
غير الرسمية

عمر سمير خلف

تحرير: محمد العجالي  
شيماء القرقول، أسماء فاجي، ريم  
عمر سمير خلف، محمد العجالي،  
عماد الشيخ داود، رياض عيسى،  
مصطفى نصر

اطلالة على تجارب  
الصحافة المحلية  
في المنطقة العربية

هل من هنا نبدأ؟

عبد المونكي أبو العباس، سمير جويدي، محمد  
عبد الحليم، أحمد عبد المنعم، خالد مصطفى، داليا حسن  
يونس جويدي، ريم ريم، هبة وهيب، محمد العجالي، أيمن شهاب

عبد المونكي

في البحث  
عن مؤشرات  
اقتصادية بديلة

توليف حناد  
جمال الدين

نمط الإيجار في مصر  
بين السياسات والتشريعات

محمد رمضان  
محمد العجالي

محمد العجالي  
عمر سمير خلف  
ياسر

أزمات التنمية السياسية  
في المنطقة العربية

بين النظرية وتداعيات الحراك

الحماية الاجتماعية  
والخدمات العامة في مصر

عبد الحميد مكاوي  
رضوى التوحي

أزمات التنمية السياسية  
في المنطقة العربية

بين النظرية وتداعيات الحراك

أزمات التنمية السياسية  
في المنطقة العربية

بين النظرية وتداعيات الحراك