



مؤسسة نهر الأردن
Jordan River Foundation

Annual Report 2019

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25 Years of Empowering Generations

Chaired by Her Majesty Queen Rania Al Abdullah, the Jordan River Foundation (JRF) was established in 1995 as a non-profit, non-governmental organization. Over the past 25 years, JRF has been instrumental in helping Jordan's vast local communities realize their potential as active citizens, able to contribute to their social and economic prosperity and improve their families' standard of living.

JRF has been a leading advocate of social justice and poverty alleviation, promoting the economic independence of Jordanians and refugees alike through a series of award-winning community empowerment and child safety programs.

JRF believes in supporting homegrown solutions designed to engage local communities and help them address economic challenges, while maintaining an empowerment vision that prioritizes the well-being of children.



New Grounds

There is no doubt that the next decade will usher in more change than ever anticipated. But when your mission is to protect children and empower communities through employability, entrepreneurship, and self-reliance, the only way to develop a predictive awareness of future possibilities is to adapt and evolve as an organization.

That spirit of adaptation and agility has been the driving force behind JRF's marked transformation of many of Jordan's communities into resilient ones powered by lifelong learning.

Under the vision of our chair, Her Majesty Queen Rania Al Abdullah, beneficiaries across Jordan have improved their lives and those of their families and surrounding communities by acquiring knowledge and skills to challenge the status quo.

Children remain at the core of our empowerment programs, and we continue to work to ensure their safety, development, and protection against all forms of abuse. However, rapidly evolving technologies mean abuse no longer resides only in the physical world. It is taking over the digital space, which many children explore unmonitored and unguided.

Meanwhile, the potential of Jordanian women remains largely untapped, as Jordan is home to the world's third lowest female unemployment rate. It is why JRF continues to create sustainable economic opportunities by investing in women as independent breadwinners across various sectors, from agriculture to handicrafts, to culinary arts, to social innovation.

The future of workforce readiness is also at risk, with our youth standing at disruptive crossroads that will define the way they think, behave, and make a living. Over 60 percent of Jordan's population are under the age of 30, and, each year, more than 100 thousand youth start looking for jobs. In the near future, the professions that await them will no longer be defined or found in a textbook.

That's why entrepreneurial innovation, free enterprise, and digital workforce readiness are key to addressing our country's high unemployment rate, still hovering at 18%. Job placement and micro enterprise have taken center stage under JRF's community empowerment programs focusing on social innovation, green technology, artificial intelligence, and creative ways to guarantee access to finance to a wider spectrum of beneficiaries, from refugees to host communities.

Our strategic efforts to advocate for lifelong learning under JRF's community empowerment initiatives stem from our belief that future workers are not only adaptive, but also agile, global, analytical, and innovation savvy. They will operate with a different mindset, creating new social and economic values and work processes that we haven't yet seen or anticipated.

Accordingly, we continue to reach and impact more beneficiaries throughout the Kingdom, expanding across major poverty pockets, especially in the northern, middle and southern Badia, where entrepreneurship and financial literacy programs are helping sustain livelihoods through micro enterprise. It is a step to prepare the most vulnerable for a future of different opportunities and challenges.

What we've achieved today is only because of the relentless efforts of our staff and the continuous support of our partners and donors. Most importantly, we are what our beneficiaries have become: communities with the power to own their future.

Sincerely,

Enaam Barrishi



Mission

To engage Jordanians to realize their full economic potential and overcome social challenges, especially child abuse.

Vision

A Jordan where solutions are homegrown, where the opportunity to prosper is for all, and where the well being of our children shapes our future.

Values

Social Justice		Participation
Responsibility		Sustainability

Governance

Her Majesty Queen Rania Al Abdullah has been involved in all aspects of the Foundation's growth and development since its establishment. In her role as Chairperson of the Board of Trustees, Her Majesty chairs board meetings and provides visionary leadership; ensuring the continuity of long-term, impact oriented programs.

JRF's Board of Trustees comprises individuals from the public, private, and non-profit sectors; working diligently to steer the strategic development of JRF. The Board oversees and monitors the implementation of all JRF projects, while ensuring the proper implementation of required administrative and financial systems and procedures.

Among the Board's key responsibilities is the utilization of sound fiscal and ethical accounting and management practices, ensuring the Foundation maintains full transparency and accountability at all times. The Board meets on a quarterly basis to oversee the execution of all JRF activities and legal responsibilities, including strategies and long-term annual business plans.

Board of Trustees

Her Majesty Queen Rania Al Abdullah

Chairperson

Mr. Amin Khlaifat

Vice Chairperson

Mr. Sa'ed Karajah

Board Secretary

H.E. Mrs. Suzanne Afanah

H.E. Dr. Nawal Al Faouri

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Mrs. Reem Goussous Fakhoury

Mrs. Taima Houry Kawar

H.E. Ms. Khawla Al Armouti

Mr. Ammar Al Safadi

Mrs. Enaam Barrishi

Director General

Our Programs

JRF realizes its mission of empowering communities and promoting child safety and protection through a variety of integrated programs; adopting international best practices in assessment, implementation and quality control.

