Challenge 3:
Research contexts – priorities, training and impact

A Perspective From the Arabic Gulf and the Levant

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Context

✧ Some figures (Arab World = 22 States)
  ✧ Internet penetration is between 36 to 40%
  ✧ About 413 million Internet users
  ✧ 71 million social networking technologies users.
✧ Research prompted by political role/democratic/revolutionary potential
  ✧ Western NGOs
  ✧ Arab-based NGOs
  ✧ Local governments - Inter-Arab State Agencies
Research Interests

Arabian Gulf (Saudi Arabia, Qatar, UAE, Oman, Kuwait and Bahrain)

✦ Economic and culturally oriented

✦ Examples:
  ✦ Literacies and capacity building.
  ✦ Developing cultural safeguards

The Levant (Lebanon, Syria, Palestinian Territories and Jordan)

✦ Economic implications

✦ Examples:
  ✦ Literacies and capacity building.
  ✦ Media development research
Research Areas/Training

- Access & the digital divide
- Content & Value
- Literacy & Pedagogy
- Legal