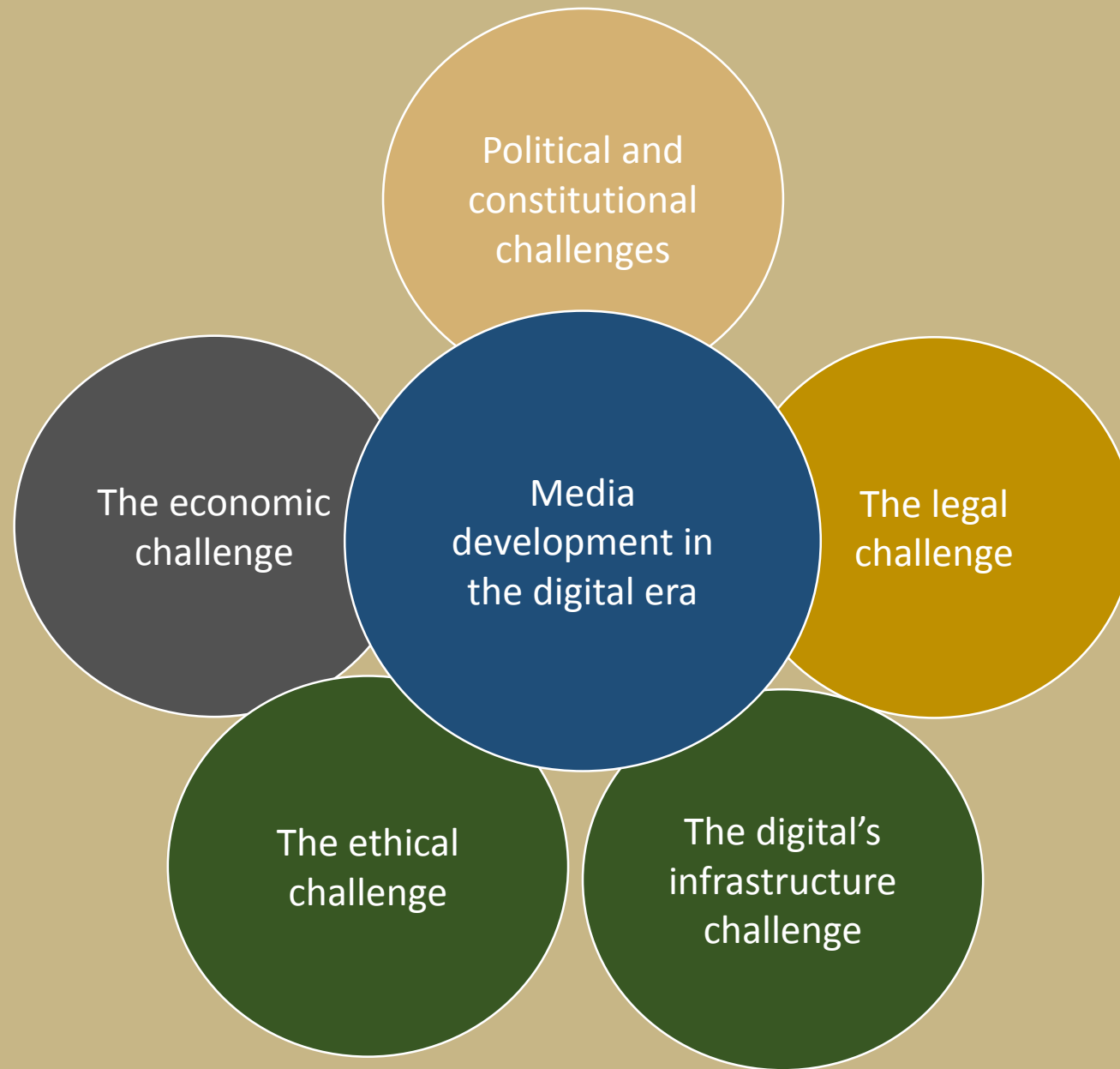




**Moroccan Ministry of Communication**

# **Media development in digital era : Moroccan Model**







**Morocco**

## The impact of new technologies

1. The emergence of new technologies has represented a catalyst for new way of communication and led to new forms of social, cultural and political relations in the public sphere with its implication on the process of democratization. They also emphasize the challenges of stability in the context of increased threats of extremism and terrorism
2. The pace of events in the Arab region from 2011 until 2016 provides an opportunity to examine the state of communication and its challenges in the digital era.



