



Democracy & Governance Sector PROJECT PROFILE

April 2012



By the end of this project, as many as 4,500 persons with disabilities and family members will be more engaged in their communities and less vulnerable to poverty and exclusion.

PROJECT SNAPSHOT

Implemented by: Mercy Corps

Duration: 2011 – 2013

Total Funding: \$3.2 million

Beneficiaries: Persons with disabilities and their families/caregivers; select community-based organizations

Geographic Coverage: 75 communities nationwide

<http://www.mercycorps.org/countries/jordan>

Integrating Disabled Persons within Jordanian Society

BACKGROUND

Although Jordan's last census showed that 5.6% of families include members with disabilities, the actual percentage is likely much higher, perhaps exceeding the 10% of the world population made up by people with disabilities (PWD). Reasons for this include reluctance to report disabilities, the practice of interfamily marriage (with a higher rate of congenital diseases), and the effects of war and civil strife on refugees and local people. A High percentage of PWD are poor, many are unaware of their legal rights, programs available to help them are few, and active successful PWD are rarely visible in Jordan.

This project uses a proven approach that involves PWD in determining the most effective interventions. The goal is to empower local communities and community-based organizations (CBOs) throughout Jordan to reduce the vulnerability and exclusion faced by persons with disabilities, while building and enhancing the capacity of caregivers to benefit all community members. The project will reach at least 750 PWD and 3,750 of their family members living in poverty pockets throughout the country by improving their access to available programs and services. It will also enhance the vocational, educational, and recreational programming provided by 75 CBOs to PWD and an additional 2,250 non-disabled yet vulnerable community members.

Objectives include:

1. Increase awareness of the ability of PWD to participate in community life in Jordan
2. Develop the capacity of CBOs to include PWD in existing vocational, educational and recreational programming
3. Increase the ability of PWD to access vocational, educational, and recreational programming provided by CBOs
4. Build institutional capacity for PWD programming in Jordan

ACTIVITIES

- Increasing the visibility of PWD within 75 communities to build and improve the level of understanding and awareness between PWD and their local communities, through the dissemination of awareness raising materials and sensitization events
- Building the capacity of 75 CBOs to include and integrate PWD through the provision of specialized training and educational materials



USAID | JORDAN

FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



The project renovates and modifies schools and community organizations to make them more accessible for PWDs and helps to improve their services for all citizens.



A new generation of PWD in Jordan will have a better start in education, recreation and vocational opportunities that will enhance their lives and their communities.

CONTACT:

Office of Program Management
USAID, c/o American Embassy
P.O. Box 354
Amman 11118, Jordan
Tel: 962-6-590-6000
jordan.usaid.gov

- Facilitating structural modifications according to the Jordanian Disabilities Building Code in order to create accessible spaces for PWD
- Integrating at least 750 PWD into community-based programs
- Providing PWD with accommodative equipment and rehabilitation services
- Encouraging integrated programming through best practice sharing

PROGRESS & ACHIEVEMENTS

- 20 CBO's in selected poverty pockets have been identified and structural modifications are underway.
- Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices Report has been completed.
- Awareness raising sessions for CBO's, PWD's and their families in selected governorates have been conducted.
- Training sessions for teachers and PWD's, to include portage training, have been conducted.
- An additional 55 CBO's will be identified to begin work for the upcoming year.

PARTNERS

- Mercy Corps
- Higher Council for the Affairs of Persons with Disabilities
- Jordanian Hashemite Fund for Human Development (JOHUD)
- Queen Zein Al-Sharaf Institute for Development (ZENID)
- I Am Human Society for the Rights of Disabled Persons
- Community-based organizations