

Dr. Ammar Hamadien

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Dr. Ammar Hamadien is a seasoned international ICT professional with 28 years of experience in leadership roles across government, multilateral organizations, and multinational telecom companies. His wealth of knowledge and experience stems from an extensive career spanning three continents. His expertise lies at the intersection of technology, policy, and strategic engagement.

Dr. Hamadien is currently the Lead Advisor for Digital Sustainable Development (D4SD) at the UNDP Regional Bureau for Arab States. In this role, he provides strategic guidance to the digital transformation team, focusing on strategy formulation, policy development, and fostering strategic partnerships across the Arab region. He previously held the position of Strategic Consultant for Digital Transformation at UNDP Iraq, advising the UNDP Iraq Country Office on matters related to the Iraq digital economy in collaboration with multiple stakeholders in the Government of Iraq. Additionally, he is the Senior Advisor for the Middle East and North Africa at Policy Impact Partners, further demonstrating his ongoing commitment to the field. Ammar is also a member of the advisory board of DigiGov Central, a global think tank on transforming governance and empowering urban local bodies with digitally enabled solutions to serve citizens better

Previously, Dr. Hamadien was Senior Advisor at the Digital Cooperation Organization (DCO). His responsibilities encompassed policy formulation, international relations, and strategic engagement. At the DCO, he championed digital inclusion and played a pivotal role in shaping progressive technology policies. Prior to this role, he served as the Deputy Minister for Digital Transformation at the Ministry of Telecommunications and Digital Transformation and as the Director General of the National Information Center in Sudan, where he made significant contributions to the country's digital landscape. His leadership was also evident during his tenure as the Head of Government and Regulatory Affairs and Strategic Engagement at the GSMA in the Middle East and North Africa. Furthermore, he demonstrated his managerial prowess as the Managing Director and CEO at Chinguitel S.A. in Mauritania.

Notably, he contributed significantly to Zain Group for ten years, working across offices in Bahrain, Kuwait, and Sudan. As the Director of Products and Services, he spearheaded product development and innovation across the group's operating companies in the Middle East and Africa. His technical and managerial roles at e& (formerly Etisalat), HP, and Cisco Systems further enriched his diverse experience.

Dr. Hamadien holds a Doctor of Business Administration (DBA) from the University of Bradford, where his research focused on technology diffusion, tech policy, and FinTech. He also earned a Master of Laws (LLM) in Technology, Media, and Telecommunications (TMT) law from Queen Mary University of London, an MBA in Telecommunications Management from Imperial College London, and a BSc in Management Information Systems from California State University. He also completed the Advanced Diploma in Internet Governance from the Diplo Foundation and has obtained professional certificates from Oxford and Cambridge Universities. He is pursuing a Master of Science (MSc) in Sustainable Development at the University of Sussex.