A holistic approach applied to JRF's development programs has helped the Foundation excel locally and regionally as a best practice model.

Program beneficiaries remain the biggest testament to JRF's impact and its role in creating sustainable livelihoods for individuals and communities, as well as promoting child safety and sound parenting practices.

2019 in Numbers

10,558

Beneficiaries of Community Empowerment Program.

40,072

Beneficiaries of Child Safety Program.

111,843

Beneficiaries of Training and Consultancy Projects.

8,085

Professionals and Community Members Receiving Specialized Training.

255

Community Based Organizations Partnering with JRF.

Our Impact

Empowering Communities

Micro Enterprise

94%

established micro businesses have achieved profitability.

65%

beneficiaries have successfully addressed negative coping strategies.

Job Placement

100%

beneficiaries have increased their monthly income and livelihood quality.

60%

beneficiaries have successfully addressed negative coping strategies.

67%

employed beneficiaries have successfully retained their jobs.

Social Innovation

84%

youth beneficiaries have successfully become agents of change and leadership in their communities.

Protecting Children

78%

empowered mothers have improved their parental care skills.

73%

empowered children are able to protect themselves against abuse.

Jordan River Community Empowerment Program

Since its launch in 1997, the Jordan River Community Empowerment Program (JRCEP) has worked diligently to offer economic opportunities to local community members to help improve their livelihoods and that of their families.



JRCEP has benefited thousands of individuals and families by developing and implementing programs and projects that enable communities to articulate their needs and facilitate their contribution to their own economic and social well being.

JRCEP also aims to mobilize members of vulnerable communities with the potential to become entrepreneurs or employees. The program's overall objective is to increase household income through: micro and small enterprises, entrepreneurship, and job placement.

Jordan Valley Links Project

Irbid, Ajloun, Balqa, Karak

Funded by Global Affairs Canada (GAC) and implemented by MEDA in partnership with JRF, the project aims to improve the entrepreneurial and business skills of community women and youth across Irbid, Ajloun, Balqa and Karak by reducing barriers to entry for enterprise development and micro businesses. JRF works under the “Saving and Loan Groups” (SLGs) component to help facilitate access to financial services for women and youth through the establishment of SLGs across the Jordan Valley.

Achievements

4,751 total number of beneficiaries.

1,881 total number of trained beneficiaries.

271 total number of established saving and loan groups.

Successes

Hamdah

A former teacher and school principal, Hamdah never settled for retirement. Having joined the project as a trainee she was able to run and manage a saving and loan group consisting of 32 women from her hometown Jenin Al Safa. Hamdah also managed to run her own grocery shop after receiving a loan. Her experience with the project helped leverage her skills and knowledge in entrepreneurship and financial literacy, which in turn helped her secure a sustainable income for her family through her micro business.



Royal Initiatives: Empowering Low Income Families across Jordan

Jordan's Badia, Madaba, Ajloun, Karak

Supported by the Royal Hashemite Court, JRF has embarked on a series of community empowerment initiatives developed to help improve the livelihoods of poor and vulnerable families across major poverty pockets in Jordan; offering access to finance and entrepreneurial capacity building to help establish sustainable micro businesses.



Achievements

Jordan's Badia

Developed **29** partnerships with community based organizations to launch and manage loan portfolios.

Conducted capacity building sessions for **96** board members.

Helped launch and develop **161** micro businesses.

Madaba

Developed agreements with **18** community based organizations to manage the project's loan portfolios.

Empowered **59** board members through capacity building activities.

Empowered **139** beneficiaries by launching **133** micro businesses.

Trained **140** beneficiaries in setting up their own businesses.

Ajloun

Empowered **49** beneficiaries through micro funds.

Developed agreements with **10** community based organizations to manage the project's loan portfolios.

Empowered **55** board members through capacity building activities.

Karak

Developed agreements with **23** community based organizations to manage the project's loan portfolios.

Water Innovations Technologies

Ajloun, Irbid, Jerash, Mafrq, Azraq

Funded by USAID and implemented by Mercy Corps in partnership with JRF, the Water Innovation Technologies Project (WIT) is a five year initiative that aims to increase and enhance water conservation practices in Jordan targeting agriculture, community institutions, and households across Ajloun, Irbid, Jerash, Mafrq, and Azraq.



Achievements

Developed partnerships with **34** charitable societies.

Developed partnerships with **10** youth centers.

Empowered **6,238** beneficiaries, through a series of awareness sessions.

Empowered **142** beneficiaries (67 males, 75 females) through training in marketing and presentation skills.



