

CEPPS-National Democratic Institute (NDI)



297 Women leaders from 12 governorates and the Bedouin Districts participate in the newly launched NDI's "Enhancing Women's Participation in the Upcoming Parliamentary Elections in Jordan" program, conducted in partnership with the Jordanian National Committee for Women (JNCW).



3,036 Students from 25 partner universities engaged in NDI's Youth Political Participation Program (Ana Usharek) discussions during the month of April. Students discussed various topics including The Role of Media in Democracy, Citizenship and Local Governance. Since the launch of the program in 2011, the number of participants has reached 20,786 students from universities across the country.



38 discussion sessions were held during the month of April in Irbid and Mafraq with the participation of 231 community members, as part of NDI's Democracy and Civic Education Program (Ana Usharek Mujtam3i). The program proceeds to provide Jordanian citizens and Syrian refugees with space for facilitated dialogue and joint civic engagement, built around a curriculum covering democratic concepts. Since the launch of the program in June 2015, the program has reached 2489 Community members in Irbid and Mafraq.



150 schools start implementing NDI's Youth Political Participation Program (Ana Usharek Schools) involving 3,053 students across Jordan. Lessons covered topics on Human Rights, Teamwork and Responsibility.

USAID Civic Initiatives Support Program (CIS)



Royal Marine Conservation Society (JREDS): A journalist interviews a local resident from Aqaba as part of a training organized by CIS' grantee JREDS on advocacy related to integrated coastal zone management. The visit to the beach was a practical training exercise for journalists to capture real stories and help them better understand the environmental risks facing the Aqaba coast and the environment in general.



Badia: Women attending a training on transplanting medicinal plants conducted by experts from the community nursery project (facilitated by the US Forest Service). This activity comes under the grant from USAID Civic Initiatives Support (CIS) program to the Hashemite Fund for Development of the Jordan Badia that aims to preserve the medicinal plants and create employment opportunities for both Jordanian and Syrian women.

CEPPS - International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES)



CEPPS/IFES launched the International Election Commission's (IEC) first newsletter which provided background information about the IEC and updates on IEC's key activities. 2000 copies were printed and distributed to key stakeholders in IFES & IEC events.

Gender

Takamol



USAID Takamol is hosting a series of training sessions on gender in political participation in different governorates around the country as a part of the second round of "Souk Takamol". "Souk Takamol" is an initiative whose focus is enhancing social dialogue, awareness, and advocacy on political participation for the upcoming parliamentary elections. The goal of these trainings is to mainstream gender in community-based organizations and any activities related to political participation. The training consists of two sessions: The first session includes gender concepts, sex vs. gender, good practices for mainstreaming gender in public affairs and service provision. The second session covers the new election laws and how to influence women's political participation, as well as the quota for women in governorate, municipality, local and parliamentary councils.

Website: <https://www.irex.org/projects/takamol>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/TakamolJordan/>



USAID Takamol conducted a specialized training on gender-sensitive qualitative research for USAID Takamol Research Consortium members and for other research entities in Jordan. The two trainings – conducted two days each – focused on building the capacities of the members in identifying and performing the basic functions of gender-sensitive qualitative research, as well as how to differentiate between qualitative and quantitative research methods.

Partner Blog: Best Practices from the Field

Transforming Jordan's Economy, One Car at a Time

By Wissam Rabadi and Shada El-Sharif

Just shy of Amman's seventh circle stands a car showroom featuring a different kind of sedan. Take one walk around the "Zoe," and you'll spot the difference. This 88-horsepower super-mini sports all the design elements of a car twice its size. All, that is, except one.

A gas tank.

That's not all that distinguishes this little runabout, though. A colleague of ours, who recently moved to Amman, spotted the Zoe while car shopping a few months ago. When he called back this week to book a test drive, the salesperson was brief: "We just sold our last one," she said.

To be sure, that's good news for Amman's Renault dealership and others like it (just to show we're not playing favorites, we'll mention Nissan and its all-electric Leaf, for example). But the run on electric vehicles in Jordan (the Royal Court just purchased 200 for its own fleet, taxi service Mumayaz is about to roll out another 100 more) has only just begun.

That's thanks, in large part, to a set of regulations released this month by Jordan's Energy and Minerals Regulatory Commission (EMRC), the government agency charged with overseeing the country's electricity sector, among others. The new rules make it possible for private consumers or commercial entities to establish, own, or operate electric vehicle charging stations licensed by the Commission -- a key step to unlocking massive investment in this new sub-sector.

