



This programme is funded by the European Union



# EU-JDID

## EU Support to Jordanian Democratic Institutions & Development

# PROGRAMME RESUME



# INTRODUCTION

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

The programme is composed of four different but interconnected components, which are included under the umbrella of “EU Support to Jordanian Democratic Institutions and Development, EU –JDID”.

EU-JDID encompasses three components (Parliamentary Support, Electoral Assistance and Support to the Political Party System) that are implemented by the consortium-led by the European Centre for Electoral Support (ECES). The Consortium is composed of the European Partnership for Democracy (EPD), Westminster Foundation for Democracy (WfD), Netherlands Institute for Multiparty Democracy (NIMD) and French Agency for Media Cooperation (CFI). All the consortium members are part of the EPD. EPD is the most important network of European civil and political society organizations working on democracy assistance.

The fourth component of EU-JDID (Support to the Civil Society Organisations), 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 constitution of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, adopted in 1952 and amended subsequently on several occasions, defines the national system of government as a parliamentary hereditary monarchy (art. 1). The legislative power is vested in the Parliament and the King (art. 25). The Parliament is bicameral, consisting of the Senate and the House of Representatives. The Senate is appointed by the King and is composed of 60 senators, of whom currently nine are women (art.36). The Members of the House of Representatives are elected by general, secret and direct election in accordance with the election law (art. 67).

In 2012, Jordan initiated a series of constitutional and political reforms. These reforms included the creation of a Constitutional Court and an Independent Electoral Commission (IEC), mandated to run the 2013 parliamentary elections under a new election law.

In light of these developments, the European Commissioner Johannes Hahn and Jordan's Prime Minister Hani Al-Mulki signed on 4 April 2017 a Financing Agreement for a new EU-funded comprehensive democratic governance programme to support Parliament, Elections, the Political Party System and Civil Society.

EU's support 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.

# OBJECTIVES

## EU-JDID

With the aim of supporting Jordan's reform process towards consolidating democracy and promoting the inclusiveness in national policy and decision-making processes, the objectives of EU-JDID are to:

- Strengthen the functioning of the House of Representatives (HoR) in exercising its core parliamentary functions in a professional, accountable and transparent manner;
- Enhance the functioning of the Independent Election Commission (IEC) and other key stakeholders, contributing to elections conducted in a professional, transparent and credible manner;
- Support the political party (PP) system in contributing to democratic governance and policy making, in particular in the HoR.
- Strengthen the contribution of civil society to democratic governance and policy making and to 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 (AECID).

# 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 February 2012, 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 holds the Vice Presidency of EPD.

## 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.

Netherlands Institute for  
**Multiparty Democracy**

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.

The **Netherlands Institute for Multiparty Democracy** (NIMD) is a democracy assistance organization 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

**Westminster Foundation for Democracy's** (WFD) activities aim to assist the development of inclusive democracies by working with overseas parliaments, political parties and civil society. WFD works to strengthen parliamentary capacity at national and sub-national level, through training, sharing expertise on a peer-to-peer basis and building institutional capacity.



COOPÉRATION  
MÉDIAS

**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 partner countries. It provides assistance to 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 in partner countries. In these endeavours AECID provides technical, economic and financial cooperation, as well as, humanitarian aid.

# ACTIVITIES

## 1: Parliamentary Support

- Support the development of a training strategy and conduct technical trainings for the House of Representatives (HoR);
- Support the design and production of: an operational manual per department and a review/update of the HoR strategic plan and departmental plans;
- Enhance the capacity of the Legislative Studies and Research Centre (LSRC) to provide information to Members of Parliament (MPs) via briefings and topical seminars;
- Improve the human resources (HR) capacity in the development of procedures, policies, documentation, performance management, HR planning, normalisation, recruitment, a staff handbook and trainings;
- Support the internal communication within the HoR through the use of ICT;
- Develop an international "buddy system" between HoR and the European Parliament (EP) staff, including study visits for HoR staff;
- Strengthen the capacities of the Ministry of Political and Parliamentary Affairs (MoPPA) to provide support and accompany HR reforms;
- Support the strengthening of HoR's oversight functions;
- Support the strengthening of HoR's legislative functions;
- Support the enhancement of the committee system;
- Support the access to information and research from the HoR Library and the LSRC;

- Support the role of women MPs in their legislative and oversight roles;
- Support the strengthening of HoR budgetary oversight;
- Support the strengthening of HoR financial ex-post oversight;
- Support the HoR Secretariat's duties with regards to financial and budgetary aspects;
- Support the review of the legal powers for effective financial oversight (including By-laws);
- Install a new conference and voting system following EU procedures and HoR requirements;
- Procurement of computer tablets within the framework of the HoR Environmental Policy and "E-Parliament" initiative;
- Support the Secretariat in providing support to parliamentary blocs;
- Enhance the effectiveness of parliamentary blocs;
- Improve relations between parliamentary blocs and HoR departments including the LSRC;
- Support parliamentary policy dialogue;
- Support public engagement (through a strategy for communication with the public and educational visits);
- Support the engagement of youth in parliamentary work;
- Develop MP-to-people interactive radio programs;
- Implement media/journalism trainings on the coverage of parliamentary and political events;
- Design and produce an on-line toolkit on covering parliamentary/political activities;
- Organise a conference/forum on social media and politics;
- Install a media centre at the Jordanian Parliament.

