



This Programme is funded by
the European Union



EU-JDID

EU Support to Jordanian Democratic Institutions & Development

PROGRAMME RESUME



**WESTMINSTER
FOUNDATION FOR
DEMOCRACY**



**MEDIA
DEVELOPMENT**

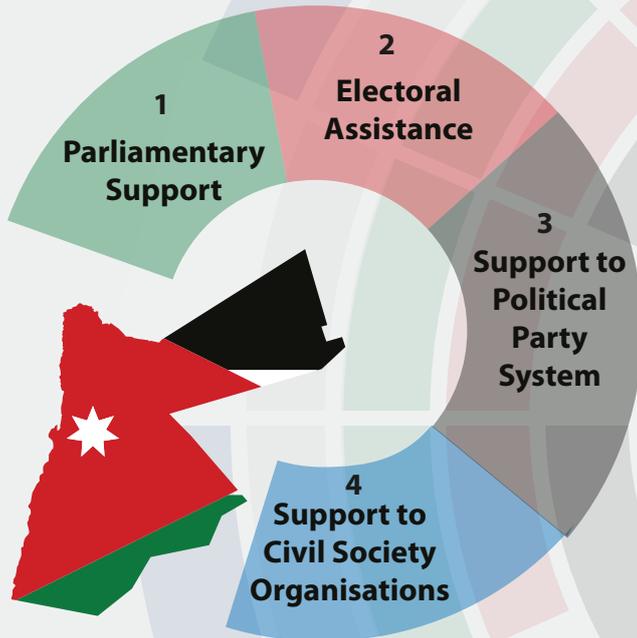
Netherlands Institute for
Multiparty Democracy



**EUROPEAN
PARTNERSHIP FOR
DEMOCRACY**

INTRODUCTION

The European Union (EU) funded Programme 'EU Support to Jordanian Democratic Institutions & Development- EU-JDID' aims at supporting Jordan's reform process towards consolidation of democracy and promoting inclusiveness of national policy and decision-making processes. The Programme also intends to enhance women and youth inclusion and foster a stronger democratic and tolerant political culture. EU-JDID encompasses four components:



The first three components are implemented by the consortium-led by the European Centre for Electoral Support (ECES) and composed of:

- European Partnership for Democracy (EPD);
- Westminster Foundation for Democracy (WFD);
- Netherlands Institute for Multiparty Democracy (NIMD);
- French Agency for Media Cooperation (CFI).

The fourth component is implemented by the Spanish Cooperation Agency (AECID).

The Programme has a budget of 17.6M EUR of which 14M EUR are funded by the EU, under the European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI), 2M EUR are financed by Spain/AECID and 737,995 EUR (5, 79%) by the ECES-led consortium.

BACKGROUND

The support of EU to democratic and electoral processes in Jordan, in place since 2007, was previously implemented through different modalities and interventions. While building on prior accomplishments, the formulation of this Programme also benefited from lessons learned from past EU supported projects, as well as from the recommendations formulated by key local stakeholders concerning content and delivery support mechanisms.



Photo taken during EU-JDID launching ceremony, 24 May 2017

Timeline of Events

2012

- ▶ Royal discussion papers
- ▶ Establishment of Independent Election Commission (IEC)

2013

- ▶ Establishment of Ministry of Political and Parliamentary Affairs (MoPPA) from the merging of the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and the Ministry of Political Development
- ▶ Parliamentary Elections
- ▶ Municipal Elections

2016

- ▶ Parliamentary Elections

2017

- ▶ Financing Agreement between the EU and Jordan
- ▶ Contract signature of EU-JDID
- ▶ 1st Decentralisation and Municipal elections, which consisted in three elections that took place on the same day
- ▶ HoR adopted the E-Parliament strategy
- ▶ First round of EU-JDID steering committee meetings
- ▶ First EU-JDID coordination committee meeting

2018

- ▶ Second round of EU-JDID steering committee meetings

OBJECTIVES

Component 2

Electoral Assistance

Enhance the functioning of the Independent Election Commission (IEC) and other key stakeholders, contributing to elections conducted in a professional, transparent and credible manner.

Component 4

Support to Civil Society Organisations

Strengthen the contribution of civil society to democratic governance and policy-making and foster the development of active civil society organisations in the promotion of political participation, advocacy, electoral observation and parliamentary monitoring with a focus on women and youth.