How Jordan made it to the cutting edge of this zero-emissions transportation revolution is a story of clear-eyed planning, stakeholder engagement, and technical assistance -- exactly the kind the US Agency for International Development had in mind when it designed its Jordan Competitiveness Program (JCP). In fact, with the program's support, Jordan's Ministry of Environment has made development of the electric vehicle industry one of its key initiatives under the National Green Growth Plan, which includes reducing carbon emissions as part of the country's commitment to international climate agreements.

A Series of Firsts

Now in its third year, JCP prides itself on having quietly laid the groundwork for a series of firsts in the Kingdom. From launching the country's groundbreaking home health care initiative, inked recently with the King Hussein Cancer Center, to kickstarting an Internet of Things industry in partnership with Intel and Jordan's leading universities, our economic development program is about more than one-off achievements. Working with our partners in government and the private sector, we want to make Jordan's economy -- all of it -- more competitive, regionally and globally.

Enter electric vehicles. With no petroleum production to speak of and an economy struggling under the weight of regional conflict, Jordan's tilt toward this innovative technology is as much about economic urgency as it is environmental sense. But as with all sustainable green initiatives, this one works both ways. Powering electric vehicles with solar energy renders them a zero-energy mode of transportation, in line with the vision of HM King Abdullah II.

In fact, with 330 days of sunshine a year, Jordan's residents have long understood the value proposition of solar energy. From urban rooftops to hospitals and schools, photovoltaic panels power individual residences

and institutions throughout the capital Amman and beyond. That kind of piecemeal reliance on the sun isn't enough to power an entirely new electric vehicle industry, though.

That's why JCP, in one of its early moves toward building the industry, helped push through so-called "wheeling" and "pooling" regulations, which essentially allow solar-generated electricity to be fed into -- and drawn from -- the national grid, supplying clean energy to one or more entities at a different location from the point of consumption. This, in turn, makes more clean energy available to more people, all while giving the government a say in how that energy is gathered, resold and -- crucially -- regulated.

Looking Ahead

It's taken us a short three years to take an idea this big from the drawing room to the showroom. But we're just getting started. JCP estimates that Jordan's nascent electric vehicle industry can attract \$2 billion in new investment to the country in the next decade. And in the near-term, we expect some 660 jobs to grow out of our work in the sector.

With import duties waived on electric cars like the Zoe and Leaf, and with charging stations about to pop up at local fuel retailers, the incentives for consumers are clear. In fact, The Jordan Times recently showed, for example, that the cost of a single 400-kilometer trip in an electric vehicle would be roughly a quarter that of a petroleum-operated car.

Still, we understand that making good on the promise of an electric vehicle industry will take more than just economics; it will take qualified professionals who can help translate bold regulation into practice. That's why JCP has already begun working to build the technical and legal capacity of EMRC staff, who will be overseeing implementation of the new rules. With two years left in our mandate, we hope to leave behind the people and processes to help lead Jordan into a cleaner, more sustainable future.

Dr. Wissam Rabadi is Chief of Party of the USAID Jordan Competitiveness Program. Shada El-Sharif is the program's Clean Technology Sector Director.

Partner Support

Knowledge Management Portal (KaMP)

KaMP (<https://usaidjordankmpportal.com/>), a one-stop shop for Jordan-related development data and information, provides a collaborative online platform to access and share Jordan-specific reports, studies, assessments and publications produced by partners, grantees, Government of Jordan (GOJ) agencies and other donors. It also contains the latest USAID approved templates, tools, and how-to's. USAID Monitoring and Evaluation Support Project (MESP) is populating KaMP with key sets of related resources grouped into thematic "Collections," such as USAID/Jordan monitoring & evaluation (M&E) templates and tools, essential documents for understanding the Syrian crisis and the latest research on how to empower Jordanian at-risk youth, as well as uploading GOJ reports, statistics, GIS files and other resources.

Forms

We have an updated Outreach Support Form. Click [here](#).

Branding and Marking Guidelines

An electronic copy of the new guidelines is now available at www.usaid.gov/branding. Templates for common communications are posted at: www.usaid.gov/branding/resources. Frequently Asked Questions are available here: www.usaid.gov/branding/faqs.