Citi Micro Entrepreneurship Awards

All Governorates

The Citibank Awards aim to strengthen the effective role of microfinance in alleviating poverty in Jordan. The Awards seek to create awareness and appreciation of the active contributions of individual micro entrepreneurship projects, representing an array of industries including trade, services, agriculture, tourism, technology, and green energy. Citibank grants winners each year to help develop and expand their projects. Since the launch of the awards in 2005, which has so far recognized the achievements of 304 entrepreneurs, JRF has been offering turn key management support; liaising with nominees, recommended by a number of MFIs and lending institutions. JRF has also formed a national selection committee consisting of individuals from governmental, non-governmental and private sector institutions. Selection criteria is based on measuring both the entrepreneurial potential and income levels of future entrepreneurs and business visionaries. JRF has been recently supporting winners through post award training sessions in marketing, sales and business development.

Successes

Hayat

“Following the death of my husband. I had to find a way to support my children. My entrepreneurial journey started at home with a sewing machine. Several years later, I managed to own a small tailor shop. I’ve also managed to develop my project through rigorous marketing and research, which enabled me to expand my services. I’ve created jobs for 25 employees and have over 30 sewing machines. Many women from my community have been inspired to launch their own micro projects after seeing what I was able to do. It’s never too late!”

Rakiz

“My project at a public park in Irbid offers engaging social and entertainment activities and services to people with special needs, including safe walkways, and a variety of games based on their capabilities. I am currently planning to expand my service across other parks in the city.”

Safiyya

“My humble beginnings selling colored sand bottles on the street helped me gain the necessary experience and knowledge that enabled me to open a proper store in Madaba several years later. I currently employ home based female artisans producing traditional handmade dolls. It all added up to my ability to help others sustain monthly incomes, and leverage my own business in terms of revenue and clientele, especially tourists visiting Madaba.”

Water Conservation in Madaba

Madaba

The Coca-Cola funded Water Conservation in Madaba project aims to promote the adoption of water rationing technologies in households and schools. The project also works on identifying best water rationing practices among beneficiaries who often suffer from water scarcity all year round, as well as spread awareness on the socio economic and environmental benefits of conservation technologies, in partnership with Mleih's Society, Al-Falak Association for Women (Thiban Charity), and the Royal Scientific Society (RSS).

Achievements

Held a series of awareness sessions for **355** beneficiaries on water conservation across targeted areas in Madaba.

Installed water rationing utilities in **117** households, **4** mosques, a community organization, and a youth center in Madaba.

Installed a special water recycling system at Al Fayhaa High School for Girls.

Successes

Salem

Salem's scarce water supply had its toll on his social life more than anything. It didn't just mean that he had to make do with his weekly supply of water, it also meant that his salary had to be fully utilized to attend to extra water tanks and soaring electricity bills that barely covered his household needs and that of his family of 9. With hardly enough water to serve his daily needs, Salem grew weary of the future. It all changed once he learned about the Coca-Cola funded Water Conservation in Madaba project. Following a training program on water rationing, he decided to adopt new technologies at home that helped him ration his water supply and decrease his financial dependency on electricity as his bill dropped from JD 31 per month to 12. His water consumption also dropped from 63M³ to 31M³. The project had a more profound effect on his social life, as he started to afford to socialize with his family, and make better use of his savings to leverage the livelihood of his household.



Daleelokom

Amman, Irbid, Zarqa, Karak, Aqaba

The UNHCR funded project was launched to economically empower 5000 Jordanians and Syrian refugees across host communities in Amman, Irbid, Karak, Zarqa and Aqaba, offering workforce readiness, entrepreneurship and micro-enterprise training, as well as private sector job opportunities and matching through a comprehensive network of partners including the Ministry of Labor, the private sector, NGOs, and UNHCR.



Achievements

Empowered **8,710** beneficiaries through project awareness sessions.

Empowered **3,986** beneficiaries through job matching and employability skills sessions.

Developed basic life skills capacities for **576** beneficiaries.

Empowered **230** beneficiaries through entrepreneurship sessions addressing agriculture and construction.

Trained **226** beneficiaries through employability skills training sessions.

Trained **196** beneficiaries through sessions on microfinance.

Helped **126** beneficiaries secure jobs across different industries.

Offered micro grants to **306** beneficiaries.

Empowered **1,465** beneficiaries through referrals to community organizations and government agencies.

Successes

Ghada

Household obligations and increasing tuition fees didn't hinder Ghada's dream of starting her own business. She began with a home based cooking project offering homemade produce that she was able to sell and market in her community and throughout a journey that saw her participate in food bazaars. She was able to expand her business model by offering training courses in culinary arts for community women.

Reinforcing Self Reliance Mechanisms for Displacement Affected Communities

Aqaba

Implemented in partnership with the Danish Refugee Council, and funded by the Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration, the project aims to empower Jordanians and Syrian refugees in Aqaba through micro-enterprise training and access to micro-funding in addition to workforce readiness support across dynamic industries relevant to the city's economy. The project also aims to advocate socio-economic integration and cohesion.

Achievements

Empowered **84** beneficiaries through job matching sessions.

Developed the basic life skills of **27** beneficiaries.

Developed the skills of **27** beneficiaries in micro-funding and financial literacy.

Funded **10** beneficiaries to help establish their own micro businesses.

Helped secure jobs for **3** beneficiaries.

