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The Arab Spring represents a huge opportunity for EITI

2 August 2011 Johnny West



The Arab Spring – now turned summer – represents an enormous opportunity for EITI and [transparency](#)? more generally across the region. In Egypt and Tunisia, where I spent much of the first half of the year, calls for an end to corruption led the slogans chanted by peaceful protesters against the regimes of Zainuiddine Ben Ali and Hosni Mubarak. In Libya, you can hardly pass half an hour without people telling you they live in the richest country but are the poorest people. It is just as live an issue in other countries, such as Syria and Bahrain, where protests are still ongoing. From being a topic of refined policy debate, the issues EITI represents have taken the Arab street by storm and are still forefront among people's concerns.

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