

**Success Stories' and Democratic Governance
In the Middle East**

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Political System & Governance

▶ The Executive Branch:

- Chief of State King Abdallah II (since 1999);
- Prince Hussein, eldest son, first in line to inherit the throne

▶ The Legislative Branch:

- Bicameral National Assembly or Majlis al-'Umma
- The Senate / House of Notables or Majlis al-Ayan
- Chamber of Deputies / House of Representatives or Majlis al-Nuwaab - elected by popular vote on the basis of proportional representation to serve four-year terms.

Political Stability & Security

- ▶ Jordan is one of two Arab nations to have made peace with Israel and is a key ally of the US
- ▶ Succession of migrations, including Iraqis and Syrians
- ▶ King Abdullah II faces the task of maintaining stability while accommodating calls for reform.
- ▶ The National Agenda: blueprint for long-term political, economic and social change
- ▶ Jordan's process of economic stabilization and liberalization has been undermined by instability within the region

International Human Rights Conventions & Treaties

Jordan has acceded to 6 (of 7) major United Nations conventions concerned with human rights

- ▶ UN Convention on the *Rights of Persons with Disabilities* and the optional protocol and ratified the convention in March 2008.
- ▶ Two Optional Protocols of the *Rights of the Child Convention* (2000)
- ▶ *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women* (1992)

‘Despite all the turbulences in the neighboring countries, Jordan was able to sustain its balance due to its good governance and the good help of our friends at the international level’

Success Stories

The Improvement of Social Integration of Disabled People in the Middle East through Accessibility Lebanon, Syria, Jordan and Egypt

- **with Spanish Fundación Promoción Social de la Cultura (FPSC)**
- **supported by the Spanish Government represented by the Agency for International Cooperation in Development(AECID)**

Project Objective

- ▶ *To improve the quality of life of persons with disabilities by ensuring accessibility to services and vocational training*

Project Activities

1. Evaluate and assess with the beneficiaries and the local community the selection of the public spaces to be adapted to the needs of PWD in Syria, Jordan and Egypt
2. Execute adaptation works in 17 public spaces
3. Establish Assistive Technology workshop and Adaptation Unit
4. Organize training sessions of vocational training in the private sector in Jordan, Syria and Egypt following the requests of the PWD

Success Indicators - regional level

- ▶ **Compliance with international conventions/agreements:**
 - UN Convention for Rights of Persons with Disabilities

- Millennium Development Goals – 2015 (International Partnership for Development)
- International Day of Persons with Disabilities
 - 2013 Theme: ***'Break Barriers, Open Doors: for an inclusive society and development for all'***
 - 2012 Theme: ***'Removing barriers to create an inclusive and accessible society for all'***

Success Indicators - regional contd.

- ▶ Rights and Development-based approach
- ▶ Based on the needs of the local communities
- ▶ Exchange of expertise at both regional and international levels

Jordan as strategic partner

- ▶ **Jordan as a strategic implementing project partner:**
 - Availability of institutional environment in different fields to a certain extent.
 - Jordan was the first Arab country to sign the UN convention
 - Availability of NGOS with long experience in the field of disabilities
 - Political stability
 - Ensuring sustainability

Success Factors of Implementing Partner – AHS contd.

- ▶ Conformity of mission, objectives and policies between FPSC and AHS
- ▶ Involving AHS in the Design, Planning, and Assessment of the project leading to ownership
- ▶ Integrate the project into AHS programs
- ▶ Project activities were adopted from the highest administrative level to the field workers

Success Factors of Implementing Partner - Al Hussein Society (AHS)

▶ AHS being a model of good practices

- Availability
- Non-discrimination
- Accessibility
- Equality
- Affordability
- Quality
- Qualified Cadre

▶ Success Factors - project level

- Baseline survey
- Accuracy in selecting Zarqa as the target area:
 - a. Scarcity of services
 - b. High number of people with disabilities
- Based on the needs of the local community special persons with disabilities themselves.
- Identifying stakeholders
- Networking between NGOs and Public Sector
- Approval of the Prime Ministry addressing all the concerned stakeholders
- Partnership with Zarqa Governorate to coordinate with all the concerned ministries
- **Establishment of a coordination committee**

1. outcome of a coordination workshop, Zarqa level
2. under Royal Patronage
3. *Social Development Directorate*
4. *Health Directorate*
5. *Directorate of Education*
6. *Public Construction Directorate*
7. *Palestinian Affairs*
8. *Zarqa Municipality*
9. *Development Directorate of Governorate*
10. *The Higher Council for the Affairs of Persons with Disabilities*
11. *Concerned party based on the need*

Role of the Committee

- ▶ Sensitize the needs of the local Communities through surveys
- ▶ Achieve coordination between all the concerned parties
- ▶ Planning, implementing, assessing:
 - Provide related data and information to avoid duplication
 - Approve the Action Plan, Implementing Activities and evaluation
 - Organize Meetings, progress reports, minutes of meetings, correspondences, field visits supported by Liaison Officer
 - Participate in solving raised problems during the project life cycle and expediting the mission
 - Ensure ownership and sustainability

Success Indicators-Committee Level

1. Institutionalization of disability programs inside the Governorate
2. Activate the role of the Governorate
3. Activate the role of the members
4. Ensure Transparency avoiding the abuse of the programs for personals benefits
5. Committee was integrated into the Governorate programs
6. Aattract new members based on needs identified by committee
7. Activate coordination between members at different levels
8. Create an active role for the committee in development through establishing coalitions
9. Awareness raising about human rights in general and persons with disabilities specifically and the urgent need to provide accessibility to create an inclusive society

Success Indicators - Project Level

- ▶ Establishing two vocational training units and workshops
 - Al-Hashemyeh Vocational Training Center for males and
 - Jabal Tareq Vocational Training Center for females in Zarqa
 - in collaboration with the Vocational Training Center
- ▶ Adapting 'environmental adaptation' vocational training centers
 - for males and females
 - four Health Centers
 - AHS premises

Success Indicators - Project Level

- ▶ 20 women and men with cognitive disabilities trained to use the computer at the VTC AT workshop in Zarqa
- ▶ According to the Ministry of Health:
 - the number of the elderly people and persons with disabilities who visited the health centers have increased substantially
 - AHS project has become a best practice model for others to follow

In the field of disabilities, Jordan did not only sustain its services by providing quality services to its citizens, but went beyond this, to help refugees with different disabilities, thus meeting the crucial components of human security of its own people and of others

Outreach and distribution

- ▶ **Outreach and distribution services for Syrian refugees with disabilities and most vulnerable Jordanians of the host communities with OCHA & FPSC**
- ▶ **240** persons with disabilities (Syrians refugees and vulnerable Jordanians) were assessed to identify their mobility needs in Karak, Ramtha and Ma'an
- ▶ **208** persons received **392** mobility aids and orthotic devices in Karak, Ramtha and Ma'an. 2013
- ▶ **13** mobile clinic were conducted within OCHA project to Ramtha , Karak, and Ma'an. 2013

Za'atari Camp

- ▶ Assist and distribute mobility aids to the Syrian refugees in **Za'atari Camp 2014**

Concluding Remarks

- ▶ **One: A model project to be duplicated at the regional level**
- ▶ **Two : Follow up is recommended to ensure sustainability**
- ▶ **Three: Transparency and credibility of the stakeholders are the key success factors.**