Addressing the rise of *Cloud Computing* in the Arab Region
Project overview

Today, we’re living within a global information society characterized by Hyper connectivity and the emergence of Cloud Computing concept, which involves deploying groups of remote servers and software networks that allow centralized data storage and online access to computer services or resources. It can be classified as public, private or hybrid.

Across the globe, the Cloud Computing has exploded in popularity over the past few years as companies utilize it for backup, storage, network, security and management systems.

With regard to the:

- Key benefits of Cloud Computing: enhancing IT costs and scalability, and enabling employees to access technology and data while on the go.
- The state of Cloud adoption in the Arab region
- In spite of the rise of Cloud Computing in some Arab countries (Golf), initiatives in the Arab countries are still in their early stages.
- For many Arab countries, the main type of risk being associated with cloud technology is legal risks.

AICTO is launching this project.

Main Objectives

This project aims at supporting Arab countries in their efforts to adopt “Cloud Computing” by developing:

- A research paper that studies the impact of Cloud Computing on the Arab region, considering both the challenges in terms of policies, skills, ... as well as opportunities for Innovation, job creation, economic development, ICT readiness, E-Govt Readiness, ...
- A policy toolkit that will provide a consistent and coherent framework for the Arab Countries,
- Local policies that will both support National priorities and unleash the power of the Cloud Convergence.

Beneficiary Countries

All Arab countries

Estimated Duration
- Start date: 2012
- Estimated end date: 2016

Estimated Budget
- $340,000 USD

Project components

This project will include 3 components:

Research paper & Survey:
- Survey of Cloud Computing adopters in the Arab region.
- Research paper on Cloud Computing impact on the Arab region.
- Awareness activities & Capacity Building: Sharing experiences and best practices on Cloud Computing adoption
- White book (Tool-kit): Roadmap and policy toolkit for addressing the rise of Cloud Computing in the Arab Region

Involving Parties

Main players in this project:
- Arab ICT Ministries.
- Microsoft
- All concerned parties.
- The Arab ICT Organization.
- Arab Private sector (Operating in the ICT field).
- Banking institutions in the Arab region.

Involved Parties

All Arab countries

AICTO will work in partnership with:

- Microsoft
- Local public and private sector organizations
- All concerned parties
- And any other organizations.

Estimated Budget

- $340,000 USD

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