3. The crisis of communication in the Arab world is due to many factors:
  - The Digital gap: The gap between those who have access to computers and Internet, and those who do not (Oxford).
  - The democratic deficit that limits the possibilities of the use of new communication technologies.
  - The resignation of the elites, which leads to a crisis of leadership and deepens the crisis of communication and the failure of reconciliation between citizens and politics.
4. Thus, while examining the role of communication in the democratization processes and counter-extremism efforts, we should take into account the above three factors.  
=> The new technologies represent a opportunity to sol



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## Moroccan Model in media development

5. In march 9 the historical speech of his majesty the king has started the second generation of reforms based on genuine political and institutional reforms that will foster political accountability, encourage political participation, establish the independence of the judiciary and boost the access to information.
6. After the 2011 Constitution, we launched many media reforms of the legal and ethical and economic framework of the media, Secondly, consolidating the infrastructure of digital technologies
  - Widening the freedom of expression.
  - Preserving an open and responsible digital public sphere, especially after the spread of satellite networks (Hotbird – Nilesat – Arabsat) that reduced the government's control over information

As an implication to this goal, firstly there is a urgent need for a deep reform of the legal framework.,



## The legal framework : the new press code and broadcasting law

6. Last December, the government adopted the new press code:

6-1 Removing jail sentences for journalistic crimes without the possibility to jail journalists if they fail to pay a fine.

6-2 Last February the parliament adopted Setting up the National Press Council as a democratic self-regulatory mechanism

6-3 The amendment of the law of the HACA and broadcasting ( Ethics – TNT – Women – diversity – independence )

- Guaranteeing the legal protection of the sources of journalists.
- Providing strong legal protection of journalists against attack.
- Decriminalizing defamation
- Judiciary protection of the right to publish.



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## The online media reform in Morocco

7. Achieving legal recognition of electronic media and Internet Freedom:
  - More than 250 news websites
  - Press card
  - Transparent State aid based on preserving diversity.
  - Training and in-service training for journalists
  - Extracting Morocco from “Internet enemies list”
  - There were no instances of blocking
  - No demand to Facebook or twitter or Google concerning users information



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## 2015 freedom indicators

8.

- No national media outlet was confiscated or censored, and no electronic newspaper was shut down
- Decrease of the number of journalists assaulted while carrying out their job by 50% (6 cases).
- Decrease of the number of court cases involving journalists to 24, and the absence of any final sentence of imprisonment against journalists
- Rising access of opposition parties to audiovisual media outlets by 43%
- Morocco progressed in Network Readiness Report from the 99<sup>th</sup> position in 2014 to the 78<sup>th</sup> position in 2015





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## Ethical framework : The challenge of Ethics

9. Beside these reforms, the challenge of Ethics emerges as the main challenge, especially with respect to:

- Private life
- Cultural diversity
- Protection of minors
- Women equality
- Racial discrimination
- Violence



## The economic framework : the challenge of economic model

10. The sustainability of the economic model of media remains a huge challenge, which undermines its independency and integrity due to the role of the industry of advertisement and marketing in shaping the digital world.

This situation calls for the need to transparency and boosting State aid to media, as well as social programs to protect the dignity of journalists.

- Increase of State aid by 50 %
- Increase of publicity investments by 4 %

11. To put an end to the isolation of elites and political stakeholders, we should promote political and social debates



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## The challenge of internet's infrastructure

12. Investing in Internet technology, Morocco has become a leader country in Africa and the Arab world.

Based on the recent Competitiveness report, Morocco ranked 60<sup>th</sup> among 140 countries in securing Internet use, and ranked 51<sup>st</sup> among 140 countries in the availability of latest technologies.

The number of Internet subscribers increased from less than 10 millions to more than 14 millions, out of a total population of 34 millions.



**Morocco**

## The internet landscape in Morocco

### 13. Revolution of mobile and Internet technologies in Morocco:

- In 2014, less than 10 million Internet subscribers. In 2015, the number rose to over 14 million subscribers
- 11 million Facebook users
- 92% of Moroccan mobile subscribers are using 3G/4G
- Increase of satellite audience from 34% in 2004 to 85% in 2015.
- Successful transition to TNT
- Securing broadcasting in 84 % of Moroccan territories
- Providing digital TV devices for consumers
- Amending Audiovisual Law.

**Thank you**