Monitoring and Evaluation Support Project (MESP)

1st Annual Monitoring and Evaluation Conference: Photos and Highlights:



JCP Deputy Chief of Party Michael Pillsbury, CIS Chief of Party Frances Abouzeid, IRI Chief of Party Ramsey Day



Certificate of Appreciation Recipients

For additional information please click below:

<https://usaidjordankmportal.com/collections/usaid-slash-jordan-first-m-and-e-conference>

Mission Director Jim Barnhart's Remarks from the conference:

Thank you Rich and welcome Chiefs of Party, AORs and CORs and M&E staff.

As you all know, the world is changing at an unprecedented pace and scale. In this new normal of a vulnerable unpredictable world that's more prone to shocks and stresses, our work is also increasingly

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complex, fluid and uncertain. To be effective in multifaceted environments we need to better understand the dynamics of a given situation so we can anticipate how it might evolve, and be sufficiently agile to adapt to changes in context and need. As a result, it's important that we focus our monitoring and evaluation efforts on improving our programs rather than just proving results, allowing us to better adapt to these changing realities.

All programs adjust in response to barriers and opportunities. What sets adaptive management apart is its intention to learn. This intention is something that USAID is currently working to incorporate into our more traditionally rigid structure. These changes will focus on encouraging adaptive management through iterative planning and ongoing monitoring, evaluation and learning throughout the life of our CDCS. They will also emphasize closer collaboration with all parties, which includes more strategic data collection from implementing partners and collaborative analysis for decision making and program adaptation. What's more, the focus of monitoring performance primarily for accountability purposes will shift to monitoring for the purpose of learning and adapting our programs which will allow us to make better use of data, improve impact and increase adaptability.

All of you here today play a key part in moving toward this culture of adaptive management. As Chiefs of Party, you set the culture in your organization. The habits of a team are learned in response to the expectations of the leader. In a culture of adaptive management, monitoring and evaluation is everyone's job. Capitalizing on the knowledge, creativity and experience of everyone on the team allows for greater cross-fertilization of ideas and encourages learning and sharing.

As CORs and AORs, you set the tone of learning for your activities. By focusing on achieving outcomes rather than inputs and outputs, you ensure that activities continue to be the most strategic use of resources in an often changing context.

As implementing partner M&E staff, you form the nucleus of this effort. Approach your activity's M&E plan with a learning lens that allows you not just to measure results but actively incorporate critical learning pieces and view it as a tool to tell the story of your activity, both its successes and its challenges.

As a collective group, I encourage you all to make space for reflection. Reflection encourages us to ask if we're looking at the right activities. The most impactful activities.

Within the Mission we are working to do this as well. Over the last few weeks we've conducted portfolio reviews that allowed us to intentionally take a step back from the silos in which we work each day and reflect on where we are in relation to our strategy and goals. The performance and GIS data that you collect is

integral in this process. In addition to featuring your collective results at the strategic level, these portfolio reviews featured your GIS data in the form of maps detailing your activity locations throughout the country allowing us to better determine areas of duplication and potential collaboration.

This process of intentional reflection, focusing on strategy and results, is something that will continue to be of increased importance within this Mission. In order to effectively do this, we will all need to ask the hard questions. What is working and what isn't? Are we achieving what we set out to? If we're not, what do we need to change? These questions should be asked on a regular basis within your organization, within your sector and between implementing partners and Mission counterparts.

Today's conference is an opportunity to elevate the importance of M&E within everything we do as development professionals. The ability to take a single piece of data and tease out the impact on a higher level strategy is often daunting and time consuming. Being able to do so, however, can help us make sense of the past and understand possible futures. It offers paths for learning and improvement, contributes to transparency and accountability and provides the crucial link between beneficiaries, implementers and donors.

I look forward to continuing to work with all of you to improve our ability to effectively learn from our actions, adapt to changing contexts and tell our stories in the best way possible.

Thank you.

Population and Family Health

Health Service Delivery Activity (HSDA)

The HSD flagship made a joint visit with USAID PFH Office representatives Dr. Nagham Abu Shaqra and Ms. Christine Sawalha to Princess Basma Comprehensive Health Center in Amman on May 11th, accompanied by representatives from the Amman Health Directorate. In this visit the team reviewed anemia screening and prevalence including the improvements already made by facility staff. To establish a comprehensive baseline and identify opportunities for improvement. HSD will conduct a series of such visits in FY 16, assessing maternal, neonatal and child health services including documentation and access and use of services by Syrian refugees.