Successes

Adam

Adam, a military veteran, didn't hope for much following his retirement from the army. He didn't believe someone of his age would ever be employed. After joining the project through which he undertook several training sessions in workforce readiness and basic life skills, Adam succeeded in landing a job in a hotel, which has enabled him to leverage the livelihood of his family.



Development & Support of Saving & Credit Groups & Associations

Ajloun, Jerash, Mafraq, Balqa, Madaba

Funded by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the Rural Economic Growth and Employment Project (REGEP) aims to contain and reduce poverty, vulnerability and inequality across rural areas in Ajloun, Jerash, Mafraq, Balqa and Madaba. Partnering with IFAD, and in cooperation with the Jordan Enterprise Development Corporation (JEDCO), JRF managed and implemented two main initiatives under REGEP: the Development and Support of Saving and Credit Groups and Associations, as well as Business Mentoring and Marketing and Specific Training for Farmer Groups and Associations. The main objective was to create sustainable jobs and income generating opportunities for local communities across these governorates, especially among youth and women, through business mentorship and facilitating access to grants.

Achievements

Empowered **1,466** credit and loan group beneficiaries.

150 individual and group grants were offered to project beneficiaries.

Empowered **1,599** beneficiaries through **270** training sessions related to establishing credit and loan groups.

Conducted **1,928** field visits to help support project beneficiaries.

Credit and loan groups established in 2019 were able to raise **JD140,000**

Successes

Awwad

Awwad's agricultural project was going under hill. Declining sales and financial scarcity meant he had to think outside the box. Having joined a saving and loan group, he managed to develop his skills in entrepreneurship and financial literacy through a series of training sessions, which in turn enabled him to obtain a grant that allowed him to cultivate market niche products and expand his business to business model selling over 10,000 plants. It all helped improve his income and the livelihood of his family, as well as secure jobs for his two siblings.

Protecting Children

Launched in 1997, the Jordan River Child Safety Program (JRCSP) is the result of Her Majesty Queen Rania Al Abdullah's relentless efforts to place the welfare of children at the forefront of national policy agendas. The program aims to promote child protection and safety, and enhance positive child rearing practices by approaching the family as a whole unit.



The program works in two areas: intervention through rehabilitation services for abused children, and prevention; offering comprehensive services that protect children's rights and promote a culture of sound parenting and child safety in Jordan.

JRCSP's mission is to mitigate violence against children by raising community awareness, offering capacity building to willing participants, later becoming advocates within their communities, and encouraging holistic and healthy interactions between family members. JRF works closely with governmental and non-governmental entities to enforce child protection laws, as part of Jordan's commitment to the Human Rights Treaty. This all encompassing approach is the result of a solid record of accomplishments in the field of child and family safety.



Our Community Centers

Activities and interventions provided by JRF's community centers focus on two pillars: family and child safety, and economic empowerment. To this end, JRF has established branches for two of its community centers across Jordan: the Queen Rania Family and Child Center (QRFCC), and the Queen Rania Al Abdullah Community Empowerment Center (QRCEC). Both centers serve as hubs to help launch new program ideas. They work in partnership and in coordination with local communities and institutions across Jordan, while engaging public and private organizations in a series of development projects aimed at empowering individuals, families and communities.

The centers offer a series of child focused projects including Beit Zgheer; a socio-spacial initiative aimed at increasing knowledge and awareness of key concepts pertaining to protection from child abuse. Beit Zgheer consists of a small house, and a park overlooking a popular neighborhood where children are introduced to key survival concepts including traffic safety and dealing with strangers. The project also aims to reinforce secrecy and anonymity to encourage children to talk about and discuss sensitive issues related to abuse. It's an educational microcosm resonating with real world situations and challenges, and is a hub for advocating key social concepts that go beyond children's rights to include topics like personal hygiene, personal space and emotional intelligence. Other initiatives offered by both centers include a series of activities in art, sports, agriculture, and edutainment.

QRFCC 2019 Achievements

9,072 total number of beneficiaries

1,030 sound parenting training beneficiaries.

2,884 awareness session beneficiaries.

2,111 Beit Sgheer beneficiaries (children).

169 Beit Sgheer beneficiaries (families).

201 Know Yourself activity beneficiaries.

385 Aflatoon activity beneficiaries.

215 physical education session activities.

2,827 child beneficiaries of Care Room activities.

1,870 children joining summer and winter camp activities.

664 basic life skills beneficiaries (youth).

541 art therapy program beneficiaries (women).

567 beneficiaries of Kid Power activity.

107 beneficiaries of self empowerment sessions.

1,097 salhoof puppet show attendees (children).

QRCEC 2019 Achievements:

1,000 Beit Sgheer beneficiaries (children).

300 social integration and child safety training beneficiaries (youth and adolescents).

Successes

Rima

University was no longer an option for Rima, as marriage and parental responsibilities took their toll on her. Dreams of working in education remained as such. Joining QRFCC offered Rima a second chance to develop her capabilities and knowledge in basic life skills and sound parenting, which helped her become a better wife and mother. She later succeeded in becoming a member of the center's education committee, offering sound parenting workshops for community beneficiaries.

