

Terms of Reference

ADEF's Advisory Board Moqattam Youth Digital Empowerment Project

I. Background

The Moqattam Youth Digital Empowerment Project is a 36-month long project framing the partnership between the Drossos Foundation (Drossos...) and the Arab Digital Expression Foundation (ADEF). Through its Digital Expression Empowerment Project, the Arab Digital Expression Foundation (ADEF) aims to enhance under-privileged youth of the areas in Al Moqattam in Cairo and Sedfa in the Assuit governorate's capacity to express freely with modern tools and participate as active citizens in the life of their community.

10 local partner community-based youth organizations and their staff including management, field and outreach staff will partake in a 36 months training program, to disseminate the use of open source digital media and knowledge as a means of expression, youth development and youth empowerment. As much as this process will focus on changing youth and providing them with learning and empowering opportunities, as much as it will focus on and be managed in a way that also leads to youth participation in community development and community change.

Digital expression centers will be set up at the 10 partners' premises while ADEF will train 50 local community workers to the extent that these 10 local partners and their constituency can autonomously conduct digital expression workshops for the youth. 520 under privileged youngsters aged 11-16 will be trained in digital expression, as the immediate result of the program.

The project intends to specifically involve the youth, the existing local community-based youth organizations, as well as available local facilities such as internet cafes, and informal schools, In addition to enhancing the digital knowhow of under privileged youth, the 10 partner organizations will see their institutional development, human resources and infrastructure greatly improved.

Invitations to join the Advisory Board recognize an individual's commitment to and support for the ADEF's Moqattam Youth Digital Empowerment Project. Nominations are reviewed based on a combination of:

II. Advisory Board Members Selection Criteria:

1. Diversity: members are selected to cover a wide range of expertise, interests, insights, and connections relevant to youth empowerment, social development, free expression, alternative education, community mobilization, and engagement with Moqattam local communities of the upper, middle and lower plateaus.

2. Institutional affiliation: Advisory board should include members active in their communities through civil society, or in their individual capacities.
3. Residency: Members are residents of Moqattam with demonstrated deep engagement within the community
4. Engagement within the community:
 - Be an active member and leader in the community
 - Have interest in arts, expression, alternative education and learning
 - Have contacts with key figures and institutions in the Moqattam community
 - Interested in youth empowerment and community participation
 - Equipped with depth knowledge of the needs of the community at large and Moqattam youth in specific
 - Demonstrated knowledge of potential community workers, techies and artists in the area

III. Member Contributions

What does membership entail? Advisory board members have two main roles: as advisors to the project management, and advocates for the project:

- Advise on nominations of other advisory board members
- Advise on potential project partners (NGOs, public schools, youth centers, internet cafés, etc.)
- Advise on training needs related to free and digital expression in Moqattam's localities
- Advise and facilitate contact with relevant governmental institutions
- Make recommendations pertinent to venues that can be turned into Digital Expression Community Areas (DECAs).
- Help spread the call for proposals to be launched for partner organizations
- Assist in expanding the network of educators, artists and techies who can contribute to the project
- Assist when possible in identifying sponsors for partner DECA activities