Component 1

Parliamentary Support

Strengthen the functioning of the House of Representatives (HoR) in exercising its core parliamentary functions in a professional, accountable, and transparent manner.

Component 3

Support to Political Party System

Support the political party (PP) system in contributing to democratic governance and policy-making.

Component 1: Parliamentary Support

Through capacity building activities and ongoing advisory support, EU-JDID supports the HoR to perform its key legislative and oversight functions, consolidating the role of the institution in the democratic reform process. In fulfilling this objective, EU-JDID supports the enhancement of:

- **HoR's legislative function:** the Programme will develop the capacity of staff to draft legislation and introduce innovative methods of tracking and engaging in the legislative process.
- **HoR's oversight function:** The Programme will support the HoR in strengthening its oversight capabilities, working with individual MPs, Committees and parliamentary staff. This will include exchanges of best practices and expertise on both ex post and ex ante financial oversight, mechanisms for oversight including parliamentary questions.
- **HoR's Research:** The Programme will work closely with the HoR's Legislative Studies and Research Centre (LSRC) to ensure high quality research products are available to MPs in the fulfilment of their parliamentary duties.

150 tablet devices were delivered to the HoR and Mobile Device Management (MDM) software was installed on all devices. The use of tablets contributed to:

- financial savings and a move towards a greener parliament
- increased efficiency and modernisation of the work of the Parliament
- improved outreach and communication of MPs with the public.



Support to E-Parliament

In the context of the Jordanian national strategy for an E-government, the Programme provided support to the HoR in drafting a framework for an E-parliament strategy and an Environmental Policy.

Transparency of public institutions and accountability to citizens is a key element of democratic systems. In this context, EU-JDID is supporting the procurement of a new conference and voting system.



Within the scope of e-Parliament strategy, the increased use of electronic communication will help the Parliament to become more efficient and effective, and contribute to a more environment friendly functioning of the institution. In this context, EU-JDID tackled ICT related issues:



E-Parliament expertise

provided to establish a roadmap of ICT needs of the House



ICT senior expertise

provided to assess the HoR Archiving System.

EU-JDID works closely with the HoR to support the **functioning of parliamentary blocs**, drawing on high level expertise and best practice sharing. In particular, EU-JDID works with the blocs to develop agendas and programmes based on key policy issues of national and local importance.

In support of these efforts, the Programme works closely with the Human Resources department to develop their capacity and useful tools including a time management system, has been procured and delivered to the HoR.

EU-JDID also supports **HoR Committees** job coaching and specific training sessions on key committee functions, to equip staff with the skills to better support MPs in their oversight functions. The outline for a 'Handbook for Committee Processes' has been developed and presented to the HoR.

Strengthening of HoR Budgetary Oversight

The Programme supports ex post and ex ante financial oversight and organised a seminar for parliamentary research and committee staff on budget oversight, ahead of the submission of the annual state budget by the government to the HoR. The purpose of the seminar was to equip staff with new knowledge in order to effectively assist MPs with scrutinising budgetary documents.



Parliamentary research and committee staff trained on budget oversight

2017, Decentralisation and Municipal Elections

EU-JDID provided extensive logistical and operational support to the IEC during the electoral process, which consisted in three elections that took place on the same day.

The Programme supported also:

- Production of **10,000 CDs** for candidates;
- Production of **600 copies of the Electoral Atlas**;
- Development and production of nearly **4,200,000 awareness raising leaflets**;
- Upload of customised voter information instruction files to allow each voter to access relevant information on where and how to vote;
- Development of **IEC Volunteer database** and application, as well as the **IEC Mobile Application** for Staff Communication;
- Theatre play developed in-house by IEC, aiming at maximising the public outreach efforts.



Component 2: Electoral Assistance

By providing high-level expertise, advisory support and by implementing capacity building activities, EU-JDID works to enhance IEC's institutional and human resources capacities. The overall credibility of electoral process is tightly connected to the performance of the Electoral Management Body (EMB) and EU-JDID is supporting IEC's quality management system and certification process following the 9001 norms of the International Standardisation Organisation.

IEC aims to become the 1st Arab EMB ISO certified!