110 for Families & Children

All Governorates

Launched in 2007, JRF's 110 Helpline is an unprecedented, free service available throughout Jordan, operating 7 days a week. The Helpline offers services in psychological support and consultation, as well as referrals. It aims to alleviate the effect of risk factors children in vulnerable families are exposed to, including families facing challenges impairing their parenting, as well as abuse cases. The helpline is a confidential service that primarily focuses on women and children. It prevents abused children and women from being stigmatized and provides callers with resources and guidance that do not obstruct, label or judge them.



Achievements

Offered case management services to **3,593** victims of violence (children and women).

Offered psycho-social support services to **280** survivors of abuse.

Handled **4,242** genuine calls in 2019 related to abuse reports, counseling requests and referrals. Increased case management services across various governorates and areas.

Achievements

5,337 total number of beneficiaries empowered.

588 women empowered through a series of training sessions addressing psychological and social needs and expressive arts.

363 young men and women empowered.

1,100 caregivers empowered through sound parenting training programs.

773 beneficiaries empowered through various awareness sessions.

52 beneficiaries empowered through social and psychological intervention services.

561 beneficiaries empowered through case management services in East Amman, Aqaba, Karak, Tafilah, and Al-Qweirah.

1,900 children empowered through Beit Sgheer's activities in Amman and Aqaba.

Responding to Gaps in Sexual and Gender Based Violence Services

East Amman, Mafraq, Aqaba, Southern Jordan

Funded by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and implemented by JRF, the project aims to empower female youth and women at risk of becoming gender-based violence victims through a series of preventive and awareness sessions focused on personal development, arts, and sports. The project also targets victims of gender-based violence including sexual based violence cases.

Achievements

1,196 total number of beneficiaries.

485 power of Color art program beneficiaries.

81 women empowerment program beneficiaries.

6 self defense training program beneficiaries.

84 fitness program beneficiaries.

20 beneficiaries joining a special social committee for prevention and protection.

520 awareness session beneficiaries.



Successes

Nancy

For Nancy (14), social interaction was a huge hurdle and through the years it only made things more difficult for her as she surrendered to solitude. Joining the “Power of Art” activities at the Queen Rania Al Abdullah Center for Community Empowerment in Aqaba helped her develop social and self expression skills she never thought she possessed. The moment she stood addressing her class during a presentation session was a turning point for Nancy, now fully submerged as a social and self aware individual.



Strengthening Case Management of Gender Based Violence & Child Protection

Amman, Karak, Ma'an, Aqaba, Mafraq

Funded by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the project provides protection, support and empowerment services for women, youth and children (Jordanians and Syrian refugees) in host communities. The project works closely with beneficiaries and Community Based Organizations (CBOs) on developing skills and knowledge in key issues related to child safety, case management support and community empowerment.



Achievements

9,830 total number of beneficiaries.

21 youth trained in team building skills and child safety.

167 beneficiaries underwent needs assessment sessions.

303 capacity building beneficiaries.

212 women empowerment beneficiaries.

1,458 case management support beneficiaries.

114 female beneficiaries underwent fitness activities from Amman and Mafrq.

946 Beit Sgheer child safety training program beneficiaries.

147 families enrolled in Beit Sgheer's child safety training programs.

578 sound parenting beneficiaries (mothers)

138 beneficiaries of expressive art sessions.

12 beneficiaries receiving ToT on sound parenting.

10 beneficiaries receiving ToT from Beit Sgheer.

282 beneficiaries attending adolescent summer camps.

344 safety maze activity beneficiaries.

1,078 beneficiaries of Gender Based Violence committee initiatives.

44 committee members involved in outreach, Gender Based Violence prevention and parenting.

3,610 beneficiaries of outreach activities.

225 psycho-social support beneficiaries.

MoSD Capacity Building: Case Management & Child Safety

All Governorates

Funded by UNICEF, the project aims to develop case management skills and capacities of social workers operating in family and child protection under the Ministry of Social Development. It also aims to raise efficiencies and workflows concerning child safety and case management as well as strengthen national protection clusters through special training programs.

Achievements

14 case management training beneficiaries (governmental and non-governmental).

10 training of trainers in case management beneficiaries (governmental and non-governmental).

21 case management guidebook trainees.

74 job training for social workers managing child safety cases.

Case Management Services: Makani, Community Centers, CBOs, Child Care Centers

Amman, Irbid, Madaba, Zarqa, Mafraq, Karak, Tafilah, Aqaba

The project aims to widen the scope of case management and child safety services offered to vulnerable children (Jordanians and Syrian refugees) across key centers including Makani, the Queen Rania Family and Child Center (QRFCC), in addition to several local community associations. The project also aims to develop the capacities of social workers at the Ministry of Social Development, Al Hussein Social Foundation and Al Hanan Child Care Home concerning best practices and operating procedures related to gender-based violence and child safety, as well as develop work plans and procedures for referral cases based on evaluations of select child care homes.