## 2: Electoral Assistance

- Support the IEC ISO certification for electoral organisations 9001/17582-2014;
- Support the production and implementation of a HR plan;
- Support the participation of senior staff of IEC in the electoral Master program of Sant'Anna;
- Support the IEC in strategic, operational and financial planning (BRIDGE training strategy);
- Consolidate IEC's role in supervising electoral campaigns (legal analysis and advisory support);
- Provide the IEC with specialised legal, operational and logistical support and advice;
- Support the creation of a digital library for the IEC;
- Produce a research paper on the automation of elections operations;
- Provide support to the IEC's external communication;
- Support the IEC in conducting voter and civic education awareness programs;
- Support the IEC's relations with electoral stakeholders;
- Organise training sessions for Journalists on Electoral cycle follow-up;
- Organise Regional Electoral knowledge-sharing conferences;
- Organise peer exchange visits and study tours in the region and in Europe;
- Support the establishment of the IEC Electoral Regional Training Center;
- Support the IEC to co-organise the 15th International Electoral Symposium and International Electoral Awards together with the International Centre for Parliamentary Studies (ICPS) and in collaboration with ECES;
- Implement trainings on leadership and conflict management skills for electoral stakeholders.  
<http://www.eces.eu/lead-training>
- Provide support to the IEC and to the judicial bodies on electoral dispute resolution;
- Support electoral policy dialogue.

## 3: Support to Political Party System

- Conduct an annual class training targeting young political and civic actors on how to engage in the political process;
- Support the advocacy initiatives of young political and civic actors;
- Support capacity strengthening of local partners and experts to support democratic governance;
- Strengthen the capacities of political parties in manifesto development;
- Strengthen the capacities of political parties in strategic planning (training, advisory support);
- Strengthen the capacities of political parties in voter advice and information;
- Enhance women leaders' political capacities (training, mentoring, workshops);
- Support inter-party dialogue and political party policy dialogue;

- Contribute to improved dialogue and relationships between political and civic actors;
- Contribute to capacity strengthening of MoPPA (training, advisory support);
- Support MoPPA in conducting a multi-stakeholder dialogue on political party system and legislation;
- Support MoPPA with the automation of the political party management system.

#### 4: Support to Civil Society Organisations

- Provide training assistance to CSOs;
- Provide financial assistance to CSOs;
- Provide a learning program for young CSO action.

## EU-JDID OFFICE

The Project office is located at the heart of Amman's business district (Mecca Street, Al-Hijaz Towers) and its position guarantees an easy access to partners' institutions (Parliament, Independent Electoral Commission and Ministry of Political and Parliamentary Affairs) as well as to the EU Delegation. The Project working space will host the Project Management Unit as well as the three project components, namely: Parliamentary Support, Electoral Assistance and Political Party system support.



## EU-JDID Project Facebook & Twitter Pages



[www.facebook.com/EUJDID](http://www.facebook.com/EUJDID)

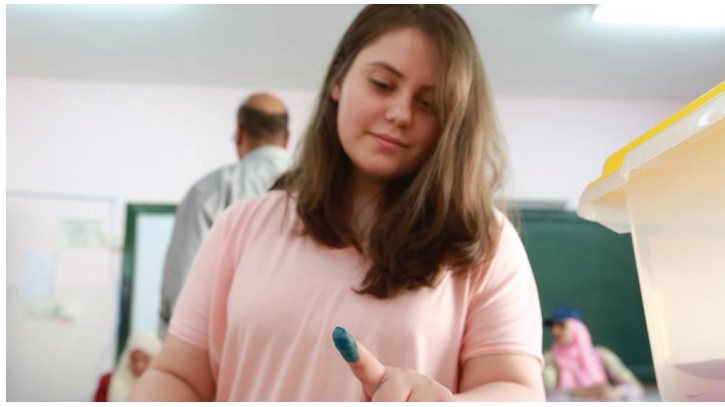


[www.twitter.com/EUJDID](http://www.twitter.com/EUJDID)

## Programme Website



[www.democracy-support.eu/jordan](http://www.democracy-support.eu/jordan)



**EU-JDID**

**EU Support to Jordanian Democratic  
Institutions & Development**

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