By organising trainings, supporting the production of electoral knowledge and providing technical advice and operational support, EU-JDID contributes to enhance IEC's legal, technical and operational capacities. In order to ensure the sustainability of the achievements, **EU-JDID is supporting the Jordanian Electoral Training Research Center (JETRC)**, which is meant to become a hub for electoral knowledge and practice, in Jordan and beyond.



Advisory, technical and operational support provided for the establishment of JETRC.

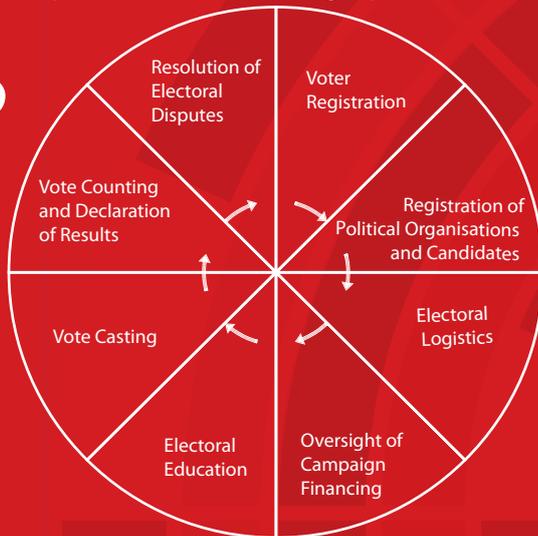


Support to IEC Mission to Pisa, Italy for the signature of the Trilateral Memorandum of Understanding between IEC, ECES and Sant'Anna School for Advanced Studies (SSSA) with regards to JETRC and within the context of the Master in Electoral Policy and Administration (MEPA).

ISO Certification for the IEC

ISO technical specifications for quality management systems for electoral organisations (ISO/TS 17582:2014) are designed for electoral bodies to focus on the quality of services vis a vis of all electoral stakeholders.

ISO certification process is divided into eight phases:



This process, which complements the international obligations-based approach, allows EMBs to:

- Identify operational vulnerabilities;
- Highlight opportunities for improvement;
- Place a greater emphasis on leadership communication and management of change;
- Create a framework to evaluate services provided to citizens and all electoral stakeholders;
- Promote a culture of continual improvement.

Leadership skills for IEC

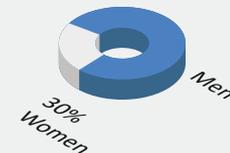


In order to enhance IEC's long-term leadership capacities, EU-JDID conducted a Training of Trainers (ToT) on Leadership and Electoral Management Skills for Electoral Stakeholders (LEAD) for 30 IEC staff.

The training aimed to strengthen the capacities of IEC staff in decision-making and provide extensive insights into electoral management throughout the electoral cycle.

The LEAD ToT contributed to consolidate IEC's in-house capacity that will feed into the Jordanian Electoral Research and Training Center. The LEAD training was developed by ECES in collaboration with the Center for Creative Leadership.

LEAD TOT BY GENDER



PARTICIPANTS' ROLE WITHIN IEC



EU-JDID supports peer exchanges, knowledge and experience sharing and global democracy networking, as tools to enhance capacities and skills in a sustainable way.

6 study tours organised in 5 EU countries (Belgium, Italy, Sweden, France and Portugal) and 2 non-EU Countries (Nigeria and Palestine) to enhance exchanges among electoral administrations and with electoral stakeholders at large.



The **15th International Electoral Symposium** was organised by the IEC on 4-6 December 2017 in partnership with the International Center for Parliamentary Studies (ICPS) and with the support of ECES.

The Symposium was organised for the 1st time in the Middle-East, and brought together representatives from the electoral democracy community and EMBs from around the world to share best practice initiatives, assess new technologies and tools, and develop innovative strategies to improve electoral processes.

212 Election Practitioners/Experts

20 INGOS

25 Parliaments

%29 Women

46 Local Political Parties

58 Countries

15 Local CSOs.

Citizens' trust in the electoral administration is closely related to institution's credibility. EU-JDID supports the development and the implementation of a tailored IEC's communication and outreach strategy, including towards women and youth.



Innovative and creative tools, applications and branding material (IEC branded) developed.



EU-JDID social media team is fully integrated within the IEC team, thus ensuring effective and constant transfer of knowledge.