Achievements

1,055 total number of beneficiaries.

22 trained case management supervisors in capacity building skills (governmental and non-governmental).

Partnered with **10** associations.

Offered management support services for **1,033** cases (469 children, 546 women, 18 men).

Nour: Child Friendly Spaces

Amman

Funded by World Vision, the program aims to empower Jordanian and Syrian refugee children and youth within Jordan's host communities by improving their quality of life through active social engagement, integration, and participation. The project focuses on protection and prevention concepts related to abuse. Implemented at the Queen Rania Family and Child Center (QRFCC), Nour targets Syrian children and adolescents within the ages of 6 and 17; focusing on life skills training including self expression, communication, decision making, critical thinking, problem solving, in addition to concepts related to healthcare, environmental awareness and communal integration.



Achievements

534 total number of
beneficiaries

291 empowered
beneficiaries
(6-17 years).

24 empowered
beneficiaries
(18-24 years).

219 sound parenting
training program
beneficiaries (women).

Training for Success

The Training and Consultancy Division (TCD) provides support to JRF programs. It is the vehicle through which JRCEP, JRCSP, CBOs and JRF's Community Centers are able to achieve their objectives.



TCD is a capacity building and training division within JRF that does not only offer internal support, but consulting and training for external entities, in addition to conducting national studies commissioned by global organizations.



Labor Market Access for Refugees & Host Communities

Amman, Mafrq, Zarqa, Irbid

Funded by the International Labor Organization (ILO), the project aims to qualify and accredit Jordan River Foundation trainers to implement capacity building sessions for female entrepreneurs (Jordanians and Syrian refugees) establishing or developing micro-businesses in Amman, Mafrq, Zarqa, and Irbid. The project also focuses on empowering women in gender equality, social justice and workforce readiness.

Achievements

27 trainers underwent ToT sessions to help empower female entrepreneurs.

98 female entrepreneurs were empowered through entrepreneurship training programs.

51 businesses were voted as "Best Projects" in a special competition.



Advancing Gender Equality through Economic & Social Empowerment, Protection Services for Women & Girls

Amman, Aqaba, Zarqa

Funded by the Embassy of the Netherlands and implemented by JRF, the project aims to empower community women in Jordan through a series of entrepreneurial and psychological programs focusing on protection against gender based and domestic violence, as well as workforce readiness and micro enterprise. The project also works with children through a series of child safety and family protection interventions and case management services, identifying children at risk, including those exposed to child labor, sexual violence, and early child marriage.

Achievements

55 awareness sessions.

242 life skills training beneficiaries.

154 beneficiaries of micro business management training.

53 workforce readiness skills training beneficiaries.

148 beneficiaries received micro funds to help start their own projects.

12 beneficiaries underwent job matching sessions.

15 beneficiaries joined special committees to spread awareness on family and child safety.

265 beneficiaries of basic life skills and youth camps and training.

786 Beit Sgheer beneficiaries (children).

624 Aflatoun's financial literacy program beneficiaries (children).

125 families received case management services.

663 beneficiaries received sessions on parenting skills and protection against abuse.

Successes

Majda

Twenty years of experience in cosmetics and beauty salons inspired Majda to take a leap of faith and establish her own beauty shop in Zarqa. After qualifying for a grant and undergoing several basic life skills and entrepreneurship training sessions, she was able to develop her business model through marketing and product diversification.

Makani

Amman, Madaba, Irbid, Mafraq, Ajloun, Zarqa, Balqa, Karak, Aqaba

Funded by UNICEF, Makani is an all encompassing initiative that targets community members of all ages, engaging them in activities designed to improve their social and emotional well-being. Based on local community findings and needs assessments, Makani offers well coordinated, cost effective, multi-sectoral services to vulnerable children; creating safe social interactive spaces to connect, learn and play within a healthy and clean environment. Makani ensures all children have equal access to services regardless of their gender, ability, language, ethnicity, religion or nationality. Makani's primary focus is on life skills training and education support services for children, adolescents and youth.

Achievements

63,731 total number of beneficiaries.

15,690 education support service beneficiaries (children).

10,936 child safety and protection beneficiaries (children).

6,250 life skills training beneficiaries (youth).

1,050 Social Innovation Labs beneficiaries (youth and adolescents).

3,600 early child development training beneficiaries (children).

8,534 early child development and sound parenting training beneficiaries (women).

560 literacy session beneficiaries (women).

15,665 child safety training beneficiaries (care givers and children).

1,446 children referred to specialized CP and GBV services.

Successes

Karim

Karim (37) didn't see himself joining Makani's literacy courses in Madaba any time soon, despite several attempts by his friends to convince him to enroll. It only occurred to him after attending several sessions that these courses were more of a turning point in his life, as he was able to regain his self confidence and develop workforce readiness skills he never thought he possessed.



