

What is AGORA?

AGORA (<u>www.agora-parl.org</u>) is the leading multi-lateral knowledge platform on parliamentary development. It has been designed as a flexible tool and a meeting space used by Parliamentarians, parliamentary staff and the community of practice in order to facilitate information exchange.

"AGORA is a one-stop reference centre and hub for knowledge sharing on parliamentary development"



Following an extensive review process earlier this year, the AGORA team is thrilled to announce the launch of the new Portal for Parliamentary Development at <u>www.agora-parl.org</u>. The new Portal is available in English, French and Arabic.

The redesign of the Portal is based on feedback from AGORA's partners and members with a view to meeting the changing needs of the Community of Practice. To this end, AGORA now offers an innovative E-Learning Portal as well as a revamped 'Interact' section where members can connect, share information and join groups. In addition, the Portal continues to offer a unique virtual library, an expanded set of resource pages on parliamentary development issue areas, a blog and a news and social media section.

A quick overview:

• Resources & Knowledge Materials

Since its launch in 2010, AGORA has collected a unique set of resources and knowledge materials on parliamentary development. The virtual library offers more than 1300 handbooks, guidelines, reports and documents in English, French and Arabic. The 'Areas of Expertise' offer over 120 pages on parliamentary development topics, each with a concise overview as well as further reading materials and a list to relevant news and updates.

• Interact: Join the Community of Practice

Interact is AGORA's social networking space, a virtual platform where you can connect with others, share information and join groups dedicated to parliamentary development issue areas such as gender, climate change and anti-corruption. To access Interact, you can either register through our sign-up form or simply log in using your social media accounts.

• Interactive Learning

In response to multiple requests for online learning materials AGORA has designed an innovative 'Induction for First-time Parliamentarians' e-learning course, available at <u>http://learn.agora-parl.org/</u>. This course is designed for legislators who are new to parliament, and for parliamentary staff, practitioners, donors, civil society organisations and others who want to learn more about parliaments. The course is available in English but will be launched in French and Arabic shortly.

• Keeping Informed: News, the Blog and Social Media

AGORA brings you the latest news and updates on parliamentary development at the click of a button. Our news section offers a daily selection of key stories and developments. On the Blog, AGORA's partners keep you posted on their work and share insights and best practices. AGORA also produces a monthly newsletter with the latest updates and resources from the Portal.

Finally, you can connect with AGORA on our social networks: find us on <u>twitter</u> (@AgoraParl), <u>facebook</u> (AgoraParl) or <u>youtube</u> and stay tuned.

AGORA Workshops

Drawing on its extensive partner and expert network, AGORA is able to provide tailored, high-quality workshops for parliamentarians and parliamentary staff on a wide range of issues. These workshops range from 3 to 10 days and are delivered in person, with appropriate online preparation and follow-up. Depending on the demands of the requesting party, they can be delivered within 4 to 6 weeks.

To date AGORA has successfully delivered networking and legislative drafting trainings in Mauritania, Suriname and Guyana among others. For more information, contact us at <u>info@agora-parl.org</u>.

AGORA & the Arab States

AGORA launched its Arab site in the wake of the Arab Spring and has since been actively engaging in the region. In addition to building on the current library and resource sections in Arabic, AGORA is an active member of global social media networks and produces a monthly digest with updates on parliamentary affairs in the Arab States. For more information, please contact Reem Askar at reem.askar@undp.org.

Questions?

If you wish to learn more about AGORA or subscribe to our newsletter, please visit <u>www.agora-parl.org</u> or contact the AGORA team at <u>info@agora-parl.org</u>.