Component 3: Support to Political Party System

Jordan's population is made up of over 67% of citizens under 30 years of age.

To safeguard the representativity of the political decisions, EU-JDID is contributing to **enhance the capacities of young political and civic actors** to engage in the political process. To achieve genuine gender equality, the problem of under-representation of women in political decision-making must be tackled.

EU-JDID aims to **strengthen the capacities of women politicians** and raise the awareness of PPs on the role they can play with regards to women's political advancement.

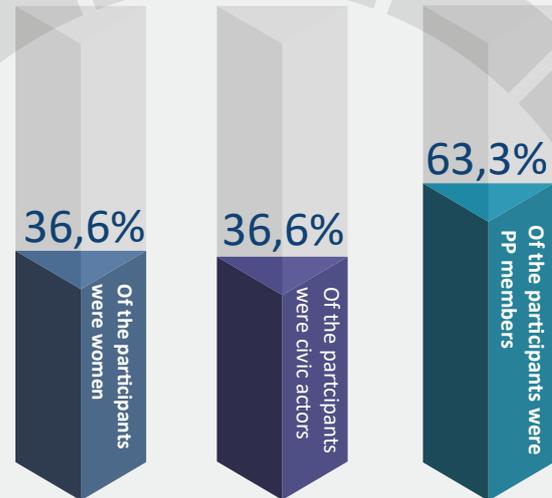


70 participants, including women representatives of PP, women trainees of the young political and civic actors training programme as well as MoPPA female staff, attended the celebration of International Women's Day 2018 organised by EU-JDID, in partnership with the Ministry.

Training for Young Political and Civic Actors

EU-JDID started a training programme for young political and civic actors, aged 18-30, to strengthen their capacities to engage in political processes and enhance their communication skills.

Six interactive training sessions out of a series of 10 sessions have taken place on monthly basis. The training programme will be repeated annually to engage other young political and civic actors.



60 participants attended the training sessions of young political and civic actors.

The low participation of PPs in the 2017 local elections confirmed the need **to support the development of the PPs system and strengthen PPs' capacities and coalition capabilities.**

With regards to this, EU-JDID works to strengthen PPs' capacities in programmes and manifesto development as well as their own internal management and organisation.



A series of three workshops for all PPs was organised on financial by-law with the collaboration of MoPPA. The workshops provided an important platform for dialogue between PPs and the government, as well as among PPs themselves.

Up to 39 PPs attended the workshops, which represents 80% of Jordanian political parties.

EU-JDID pays great attention to ensure the sustainability of action. With regards to this, the Programme aims to strengthen the capacity of local partners to implement on their programmes to support PPs.



A workshop has been organised for MoPPA staff and Civil Society partners to strengthen the capacity of PPs in coalition building.

EU-JDID aims to enhance the capacities of MoPPA, which is in charge of:

- ensuring liaison between government and parliament;
- maintaining dialogue and communication with PPs, CSOs and society at large;
- monitoring citizens' participation in political life.



EU-JDID provided technical expertise to support MoPPA in the development of its Multiannual Strategic Plan 2017-2020, aiming to enhance its capacity in strategic planning and formulating relevant and realistic organisational goals and objectives.

This was followed by a Training on Strategic Planning/Key Performance Indicators.

Component 4: Support to Civil Society Organisations

Accountability is a key principle of democratic institutions and EU-JDID is supporting CSOs' role in monitoring the conduct of national institutions.

A recent assessment mission demonstrated that Jordanian CSOs face challenges in what concerns their sustainability, financial and organisational structure. In this context, EU-JDID contributes to enhance CSOs' capacities to build coalitions, to conduct joint advocacy, to lobby, to contribute to policymaking and to monitor the human rights situation.

Monitoring of the electoral process by national and independent electoral observers is an essential tool for promoting integrity, transparency and ownership of the electoral process.

With regards to this, a grant was awarded to RASED coalition for the 2017 Decentralisation and Municipal elections. The grant aimed to support:

- national election observation;
- capacity building on election preparation at local level;
- awareness activities for women and youth.