Mobile Social Innovation Labs

All Governorates

Implemented in partnership with UNICEF, the project offers children, adolescents and youth (Jordanians and Syrian refugees) the opportunity to develop skills as social innovators and independent thinkers with the ability to present homegrown solutions to the social and economic challenges facing their communities, relying on available technologies at hand. This is realized through the Emerging Technology Exhibition held across Jordan's governorates through Makani centers, CBOs and the Ministry of Youth, based on UNICEF's social innovation curriculum. The project also offers capacity building and specialized training in social innovation and social entrepreneurship.

Achievements

37,022 total number of project beneficiaries.

2,756 Social Innovation Curriculum trainees.

33,974 Mobile Technology Exhibition beneficiaries.

147 training of trainers beneficiaries.

145 Hakathon Sharek and Ordon Mobtakir beneficiaries.

46 Mobile Technology Exhibition beneficiaries.

Successes

Sama

Sama knows what silence sounds like. She was born with it. Reaching out to people when you are deaf is more than just a daily struggle, it could ruin your life. Sama believes sign language is a lifeline. Under the Mobile Social Innovation Labs project, she developed an initiative to advocate the endorsement of sign language in formal education. She plans to train others to help empower them as advocates of the use of sign language.



Access to Digital Financial Services

Amman, Mafraq, Irbid

Funded by the German Agency for International Development (GIZ), the project is designed to promote the use of e-wallets for 10 thousand local community beneficiaries (Jordanians and Syrian refugees), through a series of interventions and training programs in financial literacy in partnership with local organizations.

Achievements

11,042 total number of beneficiaries.

Livelihood Support for Syrian Refugees & Local Host Communities

Irbid, Mafraq, Amman, Karak and Aqaba

Funded by the European Regional Development and Protection Program (RDPP), the project aims to improve and sustain the livelihoods of 1,296 beneficiaries (Jordanians and Syrian refugees) through micro enterprise, funding, workforce readiness, and basic life skills support in partnership with local associations.

Achievements

1,000 life skills training beneficiaries.

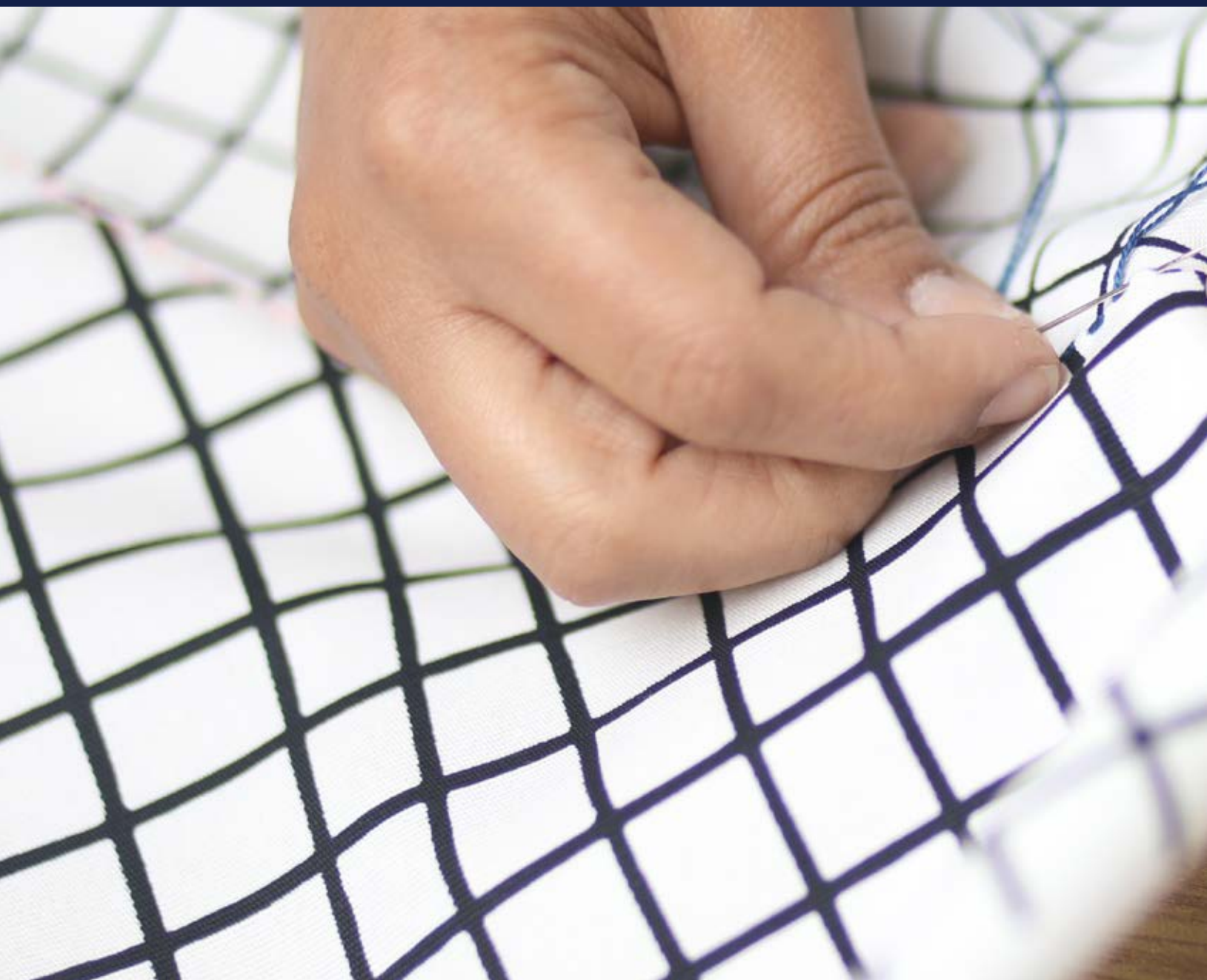
250 grant beneficiaries.