Human Resources for Health (HRH2030)

For HRH2030, the Implementing Partner newsletter is a great resource to better understand the breadth and depth of USAID's portfolio, in the health sector and beyond. The newsletter already supports us by showcasing communications best practices in action – whether it be an inspirational video in the education sector, or a widespread behavioral change campaign for family planning.

The Implementing Partner newsletter presents a great opportunity to showcase the human side of USAID's portfolio, i.e. the Jordanian staff that are 'behind the stories'. We would enjoy seeing profiles/interviews of implementing partner or USAID/Jordan staff that detail their interests, motivations, and hobbies.

HRH2030 social media handles (for global HRH2030 program):

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/HRH2030>

Twitter: @HRH2030Program

Jordan Communication Advocacy and Policy Activity (JCAP)

In collaboration with Community Health Committees, JCAP conducted ten “edutaining” (educational-entertaining) sessions reaching almost **600** engaged couples, newlyweds and married women across the Kingdom. These sessions aim to improve knowledge and positively influence attitudes towards practicing family planning as part of life planning. (Picture attached, Jerash Newlywed Edutainment Lecture).

JCAP grantees were featured on Jordan TV and Ro'ya TV this month! Learn how the Goal Program of INJAZ, with JCAP support, empowered Jordanian female students with life planning skills and health education through the following link: [interview \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ddWmp-1tLXc\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ddWmp-1tLXc).

The Jordan Hashemite Fund for Human Development (JOHUD) used their JCAP grant to form a youth film making club in the conservative and underprivileged governorates of Ma'an and Tafileh. These creative and inspired youth broke the cultural taboos related to family planning in their areas. They publicly endorsed views that counter their community's social norms, by filming four short silent movies on the burden of large families, the husband's role and responsibility in family planning, resisting social pressure and the damage of early marriage on girls' lives. Share the emotion on Tawasol's YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC6zGRI0gWmGzsHVNvHWGCrQ>.

Water Resources and Environment

Hydroponic Green Farming Initiative (HGFI)



The president of Jordan University of Science and Technology during the Technical Day held at the campus under the title “Hydroponic farming in Jordan”.



Mrs. Kay Freeman (USAID director, office of technical support/middle east bureau) during her visit to Al Nimer Hydroponic Farm.

Water Sector Infrastructure Project (WSIP)

The East Jerash WWTP is approximately 14% complete. Structural concrete work is advancing on most of the major tanks. Completion is scheduled for December 2017.



Site Overview Looking North



Sludge Pumping Station and Oxidation Ditch Walls



Wall Forms at East Side Oxidation Ditch



Primary clarifier



Base Slab Concrete Placement Secondary Clarifier



Concrete Placement for walls at secondary clarifier

Offer submitted to USAID on 08FEB16 for work under task C.3 concerning infrastructure improvements in Al Ramah village.

Original tenders rejected for the Tafilah WWTP. Prequalification documents were issued on Wednesday 11MAY16 to prepare for rebid.

Improved Water Sector Management and Governance (IWSMG)

USAID has awarded Tetra Tech, Inc. a \$28 million, single-award contract to improve water sector management and governance in Jordan. Under the five-year project, Improved Water Sector Management and Governance (IWSMG) will support the Government of Jordan to achieve measurable improvements and greater sustainability of the water sector. Tetra Tech and its consortium of local firms Orient Engineering Consulting and Design and the Jordan Social Marketing Center, as well as two international organizations with strong ties to Jordan: SEGURA Consulting and Water4Life Solutions, will provide technical assistance to strengthen the government's efforts in reform, capacity building, and policy development and implementation.

Tetra Tech will help improve the sustainability of Jordan's water supply systems, improve water conservation and water governance systems, and protect water resources. Through targeted technical assistance and capacity building, Tetra Tech will support the implementation of improved utility management practices, especially those related to non-revenue water reduction and improved cost recovery. Tetra Tech also will develop water demand management programs and behavior change communication strategies aimed at enhancing water conservation.

Tetra Tech is a leading provider of consulting and engineering services. For 50 years, the Company has supported commercial and government clients focused on water, environment, infrastructure, resource management, energy, and international development. With 16,000 staff worldwide, Tetra Tech provides clear solutions to complex problems.