National Electoral
Observation



3
Mock elections
organised



2,250
Short Term Observers
deployed for the
E-day



A central operation room
set up for E-day with **100**
researchers/analysts



Final Election Observation Report
produced

Media Segment

Media plays a crucial role in strengthening democracy and political participation of citizens, especially with regards to participatory patterns related to new technologies and social media empowered with tools to disseminate information.

Involving media, media house owners and journalists is an essential complementary step for a long term and people driven democracy, whereby **media is meant to contribute to the transparency of democratic institutions**.

EU-JDID media segment includes training of political journalists and political radio programmes aiming to strengthen the communication between members of the parliament and citizens, thus reinforcing the connection and the interactions between the institution and the electorate.

Considering the importance of fair, balanced and impartial media coverage of elections, EU-JDID will contribute to enhance the quality of reporting on elections and electoral matters.



The '**Political journalism trainings**' aim to improve the quality of political news coverage in Jordan, through strengthen journalists' capacities to carry out accurate and professional reporting.

During the life span of the Programme, 24 training sessions of 5 days on political journalism will be organised.

The sessions have a theoretical and a practical part: professional ethics; the role of journalists in communicating important news; how to obtain and cover information; how to conduct interviews with politicians and how to communicate information to the public; debates, exercises, role-playing technique; how to fact-check information, statements by politicians and unverified information spread on social media.



30

Journalists trained

IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

The European Centre for Electoral Support (ECES) – Consortium Leader



ECES is a non-profit private foundation, headquartered in Brussels, with a global remit. The organisation promotes sustainable democratic development through the provision of operational support and management of projects and large basket funds in favour of electoral processes.

ECES works with all electoral stakeholders, including EMBs, civil society organizations involved in civic and voter education and election observation, political parties and parliaments dealing with electoral reforms, media, security forces and legal institutions confronted with electoral dispute resolution. Since 2010, ECES has signed more than 70 contracts in support of electoral processes and the strengthening of democratic institutions in more than 35 countries, mainly but not exclusively, in Africa and the Middle East. In addition, ECES' activities are informed by specific electoral knowledge stemming from a well-established network in over 70 countries. ECES is a member of the European Partnership for Democracy (EPD) and is part of its Board of Directors.

Consortium members organisations



European Partnership for Democracy (EPD) is composed of 14 members from 11 EU Member States, with a long track record and multiple specialisations in working with different actors in democracy support, including political parties, local authorities, elections, multi-stakeholder dialogue, political and civil rights, civil society capacity building and civic and political education, political leadership, elected representatives, and civil society.

The EPD Secretariat established a Monitoring and Knowledge-sharing Strategy that tracks all Project outputs and resources from the outset of the Programme. The M&E strategy is based on two key elements : - participation and inclusion of the main stakeholders involved in the Programme.



The Netherlands Institute for Multiparty Democracy (NIMD) is a democracy assistance organisation that supports political parties in developing democracies. NIMD is active in around 20 countries with core activities to support inter-party dialogue, to strengthen the organisational and programmatic capacities of political parties, and to provide democracy education for (aspiring) politicians.

NIMD's approach is characterised by the guiding principles of impartiality, inclusiveness, diversity, local ownership and long-term commitment.

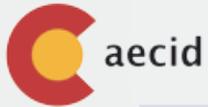


Westminster Foundation for Democracy's (WFD) is the UK's leading democracy-strengthening organisation, bringing together parliamentary and political party expertise to assist in the development of inclusive democracies. WFD works with overseas parliaments, political parties and civil society to strengthen parliamentary capacity at national and sub-national level, through training, sharing expertise on a peer-to-peer basis and building institutional capacity.



French Media Cooperation Agency (CFI), mainly funded by the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development, is tasked to coordinate and implement France's aid policy for the development of media in partners' countries. It assists public and private stakeholders in the media sector with the aim of strengthening the modernisation and democratisation processes.

Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID)



AECID is an attached body to the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation; it is the main management body for Spanish cooperation, which combats poverty and works towards sustainable human development. The agency was created to foster full development as a fundamental human right. To this end, the Agency follows the guidelines of the Spanish Cooperation's Master Plan, in accordance with the international agenda of the Sustainable Development Goals (Agenda 2030) incorporating three main crosscutting axes: gender equality, environmental sustainability and respect for cultural diversity. AECID works on preventing and addressing emergency situations, promoting democracy and supporting civil society organisations.

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