220 workforce readiness and employment beneficiaries.

250 construction and agriculture sector support beneficiaries.

Social Enterprises

JRF strives to create sustainable economic opportunities for local community women and female refugees by capitalizing on their potential as independent breadwinners within their families.



There has been an immense interest from women to participate in JRF's social and economic empowerment programs, especially in the fields of entrepreneurship, culinary arts and handicrafts. These programs are particularly designed to leverage their employability and social skills, as well as their business acumen.



Jordan River Designs

Al Karma Embroidery Center

Established in 1996 in Jabal Al Natheef, Al Karma Embroidery Center employs local women artisans who craft traditional and contemporary handmade embroidery products, which include everything from home furnishings, to gift items, to fashion accessories. Set up to support women seeking extra income, the project also aims to maintain and promote the heritage of handicrafts, offering a variety of products representing Jordan's traditional and visual arts.



Bani Hamida Weaving Project

Launched by Save the Children in 1985, the Bani Hamida Weaving Project became part of JRF in 1998. Reviving an otherwise impoverished region, the project revamped the long celebrated tradition of Bedouin weaving, and helped maintain the social fabric of the Makawir area. The project also leveraged the living conditions of the area's local community. Today, women from 13 different villages are helping revive and sustain the art and culture of Bedouin rug making, while contributing to their families' livelihoods.

Wooden spindles and floor looms are used to produce quality wool rugs that have become popular internationally due to their ingenuity and high quality. Over 1,600 women have benefited from the project since its inception so far.

Wadi Al Rayan Project

Established in 1997, the Wadi Al Rayan Project revolutionized the use of cattail reeds and banana leaves as raw manufacturing materials, which were previously burnt and disposed of, posing as an environmental hazard to the Wadi's inhabitants. Today, cattail reeds and banana leaves are used to produce handwoven environment-friendly products, including baskets, coasters, mats, among other unique home accessories.

Achievements

Total JRD Beneficiaries:

415



IKEA and JRF

JRF has partnered with IKEA to empower Syrian refugees and local community women through a series of exquisite handicraft projects capturing Jordan's tradition and heritage. The initiative helps sustain social and economic stability across host communities, offering local women and Syrian refugees jobs to produce handmade carpets and embroidery items, sold exclusively by IKEA, locally and regionally. The first limited collection of handcrafted textiles, titled TILLTALANDE, has been produced by over 110 women artisans. The project aims to employ 400 by the end of 2020. IKEA Jordan was the first store to launch the collection, to be followed later by several GCC countries and stores in North Africa, the US and Europe. The project has employed 137 female artisans in 2019.

Achievements

Number of pieces produced and dispatched:

TILLTALANDE Collection

21,584

Middle East and Europe.

HANTVERK Collection

5,088

Asia Pacific, Middle East, Europe and Russia.

BOTANISK Collection

31,680

Asia Pacific, USA, Europe and Russia.

Al Karma Kitchen

Established in 2006 in Jabal Al Natheef, East Amman, Al Karma Kitchen offers a wide variety of catering services and freshly cooked foods, prepared by local community women, including Ma'amoul, cookies, and spicy macarons. The kitchen trains and employs 82 highly skilled women (full and part time), offering unique economic opportunities for the community women of East Amman. The Kitchen's culinary collection now includes 11 frozen food items homemade with the finest ingredients: from cheese sambusak, to shushbarak, to vegetarian and spicy kubbeh. JRF has recently relocated Al Karma Kitchen to Jabal Al Nasr to address its increasing scope of products, production volume, and operations.



Partners & Donors

JRF is extremely proud of its partnerships with local and international entities, and continuously works towards cultivating these relationships, while exploring new opportunities for collaboration.



We continue to evolve and act proactively to cement new partnerships with organizations that share our objectives in social and economic development in Jordan.



Corporate Donors

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Dar Al-Handasah

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Institutional Donors

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Jordan River Foundation

Tel: +962 (6) 5933211

Fax: +962 (6) 5933210

P.O Box 2943, Amman 11181, Jordan

Email: info@jrf.org.jo



JordanRiverFoundation



JordanRiverFDN



JordanRiverFDN



jordanriverdesigns

www.jordanriver.jo



alkarmakitchen

www.jordanriverdesigns.com