



USAID | JORDAN

Education Sector PROJECT PROFILE

May 2011



The DTR mobile library provides children access to books, art and a wide variety of youth activities in eight disadvantaged areas in Jordan.

PROJECT SNAPSHOT

Implemented by: Academy for Educational Development (AED)

Duration: 2009 – 2012

Total Funding: \$1.9 million

Beneficiaries: Children, 6-12

Geographic Coverage: Eight disadvantaged communities in Amman and Zarqa

Drive to Read

BACKGROUND

Many school children in Jordan lack access to libraries, reading programs and other fun cultural activities that promote intellectual growth and a love of learning. Responding to this need, the Academy for Educational Development (AED) independently launched the Drive to Read (DTR) initiative in January 2009. With USAID assistance awarded in May 2009, Drive to Read has been able to expand and increase the number of children participating in engaging, creative programs taking place in their communities.

The overall objective of DTR is to promote the culture of reading among children in Jordan through the achievement of the following two goals:

1. Provision of free and open access to supplemental education and cultural experiences to at least 25,000 children (ages 6- 12) in Jordan, particularly the most disadvantaged; and
2. Establishment of community outreach programs for families, local non-governmental organizations, community-based organizations (CBOs), private enterprises, and schools that will lead to the establishment of lending libraries to sustain DTR activities.

ACTIVITIES

- Operating in four disadvantaged areas in Amman and four more neighborhoods in Zarqa
- Offering educational and cultural activities on specific topics aligned with the national curriculum, one day a week per neighborhood
- Fostering a love for reading through an attractive and colorful book mobile which gives children access to hundreds of books
- Ensuring sustainability by building the capacity of librarians at the partner CBOs to transfer the DTR methodology and approach and by establishing a library at each partner CBO
- Working with children who are reading below grade level to improve their literacy skills and involving their school teachers to transfer the knowledge and techniques of teaching learning

PROGRESS & ACHIEVEMENTS

- Reached, in two years of operation, approximately 15,000 children through weekly activities in Amman



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FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



Much more than trucks with books, DTR mobile libraries provide structured educational and cultural activities that encourage not only the drive to read, but also the drive to be an educated, motivated, and involved community member.



- Launched its teaching reading classes and work with the Ministry of Education schools to help children reading below grade level

PARTNERS

- Academy for Educational Development
- Ministry of Culture
- Ministry of Education
- Greater Amman Municipality
- Haya Cultural Center

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