



Education

September 2005



USAID/Jordan

Students integrate IT skills for learning and developing job skills for future employment.

EDUCATION SNAPSHOT

- Providing Jordan Education Initiative Schools with broadband connectivity
- 258 teachers and 40 supervisors trained with new IT curriculum
- School-to-Careers programs piloted
- Lifeskills, HIV/AIDS and health training provided in 100 schools.
- New civic education curriculum provided to teachers

OVERVIEW

Jordan's population has a high literacy rate of 89 percent, however, close to half the population (43 percent) is under the age of 15. Giving them a high-quality education and job skills will be a challenge. USAID assists the government with early child care programs, supporting 100 new kindergartens, testing new curricula, and developing an accreditation system. In addition, USAID funds school-to-work programs and the development of an information technology curriculum for high school students.

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- In July 2003, the Government of Jordan (GOJ) launched the Education Reform for the Knowledge Economy Initiative. USAID supports 100 public kindergartens, field-tests curriculum, and is developing an accreditation system in partnership with the GOJ. To date, USAID support includes training of 40 supervisors and all 258 teachers on the first national curriculum for kindergarten.
- USAID also works with the Ministry of Education on school-to-work programs and developing an information technology (IT) curriculum stream for high school students. USAID trained 400 teachers and 42 supervisors on the content knowledge and pedagogy of the six newly introduced subjects under the IT stream.
- School-to-Careers Programs are being piloted in 12 public schools.
- Four public pilot kindergartens have been renovated and provided with instructional materials. By the end of 2005, 100 kindergartens and 20 community child resource centers will be refurbished and equipped with instructional material.
- USAID/Jordan promoted a public-private partnership among UNIFEM, Cisco Systems, and the GOJ to expand the reach of assistance and promote greater policy advocacy for young women's involvement in the area of information, communication, and technology training. Five Cisco Networking Academies have been established.
- Under the UNIFEM/Cisco Initiative, 12 training workshops targeting 170 instructors and students were conducted focusing on communication and motivation skills; 220 students participated in a job fairs.
- USAID/Jordan also partners with UNICEF to contribute to the development and adoption of national youth programs to promote adolescents' development, participation and leadership and build the capacities of adolescents aged 10 to 18 in leadership and life skills. So far, basic life skills have been promoted in 100 schools to address topics such as health, economic activity, citizenship, gender, and the prevention of smoking, drugs, violence and HIV/AIDS.



Education (continued)

- The Discovery Schools initiative was launched at the June 2003 World Economic Forum meeting in Jordan. USAID is helping to connect all 100 Jordan Education Initiative/Discovery Schools with broadband connectivity.
- With the State Department's Middle East Partnership Initiative, USAID/Jordan is assisting in developing the e-content for English language and civic education for grades 7 – 12 and training teachers.

JORDAN

Education Budget (FY03-06)

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
2003	3.7
2004	4.0
2005	28.6
2006	14.0
<u>TOTAL:</u>	<u>\$50.33million</u>



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Her Majesty Queen Rania inaugurated 4 pilot public kindergartens in underprivileged areas that have been renovated and equipped through USAID/Jordan's support.